



Board adopts amendment to Taxation of Solar Energy Generation Facilities, approves new solar facility in Buchanan



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BOTETOURT CO.

A graphic that shows how the Community Solar project operates in a locality.

Matt de Simone

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The Botetourt County Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted a text amendment to the county code involving the Taxation of Solar Energy Generation Facilities (23-341) during the public hearings portion of the September meeting last week. Additionally, the board voted to approve (4-0) a commission permit and Special Exceptions Permit (SEP), with conditions, for a utility-scale solar energy facility to be located in Buchanan on Pattonsburg Lane. Buchanan Supervisor Amy White recused herself from voting on the commission permit and SEP as the proposed facility presented “a conflict of interest” involving her family’s property in Buchanan.

A subsection of the text amendment states that solar photovoltaic facilities less than five megawatts in alternating current generating capacity shall be exempt from taxation on the following portions of their values: For the first five years after commencement of operation, 80%; for the second five years of operation, 70%; and 60% thereafter. Solar photovoltaic facilities

that serve the electricity needs solely of property on which they are located, as provided in section 15.2-2288.7 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, are exempt from taxation on 100% of their value.

The tax rate applied to the taxable portion of the fair market value of solar photovoltaic facilities mentioned in this subsection, if any, shall be the same as the real estate tax rate for the county. The commissioner of the revenue shall assess the fair market value of the solar photovoltaic facilities mentioned in this subsection as real, personal, or public service corporation property in the manner provided by general law.

In the administrator’s comments read by Deputy Administrator David Moorman, state law provides for local revenue collection from solar generation facilities either through 1) local taxation, or 2) by exempting them from local taxation and receiving a share of facility revenues. Localities may elect the method of their choice.

Following Moorman’s reading of the administrator’s notes, a citizen asked the board for clarification on who will be taxed. County attorney

See **Solar**, page 8



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF TOWN OF BUCHANAN

Mountain Magic in Fall Festival this Saturday in Buchanan

Hints of red, gold and yellow have arrived announcing the arrival of autumn and Buchanan’s 29th annual Mountain Magic In Fall Festival taking place this Saturday, Oct. 7. Buchanan welcomes visitors to explore the town’s historic Main Street, walk the Swinging Bridge, take “selfies” at the LOVE sign, comb through more than 120 vendor spaces filling the Town Park and see dozens of classic vehicles on display. Admission and parking for Mountain Magic In Fall Festival is free.

Sounds of bluegrass and the scent of barbecue, sausages, kettle corn and more will fill the air.

Festival hoodies and T-shirts in new colors feature the town’s most famous landmark – the Buchanan Swinging

Bridge. They are available at the Special Events Committee Booth.

Mountain Magic vendors will be offering a little bit of something for everyone. Visitors will find apple butter, artisan soaps, fresh bouquets of flowers, pumpkins, beeswax products, original art, glass, farmhouse décor, hand-painted signs, wreaths, handmade jewelry, terrariums, handmade copper vessels, woodcrafts, cigar box guitars, plants, Scandinavian Tomtes, barn quilts, hand-carved wooden bowls, photography, hand-felted animals, crocheted items, quilts, bird houses, dried gourds, ceramics, country crafts, Christmas decorations and more at this year’s festival.

A full day of live bluegrass performances

will be featured on Center Stage, including Rebecca Bryant, the Singing Cowgirl, Mill Creek Band, Barry & the Mudflaps, Blue Connection and the Virginia Carolina Band. Bring a lawn chair to sit and enjoy the day’s music being sponsored by Bank of Botetourt. Additional activities include the Heritage & Classic Auto & Tractor Show, the Children’s Playground, Children’s Maze and Art Wall.

Visitors are reminded to leave their pets at home. The crowded events create an environment that is not conducive to the four legged friends. All visitors are asked to adhere to this policy. Certified Service Dogs are allowed.

- Fincastle Herald staff report

Plaques added to existing Lewis & Clark Va. markers

The Virginia Lewis & Clark Legacy Trail (VLCLT) initiative began 13 years ago. It has been developed and implemented with collaboration and assistance from Virginia state departments, local governments, historical societies, and civic organizations. Today, there are 15 counties, six cities and many towns on the trail’s pathway that are actively participating on the trail. VLCLT-designated county/city chairs coordinate Lewis & Clark-themed activities at the local level.

The trail route is dotted with historical sites and locations many of which have already been proven and officially authorized as Lewis and /or Clark connected by standards of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources’ (DHR) Historical Highway Marker Program. In 2022, the Virginia General



PHOTO COURTESY OF VLCLT

Assembly approved funding for Lewis & Clark signage that included both a Virginia Historical Marker and Lewis & Clark Plaque attached below the marker’s panel (see photo).

At the time of the VLCLT project’s beginning, or soon after, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources had

awarded 12 historical Lewis & Clark-related markers to eight localities: Caroline County (3), Spotsylvania County (1), Albemarle (2) and Augusta (1) Counties, Botetourt (1) and Montgomery Counties (1); as well as the cities of Bristol (1) and Charlottesville (2). These

See **Markers**, page 8

‘A Life of Sorrow’ performance at Eagle Rock Library Oct. 19

Award-winning actor and musician Gary Reid will perform, “A Life of Sorrow—The Life and Times of Carter Stanley” is a one-man play with music about a mountain music legend Thursday, October 19 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Along with his brother, famed Appalachian mountain banjoist Ralph Stanley, Carter Stanley helped lay the foundations for what is today known as bluegrass music.

In this dramatic theatrical production of Carter Stanley’s life, Reid becomes Carter Stanley. Reid is a storyteller, bluegrass veteran, and the foremost authority on the Stanley Brothers. Reid affords today’s bluegrass and old-time music fans a chance to visit and reminisce with Carter Stanley.

Reid is a Roanoke-based bluegrass and old-time music professional with over 40+ years of music experience. He originally conceived the production of “A Life of Sorrow” in 2009. After five years of development, the one-man show was officially launched in September of 2014. Since that time, the show has enjoyed over 100 performances in 16 different states

and three Canadian provinces.

The 70-minute performance touches on Stanley’s childhood days on the family farm, the respect he had for old-time musicians that he knew and their influence on him, his jealousies and insecurities,

See **Reid**, page 8



IMAGE COURTESY OF GARY REID

Musician Gary Reid performs his one-man show, “A Life of Sorrow—The Life and Times of Carter Stanley” on Oct. 19 at the Eagle Rock Library.

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Botetourt County History



PHOTO COURTESY OF BCMHC

Harold Edward Little (1940-2011) was a well-known printmaker and painter who lived in Fincastle with his wife Harriet. His etching titled "Double Silo" was donated to the Botetourt Museum of History and Culture by Joseph Buhman (1924-2019). The Fincastle farm and historic barn shown were owned by Taylor Kinzie Peck (1873-1966). His second wife was a Layman. Taylor is buried on the hill across Route 220 from this barn which is no longer there. An unknown person was found hung in barn. Taylor is pictured in the snow feeding his cattle. The detail, contrast and composition are beautiful. Harold created this piece of art by a difficult intaglio printmaking process in which the lines and shadows are incised by acid on a metal plate. The finished plate was then printed on special paper using ink and a heavy printing press. Harold etched his name in the plate where it can be seen above the finished edition number. This is the 70th one he printed out of 100 (70/100). Harold's framed etching is displayed downstairs in the museum at 26 East Main Street in Fincastle.

- Botetourt Museum of History & Culture

Camper reunion in Buchanan October 15

Descendants of William H. and Lillie B. Camper will hold their annual family reunion on Sunday, Oct. 15 at the Botetourt Event Center, 14860 Lee Highway,

Buchanan. A covered dish meal will begin at 1 p.m.

For more information, call or text Debra Camper Noel at 540-309-3803 or dcnoel@lumos.net.

ARRESTS

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests for September 25-28:

- Tara G. Rock, 41, of Madison Heights, possession of Schedule drugs, September 25
- Travis E. Bayne, 44, of Eagle Rock, brandishing a firearm, reckless handling of a firearm, September 26
- Robert W. Hurd, 57, of Roanoke, domestic assault, September 26
- Craig A. Wilkerson, 48, of Marrero, La., drunk in public, September 27
- Stacey M. Craven, 45, of Canton, Ga., drunk in public, September 28

BHS Class of '53 has 70-year reunion



PHOTO COURTESY OF LUGAR FAMILY

Members of the Buchanan High School Class of 1953 at their 70-year reunion were (from left) first row, Bill Lugar, Norma Wright Friend, Dorothy Johnson Simmons, and Mary Leffel Falls; second row, Barbara Proffitt Hill, Evelyn Terry Smith, Elsie Tolley Lyons, and Howard Lawrence; third row, Donald Helms, Peggy Camper Shaver and Jerry Dupree.

The Buchanan High School Class of 1953 held a reunion at the Botetourt Event Center on September 16, 2023 to celebrate 70 years since graduation. Of the 16 still living, 11 attended with eight guests. Sadly, the class has lost 26. The meal was catered by Brenda Dudley of Buchanan. The classmates had wonderful conversations among all and it was wonderful to be with each other again.

Those attending were: Peggy Camper Shaver and son Danny of Roanoke; Jerry Dupree of Buchanan and wife Margie; Donald Helms of Roanoke and friend Peggy Hannah; Dorothy Johnson Simmons of Buchanan and two sisters, Betty Johnson Simmons and Virginia Johnson Montgomery, (who is 98!); Howard Lawrence of Roanoke; Mary

Leffel Falls and daughter Linda of Troutville; Bill Lugar of Chesterfield; Elsie Tolley Lyons of Glen Allen and sister Barbara; Evelyn Terry Smith and daughter Lou Ann of Charlotte, N.C.; Norma Wright Friend of Buchanan; and Barbara Proffitt Hill of Buchanan.

The five who couldn't attend were Edgar Bowers of Roanoke, Jo Ann Harper Clayton of Myrtle Beach, S.C., Raymond Smith of Astoria, Ore., R.C. Watts of Demopolis, Ala., and Mary Early Harris of Roanoke.

"Life has been great to all of us by the Grace of God and we hope to have many more reunions."

- Submitted by Bill Lugar and daughter, Susan

Fire Prevention Month kicks off in Botetourt Oct. 8

Matt de Simone

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Botetourt County Fire & EMS Chief Jason Ferguson presented the Board of Supervisors at the September meeting with a proclamation deeming October 8-14 as Fire Prevention Week. The 2023 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Cooking safety starts with you. Pay attention to fire prevention," effectively

serves to remind citizens to stay alert and use caution when cooking to reduce the risk of kitchen fires.

In proclamation, found in the September agenda packet, explains that fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the home fires killed more than 2,800 people in the United States in 2021, according to the National

See **Prevention**, page 3

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TERRY AUSTIN

STATE DELEGATE



I appreciate the opportunity to represent the 37th House District as your Republican Delegate, and ask for your vote on November 7th.



@TerryAustin4Delegate

The 37th House District encompasses the counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Rockbridge (part) and the cities of Buena Vista, Covington, and Lexington.

Paid for and authorized by Terry L. Austin for House of Delegates.

World War II veteran celebrates birthday



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TROUTVILLE SUNSHINE GIRLS the United States Army's 34th Infantry Division.

- Troutville Sunshine Girls

World War II veteran John Eakin celebrated his 99th birthday at Mission BBQ in Roanoke on Sunday, October 1. Eakin fought in Italy as a member of

Bingo will benefit Glebe Benevolent Fund, Daleville/Fincastle Lions Club

An afternoon of bingo to benefit The Glebe Benevolent Fund and the Daleville/Fincastle Lions Club will be held on Saturday, October 14, at 11 a.m. The doors will open at 10:30 a.m. at The Glebe, 200 Glebe Boulevard, Daleville. All bingo prizes will be Pampered Chef and Thirty One products, with a cover-all grand prize valued over \$90. Tickets are sold in

advance for \$32 (\$37 at the door), which includes a buffet lunch, by contacting Lowell Skelton at 540-420-2427 or Diane Taylor, 540-520-7967.

For parking, go to the right of the main building entrance and park on the lower lot. A shuttle will be provided so residents to not lose their parking spaces.

There will be door prize drawings and a

50/50 drawing. There are 20 rounds of bingo, a door prize ticket, plus a cover-all (black out) round for the grand prize included for \$32 in advance, \$37 at the door. Additional bingo cards, cover-all cards, and door prizes tickets will be available for purchase.

- Daleville/Fincastle Lions Club

Marching Cavaliers earn first place honors at season's first competition



IMAGE COURTESY OF LB MARCHING BAND

The Lord Botetourt Marching Cavaliers debuted their new band uniforms on September 22, one week before their first band competition last weekend.

The Lord Botetourt High School Marching Cavaliers had their first competitive outing at the Star City Classic on September 30 at William Fleming High School. It was the band's second performance after debuting their new uniforms at the last home football game.

"The band had a great performance and did very well," Director of Bands Chris Caldwell said in a recent email.

The Cavaliers received first place "Music," first place "Visual," first place "Percussion," second place "Guard," and first place "Band" in Class AAA competition. The band had the third highest score of the day regardless of class.

The Cavaliers' next competitive performance is on October 14 at Harrisonburg High School.

- Fincastle Herald staff report

Fish fry October 13 in Fincastle with increased capacity

The Knights of Columbus will have a fish fry on Friday, October 13, 5-7 p.m., at Church of the Transfiguration, 7624 Roanoke Road, Fincastle; eat-in or take-out, \$12, ages 7 and under are free; no advance ticket sales. They have additional fryers and should have fish

until 7 p.m.

The meal will consist of ample portions of lightly breaded flounder or chicken nuggets, sweet cornbread, crispy fries, creamy coleslaw, and choice of dessert. A 50/50 drawing will be held.

Proceeds will benefit several Botetourt County

charities: Greenfield Elementary Backpack Ministry, Botetourt Food Pantry, Sirens & Salutes Veteran Support, and Botetourt Resource Center. For more information, call 540-904-3126.

- Knights of Columbus

Buchanan Lions welcome newest club members



PHOTO COURTESY OF DANETTE HEINLEIN

Pictured from left to right: Lions Shantelle Crouch, Carman Carter, Andre Peery, George Hayfield, and Mark Lindsay

The Buchanan Lions Club, part of Lions International, welcomed two new Lions on September 26. New Lions are Carman Carter, a long-time resident of Buchanan, and George Hayfield, the Buchanan town manager, who has an existing history with a parent and grandparent who were Lions. The club looks forward to their participation in the many projects the Lions in Buchanan participate in, serving the local community.

- Buchanan Lions Club

James River High School Homecoming King & Queen 2023

Trey Jackson Taylor and Alexis Chocklette were crowned James River's 2023 Homecoming King and Queen last week.



PHOTO BY LEIGH DOWNEY

Mountain Magic In Fall

Bluegrass, Antiques & Crafts Festival

Saturday, October 7th; 10am - 4pm

More than 100 Vendor Spaces on the Town Park
Live Bluegrass Music
Antique & Classic Auto & Tractor Show
Explore our Historic Main Street
Selfies at Town LOVE Sign
Walk the Swinging Bridge
Family Fun & Free Admission

www.townofbuchanan.com

Buchanan book sale, yard sale Friday, Saturday

The Friends of the Buchanan Library will be holding their fall sale of used books and yard sale items on Friday, October 6, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., and Saturday, October 7, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. There is a large selection of fiction and non-fiction books, vintage/antique books, paperbacks, and DVDs. The yard sale items consist of a variety of household products and antiques. There is a large selection of 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzles for \$1 each. Books are priced at \$1 for

hardbacks and 50 cents for paperbacks. Children's books are free.

The sale held at the Carson Building in Buchanan at 19673 Main Street, across from the fire station. If you are planning on visiting the book sale on Saturday, make time to visit Buchanan's Mountain Magic in the Fall Festival for lots of crafts, food, and fall fun.

- Susan Davis, President of the Friends of the Buchanan Library

Prevention

from page 2

Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Fire departments in the United States responded to 338,000 home fire locations where people are at greatest risk from fire.

Cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the United States and fire departments responded to more than 166,400 annually between 2016 and 2020. Two out of every five home fires start in the kitchen with 31% of these fires resulting from unattended cooking. More than half of reported non-fatal home cooking fire injuries occurred when the victims tried to fight the fire themselves. Children under 5 face a higher risk of non-fire burns associated with cooking than being burned in a cooking fire.

County emergency staff asks Botetourt residents to turn pot handles

toward the back of the stove; always keep a lid nearby when cooking; keep a three-foot kid-free zone around the stove, oven, and other things that could get hot; watch what they heat; and set a timer to remind them that they are cooking. Residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire.

The proclamation goes on to explain that working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires almost in half. It notes that Botetourt County's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education.

To learn more about Fire Prevention Week, visit nfpa.org.

NOTICE

Customers of Lumos Telephone of Botetourt, LLC

The Virginia State Corporation Commission has designated Lumos Telephone of Botetourt as the Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) for its service area for universal service. The goal of universal service is to provide all citizens access to essential telecommunications services.

Lumos Telephone of Botetourt provides single party residential and business voice telephone services which includes access to the following services:

Local Telephone Service	Troutville	Fincastle	Eagle Rock	Oriskany
Residential	\$26.00	\$26.00	\$26.00	\$26.00
Business	\$35.00	\$38.00	\$35.00	\$30.00

- Choice of Long Distance Carriers
- Emergency Services (911)
- Operator Services
- Directory Assistance
- Telecommunications Relay Services
- Toll Blocking
- Lifeline Assistance, "Virginia Universal Service Plan", to one qualifying residential household*

Additional charges may apply to your basic telephone service. Lumos Telephone of Botetourt is pleased to provide you with specific rates for your area upon your request.

You may qualify for Lifeline Assistance if you participate in one of the following Federal or State Assistance Programs: Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing Assistance, Veterans Pension or Survivors Pension, and/or Household Income at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Only one Lifeline Assistance credit is available per household. You may also qualify if your child or dependent participates in any of the programs listed above.

Please call Lumos Telephone of Botetourt at 611 or 855.GO.LUMOS for additional information.

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Library BUZZ

UPCOMING LIBRARY EVENTS

Did you know...
Every library branch offers free notary services! Staff notaries have varied availability, so please make an appointment ahead of time. Bring with you: unsigned paperwork; anyone else who needs to sign it; your current, valid photo ID; and a witness(es), if required.

Libraries Closed: Columbus Day
All branches will be closed from Sat., Oct 7 – Mon., Oct 9.

Spooky Storytelling
Sat, Oct 28, 6-9pm, Troutville Town Park (or YMCA if bad weather)
Great for families! Enjoy spooky stories, bounce house, Halloween games, face painting, pumpkin painting, and more. Food trucks will be onsite, and school-age children get free hot dogs and hamburgers from Kiwanis Club of Botetourt. Kid-friendly storytelling begins at 6:00pm, with Victoria Town, Joelle Shenk, and Al Chewing. At 8:00pm, Kim Weitkamp will tell extra-scary stories for adults (if you let the kids stay, you have been warned).

Financial Fitness
Thu, Oct 5, 6-7pm, Fincastle
Join Josh Walton from Valley Medicare Solutions to learn basic strategies for how to budget, save, reduce debt, manage credit, invest well, and protect your financial future.

Beekeeping
Wed, Oct 11, 6-7pm, Blue Ridge
Learn about beekeeping, products made by bees, and the important role bees play as pollinators in gardens and agriculture. Presented by Julie Baker of Blue Hive Apiary.

Senior Bingo
Thu, Oct 12, 11am-12pm, Eagle Rock
Join this fun social activity! Provided in partnership with Botetourt County Parks & Recreation. Recommended for seniors.

Your Historic Property and How to Save It
Thu, Oct 12, 4-5pm, Fincastle
Do you have a historic house, barn, or other structure? Mike Pulice from the Department of Historic Resources will discuss how property owners can preserve structures, what resources are available,

incentives for preservation, and how to begin the process.

Life of Sorrow: The Life and Times of Carter Stanley
Thu, Oct 19, 6-7pm, Eagle Rock
Gary Reid will present a one-man performance with storytelling and music to bring to the life the saga of an Appalachian mountain music treasure.

Wings of Fire
Fri, Oct 6, 3-4pm, Buchanan
Enjoy trivia and activities from this popular children's book series. Longtime fans and newbies welcome! Recommended for ages 9-13. Call 540-928-3005 to register.

StoryTime
Weekly, 10:30-11am
Tuesdays - Blue Ridge
Wednesdays - Eagle Rock
Thursdays - Fincastle
Fridays - Buchanan
Improve literacy, motor skills, and school readiness through books, songs, and tactile activities. Recommended for preschoolers.

Kids Activity Club
Wednesdays, 3:30-4:30pm, Fincastle
Fridays, 3:30-4:30pm, Buchanan (Art Club)
Fridays, 2:30-3:30pm, Eagle Rock
Fridays, 3-4pm, Blue Ridge (How to Draw)
Dive into arts, crafts, and fun activities with a weekly theme! Recommended for ages 6-11.

Teen Time
Thu, Oct 5 & 19, 4:30-5:30pm, Eagle Rock & Fincastle
Tue, Oct 10 & 24, 4:30-5:30pm, Buchanan
Mon, Oct 16 & 30, 4:30-5:30pm, Blue Ridge
Tweens/teens meet twice each month for socializing and fun activities, such as crafts and escape rooms. Recommended for ages 13-17. Call 540-928-2800 to register.

Chess Club
Tuesdays 10:30am-12pm (adults) and 4-5:30pm (teens), Eagle Rock
Tuesdays 5:30-6:30pm (teens), Blue Ridge
Learn and improve your chess game. Call 540-928-2900 to register.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Developer offers clarifications about Ridgley Lane

and all those who helped to make this event so enjoyable.
*Scott & Susan Critzer
Fincastle*

Regarding your recent article in The Fincastle Herald Wednesday, September 20 about Ridgley Lane completion, I offer the following clarifications.

The first concern expressed about Ridgley Lane being in a bad situation looming this winter is totally wrong. Ridgley Lane is a paved road and poses no problems or safety concerns, now or in the future. True, the final riding course of asphalt has not been placed. The developer has delayed placing the final course of asphalt until most of the houses were built in this subdivision. This is normal procedure because construction traffic will damage the riding course of asphalt and cause long-term maintenance problems. The developer has and will continue to perform maintenance and snow removal until the road is taken into the VDOT system. Since the developer has performed snow removal, you can be assured that the snow was and will be removed quicker than if VDOT is responsible.

To keep communications on going, with the town and the people living on Ridgley Lane, regarding final completion of Ridgley Lane and VDOT taking the road into the VDOT system, it is important you know that the developer has signed an agreement with Adams Construction to place the final paving course of asphalt. The agreement was executed on April 18, 2023. However, due to Adams Construction's heavy paving schedule, the work has not been completed but is scheduled to be performed this fall.

In closing, the condition of Ridgley Lane is totally safe and operational. The final paving course will be placed this fall when it can be scheduled by Adams Construction. The developer has never left the town or the residents on Ridgley Lane "hanging," as you stated in your article. When work is complete and VDOT takes Ridgley Lane into the VDOT system, and you are waiting for VDOT to plow the snow or handle some other maintenance issue, you will then question whether your push to bring Ridgley Lane into the VDOT system was made in haste.

*G. Chris Moore
Moore Investment Corporation*

A tribute to Frances Stebbins

On September 30, I went to Frances Stebbins' funeral. It was a pretty good turnout for someone who was 94. Often when we reach that age, everyone we knew well has gone, but Frances obviously was able to maintain connections with people of different ages all the way to the end of her life.

I met Frances when we both worked for The Roanoke Times. She was a reporter and the religion columnist from 1953 to 1997, and I am a freelancer. Frances went on to work for this newspaper and for the Salem Times-Register.

I looked around the sanctuary for our old colleagues, but didn't see too many. I had to remind myself – as I always do when I attend services for former newspaper employees, which happens rather often these days – that she left a quarter-century ago, and a generation of reporters and editors have come and gone in that time. Most of her contemporaries are either gone themselves, or perhaps were unable to attend.

My most enduring memory of Frances took place in the mid-'80s, when The Roanoke Times had just upgraded to computers that used a mouse. Frances tried hard, but she just couldn't get the hang of rolling the mouse across the pad. So she picked up the pad and slid it against the bottom of the mouse instead.

At the time, I was still young and I felt very clever and very superior. I told myself that Frances was a nice but silly old lady who simply would never get it. Now that I'm a (hopefully) nice but silly old lady myself, I understand that Frances was actually being resourceful. Instead of walking out in frustration and refusing to learn something new, she figured out a way to make it work for her. And yes, at the end, she did learn to use a computer just fine.

She also understood the power of the handwritten note. I got one from her about two years ago, after I'd written a Cornershot about the illness of my aging cat. She commiserated with me and sent me one of her own clippings from a column she had written in The Herald about her cats. It and the note dispelled any worries I might have had about her retaining her faculties.

In fact, Frances wrote her own eulogy – an admirable undertaking, since most of us lack the perspective to sum up our own lives. But I guess by the time you reach your 10th decade, nobody knows

See Letters, page 5

League for Animal Protection's Waif of the Week

Meet Izzy



Izzy came to the LAP Shelter with several kittens. She is now spayed, up to date on vaccines and is felv/fiv negative.

The LAP Shelter is open from 8-11 and 3-5; 540-473-3853. Send donations to LAP, P.O. Box 561, Fincastle, 24090.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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60						61	62					63		
						64						65		

- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Leg shank
 - 5. A way to recognize
 - 11. "VeggieTales" character
 - 12. Getting out of by canner
 - 16. Mythological mountain
 - 17. Atomic #18
 - 18. Viscous liquid
 - 19. 2010 Denzel film
 - 24. 12th star in a constellation
 - 25. Made better
 - 26. Pouches
 - 27. Nervous twitch
 - 28. This (Spanish)
 - 29. Tennis legend Bjorn
 - 30. Hand (Spanish)
 - 31. Afrikaans
 - 33. Int'l interpreters organization (abbr.)
 - 34. Treated with kid gloves
 - 38. Leaseholder
 - 39. Frogs, toads, tree toads
 - 40. Popular dance
 - 43. Sailing maneuver: tack & _
 - 44. Indicates speed of rotation (abbr.)
 - 45. Mark
 - 49. Health insurance
 - 50. Custom clothing brand
 - 51. One who makes suits
 - 53. Execute or perform
 - 54. Degree of pleasantness when tasting
 - 56. Equal to roughly 5.6 bushels
 - 58. Blood group
 - 59. Imaginary line
 - 60. Hopeless
 - 63. Darken
 - 64. Spoke
 - 65. Work units
 - CLUES DOWN**
 - 1. A way to fit out
 - 2. Football carries
 - 3. Force out
 - 4. Maintaining equilibrium
 - 5. Sealed with a kiss
 - 6. Type of container
 - 7. Hollywood
 - 8. We
 - 9. Small freshwater ducks
 - 10. Norse personification of old age
 - 13. Says who you are
 - 14. Candidate
 - 15. Sugar found in honey and sweet fruits
 - 20. Defunct language (abbr.)
 - 21. Take too much
 - 22. Iranian province
 - 23. Records electric currents
 - 27. _ and feathers
 - 29. Beloved Mr. T character
 - 30. More (Spanish)
 - 31. Beverage
 - 32. Promotional material
 - 33. Green vegetable
 - 34. National capital
 - 35. To any further extent
 - 36. Swollen, inflamed lymph node
 - 37. Anger
 - 38. Pound
 - 40. Popular Yugo
 - 41. Salt of acetic acid
 - 42. Millinery
 - 44. Israeli city _ Aviv
 - 45. Make wider
 - 46. Drink containing medicine
 - 47. Acknowledging
 - 48. Private, romantic rendezvous
 - 50. Calvary sword
 - 51. Disease of the lungs
 - 52. 2001 Spielberg film
 - 54. Fleishy, watery fruit
 - 55. In one's chambers
 - 57. Set of information (abbr.)
 - 61. Dorm employee
 - 62. Indicates position

THE FINCASTLE HERALD & Botetourt County News
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My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3
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A Haunting in Venice

(2023) In post-World War II Venice, Poirot, now retired and living in his own exile, reluctantly attends a seance. But when one of the guests is murdered, it is up to the former detective to once again uncover the killer.
(1 hr 43 min)

Fri. & Sat. Oct. 6 & 7
7 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 8
3 p.m.
Thurs., Oct. 12
7 p.m.

www.FincastleHerald.com

See Answers, page 8

Letters

from page 4

you better than you do. And it made me smile.

Toward the end of the service, they tolled the bell for every year of her life. It was a solemn few moments as between clangs, the bell rocked twice in its yoke, seeming to count out the years with each thump. I found myself wondering if, when you help lay to rest someone from your past, are you also laying to rest that part of your own life?

Frances' death wasn't unexpected, and no one could say hers hadn't been a life well-lived. But there were still some tears among the congregation. Even when your death is timely, you're never too old to be missed by those who treasured you.

Betsy Biesenbach
Roanoke

Thanks to all for a successful Fincastle Festival

On behalf of Historic Fincastle, Inc., we wish to thank the many intrepid individuals, businesses, and organizations from throughout the area that contributed to help make our soggy Historic Fincastle Festival a surprising success for those who participated. Our wonderful "Presenting Sponsor," First Bank, along with their advertising and monetary support, had a booth in support of the day. Our other main sponsor, Jay Kilby and ReMax, had a booth where festival visitors could memorialize this soggy day by having a picture taken around them at the festival!

First and foremost, we thank the visitors and hardy vendors who still came to Fincastle for the festival. A special thanks is also extended to the townspeople who helped clear the streets of vehicles and who embraced the festival and visitors coming into our historic town for that one day - many of who donned their rain gear and joined in the day!

A festival, known for its artists, crafters, food, and special offerings, was again blessed by the crafters who came despite the weather. They offered beautiful artwork, varied and wonderful woodcrafts, lovely clothes and items for our younger population, locally grown flowers in amazing colors and varieties, an array of beautiful jewelry, special items to assist any cooks in the crowd, and such an assortment of creative items for almost every need.

Food choices, though smaller than in past years, still offered a nice variety. Seafood from Ferguson Family

Provisions, hot dogs from Teen Challenge, and many options from the Fincastle Cafe provided main items to eat. However, visitors could also get delicious breads from Nona, amazing cookies from GiGi's Walking Cookies, homemade cakes and pies from Abbey Fedor and her fellow chefs, and popcorn from the Cub Scouts! So again, no one should have gone home hungry!

Special venues this year allowed our visitors the chance to "come in from the rain" as something was happening at various points along the festival's modified layout. At the Episcopal Church as many folks arrived up Roanoke Street, visitors were treated to the amazing musicians who are students of Mike Lee; at the Wysong Blacksmith Shop, blacksmith Dewey Baker demonstrated the art of smithing to old and young alike, and "History Talks" were conducted in the classroom at the shop as well.

Among the history shared, Tommy Moore again "became" the first Clerk of the Court when Botetourt was founded, and he shared fascinating tidbits of history from 1770. After lunch, a group of locals from town gathered in the classroom and shared their memories of growing up in Fincastle during the 1940s-1960's...given some of the shenanigans discussed, it's a miracle Fincastle still stands! The ongoing partnership between HFI and the Botetourt County Historical Society once again enhanced the day with the History Museum remaining open to visitors throughout the day, and hosting both a book signing by Robert McRae and a demonstration of spinning and weaving using locally sourced wool!

Lastly, as visitors walked down Main Street past the museum, they stopped in at the old Baptist Church to see the amazing quilt show with those lovingly created quilts draped across the pews and hanging from quilt stands.

For those lucky enough to be there at noon, folks were able to witness the emotional awarding of two "Quilts of Valor" to two of our military heroes from the Vietnam War: Chuck Geiger and Kip Burton. What an event!

Music rocked the Courthouse Square again with talented musicians. "The Wayfaring Whistle Pigs" entertained our hardy visitors during the morning, and then "The Red Hands" with their special brand of bluegrass took over for the afternoon. Specific thanks go to Steve Hartman, Mike Lee, Tony and Jacob Holdren, and Chip Lawrence. Thanks also to the music sponsors: Lucas Construction, Austin Electric, Blake Construction, CED-John Hatfield, Neighbors Electric Co., State Farm Insurance -Leslie Owens, and McVey Property Management LLC.

Other sponsors and amazing folks who stepped up for this event are: Cathy Henderson, Marsha Campbell, and Jay & Yvonne Saunders for the Quilt Show; Shawn Ulrich and Apex for signage; and Mill Creek Baptist Church for the shuttle and the shuttle drivers, John Caldwell and Mack Neighbors.

Many hands went into bringing about this festival (including Mother Nature's little surprise), but special thanks are needed for Kirk Taylor and the Fincastle Fire Dept. for their help throughout the day, and Sink's Septic & Drain for having their vehicle at the Touch-a-Truck venue. Other tireless workers included John & Danielle Alexander, and just about the entire Board of Directors of Historic Fincastle, Inc. We had a rainy good time together!

Lastly, the publicity and coverage of the festival, both before and after the event, by The Fincastle Herald and associated papers were a significant help in our success.

Lynne Bolton
Historic Fincastle, Inc.

Scenic trail not safe for residents

I am writing in regarding the proposed Craig/Botetourt Scenic Trail: Sharing roads with a trail will put residents in a dangerous situation on a daily basis.

There have been "close calls" with cyclers. "Almost" an accident doesn't get reported. Residents are already intimately aware of what it's like to interact with trail users in Oriskany (the good, the bad, and the ugly). Folks here also know what the realities and issues are, firsthand, every day, but there are residents all over the mountain who take issue with this trail proposal. It's not mere inconvenience. It's up close and very personal. No one wants to be in harm's way or to hurt others. It is the residents who would live with the consequences for the rest of their lives.

People can already enjoy this place in relative safety by comparison. Common sense should tell you that if you draw lots more people to these roads, the odds of injury and death will increase just as quickly, especially for residents! Of course landowners and residents are upset and feel vulnerable that they are planning to force them into this alarming position! There was one CTB meeting, one VDOT meeting in Craig and Botetourt counties (= about six hours) and 10 days to respond

See Letter, page 7



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Botetourt Worship Directory

ANGLICAN
Orchard Hills Church - 6032 Cloverdale Rd. next to Read Mountain Fire Station. Worship at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays. Home group Bible studies available throughout the week. Pastor Scott McLucas, 977-6800. To find out more about Orchard Hills Church go to the website at www.orchardhillschurch.org.

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
New Beginnings Assembly of God, 1317 Narrow Passage Rd., 43 North. Sunday School, 10:00a.m.; Worship, 11a.m.; Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study, 6:00p.m., Pastor Steve Tremblay, email: pastorstevetremblay@gmail.com. Everyone welcome.

Troutville Assembly of God, 118 Conner Lane, P.O. Box 728, Troutville, VA 24175, Pastor Dennis Carroll, 540-960-1224, Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church 11:00 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Everyone welcome.

CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY
Botetourt Church of God of Prophecy - (formerly Flatwoods COGOP & Fincastle COGOP), Roanoke & Academy Streets, Fincastle, Va 24090, Sunday School 10:00 AM, Worship 11:00 AM, Sun. Evening 6:30 PM, Wed. Evening 7:00 PM, Pastor Peggy Brown, 540-992-3696.

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST

Colonial Baptist Church - 221 Hillcrest St., Blue Ridge, VA 24064. Phone 540-977-5683. Senior Pastor Joel A. Wegner; Sunday: 9:30 a.m., Sunday School & Adult Bible Fellowships; 10:30 a.m. Worship (Nursery, Tots' & Children's Church) - broadcast on Facebook Live; One Sunday evening worship per month at 6 p.m. Wednesday schedule during the school year: 11 a.m. & 7 p.m. Adult Prayer & Bible Studies; 6:45 p.m. WOL Teens, 7 p.m. WOL Gopher Buddies & Olympians (Age 3-Grade 6), 7 p.m. MERGE (College Age). E-mail: office@cbcblueridge.org; website: www.cbcblueridge.org; On Facebook, Instagram, YouTube

Crossroads Baptist Church - 1128 Wheatland Rd., Buchanan, Pastor Elmer Clemons, 761-5074 Home, Sunday School 10:00 A.M., Morning Worship, 11:00 A.M., Sunday Evening 6:00 P.M., Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 6:00 P.M.

Faith Baptist Church- 4258 Botetourt Rd., 4 miles N. of Fincastle; Dr. John W. Reynolds, pastor- teacher, 473-2325, jwr56fbc@Yahoo.com. Sunday School, 10 AM; Worship, 11 AM. Wed. Bible study, 7 PM. fincastlefaith.com.

Lapsleys Run Baptist Church- Rev. David W. Halsey, Sr., Pastor. 608 Zion Hill Road, Fincastle. 540-556-3504. Worship: 2nd & 4th Sundays at 11:00a.m.

New Hope Baptist Church- 2315 Blue Ridge Blvd. (US 460), 977-6610, Pastor David McNeill; Sunday School, 9:45AM; Worship, 10:45AM, 7PM; Wed., Bible Study 7PM; Kings Kids, 7PM; Daycare and Preschool, Mon-Fri. 6:30AM-6PM.

Valley View Baptist Church- 17471 Main St., Buchanan; Rev. Daniel Boone, 254-2760 (church), 254-2570 (H). Sunday School, 10 AM; worship, 11 AM, Sunday Evening, 6:30 PM; Wednesday: Prayer and Youth Ministries, 7 PM, Word Of Life youth ministry for 4 year olds-12th grade Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST

Bonsack Baptist Church - 4845 Cloverdale Rd. (Alt. 220) Dr. Chris Cadenhead, 977-5701, Sunday School, 8:30a.m. and 11a.m.; Worship 9:45a.m.; Wed. Bible study, 6 p.m.

Buchanan Baptist Church - 19730 Main Street, Buchanan, Sunday Bible Study for all ages 9:45 a.m.; Worship at 11 a.m. Wednesday Fellowship Meal at 6 p.m. followed by

Bible Study and activities for all ages. Facebook - Buchanan Baptist Church; Web Site - buchananbaptist.com; Phone - 254-2253, Pastor - Darrell Naff; Minister of Music - Stephen Harris

Daleville Baptist Church- Corner of Valley Rd. and Orchard Dr., 992-1570; Senior Pastor Wes Belcher; Sunday School 9:00 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday: Youth 6:30 p.m., Children (age 4-5th grade) 6:45 p.m., Bible study & prayer 7:00 p.m.

Fincastle Baptist Church- Located at 7330 Roanoke Rd., Fincastle, Rt. 220, 1 mile south of Fincastle, 540-473-2861; www.fincastlebaptist.org; Sr. Pastor Kevin B. Cummings. Sunday Mornings, we offer a dual Bible Study/Worship Service at both 9:00 am and 10:45 am. On Wednesday evenings, we offer events for the entire family: Kids Club (3 years-5th grade) 6:15-7:30 pm; Middle School Ignite (Grades 6-8) 6:15-7:15 pm; Adult Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm; Ignite High School Group (Grades 9-12) 7:45-8:45 pm; and childcare (birth-36 months).

Forest Grove Baptist Church- 693 Mt. Moriah Rd. (Rt. 681), Eagle Rock, Rev. Jerry Marsh, Pastor. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:35 a.m., Wed., Bible Study 7 p.m.

Glade Creek Baptist Church - 3148 Webster Road, Blue Ridge, Virginia 24064. Pastor Steve McChesney. Phone 540-977-1686 or 540-798-7462. Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday Worship Service 11:00 a.m., to include Children's Church. Wednesday evening Worship and Bible study begins with a meal at 6:30 p.m.

Mill Creek Baptist Church -11475 Lee Hwy., Fincastle, 992-3474. Danny Quirin, Pastor. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday night activities begin at 6pm: Bible study, children and youth activities, choir and handbell rehearsals follow. office@millcreekbc.com

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church - 4930 Country Club Road (corner of Country Club & Haymakertown Roads), 540-992-5556. Pastor Danny Barham. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. Worship can also be viewed online at the PHBC Facebook page or on Youtube (PHBCtube). Other activities and schedules can be found at www.phbcweb.com.

Springwood Baptist Church - 88 Cops Hill Rd., Buchanan; Rev. Mike Anderson, 540-819-4616, Email pmike09@outlook.com. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship 11 a.m.; Wednesday night bible study will be held every first and third Wednesday of the month from 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Troutville Baptist Church -P.O. Box 309, Troutville, VA 24175; 992-1026, Pastor Dr. Jeff Ritschey. Sunday School 9:45 AM; Worship 11 AM. Wednesday: Adult Prayer & Bible Study, 6:30PM; Youth & Children Activities 6:30PM.

Zion Hill Baptist Church- Intersection of Zion Hill Road and Old Fincastle Road. Pastor Donald Goforth (540) 884-2285. Sunday School -10 AM Worship 11AM. Youth Activities (grades 6-12) and Kingdom Kids (preschool-grade 5) Wednesdays at 5:30 PM.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Cloverdale Church of the Brethren- 4708 Read Mtn. Rd., 992-1060; Sunday School, 9:15 a.m., worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wed. (Sept.-May), Family Dinner, 6 p.m., Bible study, 6:45 p.m. Preschool, after-school care & summer day camp for preschool and elementary age children. Patrick Starkey, Pastor; Shawna Burkhardt, preschool director.

Mt. Bethel Church of the Brethren- 10603 Narrow Passage Rd., Eagle Rock. PO Box. 183 Eagle Rock, VA

Almighty God

Read Genesis 40:1 through 41:57

Joseph spent two years in a dungeon after interpreting the dreams of Pharaoh's cupbearer. Joseph had asked this man to mention him to the king upon being reinstated, but, as each day dragged on, no communication came from the Pharaoh. When Pharaoh had a dream and told it to all his wise men, no one could interpret it. The cupbearer finally remembered Joseph and told Pharaoh about him.

So Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was quickly brought from the dungeon. When he had shaved and changed his clothes, he came before Pharaoh (Genesis 41:14).

Joseph was going to be taken into the presence of the nation's highest ruler. His first order of business was to make himself presentable. His prison clothing and his haggard appearance were hardly appropriate to stand before royalty. Joseph prepared to see the king, honoring the authority and majesty of Pharaoh.

We have the privilege of an audience at any time with our King, Jesus Christ. May we never forget His majesty or approach Him with less than honor and adoration.

Thought for Today: Consider the majesty of God.

Quicklook: Genesis 41:1-14

24085. Interim Pastor Dreama Osborne. 884-2292 (church), 540-597-8272 (cell). Sunday School, 10 AM; worship, 11 AM; Ladies' Aid meets 2nd Thurs. monthly.

Mt. Joy Church of the Brethren- 2565 Buffalo Rd., 10 miles N of Buchanan, 254-2298. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m. Pastor Michael Tabor, (540) 309-7595.

Pleasant Dale Church of the Brethren, 3732 Breckinridge Mill Road, Fincastle Virginia 24090, Pastor Dr. David A. Tozar, Worship service 11:00am every Sunday, Potluck Luncheon every 3rd Sunday of the month.

Troutville Church of the Brethren - 5133 Lee Hwy., 992-1571; Terry R. Johnson, Pastor; Don Obenshain, Choir Director. Sunday Morning Services: Sunday School, 10 am; Worship Service, 11 am. Sunday Night Meetings: Rainbows, 5:30 pm; Christ Seekers, 6:00 pm. Wednesday Night Meetings: Bible Study, 6:30 pm, Choir practice, 7:00 pm. Family Fellowship Time will be held each 3rd Sunday of the month. Handicap Accessible. Our email address is: Troutvillecob@hotmail.com.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Dale Ridge Church of Christ - 7165 Cloverdale Rd., Roanoke, 24019; beside the Botetourt Athletic Club. Leave message 992-4385. Sunday Bible Study, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study, 6 p.m. Please come visit us in person or get to know about us first by visiting our web page: daleridgechurchofchrist.net. Updated each week with a new sermon by Mike Mazzalongo, four minutes of video showing our nearly six acres of land and our beautiful, functional inside facilities, articles, events, news from Christian sources around the world and here locally plus much, much more. See how many ways Dale Ridge is "Reaching Out There" to the Roanoke Valley with the "Good News of Jesus. By clicking on "visit us virtually" real time access to our Worship services is available via your computer, a tablet or smartphone: Just

follow the instructions. We believe in the inspired Word of God which is as relevant today as it was when it was written. We believe the Holy Spirit is a gift to every Christian upon their response to the Gospel as demonstrated by the 3000 obedient souls in (Acts 2:38). We believe Jesus is the only author of our salvation. (Acts 4:12) Have you been looking for a church family that is progressive, outside the box thinkers, led by the Holy Spirit into all truth. (John 16:13). You will know we are His disciples by our love for one another. (John 13:35) Real time contact thru our website via email.

ECKANKAR

Eckankar, the Path of Spiritual Freedom, is a simple teaching that focuses on the Light and Sound of God to help people find more love in their life. The Roanoke Eckankar Center is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. A spiritual event is held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. Since contracting COVID-19 may still be possible, please take the health steps that are best for you. It is appreciated that by attending you are taking responsibility for your own health. Visit www.eck-va.org, www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences * Group* or call 540-353-5365 for other Eckankar programs and for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar can lead you to spiritual freedom.

EPISCOPAL



St. Mark's Episcopal Church -111 S. Roanoke St., Fincastle. P.O. Box 277 Fincastle, VA 24090. The Rev. G. Willis Logan, Rector. 473-2370. Worship in the sanctuary and by Zoom on Sunday mornings at 10:00am, with Adult Education on Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 9:50am. Evening Prayer is Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm by Zoom. Brown Bag Bible Study on Thursdays at 12 noon in the Ministry Center and by Zoom. Links for Zoom can be found on our website, www.stmarksfincastle.org.

LUTHERAN

Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS) - 9068 Cloverdale Road, Troutville, VA; Paul Workentine, Pastor; Worship Sunday at 10:00 AM. Sunday School at 11:30 AM. Info and calendar at osroanoke.com. Phone: 540-977- 4888. Mailing address PO Box 916, Blue Ridge, VA 24064.

Wheatland Evangelical

Lutheran Church- 1560 Wheatland Road, Buchanan, 24066; 540-254-1605. Sunday worship service, 10:30 a.m. (in person or parking lot, tune car radio to 88.9 FM). The Rev. Chuck Miller, 540-589-7553. Facebook, http://www.wheatlandlutheran.org; teamwheatland@gmail.com

NON-

DENOMINATIONAL

Grace Bible Church of Botetourt - 148 Amsterdam Rd. (beside the south lane of 220 in Amsterdam, 1.5 miles north of LBHS). Sunday Worship, 10 a.m. Pastor Jay Robinette - 855-4620.

Mt. Carmel Church, 6 miles south of Eagle Rock at intersection of Rt. 43 and 688; pastor, Richard Ronk; phone # (540) 884-3653; Sunday School at 10:00 A.M.; Worship at 11:00 A.M., Wed. Prayer Meeting at 7:00 P.M., 4th Sunday Evenings at 7:00 P.M.

Woodland Church-A Place Where You Can Grow - 45 Woodland Rd. Troutville, VA. Corner of Blacksburg/Country Club Rds., 3.5 miles W. of Fincastle; 992-1008. Sunday School, 10AM; Worship, 11AM, Wed. Prayer Meeting 7PM (Call for more information).

PRESBYTERIAN

Buchanan Presbyterian Church - 19559 Main St. Buchanan. 540-254-1390. Donna Hopkins Britt, Pastor.

Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. with background checked approved teachers, Choir practice at 9:30 a.m. Worship at 11 a.m. with children's nursery with background checked approved staff. Videotaped services can be viewed on YouTube. The Food Pantry is open from 9-11 a.m. on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. AA meetings are held on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Handicap accessible. Facebook page or website: www.buchananpresbyterian.org. Contact www.admin@buchananpresbyterian.org

Fincastle Presbyterian Church

- 108 E. Back Street, Fincastle, VA 24090. The Reverend David Dickerson is the minister with the Worship Service held from 10:30 - 11:30 Sunday mornings. Services are now being held in the sanctuary with no restrictions... unvaccinated individuals are still requested to wear their masks. The service will also be live-streamed via Facebook at (https://www.facebook.com/fincastlepresbyterianchurch). New members are welcome to join our hand bell and vocal choirs. (No musical experience is required...just a desire to worship the Lord and to have fun!) The church is handicapped accessible. For more information: fincastlepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com or (540)473-2042.

Galatia Evangelical

Presbyterian Church - 78 Gala Loop Road, Eagle Rock, VA 24085. Rev. Emily B. Hook, pastor, 804-516-6552. Sunday School at 10 a.m. each Sunday. Morning Worship & Praise at 11a.m. each Sunday. Communion once each quarter.

Virginia Presbyterian Church - 918 Pico Road, Buchanan, 24066. Worship 9:30 a.m. (nursery provided), Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Church of the Transfiguration- 7624 Roanoke Rd., Fincastle, VA 24090; Fr. Paul Lagco. 473-2656. Saturday Mass at 4:30pm & Sunday at 8:30am; Christian formation after Mass on Sunday.

UNITED METHODIST

Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church- 3936 Beaver Dam Road, just off Springwood Road, Springwood. Rev. Morris A. Bennett. Sunday School, 9:15 a.m. followed by Worship, 10 a.m.

Eagle Rock United Methodist Church - 14565 Church St. Eagle Rock 10:15 AM; Glen Wilton UMC, Main St. Glen Wilton, 9:00 AM; Shiloh UMC Shiloh Rd, Eagle Rock, 11:15 AM. Pastor Ray Sandifer (540) 525-0258.

Fincastle United Methodist Church - Sunday School at 9 a.m. in the Family Life Center. In person services Sunday, 10 a.m. in the sanctuary, 136 S. Church St., Fincastle. Pastor Reverend Jim Bollinger, office, 473-3001. E-mail: office@fincastleumc.org.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

- 19 Cedar Ridge Drive, Daleville, Pastor Samuel Plymale, 992-3030. Worship Times: Praise and Worship Service at 9:00, with Blended Worship which celebrates Communion on the first Sunday of every month, with music led by our Praise Band. Traditional Worship Service at 11:00am. Traditional worship often with presence of the choir--this service is live streamed and celebrates Communion on the first Sunday. Children and Youth Ministries meet for Sunday School at 10Am each Sunday! Shipyard Youth meets every Sunday 4 to 6pm unless we are doing a special monthly mission. Frogs and Tadpoles Childrens Ministry meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month from 4 to 6pm!

Trinity United Methodist Church

- 19637 Main St., Buchanan; Rev. Doug Mitchell, 254-2475 (O). Sunday School, 9:45AM, worship 10:30 AM.

OBITUARIES

Hunt, John David Wayne

John David Wayne Hunt, 74, of Ferrum, passed away Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at his home following a long illness.

David was born March 26, 1949 in Clifton Forge and lived in Ferrum for 24 years. He was the son of the late Oscar H. and Eva Ayers Hunt. David enjoyed spending time outdoors and would hunt and fish when he was younger.

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Brenda Noel; stepdaughters, Jennifer



Martin of Cloverdale and Jessica (Rodney) Palmer of Salem; step-grandchildren, K.J. Martin and Carlissa Martin; and one brother, Ronnie Hunt of Gastonia, N.C.

David's family received friends 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, October 3 at Rader Funeral Home, Daleville. Services were private.

Online condolences may be made to David's family at www.rader-funeralhome.com/tributes/John-Hunt.

McMurry, Charles Reid, Jr.

Charles Reid McMurry, Jr. of Daleville, died on September 22, 2023.

He was preceded in death by his father, Charles Reid McMurry, and is survived by his mother, Betsy Keith McMurry; his siblings and their spouses, Leslianne Smith, Keith McMurry, Chris

McMurry (Dana), and Nan McMurry (Kevin Kelly). He is also survived by his nieces, Marietta, Dana, Cara and Krista; great-nieces Emeline and Eleanor, and great-nephew Charlie.

Burial was private. A memorial is planned for later in the fall.

Nininger, Deborah Landis

Deborah Ann Landis Nininger, 73, of Eagle Rock, passed away Friday, September 22, 2023.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Betty Landis; daughter, Janice Wimbush, granddaughter, Kathleen Harlow; and sister, Dee Windsor

She is survived by her husband of 30 years, Gerald Nininger; daughter and son-in-law, Virginia and Doug West; grandchildren,



Darrell Harlow, Austin Wimbush, Rebecca Harlow, Billie West, and Nathan Harlow; great-grandchildren, Jasmine, Kyla, Noah, Adria, Lacey, Amara, Kenneth, and Josephine.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, October 8, 2023 in the Eagle Rock Community Center. Online condolences may be made at www.botetourtfuneralhome.com or 540-254-3000.

Roy, Wanda Keith

Wanda Keith Roy of Pisgah Forest, N.C., formerly of Roanoke, passed away in her home on Saturday, September 30, 2023, surrounded by family.

She was a wonderful Mom, Gramma, sister and daughter. She fought a long, courageous battle with breast cancer for over eight years. Wanda was born August 21, 1955, and was a graduate of William Byrd High School. She was employed at ITT Night Vision for years, and then Belk and David's Bridal until she became too ill to work.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, John and Vera Keith, Myrtle Thomasson and Claude Williams; father, Ralph J. Keith; and the love of her life, Dennis M. Vernamonti.

She is survived by her mother, Christine Williams; four children, Brandi Vernamonti-Green (Mario),



Brett Vernamonti (Aspen), Jaime Roy Landreth (Cain), Alan Roy (Lynn); granddaughter, Kennedi Overturf (Casey); grandsons, Aaron VanRavestein (Madison), Callahan Landreth (Gramma's "Bubby"), Daxton Roy; step-grandsons, Mekhi Maratea and Kayleb Green; brothers, David Keith (June), Mitchell Keith (Jeanette); special sister, Sherry Keith; and a host of nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins. A special thanks to Keitha and Clifton Landreth for all of the love and support over the years, the staff of Messino Cancer Center in Brevard, and Four Seasons Hospice.

In accordance with Wanda's wishes, she has been cremated. A celebration of her life will be held at the Daleville Town Center Clubhouse, 65 Town Center Street, Daleville, on Saturday, October 7, 11:30 a.m.- 2 p.m.

provided a huge harvest every year that they would share with family, friends and neighbors. She will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by her daughters, Trena Pivald and Traci (Matt) Clark; her grandchildren, Trey (Jaclyn) Pivald, Claudia (Chad) Johnson, and Coleman Clark; great-grandchildren who were the loves of her life, Alayna and Joanna Johnson, and Emmalyn and Calvin Pivald; dear brother-in-law, Clayton Flowers; her best friend, Deanie Jackson; and many nieces, nephews, neighbors and friends. Special thanks to the wonderful staff with Good Samaritan Hospice, Brookdale - Roanoke Memory Care, and Carrington Place who gave her wonderful care during her last months.

The family received friends on Saturday, September 30 from 4 to 8 p.m. Funeral service were at 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 1 at Oakey's North Chapel with a private burial at Cedar Lawn Memorial Park at 3 p.m. Monday, October 2.

Spradlin, Claudine Virginia Bryant

November 2, 1939 - September 27, 2023

Claudine Bryant Spradlin entered Heaven's gates on Wednesday, September 27 after a battle with dementia.

She was predeceased by her husband, Calvin D. Spradlin; son-in-law, Frank Pivald Jr.; great-granddaughter who was named after her Virginia Estelle Johnson; parents, Reuben and Blanche Bryant; brothers Maynard, Earl, Roy, Garland, and Marvin Bryant; sisters, Marie Hamblin, Christine Bryant, and Charlotte Flowers.

She was in the last graduating class of Troutville High School. After graduation, she married the love of her life and they lived happily ever after for 56 years until his passing in 2014. Everyone always said you never saw one without the other and rarely did anyone call one of their names without saying the other's as well. She was known for her generous spirit, wonderful homemade cakes, meticulously manicured lawn, and a garden that



provided a huge harvest every year that they would share with family, friends and neighbors.

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CHURCH NEWS

Annual fish fry October 7 at Mill Creek

Mill Creek will be hosting its annual fall fish fry on Saturday, October 7, from 4:30-6:30 p.m., eat in or take out. Menu will be two pieces of white fish, slaw, parsley buttered potatoes and hush puppies. If you dine in a beverage of tea, lemonade, water or coffee is included.

Homemade desserts from the bakers at Mill Creek will be available for purchase.

You may get advance tickets from Sue Sweet at 540-797-2304, Nancy Epperly at 540-254-2616 or Tommy Moore at 540-529-5290. Tickets are \$12 each.

Yard sale at Ebenezer UMC

Ebenezer United Methodist Church will have a yard sale October 7 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. The sale will also include sausage gravy biscuits, hot dogs and baked goods. Ebenezer is located at 35 Nace Road, Troutville, across from Virginian Markette.

Blessing of the Animals

Whether your furry companion is a dog, cat, horse, hamster, or even a favorite stuffed animal, please join the Church of the Transfiguration for a Blessing of the Animals on Saturday, October 7 celebrating the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Gathering at the picnic shelter for the blessing, which will begin at 10 a.m. Animals should be under their owners' control to ensure everyone goes home happy. Feel free to bring a picture of your pet. Donations for Saint Francis Service Dogs will be collected.

Christmas sale at Cloverdale Thrift Shop

Cloverdale Church of the Brethren Thrift Store is having a Christmas sale through October with items gifts, jewelry, Christmas sweaters and lots of decorations. Fall and

winter clothes are available for the entire family. The shop open every Saturday from 9 to 12; donations are welcomed.

Hayride, cookout at Galatia Presbyterian

Galatia Evangelical Presbyterian Church invites you to the annual hayride and hot dog roast on October 14 at 4 p.m. at the Gala Riverfront Campground. In case of rain, it will be at the Gala Pavilion across from the church at 78 Gala Loop Road, Eagle Rock.

Please bring a dish or dessert to share, hot dogs and buns are furnished. Also, bring a folding chair for yourself. There will also be a bluegrass band.

Indoor yard sale upcoming at Mill Creek Baptist

The Dominican Republic Mission Team at Mill Creek Baptist Church will be hosting an indoor yard sale Friday, October 13, 5-8 p.m., and Saturday, October 14, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., in the fellowship hall at the church. Dinner will be available on Friday to eat in or take out - Petros, hamburgers, hot dogs, pork BBQ, strawberry shortcake, and homemade desserts. Breakfast and lunch will be available on Saturday.

Proceeds will benefit the team's work at a preschool, church and community in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic where the group has been involved since 2012.

First Baptist Church of Fincastle to celebrate 192nd anniversary

First Baptist Church of Fincastle, where the Rev. Montie E. Brown Sr. is pastor, will celebrate its 192nd anniversary on Sunday, October 15, during the 11 a.m. service. Minister Marilyn Brown, Associate at Hill Street Baptist Church Roanoke, will be the guest speaker. Refreshments will be served directly after the service in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited to attend.

Letter from page 5

to a proposition that would change our daily lives forever. I have found that people like Delegate Terry Austin, Botetourt Supervisor Bailey, and Woody Lipps (a "citizen rep") have not uttered one word to represent us and our concerns regarding about how unsafe this trail proposition is.

Did you know that when Craig Creek rises, it floods on Route 615 on both sides of Oriskany for a three-plus mile stretch? The "high road" is the only way out. The old rail bed is our emergency road. There is no better solution than to leave it as it is. (With a trail, that creates other problems. We don't need a trail.)

Trails and vehicles do not mix, especially not on single lane, narrow roads and bridges, or on the steep, narrow, winding roads to get up here. Routes 606, 615, and 817 jump to mind. It is not safe for lots of traffic. The safety and lives of the land-owning, taxpaying people (who already financially support surrounding cities and towns, far and wide) and renters who live on this mountain should matter more than any amount of money that's being dangled before you.

People are more important and so is rural life on this mountain. This thing runs straight across the town square, in and out of Route 615, through people's land and homes, through working farms with large animals, near a school, on people's only access roads (not just in Oriskany). We have skin in the game.

Downed trees and wandering wildlife are common scenarios here. Large animals are unpredictable: horses, cows, bears, deer, dogs, etc. And snakes. Especially horses sharing the road with vehicles. U.S. Mail carriers, delivery and service people will also be put more at risk too, and school buses with kids.

On top of that, and

this is no small thing, there is no cell service or Internet access on much of the mountain. There is also no EMS, fire and rescue, or police nearby. Even if you could call them, response time is one to three hours more, once contacted.

And frankly, there is no guarantee for economic prosperity for our two small counties. (We all know where the amenities are and where most visitors will be most drawn to.) Taxes aren't going up during the planning. It is pure speculation and political propaganda from the beginning when with Terry Austin first announced it. I've seen a clip where he said there are only 14-15 people against this trail (then laughter!). Do you know he was recently handed a petition with approximately 867 signatures and there's lots more added since? Do you know it was Terry Austin when he was on the Board of Supervisors who pushed for the trail in 2001 when it was defeated? Those reasons remain unchanged. That should have settled it. A trail here has always been a bad idea. Comparing this unique place to other trails is also speculation.

But when I speculated, based on past experiences of local testimonies - partying, drunkenness, drug use, violence, home invasion, disrespect towards residents, trespassing - that drawing more people here would draw more of the same (not only "the good people"). Also things that are happening on other trails: attacks on women (their bodies were found), abductions and vandalism, along with other legitimate concerns like littering, pollution, and vandalism of our beautiful little church, pavilion, and grounds, all of these things were all utterly dismissed by VDOT reps. They want the trail. These things are acceptable and don't concern them to be dismissed so easily. Well, they matter to me!

I would have thought

that the first thing they would have done is to have an in-depth study of the 26-mile proposed trail (11-plus miles of which are rural routes and secondary roads!) of Craig Creek (people would flock to it because of the trail) for endangered species before starting to plan any of it.

Developing will not make it safer here. On the contrary. We are warning you of the dangers. So, when people are injured or killed, at what point are the CTB and VDOT be held accountable responsible for bringing this upon us? None? VDOT, your signs really only protect you. The rest of us are on our own.

This is frivolous spending for a trail that we don't need here. It's not safe. I honestly don't see how this will make more than they are planning to spend to develop it and no one needs a raise in taxes. Every dollar is already taxed coming and going.

The safety and lives of people who live on this mountain should matter more than any amount of money that's being dangled before you. In Oriskany, there are no benefits, only consequences!

There is much more that could be said, but I will leave it there. This letter is going to Kelly Dunn, VDOT, CTB members, Boards of Supervisors in both counties, and to newspapers.

Debra Norris Oriskany

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Markers from page 1

existing historical markers as well as all future Lewis & Clark-related historical markers will have the Lewis & Clark Plaque attached.

The week of September 18-22 was earmarked for attaching the plaques to nine of these existing markers throughout the state. The following is a list of those markers:

- William Clark Birthplace/E-100-2 (Caroline)
- Clark Family Farm/E-99 (Caroline)
- Spotsylvania County/Caroline County/Z-156
- Birthplace of Meriwether Lewis/W-161 (Albemarle)
- Birthplace of George Rogers Clark/W-199 (Albemarle)
- John Colter/JD-15 (Augusta)
- Santillane/D-32 (Botetourt)
- Fotheringay/K-67 (Montgomery)
- Walnut Grove Plantation/K-123

(Bristol)

The other three include two historical markers in Charlottesville, The Farm/Q-27 and the Stone Tavern and Central Hotel/Q-20, and a replacement marker and Lewis & Clark Plaque for York in Caroline County will be installed at a future date.

The Virginia Lewis & Clark Legacy Trail, Inc. thanks VDOT's contracted partners for installing the nine plaques, the City of Charlottesville for installing plaques there, and all VLCLT county/city chairs for their coordination of this special activity, as needed, at the local levels.

- Botetourt Co-Chairs Lyn and Kip Burton

- Virginia Lewis & Clark Legacy Trail, Inc.

Lee family reunion October 7

Mark your calendars for the reunion of descendants of Zachariah Lee (1765-1838) being held Saturday, Oct. 7 from 8 a.m.-10 p.m. at Douthat State Park, 14239 Douthat State Park Road, Millboro, at the reserved Malone Shelter. Lunch will begin at 1 p.m. sharp. Bring your favorite dishes to share, photos and stories, and fellowship with family and friends. There is a parking fee of \$7 (handicap is free) for

the park, so stop and get the pass to display in the windshield. Come early and enjoy all the park has to offer or stay late. The Malone Shelter has electricity, a playground, horseshoe pit (need to bring horseshoes), close restrooms, nearby boat rentals, fishing, a beach to enjoy (no lifeguard at this time of year), and lots of hiking trails.

For more information, call 540-520-2291.

Reid from page 1

his admiration for Bill Monroe, and the struggles with alcohol that eventually cut short his life at the age of 41 in 1966.

This performance affords today's audiences

a chance to connect with a bluegrass treasure as "he" tells the story of his life in old-time mountain music. Spend an enjoyable evening with him as he brings to life events from the

turbulent times of the "smoothest singer ever to come out of the Clinch Mountains."

- Fincastle Herald staff report

Solar from page 1

Mike Lockaby explained that solar generating facilities "are subject to taxation at different rates and different assessment methodologies."

An estimation of comparative revenues from the two methods is attached in the meeting's agenda packet. The analysis projects that the county would realize more revenue by taxing solar energy generation facilities than by participating in revenue sharing.

Virginia law allows localities to tax solar generation facilities similar to other public service corporations which what the amendment achieves. To implement a local tax, the county's tax code needed to be amended to add a tax on solar generation facilities.

Last spring, the county approved text amendments regarding solar energy facilities adding small-scale, minor-scale roof, minor-scale ground, and utility-

scale solar energy facilities as permitted land uses, along with associated definitions, regulations, and permitting requirements.

The goal of the previous text amendments for local solar energy facilities was to create an ordinance that allows for the permitting and regulation of solar energy facilities while maintaining the rural nature of the county. Solar energy facilities were originally not listed as a permitted or special exception use in the current version of the zoning ordinance, according to the May 2023 agenda packet.

The SEP conditions state that the solar farm construction will include traffic detail, limits on the hours of construction, limits on the lighting during construction, limits of dust and burning operations, and a storage plan. TotalEnergies will coordinate with the chief of Botetourt Fire & EMS developing emergency

operations planning. The SEP will not exempt the use from meeting the requirements of the county's noise ordinance.

TotalEnergies is a broad energy company that produces and markets fuels, natural gas, and electricity. According to the presentation last week, more than 50% of the company's research and development focuses on new energies.

County Planner Nick Baker presented the proposal to the board noting that the property was previously used in an agriculture capacity. The project area will be 16.74 acres containing 11,160 solar panels, two concrete electrical pads containing transformers, inverters, and switchgears. An eight-foot-tall security fence will be placed around the perimeter of the project area. The ordinance requires that any panels and accessible equipment be no taller than 20 feet in height.

The application shows a maximum height of 15 feet for all structures and coded in anti-glare

technology. Baker noted that the noise generated from the facility would "be about the same noise level generated by a household refrigerator... So, no noise at all." He pointed out that all vegetation on the property will remain undisturbed.

Alex Fox, a representative of TotalEnergies, stated in a waiver that the layout of the property is enough to shield the visual impact with surrounding properties. The proposed project participates in the state's limited Community Solar pilot program.

Customers who enroll in the program will choose to pay a premium to purchase energy and Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) from solar facilities located in communities throughout Virginia. This supports the growth of local solar energy and reduces customers' carbon footprint.

Fox explained that a remote solar array will be installed. The electricity generated

will be available to the community. Dominion Energy customers will have the chance to subscribe or "own shares" of the solar farm, enabling them to save money on their electrical bills if they choose to participate.

Board Chair Dr. Mac Scothorn asked for Fox to explain what the company means by "owning shares." Fox explained that energy from the solar facility is "fed" into the electrical grid creating "credits" for customer subscription. Participants will be assigned those credits and they'll see the value of those credits subtracted off their Dominion electric bill. TotalEnergies will later bill customers based on those credits for a price less than what they would pay Dominion. Once the solar farm reaches commercial operation, the credits will be available to customers in the area, according to Fox.

The proposed project will reduce electric costs for low- to moderate-income households in Botetourt. It will also increase revenue for the county without putting any additional strain on infrastructure, create ecological benefits by creating a pollinator habitat, and provide educational opportunities for students in Botetourt, according to Fox.

The educational piece to the solar farm provides local schools with an opportunity to better educate students on how solar energy works. "Project Lead the Way" is a program provided to schools by TotalEnergies that helps students build problem-solving skills

and connect the dots between math and science concepts and real-world applications through activities. Fox added that the company will provide educational resources and guest instructors through a grant from TotalEnergies.

Fox provided the proposed layout and shared questions answered from a recent community meeting. Baker added that the county received "several comments" in support of the request. Some citizens are concerned with traffic issues that could be generated during the construction phase of the project. He stated that vehicular traffic will be limited to the daily project site. The construction phase is projected to last six to nine months.

The representative stated that the company "will not try" to bring in large trucks to the site. The plan is to lease an area offsite for large trucks to offload onto smaller trucks for transfer to the project site. Fox understands there will be increased traffic and they are taking measures to mitigate traffic issues.

In terms of decommissioning, the anticipated life of the solar energy project is 25-35 years. The decommissioning cost is \$448,245, based on 2023 labor rates, equipment rates, and labor rates for salvaging materials (RSMMeans). The decommissioning process is estimated to take approximately two months.

Fincastle Supervisor Dr. Richard Bailey asked Fox about TotalEnergies plans in retaining ownership of the project. Fox stated that they are a utility and have no plans to sell the facility once construction is completed.

Citizen comments during the hearing were in support of the solar farm project. To watch the public hearings from last week's Board of Supervisors meeting, visit Botetourt County's YouTube page (youtube.com/@botetourtcountyva) and click on the "LIVE" stream tab below the channel's header.

To read more from last week's meeting agenda, visit the Botetourt County website's Agenda Center (botetourtva.gov/AgendaCenter).

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING OF THE BOTETOURT COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Notice is hereby given to all interested parties that the Botetourt County Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. at the Botetourt County Administration Building at 57 South Center Drive, Daleville, Virginia to consider the following request.

Valley District: Michael C. Bousman is appealing a determination included in a June 1, 2023 notice of violation that the current use of the property is not allowed. The appeal is made in accordance with Section 25-552.- Appeals of administrative officers and Code of Virginia § 15.2-2311. The notice of violation was issued in association with property located at 170 Spring Hollow Road, and identified on the Tax Maps as Section 101B(4), Parcel 8.

Information may be reviewed at the Community Development/Planning & Zoning Office (540.928.2080) at 57 South Center Drive, Daleville, VA 24083 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, and is available online at <https://va-botetourtcounty.civicplus.com/AgendaCenter>, by scrolling down to the Board of Zoning Appeals section.

FINCASTLE PLANNING COMMISSION AND COUNCIL NOTIFICATIONS

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 15.2-2285 and 15.2-2204, as amended, this shall serve as notice that the Town Planning Commission will meet on Thursday, October 12, 2023 at 6 p.m. at the Fincastle Firehouse for the purpose of making a recommendation on a previously advertised proposal and public hearing held to establish a procedure and requirements prior to issuing a demolition permit.

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 15.2-2285 and 15.2-2204, as amended, this shall also serve as notice that the Fincastle Town Council will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 12, 2023 at 7 p.m. in the Fincastle Firehouse for the purpose of soliciting public input on:

A proposed ordinance which, in accordance with Section 15.2-2306 of the Code of Virginia, will establish the procedure and requirements prior to the issuing of a demolition permit by the Town Planning Commission for any historic building within the Town of Fincastle, which was built prior to 1900. This proposed ordinance shall only apply to primary buildings. It does not apply to accessory structures such as sheds, garages, or storage buildings.

Copies of this proposed ordinance can be obtained by contacting the Fincastle Town office during regular office hours. Questions related to this proposed ordinance may be directed to Scott Critzer- chairman of the Fincastle Planning Commission at (540) 473-3377.

Mary Bess Smith – Mayor
Town of Fincastle

PUBLIC NOTICE BOTETOURT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING

The Botetourt County School Board will hold a Regular Meeting on Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at 143 Poor Farm Road, Fincastle, Virginia with a physical quorum present and electronic access through www.bcps.live. Citizens wishing to address the School Board are asked to complete a Request to Speak form prior to 10:00 a.m. October 12, 2023 at: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe_7RLwHZW_3NnyIjzXaLBgEjyJ9vKaMB1L0m_fBjiYM4fyg/viewform or by contacting Susan Albert, School Board Clerk, at (540) 473-8263 or by email at salbert@bcps.k12.va.us.

TOWN OF FINCASTLE REQUEST FOR APPLICANTS FOR THE TOWN PLANNING COMMISSION

There is currently a vacancy on the Fincastle Town Planning Commission. Appointments to the Commission are made by Town Council. Applicants must be residents of the Town of Fincastle.

Anyone interested in applying for this position is asked to submit a letter of intent along with any relevant qualifications to: Mayor, C/O Fincastle Town Office, P.O. Box 250, Fincastle, Va. 24090 or email to: townmanager@townoffincastle.org.

The deadline for submission is 1 p.m. on October 12, 2023.

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING OF THE BOTETOURT COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Botetourt County Planning Commission hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Botetourt County Administration Center at 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville, Virginia to consider the request listed below. The Planning Commission will make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors, which will make a final decision on the request. Information may be reviewed at the Community Development Planning & Zoning Office at 57 South Center Drive, in Daleville from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays and is available online at <https://va-botetourtcounty.civicplus.com/AgendaCenter>, by scrolling down to the Planning Commission section.

Blue Ridge District: Six Forty requests a Special Exception Permit, with possible conditions, for a private school in the Residential (R-1) Use District on and adjacent to 2941 Webster Road, identified on the Tax Maps as Section 109, Parcels 127, 128, 129.

C. Nicole Pendleton, AICP, CZA, CFM
Director of Community Development

NOTICE

Botetourt County Governmental Offices and Libraries will be closed on Monday, October 9, 2023, in observance of Columbus Day.

The landfill will remain open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Stockyard Report

Monday's sale at the Roanoke-Hollins Stockyard: 560 Head

Cow/Calf Pairs: \$1,500.00-2,025.00

Head Cows: \$800.00-1,075.00

Graded Feeder Steers 400-499: \$245.00-255.50
500-599: \$226.00-257.50
600-699: \$237.00
700-799: \$212.00
800-899: \$216.00

Graded Feeder Bulls 400-499: \$238.00-245.00
500-599: \$228.50-229.00
600-699: \$214.00-215.00

Graded Feeder Heifers 400-499: \$221.00
500-599: \$221.60
600-699: \$210.50
700-799: \$198.00
800-899: \$169.00
900-999: \$188.50

Cows: \$ 34.00-96.00
Bulls: \$ 61.00-108.00

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Bidding Ends Thursday, October 12th @ 7:30pm

Preview Wednesday, October 11th from 3-6pm

Pick-up Friday, October 13th from 2-6pm

Visit www.CircleAuction.com to register and bid.

Contact Cody Manspile, Auctioneer at 540-784-9254 with any questions.

VA AF# 2908001046

Legals - Botetourt County

CHORD OF WHICH IS SOUTH 72 DEGREES 28' 30" EAST 188.85 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE CONTINUING WITH MELODY LANE SOUTH 62 DEGREES 51' 00" EAST 65.00 FEET TO AN IRON PIN FOUND; THENCE LEAVING MELODY LANE SOUTH 27 DEGREES 09' 00" WEST 280.92 FEET TO AN IRON PIN FOUND; THENCE NORTH 65 DEGREES 16' 06" WEST 321.63 FEET TO AN IRON PIN FOUND; THENCE SOUTH 64 DEGREES 55' 20" WEST 634.00 FEET TO AN IRON PIN FOUND; THENCE SOUTH 64 DEGREES 55' 20" WEST 634.00 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE NORTH 70 DEGREES 58' 00" EAST 327.17 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING CONTAINING 5.00 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN AS PARCEL 1, ON PLAT OF SURVEY DATED NOVEMBER 23, 1993, BY RONALD R. CLARK, L.S., A TRUE COPY OF WHICH IS RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN DEED BOOK 449, PAGE 72. TOGETHER WITH A PERPETUAL RIGHT OF WAY AND EASEMENT OVER THE 50 FT. PRIVATE ROAD AND MELODY LANE FOR THE PURPOSE OF INGRESS AND EGRESS FROM THE LAND HEREIN CONVEYED TO STATE SECONDARY ROUTES NO. 630 AND NO. 638. LESS AND EXCEPTING THAT PARCEL CONTAINING 2.539 ACRES, CONVEYED TO ROBERT D. DYE AND DEIDRE E. MEADOR, BY DEED DATED DECEMBER 15, 2017 AND RECORDED DECEMBER 18, 2017, IN AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE AS INSTRUMENT NO. 170004879 AND AS SHOWN ON PLAT OF SURVEY OF RECORD IN THE AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE IN PLAT BOOK 61, PAGE 121. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwwsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwwsales.com. VA-358737-2.

Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given

to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on October 11, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1. Consider the request of Bruce Maxey, property owner, for the issuance of a Special Exception permit to allow a 1,200 square foot detached garage on the property located at 1862 Murrell Avenue (Tax Map # 128-1-4).
2. Consider the request of Crystal Lowery, property owner, for rezoning the property located at 1000 Blk Ohio Ave (Tax Map # 197-1-15) from HM Heavy Manufacturing District to RSF Residential Single Family District.

Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia. At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY: James E. Taliaferro, II Executive Secretary

Legals - Montgomery County

bedroom density above the Future Land Use density of 20 bedrooms per acre.

Ordinance 2033: An Ordinance Vacating Portion of Public Rights-of-Way located at Airport Road. This request is related to Ordinance 2035. The request is to vacate approximately 0.22 acres of unbuild Town-owned Right-of-Way, adjacent to land known as unbuild Airport Drive and unbuild Virginia Street. The land to be vacated would be included in the proposed Habitat for Humanity townhome development as driveway and rear yard space.

Ordinance 2036: An Ordinance Vacating a Portion of Public Right-of-Way Located at Rimrock Road. This is a request to vacate approximately 0.47 acres of Town-owned Right-of-Way known as Rimrock Drive from Research Center Drive to its termination at the Route 460 Bypass. The vacated property will be used as a private driveway to access the Blue Ridge Cancer Center.

Ordinance 2037: An Ordinance Vacating a Public Utility and Sidewalk Easement on Land Located at 2600 Research Center Drive. This request accompanies Ordinance 2036 and would vacate active public utility and sidewalk easements that currently exist adjacent to the Rimrock Drive Right-of-Way. The existing sidewalk will become private serving only this parcel and the existing fire hydrant will be removed. The ordinance will require these areas to be vacated prior to the approval of the site plan for the building and parking expansion.

Legals - Montgomery County

performance report detailing accomplishments toward meeting the goals outlined in the 5-year Consolidated Plan. The CAPER compares the actual performance measures with those measures listed in the 2022 Annual Action Plan. Public Comments will be received through Monday, November 6, 2023.

PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING

Town Staff will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 5:30 PM in the Admin Conference Room, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street to provide an opportunity for any interested citizens to discuss the plan with Staff. Town Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Council Room, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street to receive comments on Council's intention to adopt the 2022 CDBG CAPER.

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WANTED

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Legals - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 164 KELSEY WAY, FINCASTLE, VA 24090.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated July 30, 2018, in the original principal amount of \$140,900.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 180002806. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090 or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court on October 30, 2023, at 1:45 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT LOT AND PREMISES LOCATED IN BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A FENCE POST ON MELODY LANE; THENCE WITH MELODY LANE SOUTH 82 DEGREES 06' 00" EAST 93.08 FEET TO A PIPE FOUND; THENCE WITH MELODY LANE ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT 189.74 FEET THE

Legals - Montgomery County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104

Case No. **CL23000992-00** MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* NANNIE FAY LONG, THOMAS LONG AND EDWARD LONG v. NONE

It is ORDERED that CATHY HUGHES appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before **OCTOBER 20, 2023 @ 8:30 AM.** **SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 ROBERT M.D. TURK, JUDGE** **TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK**

TOWN OF BLACKSBURG - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

BLACKSBURG TOWN COUNCIL will hold public hearings on Tuesday, October 10, 2023

beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers of the Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 South Main Street, Blacksburg, regarding the following items:

Ordinance 2035: An Ordinance Rezoning 1.10± Acres of Land at 1200 Block of Airport Road from R-4 Residential to Planned Residential Zoning. This is a request to rezone approximately 1.1 acres of land from R-4 Low Density Residential to Planned Residential zoning for the development of 11 income-restricted townhomes with 33 bedrooms total in the 1200-block of Airport Road. Upon sale, the lots will become part of the community land trust to ensure permanent affordability. Also included in the development is surface parking and outdoor recreation amenities. The Future Land Use Designation for this parcel is Medium-Density Residential, which allows up to 10 units per acre, or up to 20 bedrooms per acre for multifamily uses. The request to construct 11 units/33 bedrooms (10 units/acre or 30 bedrooms per acre) represents an increase in the allowable

Legals - Town of Vinton

TOWN OF VINTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-1800 (B), of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, the Town Council of the Town of Vinton, Virginia, gives notice of a public hearing to be held on Tuesday, October 17, at 6:00 p.m., or immediately thereafter, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning the proposed granting of a lease to The Vinton Historical Society of certain Town property located at 210 East Jackson Avenue, identified as 060.16-03-15.00-0000 (Vinton History Museum) in the Town of Vinton, Virginia, said lease to be for one eight (8) month period with the option to renew the lease for up to four (4) additional one (1) year renewal terms. A complete copy of the proposed Lease, Resolution, and additional information concerning this public meeting is available in the Town Manager's Office, located in the Vinton Municipal Building, (540) 983-0607. Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate at this public meeting should contact the Town Manager's office at (540) 983-0607.

Antonia Arias-Magallon Town Clerk

Legals - Town of Vinton

TOWN OF VINTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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Antonia Arias-Magallon Town Clerk

TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA THE CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT (CAPER)

The Town of Christiansburg, as a recipient of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding, is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to prepare the 2022 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). The CAPER is an evaluation and

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Brian Hoffman

Sports Editor

Knights will play at unbeaten Radford Friday



Keegan Mundy (54), Gabe Staton (52), and Ryder Ward (12) battle their way through Carroll County blockers.

The James River football team will jump out of the frying pan and into the fire Friday night when the Knights travel to Radford to play the unbeaten Bobcats. Radford is 6-0 after defeating previously unbeaten Glenvar in Roanoke County last Friday, 36-3.

The Bobcats are led by talented senior quarterback Landen Clark. Last week he ran and passed for touchdowns and had an interception back 77 yards for another score. Keeping him in check will be a key for the Knights this Friday.

"We'll have to do our best to corral

him," said River coach Tim Jennings. "Radford has a very good team."

The Knights come in at 3-3, but they've lost their last three games since quarterback Zeal Hammons, his backup, and several others went down in a loss to Staunton on September 15. The Knights have struggled on offense, scoring just 13 points total in the last three games.

Last Friday at home the Knights were shut out by visiting Carroll County, 14-0. The defense did its best to keep the home team in the game but the offense had just 16 net yards on 43



Caleb Kinion kicks off for the Knights.

PHOTOS BY LEIGH DOWNEY

plays.

"It's been a rough time," said Jennings. "Our defense played well enough to win but we couldn't get anything going on offense."

Maddox Woodyard, who is alternating with Trey Taylor at quarterback, completed five passes for 37 yards with Kody Park and Taylor catching two each. River had minus yardage in rushing with early season standout Gavin Binns still not ready to return after an injury.

Defensively, Keegan Mundy had 11 tackles to lead the team. Gabe Staton had

nine, Ryan Daniels had eight and Jady Alston had seven. Kingston Bean had two tackles for losses.

The defense will have their work cut out for them this week against a Radford team that has averaged 43.5 points per game while giving up an average of 9.0. The Knights have their bye the following week, and that should be a good chance for the team to heal up and concentrate on making a run for the Class 2 playoffs. The Knights are currently ranked eighth and eight teams make the playoffs.

LB golfers finish third in Region 3D tournament

The Lord Botetourt golfers saw their season come to an end when the Cavaliers finished in third place in the Region 3D tournament September 26. Abingdon won the tournament at the Draper Valley Golf Club in Draper.

The top two teams in the 13-team tournament advance to the state tourney, as well as the top three individuals not on those teams. Abingdon and second place Hidden Valley advanced as a team and individuals who qualified were Josh Cummins of Christiansburg with a 69, Nate Faulkner of Cave Spring with a 71 and Logan Williams of Magna Vista with a 73.

"Our region is pretty tough," said LB coach Todd Smith. "The state champion has usually come out of our region over the past few years. I was pleased with how we played, but it just wasn't good enough. The scores that qualified for states were pretty good, so those teams definitely earned it."

Abingdon shot a team total of 294 to win the day and Hidden Valley was close behind, also qualifying for the state at 297. Lord Botetourt was the top Blue Ridge District team with a 314, followed by Magna Vista at 317, Christiansburg at 319 and William Byrd tied Northside for sixth at 321.

Botetourt's top score



PHOTO BY TODD SMITH

Lord Botetourt freshman Alisa Davidov had the low score among the Cavaliers in last week's Region 3D golf tournament.

was a 76 by freshman Alisa Davidov. Aidan Mitchell was close behind at 77 and also scoring were Jeremy Simmons at 80 and Haden Firestone at 81.

Davidov will continue her season when she plays in a zone qualifier at Auburn Hills on October 16 to try to qualify for the girls state championship tournament. The girls tournament includes schools of all sizes.

"Coming in third is something they should be proud of, and really be proud of what they accomplished for this entire year," said Smith of the Cavalier team. "We lost all six starters from last year's team and these guys, and girl, were able to win the district regular season title. They definitely put in the work during the summer and throughout the season, so hopefully they will come back stronger next year."



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Bria Harvey of LB is ready and waiting for the ball.

LB and Byrd play volleyball in Daleville tonight

The Lord Botetourt volleyball team will be home tonight, Wednesday, to play host to William Byrd in a Blue Ridge District volleyball match, completing a busy stretch of action for the Cavaliers.

Tonight's match will be the sixth in nine days for the Cavaliers, who are now 11-4 after defeating Liberty Christian Academy in a non-district match in Daleville Monday. Botetourt also competed in an invitational in Christiansburg on Saturday.

The busy stretch started with a three-set win over William Fleming in Roanoke last Tuesday, September 26. LB allowed the Colonels just 19 points total in winning 25-4, 25-5 and 25-10. Gracelynn Clark had six kills while Amy Sprouse and Madilyn Winterton had four aces each.

Last Thursday at home it was a battle between the only two Blue Ridge District teams without a district loss, as the Cavs hosted Franklin County. Botetourt was hitting on all cylinders in this one as they swept the Eagles in three, 25-13, 25-13 and 25-16.

"We had a great match against Franklin County," said LB coach Julie Conner. "We were able to control the entire match by passing and hitting the ball very well."

Emma Rice had seven kills to lead LB while Becca Huddleston and Erica Gergely had six each. Skylar Morris dished out 26 assists, Maddie Caron had 14 digs and three aces and Bria Harvey had a dozen digs and a pair of aces.

The Cavs were back on the floor for a rare Saturday event at they participated in an invitational in Christiansburg. The matches were best-of-three and LB won one and lost two against some stiff competition. They lost in three sets to Christiansburg

See **LB Volleyball**, page 12

River will host Carroll in volleyball Thursday

The James River girls will be looking to even the score with Carroll County on Thursday when the Cavaliers come to Springwood for a Three Rivers District volleyball match. The Cavs beat the Knights in four sets in the first meeting between the two in Hillsville.

Carroll comes into the week with a 5-2 Three Rivers District record and an 8-5 overall mark. James River was 8-6 overall prior to a tough district match with Alleghany on Tuesday. That was also at home, but results were too late for publication.

The Knights split two district matches last week, falling to Glenvar but bouncing back to beat Floyd. They lost in four sets to the two-time defending Class 2 state champion Highlanders at James River High last week. After River won the first set 25-23, Glenvar took the next three, 25-20, 25-23 and 25-20.

"We came out super strong to take the first set and we were playing with a lot of confidence and executing the game plan well," said coach Linsey Firebaugh. "However, as the night went on we made too many serving and hitting errors to be able to finish."

Konner Myers had 33 assists and 23 digs for the Knights while



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Ripley Barry serves for River.

Ava Thacker had 11 kills and 28 digs.

On Thursday of last week the Knights bounced back with a three-set win at Floyd, 25-22, 25-22 and 25-17. Thacker had 13 kills and Brea Anduiza had 17 assists.

"We were very successful from behind the service line with 11 aces," said Firebaugh. "They could not run their offense effectively. Ava stepped up and had a big night defensively and offensively."

Next week the Knights will host Riverheads in a non-district match on Tuesday, then host Radford on Thursday, October 12.

River's Hicks qualifies for state golf

Two Three Rivers District golf teams, Radford and Floyd, advanced to the Class 2 state tournament by finishing one-two in the Region 2C tournament at the Great Oaks course in Floyd Monday. James River's Dylan Hicks qualified as an individual.

Radford shot a team score of 318 to win the region and Floyd was runner-up at 322. River shot a 346, led by Hicks who shot a 79. Also scoring for the Knights were Mason Gilliland at 87 and Landon Bolling and Haden Parker both shot 90. Medalist was Isaiah Cantrell of Floyd with a 75.

There were six teams in the tournament,

and Three Rivers schools took the top five spots. Patrick County was fourth at 351, Glenvar shot 374 and Chatham came in at 401.

A dozen other golfers played as individuals from Region 2C teams that did not qualify in their sub-region round. The top three players on Monday not on Radford or Floyd also qualified for state and Hicks' 79 was the best score not from those two teams.

The Class 1 and 2 state tournaments will be held at Great Oaks in Floyd on October 9 and 10, with the Class 2 tournament on the 10th.

Blue Ridge Invitational at Greenfield Saturday

The Blue Ridge Invitational cross country race, hosted by Lord Botetourt and James River, will be held this Saturday at the Greenfield course in Daleville.

LB and River runners will be among close 30 teams expected to attend the race, including Hidden Valley, Cave Spring and Patrick Henry. The day will begin with a race at 9:30 a.m. for the middle school boys, followed by a middle school girls race at 10:15 a.m. The boys varsity will take the gun at 11 a.m., with the girls varsity at 11:45. There

will be a jayvee race for both boys and girls at 12:30 p.m.

"This is also home of the Blue Ridge District race this year, so it will be a great practice for many of the teams attending," said LB coach Elizabeth Wilson.

Today, James River is scheduled to run in the East Mont Invitational at Camp Alta Mons in Shawsville.

Sooners lineman Troy Everett is former LB standout

By Eli Lederman/Sellout Crowd

NORMAN, Okla. — It's a 20-minute drive north from downtown Roanoke, Virginia, to the suburb of Daleville and the campus of Lord Botetourt High School.

Historically, the region has existed as an exporter of goods like furniture, wood products and factory-built housing. The school itself is named for Colonel Norborne Berkeley, the British baron who governed Virginia from 1768-70. Situated 50 miles east of the New River, the town and its high school reside comfortably in the very heart of Appalachia.

"You typically find a whole lot of really rugged, tough-ass people here," said Jamie Harless, Lord Botetourt's 12th-year head football coach. "What you get out of that group is you get a lot of tough football players. Football is damn near religion."

That's where Oklahoma offensive lineman Troy Everett comes from. Years before he arrived to shuffle across the Sooners' offensive line this fall, Everett was once an undersized high school lineman struggling to figure out Harless's run-heavy offense.

There on the turf at Lord Botetourt, a stone's throw from the Appalachian Trail, Everett transformed himself into a Division I guard and took the first steps in a football career that's forced him to learn at every stop, through to his debut season with the Sooners he's embarked on in 2023.

"He had to learn at our place. He figured things out at Appalachian State. Now he's running something new again," Harless said. "I think all the things Troy has been exposed to have led to him being a very intelligent lineman."

Five months after he committed to OU from the transfer portal and four games into his Sooners career, these are still the initial stages of Everett's latest football learning process, even if it's been a busy start to life in Norman.

An opening day backup to center Andrew Raym, the Appalachian State transfer has played left guard in all four wins this month, appearing prominently off the bench in relief of Savion Byrd against SMU and Tulsa before Everett made his first OU start on the road at Cincinnati. After joining the Sooners this fall with three years of eligibility and offering versatility across the offensive line, Everett is sure to be a fixture up front for OU's present and future.

"He can go in there and be a starter at any time," Brent Venables said. "He's done a great job since he's been here."

Everett's early emergence with the Sooners has come with a unique juggling act providing the third-year lineman a thorough education. While he spends his Saturdays at guard, typically operating to Raym's left, Everett practices during the week behind Raym, preparing at center as a fail-safe for the Sooners' seasoned senior.

"I love Troy," Raym said this week. "Troy's got a motor. Troy loves to play ball...and he's just an all-around good football player. He's fun to play next to."

The balancing act challenges Everett physically in areas like the subtle technique changes from center to guard. It presents mental hurdles, too.

Practicing at center is a crash course in understanding the entire offensive line. Everett understands not only his job

but the responsibilities of the linemen on each side of him. Success playing guard on Saturdays, however, hinges on less thinking and more doing.

Everett is working patiently on that balance. Deep breaths on a football field come easier when you've cleared hurdles before.

"It definitely has its moments where sometimes it can be a challenge," Everett said. "Other times it's very fun. I like to look at it more as an opportunity."

By the time Everett graduated from Lord Botetourt and left home for Appalachian State in 2021, he was a top-30 prospect in Virginia and carried most of his current playing weight of 294 pounds.

He was an entirely different player from the one who arrived at Lord Botetourt as a 245-pound junior from nearby Northside High School two years earlier.

"He had had no prior development," Harless said. "Troy was a JV football player at the school he transferred from. That sounds crazy now."

The program Everett joined at Lord Botetourt has developed into a local power under Harless in a little over a decade. Harless estimates the Cavaliers had roughly 200 wins in the 54 years before he took over. Twelve seasons in at Lord Botetourt, his running victory count sits at 115.

That's important to know because the Cavaliers have reached their sustained success by almost exclusively running the football. The complex playbook Harless deploys initially left Everett puzzled.

"He was overwhelmed," Harless said. "We were running some zone schemes and it was tough at first. He was going from speaking Chinese to English."

An understanding of the run scheme came in time and there were never doubts over Everett's physical talent. Harless recalls the athleticism he saw running Everett through drills during his first practice session at Lord Botetourt.

"We've had some good ones. But man, this kid is special," Harless told one of his assistants afterward. "You could see that in 15 minutes."

The player Harless watched that day emerged as a first-team All-State selection, helped the Cavaliers to two state title games and became the latest in the program's recent production line of college linemen. By graduation, Everett was bench pressing 405 pounds and preparing to play guard for the Mountaineers at Appalachian State.

His high school football transformation was complete and his offensive line future seemed settled... until it wasn't.

"Two weeks before I moved into App, the O-line coach texted me and said to start snapping," Everett said. "From there on I played center."

The first crucial point Everett learned about playing center is that you can't think about the snap.

"Because that's the first thing that'll happen with a bad snap," he explained. "Just get up there, grip it and rip it. That's what I like to do."

No different from high school, Everett waded patiently through the process of learning his new position at Appalachian State.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SELLOUT CROWD

LB grad Troy Everett currently plays left guard for the Oklahoma Sooners.

He redshirted as a freshman in 2021, then appeared in 10 games with six starts at center in 2022.

In 262 pass-blocking snaps last fall, Everett was responsible for only one sack before he hit the spring portal and settled on the Sooners in early May.

Practice reps at center with OU are giving Everett his schooling on the Sooners' offense. Game day snaps at left guard are providing his earliest opportunities with the program. He may already be OU's most versatile offensive lineman.

Right guard McKade Mettauer explains the difference in playing the two positions.

"If you can play center you can play a lot of positions because you have to snap the ball and make calls," he said. "When you play guard you basically just get to play football... you don't have to focus on a lot of other things."

Everett learned not to overthink a snap at Appalachian State. It's the thinking he does at center Monday-Friday that he'll be working to break free from whenever he steps in at guard against Iowa State.

"I think I get out there and I'm trying to do too much," he said. "I just need to do my job and trust around me and trust the coaching. Which I do. It's just hard to break some habits I've had in the past."

A frequent strategy for the lineman who could represent OU's future at center? Asking questions. Lots of them.

"I don't care who you are," Everett explained. "I'm gonna ask you a question about what happened to try to get better."

For that, Everett leans heavily on the likes of Raym and Mettauer and starting tackles Walter Rouse and Tyler Guyton. He's equally liable to prod one of the Sooners' interior defensive linemen with a question after practice, too. If Jonah Lauhi hits him with a new move, Everett wants to know about it.

It's just another piece of the learning process.

"I just like to ask questions," he said. "Your brain - you know as much as you know. Other people might know more so you might as well take their knowledge and learn from it."

Eli Lederman reports on the University of Oklahoma for Sellout Crowd (@selloutcrowd). He can be reached at eli@selloutcrowd.com.



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Cavalier football team returns after bye, can even all-time record with a win Friday

The Lord Botetourt football team will be home Friday to host Staunton River for the Cavaliers' Homecoming game. Kickoff time is 7 p.m. in Daleville.

The Cavaliers come in at 4-1 and riding a four-game win streak after losing their opener to Class 4 E.C. Glass. Staunton River is 2-3 with shutout wins over Liberty, 57-0, and Tunstall, 36-0, sandwiched between losses to Magna Vista, 41-6, Jefferson Forest, 27-15 and George Washington of Danville last week, 28-14.

The first Virginia High School League rankings were released this week and Lord

Botetourt is third behind 5-0 Magna Vista and 5-1 Christiansburg in Region 3D. Staunton River is seventh.

An added twist to this week's game is the fact that LB can even the school's all-time record with a win. The Cavaliers have 329 wins and 330 losses since the school's first football game in September of 1959.

Give credit to coach Jamie Harless and his staff for the chance to even things up. When Harless took over in 2012, the all-time record was 218 wins and 299 losses, 81 wins under .500. In Jamie's 11 years and five games the Cavaliers are 111-31.

Cavaliers win 'Battle at Bryd'

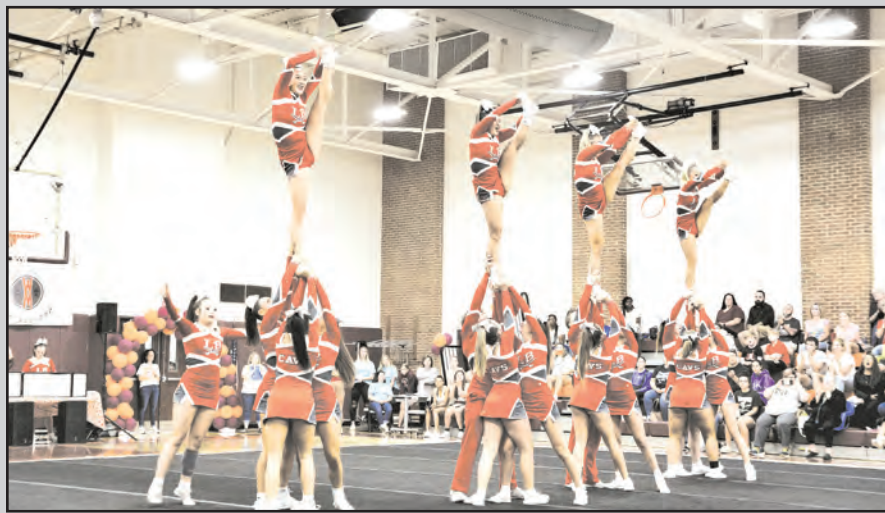


PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Lord Botetourt cheerleaders took first place among 10 3A/4A teams in the "Battle at Byrd" cheer competition last Saturday. The Cavaliers had the highest score out of all 19 teams in the competition, as Graham won the 1A/2A division and William Fleming won the 5A/6A division. The girls will be back in action this Saturday at Glenvar.

LB Volleyball

from page 11

and Abingdon but beat Tunstall in two. In both losses LB dropped the third and deciding set by a 15-13 score.

"We did some things very well," said Conner. "We struggled finishing a close match against Christiansburg and Abingdon."

On Monday of this week the Cavs were right back on the floor to host Liberty Christian Academy and LB came from behind to win a marathon match. The Bulldogs won the first two sets, 25-21 and 25-17, but the Cavaliers evened the score in the next two, winning 25-22 and 25-20. LB then won the deciding set, 15-12.

"We started out flat against LCA but turned things around in the third set and were able to get the win in the fifth," said Conner. "I was proud of the girls for hanging in there and playing through our struggles, and how they were able to step up and finish each set."

Huddleston was match-high with 19 kills while Rice had 10 kills and five blocks. Morris had 35 assists and 15 digs, Harvey had 19 digs and Gergely had 17 digs and four kills.

After tonight's match with Byrd the Cavaliers are off until Tuesday, October 10, when they host Staunton River.