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THE NEW CASTLE  
 RECORD

**GOPHER MARKET**  


**HOT FOODS  
SERVED  
DAILY**

VFW honors Karen Jones for the children’s cards

Pam Dudding  
Contributing writer

Teachers are said to be the one person who spends as much time with a family’s child as some parents are able to, creating a phenomenal impact on children’s lives.

At Craig County Public Schools, teachers like stand out Karen Jones. She not only teaches curriculum, but also encourages her students to care for community members as well.

For several years now, Karen Jones has invited her students to make handmade cards for the local



PHOTO BY PAM DUDDING

The Craig Valley VFW Post 4491 honored teacher Karen Jones at the March Craig County School Board meeting for the care and support she has given to the local veterans through the cards her students have handmade for them for several years.

Football Spring Fling scores a touchdown

Pam Dudding  
Contributing writer

The Craig County High School football team has really upped its game by being an active community group as well as working towards raising funds for its needs. The team isn’t just sitting around waiting on donations, it’s working diligently at making funds on its own.

The team’s valentine candy gram event was a hit at the school and for the community and the Spring Fling Fundraiser held on Saturday, April 1 was another event that the community truly enjoyed.

As one entered the school, they were given a free ticket to place in one of twenty-some bags for a drawing for prizes which were donated by each ven-

dor.

There was also an opportunity to purchase more tickets to place in the drawings for a greater opportunity to win one of the nice items.

Twenty-five vendors attended the event, giving shoppers a grand array of different options to purchase, from \$2 bracelets and \$1 rings to expensive brand name purses, pictures, jewelry and clothing.

Kids could purchase tattoos and face glitter.

Hot dogs and drinks were available to quench one’s appetite while they enjoyed the shopping venture.

“We appreciated everyone coming out to support our event!” Coach Jayke Dowdy shared. “We want-



PHOTO BY PAM DUDDING

Chelsea Grippy and her daughter, Raylee, were selling fairy hair, extension and tinsel that could be put in one’s hair, along with face glitter, fairy dust, bracelets with charms and tattoos for the younger ones.

See Football page 2



Little Aubrey was determined to get her eggs, as she selected just the right ones that she liked, looking up at her mother with a grin as she placed each in her bucket.

Easter egg hunt brings out the ‘kid’ in everyone

Pam Dudding  
Contributing writer

As the special Easter season has approached, churches in the community are hosting their annual Easter egg hunts.

The New Castle Christian Church brought out 1,300 eggs this year for the delight of many children, “And that is no April fool!” they shared as everyone laughed.

Pastor Bill Frazier shared the story of Jesus Christ and how he was crucified on the cross and rose again after being buried for three days.

Virginia Johnson organized the event, including, making the winning baskets for the kids, with age-appropriate toys, candy and every winner received a \$10 Chick-fil-A card.

They sectioned off the yard for the different ages and as everyone sat in the fellowship hall waiting for the “go,” excitement filled the air.

The kids were eyeing the prizes that were on the table as well as the long array of snacks which they would get to enjoy after

See Easter Egg page 2

Family cleans up on 615 and 606



COURTESY OF CHELSEA MATTHEWS

James Petersen has only been a New Castle resident since August 2022. Still, he shared a very important life lesson with his two granddaughters, Jordan and Madi, and his daughter, Chelsea Matthews, as they cleaned Rt. 615 around the highway and the 606 intersection. “We were happy to help!” Chelsea said. “My dad always taught me about nature. Leave it better than you found it!”



PHOTOS BY PAM DUDDING

Gage was tickled when he opened his egg to find a \$10 bill and it wasn’t Monopoly money.

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# Easter Egg

from page 1

the hunt was over.

As each group was led outside, glee was seen not only on the children's faces but the parents' as well. It seems that this event always has a tendency to bring out the "kid" in everyone.

When they heard the "go," children ran and started scooping up eggs as fast as they could. Some though chose their favorite colors of eggs to pick up.

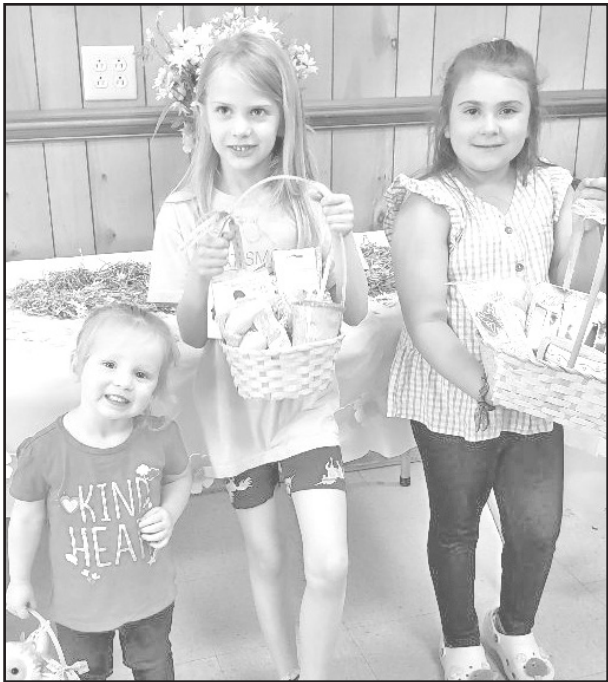
A few of the kids had to grab their parents for help, as their baskets were overflowing with eggs. One father offered his t-shirt, while another mother tried flipping hers up as well to hold the extras they were bringing her.

Everyone gathered back into the fellowship hall, where they were told that the winners were the eggs with numbers on them.

So many happy faces were lit up. Even the parents enjoyed helping to open the eggs to see what would be inside.

The winners were, Layla Reeder, Abby Craft and Addie Stamper.

Also, there was candy and toys in many of the eggs, along with a few \$5



There was a winner in each of the three age groups. They were, Layla Reeder, Abby Craft and Addie Stamper.



The age groups were divided into three sections and the middle age group was so fast that they got to go to the big age group and help them finish getting eggs. Mom and dad's shirts, pockets and hands were overflowing with eggs.



PHOTO BY PAM DUDDING

Pastor Bill Frazier shared the story of Jesus Christ and what Easter was all about, with Jesus being crucified, buried and on the third day, arising from the dead.

# Football

from page 1

ed to plan something fun for the community and the parent feedback about the kid activities made it all worth it. We had a community member tear up thanking us for all we have done/have planned for the community this year."

Some of the vendors included, Mary Kay, My Town Crochet, Scentsy, Urban Discount, Earth And Ocean Treasures, Simply Wackadoo, Missy's Gifts And Wooden Creations, LaShaun Douglas, Mary And Martha, Buzy B Crafts, Clara Huff, Grace-Ful Journey Boutique, Nona's Friendship Bread, Dandelion Acres, Dowdy Designs, Britt & Co, Shay N Jays, By The Dozen, Paparazzi, Feathered Darlin Boutique, Sunflower Sweet Shoppe, Thirty-one, Kevin Carpenter purses, Southern Roots Hair Salon, Jackie's Greenery, Colorstreet, Contempo-

rary Concepts and more.

A unique craft called diamond painting, which Dana Woods presented, was also at the event. It is tiny little pieces of colored glass that one puts together to create beautiful pictures that glisten.

Faye and Steve Powers had their handcrafted sea glass that is skillfully wrapped in wire that creates beautiful jewelry.

There were options for nail care, t-shirts, designer cups, beautiful, handcrafted jewelry of all kinds, replicas of designer purses, wreaths that were gorgeous, southern styles and painted artwork.

Angie with My Town Crochet had very unique things she had crocheted, including baskets with crocheted bunnies on them, gnomes and little chickens. Her artwork was unique and drew a lot of people.

Also, Katie Crowder's unique crocheting tal-

ent, of making animals and objects was a delight, along with kitchen towels.

Chelsea Grippy and her daughter, Raylee, were selling fairy hair, extension and tinsel that could be put in hair, along with face glitter, fairy dust, bracelets with charms and tattoos for the younger ones.

A new item to many were the cut out wax warmers that Tina Weeks and Missy Walker had. The intricate designs of the warmers created beautiful lights.

Claudia Johnson had a vast array of earrings and other hand crafted southern-like items that drew many to her tables.

Even Crowder and his wife, Morgan, had their



The cafeteria was set up for kids to make crafts, play pin the tail on the Easter bunny and to take photo ops. James Michael posed for his picture.



Coach Jayke Dowdy and his wife, Morgan, even make their own handcrafted jewelry.



Angie Spence is a crocheting queen, as she shared that she goes online and watches a video and then makes all the different items she had.

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Even Crowder and his wife, Morgan, had their

See Football page 5



Contemporary Concepts had classy and unique clothing items as well as other jewelry for sale.



A new craft called diamond painting, which Dana Woods created and displayed, was very artistic. It is tiny little pieces of colored glass that one puts together to create beautiful pictures that glisten.



PHOTO BY PAM DUDDING

A new item to many were the cut-out wax warmers that Tina Weeks and Missy Walker had. The intricate designs of the warmers created beautiful lights.

2023

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# OBITUARIES

## Sarver, Sheldon ‘Ned’

Sheldon “Ned” Sarver, 74, of Catawba, Virginia, went to be with his Lord and Savior on Wednesday morning, March 29, 2023. He was preceded in death by his wife of 51 years, Susan Walker Sarver; parents Lemuel and Josephine Sarver, and brother Junior Sarver. He leaves behind two sons, Sheldon (April) Sarver and Matthew (Kimberly) Sarver; six grandchildren, Jacob, Addyson, Tanner, Landon, Sadie, and Zachary; one sister, Meddie Delp; many nieces and nephews, great nieces and great nephews and close friends.

Ned was a gentle and loving man, hard worker, faithful friend and devoted husband, father, and grandfather. After serving in Viet Nam, he returned home to marry the love of his life. He dedicated his time to his



family, farming, and the Roanoke Cement plant where he retired after thirty plus years. Ned loved his church where he sang in the choir and helped with the boys’ ministry. He enjoyed spending time with his family, especially the grandchildren, playing games and singing karaoke. He was proud of all of them and encouraged them to work hard and follow the Lord.

The family would like to thank each person

that came to visit Ned during the last year. They would also like to thank the Good Sam Hospice team who took such great care of him the last few months, especially Jamie, who was a bright spot at every visit and brought a smile to Ned’s face.

Ned was proud of his grandchildren’s involvement in their youth group and the youth mission’s team. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Christian Life International, 1 CLI Way, Salem, Virginia 24153, earmarked “Awaken Student Ministries Missions Team” or “Awaken Student Ministries Youth Group.”

The family will have a Celebration of Life service on Saturday, April 15, 2023, at 11:00 am. Christian Life International Church.

## Ferguson, Richard Walter

Richard Walter Ferguson, 80, of New Castle, died peacefully Saturday, March 25, 2023.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents, Walter Elmo Ferguson and Catherine Frances (Cole) Wright, his stepfather, Harry Gordon Wright, and his grandparents, Fitzhugh and Maybelle Ferguson. Richard is survived by his wife, Linda Stull Ferguson, and four children and five grandchildren: Jamie Ferguson and her daughter, Shelby; Jessica Stover and husband Matt, and their son, Drew; Julie Munz and husband Chris, and their sons, Jack, Sawyer, and Easton; and Matthew Ferguson and his longtime girlfriend, Kelsey Alcaraz. He also has three sisters: Harriet Chestnut, Brenda Musselwhite, and Betty Sue Short, and two nephews and two nieces.

Richard was born Thursday, February 4, 1943 and raised in Roanoke. He graduated from Jefferson High School in 1961. Richard was proud to be a Marine and served in Guantanamo during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Following his service to the country, he worked for General Electric in Salem for 39 years. The Commonwealth of Virginia was his home from the beginning to the end, he was proud to be a son of the South.

Richard had many hobbies: an avid squirrel hunter in his youth turned purveyor of corn kernels for his furry friends in his retirement; a naturalist who knew every tree and every animal that made his meticulous backyard meadow a home; a car enthusiast; a ferocious reader; a relentless Sudoku and crossword puzzle solver; a daily hiker along the Craig County Greenway Trail – a path he personally cared for the benefit of his community; a cursed but nonetheless devoted supporter of the University of Virginia athletic program; enjoying humor; and a true connoisseur of Southern history and culture, especially music – he loved the Allman Brothers Band. He was also a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and a lifetime supporter of the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, Virginia.

For all the many wonderful attributes of this simple but honest man that are most cherished by those that knew and loved him and to be most missed was Richard’s absolute dedication to his family and to his faith. He was a rock you could always rely on, no matter what. He might not have been always outspoken, but his silent presence was steady and always reassuring. We were fortunate for the time we had with him. He will be sorely missed but there is no doubt Richard is where he is meant to be now, with his Savior.

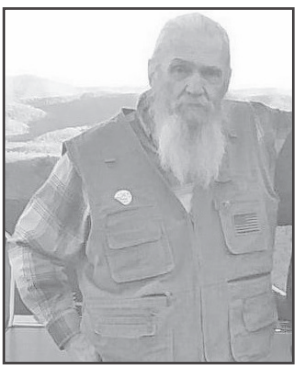
A funeral service was held on Saturday, April 1, 2023, at the Mountain View Christian Church, with his friend Jonathan Lee officiating. He was laid to rest with military rites at Sherwood Memorial Park in Salem.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in his name to any of the following: Mountain View Christian Church; to the County of Craig, in attention for the Craig County Greenway; or to the National Epilepsy Foundation at <https://give.epilepsy.com/page/33651/donate/1>

## Bradford, Perry Grant

Perry Grant Bradford, 75 of New Castle passed away Wednesday, March 29, 2023. He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 49 years, Norma Bradford; daughter, Christie Scott; and granddaughter, Bridgett Oliver.

He is survived by his children, John Bradford (Lisa), Teresa Oliver (BJ), and Jesse Bradford (Jessica); grandchildren, Chelsea



Bradford, Maddy Oliver, Grant Oliver, Shianne Simpkins, Jacob Bradford, and

Nathan Scott. Funeral Services will be held 2 p.m. Sunday, April 2, 2023 at Paitsel Funeral Home with Pastor Bill Frazier officiating. Interment will follow at the Bradford Family Cemetery, New Castle. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service 1-2 p.m. Arrangements by Paitsel Funeral Home. [www.paitselfh.com](http://www.paitselfh.com)

## 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.

## Events open to the public

### April 6

Grace Baptist Church and Craig Valley Baptist will honor Maundy Thursday, hosting a potluck dinner - short worship service following at Grace Baptist Church at 6 p.m.

New Castle United Methodist Church - Holy Week services. Thursday - Tim Vernon, Friday - Pastor San Kang with regular Sunday service at 7 p.m.

### April 7

Catawba United Methodist Church, 4962 Catawba Creek Rd. – will have a Good Friday service at 7 p.m.

### April 8

Walton Church - Easter egg hunt 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Studio Reflections Hair Salon - special Hop & Shop, with vendors and the Easter bunny, with Liv Alive Photography taking pictures. Easter egg hunt in town, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Offering a 10% discount off appointments for that day and a free brow wax.

### April 9

Walton Church – 7 a.m. sunrise service and 10 a.m. Easter celebration

Craig Valley and Grace Baptist will have Easter sunrise service together at Grace Baptist at 7 a.m., followed by breakfast. Following the breakfast, Grace Baptist – 10 a.m. service and Craig Valley – 11 a.m. service.

New Castle Christian Church will be conducting the community sunrise service at 7 a.m. at Huffman Cemetery at Chestnut Grove Church on Rt. 42 with Pastor Bill Frazier.

Lighthouse Baptist Church special service at 9 a.m. - small breakfast afterward. 10 a.m. - Sunday school, 11 a.m. Easter program.

Level Green Church will have an Easter egg hunt at 2 p.m., after their spring fellowship meal.

Shiloh Union United Methodist Church Sunrise Service with holy communion at 6:30 a.m. on 7509 Newport Road, Catawba and breakfast afterward. Easter service – 9 a.m.

### April 12

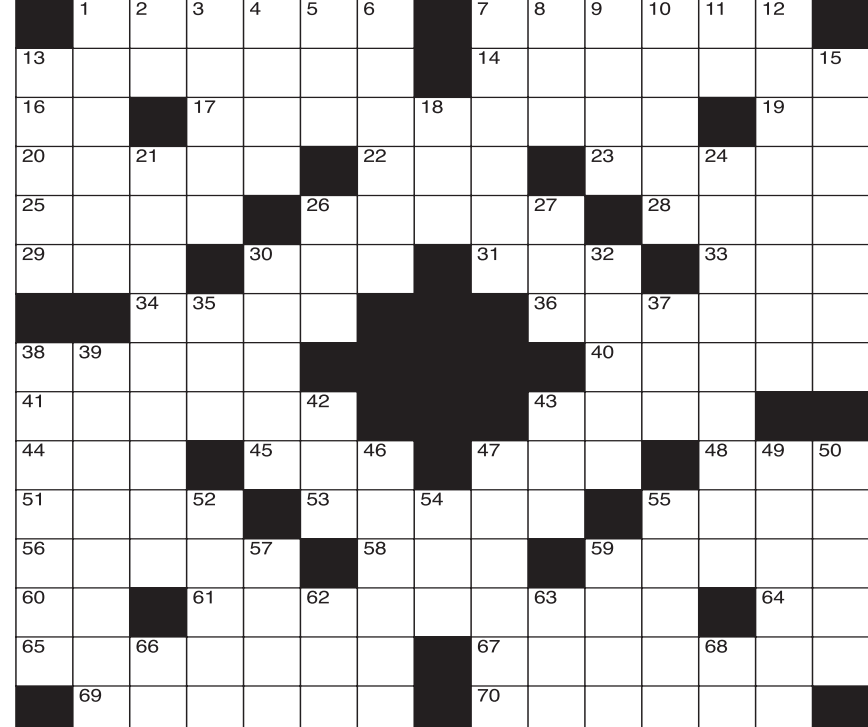
Feeding America - New Castle Christian Church parking lot from 3-5 p.m. Fresh produce, along with canned items are available for the community to purchase. Citizens with EBT cards receive a discount on their produce.

### April 15

Monroe Mushroom Foray at Wait-ville Community Center in Wait-ville, WV from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Workshop and wood walk on Potts Valley Rail trail and Moncove Lake. [WVMUSHROOMCLUB.NET](http://WVMUSHROOMCLUB.NET)

-The New Castle Record

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- CLUES ACROSS**

  - Colas
  - Single-celled animals
  - The rear car of a train
  - Endangered
  - It cools your home
  - Helper
  - "The First State"
  - More aged
  - Partner to cheese
  - Type of wrap
  - From a distance
  - Satisfies
  - "Dallas Buyers' Club" actor Jared
  - God of battle (Scandinavian)
  - Cooking utensil
  - Soviet Socialist Republic
  - Able to perform
  - Big man on campus
  - Second epoch of the Tertiary period
  - Porticos
  - Alban and Peter are two
  - Gets up
  - Humble request for help
  - One-thousandth of an inch (abbr.)
  - Unhappy
  - Hint or indication
  - A way to plead
  - Digits
  - Broadway actress Daisy
  - Jewish calendar month
  - Author Gore
  - Peacock network
  - White poplar
  - Promotional material
  - A period of calm
  - Take too much
  - Emit energy
  - Something you can take
  - Mended with yarn
  - Inconsistent
- CLUES DOWN**

  - Calm down
  - One quintillion bytes (abbr.)
  - One who pretends
  - Hang glide
  - Distinctive practice
  - Mariner
  - Peaks
  - Queens ballplayer
  - Geological times
  - Twofold
  - Atomic #13
  - Tranquillizing
  - Metric weight unit
  - Indicates
  - Unwanted rodent
  - Partly cooked with hot water
  - One who can be recommended
  - Resembles a bag or pouch
  - Midway between south and southeast
  - Sets up for a photo
  - California white oak
  - More (Spanish)
  - After B
  - Decorated tea urn
  - Island
  - Car mechanics group
  - Wordplay joke
  - Cut a rug
  - Prickly plant
  - Speech in praise of a deceased person
  - European buzzard
  - Influential linguist
  - West African languages
  - Siskel's partner
  - Skinny
  - Oblong pulpit
  - Consumed
  - Small, mischievous sprite
  - Powerful lawyer
  - Indicates position



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## Turkey day for youth a huge success for Bug



COURTESY PHOTO

This past weekend was youth turkey season, and several men took their little ones out for a gobbler look. Lee Sarver shared that he had a proud moment as a grandfather, saying, “I know it was raining and I rarely go in the rain anymore BUT it was youth day and I’ll be at Church tomorrow, SO, we went anyway, and this big bird comes in really early, got to about 25 yards and Bug let him have it and all he did was the turkey flop! The excitement was great, the shouts and laughter was crazy and Bug impersonating the turkey flop was hilarious! But as we rode out of the mountains, Bug said, ‘Papsy whenever I go hunting, I will always remember you.’ Yes, I’m still tearing up, thank you Jesus for such great memories, so blessed!”

## Football

from page 2

own table with their hand-crafted jewelry.

For the kids, they had set up a craft station in the cafeteria, as well as pin the tail on the Easter bunny and a photo op place to take your picture. “We would like to thank the students and players that gave up their Saturday to help bring some joy and shopping to their community and

a big thank you to Jason Lane and Morgan Dowdy for planning it,” Dowdy said. “Thank you to the coaches who went above and beyond to make the day a success, Brock Jones, Roland Donithan, Jamie Simpkins, Jayke Dowdy, and Jimmy Fisher and a special shout out to Coach and Mrs. Fisher for the delicious concessions that were provided.”

Be sure to ‘Like’  
the New Castle  
Record on Facebook.

## Mountain Lodge #140 welcomed District Deputy Grand Master Crum



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of Mountain Lodge #140, AF & AM, of New Castle, along with visitors from several other lodges, welcomed their District Deputy Grand Master Alan Wayne Crum, in the hat, to their March 14 stated meeting after enjoying a spaghetti dinner provided by Worshipful Master David Jett Layman Sr., who is pictured on Crum’s right.

## Wind destroyed Grimm’s carport



COURTESY PHOTO

It wasn’t an April Fools’ Day joke when Donnie Grimm rose from his carport swing to go inside and then heard a loud noise, only to look out the door and see that half his carport was laying in the yard, along with his swing he had just risen from. Jason Crawford, his neighbor, shared that he watched the whirlwind as it came down the road towards his home. It lifted his carport up, pulling the back half off the driveway and carrying it into his back yard. The remainder of the carport sloped down, as the support was now gone. He shared that he was very happy that he had just gone inside.

## Easter Egg

from page 2



PHOTO BY PAM DUDDING

As 1,300 eggs were being opened, the kids were so happy to find candy and toys in them.

and \$10 bills. Squeals were heard when one was found.

The evening ended with snacks and kids sharing their winnings as everyone had a basket of candy and toys.

The true meaning of the holiday, being emphasized of the crucifixion and the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who wishes to fill the “basinets” of people’s hearts with joy and peace.



Robin Morris has been known in Craig for her colorful and creative wreaths that she makes.



Faye and Steve Powers had a huge display of wire-wrapped sea glass that is stunning, and many other items

# God’s House Is Always Open

### 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. San Kang.

### CHESTNUT GROVE CHURCH

Duane Wentle, 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 details.

### 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 6:30-8:00PM. Transportation provided - call the church. Hearing devices also available. www.craigvalleybaptist.com

### CRAIG VALLEY GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP

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

### CROSSROADS CHURCH

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

### FIRST BAPTIST

Pastor Kevin Altizer, Corner of Main Street & Boyd Ave., New Castle. Church phone 864-5919. Sunday School 10:00AM, Sunday Worship 11:00AM and 6PM. Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7PM, Youth Group

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 Lorraine Taylor, agladypastor@msn.com. Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Evening service at 7:00 p.m.; Youth (ages 13-18) & Super Church (ages 4-12) Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. You can also watch on Facebook Live at 10:30 a.m. www.graceassemblycatawba.org

### 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 Wentle, 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, Jonathan Lee, pastor, 864-6622. Sunday: Worship Service 9:00 a.m., Children’s Church 9:15 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

### 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.

### NEW CANTERBURY PENTECOSTAL FELLOWSHIP

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

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Sunday service 9-10:15am at the VFW building in New Castle. Casual dress if you desire and contemporary praise and worship. If you don’t have a ‘home’ church, please join us at ours with Pastor Gary Burch. Check us out on facebook or contact us at: craigcountycommunity-church@gmail.com.

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If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Randy Thompson at 540-389-9355 or email at advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com



# Students featured in Art Spotlight



**CCMS Artist spotlight**  
**Sean Villar**

8th Grade student Sean Villar has been selected by Art Teacher, Mrs. Sierra Frazier, for the Artist Spotlight Feature. Sean has created many beautiful works of art this school year using a variety of techniques. Keep up the good work, Sean!



**CCMS Artist spotlight**  
**Jakob Hannah**

12th Grade student Jakob Hannah has been selected by Art Teacher, Mrs. Sierra Frazier, for the Artist Spotlight Feature. Jakob has created many beautiful works of art this school year using a variety of techniques.

COURTESY IMAGES

"When your students are this talented, it's hard to feature just one!" shared Sierra Frazier, a local art teacher. "Congratulations to 8th Grade Student Sean Villar and 12th Grade Student Jakob Hannah for being the spotlight Art Students!"

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**ATTENTION CRAIG CREEK SUPPORTERS**

Your right of public access to Craig Creek is being threatened! A court case coming soon could make it a crime to float or paddle down Craig Creek. If you are concerned, please call or email Bill Tanger at riverdancer1943@gmail.com or 540-266-0237. Join with others who have formed Friends of Craig Creek to stop this lawsuit.



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# SPORTS

Send story ideas & announcements to [bhoffman@ourvalley.org](mailto:bhoffman@ourvalley.org)



Jenna Boitnotte takes a rip.



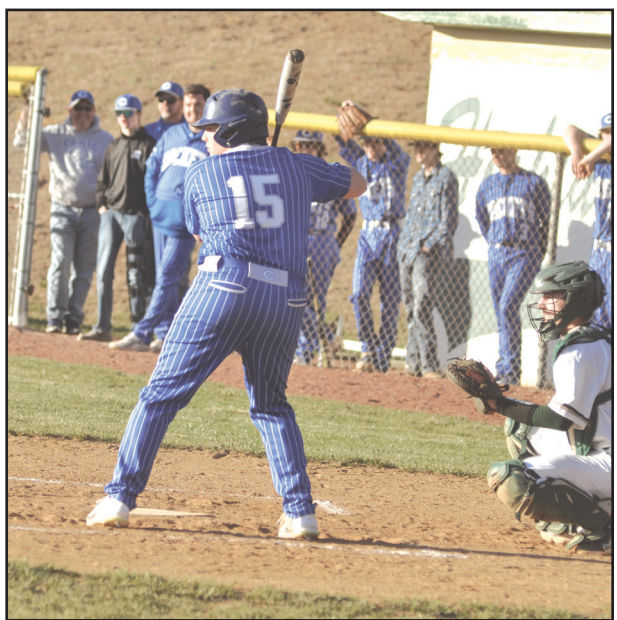
Sara Jones pitches for Craig County.



Randalyn Taylor bats for the Rockets.



Craig's Joseph Charette takes a cut.



Tyler Fitzpatrick stands in at a recent game.



Drew Duncan connects for the Rockets.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

## ROCKET TEAMS RETURN TO THE DIAMOND, PITCH AND TRACK AFTER A WEEK OFF FOR SPRING BREAK

The Craig County High School sports teams will be back in action this week after taking a week off for spring break. Craig has baseball, softball, soccer and track events scheduled.

On Monday the Rockets were scheduled to host Eastern Montgomery in Pioneer District games. The baseball and softball teams were at home while the soccer team had a match scheduled for El-

liston.

Today, Wednesday, the baseball and softball teams are home again to host Giles. Craig athletes also have a track meet at Covington today.

After Wednesday the Rocket teams are off again for Easter vacation. They'll return next Tuesday, April 11, with baseball and softball games at home against Narrows and a soccer game at Narrows.

## LEE WINS NEW CASTLE RECORD NCAA BASKETBALL CONTEST

The final results are complete for one of the wackiest NCAA Basketball Tournaments ever and we have a winner in the first New Castle Record "Basketball Madness" contest.

Linda Lee of Craig Valley Drive in New Castle is the winner of a \$50 gift certificate to Mac & Bob's Restaurant in Salem. She missed the fewest among the many fans who entered our contest. Linda was cor-

rect on 42 of the 63 possible games our readers had to pick in a tournament full of upsets and exciting finishes.

Lee got off to a good start, missing just four of the 32 first round games. She got 10 of the 16 games correct in the second round and nailed half of the "Elite Eight," picking Creighton, Texas, UConn and Gonzaga correctly. Then it got

tougher as Linda didn't get any of the "Final Four," but who did this year? No one in the contest had more than one correct in the Final Four.

Congratulations to Linda and thanks to everyone who participated in our contest, and thank you for reading the New Castle Record.

—Brian Hoffman

## SALEM RED SOX OPEN AT HOME THURSDAY

The Salem Red Sox will open the 2023 Carolina League baseball season on Thursday when they host the Delmarva Shorebirds, a farm team of the Baltimore Orioles, in a three game series. Games are scheduled for 7:05 pm Thursday and Friday with a 6:05 pm game on Saturday, April 8.

Last year's number one overall pick, Jackson Holliday, spent plenty of time in the Baltimore major league camp this spring and impressed Orioles' brass with his advanced tools at just 19 years old. His highly anticipated regular-season debut is expected to come Thursday in Salem. He won't be alone in terms of big names as Miguel Bleis, a potential five-tool outfielder who turned 19 on March 1, is also expected to start for the Salem Sox.

After the three game series with Delmarva the Red Sox will be off for Easter on Sunday along with the usual Monday off-day before returning to action next Tuesday, April 11, with a six game series against the Carolina Mudcats in Zebulon, North Carolina.

In the off-season the Salem club announced that it entered into an agreement to sell the team to Diamond Baseball Holdings (DBH), an organization that owns and operates select Minor League clubs affiliated with Major League Baseball (MLB). The Salem Red Sox will remain in Salem, Virginia as the Single-A affiliate of the Boston Red Sox and current staff will continue to be led by General Manager Allen Lawrence. Lawrence doesn't feel fans will notice any difference from last season while attending the game.

"We anticipate a smooth transition in the coming weeks and know that DBH puts fans and community first," said Lawrence. "Our day-to-day operations will not change, and our entire organization remains focused on creating an exceptional player development program for Red Sox players, and a positive experience for our

fans in the Roanoke Valley."

"For 16 years, Allen and the entire team in Salem have been incredible partners who have made the entry point into the Red Sox Minor League system one that is welcoming and sets the standard for our culture," said Red Sox President & CEO Sam Kennedy. "Our connection to Allen and the entire player development team in Salem will remain intact and I know the organization is in good hands with DBH leaders like Pat Battle and Peter Freund at the helm. What they are doing to enhance the Minor Leagues through investment and technology will benefit Salem greatly and I have no doubt they will continue to build on what has been established in Salem under Allen's capable guidance."

Throughout its long history in the Roanoke Valley, the Salem Red Sox have fostered a devoted community of supporters and DBH plans to continue building on the club's success and connectivity with the fans and city of Salem. DBH is an experienced leader with a grow-

ing portfolio of Minor League Baseball clubs in markets across the country including the Double-A affiliate of the Boston Red Sox, the Portland Sea Dogs. Focused on creating highest-quality baseball experiences, DBH prioritizes fan and community engagement while driving additional growth and value for each club by investing in best-in-class facilities and technological innovation and through direct partnerships with MLB on opportunities like sponsorship and merchandising.

"I want to thank both Sam Kennedy and Dave Beeston of the Red Sox for their continued support and partnership in Salem as DBH now builds on what they have already been so successful in doing in the community," said Peter Freund, CEO of Diamond Baseball Holdings. "In this next chapter, we will work together to promote Salem's longstanding success and cultivate value-driven opportunities to reach the club's long-term goals and vision."

Professional baseball debuted in Salem in 1939 with the Salem Friends. Minor league teams have made the city their summer home every season since 1955 with no less than seven different teams earning championships in Salem. Whether it has been the Appalachian League or the Carolina League, the players and coaches have ingrained themselves in the community and worked hard to turn game nights into family events.

"We expect that the Salem Red Sox will continue to deliver the same quality product on and off the field under the ownership of DBH, and fans will not notice anything different this season," says Wendy Delano, Salem's Director of Civic Facilities. "Our ultimate goal is to make sure our teams and patrons are taken care of on all levels. Providing a first-class facility and a consistently entertaining gameday experience continue to be our priority, which we share with DBH."

