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County again seeking okay to tax cigarettes

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

Once again Pulaski County is seeking authority from the state to levy a local tax on cigarettes.

This marks at least the third attempt by Pulaski County and other counties across the state to be granted such authority by the state legislature.

Currently only cities, towns and the counties of Arlington and Fairfax are permitted to impose a tax on the retail sales of cigarettes by the pack. The other 93 counties – including Pulaski – must seek approval from the General Assembly to be granted

the same taxing authority.

Proponents of the effort say having the taxing authority would be beneficial to localities like Pulaski County because it would level the playing field for all counties and create a needed new revenue stream to assist in funding state mandates and underfunded local services such as public school capital projects.

Giving counties authority to tax cigarettes would also likely end discrepancies between counties, towns and cities in the pricing of cigarettes.

If the legislature does finally grant its approval,

See TAX, page A2



Coming March 31 in Pulaski

By March 31, Peebles in Pulaski and several other locations in Virginia will be replaced by Gordmans.

See more on the change on Page A2.

12th District Del. Hurst let off with warning during DUI stop

From Staff and Wire Reports

A Christiansburg police officer let 12th District Delegate Chris Hurst off with a warning after he was pulled over on suspicion of intoxicated driving and submitted to a breathalyzer test that came back slightly above the legal limit.

Hurst, a Montgomery Democrat who represents two precincts in Pulaski County (Belspring and New River), was stopped at about 2 a.m. in Christiansburg and blew a .085 percent, a result above the .08 percent legal limit for blood alcohol, according to a statement issued by Christiansburg officials and obtained by news outlets.

Hurst passed other field sobriety tests and was eventually released and advised to wait at a nearby Walmart before allowing his passenger to drive them home, according to accounts from both Hurst and city officials.

“Yes, I did have a traffic stop and did submit to a

breathalyzer test,” Hurst confirmed after a General Assembly committee meeting on Tuesday. He said he didn’t identify himself as a legislator or claim any special privilege during the stop.



Hurst

Christiansburg Police Department Lt. Stephen Swecker released Hurst without charging him because he passed three other sobriety tests and had a sober companion in the vehicle who could drive him home, the city’s statement said.

While the breath test showed a blood alcohol concentration slightly higher than allowed, Swecker determined it could likely be within the legal limit by the time Hurst was taken to the magistrate’s of-

See HURST, page A2

WEEKEND WEATHER

Saturday

Cloudy, with a high near 45. Light west wind. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Saturday Night - A slight chance of showers before 1am. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 33. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Sunday

Mostly sunny, with a high near 49.

Sunday Night - Mostly clear, with a low around 37.

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Hurst

Continued from Page A1
 fice and given a formal test that would be admissible in court, the statement added.

Hurst couldn't have been cited even if the officer had decided to charge him, because of a Virginia constitutional provision granting legislators immunity from arrest when the General Assembly is in session, Montgomery County Commonwealth's Attorney Mary Pettitt told The Roanoke Times.

The constitution states that legislators can't be arrested during session for anything short of "treason, felony, or breach of peace," the newspaper said.

Melissa Demmitt, Public Relations Director for the Town of Christiansburg issues the following statement after being contacted by **The Patriot** on Monday.

On Sunday, Jan. 26, at approximately 2 a.m., an officer with the Christiansburg Police Department initiated a traffic stop on the U.S. 460 Bypass, between the downtown Christiansburg and Peppers Ferry Road exits.

The officer pulled over a vehicle, which was traveling west toward Blacksburg, after he observed the vehicle swerve across the right side fog-line several times. The vehicle was also observed to be traveling over the posted speed limit for a brief period of time.

When the officer approached the driver, he noticed that the driver's eyes were red and he smelled the odor of alcohol coming from within the vehicle. The officer obtained the driver's operator's license and conducted a routine check of the license status. He then explained his observations to the driver and asked him to follow his pen with his eyes. After noticing a lack of smooth pursuit, he then asked the driver, Chris Hurst, to step out of the vehicle and perform field sobriety tests. The officer admin-

istered three field sobriety tests and a preliminary field breath test, which is a portable breath test used in the field to assist the officer in determining if a person is impaired. The results of a preliminary breath test conducted in the field are used as an investigative tool, but are not admissible as evidence in court. Hurst complied with the officer's request and performed all the tests.

Hurst's preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .085. The officer determined that by the time Hurst was brought into the magistrate's office for a formal breathalyzer test— which is the only admissible test in court — Hurst would be under the legal limit. Because of this, along with Hurst's overall performance during the field sobriety tests and coupled with the fact that Hurst had a sober companion in the vehicle who could drive him home, the officer released Hurst without charging him. The officer was aware that Hurst is a delegate, but neither the officer nor Hurst mentioned this fact at any time during the encounter.

Additionally, according to Section IV, Article 9 of the Constitution of Virginia, unless they have committed treason, a felony, or a breach of peace, legislators are immune from arrest while the General Assembly is in session. Neither the officer nor Hurst mentioned this law, but the officer was aware of the law's existence, because it's taught during the police academy. This provision of the State Constitution makes it highly unlikely that Hurst could have prosecuted in court even if he had been arrested. The officer weighed all of the factors and made a judgement call, as is done each and every time an officer decides whether or not to make an arrest. The officer, Lt. Stephen Swecker, is highly experienced in DUI detection and enforcement. He has been recognized and awarded by Mothers Against Drunk Driving on at least four occasions for his performance in this area.

Hurst takes to Facebook to issue statement on incident

To the people of the 12th District:

Earlier this month, I swore to uphold the United States and Virginia constitutions and faithfully discharge my duties incumbent upon me as a member of the House of Delegates. I take that oath seriously and consider my service to the 12th District to be the honor of my life.

Unfortunately, this past weekend, I made a grave mistake that rightfully has some of you questioning my judgement. Saturday night I went to a party with my girlfriend. While at that party, she and I drank alcohol but at the time I never believed that my competence to drive was compromised. Early Sunday morning, we drove home and I was the driver. A few miles from my home in Blacksburg, I was pulled over by an officer with Christiansburg Police. After questioning my ability to drive, he asked for me to step out of the car and submit to a series of field sobriety tests. I fully complied and respected the officer's request and completed those tests, including a breathalyzer test. My blood alcohol content was shown to be .085%. That is over the legal limit and I should not have been drinking and driving. My girlfriend also submitted to a breath-

alyzer test. She was under the legal limit and we were both told by the officer that we were free to go, providing that she drive us home.

It has been brought up that sitting members of the General Assembly cannot be charged with crimes while they are in session. While true, I don't agree that I should be immune from prosecution when warranted. I never avoid responsibility and accept the consequences of my actions. I am not above the law.

This experience has humbled me in a profound way, particularly hearing from so many who have been personally impacted by losing loved ones to drunk driving. While I knew the dangers of drinking and driving ahead of time, I displayed poor judgement and made a mistake. For so many, however, one mistake can mean the death of someone they love. I will take that fact with me in the future with renewed appreciation and respect. To those I have let down, I am deeply sorry. I will spend the remainder of my time in office working diligently to advocate for our community and regain any trust that I have lost.

- Chris

Gordmans to replace Peebles store in Pulaski on March 31

HOUSTON – #GotItAtGordmans means you can get a great new job and your favorite brands at your hometown's newest store, Gordmans. The apparel and home décor retailer is now hiring at six new store locations in Virginia. These Virginia Gordmans stores will open March 31.

Gordmans is part of the Stage community of stores. Stage is converting its Peebles, Goody's and other department store name plates to Gordmans in 2020, an off-price concept offering everyone's favorite brands at prices way lower than department stores.

Gordmans is hiring for a variety of full-time, part-time and temporary positions, and offers competitive wages. The retailer offers flexible work schedules in an energetic and engaging work environment. Positions, which vary by store location, include sales associate, stockroom associate and more.

Interested candidates are invited to first apply online at gordmans.com/careers and then visit a job fair from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4 at the locations noted below.

Walk-ins are welcome!

Altavista Gordmans: 1301 Main Street, Suite G in Town and Country Shopping Center (At the Peebles location, soon



to be Gordmans)

Pulaski Gordmans: 1134 East Main Street (At the Peebles location, soon to be Gordmans)

Rocky Mount Gordmans: 400 Old Franklin Turnpike, Suite 122 (At the Peebles location, soon to be Gordmans)

South Boston Gordmans: 2203 Willborn Avenue (At the Goody's location, soon to be Gordmans)

Vansant Gordmans: 1016 Anchorage Circle (At the Peebles location, soon to be Gordmans)

Wise Gordmans: 121 Plaza Road (At the Peebles location, soon to be Gordmans)

Committed to putting the fun back into shopping, Gordmans has terrific deals, fun finds and popular name brands at every turn. This is a great opportunity to be among the first to work with the Gordmans team.

About Gordmans and Stage

Off-price retailer Gordmans has brands you expect at prices you don't. New fabulous finds arrive each week, including everyone's favorite brands priced way lower than department stores. Merchandise selection includes apparel and footwear for the family, home décor, accent furniture, wall décor, bedding & bath, kitchen gadgets, fashion jewelry, designer fragrances, toys and pet accessories. There's also the added convenience of an Amazon Counter inside its stores.

Gordmans is part of the Stage community of stores. Through its Community Counts programs, Stage and Gordmans give back by supporting local and national causes. In 2020, Stage (NYSE:SSI) is converting over 500 department stores (BEALLS, GOODY'S, PALAIS ROYAL, PEBBLES and STAGE) to Gordmans. Once the conversion is complete, Stage will be operating approximately 700 Gordmans store locations, making Gordmans one of the prominent off-price retail chains in the U.S. For more information, visit gordmans.com and stage.com.

Tax

Continued from Page A1

the county Board of Supervisors would have to vote whether it wants to seek voter approval of a tax on packs of cigarettes through referendum.

The tax would then be levied if a majority of voters support it at the ballot box.

A resolution expressing the su-

pervisors' support for state legislation that would grant counties such taxing authority was approved on a 4-1 vote with Robinson District Supervisor Charles Bopp casting the lone dissenting vote.

"I can't support any tax on tobacco," Bopp said.



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Hedrick: Call from scammer 'sounded so real'

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

The call sounded so real. It was an example of how creative some scammers are getting these days in their efforts to rip off innocent, unsuspecting people.

Connie Hedrick, a Pulaski County realtor, had just left the office of a Radford lawyer when the call came on her cell phone.

"So, I was on the road and the caller identified himself as Lieutenant Todd Saunders with the Pulaski County Sheriff's Department," Hedrick recalled.

The caller told Hedrick he had a warrant for her arrest "for not showing up for jury duty."

"As you can imagine, I was a little shaken up," Hedrick said. "I had jury duty last year and was assigned seven cases, so, I'm thinking maybe I did miss one of the cases."

The caller stated that he had two warrants for Hedrick, one for missing the jury duty and one for contempt of court.

"He said I needed to come into the police station and take care of this immediately or they would have to send someone out to arrest me," Hedrick said. "I asked if this was a scam or a joke and he stated, 'Ma'am, I assure you this is not a joke.' At this point I am thinking, maybe this is legit and asked him what I needed to do."

Hedrick said the caller told her she needed to come to the police station and bring her ID and the identification numbers for the warrants, which he would give

her along with the amount of her fines.

"I pulled off the road and he gave me the numbers, SRB-1142-FTA (Failure to Appear) and SRB-1804-COC (Contempt of Court). My two fines totaled \$461.90. He said he would go ahead and start the paperwork to save me some time when I got there," Hedrick said.

"Then he stated he would stay on the phone with me and that I couldn't use a debit card or check to pay the fine. He said I needed to go to Walmart, Dollar General, Kroger or somewhere that I could get a Money Pass card," Hedrick said.

That was the giveaway that the call wasn't on the up-and-up.

"I told him that I didn't know what that was, and he assured me that he would walk me through it. By now, I'm thinking this is not right and I'm sure that if I had gotten the prepaid card, he would have asked for the numbers. So, he could put it on the paperwork he had started for me to save time. He stayed on the phone for over 30 minutes and I could hear what sounded like a dispatcher in the background. He sounded like a policeman," she said.

Hedrick said she kept him on the phone and went straight to the police station.

"But, when I had to buzz in at the police station, I'm assuming he heard the buzzer and hung up," she said.

Hedrick said the law officer

See SCAM, page A5



Safer boat docking at Lighthouse Bridge

PULASKI COUNTY – Safely docking your boat just got easier. Boaters will soon be pleasantly surprised to find major improvements to the wharf behind Shop-Eez convenience store on Lowmans Ferry Road at Lighthouse Bridge.

Store owners Linda and Harold Chrisley have been working on wharf improvements since July of last year. Completion is expected by April.

The new wharf will be over 250 feet in length and have permanent vertical bumpers along its length.

"Cleats (for boat tie up) will be installed in the concrete about every ten feet," says Mr. Chrisley. The wharf will also accommodate many more boats making docking easier and safer.

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary will be helping the Chrisleys promote boating safety at the wharf. Posted signs will remind boaters of important safe boating practices and available literature will provide them with onboard reference material.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed civilian component of the U.S. Coast Guard and supports the Coast Guard in nearly all mission areas. The Auxiliary was created by Congress in 1939. For more information, please visit www.cgaux.org

Submitted by By STEVE HOLCOMB
Public Affairs Officer
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
NRV Flotilla

Motocross facility in town's future?

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

Could a motocross facility be coming to Pulaski County?

According to Pulaski Town Councilman Jamie Radcliffe, a group of citizens has designs on creating such an attraction in the area.

Radcliffe has recently mentioned the idea with members of

council, and at last week's work session he provided a more descriptive presentation on the idea, complete with video from a recent motocross event at the APEX Center in Wythe County.

Radcliffe told council there is no facility in the area where young people can gather to ride dirt bikes or learn about how to repair and maintain them.

According to Radcliffe, he is

aware of an individual – who he did not name – that has the land and desire to create such a facility.

Radcliffe said the land – some 40 acres – is situated at a place close to the town limits.

He said the owner of the property envisions a motocross facility along with camp sites with

See TOWN, page A10

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Monday, February 10, 2020: Last day to register to vote or change your voter registration information for this election.
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Mailed voter registration applications must be sent to the Pulaski County Voter Registration Office postmarked on or before the deadline.

In-Person Absentee Voting
87 Commerce Street, Pulaski VA 24301
Monday-Friday, January 16, 2020 – February 28, 2020:
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, February 29, 2020: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Last day to vote an in-person absentee ballot at the Pulaski County Voter Registration Office.

Mail Absentee Voting
Tuesday, February 25, 2020: Last day to request an absentee ballot by mail. Applications must be received in the Pulaski County Voter Registration Office by 5 p.m.
Tuesday, March 3, 2020: Election Day ALL Absentee voted ballots must be returned to the Pulaski County Voter Registration Office by 7 p.m. to be counted.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN OFFICER OF ELECTION?
Pulaski County needs citizens to work at the polling places on Election Day as Officers of Election. You can apply online at www.elections.virginia.gov or call the Pulaski County Voter Registration Office.

Kathryn H. Webb, Director of Elections and General Registrar
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JENNIE LOU GRAVELY STILWELL

Jennie Lou Gravely Stilwell, age 90 of Pulaski passed away Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at her home.

Born January 25, 1930 in Wythe County she was the daughter of the late Charlie Madison Gravely & Nancy Pearl "Nannie" Quesenberry Gravely. Her husband of 57 years, Jack Thomas Stilwell (2003) and numerous brothers and sisters also preceded her in death.

She is survived by her Children

Thomas (Linda) Joseph Stilwell - Pulaski

Lucas (Mary) Temple Stilwell - Barren Springs

Jackie Lee Stilwell - Pulaski

Grandchildren

William "Bill" Stilwell, Trina

(Stacy) Payne, Jason Stilwell, Jo-

anna (Bobby) Taylor, Sunni Stilwell

13 Great Grandchildren

5 Great Great Grandchildren

Brother

Hugh "Bud" Gravely - NC

Funeral services will be held

2:00 PM - Friday, January 31,

2020 at the Bower Funeral

Home-Chapel, Pulaski with Rev.

Richard Wall and Rev. Dale Ak-

ers and Rev. Charles McPeak of-

ficiating. Interment will follow at

the Memorial Christian Church

Cemetery, Draper.

The family will receive friends

from 12:00 noon until service

time at the funeral home.

To sign the online guestbook,

please visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com

Bower Funeral Homes, Pulaski

is handling the arrangements for

the family.



JEFFREY DEAN ALLISON

Jeffrey Dean Allison, 58, of Dublin, Virginia passed away January 20, 2020 in Select Specialty Hospital in Greensboro, North Carolina. His funeral service will be held Saturday, February 1, 2020 at 2:00 PM from the Stevens Funeral Home Chapel in Pulaski, Virginia.

Jeffrey was born on April 15, 1961 in Radford, Virginia to Harold Allison and Mara Lea Myers. Jeffrey is preceded in death by his mother and stepfather: Mara Lea and Joseph Myers.

Survivors are his father and stepmother: Harold and Jean Allison

Son: Tyler Dean Allison

Daughter: Lindsey Rae Allison

Grandson: Tyler Dean Allison, Jr.

Sister and Brother-in-law:

Mechelle and Lee Dalton

Brothers: Teddy Allison,

Tony Allison, Tony and Betsy

Hodge (stepbrother and wife)

and Randall and Kathy Allison

(half-brother and wife)

Niece: Mackenzie Allison

Nephews: Tanner Allison and

Andy Allison

The Love of his life and mother

of his children: Dana "Ms. Dana"

Allison

Childhood friends: Timmy

Johnson and Bill Grinstead

Jeffrey will have a private

burial at the Allison family cem-

etry in Allisonia, Virginia.

Arrangements by Stevens Fu-

neral Home, Pulaski, VA.

RITA MONTGOMERY BRANCH

Rita Montgomery Branch, 59, of Dublin, passed away Saturday, January 25, 2020.

The Montgomery/Hamilton/ Branch family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford, Virginia.

www.mullinsfuneralhome.com

RONALD EDWARD ZELL

Ronald Edward Zell, age 77 of Pulaski and formerly of Washington D.C., died Sunday, January 26, 2020 at Carrington Place in Wytheville. He was born September 16, 1942 in Washington D.C. to the late Thelma Hodjkins Zell and Francis Russell Zell. He was a retired Diesel Mechanic for Metro Transit in the Metropolitan D.C. area. Ron was a devout Christian and member of Faith Bible Church in Pulaski.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife of 43 years, Joanne Honaker Zell, and a sister, Barbara Haynes.

He is survived by his wife; Wanda Leeson Zell, a brother, Daniel Francis Zell and his wife Patricia of Prince Georges Co., MD, and a sister Claudia Gault of Alexandria. Also survived by many nieces, nephews and a loving and caring church family.

Funeral services were held Thursday, January 30, 2020 at Faith Bible Church with the Rev. Jim Linkous officiating. Interment followed in the Shiloh Cemetery.

Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.seaglefuneralhome.com Arrangements by Seagle Funeral Home, Pulaski.

ROBERT ERNEST TAYLOR

Robert Ernest Taylor, age 60 of Hiwassee passed away Thursday morning January 23, 2020 at his home.

Born February 3, 1959 in Radford he was the son of the late Carl Dillon Taylor & Juanita Faye Kidd Taylor. Also preceded in death by his brother, Carl Dillon Taylor, Jr. and sister, Linda F. Taylor.

He is survived by his Daughter & Son-in-law Elizabeth Ann Garland & Joseph Todd Mellichamp, Sr. - Blacksburg

Son

Robert L. "Chip" Taylor - Pulaski

Granddaughter

Addisyn Shyanne Mellichamp,

whom he loved beyond measure

Per Robert's request there will

not be any services and he will be

laid to rest in the family Ceme-

tory (Snowville).

To sign the online guestbook,

please visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com

Bower Funeral Home, Pulaski

is handling the arrangements for

the family.

PEGGY FARMER CHILDRESS

Peggy Farmer Childress, 83, of Fairlawn, passed away peacefully on Thursday, January 23, 2020 surrounded by her family.

The Childress family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com



JUNE CRUTCHFIELD AKER

June Crutchfield Aker, 82, of Statesville, NC, passed away peacefully on her birthday, Monday, January 20, 2020 at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem, NC after a courageous battle with cancer. She was a long-term resident of Pulaski, VA and member of First United Methodist Church. Ms. Aker was born on January 20, 1938 in Chilhowie, Virginia to Paul Douglas and Myrtle Catron Crutchfield. She graduated from Chilhowie High School in Chilhowie, VA.

Ms. Aker was preceded in death by her parents Doug and Myrtle Crutchfield, her husband, Robert Daniel Aker of Pulaski, VA and three brothers: James Allen Crutchfield of Chilhowie, VA, Paul David Crutchfield of TN and Roger Lee Crutchfield of VA.

She is survived by four children: daughter Denise Tickle and husband, Mark of Winston-Salem, NC; son Jeff Aker and wife, Ann of Apex, NC; son Steven Aker and wife, Ann of Radford, VA and; daughter Karen Gusler and husband, Randall of Statesville, NC; grandchildren Dylan Aker and wife Conner, Justin Aker, Brock Gusler, Sydney Tickle, Jake Gusler, Ashlyn Tickle, Lauren Tickle, Kirsten Gusler, Owen Horton, Claire Horton and her "adopted son, daughter, grandson", David, Susie and Dean Tickle.

She is also survived by many dear cousins, nieces, nephews and friends. She enjoyed reading, playing words with friends and especially traveling with her cousins (Phyllis, Jean, Bobbie and Ann) and all of their grand adventures. She will be remembered for her sweet, caring spirit, and love of her dear grandchildren.

The family received friends on Saturday January 25, 2020 with the celebration of life service immediately following at First United Methodist Church, Pulaski, VA, the Reverend Will Shelton presiding.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Memory of June Aker to First United Methodist Church, 301 North Jefferson Ave, Pulaski, VA, 24301.

The family wishes to express their sincere appreciation to the staffs of WFBMC Comprehensive Cancer Center (Dr Andrew Namen and Dr Caio Rocha Lima) in Winston-Salem, NC, Dr Jing Li and Dr James Foushee of Statesville, NC and Iredell Memorial Hospital in Statesville, NC.

Bower Funeral Home, Pulaski, VA, is serving the family.

Thomas Ammen Showalter, Jr. "TA", 74, of Hiwassee and Claytor Lake, passed away Thursday, January 23, 2020.

The Showalter family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

www.mullinsfuneralhome.com



GERALD EMIL SCHLUTER

Gerald Emil Schluter, age 77, of Pulaski, Va., passed away Thursday, Jan. 23, 2020, at special private care home Forever Young.

He was born June 9, 1942, in Carroll, Iowa, to parents Emil and Violetta (Witt) Schluter. He was baptized and confirmed at Peace Lutheran in Wall Lake, Iowa. Gerald grew-up on the family farm, attended one room school-house Jackson #1, graduated from Wall Lake High School in 1960, and received his bachelors at Iowa State University (1964), masters (1966), and doctorate in agricultural economics (1971). He worked for almost 40 years for the Economic Research Service (ERS) at the United States Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C.

Gerald was preceded in death by his wife of 43 years, Carolyn; his parents; his sister Audrey Lamaak; his brother-in-law Jack Lamaak; sister, Lorraine Schluter, and niece Elizabeth Wagner.

He is survived by his only child, daughter Deborah (Jean) Schluter Bauer; son-in-law, Keith Bauer; grandson, Blake; grand daughter, Darcey; sisters and brothers-in-law, Ruth and Wade Bruggeman and Rita and Bill Hicks; sister-in-law, Mary and Randy Gordon; brother-in-law, Don and Barb Wagner, as well as nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Gerald was a proud Iowa State fan and attended the annual Harriman House Reunion for many years with friends who he has known for over 60 years. He also made lifelong friends at ERS, such as Chinkook Lee, C.S. Kim, and Ron Babula. Gerald had over 86 published professional articles.

While he missed his dear wife Carolyn, he did enjoy living with his daughter Debbie, Keith, Blake, Darcey, and the dogs from 2012 until these last two months. Gerald loved being around his grandchildren and attending their events, such as soccer, dance and drama. He was very proud of Blake and Darcey and beamed when he talked about them.

He also loved animals and the dogs were his buddies. They called him the "animal whisperer" at Pulaski Adult Day Services because animals really liked him. Gerald was also very proud of and close to his daughter Debbie and Keith and treated Keith like a son. Gerald was an optimist and cheered for the Washington Redskins.

Special thanks to our angel caregivers at Forever Young, including Dianna Bucchi, Alysia Dobbins, Carol Marshall and Tammy Trussler, and Good Samaritan Hospice, who gave him loving, compassionate care. Pulaski Adult Day Services and Linda Davis also gave Dad excellent care for many years and are part of our family as well.

Thank you to all of our friends and neighbors who cared for Dad and looked out for him, including Blake and Darcey's friends. All who knew Dad commented on his gentleness and kindness. My Dad was the kind of man who put his wife and family first, played with the grandkids and the dogs, and lived what he believed. Many people have said that Gerald was the smartest, kindest and gentlest person they have known.

Two memorial services are being held. There was a service

See DEATHS, page A5



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Deaths

Continued from Page A4

Monday, Jan. 27 at Blue Ridge Church in Christiansburg, Va., officiated by Pastor Scott Obenchain. The other service is Monday, April 13, at Peace Lutheran Church, officiated by Pastor Roger Carlisle. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Pulaski Adult Day Services, Dublin, Va.

Bower Funeral Home, Pulaski, Va., is handling arrangements for the family.

LILBERN OWEN "BUD" THOMPSON

Lilbern Owen "Bud" Thompson, 90, of Pulaski passed away Friday, January 24, 2020. Born December 21, 1929 in Carroll County, and was the son of the late Sherman Lee Thompson and Lula May Guynn Thompson. Bud grew up in Pulaski, graduated from Pulaski High School in 1948, and married his high school sweetheart, Joyce Gallimore Thompson, a marriage of 69 years. He was employed by Klopman Mills for 38 years. In his retirement years Bud had a passion for restoring vintage classic cars, ballroom room dancing, and r-ving across the country. He was a passionate bowler, avid hunter and enjoyed the open road on his Harley Davidson Super Glide. He was a devoted family man, a faithful member of the First Christian Church (DOC) for over 80 years. He served as Elder, Sunday school teacher and various other leadership roles. Bud's greatest gift in life was the unconditional love for his wife, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister: Alberta Thompson Bower, and his brother; Sherman Lee "Boone" Thompson, Jr. He is survived by his wife; Joyce Gallimore Thompson of Pulaski, daughters; Debbie T Suddarth and Bob of Pulaski, Sue T Simpson and Patrick of Winston Salem, NC.; Karen T Wilson and Randy of Orlando FL.; and Kaye T. Wilson and Mike of Christiansburg. Grandchildren, Alex Douthat, Jessie Reece, Turner Simpson, Anna Catherine Simpson, Chelsea Wilson, Seth Wilson, Matthew Bond, Joshua Bond, and Claire Simpson. Great Grandchildren, Gavin Reece, Liam Wilson, and Sophie Simpson. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at First Christian Church, Pulaski. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to First Christian Church General Fund. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.seaglefuneralhome.com. Arrangements made by Seagle Funeral Home, Pulaski.

GARY "BOOMER" WILBERT HENLEY

Gary "Boomer" Wilbert Henley, age 66 of Pulaski, died Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at Lewis Gale Hospital - Pulaski. He was born on June 9, 1953 in Radford, and was the son of the late Dona Vires Henley and George Washington Henley. He is survived by his wife: Judy Kay Lane Henley of Pulaski; sons; Crockett Henley of Nashville, TN, and Matthew Henley of Wyoming; daughters; Kate "Katie" Henley of Christiansburg, and step-daughter, Heather Umberger; brother; Dallas Henley (Margaret) of Fredericksburg; sisters; Mary Evelyn Carper of Shawsville, Sylvia Harris (Johnny) of Parrott, and Shelby Wingo (Phillip) of Pulaski; grandchildren; Braden Henley, Abdul Delaney, and Caleb Henley. Grave-side funeral services were held Saturday, January 25, 2020 at Highland Memory Gardens. In lieu of flowers, please consider sending memorials to Seagle Funeral Home for Gary's final expenses. Online condolences may be sent to www.seaglefuneralhome.com. Arrangements by Seagle Funeral Home, Pulaski 980-1700.

DAVID DUANE QUESENBERRY

David Duane Quesenberry, 75, of Pulaski passed away Wednesday, January 22, 2020 in Heritage Hall at Lexington, Lexington, VA. He was born on November 4, 1944 in Pulaski and was the son of the late Ernest Raymond Quesenberry, Sr. and Francis Bartlett Quesenberry. He was also preceded in death by brothers, E.R. Quesenberry, Jr., Donnie Quesenberry, Sherman Quesenberry and Darrell Quesenberry.

Surviving are:

Daughter - Cynthia Quesenberry

Son - Jonathan Quesenberry
Sisters - Helen Skerkowski
Peggy Gore
Ann Williams

Brothers - Terry Quesenberry
Michael Quesenberry
Five Grandchildren

Nine Great-Great Grandchildren

Mr. Quesenberry will be cremated.

Arrangements by Stevens Funeral Home, Pulaski, VA.

RUTH CRAWFORD BOLLING

Ruth Crawford Bolling of Pulaski, VA passed away on January 27, 2020 in the Highland Ridge Rehab Center, Dublin. She was born in Bristol, TN on April 20, 1920 to the late John and Neva Crawford. She is also preceded in death by her husband, Victor (Vic) Bolling; her sisters, Helen Neal and Louise Walling; and a special niece, Doris Booth.

Surviving are:

Daughter & Son-In-Law - Kathy & Eddie Copenhaver, Pulaski

Grandsons & Spouses - Christopher & Adrienne Terwilliger, Christiansburg

Zachary & Anne Terwilliger, Roanoke

Great-Grandchildren - Harper, Isla, Aiden and Maddie Terwilliger

Ruth will be remembered for her kind heart, her cherished faith in God and her love of people. The family extends their



heartfelt thanks to those at Highland Ridge Rehab Center who surrounded Ruth with wonderful kindness and outstanding care for the past nine years.

Funeral services will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Pulaski Animal Shelter.

Arrangements by Stevens Funeral Home, Pulaski, VA.

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Scam

Continued from Page A3

that she spoke to at the sheriff's office was extremely nice and assured her the call was a scam, and that there were no warrants for her arrest.

"It was scary, and I wasted about an hour with this situation, but It could have been worse. I could have lost \$461.90," Hedrick said.

For the record, the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office says they will NEVER EVER call someone saying they owe fines and urged citizens to never give their personal information or banking account information over the phone.

"Hopefully, this will help someone else in our community and they won't fall prey to this scam," Hedrick said.



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THE PULASKI ROTARY CLUB INVITES EVERYONE TO ATTEND

Blood Screening Saturday, February 1st, 2020

7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. in Cancer Center main lobby of LewisGale Hospital

Cost: \$35 - Blood Test (Valued in excess of \$200)

(Snow Date Saturday, February 8th)

For an appointment, call Consult A Nurse at 1-877-242-2362

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR THE ROTARY CLUB OF THE NEW RIVER VALLEY'S BLOOD SCREENINGS! TELL YOUR FRIENDS!

- Call 1-877-242-2362 by January 31 to schedule an appointment
- Walk-Ins will be accepted!
- Fast for 12 hours before your test
- Bring \$35 cash or check payable to 'Pulaski Noon Rotary'
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BLOOD TEST INCLUDES:

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- HEMATOCRIT - HEMOGLOBIN - HDL CHOLESTEROL -
- LDL CHOLESTEROL - PHOSPHORUS - POTASSIUM -
- RBC - VLDL - RED BLOOD INDICES -
- SGOT - SGPT - SODIUM - TOTAL BILIRUBIN -
- TOTAL PROTEIN - TRIGLYCERIDES - URIC ACID - WBC -



This screening is provided by the Rotary Club of the New River Valley and LewisGale Hospital Pulaski



**LewisGale Hospital
Pulaski**
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Economic Developments Hits - Misses

More Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Projects

An economic development hit has been the continuation of the federal Abandoned Mine Land (AML) pilot program.

On January 24, I joined the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy in announcing funding for two more projects through the AML pilot program.

This round of funding is the latest to be awarded through the pilot program, which supports projects that reclaim land where mines once operated. The reclaimed land supports new economic activity, boosting development and job growth.



Morgan Griffith

9th District Representative

Phase II of Project Intersection received \$1,782,685. A 200-acre site in Norton at the junction of U.S. Routes 23 and 58A, Project Intersection

is the product of a regional partnership between the Counties of Lee, Scott, Wise, and Dickenson and the City of Norton. It is developing the site for industrial and business purposes.

The Mountain View Trail System, a multi-use trail that connects Coeburn and St. Paul in Wise County, will receive \$222,000. These funds will go toward new signs, repairing and upgrading trails, installing bridges, and reclaiming features from abandoned mines such as open auger holes. As a result, visitors will enjoy a safer, improved experience on the trail.

Both of these projects are promising for new economic opportunities.

Project Intersection will help draw businesses to our area. Tourism, especially eco-tourism of visitors wanting to experience our natural scenery and adventure tourism such as ATV riding, has already brought visitors and economic benefits to our region. Supporting assets like the Mountain View Trail System will further serve this purpose.

The funding we announced on January 24 came from the third straight fiscal year of appropriations for the AML pilot program in Virginia. In each of those years, I fought to include the Commonwealth in the program to make sure our abandoned mine sites were not overlooked.

I am happy to say that Virginia was included from the start of the appropriations process for fiscal year 2020, and that funding has been signed into law.

Reclaiming abandoned mine land is an important step forward on the path to economic growth and job creation. I am excited by the projects that have been supported so far and look forward to more to come.

Minor League Baseball

A miss for economic development has been the concern over Minor League Baseball's future.

It's not baseball season right now, but I've been talking a lot about baseball lately to make sure there is a baseball season at all for some Minor League teams in our area.

Minor League Baseball is a pastime many of us enjoy. It is a family-friendly and affordable activity. A sense of community is often built around our Minor League teams, and area businesses depend on them as well.

Thus, I was greatly concerned to learn last fall that Major League Baseball (MLB) planned to cut 42 Minor League teams, including the Bristol Pirates, Bluefield Blue Jays, and Danville Braves. The Pulaski Yankees and Salem Red Sox are not currently on the chopping block but cutting 42 teams understandably makes the others concerned for their futures.

In response, I joined more than 100 Members of Congress in a letter to MLB in opposition to these cuts and became a member of the new Save Minor League Baseball Task Force. I also spoke to the president of Minor League Baseball.

During a recent stop in Bluefield, I heard more firsthand from representatives of the Appalachian League as well as individual Minor League clubs, including Bluefield, Bristol, Pulaski, and Princeton. They expressed frustration with the actions of MLB.

One of the Major League's demands of Minor League clubs is to upgrade facilities, but it has not detailed the standards it would find acceptable for the facilities.

It also cites travel times between games, but the Appalachian League, which would be decimated by the cuts, has relatively short travel times compared to other leagues.

Meanwhile, as the threat of elimination looms, none of the teams that MLB plans to cut can prepare for their next season or make improvements. Even if the cuts do not go into effect, they are damaging Minor League teams now.

Minor League teams have enjoyed an outpouring of support after MLB announced its plans. These teams are important to our communities and the communities' economic well-being, and it is imperative that MLB recognize that fact.

If you have questions, concerns, or comments, feel free to contact my office. You can call my Abingdon office at 276-525-1405, my Christiansburg office at 540-381-5671, or my Washington office at 202-225-3861. To reach my office via email, please visit my website at www.morgan-griffith.house.gov.

OPEN FORUM

'Full Responsibility'

To the editor,

Full responsibility. What does that mean? Not a leader of your personal life, but qualified to lead someone else?

I am so tired of hearing this statement, which I think means, "I'm going on and you get over it!"

Here is a representative, Chris Hurst. Alcohol lever of .085, couldn't walk the line without losing balance. Drifting off the road while being followed by the police.

Oh wait. Then try to change the gun laws. To keep us safe.

Our State Leaders are full of ideas and actions that are not ours. And when their personalities show out, they say "I take

full responsibility." But then what? Just go on till it blows over. Go on till everyone forgets?

We vote. We see. We vote.

Some 22,000 citizens went to Richmond, carrying their collections of guns, rifles for display. Chris Hurst put a "sound byte" out on AP saying "I was prepared to see a whole lot more people show up than actually did and I think it's an indication that a lot of this rhetoric is bluster, quite frankly."

I ask, whose rhetoric is bluster, quite frankly?

Craig Strain
Pulaski County



The Trump Peace Plan Is Doomed To Fail

Twenty years ago, President Bill Clinton, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and PLO leader Yasser Arafat met at Camp David where Barak offered almost all of what Arafat asked for in exchange for making peace with the Jewish state. Arafat rejected the offer.

The reason was and remains that the Palestinian leadership doesn't want to make peace with Israel. Their goal is to eliminate it.

Now comes President Trump with his own peace plan, offering statehood, prosperity and peace to the Palestinians. Has anything changed in the last 20 years, indeed, since 1948 when the Arabs rejected the idea of a Jewish state and launched the first of numerous wars, spawning terrorist attacks?

Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas rejected the Trump plan before it was announced, calling the president a "dog" and another name not fit to print.

The flaw in the Trump plan is that it is designed, like all the others, by people whose thinking is radically different from Arab and Muslim leaders.

Let's start with the Palestinian Charter, which says in Article Nine: "Armed struggle is the only way to liberate Palestine and is therefore a strategy and not a tactic. The Palestinian Arab people affirms its absolute resolution and abiding determination to pursue the armed struggle and to march forward towards the armed popular revolution, to liberate its homeland and restore its right to a natural life, and to exercise its right of self-determination and national sovereignty."

One of the requirements in the Trump peace proposal is for the Palestinians to reject violence, including violence by Islamic Jihad and Hamas. Neither terrorist organization has accepted Israel's right to exist and is unlikely to do so now.

The president spoke of the importance of peace for the younger generation. But young people are being educated like those who have gone before. According to the Council on Foreign Relations, a New York-based nonprofit think tank specializing in U.S. foreign policy and international affairs, a 2017 study by the Institute for Monitoring Peace and Cultural Tolerance in School Education (in Jerusalem) found that "Palestinian children are being taught to glorify and value terrorism and violence" and that "The new Palestinian curriculum, which includes new textbooks for grades 1-4, is significantly more radical than previous curricula. To an even greater extent than the 2014-15 textbooks, the curriculum teaches students to be martyrs, demonizes and denies the existence of Israel and focuses on a "return" to an exclusively Palestinian homeland."

How likely are those who believe and teach

such things to do a 180 and start teaching peaceful co-existence with Israel? For years, sermons by Muslim clerics, Arab media and the actions of terrorists have been rooted in what they believe is a religious mandate to eradicate Israel and even the United States. One still hears such things from Iranian leaders who think ushering in Armageddon will reveal the Islamic Messiah. How does the secular West convince radical Muslims to reject the command of their god?

Then there's the failed formula of Israel relinquishing land to its enemies in exchange for peace, another component of the Trump plan. It has been a one-way street for Israel, most recently in Gaza, which predictably became a terrorist base for Hamas.

There are plenty of good intentions in the Trump proposal, including a promise of prosperity and jobs for the Palestinian people. They could have had both long ago. Jobs and prosperity, however, do not supersede what many of them believe to be orders from Allah.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his political rival, Benny Gantz, have signed off on the plan, probably for political reasons with another election coming soon. They can't possibly believe the Palestinian leadership will agree to the proposal.

Peace is not, or should not be, a goal. Peace is a byproduct of victory in war, or a decision by one's enemies to change the way they believe and act. That Palestinian leaders will change their beliefs and desire to eliminate Israel is as likely as Democrats changing their minds about Trump's presidency.

One wishes it were not so, but history -- even recent history -- proves otherwise.

(Readers may email Cal Thomas at tcaeditors@tribpub.com. Look for Cal Thomas' new book "America's Expiration Date: The Fall of Empires and Superpowers and the Future of the United States" (HarperCollins/Zondervan). Readers may email Cal Thomas at tcaeditors@tribpub.com.



Cal Thomas

Tribune
Content
Agency



Rich Lowery

Editor,
National
Review

McConnell Is Master of the Senate

Every hostile nickname that Mitch McConnell gets is further confirmation of his effectiveness.

The latest is "Midnight Mitch," a reaction to his resolution setting out the road map for the Senate impeachment trial. The measure stipulated that House impeachment managers could make their case over two days of 12-hour sessions, possibly pushing the presentations into the wee hours. Hence, the latest alliterative moniker for McConnell, also known to his enemies as "Moscow Mitch."

McConnell relented slightly on the resolution, giving the managers -- and the president's team -- three days, instead of two, for opening arguments. But he still got his way on the broader question of how to run the trial -- unsurprisingly, because McConnell is a master at what he does.

When all is said and done, he'll be remembered as one of the most effective Senate majority leaders in the modern era. A portion of an early Democratic presidential debate was devoted to asking candidates how they'd get around McConnell as president -- and none of them had a good answer. He now looms as a hate figure for the left at the same time he's won the grudging admiration of conservatives who once scorned him as too establishmentarian.

Nancy Pelosi has gotten more than her share of good press as a powerful and shrewd speaker of the House. Yet her one false move in the impeachment saga was to believe, on the basis of sheer wishfulness, that she could somehow force McConnell into shaping the Senate trial to her liking by withholding the articles of impeachment. Since McConnell never panics, knows his caucus better than anyone and understands who has leverage in any negotiation, the contest with Pelosi was a mismatch from the start.

McConnell held his Republican senators together and waited Pelosi out, giving her no choice but to transmit the articles to the Senate after getting exactly nothing.

The majority leader returned to the Senate's rules for the Clinton impeachment. They had passed unanimously in 1999, so they had legitimacy as precedent while still serving McConnell's purposes. They created the predicate for an expeditious trail, with the potentially divisive question of witnesses put off until later.

McConnell is so sure-footed because he is truly a creature of the Senate. He's an institutionalist in the best sense. He loves the Senate, and serving in it has always been his ambition. He has absorbed the rules, the tempo and the role of the institution.

In the main, McConnell doesn't care about what the media says about him. He's been called Darth Vader and worse for a long time, at least since his days killing off ill-advised campaign finance legislation earlier in his Senate career.

See LOWRY, page A7

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Sweet reports to board on 2019 highlights

As he has done each January since taking the job of County Administrator in Pulaski County, Jonathan Sweet has provided the Board of Supervisors with a look back at the county's achievements of the past year, and plans for the coming year.

Here is his report from Monday's meeting of the Board of Supervisors:

Economic Development

- 2 Economic Development Announcements that represented over \$400 million in new capital investment and more than 800 new jobs (BimmerWorld and Volvo); 36 month total to 6 announced projects in concert with the Governor with more than \$475M in Capital Investment and more than 1,450 new jobs

- In 2019 We enjoyed 12 business prospect visits to Pulaski County—averaged one a month

- We reached 100% capacity for the first time ever at the NRV Business Center

- We embarked on a new partnership with Radford University to market Pulaski County as a place to live, work, play, invest and patronize to Radford University students, faculty, staff, alumni and fans

- We sponsored Manufacturing Day and took every 8th grader through a manufacturing plant

Engineering

- Completed construction on our Community Sewers Project in Oct., 2019 and the PSA closed on the Rural Development Loan in Nov 2019.

- PCMS Offsite Sewer Project is 95% Complete as of Sept 2019, with a Final Stream Crossing Permit having been received in Dec., 2019, we anticipate construction to be Completed by Feb of 2020.

- Our Water Meter Replacement Project was launched with a VDH Loan Closing in July of 2019 and a correlating grant (\$481,000 at 2.5%, 20 years, \$160,000 Grant) to begin replacing approx. 2,100 water meters over next three years.

- Water Treatment Plant Filter Media Replacement Project received VDH Funding by way of a (\$362,500 loan at 2.5% for 20 years as well as \$362,500 in Grant funding) we accepted the funding in October of 2019 and are receiving Bids presently. We look forward to the completion of the project in 2020.

- The water line on Peak Creek Bridge temporary relocation completed Sept of 2019, and we look forward to its final relocation to the new bridge on Old 100 in 2020.

- County Administration Building Health Dept. Renovations – The framing has been completed and we anticipate Construction Completion by Spring of 2020.

- International Blvd.'s extension design began in 2019 and we anticipate construction to begin in 2020.

- Water Master Plan is now 85% complete. We look forward to completion in Spring 2020

- Sewer Master Plan is now 85% complete. We look forward to completion in Spring 2020

- Cloyd's Mountain Post Closure Care Completion finally occurred in 2019 after 20 years and we are now excitedly awaiting the final release letter from monitoring from DEQ.

- Town of Pulaski Convenience Center funding was approved by the PSA in FY 19-20. We look forward to Design Completion in late 2020.

- Sulfate Study – Phase I finally began in 2019. We look forward to completion of Phase I efforts in the Summer 2020.

Under Human Resources

- We are now Registered with Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program

- We have registered and implemented the training for the Federal Motor Carrier Clearinghouse Program for all CDL Drivers

- Conducted 4 employee training modules to include Reasonable Suspicion Training

- Incorporation of Pulaski Public Safety into the County Personnel Policy

- Completion and implementation of the DMV Monitoring system for all county employees

Emergency Management

- We Enhanced Water Rescue Capabilities – In 2019, significant improvements were made in our ability to rescue those involved in water related emergencies. The purchase of a new 21' inboard jet tunnel hull rescue boat as well as receiving a 12' inflatable rescue boat donated by DEQ, allowed first responders to more quickly access those in need. Also in 2019, 8 more members of the Pulaski County Special Operations Team completed Swift water and Flood Rescue training at the U.S. National Whitewater Center in Charlotte. The Special Operations

Team now has 18 certified Swift water Rescue Technicians.

- We Implemented the CodeRED Citizen Emergency Notification System – In 2019, Pulaski County contracted with Onsolve to utilize CodeRED as our system to deliver emergency notifications to the public and employees. In addition to being able to initiate and deliver our own important emergency messages, the CodeRED system automatically delivers location specific weather warnings including tornado warnings, flash flood warnings, and severe thunderstorm warnings.

- Hazardous Wildland Fuel Reduction – In 2019, Pulaski County participated in the national Community Wildfire Prevention Day with a workshop at Randolph Park. The workshop showcased a fuels reduction prescribed fire in the wooded area of the park. The wooded area was also used as a chainsaw safety/tree falling safety course for county employees and first responders.

The Emergency Services Department received 3 Grants in 2019:

- Local Emergency Planning Grant - \$16,904.00 from Virginia Department of Emergency Management

- Rescue Boat - \$20,000.00 from the AEP Foundation

- Hurricane Florence Disaster Recovery Grant - \$8,965.35

Information Technology

- We completed a difficult and delicate Outlook email migration from GroupWise to Office 365. Along with the successful email migration we also upgraded our email archiving system for FOIA requests. (Considering the extensive amount of FOIA requests we continue to receive, this is a helpful tool in saving us time and the county money.)

- Several new and improved websites have been released to include the Pulaski County Library System (pclibs.org), the New River Agency on Aging (nrva.org), the New River Senior Services (nrsvs.org), Pulaski VA Tourism (pulaskivatourism.org) and the Pulaski County Comp Plan site.

Finance Department

- Finance and Payroll HR staff have been extremely busy in 2019. We implemented new financial software system by Tyler Technologies known as the Munis General Ledger, Accounts Payable, and Accounts Receivable modules on July 1, 2019. This investment enables us to achieve greater accuracy within the general ledger and an easier method of extracting data from the system. This also allowed the manual process of accounts receivable with very little previous tracking of outstanding invoice balances to be tracked in Munis so we know outstanding balances instantly. Due to the Accounts Receivable module being implemented, we have also implemented cash collections of all Finance staff (County and Schools) incoming funds in Munis allowing for more accurate reporting as we control where items are deposited.

- As of Jan 1, 2020 all Finance, Payroll and HR are on the new MUNIS after 9 long months of payroll training. This implementation will allow for better reporting and data extraction from the system. It also allows employees easy access to their payroll information, personal deductions and their available leave time.

- It is most important for me to note that Pulaski County Board of Supervisors, the Pulaski County Public Service Authority, and the Economic Development Authority of Pulaski County all received unmodified opinions in all three of their respective audit reports for FY 2019.

Parks and Recreation

- Smith Farm Property Acquisition

In June of 2019, we acquired ninety-eight acres of the Smith Farm property located in Fairlawn from the Virginia Outdoors Foundation by way of a gift to the community from the late Margaret Smith. In 2019 we also contracted with an architectural firm to survey and design a trail system through the Smith Farm down to the River and then across to property acquired by the county along Hazel Hollow Road to be developed into a boat launch area and small park along the river. In 2020, construction of the trail will begin down to and along-side the river connecting it to the Joseph L. Sheffey River Park.

- Joseph L. Sheffey Park

In conjunction with the acquisition of the Smith Farm property, the county acquired twelve additional acres of land along the New River beside Hazel Hollow Road. In November of 2019, the Board of Supervisors officially named the property as the "Joseph L. Sheffey River Park of Fairlawn" in honor of our longstanding retired BOS chair from the Cloyd District. In 2020 we plan to begin

construction of the park and hope to solidify grant funds through the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries totaling \$50,000 for the construction of a boat ramp and trail head.

• O'Dell Park

In 2019, the "O'Dell Park" was dedicated in Hiwassee. A new parking lot was installed and a new playground completed by volunteer efforts of the Boy Scouts of America. In 2020 there are plans to add swing sets, park bench seating and a basketball court to the park.

• Draper Park

In 2019, the Draper Park project had a dedication of the VA is for Lovers signage as well as completion of the parking lot and basketball court. In early 2020 the construction of a new picnic shelter will be completed for public usage and we will then embark on the construction of a new playground.

• Randolph Park

Held within the FY-20 CIP, many improvements are planned for the park this year such as an upgrade to the baseball complex featuring spectator safety netting, covered dug-outs and improved entry ways. Several necessary upgrades to the existing pool facility will take place as well.

• New River Trail Addition

In 2019, construction began on the additional mile of the New River Trail at the Xaloy junction to the back of Critzer Elementary School. In 2020, this additional mile will be completed which will finish phase 1 of a multi-year pan of NR Trail extensions to ultimately reach Randolph Park in the Dublin area of the county.

Planning & Zoning

- In 2019 we successfully completed an entire rewrite and adoption of the Pulaski County Comprehensive Plan 2030 This was an 18 month extensive process

- We completed Pulaski County Unified Development Ordinance revisions that Included more definitions, improved readability and ensured Code of Virginia compliance

- We partnered with the Draper Community to successfully designate the Draper Historic District on the Virginia Historic Landmarks Registry (with an official federal listing expected for February of 2020)

- As mentioned earlier, we partnered with Pulaski On Main to apply for and received an ARC Planning Grant to explore a " Training Center and Maker Space" to be located in Downtown Pulaski

Other Honorable Mentions:

- The Pulaski County Board of Supervisors committed \$100,000 to New River Community College to start our own ACCE Program for Pulaski County graduating students to receive a tuition free education at NRCC. The program will be in effect in the fall of 2020.

- In 2019 our Drug Treatment Court Program had the largest graduating class since its inception in 2015. We had six participants graduate in June, bringing the graduating class total to 15. The program duration is two years per participant. In 2019, we saw our largest caseload of twenty active participants. The cost savings from 2015 to 2019 is estimated at \$336,325.

- Established the new Pulaski County Public Safety Department (formerly known as REMSI).

- Established the fourth Friday of March as Pulaski County Proud Day

- Opened the new Snowville Fire Department building. (Funds were appropriated to the Snowville Fire Department by the Board of Supervisors and private contractor completed the project).

- Established and awarded the first Lead Through Service Scholarship to Breanna Lytton for \$1,000. This year we will award a scholarship to a senior who has demonstrated exceptional leadership through service to their community in the amount of \$2,500.

- In October of 2019, the first annual Halloween Spectacular took place. The attendance was overwhelming and an estimated at 3,500+ participants. This will become a new annual event and will continue to grow in 2020 with hopes of becoming more of a festival type fall event in Pulaski County.

- In 2019 we had our first ever county car 'County 87' in the Sarge & Sons Demolition Derby at the New River Valley Fair (We placed 2nd)

- Staff participated in Community Leaders, Community Readers Program in our public schools

- The County supported and participated in the ReNew the New/New River Clean-Up Event (September 7, 2019)

- Staff participated for the first time in the United Way of Southwest Virginia's Celebrity Bagging Event at

See COUNTY, page A10

Lowry

Continued from Page A6

He's not afraid to wield his power, and proved it with his opposition to President Barack Obama's legislative agenda, his block of the Merrick Garland nomination and his historic bout of judicial confirmations over the past three years.

If McConnell is careful and calculating, he's not a cynic. Operating within the realm of the politically possible, as a Senate leader with a narrow majority must, he seeks the public good as he understands it within those constraints.

There will be more nicknames to come -- perhaps before the Senate trial has ended.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



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Church Directory

Worship Each Week In The Church Of Your Choice



Teach Me Your Word O Lord

Terry McCraw

What a change in my life since I met Jesus

Please check out this testimony of a man I know who was born again of the Spirit on January 29, 1965. "I went down to an old fashioned altar one evening at a revival service at a local Church and was gloriously born again of the Spirit of God. It was the day when Jesus led me out of the darkness of sin and into His marvelous light. At the altar, I confessed my sins to God and asked Him to forgive all of my sins. I accepted Jesus into my heart and life as my personal Savior. It was the day of all days, when my whole life was transformed by the mighty power of God. When I got up from the altar, I was a changed man. My sins were all pardoned and my guilt was all gone. At first I felt like I was walking on a cloud. And no wonder. The heavy burden of sin was lifted off of me. As the old hymn so aptly put it, "Once my heart was heavy with a load of sin, Jesus took that load and gave me peace within, now I'm happy and here's the reason why, Jesus took my burdens all away." Stanton W. Gavitt.

From that moment on, I wanted to love and serve God more than anything else. I didn't want to sin against God anymore. All I wanted to do was to live the remainder of my earthly life for God. Right away I became involved in Church work. I read and studied the bible from cover to cover and the love of God poured into me and all over me like a flood. The bible became food for my soul like manna from above. Since the day of my conversion to Christianity, I have experienced more joy, peace and happiness than ever before. It's a wonderful life! I discovered that I had never really lived before until I lived for Jesus.

I had always thought that when I finally did get saved, I would keep it a secret just between God and me. But it wasn't like that at all. Immediately I was moved upon by the Holy Spirit to tell everyone that I knew or met, that I was saved. I was constrained by the Holy Spirit to confess publicly that Jesus was my Savior and that I was on my way to Heaven. My parents were elated because they had been praying for me to be saved for years. Very soon afterwards, I followed Christ in Water Baptism. The whole salvation experience was unlike any other. It happened to me over 55 years ago and is still as new, fresh and exciting as it was back then.

Now, my name inscribed in the Lamb's Book of Life. My citizenship is now in Heaven. I'm looking forward now to the day when Jesus will come back for the Rapture of the Saints. I am anxiously awaiting that glorious day with eager expectation. I want to see Jesus in person first of all, and then its going to be wonderful to join my loved ones who have died in Christ

See MCCRAW, page A9

First Baptist Church
325 Randolph Avenue
Pulaski, Va. 24301
Pastor: Dr. Henry Fiske Jr.
Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Morning Service - 11 a.m.
Fellowship Wednesday - 5:45 to 6:30 p.m.
Bible Study - 6:30 to 7:15
Telephone: 980-6565

Draper Valley Baptist Church
3200 Lee Highway
Draper, Va. 24324
Pastor: Alan Pearce
Service Times:
Bible Study Sunday, 5 p.m.
Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening, 6 p.m.
Prayer Service, Wed. 6:30 p.m.
Phone: 980-1028
www.drapervalleybaptist.org

Grace Baptist Church
552 E. Main Street
Dublin, Va. 24084
Pastor: Doug Testerman
674-1762
Primary Services:
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Sunday worship
Sunday Night Power Hour, 6 to 7 p.m.
Wednesday Night 7 to 8 p.m.
Grace Kids and Teens Bible Study

Open Door Baptist Church
4576 Miller Lane
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor: Rev. N.K. Howlett
Primary Services:
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11 a.m.
Wednesday Night, 7 p.m.
Phone: 980-2046

Draper United Methodist Church
3080 Greenbriar Road
Draper, VA 24324
Pastor: Ruth Anne Henley
Primary Service Times:
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Worship, 11 a.m.
Phone: 540-392-8016

Newbern Christian Church
Disciples of Christ
5183 Wilderness Road, Newbern
Rev. Denise and Ken Walker
540-440-8733

Christ Episcopal Church
144 North Washington Ave., Pulaski
Service: 10 a.m. every Sunday
Phone: 980-2413
Email: christ24301@gmail.com
www.christpulaski.dioswva.org

Jordan's Chapel UMC
Pastor: Rev. Becky Wheeler
Worship: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Cecil's Chapel United Methodist Church
5801 Cecil's Chapel Road,
Hiwassee, VA 24347
Pastor RuthAnne Henley
Worship service is 8:45am-9:45am
Sunday School is 10 - 10:45am
Ricky Dishon, 540 239 6360, www.facebook.com/cecilschapel.umd

Newbern United Methodist Church
5155 Wilderness Road
Exit 98 off I-81 Newbern
Rev. Paige Wimberly
674-6111
Worship Services: 9:45 a.m.
Sunday School: 11 a.m.

Valley Harvest Ministries
1 Harvest Place
P.O. Box 458
Dublin, VA 24084
Senior Pastor Steve Willis
Associate Pastors:
Perry Slaughter, Elaine Wood, Derick Burton
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Wednesday School 7 p.m.
www.vhmdublin.org
540-674-4729

Randolph Ave. United Methodist Church
1607 Randolph Avenue
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Karen Black
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Worship: 11 a.m.
Phone: 540-980-8775

Mountain View United Methodist Church
6648 Wilderness Road
Dublin, VA 24084
Phone: 540-674-6111
mountainviewumc.yolasite.com/
Pastor: Paige Wimberly
Adult Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Morning Worship with Children's Church at 11 a.m.

Dublin Baptist Church
100 Hawkins Street
Dublin, VA 24084
540-674-6061
secretary@dublinbaptistva.org
Website: dublinbaptistva.org
Pastor: Dennis Jones
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship: 11 a.m.
Children's Church and Nursery
Evening Service: 6 p.m.
Tuesday: Women's Bible Study, 10 a.m.
Wednesday, Adult Bible Study 7 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
301 N. Jefferson Ave. - Pulaski
(physical address)
135 Fourth St., NW - Pulaski
(mailing address)
Pastor's Name: Will Shelton
Associate Pastor:
Sebastian Ruiz, Hispanic Pastor
Sunday Services
9:00 AM - Hispanic Worship
9:00AM - Contemporary Worship
10:00AM - Sunday School
11:00AM - Traditional Worship
Contact Info.
Phone: 540.980.3331
e-mail: office@fumcpulask.org
website: www.fumcpulask.org

Belspring Baptist Church
6887 Depot Street
Belspring, VA 24058
Pastor Darrell Linkous
Service Times:
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday worship: 11 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study and
Youth Group: 7 p.m.
Darrell Linkous: 353-0081
belspringbaptistchurch@gmail.com

Memorial Baptist Church
995 Peppers Ferry Road
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor: Michael S. Jones
Sunday
9:45 am - Sunday School
11:00 am - Worship
Wednesday
6:30 pm - Prayer Meeting
(540) 980-4731
Email: dfarley3@verizon.net

River of Life Church
5311 Black Hollow Road, Dublin, Va. 24084
Shawn Burchett, Pastor
Sunday School 9:15 AM
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Wednesday Evening Life
Building Service 7:00 PM
www.rolcdublin.com 540-674-4500

Delton Church of God
of Prophecy
4570 Boyd Road, Draper, VA 24324
Pastor Vickie Lee Viars
deltoncogop@gmail.com (276) 620-3191
Service Times
Sunday school - 10 am - 11 am
Sunday Morning Worship - 11 am - 12 pm
Sunday Evenings - Devoted to
Evangelistic Outreach
Wednesday- 6 pm
2nd Wed Each Month - Free Community
Dinner - 5:45 pm - 6:45 pm
2nd Wed Each Month - Missions service
6:45 pm - 7:30 pm

Heritage Church
6195 Cleburne Boulevard, Dublin
Pastor Mike Pierce
Service Times:
Wednesdays, 7 p.m.;
Sundays, 10 a.m.
(540) 674-9220
Website: www.heritagechurch.net
Facebook.com/
HeritageChurchDublinVA

Fairlawn Baptist
6758 Oxford Avenue
Fairlawn, VA 24141
Pulaski Seventh Day Adventist Church
Corner 4th St. and Henry Ave.
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor: Don Elswick
Services: Sabbath School, 9:30-10:45 a.m.
Worship: Saturday, 11 a.m. -Noon
540-980-3576 pastorelswick@live.com

First Missionary Baptist Church
7318 Manns Drive / P.O. Box 90
New River, Virginia 24129
(540) 639-5331
email: fmbcl872@verizon.net
Pastor: Rev. Richard A. Goodman, Sr.
Associate Minister:
Rev. Annette Cheek
Clerk: Mrs. Carlotta Lewis
Sundays:
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
The Lord's Supper - Each First Sunday
Wednesdays: Prayer Meeting &
Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Dublin United Methodist
424 East Main Street, Dublin
Pastor Don Hanshaw
(540) 674-5128
dublinumc@verizon.net
www.dublinumc.com
First Service, 8:45 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
Second Service, 10:55 a.m.

Freedom Fellowship Church
1730 West Street
Radford, VA 24141
Sr. Pastor: Jerry W. Collins
540-577-5780
jcollinsfreedomfellowship@yahoo.com
Sunday Service: 10 a.m.
11 a.m. Children's Church
Wednesday - 7 p.m. Service
7 p.m. Youth Service

New River Valley Biker Church
Located in: United Steel Workers Union Hall,
Fairlawn
7322 Peppers Ferry Blvd.
Radford, VA 24241
Email: nrvbikerchurch@gmail.com
Pastor Joe Walker
Sunday Service: 11 a.m.

Draper's Valley Presbyterian (PCA)
2755 Old Baltimore Road, Draper, VA 24324
Mailing address: Same as above
Pastor's Name: Rev. Robert E. Davis
Associate Pastor: Rev. Roland Mathews
Primary Service Times:
Sunday Morning Worship Service
8:30 and 11:00
Sunday Evening Worship Service 6:15 p.m.
Wednesday Evening (5:45 Supper in the
Fellowship Hall (Sept thru May) - Youth Groups
and Adult Bible Study 6:30 p.m.)
Contact Info:
Phone - 540-994-9015
e-mail - drapers.valley@dvpca.org
website - www.dvpca.org

Trinity Lutheran
Church ELCA
2 Fifth Street, N.W., Pulaski
540-980-3624
The Rev. Terrie Sternberg
trinitypulaski@gmail.com
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
(Sept. - May)
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
(June - Aug.)
Bible Study: Wednesday, 12:30
www.trinitypulaski.org

Trinity United Methodist
Pastor: Judy Yonce
Sunday Worship - 9:45 a.m.
Bible Study - Wednesday, 7 p.m.
528 5th Street, S.E.
Pulaski, Va.
Phone - 980-0820

Dublin Church of God of Prophecy
100 South Main St., Dublin
Services:
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Sunday night, 6 p.m.
Pastor Rickey Freeman and wife Rose invites
everyone to attend.
Phone 750-6533

Snowville Baptist Church
3238 Gum Log Road, Hiwassee
639-6254
Pastor: Neil Wood
Associate: Matthew Wood
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Services: 11 a.m., 6 p.m.
Wednesday Night Service: 7 p.m.

Fairlawn United Methodist Church
7584 Brandon Road, Fairlawn, Va. 24141
Pastor Mark A. Miller
markmiller.psalml@gmail.com
Cell) 540-320-2431
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship (with children's message):
11 a.m.
Bible Study, Wednesday: 7 p.m.
Youth Ministry
Facebook.com/Fairlawn-United-Method-
ist-Church

Grace Ministries
Church of God of Prophecy
1021 Macgill Street
Pulaski, VA 24301
Church: 540-980-2118
Cell: 276-233-8083
Bus Ministry: 540-385-9972
www.pulaskigracemin.com
Email: pulaskigracemin@hotmail.com
Pastor Mike Williams
Children's Ministry
Aaron & Becky Sampson
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Children's Church 10:30 a.m.
Children's Free Breakfast 10:30 a.m.
Ages 5-12
Men's & Women's Ministry Wed. 6:30

Faith Bible Church
110 LaGrange Street, Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor: Jim Linkous
Associate Pastor: T.J. Cox
540-980-5433
www.facebook.com/faithbiblechurch
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
Sunday Children's Church: 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening: 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m.
Children's Meal: 6:30 p.m.
Children's and Youth's Group Classes: 7 p.m.

Dublin Christian Church
5605 Dunlap Road
P.O. Box 1330
Dublin, VA 24084
(540) 674-8434
www.dublinchristianchurch.com
Richard R. Goad, Jr.
Senior Minister
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship and
Youth Meeting, 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study and Children's Bible
Classes, 7 p.m.

Anderson Memorial Presbyterian Church
319 Franklin Avenue, Pulaski
(540) 980-2277
Bruce Ford, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church
408 N. Jefferson Avenue, Pulaski
Pastor Melissa McNair-King
(540) 980-2132
firstprespulaskiva@gmail.com
www.firstpresbyterianpulaski.org
Sunday Services:
Sept.-May: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.,
Service 11 a.m.
June-Labor Day: Service 10 a.m.
Wednesday Family Night, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Thornspring United Methodist Church
5670 Thornspring Church Rd.
Dublin, VA 24084
Pastor: Rev. Teresa Tolbert
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Worship Service: 11 a.m.
Phone: (540) 980-2927

First Baptist Church
5473 Baskerville Street
Dublin, VA 24084
Pastor Wallis Brown
540-674-2677
Service: 11 a.m.

New River Valley Baptist Church
1973 Snider Lane
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor: W. Jeff Aikens
Phone: 980-8628
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Morning Worship: 11 a.m.
Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening: 7 p.m.

New Dublin Presbyterian Church
5331 New Dublin Church Road
Dublin, VA 24084
Pastor: Sara Jane Nixon
Website: newdublinpres.org
540-674-6147
Services 11:00 AM Sundays

Community Christian Church
Jason Allmon, Pastor
5382 Grace Street
Dublin VA, 24084
540-674-4308

Dora Highway Baptist Church
1643 Dora Highway, Pulaski
Pastor Harry L. Gunter
320-0738
Assoc. Pastor
Rev. Herman Sarver
980-2827
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study 7 p.m.
Service times: Sunday at 10:45 a.m.
Sunday night at 6:00 and Wednesday at 7:00

First Dublin Presbyterian Church (ECO)
409 Church Street, Dublin, Va. 24084
P.O. Box 2027, Dublin, Va. 24084
first-dublin-presbyterian-church-eco.com
Minister:
The Rev. Dr. Olin Marsh Whitener, Jr.

Max Creek Baptist Church
3000 Old Route 100 Road, Draper, Va. 24324
www.maxcreek.org
www.facebook.com/maxcreekbaptist
Senior Pastor: Mike Coleman
Youth Minister: Charlie Prince
Director of Visitation: Ersel Alderman
Sunday Services
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Morning Worship: 11 a.m.
Teen Social and Class: 5 p.m.
Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study & Classes: 7 p.m.

Pulaski Church of God
1621 Bob White Boulevard
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor Donald Jones
540-980-8880
www.pulaskicog.church
Sunday Services
Sunday Life Groups: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays Midweek Connect: 7 p.m.

Pulaski Christian Church, Inc.
4531 Brookmont Road, Pulaski, VA 24301
www.pulaskichristianchurch.com/
Rev. Kathy Warden, Pastor,
(540) 250-2974
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
Worship 7 p.m.
Monday Bible Study
7 to 9 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study
7 p.m.

Aldersgate United Methodist
1946 Medallion Drive
Pulaski, VA 24301
(540) 980-1349
Pastor Becky Wheeler
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
220 Magazine Street
Pulaski, VA 24301
540-980-3336
Email: firstbaptist220@gmail.com
Pastor: Rev. Douglas Patterson
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Monday's Child Youth Group, Monday
Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Pulaski Presbyterian Church
(PCA)
975 Memorial Drive
Pulaski, VA 24301
Office Phone: 980-2631
Email: pastor@pulaskipca.org
Website: www.pulaskipca.org
Stated Supply: Rev. John Gess
Sunday School: 10:00am
Worship Service: 11:00am
Warriors For Christ II
Pastor Sherman Buckner
600 Skyline Circle
Pulaski, VA
Phone: 540-315-2317
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Worship: 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Thursday: 7 p.m. Service

Sure Foundation Christian Fellowship
6598 Annie Akers Road
Radford, VA 24141
(540) 639-3443
Pastor Steve Phillips
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00 am
Sunday Night Prayer: 5:30 pm
Wednesday Night
Prophetic Teaching: 6:30 pm

New Hope Chapel
1555 Case Knife Road
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor Darrell Gray
(276) 733-6080
Pastor Gray and congregation invite you to
New Hope Chapel.
Service Times:
10 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Sunday Service
St. Edward's Catholic Church
Corner of N. Washington Avenue and 7th
Street N.W., Pulaski
Phone: 980-6511
Fax: 980-6511
Priest: Fr. Bernie Ramirez
Mass: 11 a.m. Sunday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

Pulaski First Church of the Brethren
1749 Newbern Road
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor Frank Peters
Sunday School: 9:45
Worship: 11 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.
980-3798

Abundant Life Ministries
3050 Lee Highway
Pulaski, VA 24301 (540) 980-5506
(Mon. - Fri., 9 a.m.-1 p.m.)
Pastor Randall K. Lawrence Sr.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evenings 6 p.m. by announcement
Wednesday Evenings (Family Night) 6:30-7
pm children fed, 7:15 pm Bible Classes all ages
Adult Bible Class
THRIVE Teen Class
Children's Bible Class and
Special Activity Classes

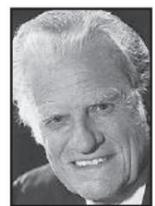
First Church of God, Dublin
6330 Courtney Lane, Dublin
Pastor Mike Hudson
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service at 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Bible Study 6 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer and Bible Study, 7 p.m.

New Life Church of the Nazarene
45 S. Jefferson Avenue
Pulaski, VA 24301
540-980-2001
www.newlifepulaski.com
email: pastorjuls@verizon.net
Pastor: Julie Armbrister
Sunday School (all ages) 9:30 a.m.
Sunday worship: 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 6 p.m.

Trinity Baptist Church
4008 Robinson Tract Road
Pulaski, VA 24301
Telephone: 980-8186
Pastor Johnny Howlett
Minister of Education Rev. Steve Taylor
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.
Sunday Bible Study - 6 p.m.
Wednesday - Adult Bible Study and Youth
Group - 7 p.m.

Grace Fellowship Baptist Church
2640 Max Creek Road
P.O. Box 326
Hiwassee, VA 24347
Pastor: Jason N. Aker
Phone: 276-699-3176
pastorjasonaker@gmail.com
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service: 11 a.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Showers of Blessing Church of God in Christ
305 Newbern Road, Dublin
Pastor Elder Stephen Muse
Come and Worship With Us!
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday Night Bible Study: 7-8 p.m.



My
Answer

Billy Graham

Holy Spirit gives us assurance we've been born again

Q: I'm discouraged because I've been saved a while but haven't made any improvement, still struggling with things my friends said were keeping me from surrendering to Jesus Christ. Why can't I break the bad habits (sins) that seem to weigh me down? -- N.C.

A: After we receive Christ as Savior we may be confused sometimes because many of the old temptations have not disappeared. We still sin. Sometimes we lose our tempers. Pride and

See GRAHAM, page A10

McCraw

Continued from Page A8

and will be raised from the dead at His coming and receive brand new bodies, incorruptible and immortal. It's going to be a glad reunion day.

Being saved is an underrated experience. It is the very best thing that can ever happen to an individual. Satan has many blinded to how good it is to be saved because he doesn't want anyone to be saved. If people only knew how marvelous it is to be saved, then everyone would be saved.

The good news is that Salvation is free. It's free to us but it cost God the highest price that has ever been paid for anything. It cost God His only begotten son and it cost Jesus every drop of His life's blood. "Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe; sin had left it's crimson stain, but Jesus washed me white as snow." Kristian Stanhill.

"For by grace are ye saved through faith and that not of yourselves. It is the gift of God, not of works lest any man should boast." Ephesians 2: 8,9.

Salvation is all inclusive. It's for everyone, red, yellow, black or white. We are all precious in His sight. It's not God's will that any should perish but that all should come unto repentance.

It's not by any good works of righteousness that we have done that we are saved but it is because of the good work that Jesus did for us on Calvary, on the old rugged cross. He gave His life so that we might live. He took our punishment for sin so we wouldn't have to pay it ourselves. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:23.

Now those of us who are saved can sing a new song. 'Saved by the blood of the Crucified One! The angels rejoicing because it is done; A child of the Father, joint heir with the Son, saved by the blood of the Crucified One! Glory I'm saved, glory I'm saved, my sins are all pardoned, my guilt is all gone; glory I'm saved, glory I'm saved, I'm saved by the blood of the crucified One.' S. J. Henderson, 1902.

It's the height of foolishness for anyone to put off their soul's salvation until a more convenient season because the evil one will make sure that a more convenient season never comes around. Now is the day of salvation. Now is the accepted time. Seek ye the Lord while He may be found. Call upon Him while He is near and He will abundantly pardon. The eternal soul is too important to gamble away."

You may have guess it by now. It is my own testimony. "What a change in my life since I met Jesus, Every moment I find, He's just the same; every day as I go I'm finding glory, what a change in my life, since Jesus came."

PULASKI
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Ninth District Traveling Staff Office Hours for February

Congressman Griffith's Ninth District STAFF will be available at the following locations during the month of February. In the event of inclement weather (heavy snow, sleet, icy rain, etc.), traveling office hours may be rescheduled to avoid putting constituents at risk. I

February 13, 2020

Radford: 12:30 – 2:00 pm
Radford Public Library
Passport Office

**Pulaski County (Dublin):
2:30 – 4:00 pm**
Town of Dublin Office

Wythe County: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
Wythe County Sheriff's Office
Conference Room

County

Continued from Page A7

Food City and raised money for Backpacks Unite, a program that provides nutritious weekend meals to students at risk of going hungry throughout the region.

- Our American Evolution Committee received the Statewide Partner Award for its activities and were honored in Jamestown and showcased in a variety of publications

AND

- Pulaski County became a Second Amendment Sanctuary County by way of resolution

Pulaski County 2020 Goals

Just some of the many goals for this new year include:

Economic Development

Note that we already enjoy our first economic development announcement of the new year with Patton Logistics - \$12M capital investment and 33 new jobs - Commerce Park

- Transition the New River Valley Business Center to County EDA ownership

- Write and implement a small business and entrepreneurial support plan for the County

- Meaningfully and strategically support residential developments for the County's 40 by 30 Initiative

- Continue to work with Pulaski County Tourism on changing our internal and external image and perceptions and enhance our tourism marketing

- Coordinate with both towns to implement a retail recruitment plan

- Continue to work with existing industries in efforts to meet their workforce goals

- Start the summer of retention by visiting every major employer in Pulaski County and offering support

- Host and sponsor the United Way of Southwest Virginia's Career Expo

- Assess and provide solutions for the County's industrial product needs

- Create a EDA-Capital Improvement Plan to address building maintenance issues

Under General Services – We are working toward the:

- Completion of the Chiller Replacement project at the Courthouse-\$220,000

- Completion of the Roof Replacement Project here at the County Administration Building and the Central Gym-\$433,000

- The Completion of the Renovation Project for the new Station 5 EMS Building-\$120,000

- The Completion of the Health Department improvements and relocation

Human Resources

- The establishment of new employee evaluation

Graham

Continued from Page A9

jealousy may still crop up from time to time. This is not only confusing it is discouraging and sometimes leads to spiritual depression. We may even have some particular "besetting sin" that plagues us that we do not seem to be able to conquer.

But the moment we receive Christ, we receive the Holy Spirit and are given a new nature that contends with our old nature. By the old birth we are children of the flesh; by the new birth we are children of God. This is why Jesus told Nicodemus that he "must be born again" (John 3:3).

Whenever the old nature asserts itself, we may begin to doubt whether or not we are really saved. Satan wants us to doubt our salvation to make us ineffective, but we must remind ourselves that the Holy Spirit gives us assurance that we have been born again. How do we remind ourselves? By reading and studying the Word of God. The more we commune with God by reading His word and spending time in prayer, the less we want of our old ways. The new nature begins to take over by the power of God's Word that speaks into our hearts and puts our minds on Him and sets our feet on the right path. We must let the Bible become central to life, for we cannot grow spiritually strong without it.

(This column is based on the words and writings of the late Rev. Billy Graham.)

Town

Continued from Page A3

electric hookups and even a firing range for gun enthusiasts interested in target practice.

Radcliffe told council members the potential for the project "is huge," and he can see eventually marketing it along with Gatewood and the bike trails on Draper Mountain to draw people to the town.

"People have been begging for these type things for years,"

Radcliffe said.

Radcliffe showed a short video taken during a recent motocross event at the APEX Center where some 3,000 spectators and dozens of participants were in attendance.

It was noted that many of the competitors during the event

were from Pulaski County, and that some came from as far away as Cincinnati and Miami.

Radcliffe sees such a facility as providing for local citizens, but also providing a tourist destination that will bring additional customers to area restaurants, hotels and more.

form system

- The completion of Personnel Policies and a new County Handbook to be adopted
- The updating of all county job descriptions
- Develop standardized interview questions and ranking procedures for all new hires

Human Services

- Launch of our second chance workforce development programs in concert with court service and law enforcement to include the: Trustee Referral Program and the Work Report Program

Finance Department

- We will begin the implementation of the Munis 'Utilities' module for the Public Service Authority which we anticipate to go live July of 2021. In addition, the Human Resources section of the payroll module will be expanded in 2020 with more exciting employee self-service options and other cutting-edge options like recruiting, applicant tracking and talent management.

- We will be streamlining our financial processes in 2020 as we continue to learn more about the currently implemented modules and the vast capabilities of the system.

- We also look forward to beginning the budget process for the FY 20-21 Budget Year as we reduce the manual process of previously tracking budgets, not only in Excel, but also in the current financial system. We also look forward to having new capabilities for budget scenarios and salary and benefit projections.

Other Notable Goals Include:

- The Exploration of Community Center Concepts
- And the Exploration of School System Capital Improvement Approach Concepts

As you can see from just some of the 2019 highlights, we are getting a whole lot of stuff done. This is only possible because we are blessed with exceptional county staff...I am so thankful and so proud of the heart of these professionals and their commitment to public service. It is an honor to serve the fine citizens of Pulaski County and value the faith confidence and trust that they have in local government leadership. On behalf of the county staff please know that we are excited to work with this new board to realize some of the goals we have set for 2020 and make Pulaski County an even better place to live, work, play and retire.

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Cougars knock off Demons, 53-50

By DAN CALLAHAN
The Patriot

It was a gutsy effort. Down six going into the fourth quarter and Pulaski County rallied strong and knocked off Christiansburg, 53-50 Friday evening at PCHS. The win pushed the Cougars to 7-8 on the season and dropped the Blue Demons to 11-5.

Christiansburg led 40-34 going into the fourth quarter in a game that saw both teams struggle to find any consistent offense. But after a 19-19 halftime tie, the Demons closed hard in the third quarter behind seven points from Matt Collins and six from Tyrique Taylor to lead 40-34.

But everything changed in the fourth. Pulaski Co. played a hustling, hard nosed man to man defense, and Christiansburg missed its first seven shots. It wasn't until there was only 3:13 left in the game before the Demons scratched from the field. By then the Cougars had gone from six down to six up.

The first of the fourth quarter A.J. McCloud found room in the paint and drove to the basket. He scored two layups and hit six of eight free throws for 10 big fourth quarter points. Then off the stretch Chris Hay came down the bench to hit five of six free throws when the Cougars had to have them to hang onto the three-point win, a victory the Cougars really needed.

"I was very proud of our boys for overcoming adversity of injury to win a tough River Ridge game. Chayton Rollins did a fantastic job offensively and defensively for us. We had to have something tough inside tonight and he was it. Chayton is really coming into his stride. Jaydon Gray did a great job late in the second half of controlling our



Brian Bishop/PC Patriot

J.J. Gulley scored eight points Friday against Christiansburg.

temp and getting us the shots we wanted to finish the game. Our emphasis all year has been on defense and I feel like our guys are really understanding what we want, and they're working hard. Chris Hay did a fantastic job of stepping up in crunch time to knock down those free throws. We tell our guys all the time that everyone on the roster can help us in some way, just have to be ready when your name is called, and Chris was ready," said a happy Pulaski County head coach

Tyler Cannoy.

Turnovers were also a huge factor in the game. The Demons gave the ball away 22 times. The Cougars had some ball handling problems at times too and turned the ball over 15 times, but down the stretch, it didn't happen. Pulaski County was also playing without two of its primary players in guards Josh Bourne and Luke Russell.

But even with the turnover woes and poor fourth quarter shooting, Christiansburg still

made five more baskets than Pulaski Co. The Demons were 21 of 48 from the field, 43%. The Cougars 16 of 34, 47%.

The margin came at the free throw line. The Demons picked up numerous fouls as Pulaski Co. drove to the basket. Rollins shut down the Demons' big man inside, Taylor, and the outside shots just kept clanging off the rim.

It was 10-10 at the end of the first quarter, and 19-19 at the

See COUGARS, page B2

PC Girls go to 12-5 with win at Floyd

Staff Report

Maddie Ratcliffe (above) and Keslyn Secrist led the way for the Cougars, both scoring 14 points. (Brian Bishop/PC Patriot)

The Pulaski County girls basketball team continued playing a tough schedule and putting up the W's on the road Monday evening at Floyd County. The Cougars took the measure of the Buffaloes, 58-51 in a hard fought contest. The 12-5 in the River Ridge District. Floyd dropped to 11-6.

But there was a price to pay to get this victory. It was a hard fought contest all the way. Pulaski County led 29-26 at the half, and only 47-45 going into the fourth quarter, but at this point the Cougars played tough defense, shut-down the Buffs' attack, won the fourth quarter 11-5 and the game, 58-51.

"We paid a price to get this win," said a happy head coach Brad Suthphin. "Floyd has a good program and are tough to beat, particularly up here. We got in a bit of foul trouble early, and we



(Brian Bishop/PC Patriot)

Maddie Ratcliffe (above) and Keslyn Secrist led the way for the Cougars, both scoring 14 points.

needed some players to come off the bench and step up and the girls did that. This was a good, tough win. I'm pleased with the toughness and effort the girls showed tonight," added Suthphin.

Maddie Raticuff and Keslyn Secrist led the way in the scoring column for Pulaski Co., both scored 14 points. Courtney Cregar scored nine very important points, and Ally Fleenor and Paige

Huff both tallied eight. Alexis Kiser with 14, Peyton Grim with 12, and Aimee Whitlow with 11 led the Floyd effort.

The Cougars girls will entertain Patrick Henry Friday.

Pulaski County High School Sports Schedule

Tuesday 02/04/20

Boys Basketball: Pulaski Co. @ Hidden Valley JV @ 5:30, Varsity to Follow

Girls Basketball: Hidden Valley @ Pulaski Co. JV @ 5:30, Varsity to Follow

Swim: @ Chistiansburg Aquatic 6:30 pm

Friday 02/07/20

Boys Basketball: Blacksburg @ Pulaski Co. JV @ 5:30, Varsity to Follow

Girls Basketball: Pulaski Co. @ Blacksburg JV @ 5:30, Varsity to Follow



Locker Room

Dan Callahan

Swinney wants 10-year record

Clemson head football coach Dabo Swinney told a room full of recruits last weekend that he wanted his program to establish a 10-year record for success in college football. The Tigers have already played in five consecutive final four playoffs and two of those turned into national championships.

And while that goal might sound a bit ambitious, don't be against a Clemson. While most schools across the country are still trying to mop up their 2020 recruiting classes that will be finalized on February 5th signing day, Swinney and his program has long left behind next season's recruiting class and moved into 2021. It's going to be hard for the rest of the ACC to keep pace, hard for most people in the country for that matter.

Clemson got commitments from four more players last weekend, three of them 4-stars, and 5-star defensive end Corey Foreman, the number one rated high school player in the country. The Tigers signed two of the top three defensive ends in the nation in the 2020 class. The Tiger defensive front is about to become dominant again.

Clemson has moved to the top already with nine commitments for 2021, the other eight are all 4-stars. Ohio State is second also with nine commitments, one a five, and seven 4-stars. Number three is Notre Dame with seven 4-stars, then Texas at four and Florida at five. And this is before programs like Alabama, LSU, Georgia, Oklahoma and a few others get in the mix, and they most certainly will.

As far as the ACC is concerned, Miami has the next rated class at number nine that rated three 4-stars, Carolina is rated 22, Pitt 23, and Virginia Tech is 25th, but that's a much better start than the last recruiting class which finished last in the conference, and down at the bottom of all Power Five Conferences.

The Hokies have two 3-star commitments, and a 4-star in quarterback Demetrius Davis out of Houston, Texas. Davis is a highly regarded dual threat player, and the task for Tech will be to hold onto his commitment when the pressure mounts from a host of Texas schools. UVa and West Virginia are tied at 33 presently, both with two 3-stars. The Wahoos have a quarterback commitment from Jay Woolfolk out of Benedictine in Richmond. WVU's top guy so far is a tight end, Victor Wikstrom from Stockholm, Sweden.

The world of recruiting has really heated up in recent years. Alabama was in total control from 2008-2017 and during that span finished with the top rated class in all but one year, and that year was a 5th place finish, but now, Clemson, Ohio State, Georgia, LSU, Notre Dame, Oklahoma, and a few others have become much more aggressive.

It is very consistent that the best coaches seem to coach the best players. Strong recruiting is an absolute must, and millions of dollars are being invested in the effort. It's very early in the process. The 2020 class is still a few days from being complete, but recruiting never stops, and already it's obvious that little will change pertaining to who is and who ain't. When you haven't put the lid on your last class, and somebody like Clemson already has locked up nine of the best players in the country for the next class, that speaks for itself.

See CALLAHAN, page B2

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Hunting and Fishing Secret Places

My column last week told of trout fishing with a buddy on a VGIF stocked stream. I did not give the name of the creek as some hunters and fishermen like myself do not always tell of spots they have had good success in their fishing or hunting endeavors. This has been the rule of thumb for a lot of "sang" (ginseng) hunters I have known over the years as well. Reminiscing back to the "Good Ole Days", that is when the big three of hunting (deer, wild turkeys and bear) were not in abundance as they are today, one had to find the good spots to get a deer the first day of the season and go back the next year to do the same. The same was true for stocked trout when the opening day came in on a Saturday in April on a Saturday at twelve o'clock midday.

I recall once years ago, Spur Branch was once stocked with trout with a midday opening day. The Spur runs into Little Walker's Creek just inside the Bland County going about seven miles up "The Creek" from my farm which is about four miles up from VA 100. I had scouted some good spots to fish previously and found a good hole and awaited the time to put my line in. About eleven thirty a guy walked up in front of me and commenced to fish but kept looking over his shoulder at me and soon had his limit. As he left, he remarked to me, "I thought you might be a game warden." As I recall, I caught no more than a couple of trout out of that hole.

Most of my hunting over the years has been on the South side of Big Walker Mountain as my farm borders this area. I had a few spots near the top that I was successful for many years until many other hunters came onto the scene. ATV's allowed them to access the mountain more



Woods, Water & Wildlife

W.A. "Doc" Davis

readily and they hunted in some of my favorite places. I had a former neighbor that hunted from a high rock on top of "Big Walker" 4 to 5 miles on up from my place and he most always got a deer the first day, but someone else started hunting there and he had to hunt elsewhere. Today on the Creek if you want a deer, they come out into the fields and you can get a good trophy buck without going into the woods.

I had a secret place on a creek that I have taken a few friends in my canoe over the years and fished a remote area that went through a mountainous area and we got into a number of good sized small-mouthed bass. Some of the land there has exchanged hands over the last several years with houses and cabins built there and these waters are most probably fished out.

I recently watched a rerun of a Burt Reynolds' movie, Deliverance that I had seen a number of times. I visited a friend who lives near a large creek near his home and I always wanted to fish its waters as it reminded of the remote river in Georgia that Reynolds and his friends canoed down. I inquired of a friend that lived near there if it had any good fish in it and he said it was some of the best. I look forward to possibly this spring getting with him and another fishing buddy and putting a boat or canoe in and test its waters. I'll let you know if we do-until then it will be as the saying goes, "Three men can keep a secret, if

two are dead."

Psalm 91: 1,2 (KJV) reads: He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. I am glad to

say I have known my Creator from the days of my youth -Eccl. 12:1 and he has been my sustainer now in my latter years and He can be your today if you do not know Him.

Ronnie Coake, my good friend of over fifty years and a fellow

engineer that I attended Va. Tech with and worked with on occasion passed to the secret place of the most High (Heaven) last Wednesday (22nd) after a long illness. He served the Town and County of Pulaski well. Until next time

Cougars

Continued from Page B1

half as scoring was a challenge for both teams. The Demons had the big close in the third, but the fourth belonged to the clutch play of the Cougars who scored 22 points during the final eight minutes, easily their most productive quarter of the game.

Christiansburg was led by Taylor's inside presence, except when the Cougar defense

put the clamps on him in the fourth quarter. Taylor was six of 10 from the field, and three of four from the free throw line for a game high 16 points. Collins finished with 12 for the Demons and Aiden Proudfoot hit three, 3-point shots for nine points.

McCloud was four of six from the field, and seven of 10 from the charity stripe for the game

for 15 points. Gray and Peyton Blackburn both contributed 10 points to the cause, J.J. Gully got eight and Rollins seven, but none were bigger for the Cougars than Hay's five of six from the line the final two minutes.

Christiansburg was eight of 12 from the free throw line, and Pulaski Co. 21 of 33, and those 13 additional made free throws was the difference in the game.

Hokies drop ACC road outing 71-61 against Miami

Hokiesports.com

CORAL GABLES, Fla. – Looking for a fourth ACC road win on the season, the Virginia Tech men's basketball team had a 71-61 setback against Miami (Fla.) on Tuesday at the Watson Center.

The Hokies (14-7, 5-5 ACC) fell to Miami (11-9, 3-7) on the road for the first time since 2018. The Hurricanes snapped a three-game losing streak against Tech, including the 71-56 loss in the ACC Tournament last season.

A bright spot for the Hokies, guard Tyrece Radford recorded his career-high 24 points while shooting 75 percent from the field. Redshirt freshman Landers Nolley added 14 points along with five rebounds.

The 'Canes were led by senior Dejan Vasiljevic who scored 18 points along with seven rebounds. Guard Harlond Beverly registered 13 points and dished out six as-

sists for the Hurricanes.

Miami was successful in the paint outscoring Tech 36-24 in that area and outrebounding the Hokies 36-31. The Hurricanes surprisingly outscored Tech's bench 10-9. This is just the third time this season the Hokies bench has not reached double digits in combined points.

THE GAME

With 11:34 to go in the first, the Hurricanes Rodney Miller scored an old-fashioned three-point play followed by a triple from the Canes Kameron McGusty, which would spark and be a part of a 24-2 run giving Miami a 41-19 lead. Tech ended the first half on a 6-3 run and Miami went into the break leading 44-25.

With just under nine minutes to go in the game, guard Radford scored back-to-back transition buckets to cut into the deficit and make the score 54-43 with Miami on top. Looking for a comeback, with just over one minute to go,

redshirt freshman, Nolley drilled a floater and then shortly after finished a layup to make the score 63-59 with Miami leading. Miami held on late to win 71-61.

NOTES

- Radford led Tech in scoring for the first time this season. Radford also collected three steals which is his second-most of the season (4, Wake Forest Jan. 14)

- Nolley's 14 points marks his 19th game scoring in double figures and ninth consecutive outing reaching double digits in points. Nolley also recorded five rebounds marking his 16th game this season with five or more boards.

- Tech tied its season high in steals with 11 (Wake Forest 1/14/20) and forced Miami to commit 16 turnovers.

UP NEXT

Tech will return to Blacksburg for a matchup with No. 5/6 Florida State (17-3, 7-2) on Saturday at 4 p.m. at Cassell Coliseum.

Callahan

Continued from Page B1

And it also helps if you have the lowest rated schedule in the country. Clemson took some heat for last season's schedule, and next year is considered the easiest in the country. Clemson's schedule would not be considered soft for other ACC schools, but for the talent level at Clemson it is. The toughest games are a trip to Notre Dame, a division game vs. a rebuilding Florida State, and the annual match with South Carolina.

Where's Everybody Going?:

It appears that Virginia Tech may lead the nation again in transfers. Since the season ended 14 players have announced they are leaving. Add to that Dalton Keene and Deshawn McCleave

who are entering the NFL Draft early. Expect both to get a shot as free agents. But 16 players will not return to the Hokies.

That said, and it certainly isn't a positive for the program, it should not be considered a panic either. Last year the "transfer portal" got heavy media coverage because it was new and heavily used for the first time. I was guilty of wondering what in the world is going on too. It seemed like a mass exodus in Blacksburg.

First of all some of the players that enter the portal might decide to stay, and that happened at Tech last year. Although I wonder about that. When a player tries to leave do you welcome him

back? Not sure I would unless I really, really needed him, but it wouldn't be a happy sort of thing. Also, and this was evident with transfers from all schools across the country, a large percentage of the "transfer portal" players ended up playing at a lower level, or a lesser program. What that tells you is simple. A lot of the transfer situation consists of players just trying to find a place where they can play. Lots of them are leaving a program where they could not get on the field.

So Hokie fans should not panic, but it's not a good sign either. Ask yourself this. If so many players recruited at Va. Tech leave after one or two years or whenever because they can't get playing time, just how good was the player evaluation when he was offered a scholarship in the first place? But some of it a coach can't do anything about. It's just the times. You can bet a buck that when a program's quarterback room gets full, but there is a definite number one, likely the number two is going to leave. Number three might leave too. Just 10 years ago did you ever think you would see 81 college quarterbacks transfer in just one year. Say hello to today. And all of them are certainly not outstanding players. Fans need to understand often it's an "I" thing. Most players love to play more than they love school, any school.

And sometimes you benefit too. The Hokies obviously need help at running back even though it seems like they have a herd of them in the program already, but there are high hopes for Raheem Blackshear, a transfer from Rutgers, and Khalil Herbert, a transfer from Kansas. Expect both to see major immediate playing time next season.



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Mack to launch medium-duty product line in Roanoke County

SALEM — Governor Ralph Northam today announced that Mack Trucks will invest \$13 million to establish a manufacturing operation in Roanoke County, creating 250 new jobs. The new venture will allow Mack to produce and sell a new line of medium-duty trucks. Virginia successfully competed with sites in several other states for the project.

“Landing Mack Trucks’ new medium-duty truck production plant is a tremendous win that builds on our efforts to make Virginia a leader in automotive manufacturing,” said Governor Northam. “Virginia has enjoyed a longstanding partnership with the Volvo Group, which includes Mack, and we are confident that the company will be a valuable addition to Roanoke County and the entire Commonwealth.”

The Virginia Economic Development Partnership worked with Roanoke County and the Roanoke Regional Partnership to secure the project for Virginia. Governor Northam approved a \$700,000 grant from the Commonwealth’s Opportunity Fund to assist Roanoke County with the project. Funding and services to support Mack’s employee training activities will also be provided through the Virginia Jobs Investment Program.

“We’re excited about the opportunities our new medium-duty product line will bring for the company, our employees, and the Roanoke Valley community,” said Mack President Martin Weissburg. “We’re very grateful to the Commonwealth of Virginia and Roanoke County for their support of this project, and we look forward to growing this

new business, and being a successful and engaged corporate citizen.”

“We are honored that Mack Trucks has chosen to launch its newest product line in Virginia, and we’re committed to supporting the success of this major business venture in Roanoke County,” said Secretary of Commerce and Trade Brian Ball. “Mack will benefit from our robust manufacturing workforce trained by Virginia’s top-ranked educational institutions and industry-led engineering programs as it ramps up, and we thank the company for creating 250 high-quality, 21st-century jobs.”

“Roanoke County is thrilled to welcome Mack Trucks’ new medium-duty production operation as the first automotive project established in Virginia from prototype to production,” said Chairman of the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors David Radford. “It is exciting to be a part of the next-generation truck developed by this iconic American brand. The economic impact of this investment and the employment opportunities created by this announcement are significant, and I am delighted to celebrate Mack’s growth in Roanoke County.”

“I’m delighted to hear that Mack Trucks has committed to creating 250 new jobs in Roanoke County,” said Delegate Joe McNamara. “Roanoke is an excellent place to do business, and it is clear that our strategic location and favorable economic climate made Roanoke the right fit for this investment. This is a great win for our region.”

2nd try being made for forensic nursing facility

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

The Town of Pulaski voted last week to support another attempt to obtain a grant to fund the establishment of a local forensic nursing facility to assist victims of crime.

A previous attempt at such a grant was not successful, but organizers are now making a second attempt through another funding source.

Some aspects of the grant effort have changed this time around. In the previous attempt, it was proposed a building on East Main Street would be used to house the facility. This time around, LewisGale Pulaski Hospital has agreed to make space available for the program.

The grant being sought this time around – the Department of Justice Violence Against Wom-

en Grant – is for a three-year project and does not require any match of local funds. According to Town Manager Shawn Utt, the town’s sole role in the facility would be as fiscal agent.

If the grant application effort is successful, it would provide a \$500,000 grant to establish the Safe Center of SW Virginia.

Forensic nursing involves working as part of the criminal justice response to cases such as domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

A forensic nurse provides specialty care to victims of trauma and abuse, and aid in evidence collection among other duties.

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Brian Bishop/PC Patriot

Pulaski County's Ally Fleenor goes up for two of her seven points against Christiansburg.

Cougar girls roll past Christiansburg, 70-21

Staff Report

The Pulaski County girls basketball program continued to roll with a lopsided 70-21 victory on the road at Christiansburg Friday evening. The Cougars are now 11-5 on the season and a perfect 7-0 in River Ridge District play. The Blue Demons dropped to 2-11 on the season and 0-7 in the district.

"It was a good win," said Cougar head coach Brad Sutphin. "We started out a bit sloppy ear-

ly in the game, but got things smoothed out, and at stretches really played the way these girls are capable of playing. I was pleased with the effort. It's always a good feeling for the entire team when you have a big win and every player gets to play, and tonight, they not only all played, every player scored. That's great," said the pleased Sutphin.

Pulaski County took control early and led 23-9 at the end of the first quarter and was never threatened. And there were a doz-

en Cougar players in uniform at Christiansburg and all 12 of them put lights on the scoreboard.

Alaina Akers and Keslyn Secrist both scored 11 points. Erin Russell and Paige Huff both finished with eight, Ally Fleenor and Maddie Ratcliff both scored seven, Cassidy Secrist. Courtney Cregger, and Bailey Nash all got four, Taryn Blankenship, Aubrey O'Dell, and Jaden Lawson all finished with two.

Habban Altizer led Christiansburg with 10.

Cougar boys fall 71-60 to G-Men

Pulaski County staged a huge rally early in the season, coming from 23-points down to defeat Graham at home. Saturday evening in Bluefield was the return match. It didn't go as well.

The G-Men used a balanced scoring effort to defeat the Cougars, 71-60. The loss dropped Pulaski County to 7-9 on the season.

Young sophomore David Graves led Graham with 19 points, but he got plenty of help from a variety of players as Joey Dales, Jamir Blevins, and Chance Dawson all scored nine points.

J.J. Gulley was the outstanding player for the Cougars with 20.

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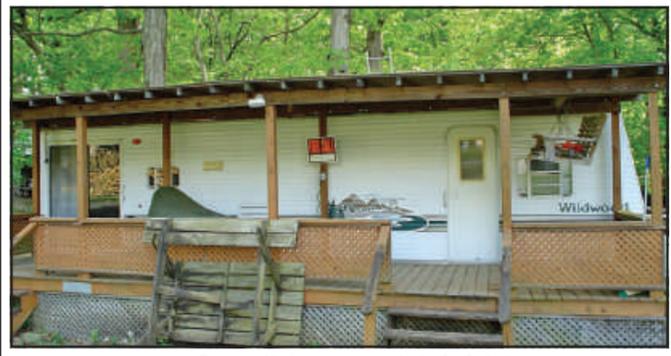
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Smith makes \$1,000 Donation To Draper Community Park

New River Valley Leading Lights, a non-profit group whose mission includes acknowledging and honoring volunteers across the NRV who are making community-changing impact, awarded Carol Smith the 2019 Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award for volunteerism. The award includes a \$1,000 donation to the non-profit of the awardee's choosing. Smith and members of the NRV Leading Lights Board recently presented her donation to Draper Community Park Board members. Nominations for 2020 Leading Lights volunteer awards are open now at www.leadinglightsnrvalley.org Pictured (front row) John Hawley (Draper Community Park Board), Carol Smith (NRV Leading Lights 2019 Lifetime Achievement Recipient), Fran Streff (Draper Community Park Board), Dick Arnold (NRV Leading Lights Board), Carolyn Foltz (Draper Community Park Board), Sharon Eifried (NRV Leading Lights Board)

Second Row: Brian Garnder (Draper Community Park Board), Dean Pratt (Draper Community Park Board), Gayle Kiser (Draper Community Park Board)



Farris recognized for 50 years of service to Newbern, county

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

A Newbern fireman has been recognized for his years of service; flags will soon adorn the entire length of Memorial Bridge, and a new Emergency Operations Plan was approved among other action during Monday's meeting of the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors.

Miller Farris joined the Newbern Volunteer Fire Department in 1969 at the age of 16. He has continuously served the greater Newbern community and Pulaski County for over 50 years since then.

Farris was officially recognized with a Resolution in Recognition and Appreciation for his years of service at the department's meeting in December.

The supervisors officially ratified the resolution Monday night.

The resolution noted that over the past 50 years, Farris has been instrumental in the department's operations and in securing quality apparatus and equipment needed for the department to capably respond to the community's emergencies.

Farris, the resolution states, has achieved the department's highest response rate of any member at over 75 percent.

Emergency Operation Plan

The supervisors approved a new Emergency Operations Plan following an update of the plan, which is required every four years.

It was noted the updated plan that is available for public review is a "basic" plan, and a more detailed plan, including proprietary information, is not made avail-

able to the public.

Memorial Bridge Flags

Supervisors passed a resolution approving a joint project with Radford over placing flags and flag brackets on light poles on Memorial Bridge that connects Pulaski County to Radford.

Radford some months back placed brackets holding American flags on their half of the bridge. This new project will allow for the flags to be placed all the way to the end of the bridge.

The supervisors had to approve a land use resolution to obtain the needed permits from VDOT to allow for the flags and brackets to be affixed to the light poles.

Radford will cover all the expenses of the project and do all the work. County Administrator Jonathan Sweet said the VFW and American Legion posts in Radford are providing the flags.

Citizen Comments

Former supervisor Ranny Akers addressed the board about the need for four-laning of Route 11 due to increased traffic on the roadway. He also mentioned Route 114 and Route 100, as well as Newbern Road where construction is underway on the Volvo expansion.

Brenda Cross, a Highland Road resident, complained to the board about noise coming from one of her neighbor's residence,

including barking dogs, loud music and noise from motorcycles. She said law enforcement had been called over 30 times, but so far nothing has been done to cure the situation.

It's gotten so bad, she said, that one of her tenants is planning to move.

She presented each supervisor with detailed information about the problem.

Later Akers addressed the board again and suggested the county's recent resolution concerning support for the Second Amendment be updated with the signatures of the board's three new members – Dirk Compton, Laura Walters and John Travis.

Board Chairman Joe Guthrie responded that he had had conversations with each of the three new members of the board and each had expressed support for the resolution. He said the matter could be taken up at the board's February meeting.

Compton, Draper District Supervisor, noted in his remarks he would be glad to sign the Second Amendment resolution.



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County makes loan to Fairlawn's Sewerage Authority for repair

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

The Pulaski County Board of Supervisors Monday night approved a \$100,000 loan to the Pulaski County Sewerage Authority in Fairlawn.

The loan, carrying a simple interest rate of 3 percent for a term of 5 years, is to be used to make necessary improvements to a portion of the sewerage authority's sewer line located along the Oxford Avenue section in Fairlawn.

The improvements are needed to remedy an overflow of raw sewage entering storm water systems leading directly into the New River.

According to County Administrator Jonathan Sweet, as time has passed the overflow occurrences have become more frequent and more severe.

"With each subsequent overflow, they are required to make a formal declaration of the disruption," Sweet said. "The state Department of Environmental Quality assigns a demerit point based on these reports and can issue a notice of non-compliance if they persist."

The board approved the loan, however, in his report to supervisors in which he recommended approval, Sweet noted his recommendation came with the understanding that the loan shall be a one-time only instance and the Board of Supervisors "will not serve as a lending institution to the sewerage authority in the future."

Dennis Setliff, Chairman of the Pulaski County Sewerage

Authority, addressed the board about the situation prior to the vote.

Setliff said the authority had been created in the mid-1960s. He said Pulaski County PSA provides maintenance operations on a contract basis. Currently the Fairlawn authority customer base exceeds 800 households and an additional 100-plus commercial customers.

According to Setliff, the authority's infrastructure initially required a low level of maintenance. However, as the system has aged, maintenance demands have increased - including a complete line replacement along the Route 11 corridor. That replacement, he said, exhausted the financial holdings of the authority to a point four years ago in May a negative cash scenario existed.

Setliff said in August of that year, customers rejected a plan to merge the authority into the PSA, wishing to stay independent instead.

Consequently, Setliff said, the authority has focused its attention of late on rate structures, and said residential customers no longer pay a flat rate fee as they had in the past. He said today's payment program is predicated on usage by each individual customer.

Setliff said the source of the overflow is surface groundwater entering directly into the sewer system via a manhole and the underground sewer system in the Pepper Hills section of Fairlawn.

At a point that the underground system migrates to Oxford Avenue, it overwhelms the ability

See LOAN, page B8



Dr. Mickey Hickman



Jami Martin

NRCC to present Black History Month program Feb. 16 at 3 pm

NRCC Presents Black History Month Program
In celebration of Black History month, New River Community College (NRCC) and the college's Black History Committee will sponsor a guest speaker and music program on Sunday, February 16 at 3 p.m. The event will be held in 117 Edwards Hall at NRCC in Dublin, and admission is free.

Keynote speaker Dr. Michael "Mickey" Hickman will present remarks on the topic of "African Americans and the Vote." Hickman is the president of Calfee Community and Cultural Center Board of Directors. He attended Calfee Training School and Christiansburg Institute. He is a Pulaski High School graduate and has degrees from Wytheville Community College, Virginia Tech, and Radford University. He retired after 42 years with Pulaski County Public Schools where he worked as a principal, teacher and coach.

Dr. Hickman is active in the local community where he is currently president of Critzer Elementary School PTO and also serves on the Carilion Board of Directors for New River Valley Medical Center. He attends Randolph Avenue Methodist Church, where he has served as a Sunday school teacher, a superintendent and on the church's finance committee. He has also served as past president of the Pulaski County branch of the NAACP.

Musical performances will be presented by Jami Martin, an NRCC student, and United Voices Choir from First Baptist Church, Pulaski.

The public is invited to the event; light refreshments will be served following the program. For



United Voice Choir

more information about the program, please contact Elaine Powell-Hawkins at (540) 674-3600, ext. 4478.

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Pet Of The Week

Like magic, this dapper dude showed up in the shelter dog yard one weekend at the beginning of the month. A very friendly and playful young dog. He is now up for adoption but will need to be neutered and vaccinated. What a good boyeeee! Come visit Winston and the other dogs here at the shelter!

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Public Service Announcement

Pulaski High School Class of 1970 plans reunion

Please help spread the word over the holidays to friends and relatives that the Pulaski High School Class of '70 is planning on hosting their 50th reunion during the Memorial Day weekend of May 22-23 at Al's on First. For more information please contact Cathy Weddle Coble at 540-230-1519.

NRV Master Gardener Training program seeking applicants for training class

The New River Valley Master Gardener Program is seeking applicants for the 2020 Master Gardener Training class. The class runs from late February through early May. Contact the Montgomery County Extension Office at 540-382-5790 for more information.

February 1

VFW Aux. Post 1184 to host 25¢ BINGO

VFW Auxiliary Post 1184 will host 25¢ BINGO on Saturday, February 1, 11 a.m.- 2 p.m. at the post home located on the corner of Dora Highway and Washington Ave. in Pulaski. Everyone is welcome. Weather permitting!

Chalk Talk to benefit Back Pack Program Ministry

First Dublin Presbyterian Church will host Chalk Talk with Dwight Haynes, Feb. 1 at noon. Lunch will be provided. This is a service suitable for children and adults. Please bring a can of soup to donate to the Back Pack Ministry. The church is located at 409 Church Street in Dublin. For information call 540-674-8660 or email first-dublin-presbyterian-church-eco.com

American Legion, H-H-C Post 30 to meet

The American Legion, Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will meet on Thursday, February 6, 7 p.m. at the VFW Post Home on 102 Watts St. in Radford. If Radford City Schools are closed due to weather, the meeting will be cancelled. For further information, please call 250-2283 or 239-9864.

February 9

First Baptist Church Pastor's Aide Committee to sponsor program

The Pastor's Aide committee of First Baptist Church on Magazine St. in Pulaski will sponsor a program on February 9, at 3 p.m. . Guest speaker and featured music for the event will be Rev. Marvin Lockett and choir from Woodlawn, Va.

February 11

Sons of Confederate Vets, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp to meet

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet on Tuesday, February 11, 7pm at Ray's Restaurant on Rt. 221, north of Floyd. Members of the United

Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to attend. If Floyd County Public Schools are closed on Tuesday or Wednesday of this week due to weather, the meeting is cancelled. For further information, please call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

February 14

Celebrate Valentine's Day at St. Jude Church

Celebrate Valentine's Day at St. Jude Church located at 1740 Tyler Ave., Christiansburg. The church will host a dinner and dance on Friday, February 14, 2020 with DJ Zach from 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. The menu will be barbeque spareribs, baked beans, coleslaw, and cornbread and homemade desserts. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 13 and under. Please purchase tickets through the office by calling 540-639-5341.

On-going community based activities and needs:

WOTM (Women of the Moose) host monthly Bingo Monthly WOTM Bingo is held the second Saturday of every month at the Pulaski Moose Lodge, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. There are awesome door prizes, FREE coffee, WOTM donation and much more. Come out and play some quarter Bingo with your Women of the Moose. \$10 Buy-in: You play unlimited amount of cards.

AA

Alcoholics Anonymous meet Monday at 8 p.m.(closed meeting); Wednesday (noon); and Thursday at 8 p.m. (open meetings) at Pulaski Presbyterian Church of America located at 975 Memorial Drive. Contact number 540-440-0066.

Al-Anon - Pulaski

Pulaski Al-Anon Family Group (a support group for friends and families of alcoholics) meet every Monday night at 8 p.m. at the Pulaski Presbyterian Church of America located at 975 Memorial Drive. Contact number 540-818-0621. Volunteers needed at the Ratcliffe Ratcliffe Transportation Museum is in need of volunteers Please call Ernie or Ron at 540-980-2307 for more information, please leave a message if no one answers.

Group sets aside day each month to pray for County

A group of citizens of Pulaski County has set aside the 15th of each month to fast and pray for the county. The group asks that citizens who are of a like mind please join them in this effort.

Feeding America

Distribution of fresh produce and baked goods at New Life Church of the Nazarene each Saturday from 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. (no charge) on a first-come-first-served basis. The church is located 45 S. Jefferson Ave., Pulaski.

Adult Day Care and Fall Prevention Center hosts monthly

BINGO

Adult Day Service and Fall Prevention Center hosts BINGO on the 4th Saturday of each month from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Ruritan building on 4th and Jefferson St in Pulaski. The building is located near Seagles Funeral Home. Everyone welcome!

Pulaski Old Time Jamboree

A Bluegrass Jam session for players of all ages is held every Thursday evening 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. at the Historic Pulaski Train Depot. Join the jam by playing an instrument or singing or just come by and enjoy the music. Call Dee Dean at 540-392-3555 for more information. The center is located across the street from the post office.

Cowboy Church ministry offers food bags to the elderly and shut-in

On the third and fourth week of each month Cowboy Church offers food bags to the elderly and shut-in. On these weeks, interested participants will come to the church at 12 noon for pick up if able. Delivery is available if necessary. Call Mike and Pat Thompson at 540-577-4923. Cowboy Church is located at 520 E. Main St., Pulaski (across from Downtown Exxon).

Pulaski Daily Bread in need of volunteers

Daily Bread is in need of servers on several different days, so if you can spare a few hours a week you may contact Debbi Harrell (Director) at 980-2131 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Celebrate Recovery Support group at VHM

Valley Harvest Ministries in Dublin is now sponsoring a support group for people who are working through hurts, habits and hang-ups. The group meets each Thursday at 6:30 p.m. Food will be served at 6:30 p.m. followed at 7 p.m. with a large group meeting and then everyone will divide into smaller groups at 8 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous

The NA group HOW meets each Sunday 6 p.m. at the Christ Episcopal Church located at 144 Washington Ave., in Pulaski. The meeting is open to everyone.

The Patriot
540-808-3949

N.A. Principles before Personalities

N.A. Principles before Personalities meets Thursday at 7 p.m.; Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church Annex located at 4th and Jefferson St., Pulaski, Va. For more information, go to www.newrivervalleyyna.org

If you would like to publicize community activities (FREE of charge) please contact us by email: news@pcpatriot.com or drop by The Patriot newspaper office at 138 N. Jefferson Ave., Pulaski or call 540-808-3949.



www.pcpatriot.com
540-808-3949
Published Free Each Friday

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		9			4		1	2
	6	3	5					8
2				9	8	3		
		1	7					6
4	2			6		9		
	8				9		4	
3			4			1		
6	1				7		3	
		5		2		6		9

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Puzzle Answer Appears Elsewhere In This Week's Issue

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Meredith McGrady
Office Manager



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January 2020

Fri. Jan. 3rd: Sister Ginger Riggins
Sat. Jan. 4th: Sister Barbara Kidd

Fri. Jan. 10th: Pastor Doug Duncan
Sat. Jan. 11th: Pastor Harry Gunter

Fri. Jan. 17th: Rev. Reggie Friday
Sat. Jan. 18th: Pastor Todd Garwood

NOTE: Food / Clothing Event 11 am until 1 pm. Soup, Grilled Cheese, Dessert and Drinks. Also the Clothing Bank will be open with Free Men's, Women's, Boys and Girls Clothing.

Fri. Jan. 24th: Evangelist Joyce Greer
Sat. Jan. 25th: "YOUTH NIGHT" Rev. Paul Robertson "All For Jesus"

NOTE: **11 AM SUNDAY MORNING OUTREACH SERVICE AT THE STREETS**
Sun. Jan. 26th: Pastor Todd Garwood

Fri. Jan. 31st: Pastor Charlie Barbettini

Each Service Broadcast Live on streaming video at: www.streets4god.com

For More Information Contact: Charlie Barbettini. : 276.620.4293

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"Go Ye Into All The World and Preach The Gospel to Every Creature" Mark 16:15

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Dublin, VA

SHONEY'S

120 Malin Drive
Wytheville, VA

Loan

Continued from Page B6

of the downstream system to accommodate the storm flows, Setliff said.

He noted it has been determined that storm water runoff needs to be re-directed by collection into an underground system and pumped to a current retention basin along Beth Nelson Street in Fairlawn.

The authority has a design for the fix and a local contractor to do the work has been selected.

He said the authority has sought funding for the project from a variety of government agencies but has been rejected by all largely due to the urgency of the need and other regulatory factors.

Setliff said another option for funding is from a local bank. He said the bank's initial response had been positive, but it would require an agreement involving a moral obligation on the part of the county to continue to operate the system should the authority default on the loan. He noted Pulaski County had not been approached on this option.

He said the county had provided a third-party source that had been successful in securing grants in the past, but to this point they report their efforts had not been successful.

So, the authority turned to the Board of Supervisors as a way to move the project toward "a prompt implementation," and as an alternative to using the cur-

rent financial resources of the authority.

"This is being considered as a viable alternative to depletion of the resources currently at hand," Setliff said.

The authority initially requested a loan of \$125,000, however, Sweet's recommendation was only for \$100,000 so, as Sweet said, the authority would have "some skin in the game" and could maintain a healthy capital reserve.

Draper Supervisor Dirk Compton expressed concern over the loan.

He asked Setliff what the authority's long-term plan is, and does it want to stay separate of the PSA?

Setliff responded that customers three years ago considered that at a public hearing and "it didn't go well" with customers expressing the desire to remain independent.

"Would they be willing to cover the \$125,000," Compton asked?

Setliff said if the authority uses revenue it has generated from collecting from customers for services, they are.

"The thing is, I represent Draper," Compton said. "If they (authority customers) don't want to join us and they don't want to have an increase (in what they pay), but they want to borrow money from Draper people..."

"But we did have a rate revision," Setliff interjected.

Compton continued noting the authority and county "are together and we're separate...we're together and we're separate. We're together when you need money."

In the end, the loan request was approved with all supervisors voting 'yes.'

When it came time for Compton to vote, he responded, "Yes, I guess."

American Evolution photo contest winners announced



Jamestown - The 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution, has announced the winners of the "American Evolution 2019 Reflections" Photo Contest. The winners in the three categories: Professional, Organization and Amateur will receive \$3,000 each.

The goals of the photo contest included collecting photographs and their background stories documenting the important and historic impact of the 2019 Commemorative year, sharing real-life images of participants engaging in the 2019 Commemoration events and initiatives, and expressing what the 2019 Commemoration meant to individuals. The winners are:

Professional

- Stephen Wozny of Norfolk captured a photograph of two women and one man in the water on Buckroe Beach during the African Naming and Cleansing Ceremony at the First African Landing Commemorative Weekend.

Organization

- A representative of Pulaski County captured a photograph of the local Black History Month display at Pulaski County Library that illustrates the 2019 Commemoration themes: Democracy, Di-

versity and Opportunity.

Amateur

- Robert K. Van Ness of Norfolk captured a photograph of the reenactment of the first Thanksgiving in 1619 at Berkeley Plantation in Charles City County during the Virginia Thanksgiving Festival.

"One of our goals of this contest was to have participants show us what the commemoration meant to them," said Kathy Spangler, Executive Director of the 2019 Commemoration. "These winning photographs illustrated how much the events and initiatives of the commemoration impacted the people in Virginia."

The photo contest was held from October 17, 2019 to January 5, 2020 and encouraged the public to submit photographs taken during the commemorative year. American Evolution asked for images captured during 2019 Commem-

oration events and partner events, images captured at official Virginia History Trail sites from the Virginia History Trails award-winning app and images that reflected the three key ideals of the commemoration: democracy, diversity and opportunity.

All images and accompanying stories collected in the contest will be housed permanently in the 2019 Commemoration library, which will be available for public consultation as a legacy of the 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution. A collective record of this historical year from a multitude of perspectives, these photographs will serve as invaluable primary source material for future research by scholars and others.

To view the winning photos, please visit <https://www.american-evolution2019.com/photocontest-winners/>.

Learning To Say No



Dave Says

Dave Ramsey

**Sponsored Each Week By
Dublin Baptist Church**

**(Across From Hardee's)
540-674-6061**

Dear Dave,

We're debt-free except for our home, and we'll have our fully-funded emergency fund of three to six months of expenses, we've agreed on six months' worth, saved up by the end of February. We're also setting aside a little each month to buy a newer car with cash later. We're about \$5,000 from our car fund goal, but my husband is getting impatient. He wants us to go ahead a finance the remainder, since it's a relatively small amount. He has tried to justify this by mentioning that you don't seem to have a problem with people borrowing money to buy a house. Could you explain the difference?

Lana

Dear Lana,

Okay, first things first. I don't like debt of any kind. I don't really like borrowing for a house, but I'm not unreasonable. I tolerate mortgage loans, as long as people use a 15-year, fixed rate mortgage, with payments that are no more than a fourth of their monthly take-home pay. A house is often the largest purchase in a person's life, and one most people can't achieve based solely on sav-

ing. I still recommend, however, setting aside as much as possible for a down payment before taking out a mortgage.

Here's the thing. Cars go down in value, while traditional homes generally increase in value substantially over the years. Plus, you can get an absolutely great, pre-owned car for \$10,000 to \$15,000 dollars. This is an amount which, in my mind, is doable over the course of several months through determined saving and living on

a budget. Depending on where you live, a good home can cost 10 to 20 times that much. The best way to build wealth and have a secure financial life is to stay away from debt. This means getting out of mortgage debt as quickly as possible, too. You're never going to win with money if you can't learn to delay pleasure.

Everyone has that little kid inside them, and that little kid wants everything he or she wants right now. Your husband is asking a normal question, but he's dangerously close to letting that immature little kid out. It happens to all of us once in a while, but we have to grow to a point as adults where we tell that little kid no!

—Dave

* Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored seven best-selling books, including The Total Money Makeover. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 16 million listeners each week on 600 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey.com and on Twitter at @DaveRamsey.

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Thursday 2.20.2020

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Item on stage
- 5 Relaxation
- 9 "Help!"
- 12 Emanation
- 13 Picture of health?
- 14 Demonic tyke
- 15 Dance lesson
- 16 Green land
- 17 Grazing area
- 18 Loafer, e.g.
- 19 Wrestling surface
- 20 Small horse
- 21 Tear
- 23 Eggs
- 25 Ought not
- 28 Plunder
- 32 Jellied dish
- 33 Flat
- 34 Neptune or Poseidon
- 36 Makes baby food, maybe
- 37 Id counterpart
- 38 Allow
- 39 "Ironsides" star
- 42 Definite article
- 44 "Phooey!"
- 48 Past
- 49 Desktop symbol
- 50 Sheltered
- 51 Under the weather
- 52 Filly's brother
- 53 Mountain goat
- 54 Caustic

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

- 8 Storm center
- 9 Missile shelter
- 10 Portent
- 11 Fix, in a sense
- 20 Evidence of fraud
- 22 Disguised, for short
- 24 Cost
- 25 "More," to Jose
- 26 Work with
- 27 Hot tub
- 29 Word implied in "been there, done that"
- 30 Born
- 31 Golfer Ernie
- 35 E-business
- 36 More than enough
- 39 Kind of bond
- 40 Pre-swan
- 41 Portrayal
- 43 Ian or Celeste
- 45 Jessica of "Fantastic Four"
- 46 Prepared to drive
- 47 Alluring
- 49 Lemieux milieu

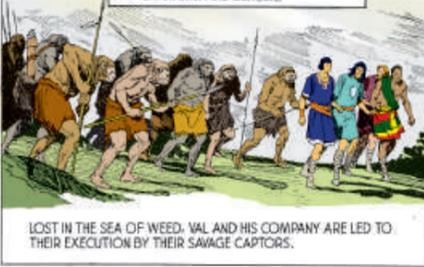
DOWN

- 1 Just say no
- 2 Naomi's daughter-in-law
- 3 Sandwich treat
- 4 Empty threat
- 5 Free from a duty
- 6 Met melody
- 7 Tailor, humorously

Source: USDA

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Our Story: Prince Valiant
BY GIANNI AND SCHULTZ



LOST IN THE SEA OF WEED, VAL AND HIS COMPANY ARE LED TO THEIR EXECUTION BY THEIR SAVAGE CAPTORS.

AS GRU-ZOR, THE LEADER, PICKS UP A ROCK AND EYES THEM EVILLY, VAL PLOTS A DESPERATE LEAP FOR HIS THROAT.



BUT BEFORE HE CAN ACT, THE FOUR PRISONERS FIND THAT THEY HAVE BEEN SKILLFULLY HEADED INTO A SORT OF AMPHITHEATER. THE FIRST STONE COMES QUICKLY...



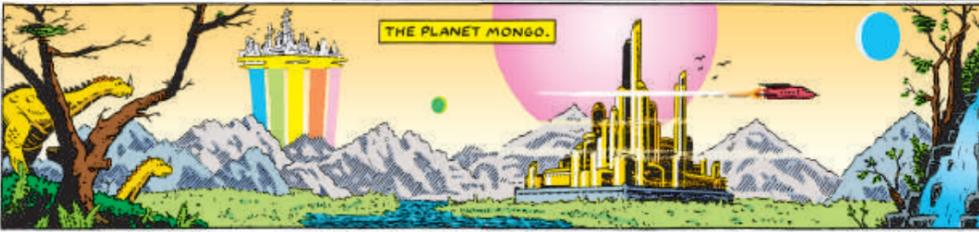
...FOLLOWED BY A TORRENT OF OTHERS. THIS BRINGS THE BRUTES MUCH ENTERTAINMENT.



BUT, SUDDENLY, OUT OF THE MIST COMES A GRISLY RASPING SOUND!



THE EFFECT IS IMMEDIATE. THE BRUTES' GLEE TURNS TO PANIC, AS SOMETHING SUTHERS THROUGH THE FOG!



THE PLANET MONGO.

FLASH GORDON
BY JIM KEEFE



THE DELEGATION IS ON ITS WAY WITH THE PEACE TREATY, KALA. YOUR SIGNATURE WILL BRING US ONE STEP CLOSER TO A UNIFIED MONGO.

SINCE THIS WILL BE A HISTORIC OCCASION, BARIN...

I HAVE MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO HAVE THE CEREMONY TRANSMITTED FOR ALL THE WORLD TO SEE.



A MAGNANIMOUS GESTURE, KALA. HERE'S TO THE FUTURE... WHERE OUR CHILDREN NO LONGER HAVE TO LIVE IN THE SHADOW OF WAR.



IT SEEMS KING BARIN HAS FINALLY STARTED TRUSTING YOU.

THAT'S WHAT I THINK OF BARIN AND HIS UNITED REPUBLICS. WHERE WERE THEY WHEN MY PALACE LAY IN RUINS... MY ONLY SON--DEAD IN MY ARMS!



NOW, UNDER THE GUISE OF PEACE, THE DELEGATES COME-- JUST AS YOU SAID THEY WOULD!

POPEYE
BY E.C. SWEENEY



CASTOR CALLED FROM THE BUS STATION AND SAID HE'S COMING HERE



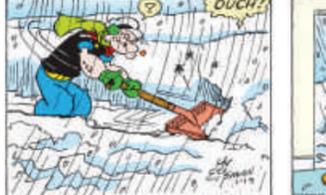
I'M WORRIED, POPEYE. WHY, SWEETIE?



I'LL BE RIGHT OVER!



BRING A SHOVEL, POPEYE...



I'M SNOWED IN!



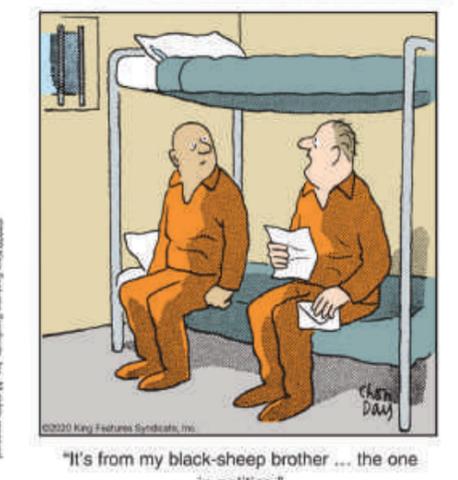
I SOLVED TH' MYSKERY! CASTOR!

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



CAN'T TALK DEAR... DEALING WITH COMPUTER ISSUES RIGHT WHEN I'M IN A BIDDING WAR FOR A VINTAGE STAR TREK PHASER.

LAFF-A-DAY



"It's from my black-sheep brother ... the one in politics."



"Well, he does give me love and affection, but what I really need is a new..."

SCRAMBLERS
Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Singed:

ARCHERD:

Capture:

PARENT:

Ignite:

LINKED:

Rant:

READIT:

TODAY'S WORD:

top ten

- America's Favorite Cheeses**
1. Italian
 2. American
 3. Processed
 4. Neufchatel/Cream Cheese
 5. Cottage Cheese
 6. Swiss
 7. Hispanic
 8. Muenster
 9. Feta
 10. Blue/Gorgonzola

Source: USDA

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. The is different. 2. Wall is shorter. 3. Ball is missing. 4. Pants are different. 5. Jacket is different. 6. Tree is missing.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. MEASUREMENTS: How many inches are in a mile?
2. ASTRONOMY: What does the acronym SETI mean to the scientific community?
3. LANGUAGE: What does the Latin prefix "sub-" mean in English?
4. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the only president to serve two nonconsecutive terms?
5. LITERATURE: Which 20th-century movie star penned the autobiography "Me: Stories of My Life"?
6. HISTORY: What was the first National Monument proclaimed in the United States?
7. GEOGRAPHY: Where is the island of Luzon located?
8. MOVIES: Which sci-fi movie has the tagline, "Reality is a thing of the past"?
9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What was the name of the United States' first nuclear-powered submarine?
10. GAMES: What are the four railroad properties in Monopoly?

Trivia Test Answers

1. 63,360 inches
2. Search for extraterrestrial intelligence
3. Below or insufficient
4. Grover Cleveland
5. Katharine Hepburn
6. Devil's Tower, 1906
7. The Philippines
8. "The Matrix"
9. The USS Nautilus
10. Pennsylvania, Short Line, Reading and B&O

King Crossword
Americanisms

"One must maintain a little bit of summer, even in the middle of winter."
— Henry David Thoreau

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: Z equals L

CR P FKY NVPZZM ZCJVQ ZKGEYCEY
PNKGEF HBV SBPNR, SKGZF MKG
APZZ CH P FKAJQBGEF?

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SCRAMBLERS

Today's Word

1. Charred; 2. Entrap; 3. Kindle; 4. Trade

CryptoQuip

If a dog really likes lounging around the wharf, would you call it a dockhound?

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Value

"Not much in the world ends up being the same as it started out, unless of course it had a very short life cycle."

- Lorii Myers, Targeting Success, Develop the Right Business Attitude to be Successful in the Workplace

Forbes recently published an article about trends in 2015 and the one that really caught my attention is the evolution of the salesperson: "today's savvy customers don't value old-school, pressure based manipulative sales methods. Today's customers want value subject-matter experts, salespeople with refined consultative skills."

Companies today want to do know how customers are making buying decisions and how they can give more value to their customers.

As the trend moves from "price" buying and towards "value" purchases, it's important for sales people to develop skills that demonstrate value if they are to increase their margins.

Forbes provided the perfect antidote "Let's face it, if you paid half price but didn't get what you needed, it probably wasn't



Down To Business

Peggy White
Pulaski Co.
Chamber of
Commerce

a good deal." How many of us have been there and done that? The 2015 salesperson will need to evolve and understand the difference between delivering a commodity more efficiently than other in the market or developing a strategy so that what you sell is not seen as a commodity, but something unique.

Forbes said it best when they said "buyers will ensure they are getting superior value per invested dollar in a solution... not just lip service."

Work hard, be productive, and, above all else, stay positive.
Re post from 1-26-2015

The Patriot
540-808-3949

Assembly Update Week 3

They came in droves, and then, they cleaned up after themselves. After what had been a dramatic, headline-grabbing build-up to what would be the largest rally held on Capitol Square this century, the Second Amendment rally event itself turned out to be as peaceful as it has always been.

The rally attracted more than 20,000 people to Virginia's Capitol over the course of a few hours and the streets were packed from wall to wall. The activists who came to downtown Richmond necessitated changes in traffic control, parking, and logistics.

In a news conference the Wednesday before the rally, Governor Northam declared a state of emergency and voiced his concern about outside groups who might "storm" the Capitol.

Considering the extensive media build-up around the event, one might have expected to see wall-to-wall news coverage of rioting, violence, and disorder; despite the medias expectations the assembly reflected both the respect for law and order and the good nature of law abiding citizens.

During this peaceful protest citizens gave speeches, cheered, and sang both the National Anthem and God Bless America. They waved and cheered at the lawmakers they recognized, one protester proclaimed "That's Ben Chafin,



Ben Chafin

38th District
Va. State

he's a good Republican".

When the Second Amendment rally concluded, many participants made it a point to pick up whatever trash and stickers. Whether it was a flyer, a sign, or a lapel sticker, it ended up in a trash bag.

The record-setting number of attendees solidified this year's Second Amendment rally as one of the largest protests in decades. Those in attendance not only voiced their rights but also behaved in manner befitting of one who has earned and deserves those rights.

The deadline for submitting bills passed last week, and this year the Senate has submitted 1093 bills, a 10% increase over the number submitted during the previous "long" session in 2018. All of these bills must be considered by the cross-over deadline on February 11 in order to remain viable. Due to the time constraints we are spending a lot of time hearing and presenting bills on the Senate Floor.

Over half of my bills have

passed the senate floor. This legislation include a bill to create an elk-tag inside of the elk management zone, several bills on behalf of the localities within my district, and an insurance licensing clean-up bill that I carried on behalf of the State Corporation Committee.

I have several bills still in committee that I hope to report passage on next week. A more substantial bill I am carrying would allow local school boards to elect to have all of their employees, retirees, and the dependents of employees and retirees to be eligible to participate in the state employee health insurance plan in lieu of the current state-administered local health insurance plan. This is a bill that I have championed for some time, and feel extremely positive about the outcome this year. The bill reported from Commerce and Labor on a 15-0 vote, and was referred to the Finance Committee.

The Second Amendment rally took place on one of the coldest days this session, which neither repelled the protestors nor dulled their message.

Among the guests to our office were agency heads from Appalachian Agency for Senior New River Valley Agency on Aging, representatives from Volvo and many other local elected officials from Pulaski County. As always it's nice to see a familiar face from home.



Birthday girl Iris Farmer is pictured here with her children (from left) Betty Graham, Dave Farmer, Pat Oldham and Ken Farmer.

Farmer's 95th birthday celebrated by family, friends

A birthday celebration was held Dec. 27 at Grace Baptist Church in Dublin for Iris Farmer who turned 95.

Attending were her children, Dave Farmer, Betty Graham, Pat Oldham and Ken Farmer. Brenda Stilwell and Kay Sowers were there in spirit.

Also in attendance were grandchildren, great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren and many wonderful members of her church family.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

8	7	9	6	3	4	5	1	2
1	6	3	5	7	2	4	9	8
2	5	4	1	9	8	3	6	7
9	3	1	7	4	5	8	2	6
4	2	7	8	6	3	9	5	1
5	8	6	2	1	9	7	4	3
3	9	2	4	8	6	1	7	5
6	1	8	9	5	7	2	3	4
7	4	5	3	2	1	6	8	9

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