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May is Adult Abuse Prevention Month in Virginia

Bonnie Cranmer
Contributing writer

In a recent proclamation by Gov. Glenn Youngkin, he stated that Virginia is home to 1.9 million people over 60 and will increase to 2.2 million by 2030. May has been designated Adult Abuse Prevention Month to address the challenges faced by this population. Over 43,000 cases of adult abuse, neglect and exploitation were reported in 2023, an 8% increase from the previous year.

Virginia has an increasing older population, now amounting to one in six Virginians. There are 25 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) which provide services to millions of seniors across the Commonwealth. The Department of Social Services is the local state agency which provides protective services for all Virginians, through Adult Protective Services (APS).

Seniors are especially vulnerable to abuse. Activities such as hitting, slapping, beating, punching, pinching, shaking, burning,

kicking, or striking the elderly are forms of physical harm that qualify for criminal proceedings. Adding to physical abuse, seniors are targeted for financial exploitation and fraud. Other forms of abuse include emotional or psychological abuse, neglect and abandonment, and sexual abuse.

Whether seniors choose to live independently, with family or caregivers, or in a senior living environment, abuse is possible and sometimes goes unreported. Seniors are often vulnerable and

embarrassed when something happens. Elderly women are more likely than men to suffer some form of abuse, according to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA).

Those with concerns about a senior friend or family member can reach out directly to Craig County Social Services at 540-864-5117 or call the state Adult Protective Services hotline at 888-832-3858 to report any suspected adult abuse, neglect or exploitation.

Weather didn't stop Land Lab Ag Fair at Craig County High School

Bonnie Cranmer
Contributing writer

The halls were overflowing with people as the Ag Fair was moved inside Craig County High School. The children's section was in the gymnasium and plenty of shouts of delight were heard.

The big equipment was lined up out front in the grass. Baby pigs, lambs and ducks kept children laughing.

The alpacas had fresh haircuts and were soft to touch.

Vendors filled the halls with a variety of fun items, tasty treats and valuable information.



Meeting a duckling at the Ag Fair.



Livestock on display at the Lab Ag Fair.



Woodcrafts for sale at the Ag Fair.

BONNIE CRANMER PHOTOS

Farm Bureau Women's Committee recognized



COURTESY PHOTO

The Craig County Farm Bureau Women's Committee was named the 2023 Runner Up for Best in State in the Outstanding Women's Leadership Program. This award is given to a committee for its efforts in promoting agriculture and its involvement in Farm Bureau throughout the year. In addition, the committee was the winner of the 2023 Outstanding Leadership Program in the Membership and Fundraising category for its work with the Land Lab Ag Fair at the school.



Cast of "The Wizard of Oz"

COURTESY PHOTO

High school stages 'The Wizard of Oz'

"What a fantastic show!" was the response of many who attended "The Wizard of Oz" play by the students from Craig County High School. It was "The Wizard of Oz" - youth edition by Frank Baum with music and lyrics by Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg on April 25, 26 and 27. "The students have been

rehearsing since the end of January, and put a great deal of effort into making our show a success," shared teacher and music director Alyssa Schulke. "This was the first show we've been able to do since COVID and we were beyond happy to have theatre back in our school." -The News Castle Record

Annual Waiteville Memorial Day Dinner to be held on May 26

The Waiteville Community Center's (WCC) annual Memorial Day Dinner will be held on Sunday, May 26. The meal will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the cost will be \$13 (children under 5 years of age will be free if sharing an adult's dinner). Both dine in and take away options are available. The menu will be choice of ham or chicken, scalloped potatoes, green beans, coleslaw, roll, dessert and drink. Those who plan to purchase over five take away meals should notify Shelby Jennings at 304-772-5503 or shelbyjennings1958@hotmail.com before the day of the event. WCC is selling spring raffle tickets that include a WCC Quilt that was designed by Joyce Eppling Mundy, Janet McDaniel and Shelby Eppling Jennings. It was quilted by Linda Kenney. The raffle also includes Greenbrier Hotel activities of a gun stand shooting event for five people, a carriage ride for five people, and a fly-fishing activity

for two people, which must be used by Nov. 1. Tickets are \$5 for one and three for \$10 with the drawing for the fly-fishing activity on May 26, the gun stand shooting and carriage ride activities on July 13, and the WCC Quilt on Nov. 11. Tickets are available from WCC Board members, at the Memorial Day Dinner, and at Farmers Day on June 8, and ongoing activities through early November.

The Waiteville Community Center said it needs donations to continue restoration of the building. Additionally, the Waiteville Cemetery Fund needs donations to help keep the cemetery looking nice. Donations can be dropped off at the Memorial Day Dinner or mailed to: Waiteville Community Center, C/O David Furrow, 3869 Waiteville Road, Waiteville, WV 24984 or Waiteville Cemetery Fund, C/O Jean Rock, 6306 Waiteville Road, Waiteville, WV 24984.

-The News Castle Record



COURTESY PHOTO

Virginia Western Educational Foundation announces spring 2024 scholarship recipients

ROANOKE – The Virginia Western Community College Educational Foundation announces that it awarded \$231,191 in general scholarships to 152 students attending the spring 2024 semester at Virginia Western Community College. The recipients were honored April 24 at the Educational Foundation's annual Scholarship and Awards Reception.

The event included a showing of "Work and School: Finding the Delicate Balance," a short video that profiles five recent Educational Foundation scholarship recipients. Watch it at www.virginiawestern.edu/foundation.

For information on donating to or establishing a scholarship at Virginia Western, contact Philanthropy Director Amanda Mansfield at (540) 857-6962 or amansfield@virginiawestern.edu.

Recipient Spring 2024 Award(s)
 Kaylana Alston Barbara McKinney Watts Endowed Scholarship
 Evelin Argueta Connie Stephens May Scholarship
 Yasir Babiker Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Erica Bain Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Vladimir Barrera Medina Hal & Lorraine Jones Memorial Annual Scholarship
 Amanda Bayer Brown & Sons Farm Annual Scholarship
 Brie Beddingfield The Neall Family Charitable Foundation Scholarship
 Caleb Bennington Hal & Lorraine Jones Memorial Annual Scholarship
 Otoniel Bobe Cummings Educational Foundation General Scholarship & Prabhat Jain Engineering/Technical Scholarship (Virginia Transformer Corporation)
 Jonathan Brewer Trane Endowed Scholarship
 Annabelle Brown Laurens Sartoris Commonwealth Legacy Scholarship for Nursing Students & Peter and Roseta Skelly Endowed Scholarship
 Abigail Cairns Dr. Elizabeth W. Payne Endowed Scholarship
 Olivia Campbell J.K. and Donna Speas Annual Scholarship
 Teresa Carroll Garnett E. and Patsy T. Smith Endowed Scholarship
 Bailey Cassell LewisGale Medical Center Endowed Scholarship & Barbara McKinney Watts Endowed

Scholarship
 Lena Chandler Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Lydia Christopher Hal & Lorraine Jones Memorial Annual Scholarship
 Lesley Clarke Mr. & Mrs. Emanuel Payne Endowed Scholarship
 Alexis Cook J. David and Mary Ann Wine Endowed Scholarship
 Jennifer Correa Michael E. Warner Memorial Annual Scholarship
 Jocelyn Correa Linda French Cecil Memorial Scholarship & Walter Darnall Vinyard Endowed Scholarship
 Levi Crouch Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship
 Colby Cummings LewisGale Medical Center Endowed Scholarship
 Haley Cuthrell Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Kiera Davidson Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship
 Kaitlyn Deeter Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation Endowed Scholarship
 Kerriane Desai SunTrust Community Service Endowed Scholarship
 Tiffany Dodson Employee Giving Annual Scholarship
 Grace Eakin Gerry Montgomery Meador Endowed Scholarship
 Chloe Eckard Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Cheyanna Eller Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Autumn Engle The Louise R. Lester Foundation Annual Scholarship
 Andrew Estep Hal & Lorraine Jones Memorial Annual Scholarship
 Ashley Fant Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Seth Fletcher Al Pollard Memorial Foundation Scholarship for the Culinary Arts
 Laura Fryzel Hal & Lorraine Jones Memorial Annual Scholarship
 Bethany Fulp Second Chance Annual Scholarship
 William Fuqua Hal & Lorraine Jones Memorial Annual Scholarship
 Jayden Glass Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Destinie Griffin Beverly and Leon Harris Teaching and Nursing Annual Scholarship & Laurens Sartoris Commonwealth Legacy Scholarship for Nursing Students
 Lorien Griffith Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Conner Gump Fralin



COURTESY PHOTO

The Virginia Western Community College Educational Foundation awarded \$231,191 in general scholarships to 152 students attending the spring 2024 semester at Virginia Western. The recipients were honored April 24 at the Educational Foundation's annual Scholarship and Awards Reception.

Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Raychel Hahn Dennis L. & Hazel Phillips Blalock Memorial Endowed Scholarship
 Ella Hambrick Fred Whitaker Company Annual Scholarship
 Allen Harris Construction Management Certificate Program Scholarship
 Andrew Harshbarger Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship
 Stephanie Henson Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Alicia Hibbs Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Latrice Hilton Virginia Western BIPOC Annual Scholarship
 Cara Hodge Walter Darnall Vinyard Endowed Scholarship
 Sean Hoey Hal & Lorraine Jones Memorial Annual Scholarship
 Misty Irby Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Taylor Janney Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Bryce Johnson Hal & Lorraine Jones Memorial Annual Scholarship
 Chanell Johnson Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship
 Shamicka Joseph Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship
 Rose Joy John Morris Roslyn Educational Scholarship
 Daniel Juilfs Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship & Hal & Lorraine Jones Memorial Annual Scholarship
 David Kasperski John Morris Roslyn Educational Scholarship
 Jada Keene Alice Becker Hinchcliffe Williams Endowed Scholarship
 Audrey Keister Employee Family Scholarship & Prabhat Jain Engineering/Technical Scholarship (Virginia Transformer Corporation)
 Ashley Kendall Educational Foundation General Scholarship
 Haley Killian Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Nathan Kinzie Walter Darnall Vinyard Endowed Scholarship
 Karen Klink Beverly Day Williamson, Jr. Endowed Scholarship
 Sofia Kouser Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship
 Lizaveta Kraslavskaya Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 Andrew Kroese Hal & Lorraine Jones Memorial Annual Scholarship
 Christopher Kunc Hal & Lorraine Jones Memorial Annual Scholarship
 Aerowyn LaComa Down Syndrome Association of Roanoke Annual Scholarship & Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship
 Levi Lam Stanard and Betty Lanford Endowed Scholarship
 Sean Laughlin Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
 David Le Hal & Lorraine Jones Memorial Annual Scholarship
 Ellen Lee J. David and Mary Ann Wine Endowed Scholarship
 Katherine Lee Educational

See Scholarships page 3

Mike's Ice House opens with new flavors, waffle cones



COURTESY PHOTOS

Summer weather has hit already and Mike's Ice House is serving all the older flavors plus added many new ideas, including homemade waffle cones, to his menu. Mike's Ice House is located beside the park.

WOMEN'S HEALTH FAIR

Monday May 20, 2024

Craig County Health Center

Call to schedule an appointment

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Free blood pressure checks, weight & BMI

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8				
9			10		11		12				
13			14		15						
16			17		18						
19		20		21			22				
23			24		25		26				
	27			28		29		30			
		31			32		33				
		34				35		36		37	
38				39		40		41		42	
43				44			45		46		47
48			49	50				51		52	
53						54			55		
56							57				
58								59			

CLUES ACROSS

1. As fast as can be done

5. WC's

9. Religious retreat

11. Warfare

13. One you wouldn't expect

15. Disease-causing micro-organisms

16. For each

17. Grammatical term

19. One point east of southeast

21. ___ Dern, actress

22. Popular HBO drama (abbr.)

23. Shampoo

25. Scale drawing of a structure

26. An enclosure for confining livestock

27. Goat-like mammal

31. Appear

33. "Westworld" actress

Rachel Wood

34. Leaked through

36. The highest adult male singing voice

38. Musical group ___

Soundssystem

39. Aurochs

41. Crazy (Spanish)

43. Swiss river

44. Strains

46. Frock

48. Found in most body tissues

52. Cool!

53. Reasons behind

54. Christian recluse

56. Removes

57. Repents

58. Energy

59. Tailless amphibian

CLUES DOWN

1. Not awake

2. Type of dessert

3. They ___

4. Retired Coast Guard admiral

5. Gene positions

6. Exclude

7. One who is bound

8. Where drinks are served

9. Small vipers

10. Blackbird

11. Adventurer

12. Shade

14. A way to gain

15. A salt or ester of boric acid

18. Monetary units

20. Removed

24. "My country, tis of ___"

26. Horses

28. Drives back by force

30. Bold, impudent behavior

32. Rates

34. Types of nerves in males

35. A ridge of sand created by the wind

37. Wind instrument

38. Pakistani city

40. Dry or withered

42. Delivered a speech

43. Peak

45. Small waterbird

47. Days falling in mid-month

49. Elvis' daughter

50. Flat and smooth

51. Dallas Cowboys great Leon

55. What cows say

Email letters to the editor to aboymd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Recipe of the Week



Shelly Koon
Contributing
Writer

My mom's favorite food was barbecue. Ribs were her favorite, but a good pulled pork sandwich was another favorite. On every road trip, we would stop at a barbecue joint from Peck's in Staunton to Stamey's in Greensboro to Three Little Pigs in Myrtle Beach. Mo told me that she never had barbecue ribs growing up because her mother thought they were too low class (My grandmother was an interesting lady to put it nicely).
Barbecue ribs are a fairly new addition to the American barbecue pit. In the 19th century ribs did not make it onto the grill. Without refrigeration meat spoiled quickly so barbecue originated not as a way of using lesser cuts, but as a method of whole-animal cookery usually for a large

crowd so all the meat could be eaten. Any rib meat eaten would have come off a whole cooked pig. Industrial pork packing became strong in the early decades with improved river navigation and railroads. Cincinnati Ohio became the largest pork producing city at the time since it was close to farms of corn and on the Ohio river. According to Serious Eats, by 1836, Cincinnati's four largest slaughterhouses were collectively killing and butchering some 2,600 hogs in a single day, producing between 200 and 500 barrels of pork along with 200 kegs of lard. Barrels were essential to the pork trade. With no means of refrigerated transport, packers had to preserve the meat before shipping, but they didn't want to waste

weeks slow-smoking it like farm families did. Instead, they packed the hams and shoulders in barrels, filled in the gaps with chins, hocks, and jowls, then poured in a sweet and salty pickling solution made from rock salt and brown sugar boiled in water. The ribs didn't fit into the barrels so pork packers were left with tons of rib racks. They would give them away to the towns people for nothing; the rest they threw into the Ohio River. Once refrigeration and artificial ice making began in the 1870s, pork production became a year-round job not just seasonal. When barbecue stands started to pop up at festivals and community gatherings operators started buying hams and shoulders instead of raising their own pigs. Packers were glad to offer ribs for cheap. In the 1920s barbecue rib stands were often found outside nightclubs for a late-night snack. By 1955 the demand for ribs caused them to rise in price. At one time packinghouses couldn't give them away now people were nibbling ribs at fancy restaurants.

By the turn of the 20th century Chicago had dethroned Cincinnati as the pork packing capitol. Now, barbecue has become an American staple cuisine with many different styles showcased across the country. Whether you like baby back ribs, spare ribs, or beef ribs cooked Kansas City, Carolina, Memphis, or Texas style they are delicious.
Fall off the bone BBQ ribs
Ingredients:
1 medium onion chopped
1/2 cup ketchup 1/4 cider vinegar
1/4 cup packed brown sugar
1/4 cup tomato paste
2 TBSP paprika
2 tsp Worcestershire
1 tsp yellow mustard
1 tsp each salt and black pepper
4 lbs. pork spare ribs
Directions:
Stir sauce in slow cooker until combined. Cut ribs in large pieces to fit cooker. Spoon sauce over and around ribs to coat. Skim and discard fat from cooking liquid. Use over ribs if desired cook on low 8 hours until done.



COURTESY PHOTO

Scholarships from page 2

Foundation General Scholarship
Nicolas Leon Guzman Foot Levelers Endowed Scholarship
Jaiden Lige Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship
Jarod Lim Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
Callie Link Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship
Hayley Linke Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
Robert Linsenman Accounting Annual Scholarship for Adult Learners
Ezekiel Luebeck Fred Whitaker Company Annual Scholarship
Shemara Mack Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship
Abina Magar Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship
Ali Mahdinezhad John Morris Roslyn Educational Scholarship
F a t e m e h Mahdinezhad Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
Nicholas Maiolo Fralin & Waldron, Inc. Endowed Scholarship in Memory of Craig E. Via Joseph Manello Bridging the Gap Endowed Scholarship
Shawn Mantey Elisabeth "Liz" Reed Carter Educational Annual Scholarship
Hannah Martin Al Pollard Memorial Scholarship for the Culinary Arts
Sadie McAllister Alice Becker Hinchcliffe Williams Endowed Scholarship & Delta Dental Annual Scholarship for Dental Hygiene
Kathryn McConchie Carter Martha and William Adams Trust Scholarship
Alexis McGuire Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship
Melanie Meador Second Chance Annual Scholarship
Mishawn Merchant The Charlotte Woolwine Scholarship for Sole Caregivers of Minor Dependents
Emily Mize J. David and Mary Ann Wine Endowed Scholarship
Deepak Monger Martha and William Adams Trust Scholarship
Nouzar Moniriarani Beverly and Leon Harris Teaching and Nursing Annual Scholarship
Daniel Murphy Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
Max Myers Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship

Rahimullah Nazari Stanard and Betty Lanford Endowed Scholarship
Robert Nejad LewisGale Medical Center Endowed Scholarship
Aayusha Neupane Martha and William Adams Trust Scholarship
Nargis Noorzad Martha and William Adams Trust Scholarship
Jenna Nunn Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship
Evan Odson Martha and William Adams Trust Scholarship
Kevin Oliver Michael E. Warner Memorial Annual Scholarship
McKayla Panza Martha and William Adams Trust Scholarship
Krish Patel Dr. J. Andrew Archer Memorial Annual Scholarship
Nathan Patrick The Louise R. Lester Foundation Annual Scholarship
Sierra Peters Mabeline Walker Williams & John E. Williams, Sr. Memorial Annual Healthcare Scholarship
Benson Pietrzyk Virginia Western to Virginia Tech Start Up Scholarship
Ariana Pineda Martha

and William Adams Trust Scholarship
Kaitlyn Pressley Business, Technology & Trades Annual Scholarship in honor of Deborah A. Yancey
William Pugh F r e d Whitaker Company Annual Scholarship
Hannah Puskar Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
Nagina Rasoli Refugee and Immigrant Scholarship & Michael Smith Commonwealth Legacy Scholarship
Sheila Rigney Roanoke Master Gardener Association Annual Scholarship at Virginia Western
C h r i s t o p h e r Robertson Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship
Irish Roessel Michael E. Warner Memorial Annual Scholarship
Adriana Sanchez-Popoca Dr. J. Andrew Archer Memorial Annual Scholarship
Anderson Schemm Gordon C. and Jean Willis Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Enaas Shawkat Pearman Annual Scholarship
Emily Shockley Rita Halsey David Radiography Endowed

Scholarship Kelly Silva Al Pollard Memorial Foundation Scholarship for the Culinary Arts
Alicia Slawson Beverly and Leon Harris Occupational/Technical Annual Scholarship
Haden Smith Prabhat Jain Engineering/ Technical Scholarship (Virginia Transformer Corporation)
Harrison Smith Appalachian Power Endowed Scholarship & ITT Exelis Endowed Scholarship
Alexis Spradlin American Sign Language Endowed Scholarship in Memory of Laura Knight Schowe
Marissa Stover Hal & Lorraine Jones Memorial Annual Scholarship
Kaile Surrell Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship & The Elizabeth and Harry Sellers Annual Scholarship
Chandler Sutphin Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
Lisa Szczesniak Al Pollard Memorial Foundation Scholarship for the Culinary Arts
Nickole Toler African-American Railroad Heritage Annual Scholarship & Continental Societies

Endowed Scholarship Sara Trent T h e Charlotte Woolwine Scholarship for Sole Caregivers of Minor Dependents
Justin Underwood Hal & Lorraine Jones Memorial Annual Scholarship
Hailey Vanover Educational Foundation General Scholarship
Gracie Walker Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
Kiana Watt Educational Foundation Textbook Scholarship
Connor Weeks Beverly Day Williamson, Jr. Endowed Scholarship
Devonte Wiley Educational Foundation

Textbook Scholarship Katelyn Wissinger Beverly Day Williamson, Jr. Endowed Scholarship
Briana Wood Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
Jennifer Wood Fralin Futures STEM-H Scholarship
David Yemey Nicholas E. Janney Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Whitney Young Martha and William Adams Trust Scholarship
Zhou Zhuang Martha and William Adams Trust Scholarship
-The Salem Times-Register

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OPINION

News from the 9th: Healthcare Hack



Morgan Griffith
Representative

Our country is experiencing a massive shift in technology. Our daily activities often revolve around computers and smartphones.

Our Information Technology (IT) infrastructure grows daily. But so do the threats of cyberattacks.

This week, the Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight & Investigations, which I chair, held a hearing focused on the fallout from the February 2024 cyberattack on Change Healthcare.

Change Healthcare (Change), a UnitedHealth subsidiary that was acquired by them in 2022, operates the largest Electronic Data Interchange clearinghouse in the nation, transmitting more than 15 billion transactions every year.

When the hack was discovered, UnitedHealth shut down its Change

Healthcare networks. This action had profound consequences for providers and patients.

According to the American Hospital Association, 94 percent of hospitals reported being financially impacted by the cyberattack. Hospitals, clinics, medical practices and pharmacies across the country were prevented from getting paid and could not submit claims. Stopping all payments on claims made it difficult for providers and patients. An unknown number of patients had their care delayed.

These consequences were widely discussed on a bipartisan basis during the hearing, which featured UnitedHealth CEO, Sir Andrew Witty.

Patients reeled from this cutoff, prompting them to either walk away, pay large sums of money out of pocket for their medications or borrow money. I am sure some had to use credit cards with high interest rates.

NBC News reported patients not being able to afford their medication without copay assistance cards, such as patients at the Marion Family Pharmacy in Marion, Virginia.

One individual was forced

to pay \$1,100 for medication because the Marion pharmacy was unable to process her copay assistance card.

When I raised this issue to Mr. Witty, I asked how were this lady and other people similarly situated going to be made whole for their loss. He seemed empathetic.

But it was clear to me that UnitedHealth did not have a plan on how to take care of patients who had been harmed.

He had no answer as to how much paperwork would be requested from a patient in order to be fully reimbursed. It is not just the \$1,100. It's the interest on that money that UnitedHealth got to keep and receive interest on while the patient was possibly paying interest to a lender.

There is also the possibility of increased medical attention needed for patients that were denied medicine or services because their insurance could not be processed.

I hope in the coming weeks UnitedHealth will formulate a plan for making patients whole.

Another problem is how does UnitedHealth take care of healthcare providers.

Providers were kept in the dark when claims were not being processed and sparked fears of closures. Congresswoman Schrier (D-WA) told Witty a private practitioner in her district had to mortgage their home to make office rent and payroll.

UnitedHealth "helped" them out by giving them a \$70 first-round loan. Big help!

It is true the hackers were the bad guys, but as I said in my opening statement, UnitedHealth's Change did not have Multi Factor Authentication (MFA), which is a standard cyber protection tool. The criminals exploited this weakness allowing them access into the system.

Mr. Witty attributed the technology failure to Change's outdated system.

As the largest health care conglomerate in the United States, this response was concerning.

Over 50 percent of U.S. medical claims are processed through Change's EDI clearinghouse. UnitedHealth Group's vast network encompasses Optum, Optum Rx pharmacies, urgent care centers, United Healthcare Medicare and

Retirement plans, including AARP Medicare plans, 10,000 doctors and other subsidiaries.

Given UnitedHealth's sweeping consolidation of medical companies, the company stands as a prime target for bad actors.

It begs the question whether one company should be able to control a market share of this magnitude in the healthcare arena.

I do not claim to know the answer, but the question must be asked.

UnitedHealth had an obligation to protect their customers. They failed! And they failed to have a secure backup plan.

Small medical practices and hospitals are hurting. But the most vulnerable to this incident were the people showing up at their healthcare provider needing care and at their pharmacy needing to get their medicine.

UnitedHealth has a big mess to clean up. Going forward, my Subcommittee will examine their actions and then we can determine if UnitedHealth is truly committed to rectifying their mistake.

Librarian's review of "Good Morning, Midnight" by Lily Brooks-Dalton

When you're the only human left on Earth, what would you do? How about if you're the last human in space? This book is about Augustine and Sully, one alone with a little mysterious girl in the Arctic tundra and the

other just returning from a two year mission from Jupiter with her five fellow astronauts. Augustine has accepted that he will die soon, but he's worried that the small girl, Iris, will not be able to survive without him.

Library Corner

Alex White

Augustine continues trying to send out radio calls hoping someone will come save her. Meanwhile, Sully and her crew are getting very worried that Huston hasn't contacted them in a long time. As they get closer to coming home, Sully begins to try as hard as she can to get any connection on Earth. Will these two lost souls be able

to find each other? Will they be able to save themselves and the few remaining humans left alive?

Despite this post-apocalyptic setting, it takes a while for the action to get going and even then there's not too much going on. The Arctic doesn't provide much conflict with Augustine or Iris since they mostly stay in a warm environment and when they do leave it doesn't have that much tension. The real action mostly takes

place in space, but even then there's not much that happens until the communications satellite gets knocked off by a meteor.

This book is more interested in the internal conflicts of the characters like exploring their past trauma and trying to deal with the existential dread of being the only people left. This is an interesting character study of the two protagonists Augustine and Sully, and it gets the reader

sympathizing with them whilst wondering how they would feel with everyone gone. This book won't be for everyone, especially with the weird twist ending, but if you like philosophical dilemmas more than sci-fi action then you'll like this. For anyone who wants more action, I recommend Ridley Scott's 2015 film starring Matt Damon as an astronaut left stranded on Mars. You can find Good Night, Midnight, The Martian, and much, much more at the Craig County Public Library.

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The New Castle Record encourages letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must 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.

Public meetings scheduled in Craig County

May 15
CPMT MEETING
CPMT - Department of Social Services at 1 p.m.
May 20
Town of New Castle Town Council Meeting

at New Castle Town Hall at 7- 8 p.m

May 21
Congressman Morgan Griffith citizen comment period 9-10:30 a.m at Craig County Courthouse Breakroom.

June 6
Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting will meet at the Craig County Courthouse at 6 p.m.

June 10
Library Board of Trustees Meeting at Craig County Library at 6 p.m

June 17
Town of New Castle Town Council Meeting

at New Castle Town Hall at 7- 8 p.m

June 18
Congressman Morgan Griffith citizen comment period 9-10:30 a.m at Craig County Courthouse Breakroom.

June 19
CPMT MEETING CPMT - Department of Social Services at 1 p.m.

June 27
Department of Social Services Board Meeting at Department of Social Services Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

July 4
Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting will meet at the Craig County Courthouse at 6 p.m.

Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting will meet at the Craig County Courthouse at 6 p.m.

July 8
Library Board of Trustees Meeting at Craig County Library at 6 p.m

July 15
Town of New Castle Town Council Meeting at New Castle Town Hall at 7- 8 p.m

July 16
Congressman Morgan Griffith citizen comment period 9-10:30 a.m at Craig County Courthouse Breakroom.

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Yard Sales - Botetourt County

Yard Sale/Fish Fry May 11, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
VFW Hall
 4902 Roanoke Road. Jewelry, baked goods, fish fry, hot dogs with homemade chili, desserts. To set up to sell, call Marguerite Johnson, 540-992-1955 or 540-397-8118.

BUCHANAN YARD SALE
 1124 Bobletts Gap Rd Saturday May 11 8am until 1 Household items, Mens and Womens Clothes- Nike, Adidas, Under Armour Girls Clothes- (Teen) Aero-Wedding décor and supplies Mens items Lots to choose from Priced to Sell Rain Cancels

Help Wanted - General

Pianist Wanted
 Troutville Baptist church is seeking a pianist to provide accompaniment for services and choir rehearsals. Parttime, salaried, for more information Troutvillebaptistchurchpc@gmail.com

HELP WANTED
 Part-time Minister at Snowville Christian Church, Disciples of Christ For more information email: office@snowvillechristianchurch.com or call 540.320.1194

Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on May 15, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 North 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, VIRGINIA:

Consider the request of JBN Investments, LLC, property owner, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow the conversion of a single-family dwelling into a two-family dwelling on the property located at 324 Pennsylvania Avenue. (Tax Map # 120-6-3).

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 PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA
 BY: Christopher J. Dorsey
 Executive Secretary

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, May 13, 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 the following request relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

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.

No formal action by Council will take place at the May 13, 2024 meeting. Council action for the required first and second reading of the ordinance will be scheduled for future Council meeting agendas.

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

ABC NOTICE

HAMMER & STAIN SALEM LLC trading as **HAMMER & STAIN ROANOKE,** 901 S. Colorado Street, Roanoke County, Salem, VA. 24153.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a RETAIL MARKETPLACE LICENSE to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

BARBARA WINFREY-ANTHONY, OWNER

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.

Legals - Montgomery County

Order of Publication
 Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
 Case No. **CL24000530-00** MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* ERIC RANDELE BRYANT v. CHRISTINA MARIE BRYANT
 The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that CHRISTINA MARIE BRYANT appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before JUNE 5, 2024.
 APRIL 2, 2024
 ROBERT M.D. TURK, JUDGE
 TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

Legals - Montgomery County

TRUSTEE'S SALE PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN: West Ward of the City of Radford, Virginia
Containing 0.2479 acres, more or less Commonly Known as: 1002 West Main Street, Radford, Virginia

IN EXECUTION OF A CERTAIN DEED OF TRUST OF RECORD IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF RADFORD CITY, VIRGINIA, AS INSTRUMENT NO. 201100838, DATED AUGUST 29, 2011, WHEREAS, BY DEED OF BARGAIN AND SALE AND ASSUMPTION DATED SEPTEMBER 1, 2016, RECORDED IN THE AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE AS INSTRUMENT NO: 201600804 THE DEED OF TRUST WAS ASSUMED BY MARK BROOKNER. DEFAULT HAVING BEEN MADE IN THE PAYMENT OF THE DEBT THEREIN SECURED AND BEING REQUIRED TO DO SO BY THE NOTEHOLDER, THE UNDERSIGNED SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, AFTER GIVING FOURTEEN (14) DAYS DUE NOTICE TO THE OWNERS OF THE REAL ESTATE OF THE DATE, TIME, PLACE AND TERMS OF SALE, WILL OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION, IN FRONT OF THE RADFORD CITY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 619 SECOND STREET, RADFORD, VIRGINIA, ON THE 9th DAY OF MAY, 2024, AT 10:00 A.M., THE REAL ESTATE WITH IMPROVEMENTS THEREON KNOWN AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

All that certain tracts or parcels of land, with the improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate, lying and being in the City of Radford, Virginia, and described as follows: BEING all of Lots 28 and 29, part of Lots 27, 30, 34, 35, Section 1, Plan C, Radford Land and Improvement Company Lots, containing 0.2479 acres (10,800 sq. ft.), as designated and described on a plat of survey entitled, Physical Survey Lots 28, 29 and Part of Lots 27, 30, 34, 35 Section 1, Plan C Radford Land and Improvement Co. West Ward City of Radford, Virginia for Ronald R. Sowers", dated August 23, 2011, Job No. 565811, by James Conrad Groseclose, II, Land Surveyor, Mathews and Henegar Inc., professional engineers and land surveyors, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof and reference is hereby made to said plat of survey for a more accurate description of the property herein conveyed.

Tax Map Number: 13-(5)-SEC 1-27A-28-29-30A-34A+
 Account Number: 020000684.
 Commonly Known As: 1002 West Main Street, Radford, Virginia

SALE WILL BE MADE SUBJECT TO ALL EXISTING EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS AS THE SAME MAY LAWFULLY AFFECT THE REAL ESTATE.

TERMS OF SALE: CASH, SETTLEMENT WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF SALE. A BIDDERS DEPOSIT OF TEN PERCENT (10%) MAY BE REQUIRED.

PLACE OF SALE: FRONT OF RADFORD CITY COURTHOUSE, AT 619 SECOND STREET, RADFORD, VIRGINIA

Legals - Montgomery County

DATE OF SALE: MAY 9, 2024
 TIME OF SALE: 10:00 A.M.
 Daniel D. Hamrick, PC
 Substitute Trustee
 By: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent
 For Daniel D. Hamrick, PC
 FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
 Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent
 Daniel D. Hamrick, P.C.
 104 South Franklin Street
 Christiansburg, VA 24073
 (540) 382-0131

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
 Case No. **CL23001539-00** MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* REBECCA LYNN AKERS BOYD v. TIMOTHY RALPH BOYD
 The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that TIMOTHY RALPH BOYD appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before JUNE 26, 2024.
 April 22, 2024
 Robert M.D. Turk, JUDGE

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SERVICES

DIVORCE-Uncontested, \$475+\$86 court cost. **WILLS-\$295.00.** No court appearance. Estimated completion time twenty-one days. Hilton Oliver, Attorney (Facebook). 757-490-0126. Se Habla Espanol. BBB Member. <https://hiltonoliverattorneyva.com>.

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Craig County High football players participate in off-season camps

Football practice doesn't officially start until August but the kids at Craig County High School and Middle School are already excited about their prospects for the fall season. Craig athletes attended two events over the weekend to improve

their skills.

Three Craig players attended the Appalachia Prep Combine at Rivers Edge Park in Roanoke. Junior Jaycob Wolfe, sophomore Carter Calfee and freshman Carter Price all attended this clinic.

Craig had nine young men attend the Gary Chilcoat Memorial Lineman Camp at William Byrd High School. All proceeds from this clinic went to the American Cancer Society.

Rockets who participated at Byrd

included sophomore Caleb Fields, freshmen Kent McCord, Peyton Fields and Matthew Via and eighth graders Trevor McClanahan, Blake Kendall, Jeremiah Fowler, Nathan Blankenship, Kadin Custer and Dylan Sarver.



MEGAN DOWNIE PHOTO

Left to right, Jaycob Wolfe, Carter Price and Carter Calfee attended the Appalachia Prep Combine.



These Rockets attended a camp for linemen at William Byrd High School. Left to right are Kent McCord, Caleb Fields, Peyton Fields, Matthew Via, Trevor McClanahan, Blake Kendall, Jeremiah Fowler, Nathan Blankenship, Kadin Custer and Dylan Sarver.



Dylan Sarver lines up and is ready to run.



Caleb Fields works on line play.



Nathan Blankenship (right) takes on a bigger opponent.



Kent McCord takes his stance

JIMMY FISHER PHOTOS

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BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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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 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.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 Chanmi Lee, 347-684-2607, Rt. 606, 1981 Caldwell Mt. Rd., New Castle, 540- 400-3419. Worship 11:15AM.

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST
Rev. Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle, 540-525-7662. 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 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.

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.stofc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L1 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

SPORTS

Send story ideas & announcements to bhoffman@ourvalley.org

Baseball team will open district tournament at Highland

The Craig County baseball team is scheduled to open the Pioneer District tournament on the road Friday when the Rockets travel to Highland County to play the Rams.

The Rockets took a 3-10 record to Roanoke Monday for their final game of the regulation season. Craig was

looking to pick up a win against William Fleming before taking three days off before the post-season begins.

Last week the Rockets concluded their district regular season schedule with losses to Eastern Montgomery and Parry

McCluer. In Elliston the host Mustangs scored five runs in the second inning and three in the third to open an early lead and down Craig, 10-3. Hayden Reynolds started on the mound and took the loss for the Rockets.

Craig had seven hits in the game, including two by

Reynolds and two by Luke Potter. Drew Duncan had a double and drove in a run and Potter also had an RBI. Luke and Hayden both had stolen bases.

On Thursday the Rockets were in Buena Vista where they took a 12-1 loss to host Parry McCluer. Craig had

just one hit in a five-inning mercy rule game, a single by Joseph Charette. Duncan stole a base after reaching on an error and scored on Charette's hit. Matthew Lucas took the loss on the mound and Reynolds and Potter also saw time on the bump.



Isaiah Wente makes a sliding catch for the Rockets.



Luke Potter catches for Craig County.

CHELSEA LOUDEN PHOTOS

Rockets jockey for position in Pioneer softball tournament

The Craig County girls were scheduled to host Giles in a Pioneer District softball doubleheader on Tuesday, and the results will determine who the Rockets will play in the tournament. The Pioneer District tournament is scheduled to open Friday.

Last week the Rockets dropped two district games. On Tuesday they waited out a rain delay before falling to Eastern Montgomery in Elliston, 20-3. The Rockets struggled with their two top pitchers, Kammie Fisher and Nevaeh Hypes, both out with injuries.

"Both Kammie and Nevaeh were out with injuries for the East Mont game and Kammie was able to pitch part of the Parry game," said Rocket coach Elaina Wolfe-Carper. "I had to use girls who haven't pitched in year. Karly Potter and Randalyn Taylor stepped up and pitched for the East Mont game.

"We lost, but like I told the girls our focus was working on offense. We struggled against their pitcher the first game, but came out swinging and scored in the first inning this time."

Hayleigh Flowers and Karly Potter were both two-for-three for Craig and Ashlyn Keen was two-for-two. Daileigh Donithan, Lily Hutchison, and Karly each had a double all had doubles.

Against Parry McCluer, Jenna Boitnotte stepped in to pitch the first two innings and Kammie Fisher finished up. Craig lost 15-2 with the Blues having only two earned runs.

"Errors are killing us on defense," said Wolfe-Carper.

Offensively, Boitnotte went two-for-three and Jenna and Hutchison scored runs for the Rockets.

"It was a tough week for us without our regular pitching, but I saw big offensive improvements that I'm very pleased with," said Wolfe-Carper.



Above, Karly Potter bats for the Rockets. Right, Daileigh Donithan is on base for the Craig softball team.



CHELSEA LOUDEN PHOTOS

Rockets end soccer season with loss to Eastern Montgomery

The Craig County soccer team saw a long season come to an end last week with an 8-0 loss to Eastern Montgomery in New Castle. The Rockets finished the season with an 0-6 record, all by mercy rule, and Craig didn't score a goal all year.

"We began the game down to only 10 healthy players," said coach Joel Peterson. "It was senior night and our only senior, Ava Greenway, was escorted

before the game by her parents. We had another severe injury during play which reduced us to nine players.

With just one senior hope springs eternal for the Rockets, who got some good experience on the pitch despite failing to win a game.

"It was decided afterward that we should cancel the remaining games as we don't have enough players to continue," said Peterson.



Sarah Hickson boots the ball for the Rockets.



Craig County's only soccer season, Ava Greenway, was honored at last week's game.



Isaiah Nichols shields the ball from an East Mont defender.

HARPER MCKINLEY PHOTOS

Fitzpatrick is discus champion at Giles, Middle School track team does well

The Craig County track team wrapped up the regular season with the middle school and varsity teams both competing. The varsity Rockets were at Giles for a meet and the middle school harriers ran at Pulaski.

Craig senior Tyler Fitzpatrick won the discus and finished second in the shot put in a multi-school meet at Giles last Wednesday.

"The runners had some big PR's against stiff competition," said coach Jayke Dowdy.

The middle school team ran in Pulaski against Auburn, Blacksburg, Galax and the host team on April 30th and had some strong performances. Bentley Smith tied for third in the high jump with a jump of

5', followed by Dreydin Smith and Dylan Sarver who tied for 4th. Dreydin was also fourth in the 200 meters, sixth in the 100 and fourth in the long jump while Bentley was sixth in the 200.

Sarver took a third in the 400 meters, followed by Riley Shiftlett with a sixth place finish. Robbie Eakin was third in the long jump and Jeremiah Fowler placed in both weight events, taking fifth in both the shot put and discus.

"Very promising results from the eighth graders that I obviously ran to death," said Dowdy with a grin. "They wanted to try it all in their last meet of the year."

The Pioneer District varsity meet is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15th, at Giles High School.



Craig County sophomore Carter Calfee is in Lane 1 and freshman Wyatt Huffman is in Lane 2 in last week's track meet at Giles.

COURTESY PHOTO