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Apartments planned for former Claremont School

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

The former Claremont Elementary School in Pulaski could – by the latter portion of 2022 – become a new housing project with some 50 one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments.

That's the plan of the Landmark Group, based in Winston-Salem, N.C., which rehabs properties – including vacant school buildings – and turns them into affordable housing.

A look at their website – www.lpmcliving.com/virginia/ - shows several locations in Virginia where Landmark has transformed old factory buildings and warehouses into loft apartment spaces, and old schools into apartment buildings.

In the past 35 years, Landmark boasts of completing over 100 projects and over 4,000 living spaces in Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Maryland, Tennessee, Florida and Texas.

Michael Solomon, Economic Development Director for Pulaski County, introduced the Claremont plan Monday night to the Board of Supervisors.

Solomon said the county is working with the Town of Pulaski, the New River Valley HOME Consortium and Landmark to revitalize and re-develop the old elementary school site.

Landmark's John Stiltner told the supervisors the company had conducted "a lot of downtown re-

talizations, neighborhood revitalizations and rural community revitalizations" to meet the affordable housing needs of the community.

Stiltner presented the supervisors with a list of 22 former school buildings in the Southeastern U.S. and Texas that had been revitalized into apartments and lofts.

"We come in and develop the property and we stay," Stiltner told the board. "We have our own management team – we manage it, we maintain it and at the point it has met its useful life with amenities and stuff inside the units, we revitalize it again and make another investment into the project"

See CLAREMONT, page A2

Polls to open for 'Super Tuesday'

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

Tuesday is "Super Tuesday," the day in which voters in Pulaski County and 13 other states finally get their opportunity to weigh in on the Democratic Party's presidential nomination process.

Presidential preference primaries will be held in Virginia, Vermont, Utah, Texas, Tennessee, Oklahoma, North Carolina, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Maine, Colorado, California, Arkansas and Alabama, as well as the U.S. Territory of American Samoa.

In Virginia, all registered voters can participate in the Democratic Party primary, as the Old Dominion does not register voters by party.

No less than 14 Democratic candidates will be on the primary ballot, including six who have dropped out of the race for the party's nomination – Michael Bennet, Deval Patrick, Andrew Yang, Cory Booker, Julian Castro and Marianne Williamson.

The other eight candidates on the ballot are still in contention – Bernie Sanders, Elizabeth Warren, Joe Biden, Amy Klobuchar, Tulsi Gabbard, Pete Buttigieg, Tom Steyer and Michael Bloomberg.

See SUPER, page A5

Supervisors hear of Pulaski Co. Home Guard

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

While House Bill 961 – which would have banned the sale of assault-type weapons and certain magazines – has been tabled for this year in the Virginia Legislature, Jody Pyles says residents in Southwest Virginia must still be vigilant against threats to our way of life.

Pyles made his comments Monday night to the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors while presenting the reasoning behind the formation of the Pulaski County Home Guard.

"Some people say that since HB961 has been tabled, that conservative people of Virginia have won. I would completely disagree," Pyles said. "The people haven't won until we have flipped the state red once again, and not only have our rights in Southwest Virginia been protected, but our voices have been heard and our way of life is preserved."

Pyles said the tabling of the bill "only gives us more time to prepare for what may be coming next."

Pyles told the supervisors the next step in people making their voices heard has been a movement that many counties have joined in creating county militias.

"I understand the Board of Supervisors nor any government agency has the need nor the right to grant permission for any militia to form or operate," Pyles said, but he added, "I do think that as

See GUARD, page A7

WEEKEND WEATHER

Saturday

Sunny, with a high near 35. Northwest wind 11 to 16 mph, with gusts as high as 28 mph.

Saturday Night - Clear, with a low around 25.

Sunday

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Sunday Night - Mostly cloudy, with a low around 34.

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Claremont

Continued from Page A1 and the community. We love our housing and we make sure it outlives us.”

Landmark’s proposal at Claremont includes renovating the former two-story school building as well as constructing a second new building. Altogether they will accommodate eight one-bedroom, 28 two-bedroom and 14 three-bedroom apartments.

Stiltner said all the one-bedroom apartments will be constructed in the old school building along with several two-bedroom and two three-bedroom apartments.

The first floor of the school building will include a community room with tables, chairs, exercise equipment, computers, printers and wi-fi for residents for use for meetings, birthday celebrations or after-school programs.

The new brick building to be

constructed would feature the rest of the two- and three-bedroom apartments. It would feature an interior corridor and secure entries that are secure at all times with residents needing a key to enter.

Both buildings would be equipped with elevators.

Each apartment includes a stove, side-by-side refrigerator, dishwasher and washer – dryer hookup.

Stiltner said the company estimates the entire project will cost about \$11 million to construct. Landmark will apply next month for funding through the Virginia Housing Development Authority, and secure additional funding from other sources through mid-2021.

Landmark projects that funding will be complete, and the project would be ready for construction by the third quarter of 2021.

At that time, Solomon said the county’s Economic Development Authority, which currently owns the Claremont property, would

transfer ownership to Landmark.

Construction would be complete by September of 2022 and possibly sooner, Stiltner said. He added that Landmark will work to get the “historic” school building named to the National Register of Historic Places.

As an incentive to Landmark, the EDA resolved to support a real estate tax grant to the com-

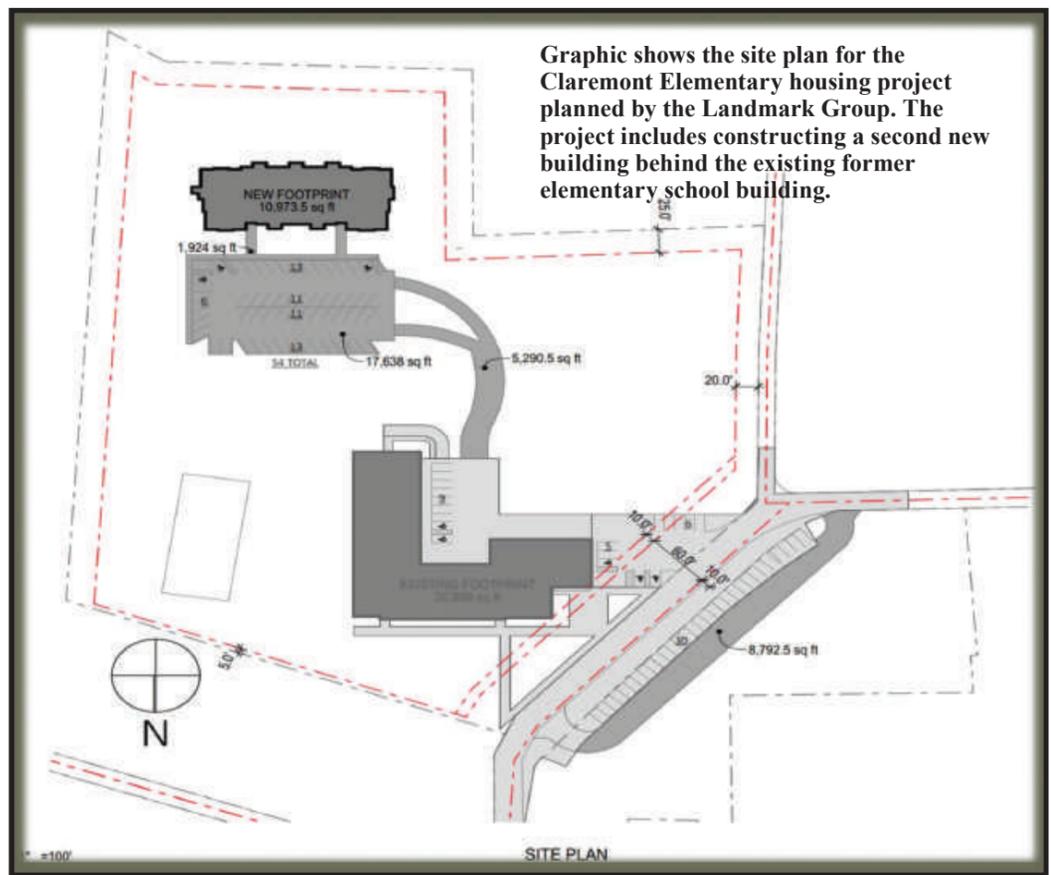
pany in the amount of 50 percent of real estate taxes paid on the property for a period of five years.

The supervisors voted unanimously Monday night to okay a resolution to approve the tax grant as well as to designate the property as a revitalization area.

Solomon told the supervisors

he understands the Town of Pulaski will also agree to the terms of the tax grant.

Supervisor Chairman Joe Guthrie noted that the property isn’t on the county’s tax rolls at this time, and that the project is in keeping with the county’s “40 by 30” initiative – proving housing for a desired population of 40,000 in the county by 2030.



PET OF THE WEEK



Arlo, a heeler mix. Sweet, calm disposition. He likes children and other dogs but will need to be temperament tested with cats. Still needs to be neutered and brought up to date on his Rabies vaccine. Visit with Clea and the many other adoptable animals here at the shelter.

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UNIT FLOOR PLANS



Graphic shows the apartment layout for 1-, 2- and 3-bedroom apartments planned by the Landmark Group for the old Claremont Elementary School.

Landmark Group graphics

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'Extreme belt tightening' ahead for town

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

It's back to the basics in the Town of Pulaski.

That was the message from members of town council meeting last week in a work session that was dominated by discussion on the Fiscal Year 19 audit of the town's finances.

In short, the state of the town's finances aren't good – at least not as good as council believed they were previously.

The town's finances have been hit by a mixture of overspending, shortfalls in projected revenues, mistakes and an audit process that was disrupted when the town's "pre-audit" consultant pulled out of the work, forcing the town to find a new consultant and getting them up to speed in a short time.

In the end, Robinson Farmer Cox Associates of Blacksburg completed the audit and reported to council in January. The news wasn't all good, as the auditor reported the town's unassigned fund balance as of June 30, 2019 stood at 8.32 percent compared to 15.34 percent a year earlier.

Mrs. Emily Viers, audit manager for the town's audit, reminded council that it is recommended the town have two months of reserves set aside, which would be 16 percent to 17 percent for the town.

In the long discussion last week, Town Manager Shawn Utt provided a review of the audit, listing where the town fell short on revenue projections and where overspending and mistakes occurred.

Revenue

Revenue shortfalls occurred in seven areas, according to Utt, including \$100,000 in real estate tax collection and \$41,500 in personal property taxes.

Revenue from motor vehicle decals was down \$23,000 from what was projected. While cigarette tax revenue increased for the year, it was still \$18,000 lower than projected.

Communication sales tax was \$63,000 under projections, while court fines were down \$18,000.

Total revenue shortfalls identified by Utt reached \$314,500.

There were four areas where revenue was actually higher than was projected.

Machinery and tools tax revenue was \$15,000 higher than projected. Business license revenues were \$18,000 over projections, which Utt attributed to an improved economy. Bank stock fees (tax on deposits) was \$26,000 higher than projections and meals tax revenue was \$18,000 over projections.

Permits nearly doubled projections by \$19,000.

Gateway related revenues were \$17,000 higher than projected.

Overspending

Overspending to the tune of \$311,000 was identified by Utt in eight different areas.

Some of the overspending was unavoidable. Like the \$10,000 overspent at the Historic Train Station due to serious repairs to the electrical and HVAC systems.

Some overspending was due to mistakes. Utt blamed a \$50,000 overage in the fire department budget on an "over-reliance on Excel spreadsheets with a bad formula in the health insurance column."

Combining revenue shortfalls as identified by Utt to overspending for whatever reason, then factoring in revenue that came in higher than projections, and the impact on the budget is in the neighborhood of a half-million dollars.

Utt offered several steps to take to bring the current fiscal year budget into line including adjustments in revenue and personnel, as well as a hiring freeze.

The freeze, projected to save \$238,000, would involve seven positions in police and public works with five of the seven having been vacant for the entire fiscal year.

Reaction by council to the town's financial picture was swift and sharp.

Speaking directly to Utt, councilman Joseph Goodman said, "I think the obvious statement

is, 'You screwed up.' But we all are partially responsible for that because we pushed so hard to get more aggressive on budgeting. We have to get back to the mentality of using conservative budgeting. It's better to have more money at the end of the fiscal year than what we had anticipated.



Goodman

Budget surpluses can be reallocated for special projects the next fiscal year or they can go where they really should be which is reserves."

"Coming into the next budget I would suggest that we make a concerted effort to go with more conservative numbers. But we need to figure out how some of these "oopses" happened so they don't happen again, like \$100,000 more in paving – that's a new one – it happens. I know paving costs have been going up for everybody, but we need to be more conservative on these things moving forward," Goodman added.

"We're taking almost a 50 percent hit on reserves. That's not acceptable," he said.

Goodman added that the town had created "a lot of positions and it may be necessary now to back track on some of that, and remove some of the additional positions that have been created because we can't keep paying for stuff with hopes and dreams. It doesn't work."

Councilman Jamie Radcliffe responded that he had said "two or three years ago if you have a budget, it runs year after year after year in the ballpark of the same amount, and we don't do a tax increase, eventually your debts are going to outrun what you have taken in. We've got to live within our means. Losing those businesses, we can say it didn't hurt us, yes, it is and it's starting to show up."

Radcliffe said he did have a concern on Utt's hiring freeze plan.

"I caution us on first responders. It doesn't take but one incident and you'll pay out more than you will if you hire them. Then we have public works. They're getting beat down. So, I really don't know how we're going to freeze anything there."

Town Engineer Bill Pedigo remarked, "we're down eight employees" in public works.

"We've got to get in here and use some good common sense with this budget," Radcliffe added. "You can do a hiring freeze, but on certain parts you're going to have to work around it."



Dawson

"My biggest fear here is getting lost in the weeds because there's so much here to discuss. I'd like to focus our energy on what we're going to do as opposed to what we've done," said councilman Brooks Dawson.

"Looking back on 2019 is just unacceptable. Unacceptable to the taxpayers, should be unacceptable to everybody here, it should be unacceptable to our town manager. It's not okay for us to make excuses as to why we were wrong by half a million dollars."

"Take what we did in 2019 and do that two more years, and there is no CIP (capital improvements) budget. There will be no new police cars. You couldn't buy them. There'd be no money. You'd actually be in the hole. It wouldn't be

you couldn't buy new stuff and you'd be fine; you couldn't buy new stuff and you still wouldn't be fine.

"And we did that in one year. And we didn't even figure out that we did it until after it was over with. And I'm pretty sure that the taxpayers of this community are paying some pretty good salaries to ensure that's not possible," Dawson said.

Moving forward, Dawson said council and staff must focus their energy "not about what we want to do or what would be nice or what would be fun and hold ourselves accountable for what we're responsible for and that's maintaining the core services of this town and being fiscally responsible as we do them."

"This goes back to what Mr. (Vice Mayor Greg) East spoke about in regard to maybe sometimes work isn't always necessarily the work that we need to do. Grants can lead us into the wrong direction and all of a sudden, we forgot we have core services and financial responsibility that we need to be paying attention to instead of this new bell and whistle we were able to do. Last year we debated and argued over whether or not we could create a new drug task force. It was argued on a very pointed level about – they're sitting there telling you – the town manager is sitting there telling you that the money is there. Why would you not do something that was good for this community? And I said I don't think the money is there. But we were led by the administration to say that we did have the money. Those kinds of things we can't do moving forward. This council cannot be misled about what money we do have or what we don't have. We can't function as a town with other people's money on hopes and dreams and what we'd like to do.

"I know it's a tough conversation and no one likes it, but that's what we're here to do is to take our core responsibility and build out from there. And if the money is not there, it's not there."

Utt responded, "That was the goal of tonight to define that core responsibility and go from there."

Goodman countered that the most important services are police, fire and public works.

"Everything after that you have to figure out does it fit in with what we have to do for the citizens. That's where we start. Everything else we build out based on what's appropriate."

Radcliffe asked, "Who is responsible for catching over-

spending in a department?"

Rebecca Leeper, Finance Director, responded that she does monthly reports.

"Each department head should be able to see their budget and they are responsible for maintaining their budget. There have been times I have seen things go over and usually I will address Shawn to make him aware and sometimes there's things that couldn't be helped. Like when we had that big piece of equipment a couple years ago – a generator – we had to spend that money. Yes, of course, it threw his budget over or when you have a lot of water breaks. I can go to Bill (Pedigo) and say you're running over, and his response will be do you just not want me to fix the pipes?"

"What we need to be doing is coming back and doing budget revisions to make sure we're all on the same page," said Utt.



East

"I agree with Mr. Dawson and Mr. Goodman, get back to core services," said East. "But I would add one thing. We have an expense side and we have an income side. I don't know that we've pursued the income side as aggressively as we can. And that would be through business recruitment. I feel like we've done a lot of things with a lot of good intentions. Right now, I think we're bloated. At the end of the day recruiting new businesses is key. You're either going to put the burden on your citizens or you're going to recruit new businesses and grow the town.

"One thing we have not done well at all, and we've talked about it extensively, is recruit businesses. That's where the rubber meets the road, is getting businesses inside the perimeter of the town of Pulaski. And helping those businesses to succeed. Thank goodness for David Hagan. Take a snapshot without him and his investment in our town.

"I feel strongly we should have a dozen other investors by now, maybe not of his (Hagan) caliber, but certainly it's going to require a bunch of folks coming in and supporting that and us promoting that to grow that end of the budget.

"We can't fall back to raising taxes especially when it feels like we're bloated on the other side – on the expense side.

"Like Mr. Dawson and Mr.

Goodman have said, get back to the basics, but we need a plan to actively recruit business. Galax obviously has had some success doing that and that's where it all began," East continued.

Goodman asked when town staff realized there was a problem. "So, at what point last fiscal year did ya'll say, "oh s---!"

Utt responded, "Not soon enough."

"Then why didn't we hear about it then," Goodman responded. "What concerns me the most is I had to wait until the auditor to tell me six months into the current budget and I would think that those numbers would have been available to staff."

Councilman Lane Penn put an historical spin on the discussion.

"This is not the first time we've had good reserves disappear. We've always had reserves and this time is no different. They always disappear," Penn said.

"The only time we add to reserve is because we sold something like Loving Field. Now, our backs are against the wall this time more than ever because now we don't have anything else to sell. We have sold everything. Take it back to our first – I'll call it – yard sale. We sold old police cars, backhoes that didn't work and made a couple hundred thousand dollars.

"Next thing we sold was the timber off the mountain. For three or four hundred thousand dollars. That money disappeared. We sold Hogan's Dam for about three-quarters of a million dollars. We've already spent the James Hardie money. Every time we talk about budget, every council member has spent some of that money.

"What are we going to do now? We don't have anything left to sell. What are we going to do?"

"I can take you back 20 years. We have never had reserves based on a revenue windfall. We take in a dollar, we spend a dollar. We're never going to have any money. It doesn't work that way," Penn said.

Goodman said he believes the town needs a million dollars, considering the overspending and revenue shortfalls, plus the need to begin paying for a new emergency services complex the town has been putting off for years.

See COUNCIL, page A7

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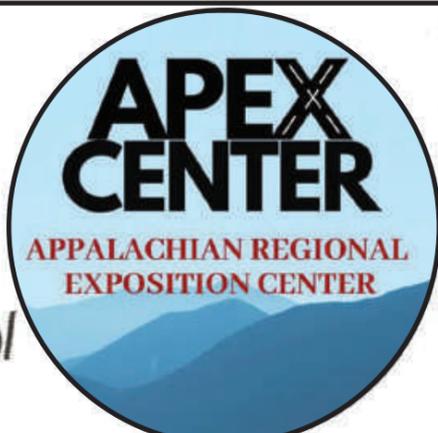
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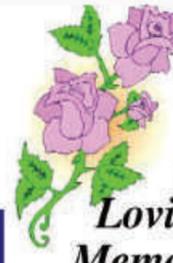


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JOYCE GALLIMORE THOMPSON

Joyce Gallimore Thompson, 89, of Pulaski passed away Wednesday, February 19, 2020. She was born January 5, 1931 in Pulaski County, and was the daughter of the late McKinley Gallimore and Nancy Ellen Richardson Gallimore. Joyce grew up in Pulaski, attended Pulaski High School, married her high school sweetheart Lilbern "Buddy" Thompson, a marriage of 69 years. Joyce was a devoted wife and mother to her four daughters. She was passionate and gave her time generously to her family. In retirement, she enjoyed spending time with her husband traveling in their RV, and spending winters in Florida. She was an avid Canasta player but loved all types of card games. Late in life, she mastered guitar playing and enjoyed playing with local groups when opportunity presented itself. She enjoyed the art of ballroom and line dancing and danced every weekend with her husband until she was no longer physically able to do so. She was a faithful member of the First Christian Church for over 80 years. She served as Elder, Sunday school teacher and various other leadership roles. Joyce's greatest gift in life was the unconditional love for her husband, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was Preceded in death by her husband, Lilbern "Buddy" Owen Thompson, and siblings; Bonnie Jean Gallimore Cheatham, McKinley "Mac" Gallimore, Jr., Jackie Gallimore Surratt and Maxine Gallimore Aust. She is survived by her 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. A private funeral service was held Sunday, Feb. 23. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to First Christian Church General Fund, P.O. Box 1007, Pulaski, VA. 24301. Online condolences can be sent to the family by visiting www.seaglefuneralhome.com. Arrangements by Seagle Funeral Home, Pulaski.



JEANETTE LYNN WEBB RHILE

Jeanette Lynn Webb Rhile, age 47 of Advance, NC and formerly of Pulaski passed away Thursday, February 20, 2020 at her home. Born February 28, 1972 in Radford she was the daughter of Robert "Bob" Webb & Janet Surratt Webb. Jeanette was a 1993 Graduate of Virginia Tech. She was a product manager for Hanes Brands, Inc. She is survived by her Husband Mark Joseph Rhile - Advance, NC Children Howard, Samuel, James and Delaney Rhile - Advance, NC Parents Robert & Janet Surratt Webb - Pulaski Brother Keith & Lisa Webb - Draper Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at the Pulaski Primitive Baptist (4950 Newbern, Road - Pulaski) with Elder Don Singleton officiating. Interment followed at the Webb Family Cemetery, Allisonia. Jeanette asked that memorials in her honor be sent to www.inheritanceofhope.org / PO Box 90, Pisgah Forest, NC 28768 (914) 213 8435 and www.lesliesweek.org / PO Box 5856, Annapolis MD, 21403 (410) 263 5233 To sign the online guestbook, please visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com Bower Funeral Homes, Pulaski is handling the arrangements for the family.



RONALD RAY DODSON, SR.

Ronald Ray Dodson, Sr., 80, of Newbern VA, passed away on February 23rd, 2020. Ronald "Ron" Dodson. Ron was born in North Carolina on May 19, 1939 and was the son of the late Woodie Staunton Dodson and Daisy Hylton Dodson. He was also preceded in death by a daughter, Andrea J. Dodson; brother Kenneth E. Dodson; and sister Carole D. Jones. Ron was a member of First Church of the Brethren and a retired professor with New River Community College, Dublin, VA. Ron is survived by his loving wife of 41 years Patricia "Pat" Quesenberry Dodson. He is also survived by his sons, Ronald Ray Dodson, Jr. and wife Glenda, Michael E. Dodson; daughters, Alisha M. Clark and husband Robby, Ashley D. Simmers and husband Daryn; son Christopher J. Dodson; sister Peggy Nesbit and husband Robert; and 4 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Andrea J. Dodson; brother Kenneth E. Dodson; and sister Carole D. Jones. Visitation was Wednesday, February 26, 2020, at Stevens Funeral Home. The funeral service was held Thursday, February 27, 2020, at First Church of the Brethren with the graveside service will following at Highland Memory Gardens. Arrangements by Stevens Funeral Home, Pulaski, VA.



ROBERT ROLAND "BOB" LAMP

Robert Roland "Bob" Lamp was born on May 30, 1921 in Akron, Ohio and gained his wings on February 16, 2020 in Dublin, Virginia. Bob was the second son born to Alonzo "Lonnie" and Florence Lamp. Bob graduated from North High School in Akron, Ohio in 1940. Bob was a lover of God and was a life-long, devoted Methodist. Bob is survived by numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren and dozens of friends, whom he considered his family. He is preceded in death by his loving wife of 55 years, Betty (1924-2008), three sons, Lonnie, Larry and David and two step-sons, Gary and Terry. As a child growing up in the Great Depression, Bob's family, like most, during that time, struggled to make ends meet. Having a large family, many of his kinfolk moved in together, in his childhood home and they sustained themselves from crops they planted and gardens they grew. Bob's grandfather was a carpenter and Bob learned how to use tools and passionately used his skills to craft and create beautiful works of art for friends, family and sometimes to make an extra dollar. In fact, Bob's first bicycle was one he built from parts he collected and he rode that bike, all through high school years. During his school years, he and his brother, Don had a three-mile walk one-way and sometimes, it was in the snow. Pearl Harbor came on December 7, 1941 and on January 8, 1942, Bob enlisted in the Air Corps and was sent to Keesler Field in Biloxi, Mississippi where he became an electrical specialist with the rank of Sergeant. He spent three years there, teaching B-24 Bomber electrical systems. Subsequently, he was transferred to Greenville Air Base in North Carolina and then to Camp Kearns, Utah and finally ending up at Eglin Field in Florida, where he stayed, until he was honorably discharged. Additionally, Bob served as 1st Lieutenant in the Civil Air Patrol for three years. While in Biloxi, Bob married Eva McCutcheon and this is where Bob's first son, Lonnie was born. Eva was from Parkersburg, West Virginia and after Bob's service ended, they settled in her hometown. Eva and Bob had two more sons, Larry and

David. Eva and Bob divorced in 1950 and Bob was awarded full custody of all three boys. In 1953, Bob married Elizabeth "Betty" Thomas, the love of his life. Betty had two sons, Terry and Gary and together, Bob and Betty raised five boys.

Bob went to work for Corning Glass on January 8, 1947 as an inspector and retired from their Blacksburg, Virginia plant as a Quality Assurance Supervisor in 1983. During his 38-year tenure with Corning, Bob was very blessed to have gotten to travel to all 50 states, except Oregon. Bob and Betty absolutely loved traveling and always had grand stories to share from their excursions. They loved Germany and Switzerland and this is where Betty developed a deep affection and passion for collecting Hummel figurines. Bob loved searching out these figurines Betty so treasured and surprising her with them.

Although Bob was never a Boy Scout as a youth, he was awarded the Scouter's Key, which is the second highest honor awarded to adult volunteers and in 1956, he and Betty joined the United Commercial Travelers "UCT" fraternal benefit society, where Bob held a number of different positions. It was at UCT where Bob and Betty developed some of their most meaningful friendships and had some of their best times.

Bob had an immense passion or life, experiences and people and possessed an incredible outlook. Bob loved to try new things and had an affection for experimenting with new recipes, cooking, and canning vegetables. He absolutely loved rebuilding cars, woodworking, re-finishing golf clubs, fiddles, banjos and fishing. Bob really loved bluegrass music and adored The Statler Brother's music. Bob and Betty loved card games, and especially enjoyed playing Euchre. Bob's faith carried him throughout life, especially after surviving the loss of his wife and the passing all of his children, over the years.

Bob was always quick to share that he had no regrets and no enemies. His philosophy was "Life is a journey and the end will be good, if you believe in God."

Bob will be dearly missed by his friends and family as he has left an indelible mark on their lives.

John 11:25-26 "Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though you die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

Graveside services with full military honors will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday, March 2, 2020 at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin.

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

PEARL MAGDALENE DAVIDSON DEXTER

Pearl Magdalene Davidson Dexter, age 85 of Pulaski passed away Monday, February 24, 2020 at the Pulaski Health & Rehab Center. Born February 19, 1935 in Carroll County she was the daughter of the late Robert Davidson & Pearl Ayers Davidson. Her seven siblings also preceded her in death.

She is survived by Daughter Sue & Jeff Kirk - Barren Springs Grandchildren Dianne Kirk, Jeffery & Trish Kirk, Sarah & John Dunford Great Grandchildren Lindsey, Mallori, Riley and Jace

Funeral services were held Thursday, February 27, 2020 at the Bower Funeral Home-Chapel, Pulaski with Pastor Eddie Dalton officiating. Interment followed at the Highland Memory Gardens, Dublin.

To sign the online guestbook, please visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com

Bower Funeral Homes, Pulaski is handling the arrangements for the family.

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DEATH NOTICES

REV. KENNETH FRANKLIN FOGUS

Rev. Kenneth Franklin Fogus, 85, of Pulaski, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, February 20, 2020.

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

BILL LEON AKERS

Bill Leon Akers, 66, of Parrott, passed away Friday, February 21, 2020.

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



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ADDITIONAL OBITUARIES

ROBERT DANIEL "ROSS" STEPHENS

Robert Daniel "Ross" Stephens, age 73 of Dublin passed away Friday evening February 21, 2020 at the Lewis-Gale Hospital, Pulaski. Born December 13, 1946 in Pulaski he was the son of the late Frank Stephens & Ruby Shephard Stephens. His brother, Howard Stephens and sisters, Emma Jean Martin, Paulette Cole and Jane Sheppard also preceded him in death.

He is survived by his
Wife

Gail C. Stephens - Dublin

Sons

Robert E. Stephens - Dublin

Bruce Stephens - Dublin

Grandchildren

Jacob (Kelsie) Stephens, Marissa Stephens and Justin Stephens

Great Grandchildren

KayLee Stephens and Andrew Stephens

Brother

Edward "Eddie" Stephens - Dublin

Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at the Bower Funeral Home-Chapel, Pulaski with Minister David Butcher officiating. Interment followed at the Highland Memory Gardens, Dublin.

To sign the online guestbook, visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com. Bower Funeral Homes, Pulaski is handling the arrangements for the family.

REBECCA (BECKY) ANN SLATE DEHART

Rebecca (Becky) Ann Slate Dehart went too her heavenly home on February 18, 2020. Becky was born on June 24, 1959. Preceded in death are her parent's. C.R. (Rex) and Ida Bell Viers Slate. Her brothers Billy and Jerry Slate. Brother in law Rodney (Shep) Sheppard, sister in law, Libby T. Slate, Helen D. Dalton. Nieces Crystal Smith Evans, Carrie Sue Slate.

Becky was the one that helped to take care of the nieces and nephews when they were little. As our parent's health decline, Becky was the most important caretaker they had. She would spend almost every day there.

Becky is survived by

Her husband of 29 years

Floyd DeHart

Stepdaughter's

Tina DeHart (Johnny) Shelton

Amanda (Carl) Wyatt

Grandsons

Ben and Evan Shelton, Sheldon Wyatt

Brothers

Rusty and (Sue)Slate

Chuckie and (Monica) Slate

David Slate

Steven Slate

Ricky and Angie Slate

Sisters

Gayle S. Owen

Doris S. Sheppard

Barbara S. Smith

Graveside services were held Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at the Memorial Christian Church Cemetery with Pastor Mike Coleman officiating.

To sign the online guestbook, please visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com

Bower Funeral Homes, Pulaski is handling the arrangements for the family.

"Heaven will be no heaven for me if I do not meet my wife there"

-Andrew Jackson

Super

Continued from Page A1

As usual, polls open at 6 a.m. on Tuesday and close at 7 p.m. Voters are reminded to bring a photo ID to the polling place.

Polling places on Tuesday are the same as in the last election:

- Belspring (Belspring United Methodist Church)
- New River (Riverlawn Elementary)
- West Cloyd (NRV Fairgrounds)
- Draper (Draper Volunteer Fire Department)
- South Pulaski (Central Gym)
- Newbern (Dublin Lions Club)
- Dublin (Dublin Lions Club)
- Hiwassee (Hiwassee Volunteer Fire Department)
- Snowville (Snowville Elementary)
- Massie (Central Gym)
- Walker (NRV Fairgrounds)
- Robinson (Central Gym)

Remember if you have any questions about voting or your registration, contact the Pulaski County Registrar's Office at 540-980-2111.

Delinquent tax list to be published

Patriot Staff Report

A list of delinquent real estate taxes for tax year 2017 will soon be published in both Pulaski County newspapers.

Each year the Pulaski County Treasurer's Office publishes the list of delinquent real estate tax accounts in an effort to collect the late payments, and as a legal notice of the delinquency that is part of the process required prior to a judicial sale of the property if the taxes are not paid.

The Patriot will publish the delinquent tax list on Friday, March 13. The paper will also post the list on its website (www.pcpatriot.com), through Facebook and Twitter.

The Southwest Times will publish the list in its March 15 edition.

GARNET LEWIS LINDSEY

Garnet Lewis Lindsey, 85 of Newbern, died Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at his residence. He was born on November 21, 1934 in Giles County, and was the son of the late Bessie Robertson Lindsey and George Solomon Lindsey. He was a proud security officer at New River Community College. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son; Rickey Dale Roop: brothers; Benjamin Wade (Pokie) Lindsey, Cecil Lindsey, and Alvea Lindsey: sisters; Gladys Parcell, Ruby Palmer, and Clarie Griffin. He is survived by his loving wife; Lassic

Wiladean Lindsey of Newbern: a son; Dennis (Shellie) Roop of Christiansburg: brother; Kenneth (Sallie) Lindsey of Little Creek. He is also survived by two grandchildren; Joshua M. (Maegan) Roop of Pulaski, and Jacey Roop of Pulaski: great-grandchildren; Keira Roop, Naomi Roop, Kayson Wojcik, and Ryan Roop, along with his trusted pet dog, Jasper. Funeral services will be held Saturday, February 29, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. at Seagle Funeral Home with Pastor Mikie Talbert officiating. Interment will follow in Highland Memory Gardens. The family will receive friends on Saturday at the funeral home from Noon until 2:00



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

MOLLIE ANN CARPER HITE

Mollie Ann Carper Hite, age 89 of Max Meadows passed away Thursday, February 20, 2020 at the Pulaski Health & Rehab Center. Born October 25, 1930 in West Virginia she was the daughter of the late James William Dobbins & Georgia Jones Dobbins. Her grandsons, Dakota, Sean and sisters, Martha and Edna also preceded her in death.

She is survived by her

Husband

Darle Eugene Hite - Max Meadows

Children

Donna (Stuart) Winans - Max Meadows

Michael (Debra) Eugene Hite - Max Meadows

Grandchildren

Gail Roth, Michelle Long, Michaella Hite, James Hite, Brian Torrance and William Torrance

3 Great Grandchildren

Kaely, Camden and Brysen

3 Great, Great Grandchildren

Dallen, Daxen and Davren

Sister

Bessie Bryson - Newport News

Brothers

Jimmy DeLung - Salem

Donald "Don" Dobbins - Radford

Funeral services were held Monday, February 24, 2020 at the Bower Funeral Home-Chapel, Pulaski. Interment followed at the Southwest Virginia Veteran's Cemetery, Dublin.

To sign the online guestbook,

please visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com

Bower Funeral Homes, Pulaski is handling the arrangements for the family.

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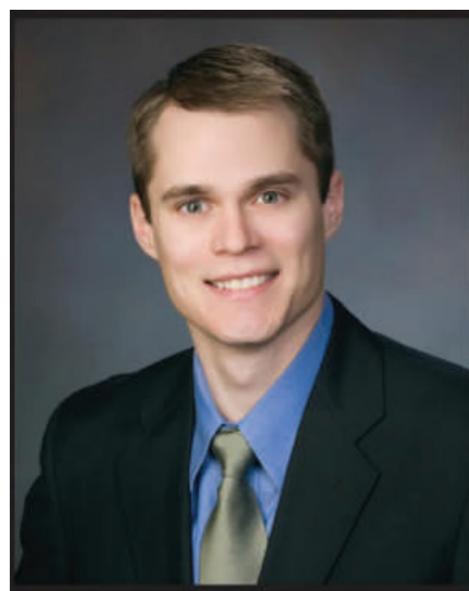
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Trouble with Socialism: Knowledge is Power

A Gallup poll released in late 2019 highlighted a disturbing trend in public opinion. It found that 39 percent of Americans view socialism positively. Of even more concern, 49 percent of Americans aged 18 to 39 view it positively.

Anyone considering socialist policies in our country today would do well to look at what happened where and when they were tried.



Morgan Griffith

9th District Representative

The great British statesman Winston Churchill observed, "The inherent vice of capitalism is the unequal sharing of blessings. The inherent virtue of Socialism is the equal sharing of miseries."

He said that to the House of Commons in 1945 as his country embarked on its own socialist experiment. Churchill's Conservative Party had lost the parliamentary election earlier that year to the Labour Party, which promised to look after Britons "from the cradle to the grave."

Its tools for doing so included nationalizing important sectors of the economy including coal mining and the steel industry. The National Health Service (NHS) was established. Local councils were given the power to buy housing.

Exorbitant tax rates were needed to support these initiatives, and the food rationing implemented during World War II was maintained for years after the war had been won.

The rationing particularly irked C.S. Lewis, the great author and apologist, but he benefited from his American fans, who shipped him simple comforts and food across the Atlantic. In response to the gift of a ham, he wrote back, "Such a thing could not [sic] be got on this side unless one was very deep in the Black Market."

Food was not socialism's only failure. Government control over housing meant that by 1951, Britain had 750,000 fewer houses than required. NHS prescriptions skyrocketed, as did its costs.

C.S. Lewis recognized that socialism's grandiose promises failed to meet even basic needs and welcomed Churchill's return to power. But when Churchill resumed office in 1951, although he ended the food rationing that had so irked Lewis, many socialist policies were entrenched. Unfortunately for Britain, this meant decades of sluggish economic performance, high unemployment, and labor unrest.

In the 1970s, this combination even took on the nickname "the British disease." In 1976, the British economy suffered from inflation of almost 17 percent and unemployment of 5 percent.

The "winter of discontent" of 1978-79 seemed to bring the country to another low. As the government struggled to cope with inflation, it imposed wage controls on public sector workers. Union strikes in protest led to garbage piling up in the streets and many hospitals providing only emergency treatment.

When the general election campaign began in 1979, the Leader of the Opposition, Margaret Thatcher, vowed, "The slither and slide to the socialist state is going to be stopped."

When her party won the election and she became Prime Minister, Thatcher introduced major reforms to the British economy. She rolled back tax rates, returned many nationalized entities to the private sector, and reduced the power of union leaders who had previously shut down the entire country.

Throughout the 1980s, inflation plunged, millions of new jobs were created, and the economy grew.

As Thatcher said, "Socialist governments routinely do that to make a mess. They always run out of other people's money." She had seen this in Britain's post-World War II experience. There is no need for the United States to discover this truth for ourselves.

Britain suffered economically from the implementation of socialism, but it should be said that at least it remained a largely free country politically. That cannot be said about other countries, and there is no guarantee that our country would be so lucky.

In the United States, where we treasure the freedom to speak and believe according to our conscience as well as keep what we earn to use as we see fit, we should be on guard against the restriction of these rights.

If you have questions, concerns, or comments, feel free to contact my office. You can call my Christiansburg office at 540-381-5671. To reach my office via email, please visit my website at www.morgangriffith.house.gov.

We Goofed!

Last week the headline above Rep. Griffith's column was incorrect. It should have read, "No Road Back for the ERA" - not "NRA." The Patriot apologizes for the error.

OPEN FORUM

National Vietnam Veterans / Julius Long Day

To the editor, The National Vietnam Veterans Day was established in 2017. This day is celebrated on the 29th of March each year.

There are many Vietnam veterans in Pulaski County.

"All gave some, but some gave all."

In all of Pulaski County, only one gave five years of his youth in a place described as a "Time when hell was in session."

He was Julius Long.

He spent five years as a Prisoner of War (POW).

He returned to Pulaski when the war was over in 1973.

He was captured on Mother's Day in 1968 when he was 19 years old.

Let that sink in.

He was not captured immediately when the Special Force Camp he was re-enforcing was overrun. He escaped and evaded the enemy for three days.

On the third day, hungry and at his wits end, he saw an American jeep coming down the road. He jumped out of the jungle, but to his dismay it was driven by the enemy. However, he "sucked it up," and was not shot.

He was taken to a local POW camp where the only American doctor in captivity was being held. He proved to be a lifesaver for Julius. This ordeal is outlined in the book, "Why Did You Not Get Me Out."

From that camp, Long was forced to walk 600 miles to Hanoi. There he remained in that hell until the prisoners were released in 1973.

It has been over 50 years since we as a country have shown our appreciation for the young men who served our country's colors so honorably in a war that was not understood or ap-



Julius Long the day he was released from captivity in North Vietnam.

preciated. More than 58,230 died and 153,303 were wounded. The "Vietnam Syndrome" lingers on. The long arm of Agent Orange and other maladies still ravish our veterans.

Julius, like the other KIA, WIA and POW were in "the flower of their youth." For this reason, I would like to see Pulaski County designate the 29th of March as "Julius Long Day."

Plato was right, "Only the dead have seen the end of war." But we as a country can honor Julius for giving us his youth so that we may live free.

Dallas Cox, Dublin

MORE LETTERS PAGE A7

The Russians Are Coming ... Again

The Russians are like the devil. Each gets blamed (or credited) with more than they are responsible for.

Intelligence officials recently went to Capitol Hill where, according to The Hill, "they briefed the House Intelligence Committee about Russia interfering in the presidential race in an effort to get Trump re-elected." The initial presumption was that Russian President Vladimir Putin favors Trump's re-election. Why would he when he has ideologically more closely associated with his someone than Trump? That would be the self-described Democratic Socialist, Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT).

But wait. Following closely on this un-specific leak to (where else?) The New York Times, we now hear that Russia wants Sanders as the next president. Perhaps it's out of gratitude because he and his wife honeymooned in the Soviet Union. Ah, nostalgia.

The intelligence briefing was classified, but as with charges that Russia meddled in the 2016 election, no details have emerged that prove the Russian "collusion" narrative. Other than disinformation campaigns on social media (and plenty of disinformation has and will continue to be generated here at home through mainstream media) we have still not heard any specifics on how Russia managed to change a single vote in 2016, or how they supposedly intend to do so this time around. Upon hearing of the intelligence briefing, Putin's press secretary told Russian state-run media, "This is another in a series of paranoid reports, and we regret to say that their number will grow as the election approaches. They certainly have nothing to do with the truth."

The reason Democrats are again raising the prospect of Russian interference is to undermine the credibility of this year's election should Trump win again, as seems increasingly likely. Democrats have been unable to stomach, not only his 2016 election, but also his economic successes. They fear their party will lose what remaining but dwindling appeal it might still enjoy. That's why in the debates among Democratic presidential candidates one hears of an America that isn't recognizable to most citizens. For them, America is a bad country, a place of racism, sexism, inequality and misery only they can fix, though previous Democratic presidents who have made similar diagnoses of America's "faults" have done nothing to repair the damage to which they have arguably contributed. Trump appears to have stolen their issues and they have no fallback position.

As for the credibility of American intelli-



Cal Thomas

Tribune Content Agency

gence, consider their record during George W. Bush's administration, beginning with weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, which were never found, resulting in the deaths of many in the unnecessary war that followed.

This Russian interference claim seems like a setup and an invitation for the House to conduct even more investigations and possibly new articles of impeachment after the election, assuming Democrats maintain their House majority. A recent Gallup poll shows record high approval (49 percent) of the president's policies. Forty-three percent of independents polled now support the president -- the highest percentage during Trump's entire presidency. We'll see if that translates into Republican victories in races for the Senate and House.

According to Gallup, "The latest survey finds a further increase in national satisfaction, with 45 percent now satisfied, the highest since February 2005."

Democrats have always needed a boogeyman to run against. Recall "The Gingrich stole Christmas" line disparaging then-House Speaker Newt Gingrich on a Time magazine cover in the 1990s. Democrats have also demagogued Republicans for not helping the poor and for being racist. That is a harder sell with the African-American unemployment rate at record lows and wages rising for virtually all groups. According to the Census Bureau, the poverty level is as low as its been in 11 years.

Russia has become the default boogeyman of the left. That is what makes Bernie Sanders the ideal candidate for Russia and the other socialist-communist states he has praised, because in his heart he is at one with them.

(Readers may email Cal Thomas at caeditors@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/Zonder-van). Readers may email Cal Thomas at caeditors@tribpub.com.



Rich Lowery

Editor, National Review

William Barr is his own man

Can the republic survive Attorney General William Barr?

That's the question that has seized the media and center left, which have worked themselves into a full-blown panic over an attorney general who is, inarguably, a serious legal figure and one of the adults in the room late in President Donald Trump's first term.

Some 2,000 former Justice department employees have signed a letter calling on Barr to resign. An anti-Barr piece in The Atlantic opined that "it is not too strong to say that Bill Barr is un-American," and warned that his America is "a banana republic where all are subject to the whims of a dictatorial president and his henchmen."

This is impressive heavy-breathing over an AG whose alleged offense doesn't hold a candle to the greatest hits of his predecessors:

Woodrow Wilson's attorney general A. Mitchell Palmer carried out raids to arrest suspected leftists in the wake of World War I.

Bobby Kennedy, serving as his brother's attorney general, authorized the wiretapping of Martin Luther King Jr.

William Barr changed the sentencing recommendation of Roger Stone from its original, excessive call for a sentence of seven to nine years.

It's not clear why the country would collapse into dictatorship if Stone is sentenced to fewer than seven years in prison, especially given that the judge has complete discretion to impose whatever sentence she sees fit.

The suspension is that Barr is doing Trump's bidding, but the attorney general maintains -- and he hasn't been contradicted -- that he was surprised by the initial, maximalist sentencing recommendation and he intended to amend it prior to Trump's fulminations.

If Barr were truly Trump's henchman, he would have squashed the Stone case rather than merely recommending a little less jail time at the end. Indeed, Barr said in an ABC News interview that he considered the Stone case a "righteous" prosecution.

Barr allowed the Mueller probe to reach its conclusion unmolested. The extent of his alleged interference was, prior to the release of the report, summarizing its findings in a way that wasn't harsh or detailed enough for Trump's critics.

Finally, he declined to prosecute former Department of Justice official and frequent Trump target Andrew McCabe for lying to investigators. If Barr is really Trump's Roy Cohn, nailing McCabe would have been Job One.

No, all the evidence suggests that Bill Barr is doing his best to render fair justice in the treacherous environment created by a president of the United States who routinely comments on pending criminal cases and investigations and by the Justice department's own politically

See LOWRY, page A7

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Council

Continued from Page A3

"It's going to require some extreme belt tightening," he said.

"The citizens have been pretty blunt with us when it comes to conversation about a potential tax increase. The answer is quite frankly, 'Hell no!' They are still recovering from the increase that was approved for the middle school, so there is only so much that we can do - so much wiggle room to make it work. We're out of wiggle room, we've exhausted that."

"Let's make sure we understand what we're going to do this year," Dawson said, asking what positions are involved in the hiring freeze.

Utt said one is in police, one in the garage, one in streets, two in water and sewer and four in general properties.

Police Chief Gary Roache interjected he may have a resignation from someone on his staff the next day.

"The hiring freeze is another way of saying we're eliminating those positions until we can afford to pay for them this year," Dawson said.

"Is everyone comfortable with that? Are those the right seven positions? I'm pretty sure that if Shawn saw a solution that didn't involve positions then he wouldn't have offered that up as his only solution to balance the budget. I'm almost certain if there was money somewhere else, he would have found it first. That's just his nature. And I mean that as a compliment."

"So that's where we are. There's nothing about 2021 that's going to change that circumstance. Unfortunately, every department in this town and every organization that has partnered with this town are caught up in that same rule of us figuring out what are the core services. What are we going to make sure we can pay for and cover. There is a dollar amount and we don't expect to spend more than that. That's the most dollars we can have to be financially responsible. Our budget last year was \$10 million (general fund). With that said, in order for us to do the things that we have to do, our financial responsibilities, we can only spend \$9.5 million. That \$9.5 million is all you got. This is what our expected conservative revenues are, and we know we'll bring in this much and if we bring in more, great, we'll dance about that later. In order for us to do the things we've got to do to move the town forward, is spend \$9.5 million then we've got to put together a budget in which we spend \$9.5 million."

"It doesn't matter how much we love any department in this town. Not going to say one because I'm not picking on one, it's just that the bottom number is the bottom number."

"That will get us what we need to accomplish what we're supposed to be doing," Dawson said.

Radcliffe repeated, "We've got to be careful with first responders. I don't even want to discuss it. What I've found in budgeting is our public works is always the red-headed stepchild. No matter how many people are sitting in these offices here, they always go after them - the \$21,000 a year man. I'm not going to stand for that either. They're already eight short, they work very hard, but they're always the ones who take that beating. We'll cut out the parades, we'll cut out everything. But they can't afford anymore."

"I completely agree with that," Dawson said. "In my mind there are six departments in this town. Police, fire, public works can't do anything with them. Pretty sure we've got to have a town manager. Finance department and community development. That's our six departments. A half million has to come from somewhere. And those are the only groups we've got. I'm telling you that conversation sucks. But that's all we got, there isn't some other department over there that someone doesn't find important."

"We do need to be very careful about public works. I was by

a local restaurant and they had a sign on the door, 'open four hours because we only have one employee.' Heaven forbid we end up there. You're talking about the economy the way it is and you're talking about a transient group of folks working at these needed jobs we have in public works, if they disappear, we're in a world of hurt. So, we have to be very careful about what those seven positions are. We cannot afford to not have the folks who make our town operate and work - we can't afford not to have them. We can't hang a sign on the door that we're only working four hours a day. That definitely needs to be kept in mind," East said.

Roache noted a special consideration in the police department.

"One other consideration here, if we hold a freeze until June 30 that means we don't get the summer police academy, we'll have to go to winter academy. Which is January 2021. If we put someone in the academy in January they won't be on the street until September 2021," he told council.

As for the new budget for Fiscal Year 21 council will begin work on next week, Utt said the budget he's been working on is \$9.4-\$9.5 million in the general fund.

"I'm going to issue a challenge. Last year the revenues were \$9.22. Why don't you shoot for \$9.2 million? Extreme belt tightening. You're going to need to come to us with positions you're going to recommend for removal. Our goal is those positions won't come from these three core departments," Goodman said.

"The whole world is going through some of this same struggle," Dawson noted. "In my opinion nothing should be off the table."

Dawson called for staff to look at restructuring to be more efficient.

"We've got no choice."

Lowry

Continued from Page A6
fraught, overly zealous intervention in the 2016 election and its aftermath.

It's no wonder that Barr has a poorly disguised contempt for his critics, many of whom are so inflamed by their opposition to Trump that they've lost any sense of standards. In a peppery speech to a Federalist Society conference last year that is now one of the counts against him, Barr rightly warned that "it is the left that is engaged in a systematic shredding of norms and the undermining of the rule of law."

At the end of the day, they really don't want Trump to have an attorney general, but that's not going to happen. If they force Barr out -- or more likely, Trump's continued tweeting pushes him over the edge -- they'll miss him when he's gone.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



We Will Re-Open Monday, March 2

Poor Boys Produce
303 5th St. N.E., Pulaski
980-1180

OPEN FORUM

Volunteers are life-blood of Daily Bread

To the Editor,

Pulaski Daily Bread is celebrating over 33 years and through the years we have filled the stomachs and souls of thousands of men, women, and children. This community-supported program continues to provide a free meal five days a week, to anyone wishing to eat. The success of this ministry depends solely upon the generosity of others, through volunteering, providing food, and monetary donations.

Volunteers are the life-blood of Daily Bread. With loving hands and open hearts, they set up, prepare, and serve lunch each day, run errands, help with special occasions and donate thousands of hours each month to helping others in our community. The doors are open and lunch is served from 11:00-12:30, Monday - Friday.

We are in need of a few cooks at this time If you have several hours a week and you would like to donate your time to this special ministry please contact me at 980-2131. I can be reached Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 and 1:00 p.m.

If you cannot donate your time then donations are welcomed and are tax deductible. You may send donations to Pulaski Daily Bread, P.O. Box 824 Pulaski, and Virginia, 24301 or may be dropped off at the First Presbyterian Church, 408 N. Jefferson Avenue. Thank you in advance on any help you may give to this most worthy cause.

**Thank you
Debra Harrel
Program Director**

Vote for the sake of our freedoms

To the Editor,

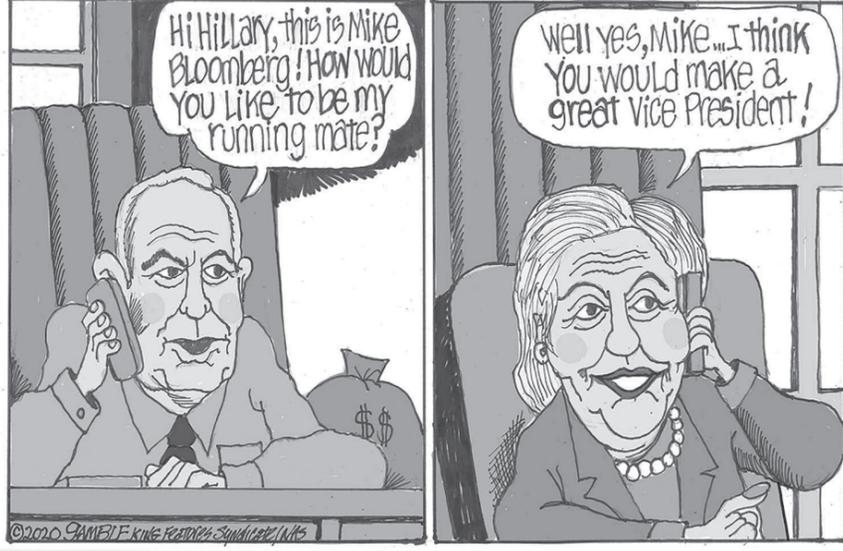
We have heard so many reasons people use not to vote: too much trouble, my vote doesn't count, fear of getting jury duty, no ride to the polls and many more.

Let's think a moment about the importance of our vote. There is an assault on our Second Amendment Rights after the Democrats won the last election in Virginia. The people of South and Southwest Vir-

ginia use all kinds of reasons not to go vote. But this allows Northern Virginia voters to dictate who our leaders will be.

These Liberal people will change our state in ways we may not like. So please vote for the sake of our state and our freedoms.

**Ken Blair
Pulaski**



Guard

Continued from Page A1

an act of professional courtesy for any group that wishes to organize to present itself to their officials and explain their intent so that all parties involved can work peaceably and toward the same goal of protection of the people and their rights."

Pyles said the term militia has a negative connotation attached to it and it is for that reason that a group of Pulaski County citizens wishes to be recognized as the Pulaski County Home Guard.

The first muster of the Pulaski County Home Guard was held Feb. 16 at Pyles' Connection Church on Wilderness Road in Dublin.

"We're just asking for your recognition that we are here and the understanding of our purpose," Pyles told the supervisors.

"I am a law-abiding citizen and former law enforcement officer and the last thing I want to do is to get on the wrong side of the agencies that I want to support," Pyles said. "We don't want a group that has a reputation that a lot of militias have. We're looking for an organization that exists for the betterment of our community. We want a group of people who are willing to not only take up arms for each other but assist our local community in any form of disaster relief or community projects."

Like Pyles, Gary Hughes has been a leading voice in the formation of the county's Home Guard.

Hughes is credited with being the first citizen to bring the Second Amendment Sanctuary idea to the county's attention in the beginning and has been the lead voice in that

effort.

Speaking Monday to the supervisors also, Hughes said it is true that HB961 has been tabled for this year.

"But the governor and the delegate who sponsored the bill have vowed it will come back," he said.

In his remarks Monday, Hughes said he wanted to "go a little deeper into the home guard and why everyone should be a member."

Hughes said that as Second Amendment proponents have concentrated on protecting gun rights, members of the Democratic majority in Richmond have "slipped other bills past us - bills that tear and rip at the very fabric of our values and morals."

Hughes said these are "bills that show lack of respect for human life, lack of respect for religious freedom and our way of life that we guard so dearly here in Pulaski County and Southwest Virginia."

Hughes ticked off a list of House and Senate bills under consideration by the legislature and what those bills would do if approved.

One he said, would require churches and church schools to have transgender bathrooms.

Another, Hughes said, would require books to be placed in school classrooms that teach alternative lifestyles for our young children and all that goes with it.

Another would make it legal for a doctor not to be present when an abortion is performed.

Yet another would allow for an abortion to be performed right up

to the time of birth.

Hughes said another bill would prohibit misbehaving and disruptive children from being punished in school.

Another bill, Hughes said, would allow school administrators to no longer be required to call police when a student engages in stalking, assault and battery affecting school personnel or the school itself.

One bill would make Virginia a sanctuary state for thousands of illegals who will be issued drivers licenses and be able to vote in our elections.

And yet another would let our tax money be used to subsidize tuition for illegal aliens.

"And the list goes on and on," Hughes said.

"The most feckless and egregious thing happened this week with the retaliation attack by the majority who denied raises to the sheriffs of Virginia. Sen. (Richard) Saslaw said, 'because the sheriff's have refused to enforce our gun laws.'

"So, they are punishing the sheriffs for standing for the oath of office they have sworn to uphold in the constitution and not enforcing these unconstitutional gun laws," Hughes charged.

Hughes added that, "when you think about home guard, its not just about protecting our Second Amendment rights, but it's about guarding and protecting our way of life here in Pulaski County and Southwest Virginia."

OK Barber Shop
321 East Main Street
Pulaski, Va. • 994-0231

Open Daily At 6 a.m.
(Later Hours Available Upon Request)



Church Directory

Worship Each Week In The Church Of Your Choice



Teach Me Your Word O Lord

Terry McCraw

Are Demons Real?

Yes! The existence of demons and devils is confirmed numerous times in the Bible. They are evil spirits who serve the Devil in his attempts to lead humanity away from God and into sin. Jesus confronted them openly on many occasions and cast them out of those being tormented by them.

Mark 5:2. "And when He was come out of the ship, immediately there met Him out of the tombs, a man with an unclean spirit, who had his dwelling among the tombs, and no man could bind him, no, not with chains."

This poor man was demon possessed and grievously tormented. He went around naked and resided among the dead corpses, in caves used as tombs. He was so violent and fierce the people had bound him with chains, but with supernatural demonic strength, he broke the chains and terrorized the population. Day and night he cried out in agony while cutting himself with stones. He was not only a menace to others, but to himself as well.

The devil has hordes of demonic spirits who go about seeking whom they may control and influence to do evil. They cause individuals to commit unspeakable atrocities, oftentimes killing and mutilating innocent human beings.

Verse 6. "But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him. And cried with a loud voice and said, what have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God: I adjure you by God, that thou torment me not. For he said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit. And he asked him, what is your name? And he answered, saying my name is Legion, for we are many."

The demons knew who Jesus was. Even the demons believe in Him and tremble." We must not only know who Jesus is, we must also know Jesus in the pardon of our sins. Once we are saved and filled with the Holy Spirit, demons can't overpower or control us because greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world.

The demons spoke saying that their name was Legion for they were many. A Roman Legion contained around 6,000 men. This poor man was possessed by a great host of demons.

Verse 12. "And the devils besought him saying, Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them. And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine, and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, they were about two thousand, and were choked in the sea." The swine committed suicide rather than to live as hosts for demons.

Demonic spirits whisper in the ears of men and women, driving them insane. So we must be very careful about what voices we listen to. There are many voices in the world and many are of the devil.

Jesus didn't send them into the herd of swine, but merely released them and they chose to enter into the swine. Jesus didn't worry about it for He knew that

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.umc

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

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.roledublin.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

First Missionary Baptist Church

7318 Manns Drive / P.O. Box 90
New River, Virginia 24129
(540) 639-5331
email: fmbc1872@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 Hanshew
(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

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

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-Methodist-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/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.

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 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

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.

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.

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
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

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

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

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.

St. Edwards Catholic Church
Corner of N. Washington Ave. 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

McCraw

Continued from Page A8

the soul of the man was worth much more than many swine. The soul of a man or woman is important to Him. In fact, that is the very reason that Jesus left the portals of glory and came down here to become a man, so he could die for the sins of mankind, save lost souls and deliver them from evil.

Verse 14. "And they came to Jesus, and saw him that was possessed with the devil and had the legion, sitting, and clothed and in his right mind, they were afraid." The residents foolishly and frantically demanded Jesus depart out of their coasts. So Jesus left. They could have enjoyed a great spiritual renewal but instead they chose to send the Savior away.

Verse 18. "And when he was come into the ship, he that had been possessed with the devil prayed him that he might be with Him. Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee. And he departed and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him; and all men did marvel."

Jesus set this man free from demon possession and then commissioned him to go and share his testimony with others. And when he shared his testimony about his own deliverance from the demonic powers of the devil, the people marveled. There were people in his own country who needed to be saved and Jesus left that job in the now capable hands of a man who had been delivered from the powers of darkness by the awesome power of God.

That's really all that Jesus asked those of us who are saved. To go out and tell others about the wonderful works that Jesus has done in our lives and by doing that, we can and will win others to Christ.

What goes around comes around. The devil who would bind all people, will one day be bound himself. John the Revelator said of the devil, "Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. He laid hold on the Dragon, the serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished." Rev. 20: 1-3. After being released from the pit, he will utterly be defeated in battle by Christ and he and his minions will be cast in an eternal lake of fire and brimstone.

Draper's Valley Presbyterian to hold groundbreaking service

There will be a special 'Worship Service of Thanksgiving' in the sanctuary of Draper's Valley Presbyterian Church on Sunday afternoon, March 1, 2020 @ 3:00 p.m. celebrating how God has brought us to this time and place and abundantly provided so that we might expand our facilities.

The worship service will be followed by an outdoor 'Ground-breaking Ceremony'. This will officially begin the construction.

We anticipate and trust that God will take us forward to the completion of the project and the use of this new facility in the decades to come, all to the Glory of God Alone!

Come, join in the thanksgiving and celebration!



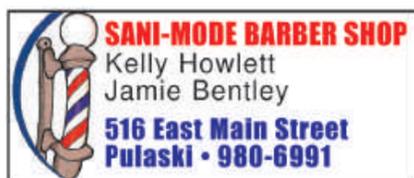
Seagle Funeral Home
415 N. Jefferson Ave., Pulaski • 980-1700



SAL'S JR. 540-639-2600
7401 Peppers Ferry Blvd.
Fairlawn
NEW YORK STYLE PIZZERIA ITALIAN RESTAURANT
www.salsjr.com

Bower Funeral Chapels
Providing Dignified And Affordable Funeral Service
Pulaski 980-6160 Dublin 674-4665

Worship This Week In The Church of Your Choice



SANI-MODE BARBER SHOP
Kelly Howlett
Jamie Bentley
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Animals among God's gifts to man

Q: I would rather be with my pet than people. Will pets be in Heaven? -- P.L.

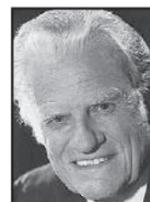
A: God's creation story includes His creative work in the animal kingdom. "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle... and everything... on the earth.... And God saw that it was good" (Genesis 1:24-25). All of this took place before sin entered the world.

We know that God gave animals to mankind for a purpose, because before the great Flood, God preserved every species -- male and female -- on the ark so they would inhabit the land again. Animals are among

God's many diverse gifts to man.

Who doesn't smile while chimpanzees mimic one another? We boast of "man's best friend" because a faithful dog will protect its owner at all cost. Fish are a source of food, and we love to envision Jesus sharing broiled fish with His disciples (Luke 24:42-43). We marvel to think of Jesus riding the colt of a donkey into Jerusalem.

It's important, though, to understand that Jesus Christ died for the souls of mankind to give them life eternal in Heaven. While we can enjoy the many things God has created for us on earth, we have a responsibility



My Answer

Billy Graham

ity toward our fellowman. He calls us to love one another and gives us His own example of love toward mankind. It is hard for us to love others if we do not first love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Do not miss Heaven. Even when we allow our imaginations to run wild on the joys of Heaven, we will not really know the realities until we are there, but one thing is certain,

nothing will compare to being in the eternal presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. What a thrilling future for those who know that someday we will populate the kingdom of God.

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



The Patriot
www.pcpatriot.com

Pulaski County land transfers as recorded for January

Land transfers as recorded in January by the Pulaski County Circuit Court Clerk's office:

Jan. 2 - Stateson Homes, LLC to Martin S. Dessureault, property at 6436 Teeth of the Dog Drive, Heron's Landing, Fairlawn, \$622,605.

Jan. 2 - Roy Robert McCarter Griffiths to L&R Burch Properties, property at 4535 Plantation Estates, Snowville, \$625,000.

Jan. 2 - Jackie Early McCraw to Mad Investment Properties, LLC, multi-family residential property at 6160 Belspring Road, Belspring, \$179,000.

Jan. 2 - Commercial Remarketing, LLC to Mikell D. Perry, property in Delton section of Draper, \$170,000.

Jan. 3 - Atlantic Union Bank to Kipps Farms, LLC, 31 acres near Heron's Landing in Fairlawn, \$400,000.

Jan. 3 - Hearl Hoyt Parris to Across the Board Construction, property at 6810 Pulaski Avenue, Fairlawn, \$110,900.

Jan. 3 - Betty Worley Southern to Tyler F. Kirkner, property at 4920 Cougar Trail Road, Dublin, \$105,900.

Jan. 6 - James W. Jarrell to Carolyn Southern, property at 5773 Jones Drive, Dublin, \$121,700.

Pulaski County March Meetings

- Monday, March 2, 2020, Pulaski County Board of Supervisors Budget Work Session, EOC/Information Technology Training Room, 89 Commerce Street S.W., Maple Shade Plaza, in the Town of Pulaski, Virginia; 3 p.m. (Contact: Ashley Edmonds, Executive Secretary and Clerk to the Board of Supervisors, 143 Third Street N.W., Suite 1, Pulaski, VA, 24301, 540-980-7705, aedmonds@pulaskicounty.org). The Board of Supervisors is the governing body for Pulaski County and is responsible for the budget and concerns of its citizens.

- Tuesday, March 3, 2020, Clean Community Council, Basement Central Conference Room, Pulaski County Administration Building, 143 Third Street N.W., in the Town of Pulaski, Virginia, 11:00 a.m. (Contact: Anthony Akers, Assistant County Administrator, 143 Third Street N.W., Suite 1, Pulaski, Virginia, 24301, 540-980-7705, aakers@pulaskicounty.org). This committee is responsible for the oversight of community, roadside and property clean-ups.

- Wednesday, March 4, 2020, New River Valley Airport Commission, NRV Airport Terminal Building, 5:00 p.m. (Contact: Keith Holt, Airport Manager, 5391 C.V. Jackson Road, Dublin, VA, 24084, 540-674-4141, kpskmanager@gmail.com). This committee is responsible for the oversight of the decisions and activities related to the NRV Airport.

- Thursday, March 5, 2020, Pulaski Encouraging Progress Steering Committee, Edwards Hall, Room 208, New River Community College, 5251 College Drive, Dublin, Virginia, 8:00 a.m. (Contact: Michael Solomon, Economic Development Director, 143 Third Street N.W., Suite 1, Pulaski, Virginia, 24301, 540-980-7705, msolomon@pulaskicounty.org). This committee is responsible for promoting economic development and growth in the Pulaski County.

- Monday, March 9, 2020, Pulaski County Board of Supervisors Budget Work Session, EOC/Information Technology Training Room, 89 Commerce Street S.W., Maple Shade Plaza, in the Town of Pulaski, Virginia; 3 p.m. (Contact: Ashley Edmonds, Executive Secretary and Clerk to the Board of Supervisors, 143 Third Street N.W., Suite 1, Pulaski, VA, 24301, 540-980-7705, aedmonds@pulaskicounty.org). The Board of Supervisors is the governing body for Pulaski County and is responsible for the budget and concerns of its citizens.

Jan. 7 - Rocky L. Akers to David E. Wright, property at 3855 Bainbridge Drive, Pulaski, \$244,500.

Jan. 8 - Ryan L. Pry, Administrator to Renuit, LLC, property at 5490 Mitchell Drive, Dublin, \$45,100.

Jan. 8 - Vicky Buckner Smith to Darren J. Lione, property at 6374 Lone Oak Road, Snowville, \$4,000.

Jan. 8 - NRVG Construction, LLC to Harvey L. Dent, property on Belspring Road, Belspring, \$100,000.

Jan. 9 - Michael P. Reis, Special Counsel for the Vernon A. Akers Estate to Absolute Construction, LLC, property at 4980 Lead Mine Road, Snowville, \$112,000.

Jan. 10 - Virginia Fence Builders, Inc. to Andrew Cullip, Jr., property at 262 W. Main Street, Dublin, \$7,000.

Jan. 10 - Matthew S. Seckers to Patrick D. Kanipe, property off Cabin Land Drive, Snowville, \$123,200.

Jan. 10 - Mollie R. Bishop-Adkins to Shah Development, LLC, 750 Prospect Avenue, Pulaski, \$200,000.

Jan. 10 - CMH Homes, Inc. to Victoria Sloan Cassell, property at 5090 Deer Trot Road, Dublin, \$226,979.

Jan. 10 - Shannon N. Newman to Heath E. Wilson, property at 301 4th Street, S.E., Pulaski, \$61,350.

Jan. 13 - Carla B. Hallstead to Robin Deiuilio, property at 107 Virginia Court, Pulaski, \$149,500.

Jan. 14 - A. Wayne Ondich, Jr. to Thomas M. Seagle & Sons, LLC, property at 415 N. Jefferson Avenue, Pulaski, \$257,400.

Jan. 15 - Tony Lotito, Jr. Trustee to Robert Donald Beaudoin, property at 3847 Bainbridge Drive, Pulaski, \$153,500.

Jan. 15 - Robert L. Smith to Rocky L. Akers, property at Lot 20, Block 3, Bainbridge Subdivision, \$25,000.

Jan. 16 - John T. Farmer to Richard Scott Gray, property at 333 Maple Street, Dublin, \$133,500.

Jan. 16 - Kristal Duane Jones Davis to Henry Randall Szczur, 5606 Haven Avenue, Pulaski,

\$161,980.

Jan. 16 - Lisa A. Reyes to Michael D. Malone, property at 135 Oak Lane, Pulaski, \$6,000.

Jan. 21 - Coy A Smith to Tracey L. Nardo, property at 5607 Blenna Court, Dublin, \$125,500.

Jan. 21 - William Ray Whitlow to Phillip Elwood O'Dell, property at 3047 Lowman's Ferry Road, Pulaski, \$85,000.

Jan. 21 - Miranda S. Kidd to Kelsi D. Kennedy, property at 5394 Katie Circle, Dublin, \$194,500.

Jan. 21 - Charles K. Birkelbach to Simon Gabriel Pata, property at 6231 Old Ferry Road, Snowville, \$328,000.

Jan. 23 - Brenda S. Turner to Shah Development, LLC, property at 4627 Wish Lane, Dublin, \$1,610,116.03.

Jan. 23 - Shah Development to Anne Melissa Gentry Revocable Trust, 5280 Black Hollow Road, Dublin, \$725,000.

Jan. 23 - Alton T. Turman, By-and-Through to Tunich, LLC, property at 7526 Brandon Road, River Bluffs Subdivision, Fairlawn, \$57,000.

Jan. 24 - Ethan C. Akers to Pulaski South, LLC, property at 212 Lagrange Street, Pulaski, \$70,000.

Jan. 24 - James R. Farley, Trustee to West Street Properties, LLC, property at 6749 Falling Branch Road, Fairlawn, \$63,000.

Jan. 28 - Shah Development, LLC to Amanda E. Hinkley, property at 414 Draper Avenue, Pulaski, \$85,000.

Jan. 29 - Ralph E. Atkins to Shawn Dalton, property at 5214 New Dublin Church Road, Dublin, \$85,000.

Jan. 30 - John R. Reichenbach to Wayne Scott Janes, property at 6127 Buzzards Roost Road, Snowville, \$387,500.

Jan. 30 - M&H Import-Export, Inc. to Thomas D. Underwood, property at 1018 Lee Highway, Pulaski, 418,500.

Jan. 30 - Shah Development to Diane King, property at 526 Graham Street, Pulaski, \$83,500.

Jan. 30 - Ferdinand Harvey, Jr. to Emily Gore Williams, 4732 Newbern Road, Pulaski, \$35,000.



APEX Center kicks off 2020 with sellout crowds

WYTHEVILLE, Va. - Wythe County's APEX Center (Appalachian Regional Exposition Center) has enjoyed a run of great events in recent weeks, ranging from bucking saddle broncs and jackpot barrel racing to high-flying monster trucks and a demolition derby that featured crazed cars crashing in an arena of mayhem.

In total, this year's events have sold more than 7,000 tickets and brought tens of thousands of dollars in additional revenue to the community.

The events are but a snapshot of the potential the 2,000 seat arena has to offer, and as the facility enters its second full year of operation, local officials desire to see the calendar expand.

Located at the crossroads of Interstates 77 and 81 at Exit 77, the APEX Center serves as Wythe County's largest indoor venue and has the capability to host a myriad of events, including trade shows, motorsports, concerts, and circuses, as well as athletic and agricultural events. "We're pleased with the events we've had this year and are excited about many of the upcoming items on our schedule," said APEX Authority chairperson Cory Aker. Aker went on to say that many of the new Authority members have expressed their desire to focus on providing a better customer experience, as well as finding ways to reduce the operational cost of the arena. This vision is shared by Wythe County Board of Supervisors

chairman Brian Vaught, who stated, "This year, the board of supervisors made five new appointees to the APEX Authority. We are encouraged by what we're seeing but fully realize there's still a lot of work left to be accomplished. The taxpayers of Wythe County deserve for the facility to be well managed and accountable — we're pleased that the new Authority Board shares in this belief."

This Saturday, the APEX Center will host the Appalachian Indoor ShowDown Go Kart Race.

Two weeks later, on Sunday, March 8, the facility will showcase the Garden Brother Circus and on March 13-14, Victory Sports Motocross will come to the APEX.

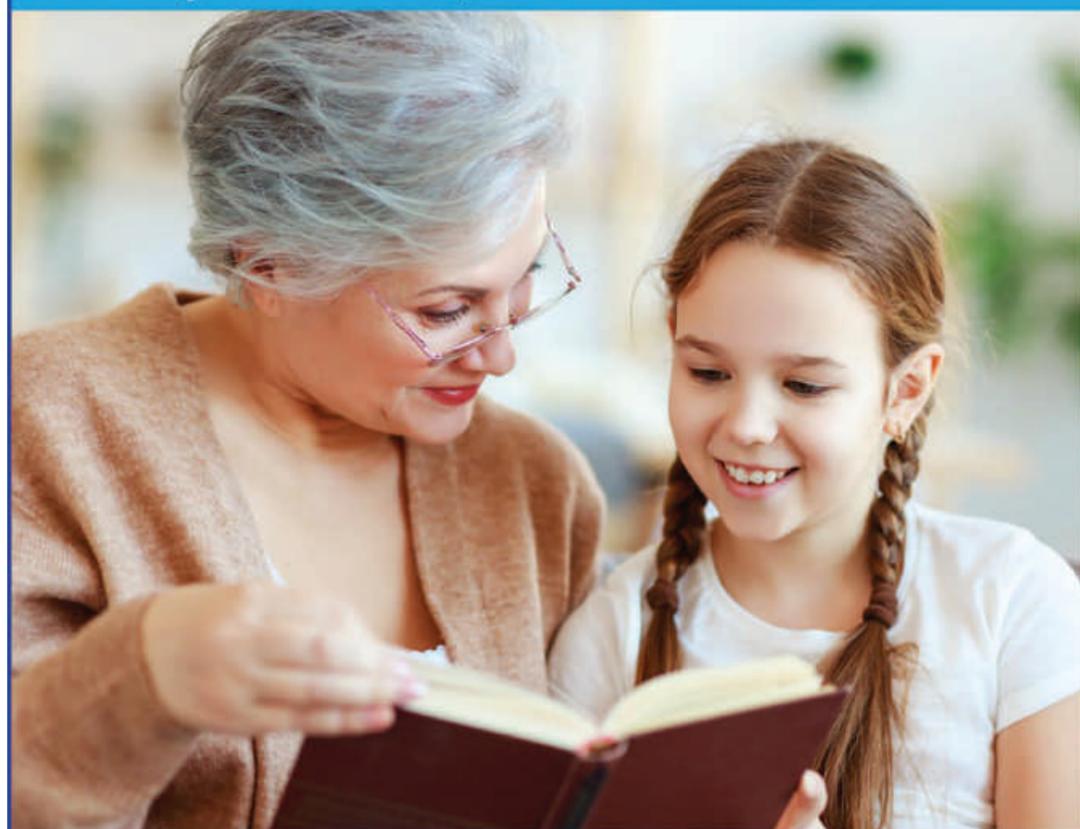
Individuals interested in learning more about the APEX Center are encouraged to visit www.apexcenter.org or call 276-335-APEX.

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Pulaski County girls know what's coming next

By DAN CALLAHAN
The Patriot

Thanks to the fine work of Pulaski County High School athletic director Scott Vest, The Patriot can now report what the road ahead looks like for the Pulaski County girls basketball team in the effort to return to Richmond and the Class 4 state championship game a second consecutive year.

The Cougar girls are in Lynchburg Friday evening at 6 pm to play E.C. Glass for the Region 4D championship. Pulaski Co.

is the defending region title winner of last season.

Should the Cougars defeat and defend their region crown, they would then host the loser of the Millbrook/Loudon Valley game on Friday, March 6. It was hoped that game could be played at the Dedmon Center at RU, but the facility is not available, and since it cannot be played on the PCHS home court, the game will take place on the court at Christiansburg High School.

Should Glass win Friday, then Pulaski Co. would travel to northern Virginia, to

the region of the winner between Millbrook and Loudon Valley. However, the winner of Friday's game in the "Hill City" will host the quarter final game in state competition, and should it win that game, would also host the state semi-final.

That means that should Pulaski Co. defeat Glass, then defeat the loser of the Millbrook/Loudon Valley game, it would host a Final Four semi-final game against one of the top seeds, again at Christiansburg High School on Friday, March 13.



Locker Room

Dan Callahan

This Cougar team can play the game

The Pulaski County girls basketball program is about to head back to the Class 4 state basketball tournament. Congratulations to them for a job well done, and to head coach Brad Sutphin and his able assistant Mike Anders.

Most people from across the state were likely surprised the Cougar girls made it to the state title game last year. Two reasons. The team was so young, and two, most of the other teams in the tourney likely had little understanding of just who Pulaski Co. is. Yes, when you talk about Pulaski Co., northern and eastern Virginia still have little understanding of who Pulaski Co. or all of southwest Virginia is for that matter, or what we're about. We're different. In this case, I'm very pleased to be different. We fought the same battle back in the 80 and 90s in football. When that period of time was over, they still might not have known how to get down there, but they knew what Pulaski Co. football was.

The girls basketball program can chart that same course. Just keep knocking on the door. You do it long enough and hard enough, one day it will open. You'll knock it down! Maybe this is the year.

But it's down to Lynchburg to face a strong and top seeded E.C. Glass team Friday evening in the effort to repeat as Region D champions. Should the Cougars win they will be a top four seed and host a state semi-final game, or at least Region D will host, however, that game can be as close to PCHS as possible but cannot be played on the Cougar court.

Likely, should Pulaski Co. win it would host a state semi-final in the Dedmon Center at RU, at least that would be preferred. If not that, the game would be at another location within the bounds of the region, but certainly as close to home as possible at an appropriate facility. Should Glass be the region winner, then Pulaski Co. would be on the road at the location of another region. Then it's on to Richmond for the Final Four.

This Cougar team has all that is required. It can play on the perimeter, a good floor game, it can play on the baseline, it can make plays, make shots, it defends, it is a "team." Not one or two players have to make all the big plays. Most all of them can come through and have. This Cougar basketball team can play the game. It has the necessary talent, and also the necessary grit.

So, the effort to be considered among the best programs in the state will be well prepared. It will play hard. It is well coached. I wish them well.

Fuente's seat not hot, but getting warmer

So, you think it's just now getting to be March and it's too early to talk football. That would be wrong, and this writer likes to talk football any time of the year. But programs across the country are getting ready to take the field in the next few days.

Surprised? Shouldn't be. It's time for spring practice. Virginia Tech's first day will be March 12, it's the 26th for UVa, the third for Carolina, March 4 for Ohio State and Nebraska, the 7th for LSU, and 8th for Alabama.

Beginning spring practice is determined a lot these days by what part of the country you're located and how good an indoor

See CALLAHAN, page B1

GIRLS STATE BOUND AGAIN

Cougars rout Salem, face Glass Friday; then on to state

By DAN CALLAHAN
The Patriot

The Pulaski County girls basketball program will once again take its game to the Class 4 state tournament in Richmond next week. The opportunity to return to the state championship game was won in a big way at PCHS Tuesday evening, 69-40 over Salem, the third time the Cougars had this season. It was the Class 4, Region D semifinal.

The Cougars are now 20-6 on the season, and will face E.C. Glass in Lynchburg Friday for the region championship. The top seeded Hilltoppers defeated Blacksburg to gain the final. Salem finishes 11-13 on the season. Both teams in each region final (4 regions) will makeup the eight team state tournament field in each classification. So regardless of the outcome Friday, both Pulaski Co., and Glass will qualify

for the state tourney, however, winning the region trophy and higher seeding in the state is very much at stake, and valuable.

"We played well much of the time tonight," said PCHS coach Brad Sutphin. "It always helps to get off to a good start and we did. It's great that we'll get another chance in the state. We want to get back to that title game again, but first comes the region championship in Lynchburg. We want that again. I was really happy for the seniors tonight who played their final game on their home court. We got to play everybody, plenty of playing time all around, and that is always a good thing. Now we head to Glass," said Sutphin.

Pulaski County started the game hitting eight of its first 10 shots, and led 19-8 at the end of the first quarter. Ally Fleenor and Keslyn Secrist combined to hit five of six shots. The Cougars then outscored the Spartans 22-6



Brian Bishop/PC Patriot

All Fleenor led all scorers in the Salem game with 17 points.

in the second quarter for a huge, 41-15 halftime lead. Salem hit only six of 21 shots and had 11 turnovers at the break. Fleenor was seven of nine for 14 points, and Keslyn Secrist hit all four of her shots for nine.

The lead ballooned to 61-27 after three quarters, and Cougar starters spent only about half the final two quarters on the court. Salem finished with 20 turnovers for the game, Pulaski Co. 13. The Spartans managed to hit just 10 of 43 shots, 23%. Salem was 20 of 32 from the free throw line, half its points for the game. The Cougars finished 26 of 57, 45% from the field and connected on 11 of 17 charity shots.

Fleenor was the game's top scorer with 17 points on eight of 11 from the field, and one of two from the line. Keslyn Secrist hit all five of her shots for 12. Erin Russell had a big second half for PCHS, hitting four of eight shots and both her free throws for a dozen points. Paige Huff hit three of 13 shots, and both her free throws for eight points, Maddie Ratcliff scored six points, Kasidy Secrist five, Alaina Akers four, and Taryn Blankenship and Courtney Cregger both finished with three.

Abbie Baker led Salem with nine points, Kennedy Scales scored eight, Samatha Mitchem seven, and McKenzie Moran six.

Pulaski County High Sports Schedule

Monday 03/02/20
Indoor Track: State Meet at Liberty University 11 am

Tuesday 03/03/20
Indoor Track: State Meet at Liberty University 9 am
Varsity Softball Scrimmage: Pulaski Co. @ Northside 5 pm
JV Softball Scrimmage: Northside @ Pulaski Co 5 pm

Wednesday 03/04/20
Boys Tennis Scrimmage: Floyd @ Pulaski Co. 4:30 pm
Girls Tennis Scrimmage: Pulaski Co. @ Floyd 4:30 pm

Saturday 03/07/20
Girls Varsity Soccer Scrimmage: Jamboree @ Emory & Henry 11:30 am

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Brian Bishop/PC Patriot

Keslyn Secrist drives to the basket on her way to scoring two of her team-high 12 points.

Cougars claw Danville, 62-28

By DAN CALLAHAN
The Patriot

Usually when the region playoffs get underway to wins come harder, but not last Friday night at Pulaski County High School. The Cougar girls basketball team dropped the hammer big time on GW-Danville, 62-28 in the quarter finals of the Class 4, Region D Tournament. The Cougars moved to 17-6 on the season, GW dropped to 6-18.

"It was nice to get off to a good start," said PCHS coach Brad Sutphin. "But we just take it one game at a time, do not look out front, take care of the business in front of you, and the girls did that tonight. We obviously would like to make a run back to the state tournament and right now to do that you must win. We got one," smiled Sutphin.

Pulaski Co. took control of the game from the outset and led 10-0 in the first quarter before Danville got on the board. After the initial eight-minute quarter the Cougars led, 18-5.

It ballooned rapidly in the second quarter. The Cougars outscored Danville 21-8 in the quarter and led, 39-13 at the half. Danville turned the ball over 16 times the first half and 24 times for the game. The Cougars were 16 of 33 from the field while the Eagles could hit just five of 23 shots the first half.

Every player saw action for Pulaski Co. The score was 51-23 at the end of the third quarter and early in the fourth the game went to a continuous clock after the Cougars soared ahead by 30.

Danville managed to connect on just seven of 35 shots, 20% from the field. Nyasua Lanier led the Eagles with 14 points, but she made only five of 17 shots. Curtasja Brooks scored seven.

Pulaski Co. hit 27 of 59 shots from the field, 46%. It was a balanced effort with nine players in the scoring column. Keslyn Secrist led the way with 12 points on six of nine marksmanship. Ally Fleenor hit five of six for 10. Erin Russell was four of nine and scored nine points, Taryn Blankenship was three of six and scored nine, Paige Huff was three of nine for seven, Maddie Ratcliff was three of eight for six, and Alaina Akers two of six for five. Courtney Cregger and Hanna Watson both scored two for the Cougars.

The Pulaski County basketball program recognized Ratcliff before the game for eclipsing the 1,000 points scored mark in her career.

The Patriot
540-808-3949



Brian Bishop/PC Patriot

The Pulaski County basketball program recognized Maddie Ratcliff before the game last Friday against G.W. Danville for eclipsing the 1,000 points scored mark in her career.

Callahan

Continued from Page B1

facility do you have if you're not down south or far out west.

This is a big spring for Virginia Tech's football program and a very important spring for head coach Justin Fuente. This is not to suggest that Fuente is on the "hot seat" that writers seem to enjoy talking about. But he does need a good season. I think he is likely to get one.

Fuente came to Blacksburg from Memphis. It is important to note that the Tigers under the direction of Mike Norvell were 12-2, 8-6, 10-3, and 8-5 since Fuente left town. So, it would appear that life on Beale Street has gotten even better since Fuente left. Norvell is now the new head coach at Florida State. Maybe Memphis is one of those steppingstone programs.

Fuente's record at Memphis was much less than Norvell's; 10-3, 3-9, and 4-8, 19-20 total, but that's not the whole story. Fuente took over a downtrodden program at Memphis, and Norvell apparently one that Fuente had built that was getting ready to become a consistent winner. Fuente's four teams at Tech have gone 8-5, 6-7, 9-4, and 10-4. That's 35-20 and for many programs across the country that would be considered success. Ask Kansas football fans how they would feel about that record over four years. They might throw a parade. Everybody felt Fuente was a

good hire for the Hokies, and this is certainly not saying that is still not the case. But there have been too many bumps. First, the program needs a signature win, the schedules haven't been that difficult, lots of non-Power 5 teams. There have been too many transfers, the roster turnover has been alarming. That can be said about many programs across the country. It's not simply a Virginia Tech problem, it's college football trying to decide what direction it's heading. Right now, I think we're looking at crossing a bad intersection.

It is also noteworthy that rival UVa won the ACC Coastal Division last season. But the biggest concern is recruiting. It has not gone well; the last class was one of the worst in the nation. Recruiting is the lifeblood of a program. You've read it here before. The best coaches coach at the places with the most talent.

But I believe 2020 can be a big year for the Hokies. It will put a veteran team on the field, the quarterback situation seems to be settled. It will be a veteran team with some quality, proven performers. The schedule does not include Clemson, everybody in the ACC would love to avoid the Tigers, and Miami is at home late. A trip to Carolina will be difficult.

There's also an early season out of conference game with Penn State. That should be

looked upon with a great deal of enthusiasm. First of all, knock off the Big 10ers and you immediately put yourself back in the mix with other good programs, but even if you don't win, but the game is a heckuva battle, you will derive more from that than a win over ODU or Liberty.

But the future is never as far away as you think. In addition to a good season on the field, Fuente and the Hokie program, needs a quality 2021 recruiting class to sustain the talent level in the program. That is imperative.

2 Cougars, 2 Hokies, Now 2 Gators:

The greatest field goal kicker in Pulaski County history, and the greatest field goal kicker in Virginia Tech football history, and one of the greatest field goals kickers in NFL history, is now a Florida Gator. Shayne Graham has joined the Gator staff down in Gainesville. The past two years he had been on Mike Dantonio's staff at Michigan State, but became available when Dantonio retired.

Graham's numbers still hang on the wall in the Cougar fieldhouse and at Virginia Tech too. He connected on 85.5% of his field goal attempts in his 15-year NFL career.

And a nice sidebar. A great old Cougar will be joining with another great old Cougar down in the "swamp." One of the finest football players in Cougar history, and also a Hokie player, Todd Grantham is the defensive coordinator at Florida and one of the highest regarded defensive coaches in the nation.

I guess this can be classified as one those you never know where life is going to take you stories but having two Cougars will definitely increase the Gators chances at beating Alabama! Both Grantham and Graham are members of the Pulaski County Football Hall of Fame.

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Where Have All The Birds Gone?

I was visiting with a good friend, Anna Marie, a Brittany Spaniel and a great one on upland birds. I am Luke, a Golden Retriever and can hold my own on both waterfowl, grouse and quail. Anna Marie is a beautiful white with golden-brown spots dappled about her body that sports a short-stubbed tail. I think I have her beat out in the tail section as on a set with birds my tail is like a banner held aloft. We both own good people that take good care of us. My man is named Dave who treats me well and always feeds me on time every day at an appointed time. AM as often refer to her, has a lady, Joan and her man is Jim and both are avid bird dog enthusiasts who especially like to hunt the big three in birds (grouse, quail and doves).

We got into a discussion on the subject of the scarcity of Bob White (quail) and grouse often mistakenly called pheasants by my ole country boy, Dave. He and his friend, Dick, went on a grouse hunt the last day of the season in 2019 and didn't jump a bird. This was on Little Creek and they along with a neighbor Gary are of the opinion that the quail and grouse are for the history books. The valley of the "Creek" runs from VA. Rte. 100 about 25 miles to I-77 which cuts through Little Walker and tunnels Big Walker Mountain and they feel that there are not enough birds in its entire length to qualify for a daily hunt.

We have heard our people Dave and Joan, her husband, Jim, and others discuss what has caused the disappearance of these birds. Anna Marie and I agree as what they contend that it is a combination of several things. It is not that the forest lands have been pushed back by clearing as some of the farms are the same or in cases of the passing of the old-timey farmers,

Cougar boys' season ends at Halifax

Patriot Staff Report

The Pulaski County boys basketball team had the unfortunate task of being seeded 8th in the Class 4, Region D basketball playoffs and that meant having to face top seeded Halifax on the road three hours away in South Boston last Friday evening.

The season would come to an end for the Cougars boys team, and it landed with a bit of thud. Tyler Cannoy's team closed out the season with a 10-14 record while the Comets moved to 20-4 after handily defeating PCHS, 78-57.

Halifax placed five players in double figures and the Cougars could not match the Comets' firepower although Peyton Blackburn poured in a team high 20 points, A.J. McCloud had 16, and Hayden Gray with 15 closed out the season with good efforts. Blackburn and Gray saw their PCHS careers come to an end far from home.

Any suspense ended quickly. Halifax finished the first quarter with a 21-3 lead, and led 40-18 at the half. Gray and Blackburn tried to keep the Cougars close, both hitting four, 3-point field goals, and those eight 3's were over 42% of the team's total score, but the Comets just had too many weapons.

Jalen Waller and Kevin Ferrell both finished with 19 points, Kam Roberts 17, Keshawn Wells 12, and Jhamad Lawson 11 as Halifax placed five players in double figures.



Woods, Water & Wildlife

W.A. "Doc" Davis

some of the lands have grown up in "red brush and broom sage." Another thing is that crops that were once sod planted were first sprayed (which is poison) prior to corn being planted. But, no one plants corn as cattle, sheep horses etc. are raised on pastures and fed harvested hay in the winter time. Also, the corn fields are at the mercy of the over populated deer. The drop in fur prices led to a decrease in trappers which kept down nest predators such as skunks, raccoons, bobcats and foxes and "WILY COYOTE" (our belief the chief culprit). The ban of DDT in 1972 led to an increase in avian raptors such as hawks which fed on bobwhites.

Anna Marie told how she took Joan and Jim over to the "strip mine" sites in WVA a couple times this past season in search of grouse and met with no success. They like her because she is smaller than the other dogs and able to climb around the "high walls" of the mining sites to flush out the birds, but there were no birds to be found as there were twenty years ago. Take note, foxes and coyotes are small like Anna Marie.

AM was taught some French by her lady originally from New Orleans and she in turn has taught me some of the language. With my best accent I could muster, I said, "Oh Anna Marie, non mor des oiseaux" (Oh Anna Marie, no more birds).

In my daily Bible reading this morning, I read the Eleventh Chapter of Numbers. It tells of the children of Israel complaining of no flesh to eat although they were fed Manna from Heaven every day. The Lord told Moses that would get their wish but they would suffer the consequences. Quails were brought in by a wind blowing that carried them at 2 cubits (three feet) above the ground and enabled them to harvest them to their hearts content. This went well up until after 30 days the quails became loathsome to them. This reminds me of growing up and admonished to not eat too much at a big meal such as at a Church picnic as you might get foundered and have to go stand in a stream as they did this for horses. Also, watch what you pray for - but one cannot go wrong seeking salvation which in this time of high cost of living is still free. Until next time



Students who earned All Region honors:

Back row - Tristen Bowden, Jake Akers, Bryce Martin, Clay Phillips

Middle row - Jason Hall, Wes King, Evan Hull, Zach Fox, Keyontae Kennedy, Quemaar Porter, John Lyman III

Front Row - Allyson Castle, Madison Woolwine, Kelsey Arnold, Presley Martin

Not pictured - Armonte' Hill-Lewis, JJ Gulley, Brayden Smith, Hannah Walson, Caitlin Weil

PC track team members count honors

Submitted by Chris Castle

Eight PCHS students qualified for the Indoor State Track Meet, Liberty University, March 2 & 3.

The events that they will compete at in the state meet include:

Jake Akers - shot put
JJ Gulley - High Jump
Madison Woolwine - 500 Meter Dash

Kelsey Arnold - Triple Jump and 55 meter hurdles

Armonte' Hill-Lewis - Triple Jump

4 X 200 meter relay team of: Armonte' Hill-Lewis, John Lyman III, Quemaar Porter and Keyontae Kennedy.

Twenty PCHS students garnered All-Region honors at the 4A Region D track meet held Saturday, February 22 at Roanoke College:

Girls - Regional placement
Madison Woolwine - 500 Meter Dash - 3rd place

Kelsey Arnold - Triple Jump - 2nd place, 55 meter hurdles - 1st place, Long jump - 5th place, 55 meter dash - 1st place, 300 meter dash - 8th place.

Presley Martin - 55 meter hurdles - 5th place

Shot Put - Hannah Walson - 4th place

Allyson Castle - 1600 meter run - 7th place, 1000 meter run - 8th place

Caitlin Weil - 3200 meter run - 8th place

Boys - Regional placement
Jake Akers - shot put - 2nd place

Tristen Bowden - shot put - 5th place

Clay Phillips - shot put - 8th place

JJ Gulley - High Jump - 3rd place

Armonte' Hill-Lewis - Triple Jump - 2nd place, Long jump - 4th place

Jason Hall - Long jump - 8th place

Brayden Smith - 55 meter hurdles - 6th place

John Lyman III - 55 meter dash - 8th place

Evan Hull - 1600 meter run - 5th place, 3200 meter run - 4th place

Bryce Martin - 500 meter dash



Students that qualified for the state meet: (left to right)

Back row - Keyontae Kennedy, Jake Akers, Quemaar Porter, John Lyman III

Front row - Madison Woolwine, Kelsey Arnold

Not Pictured - Armonte' Hill-Lewis, JJ Gulley

7th place

Zach Fox - 1000 meter run - 6th place

Quemaar Porter - 300 meter dash - 7th place

Wes King - 3200 meter run - 6th place

4 X 200 meter relay team of: Armonte' Hill-Lewis, John Lyman III, Quemaar Porter and Keyontae Kennedy - 2nd place



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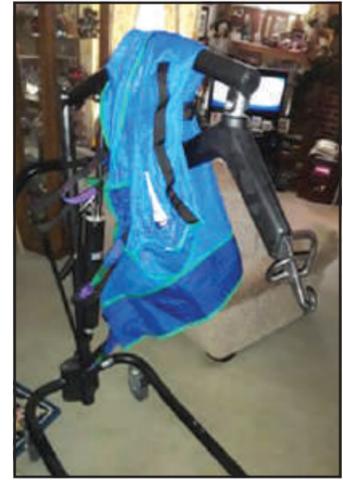
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Innogen G2 portable oxygen concentrator with extra battery, paid \$2,495, will sell for \$1,500. Comes with house charger and car charger. Call 540-980-8730 and leave your name and number.

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The Pulaski Free Clinic provides complete medical care to adult residents of Pulaski County who have no insurance and who qualify financially. You may qualify! Call the clinic at (540) 980-0922, or stop by the clinic between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday through Thursday at 25 4th Street Northwest in downtown Pulaski to set up an appointment for financial screening.

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LEGAL NOTICES

VIRGINIA: IN THE PULASKI COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

IN RE: THE ADOPTION OF THE CHILD TO BE KNOWN AS CARTER JAMES SMITH, born June 30, 2007

STATE OF BIRTH: Virginia
PLACE OF BIRTH: Montgomery County
BIRTH REGISTRATION NO. 145-07-052330

and

THE ADOPTION OF THE CHILD TO BE KNOWN AS JAXON JAVIER SMITH, born September 18, 2009

STATE OF BIRTH: Virginia
PLACE OF BIRTH: Montgomery County
BIRTH REGISTRATION NO. 145-09-083483

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this proceeding is to effectuate the adoption of the children to be known as Carter James Smith born on June 30, 2007, in Montgomery County, Virginia, birth registration #145-07-052330, and Jaxon Javier Smith, born on September 18, 2009, in Montgomery County, Virginia, birth registration #145-09-083483 by Petitioners, Nicole Papisdero Smith and James Randolph Smith, husband and wife.

I appearing proper to do so, it is ORDERED that any interest party appear in the Pulaski County Circuit Court on or before 1:00 p.m. on March 26, 2020, and indicate his attitude toward the proposed adoption or otherwise do what is necessary to protect his interest herein.

It is further ORDERED that the foregoing portion of this order be published once per week for four consecutive weeks in the Pulaski Patriot, a newspaper having general circulation in the Pulaski County, Virginia.

A COPY TESTE: *Maebe H. Crowe*, Clerk

By: *John A. Allert*, Deputy Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Pulaski County Planning Commission will convene to consider the applications as listed below. In accordance with the Code of Virginia, the Planning Commission will host a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on TUESDAY, March 10, 2020 in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, NW, in the Town of Pulaski to consider comments regarding the application listed below;

a) Petition by Katherine M. Viars & Ray Wilbert Jr., to rezone property from Low Density Residential (LR) to Agricultural (A), at Tax Map# 089-001-0000-0004, 089-004-0000-0066, 68 located at 3430 Lee Highway, Draper District.

b) Petition by Katherine M. Viars & Ray Wilbert Jr., to amend the Future Land Use Map for the property from Residential to Agricultural, at Tax Map# 089-001-0000-0004, 089-004-0000-0066, 68 located at 3430 Lee Highway, Draper District.

c) Petition by applicant Kenneth Dolinger, and property owner Isaac Glenn & Mary Alice Goad to rezone the property from Residential (R) to Commercial (CM), at Tax Map# 038-006-0000-019A located at 7195 Lee Highway, Cloyd District.

d) Petition by applicant Kenneth Dolinger, and property owner Isaac Glenn & Mary Alice Goad to amend the Future Land Use Map for the property from Agriculture to Commercial, at Tax Map# 038-006-0000-019A located at 7195 Lee Highway, Cloyd District.

Comments may be presented orally, or in writing, prior to the meeting or in person at the public hearing. Information regarding the matter(s) referenced above is available for public inspection from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Community Development Department, County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, NW, Suite 1 in the Town of Pulaski or by phoning (540) 980-7710.

For disabled individuals who may require special auxiliary aids or services, the County upon request will make reasonable accommodations available. Please contact the County's ADA Compliance Officer at (540) 980-7800 (TDD accessible) or (540) 980-7705, ten (10) days prior to the above meeting date to arrange for these special accommodations.



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For hearing-impaired, call (804) 367-9753. E-mail fairhousing@dpor.virginia.gov.

Redevelopment Opportunity Request for Proposals-Town of Pulaski

The Town of Pulaski is accepting proposals for the purchase and redevelopment of property located at 91 First Street, Northeast in the Downtown of Pulaski, Virginia. The property offers excellent visibility for re-purposing for a variety of commercial and residential uses.

Proposals should include the following information:

- A development plan for the property to include the proposed use(s).
- For redevelopment projects utilizing Historic Tax Credits, offers must demonstrate a willingness to provide for a performance security for the project and experience with the completion of similar projects.
- Evidence of market compatibility and economic feasibility
- Proposed terms of the acquisition, including offer amount and timeline for completion.
- Business Plan and Financial Plan to the Town and County.
- A biographical summary and experience with a description of lead participants.

The owner seeks to convey the property and structures in an "as-is" condition. The Town reserves the right to reject all proposals without cause. The Town will consider re-subdividing the property at the request of the Offeror and is willing to accept proposals on all or a portion of the property.

Written proposals should be submitted no later than 2:00 p.m. on March 20, 2020 to:

Town of Pulaski, Virginia
Attention: Shawn Utt
P.O. Box 660
42 First Street Northwest
Pulaski, Virginia 24301

For more information or to schedule a facility tour, contact Mr. Utt at 540-994-8600.

Redevelopment Opportunity Request for Proposals-Town of Pulaski

The Town of Pulaski is accepting proposals for the purchase and redevelopment of property located at 72 East Main Street in the Downtown of Pulaski, Virginia.

Proposals should include the following information:

- A development plan for the property to include the proposed use(s).
- For redevelopment projects utilizing Historic Tax Credits, offers must demonstrate a willingness to provide for a performance security for the project and experience with the completion of similar projects.
- Evidence of market compatibility and economic feasibility
- Proposed terms of the acquisition, including offer amount and timeline for completion.
- Business Plan and Financial Plan to the Town and County.
- A biographical summary and experience with a description of lead participants.

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Pulaski County Touchdown Club photo

Cougar Seniors Honored

Timmy Hurst, senior partner of Timmy Hurst and Associates LLC, and also the chairman of the Pulaski County School Board, paid tribute to the graduating senior class of the Pulaski County football team by presenting them with their senior game jerseys, framed and mounted under glass this week. "I've never had anyone do anything nicer for a group of my seniors,"

said PCHS head football coach Stephen James. "This is a super nice gesture for a really good group of seniors that we were fortunate to have in our program. We're also fortunate to have people like Mr. Hurst that support Cougar football," added James. Pictured above from left to right are Cougar seniors #4 Austin Gallimore, #5 Chris Shay, #6 Gage Mannon, #8 Luke Russell, #10 Logan

Burchett, #18 Cody Graham, #24 Landon McDaniel, #42 Micah Minnick, #51 Tyler Brookman, #52 Tristan Bowden, and #76 Zane Ratcliffe. Not being able to be in the photo were #15 Bryant Worrell, #30 Christian Finn, and #31 Kameron McGrady.

Busch looks to get back on track in California Sunday

From NASCAR

Reigning NASCAR Cup Series champion Kyle Busch shows up at Auto Club Speedway for Sunday's Auto Club 400 (3:30 p.m. ET on FOX, MRN and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio) not only as defending race winner, but also a competitor looking to get back on track early in the 2020 season.

He's still looking for his first top-10 finish of the season and is ranked 27th in the NASCAR Cup Series standings after two races. He finished 34th with an engine issue in the season-opening Daytona 500 and was 15th last week at Las Vegas Motor Speedway with only 14 laps out front to date (all at Daytona).

A California race, however, may be exactly what Busch needs to re-set his season and sights on becoming the first back-to-back NASCAR Cup Series champion since Hendrick Motorsports' Jimmie Johnson won a record five straight titles from 2006-2010.

All that starts with winning a race, however. And the driver of the No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota is certainly a strong favorite on this weekend's two-miler outside Los Angeles, where he has four career wins. In just the last eight years he's won three times (2013, '14, '19), finished runner-up (2012) and earned a pair of third-place (2011, '18) showings. Busch has seven top-10 finishes in that eight-year span and tallied

nearly 70 percent of his career laps led total at the track (564 of 807 laps).

Last year's Auto Club Speedway win was significant and historical – his 200th among the three NASCAR national series – NASCAR Cup Series, NASCAR Xfinity Series and NASCAR Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series. And this track contributed mightily to that big total, considering Busch has a record six Xfinity Series wins and two Gander Trucks wins in addition to his four NASCAR Cup Series trophies at Auto Club Speedway.

The "West Coast Swing" – as this three-week race journey at Las Vegas, Auto Club Speedway and Phoenix Raceway is referred to – has typically been a dependable trophy haul for the Las Vegas native. He is ranked second – only to six-time winner Jimmie Johnson – in driver rating (114.0), average running position (8.144) and laps led (807) at Auto Club Speedway.

And perhaps if nothing else, this venue remains a sentimental favorite for Busch because he scored the first of his 56 career NASCAR Cup Series wins there in 2005.

The Patriot
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Clark's 3-pointer lifts UVa past Virginia Tech, 56-53

BLACKSBURG, Va. (AP) — Kihei Clark knew exactly what he was going to do when he took an inbounds pass in a tie game on the road and 11 seconds racing quickly off the clock.

"Yeah. I was shooting it," the sophomore point guard said after his 3-pointer with 2.1 seconds left lifted Virginia to a 56-53 victory at Virginia Tech on Wednesday night, saving them after they blew a big halftime lead.

"I probably just used the ball screen and I kind of figured they thought I was going to be driving so I crossed back and I created some space," he said.

And gave the reigning national champions another nail-biter win. It extended their winning streak to five, four of them decided by three points or fewer.

"We're giving a lot of people a heart attack," forward Braxton Key said. "We're learning. We're a young team. We're starting to grow up though. We're learning how to win."

Clark's lone 3-pointer rescued Virginia (20-7, 12-5 Atlantic Coast Conference), which led 26-11 at halftime before the Hokies started making shots they'd been missing. They twice took the lead in the final five minutes, and Tyrece Radford's slicing drive for a layup with 11 seconds left tied things at 53.

"We were doing the exact same things in the second half that we were doing in the first half," first-year coach Mike Young said. The only difference was that they were being a little bit more aggressive and shots were falling, he said.

The Cavaliers (20-7, 12-5 Atlantic Coast Conference) solidified their hold on fourth place in the conference standings and won their fourth straight in the series. The



Hokiesports.com

Tech's Landers Nolley looks to pass under guard of Virginia's Braxton Key.

Hokies (15-13, 6-11) lost for the eighth time in nine games, and Young said he's not as concerned with his team's psyche as winning games.

"We don't get into feelings around here," he said.

Mamadi Diakite led Virginia with 19 points, Key had 10 with 11 rebounds and Clark had seven points, six rebounds and six assists.

Landers Nolley led the Hokies with 13 points.

Virginia Tech came back after setting a program record since joining the ACC in 2004 with just 11 first-half points to trail 26-11. Their comeback began immediately after halftime as they hit 6 of 7 shots, including all three 3-pointers, then used an 11-2 run to get within 40-37 on P.J. Horne's 3-pointer.

They pulled even at 44 on two free throws by Nolley, went ahead on Hunter Cattoor's 3-pointer with 4:49 left and it was back and forth to the finish. After two free throws by Nolley gave the Hokies a 51-48 lead with 3:31 left, Clark scored inside and Casey Morsell hit a 3-pointer for Virginia to lead 53-51.

BIG PICTURE

Virginia: The Cavaliers lead the nation in scoring defense (52.7) and have done much of their best work against the Hokies. They held Virginia Tech to just 17 first-half points in their first meeting, a 65-39 victory, tying a Hokies' first-half futility record since they joined the ACC in 2004. Virginia Tech has managed just 17 three times, twice against Virginia (2014, 2020) and once against Temple (2009). The earlier game this year also marked Virginia Tech's lowest scoring total since a 43-33 loss to East Carolina in 1967.

Virginia Tech: Hokies scoring leader Landers Nolley (16.7 ppg) was not in the starting lineup for just the second time this season. He came into the game 8 for 44 from the field (18%) over his last three games and 2 for 17 (11%) from 3-point territory. He finished 3 for 10 overall and 1 for 5 on 3-pointers.

UP NEXT

The Cavaliers return home to face No. 7 Duke on Saturday night.

The Hokies head out on the road to play at No. 11 Louisville on Sunday.

Meeting on 4-day school week cancelled

Pulaski County Public Schools has cancelled the public school board meeting that was scheduled to take place on Wednesday, March 4, 2020.

The purpose of this meeting was to present information and receive stakeholder feedback about the possibility of going to a 4-day per week school calendar.

After reviewing the preliminary research, it was determined that additional time would be needed to develop a viable 4-day school week proposal.

The Pulaski County School Board will reassess this issue in the fall of 2020 and the public meeting will be rescheduled at that time if the Board decides to move forward.

Nails By Michelle
Bobwhite Blvd
Pulaski
540-616-7016

February 28

Third Annual Coy Hill Pancake Supper to be held
The Third Annual Coy Hill Pancake Supper will be held Feb. 28, 4 p.m. - 8 p.m. at Woodlawn Pentecostal Holiness Church located at 3874 Oak Grove Rd. in Woodlawn, Va. Everyone is invited for a time of great food and great fellowship. For more information, call 276-728-2088 (Donations Accepted). Third Annual Coy Hill Pancake supper to be held.

February 29

Pulaski First Church of the Brethren to host fundraiser
Leap into a Taco and Potato Bar with us on Feb. 29, 4 p.m.- 7 p.m. at Pulaski First Church of the Brethren. This is a fundraiser for a new heating system for our church. It is a free will offering event. Carry out and delivery also. Located one block behind the DMV on Newbern Rd. (1749) church number is 980-3798. Please come and support us on this event.

March 1

First Baptist Church to celebrate Black History month with special program

The United Voices Choir of First Baptist Church on Magazine St., Pulaski will be having a Black History program on Sunday, March 1, 3 p.m. Penny Franklin, a member of Schaffer Memorial Baptist Church in Christiansburg will be the guest speaker. Franklin is the first African American ever elected to public office in Montgomery County and is serving her sixth term on the Montgomery County School Board. The Schaeffer Church choir will provide the music along with musical selections from Brothers in Christ. The theme is "Stand Up and Speak Up". Pastor Howard Eaves will recite the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "I Have a Dream". Praise dancers will also be participants in the program. Pastor Douglas Patterson and congregation welcomes everyone to come out to help celebrate Black History Month.

Draper Valley PH Church to hold revival

Draper Valley Pentecostal Holiness Church will be holding revival beginning Sunday, March 1, 6 p.m. thru Wednesday, March 4, 7 p.m. Rev. Richard Kingrea will be speaking. The church is located at 5662 East Lee Highway in Max Meadows, Va. Right beside Interstate 81 Exit 86.

March 2

Count Pulaski Chapter NS-DAR to meet

The Count Pulaski Chapter, NS-DAR will meet Monday, March 2, at 5:30 p.m. at the Pulaski Train Station. The meal will be Dutch treat. If you are planning to attend please contact hostess Jennifer McCarthy.

Community fundraiser for victim of house fire

There will be a community fundraiser for Teresa Davis, who lost her home to fire on Saturday, March 7, 11 a.m. at the Twin Community Fire Dept. in Par-

rott.. There will be a hot dog, BBQ, and dessert sale along with an auction and gospel singing.

March 7

Youth Lead Conference to be held at VHM

Youth Lead Conference will be held Saturday, March 7, 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. (doors open at 4:30 p.m.) at Valley Harvest Ministries. The conference leaders are gearing up to bring you another awesome conference full of excitement, power worship music and testimonies that will leave participants wanting more of Jesus! This year's conference is fueling up and getting ready to change the lives of young men and women around the county and abroad! Keep March 7 on your calendar and bring all your friends. This conference will bring everyone from "Worthless to Worthy! Guest speakers for the event will be Mr. Jason Politis and Ms. "Baby Girl" 1975, with Tana Woodyard as MC. Free admission for the event. Food will be provided. Donations will be accepted at the door to support NRV Pregnancy Resource Center.

Community fundraiser for victim of house fire

There will be a community fundraiser for Teresa Davis, who lost her home to fire on Saturday, March 7, 11 a.m. at the Twin Community Fire Dept. in Parrott.. There will be a hot dog, BBQ, and dessert sale along with an auction and gospel singing.

March 20

Delton Church of God of Prophecy to hold Spring Revival

DCOGOP will hold a Spring Revival beginning Friday, March 20 & Saturday, March 21. Eric Pratt will be provide special music for the Saturday evening service. Service time is 6:30 p.m. nightly. Bishop Stephen Board from Christiansburg will be guest speaker. The church is located at 4570 Boyd Rd., Draper. Then on Sunday, March 22, Bishop Board will be speaking at the 11 a.m. service. Special music will be provided by Ron Ireland of Wytheville. For more information, contact Pastor Vickie L.Viars at deltoncogop@gmail.com or call (276) 620-3191.

On-going:

Barren Springs Church offers ride to church.

Barren Springs Holiness Church in Wythe County will be sending a bus to Pulaski each Wednesday to pick up anyone who would like to attend services at the church. Please be ready by 6:30 p.m. sharp in order to make it to the church by 7 p.m. service time. Riders will be taken back to the same location where they were picked up. For a ride and more information call 276-730-4140. Chuck Neal, Pastor.

American Legion Post 7 Auxiliary to host BINGO every third Saturday

American Legion Post #7 Aux. will host BINGO every third Saturday of the month, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Everyone welcome. Refreshments will be served.

The Post is located at 338 Washington Ave., Pulaski, Va.

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 Seagle Funeral Home. Everyone welcome!

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.

WOTM (Women of the Moose) host monthly quarter 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 donations 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.

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.

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.

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 may come by 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.

Narcotics Anonymous

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

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February 2020

Fri. Feb 1st: Pastor Jarrod Midkiff

Fri. Feb. 7th: Evangelist Steve Board
Sat. Feb. 8th: Evangelist Ralph Parker

Fri. Feb. 14th: Pastor Charlie Barbettini
Sat. Feb. 15th: Brother Harley Phillips

Fri. Feb. 21st: Evangelist Davie Whitlock
Sat. Feb. 22nd: Pastor Mike Ingo

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

NOTE: 11 AM SUNDAY MORNING OUTREACH SERVICE AT THE STREETS
Sun. Feb. 23rd: Pastor Todd Garwood

Fri. Feb. 28th: Pastor Todd Garwood
Sat. Feb. 29th: Brother Eric Watson

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

For More Information Contact: Charlie Barbettini. : 276.620.4293

Wear what you have and come as you are! Come expecting a Blessing
"Go Ye Into All The World and Preach The Gospel to Every Creature" Mark 16:15

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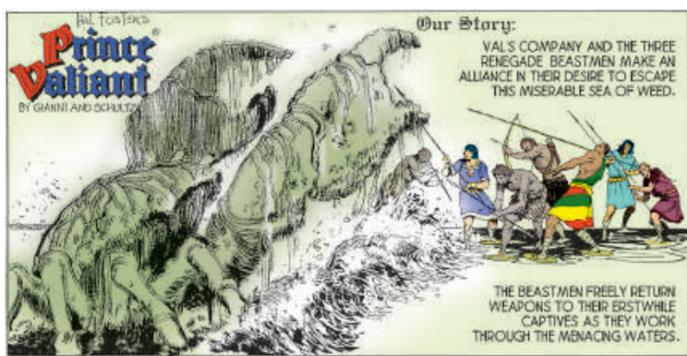
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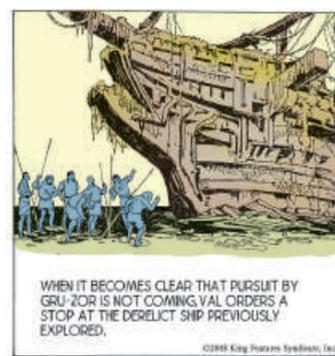
SHONEY'S

120 Malin Drive
Wytheville, VA

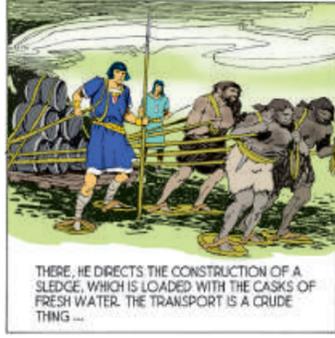


Our Story:
VAL'S COMPANY AND THE THREE REBELLE BEASTMEN MAKE AN ALLIANCE IN THEIR DESIRE TO ESCAPE THIS MISERABLE SEA OF WEED.

THE BEASTMEN FREELY RETURN WEAPONS TO THEIR ERSTWHILE CAPTIVES AS THEY WORK THROUGH THE MENACING WATERS.



WHEN IT BECOMES CLEAR THAT PURSUIT BY GRU-ZOR IS NOT COMING, VAL ORDERS A STOP AT THE DERELICT SHIP PREVIOUSLY EXPLORED.



...AND MANY EXHAUSTING HOURS FOLLOW BEFORE THE WEARY BUNCH DRAWS CLOSE TO HOME.

ON DECK, ALETA IS RELIEVED TO SEE VAL-BUT: "WHAT'S THIS? UNANNOUNCED COMPANY? I'VE HAD NO TIME TO PREPARE A PROPER DINNER!"

Our Story So Far...

AS THE BROADCAST FROM THE SHARKMEN'S CITY BENEATH THE SEA BEGINS, KING KALA'S ALLEGIANCE WITH MING IS REVEALED.



EXPECTING A PEACE CONFERENCE, VIEWERS FROM THROUGHOUT MONGO ARE INSTEAD WITNESS TO A HORRIFYING SIGHT!



TIGER



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Where: Central Gym Pulaski
143 Third St N
When: Saturday March 14th
12pm-4pm

IMPORTANT:
All pets must be leashed appropriately or in proper carriers. All vaccines are \$5 each. We will be offering Feline/Canine Distemper, Rabies 1 year or 3 year (3 year with proof of previous Rabies provided.)
Microchips will be \$25
No appointments, please be prepared for a wait.
This is a **CASH ONLY** event.

Follow us on Facebook for updates, and call us at (540)674-0089 or email office@hsopcva.org with questions!

Phrenology Head

Medicine has come a long way since the early 1800s, when phrenology was an accepted theory of diagnosis. It was said that each bump on your head covered a part of the brain that controlled a personality trait, like self-esteem, a destructive tendency or religious interest. The bumps might show a criminal tendency, but rewards and punishments could change tendencies. Now considered a pseudoscience, phrenology was important in Britain, Ireland and the United States because of the lecturers who preached about it. Queen Victoria had the heads of her children read. By the 1840s, it had lost credibility in the United States.

Brothers Lorenzo and Orson Fowler became famous for making china phrenology heads that had "maps" of the zones marked on them. They are still the symbols of phrenology, and old heads sell for over \$500; modern copies are inexpensive. A baby's head called "The Character Baby," rarely seen, was offered at a Canadian shop, Peter Frampton Antiques & Interiors, for about \$250. It pictures the 5-month-old son of the artist, George Ricci, who made phrenology heads from 1915 to 1921.

CURRENT PRICES
Bradley & Hubbard lamp, cigar lighter, urn shape, 2 sleeve holders, acanthus, ruby ball shade, 1880, 4 5/8 x 3 3/4 inches, \$265.
Clarice Cliff, vase, bizarre ware, pink flowers, magenta outline, blue ground, 4 1/4 x 8 inches, \$615.
Rock-Ola jukebox, Model 1458, 120 Hi-Fi, stars, green, blue, orange, 1958, 55 x 30 inches, \$1,375.

KOVELS
Antiques & Collecting
By Terry and Kim Kovel



There are still those who believe in the theories of phrenology, but most who buy a phrenology head want it as a decoration.

Plated amberina creamer, opal cased, red shaded to cream, ribbed, amber handle, c. 1886, 2 x 3 1/4 inches, \$2,615.

TIP: Scrape your fingernail across the scratch on the glass on your mirror. If it catches, the scratch is too deep to be polished out at home. It requires professional work.

For more collecting news, tips and resources, visit www.Kovels.com

Now here's a tip!
by Jo Ann Derson

* You might think your dishwasher cleans itself every time you use it, but it could use a hand. Run this cleaning cycle monthly: Fill a two small bowls with white vinegar, and put one each on the upper and lower racks. When the clean cycle is done, sprinkle a cup of baking soda on the bottom and run again.

* Cooking Tip: After you have rotisserie chicken for dinner, throw the carcass in a pot and make a quick stock. All you need are: a quartered onion; two carrots and two celery stalks, roughly chopped; a bay leaf and other spices you enjoy; a bit of salt; your rotisserie chicken carcass; and enough water to cover. Boil and let simmer for up to two hours. Strain and store.

* If you need to chop bacon for a garnish or slice chicken or beef for fajitas, freeze the meat before you chop. It will make it much easier to get the slices uniform because it doesn't slide around.

* "Look closely at extra-large size boxes of cereal. I was surprised to find that the bulk size of my favorite was actually costing me more per ounce. Now I always check the per-unit price, which is often found on the price tag." -- J.C. in Oklahoma

* "If you get gum stuck in your hair, try massaging it with a little dab of butter. The fat breaks down the gum, and it's easier to separate the strands. Just go slow and it will come out." -- K.R. in Indiana

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

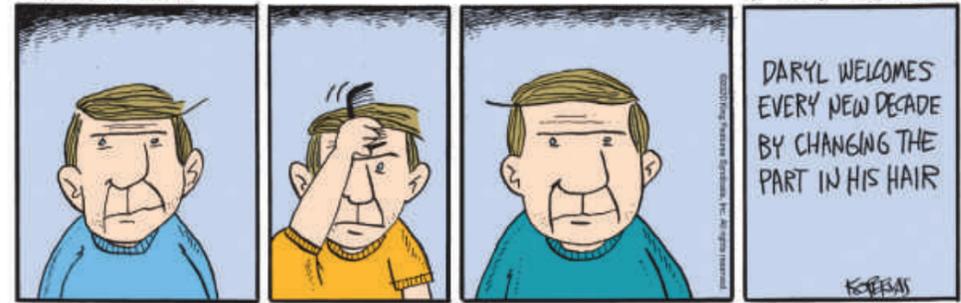
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



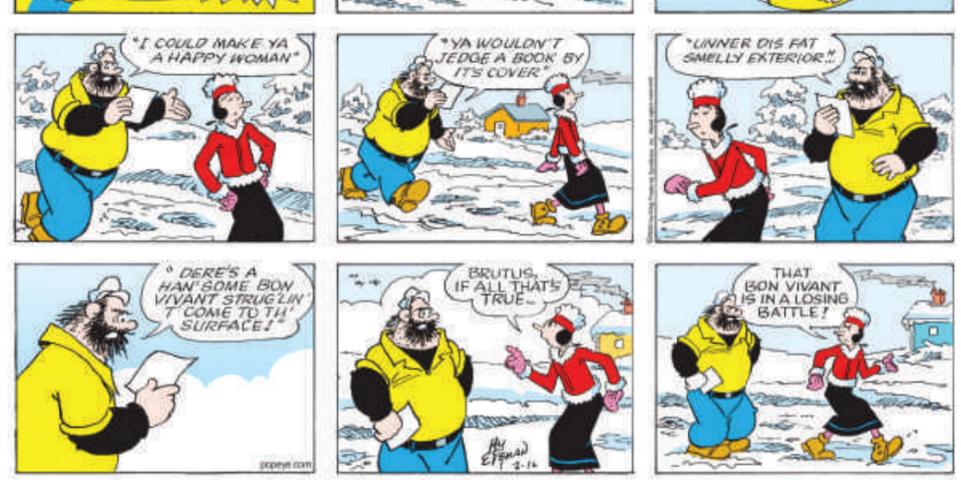
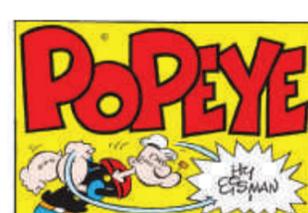
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phippe



LAFF-A-DAY



King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Tummy muscles, for short
 4 Slapstick arsenal
 8 Scallopini meat
 12 Press for payment
 13 Ireland
 14 Not working
 15 Classic Anne Murray song
 17 Location
 18 Charlotte's creation
 19 Capitol VIP
 21 Pamper
 24 Gun the engine
 25 Melody
 26 Sprite
 28 Thin smoky streaks
 32 Messy sort
 34 Cut the grass
 36 Fit of peevishness
 37 High-strung
 39 Michael Jackson album
 41 — budget
 42 Affirmative action?
 44 About to fall asleep
 46 Old-style hair-piece
 50 Curved line
 51 Neighbor of Cambodia

DOWN

1 Billboards
 2 Chignon
 3 White-flowered amaryllis
 4 Little rock

5 Square root of IX
 6 Blunders
 7 Passover feast
 8 Compared to
 9 Tend texts
 10 Choir member
 11 Ogle
 16 Marry
 20 Fresh
 21 Money
 22 Unctuous
 23 Shade provider
 27 Watch chain
 29 Mountain peak covers, often
 30 Bowlers' tar-

31 gets
 33 Blessing
 35 Bankroll
 38 Ply oars
 40 Talks Dixie-style
 43 Mirror-ball venue
 45 Sphere
 46 Basis for a whodunit
 47 Relaxation
 48 Portrayal
 49 Chew like a chipmunk
 53 Tramcar contents
 54 Shelter
 55 Remiss

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top ten

Cars With Most Reckless Drivers

1. Mazda MX-5 Miata
2. Hyundai Genesis Coupe
3. Isuzu Rodeo
4. Nissan 370Z
5. Cadillac ATS
6. Volkswagen CC
7. Ram Truck 1500
8. Chevrolet K1500
9. Saturn L200
10. Dodge Challenger

Source: Insurify

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. HISTORY: When was the United Nations organization formed?
2. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first president to reside in the White House?
3. ASTRONOMY: Which planet has the largest moon in our solar system?
4. TELEVISION: Which TV series featured a character named Walter White?
5. LITERATURE: Which character appears in three of William Shakespeare's plays?
6. MUSIC: What was the original name of the rock group Red Hot Chili Peppers?
7. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of giraffes called?
8. SCIENCE: How many main body sections does an insect have?
9. MOVIES: Which famous 1960s movie features the theme song "Everybody's Talkin'?"
10. MYTHOLOGY: In Arthurian legend, what was Merlin's profession?

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTONOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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Answers

1. 1942
 2. John Adams
 3. Jupiter, and the moon is Ganymede
 4. "Breaking Bad"
 5. Falstaff
 6. Tony Flow and the Miraculous Majestic Masters of Mayhem
 7. A tower
 8. Three: the head, the thorax and the abdomen
 9. "Midnight Cowboy"
 10. A wizard

Trivia Test Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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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: O equals S

C VKIQO UDI TAYEF'O OILAPF-HIQU
 TYCUCPV CBGEIBIPU LAKEF HI LXEEIF
 UDI GIP KEUCBXUI.

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Americanisms

"Lent was invented so Catholics could take another shot at their New Year's resolutions."
 — Melanie White

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SCRAMBLERS

Today's Word

1. Dynamic
 2. Virtual
 3. Linkage
 4. Ignore

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Cryptoquip

I guess the world's second-best writing implement could be called the pen ultimate.

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!

Effective
MICANDY

Simulated
TRAILVU

Connection
LEAKING

Avoid
REGION

TODAY'S WORD

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The Patriot

www.pepatriot.com

Robotics Council meets

The Pulaski County Middle School Robotics Advisory Council recently met to determine the equipment, tools, and training aids needed to fully outfit the robotics lab that is being built at the new middle school.

Among the attendees were Dr. Kevin Siers, Megan Atkinson, Adam Joyce, Jonathan Sweet, Debbie Bond, Mike Morgan, Keith McAllister, Montie Fleshman, Tim Douthat, Ammon Miller, Timothy Farmer, and Brian Clark. The lab will be used to teach STEM classes and will serve as a practice facility for the middle school robotics team.

The team currently participates in First Tech Challenge competitions throughout the

state and aspires to compete regionally and nationally. The mission of the organization is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders and innovators, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering, and technology skills that inspire innovation and foster a well-rounded life. The new lab will also hopefully spawn interest in the First Lego League program for younger students. Additional information about the programs can be found at www.firstinspires.org.

If your child is interested in getting involved in First Lego League or First Tech Challenge, contact Tim Farmer at tfarmer@pcva.us or Brian Clark at bclark@nr.edu.

Middle School Robotics Team

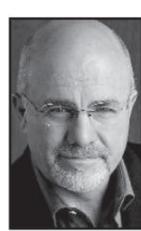


Jackson Farmer Jacob Umberger Evan Armes Alyssa Capretta McKenna Bruno Andrew Clark

There's a better idea

Dear Dave,
My husband and I had our first child in December. We bought a house not long before the baby was born, and since then we've been getting mail and phone calls about buying mortgage protection insurance. We're both 27, we have good jobs, and our mortgage is \$105,000. Would it be a good idea to get this insurance?

Rachel



Dave Says

Dave Ramsey

Sponsored Each Week By
Dublin Baptist Church
(Across From Hardee's)
540-674-6061

Dear Rachel,
Mortgage insurance is really nothing more than a life insurance policy with the word "mortgage" stuck on the front. They make it sound like a specialized product, and they jack the price up. The truth is it's just a big rip-off in most cases.

If you two are healthy, you both could easily get \$250,000 on 20-year level term life insurance policies, for around \$12 a month. Then, if something happened to one of you, the other could pay off the house with the insurance money and still have a nice chunk left over.

However, I recommend going a little further. My advice is for each of you to get good, level term life insurance—not just to cover your mortgage—but for 10 to 12 times your annual incomes. Both of you should have sensible plans in place to take care of your family now, and in the future, should something unfortunate happen.

And Congratulations! God bless you two and your new baby!

—Dave

Dear Dave,
I was thinking about putting my emergency fund savings into a balanced mutual fund. Would this be a good idea?

Trey

Dear Trey,
You should never put your emergency fund into anything that can go down in value, or anything that charges penalties for early withdrawals. I recommend putting it into a good money market account with check-writing

privileges.

Remember, your emergency fund is insurance. It is not an investment. That three to six months of expenses you've saved has one purpose and one purpose only—to protect you, your family, and your stuff against the unexpected. You know how Murphy's Law says anything that can go wrong will go wrong? Think of your emergency fund as Murphy repellent.

That's one of the reasons an emergency fund is so important. If you don't have one, and something unexpected happens, you're likely to end up borrowing money from the bank, or cashing out retirement savings to fix things. So, don't worry about investing this money. Just park it, and think of it as an insurance policy for when Murphy comes knocking at the door!

—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.

Too much good service?

You probably won't believe what I'm about to ask, but here goes... Is there such a thing as too much good customer service? I remember shopping one time in a cute little dress shop, and I encountered a friendly and overly helpful salesperson. I found something I wanted to try on, only to be cornered by her in the dressing room. I felt trapped as she brought one item after another and would not accept my polite, no thank you's. The clothes kept coming, and I lost about every ounce of patience I had. I ended up buying something just so I could get out of there. Needless to say, I have never returned.

Now, in the age of technology, the exchange has shifted to on-line sales. Because on-line sales have to struggle a bit more than in-person sales to create the "experience," they overcompensate with efficiency. You might be on the Internet looking for a rug or a dress, and before you know it, this little box pops up and, "Hi I'm Jane. What are you looking for today?" You can't get away from it! At least online I can stow the politeness and just close them out! Ha! I get to shop in private! So the question still exists, is there such a thing as too much customer service?



Down To Business

Peggy White
Pulaski Co. Chamber of Commerce

We all want good customer service, but not at the expense of our own personal space.

Providing just the right amount of customer service is the key, and it falls to the sales person to read their customers and know what and when is enough.

Work hard, be productive, and - above all else - stay positive.

— Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

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

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