FALL HOME IMPROVEMENT INSIDE THIS ISSUE!



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"The Voice of Craig County"

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

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Author from Craig County coming to the Fall Festival

Jim Zimmerman is the author of 'Love or Lust'

Pam Dudding Contributing writer

When one thinks about reading a love story, most believe it will be a woman who sits down to engross herself in that book. Jim Zimmerman has turned the tables of the "women's generation" and written a book for men to read as well. He titled it, "Love or Lust."

"Love or Lust is about an 18-year-old male who has just graduated from high school and is about to go to college. He is inexperienced with women and was the nerd in school," Zimmerman explained. "It is about the next five years of his life and the situations that a young man can find himself in until he meets the girl that he immediately falls



until he meets the girl that he immediately falls See Author, page 3 A native of Craig County, Jim Zimmerman will be at the Fall Festival with his book, "Love or Lust," and will be located in front of his brother's home at the end of Main Street.



\$1.00

PHOTO BY PAM DUDDING

Wanda Stull, a landowner whose property is beside the new trail, is concerned about her safety and the increase of people traveling it. "I have a cabin and already have had people to break into it, I feel this could increase," she stated.

New trail proposition brings many questions from the Craig and Botetourt communities

Pam Dudding

Contributing writer

For many people, to drive, bike or hike a beautiful trail is like a vacation getaway that relaxes and rejuvenates the soul.

Though Craig County and Botetourt County residents agree, many still disagree on the new Craig Botetourt Scenic Trail that is being propositioned. The turnout of protestors at a recent meeting highlighted the discontent. Several people wore the green shirt that had "DeRail the Trail" on it, while others carried theirs in their hands.

See Trail, page 2

DeRail the Trail attends Craig County VDOT meeting

Pam Dudding Contributing writer

The group organized called, DeRail the Trail, has accumulated many facts and information to share with people about how the proposed new scenic trail in Craig and Botetourt counties will truly affect the land. people, and taxes. They stated in their brochure, "When someone hears "trail" they don't envision being in the very same place that vehicles are driving on. In this proposal, bicycles, hikers, equestrians,

cars, trucks, and farm equipment will all share the same road! It has never been abandoned in its everyday use. Over 16 miles are used for some form of vehicular traffic, 11 miles are actually declared state roads. It has been used this way for over 60 years and calling it abandoned is



very misleading."

Their questions of the growing cost of \$35 million, the concerns about how it will be funded and probably by landowners taxes and also who will continue with the maintenance as

See **DeRail**, page 2

PHOTO BY PAM DUDDING

The group DeRail the Trail attended the VDOT meeting in Craig County on Thursday, Sept. 21 to share their knowledge and facts concerning the proposed new 26-mile Scenic Trail to traverse Craig and Botetourt counties.

Baseball reunion changed to Waiteville Community Center Oct. 7



PHOTO BY PAM DUDDING

The Annual "Old-Timers Baseball Reunion" will be held on Oct. 7, at 12 p.m. at the Waiteville Community Center (the old Schoolhouse), instead of the lake this year. Everyone is welcome. It is a potluck so bring a dish or two and enjoy the comfort of inside fellowship and old friends and baseball companions. Those planning to attend should bring pictures to share with others or make copies they can keep and continue to put in an album or post on the boards.



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Trail from page 1



At the VDOT information meeting about the new trail that has been proposed, people from both sides attended. VDOT representatives were there to share where the trail will go.

The Virginia Department of Transportation stated that the meeting it scheduled in New Castle on Thursday, Sept. 21, from 4 until 6 p.m., was "to share information about the proposed trail and to provide opportunities for interested citizens to provide input and information to VDOT."

Adding, "VDOT strives to ensure that all members of the community have the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation projects and programs affecting them. VDOT representatives are present to discuss the project and answer your questions.

Still, when many questions were asked about the future upkeep of the trail, the safety of the current landowners and the access available to current landowners in case of flooding, the comments were that they were only the middlemen and those needed to be addressed to others higher than themselves to answer.

When various landowners asked the repetitive question about current trails that have not been kept up by VDOT, again, they could not answer.

These responses seemed to frustrate many landowners and community members.

Some people present that are looking forward to the scenic trail shared that the landowners "just need to build fences" if they don't want someone on their property.

While others are just looking forward to biking the beautiful area that many in Craig call "God's country."

Several comments were made by both sides that, "if VDOT truly wanted to hear from the communities that they should have had a question-and-answer session, allowing each other to learn about both sides of the

"This type of "meeting" is not one that seemed caring or concerned, wanting to truly learn about the communities," many attendees shared. "This seems very political, and they are not even wanting to listen to us."

Approximately 200 people attended though some said there were more as people came and went during the two-hour time limit.

Some comments and conversations from the attendees were:

Wanda Stull: "I am elderly and a widow and concerned about my safety and others on the trail. It is coming between my land and my brother's land. We have our home, the trail and then our cabin. Our cabin has already been broken into three times and we have had to deal with that. My concern is that the usage of this money is a want and not a need. VDOT could use the money to maintain the roads that need maintenance we need now. My ditches have not been cleaned out for five years. When my husband was living, he would burn them off every spring. Now I have leaves piled up and the water flows over into my neighbor's driveway. My neighbors, who are hard workers, will have the trail right in front of their door. To me, especially in this time of economy where people don't have enough money for food and medicine, to take \$35 million to build a trail, makes me totally against it," she said. A lady who preferred not to use her name: "I am for the trail and feel it will bring a lot of good opportunities families to get out and hike and walk on a trail that is not difficult, horseback riding, new businesses like bike commonwealth to do with it as it pleases.

rental or ice cream shops and things like that," she said.

Vanessa Rutter: "I am not from here originally and this does not affect our home here now, but we have four children and I think of their future, not only tax purposes. I don't think they are fully thinking this out and some people will be losing their homes, there is the possible crime especially for elderly people and the question of who will maintain this trail. I just feel you are opening the door for people to walk the trail and case out the area and then come back at night. We live in a different world today," she said.

Jason Rutter: "I think it is wrong because we moved into this little town to stay away from things like this. If we wanted a trail, we would go visit one and see it, but when you open a trail up to the ones that will walk that trail today, I'm concerned, as our world is really changing. You could bring in dangerous people from different communities. Look on the news today about those kids that are walking those trails and kids are getting kidnapped, murdered, and stopped on the trail. For the government to come in and say we are just going to do this is just wrong. It should be a vote," he said.

Ronnie Dudding: "Look at what has happened to the Fenwick Mines with no upkeep, and it being taken apart. My biggest concern is that no one will maintain it. They need to get industry in Craig County. The majority of our county is national forest, and they don't pay taxes,' he said.

Kevin Peters: "I have not seen anything redeeming in this project to begin with therefore I am not for it, as there is no redeeming value in it," he said.

Diane Hartell: "Well, we are against. There are so many reasons to be against it. I love bike riding and I ride 46 miles at a time when I have a chance, but I don't want to ride through a cow pasture and get chased by cows who get nervous about their calves, I don't want to ride and be able to reach out and hit somebody's porch railing, I don't want to ride over someone's driveway between their home and septic tank and there are literally those situations and more," she said.

Lee Looney: "I would like to make a really good comment as I am against it. It is a waste of money; they will not take care of it and it will bring a lot of unwanted into this county and it will create a lot of rifraf and a lot of trash. I believe it will create a lot of drugs and maybe prostitution. I worked for the parks department for 17 and a half years, I know what it does. They told us to get the answers that we need, we need to take them to the politicians. Those are the last people that will take care of it. Also, what is it going to cost the county? In this county, 35 million dollars could make a lot of improvements without a walking trail, and I just do not think we need it at all," he said

Steve McGonavall: "I am not from Craig but come out here a lot just to ride my bike up and down that trail even though it is not a legitimate trail. I was on the New River Trail yesterday and only saw three bicyclists and three people walking and it is very similar to this but less beautiful. This will be ok, and I see that we will be driving through peoples yards, and they don't want that," he said.

VDOT representative Alex Price shared with Jackie Scruggs Taylor that the road would only be 10 feet in width. When asked about the road going by Wanda Stull's porch, he stated, "She has concerns about safety and I understand that. It is good to hear comments and concerns as we debate whether to move forward with it. There are people who are against it and I'm sure others that are for it. As we continue to further the design and how we are going to maintain it and also make sure it is safe for owners. There has been no decisions about how to maintain it. The bridges are something VDOT may maintain. Now who is going to pick up trash or to mow would probably be a county thing." Scruggs assured him that Craig has no funds for that and that other trails had not been maintained and partially closed down. "VDOT could maintain it, but do they have time to? I do not

See Trail, page 3



PHOTOS BY PAM DUDDING

to the county, such as tourism, opportunities for Jackie Scruggs Taylor asked several questions to the VDOT representative, and he admitted he appreciated the concern for the community and the people's rights and land, but that it was still the property of the



OBITUARIES

Rhudy, Sr., Frank

Frank Garland Rhudy Sr., age 77, of New Castle, Va passed away on Sept. 12, 2023 with his loving wife of 42 years, Yvonne, by his side. Frank was born on April 20, 1946 and grew up in Salem Virginia.

He accomplished his dream to build a log home and live in the country close to nature. After his retirement with Masterguard, living in Craig County fulfilled his passion for the outdoors. He started a Christmas tree farm and his English setters, flowers, native plants, hunting and fishing became his full time job. His love of hunting took him to Alaska, Oregon and many remote places which he always said made him feel closer to God.



Frank is survived by his son, Spike Rhudy, his daughter Denise (Brad) Ashby; Granddaughters, Mia Rhudy, Gabrielle Ashby, Madeline Ashby, and Charlotte Ashby. Sister, Nancy Feild, brother, Alec (Diann) Rhudy, Nieces and nephews Beth Feild, Ann (Manny) Taboada, Laura (Lyle) Holland, Susan Henny, Greg Rhudy, Aldridge, Brittany

Kimberly Aldridge, Duane (Kate) Aldridge, Chris (Rachael) Nininger, and their children.

Family and friends are invited to a celebration Frank's life of on Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023, with visitation at 1 p.m. Sherwood Memorial Park Abbey, 1250 E Main Street, Salem, VA 24153. A graveside service at 2 p.m. followed by a reception at the Salem Civic Center, parlor C. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations Good Samaritan to Hospice in his memory. Frank will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

To plant a beautiful memorial tree in memory of Frank Rhudy, Sr., please visit our Tree Store.

Author from page 1

in love with and knows that he wants her to be the mother of his children. It has a moral aspect to it because he has been raised in the church and every time he has been with a woman, he feels guilty about it the next day."

Zimmerman grew up in Craig County until the second grade, when his father's work with the federal government had them move. However, he returned in the ninth grade and graduated from New Castle High School in 1965.

"I worked after school for Gordon and Helen Carper at their Mick or Mack store on Main Street in New Castle, until I was drafted into the Army," Zimmerman shared. "Two years in the Army and served as a military policeman at the Presidio of San Francisco, San Francisco, California. I also attended the University of San Francisco and Virginia Western Community College."

Zimmerman then worked 27 years for Appalachian Power Company in the accounting department before taking early retirement in the late 1990s.

He and his wife Martha moved to Florida in 2021. However, they lived on Meadow Creek from 1970 till they sold and moved to Florida.

"I retired at the age of 49 and had plenty of time on my hands, I had read a couple of my wife's romance novels and all of them were written from a woman's perspective," Zimmerman shared. "I thought, well, I would write one from the man's side of the subject of Love. That is what my book 'Love or Lust' is about."

Zimmerman said that he just sat down at his computer and decided to write.

"The words just seem to come to me, and I typed them as fast as I could think them up!" he added. "Thank goodness for Mrs. Garrett's typing class at New Castle High School."

He has already started on his next books, and they are surprisingly to take place in Craig County and are murder mysteries.

"Maybe I'll put my hometown on the map if they sell well," he said with a smile.

The first murder mystery, The Back Road Mysteries-Book I, is titled "THE CHURCH" and is currently with his publisher where it is being put into book form but will not be out for a few months.

Zimmerman shared that he is excited to be one of the vendors at the upcoming Fall Festival in New Castle. He will be set up in front of his brother's home, at the end of Main Street, below Katie's Grooming.

"My book "Love or Lust" will be the only one I will have there for sale and signing," Zimmerman said. "I have also found out that in the USA my book is online sales, and anyone can go to my ISBN number 9781398499362 and go to wherever they want to purchase it. It is even on eBay."



know because if they do it could be less time for them to maintain something else. There is a balance. Sometimes there are groups that maintain trails or volunteer groups." He agreed that Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts are less and less and that parents don't want them touching things that are thrown away in today's day. "We do not know if we will be putting gates up or not, if people embrace it and not destroy it with 4-wheelers and things then maybe there is an opportunity for us to leave them open." It was mentioned to him that it only takes a few that are loud and destructive that will end up having VDOT to make the decisions to gate the trail, affecting the ones who appreciate the trail as well. Scruggs added that even now, every weekend the forestry trails have to be fixed because the 4-wheelers tear it up. Scruggs mentioned to Price about charging a fee to those who use it, to cover the costs the county has to have for the upkeep as these people get to use it for free. She added that her husband has to buy hunting license which funds also do not stay in the county; they go to Richmond. Price added, "I wish like the Creeper Trail in Damascus, maybe to have the locality develop a plan to generate money by use of the trail. Stull told me that Craig County only has about 5100 people, one of the lowest counties." When he was told that people move to Craig County to get away from the hustle and bustle of the city kind of life and increased crime possibilities, he made no comment. Scruggs added that Craig has "no one who is taking up for us on this".

Carrie Crawford: "I am opposed to the trail. I think it is a frivolous waste of money both of state tax dollars and the future expenditures of county funds to maintain it, provide emergency services, and provide police protection and there will be all kinds of expenses that will be associated with this. I don't think that Craig County can afford it. We have plenty of trails already," she said.

Tracy Surface: "I am excited about the trail as I ride bikes and have to go to Roanoke or Pulaski County to ride on a good trail. I don't mountain bike; I would like a nice smooth trail. I don't ride much but if I had a place here, I may ride more. My husband hates to go to Roanoke but if here he would ride with me here. He had a bypass and I'd like to get him on a bike. I don't think the people coming out here to ride and walk will break in or destroy people's property," she said.

Debbie Snead stated that she was appointed by the board of supervisors to listen to citizen input, understanding each element of each person's view and to stay neutral.

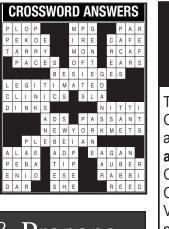
VDOT District Engineer Ken King was asked why they felt this is a good idea when it will be negatively affecting so many landowners, the county cannot afford the upkeep and the concerns of gating off partitions that landowners need to access their properties or be able to get to their homes upon flooding. He stated that "it is for the project focus to use as a trail for bicyclists, horses, and pedestrians."

He was asked that since there are already several trails, why \$32 million was being spent to copy what is already here and not maintained now. He responded, "The interest that has been shared is having a trail through this beautiful country to enjoy."

He went on to add that "it can be an amenity for the people of the commonwealth to be able to participate." It was shared to him that when many people move to Craig or choose to stay in Craig it is for the reason of being away from the avenues that bigger cities offer, which tend to promote trash, violence and other negative happenings and they don't want people riding through their back yards; that many have children that get to play outside freely. He was asked, "Does it not bother you there are many landowners that you will be disturbing their peace and crossing their properties, driveways, and privacy?" King repeated that "it is a beautiful linear terrain that others would enjoy" and when asked "who" initiated the trail, he stated that "it had been since the 1960s," though he was reminded that each time it has been brought to the floor, the public has opposed it for all the same reasons they were hearing today.

He directed questions from then to the Salem District Communications Manager Jason Bond. Bond explained that this is one of five trails that the General Assembly was interested in developing and is not initiated by VDOT. "If the trail is to move forward, our role is to deliver the project. So, we appreciate your concerns, but you need to understand our role. The Commonwealth Transportation Board put money

See Trail, page 7



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Craig County Board of Supervisors and the Craig County Planning Commission will conduct a joint public hearing on **OCTOBER 5 th , 2023 at 6:00 p.m. or soon thereafter** at the Craig County Courthouse to consider the updated Craig County Comprehensive Plan per Code of Virginia §152.2-2223. The Comprehensive Plan provides direction and guidance in making decisions about land use, public services, resource protection and other governmental functions. The Comprehensive plan specifically recommends various development standards throughout the County.

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.

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The Comprehensive Plan is available for public review at the County Administrator's Office located at 108 Court Street in New Castle, and on our website at <u>www.craigcountyva.gov.</u> Public comments on the comprehensive plan may be submitted by writing to P.O. Box 308, New Castle, Virginia 24127, by calling 540-864-5010 or at the public hearing.



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

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

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

HEBRON UNITED METHODIST

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

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST

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

LEVEL GREEN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

3388 Cumberland Gap Rd. Newport, Duane Wente, Minister, 540-544-7179. Sunday School 10:00am, Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am, Children's Church 11:00am. Choir Practice, bi-weekly 7:00pm, Ladies meeting first Monday of each month at 7:00pm.

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST

Pastor Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle, 540-525-7662. Sunday: Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, & 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM.

MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN

4199 Craig Valley Drive, New Castle, 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 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 Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Wendi Craig at 276-340-2445 or email advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com

OPINION

News from the 9th: Danke Schoen Vegas," Wayne Newton, famous for his many years



In the House of Representatives, Republicans are working hard to come up with a government spending agreement that makes sense for the American people. For too long government spending has been out of control and we are working on strategies to rein in the spending before we pass legislation to fund the government.

As Otto Von Bismarck, Chancellor of Germany in the 19th Century, is reported to have said, "Laws are like sausages. It's better not to see them being made." It is a messy process, but hopefully we will come out with a good product Americans can be proud of.

That aside, during the sausage making I saw a Virginia Mercury article about a recently introduced bill,

for the bill to be brought Newton recorded to me so I could read it. I American version history and believe their international hit. claim for recognition bill.

The members live mostly the 1300s.

Native American tribes him: in the Americas, their "I grew up on Broad history within the United Street in Salem, Virginia." States has been a difficult one and up until 2010, officially recognized on play the guitar." the state nor federal level.

House of Delegates in Main streets. 2010, the tribe petitioned recognition.

they brought in "Mr. Las his roots in Virginia.

of performing in Vegas casinos during the 1970s.

the Patawomeck Indian His biggest hit was Tribe of Virginia Federal "Danke Schoen", a song Recognition Act. I asked of German origin. Mr. an in remembered some of their 1963, which became an

What many of you is long overdue. After probably don't know is that confirming the bill Mr. Newton is of Indian prohibited them from ancestry (his mother was casino gaming on tribal of Cherokee descent and lands, I signed onto the his father of Patawomeck descent). Because of this, Patawomeck he cared deeply about Indians are a Virginia getting his Indian tribe the Indian tribe whose 2,600 recognition they deserved.

I have known since I in Stafford and King was a kid that he had lived George Counties. Their in my hometown, Salem, presence in Virginia can Virginia, for a period of be traced back to at least time in his youth. When he came to my office, after Unfortunately, like all we shook hands, I told

He responded back:

Leader in the Virginia intersection of Broad and

Richmond for state the music legend. I've always appreciated Mr. To support their cause, Newton for remembering

Accordingly, I voted in favor of recognition. And thanks to his, and others' efforts, a politically divided Virginia General Assembly officially recognized the Patawomecks in 2010. Since then, the tribe has been working to gain federal recognition - a difficult task.

According to the U.S. Department of Interior, in order for a tribe to receive federal recognition, they must meet seven different criteria. This includes "that it demonstrating has been identified as American Indian an entity on a substantially continuous basis since 1900," and showing "that а predominant portion of the petitioning group comprises a distinct community and has existed as a community from historical times until the present."

And that definition has been a problem for many Virginia tribes in seeking federal recognition.

The problem arises because in an effort to "Ridenhour Music! erase the identity of Native the tribe was neither That's where I learned to Americans within the state, the Democratice state nor federal level. That was a music controlled Virginia When I was Majority store in Salem, at the General Assembly passed the Racial Integrity Act of 1924 stating that a person It was an honor to meet could either be classified as Black or White. There was no classification for

See 9th, page 7

Planning for Christmas

Library Corner **Marge Lewter**

Craig County Public Library and Lasterday Market are ecstatic to announce our partnership with the Community Christmas Store of the Roanoke Valley!

For the very first time since the beginning of the Community of the Christmas Store in 1993, Craig County residents in need of Christmas assistance can complete the application process locally on Oct. 7 from 12-1:30 p.m. at Lasterday Market (390 Market Street New Castle, VA 24127).

What is the **Community Christmas** Store?

Community The Christmas Store is completely free to qualifying families (if you qualify for food stamps you automatically qualify). Qualifying families receive food, toiletries, new clothing, and new toys for their children birth through high school. Households without children such as adults 62+ that meet the income requirements also qualify as well as disabled adults 18+.

What do I need to bring to registration? -Picture ID with

current address -Proof of income (pay

stubs) -Social Security card for all individuals listed

on the application -Proof of current residency (most recent utility bill, copy of lease,

-Clothing sizes at Christmas for all eligible applicants

-Reliable phone number for DSS and Community Christmas Store to contact

Other dates of application:

Saturday Oct. 14 at Salem Senior Center, Parks & Rec Activities Hall, Salem (9 a.m.- 12 p.m.)

Saturday Oct. 28 at Vinton Senior Center, 820 E. Washington Ave., Vinton (9-11 a.m.)

Wednesday Nov. 1 at Taylor Masonic Lodge, 1200 Texas Street., Salem (4-6 p.m.)

Saturday Nov. 11 at Brambleton Center, 3738 Brambleton Ave., Roanoke (9-11:30 a.m.)

If you will need assistance with transportation to attend your assigned shopping day, please notify DSS. DSS will be on-site at the Community Christmas Store applications on Oct. 7.

If you have any questionsorareinterested in volunteering or donating, please contact Michaela Crawford at the Craig County Public Library at (540) 864-8978 or via e-mail at craiglibrary@swva.net.

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(540) 389-9355 1633 W. Main St. Salem, VA 24153 www.ourvalley.org Michael Showell, Publisher Aila Boyd, Executive Editor aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com Brian Hoffman, Sports Editor bhoffman@ourvalley.org Debbie Nixon, Graphic Designer dnixon@ourvalley.com Megan Mehrer, Graphic Designer megan@ourvalley.com Wendi Craig, Advertising Consultant advertise@ourvalley.org

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

USPS 378-080

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING **COUNTY OF CRAIG, VIRGINIA**

PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2506 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, notice is hereby given of a public hearing to be held by the Craig County Board of Supervisors on the proposed County Budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2023-24 (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024). The Public Hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, will be held October 5th, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter is heard during the Board of Supervisors meeting at the Craig County Courthouse in New Castle, Virginia.

A copy of the proposed Budget Amendment is available for public review at the County Administrator's Office in the County Administration Building, New Castle, Virginia.

PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENT FY 2023-2024 TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR:

County of Craig



www.ourvalley.org



19391 MAIN ST. DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A FENCE POST ON MELODY LANE; THENCE WITH MELODY LANE SOUTH 82 DEGREES 06` 00" EAST 93.08 FEET TO A PIPE FOUND; THENCE WITH MELODY LANE ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT beverages 189.74 FEET THE CHORD OF WHICH IS

SOUTH 72 DEGREES 28` OWNER 30" EAST 188.85 FEET TO

BUCHANAN VA 24066.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a **BEER/WINE/MIXED BEVERAGES** license to sell or manufacture alcoholic

SPRING WITT

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

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,20-104

units/acre or 30 bedrooms per acre) represents an increase in the allowable bedroom density above the Future Land Use density of 20 bedrooms per

acre.

Ordinance 2033: An Ordinance Vacating Portion of Public Rights-of-Way located at Airport Road. This request is related to Ordinance 2035. The request is to vacate approximately 0.22 acres of unbuilt Town-owned Rightof-Way, adjacent to land known as unbuilt Airport Drive and unbuilt Virginia Street. The land to be vacated would be included in the proposed Habitat for Humanity townhome development as driveway and rear yard space Ordinance 2036: An Ordinance Vacating a Portion of Public Right-of-Way Located at Rimrock Road. This is a request to vacate approximately 0.47 acres of Town-owned Rightof-Way known as Rimrock Drive from Research Center Drive to its termination at the Route 460 Bypass. The vacated property will be used as a private driveway to access the Blue Ridge Cancer Center

Roanoke, Botetotourt and Craig 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 ndahla



A POINT; THENCE CONTINUING WITH MELODY LANE SOUTH 62 DEGREES 51` 00" EAST 65.00 FEET TO AN IRON PIN FOUND; THENCE LEAVING MELODY LANE SOUTH 27 DEGREES 09` 00" WEST 280 92 FEET TO AN IRON PIN FOUND: **THENCE NORTH 65** DEGREES 16` 06" WEST 321.63 FEET TO AN IRON PIN FOUND; THENCE SOUTH 64 DEGREES 55; 20; WEST 634.00 FEET TO AN IRON PIN-FOUND THENCE NORTH 18 DEGREES 00°25 EAST 356.00 FEET TO AN IRON PIN FOUND; THENCE NORTH 81 DEGREES 09` 00; EAST 248.08 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE NORTH 70 DEGREES 58` 00" EAST 327.17 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING CONTAINING 5.00 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN AS PARCEL 1, ON PLAT OF SURVEY DATED NOVEMBER 23. 1993, BY RONALD R. CLARK, L.S., A TRUE COPY OF WHICH IS RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN DEED BOOK 449, PAGE 72. TOGETHER WITH A PERPETUAL RIGHT OF WAY AND EASEMENT OVER THE 50 FT. PRIVATE ROAD AND MELODY LANE FOR THE PURPOSE OF INGRESS AND EGRESS FROM THE LAND HEREIN CONVEYED TO STATE SECONDARY ROUTES NO. 630 AND NO. 638. LESS AND EXCEPTING THAT PARCEL **CONTAINING 2.539** ACRES. CONVEYED TO ROBERT D. DYE AND DEIDRE E. MEADOR, BY DEED DATED DECEMBER 15, 2017 AND RECORDED DECEMBER 18, 2017, IN AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE AS INSTRUMENT NO. 170004879 AND AS SHOWN ON PLAT OF SURVEY OF RECORD IN THE AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE IN PLAT BOOK 61, PAGE 121. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent

issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

STATE OF VIRGINIA, BOTETOURT COUNTY

Court File No. 230000149

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all persons having demands against HARRY T. EUBANK, JR., late of said County, Deceased, to present them to me, properly made out within the time prescribed by law, so as to show their character and amount; and all persons indebted to said deceased are required to make immediate payment to me. This 13 day of September, 2023 Attorney: Eugene M. Elliott, Jr Attorney of Law

30 Franklin Rd, Suite 202 Roanoke, Virginia 24011 (540) 981-0164 Executive: Janis E. Barrett 505 Waverly Court Hinesville, Georgia 31313 (912) 312-0251

Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given

to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on October 11, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM,

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

ABC NOTICE

JHKP LLC, trading as Tru by Hilton Christiansburg 55 Hampton Blvd NE, Christiansburg, Montgomery County, VA, 24073. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Limited Hotel license to sell or manufacture alcoholic

beverages. Emily Orndorf, General Manager NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license

must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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 CATHY

Ordinance 2037: An Ordinance Vacating a Public Utility and Sidewalk Easement on Land Located at 2600 Research Center Drive. This request accompanies Ordinance 2036 and would vacate active public utility and sidewalk easements that currently exist adjacent to the Rimrock Drive Right-of-Way. The existing sidewalk will become private serving only this parcel and the existing fire hydrant will be removed. The ordinance will require these areas to be vacated prior to the approval of the site plan for the building and parking expansion.

CUP 23-0003: Conditional Use Permit Request for hotel use and additional height in the Downtown Commercial Zoning District at 501 South Main Street. This Conditional Use Permit request for is for a hotel use and increased height above 60 feet in the Midtown

Development at 501 South Main Street. The request is for a 144-room hotel in the Downtown Commercial (DC) zoning district. It is proposed to be located on the parcel known as Midtown DC Parcel 2. The height of the hotel building is proposed to be a maximum of 75 feet.

A Hotel/Motel use is permitted as a Conditional

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 mobilization payment and 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).

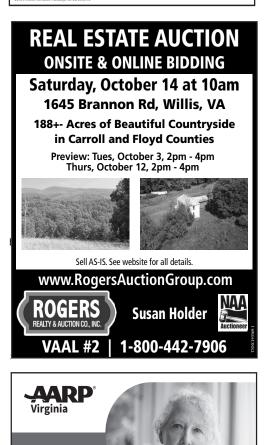
Applications received by 7:00 PM on Monday October 2, 2023 may be eligible for a mobilization bonus. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements. Questions can be directed to the Salem Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday - Friday. Phone: 540-387-5497. Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.vi rginia.gov EEO/AA Employer

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PAGE 6 \cdot WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023 \cdot THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

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The 40th Craig County Fall Festival will be Saturday, Oct. 14

A special display with festival history is being prepared, including a video of photographs showing scenes from the last forty years. The festival was begun as a fundraiser of the Craig County Historical Society to pay for the Old Brick Hotel. It has become a community wide fundraising event, heritage celebration and tourism attraction.

For the third year, a flatfoot contest will be held at 1 p.m. and will be accompanied by the popular Eastern Divide Bluegrass band. Prizes will be awarded to adults and children under 12. Judging will be by audience applause.

The Historical Society has three prizes in its 2023 Raffle. First drawing is an 1850-era Kentucky Rifle donated by Life Member Sam Canode. Second drawing is a \$500 gift card donated to the Society by Grand Home Furnishings. Third drawing is a homemade quilt made and donated by Life Member Ruth Lazott of Oregon. Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased before the Festival from Society members. They will be available on Festival Day, Oct. 14, until 4:30 p.m. when emcee Trena Boudreaux will oversee raffle drawings.

There are still vendor spaces available. Contact Nancy Sasser 540-544-7708 for information.

-Submitted by Diane Givens



One of the prizes of this year's Historical Society Raffle is this "Garden Twist" quilt done in pink florals with black accents.

New Scenic Trail affecting a family that predates the railroad

Pam Dudding Contributing writer

During the transportation meeting held by the Virginia Department of Transportation on Thursday, Sept. 21, many landowners talked to the VDOT representatives about the effects it would have on their personal properties.

Jeremy Parr was present. His family predates the railroad.

He shared with other attendees that, "This trail traverses one and a half miles of my family's land. My family cemetery that dates back to the civil war that we still use, we will have to deal with that.

He pointed to his properties and the areas he was speaking of, "There are two gates that were put in in the 80s to keep vandalism out of our cemetery and seven other landowners' cabins there were getting vandalized. Those folks, with us got the state to put gates in."

He shared about the two bridges that are close to him.

"There is a bridge that was totally overgrown but four weeks ago VDOT came in and sprayed four kinds of herbicides on it, right There are gaps in the boards so wide that you cannot cross it. I'm not an engineer but I can only imagine what it is going to cost to fix these bridges as the foundations were built in the 1880s. The tracks were torn out in the 1950s and nobody has maintained it since. You can imagine what mother nature has done to it since. There are even trees growing through them."

There are a total of seven bridges on the scenic trail that will need lots of work.

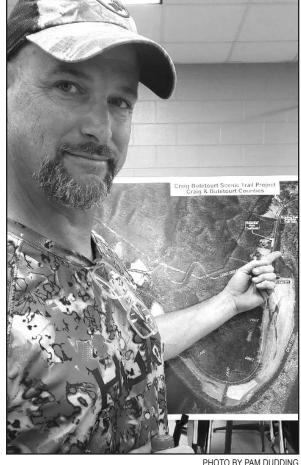
"I have been a horseman my whole life and there is not a horse alive that will cross either of these bridges as they are," he added. "For horses, it will have to be built up, covered, and fenced off and gated plus the sounding boards for the horses to be able to cross."

His family is against the trail. "Right now, it is public right of way, you can walk, bike, ride a horse and on a lot of places you can even drive on it," Parr shared. "I don't care as you have a right of way, but if you open it up to a lot of other people, I am against that."

Parr added that he is concerned about the schools and maybe the monies should be appropriated "Lord Botetourt currently has two leaks and there is mold in it. Central Academy where my son works in the wood shop, the roof leaks over top of the electrical equipment that they have to dry off before they can even use it. Also, my daughter caught a snake going down the hall of Lord Botetourt last year and took it outside," he continued. "Eagle Rock Elementary water supply to the school is contaminated and has issues, and I have heard that James River is the exact same way."

He added, "Plus you have Patterson Creek Trail which is well maintained and the Hoop Hole Trailhead plus the Grapevine and Lignite Trails that are already there for hiking, biking and horseback. My question is why spend millions of dollars for this trail when you have other trails that people aren't even using plus the main factor that you will be affecting other people's lives that go through their front yard or major land owners such as my family?"

"Nobody that I have talked to yet has convinced me that this is a good idea, especially when our schools are falling apart," he finished as he shook his head.



Jeremy Parr opposes the new 26-mile scenic trail that goes through his family's property that predates

the railroad.

DeRail from page 1

the other five trails have not been kept up to date.

They included their concerns:

- no official study has been one on how many will use it
- will raise taxes for all
- limits prime hunting areas
- unsafe for visitors and residents
- drain on emergency services and response times
- wasteful spending, it is a want not a need - surplus of trails now
- reducing quality of life for residents
- minimal benefit for towns it's supposed to help
- opportunities for crime stop lights will likely be required to handle traffic increase
- increased threat to environment

DeRail the Trail representative, Lewis Hopkins from Oriskany opposes the Scenic Trail. His driveway goes down to the rail bed and he has to drive on the rail bed to get to the paved road.

What bothers me mainly is that the

taxpayers are not getting a chance to vote to decide how their monies will be spent," he said. "That almost bothers me more than putting the trail in."

Hopkins shared that he was recently at a meeting in Clifton Forge and Terry Austin shared that he represented 85,000 people.

Hopkins spoke personally to Delegate Terry Austin who personally said to him, "No, the public does not have a right to vote on this. It is state property."

He added, "I was thinking that if you represent 85,000 voters, then why don't you send them all emails and ask them how they want their money spent?"

Hopkins also spoke to the Board of Supervisors in Botetourt County.

"I said that we the people should have a right to vote and if the people voted yes, I wouldn't like it but it is our democratic way and the way our country is supposed to operate," he said. "We are losing our democracy". "When I spoke to the BOS there were probably 80 people in the audience and I asked them, "If you would like for your tax dollars to be spent on this trail, please raise your hand." Not one person raised their hand."

Hopkins shared that the railroad was deserted by them 60 years ago.

"I think it should have gone back to the landowners. If the government needed this rail bed for a small emergency, they can take it any time they want it, but to spend this kind of money, 35 million," he said. "And, when we ask who is going to maintain it and pay for it, no one can answer that."

Hopkins said that he was in Fincastle the other day and they had three broken down fire trucks out of five, with no money to fix them.

"So, I am thinking, who is going to come to Botetourt for emergency services?" he added.

"I even asked them how many people they feel will use the trail and they told me they didn't know," Hopkins continued." We have been compared to the Virginia Creeper Trail in Abington, which has over 200,000 visitors a year, but there are a whole lot of people that live in that area. Another trail in Covington called the Jackson River Scenic Trail that get about 28,000 a year which turns out 60-70 people per day."

Hopkins said, "This is proposed as economic development, yet they are exploiting our community for the benefit of others under the guise of economic development and when they are already free to bike, hike and ride horses now."

They can be contacted on Facebook public group: "DeRailtheTrail// Oriskany,VA", or email DerailTheTrailOriskany@gmail.com, or website www.DeRailTheTrail.org.

Their group has public meetings at King Memorial Church, 12704-12998 Craigs Creek Rd, Eagle Rock, VA 24085. Their dates and times are on the Facebook page.

Trail from page 3

behind our work to gather information of what would be needed to deliver this project. I think you should ask the legislator what their rationale was in putting this in. That's what I would do," he said. King reiterated the "beauty of the trail and that

King reiterated the "beauty of the trail and that it would benefit the commonwealth." When asked why the other trails haven't been kept up in Craig and Botetourt, as they are just as beautiful if not more so for some as they go through more country, there was no response.

Bond added that they are "seeking people to come to them to help them to start developing a cost estimate and what will be required to deliver this project. We are here tonight to tell us what we may not know, get information about the trail heads. The \$32-35 million is an estimate. We are still working on that, as we just need to bring the bridges to a standard that bicyclists, horses and people can use them. This land is owned by the Commonwealth, and they would like to see it used by more people."

Many attendees were concerned about the flooding that happens and landowners must have access to the railbed as they do now, hunting will be affected in the area for landowners which will inadvertently increase the bear, deer and other animal populations which affect crop owners and landowners.

A survey paper was available for attendees to obtain.

Those who would like to comment can do so by sending them to CBST@vdot.virginia.gov, reference Craig Botetourt Scenic Trail in the subject heading.

There is also a comment sheet online at htts:// www.virginiadot.org.cbst, however navigating to find it is not easy at all.

Project manager Kelly Dunn can be contacted by phone (540) 387-5353 and it was strongly suggested that owners contact Del. Terry Austin with their concerns immediately.

A major concern is that VDOT stated that 10 days after the second meeting the public comments period will close which will be on Oct. 1.

9th from page 4

American Indians. Therefore, for decades Virginia Indians were identified as Black by the state on their birth and death records.

Additionally, during the Civil War, many Virginia state and local records were destroyed, which would have proven to be useful for tribes in the present day as evidence of their history and status within the state.

Further, Virginia also attempted to erase the cultural identities of Virginia Indians, by discouraging traditional ways and forcing tribes to speak English.

Despite everything, the Patawomeck Indians continue to persevere. They have worked to restore their identity, over the past 30 years teaching their members their many historical traditions and their native language.

I am proud to co-sponsor this legislation to finally give the Patawomeck people the recognition they deserve from the federal government.

American Indi Therefore, for dec

SHORTHANDED ROCKETS BEAT TWIN VALLEY, HOST MOUNTAIN VIEW FFOR HOMECOMING





Rockets take a break during a time out.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

The Craig County Rockets will have their first real "home" game this Friday when they play host to Mountain View High of Quicksburg for Homecoming. The Rockets will take a 2-1 record into that game after defeating Twin Valley last Friday in Pilgrims Knob, 34-14.

The Rockets played half a home game against Auburn on September 7-11. That's not a convenience store, but a game that began in Riner on September 7, was stopped by lightning and then completed in New Castle on September 11. Since then the Rockets had a home game with Montcalm rescheduled due to injuries, then a trip to Twin Valley last week where the Rockets pulled out an impressive win. This week's game will be the first full game on the refurbished gridiron at Mitchell Field.

Last week's win was a big one for the Rockets, who were still somewhat shorthanded. Craig County never trailed as they put up 464 yards of total offense, including 439 rushing yards.

"Great win on Friday," said coach Jim Fisher. "We still have several players out and we had to convert some receivers to play offensive line. We are already small, compared to the teams we play, and we got a little smaller last Friday. But our kids were eager to get back on the field and we played with a lot of energy."

Craig built a 20-6 halftime lead and never looked back. The Rockets were run-heavy with 30 running plays and just nine passing plays with only two completions.

"We have to give our quarterbacks more time," said Fisher. "They were under a lot of pressure. This is an area that we have to improve upon. Our running game gives us plenty of play action pass opportunities but we could not connect on Friday.'

Statistically, Jaycob Wolfe had nine carries for 113 yards and two touchdowns. He also caught a 23 TD pass from Carter Calfee.

Calfee ran for 210 yards on 12 carries and scored a TD. Carter also scored a pair of two-point conversions and threw a touchdown pass to Wolfe. Noah Paxton had five carries for 85 yards and a touchdown and Isaiah Nichols ran three times for 30 yards.

Defensively, Craig gave up just 135 yards.

"We struggled a little against the run early but got it figured out in the third quarter," said Fisher. "Mason Huffman started his first game at inside linebacker and finished up at nose guard when defensive stalwart Isaiah Will went down with an ankle injury."

Mason led the team with 13.5 tackles.

"Isaiah will be out a few weeks," said Fisher. "It's a big loss for our defensive front. He isn't big but he plays big. He requires a double team or he disrupts everything.'

Josh Craft is still hurting from a shoulder injury but he played a little over a quarter and a half and totaled 13 tackles. Tristan Dooley had a big game at inside linebacker with 12 and a half tackles and freshman outside linebacker Noah Paxton also had 12.5 tackles. Freshman Carter Price had a big game from his defensive tackle spot with 8.5 tackles, and Calfee added eight tackles.

"Twin Valley had some open receivers at times, and we have to do a better job in coverage, but we did intercept three passes," said Fisher. "Trevyn Francisco played in his first game since 2021 and gave us a boost right away by making several plays, including our first interception. Freshman Wyatt Huffman picked off two passes in his first day back from concussion protocol, and junior defensive end and linebacker Isaac Lucas had an interception and returned it 78 yards for a TD, but it was called back for a roughing the passer penalty.

"We bent at times but didn't break much. We need to keep improving on both sides of the ball, especially on the line.'

This Friday is Homecoming against a Mountain View team that comes in at 1-4. The Generals have a win over Thomas Jefferson of Alexandria and have lost to Bath County, Nelson County, Parry McCluer and Page County.

We have a big Mountain View team coming to town on Friday for our Homecoming Game," said Fisher. " Hopefully, we can keep the effort and energy going. It's been a long time since Craig was 3-1 and it's been a while since we won a Homecoming game. We hope to give a great effort and maybe do both Friday."

CARILION CLINIC vs LEWIS-GALE CHARITY SOFTBALL GAME SCHEDULED FOR OCT. 1

The Salem Red Sox will host the game will start at 2 pm. the 6th Annual Carilion Clinic vs.

Physicians, nurses and Lewis Gale Charity Softball Game administrators will suit up for each at Carilion Clinic Field, the home hospital during the nine-inning of the Salem Red Sox, this Sunday, contest. Proceeds from the "Homers

PICKLEBALL

The Salem High School tennis teams are partnering with the Roanoke Valley Pickleball Club to sponsor the 2023 Spartan Pickleball Fall Classic. The tournament will be held on October 21st and 22nd at the Oakey Complex courts on East Main Street in Salem.

There are doubles events in ages ranging from 14 years old up to 60 and older in men's, women's, and mixed divisions. Proceeds will benefit the teams, which are enjoying increased interest and competitive success. Registration for Saturday and Sunday is now open at http://www.pickleballbrackets.com.

In addition, there will be a round-robin pickleball social on Friday night from 6 to 9 pm. Local enthusiasm has exploded recently, indicated by the new pickleball club at the school garnering 85 registrants.

October 1st.

Admission is five dollars at the two largest health care providers gate, cash only, and kids under 10 will benefit the American Heart are free. Gates will open at 1 pm and Association.

for Hearts' game between the area's

This is expected to become an annual event. Salem High athletic director Drew Barrett, the Salem Recreation Department and the Pickleball Club are working on this with Salem tennis coach Steve Lilly and Elisha Baba along with Jill Perez and Don Stafford.

ROCKETS FALL TO MUSTANGS IN VOLLEYBALL



PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY

The Craig County girls had a volleyball game in Elliston against Eastern Montgomery last Thursday. The host Mustangs beat the Rockets in three close games, 25-20, 25-22 and 25-18. Here Erin Snider(top right) sets one up, Kailyn Jones(top center) receives a serve, Layla Dooley(bottom left) gets a dig, Maggie Mays(bottom right) saves a tough shot and Cheyanne Bell(top left) goes up for a spike. The Rockets were scheduled to play at Roanoke Valley Christian on Monday of this week and at Parry McCluer on Thursday.