CRAIG COUNTY ROCKETS FOOTBALL 2026 INSIDE THIS EDITION!

GUTHRIE INSURANCE AGENCY INC.
HOME~AUTO~BUSINESS~FARM~LIFE~HEALTH

LeAnn Croy
Office Manager/CSR
PH:540-864-6688
Text: 540-486-2970
leann@guthrieinsurance.net
www.guthrieinsuranceva.com
GUTHRIEINSURANCE@YAHOO.COM
Licensed in VA, WV, TN & NC

The New Castle Record

ourvalley.org (USPS-378-080) "The Voice of Craig County" August 26, 2026 $1.50

IGA EXPRESS
WE ACCEPT MNFGR COUPONS
GOPHER MARKET

Craig County Public Schools reports progress on generator, boiler projects

Aila Boyd
aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Craig County Public Schools is nearing completion of a generator project and continuing work on a boiler replacement project as part of ongoing improvements to its school facilities.

According to Superintendent Jason A. Wheeler, work on the generator project is nearing completion. All major components have been completed except for one remaining transfer switch.

The project is expected to be finished by the end of September once the remaining equipment is installed.

Work also continues on the division's boiler replacement project, which is expected to be completed by October.

Significant progress was made on the project during the summer, with work continuing over the next several weeks to complete the remaining components. The old fuel oil tank also will be removed from the property as part of the project.

Once completed, the new boiler system is expected to provide a more reliable and efficient heating system for the schools.

Wheeler said the project represents an important investment in the division's facilities and will help address long-term infrastructure needs while keeping school buildings safe, dependable and well maintained.



Generator COURTESY PHOTO

Craig County Public Schools reminds families about safe storage of medications, firearms

Aila Boyd
aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Craig County Public Schools is reminding families about the importance of safely storing prescription medications and firearms in the home.

In a letter dated Aug. 18, Superintendent Jason A. Wheeler said the school division is required under Virginia law § 22.1-79.3 to share reminders about the safe storage of prescription medications and firearms.

The division encouraged families to store prescription medications in a secure location out of the reach of children and others for whom the medications were not prescribed. Families also are encouraged to keep medications in their original containers, monitor their use and properly dispose of unused or expired medications through approved disposal programs.

The school division also urged firearm owners to take precautions to prevent unauthorized access.

Under Virginia law § 18.2-56.2, criminal penalties can apply in certain circumstances when a child gains access to an unsecured firearm. The school division said safe firearm storage is one of the most effective ways to prevent accidental shootings, unauthorized access, theft and suicide.

Firearm owners are encouraged to:

Store firearms unloaded and secured in a locked safe, lockbox or with a locking device.

Store ammunition separately in a locked location.

Ensure only authorized adults have access to firearms and storage keys or combinations.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, firearm injuries remain one of the leading causes of death among children and adolescents in the United States. The school division said many of these tragedies involve unsecured firearms found in the home and that safe storage significantly reduces the risk of accidental injury, unauthorized access and youth suicide.

Wheeler also encouraged families to seek help if they are concerned that a child or another young person may be struggling with mental health or may be at risk of harming themselves or others.

Parents and guardians can contact a child's school counselor, health care provider, or call or text the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline. In an emergency, families should call 911.

"By securely storing prescription medications and firearms and by maintaining open conversations about safety and mental wellness, we can work together to protect our children," Wheeler said.

Craig County Public Schools welcomes students back with 'Level Up' theme



COURTESY IMAGE

Aila Boyd
aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Craig County Public Schools is beginning the 2026-27 school year with a focus on growth, improvement and community involvement.

In his latest Rocket Rundown, Superintendent Jason A. Wheeler welcomed students, families, staff and community members back to the new school year and introduced this year's theme: "Level Up."

Wheeler said the theme is focused on making small improvements each day rather than striving for perfection.

"For our students, that may mean working a little harder, asking for help when they need it, trying something new, or learning from a mistake," Wheeler said. "For our staff, it may mean finding a new way to reach a student, strengthening relationships with families, or continuing to improve our craft."

Wheeler also highlighted the role of families, staff and community members in supporting students and said the division's success should be measured by progress as well as accomplishments.

At McCleary Elementary School, approximately 20 students participated in summer school, receiving additional academic support and opportunities to strengthen important skills.

The school's PTA continues to support students through fundraising, special events and field trips. The PTA helps fund programs such as Field Day and One School, One Book and sponsored a STEAM Night last year featuring the Southwest Virginia Wildlife Center.

At Craig County High School, approximately 25 students participated in summer school and credit recovery. Wheeler described the program as a success and thanked those who helped make it possible.

The high school library also received a $1,000 Follett Weed & Feed Grant through the Virginia Association of School Librarians. Library collection data showed an improvement in the average age of the collection, from 1988 to 2004. The grant will primarily be used to update the nonfiction collection and expand the selection of graphic novels.

The high school also has released a course registration guide outlining graduation requirements, diploma options, course descriptions and academic policies. The guide also details opportunities including dual enrollment, Advanced Placement, career and technical education, virtual learning, the Roanoke Valley Governor's School and the Botetourt Technical Education Center.

The Craig County Rocket Booster Club will continue supporting the division's athletic programs during the 2026-27 school year. Officers are Dina Hutchinson, president; Kelcey Fisher, vice president; Lynn Cregger, treasurer; and Shauna Peters, secretary.

The division also is implementing the Hampton City Public Schools curriculum for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The Virginia-focused curriculum includes aligned lesson plans, common assessments and instructional activities designed to support consistent instruction across grade levels.

Craig County Public Schools also offers a full-time online homeschool option through EdOptions Academy. Students receive online instruction, academic monitoring and access to a licensed Virginia teacher. Students enrolled in the program also may participate in CCPS extracurricular activities.

Community members also supported the division's annual "Load the Bus" school supply drives. The first event was held July 25-26 at Food Country, followed by an event July 31-Aug. 2 at the Salem Walmart. The division received numerous school supplies through the events.

As part of its back-to-school preparations, CCPS held its annual Convocation, bringing together new and returning staff. Employees participated in team-building activities, collaboration and professional development focused on areas including explicit instruction, technology, mentoring, curriculum, student safety, the House System and de-escalation strategies.

New teachers also received time to work with mentors, learn about CCPS and prepare their classrooms. Staff preparations concluded with additional classroom work and Open House activities for students and families.

The division also hosted a luncheon for CCPS retirees, providing an opportunity to reconnect and recognize their contributions to the schools and community.

Looking ahead, CCPS is seeking nominations for its 2026-27 Superintendent's Advisory Council. The council will include two community members, two parents of students in prekindergarten through 12th grade, two students in grades nine through 12 and two teachers or staff members.

Nominations are being accepted through Aug. 28. Individuals may nominate themselves or someone else, and nominations will be kept confidential.

The council will provide feedback and perspectives from its members' respective groups and contribute to division-wide decision-making and improvement.

Wheeler encouraged the school community to embrace the "Level Up" theme throughout the year.

"We simply need to ask ourselves: What can I do today to be a little better than I was yesterday?" Wheeler said. "If we continue to do that, day after day, I am confident we will have a great school year."

Relocated Andy Layne Trailhead opens along A.T. Virginia Triple Crown

Aila Boyd
aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

CATAWBA VALLEY — A newly relocated parking area for the Andy Layne Trail opened Thursday, Aug. 20, providing hikers with improved access to one of the Appalachian Trail's most popular viewpoints in Virginia.

The 3-mile Andy Layne Trail serves as a connector to the Appalachian National Scenic Trail near Tinker Cliffs, one of the three destinations that make up Virginia's Triple Crown along with McAfee Knob and Dragon's Tooth. The sites are among the most visited locations on the Appalachian Trail, which stretches more than 2,100

See **Andy Layne Trailhead,** page 2

FROM THE ARCHIVES

By Judy Harper, staff writer

From the August 16, 1995, edition of The New Castle Record

From New Jersey with love…

Elmer teens paint church in Oriskany

From July31 through Aug. 7, the true-life saga of Oriskany Square, 24130 ran much like a filming of Beverly Hills, 90210.

The storyline was clear and well defined: Scarpe and paint a 90-year-old community church, hidden in the folds of the Alleghany Mountains-King memorial community Church of Oriskany.

The script was familiar. Mark had written it almost 2000 years ago in chapter 10, verse 45:" For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister…"

Fifteen teenagers in senior high grades captured leading roles in the cast. You may not have heard of them, but they include: Christine Bates, Jay Camp, Kevin Coughlin, Jimmy English, Gail Guenther, john Hitchner, Christina Jenkins, Manu Salas (a foreign exchange student from San Sebastian, Spain), Tim Sastic, Amy Strang, Maureen Strang, Michael Vanlier, Michele Wanlier, Michele Williams and Daniel "Smiley" Wilson. And they're all members of the First Baptist Church in Elmer, N.J.

Assistant pastor of the Elmer congregation, Steve Snavley, explained that the selection process was lengthy and involved introspection by the students. Steve and his wife, Debbie, were one of three adult couple team leaders responsible for the trip.

The other two couples, Bill and Terri Norton and Cheryl and Dan Static, took vacations from their regular jobs to serve as directors of the refurbishing activities. They come well qualified for this particular project. Norton is an independent contractor and Sastic, a physician, painted his way through medical school.

This is the ninth year the teen mission group has gone "out in the field" to help others and Snavely said he heard of the Oriskany project through referrals and Village ministries.

David Cox, the minister of King Memorial, had purchased the paint earlier this spring through the PTA fundraiser at Eagle Rock elementary School in which Paul Thurston, Devoe distributor, spearheaded a special paint sale to help raise money for the sixth-grade field trip to Washington, D.C. Cox's two children, Nathan and Jonathon attend school there.

"That was a terrific thing Paul did for our PTA," Cox said. "We didn't realize the great price break that they made available during the sale until we had to go pick up a couple of more gallons this week"

Cox's wife, Ninette, hosted daily lunches for the entire crew. She was excited the project would be appreciated by the 200 people they anticipate for the church's homecoming, Sept. 18.

The crew assembled scaffolds, scraped, sanded, swept and painted-restoring the wooden frame structure to its classic whiteness. Team member, Amy Strang, described the undertaking as "a real challenge."

And when they needed a special piece of equipment to reach the top of the steeple, church trustee, Richard Paraday, was pleased that Roanoke and Botetourt Telephone company, came to the rescue with the weekend loan of a company "cherry-picker."

"Without that truck, we never could have been able to work on the steeple," Cheryl Sastic said.

But their day involved more than manual labor.

Devotional, prayer and Bible-reading times kept the crew focused on their mission and spiritual goals.

Following Saturday's lunch, at the Cox's, it was Tim Sastic's turn to lead the group in prayer.

". it's very important that we don't live like the world but live in it…it's not that we don't know how to do this…sometimes it's just that we don't trust God," he said.

Later that afternoon, everyone celebrated the accomplishments of the week and the success of the mission trip at a "whole town" picnic hosted by David and holly Wadey. Through Wadey's newsletter, "The Oriskany Grapevine," former members and relatives of the community returned for the day. Among these were Jim and Linda Surber from Greensboro, N.C., with their four children, Craig (named after the creek) and toddling triplets, Eric, Lauren and Christin.

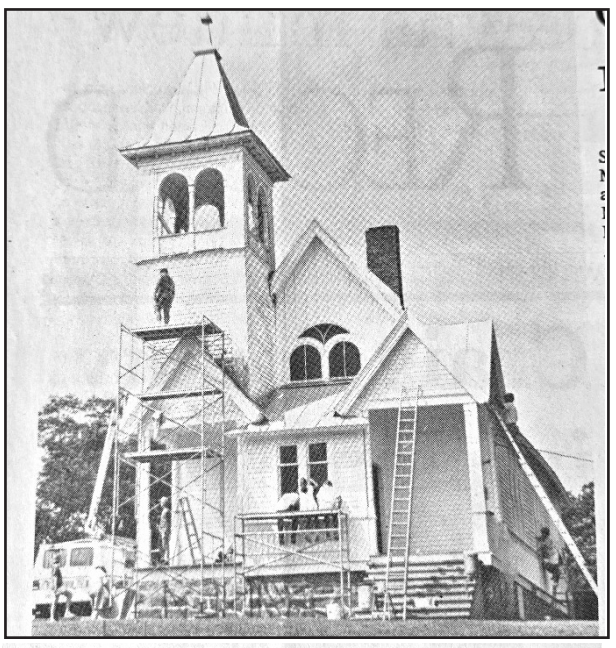
They all came to see the church, to see each other and to thank the students.

The entire week was a rewarding time for all.

"We've liked it here, we've has a lot of fun," said Michele Williams.

Christine Bates added, "The people we are staying with are really nice and have made us feel at home.

-Prepared by Shelly Koon



King Memorial Community Church received a new paint job courtesy of teenagers from the First Baptist Church in Elmer, N.J.



Maureen Strang and Jimmy English (top) and Gail Guenther and Jay Camp (below) help paint King Memorial Community Church in Oriskany. The students came all the way from N.J.
New Castle Record Photos/Judy Harper

FROM THE NEW CASTLE RECORD ARCHIVES

Andy Layne Trailhead from page 1

miles across 14 states from Georgia to Maine.

The new parking area is less than a mile south of the former trailhead and includes expanded parking, a rerouted section of trail and a new footbridge over Catawba Creek.

"These changes are also evidence of broader trail improvements along the A.T. as it passes Roanoke due to the region's popularity as a hiking destination," said Kathryn Herndon-Powell, Virginia regional director for the Appalachian Trail Conservancy.

The former Andy Layne Trail parking area frequently overflowed during busy spring and fall weekends, while the trail's bridge over Catawba Creek was nearing the end of its lifespan, Herndon-Powell said.

"Across the Virginia Triple Crown, we are many years into a focused effort with a broad partnership in finding ways to accommodate more visitors while protecting the natural beauty that makes this area so popular," she said.

The Andy Layne Trail has been marked by blue blazes on property owned by Roanoke Cement Co. since 1991 through a partnership involving the company, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club. As Roanoke Cement expands its operations, the company coordinated with the two organizations to maintain public access to the trail.

"For 35 years, Roanoke Cement has partnered with the Appalachian Trail Conservancy because being a responsible operator and community partner means caring for the natural resources and recreational opportunities that surround our operations and that make our region special," said Kevin Baird, president of Titan America's Mid-Atlantic Business Unit.

"Together, we've maintained trail access, repaired storm damage, and designed a new route with a safer crossing, expanded trailhead, and additional parking to better serve the thousands of hikers who visit each year," Baird said.

The new trailhead has parking for 50 vehicles. Roanoke Cement Co. fully funded the project.

"We're grateful to the Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, and the dedicated volunteers who help preserve this remarkable resource," Baird said. "We are proud to support their important work and the lasting benefits they provide to our community."

Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club President Linda Mulheren said the Andy Layne Trail provides an important access point for hikers seeking to reach Tinker Cliffs.

"Without Andy Layne Trail, the awesome sights from atop Tinker Cliffs would be far more difficult for hikers to reach," Mulheren said. "People come from around the world to hike Virginia's Triple Crown."

"The Andy Layne Trail is an important entryway to the A.T., and especially Tinker Cliffs, because the location of Tinker Cliffs is rather remote," she added. "The Andy Layne Trail provides a fantastic way to get there."

The improvements to the Andy Layne Trail follow the completion of a dedicated pedestrian bridge for the Appalachian Trail over Virginia Route 311 in spring 2025. That project improved access to nearby McAfee Knob, another Virginia Triple Crown destination and the most-photographed location on the Appalachian Trail.

The Andy Layne Trail is named posthumously in honor of a World War II veteran, outdoor enthusiast and dedicated Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club member.

If you go: As of August 2026, the new trailhead does not have a street address. Hikers preparing for the 7-mile round trip can locate the new trailhead by entering 37°26'52.9"N 80°00'54.0"W into a map application.

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy, founded in 1925, works to manage and protect the Appalachian National Scenic Trail and its surrounding landscape. The organization works with supporters, partners and volunteers to preserve the trail and its natural and scenic resources.

God's House Is Always Open

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 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 Raymond Christian and Tim Creasy. Check us out on facebook or contact us at: craigcountycommunitychurch@gmail.com.

CRAIG VALLEY BAPTIST
Pastor Scott Gabrielson, church phone 864-5667, 171 Salem Avenue, Food Pantry available (M,W,F) 9am-noon. Sunday School 10am, Worship 11am, Mondays 6:30pm Men and Ladies Bible Study, Wednesday: Bible Buddies 6:30pm, Bible Study 7pm. craigvalleybaptist@gmail.com

CROSSROADS CHURCH
21892 Craigs Creek Road, New Castle. Pastor Kenny Davis. 540-765-9418. Sunday School - 9:30am, Sunday Worship - 10:30am.

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. We offer a Spiritual Event on the 2nd. Sunday of each month. The program may be a Light and Sound Service, a Spiritual video and discussion, or other topics and techniques to help Raise Your Spiritual IQ. The Roanoke ECK Center is located at 1420 3rd. St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. For more information visit www.eck-va.org or call 540- 353-5365. People of all faiths are welcome.

FIRST BAPTIST
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, Rev. Dr. Loraine Taylor, agladypastor@msn.com. Sunday Service @ 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Adult Bible Study @ 7:00 p.m. Youth (Ages 13-18) & Super Church (Ages 4-12) 7:00 p.m. Facebook Livestream each Sunday morning @ 10:30 a.m. www.graceassemblycatawba.org

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
159 Old Railroad Ave, New Castle, 540-864-PRAY, Sunday School 9:00AM, Sunday Worship Service 10:00AM.

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, 540-5257662. 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 Zane "Sput" Jones, phone: 540-309-3170, Rt. 621, Sunday Prayer 10:00-10:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 pm.

NEW CASTLE UNITED METHODIST
Rev. Dr. J. Adam Sowder, 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
Reverend Peter Naah, 99 Second St., New Castle, Va. Tel 540-840-8686. Email. office@Stjohnnewcastle.org. Mass is at 11:15 on Sundays and 5:00pm on Thursdays.

If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Tucker Frye at 540-309-9485 or email tfrye@ourvalley.org

Recipe of the Week



Shelly Koon
Contributing Writer

Last week my coworker Lynn gave me 3 dozen eggs. She has chickens and gets too many eggs for her family to eat. Because I like eggs and didn't want to waste them, I had to find a way to use them.

I grew up with the 1977 slogan," It's the incredible, edible egg." After dietary guidelines warned against cholesterol, egg consumption had declined for thirty years. The newly formed American Egg Board started a campaign to increase the sale of eggs. The campaign used a catchy jingle and upbeat TV ads to promote eggs as a versatile, low-cost, high-protein food. The ads are on YouTube if you want to relive them. "Just heat and eat" is one memorable line.

Humans have been consuming eggs for as long as we've been walking the earth. Relatively easy to come by, a great source of protein, and versatile in cooking, eggs have played an important role in human diets since the very beginning of history.

According to History.com, the first jungle fowl eggs were in the forests of Southeast Asia. Around 1500 BC they became domesticated and slowly spread to Europe around 900 BC along trade routes. At first chickens weren't eaten, they were considered a status symbol. In Italy around 500 BC there is evidence that they started eating eggs.

Egg eating spread with the Roman invasion of Europe. Eggs were a common ingredient in the Roman diet and Roman markets had specialized egg sellers called oviarii. Ancient Romans didn't really eat breakfast, just leftovers from the night before. Roman cooks used eggs in a variety of dishes both sweet and savory. Roman writer Apicus wrote about 500 recipes including eggy custards, quiches and omelets in his 5th century book, De re coquinaria (On the Subject of Cooking). As human nutritional reliance on eggs grew over time, so did the number of ways they were utilized in everyday life. Ancient Egyptian bakers used eggs to make breads, early African cultures mixed egg whites into recipes as a thickening agent, and the Romans were fond of turning eggs into tasty cakes and desserts.

Eggs are one of the world's most perfect foods. Full of protein, 12 grams per serving (2 eggs), and vitamins A, D, E, and B. Eggs help boost bone health, liver function, and our immune system.

Why are eggs sold by the dozen? That has always bugged me. According to FoodTimeline.org, American's embrace of the dozen as standard measure descends from English roots. Food history sources confirm retail eggs were sold by the dozen during Elizabethan times. They do not tell us why this standard was chosen, nor do they credit a specific person or place for making this decision. Colonial-19th century wholesale exchanges were conducted in boxes or bushel barrels; no count provided. In the days of industrial food packaging, it makes sense for eggs to be sold in even increments from a practical standpoint. No "baker's dozen" in the egg carton. It is interesting to note some grocers through time argued eggs should be sold by weight, not count. Why? Because the actual size of the eggs is different. Today's egg sellers take this into account. Products are graded by size and grouped, packed, and priced accordingly. While the dozen remains the standard for statistical purposes, eggs are now sold to retail consumers in packs ranging from 6 to 18.

Before commercialization of eggs, chickens would lay eggs like crazy in Springtime. You would end up with many more than you could possibly eat at that moment, so you found ways to preserve them. Now, eggs are available year-round due to keeping chickens in a controlled environment, so they don't know about day length. This keeps them laying regularly.

The average American eats 286 eggs per year. Overall, the United States produces 75 billion eggs annually. Want to guess which state contributes the most? It's Iowa! They produce approximately 16.5 billion eggs.

The next time you balk at the price of a dozen eggs, be grateful that you didn't have to outrun an angry ostrich or personally domesticate a wild bird to enjoy a delicious omelet. Egg eating has never been so easy.

There are many recipes online for egg dishes and use. Here are some I made with that 3 dozen eggs.



Oven Scrambled Egg Bake

Ingredients

12 large eggs
3 cups mixed cheese (I used Mexican mix cheese)
1 cup whole milk (I used skim and it was fine)
4 tablespoons unsalted butter
1 teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon black pepper
Optional add-ins: sautéed onions, bell peppers, spinach, crumbled bacon

Instructions

Preheat your oven to 350°F (175°C). In a large bowl, whisk together the eggs, milk, salt, and pepper until fully combined. Grease a 9×13-inch baking dish with room temperature butter. Stir 2 cups of cheese into the egg mixture, reserving 1 cup for topping. Pour the mixture into the prepared dish and top with remaining cheese. Bake for 30-35 minutes, or until eggs are set and the top is golden brown. Allow to cool for a few minutes, then cut into squares and serve warm. Store leftovers in an airtight container in the fridge for up to 3 days or freeze for up to a month. You can assemble the dish the night before for convenience.



Spinach and Cottage Cheese Quiche

Ingredients

1 cup cottage cheese
1 cup fresh spinach, chopped
4 large eggs
1/2 cup mozzarella cheese
1/2 cup milk
1/4 cup Parmesan cheese
1/2 tsp garlic powder
Salt and pepper to taste

Instructions

Preheat oven to 375°F. Whisk eggs, milk, garlic powder, salt, and pepper. Stir in cottage cheese, spinach, mozzarella, and Parmesan. Pour into greased 9-inch pie dish. Bake 30-35 minutes or until set and golden brown.

How to Freeze Raw Eggs for Later Use

Place 1-4 eggs at a time in a large glass measuring cup. Use your wire whisk to gently combine the yolk with the white. You don't want to whip it until frothy, just until it's combined. Pour into your zip-close freezer bag. Set aside and continue until all your eggs are processed.

Label bags. Place them flat on a baking sheet in your freezer for 3-4 hours. Remove bags from the sheet. You can now freeze & store them in your freezer for up to 3 months. Thawing: Remove bag(s) from freezer and thaw overnight in your refrigerator. Thawed eggs should be used within 24 hours.

NEW CASTLE RECORD
Subscribe Today!
540-389-9355

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

C	A	B	S			S	S	C			S	O	W
B	L	O	C	S		U	C	A		S	A	G	A
S	A	N	A	A		C	O	N		A	B	E	L
	S	A	B	O	T	C	W	T		S	L	E	D
				A	B	O	L	I	S	H	E	S	
T	R	A	N	S	P	A	R	E	N	T			
S	A	M	B	A	E	D		D	A	O			
H	Y	P	E	D				R	E	M	I	T	
			I	S	M		T	A	M	A	B	L	E
			S	H	O	W	E	R	S	T	A	L	L
	P	A	S	T	U	R	A	G	E				
H	A	M	E		C	A	R		S	A	B	E	R
A	C	E	S		K	I	D			A	L	L	E	N
L	E	E	S		E	N	E			R	A	B	B	I
F	D	R			D	E	N			B	A	S	T	

Subscribe Today!

Tickle Oil & Propane
Serving Craig County
Call today for prices!
540-626-6000



We accept all major credit cards.

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

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2506 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, notice is hereby given of a public hearing to be held by the Craig County Board of Supervisors on the proposed County Budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2026-27 (July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027). The Public Hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, will be held September 3, 2026 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 2026-27
TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR:

CCP	270,638.00
County of Craig	65,415.68
Opioid	8,111.23
Dept of Social Services	1,937.50

COMMUNITY SERVICE DIRECTORY

GUTHRIE INSURANCE AGENCY INC.
HOME~AUTO~BUSINESS~FARM~LIFE~HEALTH
Need a quote or policy information?
PH: 540-864-6688
Text: 540-486-2970



WWW.GUTHRIEINSURANCEVA.COM
GUTHRIEINSURANCE@YAHOO.COM
LICENSED IN VA, WV, TN & NC



ANGIE GUTHRIE-PONTON
OWNER/AGENT
ANGIE@GUTHRIEINSURANCE.NET

LEANN CROY
OFFICE MANAGER/CSR
LEANN@GUTHRIEINSURANCE.NET

MHC Monroe Health Center
Craig County Health Center
226 Market Street - New Castle, VA
Phone: (540) 864-6390 Fax: (540) 864-6356
*Physical Exams * X-ray Services
* Laboratory Services * Acute Care
*Mental Health Services * Well Baby Checks
ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

Paitsel Funeral Home
VISIT OUR WEBSITE ONLINE AT WWW.PAITSELFH.COM
ONLINE OBITS, CONDOLENCES, DIRECTIONS,
COMMUNITY SERVICES, ON-LINE PRE-ARRANGEMENTS.
SIGN IN AT THE GUEST BOOK
AND GIVE US YOUR THOUGHTS
PO Box 326, 286 Main Street • New Castle, Virginia
540-864-5142

MAKE AN "A" IN ADVERTISING!
To advertise in this space, call
Tucker Frye at 540-389-9355
trfye@ourvalley.org



Guthrie Insurance Agency
We Insure Farms
Angela Guthrie-Ponton, *Owner/Agent*
207 Main Street, New Castle • (540) 864-6688

ADVERTISE With us
To advertise in this space, call
Tucker Frye at 540-389-9355
tfrye@ourvalley.org

OPINION

News from the 9th: Lab Safety



Morgan Griffith
Representative

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, lawmakers have intensified scrutiny of laboratory biosafety and research facilities that receive federal funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

As the former Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee Chairman and current Health Subcommittee Chairman on Energy and Commerce, I continue to help lead investigative work of federal research labs and the NIH.

The NIH consists of 27 Institutes and Centers. The NIH maintains a vast and expansive network of labs inside and outside the United States.

One such lab is Rocky Mountain Laboratories in Hamilton, Montana.

Rocky Mountain Laboratories exercises a massive research portfolio. The lab studies various diseases, including but not limited to Salmonella, chronic wasting disease, relapsing fever and plague.

POLITICO reports that scientists there are credited with breakthroughs involving Lyme disease and Ebola, among others.

Rocky Mountain operates as a Biosafety Level 4 laboratory, which is the highest safety designation. Scientists at Level 4 labs tend to deal with diseases that are life-threatening and must follow the most stringent security requirements.

According to a webpage from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), only a handful of U.S. labs are qualified Level 4 labs.

However, within the last year, the Montana lab was linked to two concerning events.

One incident occurred in November 2025, when a Rocky Mountain worker was bitten by an infected lab monkey!

The monkey was infected with a lethal tickborne illness known as Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recognizes the severe illness as the most widespread viral hemorrhagic fever.

After news broke of the monkey bite incident, questions swirled about the Montana lab, its safety protocols and how such a lab incident could happen.

Controversy did not stop there.

In June 2026, two NIH researchers from Rocky Mountain were criminally charged by the Department of Justice!

Their crime?

Smuggling monkeypox into the United States!

According to the Department of Justice, the two scientists were traveling on a commercial plane back to the U.S. from the Democratic Republic of Congo in Africa. The Congo is the epicenter of a current Ebola virus outbreak.

When the scientists arrived in Detroit, they lied to Customs and Border Patrol officers about the contents of a black case. The scientists claimed their case contained diagnostics and testing equipment.

Federal law enforcement discovered and tested 113 vials, many of which contained deactivated monkeypox virus. Another vial contained chickenpox and a couple contained human DNA.

It is clear that both researchers have experience working with infectious pathogens. In fact, Dr. Vincent Munster led Rocky Mountain's virus ecology section at that time.

Upon hearing about these incidents, I wanted to get answers.

This August, I traveled to Montana, where I received a tour of the Level 4 lab and a briefing. NIH Director Jay Bhattacharya, who was a vocal opponent of COVID-19 lockdown policies, joined me to hear from the lab's researchers.

Explaining the monkey bite incident, the researchers had put the lab monkey under anesthesia. As one worker held the monkey up to their chest, the worker accidentally tapped the back of the monkey's jaw.

On reflex, the monkey subconsciously bit the worker.

The worker received immediate treatment for their minor wound, and after appropriate precautions, returned to Rocky Mountain to continue research.

In research settings, animal-handling incidents can occur despite established safety and handling protocols.

Researchers I met with at Rocky Mountain also said they were ashamed and felt betrayed by Munster's actions.

The Munster case seemed to be a case of arrogance.

Because he was a leading scientist, the theory goes that Munster felt like the normal rules should not apply to him. But more will become clear as the criminal charges proceed.

We have seen too often recently that some scientists share this philosophy, which is why we need to pass specific rules banning risky research, such as my legislation, the Risky Research Review Act.

Rogue activity in the "name of science" must always be confronted. Thanks in part to my efforts to confront these issues, the group responsible for funding dangerous coronavirus research in Wuhan, China, was debarred from getting contracts with the U.S. government.

As infectious disease research develops, Congress has a responsibility to protect the American people. I will continue my vigilance on improving safety compliance, my investigative work and my exploration of additional Congressional action that can be taken regarding biolaboratory safety.

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

USPS 378-080
(540) 389-9355
1633 W. Main St.
Salem, VA 24153
www.ourvalley.org

Michael Showell, *Publisher*
Aila Boyd, *Executive Editor* aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com
Brian Hoffman, *Sports Editor* bhoffman@ourvalley.org
Debbie Nixon, *Graphic Designer* dnixon@mainstreetnewspapers.com
Tucker Frye, *Advertising Consultant* tfrye@ourvalley.org

Give us your view: aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

To subscribe: 540-389-9355

The New Castle Record (USPS 378-080) is published weekly for $49 a year in Craig County, $55 elsewhere in Virginia, and $57 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., 1633 W Main St., Salem, VA 24153. Periodical postage paid at New Castle, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE NEW CASTLE RECORD 1633 W. Main St., Salem, Va. 24153

The New Castle Record encourages letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication. All letters will be verified before publication. The Record reserves the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length content and style. News of public interest is solicited from all sections of the county.

New study links egg consumption to reduced risk of Alzheimer's disease

LOMA LINDA, Calif.—Researchers recently unveiled new insights into eggs' extraordinary brain health benefits.

Loma Linda University Health researchers found consumption of eggs to be associated with a lower risk of being diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease for those 65 years and older. The study, Egg intake and the incidence of Alzheimer's disease in the Adventist Health Study 2 cohort linked with Medicare data, was published in the Journal of Nutrition in June and supported by the American Egg Board and National Institutes of Health.

The cases of Alzheimer's disease in the Adventist Health Study 2 cohort were diagnosed by physicians, according to Medicare records, among the study population of around 40,000 subjects. The average follow-up period was 15.3 years.

Studying the consumption of eggs in various forms, researchers found that eating one egg per day for at least five days a week reduces risk of Alzheimer's by up to 27%. Eating eggs one to three times per month had a 17% decrease in risk, and eating eggs two to four times per week had a 20% decrease in risk.

The team sought to address a substantial knowledge gap in the relationship between modifiable dietary factors and Alzheimer's disease risk. They emphasized that moderate egg consumption should be part of a balanced diet.

Eggs are known to be a source of key nutrients that support brain health, including choline—a precursor to acetylcholine and phosphatidylcholine, which are critical for memory and synaptic function, according to the study.

Mary Rapoport, consumers affairs director for the Virginia Egg Council, has followed similar research into eggs' brain health benefits for decades.

"I'm thrilled with these results, and they don't surprise me in the least," she remarked. "We've long been saying choline is brain food."

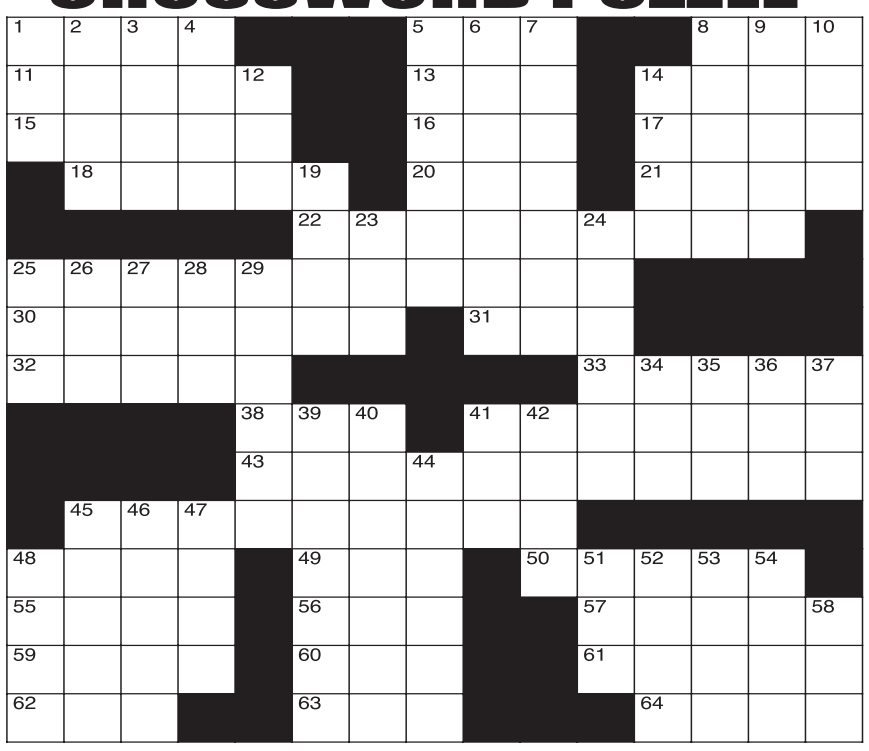
According to the National Institutes of Health, one large egg contains 147 milligrams of choline—making up 27% Daily Value for adults and children ages 4 years and older.

"In fact, we suggest pregnant women consume two eggs per day, and that eggs be one of babies' first solid foods to help with their brain development," Rapoport noted. "And because of the way the egg is designed, we readily absorb all of its nutrients."

Eggs also contain lutein and zeaxanthin, which are

See **Farm Bureau,** page 5

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS
1. Taxis
5. Space Systems Command
8. Plant seed by scattering
11. Alliances
13. Fiddler crabs
14. Heroic tale
15. Yemen capital
16. Misleading gesture
17. Cain and __
18. Simple shoe
20. Hundredweight
21. ChildrenÕs toy in the snow
22. Gets rid of
25. Free of deceit
30. Performed a dance
31. Chinese philosophical principle
32. Exaggerated
33. Refrain from inflicting
38. A doctrine
41. Can be subdued
43. A place to bathe
45. Land used for pasture
48. Curved piece of iron
49. Automobile
50. Fencing sword
55. Breezes through
56. Child
57. NBA legend Iverson
59. Horsley and Iacocca are two
60. Midway between northeast and east
61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
62. U.S. leader during much of WW2
63. Lair
64. Fibrous material

CLUES DOWN
1. Home of Ò60 MinutesÓ
2. Expression of sorrow or pity
3. __ fide: legitimate
4. Immune response
5. Assistance and support
6. Glared
7. Spanish saloon
8. Pitch black
9. S-shaped lines
10. Statistical test
12. __ Paulo, city
14. Graduation garb
19. A way to record
23. Not good
24. Weather events
25. A pituitary hormone
26. Jamie Foxx film
27. RockerÕs accessory
28. One point east (clockwise) of due north
29. One who obtains pleasure from anotherÕs pain
34. Consume
35. Licensed for Wall Street
36. Sick
37. Israeli city __ Aviv
39. Removed the husk
40. Mass of rocks and sediment
41. Two-year-old sheep
42. Area units
44. Prison overseer
45. Walked
46. Wartime escort aircraft carrier
47. Tax
48. 50 percent
51. Swiss river
52. Tattle
53. Actor Idris
54. Resist authority (slang)
58. Egg of a louse

Stay In Touch With a Subscription

Get print or digital access to the latest news, information, entertainment and offers to keep you in the loop and on your toes.



THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

DIGITAL ONLY
One Year Digital Subscription $41.00

DIGITAL & PRINT
Yearly Print & Digital Subscription $75.00

PRINT ONLY
Yearly Print Only Subscription
$49.00 In County
$55.00 Out of County
$57.00 Out of State

SUBSCRIPTION TO NEW CASTLE RECORD

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Check Enclosed _____ or call (304) 647-5724 to pay by credit card

Mail to: Circulation Department, NEW CASTLE RECORD, P.O. BOX 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901 or call us at (304) 647-5724.

Farm Bureau from page 4

associated with improved cognitive performance and reduced oxidative stress; key omega-3 fatty acids; and phospholipids, which are necessary for neurotransmitter receptor function.

Rapoport noted eggs' myriad additional uses, like supporting muscle health. One large egg contains 6.3 grams of protein, with the yolk containing nearly half of that amount.

She recently shared egg protein facts and tips for preparing protein pancakes on WTVR's Virginia This Morning show.

"You're getting a host of essential nutrients for just 70 calories!" Rapoport marveled. "It takes my breath away how much value we get out of eggs. They're a nutritional bargain at any price."

She finds the study's results hopeful.

"I'm fascinated that we can put men and women on the moon and bring them back in one piece, yet we still don't have a cure for one of the most awful diseases on the planet," Rapoport reflected.

-Virginia Farm Bureau

VDOT Roadwatch

Craig County

Craig Botetourt Scenic Trail brush cutting and stabilization work

Residents along the former Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) Craig Valley Branch railbed in Botetourt and Craig counties may notice maintenance work continuing along the old railbed. These activities are intended to prevent additional deterioration and to help designers who are developing plans for the Craig Botetourt Scenic Trail. VDOT continues to conduct site visits and field reviews on the railbed. The design plans for Craig Botetourt Scenic Trail are still being refined. On going maintenance activities regarding extensive stabilization should be complete by summer 2026 with project set to begin by the end of 2026. Interstate 81

Interstate 81 bridge rehabilitation over Route 670 in Botetourt County

A bridge rehabilitation project is underway on I-81 at the bridge over Route 670 (Trinity Road). Drivers can expect periodic nighttime lane closures on northbound and southbound I-81. Work will also be performed under the bridge on Trinity Road which may also require lane and road closures with flagging operations. Expected completion is summer 2027.

Interstate 81 acceleration ramp extension at exit 162 in Botetourt County

This ramp extension project will extend the on-ramp onto northbound I-81 about 1,000 feet. The project also includes installing drainage structures and constructing a retaining wall alongside the slope. As work progresses, additional ramp and lane closures may be in place during nighttime hours. During construction, barrier wall will be installed along the right shoulder of northbound I-81 at exit 162. Electronic message boards will alert drivers to any updates or changes. Work is expected to be completed in late 2026.

Lane closures:

Weather permitting, alternating northbound and southbound lane closures for drainage improvements will be in place on Route 11 in Buchanan between I-81 and the Exxon station next to the northbound off ramp at exit 162. All I-81 ramps will remain open.

Drivers can expect other nighttime right and left lane closures in place on I-81. Drivers should use caution in the area of the work zone.

Interstate 81 bridge work at exit 156 in Botetourt County

Bridge work is underway on northbound and southbound I-81 at Exit 156. Milling and paving the bridge deck will take place in both directions beginning with the northbound side first and then southbound once northbound is completed. Drivers can expect lane closures on I-81 during nighttime hours. Slow roll operations are expected periodically, and flagging operations will be used during barrier wall placement on Route 640 (Brughs Mill Road). Expected completion is fall 2026.

Slow rolls: Slow roll operations are possible during nighttime hours, 12 a.m. to 5 a.m., on I-81 will be in place for bridge jacking and blocking. Slow roll operations for northbound will start at Exit 150 and slow roll operations for southbound will start at the Troutville Rest Area at mile marker 158. Flagging operations will be in place on Route 640 under the bridges at Exit 156 will also be in place.

Temporary traffic barrier in place on westbound side of Route 640 under the I-81 bridges off exit 156 with lanes narrowed to 11 feet.

Nighttime outside and inside lane closures may be in place on I-81 from mile marker 155 to 157, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning.

Interstate 81 lane widening construction project exit 137 to exit 141

The $179 million design-build project to widen both directions of I-81 between mile markers 136.6 and 141.8 from two to three lanes is nearing completion. 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:

Uneven rough pavement: Drivers may experience some uneven pavement and/or rough surface throughout the project.

Ramp closures: Drivers may see ramp closures for the paving of exit 137 and 140 on and off ramps from and onto northbound and southbound I-81 in Salem, 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Watch message boards for updates on times and dates of occurrence and plan ahead.

Milling and paving: Paving operations will require lane closures northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. the following morning.

Milling operations are being performed on Route 311, Route 635 and Route 619 as well as on I-81. Flagging operations on Route 635 under the bridge are possible. Paving and marking operations will follow. Expect delays and plan ahead.

Lane 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.

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.

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 summer 2026.

I-81 widening from mile marker 143 to 150

The I-81 widening project is underway. Northbound and southbound lane closures possible during nighttime hours. Various tasks are being performed throughout the project. The expected completion for this project is summer 2031.

Blasting: Starting the week of August 24, blasting will occur for about eight weeks between 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Tuesday through Thursday. Exact days and times will be communicated weekly below and on social media. Drivers should expect loud noises and are encouraged to allow for extra travel time. Expect delays, heavy congestion and use alternate routes. Message boards will provide updated information. Slow rolls will be used in both directions:

Northbound lanes beginning at the 146 on-ramp (Plantation Road)

Southbound lanes beginning at the 156 on-ramp (Troutville)

For the week of August 24, blasting will occur on Wednesday, August 26 and Thursday, August 27 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Ramp closures: Various closures and narrowing of ramps will be in place over the next few weeks. Drivers can use alternate exits at 150 during any of the ramp closures or use exit 146 for access to Route 11 to return to the area at exit 150. Message boards will alert drivers of the closures and should watch for any changes or updates as these closures are weather dependent.

Truck entrances on I-81: Openings for trucks to enter into the work zone for deliveries are possible where barrier walls are present. Watch for trucks that may slow down on the interstate to enter these areas.

Barrier walls: Drivers will continue to see barrier walls with an eight-foot shoulder being put into place throughout the project. Drivers should watch for changes in traffic patterns.

Traffic shift: Southbound traffic is shifted to the right shoulder from exit 150 in Botetourt County to exit 146 in Roanoke County.

Lane closures: Periodic right and left lane and shoulder closures in place during nighttime hours 9 p.m. to 6 a.m., on northbound and southbound I-81.

Flagging operations: Flagging operations are possible on various secondary roads impacted by bridge work. Watch for message boards and signage.

Daytime flagging operation on Reservoir Road until Tuesday, September 1.

Daytime flagging operation on Belle Haven Road until Tuesday, September 1.

Ramps: Ramps on I-81, northbound and southbound, may experience periodic closures or be narrowed at exit 150, 146 and 143.

Shoulder closures: Shoulder closures in place with additional barrier wall to be installed next year.

Work zone speed: Drivers should adhere to posted 60 mph speed limits in the work zone and allow space when following a vehicle. Speed reminders are posted for drivers.

'Pink' detour signs: While pink detour signs are in place on I-81 and routes around the project such as Route 11 and Plantation Road, these do not designate a permanent or scheduled detour. The signed detour route is suitable for all traffic during incidents including tractor-trailers and other large vehicles. These signs are used for traffic incident detours only.

I-81 widening from mile marker 133.8 to 137

The I-81 widening project from mile marker 133.8 to 137 will begin with work to collect survey and geotechnical data that may require periodic northbound and southbound right and left lane and shoulder closures during nighttime hours. This is the northern portion of a larger project that extends to mile marker 127 at Ironto. It is being performed in three sections with this being the first section and is expected to start in early 2027.

I-81 northbound at exit 105 New River Bridge replacement in Montgomery County

Work on this project continues with the initial work beginning behind the barrier wall. Then, beginning in May and through September, the barrier wall will be moved, and the existing lanes will be narrowed. In the fall of 2026, I-81 traffic will be shifted into a new pattern at the bridge. Two lanes of traffic will continue to be open in the work zone, but motorists will be traveling on a different portion of roadway on the right side of the bridge.

Throughout construction, two lanes of northbound I-81 will remain open during daytime hours with nighttime closures possible during the hours of 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. 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. The project is expected to be complete and the bridge in its final configuration with two lanes of Interstate 81 and the right deceleration lane/exit ramp by the end of 2026.

Lane closures: Nighttime right and left lane closures may be in place on I-81 northbound or southbound between mile marker 98 and 109 from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning.

Slow rolls: Slow rolls may be utilized periodically on both the northbound and southbound lanes from mile marker 98-109 for structural steel deliveries and setting beams.

Speed limit: The speed limit is reduced to 60 miles per hour in the work zone.

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 work zone areas. Delays are possible.

NEWSPRINT END ROLLS
Full skid
$50.00 each



Good for packing, table covers, banners, and wrapping

We will load onto your truck or trailer
Call 540-389-9355
to arrange a pickup time

SALEM RIDGEYAKS
VS HILL CITY HOWLERS
SEPT. 1st 6:35 PM
2-for-1 Tuesday
SEPT. 2 6:35 PM
SEPT. 3 6:35 PM
SEPT. 4 6:35 PM Fan Appreciation Night
SEPT. 5 6:35 PM
First Responders Appreciation Night
SEPT. 6 2:05 PM

MAIN STREET CLASSIFIEDS
Marketplace
ourvalley.org
The Fincastle Herald · The Vinton Messenger · The New Castle Record · Salem Times-Register · News Messenger · Radford News Journal

For Rent

For Rent
Warehouse/garage/office space available
125 Red Oak Drive
(In between Christiansburg and Blacksburg)
Approximately 4000 square feet
4 large tall garage doors, LED lighting in warehouse/office /garage, propane heat, town water and sewer
0.227 acres
Contact: Gerald Duncan
540.552.4331 Ext 3212
Email: geralddunca n@duncanauto.net

Home Improvement

AA Home improvement
Painting, plumbing, roofing, brick and block
Over twenty years' experience
Free estimates
540.762.5584

For Sale

FOR SALE
Crosby 14' Fiberglass Angler with trailer and non-working Johnson motor. Call 336-601-4323.

Public Auction

Notice of Public Auction
The contents of the following storage unit(s) will be sold at Public Auction to enforce our owner's lien:
Unit #434
Sale will be conducted at B&B Storage,
At 1015 Radford St., Christiansburg VA
on Friday, August 28, 2026, at 10:00 A.M.
All sales are final & CASH only

Legals - City of Salem

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, September 14, 2026, 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:

1. Consider the request of Terry Properties of VA Inc., property owner, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow a two family dwelling on the property located at 432 Chestnut Street, (Tax Map # 161-3-1).

2. Consider amending Chapter 66, Signs, Article I In General, Section 66-11.1 Minor signs during voting, of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA, pertaining to minor signs during voting.

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

VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

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 Salem Residency which includes the counties of Roanoke, Botetotourt and Craig during the winter of 2026-2027. 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, rubbertire 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 payment and a minimum guaranteed payment for the season. Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov. All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (https://eva.virginia.gov). Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 18, 2026 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 Employe

Legals - Montgomery County

VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

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 2026-2027. 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 payment and a minimum guaranteed payment for the season.
Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov . All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (https://eva.virginia.gov). Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 18, 2026 may be eligible for a bonus payment. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements. Questions can be directed to the Christiansburg Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday –Friday.
Phone: 540-381-7201
Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov
EEO/AA Employer

THE CLASSIFIEDS- Where the Deals Are!
The best place to find it, sell it, buy it, and announce it.
389-9355

Legals - Montgomery County

Order of Publication
Commonwealth of Virginia
VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,-317,20-104
Case No.CL26-1624
MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIASNBURG, VA 24073
VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY
ALISON JUSTUS, Plaintiff,
v.
UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MELVIN E. SCOTT, INDIVIDUALLY, AND AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE SCOTT LIVING TRUST DATED JUNE 16, 1999,

UNKNOWN HEIRS OF NAOMI W. SCOTT, INDIVIDUALLY, AND AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE SCOTT LIVING TRUST DATED JUNE 16, 1999,

UNKNOWN SUCCESSORS IN TRUST UNDER THE SCOTT LIVING TUST DATED JUNE 16, 1999, and

UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES UNDER THE SCOTT LIVING TRUST DATED JUNE 16, 1999,
Defendant(s).

The object of this suit is to reform the Deed dated August 21, 2003, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, as Instrument No. 2003014538, and confirm title in Alison Justus. 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 non-residents of Virginia and maintain no domicile with ion the borders of the Commonwealth, or are deceased, or that there may be parties who have an interest in the property but are unknown, namely, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the named Defendant(s), made Defendant(s) by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that he named Defendant(s) and all Parties Unknown appear on or before October 14, 2026, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.
Entered 8/17/26
Honorable Robert M.D. Turk
Judge
I Ask For This:
N. Reid Broughton (VSB No. 38899)
Katie M. Decoster (VSB No. 82696)
Sands Anderson PC
P.O. Box 2009
Christiansburg, VA 24068-2009
(540)260-9011
(540) 260-0022 fax

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION
The Town of Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 14, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:
A. An ordinance of the Town of Christiansburg amending the 2013 Comprehensive Plan by adopting a revised Comprehensive Plan consisting of the following elements:
Government, Environment, Economic Development, Recreation and Destination, Infrastructure, Transportation, Public Safety, Housing, and Future Land Use, including the Future Land Use Map.
Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comments in-person at the time of this Public Hearing.
A copy of the proposed revised Comprehensive Plan may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact the Planning Department, at (540) 382-6128, ext. 1902 or by email at planning@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

Legals - Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL
The Town of Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

A. Code Amendment request by Town of Christiansburg, Applicant, to amend the Christiansburg Town Code, Chapter 42, Sec. 42-397 – Permitted uses. Data centers are currently allowed by right in the General Industrial (I-2) Zoning District, and the request is to require a conditional use permit for data centers in the General Industrial (I-2) Zoning District.
A copy of the applications, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact the Planning Department, at (540) 382-6128, ext. 1902 or by email at planning@christiansburg.org,
with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

Trustee's Sale
1990 Reesedale Road, Elliston, Virginia 24087
(Parcel ID: 022175; Tax Map No.: 057- 2 6)
Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated December 29, 2015, in the original principal amount of $106,837.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia in Instrument No. 150009429, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on September 25, 2026, at 3:00 PM in front of the building housing the Montgomery County Circuit Court, 55 East Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, the property designated as Lot number six (6), as shown on plat entitled "Survey for […] Kaulback" showing Subdivision of 45.86 acre tract, Mt. Tabor District, Montgomery County, Virginia, which plat is dated June 18, 1979, prepared by T.P. Parker and Son, C.L.S., designated no. 6256, and recorded in the Clerk`s Office of the Circuit Court in Montgomery County, Virginia, in Plat Book 9, page 197. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions, if any, of record, or other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises. TERMS: CASH. A deposit of $11,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than $9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 calendar days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review on the Foreclosure Sales page of www.glasserlaw.com, outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector, Glasser and Glasser, P.L.C. on behalf of Atlantic Trustee Services, L.L.C., and/or M. Brennan Hutt d/b/a H&H Abstracting, and/or NFPDS-VA LLC, Substitute Trustees, Crown Center Building, Suite 600, 580 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510, File No. 233457-02, Tel: (757) 321-6465, between 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon only.

Legals - Montgomery County

ABC NOTICE
SUNSHINE EATS LLC, trading as ADDY KATZ, 3165 N. Franklin St., Christiansburg, Montgomery County, Virginia, 24073-4025

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.
Ronald J. Frank Jr. 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.

STATEWIDE ADS

AUCTIONS

LUPER'S ONLINE STORE IS NOW LIVE!! Outstanding Period Antiques, Fine Arts, Fine Jewelry, Firearms & More, See at www.lupergroup.com, Also seeking Estate Gun Collections 804-852-3637

HOME IMPROVEMENT

No more cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-877-614-6667 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Get 15% off your entire order. Plus, Military & Seniors get an additional 10% off. Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

Safe Step. North Americas #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and $1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-877-591-9950

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-844-947-1479 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-844-902-4611

SERVICES

DIVORCE-Uncontested, $525.00 + $89.00 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

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just $20/month. For more information, call 1-855-262-5564

We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-844-216-5028

STATEWIDE ADS

Reach Over 1 Million Readers With This Ad!
No other media offers the audience of loyal, local, repeat readers you'll reach through community newspapers! We can target your message, statewide or regional.
Let Commonwealth Media Solutions do all the work for you at a discounted cost.
Reach Virginia
Contact Kelly McCauley
(804) 521-7580
Commonwealth Media Solutions

WHAT BURNED
WHAT THEY CLAIMED
Their lies come out of your wallet. Insurance fraud costs everyone in Virginia $1,000 per year. Learn how to spot it and report it at TheCostOfFraud.com.
STAMP OUT FRAUD
VIRGINIA STATE POLICE INSURANCE FRAUD PROGRAM

THE CLASSIFIEDS DELIVER!
It's easy to sell your stuff!
Just call 540-389-9355



BOUGHT. SOLD. SAVED.
CALL NOW TO ADVERTISE!
To place your ad, call 389-9355

Local News. Local Deals!
GET THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS
To place your ad, call 389-9355

BUSINESS SERVICES DIRECTORY

MHC
Monroe Health Center

Craig County Health Center
226 Market Street - New Castle, VA
Phone: (540) 864-6390 Fax: (540) 864-6356
*Physical Exams * X-ray Services
* Laboratory Services * Acute Care
*Mental Health Services * Well Baby Checks
ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

CARPET RE-STRETCHING!
STEVEN W. DURRANCE FLOORS
Repairs • New Sales • Expert
540-776-9591
Cell: 540-353-7908
Licensed & Insured
carpetroanoke.com

DR FAME ALLERGY & ASTHMA
540 404-9598
1002 APPERSON DR • SALEM, VIRGINIA 24153
WWW.DRTOMFAME.COM

Residential and Commercial Construction
SOUTHERN TRACE LLC BUILDING
540-966-0688
PO Box 630
Daleville, VA 24083
www.southerntracellc.com

EADES & LOWER INSURANCE
5007 Carriage Dr., Suite 100
P.O. Box 21483
Roanoke, VA 24018
SHERRI STINNETTE HOLT
INSURANCE AGENT
Cell (540)819-9179 • Office (540)981-1124
Fax (540) 981-1266
sherri@eadesandlower.com
www.eadesandlower.com
AUTO | HOME
BUSINESS | LIFE



If you believe in your business and want to build it...
ADVERTISE!
Place your ad here, call 540-389-9355



Rory "Tater" Benson, REALTOR®
540.353.7173 cell
540.989.4555 office
tbenson@mkbrealtors.com
MLS | Leading Real Estate Companies of the World | Equal Housing Opportunity | Member ERC Employee Relocation Council | MKB Realtors

Sunflooring Inc.
STEVE SMITH
With over 40 years of experience
Specializing in Hardwood Floors, Hardwood Refinishing, Laminate Flooring, Engineered Floors, Ceramic Tile, Carpet and Luxury Vinyl Plank
540-556-3100





To place your ad here, call 540-389-9355



Place your ad here, call 540-389-9355



Lisa Martin, REALTOR®
Serving the industry for 30+ years
Roanoke Valley & Blue Ridge Mountains
Premier, REALTORS
(540) 597-0480
Lisa@Lisa2buy.com • www.Lisa2buy.com
1638 Roanoke Road, Suite 101
Daleville, VA 24083
BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices
A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC

Colonial Title and Settlement

Serving the Greater Botetourt & Roanoke Valley communities with all your real estate needs for residential, commercial, construction with MLA services, Assist with 1031 Real Estate Exchanges, Purchases, Refinances and More!!!!

Call Loretta, Debbie or Kristi for your next move!

540-966-1260
1215 Roanoke Road, Daleville

ADVERTISE HERE!

To place your ad, call 540-389-9355



The best place to find it, sell it, buy it, & announce it.



To place your ad, call 389-9355

Rockets Football from page 9

blocking back and middle linebacker. He works with the offensive line and linebackers. Howell played for Rod Tenney at Craig County HS.

James Hodges is a CCHS Class of 2008 alumni and he's back for his third year with the team. James played recreation football and high school football for Fisher. James works with the tight ends and defensive backs and is also the Middle School Head Coach.

Corey Smith is in his fifth year on the staff. Coach Smith won a state title as a senior at Blacksburg HS. Corey helps with the defensive backs and tight ends. He is also the JV Head Coach. Smith played for Dave Crist and Thad Wells at Blacksburg High.

Roland Donithan is in his sixth year with the Rockets.

"Coach Donithan is my left hand man," said Fisher. "He helps with equipment, is the trainer and school nurse, and helps on the offensive and defensive lines." Roland played for legendary coach Joel Hicks at Pulaski County and is in his sixth year coaching at Craig.

Last, but certainly not least, is Assistant Head Coach and Defensive Coordinator Jayke Dowdy, now in his fifth year on the staff.

"Coach Dowdy is my right hand man, and the eyes and ears of Craig County football," said Fisher. "Jayke has been a tremendous asset for Rocket Football. I see him as a co-head coach.

Jayke also oversees the strength and conditioning program and recruiting. He played for Jeff Williams at Giles High School.

The Rockets have had some changes to the schedule.

"Montcalm dropped us immediately following The Reckoning last season," said Fisher. "We picked up Galax in Week 1. Van dropped us late and we are now going to Greater Beckley Christian in Week three. It cost us a home game.

"I think Twin Springs will be tough again and I think that all the district teams will be better than last season. Meadowbridge will also be an improved opponent. So, all in all, I think the schedule is tougher."

The Rockets continue to have good support. That was something they've had through the years, win or lose, in this tight-knit community.

"Outstanding community and alumni support," said Fisher. "It has been great since I started in 2021. They show up to the games and on social media for the team. Our fundraisers are always supported. They are proud of us, and we are proud of them."

While they lost some talented athletes from last year's team, the cupboard is far from bare heading into the 2026 season. The Rockets are looking to continue to trend up and that's not the only goal for Fisher, a Craig native who bleeds blue.

"My goal is to turn boys into men... good men," he said. "Good citizens, good fathers, good husbands, self-disciplined, respectful, hardworking men. Along the way, the goal is to win some football games… lots of them.

"It will take hard work, perseverance, self-discipline, selflessness, accountability, and for the ball to bounce right in crucial situations."

Craig County senior Carter Price has goal of attending West Point

Craig County senior Carter Price has two goals this week. The first, of course, is to beat Galax in football Friday night. However, Carter's long term goal is to attend West Point Military Academy.

First things first, Carter is a two way standout and leader on the Craig County football team. Last year as a junior he was first team All-Pioneer District and first team All-Region 1C on both offense and defense. He's the "8 man" in Craig's single wing offense and the strong tackle on defense.

"Carter is a fantastic young man and a great leader," said Craig County coach Jimmy Fisher. "He's a very good player. On offense he'll pull and kick-out on several plays and anchor some interior double teams. And he'll anchor the defense again this season."

Price is a hard worker in the weight room. He's beefed up to 260 pounds on his 6'3" frame and it's all muscle. He's one of the strongest kids on the team.

"I was in the weight room three times a week this summer," he said. "I really like lifting, more in the off-season than once the season starts. The atmosphere is amazing and coach (Jayke) Dowdy is a big part of it. He plays heavy metal music and that's my favorite in the weight room."

Carter leads by example. The other players see how hard he works and it's contagious.

"He has been a leader in a group of leaders," said Fisher. "I give a ton of credit to this group, and Carter Calfee, for leading the turnaround of this program. Carter has been instrumental to our success. He, and several kids in his grade, have bought into every single thing we have asked them to do."

Price had a busy summer. He went on a visit to Georgetown University and he attended a football camp at Washington & Lee University in Lexington.

"It's a beautiful campus, and they have high academic standards," he said.

The highlight of the summer was his participation in the Summer Leadership Program at the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY. He was there for five days, living in the dorms and going through exciting exercises.

"We got up every day at five o'clock," he said. "We ran obstacle courses, repelled off walls and had an entry session to jujitsu. I sat through three classes of psycology.

"One of the days was 'Military Day' and they gave us dummy rifles and we experienced stuff like combat. We saw Blackhawk helicopters."

Carter would like to go back.

"It's my dream school," he said.

Price is currently going through the application process to become a cadet at West Point. He has three letters of recommendation from his Math, English and Science teachers. He needs a congressional nomination from 9th District United States Congressman Morgan Griffith, and that would have to be approved along with some other criteria.

"I feel like I have a very good chance," he said. "I just completed the Army medical fitness exam and I passed that. I'll have to take another physical, like a sports physical, after the football season."

Carter is currently studying to get his SAT score higher. He has a 3.9 GPA at Craig County High after earning all A's the last semester, including two college courses. He won't learn if he is accepted until January at the earliest, but if he is it might mark a first for a Craig County native.

"I do not know of anyone from Craig that has attended one of the major service academies, but I cannot say for certain," said coach Fisher, who is somewhat of an expert on county history. "There have been several VMI and Citadel graduates I believe."

If Carter is accepted into West Point he might even try football.

"I've been in contact with the coaches," he said. "Right now my main goal is to be a cadet, and football would just be a bonus."



PHOTO BY REGINA DEVINNEY

Carter(right front) leads the Rockets onto the field at the scrimmage in Buchanan on August 14.

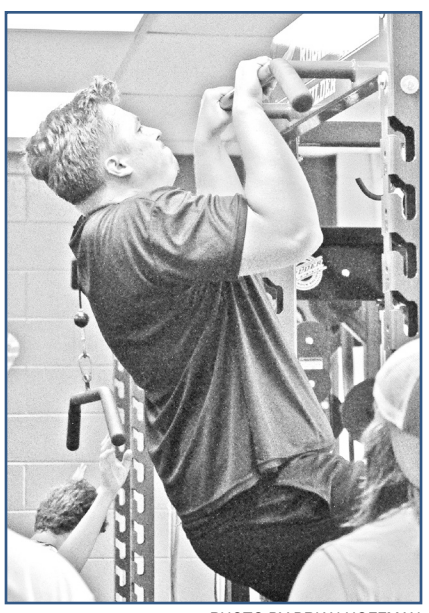


PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Carter Price works out in the Craig County weight room this summer.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Price attended a Summer Leadership Program at the United States Military Academy at West Point.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Carter, receiving an award, attended Boys State this summer.

Rockets have a home golf match today at Hanging Rock



PHOTO COURTESY CCHS GOLF

Aubrey Keffer tees off at last week's match at the Castle Rock Golf Club.

The Craig County golf team will have their first home match of the season today when the Rockets hit the links at the Hanging Rock Golf Club. The first tee-off time is scheduled for 5 pm.

All four Pioneer District schools that have golf teams are expected to attend the match, Bath County, Eastern Montgomery, Narrows and the host Rockets. Those same four teams competed at the Castle Rock course last week, hosted by Narrows.

Bath County had the low score at Castle Rock with a four-player 200 over nine holes as the teams played the "back nine." East Mont shot 226, Craig came in at 245 and Narrows only had three players so the Green Wave did not have a team score.

Craig County freshman twins Ryan and Thomas Boyer finished sixth and seventh on the day. Ryan shot 52 and Thomas was one stroke behind with a 53 on the par 36 course. Coleton Wolfe had a 69, Aubrey Keffer came in at 71 and the Rockets' newest golfer, Cameron Hanes, had a 72 in his first match. Easton Wright was ill and did not play.

"We now have six golfers so that's a full team," said coach Geoff Boyer. "We're looking forward to having everyone play at our home match."

Rocket volleyball opens this week

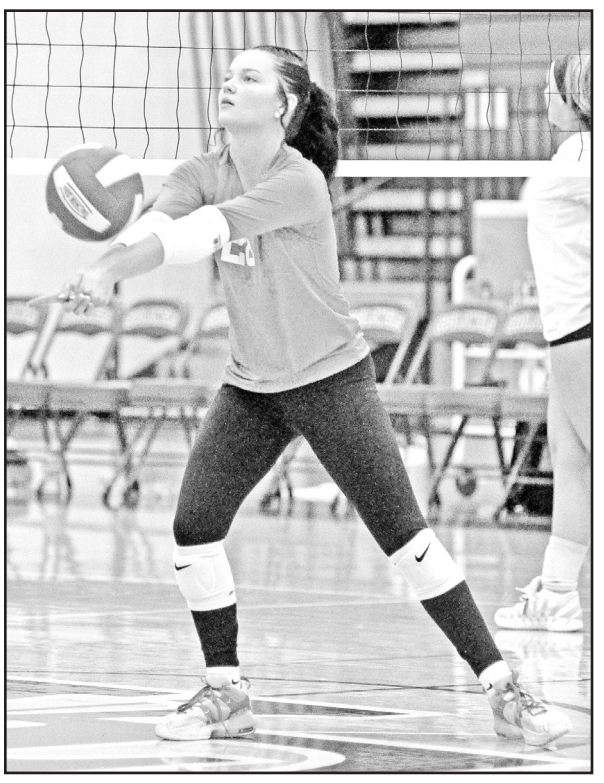


PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

The Craig County volleyball team will open the season this week with two matches. The season opener is scheduled for Tuesday at Liberty High in Bedford and the home opener is Thursday night in New Castle against Smith Mountain Lake Christian Academy. Here Craig's Laikan May practices digs at last week's scrimmage at William Fleming High School.

Rockets Football from page 10

replicate it in scout team in one week. When opponents have been defending all these spread teams, it can also be hard to match the physicality we want to play with. I think that this is, without a doubt, the best offense for a school our size to run. FEAR THE WING!"

Craig has become adept at running this offense. It's now become second nature to the Rockets.

"In this offense, I think everyone is key," said Fisher. "Any weak points and we cannot execute our entire playbook. They all have to be consistent, play hard, and play with physicality.

"We plan on taking whatever the defense gives us. That could change every week. We expect all of our back positions to rush for 100 plus yards per game on average, no matter who is carrying the ball."

In this year's offense senior Noah Paxton returns at fullback, and he's a good one. Speedy juniors Bradyn Dunbar and Bentley Smith are tailbacks and Marcus Donithan, a senior, is the blocking back. Wings are juniors Dreydin Smith and Robbie Eakin.

At the end spots Craig will have senior Peyton Fields on the right side and Caleb Cregger, also a senior, is the left end. Caleb was one of the top receivers in the area last year.

Senior Brad Arthurs anchors the line at center. Senior Blake Hannah is the 7-man, senior Carter Price is the 8-man, senior Kadin Arthurs and junior Kaden Custer are battling for the starting spot at 9 and junior Jeremiah Fowler is the 10-man in the single wing numbered system.

Craig will run a 4-2-5 on defense.

"It enables us to match up to the spread teams and also easily align in a 4-4 defense for a run heavy opponent," said Fisher.

Several players were battling for starting spots on the defense, including Hannah, Fowler, Fields and sophomore Lane Markham at the strong end position. One of the same will play the week end.

Price is a beast at strong tackle and the noseguard will come from a group of Kadin Arthurs, Custer and Hannah.

At linebacker Paxton is the "Mike," or middle backer. Dreydin Smith or junior Blake Kendall will be on the strong side(Sam) and Donithan will play the weak side(Will).

Corners will be Bentley Smith and Dunbar and Wyatt Huffman, a senior, is the strong safety. Cregger will be the free safety

Craig has no lack of talented placekickers. Cregger, Clayton Cassell and Jadeon Huffman are all capable of nailing extra points or field goals. Cregger will kick off and punt. Donithan is the long snapper for place kicks while Dunbar will handle the chore on punts.

Fisher is still deciding on return men punts and kickoffs after losing two good ones to graduation. "Got spoiled with Carter Calfee and Jerry Smith back there last season," said Fisher.

Jimmy has probably the most talented staff of assistants Craig County High School has ever had.

"We have worked hard on building a quality coaching staff for these young men," he said. "We have the best and most experienced staff in program history. We are blessed to have six of our coaches in the building. Not many schools, in any classification, have six guys on staff that work in the building."

Steve Lambert is in his first year on the staff. He was a first team all-state linebacker in high school and received a full scholarship to Wake Forest. He lettered all four seasons and was a multi-year starter at linebacker for the Demon Deacons. A retired state trooper, it's his first year coaching at the varsity level. He's primarily coaching outside linebackers with Coach Jayke Dowdy. Steve is a cousin of NFL Hall of Fame linebacker Jack Lambert.

Former Rocket Johnny Hutchinson, Jr. joins the staff this year. Coach Hutch is a CCHS Class of 2022 alumni who played for Fisher his senior year. He works with Coach Roland Donithan and Fisher on the offensive and defensive lines. Johnny played college football at Ferrum College and Roanoke College.

Fisher is excited to welcome Lee Johnson to the staff this year. Coach Johnson has been a head coach at three different high schools and Jimmy worked under him at two of them. He brings a wealth of experience, at all positions, to the staff. He is helping with the backs and is the secondary coach. Lee played for Willis White at Salem High.

Jeremy Haymore is another newcomer to the Rocket program. Coach Haymore has also been a head coach at three different high schools and has been helping the Rockets from afar the past couple years.

"We are thrilled to now have him on staff," said Fisher. "He's one of the top Single Wing Offensive minds in the country and an award winning author."

Coach Haymore is the Offensive Coordinator. He played for Bob Gray at Staunton River High School.

Jeremy Howell is back for his sixth year on the staff. Jeremy is a CCHS Class of 2000 and was a star player for the Rockets at

See **Rockets Football,** page 8



PHOTO BY BETHANY SAUNDERS

Caleb Cregger catches a pass in last week's scrimmage at Smith Mountain Lake.



Rockets line up on defense, Wyatt Huffman(#19), Jeremiah Fowler(#51), Carter Price(#64) and Peyton Fields(#13).

PHOTO BY BETHANY SAUNDERS



Noah Paxton picks up good yardage in Friday's scrimmage. PHOTO BY BETHANY SAUNDERS

Market Street Pharmacy Rx
TOUCHDOWN! GO ROCKETS!
540-864-8800
www.marketstpharmacy.com

BEST WISHES FOR A SUCCESSFUL SEASON & SCHOOL YEAR!
TERRY AUSTIN STATE DELEGATE
Follow us at:
twitter.com/Terry Austin4HOD • facebook.com/TerryAustin4Delegate
The 37th House District encompasses the Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, and Rockbridge (part), and the Cities of Buena Vista, Covington, and Lexington.
PAID FOR AND AUTHORIZED BY TERRY L. AUSTIN FOR HOUSE OF DELEGATES

IGA EXPRESS
540-864-7301 ATM 24 hour Pay-At-The-Pump!
Craig County 'Hometown Convenience Stores'
GOPHER MARKET
540-864-6062 ATM HOT FOODS PIZZA

Let's Go Rockets!
Member FDIC
THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANK OF CRAIG COUNTY
(540) 864-5156

Go Rockets
Guthrie Insurance Agency
Home, Auto, Farm, Commercial, Health and Life
Serving Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee
Erie Insurance Above all in SERVICE
207 Main Street, New Castle
(O) 540-864-6688 • (C) 540-309-2434
(Text) 540-486-2970
guthrieinsurance@yahoo.com
Angela Guthrie-Ponton
Owner/Agent

PAITSEL FUNERAL HOME
GO ALL THE WAY ROCKETS!
286 Main Street
New Castle, VA
864-5142

GO ROCKETS!
Craig County Health and Dental Center
Medical Center is open Monday thru Friday 7:30am to 6pm.
The Dental Center is open Monday-Thursday 8:00am-5:00pm. The Health Center can be reached by phone at 540-864-6390 and the Dental Center 540-864-5556.
Visit our website at www.monroehealthcenters.com
Craig County Health Center 226 Market Street
Craig County Dental Center 230 Market Street

SUBSCRIBE TODAT TO STAY UP TO DATE ON ROCKETS SPORTS!

SPORTS

Send story ideas & announcements to bhoffman@ourvalley.org



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Back Row, L to R: Taelen Mills, Kadin Arthurs, Peyton Fields, Carter Price, Blake Hannah, Noah Paxton, Marcus Donithan, Brad Arthurs, Bentley Smith, Caleb Cregger, Bradyn Dunbar, Lane Markham, Connor Donithan and Tyler Colvin. Middle Row, L to R: Blake Kendall, Kaden Custer, Clayton Cassell, James Armes, Dreydin Smith, Jeremiah Fowler, J.J. Craighead, Robbie Eakin, Isaac Owens, Jadeon Huffman, Wyatt Huffman, Mikey Custer, Dylan Sarver and Keaton Foster. Front Row, L to R: Micheal Tickle, Landen Neil, Brantley Wyrick, James O'Dell, Emmett Crawford, Dalton Cassell, Brayden Howell, Jeremiah Armes, Nolan Martin, Lucas Klotter, Mason Oullette, Colton Martin, Waylon Craighead and Connor McKnight.

Rockets set to begin football season Friday night in Galax



Jimmy Fisher is in his sixth year as Craig County head coach. PHOTO BY REGINA DEVINNEY

The Craig County football team has been chomping at the bit to begin the 2026 football season and this Friday it becomes a reality.

The Rockets will open at Galax, a member of the Mountain Empire District and a Craig rival in Region 1C.

The Rockets warmed up for the season with a scrimmage against Smith Mountain Lake Christian Academy last Friday. Coach Jimmy Fisher felt the scrimmage went well.

"We got some good film and we will use it to keep improving," he said. "The kids made a lot of plays on both sides of the ball. We played very physical and that is what we are trying to hang our hat on. We made several mistakes too, and that gives us ample opportunity to correct them and get better."

The Rockets are coming off their best season ever. Last year the team went 9-1 during the regular season and was undefeated until the ninth game of the season. They shut out Bath County to open the playoffs, 27-0, then lost to Grayson County in the second round. Grayson was the defending 2024 Class 1 state champ and last year they made it all the way to the semifinal before losing to Rye Cove by one point.

Craig has seen constant improvement since Fisher took over the program in 2021. He was named coach after the Rockets did not play football due to the COVID pandemic in 2020. Things started turning around in 2024 when the Rockets had their first winning regular season since 2010 and made the playoffs for the first time since 2012. Then things really took off last year, and Craig isn't going to sneak up on anyone this season.

"I don't think we snuck up on anyone last season," said Fisher. "I think our opponents knew we were going to be better than the 2024 season."

The Rockets have been getting a lot of attention after last season. Does Fisher feel they have a target on the backs this fall?

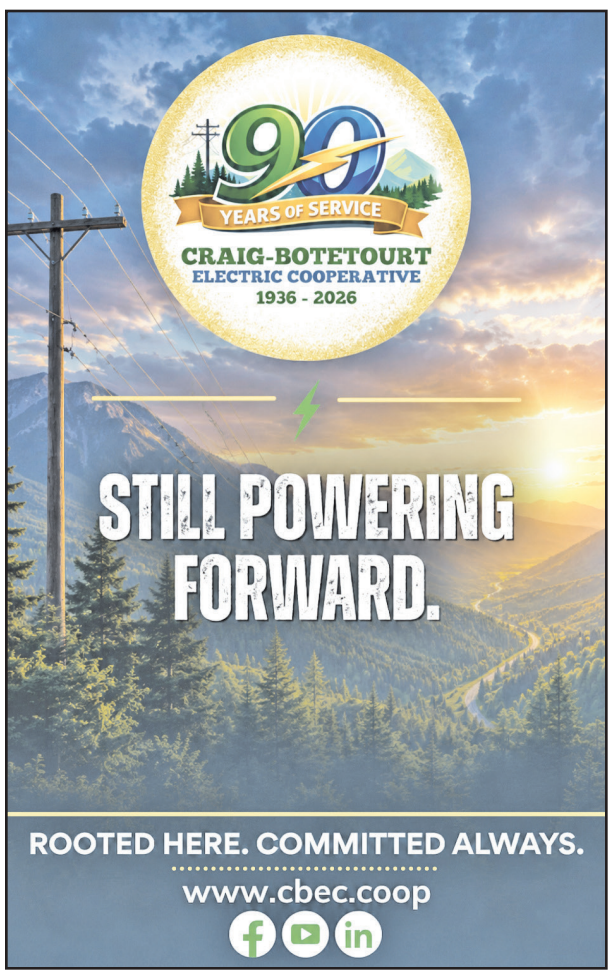
"Definitely," he said. "If I were our opponents, I would be sick of hearing about Craig County, and I would make sure my players were sick of hearing about them as well. We have sort of been the media darlings and that creates lots of material for an opponent's proverbial bulletin board. But I am Craig County, and I don't care how sick everyone is tired of hearing our name. I hope they hear it a lot more!"

Once again the Rockets will run the Single Wing offense. Fisher feels it's the perfect offense for a school with a small student body.

"It has turned into our identity," he said. "We are the smallest school in Virginia playing 11-man football. If we line-up in a popular offense like the spread, we would be going 2-8 or 3-7.

"We cannot consistently match up athletically with some of the bigger 1A programs. The Single Wing gives us an opportunity to compete. It is hard for opposing defenses to prepare for. They can't

See **Rockets Football,** page 9



CRAIG COUNTY ROCKETS CHEERLEADERS 2026



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Back Row, Left to Right: Addison Wade, Lily Braelith, Destiny Hubbard, Kylee Tyree, Natalie Campbell and Summer Medley. Middle Row, Left to Right: Kinsley Odell, Madalyn Hutchison, Serena King, Ryleigh Tyree and Maria Foster. Front Row, Left to Right: Captains Ayla Old, Elyssa Dewease and Maren All.

CRAIG COUNTY ROCKETS FOOTBALL 2026

#	Name	Grade	Position
0	Dunbar, Bradyn	Junior	DB
1	Eakin, Robert	Junior	LB
2	Colvin, Tyler	Sophomore	LB
3	Paxton, Noah	Senior	FB, LB
4	Cregger, William	Senior	TE, DB
5	Smith, Bentley	Junior	LB
6	Sarver, Dylan	Junior	FB, DB
8	Smith, Dreydin	Junior	LB
9	Donithan, Marcus	Senior	LB
13	Fields, Peyton	Senior	TE, DL
14	Huffman, Jadeon	Junior	DB
17	Custer, Michael	Sophomore	TE, DB
19	Huffman, Wyatt	Senior	TE, DB
27	Owens, Isaac	Senior	TE, DL
32	Cassell, Dalton	Freshman	TE, DB
33	Markham, Lane	Sophomore	DL
44	Kendall, Christopher	Junior	LB
50	Howell, Brayden	Freshman	C, DL
51	Fowler, Jeremiah	Junior	LB
52	Craighead, Johnny	Junior	LB
54	Mills, Taelen	Senior	DL
55	Hannah, Samuel	Senior	DL
57	Arthurs, Bradley	Senior	C, DB
59	Custer, Kaden	Junior	DL
60	Crawford, Aiden	Senior	LB
62	Foster, Keaton	Freshman	DL
64	Price, Carter	Senior	DL
65	Cassell, Clayton	Junior	LB
66	Donithan, Connor	Sophomore	DL
70	Armes, James	Sophomore	DL
77	Arthurs, Kadin	Senior	DL
85	Armes, Jeremiah	Freshman	TE, DB

CRAIG COUNTY ROCKETS VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE 2026

AUG. 28	7:00 P.M.	at GALAX
SEPT. 4	**7:00 P.M.**	**vs BLAND CO HIGH SCHOOL**
SEPT. 11	7:00 P.M.	at GREATER BECKLEY CHRISTIAN
SEPT. 25	7:00 P.M.	at TWIN SPRINGS
OCT. 2	7:00 P.M.	at STONEWALL JACKSON
OCT. 9	7:00 P.M.	at EASTERN MONTGOMERY
OCT. 16	**7:00 P.M.**	**vs PARRY MCCLUER**
OCT. 23	**7:00 P.M.**	**vs BATH COUNTY**
OCT. 30	7:00 P.M.	at NARROWS
NOV. 6	**7:00 P.M.**	**vs MEADOW BRIDGE**

CRAIG COUNTY ROCKETS JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE 2026

OCT. 1	**6:00 P.M.**	**vs. NARROWS**
OCT. 7	**7:00 P.M.**	**vs. GILES**
OCT. 14	6:00 P.M.	at PARRY MCCLUER
OCT. 20	6:15 P.M.	at BATH COUNTY