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UAW, Volvo negotiators agree to 30-day extension

Patriot Staff Report

A 30-day contract extension has been agreed to by United Auto Workers Local 2069 and Volvo Group North America. The agreement Tuesday averted a possible strike by union employees as early as midnight Tuesday night.

The current five-year contract, agreed to in 2016, was due to end Tuesday night at midnight.

The extension was announced this evening in a letter posted on the UAW Local 2069 Facebook page from Ray Curry, Secretary-Treasurer and Director of the UAW.

In the letter, Curry tells local union officials and membership that following a meeting on March 16, 2021 of the UAW/Volvo Bargaining Committee to review responses from Volvo officials, the

Next deadline in contract negotiations is April 16 when 30-day extension is set to end.

union's bargaining committee has been unable to reach a full agreement on all open issues.

"We remain committed to reaching a new collective bargaining agreement between the parties," Curry writes.

"Your overwhelming support of the UAW/Volvo Bargaining Committee is still needed throughout this process to enable us to reach our goal of a fair and equitable agreement for the membership,"

he continued.

Curry states that an extension of the current agreement has been signed between the parties and will expire on April 16, 2021.

UAW members at the Dublin plant had cast votes in a strike authorization vote on Feb. 24 with 96.8 percent of the members voting to authorize a strike if necessary.

In a message from Volvo, company officials assured employees that negotiations are continuing.

"This is to inform you that negotiations between the company and the United Auto Workers are continuing, and the parties have agreed to extend the terms and conditions of the existing contract until April 16th to accommodate the continued talks.

See VOLVO, page A2

WEEKEND WEATHER

Saturday

Sunday

Sunny, with a high near 51.
Northeast wind 3 to 8 mph.

Sunny, with a high near 56.

Saturday Night - Mostly clear,
with a low around 30.

Sunday Night - Mostly clear,
with a low around 32.



Lasting Legacy

Local group raising funds to leave a lasting legacy to honor deceased Pulaski County Deputy Perry Hodge.

See Page A3

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE MARCH 23

Voters In Pulaski County And Radford Will Help Elect A New State Senator For The 38th Senate District.

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VOTE MARCH 23rd

Paid For By Don Holt, New River Sports

Race for 38th Senate seat to be decided on Tuesday

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

Tuesday is Election Day in Pulaski County and across the 38th Senatorial District in Southwest Virginia.

Registered voters in the counties of Pulaski, Bland, Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell and Tazewell; the cities of Norton and Radford and portions of Montgomery, Smyth and Wise counties are eligible to vote.

At stake in this special election is a seat in the Virginia State Senate to fill the vacancy left by the death Jan. 1 of veteran legislator State Senator Ben Chaffin, a Re-



publican.

Governor Ralph Northam, a Democrat, set the date for the special election. Some have charged he purposely set the date well after the conclusion of this year's

General Assembly session to leave Republicans short one seat in the legislature. Democrats hold a slight majority in the State Senate.

Two candidates are vying for the open seat.

The Republican in the race is Tazewell businessman and member of that county's board of supervisors, Travis Hackworth.

The Democrat is Laurie Buchwald, a family/women's health nurse practitioner from Radford.

Hackworth easily defeated five other Republicans in late January during a "firehouse primary"

See ELECTION, page A2

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Office Manager



Northam announces plan for in-person graduations

RICHMOND—Governor Ralph Northam Wednesday released preliminary guidance for how K-12 schools, as well as colleges and universities, may safely hold in-person graduation and commencement events this spring. These tentative plans have been reviewed with education officials and are expected to be included in an April 1 update to Third Amended Executive Order Seventy-Two.

Graduation events held outdoors will be capped at 5,000 people or 30 percent of the venue capacity, whichever is less. Graduation events held indoors may have up to 500 people, or 30 percent of the venue capacity,

whichever is less. Attendees must wear masks and follow other guidelines and safety protocols to ensure proper distancing. Preliminary guidance for safely holding graduation and commencement events can be found here.

Pulaski County School Superintendent Dr. Kevin Siers is hoping these new guidelines will allow graduation here to be a traditional ceremony as in the past.

“I appreciate the work that our schools, students, and teachers have put in to get back into the classroom safely, and the efforts of public health officials and education leaders in developing

guidelines for safe graduations and commencements this spring,” said Governor Northam. “We are releasing this guidance early to allow schools to begin planning for this year’s events. While graduation and commencement ceremonies will still be different than they were in the past, this is a tremendous step forward for all of our schools, our graduates, and their families.”

Virginia has currently administered more than 2.7 million total COVID vaccine doses, and 1.8 million Virginians—21.3 percent of the population—have received at least one dose, while more than

one million are fully vaccinated. The statewide positivity rate is 5.4 percent. About 50,000 shots are being administered to Virginians each day, and the Commonwealth is on pace to have vaccine available to everyone who wants to get vaccinated by the beginning of May. The acceleration of the vaccine program and the decrease in new COVID-19 cases make it safer to ease restrictions on activities like in-person graduations.

Virginia’s schools are also meeting Governor Northam’s goal to expand opportunities for regular in-person instruction. In ear-

ly February, Governor Northam directed Virginia’s 132 school divisions to submit plans by mid-March for returning students to their classrooms. At that time, 25 school divisions, representing more than a third of Virginia’s students, had no plans for in-person learning. All school divisions have now submitted plans to meet that goal, and a vast majority of divisions are now offering full time classroom instruction or hybrid schedules that allow students to learn in person at least part of the week. All divisions continue to provide fully remote instructional options for students who choose to learn from home.

U.S. Forest Service fights fires by starting a few

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

A headline on the U.S. Forest Service website says, “Forest Service fights fire by starting a few.” That’s exactly what was happening near Gatewood Park during the first half of March as Forest Service and local personnel conducted a controlled burn in the area.

What exactly is a controlled or “prescribed” burn, and why is such a strategy used?

According to an article on the Forest Service’s website by Robert Hudson Westover, “The simple response is that all fire is not bad, nor is there only one kind of fire. In fact, many of our wildlands in the U.S. rely on fire to remain healthy. When conditions

are safe, with calm winds and low temperatures, the Forest Service will conduct prescribed burns, somewhat assisting mother nature to create safer wildfire conditions. By burning under planned weather conditions, we can better manage the thick smoke that can come with out-of-control wildfires, and we can make our communities safer by removing some of the dry, dead debris that builds up on the forest floor.”

“Prescribed fire is just one part of a larger approach to wildfire management. When weather conditions heat up and dry out, the Forest Service works to prevent and contain fires that could threaten communities. We also use mechanical equipment to clear out dead and dying undergrowth and thin dense areas to improve tree

mortality. This keeps our forests and grasslands healthy and resilient to severe wildfire and drought,” the article continued.

During the recent prescribed burn near Gatewood, Forest Service personnel conducted a burn on a 1,000-acre plot in the Chestnut Ridge area.

The burn was conducted over several days, beginning March 6 and concluding March 11.

According to Brad Wright, Emergency Management Coordinator for Pulaski County, he and the Pulaski Fire Department were in close coordination with the burn managers from the U.S. Forest Service during the event.

Wright said the objective of the controlled burn was to:

See BURN, page A3

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Monday - Tuesday, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.
Wednesday - Thursday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

Group raising money to create legacy fund for Hodge

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

Pulaski County Hearts Behind the Badge is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing support to local law enforcement officers and their families.

Boasting nearly 600 followers of its Facebook page, the organization has announced the launching of a fundraising effort to create a legacy fund in memory of Pulaski County Deputy Perry Hodge who was killed Jan. 14 in a traffic accident on Route 11 near Dublin.

With the money raised for the fund, the organization wants to do something they know Hodge would have been pleased with.

“Our immediate goal is to work with the New River Crimi-



nal Justice Academy to help send a cadet through the academy in July. Perry was an instructor in multiple areas there, and we all agree he would love this,” stated Tammy Holbrook, president of the organization.

“Our stretch goal is to have something in place so we can fund something in Perry’s name for years to come. We have already received some donations and have others waiting. We are planning some upcoming fundraising

events,” Holbrook said, adding that the cost to send an officer through the academy is \$5,500.

Holbrook said the group would be selling decals for a fundraiser as well as donating some of the proceeds from the group’s 3rd annual golf tournament at Thornspring Golf Course on August 14th.

“There is also a marathon com-

ing up, but we don’t have details finalized on that yet,” she said.

Holbrook offered a “huge thank you” to all who have supported Pulaski County Hearts Behind The Badge as they continue to support law enforcement officers and their families.

If you’d like to help with the legacy fund for Deputy Hodge, you can send your donations to: Pulaski County Hearts Behind The Badge, P.O. Box 45, Dublin, VA 24084.

Pulaski County Hearts Behind the Badge also still has 2021 Deputy Calendars available for purchase. The calendar features 24 of your favorite Pulaski County Deputies and more. All money raised by the non-profit group’s sale of the calendars goes directly to support law enforcement in the county and their families. The cost of a calendar is \$15.

Virginia Lottery online players win \$400 million in 9 months

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — The Virginia Lottery says players have won more than \$400 million since online game offerings were introduced less than nine months ago.

The new way of playing the lottery on smartphones, tablets or computers started on July 1 as a modern alternative for consumers. Online products include popular games like Mega Millions, Powerball and Cash4Life, along with instant win games

that are available online only.

More than 163,000 unique players have won prizes playing the Virginia Lottery online, for a total of more than 85 million wins. The single largest online win was \$2 million in the Jan. 13 Powerball drawing.

The profit from every Virginia Lottery ticket sold benefits K-12 public education in Virginia. In Fiscal Year 2020, the Lottery generated more than \$595 million for education.

Apartment blaze displaces 20 residents in Pulaski

An apartment fire in Pulaski Thursday night displaced 20 people.

Pulaski Fire Chief Robbie Kiser reports that at 10:57 Thursday night, the department was dispatched to 15 Fifth Street N.E. for a structure fire. The location is a multi-family apartment building with four apartments.

Kiser said the first engine arrived 4 minutes later to find a large two-story residential building with heavy fire coming from the Delta side of residence.

“Crews quickly established attack teams for the multiple floors involved using three different crews and also a search crew was searching the residence for occupants and/or pets,” Kiser said.

Search crews did safely remove a pet rabbit and dog and returned these to the owners.

The fire displaced 20 occupants and 14 of those were assisted by the Red Cross. The remaining residents were assisted by family members.

Pulaski FD responded with

two engines and a utility truck with 18 personnel, and Dublin FD and Newbern FD also assisted with a fire attack, a ladder truck and air truck and 14 personnel. American Electric Power responded to disconnect power to the residence. The Pulaski Police Department and Pulaski County Sheriff’s Office assisted with traffic control. Pulaski County Public Safety also assisted with the fire.

Kiser said the department used 3,000 gallons of water, 500 feet of attack hose, 20 air packs, and multiple hand tools to extinguish the fire.

The fire was under control at a quarter past midnight, but fire department personnel then overhauled and found hot spots due to the large size of structure.

Fire units finally cleared at 2:06 a.m. and were back in service at 2:45 a.m.

“Pulaski Fire Department would like to thank everyone who assisted for their help with this fire,” Kiser stated.

Burn

Continued from Page A2

- Lower the risk of wildfires
- Improve wildlife habitat
- Improve vegetative diversity and promote oak regeneration

The U.S. Forest Service, Wright said, would like to repeat the burns every 3 to 10 years.

“The U.S. Forest Service was the lead agency since most of it was on their land, the Town of Pulaski Fire Department also assisted as some of the land burned was Town property around Gatewood. The Virginia Department of Forestry also took part in the burn as well as Pulaski County Emergency Management,” Wright noted.

“This was a joint project between these agencies as a Cross

Boundaries project under the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy,” which Wright noted was the first of its kind in Virginia.

“It took roughly 12 hours to complete the burn once it was started. Ignition was done by hand and Arial (helicopter) methods. There is one additional burn unit still to do this spring if we get the right weather conditions,” Wright added.

Wright said there was no control issues with the burn and was done under the right weather condition with the proper control methods and resources on hand under the supervision of experienced fire managers.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Town of Dublin, Virginia proposes to increase property tax levies.

1. Assessment Increase: Total assessed value of real property, excluding additional assessments due to new construction or improvements to property, exceeds last year's total assessed value of real property in the Town of Dublin by 13.3 percent.
 2. Lowered Rate Necessary to Offset Increased Assessment: The tax rate which would levy the same amount of real estate tax as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of real estate with the exclusions mentioned above, would be \$0.21 per \$100 of assessed value. This rate will be known as the "lowered tax rate."
 3. Effective Rate Increase: The Town of Dublin proposes to adopt a tax rate of \$0.24 per \$100 of assessed value (which is the existing real estate tax rate). The difference between the lowered tax rate and the proposed rate would be \$0.03 per \$100, or 14.3 percent. This difference will be known as the "effective tax rate increase."
- Individual property taxes may, however, increase at a percentage greater than or less than the above-percentage, based on the reassessment valuation.
4. Proposed Total Budget Increase: Based on the proposed real property tax rate and changes in other revenues, the total budget of the Town of Dublin will exceed last year's by 14.7 percent.

A public hearing on the effective tax rate increase will be held on Thursday, April 15, 2021, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers (second floor) of the Dublin Town Center, 101 Dublin Park Road, Dublin, Virginia. All persons desiring to comment on the proposed effective tax rate increase should submit their comments in writing to the Dublin Town Manager prior to the hearing, or, *subject to current health safety regulations*, may appear before the Council at the above-stated time and place.

Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain and/or Wetland

To: All interested Federal, State, and Local Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that HUD under part 50 or Responsible Entity under Part 58 has determined that the following proposed action under Community Development Fund/CDBG and CIG# 20-20-28/ ARC# 20-01A is located in the 100-year floodplain and/or wetland, and the Town of Pulaski will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain and/or wetland and the potential impacts on the floodplain and/or wetland from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988 and/or 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C, Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

The Town of Pulaski is partnering with James Hardie Industries to improve sewer infrastructure in and around the Pulaski facility. In 2017, a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) explored several alternatives, including chemical treatment and re-routing of the flows from the James Hardie industrial facility, re-routing discharge through the Town’s gravity collection system. Preferred scenarios include the installation of a one-million-gallon storage tank and necessary appurtenances to shorten the flow path (currently about 5-miles), while also increasing the facility capacity. The final design will locate any and all above ground permanent structures outside of the Zone A 100-year floodplain and/or delineated wetlands; however, gravity sewer and sewer force main pipe connections to existing infrastructure within the floodplain may be necessary. The proposed project is located at 1000 James Hardie Way in the Town of Pulaski, Pulaski County.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and/or wetlands and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain and/or wetland, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains and/or wetlands can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains and/or wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the Town of Pulaski at the following address on or before April 2, 2021: Town of Pulaski, 42 1st Street NW, Pulaski, VA 24301 and (540) 994-8616, Attention: Mr. Bill Pedigo, Town Engineer. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm at the Town Office and online at <https://www.pulaskitown.org/government/departments> and selecting the engineering department (<https://www.pulaskitown.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=13176212&pageId=17345183>). Comments may also be submitted via email at bpedigo@pulaskitown.org.



Area Obituaries

Check www.pcpatriot.com Daily For Obituaries



REGINALD "REGGIE" SIZEMORE

Reginald "Reggie" Sizemore, 70 of Dublin, Va. and formerly of Pineville, W.Va., traded in the hunting grounds and fishing holes here on Earth for his eternal home in Heaven on March 10, 2021 after a boating accident. Reggie took his last breath doing what he loved, out in the sunshine casting a line fishing.

Born and raised in McGraws, W. Va., he was the son of the late Denver Jack and Sadie Marrochillo Sizemore. Grandparents were Veto and Rosa Marrochillo and Joseph and Annie Sizemore.

He was a U.S. Army veteran, retired from U.S. Steel Pinnacle Mines and attended the River of Life Church, Dublin, Va.

Others preceding Reggie in death were brothers, Arnold Sizemore, Billy Jack Sizemore; nephew, B.J. Sizemore; wife, Debbie Wiseman Green Sizemore.

Other survivors include a brother, Denver and his wife, Janie Sizemore of N.C.; daughter, Heather and her husband, Jamie Hood; son, Adam and wife Brittany Sizemore, both children of Pineville, W.Va. A sister-in-law, Phyllis Sizemore, and his cherished grandchildren, Dakota Hood, Nick Hood, Savannah Hood, Lani Hood, Braden Hood, Brixton Sizemore, all of Pineville, W.Va.

Great-grandchildren Connor Hood and Sawyer Hood also survive, as do several nieces and nephews. Reggie also leaves behind his best buddy, Bill Stewart.

Reggie was known for his love of hunting and being in the woods, fishing anywhere possible, working outside, his beautiful flowers, as well as his smile and love for helping others.

Funeral services were held March 17, 2021 at Saulsville Baptist Church with Pastor Shawn Burgess from his church in Dublin, Va.

Family and friends served as pallbearers. He was laid to rest in the Clay Family Cemetery beside his parents in Saulsville, W.Va.

Stafford Funeral Home is serving the Sizemore family.



RUTH ANN FLETCHER

Ruth Ann Fletcher, age 71 of Pulaski passed away Saturday, March 13, 2021 at the NRV Medical Center. Born December 24, 1949 in Dublin she was the daughter of the late William A. Denny & Bessie Kathleen Hayden Denny. A stillborn son also preceded her in death.

She attended the Pearisburg Church of God.

She is survived by her Husband Charles Fletcher – Pulaski Son Michael Hanks – Pulaski 4 Grandchildren 5 Great Grandchildren

Sisters Betty Jean "Jeanie" Shelton Denny – Pulaski

Brothers William "Buck" E. (Kathy) Denny – Pulaski David Franklin "Frankie" (Susan) Denny – NC

Memorial services will be held at a later date and will be updated on our website.

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

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



MARTIN EDWARD "EDDIE" BRANSCOME

Martin Edward "Eddie" Branscome, age 54 of Pulaski passed away Wednesday, March 10, 2021.

Born July 22, 1966 in Pulaski he was the son of the late Stanley & Brenda Worrell Branscome.

He is survived by his Children

Jeremiah (Kayla) Branscome – Pulaski

Cassandra (Dusty) Phillips – Pulaski

Grandchildren Chase East, Wyatt East, Madilyn Branscome and Weston Branscome

Brother David (Kris) Branscome – Pulaski

Memorial services were held Monday, March 15, 2021 at the Dora Highway Baptist Church, Pulaski with Rev. Herman Sarver officiating.

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

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



MICHAEL SCOTT COMER

Michael Scott Comer, 47, of Richmond, Va., passed away on March 6, 2021.

Born May 18, 1973 to Jerry and Carolyn Buckner Comer, Michael's creative talents led him to attend Virginia Commonwealth University. He became a longtime resident of Richmond, Va., where he developed a passion for and career in the city's restaurant industry. With his kind heart, quick wit, and big personality, he gained many friends.

He is survived by his parents, Jerry and Carolyn Buckner Comer; sister Kimberly Hise, brother-in-law Dru Hise, and nephew Cameron Hise, all of Virginia Beach, Va.; and several loving uncles, aunts, cousins. He was preceded in death by his grandparents Roy and Helen Buckner of Pulaski, Va. and Eugene and Dolores Comer of Rich Creek, Va.

Visitation was held Friday, March 12, 2021 at Bower Funeral Chapel, 1631 Bob White Boulevard, Pulaski. The burial followed at Thornspring Cemetery in Pulaski, Va.

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

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



BUFFY MARIE ANDERSON

Buffy Marie Anderson, 50, passed away at her home in New River on Wednesday, March 17, 2021.

Survivors include her parents, James, Sr. and Wanda Anderson; brother, James A. Anderson, Jr.; uncles and aunts, Michael and Carlotta Lewis, and Wendell and Sylvia Anderson; aunt and uncle, Jeanette and Joe Sheffey; and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be private at 2 p.m. on Monday, March 22, 2021 at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford.

The family would like to thank Carilion Hospice and Blue Ridge Cancer Care for all their care and kindness to our family.

The Anderson family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford, Virginia. Online condolences may be expressed at www.mullinsfuneralhome.com

PULSE

March 27

Cemetery Cleaning

The cemetery at Thornspring United Methodist Church will be cleaned Saturday, March 27, 2021 in preparation for the upcoming mowing season. We respectfully request each family to inspect their plots & remove any wreaths, flowers, vases, etc that you would like to keep or reuse at another time. If you have any questions, call 540-320-5348.

On going:

Alcohol Anonymous 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 located at 975 Memorial Drive. Contact number is 540-440-0066. Note: At present time masks are required and social distancing observed.

Radford Clothing Bank

The Radford Clothing Bank is open by appointment only. To qualify for free clothing, you must receive Medicaid or SNAP (Food Stamps). Call the Clothing Bank at 633-5050, Monday – Saturday, from 10 a.m. – 12 a.m. to make an appointment. Hours for shopping are Thursday, Friday, Saturday, from 10 a.m. – 12 a.m. and Thursday from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. The Clothing Bank is located at 2000 West St., Radford, Va. Donations of clothing, shoes, purses, and linens are being accepted.

Pulaski Al-Anon Family Group

Pulaski Al-Anon Family Group (a support group for friends and families of alcoholics) meet every Monday night at 8 p.m. at Pulaski Presbyterian Church of America located at 975 Memorial Drive. Contact number 540-818-0621. Note: At present time masks are required and social distancing is observed.

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Call 540-808-3949.

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In Memory

Maggie,
I miss you so much. I look for you everyday to come to say "Let's go to Walmart!"
But you're up there with our other sisters and family, and your husband, Harrell.
Flowers won't bring you back to us. We miss you dearly.

Love, Your Sister,
Margaret

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Pulaski County GOP rallies for Blevins

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

Republicans in Pulaski County were introduced last week to Sherri Blevins, a Christiansburg businesswoman seeking the party's nomination to replace Nick Rush as 7th District Delegate.

Rush recently announced he would not seek a sixth term as Delegate.

Blevins, one of three candidates seeking the Republican nomination in the district, had praise for Rush.

"I wish Del. Rush and his family the very best. He has served the New River Valley honorably and with great integrity for the past 10 years. That service deserves our respect," Blevins said during the GOP event held at the Historic Train Station in Pulaski.

Blevins introduced herself as a small business owner, operating New River Valley Driving School for over 22 years.

"I'm a traffic safety advocate and have worked in the school systems and throughout the community against unsafe driving. I am a recipient of the governor's transportation award and have won numerous National Safety Council Awards, including in 2018 for Training Center of the Year."

Blevins is in her first term on the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors. She said her husband, Buck Blevins is a recently retired State Trooper and now works with Carilion's police department.

"I'm very proud of his over 34 years of public service," Blevins said.

They have two children, Zachary and Kayla. Zachary attends New River Community College through the ACCE Program which Blevins says she is a strong supporter of. Kayla is a chemistry major at Radford University. She also served as a House page for the General Assembly under Del. Rush in 2017.

"We are a family of service," Blevins told the audience.

She noted her decision to run to be the next delegate from the 7th District is based upon a desire to continue to serve the community in the best manner she possibly can.

She said the region's economic condition is a primary concern.

"During the COVID-19 pandemic, we've all heard of small businesses that are struggling – just like my own. Employers have struggled to retain workers and even keep their doors open. I am the candidate who has a plan to roll back job killing regulations, cut spending and work to create a strong business climate. Businesses need our support more than ever, not red tape.

"We need to promote economic growth and bring businesses and jobs back to Pulaski and the New River Valley. We need to

Virginia unemployment decreases, continues to outperform nation

By TYLER ARNOLD
The Center Square

Virginia's unemployment rate dropped from 5.6% to 5.3% in January and continues to outperform the national average, which was 6.3% in that month, the governor's office announced this week.

Unemployment numbers are still worse than they were at the same time last year, primarily



Pulaski County Republicans gathered last week at the Historic Pulaski Train Station to rally for 7th District House of Delegates candidate Sherri Blevins. Also attending was 12th District candidate Jason Ballard.

Mike Williams/The Patriot



Sherri Blevins

get people back to work so they can provide for their families.

This can be accomplished by small government and lower taxes," Blevins said.

"Serving on the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors, I've learned how important it is to fight for local funding in Richmond. Localities have seen a reduction in funding for schools, our public roads, public safety and human services. Local governments should not have unfunded mandates imposed upon them," she added.

Blevins said she is a woman of "strong faith and family."

"I will protect life, especially that of the unborn. I will support family values, work to reopen schools safely and provide human services to help families stay strong.

"Our children are failing academically, and mental health issues are on the rise."

Being the wife of a law officer, Blevins naturally is strong in her support for law enforcement.

"I am proud to say I will defend the police. As the wife of a police officer, I know firsthand the ded-

ication and sacrifices that these brave men and women of law enforcement make each and every day. I have always backed the police and will continue that fight in Richmond.

"Police officers are under attack and I will defend qualified immunity" [a legal defense that often prevents law officers from facing civil lawsuits.] "I will fight and support those who are on our front line. Each and every one of you need to stand behind the men and women who dedicate their lives to protect and serve us. Stand with them," she urged fellow Republicans.

She said she is also a strong supporter of Constitutional rights of Americans.

"I will honor my oath and uphold our Constitutional rights. I am pro-2nd Amendment. I believe everyone has a right to protect themselves and their family.

"Outside of the Bible, the U.S. Constitution is the most important document in the history of the world, and the 2nd Amendment is crucial in defending our rights.

"I will oppose any and all ideas that would limit or curtail those God-given rights," she added.

"I am and will continue to be a strong voice for the 7th District. I have a proven track record and a strong conviction to fight for this House seat. I promise to work hard during the campaign and to work even harder as your delegate.

"Let's send a clear message to Richmond that reflects our conservative values and way of life," she said in closing.

Pulaski County Board of Supervisors Chairman Joe Guthrie assessed the 7th District situation.

"If we had our choice of who we wanted to represent us in the 7th District it would be Nick Rush and it's not even close," Guthrie said.

"However, since he's taking a much-deserved break, I can't think of a better person to take his place in Richmond than Sherri Blevins.

"She's someone who has already proven she can win an elected office, and that she can govern and represent our values.

"You've heard her speak of her support for law enforcement offi-

cers. We on the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors – all of us, unanimously – passed a resolution to support qualified immunity for our law enforcement officers.

"While we won't have Nick Rush representing us, we need to come out in force and in mass as Republicans and vote for Sherri Blevins," said Guthrie – predicting "We're going to keep a seat for Republicans and we're going to flip a seat for Republicans."

Blevins is being opposed for the Republican nomination by Lowell Bowman of Riner and Marie March of Christiansburg.



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Standing up for the Second Amendment

The freedoms guaranteed by the Second Amendment should not be considered less than the other freedoms protected by the Bill of Rights. Legislation to restrict rights such as free speech, freedom of the press, and due process during criminal proceedings would rightly keep an outcry.

The right to keep and bear arms should not be considered differently, and I will never vote to infringe your Second Amendment rights.

Notwithstanding the constitutional right to bear arms, the House Democrats put on the floor and passed in one week two bills, H.R. 8 and H.R. 1446, that would restrict your Second Amendment rights. There certainly has been an outcry; I have heard from many constituents of Virginia's Ninth Congressional District strongly in opposition to these bills.

First up was H.R. 8, which would expand background checks to cover the private transfer of firearms between individuals. Were this bill to become law, violations could incur up to a year in prison and a fine of \$100,000.

It is difficult to see what H.R. 8 would accomplish beyond adding to the burdens of responsible gun owners. Under current law, firearms dealers must hold



Morgan Griffith

9th District Representative

a Federal Firearm License and are required to run a background check on firearms purchasers in the National

Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). Current federal law imposes other restrictions that make those placed upon gun owners by H.R. 8 unnecessary. Firearms cannot be sold to anyone prohibited from possessing a firearm or to anyone across state lines who lacks a firearms license. Nor can anyone provide a handgun to a juvenile except for limited purposes, and dealers cannot sell rifles or shotguns to individuals under 18 years of age.

With these actions already criminalized, the prohibitions and penalties of H.R. 8 would fall upon much more mundane transactions. A person could not lend his or her firearm to a friend concerned about self-defense, for example, without a background check. Tracking firearm transfers under H.R. 8 would also set up the possibility of a national gun registry, something that greatly concerns gun owners.

An amendment offered by Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX) clarified that a gun owner concerned about harming him- or herself can transfer the firearm to a friend without a background check.

But stop and think about it: the fact that the amendment had to be offered at all is concerning, but to be offered by one of the most liberal Members of Congress shows how broadly this bill could affect private gun transfers and indeed your Second Amendment rights.

H.R. 1446 also imposes on gun owners by prolonging background checks through NICS. Current law requires the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to complete such checks on anyone legally attempting to buy a gun through a federal firearms licensee within three days. With H.R. 1446, completing a check could potentially be put off indefinitely by the FBI due to inaction.

Delaying the completion of background checks or letting them be swallowed into a bureaucratic black hole would effectively deny Americans their Second Amendment rights, potentially with dangerous consequences if the firearm being purchased is for self-defense.

The case of New Jersey resident Carol Bowne, who sought a gun to protect herself but was killed by her ex-boyfriend in 2015 before the lengthy state permitting process was complete, indicates the damage that can result from protracted background checks.

For all the impositions placed upon gun owners by H.R. 8 and H.R. 1446, these measures would not have prevented high-profile tragic episodes of gun violence we have seen in this country. Too often, these calamities resulted from a failure to adequately enforce current laws. Those failures should not deny law-abiding Americans their Second Amendment rights.

I strongly opposed H.R. 8 and H.R. 1446 and cast my votes against them. Additionally, I have introduced this year my own bill, H.R. 225, to protect gun owners lawfully traveling through jurisdictions of the country with strict restrictions on firearms.

The Ninth District is home to many gun owners who buy, carry, and use their firearms for self-defense, hunting, recreation, and plenty more legitimate reasons. Congress should not be in the business of criminalizing constitutional rights, and as long as I am in the House, I will defend them.

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

Reliance On God

"What any religious tradition described as God's will is no concern of this Congress."
Congressman Jerrold "Jerry" Nadler, D-NY 10th Congressional District

I was shocked to learn of Nadler's expression of contempt in the middle of a verbal exchange with Republican Congressman Greg Steube during the recent U.S. House of Representatives debate of the Equality Act.

Nadler, who has been a Congressman for 30 years, should know by now that his predecessors called on God for wisdom while forming the laws of this great nation; and that God has been involved in the affairs of this nation since its inception.

There are innumerable examples of the Founders' reliance on God and these examples are easily discovered with a simple internet search.

One of the most famous speeches regarding the Will of God was expressed by Benjamin Franklin during a particularly contentious debate at the Federal Convention of 1787.

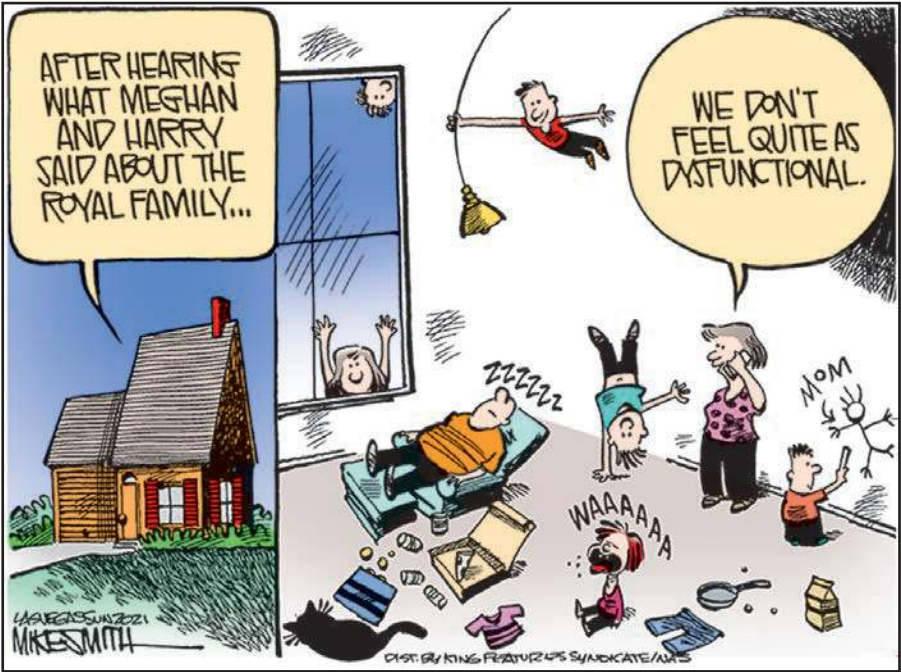
Franklin, who some modern re-writers of American history, claim was a diest reminded his fellow representatives: "In the beginning of the contest with Great Britain, when we were sensible of danger, we had daily prayers in this room for divine protection. Our prayers, sir, were heard; and they were graciously

One Nation Under God

By Danielle Reid

answered. All of us who were engaged in this struggle must have observed frequent instances of a superintending Providence in our favor. To that kind Providence we owe this happy opportunity of consulting in peace on the means of establishing our future national felicity. And have we now forgotten that powerful Friend? Or do we imagine that we no longer need His assistance? I have lived, sir, a long time; and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see of this truth—that God governs in the affairs of men; and if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We have been assured, sir, in sacred writings, that except the Lord build the house they labor in vain that build it. I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without his concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel. We shall be divided by our little partial local interests; our projects will be confounded, and we ourselves shall become

See RELIANCE, page A7



Now Come The Taxes

By Cal Thomas, Tribune Content Agency

The front-page headline in Monday's Wall Street Journal said: "Biden weighs how to pay for Agenda." Who purchases something they know they can't afford, and then worries about paying for it later? Only government.

After less than two months in office, President Biden and a majority Democrat Congress have engaged in record spending with insufficient money to pay for it. That may be about to change.

Bloomberg.com reports the president wants to raise individual income taxes, as well as taxes on corporations (and expand the estate tax) to pay for another round of spending on infrastructure and programs and policies dear to liberal hearts. We are already hearing the mantra Democrats have used for decades to justify tax hikes: The rich must pay their "fair share." They never tell us what is fair, or the amount of confiscation they wish to impose. It is always a moving target.

As mentioned in previous columns, the federal government does not lack revenue; it lacks self-control when it comes to spending. Some Democrats are even talking about the return of earmarks, those add-ons to legislation that Republicans voted to ban when they had a House majority. Democrats think they can revive them to tempt GOP members into going along with their spending plans.

Unrestrained by a Republican majority in either house of Congress, or a Republican president, Democrats have the votes to push legislation through, at least until the 2022 election, showing little concern for voter anger. It doesn't matter to them that the Trump tax cuts produced tremendous economic results for businesses that then create jobs and hire workers. Democrats cling to the false notion that more spending and higher taxes solves everything. If it did, would it not have by now?

The left - and that is what today's Democratic Party represents - believes that by spending more it can addict more people to government, enhancing the careers of politicians. In various ads and fundraising appeals over the years, Democrats have claimed that electing Republicans will lead to canceled Social Security checks and other government benefits. They never speak of individual responsibility,

liberty, or the proper role of government. Oh, how we need term limits, but that would mean career politicians would have to vote for them, which they will never do.

Democrats will likely begin with raising corporate taxes, because they have been successful in portraying corporations as evil and greedy. Trouble is, those corporations hire people and employees also pay taxes, contributing to economic growth. If corporations must pay more in taxes, they are less likely to hire and layoff current employees. Anytime is a bad time to raise taxes but raising them while people are still struggling with the consequences of government shutdowns is immoral.

The Washington Post said this about raising the corporate tax rate: "Some tax experts, business groups and Republican lawmakers say raising the rate could damage U.S. competitiveness. Countries around the globe have both recently and over the past several decades joined the United States in reducing tax rates to attract corporate investment... The average tax rate among countries is 24 percent, according to the Tax Foundation, a right-leaning think tank. Just last year, nine countries, including France, lowered their corporate tax rates."

The current federal corporate tax rate is 21 percent. Former President Trump cut it from 35 percent. As we emerge from the pandemic, it should stay at 21 percent and President Biden should keep his hands off the money we earn.

What's needed is a nonpartisan panel to conduct a top-down review of all government spending, eliminating waste and reforming programs that are outdated, or can be better done by the private sector. Don't look for Democrats to do that. It isn't their nature. Republican hands aren't clean when it comes to spending, either. Voters not addicted to government will have to demand more fiscal responsibility. As with nations of the past, massive debt and high taxes have contributed to national decline.

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



Rich Lowery

Editor, National Review

HR1 a Partisan Disgrace

It'd be fitting if Democrats undertook a radical procedural step to pass a radical piece of legislation.

That's what the left is pressuring Senate Democrats to do by eliminating, or significantly curtailing, the filibuster to pass HR1, the sweeping voting proposal that is one of the most execrable bills to pass the House in a very long time.

HR1 would federalize the conduct of elections and codify what were supposed to be emergency voting procedures during the pandemic, in frankly partisan legislation sheathed in the rhetoric of "voting rights."

According to advocates of the bill, anything to tighten up or maintain good practices regarding ballot security is "voter suppression" worthy of the old Jim Crow South.

By this way of thinking, Republican efforts at the state level to, say, reduce the days available for early voting -- Iowa is reducing its early-voting period from 29 days to 20 days -- will disenfranchise millions, never mind that deep blue New York State allows only about a week of early voting.

Voter identification laws, a bogeyman of supporters of HR1, were recommended by a 2005 bipartisan commission jointly led by Jimmy Carter and James Baker, neither of whom will ever be mistaken for Bull Connor. Not too long ago, it was a feature of big bipartisan voting bills to require states to periodically clean up their voter rolls, another commonsense measure that is now considered tantamount to wielding bully clubs and police dogs.

There may be many problems besetting American democracy, but people turning out to vote isn't one of them. Turnout exploded in the 2018 midterms prior to the pandemic and turnout exploded in 2020 during the pandemic, with both Democrats who availed themselves of early voting and Republicans who voted same day showing up in historic numbers.

In response largely to a non-problem, Democrats want to trample on the prerogatives of states to conduct elections, mandating their electoral priorities throughout the land.

States would have no choice but to accept same-day registrations. People applying for various government programs or for college would be registered automatically. States couldn't turn away the registrations of 16-year-olds, even though they can't legally vote.

States couldn't require voter ID. They couldn't remove inactive voters from the rolls. They couldn't work with other states to try to find duplicate registrations six months prior to an election.

It would be pandemic-era mail-in voting forevermore, with no ID or witness signatures required and ballot-harvesting and drop boxes mandatory everywhere.

Felons could no longer be barred from voting. The federal

See LOWERY, page A7



Ballard says opponent in 12th, Hurst an ‘absentee landlord’

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

This past Monday, Pearisburg attorney, town council member and veteran Jason Ballard claimed the Republican nomination for Delegate for the 12th House District.

“It is my distinct honor and privilege to be the Republican nominee for House District 12,” Ballard said. “Our campaign has experienced tremendous momentum since our announcement in February, and now our complete focus is on winning this election in November so Southwest Virginia can have a voice in Richmond again.”

A decorated veteran, Ballard joined the U.S. Army JAG Corps after the Sept. 11 attacks and is now a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves, as well as an active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Ballard is a small business owner and practicing trial lawyer in the law firm of Headley Ballard LLC and is licensed to practice law both in Virginia and West Virginia. He and his wife, Catherine, have four children, Sydney, William, James and John Thomas. He is a member of the Pearisburg First United Methodist Church, and volunteers his time to coach youth sports and serve on several local committees.

He says it was during a conversation with his son that he first began thinking of seeking the 12th District seat in the Virginia House of Delegates.

“Basically, it started with a conversation I was having with my children while doing the virtual learning due to the pandemic,” Ballard said.

“They were having some issues with their classes because of the internet connection. My older son, William, finally just said, ‘Dad, you always teach us to be part of the solution and stop complaining.’ And he basically told me to ‘put up or shut up.’ I kind of took it to heart once I started thinking about it.”

So, Ballard said, he decided to be part of the solution.

“I think I can help our area, so I decided to announce my candidacy,” he said.

Ballard, who has ties to Pulaski as the son of local car dealer Jeff Ballard at Ike’s Auto Sales, sees education as one of the more important issues facing the 12th District.

“My mother is a lifelong schoolteacher in the educational system – I think for about 35

Lowry

Continued from Page A6

government would pay to train high-school students how to register people to vote and fund “campus voter coordinators,” as well as giving colleges grants to register students.

To truly bring home that the states are being divested of powers that go back to the founding of the republic, state legislatures would no longer draw congressional districts; instead the task would be taken up by purportedly independent commissions. The FEC would no longer be bipartisan, and sundry provisions would prohibit or chill unwelcome political activity.

That many Democrats say that the filibuster should fall for this bill is a symptom of the fevered state of the party, which despite holding or winning every elected



Mike Williams/The Patriot

Jason Ballard spoke last week at the Historic Pulaski Train Station during a rally for Sherri Blevins. Both are seeking House seats.

years. She’s currently assistant superintendent of Giles County. I always have conversations with her about issues affecting our school system. And I have three children in the public schools, so I want to see public schools be fully funded. I want to eliminate the un-funded mandates that come out of Richmond. I want to give our teachers all the resources and modern technology that they need to teach our kids. And tied into that is broadband internet,” Ballard said.

“Across our region and in the more rural parts of the district, even in the New River Valley, a lot of folks don’t have internet access. So, when we try to have children go virtual with their learning, it’s almost impossible. We need to be inter-connected with quality broadband services. That ties into some of the education issues that I want to discuss throughout the campaign.”

“Beyond that, our area needs economic growth,” Ballard continued.

“The way I see that is we need to retain and sustain the businesses that are here and then bring in new businesses. The people of the

branch of the federal government has conjured out of nothing a vast conspiracy to stop people from voting that allegedly justifies one of the most blatant federal power grabs in memory.

Early voting isn’t going away, but there should be protections against potential abuses and voting on Election Day should be encouraged -- it’s the most secure and private, and least error-prone, way to vote.

It’s a symptom of what a wrecking ball HR1 is that, in the course of mandating the opposite on all counts, it could kneecap both the states and a longstanding Senate procedure in one fell swoop.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

New River Valley are incredibly talented, and they want to work. They deserve a good job with good wages and some stability in those jobs. I think we need to do what we can to eliminate the regulations that harm small businesses. We need to offer our businesses tax incentives and tax credits that will help them thrive

See BALLARD, page A10

OPEN FORUM

Appreciates trash pickup efforts

To the editor,

THANK YOU to VDOT for picking up trash and making our Lowmans Ferry Road in Pulaski County look much better! We appreciate you so much.

Also, Iron Heart Winery is raising funds for a giveaway. They are asking for people in the community to pick up trash on our roads and send pictures to be entered in a cash drawing. Many businesses and individuals have participated and donated.

Our roads look terrible with trash and this is encouraging people to “do their part.”

Rosemary Wills,
Pulaski

Reliance

Continued from Page A6

a reproach and bye word down to future ages. And what is worse, mankind may hereafter from this unfortunate instance, despair of establishing Governments by Human wisdom and leave it to chance, war and conquest.

I therefore beg leave to move—that henceforth prayers imploring the assistance of Heaven, and its blessings on our deliberations, be held in this Assembly every morning before we proceed to business, and that one or more of the Clergy of this City be requested to officiate in that Service.”

John Adams, co-author of the Declaration of Independence, signer of the Constitution and Bill of Rights, and second President of the United States expressed his belief: “There is no authority, civil or religious – there can be no legitimate government but what is administered by (the) Holy Ghost.”

James Madison, signer of the Constitution, author of the Federalist Papers and the Bill of Rights, Secretary of State, and fourth President of the United States declared: “We have staked the whole future of American civilization not on the power of government, far from it, but on the Ten Commandments of God.”

The great defender of Liberty (Give me liberty or give me death), Patrick Henry, reminded his counerparts: “The great pillars of all government and of social life are virtue, morality, and religion. This is the armor, my friend, and this alone, that renders us invincible.” You may recall that Patrick Henry served as a legislator and governor of Virginia, and radified the Constitution.

Our nation’s original Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, President of Congress, author of The Federalist Papers and governor of New York, John Jay, gave strong support to the responsibility of Christians to their government: “Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation, to select and prefer Christians for their rulers.”

Jay also stated: “I recommend a general and public return of praise and thanksgiving to Him from whose goodness these blessings descend. The most effectual means of securing the continuance of our civil and religious liberties is always to remember with reference and gratitude the source from which they flow.”

A lesser-known Founder who was an attorney and jurist, leader of The Sons of Liberty, and mentor to Founders John Hancock and Samuel Adams gives us a lesson in government: “Has (government) any solid foundation? Any chief cornerstone?...I think it has an everlasting foundation in the unchangeable will of God ... the sum of my argument is that civil government is of God.”

Dr. Benjamin Rush was regard-

ed as one of the most important Founders until our recent times when study of the Founders has been ignored. Rush was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, ratifier of the Constitution, Surgeon General of the Continental Army under George Washington, considered the Father of American Medicine and Father of Public Schools under the Constitution. Undoubtedly, he has some wisdom to impart on the subject of God’s will: “I do not believe that the Constitution was the offspring of inspiration, but I am as satisfied that it is as much the work of a Divine Providence as any of the miracles recorded in the Old and New Testament.”

Most people will recognize the name Noah Webster and some may remember his contributions as the author of American dictionaries, children’s spellers and his theories that influenced the framers of the Constitution and our laws. Here are two important quotes from Webster: “The religion which has introduced civil liberty is the religion of Christ and His apostles ... This is genuine Christianity and to this we owe our free constitutions of government ... The moral principles and precepts found in the Scriptures ought to form the basis of all our civil constitutions and laws.”

Webster continued: “The Christian religion ... is the basis, or rather the source, of all genuine freedom in government...I am persuaded that no civil government of a republican form can exist and be durable in which the principles of Christianity have not a controlling influence.”

I’m hopeful that in his 30 years as a Congressman, Nadler has supported some admirable legislation, however, parts of the Equality Act which he was defending, are contrary to the laws of God. His comments denigrating the Judeo-Christian religion (and its importance in the founding of this nation) and questioning God’s will (when He created man and woman in His image), show a shallow understanding of both science and divinity. His comments are a slap-in-the-face to millions of Americans who believe God’s Word is true and who acknowledge His guiding hand in forming this nation.

I think Nadler should carefully consider the advice of John Witherspoon, signer of the Declaration of Independence and ratifier of the Constitution, who later became President of Princeton University when he said: “He is the best friend to American liberty who is the most sincere and active in promoting true and undefiled religion, and who sets himself with the greatest firmness to bear down profanity and immorality of every kind. Whoever is an avowed enemy of God, I scruple not to call him an enemy to his country.”

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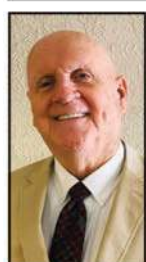


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Worship Each Week In The Church Of Your Choice



Teach Me Your Word O Lord

Terry McCraw

Make your Salvation Certain

2 Peter 1: 3, 4. “According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and goodness, through the knowl- edge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue. Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

By God’s divine power He has given us everything that we need to enable us to live godly lives.

The knowledge Peter is speak- ing of here is not intellectual knowledge but the knowledge of God that we obtain through having a personal relationship with Him. He reveals Himself to us every day, through His word and by His Spirit.

Peter speaking of the gifts of God that God bestows upon us, says that they are both exceeding- ly great and precious. They are exceedingly great and precious because they come from an ex- ceedingly great and precious God.

Through the new birth and the indwelling presence of God in our lives, we have escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

You know the world that we live in is a sinful place. And it’s hard for some to escape from it. Because when sin gets its claws into a person, it doesn’t let go eas- ily. Many try to free themselves from sin’s bondage and just when they think they have broken free, sin reaches out and grabs them and pulls them back into itself.

A person can’t save himself or herself. A person can’t make a few resolutions and get out them- selves out of sins clutches. We must be born again of the Spirit of God, and we must allow Jesus to come into our lives and set us free from the Curse, Penalty, Habit and Domination of sin.

Reminds me of a gospel song. “He lifted me out of the deep miry clay and planted my feet on the heavenly way. I’ll tell it where ere I go, for I want the whole world to know, I’m glad that He loved me so, and He lifted me out.” W. L. Bill Hopper.

God the Holy Ghost is the only one Who can give us the power to escape from the many sins that so easily snare us. To be safe and free from sin we need the abiding presence of the Holy Ghost. We need to be partakers of the divine nature.

The Holy Ghost is one of those promised gifts from God that is exceedingly great and precious. Think about how great the gift of the Holy Ghost is. The great God of heaven, whom the universe itself cannot contain, comes into our hearts and lives and dwells there. Our bodies become temples of the Holy Ghost.

What God has promised, God always delivers. He is always true to His word.

Jesus told His followers to remain in Jerusalem until they received the promise of the Fa- ther. Which was the Holy Ghost. When the 120 were in the upper room, they were waiting for the promise of His coming. They were waiting on God to fulfill His promise to send the Holy Ghost. And it happened, and it was the most phenomenal thing that has happened since the resurrection of our blessed Lord. For the Holy Ghost and fire set upon each of them and they were ALL filled

See MCCRAW, page A9

Draper Valley Baptist Church

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

Grace Baptist Church

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

Open Door Baptist Church

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

Draper United Methodist Church

3080 Greenbriar Road
Draper, VA 24324
Pastor: Mark Asbury
Primary Service Times:
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Worship, 11 a.m.
Phone: 276-477-3835

Newbern Christian Church

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

Christ Episcopal Church

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

Jordan's Chapel UMC

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

Cecil's Chapel United Methodist Church

5801 Cecil's Chapel Road,
Hiwassee, VA 24347
Pastor Mark Asbury
Worship service is 8:45am-9:45am
Sunday School is 10 - 10:45am
Ricky Dishon, 540 239 6360, www.facebook. com/cecilschapel.umc

Newbern United Methodist Church

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

Valley Har vest 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
Morning Worship: 10 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.

Her itage 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)

Draper's Valley Presbyterian (PCA)
2755 Old Baltimore Road, Draper, VA 24324
Senior Pastor: Rev. Robert E. Davis
Associate Pastor: Rev. Roland Mathews
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship Service
8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship Service 6:15 p.m.
Wednesday Youth Groups and Adult Prayer
& Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Phone - 540-994-9015
e-mail - drapers.valley@dvpca.org
website - www.dvpca.org
Sunday Morning Worship Live-Stream •
11:00 a.m.
(or anytime) on YouTube

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-Methodist-Church

Grace Ministries

Church of God of Prophecy

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

Faith Bible Church

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

Dublin Christian Church

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

First Presbyterian Church

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

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

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

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

Community Christian Church
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

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Todd Bruce, Manager
415 N. Jefferson Ave., Pulaski, 980-1700



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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

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

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

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

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

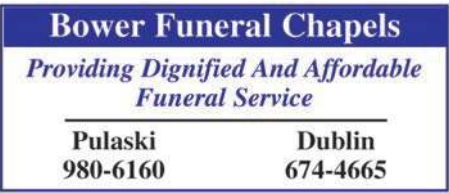
Grace Fellowship Baptist Church
2640 Max Creek Road
P.O. Box 326
Hiwassee, VA 24347
Pastor: Jason N. Aker
Phone: 276-699-3176
pastorjasonaker@gmail.com
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service: 11 a.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7 p.m.

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

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

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

First Baptist Church
325 Randolph Avenue
Pulaski, Va.
Pastor: Dr. Henry Fiske
Phone: 980-6565
fbcpulaskiva@gmail.com
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.



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McCraw

Continued from Page A8
with the Holy Ghost. And they poured out of the upper room, into the Streets, and after being filled with the Holy Ghost, they went out and turned the world upside down for Christ.

2 Peter 1: 5-7. “And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge, temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, charity.”

Verse 5 is a call to duty. We who have been saved are called to do diligent service for the Lord. We are called to live holy lives that are pleasing to God. Once we are made sons and daughter of God, spiritual growth doesn’t just happen. We are to give due diligence to our walk in the Lord.

Faith is the first of God’s gifts mentioned here. God gives each one of us enough faith to be saved by. When we get saved, we have exercised our faith enough to lay hold on our salvation, which is a free gift of the grace of God. Now Peter says, don’t just get saved and stop growing in the Lord. Add to your faith, virtue.

By virtue he is referring to the holy courage which enables Christians to boldly make a stand for the Lord. It is a Christian virtue that motivates us to go forward in faith courageously doing good works. Good works follows faith. We’re not saved by works, but good works proceed from out of us as a result of our faith. The bible says, faith without works is dead, being alone. By our works, we demonstrate our faith. Peter said, add to your faith, virtue. Witness for Christ. Win the lost. Help the poor and needy among us. Pray for the sick. Visit the shut-ins. Pray for the needs of others. These are all good works that will be evidenced in our lives once we are saved.

A tree that does not bear fruit is a dead tree. Faith without works is a dead faith. For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

It says in James, you show me your faith without works and I’ll show you my faith by my works. James 2:18.

Add to virtue, Knowledge. Christian faith and Christian virtue leads to knowledge. Double minded and undecided people waver between right and wrong. They do not develop that deep perception of good and evil that evolves with Christ-like virtue. Holy discretion grows from faith and from Christian Virtue.

Add to knowledge temperance. Self-control. Keeping one’s appetites under control. Without self -control, there is no unity of purpose. Christians must strive to devote their energies to do service for Christ.

Along with temperance should come patient endurance. Enduring hardships without murmuring and complaining like the children of Israel did in the wilderness. Being faithful in all situations. It’s not the work itself that wins the praise of God, but it is the faithfulness and patience of the saints that do the work that pleases God the most.

Diligently seek for godliness. Seek to be like Jesus. The godly person sets God always before him, and allows the Spirit of God to direct their decisions and actions.

Godliness is demonstrated in our lives and in our ministries, when we seek to bring God glory for everything good that we are able to accomplish, instead of seeking glory for ourselves. Godliness is maintaining a godly lifestyle.

Brotherly Kindness naturally follows godliness.

John says, he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, and hateth his brother, he is a liar. And he goes on to say, for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God Whom he has not seen? We must be kind to one another, always, and not intolerant, hostile and indifferent towards others.

The last grace on the list is charity. Christian love. Christian love must not be confined to the Church only. Love comes from God and those who have the love of God abiding in them, will also love others. Godly love continually increases in depth and extent.

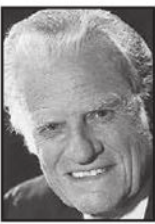
From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: Recently a lot of pardons have been given to prisoners. How can one person be allowed to simply excuse someone else’s behavior? -- F.P.

A: History reveals that pardons have been given throughout time, and there are those who have actually refused a pardon. From the records of the U.S. Supreme Court comes such a story of defiance. In 1829, a man named Wilson was indicted for robbing the mail and

endangering the life of a government mail carrier. Wilson was tried and sentenced to death. But President Andrew Jackson issued him a pardon. The man refused it and chose death by hanging rather than receive forgiveness.

The most profound pardon is what Jesus Christ has offered to humanity -- a pardon of sin. Many refuse Him but Jesus stands ready to forgive and has paid the penalty for man’s crimes against Him. The Bible declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin (see Galatians 3:22). In the midst of all our sinning, though, God is willing



My Answer

Billy Graham

to forgive us, and give us a new power to overcome that sin.

Chuck Colson, a former prisoner himself, had a tremendous ministry reaching prisoners with the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ. Many people will be in Heaven

whose lives have been transformed because of the message that penetrated hardened hearts. When inmates find themselves alone in their cells, the Gospel message can still continue to work in the human heart.

God’s great rescue mission brings freedom to those imprisoned, whether inside or outside prison bars. “Preach the gospel to the poor... [and] proclaim liberty to the captives” (Luke 4:18).

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

Ballard

Continued from Page A7

and grow. And I think we need to develop our infrastructure. Because when you have the infrastructure in place, these businesses will come to our area.”

“We need to attract new businesses into our area as well as sustain the ones that are already here, and some of those are struggling because of the pandemic,” he noted.

Ballard says he is a strong supporter of law enforcement.

“Obviously, I’m a conservative and run on a conservative platform, so I am an advocate of our law enforcement officers. I’m a military officer – a Lt. Colonel in the Army – and so I’ve been deployed to a bunch of different countries and I’ve seen firsthand what it looks like to have a government without law and order. So, I will always be a supporter of the police and law and order and doing what we can to prop those folks up instead of trying to vilify them.”

Ballard is a member of the National Rifle Association and supports the Constitutional rights afforded Americans under the 2nd Amendment.

“I think we need to do so smartly and wisely, but always I will advocate for our Constitutional rights including the 2nd Amendment. That’s part of one of the oaths that I swore. As a soldier you swear to support and defend the Constitution, and as a lawyer as well and that is what I intend to do.”

Ballard told The Patriot on Monday that he believes a lot of the issues in the campaign are interconnected.

“If I had to really pick one, I think right now, given the COVID situation, our children are really struggling in school. You have children who are historically straight-A students and because they haven’t had the same in-classroom opportunity they enjoyed prior to the pandemic, they’ve struggled. They have struggled academically, socially and some have struggled physically. You have children that may not get to get outside and exercise as much as when they were in school. Those are health concerns. Honestly, I

see this firsthand on a daily basis with my three sons. We try to develop a schedule for them to make sure they get out of the house and exercise so they can be healthy. I hate to identify just one issue, but education is really important to me.”

As for his opponent, two-term incumbent Democratic Delegate Chris Hurst, Ballard says Hurst isn’t really part of the district.

“He doesn’t represent our values. He was put into this district solely for political reasons. He’s not from here. He has no vested interest in seeing that our area succeeds. And quite frankly he’s been an absentee landlord. He hasn’t been present in our district. He has failed to speak with the people he is supposedly representing in Richmond, and I think people are tired of it and are ready for a change.”

“Our campaign is basically to bring Southwest Virginia values back to the forefront. Right now, we don’t have that. We’re under-represented and it seems the guiding principles of Northern Virginia are what’s leading the way. We want to change that.

“At the end of the day when this election is over, I want my children to be proud of their dad. You’ll see that my faith guides me in my decision making and you’ll see when I do things – especially when I go to Richmond – I will always think how what we do impacts families, small businesses and everyone throughout our community,” Ballard said.

Last week during a Pulaski County Republican Party event at the Historic Train Station in Pulaski, Board of Supervisors Chairman Joe Guthrie spoke of Ballard and his opponent.

“If we ask the question, who do we want to replace Chris Hurst in the House of Delegates, the answer would be pretty darned near just about anybody,” Guthrie said to cheers from the audience.

“We couldn’t find a better candidate than Jason Ballard.”

The 12th House District includes Radford, Giles County and portions of Montgomery and Pulaski County (Belspring and New River precincts).

Jobless

Continued from Page A5

hopeful that the unemployment rate will continue to fall as more people get the vaccine and return to work,” Northam said in a statement. “Thanks to President Biden’s American Rescue Plan, stimulus checks and extended unemployment assistance are now on the way to millions of Virginians, providing a critical boost to our recovery. We are turning the corner, and our Commonwealth is moving forward.”

In January, the total labor force decreased by 1,452 people and the total number of unemployed residents decreased by 8,920 people.

The number of employed residents increased by 7,468.

Although the commonwealth is outperforming the nation, a recent WalletHub report found that the state’s unemployment recovery has been one of the slowest in the nation. According to the report, the commonwealth’s recovery ranked 49 when compared to each state and the District of Columbia. The minimum wage will increase from \$7.75 per hour to \$9.50 per hour on May 1, 2021. Then it will continue to gradually increase: \$11 per hour on Jan. 1, 2022 and \$12 per hour on Jan. 1, 2023.

You May Already Have Some

Dear Dave,

I started listening to your radio show recently, and I heard you say people should have 10 to 12 times their yearly income in life insurance. I’m single, with no plans to get married. Plus, I don’t have any children. Do I still need a big life insurance policy like that?

Kris

Dear Kris,

I do recommend most people, if they work outside the home and are married—especially if they have kids—have 10 to 12 times their annual income in a good, level term life insurance policy. You only need life insurance to take care of things you leave behind when you die. So, when it comes to this kind of coverage, just think about anyone who might be left in a bad financial situation if you died. Your family could never replace you, but in most cases, they would need to replace your income.

Someone in your shoes might not need a traditional life insurance policy, especially if you’ve been smart with your money and saved up a pile of cash. A simple, inexpensive burial policy might work. There’s also a good chance you already have a small amount of life insurance coverage built into



Dave Says

Dave Ramsey

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an existing health insurance policy or bank account.

Good question, Kris. I’m glad you’re looking for answers!

—Dave

Dear Dave,

I owe \$17,000 on my car, and it is my largest and only debt. I think I can have it paid off in two years, because I bring home about \$2,800 a month and my monthly expenses are \$2,100. I also just got a \$2,000 tax refund. Should I pay it off as fast as possible, or sell the car?

Justice

Dear Justice,

If you think you can have the car paid off in two years or less, that’s what I’d do. The question is this: Are you willing to do what it’ll take to make that happen? It’s going to mean lots of discipline and hard work on your part, in addition to living on a really strict budget. But in return, you’ll have that car loan off your back for good.

You don’t want the debt on all your vehicles to be more than half of your annual income. If that’s the case, it means you have too much money tied up in things that are going down in value. If you bring home \$2,800 a month, you probably make around \$40,000 a year. Technically, your car loan is under half in this scenario, but it’s still pretty expensive. I’d get serious about getting out of debt, and pay the thing off!

—Dave

* Dave Ramsey is a seven-time #1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 16 million listeners each week. In 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives.

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Cougars blast Bruins to go 4-0

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

The Pulaski County Cougars used a strong rushing attack and dominating defense Friday night to crush the Blacksburg Bruins, 56-0.

With the win the Cougars enter their bye week with a 4-0 record.

Pulaski County rushed for 399 yards in the game and had three running backs – Ethan Gallimore, Keyonte Kennedy and Quemaar Porter – each rush for over 100 yards. Porter and Gallimore had over 100 by halftime.

Pulaski County added 30 more yards of offense through the air with quarterback Drew Dalton hitting Chase Dotson for the Cougars’ only completion.

While the offense scored on eight drives – the Cougars never punted – the Pulaski County defense was way too stout for the Bruins who could manage only 33 total yards of offense.

The Cougar “D” also forced three Bruin turnovers, with senior cornerback Corvin Carter snagging an interception followed by fumble recoveries by seniors Jacob Turman and Grayson Deu.

Dalton put Pulaski County on the board mid-way through the first quarter on a 12-yard carry at the 7:34 mark. Broc Simpson added the PAT for a 7-0 Cougar



Brian Bishop/The Patriot

Cougar running back Quemaar Porter outruns Bruin defenders on one of his nine carries for 121 yards.

lead.

The Cougars were set up in great position for the start of the drive when junior return man John Lyman returned the Bruins punt 20 yards to the Blacksburg 25.

The score grew to 14-0 a couple minutes into the second quarter

when Dalton and Dotson connected on that 30-yard strike. Simpson was good again and the Cougars added to their lead.

Gallimore and Porter did most of the damage leading to the score, with Gallimore rambling for 31 yards on one play, and Porter adding runs of 13 and 21 on

the drive.

Just two minutes later, Carter got his interception of the Bruins’ sophomore signal caller, Spencer Campbell.

Campbell was handed the starting job early this season when Blacksburg’s starter, Parker Ep-

See COUGARS, page B2

Cougars’ stats as dominating as scores

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

In the Cougars’ first four games this season they have dominated on the scoreboard – winning their games by margins of 42, 21 and 56 points. And as one would expect that domination carries over to the season statistics.

With Pulaski County enjoying a bye this week, it seemed like a good time to check the team and individual stats so far this season, and prior to the Cougars’ real tests against Patrick Henry and Salem.

Nowhere does the Cougars’ domination show up more than in total offense numbers. Through four games, Pulaski County has gained 1,402 total yards – almost a thousand more than their four opponents’ 413. That’s the equivalent of 10 football fields more!

Then there’s the scoring. Pulaski County so far has outscored its opponents by a 174-14 margin.

The Cougars have recorded 79 first downs to their opponents’ 31.

And Pulaski County has had 27 big plays of over 20 yards so far this season compared to only 8 for the opposition.

Obviously, when play is as lopsided as it has been so far in favor of the Cougars, you can expect the individual stats to be just as impressive.

And they are.

Let’s break it down by category.

Rushing

Ethan Gallimore and Keyonte Kennedy are leading the way for the Cougars so far. Gallimore has 283 yards on 29 carries – all gained during the past two games – for a 9.8 yards per carry average, while Kennedy has 281 on 58 carries (4.8).

Kennedy’s best game came last week, rushing for 114 yards on 19 carries while lugging around a big cast on his broken right hand.

Quemaar Porter has added 144 yards on 24 carries, while senior QB Drew Dalton has gained 47 yards on 27 carries – most coming up the middle on sneaks for short yardage. Five of those QB sneaks yielded five touchdowns.

Scoring

Speaking of touchdowns, Dalton is second on the team so far in scoring with 30 points – just behind Kennedy and his 36 points (6 TDs). Kicker Broc Simpson is next with 24. Receiver Chase Dotson and Gallimore each have 18 points. Porter and Layne Suthers have 12 points and Will Bishop, Trevor Johnson, Clay Phillips and Jacob Johnson each have 6. Phillips’ score coming after he blocked a kick, recovered the loose ball and took it in for the score from 14 yards out. A defensive lineman’s dream play.

Kicking

Simpson has connected on 24 of 25 extra point tries and is 0 for 1 in field goals. The senior kicker has kicked off 29 times with 15 touchbacks. He’s punted only 6 times for a 34.3 yard per kick average per kick. The Cougars weren’t forced to punt at all in their two most recent contests.

Passing

Dalton has completed 59 percent of his pass attempts (29 of 49) with 6 TDs and only 1 interception.

Receiving

Johnson has hauled in a team-high 11 receptions for 175 yards, with Dotson adding 7 catches for 184 yards, and Gallimore has 5 catches for 79 yards.

Layne Suthers stands out on the stat sheet with one catch, but it was a big one – a 77-yard TD reception. Dotson added 3 TD receptions, Johnson and Bishop added 1 each.

All Purpose Yards

Gallimore is tops at 362 yards, Kennedy has 281, Porter has 244 with 67 coming on an interception.

See STATS, page B2

Bobcats control Spartans, 48-6

By ELIZABETH KANIPE
The Patriot

The Radford Bobcats got to have their first home game in over 400 days Monday against the Giles Spartans and their single-wing attack. The Bobcats were playing their second game in 4 days and looking to remain undefeated. The Spartans were 1-1 and looking to upset the Bobcats.

Radford came out on top, 48-6.

Giles received the opening kickoff and on the third play from scrimmage Darius Wesley-Brubeck recovered a Chastin Ratcliffe fumble and returned it 35 yards for the game’s first score. Mason Sproule converted the PAT.

After 3-and-outs on the next three possessions the Spartans took over at the Spartan 44.

Quarterback Zane Rupe gained 12 yards on the first play. The next play Wesley-Brubeck ran for a hard fought 18 yards and with a face mask penalty added on, the ball was placed at the Giles 11-yard line.

Three plays later Rupe scored on a 5-yard run. The PAT by Sproule went through the uprights making the score 14-0 Bobcats.

The Bobcats took possession again on their own 44 after holding the Spartans to one first down. Rupe’s pass to Tyrel Dobson was complete for 11 yards. Wesley-Brubeck took a lateral



Elizabeth Kanipe/The Patriot

#12 Zane Rupe on the keeper runs it in 5-yards for the TD.

pass for a crafty 19 yards. Then Rupe found a wide-open Xavier Cobbs for a 26-yard touchdown reception. Sproule connected again on the PAT.

Giles was able to sustain a nice drive with several Ratcliffe runs, but the drive stalled at the Bobcat 25-yard line after the Spartans failed to convert on a 4th and 12.

Radford wasted no time moving down the field.

Wesley-Brubeck ran a hard 12

yards spinning and dragging Spartans. An added facemask penalty put the ball on the Giles 49-yard line. Wesley-Brubeck and Cobbs both added 12-yard runs setting up a 23-yard run by Dobson. With the PAT good the Bobcats led 28-0 with 3:55 left in the first half.

The Bobcats received the second half kickoff and were downed at their own 22-yard line.

On 3rd and 12 from the 20, Rupe connected with Wesley-Brubeck

who took it 55 yards to the Giles 25. On the next play, Rupe called his own number and steam rolled to the end zone for the TD. Sproule’s PAT hit the left upright and fell short.

Giles was held to three and out, and during the punt attempt the ball rolled past their punter. As the punter tried to recover the ball, he was crushed by Alex Kanipe

See BOBCATS, page B4

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Cougars

Continued from Page B1

perly, was injured.

Moments later Gallimore took off on a 52-yard carry from the Blacksburg 48 to score the longest rushing touchdown of the season so far for the Cougars.

Simpson was good again on the extra-point and Pulaski County led, 21-0.

Four minutes later, Kennedy carried three straight times and finished off the possession with a 2-yard TD run. Simpson's PAT was good and Pulaski County's lead had grown to 28-0.

Just before halftime, Porter became the Cougars' featured back for the possession, carrying for runs of 25 and 24 yards before taking the ball into the endzone on a 1-yard score. Simpson added the PAT and Pulaski County led 35-0 going into halftime.

Things got worse for Blacksburg in the second half, which featured a running clock due to the Cougars' 35-point lead.

Kennedy became the Cougars' featured back in the second half rushing behind a strong offensive line that continued creating holes in Blacksburg's defense.

Lyman got things going in the third with a 52-yard kickoff return.

It took only eight plays before Kennedy broke loose on a 23-yard touchdown run. Simpson's extra point made it 42-0.

Turman covered a Bruins fumble to give the ball right back to Pulaski County.

Kennedy went back to work again and – midway through the third – scored from the three for the Cougars' seventh touchdown. Simpson's kick made it 49-0.

The scoring drive was aided by a late hit personal foul by Blacksburg on one play.

Again, a turnover gave the Cougars the ball right back, with Deu recovering a Bruin fumble.

It didn't take the Cougars long before Kennedy scored again, rushing untouched from 6 yards out for the score. Simpson's kick made it the final 56-0.

When the dust had settled, Gallimore led the Cougar rushers with 133 yards on only 9 carries. Porter added 121 also on 9 carries. And Kennedy added 114 yards on 19 carries. Dalton added 5 carries for 12 yards, while his understudy Cam Cooper rushed once for 1 yard. Brett Jones added 6 carries for 18 yards.

The Cougars had no turnovers, while Blacksburg lost the ball on an interception and two of five fumbles.

The Cougars again saw their fair share of yellow flags – mostly in the first half – getting flagged 8 times for 70 yards. Blacksburg was called for 2 penalties for 25 yards.

Pulaski County amassed 23 first downs to Blacksburg's 3.

The Cougars are off this week and return to action March 26 when powerful Patrick Henry comes to town at 7 p.m.

The regular season comes to a close the next week on Good Friday when the Cougars travel to Salem on April 2.



Antonio Nottingham/PC Touchdown Club

Cougar defender Will Bishop helps drag down a Bruin ballcarrier.



Cougar rusher Ethan Gallimore rambles downfield against Blacksburg. Gallimore was one of three ball carriers to go over the century mark in the game. He had 133 yards on only nine carries.

Brian Bishop/The Patriot



Brian Bishop/The Patriot
Head Coach Mark Dixon yells instructions from the sideline.



Brian Bishop/The Patriot

Keyonte Kennedy - featuring that big ol' cast on his broken right hand - eyes a hole up front. Despite the cast, Kennedy rushed for four touchdowns and 114 yards on 19 carries.

Salem, Cougars remain atop 4D rankings

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

Salem continues to lead the way in Region 4D football rankings, issued this week by the Virginia High School League.

Through games of last week, the 3-0 Spartans have a rating of 25.33.

Pulaski County remains in second after a 4-0 start with a rating of 23.00.

Trailing right behind is Jefferson Forest at 22.00, however, the Cavaliers have only a 1-0 record so far.

Next is George Washington of Danville at 2-1 with a 19.00 rating.

Amherst County, Blacksburg, Halifax County and E.C. Glass follow in that order.

According to the VHSL, only the top four teams in each region qualify for the playoffs this season.

Elsewhere, in Region 3D Lord Botetourt leads the way at 24.66 with a 3-0 record. They are followed by Carroll County with a surprising 4-0 record and 22.00 rating. Abingdon is next at 3-0 and 21.33, followed by William Byrd at 1-2 and a rating of 17.33.

Northside, Bassett and Cave Spring are right behind at 17.00.

In Region 2C powerful Appomattox is right there at the top again at 3-0 and with a 20.00 rating. Dan River also sports a 20.00, but with only a 1-0 record so far.

Radford is next at 19.00 with a 2-0 record through last week. The Bobcats have already added another game – a 48-6 shellacking of Giles on Monday night – to their record and will play again Friday.

Gretna is next in 2C with a 1-0 mark and 18.00 rating.

Giles, prior to Monday's loss, was 1-1 with a 16.00 rating followed by Fort Chiswell at 2-1 and a rating of 15.33.

In Region 1C, Galax and Narrows are tied in first with ratings of 18.00 and each with a 3-0 record.

Grayson County is third with a 15.67 rating and 2-1 record. Eastern Montgomery and George Wythe are next at 11.50. East Mont has a 2-2 record while the Maroons at 1-1. Auburn is right behind at 11.33 and a record of 1-2.

Cougar golfers host match

The Pulaski County High School golf team hosted several River Ridge area opponents March 15 in a match at the par 72 Thornspring Golf Course in Pulaski.

Blacksburg High won the team scoring with a 310 stroke showing – five strokes better than Cave Spring.

However, the Knights' Owen Bright was medalist for the match, shooting a 71.

Pulaski County finished 62 team strokes off the pace. Scoring for the Cougars of head coach Larry Thomas were: Bay Moore, 90; Campbell Moore, 91; Andersen Moore, 95, and Noah Burchett with a 96.

Here's the scoring:

Blacksburg.....	310
D. Young....	76
S. Ruan....	76
D. Zang....	79
P. Duncan....	79
A. Hunter....	80
S. Skinner....	87
Cave Spring.....	315
Owen Bright....	71
Alex Glick.....	79
Nate Faulkner....	82

Pulaski County High School

SENIOR

SUPERLATIVES



Cornerback
Corvin Carter

This senior cornerback continued his steady defensive play in last Friday's big win over Blacksburg. He turned in one of the game's highlights - an interception of the Bruins' quarterback.

Congratulations
Corvin!

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Obviously when a team has three 100-plus yard rushers in a single game, something good is happening up front. Our Players of the Week are the five starting o-linemen: Cooper Dunnigan, Zeke Surber, Demarcus Hayden, Clay Phillips and Cole Albert.

Congratulations
Cougars!

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Albatrosses – Sea Wanders

A couple of weeks ago, I wrote of gulls coming from the Eastern seaboard to Southwest Virginia. This is a distance of around 300 miles by automobile. I came across an article of a bird that tops this distance over five time this in distances. They have been known to travel as far as 1600 miles wandering across the large oceans of the world. I felt the readers might enjoy some of the facts about this large ocean-going bird, the Laysan Albatross.

Picture a bird with a wingspan of 10 to 11 feet in width and is known as the longest living in the world. There are 22 known species of albatross. Their colonies are found mostly in the Hawaiian Islands and those close

by. As is known of some other bird species, they mate for life and always return to raise their young together each year. One mate may stay at home raising the young while the other goes to sea and living from its catches. They can travel these long distances to return to feed the young by regurgitating the swallowed food. The young may stay on the island around 6 months before they fly off to wander the sea. They may wander for years before returning to land again. Their diet includes mostly squid, fish and fish eggs and other crustaceans. Often, they are known to be seen following fishing boats and catch whatever is available as fishermen retrieve their nets.

The albatross can stay aloft for extended periods of time by flying the ocean winds without flapping their wings. They can nap for brief periods of time of around 10 seconds. After a few years, the albatross returns to the same island of its birth and the cycle begins all over again.

Most people of my age were familiar with the lyrical poem, The Rime of the Ancient Mariner by Samuel Taylor Coleridge. It was required reading in English literature by students back then. They most likely had to stand before the class, as I did, and recite such lines as, “Water, water, everywhere, and all the boards did shrink; ...” We had to discuss and analyze this lengthy poem. From research, I quote the following points brought forth after the Mariner shot the albatross



Woods, Water & Wildlife

W.A. "Doc" Davis

with his crossbow:

“The living albatross is a symbol of God’s creation and innocence and a symbol of sin when the mariner kills the albatross and the other sailors see this as a sign of bad luck and rightfully so. The voyage will be cursed and run into trouble. This is merely a surface manifestation of a deeper reminder of God’s presence in the world. God created man and all

creatures and they are not merely objects. The albatross is not a simple bird as it and humans are touched with divinity. It is only when the Mariner can feel the beauty of God’s creation that the curse of killing the albatross is lifted. When he feels the love for water snakes, the mariner is released from sin and the albatross falls from his neck.”

The curse of sin is upon all men and women and all have sinned since Adam and Eve. Romans3:23 KJV, “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.” All may be saved now; Romans 10:13 KJV, “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” If you do not know Him, do it today.

Until next time

Bobcats

Continued from Page B1

which allowed Dawson Martin to recover the ball and run it to the Giles 9.

Three plays later, Rupe connected with Marcel Baylor for a 3-yard touchdown. Sproule connected on the extra point pushing the Bobcats to a 41-0 lead.

On the next possession, Ratcliffe broke free from the Giles 44 and sprinted past the Bobcat defense. Baylor came from behind to strip the ball and make the recovery in the end zone for a touchdown.

The next Bobcats possession stalled and ended with a Sproule punt to the Spartan 32.

Against the Bobcats reserves the Spartans sustained a 9-play, 68-yard drive that finished with a 3-yard Ratcliffe touchdown. Mason Gray’s attempted PAT fell short.

On the ensuing kickoff, Xavier Cobbs was able to go around the right side and sprints 81 yards untouched for the game’s final score. Sproule was good on the extra point and the Bobcats had their win, 48-6.



Elizabeth Kanipe/The Patriot

#1 Xavier Cobbs takes the kickoff and runs its back down the right side for an 81-yard TD.



Elizabeth Kanipe/The Patriot

Radford’s Defense was a tough factor in the game (#10, Brent Mabry, #50 Reece Mabry, #59 Dawson Martin, #51 Spencer Perdue, #56 Alex Kanipe, #60 Andrew Moore, #2 Darius Wesley-Brubeck

Stats

Continued from Page B1

tion return, and John Lyman has added 241 – 90 coming on kickoff returns and another 125 on punt returns.

While it’s easy to focus on offensive stats, the Cougars have some impressive numbers on the defensive side of the ball as well.

The Cougar “D” has 6 sacks on the season, seven interceptions (including two Pick-Sixes), 16 pass breakups, three forced fumbles and five total recoveries.

Individually, Diego Turner leads the way with 1.5 sacks. Trevor Burton, Dotson, Phillips and Chayton Rollins each have 1. Zeke Surber has a half.

Gallimore leads the way with 5 tackles for loss followed by Bishop at 4.5, Surber with 4, Turner added 3, and Dotson and Rollins each had 2.5. Burton and Cooper Dunnigan added 2. Corvin Carter, Lyman, Suthers and Phillips have 1.5. Tyler Underwood, James Horton and Noah Long added 1 each and Caleb Yelton added a half.

Porter and Suthers lead the team with 2 interceptions each followed with 1 each by Dotson, Carter and Gallimore.

Thanks to Wendy Dixon, a math teacher at Pulaski County High School and the wife of head coach Mark Dixon for the season stats. And to Tim Hurst who provides stats to the media almost immediately after each game for us to use in writing our articles.

LEGAL NOTICES

<u>Pulaski County Sewerage Authority</u> <u>Summary Statement of Financial Condition</u> <u>At June 30, 2020</u>	
ASSETS	\$ 1,303,628
LIABILITIES	\$ 174,112
NET POSITION	1,129,516
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION	\$ 1,303,628
REVENUES	\$ 468,620
EXPENSES	444,951
NET CHANGE IN NET POSITION	\$ 23,669
Detailed financial statements are available for inspection at the Pulaski County Sewerage Authority, Fairlawn, Virginia	

<u>The Economic Development Authority</u> <u>of Pulaski County, Virginia</u> <u>is presenting the financial summary statement</u> <u>as of June 30, 2020 as required by Code of</u> <u>Virginia Section 30-140.</u>	
Total Assets	\$ 50,174,749
Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ -
Total Liabilities	\$ 36,923,652
Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ -
Total Net Position	\$ 13,251,097
Total Revenue	\$ 2,236,451
Total Expenses	\$ 3,550,835
Decrease in Net Position	\$ (1,314,384)
The financial position of the Economic Development Authority of Pulaski County has a positive net position as illustrated above. The detailed statement of the Authority's financial condition can be obtained at the Authority's Finance office or at www.pulaskicounty.org	



Elizabeth Kanipe/The Patriot

Bobcat defense stops a Giles runner. Pictured are: #24 Draysin Hargro, #18 Max Kanipe, #65 Jake Ritchey, #52 Charlie Davis

LEGAL NOTICES

ORDER OF PUBLICATION
Commonwealth of Virginia
VA. CODE § 8.01-316
Case No. JJ003540-01-12 and JJ003540-01-13
Radford J&DR - Juvenile Division

Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* TALBERT, TRAVIS DEWAYNE, JR.

The object of this suit is to:
AMEND THE CURRENT CUSTODY AND VISITATION
ORDER FOR TRAVIS DEWAYNE TALBERT, JR.

It is ORDERED that RUBY KATIE JONES appear at the above-named Court and protect his or her interests on or before April 20, 2021 at 02:00 PM.

Sally Davis, Clerk

JOBS

New River Valley Airport Manager

The New River Valley Airport Commission is seeking a highly qualified, motivated individual for the position of Airport Manager, who will be responsible for management and oversight of safety and operations of the New River Valley Airport, KPSK, in Dublin, Virginia. The NRV Airport is a general aviation airport with a single 6,201 X 150’ runway. The manager will oversee the FBO operations and all staff to include fueling, aircraft storage and on-demand air cargo operations. The Airport Manager is also responsible for management and oversight of all airport functions, capital improvement projects, maintenance, public relations, grounds and regulatory compliance and enforcement. A successful background check is required.

The anticipated salary for this position is \$65,000 and is commensurate upon education and experience. This is a full time position with benefits: health, dental, life, optional vision insurance, supplemental life, state retirement program, optional 457 retirement program, sick and vacation leave, etc.

Interested individuals may review a full job description at www.newrivervalleyairport.com and may apply by submitting a resume to kpskmanager@gmail.com.

**PULASKI COUNTY PSA
WATER METER READER**

The Pulaski County Public Service Authority is seeking a Water Meter Reader. This position is responsible for routine clerical field work accurately reading and recording water meter readings, record keeping, reporting meter defects, data entry, collection of water samples, operation of handheld equipment and vehicles and assisting other personnel in the maintenance and repair of utilities, etc. Position requires a valid driver’s license issued by the Commonwealth of Virginia and successful completion of a background and drug test.

This is a full-time, non-exempt position with benefits such as health, dental, optional vision, retirement, vacation, sick leave and paid holidays. The salary range for this position is \$22,880 - \$38,885 and is commensurate upon education and experience.

Interested individuals may apply at the appropriate Virginia Employment Commission or download and submit an application from www.pulaskicounty.org to Tammy Safewright, Human Resources Director, 143 Third Street, NW, Suite 1, Pulaski, VA 24301.

Position is open until filled
Equal Opportunity Employer

Bobcats dominate Alleghany

By ELIZABETH KANIPE
The Patriot

The Radford Bobcats hit the road for the second week in a row Friday night, this time to take on the Alleghany Mountaineers. They were looking to continue their recent dominance of the Mountaineers.

The Bobcats wasted no time taking the lead. It took two rushing plays before Darius Wesley-Brubeck carried the ball 14 yards off the right side for the game's first touchdown. Mason Sproule missed the extra point that hit the left upright.

The Mountaineers' quarterback Ethyn Kimberlin fumbled the ball on their third play from scrimmage which was recovered by Bobcats' Reece Mabry on the 17-yard line.

Four plays later, Wesley-Brubeck dove in the endzone from the one with 5:51 left in the first quarter. The 2-point conversion failed when Wesley-Brubeck was tackled short of the goal line.

After a couple of defensive holds, the Bobcats took possession on the Mountaneer 49. It took 6 plays to score when Zane Rupe connected with Marcell Baylor for a 10-yard slant pass for the touchdown. Sproule's extra point was good giving the Bobcats a 19-0 lead.

The Mountaineers took over, but Kimberlin was stripped of the ball on their third play by Baylor and Landen Clark recovered on the 50 yard line.

After long runs by Xavier Cobbs and Rupe and a catch by Tyrel Dobson, Wesley-Brubeck carried the ball to the end zone from the 5-yard line for his third touchdown of the night. Sproule split the uprights to give the Bobcats the 26-0 lead with 2 minutes left in the half.

The Bobcats held Alleghany on the opening drive of the sec-



Elizabeth Kanipes/"The Patriot

Xavier Cobbs runs right and into the end zone.

ond half and Kamaree Taylor received the punt at the Mountaneer 35, returning it to the 23 where the offense took over.

A pass to Wesley-Brubeck got the ball to first and goal where Cobbs carried the ball off the right side to score from the 9 yard line. Sproule was good on the extra point and the Bobcats led 33-0 with 8:56 left in the third quarter.

On their next possession the Mountaineers were forced to punt. Wesley-Brubeck was able to break through and block the punt. Freshman Max Kanipe was able to scoop up the ball and return it 12 yards for the touchdown. Again, Sproule split the upright giving the Bobcats their final score of the contest.

With the Bobcat reserves in the game the Mountaineers were able to sustain a drive, but that ended when Clark intercepted a Kimberlin pass at the Bobcats 10 yard line to end the drive.

Max Kanipe took over at QB quarterback and was able to get Radford into Mountaneer territory on a long 33-yard run, but the drive stalled at the 21.

Alleghany's last drive ended when Allen Hamblin intercepted a Kimberlin pass at the Bobcats 20 and was tackled at the 41.

The Bobcats defense was stifling, holding Alleghany to 20 offensive yards in the first half and 89 for the entire game. The offense rolled on the ground gaining 225 yards led by Rupe with 8 carries for 71 yards. Other leading rushers were Prioleau (38), Cobbs (37), Max Kanipe (35) and Wesley-Brubeck (30). Rupe also completed 5 of 13 passes for 55 yards. The leading receiver was Dobson with 2 receptions for 26 yards.

The Bobcats' busy week of home games continues with Glenvar at home on Saturday at 4 pm.

Pulaski River Turtles name Crist manager

An Arizona native has been tasked with developing the Pulaski River Turtles into the hottest team in the Appalachian League.

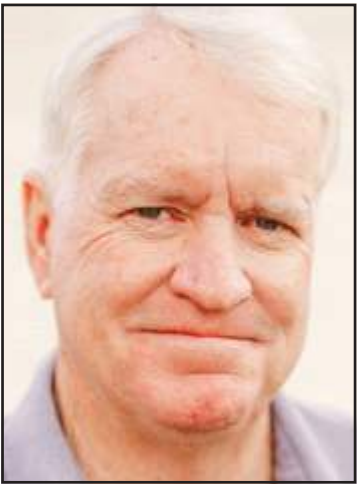
Major League Baseball veteran Clark Crist from Phoenix, AZ, has been named the manager of the Pulaski River Turtles. Crist most recently served as a National Junior College Cross Checker for the Arizona Diamondbacks, overseeing all junior college prospects nationwide for the club from 2015 to 2020.

"I am very excited to be a part of the inaugural season of the new Appalachian League," says Crist. "It is an honor to be allowed to work with these young, talented college players and I am thankful to Major League Baseball and USA Baseball for giving me this opportunity. My goal is to provide these athletes an understanding of the game while enhancing their abilities. I am also looking forward to working with the Pulaski ownership and front office and meeting the wonderful, supportive fans of the River Turtles!"

A native of Tucson, AZ, Crist played collegiate baseball at the University of Arizona, where he was the starting shortstop for the 1980 team that authored 19 late-inning comebacks en route to the national championship.

Crist was drafted by the Seattle Mariners in the 14th round of the 1980 MLB June Amateur Draft and spent four seasons in Minor League Baseball, eventually serving as a player-coach for the Mariners Double A affiliate, the Chattanooga Lookouts, from 1982-1985.

Crist's tenure in Major League Baseball includes scouting roles for the Houston Astros (1985-1992), Boston Red Sox (1992-1994), Cleveland Indians (1994-1995), New York Mets



Clark Crist

(1995-1997), St. Louis Cardinals (1997-2006) and the Cincinnati Reds (2006-2015). Crist oversaw the signing of many notable names during his career as a Major League Baseball scout, including All-Stars Kenny Lofton and Albert Pujols, Covelli "Coco" Crisp, Mike Leake, Tommy Pham, Chris Duncan and Amir Garrett.

Crist and his wife of more than forty years, Leslie, have two children and a grandchild. Crist's son, Justin, played minor league baseball for the Los Angeles Dodgers. Crist's daughter, Randi, and her husband, Jack, have one son, George.

About the River Turtles

Calfee Park opened in 1935 and was renovated for the organization's first season under the ownership of the Shelor Motor Mile in 2015. The organization is celebrating its 55th season in the Appalachian League in 2021. Pulaski teams have a combined all-time record of 193-155 (189-148 regular season) in the Appalachian League, and boast five league championships: 1948, 1969, 1986, 1991 and 2013.

Hot-lanta: Cup drivers ready to heat things up in Peach State

From NASCAR

Originally called Atlanta International Raceway, the track was then a 1.5-mile paved speedway, located in Hampton Georgia. The first NASCAR Cup Series race at Atlanta was on July 31, 1960 and won by Fireball Roberts from the pole position.

Over the years the track underwent several changes. It was re-measured to 1.522 miles in the spring of 1970. It was renamed Atlanta Motor Speedway in 1990. And then the track layout was re-

versed, and the track was re-configured to 1.54 miles between the two races in 1997.

From 1960 – 2010, Atlanta Motor Speedway hosted multiple NASCAR Cup Series races during each season; starting in 2011 the series began only visiting Atlanta once a year (2011-2020). This season marks the first time since 2010, the series will visit the facility more than once a year as the series is scheduled compete this weekend (March 21, 2021) and later this sea-

See NASCAR, page B6



Elizabeth Kanipe/The Patriot

Bobcats defense dominated all night - on the tackle (#4 Tanner, #10 B Mabry, #65 Ritchey, #51 Perdue, #50 R Mabry).

Golf

Continued from Page B2

Walker Wright.....83
Ethan Wiid.....84
Thomas Peterson..84

Salem.....320
M. Johnson.....77
Alex Rea.....77
T. Joyce.....81
H. King.....85
J. Kiser.....91
Andrew Rea.....96

Hidden Valley.....320
H. Withers.....77

R. Hearp.....79
L. Barrette.....81
T. Whitely.....83
G. Bartlett.....92
M. Kupec.....95

Patrick Henry.....332
C. Gilreath.....73
T. Fitchett.....80
R. Straud.....88
M. Stevens.....91
B.. Collier.....92
B. Beasley....96

Pulaski County.....372
Bay Moore.....90
Campbell Moore....91
Andersen Moore.....95
Noah Burchett.....96

Christiansburg.....390
S. Walker.....77
S. Moore.....100
G. Matthis.....106
E. McCall.....107
D. Carr.....118
N. Bennett.....130

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Appalachian League Teams Set - Except One

With the announcement this week in Danville that the former Braves will now be the Otterbotts, every team in the Appalachian League has announced their new team names. Except for Princeton, who has yet to make an announcement. You can visit the Appalachian League at <https://www.mlb.com/appalachian-league> to learn more about the story behind each of these nicknames. We're only about 3 months away from hearing "Play Ball!"

NASCAR

Continued from Page B5

son (July 11, 2021).

From 1987 to 2000 Atlanta Motor Speedway held the final championship race of the NASCAR Cup Series schedule. In total, there have been 113 NASCAR Cup races at Atlanta Motor Speedway since the first race there in 1960.

This weekend's NASCAR Cup Series race, the Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 (3 p.m. ET on FOX, PRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio) will be 325 laps (500.5 miles) and broken up into three stages. The first two stages are 105 laps each with the final stage being 115 laps.

Joe Gibbs Racing's Denny Hamlin will start from the pole and his teammate and last weekend's winner Martin Truex Jr. will join him on the front row.

Streaking: Five different winners to start the 2021 Cup season

With Martin Truex Jr. taking the checkered flag last weekend, the 2021 season marks the 15th time in the NASCAR Cup Series Modern Era (1972-Present) that the season schedule has opened with five different winners (2021, 2017,

2014, 2013, 2011, 2005, 2003, 2001, 2000, 1998, 1993, 1991, 1986, 1984, 1979). This weekend, the Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 (3 p.m. ET on FOX, PRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio) at Atlanta Motor Speedway will have the chance to produce the sixth different NASCAR Cup Series winner of the 2021 season making it the eighth different season to start the year with six different drivers in Victory Lane; joining 2014, 2003, 2001, 2000, 1991, 1986, 1984.

In the Modern Era (1972-2021), the record for the most different NASCAR Cup Series winners in a single season in its entirety is 19 set back in 2001. The series has also seen a total of 18 different winners (second-most) in a single season twice – in 2002 and 2011. Last season the series produced 13 different winners.

There are five former NASCAR Cup Series Atlanta Motor Speedway winners entered this weekend looking for their first win of the 2021 season: Kevin Harvick (three wins), Kurt Busch (three), Brad Keselowski (two), Kyle Busch (two) and Denny Hamlin (one).

Denny Hamlin continues to hold points lead without a win

While still looking for his first win of the 2021, Joe Gibbs Racing's Denny Hamlin captured his fourth top-five finish in five races this season extending his NASCAR Cup Series driver standings lead to 39 points over Team Penske's Brad Keselowski in second last weekend at Phoenix Raceway. Now the points leader is looking to get his second career victory at Atlanta Motor Speedway this weekend in the Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 (3 p.m. ET on FOX, PRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio) and lock himself into the Playoffs.

Atlanta Motor Speedway is a special place for the Toyota camp. Hamlin's Joe Gibbs Racing teammate, Kyle Busch, drove his Toyota Camry to Victory Lane in Atlanta on March 9, 2008, scoring Toyota's first NASCAR Cup Series win. In total, Joe Gibbs Racing has won

Denny Hamlin has made 21 series starts at Atlanta putting up one win (2021), five top fives and eight top 10s. He finished fifth in the Atlanta Cup race last season.

Atlanta could be the place Harvick gets Stewart-Haas Racing back to Victory Lane

The winning tide that floats the Stewart-Haas Racing boats has yet to come in this season, but Kevin Harvick could change all that as the defending winner of this weekend's Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 (3 p.m. ET on FOX, PRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio) at Atlanta Motor Speedway.

Harvick (2001, 2018, 2020) is tied Chip Ganassi Racing driver Kurt Busch (2002, 2009, 2010) for the most NASCAR Cup Series wins at Atlanta Motor Speedway among active drivers with three wins each.

Push to prevent next meat shortage hits big obstacle

MAXWELL, Iowa (AP) — Sudden meat shortages last year because of the coronavirus led to millions of dollars in federal grants to help small meat processors expand so the nation could lessen its reliance on giant slaughterhouses to supply grocery stores and restaurants.

Like shortages of protective clothing for health care workers, hospital equipment and even toilet paper, the reality of empty meat counters was a shock to many Americans unaccustomed to scarcities. But where most other supply gaps are being addressed by changing how the U.S. acquires key items, the money flowing to small slaughterhouses shows no sign of solving the meat problem.

The meat industry has been consolidating for decades, and 80% or more of meat is slaughtered by just a few companies, whose operations were crippled last year when the virus began spreading among workers.

"Even a significant increase in processing capacity in those small and mid-size processors, that's a small amount in the grand scheme of things," Iowa Agriculture Secretary Mike Naig said. "Yes, it provided some relief but no, it's not at the level that will rival the big processors."

Or as Terry Houser, a meat processing expert at Iowa State University, put it, "Small plants cannot replace the big plants when they go down."

The problem illustrates the difficulty of creating more sources of supply in an industry that is trending in the opposite direction.

There's little doubt the grants will help small processors and in turn provide sorely needed rural jobs, but the economics of meat now centers on large, highly efficient slaughterhouses, not smaller plants whose numbers have been decreasing sharply.

The number of smaller operations that meet local demand plunged by 42% to 1,910 between 1990 and 2016, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

When the coronavirus sickened thousands of workers at the big slaughterhouses, forcing some to close temporarily, output dropped to 60% of normal. Many producers suddenly had nowhere to take their animals for slaughter, and the small processors who remained, who mostly provide meat for local groceries and farmers markets, couldn't take up the slack.

Want to open a local business? Then don't miss this meeting!

Are you a local entrepreneur looking to open a Pulaski Downtown business, or looking to expand into downtown? Come join our Program Director, Patrick Ford, and Town of Pulaski's Economic Developer Brady Deal as they discuss the process of opening a local business. So, join us on March 23rd, at 4pm as we hold this open discussion.

This is your chance to get the information needed to get the ball rolling on your new business! There's a lot of work to be done opening a business, and we want to help see you through it.

If you are interested in attending please email Pulaski On Main Director, Patrick Ford at pulaskionmain@gmail.com to register, and to let us know if you plan on attending in person or via zoom. You can also respond via our event posted to the Pulaski On Main's Facebook page.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are limited to only 10 in person attendees, there will be a zoom link from those who would like to join virtually.

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Scan the code with your smart phone for more info and to sign up or visit https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NRV_COVID_volunteers

Be committed. Be well.

PET OF THE WEEK

This is Clinger... Male DSH that is about 4-5 months old. He is up to date on his vaccines and is set to be neutered very soon. As his name implies, he is very loving and affectionate and would make a wonderful cuddly buddy!

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.

Monday-Friday
10AM-4PM and 10AM-12Noon on Saturday

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Pulaski Community Youth Center

Providing Quality Education to a New Generation

By DANIELLE REID
The Patriot

Richard Loveland, Executive Director of the Pulaski Community Youth Center located in Fairlawn, has a multi-purpose plan to help give the NRV youth and their families the necessary tools to prepare for their next step in life.

Loveland, who has executive experience with non-profits and museums in New York City, has been the Executive Director for PCYC for two years, but is familiar with the NRV as a former student at Virginia Tech.

Working from the refurbished old Riverlawn Elementary School, which originally opened in September 1949, Loveland says, "We are still working with the youth – molding lives, giving options, but with a new twist to it that will benefit the community as well as our county's youth. It is a different world now as compared to 20 years ago. We need to provide students with a completely different skill set, creative and adaptable to solve new sets of problems."

The heart of the plan is to change the lives of the youth in the county by both helping those immediately in need and creating community solutions to reduce these needs in the future.

To accomplish this the PCYC offers creative opportunities in the areas of Childcare, Recreation, Environmental Programming, Art, Technology and Science, and Education. A Summer Camp program is being planned as well as special events and birthday party celebrations (guidelines permitted).

With the recent granting of its childcare license, the current focus is on elementary age students, but there are options for older students, too. During the day classes, students are connected to their schools via



computer and Zoom. The PCYC teachers keep everyone on task and offer tutoring to help the students improve their grades.

"During the day, Monday through Friday, we have between 13 to 20 students ranging in age from five to 12 years of age doing virtual lessons at the Fairlawn PCYC because of COVID related issues. We will be bringing back after school programs soon," stated Loveland.

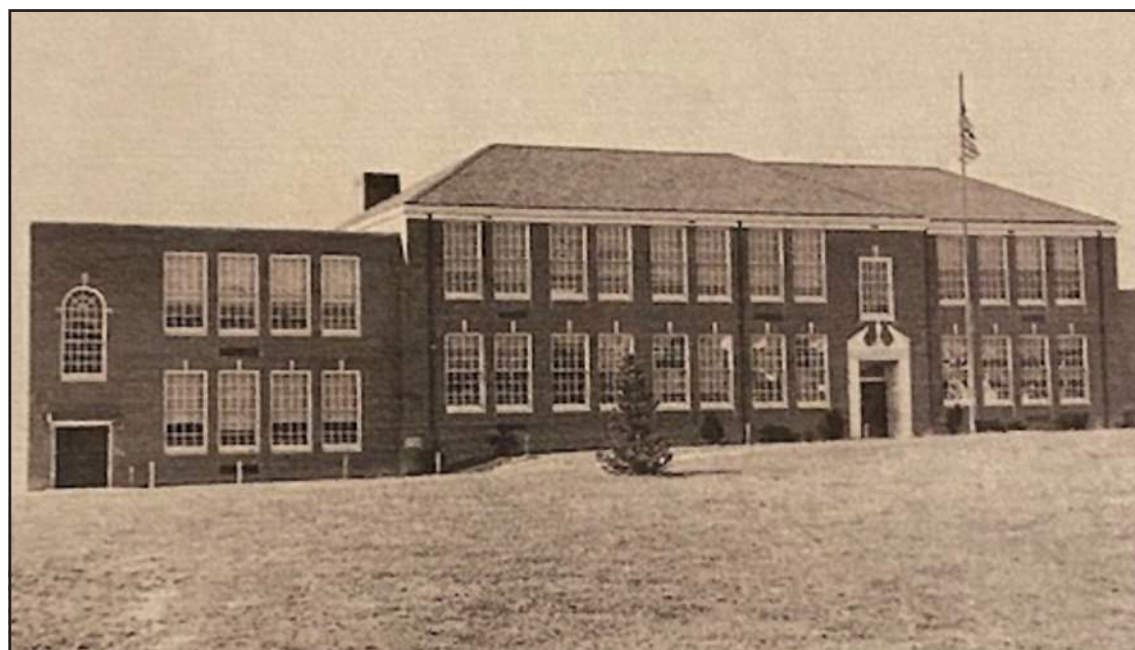
Innovative programs include recreation, art, science, music lessons in the classical sense and JAM (Junior Appalachian Musicians), environmental, theatre in conjunction with New River Stage, and a French chef teaching cooking classes for pre-culinary students.

There is a sliding scale for tuition to help low-income families, but the school is open to any student; and the classes are divided into mini-semesters of six to seven weeks. A \$30 fee per semester includes materials, food, etc.

Future plans include opening the west wing of the building. This will offer space for a full theater with stage, a dedicated art room, large multi-purpose room; and complement the existing gym/basketball court, classroom spaces and kitchen areas.

As current businesses expand and new businesses move into the

See PCYC, page B10



The "Old Riverlawn School" in Fairview, VA that opened in September 1949 has a new purpose, serving Pulaski County as the present-day facility for the Pulaski Community Youth Center (PCYC). PCYC is dedicated to providing quality educational opportunities to the youth of the NRV. The west wing of the building is scheduled to open in the future to add a full theater with stage, art room, and will be capable of hosting a variety of activities.

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March 2021

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Sat. March 6th: Evangelist Ralph Parker

Fri. March 12th: Pastor Sherman Buckner
Sat. March 13th: Evangelist Joyce Greer

Fri. March 19th: Evangelist Steve Board
Sat. March 20th: Pastor Doug Duncan
NOTE: FREE food to go meals only 11 am until 1 pm. Barbecue, Chips, Dessert and Drink. The Clothing Bank will remain closed during this time.

Fri. March 26th: Pastor Todd Garwood
Sat. March 27th: Brother Eric Watson
NOTE: Sun. March 28th: **11 AM SUNDAY MORNING OUTREACH SERVICE AT THE STREETS** Pastor Todd Garwood

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For More Information Contact: Charlie Barbettini. : 276.620.4293

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

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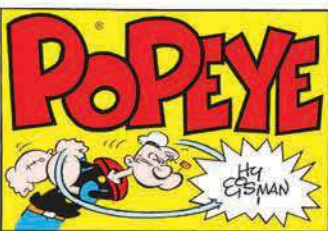
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R.F.D.



The Spats



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UNTIDY

TODAY'S WORD

by Dave T. Phipps

by Gary Kopervas

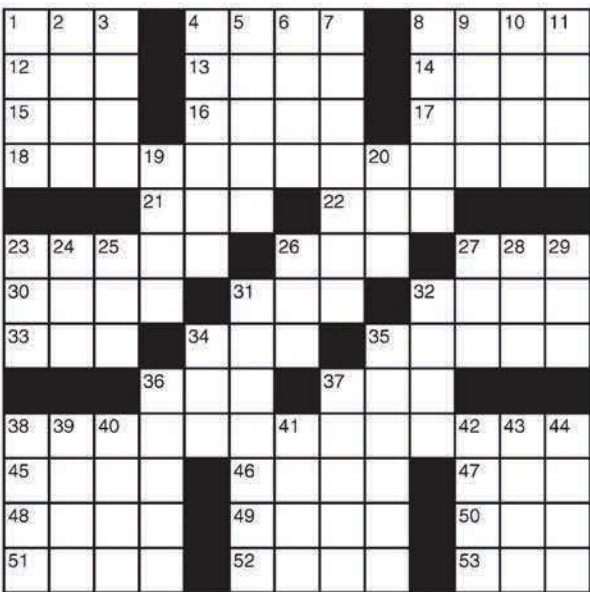
by Mike Marland

by Jeff Pickering

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Gearwheel tooth
- 4 Baby elephant
- 8 Bar bills
- 12 Coffee vessel
- 13 — about (circa)
- 14 Panache
- 15 Salty expanse
- 16 Chills and fever
- 17 — avis
- 18 Driver's aid
- 21 Superlative suffix
- 22 Inlet
- 23 Protractor measure
- 26 Actress Lucy
- 27 "See ya!"
- 30 Old salts
- 31 "The Bells" author
- 32 Edge
- 33 Sea, to Henri
- 34 Periodical, for short
- 35 Belt holders
- 36 Summer cooler
- 37 "Alice" waitress
- 38 Fortress on the Thames
- 45 Pearl Harbor site
- 46 Stage show
- 47 Docs' bloc



- 7 Giveaway array
- 8 Towel material
- 9 Jai —
- 10 Hoedown site
- 11 Unforeseen problem
- 19 Morays
- 20 Vichy water
- 23 \$ dispenser
- 24 Scot's denial
- 25 Spike's warning
- 26 Journal
- 27 Buddy
- 28 Shrill bark
- 29 Type measures
- 31 Magnificent
- 32 Benefit
- 34 Ruin the veneer
- 35 British insurer
- 36 Vendettas
- 37 Be on either side of
- 38 Raiments
- 39 Rowboat needs
- 40 "Huh?"
- 41 Dog bane
- 42 Stupor
- 43 Actor Epps
- 44 Scruff

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top ten
AMERICAN
AUTO RACES*

- 1. 12 Hours of Sebring
- 2. Indianapolis 500
- 3. Daytona 500
- 4. Long Beach Grand Prix
- 5. Rolex 24 at Daytona
- 6. Petit Le Mans (Atlanta)
- 7. Knoxville (Iowa) Nationals
- 8. NASCAR at The Glen
- 9. Southern 500
- 10. IMSA Laguna Seca

*fan voting, 2019
Source: 10Best.com

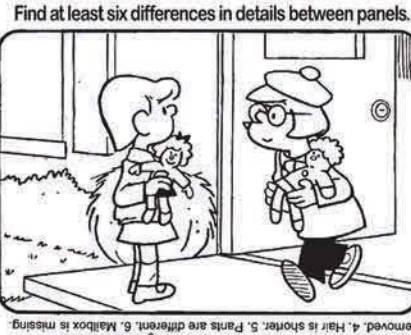
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Trivia
test by Fifi Rodriguez

- 1. TELEVISION: Which animated series stars a precocious toddler named Stewie Griffin?
- 2. GEOGRAPHY: Where are the Diomed Islands located?
- 3. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Former President Jimmy Carter served in which branch of the military?
- 4. LITERATURE: Which 20th-century novel featured a character named Boo Radley?
- 5. U.S. STATES: What animal is featured on California's state flag?
- 6. HISTORY: Which U.S. state was the last to remove a ban on interracial marriage?
- 7. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of sharks called?
- 8. AD SLOGANS: Which products were advertised with a slogan that called them "indiscribably delicious"?
- 9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What shape has been used in U.S. stop signs since the 1920s?
- 10. PSYCHOLOGY: What irrational fear is represented by the condition called alektorophobia?

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HOCUS-FOCUS
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Differences: 1. Hat is different. 2. Socks are higher. 3. Burton is removed. 4. Hair is shorter. 5. Pants are different. 6. Malbox is missing.

SCRAMBLERS
Today's Word
1. Sniper 2. Reef; 3. Symle 4. Nudity
solution

CryptoQuip
This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.
Clue: B equals L
TMPA FGH JZOP VTVF V KPCLPC
EMZBZ LPEZSP, KGDPQGX F DJZMC
KVF FGH'OP KSZBBPX CMP QPVAK.

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Solution time: 21 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Americanisms



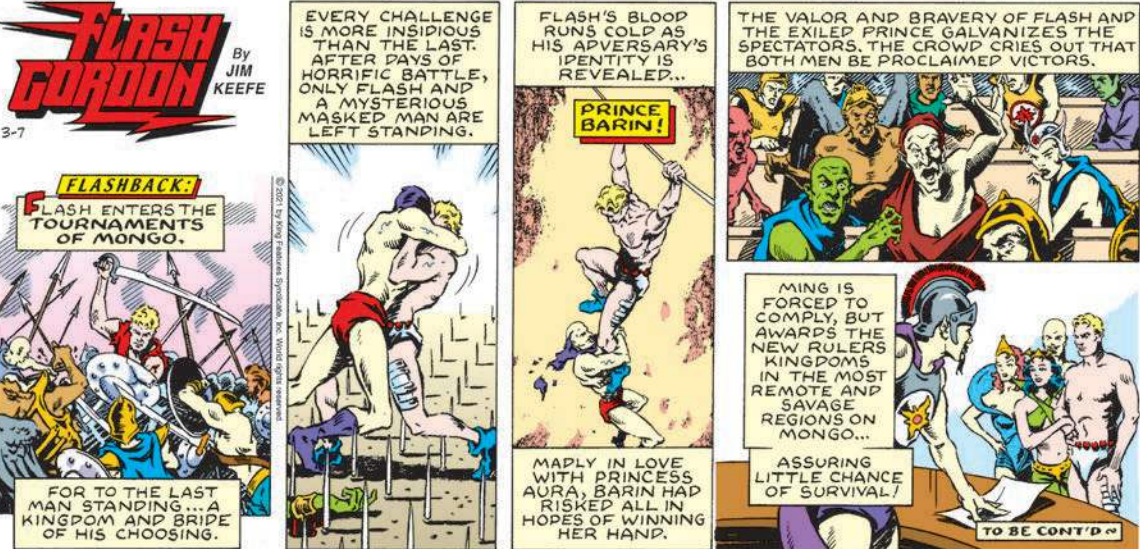
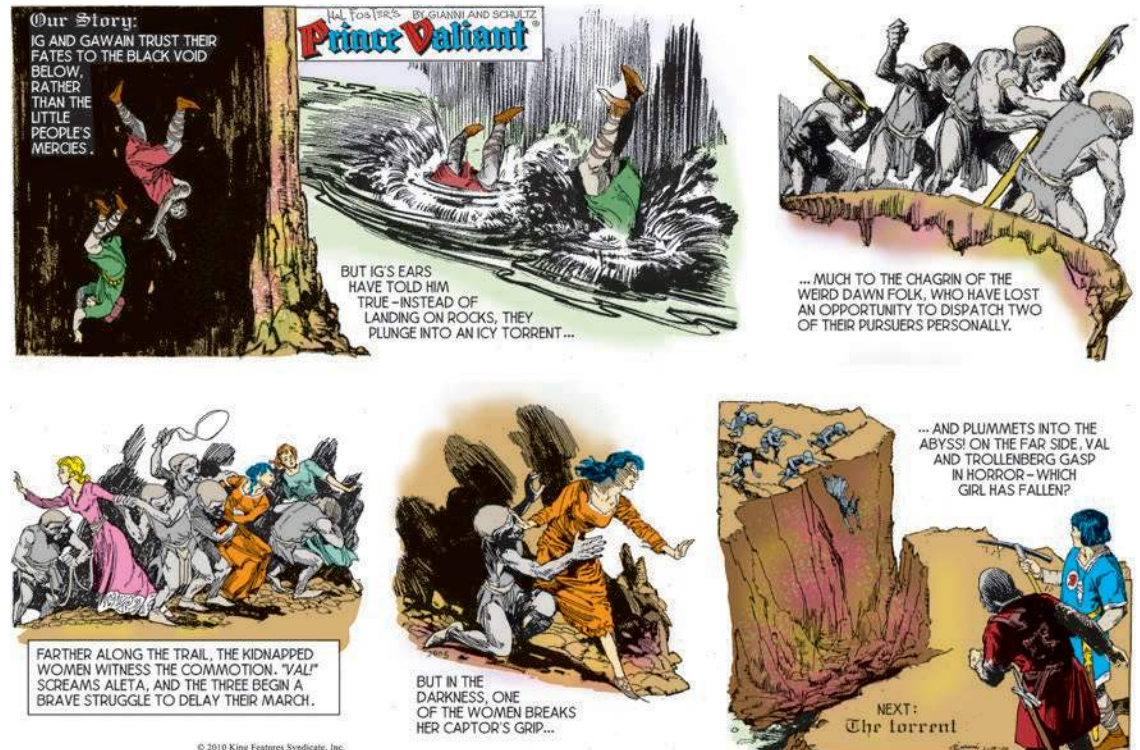
"Have enough courage to trust love one more time and always one more time."
— Maya Angelou

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CryptoQuip
When you give away a secret
chill recipe, somebody might
say you've spilled the beans.
answer

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MAGIC MAZE ● **RELATED TO BODY PARTS**

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: — GREASE

Bear arms Cold shoulder Knee-deep Shake a leg
Belly up Evil eye Knee-jerk Thumbs up
By a nose Hair-raising Leg up Up in arms
Chin-wag Handout Nosedive

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is **LONGFELLOW**

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

Y G M F R W K C ' S J Q K D Q C W Y H S F
A X Y S Q K C M F C Q ' O V K D D Y C Q O O ,
S V Q C S X M S F J Q K C Y W Q
Q X K O Q X S F X Q L F N Q S V Q Y X
O K U C Q O O . — R C E C F A C

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CryptoQuote

If you can't be a pencil to write anyone's happiness then try to be a nice eraser to remove their sadness. — Unknown

RELATED TO BODY PARTS

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Puzzle Answer Appears Elsewhere In This Week's Issue

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Meredith McGrady
Office Manager

PCYC

Continued from Page B7

NRV, the need to prepare students to step into new careers will become more prevalent. Loveland credits Phoenix Packaging as the main donor who wants to help create a more vital and informed work force.

“To me, we are ready for that. We have a three-year plan and are looking to provide leadership and create collaborative partnerships with other organizations, businesses and individuals to make this vision a reality,” says Loveland.

Board President Walter Boone is interested in ways to revitalize interest in PCYC and will be providing The Patriot with information about the progress, innovative programs, childcare opportunities, summer camp and opening of the theater in future articles.

To learn more about the PCYC classes and educational opportunities, visit PCYC website, Facebook page or call at: 540-731-4401.



The PCYC Explorers' Class is held as a six-week session, enabling students the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors. Students are climbing Falls Ridge in Montgomery County.



PCYC students competed in a Robotics Competition held at Auburn School in 2020. The PCYC team of five students prepare for a series of challenges, placing fourth in the competition out of 28 teams.



Students at PCYC can take virtual classes while they are connected via computers to their classrooms. Instructors are available in the room to assist students as needed.

Celebrating Our Past, Creating Our Future

The “Old Riverlawn School” in Fairlawn, VA has a long history with Pulaski County that goes back to the early days of World War II. This educational legacy continues through the present day with the emergence of the Pulaski Community Youth Center (PCYC), a facility dedicated to providing quality educational opportunities to the youth of the county and the surrounding area.

The origins of the school building go back to 1940, a time when the world war in Europe and Asia also became a threat to the United States. To help supply much needed ammunition for the war effort an arsenal was built on the banks of the New River. Workers and their families began to flock to the region to work in this new facility. The towns in the surrounding area were not large enough to take care of the tremendous overflow of workers, however, so in the bend of the river across from East Radford a little village sprang up and became known as “Fairlawn.”

In fall of 1945 there were 295 homes in the new Fairlawn community with a student population of 110 students, all of whom were crowded into a two-room school building. In September of 1947 the overcrowding situation had reached a breaking point when 130 citizens assembled in one of the tiny classrooms and voted to begin construction of a new facility on a portion of the old Smith family property. The present PCYC facility now occupies that original building that had opened in September 1949 at a cost of \$166,000.

That educational facility served Pulaski County proudly for over 60 years until is closed in 2009 when the “New Riverlawn School” building was constructed just a few short miles away. The old school was “mothballed” until 2016 when the county leased the facility to PCYC to work with youth and their families. After initial planning discussions, cleanup and restoration on the east wing of the building began. Programming started in 2018 with a wide variety of afterschool classes offered. Everything from cooking to woodworking, hiking to dog training were on the schedule. PCYC has since obtained its childcare license and now has additional youth opportunities in virtual daytime classes during the COVID pandemic, Summer Camp programming, as well as special events and birthday party celebrations (guideline permitted).

Soon they will be opening the west wing of the building, doubling their usable public space. This addition includes a full theater with stage, an art room, and a large multi-purpose room that can

host a variety of activities including films, youth theater, music and dance classes, and martial arts. These new capabilities will complement the existing gym/basketball court, classroom spaces, and kitchen areas.

As an organization trusted and supported by over 250 members, the Pulaski Community Youth Center (PCYC) takes seriously their responsibilities to the youth of the community. The strategies, plans, and values they have established reflect this responsibility and are designed to make the largest impact they can in the county. The heart of their plan is to change the lives of the youth in the county by both helping those immediately in need, and creating community solutions to reduce these needs in the future. Their plan is bold and is meant to craft a new fabric for youth programming in the county – one that will offer new, CREATIVE opportunities in the areas of Childcare, Recreation, Environmental Programming, Art, Technology and Science, and Education. This combination of themes offers the range of programming for today’s students designed to complement their classroom experiences with hands-on, entertaining, educational building blocks – tools that will help them make thoughtful, CREATIVE, life choices.

PCYC realizes that they cannot accomplish these goals alone. Their three-year plan identifies the need to collaborate with other organizations, businesses, and individuals to make their vision a reality. To achieve their long-term goals it will take a sustained, focused effort over many years. But the end result will forever transform our community.

As in the early days when the Fairlawn Community was established and the “Old” School was constructed, they plan to provide leadership and create collaborative partnerships with the goal of preparing all of our youth for a successful future – one where our young people are ready for school, achieve success during the school years, and ultimately graduate high school ready for their next step in life. In addition, they plan to work with partners to help lift up the families of our youth from poverty, and work with agency partners on programs that will give the county’s youth a healthy start in life, providing them the necessary tools to achieve mental and physical well-being.

For further information on the Pulaski Community Youth Center you can go to their Web site or Facebook page, or give a call at 540-731-4401 if you are interested in learning more about their classes and educational opportunities.

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Answer

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

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