



# Pulaski County Citizen Newsletter

## April - June 2024

### Vol. XVIII Issue 2

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

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## Chair's Corner

Happy Spring! As you have probably noticed, our roadways and common areas are littered with trash. Littering is illegal and totally unnecessary and unfortunately, we do not have inmate labor to help manage this problem anymore. We want to keep the County where we live clean and welcoming. Therefore, the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors is once again sponsoring our **One Bag Challenge** to aid in cleaning up our county. This year, we are excited to announce the Pulaski County School Board is joining the Board of Supervisors in challenging members of the community, our towns, businesses, and nonprofits to help collect litter along roadways and waterways in the county and to provide educational opportunities to our younger citizens.

The "One Bag Challenge" began in 2023 and was very successful with 237 participants collecting 849 bags of trash and 275 tires, resulting in an award from the Virginia Association of Counties. We hope to surpass those numbers this year with a goal of 1,000 bags and 300 tires! Participants who pick up trash could win a \$100 VISA Gift Card for their photo submissions. For each full bag of trash collected, the participant's name will be entered into a monthly drawing. The Board of Supervisors and School Board will each draw three names at their monthly March, April, May, and June meetings. Please submit bag counts, participant names and pictures to Laura Walters, by text at 540-230-6272 or email at [lwalters@pulaskicounty.org](mailto:lwalters@pulaskicounty.org) to be included. Pictures will be posted on the Clean Community Council Facebook page. In addition, groups or individuals can Adopt a Spot for a year and receive a sign with their names and logo. Larger prizes will be available at the end of the year for those who collect the most trash.

In addition, the School Board is offering two educational programs regarding trash collection and recycling. The first, "One Bag Challenge Scholarship", a \$500 scholarship opportunity, will be awarded to a Pulaski County middle or high school student. To be considered for the scholarship, students must design a poster with information regarding littering and submit a 750-1,000-word essay on "How to End Littering in Your Community". These should be submitted to [onebagchallengescholarship@pcva.us](mailto:onebagchallengescholarship@pcva.us) by April 15. The scholarship winner will be announced at the May School Board Meeting. Elementary age students also have a chance to participate in a coloring challenge. The coloring sheet can be downloaded at [www.pcva.us](http://www.pcva.us). Pre-K - 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are invited to color the page and submit it with their name, grade, school to [onebagchallenge@pcva.us](mailto:onebagchallenge@pcva.us) by April 15. Winners from each school will be selected and announced at the May School Board Meeting.

Each school in the Pulaski County school system will also participate in the Adopt a Spot program. The schools will adopt the area around their school and commit to keeping it clear of litter and trash for the coming year. The hope is others will see the hard work of our students in keeping these areas clean and choose to dispose of their trash appropriately. This program is also open to all groups, organizations, nonprofits, and businesses. For those committing to this, a sign with the name and logo of the group will be provided for the spot adopted. Prizes will be given to the groups at the end of the year who pick up the most trash. For questions about this part of the program or to sign up contact Cheryl Farris at [cfarris@pulaskicounty.org](mailto:cfarris@pulaskicounty.org) or 540-980-7705.

Please be part of the solution and help us with by participating in the One Bag Challenge, not part of the problem by littering. Thank you in advance for your help in keeping Pulaski County Clean!

*Laura Walters, Chair, Ingles District  
Pulaski County Board of Supervisors*



Pulaski County Parks and Recreation is pleased to share the 2024 Spring Brochure and our many exciting seasonal offerings. Don't skip a single page - you'll want to see it all!

- ◆ 27 Pulaski County Clubs, including 10 NEW offerings like Wiffle Ball with the PC Sherriff's Office!
- ◆ Important Spring Sports Info, including NEW offerings like Warm up with Tyler!
- ◆ Summer Camps Preview, including NEW offerings!
- ◆ Randolph Park Outdoor Fitness Court - FREE walk through with a personal trainer!
- ◆ Regional Senior Games information!
- ◆ FREE Ice Cream for kids!
- ◆ Events - Pulaski County Springfest, Summer Concert Series, and Kids Fish Day !

Use your cell phone to scan this QR code to view the electronic brochure!



You can also find it by visiting our Facebook Page at **Pulaski County VA Parks and Rec.**

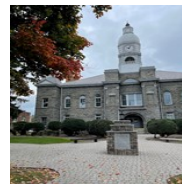
Register quickly. Clubs with limited registration spots will fill fast!

Call us with questions @ 540.674.1513. We can't wait to do this next season with YOU!



Friends of Peak Creek's Annual Spring Creek Clean Up is Saturday, April 27, 2024, beginning at 1 p.m. We will meet at 41 NE First Street (the parking lot behind the Senior Center) at 10 a.m. for assignments. Wear appropriate clothing and shoes. We will not be getting in the water. Snacks, water and lunch will be provided for all volunteers.

**The 2024 First Half Real Estate will be due on June 5, 2024.**



**Melinda Worrell**  
**Pulaski County Treasurer**  
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Pulaski, VA 24301  
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**Volunteer Opportunities and FREE GED Preparation with Literacy NRV**

**Literacy NRV Volunteer Tutor Training**

Are you interested in helping another adult improve their skills in reading, writing, basic math, ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages), or basic computer skills, or to prepare for exams such as the GED or U.S. Citizenship Exam? We need your help! You can make a significant impact by helping adults in the Pulaski community improve their literacy skills. Volunteer tutors with LNRV provide one-to-one or small group tutoring in public locations throughout the NRV, in-person or virtually. Visit our website at [www.literacynrv.org](http://www.literacynrv.org) for more information or to join an upcoming no-commitment Volunteer Information Session.

**GED to Go! Free GED Exam Preparation Resources**

LNRV helps adults achieve literacy-related goals to become successful parents, employees, and community members. If you or a loved one are preparing for the GED exam, we are here to help. You can study at your own pace with our online curriculum (on-call tutor support included as needed) or meet weekly with a tutor to grow your skills and confidence in each subject area. All services are FREE; if testing in the LNRV office, your exam is free, as well. Please visit our website at [www.literacynrv.org](http://www.literacynrv.org) to complete a student application or call us at 540-382-7262.

**Learn English for free!**

Literacy NRV offers many different opportunities to help improve your English speaking, reading, listening, and writing skills. We have one-to-one tutoring and 10-week classes throughout the year with locations across the New River Valley. Please visit our website at [www.literacynrv.org](http://www.literacynrv.org) to complete a student application or call us at 540-382-7262.

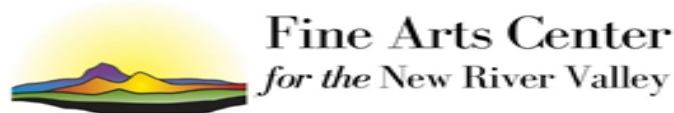


## Become a 2024 4-H Camp Sponsor

Each summer, Pulaski County youth, ages 9-13, teens ages 13-19, have the wonderful, summer life-changing opportunity to attend our five-day Pulaski County 4-H Camp held at the W.E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center, Wirtz, Virginia. Pulaski youth get to explore new interests from robotics, technology, animal science, climbing, bottle rockets, archery, riflery, cooking and arts and crafts to name some, while also learning citizenship, ethics, leadership, morals and life skills. We also provide recreational activities such as sports, campfires and swimming.

4-H Camp is an exciting time that many look forward to and with sponsors many children have the opportunity to attend to make new friends and create memories at camp. Sponsors also help keep our fees lower for everyone, limiting expenses being passed on through 4-H'ers registration fees. And in the past 22 years because of the generosity of our great community sponsors, 738 Pulaski youth have been able to attend Pulaski County 4-H Camp. Pulaski County 4-H Camp costs \$375 per camper and Counselor In Training, and \$190 for Teen Counselors. This covers lodging, meals, snacks, a camp T-shirt, and class expenses. Pulaski County 4-H camps June 10-14, 2024.

To become a sponsor, please give Chris Lichty, Pulaski 4-H Extension Agent, and Cynthia Hurst, Pulaski 4-H Program Assistant, a call at 540-980-7761. Every donation makes a difference whether \$5 or \$50 and provides an impactful learning opportunity. Sponsorships appreciated before April 8, 2024.



**Fine Arts Center**  
for the New River Valley

### Music at the Fine Arts Center

- **April 5** (6-8 p.m.): Legendary Appalachian musicians **Willard Gayheart and Ricky Cox**
- **May 3** (6-8 p.m.): VCA Touring Artist **Andrew McKnight**
- **May 16** (6-7 p.m.): Contemporary original classical piano recital with **Joey Morgan Harrington**
- **August 10** (3-9 p.m.): Rhythm by the Rails featuring the **Jared Stout Band** and **Ian Gilliam and the FireKings**

### Rhythm by the Rails

Applications are NOW OPEN for food vendors and artisan craftspeople for our annual summer Music, Art, and Food event in Jackson Park, this year on August 10. Applications are on a first-come, first-served basis until space is full. Final application deadline is Friday, May 10. For more information and to complete an application, visit our website at [FACNRV.org](http://FACNRV.org).

### Upcoming Exhibits

- Popular local artist and teacher, **Ernie Ross**, from April 19 to June 1. The public is invited to meet Ernie at an opening reception on Friday, April 26 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- June 14 marks the opening of an exhibit by the **Textile Artists of Virginia** (TAVA) with an opening reception on Friday, June 21.
- The call to artists for our popular community art show **Menagerie** will be open June 10 to July 19, and the show opens Friday, August 19.

Please visit our website at [FACNRV.org](http://FACNRV.org) or contact us with any questions about any of our programs at [info@FACNRV.org](mailto:info@FACNRV.org), 540-980-7363 or stop by at 21 West Main Street in the Historic Downtown Commercial District of Pulaski. Our hours of operations are on our website and Google.

**ATLANTA RHYTHM SECTION**  
**FRIDAY, APRIL 19**  
 7:30 p.m. doors open: 6:30 p.m.  
 Edwards Hall, New River Community College  
**\$40 reserved seating, \$45 day of show**  
 Purchase online only at nr.edu/concerts.  
**\$30 advance general admission, \$35 day of show**  
 Purchase online and at NRCC Business Office.  
 Cash or check only for in-person purchase.

Information:  
 tjones@nr.edu (540) 674-3625  
 www.nr.edu/concerts nrccconcerts

NEW RIVER  
 Community College  
 5251 College Drive  
 Dublin, Virginia

**Free books for kids ages 0-4!**

If your child lives in Pulaski County and is under the age of 5, he or she can receive a free book in the mail every month through the Imagination Library.

Partly funded by the Pulaski County Library System, you can sign up at a library branch or online.

Register by going to:  
[imaginationlibrary.com](http://imaginationlibrary.com)  
 or  
[pclibs.org](http://pclibs.org)

Or email Kristine at  
[ksaunders@pclibs.org](mailto:ksaunders@pclibs.org)



**Commissioner of the Revenue Reminders**

- We provide FREE Virginia Income Tax Filing help in addition to an “Accelerated Refund” screening. Bring the following items to our office by May 1<sup>st</sup> for assistance:
  - ◆ ID
  - ◆ Federal Tax Return
  - ◆ W-2 and all other income forms showing Virginia taxes withheld
- If you operate a hotel, motel, or provide temporary lodging for transient guests in Pulaski County (excluding the towns), you need to submit necessary paperwork concerning the required local taxes to be collected. Contact Master Deputy Commissioner, Sabrina Bishop at (540) 980-7750 for more details.
- Frequently Asked Question: Does your office have the right to come onto my land?
  - ◆ Yes. Virginia law allows our office to assess real estate on-site as mentioned in section § 58.1-3280.
  - ◆ Why? The assessing agent wants to gain the most accurate information possible as to not assess property too high or too low.
  - ◆ If the real estate owner asks the assessor to leave before we have obtained all necessary information, we will perform a statutory assessment with only the information we have available which may not be as accurate as possible. It is more beneficial to allow a physical examination to clarify property details instead of receiving a statutory assessment.

**Pulaski County Commissioner of the Revenue Office**  
 52 W. Main Street, Suite 200; Pulaski, VA 24301  
[COR@pulaskicounty.org](mailto:COR@pulaskicounty.org)  
 (540) 980-7750  
*Kim Matthews, Commissioner of the Revenue*