

The FINCASTLE HERALD

& Botetourt County News

www.fincastleherald.com



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Stable Hill – home of Kathy and Terry Austin will be a part of this year’s Buchanan Christmas Home Tour.



The Home of Kathy Witkowski and Chris Carr

Four homes will open for Buchanan Christmas Home Tour

The Town Improvement Society of Buchanan will hold its annual Christmas Home Tour on Sunday, December 10 from 1 to 5 p.m. Four homes in the Buchanan area, decorated for Christmas, will be open to the public. Visitors may end their tour with holiday refreshments at the historic Community House in Buchanan. Tickets are \$20 per person and are available at any home on the tour or in advance at Austin Electrical Construction, 17566 Main Street, Buchanan.

Homes on the tour are:

Stable Hill – Kathy and Terry Austin

17215 Lee Highway, Buchanan
The Georgian Colonial home was built in 2009 with 15 rooms and is certified energy efficient, built to Earth Craft standards. Visitors will, in particular, notice the unique crocheted mahogany kitchen cabinets and stone fireplaces. A New Market corner cabinet graces the home’s interior and was built for the Stevens family in 1780 and to this day is

owned by direct descendants of the original owner. Among the beautiful Christmas decorations is an antique sled that was purchased by Delegate Terry Austin. The home is situated on 100 acres. During Hunter’s Raid in the Civil War, soldiers stabled their horses in the depression near the creek. That is how the property came to be known as “Stable Hill.” Townspeople gathered there to hide their silver and possessions in caves on the property to keep soldiers from pilfering their possessions.

See Home Tour, page 8



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TOWN IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY OF BUCHANAN
The Home of Juanita and Steve Grigg



PHOTOS BY MATT DE SIMONE

Caroline and Donald Naysmith have worked on the restorations of the Old Jail in Fincastle over the last year. Here, a look inside the new first floor gift shop that opened last Saturday.

Old Jail gift shop now open

Matt de Simone

mattdesimone
@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Old Jail in Fincastle has detained a gift shop with a selection of items for shoppers to enjoy.

Caroline and Donald Naysmith have spent the last year restoring the historic jail built in 1897. The first floor has been revitalized into a gift shop that includes hand-made, limited edition mugs,

spa items, greeting cards, and ornaments and other items for the upcoming holiday season. The focus of the upstairs portion of the jail is currently being decided. The Naysmiths have talked with the county about using the upstairs as a museum and a possible escape room, according to Donald.

Initially, the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors approved the location for a museum/

bed and breakfast earlier this year. The county voted to moved forward with the revitalization of the historic jail, featuring a possible museum on the upper levels and a gift shop downstairs. Fincastle Town Council approved the rezoning of a portion of the Old Jail property owned by Botetourt County from “Public” to “Commercial” during its

See Gift Shop, page 8

Christmas events on the way to Botetourt, Fincastle parade this Saturday

The holiday season is here and Botetourt County will see several upcoming Christmas events.

Fincastle

To kick the Christmas season off, an arrangement of illuminated trees will line the streets of Fincastle as the Botetourt Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Tinsel Trail at Courthouse Square. Guests are invited to experience the magic of beautifully decorated trees, specially designed by local businesses and organizations. Step back in time and walk the Tinsel Trail to view the beauty of

the trees highlighting the evening in this historic setting. Opening night is this Friday, Dec. 1, and will include extra festivities during the evening. The decorated trees remain on display throughout the month of December. Guests may take self-guided tours throughout the month. Admission is free.

On Saturday, Fincastle hosts the annual Christmas Parade at 2 p.m. The parade route begins at Breckinridge Elementary, and proceeds up Hancock to Back Street.

See Events, page 8

‘A Christmas Carol’ is Attic’s holiday production

Attic Productions has announced its holiday production, an adaptation of Charles Dickens’ classic story, “A Christmas Carol” by Doris Baizley. This show will be presented at Attic’s D. Geraldine Lawson Performing Arts Center, 7490 Roanoke Road, Fincastle, December 7-10 and



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF ATTIC PRODUCTIONS

14-17. Thursday and Friday shows begin at 7:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday matinees begin at 2:30

Join this talented group of actors as they present

this inventive adaptation of the classic Dickens story. As a company of traveling actors, they must improvise with limited

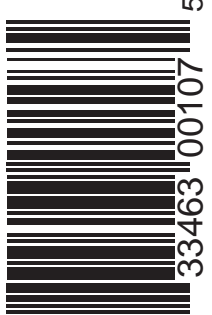
See Attic, page 8

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**Minimum deposit to open is \$2,500. Interest is paid and compounded quarterly. There is a penalty for early withdrawal. Early withdrawal fees could reduce earnings. Eligible for consumer, nonprofit and commercial customers.

Botetourt County History



PHOTO COURTESY OF BCMHC

Having punch and punch cups like these were important when entertaining family and friends in the past. They are also popular today. Peggy Bolton Wise donated 12 of these cut glass punch cups to the Botetourt Museum of History and Culture. They belonged to Pearl Bowyer Stevens, who was the longtime secretary of Fincastle Baptist Church when it was on Main Street in Fincastle. Her son, Garland Stevens, was the curator of the Botetourt County Museum for many years when it was located behind the Botetourt Courthouse.

- Botetourt County Museum of History & Culture



Santa

Santa Noel is
NOW BOOKING
for private home visits and
commercial appearances.

www.HighlandSanta.com
540-520-5898

Photos with Santa Claus coming to Limestone Park



The 2023 Sirens & Salutes Fallen Heroes tree shown here during the 2023 "Fashions for Evergreens" at Hotel Roanoke.

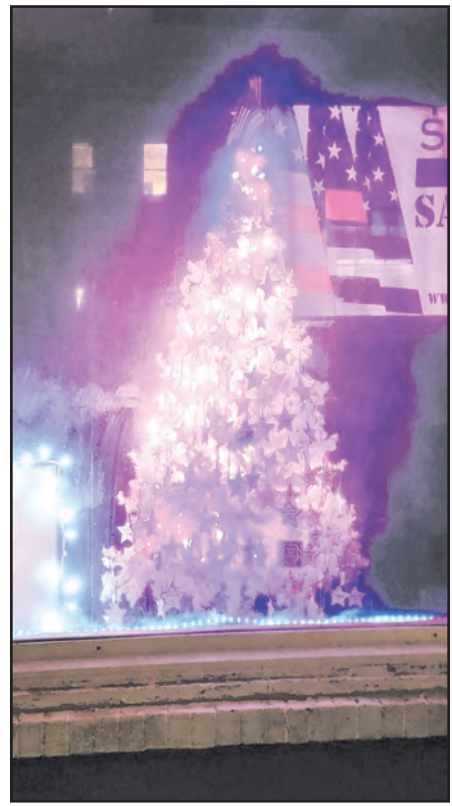
Matt de Simone

mattdesimone@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Sirens & Salutes, a local non-profit organization that performs community services to veterans and emergency workers in the area, will hold Christmas photos with Santa at Limestone Park in Buchanan this Friday and Saturday (Dec. 1 and 2) and next Friday and Saturday (Dec. 8 and 9). Visitors can come by and visit with Santa, pose for a picture, and support the organization's ongoing holiday season efforts for the community.

On Saturday, Dec. 2, at 10 a.m. the organization and community volunteers will place wreaths on veterans' graves in Fairview Cemetery in Buchanan and doing the same on the following day, Sunday, Dec. 3., at 10 a.m. at Mill Creek, Troutville, Daleville, and Trinity cemeteries.

The Sirens & Salutes Fallen Heroes Christmas tree was erected at Hotel Roanoke on Nov. 19 during the hotel's annual "Fashions for Evergreens" tree display. Fashions for Evergreens is free



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SIRENS & SALUTES

Sirens & Salutes Fallen Heroes tree located at the Buchanan Volunteer Fire Department.

and open to the public. The event runs from Thanksgiving morning to New Year's Day. While the hotel is a 24-hour facility and trees may be visited at any time, the hotel suggests the best hours to view the display is from 8 a.m.-9 p.m. This year, more than 25 organizations and businesses will compete for the People's Choice award through voting following a self-guided tour. Hotel Roanoke is located downtown at 110 Shenandoah Avenue.

This year's tree honors over 200 rescue workers, law enforcement officers, and veterans with each colored star representing different heroes: 68 red stars (rescue), 94 blue stars (police), 24 K9 "paw print" stars, 39 9/11 stars, and 23 tan stars (military).

An additional Fallen Heroes tree is located this holiday season inside the Buchanan Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad headquarters on Main Street.

For more information about Sirens & Salutes, visit www.sirensandsalutes.org or the Facebook page, www.facebook.com/Sirensandsalutes.

Christmas Open House

**Sunday, December 3rd
2:00 - 6:00 pm**

*Enjoy an Evening of shopping and
Save Big on Your Entire Purchase!*



25%
off

YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE*

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Measure Twice. Shop Once.



Botetourt Historic Preservation program proves to be a huge success

The Botetourt County Citizen Commission for Preservation of Historical Properties (BCCC) held its first local history forum and discussion on Wednesday, November 14, at the Greenfield Administration Center. The purpose of the event was to inform the public of the BCCC's mission in the preservation of historically significant properties in Botetourt County and to discuss various aspects of Botetourt's history. There were approximately 40 people in attendance.

The BCCC was formed by the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors. The commission's mission is to assist in identifying, prioritizing, and facilitating the preservation of historically important properties and sites throughout Botetourt County.

John Williamson served as the master of ceremonies for the evening. Discussion topics included:

- A presentation from Commission Chair Steve Clinton who talked about the origins and organization of the BCCC.

- Sarah Rodgers spoke about Botetourt County Libraries' role as the center for information about historic preservation.

- The Rev. Robert McRae provided insight into the history and development of Botetourt's churches.

- Malfourd "Bo" Trumbo talked about the role of Looney's Ferry in the westward migration and the effect that several devastating building fires during the 19th and 20th centuries had on Botetourt's economic development.

- Ed McCoy spoke on the county's 250th anniversary publication titled "Chronicles of Botetourt" and about the Historic Greenfield Preservation Council's new book about the Greenfield Plantation.

McCoy and McRae are local authors whose books were available for purchase during the event. The books can also be purchased at the Botetourt County Historical Society and Museum located at 26 East Main Street in Fincastle.

The program was well received, prompting commission members to begin



PHOTO COURTESY OF BCCC

planning for another event of this kind in 2024. More information about the BCCC is available at www.botetourtva.gov/BCCC or at the Fincastle Library at (540) 928-2700.

- Fincastle Herald staff report

BOTETOURT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP
Holiday Meeting

DEC 6 110 AM
FINCASTLE LIBRARY MEETING ROOM

Guest Speakers
from Natural Bridge State Park

PHOTO COURTESY OF BCCC

Botetourt Community Partnership holiday meeting December 6

The Botetourt Community Partnership will hold its holiday meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 6, in the Fincastle Library Meeting Room. Guest speakers from Natural Bridge State Park will serve as the meeting's guest speakers updating attendees on improvements to the park and their upcoming event schedule. Guests will also have a chance to share news about their respective groups and/or agencies. Light refreshments will be served.

- Fincastle Herald staff report

Botetourt Retired Educators will meet December 11

The Botetourt Retired Educators will meet on Monday, December 11, at the Catawba Masonic Lodge at 14 Academy Street in Fincastle. It is located directly beside the Family Life Center of Fincastle United Methodist Church. The group had originally planned to meet at the church, but there is a heating problem at the Family Life Center. The

women of the church will be preparing the meal at a cost of \$17 per person. Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m. with the meeting starting at 11. If you are planning to eat, please let Susan Martin (540-473-2636 or susanmartin730@gmail.com) know by Sunday, December 3.

All retired educators living in the area are welcome to attend.

Dues (\$35) may be paid at any meeting. This meeting will be the final one for collecting scholarship money for the 2023 scholarships. Members will be celebrating the holiday with music by students from the Botetourt Music Academy. New members are always welcome.

- Botetourt Retired Educators

Rotary Club donates to LAP Shelter

The League For Animal Protection Shelter Director Pat Shaver (left) is pictured accepting a check for \$1,500 from Anita Aaron, president of the Botetourt County Rotary Club. The funds will be used to care for the medical needs and food for the shelter cats and dogs. The LAP is very grateful for the Rotary's support, Shaver said.

- Botetourt Rotary Club



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAP

LAND TRANSFERS

The following land transfers were recorded in the Botetourt County Courthouse in October. The names of only one seller and one buyer are listed; others may be involved in the transaction.

- Tracey Lynn Adkins to Tracey Lynn Adkins, lot, Steeplechase, \$0
- Robert Tyrone Anderson to Jordana Marie Anderson, lot, Rainbow Estates, \$0
- James L. Armstrong to Mitchell Adam Spalding, lot, Highland Manor, \$600,000
- Steven L. Barger, executor, to Peggy Bolton, lot, Knollwood, \$245,000
- Botetourt County, Virginia to Botetourt County Economic Development, 7.838 acres, gift deed
- Frances Suzann Bowman to Gregory Scott Bowman, 3.2606 acres, gift deed
- Douglas E. Braford, trustee, to Douglas E. Braford, 41.21 acres, gift deed
- Beverly K. Bryson to Beverly K. Bryson, lot, 2.35 acres, Shawnee Village, \$0
- Beverly K. Bryson to Stephen W. Hansen, 2.35 acres, Shawnee Village, \$185,000
- C&S Witt Creations LLC to My Big Why LLC, lot, \$150,000
- C&D Properties LLC to 686 Lee Hwy LLC, 1.564 acres and 1.146 acres, \$1,150,000
- Robert L. Cash Jr. to Michael L. Christie, 1.82 acres, \$7,500
- Allen Lee Cook to Allen Lee Cook, lot, Peachtree Valley, \$200,000
- Clinton L. Cook to Thomas W. Crowe Jr., two parcels, \$320,000
- Countryside Land Company to Roost Building Company Inc., 1.544 acres and 1.286 acres, \$140,000
- Bobbie S. Crawford to Nathan Jackson Perry, lot, Tinkerview Gardens, \$342,000
- Daleville College Partners LLC to DCA Partners LLC, 3.996 acres, \$2,075,000
- Nathan Joseph Dluzniewski to Marc Migliorini, 9 acres, \$310,000
- Thomas L. Duffy to Samuel Keith Fitzwater Jr., 1.577 acres, \$80,000
- Gregory S. Emerson to Phillip Shannon Turner, lot, Heatherstone, \$475,000
- Equity Trustees to L.W. Roth, trustee, 1.250 acres, \$225,000
- Michael E. Felton to William J. Epperly, lot, Clearview Estates, \$460,000
- William T. Fitzgerald to Peter Todoroff, lot, Knollwood, \$285,000
- David L. Gibson Jr. to Anna M. Gibson, lot, gift deed
- Jessica Foster Graham to Angelina D. Goad, 1.290 acres, \$174,500
- Timothy Green to Joshua L. Neighbors, 1.98 acres, except 0.894 acres, \$304,000
- Dwayne Hale to Kimberly S. Butler, lot, \$159,950
- Kyle Handspiker to Thomas Kivlan II, 2 lots, Updike Addition, \$245,000
- Stephanie Scotia Houck to Grant H. Anderson, 5.11 acres, \$283,000
- Franklin D. House Jr. to Kevin Ryan Nicely, unit, Tinkerview Townhouses, \$120,000
- Anne H. Huffman to Linda Stone Lacy, lot, Cedar Ridge, \$519,000
- Hungate-Fields LLC to Roger D. Cox, lot, The Preserve at Ashley, \$90,000
- Hungate-Fields LLC to Lawrence D. Coulston Jr., lot, The Preserve at Ashley, \$90,000
- John Paul Hurd Jr. to Kenneth Brian McCleskey, 11.300 acres, \$95,000
- Gilbert John Kenner to Willie M. Wood Jr., 2.288 acres, \$40,000
- George Russell King Jr. to Michael Lubosch, 2.107 acres, \$550,000
- Randall Stuart Kingery to Samuel Gilliam, parcel, \$210,000
- Eric P. Klotz to Emily D. Griffith, lot, Steeplechase, \$660,000
- Bettie Heck Looney to Bettie Heck Looney, 2.025 acres, gift deed
- Moises Z. Martinez to Erma Louise Williamson, 0.615 acres, gift deed
- Thomas E. McAdams Jr. to Marty Coleman Sr., lot, Keswick Farms,

- \$300,000
- Helen L. McMahon to Robert James McMahon, lot, Troutville Townhomes, gift deed
- Theresa M. Oakley to James Christian Brooke, 1.22 acres, gift deed
- Renee Y. Parker to Aaron M. Musselwhite, lot, Clearview Estates, \$489,900
- Nelda R. Powell to Ali Naji Whorley, lot, Botetourt Forest, \$255,000
- John K. Prillaman, special commissioner, to David Haskins, eight parcels, \$850,000
- Bryant Adam Self to 4514 Hammond Land LLC, unit, Tinkerview Townhouse, gift deed
- Sammy G. Shorter to Franz-Josef Wesner, 20 acres, \$189,500
- Mitchell A. Spalding to Stephan Andres Ball, lot, Rainbow Forest, \$330,000
- Donald E. Stafford Jr. to Steven A. Sturgill, two parcels, \$642,000
- Lois B. Thurston to Andrew Thomas Thurston, 14.744 acres, gift deed
- Ashok Tiwari to Dream Homes Properties LLC, lot, Orchards of Ashley, \$0
- Patricia S. Trees to Patricia S. Trees, two parcels, gift deed
- US Bank Trust to Ashley L. Metz, lot, one-half of lot, \$146,500
- Armando Ellsworth Villagomez to James Kyle Bryant, 3 acres, \$255,000
- Virginia Motor Lodges to JCKP LLC, 6.188 acres, \$3,250,000
- Debbie B. Williams to George Christopher Moore Jr., 16.889 acres, \$80,000
- James R. Williams to Tyler J. Burns, lot, Woodridge Estates, \$620,000
- Linda A. Woodruff, trustee, to Taylor Bryan Adkins, lot, Ashley Plantation, \$85,000

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Boothe is Fincastle Christmas Parade grand marshal

Fincastle Christmas Parade will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday with many floats, James River High School Band, Lord Botetourt High School Band and many walkers. This year's grand marshal is Joan Boothe. She worked as an executive

secretary for the Town of Fincastle for 30 years. Joan was an excellent worker and would help all who came to the Town Office. Joan is married to John Booth and they have one son, Greg, daughter-in-law, Amber, and granddaughter, Nicole. Come to the parade to honor Joan Boothe and enjoy the parade and the Christmas lights. This is the beginning of Fincastle Christmas season.
Paige Ware, Fincastle Christmas Parade Committee

Shop Botetourt receives Virginia Tourism Corporation Grant for tourism marketing



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SHOP BOTETOURT

Shop Botetourt received a \$1,600 grant from the Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC)'s Microbusiness Marketing Leverage Program (MMLP) for its "Experience Botetourt" marketing campaign. Shop Botetourt partnered with other local businesses to supply matching funds for the "Experience Botetourt" project. It is a unique marketing program that invites visitors to immerse themselves in the charm of Botetourt County during holiday and shoulder seasons.

Virginia Tourism Corporation awarded more than \$757,000 to 131 marketing programs, ultimately impacting 655 combined partners, and supporting more than 1,300 jobs across the state to help increase off-season visitation to tourism businesses and destinations. "We are so grateful to have Shop Botetourt here in the county working to help promote small businesses! Their work goes above and beyond," said Candace Monaghan, owner of Gracely Hill and founder of the Beaver Dam

Farm Sunflower Festival. "Brandy, with Shop Botetourt, helps spread the word about upcoming events, new business openings, business specials, and more. Shop Botetourt is truly a blessing and so helpful in making small businesses in Botetourt a success!" "Right here in Botetourt County, we value our small businesses, and we see this grant program as a means to boost tourism while supporting our local retailers," said Tiffany Bradbury, Director of Communications for Botetourt County. "Shop Botetourt is a gem in our community, and we are very proud of them for all that they do to highlight and promote our small businesses."



UPCOMING LIBRARY EVENTS

Did you know...?

All library branches offer curbside pickup services for your convenience! Need to pick up some books and movies but don't want to get out of the car? (It's cold outside, you have COVID, sprained ankle, restless kids in tow, in a hurry, wearing your pajamas...) Call the library from your vehicle when you arrive, or call ahead with an ETA, and we'll bring your stuff out to you!

Tree Lighting

Mon, Dec. 4, 6-7:30pm, Fincastle
Tue, Dec. 5, 6-7:30pm, Blue Ridge
Celebrate the season with friends and neighbors over hot cocoa, children's crafts and other activities. Enjoy live holiday music and a special tree lighting.

Cookie & Recipe Exchange

Wed, Dec. 6, 12pm, Buchanan
Bake your favorite holiday cookies and bring the cookies and recipe to swap or donate to a local food pantry.

Music & Cookies in the Library

Sat, Dec. 2, 11am, Fincastle
Sat, Dec. 9, 11am, Buchanan
Mon, Dec. 11, 3pm, Eagle Rock
Wed, Dec. 13, 10am, Blue Ridge
Enjoy holiday music and Dec.orate cookies.

Iron Furnaces of Botetourt

Tue, Dec. 5, 11am, Buchanan
Wed, Dec. 6, 1pm, Eagle Rock
Thu, Dec. 7, 6:30pm, Blue Ridge
Tue, Dec. 12, 4pm, Fincastle
Join Ed McCoy to learn about the iron furnaces built to process ore from

the late 1700s into the early 1900s, how they contributed to Botetourt's development, and where they are today.

Preparing for Aging Parents

Thu, Nov. 30, 6-7pm, Blue Ridge
Learn how to navigate eldercare with confidence, including legal, finance, health, medical, living arrangements, communication, needs, and community resources and support. Presented by Josh Walton of Valley Medicare Solutions.

Eclectic Readers

Thu, Nov. 30, 11am-12pm, Eagle Rock - "Beloved" by Toni Morrison
Thu, Nov. 30, 1-2pm, Blue Ridge - "The Measure" by Nikki Erlick
Thu, Dec. 7, 6:30-7:30pm, Fincastle - "The Invisible Life of Addie Larue" by V.E. Schwab
Wed, Dec. 13, 10:30-11:30am, Fincastle - "The Thirteenth Tale" by Diane Setterfield

Little Explorers

Tuesdays 10:30-11:30am, Fincastle
Toddlers explore the world around them through educational and soft play toys while parents and caregivers get grown-up social time.

Youth Chess Club

Tuesdays, 4-5:30pm, Eagle Rock
Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30pm, Blue Ridge
Learn the basics of chess while expanding your critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. Offered in partnership with Botetourt County Parks & Recreation. Call 540-928-2900 to register.

Find even more events at BOCOLibraries.info.

League for Animal Protection's Waif of the Week

Meet Sparky

Sparky is a fun-loving kitty looking for the perfect forever home. He is neutered and up to date on recommended vaccines for his age, 6 months. He is felv/fiv negative.



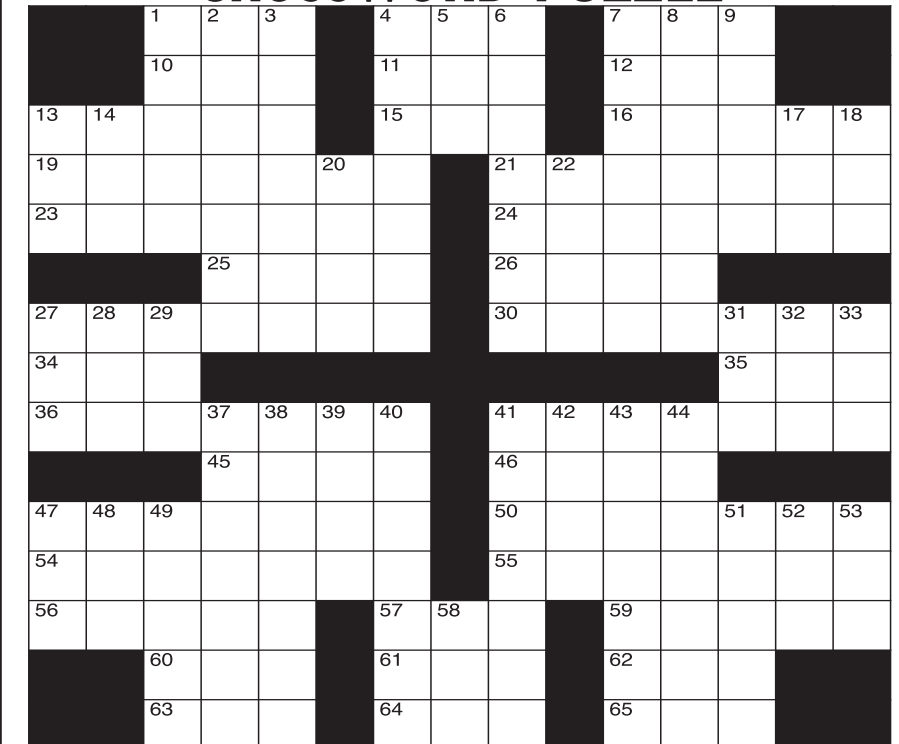
The LAP Shelter is open from 8-11 and 3-5; 540-473-3853. Send donations to LAP, P.O. Box 561, Fincastle, 24090.

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 - Solid water
 - A way to work the soil
 - Inspiring
 - Pick up
 - It wakes you up
 - Parcel
 - Popular dog breed
 - Lets out a sigh
 - Embedded into the surface
 - Hard liquors
 - One from Scotland
 - Satisfy
 - Used to introduce a contrasting statement
 - Antidepressant drug type (abbr.)
 - Similar
 - Winged horse
 - Soft drink maker
 - One who doesn't live up to expectations
 - Nursemaid
 - Inherit
 - Hot, often dusty wind
 - Serves as an introduction
 - Earned top billing
 - Mansion
 - A partner to a carrot
 - War-horse
 - Midway between northeast and east
 - It checks the heartbeat
 - Aquatic salamander
 - CNN's founder
 - Being precisely suitable and right
 - Strongly alkaline solution
- CLUES DOWN**
- Pinchle trick
 - A system of connections
 - Emblems of royalty
 - Work with a soft hand
 - Plant cultivated in Peru
 - A timid man
 - Lacking intellectual depth
 - A way to order
 - Intoxicating
 - Surfers use it
 - Small Eurasian deer
 - Popular Miller beer
 - Finds out about
 - Unusual
 - Small European viper
 - Indicates before
 - Birth swine
 31. 7
 - Useful keyboard key
 - Letter of the Greek alphabet
 - Edible mollusk
 - Stitched up
 - Utilized
 - ___ in tradition
 - A way to get through
 - Let off
 - Fashionable source of shade
 - In due time
 - Printing speed
 - A major division of geological time
 - Nocturnal, cat-like mammal
 - ___ de la ___
 - After B
 - Unusual
 - Former money of the EU

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Phone: (540) 473-2741
Fax: (540) 473-2742
E-mail: fincastle@mainstreetnewspapers.com
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MATT de SIMONE.....Editor
MICHAEL SHOWELL
Group Publisher
AILA BOYD
Executive Editor
CHRISTINE JOURNELL
Circulation & Marketing Manager
JAMES "TUCKER" FRYEAdvertising
BRIAN HOFFMAN Sports Editor
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The Polar Express

Thursday, Nov. 30
7 p.m.

The Marvels

(2023) Carol Danvers gets her powers entangled with those of Kamala Khan and Monica Rambeau, forcing them to work together to save the universe.
(1 hr 45 min)

Friday & Saturday
Dec. 1 & 2
7 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 3
3 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 7
7 p.m.

Purchase gift certificates at the concession stand.

www.FincastleHerald.com

UDC honors Benjamin D. Kessler



PHOTO COURTESY OF FINCASTLE CHAPTER 797 OF UDAC

Fincastle Chapter 797 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy held an Iron Cross Dedication on October 21 at Lithia Baptist Cemetery. The chapter was honoring Pvt. Benjamin D. Kessler, Co. C ,20th VA (Heavy Artillery) Infantry. Chapter President Harriett Francis read the dedication. Helen Camper read a tribute for Pvt. Kessler, her great-great-grandfather. Chapter members and guests placed floral tributes on the grave. Pictured from left are Jean C. Taylor, President Harriett Francis, and Helen Camper.

- Fincastle Chapter 797 of UDAC



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT DAR

Botetourt DAR members visit veterans

The Botetourt County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) celebrated Veterans Day with a meeting at 11 a.m. on November 11 at The Glebe. After their meeting, they greeted veterans who live there.

Members wrote thank you for your service cards to the veterans who are residents and set up a table with veterans' buttons and patriotic candies which they gave out to those who stopped by. Some of the veterans shared their stories of their time in the service with the ladies at the table.

The Glebe had also set up tables for these veterans to display their mementos from their time in the service.

DAR members and chapters support the men and women who have served in the armed forces, both abroad and at

home.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is a women's service organization whose members can trace their lineage to an individual who contributed to securing American independence during the Revolutionary War. Today's DAR is dynamic and diverse, with over 185,000 members in 3,000 chapters in the United States and abroad. DAR members annually provide millions of hours of volunteer service to their local communities across the country and world. DAR chapters participate in projects to promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism. Over one million members have joined the organization since its founding in 1890.

- Botetourt County DAR



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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 McClucas, 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.

Springside Baptist Church - 88 Coppas 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 Ritchey. 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

NO LONGER A STRANGER

Read: Ephesians 1:1 through 3:21

Being a stranger in a new setting always causes a little anxiety. There are new faces and places. There are strange smells and sounds. There are new sights. The more foreign the land, the more intense these differences seem. Having a guide, someone who is familiar with the place and who can introduce us to new people, is very helpful.

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household (Ephesians 2:19).

At one time, we were all strangers to God's kingdom and to His promises. But in Christ, we find our way. He has "brought us near" when once we were "far off." It is through His blood that He has brought us into the Kingdom. Because of Him we are no longer strangers and foreigners, but we are fellow citizens in God's house.

Like a guide, Jesus is the one who has bought our passage and shown us the way. Because of Him, we can claim the status of being part of God's household.

Prayer Suggestion: Thank God for bringing you into His Kingdom.

Quicklook: Ephesians 2:11-22

director.

Mt. Bethel Church of the Brethren - 10603 Narrow Passage Rd., Eagle Rock. PO Box. 183 Eagle Rock, VA 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., NW Roanoke, 24019; office: 992-4385. Sunday Bible Study, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study, 6 p.m. Ladies class - Thursdays 10:00 a.m. Visit our new web page: daleridgechurchofchrist.net, it's updated each week from local, national and international sources with news of interest to Christians. Take a video tour of our facilities. Read articles taken from the word of God that apply to our lives today. View a new sermon each week. Dale Ridge is reaching out to the Roanoke/Botetourt area with the good news of Jesus Christ. Come join our plea to return to the Bible. We believe in the inspired Word of God

which is as relevant today as it was when it was written. We believe in the Holy Spirit is a gift, given to every Christian when we respond to the Gospel as taught in the context of Acts 2 and emphasized in verse 38. We believe Jesus is the only means of our salvation. (Acts 4:12) Is this your time to make a choice? (John 16:13) Have you been looking for a church family that's led by the Holy Spirit into all truth? (John 13:35) You will know we are His disciples by our love for one another. Follow the advice of Philip when he told Nathanael about Jesus in (John 1:46) "Come and See."

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>; teemwheatland@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.

CHURCH NEWS

Christmas Bazaar Saturday at Mill Creek

Mill Creek Baptist will be having the annual Christmas Bazaar this Saturday, December 2, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Breakfast and lunch will be available. There will be crafts, a white elephant sale, and baked goods. Visits with Santa and Santa's Workshop will be open from 10 a.m.- 12 p.m.

Buchanan Presbyterian nativity play, pastor's commissioning

Buchanan Presbyterian Church will celebrate the coming of Jesus with a nativity play on Sunday, December 3 at 11 a.m. and, later in the day, celebrate the commissioning of the pastor, the Rev. Donna Hopkins Britt, at 4 p.m. The community is invited to all services at Buchanan Presbyterian, 19559 Main Street in Buchanan.

Christmas Bazaar December 9 at Trinity UMC

United Women in Faith invites everyone to their Christmas Bazaar on December 9 from 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. in the Narthex of Trinity United Methodist Church at 19637 Main Street, Buchanan.

In addition to free hot chocolate, coffee and hot cider, a variety of home baked goods and items will be for sale.

A silent auction of specialty themed gift boxes will also be available for last-minute shopping. Winning bidders will be announced at 3 p.m. for purchase and pick up.

Cloverdale Thrift Store open Saturdays

Cloverdale Church of the Brethren Thrift Store has fall and winter clothes for the entire family, and lots of Christmas decorations and gifts. Sweaters are only \$1.50. The store is in need of women's tops and

children's clothes. The store is open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon.

Special services at Pleasant Hill Baptist

Pleasant Hill Baptist will also be hosting the Christmas Celebration and Nativity Service on Sunday, December 10 at 11 a.m. The children and youth will perform with the PHBC Choir and Handbell Choirs.

On Monday, December 18, PHBC will be hosting the FLOURISH Homeschool Christmas Concert at 6:30 p.m.

Pleasant Hill Baptist will be hosting a Christmas caroling event on Wednesday, December 20 as groups head out to local nursing homes to share some Christmas joy! Please meet at PHBC at 5:15 p.m.

Friday, December 22, the PreK and Elementary Children's Christmas Party will be held from 1-3 p.m. at PHBC. All are welcome to this fun event.

PHBC will be holding a Candlelight Christmas Eve Service on December 24 at 5 p.m. All are invited to these and any services at Pleasant Hill.

OBITUARIES

Merchant, JoAnn Beamer

JoAnn Beamer Merchant, 81, passed away on November 20, 2023, in Roanoke.

Fondly known as "JoJo" by her beloved grandchildren, JoAnn was a strong, caring fixture in their young lives. She may be best remembered as the owner and operator of JoAnn's School of Dance in the heart of Fincastle during the 1980s and 1990s. She influenced many young people during her time there.

JoAnn loved walking in the woods, where she enjoyed nature in all its forms, and was especially fond of trips to the beach, where she collected seashells and loved to watch the sunset.

She was a caring person who took care of everyone around her,

but especially those she loved. She was preceded in death by her husband, Gary D. Merchant; her father, James E. Beamer, Sr.; mother, Celia Cartwright Beamer; father-in-law, Walter Merchant; and mother-in-law, Lois Francis Merchant.

JoAnn is survived by her husband, Marion "Pete" Abbitt; brother, James E. Beamer, Jr.; daughter, Sheryl G. Merchant; son, Gary Jason Merchant (Brandy); and her grandchildren, Lyla A. Merchant and London J. Merchant.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to Mt. Moriah Cemetery, 4125 Blacksburg Road, Troutville, 24175.

Williamson, Marvin Eugene

Marvin Eugene (Gene) was baptized at and a member of Williamson, 87, of Troutville, Shepherd's Chapel Ministry.

passed away on Sunday, November 19, 2023. He was born in Roanoke on April 15, 1936 and lived most of his life in the Troutville area.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 66 years, Martha Horne Williamson. He was also preceded in death by his parents; Aaron and Dorothy Williamson; sister, Frances Molter; Joseph Williamson and Kenneth Williamson.

Gene held several jobs in his lifetime, including Lone Star Cement, Blue Ridge Transfer, and Pilot Trucking before becoming co-owner of Progress Construction. Later he owned and operated Dome Excavating until his retirement.

After his wife retired, they enjoyed several years of traveling and spending time with family. Gene also enjoyed gathering with his buddies for coffee at the Hardees in Troutville until his health no longer allowed him to do so. He



He is survived by his daughters; Pamela Williamson, Rita Wright, and Sheree Bishop and her husband Alan; grandchildren, Tony Wright and wife Summer, and Ashley Bishop; great-grandchildren, Autumn Wright and Winter Wright; sisters,

Linda Haymaker, Peggy Haynes, and Doris Shukla; brothers, Richard Williamson and Aaron Williamson, Jr.; and many nieces, nephews and in-laws.

A graveside service honoring Gene's life was held at 3 p.m. Saturday, November 25 at Mill Creek Cemetery, Fincastle. The family received friends 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Rader Funeral Home, Daleville, before the graveside service.

Online condolences may be made to Gene's family at www.rader-funeralhome.com/tributes/Marvin-Williamson.

Botetourt Town & Country Women's Club Holiday Market and Craft Fair

The Botetourt Town & Country Women's Club will have a Holiday Market and Craft Fair on December 2 at St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Daleville from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. There will be a variety of crafters and vendors, a silent auction and a lap quilt raffle. Food will be for sale by the Women of St. Mark's

United Methodist Church. For more information, contact either Grace Tesoro, 540-312-3665, Tesoro0527@yahoo.com, or Annette Shaw, 540-798-1182, annettecshaw@gmail.com.

- Botetourt Town & Country Women's Club

www.FincastleHerald.com

ARRESTS

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests November 17-24:

- John M. Pritchard, 57, of Roanoke, domestic assault, November 17
- Sherry M. Wray, 48, of Roanoke, domestic assault, November 17
- Lashawna J. Redd, 28, of Martinsville, forgery of a public record, November 17
- Kelli N. Bryant, 37, of Buchanan, domestic assault, November 16
- Laila I. McRoy, 22, of Elliston, child abuse, November 19
- Joe C. Hart, 29, of Roanoke, child abuse, November 19

- Cheryl L. Hart, 64, of Boone, N.C., contributing to the delinquency of a minor, obstruction of justice, November 19
- Ellie S. Matthews, 31, of Harrisonburg, drunk in public, November 21
- Kayli M. Williams, 29, of Salem, possession of Schedule drugs, possession of controlled paraphernalia, November 24
- Kenneth S. McNeil, 36, of Livingston, Texas, driving under the influence, refusing breath test, November 23
- Jeremy R. Conner, 44, of Blue Ridge, drunk in public, November 24

Shop

from page 4

strategic promotions. Its mission is to foster and cultivate a vibrant community where small businesses not only survive but thrive in today's dynamic market landscape.

"As part of our ongoing initiative, we

partner with local businesses to host signature events such as Vendors at the Vineyard and Botetourt Restaurant Week. This VTC grant award will allow us to broaden our marketing reach into metro areas and entice a larger

audience to 'Experience Botetourt' and all the charm that small businesses bring to our county," Monaghan said.

- Fincastle Herald staff report

Christmas Light Show at Appalachian Teen Challenge

Eastern Appalachian Teen Challenge is hosting a Christmas Drive-Thru Light Show to celebrate this special season. Everyone is invited to this festive musical light show located at 4281 Botetourt Road, Fincastle continuing every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 6 to 9 p.m. until Christmas Day.

- Appalachian Adult & Teen Challenge

Tuesday Morning Club prepares food baskets for Thanksgiving



PHOTO COURTESY OF TUESDAY MORNING CLUB

The Tuesday Morning Club met at Troutville Church of Brethren on November 19 with 13 members present. Ruby Taylor called the meeting to order. Barbara Harris was hostess and had devotions. Gale Webb won the hostess gift. Nancy Waddell read the minutes and Faye Kessler gave the treasurer's report. Members prepared three generous food baskets for three families as the November project. They also had food to donate to the food

bank at Troutville Baptist Church. The December project will also be food baskets for families. Nancy Goad and Pam Obenchain won game prizes. From left are: front, Nancy Waddell, Linda Harris, Dot Hillard, Faye Kessler, Barbara Harris, and Priscilla Hedrick; back, Cheryl Wood, Nancy Goad, Gale Webb, Ruby Taylor, Pam Obenchain, and Barrie Knox.

- Tuesday Morning Club

Holiday Craft Sale at Eagle Rock Library

The Eagle Rock Friends of the Library is sponsoring a Holiday Craft Sale on Saturday, December 2 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Eagle Rock Library. All are invited to attend and support local crafters.

- Friends of the Library

Volunteers distribute Thanksgiving dinners at Botetourt Food Pantry

Botetourt Food Pantry volunteers served 131 families and a total of 442 family members during the month of November. On Saturday, November 18, volunteers from the Virginia Western CCAP (Community College Assistance Program), Forest Grove Baptist Church, the Roman Catholic Church of the Transfiguration, and individuals joined together to distribute Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings. Area churches and organizations volunteer their time at the



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT FOOD PANTRY

Botetourt Food Pantry, year. housed at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Fincastle, throughout the

- Botetourt Food Pantry

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Brian Hoffman
Sports Editor

Morris is second team all-state in volleyball

Lord Botetourt junior Skylar Morris has been named to the Virginia High School League Class 3 all-state second team in volleyball. Morris, a setter for the Cavaliers, was named as a "player." All selections were named as "player" except for the libero position. Grafton senior outside hitter Alexis Keeter is the Class 3 Player of the Year, and Hidden Valley

head coach Haley Quesenberry is the Class 3 Coach of the Year. Quesenberry, named interim head coach before the district championship, led Hidden Valley to a 32-1 record in her first season with the Titans after serving as an assistant for the 2022 Class 2 state champion Glenvar team. After winning the Region 3D title, her Titans team won the school's third

state volleyball title with a 3-1 (25-19, 25-22, 25-27, 25-19) victory over Grafton in the finals. The all-state volleyball team consists of nine position players and one libero. Only those players selected to the all-region first-team are eligible for selection to the all-state team. The all-state selection committee comprises eight coaches, with two from each region.

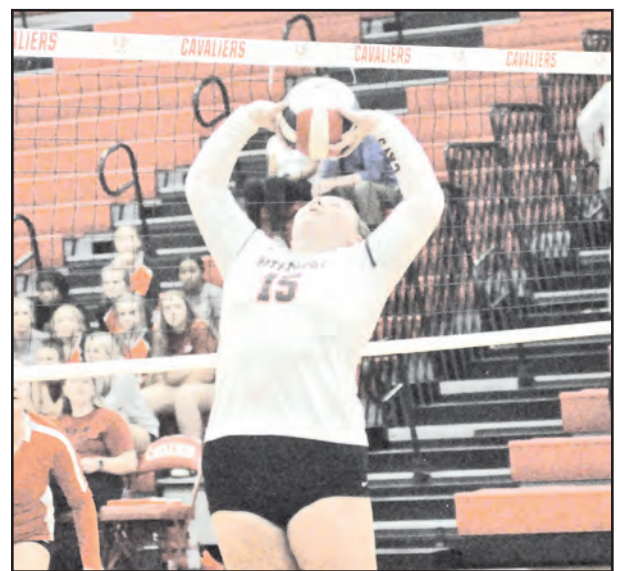


PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN
Skylar Morris of Lord Botetourt was named second team all-state in Class 3 volleyball.



JMU PHOTO
Miette Veldman will be playing for James Madison in the NCAA volleyball tournament this week.

Veldman is All-Sun Belt first team for NCAA-bound Dukes

James Madison volleyball outside hitter Miëtte Veldman and middle blocker Sophie Davis were among 12 players selected first-team All-Sun Belt. Veldman, a senior, is a graduate of Lord Botetourt High School. The duo has combined for 662 kills this season as both have climbed the career kills leaderboard for JMU. Davis recorded her 1,000th kill on

Sept. 9 in a win over New Hampshire, while Veldman reached 1,000 a week later in a loss to No. 8 Pitt. Currently, Veldman ranks seventh in school history with 1,233 kills, while Davis (1,231) is closely behind in eighth. For the second-straight season, Veldman has paced the Dukes in kills, as the senior finished with 358 kills in the regular season (3.58 per set). Her average

of 2.92 digs per set this season has also led to 11 double-doubles, including tying her career-high of 21 digs in the regular season finale against South Alabama on Nov. 10. Her career average of 3.94 kills per set is the second-most in school history. James Madison earned an at-large bid to the 2023 Division I Women's Volleyball Championship and will face Baylor in the opening round on

Thursday, Nov. 30 in Lexington, Ky., the NCAA selection committee announced Sunday evening. The matchup between the Dukes and Bears is set for 4:30 p.m. at Rupp Arena and will be streamed on ESPN+. The winner of JMU and Baylor will face the advancing team from No. 2 seed Kentucky and Wofford in the second round on Friday, Dec. 1 at 7 p.m.

Cavaliers open boys basketball season this week



FH FILE PHOTO
Blake Lovern returns for the LB basketball team.

The Lord Botetourt boys basketball team will have their home opener on Thursday when the Cavaliers host Alleghany. The Cavs were set to open Tuesday with a game at Blacksburg. LB returns junior Blake Lovern and seniors Evan Bannwart, Brayden Wells and Danny Kidd from last year's team that finished 14-11 and lost a thriller to Abingdon in the regional tournament. Sophomores Brady Kish and Landon Hayes are expected to add to the rotation after LB graduated point guard Jackson

Crawford, who is now playing at Emory & Henry, and three-point sharpshooter Tyler Meade. "Our guys are excited about the season and this year's team," said coach Andrew Hart. "It looks like we will have nine varsity players returning from last year's squad. They are ready to step-up into new roles this season and showcase the hard work they have put in during the off-season. We are hoping to play with maximum effort and challenge the best teams on our schedule."

River girls look to continue improvement on the court

The James River girls will be looking for continued improvement when the 2023-24 basketball season opens this week. The Knights were scheduled to open at home against Christiansburg on Tuesday with the home opener on Thursday against Bassett.

Two years ago coach Ryan Firebaugh took over a team that was winless the year prior. River won seven games in Firebaugh's inaugural season and last year they improved to 11-13. This year, anything but a winning season would be disappointing.

"We hope to have an improvement from last season when we were a game away from playing in the semifinals for the regional tournament," said Firebaugh. "With only losing two seniors off of last year's squad that is a reachable goal for us."

Among the returnees is junior forward Caitlin Canada, a first team all-region selection from a year ago.

"Caitlin has improved her game tremendously," said Firebaugh. "She's going to be a leader on this team. With



FH FILE PHOTO
Caitlin Canada was first team All-Region for the Knights.

her ability to play inside and out she is going to take advantage of a lot of mismatches."

This is still a young team, as Honesty Liming is the only senior on the team.

"Honesty will play in the post and has a really good post game," said Firebaugh. "Her strengths are rebounding and being able to take advantage of the one-on-one match-ups inside."

A strong sophomore class of returning varsity players includes forward Jalen Thompson, swing player Audrey Benson and guards Kiera

Crawford, Siera Davis and Kelsi Maydian. Sophomores Jenna Lynch and Ella Moran come up from the jayvee team.

"This group of sophomores got a lot of experiences as freshmen last year," said Firebaugh. "They're a year older with one year under their belt. Each and every one of them has improved their game from day one."

"We want to be competitive game in and game out this year. The girls and I are very excited for the upcoming season. They're ready to make some noise."

LB wrestlers open first season under Paul Craft

The Lord Botetourt wrestlers will open their first season under new coach Paul Craft with a quad match at Wilson Memorial High School this weekend. LB has some strong wrestlers

returning on a roster of close to 40 grapplers. Senior TJ Piluso will be at 165 after finishing second in the state

See LB Wrestling, page 12



FH FILE PHOTO
TJ Piluso was second in the state for LB last year.

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LB girls looking for big year on the basketball floor



Madilyn Winterton of LB is the returning District Player of the Year. FH FILE PHOTO

The Lord Botetourt girls have high hopes for the coming season as they return everyone from last year's team and add a few promising newcomers.

The Cavaliers were 19-9 last season and made it to the state semifinals before their season came to an end. This year, coach Renee Favaro is looking for two more wins at the end of the season.

"We have big goals for this season," she said. "We want to win championships and make a deep run in the state tournament this year."

The Cavs return last year's Blue Ridge District Player of the Year in Madilyn Winterton. Taylor Orange and Ainsley Anderson are BRD first team returners and 6'3" Gracie Huffard also returns and was a second-team selection. Junior Abby Kingery will provide LB with a spark on defense with her hustle and rebounding.

The Cavs also welcome back Grayson Alfano from an ACL injury. She missed last season and will fill a knockdown shooter role. Maddie Caron also joins LB as a new student

to give the Cavaliers size and depth inside.

LB was scheduled to open at Patrick Henry on Tuesday, followed by a trip to Jefferson Forest on Thursday. The home opener is Friday against Cave Spring.

"Our region is going to be pretty tough, but we have put together a strong non-district schedule to help plan for that," said Favaro. "We have a challenging early schedule, but we do think it will pay off come late February and March."

Knights open on the Parry McCluer mats this weekend

The James River wrestlers will open the winter season with the "Blues Invitational" at Parry McCluer High School this weekend. The event will be held Friday and Saturday.

River is short on numbers but long on talent with the season set to take the whistle. Coach Bobby Stewart is looking for several individuals to have big seasons.

"My coaching staff and I have low numbers of participation this year, but the team we have is very experienced," said Stewart. "We look for Xaiden (Wynn), Brayden (Forbes), and Nathan (Stewart) to each have a very successful year."

Wynn is a returning state champion who will be trying for back-to-back state

medals at 106. Forbes is a returning state fourth place finish with eyes on the top step and Stewart is a returnee who was a state runner-up in his freshman season. Coach Stewart hopes these three set the standard for a group of young hopefuls like freshmen Caiden Martin, Ryan Daniels, Efraim Echavarría, and Parker Helson.

"We hope the younger guys recognize what work it takes to achieve what these guys are," he said. "For my young guys and newbies, we are looking to teach them a few things to be successful with and really focus on building their confidence on the mat. It's tough to start wrestling in high school, so we have to expedite the process with these guys."



Xavier Wynn of River is looking for a second straight state championship. FH FILE PHOTO

LB Wrestling from page 11

last year, losing just three matches. Others who look to have a big year include junior Declan Sullivan, junior Camden Saunders, senior Gray Arnold, junior Cooper Roberts, senior Seth Williamson and senior Ben Gilbert. Craft was still putting the team together after the extended LB football season.

"The reality is that we've got a bunch of kids that are pretty solid up

and down the lineup and we just don't know what weight classes they'll end up at until we have the whole team together," he said.

Newcomers looking to make some noise include freshmen Jacob Spence and Kevin Gergely.

"We've got a bunch of freshmen and sophomores that are going to do well," said Craft. "It's just so early



Trey Taylor is one of the few with varsity experience for James River. FILE PHOTOS

James River boys basketball team will have new look

The James River boys basketball team has been a top area Class 2 team for years, but this season it will be like starting over.

The Knights graduated eight seniors from a team that was one win away from going to the state tournament last year. This year River has one player, Trey Taylor, who has played more than a handful of varsity minutes and only three total that have stepped on a varsity court.

"Trey Taylor and Matthew Alderson are our lone returning seniors," said coach Ethan Humphries. "We'll need tremendous leadership out of them. They both understand how we operate on a day-to-day basis, so they'll have to help our young guys navigate that journey."

"Some of our new guys, I haven't

had the opportunity to coach or evaluate this off-season so we'll have to figure things out quickly. We'll play essentially one-third of our season by December 11, so it'll be a race to find out how we can mature at the fastest rate possible. Time will be our most valuable commodity."

The Knights open tonight at Parry McCluer and this weekend they're in a Friday and Saturday tournament at Riverheads. The home opener is next Tuesday when River plays host to Parry McCluer.

"If we can finish every game mentally, physically, and emotionally exhausted we'll be in a good spot," said Humphries. "The first step is finding out who we are. If we play as hard and as selfless as I believe we can, it'll be hard not to like watching us."

Swim teams open at Christiansburg

The Lord Botetourt and James River swim teams will hit the water in competition for the first time this season on Saturday with an invitational at the Christiansburg Aquatic Center.

LB will be led by Layne Jones, who recently signed to swim at Liberty University next fall. Hanna Mizuba, Olivia Nicely and Sara Fredrickson also return and newcomers to watch include Maxton Mizuba and Julia Misicko.

"I am excited that this year we have enough boys to have a relay team," said

coach Ashley Safrit. "I am also looking forward to seeing how much we grow as a team this year. I think overall we will be a very strong unit."

River will have two senior boys, Walker Wilson and Ethan Smith, and one senior girl, Drew Whitson, on a roster of nine swimmers.

"My hopes for this year is that the swimmers continue to progress and reach their individual goals," said coach Yana Williams. "I'd like for the girls team to make it to states this year."

Local kids sing on the ice

Eagle Rock and Buchanan Elementary school kids combined to sing the national anthem at a recent Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs ice hockey game at the Berglund Center in Roanoke.



PHOTO BY JOHN WACHER

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