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(USPS-378-080)

"The Voice of Craig County"

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

Huff sworn in as new superintendent of CCPS



On Thursday, Aug. 31, the Craig County School Board held a special meeting to swear in the new superintendent that had been chosen for the schools, Dwayne Huff. Sharon Oliver from the Craig County Courthouse asked him to repeat words of affirmation to the new position.

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

When Jeanette Warwick, the previous superintendent of the Craig County Public Schools, announced her retirement, many staff and students repeated, "Her shoes are very big to fill; she was one in a million; a leader and advocate for our kids!"

On Thursday, Aug. 31, the Craig County School Board held a special meeting to swear in the new superintendent that had been chosen for the schools, Dwayne Huff.

As Sharon Oliver from the Craig County Courthouse asked him to repeat words of affirmation to the new position, the Craig County School Board smiled.

"Do you solemnly swear and confirm that you will support the constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia and that you will faithfully and impartially discharge all duties that are incumbent upon you as Superintendent of Craig County Schools according to the best of your ability, so help you God?" Oliver asked and Huff confirmed.

We feel we have found a great man who will do good things for our schools and students here," they shared. "He holds a wealth of knowledge of the system and has a heart for kids; we are very happy and glad we took this long to find the best.

The Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) assisted the school board with the superintendent search process.

His new position will become effective Sept. 1.

Dwayne Huff comes from Grayson County Public Schools where he currently serves as the director and principal of the career and technical education center, a role he has held since 2018.

Huff earned his Master of Science in Educational Administration from Radford University, a Master's in Curriculum and Instruction from Liberty University, and a bachelor's degree in Natural Resource Management from Virginia Tech.

With over 13 years of experience in education, Huff has formerly served as an agriculture and biology

Additionally, Huff worked with the

Virginia Department of Forestry as an area forester.

He has served in lead roles with many conservation organizations, including the New River Soil and Water Conservation District, VA Forest Service, and the New River Highlands Resource and Conservation District.

"As an educator who entered the profession through the career switcher program, Huff brings a diverse background in economic development, natural resource management, organizational leadership, administration, and education," the board shared.

Trace Bellassai, chair of the Craig

See **Huff**, page 3



Tina Crawford of Craig County gave an in-depth presentation of mining in Craig and surrounding areas at the local Historical Society monthly meeting, bringing her huge piece of green slag from her great-grandfathers mining days.

Historical Society shares mining in and around Craig

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

Many have a difficult time believing Craig County and its surroundings were once a hubbub of many workers and businesses.

There were beautiful hotels, stores where shoppers could purchase everything residents now have to drive out of town for and a train station that transported the muchneeded coal to many parts of the

states and people to many areas.

Yes, that was old-time Craig County. It was even said they had three dance halls, a bowling alley, theatre and several places to eat for enjoyment.

On Monday, Aug. 28, the Craig County Historical Society and Tina Crawford presented an in-depth history of mining in and around Craig County.

See **Historical**, page 2

Feeding Southwest Virginia now in Craig County twice a month



Feeding Southwest Virginia recently announced that it will be in Craig County twice a month, on the second and third Wednesdays of each month.



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Historical from page 1

Crawford's relatives were in mining and though she said she personally doesn't have any background in it, she has a wonderful rock collection she has collected over many years.

"If it was colorful or different, I would pick it up and I still have them after all these years," she added.

Her father was born in a coal miner's camp in Russell County and his father worked at the mine as an engineer and had previously worked in the silver and copper mines in New Mexico.

However, in 1918, her greatgrandfather worked at the Cranberry Furnace in Johnson City, Tennessee.

Crawford shared that when Virginia was discovered, King James sent people to find gold, spices and land. They found no spices and the gold was not discovered for another 150 years.

In 1781, Thomas Jefferson wrote about their findings of gold, copper, iron, graphite, marble, limestone and

Crawford said she would first share some of the more unusual things that Virginia was known for.

Wilton Barton Rogers was famous for being Virginia's first state geologist, Mt. Rogers being named after him.

"He and his brother were brilliant for their time," Crawford explained. "They founded the Massachusetts State of Technology (MIT) and Rogers kick started the American Industrial Revolution due to the way he gathered information about the coal fields in Virginia."

Floyd is known for copper mining in 1847 and continued for 100 years

She told the story of Captain Shelor who built a furnace there to make copperware. He wanted to broaden his horizons and loaded his wares to take to Lynchburg where there was a military training camp.

"As he was showing his pots and pans, the people started snickering and saying how rough the pans were. They continued to the point that Shelor kicked the table, and they all flew into the air and when they hit the ground, they bounced and rang like a bell," Crawford shared. "The spectators then rushed to him and paid him twice as much.'

Wythe County was where Colonel John Chiswell hid in a cave to hide from the Indians. While hiding he discovered zinc and lead, therefore called Chiswell's Hole.

He then decided to turn the zinc and lead into silver," Crawford said. "But he was a scoundrel and was later charged with murder and mysteriously They used these minerals to make

bullets mainly.

"The Mine was the birthplace of the Fincastle Resolutions," she added. "This was the first adopted statement by colonists that promised that they were going to resist to their death to the British Crown to preserve their liberties." This mine did not close until the

"In Smyth County, most of you

know Roanoke County was originally named Big Lick because of the salt licks," she said. "The early settlers would dig wells and extract the water and dry it out and that salt was the

primary source for the Confederacy during the Civil War."

She added that they have now found woolly mammoth bones there.

In Pittsylvania County lies the largest uranium deposit in the United States and the seventh largest in the world, discovered in 1978.

"As the owners started mining, the Commonwealth of Virginia government learned about it and they decided after the disasters of threemile island, they had best put a ban in place," she explained. "However, in 2000, the price of uranium sky rocketed. The owners decided to test the waters and then sued the Commonwealth for not allowing them their personal property rights. Finally in 2019, the Supreme Court concurred that they did not need to be mining uranium."

In Staunton, the Cremora deposit of manganese was found and produced more manganese than any other single deposit in the U.S. and in WWI, the mining operations were the largest in the world because manganese is used to deoxidize iron and create steel for their ships, rifle barrels, etc.

Today, manganese is used to prevent corrosion in aluminum and now it's used in batteries for the new electric cars.

"This particular mine in the late 1880s was owned by Andrew Carnegie and made the mines almost a death trap," Crawford explained. "I found pages upon pages in the Staunton area about how bad these mines were. A new owner came in and cleaned it up but later closed down. However, in 1938, WWII caused the mine to reopen, and again it closed after the war and reopened in 1954 during the Korean conflict, so the National Defense and manganese have a lot in

It is now a retreat that families can

Crawford said that a particular rock shocked her as she would have placed it in her collection to look at. But, in Buckingham County, a

geologist seen it and thought he could make a lot of money with the rock called kyanite, to replace feldspar that was used as an electrical insulator in spark plugs for Jeeps. This mine was the sole producer of

kyanite, and the United States is the leading producer in the world.

Craig County holds 25 inactive mines of cobalt, iron, lignite, manganese and nickel.

Two of these are the Fenwick and Lignite Mines which Crawford shared an aerial view showing them side by "The Manganese was discovered

in 1934 when the U. S. Defense Department had hundreds of tons mined during WWI," Crawford continued. "Then in 1941 the Manganese Mine in Paint Bank was expanded as the U.S. manganese was showing deficiencies and WWII was unfolding. An article in "The Roanoke Times"

quoted that the manganese in Paint Bank was a much higher grade than that found in Brazil, (which would also require the building of a railroad to gain access). Crawford also explained the

produce the product.

workings of the furnace needed to



Crawford created a display including many pictures and details of lignite mining in Craig County.

She added that 14 furnaces were in operation during the 19th century in neighboring Botetourt County, one being the Callie Furnace built in 1873 to produce pig iron that was transported to mills in Ohio and Pennsylvania.

The Catawba Furnace, located on Catawba Creek, was built in 1830 and was a cold-blast furnace. The pig iron produced was hauled to Buchanan and the James River and Kanawha River and sent to Richmond.

The Grace Furnace, a cold-blast charcoal furnace, located on Craig's Creek near Lignite was built in 1849.

"In 1856, it was recorded that during a 26-week period, about 900 tons of pig iron was extracted from brown hematite ore," Crawford said. "However, the mine is now in ruins." She mentioned that when the early

settlers were searching for gold, that the iron ore was really the "gold" as it is one of the primary minerals for The Roaring Run furnace was also

a cold-blast charcoal furnace, built in 1832, located between Oriskany and Eagle Rock and is preserved and a park today for people to tour. She added, "Most of the pig iron

produced in its last years was sent to Richmond to manufacture arms.' "When the railroad came in 1837,

the iron industry expanded as it aided farmers and flour mills and other industries in the U.S., connecting big cities to rural areas," Crawford shared. "The iron industry expanded in Virginia because of the railroad "The Chesapeake and Ohio Craig

Valley Branch began operation August 24, 1891, and cost 700 million to construct as it was added specifically to develop a large mineral business to feed the main line," she continued. "Crews of convicts assisted in the construction and once complete, C&O held a grand banquet for the convict laborers and the local people." Crawford shared that there were

five stations: Bessemer at Eagle Rock

- Oriskany one-and-a-halfmile spur line to Lignite Mine
- Barbours Čreek Fenwick Mines spur line to the mines Va Mineral Springs
- New Castle Craig City (the

termination point) There was a question brought up of

when the train station burned down. No one seemed to know that was present, however Glenn Paxton shared that it was there when he went into service in 1966 and when he returned Gerlene Sizer added, "Back in the

50's they said that they were going to take it out. It took a while for them to go through the negotiations. However, my aunt Susie worked there. They had an outhouse, but you had to walk down the tracks to go to the outhouse next to the pulpwood. Susie complained about it so much because she had to be gone from the station, so they built one there and called it 'Susie's Outhouse".

"The Botetourt/Craig Lignite – iron mine opened in 1899 by the Alleghany Ore and Iron Company. It consumed 250 acres in Craig and 400 acres in Botetourt. The pig iron was used to make cast iron, wrought iron and steel," she added. "At Lignite, it was an open cut mine, where they didn't go underground."

Crawford had a cloth covering a large item on the table while speaking and when uncovered, a beautiful green colored stone was revealed.

This came from East Tennessee where her great-grandfather, Samuel Hughes (papa) worked at the Cranberry Furnace mines.

"The iron ore were high grade magnetite and composed of the green epidote and white quartz. When the processes were complete, this slag was left," Crawford shared. "When I was a little girl, my great aunt had her flower beds lined with these beautiful glass rocks and she gave me this one. My sister and I thought it was coke bottle glass."

See **Historical**, page 3



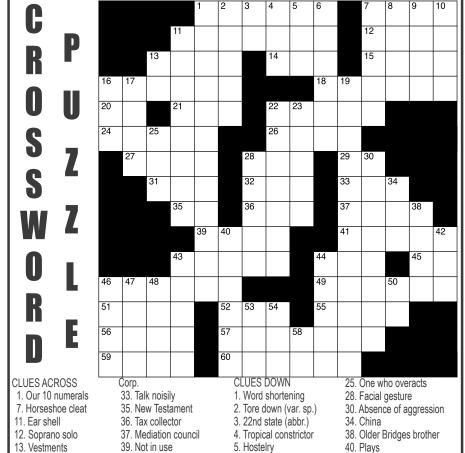
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walks

24. Russian sourgrass soupsomething

26. OK Corral's Wyatt 27. Cheremiss

28. Schenectady County Airport

32. NYSE for Murphy Oil

29. Laptop

31. Actress Farrow

56. 3rd largest Colombian 57. Gum arabics

51. Thick piece of

59. A song of praise to God

60. Dispatcher

46. Pool dressing room

41. Act as master of

43. Skin lesions

44. Stiff bristle

45. Equally

49. Eyebath

ceremonies

52. Angry 55. 20th Hebrew letter

13. Indicates position 16. Root mean square

19. 12-31 greeting

termeasures

22. Fastens

17. Electronic counter-coun-

6. Examine and expurgate

9. Infestation of head louse

11. An orange-red crystalline

7. Small restaurants

8. E. Asian anis liquor

10. New Yorker film critic

Pauline

Venezuelan fashion designer initials

abilities

developer

altitude

53. Highest card

42. Term denoting psychic

44. Any habitation at a high

47. Russian mountain range

46. Hyperbolic cosecant

48. An aromatic salve

43. Oral polio vaccine

54. 5th son of Jacob

58. Music storage device

23. Himalayan wild goats

Historical from page 2

She added that slag can be different colors, depending on the minerals processed there.

Crawford also spoke of the "human side of mining" which included the sad fact that many miners had to leave after only six to eight months of back breaking labor.

"There were two rows of 17 dwellings built there plus a boarding house for bachelors," Crawford added. "At its peak, were 300 miners who formed scrappy baseball teams with well-intended games against the neighboring Fenwick miners."

The town included the company store, a post office, hospital, train depot, saloon, churches, and schools. They even had a theatre and in its prime, there were over 50 buildings there with housing.

Crawford shared that the community was so close that they had annual homecomings.

The Historical Society many historical books, and one included the story about a man and Crawfords' husbands' great uncle, Odelle Crawford, about 18 or 19 years of age. They were in charge of running the iron ore buckets from the mine up to the wash plant. They would run it as hard as they could up there so that they could take a break before their next run.

C&O ran trains there three times a day, two for passengers and one for

Craig County Fenwick Mines was operated by Low Moor Iron Company and was the deepest of their four mines.

The raw iron was removed from the mines into carts pulled by mules and then onto steam shovels and loaded on a dinky line," she explained. "It was washed to remove sand and clay to make ready to be shipped on the railroad."

They also did something called "top-sliding" which I thought was horrible," Crawford shared. "They would go in and set up a room where the ore was and lay timbers close together, adding uprights to support the roof, cut out as much iron ore as they could and once removed from the room, they would dynamite and then the top became the floor, as all kept continuing to pancake." They said the ore was so hard so they would blast during the day and let it settle that night before the miners went in the next morning."

"Water there was plentiful for ore washing and timber also for mining and construction of dwellings," Crawford continued. "It was connected to a spur line from Barbours Creek Station to Fenwick Mine camp and then up Mill Creek to furnaces.

She included information of the crime back then including an eight year old girl who never returned but three young men were seen following her and one took her life.

Young children worked the mines as well as it was a hard economy and

Mining census quadrupled between 1900 and 1910, "including immigrants from Italy as the mining companies depended on cheap "They were not paid with cash but

with company scrip which was only good at their facilities," Crawford said. "If they needed cash so they could come into New Castle to shop, etc. they would exchange the dollar for a smaller amount, therefore they were making money upon making

Crawford also shared many pictures of the mines and people and the mining processes.

"The forest has overgrown the Fenwick and Lignite Mines, only seeing soil piles. The open pits are now filled with water and serve with ponds," she said. She shared an article that had

been in the "Daily Review" in Clifton Forge dated 1953 and written by H.L. Switzer, on the occasion of his retirement from the railroad. He was from Craig County, born in 1893 and the oldest of six children. He was 13 when his dad was killed in a mining accident and had to quit school and went to work as an ore washer and picked sandstone and gathered waste from the ore, working 10 hours per day, only being paid fifty cents per day. His mother took in boarders and provided three meals a day to supplement their income for a total of \$13 per month. He worked at the mines until he was 22 years of age and moved to the position of fireman and then a brakeman on the little trains and received \$1.35 for a day. In 1915 he moved to Clifton Forge and was promoted to an engineer on a locomotive, serving 37 years. He also served in WWI and married in 1922."

There have been people visiting Craig and the Historical building and Genealogy building to find their descendants names and share their memories with our community members.

Crawford added the sad truth, "The first generation sees, the second generation hears but the third generation forgets."

She added, "However, the property appropriated to Jefferson National Service and Forestry, creates today's recreational area where people can go and enjoy a walk or picnic."

UBITUARIES

Paitsel, Shirley Dorothy

Paitsel, 83, of New Castle, VA, was called home on September 1, 2023. She was born on September 13, 1939, to the late James Edward Paitsel and Alva Hutchinson Paitsel. Shirley was employed by Halmode Manufacturing working for nearly 40 years as a seamstress. One of Shirley's greatest joys was being a caretaker for the many children that came in and out of her home. She taught Sunday school for many years at the former First Assembly of God. Shirley loved to be outdoors, especially working in her yard. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by an infant brother, Delbert; sisters, Ruby St. Clair, Lucille



Huffman; nephew, Kenneth James "Jimmy" Paitsel, Jr.; niece, Sherry Ann Toler; godson, Joshua Humphries; and a host of extended family

She is survived by her siblings, Margaret Paitsel, Kenneth Paitsel, Sr., Harriet Medley, Oneta Paitsel, Diane Ray; nieces, Angela Kendall, Tammy Medley, Amanda Hicks; numerous nieces,

nephews, great nieces, and great nephews also survive.

A funeral service to celebrate her life will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at the Paitsel Funeral Home Chapel in New Castle, with Pastor Don Brown officiating. Burial will follow at Huffman Memorial

Friends may visit with the family from 10 a.m. until the hour of the

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial contributions be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital in honor of Shirley.

Paitsel Funeral Home of New Castle in service the family of Ms. Paitsel.

Ledford, Sandra Via

Sandra Via Ledford, 74, of Oriskany, VA, went to be with the Lord on Aug. 31, 2023, at her home surrounded by her family. She was born on April 16, 1949, to the late "Buddy" and "Dump" Via. Sandra was a kind soul, she loved to help those she came across. She loved her family with all her heart, being a: wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother was her greatest joy. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death

by her brother, Terry

She is survived by her husband, Toby G. Ledford; daughters, Debbie Bartley and husband, Richard, and Angie Austin and husband, Perry Hale; grandchildren, Braden Bartley, Ashley Garrison (Anthony), Isaac Austin (Haley), Alicia Midkiff (Josh); great-grandchildren, A.J. Garrison, Josie Austin; special family friend, Anthony Austin. A graveside service to celebrate her life was held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 2, 2023, at the Anderson Family Cemetery, with Pastor John Norris officiating. In lieu of flowers,

please consider making a donation to King Memorial Community Church C/O Carol 3180 Old Lewis, Railroad Eagle Rock, VA 24085, in honor of Sandra.

Paitsel Funeral Home on New Castle is serving the Ledford

Huff from page 1

County School Board, believes Huff will be an excellent fit for the division and shared, "We're all very excited to be bringing Mr. Huff into the Craig County Family and having him carry forward the Craig County Way. As a board and school division, we are excited and fortunate to have hired an experienced leader who aligns so well with our needs. His expertise and eagerness to engage with our community will assist us in continuing our progress in Craig County.'

"It's a tremendous honor to be chosen as the superintendent for Craig County Public Schools," expressed Huff. "I believe my background will be an asset for this role, and this area. Craig County Public Schools has a rich history of excellence and receives strong support from the community. I'm eager to collaborate with our students, parents, community members, teachers, and staff to ensure we equip our students with the tools they need for future success."

Licensed Practical Nurse Craig County Health Center

Position requires current Virginia LPN license, experience in a clinic setting is preferred, experience with Electronic Medical Records, good communication skills, ability to establish a good rapport with patients and staff. Benefit package includes, 11 paid holidays, paid time off, health insurance, long term disability, life insurance, retirement. Hours of operation are Mon. 8am to 6pm, Tues., Wed., Thurs. & Friday 8am to 4:30pm. NO Weekends. Please send completed application and resume to Monroe Health Center, P.O. Box 590, Union, WV 24983, Attn: Stephanie Aliff, HR Director. You can obtain an Employment application at any of our locations or it can be downloaded atwww.monroehealthcenters.com. Monroe Health Center is an equal opportunity employer.

Radiologic Technologist **Craig County Health Center**

Position requires current Rad Tech license. At a minimum 1 yr experience, Electronic Medical Records experience, great communication skills, ability to establish a good rapport with patients and staff. Clinic hours are Monday through Friday 8am to 4:30 pm. No Weekends. Benefits include, Retirement Plan, Health Insurance, Disability Insurance, 11 Paid Holidays, Paid Time Off, license renewal reimbursement. Candidates should send a current resume along with a completed employment application to Monroe Health Center, Attn: Stephanie Aliff, HR Director, P. O. Box 590, Union, WV 24983. Monroe Health is an equal opportunity employer. Learn more about us, visit www.monroehealthcenters.com

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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 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 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.craigvallevbaptist.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 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.

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.

MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN

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 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**

Rev. San Kang, 364 Main St., New Castle, Va. Sunday School 10AM, Worship 11AM; UMW 3rd Wednesday@1PM, Youth and other programs, Bible Studies. ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

99 2nd Street, New Castle. Tel: 540-473-3691. Email: StJohnnewcastle@gmail.com. Mass is on Sunday at 11:15 AM.

CRAIG COUNTY COMMUNITY CHURCH -

'WELCOME HOME!' Sunday service 9-10:15am at the VFW building in New Castle. Casual dress if you desire and contemporary praise and worship. If you don't

have a 'home' church, please join us at ours with Pastor Gary Burch. Check us out on facebook or contact us at: craigcountycommunity-

church@gmail.com ST. THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH Located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit www.sttofc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on

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

Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

UPINION

News from the 9th: Labor Day



While some recognize Labor Day merely as the unofficial end of summer, the holiday was created to recognize the value of the labor movement in this country and how the American workforce has contributed to the success of our great nation, and our district.

of the 19th and early who is a farmer by trade, 20th centuries brought sings about the frustrations about increased wages, more reasonable working hours, and vastly improved working conditions. We all benefit to this day from leaders. some of the actions taken.

American workforce continues to be the backbone of our country and our district.

Unfortunately, this Labor Day, there is a sentiment among many hardworking men and women that our government and politicians have forgotten them.

This can be clearly The labor movement seen in Oliver Anthony's

song 'Rich Men North of tired of politicians trying Richmond,' which went viral just about the moment Mr. Anthony uploaded it to the internet.

The Virginia native, of blue-collar Americans, who are fed up with the direction our country is headed and with our

Most of you already know this but, he is referring to the D.C. swamp. While I work in Washington, D.C. regularly, I am not one of the 'Rich Men North of Richmond.'

That being said, Mr. Anthony is right. There are those in Washington, D.C. who want to control your thoughts and tell you what you are supposed to think.

Many Americans are

to dictate what they should think, do, and say.*

The song talks of Mr. Anthony, and others like him, working long hours and receiving too little pay, much in part due to high taxes, and feeling like those 'Rich Men North of Richmond' want them to waste their lives away.

He compares the fact that there are many who are starving in our country while there are also many who are not truly putting in the effort and are "milking" our safety net

It's understandable why Mr. Anthony and others have these frustrations.

We have seen high rates of inflation the past couple

See 9th, page 7

Library fines

Library Corner

Raven Meadowbrook

How do you feel about library fines? I always keep books out way too long and happily pay the fines because it's a way to support the library. "Going to a good cause...", I say.

It occurs to me that some people are not happy about fines. Perhaps they are ashamed to be "late"... Heaven forbid! Perhaps they don't have the money. Or perhaps they lose stuff all the time and lose the books and by the time they are found, the fine is really big.

I am guilty of thisand once the fine is greater than the book's value, I just offer to replace the book!

From time to time, libraries have a food drive where donations to a food pantry can erase all your book fines. Now that's creative!

The American Library Association asserted that monetary fines create a barrier to providing library services recently. Since all the adjustments during the Pandemic,

library policies have gotten more and more flexible and some have dropped fines all together.

Just imagine that you are 7 years old and you forgot about returning your books to the library for many weeks. Perhaps those books might disappear under your bed before you get into trouble. When you graduate from high school they will be found and sheepishly returned...or not.

Apparently, loss of books in the collection is sometimes a result of library fines. What about movies, should they have a fine when late? Problem is, we are so small we only have one copy of each material so if someone else is waiting for it, we want it returned promptly.

What are ways we can joyfully support our library without charging fines for overdue books? What are other ways to get folks to return items on time?

Are you more likely to return books and movies on time if there is a fine? (Yes for me- those dollar a day fines on movies can add up quickly and I speak from experience!)

We strive to be a free for all place, but are we really free if we charge you for overdue materials? Let us know your thoughts!

If you have read this far, you are "Friends of the Library" material. Your Friends of the Library group is always needing folks like you to energize and come up with creative and fun activities. We'd be happy to have you!

Email letters to the editor to aboyd@ mainstreet newspapers.com

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Cancer prevention: Good news and opportunities

on

Earlier this year, readers of our newsletter voted cancer as one of their top health concerns. That concern is rightfully placed, as cancer is the second leading cause of death in the country, after cardiovascular disease. While the healthcare system focuses on the treatment and management of cancer, public health helps Virginians focus on prevention through adopting healthy behaviors and avoiding unhealthy environments, and by improving access to cancer screening for early detection.

On these fronts there is good news- the risk of dying from cancer has dropped over 30% in the past three decades thanks to improvements in prevention and early detection, as well as advances in treatment options (American Cancer Society). One of the biggest

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

USPS 378-080

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Salem, VA 24153

www.ourvalley.org

Aila Boyd, Executive Editor aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Randy Thompson Advertising Consultant advertise@ourvalley.org

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The New Castle Record encourages letters from our

readers on topics of general interest to the community

and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD 1633 W. Main St., Salem, Va. 24153

Brian Hoffman, Sports Editor bhoffman@ourvalley.org

Debbie Nixon, Graphic Designer dnixon@ourvalley.com

Megan Mehrer, Graphic Designer megan@ourvalley.com

Michael Showell, Publisher

success stories is the decline in rates of lung cancer, due in part to more prevention (fewer people smoking) and improved screening (cancers being caught in earlier We encourage all Virginians catch up on medical

visits for routine screenings, such as mammograms, pap smears, and colorectal checks that may have been delayed by the pandemic. We also strongly recommend teens complete the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccination series to protect against HPV-related cancers. However, we should not think of health as something we only get at the doctor's office; instead, it is something that starts in our families and homes.

See **Cancer**, page 7

JOB OPENING

The Craig New Castle PSA has a Full Time job opening for an operator or operator trainee. An Operator Trainee needs no experience but will be expected to attend training sessions and will be required to become certified in wastewater and/or water treatment. Job duties will include but will not be limited to operation of the wastewater and water treatment facilities, maintenance of equipment, supply lines and vehicles and any other aspect of running the daily operations of the Craig New Castle PSA. Benefits include health and dental insurance, life insurance, retirement, vacation and sick leave and paid holidays.

Operator Trainees will be offered \$17 per hour-Employee candidates with experience i.e. operators license, backhoe operators, pipeline construction experience or other qualities that the board may find pertinent may negotiate wages. Applications can be picked up at the Craig New Castle PSA Office or a resume can be mailed to:

Craig New Castle PSA P.O. Box 128 New Castle, VA 24127

The Craig New Castle PSA is an equal opportunity employer.

be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication. All letters will be verified before publication. The Record reserves the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length content and style. News of public interest is solicited from all sections of the county.

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Agreement may be

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Contractors must submit

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at https://plow4va.com/. All

new and returning

Contractors must be active

in the Virginia

eProcurement Portal (eVA)

in order to do business with

the Commonwealth of

Virginia

(https://eva.virginia.gov)

Applications received by

7:00 PM on Monday

October 2, 2023 may be

eligible for a mobilization

bonus. See the EVA posting

for additional information,

including contract

requirements.

Questions can be directed

to the Salem Residency

from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

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Help Wanted -General

SENIOR TEST ENGINEER

TORC Robotics, Inc. seeks Senior Test Engineer based out of U.S. headquarters in Blacksburg, VA; however, this is a purely telecommuting / work-fromhome position,

whereby the employee may reside anywhere within the domestic travel up to 10% of the time. Position will Create software unit and integration test cases and test procedures, as well as, execute appropriate regression tests and analyze the results for how they correlate to on-road data and readiness for the deployment to real world systems integration teams, among other duties. To apply, email resume to careers@torc.ai and reference job number R-740.

Help Wanted -Medical

Staff Psychologist, Blacksburg, VA.

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Meetings

Trail Information Exhibit: Craig Botetourt Scenic Trail

September 9, 11 am to 1:30 pm September 11, 4 pm to 7 pm Fincastle Public Library meeting room 11 Academy St. Fincastle, VA 24090 Sponsored by DeRail the

Legals - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 3465 WEBSTER ROAD, BLUE

RIDGE, VA 24064. In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated December 26, 2006, in the original principal amount of \$105.539.12 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 070000271. 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 or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court on October 2, 2023, at 9:45 AM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: BEING THAT CERTAIN 0.713 ACRE, AS SHOWN ON HTAT CERTAIN PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY JACK G. BESS, C.L.S., FOR GERALDINE B. CARTER, DATED APRIL 3, 1980. 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 Pick-up will be Thursday, 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 Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be to a \$50 cancellation fee

from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real

property is available for viewing at www.bwwsales.com Additional terms if any to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt

collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt 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-

359323-1.

Salem

Notice

Legals - City of

is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on September 13, 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 THF CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA: 1. Hold public hearing to consider the request of David A. Thompson, property owner, for the issuance of a Special

Exception Permit to allow a 1.500 square foot detached garage on the property located at 640 Joan Circle, (Tax Map # 243 -2 -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.

Legals - City of Salem

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, **VIRGINIA** BY:

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Section 22.1-29.1 of the Code of Virginia, as amended to date, notice is hereby given that the Council of the City of Salem will hold a public hearing at 6:30 p.m., September 25, 2023, in Council Chambers City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, Salem, Virginia, to receive views of citizens within the Salem School District regarding the appointment to fill the expiring term ending 12/31/2023 of one member on the City of Salem School Board. All candidates seeking appointment must submit a letter of interest and résumé to the Deputy Clerk of Council. Submissions are requested by noon on Friday, September 22, 2023, however in all cases must be submitted prior to the closing of this public hearing. Candidates may be interviewed individually by City Council.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA

H. Robert Light Clerk of Salem City Council

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Board of Appeals (Building) of the City of Salem, Virginia will hold a public hearing, in accordance with

the provisions of Section 18-38 Code of City of Salem, Virginia, on September 21, 2023, at 4:00pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia. The purpose of the meeting and

hearing shall be to determine if a certain structure is dangerous to the inhabitants of the City and whether such structures should be ordered to be repaired or demolished. The structures are located as

follows: (1) A dilapidated structure located at 702 Front Avenue, Salem, Virginia (Tax Map # 201

10 – 2); and (2) Dilapidated structures located at 2500 West Main Street, Salem, Virginia (Tax Map #175-2-3).

All parties in interest at the public hearings will be given an opportunity to be heard, present evidence, and show cause why action by the City and Board to remedy a potentially dangerous

situation should or should not be granted. For additional information, contact the

Building Official's Office, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia (Phone 375-3036). THE BOARD OF BUILDING

APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM BY Troy D. Loving Troy D. Loving, Building Official

Legals -Montgomery County

Order of **Publication**

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,20-104 Case No.CL23000992-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in r*e NANNIE FAY LONG, THOMAS LONG AND EDWARD LONG v. NONE

It is ORDERED that GAIL LONG, BETHANY LONG, SABRINA LONG, SCOTTY W. LONG, BILLY W. LONG appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before OCTOBER 20, 2023 AT 8:30 AM. AUGUST 9, 2023 TIFFANY M. COUCH,

CLERK

TOWN OF BLACKSBURG -NOTICE OF **PUBLIC HEARINGS BLACKSBURG TOWN COUNCIL** will hold public hearings on

Tuesday,

September 12, 2023

Legals -Montgomery County

beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers of the Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 South Main Street. Blacksburg, regarding the following items:

Ordinance 2023: An Ordinance Authorizing the Lease of Space on the North Main Street Water Tank to New River Valley Unwired Ventures, LLC The proposed ordinance request is to provide New River Valley Unwired Ventures, LLC the opportunity for a one year lease term to place wireless equipment on the Town's water tank with an option to extend for an additional year.

All persons affected by or

interested in the proposed item above may appear and present their views. After each public hearing, Town Council will consider action on the item. Copies of materials related to the above items are on file and can be obtained in the Office of the Town Clerk, 300 South Main Street, Blacksburg, weekdays between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. For land use matters, copies of applications and all related items may also be found online at www.blacksburg.gov/public hearings or reviewed in person at the Blacksburg Planning and Building Department, 400 South Main Street, Blacksburg, Virginia. Individuals with

disabilities who require

special assistance to attend

Commonwealth of Virginia

VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-

316,20-104

Case No.CL23001417-00

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Circuit Court, 55 EAST

MAIN STREET, SUITE 1,

CHRISTIANSBURG, VA

24073 Commonwealth of

Virginia, in re AMANDA

COVEY, KYEMPER

ELLINGTON ALLEN v.

COMMONWEALTH

The object of this suit is to: MINOR NAME CHANGE. It

is ORDERED that SCOTT

ALLEN appear at the

above-named court and

protect his/her interests on

2023 AT 11 AM

August 23,2023

K.MIKE FLEENOR.JR.

JUDGE

TIFFANY M. COUCH,

CLERK

Order of

Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia

VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-

316,20-104

Case No CL23001416-00

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Circuit Court. 55 EAST

MAIN STREET, SUITE 1,

CHRISTIANSBURG, VA

24073 Commonwealth of

Virginia, in re AMANDA

COVEY, KYENDALL MAE

MARIE ALLEN v.

COMMONWEALTH

The object of this suit is to:

MINOR NAME CHANGE. It

is ORDERED that SCOTT

ALLEN appear at the

above-named court and

protect his/her interests on

or before OCTOBER 30,

2023, AT 11 AM

AUGUST 23, 2023

K. MIKE FLEENOR, JR.

JUDGE

TIFFANY M. COUCH,

CLERK

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REMOVAL purposes in

Salem Residency which

includes the counties of

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Craig during the winter of

2023-2024. Price per hour

shall include operators, fuel,

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required insurance. VDOT

TOBER 30,

and participate in this meeting should contact **Services Needed** Lorraine Spaulding, Town Christiansburg Area Clerk at (540) 443-1025 or 443-1000 (voice or TDD).

Order of **Publication**

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REMOVAL purposes in Christiansburg Residency which includes the counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski during the winter of 2023-2024. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders,

tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a

minimum guaranteed payment for the season. Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at https://plow4va.com/. All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (https://eva.virginia.gov).

mobilization payment and a

Applications received by 7:00 PM on Monday October 2, 2023 may be eligible for a mobilization bonus. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements. Questions can be directed to the Christiansburg Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday - Friday. Phone: 540-381-7201 Email:

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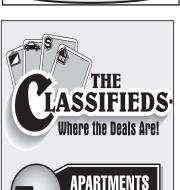
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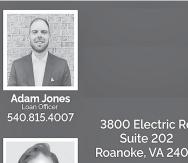




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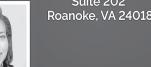




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Want to keep up with local news, sports and events? SUBSCRIBE TODAY • Call (540) 389-9355

Upcoming public meetings in Craig County

The Craig County Board of Supervisors will hold its monthly meeting at the Craig County Courthouse

Sept. 11

The Library Board of Trustees will meet at the Craig County Library at 6 p.m.

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.

Sept. 19

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

The Planning Commission will meet from 7-8 p.m.

Community events:

Ongoing

Every Tuesday, Music Jam at Clifton's Store Building, 158 Main Street from 6-8 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own instrument and chair. Cheese (like Clifton's!) and snacks served. See the progress made and make a donation to complete the renovation of this town landmark. Sponsored by Craig County Historical Society.

Every Friday. Craig County Genealogy Library is open 1 to 4 p.m. 152 Main Street. High school annuals, family histories and genealogy resources. Contact 540-864-7023.

-The New Castle Record

Roanoke City 13th STREET IMPROVEMENTS WITH DETOUR – A project to improve a portion of 13th Street SE in Roanoke is nearing completion. Once complete, 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. Minimal traffic impacts at this time. The project is expected to be completed in late summer 2023.

Roanoke County

STARKEYROADAND BUCK **MOUNTAIN** ROAD ROUNDABOUT A road project to construct a single-lane roundabout at the intersection of Route 904 (Starkey Road) and Route 679 (Buck Mountain Road) is underway. The new roundabout is now open to traffic and drivers should be aware of the new roundabout configuration. There will be occasional flagging operations in place between the 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the intersection of Starkey Road and Buck Mountain Road, drivers should still expect lane closures with flaggers controlling traffic for final paving, additional concrete pouring and pavement

marking until the project is finished. Final completion is expected in late spring 2024.

CLOSURES LANE WITH **FLAGGING OPERATIONS:** closure times of 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. have resumed due to school now being in session.

ROUNDABOUT: The roundabout configuration has been set up. This means drivers should continue around the circle without turning left and that drivers in the circle have the right

RIDGE FAIRWAY CLOSED ROAD FOR PIPE REPAIRS -Beginning on September 11 at 9 a.m. Fairway Ridge Road near the intersection with Franklin Street will be closed for two pipe replacements. Drivers will need to seek alternate routes and message boards will alert drivers in the area. The work is expected to be completed by September 22, weather permitting.

MOUNTAIN VALLEY PIPELINE - Mountain Valley Pipeline is expected to begin full construction again by mid-July. Temporary intermittent flagging operations will be in place in the county throughout the remainder of the project (with a tentative completion date of February 2024) to load/unload equipment at crossings and construction entrances. Scheduled completion is February 2024.

P Á V I N OPERATIONS - Weather

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

Botetourt County

DALEVILLE INTERSECTION **PROJECT** FOR FIELDSTONE DEVELOPMENT ACCESS closures northbound 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 through a permit. Drivers may see the new signal arm and additional signage being added. There is no estimated time for when these will become active as work continues. Lane closures will be set up on various days and noise disturbances may be in place through September

ROUTE 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. Drivers should expect delays due to a single lane closure across the bridge with a flagging operation. The jacking and bearing

replacements have been completed. Contractors are now applying protective paint underneath the bridge and will replace expansion dams on the bridge deck. Message boards are present to alert and update drivers. Expected completion in early fall 2023.

F L A G G I N G OPERATION flagging operation will be in place on the bridge Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. through September 2023. Drivers should expect

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

Craig County
P A V I N G **OPERATIONS**

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9th from page 4

of years, which has made everything more expensive, from Fritos to washing machines. For those Americans who are living paycheck to paycheck, they can't afford the extra costs. According to Moody's Analytics, inflation now costs families \$700 per month more in spending on the same items they bought two years ago.

Americans need relief.

Americans deserve a government that makes their lives easier, so that they can earn living wages and live their lives the way they want. They want a government that is able to help those who are truly in need. But they want government programs to be effective and efficient, instead of being meddlesome and burdensome.

Many Democrat politicians and the Biden Administration believe that more government, more regulation, more taxes, and more tax collectors are better for Americans.

Democrats want government to be involved in every aspect of people's lives, from what kind of car you drive to what health care you can have.

Theirs is the absolute wrong approach.

As a native of Southwest Virginia, I know many people in the Ninth District, and all around the country, don't want to be controlled by the government! They want freedom from the government!

I came to Washington to try to make people's lives better to provide resources to help Americans be able to prosper. I came here to fight against job-killing regulations

and against job-straggling bureaucracy and have been

So, this Labor Day, I want to acknowledge and thank our coal miners, our farmers, our truck drivers, and everyone who works for an honest living.

For our men and women who feel forgotten or feel like they can't win in today's America, I want you to know, our country and the Fightin' Ninth wouldn't be anything without you.

Let me assure you, some of us are fighting for you in Washington, D.C. Not all in Washington, D.C. are 'Rich Men North of Richmond.'

Cancer from page 4

For people who smoke, the single best way to decrease the risk of cancer is to quit using tobacco products, which are related to one out of every three U.S. cancers. Quit Now Virginia is a free service for Virginians 13 and older who want to quit tobacco (800-QUIT-NOW). Participants can choose among coaching options that include one-on-one sessions, a text messaging support program, and nicotine replacement therapy. Services are available 24/7 for users of cigarettes, vape products, and snuff or dip, as well as those supporting someone trying to quit.

We can also decrease our risk of cancer by eating a nutritious diet filled with fruits and vegetables, being physically active, and wearing sunscreen. Taken together, these behaviors can have a great impact on our health before we ever see a healthcare professional.

Our role in public health is to work with policymakers to ensure everyone has access to the prevention and care they need to be healthy. For example, Virginia Department of Health (VDH) public health programs such as Every Woman's Life support women who struggle financially to gain access to free breast and cervical cancer screening services. Because people's health can be affected by where they live, VDH offers a low-cost radon test kit program that allows Virginians, including those struggling to get by, to affordably test the air in their home. This program, which starts again on October 1, allows residents to test for indoor radon, a colorless, odorless gas thought to be the second leading cause of lung

Roanoke City and Alleghany Health District's mission is to protect and promote the health of all people in all communities, and that includes working with health partners to reduce the number of people who get cancer, have complications from it and die from it. Our work helps Virginians expand their opportunities to make choices for living a long, healthy life.

-Christie Wills Roanoke City & Allegany Health Districts

Virginia Department of Transportation

Craig Botetourt Scenic Trail Botetourt and Craig Counties

Citizen Information Meeting https://www.virginiadot.org/cbst

Wednesday, September 20, 2023 4 – 6 p.m.

Eagle Rock Elementary School 145 Eagles Nest Drive Eagle Rock, VA 24085

Thursday, September 21, 2023 4 - 6 p.m.

> Craig County High School 25239 Craigs Creek Road New Castle, VA 24127

Find out about a project to construct a 26-mile recreational scenic trail along the former Chesapeake and Ohio Craig Valley Branch railbed between Last Lock Park near Eagle Rock in Botetourt County and Craig County High School near New Castle in Craig County.

The multiuse trail for walking, running, biking, and horseback riding is anticipated to be approximately 10-foot-wide and mostly gravel. It will follow the former railbed and some low-volume secondary roads and consist of "share the road/trail" sections which will permit the use of motorized vehicles as well as sections of non-motorized use. Eight existing bridges along the former railbed will be modified to accommodate

The meetings will be held in an "open-house" format and VDOT representatives will be present to answer questions. The same information will be presented at both

Review the conceptual plans and project information at the meeting or after at VDOT's Salem District Office located at 731 Harrison Avenue, Salem VA, 540-387-5353, 800-367-7623, TTY/TDD 711. Please call ahead to ensure the availability of appropriate personnel to answer your questions.

Give your written or oral comments at the meetings or submit them by

October 1, 2023, to Kelly Dunn, Project Manager, 731 Harrison Avenue, Salem, VA 24153. Comments also can be emailed to CBST@vdot.virginia.gov. Please reference "Craig Botetourt Scenic Trail Comment" in the subject heading. An online survey will be available at https://www.virginiadot.org/cbst beginning September 20, the day of the first meeting, for citizens to share their comments about the project.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information in regards to your civil rights on this project or need special

assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Kelly Dunn at the phone numbers listed above.

> State Project: CBST-011-858, P101 Federal Project: STP-011-2(036) UPC 122492

In case of inclement weather or other issues, the meeting in Eagle Rock will be held September 27 and the meeting in New Castle will be held September 28 at the same times and locations.



GENERAL ELECTION Tuesday, November 7, 2023 POLLS OPEN 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

- Member Senate of Virginia 3rd District
- Member House of Delegates 37th District
- Clerk of Court
- Commonwealth's Attorney Sheriff
- Commissioner of Revenue Treasurer
 - Member Board of Supervisors AND School Board Member for the following:
 - o Potts Mountain District
 - o Craig City District
 - o Craigs Creek District

IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES Absentee and in-person early voting begins

Sep. 22, 2023: 8am – 4pm Monday - Friday (9/22/23 – 11/4/23) Voter Registration Office, 155 Main ST, New Castle, VA 24127

Oct. 9, 2023: Voter Registration Office closed due to holiday

Oct. 16, 2023: Voter Registration deadline Registration mail must be postmarked by this date

Oct. 27, 2023: Last day to accept absentee applications

Application must be in Registrar's Office by 5pm

Oct. 28, 2023: (Saturday)Voter Registration Office is open 9am – 5pm for in-person early voting

Nov. 04, 2023: (Saturday) Voter Registration Office is open 9am – 5pm

Final day of in-person early voting

Nov. 07, 2023: General Election. All polling places will be open 6am – 7pm

All precincts and office have an Absentee Ballot Drop Off Station **General Registrar Office** 155 Main ST New Castle, VA 24127 TELEPHONE: 540-864-6190 FAX: 540-864-5551 vote@craigcountyva.gov

https://craigcountyva.gov/government/election-information/ Sample Ballots can be found on this website or in the Registrar Office.

Joanna L. Ryan, Director of Elections & General Registrar ALL times on this notice are Virginia Time

SPORTS

Send story ideas & announcements to bhoffman@ourvalley.org

ROCKET TEAMS HOPE HOME VENUES ARE READY SOON



Coach Jim Fisher(bucket hat) talks to the team after a practice.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

When driving your car through a construction site you may see a sign that reads "temporary inconvenience for permanent improvement." Such is the case with Craig County High School sports this fall.

The Mitchell Field football gridiron and the floor in the gymnasium are both undergoing improvements at Craig County High. Due to those upgrades the football and volleyball teams are being temporarily inconvenienced with an eye toward permanent improvement.

The Rocket football team was scheduled to have their home opener last Friday night against Auburn. However, the field was not yet deemed playable and the game had to be postponed. Luckily for the Rockets both teams were scheduled to have a bye this week so the game was moved back one week, until this Friday, September 8. Game time is 7 pm providing the field is ready for action.

The middle school football team was also scheduled to host Glenvar on Tuesday of this week, and that game was postponed as well.

In the gym a new wooden floor has been laid and it's just a matter of time before all the painting and perks are concluded. That time will hopefully be October 2, as that's the first scheduled home match for the girls. In the meantime the Rockets will make 10 trips out of town for matches, tournaments or jamborees. Included are a doubleheader at Highland next Tuesday, September 12, that will count for two Pioneer District matches and two trips to North Cross School in Roanoke for non-district matches. The first of the two in North Cross is scheduled for 6 pm tonight, Wednesday September 6. On Saturday the Rockets will head

to Auburn for a varsity tournament. Included in the tournament, along with Craig and host Auburn, will be Chilhowie, George Wythe and Rappahannock. The tournament is scheduled to begin at 10 am. Once the floor is done the Rockets are

scheduled to play their last five games of the season at home, all against Pioneer District opponents. The girls have been practicing in the auxiliary gym while waiting for the new wooden floor to be But once it's done it will be nice... and

permanent.



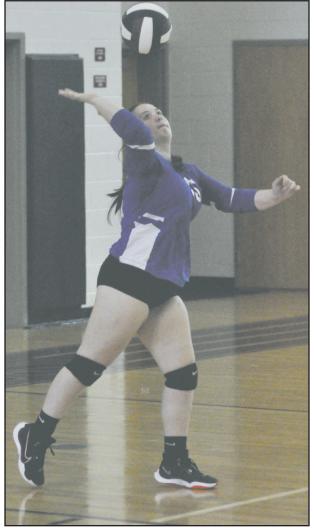
The Craig County Cougars play some defense in a recent jamboree in Vinton. The recreation season will start soon as the schedule is being completed.







Jenna Boitnotte plays the back row.



Erin Snider serves one up.



Daleigh Donithan serves for the Rockets.