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WEEKEND WEATHER

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Sunday Night - Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52.

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Over transgender policy, equity plan

School board meeting gets heated at times

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

Emotions at times reached a boiling point Tuesday evening during a meeting of the Pulaski County School Board as numerous citizens spoke out on policies regarding transgender students and the recently approved Comprehensive Plan for Equity.

While neither issue was on the official agenda for discussion, school officials apparently learned ahead of time that a number of citizens planned to attend the meeting and comment on the two issues.

That knowledge led School Superintendent Dr. Kevin Siers to request that the school board allow him to read a statement prior to the board hearing public comments.

"First, I'd like to thank you for the courage of leadership that has been shown over the past several months in regard to our work on equity," Siers began. "Nobody ever promised that any of this would be easy, but neither did anybody warn us that it would be

as difficult as it seems to have become."

"It is unfortunate that our leadership on the issue of equity has been cast in such a negative light within our community," he added.

"In a few minutes, you are going to hear from some of our citizens who have concerns about our equity mission, goals, and requirements from the Virginia Department of Education and general assembly. I have recently had conversations with individuals in the community about their concerns and also watched a video from a local church service where the issue of equity was discussed this past Sunday. Let me just say that the misinformation is astounding, and it seems that there may be an intentional attempt to stoke the fire with fear and hatred in order to drum up outrage from our citizens. Although it is unfortunate that there is such vehement opposition to a school division trying to make life better for kids, it is our reality and our issue to work through," Siers continued.

He then listed several "points of clarification" and "editorial ob-

servations" to address comments and claims being made by some citizens on the transgender and equity issues.

Siers' full statement can be found elsewhere in this week's issue.

Undeterred, several citizens made comments.

Billy Williams, who has addressed the board on transgender student policies in the past, was the first to speak Tuesday.

He called on the school board to "vote against any transgender policy that subjects our children to a curriculum based on an ideology that promotes a lifestyle choice that should be left to parents and guardians of our children."

"The school system is overstepping its boundaries in promoting an LGBTQ lifestyle in our public schools," Williams said to loud applause from the crowd.

Pastor Donald Jones told the board a lot of attention is being given to civil rights - including in the transgender community

See SCHOOLS, page A7

Youngkin wins GOP nomination for governor

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (AP) — Glenn Youngkin, a political newcomer who campaigned as a conservative, Christian outsider, bested a field of seven candidates to emerge as Virginia Republicans' nominee for governor, in a year when the GOP hopes to end a 12-year losing streak in statewide races.

Youngkin defeated a hard-right contender in state Sen. Amanda Chase, who closely aligned herself with former President Donald Trump, as well as an establishment candidate, former House Speaker Kirk Cox, who had more than 30 years' experience in government as well as the endorsements of

former governors George Allen and Bob McDonnell.

While Youngkin did not embrace Trump to the same extent as Chase, he spoke favorably of the former president during the campaign. He also made "election integrity" a top issue in his campaign, allowing him to appeal to Trump voters who still believe the 2020 election was stolen from him without having to invoke Trump's name directly.

In the sixth and final round of counting on Monday night, Youngkin passed the 50% threshold to clinch the nomination, and his closest remaining opponent, Pete Snyder, issued a tweet conceding:

"I send my heartfelt congratulations to @glennyoungkin on a tremendous race + deserved win."

The state party's website showed Youngkin with around 55% of the vote as final ballots were being tallied late Monday night.

More than 30,000 delegates cast ballots Saturday at what the Republican Party of Virginia is calling an "unassembled convention" to choose their nominees for governor, lieutenant governor and attorney general.

With no candidate garnering a

See YOUNGKIN, page A2

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Meredith McGrady
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School employees in county to get bonuses

By **MIKE WILLIAMS**
The Patriot

Pulaski County Public Schools will close for the year on June 10, following action Tuesday night by the school board.

Graduation ceremonies will be held the next day on Friday, June 11.

Also approved Tuesday were appreciation and retention bonuses for all school personnel.

School Superintendent Dr. Kevin Siers told the board that staff had looked at what other school divisions had done at mid-year, which included appreciation bonuses for the extra work being done due to COVID.

Siers said Pulaski County was one of the few which gave raises to employees that were in place the entire year.

“We’ve assessed our situation and feel like we can match the

act of other counties and would like to extend \$500 appreciation bonuses for the 2020-21 school year,” Siers said.

He added that he’d like to see the school system also offer a \$250 retention bonus to every employee who returns their contract for next school year within a week of receiving it.

“This would be a huge help to HR (Human Resources) to make sure we’ve got positions filled for the next year,” Siers stated, adding that a lot of employees – if they’re looking for a new job – will hold onto their contract until after July 1.

“Then we get in a bind trying to fill positions. It would help us know definitely who is coming back and who’s not. The bonus might help people decide to get their contract back in quickly,” he said.

The board approved both bonuses.

Miyares wins GOP nod for attorney general

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — The Republican Party of Virginia announced late Sunday that state Del. Jason Miyares has won its nomination for attorney general, as the party works to tabulate the votes for several state offices cast by tens of thousands of Virginia Republicans.

The GOP opted, after a bitter, drawn-out fight, to hold what it called an unassembled convention on Saturday. Because pandemic restrictions ban mass gatherings, delegates cast ballots Saturday at nearly 40 polling sites statewide.

Miyares won out against three other candidates: Leslie Haley, a law firm partner and elected official in Chesterfield Coun-

ty; Chuck Smith, a former U.S. Navy JAG commander; and Jack White, a minister, Army veteran and former clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito Jr.

“I want to congratulate Jason on his victory this evening,” said state party chairman Rich Anderson in a statement. “Running for Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Virginia is no easy task, and this is a critical first step.”

Democrats will choose their nominees for statewide offices in a primary June 8. In that party’s nominating contest for attorney general, state Del. Jay Jones is challenging incumbent Mark Herring.



Virginia Republicans have nominated their ticket for November’s election. From left: Attorney General candidate Jason Miyares, Governor candidate Glenn Youngkin, and Lt. Governor candidate Winsome Sears.

Youngkin

Continued from Page A1

majority after the first round, the winner was determined in part by whom delegates listed as their second and third choices among the seven candidates vying for the spot.

Under the ranked-choice voting system implemented by the party, the votes of the last-place candidate, former Roanoke Sheriff Octavia Johnson, were redistributed to the six remaining candidates based on whom those delegates designated as their second choice.

The process was repeated in subsequent rounds until Youngkin gained the majority.

Youngkin, a former CEO of The Carlyle Group investment firm, is making his first run for public office. He lent his campaign more than \$5 million and spent more than any other candidate through March 31, according to data from the Virginia Public Access Project. He campaigned as a “conservative Christian outsider” and highlighted his busi-

ness experience.

The party began counting ballots in the attorney general race on Sunday. Delegate Jason Miyares won a close race after three rounds of balloting over hard-right candidate Chuck Smith.

Smith’s surprisingly strong showing was interpreted by some as a good sign for Chase, a hard-right gubernatorial candidate who has been censured in the General Assembly in a bipartisan vote and is most closely associated with former President Donald Trump.

Chase, though, finished in third place. She has suggested she might run as an independent if she feels like the nomination process was unfair.

Democrats will choose their nominee next month in a state-run primary. Former governor Terry McAuliffe is the front-runner in a field of five candidates.

Virginia bars incumbent governors from seeking reelection, so Democratic Gov. Ralph

Northam is barred from seeking a second term this year.

Virginia is the only state with an open-seat gubernatorial contest this year; the race is being closely scrutinized as an early signal of each party’s political strength heading into the 2022 congressional elections.

Republicans have not won a statewide race in Virginia since 2009. But Republicans have some hope of ending their drought this year; since 1973, only once has the party controlling the White House gone on to win the governor’s race in Virginia the next year.

The convention was open to Virginia voters who pre-registered as delegates. People who had voted in past Democratic primaries were allowed to participate if they renounced their earlier Democratic votes and promised to support the Republican nominees in November.

Former delegate Sears wins LG bid

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (AP) — Former Del. Winsome Sears, who 20 years ago became the first Black Republican woman elected to the Virginia Assembly, made a political comeback Tuesday after winning the GOP nomination for lieutenant governor.

Sears beat five other candidates, including two — former Del. Tim Hugo from Fairfax County and Virginia Beach Del. Glenn Davis

— who were far more active in recent GOP politics.

“Winsome Sears is the strong, principled leader Virginia needs to serve as our next Lieutenant Governor. As a mother and a former Marine, she built her own successful small business,” said Senate Republican Leader Thomas K. Norment Jr. R-James City, and his fellow Senate leaders in a joint statement Tuesday night. “Winsome made history when she was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates. Now, she is poised to make history again.”

Sears served a single term representing parts of Hampton Roads

in the House of Delegates, winning election in 2001. She did not seek reelection and now resides in the Winchester area. She came to the U.S. from Jamaica as a child, and served in the Marines.

In her campaign, she highlighted her more recent work as national chairperson for Black Americans to Re-Elect President Trump.

Sears led throughout multiple rounds of balloting under the ranked-choice voting system Virginia Republicans used for their nominating convention.

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Statement from School Superintendent Dr. Kevin Siers

Editor's note: Pulaski County School Superintendent Dr. Kevin Siers read the following statement just before the School Board heard public comments during Tuesday's meeting.

Mr. Chairman, Madam Chairwoman, and Members of the Board,

Thank you for allowing me to speak this evening in advance of the public comments. First, I'd like to thank you for the courage of leadership that has been shown over the past several months in regard to our work on equity. Nobody ever promised that any of this would be easy but neither did anybody warn us that it would be as difficult as it seems to have become. You are each to be applauded for making the decisions that have established Pulaski County as the leading school division in Southwest Virginia for doing the work that is very much needed and making the changes that are required.

It is unfortunate that our leadership on the issue of equity has been cast in such a negative light within our community when only a few months ago, Pulaski County Public Schools was being celebrated for leading the district in offering four days of in-person instruction to all students and then leading the state in returning to five days of classes per week. People were singing our praises when we were the first division to find an acceptable way for band, cheer, and football students to showcase their talents in front of the largest crowds that have attended any event during the past year. It was that same courageous leadership that led to the construction of this beautiful middle school that has made education a much more positive experience for hundreds of our county's children. It has been the vision and priorities of this School Board that resulted in teacher raises for six consecutive years, significant reductions in health insurance premiums for all employees, and ensured that every school became fully accredited for the first time in a decade. If anybody wanted to do a study on effective transformative school leadership that has genuinely made life better for teachers and students, there is no better example than Pulaski County Public Schools.

In a few minutes, you are going to hear from some of our citizens who have concerns about our equity mission, goals, and requirements from the Virginia Department of Education and general assembly. I have recently had conversations with

individuals in the community about their concerns and also watched a video from a local church service where the issue of equity was discussed this past Sunday. Let me just say that the misinformation is astounding and it seems that there may be an intentional attempt to stoke the fire with fear and hatred in order to drum up outrage from our citizens. Although it is unfortunate that there is such vehement opposition to a school division trying to make life better for kids, it is our reality and our issue to work through. So, in an attempt to set the stage for these public comments, I'd like to make a few points of clarification and a few editorial observations:

Points of Clarification-

1. There is nothing on the agenda this evening regarding our equity work or the state's model guidance for the treatment of transgender students. If folks came here tonight hoping to influence a vote, the impact of their effort will not be known today.

2. The state's policy for the treatment of transgender students is currently being worked into a policy proposal by the legal staff with the Virginia School Board's Association. We do not yet know what the policy will state about bathrooms or locker rooms, so all statements about a decision having already been made are completely false. These policies will be sent to us later this month or in early June. They will then be presented to the school board for discussion and recommended revisions. A vote will not occur on any of these policies until the month after they are made available to the public on Board Docs and the School Board has had an opportunity to discuss them. (Most likely in July or August)

3. PCPS has not adopted a curriculum that is based on critical race theory. (Most of us aren't even sure exactly what that means.) The Virginia Department of Education establishes the course standards and we teach to those standards. The state standards for every course can be found on the Virginia Department of Education's website. The only curricula that we develop is with local electives and there has been nothing new approved for next year.

4. Every school division in Virginia is currently attempting to work through the same issues as is PCPS. We're trying to decide how to approach inequity and ensuring the rights of every student in a way that meets the legal guidelines as set forth by

the state but also makes a meaningful impact for students and families. The work that we're doing will not harm any student and might actually make things better for some.

Editorial Observations-

1. It is my hope and belief that the citizens of Pulaski County will start to take the time to actually look at what we're working on and not assign so much value to the misinformation that is put out on social media or spoken from the pulpit. We are more than happy to meet with folks to discuss any initiative that we undertake and we welcome any and all feedback when it is based on an actual set of facts and not from assumptions or speculations made on social media.

2. Every single school employee and School Board member here today has given

something of significance to the children of Pulaski County. We volunteer our time for after school events, donate money for every cause that comes our way, tutor those who struggle, and publicly celebrate the successes of our kids whenever possible. We have people here who've personally spent hundreds of dollars to provide a struggling family with a good Christmas. We have some who spend their Thanksgiving break delivering holiday meals to families in need. We personally pay for athletics equipment for students who can't afford it, buy coats for kids in the winter, cover the costs of field trips, and send kids to camp. We've even had some who went together to cover all funeral expenses as a way to ease a family's burden after a student unexpectedly passed away. PCPS is made up of some really great people

who are doing amazing things on behalf of the children in our community. Recent attempts to cast us as villains in some type of politically charged soap opera are incredibly unfair, profoundly wrong, and should be unacceptable to our community.

3. Finally, public schools do not have an incentive to judge lifestyles or the resources to sustain animosity. We take care of children. Doing right by every student is what drives our decisions and making lives better for kids is what dictates our actions. It is really the only work worth doing and fortunately, for Pulaski County, we do it well.

Thank you again for letting me speak this evening. At this time, we'll open it up for public comments.

Kids vaccines approved

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) announced that providers across the Commonwealth can begin vaccinating those aged 12-15 following federal approval today of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for use in adolescents. The vaccine previously was approved for use in those aged 16 and older, while two other available vaccines are approved for those 18 and older.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) approved use of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for those aged 12-15 Wednesday, accepting the recommendation of its Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), which

met earlier in the day to review safety data for the vaccine in this age group. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on Monday amended the vaccine's Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) to include those aged 12-15.

"Generally, adolescents who contract COVID-19 usually do not develop severe symptoms, but they contribute to the spread of COVID-19. Vaccinating adolescents, along with the rest of Virginia's eligible population, will help stop the spread of COVID-19 and make our communities safer," said Dr. Danny Avula, Virginia's vaccination coordinator. "Getting this safe, effective vaccine means

that these adolescents won't have to miss school, sporting events or other activities if they are exposed to someone with COVID-19, taking another step toward getting their lives back to normal."

In the Pfizer-BioNTech clinical trial with about 2,000 participants aged 12-15, the vaccine was found to be 100 percent effective in preventing COVID-19 occurring at least seven days after the second dose. It is typical for a new vaccine to be studied in adults first, and then to gradually include younger age groups.

"This is great news. Like every-

See KIDS, page A4

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NOTICE TO TOWN OF PULASKI RESIDENTS

Due to a staffing shortage, there has been a delay in mailing Real Estate Tax bills to Town property owners. These bills will be mailed out Thursday May 13, 2021 and should be received by the beginning of next week. Real Estate taxes will be due Monday June 7, 2021. If you'd like to inquire about your amount owed, you may call our Finance Department at 540-994-8640.



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JERRY PARKER CAPPS
Jerry Parker Capps, age 73 of Pulaski passed away Wednesday morning May 12, 2021 at the Lewis-Gale Hospital-Pulaski. Born October 16, 1947 in Louisville, Kentucky he was the son of the late Virgil Paul Capps & Eloise Meredith Capps. His grandson, Kevin Gibson also preceded him in death. Jerry was a veteran of the United States Army and a supervisor with New River Valley Community Services where he retired with 23 years of service.

He is survived by his
Wife
Donna Sizemore Capps – South Carolina
Children
Virgil Paul Capps II – Pulaski
Gregory “Greg” Samuel Capps – Pulaski
Jennifer Ann (Wayne Hoback) Gibson – Pulaski

Scott (Ruth) Raczy – Alabama
Patricia (Daniel) Johnson – Pulaski
Twins Barbara (Alan) Aulabaugh – Pulaski and Brenda (Dusty) Capps – Fairlawn

Grandchildren – Gregory S. (Caitlin) Capps, Jr., Patricia Gibson, Eddie Gibson, Jr., Heather Capps, Megan Capps, Allison Capps, Brittany Croteau, Alexander P. Capps, Christopher Raczy, Jonathan Raczy, Madison Aulabaugh, Hailey Capps, Hunter Johnson, Maxwell Raczy and Chase Johnson

Great Grandchildren – Onna, Aubrea, Migual, Alicia and Axton
Sisters – Linda Cook – Radford, Paula (Bob) Currie – Christiansburg

Niece – Leanna Harris
Nephew – Parker Currie
Funeral services will be held 2:00 PM – Monday, May 17, 2021 at the Bower Funeral Home-Chapel, Pulaski with Chaplain Robbie Vance officiating. Interment will follow at the Highland Memory Gardens, Dublin.

The family will receive friends one hour before service time Monday at the Funeral Home.

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

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



JOSEPH CALVIN BURTON
Joseph Calvin Burton passed away on Saturday, May 8, 2021 at the age of 71, at the New River Valley Medical Center. His battle with serious medical issues in recent years showed his courage in facing life challenges with a smile. Despite the pain, Joe came out a hero and stayed strong until the end. The simplest pleasures in life brought great joy to Joe. He loved spending a quiet evening with friends and his dog, Max, on the riverbanks fishing. He found beauty in growing his own vegetables. He was preceded in death by his parents Frank Burton and Myrtle Lane Burton, his brothers, Roy Lee, Thomas Albert, Freddie Mitchell Burton and sisters, Margaret Elizabeth Jones and Lydia Frances Wall.

He will forever be remembered by his three children: Cynthia “Cindy” (Juan) Montes, VA, Melissa “Missy” Howe, CA, and Calvin (Maryann) IL. Grandchildren: Gabrielle, Mario, Juan Carlos Jr, Krystal, Eli, Kyrie, Matthew Jacob. 3 Great Grandchildren and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. And his best friend William Wall.

Joe was honored in a memorial celebration of life on Thursday May 13, 2021 at the Bower Funeral Home in Pulaski, VA with Pastor Charlie Barbettini officiating. A private family interment followed at the Shiloh Cemetery.

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

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

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**HELEN L. SIMPSON
(CHEVERTON)**

Helen L. Simpson (Cheverson) passed away peacefully on Thursday, April 29, 2021, at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital.

Born on May 18, 1931, in Jacksboro, Texas, Helen was the daughter of the late John P. Simpson and E. Grace Sidebottom Simpson. She is preceded in death by her seven siblings and the father of her children, Rev. David P. Cheverson.

Helen was a woman who was small in stature but mighty in strength. She overcame many obstacles in her life, the most notable being the time she was run over by a car but lived to tell about it. However, she wouldn't have told you about it, because she was quiet in her strength and wasn't one to brag.

Other feats Helen wouldn't have bragged about (so we're here to do that for her) were her incredible sewing skills, her memory of poetry that allowed her to pepper it into conversation without missing a beat, and the ability to make her famous recipes with consistent excellency. Cinnamon rolls and pies top the list of favorites, but whatever she cooked was made with love and tasted delicious.

Helen was a vivacious reader and a lover of words. Most of her life you could find her curled up with her nose in a book at some part of the day, and the letters she wrote to her children and grandchildren are ones that will always be treasured.

Helen was also a proud Texan, having attended Texas Christian University in her early life and later moving back there for a stint to be closer to the siblings she loved dearly. While there, she always made sure to send pecans from her backyard trees to the children for Christmas, and she made the long trek back to Virginia once a year to visit and spend quality time with her children and grandchildren.

Overall, Helen was a wonderful woman, a devout Christian, and a devoted mother and grandmother whom will be greatly missed. She is survived by four children: Daniel P. Cheverson (Janice), J. Michael Cheverson (Teresa), Suzanne Bowman (Robert) and Sarah Cheverson (Sue); four grandchildren: Jonathan Cheverson (Mary), Lindsey Zovko (Carl), Jeremy Bowman, and Jes-

sica Lang (Greg); and three great grandchildren: Lily Zovko, Harper Zovko, and Abilene Lang.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to the staff of Our Lady of the Valley in Roanoke, VA, for the care they gave Helen during the last years of her life.

A private memorial service was held on May 12th at Unity Christian Church in Radford, with the Reverend Wendy Wilson officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Community Table or the Church World Service Blankets ministry c/o Unity Christian Church, 400 Tyler Ave., Radford, VA 24141, or to a charity of your choice. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.seaglefuneralhome.com Arrangements by Seagle Funeral Home, Pulaski.

CORY ALAN TALBERT

Cory Alan Talbert, 28, of Dublin, passed away Tuesday, May 11, 2021.

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

Kids

Continued from Page A3

one else, our young people have had their lives disrupted over the past year. Vaccination will allow all of us to come together with the assurance that we are doing everything we can to protect ourselves and each other. I urge families to make vaccination a priority for everyone who qualifies to be vaccinated,” said State Health Commissioner M. Norman Oliver, MD, MA. “Millions of people already have been vaccinated, and the FDA and the CDC continue to monitor COVID-19 vaccines for side effects. This is indeed our shot at ending this pandemic and saving lives.”

According to the weekly American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

WALTER STAPLES DALTON

Walter Staples Dalton, 80, of Dublin, passed away Monday, May 10, 2021. He was a Master Sgt. Ret. U. S. Air Force with 26 years of serving his country. He was preceded in death by his parents, Early and Betty Dalton.

Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Wanda Turpin Dalton; son, Keith (Wendy) Dalton; daughter, Sheila (Scott) Bailey; grandchildren, Candis, Brittney and Zachary; great grandchildren, Myles, Millie and Brody; a brother; and many other relatives and friends.

Services will be private. He will be interred in the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin with full military honors.

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

State-Level Data Report, as of May 6, 2021, over 3.85 million children in the U.S. have tested positive for COVID-19 since the start of the pandemic, with 102,682 cumulative cases in children in Virginia. Children represented 14 percent of all cases in the U.S., and 15.5 percent in Virginia.

Administration of the vaccine in adolescents will be the same as in adults: given in two doses, separated by 21 days. Adolescents are considered fully vaccinated 14 days after receiving the second dose. Side effects in this age group included pain or redness in the arm where the vaccine is given, fatigue, fever and muscle aches.

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FOCL Executive Director Ciara Harris

FOCL announces new director, office space in Fairlawn

The Friends of Claytor Lake (FOCL) Board of Directors is pleased to announce a new Executive Director.

Ciara Harris will be replacing current director Jeff Caldwell. Jeff has been a dynamic part of the local environmental organization for over 10 years, working to educate and advocate for FOCL's mission. FOCL remains dedicated to conserving and protecting the quality, sustainability, and tranquility of the environment of Claytor Lake for all to enjoy. Jeff remains involved in the community as the new owner of Nesselrod on the New.

Pulaski County native, Ciara Harris transitions from the Radford Chamber of Commerce in the coming weeks. We are excited to welcome Ms. Harris as she brings past marketing experience and a fresh perspective to the organization. Ciara has been with the chamber for almost 2.5 years and has helped grow the membership network, events and support other organization and

community efforts. Ciara has a degree from Radford University in Recreation, Parks and Tourism and has past experience working at Visit Lake Norman, along with other local businesses such as New River Retreat and the Draper Mercantile. "My time with the chamber has taught me so much, and I am thankful to have been in such a diverse role. I'm thrilled to keep learning and continuing to advocate for the local community, just in a different way." Ciara expresses enthusiasm for the lake, having grown up camping around Claytor and continues to visit family and friends by the water in her free time. She hopes to connect more businesses with the mission of FOCL, and grow a volunteer and community network around keeping the lake clean, healthy and enjoyable for all.

Lake debris clean up continues to be FOCL's main focus, but the organization has additional projects such as creating fish habitat structures, mussel salvage efforts and water quality monitoring. Other events and programs (Covid permitting) include the YMCA/Coast Guard Auxiliary Second Grade Water Safety program, Veterans Fishing Day, Eighth Grade Day, kids fishing day at Camp Powhatan, Christmas for the Fishes (Christmas tree drop off at State Park for fish habitat), FOCL Poker Run, along with the annual Spring Splash fundraiser. FOCL plans to further its mission and education to local residents and visitors by growing advocacy, awareness and the volunteer network.

The board would also like to announce the new office for FOCL at the Pulaski County Innovation Center. The office is at 6580 Valley Center Dr. in Fairlawn, room 318 . The office, along with meeting facilities the center has to offer, will serve as the hub for FOCL related meetings.

A few other businesses that can be found in the center include NRV Regional Commission, JH Bards Spirit Co., MS Contracting, Virginia Career Works, Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management, New River Security Investigations, and many others.

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Belle



More than any amount of money

Dear Dave,
My husband and I are both 29, and we have good jobs that allow us to bring home \$100,000 a year combined. Recently, we began talking about starting a family. We live on a budget, but we still have about \$15,000 in credit card debt and student loans we're working hard to pay off. Do you think couples should wait until they are debt-free to have children?

Missy

Dear Missy,
You and your husband are chipping away at your debt, and that's a good thing. It sounds like you two are determined to get it paid off and take control of your finances. You're also making pretty good money, so keep up the good work!

Ok, so the truth is kids can be expensive. From medical costs and diapers, to child-care and beyond, it costs money to raise a family. But here's the thing: If you let money alone, or the perfect financial situation, determine whether you have kids or not, you may never have them. Now, would it be easier from a financial stand-point only to wait on having kids until you're debt-free and there's a huge pile of cash in the bank? Sure, it would. But children are worth more than any amount of money. If you love each other and want to be parents, and you're mature adults in every other area, don't let this debt stop you.

A child isn't going to derail your journey to financial peace. Having kids might cause you to press pause for a while on some financial matters, or slow your pace a little bit, but as long as you both stay focused and determined to manage your money wisely, chances are things will work out fine.

Just don't make the mistake lots



Dave Says

Dave Ramsey

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of parents do—especially first-time parents. Many of them think they have to run out and buy a new, "safer" car, spend a fortune

Revival services at Abundant Life Ministries

Abundant Life Ministries Church will host special services with Evangelist Dr. Larry Martin beginning Wednesday, May 19 through May 23.

Dr. Martin has been in ministry for over 50 years, traveling to 70 countries, taught in several Bible schools including Messenger College and Brownsville Revival School of Ministry.

Dr. Martin is considered by many as an authority on Pentecostal origins and especially the Revival at Azusa Street.

He has authored many books including: The Life and Ministry of William J. Seymour, A Complete Library of the Azusa Street.

Dr. Martin is the founder of River of Revival Ministries where he serves as president of the ministry.

Pastor Randall Lawrence gives the churches in our area and the

on a fancy crib, or buy all things baby from some overpriced boutique. Do you get what I'm saying, Missy? Why buy a brand-new, \$400 stroller, when a friend or rel-ative has a perfectly good, barely used one they're willing to give you?

It's easy to get carried away spending for a baby. But children will be just fine as long as they have food, clothing, shelter—and most importantly—loving, caring parents. God bless you two!

—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 18 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more.



Dr. Martin

public a special invitation to join with us for these special revival services.

Service times are Wednesday

day – Saturday, 7 p.m. and Sunday morning, 10:30 a.m.

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For more information call the church office from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at 980-5506.

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Prescription Drugs: Lower Prices, Cures

Prescription drug prices burden the budgets of many. It is a problem that demands the attention of health care policymakers, but it must be solved correctly.

Unfortunately, House Democrats are charging ahead with a bill that is unconstitutional and would create many more problems than it solves.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's partisan drug pricing plan is H.R. 3. It was previously passed by the House of Representatives in 2019. At the time, I objected to its constitutionality, among other problems with the bill. The Democrat majority could have used its time since then to fix the bill, but it has chosen not to.

The central approach of H.R. 3 is the imposition of price controls on prescription drugs. The Democrats call it "negotiating." In this negotiation, however, if the Federal Government and a drug manufacturer do not agree on a drug's price, the government will tax the manufacturer up to 95 percent of the gross revenue.

Seriously?

If this is negotiation, it is negotiating with the threat of coercion looming over the manufacturers. The words of The Godfather come to mind: "I'm gonna make him an offer he can't refuse."

Worse, this provision is a violation of the Constitution's Fifth Amendment, which prohibits private property from being "taken for public use, without just compensation."

It runs afoul of the Eighth Amendment prohibition on excessive fines, too.

I am not the only one noting H.R. 3's constitutional problems. The nonpartisan Congressional Research Service has raised these points as well. But House Democrats did not bother to address these concerns.

Apart from constitutionality, H.R. 3 also threatens to undermine one of our country's great strengths: the development of new drugs to treat and cure patients.

Great strides have been made in helping people live with or overcome conditions once thought incurable. Progress depended on private sector investment in research and development of new drugs. In 2018, the biopharmaceutical industry invested \$102 billion for this purpose. By comparison, the entire budget of the National Institutes of Health that year was \$35.4 billion, of which only eight percent went to drug research and development.

In my experience, I benefit from two drugs used in the United States since 2011 and 2012 to treat the blood clots I developed after COVID-19. Data suggest that one in six people who had the coronavirus have the same condition, which means the development of those drugs will have a vast impact. Prior to the development of these drugs, most people with blood clots had their ability to travel restricted, leaving them unable to perform jobs that require travel, such as salesmen, truckers, or even congressmen.

The process of developing a new drug can be costly and lengthy, but the results are counted in lives extended or saved.

Operation Warp Speed, the Trump Administration initiative that successfully produced multiple safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines, was a unique project, but the key to its success was its reliance on the private sector. The Federal Government counted on private industry's ability to innovate. That dynamism delivered.

H.R. 3 shifts the initiative away from the private sector toward the government. Its dictation of prices would diminish the resources available for research into the next great cure or treatment. In fact, when H.R. 3 first passed the House in 2019, the Congressional Budget Office estimated that it would decrease the number of drugs introduced in the United States. That is a steep price to pay.

Reducing prescription drug prices can be done without sacrificing innovation. A bill I have cosponsored, the Lower Costs, More Cures Act, would introduce meaningful reforms and bring much-needed transparency to drug pricing.

Many of the ideas included in the bill have broad bipartisan support, such as curbs on the price of insulin. These benefits do not depend on an approach that sacrifices the development of new treatments and cures.

Speaker Pelosi has signaled her intention to move forward on H.R. 3 no matter what. Such a move would be a tremendous missed opportunity. There is a consensus that high prescription drug prices impose hardship on too many Americans. Consensus can be found on many of the responses to this problem, too, if House Democrats would set aside their determination to push a partisan bill. The issues at stake – the burdens placed on patients and the ability to develop new drugs to treat or cure them – should be too important to do otherwise.



Morgan Griffith
9th District Representative

Washington's faith reflected the country's faith

The New York City streets were filled with jubilation on April 30, 1789 as the chapel bells rang precisely at 9:00 am. Some local newspapers had outlined the activities of this monumental day and thousands of people thronged the streets to join in the celebration. It was George Washington's Inauguration Day as the first President of the newly established United States of America.

To properly start the Inaugural events, the St. Paul's Chapel bells would be ringing, "inviting people to go up to the house of God and in a solemn manner commit the new government, with its important train of consequences, to the holy protection and blessing of the Most High...adding: this act of devotion is designed wholly for prayer."

Washington was met at Federal Hall by his vice-president, John Adams, who was responsible for planning the day's events, making sure every detail was addressed. Adams had been sworn in on April 21, 1789 when he began presiding over the Senate. Federal Hall was the current Nation's Capitol and the site where the first US Senate met.

Robert Livingston, Chancellor of New York, administered the Oath of Office at 12:30pm. On hand were Vice

One Nation Under God

By Danielle Reid

President John Adams, Supreme Court Chief Justice John Jay, Generals Henry Knox and Philip Schuyler. Also on hand was Samuel Otis, Secretary of the Senate who held the Bible on which Washington placed his left hand, raised his right hand and took the first Presidential Oath of Office. Afterward, Washington stated, "so help me God" and reverently kissed the Bible.

After Washington's swearing in ceremony, he proceeded to the balcony of Federal Hall to deliver his short (10-minute) acceptance speech. It is recorded that Washington felt humbled and inadequate to serve as President of this great country and during his acceptance speech appeared as though he would prefer to face the canons of war than the crowds that applauded him.

Washington's speech addressed two

See NATION, page A10



Rich Lowery

Editor, National Review

Republicans No Longer Fazed by Big Spending

Once upon a time, Joe Biden's spending proposals would have launched mass demonstrations in opposition.

Little else would have been talked about in conservative media, and ambitious Republican politicians would have competed with one another to demonstrate the most intense resistance, up to and perhaps including chaining themselves to the U.S. Treasury building in protest.

In 2009, President Barack Obama created a spontaneous, hugely influential conservative grassroots movement on the basis of an \$800 billion stimulus bill and a health care plan estimated to cost less than a trillion. In 2021, Biden is proposing to spend about \$6 trillion in his first three big bills, and he can barely create more interest than the debate on wearing masks outdoors.

The conventional wisdom was that after the free-spending Trump years, Republicans would snap back to being deficit hawks when out of power. There's been some of that, but the relatively muted reaction to Biden's almost incomprehensible spending ambitions is testament to the fact that, no, Republicans simply aren't as interested in fiscal issues anymore.

The party has changed and would much rather talk about the border than the budget, and cancellations than Congressional Budget Office scores. Of course, no Republicans will vote for Biden's proposals and all will strenuously object, but that his plans won't engender the fierce reaction they would have 10 years ago is yet another way in which the Overton window has shifted on deficit spending.

What happened? The short answer is Donald Trump.

He demonstrated in vivid fashion that as the GOP coalition had become older and more working class, it didn't care as much about spending restraint or entitlement reform as the party's leaders had presumed.

Trump taught Republicans how to relax and love expansionary fiscal policy. By 2019, he was running a nearly \$1 trillion deficit at a time of peace and prosperity, and of course the pandemic blew the lid off in 2020.

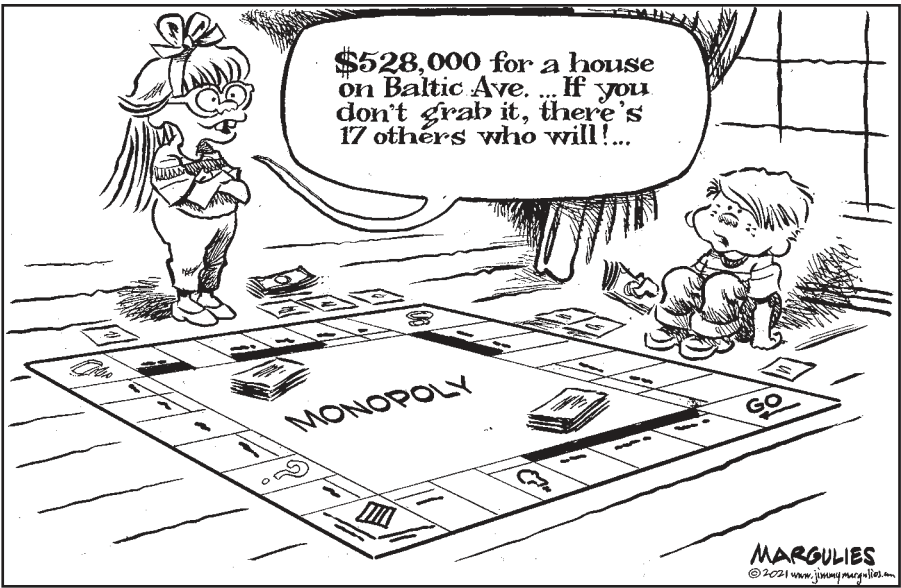
After that, it's difficult for the party to come back and sound the klaxons again about the dangers of red ink.

Besides, the klaxons have issued false alarms before. Republicans realized that past dire warnings of imminent economic harm from deficit spending -- rising interest rates, spiking inflation, a debt crisis -- haven't panned out.

Indeed, this is one reason the center-left now believes all such admonitions should be ignored, and there's almost no upper bound on deficit spending.

Meanwhile, Republican politics has become focused on culture war issues, another change symbolized by Trump. These issues hit close to the bone in a way that fiscal matters don't. Conservatives worry about

See LOWRY, page A10



Infernal Revenue Service

By Cal Thomas, Tribune Content Agency

Thanks to the beneficence of the Internal Revenue Service -- and the fallout from COVID-19 -- we half of Americans who pay federal income taxes have been given until May 17 to file.

Since I began earning enough to file Form 1040 and associated forms, I have only known one person who prepared his own taxes. That was Bill Archer, a Texas Republican who formerly headed the House Ways and Means Committee. I once asked Archer why he prepared his. His reply was that not only did he think it was fun, but because he helped write the tax code, he felt a responsibility to demonstrate competence in filling out the forms.

These days, the forms are so complicated, hardly anyone I know understands them. The instructions need instructions.

I have again filed jointly with my wife (more than 70 pages). She owns a business, so it is more complicated than if we filed separately. Still, the forms require translating a language I have never studied and wouldn't want to. If you call the IRS and ask for help, you are still responsible for interest and penalties if they give the wrong advice.

How complicated is it? Here are just a few examples. Right off the top, I am threatened with prison should I knowingly fudge information on the form. The federal government does threats very well, including those read by flight attendants. Refuse to wear a mask, even if vaccinated, and you risk arrest. Don't even think of tampering with the smoke detector. Even the post office is now spying on us.

How's this for clarity from the estimated tax worksheet: "Add lines 2a and 2b. Subtract line 2c from line 1. Figure your tax on the amount on line 3 by using the 2021 Tax Tables. Caution: If you will have qualified dividends or a net capital gain or expect to exclude or deduct foreign earned income or housing, see worksheets 2-5 and 2-6 in Pub. 505 to figure the tax."

Got that?

There are schedules and forms for everything. They are nearly as numerous as

the growing list of gender identities. Under Schedule D, Profits and Losses, there is this gibberish: "Totals for all short-term transactions reported on Form 1099-B for which basis was reported to the IRS and for which you have no adjustments (see instructions). However, if you choose to report all these transactions on Form 8949, leave this line blank and go to line 1b."

Say what?

No civilized society should force its citizens to go through this annual torture.

According to worldatlas.com, 12 countries have easier ways for their people to pay taxes than the United States. Britain has a pay-as-you-earn system (but also a nasty value added tax). The Tax Policy Center notes: "At last count, 36 other countries, including Germany and Japan permit return-free filing for some taxpayers."

The U.S. government takes in record amounts of revenue. The Biden administration wants more. The problem has never been revenue, but spending.

Not only do we need a simplified tax system, we also should invite an outside auditor to recommend the elimination of unnecessary, useless, outdated and unconstitutional programs, agencies and spending.

The problem is that those who write these abominable and indecipherable laws do so to give breaks to favored individuals and corporations. They contribute to their campaigns, corrupting many of them as they remain in office long past their "sell-by" date.

I would like to see members of Congress who write these tax laws forced to fill out the forms without help from an adviser. Put it on C-SPAN so we can watch them waste their time trying to figure it all out as many of the rest of us must do.

Now THAT would be fun.

Readers may email Cal Thomas at tcaeditors@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/Zonder-van).



Schools

Continued from Page A1

where he said there is a desire for equal rights.

“What about the large majority of students’ rights,” Jones asked. “Those who live with their gender identity from birth. Do we throw out their rights completely?”

“Can you afford to ignore the potential civil suits brought by someone who’s young person was attacked by someone who absolutely had no business being in the locker room with them,” Jones asked.

He continued that the state’s model policy for the treatment of transgender students states that transgender students should “be allowed to use the facility that corresponds with their gender identity.”

“Additionally,” Jones quoted from the policy, “school staff should not confront the student about their gender identity upon entering into the restroom.

“That is astounding to me,” he exclaimed.

School Board Chairman Tim Hurst told Jones the school board has yet to receive guidance from the state Department of Education or the Virginia School Board Association on a transgender policy.

Another speaker, a doctoral student at Virginia Tech, noted she had been invited to attend and speak by “community members.” She was one of three speakers who said they had been invited to the meeting – something many in the audience expressed displeasure with, saying the meeting was for Pulaski County citizens.

The speaker, a marriage and family therapist specializing in working with the trans community spoke on how, she said, 85 percent of transgender adolescents consider suicide during their youth, and 50 percent commit or attempt suicide while in their teens.

She urged the school board to consider how to make the transgender community and children feel like they belong and are not a burden.

Brittany Lambert presented the board with results of a survey about students wearing masks because of COVID-19. She said 75 percent of respondents favor relaxation of mask mandates.

“All teachers have or could have been vaccinated and children carry little risk of spreading the virus. So why must this abuse of kids continue,” she asked.

She said information has been released on the American Federation of Teachers influencing what the Centers for Disease Control will release on new guidance specifically on the re-opening of schools.

“And you wonder why people don’t trust the science,” Lambert said. “Because science always seems to be made up of one part science, one part liberal agenda and one part politics.”

“It should be left to every person to take their personal health as their personal responsibility and stop waiting for the government’s permission to get back to normal,” she added.

One speaker said he believes the No. 1 concern of the school board is the betterment of children. He said that was the same for those in the audience.

He added that while the board is responsible to the state board of education, it is also responsible to the people of Pulaski County.

“This is a conservative county. The morals of Pulaski County

are very different from those coming out of Richmond. I, for one, get angry when people in Richmond or D.C. try to push ungodly morals down our throats,” he said, adding he hopes that when decisions need to be made, the board considers they represent a very conservative Pulaski County.

Another doctoral candidate at Tech noted that transgender students pose no risk to other students.

She was followed by Dr. Scott Hall, a former Pulaski County teacher who is now a family medicine physician. Hall said the COVID-19 virus measures 5 microns in diameter. He said, however, “the pores (openings) on this mask you’re required to wear measure 20 microns” – easily large enough for the COVID virus to get through.

Hall asked what the school board plans to do to help transgender students with their gender dysphoria get the counseling they need.

“I don’t want to see these children hurt,” he said.

Marcus Weaver-Hightower, a professor of education at Virginia Tech, told the board, “Some people who are born into a body that matches the one we feel inside sometimes find it very hard to understand that being transgender is not something one chooses.

“Transgender individuals deeply feel they are a gender that does not match their body. I can hardly imagine how alarming that could be,” he said.

One speaker noted how some transgender boys compete against biological girls and break records and knock the girls out of sports scholarships.

“That’s not fair. It’s pandering to minority groups while making everyone else suffer,” he said.

Hurst asked the speaker if that had happened in Pulaski County and the man acknowledged it had not.

“Neither was the last speaker (from Pulaski County),” someone in the crowd shouted.

Robinson District school board representative Dr. Paige Cash responded to the speaker.

“We don’t know what the guidance will be when it finally gets to us from the Virginia School Board Association (VSBA). I’ve taken notes, Ms. (Penny) Golden (Ingles District) has taken notes. I’ve got four pages. We’re listening to everything. We’re going to try and make something work when it comes to us that is acceptable to everybody. Don’t make the assumption that because we sit up here we’re not listening,” Cash said.

Ashley Bowman noted she is a member of the school system’s equity committee.

“In four years of coming to school board meetings, I’ve never seen this many people attend,” she said, noting her dismay at people attacking the school board. She added that mask mandates had been handed down to the schools by the state. “They (local school officials) don’t have a choice.”

Bowman said Critical Race Theory has never been discussed by the equity team. “CRT has never been discussed. Not talked about. It’s not in the [equity] plan. The plan is solid. We’re not villains here.

“We’re trying to make sure all students feel valued. That they feel like they have an equal and level playing field.

“If you want to make a difference, come to school board meetings. The board would welcome that,” Bowman said.

Gina Paine told the board she had learned she was being referred to lately as a “member of a faith-based anti-equity movement.”

“I hear you showed a video of me at your meeting yesterday (Monday) – one of me speaking at my church. I thank you that you find me so important,” Paine said, noting that the school system’s equity plan is “full speed ahead ... based on the meeting yesterday.”

Paine said Siers had mentioned in February that \$20,000 to \$40,000 would be spent on teacher training programs concerning the equity agenda. Paine asked Siers what organization would be hired to conduct the training.

Siers responded, “Equity Collaborative.”

Paine asked if Siers was familiar with Equity Collaborative and was Loudoun County Schools consulted during the search for an organization to hire.

“We know they have done some work in Loudoun County,” Siers responded.

Paine responded that publicly available information on Equity Collaborative shows their model for training teachers includes the Critical Race Theory model.

“Have we signed a contract with Equity Collaborative to train our teachers,” Paine asked.

Siers said training of school administrators had begun with Equity Collaborative.

“Have we entered into a contract,” Paine pressed.

“Yes, we have,” Siers responded.

Siers responded, “Absolutely,” when asked by Paine if he would be willing to provide the public with the contract if they asked for it.

“I heard in your opening statement that nowhere is Critical Race Theory included, yet you’re hiring an outfit to train our teachers...”

Siers interjected, “Nowhere in the curriculum.”

“But teachers will be trained in Critical Race Theory,” Paine stated.

Siers said, “No.”

“The training we’ve been doing is based more on adaptive leadership,” he said. “There has been no mention of Critical Race Theory in anything we have done. To date we have worked on listening skills, understanding how to provide respect as a listener. How to provide feedback as a listener. No discussion of Critical Race Theory.

“The contract is to do training with administrators and each school’s equity team. At this point there is no plan to do training with all of our teachers, although that is a requirement next year by the General Assembly and Department of Education, but no decisions have been made on who will provide that training or what it will consist of,” Siers said.

Paine urged the audience to look up Equity Collaborative online. “They were hired by Loudoun County Schools and introduced Critical Race Theory into their training.”

Paine told Siers he had indicated in February that the school system’s equity plan would “allow 20 percent control of literature

and teaching materials by your hand-picked equity teams for the schools. Are you willing to release to parents a list of the literature they choose for each school, and will students be allowed to opt out?”

Siers responded, “Yes.”

“Schools are in the process of doing their audits currently so there has been no materials purchased with school funds toward that end. But certainly, we will provide a list of whatever is purchased. You just have to do a FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) request at the time that information is available,” Siers explained.

Paine asked if he would publicly release the list rather than require a FOIA request, possibly on Board Docs, and Siers said he could do that.

“Will children be allowed to opt out of the reading materials that are chosen,” Paine asked again.

“I can’t answer that until we know what those materials are and how the teachers plan to utilize them,” Siers responded.

Paine then told Hurst that on previous occasions when she and Billy Williams had addressed the board, some people who spoke after them had referred to them as “racist and transphobic” for questioning the equity plan. She described the speakers as being members of the equity advisory team.

“Were these advisory team members tasked with acting as the board’s public enforcement team,” Paine asked.

“Absolutely not,” Hurst responded.

“In the fall when the plan is in place and we have students who push back on it, will they be maligned in their classrooms,” Paine asked.

“No,” Hurst responded.

“Can you give me assurance of that,” Paine asked.

“Will you give us assurance that you will say the truth when you speak in front of your congregation at church,” Hurst responded.

“Yes,” Paine shot back.

“Everybody is an individual and you can’t guarantee what one person will or will not say,” Hurst responded. “So, no, I can’t guarantee that.”

Paine asked Massie District representative Becki Cox to define what equity means.

Cox replied it involves giving support to individuals so they can succeed in education. Equality, she noted, means giving everyone the same thing.

“It’s not all about the color of someone’s skin,” Cox exclaimed.

“Was it not called a Racial and Social Equity Plan,” Paine responded.

“And the board sent it back for more-inclusive wording,” Cox said.

Paine asked Siers if there had been a statement placed on the school system’s website “condemning the community as systemically racist?”

“There was no condemnation

of the community, but there was an admission that there had been practices that were systemically racist that have impacted education for generations in Pulaski County,” Siers said.

“You had specific instances that led you to make that statement,” she asked Siers.

“Yes,” he responded. “They were covered in the presentation when all that [equity plan] was presented. Pulaski County has a long history of legal issues during segregation of not providing an equal education and lost a court case pertaining to that when Frank Critzer was superintendent and had to take steps to correct that. Things that occurred here through generations are still reverberating through public education in Pulaski County.”

Cox relayed a personal story about her son who has Down Syndrome and how he did not receive the extra help from the school system to help him read.

“That’s the kind of equity that we want to give our students,” Cox said.

“I understand that,” responded Paine. “No one disagrees with that. We know through Individual Education Plans (IEPs), which there are many, resources are being expended on children where it’s needed. None of us have a problem with that.

“You (school board and Siers) interjected an agenda here that started out on a foundation of racial equity. You’re hiring an outfit that utilizes Critical Race Theory’s model. And for you to say anything else is just deceiving,” Paine charged.

One speaker said everyone is talking about how much help transgender students need, “but my child doesn’t have help,” she said, noting her son’s need for a para to assist him.

“If we’re going to make sure everyone has an even playing field, EVERYONE will have an even playing field,” she stressed.

Another speaker who fosters transgender children and is new to the area said the level of hate for transgenders here is “just amazing ... very disheartening.”

Pat Catron, a former teacher and counselor in Pulaski County took exception with the suicide rates mentioned by a previous speaker.

She said the rates mentioned apply to transgenders when they get older and realize they have made a mistake.

“They realize that I’ve filled my body with hormones, I’ve mutilated my genitalia, and here I am 21 or 22. What do I do now? You can’t go back,” Catron said.

“Parents send children to school to be educated, not indoctrinated,” she added.

“When I was chair of the social studies department, we always made sure when teaching government that we not let children know if we were Democrats or Republicans. We would have been fired. That word came down from the school board office. You do not indoctrinate children in politics,” she said.

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Pulaski Co. Schools honor School Lunch Heroes

By DANIELLE REID
The Patriot

Heroes come in all shapes and sizes, but some are more recognizable than others. We all applaud when we see the first responder, the fire-fighter, or the medic show up on the disaster scene.

According to Ethelene W. Sadler, Director of Pulaski County Public Schools Nutrition Program, "We have a team of superheroes here in our community who have been working behind the scenes in our School Nutrition Program to ensure that all students received healthy breakfast and lunch meals during and following the pandemic."

Sadler wants to put the spotlight on these 43 School Lunch Heroes and let everyone know what an outstanding job they did under extremely difficult circumstances, long hours, and challenging distribution issues. "They were on the front lines of this from the first day meal distribution began," she said.

"On March 13, 2020, everything about School Nutrition changed, with the closure of schools because of the pandemic," explained Sadler. "The collaboration and support in Pulaski County Public Schools with School Nutrition was extraordinary. The focus was on providing meals for students when they were all learning remotely."

Almost instantly, Sadler and the School Nutrition team had to come up with a plan on how to prepare, package and distribute meals for the students who were no longer attending classes at the schools. They had to develop a remote meal distribution plan in a manner that was never tried and never tested. Sadler elaborated on the challenges. "The transition wasn't easy to go from serving meals to packaging everything and distributing at various sites throughout the district," she said.

"I was so proud of everybody to change direction and make it happen. We had to develop a plan for how to get the meals to students, where to park the school bus-

ses where the community could pick up their students' meals. We worked with the Operations Department to coordinate bus routes and take the meals from various school sites where they were being prepared and locate where to park in specific districts. Students were to receive a packet of five breakfast and five lunch meals each week.

"I met with the School Nutrition management team on a Saturday. We were thinking all the time about what was working and how we were going to tweak it. Although the initial plans went through a couple of reorganizing efforts, eventually things started going a lot smoother," Sadler recalls.

"The effort became less of a huge task and more of a mission. There was a collective determination to do everything possible to nourish the students in our district. It's kind of miraculous to me when I look back and see everything we accomplished."

"We had so many hands-on deck - administrators, faculty, grounds keepers, custodial crew, so many people stepping up to help. They didn't worry about getting paid. All they wanted was to make sure we could get the students fed."

Sadler says it was like a "recipe made from scratch" with creativity, determination and people with a heart for students as the key ingredients that made the program successful.

"One huge takeaway for me is seeing people come together in this emergency situation. Every School Nutrition team member goes to work at one specific location at their school. We figured we had to tweak this thing, consolidate and reschedule people to send them to an unfamiliar work environment. It was refreshing just seeing people develop good working relationships while working tirelessly to get all these children fed. It was an amazing collaboration and partnership. It really warms my heart to think about the participation between Pulaski County School personnel and parents to

See HEROES, page A9



Pulaski County High School - L-R: Sheila Stodder, SN Manager; Tara Porter, Carolyn Burke, Kaye O'Dell, Michelle Wright: Asst Manager; Loretta Nester, Hallie Willhoite, Tracy McGrady and Mary Parnell.



Dublin Elementary - Left to right: Teresa Wright - Asst Manager; Kaitlyn Morris, Melissa Hylton, April Goble - SN Manager; Jane Moore.



Critzer Elementary - Pictured: left to right: Connie Slaughter - Asst Mgr.; Lorara Jones - SN Manager; Tina Shelton, Kathy Archer and Ashley Hubbard.



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Thank you to all our First Responders and Front Line Workers.



Burcham on President's List at Bob Jones

GREENVILLE, SC (05/12/2021)-- Rose Burcham, a Sophomore English major from Pulaski, was among approximately 665 Bob Jones University students named to the Spring 2021 President's List.

The President's List recognizes students who earn a 3.75 or higher grade point average for the semester.

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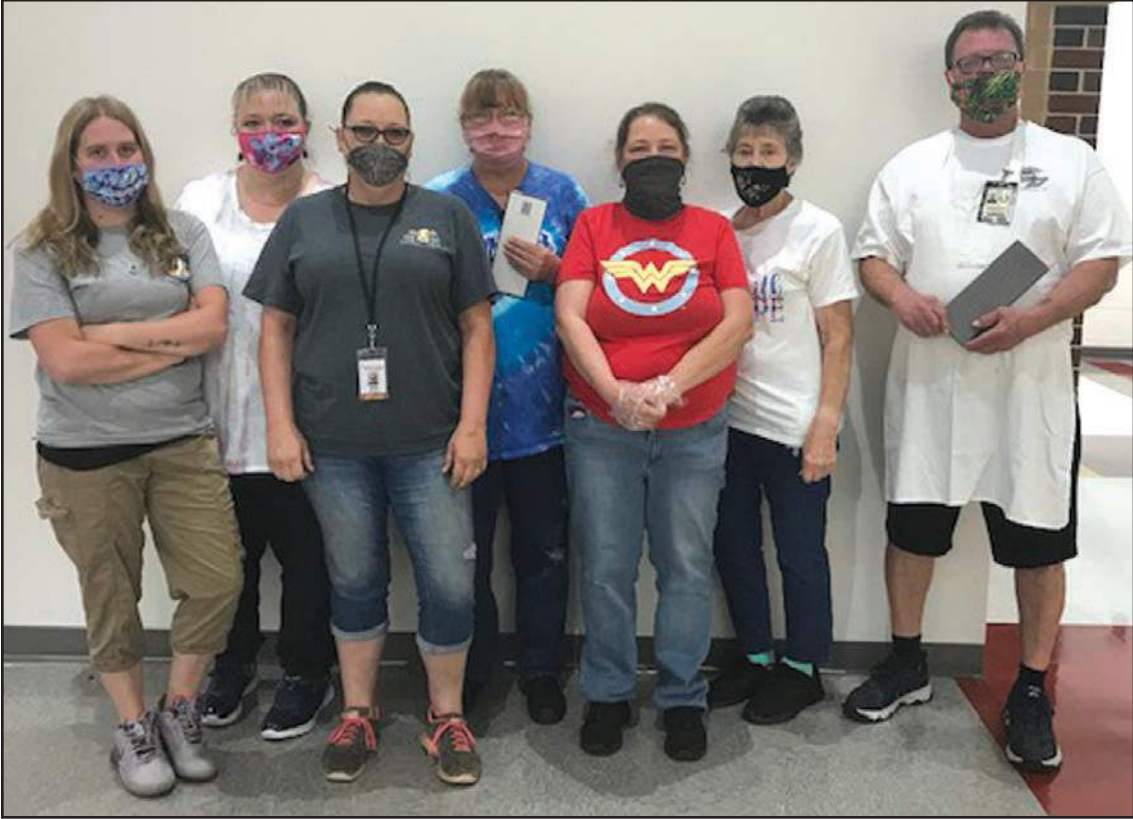
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Riverlawn Elementary - L-R - Connie J. Owens -SN Manager; Sheila Hamblin, Tammy Kolarich - Asst Mgr.; Betty Robertson and Destiny Adkins.



Pulaski Elementary; L-R Kimberly Secrist: SN Manager; Kathleen Hall, Rebekah Farris, Joyce Wagner, Kelsey King and Bridget Tolbert.



Pulaski County Middle - L-R -Jessica Worrell, Elaine East - SN Manager; Deena Shaffer, Brenda Stephens, Janet Petty, Brenda Gravley and Robert Hedge.

A Mother’s Love

A mother’s love is here to stay,
As she goes along her journey
day by day,
Whether right or wrong she is
always there.
Because of her concern and
care,
It makes no difference what you
may do,
The love for her child is always
true.
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food from her table,
She will go the last mile as long
as she is able.
The patience of a mother is long
and she forgives,
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lives.
Thoughts for her children are
each and every day,
Take care of them Lord as she
kneels and pray.
Love your mother because she is
you best friend,
Standing by you until the very
end.
So remember there is no other,
Can take the place of a mother.

Written by
Naomi Davidson,
Pulaski

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Snowville Elementary - L-R - Olivia Fizer - SN Manager; Judy Thornton, Rebecca Dalton and not pictured - Lisa Price.

Heroes

Continued from Page A8

get their students fed.”

People all the sudden realized how important School Nutrition people are in a school division. Positive comments were coming in and they didn’t hear any complaints. People were just grateful for all their efforts.

The remote School Lunch program ran from March 18, 2020 to the first week in August 2020. But in September 2020, the School Lunch Heroes kicked it right back up and used the same model to ensure that students would receive their breakfast and lunches. Since Pulaski County students returned to school at 100 percent the week of March 15, 2021, the Pulaski County School Lunch Heroes continue to ensure all students have access to breakfast and lunch every school day, including students who continue to learn remotely.

Sadler says that coordinating the school lunch program is still

very challenging because everything has to be packaged and different models are being used for different schools; but serving meals is still their priority. “Our staff continues to be flexible to get the meals out the way they have to do it by packaging and delivering rather than serving through the line. For example, the high school uses complete delivery to pods and the Career and Education building. Meals for virtual students are delivered on Wednesdays at Dublin United Methodist Church and at Snowville Elementary School.”

School Lunch Hero Day was celebrated on May 7th to honor the tireless work of Pulaski County School Nutrition employees and provides an opportunity for parents, students, school staff and communities to thank those who provide healthy meals for our students each school day.



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Father Harry Winter's new book

The following article was submitted by Father Harry Winter who has recently published a new book on Governor John Floyd of Thorn Spring. Fr. Winter and local historian Jim Glanville spent many years researching the Floyd and Lewis Families and their influence on politics, women's empowerment, and religious freedom. Unfortunately, our beloved friend Jim Glanville passed away unexpectedly in November of 2019. Father Harry completed the book to honor Jim's work and passion for the regional history of our area. Copies of the book are available at Wilderness Road Regional Museum.

Jim Glanville and Harry Winter on Gov. John Floyd Jr.

Could Virginia's Gov. John Floyd (1783-1837), his wife Letitia Preston Floyd (1779-1852) and their children be as important for the United States as President John Adams, his wife Abigail and their children were? The late Dr. Jim Glanville's work in this area was both preceded by and followed up by Father Harry Winter, and published in May 2021: Cloud of Witnesses: the Floyd Lewis Chronicles: The Growth



Fabric of Old Fincastle A Southwest Virginia History Series

of Catholicism and Its Impact Beyond the Appalachian Region.

Both Glanville and Winter are intrigued that the Floyd's converted to Catholicism at a time when it was a very minority and even ridiculed religion, as one son, Benjamin Rush Floyd discovered when he ran for public office. His rebuttal is worthy of President John F. Kennedy.

Your own Cloud of Witnesses

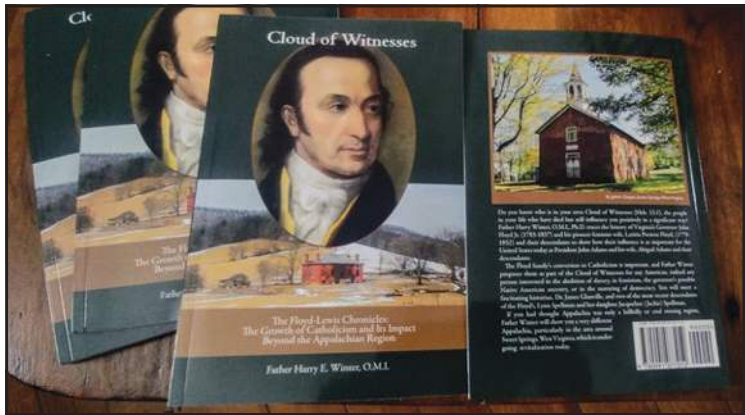
(from the New Testament Letter to the Hebrews, 12:1) may include the Floyd family, by the time you have finished the book.

Gov. Floyd was both a frontiersman and a Tidewater gentleman. He was probably the first Congressman to be of Native American descent.

Glanville discovered previously unpublished letters of Letitia, and agrees with Winter that she



Dr. Jim Glanville and Fr. Harry Winter on a visit to Wilderness Road Regional Museum on one of their research trips. April Martin from the museum and Patty Manthe of the Alleghany Chapter of the D.A.R. joined them on a visit to the location of Governor Floyd's Thorn Spring home not too far from Newbern. The home is no longer extant.



Father Harry Winter's new book

was a pioneer feminist. He also furnishes the link between the Floyd's and American Revolutionary hero Dr. Benjamin Rush, M.D. of Pennsylvania.

From Smithfield Plantation, the birthplace of Letitia, to Thorn Spring, near Newbern, to Sweet Springs, WV, the Floyd's and Lewis' certainly knew Virginia and the Mid-Atlantic States. But their interest extended to the Oregon Country, Kentucky, Wisconsin and Georgia too.

The resort "Old Sweet," in Sweet Springs, WV is thoroughly presented. Daughter Letitia Floyd Lewis settled there. In its

day it rivaled the Greenbrier, in nearby White Sulphur Springs. Fr. Winter describes its influence on the many Northerners who visited to meet Southern leaders. It is currently being restored.

The Nat Turner Rebellion of 1831 occurred during the governor's term of office. Even after the rebellion, John Floyd stated: I will not rest until slavery is abolished in Virginia.

Jim Glanville was no stranger to the area once called Fincastle County; his website holstonia.org has many intriguing articles he wrote about its importance.

New Service from the Library The Pulaski County Public Library

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Lowry

Continued from Page A6

their free-speech rights getting trampled, about schools distorting the minds of their children, and about the country's history getting redefined -- and it's hard to get them to care more about a balance sheet than these other, more definitional questions.

None of this means that Biden has a free hand. He will presumably be less successful in getting all that he wants with his latest two roughly \$2 trillion spending bills. Even in a permissive environment, natural political exhaustion with the high levels of spending will kick in, and it's always more complicated when tax increases are proposed to pay for at least part of the bill.

Republicans aren't going back to their debt-obsession circa 2010, but they should aspire to be, if not the party of green eye-

shades, the party of fiscal sanity.

Deficit spending hasn't led to damaging outcomes to this point, although that doesn't mean it never will. If interest rates do ever markedly increase again, the level of debt will strain the economy and force unpalatable choices on policymakers of steep tax increases or spending cuts or both. The status of the U.S. dollar as the world's reserve currency could be threatened.

Why increase these risks if it's not strictly necessary?

That question won't bring people into the streets, yet it's one that President Biden and his supporters can't persuasively answer.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



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Brady vs. Prescott kicks off NFL season

(AP) - The NFL is returning to London in October and Tom Brady begins his pursuit of an eighth Super Bowl title against Dak Prescott and the Dallas Cowboys when Tampa Bay hosts the league's annual kickoff game on Sept. 9.

The first game in London since the coronavirus pandemic will be played on Oct. 10 as the Atlanta Falcons face the New York Jets. A week later, the Jacksonville Jaguars meet the Miami Dolphins. Both games will be played at the stadium of Premier League soccer team Tottenham. The Falcons and the Jaguars will be the home teams.

The NFL's first 17-game season opens on the same field where the Buccaneers defeated the Chiefs to become the first team to win a Super Bowl at home. It'll be Prescott's first game since sustaining a gruesome ankle injury last October.

Brady returns to New England to face Bill Belichick and the Patriots in a Sunday night game on Oct. 3.

Other highlights from opening weekend include Matthew Stafford playing his first game for the Los Angeles Rams on Sunday night against the Chicago Bears with SoFi Stadium welcoming fans for the first time.

Most teams are expected to be at full capacity following a season played before limited crowds because of COVID-19.

"We are excited our fans get to experience a couple of home prime-time games and our players certainly feed off the fans' energy," Titans coach Mike Vrabel said. "We will be opening at home for the first time since I became head coach and I am happy our fans will be there to kick off the season with us."

Reigning AFC champion Kansas City hosts the Cleveland Browns in a playoff rematch in Week 1. The Chiefs eliminated the Browns in the divisional round last season despite losing Patrick Mahomes to a concussion.

"Every year stands on its own merit. For us, the focus is on the 2021 season," Browns coach Kevin Stefanski said. "Now, I realize that last game last year ended in Kansas City, so that certainly is something we have to learn from. It will truly be a matchup that is unique to 2021. The game won't start in the fifth quarter from last year's game."

Two other matchups feature playoff teams facing off in their first game. The Pittsburgh Steelers, who lost to Cleveland in the

See NFL, page B4



Kyle Larson, driver of the #5 HendrickCars.com Throwback Chevrolet, Austin Dillon, driver of the #3 Bass Pro Shops Chevrolet, and Chris Buescher, driver of the #17 Fifth Third Bank Ford, race during the NASCAR Cup Series Goodyear 400 at Darlington Raceway on May 09, 2021 in Darlington, South Carolina. (Photo by Sean Gardner/Getty Images)

MONSTER MILE Monster of a good time ahead for NASCAR at Dover

From NASCAR

Next up on the 2021 NASCAR Cup Series schedule is Dover International Speedway and Sunday's Drydene 400 (2 p.m. ET on FS1, MRN and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio) the 13th race of the season.

Aptly named the Monster Mile, Dover International Speedway is a 1-mile concrete paved oval located in Dover Delaware. Dover International Speedway, originally known as Dover Downs International Speedway, has hosted 102 NASCAR Cup Series races dating back to the inaugural event on July 6, 1969. The first Dover race was won by NASCAR Hall of Famer Richard Petty driving a Petty Enterprises Ford (115.772 mph, 02:35:28). Petty actually won the first two Cup events at the track (1969, 1970).

In total, the 102 NASCAR Cup Series races at Dover have produced 42 different pole winners and 38 different race winners. NASCAR Hall of Famer David Pearson leads the series in poles at Dover with six (1969, 1973 sweep, 1974, 1975, 1981). Ryan Newman (2003, 2005, 2006, 2007) and Denny Hamlin (2012, 2013, 2015, 2019) lead all active series drivers in poles at Dover with four poles each. Recently retired driver, Jimmie Johnson holds the series record for the most wins at Dover with 11 victories (2002 sweep, 2005 Playoffs, 2009 sweep, 2010 Playoffs, Spring of 2012, 2013 Playoffs, Spring of 2014, Spring of 2015, and Spring of 2017).

Of the 38 different NASCAR Cup Series winners at Dover International Speedway, nine are active this weekend. Four drivers

are tied for the most wins among active drivers at Dover – Kevin Harvick, Martin Truex Jr., Kyle Busch, and Ryan Newman – each have three wins.

This weekend's Drydene 400 race will be 400 laps (400 miles) and will be broken up into three stages. The first two stages will be 120 laps each and the final stage will be 160 laps. Since the inception of Stage racing in the Cup Series in 2017, six different drivers have won at least one stage at Dover, led by Kevin Harvick with six stage wins; followed by Martin Truex Jr. with four, Denny Hamlin with three and Brad Keselowski, Joey Logano and Kyle Larson each have one. Hamlin and Harvick swept both stages en route to their wins last season at Dover.

Sunday's Drydene 400 will set the starting lineup by Metric Qualifying and as a result Joe Gibbs Racing teammates Martin Truex Jr. (pole) and Denny Hamlin (second) will start on the front row. Hamlin should feel quite fortuitous starting in the second position this weekend, as it is the most proficient starting position in the field producing (20) the most wins of any starting position – winning percentage 19.61%. And it's the same starting position he won from last season.

Standings leader Denny Hamlin winless through first dozen races of the year

Joe Gibbs Racing's Denny Hamlin has become the first driver standings leader in the NASCAR Cup Series Playoff Era (2004-2021) to compete in the first 12 races of a season and not win a race.

Hamlin, the defending winner of this weekend's race at Dover International Speedway, is hoping to end his winless streak that has reached 17 events (dating back to Talladega on Oct. 4, 2020) and etch his name on the 2021 wins list.

Though Hamlin has yet to win this season, he has been very consistent putting up nine top-five finishes in 12 starts. He currently holds a 75-point lead in the NASCAR Cup Series driver standings on his Joe Gibbs Racing teammate Martin Truex Jr. in second.

Last season, Denny Hamlin put on a dominating performance at Dover leading a race-high 115 laps, winning both stages and grabbing his first career Monster Mile win. Hamlin has made 30 series starts at Dover collecting four poles, one win, six top fives and 13 top 10s.

If Hamlin happens to remain winless for the rest of the regular season, he will become the first NASCAR Cup Series driver standings points leader to make the postseason without a win.

Playoff Bubble: Points so tight a tiebreaker is needed along Playoff outline

Twelve races into the NASCAR Cup Series regular season and the points around Playoff outline are mighty close. So close, the NASCAR Cup Series needed a tiebreaker to decide who's in and who's out following Darlington.

When the checkered flag flew at Darlington Raceway last Sunday, Richard Childress Racing's Tyler Reddick and Wood Brothers Rac-

See NASCAR, page B4

NASCAR lifting mask mandates in garage, pits

(AP) - NASCAR has lifted its mask mandate for competitors when outdoors in the garage and pit areas starting this weekend at Dover International Speedway.

Masks will still be required when competitors are inside any buildings or team haulers, NASCAR said Thursday.

NASCAR says its focus is on encouraging everyone to get vaccinated and preventing indoor spread of COVID-19.

NASCAR last weekend had a soft re-opening of the garage area and allowed 350 fully vaccinated sponsors and guests into the competition footprint at Darlington Raceway. It was a trial run to set policy moving forward. The garage is closed at Dover this weekend but will be open to 550 sponsors and guests at Circuit of the Americas in Texas next week.

NASCAR is not requiring its competitors be vaccinated, only guests and media who enter the garage area.

Ga. Tech to allow full capacity for football

(AP) - Georgia Tech will allow full capacity at 55,000-seat Bobby Dodd Stadium and on-campus tailgating for the 2021 football season.

Georgia Tech joins baseball's Atlanta Braves, the NFL's Atlanta Falcons and Major League Soccer's Atlanta United in announcing the return to 100% capacity at their respective facilities.

Athletic director Todd Stansbury cited increased vaccinations, declining COVID-19 rates and updated guidance from health officials for the change. Georgia Tech allowed about 20% capacity and banned on-campus tailgating during the 2020 season. Stansbury says there's confidence in being able to maintain a safe environment while bringing back the full college football game-day experience.

The Yellow Jackets are set to play six games at Bobby Dodd Stadium this fall, beginning with the Sept. 4 season opener against Northern Illinois. They also will host North Carolina at nearby Mercedes-Benz Stadium as part of a new multi-year arrangement to play one game each season at the 75,000-seat home of the Falcons.

PCHS, hospital providing physicals

Pulaski County High School, in conjunction with LewisGale Hospital Pulaski, will again be providing sports physicals to Pulaski County Public School students who will be enrolled in the 6th through 12th grades during the 2021-2022 school year.

The physicals will take place at PCHS in the Career and Technical Education Building on Wednesday, May 26 beginning at 3:00 pm.

The cost will be \$10 dollars and students should arrive with their Virginia High School League physical form completed and signed by both student AND parent/guardian.

Physical forms are available in the front offices of PCHS or PCMS, or can be printed at vhsf.org.

In an attempt to expedite this process, the start time for current PCHS students is 3:00 pm. Current middle school students should arrive no earlier than 4:00 pm to prevent overcrowding.

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Large set of barn/garage doors.

Yard Sales

Multi-Family Yard Sale: Friday, May 14 and Saturday, May 15 at 2617 Old Baltimore Road, outside Painters Woods in Draper.

Looking for someone in the Pulaski or Dublin areas willing to share a yard sale. Call 553-6754.

Yard Sale: Friday, May 14 and Saturday, May 15, 8 a.m. to ? each day. At 1316 Hopkins Drive, Pulaski.

Huge Multi-Family Yard Sale Friday & Saturday, May 14 & 15 8am to ?? 5837 Jewell Ave, Dublin
 Huge yard sale!!! Furniture, antique cedar wardrobe with mirrored doors, household, home decor, toys, books, excellent clothing for toddlers, boys, girls, men and women...and so much more.

Yard Sale: Friday, May 21 and Saturday, May 22, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. at Warriors for Christ II, 600 Skyline Circle, Pulaski. Hotdogs with homemade chili and cole slaw, bake sale. Everyone is welcome. God Bless You!

Yard Sale: Family yard and garage sale, Friday, May 14 and Saturday, May 15 from 8 a.m. until ? at 6274 Stone Ridge Drive, Dublin. Lots of boys clothes 2T to 14-15, porch seat and cushion, lots of men's things including tools, ladies plus-size clothes, a food processor and more.

Huge Estate Sale: 529 N. Jefferson Avenue, Pulaski. May 14-15, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Everything must go!

GARAGE SALE- multi-family May 14th and 15th, 8am-4pm, 4624 Shelburne Rd., Radford (Snowville). Big selection. Household and decorative items, furniture, collectables, accessories, kids and adult clothing, playpen, crib, infant and kids toys, bikes, & much more!!!

Yard Sale: Newbern United Methodist Church will hold a yard sale Friday and Saturday, May 14 and 15 (rain or shine) from 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

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Pulaski High School Yearbooks. 1930-1954. \$10 each. Call 540-320-6676.

For Sale: Antique silver set. \$200. Call 674-0147.

For Sale: Pokemon cards for sale. Price negotiable. Local seller. Call 440-752-0639.

For Sale: Couch. \$75. Call 674-0147.

For Sale: Table with four stools for \$300. Call 674-0147.

For Sale: Two loads of firewood for sale. \$90. Call 250-4872.

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Waters Galore

I heard a quote some time back that 70% of the Earth's surface is water-covered (statistically it is 71%). Since this column is about Woods, Water and Wildlife, I thought I would give some interesting facts that I gathered from several sources about a few of the of the streams and bodies of water around the world.

Beginning in our State of VA, the New River that is one of the few rivers that flows North (the most other notably is the Nile that will touch on later). It has Claytor Lake, a 4363 – acre impoundment reservoir of 21 miles through Pulaski County. It has great fishing and boating; you can catch anything from bass to carp. It is dwarfed by Smith Mountain that has around 500 miles of shore line and great fishing and boating as well. Kerr Reservoir or Buggs Island Lake of 50,000 acres tops both of these altogether.

“Go west” as Horse Greeley said, and you come to the five Great Lakes with Superior the largest of them. It has great fishing and is like the other four; great for shipping as the mighty Mississippi does to the South and is not as long in length as the Missouri (about 100 miles longer) and is a tributary to the “Missisip.”

The Amazon of South America discharges into the Atlantic a discharge rate that is 20% of the fresh waters that empty into the earth's seas. It is believed from some studies to actually be longer than the Nile. The Nile flows North (as noted earlier) and Lake Victoria is the chief reservoir to it along with other African river tributaries along its northward journey to the Mediterranean. Lake Victoria is 209 miles in length and covers 26,564 square miles in area.

Finally, and not getting into the major oceans of the world, let us look at the Caspian Sea. It has features of both a lake and a



Woods, Water & Wildlife

W.A. "Doc" Davis

sea and is the largest inland body of water in the world, (143,244 square miles). It can be perceived as a sea because of its saltiness and large size. The sea drains internally and some to evaporation. It borders on the countries of Russia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan. It has about 850 animal species and over 500 plant life in and about its waters.

Our beautiful earth is a great thing to behold and how it functions with the great benefits of water. I have always been amazed how most streams, rivers etc. flow into oceans; the winds carry the water vapors back into the atmosphere to begin the hydrologic of rain, snow etc. all over again. This points to a Divine Creator and one of many verses that attest to this is explained by Proverbs 30: 4KJV, “Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? Who hath gathered the wind in his fists? Who hath bound the waters in a garment? Who hath established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell?” The answer is Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Son of man, who came and died for the sins of the world; before his Incarnation had made everything in the universe as seen in John 1:3KJV, “All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made.” Do You Know Him? You can today.

Until next time

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE

Pursuant to provisions of Title 15.2 Section 2506 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors has ordered the publication of the following budgetary synopsis for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. It should be noted that the revenue and expenditure estimates contained herein are tentative and are calculated for financial planning purposes. Eventual adoption of the budget outlined below will not necessarily constitute an appropriation of the governing body.

| REVENUE PROJECTIONS | | | |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Budget FY 20-21 | Proposed Budget FY 21-22 | Difference Increase (Decrease) |
| GENERAL FUND: | | | |
| <u>Revenue from Local Sources</u> | | | |
| General Property Taxes: | | | |
| Real Estate Taxes | \$ 20,152,731 | \$ 22,299,529 | \$ 2,146,798 |
| Public Service Corp. Property Taxes | 1,100,000 | 1,200,000 | 100,000 |
| Personal Property & Mobile Homes & Airplane Taxes | 5,811,020 | 6,185,500 | 374,480 |
| Machinery & Tools | 3,950,000 | 4,326,000 | 376,000 |
| Penalties/Interest | 560,185 | 530,000 | (30,185) |
| TOTAL GENERAL PROPERTY TAXES | \$ 31,573,936 | \$ 34,541,029 | \$ 2,967,093 |
| <u>Other Local Revenue:</u> | | | |
| Local Sales Tax | \$ 3,170,000 | \$ 4,500,000 | \$ 1,330,000 |
| Consumer Utility Tax | 722,960 | 689,000 | (33,960) |
| Motor License Vehicle Tax | 550,000 | 575,000 | 25,000 |
| Transient Occupancy Tax | 300,000 | 320,000 | 20,000 |
| Meals Tax | 1,130,000 | 1,400,000 | 270,000 |
| BPOL Tax | 792,200 | 700,000 | (92,200) |
| License, Bank, Recordation Taxes | 259,700 | 256,000 | (3,700) |
| Permits, Fees & Licenses | 186,947 | 182,500 | (4,447) |
| Fines | 276,750 | 269,500 | (7,250) |
| Revenue Use of Money & Property | 468,700 | 300,000 | (168,700) |
| Charges for Services | 1,608,434 | 1,447,720 | (160,714) |
| Expenditure Refunds & Miscellaneous | 307,530 | 315,350 | 7,820 |
| Recovered Costs | 1,271,174 | 1,491,714 | 220,540 |
| TOTAL OTHER LOCAL SOURCES | \$ 11,044,395 | \$ 12,446,784 | \$ 1,402,389 |
| <u>Revenue from Commonwealth</u> | | | |
| Non-Categorical Aid | \$ 2,507,529 | \$ 2,449,529 | \$ (58,000) |
| Shared Expenses | 3,409,751 | 3,567,385 | 157,634 |
| Other Categorical Aid | 1,447,297 | 1,487,124 | 39,827 |
| TOTAL REVENUE FROM COMMONWEALTH | \$ 7,364,577 | \$ 7,504,038 | \$ 139,461 |
| <u>Revenue from the Federal Government</u> | | | |
| Non-Categorical Aid | \$ 50,000 | \$ 50,000 | \$ - |
| Other Federal Revenues | 29,904 | 16,904 | (13,000) |
| TOTAL REVENUE FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT | \$ 79,904 | \$ 66,904 | \$ (13,000) |
| <u>Other Financing Sources</u> | <u>\$ -</u> | <u>\$ -</u> | <u>\$ -</u> |
| Transfer from Other Funds | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Transfer from Reserves | 500,000 | - | (500,000) |
| TOTAL TRANSFERS | \$ 500,000 | \$ - | \$ (500,000) |
| TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE | \$ 50,562,812 | \$ 54,558,755 | \$ 3,995,943 |
| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND: | | | |
| Revenue from the Commonwealth | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Revenue from the Federal Government | - | - | - |
| Transfer from General Fund | 2,128,000 | 3,033,435 | 905,435 |
| Transfer from Tornado Relief Fund | - | - | - |
| Transfer from Reserves | - | - | - |
| TOTAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND | \$ 2,128,000 | \$ 3,033,435 | \$ 905,435 |
| COUNTY DEBT SERVICE FUND | | | |
| Transfer from General Fund | \$ 166,110 | \$ 164,698 | \$ (1,412) |
| TOTAL COUNTY DEBT SERVICE FUND | \$ 166,110 | \$ 164,698 | \$ (1,412) |
| SCHOOL DEBT SERVICE FUND | | | |
| Transfer from General Fund | \$ 6,006,520 | \$ 5,521,326 | \$ (485,194) |
| TOTAL SCHOOL DEBT SERVICE FUND | \$ 6,006,520 | \$ 5,521,326 | \$ (485,194) |
| INTERNAL SERVICE FUND CHARGES | | | |
| Revenue Use of Money & Property | \$ 32,808 | \$ 27,392 | \$ (5,416) |
| Charges for Services & Other Local- Revenues | 2,204,630 | 2,343,449 | 138,819 |
| Miscellaneous Revenues | 61,824 | 30,912 | (30,912) |
| Transfer from General Fund | 505,146 | 560,090 | 54,944 |
| TOTAL INTERNAL SERVICE FUND REVENUE | \$ 2,804,408 | \$ 2,961,843 | \$ 157,435 |
| ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FUND | | | |
| Revenue Use of Money & Property | \$ 997,815 | \$ 1,350,942 | \$ 353,127 |
| Charges for Services | 8,000 | 8,000 | - |
| Expenditure Refunds & Miscellaneous | - | - | - |
| Recovered Costs | 5,019,606 | 4,552,797 | (466,809) |
| Transfer from Reserves | - | - | - |
| TOTAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FUND | \$ 6,025,421 | \$ 5,911,739 | \$ (113,682) |
| SCHOOL, SCHOOL CAFETERIA, SCHOOL CAPITAL AND GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FUNDS: | | | |
| Charges for Services & Other Local- Revenues | \$ 1,485,037 | \$ 1,647,575 | \$ 162,538 |
| Revenue from Commonwealth | 28,905,285 | 30,017,858 | 1,112,573 |
| Revenue from Federal Government | 7,393,205 | 10,791,119 | 3,397,914 |
| Transfer from General Fund (School Operating Fund) | 15,702,454 | 16,015,454 | 313,000 |
| TOTAL SCHOOL FUNDS REVENUE | \$ 53,485,981 | \$ 58,472,006 | \$ 4,986,025 |
| DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES FUND | | | |
| Revenue from Commonwealth | \$ 2,669,395 | \$ 2,899,208 | \$ 229,813 |
| Revenue from Federal Government | 3,345,965 | 3,348,087 | 2,122 |
| Transfer from General Fund | 1,014,640 | 782,705 | (231,935) |
| TOTAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES FUND | \$ 7,030,000 | \$ 7,030,000 | \$ - |
| COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES ACT FUND | | | |
| Revenue from Commonwealth | \$ 2,830,800 | \$ 2,830,800 | \$ - |
| Transfer from General Fund | 1,169,200 | 1,169,200 | - |
| TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES ACT FUND | \$ 4,000,000 | \$ 4,000,000 | \$ - |
| TOTAL REVENUE ALL FUNDS | \$ 132,209,252 | \$ 141,653,802 | \$ 9,444,550 |

| EXPENDITURE SUMMARY | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Original Budget FY 20-21 | Proposed Budget FY 21-22 | Difference Increase (Decrease) |
| GENERAL FUND: | | | |
| Legislative | \$ 196,481 | \$ 188,804 | \$ (7,677) |
| General and Financial Administration | 3,026,753 | 3,159,334 | 132,581 |
| Judicial Administration | 2,083,201 | 2,183,705 | 100,504 |
| Law Enforcement & Public Safety | 5,873,866 | 6,469,790 | 595,924 |
| Fire & Rescue | 2,300,310 | 3,116,687 | 816,377 |
| Corrections & Detention | 3,015,101 | 2,925,235 | (89,866) |
| Inspection & Other Public Safety | 868,181 | 919,304 | 51,123 |
| Public Works and General Properties | 2,171,907 | 2,543,697 | 371,790 |
| Health and Human Services | 1,093,493 | 1,100,728 | 7,235 |
| Higher Education | 216,467 | 216,079 | (388) |
| Parks, Recreation and Cultural | 1,646,716 | 1,762,650 | 115,934 |
| Community Development | 1,199,862 | 1,154,834 | (45,028) |
| Non-departmental | 178,404 | 1,571,000 | 1,392,596 |
| Transfer to School Funds | 15,702,454 | 16,015,454 | 313,000 |
| Transfer to Social Services Fund | 1,014,640 | 782,705 | (231,935) |
| Transfer to Comprehensive Services Fund | 1,169,200 | 1,169,200 | - |
| Transfer to Capital Outlay | 2,128,000 | 3,033,435 | 905,435 |
| Transfer to Debt Service Fund | 166,110 | 164,698 | (1,412) |
| Transfer to School Debt Service Fund | 6,006,520 | 5,521,326 | (485,194) |
| Transfer to Internal Service Fund | 505,146 | 560,090 | 54,944 |
| TOTAL GENERAL FUND | \$ 50,562,812 | \$ 54,558,755 | \$ 3,995,943 |
| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND | \$ 2,128,000 | \$ 3,033,435 | \$ 905,435 |
| COUNTY DEBT SERVICE FUND | \$ 166,110 | \$ 164,698 | \$ (1,412) |
| SCHOOL DEBT SERVICE FUND | \$ 6,006,520 | \$ 5,521,326 | \$ (485,194) |
| INTERNAL SERVICE FUND | \$ 2,804,408 | \$ 2,961,843 | \$ 157,435 |
| ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FUND | \$ 6,025,421 | \$ 5,911,739 | \$ (113,682) |
| SCHOOL, SCHOOL CAFETERIA, SCHOOL CAPITAL AND GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FUNDS: | | | |
| | \$ 53,485,981 | \$ 58,472,006 | 4,986,025 |
| DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES FUND | \$ 7,030,000 | \$ 7,030,000 | \$ - |
| COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES ACT FUND | \$ 4,000,000 | \$ 4,000,000 | \$ - |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES ALL FUNDS | \$ 132,209,252 | \$ 141,653,802 | \$ 9,444,550 |

PROPERTY TAX RATES FOR FY 2021-2022:

Tangible Personal Property - \$2.35 per hundred dollars of assessed valuation (No change from prior year)
Machinery & Tool - \$1.50 per hundred dollars of assessed valuation (No change from prior year)
Real Estate & Mobile Homes - \$0.74 per hundred dollars of assessed valuation (Change from \$ 0.77 per hundred in prior year)

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held on the proposed budget at 7:00 p.m., Monday, May 24, 2021, at the County Administration Building Board Room, 143 Third Street NW, Pulaski, Virginia. Complete copies of the budget are available for public inspection at the Office of the County Administrator, 143 Third Street, NW, Pulaski, Virginia. Telephone inquiries may be directed to (540) 980-7705. Comments may be e-mailed to bos@pulaskicounty.org

For disabled individuals who may require special auxiliary aids or services, reasonable accommodations will be made available by the County upon request. Please contact the County's ADA Compliance Officer at (540) 980-7705 or (540) 980-7800 (TDD accessible), as soon as possible prior to the hearing/meeting to arrange for these special accommodations.

Restaurants face new challenges at brink of full reopening

By Christina Amano Dolan
Capital News Service

RICHMOND, Va. -- Virginia restaurants will soon be able to host more patrons, but establishments may not be able to accommodate more guests due to a shortage in workers.

Restaurants and drinking establishments will be able to seat up to 100 patrons indoors and a maximum of 250 guests outdoors starting May 15, Gov. Ralph Northam recently announced.

Eric Terry, president of the Virginia Restaurant, Lodging & Travel Association, estimated around 100 Richmond restaurants closed last year, but said there have been minimal closures this year. Many restaurants are likely nearing 80% of their pre-pandemic revenue levels, according to Terry.

NASCAR

Continued from Page B1

ing's Matt DiBenedetto ended up tied in points (268 points each) along the Playoff outline in 16th and 17th, respectively. Reddick currently holds the tiebreaker of best finish with a runner-up back at Homestead-Miami Speedway compared to DiBenedetto's best finish this season of fourth at Kansas Speedway.

Now the series turns its attention to Dover International Speedway, the halfway point of the regular season, and teams need to start considering a win might be their only option to make the postseason. With 13 races to go and several big names left without a win, time and Play-

While full recovery for the industry is underway, Terry said the biggest revenue factor for restaurants is a restricted labor force.

"I was on the phone yesterday with two restaurant operators who said they are having to close two days a week because they can't get enough staff," Terry said.

The new limit will double the number of indoor guests allowed as of April 1. Restaurants may return to selling alcohol past midnight and dining room closures between midnight and 5 a.m. will no longer be required.

Northam announced last week that all restrictions will be lifted on June 15 if the number of new COVID-19 cases remains low and COVID-19 vaccinations rise. On Monday, the state reported the lowest number of COVID-19 cases in a year.

"I'm optimistic that we will be

off spot availability are conspiring against the competitors still looking to seal their position in the Playoffs.

2017 NASCAR Cup Series champion Martin Truex Jr. added to his 2021 season wins total last weekend at Darlington Raceway getting his third victory of the year. Heading to Dover this weekend, 10 drivers have locked themselves into the Playoffs on wins, leaving one spot secured for the driver standings points leader (currently Denny Hamlin) and five additional spots up for grabs by virtue of a win or points position.

able to take more steps in June," Northam recently said.

However, if seating capacity is extended fully in June, restaurants with limited staff will not be able to accommodate that many people, Terry said.

"Unless we can get more folks to come back to work, it's going to be tough," Terry said. "The extended unemployment, child care issues and other things have made it very difficult to get people back into the industry."

Michael Nelson, manager of The Sidewalk Cafe in Richmond, said restaurants around the city struggled to find enough workers after losing valuable staff. Bartenders, cooks and others moved away from the industry and changed professions when the pandemic hit, Nelson said.

The Virginia accommodation and food services industry lost almost 60,000 workers from March 2020 to March 2021, according to the latest data from the Virginia Employment Commission (a 17% job loss). The figures are seasonally adjusted, meaning they account for seasonal fluctuations in the labor market.

Northam's executive orders closed indoor dining areas in 2020 from late March to at least early June, though Richmond and Northern Virginia waited an additional two weeks before moving into phase two. Many restaurants voluntarily closed for extended periods.

"Even when the governor says you're able to have full capacity, I can see a lot of restaurants not going back to that because they just don't have the staff," Nelson said.

NFL

Continued from Page B1

wild-card round, visit the Buffalo Bills, who reached the AFC title game.

Carson Wentz and the Indianapolis Colts host Russell Wilson and the Seattle Seahawks. In Philadelphia, Wentz was 0-4 against Wilson.

The Las Vegas Raiders host the Baltimore Ravens in the first Monday night game. The Green Bay Packers open the season with or without Aaron Rodgers at New Orleans minus the retired Drew

Jeremy Barber, owner of three Alexandria-based restaurants, said that while staffing challenges are temporary, restaurants may hesitate to fully open indoor seating.

"I think that people are still going to be more comfortable dining outside," Barber said. "Even people that I've talked to that are vaccinated and have eaten in restaurants still say they have an eerie feeling when they are dining indoors."

Barber believes it will take time for the restaurant industry to fully recover.

"Restaurateurs as well as guests need to work together to adapt to the new dining out," Barber said. "It'll be a true sign at the end of the summer to see how things are really progressing."

More than 35% of Virginians

are fully vaccinated as of Tuesday, according to the Virginia Department of Health. Over 47% the state's population has received at least one dose.

More than 6.8 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been administered in the state, according to VDH.

"I hope that we're on the brink of getting over this thing," Barber said. "But I think as a business owner, it's our responsibility to plan for the worst and hope for the best."

Capital News Service is a program of Virginia Commonwealth University's Robertson School of Media and Culture. Students in the program provide state government coverage for a variety of media outlets in Virginia.

House GOP urge suspension of gas tax amid soaring prices

By Tyler Arnold

(The Center Square) – Virginia House Republicans are urging Gov. Ralph Northam to temporarily suspend the gas tax amid soaring prices.

Gas prices went up nationally after a software attack on the Colonial Pipeline. In Virginia, the average price of a gallon of gasoline increased to about \$2.87, but surpassed \$3 in Arlington County and Rockbridge County. The cost is nearing \$3 per gallon in several localities, including Fairfax County, the city of Fairfax, the city of Richmond, Highland

County and Bath County.

House Minority Leader Todd Gilbert, R-Shenandoah, issued a joint statement with Del. Jason Miyares, R-Virginia Beach, urging the governor to suspend the tax on gasoline to reduce the impact on consumers. Miyares is also the Republican nominee for the 2021 attorney general race.

"There are still far too many families struggling to make ends meet, and too many small businesses barely keeping the doors open right now," the joint statement read.



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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF DUBLIN FY 2021-2022 BUDGET

The Dublin Town Council will hold a public hearing regarding the proposed budget for fiscal year 2021-2022 at its regular meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. on May 20, 2021 in the Council Chambers at the Dublin Town Center, 101 Dublin Park Road, Dublin, Virginia. Attendance and comment by the public is welcome. The Dublin Town Council will then convene for approval of a budget for fiscal year 2021-2022 at 7:00 p.m. on June 17, 2021 at the Dublin Town Center, 101 Dublin Park Road, Dublin, Virginia.

The following is a synopsis of the proposed budget and is published for informational and fiscal planning purposes only:

| General Fund | 2021/2022 |
|---|--------------------|
| Revenue: | |
| Real Estate & Personal Property Taxes | \$ 354,440 |
| Other Local Taxes | \$ 393,000 |
| Licenses and Permits | \$ 63,000 |
| Fines | \$ 14,688 |
| State Revenue | \$ 844,967 |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | \$ 246,120 |
| Total General Fund Revenue | \$ 1,916,215 |
| Expenditures: | |
| General Administrative | \$ 193,931 |
| Police | \$ 425,729 |
| VDOT Street Dept Eligible | \$ 656,000 |
| Street Dept In-Eligible | \$ 9,000 |
| Fire Marshal | \$ 9,977 |
| Fire | \$ 92,838 |
| Street Department | \$ - |
| Street Lighting | \$ - |
| REMSI, Inc. | \$ 6,800 |
| Recreation Department | \$ 2,500 |
| Capital Outlay | \$ 49,200 |
| Debt Service | \$ 82,440 |
| Nondepartmental | \$ 307,800 |
| General Fund Balance | \$ 50,000 |
| General Fund Cash Flow Reserves | \$ 30,000 |
| Total General Fund Expenditures | \$ 1,916,215 |
| Enterprise Fund | |
| Revenue: | |
| Water Sales | \$ 1,702,054 |
| Sewer Fees | \$ 573,000 |
| Solid Waste Collection/Disposal Fees | \$ 260,000 |
| Dublin Industrial Park | \$ 586,437 |
| Total Enterprise Fund Revenues | \$ 3,121,491 |
| Expenditures: | |
| Water Department | \$ 1,355,916 |
| Sewer Department | \$ 344,000 |
| Nondepartmental | \$ 303,490 |
| Capital Outlay | \$ 245,660 |
| Solid Waste Collection/Disposal | \$ 123,662 |
| Dublin Industrial Park | \$ 491,955 |
| Debt Service | \$ 186,808 |
| Enterprise Unrestrictive Reserves | \$ 70,000 |
| Total Enterprise Fund Expenditures | \$ 3,121,491 |
| Total Budget-Revenue & Expenditures for both Funds | \$5,037,706 |

All persons desiring to comment on the proposed budget 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.

Copies of the proposed ordinance are available for review in the Dublin Town Treasurer's Office.

Brees.

Jaguars fans have to wait until the second game to see No. 1 overall pick Trevor Lawrence in person. Jacksonville opens at Houston and hosts Denver in Week 2.

Detroit, Dallas and New Orleans host games on Thanksgiving Day. The Lions face the Bears in the first game. The Cowboys play the Raiders in the second one. The Bills visit the Saints in the prime-time matchup.

Four teams play on Christmas. Baker Mayfield and the Browns go to Green Bay and the Colts visit Kyler Murray and the Arizona Cardinals.

The Bills visit the Chiefs in a rematch of the AFC championship game on Sunday night Oct. 10. A potential Rodgers-Mahomes showdown is set for Week 9 in Kansas City.

Ten teams are scheduled for a league-high five prime-time games: Ravens, Cowboys, Packers, Rams, Steelers, Seahawks, Chiefs, Saints, 49ers and Buccaneers.

The 17th game, which was added in the new CBA last year, features teams from opposing conferences that finished in the same place within their respective divisions at the end of the previous season. AFC teams have the extra home game this year.

"One of the tremendous benefits of each team playing 17 regular-season games is the ability for us to bring more games to more fans," NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said. "The CBA with the players and the recently complet-

ed media agreements provide the foundation for us to continue to grow our game around the world."

The regular season concludes on Jan. 9, 2022, featuring all divisional games for the 12th consecutive season. Super Bowl 56 is on Feb. 13, 2022, in Los Angeles.

The Pro Bowl will be played a week earlier at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas.

Some scheduling notes:

- The Browns play the Ravens twice in a three-week span with Cleveland's bye sandwiched in between.
- The Eagles don't have to take a plane trip after Week 10 because they have four home games, a bye, and train rides for three road games against the Giants, Jets and Washington.
- The Raiders have back-to-back road games only once in Weeks 14-15 at Kansas City and Cleveland.
- The Titans have five consecutive games against playoff teams from Oct. 18 to Nov. 14. Their eight games against 2020 playoff teams sets a franchise high since the team became the Titans in 1999.
- Lawrence and Zach Wilson, the top two picks in this year's draft, are scheduled to meet in Week 16 when the Jaguars visit the Jets. If both players start, it'll be the fourth game in NFL history between rookie starting quarterbacks selected first and second overall.
- Fifteen games are rematches of Super Bowls.

Owner: Isaiah Tuck



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Deadline Extended for Leading Lights NRV Volunteer Awards

NRV Leading Lights has recently announced an extended deadline for receiving submissions for this year's Volunteer Award nominations from across the New River Valley. The new deadline to submit nominations is June 15. The nomination form is only online at <http://leadinglightsnr.org/nominations>.

The organization also announced that a special new category of nominations will be received this year, COVID-19 Heroes, a category designed to honor grassroots groups and organizations that have specifically stepped up to serve the New River Valley in response to the pandemic. Nominees in this category are intended to recognize the collective group and not one individual person.

Those who have been nominated before but not selected as a Distinguished Recipient may be nominated again. Individuals and organizations are highly encouraged to submit nominations for outstanding New River Valley volunteers they know or volunteer with. Administrators, teachers, guidance counselors, club sponsors, and youth mentors are asked to nominate young people for the high school and college awards. Groups and organizations cannot be nominated for awards.

Leading Lights nominees are typically engaged in diverse volunteer activities across the New River Valley. Collectively they spend thousands of hours over their lifetimes volunteering with clothing banks, rescue and disaster relief teams, as youth mentors, managing holiday programs, overseeing weekend 'food backpack' programs, helping at local food kitchens, serving with civ-

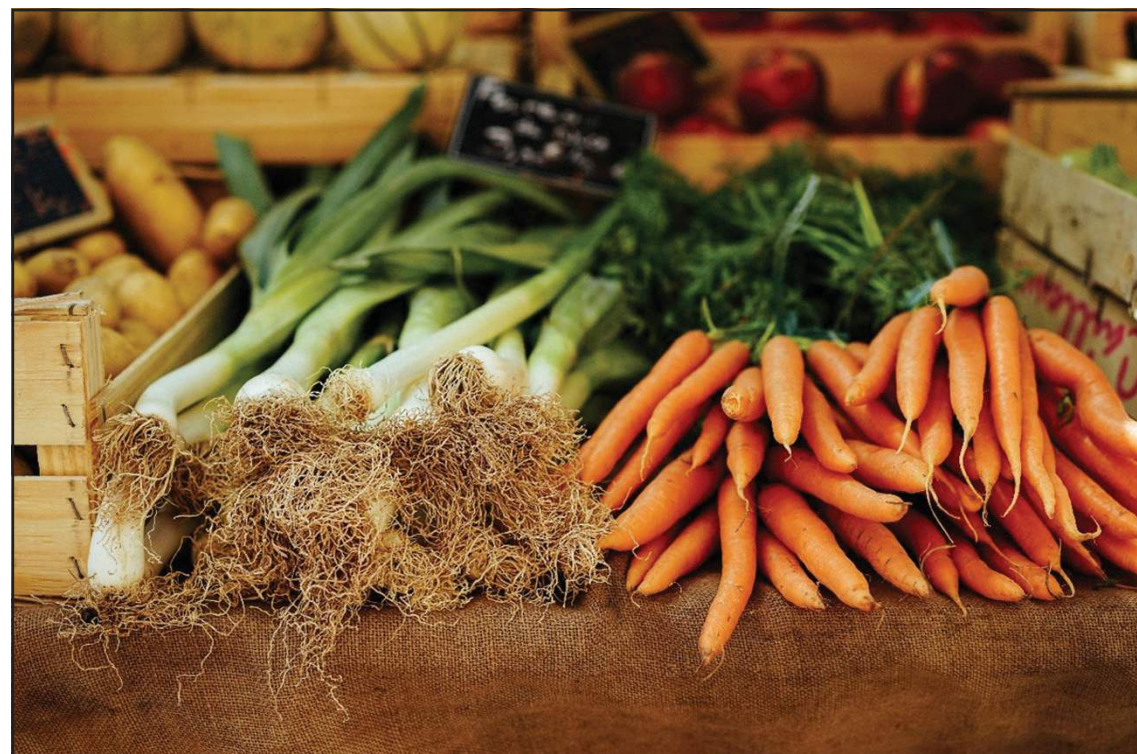
ic groups, community building, and volunteering with more than a hundred other noble local charitable activities and programs. Leading Lights is focused on the impact of a volunteer's work and leadership.

Awards are given in three categories: community (seven awards), high school (two awards), and college (two awards). In the community award category, there is an award reserved for a volunteer in each county/city of the New River Valley (Floyd County, Giles County, Pulaski County, Radford City), and two in Montgomery County (due to population size), and one across the whole NRV to recognize Lifetime Volunteer Achievement. Nominees must be current residents of the New River Valley or if being nominated for a student category, they must be currently enrolled in a school/college in the New River Valley. Distinguished Recipients in each category will be selected on the following criteria:

- Strong community involvement
- Demonstrated lifestyle of dedicated, continuous, long-term involvement to the community
- Proven leadership
- Creativity in initiating and implementing projects that lead to a better quality of life

Due to the challenges of COVID-19, this event will be virtual for 2021, and the chosen charities of each Distinguished Recipient will be highlighted in the produced video.

Call (540) 230-0815, email leadinglightsnr@gmail.com, or visit www.leadinglightsnr.org for more information or if assistance is needed.



Three tips for saving money at the next farmers market

By Anne Brooks and Rachel Burks, Virginia Cooperative Extension's Family Nutrition Program

Many people recognize the benefits of shopping at farmers markets: customers can purchase fresh, high quality foods while supporting hard-working local farmers and the local economy. Unfortunately, farmers markets have a reputation for being expensive. We're here to debunk this myth! With these key strategies, farmers market abundance can fit into any budget.

1. Double Your Dollars with your EBT or P-EBT Card

Many farmers markets participate in the Virginia Fresh Match Program. This program allows shoppers using SNAP benefits to DOUBLE their dollars. This means that if you spend \$10 with your EBT or P-EBT card at a participating farmers market, you'll get another \$10 to spend. This program can only be used to purchase fruits and vegetables as well as food-producing plants. You can find a partici-

pating farmers market near you by visiting vfm.leapforlocal-food.org/locations.

2. Browse Before Buying

It can be tempting to purchase the first pint of strawberries you see, but consider walking through the entire farmers market once before buying. Quality and prices can vary greatly from stand to stand at the farmers market. When you arrive at the market, spend a few minutes browsing, and pay attention to the quality and prices of the items at each stand. Then, use these observations to make decisions about what to purchase.

3. Ask About Discounts

Some farmers are willing to sell misshapen or slightly bruised produce at a discounted rate, particularly towards the end of the day. By purchasing these "imperfect" foods, you will not only be saving yourself money, but also reducing food waste. Certain items may also be less expensive when purchased in bulk, so make sure to ask about discounts for purchasing larger amounts of

an item. Any leftover produce from your bulk purchase can be frozen, canned, or incorporated into baked goods for later consumption.

For more tips and healthy, affordable recipes, visit www.eatsmartmovemoreva.org.

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; M. Ray McKinnie, Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg.

PULSE

June 12 Boating Safety Class at Claytor Lake State Park

The Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources will be holding a free in person boating safety class on Saturday, June 12, 2021 from 8:00 AM till 5:00 PM at Claytor Lake State Park in the Waters Edge Building. This course fulfills the state ed-

ucation requirement for all personal watercraft and motorboats with 10 or more horsepower. Registration is required and can be found at <https://www.register-ed.com/events/view/167760>. Spots are limited.

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.



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PET OF THE WEEK



SATURDAY, MAY 29, 2021
8 AM – 2 PM
Yard Sale

This yard sale is to raise money for the spay/neuter clinic. The clinic is located within the shelter and will provide low-cost vaccines and spay/neuter surgeries for the community.

If you have items you'd like to donate for the yard sale, please bring them by the shelter or call 674-8359 for more information.

Location: 80 Dublin Park Rd, Dublin, VA 24084

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

Pulaski County Animal Control,
80 Dublin Park Rd.
Dublin, VA 24084, 540-674-8359

Pet of the Week
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Home



Seagle Funeral Home
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540-980-1700

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Church Directory

Worship Each Week In The Church Of Your Choice



Teach Me Your Word O Lord

Terry McCraw

Evangelistic Message

Many are walking around today, under the shadow of death, and making NO preparations for the next life. And they’re not aware of what a tremendous and dangerous gamble they are making. The eternal soul is too important and too valuable to gamble with. God is the ONE who gives them their next heart-beat. God is the ONE Who gives them their next Breath. God is the ONE who determines how many more days, hours, minutes and seconds; that they will have left to live in this life. We could be called out of this life at any moment and have to stand before Him in the judgment, in whatever spiritual condition we are in, at the time. “As it is appointed unto man, once to die, and after this, the judgment.” (Hebrews 9:27)

There is no such thing as purgatory. There is no such thing as re-incarnation. This trip that we are making through the life that God has given us, is a onetime trip. And it’s what we do with the man called Jesus that will determine our eternal destination.

We can lengthen or shorten our days by the choices we make. Proverbs 10:27 says, “The fear of the LORD prolongeth days: but the years of the wicked shall be shortened.”

Many are cutting their days short by living ungodly lives. Achan cut his life short by taking the accursed things out of the judged city of Jericho. Sampson cut his days short by running after ungodly heathen women. He laid his head in the lap of the devil once too often, and it ended up costing him, his hair, his power with God, his eyes, his freedom, and finally his life. Ananias and Sapphira cut their lives short when they lied to the Holy Ghost about the price of the land they sold and pledged to give the whole price of the land to the Church. Both of them dropped dead at the feet of Peter for lying to the Holy Ghost.

Procrastination sends more souls to hell than almost anything else. Procrastination is a fancy word that means the avoidance of doing a task which needs to be accomplished. It means to put something off until a later time. “Don’t put off till tomorrow what you can do today.” Thomas Jefferson.

One man said, “I know that I’m a procrastinator, and I plan to fix that. I’ll do it tomorrow.”

Many attend a Church Service and they feel the calling of God upon their lives to come to an altar of repentance and be saved, but their response to that urging is: “Not now. Tomorrow will do. It’ll be the same as today.” If a person dies in an unsaved condition, they’re going to have eternal regrets. They’ll be saying, as they find themselves suffering the pangs of Hell, “If I’d only accepted Jesus, when I had the opportunity, I wouldn’t be in this horrible place with no way out.”

Proverbs 27:1 says, “Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.” The bible says, “Our lives are like a vapor, here today and gone tomorrow.”

In the obituaries we find the names of both the young and old. And the truth is, we never know when our lives are going to end. So we really need to make preparation now, for our eternal future.

Hey! If I wasn’t already saved, I’d get saved today. Tomorrow may just be everlastingly too late. Do it now because sometime later

See MCCRAW, page B7

Draper Valley Baptist Church

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

Grace Baptist Church

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

Open Door Baptist Church

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

Draper United Methodist Church

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

Newbern Christian Church

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

Christ Episcopal Church

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

Jordan's Chapel UMC

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

Cecil's Chapel United Methodist Church

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

Newbern United Methodist Church

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

Valley Harvest Ministries

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

Mountain View United Methodist Church

6648 Wilderness Road
Dublin, VA 24084
Phone: 540-674-6111
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

Dublin Baptist Church
100 Hawkins StreetDublin, VA 24084
540-674-6061
secretary@dublinbaptistva.org
Website: dublinbaptistva.org
Pastor: Dennis Jones
Morning Worship: 11 a.m.
Wednesday, Adult Bible Study Streamed on Facebook: 7 p.m.

First United Methodist Church

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

Belspring Baptist Church

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

Memorial Baptist Church

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

River of Life Church

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

Delton Church of God of Prophecy

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

Heritage Church

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

Fairlawn Baptist

6758 Oxford Avenue
Fairlawn, VA 24141

First Missionary Baptist Church

7318 Manns Drive / P.O. Box 90
New River, Virginia 24129
(540) 639-5331
email: fmbc1872@verizon.net
Pastor: Rev. Richard A. Goodman, Sr.
Associate Minister:
Rev. Annette Cheek
Clerk: Mrs. Carlotta Lewis
Sundays:
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
The Lord's Supper - Each First Sunday
Wednesdays: Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Dublin United Methodist Church

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

Freedom Fellowship Church

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

Draper's Valley Presbyterian (PCA)

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

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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Owner, Licensed Optician

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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 Worship - 10 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 B6
becomes never.
“For he saith, I have heard thee
in a time accepted, and in the
day of salvation have I succoured
thee: behold, NOW is the day of
salvation. NOW is the accepted
time.” (2 Cor. 6:2) Not tomorrow,
but TODAY.

“Seek ye the Lord while he may
be found, call ye upon him while
he is near: Let the wicked forsake
his way, and the unrighteous man
his thoughts: and let him return
unto the Lord, and he will have
mercy upon him; and to our God,
for he will abundantly pardon.” (I-
saiah 55: 6, 7)

The decisions we make today
about our souls, will determine
where we are going to spend
eternity. The choices we make
will have a substantial effect on
the choices that our children will
make. Children emulate their
parents. Like father like son.. Like
mother like daughter. If you live
like the devil, chances are, they
will too. We need to set a good
example before our children by
serving the Lord ourselves, and by
making sure that they are trained
up to know the importance of
living for God, so they’ll not end
up being eternally lost.

Every person needs to make
their calling and election sure be-
fore it’s too late. If a person leaves
this life in an unsaved condition,
they’re going to find themselves in
a forlorn place, of stygian dark-
ness, experiencing the horrors of
eternal torment in a devil’s hell.

The best time to come to God
to be saved is when God is calling.
For when God is calling; when
God is giving the invitation; that
means you can come and be saved.

“Procrastination is the bad habit
of putting off until the day after
tomorrow what should have been
done the day before yesterday.”
Napoleon Hill.

If people only knew about the
joys of salvation, everyone would
be saved. We never truly live until
we live for Jesus.

Bible Trivia

1. Is the book of Joppa in the Old or New Testament or nei-ther?
2. What businesswoman from Thyatira opened her home to Paul and saints after her conver-sion? Rachel, Keturah, Lydia, Shiphrah
3. Jesus said, “For where your treasure is, there will your ____ be also”? Love, Heart, Faith, Friends
4. From 2 Samuel 18, whose hair became tangled in a tere-binth tree? Samson, Herod, Ab-salom, Joab
5. On the outskirts of what city did Jesus meet Zacchaeus? Smyrna, Tarsus, Jericho, Antioch
6. From 2 Samuel 14, what was the name of Absalom’s daughter? Ruth, Tamar, Miriam, Sarah

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Lydia; 3) Heart (Matthew 6:21, Luke 12:34); 4) Absalom; 5) Jericho; 6) Tamar

Comments? More Trivia? Gift ideas? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com

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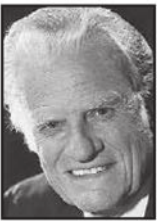
Bible gives us principles that will guide our lives

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham
Q: I serve in the military and was saved at an evangelistic meeting on base. My faith is in Jesus now and I read the Bible and try to treat others well. But I have to admit that I have a hard time giving up my friends who believe differently, and I stay in turmoil about giving in to peer pressure. What is the solution? - F.O.

A: Following Christ and growing strong is exercising the freedom to trust in Him and obey His commands. When a soldier

submits to the authority of his or her commanding officer, he or she obeys what that officer tells him or her to do. If a patient sub-mits to a doctor’s treatment, he or she follows the instructions. If a football player submits to the direction of his coach, he abides by the coach’s plan. When we submit ourselves to the Savior, we obey what He tells us to do because we know His way is right.

How many problems could be avoided if God’s people would obey His Word? The Bible gives us principles that will guide



My Answer

Billy Graham

our lives. God’s Word isn’t to be debated or dissected; it is to be done. “I have kept my feet from every evil path so that I might obey your word” (Psalm 119:101, NIV).

God also leads by His Holy Spirit. Sometimes we struggle

to know what is right. Many times, it’s because we don’t want to give up something we know we should walk away from. But through prayer, asking God to give us strength, He will enable us to make the hard decisions, and we find that the joy of obey-ing Christ fills the void.

When we take a stand for Christ, we may be forsaken by friends, but we must never com-promise our faith for the sake of friendship with the world. The Bible tells us that we should influence others toward God (Jeremiah 15:19).

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

R.F.D.

by Mike Marland

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

POPEYE

Popeye comic strip panel 2. Popeye is sitting in a green armchair. A young boy is standing next to him. Popeye says: 'I JES CAINT UNNERSTAN' THET SON O' MINE!' The boy says: 'WOTS HE DONE NOW?' Popeye says: 'IT'S TH' SAME OL' THING!'

Popeye comic strip panel 3. Popeye is sitting in a green armchair. A young boy is standing next to him. Popeye says: '...IN FACT, I KNOW THE WHOLE ALPHABET.'

Popeye comic strip panel 4. Popeye is sitting in a green armchair. A young boy is standing next to him. Popeye says: 'HE'S IN LUV WIT' DAT SCRAWNY WENCH!' The boy says: 'THET'S HIS BIZNESS, NOT YERS!'

Popeye comic strip panel 5. Popeye is sitting in a green armchair. A young boy is standing next to him. Popeye says: 'HE DON'T RE'LIZE HOW BONY-THIN SHE BE!' The boy says: '"B'YOOTIE IS IN TH' EYE OF TH' B'HOLDER"' Popeye says: 'BUT IT CAUSES HIM T' PUNCH OUT INNOCENT SWABS!'

Popeye comic strip panel 6. Popeye is sitting in a green armchair. A young boy is standing next to him. Popeye says: 'WOT D'YA MEAN?'

Popeye comic strip panel 7. Popeye is sitting in a green armchair. A young boy is standing next to him. Popeye says: 'DEY EAT AT DIS RES'TRANT...' The boy says: '...AN WHIST POPEYE WUZ PAYIN' TH' CHECK...'

Popeye comic strip panel 8. Popeye is sitting in a green armchair. A young boy is standing next to him. Popeye says: '...OLIVE STOOD OFF T' DA SIDE... WHEN...'

Popeye comic strip panel 9. Popeye is sitting in a green armchair. A young boy is standing next to him. Popeye says: '"THIS SWAB WALKS IN..." AN' HANGS HIS HAT ON' ER NOSE!'

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

LAFF-A-DAY

SCRAMBLERS

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

Grimace
CLOWS
Declare
PEAKS
Avoid
WEECHS
Rule
GERNI

TODAY'S WORD

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Borscht veggie
- 5 Nourished
- 8 Great Lakes fish
- 12 Choir voice
- 13 "— been real"
- 14 Plane-related
- 15 Pear variety
- 17 Fury
- 18 Away from WSW
- 19 Mine yield
- 20 Say
- 21 Snoop
- 22 Upscale auto
- 23 Golf great Sam
- 26 Husband of Eurydice
- 30 Level
- 31 Genetic letters
- 32 Sicilian peak
- 33 New Mexico's capital
- 35 Director DeMille
- 36 "Nasty!"
- 37 Cowboy's sweetie
- 38 Brag
- 41 Gaiety
- 42 Mauna —
- 45 Pac-12 sch.
- 46 Cocktails garnished with olives
- 48 Avoid

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | | | | | 13 | | | 14 | | |
| 15 | | | | 16 | | | 17 | | | |
| 18 | | | | 19 | | | 20 | | | |
| | | 21 | | | | 22 | | | | |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | | | 26 | | | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | 31 | | | 32 | | | |
| 33 | | | 34 | | | 35 | | | | |
| | | | 36 | | | 37 | | | | |
| 38 | 39 | 40 | | | 41 | | | 42 | 43 | 44 |
| 45 | | | | | 46 | | | 47 | | |
| 48 | | | | | 49 | | | 50 | | |
| 51 | | | | | 52 | | | 53 | | |

- 49 Ostrich's kin
- 50 Sultry Horne
- 51 Male turkeys
- 52 — Moines
- 53 Retain
- 8 Sideways somersault
- 9 Miami team
- 10 Desire
- 11 Afrikaner
- 16 Byron or Tennyson
- 20 Strike caller
- 21 Devoted supporters
- 22 Bikini top
- 23 Rds.
- 24 Actress Long
- 25 Still, in verse
- 26 Small bill
- 27 List-ending abbr.
- 28 Half of bi-
- 29 Bando of baseball
- 31 "Bobby" subj.
- 34 Do something
- 35 Quitter's word
- 37 Mentors
- 38 Small statue
- 39 Twice cuatro
- 40 Grad
- 41 Notoriety
- 42 Leg joint
- 43 Aachen article
- 44 Now, on a memo
- 46 Club —
- 47 Sort

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top ten

MOST POWERFUL MILITARIES

1. United States
2. Russia
3. China
4. India
5. Japan
6. South Korea
7. France
8. United Kingdom
9. Brazil
10. Pakistan

Source: Global Firepower

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINGOFF

RECIPES

Today's Word

1. Scowl 2. Speak solution

3. Eschew 4. Reign

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: J equals F

LJ YZPBQZFC GZGEHHC WTX Y ZTG

ZJ QWBEG PLXGY, SZTHF CZT YEC

IB'Y TX-SBWG-LJLBF?

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. LAW: What is the subject matter of the Seventh Amendment to the U.S. Constitution?
2. HISTORY: What was the bloodiest single-day battle of America's Civil War?
3. MEDICAL: What is a common name for somnambulism?
4. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of British Columbia in Canada?
5. MUSIC: What was Elvis Presley's last No. 1 hit?
6. SCIENCE: Which two elements on the Periodic Table are liquid at standard room temperature?
7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president had the most children?
8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the Pritzker Prize given for?
9. LITERATURE: Which novel was the first to feature a place called King's Landing?
10. TELEVISION: Which animated TV character's favorite expression was "Hokey Smokes!?"

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Answers

1. Right of trial by jury in civil cases

2. Anticam

3. Sleepwalking

4. Victoria

5. "Suspicious Minds"

6. Mercury and bromine

7. John Tyler (15 children by two wives)

8. Lifetime achievement in architecture

9. "A Game of Thrones," the first in a series called "A Song of Ice and Fire"

10. Rocky Squirrel on "The Bullwinkle Show"

Answers

King Crossword

Americanisms

"People do not seem to realize that their opinion of the world is also a confession of their character."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

CryptoQuip

answer

If somebody totally runs out of breath mins, could you say he's un-Cert-ified?

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

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

| | | | |
|---------|---------|--------|-------|
| Bradley | Frank | Kelly | Rose |
| Charles | Gregory | Nelson | Terry |
| David | James | Norman | Tracy |
| Douglas | Joyce | Paul | |

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is **LONGFELLOW**

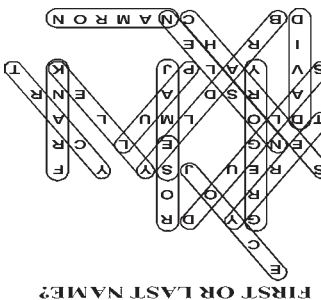
One letter stands for another. In this sample, **A** is used for the three L's, **X** for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

U K W K R N W K O U X Z J V A K N X V
U Z R U O Q R N W K O U Z I A K O , F U Z R
A C O X Z K O Z W C B K D L N U H K O A V ,
A B V K Z V K B V K X C O K J D I H V A V O Z
X C A U V Z I . — G K W V X W U A R V O V B

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I am a humanist because
I think humanity can, with
constant moral guidance,
create a reasonably decer
society. — James Michene

answer
CryptoQuote



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Puzzle Answer Appears Elsewhere In This Week's Issue

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Meredith McGrady
Office Manager



Our Story:
MERLIN CONTINUES HIS TALE – "THE SEA SPIRIT WHO BEGAN AS MY STUDENT CAME TO MASTER MY HEART..."

"... AND EVENTUALLY DREW ME AWAY FROM CAMELOT. WORLD-WEARY, I WAS HAPPY TO BECOME A KEPT MAN. WE GREW OLD TOGETHER..."



"... AND, IN THE END, HER LOVE FOR ME WAS AS GREAT AS HER MAGICKS. WITH HER DYING BREATH, SHE MADE ME IMMORTAL. HER NAME WAS NIMUE..."

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"... AND SHE BORE ME THIS DAUGHTER, MORE SPIRIT THAN HUMAN, WHO GUIDES ME AS I ROAM THE UNDERWORLD. NOW, MY YOUNG NIMUE TELLS ME IT IS TIME TO GO."

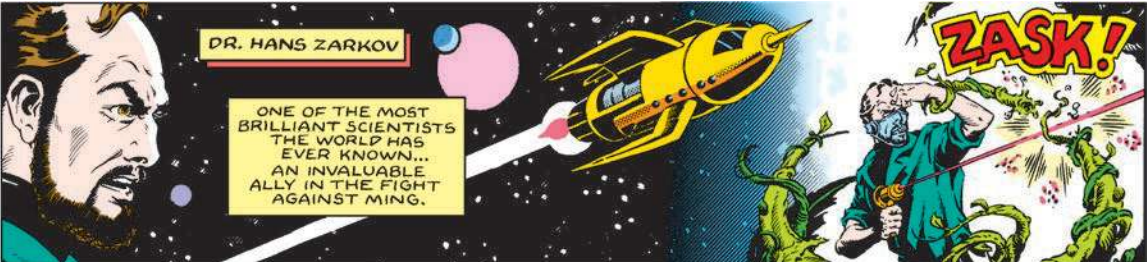


VAL SEEKS TO STAY THE MAGE, BUT A STRANGE LETHARGY POSSESSES HIM. "PLEASE," HE CROAKS FEEBLY, "WHAT OF SIR TROLLENBERG?"



"ALAS," REPLIES MERLIN, AS HE DISAPPEARS BENEATH THE SURFACE. "HE NEVER TOUCHED WATER. NIMUE COULD NOT HELP HIM. FAREWELL!"

NEXT
Prudent
advice



DR. HANS ZARKOV

ONE OF THE MOST BRILLIANT SCIENTISTS THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN... AN INVULNERABLE ALLY IN THE FIGHT AGAINST MING.



TIGER

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NRCC students partner with retired astronaut

From NRCC

When New River Community College instructor Jeff Levy was considering what project to have students in his engineering design technology program work on this year, he took a shot in the dark. He emailed someone he had never met who had no direct ties to the community and who also worked halfway across the country, retired NASA astronaut Dr. Franklin Chang Díaz, CEO of Ad Astra Rocket Company in Houston, Texas.

That email turned into a lengthy phone call. That phone call turned into a unique educational opportunity for NRCC students in Levy's class. As it turned out, Chang Díaz and his team at Ad Astra had often worked with Ph.D. program students, but typically not with first- and second-year community college students. But once he learned what Levy was interested in pursuing, he was immediately interested in helping those in Levy's program learn more about his own passion for space travel, and in turn, perhaps he could inspire that same passion in a new generation of learners.

NRCC students would certainly be working with a subject matter expert and arguably one of the best in his field. The 25-year NASA veteran served on seven NASA Space Shuttle missions, tying the record for most spaceflights. A Costa Rica native also of Chinese descent, Chang Díaz was the first Latin American immigrant selected to join the NASA Astronaut Corps. The plasma physicist and mechanical engineer is also a member of the NASA Astronaut Hall of Fame and a graduate of the University of Connecticut and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Chang Díaz and Levy formulated a plan that would allow NRCC students to work on a project to reverse engineer a prototype spacecraft bus for Ad Astra's current project, VASIMIR®, an advanced electric propulsion engine that could revolutionize logistical operations in space. For example, the engine could potentially be used to efficiently remove space junk from Earth's orbit or perform satellite servicing. These are just a few of the many missions this engine could perform due to the nature of its versatile design.

Chang Díaz's interest in working with NRCC's students was twofold; 1) to make sure his corporation is socially responsible by helping educate those with an interest in the field, and 2) to inspire students to work in the space industry.

VASIMIR® technology is the next step in the space transportation journey, and no one has built an engine like this before. Although chemical engines do currently exist and will still be necessary for our future in space, the creation of this new high-power electric engine would mean a sustainable, fuel efficient, and cost-effective solution for the problems chemical rockets cannot solve.

Chang Díaz, who began work on his project in the late 1970s, along with his team, have watched this engine transform from a concept to what it is now. Chang Díaz and the whole Ad Astra team look forward to what is in store for them in the near future, as they begin some of their final tests for TRL 5.

Levy and his students started on the Ad Astra project with Chang Díaz in August 2020, despite a pandemic that meant spending much extra time learning online via Zoom, with some limited in-person, physically distant lab work in three different lab spaces at NRCC's location in Christiansburg. Chang Díaz and his team

had created renderings and a video of the potential ship that would be powered by a VASIMR® engine, and students have been working diligently to recreate a design of that potential space or cargo ship, despite the changes and challenges in classroom versus online instruction.

"The students have adjusted well to the changes, treating the project like a real job," said Levy.

The students agree that the work is challenging but well worth it.

"Due to the current circumstances secondary to the pandemic, this past year has been challenging, and it is not an ideal situation to work on a project of this magnitude," said Mariela Farfan Ortiz, second-year NRCC student. "However, we are driven by the opportunity and have been working around the clock as a team to present a project that represents everyone's hard work."

The student capstone project is currently scheduled for completion in early May 2021. So far, 20 students—14 graduating second-year students and six second-semester students—have worked on the capstone project.

"I'm extremely impressed with what they've been able to accomplish," remarked Levy. "They're doing something that no other community college students are doing."

Students broke the project up into three work groups, each reverse engineering a different piece of the design; Group 1: Primary Mars Transport ship, the Bekou; Group 2: Space Port Assembly Facility, The Migina; and Group 3: Space Tug, The Quetzalcoatl. The groups were named in honor of Dr. Chang Díaz's heritage and different Native American tribes of North, Central, and South America, who were great astronomers in their own right.

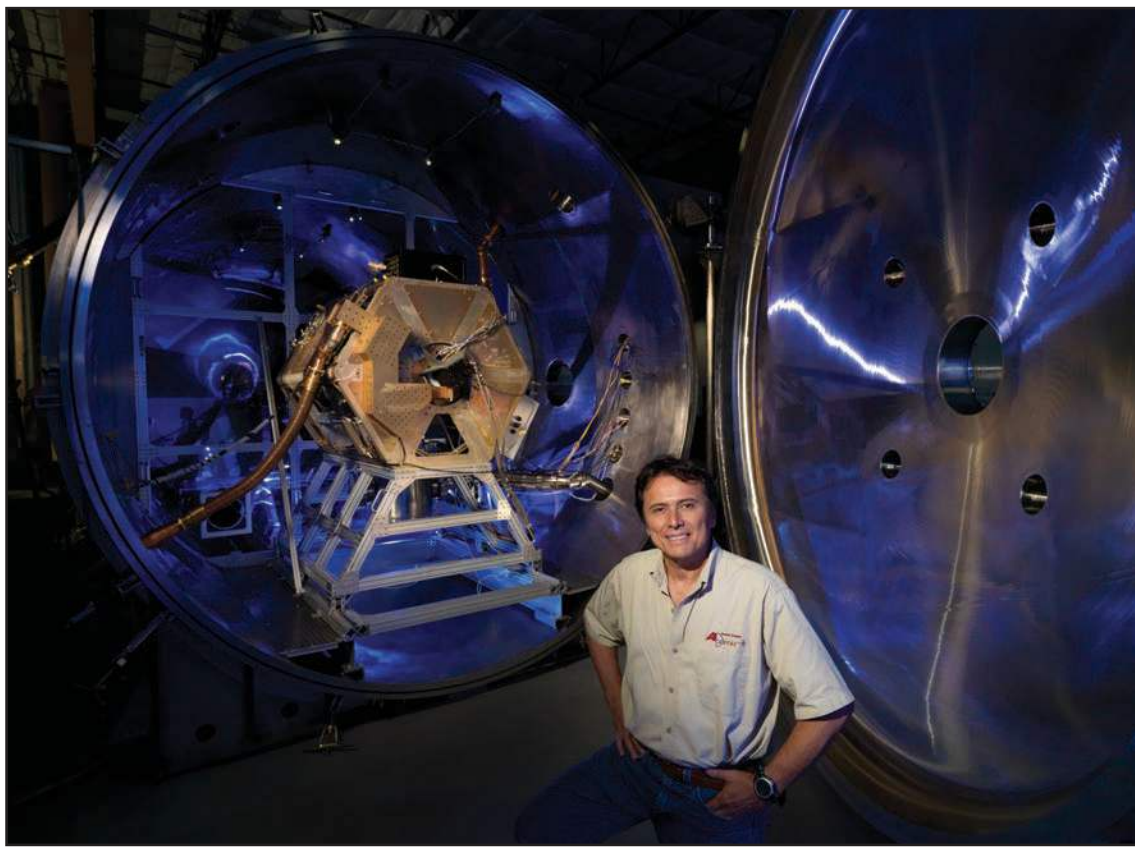
Each group was able to present their work thus far during an online video class meeting in mid-March that included Chang Díaz. Chang Díaz carefully took down each student's name, what portion of the project he or she was working on, and thoughtfully responded to each student's questions. He also took the time to speak directly to the students about VASIMIR® and his future goals with the plan.

"We believe at our company that it helps to illustrate what this mission to Mars is really going to look like," stated Chang Díaz. "What you're doing is going to help visualize what it really takes to get humans to Mars in a sustainable way."

"Transportation is going to be the key for future space exploration," said Chang Díaz. "Nuclear-electric power is an enabling technology. We've got to develop nuclear-electric power for space propulsion. Nuclear-electric propulsion power is the endgame."

NRCC students who have been involved in this project have been amazed at the insight and personal contact that Chang Díaz has brought to their classroom.

"This project has been an incredible experience, and I think I can speak for all of my teammates when I say that we are extremely grateful for the opportunity to work on a design of this magnitude and



NRCC student Mariela Farfan Ortiz, working on the project in class, and of Dr. Chang Diaz of Ad Astra Rocket Company.

NRCC photos

importance," said Ben Pratt, second-year student and project team leader. "Throughout the process, we've had to learn to function smoothly as a team while transitioning through different designs, which will help prepare us for a work environment. Getting to present our designs and models to Dr. Chang Díaz and hear his feedback is an honor that few students at the community college level receive, and I'm thankful to have been given that chance. I'd like to thank Dr Chang Díaz and Ad Astra for the opportunity, and I hope that when we present our finalized work to him, he is pleased with our designs."

While the full scope of the student project won't be fully completed until May, it's safe to say the experience that Levy's students have embarked upon in the last two semesters has truly been

an extraordinary out of this world learning environment.

"These last eight months have been interesting for my classmates and me; to have the opportunity to work with an astronaut at this stage of our professional development is an experience that none of us would even dream," said Farfan Ortiz. "We are all humbled and grateful for this great experience. Dr. Chang Díaz has kindly taken us under his wing and shared his knowledge and the many years of his company's research with us to guide us in this journey."

For more information about NRCC's engineering design technology program, visit www.nr.edu/edt.

About Ad Astra: Based in Webster, Texas, Ad Astra Rocket Company is the developer of the VASIMR® engine, an advanced plasma propulsion system for the

emerging in-space transportation market. The company was incorporated on January 14, 2005. Retired NASA astronaut Dr. Franklin Chang Díaz is the President and CEO of Ad Astra Rocket Company. The company has been working on Chang Díaz's concept of the Variable Specific Impulse Magnetoplasma Rocket, known by its acronym VASIMR. The VASIMR intends to advance our in-space transportation capabilities, including lunar cargo transport, in-space refueling, and fast deep-space missions. Ad Astra also owns and operates supporting R&D subsidiaries in the US and Costa Rica developing earth-bound integrated solutions in renewable hydrogen energy storage for fuel-cell electric transportation and stationary power, as well as advanced manufacturing and applied physics.



Raymond F. Ratcliffe Memorial Transportation Museum Rescheduled Ninth Annual Benefit Golf Tournament

Friday August 6, 2021
Thorn Spring Golf Course

Four-Person Captain's Choice

Tee Off: 1:00 p.m.

Lunch: 11:30 – 12:45 p.m.

Entry fee includes lunch, snacks, cart, range balls, and green fees.

Entry Fee: \$70 per golfer (Team \$280.00)
Mulligans: \$5 per person maximum of 2
1st – 3rd Place Teams
For additional information call 540-980-7381,
Or e-mail jjhawley74@gmail.com

Mail this form and your entry fees to:

The Friends of the Raymond F. Ratcliffe Memorial Transportation Museum, P.O. Box 269, Pulaski, VA 24301
Make checks payable to the Friends of the Raymond F. Ratcliffe Memorial Transportation Museum. A 501(c)3 organization.
Please fill in addresses on all players. Thank You!

Four-Person Captain's Choice Team Name or Sponsor: _____

Player 1 (Captain): _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ e-mail: _____

Player 2: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ e-mail: _____

Player 3: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ e-mail: _____

Player 4: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ e-mail: _____

Number of Mulligans to be purchased: _____

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