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LeAnn Croy
OFFICE MANAGER/CSR

PH: 540-864-6688
TEXT: 540-486-2970

leann@guthrieinsurance.net
www.guthrieinsuranceva.com
GUTHRIEINSURANCE@YAHOO.COM
Licensed in VA, WV, TN & NC



THE NEW CASTLE RECORD



WE SELL KEROSENE

Bethel United Methodist Church hosted bazaar on October 19



PHOTO BY PAM DUDDING

The Bethel United Methodist Church was rained out last week but had its bazaar on Saturday, with lots of handmade items for gifts or oneself, yard sale items and sweets. The library was also giving away books.



PHOTO BY PAM DUDDING

Halloween decorations are already all over Craig County yards. This decorated house was pictured in 2019. The kids will have fun this year, at homes as well as many churches who are hosting their trunk or treats.

Halloween trick-or-treat places in Craig

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

This Halloween, many people in Craig will try to provide a fun and safe event for local kids.

This year there are several who have already set the dates and times for their events.

Oct. 29:
Level Green Christian Church – 3-5 p.m. There will be fun, games

and trunk or treat.

Oct. 31:
Craig Valley Baptist Church – 6-8 p.m. The church will also be giving away free hot cocoa, cider and coffee and snacks as well as their trunk or treat.

Cornerstone Church New Castle – Halloween Harvest – 5-8 p.m. Candy treats, games, food, and fun activities will be at the picnic shelter.

Lighthouse Baptist –

See **Halloween**, page 5

Cougar peewee team is undefeated



COURTESY PHOTO

This year's Cougar peewee team practiced hard and took the championship and became undefeated for their season. The last game was close, but they pulled it out like pros. Pictured: Coaches Derek Persinger, Matt Wilson, Jerod Deel, Michael Webb and Josh Ouellette, Brayden Slusher, Emmett Crawford, Landon Wilson, Brantley Wyrick, Lucas Klotter, Mason Ouellette, Andrew Webb, Connor Wolfe, Silas All, Ethan Cassell, Cooper and in the front row is Michael Tickle, Cooper Rose, Layden Taylor and Ryne Crowder.



With the game 19-18, Andrew Webb, #59, stopped Alleghany's extra point attempt. Cougars went on to win 19-18.



Ethan Cassell recovers a fumble for the Cougars.

PHOTOS BY MIRANDA WEBB

See **Cougars**, page 3

High school students ask community to attend homecoming game on Oct. 21



COURTESY PHOTO

Craig County High School will be having its homecoming football game this Friday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. Students are encouraging the community to attend and support the team and students.

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

Craig County students are encouraging the community to join them at their homecoming football game this Friday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m.

"Bring your bells, your pompons and your shouts for our team!" they shared. "Dress in your Rocket blues and let's make it a

game to remember!"

The homecoming game will be against the Bath County Chargers.

The homecoming court will be presented at half-time where the king and queen will be crowned.

Also, Craig County High School will have spirit week activities every day, including class competitions and a special pep rally on Friday: Monday

See **Homecoming Game**, page 4



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VDOT ROADWATCH

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. Northbound lane closures from I-81 mile marker 136 to 141. Southbound Lane closures from I-81 mile marker 141 to 136.

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.

(UPDATED 10-14-22) *

I-81 TROUTVILLE REST AREA CLOSURE - The Troutville Rest Area located on southbound Interstate 81 near mile marker 158 in Botetourt County is will remain closed until before Thanksgiving to support holiday travel. The opening scheduled for the end of September has been rescheduled due to the contractor encountering challenges with a slope on the project.

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 before Thanksgiving to support holiday travel.

• **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.

• **SLOW ROLLS SCHEDULED:** A slow roll operation will be in place daily beginning on Monday, October 17 through Friday, October 21, between mile marker 101 and 105 northbound and between mile marker 109 and 105 southbound, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 12 p.m.

• **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 closes 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 northbound 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.

• Roanoke County: The exit 141 on-ramp on southbound I-81 may periodically 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 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 December 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.

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.

• 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.

I-581 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.

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 set to begin. The new roundabout is currently open 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 (Cov 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 is underway. Water Street is closed for the duration of the project and drivers should expect lane closures with flagging operations to begin in about two weeks. Message boards are present to alert and update drivers.

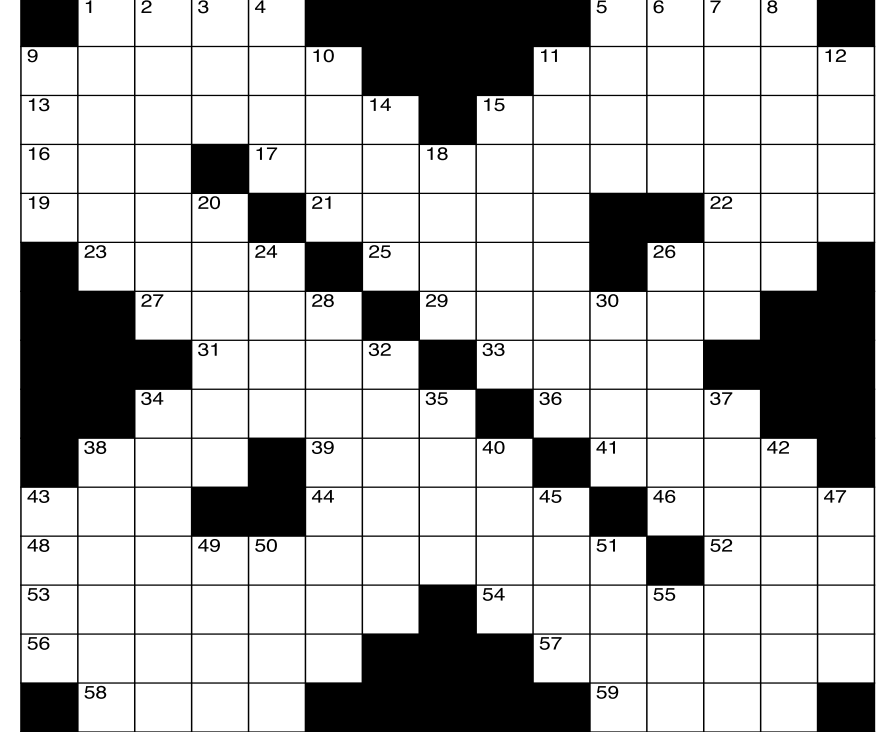
ROUTE 1095 (HIGHLAND DRIVE) PIPE FAILURE CLOSURE – Route 1095 (Highland Drive) near its intersection with Sanderson Road is closed until further notice due to a pipe failure. The road is currently impassable and drivers will need to seek alternate routes to avoid the area such as Murray Court to Richardson.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

ROUTE 622 CLOSURE - A road closure will be in place on Route 622 (Prices Bluff Road) beginning Sept. 19 at 8 a.m. to install a concrete slab span located 0.23 miles from Route 696 (Locust Bottom Road) and 0.40 miles from Route 622 (Bridge Street.) The road is scheduled to reopen the end of October 2022.

ROUTE 611 (GREYLEGGE

See VDOT, page 5

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS
 1. A way to communicate
 5. Historic city
 9. Not the same
 11. Hitting a horse to clear a jump
 13. One hurt the Titanic
 15. Fine dense cloth
 16. Architectural structure
 17. Where Serena works
 19. Stringed instrument
 21. Estimate
 22. Where sailors work
 23. Popular Terry Pratchett novel
 25. Popular slow cooked dish
 26. Twisted Sister's Snider
 27. "Office Space" actor Stephen

29. Put the ball in the net
 31. Ancient Greek city in Thrace
 33. High school math subject
 34. Looked into
 36. Rhode Island rebellion
 38. A pea is one type
 39. You can put it on something
 41. Where golfers begin
 43. Make a mistake
 44. Semitic Sun god
 46. Ancient Greek City
 48. Beheaded
 52. A place to stay
 53. Inanely foolish
 54. Most unnatural
 56. "Dennis" is one
 57. Soothes

58. Exam
 59. Leaked blood
CLUES DOWN
 1. Triangular bone in lower back
 2. Building toy
 3. Pointed end of a pen
 4. Insect repellent
 5. College army
 6. Highly spiced stew
 7. Exploited
 8. Main course
 9. A bottle that contains a drug
 10. The most worthless part
 11. Everyone needs one nowadays
 12. Japanese wooden shoe
 14. Antelopes
 15. A way to cut
 18. Brooklyn hoopsters

20. Gradually receded
 24. Ripped open
 26. College grads get one
 28. Amino acid
 30. Unruly gathering
 32. Legislative body
 34. Resembling pigs
 35. Russian assembly
 37. Take over for
 38. Put in advance
 40. Satisfy
 42. Felt
 43. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
 45. Witnesses
 47. Some build hills
 49. de Armas and Gasteyer are two
 50. Ancient people of Scotland
 51. Cheerless
 55. Unwell

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Lead Poisoning Prevention Week

Today, childhood lead poisoning is considered one of the most preventable environmental diseases among young children, yet an estimated 500,000 children under the age of 6 have elevated blood-lead levels, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

As we observe Lead Poisoning Prevention Week in late October, Roanoke City and Alleghany Health Districts (RCAHD) staff has joined with local government and non-profit partners to remind residents to take action to prevent and address lead poisoning. While lead poisoning can affect a person at any age, we're particularly concerned about the effects of lead in children. A simple blood test for your child can prevent permanent damage that will last a lifetime.

There is no safe level of lead in blood. Lead exposure is particularly harmful to young children because the developing nervous system is vulnerable to the toxic effects of lead, even at levels that do not cause obvious signs and symptoms. Exposure to lead may cause a range of negative health effects, from behavioral problems and learning disabilities, to seizures and death. Adults who are or have been exposed to lead can also pass lead to their babies when breastfeeding.

What can you do?

Get the facts. Learn how to prevent lead poisoning.

Get your home tested if it was built before 1978. Ask for a lead inspection before you buy a home.

Talk to your doctor about testing for lead if you have children under the age of six, even if your child seems healthy.

Which children should be tested for lead exposure?

The CDC especially recommends testing for young children if they:

- live or spend time in a house or building built before 1978
- are from low-income households
- are immigrants, refugees, or recently adopted from less-developed countries
- live or spend time with someone who works with lead (such as those who work in construction) or whose hobbies expose them to lead

Children may not exhibit any signs of lead poisoning, yet without treatment, the damage could be permanent. The only way to know if a child has elevated levels of lead is to have them tested by a physician.

What services does RCAHD provide for lead exposure?

When a physician reports a child (normally age 6 or younger) with a high lead level to RCAHD, an environmental health specialist and public health nurse case management team will jointly make visits to the child's home (and other places the

child may spend time, such as day care centers or babysitters) to learn how the exposure may have occurred.

Because lead-based paint wasn't banned until 1978, more than 80 percent of homes have lead-based paint. For example, in Roanoke City, 87 percent of homes were built before 1978 and are at risk of having lead-based paint. Typically, dust wipes and samples from chipping paint, water and/or soil are collected and sent to a laboratory for analysis to learn the source of lead in the child's environment. The case management team also advises the parents of proper diet and cleaning practices to reduce the child's lead levels.

The goal of the RCAHD's joint effort with local governments and nonprofits is to prevent childhood lead exposure before any harm occurs. Protecting children from exposure to lead is important to lifelong good health. No safe blood lead level in children has been identified, but if caught early, there are things parents can do to prevent further exposure and reduce damage to their child's health. For more information, visit RCAHD's Lead Poisoning website (vdh.virginia.gov/roanoke/lead-poisoning-prevention/).

-Dr. Cynthia Morrow, health director for Roanoke City and Alleghany Health Districts

Book signing held for 'Revised Paint Bank Travel Guide & History'



PHOTO BY JOHN LINTON.

Opal Bradley Caldwell, from left, and Mary Kay Williams at the recent book signing at the Emporium in New Castle.

The Emporium on Main Street in New Castle hosted a book signing of the "Revised Paint Bank Travel Guide & History" by Mary Kay Williams on Oct. 15. Opal Bradley Caldwell, a past director of the Craig County Historical Society, was present to cosign the book, which is dedicated to her for preserving Paint Bank's historical past.

The book is also dedicated to Nancy Mulheren and the late John Mulheren, of New Jersey, for providing for Paint Bank's future. The next book signing in Craig County with Caldwell and Williams will be held at the Paint Bank General Store in Paint Bank on Saturday, Oct. 29, from 11-2 p.m.

-Submitted by Mary Kay Williams

Upcoming public meetings in Craig County

Oct. 19

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

Oct. 27

Craig County Public Schools will be holding a town hall meeting Oct. 27 from 5:30-7 p.m. During this meeting, school division administration will share an update on safety initiatives in the division. Parents will also have the opportunity to provide input.

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

Cougars

from page 1



Cougars offensive line ready to run their play against Alleghany.



The Cougars may be considered the "pee-wee" team, but none were hesitant about making contact to win their games.



Cougar cheerleaders gave their halftime dance.



PHOTOS BY MIRANDA WEBB

No championship team can go without dousing their coaches with the huge water containers at the end of the game.

The congregation of Cornerstone Church would like to praise God for His blessing of two anointed pastors.

We give thanks to our senior Pastor Don Brown for his 26 years of dedicated service and following the voice of God and being led by Holy Ghost to grow our church spiritually and physically. Also, thanks to Pastor David Brown, our associate pastor, for his work with the youth and outreach to the community. Our youth have outgrown our facility and now meet Sunday in CCHS cafeteria at 5PM. All youth are welcome from middle school and high school. They will be blessed. We pray God will daily guide and bless the whole multi-talented Brown family. Thank you, Tracy, Michele, Steven, Sara Beth and Laura Kate for sharing your gifts and talents. Thank you again Pastor Don and David Brown. We are so excited to see where God leads our church next.

*We love you,
The Congregation of Cornerstone Church*

OPINION

Bringing economic development funding to Virginia

Economic development in Virginia's Ninth Congressional District is a priority for me as its congressman.

The votes we take in the House often impact the economy broadly. When I consider how to vote on taxes or regulation, for example, I prioritize their impacts on Ninth District businesses, but they are usually being set at the national level.

One program I have been able to bring to Southwest Virginia during my time in the U.S. House of Representatives, however, uniquely addresses the challenges faced by the areas of our region that previously mined coal.

The Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization (AMLER) Program, previously known as the AML Pilot Program, is a federal program that provides funding for reclaiming and repurposing old mine sites for economic development purposes.

In its original form, the program applied to sites in Kentucky, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania. Through the legislative process in

the House, I successfully expanded it to Virginia as well as to Ohio and Alabama, two other states with a significant coal mining legacy.

Since fiscal year 2017, Virginia has received \$10 million annually in AMLER funding. In the Commonwealth, the program is administered by Virginia Energy, formerly known as the Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy.

Each year, projects are welcome to apply for funding. Applicants must indicate how they would qualify for a grant, how they would spend it, and how their project would serve the needs of our region.

Thae projects that have been funded through AMLER since it came to Southwest Virginia have varied in their size and aim, but all have promoted economic growth and opportunity for our residents.

Project Reclaim in Russell County shows one way. This grant recipient is a 160-acre industrial site with access to rail lines, electricity, water, and natural gas. AMLER supported the removal of old structures from earlier coal mine-related operations



Morgan Griffith
Representative

as well as the removal of a coal fines pond, which was an environmental hazard. These actions made way for possible future development. Progress on Project Reclaim can lead to new employers locating in the region and boosting the local economy.

Similarly, Project Intersection in Norton received AMLER money to remove a mining highwall where two major highways meet in an effort to make a 200-acre site ready for industrial development. Project Intersection will produce a great asset not only for the City of Norton but the Counties of Lee, Wise, and Scott as well.

As we seek to redevelop sites that once provided energy resources, it is appropriate that some AMLER

projects support new energy development. Project Junction in Wise County, which was recommended for funding this year, aims to bring innovative energy assets to the site. It could lead to groundbreaking work that will someday power our future. Southwest Virginia's extensive association with energy looks to continue in the years to come.

One of the earliest projects in the Commonwealth to receive funding was recently completed, and I enjoyed the chance to visit earlier this year and see the difference made by AMLER funding. The Pocahontas Exhibition Mine in Tazewell County is a unique tourist location showcasing our area's heritage. AMLER funding added features to the site and helped make it more accessible to visitors, increasing its draw and expanding its economic impact. In fact, Virginia Attorney General Jason Miyares and former Governor George Allen recently numbered among its visitors.

The Pocahontas Exhibition Mine represents another way AMLER funding can be used. Bringing

visitors to our region capitalizes on our heritage and natural beauty to support jobs and businesses. Other tourism and recreation projects receiving AMLER money include the Devil's Bath in Scott County, where grants improved trails and parking, and Ecotourism in Nature's Wonderland in Buchanan County, where improving mine land allows for the reintroduction of elk and other game species for viewing and hunting.

AMLER is already producing results in our region, and more money is slated for projects. You can learn more about the program and what it does at energy.virginia.gov. Creative ideas that draw on Southwest Virginia's mining heritage to create new economic opportunities are welcome.

I am proud of what the AMLER Program has accomplished so far and excited about its possibilities for the future. Working with the state, local officials, and the private and nonprofit sectors, we are investing in innovation, renewal, and opportunity.

Homecoming Game from page 1

– 'Merica day, Tuesday
– twin day, Wednesday
– white lie day, Thursday
– pajama day and Friday –
blue and white day.

At the homecoming pep rally, there will be a "Pie in the Face" for the favorite cheerleader. The students are voting .01 per 1 vote.

Following the game, Cornerstone Youth will be hosting a "5th quarter" in the cafeteria for the students. There will be free food (some being from Bojangles, Subs Plus, Mac & Bobs and Krispy Kreme), games, music and giveaways.

Then on Saturday, they

will have their homecoming dance at the school gym from 6–9 p.m. Dave's Live Sounds will be bringing the music.

The Booster Club will have lots of food at the concession stands for sale. However, they still need help.

"We did not have a Booster Club during COVID, and the ones

that were in Booster had quit," shared Angela Spence. "However, Rebekah Crawford stepped up to be president, even though she doesn't have any kids but is a CCHS graduate."

Since, a few others have gladly stepped up to the plate, but they are still in need. The sad part is that Spence doesn't get to watch her son play ball

when she has no help. This is his senior year, and her desires are to see him play.

"In order for us to help out with purchasing sports equipment, etc., we have to have the concessions, being the only money-maker, we have," Spence added. "We need the help and support of our community, even if you don't

want to work the entire game, just part."

She noted that anyone who does work the booth doesn't pay admission into the game.

One thing she really needs help in is selling tickets for the 50/50.

They still need people to help them work the concession on Oct. 25 and Nov. 4 games.

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

USPS 378-080 1633 W. Main St.
(540) 389-9355 Salem, VA 24153
www.ourvalley.org

Michael Showell, *Publisher*
Aila Boyd, *Executive Editor* aboyle@mainstreetnewspapers.com
Brian Hoffman, *Sports Editor* bhoffman@ourvalley.org
Debbie Nixon, *Graphic Designer* dnixon@ourvalley.com
Toni Smith, *Graphic Designer* toni.smith@ourvalley.com
Lynn Hurst, *General Manager* lhurst@ourvalley.org
Randy Thompson *Advertising Consultant* advertise@ourvalley.org

Give us your view: aboyle@mainstreetnewspapers.com

To subscribe: 540-389-9355

The New Castle Record (USPS 378-080) is published weekly for \$45 a year in Craig County, \$49 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$53 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., 1633 W Main St., Salem, VA 24153. Periodical postage paid at New Castle, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE NEW CASTLE RECORD 1633 W. Main St., Salem, Va. 24153

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.

November Swap Day

Library Corner

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community
By Marge Lewter

SWAP DAY SATURDAY NOVEMBER 19TH 10-3

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Temperatures are dropping reminding us of the holiday season ahead. Is it time to sort out decorating items and make room for new ones? Set them aside and bring them to Swap Day on Saturday, Nov. 19 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the library. Pull up on the lot and give away holiday décor and warm weather clothing. Others may have treasures you may want. All exchanges are free! It is a fun way to rehome your things within the community. You never know what you will find to bring home.

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VDOT

from page 2

ROAD – A 1.5 mile section of Route 611 (Greyledge Road) is closed due to flooding that damaged the roadway. Extensive repairs will be needed and a detour will be in place. There is no estimated time for the road to reopen.

(ROUTE 817 (OLD RAIL ROAD) BRIDGE WORK – Old Rail Road in Oriskany is closed for repairs to the bridge over Craig's Creek, the historic McCallister Truss Bridge. The bridge is located 0.60 miles from Route 704 (Branchwater Road) and 0.20 miles from Route 770 (Edlo Lane). The bridge will be closed during daytime hours, 8 a.m. through 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday, when the water level is low. Work on this bridge is restricted when waters in the creek is high. All traffic between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. will use the Edlo Ford. Signs have been posted to alert drivers. Estimated time for completion Fall 2022.

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.

CRAIG COUNTY ROUTE 311 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT OVER MEADOW CREEK –

Temporary signals control traffic across the bridge and will be in place throughout the project. Construction will begin on the northbound side of the bridge and once completed, work will switch to the southbound side. In addition, a section of Route 646 (Allen Street) between Route 650 and Route 311 will be closed during construction and a signed detour will be in place. All traffic will be detoured to Marshall Street and Kanawha Street to access either 311 or the homes located off Allen Street. Speed limit will be reduced to 35 mph in the work zone with a width restriction of 9 feet. Drivers should expect delays and allow extra travel time through the work zone. Weather permitting, the bridge is expected to be open to traffic by the end of 2022.

TRAFFIC SWITCH: On Sept. 22, traffic was switched from us-

ing the southbound lane to the northbound lane while work continues. Southbound lanes are closed. Temporary traffic signals will continue to direct traffic and message boards will notify drivers.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

ROUTE 615 CULTVERT REPLACEMENT – As of April 11, 2022, Route 615 (Pilot Road) will undergo a culvert replacement located at the intersection of Pilot Road and Old Pike Road, across from the Pilot Post Office. Road is now open. Flagging operations may continue to be in place. Route 615 will be limited to one 10-foot lane. Expected completion is October 2022.

ROUTE 11/460 MAINTENANCE WORK – Beginning on October 11, the right lane will be closed on Route 11/460 (Roanoke Road) towards Christiansburg Mountain from Route 641 (Den Hill) to just east of Route 639 (Mt. Pleasant) for shoulder and ditching. This lane closure will be in place throughout the week and is scheduled to reopen on October 14, weather permitting.

ROUTE 622 BRIDGE WORK CLOSURE

- Route 622 (Bradshaw Road) will be closed for a bridge maintenance project over Bradshaw Creek beginning on Oct. 17. The location of the bridge is 0.10 mile from the Roanoke County line and 2.0 miles from Route 623. Drivers will need to seek alternate routes and residents on the road will have access to their homes during the closure. The road is expected to be open on Oct. 20.

ROUTE 8 EVENT TRAFFIC CONGESTION

- Route 8 may experience heavy traffic on fall weekends due to congestion related to tourist events at local farms in the area. If possible, motorists should utilize detours to avoid traveling on Route 8 between Christiansburg and Riner during the peak hours of 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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.

Roanoke College, Hollins University present 2022 Kendig Awards

The Perry F. Kendig Awards, which celebrate the people and organizations that support excellence in the arts in Virginia's Blue Ridge, were presented during a ceremony at Hollins University on Oct. 11.

The awards are co-sponsored by Hollins University and Roanoke College, and they are awarded annually in three categories: Individual Artist, Arts and Cultural Organization and Individual or Business Arts supporter. Recipients are selected from a group of nominees who live or work in the counties of Roanoke, Botetourt and Franklin, the cities of Roanoke and Salem or the town of Vinton. The awards are named for the late Perry F. Kendig, who served as president of Roanoke College and was an avid supporter and patron of the arts.

"Roanoke College is happy to again join with Hollins University to present these Kendig Awards, and it is our privilege to carry on the tradition of this event in President Kendig's name," Roanoke College President Frank Shushok Jr. said.

This year's nominees were Seth Davis, resident musical director at Mill Mountain Theatre; Michael Hemphill, founder and host of the inspirational Blue Ridge PBS and YouTube show "Buzz-4Good"; Michael Mansfield, an actor and director who has worked with multiple local arts organizations; Douglas Jackson, arts and culture coordinator for the city of Roanoke; Sandra Meythaler, executive director of Roanoke Ballet Theatre; and the Roanoke Valley Children's Choir.

The 2022 Kendig Award winners are:

Individual Artist Award

The recipient of the Individual Artist Award for 2022 was Seth Davis, Mill Mountain Theatre's resident music director. For nearly a decade, Davis has helped more than 4,000 children and teenagers find joy and fulfillment through music. His students develop leadership and talents they can apply to their studies and future careers. "Teaching is Seth Davis' passion; music is



COURTESY OF ROANOKE COLLEGE

Pictured from left to right are Roanoke College President Frank Shushok Jr.; nominee Michael Mansfield; nominee Sandra Meythaler; award winner Seth Davis; Susan Smith, representing award winner Roanoke Valley Children's Choir; award winner Douglas Jackson; nominee Michael Hemphill; and Hollins University President Mary Dana Hinton.

his language," said one of the nominators.

Through his work at Mill Mountain, Davis has challenged and encouraged children through conservatory classes and stage productions. "I really love what music can do to increase a child's confidence," Davis has said. "Students come to us not sure where they even fit in life. Teaching is an opportunity to provide that sense of belonging through music."

At the ceremony, Davis said he was pleasantly surprised by the recognition.

"I'm grateful for the chance to work with kids and folks of all ages on something that brings them so much joy," he said, "and it is mutual, because it also brings me joy."

Arts and Cultural Organization Award

The Arts and Cultural Organization Award was presented to The Roanoke Valley Children's Choir. For 35 years, RVCC has met the needs of young people across the Roanoke Valley, providing an artistic and in-depth study of voice in a choral setting. The choir currently has 130 singers aged seven to 18. It is divided into a "Little Singers" group for children ages 4-6, three training choirs and a concert choir, and children move up through the groups as their development and aptitude deepens.

Weekly rehearsals culminate in community performances that help students develop vocal techniques, confidence, leadership and teamwork. Each choir participates in an annual regional, state, national or international honor performance, giving

the students an opportunity to travel. The choir also collaborates on performances with professional organizations such as the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra and Opera Roanoke. Susan Smith, chairwoman of the RVCC Board of Directors, accepted the award on behalf of the choir.

"We are proud to have served the Roanoke Valley as a world-class choral program for 36 years," Smith said. "If you know, you know: There is no sound quite like the choral sound of children's voices."

Individual or Business Arts Supporter Award

The Individual or Business Arts Supporter Award was presented to Douglas Jackson, arts and culture coordinator for the city of Roanoke and capacity development specialist for the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. Jackson is a long-serving and faithful ally of the arts in Virginia's Blue Ridge who is invested in finding ways to make the arts compelling and accessible to all. He has done that through community initiatives such as BOOK CITY and Roanoke's Year of the Artist.

"Doug's belief in the power of the arts to strengthen community in all its diversity, and to build trusting relationships, is contagious," a nominator said.

Roanoke's Year of the

Artist, Jackson's recent effort to secure and distribute funding for the arts, has empowered and validated the existing creative community and has helped to bridge the gap between working artists, arts organizations and city government. Beginning in 2013, Jackson helped create the Parks and the Arts program, which brought the best of Roanoke's arts and culture experiences to neighborhood parks and community centers.

"The arts are how I was able to get involved in Roanoke and feel a part of the community," Jackson said. "The arts can give us agency."

Named for the late Perry F. Kendig, who served as president of Roanoke College and was an avid supporter and patron of the arts, the Kendig Awards program was established in 1985 and presented annually by the Arts Council of the Blue Ridge through 2012. Hollins and Roanoke College have now partnered for 10 years to bestow the honors. Kendig's sons, Bill Kendig, a 1980 graduate of Roanoke College, and John Kendig, attended the event to represent their family.

"We so appreciate the fact that Roanoke College and Hollins University honor dad with that award," John Kendig said. "He would love to be here. He would be in his element."

-The New Castle Record

Halloween

from page 1

5-7 p.m., tract or treat

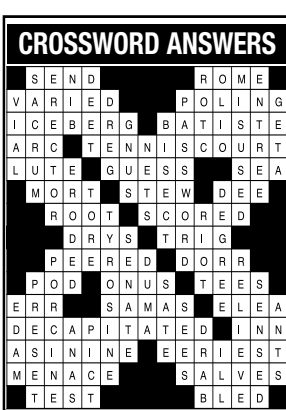
Grace Baptist – 6-8 p.m., drive through trunk or treat

People are encouraged to take a flashlight if they are walking and

to go in groups.

Many community members have already decorated their homes for the special night of fun for the kids, young and old. There are gob-

lins, spiders and skeletons everywhere, while others have filled their yards with hay bales, decorated corn stalks, pumpkins and cute scarecrows.



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<p>BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 11599 Cumberland Gap Road/Rt. 42, New Castle, 864-5242; church phone: 544-7040 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m., Choir Tuesday 7:30p.m., Youth Outreach and Missions Program. Rev. Charles Stacy.</p> <p>CHESTNUT GROVE CHURCH Duane Wente, Minister, Rt. 42, New Castle, 540-864-5692. Sunday: Worship 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>CORNERSTONE CHURCH Pastor Don Brown, Corner of Salem and Wagner, New Castle, 580-3228. Sunday Worship 10:30am (Children meet separately, Nursery provided). Bible Study - Wednesday 6p Teens - Wednesday 6p. Ministries: Men, Ladies, Young Adult, and Seniors. Times vary, call for details.</p> <p>CRAIG HEALING SPRINGS CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ) Pastor - Kenneth W. Davis, Jr., 6 Grannys Branch Road (Johns Creek), New Castle, Phone: 864-6102. Sunday School at 10 am. Sunday Worship at 11 am every Sunday. Fellowship meal after Sunday Worship on second Sundays. Everyone is welcome!</p> <p>CRAIG VALLEY BAPTIST 171 Salem Avenue, New Castle, 864-5667; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m., Wednesday: Prayer Service and Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Youth Group 6:30-8:00PM, Bible Buddies at 6:30-8:00PM. Transportation provided - call the church. Hearing devices also available. www.craigvalleybaptist.com</p> <p>CRAIG VALLEY GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP HWY 621, Pastor Roy Lee Law Jr., "Jay", 864-8984. Sunday School 10:00am; Worship 11:00am., Wednesday night Bible study 7pm, from HWY 311, up HWY 621, 8 miles on left.</p> <p>CROSSROADS CHURCH 21892 Craigs Creek Road, New Castle. Pastor Gary Burch. 864-7520. Sunday School- 10-10:45AM, Sunday Worship - 11AM-Noon.</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST Pastor Kevin Altizer, Corner of Main Street & Boyd Ave., New Castle. Church phone 864-5919. Sunday School 10:00AM, Sunday Worship 11:00AM and 6PM. Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7PM, Youth Group</p>	<p>7:00PM, Reformers Unanimous Addiction Recovery every Friday evening at 7PM.</p> <p>GRACE ASSEMBLY OF GOD 5530 Catawba Valley Drive, Catawba, VA, 540-384-7075. Pastor Loraine Taylor, agladypastor@msn.com. Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Evening service at 7:00 p.m.; Youth (ages 13-18) & Super Church (ages 4-12) Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. You can also watch on Facebook Live at 10:30 a.m. www.graceassemblycatawba.org</p> <p>GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 159 Old Railroad Ave, New Castle, 540-864-PRAY, Sunday School 9:30AM, Sunday Worship Service 10:00AM, Wednesday Night Services 7:00PM.</p> <p>HEBRON UNITED METHODIST Pastor Rodney Longmire, Rt. 606, 1981 Caldwell Mt. Rd., New Castle, 540-400-3419. Worship 11:15AM.</p> <p>LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST Rev. Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle. Sunday: Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, & 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM.</p> <p>LEVEL GREEN CHRISTIAN CHURCH 3388 Cumberland Gap Rd. Newport, Duane Wente, Minister, 540-544-7179. Sunday School 10:00am, Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am, Children's Church 11:00am. Choir Practice, bi-weekly 7:00pm, Ladies meeting first Monday of each month at 7:00pm.</p> <p>LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST Pastor Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle, 540-525-7662. Sunday: Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, & 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM.</p> <p>MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN 4199 Craig Valley Drive, New Castle, 864-6622. Sunday: Worship Service 9:00 a.m., Children's Church 9:15 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>NEW CASTLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH "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>NEW CANTERBURY PENTECOSTAL FELLOWSHIP Pastor John D. Abbott, Hwy 621 (10 miles), phone: 864-8242, Sunday Morning Lesson 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday Night Service 6:00 pm.</p> <p>PAXTON CHAPEL Pastor Kenny Davis, 17 Sage Brush Lane, New Castle; "Presenting God's Word Faithfully"; Sunday School 10:00 AM; Sunday Worship Service 11:15 AM; visit us on the web at www.paxtonchapelchurch.com; email at paxtonchapel@yahoo.com.</p> <p>THE CHURCH OF CHRIST 118 Main Street, New Castle. Service Times: Sunday, Bible classes-10 a.m., Worship-11:00 a.m., Evening Worship-6 p.m.; Wednesday, Bible classes - 7 p.m.</p> <p>NEW CASTLE UNITED METHODIST 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>ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH 99 2nd Street, New Castle. Rev. Stephen McNally. 540-473-3691. Mass is on Sunday at 11:15 AM.</p> <p>CRAIG COUNTY COMMUNITY CHURCH - 'WELCOME HOME!' Sunday service 9-10:15am at the VFW building in New Castle. Casual dress if you desire and contemporary praise and worship. If you don't have a 'home' church, please join us at ours with Pastor Gary Burch. Check us out on facebook or contact us at: craigcountycommunity-church@gmail.com.</p> <p>ST. THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH 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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PHOTO BY CHELSEA LOUTHEN

The Rocket offense is ready to move in the game at Eastern Montgomery on October 7.

ROCKETS HOST BATH COUNTY FOR HOMECOMING

It will be Homecoming time on Friday night at Mitchell Field as the Craig County football team plays host to Bath County.

It will be just the second home game of the year for the Rockets, who have had three games forfeited or postponed this season for a variety of reasons. The Rockets are officially 2-4 while Bath County is 3-4. The Chargers have wins over Covington, Mountain View and East Mont and losses against Alleghany, Buffalo Gap, Page County and East Hardy, West Virginia.

“Coach Jacob Phillips has every single kid at Bath County High School, that could help, out for the team,” said Craig coach Jim Fisher. “They are vastly improved from last year. Jake is a very good coach and the Chargers are playing some inspired football. They are solid up front and have several good, fast receivers.”

Phillips was a standout quarterback for Bath during his high school days before going on to play at William & Mary. He was the head coach at James River, then moved on to coach at Staunton High before returning to his roots at Bath. He’s doing a lot of the same things that were successful when he played for Bath.

“They try to gain an advantage with formations and motion,” said Fisher. “They do a good job of putting the defense in conflict on it’s heels just with alignment.”

“Offensively, we have not started the same offensive line in a game due to injuries. Kids are having to move around and it is hard to remember responsibilities. We also have to stay on

our blocks longer and create a push. We did that the first game but we have not been able to maintain any consistency.”

The Rockets were in Buena Vista last Friday to play Parry McCluer and Craig dropped the Pioneer District contest by a score of 41-7.

“Parry McCluer is a solid Pioneer District team that has not had the success they had last season but they were big up front,” said Fisher. “Still had the big running back, 235 pounds, and a couple of really quick backs. We couldn’t stop them. We were outmanned up front and got pushed around a little bit. We have to do a better job of coaching the kids to defeat blocks before they try and find the football.”

Craig down two more starters and had to move Alex Drake (fullback) to center for the game.

“We started four freshmen and four sophomores last Friday,” said Fisher. “We are fast running out of bodies and are hoping for a couple of kids to get healthy.”

The Rockets were led offensively by Zach Peters, who had 96 yards rushing on 20 carries. He also threw a TD pass to Jaycob Wolfe on a fake FG for Craig’s only score. Peters and freshman Carter Calfee led the Rockets on defense.

“Playing so many young guys looks good for the future,” said Fisher. “We are short-handed due to injuries and some kids quitting but it is what it is. Excuses in football, and life, serve no purpose. Suck it up and work harder. We just need to keep growing individually and as a team.”

VOLLEYBALL TEAM HAS SENIOR NIGHT THURSDAY

The Craig County volleyball seniors will be recognized on Thursday of this week when the girls host Highland County in a doubleheader.

The Rocket varsity will play two games around a jayvee game. The first varsity game will begin at 4:30 pm, followed by a jayvee game. After the

jayvee game the seniors will be recognized, and then Craig will play another varsity game. All games on this night are best-of-three.

The Rockets are still looking for a win after falling to 0-15 with a loss to Eastern Montgomery in Elliston last week. The host Mustangs took a 25-

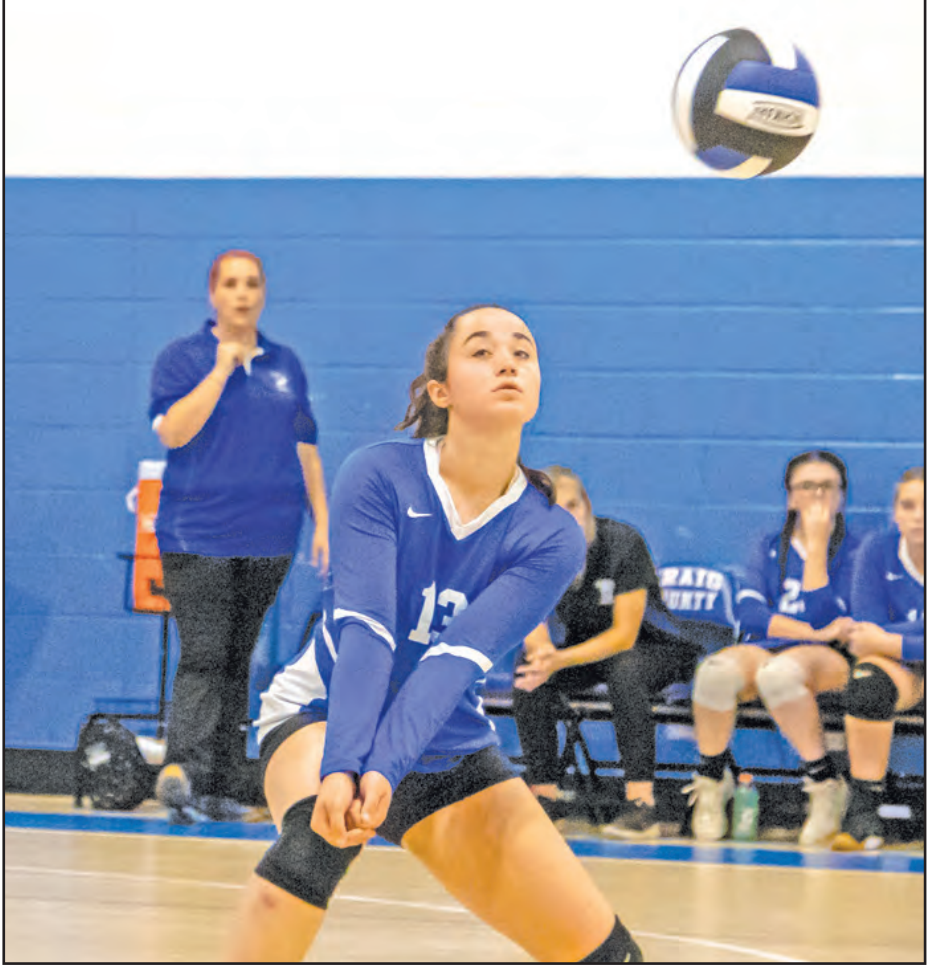
10, 25-7 and 25-20 victory last week.

“We’ve had some tough losses and have been trying to make it up with three hour practices,” said coach Suzanne Crawford.

The Rockets were scheduled to host Narrows on Tuesday of this week.



Annabelle Gregory goes low for a dig.



Randalyn Taylor receives a serve.

PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY

RAIL YARD DAWGS OPEN FRIDAY

The Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs ice hockey team has announced that Sammy Bernard and Adam Vannelli have been released from their training camp agreements, while Hunter Bersani and Jarrad Vroman have joined training camp for the team as they prepare for their season opener against Fayetteville. Opening Night is slated for this Friday and is sponsored by Haley Toyota of Roanoke.

Bersani enjoyed his first full rookie season last year with the Columbus River Dragons after tallying one goal and one assist in a brief two-game stint with Columbus in the 2020-2021 campaign. Last season the Buffalo, New York native notched 16 goals and 37 assists in 53 regular season games for the River Dragons, then added five additional points in five postseason games for Columbus.

Bersani started this season in training camp with the ECHL’s Allen Americans before he was released last Thursday. Prior to his professional ca-

reer, Bersani played in the NA3HL and EHL primarily, recording 44 goals and 73 assists over 92 games in the NA3HL with the Texas Junior Brahmas from 2016-2018.

Vroman initially joined the Dawgs from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (NCAA-DIII) on March 9 last season. The six-foot-four blue-liner played in 11 regular season games and all nine playoff games for Roanoke, tallying one assist.

Vroman started this season in training camp with the ECHL’s Kalamazoo Wings before he was released last Wednesday. The Lincoln Park, Michigan native had played his last three collegiate seasons at Eau-Claire, tallying six goals and nine assists in 63 games played.

Puck drop on Friday is set for 7:05 pm. Season tickets, flex packages, and group tickets are now on sale. Single game tickets and single game parking passes are on sale now online and at the box office.

RED SOX WILL OPEN 2023 SEASON APRIL 7

The Salem Red Sox, Class-A affiliate of the Boston Red Sox, are excited to release the 2023 regular season schedule. The team will begin the upcoming minor league season on its home turf.

Opening Day in Salem begins with a three-game series against the Delmarva Shorebirds, starting Friday, April 7. Home games include 10 six-game series and two weekend series for a total of 66 contests to be played at Carilion Clinic Field.

“2022 was a great year for us as we achieved a sellout crowd and had several fans travel to the ballpark last season,” General Manager Allen Lawrence said. “I am really excited to see the fans come out again this year and what our staff can build on from last year.”

The Red Sox 132-game schedule is evenly split with 66 home games. Salem is a member of the Northern Division in the Carolina League, featuring a total of 12 teams. Teams include the Carolina Mudcats (MIL), Delmarva Shorebirds (BAL), Down East Wood Ducks (TEX),

Fredericksburg Nationals (WSH) and Lynchburg Hillcats (CLE). The South Division is comprised of the Augusta Green Jackets (ATL), Charleston RiverDogs (TB), Columbia Fireflies (KC), Fayetteville Woodpeckers (HOU) and Kannapolis Cannon Ballers (CWS) and Myrtle Beach Pelicans (CHC).

