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Sunday

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Sunday Night - Partly cloudy, with a low around 34.

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Involving March's Big Red Barn

Sweet, county cleared in conspiracy accusation

By **MIKE WILLIAMS**
The Patriot

A special prosecutor has cleared County Administrator Jonathan Sweet and other county staff of conspiring to harm Del. Marie March's business or reputation.

Henry County Commonwealth's Attorney M. Andrew Nester, the special prosecutor, reported his findings in a Nov. 15 letter to Lt. Steve Hall of the Virginia State Police's Bureau of Criminal Investigation and Pulaski County Commonwealth's Attorney Justin Griffith.

Nester's role as special prosecutor was to determine if enough evidence existed to open a formal State Police investigation into whether or not Sweet and county staff had potentially violated Virginia Code §18.2-499 – Conspiracy to Injure Another in Trade or Profession.

According to Nester's letter, the statute requires at least two or

more people each acting willfully and maliciously, and each with a common goal (i.e. a conspiracy), to damage a reputation, trade, business or profession.

Nester explained in his letter that he had been provided in June of this year by State Police two separate emails with attachments provided by Del. March.

The first email consisted of 22 pages of what Nester said appeared to be "screenshots, texts, email or social media messages."

The second email included 27 pages of multiple months of meeting minutes from the New River Resource Authority. Nester said those minutes "tend to focus on an alleged data breach and a discussion of how that would be investigated and handled by the Authority."

Nester said considering he had not been named a special prosecutor to investigate the data breach matter, he would not consider those documents in his review.

Nester said when the documents in the emails were provided to the State Police by Ms. March, she believed that she was the victim of the County Administrator and others for a violation of the conspiracy statute.

According to Nester, "A thorough review of the materials clearly show a disagreement between Ms. March and the County Administrator as well as the Planning and Zoning Coordinator for Pulaski County (Ashlyn Shrewsbury).

"As an outsider, unfamiliar with the government and political landscape of Pulaski County, reading these threads of messages, they seem to center on the fact that Pulaski County officials are attempting to work with Ms. March to secure a business license for the activities conducted at her multi-purpose venue (i.e. The Big Red Barn). The thread

See BARN, page A2

Mainspring withdraws zoning request for treatment center

By **MIKE WILLIAMS**
The Patriot

Mainspring Recovery Center, LLC has withdrawn its zoning request before Pulaski Town Council.

News of their decision to withdraw the request came Tuesday night from Mayor Shannon Collins.

A public hearing on the issue had been scheduled for Tuesday's meeting, however, Collins told those in attendance the hearing had been canceled due to Mainspring withdrawing their request.

Mainspring had hoped to obtain a Special Exception to R-1, Single Family Residential Dis-

trict zoning to allow them to operate a residential treatment center for substance abuse disorders at 2460 Lee Highway in Pulaski – next to the campus of LewisGale Hospital Pulaski.

The application indicated the facility would have had a capacity of 50 beds for an inpatient residential program and would serve clients 18 years or older with a substance use disorder diagnosis who are voluntarily admitting themselves from within a 60- to 70-mile radius.

Mainspring planned to invest approximately \$1 million to renovate and open the facility, which is owned by David Hagan, and projected it would employ 53 peo-

ple at the facility when opened.

Plans for the Pulaski facility came under fire almost immediately from local residents primarily due to concerns over traffic and security, the facility's proximity to schools, area residences and the rehabilitation center across the street.

According to Dublin attorney Mike Barbour, local counsel for Mainspring, company officials "were very disappointed in the reaction of a majority of planning commission members toward their proposed project."

"I think they did not assess the likely attitudes of a majority of

See MAINSPRING, page A2

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Barn

Continued from Page A1

appears to be a contentious, back and forth, exchange about the exact activities taking place at this location.

“In addition, there also appears to be a great deal of concern – perhaps legitimately – regarding the traffic pattern around this venue and the safety concerns that such presents when events are had at this property.”

Nester says in his letter, “It is clear to me the messages themselves have a coarse, churlish and, at times, an unprofessional tone.”

“However,” Nester continues, “Having read through them on more than one occasion, I cannot find the existence of one conspiracy, or even a hint of one that could be proven, on the part of Pulaski County officials to harm Ms. March’s business, reputation, etc. that would violate this statute.”

“Further,” Nester says, “I firmly believe it is the absolute duty of the Pulaski County officials to ensure that all business owners operate by the same rules; and that includes being properly licensed by the county to conduct business.

“Thus, the fact that the County Administrator properly, and politely, notified Ms. March of her need for a business license, and any potential ramifications of operating without one may bring, is certainly not illegal and could in no way be viewed as a way to injure her reputation, business, etc.”

Nester closed his letter by saying, “The bottom line, from my perspective and legal opinion, is that Virginia Code §18.2-499 has no application to these facts.

“I can find nothing in the provided documents that would offer even reasonable suspicion, much less probable cause, and certainly not proof beyond a reasonable

doubt, for a violation of this statute. Therefore, unless additional legally admissible, evidence is brought forward concerning this matter, no further action or resources need to be devoted to this complaint,” Nester said.

About the special prosecutor’s decision, Sweet expressed gratitude.

“I am grateful for the integrity of the Virginia State Police and the Special Prosecutor assigned to this case for objectively reviewing and processing the allegations leveled against me by March. I have the greatest respect, trust and confidence in these institutions and the rule of law, and this is a prime example of it working,” Sweet said in a statement.

“In retrospect, the threats made by March appear to have been aggressively carried out by way of yet another pursuit of criminal charges against me for politely doing my job. The most troubling aspect of all of this, is the continued abuse of her power and authority to have a state agency wrongfully investigate me in an attempt to bring criminal charges against me, and for absolutely nothing,” Sweet added.

“She repeatedly claims to be victimized by everyone, like it is her schtick, all the while she is the one victimizing innocent people.”

Sweet said March doesn’t owe him an apology, but she does owe one to Pulaski County and its citizens.

“She should not be allowed to continue to abhorrently behave like this without consequence. I understand that there may be many others in the community that have been targeted as well, and I hope that information will also come to light and expose her liberal abuse of power.

“If March is going to continuously behave like this after winning only one election and being in office for a year, we have to wonder what she may be like if entrusted with further authority,” Sweet wondered.

Nester’s determination is the latest in a months-long feud between March and the county over The Big Red Barn, located at 4241 Lee Highway between Pulaski and Dublin.

The facility, which in the past housed a farm supply store and a lawn mower sales and service business, sits on a 10-acre lot, which March reportedly purchased for \$400,000.

She reportedly has listed the property for sale with an asking price of \$715,000.

The Pulaski County Republican Party has been holding its meetings at the facility, which also hosts a local church for its Sunday services.

The back and forth over The Big Red Barn between March and the county came to a boil in early August when March submitted an Open Forum letter to **The Patriot** in which she accused Sweet of “threats, bullying and intimidation.”

That prompted an Open Forum response from the county’s Planning and Zoning Administrator, Shrewsbury, who defended the county’s efforts to work with March to ensure the planned activities at The Big Red Barn comply with county zoning.

Along with her letter, Shrewsbury submitted to **The Patriot** several pages of copies of all correspondence between March and the county concerning the property.

Council approves new ordinance on trash and fees

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

Pulaski Town Council on Tuesday approved both a trash ordinance and a trash pickup fee schedule.

Town Manager Darlene Burcham, participating in the meeting via Zoom, told council that prior to discussions over garbage pickup the town had a very “slim” section of Town Code concerning trash – on both the collection of trash and trash on properties.

She said the garbage pickup discussion gave the Town Attorney and staff an opportunity to clean up the code as it pertains to trash.

The new code language makes it unlawful for anyone to place garbage on their premises without it being kept in some form of metal container or dumpster.

“We hope this will minimize any blowing of trash,” Burcham said.

She said there is additional language under the section of the code that deals with pickup that requires each premises owner to place their garbage at the curb.

Burcham noted the town will have a four-day collection, Monday through Thursday. The town will be divided into four quadrants with garbage in one quadrant being picked up each day.

She said all alley collections would be picked up on Mondays.

Burcham said specific information for each address will be provided when the new garbage containers are delivered by GFL (Green For Life), and Burcham noted that delivery would happen the week of Dec. 26.

GFL will begin its pickup of

garbage in the town on Jan. 2.

As part of the garbage service, curbside bulk collection will be available once per month, and leaf pickup will continue each year.

Burcham said the ordinance requires that every occupied residential property and small business in town must establish a solid waste account.

“That account will be with the town and they will be billed \$20 per month,” Burcham said.

“If businesses require larger containers for their garbage, they can contract with any of a number of vendors for dumpsters, roll-offs or whatever is suitable to the amount of trash they have,” she said.

The time for placement of garbage containers is spelled out in the ordinance and in the materials to be provided by GFL.

“We are indicating the containers should be out for collection no later than 6 a.m. on the day of their scheduled collection, and may be placed the day before no earlier than 4:30 p.m. from November to March and no earlier than 7 p.m. from April to October,” Burcham said.

“The containers are to be removed from the front of the residence as soon as possible after collection, but no later than 7 p.m. on the day of collection,” she added.

The ordinance lists the holidays that will be observed, and Burcham noted that garbage on those days would be picked up the next day but within the same week.

Bulk collection will be conducted on a specific day of the

See TRASH, page A3

Mainspring

Continued from Page A1

the town council members to be more supportive of the project,” Barbour continued.

“These folks are opening a treatment center in Prince William County next month, and they have another treatment center under active development in the city of Lynchburg. So, they’re going to move forward right now aggressively with that project and it’s not their current intention at this time to pursue a site in Pulaski County,” he said.

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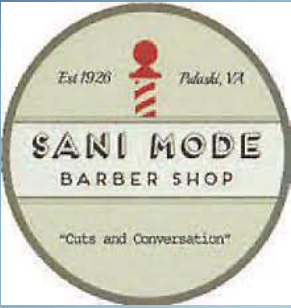
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Downtown Pulaski’s West Main project begins

By **MIKE WILLIAMS**
The Patriot

Work began this week on the Town of Pulaski’s West Main Street Water Line Project – which is actually three projects in one.

The downtown portion of West Main – from Jefferson Avenue to Washington Avenue – was closed last Wednesday (Nov. 30) in preparation for work on the project to begin. That work got underway at mid-week.

During its meeting Tuesday evening, Pulaski Town Council received a report on the project from Town Engineer Bill Pedigo and newly-hired Project Manager Scott Aust.

Pedigo explained the West Main project is actually three projects – “the Main Street water line to improve water service down Main Street; streetscapes, which includes sidewalks, curbing and gutter, and eventually paving.

Aust explained to council the water line work has begun. Along with that, he said, “starting around the first of the year the traffic signals will be turned to flashing, followed 30 days later by bagging which will lead to four-way stops at both intersections – Main and Jefferson and Main and Washington.”

He said those changes can be done while the town is waiting on VDOT and Federal monies to be approved for the streetscape and sidewalk project – north and south – on Main Street.

Paving will follow, Aust said.

On two-way traffic, “we’re going to try and integrate that during the sidewalk upgrades. We’ll have one side of Main Street shut down while they’re doing one section of sidewalk (north side), we’ll turn around and open that side back up and have the south side shut down and do the sidewalks on that side.”

“Once that is complete, we can institute two-way traffic on Main Street as well as Third Street, and as you know the ‘Y’ intersection at Third Street and Main, which will also have to have some adjustments. That design is in process and nearly completed and hopefully we’ll have that for you shortly,” Aust added.

In response to a question from Councilman Michael Reis, Aust said the traffic lights at the two intersections (Main and Jefferson and Main and Washington) will be flashing red for a four-way stop.

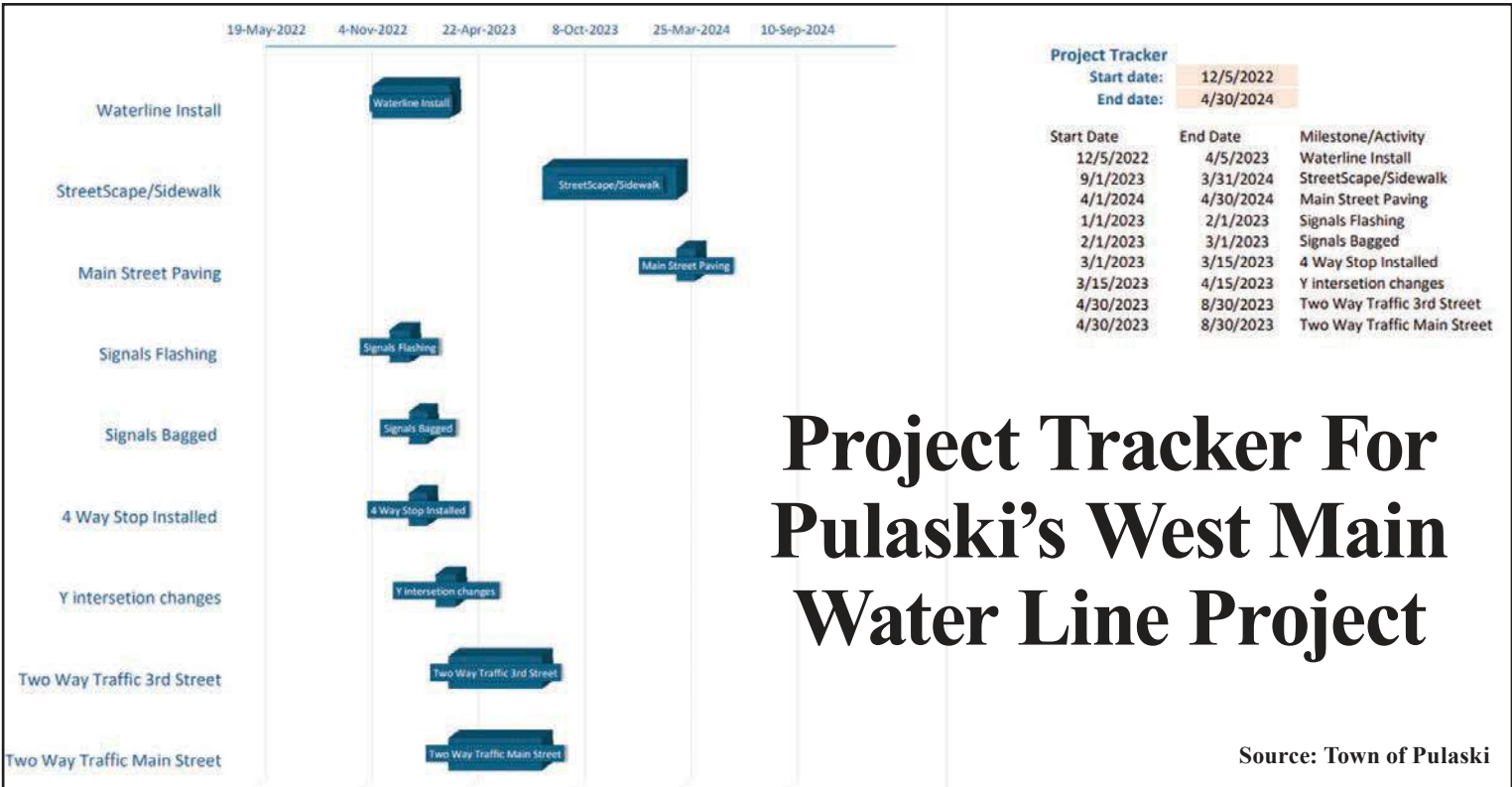
“So everyone can get used to that new way of driving that’s coming,” Reis said.

“That new four-way stop that’s coming,” Aust replied.

Again in response to a question from Reis, Pedigo said plans for the streetscape / sidewalk work are nearly complete.

“I think people would get more excited about it if they could see what our options are,” Reis said.

Reis also noted he believes



Source: Town of Pulaski

Project Tracker For Pulaski’s West Main Water Line Project

people would also like to see the plans for the ‘Y’ intersection and how that would work.

Aust said that design is close to being completed, and Pedigo said it could be brought to council at their next meeting in two weeks.

“The issue of going with two-way traffic is it really needs to be done all at one time,” said Pedigo. “You can’t take just a block and make it two-way.”

“The biggest concern and the delay that we see in the management of three projects is that the streetscape, because it involves federal and state money, is taking much longer to have the review conducted at the state level,” said Town Manager Darlene Burcham.

“Once they have given their blessing at the state level for the streetscape plan, it still has to have a blessing at the federal level. So, while we had hoped to immediately start the streetscapes as soon as the waterline was replaced, that’s not going to be happening as quickly. So, we wanted the council to be aware of that.

“But at the same time, we’re going to continue those elements of all three projects so that we can move as quickly as possible and have people see things on the ground, you know, that are really happening because it has been a couple of months since we announced several of these projects. I’m sure as soon as people see the road being pulled up on West Main there’ll be some more excitement about that water line,” Burcham said.

Burcham asked Pedigo to explain to council how the water line project presents an opportunity to the property owners downtown.

“This is an opportunity for the businesses to save considerable sums,” she noted.

“The idea behind the Main Street waterline improvement is to get better water service down Main, not only for domestic, but also for fire flow. So, what this will do is allow a building owner – if they want to do a mixed

use group – say a restaurant on the first floor and housing on the second, the key to make that happen is sprinklers. So this will open up the availability for fire water for the buildings. If there is an apartment structure and the owner would like to have four meters put in, now would be the time to do that. Make application for new ser-

vice and we can take care of all that,” Pedigo explained.

“Because the road’s already going to be tore up,” Reis said.

“So, I guess the question is between when that water line install is done and the streetscape starts, will that road be available for driving,” Reis asked.

“It may be that we open it back up,” Pedigo responded.

“We will make it passable. It will not be a good surface, but we will make it passable – as well as the sidewalks, and the sidewalks are still open,” he added.

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Trash

Continued from Page A2

month in each quadrant and no more than three bulk items will be allowed per pickup.

She said the town will operate a convenience center multiple days of the week as is done now at the Dora Highway site.

As for the fee ordinance, Burcham repeated the town will

continue with the same \$20 per month fee as was charged by the Pulaski County PSA previously.

It was noted that some apartment complex dwellers may not be billed that amount due to arrangements between individual apartment complexes and their tenants on paying for garbage pickup.

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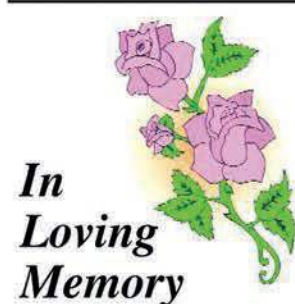
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BARBARA "BOBBIE" ELLEN GRANTHAM

QUESENBERRY MORRIS
Barbara "Bobbie" Ellen Grantham Quesenberry Morris, as she was known in her younger days, was born in Pulaski, on July 26, 1933, the only child of Arthur Cleveland Grantham and Ione Lawrence Altizer Grantham. After an illness of several months, she passed away at Pulaski Health and Rehabilitation Center on Wednesday, December 7, 2022, at the age of 89.

She was predeceased by her parents; her husbands, Otis Olen Quesenberry, the father of her six children, in 1974, and Mack Elden Morris, in 1994; and two children Loretta Sue Quesenberry Eads, and Tommy Lee Quesenberry, who both passed away in December of 2021.

Surviving are her children, Cynthia Dianne "Cindy" Akers (Don) of Christiansburg, Otis Michael "Mike/Link" Quesenberry, Deborah Jane "Debbie" Quesenberry Linkous, and Steven "Steve" Quesenberry, all of Pulaski: 8 grandchildren, Chris Arnold, Beth Garland, Lynn Jones, Sara Thompson, Danny Eads, Jr., Lori Eads, Jason Linkous, and Nikki Linkous; 11 great-grandchildren, 2 great-great-grandchildren, 8 step-children and their families; and several cousins.

There will be no visitation or service at the funeral home. Graveside services will be held at Thornspring Cemetery on Sunday, December 11, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. with Pastor Larry Morris officiating, and where she will be laid to rest with her parents.

The family would like to express sincere appreciation to the staff of Lewis Gale Hospital – Pulaski, and especially to those at Pulaski Health and Rehabilitation Center for their kind assistance in the care of our mother in her final days. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made in her memory to First United Methodist Church in Pulaski, or to any charity of choice.

Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.seaglefuneralhome.com Arrangements by Seagle Funeral Home, Pulaski. 540-980-1700



KENNETH LEWIS "DOOK" STEPHENS

Kenneth Lewis "Dook" Stephens, 79, of Pulaski, VA., passed away peacefully in his home on December 6, 2022. He was born June 24, 1943 in Poplar Hill, VA., to the late Woodrow Vance Stephens and Georgia Lillian Sadler Stephens. He was also preceded in death by his wife Lois Bratton Stephens.

Kenneth grew up in the Poplar Hill community and graduated from Pearisburg High School Class of 1961. He faithfully attended Pulaski Pentecostal Church. He served his country for 2 years in the Army. He had early careers as a police officer for the Town of Dublin, an orderly at Pulaski Hospital, a taxi driver, and a machine operator for McKinney Drilling before landing a position with Norfolk Southern Railroad. After retirement, he enjoyed spending time over in the 'country' visiting the Amish, fishing, riding his Harley Davidson, and visiting family and friends. He is known for being a hustler in the Flea Market Circuit all over Southwest Virginia.

Kenneth is survived by his daughters Melissa Van Horn, Tina Stephens Turpin and husband Ronnie, Son Terry Stephens, sisters Connie Kersey and husband Frank, Linda Flinchum and husband JR, grandchildren Kayla, Kim and Ricky, numerous great grandchildren, special friend Imogene Burton and many nephews, nieces and friends.

Funeral services were held Thursday, December 8, 2022 at A. Vest & Sons Funeral Home Chapel, White Gate, with Pastor Jeff Willhoite officiating. Kenneth was laid to rest in the Stinson Cemetery in White Gate, VA following the funeral service.

In Lieu of Flowers please make donations to Healing Hearts-PACC, 3434 Lee Highway, Draper, VA 24324, 540.230.4744

The Stephens family is in the care of A. Vest & Sons Funeral Home, White Gate, avestandsons.com, (540) 921-2985.

MICHAEL FARMER

Michael Farmer, age 70 of Dublin, died Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at Highland Ridge Rehabilitation Center in Dublin.

Arrangements are pending with Seagle Funeral Home, Pulaski. www.seaglefuneralhome.com 540-980-1700



PHYLLIS KEISTER ALLS

Phyllis Keister Alls, 68, passed away Wednesday, December 7, 2022. She was a member of Riner Grace Brethren Church and was a domestic housekeeper. She was preceded in death by her parents, Jimmy and Elizabeth Keister.

Survivors include her husband, Robert B. Alls of Riner; son, Ethan Alls of Riner; brother, Rodney Keister of Radford; sister, Gail Quesenberry (Danny) of Pulaski; sister-in-law, Lois Lancaster; nephew-in-law, Michael Lancaster; nephew, Keith Ferrell; nieces, Kelly Holzer and Paige Keister; special pets, Karl and Fuzzy; and all of her cats that she loved so much.

The family would like to thank Rodney and Paige Keister, and Good Samaritan Hospice for taking such good care of her in her last days.

The family will receive friends from 10 until 11 a.m. on Monday, December 12, 2022, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services will begin at 11.m. with Rev. Kenny Farley officiating. Graveside services will follow in Rockford Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions to Good Samaritan Hospice.

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

ROBY REED MELTON, III

Roby Reed Melton, III, age 51 of Pulaski passed away Sunday, December 4, 2022 at the New River Valley Medical Center. Born September 20, 1971 in Pulaski he was the son of Roby Reed Melton, Jr. & Rose Clark Perdue.

Roby is survived by his

Wife – Serita Hurst Melton – Pulaski

Mother & Stepfather – Rose Clark (Alvin Jay) Perdue – Pulaski

Father – Roby Reed Melton, Jr. – Pulaski

Children – Justin Melton, Ryan Melton and Autumn Melton – Pulaski

Brother – John W. Melton – Pulaski

Aunt – Elsie C. Chrisley & Dean Rose – Hillsville

Uncle – Walter Clarence (Donna) Clark – Shelby, NC

The family will be having private services. To sign Roby's online guestbook, visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com

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



DOUGLAS LEE JOHNSTON, JR.

Douglas Lee Johnston, Jr., age 49 of Dublin passed away Sunday, December 4, 2022 at the Reston Hospital Center in Reston, Virginia. Born December 8, 1972 in Radford, Virginia he was the son of Carolyn Rakes Johnston and the late Douglas Lee Johnston, Sr. He was also preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Sidney & Violet Mabry Rakes, paternal grandparents, Robert Jesse Johnston & Ruth Cecil Johnston, uncles, Randy Rakes, Robert Jesse Johnston, Jr. and Charles Foley.

He is survived by his Mother – Carolyn Rakes Johnston -Dublin

Son – Douglas Tres' Johnston-Dublin

Sister – Angie (John) Goad – Dublin

Aunts & Uncles – Mary Rakes – Dublin, Evelyn Rakes – Dublin, Roger (Mary) Rakes – Culpepper, Joyce Johnston – Bluefield, VA, David (Carolyn) Johnston – Danville

Nieces – Lacey Goad Skinnell and husband, Tim Skinnell, Sydney Elizabeth Goad, & Allison Brooke Goad

Great Nephew – Judah Alexander Skinnell

Great Niece – Naomi Grace Skinnell

Many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends

Memorial services will be held 3:00 PM – Sunday, December 18, 2022 at the River of Life Church -Dublin, Virginia with Pastor Shawn Burchett officiating.

The family will receive friends from 2:00 PM until service time Sunday at the church.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests donations be sent to the River of Life Youth Fund @ 5311 Black Hollow Road, Dublin, Virginia 24084.

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

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



SHANE RONALD HAMBLIN

Shane Ronald Hamblin, age 46 of Dublin, died Thursday, December 1, 2022 at his residence. He was born in Pulaski on August 9, 1976, and is the son of Nancy A. Waddle and Ronald W. Hamblin. Shane was a member of the graduating class of Pulaski County High School class of 1994, and was a former member of the Newbern Fire Department.

Shane had a very sweet and fun loving soul. He loved to see those around him smiling and happy and would do anything he could to make that happen. Many people referred to him as the nicest guy they ever knew. He enjoyed serving his community by following in his Uncle Randy's footsteps as a volunteer firefighter. He was also an avid hunter, a member of the Goose Island Hunting Club in Amelia and fortunate enough to take the hunting trip of a lifetime to hunt Caribou in the Canadian tundra.

Shane was preceded in death by his grandparents Rev. Charles R. and Beulah (Cornette) Leedy of Galax and Raymond A. and Grace (Brunk) Hamblin of Spur Branch, and his Uncle Marshall Seaman of Henderson North Carolina.

He is survived by his parents: Nancy A. Waddle (Jim) of Dublin and Ronald W. Hamblin of Pulaski, three uncles: Billy Hamblin (Wanda) of Spur Branch, Leon Hamblin (Barbara) of Christiansburg, Randy Leedy (Cathy) of Matoaca one aunt: Cheryl Seaman of Henderson, NC, cousins: Elizabeth Rowlett (Chase), Sam Leedy and Ryan Leedy all of Matoaca and 2nd cousins: Luke and Tess Rowlett.

Funeral service was held Thursday, December 8, 2022 at Seagle Funeral Home with the Rev. Don Shelor officiating. Interment followed in the Bishops Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery in Galax.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations be sent in his memory to the Newbern Fire Department. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.seaglefuneralhome.com Arrangements by Seagle Funeral Home 415 N. Jefferson Avenue Pulaski, Va 24301. 540-980-1700

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Ministry’s Warming Station gets go-ahead from Council

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

Taking It To The Streets Ministries got the go-ahead Tuesday night from Pulaski Town Council to move forward with operation of its Warming Station in the near future.

The ministry, headed by Pastor Charlie Barbettini, has been working to get the Warming Station up and running since late summer.

It will be housed inside the ministry’s new home, located in the former Sherwin Williams building at 235 N. Jefferson Avenue in Pulaski.

Barbettini told **The Patriot** recently the ministry had received over \$100,000 to convert the former retail store location into a church and to make the needed renovations in the rear of the building to house the Warming Station.

Since late summer, the ministry’s leadership has met with town officials numerous times and appeared before both the town Planning Commission and Council in an effort to meet local build-

ing and fire safety requirements to house the Warming Station.

The final step of the journey came Tuesday when council unanimously approved a Special Exception Request for “mixed use” for the property in the B-3 Central Business District.

The Special Exception allows for a full-time tenant for the Warming Station during its normal six-month operating season – typically October to March. The tenant will check-in any homeless person who comes to the Warming Station on evenings when it is operating. Only homeless people with ID showing they are from Pulaski County are allowed to stay overnight, and they must not have a fever.

Tuesday’s meeting featured a public hearing on the Special Exception request and only one person spoke.

Vicky Goad of Pulaski endorsed the Warming Station program, and noted her church – First United Methodist in Pulaski – endorses Taking It To The Streets Ministries and the Warming Station project “financially and in any way we can.”

“This is something we are not able to do at our church and we want to help Mr. Barbettini do that,” Goad said.

Barbettini thanked members of the town staff for their help in completing work to get the Warming Station open.

“It’s been a long road,” he said, adding Take It To The Streets had spent some \$14,000 in meeting building and safety requirements to be able to operate the Warming Station.

Council’s action Tuesday was the final regulatory hurdle in getting the Warming Station running this winter. Barbettini said there is still at least two weeks or more of work to complete before the facility can host homeless people on nights when the temperature outside at 6 p.m. dips to 40 degrees or below.

The Warming Station is only one ministry of Taking It To The Streets, which besides regular church services also hosts a bus ministry, food and clothing ministry, prison ministry, disaster relief, Back to School Back-

See GO-AHEAD, page A7



MILDRED MARIE STOOTS THOMPSON

Mildred Marie Stoots Thompson, age 91 of Pulaski passed away Thursday, December 1, 2022 at the Lewis-Gale Hospital, Pulaski. Born October 9, 1931 in Pulaski she was the daughter of the late James Monroe Stoots & Rachael Williams Stoots. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Howard Richard Thompson, Sr., son, Howard Richard Thompson, Jr., brothers, Jack and Moro Stoots, sisters, Naomi Tabor, Anna Belle Rogers.

Mildred was a long-time member of the First Church of the Brethren.

She is survived by her Daughters – Debbie Smith – Pulaski, Linda Thompson – Pulaski

Granddaughter – Kimberly (Mike) Sink – Dublin

Great Grandchildren – Taylor Sink, Austin Sink

Many nieces and nephews

Funeral services were held Monday, December 5, 2022 at the Bower Funeral Home-Chapel, Pulaski with Rev. David Shumate officiating. Interment followed at the Oakwood Cemetery, Pulaski.

To sign Mildred’s online guestbook, visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com

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



CLAUDE CLAYTON NUCKOLS

Claude Clayton Nuckols, age 95 of Dublin passed away Thursday, December 1, 2022 at the Skyline Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Floyd, Virginia. Born February 8, 1927 in Wythe County he was the son of the late Claude Lee Nuckols & Hazel Arnold Nuckols. He was also preceded in death by his wife, Virginia Myrtle Nuckols, sisters, Mary Duncan, Margaret Hurst and brothers, Edward E., James F. Nuckols and Eugene Nuckols.

He was a veteran of the United States Navy having served with the Seabees during World War II.

Claude worked for Pulaski County for over 54 years.

He is survived by his

Daughter & Son-in-law – Brenda & John Reichner – Dublin

Son – Gary Nuckols – Dublin Grandchildren – William Dean Reichner, Amy (Ben) Tick-

le, Donna (Jay) Shockley, Ashley (Zach) Sowers, Michael Thomas Great Grandchildren – Dylan Reichner

Great Great Grandson – Jaxtyn Reichner

Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at the Bower Funeral Home-Chapel, Pulaski with Pastors Paige Wimberly & Bobby Ward officiating. Interment followed at the Newbern Cemetery.

A special thanks from the family goes to the Carilion NRV Hospice, Skyline Nursing Home, and nurses Becky, Pollyanna and Rebecca for their loving care.

To sign Claude’s online guestbook, visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com

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

BRENDA CAROL STEPHENS

Brenda Carol Stephens, 59, of Dublin, VA, passed away on Monday, November 28, 2022, at her home. She was born on May 6, 1963, to the late Howard Milton Stephens Sr. and Eva Marie Mitchell Stephens. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by a sister: Clara Ann Stephens.

Brenda is survived by her children, Elizabeth Marie Campbell, James Delano Campbell III (Brandy), and Jocelyn Blue Underwood; two brothers: Timothy Stephens, and Howard Stephens Jr.; special uncle: Eddie Stephens; Seven Grandchildren; Two Great-Grandchildren; cats Rascal (FatCat) & Kitty Baby; dog: Fido.

A graveside service was held on Thursday, December 8, 2022, at Highland Memory Gardens with burial to follow.

The family is in the care of Norris-Stevens Funeral Services. An online guestbook is available by visiting www.stevensfuneralhomepulaski.com

LOUISE ELIZABETH HUNDLEY BERRY

Louise Elizabeth Hundley Berry passed away peacefully I her home on Dec. 7, 2022 at the age of 93.

Services will be held Thursday, Dec. 15, 2022 at First Church of God – Dublin, 6330 Courtney Lane, Dublin, VA 24084.

The family will receive friends starting at 10 a.m. with the service at 11 a.m.

Interment will immediately follow at Highland Memory Gardens.

The family is in the care of Norris-Stevens Funeral Services, 815 Randolph Avenue, Pulaski, VA 24301

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Good Samaritan Hospice or First Church of God – Dublin.

Full obituary to follow.

School board to hold public hearing on 2022-23 budget

The Pulaski County School Board will meet on Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the auditorium at Pulaski County Middle School for a Budget Public Hearing with the regular school board meeting to follow.

The meeting will be streamed live on the Pulaski County Public Schools YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSDoZxsI_hmaavkuVZ-3B0OQ.

The agenda is posted on BoardDocs.

<http://www.boarddocs.com/vsba/pcva/Board.nsf/Public>

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Return to the Basics

Unfortunately, our legislative process in Congress is broken and I submit it must be changed by going back to the basics.

With the 117th Congress coming to a close and with a shift in majority parties, now is the appropriate time to make changes to the Rules of the House.

That is why I recently testified before the House Rules Committee to offer amendments to the House.

I believe simple changes to our current House rules could help fix the broken legislative process.

One of my proposed rules changes is to restore the Holman Rule, which existed for more than 100 years. In 1876, the Holman Rule was created by



Morgan Griffith

9th District Representative

Congressman William Holman as a tool to cut spending by restructuring an agency. Holman thought spending was

out of control.

The Holman Rule allows representatives to offer retrenchment amendments on the floor of the House of Representatives to appropriations bills. Retrenchment means these amendments could rearrange an agency or department of the Federal Government to cut specific programs, positions, or salaries.

In 1917, I revived this rule for the 115th Congress, but in 2019 Speaker Pelosi dismantled this tool.

I suggested rules changes limiting abuses that regularly happen in Congress today. I proposed a change to the germaneness rule. Its goal would be to only allow amendments to a bill that actually pertain to the bill's purpose. Also, I proposed a single purpose rule so that a bill could only have one purpose. Further, these limitations could not be waived without a two-thirds vote of the House.

Shouldn't a bill address one issue and be straight forward? My single purpose rule would make it so.

This rule would still allow for complex bills like an infrastructure bill. However, two bills or concepts could not be combined into a single bill unless their purposes were the same. For example, a bill to set doctors' reimbursement rates under Medicare could not be amended into a rewrite of Medicare.

To rewrite Medicare would require a separate bill.

In the words of my friend, Majority Leader Terry Kilgore (R-Gate City), when someone tries to amend his bill and it isn't pertinent, he says, "Get your own bill."

By creating a stricter germaneness standard, you actually help preserve the single purpose rule.

For the germaneness and single purpose changes to be effective, they should not be waived.

Additionally, I proposed an amendment to set time limits for bill introduction. This would focus individual members on bills that the members are most passionate about. It would also reduce the practice of introducing a bill on the cause celebre of the day for publicity purposes.

This amendment allows a remedy for bills that are "truly" important by giving members the ability to ask the House for permission to introduce their "vital" bill late.

Numerous states have deadlines and stricter requirements for late introduction.

The American people deserve a legislative body that works for them. I believe these suggestions would make our legislative process more efficient.

Returning to the basics can work.

Also, for more than 200 years, every member had a right to make a motion that the Chair was vacant, which if passed would trigger the election of a new Speaker.

Polarization of our country, combined with 24-hour news and social media where every day has some alleged crisis or someone claiming the sky is falling, has created an atmosphere where a Speaker can legitimately fear a motion to vacate the Chair daily. This can lead to chaos.

Accordingly, I offered a rules change dealing with a motion to vacate the Chair.

The current rule implemented by Speaker Pelosi and her majority prohibits the long standing right of individual members to make the motion. My amendment restores the individual right but provides guardrails to allay a legitimate fear of chaos by limiting when the motion may be made.

Lastly, in any given election, the American people make a decision. The American people elect 435 representatives. Each member of Congress represents roughly the same number of people. In order to ensure the people's will is executed in Congress, I proposed that committee assignments on most committees reflect the proportionality of the members elected.

Most of these amendments restore old rules or clarify existing rules. It would mean a return to the basics of parliamentary procedure.

My experience has been a return to the basics is usually a good idea.

Patrick Henry Speech Still Relevant Today

In the ten years leading up to the American Revolution, the Colonists had attempted to petition, address, reason, and supplicate the British king and parliament regarding laws they felt were unjust.

In 1774, the British Parliament passed the "Intolerable Acts" as a draconian response to the Boston Tea Party. In a series of acts, they closed the Port of Boston until the Colonists repaid the king for the destroyed tea. They also dissolved the Massachusetts Charter, which then brought the Massachusetts Bay Colony under the full control of the British.

The British King George had disbanded Virginia's Council, so they formed their own Virginia Convention to address their complaints about the "Intolerable Acts" and other laws passed by the British Parliament.

One Nation Under God

By Danielle Reid

Patrick Henry had addressed the question of unity among the Colonies as a delegate to the Continental Congress in September 1774 by proclaiming, "The distinctions between Virginians, Pennsylvanians, New Yorkers and New Englanders are no more. I am not a Virginian; I am an American."

Henry was a visionary known for his steadfast Christian values, which are

See DEATHS, page A5



Rich Lowery

Editor, National Review

The Extreme Recklessness of Biden 2.0

Joe Biden 2024 is a bad idea whose time has come.

If Democrats had gotten the shellacking that seemed to be coming their way in the midterms, Biden might have been wounded enough for elements of the Democratic establishment to begin to try to shoulder him into retirement.

Instead, the Democratic overperformance has Biden looking revitalized. Gov. Gavin Newsom of California told the president on election night that he's not running against him (not that Biden was ever likely to face a direct primary challenge). Press coverage has emphasized Biden's vindication. The shot in the arm is understandable given what his party was able to pull off, yet it doesn't make Biden a day younger -- in fact, he just turned 80 and every day of his presidency is an experiment in whether an unprecedentedly aged president can perform at the level demanded of the office.

Democrats consider Biden the safe choice in 2024, since he's the incumbent and surrounded by flawed alternatives, yet he is actually an enormous risk. Nominating him again would be extremely reckless, both for the party and for the country.

It may well be that Biden, even in his enfeebled state, is the best matchup against Donald Trump. He beat him once before, after all, and used him as an effective foil during the midterms. It is to Biden's advantage that it has proven difficult for anyone to work up a passionate hatred of him, rather than a low-intensity sense of pity or contempt. And he still has a relatively moderate affect and profile -- there are limits to how "woke" an 80-something, silver-haired creature of the Democratic establishment can appear, no matter how far left his policies are.

There's no guarantee, though, that Biden will get the former president as his opponent. If he doesn't, then he'll be denied the dynamic of one old guy whose record is terrible running against another old guy who frightens people.

If Trump can't secure the GOP nomination, everything changes. Ron DeSantis is 44. Ted Cruz is 51. Mike Pompeo is 58. Tim Scott is 47. Basically, any Republican nominee besides Trump would instantly be bequeathed a powerful past-vs.-future theme (age aside, Trump will unavoidably and perhaps explicitly be running a campaign of restoration).

There's another risk for Democrats, as well -- namely that Biden will experience some age-related meltdown in public during a general-election campaign that will make his struggles undeniable even to well-wishers determined to look the other way.

Aging is a progressive condition. Biden isn't getting any younger or more capable. The good news is that today, right now, he is as fit as he'll ever be to perform his duties; the bad news is that there are a lot of days between now and 2024 when he'll be less fit, whether by a tiny increment or by a lot.

The public is already unset-

See LOWRY, page A7



The New York Post and real journalism

By CAL THOMAS, Tribune Content Agency

In years past, when journalism was trusted by consumers much more than it is today, The New York Post might have been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize for its reporting about Hunter Biden's laptop. New Twitter owner Elon Musk might have also won awards for his revelations of collusion between Twitter, intelligence officials who claimed the story was Russian disinformation, and leading Democrats who were in touch with social media owners to suppress stories that might have harmed President Biden's re-election.

There is a snobbery among the journalistic elite which distrusts information that doesn't come from certain organs, like The New York Times, The Washington Post and major broadcast media. One of many examples occurred prior to the 2020 election when "60 Minutes" reporter Lesley Stahl interviewed President Trump. The president mentioned the Biden laptop and Stahl cut him off, twice saying "it can't be verified."

A few days ago and long after even some major media reluctantly "verified" the laptop and its contents, even CBS acknowledged its existence.

All of this had implications for the outcome of the 2020 presidential election and the continued decline of public trust in the major media.

As for the election, the Post reported, "Nearly four of five Americans who've been following the Hunter Biden laptop scandal believe that 'truthful' coverage would have changed the outcome of the 2020 presidential election, according to a new poll. A similar percentage also said they're convinced that information on the computer is real, with just 11 percent saying they thought it was 'created by Russia,' according to the survey conducted by the New Jersey-based Technometrica Institute of Policy and Politics."

One might think that a story big enough to influence the outcome of a presidential election and the future of the country might motivate journalists to do their job, but it appears the media's greatest power is to ignore stories that don't fit their largely liberal worldview, or twist stories

to reflect that worldview.

Have any of those responsible for covering up the laptop story apologized for failing to do their job and verify the story when it mattered? Nope. Have the more than 50 former senior intelligence officials who signed a lettersaying the laptop story "has all the classic earmarks of a Russian information operation" issued a corrective statement, admitting their error? Again, no.

Back to the Pew Centersurveys of the public's growing distrust of the media. American adults under 30 were found to trust information from social media almost as much as they do from national news outlets. This is dangerous, because an accurately informed public by trustworthy journalists is critical to maintaining our constitutional republic.

The Pew Research Center has been reporting on public attitudes about the press for some time and the trend is not good for the industry. In a survey last January, Pew reported, "The declining public trust in the news media and polarization of news audiences have profound effects on civic life."

Pew also found that American journalists differ from the public in their views when it comes to reporting more than one side of an issue: "55 percent of journalists surveyed say that every side does not always deserve equal coverage in the news. Twenty-two percent of Americans overall say the same." Why should journalists make these decisions?

Yes, there is a tendency with so many sources of information for people to go to those places that simply reinforce what they already believe. This is why good and trustworthy journalism is so important.

If "democracy dies in darkness" - the slogan of The Washington Post - so does journalism if much of the major media turn off the lights when it comes to accurate and fair reporting.

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/Zondervan).

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NRCC receives funds to support students in STEM

New River Community College recently received a Micron Opportunity Fund gift through the efforts of the Virginia Foundation for Community College Education. The Micron Opportunity Fund helps to remove barriers to student success for all students.

NRCC’s Educational Foundation will receive \$4,600 to support the college’s work in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM)-related programs.

The funds received can be allotted to support tuition, fees, books,

and required materials/supplies, as well as other cost-of-attendance expenses not covered by traditional financial aid, such as transportation, child care, and basic needs to assist students in remaining on a path to college completion.

Awards of up to \$500 will be made to students in need through NRCC’s student resource advisor and student resource specialist.

For more information, contact the NRCC Educational Foundation at (540) 674-3618 or foundation@nr.edu.

Nation

Continued from Page A6

revealed throughout his speeches. His frequent use of biblical allusions and his direct calls to God for courage and strength are most apparent in his famous “Give me Liberty” speech. The speech came less than a month before the Battle at Lexington and the “shot heard around the world” which would spark the American Revolution.

Later, during the Second Virginia Convention, Henry submitted a resolution for Virginia counties to begin preparing for war. On March 23, 1775 he put forward a resolution proposing that militiamen be raised up in Virginia’s counties “to secure our inestimable rights and liberties, from those further violations with which they are threatened.”

The Second Virginia Convention was held in St. John’s Church in Richmond, VA.

History.com records the following from eyewitness accounts of Patrick Henry’s “Give Me Liberty” speech:

“After several delegates had spoken on the issue, Patrick Henry rose from his seat in the third pew and took the floor. A Baptist minister who was watching the proceedings would later describe him as having ‘an unearthly fire burning in his eye.’”

“As he continued speaking, Henry’s dulcet tones began to darken with anger. ‘Excitement began to play more and more upon his features,’ the minister later said. “The tendons of his neck stood out white and rigid like whiplashes.”

Henry spoke from his heart, without notes, and unfortunately no transcripts of his exact words have survived to today; but his impassioned speech stirred the hearts of the delegates to action. His speech has been reconstructed from eye witness reports.

“Our petitions have been slighted,” Henry said, ‘our remonstrances have produced additional violence and insult; our supplications have been disregarded; and we have been spurned, with contempt, from

the foot of the throne...we must fight! I repeat it, sir, we must fight! An appeal to arms and to the God of Hosts is all that is left us!’”

“The war is actually begun!’ Henry cried. ‘The next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! Why stand we here idle? What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery?’ As he spoke, Henry held his wrists together as though they were manacled and raised them toward the heavens.”

“Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty’—Henry burst from his imaginary chains and grasped an ivory letter opener—“or give me death!” As he uttered these final words, he plunged the letter opener toward his chest, mimicking a knife blow to the heart.”

Henry’s speech was so impactful, that hundreds of colonists joined local militias, and embroidered the words, “Liberty or Death” onto their shirts.

If you kept up with international news during the Thanksgiving holiday, you would have realized the continued impact of Patrick Henry’s speech. In China, millions of citizens protested in the streets against their government, calling for the removal of Communist leaders and easing of COVID lockdowns. As they were arrested and dragged away, they were chanting, “Give me liberty or give me death.”

The power of inspiration and freedoms we often take for granted in our nation still burn in the hearts of people all over the world...even to the point of desiring freedom or death.

I wish there was room to copy Patrick Henry’s entire speech, but you can read it for yourself at: <https://www.owleyes.org/text/speech-to-the-second-virginia-convention/read/text-of-henrys-speech#root-4>

Lowery

Continued from Page A6

tled. According to the exit polls, 58% of voters said Biden does not have the acuity to serve effectively as president.

If Democrats get their way, this is just the beginning. They propose to reelect a man who will be 82 on Inauguration Day, and 86 by the end of his second term.

The actuarial tables and the realities of aging being what they are, this creates considerable risk of putting the country through the trauma of having a president who is incapable of carrying out his entire term. If you think our politics are deranged now, just wait until we face a genuine, inevitably wrenching 25th Amendment crisis, or we have to deal with the legitimacy issues around an unelected president.

Why even consider going down this route? In part, because Biden made an identity politics choice for vice president, and not a good one. It is understandable that the prospect of Vice President Kamala Harris makes Democrats want to cling to their nurse for fear of something worse. But the country deserves a better idea.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



Photo courtesy of NRCC

Gap Civil (above) and Bluegrass Kinsmen to perform at jamboree on Saturday.

NRCC Concert Series to hold free concert on Dec. 10

From NRCC

The music of Bluegrass Kinsmen and Gap Civil will be featured during New River Community College’s Concert Series event on Sat., Dec. 10, 2022. Music will begin at 6 p.m. in 117 Edwards Hall at NRCC in Dublin.

Bluegrass Kinsmen is a bluegrass band from Southwest Virginia that was formed in 1971. They perform a variety of bluegrass music that includes traditional, folk and gospel. Ebby, band leader, sings harmony and plays banjo and is very accomplished on guitar, mandolin, and fiddle as well. Band members also include his wife, Teresa, who sings lead and harmony, and other guest musicians.

Gap Civil is an Appalachian mountain music band built on

their motto of honor and innovate. They honor the mountain traditions that have shaped and rooted their music, and they take great pride in innovative and exciting original songs, tunes and arrangements. Fluidly blending the genres of old time, country, bluegrass and Americana, their music is sure to make you want to dance. Gap Civil was formed in 2017 based in Sparta, NC and features Chris Johnson on banjo and bass, Lucas Pasley on fiddle and vocals, and Kyle Dean Smith on bass and lead guitar.

Corporate sponsors of the jamborees include Anderson Audiology, Dublin; August Jewelers & Boutique, Inc., Radford; CCCKY, LLC – Fazoli’s, Dublin; Deanie Hall – State Farm Agent, Dublin; Estes Auto & Truck Parts Inc., Pilot; First Communi-

ty Bank, Pulaski; Gregory Seeding and Landscaping Company, Pulaski; King Tire Service, Pulaski; Lee’s Body Shop, Pearisburg; Martin’s Pharmacy, Pulaski; Pepsi Cola Bottling Co., Dublin; **Pulaski Patriot**, Pulaski; SERVPRO, Montgomery & Pulaski Counties; and Southern Furniture Warehouse, Radford.

The doors open at 5 p.m. for the show. Admission is free; however, donations will be accepted to help offset the travel expenses for the musicians. The music events are typically held the second Saturday of each month through April at NRCC, a Crooked Road affiliated venue.

For more information about the NRCC Concert Series, please contact Tim Jones at (540) 674-3625 or visit www.nr.edu/concerts.

Go-Ahead

Continued from Page A5

pack program, a Feed the Hungry Thanksgiving Meal and its Big Christmas Celebration. The ministry began its work in Pulaski in 2010 as a street ministry. The Warming Station opened in its previous location in 2014.

Just recently at Thanksgiving over 1,100 meals were provided to local residents.

Those who would like to help

Taking It To The Streets complete work on the Warming Station or any other aspect of their ministry may make donations at: Taking It To The Streets Ministries, P.O. Box 30, Pulaski VA 24301 or by PayPal through the ministry’s website at streets4god.com.

“We’re just trying to do what God wants us to do,” Barbettini

said.

“Our ministry is based on Matthew 25:40 – Jesus said, ‘What you’ve done for the least of these, you’ve done for me.’ We try to show God’s love and God’s compassion. And it’s more than someone just comes in off the street to get warm. We want to show them Jesus Christ.”

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A Great Family Experience!

New tool shows estimated funds from opioid settlements

By NATALIE BARR
Capital News Service

RICHMOND, Va. -- Virginia localities can now get a look at the estimated money they will receive from multibillion-dollar national opioid settlements, to help with prevention and treatment in the ongoing opioid crisis. The recently established Opioid Abatement Authority released on Dec. 7 a lookup tool for localities to search the projected settlement funds estimated through fiscal year 2039.

Anthony McDowell is the executive director of the Opioid Abatement Authority. His team reviews funding requests and distributes money from the abatement fund to provide treatment for communities most affected by opioid misuse and overdoses, McDowell said.

The authority is in its early stages, and only just beginning to distribute money and notify localities of funding, McDowell said. Funding is based on factors including if the settlement originated from that locality and other conditions identified in the settlements. The organization also will review requests from localities.

Settlements, according to the authority, are with the manufacturer Janssen; distributors AmerisourceBergen, Cardinal Health, McKesson and Walmart; and the marketing company McKinsey & Co.

Sen. George Barker, D-Fairfax, introduced Senate Bill 1469 in the 2021 General Assembly session to establish the Opioid Abatement Authority. The measure will be effective in creating long-term change to help counteract the opioid crisis, Barker said.

“I think we were very responsible and responsive to the people who have been dealing with these issues for years in helping to get funding to come in as part of some of these settlements and to be able to address it from both the public safety and the health care standpoints,” Barker said.

‘It’s everywhere’: Fatal overdose numbers still higher than pre-pandemic

The funds can be used for “anything” targeting prevention and treatment, and supporting people in recovery from opioid misuse, according to McDowell.

“Every dollar has to be spent on efforts to abate the opioid epidemic, and the definition of the law under the settlement is pretty broad,” McDowell said.

There will be multiple public listening sessions in coming months to help determine funding priorities. State leaders are dedicated to helping those affected from opioid misuse, McDowell said.

“I know what motivates them is the passion to save lives and to help communities and families heal from the harm that has come about from the prescription opioid crisis,” McDowell said.

The five localities that will receive the highest percentage of opioid settlement money are Fairfax County, Virginia Beach, Henrico County, Richmond City and Chesterfield County, respectively, according to data from the state attorney general’s office.

The Virginia areas with the most opioid overdose deaths in 2021 are Petersburg, Richmond, Hopewell and Portsmouth cities and Henry County, respectively, according to a VDH forensic epidemiologist.

Fatal overdoses still projected to be higher than pre-pandemic

Fatal drug overdoses continue to be the leading cause of unnatural death in Virginia since 2013, followed by gun and motor vehicle-related deaths, according to recent VDH data.

Opioids, especially fentanyl, continue to drive a nearly decade-long spike in fatal overdoses. Fentanyl, prescription and illicit, contributed to over 76% of

See FUNDS, page A9



Pendleton Waterfall

Radford Photo Club: Memory of loved ones captured in still life photo

Tracy Burlingame of Riner won the Radford Photo Club November photo challenge, Still Life, with her photo of a rose from her grandmother’s funeral and a blown-glass ball with her mother’s ashes in it.

Michele Borgarelli of Blacksburg won the open theme challenge with a photo of the Pendleton upper waterfall. He explains, “Pendleton waterfalls are in the Blackwater State Park in West Virginia. This photo was taken last October. The upper waterfall can be reach through a very steep trail that starts from the main trail behind the lake. The trail can be challenging, especially after some rain.”

The Radford Photo Club is made up of professional and amateur photographers from throughout the New River Valley. For the December 15 meeting, attendees are invited to share their 3 best photos of the year and talk about each. Bring photos on a thumb drive to display. Also, goodies to share will be welcome. Feel free to bring prints of photos for which you would like feedback. The meeting is at 6 p.m. at the Radford Public Library. Meetings, events, and outings are open to the public.



Tracy Still Life

Learn more about the club by Club” on Facebook or a browser searching for “Radford Photo er.



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Federal REAL ID enforcement deadline extended to May 7, 2025

RICHMOND — Virginians interested in obtaining a REAL ID compliant driver’s license or identification card now have two additional years to apply before federal identification requirements change at America’s airports.

In a news release this week, the federal government announced the extension of the enforcement deadline for REAL ID to May 7, 2025. The REAL ID enforcement deadline was May 3, 2023.

Nearly 2.8 million Virginians now have a REAL ID compliant driver’s license or identification card.

The new enforcement deadline means that, beginning May 7 2025, Virginians who want to use their state-issued driver’s license or identification card to board a domestic flight will have to present a REAL ID compliant version of the credential, displaying a small star in the upper-right corner, when passing through Transportation Security Administration (TSA) screenings. Several other forms of ID, including a U.S. Passport, a Passport Card, and some military IDs, will also be accepted for federal identification.

“Although the deadline has been extended, we still encourage Virginians interested in REAL ID to apply sooner rather than later. If your driver’s license or ID expires before May 7, 2025, that’s a great time to upgrade,” said Acting DMV Commissioner Linda Ford. “Visit [dmvNOW.com/REALID](https://dmvnow.com/REALID) to prepare the documents you need for service, complete your application online

and make an appointment to come see us at your convenience.”

In order to obtain a REAL ID, customers must visit DMV in person with certain documents which show proof of:

- Identity and Legal Presence (e.g. unexpired U.S. passport, U.S. birth certificate or unexpired permanent resident card);
- Social Security Number (e.g. Social Security card or W-2 form displaying full nine digits). Note: If you’ve lost your Social Security card but know the number, DMV may be able to verify the number electronically;
- Residency – two proofs required and must display name and current Virginia residential street address (e.g. recent utility bills, mortgage statements, valid Virginia driver’s license); and
- Any name changes (e.g. marriage certificates or divorce decrees). Note: If the name on your identity document is different from your legal name, you must show proof of your name change. Multiple documents may be necessary if your name has changed more than once.

There are a variety of acceptable documents; a complete list is available at [dmvNOW.com/REALID](https://dmvnow.com/REALID). You may also use DMV’s interactive document guide.

REAL ID also impacts access to secure federal facilities and military bases. Because these facilities have the ability to set their own entry requirements, DMV advises Virginians to verify the identification needed for access prior to their visit.

For more information, visit [dmvNOW.com/REALID](https://dmvnow.com/REALID).



Pulaski County Public Schools photo

Alley Named Employee of the Month

Pulaski County Public Schools and Snowville Elementary School are pleased to recognize Mrs. Regina Alley as Employee of the Month for November. Mrs. Alley is in her fifteenth year with Pulaski County Public Schools and is in her second year at Snowville Elementary School. Both years, Mrs. Alley has worked as a one-on-one para-professional assisting students with disabilities in the classroom setting. Her job responsibilities are ever changing and no two days are the same in her role. She works hard to ensure that the needs of her students are met, in addition to working with the classroom teacher to assist other students in any way possible. Her students love her and the smiles on their faces each day displays the excellent rapport that she has with them. Snowville Elementary School sincerely appreciates the time and work that Mrs. Alley puts into her job each and every day!

Joy Ranch to Hold Annual Live Nativity Saturday

We bring you good tidings of great JOY from Joy Ranch, a Christian Home for Children!

We are happy to announce we will still hold our annual drive-thru Live Nativity on Saturday, December 10 from 6-8 pm.

This is a FREE, family-friendly event where spectators will stay in their vehicles while driving through the beautifully decorated Joy Ranch campus viewing scenes from the story of Jesus Christ’s birth as well as amazing Christmas light displays.

While supplies last, each vehicle will receive a special gift from Joy Ranch and there will be special gifts for the children. The Live Nativity is our way of saying “thank you” to the community who supports us so generously.

Joy Ranch, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, has been serving children in need since 1961. Our mission is to provide a safe, caring, and Christ-centered home to meet the spiritual, physical, emotional, and social needs of children in crisis. Since then, we have loved approximately 6,000

children.

Please plan to join us at 813 Joy Ranch Road in Woodlawn, VA as you view scenes from the true Christmas story from the safety and warmth of your vehicle. For more information, please visit joyranch.org or call 276-236-5578. View the Facebook event at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1316064555888726>

Funds

Continued from Page A8

all fatal overdoses in 2021, according to VDH.

There have been 966 fentanyl-related overdoses this year from January through June, compared to 1,034 during the same period last year, according to VDH data. That is a 6.6% decline.

Almost 1,300 total overdoses occurred from January through the end of June, and all but 238 were opioid-related, according to analysis of the most recent VDH data. However, for the first time in roughly a 10-year period, the projected overdose deaths for the year showed a decrease.

Despite a slight decrease in projected fatal overdoses for 2022, the total deaths are over 57% higher than pre-pandemic totals.

Fatal cocaine and methamphetamine overdoses increased in recent years, according to VDH. Last year, fatal overdoses involving methamphetamine and cocaine escalated by 42% and 24%, respectively.

Fentanyl, often unknown to the buyer, is mixed with other drugs as a way to increase potency. Fentanyl was found in over 84% of the 801 fatal cocaine overdoses in 2021, according to VDH. Fentanyl was found in almost 66% of fatal methamphetamine overdoses in 2021.

Pharmaceutical fentanyl is a synthetic opioid approved for treating severe pain. It is 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Most fentanyl connected to overdoses is illegally made. For perspective, the amount of fentanyl that can prove fatal could fit on the tip of a pencil, according to the Drug Enforcement Administration.

More funding and services needed

Christopher Ronquest is the assistant director of operations at McShin Recovery Resource Foundation, a Henrico County-based organization that provides recovery services. Opioid misuse numbers continue to rise in the state, Ronquest said, and more services and more funding are needed.

There are 1,029 beds available for people seeking recovery in Virginia, Ronquest said. McShin provides 145 beds, he said. There were roughly 10,000 emergency room visits across the state for opioid misuse in 2021, Ronquest said, but McShin only served 498

participants. Almost 400 were new participants, according to McShin.

“A whole lot of people out there need recovery and might not know about it,” Ronquest said.

McShin was the first certified recovery community organization in Virginia when it was founded in 2004 and one of the first in the nation, Ronquest said. A distinction from a traditional rehabilitation center is the McShin peer-based recovery program format. There are 15 resident houses, with the majority located in Henrico County.

McShin has two 28-day intensive residential program houses, one located in Henrico County for males and females, and a women’s recovery house in Chesterfield County, Ronquest said. The foundation does not require insurance, and funding assistance is available for individuals who cannot pay for their recovery, he said.

“The whole idea is to teach people how to get off drugs and alcohol, and then show them a life that is attractive enough to stay off drugs and alcohol,” Ronquest said.

“It’s everywhere”

Elizabeth Powell has been sober for 22 years and is a certified peer recovery specialist with Richmond City Health District. Powell formerly used crack cocaine, she said. Powell works directly with individuals and communities to provide information about available recovery options. She gets alerts when overdoses occur and responds to the scene to provide support and distributes Narcan.

“They can contact someone like me that has a lived experience,” Powell said.

The number of individuals affected by opioid misuse is startling, Powell said, and many have limited access to recovery facilities to treat opioid addiction. A good way for individuals to learn about recovery is first “just knowing it exists,” she said

“I honestly believe in starting with first responders and working with the hospitals, so they can give that information out to these individuals when they do have overdoses, and go out into the community,” Powell said. “I guess just getting out there with outreach is the best way.”

The drug doesn’t discriminate and addiction is “everywhere.” “It’s out in the country,” Powell said. “It’s in the city. It’s in neighborhoods.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

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Dublin Lions Club photo

Dublin Lions Support Books for Students

The Dublin Lions recently presented a check to Alpha Phi to fund books for the students at Critzer Elementary. The program will promote reading by giving each child a book. Both groups agree that reading is the best thing you can do with your eyes!

Alpha Phi is a local chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa. ADK is a sorority of distinguished educators dedicated to altruism and the promotion of learning.

The Dublin Lions Club has been serving the needs of people in Pulaski County and abroad since their inception in 1953. They provide firsthand service, eyeglass and hearing aid assistance and participate in fundraising. They are known for the iconic Lion Dog, their signature entre served annually at the NRV Fair and at their two large seasonal flea markets. More information about them can be found at dublinlions.org.

Receiving the check for Alpha Phi is Angie Clevinger, presented by Lions Carolyn Hager and Donna Settle.

Conservation leader Clary finishes master's studies

OXFORD, OH -- Dublin resident Jacob Clary has been applying the tools of science, education and conservation to become a leader in the conservation community. In December 2022, Clary concluded a master's course of study with a Master of Arts (MA) in Biology from Miami University through Project Dragonfly.

Since joining the Global Field Program (GFP) master's in 2020, Clary has traveled to Borneo and conducted projects that have made a difference in the Dublin area.

Throughout Clary's time in the GFP, Clary developed a Master Plan - a kind of personal mission statement for what Clary wanted to accomplish in the program. In many of Clary's master's courses, Clary designed projects that supported this plan, which culminated in a final portfolio, "Understanding and Supporting Wildlife Conservation in Deforestation Hotspots," presented in a Capstone course.

The GFP master's degree and Earth Expeditions courses are designed for educators and other

professionals from all disciplines and settings interested in making a difference in human and ecological communities. Because the GFP combines summer field courses worldwide with online learning communities, this master's degree can be completed part-time from anywhere. More information about the GFP is located at MiamiOH.edu/cas/graduate-studies/project-dragonfly/global-field-program/index.html.

Miami University's Project Dragonfly reaches millions of people each year through inquiry-driven learning media, public exhibits and graduate programs worldwide.

Do You Feel Isolated?

Researchers must be worried about us. There are hundreds of studies done around the world on the topic of isolated seniors and how it's bad for our brain and physical health. While we can appreciate their concern, it would be nice if they could all agree on the facts they report.

A Norwegian university has released the results of a report on maintaining brain health and preventing cognitive decline. They've concluded, after reviewing 101 other studies, that social activity is important, along with physical exercise and interesting hobbies.

One study praised us for following the Covid rules and staying home and not having face-to-face social activity, saying we mentally weathered our isolation better than any other age group. Another study said that we didn't do well, that we suffered from sleep disturbances, depression and anxiety.

Another study analyzing information from before and during the pandemic concluded that yes, there was physical and social isolation, but not digital isolation. In other words, we've been online communicating with others.

One serious study looked at 12 possible relationships (friends, neighbors, family and so on) and concluded that being socially isolated made one more susceptible to the common cold.

SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Yet another study said that it was when the Covid rules were lifted, when we could go to stores and back to our meetings, that our real stress started.

In the U.S., 27% of seniors over the age of 60 live alone, as opposed to several other countries where multiple generations live together. One thing researchers need to consider: Some seniors might like the peace and quiet of living alone, might like having control about who comes over and when, and might prefer the independence.

Still, if you sense you don't get out enough, go. Take a walk. Volunteer to walk a dog at the shelter. Stroll the aisles at the library.

Or don't. It really is up to you.

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Cougars fall hard to Carroll County, 69-48

By RODNEY YOUNG
The Patriot

HILLSVILLE – Coming into the season the Pulaski County boys basketball team had only three returnees. They got much younger in their season opener held at Carroll County on Monday night and lost that opener 69-48.

First their senior leader Khalib Horton was in a walking boot due to a practice injury. Then with 6:48 left in the second quarter, arguably their best player and leading returning scorer Lane Nester got hurt.

Nester went up for a rebound and came tumbling down onto a Carroll County Cavalier player and turned his left ankle. He laid on the floor in obvious pain and

had to be helped off the court and never returned.

The score at the time was 19-16 Carroll County. Nester had already scored eight of the Cougars' 16 points and the injury seemed to take all the air out of the Cougars.

Carroll went on to outscore the Cougars 14 to 6 to take a 31-22 lead into halftime.

The third quarter for the Cavaliers saw them outscore the Cougars 17 to 9 and 38 to 26 in the second half.

Carroll County was led by 6'4" big man Elijah Cox with 15 points. Ethan Richardson tallied 14 and Nathan Redd came off the bench to toss in nine.

The Cougars got 10 points from Jeremiah Turner, as he scored all his points in the fourth quarter. Chandler Hollins came off the

bench to score eight points. Tootie O' Dell and Nester both tossed in eight apiece.

Cougar head coach Tyler Cannoy said afterwards, "We lost our senior leader last week to an injured foot and tonight we lose our returning leading scorer. This team has to grow up and get better. We're facing adversity right here at the start of the season."

"We had some good looks, but the shots wouldn't go down. We probably shot less than 30 percent from the floor and less than 20 percent from the three-point line," Cannoy added.

Carroll County head coach Anthony Barnes remarked, "We got some good production from our bench and I thought we were good in transition. Elijah Cox did some

good things tonight and I thought we were unselfish. It was a good opening win for us."

The Cavaliers led 19-14 after the opening quarter and 31-22 at intermission. They stretched their advantage to 48-31 going into the last quarter. At the end of the second quarter and start of the third the Cavaliers went on a 11-0 run to put the game away. Their biggest lead was 48-24 late in the third.

The two teams will go at it again this Saturday at 3 p.m. at Pulaski County.

The Cougar junior varsity won their opener by defeating the Cavaliers 56-45. They scored the last 11 points of the game. Justus Hash scored 23 points, Jalere Harlow

had 15, and Sammy Carrasco chipped in with 11. Carroll got a game-high 25 points from Isaiah Easter.

PC - 14 - 8 - 9 - 17 = 48
CC - 19 - 12 - 17 - 21 = 69

PC - Turner 10, Hollins 8, Nester 8, O'Dell 8, Reed 4, O'Neal 6. J. Green 2, Burchett 2. Carroll Co. - Cox 15, Richardson 14, Redd 9, Bray. Smoot 5, Bry. Smoot 8, Reitzel 6, Campbell 4, Talley 8

3 Pt. Goals - PC 5 - (Hollins 2, Turner, O'Dell, Nester), Carroll Co. 6 - (Richardson 2, Bry. Smoot 2, Bray. Smoot, Redd)

Total FG's - PC - 18, CC - 28
FT's - PC - 7 of 12, CC - 7 of 13
Total Fouls - PC - 14, CC - 11
Fouled Out - None
Technical - None

Basile's double-double in Virginia Tech's 77-49 win over Dayton

BLACKSBURG – Virginia Tech put together a strong first-half performance, paced by Grant Basile's 20 points in the period, and didn't look back in a 77-49 win against Dayton on Wednesday.

Basile led the way for the Hokies, posting an impressive stat line of 23 points, 10 rebounds and four blocks, as he recorded his second double-double of the season. Sean Pedulla tacked on 19 points for Virginia Tech, shooting 8-13 from the field. Darius Maddox matched his season high of five field goals made while scoring 12 points.

Tech hit nine shots from beyond the arc, which is the highest tally of 3-pointers made since the Hokies hit 10 against Old Dominion on Nov. 17.

For the second game in a row, Virginia Tech held its opponent to only three made 3-point field goals. Dayton's 30-percent shooting effort from the field was

the lowest percentage by an opponent this season.

How It Happened

Dayton jumped out to an early 12-6 lead before the Hokies went on a 9-0 run, which saw them gain the lead at the 13:05 mark and not look back. With 7:24 remaining in the half, the Hokies went on a 16-0 run that allowed them to take a 42-21 advantage into the break.

Virginia Tech kept its lead intact before going on a 6-0 run to grow the lead to 56-31 with 10:47 to go in the contest. The Hokies kept expanding the margin and coasted the rest of the way for the 77-49 win. Virginia Tech got a boost from its bench in the period, as non-starters accounted for 10 of its 35 total points.

Game Notes

- » Grant Basile notched his second double-double of the season and the 18th of his career.
- » The Hokies held the Flyers to an opponent season low 30-percent shooting from the field.
- » Virginia Tech had a great day defensively, holding Dayton to 20-percent from 3-point land on 15 attempts.
- » The Hokies were active in affecting shots on the defensive end, recording six blocks as a team.
- » Virginia Tech turned the ball over five times while dishing out 13 assists.



Brian Bishop/The Patriot

Pulaski County Romps Over Princeton

Keslyn Secrist drives for a basket at Princeton as the Pulaski County girls basketball team easily defeated Princeton Wednesday night on the road, 53-30. It was Pulaski County's third straight win of the season. The Cougars are now 3-1 on the season.

Radford wins opener, 58-37

Patriot Staff Report

Radford High School's boys basketball team got its 2022-23 season off to a grand start Wednesday evening, beating Christiansburg at home, 58-37.

Radford was led by Gavin Cormany's 27 points. Cormany went 6 of 10 from three-point range.

Elijah Kelly added seven points and eight rebounds.

Parker Prioleau chipped in six points, and made four steals in the game.

Radford (1-0) plays next on Dec. 16 at home against Pulaski County.

Cburg 12 7 8 10 - 37
Radford 14 14 17 14 - 58

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The Patriot

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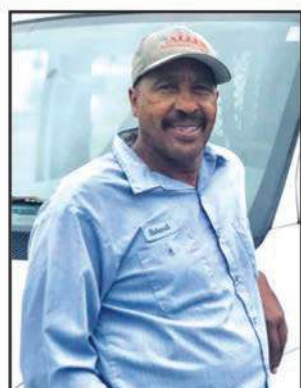
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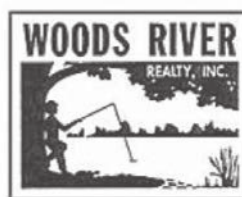


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VHSL Playoffs

VHSL Football Playoffs

Results

Class 1
Riverheads 21, Essex 8
George Wythe 35, Grundy 21

Class 2
Central Woodstock 37, Poquoson 10
Graham 36, Appomattox 20

Class 3
Phoebus 58, Brentsville District 14
Heritage 43, Christiansburg 0

Class 4
Dinwiddie 28, Warwick 0
Kettle Run 30, EC Glass 14

Class 5
Maury 21, Green Run 14
Highland Springs 19, Stone Bridge 14

Class 6
Freedom 69, Western Branch 14
James Madison 31, Fairfax 21

Saturday's Schedule

Noon

Class 1 Final

Riverheads (11-1) vs. George Wythe (10-3)
At Salem City Stadium

Class 3 Final
Phoebus (14-0) vs. Heritage (Lynchburg) (12-2)
At Williams Stadium, Lynchburg

Class 5 Final
Maury (10-1) vs. Highland Springs (14-0)
At S.B. Ballard Stadium, ODU

4:30 pm
Class 2 Final
Central (Woodstock) (12-2) vs. Graham (14-0)
At Salem City Stadium

Class 4 Final
Dinwiddie (14-0) vs. Kettle Run (14-0)
At Williams Stadium, Lynchburg

Class 6 Final
Freedom (Woodbridge) (14-0) vs. James Madison (11-3)
At S.B. Ballard Stadium, ODU



LEGAL NOTICES



Public Notice Pulaski County Board of Zoning Appeals

Notice is given pursuant to the Pulaski County Unified Development Ordinance and Section 15.2-2310 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, that a public hearing will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 20, 2021 in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, NW, Pulaski, VA 24301. The Pulaski County Board of Zoning Appeals is hosting a Public Hearing and will receive public comments in relationship to the application(s) for zoning variance as listed below:

- Petition by Jay Smart, for a variance to Article 4.9.C (Building Setback in High Density Residential Zone District) Pulaski County Unified Development Ordinance. Property is located at 6828 Pulaski Ave, Tax Map# 039-008-0011-0022, Cloyd District.
- Petition by Bert Milburn, for a variance to Article 4.4.C (Minimum Lot Size in Conservation Zone District) Pulaski County Unified Development Ordinance. Property is located at 8168, 8170 Parrott River Road, Tax Map # 012-001-0000-0143, 144, Cloyd District.

Comments may be presented at the meeting and by phone or in writing prior to the meeting. Information regarding these items are available for public inspection from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Department of Planning & Zoning, County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, NW, Pulaski, VA 24301.

If you are a disabled individual and would like special auxiliary aids or services, please contact the County's ADA Compliance Officer at (540) 980-7800 (TDD accessible) or (540) 980-7705, ten (10) days prior to the above meeting date.

LEGAL NOTICE



Public Hearing Board of Zoning Appeals

The Town of Pulaski Board of Zoning Appeals hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on December 15, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Pulaski Municipal Building, 42 First Street, NW, in order to hear citizen comments regarding the Board of Zoning Appeals intention to act on the following requests:

1. A request by J. Hoff for a variance from Section 4.7.3, Site Development Regulations of the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Pulaski, Virginia for property located at 45 Fifth Street NE [tax parcel(s) 072-51-35-34] in the R-O Residential Office District. Section 4.7.3 requires minimum setbacks of 25' from the front, 10' from the side, 25' from all public streets, and 25' from the rear. The applicant requests a variance to deviate from the required side setback to construct a residential dwelling with a side setback of 9' on the side adjacent to 49 Fifth Street NW.
2. A request from Strickler's Funeral Homes, Inc. for a variance from section 4.9.3, Site Development Regulations of the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Pulaski, Virginia for property located at 1631 Bobwhite Blvd [tax parcel(s) 073-1-10] in the B-2 General Business District. Section 4.9.3 limits a maximum height of accessory structures at 10'. The Applicant requests a variance to deviate from the required height maximum with a height of 14'.

Comments and/or questions can be sent ahead of the hearing via email to Caroline Smith, Planner, csmith@pulaskitown.org, or via phone at 540-994-8624; or in the form of written comments to Caroline Smith (42 First Street, NW, Pulaski, Virginia) until the date of the hearing. Copies of the variance application, site plans, and corresponding ordinances may be reviewed at the Pulaski Municipal Building Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

JOBS



Town of Dublin Seeking Full-Time Firefighter

The Town of Dublin is currently seeking a full-time Firefighter. The primary function of a Town of Dublin firefighter is to protect the community from disaster situations, including house and building fires, and promoting an environment of public safety within the Town of Dublin's response area. This position also participates in the Fire Prevention and inspection activities, equipment and facility maintenance, water supply system support, fire hydrant maintenance and training dealing with all phases of fire suppression, prevention, inspection, rescue and emergency operations.

Applicants must be 21 years of age with a high school diploma or GED, valid driver's license, Firefighter I and II certifications. Additional consideration will be given to candidates who are interested in phased completion of 1031 Training and future Fire Marshal Certification. Drug and alcohol testing, background check and physical examination required for employment.

The salary range for this position is dependent upon qualifications and experience. Benefits to include medical/dental insurance, life insurance, vacation/sick time, paid holidays, and retirement.

Applications may be picked up at the Town Hall building located at 101 Dublin Park Road, Dublin VA. For more information, please call 540-674-4731 during the hours of 8:00am – 5:00pm, Monday - Friday.

Applications will be accepted until December 21, 2022..

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JOBS



Come Join The Pulaski County Team! Water/Wastewater Service Technician

Applications are now being accepted for three (3) Water/Wastewater Service Technician positions. This position performs routine, semi-skilled and technical work in the installation, maintenance and repair of utility systems and pump stations, monitoring and repair and maintenance of flow meters, minor repairs to automotive and other equipment, inspects work performed by private contractors, inspects sewage facilities, manholes, valves, etc. Position also requires knowledge and compliance of regulatory and safety requirements.

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The salary scale for this position is \$29,120 0 \$46,023 and is commensurate upon education and experience.

Interested individuals may apply at the appropriate Virginia Employment Commission Office or may download and submit an application from www.pulaskicounty.org to Tammy Nichols, Human Resources Director at tnichols@pulaskicounty.org. A full job description is located on the website.

Position is open until filled.

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LEGAL NOTICE



Town Council Public Hearing

The Town Council of the Town of Pulaski, Virginia will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, December 20, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Pulaski Municipal Building, 42 First Street, NW to consider the following:

1. A proposed zoning amendment to section 4.4.2-2.9 (f) Commercial and Civic Uses, to add “Daycares” as a Special Exception in the R-3, Multi-Family Residential District.

All persons desiring to comment on the proposed requests should submit their remarks to Caroline Smith, Planner/Zoning Administrator, by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 20, 2022, to 42 First Street, NW/PO Box 660, Pulaski, VA or via email to csmith@pulaskitown.org. A copy of the application and other pertinent materials are available for public review in the Planner's office, Pulaski Municipal Building, 42 First Street, NW from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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. For persons with hearing or visual difficulties, contact Virginia Relay at 711 to arrange contact with the Town.

LEGAL NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID HANGAR SITE CONSTRUCTION DOAV Project #: CS0012-11

Sealed bids are hereby solicited for construction of the Hangar Site at the New River Valley Airport. Improvements include erosion & sediment control, grading, paving, and constructing water sewer, stormwater systems to a corporate hangar building pad, as well as site stabilization and other ancillary work associated with the Hangar Site improvements.

This is a unit price Contract. Bids will be received in the office of the Airport Manager, 5391 C V Jackson Rd, Dublin, VA 24084 until 4:00 p.m., prevailing local time, Thursday January 12, 2023. Bids received after that time will not be accepted. Bids will be open publicly and read aloud at 4:01 p.m.

An optional Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Friday December 16 at 2:30 p.m. in the Airport Conference Room at the address above.

Bidding documents in the form of electronic files in "pdf" format may be obtained by contacting Jamie Peck, Eden & Associates, jamie@edenandassociates.com or calling 276-632-6231.

All questions concerning the project shall be submitted in writing to Jamie Peck, Eden & Associates, by emailing jamie@edenandassociates.com and to be given consideration must be received at least ten (10) business days prior to the date fixed for the opening of the bids. Eden & Associates is the only point through which information will be disseminated.

Bid security must accompany each proposal in accordance with the Information for Bidders. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the opening thereof. The procedure specified under Code of Virginia Section 2.2-4330(B)(1) shall apply: "The bidder shall give notice in writing of his claim of right to withdraw his bid within two business days after the conclusion of the bid opening procedure..."

The New River Valley Airport Commission reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive informalities and irregularities in bidding and to accept bids which are considered to be in the best interest of the Airport.

200 Years, 200 Stories: An Exhibition

Library of Virginia celebrates 200th anniversary during 2023

RICHMOND – The Library of Virginia, one of the oldest state libraries and archives in the nation, will mark its bicentennial in 2023 with a free exhibition — 200 Years, 200 Stories, running Jan. 24–Oct. 28, 2023. The exhibition and multimedia experience celebrate 200 Virginians whose fascinating narratives are housed in the Library's collections and together reflect the stories of Virginia.

The Library of Virginia was founded by the General Assembly on Jan. 24, 1823, to organize, care for and manage the state's growing collection of books and official records — many of which date back to the early colonial period. Since then, the collection has grown to 2 million books, newspapers, maps, prints, and photographs, as well as 130 million manuscript items, making the Library the most comprehensive resource in the world for the study of Virginia history, culture and government.

"We've been fortunate to play such an important role in preserving Virginia's history and culture for two centuries," said Librarian of Virginia Sandra Treadway, Ph.D. "This exhibition provides a great opportunity to educate the public about the significance of our collections and engage them in exploring the past while reflecting on how it connects to the present and our next century."

Rather than a Top Ten or a Who's Who, 200 Years, 200 Stories profiles Virginians of all stripes: heroes and villains, the famous and infamous, the powerful and the powerless. Stories feature Virginians like Ethel Bailey Furman, one of the first Black female architects in Virginia; David Martin, founder of the Martin Agency and creator of the famed tagline "Virginia is for Lovers"; Chinese immigrant Ow Chuck Sam, who became a naturalized citizen and served in the armed forces during World War II; and many more.

History and art specialist Susan Glasser served as guest curator, helping to bring an outside perspective and select content that would reflect the diversity of Vir-

ginia's narratives.

"We want exhibition visitors to experience the joy of discovery felt by our patrons every day when they encounter the treasures within our collections," said Greg Kimball, Ph.D., the Library's director of public services and outreach.

The exhibition begins in the lobby with montages of individuals featured in the stories, a large map of Virginia on the lobby floor identifying the locations of our featured individuals, and an interactive kiosk for visitors to explore the evolution of the Library's physical site or enjoy a look at the institution's internal workings.

Once visitors enter the Exhibition Gallery, another interactive kiosk presents the stories of 200 Virginians, searchable by themes and location, while "discovery drawers" allow visitors to explore ephemera collections with items such as travel brochures, posters and more.

The exhibition is one of several key events and initiatives planned to celebrate the Library's bicentennial in 2023. Look for the full 200th anniversary event schedule in the coming weeks on the Library's calendar at <https://www.lva.virginia.gov/eventscalendar/> or the website at lva.virginia.gov.

ABOUT THE LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

The Library of Virginia is the state's oldest institution dedicated to the preservation of Virginia's history and culture. Our online offerings attract nearly 4 million website visits per year, and our resources, exhibitions and events bring in more than 100,000 visitors each year. The Library's collections, containing more than 130 million items, document and illustrate the lives of both famous Virginians and ordinary citizens.

The Library is located in downtown Richmond near Capitol Square at 800 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Learn more at www.lva.virginia.gov.

VEC: Unemployment insurance trust fund at pre-panemic levels

RICHMOND, VA— The Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) announced this week that the unemployment insurance fund trust fund has returned to pre-pandemic levels and surpassed key solvency levels. As of December 2, 2022, the Virginia unemployment insurance trust fund balance available for benefits is \$1,466,766,128. As employer tax statements go out in December, because of actions taken by the General Assembly and approved by the Governor, employers will see the elimination of the \$16 per employee fund builder tax in 2023.

"The economic recovery from the pandemic, coupled with actions taken by the Governor and General Assembly to make additional in-

vestments into the unemployment insurance trust fund, has resulted in the trust fund returning to pre-pandemic levels and creating stability in the fund," said Carrie Roth, Commissioner of the VEC and Advisor to the Governor for Strategic Initiatives. "In addition, as a result of budget actions, the \$16 per employee fund builder tax is eliminated for calendar year 2023."

There are three components that make up unemployment insurance taxes: base, pool, and fund builder. Every year the trust fund solvency percentage is calculated by dividing the adequate fund balance by the actual trust fund balance.



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Pet’s Safety Is Paramount at Holiday Dinners

DEAR PAW’S CORNER: Last year, I caught my uncle and aunt feeding our King Charles Spaniel, Doogie, food from their plates after Thanksgiving dinner and pouring wine into a dish for him. As you know, holiday feasts have rich, fatty foods with ingredients that are bad for dogs, like onion, garlic, avocado and chocolate. Fortunately, Doogie only suffered a bit of indigestion. This year, I added a list of rules to the Thanksgiving invitation, including: Do not feed the dog; do not leave plates where Doogie can reach them; do not give alcohol to the dog; do not let Doogie out of his kennel.

My uncle and aunt posted the list on Facebook and said the rules are the reason they will not come this year. They’re trying to shame me for protecting my dog. Some of our other relatives commented on the post and said they might not come because of the rules, either. What would you do? -- Carole & Chuck in Marietta,



Georgia

DEAR CAROLE & CHUCK: I’m no master of etiquette, but I can speak on this issue: The welfare of your pet comes first. Dogs will not turn down yummy food, especially if it’s bad for them. Dogs don’t know alcohol is bad for them. Many dogs don’t know how to handle the stress of a sudden crowd of strangers in the house. Dogs will react badly to inconsiderate handling. Your rules about Doogie are reasonable. You can respond to the post calmly with your side of the story.

Balancing those favorite holiday foods

Andrea K. Wann
By Virginia Cooperative Extension

Eat the Foods You Love at the Holidays, While Making Healthy Choices Along the Way
What an exciting time of the year! It can be difficult to pinpoint your favorite thing about the upcoming Holidays – for many it is the togetherness; for children it can be the eagerness of opening a present or two; but for just about everyone, it is safe to say, holiday foods are a highlight! Mouthwatering ingredients, aromatic smells and family traditions are just a few of the essentials that go into creating these delicious dishes. If you are trying to find a balance of eating the dishes you love and still trying to not overindulge too much, you are not alone. Here are four simple thoughts that may be helpful along the way.

1. Always incorporate fresh fruits and vegetables
2. Try swapping out certain ingredients to make your recipe more nutrient-dense
3. Use herbs and spices to infuse flavors
4. Keep hydrated with water

If you are a grazer, meaning you tend to munch on foods throughout the entirety of festivities, a good tip is to fill half of your plate with fresh fruits and vegetables, and the other half with your holiday favorites. This can help prevent the dreaded feeling of being miserably full and bogged down. This will also provide you with the fiber you need from the fruits and veggies, to keep your GI system feeling great and working properly – giving you a head start for any New Year’s resolutions you are seeking. A win-win all around!

If you are somewhat of a food explorer and are searching for

ways to make classic dishes a bit lighter, try swapping out certain ingredients to make your holiday dish more nutrient-dense! These swaps can still offer a rich flavor while boosting the vitamin and mineral content of holiday foods. Some common swaps may include: Greek yogurt in place of sour cream, ground flaxseed in place of eggs (for baking), or adding cooked, pureed veggies (i.e. spinach, cauliflower) to savory sauces or casseroles.

Incorporating herbs and spices are a sure way to guarantee rich flavor! You can use fresh herbs or dried. The most commonly used this time of year include sage, cloves, garlic, thyme, cinnamon, and vanilla. Fresh does tend to offer a more fragrant infusion, but not every grocery store offers fresh. Don’t forget to reach out to your local farmers market to purchase locally grown herbs or spices. Many markets still offer winter and extended holiday hours.

If you are reading to this point and none of these have struck a chord – don’t fret! Holiday foods can be rich with so many added sugars, saturated fat and salt; so, for those who just don’t want to sacrifice their joys of holiday foods, a most important suggestion is to stay hydrated with water throughout all of your festivities. Staying hydrated can keep the G.I. system working the way it needs to and it can also help with not over indulging and feeling so full. Aim for at least 80 ounces of water per day – this will also help with festivity fatigue!

The bottom line is to find a balance that works for you this holiday season. Food is meant to provide our bodies nourishment and also enjoyment via flavor and texture. Finding a balance is truly possible. Cheers and Happy Holidays to all!



Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce photo

Chamber Welcomes Web Weaver Systems

Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating new business, Web Weaver Systems. Web Weaver Systems offers computer services ranging from simple residential technical issues with smart phones or home computers, to commercial and more advanced services including web design and data recovery. Web Weaver Systems operates in the New River Valley with the ability to service customers nationwide through their Remote Access Service. Dwayne Weaver, owner of Web Weaver Systems is long time resident of the area and a proud graduate of New River Community College. Find more about Web Weaver Systems at webweaversystems.com. Pictured are: Brenda Eanes; Pulaski County Administrator Jonathan Sweet; Pulaski County Board of Supervisors Chair Laura Walters; Danielle Alexander; Dwayne Weaver; Bill Cunningham, Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce President; Dr. John Knarr.

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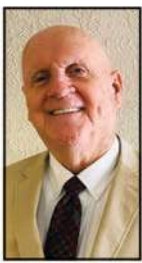
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Teach Me Your Word O Lord

Terry McCraw

Three Lost Things

Part I

The Lost Sheep. It was lost, it knew it was lost but didn't know how to get back to the Shepherd.

When the Shepherd finds the lost sheep, he isn't angry with the sheep that strayed. He isn't angry that the sheep caused Him a lot of worry and work and aggravation. No, the Shepherd rejoices, because His Sheep that He loves, was lost, and has now been found.

"For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly." Jesus has had to carry each and every one of us who were lost and in danger of perishing to safety. He searched and searched until He found us and then lovingly picked us up, placed us on his shoulders, carried us to safety, and rejoiced over finding us.

Not only the Shepherd rejoices when a lost sheep has been found, but there is joy in Heaven over it as well.

Luke 15: 7 says, "Likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance."

Some may wonder why does the Shepherd leave the ninety and nine unprotected and go out and seek after the one lost sheep. It could be that He knows that the ninety and nine are safe, secure, fat and happy being all together in one place. The one lost sheep is alone and in grave danger until it is found and brought back to the flock.

The Lost Sheep was lost but didn't know how to get back to the Shepherd. A lot of folks are like this lost sheep. They have lost their way and don't know how to get back to the flock and to the Shepherd. As Christians, as under shepherds, we can show them the way.

The Lost Coin. The coin was lost and didn't know it was lost. A lot of folks are like the lost coin. They are lost but they don't know that they are lost. They are too busy enjoying the pleasures of sin for a season to plan for their eternal future. They have never given much, if any, thought to what will happen to them after death. They're just going down their road, singing their song, not really realizing that they are on the road that leads to their destruction.

There are a lot of folks out in the world who are like this lost coin. They are lost, they know that they are lost but they can't seem to find their way back to the Shepherd and the flock. Some never stop long enough from their busy lives to even think about the next life. Perhaps they have grown up in a home where their parents didn't teach them about their need to be saved.

Those who are lost and dontknow that they are lost, are those who are walking around in total darkness and have their eyes blinded by the devil. Christ is seeking after them, but they don't see the need to be saved. They are just wandering around in the darkness. And even if they do believe in God, they don't believe that God would send anyone to hell, including them.

The truth is, God doesn't send anyone to Hell. It's not God's will that any should perish but that all should come unto repentance. If a person ends up in hell, they'll have to walk across the blood of Jesus to get there.

God has given His only Son to purchase salvation for

Church Directory

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	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	Dublin Christian Church 5605 Dunlap Road P. O. Box 1330 Dublin, VA 24084 (540) 674-8434 www.dublinchristianchurch.com Greg "Scooter" Breisch Minister Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Youth and Children's Meetings 5:00 p.m. Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study, Youth and Children's Classes 7:00 p.m.
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	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.	Snowville Christian Church (DOC - Disciples of Christ) 5436 Lead Mine Rd. Hiwassee, VA 24347 Pastor: Jerry King Website: www.SnowvilleChristianChurch.com (and Facebook) Office: 540-633-3761 Email: office@SnowvilleChristianChurch.com Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m. Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Thursday Bible Study: 6:00 p.m. "Inspiring hope, helping people grow their faith, and sharing God's love with others!"
Open Door Baptist Church 4576 Miller Lane Pulaski, VA 24301 Pastor: Rev. N.K. Howlett Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m. Wednesday Night, 7 p.m. Phone: 980-2046	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	Dublin United Methodist Church P.O. Box 577 424 East Main Street Dublin, VA 24084 Pastor: Rev. Don Shelor 540.674.5128 email: dublinumc@gmail.com Sunday Worship Times: 9:00 & 11:00 am Sunday School: 10:00 am
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	First Missionary Baptist Church 7318 Manns Drive Fairlawn, Virginia 24141-8524 (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.	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 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.
Christ Episcopal Church 144 North Washington Ave., Pulaski P.O. Box 975 Service: 10 a.m. every Sunday Phone: 980-2413 Email: christ24301@gmail.com	Draper's Valley Presbyterian (PCA) 2755 Old Baltimore Road, Draper, VA 24324 Interim Pastor: Rev. David Gilleran Associate Pastor: Rev. Roland Mathews Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship 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)	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.
Jordan's Chapel UMC Pastor: Ginny Tompkins Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School: 10:45 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.	Trinity Lutheran Church ELCA 2 Fifth Street, N.W., Pulaski 540-980-3624 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	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
Cecil's Chapel United Methodist Church 5801 Cecil's Chapel Road, Hiwassee, VA 24347 Pastor Jason Crandall Worship service is 8:45am-9:45am Sunday School is 10 - 10:45am Ricky Dishon, 540 239 6360, www.facebook.com/cecilschapel.umc	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	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.
Valley Harvest Ministries 1 Harvest Place Dublin, VA 24084 Senior Pastor Steve Willis Associate Pastors: Perry Slaughter, Walter Gueste, Derick Burton Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. Hispanic Ministry Service- Sunday 6 p.m. Wednesday School 7 p.m. www.vhmdublin.org 540-674-4729	Grace Ministries Church of God of Prophecy 1021 Macgill Street Pulaski, VA 24301 Church: 540-980-2118 Cell: 276-233-8083 Bus Ministry: 540-230-2485 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	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.
Dublin Baptist Church Pastor Allen Mahan, II 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. Sunday Adult Bible Study: 6 p.m. Tuesday Women's Bible Study: 11 a.m. Wednesday Youth Bible Study, 7 p.m. Food Pantry: Wednesdays 10 a.m - 2 p.m.	Faith Bible Church 110 LaGrange Street, Pulaski, VA 24301 Pastor: Jim Linkous Associate Pastor: T.J. Cox 540-980-5433 www.facebook/faithbiblechurch Sunday School: 10 a.m. Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. Sunday Children's Church: 11 a.m. Sunday Evening: 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m. Children's Meal: 6:30 p.m. Children's and Youth's Group Classes: 7 p.m.	Dora Highway Baptist Church 321 Dora Highway Pulaski, VA 24301 Pastor: Harry Gunter Worship Service: 11 a.m. Phone: (540) 320-0738
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.		New Hope Chapel 1555 Case Knife Road, Pulaski, VA 24301 Pastor Darrell Gray (276) 733-6080 Service Times 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Sunday Service
First United Methodist Church 301 N. Jefferson Ave. - Pulaski (physical) 135 Fourth St., NW - Pulaski (mailing) Pastor's Name: Josh Kilbourne Sunday Service: 10:00 AM Hispanic Service: 3 p.m. Contact Info. Phone: 540.980.3331 e-mail: office@fumcpulask.org website: www.fumcpulask.org FACEBOOK@FirstUMCPulaski and WBLB 10:00 am		Grace Episcopal Church 210 4th Street, Radford, 24141 639-3494 Rev. Deacon William Yagel Service: 10:30AM Sundays Email: office@graceradford.org http://www.graceradford.org Facebook: Grace Episcopal Church Morning Prayer services at 8:00am and 10:30am (live stream of service available)
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		

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(540) 250-3741
tgarwood674@gmail.com

Community Christian Church
5382 Grace Street, Dublin VA, 24084
540-674-4308
Pastor: Bill Neeley
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.

First Christian Church of Pulaski
524 N Jefferson Ave
Pulaski, VA 24301-4618
(540) 980-7144
www.firstchristianpulaski.org
Pastor: Timothy Moore
Men's Sunday School: 10 am
Worship: 11 am

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.

Pathway to Heaven Worship Center
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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: 6 p.m.

St. Edwards Catholic Church
Corner of N. Washington Ave. and
7th Street N.W., Pulaski
Phone: 980-6511
Fax: 980-6511
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Mass: 11 a.m. Sunday

Warriors for Christ II
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540-315-2317
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Worship: 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Thursday: 7 p.m. Service

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.

Trinity Baptist Church
4008 Robinson Tract Road
Pulaski, VA 24301
Telephone: 980-8186
Pastor Johnny Howlett
Sunday Worship - 10 a.m.
Sunday Bible Study - 6 p.m.
Wednesday - Adult Bible Study and Youth
Group - 7 p.m.

Bob White Boulevard Baptist Church
3826 Bob White Boulevard
Pulaski, VA.

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Preaching: 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening: 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7:30 p.m.
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First Dublin Presbyterian Church (ECO)
409 Church Street, Dublin, Va. 24084
P.O. Box 2027, Dublin, Va. 24084
first-dublin-presbyterian-church-eco.com
Pastor:
Mary Ann Armbrister
Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m.

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 22:3-4

Yet you **are** **enthroned** as the **Holy One**; **you** are **the** one **Israel** **praises**. In you **our** **ancestors** **put** **their** trust; they **trusted** **and** you **delivered** **them**.

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X O G B T S M I O D

Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram.
They run in all directions — forward, backward, up,
down and diagonally.

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McCraw

Continued from Page B6
every person and to keep us out of hell. What more could God do than what has already been done, to show His love for lost souls?

If a person ends up in a devil's hell, it will be because they have, of their own free will, rejected God's only Begotten Son and His death for them on Calvary, so they can be saved. If they end up in a devil's hell it will be because THEY have chosen death over life. Because they have put themselves there by living an ungodly life and rejecting God's calling to them to come and be saved.

Then there are those who are so caught up in the sin that they are practicing, they don't want to give up that sin. They haven't really stopped to count the costs of being lost, and so they remain in sin for the temporary pleasure of it.

Then there are those like Felix who was tempted to become a Christian, but put it off until a more convenient season. As far as we know from the record, a more convenient season never came for him.

Procrastination is a big word that means, to put something off. Procrastination sends more people to hell than almost anything else except unbelief. A lot of folks put off their soul's salvation too long and finally die in their sins because they really didn't realize or believe that they'd be eternally lost. They planned to come to Christ and be saved, but later. Tomorrow will do. It'll be as good as today.

The Lost Coin.

It was lost but didn't know it was lost..

Notice that it was NOT the lost coin that sought its owner. It was the woman who sought the coin, and looked for it until she found it. After searching high and low, sweeping and garnishing the whole house, she finally found it.

It was the coin that was lost. She was not lost. In the same vein, when we were sinners, it was we who were lost. God was not lost. We were not seeking God. But thank God, He was seeking for us. He loved us enough to keep on searching for us until he found us and saved us.

When the woman found her lost coin, she was filled with great joy, and she called in all of her friends to rejoice with her for the coin was lost. That's how it is in heaven when one lost soul is found. Somehow, I believe, word of a saved soul gets up to heaven. And there is great rejoicing in heaven over it.

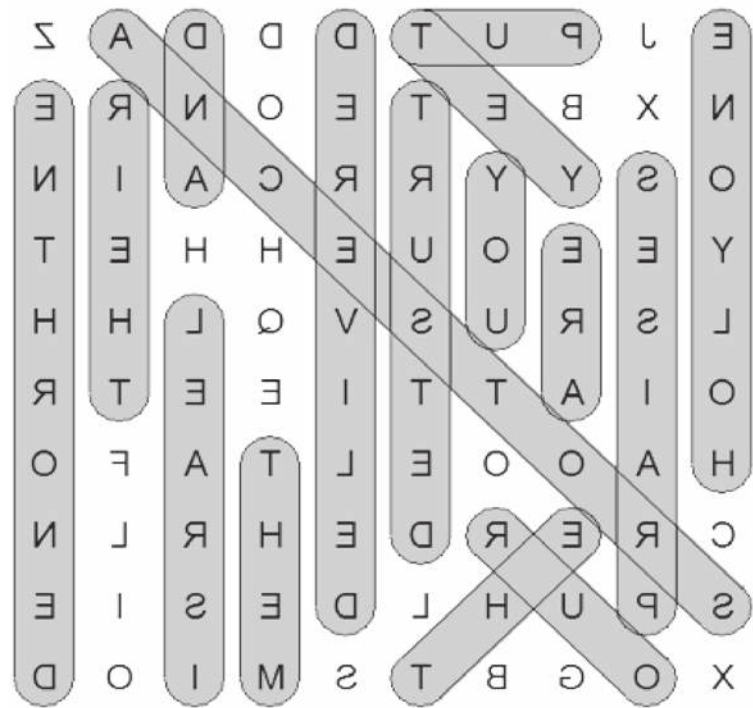
There's a celebration over it, for a soul that was bound for hell has been found. A brand has been plucked from the burning. The devil is defeated again. No wonder there is joy in the presence of the angels when one sinner repents and is saved.

Bible Trivia

1. Is the book of Bethlehem in the Old or New Testament or neither?
 2. Where did the angel Gabriel appear to Mary saying, "Blessed art thou among women"? Nazareth, Tyre, Ninevah, Gazi
 3. With perhaps two different biblical answers, who was the father of Joseph? Jacob/Heli, Gideon/Ishmael, Solomon/Nahum, Samuel/Pilate
 4. Which Old Testament prophet predicted Jesus would be born in Bethlehem? Amos, Obadiah, Micah, Nahum
 5. For the journey to Bethlehem, how did Mary and Joseph travel? Bible not specific, Cart, Rode donkey, Small raft
 6. Which of these wasn't a gift from the wise men (Magi)? Silver, Myrrh, Gold, Frankincense
- ANSWERS: 1)Neither, 2) Nazareth, 3) Jacob/Heli (Matthew 1:16, Luke 3:23), 4) Micah, 5) Bible not specific, 6) Silver
- Sharpen your understanding of scripture with Wilson's Casey's latest book, "Test Your Bible Knowledge," now available in bookstores and online.

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Answers



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Why doesn't God stop the evil?

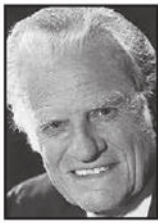
From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: When the end of the year comes, I always wonder if the Lord might return before a new year begins. The worse the world gets -- from Ukraine to the United States -- I wonder how much longer the Lord will tarry. I know it isn't possible to know the exact time, but does the Bible indicate an approximate time? If some kind of peace doesn't emerge soon, I cannot see us surviving the wickedness of our time. - L.R.

A: Jesus did not tell us when

He is coming back. He said we were not to speculate. Jesus said that there would be certain signs to watch for. These "signs of the times" are described throughout Scripture, and taken together we see a striking portrait of the end times.

Jesus spoke of the coming of a godless, secular society, and He spoke of the dangers of heresies of those who try to pervert the message of the truth Christ came to deliver. This is a realistic portrait of our times. We sometimes wonder where God is during the storms of life and if we will ever



My Answer

Billy Graham

experience world peace. This has been a question through the ages.

Why doesn't God stop the evil? The Bible assures us that God will abolish evil when Christ returns. No wonder Scripture tells us that, at that time, "every knee should

bow... and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord" (Philippians 2:10-11). There is coming a time when the human race will be humbled before Him.

And there is a wonderful assurance for those who are in the Person of Jesus Christ. The question to ask is, "Where will we be when the end of time comes?" In Christ through His salvation is the safest place to be in all of the world, past, present, and future.

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

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



OLIVE



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!

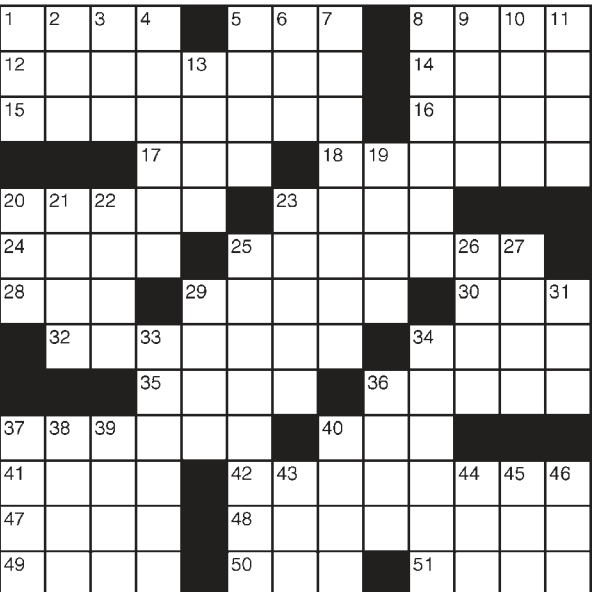
Chirp BAWLER
Mean DINES
Subtle INFAT
Assist VERSE

TODAY'S WORD

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Singer Lovett
- 5 "Ben-Hur" studio
- 8 Beanies
- 12 "Madam Secretary" actress
- 14 Opposite of "sans"
- 15 Very hungry
- 16 Gambling city
- 17 Coq au —
- 18 Painter Georges
- 20 Watched surreptitiously
- 23 Pot covers
- 24 Any time now
- 25 Stuffed Italian pasta
- 28 Boy king
- 29 Doctrine
- 30 NYPD alert
- 32 Gulches
- 34 Potter's medium
- 35 New newts
- 36 Tint
- 37 Import duty
- 40 JFK info
- 41 Portent
- 42 Enraptured
- 47 Theater award
- 48 Eternally
- 49 Variety
- 50 Still, in verse



DOWN

- 1 USPS delivery
- 2 Pro vote
- 3 Restroom, for short
- 4 Football team
- 5 Earth cirler
- 6 Bearded beast
- 7 Written messages
- 8 Tenor Enrico
- 9 Say it's so
- 10 Elizabeth of "Jacob's Ladder"
- 11 Highlander
- 13 Oklahoma city
- 19 Redact
- 20 Retired jet
- 21 Serve coffee
- 22 Greek vowel
- 23 Highway divisions
- 25 Cheap way to live
- 26 Chorus syllables
- 27 Apple tablet
- 29 Squabble
- 31 "See ya!"
- 33 Like marble
- 34 Great divides
- 36 Commotion
- 37 Grabbed
- 38 Both (Pref.)
- 39 Check
- 40 Divisible by two
- 43 St. crosser
- 44 Weed whacker
- 45 Notable time
- 46 Lair

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top ten
GREATEST MALE ATHLETES OF ALL TIME

1. Michael Jordan
2. Hank Aaron
3. Wayne Gretzky
4. Babe Ruth
5. Muhammad Ali
6. Pele
7. Jim Thorpe
8. Wilt Chamberlain
9. Jim Brown
10. Lance Armstrong

Source: BleacherReport.com

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. MOVIES: What does Susan Walker want as a gift from Santa in the movie "Miracle on 34th Street"?
2. MUSIC: Which famous rock band once called itself The New Yardbirds?
3. GEOGRAPHY: Where is the Thar Desert located?
4. TELEVISION: Which TV sitcom's theme song was "Thank You for Being a Friend"?
5. FOOD & DRINK: When was frozen food invented?
6. MOVIES: Which Disney princess is modeled after a real person?
7. ANATOMY: What is the only human organ capable of natural regeneration?
8. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What are male and female swans called?
9. U.S. STATES: Which state's motto is "Excelsior!"?
10. HISTORY: How many people signed the U.S. Declaration of Independence?

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Hair is different. 2. Pocket is missing. 3. Coral is different. 4. Jacket is moved. 5. Shark is moved. 6. Sign is moved.

STARVED

Today's Word

- 1. Wordle 2. Snide
- 3. Faint 4. Serve

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: E equals N

Z VSE'R HDDL RN RCJHR FDNFQD
XMN ON SCNJEALSTZEO CNJOM
ACSXZEOH. RMDK'CD SQQ HN
HTRVMK.

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Americanisms



"We need, in every community, a group of angelic troublemakers."
— Bayard Rustin

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Cryptoquip

I can't seem to trust people who go around making rough sketches. They're all so

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: **Largest City in North Dakota**

- Farad
Faraday
Farce
Fares
- Far-fetched
Farms
Farmyard
Wide-angle
- Wide awake
Wide-body
Wide-open
Widely
- Widen
Widescreen
Widespread

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

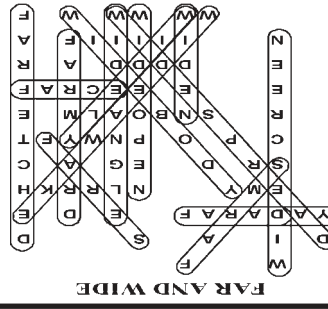
One letter stands for another. In this sample, **A** is used for the three L's, **X** for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

YVS WMESRY KATYVMEF OZCS
MR Z HSLRTE'R RDME, IJY, TW
KTJLRS, RTKMSYB CSOZECR
RTOSYVMEF OTLS YVZE YVMR.
— OZLD YPZME

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The finest clothing made
is a person's skin, but, of
course, society demands
something more than this.
— Mark Twain

Cryptoquote
answer



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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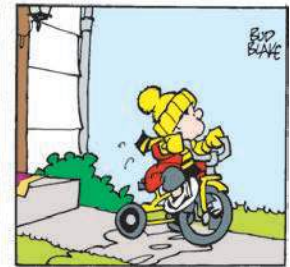
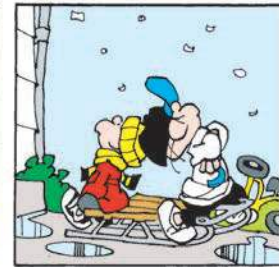
Meredith McGrady
Office Manager



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NO CONSEQUENCE? ALETA DOES NOT KNOW THAT AS HER TWO DAUGHTERS TRIED TO SAVE HER, WEIRD STORMS LASHED THE SKIES OVER BRITAIN...

...AND THE FOLLOWING MORNING, STRANGE VISITATIONS WERE FOUND IN THE FIELDS.



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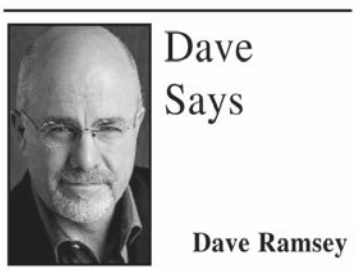
Dear Dave,
My dad and his wife asked my husband and I for \$55,000. They want the money so they can pay off their debt. We're debt-free and have a net worth of between \$2 to 3 million, but we're also retired. We don't keep that much in the bank, so we'd have to draw from our retirement accounts—which is something we don't want to do. They've already approached other family members about this too. His wife is owed money at some point from a family settlement, but they don't want to wait that long. My dad said we should do this if we want them to get ahead and have anything left in their later years. My dad is 80, and his wife is in her late 70s. My husband and I are both in our 50s. Please tell me how to handle this.

Dear Karla,
In their later years? I'm not trying to be mean, but they're already in their later years.
I'm really sorry you're in this situation. Even though you're in your 50s, he's still your dad, and I know this hurts your heart. It's probably even tougher to accept the fact that he's being manipulative. I mean, seriously. What dad calls up his daughter with the idea he's entitled to \$55,000 of her money and starts acting like a travel agent for guilt trips in the process? That's just wrong.
Look, if the relationship and the situation were different, we might have something to talk about. With your net worth, you're not going to miss \$55,000 out of \$2 to 3 million. In a good relationship,

— **Weekly SUDOKU** —

Answer

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



Dave Says

Dave Ramsey

I'd help my mom or dad like that in a heartbeat—just to help them out because they're older. But this situation already is what it is. Something tells me this isn't the first time he's behaved in a manipulative way. And if you say yes to this, then I've got a feeling it isn't the first time you've caved into him. I'm worried you won't be able to live with yourself if you do this, and that it may cause a big rift between you and your husband.

It's wrong of your dad to treat you this way and put you in this situation. If you want to tell him your money's tied up, which it is, or you just don't like the way it feels, that's fine. But my advice is to try to step back from the emotions and come to the realization in your own head that no is a complete answer.

You don't have an ethical or moral obligation to give manipulative people money just because they're related to you.

— **Dave**

* Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of "The Ramsey Show," heard by more than 18 million listeners. Dave has helped people regain control of their money.

PULSE

Dec. 10

Huge Youth Night
It's a huge Youth Night (and all ages) Sat. Dec. 10th 7 pm at the Taking It To The Streets Crusade, Event and Missions Center on Jefferson Avenue in Pulaski. Evangelists Dave and Marisol Scott will be bringing the message with Rev. Paul Robertson and All For Jesus Ministries doing the music. You won't want to miss this special Youth Night. Free pizza and drinks will be served after the service. We invite you to come worship with the youth and enjoy a great time of worship and fellowship. Live streaming at streets4god.com, on YouTube and Facebook. We're looking forward to seeing you at The Streets!

Dec. 13

Sons of Confederate Veterans to meet
The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet on Tuesday, December 13, 7pm at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant on 3204 Riner Road. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to the meeting. If Montgomery County Public Schools are closed on Tuesday or Wednesday of this week due to weather, the meeting is cancelled. For further information, please call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

Dec. 15

Radford Photo Club to meet
The Radford Photo Club will

meet Thursday, Dec. 15, at 6 p.m. at the Radford Public Library. Attendees are invited to share their 3 best photos of the year and talk about each. Bring your photos on a thumb drive to display. The photo challenge is Vacation Photography. Bring a print. There is also an Open Theme challenge. And feel free to bring prints of photos for which you would like feedback. Also, several members will be bringing goodies to share. Meetings, events, and outings are open to the public. The Radford Photo Club is made up of professional and amateur photographers from throughout the New River Valley. Learn more about the club by searching for "Radford Photo Club" on Facebook or a browser.

Special Education Advocacy 101 FREE WEBINAR
Hosted by SW VA Legal Aid Society. Learn about special education evaluations, the planning process, and the safeguards in both state and federal law, such as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (504) and Section 504, that guarantee students with special needs the right to a free and appropriate public education.
December 15th, 10 a.m. Must register at www.svlas.org/specialeducationwebiar/
Presenter – Hank Bostwick. Hank, a new staff attorney at SVLAS, has represented students, parents and school boards in Virginia, Alabama, and Texas in matters related to the provision of special education and related services and compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

for the past twenty years. A former educator, he now helps solve school-related legal problems for low-income families and children across the SVLAS service area. For more information, reach out to Gary Cody, gcody@svlas.org or 276-783-8300, ext. 2011.

Dec. 18

Christmas Play
The Bread of Life / Assembly of God on Robinson Tract Rd. will present their Christmas Play entitled "Martin" On December 18th, At 3:00P.M. The Public is invited. Treat Bags will be given out at the end service.

Dec. 22

Dublin Holiday Schedule
Dublin Town Offices will be closed December 22nd through December 26th. Garbage scheduled for pick-up on Monday, December 26th will be picked up on Tuesday, December 27th.

On going:

Alcohol Anonymous
Alcohol Anonymous meet Mondays at 8 p.m. (closed meeting); Wednesday (noon) and Thursday at 8 p.m. (open meetings) at Pulaski Presbyterian Church of America located at 975 Memorial Drive. Contact number is 540-440-0066.

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