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School board hears about budget, attendance, discipline

By WILLIAM PAINE
Patriot Publishing

The Pulaski County School Board recently heard an early analysis on the 2024-25 school budget. They also heard that both attendance and discipline are improving.

Finance Director Morgan Sklar provided the budget analysis based on the Governor's proposed budget for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Sklar began with revenue aspect of the budget saying that the school systems projected Average Daily Membership (ADM), which refers to the number of students attending school daily, is 4,172. This



translates into \$40,515,892 in state funding for PCPS. Pulaski County gives \$16,580,454 to the school system annually, while Federal funding adds \$6,011,067 to the school system's revenue stream.

Miscellaneous local revenues of \$817,037 (refunds and

recoveries, tuition payments, local grants, etc.), brings the PCPS total estimated revenue budget to \$63,924,449.

After years of decline, the Average Daily Membership in county schools increased this past year. This is a result of an influx in students taking courses online through the Stride K-12 Virtual Academy, which PCPS makes available to students all over the Commonwealth. The projected revenue from the increase in ADM related to the Stride Virtual Academy is \$4,724,366, which works out to 5.5 percent in additional revenue for the school system.

On the expenditure side, See SCHOOLS, page A10

Statewide 4 p.m. burning law now in effect through April 30

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA – The Virginia Department of Forestry (DOF) joins fire departments across Virginia to announce spring fire season and raise awareness of the statewide burning law, in effect from Feb. 15 through April 30. The law prohibits outdoor burning before 4 p.m. when the fire is within 300 feet of the woods or dry grass.

Violation of the burning law is a Class-3 misdemeanor and punishable with a fine up to \$500. Those who allow a fire to escape may be liable for suppression costs and any resulting property damage.

The burning law applies to all open-air fires such as debris burning, campfires and charcoal grills like those found in park settings. This law does not apply to charcoal or gas-fired barbecue grills. Some exceptions to the law are made for campfires at Virginia State Parks. To learn more about Virginia's 4 p.m. burning law and fire prevention, visit DOF's website <https://dof.virginia.gov/wildland-prescribed-fire/fire-laws/4-pm-burning-law/>.

"Last fall, Virginia experienced extreme fire activity that provided a stark reminder of

See DEATHS, page A2

Pulaski County Christmas Store in search of new home for 2024

By DANIELLE REID
Patriot Publishing

Although tradition has us celebrating Christmas in December, some of Santa's Elves work year-round to ensure that the children of Pulaski County have a reason to celebrate.

The nine board members and numerous volunteers of the Pulaski County Christmas Store, a local 501-c3 non-profit organization, are concerned that if they cannot find a permanent home for the store, they may not be operational for this year's upcoming Christmas season. In 2023, they served close to 540 children. This includes children in school up to the age of 18.

"We are very grateful to Pulaski County for allowing us to use the former Dublin Middle School as our warehouse and distribution center," said Sally McCarthy, Board Chair and a long-standing board member. "But we need a more permanent location where we can serve



Pulaski County families during the year if a need arises; as well as providing items to make the children's Christmas merry and bright."

The organization has had seven locations throughout the 20 years they have been serving families in Pulaski County. The ultimate goal is to have the use of a 5,000 to 6,000 square foot climate controlled building, located in Pulaski County, on one floor, with heat,

air-conditioning, and running water; ideally with divided rooms like the school, and security.

Board member Sybil Atkinson commented, "Pulaski County has been gracious to allow us to use the school building. It is an upgrade from where we started out years ago in a warehouse, with one lightbulb hanging from the ceiling."

However, trying to function See STORE, page A2

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Store

Continued From Page A1

this year in the school was difficult for the volunteers as well as the parents who came to find Christmas gifts for their children. Because the building is older and designated for a different use in 2024, there were no amenities available such as heat, running water or restrooms.

Dedicated board members and volunteers endured extremely cold conditions for hours at a time to make sure every child they served did not feel left behind at Christmas. It is a worthwhile community project that they all believe in. The volunteers said they managed to forge through this year because of the importance of the mission.

Board member Todd Biers chuckled as he explained, “It was so cold, that even when we bundled up, we still needed nose-warmers! And, if you tried to warm up your work room with a portable heater, many times it would shut down the electric.”

“The conditions this year were more challenging than during the pandemic when we had to wear masks, gloves and keep six-feet away from everyone,” commented McCarthy. Even so, the Christmas Store volunteers managed to serve the community through all the years of COVID.

Even through this year’s harsh working conditions, the Christmas Store volunteers would strive to provide a pleasant shopping experience for the parents with cheery Christmas decorations, lights and Christmas music.

There is a process to participate and it includes an application, a confidential and private intake interview, possible recommendations from social services, the school guidance counselor, civic organizations, churches or other government entity. The Christmas Store staff strives to ensure privacy of the parents.

When the parents come to “shop” they can choose a set



Danielle Reid/Patriot Publishing

Sally McCarthy holds up a sweater from the Pulaski County Christmas Store Teen Clothing Room.



Danielle Reid/Patriot Publishing

Pulaski County Christmas Store Board members Kathy Hale and Susan Bain sort through the children’s clothing rack in preparation for the opening of the Christmas Store.

of new clothes, age appropriate books and a toothbrush and toothpaste for each child for free. They are then given 100 points per child to use to “purchase” gifts for their child. No money is exchanged for them to acquire the gifts. Each item is assigned points and the parents can use a portion of their 100 points to purchase the item. A volunteer shopping hostess will accompany them to direct them to special items they may be looking for, and to help carry their items in a cart.

Parents often comment that they are overwhelmed with the many choices and orderly arrangement of the Christmas Store. The items are well organized in individual rooms according to the type of item, age of the child, etc. For instance, the toy room contains hundreds of items such as sports equipment, dolls, games, puzzles, toy trucks, cars and train sets. The book room is arranged by topic, age-appropriate for the reader, and according to reading level.

Additionally, there is a room focusing on infants and children,



Danielle Reid/Patriot Publishing

Pulaski County Christmas Store Board member, Sybil Atkinson and volunteer Laura Biers sort through the toys in preparation of parents shopping days. Board member Todd Biers is in the background.

one for teens including bedding which has been a very popular item, and one for teen clothing. There is a coat room where all ages and sizes can find seasonal outerware.

“Many organizations and volunteers make the Pulaski Country Christmas Store a reality,” said McCarthy. “It is truly a community project where we make it possible for parents to do one-stop shopping for their children. Other agencies may provide toys or only serve certain age groups. The Christmas Store is more than just toys at Christmas time – and we are unique because there are no paid staff members and all donations stay local.”


The Christmas Store volunteers are normally active year-round, purchasing, collecting, organizing, tagging and warehousing items for the Christmas season. However, this year might be different if they cannot locate an adequate

building. They missed the after-Christmas-sales because they were not sure they would have a building to store the items. If a building is not located and the Christmas Store is no more, hundreds of children in Pulaski County may have a less-than merry Christmas in 2024.

If someone has a building located in Pulaski County that might meet the Christmas Store’s criteria, the Board Members would be grateful if you would contact them through their email, website or Facebook.

Please visit the Pulaski County Christmas Store, Inc. on Facebook or their website: PulaskiCountyChristmasStore.com

To donate, volunteer or request help, email: PulaskiCCS2020@gmail.com or by mail at: Pulaski Christmas Store, P.O. Box 2227, Pulaski, VA 24301



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In February 2024 The USVN is running, walking, cycling, swimming, and rowing to raise support and awareness for Team Red White & Blue. All support goes directly to Team RWB



<https://taji100.com/teams/united-states-veterans-network-usvn/sponsor/>



Team RWB is a registered non-profit organization helping service members and veterans transition back to civilian life through health, wellness, and fitness.

<https://teamrwb.org/mission>

Burning

Continued From Page A1

the importance of safe burning practices,” said DOF Chief of Fire and Emergency Response John Miller. “Simple safety measures are easy to follow and significantly reduce the likelihood of an escaped fire, the number one cause of wildfires.”

Although Virginia also has a wildfire season in the fall, more than 60 percent of the Commonwealth’s annual average of 700 wildfires occur in the spring. Rising temperatures, dry and windy weather, and abundant fuels such as frost-killed vegetation and dead leaves, increase the potential for wildfires and make them harder to extinguish.

Please note: In addition to the statewide 4 p.m. burning law,

- individual cities and counties may have specific burn laws, bans or restrictions. Check with local officials in your area before burning.
- Keep these things in mind this spring fire season:
- Burning is allowed between 4 p.m. and midnight as long as proper precautions are taken
 - Never leave a fire unattended
 - Avoid burning during dry and windy conditions
 - No fire may be started, and no fuels can be added to a fire after midnight
 - Have a shovel, rake and a charged hose on hand to control the fire
 - Call 911 if a fire escapes your control

Griffith: \$13.6 million to Wythe for water, waste disposal work

Congressman Morgan Griffith (R-VA) this week applauded the announcement that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development has awarded Wythe County, Virginia, a \$2,737,000 grant, along with approving a \$10,866,000 low-interest loan, for improvements to water and waste disposal in the county.

“Water service plays a critical role in promoting public health and increasing quality of life,” said Griffith.

According to the USDA, this project will install eight miles of four, six and eight-inch water lines, along with one pump station, 110 water meters, and 34 fire hydrants. It will also replace nine miles of two, four, eight and 10-inch water lines, one pressure reducing valve, 336 water meters and 39 fire hydrants.



The Patriot
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BSA Aquatics Base goes up for auction

By WILLIAM PAINE
Patriot Publishing

The former home of the Boy Scouts Aquatics Base on Claytor Lake will be auctioned off to the highest bidder at 2 p.m. March 27, 2024.

The 68-acre property comes replete with a 14,000 square foot hexagonal shaped Event Center, a three-story bathhouse with five third floor living areas and 16 single room cabins. The Aquatics Base is located directly across the lake from Claytor Lake State Park and includes 1,757 feet of shoreline. Several docks and a small boathouse currently line the waterfront at the Aquatics Base.

Also up for auction is a three bedroom, three bathroom house situated on four acres of land, which adjoins the 68 acre Aquatic Base property.

The auction is being conducted by Jim Woltz of Woltz and Associates on the behalf of the BSA Blue Ridge Council, which also owns nearby Camp Powhattan.

In preparation for the auction, Woltz asked the construction company that built the original Aquatics Base facilities in 2005, to estimate how much it would cost to build these same buildings today.

According to Woltz, building the Event Center, bathhouse and cabins in 2024 would cost approximately \$10 million, not counting the cost of the facility's water and septic facilities, which are significant.

"It's a Class A water system with a 70-gallon pump filling a huge water tank ... similar to a municipal water system," said Woltz. Documents provided by the Woltz website show that the Aquatics Base water system was built to serve 340 campers.

"It's a commercial grade septic system with capacity to serve 140 units," Woltz added.

Readers may recall the BSA Aquatics Base went up for auction in 2022 and was "sold" for \$3 million, but months passed without payment and eventually that deal fell through.

"We were in the running to do the auction two years ago but they (Blue Ridge Council) elected to use another company," said Woltz. "When we get a contract, it will be a solid contract with a solid deposit."

Woltz says he expects the high bid to be between \$2.5 and \$3 million for the BSA Aquatics Base and that the reserve price, or the minimum acceptable bid, would be somewhere below the \$2.5 million mark.

"But we're sure it's going to sell," said Woltz, who predicts the Aquatics Base and the adjoining residential property will have new owners by the end of this coming March.

It's important to note that these two properties, the Aquatics Base and the three-bedroom house will both be up for auction and may be sold together or separately. It all depends on who places the highest bid.

For example, a bidder wants to buy both properties and offers \$3 million for the Aquatics Base and \$200,000 for the house. If a second bidder offers \$250,000 for the house, the first bidder must exceed that offer or the house goes to the second bidder.

"The final selling arrangement will be whatever the highest bid is individually or combined," said Woltz. "The person who wants the aquatic center can raise the bid. The person who wants the house can raise the bid."

The house is currently appraised at \$200,000 and has a separate entrance from Owens Road, which also accesses Adventure Base Road.

The properties are currently



Courtesy Photo

BSA Aquatics Base on Claytor Lake

zoned under Agriculture but Woltz is confident that the Pulaski County administration will readily work with the new owner and issue a Special Use permit if requested to do so.

"We've met with the county and they're very receptive," said Woltz. "They're very willing to help support whoever wanted to buy it for most any purpose."

Appalachian Power will

also have a say as to how the waterfront facilities are configured under new ownership.

"When the Aquatic Center went in, they made an exception for the Boy Scouts to let them build docks suitable for their aquatics camp," Woltz explained. "Those didn't necessarily comply with the shoreline ordinance that APCO

has but they made an exception. If the Boy Scouts ceased to use it as a scout camp, those docks would not comply and would have to be removed unless it remained an educational facility, then they would reapply to APCO for the exception. If it goes to an Event Center or Restaurant, they're going to

See AUCTION, page A7

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EDITORIAL

Zuckerbucks

Recently, the House Administration Committee, of which I am a member, held a hearing on the use of private funding in our elections. Specifically, we discussed the use of “Zuckerbucks” (the name commonly used for non-government money spent on administering elections) in the 2020 presidential election, which has been a source of concern for many.

As the country prepared for the 2020 election, state and local election offices faced unique challenges stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic. Many were worried that traditional voting in person would lead to negative public health consequences.

Months before the election, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg donated \$350 million to the Center for Technology and Civic Life (CTCL), started by former left-leaning organizers. According to Influencewatch.org, the CTCL is a Chicago-based center-left leaning organization. Another \$69.5 million was given by Zuckerberg to a related



Morgan Griffith

9th District Representative

organization, the Center for Election Innovation and Research.

These organizations used the “Zuckerbucks” to give out grants to election officials in hundreds of counties and cities across 48 states. According to Zuckerberg and the CTCL, these funds were to be used by election offices to help with COVID-19 related challenges, like hiring more staff, buying more voting machinery, buying personal protective equipment to safely administer elections, etc.

That was not the case.

Instead, much of the money was used for “get out the vote” efforts in areas that were more likely to vote Democrat. In fact, it’s been shown now that less than 1% of these funds were used to purchase personal protective equipment.

One example at the hearing of where the money was spent was on the use of mobile voting trucks in Wisconsin. They were purchased with “Zuckerbucks” and driven around Democrat-likely jurisdictions to help people there register to vote and/or vote absentee.

The data on the use of “Zuckerbucks” is alarming. Let’s first look at our home state of Virginia.

As I pointed out during the hearing, Capital Research Center data showed Democrat-likely counties in Virginia received about 90% of the “Zuckerbucks,” while Republican-likely jurisdictions received only 10%.

Arlington County (in a D+26 Congressional District) alone received \$238,643 in funding, while the entire 9th District (R+23), encompassing 28 jurisdictions, received just \$78,053. This means 3 times as much money went to Arlington County.

What’s also interesting is the percentage of “Zuckerbucks” that went to urban areas vs. rural areas in Virginia. As the witness selected by the Democrats testified, administering elections in rural areas costs more per voter, as there is more ground to cover to ensure voters have reasonable access.

And yet, urban areas received more “Zuckerbucks” per voter than rural areas did.

Perhaps it is because urban areas tend to vote more Democratic than rural areas do?

According to one of our hearing’s witnesses, Mr. Scott Walter, nationwide the average number of “Zuckerbucks” spent in 2020 Trump jurisdictions was just 55 cents per capita. As opposed to 2020 Biden districts, where a whopping \$3.75 was spent per capita.

Additionally, Democrat-likely jurisdictions in many of the 2020 battleground states received the lion’s share of grants given out by CTCL.

For example, Democrat-likely jurisdictions in Arizona received 75% of the “Zuckerbucks” awarded in that state; 83% in Pennsylvania; 86% in Michigan; 90% in Wisconsin; 94% in Georgia, and; 100% in Nevada.

While CTCL’s grants may not have been intended to benefit Democrats, it certainly did benefit them. As Mr. Walter said during the hearing, IRS policy states charities cannot have the effect, whether or not they had the intention, of helping one party over another in an election.

The CTCL privately donated funds helped significantly more Democrat voters participate in the 2020 election than Republican voters.

This is just one reason why private funding should not be used to administer elections. Private entities should not have the power to affect our elections like this – using resources to assist certain voters over others.

Elections should only be funded using public funds, administered by governments who have strict guidelines for how they run elections, have oversight mechanisms in place, and are beholden to the American people, not private interests.

Further, as I said in a subsequent hearing, if the government is going to give more money to run elections, we need to assure the formula is fair to rural jurisdictions.

Americans need to have faith that our elections are being administered in a fair and unpartisan way.

Thankfully, since the 2020 election, 27 states have banned or restricted election offices from using private funds, “Zuckerbucks,” to administer elections.

That’s why I am supporting a federal bill to stop “Zuckerbucks.”

If you have questions, concerns, or comments, feel free to contact my office. You can call my Christiansburg office at 540-381-5671. To reach my office via email, please visit my website at <https://morgangriffith.house.gov/>.

Thomas Jefferson and The Danbury Baptists

On January 1, 1802, in response to an inquiry by the Danbury Connecticut Baptist Association, President Thomas Jefferson wrote a letter assuring those ministers that the US Constitution guarantees freedom from governmental interference and persecution because of their religious beliefs and practices. In otherwords, the First Amendment prevented Congress from establishing a national religion or interfering with religious beliefs and practices.

You may recall that for years leading up to the ratification of the First Amendment, differing Christian sects had petitioned their state legislatures to remove the practice of collecting taxes to support one particular Christian denomination over another. However, in Connecticut, the Congregational Church still benefitted from laws that entitled it to taxpayers money; and some entitlements over other religious organizations, such as the Baptist.

The Danbury Baptists were fearful that their religious liberties would appear to be legislative favors granted to them and not as inalienable rights (rights given by God). Although they realized that the newly-elected President Jefferson could not legislate changes, they asked for reassurances that their religious liberties would be secure.

Although the language in their letter dated October 7, 1801, is flowery, we can understand the basics of their concern as they stated: “Our

One Nation Under God

By Danielle Reid

sentiments are uniformly on the side of religious liberty--that religion is at all times and places a matter between God and individuals--that no man ought to suffer in name, person, or effects on account of his religious opinions--that the legitimate power of civil government extends no further than to punish the man who works ill to his neighbors; But, sir, our constitution of government is not specific.”

“Our ancient charter together with the law made coincident therewith, were adopted as the basis of our government, at the time of our revolution; and such had been our laws and usages, and such still are; that religion is considered as the first object of legislation; and therefore what religious privileges we enjoy (as a minor part of the state) we enjoy as favors granted, and not as inalienable rights; and these favors we receive at the expense of such degrading acknowledgements as are inconsistent with the rights of freemen. It is not to be wondered at therefore; if those who seek after power and gain under the pretense of government and religion

See NATION, page A5



Budget time once again

Now that the Virginia General Assembly is past the “Crossover” deadline, much of our focus has turned to the Commonwealth’s budget. Both legislative bodies will now consider their competing visions of the budget this week before differences between the two are worked out in a conference committee.

I’m pleased to report that several budget amendments I submitted have been included in the House Appropriations Committee’s recommendation to the full House of Delegates. This includes giving Radford University – as well as other institutions of higher education – authority to reduce non-resident tuition rates to improve the Commonwealth’s talent pipeline. Language for another budget amendment of mine, which would create a new Opioid Data Tracking System for the Commonwealth, has also been included. And of local significance, my amendment to the budget which allocates \$1 million dollars over the next 2 years to fund 10 new OB/GYN graduate medical residency slots has also been included in the House’s recommendation. This request is a direct response to our region’s declining maternal healthcare options, and its addition to the budget is vital to ensure our region’s mothers are not endangered by lack of local access to OB/GYN’s.

While the inclusion of my amendments to the House Budget is certainly a positive, Democratic priorities elsewhere in the budget are problematic. As the saying goes, “money talks,” and the General Assembly speaks to its priorities in the budget. Governor Youngkin’s proposed budget contained tax cuts while making significant investments in education and other areas of focus. House Democrats have put forth different priorities, including placing the

enforcement of rules against loud mufflers ahead of protecting kids from counterfeit pills. SB 469, patroned by Senator Mark Obenshain (R-Harrisonburg), would have made it illegal to own a pill press with the intent to manufacture counterfeit pills laced with fentanyl. Although SB 469 passed the Senate on a 38-2 vote, House Democrats refused to give this bill a hearing, citing the “high fiscal impact” of the bill. What is the cost, you might ask? The estimate is \$50,000 over two years. Although Democrats couldn’t find money in the budget for this important public safety measure, they were able to direct \$150,000 towards a Democratic lawmaker’s proposal to address vehicles with loud mufflers.

Counterfeit pills have been a major problem as of late. As I’ve written about in the past, Loudoun County reported 8 overdoses at 1 high school in the span of just 1 week, late last year. Had teachers not intervened, some of these students may have died from taking these pills. In 2022, there were 2,490 drug overdose deaths; 80 percent of which involved fentanyl or its analogs. Compare that figure with 553 homicides with firearms, also in 2022. Instead of focusing on things like vehicle noise and restricting the lawful ownership of firearms, perhaps Democrats should instead channel their energy on the pressing problem facing Virginia: the scourge of opiate addiction and overdoses.

See BALLARD, page A5



Rich Lowery

Editor, National Review

Last time an unfit incumbent ran for re-election

There’s a tried and true method for a White House to deal with a seriously ailing president -- lie about it.

The American public, of course, didn’t know the truth about Woodrow Wilson’s condition after his stroke, nor about the extent of JFK’s health difficulties. Meanwhile, FDR’s dire condition was kept from the public when he was running for a fourth term that he had no business attempting. He died 82 days after his inauguration.

Joe Biden is the most unfit incumbent president running for another term in office since that 1944 campaign. That is not to say that he’s going to -- God forbid -- shed this mortal coil soon after the 2024 election, but that we should be mindful of the lessons of 80 years ago. To paraphrase Winston Churchill, a president’s inner circle is prone to believe that the chief executive is so precious that he must be protected by a bodyguard of lies.

Few self-respecting physicians with the trust of the president are going to betray it. By early 1944, FDR had been diagnosed with a life-threatening condition, namely “acute congestive heart failure.” An examining physician called his health status simply “God-awful.”

TITLE: Nonetheless, the White House rolled out FDR’s doctor in September to pronounce the president’s health “perfectly OK,” with “absolutely no organic difficulties at all.” He said the president, who had experienced alarming weight loss, had just decided to shed some pounds and that he’s “proud of his flat -- repeat F - L - A - T -- tummy.”

Journalistic defenders can be trusted to attack and shame anyone who mistrusts the official story. Pro-Roosevelt writer Marquis Childs called the well-founded rumors about FDR’s health a “wicked business,” and “the vilest kind of fear campaign.” The problem wasn’t FDR’s underlying condition, but the malignancy of his enemies: “Some people hate the president so much that the wish is father to the thought that his health is seriously undermined.”

Sound familiar?

Of course, the political allies will always do their duty. Harry Truman, recently selected as FDR’s new vice presidential nominee, told reporters after a lunch with the president that he’s “still the leader he’s always been, and don’t let anybody kid you about it.”

Truman told a friend, in contrast, that the president’s “hands are shaking and he talks with considerable difficulty.” According to Truman, FDR was “just going to pieces” physically, and he said he was like “a phonograph record played at the wrong speed.”

This wasn’t an unusual reaction. People around Roosevelt were in great fear of his dying, yet no one let on.

FDR himself, who demonstrated an almost-admirable lack of curiosity about his own health, still knew how he felt, and wasn’t going to let voters know. He warned, “Hysterical last-minute accusations or sensational revelations are trumped up in an attempt to panic the people on election day.”

Uh-huh.

See LOWERY, page A5



The Patriot

Locally Owned And Operated Since 2009

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OBITUARIES



MARKEATTER CAROLINE HOUCK CECIL
Markeatter Caroline Houck Cecil, age 90 of Draper passed peacefully Thursday, February 15, 2024. Born January 31, 1934 in Wythe County, she was the daughter of the late Dewey Houck & Mabel Williams Houck Herndon. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Leo Garland Cecil, brothers, June Houck, Randy Herndon, sisters, Betty Herndon, Pat Herndon Witt, and stepfather, Muncie Herndon. She is survived by her Children – Barry (Patti) Cecil – Lexington, KY, Karen Cecil – Claytor Lake, VA, Cheryl (Ron) Matthews – Draper, VA Grandchildren – Erin (Todd) Hensley, Laura (Jimmer) Murray – Lexington, KY Great Grandchildren – Wesley Hensley, Mollie Hensley, Natalie Hensley, Sadie Murray, Leo Murray Brother – Gary (Doni) Herndon – Lebanon, VA Sister-in-law – Louise Herndon – Lebanon, VA Brother-in-law – Mark Witt – Pulaski, VA The family celebrated and remembered Markeatter’s life with a private family service, Saturday February 17, 2024 in the Bower Funeral Home Chapel, Pulaski. Condolences and memories may be shared with the family @ www.bowerfuneralhome.com

The family would like to thank our precious sister Cheryl for the loving care she gave mom for 18 years. Bower Funeral Homes, Pulaski is handling the arrangements for the family.

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SHIRLEY JEAN MORRIS ALTIZER
February 18, 2024
Shirley Jean Morris Altizer, 83, passed away Sunday, February 18, 2024 at her home in Belspring. She was a banker with First Federal Bank. Jean was preceded in death by her parents, Frank and Hester Morris, husband, Doug Altizer; great grandson, Desi Snell; brothers, Harry, Jack and Bug Morris; and sisters, Frances Teel, Margaret Howery, and Dorothy Epperly. Survivors include her daughter, Laura Strickland (Scott); son, Woody Altizer; grandchildren, Mindi Bodin (Nic), Chase Altizer, Cara Altizer, Lance Strickland, Neil Strickland, and Cassie Snell (Jeff); great grandchildren, Harper Bodin, Everett Snell, Brynlee Bodin, and Liam Altizer; sister, Betty Joyner; and many other relatives and friends. Funeral services were held Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024 at Mullins Funeral Home in Radford with Preacher Eddy Gilpin officiating. Interment followed at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin. In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the Alzheimer’s Association. The Altizer family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford, Virginia.

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THELMA LEE GRUBB
Thelma Lee Grubb, age 79 of Pulaski passed away Saturday, February 17, 2024 at the Lewis-Gale Hospital – Pulaski. Born July 8, 1944 in Wythe County, she was the daughter of the late Ellis McNeil Grubb & Bessie Elizabeth Snaveley Grubb. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by a baby brother, Willard Grubb Thelma is survived by her Children – Cynthia Lynn Eanes – Pulaski, Ann Stoots (Kathy Leedy)-Texas, Joseph Michael Stoots – Pulaski, Curtis Monroe Stoots – Pulaski Grandchildren-Johnathan Eanes and wife, Dalana – Dublin Christopher Eanes and wife, Gretta-Dublin Great Grandchildren- Ryker, Aldryk, Stacy and Asher Sister – Shirley Jean Grubb Waters – Wytheville Brother – Marvin Ellis Grubb – Bland Funeral services were held Thursday, February 22, 2024 at the Bower Funeral Home-Chapel, Pulaski with Pastor Stacy Cope officiating. Interment followed at the Draper Valley Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Draper. To sign Thelma’s online guestbook, visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com Bower Funeral Homes, Pulaski is handling the arrangements for the family.



TRAVIS MARVIN BURLESON
Travis Marvin Burleson, 54, departed this life on Sunday, February 18, 2024, at his home in Christiansburg. Travis loved working with his hands and making old things new again. He was skilled at many tasks such as plumbing, roofing, flooring and concrete work. He was also in his element when fishing. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Josie Burleson; and father, Ronald Burleson. Travis leaves behind his beloved children, Trevor Wayne Burleson, Ronnie Tré Burleson, and Ember Rain Burleson; See BURLESONO, page A7



LOUISE AKERS CHINAULT
Louise Akers Chinault, age 90 went peacefully to be with the Lord Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at the Montgomery Regional Hospital. Born May 8, 1933 in Draper, she was the daughter of the late John Robert Akers & Nannie Mae Dalton Akers. She was also preceded in death by her brothers, Duaine Akers, Donald Akers, Richard Akers and sister, Aileen Roop. She was a life-long member of the Thornspring United Methodist Church. She loved her church and church family. Her favorite hobby was making quilts for her family and friends. She retired from Pulaski County High School where she worked as a secretary. Louise is survived by her Husband of 69 years William Clyde Chinault – Dublin Daughters – Patricia “Patty” (Glenn) Langford – Salisbury, NC, Pamela “Pam” Chinault – Christiansburg, VA Grandchildren – Thomas, Andrew, and Matthew Langford Sisters – Ann Williams – Draper, Doris (Jerry) Jones – Max Meadows Brother – Allen (Jean) Akers – SC Funeral services were held Monday, February 19, 2024 at Thornspring United Methodist Church, Dublin with Pastor Teresa Tolbert officiating. Interment followed in the Church Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Thornspring United Methodist Church, 5670 Thornspring Church Road, Dublin, Virginia 24084. A Special thanks to the staff at Highland Ridge Rehab for their loving care. To sign Louise’s online guestbook, visit www.bowerfuneralhome.com Bower Funeral Homes, Pulaski is handling the arrangements for the family.



JOHN WILLIAM BURNETTE
John William Burnette of Pulaski, Virginia, passed away on February 10th, 2024 of natural causes. John was preceded in death by his first love and first wife, Shanna, his brother, Donald (Donnie), brothers-in-law Scott and Benjamin (Benny) Allison, his father, Donald, father-in-law, Carl Allison. John was born in California on August 28th, 1961 to Donald and Hiroko Burnette. He was a graduate of Pulaski County High School class of 1979. Following graduation, John proudly served his country in the United States Navy, and he married his high school sweetheart, Shanna Allison. They had two daughters, Chelsi and Jonna, whom John considered to be his greatest accomplishments and blessings in life. John was an easy-going, boot and jean wearing, tough guy who had the biggest heart. He believed in working hard, taking care of what he worked for, and knowing how to fix and put anything together from motorcycles to his granddaughter’s toy kitchen! He was generous, loyal, and he would drop everything at a moment’s notice when someone he loved needed help. John had a huge presence that made him easily stand out in a crowd, but he preferred to stand back so that the people he loved could shine. He often had a witty comment to lovingly tease anyone he liked or cared for, and he always had a laugh when someone gave a witty reply right back to him even though no one could match John’s hilarious one-liners and legendary stories! John was a skilled carpenter and electrician, and when he wasn’t fixing something for someone, he was helping friends and family with anything they needed him to do with no expectation of payment or praise. John believed there was always more to be thankful for than to complain about even though he lived in almost constant, physical pain after a life of hard, manual labor. Left behind to cherish John’s memory are his beloved daughters, sons-in-law, and granddaughters: Chelsi and fiancé Juan Taylor of Pulaski and daughters, Caliana Taylor and Hannah Watson, and Jonna and Tyrell Johnson of Pulaski and their daughter, Lainey. Also cherishing his memory are his mother, Hiroko and stepfather, Jaime Mexia of Hawaii, sisters and brothers-in-law, Mary and Porky Cabral of Hawaii, Lillian and Sam Kovacic of Virginia, Nancy and Jerry Alderman of Virginia, Suzanne Mexia and Moku of Hawaii, his brother and sister-in-law, Jeffrey and Cherish Mexia of Hawaii. Mother-in-law, Sonya Allison, Sister-in-law, Robyn Simpkins, Brother-Friend, Chuck Cox, nephew Brent Adkins and niece Kristen Adkins, to whom he was a second father, and several other very special nieces and nephews. John also shared part of his life with Sunni Roop and her children and grandchildren. Jacey Mitchell of Pulaski and her children, Kayson and Aubrey, and Joey Burnette and his son Keenan of North Carolina. There are no words to truly express how deeply John’s humor, devotion, generosity, big heart, and his quiet strength will be missed by his family and friends. John believed in standing up for those less fortunate, and that there is no substitute for hard work. “To live in the hearts we leave behind is not to die.” Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 21st,

1st Angelversary
Kylene Lawson Waldron
You left us a year ago on February 15. Your death impacted us in ways we did not expect. You made such an impact on so many people's lives. You will never be forgotten and your memories will live on forever. RIP Our Vibrant Kylene Much love, Dad, Mom, Kloie, Jason, Ashton, Heather, Miracle, Bryson and Randy.

Honor Your Loved One With An In Memoriam Notice.
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PAULETTE DENESE MARTIN

Paulette Denese Martin (September 18, 1955 ~ February 12, 2024 (age 68)) was a beloved soul who had a heart full of love and compassion. She leaves a cherished memory of strength, wisdom, and dedication to her family and community.

She leaves behind her sons, Ibn Aswad Stiles and Jonpaul Delemus Wallace (Heather), and her daughters, Jonette Deneal Wallace and Joneise Shirley-Ann Glover (Krisean). Her grandson, Givon Idris Stiles, her granddaughters, Anaya Renee Stiles, Meliah Annette Wallace, Ava Mae Wallace, Miracle Genesis Wallace.

Born on September 18, 1955, in Newark, NJ to Howard Elwood Martin and Anna Mae Wade-Martin as the fourth child of seven and the only daughter.

She spent most of her childhood days Double-Dutching, playing ball and jacks as well as the piano for a short time. Her brothers are Howard

Douglas Martin (Doloris) of Fuquay-Varina, NC; Stanley Wade Martin(d) and Georgette; Larry O'Neil Martin of Pulaski, VA; Alex Monroe Martin (Dora) of Jackson, MI; Keith Ira Martin(d) and Archie Lamont Martin and family of Pulaski, VA. Paulette has 32 nieces and nephew, a host of great nieces and great nephews, cousins, and friends that have become family over her many years of dedication and ability to light up every room when she walks in.

She went to college after high school to pursue the medical field where she realized she wanted to impact people at a different pace. With her selfless approach and passionate soul, she found her love for retail was pure joy. The nomadic spirit of Paulette will forever live on.

Funeral services were held Saturday, February 17, 2024 at Randolph Avenue United Methodist Church. Entombment followed at Highland Memory Gardens, Dublin.

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

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540-808-3949



CORA ANN DENNY WOJCIECHOWSKI
January 18, 1927
February 14, 2024

Cora Ann Denny Wojciechowski, 97, passed away Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at her home in Dublin.

Funeral services were held Thursday, Feb. 22, 2024 at St. Edwards Catholic Church in Pulaski with Rev. Father Frank Boateng. Interment followed in Thornspring Cemetery in Pulaski.

Flowers will be appreciated or consider donations to Salesian missions, 2 Lefevre Lane, New Rochelle, NY 10801-5710

The Wojciechowski family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford, Virginia.

Burleson

Continued From Page A6
his parents, Darlene and Jesse Wilkerson; brothers, Ronald Lee Burleson and Dallas Jeffrey Burleson; several aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

The family will receive friends from 4 until 6 p.m. Friday, February 23, 2024, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford.

Interment will be private. The Burleson family is in the care of the Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com

Burnette

Continued From Page A6
2024 at Bowers Funeral Home, Pulaski with Pastor Charlie Barbettini officiating. Burial followed in the Oakwood Cemetery.

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

Arrangements by Bower Funeral Home in Pulaski, Virginia.



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Auction

Continued From Page A3

want a different configuration of docks anyhow. The Scouts are going to pay for the removal, so someone can start with a clean slate."

The buildings at the BSA Aquatic Base seem to be in good condition and have only been sporadically occupied in the past couple of years. Last year, with the sale still supposedly pending, Scouts from Camp Powhattan visited the Aquatic Base during the summer months but only used the waterfront facilities and did not stay overnight.

The 16 cabins, which are divided into two bunkrooms that are mirror images of each other, have remained mostly vacant in recent years. The cabins are spartan and do not have running water but Woltz sees their potential.

"They're side by side," said Woltz. "My thought is that you take a wall out and then make one room either side as a bath and then you've got a little one-bedroom cottage and you already have the water and sewer capacity."

The event center has multiple restrooms, is handicap accessible and features a vast open area on its main floor that could be used for large gatherings. The bath house has showers, restrooms and several "counselor's quarters" on the third floor.

The Boy Scouts of America have, in recent years, seen a drop in participation and this has led to a diminishing number of Scouts using the Aquatic Base facilities. The high overhead of maintaining the property led to the decision to sell. Who will buy these properties and for what purpose is unknown, but Woltz is busy marketing the property in the interim.

"This is my personal push ... I'm personally trying to convince everybody from community colleges, to universities, to any foundation to buy this," said Woltz. "Think about all the elementary or primary school students in the region who could benefit from having this in a foundation or educational environment. The possibilities are endless. Take Virginia Tech. They have so many curriculums that could benefit. Everything from forestry to environmental science to biology and there's the swim team and the rowing

teams. So, I'm really hoping that I can convince some foundations to step up and buy this thing and have it as a regional educational center for all the high schools, junior highs, colleges and universities."

Woltz has created a booklet showing all the rowing teams on the East Coast that could potentially rent the facility, along with a list of colleges and their curriculums within a 50-mile radius of the Aquatics Base.

"Any of those foundation buyers out there, I have a good resource for them," Woltz assured.

Prospective buyers interested in participating in the auction are invited to visit the properties on Friday March 8, March 15 and March 22 between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

In the meantime, information about the properties can be found on WOLTZ.COM and in an ad in this week's newspaper.

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CHURCH

Church Directory



Journey To Faith

By Pat Priddy

Who Am I To Go?

“But Moses said to God, ‘Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?’” Exodus 3:11

Moses, a great man of God, was also insecure and uncertain of his ability to do what God had called him to do.

God purposely chose Moses and gave him instructions to free His people! “Now go! I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.” Exodus 3:10

Moses doubted his ability. He went back and forth with God on how he wasn’t even able to speak the words he would need to say, even after God told him He would be with Him.

Maybe that sounds like some of you! God needs you to regain territory that belongs to Him. Schools, governments, universities, and work places all belong to Him. Evil has crept into His institutions. The very property He created to benefit us is being used to our detriment going against His spoken and written Word.

He is calling each one of us to have courage to go into these places and speak His truth recapturing hearts and minds lost in this corrupt culture.

We cannot make excuses. Someone has already been assigned to you who needs you and God’s truth. The plan has been laid out. “And God said, ‘I will be with you....’”

The church has remained silent for too long - and the church is me and YOU! When God whispers in your heart to be brave and speak up, don’t be like Moses and doubt His power and your ability.

Have faith and believe. The time is now for a great revival and reformation of our nation.

There is so much work to do for our Lord. He needs every one of us to be true representatives of His glorious kingdom. We are His warriors, His army, and His boots on the ground!!

And who knows that you have been chosen FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS? Trusted servants are chosen for the toughest battles. Gird your loins! Put on the full armor of your God, and do not be afraid! You may not see your reward on earth, but you will surely see it in heaven!

Patricia Priddy Farrell’s gifts and talents include being a coach, speaker, retreat leader, student, teacher, and Lay Minister for the Global Methodist Church. Finding her own life’s purpose came in the desert of her life. She has survived and endured many hardships and lives to help others know they are enough, and they not only can survive but also thrive.

Pat speaks from the heart to women and men in an effort to help them understand the power they hold to change other’s lives. There is no meeting by coincidence, and there are incredible opportunities for us to share and grow as we journey through life.

Patricia Priddy (Farrell), RN, MSN, CPVA, CEP
Life Coach, Lay Minister for the Global Methodist Church



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Draper Valley Baptist Church
3200 Lee Highway
Draper, Va. 24324
Pastor: Alan Pearce
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 Methodist Church
3080 Greenbriar Road
Draper, VA 24324
Pastor: Lee Wiggins
Email: office@draper-methodist-church.com
Primary Service Times:
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Worship, 11 a.m.

Christ Episcopal Church
144 North Washington Ave., Pulaski
P.O. Box 975
Service: 10 a.m. every Sunday
Phone: 980-2413
Email: christ24301@gmail.com

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

Cecil's Chapel Church
5801 Cecil's Chapel Road
Hiwassee, VA 24347
Pastor: John Kellam
540 230 8837
Worship Service: 9am
Sunday School: 10am
www.facebook.com/cecils.chapel

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
100 Hawkins Street, Dublin, VA 24084
540-674-6061
secretary@dublinbaptistchurchva.org
Website: dublinbaptistchurchva.org
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship: 11 a.m.
Tuesday Women's Bible Study: 11 a.m.
Wednesday Youth Bible Study, 7 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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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
Senior Pastor: Rev. Roland Mathews
Interim Pastor: Rev. David Gilleran
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
Pastor: Rev. Jessica Darty
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: Bill Schoeneman
540-695-0054
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
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.
Men's & Women's Ministry Wed. 6:30

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

Grace Episcopal Church
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45 S. Jefferson Avenue, Pulaski
Bible Study - Monday 5-6 p.m.
Men's Ministry - Thursday 1:30 p.m.
Celebrate Recovery Thursday 5:30-7:30
Sunday School 10-10:45 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

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

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.

Dublin Christian Church
5605 Dunlap Road
P. O. Box 1330
Dublin, VA 24084
(540) 674-8434
www.dublinchristianchurch.com
Charles Pruett
Minister
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Youth and Children's
Meetings 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study, Youth and Children's Classes 7:00 p.m.

Snowville Christian Church (DOC - Disciples of Christ)
5436 Lead Mine Rd.
Hiwassee, VA 24347
Pastor: Jerry King
Website:
www.SnowvilleChristianChurch.com
(and Facebook)
Office: 540-633-3761
Email:
office@SnowvilleChristianChurch.com
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
Thursday Bible Study: 6:00 p.m.
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540.674.5128
email: dublinumc@gmail.com
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Sunday School: 10:00 am

Max Creek Baptist Church
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www.maxcreek.org
www.facebook.com/maxcreekbaptist
Senior Pastor: Mike Coleman
Youth Minister: Charlie Prince
Sunday Services
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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
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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

Family Worship Center
First Pentecostal Holiness
955 Memorial Drive, Pulaski
980-7287
www.fwcpulaski.church
Jeff Willhoite, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 am
Sunday Worship 10:45 am
KidsZone 10:45 am
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
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Sunday's 2nd Service - 11 a.m.
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Lead Pastor: Rev. Randy Lawrence Jr.
Church Phone: 540-980-5506

I Believe



love him.” Revelations 21:4 tells us in heaven, “there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain.” Those who have put their faith in Jesus will have some great company. In heaven there will be angels, including those who have watched over you. There will be millions of wonderful people in heaven, and God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit will be there. There are some great things about heaven. I may not understand the greatness of heaven, but I believe it is real.

I don’t understand why Jesus would pay for our sins with His life, but the Bible declares He did, and I accept it. Isaiah wrote, “He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him: and with His stripes we are healed”. I have made my choice to believe, and I hope you will also.

Antisemitism and safety fears surge among Jews

By TIFFANY STANLEY
Associated Press

Nearly two-thirds of American Jews feel less secure in the U.S. than they did a year ago, according to a new national survey.

The American Jewish Committee, a prominent advocacy organization, conducted the survey last fall just as the Israel-Hamas war began on Oct. 7. The number of American Jews who say they feel less secure in the U.S. jumped 22% from last year’s survey.

“This year’s study shows us very clearly that antisemitism that was really just a simmering flame is now, especially since Oct. 7, a five-alarm fire,” Ted Deutch, CEO of AJC, told The Associated Press.

The survey released Tuesday found one quarter of American Jews said they have been the target of antisemitism in the past year. Almost half of American Jews responding to the survey said they had altered their behavior during the past year to avoid antisemitism – changing what they wore, what they posted online or where they went so other people wouldn’t know they were Jewish.

“I live in a rural area and my home is most likely the only Jewish home in a 30-mile radius,” a 62-year-old woman is quoted as saying in the survey report. “We don’t tell people and outside the home do not show that we are Jewish.”

That reticence is “an enormous challenge for the Jewish community,” Deutch said. “But it really represents a challenge for all of our society.”

The survey comes as Jewish and Muslim civil rights and advocacy groups have reported large increases in harassment, bias and physical attacks against their members in the wake of the Israel-Hamas war.

Brian Levin, founding director of the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino, said he has seen a surge in anti-Jewish and Islamophobic internet searches since last fall, including “eliminationist” and homicidal language.

Levin, who is not affiliated with the AJC survey, said anti-Jewish hate crimes hit a record high last year in several major cities. “As Jews are understandably feeling more insecure, police and social science data back up why,” he said.

The AJC began its survey five years ago, after the Tree of Life synagogue massacre in Pittsburgh, the deadliest antisemitic attack on American soil. Since then, most Jews and more than half of Americans say they think antisemitism has increased, according to the AJC.

This year’s primary survey collected data from 1,528 Jewish adults in the U.S., while its companion survey collected data from 1,223 U.S. adults. The surveys, conducted by the polling firm SSRS, had margins of error of 3.5% and 3.6% respectively.

You don’t have to understand everything in the Bible in order to believe it. There are things I don’t understand, and yet I accept them. My dad used to say he “didn’t understand how a brown cow could eat green grass and give white milk. Then you could churn the milk and make yellow butter. But, he enjoyed eating a hot biscuit with butter and washing it down with a cool glass of milk.” He didn’t understand it, but he accepted it. Jesus met two disciples on the road to Emmaus after the crucifixion and resurrection. They didn’t understand what had happened. After listening to them, Jesus said, “O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken.” Then He explained to them what had happened, and they believed. I want to speak of some things from the Bible that some people have difficulty believing.

Many people don’t believe there is a place called hell. Hell does not need our faith for it to exist. The Bible declares it, and it exists whether a person believes it or not. Revelations 20:15 tells us the devil, false prophet, and the beast will be occupants of hell. Fallen angels will be occupants of hell. Revelations 20:15 also says, whosoever was not found written in the book of life will also be cast into the lake of fire. Hell will be occupied by people who have lived their lives like monsters. People like Hitler, Nero, and Idi Amin. Abusers of men, God-haters, and perverts will occupy hell. The sad thing is hell will also be occupied by people who have ignored the call of God and rejected Jesus Christ. Hell is a place of torment, fire, darkness, agony, and pain. There is no escape from hell. I may not understand it, but it is real.

Some people don’t believe in heaven. Heaven doesn’t need our faith to exist. It is real because God’s Word says it is real. 1 Corinthians 2:9 says, “Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that

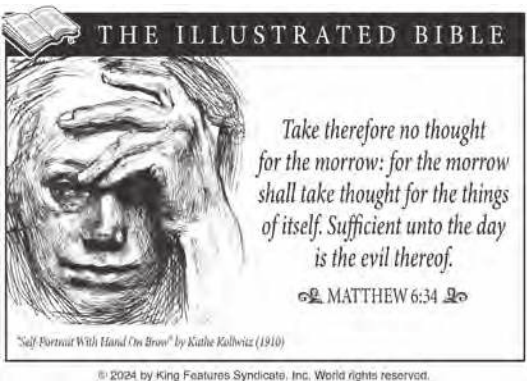
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Worship: 11 a.m.
Phone: 540-674-6147
www.newdublin.org

Newbern Methodist Church
5151 Wilderness Road
Dublin VA 24084
Pastor: Dave Adkins
540-230-9264
Worship: 9:45 AM
Sunday School : 11:00 AM



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1946 Medallion Drive
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Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

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
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www.firstchristianpulaski.org
Pastor: Timothy Moore
Men’s Sunday School: 10 am
Worship: 11 am

Community Christian Church
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Pastor: Bill Neeley
Children’s Director: Kristen Edwards
Youth Director: Ashley Coake
www.C3family.org; Facebook: Community
Christian Church[Dublin, VA;
email: triplecsecretary@gmail.com
Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting at
6:30 p.m.; C3Kids and C3Youth meeting at 6:30
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Thursday 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.

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Sunday Service - 11:00am

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BIBLE TRIVIA

1. Is the book of 1 Peter (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
 2. What was a god of the Philistines that had a man’s face and hands, but the body and tail of a fish? Bullock, Elohim, Dagon, Baal-gad
 3. Who slew a giant that had six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot when he defied Israel? Sibbechai, Cyrus, Silas, Jonathan
 4. From Proverbs 22, what is a good name better than? Great riches, Scorn, Its own reward, Lust
 5. What town was home to Jesse’s boys? Gilgal, Jericho, Hebron, Bethlehem
 6. On which day of creation did dry ground appear? Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth
- ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Dagon, 3) Jonathan, 4) Great riches, 5) Bethlehem, 6) Third**
“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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Schools

Continued From Page A1

the administration seeks a 5 percent pay raise for all PCPS employees at a cost of \$2,053,520. The administration also recommends hiring both an art and a music teacher for the elementary schools, as well as retaining a third Assistant Principal at Pulaski County Middle School, who was paid through ESSER funding that expires in September.

Lastly, the school system is currently searching for a new health insurance consultant to help navigate what is expected to be up to a 20 percent increase in insurance costs in the coming year. The total estimated cost increase for employee insurance is estimated at \$1,472,637 and school administrators would prefer that PCPS employees not have to shoulder the burden of this cost increase.

This brings the total budget expenditure to \$64,441,258, which leaves a \$516,809 shortfall. However, it is widely expected that the General Assembly will increase the governor's proposed state funding by the time the state budget is passed.

"It sounds really positive," said board chairman Josh Taylor. "It could be a lot worse and with the raises, what is that

Rob, a 17 percent raise in three years?"

"If we go up to a 6 percent pay raise, which we've discussed with the county, that's about a 19 percent raise over three years, so ... that's a lot," Superintendent Rob Graham replied.

Superintendent Graham then gave the board an abbreviated attendance report noting that attendance is improved and that all schools, minus the high school, had at least a 94 percent attendance rate.

Board member Sabrina Cox said that she'd met a "mom" who had put together a word document with students explaining in their own words, why they don't come to school.

Superintendent Graham said he'd love to see that and Cox agreed to meet later to discuss the issue.

Graham also mentioned that discipline was improving.

Board member Gina Paine asked if this was because students understood that bad behavior will now result in more serious consequences.

"I think so," said Graham, noting that the administrators now have more autonomy to deal with discipline issues than in the past.

Taylor also mentioned his support for new art and music teachers at the elementary schools.

School board members

then heard presentations on the school system's Special Education program.

Sarah Polcha, the PCPS Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, gave a detailed presentation focusing on Special Education.

Polcha began by stating that special education services should be provided in the least restrictive setting possible. Polcha noted that there are currently 43 teachers, four coordinators and approximately 60 paraprofessionals working in the special education department.

Polcha then mentioned a 2017 state audit that resulted in a Corrective Action Plan, which was designed to bring the division back in line with state regulations. According to the audit, students with disabilities were found to have been given significantly more out-of-school suspensions than their nondisabled peers. According to Polcha, the Virginia Department of Education has since recognized the efforts made by PCPS to come into compliance with state regulations.

There are currently 698 students enrolled in the PCPS special education program and, as Polcha explained, some of these students cost as much as \$100,000 a year in educational services. She then described the complex funding formulas

involved in bringing state and federal funds to the school system, as well as the myriad regulations relating to educating these children.

Polcha mentioned how the number of students enrolled in PCPS special education classes had been steadily decreasing since 2017 until this school year, when enrollment jumped 15.5 percent. Critzer Elementary has the largest percentage of students with disabilities attending with seven students with disabilities enrolling in just one week, mostly from out of Pulaski County.

"That's unheard of," said Polcha. "Frankly we're seeing an influx of students with disabilities in the division

because of our reputation for special ed... I'll tell you right now, I'd put my staff up against Montgomery, Giles or Radford any day and we will outdo them when it comes to special education."



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SPORTS



Game Day Banter
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Just do your best!

Well, here we are, just a few days removed from one of the most expensive scrimmages you could possibly purchase a ticket for. Yes, you guessed the NBA All-Star game. Now, before everyone starts to take up for the precious NBA, allow me to say that I watched the NFL Pro Bowl, and that was some of the most impressive arm tackling I have ever seen. I can't speak to Hockey, but I'm sure their All-Star game is about the same, and why wouldn't it be? You can't have the best players on your team get hurt during a PR event. This would be like leaving your best player in while you are absolutely destroying someone, and they get hurt (if you are reading this and that's you, I'm sure you have gleaned a great lesson from your mental lapse), and in the case of all these sports, there are a few million reasons why that's not going to happen.

Okay, back to NBA All-Star weekend. For the most part, this weekend did not stand out from every other. I will pause to say it has been nice seeing the NFL incorporate Dodge Ball and other fun events. But the NBA is all the same (or at least what I saw televised): G League games, skills competitions, three-point contests, dunk contests, and All-Star games. If we look at this for what it is, more than anything, this is a chance for fans to see all the greats in one place—an opportunity to give someone who may never get to see a Lebron play.

The G League game was competitive; there was not as much laughing, soft defense, and no in-game half-court shots. But unwomanly, this game is a lot like the last round of the NFL draft. Not many "fans" are tuning in. But that was a great chance to see some upcoming talent in the NBA.

The NBA skills competition was okay; I like the format, pitting some All-Stars against former number-one picks and a team for your host city. But I don't think they highlighted any skills only NBA quality players have. In perspective, many people can bounce-pass through a hoop; maybe it was the rate at which it was done. However, the skills competition was not a total loss. I got to experience my favorite part of the event in all of its glory; yes, I am talking about the LED Court.

In all transparency, I am a tech nerd, and that court was a marvelous thing. Though I am not a native of Pulaski, I have heard the stories and seen the names of all the pro athletes from the past. Let's get these guys together and sign up for one of those!

In my opinion, the dunk contest was just kinda okay, and before you think, "Well, does he know how hard it is to do that?" Yes, I do. I can't touch the bottom of the net, but again, I do some crazy stuff, guys. Give my kids something to try to replicate on the trampoline park goals. I will say, though, that the takeaway from this event is an excellent lesson for our athletes. The guys want to win, no matter what league or team they represent. In my opinion, the judges sunk the dunk contest; the guys started it by trying some new (excellent) dunks but losing points for misses caused

See BANTER, page B5

Lady Cougars' Season Comes To Close

Brian Bishop/Patriot Publishing

Pulaski County's Hannah Keefer drives past a Carroll County defender during this week's regional basketball action at Hillsville. The Cavaliers ended the Lady Cougars' season with a 62-55 victory. Keefer scored 18 points to lead Pulaski County. The Lady Cougars were the No. 7 seed in the regional playoffs and finished the season at 13-11.

Cougar boys fall in season finale

By RODNEY YOUNG
Patriot Publishing

ROANOKE - The Cougar boys basketball team saw their season come to end Friday night at Hidden Valley as they lost to the Titans, 72-51.

The first half was a disappointment as the Cougars found themselves down, 31-20. They committed 14 turnovers and gave the Titans second and third chances on the boards.

The second half, the Cougars (6-17) started fast, scoring the first six points and cutting their deficit to just five, 31-26.

Hidden Valley would call timeout and then hit three threes and never looked back. The win sends them on to play the number one seed in Class 3 Region D Tunstall.

The Cougars got nine points from senior Marcus Reed in his last game as a Cougar. Sophomore Justus Hash was

held scoreless in the first half finishing with eight. Chase Lawrence scored six in the first half and had eight for the game. Jalere Harlow and Tootie O'Dell both chipped in with seven points apiece.

The Titans (9-14) got a game high 19 points from 6-5 Wynn Womeldorf. He knocked down three threes. He got help from Steele Torrence who knocked down 17 points. Braxton Nichols scored 12 and eight players scored in the win.

"I'm proud how we came back after intermission, cutting their lead to five, but they answered with three's," said

head coach Anthony Akers.

The game was the same story of how the season went for the Cougars as they made too many turnovers, missed too many shots, and surrendered too many easy buckets. They gave up too many second, third and fourth chances on the boards.

PC - 10 10 13 18 - 51
HV - 19 12 20 21 - 72

PC - Reed 9, O'Dell 7, Lawrence 8, Hash 8, Harlow 7, Sweet 5, Carrasco 4, Turner 3, HV - W. Womeldorf - 19, Nichols 12, Torrence 17, Bartlett 7, Clarke 8, Cooper 4, N. Womeldorf 2, Gattuso 3

3-Pt. Goals - PC - 5 (O'Dell 2, Turner, Sweet, Lawrence) HV - 8 (W. Womeldorf 3, Torrence 3, Clarke, Bartlett)

Total Goals - PC - 20, HV - 28

FT's - PC - 6-11, HV - 7-16

Fouls - PC - 15, HV - 14

Fouled Out - None

Technicals - None



JamesHardie

SW Times & Patriot

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Marcus Reed

Pulaski County senior scored nine points to lead the Cougars in their final game of the season vs. Hidden Valley. For Reed, it was his final game as a Pulaski County Cougar.

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Radford Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court
Juvenile Division

Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* TALBERT, TRAVIS DEWAYNE, JR.

TRAVIS TALBERT AND SANDRA FLINCHUM v. RUBY LUCADO AND RUBY KATHERINE JONES

The object of this suit is FOR RUBY KATHERINE JONES TO APPEAR REGARDING A MOTION TO AMEND VISITATION FOR TRAVIS DEWAYNE TALBERT, JR.

It is ORDERED that RUBY KATHERINE JONES appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MARCH 8, 2024 AT 10:30 A.M.

JANUARY 9, 2024

RUBY STUMP,
Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Pepper's Ferry Regional Wastewater Treatment Authority (the "Authority") will hold a public hearing at its March 7, 2024, 12:00 pm (noon) meeting, for the purpose of receiving public comment related to the proposed rates, fees, and direct charges which are to become effective July 1, 2024. The public hearing will be held at the Authority's administrative office located at 7797 Mason Street in Pulaski County, Virginia. The proposed rates, fees and direct charges are as follows:

Cost Center	Rate per Million Gal.
Treatment Plant	\$ 775.00
New River P.S.	\$ 215.00
Radford P.S.	\$ 135.00
New River F.M.	\$ 12.00

Direct Charges							
Member	Base Treatment	Debt Service	Sulfate Surcharge	Biosolids Disposal	Plant CIP	NRPS CIP	RPS CIP
Town of Dublin	\$141,455	\$36,716	\$0	\$4,552	\$85,932	\$0	\$0
Montgomery Co. PSA	\$85,703	\$22,245	\$(2,838)	\$2,758	\$52,064	\$0	\$0
Fairlawn Sewer Auth.	\$114,638	\$29,755	\$(2,838)	\$3,689	\$69,641	\$0	\$0
Town of Pulaski	\$1,168,382	\$303,266	\$26,157	\$37,595	\$709,780	\$0	\$0
Pulaski Co. PSA	\$349,148	\$90,625	\$(1,569)	\$11,235	\$212,104	\$0	\$0
City of Radford	\$827,141	\$214,693	\$(18,913)	\$26,615	\$502,479	\$0	\$0

Septage Rates	
Origin of Septage	Cost Per Gallon
In-Side Planning Area	\$ 0.045
Out-Side Planning Area	\$ 0.070

Pollutant Surcharges	
Pollutant (Excess above 250 mg/L)	Cost per Pound
BOD ₅	\$ 0.03
TSS	\$ 0.10

* Other rates, fees and charges charged by the Authority may also be established and adjusted for certain users pursuant to contract provisions with those users.

This Public Hearing is authorized in accordance with Section 15.2-5136 of the Code of Virginia and by resolution of the Authority Board of Directors at its February 8, 2024 meeting. Persons desiring to submit written comments prior to the Hearing may do so at: Pepper's Ferry RWT, P.O. Box 2950, Radford, Virginia 24143.

LEGAL NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
PROPOSED BRIDGE SUPERSTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT
WEST COMMERCE STREET OVER PEAK CREEK
STATE: 4602-125-124, FEDERAL: STP-5125 (127)

The Town of Pulaski (Town, Owner), Virginia, is seeking sealed bids from qualified construction firms for the above captioned project in accordance with the following project schedule.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
Solicitation Issue Date	February 19, 2024
Obtain copies of solicitation/contract documents from: (A .pdf of Project Manual and Plans will be emailed) Project Manual and Plans will be posted on Town of Pulaski website at https://www.pulaskitown.org/bids-and-rfps	Schwartz & Associates, Inc. Consulting Engineers 7331 Timberlake Road, Suite 305 Lynchburg, VA 24502
MANDATORY Pre-Bid Conference	March 6, 2024 at 11:00 am Town of Pulaski Engineering 42 First Street, NW Pulaski, VA 24301
Deadline for Questions to be submitted VIA E-MAIL to Nathan Smythers at nsmythers@pulaskitown.org	March 15, 2024 at 12:00 pm
Answers e-mailed to Pre-Bid Conference Attendees and posted to Town of Pulaski Website at https://www.pulaskitown.org/bids-and-rfps	March 20, 2024 at 12:00 pm
Sealed Bids Due	April 3, 2024 at 2:00 pm Town of Pulaski Engineering Attn: Scott Aust, Engineering Manager 42 First Street, NW Pulaski, VA 24301
Bids Opened	April 3, 2024 at 2:05 pm Town of Pulaski Engineering 42 First Street, NW Pulaski, VA 24301
Notice of Award	On or about April 23, 2024
Fixed Completion Date of Project	On or before January 10, 2025

The Project scope involves the superstructure replacement of West Commerce Street Bridge over Peak Creek. The repairs also include water main replacement and approach work.

All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope plainly marked, "PROPOSED SUPERSTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT WEST COMMERCE STREET OVER PEAK CREEK", with the name and address of the bidder in the upper left-hand corner and accompanied by the required documentation as set out in the Invitation For Bid. E-Mail and facsimile responses are not acceptable. No responsibility will attach the Town or any official or employee thereof for the pre-opening of, post-opening of, or the failure to open a bid not properly addressed and identified. The Town of Pulaski assumes no responsibility for postmark or error in delivery to an incorrect address. It is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure timely and correct delivery of the bid. BIDS RECEIVED AFTER THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED WILL BE REJECTED.

Withdrawal of bids shall be according to procedure of the Virginia Public Procurement Act and to the Code of Virginia (§ 2.2-4330). Any Bidder must give notice in writing of his claim of right to withdraw his Bid within two business days after the conclusion of the Bid Opening Procedure and shall submit original work papers with such notice. If a Bid is withdrawn, the next higher Bidder shall be deemed to be the Low Bidder. No Bid may be withdrawn unless said withdrawal is permitted by law.

LEGAL NOTICE



Public Notice
Pulaski County
Board of Supervisors

The Pulaski County Board of Supervisors will host a public hearing to consider this application for the Month of February. In accordance with the Code of Virginia, the Planning Commission will host a public hearing on this petition at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 26, 2024 in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, NW, in the Town of Pulaski to consider comments regarding the following applications;

1. Special Exception Permit Application submitted by submitted by The Towers LLC d/ba/ The Towers of Virginia LLC ("Vertical Bridge") on behalf of Town of Pulaski located at Tax Map # 063-001-0000-0111, 3610 Robinson Tract Rd. Pulaski, VA 24301. Robinson District.
2. UDO Amendment- Pulaski County Solar Ordinance

Comments may be presented at the meeting and by phone or in writing prior to the meeting. Information regarding these items are available for public inspection from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Department of Planning & Zoning, County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, NW, Suite 1 in the Town of Pulaski or by phoning (540) 980-7710.

For disabled individuals who may require special auxiliary aids or services, please contact the County's ADA Compliance Officer at (540) 980-7800 (TDD accessible) or (540) 980-7705, ten (10) days prior to the above meeting date to arrange for these special accommodations.

LEGAL NOTICE



Public Notice
Pulaski County
Board of Supervisors

The Pulaski County Board of Supervisors intends to hold Public Hearings beginning at 7:00 p.m., or soon thereafter as can be heard, on Monday, February 26, 2024, in the Supervisors Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, N.W., Suite 1, in the Town of Pulaski to receive citizens' comments on the following matter:

- Adoption of a resolution by which the County of Pulaski would request the Commonwealth Transportation Board, and its designee, the Virginia Department of Transportation, (1) to prohibit use of Old Giles Road (Route 746) within the County of Pulaski by through tractor trailers, logging trucks, and similar large trucks (but not affecting pickup trucks and panel trucks), pursuant to Virginia Code §46.2-809; (2) to post appropriate signage on Old Giles Road (Route 746) (Giles Avenue) and Cleburne Boulevard of such prohibition ; and (3) to confirm that violation of such prohibition shall constitute a traffic infraction as provided in Virginia Code §46.2-830 (or any amendment thereto or replacement thereof).
- Adoption of the Proposed Amendments to the Animal Control Ordinance of the County of Pulaski, Virginia
- Adoption of Proposed Amendments to Ordinance Providing Tax Relief for Elderly and Disabled

Comments may be presented orally or in writing via mail to above address, fax (540-980-7717), or e-mail to bos@pulaskicounty.org. A copy of the resolution and/or proposed ordinance and amendments are available for public inspection from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, NW, in the Town of Pulaski or by phoning (540) 980-7705.

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

CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICE

TRUSTEE SALE OF 170 Oak Lane, Pulaski, VA 24301

In execution of the Deed of Trust dated August 31, 2017, in the original principal amount of \$69,696.00, recorded as Inst. 170002916, assigned as Inst. 190003180, and modified to the amount of \$78,255.75 as Inst. 202301487, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County of Pulaski, Virginia, default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured and at the request of the holder of the note, the undersigned, as Substitute Trustees, either of whom may act, will sell at public auction at the front entrance of the Circuit Court for the County of Pulaski on March 27, 2024, at 10:30 a.m., the property located at the above address and described as 0.9273 acre residue as shown on plat recorded in Plat Cabinet 1, Slide 393, page 8, County of Pulaski.

TERMS: CASH. PROPERTY SOLD AS IS WITH SPECIAL WARRANTY OF TITLE. A deposit of \$7,000.00 or 10% of the successful bid amount (whichever is lower) will be required immediately of the successful bidder, in cashier's check or certified funds only payable to or signed over to "DOLANREID PLLC, TRUSTEE", balance due within 15 days from date of sale. No personal checks accepted. Sale is subject to post sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan including, but

not limited to, determination of whether the borrower filed for and obtained bankruptcy protection, entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, or if trustee is unable to complete the sale, or if it is set aside or not fully completed for any reason except purchaser's default, the sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Upon purchaser's default, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property resold at the risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, reservations and conditions, if any, of record, as well as inchoate liens and any other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises. Real estate taxes will be adjusted to the date of sale. All costs of conveyance, deed, examination of title, recording charges, grantor's tax and possession will be at the expense of the purchaser. All risks of casualty immediately pass to the successful bidder. Time is of the essence. Winning bidder must sign a memorandum of sale immediately upon completion of sale. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. Trustee's affidavit and a copy of the notice of sale available at the foreclosure sale. The opening bid is not announced until the sale. Current sale status

available at dolanreid.com/foreclosure-sales.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

For Information Contact:
DolanReid PLLC and G. Benny Moore, Substitute Trustee(s)
12610 Patrick Henry Dr., Ste. D, Newport News, VA 23602;
(757) 320-0255

FAIR HOUSING NOTICE:

We are pledged to the letter and spirit of Virginia's policy for achieving equal housing opportunity throughout the Commonwealth. We encourage and support advertising and marketing programs in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, elderliness, familial status or handicap. For more information or to file a housing complaint, call the Virginia Housing Office at (804) 367-8530; toll-free call (888) 551-3247. For hearing-impaired, call (804) 367-9753. E-mail fairhousing@dpvr.virginia.gov.

LOCAL ADS

STORAGE UNIT AUCTION

Storage Unit Auction – Unit 70 located at Town Center Storage in Dublin. Unit will be posted on storageauctions.com Feb. 14 and will be active until noon on Feb. 28, 2024. Unit size is 5 x 7.

REAL ESTATE

TWO CEMETERY PLOTS FOR SALE: Highland Memory Gardens, Dublin, VA - Good Shepherd Section, Lot 15, Block 12, Two Side By Side Spaces 3&4 For \$2,000 (Current Cost At HMB Is \$5,190) - Call Or Text 540-320-2843.

Cemetery Plots for sale: Two each, side-by-side located in Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin. Lot No. 220, Block D, Units 1 and 2, Section 6 in Garden of the Gospels. Asking \$1,850 each. Call 336-858-8265.

RENTAL PROPERTY

FOR RENT: 4376 Akers Road, Draper. Quiet, peaceful surroundings, country lot for rent. Electric and water hookups available. Call 785-806-5752 or 540-235-6161.

ESTATE SALE

ESTATE/YARD SALE – Will be held Friday, March 1st and Saturday, March 2nd from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm both days. Location is 3848 Bainbridge Drive, Pulaski, VA. The Estate of Carol and Bill Canty includes collectible dolls, small kitchen appliances, microwave, Pyrex and Corning Ware, Tupperware, silver plate serving pieces, vintage glassware, dishes, lots of holiday and Christmas decor, lamps, cookbooks, large amount of costume jewelry and assorted name brand clothing (including



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LOCAL ADS

Alfred Dunner). Furniture to include two (2) bedroom suits, cedar chest, sleeper sofa, executive U-shape desk, buffet, 3-piece china cabinet, dining table and chairs, matching vintage coffee table, corner table and desk, twin trundle bed and mattresses, bench, 4 large mirrored wardrobes.Garage finds include storage racks, table saw, assorted tools, garden accessories, cabinets and lots more. Everything is priced to SELL! Cash transactions only.

Estate/Yard Sale: 1508 Overton Drive, Pulaski, February 24, 2024, 8:00 AM to 4:00. A large sale, including all household items, furniture, refrigerator, garden tools, dishes, china, linen, etc. Too much to list.

WANTED

Looking for experienced seamstress in Pulaski County and towns of Pulaski and Dublin. Disabled Veteran needs adjustments to back braces, etc. Will bring work to your door if needed. Serious inquiries only please. Call anytime between 9 am and 10 pm 276-620-0591

FOR SALE: MISCELLANEOUS

For Sale: 3 cushion light brown couch-no pets or no smoking household-great condition, clean-dublin area 60.00 540-440-6389. Also nightstand, white with black fixtures, very nice, great condition, soft close drawers 25.00. 540-440-6389

For Sale: 27.1 cubic foot Whirlpool two-door freezer and refrigerator with water and ice in

door. Great shape. Call 540-509-5496.

For Sale: Shark Deluxe Rocket vacuum cleaner. Harley Davidson motorcycle helmet – bought new for \$260. For sale for \$100. Furniture. Call 540-230-5386.

For Sale: Three gaming chairs. Sold together. Excellent condition. Black with cup holders that light up blue. Located in Radford. Asking \$450 for all three. Price negotiable. 276-237-8747.

Four Sale: Igloo dog house. Fits two large breed dogs or three small breed dogs. In good shape, great for winter! Must pick up. With heated water bowls also available. Call 540-639-1530.

Pear shaped diamond ring, 14K yellow gold, size 7, price reduced to \$475. Includes information card with details about the ring. Call 540-980-5361.



Troy Rodakowski

Ok, let’s talk about turkey hunting.

I am going back on something I said I would not do. Not long ago I was tired of seeing posts on the Book of Faces and other founts of knowledge in the social media and internet labyrinth. Over anxious turkey hunters, as early as January were going on about how they were ready for the spring turkey season and how they “just couldn’t wait” for the season to start. In truth I will confess that I don’t like the “I just can’t wait” phrase. It may seem trivial but the fact is you will wait if something has a date on it and don’t try to make things happen so quickly, time goes by too fast as it is. So again, some weeks ago I was chastising those that wanted to talk about spring turkey hunting too soon, it is still winter after all, and here I am doing what I said I wouldn’t do. Well, we are here now so may as well dive into it, a little sermon to get you going on spring gobbler season.

Spring gobbler hunting is just that, it happens in the spring time. Spring is when male turkeys strut their stuff for the girls and make all that racket that we turkey hunters claim to love so much (gobbling). During this time we hunters sally forth and use all of our innate skill and turkey calling powers to lure the gobblers into range. Most of us don’t like to admit that often the turkey that gets called into range is just ready to be called in that day. We like to think we are channeling Ben Rodgers Lee (a late, great turkey hunter) or maybe Ray Eye (a great turkey hunter that is still with us) and it is our incredible skill on a turkey call that gets that wise ol’ gobbler into range. (Not the fact that it is the height of the turkeys breeding season and this is the day this turkey is going to come under the gun)

Turkey hunters are great on planning and preparation, most of us love the part about getting ready and we may even like this more than the hunt itself. So herewith are some topics to get you started on the path



LARRY CASE GUNS & CORNBREAD

to this springs annual bout with insanity known as turkey season.

Get lots of new turkey calls. I am at the head of the line on this one. Every year I usually start thinking about being better prepared in the calling department and figure just what I need is a bunch of new calls to make up for my inadequacies in calling. In my defense I don’t have much trouble calling turkeys (especially that one who wanted to be called in) but I just figure that I could be better and you can always make up for a lack of skill with more stuff, that is gear of any kind. I always make a preseason call to Jim Clay (another renowned turkey hunter) for some of his Perfection Calls which he has been making since, I don’t know when, maybe the 1970’s? Master Clay is an icon in the turkey world and I figure just carrying some of his calls has got to be lucky.

This year I am going to try some new calls from local guys here in West Virginia. Mike Booth who has the “On the Limb” podcast and Nature’s Voice Game Calls has promised me some calls and I am looking forward to using them. Nathan Taylor is also a Mountain State call maker and I already have a couple his Higher Calling Custom Turkey Calls, but I may need to get a few more. Both of these guys can be found on Facebook.

Shotgun shells and the mystique of TSS. The turkey shotgun and shotshell world has changed vastly in the past several years. Once upon a time we used pretty much the same

See CASE, page B5

LOCAL JOB

COME JOIN THE PULASKI COUNTY TOURISM TEAM!



E911 Telecommunicator

The County of Pulaski is seeking qualified applicants to fill experienced full-time E-911 Public Safety Telecommunicator positions. Job requirements include receiving and dispatching emergency (911) calls for police, fire and emergency medical services. Experience or training as an emergency communications officer, dispatcher or similar position required.

The salary scale for this position is \$40,000 – 60,180 and is commensurate upon education and experience.

Excellent benefit package that includes:

- Health, dental & prescription drug insurance
- Optional vision, cancer, critical illness, accident , life, AirMedCare, Pet, and Christmas club
- Virginia state retirement & life plus optional 457b retirement program with company match
- Sick, vacation and birthday leave
- Short and long-term disability
- Multiple paid holidays
- Free YMCA membership and more!

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

To request an accommodation for disabilities, contact Human Resources at 540-994-2406. Criminal background, DMV screening and drug & alcohol testing is required.

Pulaski County, VA is committed to the principles of diversity and, in that spirit, seeks a broad spectrum of candidates including women, minorities, persons with disabilities, and veterans. As an Equal Opportunity Employer and certified Virginia Values Veterans (V3) organization, we are dedicated to nondiscrimination in recruitment, selection, hiring, pay, promotion, retention or other personnel action affecting employees or candidates for employment. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex/gender/identity/sexual orientation, national origin, disability or protected veteran status.

Position is open until filled.

Equal Opportunity Employer

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LOCAL JOB

New River Community Corrections and Pre-Trial Services Probation Officer



LOCATION- PULASKI OFFICE: SERVING THE LOCALITIES OF BLAND, CARROLL, FLOYD, GILES, GRAYSON, MONTGOMERY, PULASKI, WYTHE, CITIES OF GALAX AND RADFORD.

Job Summary- This is primarily a probation officer position but also requires the flexibility and aptitude to perform essential Pretrial Officer duties on a regular basis as needed. Probation responsibilities include conducting assessments on adult offenders referred by the courts and developing supervision and case plans accordingly based on the assessments and court orders while implementing and monitoring community corrections plans according to established standards, policies and procedures.

Skills & Requirements– Knowledge of the criminal justice system and court ordered supervision. Effectively plan and manage assigned caseload, ability to handle stressful situations and high-risk individuals, computer knowledge, able to communicate orally and in writing.

Minimum Qualifications & Experience – A minimum of an Associate’s Degree in Corrections/Human Services and/or related experience in case management, counseling, or in a criminal justice agency is preferred. Any combination of education and experience may be considered. Must possess excellent computer skills and excellent oral/written communication skills.

The salary scale for this position is \$34,000 – 46,920 and is commensurate upon education and experience.

Excellent benefit package that includes:

- Health, dental & prescription drug insurance
- Optional vision, cancer, critical illness, accident, life, AirMedCare, Pet, and Christmas club
- Virginia state retirement & life plus optional 457b retirement program with company match
- Sick, vacation and birthday leave
- Short and long-term disability
- Multiple paid holidays
- Free YMCA membership and more!

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Pulaski County, VA is committed to the principles of diversity and, in that spirit, seeks a broad spectrum of candidates including women, minorities, persons with disabilities, and veterans. As an Equal Opportunity Employer and certified Virginia Values Veterans (V3) organization, we are dedicated to nondiscrimination in recruitment, selection, hiring, pay, promotion, retention or other personnel action affecting employees or candidates for employment. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex/gender/identity/sexual orientation, national origin, disability or protected veteran status.

Position is open until filled.

Equal Opportunity Employer

LOCAL JOB

COME JOIN THE PULASKI COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION TEAM!



Summer Youth Camp Counselor

Responsible for providing indoor and outdoor activities for a wide age range of children. The Randolph Park camp occurs five days per week, ten hours per day during the summer. The Central Youth Camp is five days, five hours per day for four days per week. Counselors must be highly qualified to supervise large groups of children ensuring campers safety, conducting activities, collecting camp fees, frequent cleaning, attending to minor and major injuries and parental inquiries. Must be 16 years of age and actively enrolled as a Junior or Senior. Current enrollment in college or college graduate applicants preferred. Program welcomes current teachers to apply. First Aid and CPR is preferred and may be required based on level of responsibility. The hourly rate for this position is \$13-17 per hour 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.

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Position is open until filled.

Equal Opportunity Employer

Kidd propels Hokies to 75-41 romp over Virginia

BLACKSBURG, Va. (AP) — Lynn Kidd scored 14 points and did not miss a shot and Virginia Tech just missed its largest margin of victory against rival Virginia, beating the Cavaliers 75-41 on Monday night.

The Hokies (15-11, 7-8 Atlantic Coast Conference) handed the Cavaliers (20-7, 11-5) their worst conference loss — by 10 points — in Tony Bennett’s 15 seasons at the helm. Virginia Tech beat Virginia by 35 points, 105-70, in February of 1961.

It was the Hokies’ fourth straight home win over Virginia, matching their longest streak set from 2007-10.

Kidd made all five of his shots from the floor and all four of his free throws for Virginia Tech. He added seven rebounds. Robbie Beran scored 13 and also didn’t miss a shot — going 4 for 4 from the floor with two 3-pointers and 3 for 3 at the foul line. Reserve Tyler Nickel also scored 13, adding six assists and four rebounds. Mylajael Poteat scored 11 off the bench on 5-for-7 shooting with a 3-pointer.

Isaac McKneely led Virginia with 11 points.

Virginia Tech went on a 20-0 run, holding Virginia scoreless for nearly nine minutes in building a 36-16 lead at halftime. Kidd scored 12 and Nickel added nine points as Virginia Tech shot 50% overall and made 4 of 11 from 3-point range.

Jordan Minor’s layup pulled Virginia within 16-14 with 9:43 remaining. The Cavaliers did not score again until Leon Bond III dunked with 46 seconds left. Virginia shot 32% and missed all five of its 3-point attempts before intermission. All the Cavaliers’ first-half scoring came in the paint.



Brian Bishop/Patriot Publishing
Virginia Tech’s Tyler Nickel goes up for two points against UVa’s Ryan Dunn.

Virginia had one basket over 14 minutes spanning the two halves until Reece Beekman hit the Cavaliers’ first 3-pointer and Ryan Dunn followed with a layup to make it 43-21 with 17 minutes left to play. Beran buried a 3-pointer with 7:22 to go to push the Hokies’ advantage to 63-31. Poteat scored twice in a 6-0 run and Virginia Tech

led 69-33 with 3:47 remaining, prompting Hokies coach Mike Young to empty his bench.

Virginia beat Virginia Tech 65-57 at home on Jan. 17 to begin an eight-game win streak. Virginia Tech travels to take on Pittsburgh on Saturday. Virginia returns home to play No. 10 North Carolina on Saturday.

After 500 win, Byron won’t be the ‘other guy’ anymore

By Reid Spencer
NASCAR Wire Service

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Overlooked and underappreciated. That’s the perception that has driven newly crowned DAYTONA 500 champion William Byron to achievements beyond his imagination.

Byron learned how to race on a computer, and when team owner Rick Hendrick promoted him to the NASCAR Cup Series as a 20-year-old in 2018, there were plenty of skeptics who looked askance at the move.

At 26, Byron is the youngest driver in an organization that includes six-time most popular driver Chase Elliott, who won the 2020 series championship; and Kyle Larson, the 2021 champion who often is described

as a generational talent across a multitude of racing platforms.

“I’m the other guy,” Byron said on Monday night after doing what no other Hendrick driver has been able to do since Dale Earnhardt Jr. won the DAYTONA 500 in 2014.

In fact, Byron is the only current Hendrick driver who has ever won a Cup points event on the Daytona oval, where he claimed the first of his 11 career victories in the 2020 summer race.

Last year, Byron won a series-best six races and qualified for the Championship 4, finishing third in the final standings. Nevertheless, despite his obvious flair for superspeedway racing, the driver of the No. 24 Chevrolet



(Photo by Chris Graythen/Getty Images)
William Byron, driver of the #24 Axalta Chevrolet, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series Daytona 500 at Daytona International Speedway.

See BYRON, page B6

Banter

Continued From Page B1

an adjustment to be made. Scoring the “old school” dunks higher pushed an adjustment to be made, and because we are watching high-level athletes, that is what they did; they made adjustments for the sake of competition. This may be an unpopular opinion, and I think Mac McClung is great; coming from Lee County, we faced Gate City in every sport and even getting to have Mac’s dad as my football coach was great. I don’t think the final 5.0 dunk was all that great. Yes, he jumped over Shaq (so did someone else that night), and everyone was jumping over someone, but again, you give the judges what they want, and well, apparently, that’s what they wanted.

Finally, the 3-point shootout was probably the most iconic for me (other than the LED court) because Steph Cury and Sabrina Ionescu came and set a precedent for the All-Star games to come—what a great show of ability and the way genuinely competitive people function. Steph is Steph Curry; I mean, was there any doubt (sorry, ladies, don’t take offense. The guy can shoot). But everyone can learn a lesson from Sabrina: no excuses, no special treatment, and no doubt that she will win this thing. The most impressive thing to me was when the NBA was putting this thing together,

Mrs. Ionescu said, “I will shoot from men’s 3 pt. range,” and that is a testament to a true competitor. We always remind our baseball guys, “As a man thinks, so he is,” and we got to see someone who believed in herself and all the hours she put into her craft go toe to toe with one of the greats.

So, if you have an aspiring

athlete, teach them to trust in the preparation they put into their craft, encourage them not to worry about the circumstances (women’s 3 pt line vs men’s 3 pt line), and push them to step into moments ready to the best they can, and if that best happens not to be good enough keep working. That’s all we can expect from anyone, to do their best!

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Brian Bishop/Patriot Publishing

Lady Cougars Fall In Regionals

Pulaski County’s Morgan Vest goes up for a basket in Hillsville this week against the Carroll County Lady Cavaliers. Vest scored 15 points for the Lady Cougars, who fell to Carroll, 62-55.

Case

Continued From Page B4

shotgun for about everything. Ducks, pheasants, rabbits, the odd deer now and then as well as turkeys all got shot with the same shotgun, often a Remington 870, an 1100, or maybe a Mossberg 500 pump gun. Now most of us would not think of turkey hunting without a shotgun specifically for that purpose. Sometimes it is a Benelli Super Back Eagle or a Mossberg 835 tricked out with optics looking like something that Buck Rogers (a 1930’s science fiction guy, and then a late 1970’s TV show) would be toting.

Shotgun shells, have if anything, changed even more. Like the pre turkey craze days, we used about whatever shells were found in our vest from our last hunting trip. Winchester Double X Magnums in number 4 or 6 shot, or Remington Nitro shells seemed to do just fine and we killed turkeys with no problem as long as we did not try to stretch the barrel, that is not shoot at turkeys that were too far away, like over 40 or so yards. Shotgun makers changed all this first with the advent of the Winchester Long Beard XR shotguns shells. In a stroke of genius Winchester engineers perfected a method of encasing shot pellets in a hard clear plastic material that shatters instantly upon ignition of the shell and encases the shot charge in this buffering as it starts down the barrel. The result was greatly increased possible ranges on turkeys. To the amazement of many, including the turkeys, 60 yards became the new 40 as far as killing turkeys.

This went on for a few years until word started to get out that some real turkey nuts were loading their own shot

shells with a new type of pellet made from a metal known as wolfram, or tungsten. This metal in its purest form, for shot shells, made pellets that were almost twice as dense and hard as lead pellets and produced patterns and terminal ballistics (the pellets effectiveness in killing game birds) that were once thought of as impossible. Federal ammunition produced the first commercial shotshells for TSS (Tungsten Super Shot) and the world has never been the same.

Tales of turkeys being knocked over at incredible ranges soon became old hat. The use of TSS brought up another phenomenon in the turkey shotgun world in that it allows the hunter to use subgauges like the 28 gauge and even the .410 bore to effectively hunt turkeys. The density of the TSS shot allows it to be loaded in fine shot, like number 9’s and with the small shot the shell can be loaded with sometimes twice the number of shot allowing for incredible numbers of hits in a pattern. Let’s just say these are not your Grandad’s shotgun shells.

Now, aren’t you glad I brought all this up so early?

Larry Case
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Dublin Council OKs budget revision, decal changes

By DAVID QUESENBERRY
Patriot Publishing

The Dublin Town Council, at its February 15th meeting, approved revisions to the current budget and an amendment to the Town Code concerning vehicle license decals.

Town Manager Tye Kirkner reported to Council that the Town had received an additional \$129,454 in reimbursements from VDOT for lane mileage within the Town. Since the additional funds exceeded one percent of the Town's budget, a duly noticed public hearing along with formal Council approval was required before the additional funds could be added to the Town's budget.

Kirkner reviewed how the funds would be distributed within the General Fund which would increase the General Fund budget by \$129,454. He said that the additional funds would result in a revised total Town budget of \$5,884,113 for this fiscal year.

Following the staff presentation and the public hearing, Council unanimously approved the budget revision.

Byron

Continued From Page B5

opened at disrespectful 18-to-1 odds for the DAYTONA 500 at DraftKings Sportsbook.

"Yeah, I use it all as fuel, so just keep it coming," Byron said. "All the preseason predictions and everything. I just try to stay quietly focused. I feel like for me, I do well having my own space and being able to work through the things with my race team..."

"I don't read too much into it. I'm never going to be the most vocal guy. I just enjoy getting in the race car and putting the helmet on and going to work. That's what I've always lived for."

Council next considered amending the Town Code regarding vehicle decals.

Mayor Benny Skeens reviewed the general intent of the Code amendment which was: to clarify and upgrade provisions concerning the Town's vehicle licenses; to discontinue issuing windshield decals and, to change the due date for vehicle license fees to December 5th of each year.

The license fee for vehicles of four or more wheels would increase from \$20 to \$25 and for those with three or less wheels, would increase from \$8 to \$10 effective this year.

Councilman Wayne Seagle asked why the rates between wheeled vehicles were not the same.

Town Attorney Sam Campbell said that the reasons were that the Town had traditionally distinguished between the two types of vehicles and that state law limits the license fee for vehicles based on less than four wheels.

Following the public hearing, Campbell reviewed the provisions

of the ordinance amending the Town Code concerning the application of the license fee. The ordinance itself would be made retroactive to January 1, 2024.

The assessment period of the license fee would run on a calendar year basis and would apply to eligible vehicles "normally garaged, stored or parked within the Town" as of January 1st of the calendar year.

As previously mentioned the fees were set at \$25 for vehicles with four or more wheels in contact with the ground and \$10 for vehicles with three or less wheels contacting the ground.

The fee will be collected by its addition to the personal property tax ticket as a separate line item payable on the December 5th due date with personal property taxes.

Penalties for non-payment include a one-time assessment of 10 percent of the amount with interest accruing at 10 percent if not paid on time. If payment is not made within 30 days, the Treasurer will send a reminder within 60 days that the fee is due with penalty and interest. If the fee is still not paid then a

collection action will be started.

Campbell noted that there were two additional alternatives for enforcement, the Division of Motor Vehicles Stop Program and the Va. Department of Taxation's Debt Set-Off Program. If payment is not received, the DMV may block vehicle registration or driver's license renewal while the Dept. of Taxation may withhold state tax refunds until the fee is received.

After the ordinance review, Council unanimously approved the vehicle license ordinance.

Council then heard from Utility Superintendent Darrin Cullip on the ongoing meter replacement project. Cullip said as of last week, one thousand units had been installed and that he expected the total to rise to 1200 at the end of this week. Due to leaks in setters, some meters could not be installed until repairs were made. In addition, two water lines had been replaced. He anticipated that the project could be completed in three months.

In the budget report, as of January 30th, Kirkner said that General Fund revenues

were 51 percent due to the late year reception of tax revenues. General Fund expenditures were 58 percent which was the same as the budget estimates.

The Enterprise Fund maintained a favorable balance with revenues at 64 percent as opposed to 58 percent budgeted and expenditures at 59 percent as opposed to 58 percent budgeted.

Overall, Kirkner said that the budget was remaining "right on track at this point."

After a short discussion, Council approved a work session for Thursday, February 29th at 6:00 p.m.

Council next recognized employees for their service to the Town. Chief Dennis Lambert was recognized for administering CPR which saved the life of a stricken individual, while he was on vacation. Junior Moye was recognized for his recent work on sprinkler systems and remodeling facilities in the Industrial Park.

Council's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Dublin Town Center.

One clear catalyst for Byron's career has been the pairing in 2021 with crew chief Rudy Fugle, who called the shots from the pit box when Byron broke into the NASCAR CRAFTSMAN Truck Series with a seven-win season with Kyle Busch Motorsports in 2016.

Together, Byron and Fugle have won 10 Cup races at Hendrick Motorsports.

"William puts in the work," team owner Rick Hendrick said in a Monday night post-race press conference. "That's all he thinks about. He's in the simulator. He's watching tapes.

He has worked so hard. People don't realize how much time he puts in.

"But bringing Rudy on gave him that confidence, because they were so successful in the Truck Series, and, man, they just picked up and clicked. And when you think about his age and how smart he is and how he races like a guy that's been doing it for a long time, doesn't make many mistakes, but he just eats and drinks and sleeps winning. He puts in the work."

In Monday's rain-delayed DAYTONA 500, the work paid off. Byron grabbed the lead after a restart with four laps left, took the white flag and was narrowly ahead of teammate Alex Bowman when NASCAR called the fifth and final caution for

Ross Chastain's slide through the grass in the tri-oval.

The victory wasn't just a career-defining moment for Byron. It was the perfect kickoff for the year-long 40th anniversary celebration for Hendrick Motorsports, whose drivers, past and present, have amassed a series-best 302 victories since its founding in 1984. That was the season Geoff Bodine rescued a company on the brink of extinction with his win at Martinsville.

In breaking a decade-long DAYTONA 500 drought, Byron also gave Hendrick its ninth victory in the Great American Race, tying the organization with Petty Enterprises for most all-time.

"Tonight he told me, he

said, 'I never thought I'd race here, and now I've won the DAYTONA 500,'" Hendrick said. "So pretty special."

In the post-race celebration, no one seemed happier than Hendrick vice chairman Jeff Gordon, who drove the No. 24 Chevrolet to 93 victories and four series championships.

"I try not to be biased, but William is making it hard on me," said Gordon, who won the DAYTONA 500 three times. "It's 2024, and the 24 is always going to be very, very special to me. But what I loved the most is seeing him make it his number and building that fan base — 24 fans have been around for a long time, but his own fans.

"A win like this, my gosh, this is going to elevate that up to the next level and bring a whole lot more new fans to the sport and for William. That's what I get excited (about) and look forward to."

It's also something Byron will have to get used to. And he may have to find a new source of motivation.

His days as "the other guy" are numbered.

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Council takes no action on Calfee ‘bridge loan’

By WILLIAM PAINE
Patriot Publishing

Pulaski Town Council on Tuesday took no action on a request by the Calfee Community and Cultural Center to back a “bridge loan” necessary to get construction on the project underway.

The town council heard two presentations starting with Adam Markwood of Brian Wishneff & Associates, who spoke on behalf of the Calfee Community and Cultural Center (CCCC). Markwood spoke about an incentive program specifically designed for historic structures, which involves using tax credits to raise income for improvements on that structure.

The idea behind using historic tax credits to fund work on historic structures involves a nonprofit like the CCCC partnering with a business entity that will provide the funding for renovations. This funding is provided in exchange for tax credits, which can be used by the business entity after the project is completed. The business entity, often a bank, generates income from the deal because the value of their tax credit is greater than the amount loaned to the nonprofit.

The grant money is provided by the National Park Service and renovations of these historic structures must comply with standards set by the U.S. Secretary of Interior’s office.

As Markwood explained, his company has found a bank willing to finance the \$1.5 million renovation work in exchange for federal historic tax credits. However, this bank would require that the CCCC take out a “bridge Loan” at the start of the project.

According to Markwood, money for the renovations and the accompanying historic tax credits that will go to the financing entity (the bank) will not be available until the project is nearing its completion.

The purpose of the “bridge loan” is to provide funding for renovations at the beginning of the project, so that work may commence. The loan will be repaid to the bank towards the end of the process by using the funding initially promised by the bank, as part of the historic tax credit deal.

For the bank to secure this bridge loan, they require that another entity, in this case the Town of Pulaski, sign off as a co-guarantor for \$500,000 dollars of the bridge loan. Upon finalizing the loan, the bank would be obliged to provide financing for the project in exchange for the historic tax credits, but this would occur on the completion of the project.

Markwood emphasized that the risk to the town was minimal because, if all goes according to plan, there will be an excess of half a million dollars in funding by the time the project is completed. The worst-case scenario is that upon completion of the work, the project is never approved because the renovations do not comply with the agreed upon design, which would negate the historic tax credit deal.

“But I’ve never seen that happen to a project in Virginia,” said Markwood.

Jill Williams, Co-Executive Director of the CCCC, stated that their original goal was to do the

renovations “all at once,” but that the “cost of construction went up significantly.” According to Williams, exterior construction on the CCCC building could be completed once the bridge loan was secured.

Councilman Brooks Dawson peppered Markwood and Williams with several questions during the 50-minute presentation session. The CCCC renovation project consists of several “phases,” including ongoing work on the building’s exterior. Dawson asked why the CCCC wants money for phase 2 of the project, before phase 1 has been completed.

“We’re not going to be able to get that infusion of historic tax credits into the project until after the exterior envelope work on the building has been done and we can’t start the exterior envelope work on the building until we have this bridge loan to match the National Park Service grant,” Williams answered.

Phase one of the CCCC project includes renovating three classrooms, a childcare center, a “warming” kitchen and two vestibules. According to Williams, the plan is to open the childcare center by the middle of October of this year.

The Town Council took no action regarding the loan guarantee but will likely do so this coming May.

Guy Smith next came to the podium to talk about the T.G. Howard Community Center, where he serves as Executive Director.

The T.G. Howard Center was established in 1965 by a Methodist Minister named T.G. Howard.

“He got tired of seeing families that were black and white split up when it was time to go to school and he wanted a place where everybody could come and just be together and serve as a community,” said Smith.

In Dec. 1957 a group of black citizens led by Howard met to discuss the possibility of constructing a building to meet the needs of the surrounding community. They organized the Christian Citizen’s League for the purpose of making that happen.

Howard died in 1961, but his wife and others took on the challenge and eventually built the T.G. Howard Community Center in May 1965 for \$14,930, of which the Town contributed \$2,000.

According to Smith, the T.G. Howard center was the Swiss Army Knife of community centers providing summer programs for kids, karate classes, ballet classes, GED courses and even help for individuals with brain injuries. The T.G. Howard Center also served as the Percy Corbin branch of the YMCA, and so was often referred to as the Black YMCA.

“People often hear me call the YMCA the tugboat because it’s not the prettiest, but it’s effective and goes where it needs to go to serve the people that it needs to serve,” said Smith.

In 2019, Smith organized a group of like-minded individuals and decided to renovate the T.G. Howard Center, which had fallen into disrepair. They were able to secure grant money to renovate the structure and today the T.G. Howard Community Center hosts programming for various community needs including work

with senior citizens, children with AIDS, breast cancer victims and much more.

The T.G. Howard Community Center also gives new backpacks filled with school supplies to school-aged children. They provided 360 backpacks to children last fall at no cost to the parents.

The T.G. Howard Community Center recently received its occupancy permit which will allow it to be rented out and used for birthday parties, community gatherings and educational programming.

Smith encouraged people to visit the T.G. Howard website and Facebook page or visit the Center at 320 Altoona Road “to see what we do.” Those who are interested in renting the space are encouraged to go to tghoward1965@gmail.com.

Smith thanked the Town and community for their support but notably, did not ask the council for any type of funding, saying that the T.G. Howard Community Center was currently debt free.

Two individuals spoke at the public comment portion of the meeting.

Tyler Altizer, expressed his concern about dog owners who did not put their dogs on a leash when walking on the Dora Trail. Altizer, who is in training for a marathon, said he would often see dogs without leashes on the trail and feared that someone

might get bit. Altizer asked town council to put up more signage along the Dora Trail advising dog owners that there is a leash law in effect in town limits.

Next, Steven Simon came to the podium and asked, “How many of y’all would like the smell of human waste running through your backyard?”

Hearing no response, he continued speaking. Simon who lives on Linden Circle, complained that the creek behind his house was filthy and showed a photo of the dirty water.

“I smell this on warm days

... there’s toilet paper and female products in there and I’m trying to make people aware of this to ensure this is handled appropriately,” said Simon. “So far, I feel the town has failed me in doing so.”

When asked which creek he was referring, Simon said it runs directly behind Poor Boys.

“OK, so it’s Sproule’s Run,” said councilman Michael Reis.


Newly appointed Town Manager Todd Day promised to rectify the situation as soon as possible.

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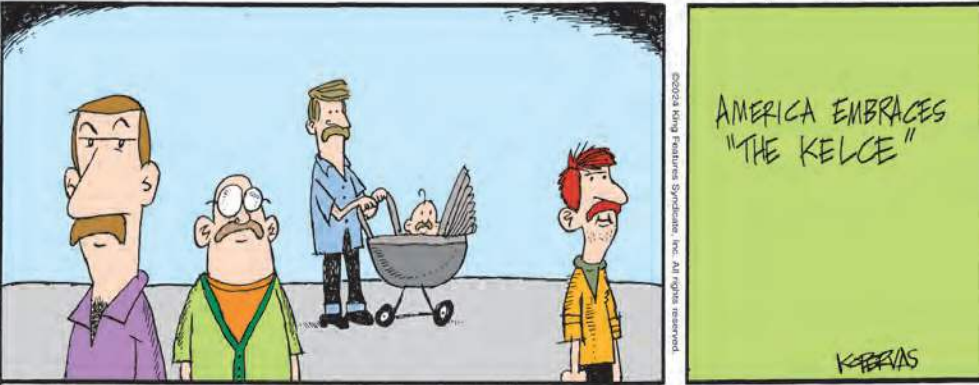
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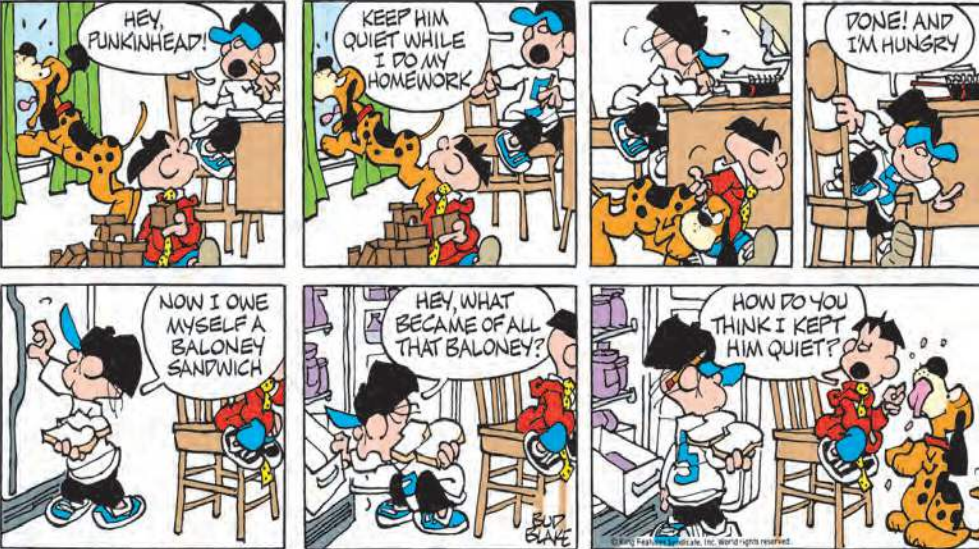
The Spats

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OLIVE

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINGOFF



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



CryptoQuip

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

Clue: Q equals F

SPG MY LTD OKLPTRZLE
TBSTGE EKKO XY MDZRJ
LYQQKK TX SYDJ? HKLTAEK
ZX'E HDKTJ QBAZM!

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SCRAMBLERS

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Stash
CHEAC
Froth
HALTER
Deduce
FINER
Lowly
MALINE

TODAY'S WORD

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Pep
4 "Get Here" singer Adams
9 Opposite of "post-"
12 Equal (Pref.)
13 Jeremy of "Entourage"
14 Corn serving
15 Prepaid convenience for cell users
17 Texter's "Enough!"
18 Common verb
19 Spiritualist
21 Oliver Twist, for one
24 Cabinet dept. head
25 "Norma —"
26 Snake's warning
28 Mexican snacks
31 Actor Richard
33 UFO crew
35 Commanded
36 Enticed
38 Rep.'s rival
40 "Diamonds" singer
41 Goatee's spot
43 "O Pioneers!" author
45 Long recliner
47 Magic, on scoreboards
48 "A spider!"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15			16					17		
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54				55				56		
57				58				59		

- 49 Cell user's practical joke
54 Conk out
55 Dodge
56 Classic car
57 Hosp. areas
58 Opposite of most
59 Watch chain
Gabor
7 Semesters
8 "Still ..."
9 Fund for minor expenses
10 Malek of "Bohemian Rhapsody"
11 Guitarist Clapton
16 "Unh-unh"
20 Wound cover
21 Pitcher
22 Pasta sauce brand
23 Fruity baked goods
27 Norm (Abbr.)
29 Garfield's pal
30 Blacken
32 Classic soda brand
34 Extra helpings
37 Put to rest
39 Grocery store
42 Audacity
44 Patient's need, briefly
45 Give up
46 Estate recipient
50 Bond rating
51 Canine cry
52 Zodiac feline
53 Arced tennis shot

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top ten

Most Common Physical Symptoms of ANXIETY

1. Fatigue
2. Heart Palpitations
3. Dizziness
4. Increased Heart Rate
5. Muscle Aches
6. Muscle Weakness
7. Headaches
8. Shortness of Breath
9. Digestive Discomfort
10. Tingling Sensations

Source: 10MostToday.com

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Canada?
2. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What was the first animal to be cloned?
3. LITERATURE: In the children's book series "The Bobbsey Twins," what are the names of the two sets of twins?
4. CHEMISTRY: What is the symbol for the chemical element platinum?
5. MUSIC: What is the title of Elvis Presley's first commercial single?
6. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the first U.S. national park?
7. MEDICAL: What is a common name for xerosis?
8. FOOD & DRINK: What is a sommelier?
9. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first president to visit all 50 states?
10. HISTORY: What were the principal powers of the Axis in WWII?

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WORD LADDERS

Can you go from BEAST to BOOST in 6 words? Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

BEAST

BOOST

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SCRAMBLERS

FATHER
Today's Word
1. Cache 2. Lateral
3. Infer 4. Mental
solution

ROAST, ROOST, BOOST

BEAST, BLAST, ROAST

Answer

WORD LADDER

Americanisms



"A sense of freedom is something that, happily, comes with age and life experience."
— Diane Keaton

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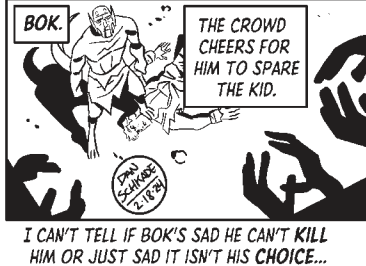
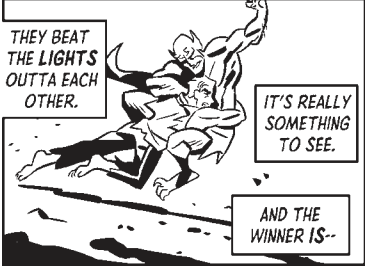
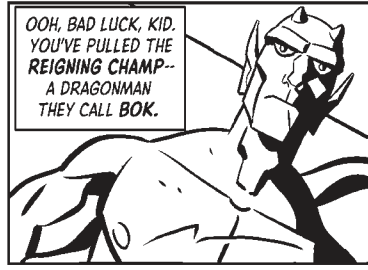
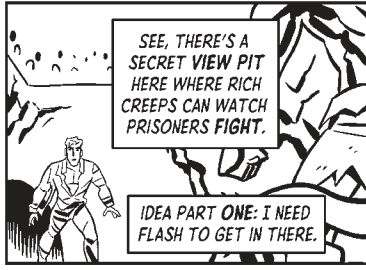
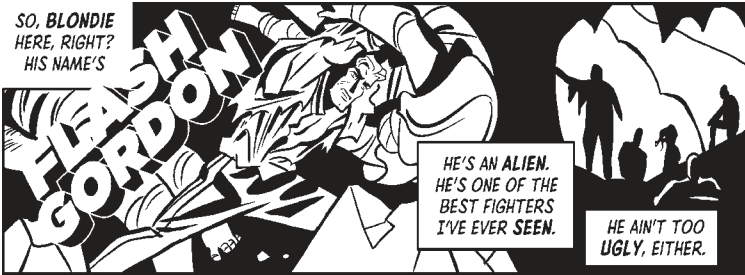
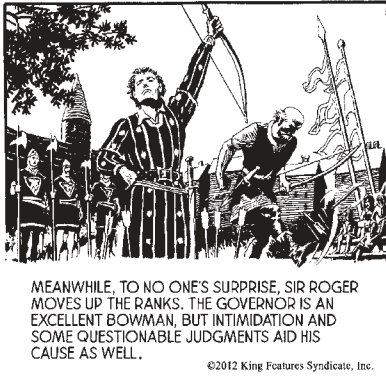
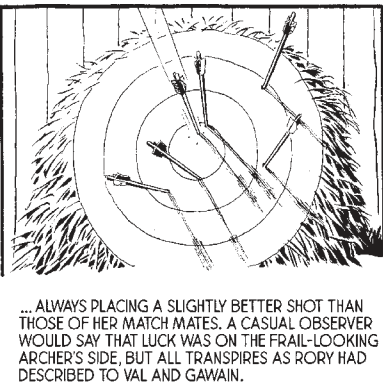
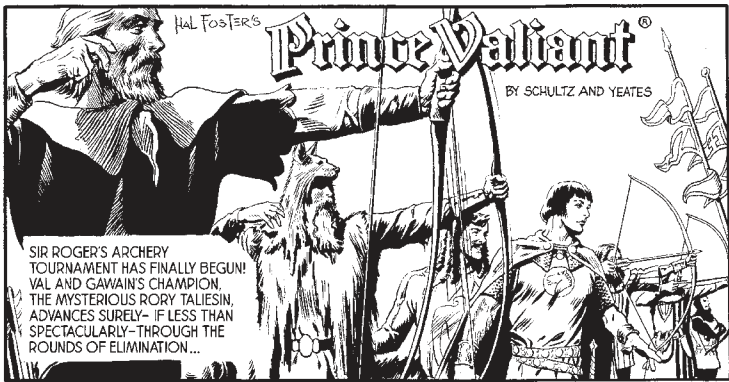
Solution time: 22 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

CryptoQuip
Why do car mechanics always seem to drink coffee at work? Because it's break fluid!

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Here's a Tip!

* When putting in new plants, you can tear strips of tin foil, then use toothpicks or small stakes to pin them to the ground in your new garden. It will keep the cats out, and can even discourage birds.

* To remove the fat from your pot roast or other slow-cooked meat dish, make then refrigerate. The fat will float to the top of the juices and coagulate. Remove this layer of fat and then reheat.

* "My kids are long past wagon size, but their wagon isn't done hauling yet. I put it to good use in the garden. I can park it in the

shed stocked with all the things I might need. It's very handy." -- A.A. in Florida

* "When starting out a new exercise class, be sure to give it a full month before you decide whether you like it or not. Especially classes that are harder, since you might be very sore and think that means you don't care for the class." -- L.M. in Virginia

* "Dedicate a photo album to class photos. It will be easy to see the changes your little ones have gone through over the years. It's especially nice when you include the individual portraits for each

year and make the album for just one child. It makes a special gift, too." -- J.K. in Pennsylvania

* To sharpen a pair of worn scissors, try cutting through a piece of aluminum foil that is doubled or tripled over. Be sure to clean and dry scissors you use in the kitchen.

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

The Patriot
540-808-3949

MAGIC MAZE ● GRAINS AND OILSEEDS

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

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

Barley Corn Pennycress Safflower
Buckwheat Flax Quinoa Sorghum
Camelina Olives Rice Wheat
Canola Peanuts Rye

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CryptoQuote

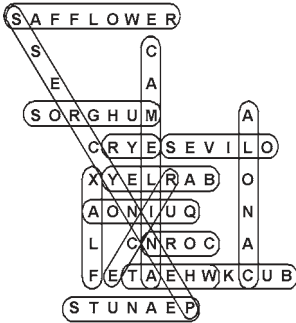
AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

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

CN NCJ WX OJSEJHD —
DPVD'X GPL OJCHWMX
PVKJ JSVXJSX.
— GNMEFVCF SWJRJ

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GRAINS AND OILSEEDS



CryptoQuote answer

No one is perfect — that's why pencils have erasers.
— Wolfgang Riebe

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Top Ten in Movies

- Argylle (PG-13) Henry Cavill, Bryce Dallas Howard
- Lisa Frankenstein (PG-13) Kathryn Newton, Liza Soberano
- The Beekeeper (R) Jason Statham, Emmy Raver-Lampman
- Wonka (PG) Timothee Chalamet, Gustave Die
- Migration (PG) Kumail Nanjiani, Elizabeth Banks
- The Chosen: S4.E1 (NR) Shahar Isaac, Paras Patel
- Anyone But You (R) Sydney Sweeney, Glen Powell
- Mean Girls (PG-13) Angourie Rice, Renee Rapp
- American Fiction (R) Jeffrey Wright, Tracee Ellis Ross
- Poor Things (R) Emma Stone, Mark Ruffalo

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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The Patriot

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PULASKI COUNTY PULSE

**Feb. 25
Special Service**
Pastor Bill Schoeneman and congregation of Trinity United Methodist Church invite you to a special service on Feb. 25 at 9:45 a.m. See, hear and experience a blank, gray canvas transform into a beautiful illustration of scripture with Evangelist Dwight Haynes of www.chalktalks.net The church is located at 526 5th Street S.E. in Pulaski. Snowdate is March 3. For more information call 540-695-0334.

**Feb. 26
Monday Gospel Sing**
Monday Gospel Sing Gospel Sing 9:30-11:00 a.m. every Monday, Pulaski Church Of God, 1621 Bob White Blvd., near Food City.

Enjoy great traditional music and fellowship. Come and go as you please. Great way to start your week and make new friends. Park in lower lot and use elevator to second floor.

**March 1
Pulaski Church Women United Observes World Day of Prayer**
Friday, March 1, 2024, 11:00 am at Randolph Avenue United Methodist Church. This ecumenical program invites women from Pulaski area churches to meet for a program prepared by the Christian women of Palestine entitled, "I beg you .. bear with one another in love" from Ephesians 4:1-3. The host church is located at 1607 Randolph Avenue, Pulaski. A

pot-luck luncheon will follow the program. For more information, call 540 320-3369. All are welcome.

March 2

Taco and Potato Bar
Taco and Potato Bar at Pulaski First Church of the Brethren on March 2nd 12-3. This is a free will offering event. The church is located at 1749 Newbern Road, one block behind the DMV. You may eat in, carry out or we can deliver. The church number 540-980-3798 or Ms. Smith 540-616-6641.

March 7

American Legion

The American Legion, Harvey Howe Carper Post 30 will meet on Thursday, March 7, 6pm at the VFW Post Home on 102 Watts St. in Radford. If Radford City Public Schools are closed on Thursday or Friday of this week due to weather, the meeting will be cancelled. For further information, please call 540-250-2283 or 540-239-9864.

March 21

Sons of Confederate Veterans
The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet on Thursday, March 21, 7pm at Aly's Family Italian Restaurant on 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy

(UDC) are also invited to attend. Member Dana Jackson will speak on the "History of the Confederate Veterans Home in Richmond". If Montgomery or Floyd County Public Schools are closed on Thursday or Friday of this week due to weather, the meeting will be cancelled. For further information, please call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

On going:

Monday Services
Evangelists Jodie and Rosanna Whittaker - Monday night services at 7 p.m. at the Quality Inn in Dublin Conference Room. 540-674-1100 - You're invited to attend powerful spirit-filled services.



WWW.PCPATRIOT.COM

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