

**P.R. Sturgill**  
Fine Jewelry

*The New River Valley's Most Trusted Jeweler*

**With over 200 years of combined jewelry experience**

**Antique & Estate Jewelry - Design & Repair**

ALWAYS BUYING: **Gold, Silver, Estates, Coins, Jewelry**

Nothing too small or too big!

**Locations in**  
**Radford & Wytheville**

Serving Pulaski County Weekly Since 2009

FREE

**Pulaski County**

**The Patriot**

August 21, 2026

www.pcpatriot.com

**BOWER FUNERAL CHAPELS & CREMATORY**

*Providing Dignified and Affordable Funeral Service*

**Pulaski Chapel**  
1631 Bob White Blvd.  
Pulaski - 980-6160

**DublinChapel**  
320 E. Main St.  
Dublin - 674-4665

www.bowerfuneralhome.com  
**A Tradition of Trust**

**State Farm**

**Webb Donald**  
Agent  
2001 Bob White Blvd  
Pulaski, VA 24301-4235  
webb@webbdonald.com  
www.webbdonald.com

**Call Us Today**  
**540-980-6592**

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®  
State Farm, Bloomington, IL

2026 Football Preview

**SPIRIT OF AUTUMN**

Inside This Week's Issue

- Pulaski County • Radford • Fort Chiswell • Virginia Tech
- Schedules • Rosters • Photos & More!

# School board working to create list of capital needs

List will show why 1% sales tax deserves voter approval in Nov.

By MIKE WILLIAMS  
Patriot Publishing

Pulaski County Public Schools will compile a list in September of maintenance and renovation work county schools need as evidence for the need to pass a new 1 percent sales tax on the November ballot.

Voters in Pulaski County

will decide whether or not to enact a 1 percent increase in sales tax locally, with money raised by the tax going strictly for capital improvements in the school system.

One school board member said last week she is getting questions from citizens about whether the new tax is needed, and what exactly the money from it can be used for.

"I've been getting some questions since it was announced that there will be a referendum put on the ballot in November," said Ingles District representative Gina Paine.

"The questions I get generally from citizens, first of

all, correcting they think that money, if granted, would only be earmarked for new school construction, and I explained to them, no," she said explaining that the money would be utilized for modification and upgrading – or modernizing which she said is greatly needed.

Paine expressed the need to "lay out for the public what we're actually facing with a 50-year-old high school, with some of our older schools to modernize, what would we be looking at in terms of a price tag to accomplish all that" in

See SCHOOLS, page A2

# School employees provide 41,353 meals over summer in county

By DANIELLE REID  
Patriot Publishing

While most of the community was on summer vacation this year, a dedicated cadre of Pulaski County Public School Nutrition Program volunteer team members, provided Pulaski County school students with nutritious meals. While the team members are paid, they are giving up their summer vacation time because they have a concern and com-

passion to make sure children get proper nutrition during the summer when school is not in session.

Under the direction of Jessica M. Morrison, School Nutrition Program Director, the School Nutrition Program team members provided a total of 41,353 meals to ensure local students had access to healthy, delicious meals during the summer months. The meals must meet the USDA requirements for summer food programs.

"During the summer months this year, a record-breaking 41,353 meals were prepared and distributed by school nutrition program employees," stated Morrison. "Of that number, parents were able to pickup 25,758 meals, which provided students two-nutritious meals daily for the week as well as on the weekend," she added.

Morrison said they did some research before starting the

See MEALS, page A10

**Personalized financial advice that fits your portfolio.**

**Ben Tuck, CRPC™, APMA® Financial Advisor**  
**Transcendent Wealth**

A private wealth advisory practice of  
Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC  
540.674.4861

**Ameriprise Financial**

Not FDIC OR NCUA insured | No Financial Institution Guarantee | May Lose Value

Securities offered by Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. Member FINRA and SIPC. © 2026 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved

**SEAGLE FUNERAL HOME**

*Celebrating over 140 years of service, and family owned.*

*Traditional services with traditional values.*

*Accepting pre-arrangements from other funeral homes.*

*Financing for funerals available*

**415 N. Jefferson Avenue • Pulaski, Va., 24301**  
**S. Todd Bruce, Manager/Owner**  
**540-980-1700 • 540-230-5000**

**Brad Alley**  
**540 230-9495**  
bradleyalley@outlook.com

**Larry Nipper**  
**540 616-9998**  
lnipper32@gmail.com

**Turning 65 Soon? Have Medicare Questions?**

**Karen Tuggle**  
**540 250-6089**  
ktuggleinsure@gmail.com

**Michelle Nipper**  
**540 616-9914**  
chefmichelle99@gmail.com

**Contact us TODAY!**

**SHELOR MOTOR MILE**

**WHY START ANYWHERE ELSE?**

shelor.com | Christiansburg, VA | 1-866-SHELOR1



# Pulaski County land transfers

Pulaski County property transfers for July 2026 as reported by the Circuit Court Clerk's Office:

Jeep LLC to Ian J Logan, property at 6093 Dudley Ferry Rd, Fairlawn, \$399,900.

Bradley Nathan Maxfield to Addie Crigger Hedrick, property at 6533 Parrott Mountain Rd, Parrott, \$289,000.

Albert Carter to Opendoor Property Trust, property at 6701 Owens Rd, Fairlawn, \$330,000.

Shannon L. Crawford to Charlie Ruble, property at 6723 Bay Hill Ct, Fairlawn, \$450,000.

Maureen Olivia Reed to Tammy Tanoe Reed, property at 1817 English Forest Rd, Pulaski, \$119,000.

Fanteva Inc to Brittany Hall, property at 1984 Snider Lane, Pulaski, \$135,000.

Davis S. Morris to Michael A. Cardone, property at Lots on New River Panorama Acres, Alisonia, \$29,500.

Jessica Renee Jones to 40 Acre Development LLC, property at 713 Elizabeth St, Pulaski, \$80,000.

Ballard Investments, LLC to Tyler F. Kirkner, property at 3724 Robinson Tract Rd, Pulaski, \$60,000.

40 Acres Properties LLC to Matthew Elliott, property at 5201 Colonial Dr, Dublin, \$230,000.

Michael Stephen Thornton to Donald G. Hines, property at 7126 Little River Dam Rd, Snowville, \$183,474.50.

Hollie H. Schramm to Troy Farmer, property at 7252 Timberlane Dr, Fairlawn, \$353,900.

Franklin Bernard Farmer Jr. to G2 Property Management LLC, property at 2934 Birdie Ln, Draper, \$37,000.

ANB Investments LLC to Westley Fenton, property at 2939 Blackberry Ln, Hiwassee, \$300,000.

Barry Duane Smith to Josph Hoff, property at 218 11th St, Pulaski, \$100,000.

Robin Jean Keene to Tyris Homes Inc, property at Lots 20-26, 45-51 section 3 Harvey Farm, Snowville, \$95,000.



**ThePatriot**  
www.pcpatriot.com  
540-808-3949

| Weekly Police Blotter 08/10/2026 - 08/16/2026 |       |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Pulaski Police Department                     |       |                             |                             |
| Report Date                                   | Time  | Offense                     | Location (Block Number)     |
| 8/10/2026                                     | 8:24  | Trespassing                 | 500 block E Main St.        |
|                                               | 15:33 | Fraud                       | 1200 block E Main St.       |
| 8/11/2026                                     | 9:25  | Petit Larceny               | 500 block E Main St.        |
|                                               | 9:31  | Fraud X6                    | 1200 block E Main St.       |
|                                               | 10:04 | Welfare Fraud X2            | 500 block E Main St.        |
|                                               | 15:43 | Domestic Assault            | 500 block Meadowview Dr.    |
|                                               | 21:31 | Drunkenness                 | 100 block 10th St. NW       |
| 8/12/2026                                     | 21:31 | Assault / Domestic          | 100 block 10th St. NW       |
|                                               | 5:38  | Petit Larceny x2            | 600 block E Main St.        |
|                                               | 19:38 | Drug / Narcotics Violation  | 400 block Winfield Cr.      |
| 8/13/2026                                     | 9:01  | Drug / Narcotics Violation  | 10 block NW 6th St.         |
|                                               | 11:05 | Shoplifting                 | 1000 block Memorial Dr.     |
|                                               | 18:03 | Disorderly Conduct          | 300 block N Washington Ave. |
|                                               | 18:03 | Indecent Exposure           | 300 block N Washington Ave. |
|                                               | 3:18  | Prowler                     | 200 block Lake St.          |
|                                               | 8:33  | Drug / Narcotics Violation  | 500 block Pulaski St.       |
| 8/14/2026                                     | 12:18 | Domestic Assault            | 400 block Russell St.       |
|                                               | 12:18 | Resisting Arrest            | 400 block Russell St.       |
|                                               | 15:14 | Littering                   | Bob White Blvd / E Main St. |
|                                               | 15:35 | Prescription Fraud          | 2400 block Lee Highway      |
|                                               | 19:28 | Shoplifting                 | 1200 block Lee Highway      |
|                                               | 22:56 | Violation of Court Order x2 | 300 block S Washington Ave. |
|                                               | 22:56 | Resisting Arrest            | 300 block S Washington Ave. |
|                                               | 0:02  | Annoying Phone Calls X2     | 300 block S Washington Ave. |
| 8/15/2026                                     | 11:07 | Impersonation               | 500 block Altoona St.       |
|                                               | 12:08 | Child Abuse                 | 500 block Altoona St.       |
|                                               | 19:09 | Trespassing                 | 500 block E Main St.        |
|                                               | 22:35 | Trespassing                 | 600 block E Main St.        |

## Schools

Continued From Page A1  
explaining the necessity of a 1 percent sales tax.

Jess Shull, Facilities Manager for the school system pointed to just two projects – a parking lot at Dublin Elementary School and the roof at Pulaski County High School – and the high cost of just those two projects.

The parking lot at DES has a price tag of \$745,000, Shull said, while the remaining roof in need of replacement at PCHS will cost \$3.9 million.

“That’s something nobody will ever see. Won’t change the look of the building, but it

needs a new roof,” Shull said.

“Well, I think most citizens understand if you get into constructing new schools, they generally come with a pretty hefty price tag. They don’t realize the cost of maintaining schools year-over-year as they get older,” Paine added.

“I mean, just modernizing, being able to stay in tune with the educational needs of our students, what our staff are using. Are we ready for the onset of AI at the high school, can we wire that? There’s a lot.”

Paine said board members need details.

Paine noted that, “If you got into having to rebuild a high school the magnitude of which we have, the price tag on a school like that right now

would be somewhere between \$150 and \$200 million dollars.”

“Absolutely, the square foot price right now for an average school in the state of Virginia is about \$460 to \$480 a square foot,” Shull responded.

“And to give you an example, we built Pulaski County Middle School for \$247 a square foot. It’s doubled,” he added.

“Yep. And it would take 50-plus years to pay it off,” Paine added.

“Exactly,” Shull responded. “So, we have great buildings, we have great schools, but boy, they need some TLC, and that has a price tag with it,” Paine said.

“And realistically, being if the citizenry is so generous to allow for it, it would also allow for us to address not just items

on the list one at a time. We could look at taking on major projects bonded because there would be a source of revenue to pay the bond,” Shull said.

He added that if the sales tax passes in November, the school system could probably complete its 10-year capital improvement plan in “probably two years.”



**ThePatriot**  
www.pcpatriot.com  
540-808-3949  
**Published  
Free  
Each Friday**

## Holy Cow

Antiques, Gardens and Great Finds

**Come See Us This Weekend - Saturday, 10-4 and Sunday, 1 to 5**

Home, Garden & Gifts, Vintage, Primitives & New. Unique and One Of A Kind Pieces

**Open Fridays 10-5; Saturdays 10-5; Sundays 1-5**

1801 Wysor Road (Rt. 100 South) Exit 89A From I-81 Draper, VA. 24324 540-250-1775



Belle

www.pulaskiflowers.com



**Flowers by Dreama Dawn**  
311 N. Washington Ave. Pulaski, VA 24301  
**540-980-3021**  
*Always Grateful To Be Your Hometown Florist*

## PULASKI FAMILY DENTISTRY

Dr. Cindy Southern says,  
“Be true to your teeth, or they’ll be false to you!”

62 E. Main Street, Pulaski • 980-5129  
Monday-Tuesday, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.  
Wednesday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Friday, 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

### Address Change

Southwest Times subscribers: Note our new mailing address is P.O. Box 2416, Pulaski, VA 24301.  
Phone No.: 540-808-3949

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING Gets Results!

www.pcpatriot.com  
540-808-3949 or  
ads@pcpatriot.com



# Your Personal Price Plan<sup>®</sup> is here

Call, click or stop by for a home & auto quote.



**State Farm**<sup>®</sup>

**Deanie Hall**  
Agent

106 Town Center Dr  
Dublin, VA 24084

Bus: 540-674-5285  
deanie@deaniehallagency.com

Prices vary by state. Options selected by customer; availability and eligibility may vary.

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company, State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, State Farm General Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL

State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas, State Farm Lloyds, Richardson, TX

State Farm Florida Insurance Company, Winter Haven, FL



# EDITORIAL

## Boos for governor not surprising

Governor Abigail Spanberger received a cold reception recently at the Fiddler’s Convention in Galax – a rare occurrence, even for unpopular politicians. In the past, unpopular governors were met with quiet – yet polite – applause. Governor Spanberger by contrast was literally booed off stage. Looking at her record and actions compared to her campaign promises, it is not hard to see why. The Governor’s problems started long before the boo-birds greeted her. Not only did the Governor join Northern Virginia Democrats in an effort to curtail the 2nd Amendment rights of all Virginians, she also went back on her word on redistricting. These were extremely important issues to Southwest Virginia residents that proved to them that the Governor did not have their backs. She went back on her word and forgot her promise to work on ending the universally hated car tax, and she worked with Democrats to pile more “green energy”

mandates onto power producers and their customers, making life less affordable for those already struggling to make ends meet. Southwest Virginia is very sensitive to higher power bills, which is why I worked so hard to pass the APCo Rate Reduction Act in 2025. Unfortunately, provisions of the Democrat-supported Virginia Clean Economy Act and Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative are working to erase the savings that my legislation sought to achieve for the average household. Republicans want to end the car tax, the grocery tax, and lower your power bills – making life more affordable for everyone. With responsible budgeting, many of these goals could have been a reality as early as this budget cycle. These were real plans that create real savings immediately. Instead, Democrats passed legislation that will increase the cost of living, and they submitted legislation that would have increased

**Delegate  
Jason Ballard**  
42nd District

it even more by adding a new sales tax onto nearly every service imaginable. No wonder the Governor was booed off stage. Switching gears, and as of note locally, the Southwest Virginia Tourism Award winners were recently announced. Several entities within the New River Valley received accolades! The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce brought home the award for Best Magazine with a Tourism Marketing Budget of \$50,000 or less, the Giles County Chamber of Commerce tied with Grayson County Tourism for the Best Visitor Guide with a Marketing Budget of \$50,000 or less, Pulaski County Tourism won the Best Visitor Guide with a Tourism Marketing Budget of

\$50,000 or more, and “Chasing the Squirrel: The Story of Wally Thrasher at NRV Airport” won Outstanding One Day Event of the Year. We should all appreciate the contributions that our tourism marketing entities and tourism-focused businesses make to our area. Tourism helps to grow our regional economy, and we are fortunate to have top-level agencies locally that promote all of the wonderful opportunities for recreation here. Well done to all of our awardees! 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. 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



**Rich Lowery**

Editor,  
National Review

## Foreseeable and dire munitions crisis

During the 1979-1980 hostage crisis, a defiant Iran starkly demonstrated the limits of American power. Forty-five years later, it is doing the same thing, although in vastly different circumstances. Back then, when the post-Vietnam military was at a low ebb, we didn’t strike Iran, and a long-shot rescue operation ended in abject failure. Now, with the U.S. military at its most proficient and professional in history, we have inflicted punishing blows against the regime but still haven’t been able to impose our will, in part because we are running low on the munitions necessary to prosecute the war. Not only is this embarrassing, it is dangerous.

If Operation Midnight Hammer -- last year’s lightning strike against Iranian nuclear facilities -- demonstrated the prowess of the U.S. military and sent a useful deterrent message to our enemies, the Iran War is now doing the opposite. We’re running low on missiles and interceptors in a months-long conflict with a beleaguered second-rate power. What would happen in a drawn-out war with a major adversary? President Trump has posted a thunderous denunciation of leaks to the media about our depleted weapons stocks, and the leaks are indeed irresponsible. But this problem is a matter of public record and has been tracked by outside organizations.

At the end of July, the Center for Strategic and International Studies estimated that, out of an arsenal of 2,330 Patriot interceptors before the Iran war, we had roughly 800 remaining. We were down to roughly 250 THAAD interceptors from 450 at the start of the war.

On top of this, news organizations are reporting that we are almost out of ATACMS -- a ground-launched precision-strike missile -- and Precision Strike Missiles, the newer, longer-range successor to ATACMS.

This isn’t comforting at a time when a war with China could be in the offing. Even before Operation Epic Fury, a war game involving a conflict in the Taiwan Strait conducted by CSIS had the U.S. running out of key munitions in days or weeks.

What happened? This is a crisis a long time in the making. As defense analyst Mackenzie Eaglen of the American Enterprise Institute has warned for years, skimping on the acquisition of munitions was an easy way to meet constrained Pentagon budgets, and we relied on optimistic scenarios about potential wars to justify chronically insufficient production.

For some understandable reasons, we also emphasized sophisticated missiles and interceptors over “good enough” systems. This led to Iran, for instance, forcing us to use highly expensive, difficult-to-replace interceptors against cheap, bulk threats from drones. All this means that we’ve expended ordnance that it will take us years to build again. According to media reports, we’ve used about half our supply of Tomahawk cruise missiles, when we’ve been

See LOWERY, page A4



## Organ Scandal

The 118th Congress served as a launching pad for numerous actions taken in the 119th Congress. House Republicans reintroduced commonsense policies that first secured House passage in the 118th Congress. One bill, the Laken Riley Act which I repeatedly voted for, makes it easier for law enforcement to arrest criminal illegal aliens for certain crimes. This bill received swift consideration and passage in both the House and Senate. A second bill is the HALT Fentanyl Act. I was the proud House sponsor of this legislation to permanently designate lethal fentanyl-related substances as Schedule I drugs. The bill also made researching Schedule I drugs easier so that we can work to better understand the impacts of these substances on human health. Like the Laken Riley Act, this bill received swift consideration in both chambers of Congress. Both of these bills not only won support in the 119th Congress, but from the President as well. President Trump signed these bills into law to help protect American communities. Some of my actions in the 118th Congress have influenced further action at the federal level. During that time, I served as the Chairman of the Oversight & Investigations Subcommittee for the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. Moreover, I was a leading Energy and Commerce member on the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic. During my leadership on these panels, I routinely participated in oversight of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), with particular interest in American public health agencies engaged in risky research and gain-of-function research projects. Our investigative work demanded answers from public health officials like Dr. Anthony Fauci. My findings led me to introduce the Risky Research Review Act. This bill outlines key reforms to make American-funded research



**Morgan Griffith**

9th District  
Representative

more safe, more transparent and more accountable. To continue momentum on this front, I reintroduced the bill in the 119th Congress with Senator Rand Paul. But the Trump Administration is actively responding to my concerns. In July 2026, the Trump Administration announced a new government policy for stopping high-risk life sciences research. The federal policy prohibits American funding of dangerous gain-of-function research in both domestic and foreign settings and aims to establish stronger oversight for life sciences research that could present significant risks to human health. The Trump Administration further limits federal support for research in countries or institutions that lack appropriate biosafety, biosecurity and oversight standards. While I will still push for my legislation to enshrine necessary guardrails into law for federally funded risky research, these federal actions are steps in the right direction. A separate health care policy I investigated under my Chairmanship in the 118th Congress concerned the implementation and oversight of the organ donation and transplant system. I led a hearing to spotlight issues with our organ transplant programs and discuss the failures of the groups responsible for the procurement of organs, Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs). In particular, I highlighted alarming allegations that were previously raised to my Subcommittee’s attention. We received reports that an OPO had

planned to operate on prospective organ donors who showed signs of life! Another allegation claimed that somebody mouthed the words “help me” just before doctors were ready to commence an organ harvesting procedure. The patient survived, but this disturbing detail reinforced Congressional desires to make the organ transplant process more safe and less risky. These reports reflected concerns about Network for Hope, one federally designated OPO, and its management and operating procedures. Upon hearing these troubling allegations, my Oversight Subcommittee brought in medical experts to understand the organ transplant health care landscape and determine the frequency at which these incidents happen. Following my investigation on the issue, the Trump Administration has worked to protect prospective organ donors and patients awaiting lifesaving treatments. In August 2026, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services made steps to decertify Network for Hope! This means the OPO can no longer do business with the federal government, and it loses a primary source of income. This action is another critical federal step in working to ensure the safety and integrity of organ donation and securing U.S. health care programs to better protect patients. I am proud to have been an early advocate on these issues to help sway federal action. I will continue to shine a light on issues that deserve attention from Congress, the President and the American people. If you have questions, concerns, or comments, feel free to contact my office. You can call my Abingdon office at 276-525-1405 or my Christiansburg office at 540-381-5671. To reach my office via email, please visit my website at <https://morgangriffith.house.gov/>. Also on my website is the latest material from my office, including information on votes recently taken on the floor of the House of Representatives.

Locally Owned And Operated Since 2009



P.O. Box 2416 • Pulaski, VA 24301 • [www.pcpatriot.com](http://www.pcpatriot.com) • (540) 808-3949

The Patriot and Southwest Times are published in their print form every Friday by Patriot Publishing, LLC. The Patriot is available at locations in Pulaski and Wythe Counties and Radford City. The Southwest Times is available by mail.









# OBITUARIES



**DAVID NOEL BIRD SR.**  
*November 19, 1949 – August 10, 2026*

David Noel Bird Sr., 76, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, and friend, passed away in his home on Monday, August 10, 2026.

Born in Motoka, West Virginia, he eventually made his way to Radford, Virginia, where he graduated from VOTECH as an electrician. It was there that he began building the life that would become his greatest accomplishment. A life centered around family, hard work, service, and love.

After marrying his wife, Gail, they began their family and put down roots in Pulaski County, where they would spend the years building a life together.

He was a provider at heart. He worked hard, not for recognition, but because taking care of his family was simply who he was. He spent 37 years at Lynchburg Foundry until its closure, and then continued working at James Hardie, where he finished his career. He took pride in his work, but his greatest pride was always his family.

To know him was to know someone who would help whenever he could. He gave his time, his talents, and his heart freely. He didn't need to be asked twice when someone needed a helping hand. He simply showed up.

He also had a deep and genuine love for nature and the beauty of the world around him. He loved the ocean, the peacefulness of being near the water, and the simple beauty found outdoors. He had a special place in his heart for animals of all kinds. Whether they were wild or domesticated, he appreciated them and believed every creature had a place in this world. His love for nature reflected so much of who he was, quiet, gentle, curious, and able to find joy in the simple things.

But to his family, he was so much more.

He was the person who worked behind the scenes to make sure everyone else was taken care of. His love was often expressed through sacrifice, hard work, and simply being there. He may not have always said what was in his heart, but his family never had to wonder if they were loved. He showed them.

His greatest legacy is the family he leaves behind.

He is survived by his wife, Gail Bird; his sons, David Bird Jr. and Tami and Erik Bird and Tara; and son in law, Mike Sutphin; his grandchildren, Chasity Sutphin, John "JD" Sutphin, Breanna Fitzwater, Katie Sutphin, Suri Bird, Oakley Bird, Syra Bird, and Bexley Bird; and his great-grandchildren, Aleka Spencer and Bridger Sutphin.

He is also survived by his brothers, Ralph Bird Jr. and Bobbi, Dr. William Bird and Deidre, and Keith Bird, as well as extended nieces and nephews and countless friends whose lives he touched throughout the years.

He was preceded in death by his beloved daughter, Angela Sutphin; his parents, Betty and Ralph Bird, Sr.; his in-laws, Elizabeth and Tyler Merrix; and sister-in-law, Vicki East.

While his family will feel his absence in countless ways, they will also carry him with them in the stories they tell, the lessons he taught, the traditions he helped create, the places they shared, and in the love he poured into each generation.

A man doesn't measure his life by what he owns or how much he accomplishes. He measures it by who he loved, who he helped, and what he

See BIRD, page A6



**DARLENE YVONNE SMITH**  
*May 5, 1954 – August 13, 2026*

Darlene Yvonne Smith, 72, of Fairlawn, Virginia, passed away on August 13, 2026, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Darlene was born on May 5, 1954, in Pulaski, Virginia, to Cleo and James Smith. Throughout her life, she attended Jefferson Elementary School, and Lynchburg and Southwest Training Center.

Darlene was truly a joyous light who brought warmth and love wherever she went. She was loving, sociable, and quite the jokester, with a beautiful smile that will be deeply missed by everyone who had the privilege to knowing her.

She found happiness in the simple things that made life special such as collecting paper, rocking in her favorite chairs while listening to all kinds of music. She enjoyed walks with the people she loved and could be found with plenty of jewelry—especially her favorite pearls. Darlene loved spending her time with others, whether she was out in the community or going on vacations. She did it all in true Darlene fashion, dressed in the most colorful and stylish clothes and, of course, her signature bandannas.

Darlene is survived by her brother, Jerry Ayers; Doug and Tiffany Smith and family, Audrey and Cassie; Lisa and Jr Johnston and family, Zane, Jonathan and Katie; Aunt, Geraldine Smith; and those who became family through love, Tammie Atwell and Dale Summers, Destiny and Nathan Branscome, Stephanie and Serenity Saul, Harley and Angie Atwell, and Brittany Benefield.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Cleo and James Smith; and her brothers, James E. Smith Jr. and Elwood Smith.

Those who knew Darlene will remember her laughter, her beautiful smile, her colorful personality, and the joy she found in simply being with the people she loved. She leaves behind many cherished memories and a space that can never quite be filled.

Funeral service was held Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2026 at Mullins Funeral Home, 120 W. Main St., Radford, Virginia with Carson Linkous presiding. Burial followed in Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin, Virginia.

The Smith family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford, Virginia. [www.mullinsfuneral-home.com](http://www.mullinsfuneral-home.com)



**DANIEL RAY MORRIS**  
*August 24, 1957 – August 14, 2026*

Daniel Ray Morris, 68, of Dublin, passed away Friday, August 14, 2026, at Roanoke Memorial Hospital. He was retired from Volvo.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joe Morris and Dellarhea Morris; and sister, Bonnie Simmons.

Survivors include his wife of 41 years, Betty Campbell Morris; son, Bradley Joe Morris and wife Stephanie; sister, Phyllis Anderson (Dewayne); and many other relatives and friends.

A graveside service was held at Tuesday, August 18, 2026, at Sunrise Burial Park in Radford.

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



**WANDA LEE (COCHRAN BURRIS) MARTIN**

Wanda Lee (Cochran Burris) Martin, 88 of Pulaski VA entered the presence of her Heavenly Father on Friday, August 14, 2026. She was born in Radford VA on September 21, 1937, to the late Ashville Beauregard Cochran and Josephine Akers Cochran.

She is survived by her husband of 36 years Donald R. Martin; one sister, Connie Whitaker; her five children, Regina Jo Hodge, Dee Chinnault, Ron Burris (Dave Altieri), Kevin (Patty) Burris, and Todd (Dottie) Burris and one stepdaughter Robin Barbour. Wanda is also survived by her grandchildren. Rhonda Hodge, Grace Martino, Rachel Gossett, Diana Adams, Melissa Rohlen, Jonathan Burris M.D., Laci Burris, Marley Burris and Garrison Burris. and many great grandchildren, and many beloved nieces, nephews and extended family members as well as treasured friends.

Wanda was born and raised in Radford Virginia by wonderful Christian Parents. She

See MARTIN, page A6



**CLAUDE ALLEN EDWARDS**

*Jan 11, 1939 — Aug 17, 2026*

Claude Allen Edwards, age 87, of Dublin, Virginia, passed away peacefully on Monday, August 17, 2026. Born in Hayti, Virginia, on January 11, 1939, he was the son of the late Jonah Edwards and Virgie Owens Edwards. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Eugene Arnold and Leaman Edwards, and his sister, Flora Edwards.

A proud veteran, Claude served his country in the military and went on to enjoy a long career before retiring from Volvo. Outside of work, he led an active and joyful life. He was a dedicated weightlifter, loved fast cars, and spent countless hours listening to Bluegrass music. Every year, Claude looked forward to spending his vacations making memories at Myrtle Beach.

He is survived by his loving wife, Janet Edwards, of the home; his son, Keith Edwards, and wife, Sharon, of Pulaski, Virginia; as well as several nieces and nephews.

Service Details  
• Funeral Service: Thursday, August 20, 2026, at Lindsey Funeral Home, with military rites conducted by American Legion Post 229.

• Entombment: Followed the service at Rosewood Memorial Gardens in Rural Retreat, Virginia.

Memorial Contributions  
In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Claude may be made to:

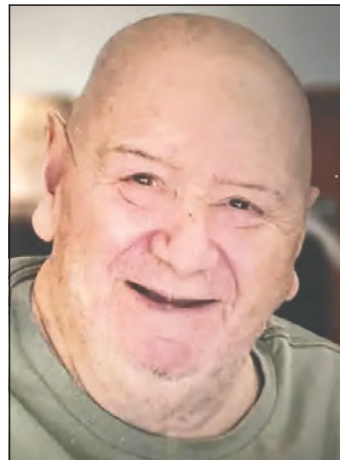
The Parkinson's Foundation, The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, American Parkinson Disease Association (APDA)

Lindsey Funeral Home in Rural Retreat, Virginia, is serving the Edwards family. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.highlandfuneralservice.com](http://www.highlandfuneralservice.com).

Honor Your  
Loved One With  
An  
In Memoriam  
Notice.

Call  
540-808-3949.

Deadline Is Noon  
Wednesday.



**HARRY B. COX JR.**

Harry B. Cox Jr., affectionately known as "HB," passed away on August 15, 2026, at the age of 81. He was born on August 21, 1944, to the late Harry B. Cox Sr. and Arizona Kemp Cox.

HB dedicated many years of his life to serving his community. He worked as a caretaker for Gatewood Park for many years, where he took great pride in caring for the park and helping maintain its beauty. He also worked for the Town of Pulaski Water Department, where he faithfully served his community.

HB had a passion for buying, selling, and trading firearms, an interest he enjoyed throughout his life. He was a hardworking man who will be remembered for his strong personality, his many interests, and the lasting memories he made with those around him.

HB was preceded in death by his sister, Beulah Burchett; and his brothers, Samuel H. Cox, Marcus Cox, James R. Cox, and Lee Autry Cox.

He is survived by many nieces and nephews, along with numerous other relatives and friends who will forever cherish his memory.

HB will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

A graveside service will be held on Friday, August 21, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at Hufford Cemetery in Pulaski, Virginia.

The family is in the care of Norris Funeral Services, Pulaski Chapel.

**RANDY KEITH MILLER**

Randy Keith Miller, age 70 of Dublin, Virginia passed away peacefully Thursday, August 13, 2026. Born December 6, 1955 in Dublin to the late Beecher Miller and Virginia Cook. He was also preceded in death by his sisters Joanne Miller Martin and Linda Miller Altice.

Randy was a lifelong resident of Dublin and will be remembered as a good man who was always willing to help others and give the shirt off his back; cherished by a neighborhood of wonderful neighbors, with stories and laughter keeping his memory alive.

He loved attending car shows with his brother, Lewis and friends as well as long rides on his Harley Davidson motorcycle.

Randy is survived by his Brother – Lewis Miller (Dublin, VA)

Nieces & Nephews – Jody Woolwine (wife Jodi), Lisa

See MILLER, page A6

## Bower Funeral Chapels & Crematory

*Providing Dignified and Affordable Funeral Service  
Cremation Services (Crematory On-Site)  
& Pre-need Funeral Planning*



**Dana Bower Rygas, Manager**  
**1631 Bob White Blvd, Pulaski**  
**980-6160**

[www.bowerfuneralhome.com](http://www.bowerfuneralhome.com)

**Aaron C. Rygas, Manager**  
**320 E. Main Street, Dublin**  
**674-4665**

*A Tradition Of Trust*





**RANDY MONROE MOORE JR.**  
*In Loving Memory of Randy Monroe Moore Jr.*  
Randy Monroe Moore Jr., affectionately known as “Little Randy,” was born on May 23, 1970, in Radford, Virginia, to Randy Monroe Moore Sr. and Gloria Walker Moore. He passed away in the late hours of August 7, 2026, in Dublin, Virginia, at the age of 56.

Randy was lovingly raised by his beloved grandmother, Edith Hamilton Moore, who was a cherished and constant presence throughout his life. Edith played a very special role in Randy’s life, and the love they shared remained an important part of who he was. He attended Radford High School, where he enjoyed playing ball and developed an early love for muscle cars.

He also had a natural way with animals and a genuine compassion for them, which remained a special part of who he was throughout his life. Randy was a man of many tal-

ents. He had a gift for working with his hands and became remarkably skilled in many different trades. One of his greatest talents was automotive painting. He always credited Claude Giles of Belspring with helping him learn and succeed in the trade, and Randy took great pride in the skills he developed over the years. Whatever he put his mind and hands to, Randy had a way of becoming exceptionally good at it.

Those who knew Randy will remember much more than his talents. He had a natural charm and charisma that made him an unforgettable person. He was well-liked by many and had a wonderful sense of humor. Randy knew how to make people laugh and could bring lightness and joy into a room when it was needed most. His personality, his laughter, and the way he connected with people were some of the things that made him truly one of a kind. Randy’s life was filled with people who loved him and whose lives he touched in return.

He is survived by his daughter, Brooke Moore; his granddaughter, Ada “Addy” Roope; his brother, Mathew Moore; his sister, Sheila Floyd; his aunt, Candy Mills; his uncles, Stanley Moore and Danny Hamilton; Robert Mills; his former wife, Kimberly Franklin Moore; and many cousins, extended family members, and friends who will carry his memory with them.

Randy was preceded in death by his beloved grand-

mother, Edith Moore Mills; his father, Randy Monroe Moore Sr.; his mother, Gloria Walker Moore; and other cherished family members who went before him. Randy will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and everyone who had the privilege of knowing him.

His love for animals, his passion for cars, his remarkable talent, his sense of humor, and his ability to make people laugh will remain a lasting part of his memory. Though he is no longer here, the mark Randy left on the people who loved him will never fade. He will always be remembered as “Little Randy” — a talented, charismatic, funny, and unforgettable man who was deeply loved and will never be forgotten.

Services: Randy’s funeral service was held on Friday, August 14, 2026, at Norris Funeral Services in Pulaski, Virginia. A graveside service followed at Giles Family Cemetery in Belspring, Virginia.  
*Forever loved. Forever remembered.*

## Miller

Continued From Page A5  
Campbell (husband Randy), Darren Martin (wife Joy), Amber Wilborne (husband Tim), Jessica Watkins (husband Daniel), Melissa Watson (husband Ryan)  
Great-Nephews – Chase Campbell, Michael Wilborne, Reece Watson  
Great-Nieces – Kelsey Woolwine, Katlin Campbell, Wendel Wilborne, Makenzie Bowden, Kayleigh Bowden  
Great-Great-Nephew – Joseph Roark  
The Poskas family (Tazewell, VA)  
Longtime Friends – Roy Sparks, Russell Cox (wife Calista)  
“Breakfast Club” Friends – Rick Surratt, Terry Cole, Roger Ogle, Ray Parnell, Mike Huff  
To sign Randy’s online guestbook, visit [www.bowerfuneralhome.com](http://www.bowerfuneralhome.com) – Bower Funeral Home & Crematory, Pulaski is handling the arrangements for the family.



**The Patriot**  
[www.pcpatriot.com](http://www.pcpatriot.com)  
540-808-3949

## Martin

Continued From Page A5  
was raised with a strong spiritual heritage and was a member of the Church of God of prophecy there in Radford. She and her three sisters sang, and she played the piano from a very early age. Music and song were her constant passion. She raised five children and had a successful career as a computer programmer at Inland Motors KollMorgan in Radford, Virginia until her retirement. As her children started having children, she was overjoyed attending events and even camping trips.

Her dream of being a pastor’s wife was fulfilled when she and Donald pastored the IPHC church in Appomattox VA. She was much loved for her big smile and warm greetings. She and Donald moved back to the area in 2006 relocating to Pulaski Virginia. They became active members of Family Worship Center IPHC.

All her family and loved ones grieve her absence, they stand and rejoice in the assurance that Wanda has completed her journey and is with the Lord and Savior, which she has longed to see at Heaven gates. The family wishes to express their heartfelt appreciation to. Gentiva Hospice and two special nurses. Lydia Rose and Brooke Holland. Also, special thanks to Laura mustard and Amanda French for their excellent care. For the past two years, Opal Talbert has been by Wanda’s side as a Caregiver bringing dedication, comfort, dignity, and peace to both Wanda and the family during this most difficult season. Wanda will never be forgotten for giving of herself and care for her family.

Visitation will be 4 pm Saturday, August 22, 2026 with a memorial service to follow at 5 pm at Family Worship Center IPHC. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Family Worship Center IPHC, 955 Memorial Drive, Pulaski, VA 24301. Wanda’s family is in the care of Bowers Funeral Home Pulaski.

*Psalm 116:15 “Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.”*

## Nation

Continued From Page A4  
ations on their knees. This is what must happen again – oh may the Spirit of God fill delegates and move our Congressional halls again!”  
Here is the text of the First Prayer of the Continental Congress, 1774 found on the Website of the U.S. House of Representatives, Office of the Chaplain  
“O Lord our Heavenly Father, high and mighty King of kings, and Lord of lords, who dost from thy throne behold all the dwellers on earth and reignest with power supreme

## Bird

Continued From Page A5  
leaves behind.  
By that measure, his life was extraordinary.

He leaves behind a family who was deeply loved, a community that was better because he was part of it, and a legacy of hard work, kindness, sacrifice, service, appreciation for nature, and selfless love.  
The family would like to extend their deepest gratitude to ACG Hospice of Radford, Virginia, for the compassionate care, kindness, and dignity they provided during his final days. Their support, comfort, and care meant more to our family than words can adequately express.

The family will receive friends from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. on Saturday, August 22, 2026, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services will begin at 11 a.m. with Brother Melvin Brammer officiating. Interment will follow in Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin, Virginia.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that donations be made in his memory to Pulaski County Humane Society, Radford Animal Shelter, or a local animal shelter or rescue of your choice.

The Bird family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. [www.mullinsfuneralhome.com](http://www.mullinsfuneralhome.com)

## RU taps Wells for health sciences post

RADFORD - Radford University has selected Ashley Wells as assistant vice president for health sciences, following a national search. She will begin her duties on Tuesday, Aug. 25.



Wells will report to Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Bethany Usher.  
The position has been newly designed to address opportunities and needs in the university’s rapidly emerging health and life science curriculum and services.  
“Dr. Wells brings the breadth of experience we need to lead our health sciences strategy forward,” Usher said.



**Fort Chiswell Sew & Vac**  
SALES & SERVICE  
276-637-3139  
*Riccar & Simplicity Vacuums*  
*Janome & Elna Sewing Machines*  
We Repair Sewing Machines - Janome, Elna, Singer, Pfaff, Necchi Kenmore, Bernina, Viking & More  
**NEW HOURS**  
Tuesday - Friday 10 a.m. - 4p.m. Sat. By Appointment  
[fortchiswellsewvac@hotmail.com](mailto:fortchiswellsewvac@hotmail.com)  
  
787 Ft. Chiswell Rd, Max Meadows, VA



**62 YEARS OF SERVING PULASKI COUNTY**  
*“Sometimes A Good Haircut, Always A Good Story!”*  
**Star Barber Shop**  
123 West Main Street, Pulaski, VA 24301  
*Sam Corder, Barber*

*Our compassion and professionalism make a meaningful difference during difficult times*

**Norris**  
Funeral Services, Inc.  
and Crematory  
PULASKI CHAPEL

*“The Lowest Prices In Town”*

815 Randolph Ave, Pulaski, VA 24301 • (540) 980-2600

and uncontrolled over all the Kingdoms, Empires and Governments; look down in mercy, we beseech Thee, on these our American States, who have fled to Thee from the rod of the oppressor and thrown themselves on Thy gracious protection, desiring to be henceforth dependent only on Thee. To Thee have they appealed for the righteousness of their cause; to Thee do they now look up for that countenance and support, which Thou alone canst give. Take them, therefore, Heavenly Father, under Thy nurturing care; give them wisdom in Council and valor in the field; defeat the malicious designs of our cruel adversaries; convince them of the unrighteousness of their Cause and if they persist in their sanguinary purposes, of own unerring justice, sounding in their hearts, constrain them to drop the weapons of war from their unnerved hands in the day of battle!  
“Be Thou present, O God of wisdom, and direct the councils of this honorable assembly; enable them to settle things on the best and surest foundation. That the scene of blood may be speedily closed; that order, harmony and peace may be effectually restored, and truth and justice, religion and piety, prevail and flourish amongst the people. Preserve the health of their bodies and vigor of their minds; shower down on them and the millions they here represent, such temporal blessings as Thou seest expedient for them in this world and crown them with everlasting glory in the world to come. All this we ask in the name and through the merits of Jesus Christ, Thy Son and our Savior. Amen.”  
Reverend Jacob Duché, Rector of Christ Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 7, 1774, 9 o’clock a.m.  
Amazing things happen when we pray with friends!



# CHURCH DIRECTORY



## Journey To Faith

By Pat Priddy

## I remembered the tree

“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard.” Psalm 19: 1-3

The land near the river is covered with walnut trees. There is one growing right on the riverbank that is giant in stature. I’ve gazed up into her majestic branches 1000 times only to quickly look away. Nothing to see but dense leaves, dark green foliage surrounding large yellow walnuts that are waiting to fall in September each year. Foliage so deep and thick, you can’t see the sky above. But on this particular afternoon, when I looked up into her branches, something was different.

The branches seemed to circle down embracing me. There was space between each branch where the light of the evening sun and the soft blue of the sky shown through. I felt like I was in a fairy tale but knew this moment was divine. I kept staring upward thanking God for this wonderful moment. A connection with something beyond what I had experienced before; a sacred link with the divine. Pulling a chair underneath the tree, I kept absorbing every minute of this experience staring upward tracing every branch as each seemed to encircle me below.

Leaving this moment to memory, I made my way back home and received a phone call. My dear friend had suddenly passed away from a heart attack that came out of nowhere. She had been found sitting on her sofa at home, apparently in no distress when the Lord called her home. We had planned to go to lunch in the coming weeks after rescheduling too many times as both of us were so ‘busy.’ An emptiness of regret filled me, but then I remembered what we can never forget. She’s only waiting to see me again in a far better place. This would not be good bye, but rather I’ll see you again soon.

And suddenly, I remembered the tree. God knew ahead of time that He would bring my friend home to Himself. And though I would be left behind, He would be there to cradle and comfort me. Present in all things in my life, He can and will send signs of His presence not only in His Word but in His creations.

The next afternoon, I went back down to the river to stand under that old walnut tree and you know what? It was just a tree - dense foliage, no peering through the limbs to the soft blue sky. Gone was the experience but not the divine message that had been sent to me.

Thank you Lord for knowing me and seeing me under that tree. Of knowing what is coming in our lives, and reminding all of us that you are always near. In Jesus Name, Amen.

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.

### Draper Valley Baptist Church

3200 Lee Highway  
Draper, Va. 24324  
Pastor: Alan Pearce  
Bible Study Sunday, 10 a.m.  
Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.  
Tuesday Evening Women’s Bible Study, 6 p.m.  
Thursday Evening Men’s Bible Study, 6 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

975 Memorial Drive  
Pulaski, VA 24301  
Pastor: Rev. N.K. Howlett  
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.  
Worship, 11 a.m.  
Wednesday Night, 7 p.m.

### 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: Becky Wheeler  
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 Danny Collins  
www.cecilschapelchurch.com  
Worship Service: 10 am  
www.facebook.com/cecilschapel

### Valley Harvest Ministries

1 Harvest Place  
Dublin, VA 24084  
Senior Pastor Steve Willis  
Associate Pastors: Perry Slaughter  
and Walter Gueste  
Sunday Worship: 10 a.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.

### 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.  
Quality Inn in Dublin  
Conference Room  
540-674-1100

### Community Christian Church

5382 Grace Street, Dublin  
540-674-4308  
Minister: Bill Neeley  
Youth and Children’s Minister: Dustin Keene  
www.C3family.org  
Facebook: Community Christian Church/Dublin, VA  
email: C3family.adm@gmail.com  
Sunday: Adult Sunday School 9:15 a.m.  
Worship Service: 10:45 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting  
6:30 p.m.  
C3Infants-K; C3Kids and C3Youth 6:30 p.m.

### First Missionary Baptist Church

7318 Manns Drive  
Fairlawn, Virginia 24141-8524  
(540) 639-5331  
email: fmbc1872@verizon.net  
Rev. Montie E. Brown, Sr. - Pastor  
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  
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: Joe Hester  
540-577-3767  
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: pulaskigraceministries@gmail.com  
Pastor Mike Williams  
Children’s Ministry  
Aaron & Becky Sampson  
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Nursery Available  
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/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.

Find us on Facebook and

### New Life Church of the Nazarene

45 S. Jefferson Avenue, Pulaski  
Bible Study - Monday 5-6 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 Bryan Gough  
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.  
Sunday School - 10 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study - 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

Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m.

### Dora Highway Anchor of Faith

“A stronghold of faith and a lighthouse for our community and beyond ...”  
1642 Dora Highway, Pulaski  
540-230-8837  
Pastor John Kellam  
Pastor Harry Gunter  
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study - 7 p.m.

### Pulaski Primitive Baptist Church

4950 Newbern Road, Pulaski  
Pastor Don Singleton  
www.pulaskiprimitivebaptist.com  
Worship: 10:30 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  
Website:  
www.SnowvilleChristianChurch.com  
(and Facebook)

Email:  
office@SnowvilleChristianChurch.com  
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:30 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. Dr. Timothy Hale  
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  
(540) 449-3938 info@maxcreek.org  
Pastor Chuck Herrell  
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.

### Thornspring United Methodist Church

5670 Thornspring Church Rd.  
Dublin, VA 24301  
540-980-2927  
Pastor: Teresa Tolbert  
Sunday School - 10:00 AM  
Sunday Worship - 11:00 AM

### Family Worship Center

First Pentecostal Holiness  
955 Memorial Drive, Pulaski  
980-7287  
www.fwcpulaski.church  
Lead Pastor Jeff Willhoite  
Family Pastor Jordan Myers  
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 - 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday’s 2nd Service - 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday’s 3rd Service - 11:30 a.m.  
Wednesdays - 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
For: Kids, Teens, Adults  
Lead Pastor: Rev. Randy Lawrence Jr.  
Church Phone: 540-980-5506

### Allisonia Pentecostal Holiness Church

1560 Julia Simpkins Road  
Allisonia, VA  
Pastor Justin Phillips  
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 a.m.

The Patriot  
540-808-3949



**Aldersgate United Methodist**  
1946 Medallion Drive  
Pulaski, VA 24301  
(540) 980-1349  
Pastor Paige Wimberly  
Sunday Worship 10 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 (DOC)**  
524 N Jefferson Ave  
Pulaski, VA 24301-4618  
(540) 980-7144  
www.firstchristianpulaski.org  
Pastor: Hayden Cran  
Men's Sunday School: 10 am  
Worship: 11 am

**Freedom Fellowship Church**  
5355 Wilderness Road  
Newbern, VA 24126  
Pastor Jerry Collins  
Phone: (540) 577-5780  
Email: freedomfellowshipnrv@gmail.com  
FB: Freedom Fellowship Church  
Services:  
Sundays: 10 a.m.  
Wednesdays: Men's & Women's Groups  
1st Wednesday of Month: 6 p.m.  
All other Wednesdays: 7 p.m.  
Saturday Morning Prayer Group: 9:30 a.m.

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

**Memorial Baptist Church**  
995 Peppers Ferry Road  
Pulaski, VA 24301  
Pastor: Mike Jones  
Phone: 540-980-4731  
Sunday Service - 11:00am

**First Presbyterian Church of Pulaski**  
408 N. Jefferson Avenue  
Pulaski, VA 24301  
540-980-2131  
Rev. Graham Mitchell  
Service: Sunday at 11 a.m.

**Highland Park Community Church**  
6144 Wright Avenue, Dublin, Va. 24084  
540-674-6834  
Sunday School: 10 a.m. / Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.  
Sunday Night: 6 p.m. / La Roca Services Wednesday: 7 p.m.

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

**Mt.Top Community Church**  
2999 Mt. Olivet Rd, Pulaski.  
John Burleson, Interim Pastor.  
540-320-4107 or 250-1956  
Sunday worship and  
Childrens church services: 11:00 A.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**  
Pastor Davie Whitlock  
600 Skyline Circle, Pulaski, VA  
540-577-1401  
Worship: Sunday, 11 a.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

**New Haven Ministries**  
4576 Miller Lane, Pulaski, VA. 24301  
Pastor: Rev. Bobby Osborne  
540-616-7553  
Sunday School Sunday at 10:00a.m.  
Worship Service 11 a.m.  
Childrens Church 11 a.m.  
Wednesday Adult Bible Study 7p.m.  
Youth Service Wednesday 7p.m.  
Website newhavenva.org  
Facebook https://www.facebook.com/newhaven-ministries

# It seemed like a good idea

Sometimes we have what we think is a really good idea. But, when we fully think it out or put it into action, we find out it wasn't such a good idea. Solomon wrote in Proverbs 16:25, "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." If we think it is a good idea, but the Word of God says differently, the good idea would be to ignore your good idea.

Eve had what she thought was a good idea. However, her good idea came from an evil source. She shared her good idea, which wasn't really her idea, with Adam. It was an idea the serpent put into her head. She shared her idea with Adam, and he agreed with her. Their reasoning seemed good to them. The fruit was good for food, and it was pleasant to the eyes, and desirable to make one wise. God had already told them that to eat this fruit from the tree was certain death, but they ate it anyway. How foolish! If your good idea is forbidden in the Bible, you should forget it. You've lived this long without it, and you can keep living without it. Don't listen to the devil, and side against God's Word.

The Israelites had an idea that they shared with Moses, and he said it seemed like a good idea to him. It concerned sending out spies to look over the Promised Land before they entered it. They wanted to get a report of what things looked like before entering the Promised Land. The spies brought back some good news and some bad news. The land looked great was the good news, but giants were living there was the bad news. Sending in spies seemed like a good idea, but it wasn't such a good idea. They were overruling the promise of God. This good



**Michael Collins**

idea when carried out scared the people and destroyed their trust in God. The lesson here is, don't question God. Follow Him in faith! There is no problem facing you for which He does not already have the solution.

As the early church prayed and fasted they received a great idea from the Holy Ghost. The idea was to send Paul and Barnabas to minister the Word in other places. So they fasted and prayed some more, and then laid their hands on Paul and Barnabas and sent them forth. It is a wonderful thing when our good ideas come from the Lord. Then these diligent men fasted and prayed the second time to confirm the idea.

Before you put what might be a good idea into action be sure to pray and fast about it first, and find out what the Lord thinks about it. By praying and fasting you will find out if God is involved in it, and if He is, He will ordain it. If He ordains it, you can be sure that it will be successful. May God be a part of all of your good ideas.

WORD SPIRAL

I

L

Y

E

G

Fill in the missing letters to reveal the nine-letter word that starts at one of the four corners and moves clockwise around the perimeter before ending in the center.  
©2026 King Features Syndicate

Word Spiral  
Answer  
ILLEGIBLY

BIBLE TRIVIA

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

2. Which gospel does not contain the Olivet prophecy? Matthew, Mark, Luke, John

3. The prophecy of Obadiah is basically about what nation? Shem, Edom, Tabor, Nebo

4. Who said, "Rabbi" and kissed Jesus? Alexander, Mark, Mordecai, Judas

5. David was what relation to Boaz? Brother, Son, Grandson, Great-grandson

6. Who was Nun's son? Jehoshaphat, Joshua, Zacchaeus, Meshach
- ANSWER: 1) Old, 2) John, 3) Edom, 4) Judas, 5) Great-grandson, 6) Joshua

Find expanded trivia online with Wilson Casey at [www.patreon.com/triviaguy](http://www.patreon.com/triviaguy). FREE TRIAL!

Bible Word Search Answers

ANSWERS

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

W K R E V O S U E O

E O C E B W O N L U

M G B A O Y E V P R

A N Z R B M H I M T

N I D O I G C C A L

S R I E U E T T R E

E B S O P V R O T M

O E R B U I U R T A

F H S U S G S Y U H

T J B T H B T F P S



Mail Delivery  
Subscriptions  
Starting At  
\$15 for 3 Months!!



BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalms 44:5-7

Through you we push back our enemies; through your name we trample our foes. I put no trust in my bow, my sword does not bring me victory; but you give us victory over our enemies, you put our adversaries to shame.

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

W K R E V O S U E O

E O C E B W O N L U

M G B A O Y E V P R

A N Z R B M H I M T

N I D O I G C C A L

S R I E U E T T R E

E B S O P V R O T M

O E R B U I U R T A

F H S U S G S Y U H

T J B T H B T F P S

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

WWW.SEARCHING-FOR-JESUS.COM



# 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

## August 2026

**Fri. August 7th: Brother Dwayne Linkous. Dwayne will be sharing his powerful testimony about his just-published book "1 in 30 Billion."**

**Sat. August 8th: Brother Eric Watson**

**Sat. August 15th: Food/Clothing Event from 11 am till 1 pm. We will be serving free beef and bean burritos with all the fixings, dessert and drink. The Clothing Bank will be open with a great selection of free men's, women's, boys' and girls' clothing.**

**Fri. August 21st: Pastor Mike Ingo**

**Sat. August 22nd: Hope Center Ministries from Galax Va.**

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

For More Information Contact: Charlie Barbettini. : 276.620.4293

**Wear what you have and come as you are! Come expecting a Blessing**

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



# Council gets update on water system project

By DAVID QUESENBERRY  
Patriot Publishing

Water again was the main topic at Tuesday's Pulaski Town Council meeting.

Council heard a report on the Town's Water System Project from Stephen Steele of CHA Consulting in Blacksburg. Steele updated Council on what was now happening with the project and the current status of financing for it.

Steele said there were four major goals of the project, which were: upgrade the Water Treatment Plant; replace the Raw Water transmission lines; upgrade the Raw Water Intake and Pump Station; and satisfy the requirements of the state issued Consent Order.

### Water Treatment Plant Upgrade

According to Steele three steps in the treatment plant upgrade had been completed. Finished were the installation of new filters; finished water pumps; and completion of the new Veteran's Hill storage tank. Still to be done are improvements in the treatment process and a backwash tank project.

### Replacement of Raw Water Transmission Lines

The second main goal of the project was to replace the raw water transmission lines. Planned for replacement were two 12-inch lines with one 18-inch line to carry raw water from the Raw Water Intake directly to the Treatment Plant on Randolph Avenue.

According to Steele, the current lines cross 12 streams and follows and passes underneath the railroad to deliver water to the treatment plant. The new lines would be relocated and realigned for easier access for maintenance and inspection by employees.

Steele said that his firm is working with Public Works to ensure that they could get to the new line. At present, Public Works employees have to hike and cross rough terrain to get to the current line's location, making repairs or maintenance extremely difficult.

One important part of the process, Steele said would be to identify all properties that might be impacted and making sure that property owners understand what that could mean if their property had to be crossed by the new line.

### Upgrade of Raw Water Intake and Pump Station

The third goal of the water project is to upgrade the system's Raw Water Intake and Pump Station.

This would involve replacement of pumps and electrical components; raise the control panels out of the flood plain; and replace screens and upgrade the "air bursting" equipment to improve removal of debris from the water intakes.

The proposed upgrades are intended to provide enough water to the treatment plant to meet present and future needs of the Town. The control panels are to be raised out of the floodplain to prevent damage from high water and to provide a greater measure of safety

for Public Works employees servicing the location during a high water event. The improved "air bursting" equipment would allow the Town to more easily and thoroughly use high pressure air to blow out debris clogging the water intakes to prevent it from blocking again.

### Compliance with Consent Order

Steele said this entire process is being driven to comply with the Consent Order issued by the Virginia Department of Health. This will allow the Town to operate its water system by meeting all regulatory requirements set by the state.

### Funding

Steele reviewed the funding sources available to the Town, which include two new sources. The Virginia Dept. of Health (VDH) awarded the town two \$45,000 planning grants, which required no local matching funds. Also received was \$660,000 in funds from the VDH Hurricane Helene Relief.

Opportunities now exist for funding either through Congressionally Directed Spending and Economic Development Administration Disaster Relief Grants. Traditional funding sources such as USDA Rural Development, Virginia Resource Authority and SERCAP could also be used.

With respect to current funds for the project, the Town has secured \$5,850,941 in grant funding and \$3,743,652 in low interest loans. On July 15, VDH awarded the Town \$2.94 million for design support in getting the project "shovel ready." The amount is divided into \$1.91 million in grants and \$1.09 in a low interest loan.

### Next Steps

According to Steele the next steps for the water project involve completion of design work and continuing pursuit of funding to support construction.

One objective is to complete design work on the treatment plant to include a sedimentation treatment process and an upgrade of the current treatment process.

Completion of design work is also slated for the Raw Water lines and the Raw Water Intake and Pump Station.

Efforts will continue to secure financing through the 2027 VDH Drinking Water Fund, Congressional Directed Spending and EDA Disaster Relief program.

In response to a question from Councilman Joel Burchett, Steele said the completion of the water plant portion of the project was 4 to 5 years out. Improvements that were needed now would be done incrementally while the plant is in operation. Any updates during the time would be made to include them into the overall planning for the general project.

Councilman Brooks Dawson asked if there was an alternative to a five-year plan.

Town Manager Todd Day said no. He added that he had been in meetings with area lo-



calities and the state on securing drinking water which he said was extremely complicated to accomplish. He described the situation as "uncharted territory."

The Town was still producing high-quality water, he said, but the problem was that the plant itself needed lots of upgrades.

Referring to social media comments asking why the improvements weren't made before, Day said he understood that view. He said, "We are going to do whatever we can do in whatever possible (way) to continue to deliver high-quality water to our citizens. VDH is going to push the Town. I'm on board being as responsive as I can be with the understanding that water rates impact our citizens. I also understand that if we don't fix that water plant,

you're not going to have water regardless of the condition of Gatewood."

Day described the improvements as "necessary."

"The time of putting it off and shuffling it is gone. It is absolutely gone," he added.

### Gatewood Discussion

Day also addressed comments on Gatewood.

On the issue of why water was coming out of the tail pipe, he said the dam had an eight-inch tail pipe from which water ran into a state trout stocked stream and then three miles further to the raw water intake. If there is no water coming through the pipe, the Town would have no drinking water. There is also a smaller dam located at the Raw Water station which forms a small holding area so water may be pumped into the Town's water system. On an average day, the Town pulls about 2.1 million gallons per day from the reservoir.

Gatewood has an 8,000-acre watershed that by average standards is not large, said Day. The level of other regional lakes such as Smith Mountain Lake or Philpot Lake and others are all down, not just Gatewood. Localities and authorities have been meeting across the region

discussing ideas and measures to deal with the drought. Day dismissed unfounded rumors that there was an open or stolen valve draining Gatewood, or water was being hoarded for a data center.

Day said the reservoir level is monitored closely by the Town using highly accurate digital technology. This data on Gatewood's level can be accessed by citizens on the Town's website. The latest readings are posted by about 9:00 am.

"We're doing everything we can," said Day. "We absolutely need rain above that 8,000 acres (watershed)."

In other action, Council approved Ordinance 2026-03 authorizing the transfer of three lots from the Town to the Pulaski Redevelopment and Housing Authority for residential development. It also authorized the Town Manager, Town Attorney or the Mayor to execute all documents needed for the transfer of 177 acres from the Town of Pulaski to SHAH Development.

The next scheduled meeting of the Pulaski Town Council will be at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, September 1, 2026 in the Council Chambers of the Town Municipal Building at 42 first Street, N.W.



1ST ANNUAL  
**CHILI**  
COOK-OFF  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

Registration is officially **OPEN**  
for the Town of Pulaski's Chili Cook-Off, happening  
Saturday, September 12 in Jackson Park!

Cash prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winning teams...  
People's Choice winner, Cornbread winner, and Presentation winner.

Thanks to the generosity and support of the Ruritan Road Ruritan Club!

Spaces are limited so go ahead and get registered today!  
\$20 registration fee per team – reach out to Jackie Reid at  
[jreid@pulaskitown.org](mailto:jreid@pulaskitown.org) or 540-994-8642 for more information.

NEWBERN  
**Fall Festival**  
HOSTED BY  
NEWBERN VOL. FIRE DEPT.

**OCTOBER**  
**10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> 2026**

FREE ADMISSION! RAIN OR SHINE \$5 PARKING!

**Delicious Food**  
**Beautiful Arts & Crafts**  
**Awesome Fire Trucks**  
**Live Music**  
**Fellowship & Friends**



**Historic Newbern, VA**  
**I-81 Exit 98**

**Information & Vendor Contracts**  
COURTNEY 540-250-5808 MILLER 540-320-0385

 Newbern Fall Festival  [newbernfallfestival@gmail.com](mailto:newbernfallfestival@gmail.com)

## Dems hold picnic Sunday

Pulaski Democrats will hold their annual picnic on Sunday, August 23, at 4:30 p.m. at the Dublin High School Alumni Memorial shelter at Randolph Park.

The picnic is an opportunity to meet Joy Powers, Democratic party candidate for Congress from Virginia's Ninth District, as well as local democrats and members of the New River Valley Indivisible organization.



Joy Powers

Christiansburg  
Dublin



Pulaski  
Rural Retreat

**No Insurance? High Deductible? No Problem!**  
We have 100s of low cost generics in stock now!  
[www.MartinsRX.com](http://www.MartinsRX.com)







LewisGale Hospital Pulaski Honors Trina Sluss, NP, with Compass Award

# Sluss presented with Compass Award

PULASKI, Va. - Lewis-Gale Hospital Pulaski recently recognized Trina Sluss, nurse practitioner, as its Second Quarter 2026 Compass Award recipient, honoring her extraordinary compassion, patient advocacy and commitment to caring like family.

A grateful family member nominated Sluss after witnessing the extraordinary care and compassion she provided to her husband following his hospital stay. After reviewing follow up lab results, Sluss recognized that the patient needed a specific over the counter medication. Knowing his wife was out of town, Sluss purchased the medication herself and personally delivered it to the patient's home, refusing reimbursement. "Trina did not just manage a discharge; she provided a safety net woven from pure compassion," the family member shared in the nomination. "She embodies every

single value the Compass Award stands for." The Compass Award recognizes LewisGale Hospital Pulaski physicians and advanced practice providers who demonstrate empathy, compassion, exceptional communication and clinical aptitude while positively impacting patient care. The award represents guiding patient care, providing direction and helping patients and families navigate challenging times. Sluss was celebrated by hospital leaders and colleagues for extending her care beyond the hospital walls and making a meaningful difference for a patient and his family.

# Radford Community Fest brings music, vendors, more to downtown Saturday

Radford University and the City of Radford will welcome the community to downtown Radford this Saturday, Aug. 22, for the annual Radford Community Fest, a free celebration bringing together the university, the city and communities from throughout the region.

**WHAT**

Radford Community Fest will fill East Main Street with more than 100 local and regional vendors, food trucks, live music and entertainment, street performers, community organizations, downtown businesses and activities for all ages.

The festival will also feature a Kids' Zone with games, crafts, lessons and inflatables, along with performances and demonstrations throughout the day.

**WHEN**

Saturday, Aug. 22, 2026 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

**WHERE**

East Main Street Downtown Radford, Virginia

**ENTERTAINMENT HIGHLIGHTS**

The Main Stage will feature:

- Noon: The Red Ferns - local bluegrass and acoustic folk
- 2:15 p.m.: The Legacy Motown Revue
- 4:30 p.m.: Cassette Rewind - "Born in the '80s, raised on radio"
- A new Community Stage will also feature a Radford City Police Department canine demonstration at 1:30 p.m. and Derek Wagner Dance Studio performances at 3:45 p.m. The Fluidity Performance Troupe will perform throughout the day.

More information is available at RadfordCommunityFest.com.

# August Meeting Schedule

- Monday, August 24, 2026, Pulaski County Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting, Board Room, County Administration Building, 143 Third Street N.W., in the Town of Pulaski, Virginia; Open Meeting, 7 p.m.; Executive Session, 5:30 p.m., Executive Training Room, County Administration Building, 143 Third Street N.W., in the Town of Pulaski (Contact: Ashley Edmonds, Clerk, 143 Third Street N.W., Suite 1, Pulaski, VA, 24301, 540-980-7705, aedmonds@pulaski-county.org). The Board of Supervisors is the governing body for Pulaski County and is responsible for the budget and concerns

- of its citizens.
- Tuesday, August 25, 2026, Fairlawn Sewer Authority Board of Directors Meeting, Administration Conference Room, Peppers Ferry Regional Wastewater Treatment Authority Facility, 7797 Mason Street, Fairlawn, Virginia, 6 p.m. (Contact: Fairlawn Tax and Bookkeeping, 7351 Peppers Ferry Boulevard, Village Oaks Plaza, Fairlawn, Virginia, 24141, 540-633-5146).

# Meals

Continued From Page A1

program and discovered some interesting statistics. Based on the information she found, and based on their menu, the summer nutrition program was saving \$38.00 per-student each week in household groceries.

"We were providing seven-days of meals so students would have food in the summer and during the weekends. We were trying to cover the gap for the entire summer."

Morrison acknowledged that this is a record number of meals provided over the summer during the past three-years, partly because the USDA Food Service Program allows non-congregate (parents can pickup the meals) during the summer months. Pulaski County is in a rural division that qualifies for a summer meals program. This enables parents the opportunity to provide the same nutritional meals that students would receive during the school year.

The meals were prepared in two Pulaski County Public School Central Kitchens - Pulaski Elementary School and Pulaski Middle School. The breakfast and lunch portions are generous and the menu changes daily. Some of the meals were transported to locations where students had activities such as at Randolph Park, federally funded camps and vacation Bible schools.

"Many thanks to our school nutrition program staff who volunteered to work in the summer. Providing so many meals this year was a tremendous feat. Our nutrition program volunteers have a sincere desire to help our community by supplying this food service to our students. Much appreciation goes to our many Pulaski County employees who helped in so many other ways. They made the kitchens available throughout the summer, helped with the traffic flow for meal pickup, the IT department helped develop the survey, while others distributed the survey. There were many logistics to work out that the school nutrition program employees couldn't have done alone. We had support from many departments and volunteers to make the summer meal program a success," she added.

Robert Graham, Pulaski County School Superintendent, congratulated the School Nutrition Program and all the Pulaski Country School summer volunteers for helping to meet the community's needs during the summer.

"We appreciate our community entrusting us with this level of care for their students," declared Morrison. "Healthy meals today help our students grow, learn and thrive tomorrow."



**Red  
WHITE &  
YOU**

**Celebrate America's 250<sup>th</sup> at a patriotic community fundraiser**

September 6, 2026  
10:00 - 4:00  
Tickets: \$75, \$15 Children under 12, Under 6 FREE  
Belle Hampton Farm

- Historic Cannon Firing
- Live Historical Reenactments
- Exclusive Main House and Family Cemetery Tours
- Gourmet Back Creek Wagyu
- Live Entertainment
- Immersive Historical Exhibits
- Inspiring Stories from the Past
- Exclusive Screening for the event

**JOIN the Celebration!**  
GET YOUR TICKETS NOW

Get Tickets:  Learn More: 

[www.bellehamptonlegacycenter.org](http://www.bellehamptonlegacycenter.org)

# 25 years of 'Drive Sober, Or Get Pulled Over'

RICHMOND, Va. — Virginia officials today launched the Commonwealth's 25th anniversary drunk driving enforcement and public awareness effort, Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over. Beginning tomorrow and continuing through the Labor Day holiday weekend (August 19 – September 7, 2026), the 2026 version of the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign features 111 Virginia law enforcement agencies conducting 665 individual saturation patrols and 58 sobriety checkpoints across the Commonwealth.

"Virginia has made major strides in combating impaired driving over the last 25 years, and the Commonwealth's Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign has been central to that progress," said Virginia Secretary of Transportation Nick Donohue. "However, every drunk driving death, injury, crash and arrest is 100% preventable and prevent-

ing them requires all of us to do our part. Whether it's planning a safe ride home if your plans include alcohol, reporting suspected impaired drivers, or simply buckling up, every action helps make Virginia's roads safer."

To complement the stepped-up law enforcement effort, Virginia's 2026 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over operation is deploying a research-based and newly enhanced public awareness program called "What's the Damage?"

First introduced in 2024, the program originally focused on the financial consequences of a drunk driving arrest. The all-new 2026 outreach delivers innovative and creative materials paired with impactful messaging, reminding Virginia motorists that a DUI offense can have consequences far beyond the financial impact, affecting a person's relationships, friendships and overall quality of life.



**Antique Shed**  
OLD • LOVED • RESCUED

**ANTIQUE SHED**  
*Annual Fall*  
**THIS & THAT**  
**OUTDOOR YARDSALE!**

**September 18<sup>TH</sup> & 19<sup>TH</sup> 8AM-5PM**

**25+ OUTDOOR VENDORS**  
**70+ INDOOR VENDORS**  
IN OUR 10,000 SQFT BUILDING

**WE ARE ACCEPTING OUTDOOR VENDORS NOW, Grab a spot while they last!**  
12X12 SPACES \$25

**WE DON'T DO ANY ONLINE RESERVATIONS (ONLY IN STORE)**

**See ya soon!**

**WE ARE LOCATED AT 112 TRADE CIRCLE, DUBLIN, VA 24084**  
*Across from the Dublin Police Department*

**Cousins COFFEE**  
WILL BE SERVING YOU ON **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18** AS YOU SHOP ENJOY YOUR *Shopping Spree*

**SPACE RABBIT COFFEE CO.**  
WILL BE SERVING YOU ON **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19** AS YOU SHOP!

**YARDSALE ITEMS**  
ANTIQUES  
CRAFTS  
BAKED GOODS  
ETC!!

**ONE MAN'S JUNK IS ANOTHER MAN'S TREASURE!**

**FALL FINDS & GOOD TIMES**

**TREASURES FROM A-Z**



# SPORTS

## PC Golf keeps rolling

PC junior Will Rackaway won medalist honors in a loaded River Ridge District field Monday at Draper Valley Golf Club. Rackaway fired a 1-under-par 71 to capture first place in the second round of district competition.

Evan Singleton overcame two early double bogeys to steady the ship and card a solid 76. Senior Boone Blevins shot an 82, while sophomore Ethan Clark also posted an 82 to round out PC's scoring.

Coach Mark Hanks was proud of his team's effort.

"Really proud of Will. There are a lot of college-level players in our district, so to go out there and win medalist honors is quite an accomplishment. I continually tell him and Evan that they are as good as anyone around, and they both have started the season out proving it. That was Ethan's first varsity match, so a real solid effort from that sixth spot in our lineup."

Hanks said the team's expectations remain high despite finishing fifth.

"Overall, our guys thought this was a match they should have won, and I'm glad they have those expectations. Hopefully, it will fuel the flames a little, and they will put in that little extra time that it will take to reach our goals."

Blacksburg won the team competition with a 299, followed by Hidden Valley at 302, Salem at 303, Cave Spring at 307, Pulaski County at 311, Patrick Henry at 313 and Christiansburg at 321.

The Cougars will play Auburn Hills on Monday in the third leg of the district competition.



Joey Logano, driver of the #22 Shell-Pennzoil Ford, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series Window World 450 at North Wilkesboro Speedway on July 19, 2026 in North Wilkesboro, North Carolina. (Photo by Meg Oliphant/Getty Images)

## Logano's summer surge reshapes Cup title race

By HOLLY CAIN  
NASCAR Wire Service

RICHMOND, Va. – While so much of the early season NASCAR Cup Series championship storyline centered on the apparent runaway opportunity for 23XI Racing's Tyler Reddick and Joe Gibbs Racing's Denny Hamlin to a first title, as the regular season winds down subplots arise and new characters have arrived changing the competitive outlook.

Only two races remain to set the 16-driver field for the 10-race Chase to award the 2026 trophy. Up next is the New Hampshire Motor Speedway mile hosting Sunday's Dollar

Tree 301 (3 p.m. ET on USA Network, PRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio).

Certainly, Saturday night under the Richmond Raceway bright lights and sold-out grandstands, a certain three-time series champion reminded again that he is absolutely among those ready to prove this title is still very much up for grabs.

Race winner Joey Logano's win was a strong statement on a number of levels – and his resiliency this season is indicative of the strength of this championship field and a lesson in never counting out anyone – especially one of the most successful drivers on one of the most heralded organiza-

tions in Team Penske.

After suffering through the worst early season tenure in his sure-bet NASCAR Hall of Fame career, Logano has two wins and made up nine positions in the championship standings in just the last six race weekends. His win at Richmond moves him into ninth place in the standings and he's only a single point behind reigning series champ Kyle Larson in eighth place; only 36 points off sixth place Chase Elliott.

The way his No. 22 Team Penske Ford team has been performing this summer, it's hard to believe Logano was ranked a season-low 20th

See LOGANO, page B4



GUNS & CORNBREAD

## Time to get back to the squirrel woods

Bo the Brown Dog came over to me this morning during our coffee time and nudged me. I knew he was going to remind me of something I had forgotten. (I know, hard to believe) With only a slightly condescending tone he said, "You know it's time to remind everyone that they should be squirrel hunting, right?" Bo tolerates the whole squirrel thing only because he knows it is important to me and we have a squirrel dog in the house. (Abby, the Mountain Cur)

Bo, you see, barely tolerates us squirrel hunting. When he and Abby are together in the woods for a run he will chase the occasional squirrel with Abby, but only to be polite. He will go to the tree but will not stand and bark like a good squirrel dog. He leaves all that to Abby and stays around the area, again just to be polite. Bo really figures this is all a waste of time when we could be chasing something much more important, that is turkeys.

So, at his behest, and we have talked about this before, you really should be out there squirrel hunting. Squirrel hunting teaches us all the basics of hunting in general and hones our skills if we are experienced hunters.

Once upon a time most all hunters east of the Big Muddy started out squirrel hunting. It was a rite of passage when the young or the new hunter took their first squirrel. Lessons in how to get through the woods, staying quiet, reading sign of the game we are after, stalking, and waiting for the right shot is all there. In recent years many young hunters have gone directly to deer and turkeys. Don't get me wrong, that is OK but I still think many are missing a valuable link into the hunting world and this leads to some of us missing a great hunting opportunity in its own right.

Traditionally squirrels were the first thing we hunt in the fall. Some may have followed this pursuit because it was the only hunting game in town at the time, to others it was the big show, what they had waited for since last year. I would me remiss if I didn't say here that a big part of this was collecting a good "mess" of squirrels for the table. Eating squirrels? Yes! For all of those new to this, I will repeat. If you haven't figured out that properly prepared squirrels is one of the tastiest kinds of wild game, you are missing out. (More on this in a minute)

I have to mention here we are talking about two different ways of chasing bushytails. One is the traditional method of quietly moving through the woods stalking and or waiting on Mr. squirrel to appear. (In many areas known as "slip" hunting) This is where the hunter learns the lessons of walking soundlessly and being a sniper. I have heard more than one deer and elk guide say many excellent hunters which they have guided started out on squirrels. That is a great testimony to the worth of learning on squirrels.

The other main category in the squirrel world is hunting squirrels with dogs. This is a very different way to hunt them. In general the hunters follow a good squirrel dog through the woods. The dog finds a squirrel track and follows it by scent and or spots a squirrel by sight and puts him up a tree. The dog barks on the tree showing the hunter where the squirrel will be. Sometimes it is den tree and the hunter calls the dog off the tree and goes to look for another. ("In a hole!" and "Can't get him!") are traditional commands) Once at the tree it is not a sure thing the hunter will collect the

See CASE, page B4

## Rest easy, Da Mick!

This past Sunday, the New River Valley lost a friendly and familiar voice, and I lost a good friend. Pastor Thomas McCue, aka "Da Mick" passed away after a long battle with various health issues. Tom was the epitome of a transplanted New York City resident dropping into our beloved community, and even though it may not have seemed like it at the time, he ended up fitting like a glove. The only passion that

rivalled Tom's love for God, his family, and the New York Yankees, was his propensity of talking loud and proud about whatever opinion came across his consciousness in the moment.

Da Mick, as he would have surely asked to be referred in this column, answered his Godly calling to take over as pastor of Faith Baptist Church in Christiansburg, where I attended with my parents. Every



'Big Dawg Barks'  
By Rick Watson  
for The Patriot

Sunday morning, we talked about sports quite regularly before and after the service and he would complement me on being able to debate so many sports and recall their history. We quickly developed a friendship, and Da Mick would eventually serve as the officiant of my first wedding.

As I recall the story of his New York origins, Da Mick quite frequently found himself on the wrong side of the law throughout his youth. He even dabbled in a relationship with the mafia as a designated "leg

breaker" to help collect debts. By his own words, "I was a bad seed without direction and was always looking for trouble". He then started going to church by the prompting of his family and his life made a miraculous turn after he became a devout Christian. A natural public speaker with enough charisma to fill an empty baseball stadium, Da Mick was very comfortable in the pulpit after becoming a pastor, emphasizing his weekly sermon with one hand while holding the Holy Bible in the other.

A lifelong and avid New York Yankees fan and as you may have guessed by his moniker, Da Mick's baseball hero was #7- Mickey Mantle. He told me he always tuned into my radio show, during Big Dawg Sports Talk's first inception in the early 2000's and we

See WATSON, page B4



**James Hardie**  
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Evan Singleton



Cougar junior Evan Singleton placed 2nd out of 42 golfers with a 71 last week as the Cougars tied Blacksburg, 297 to 297 for first place in the first River Ridge District golf match of the season.

For his efforts Singleton is this week's James Hardie Athlete of the Week.

If you have an athlete in mind to nominate for our weekly Athlete of the Week feature, send it to us at [pulaski@pcpatriot.com](mailto:pulaski@pcpatriot.com)



**Brad's**  
BARBER SHOP  
*A Traditional Men's Barber Shop*  
Brad Angell, Master Barber  
115 Third Avenue ✕ Radford, Virginia 24141  
540-838-2109



**SEMPER FI**  
Seamless Gutter,  
Painting & Staining  
Contractor

**Randal Morris**  
USMC Vet  
Owner Operator  
Licensed & Insured  
540-250-2288  
[semperfipaintingstaining@gmail.com](mailto:semperfipaintingstaining@gmail.com)  
Decks • Porches • Flooring • Pressure Washing



**Conrad Brothers**  
MARINE  
(540) 980-1575  
Boat Sales And Service  
Pontoon Rentals  
Ski Shop  
Serving Claytor Lake Since 1948



# CLASSIFIEDS & LEGALS

## LEGAL NOTICE

**TRUSTEE SALE OF  
5419 Forest Circle,  
Dublin, VA 24084**

In execution of the Deed of Trust dated June 10, 2024, in the original principal amount of \$206,196.00, recorded as Inst. 202401547, assigned as Inst. 202601971, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County of Pulaski, Virginia, default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured and at the request of the holder of the note, the undersigned, as Substitute Trustees, any of whom may act, will sell at public auction at the front entrance of the Circuit Court for the County of Pulaski on September 10, 2026, at 11:30 a.m., the property located at the above address and described as Lot 16, Twin Oak Estates, County of Pulaski. **TERMS: CASH. PROPERTY**

SOLD AS IS WITH SPECIAL WARRANTY OF TITLE. A deposit of \$20,000.00 or 10% of the successful bid amount (whichever is lower) will be required immediately of the successful bidder, in cashier's check or certified funds made payable to the purchaser and endorsed over to "DOLAN-REID PLLC, TRUSTEE", no personal checks accepted. Balance is due within 15 days from date of sale VIA BANK-WIRE ONLY. Sale is subject to post sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower filed for and obtained bankruptcy protection, entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, or if trustee is unable to complete the sale, or if it is set aside or not fully completed for any reason except purchaser's default, the sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the de-

posit without interest. Upon purchaser's default, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property resold at the risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, reservations and conditions, if any, of record, as well as inchoate liens and any other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises. Real estate taxes will be adjusted to the date of sale. All costs of conveyance, deed, examination of title, recording charges, grantor's tax and possession will be at the expense of the purchaser. All risks of casualty immediately pass to the successful bidder. Time is of the essence. Winning bidder must sign a memorandum of sale immediately upon completion of sale. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. Trustee's affidavit and a copy of the notice of sale available at the foreclosure sale. The opening bid is not announced until the sale. Current sale status available at [dolanreid.com/foreclosure-sales](http://dolanreid.com/foreclosure-sales). THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

**For Information Contact:  
DolanReid PLLC and P.  
Matthew Roberts, PLC and  
G. Benny Moore, Substitute  
Trustee(s)  
12610 Patrick Henry Dr.,  
Ste. D, Newport News, VA  
23602; (757) 320-0255, Ext.  
220 or Ext. 260**

## LEGAL NOTICE

**TRUSTEE'S SALE OF  
4451 SLOAN BRANCH  
ROAD,  
DRAPER, VA 24324**

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated July 8, 2011, in the original principal amount of \$167,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Pulaski County, Virginia as Instrument No. 110002184. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for the City of Radford, 619 Second St., W., Radford, VA, or any such temporary alternative Circuit

Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on October 19, 2026, at 12:15 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND, TOGETHER WITH THE EASEMENTS AND APPURTENANCES THEREUNTO BELONGING OR IN ANYWISE APPERTAINING THERETO, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING ON THE WATERS OF CLAYTOR LAKE BEING ALL OF LOT 2 AS SHOWN ON A PLAT DATED FEBRUARY 2, 1975, AND ENTITLED "MAP OF WATERFRONT FARMS", PREPARED BY R. LLOYD MATHEWS, REGISTERED SURVEYOR, AND OF RECORD IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF PULASKI, VIRGINIA IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 51, AND REFERENCE IS HEREBY MADE TO SAID PLAT OF SURVEY FOR A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY.

**TERMS OF SALE:** ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at [www.aldridgepite.com](http://www.aldridgepite.com). Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale elec-

tronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation.

Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Virginia Pre-Sale Department of counsel for Equity Trustees, LLC at 301-961-6555, website: [www.aldridgepite.com](http://www.aldridgepite.com). VA-384966-1.

## LEGAL NOTICE

**TRUSTEE'S SALE OF  
1311 HOPKINS DRIVE,  
PULASKI, VA 24301**

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated November 15, 2023, in the original principal amount of \$232,707.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Pulaski County, Virginia as Instrument No. 202303260. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for the City of Radford, 619 Second St., W., Radford, VA, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on October 19, 2026, at 12:15 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH ALL IMPROVEMENTS THEREON AND APPURTENANCES THEREUNTO BELONGING, SITUATE, LYING AND IN THE TOWN OF PULASKI, MASSIE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, PULASKI COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: BEING ALL OF LOT NUMBER TWENTY-FOUR (24) ON A PLAT ENTITLED "MACGILL WOODS SUB. DIV. MAP NO. 4" DATED NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1969, PREPARED BY HAROLD L. LOUTHEN, C.L.S. OF RECORD IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PULASKI COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 182, TOGETHER WITH THE CERTIFICATE OF SUBDIVISION DATED MAY 6, 1970, OF RECORD IN THE AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE IN DEED BOOK 260, PAGE 28.

**TERMS OF SALE:** ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at [www.aldridgepite.com](http://www.aldridgepite.com). Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Virginia Pre-Sale Department of counsel for Equity Trustees, LLC at 301-961-6555, website: [www.aldridgepite.com](http://www.aldridgepite.com). VA-385075-1.

## LEGAL NOTICE



### ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP

The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Christiansburg Residency which includes the counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski during the winter of 2026-2027. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and **may be eligible to receive a bonus payment and a minimum guaranteed payment for the season.**

Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at <https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov>. All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (<https://eva.virginia.gov>).

Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 18, 2026 may be eligible for a bonus payment. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements.

Questions can be directed to the Christiansburg Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday – Friday. Phone: 540-381-7201  
Email: [SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov)

EEO/AA Employer

## LEGAL NOTICE

### THE NRV MPO SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT FOR THE NRV PASSENGER RAIL STATION PEDESTRIAN, BICYCLE, AND TRANSIT CONNECTIVITY STUDY

Find out about study progress and potential pedestrian, bicycle, and transit connectivity improvements to access the NRV Passenger Rail Station in Christiansburg. The meeting will be held at the Town of Christiansburg's Town Hall, in the Council Chambers, located on the second floor at 100 East Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 on Thursday, August 27, 2026, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. In addition to the in-person meeting, public meeting materials will be posted by Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup> on the New River Valley MPO's website at [www.newrivervalleympo.org](http://www.newrivervalleympo.org). They will also be available for review at the office of the New River Valley MPO. **Please give your written comments** at the meeting or submit them via USPS to the NRV MPO's office, located at 755 Roanoke St. Ste. 21, Christiansburg, VA 24073. You may also e-mail your comments to [nrvstudy@rkk.com](mailto:nrvstudy@rkk.com). Comments for this study will be received until 5:00 PM, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026.



This public notice and opportunity to comment on the NRV Passenger Rail Station Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Transit Study meets the program of projects requirements as established by the FTA pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 5307(c).

The NRV MPO ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Dan Brugh at: [brughjd@montgomerycountyyva.gov](mailto:brughjd@montgomerycountyyva.gov) or 540-394-2145, TTY/TTD 711.

## LEGAL NOTICE



### Public Notice Pulaski County Board of Supervisors

The Pulaski County Board of Supervisors intends to hold a Public Hearing beginning at 7:00 p.m., or soon thereafter as can be heard, on Monday, August 24, 2026, in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street N.W., in the Town of Pulaski to receive citizens' comments on the following matter:

- Proposed amendments to the Capital Improvements Fund of \$2,796,549.54, General Fund of \$675,291.18, and the Internal Service fund of \$161,415.46 to the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Pursuant to Virginia Code §15.2-2507
- Proposed amendment to the School Capital Project Fund of \$4,935,529.16 to the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Pursuant to Virginia Code §15.2-2507

Comments may be presented orally or in writing via mail to County Administration, 143 Third Street N.W., Suite 1, Pulaski, Virginia 24301; fax (540-980-7717), or e-mail to [bos@pulaskicounty.org](mailto:bos@pulaskicounty.org). Copies of the proposed amendments are available for public inspection from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, NW, in the Town of Pulaski or by phoning (540) 980-7705.

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





Neighborhood yard sale at Meadowlark Place, Dublin. Saturday, Aug. 29 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Garage sale 1225 Allison Lane, Pulaski Saturday, August 22nd, 8:00 til 2:00 and Sunday, August 23rd 9:00 till 1:00. Most of what is left will be half price on Sunday. Women's clothes size 8 to 18. Men's size 2XL shirts 36 jeans, All clothing NWT, NWOT and gently used. Women's shoes and boots size 11, Lots of Halloween decorations. Harley items, gnome crafts, hand knits left over from craft sale. NEW fall and Christmas floral \$1 and \$2 a stem. Nice yarn, full skeins and partial skeins, maple bookcases (need refinishing). New total fit gym with all accessories, list 1200.00 selling for 600.00. Cash, Cash app and venmo.

Yard sale on Aug. 22 at Shiloh Christian Church, Pulaski. Come and see what we have and browse at the multi-family yard sale. And will also have cookies for breakfast set up with baked goods.

3 Family Yard Sale on Oakhurst Ave., Pulaski on Saturday, August 22 from 8 am till ? Watch for signs.

Multi-Family YARD SALE: Saturday, August 22, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. 3734 Morehead Lane, Pulaski. Clothes, household items, boys and girls clothing, floor lamp from the old Radford Hospital and more.

Yard sale at St. Jude Catholic Church, 1470 Tyler Ave., Christiansburg on August 23 - 7 am to 2 pm. Breakfast and lunch served, bake sale and canned goods.

St. Jude's yard sale: August 22, 2026 from 7am to 2 pm. At 1740 Tyler Ave., Christians-

burg.

Yard sale: Inside – outside at 7240 Lilly Dell Circle, Dublin. Saturday, Aug. 29, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Antique furniture, clothes, household items and more.

#### CRAFT/VENDOR/YARD SALE

ROCKFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH  
6867 VISCOE ROAD  
FAIRLAWN, VA 24141

SEPTEMBER 19, 2026  
HOURS:  
9:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

POINT OF CONTACT:  
MARY BRITT  
Phone: 540-616-6684  
E-Mail:  
Smile4u1224@gmail.com

UNDER SHELTER – TABLE PROVIDED \$30

WITH ELECTRICITY \$35

(Limited number of tables)

OUTSIDE (MUST PROVIDE OWN TABLES/TENTS/ CHAIRS) \$25

Must request registration form and mail back with fee payment.  
Fees are nonrefundable.

Hot dogs with homemade chili, chips and drinks available for donations.

Baked goods for sale.

#### TRUCKS FOR SALE

For Sale: 2007 Dodge Ram 1500 truk, red, straight shift, excellent condition 6-speed. \$10,000. To see and test drive, call Charles 540-616-6400 or 540-616-5200.

#### MOTORCYCLES FOR SALE

For Sale: 2008 Suzuki Boulevard C50T, 800 cc, garage kept, in excellent condition, in Draper. Asking \$3,500. Call 304-800-6086 or 540-980-2050.

#### VANS FOR SALE

For Sale: 2014 Dodge Caravan SXT. Runs good, interior good, new battery with tow hitch and electric lift. Approximately 122,000 miles. \$6,500. Call 540-808-8515.

#### TRAILER FOR SALE

Trailer and lot for sale. 4848 Clark Ferry Road, Draper, Va. \$45,000. Call 910-389-9848.

#### POSITION WANTED

Looking for help around the house? I have experience. Can help with cleaning, caregiving, anything. Flexible hours. Call 540-739-0247. Pulaski only.

#### HELP WANTED

Need a House Cleaner: Looking for someone trustworthy to do a full deep clean, then regular weekly or bi-weekly cleanings. Good pay for the right person. Call 540-980-5511.

#### FOR SALE: MISCELLANEOUS

For Sale: Brand new Trane Run Tru, 4-ton air handler, A4A-H5E4911C30AA, \$850.00, retails for \$1,700 approximately. Also, brand new Siemens 1200 amp, 4-gang position (125A branch) Ringless 1 phase, 4 jaw meter stack, model number WMM41125R, \$750.00, retails for \$1,500. Call 540-250-2934 or 540-674-4548.

For Sale: Handmade quilts, \$20 each. 1018 Wilson Avenue, Pulaski. Call 540-616-0361.

For sale: Dining table and four chairs. \$40. Call 540-230-4562.

For sale: Three rods and reels, table saw (\$100), 40-foot ladder, \$100, two 10-foot ladders, \$5 each; 6x6 metal shelves, \$15 each. Call 540-239-1471.

For sale: Two boxes of Kirkland baby diapers – fit up to 14 lbs., 192 in each box. New Under Armor book bag, several pet cages and several pieces of furniture.

For Sale: Donut spare tire, four-lug hole, Ford, T12580R15, \$30. Five curved bits for horses and one snaffle bit, 5 inches wide. \$5 each. Water service pipe, black, 1 inch inside diameter, tested 150 lb. psi, two pieces, 30 and 40 feet, \$40 for both. Swimming pool – 10 foot diameter circle, 30 inches tall, great condition in box, \$50. Call 540-307-5388.

For Sale: Canning jars, round kitchen table (\$25), plastic storage drawers, mini wire pet cages. Call 540-230-5386. 08-21-26

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

**Call  
540-808-3949**

## LEGAL NOTICE



### Public Notice Pulaski County Planning Commission

The Pulaski County Planning Commission will host a public hearing to consider these applications for the Month of September. In accordance with the Code of Virginia, the Planning Commission will host a public hearing on this petition at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday September 8, 2026 in the Pulaski County Board Room at 143 3rd St. NW, in the Town of Pulaski to consider comments regarding the following applications;

1. Rezone submitted by Jeremy Hutchins on behalf of James Gregory, rezone a portion of tax map 045-003-0000-0005 from Low Density Residential (LR) to Commercial (C) located at 5775 Alum Spring Rd. Pulaski, VA 24301 Robinson District.
2. No Wake Buoy Application, Code of Virginia 29.1-744: submitted by Chris Pfohl Tax Map #084-004-0000-018A, Izaak Walton League Rd. Hiwassee, VA 24347, Ingles District.
3. UDO Amendments to the Pulaski County Unified Development Ordinance in accordance with VA code 15.2-1433.

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

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

**REACH VIRGINIA**  
Commonwealth  
Media Solutions  
AD NETWORK

**GROW YOUR BUSINESS**  
**REACH OVER 1 MILLION**  
Virginia Readers Weekly  
Advertising Solutions starting at **\$330**  
Contact this newspaper today to get started.

#### AUCTIONS

ATTN. AUCTIONEERS: Promote your upcoming auctions statewide! Affordable Print and Digital Solutions reaching your target audience. Call this paper or Commonwealth Media Solutions 804-521-7570, advertising@commonwealthmediasolutions.com

#### HOME IMPROVEMENT

No more cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-877-614-6667 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Get 15% off your entire order. Plus, Military & Seniors get an additional 10% off. Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

Safe Step. North Americas #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-877-591-9950

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-844-947-1479 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military,

health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-844-902-4611

#### SERVICES

DIVORCE-Uncontested, \$525.00 + \$89.00 court cost. WILLS-\$295.00. No court appearance. Estimated completion time twenty-one days. Hilton Oliver, Attorney (Facebook). 757-490-0126. Se Habla Espanol. BBB Member. https://hiltonoliverattorneyva.com

Consumer Cellular - the same

reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-855-262-5564

We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-844-216-5028

**Woods River Realty, Inc.**  
Richard Jones, Broker & Appraiser  
113 Newbern Road  
Dublin, VA 24084  
**(540) 980-6602, 230-6602**

We list and sell homes, vacant land, industrial & commercial, Claytor Lake properties, appraisals for estates, trusts, loans, divorce.

**35+ Years Of Friendly Professional Service**  
**(540) 980-1117**

**Wayne McGlothlin, Broker 540-616-4587**  
**Pat Farmer 540-320-4698**

Corner of 5th Street & Washington Ave., Pulaski  
hometownpulaski@gmail.com

SERVICING THE ENTIRE NEW RIVER VALLEY & CLAYTOR LAKE  
RESIDENTIAL. COMMERCIAL. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT.

THINKING OF A CAREER CHANGE? COME WORK WITH THE HOMETOWN TEAM

**Stuart's Body Shop**  
Over 40 Years Experience • Free Estimates

**Richard Stuart**  
Owner/Manager  
PH: 540.980.2563  
Fax: 540.980.2634  
3421 Hilton Village Loop  
Pulaski, VA 24301  
stuartscollision@gmail.com

**GOODALL CONSTRUCTION**  
Class A Contractor  
#2705 114303A  
**JOHN GOODALL**  
OWNER

Custom Homes, Roofing, Remodeling, Electrical, Plumbing  
**FREE ESTIMATES**

Phone: 540-674-0294  
Mobile: 540-320-1294  
E-mail: jgoodall2@yahoo.com

In Business For 22 Years!

**Carolyn's**  
CLEANING SERVICES

Residential and Commercial cleaning in the New River Valley. Established and experienced cleaning service. Free estimates and will gladly provide references upon request. Please contact us today for all your cleaning needs.

• Home • Business • One-time  
• Weekly • Bi-weekly • Move In/Out  
plus Window & Carpet jobs  
**(540) 553-2937**  
Licensed and Insured

"Proudly Serving the New River Valley"



# Watson

Continued From Page B1

then decided that he should become a New York infused type of weekly on-air caller. Those conversations evolved to be quite popular with many other listeners and after we swapped more segment ideas, I asked Da Mick if he wanted to develop his call into an ongoing show segment. He accepted my offer eagerly and off we went, his calls as always were draped in that exaggerated New York accent, brash to the core sans all of the profanity.

We then developed a baseball segment that he always guided back to how superior his Yankees were to everyone else in baseball. One of Da Mick's dreams was to host his own sports show, and I was eager to give him the chance to scratch that itch. My out-of-town travels with RU basketball meant I needed a guest host on the show from time to time, and when I needed to make a call to the bullpen, Da Mick always grabbed the ball just like his modern Yankees hero, Mariano Rivera. He carried through the show naturally and callers enjoyed the cultural

contrast presented and were eager to throw out their Yankees jabs. Da Mick was glad to absorb and give the insults right back as the harmless back and forth became a staple of his show guest host appearances.

Da Mick also worked for the Radford Transit System as a driver, and he served as public address for high school and recreation league baseball games. His natural love of interacting with and meeting everyone was so genuine, one would begin a conversation and feel like they had known him their entire lives. The implanted New York City self-proclaimed "leg breaker" adored his new home in Southwest Virginia and in turn, he was revered by the community.

Peggy Scalera McCue and Thomas McCue Sr. were married for 54 years. Their journey led them from high school sweethearts in Danbury, Connecticut, to sharing four children, to adoring an entire baseball sized team of grandchildren. Peggy sent the message of Da Mick's passing to me last Sunday, just as the second half of my Radford women's soccer broadcast was starting. The couple had basketball season tickets for years, and not one home game passed where I didn't get a visit from Da Mick or a hug from Peggy. The reality that I never got to tell Tom what he had meant not only to the show, but to me as a friend overwhelmed me for a moment. Da Mick was no longer with us.

I will miss the seamless baseball and Yankees talk. I will miss the quick wit and big smile that always followed. But mostly, I will miss the true friendship that I shared with Thomas McCue Sr. As I went through a divorce, Tom was there offering the most respectful guidance as only a Pastor can deliver. He never overstepped his bounds and would always give me a call week to week to make sure that I was doing ok as a sudden single father of three. I am saddened knowing how much pain he excited this Earthly life with, but I know that he now resides pain free high above in that golden laced Yankees Stadium crafted by God. Da Mick my friend, one day we will meet again and, in the meantime, keep them all on their toes up there in heaven.

# Logano

Continued From Page B1

place in the standings in the first week of July. And now he stands a reasonable opportunity to high-gear it into title contention.

"We've been able to ride some momentum here right now," a smiling Logano said Saturday night after celebrating in Richmond's Victory Lane. "It's been a nice turnaround. We've been able to switch our goals from making the Chase to winning the championship. It's quite the turnaround in a month and a half's time or so."

And Logano's certainly not the only driver who has repositioned himself as a threat for the title.

Joe Gibbs Racing's Chase Briscoe, who kept Logano honest all night and actually led a race high 171 of the 400 laps to finish runner-up – earned his first career top 10 on a short track. As importantly, it gives Briscoe – who is ranked fifth in the championship – plenty of confidence heading into the Chase.

His JGR teammate Christopher Bell has also been on a summer surge. A week ago at

Iowa, he claimed his seventh runner-up finish and Saturday night, he led laps and finished seventh at Richmond for his sixth top-10 finish in the last seven races. He's seventh in the rankings.

Hendrick Motorsports had a similarly encouraging day for its title contenders with reigning series champ Kyle Larson getting back in the championship groove after an uncharacteristically "off" summer run. His sixth-place showing at Richmond was his first top-10 since the Sonoma, Calif. road course at the end of June.

Larson's teammates, Chase Elliott (fifth place) and William Byron (ninth) also had strong Richmond showings. It was Elliott's first top-10 in the last 11 races and only Byron's second top-10 in the last five races. They ranked sixth and 12th, respectively in the championship.

"Obviously it's not a win, but for how things have been going the last few months, it feels nice to just have a really solid night and hopefully we can get things rolling in the right direction," the 2020 series champion Elliott said. "There's been a lot of hard work put in across the board; everyone on this No. 9 Chevrolet team and Hendrick Motorsports. I appreciate that

effort. Everyone shows up with it each week, even after a bad day, so hopefully we can get things rolling here."

Of course, not to be overlooked – or underestimated – were Hamlin and Reddick who reminded Saturday at Richmond that they are up for the challenges coming their way. Hamlin, who holds a massive 115-point edge over Penske's Ryan Blaney atop the championship, finished fourth at his home track, Richmond – his fifth top-five finish in the last six races.

And for Reddick, who won five of the season's opening nine races including the DAYTONA 500, an 11th-place finish and laps led at Richmond was a timely resurgence after an excruciating summer run that's included five finishes of 25th or worse in the last eight races. He's still ranked fourth with two races to go before the points are reset for the 2026 Chase run.

Opening practice at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway mile is set for Saturday at 10:30 a.m. ET, followed by Busch Light Pole Qualifying at 11:35 a.m. ET. Logano is the defending pole-winner and Blaney the defending race winner.

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING Gets Results!**

**www.pcpatriot.com**

**540-808-3949 or ads@pcpatriot.com**

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

**Call 540-808-3949**

## THIS WEEK IN NASCAR

**NASCAR Cup Series**  
Next Race: Dollar Tree 301  
The Place: New Hampshire Motor Speedway  
Track Length: 1.058 Mile Asphalt Oval  
The Date: Sunday, August 23  
The Time: 3 p.m. ET  
The Purse: \$11,233,037  
TV: USA, 2:30 p.m. ET  
Radio: PRN, SiriusXM NASCAR (Channel 90)  
Distance: 318.46 miles (301 Laps); Stage 1 (Ends on Lap 70), Stage 2 (Ends on Lap 185), Final Stage (Ends on Lap 301)

**NASCAR O'Reilly Auto Parts Series**  
Next Race: Winn Dixie 250  
Powered by Coca-Cola  
The Place: Daytona International Speedway  
Track Length: 2.5 Mile Asphalt Oval  
The Date: Friday, August 28  
The Time: 7:30 p.m. ET  
The Purse: \$1,661,806  
TV: CW, 7 p.m. ET  
Radio: MRN, SiriusXM NASCAR (Channel 90)  
Distance: 250 miles (100 Laps);

Stage 1 (Ends on Lap 30), Stage 2 (Ends on Lap 60), Final Stage (Ends on Lap 100)

**NASCAR CRAFTSMAN Truck Series**  
Next Race: Team EJP 175  
The Place: New Hampshire Motor Speedway  
Track Length: 1.058 Mile Asphalt Oval

The Date: Saturday, August 22  
The Time: 1:30 p.m. ET  
The Purse: \$789,700  
TV: FS1, 12 p.m. ET  
Radio: NRN, SiriusXM NASCAR (Channel 90)  
Distance: 185.15 miles (175 Laps); Stage 1 (Ends on Lap 55), Stage 2 (Ends on Lap 110), Final Stage (Ends on Lap 175)

# Case

Continued From Page B1

squirrel. Sometimes the squirrel "timbers", runs off through the treetops and escapes the hunting party. Sometimes the dogs will watch this and follow to the next tree. It is all part of hunting.

As I have said more than twice, hunting with a squirrel dog is a ton of fun and may be the very best way to start any hunter, young or otherwise, into the hunting world. Kids don't have to quiet, and there are no interminable waits to sit still. It is very safe as the squirrel gun doesn't even need to be loaded until you get to the tree and the squirrel is spotted. On top of all this everyone enjoys watching a couple lively squirrel dogs doing their job. Many dogs soon learn to grab onto and shake grape vines (to make the squirrel move in the tree) if they are growing on the tree in question! Watching a determined cur or fiest dog or even a common mixed up farm dog (who are often great squirrel dogs) growling and pulling on grape vines is big fun!

Ok, before I run out of time here I said something about sitting down to a big squirrel dinner. There are dozens of ways to prepare squirrels for the table. A

quick search on your world wide web will give you lots of ideas. Conventionally many prepare their squirrels by cleaning them well, separating them into pieces of four legs and the back. These are parboiled or pressure cooked to get them tender. The pieces are taken from the pot (save the broth if you are making squirrel gravy) and rolled in your favorite flour type seasoning. The squirrels are then fried to a golden brown. This is my favorite way of eating squirrels, no doubt because my Mom fixed them this way. Try as I might I cannot get them to turn out as she did. Is it what we remember as a kid or it really different? I don't know. In essence most any recipe for chicken can be substituted with squirrels.

OK, maybe I have satisfied Bo and done my duty by reminding you to return to the squirrel woods. I can guarantee you will not be sorry. One quick note: I see comments all the time about the old time squirrel "camps" are a thing of the past. I kinda sorta do not understand this. I mean there are plenty of hunting camps still out there, right? Instead of going to camp for deer, you and your cohorts can go spend week squirrel hunting! Please consider this.

Tune up that old squirrel gun, the .22 rifle. Get out there and relive how much fun you had squirrel hunting. And don't forget to keep your guns clean, your knife sharp, and take a kid hunting!

**Larry Case**  
www.larryocase3@gmail.com  
www.gunsandcornbread.com

**Pulaski Drain Service and Plumbing Repairs**

**Water Heaters**  
**Dish Washers • Faucets**  
**Toilets • Drain Cleaning**  
**Repair & Replace**  
**Water & Sewer Lines**

**The Right Way, Right Away!**

**Reasonable Prices**  
**No Job Too Small**

**Call 540-998-1223**  
Experienced, Licensed & Insured

Remembering My Brother, David Allen

**Septic Pumping • Installs • Inspections**

*'A Flush Beats a Full House'*

**DOSS' SEPTIC SERVICE**  
Licensed and insured  
Servicing the NRV and surrounding areas  
**(540)320-4827**  
*Thank you for your continued support*

**800 Tables! Buy • Sell • Trade**

**RICHMOND GUN SHOW**  
**AUGUST 22 - 23**

**RICHMOND RACEWAY COMPLEX**  
600 E. Laburnum Ave., Richmond, VA 23222  
VA & UT Concealed Carry Class | Sat. or Sun.  
SUMMER SALE \$30 OFF USE CODE SB115  
(571) 237-9138 | firearmtrainingstore.com

GET YOUR GUNS WHILE YOU STILL CAN!  
\$1 Off One Adult Admission

540-951-1344 | info@showmastersgunshows.com | ShowmastersGunShows.com

**Reach Over 1 Million Readers With This Ad!**

No other media offers the audience of loyal, local, repeat readers you'll reach through community newspapers! We can target your message, statewide or regional.

Let Commonwealth Media Solutions do all the work for you at a discounted cost.

**Reach Virginia**

**Contact Kelly McCauley**  
**(804) 521-7580**

**Commonwealth Media Solutions**



# PC basketball prepares for future with RU experience

RADFORD — The Pulaski County Boys Basketball Program partnered with Radford University’s Student Recreation and Wellness team to give student-athletes an unforgettable campus experience on Wednesday, August 12.

The busy day started with a team lunch at Dalton Dining Services. Next, the players toured the new, state-of-the-art E-Sports Gaming facility in Peters Hall, which stands as the third-largest gaming venue in the nation. The Cougars then shifted focus to higher education with a presentation from the Office of Admissions, a guided campus tour, and some practice time on the basketball courts at the Rec. and Wellness Center.

The student-athletes thoroughly enjoyed the visit. Many noted they had no idea Radford offered such amazing facilities and diverse majors. One student highlighted RU’s partnership with New River Community College, which allows for a seamless transfer plan.

“We are thrilled to have you all here on campus,” said D.J. Preston, Director of Student Recreation and Wellness. “We are rooting for you all and know that we are here to support you. Let Radford University be your next home when thinking of pursuing higher education.”

The event left a lasting impression on the coaching staff. “I think our RU trip had a tremendous impact on our young players as most have 2-3 years of high school left,” Head Coach Anthony Akers stated. “I feel it’s extremely beneficial for them to see this early so they can begin thinking about a path for their future. Having RU so close and able to graciously host us has a great impact on these student-athletes.”

Coach Akers added that the community is blessed to have a remarkable university offering top-tier educational and recreational experiences right in its backyard.

Assistant Coach Rasheeh Jackson agreed that the visit offered a true taste of college life.

“Radford University was incredibly hospitable to us,” Coach Jackson stated. “They went above and beyond to show us love, and we truly appreciate it! Take advantage of your time, young men. Most of these guys I’ve known since they were little because my son has played with or against them since kindergarten. Now, I get to watch these



young men grow into young adults and take the next step in their college journey. Time is precious. Enjoy every moment, make the most of every opportunity, and cherish these memories. You don’t get this time back.”

The opportunity to plan

ahead remains a core goal for the local school system.

“The ability to offer our student-athletes different experiences that plan for their future is invaluable,” said Assistant Coach Jerome Thomas. “For them to start thinking about

their futures after basketball is very important to our coaching staff and Pulaski County Public Schools. Being aligned and partnered with our neighbors here at Radford University allows for those dreams of attaining higher ed-

ucation to become more of a reality.”

The coaching staff expressed deep gratitude to the Highlander Family for welcoming the team with immense warmth and hospitality.



Mail Delivery  
Subscriptions  
Starting At  
\$15 for 3 Months!!



## VALLEY AUCTIONS

**Online Now - Closing August 22 Multi-Estate Auction**  
Don’t miss this collection of furniture, glassware, cast iron, postcards, Jadeite, Case knives, coins, Sterling, jewelry, crocks, tools, gas pumps, advertising, baskets, stained glass and much more!

**Online Soon - Closing August 29 Back Country Auction**  
More outdoor clothing, bikes, coolers, generators, & more

**Online Now - Closing September 12 Super Toy Auction**  
featuring 1970’s vintage graded Star Wars figures, play sets, and vehicles along with vintage graded G.I. Joe figures, vehicles, Transformers & more!

**Preview 9:00am - 5:00pm, Monday-Friday, or by appt.**

**We specialize in Real Estate, Firearms, Coins, Antiques, Estates, Collectibles, Heavy Equipment, & Personal Property**  
**5351 Wilderness Road, Dublin, VA**  
**540-674-4771**  
**info@valleyauctionsllc.com**  
**VA Firm # 1032**



## OK Barber Shop



**321 East Main Street, Pulaski**  
**540-994-0231**  
**Open 6 a.m.-5:30; Saturday 6 a.m.-4 p.m.**  
**Closed Wednesday and Sunday**

## New River Valley Medicine

6051 Belspring Road  
Fairlawn, VA 24141  
[www.nrvvm.org](http://www.nrvvm.org)  
540-509-5443  
Conveniently located near Rt 114 in Fairlawn



### Urgent Care

- Walk-in visits- no appt needed
- Convenient hours
- On-site laboratory services- Quest
- Fast treatment-ages 3 and up
- Minor illnesses and injuries
- X-rays at local facilities
- Rapid Testing and Vaccines
- Self-Pay Accepted
- Most Insurance Accepted including Virginia Medicaid (Aetna out of network)



### Primary Care

- Treatment for Ages 11 and older
- Comprehensive Care Provided
- Walk-in visits Monday to Friday
- 24/7 Team for Urgent Needs
- Specialized Programs for Complex Diseases
- Dedication to Lowering Healthcare Costs with Thoughtful Treatment and Prevention
- Most Insurance Plans Accepted including Aetna (NOT participating with any Medicaid plans)



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Town of Pulaski, VA is looking for volunteers for the following boards:

- PLANNING COMMISSION
- ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD (ARB)
- BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (BZA)
- BUILDING CODE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD

MORE INFO AT [WWW.PULASKITOWN.ORG](http://WWW.PULASKITOWN.ORG) OR CONTACT OLIVIA HALE, CLERK OF COUNCIL, AT 540-994-8602/ [OHALE@PULASKITOWN.ORG](mailto:OHALE@PULASKITOWN.ORG)





# First Bank & Trust leads Pack the Bus success

Pack the Bus campaigns have been a mainstay for acquiring school supplies for children returning to their classrooms in the fall.

Now in it's ninth year serving as a collection point in Fairlawn, First Bank & Trust Company has collected 5,600 school supply items to be donated to students attending Pulaski County Schools.

In addition to the school supplies, First Bank & Trust donated \$2,500 to benefit Pulaski County schools.

The donated school supplies are generally for every grade level from K-12, but some communities target specific grades such as elementary school (K-5) or middle school grades; depending on where the greatest needs are in the local area. Parents can contact their child's school office or school counselor before the school year begins to ask how to receive these donated backpacks and items.

Taylor Ritter, Branch Operations Supervisor for Fairlawn First Bank & Trust, served as the point person for this year's Pack The Bus school supply donations in Fairlawn. The successful Pack the Bus campaign began on June 1st and concluded on July 31st, 2026. She said that a former branch



The 2026 Fairlawn Pack the Bus campaign collected a record number of school supply items to be distributed to students returning to school this fall in Pulaski County. “Now in its ninth year serving as the collection point in Fairlawn, First Bank & Trust Company has collected 5,600 school supplies to be donated to students attending Pulaski County Schools. In addition to the school supplies, First Bank & Trust donated \$2,500 to Pulaski County schools. Pictured are First Bank & Trust’s Katherine Kelley (left) and Taylor Ritter (right).

manager, now retired, saw the need and started the Fairlawn Pack the Bus campaign nine years ago.

“At First Bank & Trust Company, we believe in the power of community and the importance of education.

That’s why we were thrilled to be part of the 9th Annual Fairlawn Pack the Bus event,” acknowledged Ritter.

The school bus was on loan from Pulaski County School District to First Bank & Trust Company, located

at 7305 Peppers Ferry Blvd. School supply donations were received during bank business hours; Monday - Friday 8:30a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Once the supplies were collected, they were packed up and delivered to the Pulaski

County School Board, who distributed the supplies where needed across the county.

Pack the Bus school supplies collected in Fairlawn for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year include:

- Loose Leaf Notebook Paper
- #2 Pencils & Ink Pens
- Glue Sticks & Rulers
- Index Cards
- Tissues
- Sanitizing Wipes
- Individual Water Bottles
- Book bags for all ages K-12
- Spiral Notebooks
- Crayons
- Colored Pencils
- Hand Sanitizer
- Pencil Pouch
- Erasers
- 3 Ring Binders (all sizes)
- Scissors
- Dry Erase Markers
- Clear Protector Sheets (for 3 Ring Binders)
- Wired Ear Buds
- Composition Notebooks
- Pocket Folders

“As a company deeply rooted in the communities we serve, we’re committed to supporting local students and families. We want to thank everyone who participated in our mission to ensure that every child has the tools they need to thrive in the 2026-2027 school year and beyond,” stated Ritter.

# Firefighters’ union censures Virginia governor

By SHIRLEEN GUERRA

(The Center Square) – A national firefighters union has censured Virginia’s governor over her veto of legislation that would have expanded collective bargaining rights for public employees.

Delegates to the International Association of Fire Fighters voted unanimously Wednesday to approve the censure during the union’s convention in Arlington, Texas. The resolution was submitted by the Virginia Professional Fire Fighters, which represents more than 11,000 firefighters, emergency medical workers and 911 communica-

tions officers across the Commonwealth.

The dispute centers on House Bill 1263 and Senate Bill 378, which passed the General Assembly earlier this year and would have created a statewide collective bargaining system covering many state and local public employees.

Gov. Abigail Spanberger supported expanding collective bargaining but sought changes to the bill before vetoing it in May.

Her amendments would have delayed implementation of the new system for local governments until Jan. 1, 2030, while making other changes aimed at addressing concerns raised by

local governments.

Lawmakers rejected the amendments in April and returned the legislation to its original form.

“I support establishing collective bargaining rights for public sector employees,” Spanberger said in her veto explanation. She said additional changes were needed to create a system that was “strong, feasible, durable.”

The veto drew criticism from labor groups that had supported Spanberger during her campaign. The firefighters union says she failed to follow through on commitments made to public safety workers.

The IAFF said it will oppose

Spanberger in future federal or national political endeavors unless she takes what the union considers meaningful action to establish collective bargaining rights for Virginia firefighters and emergency medical workers.

Kurt Detrick, president of the Virginia Professional Fire Fighters, said the organization remains willing to work with Spanberger and would retract the censure if legislation is enacted.

The legislation also faced significant opposition from local governments.

The Virginia Association of

Counties said roughly 70% of Virginia counties passed resolutions opposing the bills. The group argued the legislation would limit local decision-making, create new administrative and fiscal obligations and give a state Public Employee Relations Board authority over local labor relations.

VACo urged Spanberger to veto the legislation after lawmakers rejected her amendments.

Virginia law currently allows local governments to choose whether to authorize collective bargaining with their employees.



## OLD LOVED RESCUED

10,000 SQFT  
Come take a stroll  
down memory lane  
Or as some say  
The Good Ole Days!

### ANTIQUE SHED

antique-shed.com  
antiqueshed2728@gmail.com

ANTIQUES  
VINTAGE  
PRIMITIVE  
FURNITURE  
HOME DECOR

112 Trade Circle, Dublin Va 24084  
1-540-641-2619 & 1-540-641-2620

Antiques  
From  
A-Z And  
More!

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

Accepting Vendors

Come See Us Soon

Open 7 Days A Week ... Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. & Sundays 1-5 p.m.



## Let us help care for your loved one.

New Group Home  
Opening  
August 1, 2026  
in Pulaski, VA

Licensed and Insured

### WE OFFER

- Bathing
- Grooming
- Toileting
- Meal Preparation
- Laundry
- Light Housekeeping
- Errands
- Companionship

### WE SERVICE

- Floyd County
- Pulaski County
- Bland County
- Giles County
- Carroll County
- Wythe County
- New River Valley

Private Pay  
or Some  
long term  
insurance is  
accepted.

Hope W. Reeves  
Owner/Operator

540-230-4354  
lovebyhopellc2024@gmail.com

ACCREDITED  
BUSINESS  
BBB

"We are in the  
quality-of-life business."

86 E. Main St., Suite 200  
Pulaski, VA 24301

540-230-4354  
lovebyhopellc2024@gmail.com

# NRV

## Septic Tank Service

*We Are Still In Business Serving The New River Valley.  
We Have Experienced, Dependable Employees.  
We Get The Job Done At A Fair Price.*

*We Appreciate Your Business.  
Thank You!  
Mrs. Jack Horton*



Call  
540-980-2101



## T.A.'s Produce

Now in at T.A.'s Produce...

Blueberries and blackberries. Sweet peaches, cantaloupe and watermelon. Vine ripe tomatoes, Stripey, Cherokee Purple, German Pink Tomatoes. Half-runner green beans and Vidalia onions.

Canning tomatoes while supplies last!

Variety of mushrooms as well. Fresh delicious apples, citrus, grapes and sweet onions. We also have a variety of honey, jams and canned goods.

Now taking applications!

**We appreciate your business!**  
**540-674-4233**  
**107 Broad St.**  
**(Route 11) Dublin**  
**OPEN YEAR-ROUND!**



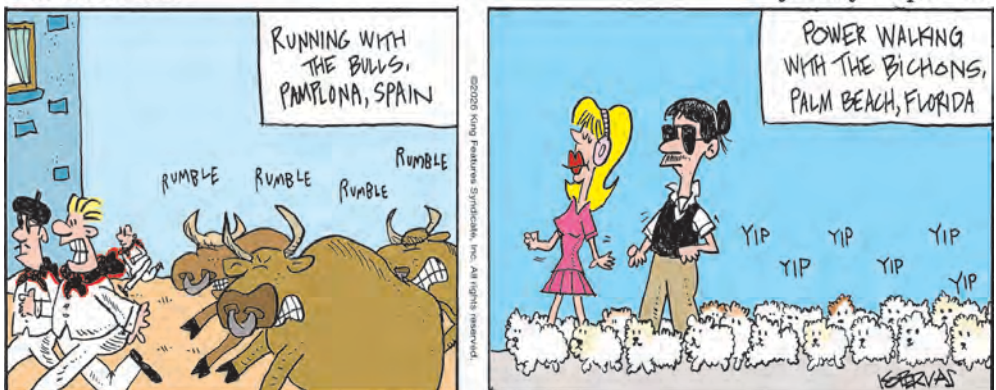
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



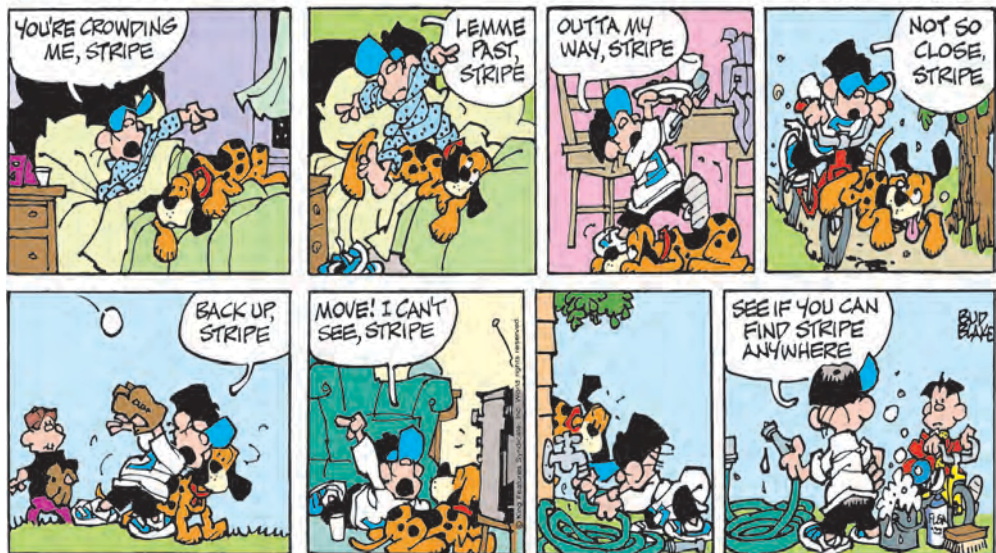
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



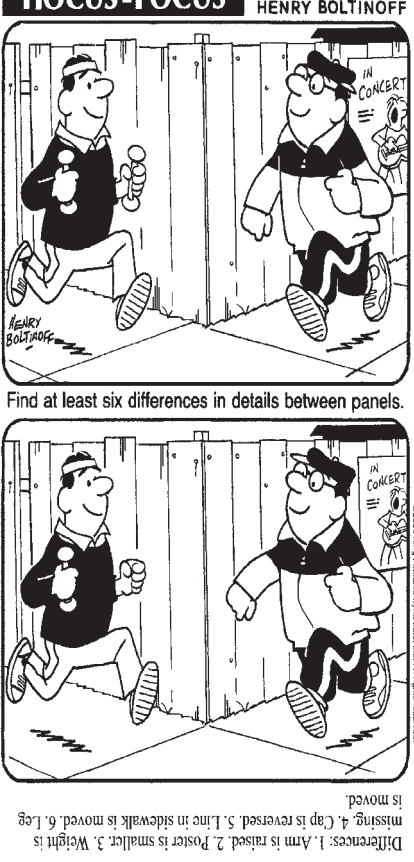
OLIVE & POPEYE

By Randy Milholland



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



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: L equals Y

EXFSXFHIG AF EXLA MKXM'Q  
XJJFAZHEXMGPL KXPTXL  
MAOXFV HMQ GZJHF XMHAI  
VXMG: EHVVP G-XSG QJFGXV.

©2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

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!

Alarm      
SNORES      
Ripe      
RUMATE      
Truth      
POGLES      
Heir      
ICONS

TODAY'S WORD

\_\_\_\_\_

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Layer  
4 Radiant  
9 Soup legume  
12 Dubai's country, for short  
13 Kin of "Presto!"  
14 Online chats, briefly  
15 Keyboard piece for two  
17 Impose  
18 Pained sounds  
19 Nobel-winning Mother  
21 "Hooray!"  
24 Story lines  
25 Hollywood's Gabor

- 26 Genetic stuff  
28 Nasser's successor  
31 Stinging insect  
33 Pop  
35 Arias for one  
36 Animal's nose  
38 Mexican Mrs.  
40 Teeny  
41 "Phooey!"  
43 Disney exec Michael  
45 1912 Olympic legend  
47 MGM motto start  
48 Tease  
49 Teen's formalwear

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|
| 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 |    |    |

- 54 Under the weather  
55 Perfume compound  
56 To and —  
57 Flamenco cheer  
58 Belittle  
59 Box office buys, slangily  
DOWN  
1 Young dog  
2 Chou En- —  
3 Pro vote  
4 Acknowledged  
5 Blessing  
6 Actress Lucy

- 7 "Get Here" singer Adams  
8 Tends the lawn  
9 Stops talking  
10 Flightless birds  
11 Hammett pooch  
16 M-Q connection  
20 Some HDTVs  
21 Evergreen trees  
22 Nobelist Pavlov  
23 Latin ballroom dance  
27 Small batteries  
29 Sheltered  
30 Wedding cake layer  
32 Kitten's sound  
34 Visionary  
37 Designated  
39 Put on a clothesline  
42 Succinct  
44 Lith., once  
45 Small combo  
46 Mound  
50 Non-Rx  
51 Newt  
52 — Lanka  
53 Boston squad, for short

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

Fun Fact

The Mariana Trench in the Pacific Ocean is over 1,500 miles long and almost 7 miles deep. Mankind has explored further and much more often into outer space than we have ever yet ventured into the Trench's very cold, very dark depths. Mount Everest would fit very comfortably down in it, and still have water above it.

Source: www.scientificamerican.com

© 2026 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- TELEVISION: Which musical instrument does Leonard play in "The Big Bang Theory"?
- MUSIC: In what year did the Woodstock music festival take place?
- MOVIES: Which horror movie features a character named Ellen Ripley?
- HISTORY: When did the French Revolution begin?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is carpaccio?
- U.S. STATES: How many states border Mexico?
- GAMES: How many wooden blocks are in the game of Jenga?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the longest mountain chain in the world?
- ART: Who painted the "Mona Lisa"?
- MATH: How many sides does a hexagon have?

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

LISTENS

Today's Word

1. Sensor 2. Mature  
Solution

SCRAMBLERS

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| F | R | A | M |
| C | R | E | A |
| S | C | A | R |
| C | A | K | E |
| T | A | C | K |
| S | T | I | C |

Solution

Americanisms



"The two things you can't fake are good food and good music."  
— Etta James

© 2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

CryptoQuip  
answer  
Margarine or mayo that's toward its expiration date: middle-age spread.

1. Cello
2. 1969
3. "Alien"
4. 1789
5. Thinly sliced raw meat or fish
6. Four: California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas
7. 54
8. The Andes in South America
9. Leonardo da Vinci
10. Six

Solution time: 22 mins.

Answers

— King Crossword —

Advertising Works! Call Us Today At 540-808-3949



# PULASKI COUNTY PULSE

DHS Class of '71

The Dublin Hugh School Class of 1971 will be holding a 55th Reunion on Saturday, August 29th, 2026, at the Dublin Alumni Shelter at Randolph Park in Dublin, Virginia. There will be a catered luncheon. We are in the process of trying to find and contact everyone who was in the class during any of our years in high school. Please call or text Gary W. Hughes at 540-239-2935 or email the committee at dhsreunion71@gmail.com for further information.

DAR

The Pulaski County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution meet every first

Monday at Wilderness Road Regional Museum in Newbern, Va. at 1 p.m. For more information contact Chapter Regent Suzanne Bledsoe at 276-733-9761. For aid with genealogical research for Revolutionary War ancestors, contact Elinor W. Farmer at 540-239-1601.

DHS Breakfast

The Dublin High School breakfast for DHS alumni and friends meets every first Wednesday at the Dublin Lions Club. Breakfast begins at 8:30 a.m. and the meeting starts at 9 a.m. Come enjoy good food, visiting and reminiscing about school days at DHS. For more information, contact Tom Spraker at 540-577-0772. Ballroom Dance in Hillsville.

Aug. 23

Homecoming

Please join us for Homecoming at Memorial Christian Church in Draper on Sunday, August 23, at 11:00 AM. The event will feature singing by The Redeemer's, with lunch to follow. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Aug. 26

Revival

Pulaski Christian Church will hold revival starting Wednesday, August 26 - Saturday, August 29. 7 pm Wednesday-Friday, and noon on Saturday. Henry Brickley, the Christian rap artist, will be there on Friday, and there will be live music on Saturday, along with a BBQ dinner by donation. Fantastic speakers, so please come join us!

Aug. 28

Dublin High School Class of 1964

Reunion committee has scheduled a class reunion gathering for August 28th, 2026, at Sal's Italian Restaurant, West End Radford from 5pm-8pm. Casual dress, each will order their own meal and beverage. Come and socialize with old stories and good company. Send me a message so we will have a head count for room setup. Kay Petterson 540-616-9210.

Sept. 4

USED-BOOK SALE:

On Friday, September 4th, from 9 to 5, in the little red bookshop behind the Wythe County Public Library, 300 E. Monroe St., Wytheville, the well-attended book sales are continuing. All are welcome! Note that there will NOT be a sale on Saturday, the 5th, since the library will be closed for the holiday weekend. Come and browse and take home some good reads!

Sept. 6

Red, White and You

Red, White and You, September 6, 10 - 4 at Belle Hampton Farms. Ticket Prices: \$75, \$15 for kids 12 and under, Under 6 is free. Here is the link to the event: <https://www.bellehamptonlegacycenter.org/events/red-white-and-you-our-family-through-250-years-of-american-history>

Sept. 9

The American Soldier

The Leonard E. McCoy VFW Post 5311 presents Douglas Taur-el's The American Soldier at the Lyric Theater in downtown Blacksburg, VA on September 9, 2026. This is a solo show that honors our veterans and military personnel and their families. The Blue Ridge Vocal Connection will present a special concert performance.

September 12

Homecoming

Join us at Mountain View UMC for Homecoming Celebration on Sunday September 13 at 11:15. A musical story of Jesus - "From Nazareth to Glory." Meal to follow in Fellowship Hall. Saturday, September 12 is Decoration Day for Mountain View Community Cemetery. You are invited to Decorate your loved ones grave. Many stones have been cleaned and reset.

55th Reunion

Pulaski High School Class of 1971 will celebrate its 55th reunion on Saturday, Sept. 12 at the Historic Train Station in Pulaski. The social time will begin at 3:30 and a catered meal will begin at 5 p.m. The cost is \$35 per person or \$65 per couple. Please contact Barbara Riggle Cain (barb-cain53@yahoo.com) for more information. Hope you can attend!

Sept. 14

PLANT-BASED COOKING SCHOOL:

Monday, September 14th, at 6:30 pm, at the Wytheville SDA Church, 1600 Chapman Rd, Wytheville. Come and join us as we are learning ways to prevent, reverse, and/or improve pre-diabetes and type II diabetes one bite at a time in a simple, delicious way. This month food samples will focus on "POTATOES, ETC". This is a FREE event. Any questions, contact Joya Cleveland at 276-617-2875.

Sept. 26

DHS Class of '62 Reunion

Dublin High School Class of 1962 get-together!!!! The reunion committee has scheduled a gathering for September 16, 2026 at 4 PM at Sal's Italian Restaurant, West End, Radford, Virginia from 4 PM until as long as you'd like to stay. Each will order their own meal and beverage and be responsible for that. Come and help us enjoy each other's company, tall tales and facts. Send a message to Curtis Lawson at [clawson@jetbroadbsnd.com](mailto:clawson@jetbroadbsnd.com) or 540-320-1615. Thank you. Hope to see you there.

On going:

Monday Services

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

Ballroom Dance

Ballroom Dance every first Saturday of the month at the Carroll County Virginia Senior Center @ 7pm. Find us on Facebook @ Ballroom Dance in Hillsville.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Pulaski Group of Alcoholics Anonymous will meet at the following times and location; Mondays 7 p.m. (closed meeting); Wednesdays 12 p.m.(open meeting); Thursdays 7 p.m. (open meeting) at First United Methodist Church. 132 3rd St. NW, Pulaski. Parking and entrance in lot behind main church. Street parking also. Contact number 540-440-0066.

Pulaski Al-Anon Family Group

Pulaski Al-Anon Family Group (a support group for friends and families of alcoholics) will meet every Monday night at 7 p.m. at first United Methodist Church. 132 3rd St. NW, Pulaski. Parking and entrance in lot behind main church. Street parking also. Contact number 540-818-0621

## Weekly SUDOKU

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

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!

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

## PET OF THE WEEK

166 days... This is the amount of time Solo has called the shelter her home. For 166 days Solo has been passed over for one of her friends, and this sweet girl says it's her turn to find a soft place to land and call her home. Solo likes to take things slow most days, relaxing and enjoying head scratches. She also enjoys short walks around the block with her favorite people. If you're ready to give a senior pup a chance stop by today! Did we mention her adoption fee is free!



**Pulaski County Animal Control,**  
**80 Dublin Park Rd.**  
**Dublin, VA 24084, 540-674-8359**

Monday-Friday  
10AM-4PM and 10AM-12Noon on Saturday

**Pet of the Week**  
**Is Sponsored Each**  
**Week By**  
**Todd Bruce, Mgr.**  
**Seagle Funeral**  
**Home**



## WBLB Radio

24/7 Christian Radio Station  
107.5 FM & 1340 AM

Family1340.com

PULASKI, VA

Your Gospel Connection Around the World

Listen to Market Place Monday-Friday 9:30AM-10:30AM  
Call in item that you have to sale, trade, giveaway, birthdays, anniversaries, prayer requests, and testimonies. The number to call is 1-540-980-6517

Office number:1-540-980-3411

Check out our 24/7 digital tv station at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/@wblbradioandtv220>

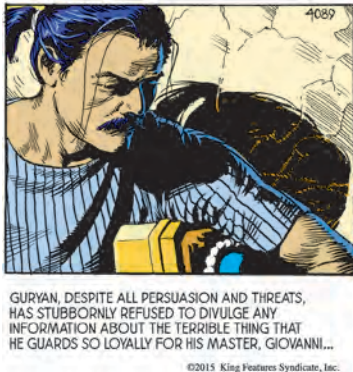
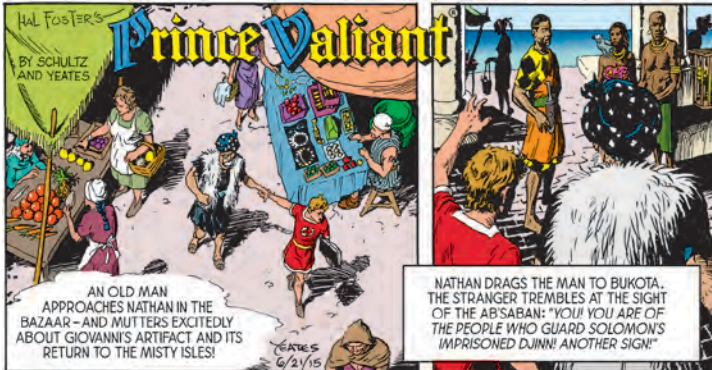
Like and subscribe to our Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/WBLBRadioandTV>

Listen and watch Conversation with Kathy Monday at 12:05PM

Listen and Watch Ministry Spotlight Tuesday at 12:00PM

Visit our website: <https://family1340.com/>

Changing Hearts one life at a time!



## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Do not curse the king,  
even in your thought;  
Do not curse the rich,  
even in your bedroom;  
For a bird of the air  
may carry your voice,  
And a bird in flight  
may tell the matter.

— Ecclesiastes 10:20 —



© 2026 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.





# 2026 Football Preview

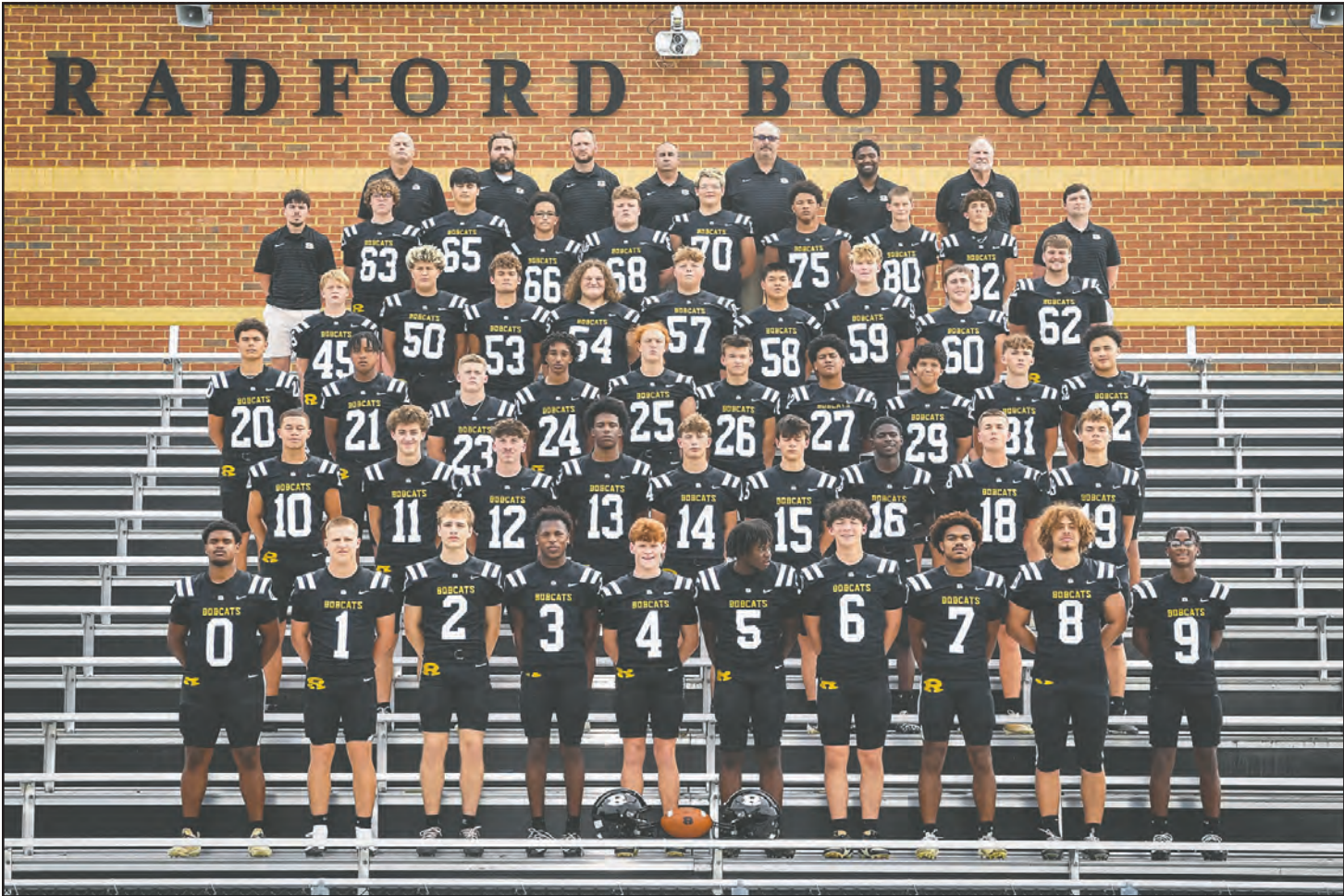
## High School and College

# Spirit of AUTUMN

PULASKI COUNTY



RADFORD



FORT CHISWELL



Miami picked No. 1 in ACC

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (the-ACC.com) – Miami has been selected as the preseason favorite to win the 2026 Atlantic Coast Conference football championship, according to the media's predicted order of finish following a vote of more than 185 media members credentialed for this year's ACC Football Kickoff in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The Hurricanes received 3,159 points in the annual preseason poll to earn the top spot, followed by SMU (2,794 points), Louisville (2,569) and Clemson (2,520). Georgia Tech rounded out the top five with 2,006 points.

In the media voting, Miami received 165 first-place votes. Clemson received seven first-place votes, followed by SMU with six, Louisville with four, Florida State with three and Georgia Tech with two. Stanford also received a first-place vote.

Virginia (1,981), NC State (1,964), Virginia Tech (1,962), Pitt (1,740) and Duke (1,452) completed the top 10 in one of the closest preseason polls in recent conference history, with just 19 points separating sixth through eighth place.

Florida State (1,439) was picked 11th, followed by California (1,392), Wake Forest (1,103), Syracuse (878), North Carolina (831), Boston College (491) and Stanford (483).

The ACC enters the 2026 season with one of the nation's deepest and most competitive conferences, as teams begin the league's transition to a nine-game conference schedule and compete for a berth in the 2026 ACC Football Championship Game on Saturday, December 5, at noon ET on ABC.

| 2026 ACC Football Predicted Order of Finish (Media Vote) |                   |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| Rank                                                     | Team              | Points |
| 1.                                                       | Miami (165)       | 3159   |
| 2.                                                       | SMU (6)           | 2794   |
| 3.                                                       | Louisville (4)    | 2569   |
| 4.                                                       | Clemson (7)       | 2520   |
| 5.                                                       | Georgia Tech (2)  | 2006   |
| 6.                                                       | Virginia 1981     |        |
| 7.                                                       | NC State 1964     |        |
| 8.                                                       | Virginia Tech     | 1962   |
| 9.                                                       | Pitt              | 1740   |
| 10.                                                      | Duke              | 1452   |
| 11.                                                      | Florida State (3) | 1439   |
| 12.                                                      | California        | 1392   |
| 13.                                                      | Wake Forest       | 1103   |
| 14.                                                      | Syracuse          | 878    |
| 15.                                                      | North Carolina    | 831    |
| 16.                                                      | Boston College    | 491    |
| 17.                                                      | Stanford (1)      | 483    |

First-place votes in parentheses 188 media voters

Published by Patriot Publishing, LLC

   
August 21, 2026





One Team.

One Goal.

Proud Supporter of

**PULASKI  
COUNTY  
ATHLETICS**



Come See Our Team in Dublin or Pulaski!





**H HODGE  
INSURANCE**

*Serving Pulaski County  
and The Surrounding Area Since 1980*

Offering Peace of Mind for Your...

AUTO • HOME • BUSINESS • LIFE







Shari Hodge  
Fricker, Owner

*“Insurance you can trust, from the name you can trust.”*

**H HODGE  
INSURANCE**

LIFE • BUSINESS • AUTO • HOME

**PULASKI  
OFFICE:**  
522 E. Main St.  
(540) 980-0863

**DUBLIN  
OFFICE:**  
233 Broad St.  
(540) 674-0863

[www.hodgeinsurance.com](http://www.hodgeinsurance.com)



# Football Schedules for Area Teams

| ** District Game                          | Week 0<br>Aug 17-22     | Week 1<br>Aug 24-29              | Week 2<br>Aug 31-Sep 5          | Week 3<br>Sep 7-12                | Week 4<br>Sep 14-19                   | Week 5<br>Sep 21-26                       | Week 6<br>Sep 28-Oct 3             | Week 7<br>Oct 5-10                        | Week 8<br>Oct 12-17                        | Week 9<br>Oct 19-24              | Week 10<br>Oct 26-31                 | Week 11<br>Nov 2-7                         |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Turner Ashby [3]<br><i>Valley</i>         |                         | Fort Defiance [2]<br>8/28 7p     | Rockbridge County [3]<br>9/4 7p | BYE                               | @ Wilson Memorial [3]<br>9/18 7p      | @ Strasburg [2]<br>9/25 7p                | ** William Monroe [3]<br>10/2 7p   | ** Broadway [3]<br>10/9 7p                | ** East Rockingham [3]<br>10/16 7p         | ** Harrisonburg [3]<br>10/23 7p  | ** Rocktown [3]<br>10/30 7p          | ** Spotswood [3]<br>11/6 7p                |
| Waynesboro [3]<br><i>Shenandoah</i>       |                         | Spotswood [3]<br>8/28 7p         | @ Monticello [3]<br>9/4 7p      | ** @ Fort Defiance [2]<br>9/11 7p | ** Rockbridge County [3]<br>9/18 7p   | ** Alleghany [3]<br>9/25 7p               | ** Staunton [3]<br>10/2 7p         | BYE                                       | ** @ Stuarts Draft [2]<br>10/16 7p         | ** Buffalo Gap [1]<br>10/23 7p   | ** @ Wilson Memorial [3]<br>10/30 7p | ** Riverheads [1]<br>11/6 7p               |
| Western Albemarle [3]<br><i>Jefferson</i> |                         | @ Culpeper County [3]<br>8/28 7p | Madison County [2]<br>9/4 7p    | @ Harrisonburg [3]<br>9/12 1p     | ** @ Monticello [3]<br>9/18 7p        | BYE                                       | ** Fluvanna County [3]<br>10/2 7p  | ** @ Charlottesville [4]<br>10/9 7p       | ** Goochland [3]<br>10/16 7p               | ** @ Albemarle [5]<br>10/23 7p   | ** Louisa County [4]<br>10/30 7p     | ** @ Orange County [4]<br>11/6 7p          |
| Wilson Memorial [3]<br><i>Shenandoah</i>  |                         | BYE                              | @ Spotswood [3]<br>9/4 7p       | ** Buffalo Gap [1]<br>9/11 7p     | Turner Ashby [3]<br>9/18 7p           | ** @ Riverheads [1]<br>9/25 7p            | ** Fort Defiance [2]<br>10/2 7p    | ** @ Rockbridge County [3]<br>10/9 7p     | ** Alleghany [3]<br>10/16 7p               | ** @ Staunton [3]<br>10/23 7p    | ** Waynesboro [3]<br>10/30 7p        | ** @ Stuarts Draft [2]<br>11/6 7p          |
| Region 3D                                 |                         |                                  |                                 |                                   |                                       |                                           |                                    |                                           |                                            |                                  |                                      |                                            |
| Abingdon [3]<br><i>Mountain 7</i>         |                         | ** @ John Battle [2]<br>8/28 7p  | @ Christiansburg [3]<br>9/4 7p  | ** Gate City [2]<br>9/11 7p       | Richlands [2]<br>9/18 7p              | Tennessee [3]<br>9/25 7p                  | @ Johnson County [2]<br>10/2 7p    | BYE                                       | ** @ Central Wisc [2]<br>10/16 7p          | ** Ridgeview [2]<br>10/23 7p     | ** @ Union [2]<br>10/30 7p           | ** Lee [2]<br>11/6 7p                      |
| Bassett [3]<br><i>Piedmont</i>            |                         | @ Franklin County [5]<br>8/28 7p | Gretna [2]<br>9/4 7p            | Dan River [2]<br>9/11 7p          | @ William Byrd [3]<br>9/18 7p         | ** Mecklenburg County [4]<br>9/25 7p      | ** @ Tunstall [3]<br>10/2 7p       | ** George Washington [4]<br>10/9 7p       | ** @ Magna Vista [3]<br>10/16 7p           | Martinsville [2]<br>10/23 7p     | BYE                                  | ** @ Halifax County [4]<br>11/6 7p         |
| Carroll County [3]<br><i>Three Rivers</i> |                         | Christiansburg [3]<br>8/28 7p    | @ Grayson County [1]<br>9/4 7p  | Galax [1]<br>9/11 7p              | Fort Chiswell [1]<br>9/18 7p          | ** @ Patrick County [2]<br>9/25 7p        | ** Glenvar [2]<br>10/2 7p          | BYE                                       | ** Floyd County [2]<br>10/16 7p            | ** Radford [2]<br>10/23 7p       | ** @ Martinsville [2]<br>10/30 7p    | ** @ James River (Buchanan) [2]<br>11/6 7p |
| Cave Spring [3]<br><i>River Ridge</i>     |                         | William Byrd [3]<br>8/28 7p      | ** @ Northside [3]<br>9/4 7p    | Glenvar [2]<br>9/11 7p            | @ Tunstall [3]<br>9/18 7p             | ** @ Pulaski County [3]<br>9/25 7p        | ** @ Blacksburg [4]<br>10/2 7p     | ** @ Salem (Salem) [4]<br>10/9 7p         | ** Patrick Henry (Roanoke) [5]<br>10/16 7p | ** Hidden Valley [3]<br>10/23 7p | ** Christiansburg [3]<br>10/30 7p    | BYE                                        |
| Christiansburg [3]<br><i>River Ridge</i>  |                         | @ Carroll County [3]<br>8/28 7p  | Abingdon [3]<br>9/4 7p          | @ William Byrd [3]<br>9/11 7p     | Lord Botetourt [3]<br>9/18 7p         | BYE                                       | ** @ Pulaski County [3]<br>10/2 7p | ** Patrick Henry (Roanoke) [5]<br>10/9 7p | ** Hidden Valley [3]<br>10/16 7p           | ** Blacksburg [4]<br>10/23 7p    | ** @ Cave Spring [3]<br>10/30 7p     | ** @ Salem (Salem) [4]<br>11/6 7p          |
| Hidden Valley [3]<br><i>River Ridge</i>   |                         | @ Staunton River [3]<br>8/28 7p  | William Byrd [3]<br>9/4 7p      | @ Northside [3]<br>9/11 7p        | James River (Buchanan) [2]<br>9/18 7p | ** Patrick Henry (Roanoke) [5]<br>9/25 7p | BYE                                | ** Blacksburg [4]<br>10/9 7p              | ** Christiansburg [3]<br>10/16 7p          | ** @ Cave Spring [3]<br>10/23 7p | ** @ Salem (Salem) [4]<br>10/30 7p   | ** Pulaski County [3]<br>11/6 7p           |
| Lord Botetourt [3]<br><i>Blue Ridge</i>   | Rye Cove [1]<br>8/22 7p | Rustburg [3]<br>8/28 7p          |                                 | Magna Vista [3]<br>9/11 7p        | @ Christiansburg [3]<br>9/18 7p       | George Washington [4]<br>9/25 7p          |                                    | ** Franklin County [5]<br>10/9 7p         | ** @ Staunton River [3]<br>10/16 7p        | ** William Byrd [3]<br>10/23 7p  | ** @ William Fleming [5]<br>10/30 7p | ** @ Northside [3]<br>11/6 7p              |

| ** District Game                         | Week 0<br>Aug 17-22 | Week 1<br>Aug 24-29              | Week 2<br>Aug 31-Sep 5           | Week 3<br>Sep 7-12                 | Week 4<br>Sep 14-19             | Week 5<br>Sep 21-26                | Week 6<br>Sep 28-Oct 3           | Week 7<br>Oct 5-10                   | Week 8<br>Oct 12-17                | Week 9<br>Oct 19-24                  | Week 10<br>Oct 26-31                         | Week 11<br>Nov 2-7                   |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Magna Vista [3]<br><i>Piedmont</i>       |                     | Rockingham County [3]<br>8/28 7p | @ Martinsville [2]<br>9/4 7p     | @ Lord Botetourt [3]<br>9/11 7p    | Franklin County [5]<br>9/18 7p  | @ Staunton River [3]<br>9/25 7p    | BYE                              | ** Mecklenburg County [4]<br>10/9 7p | ** Bassett [3]<br>10/16 7p         | ** @ Tunstall [3]<br>10/23 7p        | ** @ Halifax County [4]<br>10/30 7p          | ** George Washington [4]<br>11/6 7p  |
| Northside [3]<br><i>Blue Ridge</i>       |                     | @ Pulaski County [3]<br>8/28 7p  | ** Cave Spring [3]<br>9/4 7p     | Hidden Valley [3]<br>9/11 7p       | @ Glenvar [2]<br>9/18 7p        | BYE                                | @ Rustburg [3]<br>10/2 7p        | ** @ William Byrd [3]<br>10/9 7p     | ** Franklin County [5]<br>10/16 7p | ** @ William Fleming [5]<br>10/23 7p | ** Staunton River [3]<br>10/30 7p            | ** Lord Botetourt [3]<br>11/6 7p     |
| Pulaski County [3]<br><i>River Ridge</i> |                     | Northside [3]<br>8/28 7p         | Tazewell [2]<br>9/4 7p           | BYE                                | @ Staunton River [3]<br>9/18 7p | ** Cave Spring [3]<br>9/25 7p      | ** Christiansburg [3]<br>10/2 7p | @ Graham [2]<br>10/9 1p              | ** Blacksburg [4]<br>10/16 7p      | ** Salem (Salem) [4]<br>10/23 7p     | ** @ Patrick Henry (Roanoke) [5]<br>10/30 7p | ** @ Hidden Valley [3]<br>11/6 7p    |
| Staunton River [3]<br><i>Blue Ridge</i>  |                     | Hidden Valley [3]<br>8/28 7p     | @ Jefferson Forest [4]<br>9/4 7p | @ Liberty (Bedford) [2]<br>9/11 7p | Pulaski County [3]<br>9/18 7p   | Magna Vista [3]<br>9/25 7p         | BYE                              | ** @ William Fleming [5]<br>10/9 7p  | ** Lord Botetourt [3]<br>10/16 7p  | ** @ Franklin County [5]<br>10/23 7p | ** @ Northside [3]<br>10/30 7p               | ** William Byrd [3]<br>11/6 7p       |
| Tunstall [3]<br><i>Piedmont</i>          |                     | @ Dan River [2]<br>8/28 7p       | Chatham [2]<br>9/4 7p            | @ Gretna [2]<br>9/11 7p            | Cave Spring [3]<br>9/18 7p      | ** @ Halifax County [4]<br>9/25 7p | ** Bassett [3]<br>10/2 7p        | BYE                                  | @ Martinsville [2]<br>10/16 7p     | ** Magna Vista [3]<br>10/23 7p       | ** @ George Washington [4]<br>10/30 7p       | ** Mecklenburg County [4]<br>11/6 7p |
| William Byrd [3]<br><i>Blue Ridge</i>    |                     | @ Cave Spring [3]<br>8/28 7p     | @ Hidden Valley [3]<br>9/4 7p    | Christiansburg [3]<br>9/11 7p      | Bassett [3]<br>9/18 7p          | BYE                                | @ Radford [2]<br>10/1 7p         | ** Northside [3]<br>10/9 7p          | ** William Fleming [5]<br>10/16 7p | ** @ Lord Botetourt [3]<br>10/23 7p  | ** Franklin County [5]<br>10/30 7p           | ** @ Staunton River [3]<br>11/6 7p   |

| ** District Game                                  | Week 0<br>Aug 17-22 | Week 1<br>Aug 24-29                | Week 2<br>Aug 31-Sep 5            | Week 3<br>Sep 7-12                      | Week 4<br>Sep 14-19                  | Week 5<br>Sep 21-26                        | Week 6<br>Sep 28-Oct 3                   | Week 7<br>Oct 5-10                       | Week 8<br>Oct 12-17                   | Week 9<br>Oct 19-24                       | Week 10<br>Oct 26-31                        | Week 11<br>Nov 2-7                    |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Chatham [2]<br><i>Dogwood</i>                     |                     | Prince Edward [2]<br>8/28 7p       | @ Tunstall [3]<br>9/4 7p          | ** @ Smith Mountain Lake [1]<br>9/11 7p | Patrick County [2]<br>9/18 7p        | BYE                                        | ** @ Appomattox County [2]<br>10/2 7p    | ** Altavista [1]<br>10/9 7p              | ** @ William Campbell [1]<br>10/16 7p | ** Gretna [2]<br>10/23 7p                 | ** @ Nelson County [2]<br>10/30 7p          | ** Dan River [2]<br>11/6 7p           |
| Dan River [2]<br><i>Dogwood</i>                   |                     | Tunstall [3]<br>8/28 7p            | Halifax County [4]<br>9/4 7p      | @ Bassett [3]<br>9/11 7p                | @ Martinsville [2]<br>9/18 7p        | ** Appomattox County [2]<br>9/25 7p        | ** @ Altavista [1]<br>10/2 7p            | ** William Campbell [1]<br>10/9 7p       | ** @ Gretna [2]<br>10/16 7p           | ** Nelson County [2]<br>10/23 7p          | BYE                                         | ** @ Chatham [2]<br>11/6 7p           |
| Floyd County [2]<br><i>Three Rivers</i>           |                     | @ Narrows [1]<br>8/28 7p           | BYE                               | @ Blacksburg [4]<br>9/11 7p             | Grayson County [1]<br>9/18 7p        | Fort Chiswell [1]<br>9/25 7p               | ** Patrick County [2]<br>10/2 7p         | ** Martinsville [2]<br>10/9 7p           | ** @ Carroll County [3]<br>10/16 7p   | ** James River (Buchanan) [2]<br>10/23 7p | ** @ Radford [2]<br>10/30 7p                | ** Glenvar [2]<br>11/6 7p             |
| Glenvar [2]<br><i>Three Rivers</i>                |                     | @ Liberty Christian [3]<br>8/28 7p | Liberty (Bedford) [2]<br>9/4 7p   | @ Cave Spring [3]<br>9/11 7p            | Northside [3]<br>9/18 7p             | ** Martinsville [2]<br>9/25 7p             | ** @ Carroll County [3]<br>10/2 7p       | ** James River (Buchanan) [2]<br>10/9 7p | ** @ Radford [2]<br>10/16 7p          | ** @ Patrick County [2]<br>10/23 7p       | BYE                                         | ** Floyd County [2]<br>11/6 7p        |
| Gretna [2]<br><i>Dogwood</i>                      |                     | Jefferson Forest [4]<br>8/28 7p    | @ Bassett [3]<br>9/4 7p           | Tunstall [3]<br>9/11 7p                 | @ Halifax County [4]<br>9/18 7p      | ** William Campbell [1]<br>9/25 7p         | BYE                                      | ** @ Nelson County [2]<br>10/9 7p        | ** Dan River [2]<br>10/16 7p          | ** @ Chatham [2]<br>10/23 7p              | ** Appomattox County [2]<br>10/30 7p        | ** @ Altavista [1]<br>11/6 7p         |
| James River (Buchanan) [2]<br><i>Three Rivers</i> |                     | Auburn [1]<br>8/28 7p              | Blacksburg [4]<br>9/4 7p          | @ Parry McCluer [1]<br>9/11 7p          | @ Hidden Valley [3]<br>9/18 7p       | ** Radford [2]<br>9/25 7p                  | ** @ Martinsville [2]<br>10/2 7p         | ** @ Glenvar [2]<br>10/9 7p              | BYE                                   | ** @ Floyd County [2]<br>10/23 7p         | ** Patrick County [2]<br>10/30 7p           | ** Carroll County [3]<br>11/6 7p      |
| Liberty (Bedford) [2]<br><i>Seminole</i>          |                     | @ William Campbell [1]<br>8/28 7p  | @ Glenvar [2]<br>9/4 7p           | Staunton River [3]<br>9/11 7p           | ** @ Jefferson Forest [4]<br>9/18 7p | ** E. C. Glass [4]<br>9/25 7p              | BYE                                      | ** @ Rustburg [3]<br>10/9 7p             | ** Brookville [4]<br>10/16 7p         | ** @ Heritage (Lynchburg) [3]<br>10/23 7p | ** Amherst [4]<br>10/30 7p                  | ** Liberty Christian [3]<br>11/6 7p   |
| Martinsville [2]<br><i>Three Rivers</i>           |                     | ** @ Patrick County [2]<br>8/28 7p | Magna Vista [3]<br>9/4 7p         | BYE                                     | Dan River [2]<br>9/18 7p             | ** @ Glenvar [2]<br>9/25 7p                | ** James River (Buchanan) [2]<br>10/2 7p | ** @ Floyd County [2]<br>10/9 7p         | Tunstall [3]<br>10/16 7p              | @ Bassett [3]<br>10/23 7p                 | ** Carroll County [3]<br>10/30 7p           | ** @ Radford [2]<br>11/6 7p           |
| Nelson County [2]<br><i>Dogwood</i>               |                     | @ Randolph-Henry [2]<br>8/28 7p    | @ Stonewall Jackson [2]<br>9/4 7p | BYE                                     | @ Cumberland [1]<br>9/19 7p          | ** Altavista [1]<br>9/25 7p                | ** @ William Campbell [1]<br>10/2 7p     | ** Gretna [2]<br>10/9 7p                 | @ Patrick County [2]<br>10/16 7p      | ** @ Dan River [2]<br>10/23 7p            | ** Chatham [2]<br>10/30 7p                  | ** @ Appomattox County [2]<br>11/6 7p |
| Patrick County [2]<br><i>Three Rivers</i>         |                     | ** Martinsville [2]<br>8/28 7p     | @ North Surry [3]<br>9/4 7p       | North Stokes [3]<br>9/11 7p             | @ Chatham [2]<br>9/18 7p             | ** Carroll County [3]<br>9/25 7p           | ** @ Floyd County [3]<br>10/2 7p         | ** Radford [2]<br>10/9 7p                | Nelson County [2]<br>10/16 7p         | ** Glenvar [2]<br>10/23 7p                | ** @ James River (Buchanan) [2]<br>10/30 7p | BYE                                   |
| Radford [2]<br><i>Three Rivers</i>                |                     | @ George Wythe [1]<br>8/28 7p      | @ Giles [1]<br>9/4 7p             | BYE                                     | @ Galax [1]<br>9/18 7p               | ** @ James River (Buchanan) [2]<br>9/25 7p | William Byrd [3]<br>10/1 7p              | ** @ Patrick County [2]<br>10/9 7p       | ** Glenvar [2]<br>10/16 7p            | ** @ Carroll County [3]<br>10/23 7p       | ** Floyd County [2]<br>10/30 7p             | ** Martinsville [2]<br>11/6 7p        |

| ** District Game                             | Week 0<br>Aug 17-22 | Week 1<br>Aug 24-29                     | Week 2<br>Aug 31-Sep 5            | Week 3<br>Sep 7-12                  | Week 4<br>Sep 14-19                           | Week 5<br>Sep 21-26                 | Week 6<br>Sep 28-Oct 3                 | Week 7<br>Oct 5-10                | Week 8<br>Oct 12-17                   | Week 9<br>Oct 19-24                     | Week 10<br>Oct 26-31                | Week 11<br>Nov 2-7                |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sussex Central [1]<br><i>Tri-Rivers</i>      |                     | Essex [1]<br>8/27 7p                    | Lakeland [3]<br>9/4 7p            | King & Queen Central [1]<br>9/11 7p | @ Colonial Beach [1]<br>9/18 7p               | ** @ Greenville [2]<br>9/25 7p      | ** @ Southampton [2]<br>10/2 7p        | @ Windsor [2]<br>10/9 7p          | BYE                                   | ** @ Franklin [1]<br>10/23 7p           | ** Brunswick [1]<br>10/30 7p        | ** Surry County [1]<br>11/6 7p    |
| William Campbell [1]<br><i>Dogwood</i>       |                     | Liberty (Bedford) [2]<br>8/28 7p        | @ Cumberland [1]<br>9/4 7p        | @ Buckingham County [2]<br>9/11 7p  | Randolph-Henry [2]<br>9/18 7p                 | ** @ Gretna [2]<br>9/25 7p          | ** Nelson County [2]<br>10/2 7p        | ** @ Dan River [2]<br>10/9 7p     | ** Chatham [2]<br>10/16 7p            | ** @ Appomattox County [2]<br>10/23 7p  | ** Attavista [1]<br>10/30 7p        | BYE                               |
| Region 1C                                    |                     |                                         |                                   |                                     |                                               |                                     |                                        |                                   |                                       |                                         |                                     |                                   |
| Auburn [1]<br><i>Mountain Empire</i>         |                     | @ James River (Buchanan) [2]<br>8/28 7p | Smith Mountain Lake [1]<br>9/4 7p | ** Fort Chiswell [1]<br>9/11 7p     | @ Castlewood [1]<br>9/18 7p                   | @ Eastern Montgomery [1]<br>9/25 7p | ** @ Giles [1]<br>10/2 7p              | Northwood [1]<br>10/9 7p          | ** @ George Wythe [1]<br>10/16 7p     | BYE                                     | ** @ Grayson County [1]<br>10/30 7p | ** Galax [1]<br>11/6 7p           |
| Bath County [1]<br><i>Pioneer</i>            |                     | Stonewall Jackson [2]<br>8/28 7p        | Buffalo Gap [1]<br>9/4 7p         | @ Pocahontas County (WV)<br>9/11 7p | Tygarts Valley [1]<br>9/18 7p                 | @ Hancock [1]<br>9/25 7p            | BYE                                    | @ Pendleton County [1]<br>10/9 7p | ** Eastern Montgomery [1]<br>10/16 7p | ** @ Craig County [1]<br>10/23 7p       | ** Parry McCluer [1]<br>10/30 7p    | ** @ Narrows [1]<br>11/6 7p       |
| Bland County [1]<br><i>Mountain Empire</i>   |                     | @ Castlewood [1]<br>8/28 7p             | @ Craig County [1]<br>9/4 7p      | Tri-Cities Christian<br>9/11 7p     | Northwood [1]<br>9/18 7p                      | BYE                                 | Eastern Montgomery [1]<br>10/2 7p      | @ Meadow Bridge [1]<br>10/9 7p    | @ J.L. Burton [1]<br>10/16 7p         | Montcalm [1]<br>10/23 7p                | Summers County (WV)<br>10/30 7p     | Tygarts Valley [1]<br>11/6 7p     |
| Craig County [1]<br><i>Pioneer</i>           |                     | @ Galax [1]<br>8/28 7p                  | Bland County [1]<br>9/4 7p        |                                     | @ Twin Springs [1]<br>9/25 7p                 | @ Stonewall Jackson [2]<br>10/2 7p  | ** @ Eastern Montgomery [1]<br>10/9 7p | ** Parry McCluer [1]<br>10/16 7p  | ** Bath County [1]<br>10/23 7p        | ** @ Narrows [1]<br>10/30 7p            | Meadow Bridge [1]<br>11/6 7p        |                                   |
| Eastern Montgomery [1]<br><i>Pioneer</i>     |                     | Holston [1]<br>8/28 7p                  | @ Rural Retreat [1]<br>9/4 7p     | @ Northwood [1]<br>9/11 7p          | Montcalm [1]<br>9/18 7p                       | Auburn [1]<br>9/25 7p               | @ Bland County [1]<br>10/2 7p          | ** Craig County [1]<br>10/9 7p    | ** @ Bath County [1]<br>10/16 7p      | ** Narrows [1]<br>10/23 7p              | BYE                                 | ** @ Parry McCluer [1]<br>11/6 7p |
| Fort Chiswell [1]<br><i>Mountain Empire</i>  |                     | Rural Retreat [1]<br>8/28 7p            | ** George Wythe [1]<br>9/4 7p     | ** @ Auburn [1]<br>9/11 7p          | @ Carroll County [3]<br>9/18 7p               | @ Floyd County [2]<br>9/25 7p       | @ Holston [1]<br>10/2 7p               | ** Galax [1]<br>10/9 7p           | ** @ Giles [1]<br>10/16 7p            | Marion Senior [2]<br>10/23 7p           | BYE                                 | ** Grayson County [1]<br>11/6 7p  |
| Galax [1]<br><i>Mountain Empire</i>          |                     | Craig County [1]<br>8/28 7p             | @ Montcalm [1]<br>9/4 7p          | @ Carroll County [3]<br>9/11 7p     | Radford [2]<br>9/18 7p                        | J.L. Burton [1]<br>9/25 7p          | BYE                                    | ** @ Fort Chiswell [1]<br>10/9 7p | ** @ Grayson County [1]<br>10/16 7p   | ** George Wythe [1]<br>10/23 7p         | ** @ Giles [1]<br>10/30 7p          | ** @ Auburn [1]<br>11/6 7p        |
| George Wythe [1]<br><i>Mountain Empire</i>   |                     | Radford [2]<br>8/28 7p                  | ** @ Fort Chiswell [1]<br>9/4 7p  | Virginia [2]<br>9/11 7p             | @ Patrick Henry (Glade Spring) [1]<br>9/18 7p | @ Rural Retreat [1]<br>9/25 7p      | @ Bluefield [2]<br>10/2 7p             | ** Grayson County [1]<br>10/9 7p  | ** Auburn [1]<br>10/16 7p             | ** @ Galax [1]<br>10/23 7p              | BYE                                 | ** @ Giles [1]<br>11/6 7p         |
| Giles [1]<br><i>Mountain Empire</i>          |                     | @ Blacksburg [4]<br>8/28 7p             | Radford [2]<br>9/4 7p             | Southern Gap [2]<br>9/11 7p         | @ Narrows [1]<br>9/18 7p                      | Tazewell [2]<br>9/25 7p             | ** @ Auburn [1]<br>10/2 7p             | BYE                               | ** Fort Chiswell [1]<br>10/16 7p      | ** Grayson County [1]<br>10/23 7p       | ** @ Galax [1]<br>10/30 7p          | ** @ George Wythe [1]<br>11/6 7p  |
| ** District Game                             | Week 0<br>Aug 17-22 | Week 1<br>Aug 24-29                     | Week 2<br>Aug 31-Sep 5            | Week 3<br>Sep 7-12                  | Week 4<br>Sep 14-19                           | Week 5<br>Sep 21-26                 | Week 6<br>Sep 28-Oct 3                 | Week 7<br>Oct 5-10                | Week 8<br>Oct 12-17                   | Week 9<br>Oct 19-24                     | Week 10<br>Oct 26-31                | Week 11<br>Nov 2-7                |
| Grayson County [1]<br><i>Mountain Empire</i> |                     | Alleghany (NC) [1]<br>8/28 7p           | Carroll County [3]<br>9/4 7p      | Tazewell [2]<br>9/11 7p             | @ Floyd County [2]<br>9/18 7p                 | @ Virginia [2]<br>9/25 7p           | BYE                                    | ** @ George Wythe [1]<br>10/9 7p  | ** Galax [1]<br>10/16 7p              | ** @ Giles [1]<br>10/23 7p              | ** Auburn [1]<br>10/30 7p           | ** @ Fort Chiswell [1]<br>11/6 7p |
| Narrows [1]<br><i>Pioneer</i>                |                     | Floyd County [2]<br>8/28 7p             | Holston [1]<br>9/4 7p             | @ Chilhowie [1]<br>9/11 7p          | Giles [1]<br>9/18 7p                          | @ James Monroe (WV) [2]<br>9/25 7p  | BYE                                    | ** @ Parry McCluer [1]<br>10/9 7p | @ Honaker [1]<br>10/16 7p             | ** @ Eastern Montgomery [1]<br>10/23 7p | ** Craig County [1]<br>10/30 7p     | ** Bath County [1]<br>11/6 7p     |

For most part, player participation holding steady

By RODNEY YOUNG  
NRVSports.net

Player participation numbers in football have become a major concern for schools in the region and beyond.

In recent years several schools have had to drop football for a season or more due to low participation numbers – and concerns over the size of players who would have play against bigger opponents.

For instance, last season Galax – not long removed from a state championship season – couldn’t field a team for every game of their season due to low participation numbers and injuries.

In 2024, Auburn didn’t have enough players – especially upper classmen – and had to play a junior varsity schedule only. Before that Auburn went through some abbreviated seasons due to participation issues.

The Eagles eventually returned to varsity play last season.

The Eagles have 28 out this season.

Fall camps opened at area high schools around the end of July and we polled coaches about the number of players that turned out for football.

Close to home, at Pulaski County, 53 players came out for camp. However, only 20 of those are “varsity” players with several of the remaining junior varsity members expected to see action with the varsity this season.

Christiansburg head coach Mark Herron reported he has around 65 out, which is up from last year. Blacksburg’s new head coach, Phillip Reese reported he has around 60 who came out. That number is about same as last year.

Radford has 47 participating which is a few less than the previous years.

Coach Tim Cromer at Floyd County had close to 50 kids come out.

Over the mountain, Narrows and Giles reported 32-33 out for the Green Wave and the Spartans have 30 for the varsity squad.

Up Route 460 the Graham G-men have 30 out for varsity, but they may not have enough for a JV team.

Class 3 Carroll County reported having 30-35 out for varsity action and close to 25 for their JV team.

The Mountain Empire teams of George Wythe, Fort Chiswell, Grayson County and Galax have close to the same number of kids out for football.

George Wythe and Grayson both have close to 40 kids out, while the Pioneers of Fort Chiswell have 32 for varsity and Galax reported they have 30 out for football.

The last three teams are from the Hogoheegee District – Chilhowie, Holston and Rural Retreat. The Indians of Rural Retreat have 35-40 playing, Chilhowie Warriors reported close to 40, while Holston reported 30-32 showing up for practice.

The last team and a newly formed high school is Southern Gap. This school has around 40-42 kids out for their first season of football. This school was the old Grundy, Hurley, Twin Valley and Council High Schools.





**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**



If you have Cougar pride, we need YOU!









Together, we can bring **COUGAR FOOTBALL** back to its winning traditions!

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP**

**\$100**

Your membership fee is strictly to cover the cost of your club hat and shirt.







We are willing to work with anyone who needs time to get that.

**MEMBER EXPECTATIONS**

- ✓ Attend meetings when possible
- ✓ Volunteer at events when available
- ✓ Support our football players
- ✓ Enjoy being part of an amazing football family!

**MEETING SCHEDULE**



**OFF-SEASON**  
Monthly Meetings



**FOOTBALL SEASON**  
Weekly Meetings

**CONTACT US**



**KENNY MYERS**  
540-616-7099



**TONY POWELL**  
540-818-0697



**TD44CLUB**  
@GMAIL.COM



**ONE TEAM. ONE FAMILY. ONE GOAL.**



**COUGAR VICTORY!**

**HOW WE SUPPORT COUGAR FOOTBALL**

TD 44 Club members volunteer at many events throughout the year that directly support our football program.



**SPRING FISHING TOURNAMENT**  
March/April



**JOEL HICKS MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
Final Saturday in May



**NRV FLEA MARKET**  
June & September



**CAR / CRAFT / HOT DOG SALE**  
End of June



**COUGAR YOUTH FOOTBALL CAMP**  
July  
We do the t-shirts and feed the kids.



**FOOTBALL PICTURE DAY**  
August  
We feed the team and parents.



**FALL FISHING TOURNAMENT**  
September



**END-OF-YEAR FOOTBALL BANQUET**  
We provide gifts and help feed the team.



**TD 44 CLUB CHRISTMAS DINNER**  
December

**DURING THE FOOTBALL SEASON, WE NEED YOU!**

- 🐾 Set up pre-game meals provided by local churches
- 🐾 Serve meals to the football team
- 🐾 Sell 50/50 raffle tickets (6-8 people each game)
- 🐾 Cheer on our Cougars!



**SUPPORT THE PLAYERS. SUPPORT THE COACHES. SUPPORT THE TRADITION.**



**JOIN THE FAMILY**

Support Our Cougars.  
Support Our Tradition.  
Support Our Future.

**THOSE 63 STEPS LEAD TO FRIDAY NIGHTS.**

**BEHIND EVERY PLAYER IS A COMMUNITY THAT BELIEVES IN THEM.**



**BE PART OF THAT COMMUNITY. JOIN THE TD 44 CLUB TODAY! GO COUGARS!**

**OUR MISSION**



The **TD 44 Club** is dedicated to supporting the Pulaski County High School Football Program by providing volunteers, fundraising, meals, equipment support, and encouragement for our players and coaches.

We believe football is about much more than winning games. It's about developing:



**CHARACTER**



**DISCIPLINE**



**TEAMWORK**



**LEADERSHIP**



**RESPECT**



**COMMUNITY PRIDE**

Every dollar raised, every volunteer hour, and every act of support helps provide opportunities for our student-athletes to succeed both on and off the field.



**THOSE 63 STEPS MATTER**



Every Friday night, our Cougar Football Team walks the famous **63 STEPS** leading into the *Cougar Den.*

Those steps represent...



**COMMITMENT...**



**HARD WORK...**



**DEDICATION...**



**TRADITION...**

And the pride of wearing the Cougar uniform.

Behind every player climbing those steps is a community that believes in them.

**BE PART OF THAT COMMUNITY.**

Help inspire the next generation of Cougars.  
Help preserve the tradition.  
Help build the future.

**GO COUGARS!**

**TOGETHER WE CAN BRING COUGAR FOOTBALL BACK TO CHAMPIONSHIP TRADITION!**





**SUPPORT THE PLAYERS.**



**SUPPORT THE COACHES.**



**SUPPORT THE TRADITION.**

**JOIN THE TD 44 CLUB TODAY!**

*More Than a Club...*

*We're a Football Family.*

The TD 44 Club is made up of parents, grandparents, alumni, former players, coaches, fans, and friends who all share one goal—**SUPPORTING PULASKI COUNTY COUGAR FOOTBALL.**

- 🐾 We celebrate together.
- 🐾 We volunteer together.
- 🐾 We work together.
- 🐾 We cheer together.

*Most importantly...*

We support our players every step of the way.



**GO COUGARS!**

# ACC Announces 2026 Bowl Season Schedule

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (the-ACC.com) – The Atlantic Coast Conference is set for another national postseason showcase, as the ACC, ESPN and Bowl Season announced the 2026 bowl schedule recently.

The ACC’s 2026 postseason lineup is inclusive of 17 possible bowl destinations, highlighted by 15 which will be featured on ABC and ESPN. The confirmed dates, kickoff times and broadcast information are listed below with the Holiday Bowl to be announced at a later date.

The announcement comes as anticipation builds for the 2026-27 postseason and College Football Playoff. The NCAA and CFP announced the schedule for the 12-team playoff format earlier this week, setting the stage for another exciting bowl season across the college football landscape.

“ACC Football finished the 2025 season on an incredibly high note, and we look forward to building upon that success in 2026,” said ACC Commissioner Jim Phillips, Ph.D. “We are proud of the meaningful relationship with our bowl partners as they are instrumental in creating memorable experiences for our student-athletes, coaches, and fans. We are also grateful for the continued support of Disney and ESPN, as well as Nick Carparelli and the entire Bowl Season team, whose commitment helps showcase and celebrate college football at its best.”

The ACC continued its tradition of postseason success in

2025, recording nine postseason victories, the second-most among all FBS conferences and the league’s highest total since 2016. The conference posted a 9-5 postseason record (.643), the second-best winning percentage among conferences with multiple postseason participants. The league also led all Power 4 conferences with seven postseason wins against fellow Power 4 opponents, including a perfect 4-0 mark against the SEC. Excluding intraconference matchups, the ACC finished 7-3 against Power 4 competition in postseason play, the best record among its peer conferences.

The ACC placed 11 teams in bowl games or the College Football Playoff for the third consecutive season, extending the longest such streak by any FBS conference in history. The league’s 11 postseason participants in 2025 ranked second nationally and marked the eighth time since the 2014-15 season that the ACC has produced double-digit bowl-eligible teams. The conference’s sustained postseason success remains unmatched nationally, as the ACC and SEC are the only FBS conferences to have multiple teams win a bowl game in every season since 2001, excluding the pandemic-impacted 2020 season.

On May 27, the ACC and ESPN unveiled the kickoff times and broadcast networks for more than 40 games during the first three weeks of the 2025 football season. The announce-

See BOWLS, page D2

Photo courtesy of Tony Powell

## TD44 Club

Members of the TD44 Club, which supports football in Pulaski County, pose of the “63 Steps” at Kenneth J. Dobson Stadium down to Joel Hicks Field. They are (up the left side): Andrew Haga, Jason Dobbins, Randy Trail, Matt Wright, Jerome Thomas

(Center): Kenny Myers

(Down the right): Brent Golden (hidden), Tony Powell, Tim Almarode, Regina Piland, David Goodman

Become a member today! See the club’s brand new brochure above to learn how.



# COUGAR OFFENSE

## Cougars to feature plenty of fresh faces

By TROY SARVER  
Patriot Publishing

After introducing a new look to their offense last fall, Pulaski County will have plenty of fresh faces running the formation when the regular season begins August 28 against Northside.

Head coach Cam Akers decided to put the quarterback

### MEET THE COUGARS



Colby Austin



Carson Compton



Carson Cox



Nathan Cox



Ilijah Salaam

*Pulaski County player, coaches photos by photographer Rob Simmons*

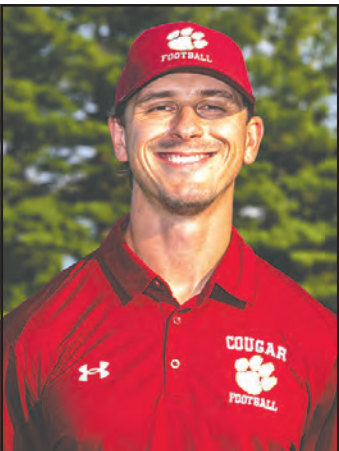
in shotgun full-time last year with returning senior Bryant Nottingham behind center. After working out some kinks, Akers says the Cougars will stay with the formation in 2026, despite having a new signal caller running it and a new offensive coordinator calling the plays.

“We will be in the gun again, but will have less option and be more gap oriented,” Akers said. “Collectively we did not have a ton of bad snaps (last year), and it gives our backs more time to see how a play develops.”

Akers is now serving as the Cougars’ defensive coordinator so Hunter Thomas will take over running the offense. Akers noted that Thomas is a young coach that is “ready to take the next step.”

Nottingham’s replacement at quarterback will be Preston Marshall (6’ 3, 196, Jr.). Marshall and Dorrior Long (6’2, 172, Jr.) battled for the job in preseason practices, but Long will now start at receiver while serving as backup QB.

“We feel good about both of them and whoever doesn’t start will take another position,” Akers said about his quarterbacks.



Hunter Thomas

There won’t be one running back getting the bulk of carries as the A-back, according to Akers, but they will be divided up between Ilijah Salaam (5’ 7”, 196, Jr. ) and Jackson Squires (5’ 11”, Jr.). Sophomore Bhima Dearaujo (5’ 7, 150) is also expected to get some carries out of the backfield while Kayne Miller (5’ 9”, 162, Sr.) is slated to be the H-back.

“Everything we do here is predicated on how we run the ball. If we do that then we can open things up,” Akers said.

If the Cougars are successful in opening things up, they will have receiving threats

that include Jayden Aviles (5’ 9”, 135, Jr.) at slot receiver, Long at wide receiver and Parker Price (6’2”, 221, Sr.) at tight end.

The biggest point of emphasis on offense, though, in the offseason has been around the Cougars’ offensive line.

“I thought we were not as good up front as we could be at creating movement at the point of attack. We’ve challenged the offensive line to improve,” Akers said.

Those accepting the challenge are left tackle Kingston Mickinnon (6’ 4”, 212, Jr.), left guard Javontae Jackson (5’ 7”, 207, Sr.), center Matt Coleman (5’ 11”, 270, Jr.), right guard Colling Wright (6’ 0”, 252, Soph.) and right tackle TJ Scott (6’0, 283, Sr.).

No matter if it’s the skill position players or the lineman, cleaning up mistakes in the form of procedure penalties and equipment issues that led to flags was something addressed in preseason by the offensive coaches.

“That was something we addressed and are nipping in the bud,” Akers said. “We need to limit mistakes because we were not good enough to overcome mistakes.”

Another issue the Cougars must overcome is a roster with limited returning experience. Only a total of 20 combined juniors and seniors were on the preseason roster.

“Our Varsity is not as big as our JV. We have 55 kids from 9-12 and the JV will play a role in our program,” Akers said. “We have a lot of youth but that’s a good thing.”

The diminishing numbers are not only an issue at Pulaski County, but other local programs as well. It’s led to a greater appreciation from Akers for the players who make the commitment to be part of the Cougars’ program.

“Football is hard. There is more prep than there are chances to play. You lift and then have training camp but only have 10 guaranteed pieces of candy and you have to win your way into the play-offs,” Akers said. “We have a good group of kids. I commend them.”

Pulaski County opens play on August 28 at 7 p.m. when they host Northside. The opener is part of a five-game stretch to start the season where the Cougars will play at Kenneth J. Dobson Stadium four times.

# Pick the right team

Here's the deal: When you go with State Farm®, you get a local agent that can deliver Good Neighbor service at surprisingly great rates. Give us a call.

Go Pulaski County Cougars!!!

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®



Deanie Hall, Agent  
106 Town Center Dr  
Dublin, VA 24084  
Bus: 540-674-5285  
deanie.hall.m2go@statefarm.com



Webb Donald, Agent  
2001 Bob White Blvd  
Pulaski, VA 24301  
Bus: 540-980-6592  
webb.donald.mlb@statefarm.com

State Farm  
Bloomington, IL  
2001733







Where



You



Belong

NEW RIVER  
Community College



# ***KEEP UP WITH THE COUGARS THIS SEASON!***

**AT**  
**WWW.PCPATRIOT.COM**

VISIT US ONLINE AND  
SELECT THE  
SUBSCRIPTION THAT'S  
RIGHT FOR YOU!  
Starting as low as \$5 a  
month!

**1ST GAME  
VS NORTHSIDE**

**KICKOFF  
AT 7:00 PM**



*The Patriot*

 **540 808-3949 OR 540 980-5220**

 **pulaski@pcpatriot.com**

 **7 Fifth St NE, Pulaski VA 24301**

**Get access to the news  
before it hits the stands!**

**Access to years of  
archived editions.**

**The Southwest Times**









# COUGAR DEFENSE

## Focus to be on fundamentals, finishing

By TROY SARVER  
Patriot Publishing

As he walked off the field following Pulaski County's season finale last fall, Cougars' head coach Cam Akers was already thinking ahead to what he needed to do to change the program's fortunes in 2026.

"I take full responsibility for our season and record. We've got to do better. I'm going to begin breaking down film in a couple of weeks and spend the offseason evaluating the program to see where we can get better. We owe it to this community," Akers said after completing a 3-7 season in 2025.

Nine months later Akers and his Pulaski County squad came into preseason workouts with a renewed focus on fundamentals and some personnel changes brought on by necessity.

After running the offensive side of the ball last year, Akers has moved to the defensive side taking over as defensive coordinator from Rob Colley who left the staff to take an administrative position. Early on Akers says the team has adapted to the change well.

"We've had a good offseason. We have a good group of kids that've worked really hard in the weightroom and want to be coached," Akers said.

The focus over the offseason has been improving tackling and fitness to finish games, which was a struggle at times



Brian Bishop/Patriot Publishing

**Pulaski County Head Coach Cam Akers will also serve as defensive coordinator this season.**

for the Cougars last season. Over 10 games in 2025 the PC defense allowed an average of 35.5 points per game and gave up over 34 points in all seven of their losses.

"Our job is to take these young men and put them in the best position possible. There will be no excuses for a lack of effort or fundamentals," Akers said. "We've told them to be a good tackling team you have to

be a good run fit team as well. We have got to improve on how we get into those fun fits and to finish."

Formation wise Akers says the Cougars will switch from the four-man front they played last season to a three-man front that the Cougars' head man says fits their personnel better. Included on that front will be defensive ends TJ Scott (6' 0", 283, Sr.) and Colin Wright

(6'0", 252, Soph.) along with Zane Thomas (5' 9", 275, Jr.) and Matthew Coleman (5' 11", 270, Kr.) sharing time at nose tackle.

A strength of the defense, according to Akers, could be the linebacking corps that include returning starters at inside linebacker Parker Price (6'2", 221, Sr.) and Ilijah Sallaam (5'7", 196, Sr.). Outside linebackers will be Kingston

Mickinnon (6' 4", 212, Jr.) and Javontae Jackson (5' 7", 207, Sr.).

The secondary will include strong safety Jackson Squires (5' 11", 158, Jr.), free safety Kayne Miller (5' 9", 162, Sr.), corner Jayden Aviles (5' 9", 135, Jr.) and corner Dorian Long (6'2", 172, Jr.).

Along with the defense, special teams will play a critical role in helping PC with field position. The task will be a challenging one as All-State punter Bryant Nottingham has been lost to graduation.

The fresh look to special teams includes new coach Brian Worrell, a 2020 graduate of Pulaski County. Worrell comes back to the Cougars' program after serving as a long snapper for the Iowa Hawkeyes last season. He also had a pro try-out during the offseason.

Worrell will be working with seniors Zach Chrisley (6' 0", 167) and Alex Flores (5' 10", 147) who both joined the program this year to share both placekicking and punting duties previously manned by Nottingham.

The new defensive look will make its debut on August 28 when Pulaski County hosts Northside at Kenneth J. Dobson Stadium. Last year the Vikings put up 49 points on the Cougars' defense in a 49-20 season opening defeat.

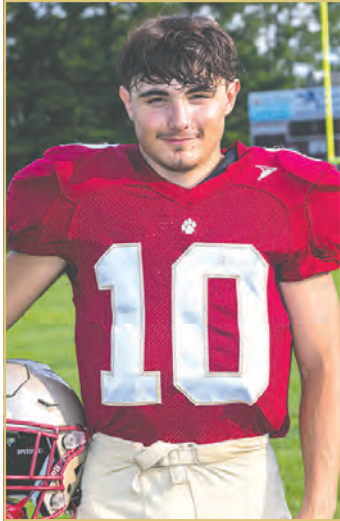
Game time on August 28 will be 7 p.m.



Hunter Shrewsbury



Preston Marshall



Bhima Dearaujo



Zach Chrisley



Dorrion Long



***Whether you're turning 65, new to Medicare, or want to review your current coverage, I'm here to help make Medicare easier to understand.***

**I can help you with:**

- Medicare
- Medicare Advantage Plans
- Medicare Supplement Plans
- Prescription Drug Plans

**GO COUGARS!**

**Reminder: Medicare Annual Enrollment is October 15, 2026 to December 7, 2026**

**Have Questions? Call me.**

**Karen Tuggle**  
**Licensed Medicare Agent**  
**540 250-6089**





Jackson Squires



Kanye Miller



Zaccarion Burton



Jayden Aviles



Nathaniel Lohrmann



Michael Myers



Cameron Akers



Ayden Ford



Rahmyene Jones



Andrew Haga



Braxton Brown



Adam Delph



Lewis Giles



Parker Price



Jed Woodyard

# Generations Strong. Cougar Proud.



PULASKI COUNTY VA  
**PARKS &  
RECREATION**







Evan Johnson



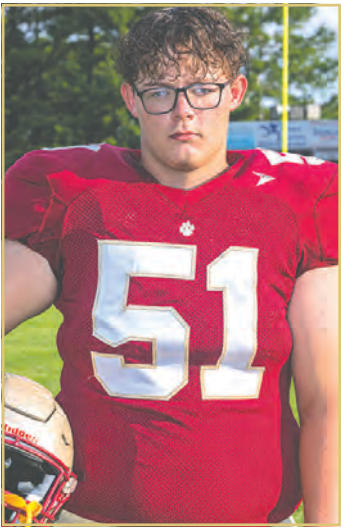
Issac Jueck



Tyler Jarrells



Lamont Austin



Matthew Coleman



Kingston Mickinnon



Justus Nester



Javontae Jackson



TJ Moye-Scott



Colin Wright



Ryan Gore



Tyler Lane



Zaine Thomas



Mason Alechko



Malachi Bryant



**BARBOUR & SIMPKINS, LLP**  
**ATTORNEYS AT LAW**



**LET'S GO**  
**COUGARS!**



Dublin Town Center  
500 Newbern Rd. Dublin, Va. 24084

(540) 674-8556





Memphis Crockett



Zachary Slaughter



Matthew Hall



Karsen Lambert



Jonathan Legget



Noah Altizer



Head Coach Cam Akers



Bryant Worrell



Jeff Reynolds



Antwan Calfee



Hunter Thomas



Greg Allen



Eric Berry

| Pulaski County High School Football Roster |                    |       |       |     |           |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------|-------|-----|-----------|
| #s                                         | Name               | Grade | Ht.   | Wt. | Position  |
| 1                                          | Colby Austin       | 9     | 5'5"  | 113 | DB/WR     |
| 3                                          | Carson Compton     | 10    | 6'1"  | 171 | OLB/QB    |
| 4                                          | Carson Cox         | 10    | 5'10" | 138 | DB/QB     |
| 5                                          | Nathan Cox         | 10    | 5'10" | 131 | DB/WR     |
| 6                                          | Ilijah Salaam      | 12    | 5'7"  | 196 | ILB/RB    |
| 7                                          | Hunter Shrewsbury  | 9     | 5'3"  | 119 | DB/Slot   |
| 8                                          | Preston Marshall   | 11    | 6'3"  | 196 | OLB/QB    |
| 10                                         | Bhima Dearaujo     | 10    | 5'7"  | 150 | DB/RB     |
| 11                                         | Zach Chrisley      | 12    | 6'    | 167 | PK        |
| 12                                         | Aviston Akers      | 9     |       |     | DB/Slot   |
| 14                                         | Dorriion Long      | 11    | 6'2"  | 172 | DB/QB     |
| 15                                         | Jackson Squires    | 11    | 5'11" | 158 | DB/RB     |
| 16                                         | Kanye Miller       | 12    | 5'9"  | 162 | DB/SLOT   |
| 17                                         | Alex Flores        | 12    | 5'10" | 147 | PK        |
| 18                                         | Zaccarion Burton   | 11    | 5'8"  | 133 | DB/WR     |
| 19                                         | Jayden Aviles      | 11    | 5'9"  | 135 | DB/Slot   |
| 20                                         | Nathaniel Lohrmann | 11    | 5'11" | 146 | DB/WR     |
| 21                                         | Michael Myers      | 10    | 5'8"  | 139 | DB/Slot   |
| 22                                         | Cameron Akers      | 9     | 5'8"  | 159 | ILB/FB    |
| 23                                         | Ayden Ford         | 11    | 6'    | 174 | OLB/TE    |
| 24                                         | Rahmyene Jones     | 10    | 5'7"  | 136 | DB/RB     |
| 25                                         | Andrew Haga        | 12    | 5'7"  | 174 | OLB/FB    |
| 28                                         | Braxton Brown      | 9     |       | 148 | DB/Slot   |
| 30                                         | Dakota Carico      | 9     |       |     | OLB/OL/TE |
| 31                                         | Adam Delfh         | 9     |       | 152 | ILB/FB    |
| 32                                         | Lewis Giles        | 10    | 5'7"  | 166 | ILB/FB    |
| 34                                         | Parker Price       | 12    | 6'2"  | 221 | ILB/TE    |
| 35                                         | Jed Woodyard       | 10    | 5'9"  | 155 | ILB/FB    |
| 40                                         | Evan Johnson       | 11    | 5'9"  | 182 | ILB/FB    |
| 42                                         | Isaac Jueck        | 9     | 6'    | 135 | OLB/TE    |
| 43                                         | Tyler Jarrells     | 9     | 5'10" | 142 | DB/WR     |
| 45                                         | Lamont Austin      | 9     |       |     | DL/TE     |
| 50                                         | Tobias Smith       | 12    |       |     |           |
| 51                                         | Matthew Coleman    | 11    | 5'11" | 270 | DL/OL     |
| 52                                         | Kingston Mickinnon | 11    | 6'4"  | 212 | OLB/OL    |
| 53                                         | Justus Nester      | 10    | 6'2"  | 229 | DL/OL     |
| 54                                         | Javontae Jackson   | 12    | 5'7"  | 207 | OLB/OL    |
| 55                                         | TJ Moye-Scott      | 12    | 6'0"  | 283 | DL/OL     |
| 57                                         | Colin Wright       | 10    | 6'0"  | 252 | DL/OL     |
| 58                                         | Ellijah Blevins    | 9     |       |     | DL/OL     |
| 60                                         | Ryan Gore          | 9     | 6'0"  | 223 | DL/OL     |
| 61                                         | Tyler Lanie        | 9     | 6'0"  | 229 | DL/OL     |
| 62                                         | Zaine Thomas       | 11    | 5'9"  | 275 | DL/OL     |
| 63                                         | Kent Young         | 9     | 5'10" | 200 | DL/OL     |
| 64                                         | Grason Gravley     | 9     | 5'10" | 203 | DL/OL     |
| 66                                         | Bronson Ratcliffe  | 9     | 5'6"  | 198 | DL/OL     |
| 68                                         | Mason Alechko      | 9     | 5'10" | 241 | DL/OL     |
| 70                                         | Malachi Bryant     | 10    | 6'1"  | 317 | DL/OL     |
| 71                                         | Memphis Crockett   | 11    | 5'9"  | 256 | DL/OL     |
| 72                                         | Zachary Slaughter  | 9     | 6'    | 197 | DL/OL     |
| 74                                         | Matthew Hall       | 10    | 6'    | 305 | DL/OL     |
| 76                                         | Karsen Lambert     | 9     | 5'11" | 181 | DL/OL     |
| 80                                         | Jonathan Legget    | 9     | 5'8"  | 130 | DB/Slot   |
| 85                                         | Noah Altizer       | 9     | 6'1"  | 173 | OLB/WR    |

PULASKI COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL  
COUGARS FOOTBALL  
2026 VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

🏠 Youth Recreation Night (Sept. 25) | 🏡 Homecoming (Oct. 2) | 🎓 Senior Night (Oct. 23)

| Date     | Opponent                       | Location                          | Time    | Special Event |
|----------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|---------------|
| Aug. 14  | Floyd County (Scrimmage)       | Huckleberry Park - Christiansburg | 5:30 PM |               |
| Aug. 21  | Franklin County (Benefit Game) | Away                              | 7:00 PM | Benefit Game  |
| Aug. 28  | Northside                      | Home                              | 7:00 PM |               |
| Sept. 4  | Tazewell                       | Home                              | 7:00 PM |               |
| Sept. 11 | OPEN                           | —                                 | —       |               |
| Sept. 18 | Staunton River                 | Away                              | 7:00 PM |               |
| Sept. 25 | Cave Spring                    | Home                              | 7:00 PM | Rec Night     |
| Oct. 2   | Christiansburg                 | Home                              | 7:00 PM | Homecoming    |
| Oct. 9   | Graham                         | Away                              | 7:00 PM |               |
| Oct. 16  | Blacksburg                     | Away                              | 7:00 PM |               |
| Oct. 23  | Salem                          | Home                              | 7:00 PM | Senior Night  |
| Oct. 30  | Patrick Henry                  | Away                              | 7:00 PM |               |
| Nov. 6   | Hidden Valley                  | Away                              | 7:00 PM | Season Finale |

Bowls

Continued From Page C4  
ment also detailed the schedule for Thursday and Friday night games throughout the year. To date, ACC teams are scheduled to participate in a total of 28 nationally televised games on networks including ABC, ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPNU. In addition, there will be 13 more matchups on the ACC Network and 13 additional games airing on CBS, NBC, Peacock, Fox, FS1 and The CW as part of the announced schedule.

ACC Bowl Game Affiliations – Game Times and TV Designations through December.

Tuesday, December 15  
Frisco Football Classic (Frisco, Texas) – 9 p.m. ET | ESPN \*

Friday, December 18

Bush's Boca Raton Bowl of Beans (Boca Raton, Florida) – 11 a.m. ET | ESPN \*

Union Home Mortgage Gasparilla Bowl (Tampa, Florida) – 2:30 p.m. ET | ESPN

CFP First Round Game (on campus site) – 8 p.m. ET | ESPN

Saturday, December 19  
CFP First Round Game (on campus site) – Noon ET | ABC/ESPN

CFP First Round Game (on campus site) – 3:30 p.m. ET | TNT/TruTV/HBO Max

CFP First Round Game (on campus site) – 7:30 p.m. ET | TNT/TruTV/HBO Max

Tuesday, December 22  
Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl (Shreveport, Louisiana) - 8:30 p.m. ET | ESPN ^

Wednesday, December 23  
Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl (Fort Worth, Texas) – 5:30 p.m. ET | ESPN \*

Frisco Bowl (Frisco, Texas) – 9 p.m. ET | ESPN \*

Saturday, December 26  
Bad Boy Mowers Pinstripe Bowl (The Bronx, New York) – Noon ET |

ABC  
Wasabi Fenway Bowl (Boston, Massachusetts) – 2 p.m. ET | ESPN

Duke's Mayo Bowl (Charlotte, North Carolina) – 3:30 p.m. ET | ABC

Monday, December 28  
Freedom Mortgage Military Bowl (Annapolis, Maryland) – 2 p.m. ET | ESPN

Tuesday, December 29  
JLab Birmingham Bowl (Birmingham, Alabama) – 2 p.m. ET | ESPN \*  
Pop-Tarts Bowl (Orlando, Florida) – 5:30 p.m. ET | ESPN  
Valero Alamo Bowl (San Antonio, Texas) - 9 p.m. ET | ESPN ^

Wednesday, December 30  
TaxSlayer Gator Bowl (Jacksonville, Florida) – 11:30 a.m. ET | ESPN  
CFP Quarterfinals: Vrbo Fiesta Bowl (Glendale, Arizona) – 7:30 p.m. ET | TNT/TruTV/HBO Max

Thursday, December 31  
Tony the Tiger Sun Bowl (El Paso, Texas) – 2 p.m. ET | CBS ^  
Las Vegas Bowl (Las Vegas, Nevada) - 3:45 p.m. ET | ESPN ^

Go Cougars!



Sani-Mode Barber Shop is a full service barber shop located in Pulaski, Virginia. We have been open and operating in Pulaski since 1926. We feature two award-winning licensed master barbers with over 50 years combined experience. We pride ourselves on great customer service. No gimmicks!

Kelly Howlett & Jamie Bentley - BARBERS  
(540) 980-6991 \* 516 East Main St., Suite 1 \* Pulaski, VA





# RADFORD BOBCATS

## 2026 edition are experienced, skillful, athletic

By **RODNEY YOUNG**  
NRVSports.net

Last season, the Radford Bobcats finished with a 6-5 record and made the playoffs. It was Coach Michael Crist’s worst record as the Bobcats’ head coach. His record over five years is a sparkling 47-15, including a state championship in 2023. This is his sixth year as their head coach, and the ‘Cats have made the play-offs all of his previous five seasons.

Prior to coming to Radford, he also coached at Virginia High for eight years giving him a total of 14 years of head-coaching experience. Radford under Crist is averaging a record of 9-3 per season.

This year’s Crist team is very experienced, as they lost only six seniors from last year’s squad. They return seven starters on offense and seven starters on defense.

The Bobcats’ coaching staff will consist of Roger Hollins as the defensive coordinator and linebackers coach. Zach Landis will be the offensive coordinator. Josh Smith will be the wide receiver coach and passing game coordinator. D. J. Baylor will coach the defensive backs and secondary, as well as special teams. Richie Davis will coach the defensive and offensive lines. Trey Brown will help with quarterbacks and running backs. Ethan Brown will assist with the wide receivers, and Howard Lytton will coach the kickers. Andrew Waff is the trainer.

Offensively, Radford will



Brian Bishop/Patriot Publishing

**Veteran head coach Michael Crist hopes to continue Radford’s winning ways.**

use multiple formations, and they would like to be close to a 50-50 run-pass split. Defensively, they will have a 35 look, and sometimes a 33 look. They like to change up and send linebackers at times.

Coach Crist was asked about the Three Rivers District schedule, and he remarked, “Glenvar lost some good players but will return some good players. Coach Clifford does an excellent job there. Floyd County will be tough under

Coach Cromer.” He then said, “Carroll County will be good, and James River and Patrick County will be improved, as will Martinsville.”

Coach Crist was then asked about the out-of-district schedule, and he replied, “George Wythe is always tough and well coached. William Byrd is physical and good. Giles and the single-wing are always challenging. Galax should be improved. It’s a challenging schedule, and we have to be

prepared each week.”

Offensively, the Bobcats will have Reece Honaker and Eli Harris at tackles. Honaker is an East Tennessee State commit. The guards will be Khyree Lewis and Sam Long. Jose Cooper is at center. Some others to see action on the line will be Payton Dowdy and Emory Honaker.

The quarterback position is a three-way battle with Senior Peyton Dobbins, Junior Brady Sutherland, and Sophomore

Blake Blair.

Wide receivers will be Trenton Carter, Colten Garner-Rollins, and Tucker Williams.

The running backs will be Pace Prioleau and William Dehart-Lewis. Some others to see action at running back and wide receiver will be Matthew McGuire, Cohen Carpenter, Grant Keister and Tanner Rogers.

The defensive side of the ball will see Reece Honaker, Kyree Lewis and Trenden Mattox up front. The linebackers will be Long, Dehart-Lewis, Arion Kissee and Hunter Case. The secondary will be Carter, Garner-Rollins, Prioleau and Tucker Williams.

William Dehart-Lewis will handle the punting, and Luciano Pugliese will do the placekicking.

“We have some positions being contested, and I’ve been pleased with the effort. The community here loves their Bobcats and their support is great.”

This year’s team has eight seniors, 12 juniors, 19 sophomores, and eight freshmen.

Radford is athletic and more experienced with this year’s team. Quarterback performance needs to be big, as will the offensive and defensive lines, for a successful season. If they can avoid injuries, they will be one of the favorites to compete for the Three Rivers District regular-season championship. This team should make the playoffs once again under Coach Crist, for a sixth consecutive year.

## MEET THE BOBCATS



William Dehart-Lewis



Tucker Williams



Peyton Dobbins



Trenton Carter



Cohen Carpenter

# PULASKI COUNTY COUGAR FOOTBALL



The Town of Pulaski Mayor, Town Council,  
Town Manager and staff wish the  
**Pulaski County Cougars**  
a successful **2026** football season!

# GO COUGARS!





Colten Garner-Rollins



Blake Blair



Pace Prioleau



Trenden Mattox



Righteous Hughes



Maximus Clabon



Grant Keister



Hunter Case



Braylon Wray



Tanner Rogers



Wyatt Dunn



Desmond Dubose-Bishop



Brady Sutherland



Makel Blaney



Trynt Johnston



Phillip Finley



Matthew McGuire



Tyrell Brown



Gavin Myers



Ryker Guedes



Radford  
player, coaches  
photos by  
photographer  
Brian Bishop



London Burks



Youseff Elhady



Luciano Pugliese



Arion Kissee

**Proud Supporter of  
The Cougars!**



**HAYDEN**  
*Electrical & Plumbing*  
Rt 11 & Alum Spring Rd, Pulaski  
(540) 980-5710 • Hours: M - Th: 8 am - 5 pm • Fri: 8 am - 2:30 pm







Cameron Hope



Emory Honaker



Sam Long



Payton Dowdy



Ben Spaulding



Aiden Lin



Anderson Waff



Jacob Barnett



Reece Honaker



Eli Harris



Jose Cooper



Tarik Tomas



Loki Hudgins



Colton Owens



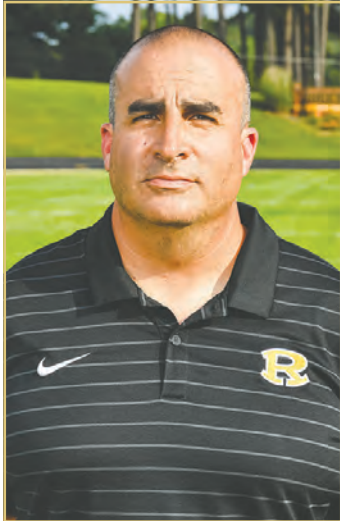
Khyree Lewis



Aden Davis



Colton Denham



Michael Crist



DJ Baylor



Richie Davis



Roger Hollins



Josh Smith



Zach Landis



GOOD LUCK  
COUGARS!

KING'S  
TIRE SERVICE

Established 1970

ASK HOW WE CAN SERVE YOU.



1300 Bob White Blvd, Pulaski • 540 980-8173  
kingtireservice.com



# FORT CHISWELL PIONEERS

## Seeking overall improvement at the Fort in ‘26

By **RODNEY YOUNG**  
**NRVSports.net**

Last season wasn’t great for the Fort Chiswell Patriots, to say the least. This year, the Patriots are looking for improvement in all areas of the team.

Second-year head coach Cory Mabry went 2-8 in his first year.

“Last season was a learning experience for all of us, players and coaches. I feel like this season I understand the kids better and they understand me and our coaching staff.”

He added, “I know what the kids are capable of and it’s up to me and the coaching staff to put them in better situations and better positions to perform.”

Besides his head coaching responsibilities, Mabry will coach the quarterbacks and linebackers as well.

One member of the Patriot staff is James Whitlock. Coach Whitlock used to be with former Patriot head coach, Ste-

phen James’ staff and will be the defensive coordinator. He’ll also coach the offensive and defensive lines. His experience should really help the Patriots this season.

Mason Clark will be offensive coordinator, and wide receivers coach, as well as coaching the defensive backs. He also will be head junior varsity coach.

Others on the staff include Jacob Underwood, the running backs and assistant junior varsity coach. Jonathan Cozart will help with wide receivers and the offense, and Wayne Kirby is assistant for the offensive and defensive lines.

Last season the Patriots were shut out four times and defensively they surrendered 35 points or more in seven games. If you count the 29 points allowed in another game that is eight games allowing 29 or more points.

A tough schedule didn’t help, as eight of their 10 opponents made the playoffs.

“We played a tough sched-

ule and we got to put players in the right place. We have 31-32 kids out for varsity / junior varsity,” Mabry says about this year’s squad.

Last season the Patriots had nine seniors, so this season they return six starters on offense and six on defense.

Coach Mabry remarked, “We would like to run a little more than pass, but that also depends on who we are playing.”

“Defensively we will use a 34 defense with three man up front. We will play man -to-man and some zone as well in the secondary.”

As for the rest of the Mountain Empire District, Mabry said, “Grayson County and George Wythe should be the teams to beat. They both return some really good players. Auburn returns a lot of their players and they will be improved. Giles and their single-wing is always tough, and Galax should be better this season.”

Coach Mabry was then

asked about his out of district schedule and he replied by saying, “Rural Retreat is always tough. Carroll County lost some key players but they return some good players as well. Floyd County should be really good and Holston has some nice players back. Marion should be greatly improved as they lost just two seniors. It’s a challenging schedule and we have to be ready to play every Friday night.”

Fort Chiswell offensively, will start Sam Scott and Sawyer Blair at tackles. Center should be Simon Gillespie, with RJ Hovencamp and Andrew Hicks at guard. Others to see action on the line will be Aidan Hicks and Wyatt Primm.

The quarterback will be either Dakota Bailey or Jackson Viars. Wide receivers are Eli Martin, Aidan Hicks and Viars.

Aiden Rooney will be the H-back, while Cameron Moody is the running back.

Defensively the Patriots

will go with Gillespie, Hovencamp and Aidan Hicks up front. Sam Scott and Primm will see action there also.

The linebackers will be Andrew Hicks, Aidan Rooney, Dalton Webster and Eli Halsey.

The secondary should be Cameron Moody and Aidan Gillespie at cornerbacks. The safeties will be Eli Martin and Dakota Bailey.

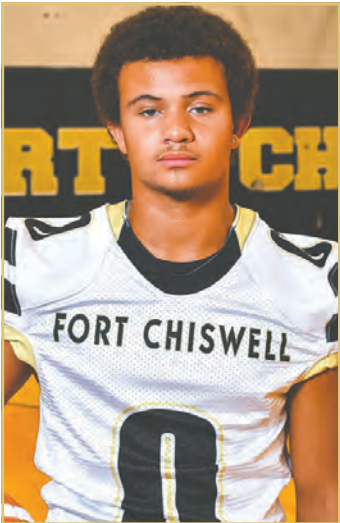
Bailey will be doing the punting and kicking for the special teams.

This team will consist of eight seniors, seven juniors, six sophomores and 10 freshmen.

Head coach Mabry said, “We hope the community will continue to support the team and we hope we can improve not only from last year but from game to game this season.”

This team should be better, now the record with this tough schedule is going to be interesting to watch. The coaching staff has more experience as does the players.

### MEET THE PIONEERS



Cameron Moody



Aiden Rooney



Jordan Armbrister



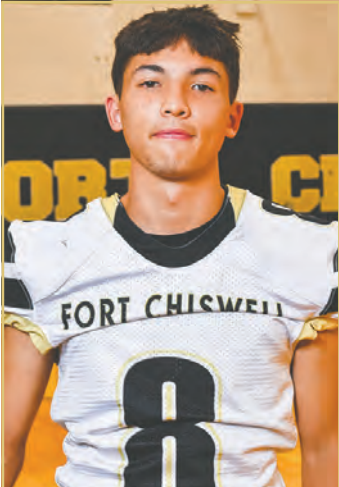
Aidan Gillispie



Dakota Bailey



Eli Caudle



Eli Martin



Dalton Webster



Gauge Adams



Jackson Viars



Eli Halsey



Levi Williams



Wyatt Primm



Samuel Scott



Dawson Beasley

## BISHOP INSURANCE

- Auto
- Home
- Commercial
- Final Expenses

### 540-443-3900

7 Fifth Street, N.E.  
Pulaski, VA 24301  
[www.bishopins.net](http://www.bishopins.net)

Colton Morgan

Koty Viars

Sawyer Blair

Aidan Hicks

RJ Hovencamp

Simon Gillespie



# VIRGINIA TECH HOKIES

## Franklin tries to right the ship in Blacksburg

By **TROY SARVER**  
**Patriot Publishing**

BLACKSBURG – After an offseason filled with change, James Franklin is ready to make his debut on the sidelines as the head coach at Virginia Tech.

Franklin, 54, was hired last November to turn around a Tech program that has sustained five losing seasons in the last six years, including a 3-9 campaign in 2025 that led to head coach Brent Pry’s firing after a 0-3 start by the Hokies.

Turning around struggling programs, though, is a specialty of Franklin’s who comes to Blacksburg with 30 years of coaching experience including head coaching stints at Vanderbilt (2011-13) and Penn State (2014-2025). He first led Vandy to three straight bowl games before taking over at Penn St. where he compiled a 104-45 record with a Big 10 championship in 2016 and national semifinal appearance in 2024.

Since his arrival on the Tech campus nine months ago, Franklin has seen several changes. Some of those changes were of his making and others were out of his control.

A number of transfers into the program, changes in the coaching staff and improvements to the facility have been led by Franklin, while he also saw the school name a new athletic director in June when



**Brian Bishop/Patriot Publishing**  
**New Hokies head coach James Franklin works with a player on his technique during spring practice. Hired to turn the Hokies around, he has a reputation for doing so.**

Brian White was hired for the position. White, who replaces Whit Babcock, comes to Blacksburg after serving as the athletic director at Florida Atlantic for the past eight years.

“Everything is new. There is construction everywhere. It looks like a construction site,” Franklin said earlier this month. “What we’re doing in the weightroom is different

and how we are practicing is different. We are trying to establish a culture and trying to establish standards of how we practice and how we work.”

When coming to Tech, Franklin brought along several of his former Penn St. players including quarterback Ethan Grunkemeyer and tight end Luke Reynolds. Grunkemeyer (6-2, 213, redshirt soph.) started seven games for

the Nittany Lions in 2025 after starter Drew Allar was lost for the season with an injury. He led Penn St. to a four-game winning streak to end the year.

Reynolds (6’ 4”, 250, jr.) had 26 catches for 257 yards last season in Happy Valley, but expectations this season are high for the junior tight end as he was the Hokies’ only First-Team All-ACC selection.

While Grunkemeyer and

Reynolds are new on the offensive side of the ball, a familiar face will be running the Tech defense as Pry remains with the Hokies as defensive coordinator. It is not an unfamiliar spot for Pry who served as Franklin’s defensive coordinator at both Vanderbilt and Penn State before taking the Hokies’ head coaching job in 2021.

How quickly the new pieces gel together will be critical in determining Tech’s success this year, according to Franklin.

“For us to have the season we want to have we have to play complementary football in all three phases doing their jobs and making plays when opportunities present themselves,” Franklin said.

The media expects the Hokies to improve this season as they were picked to finish 8th in the ACC in the conference’s pre-season poll. Miami, who lost in the national championship to Indiana last season, was picked to finish first.

Virginia Tech begins their season on Sept. 5 when they host VMI for a 7:30 p.m. kickoff. The game will be televised by the ACC Network.

Other highlights of the schedule include the ACC opener on Sept. 26 at Boston College, a Friday night home game on Oct. 2 against Pittsburgh and the annual battle for the Commonwealth Cup against Virginia on Nov. 28 in Blacksburg.

### MEET THE PIONEERS



**Andrew Hicks**



**Head Coach Cory Mabry**



**Mason Clark**



**Jacob Underwood**



**James Whitlock**



**Jon Cozart**



**Wayne Kirby**

### MEET THE BOBCCATS



**Trey Brown**



**Ethan Brown**



**Charlie Meeks**



*Radford  
and  
Fort Chiswell  
player, coaches  
photos by  
photographer  
Brian Bishop*



**Emergencies hit  
close to home.  
We’re just as close.**

2400 Lee Highway, Pulaski  
[HCAVirginia.com/Pulaski](http://HCAVirginia.com/Pulaski)

 **LewisGale Hospital**  
Pulaski  
*HCA Virginia Health System*



PULASKI COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL

# 53 Young Cougars off to hot start in ‘26

| PLAYER           | GRADE | NO.   |
|------------------|-------|-------|
| Gabe Huffman     | 8     | 1     |
| Channing Coon    | 7     | 1     |
| Ameer Boatman    | 8     | 4     |
| Lee Hughes       | 8     | 6     |
| Macayen Farmer   | 8     | 7     |
| Dylan Parker     | 8     | 8     |
| Brantley         | 8     | 9     |
| Easton Hughes    | 6     | 10/11 |
| Antonio Hendrix  | 7     | 12    |
| Sincere Hill     | 8     | 14    |
| Gage Cassell     | 7     | 15    |
| Garrett Gravely  | 6     | 16    |
| Braedon Arnold   | 8     | 17    |
| Karter Jackson   | 7     | 19    |
| Brenton Burgis   | 7     | 20    |
| David Grubb      | 8     | 22    |
| Jaxxn Hurst      | 8     | 23    |
| Zander Finney    | 8     | 24    |
| Josh East        | 8     | 23    |
| Nasir Cooper     | 8     | 26/18 |
| Jacob Collins    | 7     | 28    |
| Zack Chrisley    | 8     | 30    |
| Colton Huffman   | 6     | 31    |
| Logan McCrosky   | 8     | 32    |
| DJ Baldwin       | 8     | 33    |
| Karson Buckner   | 7     | 34/81 |
| Grayson Tolley   | 7     | 35    |
| Elias Dalton     | 6     | 42    |
| Jesus Malacara   | 8     | 43    |
| Anthony Shaffer  | 6     | 44    |
| Connor Underwood | 7     | 45    |
| Isaiah Austin    | 7     | 46    |
| Bruce McPherson  | 8     | 53    |
| Griffin Odell    | 8     | 54    |
| Kaden Parker     | 7     | 55    |
| Stone Barrett    | 6     | 58    |
| Mason Sarver     | 7     | 62    |
| Austin Thomas    | 8     | 63    |
| Chantz Dean      | 8     | 64    |
| Karter Green     | 7     | 70    |
| Antonio Williams | 8     | 72    |
| Hunter Bishop    | 8     | 73    |
| Rylen Cordle     | 8     | 74    |
| Austin Snider    | 7     | 75    |
| Jayceon Hurrdle  | 8     | 79    |
| Isaiah Ford      | 8     | 80    |
| Matt Fleenor     | 7     | 82    |
| Bentley Hawks    | 8     | 84    |
| Jaxen Bellan     | 7     | 85    |
| Markus Seward    | 7     | 88    |



*Pulaski County Middle School opens 2026 season with win over Carroll County*

Dylan Parker (8) breaks a long run for a touchdown during the first quarter in Thursdays game against Carroll County. Pulaski County won, 20-0.

Brian Bishop/The Patriot

Schedule:

|      |                |      |
|------|----------------|------|
| 8/19 | Carroll        | 5:30 |
| 8/27 | @Patrick Henry | 5:30 |
| 9/3  | @Read Mountain | 5:30 |
| 9/10 | @Tazewell      | 5:30 |
| 9/17 | @Blacksburg    | 5:30 |
| 9/24 | Floyd          | 5:30 |
| 10/1 | Christiansburg | 5:30 |
| 10/7 | Andrew Lewis   | 5:30 |



*We Lions Just Love the Cougars!*

Good Luck in 2026

And Don't Miss The Pulaski County

FLEA MARKET

NRV FAIRGROUNDS

SEPT. 19-20, 2026

Admission is \$2.00 (Children 6 & Under Enter Free!)

5581 Fairgrounds Circle

Dublin, VA 24084

Opens at 7 a.m. - Closes at 5 p.m.

Sponsored By Dublin Lions Club



www.pulaskicountyfleamarket.com

