



Pulaski County Citizen Newsletter

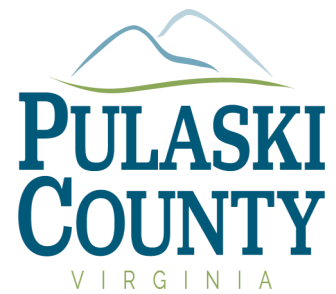
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www.pulaskicounty.org

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July 4th, 2025 Veterans Remembrance Ceremony

The public is invited to attend the county's annual July 4th Veterans Remembrance Ceremony to be held on the lawn of the Old Pulaski County Historic Stone Courthouse, located at 52 West Main Street, Pulaski, Virginia, beginning at 12 noon.

This year's ceremony will feature guest speaker Ms. Carol Amorosi, award-winning author, amateur historian, traveler, and Celtic enthusiast. Ms. Amorosi will be speaking on the historical 1775 Fincastle Resolutions and the local men who signed the document prior to the American Revolutionary War. After the ceremony, she will also be available for book signing and meeting those in attendance.

The event is sponsored by the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors and the Pulaski County Courthouses Exhibits Committee. Local individuals and groups participating in the ceremony include the VFW Post #1184, Dublin American Legion Post #58, Wilderness Road Chorus of the New River Valley, bugler, Kevin Faller, and bagpiper, Andrew Meeks. The ceremony also includes a 21 gun salute and the playing of "Taps". Further, refreshments will be served and tours of the old historic courthouse will be conducted by members of the Courthouses Exhibits Committee.

Please note the ceremony will be held outside on the front lawn, rain or shine. Some seating will be available. However, it is highly recommended those attending bring their own chair.

Make plans to attend this very special ceremony as we remember and honor our local veterans and active members of our military, learn about Pulaski County's history and heritage, and celebrate July 4th!

The Pulaski County Courthouses Exhibits Committee is happy to announce that a new display, entitled "Women in Wartime", is currently being planned as part of the military exhibit located on the 3rd floor of the Old Pulaski County Historic Stone Courthouse. The new display will feature military items of local women who have served in the military as well as artifacts relating to the important role of women who did not serve, but were left behind to maintain the home front during wartime. At this time, the committee is seeking from the public donations or loans of items for this display. Possible items of interest include women's military uniforms or civilian women's attire during wartime, women's military medals or citations, home front photographs during wartime, and newspapers articles relating to women both in the military and those at home. Anyone who wishes to either donate or loan an item or items for this display, may contact Nancy M. Burchett, Chairperson of the Pulaski County Courthouses Exhibits Committee, at 540-922-5554. All items donated or loaned will be safely secured and insured by Pulaski County.

Message from Pulaski County Sheriff's Office

Pulaski County Sheriff's Office would like to remind our citizens that we have a Drug Drop Box located in a secure area of our lobby that is under video surveillance and is accessible to them for drop offs 24 hours a day. This drop box is for expired or unused meds, or any narcotics that need to be safely disposed of. Please note that no needles or liquids will be accepted. We are always open, so please contact us if we can ever be of assistance.

Sheriff Mike Worrell



July 8

Summer Nature Series at the Marketplace 4 PM - 7 PM
Environmental themed educational talk and activity.

July 15

Annual Walk the Creek Cleanup 10 AM - 2 PM.
This is an "in the creek" so wear appropriate shoes and clothing. You will be wet and dirty! All cleanup supplies are provided as well as lunch.

July 19

Second Peak Creek Family Fun Day at Heritage Park.
10 AM to 3 PM. Over a dozen free fun environmental activities for the whole family.

August 12

Summer Nature Series at the Marketplace 5:30 PM
DWR Regional Fish Biologist will speak about Fishing in the New River Valley.



Mark your calendars everyone!

The New River Valley Fair will be held July 28 - August 2, 2025 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:

"Pigs, Pies and Carnival Rides"

NRV Fair 2025

Every term is a new adventure! Fall classes and events for the Lifelong Learning Institute at Virginia Tech

More than 50 classes, 10 field trips, and 9 free lectures are on the schedule this fall. No exams, no grades – all it takes to be an LLI member is a curious mind and a desire to join an engaged learning community. Read, watch, and discuss great (and sometimes just fun) books and movies. Celebrate the American Revolution at 250 by stepping back in time at the Wilderness Museum. Tickle your taste buds with wine and scotch tastings, and Italian cooking. Learn basic home maintenance and how to stay ahead of scammers. Engage your creative spirit in drawing, painting, crafting, knitting, or writing a memoir. Learn why Mountain Lake goes dry. There is something for everyone. Both Zoom and in-person classes are available. Visit the LLI website www.cpe.vt.edu/lifelonglearning for more information and to join the mailing list. The fall catalog will be available online August 1. Registration begins August 18.



Fine Arts Center
for the New River Valley

Small Landscape Paintings – 4-Week Class with Ernie Ross
Fridays, August 1–22 | 10:00 am–12:30 pm each day
Award-winning artist Ernie Ross will guide students through the fundamentals of landscape painting in this four-week acrylics course. Register at [//FACNRV.org/classes](http://FACNRV.org/classes).

Creative Club Returns in September

Our free monthly art workshops for children ages 5–12 resume on Saturday, September 13 at 10:30 am.

Rhythm by the Rails

Saturday, August 9 | 3–9 pm | Jackson Park
FACNRV's annual music and arts festival returns with live performances from Noah Spencer, Draper Line Band, Mike Mitchell Band, and GRAPE JAM. Enjoy food trucks, artist demos, and fun for all ages.

First Friday Concert

September 5: The Allegro Trio
Frank Leonetti and Flip Shoemaker return to the Fine Arts Center, this time joined by vocalist Gwen Whitfield to form the Allegro Trio. The trio offers a unique blend of jazz, pop, and Latin styles. Free to attend; \$5 donation suggested. Doors open at 5:00 pm, and music is from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

Chair's Corner

As summer begins, I think of sweet endings and exciting new beginnings. As our PCHS students graduate and move on to a new phase in life of jobs, military and higher education, summer brings hope and joy. The Pulaski County Board of Supervisors, the County Administrator and Assistant County Administrator, along with the help of a few other committed local government leaders, celebrate our students by voluntarily contributing to and offering a Lead Through Service scholarship for a graduating Pulaski County High School Senior who captures the essence of their volunteer community service experiences through an essay, and shares their future career plans to return to Pulaski and continue their service to their community. This year, the Lead Through Service Scholarship Committee selected Mr. Carter Smith as the recipient and winner of the \$3,000.00 scholarship. Mr. Smith was chosen from numerous essays written by graduating PCHS seniors.

This prestigious scholarship was started in 2019 through voluntary contributions from the Board of Supervisors, the County Administrator, the Assistant County Administrator, and a few other of our local leaders. Previous Lead Through Service Scholarship recipients are: Ms. Breanna Lytton - 2019, Ms. Jaelyn Szerokman - 2020, Ms. Alex Turner and Ms. Ashlyn Kirtner - 2021, Ms. Gwendolyn Puckett - 2022, Ms. Tori Vest and Ms. Kaitlin Ervine - 2023, and Ms. Clara Worley - 2024. The Scholarship has provided more than \$26,500.00 in awards to graduating seniors of Pulaski County High School since its inception in 2019. We are excited and honored to follow their progress and watch their successes as they move through their continued education and return home to Pulaski County.

As Spring winds down and summer begins, the Board's 'One Bag Challenge' comes to an end in June. The last \$100 gift card drawings will be done by the Board of Supervisors and by the School Board at their June meetings. Don't miss your chance to lend a hand to this effort. Each bag you pick up gets you one chance at the drawings. Three names are drawn at each respective Board meeting. This year we have shattered both of our previous records with 327 participants picking up almost 1,600 bags, 226 tires and numerous other building materials, appliances, furniture and other assorted trash picked up along our County's roadways. I thank every one of you who has participated with us. In addition to the clean-up, the two Boards offered an education program for all school-age citizens, with younger ones coloring and older ones creating posters, with high schoolers writing an essay or a media poster regarding littering. This \$1,000.00 scholarship was surprisingly won by Mr. Carter Smith as well, who picked up bags and wrote an impressive essay about littering and his experiences.

Lastly, I would like to share that the Board of Supervisors has passed a balanced budget, fully funding the public school's requests, without raising any tax levies. This year's Budget was very tight, as we knew it would be on the heels of historic inflation, causing some lower priorities to be delayed for future years. Each year, the Board of Supervisors has a budget theme, and this year, 2025 has been declared 'The Year of the Projects'. Our goal is to complete all the projects we have been working on, beginning with the reopening of the Randolph Park Pool, and continuing with the completion of Sheffey Riverside Park, the PSA's new Draper Convenient Center, the Spay Clinic Expansion at the P.C. Animal Shelter, APB's Broadband installation, the renovation of our Sportsplex, and much more.

So, as we move into Summer, enjoy the season, get outside and enjoy all the amenities that our beautiful county has to offer - play ball and other sports, spend time at family picnics, cookouts, campfires and days at the lake day, but most of all, be thankful for all our blessings! Life in Pulaski County is good!

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

Commissioner of the Revenue Office Updates

52 W. Main Street, Suite 200
Pulaski, VA 24301
Open M-F, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
(540) 980-7750, Personal Property Dept.
(540) 980-7753, Real Estate Dept.

What you need to know about your manufactured home.

- ♦ Ownership of mobile/manufactured homes are tracked through the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) because they are originally issued a title, but this is not applicable for modular homes without a title. If you sell, purchase or dispose of a manufactured home, the DMV must be notified! To convert a manufactured home to real estate, paperwork must be filed through the DMV and Clerk of Court office. Receiving a real estate tax bill with your manufactured home listed, does not verify paperwork has been filed for a legal conversion to real estate. Contact your local DMV office or go to their website at www.dmv.virginia.gov for more information.

How to obtain the farm vehicle exemption?

- ♦ DMV Registered farm vehicles with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 7,500 pounds or more must display an “F-tag” before being allowed the farm use exemption disclosed in Pulaski County tax code, Section 38-1.
- ♦ Starting in 2025, unregistered farm vehicles such as panel trucks, pickup trucks, and SUVs with a GVWR under 7,500 pounds used exclusively for farming purposes must have a DMV-issued permanent farm use placard before being allowed the farm use exemption disclosed in Pulaski County tax code, Section 38-1.
- ♦ Our office can view DMV information to determine F-tags assigned but please maintain documentation for the farm placards issued.

Lodging Tax & Short-term Rentals

- ♦ Summer months have arrived! If you plan to use your real estate for temporary lodging to house transient guests in Pulaski County (excluding the Town of Pulaski), you must submit necessary paperwork to our office and collect local taxes from your guests. Those located in the Town of Pulaski must report to their finance office. All others should contact our Master Deputy Commissioner, Sabrina Bishop at (540) 980-7750 for more details.
- ♦ Remember to keep detailed financial records when using a third-party payer such as Airbnb, etc. to track their tax collection compliance.

Are you an organization owning tax exempt real estate?

- ♦ In an effort to maintain accurate records, our real estate department has implemented a new procedure. Annual reminders are now being mailed to entities owning tax exempt real estate informing them to report changes in property usage. If a tax-exempt property becomes income-producing at any time, it is the owner’s responsibility to report this change promptly, as it may affect a property’s exemption status.

Property visits by our Real Estate Assessor are necessary.

- ♦ New construction, additions, demolitions and discoveries prompt a visit from our real estate department. The Real Estate Assessor continues to make a field visit to properties throughout the year evaluating assessment changes as required by Virginia Code § 58.1-3280. He travels in a marked vehicle and marked clothing with an identification badge. Properties with value changes will always receive a notice by mail with a deadline to appeal.
- ♦ A site visit helps to ensure accuracy of information. If a property owner refuses access or requests the assessor leave during an inspection, the real estate assessment may not accurately reflect the current improvements of the property. In such cases, the assessment will be completed based on available records which can result in a skewed fair market value that may be too high or too low. To ensure the most accurate and equitable assessment, we strongly encourage full cooperation with our office.

Kim Matthews, Commissioner of the Revenue