

Pulaski County Citizen Newsletter January - March 2025 Vol. XIV Issue 1

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Chair's Corner

Happy New Year!

I hope that 2025 finds you well and happy. The final months of 2024 were a challenge for us all due to the major flooding in the County. Our hearts go out to those who lost their homes or experienced significant damage. The response from our citizens, staff, volunteers, and Federal and State Elected Officials was swift and meaningful. From EMS and Fire's swift water rescues to the efficiency of our County Departments including PSA, Building and Zoning, Emergency Management, and many others — the response could not have been better.

We cannot thank our staff and volunteers enough. I am also grateful to my fellow Board members for their quick response and for supporting all the special considerations. Thanks to our Administration for implementing the State of Emergency, which allowed us to expedite power restoration for affected citizens, waive building permit and inspection costs, and speed up permitting processes. Neighbors helped neighbors, businesses donated supplies and food, and many groups and nonprofits came together to assist those in need. It was a true testament to the wonderful people of Pulaski County who make our community special. Thank you all! We are strong, and we will rebuild better.

Looking ahead to 2025, I am excited that many projects we've worked on for so long are finally coming to fruition. The Randolph Park Pool is well on its way to completion and will be ready for opening by Memorial Day weekend. Our Broadband project will break ground soon, with completion expected by the end of the first quarter, bringing high-speed fiber to every business and resident in the County. Our winter sports program launched with a very successful Winterfest and will continue with a variety of opportunities and activities throughout the community. If you haven't seen them yet, check out the details here: <u>Pulaski County Parks and Rec</u>.

We've completed renovations of the County Administration building, updating the first school in the county to improve space efficiency and ensure ADA compliance. To finish the exterior, we will be paving the parking lots and creating streetscapes to complement the redesign of downtown Main Street Pulaski. We have also broken ground on two older schools – Dublin Elementary and Pulaski Middle School – that will be tranformed into multi-unit apartments, providing much-needed housing in the County and towns.

Many other projects are underway, including exciting transformational initiatives like our Sportsplex. Stay tuned for more information soon. This project is a game changer that will enhance the quality of life in our community and attract more residents, businesses, and jobs, helping us achieve our 30x40 goals.

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

January–March 2025

Pulaski County Employment Opportunities

Work Report Program Coordinator Animal Care Specialist Deputy Clerk Water/Wastewater Service Technician Sanitation Driver Library Youth Services Assistant – Part-Time Wildfire Mitigation Module Member Sanitation Worker E911 Telecommunicator Emergency Medical Services – Field Staff PSA Deputy Director – Water/Wastewater Deputy Sheriff

Please visit www.pulaskicounty.org for additional information and current openings



Message from Pulaski County Sheriff's Office

Everyone that has ever lived in Southwest Virginia knows that the weather can be a little crazy at times. Please be prepared for anything from sunny and 75° on January 10th, to a blizzard with 2 feet of snow on January 11th. Make sure you have extra medicines on hand and if possible have some type of alternative heat source available in case the electricity goes out for an extended period of time. Be sure to keep a few blankets, some water bottles and snacks in your vehicle in case you get stranded during a winter event.

As always, Pulaski County Sheriff's Office will be here if you need us.

Sheriff Mike Worrell



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Community College

(540) 674-3625



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.

www.nr.edu/concerts

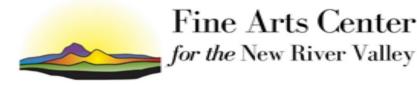
January 11, 2025* Country Boys Slate Mountain Ramblers

February 8, 2025* New Grass Edition New Ballard's Branch Bogtrotters

March 8, 2025* The Brothers Young The Bluegrass Kinsmen



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Pulaski Programming and Events at the Fine Arts Center (January-March 2025)

Pulaski Workshops and Classes for Adults

Saturday, January 25: 2D & 3D Needle Felting with Cyndi Maitri Saturday, February 15: 2D & 3D Needle Felting with Cyndi Maitri Saturdays, January 4 – February 8: Art of Acrylic with Ernie Ross

Workshops and Classes for Children

January, Febuary, March, once monthly - *Creative Club,* **featuring various craft activities**. Visit FACNRV.org to learn more or register.

First Friday Listening Room Concerts

Febuary 7: *Barry LeNoir, Joined by a Duo Partner –* Barry LeNoir is a Floyd based singer and guitarist with a deep and eclectic range of styles all filled with soul. His performances often lead to the audience singing along. He will be joined by a duo partner in February for a First Friday performance you don't want to miss.

March 7: *Kat Mills* - Kat Mills is an Americana, Folk, songwriter artist from Blacksburg VA. Her powerful vocal range, vintage guitar, and mystic vibes combine to produce a clean honest sound that leaves audiences wanting more.

Gallery Exhibits

On display through January 11: *Creative Circles Exhibit,* A community art project that invites people of all ages and backgrounds to express their creativity and contribute to a collaborative artwork

Opening Saturday, January 25: *Scholastic Art Awards Exhibit,* This exhibition features the work of talented teen artists from the NRV participating regionally in the 2025 Scholastic Art Awards, which is the nation's longest-running and most prestigious recognition program for teens in the arts. An Awards Reception & Ceremony will take place at the Fine Arts Center and Pulaski Theatre on February 22.

Opening Saturday, March 1: *Youth Art Month Exhibit,* Youth Art Month is an annual celebration of student artists and their teachers started by the Council for Art Education. It occurs every March, and it is one of the most popular exhibits hosted by the Fine Arts Center.

New Year Reminders from the Commissioner of the Revenue Office

General Reminders:

- Update your DMV record to remove vehicles disposed of last year or to add a new address. Our office receives DMV updates concerning these changes.
- Keep a record of taxable personal property discarded or sold such as cars, motorcycles, trucks or manufactured homes.
- Thinking of starting a new business this year? Resource information for new and existing businesses can be found at the top of our webpage (<u>https://www.pulaskicounty.org/cor</u>) under "Business Info At A Glance".
- Are you using your home or real estate owned to provide short-term room rentals to the general public? If so, complete the necessary paperwork in our office for the state taxes you've collected from your customers. Contact Master Deputy Commissioner, Sabrina Bishop for more details.
- Business License renewal paperwork is due by **March 1** every year. Contact Master Deputy Commissioner, Terri Earles 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. Contact our office for more information.
- Veteran Real Estate Tax Exemption applications are requested by **April 1** but can be submitted throughout the year. Veterans <u>must</u> meet the 100% service-connected permanent and total disability requirement. <u>The official veteran rating letter is required from the U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs</u>. A surviving spouse may also apply.
- A tax exemption on one motor vehicle as of January 1, 2021 is also allowed for 100% serviceconnected totally disabled veterans. The vehicle <u>must</u> be used by or for the Veteran. For more information contact our office.
- Surviving spouse of an individual killed in the line of duty may apply for a real estate tax exemption. For more information contact our Real Estate Department at (540) 980-7750.

Income Tax Reminders:

- 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) 320-3217 for more information.

Pulaski County Commissioner of the Revenue Office 52 W. Main Street, Suite 200; Pulaski, VA 24301 <u>COR@pulaskicounty.org</u> (540) 980-7750 Kim Matthews, Commissioner of the Revenue