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WEEKEND WEATHER

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Saturday Night - Partly cloudy, with a low around 62. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Sunday

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Sunday Night - Partly cloudy, with a low around 64.

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INSIDE THIS WEEK:

SCHOOL ISSUES UP FOR VOTE

Pulaski County School Board will consider
for approval Tuesday:

- Policy for a Three-Tiered Opening of Schools - **Page A3**
- Policy for the Treatment of All Students - **Page A5**

Plans moving forward on old middle school site

By **MIKE WILLIAMS**
The Patriot

Pulaski Town Council heard Tuesday night that a developer is looking to turn the old Pulaski Middle School building into high density housing the likes of which today's up and coming young professionals crave.

Janet Jonas, Manager of Special Projects for Pulaski County, addressed council on the possible adaptive re-use of the old middle school.

"Generally, when I am speaking in front of you, I'm talking about low to moderate income housing,"

Jonas told council. "That is not the case for this project."

Jonas reported that according to the Regional Housing Study released earlier this year by the New River Valley Regional Commission, "we have a real need for housing in Pulaski County and across the entire region."

"There are a lot of pressures in the housing market right now – ever since 2017 when the study's data was collected – to now. Even before and after COVID," Jonas continued.

She said there is pressure in the market because there is a lack of the type housing people are seek-

ing along with a rise in demand because of an expanding economy.

"We know our economic development folks are telling us that we're losing businesses because we can't provide suitable housing stock for our potential investors," Jonas noted.

She said the housing study showed that across the valley, and in the Town of Pulaski in particular, the condition of the housing stock is aging with older homes and high-density low-income housing that is also aging.

The study found a need for
See PROJECT, page A8

Virginia House, Senate pass Democratic spending plan

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — The Virginia House and Senate gave initial approval Wednesday to budget legislation allocating billions of dollars in federal coronavirus relief money, each passing slightly different bills that lawmakers will have to reconcile.

Legislators started their work during the special session that convened Monday with a budget proposal crafted by Gov. Ralph Northam and fellow Democratic leaders. It called for spending most of Virginia's \$4.3 billion share of the American Rescue

Plan funding on initiatives aimed at helping small businesses, improving air quality in public schools, bolstering mental health and substance-abuse treatment, increasing broadband access and replenishing the state's unemployment trust fund.

The House took up its measure first, passing the bill as it was introduced on a bipartisan vote of 71-25.

"Virginians have experienced so much hardship in the last year and a half, and this budget sends a clear message to Virginians:

We hear you, we are working for you, and we are building an even stronger Virginia in the process," House Speaker Eileen Filler-Corn said in a statement after the vote.

Although some Republicans joined with Democrats in voting for the bill, the GOP objected strenuously to being shut out of the budget-writing process and being largely kept from debating the legislation.

A day earlier, Democrats in the chamber quickly squashed a Republican counterproposal offered

See BUDGET, page A2

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Budget

Continued from Page A1

on the floor by House Minority Leader Todd Gilbert, who was given just two minutes to discuss his proposed alternative.

"I would have hoped that in this process, we would have at least been afforded the opportunity to explain our bill, but instead we are left with the inevitable two minutes," Gilbert said. "Two minutes to discuss things of great importance to children, to law enforcement, to public safety, to the businesses that are hurting around Virginia and have been hurting for some time."

The special session was taking place at a sensitive time for House members. All 100 seats are up for election this fall.

In the Senate, the Democratic majority allowed debate on floor amendments, and discussion stretched late into the night Wednesday. A debate devolved into angry tirades about the process and whether it had been adequately bipartisan before the chamber eventually passed the bill, 22-18.

"I think we have a product that we can be very proud of," said Sen. Janet Howell, chair of the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee.

Moderate GOP Sen. Emmett Hanger was the only Republican to join with Democrats in voting for the bill.

Republican Sen. Ryan McDougle said he approved of some provisions in the bill, but objected

strenuously to leaving \$800 million of the federal money unspent, for the governor to allocate in the future. "When we choose to spend almost a billion dollars without any discussion, without any input, without any debate, that's wrong," he said.

Republican Sen. Amanda Chase blasted Democrats for limiting debate on Republican-proposed amendments, promising to fight what she called "one-party control" and "communism."

That prompted an angry retort from Democratic Sen. Richard Saslaw. "I've never heard such fairy tales in my life," he said.

"I really don't appreciate being called a communist," he added.

Before the final vote, senators approved a handful of amendments, including one that would give staff of sheriff's offices and regional jails a one-time \$5,000 bonus. The spending plan as introduced already included \$5,000 bonuses for state police.

Another approved Senate amendment would require the Department of Motor Vehicles to return to allowing walk-in service for transactions at its customer service centers throughout the state. Because of the pandemic, the DMV instituted an appointment-only system for in-person services.

The chamber also voted to effectively strip language from the budget that dealt with allowing

student-athletes to earn compensation for the use of their name, image or likeness. Republicans argued the issue shouldn't be dealt with through budget legislation in a special session with limited debate and public input.

Lawmakers will now have to work out the differences between the House and Senate versions of the legislation before a final product can go to Northham.

Both versions of the spending plan approved Wednesday include some protections against evictions and utility disconnections for families still struggling financially because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The General Assembly members were also slated to elect judges to an expanded Court of Appeals during the special session. They had not made public the list of contenders as of Wednesday.

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20 South Washington Street, Pulaski

C.E. Richardson Benevolent Foundation

The C. E. Richardson Benevolent Foundation has funds available for grants in the amount of \$10,000.00 or less to qualified tax exempt organizations. Application forms may be obtained by writing to the C. E. Richardson Benevolent Foundation, P. O. Box 1120, Pulaski, VA 24301-1120 or by calling the office phone number 540-980-6628. Application forms may also be obtained by e-mailing: cerichardsonfoundation@gmail.com.

To qualify, the applicant must be an organization described in Internal Revenue Code Section 501 (c) (3) which meets the requirements of Code Section 509 (a) (1), (2) or (3).

Applications must be submitted by Wednesday, September 15, 2021.

Ruth S. Looney,
Manager

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School officials consider three-tier opening plan

The Pulaski County School Board will consider for approval Tuesday a three-tier re-opening plan for schools . School Superintendent Dr. Kevin Siers released the plan to faculty and staff on Wednesday. He said the school board will take up the plan on Tuesday at its next meeting, set for 6 p.m. in the auditorium of Pulaski County Middle School. With COVID numbers spiking in many places around the country, issues such as masking and vaccinations are again at the forefront of discussion. Here is the proposed plan:

DRAFT- PCPS Tiered Reopening Plan for 2021-2022

All schools will open in Tier I. Movement between Tier I, II, & III will be made on an individual school basis and in consultation with the New River Health District.

Tier I- (No to low verified transmission within a school building.)

1. Masks required on school transportation.
2. Masks optional inside of the school buildings and at all school events for vaccinated adults and all students. Unvaccinated employees will need to continue to wear face coverings while indoors (per DOLI requirements). Employees who request will be supplied an N95 mask to wear. School nurses will manage these requests and conduct any fittings that may be required.
3. Outside visitors permitted inside of schools.

4. Fieldtrips are permitted in conjunction with regular field trip guidelines.
5. Meals eaten in the cafeteria.
6. 3 feet of social distancing is the goal but not a requirement.
7. Cleaning and sanitization occur on a regular schedule.
8. Students or staff who are symptomatic should stay home until being symptom free for more than 24 hours and if unvaccinated, follow isolation/test/quarantine protocols for COVID 19 exposure.

Tier II- (Moderate verified transmission within a school building.)

1. Mask required on school transportation.
2. Masks are optional for vaccinated individuals and required for non-vaccinated individuals inside of all school buildings and at all school events.
3. Limited outside visitors permitted into the school with health checks & verification of vaccination.
4. Fieldtrips reevaluated by principal and decided on a case by case basis.
5. Meals eaten in the cafeteria with increased social distancing.
6. 3 feet of social distancing (or as close as we can get) will be the standard in classrooms.
7. Cleaning and sanitization will occur on a regular schedule with increased emphasis on commonly used areas.

8. Students or staff who are symptomatic should stay home until being symptom free for more than 24 hours and if unvaccinated, follow isolation/test/quarantine protocols for COVID 19 exposure.

Tier III- (High verified transmission within a school building.)

1. Masks required on school transportation.
2. Masks required for all individuals inside of the building and at all school events.
3. No outside visitors permitted into the school.
4. No fieldtrips will occur.
5. Six feet of social distancing will be required while eating meals.
6. Three feet of social distancing will be required in the classroom. (The school may be placed on a 50% attendance schedule if needed to ensure proper distancing.)
7. Increased cleaning and sanitizing will occur in all areas.
8. Health checks will be conducted for all individuals on a daily basis.
9. Students or staff who are symptomatic should stay home until being symptom free for more than 24 hours and if unvaccinated, follow isolation/test/quarantine protocols for COVID 19 exposure.
10. Implement remote learning protocols if needed to limit exposure and prevent infection spread.

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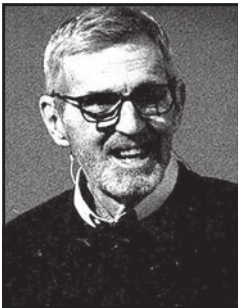



View Obituaries Daily Online at www.pcpatriot.com

Abundant Life Church hosts M.A.C. Convention

Abundant Life Ministries will host the M.A.C. Convention on Friday, Aug. 6 – Sunday, Aug. 8. Service times are 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday. (No Sunday evening service.)

Bishop Randall Lawrence gives the public a special invitation to join with us in these upcoming services. This is a gathering of churches and ministers of the M.A.C. District of the Pentecostal Church of God. The speaker for these three services is Rev. Rick Shelton from St. Louis, Mo. Rev. Shelton has served as Pastor of Life Christian Church for many years, and traveled the world as a missionary evangelist. He is married to Donna Moles Shelton, who along with her family has attended Abundant Life Church for many years. Rick and Donna presently are traveling the nation / world speaking at conferences and revivals. Abundant Life Church is located at 3050 Lee Highway, one-quarter mile past LewisGale Hospital Pulaski off Route 11 north. For more information call the church office at 980-5506.



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- Collectible plaque for first 50 entries!
- Door prizes will be available!
- Local food options will be available!

For more information contact:
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2021 Kentland Farm Field Day



2021 Kentland Farm Field Day

September 14, 2021
8:00 am ~ 4:00 pm

Event hosted by the Virginia Tech College of Agriculture & Life Sciences and Virginia Cooperative Extension

Lunch by Hethwood Market
Ice Cream by Homestead Creamery



This event will highlight research at Kentland and offer a variety of workshops and demonstrations.



Topics covered will include:

- Grazing Summer Annuals
- Value-added Cattle Marketing
- Temporary Fencing Methods
- Pollinators and Beneficial Insects
- Small Scale Vegetable Production
- Soil and Plant Health
- Farm Tours

Speakers include VT Faculty, Extension Specialists, Extension Agents, and Industry Leaders

Registration: \$10 - includes lunch

To register please return with payment:

Pulaski County Extension Office
Attn: Kentland Field Day
143 Third Street NW Suite 3
Pulaski, VA 24301

Checks payable to:
"Treasurer- Virginia Tech"

Keynote Speaker
Dr. Deidre Harmon
Extension Livestock Specialist, NC State



Dr. Deidre Harmon will be joining us this year to discuss the ins and outs of grazing warm season annuals. As the Livestock Extension Specialist, Dr. Harmon's programs focus on management strategies for pasture-based livestock systems.

Questions?
Pulaski Extension Office: 540-980-7761 or
Call your local Extension office

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Morgan Paulette at 540-980-7761 during business hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event.

2021 Kentland Farm Field day

Space will be limited to the first 250 people to register. Please pre-register with payment by September 7, 2021 to ensure your meal.

Registration

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DONALD R. "DON" COLLINS

Donald R. "Don" Collins of Pulaski passed away peacefully Wednesday, July 28 at Forsythe Medical Center, Winston-Salem, N.C. after a brief illness.

Born Sept. 4, 1940 in Baileysville, W.Va., the son of Dee Bee and Mary Hazel Jones Collins.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving eight and one-half years in the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C.

After his service, he moved to Pulaski, Va. with his wife and son, Ron and in January 1967 joined the workforce at R.A.A.P.

He spent 38 years in the maintenance department at R.A.A.P. and retired in January 2003.

He leaves behind his wife of 56 years, Ruth Lupton Collins; son Ron (Laura) Collins, Merrimac, Va.; son, Mike of the home; one grandson, Brandon Collins of Merrimac, Va. and one brother, Michael of Pearisburg, Va.

Don will be missed by those who knew him.



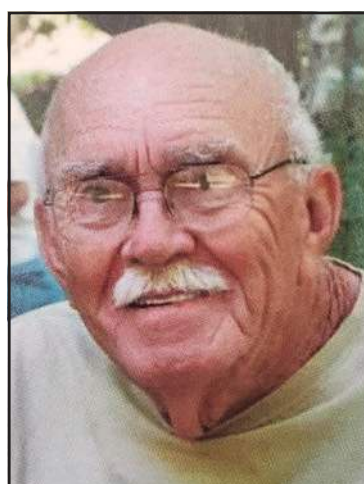
EUGENIA "JEANIE" WARD SIMPKINS ROADARMEL

Eugenia "Jeanie" Ward Simpkins Roadarmel, age 73, of Pulaski County, VA, and formerly of Monroe County, WV, passed away on Saturday, July 30, 2021, at the Lewis-Gale Medical Center in Salem, VA. Born March 27, 1948, in Sarton, WV, she was the daughter of the late Arnold H. "Buck" Ward and Dana "Merle" Wickline Ward.

Jeanie was a 1966 graduate of Greenville High School and later attended Radford College. She cared for the elderly in their homes for over 30 years. In 1978, she was called into service as a minister, pastor, and evangelist. She reopened several churches in Virginia and West Virginia, entered joint efforts with multiple ministries to provide in-home prayer meetings, and always enjoyed a phone ministry.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Robert James Roadarmel. She is survived by her daughter, Deborah Simpkins; special friends; and many cousins with whom she shared the special bond of family.

Graveside services were held Wednesday, August 4, 2021, at the Appalachian Conference Cemetery in Dublin, VA. Online guestbook can be signed or condolences may be sent to the family at www.broyles-shrewsbury.com. Arrangements by Broyles-Shrewsbury Funeral Home, Peterstown, WV.



MILLER CAMPBELL MEADOWS, SR.

Miller Campbell Meadows, Sr., age 90, of Pulaski County, died Saturday, July 31, 2021 at Carrington Place in Wytheville. He was born in Bland County on November 11, 1930, and was the son of the late Laura Millirons Meadows and Albert Meadows. He was a veteran of the United States Air Force, and retired from the Radford Army Ammunition Plant.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Evelyn Margaret Meadows: two brothers; Kyle Meadows and Earl Meadows: two sisters; Audrey Nuckols and Ruby Davis.

He is survived by one son: Miller C. (Cathy Conner) Meadows, Jr. of Prospect, Tennessee: one daughter; Laura Rose Reyes of Fayetteville, North Carolina: one sister: Juanita Melton of Radford: two stepsons; Lawrence (Donna) Hoffman of Ivanhoe, VA, and Michael (Carol) Hoffman of Dublin. He is also survived by many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted Thursday, August 5, 2021 at Seagle Funeral Home with the Rev. Charles Damron officiating.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorial donations to the Little Creek Volunteer Fire Department 10159 Little Creek Highway Dublin, Virginia 24084. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.seaglefuneralhome.com Arrangements by Seagle Funeral Home, Pulaski.

JAMES THOMAS HAYES

James Thomas Hayes, age 81 of Dublin, (Lillydell Community) Virginia passed away Sunday, August 1, 2021 at the Highland Ridge Rehab Center, Dublin. Born February 4, 1940 in Smyth County, Virginia he was the son of the late Charles Lee Hayes and Lula Mae Blevins Hayes; two sisters, Mildred Barker and Marie Watson.

He was a veteran of the United States Air Force.

He is survived by his Wife of 57 years – Minnie Carol Hoosier Hayes – Dublin

Son – James Ray (Cheryl) Hayes – NC

Brothers – Gerald (Lilly Mae) Hayes, Harry (Betty) Hayes-Dublin

Sister– Ima Jean Barker-Dublin

Brothers-in-law

Ray Scott Hoosier-FL

Wilburn Cecil Hoosier-Amissville

Roy Eugene Hoosier- Roanoke

Graveside funeral services were held Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at the Highland Memory Gardens, Dublin.

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

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

DONNIE EDISON CARROLL

Donnie Edison Carroll, 72, of Dublin, passed away Friday, July 30, 2021.

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

Calif. truck driver dies in Wythe Co. crash

From Va. State Police

At 2:42 p.m. on Saturday (July 31), Virginia State Police responded to a crash on northbound I-81 almost a half mile south of Ready Mix Road in Wythe County.

A 2021 Freightliner Cascadia tractor-trailer was traveling north in the middle lane when it attempted to move into the left lane, striking a 2013 Chevrolet Tahoe. The Tahoe ran off the left side of the road and into the median. After striking the Tahoe, the tractor-trailer ran off the left side of the road and traveled through the median where it struck the guardrail. It then continued into the southbound lanes, swerved back into the guardrail and median where it overturned.

The driver of the tractor-trailer, Willis M. Peters, Jr., 43, of San Bernardino, Calif., died at the scene. He was wearing a seatbelt.

The driver of the Tahoe, Mary L. Oriley, 34, of Appomattox, Va., was uninjured. She was wearing her seatbelt.

The crash remains under investigation.

Ninth District Traveling Staff Office Hours

Congressman Griffith's Ninth District STAFF will be available at the following locations during the month of August.

Traveling office hours follow the status of local government offices, which vary across the 22 counties and nine independent cities of the Ninth District.

As local government offices reopen, office hours will be resumed.

August 12, 2021

Giles County: 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Town of Pearisburg Offices

112 Tazewell Street

Pearisburg, VA 24134

Wythe County: 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Wythe County Sheriff's Office

Conference Room

245 South 4th Street

Wytheville, VA 24382

Pulaski County (Dublin): 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Town of Dublin Office

101 Dublin Park Road

Dublin, VA 24084

Nominees sought for Calfee Award

The Joseph Calfee award may be presented to an individual who has volunteered in the county during the past year.

This award is intended for individuals who currently serve on one of the county's boards, committees, commissions, fire/rescue, parks and rec. coach, etc. whose volunteer service goes above and beyond simply being a member of the group or organization, but truly give time and talents to the community and county.

This award is to recognize a volunteer who has demonstrated the following qualities: consistent positive attitude; willingness to strive for cooperation and harmony between employees, departments, agencies, etc.; and pride in work and community.

A certificate will be given to the recipient of this award and will be presented at the Annual Pulaski County Volunteer/Employee picnic set for Friday, August 20th at Randolph Park.

Please use the attached form to nominate a deserving volunteer and send it back via email to Anthony Akers at aakers@pulaskicounty.org.

All nominations must be received by Wednesday, August 11th by 5:00pm.

Tips for Exercising During these Hot Summer Days

By Bryn Haden and Rachel Burks, Virginia Cooperative Extension's Family Nutrition Program

Physical activity is important for overall health, but this can get more difficult as the temperatures rise throughout the summer. Many people stop exercising as much during the summer because of the heat.

With a little bit of planning, you can continue exercising safely during the summer despite the heat! Here are some tips to keep you safe while staying fit.

1.Type of Exercise

There are many ways to stay active. To keep yourself from overheating during the hot summer days, try and chose activities that allow you to be near a body of water (swimming, water aerobics, kayaking, etc.). You can also choose activities that can be done indoors (lifting weights, group fitness class, yoga). Both water and indoor exercise during the hot summer months can help you stay on track with your fitness goals without overheating.

2.Timing of Exercise

If you like to be physically active outdoors, try to accomplish your activities during the cooler

parts of the day. Avoid exercising outdoors between noon and 3 p.m. Do what you can to rearrange your schedule so you can exercise in the morning or evening instead of during the heat of the day. Exercising in the morning has an added benefit of giving you a feeling of accomplishment to kick-start your day!

3.Hydration

It is extremely important to keep yourself hydrated during the summer months. Your body cools itself off by sweating. The hotter it gets, the more you

See TIPS, page A5

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Policy for ‘all students’ up for vote Tuesday *Tips*

Continued from Page A4

A recommended final draft of a “Policy for the Treatment of All Students” was posted earlier this week on the school system’s BoardDocs platform.

The policy, previously referred to as a “transgender policy,” will be considered for approval by the Pulaski County School Board at its regular monthly meeting Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the auditorium of Pulaski County Middle School.

A period for public comment is reserved near the beginning of the meeting and will be limited to one hour.

The following information and instructions come from the school system’s BoardDocs post for Tuesday’s meeting:

- Persons who wish to speak during this public comment session will need to sign up in advance of the meeting by calling 540-994-2519. If you do not get an answer, please leave a message. The time-stamp of the message will be used to determine your place on the list to speak.

- Persons may present ideas or concerns regarding Pulaski County Public Schools. The School Board at this meeting will take no action. Items presented by citizens may be referred to the Superintendent for research who may report back to the School Board at a subsequent meeting or through other communication.

- The Chairman shall determine the amount of time to be spent for citizen participation. If you wish to comment about individual employees or their performance, please present your comments first to the Superintendent. Such matters will not be discussed during an open board meeting.

- Please use the link found on BoardDocs if you prefer to submit your comments in writing to be reviewed by the members of the Pulaski County School Board before their regularly scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 10, 2021. **Action items on the agenda include a resolution to name the PCMS track after Sergeant Perry Hodge, policy for the treatment of all students, and the PCPS tiered reopening plan.**

- Please limit all comments to three (3) minutes. This public comment period will be limited to one (1) hour.

Recommended Final Draft Pulaski County Public Schools Policy for the Treatment of All Students

Consistent with federal and Virginia law and the Model Policies for Treatment of Transgender Students published by the Virginia Department of Education, the purpose of this Policy is to foster an educational environment that is safe, welcoming, and free from discrimination and harassment for all students, regardless of the student’s gender identity or expression.

Bullying, Harassment, and Discrimination

The Pulaski County School Board prohibits any and all discrimination, harassment, and bullying based on an individual’s actual or perceived race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or any other characteristic protected by law.

Any incident or complaint of discrimination, harassment, or bullying shall be given prompt attention, including investigating the incident and taking appropriate corrective action, by the school administrator. Complaints alleging discrimination, harassment, or bullying based on a student’s actual or perceived gender identity shall be handled in the same manner as other discrimination or harassment complaints. The Pulaski County Public Schools Director of Administration & Instruction or designee shall be available to hear concerns from students and parents when complaints are not resolved at the school level.

Student Privacy/Confidentiality

All school personnel shall adhere to legal standards of confidentiality relating to information about a student’s gender identity, legal name, or sex assigned at birth. In addition to adhering to all legal standards of confidentiality, school personnel shall treat information relating to a student’s gender identity as being particularly sensitive, shall not disclose it to other students and other parents, and shall only disclose to other school personnel with a legitimate educational interests.

Student Identification

Schools shall allow students to use a name and gender pronouns that reflect their gender identity without any substantiating evidence. School staff shall, at the request of a student or parent, when using a name or pronoun to address the student, use the name and pronoun that correspond to their gender identity.

School Records

Pulaski County Public Schools is required to maintain a record that includes a student’s legal name and sex assigned at birth and may be required to use or report the legal name and sex assigned at birth in some situations. In situations where school staff is required to use or to report a transgender student’s legal name or sex assigned at birth, such as for purposes of standardized testing, school staff and administrators should adopt practices to avoid the inadvertent disclosure of such information.

Upon the request of a student or parent, schools shall use the name and gender consistent with the student’s gender identity on other school records or documents.

Schools shall change a student’s name and gender designation upon verification or submission of a legal document such as a birth certifi-

cate, state- or federal-issued identifications, passport, or court order. Records of former students may also be re-issued with the submission of legal documents substantiating the amended name and gender.

Dress Code

Dress and grooming codes shall be written relating to the attire or articles of attire without limits on gender expectations. Students have a right to dress in a manner consistent with their gender identity or gender expression. Schools shall administer and enforce dress and grooming codes consistently across the student body, regardless of actual or perceived gender identity or gender expression.

Requirements for attire for school-related programs, activities, and events shall be gender-neutral.

Access to Activities

Schools shall eliminate the practice of segregating students by gender to the extent possible.

For any school program, event, or activity, including extra-curricular activities that are segregated by gender, Pulaski County Public Schools shall allow students to participate in a manner consistent with their gender identity.

Athletic participation regulated by the Virginia High School League (VHSL) or another organization such as the Virginia Scholastic Rowing Association (VASRA), as well as middle school athletics, shall be in compliance with policies and rules outlined by those organizations.

Access to Facilities

Access to facilities such as restrooms and locker rooms that correspond to a student’s gender identity shall be available to all students. Upon request, single-user or gender-inclusive facilities or other reasonable alternatives shall be made available to any student who seeks privacy. Any options offered shall be non-stigmatizing and minimize lost instructional time.

Professional Development and Training

All school mental health professionals shall be trained annually on topics relating to LGBTQ+ students, including safety and support for LGBTQ+ students.

are likely to sweat. This means that your body loses more water when it is hot. During the summer, try to be more aware of how much water you take in every day, especially on days that you exercise. You should be properly hydrating your body before, during, and after your workout. A sneaky way to get more water in without drinking it is through foods such as watermelon, cucumbers, and other fruits and vegetables!

4.Cooling Tools

Another way to keep your body cool is through cooling/wet towels, spray bottles, and dry-fit clothing. Wetting your skin can increase the cooling effect, similar to sweating, while dry-fit clothing helps move the sweat quickly away from your body. Although these tools are not as important as staying hydrated and staying out of the sun during the hotter parts of the day, they are helpful tools to help maintain a safe body temperature!

For more tips and exercise videos, visit: www.eatsmart-movemoreva.org.



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Charade

I've been reminded recently of my trip to China back in the late 90s with the American Council of Young Political Leaders to study the Chinese government. While there, I learned more about the logistics of how their ruling party operates. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) secures its rule by controlling all aspects of the government.

The ruling party elders decide who gets a seat on the most powerful council in their country. And that election is considered a formality. The Chinese Communist Party reserves two-thirds of the seats in China's legislature, the National People's Congress, for the party's members, but allows only one-third for individuals that are members of any of China's eight rubber-stamp "opposition" parties.

While the minority parties are expected to be a part of the National People's Congress and the legislative process, they do not serve as real political opposition. The minority parties can make restrained recommendations and proposals, but the ruling party automatically outnumbers them under the rules of the legislature. The mere presence of the smaller parties is conditional on their support for the Chinese Communist Party.

They are only welcome as long they agree to go along with the charade.

The Chinese Communist Party applauds this one-party rule system. This kind of governance is not for the people. It is not democratic, and it is not unifying. But that's how the Chinese Communist Party runs their country.

But America is a democratic republic that strives to achieve a more perfect union. As Abraham Lincoln said of America, "A government of the people, by the people, for the people..."

In recent weeks, Speaker Nancy Pelosi has started a

committee to investigate the events that took place on January 6th and to ensure nothing like this happens again. Historically in the

United States Congress, when a Select Committee like this is created, the majority party picks their members, and the minority party or parties picks theirs.

However, when House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy selected the Republican representatives to serve on the Select Committee, Pelosi rejected two of the five Republican members, Representatives Jim Jordan and Jim Banks. Accordingly, Minority Leader McCarthy appropriately withdrew his entire slate.

Subsequently, Pelosi added a Republican House Member to join another Republican she had previously appointed as one of her picks. These two were the only two Republicans, in my opinion, who she could count on to toe the Pelosi political line on this matter.

While things are not as bad here as they are in the Chinese National People's Congress, denying the minority a true and independent voice in the Select Committee's work looks more like communist China than the United States of America I was raised in.

The House of Representatives is not supposed to be one-party rule. Currently, the Democrats have a slim majority margin with 220 Democrats and 212 Republicans.

Nancy Pelosi's personally selected committee is a charade.

Inflation Charade

It is no coincidence that consumer prices have been on an upward trend every month since January. In June, consumer prices increased by the largest 1-month price margin in 13 years.

The price of gas has skyrocketed and everyday household goods like milk, fruit, and bacon are have all gone up as well.

The Biden Administration continually blames the rising prices on the economy resuming after COVID. However, this is not the only factor. Inflation has increased every month since Biden took office.

Don't be fooled – this steep price increase is fueled in large measure by bad policies of the Administration and this Congress, both of which are controlled by Democrats. While additional spending was necessary due to COVID, the Democrat's reckless increase in government spending continues to escalate the cost of living for hard-working Americans.

In the following years, it's likely America will reap the economic repercussions of the Democrats' massive spending with more inflation and higher taxes. Republicans will continue to fight for lower spending and lower taxes, but it will be difficult to stop the negative impact of these expenses.

While Democrats tout their big-dollar programs, American families will pay the price. As my mother always told me, "Money doesn't grow on trees son."

Saying inflation is not caused by government policy or is only going to be short-lived is just another Democrat charade.

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



Morgan Griffith
9th District Representative

OPEN FORUM

Whatever happened to common sense?

To the editor,

I was glad to see multiple counties defy Richmond on the transgender policy. I hope we will decide to join them and avoid the policies of Northern Virginia and Richmond urbanites.

Why is this now a problem?

Where can children get the notion that they do something other than nature assigned them? Of course, they get it from social media. The power of suggestion on young impressionable minds is dangerous to the family structure of society.

Science tells us how long it takes for a child's brain to fully mature. That's why parents make decisions for them until they grow up.

It is a parent's responsibility to decide who they can hang out with, what functions they can be a part of, whether they can use alcohol or cigarettes and a hundred other things. They can't vote, join the army, drive a car because they are not mature enough to make these decisions.

So, I ask you, how come you think a child can make a decision to change the sex they were born with.

Do not abdicate your responsibility to decide for them. If you were born a girl, deal with it. If you were born a boy, deal with it.

Then when you grow up and your brain is fully developed and you want to make such a choice, the burden is on you not on your misguided parents.

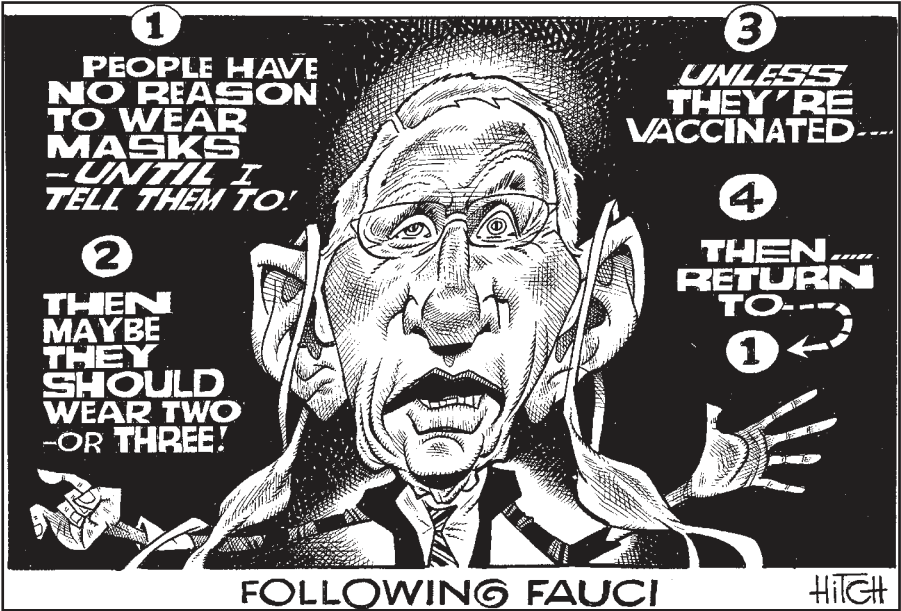
A child can never be mature enough to make such a life-changing decision.

What ever happened to common sense?

Rev. Johnny Howlett
Pulaski

See LETTERS, page A7

We invite your letters. Send them to: The Patriot, P.O. Box 2416, Pulaski, VA 24301f or email your letter to: news@pcpatriot.com You can also drop it by our office at 138 N. Jefferson Avenue in Pulaski. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification. Please only one letter per 30 days. We will make every effort to publish your letter. We reserve the right to edit your letter if necessary.



COVID Panic, Round 2

By Cal Thomas,
Tribune Content Agency

As best I recall, the sequence of statements coming from the government and "experts" since the beginning of COVID-19 has gone something like this: You don't need to wear a mask and it's no more serious than the flu; you do need to wear a mask, though the virus is so small it can penetrate all but the N95 brand, so you should wear two masks; a vaccine will protect you from catching the virus and, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, you won't have to wear a mask if fully vaccinated; you must still wear a mask even if fully vaccinated because of the Delta variant; If you have been fully vaccinated it is unlikely you will catch the Delta variant, but wear a mask anyway just in case; kids may or may not return to school and if they do return, they may or may not be forced to wear masks, even though young children appear to be less affected by the virus.

Is that clear? I didn't think so.

The CDC adds to the confusion each time it issues new statements. The latest came last week from CDC Director Rochelle Walensky who said, "everyone wear a mask in indoor public settings in areas of substantial and high transmission, regardless of vaccination status."

That has raised the obvious question: Why get vaccinated if you must behave like those who have not been vaccinated?

Last Friday, Walensky appeared on Fox News "Special Report with Bret Baier." She told him the federal government is "looking into" making vaccinations a requirement for all Americans. Walensky later "clarified" her remarks on Twitter, stating there would be no nationwide mandate. How can we be certain since the government and "experts" have put out conflicting statements from the beginning of the pandemic? The response is always that the science is changing. Peculiar that the science is changing when it comes to COVID-19 but seems settled on climate change.

The latest "panic" and "fiasco," as a Wall Street Journal editorial termed it,

stems from a small outbreak in Massachusetts. According to the CDC, only 274 vaccinated people acquired an infection, with just five admitted to a hospital. No deaths were reported. That's a far cry from the thousands of deaths per day and overflowing hospitals just a few months ago. Fewer deaths could suggest the virus, like the annual winter flu, appears to be headed toward something that is manageable, perhaps with annual vaccinations, as with the flu.

You wouldn't know that from the Biden administration's changing reactions.

If you have recently flown on a commercial airliner, you heard announcements from flight attendants -- often repeated by the captain -- of a list of new federal requirements, including mandatory mask wearing for the entire trip, except when "actively" eating or drinking, or putting on an oxygen mask. Emphasis is placed on the penalties, which include never being able to fly again, heavy fines, even prison. I lost count of the number of times the word "federal" was used. Prior to COVID-19, the only mention of "federal" related to tampering or destroying lavatory smoke detectors.

In a recent WSJ column, Holman W. Jenkins Jr. warned that the CDC has contributed to "the growing disrepute of the government agency we most rely on." He noted even "The New York Times Sunday Magazine recently headlined its account: 'Covid Proved the C.D.C. Is Broken.'"

When the credibility of the federal government declines like TV ratings for the Summer Olympics, we are in trouble. It would be helpful if the various agencies and the president could speak with one credible voice. If this latest panic should lead to another government shutdown, compliance is likely to be far less than the previous one. In fact, most individuals and businesses, will likely ignore it.

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).



Rich Lowery

Editor,
National Review

We Don't Need Women To Register For Draft

If you wonder what Republicans are accomplishing in Washington, look no further than the Senate Armed Services committee, where a majority of them voted to create the predicate for drafting women into the military.

Astonishingly, only five of the committee's 13 GOP members voted against an amendment requiring women to begin to register for the Selective Service.

It's unclear why this is a pressing national need, or why anyone believes that it would help during a major war. Perversely, though, it's considered a blow for gender equity, and, of course, that overwhelms all other considerations for Democrats and Republicans alike.

Currently, men between the ages of 18 and 26 must register with the Selective Service. This is the database that, in theory, we'd draw on in the event of a military draft.

A draft, which we haven't had since the Vietnam War, isn't supposed to be a mechanism for making people feel good about themselves or a tool of so-called social justice. Its purpose is to funnel manpower into the military as expeditiously as possible during a national crisis.

A draft is a gargantuan effort. As Max Margulies of West Point and Amy Rutenberg of Iowa State University note, during World War II, more than 180,000 volunteers helped process draftees at 11,000 draft and appeals boards. During Vietnam, 31,000 people did this work.

It would unnecessarily complicate this inherently difficult task to also screen all the young women in the country to find those suited to military roles at a time when, presumably, we'd need to quickly find and train new soldiers en masse.

Although women serve admirably and honorably in the armed services, the military is still overwhelmingly male. According to a recent GAO report, the percentage of women in the military overall has increased only slightly, from 15.1% in 2004 to 16.5% in 2018. The numbers are tiny when it comes to combat arms. As of late 2019, 653 women were serving in combat roles in the Army and 231 female Marines in combat arms billets.

With notable exceptions, women aren't as physically capable as men. A Marine Corps study released in 2015 found that all-male units performed better than gender-integrated units on 69% of tasks. All-male units were faster. They were more accurate in firing weapons. They engaged targets more quickly. They were more adept at negotiating obstacles. And they were better at evacuating casualties.

The Marine study noted higher rates of injury for women than for men, resulting from higher levels of fatigue because women simply aren't as strong. Women got hurt at six times the

See LOWRY, page A7



Project

Continued from Page A1

more housing options.

“We have an aging population, but we also want to attract a younger population and they’re looking for maybe not the big ol’ houses that need to be rehabilitated. Maybe not stairs and maybe not an assisted facility because that’s the only way they can live on one level,” Jonas said.

“So, we know we need a wider variety of housing options in the county and particularly in the town. We just have a decrease in supply and an increase in demand.”

“Enter Pulaski Middle School,” she exclaimed.

Jonas said with the opening of the new Pulaski County Middle School, the county has been left with two old middle schools in Pulaski and Dublin that, she said, are in “fairly decent shape.”

She said now would be a “really great time” to attract a developer for the properties “before they start to decay because of dis-use and dis-repair and lack of maintenance.”

Jonas said the Pulaski Middle site includes approximately

117,000 square feet on more than 13 acres.

“The potential adaptive re-use we are discussing with the developer includes housing, retail and office space along with community facilities,” Jonas described.

Jonas said the developer looking at the property is Edwin Gaskin with Echelon Resources.

According to published reports, Echelon Resources focuses on re-development of historic buildings and has earned multiple project awards for its work.

Jonas said Echelon has done about 20 adaptive re-use projects since 2005, including a number of school re-uses, and a number of old factory warehouse conversions into housing.

Former school projects undertaken by Echelon include Chatham Lofts in Pittsylvania County, Halifax Lofts, Cape Charles Lofts in Northampton County and Woodstock Lofts in Shenandoah County.

Jonas said the Pulaski Middle School property would present a much larger project for Echelon than they’ve undertaken from a school standpoint.

“They’ve done projects this size with old factories,” Jonas noted. “The peanut warehouses in Suffolk comes to mind – they have a three-phase project going on down there that is on par with this project.”

Typical projects for Echelon are 5 to 30 units including studios, one- and two-bedroom apartments from 600 to 1,200 square feet.

Jonas said the market rate rents for these apartments run from \$1,000 to \$1,600 per month.

“On larger spaces they do have some rents that go into the \$2,000’s. That range is from the Chatham Lofts. I wanted to mention something that is more rural like we are to compare us to. There, the rents go up to about \$1,400 per month,” Jonas said.

Jonas told council the median rent in Pulaski – as of 2017 – was \$657 per month and \$857 per month regionally.

She added the median household income in 2021 in Pulaski County had grown to the “incredible” figure of \$65,800.

“Pulaski County has gained over \$5,000 in median household income between last year to this year and by \$10,000 over the past five years,” Jonas said.

Moderate incomes, which Jonas described as those who make up 80 to 100 percent of the median now range from \$52,640 to \$78,960 and include “young professionals such as teachers, nurses, professionals and those in the trades.”

She said such growth is good for the county because it means people are earning more and households are becoming more stable.

Jonas said the minimum household income needed to pay \$1,800 per month in rent, utilities and insurance is \$61,700.

Jonas told council she mentions that because “I want to demonstrate to you these (higher priced housing) would not really

be low-income houses or affordable or reachable for low-income families whatsoever. These are targeted more for people with large houses who want to downsize and a looking for something simpler with lots less maintenance and for young professionals.”

Councilman Jamie Radcliffe commented that the old middle school “is situated in one of the most beautiful places we’ll see.”

He added the town doesn’t need more low-income housing right now.

“But we’re begging for housing for Mack, Volvo and Virginia Tech employees,” he said.

“You put your house on the market today, you better have a plan B, because it’s going to be gone fast,” Radcliffe said.

“This would be what Pulaski needs,” he said. “We need that money here.”

Radcliffe said, in reference to the rents such a development at PMS would include, he doubted anyone would ever pay \$600, \$700 or \$800 per month for the apartments downtown.

“But they’re rented,” he stated.

Councilman Brooks Dawson asked Jonas about a timeline for the PMS project.

Jonas said local officials currently are helping Gaskins find some funding resources to “do the initial take off.”

She noted the county has found actual scaled drawings of the buildings on the property and now the developer is trying to figure out how many units could be constructed and a possible layout.

Jonas said the county is helping him in his effort to obtain an Historic Designation for the property so he can use historic tax credits to help fund the project.

They are also trying to come up with a plan for the old school’s gym and auditorium – neither of which can be broken up or modified substantially for housing units.

Plus, there is the need for asbestos removal.

Jonas said the county is developing a planning grant application to do a countywide housing study related to the PMS project and others on the drawing board in the county which will include other things such as buying up blighted properties – renovating them or tearing them down to build new homes for first time homebuyers.

Jonas noted there are several housing projects in the works in the county, including the Shah Development projects near the new middle school and along Route 100 in Dublin, plus the just approved project near Herons Landing in Fairlawn.

Jonas said the need for “upper level” housing is creating another problem in that people who wanted to buy homes in the \$200,000 to \$300,000 range are having to settle on homes in the \$100,000 to \$200,000 range.

She said that means people who could afford to buy the \$100,000 to \$200,000 homes are being pushed out of the market altogether.

“People are either under-buying or way over-buying,” she said.



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In Democrats' budget: Eviction protection, utility relief

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — A key protection against evictions would be restored and a new round of funding would flow to utilities to cover unpaid customer bills under legislation advancing through the Democrat-controlled Virginia General Assembly.

Those provisions are among a host of other priorities lawmakers are considering this week as they meet in Richmond for a special session to allocate billions of dollars in federal coronavirus relief, intended to cover pandemic response needs and bolster the economy.

The budget legislation, which received initial approval in the House and Senate on Wednesday, reinstates what housing advocates say was a significant protection against eviction that expired at the end of June: a requirement that a landlord must have applied for rental assistance on their tenant's behalf before an eviction for non-payment of rent can proceed.

While the protection does not amount to an eviction moratorium, housing advocates had worried that evictions would surge, and homelessness could eventually follow, if landlords didn't face a requirement to tell tenants about the relief money.

Martin Wegbreit, director of litigation for the Central Virginia

Legal Aid Society, said it makes sense for landlords to handle the applications.

"They're the ones who know who's behind (on rent), and they are the ones who will end up with the money," Wegbreit said. "And that will keep them paid and keep tenants staying in their apartments."

As of July 14, more than \$308 million had been paid out statewide to support more than 48,000 households, according to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

The protection would take effect after the bill is passed and signed by Gov. Ralph Northam, and it would remain in place through June 30 of next year, under the version of the budget that advanced out of the House and Senate money committees Monday.

The deliberations in Virginia come after the Biden administration allowed a federal moratorium on evictions to expire over the weekend. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Tuesday issued a new moratorium that would last until Oct 3.

Michael Hipps, an attorney representing various landlords in Virginia's Hampton Roads region, said that shifting the onus back on to landlords to apply for rental assistance would not be "terribly burdensome" for large-

scale landlords.

But he said it could pose a challenge to landlords who only have one or two properties. They would have to navigate the application process without many resources, he said.

Also in the Democrats' budget plan is a new round of funding to cover certain unpaid water, electric, natural gas or other utility bills. It would allocate \$120 million to provide assistance to residential utility customers with accounts over 60 days past due.

The State Corporation Commission would establish an application process to distribute the funds directly to utilities, according to the legislation. Funding is to be awarded proportionally based on the total amount of money owed.

The SCC doesn't currently have an accounting of what's owed, spokesman Ken Schrad said. The legislation directs the state to undertake one.

Utilities may ask customers to attest that they have experienced a

financial hardship due to the pandemic, according to the bill. They are not required to do so.

Dominion Energy Virginia, the state's largest electric monopoly, is excluded from the funding.

State regulators have routinely found that the company has over-earned, but Dominion has pushed through legislation in recent years that limited state regulators' ability to mandate refunds or rate reductions.

Instead of allowing Dominion to tap into the new pool of money, the budget contains language that says Dominion cannot disconnect certain low-income customers until March 1 of next year.

Rayhan Daudani, a Dominion spokesman, said the company has flexible payment options even for customers who don't fall into that category.

In addition to the rent and utility provisions aimed at helping Virginians, the budget also allocates money for various state agencies to pay for costs associated with the pandemic, including

\$34.8 million for the Department of Corrections to cover ongoing COVID testing, the purchase of personal protective equipment and the expansion of telehealth services and video visitation.

It further provides \$20 million to the Department of Health to provide targeted outreach on COVID-19 vaccines in hard-to-reach communities; \$10 million to backfill COVID-related revenue shortfalls at veterans' care centers; and \$15 million over two years to address Medicaid eligibility re-evaluations, appeals and operational backlogs at the Department of Medical Assistance Services due to COVID-19.

The budget also contains language clarifying that a state law prohibiting the wearing of masks in certain places doesn't apply to Virginians wearing a face covering to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The issue had been an area of some ambiguity since Virginia's state of emergency due to the pandemic lapsed at the end of June.

US jobless claims down 14,000 to as economy rebounds

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of Americans applying for unemployment benefits fell last week by 14,000 to 385,000, more evidence that the economy and the job market are rebounding briskly from the coronavirus recession.

The Labor Department reported Thursday that unemployment claims — a proxy for layoffs — dropped last week from a revised 399,000 the week before. The applications have more or less fallen steadily since topping 900,000 in early January. Still, they remain high by historic levels: Before the pandemic slammed the United States in March 2020, they were coming in at around 220,000 a week.

Since cratering in the spring of 2020, the U.S. economy has bounded back as the rollout of vaccines encourages businesses to reopen or return to normal operating hours and consumers to return to shops, restaurants and bars. The United States has been adding more than 540,000 jobs a month this year, and the Labor Department's July jobs report out

Friday is expected to show it tacked on nearly 863,000 more last month, according to a survey of economists by the data firm FactSet.

The U.S. economy is still 6.8 million jobs short of where it stood in February 2020.

Companies are posting job openings — a record 9.2 million in May — faster than applicants are showing up to fill them. Many states have responded to business complaints of a labor shortage by ending expanded federal unemployment benefits meant to ease financial strains from the health crisis, including an extra \$300 a week on top of traditional state benefits. The federal benefits are scheduled to expire nationwide Sept. 6.

Altogether, 13 million Americans were receiving some type of unemployment aid the week of July 17, down from 13.2 million the previous week and 32 million a year earlier.

The health crisis isn't over. COVID-19 cases are rising as the highly contagious delta variant spreads, largely among the unvaccinated.

Concerned about an Adult Home Alone in need of medical supervision?

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Northam: State workers must be vaccinated or tested

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Most of Virginia's state workers will have to be vaccinated or agree to regular COVID-19 testing, under a new requirement Gov. Ralph Northam announced Thursday.

The order will take effect Sept. 1 and will apply to more than 120,000 executive branch employees, the governor's office said in a news release.

"The three vaccines are safe, effective, free, and widely available, and I strongly urge every eligible Virginian to get their shot. The time for waiting is over," Northam, the nation's only doctor-governor, said in a statement.

The Democratic governor's directive comes as the delta variant has driven a national surge in COVID-19 cases, most of which involve unvaccinated people. President Joe Biden and a growing number of state and local governments and major employers are taking an increasingly hard line against vaccine holdouts.

Northam issued his order a day after Richmond Mayor Levar Stoney announced a decision to require workers in the capital city to get the vaccine or face disciplinary action. Virginia joins other states including California, New York and North Carolina, that have already taken similar measures.

Northam's order will require unvaccinated workers to show proof of negative tests weekly. When asked at a news conference what the penalty for noncompliance would be, the governor didn't answer directly.

"That's something I'll discuss with the employees," he said.

The order will cover about 122,000 workers at executive branch agencies such as the Virginia Employment Commission, Department of Motor Vehicles and Department of Transportation, and some staff at public colleges and universities. It applies to part-time and contract workers as well, said Northam's spokeswoman, Alena Yarmosky.

The directive won't apply to legislative or judicial branch workers or workers in K-12 schools, though Yarmosky said the governor is encouraging local governments to follow his lead.

Secretary of Administration Grindly Johnson, who oversees the Department of Human Resource Management, said the vaccination rate for state workers is currently about the same as the rate statewide: about 73% of adults have gotten at least one dose.

During the news conference, the governor also addressed the state's expired mask mandate and

the patchwork of rules local school divisions across the state have adopted in its absence.

While the governor has so far ruled out reinstating a mandate, he said Thursday that a law passed by the General Assembly earlier in the year mandating in-person instruction also requires school districts to follow mitigation strategies from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. CDC guidelines currently recommend indoor masks for all teachers, staff, students and visitors at schools nationwide, regardless of vaccination status.

"That law was passed by strong bipartisan vote of the legislature, and I expect school divisions to follow it. If they choose not to follow it, they should have a frank discussion with their legal counsel," he said.

When pressed on how the state might enforce his interpretation of the law, Northam again declined to elaborate.

Cases of COVID-19 in Virginia have been steadily increasing since mid-June but are still well below what they were at the height of the winter surge. According to an

Associated Press analysis of data from Johns Hopkins University, the rolling average of daily new cases has gone up by 812, an increase of 173.8%, over the past two weeks.

Hospitalizations from COVID-19 have followed a similar trend, about doubling during the same time period, according to a public dash-

board maintained by the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association. Health officials reported 669 hospitalizations for likely or confirmed COVID-19 cases Thursday — a serious jump but still far below many GOP-controlled states where hospitals are issuing dire warnings that they are running out of beds.

NRV Regional Commission gains \$2 million housing grant

RADFORD, Va. — A new source of funding will be helping the New River Valley Regional Commission provide more affordable housing to the region. Virginia Housing recently awarded the region a \$2 million grant for the creation of new housing initiatives.

"We are proud to provide these grants to Virginia's 21 PDCs," said Virginia Housing CEO Susan Dewey. "We have a close working relationship with these organizations, and this grant program will build upon that partnership by promoting regional approaches to housing development, enhancing collaboration between local housing service providers, and creating new affordable homes."

The grant funding will allow the New River Valley to pursue the development of a regional housing trust fund and the creation of at least 20 new affordable housing units in the region. Virginia Housing also provided funding for the region's Regional + Local Housing Study, released in April 2021.

"This grant is perfectly timed for the NRV to implement the innovative and carefully considered strategies identified in the Regional + Local Housing Study, which was released earlier this year," says Regional Commission Board Chair, Mike Maslaney. "The region understands the critical need housing

presents and is eager to participate in pursuing this opportunity for significant change. Regional cooperation will be essential to its success."

The grant program is a new initiative provided through Virginia Housing's REACH Virginia program. The program uses Virginia Housing's own resources to provide support to local housing groups, non-profits, developers and other partner groups working to meet affordable housing needs.

"We are pleased that Virginia Housing has made significant funding and strong collaboration with the PDCs a top priority in its efforts to support regional housing opportunities and solutions," said Kim Callis, president of the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions.

Kevin Byrd, executive director for the Regional Commission, says, "It has been a pleasure to work with Virginia Housing on the completion of the regional housing study, and we are grateful for their continued commitment to housing with the announcement of this new funding source. We look forward to the positive impact it will make within the region."

"Virginia Housing's grants will allow the PDCs to make development resources available to their housing partners and focus on regional priorities," said Chris Thompson, Virginia Housing's Strategic Housing Director.

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Fuente: ‘Excited’ to get Hokies’ season kicked off

Hokiesports.com

BLACKSBURG – Virginia Tech football head coach Justin Fuente, offensive coordinator Brad Cornelsen, defensive coordinator Justin Hamilton and select student-athletes took the podium on Wednesday and fielded questions from the media in the Beamer-Lawson Indoor Practice Facility.

Read what Fuente and others had to say:

HEAD COACH JUSTIN FUENTE

Opening statement:

“Obviously, we’re excited to get the season kicked off. I’m sure every coach on this day gets up and talks about how hard his kids have been working. Throughout the summertime, we had a huge emphasis on player-led activities, leadership, and I’m really, really proud of the way our kids handled the summertime. We had great work in the through spring practice, and the summer is when you get a chance to have some great player ownership of your team. I think we took huge strides forward with that. Our kids look like they’re in great shape. We’ve enjoyed a couple days off here leading up to report day and practice. We’re anxious and excited to go get started, we’ve got a lot of work to do. We’ve got a challenging schedule. But we’ve got a great group of young guys that I think are anxious to go get



Hokiesports.com

Virginia Tech head football coach Justin Fuente speaks to the media during Wednesday’s Media Day event.

after it.”

On the season opener against North Carolina:

“We’ve played in big opening games before. We haven’t really been a stranger to that, at least in our time here. So I don’t know that it changes a tremendous amount. And we have known for some time that with the advent of the ACC Network, that we were

going to play conference games to open up the season. I’m just happy that we’ve got one at home, it seems like we’ve been everywhere except home. So we’re excited about that part of it. But we will go about our installation the way that we did, before we played West Virginia or any of the other teams we’ve opened up against. We’ve got to install the fundamentals and evaluate the young

players. And then, with a week and a half or two weeks left to go, you have to turn your attention to your first opponent.”

On entering camp with no quarterback competition:

“We’ll continue to do it like we always do it. Guys that deserve reps will continue to get reps, and guys that prove that they don’t deserve reps will get less rounds.

If it heads that way, in the quarterback room or in the wide receiver room or in the linebacker room, that’s how I operate. But I don’t know that naming Braxton (Burmeister) as the starter really changed anything, it just is nice to know that. You know that’s the direction you’re clearly heading. That is a nice feeling to

See HOKIES, page B2

PCHS to sell All-Sports Passes

Pulaski County High School is pleased to announce we will again be selling All Sports Passes. The All Sports Pass for the 2021-2022 school year will be available at the following prices:

Individual Student: \$55

Individual Adult: \$80

This pass will grant admission to all fall, winter, and spring home contests (excluding benefit games, district tournaments, and state playoffs). This is a great money saving option for PCHS Sports Fans. The All Sports Passes will go on sale Monday, August 9, 2021 in the PCHS front office. The passes will also be available for purchase at the PCHS Open House/Back to School Nights. We appreciate all those who support Cougar Athletics through this purchase!!

Scott Vest
Pulaski County High School
Athletic & Activities Director

NASCAR returns to Watkins Glen International as playoff races near

From NASCAR

With great anticipation the NASCAR Cup Series returns to New York’s Watkins Glen International for the 23rd race of the 2021 season, the Go Bowling at The Glen, this Sunday, August 8 at 3 p.m. ET on NBCSN, MRN and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio. Not only has the NASCAR Cup Series been on a two-week Summer hiatus while the Olympics were held, but the series also hasn’t been to Watkins Glen International since 2019 due to restrictions and schedule changes brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Watkins Glen International is one of four tracks left in the regular season to decide who makes it to the Playoffs in 2021. This weekend will be the 38th running of a NASCAR Cup Series race at Watkins Glen. The 2.45-mile

road course located near Watkins Glen, NY is a multi-elevation course that provides great high-speed racing.

The previous 37 NASCAR Cup Series races have produced 22 different poles winners and 23 different race winners. The first NASCAR Cup Series race at Watkins Glen International was in 1957 and won by NASCAR Hall of Famer Bobby Baker (83.064 mph, 08/04/1957). Over the years the series has changed the race length at Watkins Glen three times. The first NASCAR Cup Series race at Watkins Glen was scheduled for 101.2-miles in 1957, the second race was 161.7-miles (1964) and the third race was 151.8-miles (1965). Every race since has been scheduled for 220.5-miles (90 laps).

NASCAR Hall of Famer Dale Earnhardt (1990, ’92, ’96), Mark Martin (1993, ’94, ’95) and Jeff

Gordon (1998, ’03, ’14) lead the NASCAR Cup Series in poles at Watkins Glen International with three poles each. Joe Gibbs Racing’s Kyle Busch leads all active drivers in poles at Watkins Glen with two (2011, ’17). This weekend’s starting lineup was set per Metric Qualifying and as a result Team Penske’s Brad Keselowski will start from the pole, and his teammate Joey Logano will join him on the front row.

NASCAR Hall of Famer Tony Stewart leads the NASCAR Cup Series in victories at Watkins Glen International with five (2002, ’04, ’05, ’07 and ’09); one win shy of tying the series record for most road course wins at a single track at six held by NASCAR Hall of Famer Bobby Allison at Riverside Raceway (. Hendrick Motorsport’s Chase Elliott (2018, 2019) and Joe Gibbs Racing’s Kyle Busch (2008, 2013) lead all active NASCAR Cup Series drivers in wins at Watkins Glen International with two victories each. Elliott is also the most recent winner at the 2.45-mile track dominating the 2019 NASCAR Cup Series event leading 80 of the 90 scheduled laps (88.9%).

Hamlin continues to try to hold Larson off for the regular season title

Joe Gibbs Racing’s Denny Hamlin has just four regular season races left to hold off Hendrick Motorsport’s Kyle Larson for the 2021 NASCAR Cup Series Regular Season Championship. Larson has closed the points gap to as little as two points following the second race at Pocono, but since then Hamlin has been able to open the points cushion up between the two to 13 points heading into this weekend at Watkins Glen International.

Hamlin has held the NASCAR Cup Series driver standings lead since the second race of the season at the Daytona Road Course. This season Hamlin has yet to win but has put up 11 top fives (tied for series-most this season with Larson), and 15 top 10s (tied for series-most this season with Larson and Kevin Harvick).

Larson on the other hand was 12th in the NASCAR Cup Series driver standings following the second race of the season 51 points back from Hamlin. Since then, Larson has rallied off four wins (series-most) and

See NASCAR, page B3

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Hokies

Continued from Page B1

have. That’s pretty much where we are, and we feel good about that. We look forward to helping him push along and then also bringing those guys behind it all. I know it’s a lot easier on that one person. It’s definitely easier on Braxton. I don’t know that it’s better or worse for the football team between having a competition or basically knowing who the guy is going to be. But it’s certainly better for that person in the comfort of their own skin, without a doubt.”

On which players Coach Fuente’s family likes:

“Tyrell Smith is the favorite player in the house, period. He’s got longevity. I don’t know how many times he’s graduated from college, but he’s a favorite one, by far. My daughters call him “Juicy.” I’m looking forward to seeing Dean Ferguson, somebody that has contributed for us on special teams. He and Dax (Hollifield) are playing Mike linebacker, and Dean’s made huge strides. I feel great that Dean’s gonna be a really good player. CJ McCray is one that

kind of passed a little bit under the radar when he came here from Marshall. I haven’t seen practice one day, but I can tell you, he’s in the mold of Alan Tisdale. This is a longer guy that can really run that’s gained weight like Alan, that gets you excited about some length and athleticism there on the defensive side of the ball at linebacker.”

OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR BRAD CORNELSEN

Opening statement:

“Before we get started, I’m just excited about where our team is. I’m sure I’m echoing what Coach Fuente said about our team this summer and the position that they’ve put themselves in. The mission is for those guys to give themselves a chance to have a great fall camp, so credit to them and the work they put in the summer. Not only Ben [Hilgart] and the staff in the weight room, but all the other people that spent the summer up here getting our guys ready to go from the nutrition staff, training room staff, and so

on so forth. [I’m] just excited to get ready. The team looks good and [is] in position to give themselves a chance to have a great fall camp.”

On how to assess the running back situation without Khalil Herbert:

“Those guys that have some experience, you know from Raheem [Blackshear], Jalen [Holston], Keshawn [King]. Those are the guys kind of with the most experience underneath them heading into fall. Those will be the guys that kind of mix in the most there with probably the first group up front. Khalil had a great year. he took some nice seams up in front of him and turned them into huge plays. We’re going to miss that and it’s time for you know for the next guy to step up and to fill those shoes. That’s not easy to fill those kinds of shoes with a season like that and kind of production he had. We’ve got capable guys with explosiveness. Guys that can do the same.”

DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR

NASCAR

Continued from Page B1

has matched Hamlin in top fives (11) and top 10s (15) closing the points lead over second in the standings to just 13 points.

Over the next four races expect the battle between Hamlin and Larson to heat up. Not only does the winner of the Regular Season Championship get a trophy and the prestige but also 15 Playoff points to take into the postseason.

Looking ahead to the next four races here are the career statistics for Hamlin and Larson at each track:

Watkins Glen International

Denny Hamlin has made 14 starts at the 2.45-mile road course posting one win (2016), four top fives and seven top 10s. His average finish at the track is 16.3.

Kyle Larson has made six series starts at the 2.45-mile road course putting up one top five and three top 10s. His average finish at the track is 13.7.

Indianapolis Motor Speedway

Both Denny Hamlin and Kyle Larson will be making their series track debuts next weekend at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Road Course. It will be the first time the NASCAR Cup Series has competed on the 2.439-mile road course configuration at

Indianapolis.

Michigan International Speedway

Denny Hamlin has made 30 starts at the 2.5-mile highspeed oval posting two wins (2010, 2011), nine top fives and 15 top 10s. His average finish at the track is 13.2.

Kyle Larson has made 12 starts at Michigan accumulating three wins (2016, 2017 sweep), five top fives and six top 10s. His average finish at the track is 12.4.

Daytona International Speedway

Denny Hamlin has made 31 starts at the ‘World Center of Racing’ grabbing three wins (all Daytona 500s – 2016, 2019, 2020), 11 top fives and 12 top 10s. His average finish at the track is 16.0.

Kyle Larson has made 14 starts at Daytona posting five top 10s. His average finish at the track is 21.1.

If Hamlin or Larson win the 2021 NASCAR Cup Series Regular Season Championship, the winner will become just the fourth different driver in series history to win the prestigious award.



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Phone: 540.320.9341

PET OF THE WEEK



Asia is a 2 year old Blue Heeler. Given her breed, she is high energy and is rather timid. She should not be around livestock, especially goats without proper training. She is spayed and up to date on vaccines. If you are interested in

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.

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JUSTIN HAMILTON

On the impact of physical size on the defensive line position group:


“You hope so. I mean for use you know, (Barno) really was just scratching the surface of his knowledge of the position last year when we moved him there and throughout the course of the year. Hopefully, he’s a guy that can do some things that either get quality matchups for himself or create quality matchups for the other guys inside. That’s something that as we go through fall camp, and we’re looking forward to see how that progresses.”

On what strides DB Chamari Conner has made on the field?

“Let me go back and we first got him or when I first got him in 2019, he was very raw. From a drill perspective, from technique, backpedaling, transitioning, pad level, he was very raw. I mean,

you could see the skills that he was very raw. We’ve seen him fine tune that. He’s a guy that if you come over here on a Saturday or Sunday, when we’re not in practice, not working, it’s not uncommon at all to see him out there on the grass working by himself. He was working on the sled one day last year. I just so happened to see that. He’s out in the sandpit. He’s a guy that works on his craft and he’s gotten much better at understanding what formations means, what splits mean, what receiver’s strengths and weaknesses mean, what the meters of receivers mean, pre snap reads for quarterbacks. He’s developed a lot in those areas. He still has a lot of room where he can improve, he knows that and he will work towards that. As far as a technician, that’s where I’ve seen him make the most strides. He’s always been an aggressive contacts seeker. But technically, he’s become much more sound.”

LEGAL NOTICE




**Public Hearing
Regarding
Appropriation of Funds**

The Town Council of the Town of Pulaski, Virginia will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 42 First Street, N.W. to appropriate grant funds for the James Hardie Direct Injection Project as follows:

Agency	Amount of Grant
From: James Hardie Building Products	\$392,300
To: Grant Fund- Direct Injection Project-James Hardie	\$392,300

All persons desiring to speak for or against the proposed grant fund appropriation should appear at the aforementioned time and place or submit their comments in writing to the Town Manager prior to the public hearing.

For disabled individuals who may require special auxiliary aids or services, reasonable accommodations will be made by the Town upon request. Please contact the Town Manager’s Office at (540)-994-8600 prior to the above meeting date to arrange these accommodations. For individuals with visual or hearing impairment, contact Virginia Relay at 7-1-1 for assistance in reaching the Town.




**VIRGINIA
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**COMMONWEALTH
OF VIRGINIA
REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Hearings to solicit public comments on the drawing of state and congressional legislative districts in Virginia.

A total of eight public hearings will be held in July and August. Hearings are scheduled regionally both in person and virtually. Hearings will be livestreamed and archived online

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Senators wrapping up \$1T infrastructure bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearing decision time, senators are wrapping up work on the bipartisan infrastructure plan and talks were underway Thursday to expedite consideration of the nearly \$1 trillion proposal, with votes expected in the days ahead.

A much anticipated analysis of the bill from the Congressional Budget Office concluded that the legislation would increase the national debt by about \$256 billion over the next decade. Senators wanted that information before votes on the package, which could start soon and push into Saturday.

The Senate has processed nearly two dozen amendments to the 2,700-page bill, a rare legislative undertaking, with more on tap. But none has substantially changed the framework of the public works package, which would send money for roads, bridges, water works, broadband and other projects to virtually every corner of the nation, and is a first phase of President Joe Biden’s infrastructure priorities.

“We can bring this bill to a close very shortly,” said Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y.

The package looks on track for Senate passage, a rare accord be-

tween Republicans and Democrats joining on a shared priority that also is essential to Biden’s agenda.

Once the bill clears the Senate, lawmakers will turn to the much more partisan undertaking on the next phase of Biden’s agenda: a \$3.5 trillion proposal for what the White House calls human infrastructure — child care support, home health care, education and other expenditures that are Democratic priorities that Republicans have pledged to reject. Debate will extend into the fall.

Schumer wants the Senate to pass both the bipartisan package

and a budget blueprint for the bigger proposal before senators depart for an August recess.

Dividing lines set, senators are eager to wrap up.

“I don’t think anybody’s looking to extend this out any longer than necessary,” Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, told reporters.

Key to watch will be how many Republicans join what’s expected to be all Democrats in supporting the bipartisan package as it heads toward votes.

Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky had promised to be “100% focused” on stopping Biden’s agenda, but when it comes to the bipartisan infrastructure plan, he’s sounding like a go.

Republicans are almost certain to split over that bill, and McConnell’s eventual vote will carry weight.

McConnell has been acting and voting like a lawmaker ready to set aside — for a few days, anyway — his reputation as a roadblock for one of the Democratic president’s chief legislative priorities, opening the door to potentially giving his support for final passage.

“There’s an excellent chance it will be a success story for the country,” McConnell said Tuesday.

The package has much for senators to support, as they tap federal dollars for big-ticket public works projects that their states and cities are typically unable to support on their own.

In days of debate, senators backing the bipartisan package have risen to speak about it on the Senate

floor.

Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, has spoken of the dire need to bring running water to rural parts of her state, particularly during the COVID-19 crisis.

Sen. Bill Cassidy, R-La., has focused on money to curb coastal erosion in his state and elsewhere.

Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., talked about how \$110 billion in new money for roads and bridges would mean access to markets for farms in Montana such as his own.

McConnell’s vote could make or break the package, serving up a victory for Biden with passage or delivering another failure by Washington to address the nation’s infrastructure needs. The Trump administration was unable to follow through on President Donald Trump’s call for investing trillions of dollars in infrastructure.

Republican strategist Scott Jennings, a longtime McConnell ally, said it’s easy to see how McConnell could get to “yes” on this first part of Biden’s infrastructure priorities.

“Just listen to what he said,” Jennings said. “He always said it should be a smaller package focused on roads bridges airports and broadband.”

Politically, the votes ahead could be a win-win for McConnell and Republicans to show some bipartisanship on this first package while launching into a strictly partisan broadside against the larger plan.

School Policy for Free Meals

2020-21 POLICY FOR PROVIDING FREE MEALS FOR SCHOOL DIVISIONS PARTICIPATING IN THE COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION (CEP) FOR ALL SCHOOLS IN THE DIVISION (Divisionwide)

August 6th, 2021

Pulaski County Public Schools

Today announced its policy for providing free meals to all children served under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. Each school and/or central school nutrition office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party. All schools in the division will be participating in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) as implemented under the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. Enrolled students will be provided a nutritious meal for breakfast and lunch each day at no charge to the household. Households will not be required to submit a meal application form to receive meals at no charge. Each household will receive a letter informing them of the program, including contact information for any questions. Any questions can be directed to:

Name: Ethelene W. Sadler

Title: Director

Address: 202 N. Washington Avenue – Pulaski, VA 24301

Phone: 540 994 2523

E-mail: esadler@pcva.us



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August 1st - 31st 2021

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Time: 7 pm Nightly August 1st Thru August 31st

Speakers: Sun. 1st Dave & Marisol Scott, Mon. 2nd Mike Ingo, Tues. 3rd Doug Patterson, Wed. 4th—Fri. 6th Doug Duncan, Sat. 7th—Mon. 9th Ralph Parker, Tues. 10th Virginia (Ginger) Riggins, Wed. 11th Charlie Barbettini, Thurs. 12th Joyce Greer, Fri. 13th Sherman Buckner, Sat. 14th Dedrick Phillips, Sun. 15th Dave & Marisol Scott, Mon. 16th Jarrod Midkiff, Tues. 17th Barbara Kidd, Wed. 18th Harley Phillips, Thurs. 19th—Sat. 21st Paul Robertson (All For Jesus Ministries), Sun. 22nd Eric Watson, Mon. 23rd Jarrod Midkiff, Tues. 24th—Wed. 25th Todd Garwood, Thurs. 26th—Sat. 28th Steve Board, Sun. 29th Terry Simone, Mon. 30th—Tues. 31st Jeff Furrow.

Bus ride departs 6 pm nightly from Taking It To The Streets Ministries 223 N. Washington Ave. Pulaski VA.

Please Note: Food / Clothing Event at Ministry Sat. Aug. 21st 11 am till 1 pm. Free To Go Meals with Manwich Sandwiches, Chips, Dessert and Drinks. The Clothing Bank will be open with Free Men’s, Women’s, Boys and Girls Clothing.

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For More Information Contact: Charlie Barbettini. : 276.620.4293

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Automakers pledge to increase U.S. electric vehicle sales

WASHINGTON (AP) — Declaring the U.S. must “move fast” to win the carmaking future, President Joe Biden on Thursday touted a commitment from the auto industry to make electric vehicles up to half of U.S. sales by the end of the decade.

Biden wants automakers to raise gas mileage and cut tailpipe pollution between now and model year 2026. That would mark a significant step toward meeting his pledge to cut emissions and battle climate change as he pushes a history-making shift in the U.S. from internal combustion engines to battery-powered vehicles.

He also urged that the components needed to make that sweeping change — from batteries to semi-conductors — be made in the United States, reflecting a balance to gain both industry and union support for the environmental effort, with the future promise of new jobs and billions in new federal investments in electric vehicles.

Pointing to electric vehicles parked on the White House South Lawn, the president declared them a “vision of the future that is now beginning to happen.”

“The question is whether we lead or fall behind in the race for the future,” he said, “Folks, the rest of the world is moving ahead. We have to catch up.”

In obvious good spirits, the president hopped in an electric-powered Jeep Rubicon and took a quick drive around the driveway after the ceremony.

Earlier Thursday, the administration announced there would be new mileage and anti-pollution standards from the Environmental Protection Agency and Transportation Department, part of Biden’s goal to cut U.S. greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030. It said the auto industry had agreed to a target that 40% to 50% of new vehicle sales be electric by 2030.

Both the regulatory standards and the automakers’ voluntary

target were included in an executive order that Biden signed as the gathering of auto industry leaders and lawmakers applauded.

The standards, which have to go through the regulatory process including public comments, would reverse fuel economy and anti-pollution rollbacks done under President Donald Trump. At that time, the increases were reduced to 1.5% annually through model year 2026.

Still, it remained to be seen how quickly consumers would be willing to embrace higher mileage, lower-emission vehicles over less fuel-efficient SUVs, currently the industry’s top seller. The 2030 EV targets ultimately are nonbinding, and the industry stressed that billions of dollars in electric-vehicle investments in legislation pending in Congress will be vital to meeting those goals.

Only 2.2% of new vehicle sales were fully electric vehicles through June, according to Edmunds.com estimates. That’s up from 1.4% at the same time last year.

Biden has long declared himself “a car guy,” his blue collar political persona intertwined with support for union workers and his role, as vice president, in steadying the auto industry after the economic collapse in 2008. He also joked to Mary Barra, the CEO of General Motors, that he wanted to reserve a test drive.

“I have a commitment from Mary: When they make the first electric Corvette, I get to drive it,” Biden said. “Right, Mary? You think I’m kidding. I’m not kidding.”

The new standards would cut greenhouse gas emissions and raise fuel economy by 10% over the Trump rules in car model year 2023, followed by 5% increases in reductions in each model year through 2026, according to an EPA statement. That’s about a 25% increase over four years.

“These robust standards are underpinned by sound science and technical expertise, encouraging

the development of technology and innovation that will drive America forward into a clean energy future,” EPA Administrator Michael Regan said in the statement.

Last week, The Associated Press and other news organizations reported that the Biden administration was discussing weaker mileage requirements with automakers, but they apparently have been strengthened. The change came after environmental groups complained publicly that they were too weak to address a serious problem.

Transportation is the single biggest U.S. contributor to climate change. Autos in the U.S. spewed 824 million tons (748 million metric tons) of heat-trapping carbon dioxide in 2019, about 14% of total U.S. emissions, according to the EPA.

The voluntary deal with automakers defines electric vehicles

as plug-in hybrids, fully electric vehicles and those powered by hydrogen fuel cells.

Environmental groups welcomed the movement but also said the administration should move faster.

“This proposal helps get us back on the road to cleaning up tailpipe pollution,” said Simon Mui of the Natural Resources Defense Council. “But given how climate change has already turned our weather so violent, it’s clear that we need to dramatically accelerate progress.”

Scientists say human-caused global warming is increasing temperatures, raising sea levels and worsening wildfires, droughts, floods and storms globally.

“We urgently need to cut greenhouse gas pollution, and voluntary measures won’t cut it,” Becker said.

Several automakers already have announced similar electric

vehicle sales goals to those in the deal with the government. Last week, for instance, Ford’s CEO said his company expects 40% of its global sales to be fully electric by 2030. General Motors has said it aspires to sell only electric passenger vehicles by 2035. Stellantis, formerly Fiat Chrysler, also pledged over 40% electrified vehicles by 2030.

The Trump rollback of the Obama-era standards would require a projected 29 mpg in “real world” stop-and-start driving by 2026. It wasn’t clear what the real world mileage would be under the Biden standards. Under Obama administration rules, it would have increased to 37 mpg.

Automakers said they would work toward the 40% to 50% electric vehicle sales goal.

“You can count on Toyota to do our part,” said Ted Ogawa, the company’s North America CEO.

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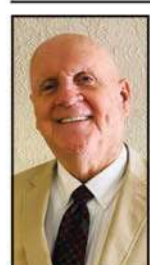
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Teach Me Your Word O Lord

Terry McCraw

David Takes A Wife

In 1 Samuel Chapter 25, the bible speaks of a godly woman by the name of Abigail who was married to a rich man by the name of Nabal.

Abigail was intelligent and very beautiful. The Talmud names her as one of four women of surpassing beauty in the world.” She possessed a winning combination, brains and beauty.

1 Samuel 25:2. “And there was a man in Maon, whose possessions were in Carmel; and the man was very great, and he had 3,000 sheep and 1,000 goats. And he was shearing his sheep in Carmel. Now the name of the man was Nabal; and the name of his wife, Abigail. And she was a woman of good understanding, and of a beautiful countenance. But the man was churlish, and evil in his doings; and he was of the house of Caleb.” He was selfish, stubborn, rude, and ill-mannered. His name meant “fool” which usually means both stupid and godless as well.

Abigail was the complete opposite of Nabal. She was a diamond and he was a zircon. She was a winner and he was a loser. She was true gold and he was fool’s gold.

Nabal was a son of Belial. Belial was a personification of the devil. A son of Belial was what people called someone who was very wicked and vile. A son of the Devil. But apparently he kept that part of himself, hidden, until after the wedding.

Abigail was in a bad marriage, but she was toughing it out. She didn’t blame her parents, herself or God. Abigail was true to her vows. She tried her best to make the marriage work.

Verses 4 through 11. “And David heard in the wilderness that Nabal did shear his sheep. And David sent out ten young men, and David said unto the young men, get you up to Carmel, and go to Nabal and greet him in my name. And Nabal answered David’s servants, and said, who is David? And who is the son of Jesse? There be many servants now a days that break away every man from his master. Shall I then take MY bread and MY water, and MY flesh that I have killed for MY shearers, and give it unto men whom I know not whence they be?”

Sheep shearing time was a festive occasion. It was a time when everyone received a goodly portion of food and drink. Nabal had more than enough to spare. But yet, Nabal wouldn’t even share even a morsel of what he had with David and his men. Too greedy and too cheap to help those who had been gracious enough to help him in the past.

One day after David and his men had stood watch over the herds and household of Nabal for a very long time, David sent 10 young men to request food and drink from Nabal, as a payment of gratitude for their guarding the possessions and lives of Nabal and his family. But Nabal treated David’s men disrespectfully and with contempt. He refused to grant David’s request.

When David heard about the shoddy way that Nabal had treated his men, and his refusal to give them not even a tiny morsel of food, he became furious. He wanted to shed some blood over the matter and had every intention

See **MCCRAW**, page B7

Draper Valley Baptist Church

3200 Lee Highway
Draper, Va. 24324
Pastor: Alan Pearce
Service Times:
Bible Study Sunday, 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening, 5 p.m.
email: drapervalleybc@gmail.com
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: Rev. Jason Crandall
423-716-2570
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: Jim Goddard
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 Street, Dublin, VA 24084
540-674-6061
secretary@dublinbaptistva.org
Website: dublinbaptistva.org
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship: 11 a.m.
Wednesday Youth Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Allisonia Pentecostal Holiness Church

1560 Julia Simpkins Road
Allisonia, VA
Pastor Justin Phillips
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship: 6 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
Hispanic Lay Pastor: Sebastian Ruiz
Sunday Service: 10:00 AM
Hispanic Worship: 11:00AM
Contact Info. Phone: 540.980.3331
e-mail: office@fumcpulask.org website: www.fumcpulask.org
FACEBOOK @FirstUMCPulaski and WBLB 10:00am

Belspring Baptist Church

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

Memorial Baptist Church

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

River of Life Church

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

Delton Church of God of Prophecy

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

Heritage Church

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

Fairlawn Baptist

6758 Oxford Avenue
Fairlawn, VA 24141

First Missionary Baptist Church

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

Dublin United Methodist Church

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

Freedom Fellowship Church

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

Draper’s Valley Presbyterian (PCA)

2755 Old Baltimore Road,
Draper, VA 24324
Senior Pastor: Rev. Robert E. Davis
Associate Pastor: Rev. Roland Mathews
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship Service 10:30 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 • 10:30 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.psalml@gmail.com
Cell) 540-320-2431
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship (with children's message): 11 a.m.
Bible Study, Wednesday: 7 p.m.
Youth Ministry
Facebook.com/
Fairlawn-United-Methodist-Church

Grace Ministries

Church of God of Prophecy

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

Faith Bible Church

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

Dublin Christian Church

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

First Presbyterian Church

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

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

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

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

Community Christian Church
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 Jim Goddard
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

First Baptist Church
220 Magazine Street
Pulaski, VA 24301
540-980-3336
Email: firstbaptist220@gmail.com
Pastor: Rev. Douglas Patterson
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Monday's Child Youth Group, Monday
Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Pulaski Presbyterian Church (PCA)
975 Memorial Drive
Pulaski, VA 24301
Office Phone: 980-2631
Email: pastor@pulaskipca.org
Website: www.pulaskipca.org
Stated Supply: Rev. John Gess
Sunday School: 10:00am
Worship Service: 11:00am

Sure Foundation Christian Fellowship
6598 Annie Akers Road
Radford, VA 24141
(540) 639-3443
Pastor Steve Phillips
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00 am
Sunday Night Prayer: 5:30 pm
Wednesday Night
Prophetic Teaching: 6:30 pm

New Hope Chapel
1555 Case Knife Road
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor Darrell Gray
(276) 733-6080
Pastor Gray and congregation invite you to
New Hope Chapel.
Service Times:
10 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Sunday Service

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

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Pulaski 980-6160	Dublin 674-4665
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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. Francis Boateng
Mass: 11 a.m. Sunday

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.

Pathway to Heaven Worship Center
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 434
Dublin, VA 24084
Physical Address: 7889 Cleburne Blvd.
Dublin, VA 24084
Pastor Winfred Keene - Phone 540-239-8092
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship: 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
Tuesday Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Amazing Grace Ministries
4892 Veterans Hill Road
Pulaski, VA
Pastor Todd Garwood
(540) 250-3741
ttgarwood674@gmail.com

McCraw

Continued from Page B6

of doing so.

So David took 400 of his fierce, fighting men with their swords strapped on, and they rushed over to Carmel, with orders to kill every male there. Young and old. And Nabal for sure!

When Abigail heard the news of the impending attack of David and his mighty men of war, she rushed over to David bringing with her a huge load of food and drink.

David's anger was out of control. He had murder in his heart.

But Abigail came to him, and humbly fell down at David's feet, and bowed herself to the ground. And she took the blame for the incident.

So she cried out to David, "Let this sin that has been committed be on me. Let me be held responsible for the disrespectful, ungrateful way your men were treated and denied help. Let me speak to the whole audience of you and your men. Don't regard my husband. He is of Belial, and he is a fool, as his name implies."

Abigail said to David: "Let me give you some good advice David. This thing that you are planning to do is not of God. You are planning on shedding innocent blood. So if your anger demands blood, let your anger be on me. Forgive me, your handmaid."

God spoke to David, through this godly woman. Abigail had a right relationship with God and God showed her how she needed to advise David.

David knew right off that she was sent from God to keep him from making a tremendous mistake. To keep him from doing something in anger that would have hurt him in the future. He would have been labeled as a murderer from that time on.

He said "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, which sent thee this day to meet me. And blessed be the good advice you have given to me for you have kept me from avenging myself by shedding blood."

Afterwards, Abigail came back home to Nabal. But he was drunk so she didn't tell him that day what she had done. The next day after he sobered up, she told him that she had saved them all from being killed by the sword by going to David with provisions, and advising David not to take revenge on Nabal and his family, and his servants, and his livestock. When Nabal heard that, the bible says, "His heart died within him. And he became a stone." About ten days after that, the Lord smote Nabal and he died.

Abigail was in a bad situation. She was in a dead end marriage. She was married to a Son of the devil so to speak. And yet, Abigail did all she could do to make her marriage work.

She didn't try to find a way to free herself from the bad marriage. She trusted God with her situation, and God brought her through her problems, and into a much better life. She later became the wife of David and a Queen of Israel.

Like Abigail, we should lean on the Lord, asking Him to help us in our daily struggles and then wait upon the Lord for Him to bring us through it.

Bible Trivia

1. Is the book of Lamentations in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Who used the excuse, "My family is poor, and I am the least in my father's house"? Aaron, David, Gideon, Jeroboam
3. With what kind of leaves did Adam and Eve attempt to cover their nakedness? Sycamore, Fig, Palm, Grape
4. From Judges 7, with how many men did Gideon defeat the Midianites? 3, 30, 300, 3000
5. Who was the mother of Ishmael? Tabitha, Hagar, Ruth, Mary
6. What was the homeland of Job? Thyatira, Ur, Corinth, Uz

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Gideon; 3) Fig; 4) 300; 5) Hagar; 6) Uz

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

Hate Knows No Bounds

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

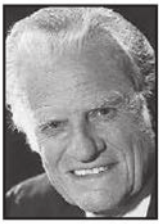
Q: I grew up hearing that jealousy is a worse sin than hatred. Which sin is worse? - H.J.

A: Sin is sin, but it is true that hate knows no bounds. It is in motion at every level. "Look Out for Number One," has become the motto of scores of people. To make good, they kick anyone who threatens their way of life - no matter how dark.

One of the reasons hatred abounds all over the world stems from jealousy. Satan's hatred

of God was due to jealousy. At no time in history was hatred on display more than during the time of Jesus on Earth. Herod hated Him because of fear that the Baby Jesus would someday become King. Herod caused the slaughter of infant children in and around the village of Bethlehem so that the prophecy would not come to pass.

We are living in a world that hates. We have even seen violence prompted by hatred within church buildings. Hatred is carried out against those who desire more than anything to preach



My Answer

Billy Graham

the love of the Lord Jesus Christ and demonstrate compassion for those who suffer.

Hatred is a social cancer that gnaws at the vitals of our people. It threatens the freedom of worshipping Jesus Christ as witnessed in every continent. Hatred is

rampant - a sign of the depravity of the human race. The Bible teaches hatred is sin.

The Bible also teaches that God is a God of love (1 John 4:8). Love is a basic part of God's nature. Whoever you are, whatever your circumstances - God loves you and He is waiting for you to come to Him in repentance of sin. Rejection of Christ is hatred of Him. Say an eternal "Yes" to Christ and make Him the Lord of your life.

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

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

I TOLD MY PARENTS IF THEY BEAT US AT HIDE AND SEEK I WOULD DO THE DISHES.

MY DAD'S NO PROBLEM. HE'S EASY TO HIDE FROM AND DOESN'T LOOK TOO HARD.

NOW, MY MOM, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS GOING TO BE A LOT TOUGHER.

SHE CLAIMS TO HAVE EYES IN THE BACK OF HER HEAD.

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

COMMA CHAMELEON...

GET RICH QUICK

INVEST IN BITCOIN?

GET RICH, QUICK

GRAB HIM BEFORE THE LOPs GET HERE...

R.F.D.

by Mike Marland

I DON'T LIKE TO MOW MY LAWN THE SAME WAY TWICE

SO ONCE I'VE RUN OUT OF DIFFERENT WAYS TO MOW IT...

I'M DONE FOR THE YEAR.

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

YOU'RE NOT JUST LAZY...

...YOU'RE SUPER LAZY!!

MAYBE I SHOULD WEAR A CAPE?

POPEYE

HEY CFSMAN

I'M HOME, MAW!

THAT'S GOOD, SONNY!

Y'WOULDN'T 'INK Y' KIN GIT SO HONGRY PLAYIN' POOL!

I'M GLAD T'SEE YER COOKIN' CUZ I'M STARVED!

YER IN LUCK! WUZ WATCHIN' TH' FOOD CHANNEL...

...DE WUZ FEATURIN' SEAFOOD...

...DEY TAUGHT ME A FLOCK OF RECIPES!

A DELICIOUS STEAM'D LOBSTER ALA BORDEAUX!

DEN A SOF' BY SHELL CRAB ALA CANTONESE...

...FOLLER'D BY A LEMON SOLE ALA MILANESE

TH' SHRIMP DISH ALA N'ORLEANS WUZ SPECIALLY EXCITIN'!

WOT DIDJA END UP MAKIN'?

SARDINE SANGWICH ALA MAMA

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

OH, HONEY, THIS PLACE IS SO FANCY. TIMES LIKE THIS REMIND ME WHY I MARRIED YOU, AND THERE'S DEFINITELY TIMES I NEED REMINDING.

LAFF - A - DAY

"Hi. You probably don't remember me..."



"I'd admire his grim determination if it weren't to remain _____."

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!

Curio FILTER

Curve RUNT

Austere BORES

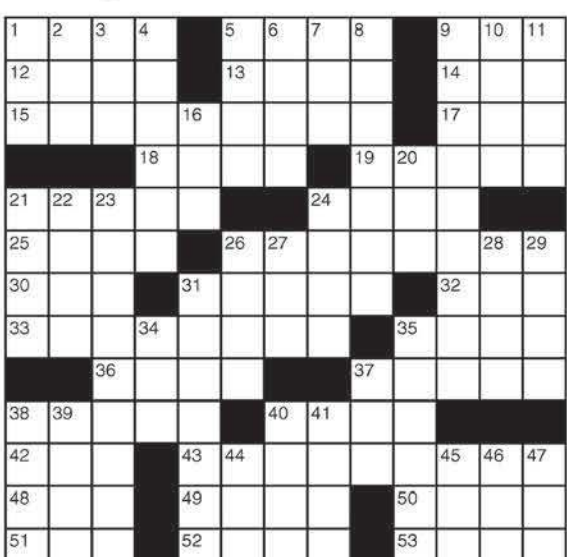
Shiver GENTIL

TODAY'S WORD

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Glitz partner
- 5 Body powder
- 9 Use a straw
- 12 Andean land
- 13 Jannings of old films
- 14 Travail
- 15 Former Cubs slugger
- 17 Tolkien creature
- 18 Porgy's love
- 19 Witherspoon of "Wild"
- 21 Inventor Nikola
- 24 Pugilist's weapon
- 25 Yard tool
- 26 "CSI" procedures
- 30 Egg (Pref.)
- 31 Topped with froth
- 32 Picnic dessert
- 33 Like ghost towns
- 35 Dog's treasure
- 36 Cambodia neighbor
- 37 "What the Butler Saw" playwright
- 38 Ink stains
- 40 Onetime "This Old House" host Bob
- 42 Back talk
- 43 "Georgia on My Mind," for



- 7 Fleur-de- —
- 8 Gem's feature
- 9 Ideal place on a tennis racket
- 10 Charged bits
- 11 Seeger or Sampras
- 16 Verily
- 20 Jargon suffix
- 21 Walked (on)
- 22 Roof overhang
- 23 Aspen attractions
- 24 Notoriety
- 26 "— you're told!"
- 27 Rebel Turner
- 28 Ex-Yankee
- 29 Beheld
- 31 Heeded dental advice
- 34 Feedbag morsel
- 35 Obstreperous
- 37 Flamenco cheer
- 38 Online journal
- 39 Turkish money
- 40 Expansive
- 41 — bitty
- 44 Greek cross
- 45 Discoverer's call
- 46 Pester
- 47 "Today" rival, briefly

DOWN

- 1 Family docs
- 2 Grazing land
- 3 Branch
- 4 Speak unclearly
- 5 Dick Tracy's love
- 6 Hebrew prophet

top ten

SURPRISINGLY DANGEROUS FOODS FOR DOGS

- 1. Popcorn
- 2. Avocado (skin)
- 3. Macadamia nuts
- 4. Grapes
- 5. Onions/garlic
- 6. Tomato plants
- 7. Raw potatoes
- 8. Coffee/tea
- 9. Dairy*
- 10. Sugar-free gum

*Yes, even cheese!

Source: rover.com

Trivia test

- by Fifi Rodriguez
- 1. GEOGRAPHY: In which European city would you find the Spanish Steps?
 - 2. TELEVISION: What were the names of the parents on the animated TV show "The Jetsons"?
 - 3. LITERATURE: Which 20th-century novel begins with the line, "This is my favorite book in all the world, though I have never read it"?
 - 4. U.S. STATES: What is the state capital of Nevada?
 - 5. HISTORY: What was the pen name used to publish The Federalist Papers in 1787-88?
 - 6. ADVERTISING: What product is advertised in commercials that feature The Most Interesting Man in the World?
 - 7. MOVIES: Which movie features the often-quoted line, "Round up the usual suspects"?
 - 8. FOOD & DRINK: What kind of fish produces caviar?
 - 9. ENTERTAINERS: What were the names of the sock puppets used by ventriloquist Shari Lewis?
 - 10. SCIENCE: How many elements are on the Periodic Table?

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

- Answers
- 1. Rome, Italy
 - 2. George and Jane Jetson
 - 3. "The Princess Bride"
 - 4. Carson City
 - 5. Publius
 - 6. Dos Equis beer
 - 7. "Casablanca"
 - 8. Sturgeon
 - 9. Lamb Chop, Charlie Horse, Hush Puppy and Wing Ding
 - 10. 118

King Crossword

Americans

Deep summer is when laziness finds respectability.

— Sam Keene

THANK YOU!

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The Patriot



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"VAL, YOU ONCE SCUTTLED HIS FLEET AND THWARTED HIS CAMPAIGN AGAINST CAMELOT," GROWLS GAWAIN.
"BUT HIS BODY WAS NEVER FOUND!"
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SILBUG INTERRUPTS: "TRUTHFULLY, WE CARE NOTHING FOR YOUR SURFACE SQUABBLES. OUR CONCERN LIES WITH THE REBELLION HE HAS CONJURED DOWN HERE."



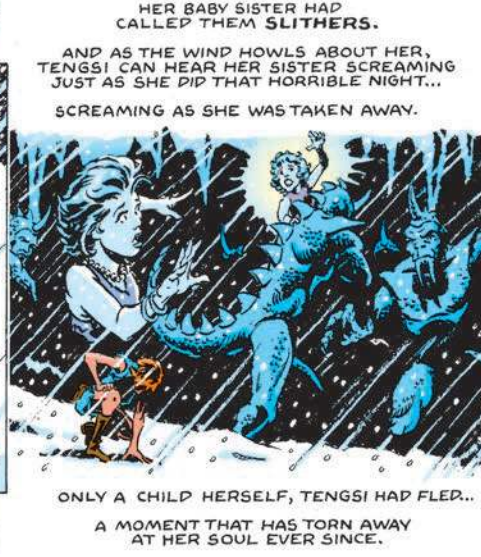
"HIS FOLLOWERS' ABDUCTION OF YOUR WOMEN WAS THE FINAL STRAW. WE TOOK ACTION - HORRIDUS' MINIONS WERE AMBUSHED UPON THEIR RETURN TO THIS HAVEN."



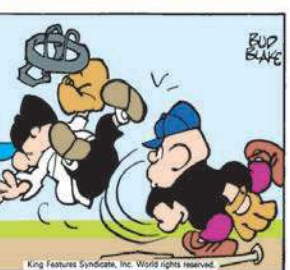
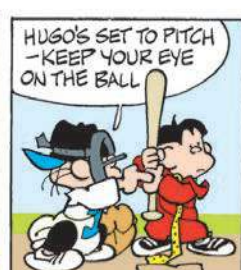
"OUR ATTACK BROKE HIS ARMY'S SPINE. UNFORTUNATELY, HORRIDUS HIMSELF, SURROUNDED BY HIS PERSONAL GUARD, ESCAPED WITH TWO CAPTIVES."
"AND THIS IS WHY YOU HAVE BEEN ALLOWED IN. WE WOULD PREFER TO LEAVE THE HUMAN MISCREANT TO HUMAN JUSTICE..."
NEXT: End game
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FLASH GORDON
By JIM KEEFE
7-25
AS THE STORM BUILDS IN FEROCITY, A LONE FIGURE SLOWLY SUCCEUMBS TO THE ELEMENTS, THE WORDS CRACKLING THROUGH HER COMMUNICATOR, ONLY SERVING TO HELP WEAKEN HER RESOLVE.
WHY DID TENGI DESERT THE SEARCH PARTY, CAPTAIN?
THE LIZARD-MEN ARE HER TRIBE'S MOST FEARED NATURAL ENEMIES, MISS ARPEN.
SHE MUST HAVE GOTTEN SPOOKED.
HER BABY SISTER HAD CALLED THEM SLITHERS.
AND AS THE WIND HOWLS ABOUT HER, TENGI CAN HEAR HER SISTER SCREAMING JUST AS SHE DID THAT HORRIBLE NIGHT... SCREAMING AS SHE WAS TAKEN AWAY.
FLASH IS GONE. KRACKLEY! TENGI HAD SAID SHE'D FOLLOW HIM ANYWHERE, CAPTAIN.
HOW COULD SHE HAVE JUST... CHOKE? RUN AWAY?
TO BE CONT'D
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Offer Expires 9.30.2021

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VAS

38TH ANNUAL VIRGINIA OUTDOOR SPORTSMAN SHOW

AUGUST 6, 7 & 8

Richmond Raceway Complex

600 E. Laburnum Ave., Richmond, VA 23222

FRI: 1-8 | SAT: 10-6 | SUN: 10-5

VIRGINIA'S LARGEST HUNTING SHOW!

82nd Annual VPSA State Big Game Contest!
Deer, Bear & Turkey Contest!
Chef Albert - The Art of Backyard Butchering
Celebrity Guests - Carson Koury, Travis Stauch, Scott Martin and more!
Educational and Entertaining Seminars!

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Showmasters, Inc. | (540)951-1344 | SportsmanShow.com

VP

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+ 5% OFF TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS ONLY!

WE INSTALL YEAR-ROUND!

FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!

Promo Code: 285

*Subject to credit approval. Call for details.

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

1-877-614-6667

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. **Offer valid at time of estimate only. The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2019 and recognized LeafFilter as the "1" rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America. Manufactured in Plainville, Michigan and processed at LMT Mercer Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. CSBA 1035792, DQPL #10783058-5501, License# 7656, License# 55165, License# 4754, License# 90188, License# 123144, License# 216294, WA UBE 610 231917, License# 216227266, License# 2108212646, License# 2707421153, License# LEAFFNWB2022, License# WV55912, License# WC-29986-1117, Nassau HIC License# H01067000, Registration# 126482, Reg# 11111111, License# PJC-064905, Registration# C127229, Registration# 26992918, Registration# KCSB-01, Registration# 1021056, Registration# 1704090700, Registration# PAC6833, Suffolk, Inc. License# 52229-H, License# 226169445, License# 202000022, License# 262000403, License# 0086960, Registration# H19114

MAGIC MAZE — GATE

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: **Must Pay Before Passing Through**

AND	Flood	Iron	Tail
Brandenburg	Garden	Moon	Water
City	Golden	Sluice	Wooden
Departure	Head	Starting	

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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.

PUH WQHJPHBP WYGPB XKI
OJE WYCH XKIQ OUYSFQHE JQH
PUH QKKPB KG QHBZKEBYVVSYPX
JEF PUH TYEWB KG
YEFHZHEFHEOH.
— FHEYB TJYPSHX

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The greatest gifts you can give your children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence.

— Denis Waitley

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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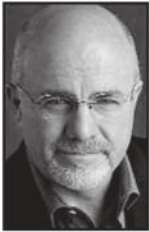
Puzzle Answer Appears Elsewhere In This Week's Issue

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Meredith McGrady
Office Manager



Dave Says

Dave Ramsey

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

Does mom need long term care insurance?

Dear Dave,
My dad passed away about a year ago, but he left my mom in really good shape financially. They never had any consumer debt, the house is paid for, and they had about \$1 million in assets. Dad also left her a \$500,000 trust. Mom is going to be 60 next year. She is in good health, but considering her age and financial situation, do you think she needs long-term care insurance?

Darby

Dear Darby,
I'm so sorry to hear about your dad. Losing a spouse, or a father, is tough at any age. The good news is your dad did a great job of planning to take care of your mom. He left her in fine shape money-wise, but yes, she needs long term care insurance and a good estate planner. You need to help your mom do everything possible to handle her situation wisely.
I usually suggest folks wait until age 60 to buy long-term care insurance, because the likelihood of filing a claim before then is very slim. In fact, about 95% of long-term care claims are filed for people over 70. That's why, in most cases, it doesn't make sense to get long-term care insurance earlier than age 60.
Insurance isn't a one-size-fits-all kind of thing, though. If someone has a family history of illness or other health issues at a younger age, they may need to get long-term care insurance earlier. But you shouldn't buy long-term care coverage at a young age just because you're paranoid of what might happen, or because you think you'll save money. That's just not true.
In the event your mom becomes unable to take care of herself at some point, long-term care insurance would be an absolute necessity. The cost of nursing home care these days is astronomical. Again, your mom is in a great place financially, but a prolonged stay in a nursing home somewhere down the road could eat up her nest egg in a hurry.
Long-term care insurance is a wise part of any good asset management plan.

—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. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions.

— Weekly SUDOKU —
Answer

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

PULSE

August 7

Vacation Bible School

Dublin Church of God, located at 632 East Main Street, Dublin, will hold VBS on Saturday, August 7, 2021 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm with pre-registration beginning at 9:30 am. On-line registration is also available at dublincog.com. The theme of the VBS is ROCKY RAILWAY where kids discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs! The children will praise, pray and explore God's goodness through amazing Bible stories, water games, bouncy house, incredible music, super-fun snacks, creative games and fun-filled crafts! Children ages 3 through 12 are invited to attend this exciting ministry! For more information, please call 540-674-5272 or 540-674-4340.

August 8

Church celebrates 69 years

Sunday, Aug. 8 Trinity Baptist Church on Robinson Tract Road will celebrate its 69th year as a church. Service begins at 10:30 a.m. Featuring the inspiring music of "Beckon Call" from Roanoke. There will be a fellowship meal following the morning service. Friends and visitors are warmly welcomed.

August 9

Vacation Bible School

Jordan's Chapel United Methodist Church, 5095 Alum Spring Road, Pulaski will hold Vacation Bible School "Adventure Island," Aug. 9-12, 6 to 8 p.m. nightly. Everyone is welcome.

August 10

Sons of Confederate Veterans

to meet

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet on Tuesday, August 10, 7pm at Aly's Family Italian Restaurant on 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to attend. Guest speaker Charlotte Conner will give a talk on "First Battle of Manassas-Unwarranted Deaths of Savable Soldiers". For further information, please call 320-4315 or 239-9864.

Aug. 13

Vacation Bible School

Dive into two days of "fin-tastic fun" at Dublin Christian Church's vacation Bible school, Aug. 13, 14 and 15. "Anchored: Deepening Faith In God" is for children Pre-K to 5th grade. Friday and Saturday, Aug. 13 and 14 the fun runs from 6 to 8:30 p.m. On Sunday, Aug. 15 the closing program is set for 6 p.m. followed by food, games and fun. Dublin Christian Church is located at 5605 Dunlap Road, Dublin. Pre-register at dublinchristianchurch.com If you need a ride, call the church at 540-674-8434.

August 14

Antique Tractor Pull

The NRV Antique Tractor Club will have a antique tractor pull on Saturday, August 14th at 11 AM at the Ruritan National Headquarters in Newbern, with 14 weight classes. Pack a lunch and enjoy a fun day out! Contact Randy at 320-6535 for further info

August 15

Ice Cream Social

First Dublin Presbyterian Church ECO will be having an ice

cream social on Aug. 15 from 3 to 5 PM.

September 7

25 Cent Bingo

VFW Auxiliary Post 1184 will host 25¢ Bingo Saturday Sept. 7th, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm. Post home located @ Dora Highway & Washington Ave. Everyone welcome.

September 11

Women's Meeting

First Dublin Presbyterian Church ECO will hold a Women of the Church meeting, 10 AM on Sept. 11. Bible Study on EVE, business discussion, and light refreshments.

Oct. 9

Porch Concert

The Kellams will be singing , 5-6 PM. at First Dublin Presbyterian Church ECO.

Oct. 15

Crafts Fair

First Dublin Presbyterian Church ECO will hold a crafts fair on Oct. 15-16 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Nov. 6

Church Prayer – Hymn Sing

First Dublin Presbyterian Church ECO will hold a church prayer / hymn sing from 5:30 – 7 p.m.

Notice:

Do You or Someone You Know Need Mental/Behavioral Health Help?

Appalachian Telemental Health Network (ATHN) is a state-funded resource for people in Virginia who are seeking mental/behavioral

health help. Sessions are held over a HIPAA secure video session with a professional. The prior eliminates barriers of time, distance, and provider scarcities. The process is streamlined, making it easy to use the platform as a provider and/or patient.

Appalachian Telemental Health Network was designed to create better access for the underserved Appalachian counties of Virginia. ATHN welcomes providers, referral streams, and people seeking help. If you or someone you know needs help, do not hesitate. Appalachian Telemental Health Network is an available resource. Visit our website location to sign up: www.athn.us.

Hiwassee Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary in Need of Funds

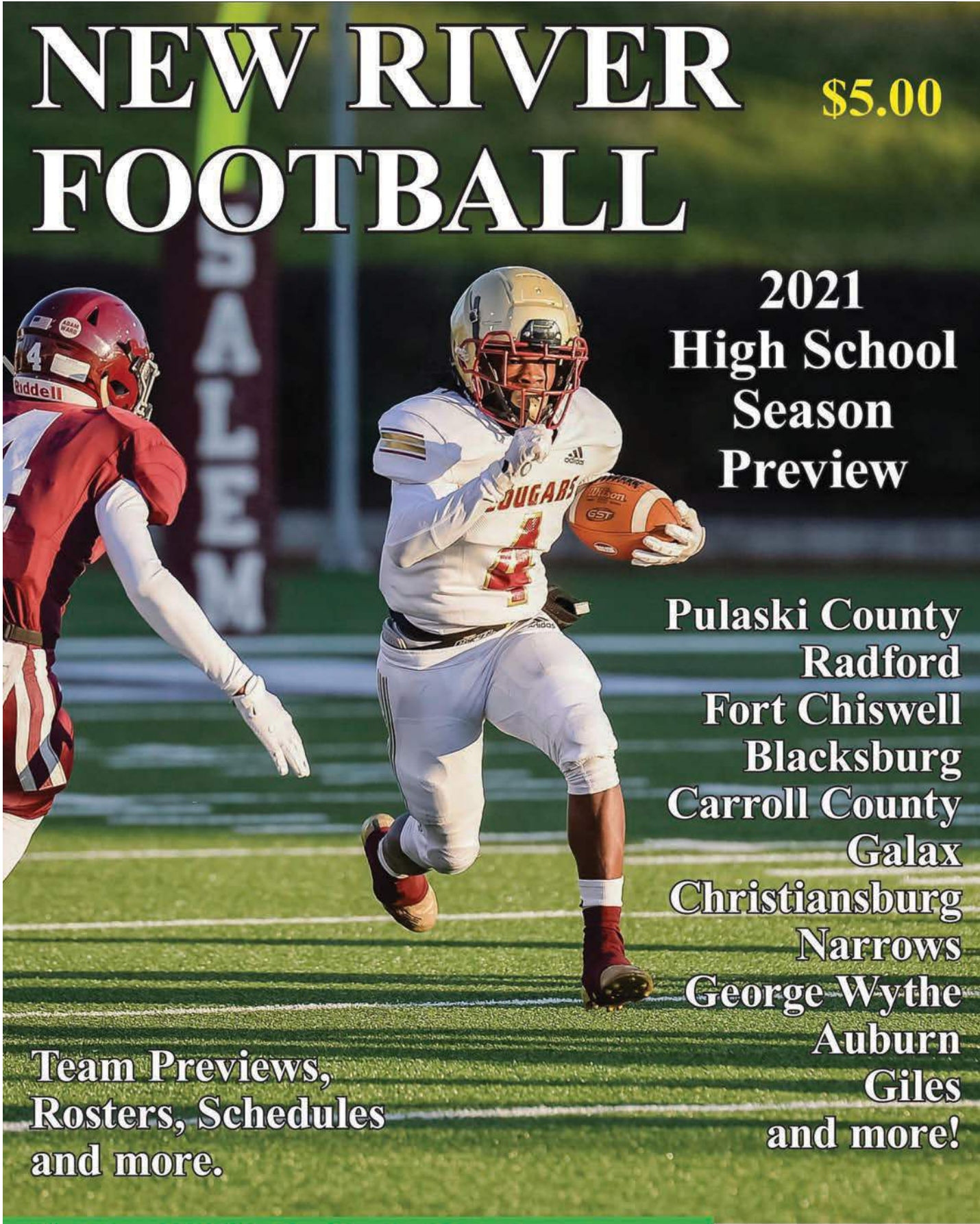
The Ladies Auxiliary of Hiwassee is in need of donations for the mowing and upkeep of the Trail cemetery in Hiwassee. If you have a family member buried in the cemetery and would like to make a donation you may send a check payable to Peggy Cregger, (Treasurer of the Ladies Auxiliary) @ PO Box 164 Hiwassee VA 24347. Thank you in advance for helping our organization!

Still distributing food

Heritage Cares Food Pantry at Heritage Church is still distributing food on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The church is located a half-mile past the New River Valley Airport on Route 100 north of Dublin.

**To Place A Pulse Item
Call 540-808-3949**

COMING THIS MONTH!



NEW RIVER FOOTBALL

\$5.00

2021 High School Season Preview

**Pulaski County
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Fort Chiswell
Blacksburg
Carroll County
Galax
Christiansburg
Narrows
George Wythe
Auburn
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IN STORES THROUGHOUT THE NEW RIVER VALLEY