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# THE NEW CASTLE RECORD



**FUEL 24/7**



All were called into the cafeteria for final event, the drawing of prizes. There was standing room only and the kids were all excited and also got their free cotton candy.

## McCleary One School - One Book attended by hundreds on Friday



Paige wanted to get dinosaur scratch tattoos which made her happy.

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

Craig County has a small school system, but the teachers and administrators work diligently to make their events "a time to remember."

Friday night's One School - One Book annual event at McCleary Elementary School proved that to be.

At 5:45 p.m. on March 17, there were already 75 kids and parents lined up outside with great anticipation of the evening's fun that was planned for them.

And that was just the beginning of a couple hundred more that came for the evening's festivities.

As they entered, the kids and parents were given a card. For the child, they received entrance to the many games they could play which all had prizes. They also could get free popcorn, colored cotton candy and a dinner which included a hot dog, chips, a cookie and a drink. Parents were given an adult's ticket which gave them a free meal as well.

Kids then proceeded to where different games or activities were set up for them to play and participate in which included making a balloon dinosaur, playing pin the tail on the dinosaur and

throwing rings to try and get them on the dinosaurs' horns and tusk.

They also got to put on dinosaur feet, where plastic balls were put in the toe prints of them and they had to walk to a bucket, trying to tilt their big dinosaur feet over it to get the balls in the bucket. This was fun to watch, as the kids cheered one another on.

They even got to get a dinosaur tattoo which kids lined up to get. "Mine is so cool!" one boy announced proudly as he held his hand up giving a big "rooarr!"

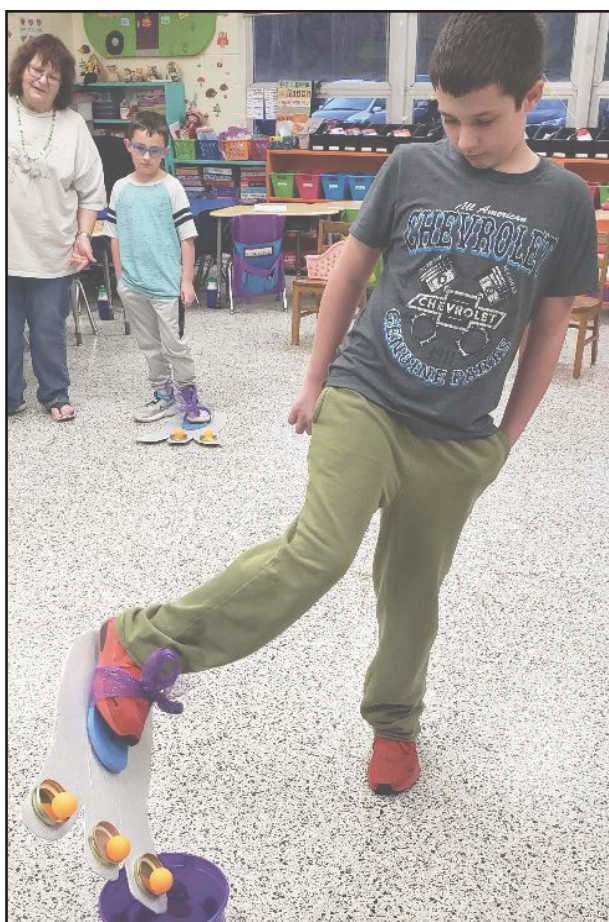
All the games had prizes from squishy dinosaurs to bubbles.

Teachers' boards were all decorated from St. Patrick's Day to dinosaurs. One board asked the teachers and kids to name their dinosaur. Some of the names were, Bitesaurs, Fercious Stegos,

See Book, page 2



Ellie ran to the petting zoo, going to the baby calf first, unafraid to pet it, and then the bunny rabbit and guinea pigs.



The most difficult game was wearing dinosaur feet, where balls were placed into the toe prints and the kids had to walk with it on and then tilt the foot to get the balls into a bucket.

PHOTOS BY PAM DUDDING

## Election ballots for Craig County in November now forming

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

The citizens of Craig County will once again have the opportunity to have their voices heard this November.

Without the input of each individual resident, it is difficult for the councils or people responsible for making decisions, to choose what is best for the county as a whole.

This year, Craig County has many choices to make in the upcoming November local elections.

JoAnna Ryan, director of elections and general registrar of Craig County, is composing the lists and they are currently as follows for the ballot on Nov. 7:

Soil and Water Conservation Director Mountain Castles District

- Clerk of Court
- Sheriff
- Commonwealth's Attorney
- Commissioner of the Revenue
- Treasurer

There will also be elections for the Board of Supervisors for the districts of:

- Craig City
- Craig Creek
- Potts Mountain School Board

elections for districts will include:

- Craig City
- Craig Creek
- Potts Mountain

Also, the November statewide elections held will include the Virginia Senate and House of Delegates.

For information on how to become a candidate please visit the Department of Elections website candidate information area: <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/candidatepac-info/>.

To pick up forms or printed candidate information, please visit the local Voter's Registration Office located at 155 Main Street in New Castle.

Those who plan to run on the Nov. 7 ballot should not that all completed and correct paperwork must be turned in to the general registrar by 7 p.m. on June 20.

Those who are interested in earning money while serving the community on election day can request to be an officer of election. Please call 540-864-6190, email [vote@craigcountyva.gov](mailto:vote@craigcountyva.gov), stop in the office at 155 Main Street in New Castle or apply online at: <https://apps.elections.virginia.gov/OnlineForms/OfficerofElection> to do so.

All registered voters will be considered, and paid training is available.

"We are always looking for full-day, half-day, or emergency backup people to serve," according to officials.

## Scenic trail proposal still being criticized by some landowners

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

The new proposal of a scenic trail that runs approximately 26 miles, has caught the attention of local citizens, with many concerned about its impacts.

Recently, meetings have started being held in neighboring Botetourt County and Oriskany. They are inviting any interested person in the community to the meetings to discuss the project.

Lewis Hopkins is the contact person for the meetings. His email address is

He sent the following email about the topic:

"Dear neighbor - VDOT, Botetourt, and Craig counties are planning to convert the old Craig Valley railroad bed into a 26-mile-long Rails to Trails project. They are planning to spend millions of tax dollars without taxpayer input to build this project," he shared. "The project will include multiple parking areas with gates and restrooms as well as regrading and graveling the 26-mile-long rail bed from New Castle to Eagle Rock."

He added that currently, he believes that approximately one-third of the rail bed is being used as a state road for people to access their homes and properties and believes that the trail project will create many safety issues for the public.

"If you are opposed to this government intrusion,

See Scenic Trail, page 3

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# Book from page 1

Saurus, Speedyspinax, Spike Stegos, Chomp Stegos, Giant Odon, Ferocious Saurus, Giantitanous, Stegotitanos, Fred, Chompdraco, Scoopny poop, Roarodon and even Uncle Beasley, to name a few.

The Farm Bureau Women's Committee set up a craft where the kids got to pick out cut out eggs, and baby chicks and put it together to make a chick in an egg. They also were given free stickers.

Laughter and smiles were in abundance and the atmosphere was electric.

The "funnest" part many of the kids said was in the gyms, where two huge bouncy houses were set up along with the long bouncy maze. The line was long the entire evening.

There was also a petting area where kids got to hold guinea pigs, a furry bunny rabbit and pet a small black calf.

There was no boredom to be seen in any area. Parents may have been exhausted trying to keep up with their kids'

excitement to go to the next area, but smiles, handshakes and a lot of hugs were exchanged in the hallways as they passed.

In the cafeteria, there were tons of prizes displayed which were drawn for at the close of the evening.

When the announcement was made for the games to end, kids ran to the cafeteria, circling the prizes. There was a kayak, fishing pole with tackle box, two bikes, scooters, dinosaur robots, dinosaur games, blankets and much more.

Each time a kid's name was drawn, the other kids clapped and cheered.

The grand prize of the kayak with the fishing pole and tackle box went to Raelynn Harless. James Hypes and Kenadee Tripp won the bikes. Keaton Foster and Rayen Slusher won the scooters.

All the prizes were given out and the evening came to an end. Kids and parents left with what seemed like a spirit full of contentment.

Every kid had several crafts and prizes they had won at the games, and some were a bit worn out from bouncing so much in the houses, eating popcorn and cotton candy.

Parents gave the teachers many thanks as they left.

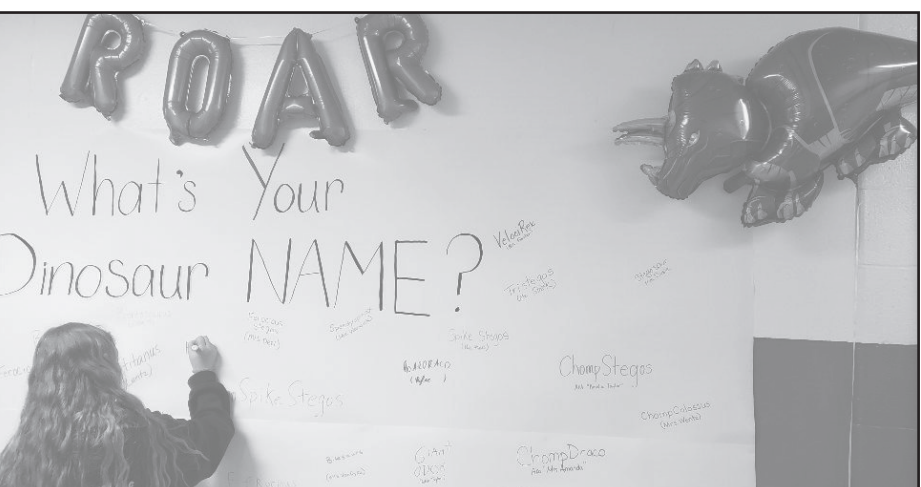
The school said that it would like to thank McCleary PTO, New Castle Town Council, Valley Restorations, Poppy and Company, Skate Center, Farmers & Merchants Bank, Craig County Fairgrounds, Farm Bureau, Target, Gus Menezes Photography, Sierra Frazier, Tessa Snyder with Scentsy, Dowdy Designs, Jeanette Warwick, Allie Meadows, Michelle McPherson, Kellie Stevens and Market Street Pharmacy.

"If it wasn't for all of our sponsors, we could not have such a great event for our students," Melissa Frazier shared. "We are so appreciative!"

Overall, the staff at McCleary said that it was a great evening and though it took a lot of work, effort, and time, it was well worth it to see their students and parents have such a wonderful evening.



Kids seemed to enjoy trying to ring the dinosaur's horns and tusk for prizes.



Teachers and students were asked to name their dinosaur, and some great names were created such as, Bitesaur, Fercious Stegos, Spike Stegos, Chomp Stegos, Giant Odon, Ferocious Saurus, Fred, Chompdraco, Scoopny poop and Roarodon just to name a few.



The grand prize of the kayak with the fishing pole and tackle box went to Raelynn Harless which made her very happy.



Mason did a great job at throwing the sticky ball onto the dart board to win his prize



Makenna wanted to be turned around 10 times and was a bit dizzy, before she attempted to pin the tail on the dinosaur



Families got to pose with a dinosaur and its big egg for pictures, which the school emailed to each family. One child wanted to crack open the egg to see the baby dinosaur, but that had to wait.



A free dinner was given to the students and parents, which consisted of a hot dog, chips, cookie and water.

PHOTOS BY PAM DUDDING

## Craig Valley Chapter NSDAR attends Virginia State Conference



Seven members of Craig Valley Chapter NSDAR attended the recent Virginia State Conference in Richmond. They participated in a memorial service for deceased members, including charter member and treasurer Margaret Peters who passed away last November and is very much missed by her friends. For the second time, member Nicole Allen served as a conference page. She is shown here with the American Flag during the Opening Night Banquet. Left to right: Linda Allen, Nicole Allen, JoAnn All, new member Janis Snider, regent Tina Crawford, Margaret Hines and Diane Givens.



SUBMITTED BY DIANE GIVENS

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#### Partial Listing of Machinery To Be Sold

- JD 6415 tractor – 5062 hrs. w/ bucket, spear, and forks
- JD 2020 tractor – +/- 13,000 hrs. • Kioti DK 5010 tractor – 300 hrs.
- MF GC 1715 tractor – 350 hrs. w/ front end loader
- Woods RB Scraper Blade – 7 ft. • JD 40 Manure Spreader
- Mainline 24 ft. flatbed w/ dovetail – clear title • Woods DS 96 Bush Hog

**OTHER MACHINERY:** 12 ft. utility trailer, clear title; Kioti 60" finisher mower; 2 cultipackers; Danuser post hole drill; New Idea 1 row corn picker; 1 row transplanter; 2 conveyors; King 10 ft. hydraulic disc; JD Van Brunt drill, Land Pride 8 ft. disc; Cole 2 row planter; 9 shank chisel plow; 3 pt. hay spears; 3 pt. fertilizer spreader; NH 450 sickle bar mower; 3 pt. plastic mulch layer (plastic and bio fabric sold separately); 2 hay wagons, one w/ hydraulic pump; 2 cultivators; JD plateless 2 row planter; JD 3 bottom plow; Carry all frame; Irrigation pump and 500 ft. of pipe

**LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT:** Big Valley squeeze chute w/ AI cage; Behlen 8 ft. oval galvanized water trough; 600 lb. capacity creep feeder; Numerous gates and corral panels; Fencing supplies; Livestock working equipment

**SPRAYERS:** A1 mist sprayer; Multiple backpack sprayers; Multiple ATV sprayers; Reddick 3 pt. hitch sprayer; Ag Spray 3 pt. hitch sprayer; Boomless 3 pt sprayer

**SHOP TOOLS:** Powerhorse 9000 W generator (new); Stihl MS180 chainsaw (new); Stihl hedge trimmer; Miller Bluestar 185 welder; Mid-States welder; Bosch table saw; Atlas drill press; 3 HP electric motor; Bench grinders; Bench vices; Tool boxes; Shop tables; Acetylene tanks; Numerous hand tools; dolly

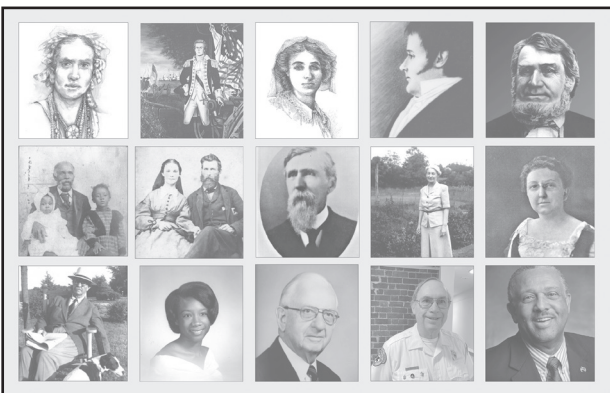
**MISC. ITEMS:** 30x96 greenhouse, water hoses, bushel baskets, extension cords, wire ginny, 15-ft. extension ladder, step ladders, lumber, old dinner bell, lard press, hand seeders, 2 cast iron kettles, 15-gal. stone crock, food dehydrator, tractor chains, log chains, fuel cans, 50-gal. transfer fuel tank, 250-gal. fuel tank w/electric pump, drip tape, old wood cookstove, anvil, wooden produce bins, mini ceramic flower pots, antique tools, small farm trailers, old root power duster, push plow

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**For more information, contact Nick McNeil, 540-320-6145 or**

**Andy Cullip, Lic. # 1947, 540-230-5381**

*Food will be available at the sale*



The gallery will feature personal narratives, pictures, maps, artifacts, hands-on elements and augmented reality technology accessible with a visitor's smart phone.



Two dozen costumed interpreters representing the 17th through the 20th centuries will bring the region's history to life.

## Upcoming public meetings in Craig

### April 17

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.

### April 18

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

### April 19

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

### May 15

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.

### May 16

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

### May 17

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

-The New Castle Record

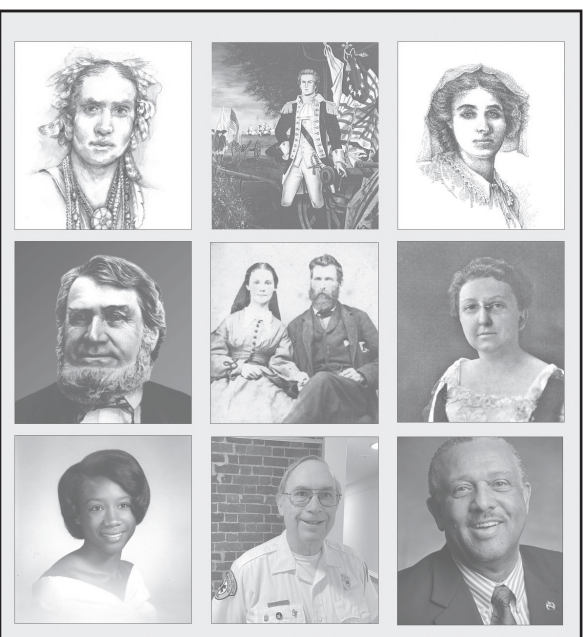
# New permanent history gallery to open at the Salem Museum

‘Through Their Eyes’ offers personal history of Roanoke Valley

Aila Boyd

aboyle@mainstreetnewspapers.com

SALEM –The Salem Museum recently announced that “Through Their Eyes,” a new permanent history gallery will open March 25. Over a year in the making,



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SALEM MUSEUM

The gallery takes a personal look at the lives of the men and women who lived in the Roanoke Valley at the time.

this gallery highlights 16 major events, dating back to 1671, that have shaped Salem and the Roanoke Valley into the community it is today.

“History gets personal as seen ‘through the eyes’ of men and women who lived here at the time. Visitors will experience the emotional, life-changing impact of each of these events—including the coming of the railroad, the end of the Civil War, desegregation, the Flood of ’85, and so many more,” according to the museum.

The gallery will feature personal narratives, pictures, maps, artifacts, hands-on elements and augmented reality technology accessible

with a visitor’s smart phone.

“The Gallery is really special because it gives us a chance to put a face to history,” Alex Burke, the museum’s assistant director and chief exhibit designer, said. “Often, events that happened a long time ago are hard to really grasp, because it’s hard to imagine what life was like for those people. By having a character chronicle each event, visitors experience the feelings and significance associated with these moments, truly bringing these events alive.”

To celebrate the opening of “Through Their Eyes,” the Salem Museum is hosting a “Living History

Day” on Saturday, March 25, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is free.

The event will allow guests to learn how life in the Roanoke Valley has changed in the past 350 years. Two dozen costumed interpreters representing the 17th through the 20th centuries will bring the region’s history to life. “Meet men and women who will share stories and hands-on artifacts from the Virginia Indians in this area as well as individuals from the Colonial period, the Civil War, the World Wars, and more,” according to the museum. “Living history events—with hands-on artifacts and the opportunity to interact

with knowledgeable historians in period costume—are always the Museum’s most popular special events, and most family friendly.”

Major funding for “Through Their Eyes” was provided by Community Catalyst Funds of Community Foundation Serving Western Virginia, and the National Endowment for the Humanities Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan Initiative. The augmented reality segments were developed in partnership with the Applied Research in Immersive Environments and Simulations program at Virginia Tech.

## Scenic Trail from page 1

or not interested in seeing hundreds of tourists hiking, biking, or horseback riding beside your property, we need your help,” Hopkins said. “We have formed an opposition group called Deraile the Trail that currently meets at the King’s Memorial Church in Oriskany.”

He added that they meet on most Sundays at 3 p.m.

“We would like to invite you to help us oppose this unneeded, intrusive, and wasteful use of taxpayer money. Please join us or contact me for more information,” he said.

Though it has been stated that the Rails to Trails project final design will not be expected before the fall of 2025, landowners are already experiencing people unannounced on their properties, surveying and looking at the proposed trail, leaving their signs of being there behind.

One landowner has even experienced someone there, looking like they were surveying, saying they were not connected, yet to later find out that it didn’t appear that they told the landowner the truth.

It has also been stated from the county administrator that costs of planning, engineering and construction will “represent a substantial investment in the community.”

The Rails to Trails speakers have shared, “Work is ongoing to develop cost estimates for future

maintenance and where those funds will come from. Likewise, work is being done to look at potential economic impact for the communities involved. There are many such trails around the state and across the nation, with hundreds of studies covering many aspects. Data and analysis from these studies, along with local input, can be used to predict outcomes here should the trail be built. Of course, there will be environmental documentation required. All this effort takes time.”

Though a wonderful idea for some, many landowners are concerned about their loss of privacy, increased noise and vehicle traffic, increased trash and greater chances of fires from those who are not conscientious of throwing a cigarette butt out or making a safe roadside campfire.

Though the counties are attracted to the \$12.5 million dollar investment in the communities, some landowners do not appear to take this lightly or with open arms.

“We came to this part of the country because we love the quiet, the outdoor calmness and the privacy,” one landowner shared. “Having strangers at our back door is not what we signed up for, nor will we approve. We have children that can freely play in our back yard for acres right now. I do not feel this change will allow us to let them roam freely any longer, losing the reason we love Craig County and where we live.”

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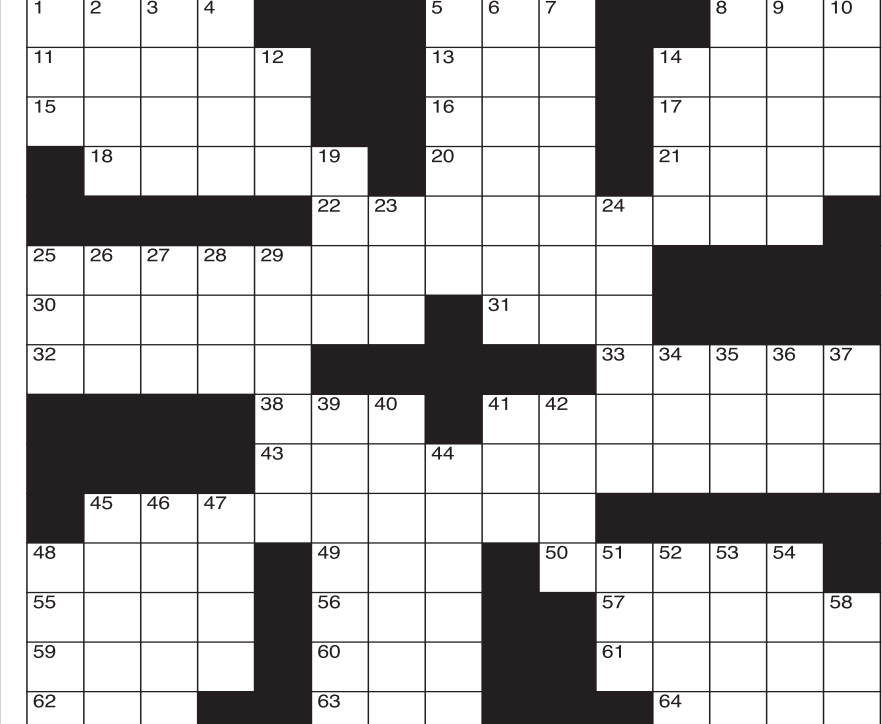
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## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. One who regrets
  - 5. Time zone
  - 8. Subway dweller
  - 11. Bend in a river
  - 13. Alias
  - 14. Isodor \_\_\_\_, American Nobel physicist
  - 15. Very (music)
  - 16. Zero
  - 17. Phil \_\_\_\_, former CIA
  - 18. Competitions
  - 20. Unwell
  - 21. Puts in place
  - 22. Gets rid of
  - 25. Allows light to pass through
  - 30. Climbed quickly
  - 31. We all have it
  - 32. There's a North & South
  - 33. Emaciation
  - 38. Supervises flying
  - 41. Very dark colors
  - 43. Unwanted
  - 45. Grants
  - 48. Three visited Jesus
  - 49. Wife of Amun
  - 50. Broadway actress Daisy
  - 55. A Spanish river
  - 56. I (German)
  - 57. French opera composer
  - 59. Six (Spanish)
  - 60. Last letter
  - 61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
  - 62. A curved shape
  - 63. Make a mistake
  - 64. Tall plant
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Computer memory
  - 2. "Et \_\_"; "And wife" (Latin)
  - 3. Ancient Syrian city
  - 4. College army
  - 5. Cassava
  - 6. Talented
  - 7. Capital of Estonia
  - 8. Finger millet
  - 9. In a way, assists
  - 10. Men's fashion accessories
  - 12. Misery
  - 14. Skin disorder
  - 19. Selling at specially reduced prices
  - 23. Good friend
  - 24. Stationary portion of a generator
  - 25. Expression of disappointment
  - 26. The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet
  - 27. Where birds fly
  - 28. Midway between north and northeast
  - 29. Chaotic states
  - 34. Comedic actress Gasteyer
  - 35. Kids' dining accessory
  - 36. Snakelike fish
  - 37. Midway between south and southeast
  - 39. Assign lifelike qualities to
  - 40. One who cites
  - 41. Midway between east and southeast
  - 42. North wind
  - 44. One or the other
  - 45. Cavalry sword
  - 46. Of the Hungarian language
  - 47. Life stories
  - 48. Flat tableland with steep edges
  - 51. Swiss river
  - 52. Plant that makes gum
  - 53. French cleric
  - 54. One point east of northeast
  - 58. Free from

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# OPINION

## News from the 9th



**Morgan Griffith**  
Representative

Thanks to the new Republican majority, this Congress my committee responsibilities have expanded. Along with serving on the Energy and Commerce Committee, in January I was selected by Speaker Kevin McCarthy as one of eight Republicans to serve on the Committee on House Administration.

While not well known, the House Administration Committee has a significant portfolio.

Part of our job is focusing on Capitol Hill, overseeing the daily operations of the House of Representatives.

Since the beginning of this Congress, our biggest

priority has been to restore regular order to the House, which the Committee hasn't done since 2017.

This includes bringing greater transparency and accountability to House operations. We've had hearings to review each committee's budget requests for the Congress, to ensure efficient use of House resources. We've also given individual Members the opportunity to testify on issues under our jurisdiction and provide feedback on how we can make the People's House more effective.

The Committee is also striving to make the House more open and accessible to the American people by completely reopening the Capitol complex. With the pandemic largely behind us, it's time for Americans to once again have the chance to engage with their Representatives in person.

House Administration is also tasked with overseeing Capitol security, including lapses in security on Jan. 6, 2021. In fact, we recently announced that the Oversight subcommittee, of which I am a member, is launching an investigation into the January 6th Committee, created by House Democrats last Congress. We will be reviewing not only security failures on that day, but also whether pertinent information about the riot was omitted in the Committee's examination.

The Committee also has broad jurisdiction over our federal elections. While our role is limited, we do provide oversight over the Federal Elections Commission and Election Assistance Commission.

The Committee also has two joint Committee under its jurisdiction, which is a committee that consists of both Senate and House members. I am a member of the Joint Committee on Printing, which oversees

the operations of the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO). It serves, by law, as the principal printing organization for Federal agencies.

Recently, the Republican members of the Committee gathered in the Capitol for a retreat, where we spent two days discussing each of our responsibilities as Members of the Committee and our goals for the next two years.

One of my favorite activities during the retreat was visiting the Library of Congress, which is under the jurisdiction of the Committee. Founded in 1800, the Library of Congress is one of the largest libraries in the world, containing approximately 173 million items.

While there, we toured the Preservation Directorate and Conservation Division of the Library, responsible for the conservation of the library's paper-based

special collections.

We were shown fascinating pieces from our country's founding, including George Washington's Commission as General of the Continental Army and Thomas Jefferson's original rough draft of the Declaration of Independence, written from June 12-27, 1776. Also, Francis Scott Key's original draft of the Star-Spangled Banner.

We had a chance to view a couple items belonging to Abraham Lincoln, including his second Life Mask (made two months before his death, plaster was placed on Lincoln's face to preserve his likeness) and notes for his Second Inaugural Address. We were also shown the contents of Lincoln's pockets from when he was assassinated at Ford's Theatre in April 1865.

This opportunity was particularly special for me as I have spent many years collecting antique paper

and at one point was a dealer of antique paper. A few years ago, I reached out to the Library of Congress to inquire about a book I inherited from my grandmother. Though the library had one copy, they requested to come to my office to see the book in person.

A favorite piece in my collection was an 18th century printing of recent Acts of the Assembly and a discussion on the Alien and Sedition Acts. I have since donated this piece to the Library of Virginia (Virginia's version of the Library of Congress).

Now that it is open again, I encourage anyone coming to D.C. to visit the Library of Congress where you can see incredible mementos from our country's founding and throughout our history.

You likely will also stop at one of the Smithsonian Institution museums, which also falls under House Administration Committee jurisdiction.

## A Blanket of Words



*This week the library is sharing a community poem*

*that appeared on National Public Radio. It was created using submissions by 29 poetry submissions. To see more, visit <https://www.npr.org>.*

*If I Could... I would like us to take a break I would like us to*

contemplate How much better we all are with rest.

I would like to take a restoring nap upon my king size bed. to pile my pillows all around my head A soft warm handmade quilt, my cozy nook to curl up with my favorite book

into a blanket of words to climb the stairs my imagination made I would like to be a bird, unburdened, I would like to be me, unbound.

I just want to nap And wonder And wander And dream Of letting go, ego dissolving, like honey in tea.

dreams where we can be everything we've ever wanted to be I would like to be asleep. In my bed. Unable to access the dread in my head.

In my dreams food, money, and life lack relevance And I would play with magic monkeys. I would like to live in a world where we dream when we fall asleep And do not face a nightmare when we wake

When I was a little girl, I had dreams of powers that could change the world, In my dreams I could fly, Now I'm seventeen, and I no longer dream that I could be a fairy queen, I

have dreams where I'm invisible and no one can see me I would like answers: Why do we do what we do? Why do we learn how we do? We are no longer curious We are no longer present.

Exhausted, zombies roaming the streets Toiling with no end in sight We work to eat We eat to live We live to work Real life beckons with every sheep we try to count, and When my head hits the pillow The whole world falls away.

I would like to rest my shoulders from their stand at attention, my brain from constantly narrating, I would like to, but I can't right now. Too much to do, not the right time. I have work to do, Places to be But what if I just flee, And sleep endlessly.

I would like to see you try. A moment of nothing, Ceaseless wonder, Boundless floors. Infinite possibilities, And a thousand more.

I would like to find you in my dream to hear your voice again Whistling wisdom and wit Stories and songs scents of freedom, molecules of unconditional love,

I would like to meet you in the space between asleep and awake where we belong to both worlds and yet owe nothing to either place

I would like to feel again the familiar sensation of my hand in yours as we walked in strange and scary places while my heart beats loudly

I would like to listen more closely than the arrogant child that I was who often dismissed your speech as dated and irrelevant I would like to travel in a time machine to before the years passed and you died of old age to apologize to you,

Most of all though, I would like to hear your joyful exhalation — brief and unmistakable — you're the only one I've ever known to laugh even in your sleep.

I would like to awaken in the afternoon sun. Soft fingertips lifting an eyelid Your sweet voice. "Daddy! Daddy! You in there?" If I could,

I would like to Feel good. Lay on the clouds and not fall through.

I would like to surrender...

(To see the full poem, go to [NPR.org](https://www.npr.org))

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USPS 378-080  
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Salem, VA 24153  
[www.ourvalley.org](http://www.ourvalley.org)

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**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

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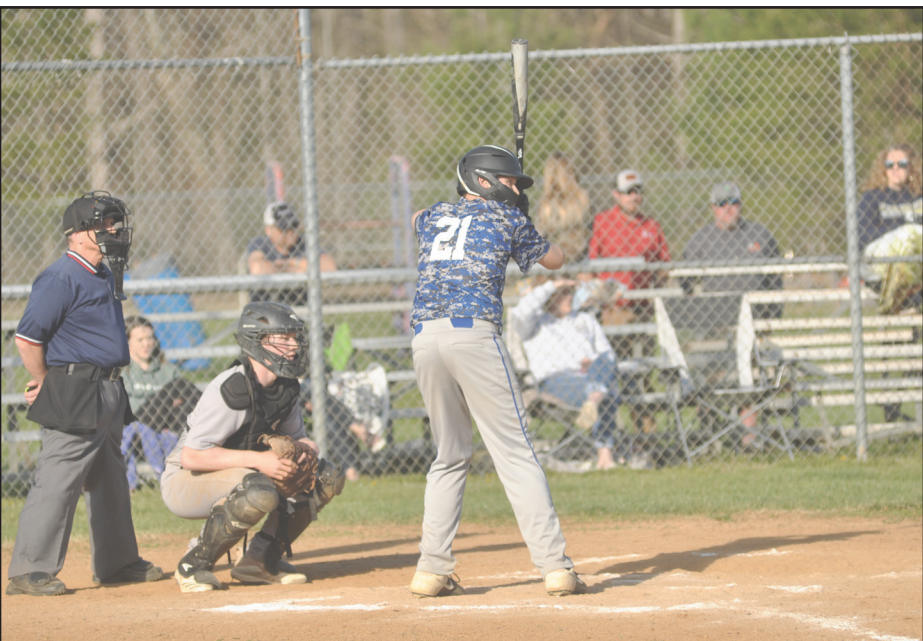
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# SPORTS

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## SOFTBALL OPENS WITH LOSS AT ALLEGHANY, BASEBALL HAS THREE GAMES THIS WEEK



Drew Duncan



Hayden Reynolds



Jaycob Wolfe



Tyler Huffman



Zach Peters



Sara Jones



Hannah Ratliff

Spring sports came in like a lion last week as cold weather cancelled most of the games around the Roanoke Valley. Craig County managed to get two games in, and more softball and baseball is scheduled for this week.

The softball team opened at Alleghany last Thursday after the game was postponed from Tuesday, and the Rockets dropped a 12-0 decision. Despite the loss coach Elaina Wolfe-Carper saw some things she liked.

"I was very pleased with our defense," said Wolfe-Carper. "Sara Jones pitched two innings and struck out three in a row in the second."

Kammie Fisher pitched a scoreless third inning but Alleghany found their rhythm in the fourth. Kammie wound up with two strikeouts and Sara finished the last two outs of the fourth. Craig had only one error all game.

Offensively, Lily Hutchinson bunted and reached first and had a stolen base. Jenna Boitnotte hit well, with a single up the middle and a hard line drive that was caught.

"My primary issue of the night was called strike threes," said Wolfe-Carper. "We need to get much more aggressive in the batter's box."

Returnees from last year's team include Jones, Hutchinson, Hannah Ratliff, Annabelle Gregory, Randalynn Taylor, Karly Potter and Madison Underwood. The Rockets do not have a jayvee team so also joining the varsity will

be Ashlyn Keen, Nevaeh Hypes, Hayleigh Flowers, Jenna Boitnotte, Kallie Fisher, Kammie Fisher, Daileigh Donithan and Aleah Owens.

"The girls are all very athletic, and my goal for this season is to really focus on building consistency in performance," said Wolfe-Carper. "They all have solid fundamental skills and I anticipate a great season. I also want to focus on building skills in multiple positions. Many of the girls have typically played the same position on different teams so getting past that learning curve of a new position quickly is a key goal that will have a big impact."

The girls were scheduled to play at Glenvar Monday, as was the boys' baseball team. The Rockets had a change of coaches the week prior to the season when John Stafford resigned before coaching a single game. He was replaced by Corey Smith and Jason Lucas remains as an assistant after a loss to Giles.

Returning players for the Rockets include senior Zach Peters, juniors Drew Duncan, Tyler Huffman, Matthew Lucas and Hayden Reynolds and sophomore Jaycob Wolfe.

Craig is at Parry McCluer on Thursday and William Fleming on Friday before both the baseball and softball teams take off next week for spring break.

The soccer team also has a new coach, as former Rocket player Dalton Henderson takes over the team. The first soccer game is April 3rd at Eastern Montgomery.



Lily Hutchinson



Annabelle Gregory