Pulaski County Citizen Newsletter January - March 2023 Vol. XVI Issue 4

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County of Pulaski Virginia

Laura W. Walters, Chair Ingles District

Dirk I. Compton, Vice Chair Draper District

Michael D. Mooney, Massie District

Jeffery G. Reeves, Robinson District

Christopher A. Stafford, Cloyd District

Jonathan D. Sweet, ICMA-CM County Administrator

Chair's Corner

With the end of 2022, I took the opportunity to reflect on the County's many accomplishments. In that reflection, I want to share that I am thankful for you all and grateful to have worked with such great folks on a variety of community projects. I believe Pulaski County is a very special place to live, work and play. Working together, we all help to make this so. I want to thank our Pulaski County Team who works hard for the good of our citizens. I also want to thank our towns, our agencies, non-profits and volunteer groups who add so much value to our County and help make our successes possible.

Our collective efforts have resulted in the County's continued growth and prosperity with many new businesses opening in the last few months. We are proud to welcome Fazoli's, Starbucks, Roma Italian & Greek Restaurant, Gateway Private School, New River Valley Humane Society, 2nd Hand Lines, Strawberry Moon Bakery & Emporium, Robertson and Cox Real Estate Team and more to Pulaski County. We are also fortunate to have recently broken ground on the new Sheffey Park in Fairlawn and to have participated in the ribbon cutting for the Pulaski Bike Park.

I want to further share a note of thanks to my fellow Board members for their dedication to serving you. With the recent elections, the Board welcomed two new members, Michael Mooney and Chris Stafford and we would like to thank appointees to the Board, Adam Hall and Andy McCready, for their service. We want our community members to know that we have enjoyed seeing many of you at the Pulaski on Main Trick or Treat Trail, Fourth Annual Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular, Winterfest and the working with you at activities, including Adopt – A – Spot and Go Pulaski County.

In closing, I wish each of you a productive and happy 2023!

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

Discover Pulaski Area Transit!

Pulaski Area Transit (PAT), in conjunction with the Town of Pulaski, Pulaski County and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation provides a fixed route in the Town of Pulaski and two (2) expansion routes to help bring individuals from the outlying areas into the main fixed route Monday through Saturday. With the expansion routes, you can call and get picked up along the route. These routes run Monday through Friday, with the first route starting at 6:30 a.m. and the last route departing at 4:30 p.m. Saturday routes depart at 9 a.m. with the last route departing at 2 p.m.

Pulaski Area Transit (PAT) also has a deviated fixed route in Pulaski County. This route runs four (4) times a day from Pulaski, Dublin and Fairlawn with two (2) trips going to the New River Community College (NRCC) mall site in Christiansburg. This route runs Monday through Friday and on Saturday, two (2) trips to Walmart in Dublin only. Fares for the routes in the Town of Pulaski are 75¢ each, the County trips are \$2.00 and trips to Christiansburg are \$4.00.

Pulaski Area Transit (PAT) is located in the Town of Pulaski. For further information or questions related to Pulaski Area Transit (PAT), please call (540) 980-5040.

Volunteer Opportunities and FREE Adult Education with Literacy Volunteers of the New River Valley (LVNRV)

Literacy Volunteer Tutor Training

Are you interested in helping another adult improve their skills in reading, writing, basic math, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), basic computer skills or to prepare for exams such as the General Educational Development (GED) or United States Citizenship Examination? We need your help! You can make a significant impact by helping adults in the Pulaski community improve their literacy skills. Volunteer tutors with the Literacy Volunteers of the New River Valley (LVNRV) provide one-to-one or small group tutoring in public locations throughout the New River Valley (NRV), in person or virtually. Visit our website at www.lvnrv.org for more information or to join an upcoming tutor training class.

Become A Student with LVNRV

LVNRV helps adults achieve literacy-related goals to become a successful parent, employee and community member. If you or a loved one could use help with studying for a driver's license, GED or citizenship exam, completing job applications or other forms, reading to children, or improving digital literacy to enhance job skills, we are here to help. With one-to-one and classroom tutoring, we can help make those dreams a reality! Please visit our website at www.lvnrv.org or call us at (540) 382-7262.

Opportunities Near You

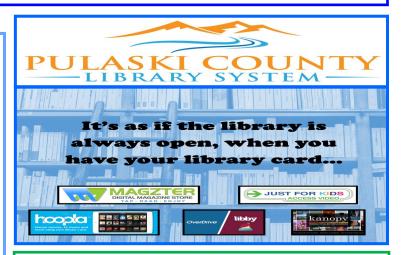
- Drop In Hours provide short term assistance with computer skills like creating an email, online job or housing application, typing a resume and more! Visit the Dublin Library on Tuesdays from 2-4 p.m., starting January 10, 2023, or Pulaski Library on Fridays from 2-4 p.m., starting January 13, 2023.
- A Basic Computer Skills Class is coming to Dublin! LVNRV is partnering with the Charles and Ona B. Free Memorial Free Library. This is a ten (10) week course for beginners and will cover: email basics, online/internet safety, searching the web, online shopping and more. This class will be held on Thursdays from 9-10:30 a.m. starting February 2, 2023. Registration is required. Please see your librarian or call (540) 382-7262 to sign up.

NEW RIVER Community College

The New River Community College (NRCC) Adult Education program is offering evening General Educational Development (GED) classes with individualized learning plans at the Pulaski Library. These classes take place on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. For more information, call (540) 674-3682.

Check out the wide variety of online resources and monthly programming the Pulaski County Library System has to offer. We have special programming for all ages. Drop in at either location and pick up a monthly calendar or visit us at www.pclibs.org to find out what is going on. Your library card can take you anywhere so get started with your FREE library card today!







The Pulaski Free Clinic is now accepting Medicaid as well as providing free services for low to moderate income patients. Patients must be between 18 and 64 years of age and be a resident of Pulaski County. Simply call (540) 980-0922 or stop by our beautifully renovated clinic, located at 25 4th Street, in the town of Pulaski, Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. For more than thirty-five (35) years, the Pulaski Free Clinic has served the community and we look forward to welcoming new patients in 2023!

Pulaski County Citizen Newsletter

Winter 2023 Programming and Events at the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley

Workshops and Classes for Adults

January 10 & 12: Wool Felting for Beginners with Cynthia Maitri

January 14: Exploring Gouache and Watercolors with Cherrilynne Scott

January 26: The Art of the Sketchbook and Beginners Drawing with Cherrilynne Scott

January 28 & February 4: Advanced Watercolor and Gouache with Cherrilynne Scott

February 18: Wool Felting for Beginners with Cynthia Maitri

Workshops and Classes for Children

January 14: Snowflakes (wax resistant oil, pastel and watercolor)

February 11: Origami Valentines

March 11: Mosaics

Advanced Registration is required for all classes at the Fine Arts Center. Please visit FACNRV.org for more information or to sign up!

First Friday Listening Room Concerts

January 6: Frank and Flip February 3: Butch Robins March 3: Glen Shelton

First Friday concerts are free, but seating is limited. Tickets must be reserved in advance. Please visit FACNRV.org for more information or to reserve your tickets.

Gallery Exhibits

No Place Like Home, on display December 15, 2022, through February 4, 2023

Scholastic Youth Art Awards Ceremony and Closing Reception, March 26, 2023 (tentative) Exhibit on display February 16, through March 25, 2023

Youth Art Month Displays March 2023

Spring Classes by Zoom or In-Person from the Lifelong Learning Institute at Virginia Tech

The Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI) at Virginia Tech invites those over fifty (50) to join a community of curious adults exploring topics like Appalachian music, United States (US) foreign policy, human stem cells and gene therapy, reading Sherlock Holmes, James Baldwin or science fiction and loads of technology how-to classes. There are plenty of opportunities for small classes to engage your creative spirit, like Paint Your Own Barn Quilt or writing poetry. ZOOM and in-person classes/lectures are available. Online learning options are great if you live a distance away and want to participate from your own home. Join us to select from thirty-one (31) courses, five (5) field trips, seven (7) lectures and several free hands on technology workshops.

Visit the LLI website at www.cpe.vt.edu/lifelonglearning for more information. You can sign up online to receive the Spring flyer, email announcements and the LLI newsletter. Do not miss the Spring Preview on January 31, 2023!

Spring 2023 Calendar

Mid-January Spring flyer available to interested contacts; classes listed on website

February 6 Preview of Spring program via ZOOM, 10-11:30 a.m.

Week of February 20 Classes begin

Contact Information

LLI Program Coordinator (540) 231-1725, <u>llalonde@vt.edu</u>

Registration (540) 231-5182

LLI Email Address lifelonglearning@vt.edu

LLI Website www.cpe.vt.edu/lifelonglearning

New Year Reminders from the Commissioner of the Revenue Office

General Reminders:

- Now is a great time to update your Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) record concerning address changes and
 vehicles disposed of in the prior year. Please maintain documentation of all taxable personal property that has been
 discarded or sold.
- Thinking of starting a new business? Resource information for new and existing businesses can be found at the top of our webpage: https://www.pulaskicounty.org/cor
- Are you using your home to provide short-term room rentals to the general public? If so, please complete necessary paperwork at our office for state tax submissions with Sabrina Bishop, Deputy Commissioner.
- Business License renewal paperwork is due by **March 1** every year. Contact Terri Earles, Deputy Commissioner, if you have questions.
- Real Estate Tax Relief applications are due by **April 1**. Applicants must be permanently disabled <u>or</u> 65 years or older to apply. Household income must be \$25,000 or less.
- Veteran Real Estate Tax Exemption applications are requested by **April 1**. Veterans <u>must</u> meet the 100% service-connected permanent and total disability requirement. Official documentation is required from the United States Department of Veteran Affairs. A surviving spouse may also apply.
- A tax exemption on one motor vehicle is also allowed for 100% service-connected totally disabled veterans as of January 1, 2021. The vehicle <u>must</u> be used by or for the Veteran. For more information call (540) 980-7750.
- Surviving spouse of an individual killed in the line of duty such as law-enforcement, emergency response, jail officer, etc. may apply for a real estate tax exemption. For more information, contact our Real Estate Department at (540) 980-7753. Applications can be printed from our webpage at: https://www.pulaskicounty.org/cor.

Income Tax Information:

- Need help filing your Virginia State Income Tax? The Commissioner's Office provides FREE state tax filing assistance to our residents all year. The filing deadline is **May 1**.
- Need help filing your Federal Income Tax? New River Community Action continues to service Pulaski County by
 offering FREE help through their Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program for those who qualify.
 Call (540) 382-3217 for more information.

Pulaski County Commissioner of the Revenue Office 52 W. Main Street, Suite 200; Pulaski, VA 24301 commissionerofrevenue@pulaskicounty.org (540) 980-7750

Kim Matthews, Commissioner of the Revenue



117 Edwards Hall, NRCC *Second Saturdays, October-April *FREE ADMISSION

Donations accepted to help pay band expenses.

*Bands subject to change.

*Doors Open: 5:00 p.m.

*Music: 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

NEW RIVER Community College

*January 14, 2023

The Country Boys
Slate Mountain Ramblers

*February 11, 2023
Blue Connection
Nobody's Business

*March 11, 2023

Mountain Thunder

Blue Ridge Girls

www.nr.edu/concerts (3NRCCConcerts (540) 674-3625

Happy New Year to everyone! I hope you and your family had a wonderful holiday season and are healthy and blessed. With colder temperatures and frozen precipitation upon us, please stay abreast of the weather conditions and plan ahead. Please make sure to have supplies and medications for several days along with a portable radio in case the electricity goes out.

As always, the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office is here to help, so please contact us if needed. Pulaski County is an amazing place to not only live, but to serve as well and we are very humbled and grateful for all the support we receive.

Sheriff Mike Worrell