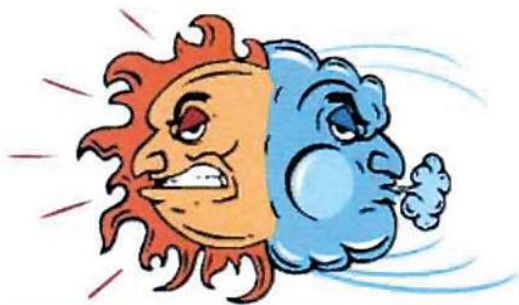




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More traffic changes coming to downtown

By **MIKE WILLIAMS**
The Patriot

The process of moving to two-way traffic and four-way stops rather than traffic signals in Downtown Pulaski takes another major step forward on Monday, Feb. 13.

Project Manager Scott Aust told Town Council on Tuesday that the traffic lights that have been flashing at the intersections of Main

Street and Washington Avenue and Main Street and Jefferson Avenue will be bagged.

Four-way stop signs have been installed at those intersections for some time now, and with the bagging of the signal lights, motorists are expected to stop at the intersections even while Main Street is closed for the ongoing water line project.

This follows the same process that occurred sometime back

when the signals at Main Street and Randolph Avenue were bagged and replaced by four-way stops.

Then on Monday, Feb. 27, the left lane on Third Street will be closed off at the "Y" intersection, with traffic traveling west on Third to be relegated to the right lane only.

The move, according to Aust

See **TRAFFIC**, page A3

WEEKEND WEATHER

Saturday

Mostly cloudy, with a high near 46.

Saturday Night - Mostly cloudy, with a low around 30. Chance of precipitation is 60%. New snow accumulation of less than one inch possible.

Sunday

Snow likely before noon, then chance of rain after 1pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 37. Chance of precipitation is 60%. **Sunday Night** - Mostly cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly clear, with a low around 27.

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Republican incumbents (from left) Jeff Reeves, Justin Griffith, Dirk Compton, Laura Walters, Kim Matthews, Mike Worrell and Mike Mooney.

County's GOP office-holders announce re-election bids

Pulaski County's Sheriff, Commonwealth's Attorney, Commissioner of Revenue and four members of the Board of Supervisors have announced their intention to seek nomination from the Republican Party for November's election.

The office-holders issued the following joint re-election announcement this week:

"It is with pleasure that we, the Pulaski County incumbent Republicans announce our intention to seek nomination from the Republican Party for the upcoming 2023 elections.

We are dedicated to working together to continue serving the citizens, to make Pulaski County a safe place to live, work and play. Together we have worked very

successfully over the last four years to ensure that our County thrives and grows. Though confronted with unprecedented challenges, we have continued the path forward, keeping our county open for business during Covid, ensuring growth and economic development, keeping taxes

See **GOP**, page A2

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GOP

Continued from Page A1
down, and keeping our citizens safe.

Laura Walters – Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Ingles District:
“I am pleased to join my fellow Republicans in seeking the nomination by the Republican party for 2023 representing the Ingles District. As the first woman on the Board of Supervisors and first woman Chair of the Board

of Supervisors, I was honored to receive the unanimous support of my fellow Board members to serve for a second term as Chair. I pledge to continue our efforts, working with my fellow incumbents, to support fiscal conservancy and a balanced budget, dedication to growth of economic development and housing, support of our small businesses, education of our youth, and protection of our resources and cultural heritage to make Pulaski County a great place to be. I have been privileged to serve my Ingles constituents over the past 4 years and look forward to continuing to

serve you over the next term.”

Pulaski County Sheriff Mike Worrell and Justin Griffith, Pulaski County Commonwealth’s Attorney:

“We are privileged to have spent our careers serving the great citizens of Pulaski County as members of the Pulaski County Sheriff’s Office and the Pulaski County Commonwealth’s Attorney Office, respectively. We work hard to build strong ties to this community by participating in community outreach projects to educate the citizens about what we do and our offices enjoy participating in the many annual events in the broader community. In addition, we pride ourselves on engaging directly with our constituents and giving them the time and attention that they deserve. Together, we always strive to make the best decisions possible in the best interest of our entire County and in an honest and transparent way. We look forward to continuing to be active in our community and we renew our commitment to keeping the citizens of Pulaski County safe.”

Dirk Compton – Board of Supervisors, Draper District:

“During my first term as a Board of Supervisors member in the Draper District, I, noticed our surrounding jurisdictions raise their real estate tax rates. Pulaski County on the other hand has lowered its rate. I want to continue to lower our rates by bringing in new jobs and businesses to our County. We are currently on pace to

do just that. I ask that you please join me in bringing economic development to our County and in turn enjoy a lower tax burden in return by supporting my bid for reelection.”

Jeff Reeves – Board of Supervisors, Robinson District:

“It has been a privilege to serve as the Robinson District Supervisor alongside my fellow Republican board members and to be elected to the board in the November special election. During my short tenure this board and the county administration has been able to provide our employees with cost-of-living raises and improve our county, EMS, and recreation facilities without increasing taxes. I am seeking the Republican nomination for the Robinson District in hopes we can continue as a team to improve the lives of Pulaski County citizens by providing the highest level of services in a fiscally responsible manner through economic growth rather than increasing the tax burden on our citizens.”

Mike Mooney – Board of Supervisors, Massie District:

“I’m honored to be serving as your Supervisor for the Massie

District and Pulaski County. I’m proud to be a part of such a strong Republican group seeking nomination by the Party for 2023. Safety and Security remain high on my list for the citizens of Pulaski County with school safety at the top of my list. I look forward to working with the School Board to ensure our children and grandchildren are safe and secure. I’m very excited about a lot of good things coming our way here in Pulaski County. We need to continue our growth and economic development while maintaining our hometown atmosphere, working together to keep our taxes low. I look forward to working with my incumbent, listening to my constituent to move Pulaski County into the future.”

Kim Matthews – Pulaski County Commissioner of the Revenue:

“I enjoy working with my staff and the citizens of Pulaski County where I was born and raised. Being re-elected to serve another term would mean the world to me. Please support me in seeking the Republican nomination for election for a second term.”

Lawmakers support banning ‘foreign adversaries’ from buying farmland

By MADISON HIRNEISEN

(The Center Square) – A proposal backed by Gov. Glenn Youngkin to prevent “foreign adversaries” from acquiring farmland in Virginia won support in the House and Senate this week when similar measures were passed in both chambers.

Two bills in the House and Senate – Senate Bill 1438 and House Bill 2325 – would prohibit “foreign adversaries” from purchasing agricultural land in the commonwealth starting this year. The bill defines “foreign adversaries” as any foreign government or “nongovernment person” determined by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce to have engaged in “a long-term pattern” of conduct threatening national security.

HB 2325 was passed by the House in a block vote for uncontested bills Tuesday, meaning it passed out of the chamber in a 99-0 vote. SB 1438 in the Senate was advanced in a bipartisan 23-16 vote Monday.

Youngkin called for the proposal during his State of the Commonwealth address in January, asking the General Assembly to send him a bill to “prohibit dangerous foreign entities tied to the CCP (Chinese Communist Party) from purchasing Virginia farmland.”

“Virginians – not the CCP – should own the rich and vibrant agricultural lands God has blessed

us with,” Youngkin said during his address.

The directive in Youngkin’s speech followed an executive order signed by the governor in December that banned Chinese-owned apps, including Tik Tok, on state government networks and devices. After his address last month, Youngkin also revealed he blocked Virginia from being considered as a site for a Ford battery plant over concerns with China.

The U.S. Secretary of Commerce has designated five nations and one individual as “foreign adversaries” – the People’s Republic of China, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Russia and Venezuelan politician Nicolás Maduro.

As of the end of 2021, “foreign investors” held an interest in roughly 40 million acres of U.S. agricultural land – roughly 3.1% of all privately held farmland in the U.S., according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Texas had the highest amount of foreign-held U.S. agricultural land as of 2021 at roughly 5.3 million acres.

According to USDA data, Canadian investors own the largest amount of foreign-held agricultural land with roughly 12.8 million acres. China holds less than 1% of foreign-held acres at just under 384,000 acres.

During discussion of the proposal on the Senate floor Monday, the

See LAND, page A3

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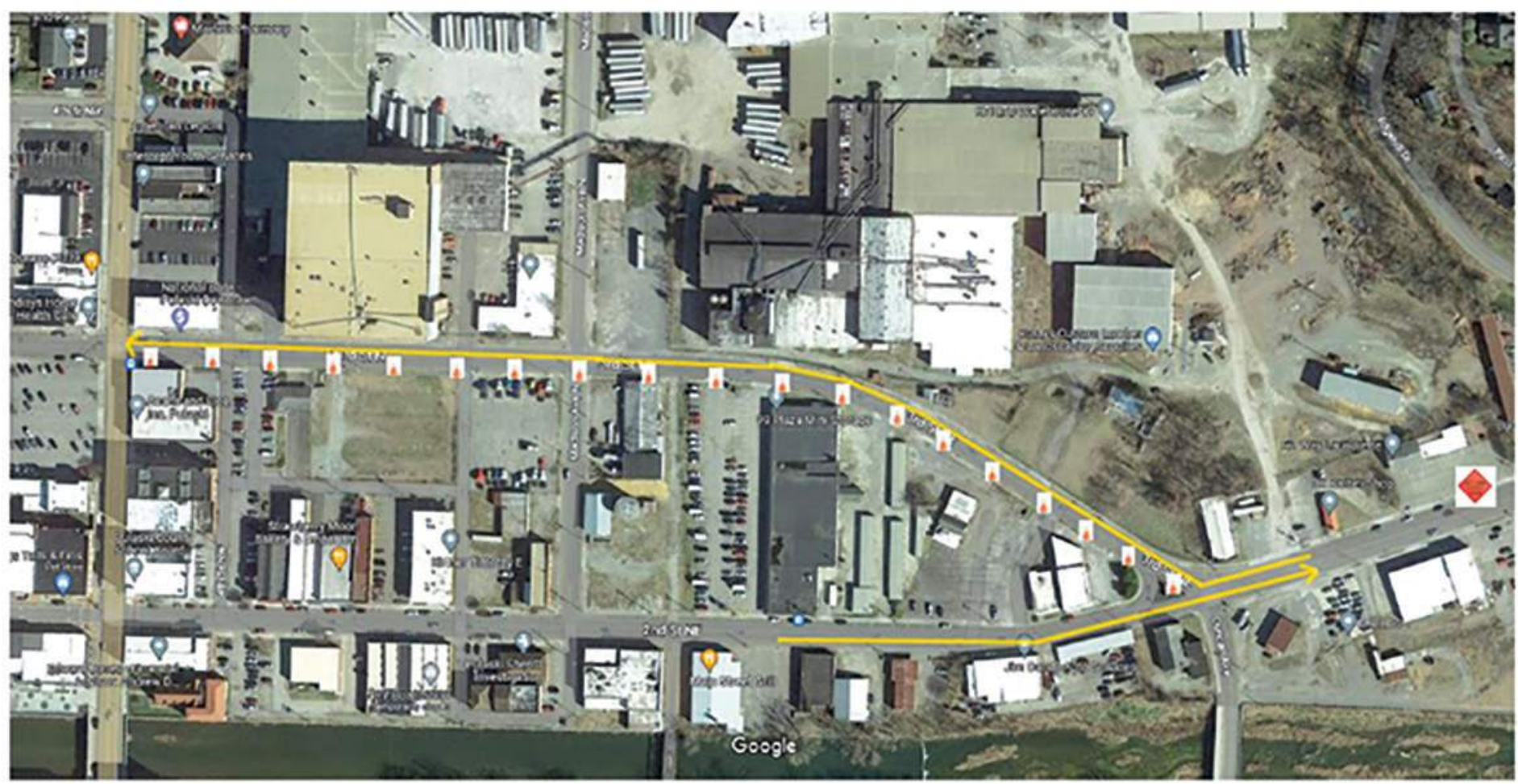
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Aerial photo of the portion of Third Street that will be reduced to one right-hand lane of traffic by the end of February. (Town of Pulaski)

Traffic

Continued from Page A1

and Town Manager Darlene Burcham, will get motorists used to the idea of traveling west only in the right lane on Third Street in preparation for the eventual move to two-way traffic on what is now a one-way street.

That one lane of traffic on Third will continue past the old furniture plant buildings up to the intersection with Washington Avenue. From that point, traffic on Third Street temporarily goes back to two-lane past the courthouse and library out of concerns over parking.

Motorists wishing to turn left from Third Street onto Washington Avenue will do so from the right lane at the intersection. Street markings will be added to assist drivers with this change.

Traffic lights at the intersection will be placed on flashing mode and four-way stop signs will be erected.

Eventually all traffic on Third Street – including the area in front of the courthouse – will be

two-way.

In other news from Tuesday’s council meeting:

Daycare Gets Go-Ahead

Memorial Baptist Church got final approval of a special exception request to allow for development of a daycare operation at the church, located at 995 Peppers Ferry Road in Pulaski.

The town’s Planning Commission had earlier recommended council approve the request.

It was noted Tuesday, the only construction expected in regard to the daycare involves adding a 2,500-square-foot playground to the church property.

No More Town Decals

Council voted unanimously to approve amending the town’s ordinance related to vehicle licenses to eliminate the requirement for a town decal.

Burcham said the town now has the ability to do DMV Stops and Debt Setoffs through the state to

collect delinquent personal property taxes, therefore the decal is no longer needed.

Instead of town citizens buying a decal to show they have paid their personal property taxes, the decal fee will be replaced by a vehicle license fee. The fee will be due at the same time as the personal property tax.

Personal property tax bills, including the vehicle license fee will be mailed to taxpayers in the Fall and be due by Oct. 15.

Land

Continued from Page A2

bill received vocal support from both Republicans and Democrats.

“Why is it such a bad thing to protect the Commonwealth of Virginia’s land from countries that want to do us or our people harm? Isn’t that what we’re here for,” Sen. Bill Stanley, R-Franklin County said Monday. “We’re here to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia. We’re here to protect the resources of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and this bill does both.”

Sen. Dave Marsden, D-Fairfax, also spoke in support of the measure, arguing “you don’t know where the money’s coming from” when dealing with foreign governments like China.

The bill was also subject to pushback during Monday’s discussion in the Senate. Sen. Chapman Petersen, D-Fairfax, raised concerns about the bill, noting that he feels “very strongly about anti-communism,” but argued the Senate version of the bill is “much broader than it needs to be.”

“I recognize that we’re moving into a status with the People’s Republic of China that could very well lead to, God forbid a new

Cold War, but at a minimum, enhanced hostility,” Petersen said. “But I think we have to be very measured in how we do that and how it affects our own marketplace because let me tell you something – we will continue to buy and sell goods from China.”

“I think this version [of the bill] is a little bit more broad than we would typically like to have in a free market economy,” Petersen later added.

Tuesday was “crossover day” in the General Assembly, representing the deadline for bills to advance out of their original chamber. Both SB 1438 and HB 2325 will be heard in the opposite chamber in the coming weeks before the end of the legislative session this month.



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Giving Day, coming February 15-16, 2023, from 12pm to 12pm, is a 24-hour online fundraising challenge sponsored by Virginia Tech that the VCE uses to rally our supporters to become Extension sponsors. Your contributions help us year-round to provide the Agriculture, Family & Consumer Sciences, Substance Abuse Prevention and 4-H programs that benefit so many people in Pulaski County.

VCE Unit Offices are also competing for Incentive Funds: 1st \$3,000, 2nd \$2,000, 3rd \$1,500, 4th \$750 and 5th \$500. 97 supporters last year earned us 2nd place and \$2,000. This year with your support, we plan on beating last year’s 2022 VCE Unit Office Winner, Fairfax, with 135 sponsors.

The 2022 top three VCE Unit Offices that received Incentive Funds!


Rank	Prize	Fund Designation	Donors
1	\$2,500	Fairfax Coop Extension Service	135
2	\$2,000	Pulaski Coop Extension Service	97
3	\$1,500	Russell Coop Extension Service	79

Here’s how to donate: Go to <https://givingday.vt.edu/amb/Pulaski-VCE> or QR Code

- Fill in the Amount – (giving as little as \$5 or go for more)
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 - Each individual sponsor must use a different Email address.

Want to make your online donation in person at the Pulaski Extension Office? Join us for our Pulaski Extension Office - Giving Day Open House, Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 1:00-3:00PM. We’ll help you on our computers.

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Area Obituaries

Check www.pcpatriot.com Daily For Obituaries



ANNETTE R. RUPE

Annette R. Rupe, age 83 of Dublin, died Tuesday, February 7, 2023 at Pulaski Health and Rehabilitation Center. She was born on May 3, 1939, and was the daughter of the late Amanda Trivett Roop and the late Elisha Roop.

Annette retired after many years at Radford University. She enjoyed selling Avon later in life, where she learned to love and cherish her customers. She attended Grace Ministries. Annette, her sister China Bell Hall, and her sister Lona Mae "Doney" Goad joyfully created a three-member musical group, where they played hymns, and sang at their home. These occasions often brought love and joy to her family, at times when it was needed the most.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband; Ernest Franklin Rupe; a daughter; Amy Rupe; siblings; Lola Daye, Elza Roop, Elmer Roop, Everette Roop, Earl Roop, Lona Mae Goad, Linzie Roop.

She is survived by a daughter; Aylesa (Lisa) Dillow of Dublin; a sister: China Bell Hall of Pulaski; Grandchildren; Brandy (Michael) Henley of Fairlawn, and William Shane Rupe of Blacksburg; great-grandchildren; Ryker Henley, Piper Henley, and Justice Sipe. Annette is also survived by many special nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be held on Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at Seagle Funeral Home with Pastor Dan Lawson officiating. Interment will be private.

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



DIANNE HYATT AUST

Dianne Hyatt Aust, of Pulaski, passed away peacefully at home on Monday, February 6, 2023. She was born on December 9, 1949 in Pulaski, and was the daughter of the late James E. Hyatt and the late Maxine W. Hyatt.

Dianne is survived by her beloved husband of more than fifty years, Myron R. Aust, her brother, J. Wayne Hyatt and partner, Lisa Stiff, of Roanoke, her nephews, Chad Hyatt (Brenda) of Radford, and Jamie Hyatt (Sara), of Roanoke, and their children.

Dianne was an accomplished dancer, even teaching Ballet, but she loved all forms of dance from Ballet and Tap to Ball Room and Clogging. She was a proud member of the Class of 1968 of Pulaski High School, serving with numerous organizations and as head cheerleader of the Mighty Orioles.

Her boundless energy and outgoing, friendly, and compassionate nature endeared her to many, and she always found the best in those she met.

Dianne devoted much of her time to helping others. During high school she spent her summer vacations serving as a Volunteer Counselor at Camp Easter Seal, working to help disabled children and adults. Throughout her life she continued to befriend, and brighten the lives of those in retirement and nursing homes, or living alone.

Dianne was a member of The First United Methodist Church of Pulaski, for more than fifty years, serving on numerous committees and working with the youth.

A lover of all creatures, large and small, she took in, or found loving homes, for numerous injured or abandoned animals.

Dianne attended National Business College in Roanoke, beginning her work career as Secretary to Dr. Robert Duncan, Pastor of First United Methodist Church in Pulaski. She later served as an Employee and Receptionist for Jefferson Mills for five years, leaving to care for her mother, following open heart surgery. Subsequently, she was employed by, and became the Voice of White Motor Company and Volvo Heavy Truck Corporation, serving as their Receptionist, Switchboard Operator, and as a valued member of the Human Resources Department for almost twenty years, until health issues compelled her retirement.

Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, February 14, 2023 See DEATHS, page A5



SHERILL NEIL HOLSTON

Sherill Neil Holston, age 79 of Pulaski passed away Monday, February 6, 2023 at the Lewis-Gale Hospital-Montgomery. Born July 31, 1943 in Coalwood, West Virginia he was the son of the late Clarence Holston & Cora Mae Humphrey Brookman. He was also preceded in death by his son, Lee Holston, sisters, Sandra Wilkerson, Shannon Holston, brothers, Roger Dale Holston and Larry Holston.

He is survived by his Wife of 59 1/2 years – Alvertie Atkins Holston – Pulaski Children

Sherill Neil (Angela) Holston, Jr. – Ohio

Cora June (David) Dunagan – Dublin

Jennifer Denise Holston – West Point, VA

Grandchildren

April Ward & fiancé, Daniel Frazier – Pulaski

Dustin (Kimberly) Holston – Pulaski

Derek Holston, OH

Zoe Holston – OH

Great Grandchildren

Layla Metz, Kye Holston

Brothers

Samuel (Carol) Holston – LA

Randall Holston – NC

Sister

Mary Newman – Pulaski

Last Surviving Uncle – Paul Humphrey – TN

Nieces and Nephews

Mark, Christie, Shannon, Charity, Selena and other nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews

Special Sister-in-law

Geneva Kincer-Dublin

Funeral services will be held

2:00 PM – Friday, February 10, 2023 at the Bower Funeral Home-Chapel, Pulaski with Pastor Frank Peters officiating. Interment will follow at the Highland Memory Gardens, Dublin.

The family will receive friends

Friday, February 10, 2023 from 1:00 p.m. until service time at Bower Funeral Home, Pulaski.

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

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



PAUL JASON BARKER

Paul Jason Barker, 42, passed away on February 5, 2023, in Dublin, VA. Paul was born June 19, 1980, in Radford, VA and raised by his mother, Anita Barker Hughes, and his father, Roger Hughes. A much-loved son, brother, uncle, and friend, his fun-loving nature will live on in each person who knew him.

Paul graduated from Pulaski County High School in Dublin, VA. He then earned a degree in English from New River CC, where he graduated with honors.

Paul was a talented artist. He explored various media, from charcoal to oil paints. His work were expressions from his heart that he often gifted to family and friends. These gifts will forever serve as treasured symbols of Paul's talent, passion, and unrelenting kindness and generosity.

Paul loved animals, and above all, his Golden Retriever, Molly. He also enjoyed art, music, poetry, spending time with family and friends, and making others laugh. His humor and wit filled the lives of his loved ones with boundless joy and fun. Paul always appreciated a good prank.

Paul was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Mildred and Allen Barker; his paternal grandparents, Mary Edwards and Henry Hughes; and his aunt, Linda Leeson.

Wonderful memories of Paul will be forever cherished and shared by his loved ones, including his mother, Anita Hughes; father, Roger Hughes; sister, Lindsey Frazier; brother-in-law, Joel Frazier; nephew, Elias Frazier; brother, Colin Barker; sister-in-law, Amy Barker; and nephew, Nathan Barker, who love him beyond measure. His chosen brothers include Jimmy Ward, Brandon Jefferis, John Dunford, Daniel Huff, and Polo Trivett.

Immediate family will gather at Highland Memorial Gardens in Dublin, VA for a graveside service.

Paul consistently raised funds for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. If you wish to make a donation, the family requests that you support St. Jude's or your favorite charity benefitting children or animals in need.



BARBARA CLARK SWECKER

Barbara Clark Swecker, age 73 of Pulaski passed away Sunday, February 5, 2023 at the Roanoke Memorial Hospital. Born April 29, 1949 in Pulaski she was the daughter of the late Dock Washington Clark & Clyde Thersa Eller Clark. She was also preceded in death by her brother, Roger Clark & wife, Peggy.

Barbara retired from Verizon with 22 years of service.

She is survived by her Husband of 52 years Muncy Ray Swecker – Pulaski Sons

Timothy Ray Swecker – Roanoke

Jeremy Lee (Shana) Swecker – Dublin

Grandchildren

Devon Boysaw, Gunnar Swecker and Kaedan Swecker

Sisters

Carol King – Dublin

Dorothy (Sheffy) Waller – Pulaski

Sisters-in-law

Julia (Tony) Semones

Mildred Mitchem

Funeral services were held

Thursday, February 9, 2023 at the Bower Funeral Home-Chapel, Pulaski with Rev. Dr. C.R. Connor officiating.

Interment followed at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery, Dublin.

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

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

Residents warned of door-to-door scam

The New River Health District is warning area residents to be on alert about an apparent door-to-door scam that may be targeting people in the New River Valley. Local law enforcement officers in Pulaski County have been made aware of people knocking on doors during evening hours in several Dublin neighborhoods.

The individuals claim to be from the Virginia Department of Health and Human Services.

"No employee affiliated with the New River Health District will ever make personal visits to homes in our communities without proper credentials, including a photo ID and a health department business card," said New River Valley Health District Health Director Noelle Bissell, MD.

Anyone who has been approached by these solicitors should contact the Sheriff's Office by calling (540) 980-7800.

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Farmer earns Spelling Bee title

Pulaski County Public Schools

Riverlawn Elementary School student Brianna Farmer outlasted her competition Wednesday as the school representatives from each elementary school and a champion from each grade at the middle school came together for the Pulaski County Spelling Bee Championship matchup.

“We are very proud of each student who showed up today to represent their school,” Dr. Kevin Siers, Superintendent of Pulaski County Public Schools said. “Pulaski County has large number of academically talented students, and it was great to see so many of them excelling on the stage today.”

Each school held their own spelling bee to determine a champion and runner-up. Critzer Elementary was represented by champion Mashia Yates and runner-up Makeda Yates. Dublin Elementary was represented by champion Makenzie Coffey and runner-up Jovi Perdue. Pulaski Elementary was represented by champion Timothy Hutchinson and runner-up Kavan O’Reilly. Riverlawn Elementary was represented by champion Brianna Farmer and runner-up Landon Lorton. Snowville Elementary was represented by champion Shyna Mills and runner-up Lilly Cullip.

Pulaski County Middle School was represented by a champion and runner-up from each grade level. The sixth-grade champion is Jonathan Akers Jr. and the runner-up is Keilan Vaughan. The seventh-grade champion is Gra-



Pulaski County Public Schools

Brianna Farmer

See FARMER, page A8



JESSE MONROE MITCHELL

Jesse Monroe Mitchell, age 78 of Pulaski passed away Friday, February 3, 2023 in Pulaski he was the son of the late Lawrence E. Mitchell and Georgia Guynn Mitchell. He was also preceded in death by his brothers, Clyde, George and Ed Mitchell, sisters, Rosie Saunders, Virginia Patton, Peggy Morris.

He is survived by Better Half- Bonnie Vaught-Pulaski Children

Barry Vaught, Kim Vaught and Katie Jarrells

4 Grandchildren

Sister-in-law and friend- Betty McGuire-Dublin

Brother-in-law-Danny Shepard

Nieces- Angelia Spence and Kathy Mitchell and many more nieces and nephews

Funeral services were held Monday, February 6, 2023 at the Bower Funeral Home-Chapel, Pulaski . Interment followed at the Old Dublin Cemetery.

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

Deaths

Continued from Page A4

at 11:00 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Pulaski, with the Rev. Dr. Josh Kilbourne officiating. Interment will follow at Oakwood Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the church from 9:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Dianne’s memory to the First United Methodist Church, 135 4th Street, Pulaski, VA 24301, the Pulaski County Humane Society, 80 Dublin Park Road Dublin, VA 24084, or to Good Samaritan Hospice Serving the New River Valley, 2408 Electric Road, Roanoke, VA 24018

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



LISA MARIE BANE SLOMKA

Lisa Marie Bane Slomka, 60, passed away Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at her home in Dublin. She graduated from Pulaski County High School in 1981, was employed with H. H. Hunt Corporation in Accounts Payable and attended First Dublin Presbyterian Church. Lisa was preceded in death by her father, Harvey Randall Bane, her former husband Joseph Thomas Slomka, Jr., and their son who was the light of her life, Joseph Thomas Slomka, III (Joey).

Lisa’s bright light and big heart has left us way too soon. She will always be remembered for her loving and caring nature and her sense of humor. She never met a stranger and always enjoyed sharing a funny story or a joke. Lisa treasured the little moments in life; especially times with her mom at Kroger on “coupon days” and day trips with her sisters. She was happiest when she had the opportunity to celebrate life events with her family and friends. She also cherished her fur babies; Blaize, Sneeze, Pearl, and Minnie. Lisa loved God, her fiancé, her family, and her friends deeply and is now reunited in heaven with her dad and her son, Joey, whom she missed so much.

She is survived by her fiancé, Cecil “Buck” Ratliff; mother, Barbara Reed Bane; sisters, Sandra White and Patricia Johnson (Jerry); nieces, Amanda Hall (Brian) and Alyson Chrisley (Sabrina); nephew, Steven White (Nichole); great nephews, Rhys and Coen White; great niece, Keelyn Hall; and many other relatives and friends.

The family will receive friends from 1 until 2 p.m. on Monday, February 13, 2023, at First Dublin Presbyterian Church. Funeral services will begin at 2 p.m. with Pastor Mary Ann Armbrister officiating. Interment will follow in Highland Memory Gardens.

Flowers will be accepted or donations may be made to: First Dublin Presbyterian Church, 409 Church St., Dublin, VA 24084 or The Compassionate Friends of Roanoke Valley, 2408 Electric Rd., Cave Spring, VA 24018

Lisa and her family are in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com



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Federal Workers Must SHOW UP

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, we saw a sharp rise in remote work, or telework. We were living through unprecedented times. Telework became an option for many, allowing workers to do their jobs, to the best of their ability, from home.

That was then. It's been three years since the start of the pandemic, and it is largely behind us.

Most Americans have returned to work in person as they had done before COVID-19. Unfortunately, the federal workforce in large measure hasn't followed suit.

During President Biden's State of the Union address last March, he said, "People working from home can feel safe and begin to return to their offices. We're doing that here



Morgan Griffith

9th District Representative

in the federal government. The vast majority of federal workers will once again work in person." But this hasn't been the

case. According to a Federal Times report from October, just 1 in 3 federal workers had returned to work in-person full time in 2022.

Before the pandemic, only about 3% of federal employees teleworked daily. In their most recent report on telework, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) said that nearly half, or 47%, of federal workers currently teleworked routinely or situationally in Fiscal Year 2021, which ended Sept. 30, 2022.

Too many people around the country, those in the 9th District included, have seen the real-world effects of federal workers not being in their offices.

Seniors have waited on the phone for hours to talk to someone from the Social Security Administration about receiving their benefits as they have been unable to talk to someone in person. In part because the agency has kept their offices largely closed to the public.

Many veterans have waited for months to get their medical records from the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC), part of the National Archives. At one point, the center had a backlog of approximately 500,000 requests for records.

One constituent requested medals and records from the Navy in August of 2020 through our office. Despite numerous follow-ups, the response from the NPRC was that they were backlogged. In May of 2021, he died. We received the medals and records a year later in May of 2022.

Because of closures to passport offices around the country, in-person appointments have mostly disappeared, leaving people with the inability to get a new passport in a timely manner.

In one case we had a constituent reach out for help after realizing his passport was expired. Because of staffing issues and backlogs, the regional passport agency could not provide an appointment due to limited appointments. After reaching out to all the passport agency acceptance centers in the country, the only available appointment was in Aurora, Colorado.

Obviously, federal workers aren't supposed to take home your tax return, passport application, or Social Security records.

It's time for federal workers to actually return to work so that they can more adequately serve the needs of the American people.

When Republicans took control of Congress, we ended proxy voting, which allowed Members of Congress to phone in their votes. More discussions to improve legislation occur in hallways, stairwells, and elevators than ever occurred on a zoom meeting with 30 people. The same is true for federal workers. More collaboration on solving problems will occur when they actually work together in the office.

Unfortunately, while Republicans have tried for months to get information from the Biden Administration on how telework has decreased federal agencies' ability to perform their duties, the Administration has not responded.

We can no longer wait on the Administration. We have to push them. Accordingly, just a few days ago I voted in favor of the Stopping Home Office Work's Unproductive Problems Act, or the SHOW UP Act.

The SHOW Up Act, which passed the House largely along party lines, requires federal agencies to return to pre-pandemic levels by reinstating telework policies that were in place on Dec. 31, 2019.

The bill would also require federal agencies to submit a study to Congress looking at the effects of telework, whether it improved or harmed agency effectiveness.

If an agency can demonstrate to Congress that they are able to perform better with telework, while also lowering agency costs and ensuring agency network security, increased telework can be considered as an option.

Bottomline, we must do what we can to best serve the needs of our fellow Americans by promoting productivity and effectiveness in our federal workforce.

I believe that is returning to work in person.

If you have questions, concerns, or comments, feel free to contact my office. You can call my Abingdon office at 276-525-1405, my Christiansburg office at 540-381-5671, or my Washington office at 202-225-3861. To reach my office via email, please visit my website at www.morgan-griffith.house.gov.

George Washington Shares His Holiday

George Washington Shares His Holiday
My daughter's birthday is December 14, and her daughter's birthday is December 20th. Needless to say, we celebrate each one's birthday separately. They each get their own birthday celebration without combining the two together.

So why do we combine our two greatest Presidents' birthdays into one and call it "Presidents Day"? Isn't that demeaning to these great men who sacrificed so much for the country?

Maybe those who made the decision to combine the birthday celebrations of our first President, George Washington and the birthday of our second greatest President, Abraham Lincoln didn't realize the enormous contributions these men made during crucial times of national conflict. Or was there another influence that com-

One Nation Under God

By Danielle Reid

pelled them to make these changes?

George Washington was born in Virginia on February 11, 1731, according to the then-used Julian calendar. In 1752, however, Britain and all its colonies adopted the Gregorian calendar which moved Washington's birthday a year and 11 days to February 22, 1732.

A year after Washington's death in 1799, a Perennial Day of Remember-

See NATION, page A7



Trial Balloons

By CAI THOMAS
Tribune Content Agency

We've heard it all before. In fact, a recording of last year's State of the Union could have been replayed, saving President Biden a trip to Capitol Hill.

Numbers can be selectively used to hide reality and advance one's political agenda. Both parties do this, but Democrats and their media allies do it better. It's important to go beyond the claims of success. For example, at the time of Biden's State of the Union last year, the president also claimed to have added millions of "new" jobs. There has been a large growth in government jobs, but a decline in private sector employment. It also depends on how one counts. Does a person coming back to the same job after the pandemic count as newly employed? Do people who work two or more jobs get counted more than once? What about part-time jobs?

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the number of open positions in the private sector decreased to 9.501 million in November, down from 9.528 million in October. November was the sixth decline in the last eight months since hitting a record high last March. Meanwhile, government jobs at all levels grew.

President Biden can take credit for the numbers, but the public isn't buying it. They see prices at the supermarket much higher than when Biden took office. Gas prices remain at least \$1 a gallon higher than two and a half years ago and are rising again. Only 37 percent of Democrats want Biden to seek a second term and 41 percent say they are worse off financially since Biden became president, according to a Washington Post-ABC News poll.

There was more baloney about taxing "the rich" in Biden's speech when the real problem is not revenue. It's spending. Biden's laundry list of proposals would add trillions to the debt. Once again, the federal government is taking in record amounts of revenue. It's their undisciplined spending that has produced a debt of \$31 trillion and counting, exceeding our gross domestic product by more than 100 percent. Massive

national debt has been a contributor to the decline of great nations of the past, along with uncontrolled immigration and the spread of secularism. All three now confront the country.

Biden had nothing to say about individual responsibility. He presented our government as the only power that can save us.

In the Republican reply, newly installed Arkansas Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders spent 11 minutes deconstructing Biden's hour and 12 minute speech with lines such as this:

"Being a mom to three young children taught me not to believe every story I hear. So forgive me for not believing much of anything I heard tonight from President Biden ... Democrats have failed you. They know it. And you know it."

Sounding Reaganesque, she said, "government exists not to rule the people, but to serve the people. Democrats want to rule us with more government control..."

Then she brought up the age issue, which is bound to be a factor in the 2024 campaign, and delivered this zinger: "At 40, I'm the youngest governor to head my state. At 80, he's the oldest president in American history. I'm the first woman to lead my state. He's the first man to surrender his presidency to a woke mob that can't even tell you what a woman is."

Gov. Sanders said more in her short speech than Biden said in his long one. One more thing. If government was the solution to all our problems, why hasn't it solved the problems Biden again mentioned - from poverty to crime? Why does nothing ever seem to get better, especially when Democrats are running the government?

The Republican majority in the House will - and should - stop much of this spending nonsense.

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



Rich Lowery

Editor, National Review

Memphis is not about racism

There's nothing white supremacy can't do.

It is supposedly so pervasive and powerful that it can cause Black men to sign up to serve as police officers in a majority Black city and severely beat a Black arrestee.

It is to the contemporary left what capital was to Marx, sex was to Freud, and gravity was to Newton.

It is the King Charles head of American public life, a matter of obsession that comes up in debates and contexts where it has no possible relevance.

An opinion piece at CNN by former Obama official Van Jones was headlined, "The police who killed Tyre Nichols were Black. But they might still have been driven by racism."

A piece at The New York Times on Memphis related the view that it "is the system and the tactics that foster racism and violence," not "the specific racial identities of officers."

This argument gets points for novelty but none for plausibility. The Memphis officers who brutalized Tyre Nichols may be guilty of many things -- incompetence, malice, criminal wrongdoing -- but white supremacy is unlikely to be one of them.

Presumably these officers don't all hate their parents, children, neighbors, and colleagues as unworthy, racially inferior people who deserve no protection under our laws.

Maybe it's only as police officers that these men become unwitting tools of white supremacy? This makes no sense, either. The Atlantic noted in an article last year that FBI data showed Memphis to be the most violent metropolitan jurisdiction in the United States in 2020. According to The New York Times, Memphis had nearly 350 murders in 2021, when New York City -- 13 times larger -- had about 480.

Of course, these murders disproportionately affect young Black men. Isn't this just how a white supremacist would like it -- overwhelmingly Black neighborhoods under siege as Black men kill other Black men? Why would white supremacists want to interfere with this dynamic by deploying police units to try to quell the disorder?

Indeed, the false consciousness in Memphis must run deep. Cereelyn Davis, the city's first African American woman police chief, created the just-disbanded special police unit implicated in the Nichols beating. Understandably, she thought it was very important to get a handle on rising homicides and dangerous reckless driving, but, unbeknownst to her, she was just serving the man.

The obsession with white supremacy is perverse and insulting on several levels. It implies that if urban neighborhoods are under-policed and dangerous, that is their natural state, whereas if they are robustly policed to try to make them safer -- a worthy project that tends to be supported by people of all races -- that is somehow an inherently "white" initiative.

See LOWRY, page A7



NRCC Presents Black History Month Program

In celebration of Black History month, New River Community College (NRCC) and the college's Black History Committee will sponsor a guest speaker and music program on Sunday, February 19 at 3 p.m. The event will be held in 117 Edwards Hall at NRCC in Dublin, and admission is free.

Keynote speaker Dr. Abraham Hardee, III, DO, Ph.D. will present remarks on the topic of "Chasing Purpose While Maximizing your Boundaries." Hardee is a board-certified physician in family medicine. He is Core Faculty with the Family Medicine Graduate Medical Education Clinic at Lewis Gale Hospital. He also serves as the Rural Medicine and Underserved Primary Care Department Chair at the Edward Via College of

Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM). Hardee graduated from VCOM and completed his doctor of philosophy (Ph.D.) at Virginia Tech in International Health Education. He is involved with numerous medical committees/organizations including the Medical Society of Virginia Assistant Board of Directors, National Reserve Corps, Faculty Advisors of Gold Humanism Honor Society, and a member of the Health Equity Collaborative of VA. Other community volunteering opportunities include serving as an NAACP member and lay speaker and elementary teacher at Blue Ridge Church. All of Hardee's efforts aim to improve the living experience in the Appalachian Region for all persons.

Hardee has approximately a decade of professional experience



Dr. Abraham Hardee, III

working in a local urgent care and free clinic. He has most recently directed his focus towards empowering young learners of all types to pursue the unnatural act

of service and commitment to legacy building in their immediate surroundings. He is also a popular guest speaker on topics related to medicine, diversity, motivation, spirituality, and education. Hardee actively participates in domestic and international health brigades and assists in natural disaster relief.

Musical performances will be presented by Jami Martin, an NRCC alumna, Donna Slaughter & Josiah Williams from Spirit of Life Worship Center, and Drumbeat from Randolph Avenue United Methodist Church.

The public is invited to the event, and light refreshments will

be served following the program. For more information about the program, please contact Elaine Powell-Hawkins at (540) 674-3600, ext. 4478.



Nation

Continued from Page A6

ance, acknowledging the greatness of George Washington, was established on his birthday February 22. While Washington's birthday was observed as an unofficial holiday, in 1870 it became an official federal holiday.

Arkansas Republican Senator Stephen W. Dorsey proposed establishing Washington's Birthday on February 22nd as a federal holiday, and in 1879 it was signed into law by Republican President Rutherford B. Hayes. During this era, Washington was revered and considered the most important figure in U.S. history. To honor him, the Senate read aloud Washington's Farewell Address and continues this tradition to this day. Additional patriotic celebrations were sparked in 1832 at the centennial commemoration of President Washington's birth, and the planning of the Washington Monument in D.C.

Until the mid-1900's Washington's birthday was enthusiastically celebrated. Banks and businesses voluntarily closed.

Lowery

Continued from Page A6

It suggests that good African American, Hispanic and Asian cops are dupes, puppets on the string of nefarious white people using them to perpetuate white rule. And, finally, if taken seriously, it would vitiate the agency of the cops involved in the abuse of Tyre Nichols. How can they fully take the blame if an ineradicable, unavoidable force was ultimately responsible for their behavior?

The explanation for what happened in Memphis is more straightforward than any of this. Police are given considerable authority, and human beings -- of all races and creeds, in all times and places -- have a natural tendency to abuse authority unless constrained by institutions, norms and accountability.

People crowded the streets, buildings were decorated with flags, the national colors and portraits of Washington were displayed everywhere. Many towns celebrated with parades, shooting of cannons and ringing of church bells. In the evening there was entertainment of every kind: balls, parties, concerts, theaters and lectures which drew thousands of people together to celebrate.

President Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809 in a one-room log cabin on Sinking Spring Farm near Hodggen, KY but his parents were originally from Virginia. Surprisingly, there has never been a federal holiday honoring President Lincoln's birthday, although in 1890, his birthday was recognized in 10-states as a paid holiday. Traditional ceremonies remembering President Lincoln's birthday are observed by wreath-laying at his birthplace which is now a National Historic Site and at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C.

Julius Francis, a druggist in Buffalo, NY made it his life's mission

to honor President Lincoln and repeatedly petitioned Congress to establish Lincoln's birthday as a legal holiday.

In 1968, Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act which had a provision to combine the celebration of Washington's and Lincoln's birthdays to a predetermined Monday in February. The Act was championed by Republican Senator Robert McClory, and officially took effect in 1971 following an Executive Order by President Richard M. Nixon.

A restored effort to establish individual holidays for Washington and Lincoln was proposed to the 97th Congress on June 23, 1982 by Illinois Republican Paul Findley in H.R. 6667: "A bill to designate Lincoln's Birthday as a legal public holiday and to provide that, for purposes of pay and leave, Federal employees may select either Lincoln's Birthday or Washington's Birthday as a legal public holiday." The bill was referred to a subcommittee and did not generate enough interest to pursue it further.

Four presidents actually have birthdays in February: Ronald Reagan (the 6th), William Henry Harrison (the 9th), Abraham Lincoln (the 12th), and George Washington (the 22nd). Contrary to popular belief and in terms of Federal law, there is no "Presidents Day" — the holiday is officially Washington's Birthday.

If you are unwilling to believe that the cops in this case were self-loathing Black men, then their behavior becomes a function of poor training and supervision, abysmal decision-making, anger in the moment, free-floating cruelty, or some combination of these things.

The left elevates race above all the other factors that might play into a police encounter gone horribly wrong because the racial interpretation allows it to make a broader critique of American society and force wide-ranging political and social changes.

This is a very useful narrative, which is why it is loath to give it up even in an incident involving Black cops.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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NRCC Concert Series to hold free concert on Saturday, Feb. 11

The music of Blue Connection and Nobody’s Business will be featured during New River Community College’s Concert Series event on Sat., Feb. 11, 2023. Music will begin at 6 p.m. in 117 Edwards Hall at NRCC in Dublin.

Blue Connection is a hard driving traditional style bluegrass band that was formed in 2013. They play traditional standard bluegrass and country songs with some contemporary country and rock as well. The band includes Matt Spence, from Catawba, on bass, lead and harmony vocals; Kenny Hamblin, from Catawba, on banjo, lead and harmony vocals; Paul Boone, from Hardy, on mandolin, lead and harmony vocals; and John Hamilton, from Eagle Rock, on guitar, lead and harmony vocals.

Nobody’s Business is an old-time band from the Grayson Highlands mountain region of Southwest Virginia where the state meets North Carolina and Tennessee. The band is steeped in the traditions of rural old-time mountain music that have been passed down through generations in this unique area of the Blue Ridge mountains. Nobody’s Business shows feature a diverse and entertaining collection of hard driving fiddle/banjo tunes, mountain ballads, old time sacred songs and square dance music. The band includes Jackson Cunningham, from Grayson County, on guitar and mandolin; Trevor McKenzie, from Wythe County, on fiddle; Stu Geisbert on bass; and Corbin Hayslett, from Floyd County, on the five-string banjo.

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

Birthday cake for a horse wins Radford Photo Club challenge

Deborah Ring of Radford won the Radford Photo Club’s January challenge, “Food,” with a photo of the birthday cake she prepared for her horse, Awesome Gal.

Linda Waggaman of Radford won the open theme category with a photo of her grandchildren in an apparently out of control Barbie car. “Thanksgiving was a time for the cousins to all get together,” writes Waggaman. Maddie was willing to share her Barbie car, but Coen, the driver, didn’t seem too happy with his driving. No collision, just ended in a rolling stop.”

The Radford Photo Club is

made up of professional and amateur photographers from throughout the New River Valley. Meetings, events, and outings are open to the public. The next meeting is Wednesday, Feb. 15, at 6 p.m. at the Radford Public Library.

Street Photography will be the subject at Feb. 15 meeting. Members received an assignment at the January meeting and will share the results in February. There will be an additional presentation the topic by Professional Photographer Adi Ben Senior, who will lead the program.

Learn more about the club by searching for “Radford Photo

Farmer

Continued from Page A5

cie Painter and the runner-up is Shjon Snyder. The eighth-grade champion is Ambria Armes, and the runner-up is Caitlyn Easter.

When the spelling bee began, each student was given the chance to hear the word, hear the definition of that word, and, if requested, hear the word used in a sentence. After several rounds, the two remaining contestants were Brianna Farmer and Ambria Armes. Farmer correctly spelled her first word, but Armes misspelled hers. To

win, Farmer needed to spell one final word correctly, which she accomplished to earn the championship.

“I am so proud of Brianna winning the spelling bee today,” Riverlawn Elementary School Principal Kim Sink said. “This is the first time Riverlawn has had a winner at the district level spelling bee.”

Farmer is the daughter of James and Shannell Farmer of Dublin.

Give Change a Chance

Andrea Haubner
Extension Agent, Family and
Consumer Sciences

It’s that time of year where folks start making New Year’s resolu-

Kirtner Earns Dean’s List Honor at Lee University

CLEVELAND, TN -- Lee University congratulates Ashlyn Kirtner of Pulaski, VA, on earning Dean’s List honors during the Fall 2022 semester.

Dean’s List recognition is earned by full-time, undergraduate students with a semester grade point average between 3.7 and 4.00.

Lee University is a private, Christ-centered university located in Cleveland, Tennessee, in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains.

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For more information, visit www.leeuniversity.edu.

tions. For many people, they tend to be related to their health. Maybe in the past, you have tried to lose weight, exercise more, or eat healthier. How often have you accomplished your goal by December? Did you give up? Here are a couple tips to help make those healthy changes become permanent -

- Spend time preparing and planning.
- Be specific. Don’t just say ‘I want to lose weight.’ Make a realistic plan for yourself on how you plan to lose that weight.
- Think about the challenges

you might face and how you plan to overcome them.

- Set SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-framed) Goals.
- Expect setbacks! Life happens and we can’t change that.
- Tell your family and friends so they can help hold you accountable.
- Always remind yourself of the reward.

Good luck with those New Year’s resolutions and always keep our programming in mind as a helpful tool!

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What We Do: Provide daily care for adults 18 and older with needs such as assistance with eating, toileting, ambulating, and dressing/bathing. We assess and monitor health conditions and alert family members to changes in health, which helps prevent hospitalization. **Transportation is now available for a fee!**

*We love being outside planting, walking and just enjoying the Therapy Garden (the NRV Master Gardeners come to teach us about plants and provide Garden Club), playing games building on language and math skills, cooking together, and music. We have a Certified Music Therapist who taps into memories through music and has a gift for reaching those who have difficulty expressing themselves.


*Many of our people have raised a family through hard times and served our country and helped build this community. So, they deserve our best and it is an honor to know and serve them and their families.

For a detailed list of our services, check out our website and Facebook. Payment Options: Private Pay, Veterans Administration, Area Agency on Aging-Respite, Medicaid, & some long-term care insurance



Pulaski Adult Day Service and Fall Prevention Center, Inc.
501 C 3 Nonprofit, donations tax deductible
211 5th Street, Dublin, VA 24084 P O Box 877
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Basile's 33 points not enough for Tech against BC

Hokiesports.com

BLACKSBURG – Grant Basile posted a season-high 33 points on Wednesday night in Cassell Coliseum, but it still wasn't Virginia Tech's night, as Boston College earned an 82-76 victory.

Outscored 39-27 in the first half, the Hokies struggle to shut down the Boston College's 3-point night was apparent. The Eagles finished 12-24 (50%) from beyond the arc, one of their best deep-ball shooting performances of the season. Seven of

those 3-pointers connected in the first half alone.

On the other side, 27 points is the second lowest halftime score for Virginia Tech this season behind 22 points against NC State on Jan. 7.

Boston College's Quentin Post led the Eagles in scoring, finishing with 24 points, going 3-3 from 3-point land. Chas Kelley III complemented Post's performance, tallying 17 points in a 4-7 night from beyond the arc himself.

In juxtaposition, the Hokies finished 10-32 (31.3%) from deep,

as they hoisted the most treys that they have attempted all season.

Despite the inefficiency from beyond the arc, the Hokies and Eagles weren't too different from the field overall, with Virginia Tech shooting 42-percent and Boston College posting a 49-percent mark.

In the Hokies' loss, Grant Basile led all scorers with a 33 point night, a season high performance despite the defeat for Virginia Tech. A major inspiration to Tech's late rally came from the transfer's 25 points in the second

half alone.

Sean Pedulla and Justyn Mutts were the only other Hokies to finish in double figures, putting up 12 and 16 points respectively.

Post led all players with 10 boards on the night, Justyn Mutts right behind him with six of his own.

Otherwise, this game remained an outlandishly low scoring contest. En route to a 12-point lead for Boston College at halftime, there was a stretch of play where neither team scored a single point for nearly three and a half minutes,

a drought lasting from 15:29 to 11:46 in the first half.

Boston College proceeded to go on a 9-0 scoring run midway through the first half, and it was easy going from there. The Eagles held Virginia Tech empty-handed from the field for the last four minutes of the first half of play.

Perhaps the biggest thorn in Virginia Tech's side on the night: Mekhi Ashton-Langford's ball movement. With 12 assists - a

See HOKIES, page B3

PCHS beats Salem, now head to RRD tourney

By RODNEY YOUNG
The Patriot

Pulaski County's boys basketball team celebrated their Senior Night against their rivals, the Salem Spartans and came away with an impressive 65-46 victory.

With the win, Pulaski County secured the fourth seed in the River Ridge District Tournament, getting underway Friday night in Roanoke.

Pulaski County will face No. 1 seed Patrick Henry, while No. 2 seed Cave Spring will face No. 3 seed Blacksburg.

The two winners play Tuesday night for the district's tournament title.

It had to be one of the Cougars' better performances on the defensive side this season. Offensively, it wasn't their best, but it was good enough.

Salem jumped out to a 7-2 lead, but Pulaski County would go on to take a 15-7 advantage by the end of the first quarter. The Cougar run continued into the second quarter as they finished a 18-0 run to go up 20-7 before the Spartans got back onto the scoreboard.

During that 18-0 spurt the Cougars were led by senior Kyle O'Neal who tallied nine of the 18 points. Tootie O'Dell scored

five and then leading scorer Lane Nester finally got into scoring column hitting a deep three.

Nester ended with a game-high 23 points, while O'Neal and O'Dell both chipped in with 14 points apiece. Marcus Reed finished with 10 rebounds and O'Neal just missed a double-double as he had nine boards to go with his 14 points.

Salem (9-13) got 11 points from Grant Clemens who was the only Spartan to hit double digits. Ryan Coe had eight points, while Clayton Davidson scored seven.

"Defensively I thought we played well, perhaps one of our top two or three games," said Cougar head coach Tyler Cannoy. "The most important thing besides the win was the guys played hard. If we play hard good things happen. I'm proud of our three seniors, Kyle O'Neal, Khalib Horton and KJ Robinson. It's been a tough season. We had injuries to start out and it cost us some wins. Tonight was good for the seniors, the whole team and my staff."

The Cougars (6-15) led 44-27 after the third quarter before Salem cut into the Cougar advantage to make it 49-39 in the fourth. Nester would hit a huge three from the corner, and he would hit two more to put the game away.

The Cougars had lost earlier

See COUGARS, page B3



Brian Bishop/The Patriot

Keslyn Secrist scores on a layup Friday against Cave Spring.

Lady Cougars go 12-0 in district

Patriot Staff Report

Pulaski County's Lady Cougars closed out their 2022-23 regular season with a 61-26 shellacking of Salem. The win gave PCHS a

19-3 regular season record and a perfect 12-0 in the River Ridge District.

Indiana State-bound Keslyn Secrist led the Lady Cougars with 19 points as Pulaski County got

scoring from no less than seven players.

Hannah Keefer added 12 points and Paige Huff chipped in 11. Other scoring was Tori Vest, 9; Andi Ratcliff, 4; Morgan Vest, 4 and Kenzlee Jones, 2.

Last Friday, the Lady Cougars easily beat Cave Spring, 76-43.

Secrist again led Pulaski County with 22 points.

Keefer had 16 and Tori Vest added 15.

Other scoring was Huff with 13; Jones, 4; Jayden Lawson, 2; Ratcliff, 2 and Destiny Duncan, 2.

RRD Tourney info

The River Ridge District Basketball Tournaments begin this Friday (02/10/23). In an effort to keep our fan base informed, we want to share the below information concerning game time, opponent, ticket purchases and ticket prices from PCHS.

Friday 02/10/23

River Ridge District Tournament

Girls Varsity Basketball: Salem @ Pulaski Co. 6:00 pm

Admission: \$7.00 cash at the gate

\$6.00 if purchased through ticket spicket or credit card. A convenience fee of .80 cents will be charged to consumers using this method.

Doors will open at 5:15 pm

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Winter Sports Passes are NOT VALID for Tournament Games

Boys Varsity Basketball: Pulaski Co. @ Patrick Henry 7:00 pm

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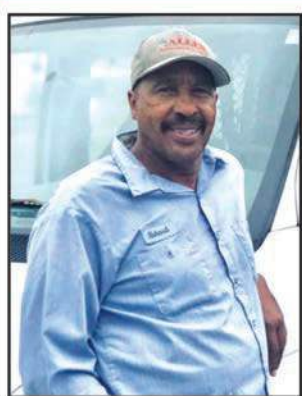


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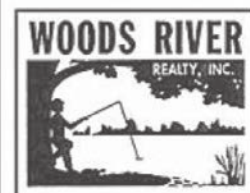
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NRCC to host Riffe exhibit Hokies

New River Community College will host a photographic exhibition, “Appalachian Days and Nights,” by artist Jeremy Riffe. The show will run from February 14 through April 28 at the Fletcher Gallery in Godbey Hall on NRCC’s campus in Dublin.

An artist talk and reception with Riffe is scheduled for Monday, February 27 from noon to 2 p.m. in the Fletcher Gallery.

Riffe grew up in Bluefield, Va. and was influenced early on by his parents.

“My mother loved photography and my father was an avid outdoorsman. That spark didn’t ignite until I was in my twenties when I bought my first SLR camera,” said Riffe. “After that I taught myself nature photography on film, eventually migrating to the digital medium. The intensity of my passion has varied over the years, but photography has always been my favorite pastime.”

“I wanted to combine my current photographic interests into one exhibit. I’ve always held a deep appreciation for the tremendous natural beauty of the region, and I’m drawn to the culturally and historically significant buildings in Appalachia



‘Appalachian Days and Nights’



as well,” said Riffe. “Coupled with my love for both color and monochrome images, as well as both night and day photography, I decided to create a multifaceted

view of our region. I used a variety of lighting techniques for these images, both natural and artificial, to try and make them as dynamic as possible.”

Gallery hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays on request (ext. 3646), and Fridays from 10 a.m.- noon. More information is available by contacting Tammy Parks at (540) 674-3600 ext. 4468 or tparks@nr.edu.

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The Patriot
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Continued from Page B1
career high - he led all players in that category.

The Hokies still fought back, as Basile, Pedulla, and Mutts led an abbreviated comeback effort in the final minute, combining for 12 points in a push that shrunk the lead to just 4 points

with 18 seconds to go.

Nonetheless, the Eagles’ Chas Kelley III returned fire to seal the game for Boston College, in Cassell Coliseum.

Up next, the Hokies will travel to South Bend, Ind. for a 2 p.m. Saturday date with Notre Dame.

Radford clinches regular season crown in TRD

Patriot Staff Report

The Radford Bobcats boys basketball team clinched this season’s Three Rivers District regular season title Tuesday evening by beating Glenvar, 45-32.

Defense ruled in the first half, with the Bobcats up by one at the half, 17-16.

Radford blew the game open in the third quarter, outscoring the Highlanders, 13-8. The Bobcats’ defense kept the pressure on Glenvar in the final quarter, again allowing only 8 points for the fi-

nal 45-32.

Gavin Cormany led Radford with 16 points. Elijah Kelly added 15, while Luke Woodard chipped in 8.

Kelly had 7 rebounds, 5 steals and 2 blocks on the night.

Cormany chalked up 5 rebounds and 1 assist.

Woodard had 2 rebounds.

The win gave Radford a 16-3 record on the season.

The Bobcats were scheduled to play at Pulaski County on Thursday night in a makeup game for the two teams.

Cougars

Continued from Page B1

in the season at Salem by seven points as they got some payback.

The Cougar junior varsity improved to (14-6) as they got some revenge of their own winning, 53-51. They had lost at Salem by double figures.

Justus Hash had 16 points and Jalere Harlow 14 for the Cougars. Bryant Nottingham had six points, while Sammy Carrasco, Silas Sweet and Johnny Anderson all had four points each. Salem was led in scoring by Coen Logan’s 20 points.

Pulaski Co. 15 - 12 - 17 - 21= 65
Salem - 7 - 9 - 11 - 19 = 46

Scoring - PC - Nester 23, K. O’Neal 14, O’Dell 14, Turner 5, Horton 4, W. O’Neal 3, Reed 2,

Salem - Clemens 11, Davidson 7, Coe 8, Brown 6, Moyer 4, Foxx 3, Boles 2, White 5

3-Pt. Goals - PC - 8(Nester 4, K. O’Neal 2, O’Dell, W. O’Neal), Salem - 5 (Clemens 3, White, Carver)

Total FGs - PC - 23. Salem - 16

Fouls - PC - 17, Salem - 15
Technicals - Salem - Foxx

Fouled Out- None

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NEW RIVER RESOURCE AUTHORITY PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE OF PROPOSED WASTE DISPOSAL AND TIPPING FEE RATE INCREASES

New River Resource Authority (“NRRRA”) provides, among related services, waste disposal services for the businesses, citizens and communities of the City of Radford, the Town of Dublin, Giles County, Pulaski County and within the jurisdictional boundaries, and incorporated jurisdictions therein, of Montgomery County and the Counties of Wythe, Bland, and Floyd. Pursuant to Va. Code § 15.2-5136 and § 15.2-5114, NRRRA proposes the following changes to the waste disposal and tipping fees:

POTW Sludge from \$22.00 per ton to \$24.00 per ton
Tires (per pound) from \$0.10 per pound to \$0.12 per pound

Fees proposed not to change:

Municipal Solid Waste	\$34.00 per ton
Construction Debris	\$34.00 per ton
VPI Ash	\$10.00 per ton
Non-Friable Asbestos	\$54.00 per ton
Unsecured Loads	\$25.00 each
Minimum Ticket Fee	\$ 5.00 each
Admin (Copy) Fee	\$ 0.25 each
Clean Wood	\$25.00 per ton
Appliances	\$34.00 per ton
Recycling	\$60.00 per ton

A public hearing on the rates set forth above will be held on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at Noon, or as soon thereafter as may be heard, in the administrative conference room of NRRRA at 7100 Cloyd’s Mountain Road, Dublin, Virginia.

Interested persons may appear at the aforementioned time and place to present their views or may submit written comments prior to the hearing. Accommodations for disabled persons can be made with the Office Manager by calling (540) 674-1677 at least five (5) days prior to the hearing date.

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Case No. CL22000540-00
Pulaski County Circuit Court
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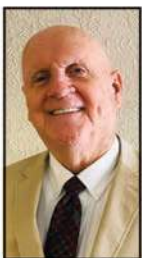
STEVEN RICHARD AYDELOTTE v. SHALANE NICOLE AYDELOTTE

The object of this suit is to: OBTAIN A DIVORCE

It is ORDERED that SHALANE NICOLE AYDELOTTE appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MARCH 14, 2023 at 9:30 a.m..

JANUARY 13, 2023

Maetta Crewe, Clerk



Teach Me Your Word O Lord

Terry McCraw

Lessons from Sampson

Samson judged Israel in the days of the Philistines for over 20 Years. He was a Nazarite from birth. Nazarites were to abstain from drinking alcoholic beverages, cutting their hair, eating unclean meat, and were not to touch anything that was dead. Sampson’s strength was a gift from God. It was unprecedented, phenomenal, extraordinary, physical strength. As strong as he was physically, he failed to control his passions. He had an enormous weakness for foreign, pagan women and a propensity for playing around with the sinful world.

He fell in love with a Philistine woman and asked his parents to make the arrangements for him to marry her. He threw a party and invited 30 Philistines to attend. He thought to stump them with a riddle in order to win from them, a new wardrobe. He underestimated their cunningness. They obtained the answer to the riddle by threatening his wife. He ended up having to go out and slay 30 Philistines and take their garments in order to pay his debt.

Playing around with the world is a very foolish thing for any man or woman of faith to do. God’s people are commanded to separate themselves from the sinful world and to be a separated, sanctified people unto Him. If we play around with sinful world, we are very apt to fall into the cleverly laid traps of the world.

When he returned with the intention of spending time with his wife, he found that her father had given her to another man who was supposed to have been Sampson’s friend.

This infuriated Samson and he went out and caught 300 foxes and tied firebrands to their tails and set the fields of the Philistines on fire destroying their crops. Sampson must have been the greatest fox catcher of all time. Most likely he had divine help because what is impossible with man is entirely possible with God.

The Philistines came to his countrymen threatening and demanding that they bind Samson and turn him over to them. Sampson conceded and allowed them to bind him and to deliver him to the Philistines. He knew that no ropes or chains could really hold him. When Samson was delivered in bonds to the Philistines, the Spirit of God came upon him and he easily broke the bonds, picked up the new jawbone of an ass and slew 1,000 Philistines with it.

On another occasion, Sampson joined himself to a prostitute which was indeed a strange thing for a man of God to do. The Philistines surrounded the place and lay in wait to take Sampson captive in the early hours of the morning. They thought he was trapped behind the walls of the city. However, Sampson rose up at midnight and took the massive, heavy gates of the city upon his shoulders and carried them to the top of a hill facing Hebron, thus escaping the Philistines.

Later he fell in love with a devious woman named Delilah. The Philistines offered her a great sum of money if she could find out the source of his great strength and help them capture Samson. At first he toyed with her and told her if she would do this thing or that thing, it would take away his strength. Each time, she would do it, but Sampson remained as strong as before. This should have warned him of her guile and deceitfulness. When one fails to learn from one’s mistakes, they are bound to repeat them. Afterwards, she

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Draper Valley Baptist Church
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Draper, Va. 24324
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Service Times:
Bible Study Sunday, 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening, 5 p.m.
email: drapervalleybc@gmail.com
www.drapervalleybaptist.org

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

Open Door Baptist Church
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Wednesday Night, 7 p.m.
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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

Jordan's Chapel UMC
Pastor: Ginny Tompkins
Worship: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Cecil's Chapel United Methodist Church
5801 Cecil's Chapel Road,
Hiwassee, VA 24347
Pastor Jason Crandall
Worship service is 8:45am-9:45am
Sunday School is 10 - 10:45am
www.facebook.com/cecilschapel.umc

Valley Harvest Ministries
1 Harvest Place
Dublin, VA 24084
Senior Pastor Steve Willis
Associate Pastors: Perry Slaughtner,
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

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.

Allisonia Pentecostal Holiness Church
1560 Julia Simpkins Road
Allisonia, VA
Pastor Justin Phillips
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship: 6 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
301 N. Jefferson Ave. - Pulaski (physical)
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

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

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.

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

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

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

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.

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)

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.)
Sunday Worship Live stream on Facebook
Bible Study: Wednesday, Noon
www.trinitypulaski.org

Trinity United Methodist
Pastor: Judy Yonce
Sunday Worship - 9:45 a.m.
Bible Study - Wednesday, 7 p.m.
528 5th Street, S.E.
Pulaski, Va.
Phone - 980-0820

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

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

Dublin Christian Church
5605 Dunlap Road
P. O. Box 1330
Dublin, VA 24084
(540) 674-8434
www.dublinchristianchurch.com
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.

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.
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faith, and sharing God’s love with others!”

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

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.

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.

Randolph Avenue United Methodist Church
1607 Randolph Avenue
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Elston McLain
Worship Service: 11 a.m.
Phone: (540) 980-8775

Pulaski Christian Church, Inc.
4531 Brookmont Road, Pulaski, VA 24301
www.pulaskichristianchurch.com/
Rev. Kathy Warden, Pastor,
(540) 250-2974
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
Worship 7 p.m.
Monday Bible Study
7 to 9 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study
7 p.m.

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.

Dora Highway Baptist Church
321 Dora Highway
Pulaski, VA 24301
Pastor: Harry Gunter
Worship Service: 11 a.m.
Phone: (540) 320-0738

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

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)

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: **In Tennis : Server 2 Opponent 0**

- Affectionate
Brotherly
Enduring
Fall in
- First
Labor of
Maternal
Motherly
- Parental
Puppy
Romantic
Selfless
- True
Unrequited
Young

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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.

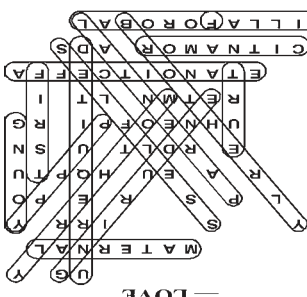
NQW MAXMNT SMTT IMLAWUV

QB DEV XMN DQ TWGGVTT.

— RLGJVN UQQBVN

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You always pass failure
on the way to success.
— Mickey Rooney



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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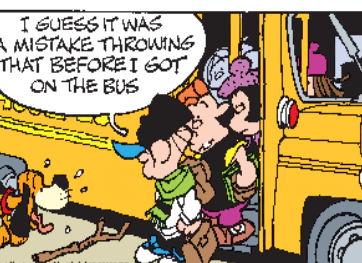
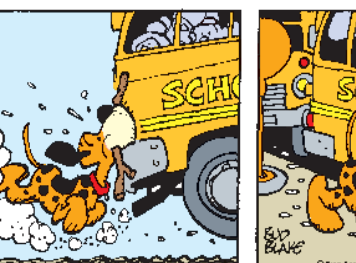
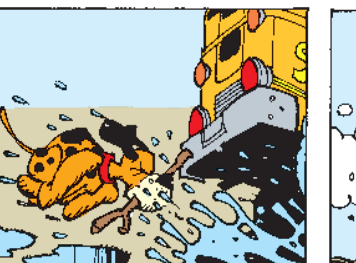
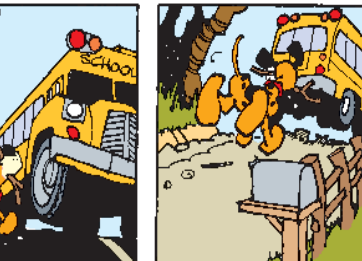
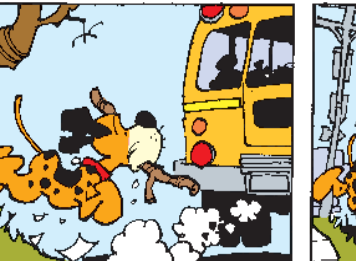
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How big is the burden?

Dear Dave,

My parents are both in their seventies. They have been healthy and active all their lives, but in spite of them both having good jobs they neglected to plan and save for retirement. Is it my responsibility now to provide them with financial help in their old age?

Reagan

Dear Reagan,

It sounds like you might be a little irritated that your parents haven't been responsible with their money. The way you described the circumstances, it's understandable—to a point. But in my mind, there's a bigger question when it comes to helping your folks. How big is the burden?

Let me ask you a few things. Do you have the money to help? Now, can you provide this help without your own family suffering or going without? If both answers are yes, I think your question may be a little more about your own aggravation with your folks than any ethical or moral obligation.

A few years ago I spoke with a guy who was in really good shape financially. He made over \$1 million a year, and he had plenty set aside in savings and retirement accounts. His father was in poor health and had never handled his money wisely. The son asked me if he should help out his dad by giving him some money every month.



Dave Says

Dave Ramsey

In my mind, there's no question the right answer was yes. And that's what I told him. If you're making millions, but don't want to help out your sick dad, there's something wrong with you. There's something missing inside you that money just won't fix. However, if you and your family are barely getting by—let's say you bring home \$3,000 a month—you're not morally required to help a parent who was irresponsible with money their entire life.

I'm not sure what your situation is, Reagan, but I hope you'll look at things with a little grace and reason. It's a tough situation to be in, because it sounds like your heart is being pulled in different directions. My advice, above all else, is to pray about it. And, if you have a spouse, talk to them about everything, and make sure the two of you are in agreement on what should be done before moving forward.

God bless you, friend.

— Dave

*** Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 18 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions.**

Radford University Students Present Research at 4th Winter CARD

RADFORD -- The Radford University Office of Undergraduate Research (OURS) sponsored the 4th Winter CARD, or Creative Activities and Research Days Nov. 29 through Dec. 2. Working closely with faculty and other students during the fall semester, undergraduate students solved wicked problems we face in society and on our planet. Students presented their research projects through poster projects or orally to an audience. Participants included:

- Erika Palmquist, Pulaski: Poster | Sustainable Cities: Jakarta, Indonesia,
- Jacob Petty, Pulaski: Artwork Installation | Art History: Exploration of African Arts,

• Madison Cornell, Dublin: Interdisciplinary Poster | World War II: Letters Home,

• Rachel Bird, Dublin: Interdisciplinary Poster | The Impact of Relaxation Therapy on Emotional Exhaustion Associated with Burnout in Emergency Room Physicians,

• MaKenzie Reno, Draper: Interdisciplinary Poster | The Impact of Radiofrequency Ablation on Opioid Use in Patients with Musculoskeletal Pain in the Neck.

OURS provides transformative experiential learning opportunities to undergraduate college students to help them gain experience that will serve them well in their workplace and all of their lives.

Feb. 14

Sons of Confederate Veterans

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet on Tuesday, February 14, 7pm at Aly's Family Italian Restaurant on 3204 Riner Road. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to attend. Mr. John Winebarger, SCV Virginia 6th Brigade Commander, will speak on "Confederate Surgeons". 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.

Feb. 15

No-Agenda Social

Join Pulaski Democrats for a No-Agenda Social at Compadres Restaurant, 1106 E. Main St., downtown Pulaski, on Wednesday, February 15, at 11:30 a.m. If you have questions, call Susan Trulove at 540-639-6834.

Martin of Pulaski Named to Bridgewater's Fall 2022 Dean's List

BRIDGEWATER, VA -- Mary Martin of Pulaski, Va., was named to the 2022 fall semester Dean's List at Bridgewater College. Martin is a(n) health and exercise science major at Bridgewater.

Martin was among nearly 550 students named to the Dean's List, which was announced by Provost and Executive Vice President Dr. Leona A. Sevick.

Students on the Dean's List have attained a 3.4 or better grade point average out of a possible 4.0.

Bridgewater College is a private, four-year liberal arts college located in the Central Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. Founded in 1880, it was the state's first private, coeducational college. Today, Bridgewater College is home to approximately 1,450 students.

Fox of Hiwassee named to JMU President's List

HARRISONBURG, VA -- Hiwassee resident, Zachary Fox, has been named to the President's List at James Madison University for the fall 2022 semester. Students who earn president's list honors must carry at least 12 graded credit hours and earn a GPA of 3.900 or above. Fox is majoring in Anthropology - BA.

Founded in 1908, James Madison University is a public university located in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. JMU is one of the nation's leading lights in higher education.

PULSE

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.

Pulaski Al-Anon Family Group

Pulaski Al-Anon Family Group (a support group for friends and families of alcoholics) meet every Monday night at 8 p.m. at Pulaski Presbyterian Church of America located at 975 Memorial Drive. Contact number 540-818-0621.

Hiwassee Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary in Need of Funds

The Hiwassee Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary is in need of donations for the mowing and upkeep of the Trail cemetery in Hiwassee. If you have a family member that is buried in this cemetery and would like to make a donation you may mail your contribution to Peggy Cregger PO Box 164, Hiwassee, VA 24347.

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Lifestyles Changes

If you are currently trying to lose weight, we may have what you need. Contact Bill Brewer at 540-813-1605.

Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered 12-step program where people gain freedom, healing and accountability for life's hurts, habits, and hang-ups. Group Meeting at 6:15pm every Thursday at Valley Harvest Ministries, 1 Harvest Place, Dublin.

Heritage Cares Food still distributing food

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

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February 2023

Fri. Feb. 17th: "A Night of Singing"
Sat. Feb. 18th: Food/Clothing Event from 11 am till 1 pm. We will be serving free spaghetti, garlic bread, dessert and drinks. The Clothing Bank will be open with free men's, women's, boys and girls clothing.

Fri. Feb. 24th: Pastor Charlie Barbettini
Sat. Feb. 25th: Pastor Harry Gunter

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