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## Pulaski Town Council hears presentations on housing

By WILLIAM PAINE  
Patriot Publishing

This week's meeting of the Pulaski Town Council featured two presentations focused on affordable housing.

Jennifer Wilsie, Director of Housing for the New River Valley Regional Commission gave a lengthy presentation about the recently developed concept of a Housing Trust Fund, which aims to expand affordable housing opportunities throughout the NRV.

A Housing Trust Fund is a special bank account dedicated to funding affordable housing developments by using both public and private funding.

The concept of a Housing Trust Fund was created in 2021 and is similar in structure to the New River Valley Home Consortium, which receives \$600,000 annually

in federal HUD funds. Every five years, one of the five localities in the NRV receives funding from the NRV Home Consortium to put towards affordable housing projects. The New River Valley Home Consortium was created in 2007.

In recent years, these monies have gone towards renovation projects on Dora Highway, the Baskerville area of Dublin and several housing projects following the 2011 tornado that struck Pulaski. Most recently, money from the NRV Home Consortium went towards the rehabilitation of the former Claremont School. Work to turn this school building into a multi-unit apartment building is expected to begin this coming April.

The Housing Trust Fund would operate in a similar manner in that every five years a locality would receive funding on a rotating

basis to build affordable housing. However, the Housing Trust Fund would receive half its funding from the localities (with the possible addition of some state/federal funds) and the other half would be funded by private investors. The idea being that if a project already has substantial government funding, non-government entities will be more likely to put money into that project, as it has a better chance at providing a return on investment.

Each locality would be expected to earmark an annual amount of funding to be put into the Housing Trust Fund based on the population of that locality.

According to the formula worked out by NRV Regional Commission, the Town of Pulaski with a population of 8,904 would be required to invest \$15,852

See COUNCIL, page A2


## Friends of Pulaski County Library seeking new members

By DANIELLE REID  
Patriot Publishing

When the COVID pandemic hit Pulaski County, it affected business and community organizations - sometimes to the point of suspending activity to temporary or permanent closings.

Carol Smith, President of the Friends of the Pulaski County Library, acknowledged that their organization was one of those affected. The Board continued to meet on a quarterly basis to ensure continuity for when the pandemic was over.

The Friends of the Library is known in the NRV for its fundraising book sales, with the next one being scheduled for March 22nd at the Booksale Room in the apartment building across from the Pulaski Library.



"Like many other organizations, activities and membership dropped off during COVID, but we are continuing to add members during our current membership drive through April 11th," Smith said. "Our next membership meeting will be held on April 11th at 5:30 pm at the Free Memorial Library in Dublin. This will be the first full membership meeting, and will be celebrated during National Library Week." The event will be catered by


Lindy Mann.

Local author, Donia Eley, will be presenting her new book "Growing Up on Orphanage Road: The story of Doris Fields Bralley and Peggy Phillips Duncan." The book details, through oral interviews, what it's like to be in an orphanage at Foster Falls; and how meaningful and enjoyable the girls' lives were in that environment. Attendees must


See LIBRARY, page A2

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# Council

Continued From Page A1

annually to be part of the Housing Trust Fund program. The county would pay \$48,493 and the Town of Dublin (pop. 2,761) would chip in \$4,674 on an annual basis.

As a whole, Pulaski County would allocate \$58,749 to the Housing Trust Fund and would theoretically receive \$804,723 at the end of their five-year cycle, which is substantially more than what the county would have put into the program. The same would hold true for the towns within the county.

This formula depends on private investors that are to put in at least half of the funding in the Housing Trust Fund and for all five localities (Pulaski County, Floyd County, Montgomery County, Giles County and Radford) to be willing to participate.

So far, the NRV Regional Commission has approached Virginia Tech, Radford University, Carilion, LewisGale Hospital and other large employers to seek potential investment funds, but as this program is in its infancy, no

commitments have officially been made.

Nor have any local governments officially committed to investing in the Housing Trust Fund, but Wilsie seems confident that the Town of Blacksburg will commit to funding the project at their April meeting.

To be eligible for housing assistance, individuals in a household must make less than 80 percent of the median income for the area. In Pulaski County that means a family of four with an income of less than \$60,000 is eligible for some type of housing assistance. A family of four with an income of less than \$30,000 annually qualifies for Section 8 or Housing Choice Vouchers.

Bryan Ailey of People Inc. then gave the council an update on Pulaski Village, which was built in the early 1990's. Pulaski Village consists of 44 units and serves senior citizens and disabled individuals.

Ailey stated that he was part of a previous renovation at Pulaski Village, which was completed in 2009 and now People Inc. is looking to provide a second round of renovations to these properties.

Ailey requested that the town council make a resolution designating Pulaski Village as a Revitalization Area to help People Inc. increase chances at receiving funding from Virginia Housing (formerly Virginia Housing and Development Authority). This resolution requires no financial obligation from the town.

If People Inc. is successful in its bid to receive funding from the Housing Authority, Ailey expects the renovations to be complete by 2026, all while keeping the housing units occupied. These renovations would include upgrades in roofing, doors, windows and likely new HVAC systems.

The council followed Ailey's presentation by unanimously passing a resolution declaring Pulaski Village as a revitalization area.

In other action, Councilman Brooks Dawson asked that the police department review their policies, particularly in light of recent vandalism that occurred at the Post Office on Washington Avenue. Councilman Greg East agreed that the police department should review policies to help keep the citizenry safe.

At meeting's end, Councilman Jamie Ratcliff and Mayor Shannon Collins both expressed their optimism regarding new businesses on West Main Street and the future of the Town of Pulaski.

The Patriot  
540-808-3949



WRC Photo

Elaine Stroud (left) and Holly Litos of the WRC.

## Women's Resource Center names new Ex. Director

RADFORD – Elaine Stroud has been named as the new Executive Director of the Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley (WRCNRV), the oldest center serving domestic violence and sexual violence survivors in Virginia. Stroud's appointment comes as the organization is seeing an increase in the number of those seeking services due to intimate partner violence. Last year victims and survivors called the WRCNRV's 24/7 live and local hotline over 2,000 times and accessed over 10,000 nights of shelter and over 10,000 hours of advocacy - all free of charge.

"Having recently completed an extensive search, The Board of Directors is happy to welcome Elaine Stroud as the new Executive Director of the Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley," said Holly Litos, WRCNRV Board President. "We are confident in her knowledge, leadership, and commitment to the WRCNRV as we continue to serve our communities."

Prior to joining the WRCNRV, Stroud started a nonprofit in New Jersey 10 years ago to help domestic violence and sexual violence survivors that has successfully grown over the past decade. In addition, Stroud has had a 23-year career as a leader in higher education at Rutgers University in New Jersey and most recently at Virginia Tech.

"I'm thrilled to be joining the WRCNRV team," said Stroud. "The WRCNRV is an active member of the surrounding community and provides safety and shelter to those who need it. I am proud to lead an amazing team addressing this important issue that continues to need our attention as a community."

## Accidental shooting reported in Montgomery County

On March 1, 2024, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office deputies were dispatched to the 3200 block of Peppers Ferry Road for a reported accidental shooting.

Upon arriving, an 11-year-old female was located in the kitchen floor of a residence with a gunshot wound to the arm and torso.

Deputies immediately rendered first aid to the juvenile victim utilizing a tourniquet and a Tegaderm bandage to make a chest seal over the torso wound.

Shortly thereafter, EMS arrived and transported the female to Roanoke Memorial Hospital, where her condition is unknown at this time.

No additional information is available currently, due to the incident being under active investigation.

## Library

Continued From Page A1

be a member of the Friends of the Library to attend.

This year, the Pulaski County Friends of the Library will be celebrating their 45th year of service to the community.

According to Smith, the Friends of the Library has many programs to promote literacy.

"We have provided books for use in the local jails and other literacy programs in Pulaski County," she said. "We've sent books to people who are teaching children to read. Recently we've sent books to teachers in Alaska. We help pay for books used in the Summer Reading Program for local school age children. These funds come from our Friends of the Library book sales."

The Friends have received gracious endowments from family members, particularly the Betty Kegley Endowment and Ethel Flippin Endowment.

Becoming a member of the Pulaski County Friends of the Library is easy. Simply pick up a form at either of the Pulaski or Dublin Libraries, fill out the application and pay the annual dues. Membership dues are: \$10.00 for a senior citizen, \$12.50 for an individual adult, \$15.00 for a family and \$25.00 for a business.

### NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY, FOR APPROVAL TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE A BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM CASE NO. PUR-2024-00001

On January 23, 2024, Appalachian Power Company ("APCo" or "Company") completed the filing with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") of an application ("Application") pursuant to § 56-580 of the Code of Virginia ("Code"), the Utility Facilities Act, and the Commission's Filing Requirements in Support of Applications for Authority to Construct and Operate an Electric Generating Facility, for approval to construct and operate a battery energy storage system ("BESS") project along its Glade-Whitetop distribution circuit ("Project").

In support of its Application, the Company states that the Project will be composed of two separate BESS sites connected to the Glade-Whitetop 34.5 kilovolt distribution circuit in southwestern Virginia, with a total rating of 7.5 megawatts (capacity) and 30 megawatt-hours (energy). The Company states that one site is located in Smyth County, Virginia, and the other in Grayson County, Virginia.

APCo represents that it will use the Project to benefit its customers in two ways. First, the Company states that it will utilize the Project to reduce costs for customers. Specifically, APCo states that the Project will be used to lower the Company's overall system demand and thus reduce the need for other sources of generation during periods when customer demand is high. Second, the Company states that it will use the Project as a primary source of power for customers served by the Glade-Whitetop distribution circuit, who have experienced a disproportionately high levels of outages. APCo submits that the Project will therefore both improve reliability for the Company's customers and reduce the Company's cost of service.

APCo states that the Project has an estimated total cost of approximately \$57.3 million with approximately \$34.5 million for the procurement and installation of the BESS components. The Company states that it will file for recovery of eligible project costs in a future Virginia Clean Economy Act filing.

Interested persons are encouraged to review the Application and supporting documents for the details of these and other proposals.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing in this proceeding that, among other things, scheduled a public hearing on APCo's Application. On June 11, 2024, at 10 a.m., the Hearing Examiner assigned will hold the telephonic portion of the hearing for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses. On or before June 5, 2024, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Hearing Examiner to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting); (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to [SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov); or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting).

Beginning at 10 a.m. on June 11, 2024, the Hearing Examiner will telephone sequentially each person who has signed up to testify as provided above.

On June 11, 2024, at 10 a.m., or at the conclusion of the public witness portion of the hearing, whichever is later, in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, the Hearing Examiner will convene a hearing to receive testimony and evidence related to the Application from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission Staff.

To promote administrative efficiency and timely service of filings upon participants, the Commission has directed the electronic filing of testimony and pleadings, unless they contain confidential information, and has required electronic service on parties to this proceeding.

An electronic copy of the public version of the Company's Application may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company: Noelle J. Coates, Esquire, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 3 James Center, 1051 East Cary Street, Suite 1100, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or [njcoates@aep.com](mailto:njcoates@aep.com). Interested persons also may download unofficial copies from the Commission's website: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

On or before June 5, 2024, any interested person may submit comments on the Application electronically by following the instructions on the Commission's website: [scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments](https://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments). Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2024-00001.

On or before April 11, 2024, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation with the Clerk of the Commission at: [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](https://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling). Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. A copy of the notice of participation as a respondent also must be sent to counsel for the Company. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"), any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2024-00001.

On or before April 25, 2024, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](https://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling), any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be sent to Staff, the Company, and all other respondents simultaneous with its filing. In all filings, the respondent shall comply with the Rules of Practice, including 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2024-00001.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

The Commission's Rules of Practice, the public version of the Company's Application, the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, and other documents filed in this case may be viewed on the Commission's website at: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY





William Paine/Patriot Publishing

## Teacher of the Month

Pulaski County Public School, Pulaski County High School and the Career and Technical Education Center are pleased to introduce Becky Roseberry as the CTE Teacher of the Month for February. Specializing in Early Childhood Education and Preschool Director, Ms. Roseberry consistently demonstrates a “can-do” attitude and goes above and beyond to support her students. She serves as an exemplary role model for both high school and preschool students, showcasing kindness, compassion, and creativity. Ms. Roseberry’s dedication to her students is evident in the time and effort she invests in ensuring their success.

## Pulaski County Property Transfers

Pulaski County property transfers for December 2023 as reported by the Circuit Court Clerk’s Office.

Tyler W. Daniel to James Harris, property at 4610 Towes Ferry Road, Dublin, \$208,000.

Thoams W. Covey III to Russell Combs, 18 acres in the Snowville and Hiwassee area, \$110,000.

Douglas Edward Testerman to Tyler W. Daniel, property at 2289 Peppers Ferry Road, Pulaski, \$325,000.

Tony Wayne Crosier to Eli Givens Moler, property at 5785 Jones Drive, Dublin, \$130,500.

Richard D. Smith to Michele L. Mabry, property at 520 N Washington Avenue, Pulaski, \$331,000.

Timothy O. Cox to Thomas Wolfum, property at 6892 Bleak Ridge Road, Hiwassee, \$390,000.

West Dublin Road, LLC to ANB Investments, property at 5515 Dublin Drive, Dublin, \$94,000.

Samuel Harrison Williams to Judith Beatty Pattinson, property at 6813 Sahalee Circle, Fairlawn, \$293,000.

Carol Lynne Weybright to David Flanagan Jr, property at 722 Hickory Avenue, Pulaski, \$40,000.

Brenda H Flora to Gregory Scott Cupp, property at 1926 Alum Spring Road, Pulaski, \$337,000.

James R. Thornton to Walter Jackson; J. Quesenberry, property at 3235 Gum Log Road, Hiwassee, \$67,500.

Lashon Greene to Steven Allen Compton, property at

6555 New River Road, Fairlawn, \$34,000.

Gregory A. Dehart to Luke Russell Boothe, 17 acres in area of county center, Pulaski, \$15,000.

Farmer Billie Gene Dillon C/O Steve Burcham to Bernard E. Epperly Jr, property at 1229 Windsor Avenue, Pulaski, \$320,000.

More property transfers will be published in next week’s edition.

## Assisted suicide bill defeated

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Virginia lawmakers on Monday defeated for another year legislation that would allow certain adults facing terminal illness to end their own lives with a self-administered controlled substance prescribed by a health care provider.

A House committee voted to carry the medically assisted suicide bill sponsored by Democratic Sen. Ghazala Hashmi over to the 2025 session, ending its chances this year.

Similar legislation failed in previous years. But Hashmi’s bill passed the Senate in February on a party-line vote after receiving an endorsement from U.S. Rep. Jennifer Wexton, a Democrat and former state senator who has been diagnosed with a terminal neurological disease.

Wexton and other supporters said the bill would extend compassion to people who are dying by giving them control over how their life ends.

The bill limited eligibility to mentally competent individuals 18 or older who have received a diagnosis that they have six months or less to live. Ten other states and the District of

See SUICIDE, page A5

## Gas prices rise slightly

Average gasoline prices in Virginia have risen 1.4 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.21/g today, according to GasBuddy’s survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia. Prices in Virginia are 15.8 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 6.7 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 2.7 cents in the last week and stands at \$4.03 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$2.63/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$3.99/g, a difference of \$1.36/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.63/g while the highest was \$3.99/g, a difference of \$1.36/g.

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EDITORIAL

Rural Health Care & Pharmacies

Since coming to Congress, I have worked to find ways to protect and promote access to health care for rural Americans.

One aspect of rural medicine I have tried to help on a federal level is pharmacies. For many in rural areas, visiting pharmacies and interacting with pharmacists is one of the most important points of access for health care in small towns and communities. Pharmacists are trusted members of the community, who help provide relief to those in need.



Pharmacies have faced some tough challenges. Not long ago, UnitedHealth Group (a health care group that operates Optum and United Healthcare platforms) was the victim of a cyberattack. This complicated prescription deliveries for six days as many pharmacies were unable to process prescriptions. Pharmacies have also faced challenges as this country continues to deal with chronic drug shortages, ranging from chemotherapy drugs to antibiotics to ADHD medications. Though wanting to help, some pharmacies have been unable to dispense critical, life-saving medications.

Over the years, I have looked for ways on a federal level to assist pharmacies, while also helping Americans get better access to health care. Below is a summary of bills I recently introduced or co-sponsored that are related to pharmacies.

H.R.5393 - Transparency and Fairness for Pharmacies Act

Pharmacists, including rural pharmacists, have been increasingly charged retroactive fees, known as Direct and Indirect Remuneration (DIR) fees, after prescriptions are filled. These fees hurt, and sometimes destroy, the pharmacists’ business. Imagine you bought a product for resale for \$1 and sold it for \$1.03. You find out later that without telling you, the company changed the price several months after you sold the product and now has the right to come back and say, “Oh, we really should have charged you \$1.20.” You have now lost 17 cents on the transaction. That’s how DIR fees work. Believe it or not, this happens to pharmacists routinely.

To make matters worse, a majority of these pharmacists say they receive no clear information about when and why these DIR fees will be collected. Many also noted that DIR fees can total tens of thousands of dollars each month. In response to this, I introduced the Transparency and Fairness for Pharmacies Act, which takes steps to help rein in and bring more transparency to these DIR fees and all pharmacy fees by Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs).

My bill would require the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to create standardized quality metrics for health plans and PBMs to use when determining payments to pharmacies.

H.R.5400 - Neighborhood Options for Patients Buying Medicines Act

PBMs act as an intermediary between pharmacies, insurance companies, drug manufacturers, etc. whose purpose is to negotiate drug prices. We have seen that PBMs can manipulate drug prices through various ways to enhance their own profits, hurting Americans’ bottom line and the pharmacies who deal with them.

I co-sponsored H.R. 5400, which would modernize Medicare and enhance PBM accountability by preventing them from discriminating against pharmacies that are willing to contract with them, helping seniors seek care closer to home. This will ensure that PBMs do not provide unfair contracts to independent pharmacies where that independent pharmacy wouldn’t accept the contract because the reimbursement rate for medications is so low their patients would lose access to that drug.

H.R.1770 - Equitable Community Access to Pharmacist Services Act

Pharmacies have the ability to provide a variety of services beyond just filling prescriptions. Currently, certain tests and vaccines administered by pharmacies are not reimbursable by Medicare.

I co-sponsored legislation, Equitable Community Access to Pharmacist Services Act, to establish a federal reimbursement mechanism for pharmacists’ services under Medicare and ensure patients can continue to access essential care and services provided by pharmacists. This will now allow for Virginia pharmacists to test and treat for strep, flu, and COVID-19 and get reimbursed by Medicare for it.

H.R.5526 - Seniors’ Access to Critical Medications Act

Many seniors living in the Ninth District and in other rural areas are not physically able to travel to pick up their much-needed prescriptions, whether it be from pharmacies, doctor’s offices, etc.

I co-sponsored legislation, Seniors’ Access to Critical Medications Act, that would allow for patients to have their caregivers/loved ones pick up the prescription on their behalf, making life easier for seniors.

These bills are just some ways I am currently helping pharmacies and rural Americans. I will continue to explore other ways to promote and protect access to health care.

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

The Original Petticoat Junction, 1778

March is Women’s History Month and I’d like to celebrate by beginning with airing some dirty laundry.

If you grew up in my era of the 1950’s, you’ll remember a sit-com called Petticoat Junction. It first aired in September 1963 and featured the Shady Rest Hotel, located on a tiny railroad branch that didn’t connect to the main railroad line. It got it’s nickname “Petticoat Junction” because the three beautiful Bradley sisters would occasionally skinny dip in the railway’s water tower. To alert visitors of their peril, they would drape their petticoats over the side of the water tower as a signal, warning them to stay away.

Approximately 200-years previous to their petticoat “alert”, a brave and innovative woman was using her laundry line as part of a spy ring to alert the Patriots of the British Army’s intentions. Anna Smith Strong, (aka Nancy Strong), was an integral part of the Culper Spy Ring located in Setauket, Long Island, NY. She was well connected within the New York upper class and married to Selah Strong, a prominent judge.

In the summer of 1776, British land and sea forces occupied New York. That harbor and port, as well as its proximity to Colonies supporting the Revolution, were very strategic for both the British

One Nation Under God

By Danielle Reid

and American armies.

As Commander of the Continental Army, General George Washington needed to establish a reliable counter-intelligence force to give him inside information about the British plan of attack. Several attempts to penetrate their intelligence had been made, but ultimately the Patriots were discovered by the British and imprisoned or hung as traitors.

In 1778, Benjamin Tallmadge, a Patriot and young cavalry office stepped forward to form the Culper Spy Ring; beginning the most effective espionage in the Revolution. The ring’s mission was to spy on the British Army in the New York area and report their troop movements and positions, fortifications and plan of attack.

Major Tallmadge recruited trustworthy Patriots from his hometown as members

See NATION, page A5



Session Winding Down

The 2024 Virginia General Assembly Legislative Session is winding down, although at the time of this article’s writing, the state budget continues to be debated amongst budget conferees. Six members of the House and six members of the Senate act as budget conferees during a process that seeks to reconcile differences between the House budget (HB 29/30) and the Senate budget (SB 29/30). There are differences – both large and small – between the House and Senate versions of Virginia’s spending plan, the highest-profile issue being Governor Youngkin’s plan to move the Washington Wizards NBA team and the Washington Capitals NHL team to Alexandria. This proposal is currently included in the House budget, but not in that of the Senate. This is one of many differences that will have to be resolved by budget conferees before the budget makes its way to Governor Youngkin for his consideration. Should the budget pass on time, we will return to Richmond in April to debate and vote on the Governor’s recommendations or vetoes on the budget and any other piece of legislation passed this session.

I am hopeful that by next week there will be more to share as to the funding priorities that were included in the final budget product. As mentioned in my last column, Democrats in the House and Senate are in the driver’s seat and any protracted budget standoff would be an embarrassing development since they control the process and the General Assembly. At stake – and of regional significance – is my budget request of \$1 million to enhance rural maternal healthcare so expectant mothers do not have to travel to Roanoke for vital healthcare and can instead receive care closer to home.

On a slightly unrelated topic, I thoroughly enjoyed the visits I received from 42nd District constituents during this legislative session. It fills me with pride that although Richmond is 4 hours away from home, citizens of all political persuasions took the time to engage with me in the democratic process. It was

Delegate Jason Ballard 42nd District

always a highlight of my day getting to spend time with those of you who made the trip to Richmond!

To sum up the 2024 legislative session, it will likely be remembered as one where pragmatic solutions to real problems were eschewed for items on the political left’s wish list. Instead of focusing on tax breaks for Virginians, Democrats prioritized the legalization of recreational marijuana. Instead of focusing on legislation that would make our communities safer, Democrats passed legislation that would reduce penalties for those who possess dangerous controlled substances. And instead of loosening restrictive green energy policies that will make life more expensive and electricity less reliable, Democrats struck down Republican proposals to roll back unrealistic electric vehicle mandates. Fortunately for Virginia, Governor Youngkin will be a reliable backstop against many of these Democratic party overreaches and I expect his veto pen to be busy. I look forward to keeping you updated in the coming weeks as to the budget’s progress and any other pertinent information from the 2024 session’s closing hours.

As the Delegate representing the 42nd House District in the Virginia General Assembly, your concerns are my greatest priority. If ever I may be of assistance to you and your family, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [DelJBallard@House.Virginia.Gov](mailto:DelJBallard@House.Virginia.Gov). You can also follow me on Twitter @JasonBallardVA or like my Facebook page, Jason Ballard for Delegate, to keep up to date with what I am doing in Richmond and in our community on your behalf.



Rich Lowery

Editor, National Review

Biden’s inane war on packaging

Joe Biden has met the enemy, and it is smaller packaging for foodstuffs.

The White House is targeting the practice known as “shrinkflation,” or companies keeping the nominal price of a product the same while decreasing the amount. This, naturally, is just another way of charging more. If the price is the same, but you’re getting only 14 ounces of Wheat Thins instead of 16, you are paying more for your whole-wheat crackers.

President Biden slammed shrinkflation in a Super Bowl video featuring various offending snacks, including Doritos, Tostitos and Oreos. He called it a “rip off,” and declared that “the American public is tired of being played for suckers.” He may revisit the theme in his State of the Union address.

This has to rank as one of the most economically illiterate and juvenile presidential crusades in recent history.

Shrinkflation is a symptom of inflation, not a cause. And to the extent it is fooling anyone about higher prices, it is helping Biden, whose economic record has been blighted by persistently high prices, especially for food.

A company that is raising its prices can either charge more or reduce the size of its product. What Biden is suggesting is that the former is the best option and companies should always increase their sticker prices.

If he were being cogent, Biden should have held up a bag of Doritos in his Super Bowl video and said, “I don’t care what Frito Lay says -- this bag should be .50 ounces bigger and more expensive than it is now. How dare corporate America deal with the stubbornly high inflation the last few years by trying to hide from people how they are paying more for food.”

Of course, Biden’s goal is to shift blame, yet complaining about smaller bags is only another way of complaining about higher prices. He might as well be pointing out that beef now costs an ungodly \$8 a pound, or that the price of baby food has increased nearly 9% over the past 12 months.

According to a report in The Wall Street Journal, consumers are spending the highest proportion of their disposable income on food since 1991.

The focus on shrinkflation is a variant of the corporate-greed argument advanced by Elizabeth Warren and other progressives. It maintains that inflation is an artifact of companies arbitrarily deciding to raise prices to boost their profits. There is a basic implausibility in this theory. It assumes that for several decades during the long period of low inflation in the U.S. corporations didn’t use this pricing power. Then, they suddenly decided to wield it beginning in 2021, coinciding with a period of supply-chain disruptions, loose monetary policy and extravagant federal spending -- all of which one would expect to be drivers of inflation.

As for shrinkflation, even the consumer advocate who has

See LOWERY, page A5

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Photos courtesy of Randy Muir  
One of Muir’s dark queens surrounded by her retinue.



A May swarm in one of Muir’s apple trees.



This colony he removed from a Dublin apartment building ended up being over 8 ft. long.

## Lowery

Continued From Page A4

been briefing the White House on this trend, Edgar Dworsky, admits that “these tactics tend to become more prevalent during times of high inflation,” in the words of a CNBC report.

The causes of higher food prices, by the way, aren’t a mystery. Why is the price of beef elevated? The supply of cattle has declined. What’s up with the more expensive Oreos? Cocoa prices, The Wall Street Journal reports, recently passed a 46-year record. And labor costs have gone up with increases in the minimum wage in states across the country.

Still, The New York Times reports that the White House is considering new executive

actions to crack down on shrinkflation. Assuming it’s within the power of the presidency to influence the size of bags, boxes and bottles of food and drink, forcing them to stay larger would only render the underlying price increases more plain.

One might think that the nation’s chief executive would have more important things to worry about than the size of Gatorade bottles, but such is the White House’s political desperation on food prices that nothing is too inane or nonsensical.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

# Honeybee Ambassador

## Snowville’s Muir doing his part to help local honeybees flourish

One Pulaski County citizen/entrepreneur is doing his small part to help the local honeybees to flourish, at a time in our history when it is perhaps more difficult for them to survive than ever before.

Randy Muir of Snowville, owner of Muir Enterprises, LLC has a 96 acre farm. Nowadays instead of the cattle that were raised there in years past, he tends a small orchard of heirloom apples (varieties from the 1700s and 1800s) and honeybees. Mostly honeybees. When their population peaks in early summer, he will be trying to keep over a million of them happy and more importantly, healthy.

Although the Western Honeybee (Apis Mellifera) is not native to North America, ever since European settlers brought them here in the 1600’s, our ever-growing population has become increasing more dependent on them for our food supply. For example, the California almond crop (roughly 80 percent of the world’s crop) requires roughly 2 million honeybee colonies for pollination! Three quarters of those colonies are trucked in from elsewhere in the US.

Despite our reliance on them, in the modern age most beekeepers struggle to keep their colonies alive due to parasites such as the Varroa Mite which arrived in 1987, plus a host of pathogens. To make matters worse, studies show that many of the synthetic chemicals used in modern agriculture as pesticides and fungicides weaken their immune systems and shorten the life expectancy of the individual bees, which creates a cascade of catastrophic threats to the survival of a the super organism known as a honeybee colony. The threats are so dire that beekeepers in Virginia reported in the 2023 survey by the Bee Informed Partnership that 43 percent of their colonies did not survive

the year. In some states it was over half. Muir reports losing only about 7 percent of the colonies he managed in the last year, while using only natural methods (no synthetic chemicals for example).

Knowing the low survival rate of this valuable species, Muir does what he can to improve their odds by capturing swarms he learns about in our area (for free), safely rescuing honeybees from structures for a fee, and selectively breeding queens from stock that has demonstrated the traits to survive in Pulaski County with little or no treatment. He also sells small starter colonies (called nucs) to folks wanting to start or grow an apiary. He believes the bees may be best qualified to solve their plight themselves if humans will reduce the pressures that are making them sick and capitalize on the power of natural selection.

During months when his colonies require less attention and the calls for nucs, swarms and removals have slowed, Muir sometimes volunteers to give presentations in local elementary schools to introduce the kids to the amazing honeybee.

“They are so unusual and remarkable. Facts like how they

keep the brood area at 93°F, regardless of whether it is below zero or 112° outside. The fact the the queen has a mother and a father, but the drones (males) have no father.

“The fact that the queen can lay 2,000 eggs in a day in May in our climate. It all boggles my mind. And the more I learn about them, the more they fascinate me and the more I want to know about them. You might say am am addicted to keeping and learning about honeybees. So whether its presenting to nine year olds or talking to a ninety year old, I am always excited about discussing honeybees!

“I’m pretty sure some of the people that are close to me are tired of me talking about honeybees. But usually the people who hire me to remove a colony of bees from their building and relocate them to my apiary where I can keep them healthy are very curious and amazed by the honeybee biology information I share with them. Sometimes I feel like an ambassador for honeybees,” said Muir.

If you have a swarm on your property or bees in a structure you want removed, Randy can be reached by text at 540-230-7703.

## Suicide

Continued From Page A3

Columbia have passed similar legislation, Hashmi said Monday.

“This legislation allows an eligible individual the autonomy to decide when suffering becomes too great and to alleviate that suffering on their own terms by dying peacefully in their sleep should they choose,” she said in an earlier subcommittee hearing.

Religious and socially conservative groups opposed the measure.

“Assisted suicide facilitates

tragedies and makes the most vulnerable even more vulnerable,” Bishop Michael Burbidge of the Catholic Diocese of Arlington and Bishop Barry Knestout of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond said in a joint statement issued last month. “Legalizing it would place the lives of people with disabilities, people with mental illnesses, the elderly, and those unable to afford healthcare — among others — at heightened risk of deadly harm.”

## Nation

Continued From Page A4

of the Culper Spy Ring: Robert Townsend, Sarah “Sally” Townsend, Abraham Woodhull, Caleb Brewster, James Rivington, Austin Roe and Anna “Nancy” Strong.

Tallmadge devised encrypted messages using code, invisible ink, and numerics to inform Washington of the British plans. The messages would be given by Tallmadge to Austin Roe when Roe came to purchase supplies for his tavern located on Long Island. Roe would then visit Abraham Woodhull located at Setauket, where Nancy Strong

had a farm. Caleb Brewster would receive the messages and row across the Long Island Sound to a specific location on the Connecticut shore. Tallmadge’s contacts would meet Brewster and ride by horseback to Washington’s headquarters in Morristown, New Jersey.

Nancy Strong had the information about when Caleb Brewster would in the area; and where he would be located. She hung a black petticoat on her laundry line indicating that a message was ready to be picked up and that Brewster was in the

area. She knew Brewster had several whaling boats hidden in six different coves along the shoreline; each location indicated by a number. The number of handkerchiefs scattered among her other garments indicated in which meeting place Brewster could be found.

Nancy Strong’s ability to use the ordinary task of hanging laundry on a clothes line became an extraordinary contribution, and an integral part, in helping George Washington and the Patriots of the American Revolution.

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# OBITUARIES



**JOHN WILLIAM WHITE, SR.**

John William White, Sr., age 84 of Pulaski, died Saturday, March 2, 2024 at his residence. He was born on April 23, 1939 in Pulaski County, and was the son of the late Georgia Madeline Pagan White and the late Frank Benjamin White, Sr. John retired after many years of service, as a supervisor for the Pulaski Furniture Corp.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers: Ralph White, Sterling White, and Frankie White: four sisters: Ralph Litz, Daphine Coffey, Beatrice Arnold, and Marie Hurst.

He is survived by his lovely wife: Nancy Arnold White of Pulaski: two sons; John “Bo” White, Jr. and his wife Tracey of Springfield, TN, and Tim White and his wife Barbara of Pulaski: two daughters; Cindy White (James) Seagraves of Pulaski, and Marsha White of Pulaski: a sister; Joann (Travis) Akers of Pulaski. He is also survived by six grandchildren: J.C.. (Kari) White, Autumn (Clayton) Tandy, Brandi (Jordan) Kullos, T.J. (Chantale) White, Megan (Matthew) Thomas, Jared (Jordanne) White: fifteen great-grandchildren; Collins, Laney, Tatum, Ian, Evan, Knox, Kennady, Jude, Samuel, Eli, Ashtyn, Armani, Nadalee, Micah, Mila.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, March 8, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at Seagle Funeral Home with Pastor Randal Jones and Hospice Chaplain Milton Johnson officiating. Interment will follow in Oakwood Cemetery. The family will receive friends on Friday at the funeral home from 12 Noon until 2:00 p.m.

Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting [www.seaglefuneralhome.com](http://www.seaglefuneralhome.com) Arrangements by Seagle Funeral Home, Pulaski. 540-980-1700

**KEVIN JAY FREEMAN, II**

Kevin Jay Freeman, II, age 53 of Fairlawn died recently at his home. There will be no funeral services. Arrangements by Seagle Funeral Home, Pulaski. [www.seaglefuneralhome.com](http://www.seaglefuneralhome.com) 540-980-1700



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**MILDRED MARIE CRABTREE YOUNCE**

Mildred Marie Crabtree Younce, age 87 of Roanoke and formerly of Dublin passed away Saturday, March 2, 2024 surrounded by her family.

Born January 3, 1937 in Russell County, Virginia, she was the daughter of the late Ollie Lee Crabtree. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Barney McCoy Younce, Jr., grandson, Jon Lovern, Sister, Louise Pierson, five brothers, John Crabtree, Carlos Crabtree, Robert Presley, Tommy Presley and Taulbee Presley, and son-in-law Bucky Lovern.

Mildred retired with 30 years of service from the Pulaski County School system where she worked in the Dublin Middle School cafeteria.

She is survived by Children - Barney M. Younce, III & wife, Debbie - Powhatan, VA, Regena Weddle & husband, Bill - Radford, Milissa Lovern - Roanoke, VA, Elaina Dauln Realmuto & husband, Matt - Montvale, VA

Grandchildren - Miranda Dean, Billy Weddle and Holly Younce

Several Great Grandchildren Sister - Teresa Lynthlin - Russell Co., VA

Brothers - Earnest Lee Presley- Alabama & Douglas Crabtree - Saltville, VA

Private family services will be held in the Highland Memory Gardens Mausoleum, Dublin. To sign the online guestbook, visit [www.bowerfuneralhome.com](http://www.bowerfuneralhome.com) - Bower Funeral Home, Pulaski is handling the services for the family.

**JOHN BASKERVILLE KENT JR.**

John Baskerville Kent Jr., 78, of Dublin died December 25, 2023 at the old Kent family home Oakshade on Kent Farm Rd near Dublin, Virginia.

John was born on June 6, 1945. He was the son of John Baskerville Kent Sr. and Virginia Denson Pretlow Kent who predeceased him. He was survived by a sister, Frances May Kent who died on January 14, 2024.

John was a graduate of Blacksburg High School. He went to Lees McCrae College in NC.

He served his country in the United States Merchant Marines and later chose to live as a recluse.

A memorial service will be held for John and Frances at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 24, 2024 at New Dublin Presbyterian Church.

Interment will be in the church cemetery at a later time.



**BEATRICE KEMP OGLE**

Beatrice Kemp Ogle, 93, of Pulaski, went home to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on March 6, 2024. Born February 23, 1931, in Barren Springs to the late Burton and Bessie S. Kemp, she was married for 63 years to the late T. Elroy Ogle. She was predeceased by her brother and sister-in-law, Carl Ray and Bonnie Kemp.

Aunt Bea, as she was known to her scores of friends and church family, worked for 32 years in the banking industry, and was a faithful member of the Pulaski Church of God for over 70 years. For more than 30 years she led and participated in the Care Givers ministry of her church. She was also devoted to Perry Stone Ministries, where she founded and led the Daughters of Rachel, and was the head intercessor for 44 years. Aunt Bea was a blessing to everyone who knew her. She often shared that God was so good to her, and she welcomed her homecoming.

Aunt Bea is survived by her nieces, Carla Kemp and Meg Rice of Kingsport, TN; special nephew Ricky (Toby) Riggins of Dublin; her great-nieces, Madison (Coy) Biorck, Haley Riggins; her great-nephew Josh (Tiffany) Riggins; her great-great-niece, Aria June Biorck; her sisters and brothers in law, Wanda and JB Riggins, Gary Ogle, and Garole Ogle; her neighbor, Debbie Blevins; many special friends and her extensive church family.

Services will be led by Bishop Perry Stone, Bishop David Jarvis, and Pastor Donald Jones. Visitation will be from 5:00 to 7:00 on Monday, March 11 at the Pulaski Church of God, with a funeral to follow at 7:00. The burial will be private at the Ogle Family Cemetery on Tuesday. In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to the Care Givers Ministry, Pulaski Church of God, 1621 Bob White Blvd., Pulaski, VA 24301 or to the Voice of Evangelism, P.O. Box 3595, Cleveland, TN 37320.

The family is being served by Norris Funeral Services, Pulaski Chapel. Online condolences may be sent by visiting [www.stevensfuneralhomepulaski.com](http://www.stevensfuneralhomepulaski.com)

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**JUDY CARTER**

Judy Carter passed away into the presence of her Lord and Savior on March 2, 2024 and now beholding Him in all of His glory. Judy is predeceased by her parents, brother and her husband of 40 years. She will be remembered by her dear niece Anne, her first cousins Jane, Martha, Libbie, Sarah and Glenn and Andy, as well as many other cousins, and dear longtime friend Glenda.

The first cousins began a tradition in 2006 to have a “cousins camp” every year to keep in touch and enjoying time together, that included trips to various places in the U.S. Judy was an excellent artist having attended the Sarasota School of Arts and Sciences, and the San Francisco Art Institute. She loved to travel and back packed through Europe by herself and continued her love of travel at the age of 80, going to Panama by herself. Her fondest memories were living with her grandparents as a child in Pulaski, along with her mother, her aunt, and cousins, while the husbands were fighting in WWII. Judy will always be remembered for her lovely smile and sweet disposition.

A graveside service will be held privately in Oakwood Cemetery in Pulaski with Anthony Mathenia officiating. There will be no formal visitation. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting [www.seaglefuneralhome.com](http://www.seaglefuneralhome.com) Arrangements by Seagle Funeral Home, Pulaski. 540-980-1700



**FRANCES MAY “FAYE” KENT**

A Dublin native, Frances May “Faye” Kent of Laurel, Maryland died –January 14, 2024 in Silver Springs Maryland after a short struggle with cancer.

She was preceded in death by her parents John Baskerville Kent Sr. and Virginia Denison Pretlow Kent.

Her brother John Baskerville Kent lived in the old home and passed away 20 days before Faye. He chose the life of a recluse after serving in the U.S.

See KENT, page A7



**JERRY THOMAS**

Jerry Thomas, age 76 of Dublin passed away Friday, March 1, 2024 at the Carilion New River Valley Medical Center. Born October 6, 1947 in Clincho, Virginia to the late Ira & Bertha Thomas. He was also preceded in death by his brothers, Robert, Jim, Tim and Darrell Thomas.

Jerry worked at Wades Supermarket for 26 years and then retired from the New River Valley Regional Jail after 17 years of service.

He is survived by his

Wife of 55 years – Judy Thomas – Dublin

Son – Mickey Thomas – Christiansburg

Grandsons – Garrison Thomas, Hunter Thomas both of Dublin

Great Granddaughter – Stella Grace Thomas

Brothers – Bill (Nancy) Thomas – Dublin, Gary (Mickie) Thomas – Coeburn, VA, Kenny (Diana) Thomas – Clintwood, VA, Tom (Doris) Thomas – Carey, Idaho

Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at the Bower Funeral Home-Chapel, Pulaski with Rev. Johnny Howlett officiating. Interment followed at the Highland Memory Gardens, Dublin.

To sign Jerry’s online guestbook, visit [www.bowerfuneralhome.com](http://www.bowerfuneralhome.com)

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



**WILLIAM CLYDE CHINAULT**

William Clyde Chinault, age 92 passed away Monday, February 19, 2024 surrounded by his loving family. Born June 8, 1931 in Draper, he was the son of the late Howard & Margaret Rupe Chinault. He was also preceded in death by his wife of 69 years, who passed five days prior on February 14, 2024, Louise Akers Chinault, and brother, Rev. Earnest Chinault.

He was a member of Thornspring United Methodist Church. He was employed by Coleman and Pulaski Furniture. Clyde was also a veteran of the United States Army, serving in the Korean War.

Clyde is survived by his Daughters – Patricia “Patty” (Glenn) Langford – Salisbury, NC, Pamela “Pam” Chinault – Christiansburg, VA

Grandchildren – Thomas, Andrew, and Matthew Langford Brothers – Bill (Hallie) Chinault – Bristol, VA, John Chinault – Pulaski

Sister – Nancy Palmer – Draper Funeral services were held Saturday, February 24, 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 and Intrepid Hospice for their loving care.

To sign Clyde’s online guestbook, visit [www.bowerfuneralhome.com](http://www.bowerfuneralhome.com)

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

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**ROGER WAYNE GRAVLEY**  
Roger Wayne Gravley, age 77 of Pulaski, died Thursday, February 29, 2024 at Lewis Gale Hospital – Pulaski. He was born on January 31, 1947, and was the son of the late Roby William Gravley and the late Nellie Horton Gravley. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two sons: Johnny Wayne Gravely and Ronald Wayne Gravely: a brother; David Gravley.  
He is survived by a son: Donald “Donnie” W. Gravely of Pulaski, half-brother: Larry Freeman of Pulaski, and many nieces and nephews.

A graveside funeral service was held on Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at the Thompson Cemetery 2170 Double Cabin Road Hillsville, Virginia 24343 (Dugspur), with Pastor Bob Mann officiating. Interment was in the family lot in the cemetery. There was no public visitation.

Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting [www.seaglefuneralhome.com](http://www.seaglefuneralhome.com) Arrangements by Seagle Funeral Home, Pulaski. 540-980-1700



**BONNIE GAIL SMITH HENLEY**  
Bonnie Gail Smith Henley, age 77 of Chilhowie, and formerly of Pulaski County passed away Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at the Bristol Regional Medical Center, Bristol, TN.  
Born January 3, 1947 in Pulaski, she was the daughter of the late William Harrison Smith, Jr. & Hilda Maxine Southern Smith. She was also preceded in death by her husband Elga M. Henley, brother-in-law, Shelby Salmon & nephew Kevin Salmon.  
Bonnie is survived by Sisters Brenda & Tony Callahan – TN, Beatrice Salmon– Mooresville, NC.  
Nieces & Nephews– Wendy Gail & Chris Belcher, Robbie Callahan, Gregory & Meghan Salmon.  
Great Nieces & Nephews Chloe, Crew, & Isabella Salmon, Halee Semones, Andrew, Simon, Luke, Emma, Isaiah, Noah & Caelan Belcher.  
Funeral services were held Monday, March 4, 2024 at the Bower Funeral Home– Chapel, Pulaski with Interment following at the Highland Memory Gardens, Dublin.  
To sign Bonnie’s online guestbook, visit [www.bowerfuneralhome.com](http://www.bowerfuneralhome.com)  
Bower Funeral Homes, Pulaski is handling the arrangements for the family.



William Paine/Patriot Publishing

## Clerks Receive Recognition

Each February the VSBA Board of Directors designates the third week as VSBA School Board Clerk Appreciation Week, with a goal of building awareness of the role board clerks play in assisting school board members, superintendents and our local schools. The school board clerks are “the Heartbeat of the Boardroom” and we are thankful for your hard work and dedication to Pulaski County Public Schools. Front Row from left: Teresa Porter – Clerk -- Brenda Crawford - Deputy Clerk.

## Griffith to hold Service Academy Day in Dublin

Congressman Morgan Griffith (R-VA) will host his 2024 Service Academy Day event on Saturday, April 13, from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm in the Richardson Auditorium, Rooker Hall, New River Community College; located at 5251 College Drive, Dublin.

### 9th District Travel Staff Schedule

Congressman Griffith’s Ninth District STAFF will be available at the following locations during the month of March.  
Please contact the Christiansburg Office at 540-381-5671 with any questions.

#### March 14

Radford: 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm  
Radford Recreation Building

Pulaski County: 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm  
Pulaski County Administration Building

Giles County: 9:00 am – 10:30 am  
Town of Pearisburg Offices Council Chambers

Wythe County: 11:30 am – 1:00 pm  
Wythe County Sheriff’s Office Conference Room

## Kent

Continued From Page A6

Merchant Marine.

Faye, as she was known to many for most of her life, was a kind and gentle spirit and has been described as an animal whisperer. She cared about others and especially horses. Horses were her friends and she was an excellent farrier, often taking time to use her compassion for the animals and their owners to solve hoof problems missed or ignored by others. She made a living as such finally ending up at Laurel Park race track in Maryland.

Her home may have been in Maryland, but she truly loved her Dublin, Virginia and all the friends and family here. She was fascinated by the family’s history and could trace cousins from memory back to 1750.

The Kent’s were early pioneers and helped form New Dublin Presbyterian church founded in 1769

the following statement:

“For those high school students interested in serving their country, the U.S. Service Academies offer a way to both serve and further their education. I encourage all high school students, parents, and school staff to attend on April 13th to learn more about their

options.”

The event will feature representatives from each of the U.S. Service Academies, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets, the Virginia Military Institute, and other Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) programs.

Students in surrounding jurisdictions, outside of the Ninth District, may attend to receive information about the Service Academies and serving in the military.

For more information, contact Josh Hess at (540) 381-5671 or [Josh.Hess@mail.house.gov](mailto:Josh.Hess@mail.house.gov).

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**Fax: 980-8320**  
**[www.family1340.com](http://www.family1340.com)**



# CHURCH

## Church Directory



### Journey To Faith

By Pat Priddy

## To Pray Is A Privilege

One day when we see the majesty of God and the glory of His heavens, we will realize that it is a privilege to be approved and allowed to pray before His mighty throne.

We, who have sinned, are permitted to enter into His gates and present our praises and petitions to our One true Maker and God. To be able to speak before the creator of the universe is beyond what my mind can imagine.

No one can conceptualize the profound love and forgiveness God has for His children, His chosen ones. Created in His image and once placed in His perfect garden of beauty, bounty, and protection, we were never meant to fall away from His great love.

“Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as He was walking in the garden in the cool of the day and they hid from the Lord God among the tree of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, ‘Where are you?’” Genesis 3: 8-9

He is still calling you today. Sin separates us from God. He is holy, and our sin cannot enter through the gates of heaven. Because of His great love, He sent His only son to teach us, guide us, love us, to take the burden for all of our sins, and to serve as a living sacrifice for each one of us.

“Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” John 15:13

Realize His great love for you. Repent from your sins, and start your new life in Christ Jesus. Pray in gratitude for the privilege, and praise His Holy Name.

“Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His Name. For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations.” Psalm 100: 4-5

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

*Remember  
Your Loved  
One On A  
Special Day  
With An  
In Memoriam  
Notice  
In  
The Patriot*

**Call  
540-808-3949**

#### 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

#### Evangelists Jodie and Rosanna Whittaker

Monday night services at 7 p.m.  
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Conference Room  
540-674-1100  
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#### First Missionary Baptist Church

7318 Manns Drive  
Fairlawn, Virginia 24141-8524  
(540) 639-5331  
email: fmbc1872@verizon.net  
Associate Minister:  
Rev. Annette Cheek  
Clerk: Mrs. Carlotta Lewis  
Sundays:  
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.  
The Lord's Supper - Each First Sunday  
Wednesdays: Prayer Meeting &  
Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

#### Draper's Valley Presbyterian (PCA)

2755 Old Baltimore Road,  
Draper, VA 24324  
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

210 Fourth Street, Radford  
Welcoming and accepting, we have been a part of the Radford community for more than 130 years.

ALL ARE WELCOME.

We offer an 8:00am Contemplative Eucharist service and a 10:30am Eucharist service with organ music and a Choir, with refreshments served after. The 10:30am service is live-streamed for those who cannot attend in person.

#### New Life Church of the Nazarene

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.  
“Inspiring hope, helping people grow their faith, and sharing God’s love with others!”

#### Dublin United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 577  
424 East Main Street  
Dublin, VA 24084  
Pastor: Rev. Don Shelor  
540.674.5128  
email: dublinumc@gmail.com  
Sunday Worship Times: 9:00 & 11:00 am  
Sunday School: 10:00 am

#### Max Creek Baptist Church

3000 Old Route 100 Road, Draper, Va. 24324  
www.maxcreek.org  
www.facebook.com/maxcreekbaptist  
Senior Pastor: Mike Coleman  
Youth Minister: Charlie Prince  
Sunday Services  
Sunday School: 10 a.m.  
Morning Worship: 11 a.m.  
Teen Social and Class: 5 p.m.  
Evening Worship: 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study & Classes: 7 p.m.

#### Pulaski Church of God

1621 Bob White Boulevard  
Pulaski, VA 24301  
Pastor Donald Jones  
540-980-8880  
www.pulaskicog.church  
Sunday Services  
Sunday Life Groups: 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesdays Midweek Connect: 7 p.m.

#### Randolph Avenue United Methodist Church

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

#### Pulaski Christian Church, Inc.

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

#### First Baptist Church

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

#### Dora Highway Baptist Church

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

#### 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  
Services:  
Sunday's 1st Service - 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday's 2nd Service - 11 a.m.  
Wednesdays - 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
For: Kids, Teens, Adults  
Lead Pastor: Rev. Randy Lawrence Jr.  
Church Phone: 540-980-5506



# Be Determined



MICHAEL COLLINS

We admire people who are determined. For a Christian determination is mixed with faith. David was determined to serve God. He said in Psalms 62:6 “I shall not be moved.” The devil was determined to hinder David’s relationship with God. Likewise, the devil also wants to hinder your walk with God. In David’s case, the devil sent a giant to stop him before David got started in his walk with God. David was armed with a sling, while the giant was wearing full battle armor, plus a sword and spear. It didn’t appear that David was much of a match for him; however, “Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world.” (1 John 4:4) After David became king, the devil tempted him with pride and caused him to count the fighting men in Israel. When God confronted David with his sin of pride, David had the good sense to repent and ask God for forgiveness. David was determined to make heaven his home. I’ve had to repent more times than I care to count because I’m determined to make heaven my home too.

Sick people need to be determined to get to Jesus. Are you sick and suffering? Have you been sick for a long time? Is your sickness something that the doctors don’t have an answer for? If so, the Bible tells the story of a person like you. It is found in the book of Luke 8:43-48. She had been sick for twelve years. She had appointments with various doctors, but none of them could help her. Then Jesus was passing by where she was. She was determined to get to him. She felt if she could just touch His clothing, she would be healed. There was a large crowd of people around Jesus, making it difficult to get near enough for her to touch Him. But, she was determined. Nothing was going to stop her. Somehow, she made her way through the crowd and touched Jesus. Immediately, she was healed. If you are sick, don’t give up. Be determined to get to Jesus. Pray more. Go to

church, you can find Him there. He said, “Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” (Matthew 18:20)

People living in sin need to get to Jesus. Do you think you have lived too sinful of a life to be accepted by Jesus? You haven’t. Saul of Tarsus made havoc of the church. Think of that! He put

Christians in jail, spoke against them at their trial causing some to be put to death. He was present when a great Christian named Stephen was stoned to death because of his faith in Jesus. Saul of Tarsus was an evil man but was forgiven all of his sins. He went on to become, perhaps, the greatest evangelist who ever lived. If you’re living a sinful life and want to be saved, be determined to find Jesus. He will be there when you earnestly repent and ask for His forgiveness. Be determined!

## Christian reasoning on IVF opinion sparks alarm

By PETER SMITH and TIFFANY STANLEY  
Associated Press

When the Alabama Supreme Court ruled that frozen embryos are considered children under state law, its chief justice had a higher authority in mind.

By citing verses from the Bible and Christian theologians in his concurring opinion, Chief Justice Tom Parker alarmed advocates for church-state separation, while delighting religious conservatives who oppose abortion.

Human life, Parker wrote, “cannot be wrongfully destroyed without incurring the wrath of a holy God, who views the destruction of His image as an affront to Himself.”

The Alabama court’s ruling last week stemmed from wrongful death lawsuits brought by couples whose frozen embryos were accidentally destroyed.

The most immediate impact of the ruling was to leave in vitro fertilization clinics in Alabama potentially vulnerable to more lawsuits and reluctant to administer treatment. But not far behind were mounting worries about Parker’s explicit references to Christian theology.

While Parker’s concurring opinion does not carry the force of precedent, advocates for church-state separation fear he could inspire judges in other states to push the envelope.

“Now we’re in a place where government officials feel emboldened to say the quiet part out loud, and directly challenge the separation of church and state, a foundational part of our democracy,” said Rachel Laser, CEO of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

She said Parker’s opinion was just the latest example – and a brazen one at that – of government officials advocating for Christian nationalism, a movement that seeks to privilege Christianity and fuse Christian and American identity.

Other instances she cited include Missouri lawmakers citing Catholic and biblical teachings for restricting abortion and U.S. House Speaker Mike Johnson saying the notion of church-state separation in the U.S. was a “misnomer.”

Parker argued in his opinion that the court was merely enforcing the Alabama state constitution, which was amended in 2018 to recognize “the sanctity of unborn life.” That principle has “deep roots that reach back to the creation of man ‘in the image of God,’” Parker said, quoting the Book of Genesis.

Parker sprinkled his opinion with a litany of religious sources, from classic Christian theologians like St. Thomas Aquinas and John Calvin, to a modern conservative Christian manifesto, the Manhattan Declaration, that opposes “anti-life” measures.

He also quoted a Bible verse that is legendary within the anti-abortion movement, in which God told the prophet Jeremiah, “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.”

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

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

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

**Community Christian Church**  
5382 Grace Street, Dublin VA, 24084  
540-674-4308  
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  
p.m.  
Thursday 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.

**Mountain View  
United Methodist Church**  
6648 Wilderness Road  
Dublin, Va 24084  
Pastor: Darlene Marshall  
Phone: 540-392-2702  
Sunday School - 9:45am  
Sunday Service - 11:00am

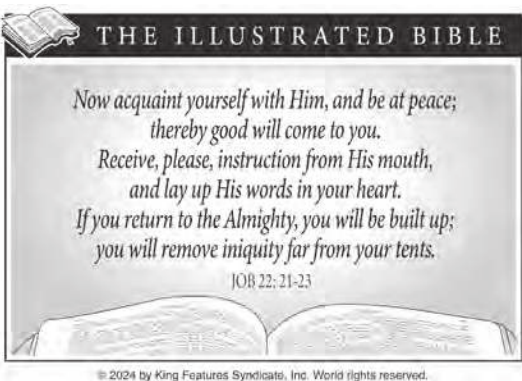
**Pathway to Heaven Worship Center**  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 434  
Dublin, VA 24084  
Physical Address: 7889 Cleburne Blvd.  
Dublin, VA 24084  
Pastor Winfred Keene - Phone 540-239-8092  
Sunday Morning Worship: 11 a.m.  
Tuesday Evening Worship Service: 6 p.m.

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

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

**New Dublin Presbyterian Church**  
5331 New Dublin Church Road  
Dublin, VA 24084  
Interim Pastor: Tupper Garden  
Sunday School: 10 a.m.  
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



Visit The Church  
Of Your Choice  
This Week



## Taking It To The Streets

Bringing Christ to the Communities . . .

### *Evangelistic Meetings!*

**7:00 P.M. Each Evening:**  
**Special Singing Each Service!**  
**Free Snacks & Drinks Every Youth Night!**

**235 N. Jefferson Ave, P.O. Box 30 Pulaski, VA 24301**

## March 2024



**Fri. March 8th: Evangelist Steve Board**  
**Sat. March 9th: Pastor Charlie Barbettini**

**Sat. March 16: Food/Clothing Event from 11 am till 1 pm. We will be serving free sausage, eggs, pancakes, and drink. The Clothing Bank will be open with a huge selection of free men’s, women’s, boys’ and girls’ clothing. Also we will be distributing free packaged ground beef.**

**We hope everyone has a blessed and happy Easter.**

Each Service Broadcast Live on streaming video at: [www.streets4god.com](http://www.streets4god.com)

For More Information Contact: Charlie Barbettini. : 276.620.4293

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**“Go Ye Into All The World and Preach The Gospel to Every Creature” Mark 16:15**

## BIBLE TRIVIA

1. Is the book of 3 Kings (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
  2. Who said, “I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit”? Matthew, Mark, John the Baptist, Luke
  3. From Leviticus 14, how long was a “clean” person required to remain outside his tent? One night, Two nights, Four days, Seven days
  4. What town or city was Saul of Tarsus near when he converted to Christianity? Damascus, Assos, Corinth, Gaza
  5. Jesus says that you have to do what to see the kingdom of God? Love one another, Be born again, Do what’s right, Tithe
  6. Which apostle’s mother-in-law is mentioned in the Bible? Peter, Judas, James, Andrew
- ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) John the Baptist, 3) Seven days, 4) Damacus, 5) Be born again, 6) Peter
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# Mack introduces mobile off-grid charging system

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana – In an effort to help customers investigating e-mobility for Class 6-8 vehicles and the feasibility for their fleets, Mack Trucks has built a mobile off-grid charging system that will be integrated into the body of a Mack® MD Electric truck.

This mobile Mack MD Electric charging unit can be used for a limited time by customers who want to test the technology, and by dealers when facilitating electric vehicle demos.

Mack made the announcement at the American Trucking Associations Technology and Maintenance Council Annual Meeting and Transportation Technology Exhibition, March 4-7, at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, Louisiana.

“This system will allow the customer or dealer to charge trucks – whether it’s a demo unit or a multi-unit ride-and-drive event at the dealer – without having charging infrastructure readily available at their site,” said Ryan Saba, energy solutions manager for Mack Trucks. “Mack hopes that this option will help customers more easily experience the benefits of e-mobility and a more sustainable transportation option.”

The off-grid charging system will consist of a generator powered by renewable propane and 120kW charger. The system will be mounted on the back of the MD Electric truck transporting it. Mack currently does not have plans to make the truck-charger configuration commercially available in its energy solutions portfolio but can support customers interested in purchasing the truck charger combo through their supplier relationships.

The Mack MD Electric can be configured to be a Class 6 or Class 7 vehicle. It features a three-phase Permanent Magnet Synchronous 260 horsepower motor powered by Nickel Manganese Cobalt (NMC) Oxide lithium-ion batteries, rated at a 240kWh and good for an estimated range of up to 230 miles. The MD Electric is the second electric vehicle introduced by Mack Trucks to the industry. The first was the Mack LR Electric, which went into production in December 2021.

The Mack LR Electric is a Class 8 refuse model with a GVWR of 66,000 pounds. The next generation Mack LR Electric offers 42 percent more energy and a standard 376kWh total battery capacity for increased range between charges. Twin electric motors with 448 continuous horsepower and a 4,051 lb.-ft. of peak torque output from zero RPM power the vehicle.

Both trucks proudly display a copper-colored Bulldog which makes them easily identifiable as a Mack and denotes the electric drivetrains.

The Mack MD Electric is produced at Roanoke Valley Operations (RVO) in Roanoke Valley, Virginia, where Mack began production of the Mack MD Series in 2020. The Mack LR Electric is produced at the Mack Lehigh Valley Operations (LVO) facility in Macungie, Pennsylvania, where all Class 8 Mack vehicles for North America and export are assembled.

For more information about the off-grid charging system, Mack MD Electric or Mack LR Electric, please visit your local dealer or [www.macktrucks.com](http://www.macktrucks.com).



Mack photo

In an effort to help customers investigating e-mobility for Class 6-8 vehicles and the feasibility for their fleets, Mack Trucks has built a mobile off-grid charging system that will be integrated into the body of a Mack® MD Electric truck.

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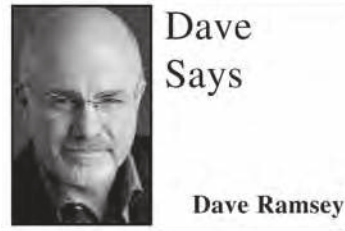
Dear Dave,  
I'm trying to work my way out of debt, but it seems like something always happens to stall things or knock me backwards. I make \$55,000 a year, I'm single and I have \$15,000 in debt, along with a mortgage payment of \$1,224 a month. I've been trying to live on a budget, but I'm still not sure where all my money goes. Can you help?

Lindley  
Dear Lindley,  
I know living on a budget can be hard at first. And honestly, it usually takes folks who are new to doing it about three or four months of practice before they start getting it right and seeing the results.

For starters, your house payment is a little heavy for someone making \$55,000 a year. I generally recommend keeping your mortgage or rent payment at about 25% of your take-home pay. Sometimes you can slide by paying a little more, but in those cases, you'd really have to be on top of your finances. So, the biggest thing you can do right now is take control of your money, instead of letting it—or a lack of it—control you. And the best way to make all this happen is by consistently living on a realistic, written monthly budget.

Once you start doing this, you've taken your first big step toward having a real gameplan for your money. At that point, the idea of trying to live on a budget ends, and the fact that you are living on a budget, and telling your money what to do—instead of a lack of it dictating what you can do—becomes more of a reality.

Remember the Star Wars movie “The Empire Strikes Back”? At one point during Luke’s training, Yoda tells him, “Do, or do not. There is no try.”



Dave Says

Dave Ramsey

In a larger sense, Yoda is urging Luke to focus and work harder, instead of continuing with half-hearted attempts and giving up easily. If you want to accomplish a difficult task, Lindley, you have to throw yourself into it completely. You must fully commit, and stop making excuses. You have to focus, and fight to make it happen. It's no fun waking up broke at the end of every pay period. We both know this. So, put your head down and get your mind in gear. Make. This. Happen. You can do it!

—Dave  
\* Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people take control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions.



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# SPORTS



## Spring Sports Underway

Spring sports action is underway at Pulaski County High School. This week, the girls soccer team defeated William Fleming on the road, 2-0 in a scrimmage in Roanoke. Above, Reece Nolan(3) congratulates Sophia Hanson(4) on scoring a goal. At right, Kirsten Woodyard kicks the ball trying to score.

Brian Bishop/Patriot Publishing





**Game Day Banter**  
Jeramey Fleenor

## March Madness about to begin

As we near the end of March, there is one thing that is extremely obvious: It is time for March Madness. Yes, it is finally here, the chance for the underdogs in the nation to step up and take down the powerhouses. It is the most exciting time of the year in college basketball, at least if your team made it to their respective NCAA tournament. The excitement that these young athletes must feel has to be unprecedented. The work that most of the programs put in is far beyond that of many in the nation. Then comes the hard part, which teaches us even the hard lessons. You work hard, and unfortunately, you make it to the “BIG DANCE,” have a bad game and go home. It’s hard, but that’s part of why we play sports — everyone wants to be the team that sends someone home!

So, the question today, our daily banter, is as follows. What would this format look like for Virginia High Schools? What would it look like if Virginia only handed out one instead of multiple state champions? No more classes, no more enrollment numbers for the state tournament. I have heard many people say the 4A is the strongest because it is the largest. 5A and 6A has more students, but I have seen some excellent 2A programs that could give some of the big schools a run if given a chance. I do know that there is a state that borders Virginia that adopted this format (many years ago), and I could only imagine what it feels like for these young men and women to know they are the best (at least that day) in the entire state. Now, I know what you are thinking, and yes, no system is perfect, but it sure would be fun to watch. To know where you match up and find out on the court, not on MAX PREPS or any other outlet. I also imagine the atmosphere would be ideal for colleges to come and scout the best talent in the state. If you think about it for a moment, all the exposure tournaments that we take our college basketball hopefuls to, they are a bracket of what is supposed to be great teams from all around the US playing in front of college coaches. I can speak from experience. It is excellent to see chairs full of college coaches evaluating athletes. Above and beyond all else, it gives the underdog a chance; I know it would be fun for Pulaski to sit in 3A, but what if? What if one of these little 1A schools from rural Virginia had a year in which they smashed everyone in their region? Give them a shot at the STATE Championship of Virginia. Plus, it may be a lot more fun to fill out a VHSL bracket than it is to do an NCAA D1 bracket.

## State bear, deer harvests increase

**Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources**

Wildlife biologists with the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) have compiled preliminary figures for the 2023–2024 hunting season. As anticipated, bear and deer harvests increased from the previous season, while the fall turkey harvest decreased. During 2023, harvest opportunities for deer and bear were added in portions of the state, while white oak acorns

were scarce this fall, leading to increased movements and visibility of deer and bears to hunters. Although turkey populations remain strong in most areas of Virginia, fall turkey harvests have continued to drop due to decreased hunter participation in the fall seasons. The 2023–2024 season was the third season since DWR transitioned to 100 percent electronic harvest reporting using phone, internet, or mobile applications. Harvest reporting by successful bear,

deer, and turkey hunters remains a vital component of DWR’s management programs as harvest data are used to monitor game populations and inform future regulatory decisions.

**Deer Harvest**

During the 2023–24 deer hunting season, hunters reported harvesting 206,586 deer in Virginia, up approximately 12 percent from the 184,968 deer taken during the same time frame the previous season. This year’s total included 105,201 antlered

bucks, 982 bucks that had shed their antlers, 12,567 button bucks, and 87,836 does (42.5 percent). The youth and apprentice deer hunting weekend resulted in a harvest of 2,890 deer. Archery hunters took 14 percent of the total deer harvest, while muzzleloading deer hunters and firearms hunters took 26 percent and 60 percent of the total harvest, respectively. In counties where dogs could be used to hunt deer, 50 percent of deer were

See HARVESTS, page B5

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NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 22.1-92 of the Code of Virginia 1950, as amended, that a public hearing on the 2024-2025 School Board budget will be held Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., at the Pulaski County School Board Office, 202 N. Washington Avenue, Pulaski, VA. For physically challenged individuals who may require special aid or services, reasonable accommodations will be made available by the School Board upon request by calling School Board Clerk Teresa Porter at (540) 994-2534 or Deputy Clerk Brenda Crawford at (540) 994-2519.

LEGAL NOTICE



Public Notice  
Pulaski County  
Board of Zoning Appeals

Notice is given pursuant to the Pulaski County Unified Development Ordinance and Section 15.2-2310 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, that a public hearing will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, NW, Pulaski, VA 24301. The Pulaski County Board of Zoning Appeals is hosting a Public Hearing and will receive public comments in relationship to the applications as listed below:

- 1. Petition by Randall and Jackie Morris, Variance to Article 4.3.C Minimum Accessory Structure Setback in an Agriculture Zone District, of the Pulaski County Unified Development Ordinance. The property is located 2677 Winding Way Drive, Pulaski, VA Tax Map # 053-005-0001-0014, Robinson District.

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

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

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDER OF PUBLICATION  
Commonwealth of Virginia  
VA. CODE § 8.01-316, -317  
Case No. CA# 24-01  
Bland County Circuit Court

Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* SHANE ALLEN COCHRAN and MIRANDA LEIGH COCHRAN, husband and wife  
In Re: Adoption of a minor child to be known as CRC; born 09/15/2016

The object of this suit is to: Obtain a final order of adoption by step-parent of CRG to be known as CRC born 09/15/2016.

It is ORDERED that DUSTIN DUANE GARLAND appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before APRIL 16, 2024.

FEBRUARY 7, 2024 LISA A. HALL, Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF PULASKI

PATRICIA A. POOLE, )  
AND )  
MARVIN D. LEE, )  
by Patricia A. Poole, his attorney-in-fact )  
PLAINTIFFS )  
v. ) Case No: 155cl230060100  
DANIEL R. BROWN, SR., et al. )  
DEFENDANTS )

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of the Complaint in the above-styled case is to obtain an order adjudicating that the partition of that certain real estate located in Pulaski County, Virginia, identified as Pulaski County Tax Map #'s 063-003-0000-027A, 27,28,29,30,31, formerly belonging to Margaret Lee, deceased, cannot be conveniently made and ordering the sale thereof.

It is ORDERED that any of the following persons shall appear at the above named Court and take such action as he/she deem necessary to protect his/her interests on or before April 10, 2024:

- Ruby Lemons
- Jodi Melissa Slaughter
- Any unknown children of Aaron Anderson, Jr.

Any person desiring a copy of the Complaint or any additional information should contact Ryan L. Pry, counsel for plaintiffs, at P.O. Box 3785, Radford, VA 24143, or at 540-838-2233 prior to the above date.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this ORDER OF PUBLICATION be published once a week for four successive weeks in the Patriot, a newspaper of general circulation in Pulaski County, Virginia.

Entered this 24 day of February, 2024.

By [Signature] Judge

I ask for this: [Signature]

Ryan L. Pry (VSB #74181)  
RYAN L. PRY PC  
P.O. BOX 3785  
RADFORD VA 24143  
(540) 838-2233  
Ryan@PryLawOffice.com  
Counsel for Plaintiffs

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LEGAL NOTICE



Public Hearing  
Town of Pulaski  
Planning Commission

The Town of Pulaski Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on March 11, 2024, at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers at 42 First St. NW to discuss:

- rezoning 1733 Dora Hwy [73-1-16 and 82-1-1] from DS, Drop Site to B-2, General Business District
- rezoning 100 Sheriff F. R. Conner Dr. [72-140-187] from DS, Drop Site to I-2, Industrial District.

A copy of the proposed changes is available for public review in the Planning and Zoning Office at the Town of Pulaski Municipal Building, 42 1st. St. NW, during normal business hours. All persons desiring to address the Planning Commission should appear at the stated time and place. Comments may be submitted in writing to the Town Planner by March 8, 2024.

For disabled persons who may require special auxiliary aids or services, the Town will make reasonable accommodations upon request. Please contact the Clerk of Council (540) 994-8602 before the above meeting date to arrange these accommodations. For individuals with visual or hearing impairment, contact Virginia Relay at 711 for assistance reaching the town.

LEGAL NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Best Use Analysis for Town of Pulaski Property

The Town Council of the Town of Pulaski, Virginia, invites proposals from qualified firms to conduct a Best Use Analysis of a recently acquired property located within the political jurisdiction. The purpose of this analysis is to identify the optimal use for the property, aligning with the Town's development goals.

This property consists of approximately 170 acres of primarily wooded land. Given the pressing need for housing, proposals should prioritize development options that are not limited to, but rather favor residential needs while considering zoning regulations and flood plain constraints to ensure sustainable and resilient community development.

Scope of Work:

- 1. Comprehensive Site Assessment
- 2. Market Analysis
- 3. Financial Feasibility Study
- 4. Stakeholder Engagement
- 5. Best Use Recommendation

Proposal Contents:

Proposals should include the following:

- 1. Company Overview
- 2. Project Team Details
- 3. Similar Projects
- 4. Approach/Methodology
- 5. Work Plan/Timeline



The Town Council of the Town of Pulaski, or their authorized selection committee, will review all proposals and select proposals deemed best qualified and responsive. At the conclusion of the interviews, the developers/purchasers will be ranked in order of preference and contract negotiations will be instituted with the respondent ranked first. Should a satisfactory contract be negotiated at a price which is fair and reasonable, the award will be made to that respondent. Otherwise, negotiations with the number one respondent will be formally terminated, and negotiations will be conducted with the respondent ranked second. This process shall continue until a fair and reasonable contract can be negotiated.

The Town reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, waive any formalities, and/or divide any project into sub-sections. The procurement of these services will comply with the Virginia Public Procurement Act. The Town of Pulaski is an equal opportunity employer.

Proposal Submittal:

To be considered for selection, offerors must submit a complete response to this RFP. Ten (10) originals and an electronic copy of the proposal on CD or thumb drive in PDF format must be received in a sealed envelope clearly marked "Best Use Analysis for Property" no later than April 16th 2024. Any proposals received after that deadline will be returned unopened.

This RFP advertisement does not commit the Town of Pulaski to award a contract or pay any costs incurred in proposal preparation.

Proposals and inquiries should be addressed to:

Todd Day  
Town Manager  
P.O. Box 660  
Pulaski, VA 24301  
540-994-8600



# CLASSIFIEDS

## LOCAL ADS

### 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.

### 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: Princess House crystal, Fantasia and Heritage, microwaves (15), furniture, many household items. Call 540-230-5386.

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For Sale: Two vintage metal wagon wheels with axle. 35-inches round. Pulaski seller. (210) 416-7986.

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For Sale: 27.1 cubic foot Whirlpool two-door freezer and refrigerator with water and ice in door. Great shape. Call 540-

509-5496. 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.

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## LOCAL JOB



### COME JOIN THE PULASKI COUNTY TEAM! Heavy Construction Crew Equipment Operator

Pulaski County is seeking applicants for a Heavy Construction Crew Equipment Operator. This position is responsible for new construction and maintenance of County properties as well as special projects as assigned.

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

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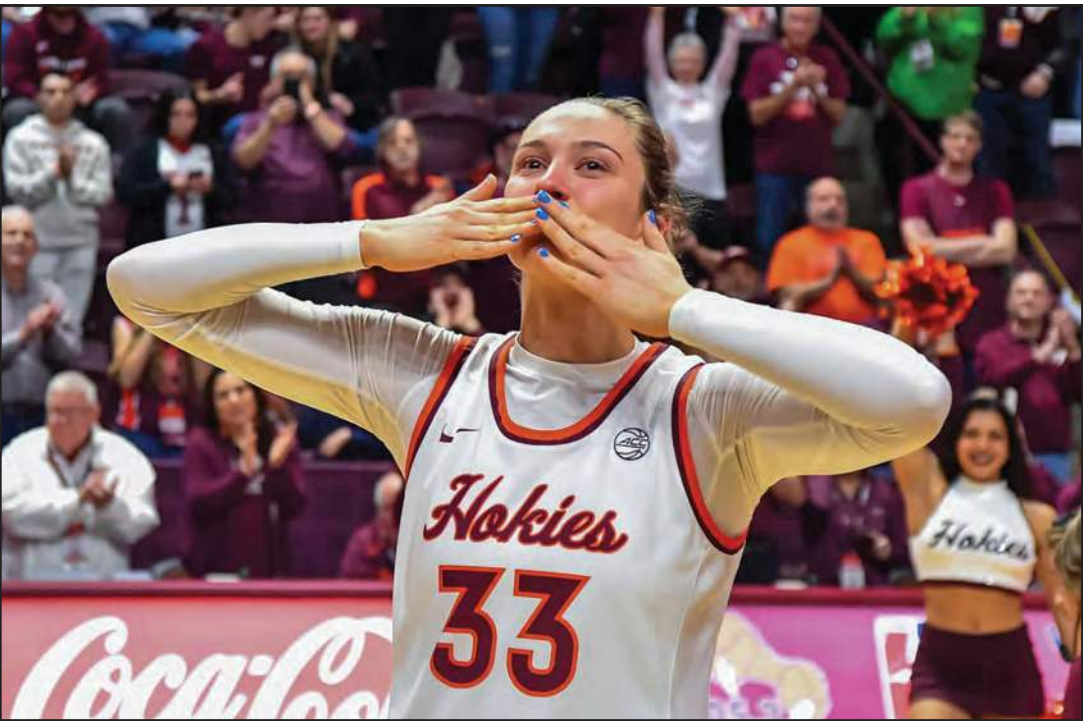


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Brian Bishop/Patriot Publishing  
Virginia Tech center Elizabeth Kitley - shown here acknowledging the crowd in Cassell Coliseum - has become the third player in Atlantic Coast Conference history to be named league player of the year for three straight seasons.


# Virginia Tech’s Kitley, Notre Dame’s Hidalgo headline ‘23-24 ACC honors

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Virginia Tech center Elizabeth Kitley has become the third player in Atlantic Coast Conference history to be named league player of the year for three straight seasons. The 6-foot-6 graduate was selected as the league’s top player in awards announced Tuesday, the day before the start of the league tournament. The winners included Notre Dame freshman Hannah Hidalgo, who was named the league rookie and defensive player of the year, while Felisha Legette-Jack of No. 20 Syracuse was named the top coach. Kitley — whose status is in question due to an apparent knee injury — joins Duke’s Alana Beard (2002-04) and Maryland’s Alyssa Thomas (2012-14) as the only players to win the award for three straight years. Other individual winners included Duke’s Oluchi Okananwa as sixth player of the year and Pittsburgh’s Liatu



Brian Bishop/Patriot Publishing  
Virginia Tech’s Georgia Amoore also made the 10-player All-ACC first team.

King as most improved. Kitley headlined the 10-player all-ACC first team, Fair, Virginia Tech teammate Georgia Amoore and Florida State’s Ta’Niya Latson as the top vote-getters.




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### Pulaski County

### About

The Pulaski Extension Office is sponsoring a free virtual cooking lesson while learning program for families! There is no limit for the number of individuals in your family, although Internet access is necessary. Food materials will be provided to each family. We look forward to cooking and learning with you!




### Details

**When:** March 21st at 6 pm  
**Where:** Virtual  
*(Participants will pick up food items prior to the meeting)*

Space is limited to the first 15 families

**Register:**  
<http://tinyurl.com/mealtime2024>

**Contact:**  
Pulaski Extension Office  
540-980-7761 or paulette@vt.edu





Larry Case  
Turkey Creek Road

# March? Already?

March is a green and muddy month down below, some folks like it, farmers mostly. Bear Claw Crislap in the movie Jeremiah Johnson.

Can you believe it’s March? Me either. Years ago older friends told me that as you age each year goes faster. I didn’t believe it then but I surely do now. Where does the time ago? I don’t know, but if you find out please let me know.

As you know the seasons of the year are especially important to hunters and fishermen and outdoorsmen. (girls too) We are in a big transition right now, March is the time when are going from one mode, one season to another. Small game seasons for the most part go out at the end of February; some spring turkey seasons start to come in March but usually later this month. So many of us are in a state of transition; we are getting ready.

Much of this getting ready stuff is in the form of scouting, which is tramping the woods and looking for the next thing we are going to hunt, this time of year that usually means turkeys. I am sure that many of you out there that are not really consumed by this thing about chasing turkeys really don’t understand about spending every waking hour looking for turkeys even when you are not actually hunting them. Well don’t feel like the Lone Ranger because most of us turkey hunters don’t understand it either! We just know we want to go to the woods, look around for the signs of turkeys and maybe actually see and hear them.

Before I move on that hearing part on wild turkeys first thing in the spring is important. We still have a ways to go on the spring season as far spring equinox, but turkeys don’t know this so any nice days we have with sunshine are very likely to have the wonderful sound track of wild turkeys gobbling their little beaks off. It is the quintessential sound of spring. When you hear your first turkey gobble, you know it is for real, the shackles of winter will be broken, the droll and dark time of winter is finally over. (I don’t know about you, but I really need it this year!)

Sometime, before this month is over, you are going to go somewhere for a long walk in the woods. You are going to start early in the morning before sunrise (that’s right,



LARRY CASE  
GUNS & CORNBREAD

before the chickens get up and have their coffee) because you might, just might get to hear the gobble of a wild turkey. That sound, that wild, unmistakable sound has driven many hunters to near insanity. I am not trying to justify this obsession; I am just trying to explain and report on it. This sound which some American Indians may have taken their war cry from, has enthralled generations of hunters and fueled an industry of shotguns, ammunition, camouflage, and other gear totaling in the billions of dollars. The hunters buying the gear are doing it to hunt turkeys, but they go to the woods to hear a turkey gobble. It’s true.

Ok, you know me friends, I could talk about loudmouth turkeys for three days, but March has something else going on. It is when many of you get to the water for the first time and drown some worms to go fishing. The early spring fishing is somehow special to me, even more so than the days of summer. It’s a new year, everything is new and fresh. It is really not even spring yet, so you got a good early start and didn’t wait to long to start fishing like you usually do. The water is still cold but when it warms enough you can envision hungry walleyes and smallmouth bass waiting to hit whatever you drag past them. Just like you they are joyful that winter has broken and things are warming up.

Don’t miss out on these first days, these early days. Often you can mix the March scouting trips to the woods with a bit of fishing later in the day. If the adventure can include a tiny brook trout stream and even better a patch of ramps to go with the trout and some taters you brought along, you have hit a home run. (Might be a little early to talk about Morel mushrooms yet).

Don’t miss this early season, go get your rubber boots and that cast iron skillet for camping, put them in the truck right now.

Larry Case  
[www.gunsandcornbread.com](http://www.gunsandcornbread.com)

# Virginia Tech wallops Louisville, 80-64

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Sean Pedulla scored 15 points to lead five in double figures, and Virginia Tech jumped out early and cruised to an 80-64 victory over Louisville on Tuesday night.

MJ Collins and Tyler Nickel made three 3-pointers apiece and scored 13 points each for Virginia Tech (17-13, 9-10 ACC). Robbie Beran made four 3-pointers and finished with 12 points. Lynn Kidd scored 11 points and grabbed nine rebounds.

Collins and Pedulla each scored 11 points and Beran chipped in with nine as the Hokies shot 53% (17 of 32) in the first half and led 49-31 at the break. The Hokies opened on a 17-4 run and never trailed, leading by as many as 19 points early in the second half.

Brandon Huntley-Hatfield made a layup to pull Louisville

*Hokies finish season Saturday in Blacksburg vs. Notre Dame*

within 74-64 with 3:24 remaining but didn’t get closer. The Cardinals missed their last four shots, all from long range.

Virginia Tech (17-13, 9-10 ACC), which entered having beat Wake Forest 87-76, has won consecutive games for the first time since a three-game win streak in January. The Hokies have won four straight against Louisville (8-22, 3-16).

Huntley-Hatfield scored 19 points to lead the Cardinals, who have lost six straight games. Mike James added 16 points and Ty-Laur Johnson scored 10.

Each team hosts games on Saturday to end the regular season. Virginia Tech plays Notre Dame while Louisville takes on Boston College.



# Harvests

Continued From Page B1

harvested with the aid of dogs during the general firearms season.

The 2023–24 deer harvest was up 5 percent from the previous 10-year average of 196,862. This season’s harvest represented a rebound from the 2022–23 season, when harvests were down due to a bumper crop of acorns. The dip in harvest last season likely created a “stockpile” of deer for hunters this season. Additionally, deer experienced a mild winter, entering 2023 on a higher nutritional plane and enabling the herd to be more productive. White oak mast was scarce during the fall of 2023, which could have made deer move more in search of this preferred food item, increasing their visibility to hunters. Additionally, a number of new deer hunting regulations designed to increase harvest opportunities went into effect, which also may have contributed to the increased harvest.

## Bear Harvest

Hunters reported harvesting 2,892 bears during the 2023–24 bear hunting seasons in Virginia (see table below). The 2023–24 bear harvest was approximately 29.6 percent higher than the previous year’s harvest, and 3.2 percent lower than the previous five-year average during 2018–2022. Female bears composed 40.9 percent of the 2023-24 season harvest, similar to the previous year (41.3 percent). Significant harvest increases during the archery season (73 percent), and the muzzleloader season (122 percent) were the main contributors to the overall increase in the 2023–24 statewide bear harvest. The youth/apprentice weekend harvest increased by 42 percent and the firearms season increased by 9 percent from the 2022–23 season. Even though the three-day early season was closed in numerous northwestern counties in 2023, the bear harvest in the 16 southwestern counties where it remained open increased 105 percent from the previous season. The majority (66 percent) of hunters reported their bear harvest using the mobile application, with 25 percent calling in their harvest by phone, and 9.5 percent reporting their harvest using the internet.

The increased harvest during 2023 is likely the result of multiple factors. Although the magnitude varied regionally, an increase in bear harvest was observed across all regions of the state, suggesting the influence of a common factor. Acorn abundance during the fall of 2023 was below average across Virginia, with white oak acorns being nearly a complete failure and red oaks below average. With scarce acorn abundance, bears move more in search of food, thus increasing their vulnerability to hunters, especially during the early seasons (e.g., archery). The opposite effect was observed in 2022, when there was an abundant acorn crop and bears were much less vulnerable to hunters. Another factor is the recent firearms season expansion, which created additional

harvest opportunity in the southeastern part of the state.

Across all bear seasons, an estimated 43.2 percent of bears were taken by hunters using hounds. Preliminary season estimates for the proportion of bears harvested by hunters using hounds were as follows: three-day early firearms season (43.9 percent), firearms season (74.8 percent), and youth/apprentice weekend (72.3 percent).

## Wild Turkey Harvest

A total of 1,443 wild turkeys were harvested in Virginia during the 2023–2024 fall turkey hunting season, an 11 percent decrease over the 2022–2023 harvest of 1,621.

While Virginia’s turkey population appears to remain robust, fall turkey harvests have been declining for over two decades. A recent DWR survey of turkey hunters indicated that many turkey hunters are choosing to save their turkey tags for the more popular spring turkey season, choosing to pursue other game during the fall.

Reproductive success is another variable that can alter fall hunting success. Inclement weather in May and June can lead to nest losses or death of the young turkey poults. In 2023, the productivity estimate (1.8 poults/hen) was below the long-term average (2.6 poults/hen) on a statewide basis for the second year in a row, marking one of the lowest recruitment index measures over the last 15 years. Since juvenile birds account for 40-60 percent of the fall harvest, reproductive success greatly influences turkey population size and subsequently fall harvest.

As in the last several years, the archery harvest remained relatively high, making up approximately 22 percent of the overall harvest. Thanksgiving Day and the Wednesday before Thanksgiving continue to be popular fall turkey hunting days. This year a total of 383 birds were harvested during that two-day timeframe, accounting for nearly 27 percent of the total fall harvest. Thanksgiving Day accounted for the single highest day of harvest with 232 birds, or 17 percent of the total fall harvest.

Declines in this year’s harvest were most apparent east of the Blue Ridge with a decrease of 17 percent as opposed to a 4 percent decrease west of the Blue Ridge. The greatest declines were noted in the Tidewater (27 percent) and Northern Piedmont (22 percent) regions. The harvests in the Southwest Mountains and Southern Piedmont were similar to last year’s.

The decline in fall turkey hunting participation has been an ongoing issue for Virginia and many other eastern states. One of the goals of the DWR Wild Turkey Management Plan, which is under revision, is to reverse the general decline in fall turkey hunting interest. The October youth and apprentice fall turkey hunting weekend and the late January season were designed to encourage interest in fall turkey hunting. Unfortunately, it appears the declining trend is continuing despite these efforts. While fall turkey participation may be lagging, the excitement of those who do participate is not.

## 2023 Deer, Bear, Turkey Harvests

### Deer

Pulaski	2204
Montgomery	2777
Wythe	2996
Giles	2159
Floyd	2689
Carroll	2777

### Bear

Pulaski	27
Montgomery	45
Wythe	44
Giles	87
Floyd	35
Carroll	33

### Turkey

Pulaski	25
Montgomery	25
Wythe	33
Giles	31
Floyd	18
Carroll	38



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Kyle Larson, driver of the #5 HendrickCars.com Chevrolet, crosses the finish line to win the NASCAR Cup Series Pennzoil 400 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway on March 03, 2024 in Las Vegas, Nevada. (Photo by Chris Graythen/Getty Images)

# Hendrick Motorsports drivers have found a new playground

By REID SPENCER  
NASCAR Wire Service

When you think about particular race tracks where Hendrick Motorsports drivers have dominated, Martinsville and Dover immediately come to mind.

Starting with Jeff Gordon’s sweep of the Martinsville races in 2003, Hendrick drivers owned the 0.526-mile paper-clip-shaped track for seven years. Gordon and teammate Jimmie Johnson combined to win 10 of 13 races during a stretch that ended with Denny Hamlin’s victory in the fall race of 2009.

From the fall race of 2006 through the spring race of 2009, Johnson won five of six NASCAR Cup Series events at Martinsville. Gordon and Johnson totaled nine career victories each at the historic short track.

Starting with a sweep during his rookie season in 2002, Johnson almost single-handedly turned Dover Motor Speedway into a Hendrick sandbox. He won at the high-banked one-mile concrete track a record 11 times and took his last checkered flag in the Cup Series there in 2017.

It’s true that current Hendrick drivers have won four of the last eight races at Dover and four of the last seven at Martinsville, but it’s also undeniable that the organization has staked its claim to a new playground.

Recent performances argue convincingly that Hendrick’s current best track is Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

Consider the facts: Hendrick drivers have won the last three events at Las Vegas. Recent DAYTONA 500 champion William Byron triumphed in the first Vegas race of 2023. Kyle

Larson has claimed the trophy in the last two events in Sin City, including Sunday’s nail-biter over hard-charging Tyler Reddick.

In each of the last three races, the winner also has swept the first two stages of the event and led the most laps.

Byron’s victory in 2023 led a podium sweep for Hendrick, with Larson and Alex Bowman finishing second and third, respectively. In Sunday’s race, Larson led 181 of 267 laps. The victory was his third at the track, tied for most among full-time active Cup drivers.

The track record holder? None other than Johnson with four wins.

With Larson also winning at Vegas in 2021 and Bowman in 2022, team owner Rick Hendrick can boast five victories in the last seven Cup events at the intermediate track.

Larson told the NASCAR Wire Service before Sunday’s race that, since signing with HMS in 2021, his setups for Las Vegas tend to minimize the ill effects of the pronounced bumps in Turns 1 and 2. Larson’s crew chief, Cliff Daniels, contended that the versatile talents of his driver have more to do with his success at Las Vegas.

Larson, of course, is a mega-star in the world of dirt-track racing, where searching for different lines over the course of an event is of paramount importance.

“I would argue he is so good at tracks with a lot of character,” Daniels said. “That’s a testament to the different types of cars that he drives all the time. He can adapt to so many different things...”

“He’s so good at moving the different lanes and how the car

reacts in those different situations. I would argue we haven’t had the outright best car every time that we’ve won.”

Larson’s victory on Sunday was impressive, but so was Byron’s 10th-place run.

Byron had a car capable of leading the race and perhaps challenging Larson for the victory. However, on a track buffeted by wind gusts of up to 50 mph, a large trash bag blown across the racing surface attached to the nose of Byron’s car and covered the grille on the No. 24 Camaro, blocking the airflow to the engine compartment.

Byron’s water temperature skyrocketed to 350 degrees, cutting horsepower and endangering the life of the engine.

On Monday, during an appearance on SiriusXM NASCAR Radio, Rudy Fugle, Byron’s crew chief, revealed the rest of the story.

“I’m pretty positive that (the trash bag) had a beer can in it, because that beer can got stuck in our air filter,” Fugle told the SiriusXM audience. “After the race, there was a silver bullet in our air filter somehow.”

Byron lost a lap during an unscheduled pit stop to remove the trash bag, but he rallied to finish 10th—emblematic of both the team’s resilience and its ability to excel.

As with Martinsville and Dover, Hendrick drivers expect to dominate at Las Vegas, and their expectations seem to be self-fulfilling.

Needless to say, on Oct. 20, during the NASCAR Cup Playoffs, they’ll be eager to return to their new playground in the Mojave Desert—a massive sandbox indeed.



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Pulaski County Public Schools and Pulaski County School Board are honored to congratulate the following students from the Southwest Virginia Governor’s School on their accomplishments at the 2024 Science Fair:

• Laurin Ervine - Research Award - Feelings Toward Police	• Ethan Easter - Second Place in Animal Sciences - Determining the Effects of Four	Natural Items on Oranges to Repel Drosophila melanogaster	• Laken Barnette - First Place in Chemistry and Alternate Grand Award in Physical Sciences - A Nutritional Assessment of Plant-Based Milk Alternatives: Comparing	Common Plant-Based Milk Alternatives to Cow’s Milk Using Chemical Analyses	• James Paine - Third Place in Earth & Environmental Sciences - Quantifying Microplastics in Corbicular fluminea from a Limnic Ecosystem	• Swati Aggarwal - Honorable Mention in Environmental Chemistry - Evaluating Homemade and Industrial Rust Removers on Steel Metal	• Jacey Hendrix - Second Place in Environmental Chemistry - Testing the Effects of Sunscreen Ultraviolet Filter Oxybenzone on the Freshwater Plan Lilaeopsis brasiliensis	• Andrew Clark - Third Place in Environmental Engineering - Solar wattage as Affected by Altitude and Latitude in Pulaski County.
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Pulaski County Public Schools

Army plans to cut 24,000 positions

By Bethany Blankley

(The Center Square) – As the U.S. Armed Forces have struggled to meet recruitment goals, the Army is reducing its troops by 24,000 soldiers.

According to an “Army Force Structure Transformation” document first published by American Military News, the Army announced its restructuring plan due to a “changing security environment and evolving character of war.”

The document explains structural changes were “moving the Army away from counterinsurgency and counterterrorism operations to a focus on large scale combat operations against highly sophisticated adversaries.”

Part of the structural change includes reducing its force “to protect readiness in light of decreased end strength. The Army is currently significantly over-structured, meaning there are not enough soldiers to fill out existing units and organizations.”

The goal is for Army leaders to have at least 470,000 active-duty soldiers by fiscal 2029, the document states. This is nearly 20,000 above the Army’s current end strength, it says, but roughly 24,000 less authorizations. “Given the addition of 7,500 new authorizations needed to bring new capabilities in the force, the Army needed to identify some 32,000 authorizations across the rest of the force that could be phased out,” adding that planned reductions are for authorized positions, “not asking current soldiers to leave.”

The restructuring reassigns some occupational specialties, deactivates some cavalry squadrons, converts infantry brigade combat team weapons companies to platoons and eliminates some positions across Army security force assistance brigades, among other restructuring. This includes eliminating 10,000 counter-insurgency operation slots, 2,700 positions from units that aren’t regularly deployed, 6,500 training positions and an estimated 10,000 across cavalry squadrons, security force assistance and infantry brigade combat positions, among others listed in the document.

The 7,500 new authorizations mentioned relates to critical operations, technology and drone, air-defense, and new task forces. The Army is also refocusing its recruitment efforts.



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-Anthony Akers, Assistant County Administrator



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## Future Farmers of America

Congratulations to Tori Alley and Carley Pavan-Ballard for their hard work and dedication to the students at Pulaski County High School. PCHS has been scheduled for the VA FFA Goodwill Tour to celebrate National FFA Week. In addition to the VA FFA State Officers that will visit the schools, PCHS has also been selected as one of two schools in the state to receive a visit from one of our National FFA Officers.

Pulaski County Public Schools



Pulaski County Public Schools

## Employee of the Month

Pulaski County Public Schools, Pulaski County High School, and the Career and Technical Education Center are pleased to introduce Sarah Blevins as the CTE Employee of the Month. Sarah is the daughter of long time PCPS employees Joyce and Freddy Blevins. Ms. Blevins, the preschool teacher (para educator) at PCHS, has been committed to working with preschool children for 14 years. Her structured approach and dedication to preparing children for kindergarten demonstrates her passion for their success. It is evident that she cares for the children as if they were her own.

## Griffith announces art competition

Congressman Morgan Griffith (R-VA) issued the following statement announcing the beginning of the 2024 Congressional Art Competition in the Ninth District:

"The theme for this year's contest is 'Landmarks of Virginia's Ninth District.' I look forward to seeing how the young artists of the Ninth District will use their talents in exploration of this theme."

Interested students must submit a photograph of their original artwork to either the Christiansburg or Abingdon district office by 5:00 pm on Monday, April 15 for consideration.

To read the complete listing of rules and guidelines visit <https://morgangriffith.house.gov>.

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**ATLANTA RHYTHM SECTION**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 19**

7:30 p.m. doors open: 6:30 p.m.

Edwards Hall, New River Community College

\$40 reserved seating, \$45 day of show  
Purchase online only at [nr.edu/concerts](http://nr.edu/concerts).

\$30 advance general admission, \$35 day of show  
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Information:  
[tjones@nr.edu](mailto:tjones@nr.edu) (540) 674-3625  
[www.nr.edu/concerts](http://www.nr.edu/concerts) [nrccconcerts](https://www.facebook.com/nrccconcerts)

**TICKETS ON SALE  
8 a.m., FRIDAY, MARCH 1**

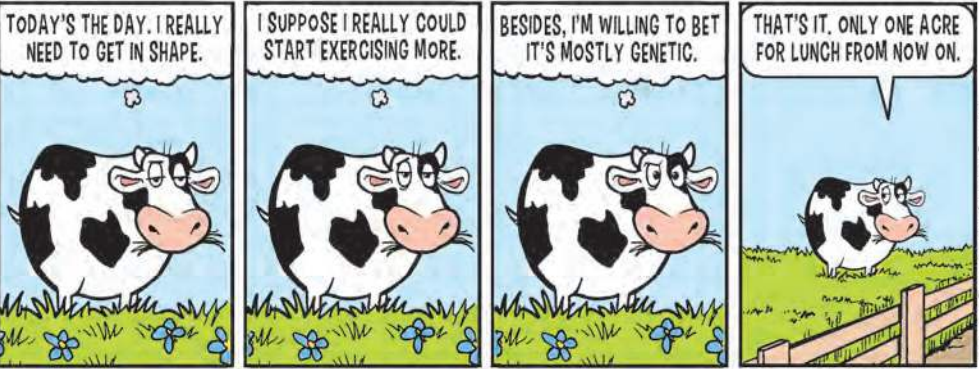
**NEW RIVER  
Community College**  
5251 College Drive  
Dublin, Virginia

Photo: Courtney Meadows



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



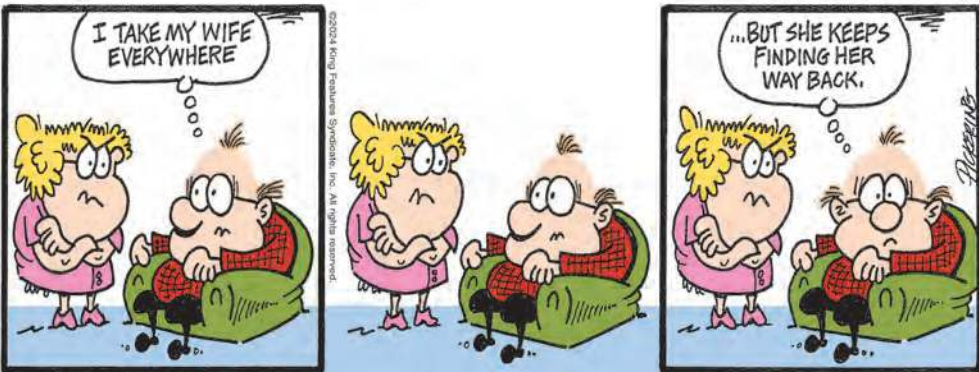
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



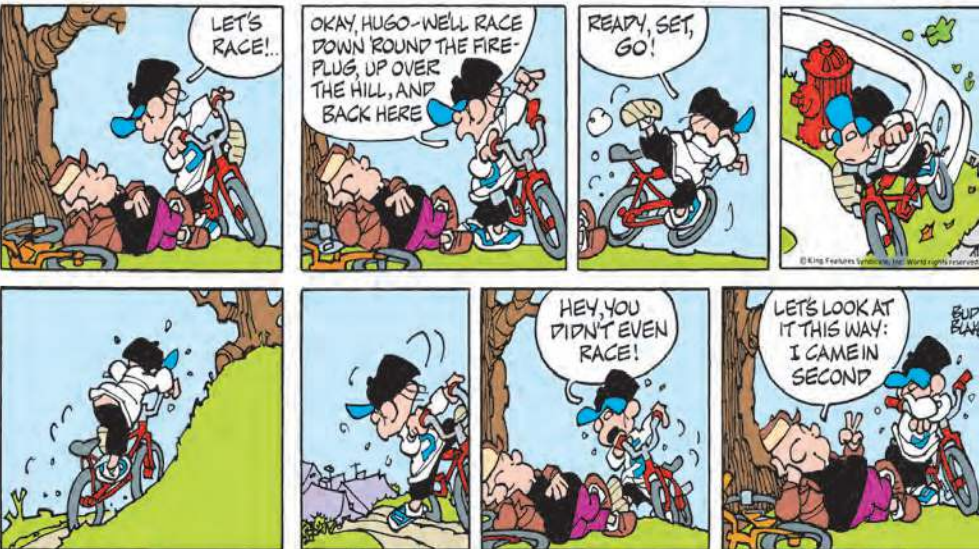
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

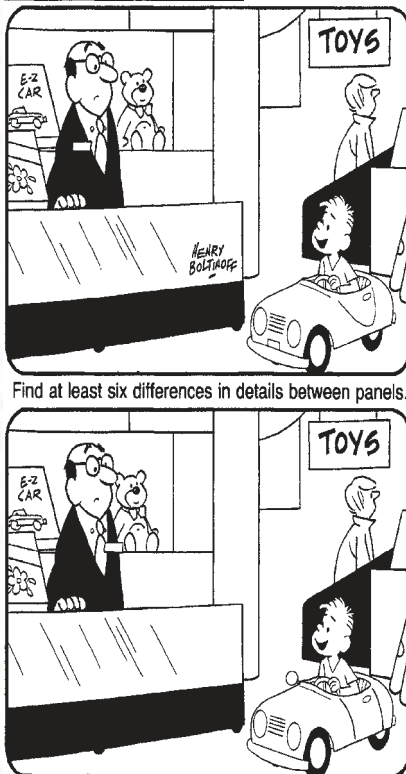


OLIVE



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINGOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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: D equals P

NC Z DLKAGE RGAS Z VOGRL

PIEYO GC VLNQOS, WG HGI

AIDDGAL OL YGIRW QLS Z

EG-PLRRH DKNFL?

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Beacon  
ALIGNS  
Value  
THROW  
Process  
HOTMED  
Record  
IMAGER

TODAY'S WORD

\_\_\_\_\_

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Manhandle
- 5 Annex
- 8 Trig function
- 12 Within (Pref.)
- 13 "Ben- —"
- 14 Toledo's lake
- 15 "Sure, of course"
- 17 Bakery buy
- 18 "Yippee!"
- 19 Apple music service
- 21 Pride parade initials
- 24 "Let me think ..."
- 25 Valley in California
- 28 Indy event
- 30 Wall climber
- 33 Rocker Rose
- 34 Plains grazers
- 35 Formerly known as
- 36 Earth (Pref.)
- 37 Stink
- 38 "It's — real!"
- 39 Texter's "Enough!"
- 41 Bring up
- 43 Tell
- 46 Pink hue
- 50 Lena of "The Reader"
- 51 Sake, e.g.
- 54 Curse
- 55 Greek mountain

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13			14		
15				16				17		
18					19	20				
		21		22	23	24				
25	26	27		28	29			30	31	32
33			34					35		
36			37					38		
		39	40		41	42				
43	44			45		46		47	48	49
50				51	52	53				
54				55				56		
57				58				59		

- 8 Blood part
- 9 Ore source
- 10 Aswan's river
- 11 Congers
- 16 Sailing hazard
- 20 Subsequently
- 22 Party cheese
- 23 Stunning gun
- 25 Pester
- 26 Chopper
- 27 Story thread
- 29 Pepsi rival
- 31 Victory sign
- 32 Longing
- 34 Telly watcher
- 38 Cleveland squad
- 40 Like lions
- 42 Expert
- 43 Filches
- 44 Israeli carrier
- 45 Guitarist
- 47 Clapton
- 47 Funny person
- 48 Visitor to Siam
- 49 Ogler's look
- 52 Altar affirmative
- 53 Jazz lover

DOWN

- 1 Calico's call
- 2 "My Way" writer
- 3 Beehive State
- 4 Jesuit university
- 5 Sushi fish
- 6 Press for pay-
- 7 Zwei follower

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top ten

LONGEST Sea Creatures OF ALL TIME

1. Lion's Mane Jellyfish
2. Blue Whale
3. Sperm Whale
4. Whale Shark
5. Basking Shark
6. Giant Squid
7. Giant Pacific Octopus
8. Oarfish
9. Ocean Sunfish
10. Japanese Spider Crab

Source: TreeHugger.com

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which large U.S. city is nicknamed Rip City?
2. MOVIES: Which movie features the quote, "She doesn't even go here!"
3. GEOGRAPHY: Which national capital city is the northernmost in the world?
4. TELEVISION: Which long-running sitcom features a dad named Phil Dunphy?
5. GAMES: In chess, how many knights does each player have at the beginning?
6. GEOLOGY: What natural phenomenon is associated with igneous rock?
7. LANGUAGE: How many official languages are in the United Nations?
8. MUSIC: David Grohl was a drummer in which band before he became the frontman for the Foo Fighters?
9. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of alligators called?
10. FOOD & DRINK: What kind of meat is used in Hasenpfeffer, a traditional German stew?

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WORD LADDERS

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

BLAME

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FLUTE

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SCRAMBLERS

Today's Word

1. Signal 2. Worth: solution

3. Method 4. Mirage

WORD LADDER

Answer

FLAME, FLAKE, FLUTE

King Crossword

Solution time: 24 mins.

Answers

\_\_\_\_\_

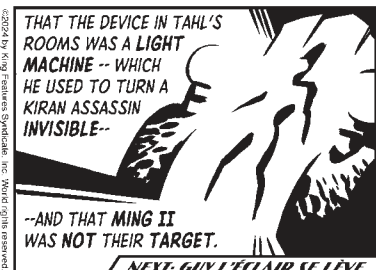
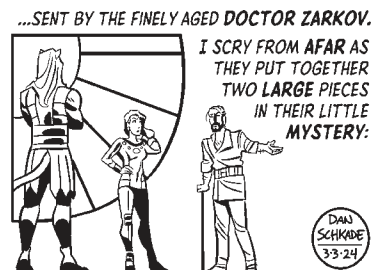
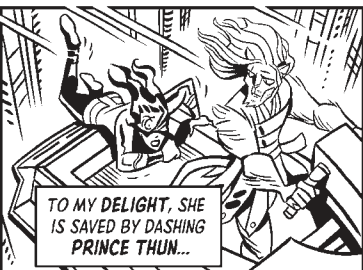
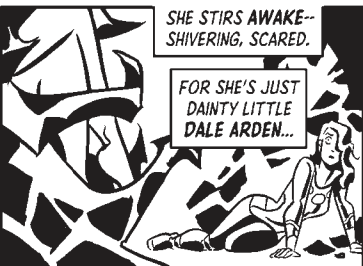
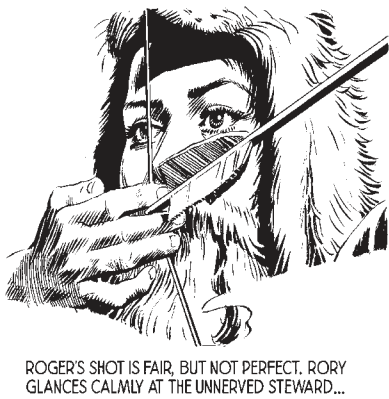
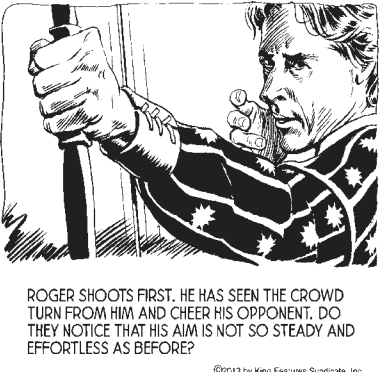
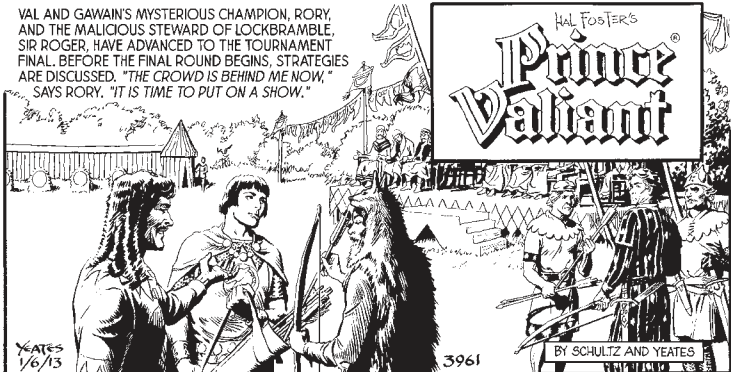
Americanisms

"Shallow men believe in luck. Strong men believe in cause and effect."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

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## Here's a Tip!

\* Use a muffin pan to make cookie cups for ice cream or fruit. Just flip your muffin pan over, and press dough over the upturned wells. It will puff up a little, but once it settles, they make very nice bowls. I do this with pizza dough as well. Prebake for a few minutes to form the bowl, then fill with ingredients and complete baking.

\* If you can put a tension rod in the cabinet under your sink, you can use it to hang spray bottles for extra storage. It's amazing how much space clears up, and it's easy to find the bottle you need.

\* Got popcorn? For a healthier (and much less expensive) version, go old-school: Put popping corn kernels in a regular brown paper bag, seal the bag, then microwave.

\* "Bread tags (the little plastic clips that hold bread bags closed) make great cord organizers when you are using a multiple outlet power strip. Write the kind of device (e.g. TV, Xbox, cable box) on the tag, then clip it to the plug end of the cord. When you need to unplug, it'll be easy to see which is which." -- C.C. in Ohio

\* Travel a lot? Make use of those shower caps by pairing

up shoes and using the shower cap to hold them together while simultaneously protecting your clothes from the shoe bottoms. Smart!

\* "I make plenty of cupcakes for my children's various events, but I kept having unreturned cupcake carriers. Those things are expensive! I make my own now, using a box lid. The lids for paper cartons work really well. Cut a cross into the lid top with a razor or carpet knife, and press down. Make it the size of a cupcake. Insert cupcakes and go." -- A.R. in Georgia

## Top Ten in Movies

1. Bob Marley: One Love (PG-13) Kingsley Ben-Adir, Lashana Lynch
2. Demon Slayer: Kimetsu No Yaiba - To the Hashira Training (R) Natsuki Hanae, Kengo Kawanishi
3. Ordinary Angels (PG) Alan Ritchson, Hilary Swank
4. Madame Web (PG-13) Dakota Johnson, Sydney Sweeney
5. Migration (PG) Kumail Nanjiani, Elizabeth Banks
6. Argyll (PG-13) Henry Cavill, Bryce Dallas Howard
7. Wonka (PG) Timothee Chalamet, Gustave Die
8. Drive-Away Dolls (R) Margaret Qualley, Geraldine Viswanathan
9. The Beekeeper (R) Jason Statham, Emmy Raver-Lampman
10. The Chosen: S4.E4 (NR) Shahar Isaac, Paras Patel

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## MAGIC MAZE ● VERY SMALL CITIES OF ALASKA

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
Unlisted clue hint: LARGE BIRD OF PREY

Akhiok Cold Bay Pelican St. George  
Atka Ekwok Pilot Point Wales  
Bettles False Pass Platinum Whale Pass  
Chignik Larsen Bay Ruby

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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.

M B F L P K M L T M K D M Z L F S B F S O Z

I L B N U S P M I W M U N P N I R N ,

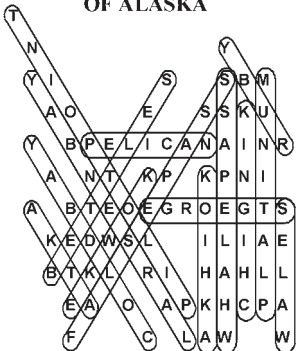
H E M R E M Z L I N T N Q L I K I L B N

U S P M Q I S P L I R N .

— Q . J . R E N Z K N P K S I

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VERY SMALL CITIES OF ALASKA



## CryptoQuote answer

Impartiality is a pompous name for indifference, which is an elegant name for ignorance.  
— G.K. Chesterton

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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**

540-808-3949



# PULASKI COUNTY PULSE

March 11

**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 14

**Community Lunch**  
Community Lunch – 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join for a free lunch for the community. A time of good food, catching up with your neighbors and friends, and

fellowship. Cecil's Chapel Church - 5801 Cecil's Chapel Road, Hiwassee, VA 24347. Find us on FB (@cecils chapel) and see what is happening next!

**Open Mic Night**  
Annual Denny Bryant Open Mic Night, March 15 – Starting at 6:30, 3874 Oak Grove Rd., Woodlawn, Va. at Woodlawn P.H. Church. If you're interested in a time slot, call 276-733-2678. You're invited to participate or just sit back and enjoy. There is NO CHARGE (light refreshments to follow)

March 16

**Hot Dog Dinner**  
Hot Dog Dinner, 5 p.m.followed by Bingo at 6 p.m. at Rockford Community Church, 6867

Visco Road, Fairlawn. Proceeds from Hot Dogs for youth. Proceeds from Bingo for church improvement fund.

March 21

**Genealogy Club**  
The Carroll County Genealogy Club will meet Thursdsy, March 21, 2024 at 5pm. At the Club.

**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.

**VFW to host seminar on moral injury**  
A special program and seminar on dealing with "moral injury" will be held in two sessions Thursday, March 21, at VFW Post 1115 in Hillsville. The 2 p.m. session is for Veterans only while a presentation for the public will be held at 6 p.m. Rev. Dr. Rita Nakashima Brock, a Senior Vice President for Moral Injury Recovery Programs at Volunteers of America, will speak at both sessions and open

the meeting for discussion and questions. Her father served in the military and through his experiences she is a leading national expert on moral injury in combat Veterans. She has offered training for V.A. mental health providers, for professional Chaplains, and for Veterans and their families.

April 6

**Spaghetti Fundraiser**  
Please join us for a spaghetti fundraiser at Warriors for Christ II Church on April 6 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the church at 600 Skyline Circle in Pulaski. Tickets for a tray will cost \$12. Tray includes spaghetti plate, salad, bread, a dessert and drink. Orders will be taken for eating in or take out.



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Mailing Address - P.O. Box 2416  
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