

# The Fincastle Herald

& Botetourt County News

www.fincastleherald.com



VOL. 158 NO. 30

1 SECTION • 12 PAGES

(USPS 190-680)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023

\$1.00

## Another successful Senior Social in Fincastle



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

Botetourt County Sheriff's Office presented another Senior Social at Fincastle Baptist Church last Friday.

**Matt de Simone**

mattdesimone@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office presented another Senior Social event for county citizens last Friday at Fincastle Baptist Church.

The event is focused on bringing seniors and law enforcement together to provide a platform to showcase the many services available to the 50+ community. A free buffet lunch was provided to attendees. Botetourt County Sheriff Matt Ward presented an overview of preventative measures helping Botetourt seniors from becoming victims of crime.

"As the Sheriff of this community, I am incredibly grateful for the support

and participation from our community partners who contributed to the success of our senior social event," Ward said in a recent email. "We have proven that when we come together and work together, we can create an empowering experience for our beloved seniors. We have listened to citizen feedback and added additional venues and dates for future senior activities. We hope the seniors in our community will take advantage of these services and join us at one of our next senior focus events."

Director of Elder Rights and Long-Term Care (LTC) Ombudsman with the Local Office on Aging Robbie Boyd

See **Social**, page 5



Lazy Man Dub Band returned to Buchanan last Saturday performing Reggae jams for the concert-goers' enjoyment.

## Buchanan enjoys the Reggae music

Hundreds filled the Buchanan Town Park last Saturday to enjoy the sounds of Sol Roots and Lazy Man Dub Band. Visitors traveled from Staunton, Roanoke, Salem, Bedford and Botetourt to enjoy the evening's activities.

Sol Roots is a soul group based out of Washington, D.C. The band has performed weekly in the D.C. area for close to a decade. The band previously worked

with the likes of Prince, Dizzy Gillespie, and the Tedeschi Trucks Band.

Lazy Man Dub Band

See **Reggae**, page 5



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TOWN OF BUCHANAN

Sol Roots performs last Saturday at Buchanan Town Park.

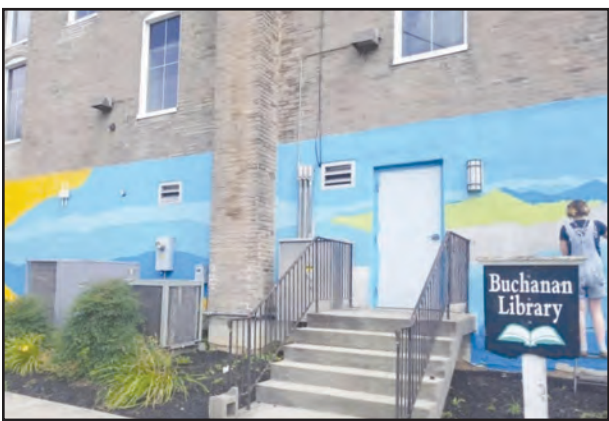


PHOTO COURTESY OF FRIENDS OF BUCHANAN LIBRARY

Mural artist Cheyenne Marcus (right) works on the mural at the Buchanan Library last week.

## Buchanan Library mural painting delayed

**Matt de Simone**

mattdesimone@mainstreetnewspapers.com

A joint public hearing of the Buchanan Town Council and Buchanan Planning Commission will take place on August 14 at 7 p.m. at the Buchanan Council Meeting Room regarding a Special Use Permit for the placement of the mural on the rear façade of the Buchanan Library.

The mural project is a part of the Botetourt County

See **Mural**, page 3



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

A gray tarp appeared over the mural last Friday in response to a citizen complaint about the project being "in violation" of the town's code, according to a county official.

## Fincastle hires new town clerk



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

New Fincastle Town Clerk Morgan Keith

**Matt de Simone**

mattdesimone@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Town of Fincastle recently hired new Town Clerk Morgan Keith. She fills the position previously held by Joan Boothe, who retired in May after approximately 20 years of service.

Keith is a native of Eagle Rock and a graduate of Allegheny High School. She recently graduated from Liberty University with a degree in accounting. After growing up in the north side of the county and currently living in Glen Wilton, Keith recently spoke about working on the "south side" of Botetourt in a recent

interview.

"I like meeting the townspeople," Keith explained. "It's nice to see what's in Fincastle. There's some stuff that I didn't know was here. I live closer to toward the Allegheny line, so most of the time when I'm going somewhere, I head toward Covington."

Keith is excited about meeting the local residents. She formerly worked in the service industry and explained her enjoyment when meeting new people and learning about where they come from. She feels similarly in her early interactions with the folks in Fincastle.

Her first day as Fincastle Town Clerk was July 13.

**Run like Baron 5k!**  
This inaugural event is hosted by Friends of Botetourt K9. The trail run is dedicated to Botetourt County's first K9 to pass while on active duty, Baron served his community with distinction until his end of watch August 31, 2017. He loved to run and catch the bad guys, so let's honor him and RUN LIKE BARON!

**SATURDAY AUGUST 12 8:30 AM**  
GREENFIELD SPORTS COMPLEX CROSS COUNTRY COURSE

All proceeds benefit active and retired K9s in Botetourt County.

Register at [F0BK9.org](http://F0BK9.org)

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF F0BK9

## Run Like Baron 5K at Greenfield

Friends of Botetourt K9 recently announced the inaugural "Run Like Baron 5K" cross-country running/walking event dedicated to Botetourt County's first K9 officer to be lost while on active duty – Baron, who served with distinction until his end of watch on August 31, 2017. The event is organized by Friends of Botetourt K9, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing financial support to the Botetourt County Sheriff's Department K9 unit.

The 5K will be held on August 12, starting at 8:30 a.m. Participants have the option to choose between an in-person race, a virtual race, or a fun walk event. The in-person race and walk will be held at the Greenfield Recreation Park in Troutville,

See **Baron**, page 3

The Place to be in 2023!



AUGUST 5

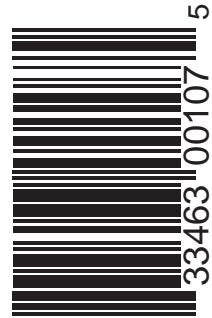
**Botetourt FARMER'S MARKET**  
8:30 to NOON

AUGUST 5

**THE BEN TROUT PARTY BAND**  
5-9PM

AUGUST 11

**MARTIN & KELLY**  
5-9PM



8 33463 00107 5

# Botetourt County History



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT COUNTY MUSEUM OF HISTORY & CULTURE

This ink sketch of the “Blacksmith Shop-Fincastle “ was done in 1978. It was donated to the Botetourt History Museum by Julia Klapproth from Blacksburg in May of 2023. The Wysong Blacksmith Shop (circa 1840) was generously shared by the Wysong family and is on Main Street across from Courthouse Square. Their ancestor Flat Wysong was a blacksmith in Fincastle. Historic Fincastle Inc. envisioned a working blacksmith shop in this building for many years. In 1992 HFI obtained a construction loan of \$12,000 from The Bank of Fincastle and through donations and volunteers restored this historic property. It will be open for tours during the Fincastle Festival September 23.

- Botetourt County Museum of History & Culture

## Tomato Festival this Saturday in Buchanan

The Botetourt Farmers Market is hosting the third annual Tomato Festival on Saturday, July 29 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Although previously held at the Daleville Town Center for the past two years, it will be moved to Buchanan Town Park this year in order to spread out as Daleville Town

See **Tomato**, page 3

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BOTETOURT FARMER'S MARKET

## Livestock Club holds successful wreath fundraiser

In December of 2022, the Botetourt 4-H Livestock Club held a Christmas wreath fundraiser to raise money for the Buchanan Theatre. The club sold over 100 wreaths. As a result, the livestock club donated 80% of the profits to the theater. The members had two sale dates and a total of \$1,200 was donated. As a club, the members had great experiences working together for

a good cause and had fun doing it. The Livestock Club would like to thank all of the adults who helped make this possible and thanks the community for helping support the Buchanan Theatre.

- Katie Grace Barrett  
Reporter/Historian of the Botetourt County Livestock Club



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT 4-H LIVESTOCK CLUB

Botetourt Livestock Club members (from left) Samuel Zollman, Lincoln Kellerman, Ephram Kellerman, Cora Mullins, Stella Zollman, Schylar Zollman, Sawyer Zollman and Katie Grace Barrett

## ARRESTS

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests for July 17-23:

- Beverly D. Sisson, 37, of Roanoke, domestic assault, July 17
- Zamir D. Clercent, 29, of New Brunswick, N.J., domestic assault, providing false identification to law enforcement, July 17
- David P. Sisson, 43, of Blue Ridge, shoplifting, July 18
- Christopher A. Fitzpatrick, 27, of Eagle Rock, sexual battery, July 18
- Travis L. Bryant, 35, of Bedford, driving under the influence, reckless driving, July 21
- Joni G. Butterworth, 69, of Daleville, drunk in public, July 23

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**fast access**  
is critical

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HCA Virginia Health System

Learn more at [LewisGaleTraumaCenter.com](http://LewisGaleTraumaCenter.com)

# Botetourt County wins American Planning Association awards



The Botetourt County Community Development Team along with County Administrator Gary Larowe, Board of Supervisors member Billy Martin, Economic Development Director Ken McFadyen, Economic Development's Luke Campbell and Botetourt Planning Commission Member Tim Snyder.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BOTETOURT CO.

Botetourt County Planner II and Foxhound Award for Distinguished New Professionals award winner Jon McCoy

Botetourt County is pleased to announce that our Community Development Department has received two prestigious awards from the American Planning Association (APA).

During the APA luncheon, Botetourt County received the 2023 Holzheimer Economic Development Award. This statewide recognition was given to the county for its recently adopted Gateway Crossing Overlay, which is a zoning tool intended to transform an underutilized and underperforming area of the county into a vibrant, mixed-use community that benefits residents, businesses, and visitors alike. The Gateway Crossing Overlay was born out of the Gateway Crossing Area Plan, a small area plan adopted into the county's Comprehensive Plan in 2017. The plan highlights and prioritizes connectivity, mixed-use structures, multi-family residences, and enhanced

pedestrian and bicycle connections. The plan builds off existing amenities such as the Appalachian Trail and the location along three major roadways, Interstate 81, US Route 220, and US Route 11.

While developing the overlay zoning tool, county staff forged relationships with stakeholders and the broader Botetourt community through multiple meetings and workshops, online engagement tools, and direct conversations with citizens, planning commissioners, and elected officials.

This project stood out to the Awards Committee for many reasons, including:

- The county's initiative to capitalize on a once-in-a-generation redesign of a major road interchange
- The innovative approach to encouraging development in a pre-defined growth area
- The county's use of online

engagement tools and outreach methods to encourage input

Botetourt County Planner Jonathan McCoy was the winner of the Foxhound Award for Distinguished New Professionals. McCoy serves the community with a wide portfolio of responsibilities. He handles long-range planning projects, integrating community engagement and outreach into these projects. In addition, he serves as a staff contact on land use cases that go before the county's Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors. He is also a member of the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission's Transportation Technical Committee, manages contracts, pursues grant funding opportunities, and serves on the county's Budget Task Force. McCoy was also recognized for completing the American Institute of Certified Planners

(AICP).

Julie Chop, AICP, CZA, Vice President of External Affairs for APA Virginia, noted that "Jonathan's contributions to his colleagues are considerable and outsized when compared to most planners at this stage of their careers. His accomplishments demonstrate that he has the full confidence of his department's leadership, demonstrating dedication, poise, and excellence in his service to the community's planning needs."

Community Development Director Nicole Pendleton and McCoy also presented information about Expanding the Housing Landscape in Botetourt to planners attending the conference from all over the Commonwealth of Virginia.

- Botetourt County Communications

## English High Tea will benefit Buchanan Lions Club

The Buchanan Lions Club is having an English High Tea fundraiser. This will be a four-course English-style High Tea and silent auction, with a Best "Tea" Hat Contest with first, second and third place prizes.

The four-course tea will consist of savory food (that is not sweet), tea sandwiches, scones, and dessert. The silent auction will be full of items collected for perusal and bidding. The Tea Hat contest will be open to those who wears their version of an English Tea Hat to the event, and each person attending will vote for the first, second and third place winners.

The English Tea will be held on Sunday, August 6, at the Buchanan Community House at 421 Lowe Street in Buchanan, from 3-5 p.m. Tickets are \$30 each and are limited. They may be obtained from Buchanan Lions Club members. For more information, or to obtain tickets, contact via phone or text message to Lion Danette Heinlein at 540-323.3073 or Danette.Heinlein@gmail.com.

- Buchanan Lions Club

**English Tea**  
A fundraiser for the Buchanan Lions Club  
Sunday, August 6, 2023  
Buchanan Community House  
421 Lowe St., Buchanan, VA 24066  
3:00 - 5:00 pm  
Four Course English Style High Tea and Silent Auction  
Best "Tea" Hat Contest  
Tickets: \$30.00 Ea.  
For tickets: Any Lions Club Member  
Info: Lion Danette Heinlein-540.323.3073  
Danette.Heinlein@gmail.com  
Suggested attire: Dressy

The Buchanan Lions Club is a Service Club focusing on Vision, Diabetes Care and Education and local community volunteerism. We Serve is our Motto.

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BUCHANAN LIONS  
English Tea will be held on Sunday, August 6, at the Buchanan Community House.

## Baron from page 1

offering scenic views along the 5K cross-country course. The virtual option can be completed from anywhere and the fun walk event is perfect for families and anyone who wants to participate in a non-competitive atmosphere.

All proceeds from the Run for Baron 5K will go towards Friends of Botetourt K9, which supports the K9 unit by providing financial aid for equipment, training, and other essential needs. This event is a great way to show your support for the brave K9 officers who serve and protect our community.

The Friends of Botetourt K9 was

created as a 501©3 organization to facilitate educational opportunities, raise awareness of police K9s and their active accomplishments, foster community support of police dogs and K9 officers, and provide assistance in meeting the needs of retired and active-duty police dogs in Botetourt.

Starters and seasonal runners are all welcome. Register now at <https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Troutville/RunLikeBaron5K> and be a part of this memorable event.

- Fincastle Herald staff report

## Tomato from page 2

Center undergoes major construction projects.

Three years ago, the market chose to host a Tomato Festival because of Botetourt's rich history in growing and canning tomatoes. According to an article published in 1903 by The Times Dispatch in Richmond, "Botetourt pack[ed] more tomatoes every year than [were] packed in any other county in America, save Harford County, Md. There [were] between 125 and 150 canneries, large and small."

This year's festival will

feature new attractions, including food trucks and the Homestead Creamery Ice Cream Truck. Local Botetourt musicians who are part of the Trinity Tree Travelers Old Time Band return once again to play on stage throughout the festival. Everyone can enjoy free heirloom tomato tastings and read up on dozens of agricultural fun facts posted throughout the festival. The Tomato Sandwich Contest has been postponed this year due to location change challenges.

The Botetourt Farmers

Market usually sets up each Saturday at the Daleville Town Center, but all of the market vendors will be located at the festival at Buchanan Town Park on July 29, selling local produce, meat, baked goods, and artisan crafts.

For more information, visit the Botetourt Farmers Market website at [www.botetourtfarmersmarket.com](http://www.botetourtfarmersmarket.com).

- Botetourt Farmers Market

## Mural from page 1

Library Incentive Fund providing an opportunity for community contributions toward library capital projects that benefit the general public. Buchanan Library's mural and garden project totals \$6,000 with a county match of \$3,000. The incentive fund projects were approved by the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors at the June

21 meeting.

The Friends of the Buchanan Library posted a photo of the mural progress last week on their Facebook page. "This mural will add a great pop of color to the parking lot and serve as a sign of positive changes coming," the post stated.

Citizen responses in the post's comment section have been positive with citizens thanking the

Friends of the Buchanan Library and also mural artist Cheyenne Marcus for her work to this point.

Last Friday, a gray tarp was placed over the mural in response to a citizen complaint about the project not going through the proper measures before approval. The town soon sent out an advertisement about the August 14 public hearing.

YOUR LOCAL NEWS  
JUST THE WAY YOU LIKE IT!

## The FINCASTLE HERALD & Botetourt County News

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# Library Buzz

## UPCOMING LIBRARY EVENTS

**Improv with Mill Mountain Theatre**  
 Fri, July 28, 12:30pm, Buchanan Library  
 Thu, Aug 17, 4pm, Fincastle Library  
 Improv is acting and reacting in the moment. Learn how to collaborate and make confident choices. Recommended for tweens/teens.

Tuesdays - Blue Ridge Library  
 Wednesdays - Eagle Rock Library  
 Thursdays - Fincastle Library  
 Fridays - Buchanan Library  
 Improve literacy, motor skills, and school readiness through books, songs, and tactile activities. Activities follow our summer theme of space and time. Recommended for preschoolers.

**BOCO Eclectic Readers**  
 Thu, July 27, 11am-12pm, Eagle Rock Library  
 Join us for a discussion of "West with Giraffes" by Lynda Rutledge, a novel set in the Great Depression and inspired by real-life events. A man makes a 12-day road trip to deliver two giraffes to the San Diego Zoo. Coffee provided.

**Computer Basics**  
 Every Tuesday in August, Blue Ridge Library  
 Join Humankind's Chris Becke for presentations with lots of hands-on practice! Laptops provided or bring your own. Includes two 15-minute intermissions to get one-on-one help (or take a break). Registration required, class size limited to 6. Call 540-928-2900 to register.

**Movie: Space Chimps (G)**  
 Thu, July 27, 2-4pm, Blue Ridge & Fincastle Libraries  
 Fri, July 28, 2:30-3:30pm, Buchanan & Eagle Rock Libraries  
 Three chimps who are sent into space to explore the possibility of alien life when an unmanned space shuttle crash lands on an uncharted planet. Recommended for all ages.

**Computer Basics**  
 Every Monday in August, Eagle Rock Library  
 Join Humankind's Chris Becke for presentations with lots of hands-on practice! Laptops provided or bring your own. Includes two 15-minute intermissions to get one-on-one help (or take a break). Registration required, class size limited to 6. Call 540-928-2800 to register.

**Little Explorers**  
 Every Tuesday 10:30-11:30am, Fincastle Library  
 Every Thursday 10:30-11:30am, Blue Ridge Library  
 Bring your toddler to a special play space so they can explore with educational and soft play toys, as well as interact with other toddlers.

**Books & Ice Cream Party**  
 Fri, Aug. 4, 3-4pm, all branches  
 Anyone who participated in the online reading challenge in Beanstack can pick out a free book and earn their completion badge, plus get free ice cream to celebrate!

**StoryTime**  
 Weekly, 10:30-11am

See the calendar at BOCOLibraries.info for more events.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Appreciates Sheriff's Senior Social event

Many thanks to Sheriff Matt Ward and his deputies for hosting another Senior Social in Botetourt County. It was held at the Fincastle Baptist Church and the parking lot was full. A tasty lunch was served. The law enforcement folks were grilling hamburgers when we arrived.  
 The speeches were directed to

educating seniors about scams. It was very well organized and well attended. We were able to socialize with new friends and old. Some very nice door prizes were won.  
 Be on the lookout in The Fincastle Herald for info about the next social. It will be on November 17, a week before Thanksgiving, at Fincastle Baptist Church. Bring a friend.  
*Nancy Kamwell Fincastle*

# BUCHANAN EVENTS

## Summer Harvest Saturday in Buchanan

Rediscover "small town America" this Saturday, July 29 at the Buchanan Farmers/Community Market on Main Street, then enjoy the Botetourt Tomato Festival on the Buchanan Town Park at 485 Lowe Street.  
 Buchanan's Farmers/Community Market will feature local entrepreneurs offering locally grown produce and flowers, as well as baked goods, handmade crafts and more.  
 Vendors will set up in the parking


lot next to Town Hall from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., dependent on the weather.  
 Adding to the vitality this Saturday is the Botetourt Farmers Market that is moving the third annual Tomato Festival to the Buchanan Town Park. This event celebrates one of summer's most popular icons, the tomato. Activities start at 9 a.m. and continue until 1 p.m., and include food trucks and plenty of tomato-themed activities.

# Open Studios-Botetourt 'Art on the Porch' at Ikenberry Orchards begins July 29

Open Studios-Botetourt's Preview Events "Art on the Porch" begins July 29 and 30 at Ikenberry Orchards, 2557 Roanoke Rd, Daleville. Artists Vera Dickerson (9 a.m.-11 a.m.) and Susan McLaren (11 a.m.-1 p.m.) with Mark Woodie (1 p.m.-3 p.m.) will set up on the porch on Saturday. Sunday's artist on the porch is Cheryl Lackey who will be set up from 12 p.m.-3 p.m.  
 For the past few years, Open Studios-Botetourt has partnered with a local Botetourt business to highlight what visitors can expect on the open workshop and studio tour scheduled for

October 21 and 22. This year, Ikenberry Orchards will be the location for three weekends: July 29 and 30, August 19 and 20, with the final weekend September 23 and 24.  
 Visitors to "Art on the Porch" will have a chance to meet some of the Open Studios-Botetourt artists, ask questions about the tour, view the artwork, learn about the artists' process and perhaps even see a short demo. Check the Open Studios-Botetourt Facebook page for specific updates.  
 Open Studios - Botetourt is a free self-guided driving art tour that returns on October 21 and 22. "Art in the Country" will feature 16 artists in seven locations opening their workshops, studios and homes to the public. For more information click on [openstudiosbotetourt.com](http://openstudiosbotetourt.com), or search Facebook for "Open Studios-Botetourt," and visit Instagram @openstudiosbotetourt. To contact Open Studios, please email [openstudiosbotetourtinfo@gmail.com](mailto:openstudiosbotetourtinfo@gmail.com).  
 Tour organizers thank the sponsors: Botetourt County, Bank of Botetourt, Virginia Mountain Mortgage, remodelingroanoke.com, Ikenberry Orchards, Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge, Town of Fincastle and Bible Accounting.  
*- Open Studios - Botetourt*

**League for Animal Protection's Waif of the Week**  
**Meet Stevie**



Steve is one year in age, a Beagle mix, heartworm negative, and only 25 pounds. He entered the shelter on July 1 from Wise County.  
 The LAP Shelter is open from 8-11 and 3-5; 540-473-3853. Send donations to LAP, P.O. Box 561, Fincastle, 24090.

Submit all Letters to the Editor to [Fincastle@mainstreetnewspapers.com](mailto:Fincastle@mainstreetnewspapers.com)

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**Groendyk picnic August 26 at Limestone Park**

The Groendyk Family Picnic will be held August 26 from 3 p.m.-6 p.m. at Limestone Park in Buchanan. Bring family and a dish or dessert to share. The pool is open and admission price for that is \$4 per swimmer. Come early and make a day of it.  
 Pass the word along and invite anyone that was ever an employee of Groendyk Mfg. Co., Inc.  
 For more information, contact Jerrah McKemy, Rhonda Cox, or Missy Dudley.  
*- Rhonda Cox*

**THE FINCASTLE HERALD & Botetourt County News**  
 Established 1866  
 P.O. Box 127  
 Fincastle, VA 24090  
 USPS 190-680 • ISSN # 8750-7323  
 Phone: (540) 473-2741  
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 E-mail: [fincastle@mainstreetnewspapers.com](mailto:fincastle@mainstreetnewspapers.com)  
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The Fincastle Herald (USPS 160-680) is published weekly for \$44 a year in Botetourt County, \$48 in adjoining counties and \$52 elsewhere by Virginia Media Inc., 122 N. Court Street, Lewisburg, W.Va. 24901. Periodical postage paid at Fincastle, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Fincastle Herald, P.O. Box 127, Fincastle, VA 24090.  
 On The Web At [www.fincastleherald.com](http://www.fincastleherald.com)

**CROSSWORD**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10			11	12		13	14	
15				16			17	
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	51	52			53	54	55	
58				59			60	61
62				63			64	
65					66			67

**CLUES ACROSS**  
 1. Droop  
 4. Rested in a chair  
 7. Thai (var.)  
 10. Draw out wool  
 12. Coatis genus  
 14. Taxis  
 15. Beige  
 16. Supplementing with difficulty  
 17. Capital of Norway  
 18. A personal written history  
 21. Cologne  
 22. Australian flightless bird  
 23. Lowest freeman; early Eng.  
 25. 18th C. mathematician  
 28. Cabinet Dept. for homes  
 29. Languages of Sulu islands  
 33. More scarce  
 35. Before  
 36. Swiss river  
 37. Actress & director Lupino

**CLUES DOWN**  
 1. Point midway between S and SE  
 2. Genus of birds  
 3. Personal spiritual leader  
 4. Japanese rice beverage  
 5. Eared owl genus  
 6. Wood oil finish  
 7. Hyphen  
 8. Competently  
 9. Equal, prefix  
 11. Broad-winged soaring hawks  
 12. A collection of star systems  
 13. Be in accord  
 14. Links subject & predicate (linguistics)  
 19. Paddles  
 20. Asian river between China and Russia  
 23. Physicists Marie or Pierre  
 24. Excessive fluid accumulation

26. \_\_\_ Dunlap, pageant titleholder  
 27. Made again  
 28. Norse goddess of death  
 30. A waterproof raincoat  
 31. Express pleasure  
 32. \_\_\_ Lanka  
 34. Radioactivity unit  
 39. Clay blocks for building  
 40. Linear unit  
 42. Conductor tools  
 43. Whale ship captain  
 46. Queen who tested Solomon  
 48. Good Gosh!  
 51. A gangster's girlfriend  
 52. Unstressed-stressed  
 53. Draw through holes  
 54. Old Italian monetary units  
 55. Musician Clapton  
 56. Ceremonial staff of authority  
 57. Fabrics of camels or goats  
 58. A very large body of water  
 61. Basics

**Buchanan Theatre**  
 Main Street, Buchanan  
 \$6 Adults  
 \$3 Children under 12  
 254-1155  
[www.buchanantheatre.com](http://www.buchanantheatre.com)  
 Visit our website for list of movies and live entertainment

**Elemental**  
 Thursday, July 27  
 10 a.m. & 1 p.m.

**Sound of Freedom**  
 (2023) The incredible true story of a former government agent turned vigilante who embarks on a dangerous mission to rescue hundreds of children from sex traffickers. (2 hours, 11 minutes)  
**Fri., Sat. July 28, 29 7 p.m.**  
**Sun., July 30 3 p.m.**  
**Thurs., Aug. 3 7 p.m.**

[www.FincastleHerald.com](http://www.FincastleHerald.com)  
 See Answers, page 8

**Put The Classifieds To Work!**  
 Call 389-9355

**Social** from page 1



Botetourt County Sheriff Matt Ward welcomes attendees to the free event in Fincastle last Friday.



Chief Deputy Daryl Hix grills hamburgers outside of Fincastle Baptist Church last Friday during the Senior Social event.



The next Senior Social will take place on November 17 at Fincastle Baptist.



Robbie Boyd of the Local Office on Aging served as the event's guest speaker.

served as the event's guest speaker. Attendees visited with many of the public and private services that included daily well-being checks, general health, and financial well-being administrators. Governmental services were on hand to answer questions and help seniors navigate future needs.

Citizens had the opportunity to speak with representatives from: Enroll Virginia!, Life Care Coordinators, innoVAge, Valley Medicare Solutions, Botetourt Resource Center, YMCA, Virginia Department of Health, ReMax, Botetourt County Treasurer's Office, Botetourt County Libraries,

Virginia Department of Social Services, Virginia Parks & Recreation, Botetourt County Sheriff's Office, Local Office on Aging, Good Samaritan, Bank of Botetourt, Virginia Navigator, Solomon's Mission, Department of Veterans Services, Virtual Health Resource Center, Carilion, and Blue

Ridge Behavioral Healthcare. The next Senior Social event will take place on November 17 at Fincastle Baptist Church. A "Senior Services Day" event takes place one month earlier on October 16 at Solomon's Mission in Buchanan. That event will offer services and food, but no presentations.

**Reggae** from page 1

performs regularly in the Roanoke Valley. Established in 2007, Lazy Man combines the sounds of reggae, rock, and ska roots. Their sound produces

a nostalgic vibe to any fans of dub reggae. This Saturday is "Summer Harvest Saturday" in Buchanan. The Farmers/

Community Market will feature local entrepreneurs offering different items each month including locally grown produce and flowers, as well as baked

goods, handmade crafts and more. - Fincastle Herald staff report



# Community Service Directory

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# OBITUARIES

## Smith, Travis A.

Travis A. Smith, 40, of Eagle Rock, finally received his healed body on Thursday, July 20, 2023.

Affectionately known by his family as "Jake," a nickname his Grandma Smith gave him when he was young, was born April 21, 1983 to Dennis Smith and the late Linda Huff Wyatt. In addition to his mom, he was preceded in death by his grandparents, James Essie Brown Smith and Mary Jane "Janie" Elizabeth Deacon Smith, Lawrence Edwin and Bessie Scott Huff, and Billy and Fleta Newcomb. Travis was a 2001 James River Alumni and "retired" from Gala/Maag with 12 years of service "to the day" being the last of the Smith family that was employed there since the doors were open.

Family was everything to "Jake" and it meant a lot to him to follow in his grandfather's, father's, and uncle's footsteps once he found his way to Gala after working at the cement plant and Groendyk. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, Nascar, spending time with his family and most importantly his son.

Left to cherish his wonderful and loving memory are his son and "Bubby," Logan; wife, Karen; bonus daughter, Kayla; dad, Dennis; sister, Heather and her boyfriend, Kevin; nieces, Tory (Zac) and Zoey (Taylor); great-nephews, Jayce, Easton, and Grayson; numerous aunts and uncles, including Diane and Gary Walker, Don and Alice Smith, Dale and Sandy Smith, Gary and



Delma Tingler, Andy and Jane Huff; numerous loving cousins, including Jeff, Tracey, Sonya, Andy, Matthew, Robbie, Troy and Sarah; his in-law family, Ray and Bobbi, Jim and Debi, Kevin and Katie, Aunt Jane, Chris and Kim; special family friends, the Alls family; numerous amazing friends, "Woodchuck's" Gala/Maag work buddies; and the Buchanan Moose Lodge, including the Race Pool Gang.

Travis touched many lives, had many dear friends, and will be terribly missed. It was this large family and numerous friendships that gave him the strength to fight cancer as long as he did.

Visitation will be held from 12-2 p.m. with Memorial Services at 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 29, 2023 in the Buchanan Chapel of Botetourt Funeral Home with Pastor Dave Mucha officiating. Flowers are beautiful and very much appreciated, but it would mean more to send a loving donation to the Cancer Center in Atlanta that gave Travis all the time they could.

The family would like to thank each and every one who prayed, sent cards, called, and just kept us in their thoughts. Also, special thanks to Sarah with Good Samaritan Hospice for her loving care during this difficult short time. Online condolences may be made at [www.botetourtfuneralhome.com](http://www.botetourtfuneralhome.com) or 540-254-3000.

## Simpson, Marcus Lee

Marcus Lee Simpson, 94, a lifetime resident of Fincastle, was born December 15, 1928 and passed away Friday, July 23, 2023.

Marcus was preceded in death by his parents, Osborne Marcus and Elsie Paxton Simpson; sister, Petty Simpson Craft; and son, Mark Simpson.

He is survived by his daughters and sons-in-law, Vickie and Ernie Stacey, Rhonda and Ronnie Benson; and he was blessed with six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Marcus retired from Singer

Furniture and loved hunting, fishing, and working in his gardens. He will be deeply missed by his family.



Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 25, 2023 in the Buchanan Chapel of Botetourt Funeral Home. Interment was in Mill Creek Baptist Church Cemetery. The family received friends one hour prior the service at the funeral home. Online condolences may be made at [www.botetourtfuneralhome.com](http://www.botetourtfuneralhome.com) or 540-254-3000.

## Simpson, Deborah Wood Simpson, Mark Alan

Mark Alan Simpson, 62, of Fincastle, passed away Friday, July 14, 2023. Mark was preceded in death by his wife, Deborah Ann Wood Simpson in April 2020.

He worked for Gilliam and Mundy Well Drilling Company for over 30 years. Mark loved hunting and fishing but excelled in his artistic abilities in drawing and carving.

Deborah Ann Wood Simpson, 63, of Fincastle, passed away on April 24, 2020. Debbie was preceded in death by her parents, Lloyd and Betty Hughes Wood; and her sister, Kathy Wood Young.

Debbie worked for Double Envelope in Roanoke as a machine operator. Debbie loved horseback riding and her puppy babies.

Survivors include their daughters and sons-in-law, Mandi and Mike

Myers and Tiffanie and Lee Hipes, all of Troutville; grandchildren, Lucas Hipes and Madison Myers; his parents, Marcus Lee Simpson and Belva Walker Simpson Richardson; his sisters, Vickie and Ernie Stacey, Rhonda and Ronnie Benson; her sisters, Sandra and David Montgomery, Annette and Eddie Clark; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mark and Debbie will have a combined memorial service in the Buchanan Chapel of Botetourt Funeral Home, 14920 Lee Highway, Buchanan, on Friday, July 21, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. with Pastor Richard Ronk officiating. Interment will be private. Online condolences may be made at [www.botetourtfuneralhome.com](http://www.botetourtfuneralhome.com) or 540-254-3000.

# CHURCH NEWS

## Special music at Fincastle United Methodist

Fincastle United Methodist Church Administrative Assistant Heather Mitchell and her father, Bill Snyder, sang a beautiful duet of "The Prayer" on July 16. Sunday worship services are at 10 a.m. and everyone is welcome.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FINCASTLE UMC  
Bill Snyder and Heather Mitchell

## 'Back-to-School Fun' at Troutville Park

Troutville Baptist Church will host "Back-to-School Fun Time" from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, July 29. In addition to a free bag of school supplies and free hot dogs, students will participate in games with prizes and drawings.

## Mt. Joy Church Homecoming

Mt. Joy Church of the Brethren will celebrate Homecoming on Sunday, August 4. Sunday School will be at 10 a.m. and worship service at 11 a.m. There will be special music by Family Circle. A potluck meal will be served after the worship service. The church is located at 2565 Buffalo Road, Buchanan. Everyone is welcome.

## VBS at Springwood Baptist

Springwood Baptist Church will have Vacation Bible School on Wednesday, July 26, through Friday, July 28, from 6-8:30 p.m. The theme is "Carnival Under the Big Tent with God!" for

all ages. Go to the website [www.Springwoodbc.org](http://www.Springwoodbc.org) to register. There is a VBS registration to click on and fill out.

## Movie night at Trinity UMC

Trinity United Methodist Church is hosting a family movie night in the fellowship hall on Friday, July 28. The movie, "One Foot in Heaven," starring Fredric March and Martha Scott, will begin at 6:15 p.m., with doors opening at 6.

Bring your favorite non-alcoholic beverage to enjoy with the free popcorn.

Trinity UMC is located at 19637 Main Street, Buchanan.

## 'Noah' coming to Woodland Church

Woodland Church is presenting the spectacular "Noah" by Sight & Sound Theater, Lancaster, Pa., on Thursday, August 3, at 7 p.m. The three-hour video presentation includes an intermission with light refreshments. A church spokesman said this is a wonderful opportunity to see this production at no cost - it's the church's gift to the community (child care will not be provided).

# Local DAR chapter receives awards



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT DAR

DAR members at the District VII meeting were (from left) Beth Pappas, Cathy Cronise, Betty Holt, Deb Hedrick, Pat Honts, JoElla John, State Regent Laurie Parker Nesbitt, Susan Martin, Trish Morris, Liz Moore, Alicia White-Braxton and Ann Layman.

The District VII Chapters of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) held their annual meeting on Saturday, July 22 in the Vinton War Memorial. Virginia State Regent Laurie Parker Nesbitt and several of the state officers joined the local chapters for this meeting. Annual awards were presented to all of the chapters for their service this past year in their communities to foster Patriotism, Education and Historic Preservation.

The Botetourt County Chapter was honored to receive 28 awards in the various categories. In addition to the many chapter awards, several members received individual awards. These awards went to Emily Talbott-Guillote, Beth Pappas, Ann Layman, Cathy Cronise, Susan Martin, Lawton Kasey, and Betty Holt.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution is a non-profit, non-political organization founded in 1890 to promote historic preservation, education and patriotism. Its

members are descended from the patriots who won American independence during the Revolutionary War. To learn more about the work of today's DAR, visit [www.DAR.org](http://www.DAR.org). Anyone interested or has questions about joining this organization may contact Membership Chair Emily Talbott-Guillote via email at [epgt1019@gmail.com](mailto:epgt1019@gmail.com) or Registrar JoElla Hall John at [jjohnregistrar@gmail.com](mailto:jjohnregistrar@gmail.com). Visit the website at <https://bocodar.wixsite.com/bocodar>.

- Botetourt DAR

# County Chorus to begin rehearsals for fall concert

The Botetourt County Chorus will begin practice for its fall production at Ebenezer United Methodist Church on Nace Road, just off Rt. 11 in Troutville. The first practice is Monday, August 7, from 7-8:30 p.m. There will be no practice on September 4, but otherwise the practices will continue until concert time on

Sunday, October 29 in the Mill Creek Baptist Church Fellowship Hall at 3 p.m.

The concert, "Journey Down Memory Lane," is the 45th anniversary show.

If you are a singer and wish to take part, or get more information, call Faye at 540-254-1049.

- Botetourt County Chorus

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**Sunday, July 30**  
Cheryl Miller Lackey

**Saturday, August 19**  
Dan Jones  
Jim Stadtlander

**Sunday, August 20**  
Dan Henderson

**Saturday, September 23**  
Robin Poteet  
Brett LaGue

**Sunday, September 24**  
Judith Lochbrunner

# Registration open for Women In The Outdoors shooting event August 19 at Blue Ridge Vineyard

The Botetourt Longbeards Chapter of the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) is holding its first Women In The Outdoors event since the pandemic. It will be held Saturday, Aug. 19 at Blue Ridge Vineyard near Eagle Rock. The women-only event provides the opportunity to be introduced to firearms in a safe, instructional environment with trained and certified instructors. Participants will be able to shoot .22

rifles, .22 pistols, shotguns, archery and modern .223 rifles during the course of the morning and early afternoon. New and previous participants are welcome. Participation is limited to the first 50 women to register. The cost is \$35, which includes membership in the NWF, one of the premier conservation organizations in North America. Pre-registration is required. Lunch will be provided as part of the event. The

Longbeards will try to accommodate friends and family members (including daughters 16 and older) in the same group. To do so, after registering, send an email with the names of those women to botetourtlongbeards@gmail.com. All equipment and ammunition will be provided. Check-in is from 8-830 a.m. A required safety briefing is at 8:45 a.m. and the shooting activities begin

immediately after. Blue Ridge Vineyard is located at 1027 Shiloh Drive, Eagle Rock, Va. 24085. Registration and payment is online at: <https://events.nwtf.org/460390-2023>. For more information, email botetourtlongbeards@gmail.com or call Ed McCoy at 540-339-0622 or Sherry Crumley at 540-354-1537.

- Botetourt Longbeards

## Virginia Western expands classroom space at Greenfield

By Erica Myatt, Virginia Western Community College

After about three years of instruction in modular classrooms, the welding program at Virginia Western Community College (VWCC) just completed its first semester in a much-anticipated expansion of the Botetourt Center at Greenfield. The 8,900-square-foot facility includes four airy classrooms in a building adjacent to the main center and the program's welding lab. The new classrooms easily enable multimedia instruction and give instructors flexibility. "I'm thrilled to have this opportunity right here," said Gary Young, the faculty member who leads the Welding and Metal Processing Career Studies Certificate program. The program prepares students for careers in arc, gas, MIG and TIG welding as well as metal

fabrication. "Any of our hands-on classes are restricted to 14 students per section," Young said. "But say we have a metallurgy class - we can bounce that up on to 28. Or blueprint reading class - that's mainly a lecture class, so we can expand those numbers, and these classrooms can handle it." The facility also has space for commercial heating, ventilation and air-conditioning instruction. The new classroom space contains plenty of room for VRTEX virtual reality welding simulators made by Lincoln Electric. During a class this spring, two of Young's students donned VR headsets and practiced stick welding and metal inert gas (MIG) welding on two machines where instruction had been held earlier in the day. As student Josh Simmons practiced stick welding, the display indicated with green to red indicators if he was on track for his angles,

travel speed, distance off the work piece, and other measures. "This will allow him to simulate very closely, without using any consumables, and without even needing supervision," Young said. "They can use this on their breaks and before class." Simmons said he came to the welding field because of an early hobby of blacksmithing. "I was looking at other professions in metalworking. So I thought about welding, and I went online to see if there was any schools near me that offered welding classes, and Virginia Western did, so I just signed up." Next to him, Josh Waldron worked on a VR simulator to practice MIG welding. "Back in high school, I did some stick welding, my freshman year at BTEC, and since then, I haven't really thought about it," Waldron said. "I've been figuring out what I wanted to do.



PHOTO COURTESY OF VWCC

The first semester of VWCC's welding program recently completed its course at the Botetourt Center at Greenfield.

So last summer I went and got a job at this company that showed me how to MIG weld. And once I started MIG welding, I fell in love with it immediately. So, I decided to go to school for it, and November of last year decided I wanted to go to welding school to get certified. Simmons and Waldron were in the fast-track Career Studies Certificate program, which covers 17 credits of coursework in four months. Students completing the program come out with American Welding Society

certifications in stick, MIG and TIG (tungsten inert gas) welding. Demand for workers is high, with some job openings literally out the facility's back door, at Greenfield industries such as Munters and Altec. Their classmate Sophia Lovejoy said that the program's sense of community, and how that parlays into industry connections, was an unexpected aspect of the program. "It's definitely stressed to keep the connections we made here," she said.

Lovejoy began at Virginia Western in a different program. "I decided to take a trade, and my whole family suggested welding. I was kind of not sure about it until I got here, but it's been really good so far," she said. Having the option of a fast-track program is an advantage. "It's one semester and then you get your certifications." With the expanded classroom space at Greenfield, gaining those certifications is a smoother process than ever. "This is actually ideal for what we do," Young said.



Ginny Hicks PHOTO COURTESY OF BANK OF BOTETOURT

## Hicks graduates from Virginia Bankers School of Bank Management

Ginny Hicks, Bank of Botetourt Deposits Operations Officer and Head of Retail Support, Care Center, was one of 60 graduates from The Virginia Bankers School of Bank Management on July 21. The Virginia Bankers Association sponsors the three-year school in cooperation with the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia. Hicks earned her bachelor's degree in business administration with a focus on leadership from Liberty University and has been with the bank for nearly 12 years. Prior to joining the bank, she was a pharmacy technician for 18 years.

Committed to her community, Hicks is a proud member of the Botetourt Character Counts! Leadership Council and enjoys volunteering, reading, and spending time outside. Hicks currently resides in the Eagle Rock area with her husband, Jeff, and their son, Dylan. The Virginia Bankers Association School of Management is the premier educational experience in banking that takes place at the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business in Charlottesville. Students who partake in the program complete three one-week summer sessions and eight home-study problems. Through lectures given

by a variety of highly qualified instructors, case studies, and peer study groups, the School of Bank Management provides a comprehensive multidimensional learning experience for bankers looking to continue their education and thrive within their field. G. Lyn Hayth III, CEO of Bank of Botetourt, expressed his congratulations to Ginny. "We are elated to see Ginny grow as a professional through continuing her education and successfully completing this program. Bank of Botetourt believes in investing in its employees and the importance of expanding and

diversifying their knowledge base through networking and connecting with colleagues from throughout the Commonwealth. We are proud to have 23 Bank of Botetourt employees successfully complete the program and look forward to continuing our relationship with the VBA. The Virginia Bankers School of Bank Management at Darden is one of the most prestigious in the country and we are proud to have our President and COO Michelle Austin as one of the highly qualified instructors teaching accounting at the school for the past two years," Hayth said.

- Bank of Botetourt

**NOTICE OF CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE JULY REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOTETOURT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

The Botetourt County Board of Supervisors regular meeting originally scheduled for July 25, 2023 has been changed to Monday, July 31, 2023 beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in Room 212 at the Botetourt County Administration Center, 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville, Virginia. There is no meeting on July 25, 2023. For more information, please visit the County website at [www.botetourt-va.gov](http://www.botetourt-va.gov) or call 540-928-2006.

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE TOWN OF BUCHANAN, VIRGINIA**

The Town of Buchanan gives notice of a joint public hearing of the Buchanan Town Council and Buchanan Planning Commission at the regular Town Council meeting, to be held on **Monday, August 14, 2023 at approximately 7:00 p.m., or as soon as possible thereafter, in Buchanan Council Meeting Room at 19753 Main Street, Buchanan, Virginia** for consideration of:

1. Botetourt County Library is seeking a Special Use Permit under Zoning Ordinance Article III, Section 303- L Sign Regulation/ Placement of Mural on rear façade of 19795 Main Street Buchanan Virginia 24066, tax number 65A(5)25

Any citizen may bring comments to Buchanan Town Hall at 19753 Main Street, Buchanan, VA or mail written comments to P.O. Box 205, Buchanan, VA 24066 or email comments to [townmanager@buchanan-va.gov](mailto:townmanager@buchanan-va.gov) or before noon Monday, August 7. Or attend via phone 701-802-5423 (access code 3474425) or in person to present their views on these matters. Copies of the Special Use Application are available for review at the Town Office, weekdays from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

**George Hayfield, Town Manager**

**Stockyard Report**

Monday's sale at the Roanoke-Hollins Stockyard:

**91 Head**

**Graded Feeder Steers**  
400-499: \$245.00  
500-599: \$238.00

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500-599: \$223.00  
600-699: \$210.00

**Graded Feeder Heifers**  
300-399: \$203.00  
400-499: \$192.00  
500-599: \$222.00  
600-699: \$196.00  
Bulls: \$ 69.00-97.00  
Cows: \$ 74.00

**Cow/Calf Pairs:**  
\$2,175.00-2,250.00

### Tuesday Morning Club donates to Fincastle Library, Solomon's Mission



PHOTO COURTESY OF TUESDAY MORNING CLUB

The Tuesday Morning Club met at Troutville Church of Brethren on

July 12 with 12 members present. Ruby Taylor called the meeting to order.

She was hostess and had devotions. Nancy Waddell won the hostess gift and read minutes. Faye Kessler gave the treasurer's report.

July's project was a donation to the Fincastle Library. School supplies were also collected for Solomon's Mission in Buchanan for the back-to-school project. The club thanks Barbara Divers and Tim Boitnott for their donations. August's project will be donations to the Greenfield Pre-School program. Game prizes were won by Priscilla Hedrick and Faye Kessler. The next meeting will be August 8. From left are (front) Cheryl Wood, Linda Harris, Faye Kessler, Dot Hillard, Rita Bruffey, Nancy Waddell and Priscilla Hedrick; back, Gale Webb, Ruby Taylor, Barbara Harris, Mary Furr and Pam Obenchain.

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# BUSINESS SERVICES DIRECTORY

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**Brian Hoffman**  
Sports Editor

Local girls on Commonwealth Games Gold Medal basketball team



PHOTO BY LIZZIE GARRETT

The “Basketball Requires Heart, Hard Work and Mindset” (BRHHM) basketball team captured the gold medal for the second year in a row at the Commonwealth Games at Liberty University in Lynchburg. Three Botetourt County girls played on the team, Caitlin Canada of James River and three Lord Botetourt girls, Gracie Huffard, Grayson Alfano and Abby Kingery. Front, left to right, are Alfano, Sathara Kane, Addie Roe and Elizabeth Tuck. Behind, left to right, are Huffard, Adyson Hines, Canada, Marybeth Meadows, Missy Hazard, Kingery, Kerabeth Long and coach Damen Johnson.

Botetourt Metro will tee off high school golf season

Around 20 teams are expected to participate when the annual Botetourt Metro Invitational opens the high school golf season next week. A shotgun start will get the event underway at 10 am Tuesday, August 1, at the Botetourt Golf & Swim Club.

The Botetourt Metro is a one day event that replaced the old Bob McLelland Metro Golf Tournament. The McLelland Metro was cancelled by the COVID pandemic in 2020 and was not revived. In 2021, BG&SC pro Jeff Sprinkle decided to hold a one-day tournament to replace the event and this will be the third annual Botetourt Metro Invitational.

“We decided to make it a one day tournament to start the season,” said Sprinkle. “The McLelland Metro was two days, but that’s too long for this early in the season.”

Blacksburg won the initial Botetourt Metro in 2021 and Jefferson Forest edged Salem by one stroke to win last season. Sprinkle had 18 teams signed up for the tournament this week and was expecting a few more before tee-off on August 1. Also included in the event will be the awarding of a scholarship

in the name of Kip Nininger, a former state wrestling champion who was killed in a car accident in May of 2021. Chris Nininger, Chris’ father, is a good friend of Sprinkle’s.

Both Lord Botetourt and James River have signed up for the Metro. Lord Botetourt will have a new look as all six starters from last year’s team graduated, including Virginia Tech signee Ashton Harper.

“The kids have been playing a lot this summer and it’s going to be a fun group to work with,” said LB coach Todd Smith. “We won’t have the big gun like we had last year with Ashton, but I think they will continue to get better as they gain more tournament experience.”

James River coach Donna Cox is excited about her team.

“We will have a strong team this year,” she said. “The team will be led by seniors Dylan Hicks, Haden Parker and Evan Mines and we’re adding in two freshmen, Mason Gilliland and Landon Boling. They have set some pretty high goals for themselves and have been working on their games since the end of last season. They are going to be fun to coach this year.”

LORD BOTETOVRT ATHLETIC HALL of FAME

Nominations for candidates for induction to the Lord Botetourt High School Athletic Hall of Fame are currently being accepted. The individual must have graduated at least ten years ago from Lord Botetourt High School before being eligible for induction. Coaches, patrons, and others who have contributed to athletics at the school need not be graduates of LBHS. The Hall of Fame committee will make the final decisions as to who will be inducted. The 2023 induction ceremony will take place on the morning of the football game on Friday, October 20, 2023.

If you would like to nominate someone for this honor, please complete the following form and send it to:

Lord Botetourt High School  
Attention: Tim Fulton, AD  
1435 Roanoke Road  
Daleville, Virginia 24083

Deadline: July 31, 2023

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Explanation of nominee’s credentials and awards:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Hall of Fam inducts class of ‘23, honors high school seniors

The Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame inducted the Class of ‘23 on Sunday after co-sponsoring “The Last Inning” games on Saturday along with the Salem Red Sox. The Hall of Fame’s Class of ‘23, along with guest speaker Abe Naff, includes, left to right; Reggie Poff, Matt Trent, Nick Jones, speaker Naff, Randy Lawrence and Roy Clark. On Saturday the Hall of Fame announced that Cave Spring’s Trey Ludy has been named the Ray Bellamy Award winner as the top high school player in the Hall of Fame’s coverage area. Below, Hall of Fame vice president Gary Walthall presents Ludy with a plaque between games of “The Last Inning” doubleheader for high school seniors at Salem Memorial Ballpark Saturday. Bottom, Lord Botetourt’s Jesse Knight makes a running catch for the Red team in Saturday’s “The Last Inning” event for graduated seniors. Taylor Wilson of James River pitched two innings for the Red team, River’s Colin Cook had a hit and Nate Park of the Knights also played for the Red team, who lost both ends of the doubleheader to the Navy Blue team, 16-5 and 9-1.



PHOTOS BY JOHN WACHER

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# City-county swim meet is this weekend



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

The annual RVAA City-County Swim Meet will be held in Christiansburg this weekend. Above left and right, Luke Mullins of Ashley Plantation and Chris Klein of Read Mountain swim in Monday night meets during the regular season.

The Roanoke Valley Aquatic Association will hold its annual Duane Whitenack City-County Swim Meet this weekend at the Christiansburg Aquatic Center. A total of 13 summer swim teams will compete including three from Botetourt County, Read Mountain, Ashley Plantation and Limestone Park.

Swimming begins Friday morning with the 10-and-under swimmers, followed by the 11-and-older group in the afternoon. The order of Friday's events are Backstroke, Short Freestyle, Individual Medley and Freestyle Medley.

Swimming picks back up on Saturday, again with the younger kids in the morning and the older swimmers in the afternoon. Saturday's strokes include Butterfly,

Breaststroke, Long Freestyle and Medley Relays.

Stonagate Swim Club of Salem is the defending champion, with Olympic Park and several others hoping to dethrone the Gators. Read Mountain and Ashley Plantation finished fifth and sixth in last year's City-County meet and Limestone, a smaller team, also had a good showing.

# High school football practice begins this week



The James River High School football team had their annual "Knight of Champions" workout on June 30, just before the dead period. There were 40 kids ranging from grades 5-12 and this marked the first time kids from Central Academy Middle School attended. The event was sponsored by Sgt. Osborn of the Army National Guard with three other members of his unit. They ran the workout and spoke to the kids about things like leadership, sacrifice and service. The events included a Humvee push, carrying water cans, kettle bell runs, and a whole host of other physical exercises, including a lot of running. The kids all said it was really hard, but they finished it and everyone said they enjoyed it. "We finished the workout with a tug of war and a tire flipping competition," said River coach Tim Jennings. "Afterwards we fed them with a special shout out to Mike and Linsey Hall and Katie and Ayden Jennings for orchestrating the chow line."



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Things will be heating up this week, literally, as the Lord Botetourt and James River football teams open summer practice with temperatures expected to rise into the

high 90s. Both teams have early morning practices scheduled for Thursday. Lord Botetourt will have two-a-days beginning around 7:30 a.m., with jayvee and

varsity teams alternating practices. Coach Jamie Harless expects another big turnout for the team. The Cavaliers will open the season on August 25 at E.C. Glass.

James River's first practice will begin at 8:30 a.m. Thursday and run for two hours. After a two-hour break for lunch the Knights will have an afternoon session at approximately 12:30 p.m. Coach Tim Jennings is making plans to adjust if the heat becomes a problem.

"We'll have a plan," he said. "If we have to practice without helmets or find space inside, we'll do what we have to do."

The Knights will open at home on August 25 against Buffalo Gap.



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