



Pulaski County Citizen Newsletter

July - September 2024

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www.pulaskicounty.org
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Chair's Corner

One Bag Challenge

The Board of Supervisors and the School Board, along with myself, want to extend our heartfelt thanks to each of you who have participated in the One Bag Challenge! This marks the first of several successful projects that the two boards have partnered on. Stay tuned for more exciting collaborations! Our citizens, businesses, and schools have collectively picked up 1008 bags of trash, 563 tires, and various other construction materials, small appliances, furniture, engines, and more, significantly enhancing the cleanliness and appeal of Pulaski County. We've had a total of 254 participants. Additionally, we're thrilled to announce a donated scholarship of \$500, which was presented by the School Board for the best essay on "Managing Trash in My Community" along with a graphic or picture designed with the same theme. This campaign will run through the end of June, so if you haven't participated yet, it's not too late! Participants who send their bag count and pictures are automatically entered into a monthly drawing by the Board of Supervisors and the School Board for a chance to win a \$100 Visa gift card. Please send your submissions to lwalters@pulaskicounty.org or call 540-230-6272.

Welcome, Summer!

The arrival of summer in Pulaski County beckons us all to embrace the outdoors and take advantage of the myriad of activities available throughout the county. From our parks and recreational activities to our trails, lake, river, festivals, outdoor movies, concerts, fly-ins, and more, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Updates

We've celebrated 10 new ribbon cuttings, with 6 more on the horizon, including new small businesses in downtown Pulaski and Dublin. Be sure to check them out! Camp Cougar kicked off this week with 226 campers, marking our largest group to date. The Marketplace is back at the Historic Train Station in Pulaski on Tuesday evenings, offering fresh produce, music, food, and more. Additionally, the Town has just opened a new splash pad across from Heritage Park for the kiddos to enjoy.

This year, we're excited to announce the addition of Calfee Park and the Pulaski County Motorsports Park, made possible through a very generous donation from the Shelor Motor Mile family. This gift will be managed by Shelor for three years, with the proceeds benefiting Pulaski County, allowing us time to integrate these assets into our Sports Tourism and Entertainment Vision. To address some common questions, the ball park will continue to operate as usual, with the addition of use by school teams and other appropriate activities. The Speedway will also continue racing under Shelor's management, with the possibility of additional activities being added and held at that location.

To stay updated on upcoming events and activities, visit the Pulaski County Parks and Recreation website and Facebook page at <https://www.pulaskicountyparksandrec.org/>. Additionally, sign up for the Tourism Weekender email newsletter to discover what's happening and available on weekends at <https://www.visitpulaskiva.org/>.

There's so much to explore and experience in Pulaski County! Let's make this summer one to remember by embracing the great outdoors!

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

The 2023 Water Quality Report for the Pulaski County Public Service Authority (PCPSA), which includes the following systems: Countywide, Brookmont, Mt. Olivet, Lakewood Estates, Bellavista and Riverbend will not be mailed to customers this year. You may find the Reports on our website at:

<http://pulaskicounty.org/psa-faq.html>

If you desire a copy be mailed to you please contact Jared Linkous at (540) 980-7710 or jlinkous@pulaskicounty.org for a digital copy.



Mark your calendars everyone!

The New River Valley Fair will be held July 22 - 27, 2024 at the Dublin Fairgrounds. Gates open at 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday and 2:00 p.m. on Saturday.

This year's theme is:

"Sew It, Grow It, Show It"

The warmer weather is here and hopefully you are able to stay cool when you need to. The warmer weather means a large increase in the amount of outdoor activities, so please be careful when you're out driving around, especially during the hours of darkness. When you go on vacation, be smart about securing your residence and vehicles. Don't advertise your travels on social media because thieves will know that you are not at home. You can also ask your neighbors to keep an eye on your property. Pulaski County Sheriff's Office is here to help in whatever way we can, so please don't hesitate to call if we can be of assistance.

Sheriff Mike Worrell



Pulaski County Public Safety

We are pleased to congratulate and share that our Assistant Director of EMS Michael Garnett, NRP/CCP/EMS-EC, has been awarded the 2024 [Governor of Virginia's](#) Award for Outstanding EMS Prehospital Educator.

This award is given to "an individual who exemplifies outstanding teaching and leadership qualities while participating as an educator in an EMS program. Must have coordinated or consistently demonstrated excellence and a dedication to the education of prehospital EMS providers. Educational programs include: Emergency Medical Responder, Emergency Medical Technician, Advanced EMT, EMT Intermediate, Paramedic, continuing education courses, preceptor programs or equivalent EMS training".

Over the course of his career, Assistant Director Garnett has been a steadfast advocate for EMS and public education. Thousands have benefited from his courses in his various roles, whether as the Program Director for the [Western Virginia EMS Council, Inc.'s](#) New River Valley Training Center, as an instructor and state faculty member for the [National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians](#), as an instructor and board member for the [American Heart Association's](#) Heart Alert Community Training Center, as Assistant Director and Training Officer for [Pulaski County Public Safety](#), as well as in any number of other classes and educational programs he's been a part of for the past decades. He has also been deeply involved in the development and training for multiple agencies in the New River Valley to implement advanced/critical care training and protocols.

In addition to his outstanding contributions to EMS and public education, Assistant Director Garnett continues to serve as an active Paramedic providing direct care to patients at a superior level. Our agency is honored to have him as part of our leadership team, and we again extend our congratulations and thanks for all he continues to do for us, our community, and the world of EMS as a whole!



Rhythm by the Rails

Our annual festival in Jackson Park will be held on August 10, 2024 this year from 3—9 p.m. There will be local artists, kids’ crafts, and music from the **Jared Stout Band, Ian Gilliam and the FireKings**, and our own **Junior Appalachian Musicians of Greater Pulaski**. Food vendors registered, so far, include Bootleg BBQ, Cabo Fish Taco, Kirk’s Barbecue, Lizard Licks, and Squeeze‘um and Shake‘em. Admission is free but a \$5 donation is suggested.

If you have friends or family who would like to visit Pulaski for the event and need a place to stay, please contact our partner, the **Jackson Park Inn**, for a discounted rate for the event.

Our **First Friday Listening Room** concerts will start again in September. These concerts feature local artists, and sometimes special guests, and are held at the Fine Arts Center. **There are light refreshments and a cash bar. The concerts are free but a \$5 donation is suggested.**

September 6 – Amelia Empson
October 4 – Ash Devine
December 6 – Leslie Brooks

In the Gallery

Join us for a reception with some of the talented artists of the **Textile Association of Virginia (TAVA)** on Thursday, June 20, 2024 from 5 p.m. -7 p.m. Their exhibit runs from June 14, 2024 to August 3, 2024.

Calling all local artists! Applications for our popular community art show, **Menagerie**, will be accepted on our website until Saturday, July 27, 2024. **The show runs from August 16, 2024 – September 5, 2024.** Visit our website at FACNRV.org for details on entering.



Save the date! The fourth annual **IN Peak Creek Cleanup** will be Tuesday, July 16, 2024 from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. If you want to see a section of Peak Creek that most people have never seen, aren’t afraid of getting wet and want to feel good about helping your community, this is the cleanup for you! Pizza and drinks will be provided afterwards. Watch our web site and social media for details as the date gets closer. Please contact us at info@friendsofpeakcreek.org for more information.

Our Summer Nature Series continues at the Marketplace on the second Tuesdays of each month inside the Train Station from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.

July 9, 2024 - It’s Everybody’s Watershed. The New River Conservancy and Friends of Claytor Lake will have fun educational activities for kids about creeks, lakes and protecting our environment.

August 13, 2024 – The Wildlife Center of Virginia will have a meet and greet with a few of their wild animal ambassadors and rescues.

September 10, 2024 – The Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources will speak and answer all your questions about white tailed deer. Topics include living with deer in your garden, hunting and chronic wasting disease.

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(540) 382-7262

Email info@literacynrv.org



Literacy NRV



Old Pros Big Band Orchestra

Charles & Ona B. Free Memorial Library
July 13, 2024, 5 p.m.—7 p.m.

Join us on the lawn of the library for the big band music of the Roaring Twenties. Bring your blankets and chairs and enjoy some Saturday evening tunes and light refreshments! Admission is free. The Big Band Orchestra is a 20-member band from New River Community College.

An Afternoon with Mary Pickford

Charles & Ona B. Free Memorial Library
July 27, 2024 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate one of silent film’s female pioneers! We will begin with one of Pickford’s films once thought lost, Fanchon the Cricket, followed by a documentary about her life. Admission is free. Refreshments will be served. The films start promptly at 12 p.m.



Go Pulaski County’s motto is “**Volunteers Building Community, One Project at a Time.**” During a one-day county-wide service event, volunteers of all ages and skills have the opportunity to pitch in on one of a dozen or more projects. At the end of the day, we have contributed to the building up of our community - making a positive difference through the services performed and making new bonds of friendship through service.

Go Pulaski County day of community service will be held this year on Saturday, September 28, 2024.

Volunteer sign up begins on July 1, 2024 and closes on September 1, 2024. More information can be found on our Facebook page, www.gopulaskicounty.org, or by emailing info@gopulaskicounty.org.

Commissioner of the Revenue Office - Updates

52 W. Main Street, Suite 200
Pulaski, VA 24301

Open Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
(540) 980-7750, Personal Property Department
(540) 980-7753, Real Estate Department

- ◆ Farm Tags! The DMV requires all unregistered vehicles used exclusively for farm purposes to purchase a farm use placard starting this year. You must be issued this placard before our office can exempt the vehicle from taxation as allowed in Pulaski County tax code Section 38-1.
- ◆ If you have purchased, sold, or disposed of a mobile/manufactured home, vehicle, motorcycle, camper, trailer, or motor home in 2023, please update your record at the DMV office as soon as possible. DMV changes are forwarded to our Personal Property Department on a regular basis allowing us to update your property record on file.
- ◆ Summer months have arrived! If you plan to use your real estate for temporary lodging to house transient guests in Pulaski County (excluding the towns), you need to submit necessary paperwork required for local taxes to be collected. Contact Master Deputy Commissioner, Sabrina Bishop at (540) 980-7750 for more details.
- ◆ Is my 501(c)(3) exempt from local taxation? Our office first determines two things; if the entity owning the real estate is exempt AND if the current use of the property makes it tax exempt. Non-profit entities should always report a change in ownership and any changes in the usage of the land or building(s).
- ◆ Our Real Estate Assessor will continue to make field visits throughout the year to complete updates to property assessments. He travels in a marked vehicle and marked clothing. Properties with value changes will always receive a notice by mail with a deadline to appeal.

Kim Matthews, Commissioner of the Revenue