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LEANN CROY
 OFFICE MANAGER/CSR

PH: 540-864-6688
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leann@guthrieinsurance.net
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THE NEW CASTLE RECORD



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VFW awards Fisher in annual Patriot's Pen writing

Pam Dudding
 Contributing writer

For many years the local Craig Valley VFW Post 4491 has encouraged students of Craig County middle and high schools to participate in their Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen writing contests.

Several have submitted their papers and each year the VFW gives a gift card to the winners. Their work is also submitted to the next level of competition.

Some have won higher levels.

This year, the Patriot's Pen winner was Natalie Fisher who answered the VFW question, "How are you inspired by America?"

Fisher wrote: *America*

has inspired me to be myself since I was a child. There are three major factors that have made a massive difference to me, varying from the flag to the people itself!

The first enormous factor is that our flag is extraordinary from others. The colors meanings vary from red demonstrating courage and bravery to white meaning purity and innocence, to the blue representing justice. Our flag is extraordinary because many Americans have fought to protect the land and sacrificed their lives to keep our flag up, preserving our freedoms.

The Flag is a reminder of our safety and protection of the amendments. The American flag shows me that you have to stand out from the crowd and be extraordinary just like it!

The next major factor

is that we have the freedom of speech to let us speak our minds without the fear of persecution or being punished for having our own beliefs and opinions. Which also lets us worship and believe in what we would like to believe in, helping me to form my own opinions.

The last factor that has inspired me is the people of America and how they have helped me grow into the person I am supposed to be. America's people are caring, kind, and will always lend a helping hand to those in need. They are there for those who can't take care of themselves or are just in need of assistance.

The people of America has inspired me to help those in need because if I am ever in that situation I would like someone else to help me too!

For the veterans that have fought to give us these rights are still serving their communities, they inspire me to make an impact in my community because if they can, so can I!

These points have inspired me and have made a huge impact on my life. Which helps shape, form, and helps develop me to be who I am today.

Fisher added, "Writing the Patriots Pen is special to me because I get to show our Veterans exactly how special it is. Letting me show appreciation and enabling me to express my gratitude for them and also it gets me more experience with writing papers which means very much to me."



COURTESY PHOTO
Natalie Fisher was the winner of the VFW Post 4491 Patriot's Pen writing contest at CCPS for 2023.

Winter-time respiratory illnesses and allergies

Pam Dudding
 Contributing writer

The beauty of the winter days of snow can also bring on several illnesses that like to sneak into families lives and make every day a challenge to maneuver.

The Virginia Department of Health in Roanoke City and Allegheny Districts share information about the wintertime sicknesses that sometimes affect people.

COVID-19: Gradual onset as it spreads year-round but tends to be more common in fall and winter.

Symptoms: Fever, chills, cough, loss of or smell, more severe fatigue, headache, aches, and sore throat. Sometimes, runny nose, shortness of breath, congestion and nausea/vomiting and diarrhea. Rarely there are multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children or adults.

Flu (influenza): Quick onset which typically spreads from October through May.

Symptoms: Fever, dry cough, heartache, fatigue, aches, and pains can be severe. Sometimes with runny nose, sore throat, sneezing and chest discomfort. Rarely, but you may have nausea/vomiting or diarrhea which is more common in children.

RSV (Respiratory syncytial virus): gradual onset that spreads most during fall, winter, and early spring.

Symptoms: Congestion, runny nose, coughing, wheezing, fever, and sneezing. Sometimes there is shortness of breath, difficulty breathing (more common in children and infants) and decrease in appetite but one could experience sore throat, and fatigue.

Strep Throat: Quick onset that can spread year-round but it's most common in winter.

Symptoms: Sore throat, painful swallowing, fever, and swollen lymph nodes. Some may experience headache, rash, aches, nausea/vomiting (more common in children).

Common Cold: Gradual onset that can spread year-round but is most common in the fall and winter.

Symptoms: running nose, sneezing, mild headache, sore throat, aches and pains and mild cough though fatigue and a fever is possible.

Seasonal Allergies: Quick onset that depends on the allergens.

Symptoms: Stuffy/runny nose, red or swollen eyes, itchy eyes or nose and sore throat. Some could have wheezing, fatigue, shortness of breath and cough (possible with those with asthma) and rarely a fever.

On Friday, Jan. 5, CBS evening news reported that the "flu season has impacted many families."

Still, one can avert these illnesses by taking precautions. Some of these suggestions are:

- Avoid crowds when possible
- If you have a weaker immune system, wear a face mask whenever you are in a public place
- Wash your hands regularly
- Use hand sanitizer when out in public (especially after coming into contact with doorknobs, light switches and counters)
- Be cautious also not to touch your nose, mouth or eyes, as the flu virus can travel in the air but also enter your body through touch
- Strengthen your immune system by getting good sleep, eating nutrient-rich meals and checking with your doctor about supplements
- Keep areas disinfected in your home and vehicles
- Those who are interested can obtain more information at vdh.gov.

2023: A year in Craig County in review

Editor's note: We have selected one article for each month of 2023 so that readers can look back on some of the big stories in Craig County over the past year. The articles are printed as they appeared in The New Castle Record. This is part two of two. -Aila Boyd

From July 26: Hull and Stahl taken out of first place

For a racer, there is nothing worse than another vehicle taking them out of first place position by running into their vehicle.

That is what happened to Josh Hull and Trevor Stahl as they were leading in the race on the next to the final day of a six-day cross country race.

The huge Great Race is a different "bird" of its own anyway, as vintage vehicles as old as 1911 have hit the road to compete in this mental, physical and unusual race across the country.

"It was the next to final day, but the last full day of racing when we got knocked out," Hull shared. "We were on a two-lane country road in a 55mph zone. We were

slowing down to make a left onto another road. While we were turning, the car behind us went into the opposing lane and hit my driver front wheel. It crippled us as it bent the drivers wheel, broke the steering box off of the chassis and bent a few of the tie rods."

Sadly, Hull and Stahl were in first place when it happened.



Along the race, Georgia welcomed them with open arms as they crossed into the evening.

They had to be picked up by the sweeper truck.

"We are all ok and that's the most important," Stahl exclaimed. "We live to rally another day!"

Luckily, I was able to line up a welder and our mechanic in Pueblo, Colorado to work on the car when we came in that evening," Hull said. "The motto of the race is 'to finish is to win.' We were

able to finish the race the next day but we were not competitive. The car was too banged up. I believe we finished 109th."

When asked what they would have to do to the "Stars and Stripes" to compete for next year, they said, "The car is very solid and dependable. The only thing that needs to be wired in it the front end (steering components) that were damaged in the race."

As always, Hull and Stahl shared that their favorite things about the race were getting to be with friends and the Great Race family.

"We enjoy the beautiful scenery throughout the route," Hull added. "My wife, son, sister, and mother and a bunch of cousins were at the finish to Great us in Colorado Springs."

Though they had a setback this year, it seems there is also another thing to be cautious about.

Last year, they won, therefore were



COURTESY PHOTOS
Though having been side swiped in a turn and taken out of first place, the Stars and Stripes crossed over in Colorado Springs to be met by family, friends and

Hull and Stahl expressed their sincere gratitude to all the people who followed and encouraged them in the race as well as congratulated the Sharps on their fourth win and the other teams who finished.


"We are already

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looking forward to the spring rally at the Stahl's Automotive Foundation next May. Also, for The Great Race, our goal next year is redemption and winning our second championship!" they added.

From Aug 23: Love Thy Neighbor and CarePortal now in Craig County

On Tuesday, Aug. 15, Jordan Labiosa and Mayor Lenny McDonald hosted a meeting to introduce the Love Thy Neighbor Fund which is joining CarePortal to aid those in need in Craig County.

It was held at Lasterday, where proprietor Jasmine Brown, provided an array of desserts with homemade lemonade and tea.

Though three years in the making, Labiosa and McDonald have formed the nonprofit Love Thy Neighbor Fund which now seems to be the foundation of the beginning of a new relationship, bringing CarePortal to Craig County.

"The Department of Social Services (DSS) is so excited to have the CarePortal come to Craig," shared Craig County Department of Social Services Director Pat Franklin. "The CarePortal is a service that will allow greater needs to be met beyond what DSS can or could every do on our own. The Care Portal is more than a financial assistance program, it is a way to allow the community to come to the aid of their neighbors and help hold them up and support them through rough times."

McDonald opened with a prayer thankful for the people who are already ready to serve and the explanation of the creation of the Love Thy Neighbor Fund.

"During COVID Jordan and I were sitting on our duffs an awful lot which meant that we would call each other and go to lunch each day and share the vision that he had for Craig County and what was possible," McDonald shared. "Not what was being done, but what was possible."

McDonald added with a laugh, "I learned really quick that Jordan doesn't sit still very well. So, we hatched a plan to start the

Love Thy Neighbor Fund that would serve the needs of Craig County that could be uniquely met by forming this non-profit organization as there are some very unique things that a non-profit can do."

"Our fund is based on the Bible scripture of Matthew 22:39 that says thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, so we tried to take that and put it into action," McDonald added.

They are a charitable nonprofit organization that has been launched in Craig County to live out this teaching.

McDonald listed three ways they have envisioned they can impact the county most effectively, adding value to its citizens.

Reduce the impact of poverty.

Virginia statistics say 10% living below the poverty line

Craig County is 14% living below the poverty line

Children in Craig County have 25% living below the poverty line

Make generational changes.

Developing strategies to overcome family struggles they face

Biblical based financial literacy courses

Increase community pride

Develop and help maintain high quality public spaces that highlights our rich history while reducing the tax burden of such spaces from our community at large.

"With Craig having 25 percent living below the poverty line, that means they are one automobile accident away from a crisis. Clearly there is a need! And, the DSS has their hands full and overwhelmed sometimes," McDonald said. "Yet there are enough effective people who wish to serve in some way that we felt we could marry CarePortal with DSS, the school system and make a difference."

He added, "If we understand there is a need and we have the ability to fulfill it, Jordan isn't going to sit. He is going to jump on it and find a way to make things better."

McDonald made the statement that if citizens educate people on financial literacy, then they have the opportunity to not just fix the crisis but to build the strategy for that family to have success and move forward.

"I am so excited that you are here, that you have a heart for service, that

you want to help the Love Thy Neighbor Fund make a change for the better," McDonald shared.

Brandi Paige with Southwest Virginia Crossroads Coalition for Orphan and Foster Care has been a part of launching several CarePortals and Labiosa shared that she has been a useful resource and has helped trained many thus far in how to use the system.

Paige shared that when she drove to Craig for the first time, her breath was taken away with its beauty.

She added, "I wish I could take Jordan and put one of him every community that borders West Virginia and Kentucky as they are all like you, small communities that feel like they are forgotten."

"I live in Wytheville and cannot say enough about the difference it made in our community," Paige said. "Your heart beats for your community and the children in it and you want them to have all the things they need to grow up successful and to make your community successful."

She shared that when one joins CarePortal, there is an app to download.

"You will receive a notification of a need and we encourage each of you to make a personal connection to that family because that is what the heart of CarePortal does," Paige explained. "It lets us go out on little mission trips and meet our neighbors right where they are."

A video was shared that said, "The mission field is in our backyard. It means meeting a need at just the right time. At other times the connection starts life-changing relationships that change lives, transform communities, and reverse the foster-care crisis in our nation. That yes makes children a priority. Children have the power to change us."

"It is really shocking at the level of homelessness, incarceration, and even sex-trafficking that can be associated with the foster care system," Labiosa added. "If we can interact before they even enter the system and save those biological families, think about how many people we can save throughout the long run in their lives."

Carrie Gooseman, adoption and resource family supervisor for the Roanoke City Department of Social Services, shared a testimonial about a



Every Tuesday evening, from 6-8 p.m., musicians are invited to join and play music at the Old Clifton Store on Main. Attendees bring their own chairs. Some of the musicians this week were Mike Musselman - banjo, Ronnie Price - electric guitar, Randy Dudding - acoustic guitar, Robert Coulter - fiddle and Mike King - banjo.

child from Craig with CarePortal.

The child had been placed in different places, yet the end of the story is that through CarePortal, they were able to get the child back with family who needed furniture, etc. before they could be ready. CarePortal, with the help of community and churches and were able to set the family up so the child could live there.

Care Portal is also able to help with directions for the family and starting relationships with community.

"Self sufficiency is the goal though not always a reality," Gooseman said.

She added that they welcome churches, groups and individual community members to be a part of this program such as have furniture, clothes, financial assistance, etc. they wish to donate.

"We are so excited to have some school board members and so many churches and others who have shown interest," Labiosa shared. "Also, Pat Franklin has been a great resource for us only being in Craig for a year and half, but it seems like she has had five years of organization accomplished with all the work she has done."

Franklin shared that the department is small with only 11 total employees with only three other employees besides herself that takes care of adoption, Child Protective Service, foster care and other needs.

"That is not enough, but with Care Portal, it will allow us to expand our footprint and to help more people in Craig," Franklin said. "If we can reach a family and get the needed help before it becomes a CPS, before the child has to be removed, then we have done our job."

She gave an example

of a child coming to school with dirty clothes. Sometimes it is just that their washer broke, and the family cannot afford another one and there is no laundromat in the county.

"DSS has limited funds so if we can enter into CarePortal that we have a need for a washer, it can possibly stop the issue," Franklin added. "The child is then not embarrassed and it not acting out because they don't want to be in school because they don't have clean clothes and they are ashamed; we have done our job! The factors and steps to save a family is so important."

Franklin explained that it takes a community or village to raise a child, and this is what CarePortal and the Love Thy Neighbor Fund is all about, helping them to get assistance to families when DSS is unable to meet all the needs.

Franklin added that they need people to help install or to move furniture for them once they purchase or find the items. Also, contractors from all areas are needed.

McDonald added, "Everyone has mentioned these needs but none of this will work if we do not have participants to join us. We have several churches who have already signed up including Cornerstone-New Castle, Grace Assembly and Kindling School Ministries, as well as other pastors that have shown interest that I will be visiting."

"DSS is our main partner when it comes to making requests," Labiosa said. "We will be approaching the school system this year about having guidance counselors potentially being able to make requests on behalf of the students and eventually

the sheriffs' office. We are super excited about this."

Alex Bunnell, of Craig County DSS, shared the first call of a teenage girl. However, Cornerstone Church -New Castle was present and donated a check to DSS to fund the need. Other people present shared that they could help in other ways as well.

"Our goal is to have no need unmet in Craig County," McDonald shared.

For the first year, Love Thy Neighbor Fund has received donations to cover expenses of joining the Love Thy Neighbor Fund which the schools will not have to pay, hoping that even in future years, they will have enough funds to cover it as well. No individual pays.

Paige added that other larger schools pay much more but usually donations are received to cover them.

McDonald also shared the 78% success rate that Teen Challenge has five years after someone graduates.

"The reason why I think this is so successful is because it introduces the community of the church to people," McDonald added. "There is a root cause that a church can meet and help the family overcome."

McDonald and Labiosa encourage community members to contact them if they are interested in donating or being a source of assistance or to inquire more deeply into the program to see if "it is a right fit for you or your organization."

Matthew 22.org is the Love Thy Neighbor Fund website and they were excited to announce that they have collected funds to pay for the first year to join CarePortal, to try

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Respiratory disorder

7. Bulgarian mountain peak

10. Group of important people

12. South American nation

13. Amazes

14. ___-Castell, makers of pens

15. Perlman and Seehorn are two

16. Early medieval alphabet

17. Legislatur (slang)

18. Tasty crustacean

19. Course of action

21. Airborne (abbr.)

22. Permanent church appointment

27. Larry and Curly's pal

28. Famed American journalist

33. 12th letter of Greek alphabet

34. In a way, vanished

36. Afflict in mind or body

37. Egyptian Sun god

38. Source of the Blue Nile

39. Egyptian unit of weight

40. Be the source of pain

41. Esteemed award

44. ___d'Or

44. Partner to pains

45. Deep blue

48. No longer living

49. Country in the UK

50. Not even

51. Arizona city

CLUES DOWN

1. Wager

2. Classical portico

3. As a result

4. Bird

5. A type of "Squad"

6. Autonomic nervous system

7. Dish with food on a stick

8. City northwest of Provo

9. C. European river

10. One out of jail

11. Henry Clay estate

12. Heathen

14. Refrained

17. Parts per billion (abbr.)

18. "The Stranger" author

20. Not old

23. Periods of starvation

24. Language of tribe in India

25. Savings account

26. Pitching stat

29. Megabyte

30. Ribonucleic acid

31. A place to put your feet

32. The fun part of a week

35. We all have our own

36. Partner to "ooohed"

38. African nation

40. Breezed through

41. Sets out

42. Other

43. Not fattening

44. "Much ___ about nothing"

45. Central Time

46. Former EU monetary unit

47. Charles S. Dutton sitcom

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and use the program. If community members are looking to join or look into the program, go to CarePortal.org and then click on "get involved" and from there it will direct individuals. McDonald requested to pray for them and the future. To report a need, please call Craig County DSS at (540) 864-5117. "I am pleased that we had the restaurant filled with folks who want to make a difference in our community. It was humbling," McDonald shared. "I am excited about the impact we can make with the Love Thy Neighbor Fund. This is our first step of many to add value to our County!" "We are thrilled with the overwhelming turnout at the launch of CarePortal in Craig County! It's evident that our community is not only excited but also deeply committed to the mission of the Love Thy Neighbor Fund," Labiosa added. "The response highlights the shared belief in the power of community collaboration and the potential that CarePortal holds to create a lasting and positive impact on our county. We look forward to working hand in hand with our local churches, community groups, and volunteers to uplift vulnerable families and foster a network of support that goes beyond immediate assistance, providing lasting change and empowerment."

From Sep. 13: Main Street Jam moved to old Clifton Store

For many folks, there is nothing more soothing than listening to musicians playing songs of yesteryear in their own hometown.

The Craig County Historical Society has opened its doors and arms to the musicians in Craig County, inviting them to play inside the old Clifton Store that is being renovated, so weather cannot disturb the weekly get-together.

On Tuesday, Sept. 5, over 40 people enjoyed the music of several Craig County men who joined together to have a good time playing music.

Feet were tapping and people's heads were nodding to the strumming of the guitars, mandolin, fiddle and banjo as many sang along.

Some of the people playing were Mike Musselman, Ronnie Price, Randy Dudding,

Robert Coulter and Mike King. The Main Street Jam started in 2014 and has continued off and on, except during COVID-19. Over the last couple of years, they have gathered at the town pavilion and now will have a new home just down the block. The Historical Society is happy to let the community see just how far along it has come in renovating what most people knew as the old Clifton Store. The group's goal is to recreate an old-time general store to honor the heritage of the small town of New Castle. "This building housed several stores since late 1890," Diane Givens shared. "Clifton and Esther Elmore closed their business called "Clifton's Cash Store" in 1975." Therefore, every Tuesday, from 6 until 8 p.m., weather permitting come winter, the group is inviting anyone that would like to come and play their instruments, sing or be one that just wants to enjoy the evening. Attendees should plan to bring their own chairs. On Sept. 12, the group also served hotdogs as well as their munchies. For anyone wishing to donate towards this renovation, they can be mailed to P.O. Box 206, New Castle, Va. 24127 or contact craig.historicalsociety1981@gmail.com or pop by the Jam on Tuesday nights. The Craig County Historical Society is a nonprofit tax-exempt organization founded in 1980. The group shared that all funds designated Clifton Store have been spent on the exterior for the new roof, paint and windows as well as necessary reinforcement of the foundation and subfloor. The group is still in need of water and septic systems, electricity, heating and cooling and insulation of walls and ceiling, as well as all of the finish work.

From Oct. 25: FFA hosting spaghetti dinner fundraiser for \$5 per plate

When time and attention are poured into kids, they not only survive, but they also thrive. This seems to be what has happened to the Future Farmers of America in Craig County Public Schools and the

agriculture class of Emily Jones. Over the last couple of years, there have been teachers, an attentive school board and administration and especially specific community members that have brought the newly built Land Lab at CCPS from a hope to a reality. FFA members reported their last year's activities at the recent Farm Bureau annual meeting, and people were amazed at all of the things they had accomplished. "It's no wonder they love their teacher, Emily!" she shared. "It seems that she spends her last waking moments doing things for our kids." Jones shared some of the things they have participated in over the past few months: Students attended the Annual Farm Bureau Dinner where they had the opportunity to present the timeline of the Land Lab while also sharing their "Why" behind joining FFA Fall Festival—students set up at Fall Festival and provided youth with the opportunity to play games and enjoy a free petting zoo. National FFA Grant awarded to Tiffany Ratliff, she is developing a roadside stand called Pearl's Pantry that will provide the community with access to fresh produce and agricultural products on an as needed basis. Students are currently selling meat sticks at all home athletic events to gain additional funds for travel to various conventions. Information/pictures from Annual Dinner: The FFA officers had the opportunity to speak at the annual Farm Bureau dinner and give everyone updates on the Land Lab as well as speak about everything they have done over the past year. The students have competed and won in many competitions including receiving sixth place overall in the state for Livestock Evaluation. "My students are looking forward to traveling and competing again this year as well!" Jones said. A couple of her students commented on what the FFA meant to them. "Before I joined FFA, I thought only farmers could join the club, but I was thankfully wrong. FFA has given me a voice that I didn't even know I had," shared FFA President Emmie Radford. "It has truly brought out my passion and I will be forever grateful for my time spent in FFA." "The FFA focuses on serving others, the community, making connections with new people, along with

strengthening the relationships you already have," Carter Calfee, vice president of the FFA, added, "The FFA has pushed me to improve social and leadership skills and it will do the same for anyone else involved with it. FFA provides endless opportunities for its members and prepares them for life." Jones also shared that her students experienced learning the canning process on green beans from community member Faye Powers. "She went through the complete the canning process from stringing and snapping the green beans to understanding the various components of pressure canning," Jones said. Other classroom activities have included: Veterinary Visits with Appalachian Vet: Students traveled to John Hunter's farm and learned about bovine reproduction and then the vets paid a visit to the Land Lab and taught students about herd management. Veterinary Science Class has been studying the importance of an animal's environment and had the challenge of moving guinea pigs from one cage to another without touching them. Applied Ag Concepts has been studying the different components of soil and the importance of soil health in terms of agricultural production. Students got to apply their knowledge by collecting soil samples at a local producer's farm and interpreting the results to give recommendations for improvement. Introduction to Animal Systems has been learning about digestion and nutrition and has made 3-D models of the digestive system while also working with Sally Farell from Virginia Tech, to analyze feed and forage labels to recognize the importance of feed composition as it plays a role in the conversion of food to energy. However, there are still many hopes and dreams for their future goals and needs for the Land Lab which could use the time, talent and donations of our community or others who wish to see children excel in today's world and in

school. "The materials have been purchased for the building of a new barn which (once built), "will be located in the pasture closest to the road and will be used for future showmanship opportunities," Jones shared. "Also, we are in the process of finishing the new fence in Paddock to expand our herd and our plans are moving forward regarding a new greenhouse on site." In addition to caring for all their animals during weekends and on school breaks, they continue to host many fundraisers to make sure they can push their dreams and goals into a stark reality. "On Thursday, Nov. 2, anyone can enjoy a delicious meal while supporting the FFA organization!" Jones shared. "Also, join their efforts in starting an alumni group!" The meals will be served at the Craig County High School cafeteria and is available

either dine-in or carry out, from 6-8 p.m. for only \$5 a plate. The meal includes spaghetti, salad, breadstick and a drink and optional desserts will be available for additional purchase. However, they do ask that those interested RSVP by Oct. 31 on their website, through the QR Code or via email to enolen@craig.k12.va.us. (Include name, the number of meals being reserved and if they will be dine-in or carry-out.) "Please feel free to pass the message on to friends and family!" they shared. "We also would appreciate your outreach on social media by sharing the post on the Craig County FFA page." Anyone who wishes to donate towards their Land Lab can contact Jones at the school or John or Mary Hunter who have been wonderful "overseers, volunteers and cheerleaders" for this project.

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Everyone is welcome!</p> <p>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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>CROSSROADS CHURCH 21892 Craigs Creek Road, New Castle. Pastor Gary Burch. 864-7520. Sunday School- 10-10:45AM, Sunday Worship - 11AM-Noon.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>7:00PM, Reformers Unanimous Addiction Recovery every Friday evening at 7PM.</p> <p>GRACE ASSEMBLY OF GOD 5530 Catawba Valley Drive, Catawba, VA, 540-384-7075. Pastor Lorraine Taylor, agladypastor@msn.com. Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Evening service at 7:00 p.m.; Youth (ages 13-18) & Super Church (ages 4-12) Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. You can also watch on Facebook Live at 10:30 a.m. www.graceassemblycatawba.org</p> <p>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.</p> <p>HEBRON UNITED METHODIST Pastor Chanmi Lee, 347-684-2607, Rt. 606, 1981 Caldwell Mt. Rd., New Castle, 540- 400-3419. Worship 11:15AM.</p> <p>LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST Rev. Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle. Sunday: Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, & 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST Pastor Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle, 540-525-7662. Sunday: Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, & 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>NEW CANTERBURY PENTECOSTAL FELLOWSHIP Pastor John D. Abbott, Hwy 621 (10 miles), phone: 540-580-5837, Sunday Prayer 10:00-10:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday Service 6:00 pm.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.sttfc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).</p>
<p>If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Wendi Craig at 276-340-2445 or email advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com</p>		

OPINION

News from the 9th: Some things never change



Morgan Griffith
Representative

If you thought 2024 would be any different than the first three years of the Biden Administration when it comes to overbearing energy regulations, you thought wrong. The Administration is still fully committed to their Green New Deal objectives, no matter the burden it places on everyday Americans.

Just a few days before the start of the new year, on December 29, the Biden Administration announced new regulations affecting multiple home and commercial appliances. The Department of Energy (DOE) said they have both finalized new energy efficiency standards on home refrigerators and freezers (which were proposed by the agency earlier this year) and have also proposed new standards for commercial fans and blowers.

As you may know, this is just the latest in new regulations on home appliances that the Biden Administration has implemented since the start of their tenure.

column, DOE has also announced new regulations for washing machines, gas stoves, dishwashers, air conditioners, electric water heaters, and light bulbs.

Talk about government overreach! Is there any appliance inside your own home the Administration won't meddle with?

In a statement by Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm, she wrote that these new regulations are "a testament to the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to lowering utility costs for working families..."

But, according to DOE, when updating their refrigerator, Americans are projected to save just about \$16 per year on their utility bill.

In many cases, because of the new regulations, new appliances will be more expensive. Really? Just to save \$16 per year?

There is also the question of effectiveness. Folks in the 9th District who have updated some of their home appliances have complained to me about the effectiveness of their appliances. Like washing machines that now don't use enough water to properly do the job, thus causing some loads to be washed twice. Or dishwashers that take twice as long to finish their cycles because of new standards.

It should be noted that according to DOE, regulations on refrigerators and freezers are to be implemented in five to

six years, depending on the model and configuration of your new appliance.

If this Administration and their left-wing allies in Congress are still in power then, maybe energy prices will be so outrageously high that it may seem worth having an appliance that is less productive than today's appliances.

There is also the manufacturing side. For example, when the Administration announced its new regulations on gas stoves, 18 energy and consumer advocacy organizations sent a letter to DOE saying the new regulation would negatively impact consumer choice and is therefore "arbitrary and capricious" while also having little effect on climate change.

Whatever the cost impact on manufacturers is, due to the new regulations announced on December 29, you can bet it will be passed on to the consumer, which drives prices higher.

Additionally, when announcing the proposed new standards for commercial fans and blowers, the agency said the proposed regulations are the first-ever federal regulations for these appliances.

Why did they decide to regulate commercial fans and blowers for the first time?

Because they are following the direction of California, which has established standards for general fans.

While this move is unfortunate,

it's not surprising. It seems the Administration and many on the left, including in Virginia, are taking direction from California more and more these days (example: California banning the sale of new gas-powered cars and mandating the sale of new electric cars by 2035).

As O.H. Skinner, the Alliance For Consumers' executive director, rightfully put it, "...this administration isn't just tweaking regulations. They're doing things that effectively ban whole categories of things that exist on the market."

Meaning, it's not just a difference in price Americans will have to deal with, but also, choice. And that choice will be whatever the Biden Administration's government decides is right.

It's time to stop with the overbearing green agenda being pushed by the left, without consideration of the consequences.

As a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, I was proud to vote in favor of H.R. 6192, the Hands Off Our Home Appliances Act at a December meeting. It would modify DOE's energy efficient mandate to make sure that consumers actually save money on their utility bills in a reasonable timeframe. I will fight for policies that will protect the average

See News, page 5

Upcoming meetings are scheduled in Craig County

Jan. 4

The Craig County Board of Supervisors will hold its monthly meeting at the Craig County Courthouse at 6 p.m.

Jan. 15

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

Jan. 16

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

The Craig County Planning Commission will meet at 7 p.m.

Jan. 17

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

Jan. 25

The Department of Social Services Board will meet at 6:30 p.m.

Ongoing

Feeding southwest Virginia will be offering food twice a month on the second and third Wednesday of the month from 3-5 p.m. and 4-5 p.m., respectively. All community members

are welcome to purchase fresh produce and other canned and boxed items. EBT recipients receive 50% off their fruits and vegetables.

Booster Club of Craig Schools meet on the third Monday of each month in the school cafeteria at 6 p.m. Community members are encouraged to attend and to join to support the kids of Craig County as they need the participation of more people.

-The New Castle Record

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

USPS 378-080
(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 Mehre, *Graphic Designer* megan@ourvalley.com
Wendi Craig, *Advertising Consultant* advertise@ourvalley.org

Give us your view: aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

To subscribe: 540-389-9355

The New Castle Record (USPS 378-080) is published weekly for \$46 a year in Craig County, \$50 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$54 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., 1633 W Main St., Salem, VA 24153. Periodical postage paid at New Castle, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE NEW CASTLE RECORD 1633 W. Main St., Salem, Va. 24153

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 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.

Dementia – life's threatening enemy

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

The word dementia has become almost as despising as the word cancer for some. It's ways deplete people's ability to communicate and live their everyday life in this world,

making them dependent on others.

Caring for those takes heart and love as their needs are great, yet they are still cognitive to understand more than some give them credit for, so greater attention needs to be given.

Many businesses who care for dementia patients offer assistance and helpful hints.

This is a collage of the ideas that have been given if someone has dementia:

"I want my friends and family to embrace my reality."

"If I think my spouse is still alive, or if I think we're visiting my parents for dinner, let me believe those things as I'll be much happier for it."

"Don't argue with me about what is true for me versus what is true for you."

"Just show lots of love."

"If I am not sure who you are, do not take it personally as my timeline is confusing to me."

"If I can no longer use utensils, do not start feeding me. Instead, switch me to a finger-food diet, and see if I can still feed myself."

"If I am sad or anxious, hold my hand and listen and try not to tell me that my feelings are unfounded."

"Please talk to me like an adult as I prefer not to be treated like a child."

"I still want to enjoy the things that I've always enjoyed, so help me find a way to exercise, read, and visit with friends."

"Ask me to tell you a story from my past."

"If I become agitated, take the time to figure out what is bothering me."

"Treat me the way that you would want to be treated."

"Make sure that there are plenty of snacks for me in the house as I may have trouble explaining what I need and that could frustrate me."

"Please don't talk about me as if I'm not in the room."

"Please don't feel guilty if you cannot care for me 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It's not your fault, and you've done your best. Find someone who can help you or choose a great new place for me to live."

"If I live in a dementia care community, please visit me often."

"Don't act frustrated if I mix up names, events, or places. Take a deep breath as it's not my fault. Imagine how I feel."

Please make sure I always have my favorite music playing within earshot.

See Dementia, page 5

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OBITUARIES

Greenway, Shelia Bontina

Born on July 28th, 1947, Shelia Bontina Greenway, 76, was surrounded by family when she went home to be with her Savior on Saturday, January 6th, 2024.

Shelia was a faithful member of Calvary Baptist Church in Salem for many years and had a deep love for her church family. She loved her family and the Lord with all her heart. She also enjoyed watching the little animals from her porch and sitting on the recliner watching her favorite western.

Shelia was preceded in death by her loving husband of 50 years, Wayne Greenway; mother, Ruby Wolfe; father-in-law and mother-in-law Ohmer Frank and Della Mae Greenway and other

special family members. Left to cherish her memory include her daughter Crystal Keene (Mark); son Allen



Wright; grandchildren Shanna Looney (Craig), CJ Wright, Skylor Wright, Alexis Andrews, and Dakota Broughman; great-grandchildren Brook, Chloe, and Vivian; sister Wanda

Wolfe; sister-in-law Barbara Hutchinson; brother-in-law Dennis Greenway. She is also survived by many other family members and friends.

In lieu of flowers the family ask that you consider a donation to our church home, Calvary Baptist Church, PO Box 189, Salem, VA 24153.

Funeral Services will be held 2:00 PM Thursday, January 11, 2024, at Paitself Funeral Home with Pastor Roger Counts officiating. Interment will follow at the Greenway Family Cemetery. The family will receive friends 1-2 PM before the service. Arrangements by Paitself Funeral Home. www.paitselfh.com

DAR members commemorate Boston Tea Party anniversary



Guests and Craig Valley Chapter DAR members commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party on Dec. 16. The following note was sent to the Boston Tea Party 250th Anniversary group at the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum in Boston, Massachusetts: "We are honored and pleased to present you with loose tea from Craig County, Virginia. May it soak up the waters of Boston Harbor as it joins tea from across our great country in a meaningful and fantastic commemoration of a pivotal event in our illustrious history."

Reader shares photo of ice on farm



Mary Ann Keffer shared this photo from her farm on Sinking Creek last week.

Year in Review page 3

From Nov. 25: High school senior chooses to be a firefighter in Craig County

Young people have the opportunity to learn helpful skills from people who wish to be a mentor. Griffin Dobby has recently benefited from this heritage and now is a great assistance to the community.

"Every year we host a group of high school students, members of the Pulaski Club, from Doby-Bennett High School out of Kingsport, Tennessee to conduct a controlled burn on our 900-acre farm," shared Rachel Braun, farm manager of The Farm at Sinking Creek.

She said that in the fall of 2022, they burned a large hillside that was about 11 acres.

There were five students along with their teacher, Bryan Kerns, who successfully conducted this burn on a very windy day.

"One of the seniors was a young man by the name of Griffin Dobby," Braun said. "After graduation he went on to join the U.S. Forest Service fire crew and this morning Mr. Bryan Kerns informed us that he was in route with his crew to the New Castle area to help with the forest fire up route 42 near the look out."

"I got the chance to meet Griffin and have met many other great students from Doby-Bennett High School through the Pulaski club," Braun continued. "I feel the work they do is extremely important, and this story needs to be told."

She added, "We are so grateful for all those who

have stepped up to help with this fire!"

Dobby learned many skills while serving with four of his classmates on the Doby-Bennett High School Prescribed Fire Team, one of, if not the only high school prescribed fire team in the country.

The students are trained by Bryan Kerns, a 20-year veteran of wildland fire, and meets all the requirements to participate in live fire events.

Additionally, the students are prepared to begin work as wildland firefighters upon graduation.

Dobby was on the control burn at The Coyote Valley controlled burn, which was an 8-acre fire aimed at restoring native grasses to the hillside.

"This, and other burns conducted at the Frist's property are having great success in promoting the remnants of native grasslands that once painted the entire valley," Kerns said. "On this burn, Griffin was responsible for igniting a backing fire off the top of the hillside and patrolling to ensure the fire stayed within the control lines."

He added, "This experience helped the many hours of PowerPoint presentations, videos, and reading come to life as the students experience the beauty, power, and restorative effect of fire."

After Dobby graduated from Doby-Bennett High School in Kingsport, Tennessee in May of 2022, he accepted a full-time permanent wildland firefighter position with the George Washington & Jefferson National Forest.

"The training and industry certifications he earned while in high school set him apart from

other young applicants and has quickly emerged as a leader on his crew," Kerns explained. "Almost one year later, Griffin returned to Craig County with his U.S. Forest Service wildland fire crew to respond to the Penny Hollow Fire. He and his crew continue to fight wildfires in the region as this fall continues to stretch resources thin."

From December 6: McCleary hosts holiday shopping for students

Many students look forward to the annual Penguin Patch Holiday shopping spree the school holds for their elementary students.

This year it is hosted by the PTA and will be open from Dec. 11 through the 15.

It is a holiday shop for all McCleary Elementary School students to come in and shop for their family and friends.

"Last year Mrs. Stevens ran the penguin patch, this year since we have a McCleary PTA, we are running it instead to take it off her plate!" Lauren Deel shared. "Each child can buy however many things they want and can afford, there are a lot of different things to buy."

"The prices are very reasonable and there are lots of little knick-knacks for the kids to choose from," she added. "Some are personalized for grandmas, grandpas, moms and dads, sisters and brothers, aunts and uncles and etc."

The students will shop similar to how they shop for the book fair. They will have a set time one

News page 4

American family's interests. When creating new laws and regulations, we must weigh choices and costs

Dementia page 4

"If I like to pick up items and carry them around, help me return those items to their original place."

"Try not to exclude me from parties and family gatherings."

"Always know that I still like receiving hugs or handshakes."

on a similar footing with legitimate environmental concerns.

"Always remember that I am still the person you know and love."

Though dementia can be a difficult "disease" to attend to, when one extends the heart of understanding and patience, the person usually responds with great gratitude.



COURTESY PHOTOS



COURTESY PHOTO

This photo was taken of Griffin Dobby, in the fall of 2022 at former Sen. Bill and Tracy Frist's property on Sinking Creek in Craig County. Griffin and four of his classmates served on the Doby-Bennett High School Prescribed Fire Team, one of, if not the only high school prescribed fire team in the country. The students are trained by Bryan Kerns, a 20-year veteran of wildland fire, and meet all the requirements to participate in live fire events.

day during that week that they will go to shop.

"A lot of kids buy for their moms, dads, grandparents, siblings, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, teachers, and some buy things for themselves as well," Deel said.

Envelopes were sent home with each student for parents/guardians to help their children decide on how much they can spend and on who they want to spend money on. They keep their monies until the day they shop.

The things they can buy range from toys (like slime, small fidgets, etc.), keychains (things that say "#1 grandpa," for example), coffee mugs, little jewelry items such as necklaces and rings and lots of other items will be available.

"If there are family members wanting to

come in to help shop, they would need to reach out to their child's teacher prior to see if that is okay," said Deel. "We have advertised needing volunteers, and we have already had a lot of people sign up to help shop so students will have help

shopping from volunteers on their set day to shop."

Cash and checks are accepted. They will not be able to accept debit or credit cards.

Those who would like to volunteer may call the school or email Ideel@craig.K12.va.



COURTESY IMAGE

The Annual Penguin Patch Holiday shopping spree for students will be Dec. 11-15 for the students at CCPS. This is a fun time for students to be able to shop for their parents and loved ones.



Marketplace



THE FINCASTLE HERALD The Vinton Messenger THE NEW CASTLE RECORD SALEM TIMES REGISTER News Messenger RADFORD News Journal

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Help Wanted - Clerical

Help Wanted Part-time Administrative Assistant

Buchanan Presbyterian Church is searching for a part time Administrative Assistant.
Duties include working with the minister and music team to prepare weekly Sunday bulletin and monthly newsletter; prepare PowerPoint for Sunday worship and be there to operate it; assist with recording and uploading services to YouTube; performance of other administrative jobs to assist the minister.
To apply or obtain complete job description please contact Tricia at 540-589-3107 or send resume to the church at P.O. Box 517, Buchanan, VA 24066

Help Wanted - General

WANTED Models

Models needed for life drawing class, male and female, \$65 for 3 hour session. Call David 540-473-3713

Intuitive Surgical Operations seeks a Software Engineer (SE-MTT) in Blacksburg, VA.

Work on a cross-functional team to design, implement, document & qualify software to be used in medical robots. Telecommuting permitted. Reqs MS. \$96,900 - \$131,100/yr. Email resumes to Hien.Nguyen@intusurg.com. Must ref job title & code in subj line.

Help Wanted - Health Care

Wanted: Caregiver for adult male with special needs in Christiansburg.
Adult male is non-verbal and must have assistance with all aspects of daily living. We are looking for a long term person with a good employment record who has experience with a non-verbal adult. Safety is a priority. Candidates must be reliable; have kindness and patience; and show creativity (Music ability a plus). Hours will vary according to the needs of the gentlemen and his family. Pay is \$13.34 through Medicaid and CDCN. Candidates must pass a criminal background check and must have recent references (at least 3). No cellphone use while working except for emergencies. If interested, please call (540)838-5037 for an interview.

Legals - Botetourt County

NOTICE OF SPECIAL COMMISSIONER SALE OF 101 DRY BRANCH ROAD, BUCHANAN, VIRGINIA, 24066

Pursuant to a Decree of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, made and entered into November 29, 2023 in Case No. 23CL23-0036100, styled Barrett (Plaintiff) v. Cherokee rose Eubank (Defendant), a Will, on Friday 26, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the front door of the Courthouse of Botetourt County, Virginia, located in its new temporary quarters, offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash, the following described real estate: 101 Dry Branch Road, Buchanan, Virginia, 24066, being 2.56 acres in the Buchanan Magisterial District, Tax Map #53-4, property ID#99013634. A more accurate description can be procured as shown on a plat attached to Deed Book 128 at page 123 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia.

Terms of Sale: Cash (10% on the day of sale with the remainder at closing within 60 days).
For further information, apply to:

Tommy Joe Williams, Special Commissioner, 2721 Brambleton Avenue, S.W., Roanoke, Virginia, 24015, office telephone number: (540)772-7848, cell phone number: (540) 797-4065.

I, Tommy Joe Williams, hereby certify that I have bond, with surety, as required by the decree.

Tommy Joe Williams
Special Commissioner

I, Tommy Moore, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, hereby certify the Tommy Joe Williams, Special Commissioner, has given bond, as required by the Decree with Surety approved by the Court.

Tommy Moore, Clerk
Botetourt County Circuit Court

Legals - Botetourt County

Order of Publication
Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104

Case No. **CWF220000276**
BOTETOURT COUNTY Circuit Court, 5 W. MAIN STREET, FINCASTLE, VA 24090 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* ESTATE OF WILMA C. TODD, DECEASED

The object of this suit is to: SHOW CAUSE AGAINST PAYMENT AND DELIVERY OF ESTATE TO PARTIES ENTITLED. It is ORDERED that Upon the motion of Atlantic Union Bank, Executor of the Estate of Wilma C. Todd, deceased, (the "Estate") pursuant to Va. Code Section 64.2-556, for an order to show cause against distribution of the Estate. It appearing to the court that the necessary reports of the accounts of the Estate and of the debts and demands against the Estate have been filed with the Court, and at least six months have elapsed since the qualification of the Executor, it is accordingly ORDERED that the creditors of, and all others interested in, the Estate of Wilma C. Todd, deceased, do appear at 11:00 A.M. on the 31st day of January, 2024 in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Botetourt County, 1 West Main Street #120, Fincastle, Virginia 24090 and show cause, if any the can, against payment and delivery of the Estate to the parties entitled thereto, without requirement of refunding bonds. 1-5-2024
Joel R. Branscom, Circuit Court Judge.

JANUARY 8, 2024
Leslianne Smith, Deputy Clerk

Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, January 22, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., in the Community Room, Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1. Consider the request of T J Real Properties, LLC, property owner, for rezoning the property located at 1236 West Main Street (Tax Map # 141 - 1 - 4) from HBD Highway Business District to CBD Community Business District.

2. Consider the request of Helm Building Enterprises, LTD, property owner, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow a two family dwelling on the property located at 301 Carey Avenue, (Tax Map # 74-2-6.1).

3. Consider the request of Helm Building Enterprises, LTD, property owner, for rezoning the property located at 416 Electric Road (Tax Map # 150-3-1) from HBD Highway Business District to HM Heavy Manufacturing District.

4. Consider the request of Virginia Baptist Children's Home (dba HopeTree Family Services), property owner, for rezoning the properties located at 1000 block Red Lane and a portion of 860 Mount Vernon Lane (Tax Map #'s 41-1-1, 41-1-2, 41-1-3, 41-1-4, 41-1-5, 41-1-6, and a portion of 44-3-10) from RSF Residential Single Family to PUD Planned Unit District.

If approved, Salem City Council intends to adopt the ordinance(s) associated with the above item(s) on first reading, with a second reading of those ordinance(s) at a subsequent meeting.

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.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA
BY:
H. Robert Light
Clerk of Council

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Legals - City of Salem

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 January 24, 2024, 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 certain structures are 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) Dilapidated structure located at 602 Goodwin Avenue, Salem, Virginia (Tax Map #201-10-2); and

(2) Dilapidated structure located at 336 Schrader Street, Salem, Virginia (Tax Map #115-1-4).

All parties in interest at the public hearing 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, Building Official

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SPORTS

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Rocket boys split two basketball games to start the new year

The Craig County boys' basketball team split their first two games of 2024 on back-to-back days last week, both at home. The Rockets beat Giles on Wednesday, January 3rd, but lost to Bath County a night later.

The Rockets beat Giles, 49-42, in a game that was tied at the half. The Rockets put the clamps on the Spartans in the fourth quarter, holding them to four points to close out a good win.

"Down the stretch we were able to move the ball and keep the clock running while making our free throws," said Craig County Ryan Frazier. "This was against a very good team where we managed the game pretty well to close out the win. It's not a position we are in a lot, but the boys showed poise and determination to make sure we won the game."

Matthew Lucas led the Rockets with 20 points while Hayden Reynolds had 11, including three three-pointers. Jaycob Wolfe scored eight points, Luke Potter had 11 and Talon Ritter chipped in with three as the Rockets avenged a prior loss to Giles. Center Drew Duncan sat out the game with a hip injury.

"We did well on the boards against a larger Giles

team," said Frazier. "Even with Drew out we did enough on the boards to win."

The Rockets had little time to rest with Bath County coming to New Castle 24 hours later for a Pioneer District showdown. Lucas scored 21, including his 1,000th career point, in this game but the Chargers went home with a 70-59 win.

"Unfortunately we were not able to keep the momentum going to win the second game of a back-to-back," said Frazier. "This was a hard one, because they really hurt us on the glass, getting a bunch of offensive rebounds that led to second chance points. I don't know if it was due to the back-to-back, but we were getting beat to loose balls and not doing the things that got us a great win just the night before."

The Chargers played a zone defense against Craig and that was a factor in the game. The Rockets were up eight points at the half but were outscored 30-10 in the third quarter when the long shots stopped falling.

"We settled for threes against their zone looks and made it easier for them on defense," said Frazier. "We'll look to improve our work against zones and attack inside out and make them work."

Reynolds led the Rockets with 26 points while Wolfe had six and Will Johnson and Talon had three each. Lucas needed eight points for a thousand and he hit the milestone in the second quarter on his way to a 21 point night.

"We obviously would have rather celebrated it with a win, but it didn't happen," said Frazier. "This is a great accomplishment for Matthew, his teammates and coaches. Basketball is a team game and nothing can be achieved as an individual without the group."

"Matthew has worked very hard to improve his game year after year. He puts in work throughout the summer, even tweaking his shot in the past to make him more consistent. Matthew is a great kid on the court and in the classroom, and it is nice to see him get the recognition. The Rocket family is proud of him."

The Rockets took a 3-8 overall record to Eastern Montgomery on Monday of this week but results were too late for publication. Parry McCluer is here Friday and next Tuesday, January 16, the Rockets will play a girls-boys doubleheader at Highland County.



Talon Ritter(#10 left) and Jaycob Wolfe contest a shot in last week's action.



Luke Potter(white uniform) is fouled by a Bath opponent.



Cam Huffman shoots a corner jumper against Bath County last week.

Craig County's Matthew Lucas(center in uniform) is surrounded by family and friends after scoring his 1,000th high school point against Bath County in New Castle last week.



Three games this week for Craig County girls

The Craig County girls went over two weeks without a game over Christmas break but things are now heating up in a hurry. The girls returned from the break with a loss at Giles last week and will have three games in four days this week, including back-to-back road trips.

The girls returned from break with a 58-31 loss at Giles last week, their first game in 18 days. The Rockets fell behind 16-2 at the outset and never caught up.

"It was our first game since December 15th," said Rocket coach Brock Jones. "During the first week of the Holiday break we weren't able to practice at all. Sickness caught up to us and we didn't have enough, and it showed last week at game time."

The Rockets were uncharacteristically poor on offense against the Spartans, turning the ball over 37 times. They struggled in the transition game and were hesitant to shoot the ball when open.

"We were gun shy on getting shots off," said Jones. "We share the ball great as a team, but when we have open shots we need to pull the trigger and get some shots

up. We have a lot of team players that want to share the ball first, which is great, but when the opposing team takes away what we are successful at, we must counter and win the game in other ways."

Craig only had three girls score, led by Kailyn Jones with 22 points, 12 rebounds and eight blocked shots. Kallie Fisher had five points, four steals and five boards and Daileigh Donithan had four points, three rebounds and two steals.

"We were not ourselves and we couldn't overcome our own issues," said Jones. "The good thing is, we are still learning and building. We start four sophomores and a freshman on the varsity level and have compiled a .500 record so far at 4-4. We're striving for the future and learning every day, and that's what it's all about. I am proud of the girls and we just got to keep working hard in practice and not be shy during game time and do our thing."

The Rockets were scheduled to play at home against Eastern Montgomery on Tuesday. On Thursday they're in Vinton to take on Class 3 William Byrd and on Friday they go to Buena Vista for a Pioneer District game with Parry McCluer.



Cayton Brooklyn looks for an open teammate in a recent game.



Jenna Boitnotte passes the ball for Craig County.



Kallie Fisher(white uniform) ties up an opponent.