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WEEKEND WEATHER

Saturday

Mostly sunny, with a high near 59. Calm wind becoming south around 5 mph in the afternoon.

Saturday Night - Partly cloudy, with a low around 43.

Sunday

A chance of showers after 1pm. Partly sunny, with a high near 65. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Sunday Night - Partly cloudy, with a low around 39.

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School attendance schedule changed as COVID cases rise

Patriot Staff Report

Pulaski County Public Schools on Wednesday announced it has confirmed two more cases of COVID-19 in county schools. The announcement also included a new attendance schedule in response to the increased number of positive COVID cases in the community.

According to School Superintendent Dr. Kevin Siers, the two latest confirmed COVID cases involved students at Dublin Elementary and Pulaski County High School.

Siers reported the student at Dublin Elementary was last in school on Monday, Nov. 9, while the PCHS student was last present on Thursday, Nov. 5.

Siers said it has been determined that proper mitigation strategies were followed in the areas where the students were present. He added the schools have been thoroughly cleaned and classes will continue as scheduled for the remainder of this week. PCPS will continue to work with the New River Health District throughout their processes for investigating and contact tracing positive cases, he noted.

As for the attendance change, Siers stated, "Pulaski County Public Schools will be altering its attendance schedule for the months of November and December due to the increasing number of positive Covid cases in our community, and the impact that this is having on our ability to staff our schools."

The new attendance schedule will be as follows:

**Monday, November 16-Friday,
November 20, 2020**

Students with last names A-K
Attend Monday & Tuesday



**Pulaski County
Public Schools**

Reach Each Child

Students with last names L-Z
Attend on Thursday & Friday

**Monday, November 23-Tuesday,
November 24, 2020**
All Virtual

**Monday, November 30-Friday,
December 4, 2020**
All Virtual

**Monday, December 7 -Friday,
December 11, 2020**

Students with last names A-K
Attend Monday & Tuesday
Students with last names L-Z
Attend on Thursday & Friday

**Monday, December 14-Friday,
December 18, 2020**

Students with last names A-K
Attend Monday & Tuesday
Students with last names L-Z
Attend on Thursday & Friday

"We will continue to assess our community data during the winter break, return at 50 percent for the first week or two, but have the goal of returning to 100 percent attendance before the end of the month, if possible," Siers said.

Siers continued that the Pulaski County School Board, administrators, teachers, and staff regret that this schedule change is needed.

"We have been extremely pleased with the progress that has been made during the weeks that we've been at 100 percent atten-

dance," Siers said. "It is our hope that we will be able to return to 100 percent attendance in early 2021 and we do ask that our parents and students assist us by doing everything possible to help reduce the risk of an outbreak within our schools."

Siers offered a few steps that he said can go a long way to getting things back on track:

1. Continue to practice physical distancing and mask wearing whenever you are in a public place or participating in large scale gatherings.

2. Quarantine whenever you have symptoms of Covid, whenever there has been a possible exposure, and whenever you have received a positive diagnosis. Parents – Please, under no circumstances, should you send your children to school if you have received a positive Covid diagnosis. They should quarantine with you at home. Unfortunately, this is happening with more frequency and it places everyone at your child's school at risk for exposure.

3. Avoid or at least space out celebrations during the holidays with smaller group gatherings, when possible. While we understand that this is an important time for families to be together, it is also happening at a time when the coronavirus seems to be get-

See COVID, page A3

Mayflower

*Remembering the
Mayflower landing
in Plymouth on
400th anniversary.*

Page A6

INSIDE

Champion

*NASCAR season
ends energized with
Elliott victory.*

Page B5

Basketball

*Virginia picked 1st
in ACC Poll; No. 4
in AP Pre-season
Hoops Poll.*

Page B1

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School Board Recognitions

Several individuals were recognized Tuesday evening by the Pulaski County School Board for the month of November.

Heller receives Leadership Award

Congratulations to Mrs. Stacey Heller for receiving the Regional Leadership Award. At the annual meeting of the Virginia Association of Federal Education Program Administrators (VAFEPA) conference, she received the Regional Leadership Award for Region VII. Stacey has served as a teacher, school administrator and division administrator for Pulaski County Public Schools. Stacey has worked for Pulaski County Public Schools for 23 years and has coordinated the Title I federal program for 3 years. We are fortunate to have Stacey as an employee in Pulaski County Public Schools.



Taking It To The Streets



****Feed The Hungry****

Sat. Nov. 21st, 2020 3p.m.—5pm

**223 N. Washington Ave. Pulaski, VA
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11th Annual Thanksgiving Meal

Come enjoy a great delicious

**Thanksgiving Dinner (to go meal) with us
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**Meal will consist of: Turkey, Corn, Green
Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Dressing,
Dessert and Drink.**

**NOTE: There will be NO EVENING
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**So come out and join us for a great meal,
fun and fellowship from 3 pm until 5 pm.**

**Also due to COVID-19 we will not be having
our Gigantic Coat Drive and the Clothing
Bank will be remain closed at this time.**

**God Bless you, we love you,
and we hope to see you at The Streets!**

**For more information
contact Charlie Barbettini
(276) 620-4293**

**NOTE: Pre-registration Sign Ups
11/21—12/12 for the Big Christmas
Drive Thru Event 12/19/20 3—5 pm.
Gifts for Infant to age 16. Sign up at
the Ministry, Emanuel Book Store
and The Patriot Newspaper.**



Pledge of Allegiance

Critzer Elementary is pleased to introduce Christopher Trueheart as our school's representative to lead the Pledge of Allegiance at the November, 2020, School Board Meeting. Christopher is the son of Dean and Toni Trueheart. Christopher is a delightful 4th Grader to have in class and has a great sense of humor. He has made outstanding improvements both academically and behaviorally this year, and we are so proud of him. He is a model student of our school and shows good citizenship daily. He currently has straight A's in all subjects.

Pulaski County Public Schools photos

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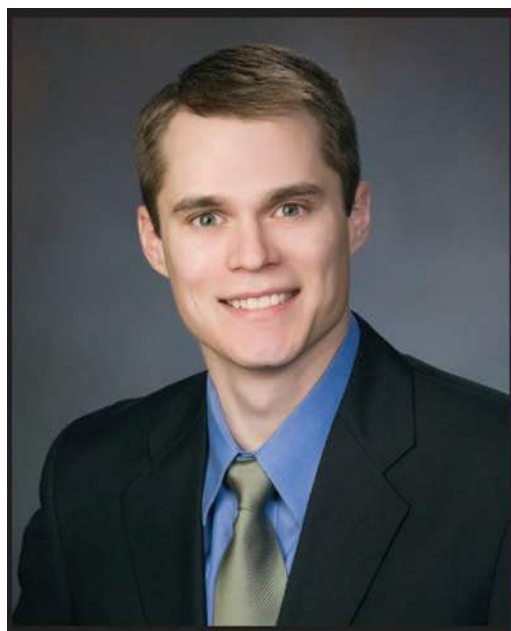
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Wednesday - Thursday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday 8 a.m.-12 p.m.**



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COVID

Continued from Page A1

ting out of control. Small family gatherings, spaced a few weeks apart, will reduce the chances of an outbreak within families and will give participants enough time between events to determine if symptoms will develop that result in a Covid test being needed.

Confirmed COVID-19 cases have jumped in the county in the last month.

According to daily COVID-19 status updates from the New River Valley Public Health Task Force, Pulaski County reported 188 confirmed cases on September 15. That number grew to 254 as of October 15. As of Wednesday, that number had increased to 386 – a jump of 132 cases.

As of mid-September, the county had recorded 13 hospitalizations. That number grew slightly a month later in October to 15. This week, the number of hospitalizations had nearly doubled to 27.

Deaths in the county have grown from 3 in September to 5 in October to 8 this week.





All these numbers are cumulative since March 2020.

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FEELING SICK?

Comparing symptoms of **ALLERGIES**,
COLD, **STREP THROAT**, **FLU**, and **COVID-19**

	ONSET OF SYMPTOMS	SEASONALITY	SYMPTOMS		
			Common	Sometimes	Rare
 Seasonal Allergies	Abrupt	Differs depending on the allergen	Stuffy/runny nose • Red, swollen eyes • Itchy eyes or nose • Cough • Sore throat	Wheezing • Fatigue • Shortness of breath (more common for those with asthma)	Fever
 Cold	Gradual onset	Most occur during fall and winter, but can be year-round	Runny nose • Sneezing • Sore throat • Aches and pains • Mild cough	Fatigue • Mild to moderate chest discomfort	Fever • Headache
 Strep Throat	Abrupt (sore throat)	Can occur year-round with more cases in winter months	Sore throat • Painful swallowing • Fever • Swollen lymph nodes	Headache • Rash • Nausea/vomiting (more common in children) • Aches	
 Flu	Quick onset	Most occur in October through May	Fever • Dry cough • Headache • Fatigue • Aches and pains (can be severe)	Runny nose • Sore throat • Sneezing • Chest discomfort	Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea (more common in children)
 COVID-19 (Some people never develop symptoms)	Gradual	Unknown	Fever • Chills • Cough • Shortness of breath • Loss of taste or smell • Fatigue • Headache • Aches	Runny nose • Sore throat • Congestion • Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea (before respiratory symptoms)	Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)

If you feel sick, contact your healthcare provider for evaluation, treatment, and possible testing. Call 911 and get immediate medical attention if you have any medical emergency.

Updated October 15, 2020

Northam: State to boost COVID testing capacity

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — As COVID-19 cases continue to surge in Virginia and across the country, Gov. Ralph Northam on Tuesday announced plans to significantly increase statewide testing capacity and to launch a media campaign in southwest Virginia, which has seen a sharp rise in cases over the last month.

The moves come three days after Virginia reported 2,103 new cases — its biggest single-day increase in new cases since the start of the pandemic. On Tuesday, the state reported 1,435 new cases. The state’s seven-day moving average of new cases is 1,462.

The seven-day testing positivity rate has also climbed from just under 5% a few weeks ago to 6.2% on Tuesday.

Since the start of the pandemic, the state has recorded a total of 194,192 cases, with 3,726 deaths.

During a news briefing, Northam was asked several times whether the current surge and fears about even higher numbers during the holidays could prompt him to impose new restrictions or a lockdown like the one he ordered in the spring.

Northam said he is focusing on mitigation efforts and continuing to encourage people to wear masks and practice social distancing. He said he is not currently considering ordering new restrictions.

“I’ve said all along, this is not about carrying a stick around; this is about carrots,” he said.

Northam said the state has signed new contracts with labs at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, the University of Virginia Medical Center in Charlottesville and Sentara Healthcare in Norfolk, which will increase the state’s

testing capacity by about one-third — from a current average of about 20,000 tests per day to about 27,000 tests per day by the end of the year.

The media campaign in rural southwest Virginia will include messages on billboards and gas pump toppers, and in newspapers and social media. The messages will be aimed at emphasizing that the virus, which at first largely spared the area, has now hit it hard. Health officials have said the recent increase in case numbers there appears to be driven in part by small gatherings of family members who do not live in the same household. They’ve also blamed inconsistent mask wearing, outbreaks at churches and in-person schooling.

Northam and State Health Commissioner Dr. Norm Oliver said they were encouraged by the announcement by Pfizer Inc. on Monday that its COVID-19 vaccine may be 90% effective, based on early and incomplete test results.

“We are ready to get that vaccine and administer it to citizens here in the Commonwealth,” Oliver said.

Officials have stressed that it is unlikely any vaccine will arrive much before the end of the year, limited initial supplies will be rationed and it could take months to distribute it widely.

When asked during his news briefing how alarmed Virginia residents should be at the rising number of cases, Northam urged

See NORTHAM, page A7

Local sales agent with local Medicare Advantage plans.

I’m Karen Tuggle, a licensed sales agent in Pulaski, Radford and Montgomery Counties. When it comes to Medicare, it’s important to consider all of your options. What works well for your neighbor may not be the best fit for you. I know the ins and outs of Medicare, and I’m ready to answer your questions and help you find a plan that fits your needs.

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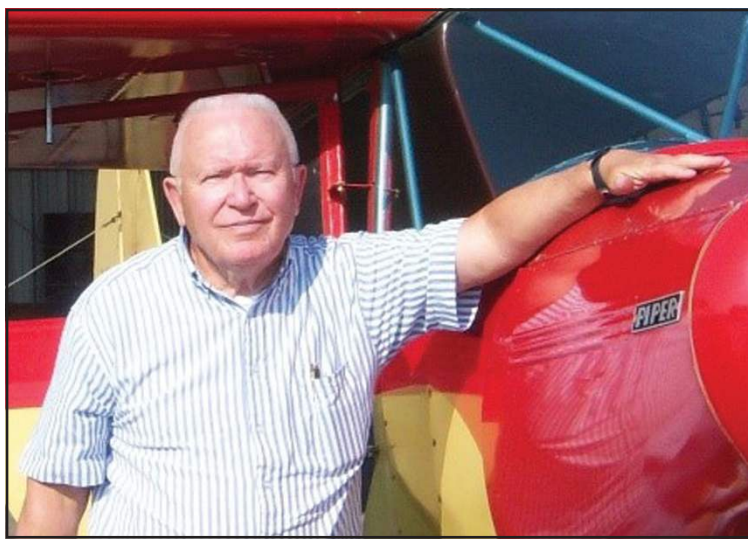
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RICHARD GRAYSON STEVENS

Richard Grayson Stevens, 84 of Pulaski, Virginia, passed away on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 after a brief illness. He was born on November 3, 1936 in Washington, DC and raised by his maternal grandparents, Mary Alberta Phillips and Walter Earl Phillips in Pulaski County, VA.

He attended Edwards Military Institute, Salemburg, NC, served one year in the United States Army, 82nd Airborne, and then graduated from Pulaski High School. In Pulaski he took his first flight at Loving Field, Pulaski which started his lifelong love of aviation. He then served four years in the United States Air Force where he worked as an air traffic controller in Okinawa, Japan and accumulated flight hours to get his pilot's license. After leaving the service, he worked at radio station WPUV and became an air traffic controller for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in Norfolk and Leesburg, VA. His first pilot's job was with East Coast Flying Service, a private charter operation where he flew DC3s. While he had offers from several major airlines, he chose to work for Piedmont Airlines, based in Winston-Salem, NC, and was hired on his daughter's 5th birthday, June 30, 1966. Captain Stevens flew for Piedmont for 19 years, flying DC3s, Martin 404s, Fairchild F27s, YS-11s, and 737s, until grounded with his first heart attack. He was an active member and officer of the Piedmont Silver Eagles and the Quiet Birdmen, Roanoke Hanger.

Rick is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Ezma Lea King Stevens, Pulaski, VA; and daughter, VivianLea Solek and son-in-law, David Solek, Monroe, CT; and many cousins.

Graveside services were held at Monday Nov. 9th from the Dishon Cemetery, Snowville, VA. Funeral arrangements are being handled by Stevens Funeral home, Pulaski, VA. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations are requested for the upkeep of the Dishon Cemetery (Mrs. Belva Dalton, 3780 Lead Mine Rd., Hiwassee, VA 24327), the American Heart Association, or a charity of your choice.

JEFFREY DEAN HUDSON

Jeffrey Dean Hudson, age 48 of Pulaski passed away Saturday, November 7, 2020.

Born February 1, 1972 in Pulaski is the son of Melvin Robert Hudson and the late Glenna Marie Carroll Hudson. His wife, Hope Ramsey Hudson; and sister, Michelle Coffey also preceded him in death.

He is survived by

His Father – Melvin Robert Hudson-Radford (Snowville Community)

Brothers –

Mike & Tina Hudson – Pulaski

Joseph Frank Hudson – Radford

David Lee Hudson – Radford

Grandchildren – Sydney Elaine Perkins, Raelyn Grace Crowder

Companion – Dorothy Jean Crowder – Pulaski

Funeral services will be held Friday 2:00 PM, November 13, 2020 in the Bower Funeral Home Chapel, Pulaski.

The family will receive friends Friday from 1:00 PM until service time

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

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

MARY VERNON ELKINS BISHOP

Mary Vernon Elkins Bishop, 99, of Hiwassee, passed away peacefully in her sleep on Thursday, November 5, 2020.

The Bishop family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home and Crematory in Radford, www.mullinsfuneralhome.com

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ALMA LEE FLANAGAN MYERS

Alma Lee Flanagan Myers, 91 of Pulaski ,VA passed away on Sunday November 8, 2020.

Alma was preceded in death by her husband Carl Rudolph Myers.

Surviving are Daughter, Linda Myers Otey; Sons, Larry Wayne Myers, Daughter-in-law Elizabeth; Richard Lee Myers; Clifford Carl Myers, Daughter-in-law Shannon; Kenneth Allen Myers, Daughter-in-law Amy.

Grandchildren Jennifer, Jason, Kelly, Lindsay, Gayle, Lori, Emily, Grace, Bethany and Bradley. Eleven Great-Grandchildren.

Alma was active in her church and community life. Teaching Sunday School, Bible School and being a Den Mother for my brother's Boy Scout troop in our neighborhood. Her love for her family and her great smile always made everyone feel welcomed and loved. Wherever her family was that's where she wanted to be.

We were blessed to have our parents as Mom and Dad, and Granny and Granddaddy.

In lieu of flowers the family is asking that donation be made to:

Max Creek Baptist Church
3000 Old Rt, 100 Road
Draper, VA 24324

A celebration of Alma's life will be held at a later date to be announced.

Arrangements by Stevens Funeral Home, Pulaski.



SHARON KAY EDWARDS RATLIFF

Sharon Kay Edwards Ratliff, age 51 of Pulaski passed away Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at the Roanoke Memorial Hospital.

Born October 28, 1969 in Pulaski, she was the daughter of the late Raymond Edwards and Marlen Sue Stuart Edwards. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Thomas Ian Ratliff.

She was a registered nurse having worked for Radford Hospital and the New River Valley Medical Center.

Surviving

Daughter – Arianna Ratliff – Dublin

Brother – Raymond Edwards, Jr.- Pulaski

Velda and Michael Jarrells
Angie and Chad Howlett and family

Patricia and Ronnie Wimmer &

other family and friends

Memorial services were held Monday, November 9, 2020 in the Bower Funeral Chapel with Pastor Johnny Howlett and Pastor Kathy Higgs officiating.

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

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

DR. FAITH SMITH TEEL

Dr. Faith Smith Teel, 69, passed away Saturday, November 7, 2020 at her home in Parrott, Virginia.

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

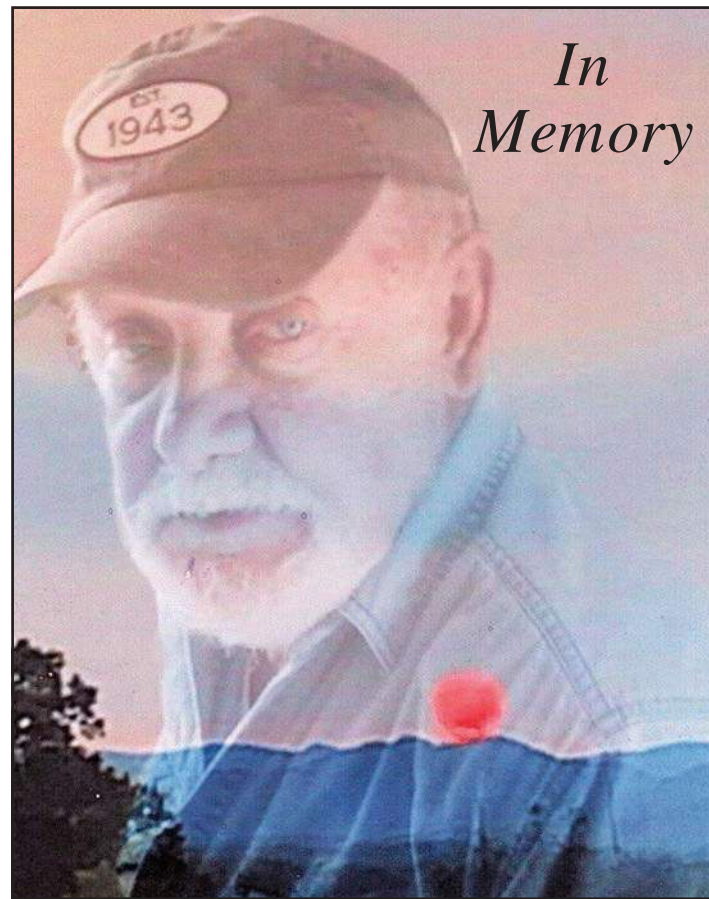
ANNABELLE HARVEY MEADOWS

Annabelle Harvey Meadows, 88, of Dublin, passed away at her home on Friday, November 6, 2020.

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

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In Memory

Lawrence Daniel Thompson
"Danny"

Sept. 7, 1943 – Oct. 17, 2020

No longer by the sides of his wife, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, his brother, sisters, nieces and nephews, in laws and outlaws and his many many friends which includes Stevens Funeral Home.

He always said that if he ever put a smile on your face, made you laugh, or pulled a joke on you, think of that and he'll always be in our hearts. Forever and a Day.....

Janet Thompson

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OBITUARIES



DONALD WAYNE HUFF

Donald Wayne Huff, 67, of Pulaski, VA passed away at his home Monday, November 9, 2020. He was born on April 15, 1953 and was the son of the late William (Moaten) Huff and Della Epperley Huff. Also preceding him in death are a sister, Brenda Huff Lawson; sisters-in-law, Leanne Huff and Vickie Dishon Huff; brothers-in-law, Charlie Lineberry, David Lineberry, Sr. and David Hancock.

Surviving are:
Son – Bradley Nelson Huff (Shaylyn), North Carolina
Granddaughters – Natalie Brooke Huff
Kylie Wren Lindamood
Former Wife and Dear Friend – Linda Lineberry Huff
Brothers – Maurice (Kay) Huff
Roger (Doris) Huff
Gene Huff
David (Renate) Huff
Douglas (Loretta) Huff, Alabama
Ronald Huff, Florida
Sisters – Phala Hancock
Tresa “Susie” and Wayne Trail
Numerous Nieces and Nephews

Memorial services will be held Saturday, November 14th at 2:00 PM from the Stevens Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Don Sizemore officiating. The family will receive friends one hour before the service at the funeral home.

Very special thanks go to Medi Home Health, Stevens Funeral Home, Mullins Funeral Home and Crematory and lifetime friend, Barbara Eversole.

Arrangements by Stevens Funeral Home, Pulaski, VA.

BARBARA DAWN ADAMS

Barbara Dawn Adams, 75, of Pulaski, VA peacefully passed away Friday, November 6, 2020 at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital, Roanoke, VA. She was born June 9, 1945 in Wythe Co., VA and was the daughter of the late John Edgar McRoberts and Lucy Akers McRoberts. She was also preceded in death by her son, Timmy Wayne Jones; sisters, Hazel Fay “Peggy” Porter and Emma Jean Davis; and brothers, Clyde Eugene “John Henry” Davis and Edgar Pope McRoberts.

Surviving are:
Husband – Elbert Wayne Adams, Pulaski
Son – John & Sandy Jones, Pulaski
Step-Sons – Barry & Teresa Edmonds, Carroll Co.
James R. Adams, Pulaski
Brother – Mickey McRoberts, Pulaski
Sisters – Jerdy & David Hall, Roanoke
Ann & Tony Long, Pulaski

Granddaughter – Taylor Jones, Pulaski
Step-Grandson – Brad Edmonds, Pulaski
Many Nieces, Nephews, Great-Nieces, Great-Nephews, Cousins and Friends

A memorial graveside service will be held at a later date.

Arrangements by Stevens Funeral Home, Pulaski.



© timothy black 2016

CHARLOTTE REBECCA SMITH TURMAN

Charlotte Rebecca Smith Turman, age 93 of Pulaski, died Monday, November 9, 2020 at Chippenham Hospital in Richmond. She was born on June 14, 1927 in Hiwassee, and was the daughter of the late Josie Mae Lawson Smith and Floyd Edwin Smith.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her first husband, Sidney Cohen and her second husband, Harley Buford Turman: two brothers; Kenneth Smith and David Smith: two sisters; Kathleen Quesenberry and Elizabeth Hunter, and a very special great-granddaughter, Sydney Black.

Mrs. Turman was a loving mother and grandmother, and she was her happiest when she was with her family. She is survived by her daughters; Sharon Black and her husband Jack of Dublin, and Marina Allen and her husband Richard of Pulaski: a sister; Louise McKinney of Richmond: three grandchildren; Tim Black and his wife Angie, Max Meadows, Michelle Custer and her husband Jeff of Dumfries, and Lamont Allen and his wife Heather of Reno, NV.: great-grandchildren; Ashley Custer of Dumfries, Alexis and Alysia Allen of Reno, NV. Also survived by many special nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be private with interment in Thornspring Cemetery. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.seaglefuneralhome.com Arrangements by Seagle Funeral Home, Pulaski.

November County Meetings

- Tuesday, November 17, 2020, Economic Development Authority Board of Directors Meeting, Basement Central Conference Room, Pulaski County Administration Building, 143 Third Street N.W., in the Town of Pulaski, Virginia, 10:00 a.m. (Contact: Megan Bird, Clerk to the Board, 143 Third Street N.W., Suite 1, Pulaski, VA, 24301, 540-980-7705, mwbird@pulaskicounty.org). The Economic Development Authority serves as the economic development arm of Pulaski County working with local industries and providing building spaces to local employers.

- Monday, November 23, 2020, Pulaski County Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting, Board Room, Pulaski County Administration Building, 143 Third Street N.W., in the Town of Pulaski, Virginia; Executive Session, 5:30 p.m., Open Meeting, 7 p.m. (Con-

tact: 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, November 24, 2020, Pulaski County Sewerage Authority Board of Directors Meeting, Conference Room, Peppers Ferry Regional Wastewater Treatment Authority Administration Building, 7797 Mason Street, Fairlawn, Virginia, 6 p.m. (Contact: Fairlawn Tax and Bookkeeping, 7436 Peppers Ferry Boulevard, Fairlawn, Virginia, 24141, 540-639-6926). This Board manages daily operations for the sewer infrastructure in the immediate Fairlawn area.

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Experts: No need to cancel Thanksgiving, but just play it safe

By CARLA K. JOHNSON
AP Medical Writer

A safe Thanksgiving during a pandemic is possible, but health experts know their advice is as tough to swallow as dry turkey: Stay home. Don't travel. If you must gather, do it outdoors.

With a fall surge of coronavirus infections gripping the U.S., many Americans are forgoing tradition and getting creative with celebrations.

For the first time in five years, Atlanta nutrition consultant Marisa Moore won't travel to South Carolina to see her large extended family. Instead, she plans to video chat with them as she attempts her first home-baked apple pie. When it's time to eat, they'll compare plates.

"We'll talk all day," Moore said.

On Monday, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention updated its holiday guidance, noting the virus crisis is worsening and that small household gatherings are "an important contributor." The CDC said older adults and others at heightened risk of severe illness should avoid gathering with people outside their households.

Experts point to Canada, where Thanksgiving was celebrated Oct. 12. Clusters of cases tied to family gatherings followed. "This sucks. It really, really does," Canada Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said two weeks later.

There's no need to cancel the holiday. Spending time with loved ones is important for health too,

said Lacy Fehrenbach, Washington state deputy secretary of health.

The coronavirus spreads more easily when people are crowded together inside, so Fehrenbach encourages new outdoor traditions such as hiking as a family. Guest lists for indoor feasts should be small enough so people can sit 6 feet apart while unmasked and eating, she said. Open the windows to keep air circulating.

The more people who attend a gathering, the greater the chances that someone in the party will be carrying the virus, Fehrenbach said, "even someone that you know and love."

On any other Thanksgiving, dozens of Olga Garcia's family members would squeeze into her home to make tamales, watch football and tell stories. This year, the 61-year-old professional caregiver will deliver food to family spread along 30 miles of the North Cascades Highway in Washington state.

If the plan works, everyone will sit down at the same time to eat in their own homes and join a group phone call.

"We're going to be wise about this," Garcia said. "We're just crossing our fingers that in 2021 we'll be able to sit down at our table and get crazy again."

What about a quarantine? The magic day to start a pre-Thanksgiving quarantine is Nov. 13, according to Lindsey Leininger,

See SAFE, page A7

Pulaski County announces Thanksgiving schedules

Pulaski County offices will be closed on Wednesday, November 25, 2020, and will reopen on Monday, November 30, 2020, in observance of Thanksgiving. The Pulaski County Public Service Authority billing office will be closed on Wednesday, November 25, 2020, and will reopen on Monday, November 30, 2020, in observance of Thanksgiving. The Dora Highway, Pulaski, Mason Street, Fairlawn and Bagging Plant Road, Dublin convenience centers will be closed Wednesday, November 25 – Friday, November 27, 2020. All convenience centers will reopen on Saturday, November 28, 2020. There will be no garbage collection on Thursday, November 26, 2020. Thursday and Friday garbage collection will be picked up on Friday, November 27, 2020.

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Honoring Our Veterans

November 11 was Veterans Day. Each year, Americans take this day to honor the men and women who have served in defense of our liberties in the United States Armed Forces.

It began as Armistice Day, commemorating the end of World War I at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918. Now veterans of all conflicts in which our country has been engaged are recognized on November 11. Although World War I was not, as was said at the time, "the war to end all wars," the United States is still blessed with individuals who will step forward when our country calls.

Veterans Day is an appropriate occasion to reflect on what our country called these men and women



Morgan Griffith

9th District Representative

to do. It is also essential that the day be used to consider the tremendous debt we owe them.

This must be true even during

the coronavirus pandemic. This year, our tributes to the veterans who fought for us may look different than those of past years. Especially for those veterans who are elderly or have underlying health conditions, sometimes acquired from their time in the service, precautions should be taken when celebrating them. Nevertheless, Americans who served their country deserve our tributes in this difficult time.

President Calvin Coolidge said, "A country which is worth defending takes care of its defenders." My office carries out this charge by offering assistance to veterans requiring specific services from the Federal Government.

When vets encounter difficulties accessing their benefits through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), caseworkers in my office can help and try to cut through the red tape and intercede.

In addition to VA casework, I support legislation in Congress to improve the VA's health care services. Improving the VA's offerings has been an area of bipartisan focus and accomplishment.

Another constituent service my office can provide is the replacement of service medals. They represent the commitment and sacrifice a veteran made for his or her country, but they are not immune to being lost or misplaced. For example, I recently presented a new set of medals to the family of the late World War II veteran Luther Owens. The originals, including a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star, had been lost in a house fire.

On some occasions, veterans receive their medals long after they served. They may have been awarded but never delivered, or misplaced paperwork may have halted the process for awarding the medals.

Early in my tenure as a Member of Congress, I was honored to participate in a medal presentation to Corporal James C. Rasnake of Abingdon, who served during the Korean War. On September 15, 1950, his platoon came under heavy fire, and Sergeant Dale Larsen was seriously wounded. Corporal Rasnake killed an enemy gunman about to shoot Sergeant Larsen again, then carried Sergeant Larsen on his back to a safer location. He eventually crafted a makeshift stretcher using two rifles and carried Sergeant Larsen about a mile to receive aid.

Over sixty years after this feat of bravery, my office helped track down missing paperwork to complete the process of recognizing Corporal Rasnake. He received the Bronze Star with a "V" device for valor. When it was finally time to present the award, Sergeant Larsen, the man whose life he saved, handed it to him.

My plans for Veterans Day this year took me to Martinsville to honor two World War II veterans, Houston William Smith and Richard Stine.

I hope on Veterans Day you were able to thank any veterans in your life, whether family members, friends, or neighbors. In this time of COVID-19, if you couldn't do this in person, I hope you were able to give them a call or contact them via email or social media. These simple gestures are the least we can do to honor the heroes who risked their lives for our freedom.

If you have questions, concerns, or comments, feel free to contact my office. You can call my Abingdon office at 276-525-1405 or my Christiansburg office at 540-381-5671. To reach my office via email, please visit my website at www.morgangriffith.house.gov. Also on my website is the latest material from my office, including information on votes recently taken on the floor of the House of Representatives.

Open Forum

We invite your letters. Send them to: The Patriot, PO Box 2416, Pulaski, VA 24301 or email your letter to: news@pcpatriot.com Please include a daytime telephone number for verification. Please only one letter per 30 days.

400th Anniversary: Miracle of the Mayflower

On November 11, 2020 Plymouth, Massachusetts celebrated the 400th anniversary of Mayflower's arrival in Plymouth Harbor.

You may remember learning about the historic voyage of the Mayflower ship that carried the first Pilgrims to America from England; but maybe you didn't realize how courageous these people were.

If you drive by our local Volvo Truck plant, you can see shiny new Volvo truck cabs pulling tractor trailers around their test course. The VNL860 model cab is approximately 15-feet from the front bumper to the back of the cab and approximately 9.7-feet wide from mirror to mirror. Add another 53-feet for the semi-trailer and it measures close to 70-

One Nation Under God

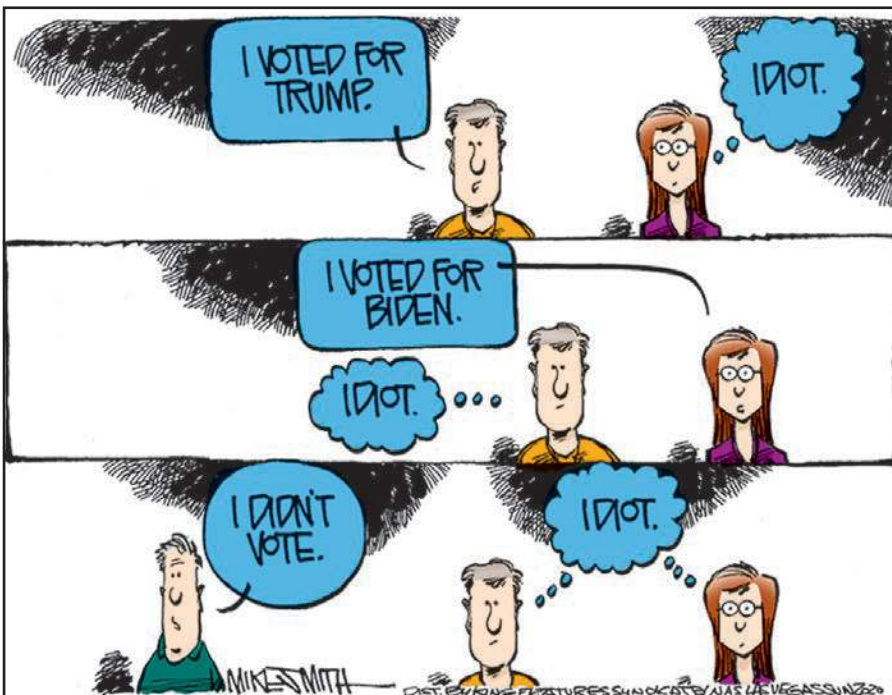
By Danielle Reid

feet in total length.

Compare that to the dimensions of the Mayflower, which was 100-feet long and 24-feet wide. How many of us would consider making a 3,136 mile Atlantic Ocean crossing in a sailing vessel approximately the length of an 18-wheeler?

Before their voyage, the Pilgrims were

See NATION, page A7



Bipolar America

By CAL THOMAS, Tribune Content Agency

If Joe Biden survives recounts and several lawsuits filed by the Trump campaign into what Trump says has been widespread vote-counting fraud (we await proof), do not expect him to be hounded over his and Hunter Biden's business ties to China and Ukraine as President Trump has been over "Russian collusion" charges and numerous other attempts by Democrats, the left and the media to undermine his administration.

In an address to the nation last Saturday, President-Elect Biden claimed he has been given a "mandate for action on COVID, the economy, climate change (and) systemic racism." He called for healing and unity.

Biden reportedly plans to issue a slew of executive orders, reversing those by President Trump. It is his right to do so, but how does that promote healing and unity? For Democrats, healing and unity often means bowing to their policy wishes. It never seems to work in reverse.

Does Biden have a mandate on COVID? Would Americans, including business owners, accept a national lockdown that could cripple the economy? In a Hill-HarrisX survey conducted in July, 53 percent of registered voters approved of President Trump's job on economy, which, despite COVID, is recovering, "albeit unevenly." A September Gallup poll found that 56 percent of registered voters believed they were better off under Trump than under the Obama-Biden administration.

What about open borders and lifting the ban on immigrants from nations that have experienced and, in some cases, promoted terrorism? Does Biden have a mandate for that? Will he be anti-Israel, as some believe Obama was? Will Biden undermine peace agreements brokered by Trump between Israel and three Arab/Muslim states? Was Trump's impeachment by Nancy Pelosi's House a contribution to healing and unity?

The Biden economic plan includes tax increases and more spending. Biden also said, "the purpose of our politics isn't total, unrelenting, unending warfare." You wouldn't know it from the way Democrats behave, starting with their slander of Robert Bork during his hearing to become a justice of the Supreme Court -- ditto Brett Kavanaugh -- through the presidential election of 2000, which many Democrats then and now claim illegitimately elected George W. Bush, to the 2016 election

when they claimed Hillary Clinton should have won based on the popular vote and mounted a four-year political assault against the president.

Biden's bromides sound comforting, but Democrats do not practice what they preach.

"We may be opponents, but we are not enemies. We're Americans," he said. No credit to Abraham Lincoln. An earlier comment that we are not "red or blue states, but the United States" was taken from President Obama.

Speaking of Lincoln, who Democrats like to cite as a great Republican president, I am re-reading Carl Sandburg's brilliant four-volume work on Lincoln called "The War Years." Sandburg quotes some of Lincoln's many critics, including Democrats and the press at a time when the nation was even more divided.

After the 1860 election and before he was sworn in, the owner and editor of the New York Herald, James Gordon Bennett, called on Lincoln not to assume office: "A grand opportunity now exists for Lincoln to avert impending ruin, and invest his name with an immortality far more enduring than that would attach to it by his elevation to the Presidency."

Trump critics planned to impeach him before he was inaugurated and publicly said so.

Biden says he wants to bring us together? On which issues would he be willing to compromise and find common ground with Republicans? To win the approval of Democrats and their media acolytes, Republicans must lose elections and forfeit their principles.

The mystery is why so many Americans vote for Republicans in one election and Democrats the next. Too many it seems vote mainly on personality and superficialities, not substantive policies.

It was the media's job to dig under the superficial and reveal the true Joe Biden (and Kamala Harris, who could likely become president sooner than later). They failed, becoming an extension of the Democratic Party and anti-Trumpers. If Biden's policies fail don't expect Democrats to admit it; they will blame Republicans.

Meanwhile we are a bipolar nation, unlikely to unify.

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



Rich Lowery

Editor, National Review

Trump's Staying Power

Pending the outcome in a few key states, Donald Trump may be leaving the White House, but he's not exiting the room.

The fiercest Never Trump critics hoped for -- and wishfully predicted -- a cleansing landslide that would wipe out every trace of Trump and his enablers from the GOP.

That's not happening. Trump's poll- and pundit-defying surge toward the cusp of a second term vindicates Trump's approach enough to give him and his potential successors continued traction, if not a dominant voice, in the party.

Trump's possible loss is nothing like the shellacking the GOP experienced in 2008, when Barack Obama won in a landslide majority with a 60-seat Senate majority.

Trump's party has a chance to retain its Senate majority and will pick up House seats, while the margin of his own defeat may be a whisker in the Blue Wall states, just as his margin of victory in 2016 was a whisker.

He did his own side the inadvertent favor of perhaps buffering it from the worst consequences of his own possible loss -- first, by filling the Ruth Bader Ginsburg seat on the Supreme Court that otherwise would have fallen to Joe Biden, and by performing well enough to aid the cause of Republican Senate candidates, who will check a Biden presidency from the outset if they do indeed manage to hold the majority.

Trump's voters were still there for him -- in fact, more so than ever. His tack of doubling down on his base wasn't quite as insane as we were always told by commentators. His strong close proved his power as a campaigner, with his signature madcap rallies serving as effective organizing and messaging vehicles.

This is not to deny that Trump's own failings helped sink him. There are a thousand pitfalls he could have avoided if he weren't so self-involved and undisciplined. No single one of them made the difference, but cumulatively they blighted his presidency and made him radioactive in the suburbs.

No one should want to repeat them, and the party should never again get behind such a flawed personal figure.

Nevertheless, Trump points to a viable GOP future. He posted startling gains among Latino voters. This shows it's possible to imagine a working-class-oriented Republican Party that isn't a demographic dead end, but genuinely crosses racial lines, even if this potential is still inchoate.

Given how Trump's base showed up massively in the past two presidential elections, it's also unlikely that these voters are going to be jettisoned anytime soon by some other Republican presidential candidate. Indeed, the education- and class-based re-sorting of the GOP -- affluent suburbs peeling off and working-class voters coming on board -- predated Trump.

The concerns of these voters

See LOWRY, page A7

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Nation

Continued from Page A6

living in the Netherlands. They hired a ship named the Speedwell to take them to Southhampton, England where they would board the Mayflower; then both ships would sail onto America. Their destination was the northern most part of the Virginia Colony known as the Hudson River area. (The first permanent English colony of Jamestown Virginia was settled thirteen years earlier in 1607.)

Unfortunately, the Speedwell had problems with leaking and the Pilgrims were delayed while waiting for repairs to be completed in England.

Setting out again on August 5th and after a week of travel, the Speedwell developed more leaks and both ships had to pull into port for more repairs. But after restarting their voyage again, more leaks made the Speedwell unseaworthy for the trip and the Pilgrims returned to Plymouth England.

At this point, some of the passengers decided to return home rather than continue on. Can you blame them? I would probably have been one of those who stayed behind...and missed out on being part of the blessings, as this American colony laid the cornerstone of democracy in a new nation, based on Biblical principles.

Eventually, after transferring cargo and people to the Mayflower, these 102 intrepid travelers left the dock on September 6, 1620 with a crew of 30 men.

The Mayflower was a 12-year old cargo ship and not equipped as a passenger vessle. Her normal cargo included kegs of wine, barrels of food, cloth and wood which were stowed in the cargo hold – the lowest part of the ship. The height between decks was only 5-feet, so many of the passengers could not even stand up straight. The next level up, referred to as between decks or the gun deck, was where 102 Pilgrim men, women and children ate, slept, gave birth and prayed during the arduous voyage. Almost everyone of the 50 men, 19 women and 33 young adults and children got seasick; and a young man had been swept overboard, but miraculously recovered.

The delayed departure and unusually strong storms caused miserable conditions for the travelers on the Mayflower. At one point, a main ship’s beam broke and threatened to cause the ship to founder in the stormy sea. The crew brought out a spare beam but could not hold it in place to shore up the broken beam. Fortunately, the Pilgrims had brought a giant metal screw, probably from a printing press or as a tool to build homes, that they used to support the beam and avert disaster.

With no GPS, satellite MAPS, or fancy technology, the Mayflower still arrived close to her destination; but strong waves and currents caused them to fear a shipwreck and made it impossible to explore the Hudson River. The decision was made to return to the Cape Cod, Massachusetts area they had seen two days earlier and explore the possibility of settling there.

An Atlantic crossing normally took five weeks and passengers would have been able to move about the ship more freely, breathing in the fresh sea air and soaking up desperately needed sunshine. But this voyage had been a grueling 66 days of sailing for the Pilgrims - after a six weeks delay - with countless disasters threatening their lives, testing their character and their faith. Hadn’t it been their deep commitment and faith in God

that motivated them to make this journey in the first place? And now, their destination positioned them outside the jurisdiction of the Virginia colony, which made them no longer accountable to the financial backers or regulations set forth in their contract. (Being righteous people, they did endeavor to honor the financial obligations to their financiers and backers.)

It was obvious to the Pilgrims that they needed a functioning social and governmental structure; but their first act was to fall to their knees and thank God for bringing them safely across the ocean to a new life and purpose.

Pastor William Brewster is considered the main composer of the Mayflower Compact which established their social and self-governmental structure under the guidance of God. They would need to be firmly dedicated to God, each other and their mission to survive the devastating coming winter.

As the first written constitution in the “new world” the values expressed in the Mayflower Compact help establish the ideas of self-governance under God, which are fundamental to our nation’s Declaration of Independence and Constitution.

Here is the main body of the Mayflower Compact, written and signed on November 11, 1620:

In the name of God, Amen... Having undertaken, for the Glory of God, and advancements of the Christian faith, and the honor of our King and Country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the Northern parts of Virginia; do by these presents, solemnly and mutually, in the presence of God, and one another; covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil body politic; for our better ordering, and preservation and furtherance of the ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof to enact, constitute, and frame, such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions, and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general good of the colony; unto which we promise all due submission and obedience.

In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names at Cape Cod the 11th of November...1620.

As a white-knuckle flyer, the chances of my boarding a small sailing vessel to the new world would have been close to zero. But thank God for the 102 individuals who were courageously committed to their purpose and helped establish America as One Nation Under God!

You can read much more about the Pilgrims’ journey and life in “The History of Plymouth Plantation by William Bradford.”

Lowry

Continued from Page A6

have to figure prominently in the agenda of the GOP going forward. That doesn’t require embracing any particular Trump policy. but it does mean the party will inevitably have a populist coloration.

Trump will remain an outsize presence. His supporters will still consider him a legendary warrior, a totem of resistance to the media and the cultural elite. His endorsements will continue to be valuable, and ambitious 2024 candidates will seek to inherit his mantle.

Trump might not win the biggest, most important prize of a second term in 2020, but there’s no doubt he has staved off political irrelevance.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

Northam

Continued from Page A3

people to not become complacent about washing their hands frequently, wearing masks and practicing social distancing.

“This is not the time to give up ... we’ve got to continue to push until that vaccination is available,” he said.

Northam, a doctor, and his wife Pam, both contracted the virus in September. On Monday, Richmond Mayor Levar Stoney, who won a second term in last week’s election, announced that he is self-isolating after a member of his campaign staff tested positive for the virus after interacting with the staff of the voter registrar’s office.

Northam implored people to keep their holiday gatherings to a minimum and to “keep distancing.”

“Have a safe and peaceful holiday season,” he said. “Spend as much time with your friends and family, but do it safely.”

THE VETERAN

The veteran stood tall as that bugle was raised
The veteran’s tears made the vets eyes look glassy and glazed
The veteran dreaded that all too familiar tune
The veteran’s fellow soldier and friend died way too soon
This melancholy ritual is too often performed
For so many veterans needing to be mourned
The veteran was laid to rest with stars and stripes as a drape
When you’re a soldier sometimes death is your fate
The family left to mourn another veteran of war
Likes so many others that have gone on before
The battle of war is not just the conflict they see
Life at home is sometimes the battle they can’t shake free
The veteran stood homeless riddled with shame
If only soldiers knew they are not the blame
The battle going on in the veteran’s head
No one believing what the veteran said
Led us to this fateful day
We just watched another veteran give up and just fade away.

**Author
Valerie Stone**

Safe

Continued from Page A5

who leads the Nerdy Girls, a cadre of scientists collaborating on a website called Dear Pandemic.

A strict quarantine would mean no grocery shopping, no working outside the home and no in-person school for 14 days.

What about testing? The best day to test would be as close to Turkey Day as possible while still leaving enough time to get results. But a test might not catch a still brewing infection so the best plan is the quarantine for two weeks — the time it can take for symptoms to show up.

Instead of that rigmarole, Leininger said her children will see their grandparents via Zoom on Thanksgiving. After dinner, the family will meet neighbors in the driveway for pie.

“We bring our own pie and they bring their own pie,” said Leininger of Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire. “It’s cold here in northern New England, but pie can be a quick activity.”

When it seems cruel that everything most loved about Thanksgiving is forbidden, finding humor in absurdity can help. In a video on Twitter, New York comedian Matt Buechele offers an increasingly silly list of Thanksgiving precautions, including water balloons filled with gravy and kids’ tables for all.

“Before we eat, everyone’s going to go around the table, say one thing they’re thankful for and one thing they scream into their pillow at night,” Buechele said.



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Brenda Eanes, Women's Resource Center New River Valley, accepts \$3,234.93 check for Coats for Kids from the Drive-Thru Trick or Treat sponsored by the Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce and Pulaski County Parks and Recreation.

Randolph Park Halloween event a success

The Pulaski County Drive-Thru Trick or Treat was a spectacular success! Special thanks to all who came out to celebrate, and many thanks to local business and group candy stops, WPSK's Curtis in the Morning and to event sponsors Randolph Park and the Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce.

The event began with the infamous pumpkin-carving contest. Pumpkin carvings ranged from

an impressive carving of the Pulaski Cougar to a wicked witch. The winner was determined by guests' voting via Facebook. At the end of the night, Blue Ridge Fudge Lady was marked victorious with her creative pumpkin carving of Jonathan Sweet, Pulaski County Administrator.

Participants put up a good fight and the spirit of competition did not go unnoticed.

As guests drove through Ran-

dolph Park, cars were greeted by Halloween-centric booths decorated and run by Pulaski County local businesses and groups. All groups sported their best Halloween costumes and decor. However, one group especially shined! The Drive-Thru Trick or Treat awarded the T.G. Howard Community Center with the 2020 Best Candy Stop. T.G. Howard took guests through a thrilling and safely frightening

"car-wash." Kendall Payne of Adaire Theatre provided T.G. Howard with artistic and technical touches. All candy stops made the event an unforgettable success.

While the event was a hit for attendees, the Drive-Thru Trick or Treat also raised over \$3,000 for Coats for Kids. From community joy to giving back, the Drive-Thru Trick or Treat was a Halloween event like no other.

Two teens die in Carroll County crash

Virginia State Police Trooper F.R. Farthing is investigating a single-vehicle fatal crash in Carroll County. The crash occurred Nov. 8, 2020 at 1:15 a.m. in the 3100 block of Sylvatus Highway, Route 100.

A 1980 Chevrolet Silverado was traveling south on Route 100 when it struck a deer. The vehicle then ran off the left side of the road, struck a fence, overturned and struck a utility pole.

The driver, a 16-year-old male from Fries, Va., was transported to Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital and is being treated for life-threatening injuries. He was wearing a seatbelt.

There were three passengers in the vehicle. A 16-year-old female passenger from Hillsville, Va., died at the scene. A 17-year-old male passenger from Galax, Va., was ejected from the vehicle and died at the scene. Neither of the deceased was wearing a seatbelt. A 15-year-old female passenger suffered minor injuries and was released to her parents' custody. The 15-year-old was wearing a seatbelt.

The Virginia State Police Wytheville Division Crash Reconstruction Team is assisting with the ongoing crash investigation. Alcohol was not a factor in the crash.

Daily Bread Soup and Cracker Drive ongoing

The Pulaski County High School National Honor Society is sponsoring a canned soup and cracker drive during the month of November. Donations will be collected through November 17 to support the Pulaski Daily Bread in preparation for the upcoming holidays. To encourage participation, departments within the school are competing against one another in hopes of meeting the goal of 2,020 donated items. All donations are appreciated! Please feel free to contact Katherine Shockley, NHS Sponsor, at (540) 643 - 0394, with any questions.



School Board Recognizes Chappelle

The Pulaski County School Board recognized its Employee of the Month at its meeting Tuesday.

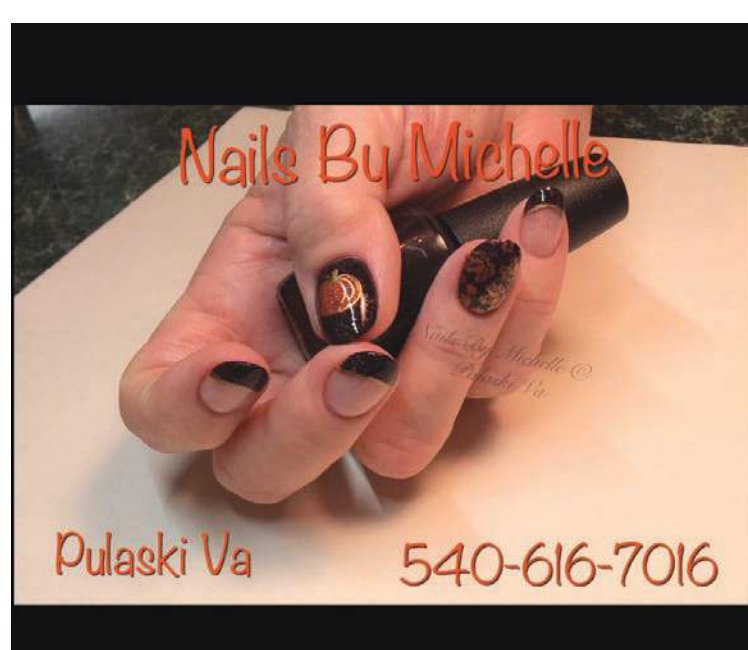
Critzer Elementary School and Pulaski County Public Schools are pleased to honor Keyana Chappelle as Employee of the Month. Ms. Chappelle is loved by everyone at the school and always has a smiling, positive attitude. She is currently pursuing her Master's Degree in Elementary Education at Radford University. Any visitor to our school would think that Ms. Chappelle is a seasoned teacher as she works closely with every teacher to whom she is assigned to provide quality instructional support to students. Recently, one of the teachers with whom she works was out for several days. While there was a substitute teacher, Ms. Chappelle was able to take over and lead the class without a missed step. The students love her and she has a natural ability to build positive relationships with all students. Critzer looks forward to the day when we can hire her as a licensed teacher in the building as she will make a positive impact on the school!

Pulaski County Public School photo

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- Interior Doors
- Fencing
- Insulation
- Millwork
- Paneling
- Patio Doors
- Plumbing Fixtures
- Porch Columns
- Flooring
- Railings
- Roofing
- Shutters
- Sidings
- Trusses
- Windows & more!



School Board Recognizes Hall

The Pulaski County School Board at its meeting Tuesday evening recognized Tracie Hall as Teacher of the Month in November. Critzer Elementary School and Pulaski County Public School are pleased to honor Tracie Hall as Teacher of the Month. Mrs. Hall is an outstanding 3rd Grade Teacher who goes above and beyond to ensure that her students have what they need to master the grade level Standards of Learning. She works tirelessly with those students who struggle in order to support their academic growth. She is a Team Player and a Team Leader who works closely with the other 3rd Grade Teachers to make sure that curriculum is delivered consistently and effectively. Mrs. Hall is a model teacher and she is currently working with a Student Teacher from Radford University who will no doubt learn more from Mrs. Hall than any textbook or college course could offer. Critzer is extremely lucky to have Mrs. Hall as part of our Faculty and Staff and we are proud to have her represent us for November 2020.

Support sought to provide food baskets

Pulaski County 4-H Clubs, in association with the Pulaski Extension Office, will be putting together Thanksgiving Food Baskets for families in Pulaski County again this year and need your help. Over the past 12 years, working through New River Valley Community Services (NRVCS), Pulaski County 4-H Clubs have created over 52 baskets. This year we desire to create 12 baskets for families with children identified by NRVCS.

Due to pandemic restrictions needing to limit the handling of items in/out of the Extension Office, instead of asking for items to be purchased and dropped at the Extension Office, we are asking for monetary support. We hope you understand and will still support this much needed to service to our community.

To help with this great 4-H service project, mail or bring your support to the Pulaski Extension Office, located at 143 Third Street, NW, Suite 3, Pulaski, VA 24301, no later than Friday, November 20, 2020. Checks made payable to 'Treasurer of Virginia Tech,' Memo: 4-H Thanksgiving Food Baskets. Any support is greatly appreciated as each Thanksgiving Food Basket costs \$75 to create.

For more information and to coordinate drop off of your support, please contact us at the Pulaski Extension Office at 540-980-7761.



School Board Recognizes Hayes

Pulaski County High School is pleased to announce that David Hayes has been named the November Senior of the Month. David is the son of David and Amy Hayes of Dublin. David was nominated for this honor by three different individuals. The nominators stated that he is extremely hardworking, polite, respectful and insightful. David will help anyone who needs it and always willing to do anything you ask. He is an excellent example of Cougar Pride. David is a member of the marching band where he has been the trumpet section leader for the last four years, National Honor Society, History MACC, and tennis team.

Upon graduation, David plans to attend Virginia Tech majoring in engineering. During his freetime, David loves hanging out with his friends.

Pulaski County Public Schools photos

The Patriot
540-808-3949



Dr. Paige Cash

Governor appoints Cash to state board

From NRCC

New River Community College faculty member Dr. Emily Paige Cash was recently appointed by Governor Ralph Northam to serve on the Virginia Behavioral Health and Developmental Services Board for a four-year-term. Cash is a professor of English at NRCC.

This appointment is significant to Cash because of her sincere belief in the words of President John F. Kennedy's paraphrasing of Biblical scripture when he said "For of those to whom much is given, much is required."

"Different iterations of those words are a family creed that goes back for generations," said Cash. "We help people. And I love the fact that at NRCC, I'm not unique in that belief. That's what we do here: we help people."

Cash's community involvement includes serving on the Pulaski County School Board and the Calfee Cultural and Community Fundraising Committee. She is also vice president of the

See CASH, page A10

Have You Really Thought Of Everything?

From weddings to retirement, and everything in between, you have probably planned lots of important events in your lifetime. There is another event that will happen in our lives, yet most people don't plan for it—our funeral.

Provide peace of mind – knowing your wishes in advance will ease the burden on your loved ones.

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Don't veer for deer!

Virginia is 12th in U.S. for Animal Collisions Among Drivers

It's Fall and that means it's prime season for animal collisions for drivers. According to a new State Farm® study, most animal-related crashes in the U.S. occur from October to December. While most collisions are with deer (67%), many other animals followed closely behind such as dogs, cats, farm animals, and large rodents.

Virginia drivers rank 12th in the nation for animal collisions, including deer, dogs, and farm animals. Virginia drivers have a 1 in 72 chance of colliding with an animal while driving. In 2019, State Farm had 13,067 auto claims for animal collisions in Virginia. Nationally, State Farm had over 1.96 million animal collisions this past year. Of those collisions, the vast majority were deer. In fact, 67% (1.3 million claims) involved a deer collision!

COVID also has had an impact on animal strikes. Compared to last year at the same time, there has been a 20% decrease (more than 70,000 claims) in animal collisions due to less drivers being on the road.

Top 10 States at Risk for Animal Collision

1. West Virginia	7. Iowa	The months drivers are most likely to collide with an animal in the U.S. are, in this order: 1. November 3. December 2. October
2. Montana	8. Mississippi	
3. Pennsylvania	9. Minnesota	
4. South Dakota	10. Wyoming	
5. Michigan		
6. Wisconsin		

“Fall”

The wind is blowing with a gentle breeze,
Trees are shedding many of their leaves.

Fall foliage such beauty to be seen.
All colors red, yellow, brown, and green.

Children jumping in raked leaves having so
Much fun.
Seems like forever when they've only just begun.

Squirrels running to and fro,
Trying to get their food in before the snow.

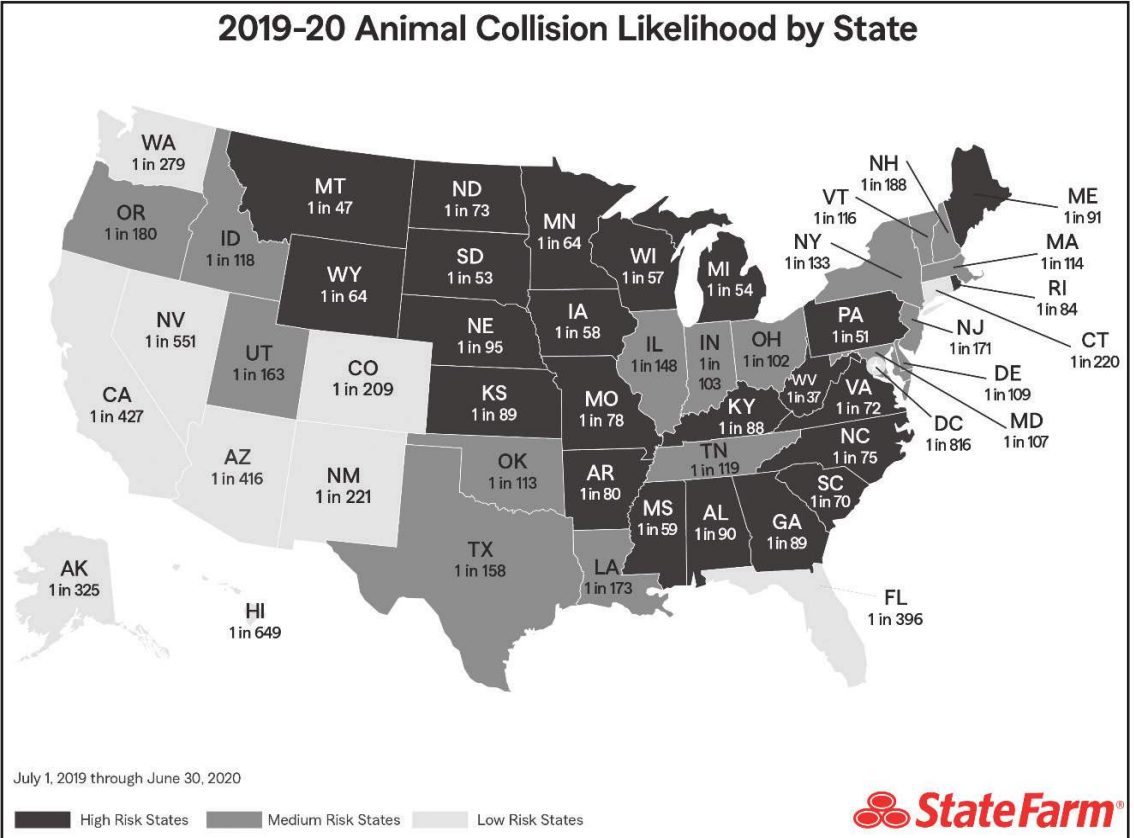
Parents taking their little ones to the pumpkin
patch, “O” what a delight.
Finding one all by themselves such a
Happy sight.

Farmers walking thru the fields
“O” what a thrill.
Gathering vegetables from their harvest for
A winter's meal.

Birds flying South with so much grace,
Seeking to find a warm and secure place.

All signs of winter creeping in,
So enjoy the fall all of my many friends.

Written by Naomi Davidson, Pulaski, Va.



Mindfulness tips for kids Cash

BY Sharon T. Rice
FCS SNAP-Ed Extension Agent

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to increased stress and anxiety among families. As adults have adapted to the new “norm” to meet the needs of their family, children may need a way to calm their bodies and help them focus. Mindfulness can help individuals be fully present in the moment, and work to identify feelings and emotions. Below are a few examples that can assist kids with various mindfulness activities throughout the day.

- Take a mindful nature walk. Move at your child's pace, and bring a sense of curiosity and adventure during your stroll together.
- Be aware of your surroundings. During a spare moment during the day, tune into your five senses wherever you are.
- Move and stretch your body. By simply getting up to move and stretch can help you relax the body. You can teach your children to appreciate all of the things that their bodies can do to help them grow strong.
- Eat a healthy and mindful snack. The children can use their senses to observe while they eat a snack. They can eat at a slower pace, and pay close attention to the scent, feel, taste, and appearance of the food.
- Count your breaths. The children can lay a small pillow or stuffed animal on their stomach, and while they are inhaling and exhaling, they can watch their stomach rise and fall. The children can also sit up with one hand resting on their stomach. They can count out loud or silently every time that they inhale and exhale.
- Practice belly breathing. You can place one hand on your chest and one hand on your stomach. As you inhale, fill up your stomach like a balloon. When you exhale, allow the balloon to deflate.

There are many opportunities to practice mindfulness throughout the day. Mindfulness can be incorporated into almost any activity to help us all be aware of our feelings and emotions. Be patient and have fun, so go ahead and breathe!

Continued from Page A9

Pulaski YMCA Board of Directors and president of the Virginia Alpha Phi Chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa. Prior to teaching at NRCC, Cash worked for many years as an English teacher at Pulaski County High School.

Cash lives in Pulaski with her husband Jon and their daughter Emma. She holds a bachelor's degree in English from Virginia Tech, a master's degree in English from Radford University, a doctoral degree in English from the University of Alabama, and a Certificate of Technical Writing from Kennesaw State University.

The VBHDS Board is a policymaking body consisting of nine non-legislative citizen members appointed by the governor and confirmed by Virginia General Assembly. Members are charged with establishing program, fiscal and other policies for Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, state-run hospitals and Community Services Boards.



Be committed. Be well.

STAY STRONG, NRV. BEAT COVID!



Wear
your
mask.

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your
distance.

Wash
your
hands.

Pre-season AP poll: Gonzaga No. 1; UVa No. 4

By DAVE SKRETTA
AP Basketball Writer

Just about the only thing Gonzaga has left to accomplish under Mark Few is win a national championship.

The 'Zags scratched another first off the list Monday: They will open the season at No. 1.

Despite losing West Coast Conference player of the year Filip Petrushev, the Bulldogs received 28 first-place votes and 1,541 points from a 64-member national media panel. That was

just enough to edge Baylor (24 first-place vote) by a single point for the top spot in the preseason Associated Press Top 25 heading toward the delayed Nov. 25 start of the season.

"It's a great honor to be selected No. 1," Few said. "We understand that it is more a reflection of what our program has accomplished over the years and hope to play up to that standard as we start our season."

Villanova received 11 first-place votes and was third, followed by Virginia with the re-

maining first-place vote. Iowa was picked fifth behind national player of the year front-runner Luka Garza, its highest preseason ranking in school history.

Then came a wave of blue-bloods with Kansas, Wisconsin, Illinois, Duke and Kentucky completing the top 10.

The Bulldogs spent four weeks at No. 1 last season before finishing second to the Jayhawks in the final poll, which was taken when the NCAA Tournament was canceled by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Petrusev's choice to play professionally in Serbia and then enter the draft was a blow, but the Bulldogs still have the pieces to win it all. Corey Kispert and Joel Ayayi provide scoring punch and the arrival of potential one-and-done guard Jalen Suggs should steady their backcourt.

The 'Zags certainly scheduled like title contenders. They open Nov. 26 against Kansas at the Fort Myers Tip-Off, where they also will play Auburn, and face Baylor in Indianapolis and Iowa in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

The Bears, who also have their highest preseason ranking, spent five weeks at No. 1 last season and only lost one starter in big man Freddie Gillespie. But coach Scott Drew could have the nation's best backcourt in Jared Butler, Davion Mitchell and Macio Teague, the best defender in Mark Vital and depth behind top-100 recruit L.J. Cryer and transfer Adam Flagler.

The Bears also built a brutal schedule, playing Illinois and potentially Villanova in the Em-

See AP, page B2

Hokies focus on moving forward

No. 9 Miami up next for Virginia Tech

By Jimmy Robertson
For Hokiesports.com

BLACKSBURG — After arriving home last Saturday following Virginia Tech's 38-35 heartbreaking loss to Liberty, Tech football coach Justin Fuente needed a distraction and took the best of therapeutic measures by spending the remaining few minutes of daylight playing with his three daughters.

The time provided some perspective on the truly important things in life, but nothing could shake the immediate disappointment.

Alex Barbir's 51-yard field goal with 1 second remaining capped a wild, bizarre ending to the game and lifted nationally ranked Liberty to one of its biggest wins in school history. In contrast, the loss left the Hokies at 4-3 on the season and with a difficult upcoming schedule, starting with Saturday's home game against No. 9 Miami.

Most Tech fans focused on the ending of the game but perhaps more troubling was the performance that led to the ending. Liberty rushed for 249 yards, outgained Tech for the game, and executed at a high level, controlling the action throughout.

"I'd say the term concerned is a pretty large and general thing," Fuente said during Monday's video teleconference with media members when asked if he was concerned about the perception of the program after the loss.



Virginia Tech's sophomore linebacker Alan Tisdale brings down Liberty's Joshua Mack.

"Yeah, I'm concerned about a lot of things. I don't like the fact that the game fell the way it did, and it's disappointing to fans and players and coaches alike. It's up to us to continue to strive for improvement, and that's exactly what we're doing. I don't like it,

nor does anybody. It's up to us to bounce back."

According to Fuente, the Hokies spent no time feeling sorry for themselves. They went back to work Sunday, watching film and practicing in an effort to improve upon the many mistakes they made against Liberty.

They would have done that anyway, regardless of the game's outcome. But with the Hokies losing two of their past three games, they find that every detail, every mistake, gets magnified.

"We haven't played a lot different in the last three weeks, in my opinion. We've been uneven," Fuente said. "The result shouldn't change the teaching. If we block the field goal and run it back for a touchdown and win the game, sure, people feel better, but there is still an incredible amount of teaching and correction that must

go on. That [the game-winning blocked field goal for a touchdown] didn't happen.

"We still have to praise what's good and try to correct what needs to be improved and try to articulate that to the players. If they don't understand the way we're teaching it or what we're teaching, then it's up to us to find a different way to teach it, or ask them to do something else. The focus is on our improvement. I think we should always celebrate the good things that happen and also work diligently to correct the mistakes."

Tech hopes to get those corrected by Saturday. It would like nothing better than to register a second consecutive win over the 'Canes.

With that, here are a few more takeaways from the news confer-

See TECH, page B4

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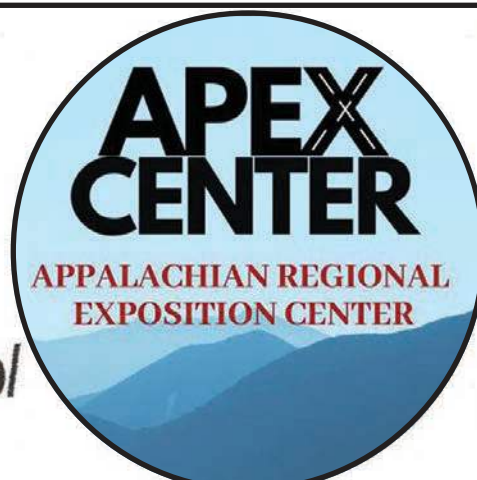
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Cavs picked No. 1 in ACC hoops poll

The ACC.com

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. - Virginia was selected first by a vote of the media in the ACC Operation Basketball 2020-21 Preseason Poll, announced Wednesday (Nov. 11).

The Cavaliers were named the Preseason ACC favorite for the first time since 1982-83 and second time in the 52-year history of the league poll.

Virginia was followed Duke, Florida State, North Carolina and Louisville in the top five.

ACC preseason voters selected Syracuse sixth, followed by Miami, NC State, Georgia Tech and Clemson. Virginia Tech was picked 11th, while Notre Dame, Pitt, Boston College and Wake Forest rounded out the voting.

The Cavaliers' Sam Hauser (Stevens Point, Wis.) joined preseason ACC Player of the Year Garrison Brooks (North Carolina), Scottie Barnes (Florida State), Jalen Johnson (Duke), Aamir Simms (Clemson) and Chris Lykes (Miami) on the preseason All-ACC first team.

UVA point guard Kihei Clark (Woodland Hills, Calif.) was joined on the preseason All-ACC second team by David Johnson (Louisville), Jose Alvarado (Georgia Tech), M.J. Walker (Florida State) and Wendell Moore Jr. (Duke).

No. 4 Virginia opens the regular season Wednesday, Nov. 25 vs. Maine at Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville, Conn.

ACC Operation Basketball 2020-21 Preseason Poll

(First-place votes in parenthesis)

Team & Points

1. Virginia (97), 2214
2. Duke (34), 2146
3. Florida State (15), 1973
4. North Carolina (7), 1933
5. Louisville (2), 1693
6. Syracuse, 1234
7. Miami, 1223
8. NC State, 1149
9. Georgia Tech, 1147
10. Clemson, 1057
11. Virginia Tech, 794
12. Notre Dame, 769
13. Pitt, 635
14. Boston College, 404
15. Wake Forest, 229

First-place votes in parentheses; 155 total voters

Preseason All-ACC Team

First Team

Name, School, Points
Garrison Brooks, N. Carolina, 137
Sam Hauser, Virginia, 89
Scottie Barnes, Florida State, 59
Jalen Johnson, Duke, 52
Aamir Simms, Clemson, 50
Chris Lykes, Miami, 50

Second Team

David Johnson, Louisville, 46
Jose Alvarado, Georgia Tech, 43
M.J. Walker, Florida State, 38
Kihei Clark, Virginia, 37
Wendell Moore Jr., Duke, 32

Preseason ACC Player of the Year

Name, School, Points
Garrison Brooks, N. Carolina, 102
Sam Hauser, Virginia, 24
M.J. Walker, Florida State, 10
Wendell Moore Jr., Duke, 7
Aamir Simms, Clemson, 5
Matthew Hurt, Duke, 3
Chris Lykes, Miami, 3

See ACC, page B2

AP

Continued from Page B1

pire Classic along with Gonzaga. “I think it starts with experience,” Drew said. “Whenever you return a lot of players that were successful, in a season that got moved back and a short summer, you’re definitely benefited from having guys that have college experience.”

The Wildcats, who matched their highest preseason ranking at No. 3 in 1995-96, harbored hope that Saddiq Bey would return for another season. But despite losing the versatile forward to the NBA, coach Jay Wright still has standout guard Collin Gillespie, double-double machine Jeremiah Robinson-Earl and solid starter Jermaine Samuels.

After back-to-back 30-win seasons and a national title, Virginia took a slight step back last season, going 23-7 before the season was called off. But coach Tony Bennett’s team should again be an ACC favorite behind Marquette transfer Sam Hauser, top-100 prospects Reece Beekman and Jabri Abdur-Rahim, and the Cavs’ lockdown defense.

Garza was second to Dayton’s Obi Toppin for national player of the year last season, and the Iowa big man flirted with the NBA before returning to the Hawkeyes. But he’s hardly a one-man show: Joe Wieskamp averaged 14.0 points, C.J. Fredrick and Connor McCaffery are experienced, and Jordan Bohannon is healthy after missing all but 10 games last season.

“Having seven players with starting experience provides us with incredible versatility,” Hawkeyes coach Fran McCaffery said. “In a year where you may have a player out for a couple weeks (due to COVID-19), depth will be important.”

THE SECOND FIVE

The Jayhawks lost Devon Dotson and Udoka Azubuike from a team that was the likely No. 1 overall seed had the NCAA Tournament been played, but they return enough firepower to give Baylor a challenge in the Big 12.

Wisconsin and Illinois join the Hawkeyes in giving the Big Ten

some fresh flavor atop the poll. Young and rebuilding Duke and Kentucky could take some lumps early in the season but could be championship contenders by March.

THE REST OF THE POLL

Creighton lost Ty-Shon Alexander to the NBA and Davion Mintz to Kentucky but still landed the highest preseason ranking in school history at No. 11, followed by Tennessee, Michigan State, Texas Tech and West Virginia.

North Carolina was next with Houston at No. 17, its highest preseason ranking since the final Phi Slama Jama team of Hakeem Olajuwon began the 1983-84 season at No. 3. Arizona State, Texas and Oregon finish the first 20 with Florida State, UCLA, Ohio State, Rutgers and Michigan rounding out the Top 25.

ON THE DOORSTEP

LSU was the first team outside the rankings, followed by Memphis, Florida, Alabama and Indiana. San Diego State got six votes after finishing No. 6 in the final poll last season but losing Mountain West player of the year Malachi Flynn and two other elite producers. Louisville and Seton Hall also are unranked after finishing in the top 15 last season.

- TOP 25**
- | | |
|----|----------------|
| 1 | Gonzaga (28) |
| 2 | Baylor (24) |
| 3 | Villanova (11) |
| 4 | Virginia (1) |
| 5 | Iowa |
| 6 | Kansas |
| 7 | Wisconsin |
| 8 | Illinois |
| 9 | Duke |
| 10 | Kentucky |
| 11 | Creighton |
| 12 | Tennessee |
| 13 | Michigan State |
| 14 | Texas Tech |
| 15 | West Virginia |
| 16 | North Carolina |
| 17 | Houston |
| 18 | Arizona State |
| 19 | Texas |
| 20 | Oregon |
| 21 | Florida State |
| 22 | UCLA |
| 23 | Ohio State |
| 24 | Rutgers |
| 25 | Michigan |

Others receiving votes: LSU 146, Memphis 69, Florida 69, Alabama 50, Indiana 48, Louisville 41, Richmond 40, Stanford 14, Providence 9, Saint Louis 8, Auburn 8, San Diego State 6, Connecticut 6, BYU 4, Loyola Chicago 3, Seton Hall 2, UNC Greensboro 1, Northern Iowa 1

My First Deer Rifle



Woods, Water & Wildlife

W.A. "Doc" Davis

tary surplus British Lee-Enfield .303 calibre rifle and sporterizing it into a hunting rifle. The rifle known as the “SMLE” stands for “Short, Magazine, Lee-Enfield. It featured a ten-round box magazine firing the .303 cartridge. This gun had been around for some time being officially issued in 1895 and was proven to be a fine weapon of war.

The gun I received from the military supply chain was a far cry as what I desired as a deer rifle. It came coated in cosmoline, a brown wax-like petroleum corrosion inhibitor. By taking the gun completely apart and cleaning each part, I was able to make the necessary changes to get it looking like a normal hunting rifle. The gun had a stock that encased the barrel nearly to the end of the muzzle. I cut back the bottom to the normal length of a forearm and the top part over the barrel, I eliminated altogether. The bayonet holder at the barrels end was done away with and I modified the front sight. I seated the barrel in the fore arm with

a fiber glass bed using an oil parting agent allowing the barrel to be free-floating. The rear sight was left as it was as it had windage and elevation adjustments that worked well. After a great deal of sanding of the stock, I had applied a couple coats of varnish-walnut stain; lightly hand sanding between coats.

I practiced sighting in the modified Enfield and found it would shoot though six to eight-inch dry logs. From this I surmised that it would drop a deer in its tracks, if I shot it through the heart. This was not the case as on the first day of the season, I waited just under the top of Big Walker Mountain as season opened that morning and firing commenced over the top on the Giles County side. A spike buck came into sight at about thirty yards and I shot holding on its heart behind the shoulder. It kept moving to me broad-sided and I fired again and it still traveled around a hundred feet. After I field dressed it, I found that its heart was completely shot out.

I did not get a new gun when I refurbished the old military rifle. However, if you are unsaved sinner, God can make a completely new person of you as stated in II Corinthians 5:17, “Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new.

Until next time

Virginia Tech to play 20 ACC games this season

GREENSBORO, N.C. – The long await is over, as the ACC released its men’s basketball slate on Tuesday, with the Virginia Tech men’s basketball team playing 20 conference games, beginning on Dec. 15 in Cassell Coliseum versus Clemson.

Ironically, Tech opened last year against Clemson as well for its first league game, downing the Tigers by seven to give coach Mike Young his 300th career victory in style.

The Hokies will play host to three nationally ranked teams in the AP Poll, including No. 4 Virginia on Jan. 30, No. 9 Duke on either Jan. 12-13 and No. 21 Florida State on either Feb. 9-10. They will play both the Cavaliers (Jan. 2) and Seminoles (Jan. 20) on the road, too, as well as No. 19 North Carolina on either Feb. 16-17.

The Hokies, who enter Year 2 with Young as their head coach, return three starters – Nahiem Alleyne, Wabissa Bede and Tyrece Radford – and welcome nine newcomers.

Capacity at Cassell Coliseum for the upcoming season is

currently set at 1,000 based on Commonwealth of Virginia regulations. This number is subject to change, and is based on current day regulations.

Dates for when single-game tickets will be available, as well as the process in place for purchasing, will be announced at a later date.

Virginia Tech 2020-21 ACC Schedule
Dec. 15 vs. Clemson

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or email
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Dec. 29-30 vs. Miami (Fla.)
Jan. 2 at No. 4 Virginia
Jan. 5-6 at [RV] Louisville
Jan. 10 vs. Notre Dame
Jan. 12-13 vs. No. 9 Duke
Jan. 17 at Wake Forest
Jan. 19-20 vs. Boston College
Jan. 23 at Syracuse
Jan. 26-27 at Notre Dame
Jan. 30 vs. No. 4 Virginia
Feb. 2-3 at Pitt
Feb. 6 at Miami (Fla.)
Feb. 9-10 vs. No. 21 Florida State
Feb. 13 vs. [RV] Louisville
Feb. 16-17 at No. 19 North Carolina
Feb. 20 at No. 21 Florida State
Feb. 23-24 vs. Georgia Tech
Feb. 27 vs. Wake Forest
March 5-6 at NC State

ACC

Continued from Page B1

Kihei Clark, Virginia, 1

Preseason ACC Freshman of the Year

Name, School, Points
Scottie Barnes, Florida State, 64
Jalen Johnson, Duke, 60
Caleb Love, North Carolina, 9
Day’Ron Sharpe, North Carolina, 6
DJ Steward, Duke, 4
Reece Beekman, Virginia, 3
Jeremy Roach, Duke, 3
RJ Davis, North Carolina, 3
Mark Williams, Duke, 2
Cam Hayes, NC State, 1

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Weber Smokey Mt. Cooker Smoker- new in box has cover, \$100. Call 540-818-6153.

Electric Leaf Blower with bag and reverse pickup, \$20; 2 small electric weed eaters, \$10 each; Lawn mower, \$40; Queen size comforter country red and pieced on the other side \$20; one old iron stove (make an offer). Call 540-639-1969.

Two antique washstands with pitcher and bowl, \$200; Curio Cabinet with dolls included, \$200; 180 Cookie Jars, \$30 each; Antique child's red wagon (56 yrs. old) \$50; Metal detector, \$50; Office refrigerator, 27 in. high, 17 in. wide, \$50; Antique white kitchen cabinet, \$200. Call 540-980-2943.

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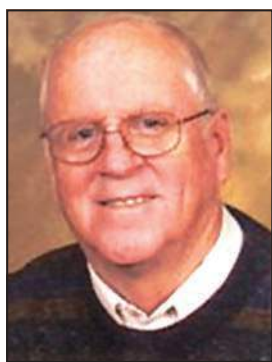
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Tech

Continued from Page B1

ence:

- Not surprisingly, Fuente received a question about his handling of the end of the Liberty game. Tech blocked a 59-yard field-goal attempt with 8 seconds remaining and returned it for a touchdown, but Fuente had called a timeout before the snap, thus nullifying the play. Liberty's offense returned to the field, gained eight yards on a pass play, and then Barbir hit the game-winning 51-yard field goal.

Fuente took the blame for what happened, saying that he should have called the timeout sooner.

"I don't regret taking a timeout there," he said. "I think the biggest thing that chaps my hide is that we've talked about it ad nauseum as a staff, that I believe in taking a timeout there to make sure everything is set, and I believe wholeheartedly in taking it before they snap the ball. The whole take it right as they snap - I'm out on all that, and that's what happened. That's what bothers me the most.

"Taking the timeout and making sure everyone is set and geared up for the rush, and we get a chance to talk about things - there's nothing wrong with that in that situation at all. It's just what I go into every game saying is that I'm not the guy that takes the timeout as they're snapping the ball, and that's what happened. And then, to compound it, we blocked it and ran it back for a touchdown and then had to go play defense and all the things that happened after that.

"It doesn't get easier, but you have to turn the page. The thing about this business is if you sit around and pat yourself on the



Hokiesports.com

Redshirt junior RB Raheem Blackshear runs out of the grasp of a Liberty tackler.

back after a big win too long, you're going to get paid back really quickly, and if you sit around and mope about it, then you're not going to be able to put your best effort forward."

- The staff was more upset about what transpired over the course of the game than what happened at the end. Liberty dominated the time of possession, holding the ball for more than 37 minutes in part because of its rushing attack. The Flames, who averaged 5.0 yards per carry, became the fourth opponent in the past five games to rush for more

than 198 yards against the Hokies, and Fuente cited gap fits and tackling as the main culprits.

"We didn't fit the run very well," he said. "It basically came down to it. We tried to make some adjustments. They had two weeks [to prepare], so we knew there would be new things, and we would have to adjust. I felt like when we did fit it, there were a couple of times where we couldn't get the ball on the ground. We did not tackle well at a couple of positions when we did fit up the run and feed the ball to the unblocked hat, we didn't get it down, and then there were some other times when we didn't fit it up very well."

- The Hokies received another strong performance from defen-

sive end Amaré Barno this past Saturday, as he continues his upward trajectory as a player. The linebacker-turned-defensive end registered a career-best eight tackles, including seven solo stops and 2.5 tackles for a loss. He also had a sack, bringing his season total to 4.5, and he forced a fumble and tipped two passes.

"Amaré Barno played really well," Fuente said. "I probably should have led off talking about Amaré. Amaré just continues to get better. Made several big plays."

- Fuente admitted that he wants to get more people contributing on offense after a game in which quarterback Hendon Hooker threw the ball 27 times

and ran it a career-high 20 (for 156 yards). Tech played nearly all of the game without tailback Khalil Herbert, who came out with a hamstring injury right after the opening kickoff, and the Hokies relied more on Hooker in the running game than usual. Tech's tailbacks combined for just 10 of the Hokies' 31 carries in the game.

"We do need to continue to bring along those other guys," Fuente said. "Jalen [Holston] needs to play a role for us. Raheem [Blackshear] needs to continue to improve. It's kind of a weird situation leading into the week where it wasn't that we didn't know we wouldn't have Khalil. It was that we weren't sure. So you've got Raheem working at both slot and running back, but when you lose Khalil on the first play of the game, he's got to play just running back. So yeah, there's a lot of shuffling and discussion that has to happen when you lose somebody like that."

- Fuente offered no specific updates on Herbert, tight end James Mitchell or linebacker Rayshard Ashby, all of whom missed either all or parts of the Liberty game. Unfortunately, those injuries came right at the time when the Hokies saw Jermaine Waller return to the field for the first time since the North Carolina game. Waller, the team's best cover cornerback, dealt with an injury all summer, and then he suffered a setback in the North Carolina game. Fuente hopes Waller has turned a corner because he brings talent and experience to Tech's defense, and he allows the staff to be a little more diverse with its game plans because of his one-on-one coverage ability.

"He's incredibly sharp," Fuente said of Waller. "He understands the scheme, and he's technically sound. On top of that, he's obviously a talented player. We have sorely missed him, and I hope that we can keep him going throughout the season. He desperately wants to play and help this football team, and we're better when he's out there."

Virus causes several games to be canceled

(AP) - The pandemic wrecked more plans across college football on Wednesday, with No. 12 Georgia at Missouri becoming the fourth game postponed in the Southeastern Conference alone and No. 3 Ohio State's visit to Maryland canceled because of a coronavirus outbreak among the Terrapins.

"This is certainly a week unlike any other," SEC Commissioner Greg Sankey said. "I've repeatedly said (since March) that the circumstances around the virus will guide our decisions."

While the SEC will assess rescheduling options, there are no open dates built into the Big Ten's nine-week schedule, and teams must play at least six games to qualify to play for the league championship. The Buckeyes are now down to seven games at most and No. 13 Wisconsin, which was favored to meet the Buckeyes in the league championship game, has already had two games canceled because of its own outbreak.

Among the three SEC games still on for this Saturday, Arkansas will visit No. 6 Florida without Razorbacks coach Sam Pittman after he tested positive for the virus. Pittman said he has had some body aches, but is otherwise doing OK. He is isolating in his guest house with his dog.

No. 24 Auburn at Mississippi State; No. 1 Alabama at LSU; and No. 5 Texas A&M at Tennessee were all called off earlier this week. Both the Tigers-Bulldogs and Aggies-Volunteers games have been rescheduled for Dec. 12.

In all, eight games across major college football have been called off so far this week including Memphis at Navy, Air Force at Wyoming and Louisiana-Monroe at Arkansas State.

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The Pulaski County Board of Supervisors intends to hold a public hearing beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 23, 2020, in the Supervisors Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, N.W., Suite 1 in the Town of Pulaski to receive citizens' comments on the following matter:

a) Public Hearing to consider comments regarding the renewal of a cable television franchise with Shenandoah Cable Television, LLC (Shentel).

Submission of comments in writing to the above address, fax (540-980-7717), or e-mail to bos@pulaskicounty.org are preferred. Information regarding the matter above is available for public inspection by phoning (540) 980-7705 or emailing bos@pulaskicounty.org.

If you are a disabled individual and would like special auxiliary aids or services, 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.

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NASCAR closes stablized, energized by Elliott

AVONDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Drivers, finally, stop your engines.

NASCAR has waved the checkered flag on its frenetic 2020 season, a whirlwind of rescheduled and relocated races, some held with lots of fans, some fans and no fans at all. The effort to complete all 38 races during the pandemic was rewarded with a new champion, who just happens to be NASCAR's reigning most popular driver.

Chase Elliott won three of the final five races, including Sunday's winner-take-all finale at Phoenix Raceway, to claim the first Cup of his career. His late-season surge upstaged Kevin Harvick and Denny Hamlin, the two most dominant drivers this year, and elevated the second-generation NASCAR star alongside his Hall of Fame father as NASCAR champions.

It was a promising close for NASCAR, which very much needs its young stars in the spotlight. Dale Earnhardt Jr. was a 12-time winner of the fan-selected most popular driver award but never won a championship. Elliott took the reins in 2018 after Earnhardt retired and rewarded his loyalists in just his fifth full season at NASCAR's top level.

He has faced quixotic expectations since he was 14 — that's when Rick Hendrick gave him a driver development contract — from peers who saw his heritage as a means to re-energizing a sport that saw its biggest stars trickle out of the driver's seat the last five years. Jeff Gordon, Tony Stewart, Carl Edwards and Earnhardt have all retired, and seven-time champion Jimmie Johnson joined the group Sunday.

Elliott's instant popularity was ordained not for what he did in his Chevrolet, but because of his family tree, which dates to a NASCAR some fans still yearn for. Bill Elliott won the 1988 Cup title, 44 races and fans voted "Awesome Bill from Dawsonville" the most popular driver a record 16 times.

He would have kept winning the award, too, but Bill Elliott in 2001 removed his name from the ballot and encouraged fans to honor his late rival, Dale Earnhardt Sr.

Chase Elliott, who turns 25 later this month and is NASCAR's



Chase Elliott, driver of the #9 NAPA Auto Parts Chevrolet, celebrates with his parents Cindy Elliott and NASCAR Hall of Famer Bill Elliott in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series Season Finale 500 and the 2020 NASCAR Cup Series Championship at Phoenix Raceway on November 08, 2020 in Avondale, Arizona.



Chase Elliott, driver of the #9 NAPA Auto Parts Chevrolet, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series Season Finale 500 and the 2020 NASCAR Cup Series Championship at Phoenix Raceway on November 08, 2020 in Avondale, Arizona.

Jared C. Tilton | Getty Images

ry and heritage of the sport, there isn't anybody else in the lineup that I can think of."

He's won now. And at the same time, NASCAR seems to have stabilized.

The series for at least a decade has been adjusting to an ever-changing economic landscape, an aging fan base, declining television ratings and attendance, and a dearth of star power. When the pandemic put NASCAR on a 10-week pause in March, the series could have collapsed.

Instead, NASCAR was one of the first sports to resume competition, first to get fans back into the stands and first to complete its entire schedule. A new car originally scheduled for 2021 was postponed a year, but expectations of the car improving the business model has ignited interest among new team owners.

NASCAR President Steve Phelps called 2020 "the single most difficult year that we've faced as a sport," but a year in which the industry unified to keep cars on the track. Next year's season-opening Daytona 500 is still on schedule for Feb. 14 and plans now include spectators in the stands.

Uncertainty hangs over everything, but Phelps said NASCAR is in good shape.

"Will everyone's bottom line look more challenged? The answer is yes. Do I believe we as a sport are going to shut down? We are not," Phelps said. "Are we financially viable to move forward? We are. We are going to persevere and we are going to continue to put on races, bring that great racing to the fan base."

Two of NASCAR's three championships at Phoenix were won in dramatic late shootouts and of the three new champions, Elliott is the oldest. Truck Series champion Sheldon Creed is 23; Xfinity Series winner Austin Cindric is 22.

In Elliott, NASCAR's most popular driver is also the champion for the first time since Bill Elliott's 1988 title. He's far from charismatic but has a Southern charm with all his "heck," "dang" and "shoot" exclamations that resonates with the sport.

The Cup solidifies his spot as the new face of NASCAR, of Hendrick Motorsports and of Chevrolet. But Elliott is humble, just like his dad, and not interested in labels.

"I don't know that that's really for me to say who is or isn't the face of something," he said. "But from where I sit, it's the performance industry, right? It's entertainment from the outside looking in, but what makes my living is performing or not."

"I think me performing at a high level is going to take me a lot further in life than being the face of something."

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by Linda Thistle

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

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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November 2020

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Sat. Nov. 7th: Evangelist Joyce Greer**

**Fri. Nov. 13th: Evangelist Steve Board
Sat. Nov. 14th: Pastor Harry Gunter**

**Fri. Nov. 20th: Chosen "In Concert" CANCELLED WILL RESCHEDULE
Sat. Nov. 21st: No Service**

**NOTE: 11th Annual Feed The Hungry Thanksgiving Meal to go orders only
3 pm until 5 pm. The Clothing Bank will remain closed during this time.**

****PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION****

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Sat. Nov. 28th: Pastor Charlie Barbettini
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Amber Waves

LOOKS LIKE MY DAD IS MAKING HIS MYSTERY STEW.

WOW, IT SMELLS KINDA WEIRD...AND WHAT KIND OF VEGETABLES ARE THOSE?

HEY MOM, HAVE YOU SEEN WHAT DAD IS MAKING?

WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THE INGREDIENTS AREN'T A MYSTERY TO YOU AS WELL?

Out on a Limb

LOOK, ANOTHER FLOCK OF OUTDOOR GRILLS FLYING SOUTH FOR THE WINTER.

R.F.D.

THE TIMES THEY KEEP A'CHANGIN', MAY!

UH-OH! NOW WHAT?

THEY'VE REPLACED THE OL' CRACKER BARREL WITH ONE'A THEM BLUE PLASTIC DRUMS FILLED WITH LITTLE BAGS OF POTATO CHIPS!

The Spats

THERE'S MORE THAN ONE WAY TO SKIN A CAT!

I HOPE I'M NOT INVITED OVER FOR DINNER TONIGHT.

POPEYE

HEY CYSMAN

BOO HOO!

UH-OH...THAT'S MAMA WATCHIN' TH' SOAPS AG'IN

SHE REALLY GITTS INTA DEM T'INGS!

BOO

WOT'S IT DISTIME?

WOT'S HAPPENIN' MAMA?

SNIP LOOKY DERE MEN IS SECH BEASTS!

THET SWEET LASS 'BEIN' TORMENTED BY THET BRUTE...

...TURNIN' AWAY FROM HER IN DISGUST AFTER KISSIN' N' A HUGGIN' HER...

BOO HOO!

C'MON, MAM, IT'S ONLY A C'MERCIAL...

HE COMES BACK T'ER AFTER SHE GARGLES WIT' "LISTERMINT" IS Y'SURE?

Just Like Cats & Dogs

THE GAME MUST BE OVER. I THINK THEY MUST HAVE ACCIDENTALLY CLICKED ON ONE OF MY FAVORITE COOKING SHOWS.

LAFF-A-DAY

"I never listen to the evidence — it only confuses my intuition."

"I thought golf was an expensive hobby, but do you know how much _____ costs?"

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!

Bristle

BULBETS

Current

MASTER

Attendance

MURUQO

Riches

THELAW

TODAY'S WORD

by Dave T. Phipps

by Gary Kopervas

by Mike Marland

by Jeff Pickering

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Witticism

4 Out of danger

8 "Price Is Right" guesses

12 Exist

13 Vacation

14 Traditional tales

15 Scout festival

17 Black gem

18 Woolly beast

19 Kanga's kid

21 Firmament

22 Cavort

26 Wander off

29 Potent stick

30 Inventor Whitney

31 Implement

32 "Gosh!"

33 Small combo

34 In times past

35 Support system?

36 Dud on wheels

37 Panda's lunch

39 Neely of hockey fame

40 Debtor's letters

41 Current measure

45 Goad on

48 Angkor Wat locale

50 Roster

51 Hastened

DOWN

1 Naked Goya subject

2 Exam format

3 Sub for a vacationer

4 Thickset

5 Impressive grouping

6 "A pox on thee!"

7 Ornate centerpiece

8 Become a flower

9 Tiny bit

10 Parch

11 Gender

16 — metabolism

20 Feedbag morsel

23 Highway shoulder

24 Hodgepodge

25 MGM mascot

26 Impale

27 Frat party garb

28 Leeway

29 Afternoon

social

32 Julius Marx

33 Beat

35 Halloween cry

36 11th Greek letter

38 Product of one's labor?

39 Ship of the desert

42 Rewrite

43 Carousel, e.g.

44 Relaxation

45 Crafty

46 Chart format

47 Dos Passos trilogy

49 Have a bug

top ten

Fastest-Growing Cities

- Henderson, NV
- Seattle
- Atlanta
- Miami
- Denver
- Austin, TX
- Fort Worth, TX
- Aurora, CO
- Tampa, FL
- Mesa, AZ

Source: Wallethub

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY: The country of Equatorial Guinea lies on which continent?
- MOVIES: Which 1989 movie contains the line, "Have you ever danced with the devil by the pale moonlight?"
- U.S. STATES: Which state's official flower is the Rocky Mountain Columbine?
- LITERATURE: Which 17th century Spanish novel includes the line, "Wit and humor do not reside in slow minds?"
- HISTORY: How many crewed moon landings has the United States made so far?
- TELEVISION: Which 1980s sitcom features a character named Al Bundy?
- LANGUAGE: What action is described in the term nephelococcygia?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What color is cyan?
- MUSIC: Which group had the 1989 hit "Love Shack"?
- ANATOMY: What is a goiter?

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Answers

- Africa
- "Batman" ("The Joker")
- Colorado
- "Don Quixote"
- Six
- "Married... With Children"
- Finding shapes in clouds
- Greenish blue
- The B-52's
- Enlargement of the thyroid gland

Solution time: 27 mins.

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: I equals F

JAN CGC VTUNZ JR YNVXN JAN

PRCXNCJ, LGJ TAN IRGCZ KJ

ZKIIKPGYJ JR TAVUN JAN AVLKJ.

Americanisms

"It is the set of the sails, not the direction of the wind that determines which way we will go."

— Jim Rohn

SCRAMBLERS

Today's Word

1. Stubble 2. Stream 3. Quorum 4. Wealth

CryptoQuip

The nun asked to leave the answer difficult to shake the habit.

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: **Rescue a Failing Company**

Beltway	Grassroots	Polls	Spin
Blue	Horse race	Pundit	Straw vote
Earmark	Leak	Red	Swing state
Extender	Left	Right	

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is **LONGFELLOW**

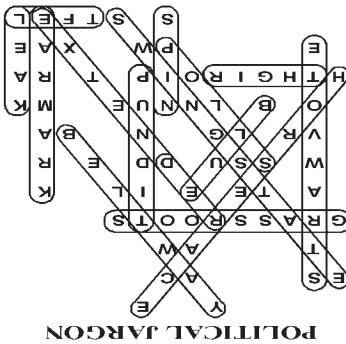
One letter stands for another. In this sample, **A** is used for the three L's, **X** for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

W'V O NWPV SQUWQAQP WI,
RILQ TRX KMOPM LYOKWIF
ODOPCK, MYQT FR ODOT.
— UWI-VOIXQU VWPOICO

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I'm a firm believer in, once you start chasing awards, they go away.
— Lin-Manuel Miranda

answer
Cryptoquote



Celebrity Extra: Lily James

Q: I've watched most seasons of "The Bachelorette," but not all of them. Has the woman ever proposed to the man, or has it always been traditional, with the man getting down on one knee? -D T.I.

A: No, each season, the star of "The Bachelorette" has been the one in control of choosing her suitors the entire season, but none of them has presented a ring from her pocket.

Longtime host Chris Harrison told E!Online that he would love to see the woman take charge someday by getting down on one knee ... "and she pulls out a Chris Harrison collection line ring and delivers the proposal. Why not, right? We talk about equality, we talk about all these things, and I get it -- at the end of the day, there are certain traditions that we love. It's not a bad thing, but maybe someday that will be a part of the show. I would love to be there for that moment."

You probably paused when you read the words "Chris Harrison collection line ring." Yes, Harrison has his own line of wedding rings for men, and he actually envisions men switching out their rings every day like women do with purses. You can check them out at www.manlybands.com.

The current season of "The Bachelorette" is unusual in that the decider, Clare Crawley, abruptly exits the show before the season is finished. (I won't give away what happens in case her final episode airs before you read this).

Q: When will new episodes of "The Blacklist" and "Blue



ABC/Maarten de Boer
Clare Crawley

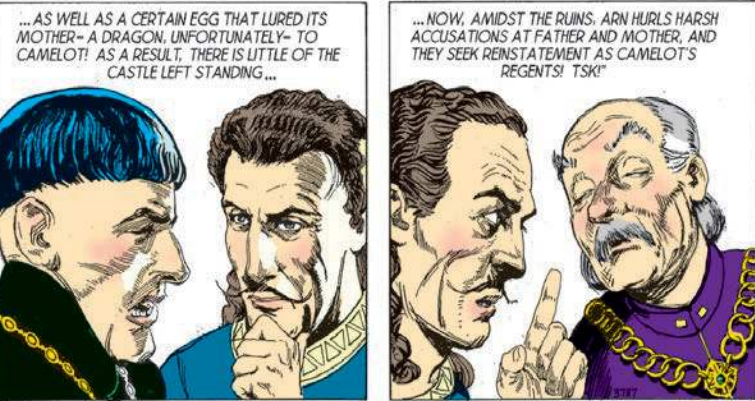
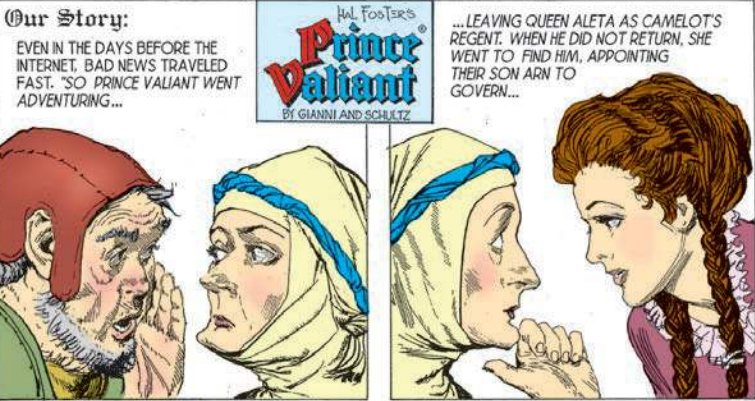
Bloods" return? -- J.S.

A: Most season premieres have been delayed until mid- or late November, and NBC's "The Blacklist" is no exception. It stars James Spader and will begin its eighth season Friday, Nov. 13. "Blue Bloods," starring Tom Selleck, is still going strong after a decade and will have an abbreviated season of 16 episodes. Its premiere date hasn't been announced, but CBS is holding its Friday 10 p.m. ET timeslot in anticipation.

Q: What was the name of the half-hour soap on CBS after "The Young and the Restless"? It was on for a few years before "The Bold and the Beautiful" replaced it. -- L.I.

A: "Capitol," which aired from 1982 to 1987, was the daytime soap that preceded "B&B." It

See CELEBRITY, page B10

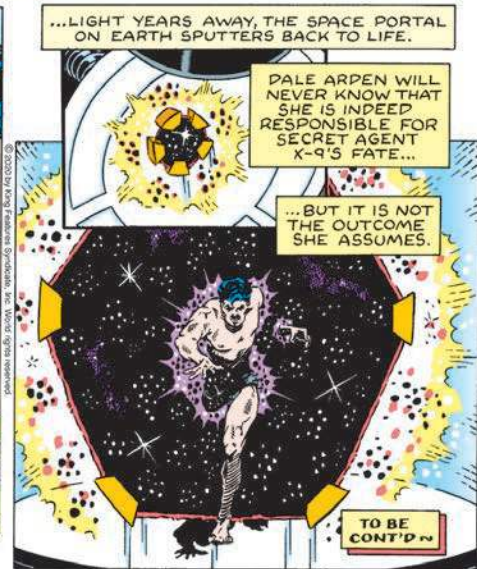
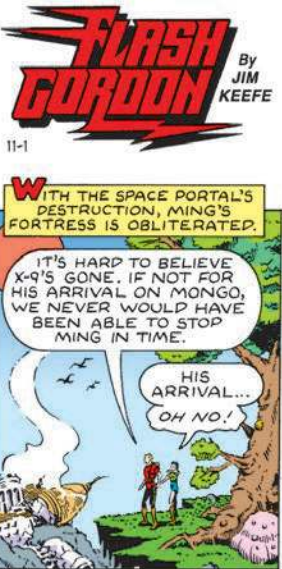


WRITTEN BY DASHIELL HAMMETT AND ILLUSTRATED BY ALEX RAYMOND. "SECRET AGENT X-9" FIRST APPEARED IN NEWSPAPERS ON JANUARY 22, 1934.



DURING RAYMOND'S TENURE ON "SECRET AGENT X-9" HE WORKED SIMULTANEOUSLY ON TWO OTHER COMIC STRIPS...

...INTERNATIONAL ADVENTURER "JUNGLE JIM" AND A SCI-FI STRIP CALLED "FLASH GORDON".



TIGER



by BUD BLAKE



Victorian Cabinet

The furniture you select for your first house is usually furniture that is as old as the house. A new modern house probably has lots of windows, high ceilings, kitchens and bathrooms made with marble. Most rooms are painted with either a mixture of very bright colors or a monotone shade of white or beige. Furniture looks like the first modern designs -- simple shapes, little carving or decoration, chairs made of bent wood and metal rods, and plain rectangular storage pieces and tables. Victorian furniture with dark wood, carved and gilt trims, and metal plaques, just doesn't fit in.

When this 1870 American Renaissance-era cabinet was offered at auction (est. \$8,000 to \$12,000), there were few bidders. Moore, York, & Howell of Philadelphia, who exhibited at the 1876 Centennial Exposition, made it. A great example of American Renaissance furniture, over 5 feet high and just short of 5 feet wide, it is a good size for a Victorian room with an 8-foot-high ceiling and lots of wall space. So, while prices for early modern furniture have gone up, this cabinet, bought at a 2007 auction for \$18,000, was featured in a well-advertised, well-run auction this year and didn't sell.

CURRENT PRICES

Vaseline glass pickle castor, silver plate frame, fans, C-scrolls, finial, marked Bersh, 11 inches, \$180.

Game box, rosewood, S-scrolls, flip-top compartments, escutcheon, hinges, 7 x 17 inches, \$240.

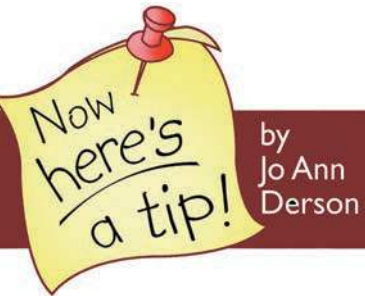
KOVELS
Antiques & Collecting
By Terry and Kim Kovel



Trends in clothing change quickly. Skirts are long and then short, business attire for men now includes sports shirts and no neckties. Large, Victorian furniture is out of style and hard to sell. This top-quality cabinet didn't sell even though it was estimated at less than half the price it cost 12 years ago.

TIP: Never stop a music box in the middle of a tune. If the box is later moved, there is more likely to be damage to the spikes on the cylinder if it is not at the end of a song.

"Kovels' Antiques & Collectibles Price Guide" -- the all new 2021 edition -- is now available in bookstores and online, or visit www.Kovels.com for a special offer.



* This is a wonderful tip received via e-mail: If you have a panic button for your car alarm, keep your keys by the bedside. If you experience a problem during the night, trip the panic alarm. Let your trusted neighbors know about your intention, and they will be able to assist you.

* "Great gravy is only a plastic bag away! This is my tip for separating the fat from pan drippings to make gravy. I take a quart-size plastic bag and set it in a glass measuring cup. Pour the pan drippings through a strainer, right into the bag. Let it sit for 15-20 minutes, and the fat will separate to the top. Seal the bag, and snip a small hole in a bottom corner, drain the liquid into a saucepan to make gravy. It's that easy." -- T.C. in Idaho

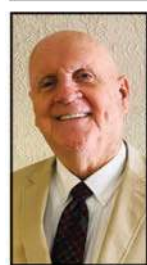
* Whenever I am baking and the recipe calls for, say, 1 cup of honey (or some other sticky substance), I used to pour the honey into the measuring cup but then have a hard time getting all the honey back out of the cup and into the mixing bowl. Now I rinse the measuring cup with water right before measuring, or spray with nonstick cooking spray. It slides right out!

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



Church Directory

Worship Each Week In The Church Of Your Choice



Teach Me Your Word O Lord

Terry McCraw

Covenant Psalms: Psalm 81

The book of Psalms is the praise book of Israel. There are 150 Psalms in the book of Psalms.

At least 75 of them were written by David. About 50 are by anonymous contributors but it is believed that many of these were also written by David.

Each Chapter in the Book of Psalms is an independent composition and is placed in the Book in no particular order. Studies show that the Book of Psalms is the most widely read Book of the Bible. The Psalms were written over an estimated time period of about 1,000 years. From the time of Moses, to the time of Ezra and Nehemiah. The Psalms set the standard for praise unto God.

Psalm 81:8-10. "Hear O My People, and I will testify unto thee: O Israel, if thou wilt hearken unto Me. There shall no strange god be in thee: neither shalt thou worship any strange god. I am the Lord thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt: open thy mouth wide and I will fill it."

God commands His people to hear Him because He has something of great importance to say to them.

In order to make sure that someone hears us, we must first get their attention. If they are not paying attention, we might as well be talking to the walls.

When Jesus had something to say that was very important for the people to hear and understand, He would begin with Verily, Verily, I say unto you. Truly, truly I say unto you. He did this to get their attention and to emphasize the importance of the great truth He was about teach them.

When we want to get someone's attention, we'll yell out HEY! Or STOP! Or LISTEN! And all heads will turn towards us because we have captured their attention.

Basically What God was saying to them here that was so important, was the second of the Ten Commandments. Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.

There's only One God.

Jehovah God. The Lord God Almighty. And Him only shall we serve. Any and all other so called gods, little g, are phonies. They have been devised in the minds of foolish men. Paul said, speaking of idol gods, "they are nothing at all. Idol gods and just figments of foolish men's imagination.

Monotheism is the belief in One God, whereas Polytheism is the belief in more than one god.

Paul wrote in 1 Cor. 8:6, "But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him."

False gods can't see, or hear, or speak, or move, or answer a prayer.

God said to Israel, open thy mouth wide and I will fill it. Meaning, I will give you what you ask Me for.

He was saying basically, if you'll recognize Me and honor Me as your One True Living God, and serve me, you can ask what you will, and I will give it to you. Open your mouth wide and I will fill it with the words of truth. This may be understood as opening the mouth either in prayer or in praise. To open the

See MCCRAW, page B9

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: Mark Asbury
Primary Service Times:
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Worship, 11 a.m.
Phone: 276-477-3835

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 Mark Asbury
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: 540-674-6811
mountainviewumc.yolasite.com/
Pastor: Paige Wimberly
Adult Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Morning Worship with Children's Church at 11 a.m.

Dublin Baptist Church

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

First United Methodist Church

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

Belspring Baptist Church

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

Memorial Baptist Church

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

River of Life Church

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

Delton Church of God of Prophecy

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

Heritage Church

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

Fairlawn Baptist

6758 Oxford Avenue
Fairlawn, VA 24141

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 Church

P.O. Box 577
424 East Main Street
Pastors Don Hanshaw & Don Shelor
(540) 674-5128
office@dublinumc.com
Early Worship - 8:45 am
Sunday School - 9:45 am
Praise & Worship Small Group - 10:00 am
Worship - 10:55 am

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
Pastor: Rev. Tony Hart
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.com/faithbiblechurch
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
Sunday Children's Church: 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening: 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m.
Children's Meal: 6:30 p.m.
Children's and Youth's Group Classes: 7 p.m.

Dublin Christian Church

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

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.

Randolph Avenue United Methodist Church
1607 Randolph Avenue
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Elston McLain
Worship Service: 11 a.m.
Phone: (540) 980-8775

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

Family Worship Center First Pentecostal Holiness
955 Memorial Drive, Pulaski
540-980-7287
Jeff Willhoite, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.
KidsZone 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.
www.fwcpulaski.church

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 Activitiy 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

Warriors for Christ II
Bishop Sherman Buckner
600 Skyline Circle
Pulaski, VA
540-315-2317
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Worship: 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Thursday: 7 p.m. Service

Bob White Boulevard Baptist Church
3826 Bob White Boulevard
Pulaski, VA.
Pastor: Allen Harman
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Preaching: 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening: 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7:30 p.m.
FUNDAMENTAL

McCraw

Continued from Page B8

mouth wide in prayer is to pray with great boldness; to pour out one’s soul to God; to pray with much importunity and fervency, pleading for the fulfillment of the promises of God, and asking in faith for much.

And God may be said to fill this wide mouth of faith with answered prayer, when he grants the petitions and desires of the heart, and gives his people what they ask for.

Here, God reminds them of His omnipotence. “I am the Lord thy God ~ which brought thee out of the land of Egypt.”

They owed God their allegiance! Just like you and I owe God our allegiance for bringing us out of the bondage of sin and giving us new lives worth living.

We all have a responsibility to love, serve and praise the God of Creation, the God of mercy, grace and love.

When we see someone groveling in the depths of sin and degradation we should say, as John Bradford said, “There, but for the grace of God, goes I.”

Our very fate is in God’s hands. He could call our number at any time and our lives on earth would be over. We owe God our very lives. We owe Him for our next breath and our next heartbeat.

Those who come before God with a pretense of worship and with unconfessed, unforgiven sin in their lives are out of touch with God. Their worship is vain or worthless. For God only accepts praise and worship from those whose sins are under the blood of Jesus.

Everyone who does not praise with their hearts, their praise is as sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal to God’s ears. They might as well be out in the woods speaking to a stump.

Well, someone might be thinking, then there is no reason for me to be praising God if he isn’t going to accept it? That is the wrong way to be thinking. What you should be thinking about is getting your life back right with God so your praise and your worship will be accepted.

If a person is living in sin, they are not eligible for the blessings of God. In order to be eligible for the blessings of God, we must have our sins under the blood and be living for God... because these are the kinds of folks that God blesses and the only kinds that God blesses.

God is not going to bless someone’s mess! First, get your mess under the blood and then God will accept your worship and bless your life.

Bible Trivia

- Is the book of 1 Thessalonians in the Old or New Testament or neither?
- To keep Adam and Eve away after the Fall, what did God place around the tree of life? Smoking pits, Deep moat, Cherubims with a flaming sword, Walking vipers
- Who is the only daughter of Jacob specifically named in the Bible (KJV)? Dinah, Junias, Noadiah, Orpah
- From 2 Samuel 12, what personality did God name Jedidiah? David, Amos, Solomon, Joab

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Cherubims with a flaming sword; 3) Dinah; 4) Solomon

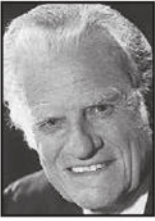
We will one day have new bodies in Heaven

Q: I have never been a churchgoer, but even I think it’s horrible that local governments can issue mandates preventing people from going to church. Will there be limitations in Heaven? -- H.H.

A: There is much about Heaven we don’t know; God hasn’t chosen to reveal everything to us. One truth God has revealed to us, however, is one we sometimes overlook: for those who belong to Jesus Christ: we will one day have new bodies in Heaven -- bodies

that will be free from the pain and death of this present world. They will be like Christ’s body after His resurrection -- somewhat like our present bodies, yet free from the limitations we now experience.

Someday, the Bible says, Christ “will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body” (Philippians 3:21, NIV). It is hard to imagine this fully. Someday all evil and sin will be destroyed, and we will be part of a new heaven and a new earth, the



My Answer

Billy Graham

home of righteousness (2 Peter 3:13).

Heaven will be perfect: “Nothing impure will ever enter [heaven], nor will anyone who does what is shameful

or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb’s book of life” (Revelation 21:27, NIV).

There’s a glorious future prepared for those who know Him. Each person should care whether their name is written in the Book of Life. For those who are not sure, it can be resolved today by asking Jesus Christ to forgive their sins and cleanse them and make them whole. They can begin now to walk a new life in obedience to the Lord. This is a decision

that should not be put off for one moment, for it will be the most important decision ever made. Heaven will be far more glorious than anything we can imagine. Only in Heaven will we know exactly what Heaven is like.

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

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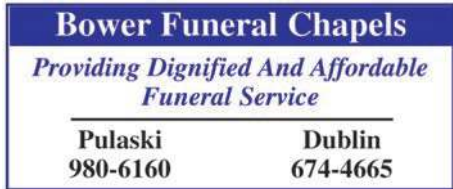
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Champions

We are a week and a half away from the 69th Annual Meeting and Awards, and we are going to celebrate like we have never celebrated before. At the heart and soul of the awards are some incredible members that have gone above and beyond despite the fears and concerns that we are all experiencing.

I feel as if I have this big secret, and I want to shout “look, look, what our members have done.” The community needs to know about all these champions and what they have done to make our community safer and to keep us economically viable.

There are so many people and businesses that did selfless acts that it is hard to narrow them down and thank just a few. So, on November 19, at 7:00 p.m. on the Pulaski Chamber Facebook page, we are going to introduce you to our Pulaski Champions and say thank you for what you have done during these difficult and challenging times. People need to know what some of these accomplishments were, and I’m going to tell you about some of them:

One of our companies used their engineering department to design masks and found suppliers to mass reproduce them.

Despite the complete change in this companies service routine, this business developed innovative ways to continue to serve their customers.

United Way announces Backpacks Unite sponsors

United Way of Southwest Virginia announced Monday the sponsors for the Backpacks Unite Program for the 2020-2021 school year. Backpacks Unite provides nutritious weekend meals during each school year to over 1160 elementary and middle school-aged students throughout Southwest Virginia ensuring that students come to school Monday ready to learn and ready to succeed. The program is a collaborative effort and could not be accomplished without the partnership of Food City.

Celebrity

Continued from Page B7

had a special primetime premiere before airing in its weekday afternoon timeslot on CBS.

“Capitol” was set in Washington, D.C., and involved an ongoing feud between the McCandless and Clegg families. The two matriarchs were played by Constance Towers, who would later go on to play Helena on “General Hospital,” and Marla Adams, who just concluded her run on “Y&R” as Dina.

What many people don’t know is that the late James Lipton, who eventually hosted “Inside the Actor’s Studio,” started out as a writer for soaps, having been the head writer of “Guiding Light,” “Another World” and “Capitol.”

“Capitol” was never as big a hit as its lead-in, “Y&R.” After its cancellation, “B&B” quickly



Down To Business

Peggy White
Pulaski Co.
Chamber of
Commerce

Another business used their celebrity to engage the community and keep people informed.

And another business, despite the rising costs of meats and mandatory changes in capacity, offered free breakfast to any school-age kid in Pulaski County.

Who are these champions? To see who they are, you will have to join us on the 19th.

Our members have come to together to make sure we can properly celebrate our members and the achievements we have made despite the challenges. We have eight raffle prize packages that will appeal to any and all tastes, put together by our member businesses for your enjoyment. They can be found on Facebook, and tickets can be purchased on the Chamber website at pulaski-chamber.info for \$25 a chance for members and \$30 for guests.

Join us for the celebratory evening.

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

Will my mother-in-law be okay?

Dear Dave,

My mother-in-law is 60. She works hard and has no debt, but she also has no savings or retirement accounts. However, she owns a couple of paid-for rental properties that are worth about \$350,000 each, and her home is worth \$700,000. What can I do to help her plan for the future?

Paul

Dear Paul,

The best plan would be to first see if she’s already got a plan. I understand you’re worried about her not having any savings or retirement. That makes you a good son-in-law. But it sounds to me like she’s got the makings of a pretty good retirement situation lined up, even if she didn’t go the traditional route to get there. You just told me she’s sitting on nearly \$1.5 million in paid-for real estate. Dude, she’s a millionaire!

If the time comes where she decides she doesn’t like landlording anymore or just wants to retire, she can always sell the rental properties, invest that big pile of cash in mutual funds, and live off the income. I’ve got a feeling this lady isn’t going to be starving or depending on Social Insecurity.

If you’re concerned about things, just sit down with her and let her know. Ask her if she needs any help with her money situation and plans for retirement. If she doesn’t want to talk about it right now, that’s fine,



Dave
Says

Dave Ramsey

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but making the offer shows you care. And, having a good, strong game plan means fewer worries!

—Dave

Dear Dave,

My wife and I have two kids and one on the way. We’re debt-free except for our home, and we have our emergency fund in place. We’ve also been saving for retirement, with me putting 15% into a 401(k) and her putting 10 percent into her retirement account. On top of all this, we’re putting a little money toward college funds for the kids. We talked the other night, and after that we started thinking about pulling back from retirement saving and getting the house paid off. What do you think about that?

Callen

Dear Callen,

I teach people to start investing 15% of their household income for retirement after they’ve completed Baby Step 3, which is saving three to six months of expenses for an emergency fund. Baby Step 4 would be both of you putting 15% of your income into retirement, and you’re not quite doing that yet. Saving for college comes next in Baby Step 5.

I don’t teach people to put less than 15% of their income into retirement in order to pay off the house a little earlier. It’s tempting when you’ve got the debt-free bug, but it’s not the shortest distance between where you are right now and wealth. The average person who follows my plan—the Baby Steps—can pay off their home in about seven years.

You’ve got offense and defense to think about, Callen. Defense is getting rid of debt, and the offense is building wealth. You don’t want to let your guard down on offense in order to just play defense and get the house paid off. What you’re talking about is a normal reaction for lots of folks in your position, but it’s not what I would recommend right now.

—Dave

* Dave Ramsey is a seven-time #1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of The Dave Ramsey Show, heard by more than 16 million listeners each week. Dave has helped people regain control of their money.

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