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"The Voice of Craig County"

Wednesday, January 4, 2023. 2022





Darrell Frango was honored at the December meeting of the Craig County School Board for his service at the schools. Superintendent Jeanette Warwick presented him with a plaque that said, "With our greatest appreciation we hereby honor Darrell Frango in recognition for your passion and commitment of 20 years to Craig County Schools."

Craig County School Board addressed many topics at end of the year

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

The Craig County School Board members addressed a range of topics at the December meet-

Recognitions began the meeting, as Superintendent Jeanette Warwick recognized Darrell Frango for 20 years of service. Appreciation gestures were also given by each board member.

The agriculture teacher, Ms. Nolen was recognized as her Craig County High School agriculture program was awarded \$10,000 by the Farm Credit of Virginias, in support of her Land Lab

Warwick noted that over 70 grant requests were submitted and only 12 were funded.

Warwick shared, "Nolen is continuing to work on our Land Lab, and it is growing. Every day we are getting support from our community members and organizations. We now have sheep and goats and new baby calves. They completed one round of raising the cattle and taking them to market. Also, she was recently featured on Channel 7 on the Land Lab."

Warwick also recognized three students for winning the Christmas card contest within the

See **School Board**, page 3

Craig County Sheriff's Office appreciates gestures of thanks



Sheriff Trevor Craddock and the deputies of Craig County shared that they are honored to serve Craig County citizens and appreciate the gestures of thanks that have been sent to their office, wishing all a happy and safe New Year. (However, financial donations cannot be accepted, as there was a mistake in last week's information.) Deputies pictured, front to back - left to right, are Robert Wrzosek, Sheriff Trevor Craddock, Chris Swingle, Steve Dove, Geromy Nichols, Gregory May, Jeffrey Bryant, Jesse Crowder and Nathan Arthur.

VFW awards First Responders of the Year for 2022



Craig Valley VFW Post 4491 presented its annual first responder awards for 2022: Fireman - Dan Mathias, Policeman - Gregory May, and EMT - Ronnie Allen. Donna Birtsch, who received the dispatcher award, was not pictured. "It's the least we can do to show our appreciation for the men and women who give their time to help us," VFW Post Commander Billy Lee shared.

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

The Craig Valley VFW Post 4491 has honored local first responders in Craig County for several years, thanking them for their dedication and service to the community, choosing one

person from each department.

This year's award recipients were Fireman - Dan Mathias, Law Enforcement - Gregory May, EMT – Ronnie Allen and Dispatcher – Donna Birtsch.

They were given an awards ceremony, presenting them with a plaque and a \$50 gift card.

The VFW received letters for

each recipient, sharing their rea-

sons for nominating that person. Deputy Gregory May was nominated by Sheriff Trevor Craddock.

"Deputy May is an excellent representative of the Craig County Sheriff's Office and has a dual

See VFW Awards, page 2

Virginia Western Educational Foundation gives out record number of CCAP scholarships 14% growth in tuition-free program aided by increased financial support from localities



COURTESY OF VIRGINIA WESTERN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Scholarship recipients Leonardo Garcia Salas and Shaniyah Byers are pictured.

ROANOKE – A record-high 630 students are attending Virginia Western Community College tuition-free this fall, thanks to the private-public community partnership that funds the Community College Access Pro-

Since 2008, public localities and private donors have united in support of CCAP, which is the largest "free college" program at a Virginia community college. CCAP provides up to three years of tuition for recent high school graduates who meet program requirements, as funding allows. More than 3,872 Roanoke Valley students have participated in the program as of fall 2022.

'Thanks to the community's dedication, commitment and belief in our young people, our high school graduates continue to be able to start their academic and career journeys close to home and enter a workforce that eagerly awaits them," said William Farrell II, hair of the Virginia Western Community College Educational Foundation, a nonprofit affiliated with Virginia Western Community College.

The prior peak of CCAP participants was in fall 2015, with 551 students funded by the Educational Foundation scholarship.

"This 14 percent increase in participation is largely driven by increased funding from our locality partners, which are eager to open doors for more students to receive CCAP support," Amanda Mansfield, philanthropy director of the educational foundation, said. "We are heartened that they recognize the critical link between Virginia Western students achieving degrees and certificates and building a stronger workforce. Our special acknowledgements go to to Roanoke and Botetourt counties for their dedi-

cated expansion efforts." Roanoke Valley high school seniors may apply for CCAP support in fall 2023 by filling out an online application by Feb. 1, 2023. Those interested in learning more about CCAP are invited to attend upcoming in-person and Zoom information sessions, scheduled for midday and evening times through January. Registration is required at virginiawestern.edu/

CCAP recipients for fall 2023: Craig County:

First year: Tanner Davis, Jennifer Fitzpatrick, Brayden Frango, Mason Huffman, Kaitlyn Radford and Chasity Wolfe

Second year: Autumn Hutchison, Jaela Hutton and Lucy Rigney

-The New Castle Record



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VDOT ROADWATCH

INTERSTATE 81

INTERSTATE 81 LANE WIDENING CONSTRUC-TION 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: WORK ZONE SPEED: With narrow spacing in lanes due to barrier walls, lack of shoulders and lane shifts in various locations, drivers should adhere to posted 60 mph speed limits in the work zone and allow space when following a vehicle. RAMP CLO-SURES: Ramp closures 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

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.

I-81 mile marker 141 to 136.

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.

NORTHBOUND AT EXIT 105 NEW RIVER REPLACEMENT **BRIDGE** IN MONTGOMERY COUN-TY - 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: A slow roll operation may be in place daily, Monday through Friday, between mile marker 101 and 105 northbound and between mile marker 109 and 105 southbound, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Slow rolls scheduled for Tuesday, January 10 and Wednesday, January 11. 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 fol-

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.

lowing morning.

I-81 BRIDGE DECK RE-PAIRS – 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 morn-

ing. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays INTERSTATE 581

ROUTE 581 BRIDGE WORK OVER WILLIAM-SON ROAD -Bridge work is close to completion on Route 11 (Williamson Road). Intermittent and alternating lane closures between the intersections with Rutherford Avenue and Wells Avenue are still possible. Intermittent daytime and nighttime lane closures between the intersections above may still be required utilizing flagging operations. Any impacts to I-581 will be minimal. Expected completion end of 2022.

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 night-time 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.

ROANOKE CITY

13th STREET SE IM-PROVEMENTS WITH DE-TOUR – 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. TRAFFIC PATTERN CHANGE: Northbound traffic will be switched to the northbound lane of 13th Street. Southbound traffic will still be detoured around the work zone.

ROANOKE COUNTY

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.

BOTETOURT COUNTY

DALEVILLE INTER-SECTION PROJECT FOR **FIELDSTONE DEVELOP-ACCESS** MENT Lane northbound closures and southbound on Route 220 in Daleville will be in place for construction of a median with crossover, a right turn lane and a new traffic signal. This work is associated with construction of the Fieldstone Development. Lane closures will be set up on various days into early next year,

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 periodic lane closures with flagging operations to be in place during daytime hours. Message boards are present to alert and update drivers. Expect-

ed completion in summer 2023.

ROUTE 1095 (HIGH-LAND DRIVE) PIPE FAIL-URE CLOSURE – As of December 29, Route 1095 (Highland Drive) near its intersection with Sanderson Road has reopened to traffic. It has been closed due to a pipe failure. Over the next few weeks, the road will need to be closed periodically during daytime hours, after 8 a.m., to continue work. The previous detour route using Murray Court to Richardson will need to be used during these times. Paving will take place in spring when temperatures allow. Completion date expected in winter/spring

ROUTE 611 (GREYLEDGE 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

CRAIG COUNTY

ROUTE 311 **BRIDGE REPLACEMENT** 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 late spring 2023. TRAFFIC SWITCH: On September 22, traffic was switched from using 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.

VFW Awards from page 1

role with the Sheriff's Office, as he also not only handles the job of Deputy Sheriff, but he is also the animal control officer for the County and strives to do an excellent job for the citizens of Craig in both roles," Craddock shared. "Deputy May has developed a good relationship with the Salem animal shelter and Angels of Assisi in his role as animal control, and truly looks out for the welfare of animals that he comes in contact with."

Craddock added that May has received a Mothers Against Drunk Driving Award in the past for his efforts to keep Craig's highway safer for the

"Deputy May is a well-rounded deputy who looks out for his fellow citizens as well as the other deputies that he works with," Craddock said. "No matter what the task whether answering calls for service or patrolling the County, you can count on deputy may to be ready willing and able to handle any task presented to him."

May shared, "I was honored in receiving this award. I love working in this county as it has its perks knowing who most of the people are, but then there are situations where I respond to calls, and I know that person and they committed a crime. I do my job and treat them just like I would anybody else."

Craddock nominated Dis-

patch Supervisor Donna Birtsch for the dispatcher of

the year award.

"Donna started full time with the Craig County Sheriff's Office in 2004 as a dispatcher and was promoted to dispatch supervisor in 2016, and as Sheriff, I cannot say enough good things about my dispatch supervisor," Craddock shared. "Donna is very committed to the Sheriff's Office staff and the staff she supervises and assists in her day-to-day job as dispatch supervisor."

He added that Birtsch also dispatches herself and she takes care of the day-to-day office administrative work.

'Donna makes sure that the citizens of Craig County receives the help that they need when they call 911 or they call the non-emergency number for assistance," Craddock said. "She makes sure that all shifts for dispatcher are covered and is more than willing to jump in and fill a shift as needed. Also, she is constantly making sure that she continues her training and sees to it that her dispatchers continue to keep their certifications as well. Craig County is very fortunate to have such a dedicated individual to lead our dispatch

The Craig County Rescue Squad nominated Ronnie Allen who joined the rescue squad in 2021.

"He becan taking the EMT."

"He began taking the EMT

course, and after obtaining his NREMT certification, he has been diligently working his way volunteering shifts for county coverage," Chief Robert Wrzosek shared. "Ronnie is a driving force when it comes to getting things done at the station and helps push other members to be more active."

Brian Lipes, the Chief of Simmonsville Volunteer Fire Department, nominated Dan Matthias.

Matthias joined Simmonsville Volunteer Fire Department in January of 1990 and has been an active member with 32 years of service.

"He sacrifices hours of his time each day to serve the community and has put in many hours of training to be efficient in firefighting," Lipes shared. "Dan has a Firefighter 2 Certification, Hazmat Operation Certification, Basic First Aid and CPR Certification, plus many more training certifications."

Lipes added that in the fall of 2021, the department decided to expand its service by purchasing a UTV for brush fires and search and rescue on the Appalachian Trail and other issues through the county as their department has experienced an increase in calls of this nature on the Appalachian Trail and in hunting accidents in the past couple of years.

Matthias "took the lead on

this project and was instrumental in receiving quotes

and information" on several UTV's, which helped the department with their decision to move forward and put the UTV into service as early as the spring of 2022, as Matthias also secured a trailer to haul it on.

"The UTV is available to all Craig County Fire and Rescue Departments, Sheriff Department, and surrounding counties when needs arise," Lipes said as he explained that they have utilized the YouTube video on several calls this year on the Appalachian Trail.

"On the morning of February 27, Simmonsville FD was dispatched for a motor vehicle accident with entrapment. Dan was the first member to arrive on the scene of the accident and relayed valuable information to the chief and first unit enroute to the scene," Lipes explained. "This call was time critical, and the information allowed me to expedite what equipment, resources, and personnel was needed to handle the situation that we were facing that morning. This incident turned out positive due to dance training and ability to pass along the urgent information."

Lipes shared, "Dan is very dedicated with his service to Simmonsville FD and is greatly appreciated. The volunteers throughout our county provide many hours away from their homes protect you, the citizens of Craig County. If

you know any volunteers in this county thank them for their service."

Dan shared that he has been with the department for 30

"I was actually shocked as I don't expect to get recognized," Matthias shared. "I always have a heart of giving back to community, as I come from people who always gave to community, it is second nature. Still, it about made me cry when they were reading it. I have always had an interest in the fire department. My wife grew up here and when we moved here, I joined. It is that heart of servitude."

He added, "The department has done a lot for my family too as my son is a paramedic. He is now a fire fighter for Augusta County and learned in Craig County."

"The fire fighters and EMT's are always looking for members if you have any interest," Matthias shared. "You don't have to be a fire fighter as there are tons of opportunities to do other things. Wives and others help, and there is so much logistics to having a fundraiser and events to help out. The problem now is that all of us are getting older and not as many taking interest and membership is down."

ed, "It's the least we can do to show our appreciation for the men and women who give their time to help us."

Commander Billy Lee add-

Be sure to 'Like' the New Castle Record on Facebook.

Upcoming public meetings in Craig County

Jan. 5

The Craig County Board of Supervisor will meet at the Craig County Courthouse at 6 p.m.

Jan. 10

Rep. Morgan Griffith will hold a citizen comment period from 9-10:30 a.m. in the courthouse breakroom.

Jan. 16

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

Jan. 17

The Craig County School Board will meet from 5:30-8:30 p.m. in the Craig County High

School auditorium.

Jan. 18

A CPMT meeting at CPMT - Department of Social Services will be at

Feb. 14

Rep. Morgan Griffith will hold a citizen comment period from 9-10:30 a.m. in the courthouse breakroom.

Feb. 15

A CPMT meeting at CPMT – Department of Social Services will be at 1 p.m.

Feb. 20

Council will meet from

The New Castle Town

7-8 p.m. at the New Castle Town Hall at 339 Market Street in New Castle.

March 14

Rep. Morgan Griffith will hold a citizen comment period from 9-10:30 a.m. in the courthouse breakroom.

March 15

A CPMT meeting at CPMT - Department of Social Services will be at

March 20

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

-The New Castle Record

Radon awareness

As cold weather has us spending more time indoors, public health leaders have designated January as Radon Action Month. You can't see, smell or taste radon, but it could be present at a dangerous level in your home. Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer deaths among nonsmokers, claiming the lives of about 21,000 Åmericans each year. Residents can protect their health by testing the indoor air in their homes.

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that comes from rocks and dirt in the ground and escapes into the air everywhere. Radon exposure doesn't cause any

immediate symptoms, so it is very easy for people to be unaware that they are being exposed. Current and former smokers are much more vulnerable to radon exposure than people who have never smoked. Because radon is a colorless, odorless gas that cannot be detected with your senses, testing is the only way to know if you have high radon levels in your home.

Nearly half of all homes in Southwestern Virginia are vulnerable to high levels of radon, but the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has found high levels of radon in homes in every Virginia county. Homes in the same neighborhood can have differing levels of radon indoors, so the U.S. Surgeon General encourages every household to have their home tested regardless of geographic location or type of foundation of your home.

Your chances of getting lung cancer from radon depend mostly on:

How much radon is in your home The amount of time you

spend in your home Whether you are a smoker

or have ever smoked Exposure to radon is a preventable health risk. Testing radon levels in your home can help prevent unnecessary exposure. If a high radon lev-

el is detected in your home,

radon problems are almost

always fixable with corrective

Things You Can Do Dur-

steps to protect your house-

ing National Radon Action Month:

Testing is easy and inexpensive. Learn more about testing your home, including how to obtain an easy-to-use test kit from VDH for \$3 per kit at vdhradon.org. Kits are also for sale at most home improvement stores or online.

Already have a radon mitigation unit in your house? Units should be tested at least every two years, or more often if living arrangements change, such as turning a basement into livable space suitable for occupancy.

Spread the word about Radon Action Month by encouraging others to learn about radon and how to test

their homes.

Plan an activity in your community to help raise awareness of the importance of testing.

Building a home? Learn more about construction techniques that help prevent radon from entering a home that are practical and straightforward for any builder.

Because radon is a leading environmental cause of cancer mortality in the United States, it is imperative that residents are informed about the health risks of extended radon exposure. Protect yourself and your family by getting your home tested!

> -Christie Wills, Communications officer Roanoke City & Alleghany Health Districts

School Board

school. The winners were Dixie Wyrick, Elena Sizer and Chey-

"They received a certificate of recognition and a \$10 Subway gift card. We will be sending these out to all the county officials a digital Christmas card," Warwick said. J.D. Carlin, of Blue Ridge

Behavior and Healthcare, was present to ask for permission to conduct a survey within the school. He noted that they have been doing this survey every two years since 2005. It is a survey to middle and

high school students, with permission letters that go to each student's parents for approval for them to answer the questions. The survey is anonymous, and the data is done online. Virginia Tech collects and analyzes the data.

"When we found out that the Department of Social services were not able to do the Angel Tree this year and our community members had to send their names to Roanoke and they had to physically go to Roanoke, we had a team of counsellors and other staff that organized their own event, called the Light Up A Child's Life Christmas event," War-

16. Loud, unpleasant

17. Large intestines

ing trajectory 20. Witnesses

21. You need both

29. C. European river

19. Move with a curv-

noise

to live

25. Dash

26. Network

43. Affirmative

44. Pie _ __ mode 45. W. Asian country

46. Grotesque or

51. Electronic data

bizarre 48. Delicacy (ar-

chaic) 49. Téxtile

50. Denial

52. Attempt

wick shared. "Food Country allowed them to set up a tree with Christmas bulb tags on it, which had the items needed listed on each and the response was overwhelming.

Approximately 30 families received assistance and 60 stu-

Warwick noted that they continued to receive donations therefore were able to reach out to more families as well. They also set up food items where families were able to shop for what each individual family preferred.

"I want to do a big shout out to our staff who all pitched in," Warwick exclaimed. "They decided to bring back the winter dance and Snow Court, which I understand use to be a tradition in the past. The JVG class planned it with CCHS office staff, and they raised over \$2300 to purchase these gifts, using this as a lesson also. I am very proud of what our small community did!"

Warwick reported that she and other staff members attended a School Safety Committee meeting and learned much. They are working with the sheriff's department and emergency services to number the doors in such a manner that makes it easiest for the first responders to recognize. Also, window coverings ar-

rived for those rooms that did not yet have them. They will be scheduling a hands-on training for staff and a desktop active shooter drill with the sheriff's department

and emergency services. Virginia Department of Education conducted an on-site academic review of McCleary Elementary focusing on science in December, visiting classrooms and looking at lesson plans, giving suggestions to the

Warwick announced that they are happy to introduce the new social media platform.

"It is very simple, go to the app store and download Craig County School app, so everyone can be accessed right from your phone," she said. "We will be sending out more reminders to parents that this is available, as we have already received a lot of positive feedback from the community as most of us access through our phone and the old website was not compatible."

Warwick noted that during the fireside chats that she and Trace Bellassai had, some teach-

or scope 36. Domineering leader

37. A person who deliv-

ers a speech

38. One after 89

39. Young hawk

event or action

pitcher

processing

44. A team's best

47. Integrated data

40. The scene of any

ers had expressed their concerns about scheduling.

"In order to make a well-informed decision, I conducted a survey of the high school teachers which were effected," Warwick shared. "Of the responses, nine were in favor of block, eight were in favor of six period, a 50 % split but five had no preferences and seven nonresponses, though I sent it out numerous times."

Therefore, after Warwick met with the principal and other administration, the school will be moving back to six period day for the next school year. A couple classes need two periods, and they will be looking at those.

She noted that keeping students engaged for over an hour was sometimes difficult. Also, inclimate weather causes it difficult to make up during a block schedule.

When students leave in May, they will have their schedules so they know which classes they will have in the fall.

The Virginia Association of School Board Superintendents and the Virginia Association of School Business Officials have their annual meeting Jan. 10, therefore the monthly School

board meeting will be moved to Jan. 17. An annual walkthrough will be at 4:30 p.m. and the regular meeting at 5:30 The General Assembly had

mandated that the school board

approve a policy addressing the issue of sexually explicit content of materials.

"The policy was created by the Family Foundation and in line with parental permission. If they are not G rated, we have to receive family permission," Warwick explained. "The principal will maintain a list of approved videos and submit it to the Superintendent for review and final list will be sent to the School Board for approval. No

teacher can show any video that has not been approved." The model policy was ap-

proved by the Board. The January meeting was moved to Tuesday, Jan. 17 at

5:30 p.m. in the auditorium. Community members are always encouraged to attend, or to watch it via internet to stay abreast of the issues the Board and Craig County Public Schools staff and administration continue to address.

A Merry Christmas was sent to all and a Happy New Year.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE														
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9. Hankerings

15. Seafood

23. Arrest

24. Check

18. Commercial

22. Type of gland

11. Outer

firm



PINION

Youngkin releases economic development policy to grow Virginia

Gov. Glenn Youngkin today unveiled "Compete to Win," a comprehensive economic development policy to grow Virginia's economy which he announced at the 2022 Virginia Economic Summit hosted by the Virginia Chamber of Commerce and Virginia Economic Development Partnership. Developed to address Virginia's sluggish economic performance in recent years, the ambitious plan outlines a roadmap to enhance the Commonwealth's competitive position and accelerate economic growth over the next three years. Key focus areas include acceleration of support for prioritized industries and new sectors, workforce development and growth, site and infrastructure develop-

ment, increased housing sup-

ply and tax reform, cost and ease of doing business, and the growth of small businesses and entrepreneurship.

"Economic development is essential to making Virginia an attractive place to live, work, and raise a family," said Youngkin. "While we have made substantial progress in a post-pandemic economy over the past year, there is still much recovery work to be done. Now is the time to hit the accelerator and build a best-in-class business environment so Virginia can compete to win, and this comprehensive plan will enable us to do just that. I look forward to the collaboration ahead to solidify the Commonwealth's position as the top state for business in the nation."

'Virginia's economic future

depends on bold vision and even bolder execution," said Secretary of Commerce and Trade Caren Merrick. "We are committed to ensuring the Commonwealth has the business climate, prepared sites, workforce pipeline, entrepreneurial ecosystem, and livability to successfully compete and drive economic growth across the Commonwealth, and we are ready to continue this critical work with a strategic roadmap to follow." To accomplish its economic

development goals, Youngkin's aministration will undertake six strategies to drive economic development in Virginia into high gear:

Accelerate Support for Target Industries and New Sectors: Elevate industries where Virginia has competitive advantages and establish strategic segments for key sectors to generate growth for rural and urban Virginia, leverage all of government plus enablers to capture growth in industries where Virginia is in a strong position to win and enhance Virginia's competitiveness for high-growth industries. Unleash a Talented Work-

force: Grow Virginia's workforce, improve connections between talent and businesses, and prepare Virginians to acquire in-demand, marketable skills.

Accelerate Site and Infrastructure Development: Prepare sites, utilities, and roadways to meet market demand, streamline Virginia's permitting processes to increase speed to market, and proactively invest in the necessary infrastructure to support growth.

Make Virginia More Affordable: Address housing supply shortages, energy costs, and individual taxes to reduce the cost of living in Virginia.

Break Down Barriers: Evaluate Virginia's business taxes, licensing, and other costs, and modernize Virginia's regulatory processes to reduce costs of doing business and remove barriers to success.

Drive Innovation: Strengthen a statewide culture conducive to entrepreneurship by enhancing connections between businesses, universities, investors, and talent and reducing burdensome regulations for small businesses and early-stage companies.

-Newsroom of Office of the Governor

Library at work in 2022 and seeds could have such a fun day together. May-

Library Corner

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community By Marge Lewter

Country Bazaar at Bethel Church

On Oct. 15, Bethel Church hosted the second Bazaar supporting our local artists, businesses and community organizations, including the library. The library gave away books and we all did some neighborly "sitting," catching up on what is going on. You never knew that bunnies, felted animals, books

wood Garden Club had an upscale yard sale. The leftovers were sold at the library at Fall Festival. The church had delicious homemade goodies. Crafters offered quilted home decor (Carole Burk), hand drawn note cards (Rachel Mattox), amazing felted critters (Kirstann Edwards) and a wide array of wreaths. From the farms

came apples, eggs and a full array of seeds (The Matyas Family).

Summer Reading **Program**

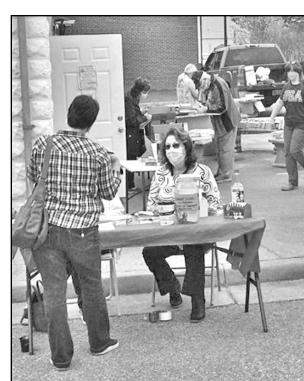
In partnership with the Library of Virginia and many libraries throughout the state, we launched a

summer reading program from June 20 to Aug. 6. Readers that participated included 21 adults, forty children and six teens. Prizes were awarded to keep our readers motivated. Students at the Childcare Center added to the party with their creative artwork.

Swap Days

Three times a year the library has Swap Day. It is a day that the book barns are opened, and books are free. Folks show up with items to rehome and take away new treasures. Spring its plants. Summer its household items. Fall its holiday decor and warm clothes. All free. We may be short on space inside, but we can party outside. Plan on joining us next year so you don't miss out.





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Salem Championship Stampede Rodeo rides into town this week

For the 55th time, the Salem Championship Stampede Rodeo, presented by Kroger and Ram Rodeo/Berglund Ram, makes its way to the Salem Civic Čenter Jan. 6-8. And much like previous appearances, this year's rodeo will continue the legacy handed down over the years that includes providing a family experience that ages 2 to 82 can enjoy, while providing some unique specialty acts and professional cowboys and cowgirls chasing points for a world title.

"It's always special coming to Salem and to think of all those who have been part of bringing the longest running family show to the Salem Civic Center," Kevin DeBusk, spokesperson for the Salem Stampede Championship Rodeo, said.

He continued saying, "In 2022 we had huge crowds and even sold-out Saturday night and can't wait to see what happens this year. And to do our best to assure our success continues we will do exactly what we've prided ourselves on for years which is bringing a unique specialty act and top-notch rodeo clown in addition to some of the best cowboys and cowgirls. And we definitely believe people will enjoy this year's unique

This year's specialty act is five-time national all-around Charro and 17-time Texas Champion Francisco Flores of San Antonio, Texas. As part of Flores's performance, spectators will enjoying some of his fancy roping skills horseback as well as from the ground with the assistance of

"I'm grateful for this opportunity and very excited to share a little of my tradition and culture with the people Salem," Flores said about his upcoming appearance

In addition to Flores, spectators will enjoy multi time, including 2022, top five International Professional Rodeo Association, Clown of the Year Mike Wentworth and Boot Barn mutton busting, which will feature 10 kids each night that 4-6 and under 50 pounds. Registration will occur on the arena floor prior to each performance and be on a first come basis. Additionally, kids must be able to fit our vest and helmets.

Aside from the family entertainment aspect spectators will get to see high impact rodeo action, featuring professional cowboys and cowgirls from across the country, including many

Organizers are encouraging attendees to purchase their tickets in advance at the Salem Civic Center Box Office and online at ticketmaster. com. More information about the rodeo can be found on the rodeo's Facebook page or at

Avoid the lines and get advance tickets at the Salem Civic Center Box Office as well as ticketmaster.com. And you can follow information about the rodeo on the Salem Civic Center's

The rodeo's schedule is as follows: 7:30 p.m. on Friday, 7:30 p.m. on Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday.

-The New Castle Record



The rodeo will take place Friday, Jan. 6 through Sunday, Jan. 8.



"When the 2023 edition of the rodeo rides back into Salem, fans can expect more of the same non-stop excitement they have come to love," the rodeo said.

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God's House

BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

CHESTNUT GROVE CHURCH

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

CORNERSTONE CHURCH

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

CRAIG HEALING SPRINGS CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

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

second Sundays. Everyone is welcome! CRAIG VALLEY BAPTIST 171 Salem Avenue, New Castle, 864-5667; Sunday School 10:00 a.m.,

Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m., Wednesday: Prayer Service and Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Youth Group 6:30-8:00PM, Bible Buddies at 6:30also available. www.craigvalleybaptist.com

8:00PM. Transportation provided - call the church. Hearing devices CRAIG VÄLLEÝ GÖSPEL FELLOWSHIP

HWY 621, Pastor Roy Lee Law Jr., "Jay", 864-8984. Sunday School 10:00am; Worship 11:00am., Wednesday night Bible study 7pm, from HWY 311, up HWY 621, 8 miles on left. **CROSSROADS CHURCH**

21892 Craigs Creek Road, New Castle. Pastor Gary Burch. 864-7520. Sunday School- 10-10:45AM, Sunday Worship - 11AM-Noon.

Church phone 864-5919. Sunday School 10:00AM, Sunday Worship

11:00AM and 6PM. Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7PM, Youth Group

FIRST BAPTIST Pastor Kevin Altizer, Corner of Main Street & Boyd Ave., New Castle.

7:00PM, Reformers Unanimous Addiction Recovery every Friday evening at 7PM.

GRACE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

5530 Catawba Valley Drive, Catawba, VA, 540-384-7075. Pastor Loraine Taylor, agladypastor@msn.com. Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Evening service at 7:00 p.m.; Youth (ages 13-18) & Super Church (ages 4-12) Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. You can also watch on Facebook Live at 10:30 a.m. www.graceassemblycatawaba.org

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

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

HEBRON UNITED METHODIST

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

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

LEVEL GREEN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

3388 Cumberland Gap Rd. Newport, Duane Wente, Minister, 540-544-7179. Sunday School 10:00am, Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am,

Children's Church 11:00am. Choir Practice, bi-weekly 7:00pm, Ladies meeting first Monday of each month at 7:00pm.

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST Pastor Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle, 540-525-7662. Sunday:

Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, & 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM. MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN 4199 Craig Valley Drive, New Castle, 864-6622. Sunday: Worship Ser-

vice 9:00 a.m., Children's Church 9:15 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 **NEW CASTLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH** "WHERE YOUR HEART CAN FEEL THE DIFFERENCE" 282 Salem Ave., New Castle; 864-5212; 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.

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NEW CANTERBURY PENTECOSTAL FELLOWSHIF Pastor John D. Abbott, Hwy 621 (10 miles), phone: 864-8242, Sunday Prayer 10:00-10:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday Service 6:00 pm.

PAXTON CHAPEL

Pastor Kenny Davis, 17 Sage Brush Lane, New Castle; "Presenting God's Word Faithfully"; Sunday School 10:00 AM; Sunday Worship Service 11:15 AM; visit us on the web at www.paxtonchapelchurch.

com; email at paxtonchapel@ yahoo.com. THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

118 Main Street, New Castle. Service Times: Sunday, Bible classes-10 a.m., Worship-11:00 a.m., Evening Worship-6 p.m.; Wednesday, Bible classes - 7 p.m.

NEW CASTLE UNITED METHODIST

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Legals - City of

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OF

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Legals - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 12790 LEE HIGHWAY, **BUCHANAN, VA** 24066

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated March 13, 2012, in the original principal amount of \$137,162.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 120001170. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090 on January 30, 2023, at 12:00 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: BEGINNING AT (1) POINT ADJACENT U.S. **ROUTE 11 AND THE OLD** RIGHT-OF-WAY OF **ROUTE 33; THENCE WITH** A CURVE TO THE LEFT WITH AN ARC OF 73.83 FT. AND A CHORD BEARING N. 48 DEG. 06 18" E. A CHORD DISTANCE OF 73.83 FT. TO (2); THENCE N. 37 DEG. 10` 22" E. 103.11 FT TO (3); THENCE WITH A CURVE TO THE LEFT WITH AN ARC OF 292.64 FT. TO (4); THENCE S. 41 DEG. 01` 46" E. 282.83 FT. TO (5); THENCE WITH A CURVE TO THE RIGHT WITH AN ARC OF 82.01 FT. AND A CHORD BEARING S. 58 DEG. 53 19" W. A CHORD DISTANCE OF 81.89 FT. TO (6); THENCE WITH A CURVE TO THE RIGHT WITH AN ARC OF 164.03 FT. AND A CHORD BEARING S. 71 DEG. 45 20" W. A CHORD DISTANCE OF 163.54 FT. TO (7); THENCE S. 79 DEG. 25` 12" W. 268.97 FT. TO THE PLACE OF **BEGINNING AND CONTAINING 1.6484** ACRES MORE OR LESS, ALL AS SHOWN ON PLAT OF SURVEY BY CHARLES R. MCMURRY, C.L.S., DATED OCTOBER 9. 1987 RECORDED IN DEED **BOOK 339. PAGE 448** TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust whichever is lower in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's

Legals - Botetourt County

Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101. Rockville, MD 20852. 301-961-6555 website: www.bwwsales.com. VA-359565-1

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE

among the land records of the Circuit Court for the City TRUSTEE SALE of Radford as Deed Instrument Number 478 Dagger Spring Road, 0500160, the undersigned Eagle Rock, VA 24085 By appointed Substitute virtue of the power and Trustee will offer for authority contained in a sale at public auction all that Deed of Trust dated March property located in the City 18 2017 and recorded at of Radford, at the front of Instrument Number the Circuit Court building for 170001207 in the Clerk's the City of Radford located Office for the Botetourt at 619 2nd Street, Radford, County Virginia Circuit Virginia on February 3, Court, Virginia, securing a 2023 at 2:00 PM, the loan which was originally property with improvements \$190,000.00. The to wit: LOT 1A appointed SUBSTITUTE ROSEMONT SUBDIVISION TRUSTEE, Commonwealth Tax Map No. 12-111-5 Trustees, LLC will offer for THIS COMMUNICATION IS sale at public auction at the FROM A DEBT **Botetourt County** COLLECTOR. TERMS OF courthouse steps located at 1 W Main Street, Fincastle, SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of 10% of VA 24090-0219. February the sale price, will be 02, 2023 at 11:00 AM required in cash, improved real property, with certified or cashier's check. an abbreviated legal Settlement within fifteen description of the following (15) days of sale, otherwise described property, to wit: Trustees may forfeit Real property in the City of deposit. Additional terms to Eagle Rock, County of be announced at sale. Loan Botetourt, State of Virginia, type: Conventional. described as follows: That Reference Number 22tract located in the Fincastle 289964. Magisterial District of the **PROFESSIONAL** County of Botetourt, **FORECLOSURE** Virginia designated Tract 1, CORPORATION OF containing 3.00 acres on VIRGINIA, Substitute that plat of a field survey Trustees, C/O LOGS showing a portion of the LEGAL GROUP LLP. 10021 parcel 1-53.091 acres Balls Ford Road, Suite 200, source creating Tract 1 of Manassas, Virginia 20109 the Tommy Garten (703) 449-5800. property by J. Brad Smith, Land Surveyor, dated May 1994, a copy of which is Recorded in Plat Book 15, page 151. AND as more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. TERMS OF SALE: The property will be sold "AS is," without

REPRESENTATION OR

AND SUBJECT TO

conditions, restrictions

reservations, easements,

matters of record taking

priority over the Deed of

Trust to be announced at

the time of sale. A deposit

of \$20,000 or 10% of the

lower, will be required at the

time of sale, in the form of

certified check, cashier's

check or money order by

the purchaser. The balance

of the purchase price, with

contained in the Deed of

Trust Note from the date of

sale to the date said funds

are received in the office of

interest at the rate

the SUBSTITUTE

TRUSTEE, will be due

within fifteen (15) days of

by the successful bidder,

the entire deposit shall be

the costs and expenses of

forfeited and applied to

Trustee's fee. All other

assessments, including

whether incurred prior to or

after the sale, and all other

costs incident to settlement

to be paid by the purchaser.

In the event taxes, any

other public charges have

be due to the seller, to be

adjusted from the date of

agrees to pay the seller's

attorneys at settlement, a

fee of \$470.00 for review of

the settlement documents.

Additional terms will be

announced at the time of

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bidder will be required to

Substitute Trustees a

bidding, FOR

301-907-8000

Memorandum of

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Mortgagee or the

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Foreclosure Sale, be

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Mortgagee's attorney. A

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Additional terms, if any, to

be announced at the sale

and the Purchaser may be

given the option to execute

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used for that purpose. The

sale is subject to seller

confirmation. Substitute

Trustee: Equity Trustees,

LLC, 8100 Three Chopt

available for viewing at

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the contract of sale

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electronically. This is a

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against the Mortgagor, the

Substitute Trustee, but shall

execute and deliver to the

memorandum or contract of

the sale at the conclusion of

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Rosenberg & Associates,

Secured Party) 4340 East

West Highway, Suite 600 Bethesda, MD 20814

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LLC (Attorney for the

settlement. Purchaser

sale at the time of

been advanced, a credit will

water/sewer charges,

sale and Substitute

public charges or

sale. In the event of default

sale price, whichever is

rights of way, and all other

WARRANTY OF ANY KIND

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF RADFORD, **VIRGINIA**

Notice is hereby given, the Radford City Council will hold a public hearing on January 9, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located at 10 Robertson Street, Radford, Virginia. Pursuant to Code of Virginia, Title 15.2, Article 2 Section 15.2-2006 et seq., the purpose of the public hearing is to receive comments regarding a request from K&J Properties to vacate a portion of an way area identified as a portion of Custis an Second Street located between West Main\Second Street and Custis\Ingles Street. The request contains a total of approximately 3,810sf (0.087 acre). Copies of the application, together with the plat of the property to be vacated, are available for review in the City Manager's Office located at

Legals - City of Salem

10 Robertson Street.

Order of **Publication**

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 8.01-316,-317 Roanoke City Circuit Court Case No. CL22-2363 Lynn Edward Craig V. Patricia Catherine Powers Craig The object of this suit is to: No-fault Divorce Complaint. It is ORDERED that Patricia Catherine Powers Craig appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before February 7th, 2023 Entered on 12/16/2022 By: Brenda S. Hamilton, Clerk

Notice

is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on January 11, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-. 2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA: 1. Consider the request of the City of Salem, property owner, for rezoning the property of 1900 block of Mill Lane (Tax Map # 179 - 2 - 1.1) from AG Agriculture District to LM Light

Manufacturing District

owner, for rezoning the

property of 1900 Mill

2. Consider the request of

Lane (Tax Map # 179 - 2

Charles N. Dorsey, property

Legals - City of Salem

1) from AG Agriculture District and RSF Residential Single-Family District to RSF Residential Single-Family District.

Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia. At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY:

James E. Taliaferro, II **Executive Secretary**

THE PLANNING

Vinton **LEGAL NOTICE OF**

Legals - Town of

PUBLIC HEARING

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, the Board of Zoning Appeals of the Town of Vinton, Virginia hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building. 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia. The Board of Zoning Appeals will also hold a dinner work session prior to the public hearing in the Council Chambers on January 12, 2023, beginning at 5:45 p.m. A request by Christopher Coles, for a variance of Article IV, Division 1, Sec. 4-3, Dimensional Regulations for Residential

Districts, of the Vinton Zoning Ordinance. The purpose of the request is to ask for a one thousand, one hundred and fifty-four (1,154) square feet variance from the six thousand (6,000) square feet lot size requirement, and a six (6) foot variance from the fifty (50) foot lot width requirement to allow for the resubdivision of the existing lot. The property is located at 424 E. Lee Avenue, Tax Map Number 60.16-05-23.00-0000, zoned R-2 Residential District. Further information concerning this public hearing may be obtained in the Planning and Zoning Department located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, VA 24179, (540) 983-0605, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Interested persons may be heard at the above public

hearings. Given under my hand this 12th day of December, 2022. Nathaniel McClung Assistant Planning Director

Secretary, Board of Zoning

Appeals NOTICE OF INTENT TO **COMPLY WITH** DISABILITIES ACT. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide assistance or special arrangements to qualified individuals with disabilities in order to participate in or attend the meeting. Please call (540) 983 0605 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting so that proper arrangements can

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Rocket basketball teams return to action this week

The Craig County High School boys and girls basketball teams return to action this week as the new year begins.

The boys ended the 2022 portion of their schedule with two games in Brookville last week in the Stinger Shootout at Brookville High School. The Rockets fell to 0-6 on the season as they lost on opening night to the host Bees, 55-39, then dropped a 67-37 decision to Appomattox on the second night. Brookville, coached by former Craig coach Cameron Shepherd, won the four-team tournament with a 44-38 win over Staunton River on the second night.

The boys were scheduled to return to action Tuesday with a game at Eastern Montgomery. Wednesday, Tonight, they have a home game with Bath County.

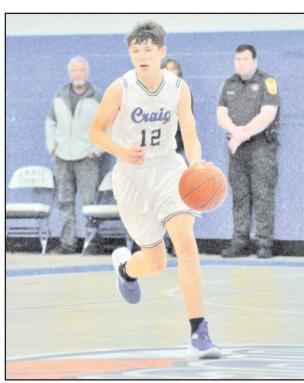
The girls were off for over two weeks when they took on East Mont at home Tuesday, but results were too late for publication.

Both teams will be at Bland County Saturday for a quadruple-header. The jayvee girls will play at noon followed by the jayvee boys at 2 pm. The varsity girls are scheduled to begin at 3:30 pm and the varsity boys will follow, at approximately 5:30 pm, with the fourth game of the day. Next Tuesday, Janu-

ary 10, the boys will be at Narrows and the girls will host the Green Wave in New Castle in Pioneer District action.



Annabelle Gregory throws a cross court pass for the Rockets in a recent game.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Hayden Reynolds brings the ball up the floor for Craig



A Mayhem player winds up for a shot.



Salem scores in last Friday's game.



Pam, Thomas and Geoff, who is a teacher at Craig County High.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Mayhem and Hammerhead players fight it out on the turf.

BOX LACROSSE IS A BIG HIT AT SALEM

The Salem Mayhem lost their first Professional Box Lacrosse Association game last Friday night but won a lot of fans who attended the debut of the local team. The Hampton Hammerheads took an 18-12 win over the Mayhem before over 1,100 fans at the Salem Civic Center. The action was fast and fu-

rious and the fans were thoroughly entertained. Among the crowd was Craig County's Geoff Boyer, a teacher at Craig County High School. Geoff and wife Pam brought their twin boys, Ryan and Thomas, to the game to check out the

"The boys loved it," said Boyer of the 10 year twins who attend McCleary Elementary. lem High, Maddie and Libby. They were out throwing the Dan lost a battle with cancer

ball the next day.'

Geoff played lacrosse in in 2014 after moving on from

the public address announcer at Craig County sports events, and he also served two long stints as volleyball coach before stepping back a few years ago to spend more time with the boys. At one time he was considering starting lacrosse in Craig County. "Dan Bowman (former Craig County principal) tried to get me to start a team but I

high school and is a big fan of

the game. He's known to most

Craig County sports fans as

just didn't have the time," said Boyer. "And with our number of students, it's probably not possible." Bowman was a big supporter of the game, and he had two daughters who played in college after playing at SaCraig County High. As for Craig County, out-

door lacrosse is played in the spring and the high school already struggles to field a baseball team along with a co-ed soccer team and a handful of boys who participate in track. Most likely there wouldn't be enough students to field a lacrosse team. Boyer comes from a fam-

ily of lacrosse fans. His father graduated from the University of Virginia in 1974 and the outdoor sport is big at UVA. Geoff's first taste of indoor "box lacrosse" came when his father took him to a Philadelphia Wings professional game. Ironically, the Salem Mayhem

coach, Lindsay Sanderson, is a former coach for the Wings. "I grew up playing lacrosse," said Boyer. "We had a place in Ocean City, MD and I worked

camps in the summer." The indoor game is some-

what different from outdoor lacrosse. In fact, it's more like ice hockey without the ice. The goalies wear oversized pads to protect a goal that's smaller than the outdoor goals and the game is much more physical. "The first thing I noticed

was how physical it was," said Boyer of last Friday's game in

Salem. A full-scale fight broke out between two players in the second half. It resembled a hockey fight, with haymakers being

thrown and a Mayhem player leaving the ice with blood running down his face. "I expected some fighting but I thought it would be more like a basketball fight, with a

lot of pushing and shoving,"

said Boyer. "I wasn't expecting

blood on the turf."

The game drew a nice crowd despite the fact that the Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs, the valley's professional ice hockey team, was playing not far away. The ice hockey and box lacrosse games draw the same kind of crowd and it's anticipated that a large number of hockey fans will be in attendance in Salem when the Mayhem returns to the civic center on January 14 to host the Charlotte Bootleggers. The Rail Yard Dawgs are out of town in Fayetteville that night. "I was very pleased with the

crowd for the first time out," said Salem Civic Center manager Wendy Delano. "The action was good and the crowd was into it. The fans I talked to thoroughly enjoyed it."

Salem will have seven home games through April1st.