



# Pulaski County Citizen Newsletter

## July - September 2021

### Vol. XVI, Issue III

[www.pulaskicounty.org](http://www.pulaskicounty.org) (540) 980-7705  
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County Administrator



## Happy 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Randolph Park

On June 30, 2001, the grand opening of Randolph Park was held. The late Ms. Evelyn Alexander graciously donated the ninety-eight (98) acres of land to the County of Pulaski as an outdoor park for all to enjoy.

Current Assistant County Administrator, Mr. Anthony Akers, served on the Randolph Park Steering and Planning Commission and in 2001, was Randolph Park's manager. He vividly remembered Ms. Alexander telling him her vision for Randolph Park. She explained that she had an apparition one day while sitting alongside her pet mule near the pond area that served as a watering hole for her father's livestock. At that time, the Lord had spoken to her and allowed her to audibly hear children laughing and water splashing. It was then, she determined, that one day the property would be a place where children would have fun, laugh and learn how to swim. She also told Mr. Akers she wanted individuals of all ages to enjoy the property through various kinds of recreational and leisure activities.

Ms. Evelyn Alexander was not just a visionary; she put those visions into action. The primary benefactress of Randolph Park saw a need for recreational opportunities and acted on her vision. She offered practical advice on how Pulaski County's newest recreational project would provide individuals with opportunities to hike trails and swim in a state-of-the-art pool complex, that would make Pulaski County the envy of many localities. Pulaski County received a windfall when a once "working farm" was transformed into a first-class recreational facility. Over a three year period and through the efforts of county officials and citizen volunteers, her vision for the park quickly blossomed. It was named in honor of her parents, the late Randolph H. Alexander and Annie Crowgey Alexander, and was Ms. Alexander's way to preserve the land which supported her father's sheep, cattle and crops. Mr. Akers recalled when the steering committee decided to name the pool area, "The Evelyn Alexander Water Park", which was against Ms. Alexander's wishes. While she conceded to the name, Mr. Akers remembered the day Ms. Alexander and her lifelong friend, Ms. Francis Farmer, came to park shortly after her name had been placed on the building. Ms. Farmer said "Look there Evelyn, look at your name". Mr. Akers recalled Ms. Alexander kept her head down the entire time and said, "I saw it already when we drove in".

Over the past 20 years, the vision Ms. Evelyn Alexander had as a girl has impacted the lives of thousands of people. Each summer, hundreds of kids enroll in the Randolph Park summer camp where they learn how swim and enjoy many fun activities and multitudes of our youth work as camp counselors, lifeguards and pool attendants. Thousands have enjoyed the shelters, walking trails, ball fields, disc golf course and courts and of course, the water park. With continuing renovations to Randolph Park, the next 20 years will prove to be above and beyond what we all can imagine and we are so very grateful for the generosity and vision of Ms. Evelyn Alexander. Evelyn set the course of Pulaski County's growth and lived by the scripture, "Where there is no VISION, the people perish" (Proverbs 29:18)!

**THANK YOU, EVELYN ALEXANDER!**



**Do you want your older loved one to be well-cared for and have a better quality of life during the work week?**

Please consider **Pulaski Adult Day Service & Fall Prevention Center**. Our program serves people 18 and older who are dealing with being alone during the day, a range of physical problems, or early to mid-stage dementia, and would like to join a program which provides interesting conversation, goofing off, laughing, good food, care, and companionship. We provide care Monday-Friday: 9am -5pm.

**What We Do:** Provide daily care for adults 18 and older with needs such as assistance with eating, toileting, ambulating, and dressing/bathing. We assess and monitor health conditions and alert family members to changes in health, which helps prevent hospitalization.

For a detailed list of our services, check out our website and Facebook page. Payment Options: Private Pay, Veterans Administration, Area Agency on Aging-Respite, Medicaid, & some long-term care insurance.

**Pulaski Adult Day Service and Fall Prevention Center, Inc.**  
 501 C 3 Nonprofit, donations tax deductible  
 211 5th Street, Dublin, VA 24084  
 Phone: (540) 307-5487 Fax: 540-307-5289  
 Email: [linda.davis@pulaskiadultdayservice.org](mailto:linda.davis@pulaskiadultdayservice.org)  
[www.pulaskiadultdayservice.org](http://www.pulaskiadultdayservice.org)

**Pulaski County ACCE**

Students enrolled in the Pulaski County ACCE (Access to Community College Education) Program attended a Community Service Fair in May to sign up for community service opportunities at non-profit organizations in Pulaski County. ACCE students are required to give back to Pulaski County through 80 hours of non-profit service for the years they are in the program. Some of the locations students will be working this summer include Randolph Park, Friends of Claytor Lake, Volunteer Fire Departments, and the YMCA. Last summer, ACCE students completed over 3,800 hours of service in Pulaski County.



**Commissioner of the Revenue Office Updates**

- ◇ Are you a Veteran listed as service-connected, permanent and totally disabled? Provide a copy of your disability letter from the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs and complete our application so we can determine if you qualify for the "Motor Vehicle Property Tax Exemption for Disabled Veterans". If qualified, only one vehicle may be exempted starting this year. For more details contact our Personal Property Department at (540) 980-7750.
- ◇ Historically, vehicle values tend to depreciate from month to month but the market effects from COVID-19 altered the anticipated trends. As a result, all major vehicle valuation services such as the National Automobile Dealers Association, indicate increased market values on vehicles due to supply and demand. Our office uniformly uses the NADA "Clean Trade-in value" when assigning values. If your mileage was over 100,000 miles as of January 2021, contact us at (540) 980-7750 so we can determine if the NADA guide allows for a high mileage reduction. Documented proof of high mileage must be provided.
- ◇ Pulaski County and the Virginia Constitution now allow for the exemption of certain real estate owned by surviving spouses of individuals killed in the line of duty. Contact our Real Estate Department at (540) 980-7753 for more information.
- ◇ Did you know? The primary role of the Commissioner of the Revenue Office is to implement tax laws created by the Virginia General Assembly as well as tax policies established by the local Board of Supervisors. Tax assessments conducted each year are based on these laws and policies.
- ◇ We are available to answer questions and serve the community in a variety of ways:
  - By phone at (540) 980-7750 for personal property and (540) 980-7753 for real estate
  - By mail or walk-in at 52 W. Main Street, Suite 200; Pulaski, VA 24301
  - By email at [commissionerofrevenue@pulaskicounty.org](mailto:commissionerofrevenue@pulaskicounty.org)
  - By drop box located on the backside of building to the right of doors

*Kim Matthews, Commissioner of the Revenue*

Summer is here! Please be safe during your activities by planning ahead. If you are going out of town, make arrangements to have your mail and newspapers stopped or have a trusted person pick it up for you and avoid posting vacation photos on social media while you are away. While camping, biking or hiking, watch out for snakes and wildlife. And do not forget to keep plenty of fresh water and provide ample shade for your furry friends if they spend time outside. Have fun and call us if you need us.



Sheriff Mike Worrell

## Experience Pulaski

Expo & Job Fair  
hosted by  
Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce

On Thursday, August 12, 2021, the Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce will celebrate area businesses at the Experience Pulaski Expo & Job Fair at Randolph Park.

From 2 – 6p.m., we welcome citizens to join us and experience all Pulaski County has to offer. You will find businesses in retail, the service industry, healthcare, recreation and more at the Expo. Grab a bite to eat as Commonwealth Catering celebrates our nine (9) international companies that call Pulaski home with food items representing those countries.

In search of a career? Pulaski County employers have something for everyone at the Experience Pulaski Expo & Job Fair. Job seekers will find an array of openings available at every skill level offering competitive pay and benefits. Employers range from small businesses to international companies.

Exhibiting businesses will benefit from a networking lunch before the event as well as seminars on our informative main stage. There will be a resiliency BOSS's Table discussion and an informational session from Virginia Career Works New River/Mount Rogers on the event stage. New River Valley (NRV) employers can learn about the numerous resources and services offered by the NRV Business Services Team, regardless of their size or industry type.

Come Experience Pulaski, on August 12, 2021, 2021, from 2 – 6 p.m. at Randolph Park!

## Fall Classes by Zoom or In-Person from Lifelong Learning at Virginia Tech

The Lifelong Learning Institute at Virginia Tech (LLI) invites those over 50 to join a community of curious adults exploring topics like classic literature, local history, global change, engineering disasters, current issues, and so much more. There are plenty of opportunities for small classes to engage your creative spirit too. Both Zoom and in-person classes and lectures are available. We celebrate the opportunity for fully vaccinated people to gather for learning and socializing. If you choose an online learning experience, there are several advantages: it is easier to hear and see presentations, you can join classes even if you travel, and people more distant or less mobile can easily participate from home. The vast majority of enrolled members from 2020-2021 found Zoom easy to use and the learning experiences rewarding. Join us to select from twenty-six courses this fall and nine free special events, a great member benefit!

Zoom Basics training is available for new users. Download free Zoom conferencing software at <https://zoom.us>

Visit the LLI website [www.cpe.vt.edu/lifelonglearning](http://www.cpe.vt.edu/lifelonglearning) for more information; sign up to receive the Fall flyer and email announcements. Don't miss the Fall Preview on August 31, 2021!

### Contact Information

LLI Registrar:	540-231-4364, <a href="mailto:heidi1@vt.edu">heidi1@vt.edu</a>
General Registration Phone:	540-231-5182
LLI email address:	<a href="mailto:lifelonglearning@vt.edu">lifelonglearning@vt.edu</a>
LLI website:	<a href="http://www.cpe.vt.edu/lifelonglearning">www.cpe.vt.edu/lifelonglearning</a>



Sign up for the Pulaski County Library System's Summer Reading Challenge! Download the Beanstack app on your phone to get started, or, visit [www.pclibs.org](http://www.pclibs.org). We have challenges and prizes available for children, teens and adults! For more information, contact Jena Coalson, Youth Services Librarian, at (540) 994-2458 or email [jcoalson@pclibs.org](mailto:jcoalson@pclibs.org).

## Fine Arts Center

The Fine Arts Center is happy to announce we will be opening for limited days and times as we ramp up for full-time business. To celebrate reopening, we are working on a **FREE concert in Jackson Park with The Reflections**. The band's motto is "Playing the hits that cause you to reflect on happy times and places!" We are planning for Friday, July 23, 2021, at 6 p.m. but check out our website at [FACNRV.org](http://FACNRV.org) for details as they become available.

Our current exhibit features works from our Permanent Collection, including some recent acquisitions. In July we invite you to view "Postcards from the Pandemic" from local, award-winning artist, L. S. King. And for all you photographers, start snapping, as we plan to host an exhibit of pictures from local residents this fall in a show called "Summer in the NRV is..." Our website will list our opening days, times and details on exhibits.

The free art kits for children will still be available as part of the Second Saturday Café series and some of our workshops will now be taught in-person at the Center. Please visit our website at [FACNRV.org](http://FACNRV.org) for more details. Upcoming offerings include:

- **July:** Batik Art workshop with Dr. Kim Lewis. Children can participate in an in-person class called "Making Faces" inspired by Kimmy Cantrell. Kids will make their masks on July 17 and paint them on July 24. Sign up on our website as spaces are limited.
- **August:** Terrie Sternberg will lead a workshop in the Basics of Mosaics and children will make Sunflower Art with Heather Arnold.
- **September:** Watercolor Batik workshop with Charlotte Chan and children will explore Impressionism with a "Dabs of Light" kit.

Finally, we are pleased to announce the Fine Arts Center has been awarded the Gold Key for Affiliates for our work in coordinating the Southwest Virginia Region in the Scholastic Art Awards. Scholastic is the largest, and longest-running award program for student artists and has more than 100 affiliates in the country. The Center was honored at the Scholastic National Conference on June 10, 2021.





**Raymond F. Ratcliffe Memorial Transportation Museum**

**Rescheduled Ninth Annual Benefit Golf Tournament**

**Friday August 6, 2021**

**Thorn Spring Golf Course**

*Four-Person Captain's Choice*

**Tee Off: 1:00 p.m. Lunch: 11:30 - 12:45 p.m.**

**Entry fee includes lunch, snacks, cart, range balls, and green fees.**

**Entry Fee: \$70 per golfer (Team \$280.00)**

**Mulligans: \$5 per person, maximum of 2**

**1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Teams**

**For additional information call 540-980-7381,  
or e-mail [jjhawley74@gmail.com](mailto:jjhawley74@gmail.com)**

**Introducing SchoolCash Online**



Pulaski County Public Schools is excited to announce that our schools now offer a new and preferred method of payment for all school fees. SchoolCash Online is a safe and secure form of online payment that allows you to pay for school items like field trips and spirit wear, from your hand-held device or computer, using VISA, MasterCard, or eCheck.

**Register Now**

To be able to make a payment, you must register by visiting: <https://pcva.schoolcashionline.com>.

By registering your students, you will have the ability to:

- Be notified of your child's school items and activity fees.
- Check your account history.
- View and print receipts.
- Pay for school fees with the click of a button.

For more information and to register, please visit <https://pcva.schoolcashionline.com> today.



**Pulaski County Tourism**

Summer is finally here, which means it is time to PLAY OUTSIDE in Pulaski County. Make sure you have these must do's on your summer bucket list. #virginiaisforlovers

**Cheer on the Pulaski River Turtles at Calfee Park.**

Baseball is back! Make sure you catch a game this summer.

**Take a lap on the track or catch a race at Motor Mile Speedway.**

Drive a NASCAR style race car, race Go-Karts, or watch the pros.

**Listen to live music on the water at Rock House Marina.**

Rock House is the perfect place to enjoy the views, tunes and food.

**Visit Thee Draper Village.**

Your one-stop shop for all your shopping, dining and gathering needs.

**Paddleboard at Claytor Lake State Park.**

Rent your gear inside the park and enjoy the beach and walking trails too!

**Play a round of golf.**

Did you know we have three golf courses?

**Bike and hike the New River Trail.**

Enjoy the scenic views and shade as you venture.

**Sip on a locally-crafted beverage.**

Wine, beer, spirits -- we got it all.

**Go fishing at Peak Creek, Claytor Lake, and the New River.**

An outdoor lover's paradise.

**For more information, visit Pulaski County Tourism's new**

**website: [www.visitpulaskiva.org](http://www.visitpulaskiva.org)**



Featuring the Demolition Derby, Lawn Mower Racing, Bulls & Barrels, Fireworks sponsored by Pulaski County, wrestling, musical entertainment and loads of carnival rides. Enjoy funnel cakes, cotton candy, pizza, Lion Dogs and more! Visit our website at [nrvfair.com](http://nrvfair.com) for more information.



Go Pulaski County Day will be held on Saturday, October 2, 2021.

GO PULASKI COUNTY is a day of service where volunteers from all parts of the county make a real difference by working on projects that benefit individuals, families and organizations that make us "Pulaski County Proud!"

Volunteer sign up begins on July 15, 2021, and closes on September 4, 2021. More information can be found on our Facebook page, [www.gopulaskicounty.org](http://www.gopulaskicounty.org), or by emailing [info@gopulaskicounty.org](mailto:info@gopulaskicounty.org)