



Pulaski County Citizen Newsletter

July - September 2023

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www.pulaskicounty.org

(540) 980-7705

143 Third Street NW, Suite 1, Pulaski, VA 24301



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Draper District

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ICMA-CM
County Administrator

Pulaski County Circuit Court Clerk Awarded Grant to Preserve Local Records

RICHMOND, Va. (TBD, 2023) – The Library of Virginia announced that the Circuit Court Records Preservation (CCRP) program has awarded Pulaski County Circuit Court Clerk, Maetta Crewe, a grant in the amount of \$57,852 for local records preservation. The funds will be used to conserve General Index to Deeds, N-Z, including Grantees A-Z; Wills 1839-1909; Marriage Licenses 1895-1897; Marriage Licenses 1898-1899, Marriage Licenses 1900-1901; Marriage Licenses 1902-1903; Marriage Licenses 1904-1905; Marriage Licenses 1906-1907; and Plat Book 1, 1892-1949, stored in her office.

"We're extremely excited," said Mrs. Crewe. "These records are the history of our county! We have an obligation to make sure they are available for future generations." Since Crewe became clerk in 2006, she has applied for numerous grants and has been awarded a total of \$261,722.00. These grant funds were used for obtaining a security camera system for the clerk's office, refurbishing and preserving 45 historical records including deed books, index books, marriage registers, reformatting and digitizing a historical criminal/murder case file, purchasing a reader printer, and reformatting six drawers of marriage licenses into six large books. In addition, she has obtained grant funds to scan all Pulaski County Deed Books and Will Books. These books are now available online for a fee through Secure Remote Access. Instead of traveling to the courthouse, lawyers, title searchers and others have the capability of accessing all of these records while in their independent offices.

Since 1990, the CCRP has awarded over 2,000 grants totaling more than \$34,000,000. This year, the program awarded \$4.7 million to 99 localities to assist the clerks' offices with their preservation efforts.

The CCRP is a collaborative program between the Library of Virginia and the Virginia Court Clerks Association (VCCA). Funded through a \$3.50 portion of the clerk's recordation fee, the CCRP provides resources to help preserve and make accessible permanent circuit court records stored in the 120 circuit courts and at the Library of Virginia. For more information on the Circuit Court Records Preservation Program's resources and services, please visit www.lva.virginia.gov.

July 4th 2023 Veterans Remembrance Ceremony

The public is invited to attend the County's annual July 4th Veterans Remembrance Ceremony to be held at the Pulaski Theatre, located at 14 West Main Street, Pulaski, beginning at 1 p.m. This event is sponsored by the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors and the Pulaski County Courthouse Exhibits Committee.

At this year's ceremony, local Vietnam Veterans will be recognized for their service to our country as we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Vietnam in 1973.

The event's guest speaker will be Ben King, Operations Director for the Virginia War Memorial. Local groups participating in the ceremony include the VFW Post # 1184, AMVETS Post #40, Boy Scouts, Wilderness Road Chorus, and bagpiper, Andrew Meeks. The ceremony will conclude with a 21 gun salute and the playing of "Taps" on the lawn of the Old Historic Pulaski County Courthouse at the War Memorial. Refreshments will then be served and tours of the courthouse will be conducted by members of the Courthouses Exhibits Committee.

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

- ♦ If you have purchased, sold, or disposed of a vehicle, motorcycle, camper, trailer, motor home or mobile/ manufactured home in the past year, please update your record at the DMV office as soon as possible. DMV updates are forwarded to our Personal Property Department on a regular basis allowing us to update your property record on file.
- ♦ What does January and vehicle values have in common? Personal property tax values are assessed as of January 1 every year. J.D. Power reported in January 2023 that supply chain disruptions continue but are less severe for the vehicle industry. Fewer disruptions throughout 2023 will allow some used car values to decrease. Unfortunately, a downward trend in used car values cannot be determined until January 1 of the following year. Please be patient as vehicle values continue to adjust.
- ♦ Our Real Estate Assessor will continue to make field visits throughout the year to complete necessary property appraisals. He will be in a marked vehicle and marked clothing. Any properties with value changes will receive a notice by mail.
- ♦ Please keep in mind, Commissioner of the Revenue offices across the state of Virginia are commissioned by the Constitution to implement state and local tax laws created by the General Assembly and local governments. We do not have the autonomy to change these laws as written.
- ♦ Visit us online at www.pulaskicounty.org/cor for tax information, digital property cards, forms and tax relief applications.

Kim Matthews, Commissioner of the Revenue

Chair's Corner

There have been so many positive happenings that have occurred in our county over the past several months but first I want to address the devastating fire at the Randolph Park Pool. Around 4:30 p.m. on Friday, May 26, 2023, the Evelyn Alexander Waterpark facilities were discovered to be on fire and despite the valiant efforts of our county's crews to fight this aggressive fire, the pool house is a total loss. The loss of this facility is tragic for all of our citizens; particularly our youth. We will be working to rebuild as quickly as possible, but in reality, will probably not be able to open the waterpark this year. All other Parks and Recreation activities will continue as scheduled. We are heartbroken about this setback but it is our intention to build back better!

Our One Bag Challenge continues through the end of June with our last drawing for five \$100 gift cards to be held at the June 26, 2023, Board of Supervisors' meeting. To date, two hundred and thirty-seven (237) individuals have picked up seven hundred sixty-three (763) bags of trash, two hundred sixty-eight (268) tires and numerous pieces of furniture, building material and other large items. We received a grant to cover the cost of the tire tipping fees and prizes and on Friday, June 2, 2023, the County was awarded the Keep Virginia Beautiful grant for \$1000.00 to cover the cost of grabbers, bags and gloves. Thank You to all who have participated. You have made this a success!

The Board of Supervisors and County staff are finalizing the budget and will adopt it at our meeting on June 26, 2023. I am pleased to say the budget is balanced with no increase in taxes and supports our staff and school teachers with a 5% raise. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to my fellow board members and to our staff for all their efforts in the budget process.

The county completed a state and a privately commissioned Fire and EMS study to provide insight into where we may need to improve in providing emergency services to our citizens. We will continue to develop a plan and work with our Chiefs to determine an implementation plan over the next year to better provide next level emergency services to our community.

Our Board members continue to receive requests for pothole patching, tree trimming and mowing and we are in contact with VDOT regarding your concerns. Please remember, there are a lot of roads in the county and a great amount of maintenance to be performed, thus it may take some time to address every issue. Your patience is appreciated.

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer!

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

The 2022 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.

Go Pulaski County Day of Community Service will be held this year on Saturday, October 7, 2023.

GO PULASKI COUNTY is an annual 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 and closes on August 21.

More information can be found on our Facebook page,

www.gopulaskicounty.org, or by emailing info@gopulaskicounty.org



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT AWARD

We would like to thank the employees who took the time to nominate members of various Pulaski County Departments for this award. Employees may be nominated by their peers or a member of the community based on excellent customer service, going above and beyond what is expected of their job, excellent attitude, etc. Nominations may be submitted by using this webform:

<https://forms.gle/zPX3tcUkHbNg5wVNA>

Every employee that is submitted will receive a token of our appreciation and will be entered into a drawing at the County's Employee Recognition dinner for a special prize. Please continue submitting nominations and remember there is no limit to the number of times an employee may be nominated.

MARCH WINNERS

Sandra Boyd, PSA Administration
Pulaski County Recognition Committee
(Anthony Akers, Tonya Crigger, Nathaniel Davis,
Terri Hager, Carolyn Hager, Sheena Johnson,
Tammy Nichols and Markie Saunders)
L. Joseph Trigg, Public Safety

APRIL WINNERS

Cassandra Slaughter, Library
Elaine-Powell Hawkins, Library
Kendall Simpkins, Library
Kim Matthews, COR
Heather Wright, Family Services
Steve Earhart, PSA
James Walls, PSA
Tommy Rummell, PSA

MAY WINNERS

Kevin Cressell, Public Safety
Margaret Dishon, DSS
Amanda Maxey, DSS
Jodie Cardoza, PCPS
Arnold Johnston, County Garage
Danny Akers, Convenience Center
Ricky Vaughn, PSA Sanitation
Buck Worrell, PSA Sanitation
Jerry Akers, PSA Sanitation
Paul Crosier, County Garage
Heather Wright, DSS Family Services
Mary Jimenez, DSS Family Services
Rachel Cooke, DSS Family Services
Ginger Cornett, DSS Family Services



The Pulaski Free Clinic is now accepting Medicaid patients as well as providing free services for low to moderate-income patients. Patients must be between 18 and 64 years old and be a resident of Pulaski County. Simply call the office at (540) 980-0922 or stop by our beautifully renovated clinic any time Monday through Thursday from 9:00 – 4:00, at 25 4th Street, NW, in downtown Pulaski for more information. For more than 35 years, the Pulaski Free Clinic has served the community. We look forward to welcoming new patients in 2023!

Looking for something to do this summer?



The Pulaski County Library System has awesome events for all ages and an amazing selection of books, movies, and resources.

Come on down and check us out!

For more details, visit www.pclibs.org





MARK YOUR 2023 CALENDARS!

SRX RACE 7/27



NEW RIVER VALLEY FAIR 7/25 – 7/30

PIRATE FESTIVAL 8/12

**AJSA SUMMER SOUTHERN SERIES JET SKI
CHAMPIONSHIP 9/8 – 9/10**

PULASKI COUNTY FLEA MARKET 9/16 & 9/17

NRV SHEEP & GOAT FESTIVAL 9/23

JEEPS, JARED AND JUMBALAYA AT ROCK HOUSE 10/8

FIRE PARADE 10/12

NEWBERN FALL FESTIVAL 10/14 & 10/15

JACK-O-LATERN SPECTACULAR 10/28

WINTERFEST 12/2

Summer is vacation time for most, but regardless of when you prefer to get away, always remember to be smart and safe. Be aware of your surroundings, no matter if you are in a big city or hanging out at a small-town festival. Pick pocket artists show up everywhere just for these events and they can be smooth. They usually work in teams of at least 2-3 individuals, where one of them distracts you and the other one picks your pocket, so watch out. Also, when you are out shopping or at amusement parks, keep up with your phone and wallet. It only takes a second for someone to snatch these and disappear into a crowd. If you do become a victim of one of these types of crimes, be sure to report it to the local authorities immediately, cancel any credit/debit cards you have and contact the credit bureau to make sure no one opens any accounts in your name. As always, we never close, call us if you need us.

Sheriff Mike Worrell



Fall Classes by Zoom or In-Person from the Lifelong Learning Institute 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 native plants, karst science – from sinkholes to speleology, the natural history of Darwin's Galapagos, modern Africa, Lawrence of Arabia, the Roberts Court and criminal justice, the Love Poetry of Nikki Giovanni, and so much more. There are loads of technology how-to classes and plenty of opportunities for small classes to engage your creative spirit. Both Zoom and in-person classes and lectures are available. Online learning options are great if you live at a distance and want to participate from your own home. Join us to select from 36 courses, 5 field trips, several free hands-on technology workshops, 7 lectures/events and 4 webinars free to LLI members.

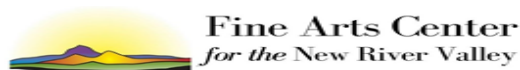
Visit the LLI website www.cpe.vt.edu/lifelonglearning for more information. You can sign up there to receive the Fall flyer, email announcements, and the LLI newsletter. Don't miss the Fall Preview during the week of August 28!

Fall 2023 Calendar

Mid-August Fall flyer to LLI interested contacts; classes listed on website
Week of Aug 28 Preview of Fall Program via Zoom, 10:00-11:30 a.m.
September 6 Online Registration opens at 10:00 a.m.
Week of September 18 Classes begin

Contact Information

LLI Program Coordinator: 540-231-1725, llalonde@vt.edu
Registration Phone: 540-231-5182
LLI email address: lifelonglearning@vt.edu
LLI website: www.cpe.vt.edu/lifelonglearning



Upcoming Events at the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley:

July: Call to Artists for the annual *Menagerie* exhibit, featuring new works by community members.

August 12: *Music and Art in Jackson Park*, a celebration of summer including live music by Glen Shelton, The Reflections Band, GRAPEJAM students, fine art and craft vendors, children's activities, food trucks, and more!

Friday, August 18: Opening Reception for *Menagerie* exhibit

Saturday, August 19: *Painting with Wool: 2D Needle-felting* class with Cyndi Maitri

Friday, September 1: First Friday Listening Room concert

Saturday, September 16: *Painting with Wool: 2D Needle-felting* class with Cyndi Maitri

Saturday, September 30 - Saturday, November 18: *Introduction to Drawing class*, 8 consecutive Saturdays, with Mary Ruff

Please visit our website for a complete list of classes and events!