

### Council prepares to repaint park signage lown

#### Bonnie Cranmer Contributing writer

At the Aug. 19 meeting of the New Castle Town Council, discussions about the town park were the highlights. After the were the highlights. After the minutes from the previous meeting were approved, old business moved right to the Town of New Castle sign at the town park. Mayor Lenny Macdonald presented the board with a bid to repaint the sign by Blue Ridge Sign and Stamp for \$4,737.48. The sign would need to be removed, delivered to them, picked up and rehung. This expenditure would fall under the Capital Improvements for Park and "will last 20 years or more," stated Macdonald. The sign painting was approved unanimously.

There was additional conversation about the security cameras surveilling

the park for safety and security. Initial research was presented by council member, Robin Foster. The location, electrical and digital access were discussed. No action was taken and further research will be done. The basketball net and backboard has been successfully installed by Precision Tool and Grind, and is still up. Another issue at the town park is the aging trash receptacles. Mayor Macdonald brought the option for branded wraps on new cans which would enhance the park and make trash pickup easier. Potential bids for the new trash cans

will be brought to the next meeting. The council receives ongoing requests for donations anď discussed the need for guidelines to be developed. "We need to create standards for the next fiscal

See **Town** page 2



Plans to get the New Castle sign painted are underway.

PHOTO BY BONNIE CRANMER

## SWCD offers cost share programs to local farmers and homeowners

Mountain Castles Soil & Water Conservation District is accepting applications for their agricultural and homeowner cost share programs. "Cost share" means the costs of each conservation practice are split between the individual and the district, with the soil and water district paying 50-100% of the costs. The final amount of cost share depends on several factors, including the type of conservation program and the length of the maintenance contract.

"Over the years, many local farmers have participated in stream exclusion practices, which fence livestock out of the stream and provide alternative watering sources," said Dan Naff, conservation technician for the district. "There are still lots of Craig County farms that could use this infrastructure, and we have

the funding to make it happen. Other practices, such as planting cover crops, building a waste storage

facility, and planting trees along streams are eligible for funding. The Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) is a cost share program homeowners and businesses can use to address stormwater issues on their property, such as erosion, poor vegetative cover, and excessive runoff. Many VCAP projects incorporate native plants into the design. Examples of projects include rain gardens, conservation landscaping, and permeable pavement.

For more information, contact Dan Naff at (540) 580-8373, Tim Miller at (540) 797-0217, or visit https:// www.mountaincastles.org/. -The New Castle Record





**Dining room fundraising dinner** 

Craig County Historical Society offers updates

is busy preparing for the 41st Craig next door to the hotel. Expenses

Craig County Historical Society the Clifton Elmore store building for water and sewer hook-up were provided by an anonymous donor and shelving is being planned where numerous vintage country store items will be displayed.

### We work with the people who work the land.

SWCD is accepting applications for their cost share program

COURTESY IMAGE

County Fall Festival on Oct. 12.

To rent a 10-foot space on the street, vendors should contact Nancy Sasser at 540-544-7708. For information about the Marshall Reynolds Memorial Antique Car Show, contact Jackie Taylor at 540-520-5555.

A fundraising dinner was held recently at the Old Brick Hotel featuring ham, hot rolls and homemade desserts. Sixty-one meals were sold, and a good time was said to be had by all.

Restoration work is progressing on

The porch floor of the hotel is being cleaned and painted this week.

Readers are reminded the Genealogy Library is open every Friday from 1-4 p.m. until Thanksgiving. To make an appointment for a different time and for information, call 540-864-7023.

-Submitted by Craig County Historical Society

### VFW is hosting a spaghetti dinner, TV raffle Local

#### Bonnie Cranmer

## **Contributing writer**

The Craig Valley VFW Post 4491 has been busy. After the successful July 4th parade entry, Crossing the Delaware, winning Most Patriotic for the third year in a row, they are on the move again. The 82 member group meets on the second Monday each month at 7:30 p.m. Not all members are in attendance at each meeting, but all support the work in spirit.

One of the annual projects is the raffle for Fall Festival. Tickets are available from club members between now and festival Saturday in October. This year the prize is a 55-inch Vizio 4K Smart Color TV. The funds support the ongoing work of the club.and maintenance of their facility. With the upgrades made in the past few years, it is now available for Craig County community members to rent for meetings, reunions, weddings and birthdays.

On Saturday, Sept. 7, the VFW will host a spaghetti dinner with all the fixings at the Craig Valley Post at 295 Hunters Drive in New Castle, past Camp Mitchell. The meal will be an opportunity for the community to meet and show appreciation to the club members for their service and hear their stories. The dinner will include generous portions of spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, drinks and a selection of homemade desserts. The dinner tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children and 2 years old and under are free.

Another project the club is focused on is the upcoming tour of The Wall That Heals, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Replica and Mobile Education Center. The replica will arrive in Lexington on Oct. 2. It will be Lexington to the Jackson River Sports be there," said David Caldwell,



PHOTO BY BONNIE CRANMER

part of a parade from Pictured are Billy Lee Sr., vice commander, Joann Smith, quartermaster, and David Caldwell, commander.

Complex in Covington. commander of Post 4491. The "VFWs, motorcycles, memorial will be open to the support,

each day. The VFW and other organizations are providing donations, and and antique cars will public Oct. 3 - 6, 24 hours volunteers for this important

project. Those who would like to donate or volunteer should contact cdrpost4492@vfwva. org.

## From the archives

# Class of 44 celebrates 50 years

From the November 23,1994 edition of The New Castle Record

The New Castle high School Class of 1944 held its 50th Anniversary Reunion Friday, Oct. 28 at the Old Brick hotel.

The class colors of red and white, along with roses, which were the class flower, were used to decorate the tables.

The class of "44 had 33 graduates. Of those, 20 attended the reunion. There were 19 other guests at the reunion, including two teachers –Ruth Reynolds and Ethel Todd.

This was the first time the class held a reunion on the 50 years since graduation, so name tags were necessary. People have a tendency to change in50 years.

The woman who changed the lase was Mary Jane Price of North Bethesda, Maryland. Ashby Wright of New Castle won the recognition as the man who has changed the least.

Mildred B. Humphreys of Pomeroy Ohio traveled the greatest distance to attend the event.

Florene K. Watts read the

senior class prophecies from the Mountain Echo, Volume IX. As she read the prophecy for each graduate, that person gave a short description of their life over the past 50 years. Eleanor A. Crush, class historian, read the Class History.

Three members of the class are deceased—James Forrest Bostic, Louise Smith Bostic and Randolph Leslie Brillhart. Three candles were lighted and memorials were read in their memory.

No less than half the graduates received their elementary education in oneroom school houses located throughout Craig County. The students entered New Castle High School as freshmen. Ruth Hutchison and Ruth Reynolds taught those attending New Castle in Fourth grade and again in the sixth grade.

The setting of the Old Brick hotel proved to be an ideal location for the event. The Planning Committee was Mary Sue Looney, Kernell D. Lipes, Jean B. Helms, Florene K. Watts and Delana S. Givens.

-Prepared by Shelly Koon

## 50th reunion

The class of 1944 recently held its 50th class reunion. Those who attended (above) were; bottom front, Thelma D. Crawford, Francis B. Reynolds, Dare E. Eden; second row, Florene K. Watts, Curtis C. Abbott, Eleanor A. Crush, Grant E. Bryant, Ashby E. Wright; third row, Mary Sue Looney, Mae F. Helems, Mildred B. Humphreys; fourth row, Audrey E. Adams, Barbara B. Crawford, Jean T. Day; fifth row, Jean B. Helems, Mary Marie McPherson, Blanche C. Bostic; and sixth row, Kernell D. Lipes, Mary Jane Price and Delena S. Givens. Teachers Ruth Reynolds and EthelTodd (atright) also attended. Class members and their guests (below) are pictured in front of the courthouse.







### Town from page 1

year," Foster stated. "Property taxes don't cover the cost of streetlights," Macdonald said. "We've got expenses at the park we've got to cover. We need to know the impact on the town."

The meeting addressed the need to find a replacement for the town attorney. A potential attorney will be invited to the next meeting. Other business that required closed session was tabled until the town has legal advice on that procedure. The next meeting of the town council will be on the third Monday at the Town Hall at 7 p.m.



Aging trash receptacles at the park also need attention.

PHOTO BY BONNIE CRANMER

## Bales of fun: Tell a story with decorated hay bale displays

Each fall, hay bales become the ideal canvas for crafting scenes that share stories about agriculture.

Spotlighting farming and community spirit, the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation Women's Leadership Committee is welcoming entries for its 10th annual Hay Bale Decorating Contest. The creative competition encourages participants to embrace their imaginations and celebrate agriculture and farm life through decorative hay bale displays.

"It's a wonderful activity to bring people together," said Michelle Martin, an Augusta County farmer and District 5 representative on the VFBF Women's Leadership Committee. "People of all ages really enjoy participating, and it helps communities promote and support agriculture in a fun way—that's a great thing!"

Entries will be accepted Sept. 1 through Nov. 15. The contest is open to anyone, including farmers markets, businesses, student groups, community associations, individuals and county Farm Bureaus.

Decorators can use their artistic ingenuity to transform round or square bales into imaginative displays featuring animals, structures, shapes and farmscapes. Props like corn stalks, farm tools, gourds and other agricultural items can be used alongside the hay bales to enhance the scene's story.

Winners will be selected and receive a cash award in the following categories: junior (8 and younger); square bale display; community spirit; and most creative. This year also will have a special themed category, "Stars of Agriculture," in which participants are invited to decorate hay bales like celebrities or agricultural figures—real or fictional.

Meant to create an impression and spark conversations, the displays are typically located in visible areas near schools, outside of businesses, at county Farm Bureau offices and in yards.

"Everyone is always so creative, and I really

look forward to seeing this year's entries," Martin added.

An entry form is available at bit.ly/3Wz9DrU. Participants must include a photograph of the hay bale display with each application.

Winners will be notified by email or phone. Photos of contest entries will be displayed at the 2024 VFBF Annual Convention in Hot Springs in early December.

Last year's contest drew a record 59 entries, with displays encompassing agricultural commodities, farm animals, horticulture, farm life, farm machinery and farm safety. Winning entries included a "Got Milk?" cookie and milk display; a bovine family on a cattle farm; a Barbieinspired farm scene titled "Come on Barbie, Let's Go Farming"; an FFA display featuring an owl mascot; and a canine-themed display representing a local 4-H dog club.

-Virginia Farm Bureau

#### www.ourvalley.org THE NEW CASTLE RECORD • WEDNESDAY, AUG. 28, 2024 • PAGE 3 **Recipe of the Week**



Shelly Koon Contributing Writer

I went to Sam's Club the other day and that was a mistake. I was in a snacking mood, so I had to leave before I bought out the store. But I did get another container of Hidden Valley dry ranch mix. I, like every other American, like ranch dressing. I put ranch dry seasoning on my chicken when I bake it. I dip my pizza in Ranch. I even eat it on my salads.

The history of ranch dressing is interesting and goes back farther than you would think. According to Jacksonchips.com, around 1950, Steve Henson made history when he whipped up a mix of dry herbs and buttermilk. Originally a plumber, Steve made up this mix while working in Anchorage, Alaska. In 1954, Steve and his wife bought land in Santa Barbara, California and opened a dude ranch called Hidden Valley. He started serving the dressing for his guests on everything from salads to steaks. The locals took home the dressing in jars. Henson started packaging up the dry mix in envelopes that he could mail to customers. He moved to New Mexico and sold his recipe to the Clorox Company in the 1970's. It was not until 1983 that people could buy a bottle of premixed ranch at the grocery store. The turning point for ranch from a local simple salad dressing to a nationwide love happened in 1986 with the invention of Cool Ranch Doritos. This taste hooked many Americans on ranch dressing as a condiment for French fries, chicken wings, pizza, and more. Forty percent of Americans name it as

their favorite salad dressing. Ranch dressing is customizable by adding different herbs and sauces to it, such as chipotle sauce for a smoky, spicy kick. Ranch dressing is made in gluten free, vegan, and dairy free versions. My millennial goddaughter was shocked to find out that ranch dressing did not always exist since she grew up with it.

Since I was feeling snacky, I thought about making some popcorn, but I did not want plain popcorn. I use an air popper to cut down on the oil and calories, but it is a little dry. I saw the dressing mix on the counter because I had not put the groceries away yet and thought why not. It actually turned out pretty good. I made this popcorn and took some to the office and it got some good comments.

#### Cool ranch popcorn

2 Tbsps. dry ranch dressing mix 1 tsp paprika <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> tsp garlic powder 1/2 tsp onion powder 1 tsp kosher salt 1/2 cup popcorn kernels Spray olive oil

Mix ranch seasoning, paprika, garlic powder, onion powder, and salt in a bowl. Pop the popcorn in an air popper to avoid the need for additional oil. Spread popcorn in a single layer on a baking sheet or waxed paper. Lightly spray the popped corn with olive oilvery lightly- do not over saturate! Sprinkle the popped corn with the seasoning. Lightly move/mix the popcorn. Continue to spray and sprinkle until you have finished coating all the popcorn. Enjoy! Tip: You can use microwave popcorn or oil popped corn- just adjust/ lessen the amount of seasoning and oil you add to the popcorn. Small batches do best.



Upcoming public meetings scheduled in Craig County

#### Sept. 5

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

#### Sept. 10

Economic Development Meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m., at the Craig County Administration Building. Sept. 16

Booster Club will meet in the CCHS cafeteria at 6 p.m.

#### Sept. 17

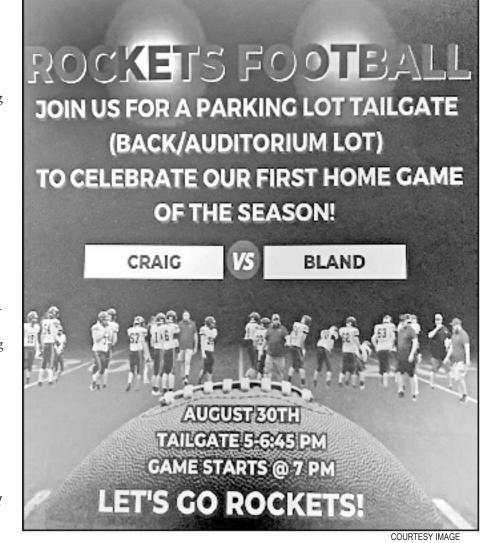
Tourism Commission Meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m at the Craig County Administration Building.

will be held at 9:30 a.m., at the Craig County Administration Building. Oct. 15 Tourism Commission Meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m at the Craig County Administration Building. **Nov.** 7 Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting will meet at the Craig County Courthouse at 6 p.m. Nov. 12 Economic Development Meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m., at the Craig

Craig County Genealogy Library open Fridays 1-4. p.m. 152 Main Street. 540-864-7023

Feeding Southwest Virgnia 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.



**Oct. 3** Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting will meet at the Craig County Courthouse at 6 p.m. Oct. 8 Economic Development Meeting

Building. **Community event** Rocket football Tailgate event for first game of the season will be held August 30 at 5-6:45pm in the auditorium lot. Craig vs. Bland starts at 7 p.m. Ongoing

County Administration

-The New Castle Record

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## **O**PINION

## News from the 9th: Constitutent work



Morgan Griffith Representative

As the final quarter of the 118th Congress is underway, there are pressing issues that will come to federal lawmakers' attention.

Of issues that will likely be addressed, government funding for fiscal year 2025 is on the docket.

Outside of Washington D.C., I am proud to reflect on the work my district team has done this Congress to assist our constituent service operations.

My mission statement since my first day in office has been to provide responsible leadership, principled representation and exceptional constituent services for the people of Virginia's Ninth District.

These services include but are not limited to helping people get their passports, working with people to cut through red tape regarding social security and veterans benefits and communicating with the IRS about disputes. Since January of 2023, my office has completed or worked on over 3,600 cases for constituents.

The Ninth District has twentyeight cities and counties and consists of a landmass greater than nine U.S. states, including New Jersey. The Ninth District is the largest congressional district in Virginia.

Notwithstanding the significant size of the district, I have made 350 visits to different parts of the District over the last twenty months. Keep in mind, a significant portion of the time I am in Washington, DC representing you there.

Helping Veterans The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs estimates that the Ninth District is home to over 47,000 veterans.

Starting January of 2023, my office has worked on resolving over 380 veterans' cases.

These cases often involve assisting veterans in their claims for disability compensation, pensions and other

types of benefits. We also have tracked down medical records of our veterans to help them and their families in their cases seeking treatments and medals.

Medals and replacement medals can be awarded due to the veteran's experiences in conflicts such as World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and Operation Desert Storm, among others.

I was honored to attend the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings this year at the Memorial in Bedford. More than a dozen WWII veterans were present.

Assisting and recognizing the service of our veterans has always been important to me.

AMLÊR

As the leading advocate in Virginia for the Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization (AMLER) program, it is encouraging to see extra efforts in Southwest Virginia to revitalize old mine lands and breathe life into coal communities.

Administered by the Virginia Department of Energy, millions of federal dollars are pouring into AMLER projects, including but not limited to infrastructure improvements and site redevelopment. Such work may also include cleaning up gob piles and taking down high walls to make the area safe and developable.

I was proud to announce a new round of AMLER projects recently that total \$10 million!

Additionally, I successfully added an amendment to the Interior Appropriations bill this year to make the program run more effectively.

In 2024, I have been to ribbon cutting events recognizing the completed AMLER projects, most recently Devil's Bathtub in Scott County and improvements at Breaks Interstate Park.

Supporting these Southwest Virginia attractions through AMLER will drive tourist interest and garner new visitors to the region.

I will continue to monitor new opportunities to repurpose abandoned mine land for job creation and economic growth.

Rural Health

I regularly tour a variety of medical facilities in the district.

These experiences allow me to speak with medical professionals and see first-hand the difficulties and challenges they face, as well as the issues their patients see.

One concerning issue is the travel patients undergo to see their doctors and other providers. In some cases, folks in the Ninth District have to drive close to an hour or more to seek help!

One solution for our region is greater access to telemedicine.

In the Health Subcommittee this year, we passed H.R. 7623, the Telehealth Modernization Act of 2024, to make permanent certain telehealth flexibilities under the Medicare program and extend Americans' access to telehealth services.

In the full Energy and Commerce Committee, we voted to pass H.R. 7858, the TELEMH Act of 2024, to improve telemedicine for mental health services to Medicare recipients.

Advocating for solutions to complex health policy issues in rural areas will remain a priority of mine. I look forward to continued conversations with our region's hardworking and dedicated healthcare professionals.

These are some of the ways my team and I work to help constituents. Let us help you! Please feel free to contact my office. You can call my Abingdon office at 276-525-1405 or my Christiansburg office at 540-381-5671. To reach my office via email, please visit my website at www. morgangriffith.house.gov. Also on my website is the latest material from my office, including information on votes recently taken on the floor of the House of Representatives.

## Craig County Public Library completes first Summer Feeding Program

Craig County Public Library recently completed their first rural non-congregate Summer Feeding Program through Feeding Southwest Virginia. The summer feeding program provided food boxes with 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches, and milk for each meal to any child ages 1-18 in the county. "We were ecstatic to offer assistance to our community during a time when food



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### **Library Corner**

Michaela Crawford

insecurity is becoming more and more common, " explained Letha Hibbitts, Craig County Public Library's Director.

Previously, under the USDA's guidelines Craig County did not qualify as rural. However, those guidelines were reviewed and this summer marked the first year Craig County was classified as rural and met the qualifications to serve food as a non-congregate site. This meant instead of requiring children to attend a meal service for a daily singular meal they could receive the food boxes to take home with 10 meals. "We as well as Feeding Southwest Virginia were floored by our community's participation. 330 children participated in the program which means in one distribution 660 and 6,600 milks would be distributed," said Michaela Crawford, Craig County Public Library's Program Coordinator. Although Craig County met the guidelines for food box distribution, getting the Summer Feeding Program up and running had its challenges. "Our library is extremely small. Under normal circumstances, we are able to work around our space constraint, but we knew our library didn't have the storage space for food boxes and milk. A larger space was necessary so we racked our brains trying to determine where we could safely house our extra food and milk. Thankfully, we didn't have to look far,' explained Crawford. Dawn Perkey, owner of Lemon and Vale cakery did not hesitate when asked if we could utilize Lemon and Vale's rental room for our

food storage and distribution. "Without Dawn summer feeding would not have happened. She truly came to our rescue," said Hibbitts.

The Summer Feeding Program helped ensure families had meals during the summer months and it helped the library reach their highest number of Summer Reading participants. Adults, teens, and children were eligible for Craig County Library's Summer Reading Program and sign-ups were held during food box distribution. "When children and teens signed up for the Summer Reading Program they received a free pass to Firehouse Skate and Play. We can't thank Firehouse Skate and Play in Vinton for their generous donation and we hope the free passes allowed families to enjoy an outing without the high price tag," said Crawford. Craig County Public Library hopes to meet the

qualifications for the Summer Feeding Program next year. "Our overall goal is community outreach. We hope our programs will bring more people to the library and will broaden our resources for our community," said Hibbitts.

"Again, we would like to express our gratitude for Dawn Perkey and the staff of Lemon and

Wendi Craig, Advertising Consultant advertise@ourvalley.org

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

Vale. We also are grateful for our volunteers. We were beyond lucky to have such a wonderful team of volunteers. We would like to thank Lynn Elmore, Ellen Frank, Callie Musselwhite, Langley Crawford, Gage Watkins, Braxton Hibbitts, Jesse Hibbitts, Jaden Hibbitts, Ashlynn Arthurs, Anita Martindell, Joanna Ryan, Ned Savage, and Linda Calderon for volunteering their time with deliveries and distribution as well as making Summer Feeding feasible with our small library staff," said Crawford.

Volunteers are our backbone," explained Hibbitts. "Without volunteers, many programs would cease to exist." If you are interested in volunteering, donating, or becoming a Friend of Library member, please contact the library during normal business hours at (540) 864-8978 or email craiglibrary@swva.net.



## VDOT Roadwatch

**INTERSTATE 81** WIDENING CONSTRUCTION PROJECT EXIT 137 TO EXIT 141 – The \$179 million designbuild project to widen both directions of I-81 between mile markers 136.6 and 141.8 from two to three lanes is underway. Work is being performed along a five-mile section of both northbound and southbound Interstate 81 in Roanoke County and the city of Salem. Barrier wall is in place along the shoulders. Two lanes of I-81 traffic in each direction are expected to remain open during the project with periodic lane closures scheduled during nighttime hours or outside of peak travel times as needed. Drivers can expect the following lane closures and upcoming traffic impacts in this area on northbound and southbound I-81:

A D D I T I O N A L TRAFFIC IMPACTS:

LANE CLOSURES - Northbound and southbound possible for various work on the project during nighttime hours.

WORK ZONE SPEED: Drivers should adhere to posted 60 mph speed limits in the work zone and allow space when following a vehicle. Narrow spacing in lanes due to barrier walls, lack of shoulders and lane shifts in various locations, are present.

TRAFFIC SHIFTS ON WILDWOOD ROAD: Expect a work zone with traffic shifts and narrow width on Wildwood Road after exiting I-81 southbound on exit 137 heading towards Salem. Southbound and northbound I-81 exit and entrance ramp narrows are possible at Route 311.

TRAFFIC SHIFT ON EXIT 140: Drivers may experience periodic lane closures or quick merges into traffic onto Thompson Memorial Drive from the southbound or northbound exit ramps of exit 140 off of I-81. Work zone located at bottom of the ramp for work on the I-81 bridge at the underpass.

RAMP CLOSURES: Ramp closures are possible during nighttime hours, 12 a.m., to 5 a.m. Drivers should watch for message boards dates and times the ramp will be closed.

LANÉ CLOSURES: Alternating left and right lane and shoulder closures during nighttime hours between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday, are possible. Lane widths will be reduced to 11 feet. Nightly lane closures may be in place along the right lane with possible nightly ramp narrows as needed for guardrail and shoulder strengthening.

The project also includes replacing six bridges, widening two bridges, installing approximately 2.6 miles of sound barrier walls along northbound I-81, improving the southbound exit 137 off-ramp intersection at Wildwood Road and adding interchange lighting at exits 137, 140 and 141. Expected completion in early 2026.

Repair work is underway on the northbound and southbound bridges on I-81 over Peak Creek near mile marker 95.7. This repair work will require nighttime single lane closures for the duration of the project. Lane closures may occur nightly from Sunday night through Friday mornings between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. For the deck overlay process, lane closures may be in place between Sunday nights through Friday mornings. For the southbound lanes these will occur between the hours of 7pm and 10am,

and for the northbound lanes between the hours of 6pm through 9am. Details on these closures will be listed below on a weekly basis. Estimated completion is scheduled for end of 2024.

Alternating nighttime northbound left lane closures and southbound right lane closures beginning Monday night, August 26 through Friday Morning, September 6, between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m.

8 NORTHBOUND AT EXIT 105 NEW RIVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT IN M O N T G O M E R Y COUNTY – Traffic on northbound I-81 has been switched onto the newly constructed bridge over the New River at the Montgomery/Pulaski County line. Lane and shoulder closures may be in place near exit 105. Lane closure may be in effect during the week from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. Shoulder closures may be in effect at any time during the week. Slow rolls may be performed on I-81 in the north and southbound lanes from mile marker 98 to 109. Speed limit is reduced to 60 miles per hour in the work zone. Shoulder closures will remain in place though the duration of the project.

LANE CLOSURES: Nighttime alternating lane closures are possible on I-81 northbound or southbound between mile markers 104-106.

ROUTE 605: Alternating lane closures and flagging operations may be present on Route 605, located under the New River Bridge, for paving operations and work overhead on the bridge.

SLOW ROLLS: Slow rolls may be utilized

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 15.2-1427, notice is hereby given that the Craig County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on September 5th, 2024 at 6 PM, or soon thereafter, in the Circuit Court Courtroom of the Craig County Courthouse at 303 Main Street, New Castle, Virginia 24127.

## Masonic Service Award given to Taylor



RW Roy Taylor was presented with his 50 Year Masonic Service Award at the Aug. 13 stated meeting of Mountain Lodge #140, 255 Main Street, New Castle, VA. RW Taylor joined the lodge and was raised to Master Mason in 1974. Pictured left to right: Worshipful Mac Craft, Worshipful Norman Taylor (Roy's brother), RW Roy Taylor and MW Kerry Campbell, grand master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, 2013 (who presented the award).

periodically on both the northbound and southbound lanes from mile marker 98-109 for structural steel deliveries and setting beams.

I-81 BRIDGE DECK REPAIRS – Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 81 between mile markers 170 to 89, right and left lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

ÎNTERSTATE 581 I-581 PATCHING

OPERATIONS – Weather permitting, beginning August 18, crews will perform paving and patching operations. Lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound, Sunday through Thursday, during nighttime hours, 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

R O A N O K E COUNTY

APPALACHIAN BRIDGE TRAIL OVER ROUTE 311 – A new pedestrian bridge is under construction over Route 311 at McAfee Knob trailhead. The trailhead parking lot is currently closed and will remain closed during construction. Bridge beams were placed across Route 311 on the new bridge on June 11. Flagging operations will be in place daily

from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Occasional slow rolls during nighttime hours are possible. Alternate areas for parking and updates on the shuttle can be found by calling 540-387-5588 or visiting the shuttle website at www.roanokecountyva. gov/McAfeeShuttle. Expected completion by end of 2024.



### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING COUNTY OF CRAIG, VIRGINIA PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2506 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, notice is hereby given of a public hearing to be held by the Craig County Board of Supervisors on the

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The purpose of the public hearing will be to receive public comment on the proposed adoption of an ordinance adding a new Article V – Food Booths to Chapter 10 – Businesses of the Craig County Code to exempt certain food booths at fairs from the provisions of Title 35.1 of the Virginia Code relating to state regulation of restaurants and instead having them subject to regulation by the county health officer.

A copy of the full text of the proposed ordinance is on file for inspection during normal business hours in the Office of the County Administrator at 108 Court Street, New Castle, Virginia 24127. If you should need auxiliary aids or other assistance due to a disability, please contact the Office of the County Administrator at (540) 864-5010 at least five (5) days in advance of the public hearing.

proposed County Budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2024-25 (July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025). The Public Hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, will be held **September 5th, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** or as soon thereafter as the matter is heard during the Board of Supervisors meeting at the Craig County Courthouse in New Castle, Virginia. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public review at the County Administrator's Office in the County Administration Building, New Castle, Virginia.

#### PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENT FY 2024-25 TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR:

County of Craig	\$ 14,995
Craig Co Public Schools	\$210 182

God's House Is Always

#### BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

11599 Cumberland Gap Road/Rt. 42, New Castle, 864-5242; church phone:544-7040 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m., Choir Tuesday 7:30p.m., Youth Outreach and Missions Program. Rev. San Kang.

#### CHESTNUT GROVE CHURCH

Duane Wente, Minister, Rt. 42, New Castle, 540-864-5692. Sunday: Worship 10:00 a.m.

#### CORNERSTONE CHURCH

Pastor Don Brown, Corner of Salem and Wagner, New Castle, 580-3228. Sunday Worship 10:30am (Children meet separately, Nursery provided). Bible Study - Wednesday 6p Teens - Wednesday 6p. Ministries: Men, Ladies, Young Adult, and Seniors. Times vary, call for details.

#### CRAIG HÉALING 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.

#### ECKANKAR

Eckankar, The Path of Spiritual Freedom, is a simple teaching that focuses on the Light and Sound of God to help people find more love in their life. The Roanoke Eckankar Center is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. A light and sound service is held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 11:00 a.m. Since contracting COVID-19 may still be possible, please take the health steps that are best for you. It is appreciated that by attending you are taking responsibility for your own health. Visit www.eck-va.org or call 540-353-5365 for other Eckankar programs and for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar can lead you to spiritual freedom.

#### FIRST BAPTIST

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

#### **GRACE ASSEMBLY OF GOD**

5530 Catawba Valley Drive, Catawba, VA, 540-384-7075. Pastor Loraine Taylor, agladypastor@msn. com. Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Evening service at 7:00 p.m.; Youth (ages 13-18) & Super Church (ages 4-12) Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. You can also watch on Facebook Live at 10:30 a.m. www.graceassemblycatawaba.org

#### GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

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

HEBRON UNITED METHODIST Pastor Chanmi Lee, 347-684-2607, Rt. 606, 1981 Caldwell Mt. Rd., New Castle, 540- 400-3419. Wor-ship 11:15AM.

#### LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST

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

#### LEVEL GREEN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

#### LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST

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

#### MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN

4199 Craig Valley Drive, New Castle, Jonathan Lee, pastor, 864-6622. Sunday: Worship Service 9:00 a.m., Children's Church 9:15 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

#### NEW CASTLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH "WHERE YOUR HEART CAN FEEL THE DIFFERENCE"

282 Salem Ave., New Castle; 864-5212; Pastor Bill Frazier. Sunday Service: 10 A.M.; Wednesday night Bible study at 6:00 P.M. for K-5; If you need a ride to church, please contact Calvin Duncan by 8 P.M. on Saturday at 864-5321; www.nc-cc.org.

#### **NEW CÁNTERBURY 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: craigcountycommunitychurch@gmail.com.

#### ST. THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH

Located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit www.sttofc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

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

#### PAGE 6 • THE NEW CASTLE RECORD • WEDNESDAY, AUG. 28, 2024

www.ourvalley.org



DEBBIE STUTLER, DANIEL NEWMAN, MERLE WOODS, NANCY CECIL CHARLOTTE WOOD GORDON, ROBERT MURRAY, RUSSELL SMITH, IDA LEE SMITH AND UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ROBERT J. REYNOLDS: GROVER T. HUFFMAN ADMINISTRATOR FOR B.W. CARPER, DECEASED V. VIOLET CLAPSADDLE, ET AL.; MARY B. LITTLE. ET AL V WILBUR STAKES, ET AL.; JAMES L. PAITSEL. SR AND SARAH B. GRAHAM, CO-EXECUTORS OF ELOISE G. CRAFT ESTATE V. D.F HOUSTON: IN RE ESTATE OF W.E. MILLS; EDITH HALL V. JOHN DEMPSEY ROACH. ET AL.; LESLIE ALBERT; CLARA ALFORD; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF GEORGE BRITT M BROWN, ET AL.; J.E. BRYAN: FLORA BUGG; GEORGE BUGG; **UNKNOWN HEIRS** OF LAW G. CARPER: CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; VIOLET CROWDER UNKNOWN HEIRS OF J. DUDDING: EPPERLY V. LOONEY; EVELYN GOODWIN; ETHEL JENNINGS ALBERTA JOHNSON; ERNEST JOHNSON: MARY MAE PEYTON ESTATE OF MINERVA REYNOLDS; ROBERT SARVER; SUE STRINGFELLOW UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ADAM TAYLOR; D.B. TROUTT: VIRGINIA HIGHWAY V. SIXEAS; PAMALA YOUNG, and PARTIES UNKNOWN, Defendants.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION The object of this suit is to disburse funds held by the General Receiver of the Circuit Court, which funds have been held by the General Receiver for more than one year and remain unclaimed. An Affidavit having been filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the location of the named Defendant(s), that

the Defendant(s) may be

Estate Affic in the land records of this Court: and

IT APPEARING that due diligence has been used to locate Defendants Estate of Wanda P. McKinney or the Unknown Heirs of Wanda P McKinney ("McKinney Parties Unknown"); and IT APPEARING that the last known address for Wanda P. McKinney is 222 Cove Mountain Road, Buchannan, Virginia 24066; and IT APPEARING that it is

timely and appropriate that this Court enter an Order allowing for service upon the Defendants be completed pursuant to Virginia Code §8.01-316 by Order of Publication in a newspaper with general circulation in and published in and approved by the Circuit Court for Botetourt, Virginia, and it is therefore,

ADJUDGED. ORDERED AND DECREED that an ORDER OF PUBLICATION, be and hereby is to be published in The Fincastle Herald once a week for four successive weeks in order to perfect service upon Defendants Estate of Wanda P. McKinney and the Unknown Heirs of Wanda P. McKinney; and it is further ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED that all Defendants be placed on notice that a Petition is pending in the Circuit Court of Botetourt, Virginia, namely Specialized Loan Servicing UC v. Estate of Wanda P. McKinney, et al., to quiet title to the property located at 222 Cove Mountain Road Buchannan, Virginia 24066; and it is further ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED, that McKinney Parties Unknown must on or before the 18th day of October, 2024, make known to this Court any objection they may have to the Complaint, and claim any defenses to the pending action otherwise an order will be entered in favor of

ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED that the Clerk of this Court send notice of this service to Defendants Estate of

Plaintiff, and it is further

Parcel No. 106-193, the

western corner of Tax Parcel No. 106-194, and the extreme northern corner of the property herein conveyed thence proceeding S. 47 degs. 15' 00" E. 234.50 feet to a point; thence S. 36 degs. 54' 23" W. 105.89 feet to a point: thence N. 47 deas. 15' 00" W. 245.21 feet to a point; thence N. 42 degs. 42' 42" E. 105.34 feet to the place of BEGINNING and containing 0.5801 acres, as more fully shown on "Resurvey for Anthony W.

Smith Showing Tax No. 106-191 located along Flag Lane", dated November 3 2019, a copy of which is recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, with the Deed at Instrument No. 200003069, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference hereto. TOGETHER WITH a fifteen

(15) foot non-exclusive appurtenant, right of way over Flag Lane as more fully shown on the aforesaid plat of survey.

TERMS: Cash - Bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sales price by cashier's or certified check may be required. Balance of purchase price shall be due and payable not later than ten (10) days after sale.

WOODS ROGERS VANDEVENTER BLACK PLC, Substitute Trustee

For Information Contact: Woods Rogers Vandeventer Black PLC, P.O. Box 14125, Roanoke, VA 24038-4125 Telephone: 540-983-7729

#### Legals - City of Salem

#### **ABC NOTICE**

THE DAMON COMPANY OF SALEM, INC., trading as SHREWD OUTDOORS, 201 E. MAIN ST Salem VA. 24153

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Retail Restaurant or Caterer Application -Restaurant, Wine, Beer, consumed On

the Commonwealth of Virginia (https://eva.virginia.gov ).

Applications received by 7:00 PM on Wednesday October 2, 2024 may be eligible for a bonus payment. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements

Questions can be directed to the Salem Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday - Friday. Phone: 540-387-5497. Email: SalemDistrictSnow @vdot.virginia.gov

#### EEO/AA Employer

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114. N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem. Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

Hold public hearing to consider the request of Salem Montessori School. Inc., property owner, to amend the existing special exception permit to allow for a second elementary educational facility on the property located at 101 Corporate Boulevard (Tax Map # 117-2-1) 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

Case No CI 24001203-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court. 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1. CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re AMBER LEE, KANE GALLIMORE V COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA The object of this suit is to: NAME CHANGE OF A MINOR. It is ORDERED that KALEB WARREN GALLIMORE appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before OCTOBER 11,2024. JULY 30,2024,

316,20-104

K. MIKE FLEENOR, JR. JUDGE

#### VDUT ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP

The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Christiansburg Residency which includes the counties of Floyd, Giles Montgomery, and Pulaski during the winter of 2024-2025. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks pickups with plows. motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a bonus

and protect his/her interests on or before SEPT. 10. 2024 at 8:30 am.

> August 5, 2024 RUBY STUMP, CLERK

Order of Publication Case No. 24-JA-79 and 24-JA-80 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF NICHOLAS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA In the Matter of: Case Number: 24-JA-79 and 24-JA-80

S. L., and E. L., Nathan Lovern, father of S. L., and E. L. and Ashleigh Powell, mother of said infants, (The object of this action is to notify the adult respondent parents of an Adjudicatory /Disposition / Termination of Parental **Rights Hearing scheduled** herein so that said adult respondents may appear to protect their interests.) ORDER OF PUBLICATION AND NOTICE OF HEARING(S)

TO: Nathan Lovern, Father

of S. L., and E. L., You are hereby notified that abuse and/or neglect and/or abandonment petitions have been filed with the Circuit Court of Nicholas County. West Virginia, and assigned case numbers 24-JA-79 and 24-JA-80, where in the mother of the infants S. L. and E. L., is Ashleigh Powell and the father of the infants S. L. and E. L., is Nathan Lovern. A Preliminary Hearing/Adjudicatory Hearing/Termination Hearing will be held in this matter on the 26th day of September 2024 at 1:45 p.m., in the courtroom of the Nicholas County Courthouse at 700 Main Street, Summersville, West Virginia, 26651. You and each of you are hereby notified that you have the right to have counsel present at all stages of these proceedings and ALL SUCH PROCEEDINGS

before Sept. 3, 2024 at 9:00 am.

> AUGUST 5, 2024 RUBY STUMP, CLERK

> > Help Wanted

Help Wanted: Join the Valcom Team! Valcom, a leader in voice paging, intercom, and emergency notification systems, is

seeking dedicated individuals to join our production team. Be part of a company that's redefining communication and saving lives worldwide! We have positions available in hand soldering, product assembly, printed circuit board testing, metal fabrication, and more.

#### **Open Interviews!**

When: Starting Thursday, August 8th, from 9:30 -11:30 a.m. Continuing: Every Tuesday and Thursday through August 29th from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m Where: Valcom Facility in Roanoke (address below) Production Work Schedule Monday - Thursday, 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mandatory overtime on Fridays is common during the summer and fall.

Benefits: Full-time employees eligible after 90 days for our full benefits program, which also includes retirement contribution and employee ownership! Requirements: Must have excellent attendance, ability to work mandatory overtime great communication skills, problem solving skills, work collaboratively with team members and be adaptable Some positions require previous experience in a similar role. Those hired will be required to pass a pre-employment background check and drug test. Can't make the open interviews? Fax or email your resume and cover letter VALCOM 5614 Hollins Rd Roanoke, VA 24019 Fax 540-767-1543 hr@valcom.com

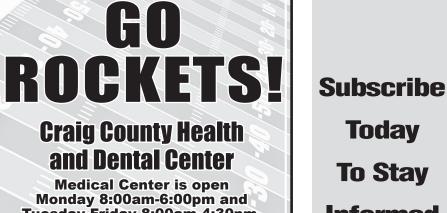
#### www.ourvalley.org

#### THE NEW CASTLE RECORD · WEDNESDAY, AUG. 28, 2024 · PAGE 7





NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF A PETITION BY TELEPHONE AND DATA SYSTEMS, INC., TDS TELECOMMUNICATIONS, LLC, AMELIA TELEPHONE CORPORATION, NEW CASTLE TELEPHONE COMPANY, RIVERSTREET MANAGEMENT SERVICES, LLC AND WILKES TELEPHONE MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION, FOR APPROVAL OF A TRANSFER OF CONTROL PURSUANT TO THE UTILITY TRANSFERS ACT, VA. CODE § 56-88 et seq. <u>CASE NO. PUR-2024-00136</u>



On July 23, 2024, Telephone and Data Systems, Inc. ("TDS"), TDS Telecommunications, LLC ("TDS Telecom"), Amelia Telephone Corporation ("Amelia"), New Castle Telephone Company ("New Castle"), RiverStreet Management Services, LLC ("RiverStreet"), and Wilkes Telephone Membership Corporation ("Wilkes TMC") (collectively, "Joint Petitioners") filed a Joint Petition ("Petition") with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") for approval, pursuant to the Utility Transfers Act, Chapter 5 of Title 56 of the Code of Virginia ("Code"), to transfer control of Amelia and New Castle from TDS Telecom to RiverStreet in connection with RiverStreet's proposed acquisition of the outstanding stock of Amelia and New Castle ("Proposed Transfer").

According to the Petition, the Proposed Transfer will result in Amelia and New Castle each becoming a direct wholly owned subsidiary of RiverStreet and an indirect subsidiary of Wilkes TMC. Amelia and New Castle are incumbent local exchange carriers ("ILEC(s)") authorized to provide local exchange telephone services in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

In support of the Proposed Transfer, the Joint Petitioners represent that RiverStreet has the financial, technical, and managerial qualifications to acquire control of Amelia and New Castle. The Joint Petitioners state that following the Proposed Transfer, the future availability of services offered by Amelia and New Castle will increase, and that as a result of RiverStreet's favorable credit rating and the strength of its parent, Wilkes TMC, RiverStreet will continue to have access to financing on favorable terms. The Joint Petitioners further state that Amelia and New Castle will continue to have the managerial, technical, and financial qualifications to provide high quality telecommunications and related services to consumers under RiverStreet's ownership. The Joint Petitioners represent that the Proposed Transfer will also facilitate the deployment of fiber optic networks in Amelia and New Castle's service areas, and that local repair and maintenance personnel will be maintained at both Amelia and New Castle to allow for a seamless transition in ownership without disruption or interruption in service. The Joint Petitioners assert that the Proposed Transfer will not adversely affect subscribers, competitors, or the market for the provision of communication services.

The Joint Petitioners state that the Proposed Transfer will neither impair nor jeopardize adequate service at just and reasonable rates and that the quality of service provided by Amelia and New Castle will not be adversely affected. The Joint Petitioners further represent that Amelia and New Castle's current customers are not expected to experience any disruption of, or diminishment to, their existing service, and will continue to have the same rates, terms, and conditions of service as they did prior to the Proposed Transfer.

Copies of the Petition may be downloaded from the Commission's website: <u>scc.virginia.</u> <u>gov/pages/Case-Information</u>, or may be obtained by contacting counsel for the Joint Petitioners: Daniel C. Higgins, Esquire, Burns, Day & Presnell, P.A., P.O. Box 10867, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27605, <u>dhiggins@bdppa.com</u>.

On or before September 27, 2024, any interested person may submit comments on the Petition electronically by following the instructions on the Commission's website: <u>scc.virginia.</u> <u>gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments</u>. Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2024-00136.

On or before September 27, 2024, any interested person may file a request for a hearing on the Petition with the Clerk of the Commission at <u>scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling</u>. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file electronically may file a request for hearing by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such request for hearing shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. Requests for a hearing shall include: (i) a precise statement of the filing party's interest in the proceeding; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; (iii) a statement of the legal basis for such action; and (iv) a precise statement why a hearing should be conducted in this matter. All requests for a hearing shall send a copy of their request to counsel for the Joint Petitioners at the address above.

#### TELEPHONE AND DATA SYSTEMS, INC., RIVERSTREET MANAGEMENT SERVICES. LLC. et al.

Tuesday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm. The Dental Center is open Monday-Thursday 8:00am-5:00pm. of Your The Health Center can be reached by phone at 540-864-6390 and the Dental Center 540-864-5556. Local Visit our website at www.monroehealthcenters.com Sports! **Craig County Health Center** 540-389-9355 **226 Market Street Craig County Dental Center** 230 Market Street

> FUNERAL HOME GO ALL THE WAY ROCKETS!

> > 286 Main Street New Castle, VA

864-5142

## Subscribe today! 540-389-9355

#### THE NEW CASTLE RECORD · WEDNESDAY, AUG. 28, 2024 · PAGE 9



## Rockets have home-and-home with North Cross to open volleyball season

The Craig County girls will open the high school volleyball season this week with a home-and-home against North Cross School. The Rockets were scheduled to open at home with North Cross on Tuesday and on Thursday they return the trip to Roanoke County for a 5 pm jayvee game followed by a 7 pm varsity tilt.

Coach Suzanne Crawford is optimistic with the start of the season finally here. The Rockets return senior setter Maggie Mays and Layla Dooley, who earned honorable mention All-Pioneer District for the Rockets last year. Layla will transition from the opposite position to the middle this year.

Also, Daileilgh Donithan will return as an outside hitter. Jenna Boitnotte is back and playing as an opposite and Cheyanne Bell is also returning in the middle.

Felicity Fisher, a sophomore who will play outside hitter this year, is new to the team. "Her aggressiveness and height will be a welcomed addition to the front row," said Crawford.

Ashlynn Keen is back and also plays outside hitter. Makenzie Lucas is another newcomer who will rotate from middle to outside this season.

The Rockets are coming off a 4-10 season and look to improve. They lost a bunch of close matches that Suzanne hopes will turn around this season.

"Last year we had a very young team," she said. "By the end of the season we were playing well, going five matches, but we were just unable to finish the game. Our goal this year is to win more games. These ladies have been working hard in the postseason and putting in long hours at practice."

The Rockets have a challenging schedule once again.

"I expect Narrows and East Mont to have good programs this volleyball season," said Crawford. "Narrows has gained Kailyn Jones, Craig County's second-team alldistrict middle hitter. Kailyn will be a massive addition to the Green Wave, and I look forward to that matchup. With our middles Layla Dooley and Cheyanne Bell, that will be an excellent match-up to watch."

Suzanne will be assisted by Logan Peters, who coaches the Craig middle school team and was a previous alldistrict player for the Rockets, and Ashleigh Peters, who coaches the Jayvees and was also a Craig County High School player.

"The 2024 volleyball season for Craig County High is going to be a good one," said Crawford. "I'm looking forward to the season. We have a lot of talent and have put in a lot of time to get where we want to be. We have gotten stronger, more focuse, and more determined.

"The girls have come into this season with positive attitudes and a willingness to do what needs to be done. Our leadership from our seniors and returning students has been welcoming. This year, they have to go after it and want it. If they can bring that attitude and determination that they have had at practice, we will have a successful season."



VARSITY

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

The Craig County Varsity volleyball team. Front row, left to right; Brook Wright, Makenzie Lucas, Jenna Boitnotte, Daileigh Donithan, Felicity Fisher and McKenna All. Back row: assit. Coach Ashleigh Peters, assist. Coach Logan Peters, Cheyanne Bell, Ashlyn Keen, Maggie Mays, Layla Dooley, Rylee Phelps and head coach Suzanne Crawford.



#### JAYVEES

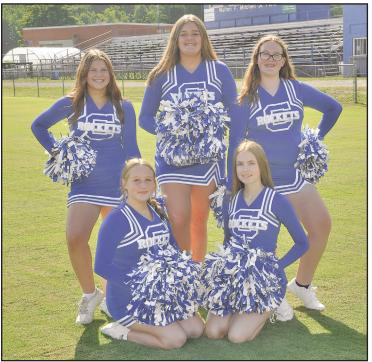
The Craig County jayvee volleyball team. Front row, left to right; Maria Foster, Raelynn Stamper, Holley Givens, Laikan May, Bryanna Mitchell, Zoie Vandyke and Emily Smith. Back row; Coach Ashleigh Peters, Annika Zimmerman, Alivia Fowler, Natalie Fisher, Addisyn Higgins, Annalese Zimmerman and Coach Suzanne Crawford.





#### VARSITY

Craig County High School 2024 varsity cheerleaders. Front Row left to right: Haleigh Flowers and Jordyn Price. 2nd Row left to right: Audrey Crawford and Jolena Compton. Back Row left to right; Elyssa Dewease, Sarah Hickson and Peytin Ragland. Not pictured: Jayda Wolfe and Kaleigh Deel.



JV

Craig County jayvee cheerleaders. Front row left to right: Georgia Cyrus and Maren All. Back row left to right: Kinsley Odell, Addison Wade and Ryleigh Tyree.



**Middle School** 

The Craig County Middle School volleyball team. Front row, left to right: Skylar Gilmore, Kira Songer, Rylee Mattox, Maddy Hutchinson, Maddi Day and Peyton Trivette. Back row, left to right; Ally Calfee, Lily Richardson, Allie Crowder, Abigale Belcher, Ainsley Wade, Kiera Burton and coach Logan Peters.









PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

The 2024 Craig County Rockets football team. Front row, L to R: Clayton Cassell, Dreydin Smith, Dylan Sarver, Matthew Via, Riley Shiflett, Robbie Eakin, Nathan Blankenship, Casey Hutchinson, Cam Huffman, Bryson Smith, Sawyer Rutter and Mikey Custer. Middle row, L to R: Connor Donithan, Blake Kendall, Kent McCord, Isaiah Nichols, Caleb Fields, Brad Arthurs, Blake Wright, Doug Hutchison, Aiden Crawford, Cam Hanes, Jeremiah Fowler and Wyatt Huffman. Back row, L to R: Kaiden Arthurs, Bradyn Dunbar, Kadin Custer, Carter Calfee, Isaac Lucas, Jaycob Wolfe, Carter Price, Noah Paxton, Marcus Donithan, Bentley Smith, Tristan Dooley, Peyton Fields, Ethan Sink and Joseph Lee. Not Pictured: Josh Craft and Isaac Owens.

## Rockets open football season at home Friday with Darling Reunion, "Backwoods Brawl"

The Craig County Rockets have high hopes as they open the football season at home Friday night. Game time is 7 pm at Mitchell Field.

The Rockets will play host to Bland County to open. Last year Craig traveled to Bland and took a 32-6 win over the Bears. Rocket head coach Jimmy Fisher is hoping for a similar result, but taking nothing for granted.

"Bland is much improved from last season and they have gotten a lot of kids out," said Fisher. "We expect a dogfight on Friday. It's a big night, opening night and a big tailgate party before the game.

Friday will also be "Darling Reunion Night." Charlie Darling coached the 1983 and 1984 teams to 5-5 and 8-2 records. The players from both those teams will be at the game Friday. And Bland and Craig have agreed to continue their rivalry going on the first week of every season. We are naming the game the 'Backwoods Brawl'," said Fisher. "The prize will be a wrestling style championship belt that stays at the victorious school. We hope to keep it here on Friday." Craig scrimmaged Richwood High of West Virginia at Mitchell Field last Friday and Fisher was encouraged by the result. He was especially encouraged by the effort on defense as the Rockets held Richwood to minus 14 yards for the night.

at quarterback. He threw for 95 yards and a touchdown in the scrimmage with Rockwood.

"He's smart, fast and been throwing well," said Fisher. "He's just an all-around good player."

Freshman Bradyn Dunbar is the backup quarterback, but if Wolfe can't go junior Carter Calfee would likely shift to quarterback for the varsity. A junior, Carter can play several positions and he does a good job anywhere you put him. He was first team All-Pioneer District on both sides of the ball last year.

"Carter's our Swiss Army Knife," said Fisher. "And he has that 'dawg' in him that you want all the kids to have but they all don't."

Josh Craft is the running back. At 5'6", 180 pounds he runs harder than his frame suggests. He had 16 carries for 119 yards and a touchdown in last Fridav's scrimmage.

Junior Caleb Fields can play tackle or guard and he's one of the strongest players on the team. Jeremiah Fowler is a freshman guard.

At tackle senior Joseph Lee will be a force. "Big Jesus" is 6'2" and 320 pounds. Other tackles are 250 pound junior Ethan Sink and sophomore Marcus Donithan.

We have some big kids, and we have some big kids walking the halls who aren't playing," said Fisher. "At Craig County you have to be a football player or a red neck."

On defense the Rockets will play a 4-4 that will shift into a 4-3 against teams that like to pass. It will be a lot of the same kids with Price at strong end, Lee at tackle, sophomore Peyton Fields at weak end and Caleb Fields backing up both ends. Junior Doug Hutchison is the

## **CRAIG COUNTY ROCKETS** VARSITY FOOTBALL 2024

Number	Name	Height	Weight	Year
1	Bradley Arthurs	5'8	142.6	10
2	Blake Wright	5'6	130	12
3	Noah Paxton	6'0	197	10
5	Bentley Smith	5'10	141	9
6	Isaiah Nichols	5'7	149	11
7	Tristan Dooley	5'10	172	11
8	Riley Shiflett	5'3	117	9
9	Jaycob Wolfe	6'0	162	12
11	Isaac Lucas	6'1"	244	12
12	Bradyn Dunbar	6'0	149	9
16	Carter Calfee	5'9	164	11
19	Wyatt Huffman	5'8	157	10
22	Douglas Hutchison	5'8"	225	11
23	Cameron Huffman	5'6	121	12
32	Joshua Craft	5'6	173	12
44	Dreydin Smith	5'6	144	9
50	Nathan Blankenship	5'4	180	9
51	Jeremiah Fowler	5'7	169	9
52	Christopher Kendall	5'6	146	9
53	Kent McCord	5'8	236	10
54	Peyton Fields	6'0	198.4	10
56	Cameron Hanes	5'9	206	9
57	Matthew Via	5'5	145	10
59	Kaden Custer	5'9	240	9
60	Aiden Crawford	5'6	178	10
62	Caleb Fields	5'8"	282	11
63	Ethan Sink	5'11"	247	11
64	Carter Price	6'0	240	10
65	Clayton Cassell	5'5	107.6	9
70	Marcus Donithan	5'9	183	10
76	Joseph Lee	6'0	314	12
77	Kadin Arthurs	6'0	214	10
81	Robert Eakin	5'4	124	9
82	Dylan Sarver	5'9	147	9
85	Casey Hutchinson	5'7"	159	11

'The defense played lights out," he said. "Defense has been rock solid in both scrimmages, lots of tackles for loss and big hits.

"Offensively we gained a lot of yards but had some penalty issues that called back a bunch of big plays and we missed some blocking assignments. We need to clean those things up before Friday."

Craig is running what Fisher calls the "Gun T" this season, a combination of the Shotgun and Wing-T formations. Senior Jaycob Wolfe will run the show

"He's a dynamic player," said Fisher. "He's like that rolling ball of butcher knives they talk about on TV."

Carter also ran for over 100 yards and scored in the scrimmage. Sophomore Noah Paxton and junior Isaiah Nichols are backups looking to see some time carrying the ball.

Receivers include freshman Bentley Smith at the wide out "X" position and Tristan Dooley, a junior, in the slot. Senior Isaac Lucas is a good sized tight end at 6'2" and 245 pounds.

"Bentley has great hands, he's going to be a good one," said Fisher. "They all catch the ball well."

Kent McCord will anchor the line at center. He's a 240 pound sophomore.

Fisher is looking for a big year from sophomore strong guard Carter Price. He was second team all-district as a freshman and he's put on muscle with hard work in the weight room. He gained close to 40 pounds and he's now listed at 6'0", 240.

Craft and Paxton are solid inside linebackers along with Donithan. Also, Blake Kendall is a freshman to watch. Dooley is an outside linebacker and Calfee will play the "Hybrid" position, playing up against the run and dropping back in coverage when necessary.

In the secondary senior Blake Wright is a third year starter and two freshmen, Bentley Smith and Dreydin Smith, are fighting for time on the other side. Wolfe is the safety.

Jayke Dowdy returns as co-head coach and he coaches quarterbacks and middle linebackers. Corey Smith does both lines, Roland Donithan coaches receives and defensive backs and is also the team trainer. Jeremy Howell returns to help when needed and Aaron Jones is new to the staff, coaching outside linebackers and runningbacks.

"I like our team," said Fisher. "If we can stay healthy we can be above .500 and a playoff team. We have a good foundation and our goal is to make the playoffs."





PHOTOS BY JIM AND REGINA DEVINNEY

Rocket head coach Jim Fisher goes over a play with quarterback Jaycob Wolfe.



New Rocket assistant Aaron Jones(left) consults with co-head coach Jayke Dowdy.