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COVID-19 Vaccine Arrives



Hospitals around the country began dispensing COVID-19 shots to their workers in a rapid expansion of the U.S. vaccination drive late this week, while a second vaccine moved to the cusp of government authorization. A day after the rollout of Pfizer-BioNTech's coronavirus shots, the Food and Drug Administration said its preliminary analysis confirmed the effectiveness and safety of the vaccine developed by Moderna and the National Institutes of Health. Another weapon against the outbreak can't come soon enough: The number of dead in the U.S. passed a staggering 300,000 on Monday, according to Johns Hopkins University, with about 2,400 people now dying per day on average. Here, Dr. Ben Davidson, Chief of Staff and ED Medical Director at LewisGale Hospital Pulaski, is shown receiving one of the first vaccinations against COVID-19 received this week by medical staff at the hospital. (LewisGale photo)

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Council hears of CARES Act spending

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

Pulaski Town Council heard a presentation Tuesday evening on how the town had distributed and spent roughly \$700,000 in federal CARES Act funding.

Jordan Whitt, the town's Social Media Manager and Rebecca Leeper, Finance Director made the presentation.

Whitt told council that – since August – town staff had worked across all departments to identify ways to make use of the funding, which had come to the town through Pulaski County, in a “thoughtful and practical” manner to benefit town staff, the town's small business and non-profit communities and citizens at-large.

“It is our wholehearted belief that the combination of efforts
See FUNDS, page A2

Burcham hired as new town manager

Patriot Staff Report

The status of Pulaski's Interim Town Manager Darlene Burcham has changed - again.

Pulaski Town Council voted unanimously Tuesday evening to hire Burcham as the town's next full-time town manager.

Council approved a two-year employment contract with Burcham.

Burcham has been working since July 1 in Pulaski after the town contracted with The Berkley Group, which provides management services for local-

See BURCHAM, page A2

Celebrate

Pulaski County Schools offer 'Things To Celebrate.'

Page A7

INSIDE

Basketball PC boys basketball team picking up where they left off.

Page B1

Hokies Add 25

Virginia Tech adds 25 signees in its 2021 recruiting class.

Page B5

New Positions, Companies & Area

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Burcham Funds

Continued from Page A1

ities. That action came following the resignation of then town manager Shawn Utt.

Burcham – serving as town manager of Clifton Forge at the time – was joining Berkley as a part of the company’s executive management team.

She has over 40 years of experience in local government, including stints in Norfolk as its deputy city manager and as Roanoke’s city manager for ten years prior to moving on to Clifton Forge.

Recently Burcham withdrew from her original contract with the town and agreed to serve as interim town manager, working part time as a temporary employee.

Continued from Page A1

put forth by our co-workers have resulted in a greatly increased capacity to mitigate and slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community, along with providing much needed support for those in the town who have undergone struggles related to this pandemic,” Whitt said.

He said the roughly \$700,000 received by the town had been broken down into several categories including infrastructure, sanitation capabilities, PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), telework capabilities, payroll expenses, public health and safety salaries and grant funding for small businesses and non-profit organizations.

Roughly \$175,000 has gone to infrastructure items. Included are things such as a downtown Wi-Fi hotspot and town signage – items that are geared toward drawing visitors and residents downtown to bolster the town’s small businesses and non-profit organizations.

Other items include touchless door entry systems for the Municipal Building – including the side doors near the Finance Department

where the majority of foot traffic into the building occurs.

Also on the list are a customer drive-thru window for the Finance Department and new anti-microbial / anti-viral countertop surfacing to provide additional protection from COVID-19 for customers making in-person payments.

There are also several items involving the Police and Fire Department facilities.

Some \$28,000 will go for sanitation items throughout town facilities including disinfectant sprayers and disinfectant, automated soap and hand sanitizer dispensers, refills and batteries for the dispensers as well as standard cleaning supplies.

Roughly \$59,000 has gone to PPE to provide staff and citizens with extra layers of protection from COVID-19 infection. Those items include extra sets of uniforms, hazmat suits and breathing apparatus for the Fire Department, facemasks for staff and visitors to the Municipal Building, eye goggles and voice activated radios for Fire Department employees.

Some \$18,000 has gone for laptops and accompanying software for multiple town employees to be able to perform town work from

home.

Some \$50,000 has been spent on various payroll expenses since March for extra sanitation of work areas, qualifying emergency personnel expenses or reimbursement for staff required to quarantine.

About \$320,000 has been designated for grants to small businesses and non-profits in the town.

Grants of up to \$5,000 have gone to 47 small businesses and non-profit organizations to help them recover from the financial hardships that all have endured over the past months, as well as ensure they can continue to provide vital services to the community.

Three non-profits – Beans & Rice, Inc., Pulaski Daily Bread and the YMCA of Pulaski County – received larger grants.

Beans & Rice received a \$75,000 grant to pursue the purchase of a food truck and implementation of a fresh food delivery program to areas of Town in particular need. This program will provide those areas with healthy

food options so that those citizens who may not be comfortable with visiting grocery stores or farmer’s markets as the pandemic persists will still have access to nutritional needs.

Pulaski Daily Bread was provided with a \$25,000 grant for purchase of food items to be distributed to those in need who make frequent use of their free meal programs.

Whitt said, after speaking with their director, the funds have been used to purchase over 20,000 pounds of food, along with items such as meal containers and eating utensils.

The YMCA was provided a \$20,000 grant to aid in the facilitation of their childcare options through the Y Excel program which provides additional education opportunities through after-school activities. The funds ensured that they were able to meet staffing requirements, especially when attendance of the program grew significantly when schools were moved to 50 percent virtual and then all-virtual learning.



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Fourteen town employees honored for service

Patriot Staff Report

Fourteen employees of the Town of Pulaski were singled out Tuesday evening during an awards presentation in Council Chambers.

The event was conducted by Mayor Shannon Collins and council members who took turns introducing the 14 award winners, while sharing details on their work and families.

"We thank each of you for your service and the commitment shown by each of you," said Collins.

Those recognized included:

John Williams, Water Treatment Plant, 5 years

Phillip Moore, Water Treatment Plant, 5 years

Jackie Morris, Finance Department, 5 years

Lemmie Sanders, Pulaski Police Department, 5 years

Cody Dickerson, Pulaski Police Department, 5 years

Doug Barnes, Pulaski Police Department, 5 years

Chris Phillips, Public Works Department, 10 years

John Hunter, Public Works Department, 10 years

Brandon Hamblin, Pulaski Fire Department, 15 years

Ron Cole, Public Works Department, 20 years

Jerry French, Public Works Department, 20 years

Robin Kirby, Public Works Department, 20 years

Alfred "Andy" Anderson, Pulaski Police Department, 25 years

Angela Primm-Viers, Pulaski Police Department, 30 years.

Slick roads factor in crashes, fatality

Virginia State Police is investigating a series of crashes that occurred Wednesday on Interstate 81 at the 94 mile marker in Pulaski County during the season's first winter storm.

The first crash occurred at approximately 7:30 a.m. with a report of a pickup truck that was traveling north on I-81 and slid off the roadway. No injury was reported with this crash. As troopers were responding to the scene, another crash occurred in the northbound lanes. No injury was reported in this crash.

Troopers injured in Monday crash

Two Virginia State Police troopers are recovering from minor injuries after their patrol vehicle was struck on Interstate 81 in Wythe County Monday morning (Dec. 14).

At 7:40 a.m. Monday, Virginia State Police Trooper J.G. Carico and Trooper K.D. Nelson responded to a single-vehicle crash (no injury reported) that had occurred when a vehicle traveling north on

Troopers arriving on scene immediately requested VDOT to respond, as that stretch of I-81 had iced over and conditions were extremely slick.

At 7:46 a.m., a single-vehicle crash occurred in the southbound lanes of I-81 at the 94 mile marker. This crash involved a fatality.

Virginia State Police Trooper P. Salamanca is investigating the single-vehicle crash in Pulaski County.

A Toyota Tacoma was traveling on I-81 when it ran off the right side of I-81, struck an embank-

ment and overturned.

The driver, Brannagan K. Locklear, 19, of Pembroke, N.C., was transported to LewisGale Hospital in Pulaski, where he succumbed to his injuries. He was not wearing a seatbelt.

Slick road conditions were a factor in the cause of the crash.

Two additional crashes occurred shortly thereafter in the southbound lanes. No injuries reported in those two additional crashes.

At 9:40 a.m., a northbound vehicle was reported running off the road and into the ditch at the 49 mile marker. No injuries reported in this crash.

Motorists are advised to please slow your conditions for travel during the storm. Increasing one's driving distance between the vehicle in front of you and buckling up will also help limit crashes and injuries. Please use your headlights, so other drivers can better see you.

See CRASH, page A5

TOWN OF DUBLIN TAX NOTICE 2020 2ND HALF REAL ESTATE & 2020 PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES DUE BY DECEMBER 30TH, 2020

The Town of Dublin Real Estate and Personal Property tax bills have been mailed insofar as possible. Failure to receive a bill does not relieve the taxpayer of additional penalty and interest charges that will accrue under the law for failure to pay the tax assessment by December 30th, 2020. Taxes must be paid or postmarked on or before December 30th, 2020 to avoid penalty and interest.

The Dublin Municipal Building lobby, located at 101 Dublin Park Road, Dublin, Virginia is currently closed to the public.

For your convenience there is a drop-box outside the municipal building for payments. Payments can be mailed to P.O. Box 1066 Dublin, VA 24084 or online payments can be made at www.dublintown.org

By: Rebecca L. Wright, Treasurer
Town of Dublin

WEREHIRING

The Town of Pulaski Department of Public Works has the following employment opportunities available:

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

Must be experienced in the operation of dump trucks, backhoes, rubber tire loader, track hoe and other heavy equipment used by the Town of Pulaski.

- Must have a valid CDL upon hire.

CREW LEADER GENERAL PROPERTIES

Crew Leader is responsible for overseeing the crew and the jobsite. Crew Leader must be able to perform laborer duties and operate equipment as well. Crew Leader must be able to receive both oral and written instruction and complete tasks with minimal supervision. Crew Leader in the General Properties Department is responsible for maintenance of town facilities. This will include electrical, plumbing and HVAC repairs. Carpentry and masonry projects as well. Also responsible for the repair/replacement of street signs, traffic lights, forming/pouring concrete, cleaning town sidewalks and facilities during inclement weather.

PART TIME SANITIZATION SPECIALIST

Sanitization Specialist will be responsible for detailing cleaning and sanitizing of fixtures including doors/knobs/handles, light switches, restroom facilities, stairwell railing, and providing back up assistance to the Custodian.

LABORERS

Street laborers should be experienced in application of asphalt, gravel, mowing, weed-eating, tree trimming and removal, cutting brush. Street laborer will also perform street maintenance duties such as repairing drainage issues, leaf collection and snow removal. Street laborers also provide traffic control (barricade and road blockages) for special events during normal working hours and after hours.

Property Maintenance laborer should be experienced in electrical repairs, HVAC system repair/maintenance, concrete work, traffic signal and street sign maintenance.

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN/ASSISTANT

The Vehicle Maintenance Technician will be responsible for minor vehicle service/maintenance to include oil change, tire change/mount and balance. Small engine repair (lawnmower and weed eater). If applicant possesses a valid Virginia State Inspection license upon hire, state inspections may also be performed. Knowledge of Diesel engines a plus.

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Area Obituaries

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MAGGIE LUCINDA LAWSON SAYERS
 Maggie Lucinda Lawson Sayers, age 86 of Draper, died Sunday December 13, 2020 at The Carrington Place in Wytheville. She was born on July 11, 1934 in Pulaski, and was the daughter of the late Magdalene Reynolds Lawson and Ernest Lawson. Mrs. Sayers was retired from the Dietary Department at Pulaski Community Hospital with over 30 years of service.
 In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband: Harrell Calvin Sayers; brothers Sam, Henry, and William, and a sister, Edna Alexander. She is survived by her sons: Paul Calvin (Mary) Sayers of Pulaski, and Harold Cecil (Roslyn) Sayers of Pulaski; sister; Margaret and Porter Viars; grandchildren; Alison Sayers, Brandyn Sayers, Nathan Sayers, Jacob Hall, and Josh and Kateleen; great-grandchildren; Adam Hall, Isaac Hall; many nieces and nephews.
 A private family service will be held on Saturday, December 19, 2020 at Seagle Funeral Home. Interment will follow in Memorial Christian Church Cemetery in Draper. There will be no public visitation.
 Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.seaglefuneralhome.com Arrangements by Seagle Funeral Home, Pulaski.

THOMAS EUGENE DEHART
 Thomas Eugene Dehart, 78, of Pulaski, passed away Monday, December 14, 2020. He was preceded in death by his parents, Bert and Evelyn Dehart; and daughter, Rita Collins Hall.
 Survivors include his son, Allen (Elizabeth) Dehart; grandchildren, Ashley (Robert) Rogers, Cassandra Dehart, Gregory Dehart, and Beth Dehart; 7 great grandchildren; brothers, Donald (Carolyn) Dehart, Daniel Dehart, and Gary (Edie) Dehart; special friend, Bunny Dalton; and many other relatives and friends.
 Services will be private.
 The Dehart family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com

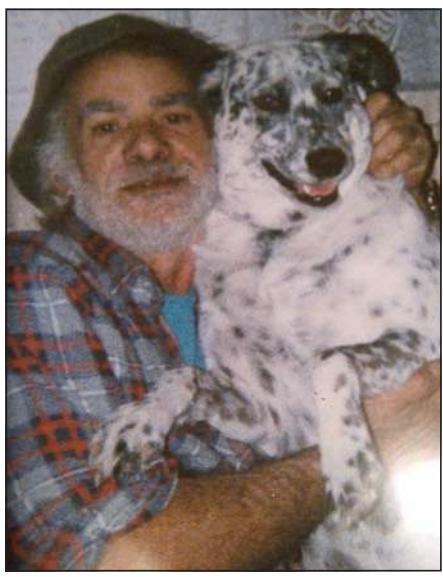
TED ANDREW HARRISON
 Ted Andrew Harrison, 77, of Dublin, went home to be with the Lord on Saturday, December 12, 2020. He was born on March 8, 1943 in Honaker, Va. to the late Isaac and Kathleen Harrison. He was a faithful member of the Fairlawn Church of God and volunteered for the past several years at It's All About Jesus Outreach and Ministry Center. He was a veteran of the U. S. Navy where he served from 1964-67 during the Vietnam War. He retired from New River Castings/Radford Pipe Shop in 2007 after working for 36 years. He enjoyed gardening, canning, quilting, and cruising with his family.
 He is preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Maynard Douglas and Charlie Randall Harrison; and sister, Nevada Leigh Harrison
 He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Mary Harrison; two sons, Teddy (Nina) Harrison, and Rev. Marcus (Alicia) Harrison; and three beautiful grandchildren whom he loved more than life itself, Zoe, Gabriella, and Samuel, all of Dublin, and one on the way; three sisters, Linda (Kenny) Baker, Loretta (Larry) Watson, and Wanda (Ken) Neurre, all of Abingdon; two brothers, Eddie (Carolyn) Harrison of Abingdon, and Rev. Wayne (Karen) Harrison of Honaker; along with numerous nieces and nephews, and a host of friends.
 Funeral services will be at 6 p.m. on Friday, December 18, 2020 at the Fairlawn Church of God with Rev. Marcus Harrison and Rev. Danny Newman officiating. Due to COVID restrictions, please be sure to wear a mask and abide by social distance rules.
 Interment will be private at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin.
 In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to Fairlawn Church of God.
 The Harrison family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford, Virginia. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com

PRISCILLA "JEAN" DUNFORD KEATING
 Priscilla "Jean" Dunford Keating, 80, returned to her heavenly home on Monday, November 30th at 7:45 am in Asheville, North Carolina. Jean was born to the late Fred Baker Dunford & Ruby Graham Dunford of Draper, VA on October 26th, 1940 in Austinville, VA.
 From an early age, Jean was immersed in the Christian Community which was her lifelong support. Her devotion to her family and firm belief in God ultimately gave her peace. Jean's Christian faith was central to her life and she often encouraged others with God's love.
 She was a graduate of old Dublin High School in Dublin, VA and Bluefield College in Bluefield, VA and a retiree of The Department of Internal Affairs in Washington, DC.
 Jean was blessed with a large and loving family.
 She was preceded in death by her sister, Donna Dunford; son, Sean Keating; father and mother, Fred & Ruby Dunford; brother, Frederick Gerald Dunford; nephew, Chuck Owens; and niece, Faron Chinault Lowry.
 She is survived by her sisters, Rebecca Dale Dunford Chinault Myers of Roanoke, VA and Judy Dunford of Bakersfield, CA; niece and husband, Jennifer & Michael Foutz; nephew & wife Randy & Billie Chinault; nephew, Tony Dunford; nephew & wife, Carmen & Melinda Dunford; nephew, Steve Dunford; great nieces, Mariah Lowry & Olivia Darnell; great nephews, Cooper Chinault & Cole Chinault; sister-in-law and best friend, Nancy Dunford. Special friend & Nurse, Tanya of Brookdale Asheville Overlook; Lifelong Pen pal, June Hall; Anna, Irina, Natalie, Bogdan, Vlad, Sasha, Svitlana and the rest of the Korolchuk family of Asheville, NC.
 Jean's wishes were to be laid to rest next to her son Sean Keating at the Washington National Cemetery where a private interment

GENEVA MCPEAK MOORE
 Geneva McPeak Moore, 88, of Pulaski, Va., passed away on December 12, 2020. She was born February 9, 1932, in Wythe County, daughter of the late Ballard and Pearl Mae Moles McPeak. She was preceded in death by her husband, James L. Moore; son, Jackie Dean Moore; three brothers, Jesse, Freil and Granville McPeak; five sisters, Della Crockett, Nova Crockett, Ruby Tate, Madeline Lovell and Daphne Lovell. She was retired from the Pulaski County School System where she spent many years preparing those wonderful lunchroom meals. Her life was truly a living example of the Proverbs 31 woman. Her strong will and unwavering faith in God is what carried her throughout life. Geneva was first and foremost a loving and devoted wife and mother who fiercely loved her three boys and served her family and friends well. She was a longtime, faithful member of Jordans Chapel United Methodist Church. Geneva is survived by two sons and daughters-in-law, David and Beth Moore of Pulaski, Va., Barry and Becky Moore of Radford, Va.; daughter-in-law, Becky S. Moore of Pulaski, Va.; one sister, Faye Williams of Wythe County, and special niece and husband Debbie and Jerry Chambers of Wythe County; sisters-in-law and husbands, Faye Patterson (Pat), Eula Jones, Mary Rossi (Patrick) and brother-in-law, Don Mabry, numerous nieces and nephews and her dear sweet friends from Pulaski Village.
 Due to the Covid19 pandemic and imposed restrictions, a private graveside service will be held at Highland Memory Gardens, Dublin, VA. with Pastor Becky Wheeler officiating.
 Stevens Funeral Home, Pulaski, Va. is serving the Moore family.
 In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to Jordans Chapel United Methodist Church 5095 Alum Spring Rd Pulaski, VA 24301.

BARBARA NELL SLUSHER LONG
 With heavy hearts, we announce that our dear mother and grandmother, Barbara Nell Slusher Long of Fairlawn, passed away at Carilion Medical Center NRV, surround by her loved ones, on Thursday, December 10, 2020 at the age of 89.
 The Long family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford, Virginia. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com

In Loving Memory



In loving memory of Dallas Berry Jr. on his birthday, Dec. 17, 1943.

Loved and missed by his family.

More Obituaries on Page A5

See DEATHS, page A5

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Deaths

Continued from Page A4

was held on Monday, December 7th.

A celebration of life ceremony will be held for family and friends in the coming months.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to: The Arc Prince George's County in memory of Sean Keating. Address: 1401 McCormick Drive, Largo, MD



CALVIN ROBERT BOYD, SR.

Calvin Robert Boyd, Sr., age 71 passed away December 12, 2020 at the Roanoke Memorial Hospital. He passed peacefully from my heart to God's loving arms; pain free once again, home with his family that have been waiting for him. He was preceded in death by his father, Abe Dan Boyd, mother, Minnie Brammer Boyd Austin, brother, Troy Lee Boyd and stepfather, James Austin.

Calvin served in Vietnam in the Marine Corp. as a helicopter door gunner. He was proud of his service and country. But most of all he loved his family and friends and tried to treat everyone with respect. Calvin attended Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Pulaski. He will be deeply missed but we will see him again one day thanks to God's son Jesus.

Calvin is survived by his Wife of 42 years Patricia McNamee Boyd - Pulaski Daughter Laura Boyd (Brad) Duncan - Pulaski Son Calvin Robert (Kelly Askew) Boyd, Jr. - Pulaski His grandchildren and the loves of his life

Mekinsy Smith, Ella Duncan, Olivia Duncan, Wyatt Duncan, Trevor Boyd and Avery Ann Duncan "arriving in June" Sisters Dorothy Foard & Dicky Demarr - Leonardtown, MD Brenda Hooper - Pulaski Sister-in-law - Kathy Boyd - Pulaski Many nieces and nephews Special Friend - Anthony Smith

His companion and shadow, his dog - Jessie Jane

Funeral services were held Thursday, December 17, 2020 at the Bower Funeral Home - Chapel, Pulaski with Pastor Becky Wheeler officiating. Interment followed at the Southwest Virginia Veteran's Cemetery, Dublin.

To sign Calvin's online guestbook, please visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com

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



FLETA HAYES HAGEE

Fleta Hayes Hagee, 83, of Dublin, Va., died Friday, December 11, 2020, at Carilion New River Valley Medical Center.

She was born March 12, 1937, in Smyth County, the daughter of the late John Arnold Hayes & Susie Emmaline Blevins Hayes. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Donald Rae Hagee, Sr.; son and daughter-in-law, Donald Rae Hagee Jr. and Jean Wright; daughter, Mary Catherine Hagee; brothers, Benny Isaac Hayes and John Earl Hayes; son-in-law, Gary Jennings.

Mrs. Hagee was a member of the New River Baptist Temple and was a retired employee of WalMart.

Survivors are her daughter Susan Jennings of Roanoke, VA; son and daughter-in-law Tim and Ginny Hagee of Pulaski, VA; sister Margaret Powers of Dublin, VA; brother Jimmy Hayes of Unionville, VA; 10 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

Burial will be at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery, Dublin, Va. A private memorial service will be held at a later date.

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

County, PSA holiday schedules

The Christmas holiday closing schedule:

- Wednesday, December 23, 2020, at 12 p.m., Pulaski County Offices will close and reopen on Monday, December 28, 2020, in observance of Christmas. The Pulaski County Public Service Authority billing office will close at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 23, 2020, and reopen on Monday, December 28, 2020, in observance of Christmas. The Dora Highway, Pulaski and Mason Street, Fairlawn convenience centers will be closed December 23 - 25, 2020, and Bagging Plant Road, Dublin will be open on Wednesday, December 23, 2020, from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. and closed December 24 and 25, 2020. All convenience centers will reopen on Saturday, December 26, 2020. There will be no garbage collection on Friday, December 25, 2020. Thursday and Friday

Crash

Continued from Page A3

shoulder and had its emergency lights activated at the time of the crash.

The two troopers were transported to Wythe County Community Hospital to be checked out for minor injuries.

The driver of the Camry, William A. Porter, 25, of Rural Retreat, Va., was charged with reckless driving for failure to maintain control of his vehicle and was cited for a defective equipment violation. Porter was not injured in the crash.



Marshall Smith photo

AmVets Present Check To Christmas Store

Pulaski Amvets Post 50 3rd Vice Commander Mike Manuel presents a \$500 check to Pulaski County Christmas Store representatives.

Holy Cow

Antiques, Gardens and Great Finds

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Belle

Hours: Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sundays 1-5 p.m.

garbage collection will be picked up on Thursday, December 24, 2020.

The New Year's holiday closing schedule

- Friday, January 1, 2021, Pulaski County Offices will close and reopen on Monday, January 4, 2021, in observance of the New Year. The Pulaski County Public Service Authority billing office will be closed on Friday, January 1, 2021, and reopen on Monday, January 4, 2021, in observance of the New Year. The Dora Highway, Pulaski; Bagging Plant, Dublin and Mason Street, Fairlawn convenience centers will be closed on Friday, January 1, 2021. All convenience centers will reopen on Saturday, January 2, 2021. There will be no garbage collection on Friday, January 1, 2021. Thursday and Friday garbage collection will be picked up on Thursday, December 31, 2020.

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Candy apples and Toads

An analogy I like to use for the legislative process invokes candy apples and toads. Legislation rarely includes only things I like – the candy apples – or omits the things I really dislike – the toads. Considering whether to support a bill usually means weighing whether there are enough candy apples to cover up the bad taste of a few toads.

End-of-year legislating usually provides plenty of opportunities to apply this test. As the year draws to a close, Congress once again finds itself closing in on a deadline to fund the Federal Government for the fiscal year that began on October 1.

As in previous years, we did not need to be in this situation. Federal law prescribes a budget process of individual appropriations bills that should go through regular order at the committee and floor level.

Just following the rules could help us avoid the scramble to resolve everything with one bill that, even if read, Members of Congress rarely get to fully scrutinize before having to give it an up or down vote.

Because the omnibus bill funding the government for the rest of the fiscal year ending September 30 has not yet been agreed to by negotiators, Congress passed a continuing resolution (CR) continuing cur-



Morgan Griffith

9th District Representative

rent funding for just one week.

Like omnibuses, I generally do not find CRs to be a proper way to fund the government. But as with any

other bill I vote on, I read this CR.

It included an extension for the Rare Pediatric Disease Priority Review Voucher program for two years. This program encourages the development of new drugs to treat rare pediatric diseases. The innovation promoted by this program can lead to new treatments that help improve and save the lives of children suffering from rare diseases.

While skeptical of CRs, I support the extension of the Rare Pediatric Disease Priority Review Vouchers, so I voted for this CR. In the best instances, legislation rarely includes everything I want to see or leaves out anything I do not support.

In this case, extending the program for two years was a candy apple that made voting for the one-week toad of a CR acceptable.

The Right Way to Legislate on Marijuana

In my last column, I discussed my opposition to H.R. 3884, a broad bill to legalize marijuana, expunge marijuana convictions, and provide taxpayer support for businesses and industries associated with the marijuana industry.

It was a sweeping, partisan effort that made major changes at a time when the Congress should have other priorities. Despite my support for changes to marijuana law, it was the wrong bill at the wrong time.

The week afterward, the House voted on another bill related to marijuana, my Medical Marijuana Research Act. I believe this was the right approach to marijuana legislation.

The Medical Marijuana Research Act would ensure a sufficient supply of research-quality marijuana through the National Institute on Drug Abuse Drug Supply Program. It also authorizes more research so that we understand more specifically the medical benefits and side effects of marijuana on the human body. It would also direct the Food and Drug Administration to issue guidelines on the production of marijuana and encourage authorized manufacturers to produce marijuana for the researchers under the law.

I was an original cosponsor of the bill in this Congress, and along with a bipartisan team we had introduced it in previous years. Unlike H.R. 3884, it had support that spanned parties and also different views about marijuana legislation. Whether you want marijuana broadly prohibited, broadly legalized, or fall somewhere in between, you should want to see more data about its effects.

Because of its widespread support, the bill this year had moved through the House Energy and Commerce Committee without opposition and passed on the House floor in the same manner. Its consideration did not take up valuable legislative time in the same way as H.R. 3884.

I was pleased to see the Medical Marijuana Research Act pass the House and hope it will advance into law. It represents the right way to legislate on marijuana – with prudence and based on data.

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.morgan-griffith.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.

Don't Let Culture Rob The Cradle

A recent conversation with friends brought up the subject of the most memorable family traditions at Christmas time. With COVID-19 restrictions in place, it shouldn't be too difficult to remember better days of Christmas past. My own personal experience is that the most endearing Christmas memories were not of the toys I received or the biggest Christmas tree we had. Rather, my favorite Christmas memories were of doing things together as a family, including our church family.

I remember the fun we used to have as youngsters going house to house in different neighborhoods and singing Christmas Carols. People used to invite the carolers in for cocoa and cookies. These days, when people see a group of strangers in their neighborhood, they're more likely to seek police protection!

Another favorite childhood memory was snuggling up close to one of my parents, jammies on and ready for bed, while they read us a Christmas story. I talked to my sister, who has such a remarkable

One Nation Under God

By Danielle Reid

memory that she can describe the wallpaper we had in our bedroom some 60-plus years ago. She reinforced my recollection that Christmas used to be simple and sincere.

In the pursuit of nostalgia, I took some time to read through my 1950's editions of American Heritage books and found one charming story that sums up the old-fashioned type of family Christmas.

Author Paul Engle puts everything in perspective as he recalls Christmas memories from 1910 in his story entitled "An Iowa Christmas." From his farm heritage and the horse-drawn bobsled ride from the city to the family farm, Engle inter-

See NATION, page A7



Rich Lowery

Editor, National Review

Economic Cruelty of the Pandemic

Just when it seemed some of the most disheartening trends in the U.S. economy were finally beginning to reverse, COVID-19 arrived to entrench them.

The pandemic has been a neutron bomb targeted at the prospects of lower income working people. They had finally begun to benefit from the recovery from the Great Recession when the virus ravaged sectors of the economy that disproportionately employ them.

The Washington Post has called the resulting economic damage "the most unequal recession in modern U.S. history." As the paper puts it, starkly, "the less workers earned at their job, the more likely they were to lose it."

The pandemic has hammered restaurants, hotels and places of entertainment, all of which don't pay high wages and tend to employ women and minorities. It has cut a swath through small business. It has slammed workers who can't retreat to home offices for Zoom calls.

In short, it has taken all of the tendencies of our knowledge economy that benefit the better-educated and disadvantage non-college-educated workers and has made them more pronounced, amidst a public health crisis that has also hit the most vulnerable the hardest.

According to a Gallup Poll earlier this year, 71% of people in the top income quintile said they were working from home, whereas 45% of people in the bottom quintile stayed at home and were unable to work.

A National Bureau of Economic Research working paper published in May found that workers in high-proximity jobs impossible to perform from home tend to be "less educated, of lower income, have fewer liquid assets relative to income, and are more likely renters." Workers in such jobs were more likely to become unemployed.

Jobs at the top have bounced back since the spring and affluent people might have more wealth than ever, given the increase in home values and a frothy stock market.

The story is different further down the income scale. According to The Washington Post analysis, Hispanic Americans experienced the sharpest loss in employment with the onset of the pandemic. The young were particularly hard-hit; 20% of those ages 20-24 lost their jobs. Mothers with children ages 6-12, called upon to fill the gaps created by school closings, have been another hard-hit group.

Similarly, mom-and-pop businesses have fared poorly. A survey by Alignable, a small business social network, found nearly 50% of small businesses say they are generating less revenue than they need to stay in business, with travel businesses, gyms and beauty salons at particular risk.

Mass vaccination next year should take the edge off of this economic dislocation, but it's harder to create than destroy. The Federal Reserve estimates that

See LOWRY, page A7



The dog, the fracture and the 'palmists'

By Cal Thomas, Tribune Content Agency

Whenever president-elect Joe Biden makes a rare public appearance and is out of the immediate control of his team it increases my suspicions that he is not physically, and above all mentally, up to the job he is about to take over.

Last week, Biden fractured his foot and now must wear a walking boot for several weeks while it heals. The Biden staff claims the fracture occurred while he played with his dog, Major. They also want us to know the German Shepherd is a rescue dog, which is a joke waiting to be told, full of irony. Who will "rescue" Mr. Biden from himself?

The press pool was denied access and not allowed to take pictures of Biden after he visited an orthopedist and was given the boot (no pun intended). This caused even Andrea Mitchell on liberal MSNBC to complain that the Biden team wasn't being transparent about his injury. On Tuesday he finally allowed photographers to take pictures of his boot.

Contributing to the narrative that Biden is slipping (pun intended) was on display when he attempted to quote from the Bible. Biden, who self-described as a practicing Roman Catholic, "referred to the authors of Biblical Psalms as "palmists." Twice. When President Trump quoted a passage of Scripture during a speech at Liberty University, the press widely mocked him for referring to "two Corinthians" instead of "Second Corinthians." It prompted a joke that began "two Corinthians walk into a bar." There was no similar mocking of Biden for his "palmists" mispronunciation.

This is no laughing matter. A president of the United States needs to be physically fit and mentally aware to address every challenge, especially those that might come from foreign governments.

Throughout the campaign Biden has engaged in numerous malapropisms, slurred

words, mispronouncing words and mis-identifying people (he called his wife his sister, after all) to raise serious concerns. Yes, George W. Bush and other presidents have, on occasion, stumbled over the English language, but this seems different. The website pjmedia.com has a list of 22 incidents and the list is not exhaustive.

There is nothing about this that should arouse partisanship. Past presidents have had health issues they and their staffs tried to hide from the public. Most notable was John F. Kennedy's back problems and his Addison's disease and the drugs to control his pain prescribed by his physician and withheld from the public.

However one voted in the recent election, none should wish any president ill. But if Biden does suffer from mental impairment and struggles as he does to articulate even the most basic thoughts, including an inability to put together sentences that make sense, even when reading a Teleprompter, this is - or should be -- cause for concern.

The major media, which have constantly lambasted President Trump for actions real and imagined must not apply a different standard to Mr. Biden, but likely will if recent softball questions asked of him are any indication. The greatest power of the media is the power to ignore and suppress information.

There are those who believe that Biden is only a placeholder for vice president-elect Kamala Harris, whom it is speculated many on the left would prefer as president. Refusing to be transparent about the president-elect's mental and physical health can only lend credence to that theory.

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).

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Nation

Continued from Page A6

twines the origins of Christmas with everyday life in Iowa.

Engle writes, "A barn with cattle and horses is the place to begin Christmas; after all, that's where the original event happened, and that same smell was the first air that the Christ Child breathed."

He explains that Christmas was hand-made – from the paper ornaments, popcorn balls, homemade candy, hand-knit socks, wool ties and crochet doilies. Then there were the homemade breads, cakes, cookies and the Christmas dinner with family that took place in the huge kitchen after the first act of dedication: thanks to the Child for whom Christmas is celebrated.

"To eat in the same room where food is prepared and cooked – that is the way to thank the Lord for His abundance...every scrap of food that my uncle had asked the blessing for was the result of his own hard work. What he took to the Lord for Him to make holy was the plain substance that an Iowa farm could produce in an average year."

After eating dinner would come chores, then perhaps sledding or singing, opening gifts and visiting before the early evening departure.

As the family snuggled down in the back of the bobsled and covered up with buffalo robes, everyone would chorus their goodbyes and the horse would trot toward home.

Engle reflected on his childhood memory: "As we looked up at the night sky through half-closed

eyelids, the constant bounce and swerve of the bobsled runners would seem to shake the little stars as if they would fall into our laps. But that one Great Star in the East never wavered. Nothing could shake it from the sky as we drifted home on Christmas."

I can't help thinking about how much of the true Christmas Spirit we miss in our modern culture. We purchase or charge hundreds of dollars in gift for each other and then take months to pay off the credit cards. We stress and fret that the gifts we're giving this year may not exceed what we gave in the previous year. And then, we collectively sign in relief and say that we're glad when "the holidays" are over.

When did our culture lose site of the true meaning of Christmas? Christmas embodies God's greatest gift of mankind, wrapped up as a baby named Jesus, who would grow up to be the Messiah. It is the day we celebrate the birth of the Savior of mankind, so why are we giving "birthday gifts" to everyone else on our list except Him?

This year let's put Jesus at the top of our gift-giving list and create an eternal memory. If you have never given Jesus Christ a birthday gift, why not give Him one right now...your love. In return, Jesus will give you the gift of Salvation – the original Christmas gift He brought with Him in that cradle we call a manger.

May you have a blessed and truly memorable Christmas 2020.

Lowry

Continued from Page A6

employment won't fully bounce back until 2023.

What is to be done? Policymakers need to realize that when they promulgate COVID-19 restrictions, they are asking the people with the least economic margin for error to sacrifice the most. Congress needs to pass a new stimulus bill

to cushion the blow of a natural disaster that has immiserated many millions of people through no fault of their own. And the incoming Biden administration ideally would realize that fashionable causes like climate change need to take a back seat to the pursuit of full economic recovery.

The economic pain is not the worst that the pandemic has wrought, but it cannot be ignored.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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The Patriot

Thanks For Your Feedback

I have been writing a column in our local papers for some time now, and have truly enjoyed sharing my thoughts and perspectives on so many different topics, ideas, issues and concepts. I often receive a tremendous amount of positive feedback from the community and I am thankful for that.

My most recent column, "A Legacy Could Be Something as Simple as...Soccer" has been one that has probably received some of the greatest amount of feedback and public support. Your response has lead me to do a little more research on this fun topic and share a bit more about the origins of one of our most participated youth sport programs. So here goes, and I hope you enjoy the trip down memory lane.

In the mid 1980's, soccer was just an idea and was not part of our youth sports landscape. The opportunity arose for an organized effort to develop a youth soccer association called the Dublin Youth Soccer Association (DYSA).

It is my understanding that Pat Ford and Fred Gravely started this association and got it officially sanctioned by FIFA. This momentum brought in the Don Stanley's and Marshall Hamden's of the community where their contributions of camps and equipment would energize the program and snowball it from there.

It would not take long before soccer would take off in the county with coaches like Brett Whitesell, Beverly Hamblin, Carson Dalton, the Dunnaways, Nancy Myers and Charles Forbes; and amazing coordinators of the likes of the late Calvin Smith.

Once the foundation for soccer was laid and



Patriot's Post

Jonathan Sweet
Pulaski Co. Administrator

the maturation process complete, it was handed over to the county's recreation department in the early 1990s.

From there, the program has con-

tinued to grow and thrive from the contributions made by so many, and we now have more than 400 participating in the sport.

I know anytime you look to recognize folks publicly; you never fail to forget someone important. Because of this, I typically try to stay away from making that common mistake. Nevertheless with the help of several of our seasoned citizens, I think I can roll out my list of thank-yous for helping bring soccer to where it is today.

Thank you: Fred Gravely, Beverly Hamblin, Pat Ford, Robin Whitesell, Calvin Smith, Eddie Sutphin, Carson Dalton, Bruce Farris, Leon Dalton, Johnny Myers, Sam Patterson, Al Carden, Nancy Myers, Brett Whitesell, Si Rasnick, the Dunnaways, Don Stanley, Marshall Hamden and Charles Forbes.

As I shared in my last column, your contributions have paved the way for so many of Pulaski County's youth to be a part of something special, and this will always be a part of each of your legacy for generations to come.

Pulaski County is...Forever Grateful.

Schools: Things to Celebrate

By DR. KEVIN SIERS
Pulaski County School Superintendent

As 2020 comes to a much needed conclusion, it might be beneficial to look back and reflect on what will likely prove to be one of the most consequential times in human history. Much of the year was focused on inescapable news stories such as the Covid pandemic, the presidential election, the recession, record unemployment, hurricanes, riots, and massive wildfires. Meanwhile, underreported were the incredible responses to the challenges that were faced. Very little was said about communities that stepped in to assist struggling families. Rarely was there any mention of individuals who showed up every day to quietly work jobs that kept the country humming along. Lives were saved by the thousands without fanfare and in some cases without any acknowledgement at all. In a year that needed inspiration-

al heroes, we had them in spades.

It is to this list of unsung heroes that public school employees belong. Some out there may disagree with this assessment but nobody can deny that if schools aren't operating at full capacity then neither are most businesses. There were times this year when it seemed like educators were in a "no win" situation because what everyone wanted was a return to normalcy and that was the one course of action that was impossible to offer. Public schools shifted in a short five-month period from a model of instructional delivery grounded in practices developed in the 1880's to a hybrid blend of virtual and in-person options complete with masks and hand sanitizer. Our classrooms no longer look like and our teachers no longer teach like they did in 2019. Things are certainly different but different can be good and that is especially true in Pulaski County where our schools have had a number of re-

cent accomplishments for which we can all be proud:

1. Pulaski County Public Schools finished overseeing construction and successfully opened the new Pulaski County Middle School on time and within budget. While much of the world was shut down last spring, PCPS personnel were out every day making sure that this project moved forward and that we ended up with an incredible middle school that will serve our community for generations.

2. Pulaski County Public Schools has provided 359,054 meals to the county's children since schools were closed on March 13, 2020. While many people were safely working from home in the early days of the pandemic, PCPS employees worked tirelessly to prepare and distribute meals to children and families throughout the county. Keep in mind that this was done during a time of uncertainty

See SCHOOLS, page A8

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**January 25
Good Neighbor Club**
The Good Neighbor Club will not meet this month. Plans are to have a meeting on Jan. 25, 2021 at 5 p.m. at Anderson Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Bread of Life/Assembly of God to present Christmas play

The Bread of Life/Assembly of God on Robinson Tract Rd. will be presenting the Christmas play "We will Remember." The play will be presented two evenings this year on Saturday, Dec. 19 and Sunday, Dec. 20 at 3 p.m. to comply with COVID-19 guidelines. If you are interested in attending please call either 540-980-2150 or 540-818-3434 if there is no answer please leave a message, someone will return your call. Masks and sanitizer will be provided. Only a certain number of people will be allowed per viewing.

**December 20
Mt. View United Methodist Church to have Live Nativity display**
A Live Nativity will be on display at Mt. View UMC on Wilderness Rd., Dublin on December 20, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.. Join this "Drive-Through" event that includes live animals, music, hot chocolate, and our Nativity as we celebrate the birth of Christ!

January 7
VFW Post to Meet
The American Legion, Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will meet on Thursday, January 7, 7pm at the VFW

Post Home on 102 Watts St. in Radford. In the event of heavy snowfall or ice, the meeting will be cancelled. For further information, please contact 250-2283 or 239-9864.

**January 12
Sons of Confederate Veterans**
The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will

meet on Tuesday, January 12, 7pm at Aly's Family Italian Restaurant on 3204 Riner Road. Jonathan McPeak will present the "History of the 24th Virginia Infantry Regiment". Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy are also invited to attend. For further information, please call 320-4315 or 239-9864.

On going:
Alcohol Anonymous meet Mondays at 8 p.m. (closed meeting); Wednesday (noon) and Thursday at 8 p.m. (open meetings) at Pulaski Presbyterian Church of America.

Schools

Continued from Page A7

and immense anxiety about Covid and how it might spread. However, these incredible folks worked through their fears and accomplished the mission of ensuring that no child in Pulaski County had to go without food.

3. Pulaski County Public Schools became the first school division in the commonwealth to pass a Mission Statement for Racial & Social Equity. This statement establishes a foundation of fairness on which all programs will be built and all future decisions will rest. The mission statement is unprecedented in scope and is the beginning of a new better chapter in the history of education in Pulaski County.

4. Pulaski County Public Schools has issued a Chromebook to every student and provided a significant increase in access to wireless internet.

5. Pulaski County Public Schools has invented and staffed a fully functioning virtual academy and our teachers have transformed thousands of learning standards into meaningful virtual instruction. The program has advanced at a tremendous pace since starting and will continue to get better as additional resources are added.

6. Pulaski County Public Schools has offered more in-person instruction to all students than any of the other school divisions in the New River Health

District's service area. 7. Pulaski County Public Schools was the first school division in the area to develop and implement a plan for athletic conditioning and practices. This would not have been possible without the dedication and ingenuity of our teachers, coaches, nurses, and trainers who went above and beyond their regular duties to ensure that these events were conducted in accordance with our pandemic response plan.

In addition to this list there are hundreds of individual success stories going on in our schools every day that involve employees who are providing additional time, summoning extra energy, and often using their personal funds to ensure that our students have as positive of an educational experience as possible. All of these accomplishments would be impressive in a regular school year but are truly remarkable when you consider that they are happening for Pulaski County at the same time that a large number of schools in the state haven't had students inside of their buildings in over nine months. There is no doubt that 2020 has been a difficult year for everyone but we definitely have reason for the Pulaski County community to celebrate all that its schools have accomplished and can now begin to look forward to 2021 with a great deal of optimism.

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PULASKI COUNTY PREVIEW

Boys picking up where they left off

By LUCAS GOAD
The Patriot

The Pulaski County Cougars' boys basketball team will look to pick up where they left off last season under second year head coach, Tyler Cannoy.

Last season was the first season coaching PCHS for Cannoy, one in which he felt that the team ended the year strongly, finishing in the top five of the River Ridge District, and finishing with a winning record at home.

"I thought we finished strongly, beating Blacksburg and Christiansburg at home, and Salem, I thought it was a strong way to end the season," said Cannoy.

Last season, the Cougars finished with a 10-14 record overall, with 6-3 record at home, a 2-9 away record, and a 2-2 record at neutral sites.

On the coaching staff is Gerald Johnson who has been with Cannoy previously. The strength and conditioning coach is Ryan Sullivan.

Rajai Heinz will be coming in as the junior varsity coach after being with the middle school the previous season.

Cannoy says the team will be returning a lot of their lineup from the previous season.

Players that are returning this season include junior Joshua Bourne, who started all last year and played at both the point guard and power forward positions. In the previous season, Josh averaged 25 minutes, six points, three rebounds and three assists per game.

Cannoy said Josh will be one of the leaders of the team this season.

Another junior that's returning at the wing position is J.J. Gulley, who Cannoy said had a great finish to last season. Gulley averaged 18 minutes, eight points and four rebounds per game.

Cannoy said Gulley shot the ball relatively well last year, shooting at 55 percent from the field, and is currently seeking to improve even more.

A senior that's returning to the team this year is A.J. McCloud. During the last season, McCloud was the second leading scorer, averaging around 11.5 points, 24 minutes, five rebounds, and three assists a game.

Players that are coming in from the junior varsity team in-



Brian Bishop/PC Patriot

Senior A.J. McCloud - 2nd Team All-Region last season - returns for the Cougars.

clude Peyton McDaniel, who led the junior varsity team in scoring with 15 points per game last season.

Caleb Underwood will also be moving up to varsity at forward. Cannoy says Underwood does all the little things, such as taking charges. According to Cannoy, Underwood is the team's best defender and communicator.

Lastly, another player, Jerze Johnson will be coming in as a

transfer from Radford.

When asked about what the upcoming season will look like, Cannoy said that while he wasn't 100 percent certain, he said their goal is to focus on what they can control.

"Our main focus here is to control what we can control and do the best to our ability. We've been working hard since the middle of June. We've been working around the guidelines, and I think that helped us work on our individual skill development, which I think

was exceptional. These guys have worked so hard, and we'll try to take the next step for our program. They've been doing everything we've been asking of them," said Cannoy.

The team has also been working through the guidelines that have been set due to COVID, but Cannoy says the team has been limited in some ways.

According to Cannoy, they've been getting players in the weight

See COUGARS, page B2

Bowl streak over for Hokies

By DAVE SKRETTA
Associated Press

Virginia Tech is ending the nation's longest bowl streak at 27 years.

Hokies coach Justin Fuente said Wednesday the players decided to bypass postseason, ending their pandemic-hit season at 5-6.

"We had a team meeting and our players have decided to not play, and I'm going to support them 100%," Fuente said. "It speaks to the difficulty of the season they've been through. There were players who wanted to play, but we were going to do this all together or not, and it became evident that it was a very difficult situation. There's kids that would like to go home for Christmas. This is ultimately about our kids. I think they've sacrificed enough."

Virginia Tech is the fifth Atlantic Coast Conference team to opt out, joining Boston College, Pittsburgh, Virginia and Georgia Tech.

Kansas State also withdrew from bowl consideration Wednesday, saying it paused all football activities indefinitely amid an outbreak of positive COVID-19 tests and contact tracing that would have prevented it from fielding enough players to play.

The First Responders Bowl was the likely destination for the Wildcats, who beat then-No. 3 Oklahoma on the road early in the season but slid to a 4-6 finish after losing quarterback Skylar Thompson and several other players to injuries.

Kansas State lost its last five games but was in line for a bowl game because it finished seventh in the Big 12. The NCAA has also waived minimum wins required for bowl eligibility.

"It certainly is a bittersweet ending to the season, but playing 10 regular-season games throughout all of this uncertainty was nothing short of a miracle," Wildcats coach Chris Klieman said. "This season was difficult and frustrating, but I think it is also one that we will remember for the rest of our lives."

Klieman had hoped to play in a bowl game because of the extra month of practice it would have given his team.

The Wildcats are the first Big 12 team to withdraw from bowl consideration. Three Atlantic Coast Conference teams — Boston College, Pittsburgh and Virginia — have also announced they will not participate in a postseason game. Neither will Stanford in the Pac-12.

More than 125 games since late August have been postponed or canceled because of the pandemic, including the Frisco Bowl scheduled for Saturday when SMU withdrew because of an outbreak within the Mustangs' program. Its opponent, UTSA, switched to the First Responders Bowl — likely against Kansas State before its own outbreak.

The Frisco Bowl is among a dozen bowl games that have been canceled. The Redbox, Hawaii, Bahamas, Holiday, Quick Lane, Pinstripe, Sun, Fenway, Celebration, Las Vegas and LA bowls also shut down for the 2020 season.

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Each Friday

Former Cougar, Jackson signs to play at UVa

Patriot Staff Report

A Pulaski native is among the University of Virginia's 2021 football recruiting class.

James Jackson signed his national letter of intent on Wednesday. Jackson will be a mid-year enrollee at UVa, heading to class in January.

The 6-3, 200 lb. outside linebacker attended Pulaski County High School his freshman year.

PCHS Athletic Director Scott Vest said Wednesday he remembered Jackson, noting he "was a good kid."

Vest said Jackson abruptly left Pulaski County and enrolled at North Cross in Roanoke. While playing for the Raiders, Jackson played linebacker and wide receiver for head coach Stephen Alexander.

While at North Cross, Jackson earned all-state honors as a receiver and as a linebacker after

helping the Raiders to an 11-1 record and a VISAA Division II state championship in 2019. Jackson caught 29 passes for 575 yards and 10 touchdowns in 2019, while also notching 77 tackles, 8.0 TFLs and 9.0 sacks.

In a shortened 2020 season due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, he made 29 tackles, 4.0 TFLs and 2.0 sacks and also caught 11 passes for 202 yards and two scores.

Jackson is listed as a three-star recruit by ESPN.com, Rivals.com and 247sports.com.

Jackson is one of 24 members of UVa's recruiting class - nine of whom are from Virginia. A tenth member is from out-of-state, but attended boarding school in-state.

Virginia's recruiting class ranks 28th by 247sports.com and fifth in the Atlantic Coast Conference. It is head coach Bronco Mendenhall's highest rated class since he arrived in Charlottesville in 2015.

Good Hunting Times



Woods, Water & Wildlife

W.A. "Doc" Davis

If you are a hunter that tries to get the many allowed types of game animals, now is that part of the hunting season that you may do so. You may not have gotten a deer in the regular firearms days that ended the 28th November, but muzzleloader opens again this Saturday through the 2nd of January. Regular firearms for turkey is in through the day after Christmas this month. My hunting buddy, Dick has over looked some smaller deer in our favorite part of the County. He had hoped to shoot a better trophy buck, but came up short in this respect. He related how he had seen a lot of turkey sign in this area and hoped to get one of them and invited me to go along a couple of weeks ago and I took him up on this. We did not get into the woods until later than we had hoped and the turkey had already come off their roost.

We came across signs of their recent scratching going up a hollow and across a ridge near where he had set up his original deer stand. We topped the ridge and sighted the flock going away from us faster than we could get to them to get off a shot. It was not our day as they soon were out of sight but someone else got what we had hoped to accomplish that day. A couple shots rang out and we figured some other hunter had sighted the turkeys ahead of us. This was the case as we cautiously approached the direction of the shots and came across another hunter holding up a large gobbler. We got there just as he was measuring the beard and he informed us that it was a nine-incher. We both congratulated

the guy and followed the direction of the scattered turkeys had gone but never saw them again.

There are a number of other smaller game species that are open season that go through January and February of 2021 (check your SGIF) regs as beginning and ending dates of the hunting seasons vary according to what one may wish to hunt. Grouse and Quail are great game birds if you are able to find any. Rabbit and all three types of squirrels are open and good hunting; tracking Brer Rabbit in the snow with dogs and the same for locating squirrels in the tree tops is a great sport.

I recall years ago going with some guys that I was working with before my college days on their farm in Giles County. They had some rabbit beagles and turned them loose in the nearby woods and they soon had a rabbit on the run. The farm was the home place of two brothers in our group including a couple other fellows and they were all hunting with shotguns. I had a 22 rifle and felt I would not have a chance against their fire power and I remained near the first

sighting of the rabbit. The rabbit circled back as they are known to do and I was able to shoot it with my 22. They later got the better of me as they brought down several squirrels by first shooting into their nests high in the tops of trees as they scampered out brought them down with their scatter guns. I could only watch as they shot the squirrels with ease in the bare tree limbs.

Rabbit hunting in the old days was a big sport and one prepared in the right way and roasted made a good meal along with dressing and gravy. I read recently of wild rabbits in this year 2020 have been found to highly infectious disease virus 2 (RHVD2) where they are some of them exhibit bright red blood around the nose. As if we don't have enough with covid-19 affecting the human race, I recommend to hold up on rabbit hunting and you get more info from the DGIF concerning this virus.

I hope, Lord willing, to follow up next week on the rifle I shot the rabbit with as it was a special gun in many respects. In closing, I have always tried to include in my prayer stating in His will and asking in His name as noted in John 14:13KJV. "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." We certainly need to pray for this world-wide pandemic and our animal friends as well.

Until next time

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Head Coach Tyler Cannoy is in his second season at the helm of the Cougars.



Brian Bishop/PC Patriot
Joshua Bourne started every game last year and played at both the point guard and power forward positions. In the previous season, Josh averaged 25 minutes, six points, three rebounds and three assists per game, and he is seen as being one of the team's leaders this season.

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Cougars

Continued from Page B1

room, and players have been able to practice on their own goal with their own basketball. So far, it's been only individual development.

Also, the team hasn't been able to practice defense, nor have they been able to have contact drills. When the players start practices, Cannoy wants them to start getting acclimated back to contact.

"We've been doing the best we can, just like everyone else is, with what we're allowed to do during this time," stated Cannoy.

When asked about goals for the upcoming season, Cannoy said he wanted the team to improve on everything, but specifically he wanted to perfect their individual skills. This includes being able to shoot the ball more consistently, being able to handle the ball better and expanding their offensive game overall.

Cannoy also said he wants to continue playing the same level of defense, which he said was good last year.

The Cougars will begin their season on December 21st at Blacksburg at 7 p.m.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

NCAA allows blanket waivers

ASSOCIATED PRESS - The NCAA's Division I Council has granted blanket waivers for all athletes to play immediately. The NCAA's announcement Wednesday includes all Division I sports, but is contingent on certain criteria.

Transfers previously were required to sit out a season unless granted a waiver by the NCAA. The NCAA had decided on waivers on a case-by-case basis, but had been more lenient as the coronavirus pandemic depleted rosters.

"The Council continued its trend of voting in favor of maximum flexibility for student-athletes during the pandemic," said Council chair M. Grace Calhoun, athletic director at Pennsylvania. "Allowing transfer student-athletes to compete immediately will provide additional opportunities to student-athletes during this continued difficult time, and perhaps allow games to be played that otherwise might not have been."

"I tip my cap to @NCAA for their forward thinking by passing today's transfer waiver," Notre Dame coach Mike Brey tweeted.



Brian Bishop/PC Patriot

PCMS Wins Back-to-Back

Morgan Vest (above) goes up for a shot against the Floyd County Buffaloes. PCMS girls this week defeated Floyd 66-24 at Pulaski County Middle School. At left, Chandler Hollins goes in for a layup after stealing a pass against the Floyd County Buffaloes. The Cougars defeated the Buffaloes, 43-22 in the first game at Pulaski County Middle School.



Brian Bishop/PC Patriot

RU Beats Longwood 62-53

Fah'Mir Ali posted 14 points and former Radford High School star Quinton Morton-Robertson (above) added nine as Radford beat Longwood 62-53 on Tuesday night. The Highlanders moved to 3-4, 2-0 in the Big South Conference.

Babcock: Over half of team contracted virus

(AP) - Virginia Tech athletic director Whit Babcock painted a stark picture Tuesday of what the Hokies went through during the football season amid the coronavirus pandemic.

"Well over half of our team, maybe three-fourths, contracted COVID since March," Babcock said in an hourlong Zoom call. "Eight of our 10 full-time coaches contacted it, including our defensive coordinator (Justin Hamilton) missing the first two games."

The virus impacted Virginia Tech from the start of the season. The Hokies had to postpone their opener against Virginia because of an outbreak within the team.

The Hokies continued to be without key players throughout the season, and were shorthanded for their regular season finale against Virginia. Though Virginia Tech won that one, 33-15.

The Hokies finished the regular season 5-6, and 5-5 in the Atlantic Coast Conference, which Babcock noted "played the most games in college football this year, by far." The AD added that Virginia Tech played 11 regular-season games, which not many teams in the country will do, adding "there is no road map or manual on how to do that."

Babcock said when he interviewed football coach Justin Fuente and every other coach at Virginia Tech, "I never once asked them how they were going to manage through a worldwide pandemic."

Babcock said he wanted to use the call with reporters to explain in depth his reasons for retaining Fuente. The athletic director said he did not view the high infection rate as a repudiation of Fuente's leadership or that of others around the program.

"I am aware of where a lot of the other teams in the league are and we're also talking about since March and a lot of ours got it before they came back," Babcock said. "... I didn't get the sense it was lack of discipline. It is an incredibly contagious disease and almost everyone in our league went through it and you are seeing it happen across the country."

MLB to managers: Expect on-time start

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Big league managers say Major League Baseball instructed them to prepare for spring training to start on time in mid-February despite uncertainty around the coronavirus.

Tampa Bay Rays manager Kevin Cash said Wednesday that Commissioner Rob Manfred had a meeting with managers Tuesday and expressed optimism about opening spring camps as scheduled.

Managers have said this week during digital Winter Meetings press availabilities that they expect health protocols to remain in place to prevent COVID-19 outbreaks. Teams instituted a number of policies during a pandemic-shortened 60-game regular season in 2020 that produced better results as the year went on, largely keeping players and staff safe even as teams traveled around the country.

"I think Major League Baseball was somewhat the petri dish," Cash said. "We were the first real big sport to really get going outside of a bubble. Obviously if you look at last year's situation, Major League Baseball, everybody adjusted on the fly. Now there's more sports that have done."

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Hokies add 25 during football early signing period

Hokiesports.com

BLACKSBURG – Head coach Justin Fuente welcomed 25 student-athletes to Virginia Tech on Wednesday, the first day of the early signing period. This group is comprised of players who competed at the prep level from 11 different states, in addition to one player from Germany. Tech's early signing list also included five players who completed their prep careers in Virginia.

Wednesday's list of signees includes six defensive backs, four running backs, four wide receivers, three linebackers, three defensive linemen, two tight ends, two offensive linemen and one quarterback.

In addition to Virginia, Tech's early signing contingent featured players from 10 other states: Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, New Jersey, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and South Carolina. For the second straight year the Hokies landed a European player, OL Danijel Miletic from Germany.

Tech's tradition of siblings following older brothers also continued on Wednesday. TE Jack Hollifield is the younger brother of current LB Dax Hollifield and DB Jalen Stroman is the younger sibling of current Washington NFL Team member, CB Greg Stroman.

The traditional National Signing Day will be on Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021.

Chance Black
Running Back (6-1, 190)
Roebuck, S.C. (Dorman High School)

Tahj Bullock
Quarterback (6-4, 223)

Jersey City, N.J. (St. Peter's Prep School)

Mattheus Carroll
Defensive Lineman (6-3, 220)
Baltimore, Maryland (Gilman School)

Kenji Christian
Running Back (6-2, 197)
Pinson, Alabama (Pinson Valley High School)

Da'Shawn Elder
Defensive Back (6-2, 200)
Watkinsville, Georgia (Oconee County High School/Fork Union Military Academy)

Isi Etute
Linebacker (6-3, 205)
Virginia Beach, Virginia (Frank W. Cox High School)

Jared Gibble
Tight End (6-4, 225)
Winston-Salem, N.C. (Oak Grove High School)

Bryce Goodner
Offensive Lineman (6-3, 300)
Athens, Tennessee (McMinn County High School)

D.J. Harvey
Defensive Back (5-11, 166)
Chatsworth, California (Sierra Canyon High School)

Jack Hollifield
Tight End (6-3, 225)
Shelby, N.C. (Shelby High School)

Elijah Howard
Running Back (5-11, 182)
Chattanooga, Tennessee (Baylor School)

Jalen Hoyle
Defensive Back (6-0, 175)
Englewood, N.J. (Dwight Morrow High School)

Nyke Johnson
Defensive Back (6-1, 185)
Florence, S.C. (West Florence High School)

Will Johnson
Linebacker (6-2, 195)
Leonardtown, Maryland (Leonardtown High School)

Jaylen Jones
Wide Receiver (6-1, 185)
Richmond, Virginia (Thomas Jefferson High School)

Jaden Keller
Defensive Back (6-3, 195)
Bristol, Tennessee (Tennessee High School)

Keli Lawson
Linebacker (6-4, 200)
Stephens City, Virginia (Sherando High School)

Da'Wain Lofton
Wide Receiver (5-10, 175)
Fort Worth, Texas (North Side High School)

Desmond Mamudi
Defensive Lineman (6-3, 290)
Tampa, Florida (Carrollwood Day School)

Danijel Miletic
Offensive Lineman (6-3, 290)
Frankfurt, Germany (Darmstadt Diamonds)

Christian Moss
Wide Receiver (6-3, 180)
Kennesaw, Georgia (North Cobb High School)

Cole Nelson
Defensive Lineman (6-3, 230)
Alpharetta, Georgia (John's Creek High School)

Jalen Stroman
Defensive Back (6-1, 190)
Nokesville, Virginia (Patriot High School)

Malachi Thomas
Running Back (6-0, 180)
Hartwell, Georgia (Hart County High School)

DJ Sims
Wide Receiver (6-3, 190)
Richmond, Virginia (Christ-church High School)

Radford helps Hokies beat No. 24 Clemson

BLACKSBURG, Va. (AP) — Just three weeks into the season, Virginia Tech has established itself as a surprise team.

Tyrece Radford scored 15 points and the Hokies beat No. 24 Clemson 66-60 on Tuesday.

Radford shot 5 for 11 from the floor and 5 for 6 from the free-throw line for the Hokies (5-1, 1-0 Atlantic Coast Conference), who beat a ranked opponent for the second time in six games. On Nov. 29, Virginia Tech — picked to finish 11th in the ACC — downed then-No. 3 Villanova 81-73 in overtime.

"I think it's premature to say we're for real," Virginia Tech coach Mike Young said. "We're better ... A good night for the Hokies. I'm really proud of our team. I thought we took some legitimate steps forward, and we needed to after getting our tail fanned against the Nittany Lions (last Tuesday)."

Keve Aluma and Nahiem Alleyne each added 13 points for Virginia Tech, which won its conference opener for the fifth time in six seasons.

The Hokies led by 16 in the second half and then held off the Tigers in the final two minutes largely because of a tremendous performance at the free-throw line. Virginia Tech made 25 of 31 from the free-throw line, including four in the final 10.7 seconds.

Clemson (5-1, 0-1) cut the Virginia Tech lead to 62-60 on a layup by Aamir Simms with 25 seconds remaining, but Alleyne's two free throws with 10.7 seconds remaining pushed the Hokies' lead to 64-60. After Clemson's Al-Amir Dawes missed a 3-pointer, the Tigers fouled Hunter Cattoor, who hit two free throws with a second left to seal it.

Cattoor finished with 11 points for Virginia Tech.

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Clemson: Hosts Morehead State on Tuesday.

Virginia Tech: Hosts Coppin State on Saturday.

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	3		8				6

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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Taking It To The Streets



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7:00 P.M. Each Evening:

Special Singing Each Service!

Free Snacks & Drinks Every Youth Night!

223 N. Washington Ave, P.O. Box 30 Pulaski, VA 24301
(Old Southwest Times Building)

December 2020

Fri. Dec. 4th: Pastor Charlie Barbettini
Sat. Dec. 5th: Evangelist Joyce Greer

Fri. Dec. 11th: Brother Eric Watson
Sat. Dec. 12th: "A Night of Singing" with Various Local Singers

Fri. Dec. 18th: Pastor Todd Garwood
Sat. Dec. 19th: No Service
NOTE: Big Christmas Celebration Drive Thru Event 3 pm until 5 pm at the ministry location (side door entrance on the parking lot)

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION
Pre-registration Sign Ups continue through 12/12 for the Big Christmas Drive Thru Event 12/19/20 3-5 pm. Gifts for Infant to age 16. Children must be with parent or guardian to receive gifts. Sign up at the Ministry, Emanuel Book Store and The Patriot Newspaper

Fri. Dec. 25th & Sat. Dec. 26th: No Service and No Sunday Morning Outreach Service. Merry Christmas! God bless everyone and God bless America!

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

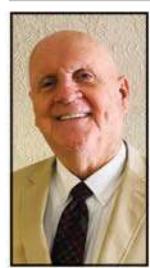
For More Information Contact: Charlie Barbettini. : 276.620.4293

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



Church Directory

Worship Each Week In The Church Of Your Choice



Teach Me Your Word O Lord

Terry McCraw

Death Destroyed

Jesus said, "Because I live, ye shall live also."

The 15th chapter of 1 Cor. provides great comfort to Christians who have lost loved ones who died in Christ. We shall meet them again, when Jesus comes back again for the Rapture of the Saints. When the Rapture takes place, believers are all going to be caught up together, those who are still alive at His coming, and we're going to rise to meet Jesus in the air. And He's going to take us away from this planet to Heaven with Him, and it's going to be a glad reunion day with our departed loved ones.

"Oh what singing, oh what shouting, On that happy morning when we all shall rise, Oh what glory, Hallelujah, When we meet our blessed Savior in the skies." Heaven's Jubilee by Adger M. Pace.

Verse 20 says, "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept." Jesus was the first person to arise from the dead, never to have to die again. He has become the first fruits of the resurrection. Christ the "firstfruits" has triumphed in his resurrection; and the Redeemed of the Lord, will be raised triumphantly at His second coming." The power of Christ's resurrection is now extended to all who believe. He was the first but He'll not be the last. The redeemed of the Lord will follow Him in the Resurrection.

Death entered into the world by Adam. He sinned against God. His penalty was that he would return to the dust from which he was taken. Even since then, every person descended from Adam, has to die physically. Jesus came and died in our place on the old rugged cross and paid the penalty in full for our sins. He was the acceptable sacrifice for the sins of the world. Now, by accepting Jesus as our Savior, we are no longer under the curse of sin. We've been set free by the blood of the Lamb from the guilt, penalty, habit and dominion of sin.

As there was a relationship between the death of Adam and his descendants, so there is a relationship between the resurrection of Jesus Christ and those who believe in Him.

Where it says "All shall be made alive," it is referring to all who accept Jesus as their personal Savior.

Verses 23. "But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits, afterward they that are Christ's at His coming.

Verse 39. "So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption; it is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power: it is sown a natural body. It is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body and there is a spiritual body."

We'll either meet Jesus through a hole in the ground or through a hole in the sky. I'd prefer to still be living when Jesus comes to rapture the saints of God. But if I'm not, and if you're not, we'll be raised from the grave and rise to meet our blessed Lord in

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.umd

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Delton Church of God
of Prophecy
4570 Boyd Road, Draper, VA 24324
Pastor Vickie Lee Viars
deltoncogop@gmail.com (276) 620-3191
Sunday mornings - 11 AM to 12 PM
Sunday evenings-Facebook live services
announced on Facebook
Wednesday evenings- To be announced at
later future time until COVID-19 ceases
Delton COGOP is following all COVID-19
safety guidelines of social distancing, masks,
cleaning, and disinfection.

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: fmbcl872@verizon.net
Pastor: Rev. Richard A. Goodman, Sr.
Associate Minister:
Rev. Annette Cheek
Clerk: Mrs. Carlotta Lewis
Sundays:
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
The Lord's Supper - Each First Sunday
Wednesdays: Prayer Meeting &
Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Dublin United Methodist 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.psalm1@gmail.com
Cell) 540-320-2431
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship (with children's message):
11 a.m.
Bible Study, Wednesday: 7 p.m.
Youth Ministry
Facebook.com/Fairlawn-United-Method-
ist-Church

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

Faith Bible Church
110 LaGrange Street, Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor: Jim Linkous
Associate Pastor: T.J. Cox
540-980-5433
www.facebook/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
5382 Grace Street, Dublin VA, 24084
540-674-4308
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.

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 Activity Classes

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

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

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

St. Edwards Catholic Church
Corner of N. Washington Ave. and
7th Street N.W., Pulaski
Phone: 980-6511
Fax: 980-6511
Priest: Fr. Bernie Ramirez
Mass: 11 a.m. Sunday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

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 B6

the air. And so shall be ever be with the Lord.

Death will be abolished. "There'll be no wreaths of death on our mansion doors. Teardrops aren't welcome upon the streets of glory and the heart will never weep anymore." Dottie Rambo.

The bodies that go into the ground are sown in corruption, sown in dishonor; sown in weakness; but they'll be raised in power, incorruptible and immortal.

In 1st John 3:2, John wrote, "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."

It doesn't matter if a body had been dead and buried for 2,000 years. If that person knew Jesus in the pardon of their sins, they'll receive transformed bodies that'll be brand new. Our great, great grandma will receive a youthful new body just the same as we will.

The name Adam signifies, "made of dust." Man was made of the earth. We hear it at the grave side. "Dust thou art and to the dust thou shalt return."

We will see Jesus face to face in all of His glory and in all of His majesty. That is if we have accepted Jesus as our personal Savior. If we have, then The Bible's promise is for us: "We know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2).

Verse 52. "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump; for the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." We'll be transformed instantaneously and completely. And we'll rise to meet our blessed Lord, in the air. At this coming of Jesus, His feet won't touch down upon the earth. At his second coming in great power and glory His feet will touch down upon the Mount of Olives and the Mountain will split in two.

All of us who are saved ought to be praying every day, "Even so come quickly Lord Jesus."

For when Jesus comes for the Rapture, our redemption shall be complete. When we lay down these robes of flesh and are transformed by the power of God and given brand new bodies that please God.

Death will be swallowed up in Victory. Death shall be abolished. "The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death." J. K. Rowling.

Revelation 21:4. "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

Bible Trivia

1. Is the book of Immanuel in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Who visited Jesus on the night of His birth and found Mary, Joseph and the babe lying in a manger? Innkeeper, Shepherds, Herod, Magi
3. By biblical accounts, what animals were present and around the manger at Jesus' birth? Lions and bears, Sheep and goats, Donkeys and chickens, No mention of animals
4. When the wise men (Magi) arrived in the Holy Land, where did they go first? Jerusalem, Beersheba, Haifa, Tel Aviv
5. Which of these wasn't biblically stated as a gift from the Magi? Silver, Myrrh, Gold, Frankincense
6. Which Old Testament prophet said the most about the birth of Christ? Isaiah, Daniel, Ezekiel, Jeremiah

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Shepherds; 3) No mention of animals; 4) Jerusalem (Mat 2:1-2); 5) Silver; 6) Isaiah

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The Patriot

God speaks to us in the person of His Son, Jesus Christ

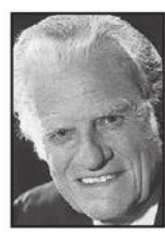
From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: Is it true that Jesus is not only the Savior but the very Gospel itself? -- G.G.

A: God speaks to us in the person of His Son, Jesus Christ. "God... hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son" (Hebrews 1:1-2, KJV). The idea that God would someday visit this planet is an ancient truth that is no doubt an oral remnant of the original revelation God gave to Adam of a promised salvation (Genesis 3:15).

We find crude references to it in most religions of the world, indicating that man at some time had heard or sensed that God would visit the earth. However, it was not until the "fullness of time" when all the conditions were right, when all the prophetic considerations were fulfilled, that God sent forth his Son, made of a woman (Galatians 4:4).

On that first Christmas night in Bethlehem, God was manifest in the flesh (1 Timothy 3:16). This manifestation was in the person of Jesus Christ. The Scripture says



My Answer

Billy Graham

concerning Christ, "In him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily" (Colossians 2:9). This manifestation of God is by far the most complete revelation God ever gave to the world. If you want to know what God is like, then

take a long look at Jesus Christ. In Him were displayed not only the perfections that had been exhibited in the creation such as wisdom, power, and majesty -- but also such divine perfections as justice, mercy, grace, and love.

"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14). To His disciples Jesus said, "You believe in God, believe also in Me" (John 14:1). This sequence of faith is inevitable. Preach Jesus, for He is the Word of the gospel. "Hear the word of the gospel and believe" (Acts 15:7).

Max Meadows man charged in Dec. 11 shooting incident

On Friday, December 11, 2020, the Wythe County Sheriff's Office was contacted when a male came to the Wythe County Community Hospital with a gunshot wound.

Deputies arrived at WCCH and found James Collins with a gunshot wound to his left arm. Collins told deputies that he was shot by James Calvin Hunley at a residence on Blades Trail in the Max Meadows community.

Deputies went to the alleged residence where the shooting occurred and found Hunley. He was taken into custody. Investigators obtained a search warrant for the residence. During the search

items were found that are consistent with the distribution of methamphetamine.

A firearm was recovered at 298 Moss Lane in the Max Meadows community. According to the homeowner, Hunley brought a gun to this residence after the shooting. Hunley, who had recently been released from prison, is a convicted felon and could not legally possess a firearm.

Hunley, of 147 Blades Trail, Max Meadows, was charged with Malicious Wounding; Use of a Firearm in the commission of a Felony; Possession of Methamphetamine, and Possess a Firearm by a Convicted Felon.

Pulaski lands Ag, forestry grant

CATAWBA—Governor Ralph Northam has announced that Fauquier County, Pulaski County, and Roanoke County will each receive a grant of \$20,000 from the Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development (AFID) Fund Planning Grant program to support local agriculture and forestry initiatives amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. These grants will be matched by more than \$67,000 in additional funding from the applicant communities, non-profits, and local governments.

Pulaski County will use the funding to create the Lena Huckstep Community Kitchen at the Calfee Community and Cultural Center (CCCC). The CCCC is a multi-faceted project that is transforming an historic African American school in Pulaski into a new community center, while preserving and honoring its history. Named after the school's beloved cook, the community kitchen will include space for local food producers to create value-added products and expand their businesses. The funds will also support cold storage for a new mobile market, providing immediate support to Pulaski citizens experiencing food access challenges during the pandemic and growing connections between local producers and consumers.

Only You Can Make It Happen

Dear Dave,
I've got so many things I want to address and change about my life, both personally and professionally, in the coming year. Do you have any advice or practices for helping people be successful and achieve their goals?



Dave Says

Dave Ramsey

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540-674-6061

Dear Tim,
Goals are dreams, but you can't stop with just dreaming. Examining your goals inside and out, and by thoughtfully constructing small, achievable steps toward them is the key to creating change in your life. Remember, too, that it's your responsibility—not someone else's—to fix things in your life. If you're waiting for someone or something else to make things better, you're going to be disappointed.

When it comes to setting and achieving goals, be specific about what you want to achieve. Vague, unspecified ideas will only cause you to feel overwhelmed, and this will likely lead to you giving up. Also, make your goals measurable. If you want to lose weight, don't simply write down "lose weight" as a goal. How much weight do you want to lose? How many pounds would you have to lose per week in order to see the desired result in a specified amount of time?

This one may sound silly, but are the goals you have in mind your goals? If a spouse or friend sets goals for you, you're probably not going to succeed. Creating a goal, and taking ownership of it, will give you more incentive to meet your goal. Setting a time frame will help you develop more realistic goals, too. And last, always put your goals in writing. Write them down, and review them often. This will provide you with added motivation to make your goals a reality.

Successful people examine and reassess their lives on a regular basis. When they realize changes need to be made, they

start living intentionally, in writing, on paper, and on purpose!

—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. He has appeared on **Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more.** Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions.

The Patriot
540-808-3949

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

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PET OF THE WEEK

OUR WISH LIST

- Leashes and collars (may be gently used)
- **UNSCENTED Kitty Litter (WalMart's "Special Kitty" in the red/blue bag works great)
- Purina Kitten and Cat Chow (Indoor formula, please)
- Purina Puppy Chow
- Canned dog/cat food
- Dog/Cat Treats (NO RAWHIDE)
- Laundry Detergent (UNSCENTED)
- Bleach
- Blankets/Towels/Sheets/Dog or Cat beds that are no longer needed
- Small litter pans
- Dawn dish soap
- Heavy Duty Dog Toys: KONGS Classic works great!
- WalMart Gift Cards

In order to protect both the citizens of Pulaski County and our personnel, we will be closed to the public until further notice. We will alter our adoption process during this time. If you are interested in an animal here at the shelter, please submit your application with you may access on our Face Book page: Pulaski County, VA Animal Control. Once your application is approved, you will be contacted and a time will be made available for you to do a meet and greet.

With the holidays upon us, please remember the homeless animals here at the shelter. Items may be dropped off at the shelter Monday-Friday between 10 a.m. & 4 p.m. If you choose to order from Amazon, you can find the link to our Wish List on our Facebook page.

Pulaski County Animal Control,
80 Dublin Park Rd., Dublin, VA 24084,
540-674-8359
Monday-Friday 10AM-4PM and
10AM-12Noon on Saturday

Pet of the Week
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