

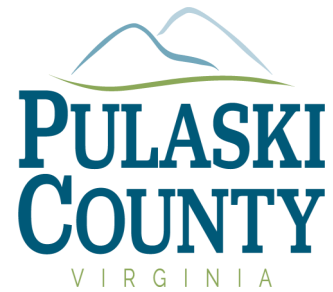
Pulaski County Citizen Newsletter

October - December 2021

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www.pulaskicounty.org
143 Third Street NW, Suite 1, Pulaski, VA 24301

(540) 980-7705



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www.pulaskicounty.org

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County of Pulaski Virginia

Joseph Guthrie, Chair,
Cloyd District

Charles R. Bopp,
Vice-Chair
Robinson District

Dirk Compton,
Draper District

John Travis,
Massie District

Laura Walters,
Ingles District

Jonathan D. Sweet,
County Administrator

Pulaski County Announces New Online Permitting System

Pulaski County Administration is pleased to announce that a new online permitting system is now available to the public. The Energov Citizen Self Service Portal offers a “one stop shop” to apply for, track, and manage both permits and plans. The online portal provides easy access for users to schedule inspections, make payments and print permits and plan approval from the users account.

The Energov platform is supported by Tyler Technology. This cloud based solution is currently used by hundreds of municipalities across the United States across a variety of products. Twenty-two (22) of the twenty-five (25) largest counties in the United States are currently using Tyler products.

The Community Development Office, which includes Engineering, Building and Planning/Zoning participated in a year-long collaboration with the Information Technology Department and Tyler Technologies to develop and customize the new permitting and plan review platform. Paper applications and processes have been converted to the online format. The overall vision for the online platform is to eliminate the use of paper and inefficient processes to save both time and money for the county and its citizens.

“This new platform is just another example of Pulaski County’s effort to provide the highest level of customer service, keep up with industry standards and expedite the development demands we are experiencing in the County”, stated Jonathan D. Sweet, County Administrator. “Our Community Development Office is staffed with top-tier professionals and feel this new tool will increase capacity and accessibility that will prove to give our citizens and customers an even better end-product and option of experience.”

The Citizen Self Service (CSS) platform is available from the Pulaski County website at the Home page (<http://www.pulaskicounty.org/>) and the webpages for the Building Department, Planning Department and Engineering Department. Users are required to register with an active email the first time they log in. Once a user is registered in the system, the permitting process is user friendly and convenient to access. The portal organizes the permits and plans associated with a user, which allows the user to track past or current permits. The new system allows building inspection staff to log inspection reports in real time. This feature allows users to track projects without having to contact the office. Payments can be made online using a credit card and the system automatically sends invoices, receipts and permits to the email on file. Citizens who lack the technology to use the online service can still apply for permits by contacting the Community Development Department. Staff is available to assist users of the new system and answer any questions about the new permitting system. Contact Pulaski County Community Development Office 540-980-7710 for assistance.

FINE ARTS CENTER NEWS

The Fine Arts Center launched this year's **First Friday Listening Room** concert series in September and will feature the **Groove Houndz** in October and new musicians each month through May 2022. These concerts are held at the Center in an intimate setting and usually feature acoustic music in a range of genres. In lieu of the concert in December, the Center hopes to host its Gala Reception in December. Subscribe to our website at FACNRV.org for updates.

People who attend the October concert will also get to see the striking photography of local artist Jeremy Riffe on display in his show “**NRV Reveries**”. A new exhibit on the **Evolution of Quilting** will then launch and will include demonstrations by local quilters. Our website will have details.

The Center is very proud to announce that the **16th NRV Biennial Juried Art Show** will open on Saturday, October 23, 2021, at the Taylor Gallery at Radford University featuring the winning artwork (receiving \$1,500 in prizes) and an artist’s talk by the juror, Mary C. Holland, the Director of the Studio School at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. The Fine Arts Center is coordinating this year’s biennial with co-sponsors, the Blacksburg Regional Art Association and the Floyd Center for the Arts. All are welcome to the show and reception.

Our adult and children classes are in full swing. October features Taylor Carroll, who will be showing you how to **Illustrate and Animate your Pet on an iPad** using low-cost software. Greeting cards will be the focus of our November classes with a workshop on November 4, 2021, in which you can make and take four greeting cards and a calligraphy workshop on November 13, 2021. We are also still delivering **FREE** art kits for children. To register for these and all other classes and events, check out our website a FACNRV.org.

When to Call 9-1-1

A call to 9-1-1 should always be a call for Emergency Help

When should I call 9-1-1?

Life and death emergencies and in-progress crimes against property which include, but are not limited to:

- Life threatening situation
- Fires
- Motor Vehicle Crashes
- Injuries requiring medical attention
- Hazardous Chemical spills
- Smoke detector, carbon monoxide alarm or other alarms sounding
- Smoke in a building
- If you see someone hurting someone else
- To get help for someone who is hurt
- If you see someone taking something that belongs to someone else or breaking into a home or business

When not to call 9-1-1:

Calling 9-1-1 as a joke or knowing that an emergency situation does not exist is a crime and subject to prosecution. If you call 9-1-1 to see if it is working, stay on the line and advise the operator you are just testing.

Non-emergency situations, including:

- For information – such as “What are the road conditions?” “When is the parade?” “Why is the power off and when will it be back on?”
- For directory assistance – we have to look up the number just as you would
- Abandoned vehicles
- Asking for directions
- Parking complaints
- Questions about tickets, warrants, court dates
- Someone setting off fireworks

What if I need Law Enforcement or Fire assistance, but it's not an emergency?

The non-emergency number for Law Enforcement, Fire Departments, Emergency Medical Services in Pulaski County is 540-980-7800. This number is answered 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

What if I call 9-1-1 by mistake?

DO NOT HANG UP! If you call 9-1-1 by mistake, stay on the line and speak with the dispatcher telling them it was in error. If you hang up, prepare for the dispatcher to call you back. If you do not answer, a Law Enforcement Officer will be sent to your location to determine that everything is ok.

What information does the dispatcher need to send help?

The following is the minimum information needed for a response:

- Location of your emergency (exact address, intersection, or landmark)
- Type of emergency
- Your name and callback phone number in case we need further information

Why does the dispatcher need me to stay on the line after I have called for help?

- To ensure your safety and those involved
- In case a medical condition changes for the better or worse, so as to provide immediate assistance with instructions to help until medical crews arrive.
- Also, to provide current and accurate information to the responding units whether medical or law enforcement

Why do you ask so many questions?

Dispatchers follow a specific line of questioning to assist with rapid identification of the situation and collection of facts. Dispatchers do not ask these questions because they are nosy. Their primary concern is to obtain as much information as is possible to expedite the emergency response by the public safety agency and for the safety of the public and police or fire responders.

If you can't decide if your call is an emergency, consider it to be an emergency and dial 911

PLAY OUTSIDE this season at one of Pulaski County's Outdoor Festivals

TOWN OF PULASKI FIRE TRUCK PARADE - OCTOBER 7, 2021

NEWBERN FALL FESTIVAL - OCTOBER 9 & 10, 2021

JACK-O'-LANTERN SPECTACULAR - OCTOBER 30, 2021 4:00 - 7:30 p.m.

TOWN OF DUBLIN CHRISTMAS PARADE - SATURDAY IN DECEMBER

TOWN OF PULASKI CHRISTMAS PARADE - DECEMBER 2, 2021

RANDOLPH PARK WINTERFEST - DECEMBER 5TH 3:00- 9:00 p.m., 6TH 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., 7TH 1:00-6:00 p.m.

**For more information on events
visit pulaskiva.org**

Fall is here! The weather is getting a little cooler, the leaves will be changing colors, and it is time to enjoy some Cougar football. Before you know it, the holidays will be upon us. Unfortunately, some individuals view the holidays as a time to take advantage of others' good will. The Sheriff's Office asks that you be on the alert for counterfeit money. If you use cash, be sure to carefully check your bills, especially the larger ones. Some of the counterfeit bills are stamped with what appears to be calligraphy, Chinese writing, with red ink being used, or may actually be printed with the words "for motion picture purposes".

Also, there have been a rash of vehicle larcenies recently; please secure your vehicles by removing the keys and keeping the vehicles locked.

Lastly, be sure to remember those serving in our military in your thoughts and prayers as they stand ever vigilant to keep America free. May you and yours be blessed, healthy and safe.

Sheriff Mike Worrell



Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce

Celebrating Our Business Community

There is so much to celebrate in our community over the last year. So far in 2021, the Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce has conducted nine ribbon cuttings celebrating business milestones and openings. Chamber members enthusiastically attended in person events such as the Annual Membership Luncheon at Calfee Park where we welcomed baseball back to the community. Inspiring Pulaski County Women made a comeback in August with a great number of guests coming out to hear Pulaski County Board of Supervisor, Laura Walters, speak. Networking events and celebrations such as these were missed in 2020 and the business community is overjoyed to see their return this year. In addition to these events, we also commend the businesses and community leaders who were instrumental in promoting the health of our community, who have pushed through the pandemic safely, and have adapted to a new way of doing business. This November, Chamber members and community leaders will celebrate all these accomplishments and triumphs at the Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet to be held at the Volvo Customer Experience Center. Watch for winners to be announced following the event. To stay informed of news, accomplishments, and events in our business community, contact info@pulaskivachamber.org to receive the weekly Chamber Connection from Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce.

Pulaski County Employment Opportunities

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



Commissioner of the Revenue Office Updates

Personal Property:

- ◇ Questions about specific items listed on your personal property tax ticket should be directed to our office at (540) 980-7750, Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 5:00pm. Our Deputy Commissioners do not accept personal property tax payments.
- ◇ The "Motor Vehicle Property Tax Exemption for Disabled Veterans" took effect January 1, 2021. If you are a Veteran with a 100% service-connected disability, you may qualify for one vehicle exemption. For more details on how to apply, contact our office at (540) 980-7750 or visit our webpage at <https://www.pulaskicounty.org/commissioner-of-the-revenue.html>.
- ◇ The pandemic is forecasted to cause an increase in vehicle values stemming from a low supply caused by auto factory shutdowns and reduced production. Fewer vehicles available to purchase as buyer demand increases will cause values to increase. Pulaski County uniformly uses the NDA clean trade-in value when assessing vehicles.

Real Estate:

- ◇ New Construction with a building permit finalized by November 1, 2021, will be assessed this year by the County Assessor. A change in assessment notice for this new construction will be sent to the taxpayer by the end of the year.
- ◇ Do you own five or more acres solely dedicated to farming? Land Use paperwork for new applicants may be obtained in our office and submitted by November 1 each year for evaluation of eligibility for the following year. Verifiable documentation of farming must be submitted with the application. A reduction of taxes based on use will be applied for those who qualify.
- ◇ Land Use for forest acreage of 20 acres or greater requires a Forest Management Plan (FMP) not older than 10 years and on file in our office by November 1, 2021, to remain in the land use program.
- ◇ Land owners in the land use program must report any changes in use within sixty(60) days.

We are available to answer your 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
- ◇ By drop box located on the backside of building to the right of doors

Kim Matthews, Commissioner of the Revenue



Voter Registration
and Elections

General and Special Election

**Tuesday
November 2, 2021**

**GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTION FOR:
Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General,
House of Delegates 7th and 12th Districts, and
Member Town Council- Dublin**

**MASKS ARE ENCOURAGED AND APPRECIATED.
SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL BE PRACTICED.**

**ID IS REQUIRED TO VOTE AT THE POLLS.
Please verify your voter registration, polling place,
and VALID ID before Election Day!**

**BALLOT DROPBOX AVAILABLE AT REGISTRAR'S OFFICE
Monday – Friday During Office Hours
September 17, 2021 through November 2, 2021**

**BALLOT DROPBOX AVAILABLE AT ALL PRECINCTS AND
THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE ON ELECTION DAY**

POLLS OPEN 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Tuesday, October 12, 2021: Last day to register to vote or
change your voter registration information for this election.
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Mailed voter registration applications must be sent to the
Pulaski County Voter Registration Office postmarked on or
before the deadline.

EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING

87 Commerce Street, Pulaski VA 24301

Monday-Friday, September 17, 2021 – October 30, 2021:
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 23, 2021: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 30, 2021: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Last day to vote an Early In-Person ballot at the Pulaski
County Voter Registration Office.

**PULASKI COUNTY VOTER REGISTRATION OFFICE WILL BE
CLOSED ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2021 FOR COLUMBUS DAY**

MAIL ABSENTEE VOTING

Friday, October 22, 2021: Last day to request an absentee
ballot by mail. Applications must be received in the Pulaski
County Voter Registration Office by 5 p.m.

Kathryn H. Webb, Director of Elections and General Registrar
87 Commerce Street, Pulaski VA 24301

TELEPHONE: 540-980-2111

FAX: 540-994-5883

Email: vote@pulaskicounty.org
Website: <http://www.pulaskicounty.org/registrar.html>



ADDITIONAL BILL PAYMENT LOCATION

To deliver added convenience for our customers, the
Fairlawn Sewer Authority is pleased to announce that
Fairlawn Bank and Trust in Fairlawn will provide an
additional location for payments. Fairlawn Tax &
Bookkeeping will continue to be a payment location as well.
First Bank offers features such as a Drive Thru window,
extended service hours and payment by credit card.

If you choose to pay your FSA bill at First Bank, please bring
your bill along with your payment to help them process the
payment correctly. You will receive a receipt upon payment.

First Bank's lobby hours are: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday –
Thursday and 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. Friday.
Their Drive Thru hours are 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Monday – Friday
and 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Saturdays.

The bank is located beside Sheetz on Route 114 in Fairlawn
(Physical Address: 7305 Peppers Ferry Boulevard).

At this time, only FSA payments will be accepted at First
bank, not PSA payments. PSA payment options and locations
have not changed.

NEW RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FIDDLE, BANJO & DANCE CLUB

OCTOBER 9
Blue Connection (2 sets)

NOVEMBER 13
Mountain Thunder
Dixie Bluegrass Boys

DECEMBER 11
Bluegrass Kinsmen (50th anniversary)
New Ballard's Branch Bogtrotters

EDWARDS HALL, NEW RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Doors Open: 5pm Music: 6:00pm - 8:30pm

FREE ADMISSION (donations accepted to help pay band expenses).
Bands subject to change.

nr.edu/fiddle (540) 674-3625

[nrccfiddle](https://www.facebook.com/nrccfiddle)

