



Pulaski County Citizen Newsletter

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View online at: www.pulaskicounty.org

Contact us at: 540-980-7705

A publication of the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors
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Pulaski County = Entrepreneurial Spirit

Whether it's starting a new business, expanding an existing business, working from home, or networking with others, our community offers many resources worth your consideration.

The New River Valley Competitiveness Center is a 54,000 square foot facility designed as a "gateway" to the New River Valley and an example of innovative planning to incorporate a mix of uses. Developed by the New River Valley Development Corporation, the Center is part of an effort to enhance opportunities for businesses within the New River Valley. It serves as an initial seeding location for entrepreneurs and manufacturing/industrial companies wishing to expand. The Center is currently about 60% full.

The Competitiveness Center (in Fairlawn):

- specializes in the areas of small business services, entrepreneurship, manufacturing, and international business, providing a distinct blend of programs, services, and resources.
- offers services that include business counseling, sponsored programs, seminars, publications, and information services.
- provides entrepreneurs in the region with access to staff, students, information sources, and other resources required to help them start up and grow their businesses, improve their organizations, and strengthen the regional economy.

For information please call 540-633-6730 or visit the website at www.nrvdc.org/nrvcc.html

Need help getting visitors to your business, artisan studio or farm? Artisan Trails are happening in Pulaski County! This trail or network will link visitors to artisan studios, galleries and retail shops, farms

and agri-tourism sites, and unique lodging and restaurants. Pulaski's Artisan Trail is part of the larger Regional Artisan Trail Network being developed to support small businesses across 19 counties and 4 cities in Southwest Virginia.

Pulaski County, Town of Pulaski, Chamber of Commerce, and the Fine Arts Center are currently identifying artisans and other sites by reaching out to those who may be interested in joining. The cost to join is very affordable compared to the recognition you receive in Round the Mountain statewide promotions but also in locally developed promotional materials. For more info, please view www.roundthemountain.org and also feel free to call the Fine Arts Center at 540-980-7363.

Another incredibly useful resource is the Small Business Development Center at Radford University. From understanding the legal requirement of starting a business, finding capital financing, marketing assistance, and taxes, this resource can be a helpful guide. This center also offers a variety of resources for existing business owners who would like to solve existing problems, expand or develop new product lines, and much more. Please visit their website at www.bac.asp.radford.edu/SBDC/ or contact via phone at 540-831-7027.

Networking is a crucial part of any successful business. Don't miss an opportunity to do so as all it takes is a little time. The Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce offers many opportunities to engage all types of other business professionals in our community. For downtown merchants, the Greater Pulaski Alliance is also a resource worth contacting.

Finally, don't hesitate to contact the economic development staff members from either the County or Town. Both offices offer sound advice, have a wealth of contacts, and will point you in the right direction.

NRV Agency on Aging Program Year 2010 Area Plan Work Begins

The NRV Agency on Aging is requesting suggestions as it begins work on its annual Area Plan for Aging Services. The new 2010 plan, to take effect in October 2009, will allocate resources for services provided under the Older Americans Act. NRV Agency on Aging's service area includes the counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, Pulaski, and the City of Radford.

The first draft of the NRV Agency on Aging 2010 budget and Area Plan will not be available until state funding sources release "planning figures" in the spring. This will follow after a state budget is approved. Once a draft Area Plan is ready, there will be time scheduled for public comment before it is submitted to the Virginia Department for the Aging for approval.

With a current operating budget of approximately \$1.5 million, NRV Agency on Aging provides 13 different services with federal, state and local support. The largest programs include Home Delivered Meals (also known as "meals on wheels"), Congregate Meals, Information and Assistance, Transportation, Homemaker and Caregiver Support Services which include in-home and community based Respite Care Services. Other services provided include Care Coordination, Ombudsman, Elder Abuse Prevention, Insurance Counseling and Medicare Fraud Prevention, Home Repair and Legal Assistance.

Waiting lists for services currently exist in Homemaker Service, Respite Care, Home Delivered Meals, and Home Repair services. Individuals are invited to send comments now, before the draft Area Plan is developed, regarding these or other needed services to NRV Agency on Aging, 141, East Main Street, Suite 500, Pulaski, Virginia 24301 or e-mail at [nrvaooa@nrvaooa.org](mailto:nrvaoa@nrvaooa.org).

What are eBooks?

Through NetLibrary, the Pulaski County Public Library offers a comprehensive collection of eBooks online. You can access a wide range of research, reference and reading materials from any location with Internet access. On the library online catalog page, there is an area to search only for eBooks.

The eBooks are electronic full-text copies of published print materials, such as reference books, scholarly monographs, fiction and non-fiction books.

You will find a wide array of subject areas, such as *Nolo's Will Book*, *Quick and Legal Will book*, current books about computers, software and digital arts, *The Complete Home Veterinary Guide*, *Freshwater Aquarium*, *Breeding Show Dogs*, Robert Lewis Stevenson's *Treasure Island*, cookbooks: *Beard on Pasta*, *Professional Vegetarian Cooking* and *Southern Cooking to Remember* and many books about travel.

Ask the library staff at either the Pulaski or Dublin library about how to register for your free eBook account. Once you have an account at the library, you can access the materials from any computer with Internet access.

Chamber of Commerce Business Expo, "Celebrating Small Business, May 15th, 10 am – 2 pm. at the Bob White Building (formerly Renfro) at 4100 Bob White Blvd. next to AEP.

Change in Drop Site Hours

The Pulaski County Public Service Authority announces the following changes to the drop site hours as a result of the switch to daylight savings time.

Pulaski Site - Dora Highway - Monday - Friday
3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Dublin Site - Bagging Plant Road - Monday - Friday,
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. Sunday

Fairlawn Site – Mason St. - Monday - Friday –
3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

All three locations - Saturday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Future Meetings

Board of Supervisors: Apr. 27, May 18, June 22 at
7 p.m., County Administration Bldg.

Public Service Authority: Apr. 14, May 12, June 9 at
9 a.m., County Administration Bldg.

Planning Commission: Apr. 14, May 12, June 9 at
7 p.m., County Administration Bldg.

Pulaski Town Council: 1st Tues. of each month at 7
p.m. and work sessions on the 3rd Tues. of each
month at 5 p.m., Municipal Building – Council
Chambers.

Deck Safety

May is deck safety awareness month. Each year hundreds of people are injured as a result of deck failures that could be avoided by performing basic preventative maintenance.



Whenever you build or do a major repair, please obtain the proper permit and inspections from our building department. It's for your family and guest's safety!!!

Firewise Properties

With persistent drought conditions and with so many homes in woodlands, the chances of a fire increase greatly. There are things that the homeowner can do to help prevent a fire and protect their homes. One thing that can provide increased fire safety of your home is to use firewise landscaping.

1. Clear a 30' defensible space around your home.
2. Plant low growing fire resistive plants and shrubs
3. Remove or prune tree branches at least 15' around your chimney
4. Remove all dead plant material around the home. This includes leaves, dried vegetation and stacked fire wood.

Another thing you need to do is have an emergency escape plan and like your home fire escape plan, you need to practice it regularly. This will ensure that you and your family can safely

escape should there be a wildland fire in your community. Along with your escape plan you need to make sure that the fire trucks can get into your property.

1. Make sure your address is posted at the main road
2. Maintain at least a 12 foot clear driveway into your property. The vertical clearance needs to be 15 feet to allow the fire trucks clear access.

For further information please contact your Virginia Department of Forestry Hazard Mitigation Specialist at 540-616-6156.

Fast Track Training at NRCC

This summer, learn a new trade in just a few weeks at New River Community College. Take intensive classes in such careers as welding, electrical technology, HVAC technology, computerized numerical controls, and computer applications. Registration is from April 1 through May 1. For more info call 540-674-3613.

Wilderness Road Bike Ride

Pulaski County residents are invited to participate in the 18th annual Wilderness Road Ride on Saturday, May 23, 2009. It is a scenic and historical **bicycling adventure** in the splendor of the NRV. The bicycle road ride follows the historic route of Daniel Boone and offers four choices of rides ranging from a relaxed journey to a challenge for the fittest athlete. It is a "family friendly" ride that starts at the Dedmon Center in Radford. Three of the rides meander through Pulaski County.

Proceeds from this year's Wilderness Road Ride will be donated to the New River Valley Agency on Aging to provide meals and in-home services to older adults. For more information or to register for the ride you may do so online, www.cyclingdoubleheader.com, or contact Tina King, Executive Director, New River Valley Agency on Aging at 540-980-7720 or e-mail tinaking@nrva.org.

Bad Weather Day Trash Pick-up

When a significant snow or icing event occurs, there is a chance that residential trash pick-up will not occur until the roads are made safe. Due to steep hills, winding roads, and sometimes odd turnaround locations, the safety of our drivers and trucks is our primary reason for delaying pick-up.

When this happens, the PSA will continue to pick-up the regular route on the first safe day to do so. However, in addition to picking up the regular route, PSA crews will also work on picking up those homes missed during the bad weather days during the same week. If all homes are not picked up by the end of the week, then PSA crews will work a "double-day" on Friday to ensure such. During these times, the PSA requests your patience in that we cannot guarantee your trash will be picked up on the exact time you may be used to. In the future, we will post such schedule changes on the local announcement cable channels and by next winter will be able to use a Citizen Alert System to also make such announcements.



Pulaski County Wireless Authority Citizen Survey

The Pulaski County Wireless Authority www.pcwins.org is attempting to gather information about Internet access so that we can better plan for future improvements in broadband access for Pulaski County. All of the questions in this survey pertain to the technology you currently have **at home**. You may fill out the survey and return it with your payment, leave it when you make your PSA payment or drop it off at Dublin or Pulaski Libraries. You may also complete the survey online at www.pcwins.org/survey. Any information from this survey is confidential and very much appreciated.

- 1. Do you have a computer/s at home?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
- 2. Do you have access to the Internet at home?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
- 3. What type of Internet connection do you have?
 - a. Dialup Internet
 - b. Cable modem
 - c. DSL
 - d. Wireless
 - e. Ethernet
 - f. Fiber to the home
 - g. Satellite Service (i.e. Direct TV)
 - h. Mobile Broadband Card (Aircard)
 - i. Other _____
- 4. Are you interested in faster Internet Access?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

- 7. What is your home street address?

- 8. Can you see Peaks Knob or Cloyds Mountain from your home?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
- 9. Can you see a water tank from your home?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
- 10. If so, what is the location of the water tank?

- 11. Do you have options other than dial up where you live?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

Optional:

Name: _____

email address: _____

Phone: _____

Other comments or suggestions:

Thank you for your time and assistance !!