

Pompeo: State Department will follow law in impeachment inquiry » A4

# BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

SUNDAY, October 6, 2019

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## SPECIAL REPORT DAY 1

# 'CRITICAL MASS'

### Local lockups face imminent overcrowding crisis



ANDRE TEAGUE/BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

Inmates in the crowded Bristol Virginia Jail. Though on a smaller scale than at the Sullivan County jail, the Bristol facility still faces an overcrowding crisis that plays out on a daily basis.

BY DAVID MCGEE | BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

Step into the long, linear jail cell so overcrowded there is scant room to sit or sleep, save for a few unoccupied patches of concrete floor. ♦ Inmates wearing faded jumpsuits with black-and-white stripes and bright orange Crocs stare back blankly as the large door of gray metal bars slams shut. Welcome to the general population at Tennessee's most overcrowded jail. ♦ A 1980s-era, two-story lockup originally designed to house 200-plus inmates, the main Sullivan County jail typically holds more than 650. Cells designed for 16 people often contain as many as 50, who must share a single shower and two toilets. Bedding is at a premium. Many sleep on towels on the concrete floor; some snuggle up near the toilets. ♦ Sardines may have more space.

See **JAIL**, Page A8



**CRITICAL MASS**

Unlocking the factors behind the jail overcrowding problem in Sullivan County and Bristol, Va.

**INSIDE**

- » Results of jail overcrowding report **A9**
- » By the numbers **A6-7** » Key findings **A8**
- » Key terms **A8** » Key players. **A9**
- » Why we did this project. **A12**

**ONLINE**

- » Follow this series at [HeraldCourier.com](http://HeraldCourier.com).

**TOWN HALL**

7 p.m. Oct. 9  
Old Sullivan County Courthouse  
Second-floor conference room

**COMING MONDAY:** » The current state of Sullivan County's jail facilities

## 'Just deplorable': Minister recalls Bristol city jail

BY JOE TENNIS  
BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

When Steven L. Davis Sr. was a kid, he stole some green cupcakes on St. Patrick's Day. "And my father whipped my butt so bad that I never stole again," he said.

But then his daddy died when Steven was 13. Someone on the street told him, "It's OK to cry. You're the man of the house now."

That was a bad break, for sure, growing up in the concrete confines of Cleveland, Ohio. Yet the future held promise: Davis' mother was still working, and the young teen had two older



Davis

See **DAVIS**, Page A9



Thank you, **F.D. Robertson**, for subscribing to the Bristol Herald Courier.

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Weather  
» A14



**INSIDE**

Tennessee High hosts 29 bands in 68th annual Music in the Castle » B1

WR Yates sets single-game record for E&H in 56-17 ODAC victory » C1



**INSIDE: CLASSIFIED E1-10 | COMICS INSERT | DEATHS B2-3 | OPINION A12 | SCOREBOARD C2 | TELEVISION INSERT**

**LIPIFLOW**  
BY TEARSCIENCE

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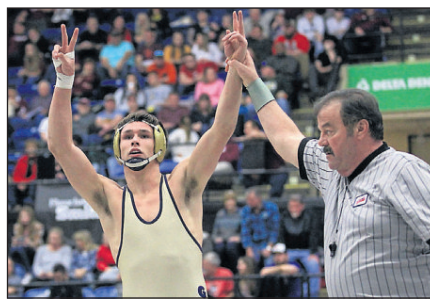
We welcome and are scheduling appointments for **Dr. Joshua Busscher**, Cornea Specialist in August 2019

James Battle, MD | Amy Young, MD | Randal Rabon, MD | Jeff Carlsen, MD | Michael Shahbazi, MD | John Johnson, MD | Alan McCartt, MD | Peter Lemkin, OD | Jennifer Oakley, MD



LEGENDARY NASCAR ARTIST SAM BASS DIES

REGION » B1



GRUNDY WINS TEAM WRESTLING STATE TITLE

SPORTS » C1

BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

SUNDAY, February 17, 2019

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SPECIAL REPORT: DAY 1

SEEKING SHELTER



EARL NEIKIRK/SPECIAL TO THE HERALD COURIER

Low-income and homeless residents line up for a meal on a Saturday evening in December at the Sharing Christ Worship Center in downtown Bristol.

As Twin City looks to develop downtown, leaders wrestle with homeless challenge

BY LEIF GREISS and NICK SHEPHERD | BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

On a cool and crisp Saturday night, Josh Bryant and his girlfriend, Sarah Poole, stood on the corner of State and Sixth streets waiting for a meal. They were among a group of close to 100 people, ranging from children to the elderly, gathered outside Sharing Christ Worship Center in downtown Bristol for the same reason. Some arrived 30 minutes early to ensure a spot in line.

See HOMELESS, Page A8



Police: Panhandling, blocking entrances among problems

BY LEIF GREISS AND NICK SHEPHERD BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

The homeless in downtown Bristol are generally not a safety concern, but they sometimes cause problems by blocking the entrances of businesses

and panhandling, according to police on both sides of the Twin City.

Maj. Timothy Eads, with the Bristol Tennessee Police Department, completed a report in July 2018 that looked at crime downtown from July 1, 2017,

to June 31, 2018. It revealed that homeless and transient people are responsible for a large number of nuisance calls the department receives.

See PANHANDLING, Page A9

COMING MONDAY

- » Strategic report for Bristol's downtown states that homelessness affects the Twin City's businesses and image.
» Map pinpoints services available to the homeless population.
» Left homeless for years by addiction, former officer now helping work on proposed day center.

COMING TUESDAY

- » A community coalition proposes a day center for the homeless.
» A look at Johnson City's homeless day center.



ONLINE

- » Listen to a special edition of our On the Record podcast about this issue by clicking on the top story above at HeraldCourier.com.
» Do you support development of a day center for the homeless in Bristol?

Find this poll question on the HeraldCourier.com main page or with the link to top story above.

INSIDE

- » By the numbers: Homelessness and panhandling in the Mountain Empire. A6-A7
» Help for the homeless: A box showing places that offer various services to homeless people with location and contact information. A9
» Vignettes on five homeless people in downtown Bristol. A8-A9
» Opinion: Bristol needs to back day center. Plus, a word cloud on how readers describe homelessness in the region. A10



Thank you, Richard Hall, for subscribing to the Bristol Herald Courier.

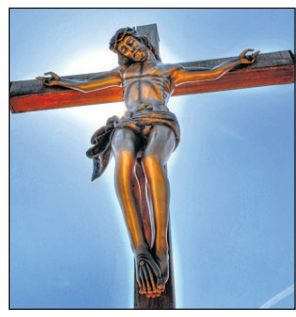
NATION Police: Aurora attacker used gun he shouldn't have owned » B8



REGION Legislators introduce bills to name bridges after fallen VSP Trooper Dowell » B1

INDEX CLASSIFIEDS ..... E1-E6 DEATHS ..... A2, A4-A5 & A12 LOTTERY ..... A4 OPINION ..... A10 TELEVISION ..... Insert

Advertisement for Watauga Hearing & ENT Associates, featuring a group of professionals and contact information for Johnson City, TN.



# EASTER SUNDAY



# BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

SUNDAY, April 21, 2019

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## 'PHANTOM IN THE FOREST'



PHOTOS BY DAVID CRIGGER/BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

A memorial for two German pilots who died in a military jet crash during a training flight from Shaw Air Force Base on Oct. 1, 1976, is located in Carter County, Tennessee, on the side of Panhandle Road/National Forest Road 56, near the crest of Holston Mountain.

# THE DAY THE PLANE CRASHED



### A look back at fatal 1976 military jet crash on Holston Mountain

BY ROBERT SORRELL | BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

LIZABETHTON, Tenn. — Two German military pilots died in 1976, when their supersonic jet crashed into the ridge of Holston Mountain in an often-forgotten tragedy likely only remembered by passersby on a gravel forest service road along the Carter and Sullivan county line in Tennessee. ♦ The Bristol Herald Courier recently obtained the U.S. Air Force mishap report issued following the crash on Oct. 1, 1976, that killed 1st Lt. Kurt Schnurer, 24, and Cadet Werner Michelberger, 26, German pilots training in America. The newspaper obtained the report, which had never been released, through a Freedom of Information Act request at the Air Force Safety Center at Kirtland Air Force Base in New Mexico.

See **CRASH**, Page A8



**ONLINE**

In our latest On the Record podcast,

we speak with Hubert Estep, a retired FAA approach control operator at Tri-Cities Airport, who recalls a crash that occurred on Oct. 1, 1976, at [HeraldCourier.com](http://HeraldCourier.com).

## There are 26 military training routes within 100 miles of airport

BY ROBERT SORRELL  
BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

Military personnel practicing flights in mountainous terrain often find themselves zipping through the skies of Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia.

Federal authorities have long-established military training routes in the region, giving pilots an opportunity to

See **MTRs**, Page A9



**ONLINE**

Click on a link to the Cincinnati sectional aeronautical map with this story at [Herald-Courier.com](http://Herald-Courier.com).

## Mueller Report

# President's legal team breathes a sigh, takes victory lap

BY JONATHAN LEMIRE and ERIC TUCKER  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — First they cooperated. Then they stonewalled. Their television interviews were scattershot and ridiculed, their client mercurial and unreliable.

But President Donald Trump's legal team, through a combination of bluster, legal precedent and shifting tactics, managed to protect their client from a potentially perilous in-person interview during special



Giuliani

counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation. His lawyers are taking a victory lap after a redacted version of Mueller's findings revealed politically damaging conduct by the president but drew no conclusions of criminal behavior.

"Our strategy came to be that when we weren't talking, we were losing," Rudy Giuliani, one of Trump's lawyers, told The Associated Press in a recent interview. Given that Mueller could not indict a sitting president, Giuliani said, the team kept its focus on Mueller's "capacity to report, so we had to play in the media as well as legally."

The aftershocks from the Mueller report released Thursday will help shape the next two years of Trump's administration. But while the report may cause some Democrats to take a renewed look at impeachment despite long odds of success in Congress, the legal threat to Trump that seemed so dangerous upon Mueller's appointment in May 2017 has waned.

At the outset, that appointment led Trump to predict "the end of my presidency." The White House struggled to

See **LEGAL**, Page A5

## INSIDE

- » Sunday Politics: Breakdown of AG William Barr's interpretation of special counsel Robert Mueller's report vs. what the report actually says. **B2**
- » Questions and answers regarding the report. **B2**



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Weather » A12

Thank you, **John Wilson**, for subscribing to the Bristol Herald Courier.



## SPORTS

Anderson has been the catalyst behind the Wasps for past four seasons » C1

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