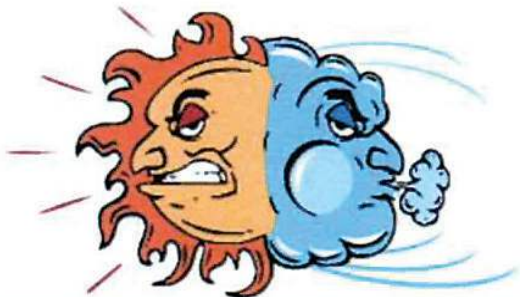




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Community saddened by death of Coach Joel Hicks

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

Word spread quickly last Saturday throughout the community and beyond.

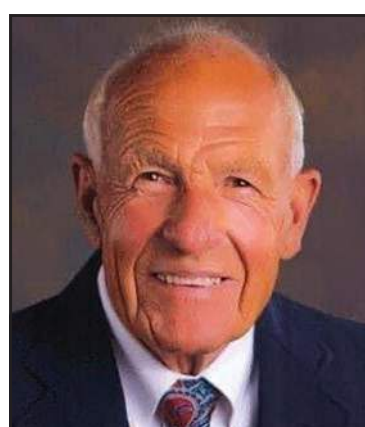
Pulaski County's beloved "Coach" – Joel Hicks – had passed away.

Hicks was 81 and had been in poor health for some time before passing last Saturday morning at his home in Fairlawn.

A community memorial service is set for next Saturday, March 18 at 3 p.m. The outdoor service will be held on Joel Hicks Field inside Kenneth J. Dobson Stadium. Pastor Larry Meadors will officiate.

The Hicks family suggests in lieu of flowers, donations be sent to the Pulaski County Animal Shelter in Dublin.

Bower Funeral Home in Pulaski is handling arrangements for the family, and those who wish may



Joel Hicks

visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com to sign Hicks' online guestbook.

His full obituary is inside this week's edition.

Hicks was born in Richwood, W.Va. on April 14, 1941. As a teenager he drove a coal truck in southern West Virginia, and attended Richwood High School.

While at Richwood, Hicks played three sports for the Lumberjacks – football, basketball and baseball – being named All-state Honorable Mention in each.

His personal success in football earned him a scholarship to West Virginia University where he played running back and defensive back for the Mountaineers from 1960 to 1964.

After receiving his Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education, Hicks began his legendary coaching career starting out at Big Creek High School in War, W.Va.

At War, Hicks went 34-15-1 and after five years at the school, he moved up to the head football coaching job in Beckley at Woodrow Wilson High School.

He spent seven years coaching the Flying Eagles to a 57-13 record.

His high school successes helped

See HICKS, page A8

Warming Station work now complete, likely open tonight

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

If the weather forecast holds true, the Warming Station in Pulaski will be open this Friday night (March 10) for the first time this year to give shelter to the homeless.

The opening has been a long time in coming, and again, if the weather forecast is correct, the opening comes in the nick of time. Nighttime temperatures are forecast to hit lows in the 20's over the next week or so.

As Charlie Barbettini, Pastor of Taking It To The Streets Ministry says, it's been a blessing that winter in this area has been relatively mild so far.

Located in the back of the Taking It To The Streets Ministry at 235 N. Jefferson Avenue – in the old Sherwin Williams store – the Warming Station opens each night

when the temperature is below 40 degrees or colder at 6 p.m.

Barbettini and the church's board made the decision in 2021 to purchase the old paint store building for the new home of the ministry and Warming Station.

The building has been transformed through mostly volunteer

labor and donations into a modern facility and home base for all the ministry's efforts to spread the gospel, feed and clothe the needy and give shelter to the homeless on bitter cold nights.

The front portion of the facility is divided into two halves with the

See HOMELESS, page A10

WEEKEND WEATHER

Saturday

Mostly sunny, with a high near 44. Breezy.

Saturday Night - Partly cloudy, with a low around 27.

Sunday

Mostly cloudy, with a high near 45. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Sunday Night - Showers likely. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 36. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

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Family Market & Corner Deli all about family

By DANIELLE REID
The Patriot

Some families leave their children a tangible legacy in the form of real estate or perhaps something like an antique car collection, valuable or sentimental objects.

However, the most treasured form of a legacy can be considered to be an intangible gift, such as family values, memories, love and respect.

Debbie and Garry (aka Earl) Marion have chosen to do both.

Since early January, the couple came out of retirement with plans to build and leave a thriving business for their children and grandchildren. Known as the “Family Market and Corner Deli,” they have pooled the family talents and solid business experiences, coupled with long hours and hard work, to open a combination deli and convenience store in Pulaski.

Located at 825 E. Main Street in

the building where Guida’s Market used to be, they are open seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. They serve breakfast from 6 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., lunch and dinner. Customers can eat-in or take-out meals that are prepared in the store. They can also purchase sliced lunch meats and assorted cheeses at the deli counter.

According to Debbie, customer service is of utmost importance.

“We want to provide high quality food and help build the community’s economy in a positive way. We want our customers to know that they are welcome at the Family Market and Corner Deli, and we hope to create a family-friendly environment where people feel comfortable and appreciated.”

Both Debbie and Garry have years of customer service and business experience. Garry gained experience as a youngster while working with his parents’ “mom and pop” stores in Wytheville and at Pepper Grocery in Fairlawn.



Danielle Reid/The Patriot

Front row (L-R) Julie Webb, Mike Williams, Debbie Marion; (back row (L - R) Jeremy Marion, Katrina Hawks, Garry Marion. Absent from the photo is daughter Jaimee Scott.

His father was a meat cutter and instructed Garry in that profession and in retail management. Garry used that combined knowledge to work for eight years at Wades in Christiansburg, Food Lion (20 years) and Wal-Mart where he retired after 20 years of service. His expertise was in the fresh foods sector.

Debbie also worked for Food Lion (four times – they kept calling her back to work for them), Wal-Mart and in finance and collections for another business as a trouble

shooter. When she retired from the collections business, she wanted to find something fun and fulfilling to do with her time – so she bought an ice cream truck. Naming it “Nana’s Sweets and Treats,” she drove around the neighborhoods bringing smiles to childrens’ faces.

“After working in the collections business where all you saw were frowns, I just wanted to see kids smile. It brought me tears of joy to make kids happy,” she related. The ice cream truck has since been re-purposed as a food service truck and can be seen at many places, including the Thornspring Farm Festivals.

“So many people know us from our former business associations, recreation and hobbies, and they are excited for us and are helping to build our customer base,” added Garry. “We also like the personal interaction we have with our customers. Many have become our ‘regulars,’ sharing their stories as they pick up their orders; and returning daily for breakfast or dinner.”

Garry has a practical approach to their store.

“Everybody gets hungry and wants to eat. We want to be an option for them. We have seating for 12 people, but plan to expand the deli so we can keep up with the increasing demand.”

Although they are a new business in town, the family wants to convey that they are not there to be in competition with other similar businesses – only with themselves. They want everyone in business to succeed and do well.

All three of their children, Julie Webb, Jaimee Scott and Jeremy Marion, as well as Debbie’s brother Mike Williams, are contributing their experience, talents and time to promote the family venture. Each of their children takes a shift to be the store manager and make daily decisions.

Jeremy can be seen running the cash register, taking phone orders, working the deli counter, as well as ordering food and supplies to keep everything flowing smoothly. His girlfriend, Katrina Hawks, works with the family, also.

Jeremy sets a high standard for the food they prepare.

“We make every dish and meal as if it was for ourselves. The portions are generous and we won’t sell anything we wouldn’t serve to our own family. We hope to be here a very long time, serving the community.”

Jeremy says the family tried to open a store in the past, but the timing wasn’t right. As a man of faith, he credits God for the correct location and timing.

See FAMILY, page A3



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Family

Continued from Page A2

“I am blessed beyond measure, and I want everyone to know that God changed my life. He is real and as important today as ever. Every day I pray to get closer to God; and trust that He is leading us in making good decisions,” he confessed.

As Debbie and Garry guide and train the family in the mechanics of running the enterprise, they also believe that there is a higher power that leads them.

From the miraculous coincidence of driving past the build-

ing and seeing a “for rent” sign on the door, to the inspired idea of opening a combination deli and convenience store, to the wonderful support they are receiving from the community, their bank and technically adept family, they are truly amazed and grateful.

As we talk, Garry surveys the cluster of customers chatting with his family members at the deli as his son prepares their take-out boxes. “Both Debbie and I know this venture is tem-

porary for us. As soon as we are able, we’ll turn the reins over to our kids,” he says as he contemplates the future.

Then the couple, who have been married for 44-years, will be off to another adventure – but “retirement” doesn’t seem to be in their vocabulary.

Please visit their Facebook page for a menu and daily specials. <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100088811109914&mibextid=LQQJ4d>

Fine Arts Center of NRV sponsoring Youth Art Month at Innovation Ctr.

Youth Art Month Exhibit throughout March at the Pulaski County Innovation Center’s East Entrance foyer and adjacent hallways.

Sponsored by the Fine Arts Center for the NRV, this year’s exhibit features student artwork from Riverlawn, Snowville, and Dublin Elementary Schools, Pulaski Middle and High Schools, and Auburn High School.

A reception will be held on Tuesday, March 14, 4-6pm at the Innovation Center, 6580 Valley Center Drive, Fairlawn. Exhibit hours are 8am - 5pm, Monday-Friday.

Call 540/980-7363 for more information.

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Apr 2 – 4	Wind Creek Casino/ Bethlehem , PA	\$540	Sept 2	North Carolina Zoo/ Asheboro, NC	\$90
Apr 7 – 13	Charleston/ Savannah/ Jekyll Island	\$2,430	Sept 3 – 5	Wind Creek Casino/ Bethlehem, PA	\$540
Apr 7 – 8	“Moses”/ PA Dutch/ Lancaster, PA	\$490	Sept 6 – 9	Creation Museum/ Ark Encounter	\$865
Apr 8	Biltmore House & Gardens / Festival of Flowers	\$175	Sept 7 – 10	Myrtle Beach, SC	\$1,070
Apr 8	“Aladdin” / Belk Theatre / Charlotte, N.C	\$200	Sept 8 -10	Washington , D.C / Mount Vernon	\$625
Apr 13 – 29	Great Southwest California	\$4,045	Sept 8 – 13	Las Vegas & Grand Canyon Fly / Land	\$2,805
Apr 14 – 16	Washington, D.C/ Cherry Blossom Festival	\$640	Sept 9 -16	Trains of New England	\$2,905
Apr 15	“Hamilton” / Altria Theatre/ Richmond, VA	\$255	Sept 10 – 16	Best of Ozarks/ Branson/ Eureka Springs	\$1,690
Apr 17	Bristol Casino/ Bristol, VA	\$50	Sept 11 – 23	Nova Scotia / New England in the Fall	\$3,065
Apr 22	Biltmore House & Gardens / Festival of Flowers	\$175	Sept 14 – 16	“Moses” / Lancaster, PA / PA Dutch	\$735
Apr 23- 26	VA Military Tattoo/ Mermaid Bash	\$1,315	Sept 15 – 16	Gandy Dancer/ Tygart Flyer	\$480
Apr 24 – May 3	Texas “Lone Star State”	\$2,435	Sept 16 – 22	New England in the Fall	\$1,685
May 6	Billy Graham Library/ Stowe Botanical Gardens	\$90	Sept 16 - 27	America’s Southwest Land / Fly	\$4,350
May 6 – 16	Tennessee Music Pathways	\$4,840	Sept 18	Bristol Casino/ Bristol, VA	\$50
May 9 – 12	Tulip Festival/ Holland, MI	\$940	Sept 19 – 23	Vermont in The Fall/ Stowe/Flake Lodge	\$1,910
May 10	Andy Griffith “Mayberry” Mt. Airy , NC	\$85	Sept 19 – 25	Mystery Tour...	\$1,830
May 10 – 13	Creation Museum / Ark Encounter	\$865	Sept 23	Andy Griffith’s “Mayberry Days”	\$85
May 11 – 13	“Moses” / Lancaster, PA / PA Dutch	\$735	Sept 23 – 24	Washington Nationals Baseball	\$585
May 12 – 14	New York Springtime	\$1,200	Sept 29 – Oct 1	Neptune Festival/ Virginia Beach, VA	\$685
May 13	North Carolina Zoo/ Asheboro, NC	\$90	Oct 1 – 5	Niagara Falls / Toronto	\$1,365
May 15	Bristol Casino/ Bristol, VA	\$50	Oct 2 – 8	New England in the Fall	\$1,685
May 20 – 21	Tangier Island	\$470	Oct 3 – 6	Rockin’ the Boardwalk/ Virginia Beach, VA	\$1,190
May 21 – 26	Oklahoma Oil/ Osage Nation/ Pawhuska, OK	\$1,405	Oct 5	Cass Railroad / Cass, WV	\$195
May 26 – 28	Nashville/ Music City USA	\$1,005	Oct 6 – 7	“Moses” / PA Dutch/ Lancaster , PA	\$490
May 27	Mitchie Tavern / Swannanoa Mansion	\$95	Oct 6 – 8	Nashville/ Music City USA	\$1,005
Jun 4 – 7	Resorts Casino & Hotel / Atlantic City, NJ	\$765	Oct 7	Billy Graham Library / Stowe Botanical Gardens	\$90
Jun 5 – 8	I Love Lucy/ Pennsylvania Grand Canyon	\$1,165	Oct 7	Bushy Mountain Harvest Festival	\$75
Jun 6 – 10	Two Stadiums/ Philadelphia/ Baltimore	\$1,480	Oct 9	Cass Railroad / Cass, WV	\$195
Jun 9 – 11	Washington D.C / Mount Vernon	\$625	Oct 10 – 14	Haunted Halloween/ Boston & Salem	\$1,370
Jun 9 – 19	Nova Scotia/ Atlantic Provinces of Canada	\$2,650	Oct 11 – 17	Pioneer Women/ Magnolia Market	\$1,930
Jun 15 – 20	White Mountains/ Purple Moose	\$1,825	Oct 14	New River Gorge Bridge Day/ Fayetteville, WV	\$100
Jun 15 – 21	Mackinac Island / Michigan	\$2,030	Oct 14	Carolina Balloon Festival / Statesville, NC	\$85
Jun 18 – 24	Best of the Ozarks/ Branson/ Eureka Springs	\$1,690	Oct 17 – 20	Oktoberfest in Helen, GA	\$1,290
Jun 18 – 24	Niagara Falls/ Montreal/ Toronto/ Quebec	\$1,755	Oct 23	Bristol Casino/ Bristol, VA	\$50
Jun 19	Bristol Casino/ Bristol, VA	\$50	Nov 3 – 5	Sunshine Tours/ Family Reunion	\$900
Jun 25- July 13	Hitching a Ride on Route 66	\$4,905	Nov 9	Southern Christmas Show/ Charlotte, NC	\$90
Jun 26 – 29	Gilded Age of New York	\$2,035	Nov 9 – 12	Biltmore House / Smoky Mountain Christmas	\$1,435
Jun 29 – July 2	Grandkids of Country Music/ Clarksville, TN	\$1,105	Nov 10	Southern Christmas Show/ Charlotte, NC	\$90
July 1 – 8	Summer in New England/ Martha’s Vineyard	\$1,990	Nov 11	Southern Christmas Show/ Charlotte, NC	\$90
July 1 – 10	Hawaii Honolulu/ Waikiki / Aloha	\$5,050	Nov 11	Concord Mills / Bass Pro Shop/ Charlotte, NC	\$85
July 2 – 6	Niagara Falls USA / Erie Canal	\$1,470	Nov 12 – 18	Florida Keys/ Sunset Celebration	\$3,235
July 2 – 16	Canyonlands / Scenic Tour	\$3,655	Nov 13	Bristol Casino / Bristol , VA	\$50
July 2 – 30	Alaska/ Canada’s Yukon/ Motorcoach	\$7,700	Nov 22 – 25	Macy’s Thanksgiving Parade/ New York	\$1,580
July 7 – 10	Atlanta Motor Speedway	\$1,020	Nov 26 – 29	Wind Creek/ Bethelhem/ New York	\$900
July 10 – 26	Yellowstone T.V Series Tour	\$6,425	Nov 29 – Dec 4	Currier & Ives Christmas/ Burlington, VT	\$1,910
July 16 – 19	Wind Creek/ Bethlehem/ New York City	\$900	Dec 1 – 3	Christmas at Myrtle Beach	\$660
July 17 – 20	Red Neckin’ Toe Tappin/ Pigeon Forge, TN	\$1,490	Dec 1 – 3	Radio City Christmas / New York	\$1,365
July 21 - 23	Nashville/ Music City USA	\$1,005	Dec 1 – 3	Christmas Opryland Hotel	\$1,215
July 24	Bristol Casino/ Bristol, VA	\$50	Dec 2	Christmastown USA / McAdenville , NC	\$75
July 24 – 27	New York Baseball/ Yankees vs. Mets	\$1,160	Dec 2	Premium Outlets / Charlotte, NC	\$85
Aug 1 – 20	San Fransisco/ California / Pacific NW	\$5,050	Dec 2	Grove Park/ Gingerbread House	\$165
Aug 3 – 5	“Moses” / Lancaster, PA / PA Dutch	\$735	Dec 3 -7	Bavarian Holidays / Frankenmuth	\$1,090
Aug 5 – 6	Tangier Island	\$470	Dec 4 – 8	Christmas Mystery Adventure	\$1,345
Aug 8 – 12	Wind Creek/ Encore / Maryland Live Casino	\$1,015	Dec 5	Tanglewood Park/ Christmas Lights	\$85
Aug 13 – 17	Elvis	\$1,375	Dec 5 – 7	Blue Christmas at Graceland	\$1,460
Aug 13 – 16	Resorts Casino & Hotel/ Atlantic City, NJ	\$765	Dec 6 – 10	Boston’s Gingerbread Christmas	\$1,295
Aug 13 – 24	America’s Northwest Land/ Fly	\$4,895	Dec 7 – 8	“Miracles of Christmas” / Lancaster, PA	\$490
Aug 16 – 18	Choo Choo Ch’ Boogie / Rocky Gap Resort	\$965	Dec 8 – 10	Radio City Christmas/ New York	\$1,365
Aug 19 – 20	Great Smoky Mountains Railway	\$575	Dec 8 – 10	Christmas Opryland Hotel	\$1,215
Aug 21	Bristol Casino/ Bristol, VA	\$50	Dec 9	Biltmore House & Gardens Christmas	\$230
Aug 24 -26	Strasburg Railroad/ Red Caboose Hotel	\$985	Dec 10 – 16	Joyeux Noel/ Louisiana	\$1,870
Aug 26	Mitchie Tavern/ Swannonoa Mansion	\$95	Dec 16	Biltmore House & Gardens Christmas	\$230
Aug 27 – Sep 6	West Coast Baseball	\$4,750	Dec 26 – 31	Christmas Disneyworld/ Universal Sea World	\$1,900

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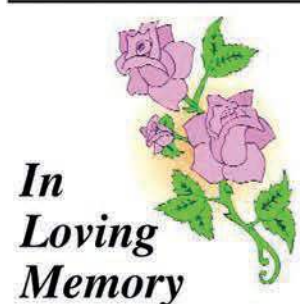
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HAYDEN LEE GUTHRIE

Hayden Lee Guthrie, age 10 and a ½ months old, was taken to heaven on Tuesday, February 14, 2023. He was born March 31, 2022 in Roanoke, VA, and was the infant son of Ryan Guthrie of Ronceverte, WV and Deana McCoy of Gap Mills, WV. Hayden's paternal grandparents are David and Tina Guthrie of Ronceverte, WV; his paternal great grandmothers are Pat Guthrie of Pulaski, VA and Norma Carter of Ronceverte, WV.

Also left to cherish Hayden's sweet memory are his brother and sister, Jaxon and Aleeah McCoy of Gap Mills, WV; maternal grandparents, Charles and Tefanie McCoy of Gap Mills, WV; as well as several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Memorial services will be held 7:00 p.m. Friday, March 10, 2023 at the Groves-Mann Funeral Home Chapel in Union, WV with pastor Freddie Bostic officiating. The family will receive friends Friday, March 10, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. until the time of the service at the funeral home.

Those wishing to send the family online condolences or would like to sign the online guestbook, please do so by visiting www.groves-mann.com Arrangements by Groves-Mann Funeral Home in Union, WV.

GINGER AUST STEVENS

Ginger Aust Stevens, 59, of Pulaski, passed away Friday, March 3, 2023. She was preceded in death by her parents, Harry and Ann Aust.

Survivors include her husband, John C. Stevens; son and daughter-in-law, John Robert and Stacy Stevens; brother and sister-in-law, Bryan and Amy Aust; nieces, Madelyn and Elaina; and many other relatives and friends.

In keeping with Ginger's wishes, there will be no services at this time.

The Stevens family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.



CAROL JEAN THORNE

Carol Jean Thorne, age 79 of Salem passed away Tuesday, March 7, 2023 in the Lewis Gale Hospital, Salem. Born July 8, 1943 in Coldwell, West Virginia, she was the daughter of the late Joseph Edward Quesinberry & Laura Rogers Quesinberry. Also preceding her in death were her husband, Mack Clayton Thorne, one son, Richard McCroskey, brothers, Buck, Thomas, Stanley and Michael Quesinberry, sisters, Mary Ellen Hartman and Clara Caldwell.

Carol is survived by her Children Shannon (Michael) Altizer – Pulaski

Michael David McCroskey – Pembroke

Laura(Kay) Mitchell- McCroskey – Moneta

Mark Travis McCroskey – Pulaski

Grandchildren Tina Dunford, Ricky McCroskey, Heather Putnick, & Sawyer Mitchell-McCroskey

Numerous Great Grandchildren Brother

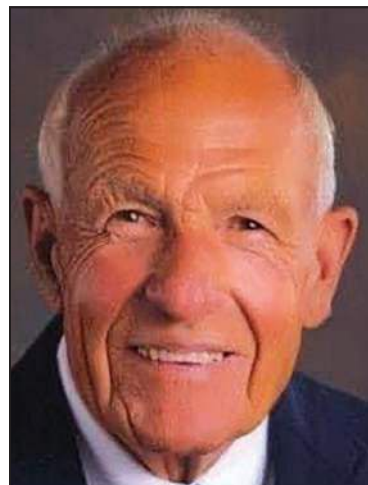
Rickey Quesinberry – Pembroke, VA

Special Niece Jackie Lynn Quesinberry – Wilis, VA

Funeral services will be held 2:00 PM – Thursday, March 16, 2023 at the Bower Funeral Home-Chapel, Pulaski. Interment will follow at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery, Dublin.

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

To sign Carol's online guestbook, visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com Bower Funeral Homes, Pulaski is handling the arrangements for the family.



JOEL LEE HICKS

Joel Lee Hicks, age 81 of Fairlawn (Pulaski County) passed away Saturday, March 4, 2023.

Born April 14, 1941 in Richwood, West Virginia, he was the son of the late Charles Hicks & Goldie Oylor Hicks. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sisters, Carolyn Heltzel and Mary Lou Borrelli.

Joel Hicks was a 1959 graduate of Richwood High School where he was all-state in Football, Basketball and Baseball. He then received a scholarship to play football at West Virginia University where he graduated in 1964 with a bachelor's degree in Physical Education before embarking on a Hall of Fame coaching career that spanned 38 years. Coach Hicks began his career as the Head Football Coach at Big Creek High School in War, West Virginia compiling a 34 – 15 – 1 record. He then accepted the Head Coaching position at Woodrow Wilson High School in Beckley, West Virginia, where in 7 years, led the Flying Eagles to an outstanding 57 – 13 record. Coach Hicks then moved to West Virginia University where he had a 3-year stint as the Offensive Backs Coach under Frank Cignetti. The coaching staff at West Virginia University not only included Coach Hicks, it also included familiar names Nick Saban, Rick Trickett, Ed Pastilong, Garrett Ford and Donnie Young.

In 1979, Coach Hicks accepted the Head Football Coaching position at Pulaski County High School, and it was here where he cemented his Hall of Fame career. Coach Hicks went 9 – 3 in his first year, including a 7 – 0 win over the number 1 ranked George Washington Eagles in the first round of the playoffs. For the next 23 years under Coach Hicks, Pulaski County became one of the premier High School football programs in the State of Virginia. Coach Hicks accumulated a record of 210 – 68 at Pulaski County that included

See HICKS, page A5



JUDY FLEMMING

Judy Flemming, of Pulaski, passed away on Wednesday, February 22, 2023 at age 82. She was the daughter of the late Glenn Wonders who was the lead Lockmaster of the US Lock and Dam #13 on the Mississippi River. Her mother, Virginia, sadly passed away in Judy's youth.

Survived by her beloved cat Tina and her two dearest friends, Vicki and Rebecca; and her first cousin Darrel and his wife Shirley.

Judy had an interesting and varied life. She graduated with near perfect grades majoring in Chinese Studies and Political Science, receiving her undergrad from Iowa State and master's from UC Berkeley. She was fluent in Mandarin Chinese. She was a long-time government analyst specializing in Asia, living in Hong Kong and Northern Virginia. She had a brilliant mind that remained until her final days. Those receiving notification of her passing all equally summarized her as being smart and funny.

Retiring in Pulaski to get away from the busy life in NoVA, loving the historic district and making a conscious decision to support local small business owners. She spent many hours in her home she restored with her ever growing flock of cats. She was a meticulous documenter, avid reader, and enjoyed researching faraway lands on her computer.

Judy was an animal lover, making regular gifts to several area humane societies, cats being first on her agenda. Her last surviving cat, Tina, was rescued from the PCHS. Judy tirelessly served on several non-profit boards to make a difference in her community working behind the scenes without personal recognition. Serving on the PCHS board, she made lasting changes to the way animals were held and treated in Pulaski Co. Writing numerous grants and giving financially which was crucial to making the current Animal Shelter in Dublin a reality.

Judy assisted animals in need during her life and afterwards as her estate set aside funds for her favorite charities. Tina has been residing in the home of her dearest friend, Vicki, for several months and is happy in her new found retirement home.

Donations in Judy's memory can be made to any of the following animal charities that were special to her; Franklin County HS Planned Pethood Clinic, HS of the NRV (formerly the Pulaski County HS), HS of Montgomery County, and Roanoke Angels of Assisi.

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

Bower Funeral Chapel, Pulaski is assisting the family with arrangements.

DONNA THORNTON

Donna Thornton, 85, of Pulaski passed away on Monday, February 27, 2022 at Lewis Gale Medical Center in Pulaski. She was born February 20, 1937 in Bland County, Virginia To the late Julius Beaufort French and Caroline Winefred Beamer French. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by two brothers, Herbert French and JB French.

Donna is survived by her children, Lynn Walker (Mike), Preston Thornton (Mary); grandchildren: Alex Thornton (Allison), Tori Mintz (Jacob), Anna Thornton, Devin Cundiff, Daniel Thornton, Chandler Walker, John Walke, Bradley Walker; brother, John French; sister: Barbara Manuel; and loving lifetime friend, Walter Thornton.

Donna was a graduate of Radford College and went on to teach in the Pulaski County School System for 35 years. She was an outstanding member of her community serving in the Red Hat Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, as well as a member of Draper Methodist Church. Her impact on her family and friends was tremendous during her time on Earth.

A graveside service was held on Saturday, March 4, 2023, at Newbern Cemetery in Dublin, Virginia.

BETTY JANE POORE BUCKNER

Betty Jane Poore Buckner, 90, of Pulaski, died on Wednesday, March 1, 2023. She was born March 2, 1932, to the late Jesse Poore Sr. Clara Fisher Poore.

Left to cherish her memory are her son, Barry Buckner Sr.; daughter, Melissa Buckner Nixon; grandchildren: Heather Buckner Jaggars (Richard Brent Jaggars), Barry Buckner Jr. (fiancée Kortney Bevil), Shyanne Alexander Rupe, Emmett Deon Nixon Jr., Samuel Hampton Nixon, John William Nixon; great-grandchildren: Brittany Nicole Jaggars, Richard Alexander Jaggars, Courtney Alexis Jaggars; Brothers: Donald Poore, Bill Poore, Jack Poore; sister: Carol Harrell; Special Family: Ann and Marty Dowdy; Special Friend: Patty Rupe, along with many cousins, relatives, and friends.

Funeral Services were held on Thursday, March 9, 2023, at First Church of the Brethren on Newbern Rd. in Pulaski. Interment followed the funeral service at Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin, Virginia.

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Services for Mike Linkous, Jr.

Services for Mike Linkous, Jr. will be held at
Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin, Va.
on Wednesday March 15th at 3p.m.

This is an outside service.

Family and friends can gather at
Robinson Tract Community Center, Pulaski, Va.
immediately following the service.

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Poll: Youngkin’s approval rating at 57%

By Madison Hirneisen

(The Center Square) – Fifty-seven percent of Virginians say they approve of the way Gov. Glenn Youngkin is handling his job as governor – an increase of five points since November – according to a new poll published Thursday from Roanoke College.

The new poll also revealed Youngkin’s disapproval rating is down six points from November, standing at 35%. According

to pollsters, the numbers “mark Youngkin’s highest approval rating and lowest unfavorable rating recorded by the Roanoke College Poll during his time in office.”

Speculation has grown over whether Youngkin, a Republican who is a little over a year into his term as governor, is considering a potential presidential run in 2024. The new polling found 34% of Virginians think Youngkin should run for president, while 54% think he should not. Among Republi-

cans polled, 42% think he should seek the Republican nomination for President, which is down 10 points from the previous November poll.

“When we asked Virginia Republicans in our poll who they would most prefer to be the Republican nominee for president in 2024, two candidates stood out among the rest: Trump and DeSantis,” Bryan Parsons, senior political analyst at the Institute for

Policy and Opinion Research and the Roanoke College Poll, wrote in an analysis.

The poll revealed a slight shift in

President Joe Biden’s approval rating among Virginians, dropping from 41% in November to 38% in the latest poll.

Hicks

Continued from Page A4

15 District Championships, 6 Regional Championships, 3 time State Runner Up, and a Division 6 Football State Championship in 1992. Coach Hicks retired from football in 2002 after compiling an overall record of 301-96-1 and receiving the Virginia High School League Coach of the Year honor 3 times. In 2004, Coach Hicks was awarded the Frank Loria Award for Outstanding Achievement in the State of West Virginia. He was inducted into the Virginia High School League Hall of Fame in 2016.

In addition to his Coaching career, Joel Hicks was also an avid competitive runner. Having competed in the Boston Marathon 3 times, Coach Hicks broke numerous age group records in marathons through out the East Coast, also placing in the Rock and Roll Marathon in San Diego, California.

Coach Hicks married his high school sweetheart, Malinda Ellison, in 1963 and celebrated their 59-year anniversary in August of 2022. He has two children, Timothy (TJ) Hicks and Amy Hicks. At his core, Coach Hicks was a man that loved his family, his numerous pets and cherished his friendships. There were few days when you wouldn’t see Coach Hicks and his dog running with his buddies, playing golf with his close friends or at Bisset Park feeding the home-

less cats. Coach Hicks impact on the communities where he coached and the players he coached, is apparent by the outpour of support given to his family at the news of his passing.

Coach Hicks will always be remembered for his love of family, the friendships he developed over the years, and his love for the players he coached. He will truly be missed.

Joel is survived by his

Wife of 59 years – Malinda Lee Ellison Hicks- Fairlawn (Pulaski County)

Children – Amy Lee Hicks & husband, Dr. Bob Bloom – Charleston, WV, Timothy (TJ) Hicks & wife, Cindy Irvin Hicks – Newport Beach, CA

Grandchildren – Jackson and Samuel Hicks, Alissah & Kyle Adkins, Sam & Juliet Bloom

Brother-in-law- Gerald Borrelli-Knoxville, TN

Nephews – Charlie Heltzel & wife, Sonji – Abingdon, VA,

Dr. Scott Borrelli & wife, Amy and their daughters, Morgan and Madison – Knoxville, TN

Community memorial services will be held 3:00 PM – Saturday, March 18, 2023 at the Pulaski County Kenneth J. Dobson Football Stadium on Joel Hicks Field, Dublin, Virginia with Pastor Larry Meadors officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family

suggests donations be sent to the (Pulaski County Animal Shelter) Dublin, Virginia 24084.

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

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

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When someone speaks your name
Sad are the hearts that love you
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Living without you is the hardest part of all
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Your heart was so kind and true
And when we needed someone
We could always count on you
The special years will not return
When we are all together
But with the love in our hearts
You walk with us forever.

Sandra Eileen Brown Woolridge
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Update on Two Issues

Several federal issues I am passionate about have been in the news lately.

First, in regards to the safety of unaccompanied minors who have crossed the border. Second, is the debate over whether COVID-19 originated from a bat or from a lab incident.

On the first matter, I visited Fort Bliss, Texas, in May of 2021. Part of my trip included visiting the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) facility there. ORR is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) tasked with placing unaccompanied minors with a sponsor in the United States.

During my visit, I asked questions using my perspective as a lawyer who used to do custody cases and it became clear that ORR was not doing proper background checks



Morgan Griffith

9th District Representative

on these sponsors. I also determined there was not significant collaboration with law enforcement when vetting sponsors and the “public records check” they were using was a type of widely available internet search engine. Unacceptable!

When HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra came before the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health in April 2022, I again expressed my concern over ORR’s vetting process. As I said to the Secretary, if this was a typical custody case involving American citizens, someone would be in trouble for this level of disregard for the child’s safety. Either the attorneys, the department of social services, or the judge would be in hot water for not requiring a more complete background and home check.

Secretary Becerra disagreed with my characterization of ORR’s vetting process.

Notwithstanding the Secretary’s opinion, a September 2022 Inspector General study related to the operation at Fort Bliss solidified my concerns. They too raised issues of negligence.

At the E&C Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations field hearing I conducted in McAllen, Texas, on February 8th, I once again raised these issues.

Further, on February 25th, the New York Times published their investigation into a series of troubling examples of exploitation of unaccompanied minors.

It included many stories of middle and high schoolers placed with sponsors looking to profit from their labor, forced to work long hours in poor and dangerous conditions.

The findings of the New York Times investigation is evidence of the results from ORR’s negligent vetting process. This is what I feared when I first raised my concerns.

Unfortunately, until we slow or stop the flow of illegal unaccompanied minors, their exploitation will continue to be an issue.

It is an issue we provide oversight to ensure the safety of children for which, rightly or wrongly, we have accepted responsibly.

As Chairman of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee on E&C, I will be pushing Secretary Becerra for more information and hope to have additional hearings on this subject.

The second matter is COVID-19 origins.

Since the onset of the pandemic and the search for its origins, I’ve stated that we cannot rule out a lab incident. As time passed, in late 2020 or early 2021 I came to the conclusion there is substantial circumstantial evidence favoring a lab source.

In early February 2023, I held a hearing examining the federal response to COVID-19. National Institute of Health (NIH) Director Dr. Lawrence Tabak testified during the hearing that the coronavirus studied at the Wuhan Institute of Virology in Wuhan, China, bore no resemblance to that of COVID-19 and therefore, could not have been the source of the pandemic.

But how could they know? As I pointed out in the hearing, the NIH has years of missing coronavirus data from their grantee EcoHealth Alliance and EcoHealth’s sub-award grantee, the Wuhan Institute.

While standing with the minority opinion for years that a lab incident was the likely culprit, a few days prior to writing this column, multiple outlets reported the U.S. Energy Department had determined that the COVID-19 pandemic most likely arose from a laboratory leak. This follows a May 2020 report by the Department of Energy’s Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory that a lab incident hypothesis was plausible and should be investigated further.

While we are still waiting on the declassification of Energy’s reports, news reports cite new intelligence and analysis led the Department to switch their position from undecided to a lab incident.

Energy is now the second government agency, along with the FBI, to adopt this theory.

Over the next two years, I will do everything I can to get to the truth on COVID-19.

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

Our Housing Market

In review of the real estate market analysis for the first two months of 2023 (January and February), Pulaski County enjoyed more total closings compared to our New River Valley neighbors. With 11 closings occurring in January, and 27 in the month of February, Pulaski County is realizing solid investment interest in our community comparatively.

Christiansburg’s booming market helped them enjoy the second most closings with 35, and Blacksburg finished with a total of 33. Radford City and Giles County rounded the bottom two with 29 and 13 respectively.

Available housing stock logically plays a big role in the number of closings, and it is why I believe Pulaski County is outperforming our neighbors on a per capita measure.

With interest rates having risen to more than 7 percent on a 30-year fixed mortgage, consumers are looking for affordable markets to help offset the interest



Patriot's Post

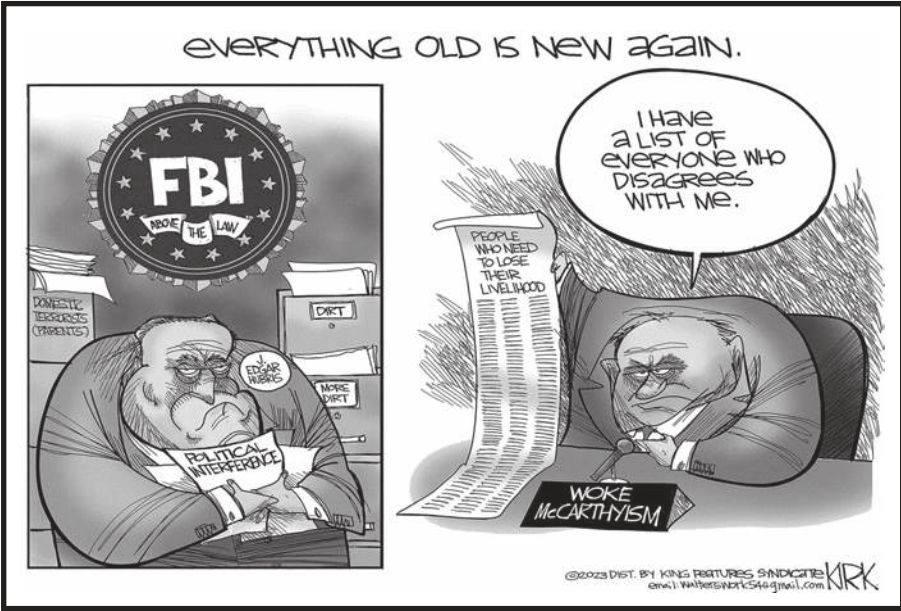
Jonathan Sweet
Pulaski Co. Administrator

rate increases and provide greater value for their money.

Home prices fluctuate from region to region, as do career opportunities, quality of life offerings and access to education and healthcare.

In examining the New River Valley, we find an almost perfect balance of opportunities, amenities, quality of life,

See SWEET, page A7



Read His lips: More new taxes

By CAL THOMAS
Tribune Content Agency

President Joe Biden has announced he will raise “some taxes” in the budget he is proposing this week to Congress. Biden again claims no one making less than \$400,000 a year will pay more taxes.

The federal government receives record amounts of revenue, but spends and borrows in ways that add to the astronomical and unsustainable \$31 trillion debt. As The Wall Street Journal noted in an editorial, “The Internal Revenue Service recently released its income and tax statistics for 2020 and they show the top 1 percent of earners paid 42.3 percent of the country’s income taxes...a two-decade high in the share of taxes the 1 percent pay.” The president repeats the false claim that “the rich” aren’t paying their “fair share.”

Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., is partially right when he says “You can’t basically just tax your way out of debt. You can’t borrow your way out of debt and you can’t cut your way out of debt.” In fact, you can cut the debt by spending and taxing less.

Let’s start with improper payments made by federal agencies. According to reporting by The Washington Examiner, such payments totaled \$175 billion just in 2019, as calculated by the government website PaymentAccuracy.gov. That’s equivalent to \$15 billion per month. This amount doesn’t include the \$2.25 trillion in taxpayer and borrowed money spent on improper payments, including millions sent to dead people. Auditors for OpenTheBooks.com discovered the most wasteful federal programs were Medicaid, Medicare and the Earned Income Tax Credit. In just these three programs, reports The Examiner, 69 percent, or \$121 billion – were improper payments.

Then there was the money wasted on COVID-19 relief, including the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). NBC News reported “many who participated in what prosecutors are calling the largest fraud in U.S. history — the theft of hundreds of billions of dollars in taxpayer money intended to help those harmed by the coronavirus pandemic — couldn’t resist purchasing luxury automobiles...mansions, private jet flights and swanky vacations.”

They came into their riches, the network reported, “by participating in what experts say is the theft of as much as \$80 billion

— or about 10 percent — of the \$800 billion handed out in...the PPP. That’s on top of the \$90 billion to \$400 billion believed to have been stolen from the \$900 billion COVID unemployment relief program — at least half taken by international fraudsters...And another \$80 billion fraudulently pilfered from a separate COVID disaster relief program.”

There’s more. During the pandemic, Congress approved more than \$3.5 trillion in emergency funds that went to individuals and businesses. Of that amount, hundreds of billions reportedly were fraudulently paid out.

The Hill newspaper reported a few of many examples of fraud that should outrage members of Congress and might if they weren’t spending other people’s money. It cites eight people in Georgia who allegedly stole \$30 million by filing unemployment claims for 5,000 people. Four people in Texas allegedly swindled \$18 million in PPP loans and were trying to steal \$17 million more.

The inspector general for the Department of Labor has reported that \$163 billion of the \$794 billion in Pandemic Unemployment Assistance was improperly paid out. Independent analyst, reports The Hill, have suggested that number could be closer to \$400 billion with 70 percent leaving the country and lining the pockets of criminals from China, Nigeria and Russia, among others.

As the late Sen. Everett Dirksen, R-Ill., quipped “A billion here, a billion there and pretty soon you’re talking about real money.” Except today it’s a trillion here and there.

Congressional Republicans have an obligation to taxpayers to uncover more fraud. They should also reform the main drivers of debt – Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. Taxes need to be cut, not raised, to deprive the Washington beast of revenue they waste. Spending should be substantially reduced, bureaucratic, dysfunctional and unnecessary government agencies eliminated, and as much misspent money recovered as possible.

All of this should be an issue in next year’s campaign.

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



Rich Lowery

Editor, National Review

Don’t Rewrite Books

First, they came for Roald Dahl.

Anyone who thought the politically correct rewriting would stop at the irreverent author of such children’s classics as “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” and “Fantastic Mr. Fox” was, of course, sadly mistaken.

The news that hundreds of changes have been made in Dahl’s classics is now followed by word that Ian Fleming, the creator of James Bond, is getting an emergency rewrite as well.

This is a very bad idea.

For a start, where does it end? There’s no limiting principle that would prevent the editing of nearly every great writer in the Western canon. Homer is cauldron of toxic masculinity. Chaucer, who has been removed from curricula at various universities, would need extensive re-working -- for the offense of relaying 14th-century attitudes toward women, if nothing else. As for Shakespeare, has anyone read “Othello”?

We get the word “bowdlerize” from Thomas Bowdler, who published a version of Shakespeare more appropriate for families in the early 19th century. He meant well, but his name has become synonymous with ham-fisted editing of texts for political or social reasons. The first Bowdler edition of the bard’s works axed about 10% of the original, taking out blasphemous language and other unsettling material. The suicide of Ophelia, for instance, became an accidental drowning.

Even Bowdler, by the way, wasn’t sure he was able to fix “Othello.”

Then, there’s the matter of the integrity of the record. Great authors use every word in a book for a reason. Changes in the language, even if done with care, change the meaning and the nature of the work. If Roald Dahl used colorful language to describe a character (and he quite often did) and it’s stripped out for fear of offending people, say, with double chins, the character has been changed -- without the author’s permission and counter to how he published his work.

This is no more defensible than someone deciding Monet’s water lilies should be an ever-so slightly different shade of green, or that Tchaikovsky should have written his “1812 Overture” in D-sharp minor instead of E-flat major.

Any such suggestions would be considered cultural vandalism and the same should apply to the woke rewriting of literature.

Relatedly, the edits of enduring works are never, ever going to do anything other than make them worse --less colorful, pointed, and eloquent. If nothing else, this is a basic question of literary talent and flair.

To return to the example of Dahl, he’s been edited by an outfit called Inclusive Minds (“passionate about inclusion, diversity, equality and accessibility in children’s literature”). To put it simply, Dahl was good at writing; Inclusive Minds is good at DEI. If any editor at Inclusive Minds had a fraction of Dahl’s

See LOWRY, page A7

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Continued from Page A1

earn him a spot on the WVU coaching staff where he served as an assistant coach for three years under head coach Frank Cignetti.

That Mountaineer coaching staff included several legendary football players known to many in West Virginia and beyond, including Nick Saban, head coach at Alabama.

Hicks, however, longed to return to the high school coaching ranks and away from the endless days on the college football recruiting trails.

At the same time, Pulaski County High School needed a football coach.

The Cougars – in existence for only five years after the consolidation of Dublin and Pulaski high schools – had compiled a disappointing record of 14-33-3.

Football fans in Pulaski County weren't used to such results on the football field.

Dublin had for years been a powerhouse football program, and Pulaski had seen its share of success as well.

Local sports writer Dan Callahan had covered the glory days of football in Pulaski County prior to the consolidation of the two high schools, as well as the dry period of the mid- to late-70's.

When the time came to make a change in the leadership of the football program here, you could say Callahan "knew a guy."

Callahan, who had known Hicks from their Big Creek days, knew Hicks was looking for a change and put him in touch with School Superintendent Ken Dobson.

Hicks' first season at PCHS saw the Cougars finish with a 9-3 season, including an almost unheard of victory in the season opener against arch rival Radford, 13-0.

During that first season, "Cougar Fever" swept through the community. Friday night meant Cougar Football and you were at the game. Either in the stadium at PCHS or traveling with the team

Joel Hicks: A humble legend

By MASON CLARK
The Patriot

He came here in the spring of 1979. Many would've considered him a fool for doing so. Leaving his role as offensive coordinator of the West Virginia Mountaineers, he departed and came to our little community and our relatively new school that spring. We hadn't had a lot of success up to that point in football. The transition from two AA powerhouses into the AAA level hadn't gone very smoothly. We had gone 14-33-3, no playoff appearances, a winless season, a 12-game losing streak, allowing 69 points in a single game. We were possibly the worst AAA program in the state, no doubt about it. Many thought the days of football glory in the county from the powerhouse Dublin Dukes and the Pulaski Orioles were done, and over with. Until he came.

That first year, he took a team that was 3-7 and scored 85 points in 10 games the year before and made them into a 9-3 team that was one play from a region championship. 9 wins in one year after 14 wins in 5 years. Gary Clark went from an underutilized and undersized kid to a standout and eventual NFL star. King Harvey ran wild all the way to WVU as a running back standout. And we first donned the iconic gold helmets that are now known all throughout the state.

1981, we got our first district championship. Then in 1982, we got our first perfect

10-0 season and won 11 games in one season. 1983, we got that district and region crown. 1984 was the same thing, just a few plays away. Four consecutive district crowns and two consecutive region crowns. He added two more district crowns in 1988 and 1989, with another perfect season in 1989.

1991 we switched to the wing-t offense, and it worked wonders. Then 1992, we started off slow, but under his leadership we shocked many by winning the RVD for the second straight time and won the region crown too. We beat the heavily-favored James Robinson Rams in the coldest game in school history, and we're off to the state championship for the first time ever. Nobody gave us a shot. But coach Hicks' masterful game plan helped us upset the bigger and favored Thomas Dale Knights. After 13 years of bad luck, coming up just short and almost doing it, we finally won that coveted state championship. Because of Hicks, we had finally gotten to the top of the football world in Virginia.

The next season, we continued the dominance. 1993 saw a team from southwest Virginia ranked as high as number ten in the nation! We will never see that happen again. That was part of an unthinkable seven straight district championships, 1991 all the way to 1997. After a couple down years, the 2000 and 2001 teams won 23 games combined.

He stepped away in 2002 after that sea-

son. 24 years, in the toughest classification in the state. 210 wins, less than 3 losses per season, never had a losing season. Averaged 9 wins per season. 15 district championships, 6 region championships, and the 1992 State Championship despite routinely playing nationally ranked teams in the playoffs, and beating them a lot of the time. 15-8 against Salem too! Only one team he played more than 4 times and had a losing record against. Nobody wanted to play us with him, nobody liked it, and many feared us when coach Hicks was at the helm here. You made Pulaski County what it is today. We're a known football program because of you.

But off the field, he was as humble as can be. You'd never think he was anything more than a normal guy in the community. He'd speak to anyone, talk to them about anything, and was always as kind as can be. A leader of men. A legendary and influential football coach. A legend.

15 district championships. 6 region championships. The 1992 VHSL Division 6 State Champions. 210 wins at PC, 301 as a high school coach overall. And thousands upon thousands of lives touched. Irreplaceable, and truly one of a kind. There is only one Joel Hicks.

Rest in Peace Coach!! You'll never know how loved you were and still are. You're my hero!

Joel Hicks at PCHS: Year by Year

By MASON CLARK
The Patriot

I've had these things saved for a long time. These are statistics about Joel Hicks' career here.

Record by year

1979 9-3, lost to eventual state runner up Patrick Henry
1980 6-4
1981 7-3, District champions
1982 11-1, perfect regular season, District champions, lost to eventual state champ and #1 ranked team in the nation, G.W. Danville
1983 11-2, District champions, region champions, lost to eventual state champion Mount Vernon
1984 10-3, District champions, region champions, lost to eventual state champion and #2 ranked team in nation, T.C. Williams
1985 8-2
1986 9-2
1987 7-4
1988 8-4, district champions
1989 10-1, district champions, perfect regular season

1990 5-5

1991 9-3, district champions, lost to eventual state champion Halifax County, beat #1 ranked team in the state and nationally-ranked Woodbridge in the playoffs

1992 12-2, district champions, region champions, VHSL STATE champions, beat top ten nationally-ranked Thomas Dale in state finals

1993 13-1, district champions, region champions, ranked top 18 in the nation, as high as number ten in the nation

1994 10-2, district champions
1995 8-4, district champions
1996 10-2, district champions
1997 8-3, district champions.
SEVEN STRAIGHT DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS

1998 6-4
1999 5-5

2000 11-2, district champions, region champions, lost to eventual state champion Heritage-Newport News

See RECORDS, page A9

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‘Catching up with Joel Hicks:’ A reprint from 2011

By **MIKE WILLIAMS**
The Patriot

Back in September of 2011, this writer had the honor of interviewing Joel Hicks for a series of articles we called “Catching Up With...”

We reprint it this week to provide some insight into who Joel Hicks was, his thoughts on retirement and Cougar football.

It’s been nearly ten years since Joel Hicks coached the Pulaski County Cougars. But every year, when August rolls around, he still gets that urge to break out the pads and helmets and begin practice for yet another season of high school football.

“Every August I still get that urge to coach, yes sir,” Hicks said. “I even schedule my vacation to go in August. It gets me away from everything. I don’t think an August ever passes that I don’t think about it really. I look back now it’s been almost ten years. It’s just flown by.”

Hicks stepped down from the head coaching job following a 5-5 season in 2002.

The five wins that season gave him 301 for his 36-year career as a head coach in West Virginia and Virginia, with 209 of his victories coming at Pulaski County.

His Cougars won 15 district titles and six regional crowns.

That final 2002 season was exactly 10 years removed from 1992 – arguably the greatest season for Pulaski County football. It was that year Hicks’ Cougars brought home the state championship following a 35-20 win in Richmond over Thomas Dale High School.

“Thinking now,” said Hicks, “I could have coached longer, health-wise. What was happening to me was I was starting to lose sleep. I couldn’t sleep. It was starting to be a stressful thing. I was so competitive. For my health it was probably better that I quit. But there’s no question I miss it (coaching). I could have done it. Sometimes I even get the urge to. I’d like to not do practice, then go out and coach on Friday night,” Hicks said with a laugh.

Returning to coaching actually was a possibility last summer. Head coach and one of Hicks’ former Cougars, Jack Turner, had resigned just weeks before pre-season practice was set to begin. Pulaski County had been hit by Virginia High School League

sanctions, and Cougar football was in a state of disarray.

With so little time left before the start of practice for the 2010 season, the possibility of Hicks’ stepping in to coach the team on an interim basis at least was mentioned.

“Dr. (Robert) Becker (School Superintendent) called me and that was mentioned,” Hicks stated. “But I agreed it would probably be better not to go in that direction. It was very attractive and I appreciated even being considered,” Hicks said.

“If they hadn’t found the right guy I probably would have done it, if it had come down to they needed me to do that. But we (Hicks and Becker) both felt ‘let’s find somebody who’d want to be there and do it,’” Hicks said.

So what’s Hicks’ take on his former players – Turner and present coach Todd Jones – who have taken over the Cougar football program since his retirement?

“They are both great people. They both have Pulaski County at their heart. Todd is a great guy, good for the kids. Pulaski County means more to Jack than anything. I wish them both well,” Hicks said.

Have they consulted with him about football?

“Oh, yeah they’ve both talked to me, but when I walked away I walked away,” said Hicks. “I’ve not watched one minute of practice. Since the day I walked out I’ve not been to one practice. I don’t think you can be hanging around. I don’t think it’s the thing to do. I just think that when you leave you ought to leave. That makes me better friends with them. I don’t want to be where I can second-guess them or look over their shoulders or say something that someone misquotes and hurt their feelings. I wouldn’t do that for the world. When I walked out of there I walked out. I did scout the first year for Jack, but I’m more interested now in how to hit that fairway wood than I am about how to block,” Hicks said with a big smile.

And speaking of the fairway, Hicks has a new passion in retirement. Golf.

“Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays I play golf. That golf has got me. I have discovered golf,” Hicks said with emphasis and a grin.

“I’m not great at it, that’s for sure. We have about 12 guys I play with, sometimes 16 even. We play down at the River Course. It takes four and a half hours to five hours to play a round of golf. I get up, take my dog for a walk, and then hit that



Mike Williams/The Patriot

Joel Hicks in September 2011.

golf course.”

He notes that, even in winter, if the temperature rises above 40 degrees, he’ll be playing golf.

Golf joins another of his favorite past-times – running and marathons.

“On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays I run,” Hicks explained. “I run a lot. I’m still running as much as I ever did,” noting the runs are made – rain or shine.

Each day he runs he has a different routine. Tuesday is speed work, Thursday is a tempo run, while Saturday is a long-distance run.

“Whatever the next race is I’ll kind of run that race on Thursdays,” Hicks explained. “I won’t run as fast a pace as I’m going to try to run it on race day.”

On Saturday, Hicks and a half-dozen other guys will meet at Bisset Park in Radford for distance work.

“We stay in about half-marathon shape and that will be our long distance day. We’ll run a minimum of 10 miles, up to 14. That’s every Saturday,” Hicks said, adding that by staying in half-marathon shape, it takes less time and work to get completely ready to run the upcoming marathon.

“I don’t have to start from rock-bottom,” he said.

Hicks recently competed in mar-

athons in Louisville, Kentucky, Galax and Charleston, W.Va. He set course records in his age group in both the Louisville and Galax runs, although he hesitated to mention the records for fear it sounded like bragging. Hicks doesn’t brag about his accomplishments.

Last Saturday Hicks and the other runners braved heat and humidity in the West Virginia capitol of Charleston for a 15-mile marathon. Hicks finished third in his age group.

“On Friday it was 101-degrees in Charleston. I got up Saturday morning early to run and at 7:30 in the morning it was 75-degrees and 97 percent humidity,” Hicks said. The Charleston run featured a steep hill at the beginning of its course, dubbed “Capitol Punishment Hill.”

“That just about go me. It was brutal,” Hicks said. “It wasn’t as much fun as some of those other races.”

Next on his race schedule is a half-marathon in Beckley, W.Va. around the first of October, and a half-marathon on Oct. 24 in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

“The course there is level and the temperatures are nice. That will be a lot more fun,” Hicks said.

Outside of golf and running, Hicks still teaches. He is one of the many local retired teachers who

commit to working 30 days a year as a substitute teacher in order to keep their insurance.

Hicks likes getting back to school and seeing the teachers, plus it helps fill his winter days.

Aside from golf, running and substitute teaching there is family.

His son T.J. lives and works in Newport Beach, Calif.

“I don’t get to see him as much. He has two little boys. He was 42 before he had any children. I didn’t think he was going to have any,” Hicks said. The two boys are 1- and 2-years-old.

“Amy lives in Charleston, W.Va. where she works for Progressive Insurance. They’re both doing real well,” Hicks said.

And of course there’s his wife, Melinda.

“Melinda is still putting up with me. Bless her heart,” Hicks said.

Hicks has been quoted as saying, “If it hadn’t been for Melinda, I would have probably ended up in a pool hall in Richwood, W.Va.”

Hicks points to the opportunity to coach his son in a state high school all-star game one summer as probably his proudest moment as a football coach.

“I’ve got a lot of good memories. All the district wins and the state championship. But I still go back to that game personally because of my son,” Hicks said.

Which Cougar team was his best?

“We had won the state title (in 1992 vs. Thomas Dale). That next year we had a lot of people back and we went undefeated, but got beat in the state final by Anandale,” Hicks recalled.

“The best team didn’t win the state championship,” he said bluntly. “We got upset in the state championship game, but it was such a miserable day. Minus-40 degrees with the windchill. We had lost (star running back) Eric Webb. We lost him against Indians River the week before.

“We best the best team in the state in Indian River up here,” Hicks said.

“Anandale wasn’t the best team, but on that day they beat us. I just didn’t think there was much football played in that championship game. The wind was blowing so bad. They caught a touchdown pass ... the ball was 20 yards outside the field, but the wind took it right back into that guy’s hands,” Hicks recalled.

That 1993 team lost to Anandale 14-7 and finished the season with a 13-1 record, including a 24-7 win over Indian River.

“That was probably one of my better teams,” Hicks stated.

While he still goes to games, Hicks prefers watching the Cougars play away from Kenneth J.

See HICKS, page A10

Records

Continued from Page A8

2001 12-2 district champions, region champions, lost to state champ Lafayette
2002 5-5

Record against teams he played three times or more:

Patrick Henry 19-5
William Fleming 16-8
Salem 15-8
Franklin County 21-1
Cave Spring 18-4
Northside 13-4
Anacostia DC 15-0
Bluefield-WV 9-5
GW Danville 7-5
EC Glass 4-6
Heritage-Lynchburg 7-2
Petersburg 5-1
Amherst County 4-1
Carroll County 5-0

Alleghany 4-0
Christiansburg 4-0
Hopewell 2-1
Princeton-WV 3-0
Stonewall-Jackson Manassas 3-0
William Byrd 3-0

Nobody ever seemed to get the best of Coach Hicks. Only one team he played 3 times or more had a winning record against him.

He had 301 total wins as a head coach, 210-69 overall record at Pulaski County. Twenty-four seasons, no losing seasons. Ten double-digit win seasons. Fifteen district championships. Six region championships. A state championship. And thousands upon thousands of lives impacted forever.

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Homeless

Continued from Page A1
sanctuary and stage for services on one side, while the other side includes a commercial kitchen, long tables for meals and an area filled with racks of clothes and coats for many of the need who are served by the church.

Construction on the Warming Station portion of the building began on Sept. 3, 2022 and was completed March 4 of this year.

The total expense of the remodeling of the entire building cost a whopping \$144,728.14, according to Barbettini.

Amazingly, donations to the ministry to pay for the remodel totaled \$135,752 – all raised through donations and without the first fundraising event.

“God has put it upon people’s hearts to send money to us,” Barbettini said. “It just amazes me. God is a big God! When we moved over here, we knew God would supply. We didn’t know where the money was coming from, but we knew God would supply. And to not do one fundraiser and see money come from all across the country, it is a blessing.

“To have the opportunity for someone to come in here and get warm ... I don’t know what it would do to me to have that opportunity and not help them, then tomorrow hear that that person had frozen to death ... I don’t think I could get over it. It would be a very hard thing to live with. And I just hope God is glorified through it all,” Barbettini continued.

“We just hope everyone who comes here will feel God’s love and compassion. There are a lot of people who are searching for happiness and don’t know where to find it. Jesus Christ is the only answer. This may be just what they need to get their attention and focus on a better life.”

Barbettini said often people who come to the Warming Station are looking for that one person who will believe in them.

“We’ll believe in them and give them that chance. And when they get off the street, all the people they have been hanging out with can watch them and say, ‘That person did it. I know I can do it.’ A lot of people just need a chance for someone to believe in them. Give them one more opportunity to change their life and turn it around,” he said.

Those seeking shelter at the Warming Station may sign in at the rear of the building from 6 to 8 p.m. They must have an ID and be from Pulaski County. They must not have a temperature or COVID. The Warming Station can house up to six men on site. Up to four women seeking shelter can be served, but they will be housed two-to-a-room at a local motel.

Each person who stays in the Warming Station leaves the next day at 7 a.m.

Guests may stay up to five nights per season and are given a \$10 meal card to Wendy’s, Hardees or McDonald’s each night.

Guests sign in each night on a first-come, first-serve basis.



Mike Williams photos/The Patriot

Pastor Charlie Barbettini displays the living quarters inside the new Warming Station at Take It To The Streets Ministry in Pulaski.

Guests are required to take a shower. They get their meal and clean clothes. In the morning, they get a light breakfast along with snacks like granola bars to take with them along with a hygiene care package.

If they need a coat, they get one. They can also, if needed, get new underclothing, used coats, blue jeans, gloves, sweaters, toboggans, etc.

While staying at the Warming Station, Barbettini said “God’s House Rules” – displayed inside the sleeping area of the station – apply to all staying there.

“It’s been a lot of work. A lot of construction,” Barbettini said. “We wish we could have opened earlier, but at least the weather was warm and probably too warm to have been open some nights anyway.”

“This will meet a lot of needs,” Barbettini told a TV reporter during a tour of the Warming Station earlier this week.

“When you drive through Pulaski, just about every time you see a backpack on someone’s back, very often that means that person is homeless. Not every time, but a large majority of those people are homeless.

“We’ve got people sleeping outside in 20 degrees, 15 degrees, 10 degrees ... at least they can come in and get warm. They can feel God’s love and God’s compassion.

“We’ve got Bibles here they can read, and we have a lot of people who come in and give their heart to Jesus Christ.

“It gives them an opportunity at a new life. A lot of them want a better life, but they just don’t know how to get there.



Warming Station kitchen.



God’s House Rules rule at the Warming Station

Hicks

Continued from Page A9

Dobson Stadium. “It’s still hard for me to go to games. You watch those kids go down those (Dobson Stadium) steps ... oh man, it’s tough,” he said. What does the future hold?

“I’ll die right here in Pulaski County,” Hicks said emphatically. “I’ll run, play golf and just try to enjoy life here – what I have left of it. I’ll just run til the end of the highway.”

Dawg House coming to Dublin

Patriot Staff Report

Tha Dawg House is coming to Dublin!

Mark Hale, owner of Tha Dawg House restaurant in Pulaski and Radford, told The Patriot this week he is expanding to Dublin.

Hale said he will be opening a new Dawg House in Dublin in the fall in the present location of Community Animal Hospital.


Community Animal Hospital is moving from its current Alexander Road, Dublin location near Walmart to the former site of Wade’s on Broad Street (Route 11), Dublin.

Hale said he expects to be open in Dublin by September.

Hale noted he recently closed his Wytheville location over a dispute with the owner of the building where the restaurant had operated.



A shower is mandatory for all those who seek shelter in the Warming Station.



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Lady Cougars in title matchup

Patriot Staff Report

Pulaski County defeated Tuscarora 54-53 Monday night in Christiansburg to advance to the Class 4 state championship game Thursday in Richmond. Their opponent was Hampton in the final.

The game was played at the Stuart C. Siegel Center on the campus of Virginia Commonwealth University, 1200 West Broad Street, in Richmond.

Check www.pcpatriot.com for results of that contest.

Hampton reached the final by defeating last year's champion, King's Fork, 55-49.

In the Lady Cougars' win Monday night over Tuscarora, Keslyn Secrist led PCHS with 20 points, followed by 13 from Hannah Keefer, 9 from Morgan Vest, 6 from Jaden Lawson, 4 from Paige Huff and 2 from Kenzlee Jones.

The ending of the game was tense. After a Secrist bucket, Tuscarora tried a long three-point shot to try and win it. The shot was off, but the shooter was fouled on the play.

The Tuscarora player, however, managed to make only one of the three free-throws to close out the game to give head coach Scott Ratcliff's Lady Cougars the win.

Ticket Spicket to be used in spring sports

Pulaski County High School will continue to use Ticket Spicket as our online athletic ticket sales platform for the 2023 spring sports season. Here is the link for purchasing online tickets to Cougar athletic events, spicket.events/pulaskicountyhs We are excited to continue this option for our spectators which allows ease and convenience for Cougar fans. Don't stand in line, buy your ticket online! Below are a few items to note regarding PCHS athletic ticket-

See SPRING, page B3

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Safe to say, Pulaski County's Hannah Keefer was fouled on this shot during the Lady Cougars' semi-final victory over Tuscarora.

Brian Bishop/The Patriot

William Byron, driver of the #24 RaptorTough.com Chevrolet, and crew celebrate in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series Pennzoil 400 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway on March 05, 2023 in Las Vegas, Nevada. (Photo by Meg Oliphant/Getty Images)

Byron adds name to playoffs, All-Star race lineup with win

From NASCAR

In impressive fashion, Hendrick Motorsports displayed their 1.5-mile package prowess by domi-

nating the NASCAR Cup Series race at Las Vegas Motor Speedway finishing 1-2-3 with drivers William Byron, Kyle Larson and Alex Bowman, respectively. The Hendrick contingent managed to lead a combined 241 of the 271 laps completed (88.9%), with Byron securing the lion's share with 176 laps led out front.

With the big win, Byron is now the third different driver to secure his spot in the NASCAR Cup Series Playoffs and also the NASCAR All-Star Race, which will be held at the newly renovated North Wil-

kesboro Speedway on May 21. Byron joins DAYTONA 500 winner Ricky Stenhouse Jr. and Auto Club Speedway winner Kyle Busch on the series postseason list. The Las Vegas win also jumped Byron up 16 spots in the point standings, he is now ranked 13th.

The victory at Las Vegas was the fifth for William Byron's NASCAR Cup Series career, and the first at the 1.5-mile track located just outside Sin City. Byron will look to keep the momentum going this weekend at Phoenix Raceway,

See RACE, page B4

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PCHS lands spots on boys, girls All-Region teams

All-Region teams for this area have been named for boys and girls basketball.

Pulaski County High School has placed three players on the girls Class 4 All-Region D first team, and head coach Scott Ratcliff has been named Coach of the Year.

Keslyn Secrist, Paige Huff and Hannah Keefer have landed spots on the girls first team.

Louisa County's Sylvie Jackson has been named Player of the Year in the region.

Kyle O'Neal is the lone Cougar boy to gain an all-region spot for the Cougar boys, having been named to the second team.

Omaundre Harris of E.C. Glass is Player of the Year for the boys, while Glass head coach D.J. Best is Coach of the Year.

Hokies' ACC Tourney run ends vs. NCSU

Virginia Tech falls 97-77 to N.C. State Wednesday night to end the Hokies' run in the ACC men's basketball tournament.

The loss drops the Hokies' record to 19-14 overall and likely finishes off any hopes they had for a bid to the NCAA men's basketball tournament.

Tech will now wait until Sunday night to learn if it will receive a bid to the National Invitational Tournament.

Hokiesports.com
GREENSBORO, N.C. – Virginia Tech fell in the second round of the ACC Tournament on Wednesday with a 97-77 defeat to sixth-seeded NC State.

Virginia Tech struggled to get shots in the first half, as NC State shot 63.6% from the field and 53.8% from beyond the arc. Terquavion Smith led all scorers heading into the break with 19 points. Along with Tech's defensive struggles, the Hokies couldn't get much going on the other end of the floor – shooting 32.0% from the floor and 1-8 from deep.

NC State closed the first half on a 17-2 run.

The Hokies picked up the pace on offense in the second half, shooting 62.1% in the second frame. However, NC State's hot hand continued, as well, and the Wolfpack secured a 97-77 victory.

Virginia Tech's Rodney Rice led the way in scoring with a career-high 17 points.

How It Happened
Virginia Tech struggled out of the gate, falling behind 53-26 heading into halftime.

Virginia Tech narrowed its deficit to 89-65 before going on a 5-0 run, finished off by Rice's three, to shrink the deficit to 89-70 with 3:47 to go in the contest. NC State responded and outscored the Hokies the rest of the way, ending the game with a final score of 97-77. Virginia Tech shot well from three-point range in the half, hitting eight shots from deep to score 24 of its 51 points.

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<https://pcradford.org>

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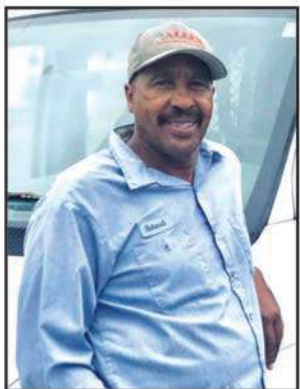
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Spring

Continued from Page B1

ets as well as resources to help fans navigate on-line ticket purchases. PCHS will continue to sell tickets at the gate for those that prefer cash sales.

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Season Passes aren't redeemable at District, Region or State Tournament Games

--

Scott Vest

Athletic & Activities Director

Pulaski County High School

LEGAL NOTICE



Virginia Department of Transportation

Route 11 (Lee Highway) And Route 114 (Peppers Ferry Road) Intersection Improvements Pulaski County

Find out about a project to improve the intersection of Route 11 (Lee Highway) and Route 114 (Peppers Ferry Road) in the Fairlawn area of Pulaski County.

The project entails adding a second left turn lane to create a dual left from northbound Route 11 onto eastbound Route 114 and extending the right turn lane from southbound Route 11 onto eastbound Route 114. In addition, the project includes constructing approximately 1,800 linear feet of sidewalk along the northbound lane of Route 11 and adding crosswalks and pedestrian signals at the intersection.

Review the project information and National Environmental Policy Act document in the form of a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion at VDOT's Salem District Office located at 731 Harrison Avenue in Salem, 540-387-5353 1-800-FOR-ROAD, or TTY/TDD 711. Please call ahead to ensure the availability of appropriate personnel to answer your questions.

If your concerns cannot be satisfied, VDOT is willing to hold a public hearing. You may request that a public hearing be held by sending a written request to Mr. Tim Dowdy, Virginia Department of Transportation, 731 Harrison Avenue, Salem, VA 24153, on or prior to **March 16, 2023**. If a request for a public hearing is received, notice of date, time and place of the hearing will be posted.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you have questions or concerns about your civil rights in regards to this project or need special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Tim Dowdy at the phone numbers listed above.

UPC: 120758
State Project: 0011-077-792, M501
Federal Project: NHPP-077-2(336)
From: 0.13 mile north of the Route 11 and Route 114 intersection
To: 0.332 mile south of the intersection

JOBS IN PULASKI COUNTY



Come Join The Pulaski County Team! Tourism Director

Pulaski County is searching for an energetic, resourceful, experienced Tourism Director who enjoys working in an entrepreneurial and growth-oriented environment. This position is responsible for promoting tourism and devising tourist development initiatives and campaigns with the specific intention of generating and increasing revenue for Pulaski County and its businesses. This position prepares tourist and visitor information as well as promotional materials and displays for various events and meetings. A full job description is located at www.pulaskicounty.org.

Applicant must possess a Bachelor's Degree with studies focused in travel, tourism, leisure, business studies, marketing management and journalism. At least five years of tourism/hospitality experience is required as well as excellent marketing and communication skills. Selected applicant must undergo alcohol and drug testing requirements. The salary scale for this position is \$59,100 - \$82,519 and is commensurate upon education and experience.

Interested individuals may apply at the appropriate Virginia Employment Commission Office or may download and submit an application from www.pulaskicounty.org to Tammy Nichols, Human Resources Director, at tnichols@pulaskicounty.org.

Position is open until filled.

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LEGAL NOTICE

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Commonwealth of Virginia
VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104
Case No. CL22000063-00
Pulaski County Circuit Court
45 Third Street, NW, Ste. 101, Pulaski, VA 24301

SCYLENEA ALLEY V. EDWARD KEITH WADE

The object of this suit is: PERSONAL INJURY

It is ORDERED that EDWARD KEITH WADE appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before APRIL 7, 2023.

FEBRUARY 16, 2023

Maetta Crewe, Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE



Pulaski Town Council Public Hearing

The Town Council of the Town of Pulaski, Virginia will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Pulaski Municipal Building, 42 First Street, NW to consider the following:

1. A request from Shah Development for a Special Exception for property located at 2460 Lee Highway [tax parcel(s) 063-25-25A] in the R-1, Single Family Residential District, for "Hospital or Health Center."

All persons desiring to comment on the proposed requests should submit their remarks to Mike Haskins, Economic Development Manager, by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, to 42 First Street, NW/PO Box 660, Pulaski, VA or via email to mhaskins@pulaskitown.org. A copy of the application and other pertinent materials are available for public review in the Economic Developer's office, Pulaski Municipal Building, 42 First Street, NW from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For disabled individuals who may require special auxiliary aids or services, reasonable accommodations will be made by the Town upon request. Please contact the Town Manager's Office at (540) 994-8600 prior to the above meeting date. For persons with hearing or visual difficulties, contact Virginia Relay at 711 to arrange contact with the Town.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

On or subsequent to April 11, 2023, proceedings will be commenced under authority of §§58.1-3965 et seq. of the Code of Virginia to sell the following real properties for non-payment of Pulaski County real estate taxes:

Title owner(s) of record	Address or Location	Tax map/parcel number(s)	Tax account number(s)
PULASKI PROPERTIES, LLC	155.77± acres off Memorial Drive Peppers Ferry Road, Lee Highway, Pulaski	063-42-1	1739
DUBLIN LAND, L.C., f/k/a DUBLIN PROPERTIES, L.C.	30.82± acres, Lee Highway, Dublin	037-1-33	20284
ROCKAFORD, LLC	5570 Cougar Trail Road, Dublin	055-1-20	23192
ARPDIP, LLC	4861 Cleburne Blvd., Dublin	056-1-76	4058
PANUCO PROPERTIES, LLC	1900 Memorial Drive, Pulaski	072-146-2-4 & 5	13606 & 13605
SACKETTS, INC.	Lot 5, Deertrot Road	066-14-5	8347

The respective title owners of the above-identified real properties may redeem their property at any time before the date of sale by paying all accumulated taxes, penalties, interest, and costs owed against same, including the costs of publication. However, if the delinquent taxes, penalties, interest, and costs are not paid prior to filing of suit, then the property owner(s) will be further liable for litigation costs and attorney's fees incurred.

Melinda L. Worrell, Treasurer of Pulaski County

Wythe arena to host IBRA event

By Donald Trausneck
Special to The Patriot

Billingsway Arena in Wythe County will host a special competition for the International Barrel Racing Association Saturday, March 11.

This is not part of the regular schedule for the Crockett arena. The regular season will begin April 21.

Exhibitions for the coming IBRA event will be held from 10 a.m. to 12:30 Saturday and the show is scheduled for 1 p.m. Events to be contested include 3D open poles, 3D youth poles, pee wee barrels, open IBRA 4D barrels, youth IBRA 3D barrels, adult IBRA 3D barrels and Masters' IBRA 3D barrels.

Billingsway will hold 15 rodeos in its monthly series: April 21-22, May 19-20, June 16-17, July 14-15, August 18-19, September 15-16, and the Finals, October 20-22.

The arena is located at 670 Cinnamon Run (SR652), near Crockett, approximately seven miles northeast of Speedwell off VA21.



Kylie Billings of Wytheville is one of the top young riders in the monthly rodeo series at Billingsway Arena, which will begin a new season April 21.

Photo by Donald Trausneck

City of Refuge Pulaski receives 48,000 lbs. of food from church

City of Refuge Pulaski received 48,000 pounds of food from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. This is the first donation from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints to COR and it's largest donation to date.

The donated items include canned beans, soups, pasta, and other non-perishable products. This donation will assist the City of Refuge Pulaski Food Bank due to the increased number of food insecure people in our community due to food shortage and increasing food cost. A donation of this size is equivalent to approximately 35,000 meals to those in need.

"This donation is particularly timely," said Joe Blankenship, director of City of Refuge Pulaski. "We are nearing crisis-shortages of food to help feed the local county's food insecure who are unable to adequately feed their families. No one deserves to be hungry. We are very grateful for this large scale

donation from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints." Jill Hellstrom and the local Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints initiated this donation, in which we are particularly thankful."

Joe Blankenship started non-profit called the Rock Youth Center in 2006, which focused on the youth of Pulaski County and in 2019 the non-profit name was changed to City of Refuge Pulaski, which is an affiliate of City of Refuge Atlanta under the founder Bruce Deel. City of Refuge Pulaski's mission is to Bring Light, Hope and Transformation to Pulaski County. COR served over 15,500 individuals and over 6,500 families in 2022.

City of refuge Pulaski is a faith based organization that helps individuals and families transition out of crisis. We are located at 2:49 Dora highway Pulaski, Virginia.

Contact us at www.cityofrefugepc.org, 540-629-1030.

Race

Continued from Page B1

the track that will play host to the Championship Race later this season. Byron has made 10 career starts at Phoenix, posting five top-five finishes. His average finish at the 1-mile track is 13.0.

Trackhouse Racing looks strong early, both teams in series points top five

Through three races of the 2023 NASCAR Cup Series season, Trackhouse Racing drivers Ross Chastain and Daniel Suárez have been putting up some impressive performances and as a result both are ranked inside the top five in the NASCAR Cup Series driver points standings for the second consecutive week – the first season the organization has had both drivers ranked within the top five in points.

Following Las Vegas, Ross Chastain leads the NASCAR Cup Series points standings by a mere three points over second place Alex Bowman and 21 points up on third place Kevin Harvick. Chastain's teammate Daniel Suárez is currently ranked fourth in the series standings, only 25 points back from

Chastain in the series lead. Suárez is the one of only two drivers to score top-10 finishes in all three races this season – Alex Bowman is the only other driver to accomplish the feat.

Looking ahead to Phoenix, expect the Trackhouse Racing success to continue. In this race last season at Phoenix, Chastain finished runner-up to race winner Chase Briscoe and Suárez finished in the top-10 (ninth).

Chastain has made nine series starts at Phoenix Raceway posting two top-five finishes. His average finish at the 1-mile track is an 18.5.

Suárez has made 12 series starts at Phoenix, and the Monterrey, Mexico native has put up three top-10 finishes.

Chase Elliott sidelined with broken leg, Josh Berry to pilot the No. 9 at Phoenix

Blazoned across nearly all of the motorsports' media outlet websites this last week was the news of Hendrick Motorsports driver Chase Elliott being sidelined after breaking his left tibia in a snowboarding accident. As a result, JR Motorsports'

driver Josh Berry was tapped to pilot the No. 9 Chevrolet at Las Vegas, and after crew chief Alan Gustafson and the No. 9 crew worked feverishly to set the car up for Sunday. Berry finished 29th in his series debut. Now, with Chase Elliott's length of absence looking to be nearly six weeks, Berry will have another shot at jumping behind the wheel of the No. 9 this weekend at Phoenix Raceway and all oval events Elliott might miss. IMSA WeatherTech Sports Car star Jordan Taylor will drive the No. 9 at Circuit of The Americas.

"We're focused on getting Chase back to 100%, so we'll take however much time is necessary and make sure he has the best resources available," said Rick Hendrick, owner of Hendrick Motorsports. "Josh was impressive this weekend under difficult circumstances, and we look forward to having him drive the oval tracks until Chase is able to return. Jordan is a world-class road racer and has recently been working with our Garage 56 team preparing for the 24 Hours of Le Mans. He'll be able to step in and do a great job."

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SATURDAY
6am - 4pm

Water lines, traffic, fire engines, firing range on council agenda

By MIKE WILLIAMS
The Patriot

Help could be on the way for the Town of Pulaski's aging water lines, town council learned Tuesday.

Council also heard of improvements to the town's firing range, new cost figures for a fire engine and an update on the West Main Street water project and Down-

Nation

Continued from Page A7

Herodotus, Thucydides, and Plato. He is credited as the Father of the Constitution and was our country's fourth President.

Cotton Mather entered Harvard at the age of 11 and graduated at the age of 15. This Puritan clergyman devoted the rest of his life to scholarship, education of others and the writing of books, of which he produced some 382.

Samuel Adams entered Harvard at age 14. He was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, the first to propose a Continental Congress, helped write the Articles of Confederation in 1777 and opposed ratifying the Constitution until the Bill of Rights was added.

John Adams enrolled in Harvard as an advanced student, completed his studies in two years then went on to earn a law degree. Adams was a writer of the Declaration of Independence and the second U.S. President.

Benjamin Rush graduated from Princeton at age 14. He was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, founder of Dickinson College and in 1787, helped found the College of Physicians. He proposed a national system of

town traffic.

At Tuesday's meeting of Town Council, it was learned there is a possibility that federal dollars could be acquired to pay for replacement of some of the town's nearly 100-year-old water lines.

Town Manager Darlene Burcham told council the town had received correspondence last week from Ninth District Rep. Morgan Griffith's office that indicated the

public education and was Surgeon General during the Revolutionary War.

Pretty impressive, right? While searching for what 5th graders are learning in school today, I found the following quiz questions: Name the four main characters from the cartoon series, 'Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.' Which is the highest mountain in Africa? What galaxy is the Earth located in? (not even good grammar!) How many years are in a millennium? What is the biggest bone in your body?

It doesn't take much to see the difference between a classical education that produced some of the most brilliant people in history and our modern education that ranks the U.S. at 38th out of 71 countries in math, and 24 out of 71 countries in science and reading.

Do our students need to be proficient in Latin and Greek? Maybe not. But in my opinion, what they do need is the Biblical foundation that was inculcated in every facet of our early educational system. I agree with what the great Noah Webster said, "Education is useless without the Bible."

possibility of communities applying to the House Appropriations Committee for some special community funding. Burcham said there is a short timeline on the application, which is due in Washington by March 20.

"We are scrambling to put together what we hope is a very effective application to seek money for replacement of some of our major water lines. I think everybody's familiar with the fact that our water system is 100 plus years old, and we have a number of areas that are sorely in need of a total replacement and that repair is not the practical solution," Burcham told council.

Burcham added the representative from Rep. Griffith's office indicated that the more letters of support for the application the town can get from the community, the more attractive the town's application would be.

"Right now, we're still working on what the amount of funding would be that we're going to ask for. Think all of you are well aware of the condition of our water system, and all of the times citizens are complaining 'can't we spend more money on replacing waterlines.' This is an opportunity to do that on some other taxpayers' money," she said.

Burcham said the town would be contacting groups and individuals in hopes they will write letters of

support for the town's application.

Burcham said no dollar figure for the amount of money that might be received has been given, but she said Griffith's representative feels the age of the town's water system and evidence that repairs are needed should make the town's application a good candidate for approval.

He advised Burcham that a resolution from council to apply for the federal funding would aid the town's application.

Council unanimously approved such a resolution to apply for the funding.

Burcham updated council on the West Main Street water line project and ever-changing traffic patterns downtown.

She reported that every day, more and more people are adhering to the stop signs on Third Street and Washington Avenue.

"The first couple of days, people were obviously running them, but I think people are getting the hang of it and are able to actually move through the intersection faster than when there were traffic lights because you had to wait for the lights to change, and I've actually had that feedback from some folks," Burcham said.

"We will be, at some point in the near future, opening up the opposite lane - traveling from west to east on Third Street. But in order to do that, we will need to have

someone come in and do striping of the street, which we will carry all the way through in front of the County Administration Building so that we have a uniform pattern there. We will announce probably a week to two weeks in advance when that move is made.

"But we think that the way the traffic is flowing now, it's going very, very well," Burcham said.

On the water line project, she reported, "All of the lateral water lines that we talked about - three on each side - in order to get sprinkler capacity to both sides of the street have been installed. So, they are now available for connections if and when a business wants to add that."

She said work crews are in the process of installing the individual connections to the new water main to the actual individual properties. During that process, she said, property owners are being asked if they wanted additional water meters added for future development.

"This would be the time to do it so you wouldn't have to tear up the street or the sidewalks further. We have gotten about four additional meters requested and they're being put in."

She noted that plans are in for projects at 67, 69 and 73 West Main Street. The plans call for putting in eight apartments and

See COUNCIL, page B10



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PET OF THE WEEK



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Teach Me Your Word O Lord

Terry McCraw

God of Judgment and Mercy

We have another good bible lesson before us today entitled, God of Judgment and Mercy. The Scripture Text comes from the book of the Prophet Joel. We'll start with Joel 1:1.

Joel was one of the 12 minor prophets. The minor prophets are the prophets whose writings are not as lengthy as the writings of the Major Prophets. There are 12 Minor Prophets and 4 Major Prophets in the Old Testament. Actually there are 17 Books in the Prophetic section of the Old Testament because Jeremiah wrote 2 books, Jeremiah and Lamentations.

Actually we know very little about the prophet Joel. We only know that he was the son of Peth-uel. Nothing else is told about him. Most believe that he may have lived around the same time as Hosea the prophet.

Joel was most likely the first of the great Prophets to speak the message of God to Judah, the southern kingdom of Israel.

The book only has 3 chapters, but it is considered to be a literary Jewel. The most familiar portion of the book of Joel is his prophecy about the outpouring of the Holy Ghost which happened on the day of Pentecost.

Let's begin our reading with Joel 1:1. "The word of the Lord that came to Joel the son of Pethuel. (Peth-uel) Here this, ye old men, and give ear, all ye inhabitants of the land. Hath this been in your days, or even in the days of your fathers? Tell ye your children of it, and let your children tell their children and their children another generation. That which the palmerworm hath left hath the locust eaten; and that which the locust hath left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left, hath the caterpillar eaten."

Joel, called and anointed by God to be a Prophet to Judah here warns the people of a tragic occurrence that God was about to allow to come upon Judah because of her whoredoms. Her spiritual adultery with idol gods.

There was coming, Joel warned, upon the land of Judah, a devastating locust attack on all of the crops of the land. Some locust swarms have so many locusts in them they turn the sky black as they fly over the land. The number of locusts in some swarms have been estimated as being up in the millions. They devour any and all vegetation when they swarm.

Joel here described four sets of Locusts. Locusts are short horned, winged grasshoppers. The Palmerworm can best be described as a type of a Caterpillar-like Locust. A Cankerworm is more like a moth that also devours greenery. A Caterpillar is a voracious feeder and is possibly the worse of the lot for agricultural damage.

Joel addressed the results of the devastating, destructive attack of these four sets of Locusts, will be devastating to the agriculture of the land. These attacks will affect both man and beast who depends on crops for survival. And will caused a famine in the land.

He asks the older generation if they had ever seen anything like a great attack of locusts before of if they have ever heard their ancestors speak of such a devastating attack before? They would eat the fruit of the trees and vines, the leaves and even the stems. They would eat the corn down to the shucks and they would even eat the shocks, and the shucks.

Joel wanted everyone to know that this wasn't just going to happen by accident. It was to be part of a judgment from God.

Church Directory

Draper Valley Baptist Church

3200 Lee Highway
Draper, Va. 24324
Pastor: Alan Pearce
Service Times:
Bible Study Sunday, 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening, 5 p.m.
email: drapervalleybc@gmail.com
www.drapervalleybaptist.org

Grace Baptist Church

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

Open Door Baptist Church

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

Draper United Methodist Church

3080 Greenbriar Road
Draper, VA 24324
Pastor: Rev. Jason Crandall
423-716-2570
Primary Service Times:
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Worship, 11 a.m.
Phone: 276-477-3835

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 Slaughter,
Walter Gueste, Derick Burton
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Hispanic Ministry Service- Sunday 6 p.m.
Wednesday School 7 p.m.
www.vhmdublin.org
540-674-4729

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/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.
"Inspiring hope, helping people grow their
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)

McCraw

Continued from Page B6

The God Who had protected them and prospered them before, was going to allow this to happen to them because the people had turned away from God to idolatry and didn't show God proper love, respect and exclusive worship.

The excessive heat and drought that accompanied this invasion would leave the herd and flocks without water and therefore about to perish.

And Joel was a true prophets for it happened exactly like he said it would. A great swarm of 4 different kinds of locusts descended upon the land and utterly devoured every green thing in sight.

It was a time of great mourning. Joel 18, 9 and 15. "Lament like a virgin girded with sackcloth for the husband of her youth. The meat offering and the drink offering is cut off from the house of the Lord. The Priests, the Lord's Ministers mourn. The field is wasted, the new wine is dried up; the oil languishes."

There was no wine in the land. The fig trees were stripped bare. The Olive Trees had been picked clean and there was no oil. The pomegranate and the palm trees and the apple trees were destroyed.

The misery and the mourning of the people was likened unto the misery and mourning of a virgin who was about to be married and her husband had been taken away from her by an untimely death.

Joel was sending a wake-up call to the people. This plague was allowed to happen to them by God because God was grieved over their spiritual infidelity towards Him.

To Be Continued.

Bible Trivia

1. Is the book of Athens (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. In 2 Kings, which prophet's word caused Syrian soldiers to be struck blind? Gad, Jubal, Solomon, Elisha

3. Where were Saul and Jonathan's bodies nailed to a wall? Troas, Nob, Beth-shan, Sychar

4. On fleeing from Jezebel, which prophet hid in a cave? Elijah, Nathan, Daniel, Amos

5. Which converts burned their books of magic? Philistines, Ephesians, Hittites, Canaanites

6. In which book is the phrase, "Holier than thou"? 1 Kings, Ezra, Amos, Isaiah

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Elisha, 3) Beth-shan, 4) Elijah, 5) Ephesians, 6) Isaiah 65:5

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.

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Alpha & Omega Pentecostal Spanish service
10:45 am
Sunday Evening Worship 6 pm

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

New Hope Church
3050 Lee Highway
Pulaski, VA 24301 (540) 980-5506
(Mon. - Fri., 9 a.m.-1 p.m.)
Pastor Randy Lawrence Jr.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Evenings 7 pm
THRIVE Teen Class
Children's Special Activity Classes
Adults: Worship/Prayer Services

Hilltop Pentecostal Holiness Church
4892 Veterans Hill Road
Pulaski, VA
Pastor Todd Garwood
(540) 250-3741
ttgarwood674@gmail.com

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

New Dublin Presbyterian Church
5331 New Dublin Church Road
Dublin, VA 24084
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Worship: 11 a.m.
Phone: 540-674-6147
www.newdublin.org

Aldersgate United Methodist
1946 Medallion Drive
Pulaski, VA 24301
(540) 980-1349
Pastor Jim Goddard
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Preaching: 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening: 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7:30 p.m.
FUNDAMENTAL

First Dublin Presbyterian Church (ECO)
409 Church Street, Dublin, Va. 24084
P.O. Box 2027, Dublin, Va. 24084
first-dublin-presbyterian-church-eco.com
Pastor:
Mary Ann Armbrister
Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m.

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 25:1-2

In you, **LORD**, my **God**, I put my **trust**. I trust in **you**; do **not let** me be **put** to **shame**, **nor** let my **enemies triumph over** me.

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O P P O A A J V T E
H U X G Q H Z L G S
T V X T T S M Y O U

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

WWW.SEARCHING-FOR-JESUS.COM

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BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Answers

C L O S R N O H S L
T X N O N V P N O T
E M N T E J L H B R
N T O R R J E O I H
E R F S E I G P R B
M U D T E I U D V D
I S E S M O D M N E
E T V L A A O P P O
S G J S H Q G X U H
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God intends for us to have victory over sin

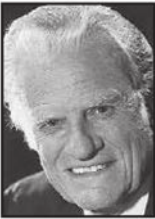
From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: I'm despondent over my continual sin even though I have given my heart to Jesus Christ. My pastor says I must abandon my friends in order to have victory over sin that pulls me into doing things I should no longer do. They don't mind my new faith as long as it doesn't change our good times together. Why should I turn away from them? — C.C.

A: Millions of people shift from one side to another like unguided

missiles wanting desperately to be accepted and "fit in." Peer pressure leads people to stray from God's Word, and Christians must learn to stand alone. God often gives us an inner conviction to confirm which way He wants us to go, and we should thank Him for the Holy Spirit's power in our lives.

God intends for us to have victory over sin, and when we don't, it's not because God's power has failed. By His Holy Spirit, He is able to give us the power to live just as good a life as Paul or Timothy lived. However, we need



My
Answer

Billy Graham

to do our part and, by prayer, appropriate the Holy Spirit's power. We also need to flee these things that God has labeled wrong. We need to flee pride — that tendency to think of ourselves more highly than we ought — and instead live with humility. We

need to flee envy and jealousy. We need to avoid causing strife, and the anger, bad tempers, irritability, and self-centeredness that prompt it. We need to avoid abusive language and instead develop a Spirit-controlled tongue. We are also to flee lust, the love of money, and evil thoughts.

We must not depend on ourselves to fight sin. Without the work of the Holy Spirit in believers' hearts, we cannot pursue the things of the Spirit as we ought. (This column is based on the words and writings of the late Rev. Billy Graham.)



The Patriot

Sometimes Helping Means More Than Just Giving

Dear Dave,

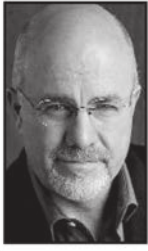
How do you handle a situation where someone needs financial help, but has misspent money you've given them in the past? My wife and I have been trying to help a young man we recently met. He told us he was trying to get his life together after a divorce and job loss, and he just needed a little money for groceries and household items. He has asked us a couple of times since for more money, but we discovered he was buying alcohol with most of the cash we gave him. We learned from friends what he said about losing his job and being divorced was true, but we are unsure what to do next.

Andrew

Dear Andrew,

This young man's problem sounds as much like a mismanagement of money as it is a lack of money. He seems to have an issue with lying, and possibly an addiction problem, too.

I've never been against helping people who have good hearts and just need a break. But if someone is bold enough to ask for your money, you have every right to attach requirements to the help you give—especially when it's for their own good. If he really needs food or household things, you can



Dave Says

Dave Ramsey

just buy them for him. At least that way, you'd know you were providing necessities.

But in many cases, truly helping someone is a lot more work than just giving them money. Sometimes, you have to get down in their mess, get real with them and walk with them. If you haven't been put off by what has already happened, and you still really want to help, I'd suggest getting to know this young man and his situation a little better. Be straight with him, and let him know you've learned he hasn't been honest with you in the past. Hopefully, as a result he'll apologize and start making better choices. If he does, you might even offer to arrange for him to talk to a good pastor or counselor.

This whole situation is much bigger than helping someone with a little cash. This guy needs someone who cares enough to help him get his life back together.

— Dave

Spotsylvania man arrested in Wythe County

From Wythe County Sheriff's Office

On March 8, 2023, a Wythe County deputy was on patrol on Kimberlin Road in Rural Retreat when he noticed a blue Chevrolet Camaro stopped in the road. The deputy pulled up and spoke to a male that stated he was just making sure he didn't have a flat tire.

The male quickly got into the car. The deputy noticed a female lying on the road (passenger side) from where the male was walking. The deputy turned on his blue lights and a pursuit began.

The deputy sent other units to check on the female.

Deputies pursued the vehicle into Smyth County on West Lee Highway. The vehicle began driving recklessly passing cars in no-passing zones so deputies tried to trail the vehicle at a safe distance.

The vehicle got onto Interstate 81 northbound and Wythe County Public Schools were notified. In conjunction with School Resource Officers and WCPS, some schools were placed on a modified lockdown.

The vehicle made a sudden exit onto Interstate 77 and then Exit 41 and came into the town of Wytheville. The Wythe County

Sheriff's Office notified the Virginia State Police and Wytheville Police Department for assistance.

The vehicle was located by officers from the Wytheville Police Department and pursued until the driver parked his car behind Derm One on Peppers Ferry Road. The driver ran across the street taking off his sweatshirt trying to elude officers. He ran into Walgreens Pharmacy where he was taken into custody by multiple officers without incident.

He was identified as Joshua Tait Melvin, 5164 Dickerson Road, Partlow, VA (Date of Birth, April 15, 1984). He was wanted on warrants from pursuits in Spotsylvania and Frederick Counties. He was also wanted for capias in Stafford and Spotsylvania counties. He had a warrant issued for his arrest for assault and battery in Spotsylvania as well. He was wanted for 12 outstanding warrants.

Melvin was charged with 12 warrants by the Wythe Co. Sheriff's Office and the Wytheville Police.

He is currently being held on 24 charges without bond at the New River Regional Jail.

The female from the incident stated they were arguing about his driving so she jumped out of the car and that's when a deputy drove up.

Council

Continued from Page B5

three retail spaces.

Burcham has passed on information on the plans to Mike Haskins, the town's new economic development person who she said is very eager for new businesses to come to the downtown.

"I would say we're still on schedule" on the water line project, Burcham said.

"We do plan to have at your next meeting the designs for the streetscape for you all to see," Burcham told council.

Burcham reminded council that back in January it had given her permission to place an order for a new fire engine, which would take over two years to be delivered.

The estimate for the new engine at that time was \$900,000. She told council Tuesday the price has gone up to \$998,000.

Burcham said she would place the order Wednesday before the price goes up anymore.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

March 14

Sons of Confederate Veterans

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet on Tuesday, March 14, 7pm at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant at 3204 Riner Road. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to this meeting. If Montgomery County Public Schools are closed on Tuesday or Wednesday of this week due to weather, the meeting is cancelled. For further information, please call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

March 15

Bereavement Group

The Pulaski Co. Senior Center is hosting its monthly Bereavement Group on March 15th from 3pm till 4pm. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one please feel free to come and join us. Caring and kind professionals will be on hand to listen and help with coping skills. The sessions are free. All ages are welcome to join in.

Community Lenten Service & Lunch

During the season of Lent, special mid-week services are being offered, rotating through five host congregations. Join us on Wednesdays at 12:00 pm for the service, followed by a simple soup lunch. The schedule for the services is: March 15 - First United Methodist, March 22 - Dublin United Methodist, March 29 - First Christian Church

No Agenda Social

The Pulaski Democrat's next No Agenda Social will be 11:30 AM, Wednesday, March 15 at Compadres Mexican Restaurant. Come and join the party. If you need information, contact Susan Trulove at trulovesusan@gmail.com.

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something the town could take a look at once improvements are completed.

Burcham reported the town has filled the building official vacancy. Tim Hale is in that position part time this month, but will go full time in April.

In the meantime, Tim Nester – a retired building official from Radford – is helping to get Hale acclimated, Burcham said.

She also touched on rumors of her departure from the town that have been mentioned on Facebook.

"I do want to just mention that contrary to what people post on Facebook about me or about the town, a lot of it's not true. And I'm still here today and I plan to continue to be here at least until my contract ends," Burcham said.

PULSE

March 16

Radford Photo Club

The next meeting of the Radford Photo Club is Thursday, March 16, at 6 p.m. at the Radford Public Library. The program is the final session on Street Photography led by Adi Ben Senior. The February session included an assignment to take 50 black and white photos at three locations and narrow the shots to three to present to the class. The agenda will also include discussion of upcoming shows and other future events. The photo challenge for March is Street Photography. 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. If you have questions, email Lucy Gilmore at lucyg.gilmore@gmail.com or mborgarelli@gmail.com

March 17

Open Mic Night

The Denny Bryant Open Mic Night, March 17 at 6:30 p.m. at Woodlawn P.H. Church, 3874 Oak Grove Road. If you're interested in participating, contact Jacob at 276-733-2678.

March 24

Community Singing

Mt. View United Methodist Church, 6648 Wilderness Rd, Dublin, VA, will host a community singing on Friday, March 24. There will be a social time with refreshments at 6:30. The singing will begin at 7. Choirs from Dublin United Methodist, Thornsprng United Methodist, as well as Mt. View United Methodist will be singing. Also, several soloists will perform. Everyone is invited to attend this great night of music.

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.

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.

NRCC Concert Series to hold free concert on March 11

The music of Adam McPeak & Mountain Thunder and Blue Ridge Girls will be featured during New River Community College's Concert Series event on Sat., March 11, 2023. Music will begin at 6 p.m. in 117 Edwards Hall at NRCC in Dublin.

The band Adam McPeak & Mountain Thunder is composed primarily of young bluegrass musicians from Virginia, with mandolin player Adam at the helm. The band includes Mike McPeak, Adam's father, who plays guitar and sings lead and harmony vocals; Nikki Wright who plays fiddle and sings lead and harmony vocals; David Chrisley who plays bass and sings harmony vocals; and Steve Chrisley, David's father, who plays banjo. The group began playing at fiddler's conventions and then went on to play their own shows and participate in competitions. They placed 9th and 10th at Society for the Preservation of Bluegrass Music in America National Band Championship events in Nashville. They have also appeared on public television's "Song of the Mountains."

The Blue Ridge Girls, like their name, invoke a picturesque simplicity with their take on traditional mountain music. The trio features Martha Spencer, Jamie Collins, and Brett Morris and features a variety of old time, bluegrass and

country songs, flatfooting to fiddle and banjo tunes, original songwriting, and unique takes on other familiar crowd-pleasers. All three women grew up in musical families and are working to preserve and promote the Blue Ridge's rich musical heritage. The Blue Ridge Girls traveled to historic Muscle Shoals, Alabama during the summer of 2021 to record their first album.

Corporate sponsors of the jambores 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 County 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.

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