

December 17, 2010

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# The Patriot

Pulaski County



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## 100 JOBS FOR PULASKI CO.

### Dove Vinyl Windows to open plant here

Staff Report

Governor Bob McDonnell announced today that Dove Vinyl Windows will invest \$2 million to open a manufacturing operation in Pulaski County. The project will create 100 new jobs.

Speaking about today's announcement, Governor McDonnell said, "Dove Vinyl Windows has come a long way from the small company founded in Pennsylvania 65 years ago. Pulaski County is a strategic location for the company's first Virginia operation, offering an available manufacturing facility that meets the company's needs. The new location provides competitive advantage for Dove to meet its customer's timelines from product manufacture to order delivery. I congratulate Pulaski on 100 new jobs and its newest corporate partner."

"I am confident that Dove Vinyl Windows will find success in the Commonwealth and

Pulaski County," said Jim Cheng, Virginia Secretary of Commerce and Trade. "The company has a long and rich history, and apropos to today's environmental concerns, focuses on green technologies to save energy usage."



company name was changed to Dove Vinyl Windows, Inc. Also starting in 1972, the company began to slowly phase out of the retail segment of the business and focus its marketing strategy on the manufacturing end of the

aluminum business. By 1980, the company was under the joint leadership of brothers Bruce and Eric Dove. Today, Dove Industries is a major player in the vinyl window industry. Dove Vinyl Windows has grown from a base of zero vinyl window production in 1987 to more than 16,000 windows by the end of 1988. In 1996, the youngest brother, Ron Dove, and the fourth generation of Doves, Bruce Dove, Jr., added their expertise in expanding the company to the next level. Currently, Dove Industries produces approximately 170,000 vinyl windows per year. Since 1987, Dove Industries has grown to a multimillion-dollar company.

"The southwest corner of Virginia was chosen as an expansion location due to its proximity to our current customer base and with ideas of further territory expansion," said Bruce Dove, Jr., General Manager, Dove Vinyl

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## Backpack program begins at Pulaski Elem.

By LINDA WILLIAMS Staff Writer

Through the generous donations of the community and the caring concern of Jordan's Chapel United Methodist Church and concerned faculty and staff members of Pulaski County schools, all Pulaski County elementary schools now offer a weekend backpack program for elementary children who qualify for the free and reduced lunch program.

As of Dec. 10, Pulaski Elementary School is the latest and final school to implement the program.

Backpack programs provide children with enough food to last through the weekend when a school breakfast and lunch are not accessible.

Volunteers stuff backpacks with nutritious, easy to prepare food items. Each backpack contains enough food for two breakfasts, two lunches and two dinners. Backpacks are delivered to the schools each Friday for the child to take home. Participants' names are kept confidential, and backpacks are assigned numbers so no names are used.

Many backpacks contain items such as soups, juice boxes, tuna, peanut butter, fresh fruit, bagels, Goldfish, trail mix, jelly, weiners, granola, bread, milk and cheese, cereal, raisins, etc.

The child returns the empty backpack to school on Monday morning to be sanitized and refilled for delivery the next Friday.

According to Vicky Goad, project coordinator of the "Feed My Lambs" backpack program for Critzer and Pulaski Elementary - and member of Jordan's Chapel United Methodist Church - "I approached Pulaski Elementary about starting a program at the school. They were interested. Kim Rorrer, school nurse called me and we meet with Ruth Vordo, the guidance counselor at the school. She later identified children she felt would benefit from the program. Letters were sent home, children whose par-

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Carol Smith photo

### Ho, Ho, Ho...

Santa visited the Pulaski County Library Wednesday during preschool story time. He gave each of the children a candy cane and a book to keep. As always, Santa's visit brought smiles to the faces of all the children.

## First time homebuyers sought in Pulaski

By MIKE WILLIAMS Publisher

First time homebuyers interested in possibly owning a brand new home in Pulaski are being sought as part of the town's Dora Highway Revitalization Project.

The project involves homes and building sites along Dora Highway and several other nearby streets that are part of the project area.

The Town of Pulaski has received a \$1.4 million Community Improvement Grant

from the state Department of Housing and Community Development to fund the project.

The Dora Highway project will touch 25 single family homes. Five will undergo substantial reconstruction, while 14 other occupied, single family homes will be rehabilitated.

Six new homes will be built through the project, and that's where Community Housing Partners (CHP) comes in.

CHP is a non-profit provider of affordable housing and services for moderate-income individuals

and families.

CHP has so far acquired four building lots where new homes will be constructed, and is working with the Town of Pulaski on acquiring the final two lots.

Now Community Housing Partners is seeking first time homebuyers to purchase the homes.

Speaking from the Christiansburg office of Community Housing Partners, CHP Director of Homeownership Kamilia Lawson and Home Ownership Specialist Terry

Vaughn discussed the benefits of the new home program.

According to Lawson, CHP has set a goal of late 2011 to have all six homes built and sold, depending on the weather.

The single family homes to be built in Pulaski include a two-bedroom model with approximately 904 square feet, or a three-bedroom model with approximately 1,082 square feet.

Each home will include a front porch, kitchen and dining room and either one or two baths depending on the number of bed-

rooms.

Vaughn stressed the homes feature high quality construction.

Other features of the homes include Energy Star Windows, 30-year architectural shingles, high efficiency heat pump, low VOC paint and sealants, Energy star appliances, low-flow water fixtures, Energy star lighting package and native landscaping.

Vaughn said all homes will be built to EarthCraft Standards, and once construction is complete,

See HOMES, page 5

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# Homes

Continued from page 1

CHP will pursue EarthCraft Certification for all six homes.

A unique aspect of the CHP program is the amount of counseling a potential homebuyer receives through the program.

"We help the homebuyer not only get in, but stay in the home," Vaughn stated.

CHP does this by providing counseling all along the homebuying process – even for those who fail to meet eligibility requirements of the program.

Individuals interested in buying a home through the program first contact CHP and provide information on income, debts and assets. The potential home buyers must have what Vaughn called "mortgage ready" credit, especially over the past 12 months, and meet income requirements.

To be eligible, applicants must be at or below 80 percent of the median family income for their county. According to Vaughn, the median family income for Pulaski County is \$57,800. That means a family of four earning \$46,250 or less would meet income requirements.

If an individual fails to meet income requirements or is found not to have "mortgage ready" credit, they can receive free financial and home buying counseling. Lawson explained that, for example, if an individual is found not to have mortgage ready credit, they will receive counseling in how to



A colored front elevation drawing for the 2 bedroom Pulaski homes. The three bedroom homes will look similar.

repair their credit rating so that they can at some point improve their credit enough to qualify for the program.

If the individual is found to be mortgage ready, they then must complete a homebuyer's education course, which includes

instruction on credit and personal finance, budgeting, loan closing and more. The counseling continues even after the loan closing.

"It's definitely worth going through the process," Lawson said of the counseling offered home-

Community Housing Partners

buyers.

Homebuyers can also apply through CHP for down payment and closing cost assistance, which can lower the amount of money a new home will cost. Eligible homebuyers with lower incomes

can possibly qualify for more down payment and closing cost assistance.

CHP strives to keep a homebuyer's mortgage payment at or less than 28 to 30 percent of their gross income.

For example, with a mortgage amount of \$75,000 at a fixed rate of 4.875 percent interest for 30 years, the principal and interest only payment would be \$397 per month.

Lawson explained the homeownership program as not just a program to help first time homebuyers, but also as an effort to revitalize a neighborhood. That revitalization can also help an entire community to grow and enjoy a better quality of life.

Interested first time homebuyers should contact the Homeownership Department of Community Housing Partners at (540) 382-2002, ext. 3327 for more information. You may also visit their website at [www.communityhousingpartners.org](http://www.communityhousingpartners.org)

The CHP will hold an outreach meeting to explain the Homeownership Program and answer questions on Monday, Dec. 20 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Hensel Eckman YMCA. CHP representatives will have information available for individuals to take with them.

# Sheriff's Office makes arrests

From the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff's Office investigators have arrested Dana W. Shaffer, Jr. with the breaking and entering of Heritage Church in the Dublin area, according to Sheriff Jim Davis.

The church was entered and a safe taken by unknown suspects in late November.

Last week, investigators charged Shaffer with two felony counts, breaking and entering the property and grand larceny.

The safe has been recovered and the investigation is continuing.

Shaffer, age 31 of Radford City is being held in the Montgomery County Jail.

Also, Davis reported Barbara Michelle Earles, age 34 of Radford City has been charged as a result of a number of home burglaries in Pulaski County in November.

Ms. Earles has 8 felony charges of breaking and entering and grand larceny as sheriff's investigators solved three home burglaries in the Draper area and 1 in the Allisonia area.

A number of stolen items have been recovered and the investigation is continuing.

A second suspect is also facing charges in these incidents.

Earles is currently in the New River Valley Regional Jail.

# YMCA holds line on rates

The Hensel Eckman YMCA has waived the "joiner's fee" until Feb. 1 for all new members.

In addition, membership rates will stay the same for 2011 and the public is encouraged to join the Y to improve your Health, Body and Mind.

Your participation and support will assist the Hensel Eckman YMCA the ability to continue to serve our community needs.

**Valley Harvest Ministries**  
 "Jesus, There's Something About That Name"



**A Drama/Musical to be presented Sunday, Dec. 19 at 10 a.m.**


One Harvest Place  
 Dublin, VA 24084  
 (540) 674-4729

[www.valleyharvestministries.com](http://www.valleyharvestministries.com)

**Taking It To The Streets**  
 Presents A Very Special Christmas Service

**Thursday, Dec. 23rd at 7 P.M. at the Crusade Building, 223 North Washington Ave., Pulaski**

**Pastor Mike Ingo will present the character *The Old Shepherd*. Kids 12 and under will receive presents. Snacks for everyone.**



*Please come out and join us for this special event!*

**PULASKI PCA**  
 Presbyterian Church in America

Special Christmas Worship Service...

*Folk Lessons and Carols for Christmas*

December 19th, 11 am, 975 Memorial Dr.

**Fairlawn Presbyterian Church**

Live Nativity  
 Saturday, December 18th  
 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Come join us for fellowship and refreshments.

Sunday, December 19th  
 11:00 a.m.

Christmas Cantata  
 "O Holy Night of Miracles"  
 Come hear the FPC Choir's joyful message in song!

**6900 Pulaski Avenue • Fairlawn, VA**



**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**


"A Savior has been born to you,  
 He is the Messiah, the Lord."  
**Luke 2:11**

**Friday, December 24, 2010  
 9 p.m.  
 Dublin Middle School**

Community Christian Church started having a candlelight Christmas Eve Service 33 years ago at the church. The service was moved to the middle school about 8-10 years ago in order to have room for anyone who would like to come, since this has always been a service that we have as an outreach to the community to share the good news about Jesus.

This year we will be telling this story as seen through the eyes of a soldier who is away from home. Please join us as we celebrate the amazing gift of Jesus!

**Join Us As We Celebrate Christ's Birth.  
 Community Christian Church**




*National Financial Services Teacher of the Month is Meghan McDonald Special Education Teacher at Dublin Middle School*

Kenny Myers of National Financial Services in Dublin is proud to recognize a Pulaski County educator each month who works hard to make a positive impact on the lives of their students. If you wish to nominate a deserving educator, contact Kenny Myers today.

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