



Botetourt County officials gave their "State of the County" address last Thursday in Daleville. PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

## Historical Society receives \$5,000 from Lumos for digital preservation

In addition to an earlier announcement regarding grant funding that the Botetourt County Historical Society (BCHS) received, the BCHS has also announced that Lumos has agreed to provide an additional \$5,000 to aid in the digitization of its collection.

In its nearly 60 years, the Historical Society has not had the ability to digitize any of the many artifacts in its possession, which limits patrons' access to materials and serves as a hurdle towards long-term preservation. Now, thanks to the help of Lumos, the Society can begin the process of documenting its holdings.

"Over the last several years, we've collaborated closely with local officials in Botetourt County to empower residents and small businesses with accessible 100% fiber Internet," said David Smith, Chief Network Officer for Lumos. "Today, we're thrilled to enhance our support in the community

with a \$5,000 contribution to the Botetourt County Historical Society to help digitize its essential records. This contribution directly reflects our belief that the possibilities of tomorrow cannot be built on the infrastructure of yesterday."

Lynsey Crantz Allie, Executive Director for Botetourt County Historical Society, noted, "The Historical Society is thrilled to have the support of Lumos for this project. The county has such a vast history that encompasses so many families and so many states that needs to be more accessible. Digitizing our collection is going to take a lot of time, but it will definitely be worth it in the end!"

Botetourt County Historical Society is thankful to have Lumos as a partner in this endeavor to not only preserve Botetourt's rich history, but to also make it easily accessible for present and future generations.

- Submitted by BCHS

## Botetourt hears the 'State of the County'

Matt de Simone

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Botetourt County and community partners held their annual "State of the County" address last Thursday at the County Administration Offices in Daleville. The event covered the county's initiative reviews in 2023 and looking ahead the future of Botetourt in 2024 and beyond.

This year's address focused on "Getting to know BOCO," focusing

on the various departments within the county, highlighting their numerous achievements, providing insight, and noting their successful collaborations.

County Administrator Gary Larowe and Buchanan Supervisor and Board of Supervisors Vice Chair Amy White provided welcoming remarks. Larowe credited White for her work in organizing the 2024 address. He noted the "extra care" White took in helping put together

this year's event.

"The state of the county is very good," White said during her welcoming remarks. "I believe that in all of my heart... I didn't give us the highest mark because I think there are always times and things we can improve upon. After today's event you are going to see the commitment to that continuous improvement, and that's what I am

See **State of the County**, page 8

## 4-H and FFA Annual Youth Expo partners with '4-H Share-the-Fun Event'

The Botetourt County 4-H and FFA Alumni Association will sponsor the 9th annual 4-H and FFA Youth Expo at Lord Botetourt High School on February 16 from 5:30-8 p.m. The "4-H Share-the-Fun" will be held in the auditorium at 6:30 p.m.

The public is invited to attend the showcase and

tour exhibits from local members who are active in the Future Farmers of America (FFA) and 4-H youth groups. Activities include interacting with club members at display booths, seeing local livestock, an enormous silent auction and free hot dogs while they

See **Youth Expo**, page 8



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BOTETOURT CO.

## Botetourt County Libraries celebrate 'I Love to Read Month'

February is "I Love to Read Month," and Botetourt County Libraries have a host of activities planned to celebrate the joy of reading.

From February 5-17, stop by any library branch and take a chance on the library's Valentine's Day-themed "Blind Date with a Book." Select books will be wrapped so no one can see the title or cover, only a short teaser or hint. Unlike a real blind date, participants don't have to stick around reading it if they don't hit it off right away. But like blind dates, there's always the chance that someone will meet their new best friend (author, genre, etc.).

Many people make New Year's resolutions to

read more, and the Adult Reading Challenge is a great way to make those goals a reality. Adults 18+ commit to reading 12 books in 2024, tracking their progress with a special bookmark and/or through Beanstack, an app for tracking reading and participating in reading challenges. Readers may earn rewards, including a reading journal, coffee mug, flower seed bookmark, and tote bag.

Launching in February, the Teen Reading Society encourages tweens and teens to read more and share their reading interests and insights with each

See **Read**, page 8

**Annual 4H/FFA Youth Expo @ Lord Botetourt High School**

**Friday, February 16, 2024**  
**5:30 - 8:00 pm**  
**Silent Auction 5:30 - 7:30**

**Come see Displays of 4H and FFA student Activities**

**4H Share the Fun**  
**Live Animals on Display**  
**Free Hotdogs, Chips, Dessert and Water.**

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BETH LEFFEL

## Sunshine Girls make a Valentine's veteran visit

Low Moor native and World War II veteran John Willard Owens (center) recently received a visit from Sunshine Girls Lee Henry (left) and Susan Thomas. John will be celebrating his 102nd birthday in March. For more information about Sunshine Services in Botetourt County, visit botetourt-sunshineservices.com.

- Submitted by Lee Henry



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LEE HENRY  
**World War II veteran John Willard Owens**

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*Botetourt County History*



PHOTO COURTESY OF BCMHC

This photograph was taken in front of the Botetourt County Courthouse about 1950. It was donated to the Botetourt Museum of History and Culture by Marla Jean Johnson Jordan. Her parents ran several restaurants in Fincastle and built the structure where Heritage Market is now along Rt. 220.

Shown sitting on the stone wall is George W. Brown with the hat, boots and dog. He was known as the "man about town." Sitting next to him is Hyster Nelson. This photograph is upstairs where the history of the courthouse is showcased.

- Botetourt County Museum of History & Culture

Attic Productions presenting new play this weekend

Attic Productions will open a limited showing of "Roads to Home" by Horton Foote this weekend.

This stage play, directed by Linsee Lewis, will be presented at Attic's D. Geraldine Lawson Performing Arts Center, 7490 Roanoke Road, Fincastle, one weekend only, February 9, 10 and 11. The Friday evening show begins at 7:30, and Saturday and Sunday matinees begin at 2:30.

These three short plays are both tragic and comedic. Each act follows one of the



PHOTO COURTESY OF ATTIC PRODUCTIONS

Kerry Williams (left) as Annie Gayle Long refuses an invitation from Steve Aaron, playing Cecil Henry, in Act 3 "Spring Dance."

See **Attic**, page 3

Breckinridge celebrates Spelling Bee champion and 100th day of school



Congratulations to Breckinridge Elementary spelling bee champion Jaden Herring and the runner-up, Sadie May. Jaden will represent Breckinridge at the district spelling bee in February.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MARCY WOHLFORD

Breckinridge Elementary kindergarten classes celebrated the 100th Day of School on January 29 by dressing up as 100-year-old senior adults. Delilah Powell (left) and Westin Balthis demonstrate what they think they will look like at age 100.

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# MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLLS

Botetourt County middle schools have released the following honor rolls for the second nine-weeks:

## CENTRAL ACADEMY

### A HONOR ROLL

EIGHTH GRADE: Kennedy Agee, Katelyn Barrett, Cade Cook, Bella DiBenedetto, Grace Ferguson, Isabell Garrett, Kayla Henry, Barrett Pace, Paige Shotwell, Jeremy Tribble, Hailee Vassar, Jacey Walker, Sierra Ware, Holly Weddle

SEVENTH GRADE: Julianna Banka, Charlotte Brock, Mirai Burton, Cohen Byer, Brookelyn Fadia, Charlotte Hipes, Briana Huthwaite, Mary Lipas, Daniella Murray, Camden Newman, Braden Persinger, Siena Riddle, Laken Robinson, Caroline Rushing, Savanna Sieger, Coraline Sink, Isaac Theimer, Charlie Tingler, Carolena Williams

SIXTH GRADE: Camryn Adams, Landon Anderson, Levi Beale, Lillian Cress, Marinette Devinney, Sophie Dewhurst, Aubriella Dickerson, Mazi Elmore, Hannah Ferguson, Aspen Franklin, Avery Garcia, Aubrey Ginapp, Brett Henry, Raegan Hickey, Kaylen Hicks, Noah Horne, Allie Johnson, Addison Kelly, Wyatt Manbeck, Ethan Martin, Naima Minnis, Jasmine Montgomery, Cristie Morris, Evan Mundy, Gavin Price, Samuel Reynolds, Braelyn Scott, Kinley Scott, Bayleigh Sieger, Brady Stevens, Reagan Walker, Macy Weddle, Angela Williams

### A-B HONOR ROLL

EIGHTH GRADE: Kendall Aaron, Addison Bandy, Jayden Beale, Brooklyn Beckner, Carter Birkhead, Maggie Brewster, Katelyn Brown, Nicholas Bryant, William Bryant, Kinzley Bunn, Molly Dewhurst, Wyatt Dewhurst, Riley Dulaney, Jackson Durham, Janiya Falls, Spencer Fornecker, Isaiah Gordon, Pepper Henderson, Sariah Jamison, Elizabeth Johnson, Evan Joyce, Andrea Kreklow, Alexander Lakes, Kaycee Lemon, Katelyn Manspile, Emily Marshall, Mckenzie Marshall, Kenaya McKenzie, Brooklyn O'Quinn, Khloe Robinson, Whiteleigh Ronk, Reagan Rowland, Oscar Seitz, Ethan Serrano, Sonny Sharp, Adrienne Shenton, Houston Sieger, Brody Stewart, Lighthouse Tate, Cullen White, Payton White, Gracelynn Wolcott

SEVENTH GRADE: Easton Arnold, Adelynn Bankert, Layla Bryant, Cheyenne Byrd, Gavin Childs, Kendall Childs, Cora Clark, Garet Cook, Elijah Copeland, Madelyn Davidson, Dylan Davis, Adelyn Dooley, Memphis Duty, Olivia Elmore, Peyton Frazee, Zaylen Fridley, Logan Galanes, Trevor Gilmer, Briley Goyer, Madison Gray, William Hall, Harrison Hanna, Brody Helmandollar, Ava Hosey, Jarrett Jennings, Joel Laughridge, Brianna Link, Kinsley Matheny, Jordan Mathews, William McMeans, Kinley Millman, Andrew Monteith, Ashton Orange, Colton Payne, Brianna Petty, Paul Powell, Zoe Serrano, Addison Shorter, Emma Thurston, Ava Updike, Ashton Wertz, Chelsie Whitaker, Ashby Wilkes, Tobyann Windsor, Kendra Zepp

SIXTH GRADE: Haley Bailey, Brandon Baka-Collins, Ashlyn Bankert, Skylei Beard, James Beavers, Athena Bergman, Skyla-Alaire Blinco, Brody Britt, Shylo'Ve Capo, Carter Cecil, Emma Dalton, Blaine Dooley, Brooklyn Dooley, Lillian Dooley, Ridley Engstrom, Zander Flinchum, Camdyn Flint, Bentley Flores, Jaden Fralin, Andrew Gladfelter, William Gore, Laikyn Hughes, Everly Johnson, Reed Lowman, Garland Miller, David Moran, Dean Muncey, Luke Mundy, Jacob Partleton, Tristan Rae, Braelyn Rinehart, Brantley Ruley, Michela Rusgrove, Hudson Saunders, Alora Seitz, Thomas Taylor, Haylee Thompson, Ellah Torres, Brayden Turman, Melynda Turman, Tyler Vance, Jydan Wade, Diesel Weikle, Pyper White, Carter Whitmer

## READ MOUNTAIN

### A HONOR ROLL

EIGHTH GRADE: Maryn Barnes, Mason Boitnott, Cael Burton, Kennedy Carpenter, Rylee Crockett, Cinthya Diaz Villeda, Jonah Dunker, Wren Eggleston, Gwyneth Farrar, MaKenna Foster, Sara Foster, Lois Frederickson, Kristen Hale, Evie Hogan, Phoenix Humphries, Braylen Johnson, Avarie Kramzar, Warner Lewis, Jordan Lin, Ryan Lindsay, Wyatt Marion, Mackenzie Nichols, Renee Nunez Torres, Olivia Pierce, Anna Radtke, Lucille Rock, Eleanor Rosine, Mason Scott, Autumn Sparks, Mathew Staley, Tyler Staley, Sam Stelter, Jackson Taylor, Paphada Thepsimuang, Finn Wilkinson

SEVENTH GRADE: Jared Atwell, Alexander Barbour, James Blevins, Evelyn Bowden, Olivia Burger, Annalee Campbell, Emery Collins, Paityn Conley, Garrett Cooper, Brody Crigger, Jady Deaner, Lucas Dehr, Brody Doss, Callie Dozier, Lillian Foutz, Jayleen Galvao, Mason Gates, Brynn Gentry, Cambridge Gibson, Avery Goad, Evan Gordon, Oliver Greene, Peyton Guy, Lucas Higgins, Liam Hogan,

## Attic

from page 2

central characters from the 1920s small town of Harrison in central Texas. The plays begin with "A Nightingale," which introduces Mabel, her neighbor and friend Vonnie, and Annie, a young but troubled woman. Mabel and Vonnie return in "The Dearest of Friends," set several months later, and Vonnie is upset with her husband Eddie, whom she suspects is having an affair. "Spring Dance" takes place four years later, and Annie reappears with several new characters. As the plays progress, it is revealed that home is an ideal, and the road to it is a precious, elusive memory.

Adult tickets are \$20, students 18 and under and groups of 10 or more are \$15 when paid in cash or by check at the box office. A \$2 convenience fee per ticket will be added if paying with a card.

Tickets may be purchased on the Attic Productions website by visiting [www.atticproductions.info](http://www.atticproductions.info). For questions or assistance with purchasing tickets, call the box office at 540-473-1001. Volunteers are staffing the box office for this show on Wednesday from 3 to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Leave a message at other times and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

This show is produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service. Partial funding support comes from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

- Attic Productions

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Samantha Hoover, Ciera Jones, Kathryn Kidd, Porter Kincer, Noah McCarren, Titus Megow, Noah Nagle, Wyatt Nicely, Charlene Olivier, Marie Olivier, Michael Pastrikos, Noah Patterson, Ellie Persing, Gianna Pitzer, Elena Preston, Gabriel Puckett, Tenley Scharf, Madison Sealey, Landon Sharp, Ellie Shawn, Sean Stewart Jr, Madison Weppner, Jonathan Williamson, Gabriel Witt, Macyn Woody, James Yager, Bentley Young

SIXTH GRADE: Paige Abney, Klayton Akers, Mackenzie Akers, Annaleigh Aldridge, Michael Aliveto, Grayson Amos, Elijah Anderson, Sydney Bergsten, Austyn Borba, Colleen Burton, Claire Conn, Jackson Cummings, Brayden Deacon, Gabriella DeHaven, Noah Dillow, Jaxon Dively, Colbie Dix, Josiah Dunker, Gabrielle Elmore, Katelyn Engels, Joshua Frederickson, Thomas Frederickson, Hamilton Gallacher, Nathan Gergely, Bradley Gray, Millie Haniewich, Taylor Hatter, William Hedrick, Yan Hernandez-Mancia, Grace Hoover, Ian Huddleston, Everleigh Hudson, Kinley Huffman, Cayden Kroll, Jerrica Lee, Brock Lough, Everly Lucas, Emma Lugar, Cody McLucas, Adam McNamara, Willow Meyers, Braelyn Miley, Hadley Milko, Caitlyn Moser, Julia Mosley, Benjamin Myers, Wyatt Naff, Manav Nayak, John Pastrikos, Miles Patrick, Micah Perdue, Camden Persinger, Alisha Poudel, Cayden Ray, Jackson Rock, Fredy Solito Aleman, Isaac Spencer, Rebecca Stakor, Walker Stevens, Ella Stewart, Lukas Stowers, Emily Taylor, Addison Thompson, Malachi Tribble, Allison Vess, Cameron Vess, Ryan Waggoner, Laurel Wiley, Archer Wilkinson, Isaac Williams, Grace Witt, Levi Young, Toby Zhu

### A-B HONOR ROLL

EIGHTH GRADE: Christian Adams, Reese Adkins, Nicholas Antivero, Ever Benavidez, Olivia Bergsten, Kaylee Bradbury, Dalton Bradley, Annika Brown, Thomas Burns, Ella Carpenter, Chevy Carwile, Cole Cecil, Collin Clemons, Chloe Clowdis, Olivia Cook, Mya Cunningham, Robert Dent, Caleb Duncan, Noah Estes, Mia Etzler, Madelyn Fields, Cohen Folks, Ella Foutz, Alexis Garcia, Stummer Giffin, Kinley Graham, Evan Grant, Bryce Gumprecht, Khyler Hambrick-King, Zoey Harrell, Braeden Harvey, Reagan Helms, Holden Hooen, Chloe Hopkins, Jadeon Huffman, Bailey Hutchins, Christopher Johnson, Nevaeh Jones, Davis Kidd, Hailey Knick, James Lane, Archer Lee, Sadaf Lemar, Brennan Lewis, Hannah Lewis, Isabelle Lucas, Cristofer Martinez-Rodriguez, Thomas Mattarocchia, Madeline May, Sharise McGowan, Samuel McLucas, Hannah McNamara, Emerson Meador, Nicholas Morris, Nathan Moser, Natalie Mullins, Christopher Myers, Addison Naff, Mathias Newton, Amelia Nicely, Brielle Nunley, Georgiana O'Bryan, Gabriel Osborne, Piper Osborne, Jeffrey Palmer, Diya Patel, Eliza Payne, Eva Pendleton, Izabella Perry, Annabelle Puckett, Kaden Reczek,

Haiden Reedy, Alexandria Rickman, Adelle Roberts, Emilee Rogers, Maddlynn Roop, Hunter Schwallenberg, Audrey Sparks, Kylie Sutler, Mason Tuck, Alyssa Walker, Dylan Welch, Rylan Wilcher, Stephen Wise, Deacon Witt, Holly Wood, Lucas Young

SEVENTH GRADE: Matthew Alban, Alexandra Amos, Skylar Andert, Rana Atayi, Brooke Boone, Khyron Brown, Landon Bryant, Misael Caballero, Carter Cecil, Siomara Clark, Matthew Collins, Swisher Cook, Landon Craft, Mark Craig Jr., Schaeffer Crane, Virginia Crawford, Jackson Crenshaw, Carter Dalglish, Beahlen Deacon, Katelyn Dent, Abigail Dillard, Connor Dooley, Camden Dudding, Jessalyn Dunker, Kailyn Edwards, Karis Edwards, Kylee Fernandez, Averie Flannigan, Olivia Foster, Elliana Foutz, Jordan Gilbert, Zachary Gilliam, Colin Goad, Ethan Greer, Jenson Harrell, Addison Holloman, Kaylee Hudgins, Boyd Jans, Ronnie Johnson, Aaliyah Johnson, Macy Johnson, Taylor Jones, Morgan Keleher, Mackenzie Kramzar, Elijah Laffoon, Kenzie LaVenture, Paige Lord, Kennedy Lumpkin, Molly Lusk, Jayce McLemore, Ashton McMillion, Easton McNabb, Alexa Olwage, Henry Ostendorf, Luke Peery, Aria Peterson, Evelyn Powell, Wyatt Price, Emma Rickman, Joselyn Rivera Perez, Mason Rowland, Joshua Sherman, Bronson Shields, Amelia Stump, Lyla Thomas, Nicole Thomas, Kambri Weaver, Kailey Whitson, Adrian Windsor, Sophia Wolfe, Alexander Yetter

SIXTH GRADE: Karson Anderson, Matthew Barker, Grayson Beckner, Lillian Bishop, Cailyn Booth, Cameron Booth, Mason Bratton, Annabel Brown, Jackson Brown, Trenton Brubaker, Otto Brummer, Willow Ceola, David Cloninger, William Conn, Ella Cook, Layla Cook, Tristen Craddock, Asim Dahal, Justin Damian-Ambrocio, Hannah Eberly, Selin Etciglu, Mia Fields, Grace Forster, Bryce Foutz, Morgan Gartland, Casidee Gray, Peyton Greathouse, Alyssa Griffin, Trevor Harrison, Braxton Harvey, Seth Hayslett, Brooke Heizer, Mason Hibbs, Carly Hilgers, Rylenn Hill, Isaiah Irons, Kara Kaufman, Ava Lee, Brooklynn Long, Bryson Long, Anastasia Lovasz, Dawson Lyle, Jack Madden, Kinleigh Manley, Jayden Martin, Evan May, John McNamara, Addison Mitchell, Ethan Montes Martinez, Ethan Moore, Melody Moore, Lily Mullins, Berkley Murray, Viraj Nayak, Aubrey Nicely, Brady O'Quinn, Chandler Orange, Soraya Orr, Lena Othman, Isaiah Perdue, Dylan Pham, Gracie Poff, Aisha Poudyel, Meredith Purser, Ella Purves, Solomon Reed, Brenden Reedy, Joseph Reiner, Maya Remusat, Alasia Reynolds, Camden Rosenberger, Leo Ruiz-Hill, Oliver Saville, Gabriel Shaver, Laney Shepherd, Kristina Sisson, Kiryn Sollars, Kendall Spencer, Carter Starks, Asia Stephens, Kerington Stuart, Brayden Tars, Eli Thomas, Alanah Thompson, Joseph Thompson, Keaton Tice, Charlee Truax, Greyson Webb, Olivia Wolfe, Charlotte Wright, Nathaniel Wright

## Legal Notice

### NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF A PETITION BY APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY FOR A PRUDENCY REVIEW, PURSUANT TO § 56-585.1:4 H OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA, WITH RESPECT TO THE PURCHASE OF ENERGY, CAPACITY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL ATTRIBUTES FROM SOLAR FACILITIES THROUGH POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENTS CASE NO. PUR-2023-00212

On January 11, 2024, Appalachian Power Company ("APCo" or "Company"), pursuant to § 56-585.1:4 H of the Code of Virginia ("Code"), filed a petition ("Petition") with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") for a prudency determination with respect to three power purchase agreements ("PPAs") that the Company seeks to add to its portfolio of renewable energy used to comply with the Renewable Portfolio Standards ("RPS") established by the Virginia Clean Economy Act. Pursuant to Code § 56-585.1:4 H, the Commission must issue a final order regarding the Petition within three months of the date of filing.

The Company states that the PPAs and the solar projects ("Projects") that are the subject of this Petition are:

- Elliot Solar, which is a 5 megawatt ("MW") solar facility located in Tazewell County, Virginia, with an expected commercial operations date in late 2025. APCo and the developer, Inovateus, entered into a 20-year PPA for the facility's output.

- County Line Solar, which is a 150 MW solar facility located in Charlotte County, Virginia, with an expected commercial operations date in late 2026. APCo and the developer, Competitive Power Ventures, entered into a 20-year PPA for the facility's output.

- 7 Bridges Solar, which is an 80 MW solar facility located in Mecklenburg County, Virginia, with an expected commercial operations date in late 2026. APCo and the developer, Longroad, entered into a 30-year PPA for the facility's output.

The Company asks that the Commission determine that the execution of the PPAs will be prudent additions to the Company's RPS compliance portfolio. The Company asserts the PPAs were selected after a competitive and robust bidding process, due diligence and contract negotiations. According to the Petition, the Projects will help the Company comply at a reasonable cost with the RPS requirements (by producing approximately 1.0 million renewable energy certificates annually on a Virginia retail basis). The Company asserts that the PPAs will also allow APCo to reduce the amount of power purchased from the PJM energy markets. APCo further asserts that the PPAs will produce carbon-free energy thereby advancing the Commonwealth Clean Energy Policy.

According to the Petition, as the Projects are not expected to go online until after the rate year in the Company's next RPS compliance filing, expected to be filed in April 2024, the Company will not seek cost recovery related to the PPAs from Virginia customers until 2025.

The details of these and other proposals are set forth in the Company's Petition. Interested persons are encouraged to review the Company's Petition and supporting exhibits for the details of the proposals.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing that, among other things, scheduled public hearings on APCo's Petition. A hearing for the receipt of testimony from public witnesses on the Company's Petition shall be convened telephonically at 10 a.m. on March 6, 2024. On or before February 26, 2024, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting); (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to [SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov); or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting).

Beginning at 10 a.m. on March 6, 2024, the Hearing Examiner will telephone sequentially each person who has signed up to testify as provided above.

On March 6, 2024, at 10 a.m., or at the conclusion of the public witness portion of the hearing, whichever is later, in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, the Hearing Examiner will convene a hearing to receive testimony and evidence related to the Petition from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission Staff.

To promote administrative efficiency and timely service of filings upon participants, the Commission has directed the electronic filing of testimony and pleadings, unless they contain confidential information, and required electronic service on parties to this proceeding.

Electronic copies of the public version of the Petition may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, Noelle J. Coates, 1051 East Cary Street, Suite 1100, Richmond, Virginia 23219, [njcoates@aep.com](mailto:njcoates@aep.com).

On or before February 26, 2024, any interested person may submit written comments on the Petition by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: [scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments](http://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments). Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2023-00212.

On or before February 16, 2024, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation at [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling). Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Company. Pursuant to Rule 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"), any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by Rule 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2023-00212.

On or before February 16, 2024, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling), any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be served on the Staff, the Company, and all other respondents simultaneous with its filing. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Rules of Practice, as modified herein, including, but not limited to: 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2023-00212.

All documents filed with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Rules of Practice.

The Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, and other documents filed in the case may be viewed at: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY





# UPCOMING COUNTY LIBRARY EVENTS

## Blind Date with a Book

February 5-17  
Stop by any library branch and take a chance on an unknown book! Select books will be wrapped so you can't see the title, only a short teaser/hint. Unlike a real blind date, you don't have to stick around reading it if you don't hit it off right away. But like blind dates, there's a chance you'll meet your new best friend (author, genre, etc.). Give it a try!

## Libby: eBooks & eAudiobooks

If you love books-on-the-go or reading on a device, you're in luck: you can find a wide array of ebooks and audiobooks through the library! Download the Libby (by Overdrive) app to your mobile device (including smartphone or Kindle), log in with your library card, and enjoy an entire library at your fingertips.

## Readers' Night Out

Wed, Feb 14, 5-7:30pm, Blue Ridge  
Tue, Feb 27, 4-6pm, Eagle Rock  
Tue, Feb 27, 5-7:30pm, Fincastle

In this casual drop-in event, explore a sampling of books and authors from the Fantasy genre. Sign up for the Adult Reading Challenge and commit to reading 12 books in 2024, and you'll receive

your own personal reading journal that you can decorate at the event.

## Murder Hole Cave

Sat, Feb 10, 11am, Eagle Rock  
Tue, Feb 13, 4pm, Fincastle  
Sat, Feb 24, 11am, Buchanan

Learn about caves and the history and science of Murder Hole Cave, a local natural formation with Marian McConnell, the property owner, educator, and spelunking guide. Copies of McConnell's book *Murder Hole: Catawba Murder Hole Cave* will be available for purchase and author signing.

## Eclectic Readers

Wed, Feb 14, 10:30pm, Fincastle

## The Cartographers by Peng Shepherd

Thu, Feb 22, 11am-12pm, Eagle Rock  
The Paris Library by Janet Skeslien Charles  
Thu, Feb 22, 1-2pm, Blue Ridge

## Black Cake by Charmaine Wilkerson

Discuss books and authors with fellow readers while enjoying coffee and social connection.

## Outdoor Book Club

Tue, Feb 13, 11:30am, Troutville Town Park

Join a leisurely 20-minute group walk around Troutville Town Park, then discuss what

you're reading and share book recommendations over warm (or cool) beverages at One Love Coffee across the street (group discount provided).

## Adult Reading Challenge

Adults age 18+ are invited to commit to reading 12 books in 2024. Pick up a challenge tracker bookmark at any library branch, and/or sign up for the challenge at Beanstack (download the app or go to botetourtva.beanstack.org). Earn rewards along your reading journey, including a reading journal, coffee mug, and tote bag. Participate in special activities, such as book tastings or readers' nights out, throughout the year.

## Where's Waldo?

Wed, Feb 21, Blue Ridge & Eagle Rock

Thu, Feb 22, Buchanan & Fincastle

Inspired by the popular look-and-find book series, dive into activities that encourage exploration and curiosity about the world. Embark on a scavenger hunt for Waldo and friends around the library, navigate mazes, and create Where's Waldo binoculars and hats. Best for ages 5-12, drop in anytime during the library's regular service hours.

Find even more events at BOCOLibraries.info.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Daleville development affects entire county

We live in Buchanan, but I still attend the Board of Supervisor (BoS) meetings in Daleville. Since most of the business at the BoS meetings is about Daleville development, why would I need to attend? Because, what happens in Daleville affects all the county townships. It comes down to resource.

Is the current overdevelopment causing the current strain on our water resources? First, the Virginia Water Authority pulls in water to support Daleville from a great many areas. Those areas include Troutville, Fincastle, Buchanan and Eagle Rock. Granted, a good deal of the water in Botetourt comes from Carvins Cove. This past year, most of Southwest Virginia was declared a drought region. Twice before, the area was declared a drought area, 1999, 2002 and now again 2023. Carvins Cove is still below levels despite the recent rain and snow we just had. It is very poor planning on the BoS side to believe the drought situation will not continue at some point. How many residents in the county remember when the wells went dry in Ashley Plantation because of overdevelopment and the owners had to cover the cost of drilling new wells out of their own pockets.

Sheriff's Department resources are being strained. Every time I make a trip to Daleville there is an accident. My daughter, who lives in the Old Daleville

College apartments, complains about sirens in the area day and night. Every time there is an accident, all three units must roll out – sheriff, fire and EMS. Putting additional traffic lights in the area is not going to cut down on the number of accidents in the area. These accidents are pulling resources from departments that already suffer from a slow response time and that are needed in other areas.

I realize the county needs to develop to generate tax revenue. Adding another convenience store (Wawa) near an already existing convenience store (Sheetz) does not even make sense. It falls along the lines of putting in a brand-new care wash (Road Runner) when a perfectly good car wash existed right down the road.

Address what the area needs. The closest childcare center to the area is at Mill Creek in Fincastle. With all the new families moving in, childcare would be a much-needed facility. The BoS needs to concentrate on jobs in the county. They cannot keep relying on Altec and the cement plant to keep generating jobs. Troutville has numerous empty commercial buildings that could be developed. They have failed to tap into the most attractive items that would draw an existing employer or an employer looking to build in the area – easy access to I-81, low taxes, and an existing work force. Not to mention the attraction of all the recreational and tourist facilities that are available in the county – the James River, camping grounds, fishing, hiking, etc.

All the housing that is being developed was aimed at providing housing for Roanoke, not Botetourt. Roanoke has thousands upon thousands of empty buildings that they can develop into housing. I do not see the need for Daleville to become a "bedroom" for Roanoke. Residents who live in Botetourt but work in Roanoke will ultimately do most of their spending in Roanoke. I commuted from Buchanan to Roanoke for 13 years. When I left work, I stopped at Walmart, Lowe's and Kroger in

Roanoke or Roanoke County. I did buy all my gas in Botetourt because the tax rate on gas was lower. All that food and sales tax revenue would ultimately stay in Roanoke.

Most of the population of the county is middle-class, blue-collar workers living paycheck to paycheck. They cannot afford to live in apartments that range from \$1,800 to \$3,000 a month. Are there any plans to build affordable housing? I am not talking about Section 8 housing but housing that these people can afford. My daughter currently pays \$1,099 a month for a two-bedroom apartment in the old Daleville College building, which I feel is ridiculous considering the age and condition of the apartments.

In closing, I can only say that the development in Daleville has hit a peak. Concentrate on other townships in the county. Concentrate on bringing jobs to the county.

*Pamela Coloton Buchanan*

## Not the right location for Wawa

I attended the Board of Supervisors meeting concerning the proposed Wawa at Daleville Town Center. Most of the citizens did not object to Wawa as a corporation, the objection was how it fits into the proposed site; or more importantly, how it doesn't fit.

The parcel allows for no entrance off Route 220; therefore, all 1,500 cars going to Wawa every day must make two left turns into a residential neighborhood.

The county's traffic report states that a restaurant on that site would increase traffic by only 334 cars, not 1,500; plus, there should be space for an entrance. I feel there is a great deal of pressure to pass this project. However, I feel we should be patient and see how the 117 new homes at Greenfield and the 100 Fieldstone apartments affect traffic in an already congested Daleville.

Again, it's not Wawa, it's location, location, location.

*Sharon Porter Troutville*

## League for Animal Protection's Waif of the Week

### Meet Sparky



Sparky is a 6-month-old kitten. She has been tested for feline diseases and is chipped. She came to the LAP from the Friends of Bedford Rescue.

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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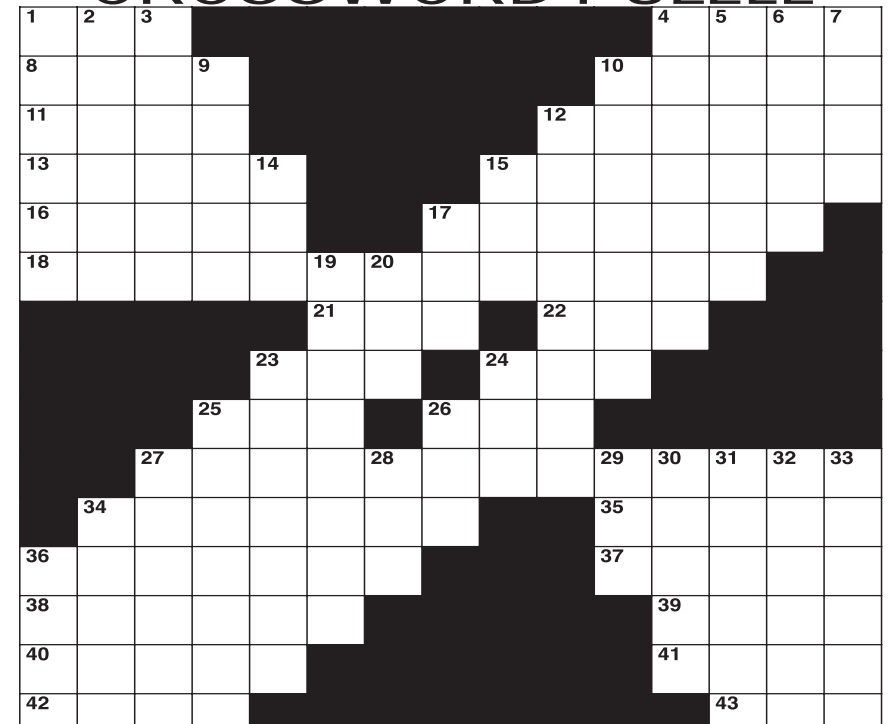


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## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- CLUES ACROSS
- One point south of due east
  - Coagulated blood
  - Fortifying ditch
  - Devotee of Hinduism
  - Trunk of a tree
  - Bank note
  - Capital of Guam
  - Study again
  - Covered with hoarfrost
  - Opening
  - Legendary Rolling Stone
  - Stray
  - Computer storing system
  - Signal
  - Pitching statistic
  - Human being
  - Malaysian isthmus
  - The "Blonde Bombshell"
  - A gland
  - Bluish greens
  - Endangered
  - Three-dimensional
  - In a way, precipitated
  - God associated with dissolution
  - Blemished
  - Flow or leak slowly
  - Disco legends The Bee
  - Midway between south and southeast

- CLUES DOWN
- A way to board
  - Get down
  - Highly seasoned sausage
  - First day of month
  - Eurasian shrubs
  - The organ that bears the ovules of a flower
  - Small lake
  - Belief
  - Sunrooms
  - Metric weight unit
  - Vasopressin
  - Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
  - One-time family room staple
  - Got back together

- Anger
- Sang merrily
- Sea eagle
- Military men
- Kilo yard (abbr.)
- Found in the sea
- Products from weather
- Type of medicine
- City along the Rhine
- Animal disease
- Martini ingredients
- Get away
- Lack of disunity
- One-time European Commission officer

# THE FINCASTLE HERALD & Botetourt County News

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### The Boys in the Boat

(2023) A 1930s-set story centered on the University of Washington's rowing team, from their Depression-era beginnings to winning gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics. (2 hr 3 min)

Thursday, Feb. 8  
7 p.m.

### The Color Purple

(2023) A woman faces many hardships in her life, but ultimately finds extraordinary strength and hope in the unbreakable bonds of sisterhood. (2 hr 21 min)

Friday & Saturday  
Feb. 9 & 10  
7 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 11  
3 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 15  
7 p.m.

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



## Report from the House from Del. Terry Austin

To the Constituents of the 37th House District:

Week four of the 2024 General Assembly has concluded, and the House of Delegates is working through hundreds of bills as the crossover deadline of February 13 quickly approaches. Policy differences in how best to protect our children and victims of violent crime have become increasingly apparent in committee debate. Several bills that would have addressed the detrimental effects of social media on our children were defeated in committee. Meanwhile, legislation calling for the early release of perpetrators of violent crime is advancing, while a bill curtailing our right to self-protection passed out of the House.

We continue to witness the deleterious effects social

media can have on our children. A 2019 study of more than 6,500 12- to 15-year-olds in the U.S. determined that those who spent more than three hours a day using social media might be at heightened risk for mental health problems. Another 2019 study of more than 12,000 13- to 16-year-olds in England found that using social media more than three times a day predicted poor mental health and well-being in teens. Other studies have observed links between high levels of social media use and depression or anxiety symptoms. A 2016 study of more than 450 teens found that greater social media use, nighttime social media use, and emotional investment in social media – such as feeling upset when prevented from logging on – were each linked with a decline in sleep quality and higher levels of anxiety and

depression.

Common sense measures to address social media use by children under the age of 13 were unfortunately not considered beneficial by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle. These bills would have prohibited addictive features on social media shown to children, required parental consent for social media use, and created common sense safeguards. The data continues to show that something needs to be done.

In discussions on how to address violent crime in our society, the victim is often overlooked. The House is still considering legislation that could allow criminals of violent crimes yet another chance to get out of jail early.

See Austin, page 7

## CHURCH NEWS

### February events at Solomon's Mission

Solomon's Mission in Buchanan will serve its Second Saturday Free Lunch on February 10. Chili, cornbread, dessert and a drink will be provided by Natural Bridge Baptist Church.

The Thrift Store will be open Tuesday, Feb. 13, for Botetourt seniors only (age 55 and up) to shop from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

The annual Senior Valentine Lunch will begin at noon on Wednesday, Feb. 14. Solomon's Mission is partnering with the Botetourt Resource Center and LOA for this event. There will be door prizes and a time for dancing. This is limited to Botetourt seniors only.

### Ebenezer UMC pancake supper Tuesday

Ebenezer United Methodist Church, 85 Nace Road, Troutville, will have a

pancake supper on February 13 from 5 p.m. till 7 p.m. Donations will be accepted.

### Pleasant Hill food distribution February 10

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church will have food boxes available February 10 from 9:30-10:30 a.m., or until all available boxes have been given out, at the church, 4930 Country Club Road, Troutville, and at the Eagle Rock Library.

### Buchanan Food Pantry open Saturday

The Buchanan Presbyterian Church Food Pantry will be open Saturday, February 10, from 9 a.m. till 11 a.m. for anyone in need of food. The volunteers from Buchanan Baptist Church will distribute meat, bread, milk and staples at the curb. The church is at 19559 Main Street, Buchanan.

### Buchanan Presbyterian Ash Wednesday service

Buchanan Presbyterian Church invites everyone to the Ash Wednesday service at 7 p.m. on February 14. It will include scripture, hymns, and imposition of ashes or a verbal blessing, to remind us of humility and hope.

### Fincastle UMC Lenten services

Fincastle United Methodist Church invites you to five Wednesday Lenten services and lunches beginning on February 21 in the Family Life Center, 137 S. Church Street, Fincastle. These short, 20-minute services begin at 12:05 p.m. and will be led by area pastors. A home-cooked lunch will follow each service. The service and meal are designed to last about one hour. Takeout meals will be available.

February 21 – Speakers – Pastors Tom and Naomi Powers, Daleville Church of the Brethren; Lunch – Ham Biscuits, Potato Salad, Fruit, Desserts

February 28 – Speaker – The Rev. Dr. David Dickerson, Fincastle Presbyterian; Lunch – Vegetable-Beef Soup, Potato Soup, Jello Salads, Grilled Cheese Sandwiches, Desserts

March 6 – Speaker – The Rev. Samuel Plymale, St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Daleville; Lunch – Chicken Salad Croissants, Vegetable Salad, Chips, Desserts

March 13 – Speaker – The Rev. Willis Logan, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Fincastle; Lunch – Potato Bar, Chili, Green Salad, Corn Bread, Desserts

March 20 – Speaker – The Rev. Fr. Paul Lagco, Church of the Transfiguration, Fincastle; Lunch – Sub Sandwiches, Cole Slaw, Chips, Desserts

Menus are subject to change. If Botetourt County Public Schools are closed because of inclement weather, the service will be canceled. Everyone is invited to these services during the season of Lent.



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**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 & Haymaktown 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 Copp's 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

**WORDS OF RELIEF**  
**Read Job 15:1 through 22:30**

Justin sat in Caleb's apartment, hoping his big brother could provide some words of encouragement. An official letter from his college had arrived, announcing that Justin was on academic probation. Justin never realized those two words would cause his parents so much pain, anger, and disappointment.

Caleb was frustrated. He knew the sacrifices his parents made so that Justin could attend college. College loans, scholarships, and money did not come easy. His parents worked hard at obtaining all the financial aid they could gather. His dad picked up extra shifts at work to cover the cost of books. Now, to hear that Justin "blew it" was more than Caleb could bear. He wanted to explode, but the Holy Spirit urged him to listen. After several moments, Caleb sat down beside Justin and placed his arm around him. Caleb whispered, "Mind if I pray for you?"

Justin grinned, "Thanks, man. I sure could use it!"

But my mouth would encourage you; comfort from my lips would bring you relief (Job 16:5).

Do your words bring comfort or condemnation?

Challenge for Today: Provide comfort and encouragement to someone close to you.

Quicklook: Job 16:4-6

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; 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. 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 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

## Kelley, Tony A.

Tony A. Kelley, 66, of Roanoke, passed away Saturday, January 27, 2024 at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital following a long illness.

Tony was born May 2, 1957 in Cloverdale and lived in Roanoke all of his life. He was the son of the late George A. Kelley and Geraldine F. Bryant Crawford.

Tony's passion was music and enjoyed playing guitar in the Rick Buklin Blues Band. He enjoyed the outdoors hunting and fishing, and just "chilling" and having a good time with people.

In addition to his parents, Tony was



preceded in death by his brother, Rickey Kelley. He is survived by his wife, Joyce Williams Kelley; son and daughter-in-law, Anthony and Misty Kelley of Roanoke; grandchildren, Bryce, Melissa, Kamryn, and Abby; sister-in-law, Karen Kelley of Fincastle; nephew, Josh Kelley and niece, Amon Kelley.

A graveside service honoring Tony's life was held at 1 p.m. Friday, February 2 at Mt. Union Cemetery, Troutville. Online condolences may be made to Tony's family at [www.rader-funeralhome.com/tributes/Tony-Kelley](http://www.rader-funeralhome.com/tributes/Tony-Kelley).

and Sullivan Yount, and Emilia Trent; brothers-in-law, Gary (Winnie) Seay and Richard Seay; sisters-in-law, Nancy Britt, Iona Seay (RC) Watts; former sisters-in-law, Betty Britt, Jeanette Seay, and Judy Johnson; numerous nieces and nephews.

A celebration of a life well lived will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, February 9 at Rader Funeral Home, Daleville with Virgie's nephew, Richard Britt, officiating. Burial will be in Mt. Bethel Church of the Brethren Cemetery.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home 4-7 p.m. Thursday.

Virgie's family suggests memorial contributions be made to Mt. Bethel Church of the Brethren Cemetery Fund, c/o Erta Alexander, P.O. Box 5, Eagle Rock, 24085; or to Mt. Bethel Church of the Brethren, P.O. Box 183, Eagle Rock, 24085.

Online condolences may be made to the family and service live stream may be found at [www.rader-funeralhome.com/tributes/Virgie-Seay](http://www.rader-funeralhome.com/tributes/Virgie-Seay).

## Scott, Faye Williams

Faye Rene Williams Scott, 81, of Roanoke, (formerly of Fincastle and Indianola, Miss.) passed away early Wednesday, January 17, 2024, with close family by her side. She was preceded in death and reunited with her husband of 61 years, Ron Scott Sr.; parents, Frank Williams Sr. and Inez Williams Peacock.



Faye was a graduate of Indianola High School. Her most liked activity there was participating in the Indianola High School Band, where she was chosen to be a majorette for all four years. Faye mastered the most difficult instrument, the oboe, and was granted the privilege to participate in the concert band which brought home many medals from state competitions. She then attended Mississippi Delta Junior College, where she met her future husband, Ron Scott. They married in January of '63 and moved to St. Louis for 2 years before moving to Virginia. She lived in Roanoke and was busy raising her two sons, being heavily involved in cosmetics, and managing the Virginias Junior Miss pageants through the '70s. Her family ended up in Fincastle for 47 years while she adjusted to country life. Faye started working with a top rate food brokerage company, named Joe Dell Brokerage. She was heavily involved in the local food service industry, and she was instrumental in bringing fresh catfish from her home state of Mississippi to large supermarket chains among other accomplishments in that industry. She

was an avid tennis player and loved the sport so much she and Ron built a tennis court and a "tennis shack" where she loved to teach and play with her grandsons and hosted events there for years. Faye loved the low country in Callawassie Island, S.C., where they could stay active with tennis and golf all year round and make many more new friends she was still in contact with.

Faye was the heart and soul of the Scott family and arranged everything for them until the day she passed. She is survived by her two sons, Ron Scott Jr. (Angela Payne), Jeff Scott, (Pam); grandsons, Jeffrey and Jackson Scott; sister Charlotte Williams Peacock; brother, Frank Williams Jr. (Patsy) of Mississippi; as well as numerous other close family and friends to mention.

The family wishes to thank everyone who reached out to her in the last several months when her husband passed, as well as the many years before.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that memorials be made in Faye's name to St. Jude Children's Hospital, Breast Cancer Awareness, or Prostate Cancer Research Center.

A celebration of Faye's life will be held Saturday, February 10, 2024, at 3 p.m. at Simpson Funeral Home, 5160 Peters Creek Road, Roanoke, with the Rev. Carol Johnston and the Rev. Brenda Rowe officiating. The family will receive friends from 1-3 p.m. prior to the service.

## Kraemer, Anita Ann

Anita Ann Kraemer, 65, of Buchanan, formerly of Charlottesville, passed away on August 6, 2021. Anita was the daughter of Fred L. and Ruth Good Denlinger of Fulks Run, Va., who both survive. Anita is also survived by her husband, Mark Kraemer; daughter, Emily Finoch and husband, Todd, and granddaughter, Ayla Mayfield of Wentzville, Mo.; son, Charles M. Shelton and wife, Nina of New Orleans, La.; and siblings, Dwight Denlinger and wife, Vickie of Weyers Cave, Jerry Denlinger of Broadway, Va., and June Spitzer and husband, Terry of Fulks Run. Anita's husband, Harry M. Shelton, Jr. preceded her in death on June 9, 2009.



allowed inside, to all the curious life and around the creek that ran behind their Botetourt County Farm. Anita spent winter hours planning next year's garden with new varieties and layouts. Excess eggs and veggies were donated to the local food bank. Supporting our local community was important.

Anita was always researching her next project including herb drying, food preserving, calligraphy, poem writing, bookmaking, sewing, crocheting, or creating a treasure out of items that most would have discarded. The more rust the better. She took great pride in her unique creations that showcased her many talents. She loved nature and was always quick to spot the solitary wildflower or toadstool.

Although most of Anita's career centered around the medical field, her true passion and inspiration came when experimenting, creating, and baking the perfect recipe that was not only delicious, but was healthy, and had potential healing qualities. Anita had many culinary claims to fame, but pies were her forte. Anita had a long-time dream of being a businesswoman. She was preparing to start a business to share her baking expertise with others.

On November 27, 2021, all of Anita's immediate family and nieces and nephews met at their Botetourt County Farm to celebrate her life and share in the spreading of her ashes. She is greatly missed by all.

Anita was a 1975 graduate of Turner Ashby High School, Dayton, Va., and attended Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, where she majored in biology. In 1978, Anita completed a certification program at Lancaster General Hospital, Lancaster, Pa., and earned her Certified Laboratory Assistant designation. In 2011, Anita earned her B.S. with a concentration in nutrition from Virginia State University, Petersburg, while also working as a lab assistant. Her observation skills were essential in identifying the plant pollen collected by a native species of solitary bees in apple orchards.

Anita had a zest for life and all things living, from beekeeping, to her backyard chickens, to the stray cat that was soon

## LeFew, Priscilla Divers

Priscilla Anne Divers LeFew, 74, of Buchanan, died at her home Tuesday, January 30, 2024.

Priscilla was born May 30, 1949 in Roanoke to the late Claudine Alda Hill and William Oliver Divers. She lived in the Botetourt area all of her life.

Priscilla had a myriad of different jobs throughout her life, including Pepsi Cola, but her calling was mostly in her church where she served 13 years as a Ministry Assistant at Fincastle Baptist Church.

She was a member of Fincastle Baptist Church and enjoyed serving in her church community. Priscilla also enjoyed baking and decorating cakes; which she was known best for her wedding and special occasion cakes, preacher cookies, and candies.

In addition to her parents, Priscilla was preceded in death by her brother: Robert Divers. She is survived by her loving husband of 39+ years, James



Charles (Charlie) LeFew; brothers and sisters-in-law, Bill, Jr. (Susan) Divers, David (Susan) Divers, and Richard (Pam) Divers; sister, Nancy Divers; uncle, Glenn (Evelyn) Hill; first cousin once removed, Peggy (Melvin) Gregory; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Priscilla's life was held 12 noon Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at Fincastle Baptist Church, with Pastor Kevin Cummings officiating. The family received friends one hour prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to The Alzheimer's Association, Central and Western Virginia Chapter, Charlottesville Office: 1010 Ednam Center Suite #203 Charlottesville, 22903 or Lynchburg Office: 3831 Old Forest Road, Suite 7, Lynchburg, 24504.

## Seay, Virgie Britt

Virgie Katherine Britt Seay, 91, of Buchanan, passed away peacefully at home in the early morning hours of February 4, 2024. We know she is resting easy in the arms of her Lord and Savior and will be greatly missed by all who loved her.

Virgie was a 58-year member of Mt. Bethel Church of the Brethren. She enjoyed gardening and was an avid sports fan, especially basketball and UVA sports. Virgie retired in 1994 as Personnel Manager of Groendyk Manufacturing after many years.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband of 54 years, Bruce Thomas Seay; parents, Frank and Ethel Lee Britt; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Luther and Mae (Aaron) Seay; daughters, infant Areama Katherine Seay, Charlotte Seay Simmons; brothers and sisters-



in-law, Lawrence "Buck" and Cottie Britt, Burnell "Bunny" Britt, Londo "Lionie" and Wilda Vines Britt, Earl Britt, Ray Britt; former sisters-in-law, Tillie Britt and Sara Britt; sisters and brothers-in-law, Halsie and Charles Chapman, Elizabeth "Sis" and June Whitmore, Ruth "Toodle" and Kenneth Stull, and infant Shirley Jean Britt; brother-in-law, Ronnie Seay; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Frances Seay and Jim Smith.

Virgie is survived by her children, Donna (Allen) Hensley of Buchanan, Connie (Bobby) Tolley of Botetourt County, Mark Seay, and Angie (David) Williams, all of Buchanan; grandchildren, Brandy Hensley, Brian (Jennifer) Hensley, Tiffany (Chad) Yount, Aimee (Van) Bateman, and Kala Dudley; great-grandchildren, Ellijah and Anabelle Bateman, Simions

## Smith, Diane Proffitt

Diane Proffitt Smith, 63, of Buchanan passed away on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. She was preceded in death by her father, Kenneth Warner Proffitt, and father-in-law, Elmer Basil Smith.

She is survived by her husband of 43 years, Toney Smith; sons, Jacob Smith and Benjamin (Jill Doster) Smith; mother, Jean Begtrup Proffitt; sisters and brothers-in-law, Linda and Tim Hullett, Penny and Eric Metz, and Sandy and Danny Hart; numerous nieces and



nephews; mother-in-law, Barbara P. Moore, and her husband, Wayne; sister-in-law, Dixie Huff and her husband, Jim; and brother-in-law, Lloyd Smith.

Visitation was held from 6-7 p.m. with memorial services at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 6, 2024 in the Buchanan Chapel of Botetourt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at [www.botetourtfuneralhome.com](http://www.botetourtfuneralhome.com) or 540-254-3000.

## Riddle, Bonnie

Bonnie Riddle, 80, of Troutville, went to be with her Lord on Monday, October 23, 2023.

was a member of Harvest Ministries and was preceded in death by her husband, John Riddle; her parents, Walter and Ella Ball; and son, Walter Riddle.

Bonnie is survived by her son, Steve Riddle and his wife, Stephanie;



two granddaughters, Kaela and Siena Riddle; niece, Ginny Alls; and many family members and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, February 10, 2024 at Fincastle Baptist Church. Arrangements by Oakey's East Chapel, 540-977-3909.

## Austin from page 5

I have deep reservations about this legislation known as "second look." My colleagues heard testimony in committee from victims of crime, as well as from their families. The heartache they expressed at the prospect of having to continually face the people who hurt them, and their loved ones, so deeply is difficult to put into words. I oppose and will vote against this legislation at every opportunity.

At the same time, HB2 passed out of the House this past week. This bill vaguely defines "weapons of war" as firearms that most law-abiding citizens already own and enacts a Class 1 misdemeanor for owning any such firearm manufactured after July 1, 2024. A firearm with a magazine of more than 10 rounds is included

in this definition. It also prohibits anyone under 21 years old from legally possessing one of these firearms regardless of the date it was manufactured, effectively raising the age of legal ownership from the current age of 18. This bill does not address the mental health crisis we face in society and diminishes the ability for someone to protect themselves and their families. I voted against this piece of legislation and will continue to vote against the myriad of bills that try to do the same.

As for my bills, I am pleased to report that four of them unanimously passed out of the House. These bills amend the bylaws of the VA250 Commission, create a commemorative license plate for our nation's 250th anniversary,

conform state code to federal regulations for Commercial Drivers Licenses, and create a more efficient process for abandoned vehicle title searches in other states. My bills supporting the Virginia Horse Center,

See House, page 8

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# House from page 7

establishing a more objective automobile franchise buy/sell process, and providing clarity to the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority have all unanimously passed out of committee and will make their way to the House floor this coming week.

I enjoyed meeting with constituents of the Virginia Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics this past week. We discussed how healthy eating habits and outdoor

physical activity can improve physical and mental well being. It is an honor to serve you in the Virginia House of Delegates. If I can be of assistance to you, or you would like to share your position on legislation, please do not hesitate to contact me at DelTAustin@House.Virginia.gov or 804-698-1037.

*Delegate Terry L. Austin  
37th House District*

# Read from page 1

other. Members-only meetings start in March, and membership is free to all tweens/teens. Members can log their reading in Beanstack, set their own goals, and earn incentives for the number of books read. There is no required reading list; tweens and teens choose their own books. Stay tuned for more special activities and perks!

The library also offers monthly themed reading challenges on Beanstack for all ages. February's theme is Black History Month, and participants are encouraged to explore Black history and Black authors and illustrators in fiction and nonfiction, text, and pictures.

Who says reading can't be a social activity? Join in regular reading-related programs, such as monthly book clubs for adults, StoryTimes for preschoolers, and

special events like a "Where's Waldo?" activity time for kids. See the online calendar at bocolibraries.info for details. Also, follow the library on Facebook and Instagram to share the love of reading with other bibliophiles.

Stumped for what to read next? Request up to five personalized reading recommendations from library staff by filling out an online request form at bocolibraries.info > Services > Get Recommendations. People may describe what they're in the mood for and select how they want to receive the list (or just have the items pulled to pick up). If readers prefer to explore on their own, use the online resource NoveList (bocolibraries.info > Online Resources > NoveList) to find their next favorite read using a wide range of parameters and suggestion lists.

Whether cozying up in a blanket, traveling with a Kindle, reading bedtime stories to children, or listening to audiobooks during a morning walk, libraries have Botetourt covered. Grab the next read in various formats, whether print, large print, audiobook on CD, e-book, or e-audiobook. With its membership in the Roanoke Valley Libraries consortium, Botetourt County Library cardholders can borrow material from Roanoke County, Roanoke City, and Salem libraries at no charge, delivered free to any library branch or satellite pickup location.

This February and beyond, rekindle the love for reading with Botetourt County Libraries.

*- Fincastle Herald staff report*

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Learn more and apply online at **VDOE Officer of Election** ([Elections.Virginia.gov/Officers](https://Elections.Virginia.gov/Officers))



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DEPARTMENT of ELECTIONS

# Youth Expo from page 1

last. The "4-H Share-the-Fun" is also an annual event featuring a local competition of junior, intermediate and senior 4-H members. Come out for a fun family evening.

*- Fincastle Herald staff report*

# State of the County from page 1

most excited about. Let's face it, we're starting from a very good place whenever we envision improvement. We are in a very good place in Botetourt County."

Following Larowe and White, key staff members from various county departments provided a look into their 2023 and the upcoming year's activities and goals. Those staff members included:

- Director of Economic Development Ken McFadyen talking about the Economic Development Authority's (EDA) engagements throughout the county in 2023
- Director of Community Development Nicole Pendleton spoke about an "uptick" in building permits, the county reaching "over \$70 million" in construction permits, long-range plans, active projects, and numerous awards by members in her department
- Director of Parks & Recreation Mandy Adkins noted the exciting participation in Botetourt youth sports, recreational services, and the upcoming "BOCO Wild" event in Buchanan on June 8
- Library Director Julie Phillips went over

library programming in 2023, noting an increase in visitors and engagements

• County Fire & EMS Chief Jason Ferguson gave examples of emergency services to the community, helping those in need during over 5,000 unique incidents last year

• County Communications Director Tiffany Bradbury spoke about office engagements in 2023 and the focus of the communications department

• Botetourt County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Jonathan Russ noted the system's academic achievements in 2023, educator recognitions, strategic direction results, and upcoming grant opportunities. Supervisor of Career & Technical Instruction Mike Ketron joined Russ in noting

Botetourt Technical Education Center's (BTEC) achievements, noting their career signing day last spring that saw 31 county students sign letters of commitment to various employers.

This year, the event adopted a hybrid format, with approximately 40 people in attendance. The presentation and video are available at [www.botetourtva.gov/stateofthecounty](http://www.botetourtva.gov/stateofthecounty). To stay informed about the county and sign up for updates, visit at [www.botetourtva.gov/notifyme](http://www.botetourtva.gov/notifyme).

### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

EBS				CLOT
MOAT			SAIVA	
BOLE			DOLLAR	
AGANA			RELEARN	
RIMED			VACANCY	
KEITH			RICHARDS	
			ERRGIS	
			CUEERA	
			MANKRA	
			MARILYN	MONROE
			PAROTID	TETALS
PERILED			CUBIC	
RAINED			SIVA	
ACNEED			SEEP	
GEES			SSE	

## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING TOWN OF BUCHANAN

The Town of Buchanan has immediate opening for a Director of Community Development & Marketing. Full-time exempt position with health and retirement benefits. Primary responsibilities shall be business development, marketing, event planning & management, and grant writing. Salary range \$50,000-\$65,000, depending upon qualifications. Apply with resume, cover letter, references, salary expectations. Inquiries and application materials may be emailed to [George.Hayfield@townmanager@buchanan-va.gov](mailto:George.Hayfield@townmanager@buchanan-va.gov). Position open until filled. EOE

## PUBLIC NOTICE BOTETOURT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION

The Botetourt County School Board will hold a Work Session on Thursday, February 15, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Central Administration Office, 143 Poor Farm Road, Fincastle, Virginia, with a physical quorum present and electronic access through [www.bcps.live](http://www.bcps.live).

## Stockyard Report

Monday's sale at the Roanoke-Hollins Stockyard:

**570 Head**

**Graded Steers**

400-499	\$273.00-\$329.00
500-599	\$283.00-\$292.00
600-699	\$225.00-\$267.00
700-799	\$140.00-\$260.00

**Graded Bulls**

300-399	\$250.00-\$331.00
400-499	\$252.00-\$274.00
500-599	\$210.00-\$274.00
600-699	\$234.00

**Graded Heifers**

300-399	\$249.00-\$268.00
400-499	\$221.00-\$254.50
500-599	\$125.00-\$245.00
600-699	\$180.00-\$225.50

**Kill Cows**

\$42.00-\$120.00
------------------

**Kill Bulls**

\$110.00-\$125.00
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**POSITION TITLE** Universal Banker I

**JOB TYPE** Full Time, Non-exempt

**LOCATION** Buchanan, VA

**SUMMARY**  
Participates in building customer relationships by promoting bank's products and services to customers through needs identification, maximizing a profitable relationship. Serves in the role of a premier relationship banker, advising clients in their selection of financial products and services, utilizing a needs-based selling approach. The associate will expand existing client relationships and develop new relationships through knowledge and operational efficiencies of banking services; and will perform multiple duties associated with the operation of a financial banking center to include consumer lending and business development.

- ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS**
- Provides highest standard of customer service to customers and peers
  - Establish relationships with customers by promoting customer care, answering customer queries, researching customer accounts and generating referrals for deposits and other lines of business
  - Demonstrates knowledge in all aspects of teller functions, including ordering and verifying cash from Federal Reserve bank, balancing the ATM, documentation of required reporting, security procedures and guidelines, and bank policies and procedures, acts in accordance with bank compliance
  - Assist in providing on-the-job training with teller team as well as provide assistance and follow-up guidance to teller team, i.e., data entry, errors or discrepancies, special or difficult internal transactions, problems or customer inquiries
  - Conduct monthly audits of teller cash and ATM; monitor adequate vault cash and/or cash recycler limits as required by bank policy; complete daily/monthly reporting as applicable
  - Assist customers with basic account opening, maintenance, mobile and online banking inquiries and other customer service
  - May have responsibility of balancing ATM
  - Cross sells and/or refers Bank products and services to customers through needs identification, maximizing profitable relationships
  - Ability to work in a professional office environment with routinely use the bank's computer software effectively and efficiently and other standard office equipment

- MINIMUM EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS**
- High school diploma or equivalent required
  - 2 to 3 years of proven teller or high-volume money handling experience strongly preferred
  - Demonstrated customer service experience preferred
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# Marketplace



The Fincastle Herald | The Vinton Messenger | The New Castle Record | Salem Times-Register | News Messenger | Radford News Journal

### Help Wanted - General

**WANTED**  
Models needed for life drawing class, male and female, \$65 for 3 hour session. Call David (Do not text) 540-473-3713

### Actor/Actress needed

to present stories for a documentary film. This is paid work. Last film released in December of 2023 is in worldwide distribution. Qualities needed: photogenic and articulate.

Send resume and photo to: Virginia Film Company, POB 3352

Roanoke, Virginia 24015

### General Information

### WASHINGTON STREET ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW DATE CHANGE

The date for the juried Washington Street Arts and Crafts Show has changed to April 6, 2024. The show will now coincide with the Cherry Blossom Festival sponsored by the Town of Buchanan. The show is sponsored by the United Women in Faith at Trinity United Methodist Church in Buchanan, VA. We would love to have you join us and applications are being accepted and may be requested by contacting the United Women in Faith at WashingtonStreetArtShow@gmail.com

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### Legals - Botetourt County

### TRUSTEE SALE OF

### 105 Shade Hollow Street, Blue Ridge, VA 24064

In execution of the Deed of Trust dated October 3, 2016, in the original principal amount of \$135,681.00, recorded as Inst. 160003659, subsequently assigned to Virginia Housing Development Authority, and modified to the amount of \$127,131.58 as Inst. 210001144, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County of Botetourt, Virginia, default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured and at the request of the holder of the note, the undersigned, as Substitute Trustees, either of whom may act, will sell at public auction at the front entrance of the Circuit Court for the County of Botetourt on March 27, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., the property located at the above address and described as 1.00 acre, more or less, beginning at a common corner with W.L. Harris on a 30 foot Roadway leading to Va. State Secondary Route 652, corner marked by an iron pin; thence with said W.L. Harris line, N. 89 degrees 31' W. 223.86 feet to an iron pin corner in said Harris line; thence a new line through property owned jointly by Timothy N. Gilbert and Linda D. Gilbert and Herbert O. Ransom and Mary V. Ransom, N. 11 degrees 18' W. 200 feet to an iron on said property; thence a new line through same property, S. 89 degrees 31' E. 223.86 feet to an iron in west edge of said 30 foot Roadway; thence with the said Roadway westerly line, S. 11 degrees 18' W. 200 feet to the point of Beginning, subject to a Road Maintenance Agreement recorded in Deed Book 494, Pages 811-817, and together with a perpetual easement 30 feet wide located near Hickory Street for ingress and egress to Va. Secondary Route 652, a portion of this right of way is 14 feet wide as shown in Deed Book 579, page 44 and final order recorded as Inst. 030004788, County of

### Legals - Botetourt County

Botetourt. TERMS: CASH. PROPERTY SOLD AS IS WITH SPECIAL WARRANTY OF TITLE. A deposit of \$12,000.00 or 10% of the successful bid amount (whichever is lower) will be required immediately of the successful bidder, in cashier's check or certified funds only payable to or signed over to "DOLANREID PLLC, TRUSTEE", balance due within 15 days from date of sale. No personal checks accepted. Sale is subject to post sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower filed for and obtained bankruptcy protection, entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, or if trustee is unable to complete the sale, or if it is set aside or not fully completed for any reason except purchaser's default, the sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Upon purchaser's default, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property resold at the risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, reservations and conditions, if any, of record, as well as inchoate liens and any other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises. Real estate taxes will be adjusted to the date of sale. All costs of conveyance, deed, examination of title, recording charges, grantor's tax and possession will be at the expense of the purchaser. All risks of casualty immediately pass to the successful bidder. Time is of the essence. Winning bidder must sign a memorandum of sale immediately upon completion of sale. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. Trustee's affidavit and a copy of the notice of sale available at the foreclosure sale. The opening bid is not announced until the sale. Current sale status available at [dolanreid.com/foreclosuresales](http://dolanreid.com/foreclosuresales). THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

### ABC NOTICE

DPC Living LLC., trading as Sycamore Place General Store, 19758 Main St., Buchanan, Botetourt County, VA. 24066-0000.

### Legals - City of Radford

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Gift Shop license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

### ABC NOTICE

CSKS LLC, trading as 101 Corner, 1123 Fairfax St., Radford, VA 24141-5342

### Legals - City of Radford

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Retail Wine and Beer, OFF Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

### ABC NOTICE

Hardikkumar Patel, Owner  
Chirayu Patel, Owner

### Legals - City of Radford

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

### Legals - City of Radford

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from

### Legals - City of Radford

the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING-

The Radford City Council and Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing on Monday, February 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10 Robertson Street, to consider public comments regarding the following: Proposed amendment to Radford City Zoning Ordinance, Sec. 120.1-228 - Non-Conforming Signs. The proposed amendment will allow for the Consolidation; reconstruction of existing nonconforming off-premise sign structures. Additional information is available at [www.radfordva.gov](http://www.radfordva.gov) or the Community Development Dept. at (540)267-3188, 10 Robertson Street. Interested citizens are invited to attend this hearing and present their comments.

### ABC NOTICE

Tienda Y Taqueria Genesis LLC., trading as Tienda Latina Genesis, 7345 Peppers Ferry Blvd Suite A, Fairlawn, Pulaski County, VA. 24141-8857.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Retail Beer and Wine, OFF Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

### ABC NOTICE

Josue Vazquez Quintanilla, Owner.

### Legals - City of Salem

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

### Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, January 22, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., in the Community Room, Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard, in the City of Salem, Virginia, voted to continue the public hearing of the following item.

Consider the request of Virginia Baptist Children's Home (dba HopeTree Family Services), property owner, for rezoning the properties located at 1000 block Red Lane and a portion of 860 Mount Vernon Lane (Tax Map #'s 41-1-1, 41-1-2, 41-1-3, 41-1-4, 41-1-5, 41-1-6, and a portion of 44-3-10) from RSF Residential Single Family to PUD Planned Unit District.

This item was continued until the March 11, 2024, meeting of the Council of the City of Salem. This meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street.

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 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA  
BY: H. Robert Light  
Clerk of Council

### Legals - Montgomery County

### TOWN OF BLACKSBURG - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

### BLACKSBURG TOWN COUNCIL

will hold public hearings on Tuesday, February 13, 2024 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 2038: An Ordinance to Amend Town Code Sections 14-200, 14-201 and 14-202 Establishing a Civil Penalty for Certain Trash Violations. The proposed ordinance will amend the Town Code to create a process to address loose trash or garbage in a timely manner. Ordinance 2040: An Ordinance to Amend Town Code to Establish a New Section 17-315 to Prohibit Overcrowding in Buildings. This proposed ordinance will incorporate the provisions of § 1001.3 of the Virginia Statewide Prevention Code regarding overcrowding into the Town Code. Violations will be a Class 1 misdemeanor. Resolution authorizing Deed of Dedication for Meadowbrook Greenway Trail

The proposed resolution will authorize the Mayor to sign a Deed of Dedication which will designate a portion of the Meadowbrook Greenway Trail as permanent open space. All persons affected by or interested in the proposed items above may appear and present their views. After each public hearing, Town Council will consider action on the item. Copies of materials related to the above items are on file and can be obtained in the Office of the Town Clerk, 300 South Main Street, Blacksburg, weekdays between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. For land use matters, copies of applications and all related items may also be found online at [www.blacksburg.gov/publichearings](http://www.blacksburg.gov/publichearings) or reviewed in person at the Blacksburg Planning and Building Department, 400 South Main Street, Blacksburg, Virginia. Individuals with disabilities who require special assistance to attend and participate in this meeting should contact Lorraine Spaulding, Town Clerk at (540) 443-1025 or 443-1000 (voice or TDD).

### Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211-1; 8.01-316.20-104  
Case No. CL23002018-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re MELISSA JANE MCPHERSON v. JACOB ANDRE MCPHERSON A/K/A KOBİ MAZUR The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED

### Legals - Montgomery County

that JACOB ANDRE MCPHERSON A/K/A KOBİ MAZUR appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MARCH 8, 2024. JANUARY 5, 2024 K. MIKE FLEENOR, JR. JUDGE TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

### Legals - Montgomery County

that JACOB ANDRE MCPHERSON A/K/A KOBİ MAZUR appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MARCH 8, 2024. JANUARY 5, 2024 K. MIKE FLEENOR, JR. JUDGE TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

### Legals - Town of Vinton

### LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF VINTON, VIRGINIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that the Vinton Town Council will hold a public hearing at its meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia, concerning the action to officially list the Vinton Historic District on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. The Vinton Downtown Historic District appears to be eligible for a National Register listing at the local level of significance. The purpose of this meeting is to provide information to affected property owners and local officials about the meaning of a National Register designation. Any additional information on 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 in this public meeting should contact the Town Manager's office at (540) 983-0607.

Antonia Arias-Magallon Administrative Manager

### The VA Dept of Historic Resources will conduct a public information hearing of the Town of Vinton, VA

on Tuesday, February 20, 2024. The meeting begins at 6:00 pm and will be held at Vinton Town Hall at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, VA 24179. Public comment regarding the proposal will be taken at the time of the hearing or can be sent to Director Julie Langan, Dept of Historic Resources, 2801 Kensington Ave, Richmond, VA 23221. This proposal has been recommended eligible for the Virginia Landmarks and National Registers. This proposal will be presented to the State Review Board and the Board of Historic Resources on March 14, 2024. For additional information, contact Amanda Terrell at [Amanda.Terrell@thr.virginia.gov](mailto:Amanda.Terrell@thr.virginia.gov) or 804-482-8092.

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# BOTETOURT Sports

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**Brian Hoffman**  
Sports Editor



Botetourt's Carson Edwards contests a shot in Saturday's game.



Conner Dowdy scores for LB against Auburn.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

## Wells receives recognition at Adam Ward Classic



PHOTO BY DANIEL HALL

Lord Botetourt's Brayden Wells was one of three individuals to receive the first Adam Ward Community Unity Awards at the Adam Ward Classic in Salem last weekend, the first of their kind given at the annual basketball event. The award, and scholarship that goes with it, was given to three individuals among the 18 participating teams. The criteria are for players who have a positive impact on their community, are a servant to others and make their school a better place. These are things the committee deems "Adam Like." Here, Wells is pictured with Grant Smythers of the Adam Ward Classic Committee.

## LB boys likely third seed for BRD hoops

The Blue Ridge District basketball tournament will open at the sites of the third and fourth seeds on Friday and Lord Botetourt is expected to get a home game. The Cavaliers are third in the district standings with less than a week to play.

The top two teams will get first round byes, and Northside has a spot locked up with an 8-1 record and one game to go, against William Byrd Tuesday. William Fleming was second at 6-2 with two games left, both against Staunton River, and the Colonels would have to lose both for LB to tie for second, an unlikely scenario.

The Cavaliers were home to Franklin County on Tuesday for their last regular season game. The Eagles come into the week at 1-8 in the district, and they'll most likely be coming back to Daleville Friday to open district play with fifth seeded

Staunton River headed to William Byrd for the other game. Semifinals are Monday and the championship is Wednesday, February 14, all at the sites of the higher seeds.

LB is looking to gain some momentum this week after dropping three games last week to fall to 10-11 overall. On January 30 the Cavs lost to Fleming in Roanoke, 80-72. The Colonels led by just two points after three periods.

"This was a great game to be a part of," said LB coach Andrew Hart. "Both teams played hard and made many plays. Fleming played really well, making some key shots throughout the game. Our guys stepped up and had one of our best games of the season, it just wasn't quite enough to beat them on the road."

Brayden Wells led LB with 27 points on 11 for 19 shooting and

Conner Dowdy hit seven of 10 shots for 17 points. Carson Edwards had eight rebounds.

On Friday night at Northside the Cavaliers took on the district leaders and dropped an 82-58 decision. The Vikings came out hot, taking a 25-10 lead after the first quarter.

"Northside came out with great energy from the very beginning and they were pretty much at their best," said Hart. "It was a big challenge for us but, as always, we will learn from this disappointment and get better after this game."

Blake Lovren led LB with 17 points while Edwards had 12 points and 13 rebounds.

The Cavaliers had little time to rest, playing Auburn just 15 hours later in the Adam Ward Classic at Salem High. This one went down to

See **LB Hoops**, page 12



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Denver Rinehart of CAMS is off and running at RC Saturday.

## Roanoke College hosts East Coast Elite meet

Lord Botetourt and James River had athletes participating in the East Coast Elite Track Meet last Saturday at Roanoke College. The indoor track meet included many schools and was held at the Kerr-Cregger Indoor Fieldhouse in Salem.

"We had a few kids out sick or recovering from being sick Saturday so that was tough," said LB coach Michelle Gantzhorn. "We did, however, have a few standout performances."

Lord Botetourt had 10 personal bests and Rye Jackson state qualified in the 500 meters.

The Blue Ridge District meet was scheduled for Tuesday at VMI but results were too late for publication. The Region 2C meet, including James River, will be held at Roanoke College on Friday, February 16, and the Region 3D meet, with LB, will be at RC the following day, on Saturday, February 17.

## Region 3D wrestling is at Abingdon Saturday

The Lord Botetourt wrestlers will head to Abingdon this Saturday to participate in the Region 3D wrestling tournament. The top four wrestlers in each weight class will advance to the state tournament at the Salem Civic Center on February 16 and 17.

The Cavaliers finished second in the Blue Ridge District tournament, held at Northside High School last week. Staunton River won the BRD with 232 points, followed by LB with 166.5 and William Byrd with 155.5. Northside was fourth with 129.5, Franklin County had 71 points

and William Fleming had 37.

LB had four champions. At 120, James Dean pinned Jonah Schofield of William Byrd in the final to improve to 18-6 on the season. Then, at 150, Gray Arnold upped his record to 24-3 with a 4-0 decision over Angel Rigney of Northside in the championship bout.

Ty Hensley is 31-7 after pinning Graylen Castleberry of Byrd in the 175-pound final. At 215, Aaden Thomas is 23-2 after tech falling Anthony Nolan of Northside in the final, 18-3.

Two Cavaliers made the final but lost and

took second place. At 144, Kevin Gergley lost to Caiden Saavedra of Staunton River, and at 165, TJ Piluso of LB lost for the first time this year. Macon Ayers of Staunton River pinned Piluso, and TJ goes into the region tournament at 33-1.

Third places went to Camden Saunders at 138 and Alex Clarke at 190. Fourth place Cavs were Cameron Craighead at 106, Declan Sullivan at 126, Cooper Roberts at 157 and Gabe Glenn at heavyweight.

"One of the goals is to just get everyone healthy," said LB coach Paul Craft. "We've got a few other

guys with banged up shoulders and ribs. We've also had problems with impetigo and ringworm this season. I've been coaching wrestling for 16 years and never had a team with this many skin condition problems. It seems like every time we wrestle in a tournament, we end up bringing something back with us.

"The skin conditions can be treated and you can start wrestling again after 72 hours, but if it shows up the day before a meet then you can't wrestle. We soak our mats with fungicide and disinfectant before each practice. Basically, we're in protection mode the next two weeks. The kids

See **Region 3D**, page 12

Aaden Thomas of LB (on top) won the Blue Ridge District 215-pound weight class.



PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER

## Region swim meets in Christiansburg this week

The Christiansburg Aquatic Center will be the site for the Region swim meets in Class 2 through 4 this week. The Region 2C meet, with James River, is scheduled for Thursday of this week, while the Region 3D meet, with Lord Botetourt, was held on Tuesday. Here, LB's Olivia Nicely swims the breaststroke in the Blue Ridge District meet on January 26.

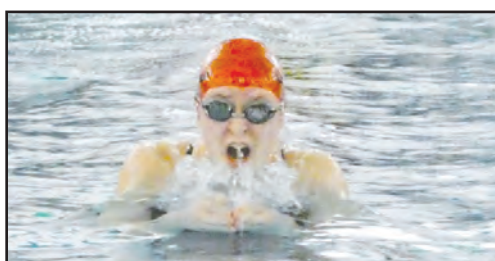


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# River girls will host Glenvar in regular season finale

The James River girls will play host to Glenvar Thursday night in their final game of the basketball regular season. The Knights will then wait to see who they will play in the Region 2C tournament.

River had a home game against Patrick County on Tuesday. Results were too late for publication, but the Knights took an 11-10 overall record into that game and a 5-5 district mark after splitting two Three Rivers games in the past week.

Last Friday at Radford the Knights took a dominating 68-39 win over the Bobcats. River jumped to a 28-6 lead in the first quarter and never looked back.

"We came out from the tip and we had energy and fire," said coach Ryan Firebaugh. "We played extremely well."

Caitlin Canada led the Knights with a great all-around game. Aside from being the game's top scorer with 18 points, she also had 10 rebounds, six assists, six steals and two blocks. Kelsi Maydian had 12 points, Siera Davis had 11 and Honesty Liming had 13 rebounds.

"Extremely proud of my girls for going on the road and getting a big win in the district," said Firebaugh. "The Three Rivers is a tough district to play in, especially on the road."

On Monday the girls played at Carroll County, and the Cavaliers were lying in wait after River upset them in a prior meeting in Springwood. This time the defending Class 3 state champions got some revenge with a 68-39 win over the Knights.

Alyssa Ervin, one of the top players in the state, had 25 points to lead the Cavaliers.

"I thought we did a pretty good job on her at times," said Firebaugh. "I told the girls during practice and pregame that she is going to get her points, but if we limit her to 20 and below then someone else will have to step up."

Canada had 21 points and 11 boards to lead the Knights. Liming had five points, seven rebounds and three steals.

Canada needed just 13 points against Patrick on Tuesday for 1,000 for her high school career, and she's just a junior. The Knights have just one senior on the team, Liming, and she'll be recognized for "Senior Night" on Thursday when River hosts winless Glenvar to wrap up the regular season.

The top eight teams in the 12-school region make the Region 2C tournament, and River will wait and see who they open with when the regular season wraps up this week.



River's Jenna Lynch goes to the hole in last week's game at Radford.



Siera Davis hits a running one-hander for the Knights.

PHOTOS BY BRYANT ALTIZER



Maddox Pichay of James River scores against Radford last week.

PHOTOS BY EDMEE HASLER

## Knights wrap up regular season basketball Friday

The James River boys will wrap up the basketball regular season on Friday when they take on Glenvar in Roanoke County. The Knights will not play in the Three Rivers District tournament as only the top two teams will qualify.

On Monday the Knights dropped a district game at Patrick County, 69-40. Trey Taylor led River with 16 points.

"We never could get anything going on either side of the ball," said coach Ethan Humphries. "We don't have a lot of firepower, so when our defense slips like it did it turns into a real long night. The last two road games have been rough for us."

River hosted Radford last Thursday and the visiting Bobcats took a 48-33 win. Matthew Alderson had nine points and seven rebounds and Maddox Pichay had eight points. River trailed by just three at the half, 22-19, but the Knights did not score in the third quarter and fell behind 29-19.

"We competed and executed at a high level," said Humphries. "For us to play five guards and dominate the glass like we did showed how tough our guys played. We did everything we needed through three quarters to win, but some shots fell for Radford and didn't for us. Down multiple possessions going into the fourth we had to go off script and it opened the game up for Radford. We were proud of how our guys represented us in our last home game."

The top eight teams in Region 2C qualify for the region tournament. There are 12 teams in the region, and the eight qualifiers will be announced after this week's games.

## LB girls are top seed for district tournament

The Lord Botetourt girls will wrap up a successful regular season tonight when they host Jefferson Forest in a non-district basketball game. The girls were scheduled to close out the Blue Ridge District season on Tuesday at Franklin County.

The girls come into the week at 17-3 overall and 8-1 in the district. William Fleming has also lost one and the Colonels can tie LB for first place with two wins this week. However, the Cavaliers hold the tie-breaker over the Colonels and will be the top seed for the tournament if they beat Franklin County and Jefferson Forest, earning home games in the district semifinals next Monday and the championship on February 14, should they make it that far. LB has a bye this Friday when the tournament opens at the third and fourth seeds.

Botetourt could have clinched the district regular season last week but the girls dropped a 49-40 decision to Fleming in Daleville.

"The difference in this game was that they shot 10 more times than we did and seven more free throws than we did, and this was due to our turnovers," said coach Renee Favaro. "We had twice as many as they did. Everything else was pretty much even down the board."

Maddie Caron led LB with 12 points and eight rebounds. Madilyn Winterton added eight points, eight rebounds and six assists.

"We allowed them to speed us up, did not get open well and did not set good screens for each other," said Favaro. "We will look to clean that up as we hope to see them again in the district title game."

On Friday the girls bounced back with a dominating win over Northside, 78-33. It was "Senior Night" and



Taylor Orange of Lord Botetourt fires up a shot in Friday's win in Daleville.

the Cavaliers recognized a solid class that includes Ainsley Anderson, Grayson Alfano, Bry Orange, Taylor Orange and Gracie Huffard.

Botetourt was up 34-20 at half and used a 28-4 third quarter to break the game wide open. Caron led the way with 18 points and eight rebounds in 17 minutes of action and she was a perfect six for six from the floor and six for six from the line. Winterton added 14 points in 16 minutes while Huffard had 12 points, seven rebounds and two blocks. Alfano scored 10 points and Bry Orange had a team-high 10 rebounds and Anderson had 10 assists on a big night for the seniors.



LB's Abby Kingery gathers up a loose ball for the Cavaliers against Northside.

PHOTOS BY EDMEE HASLER

## JR Wrestling

from page 11

Rivers District tournament and finished fourth as a team. Alleghany won the championship with 161 points, edging second place Patrick County with 157. Glenvar was third with 149.5 and River had 109. The rest of the district had Radford at 77.5, Carroll County at 54 points and Floyd County brought up the rear with 31.5.

River entered 10 wrestlers in the tournament and

seven placed, including three champions. At 106, Xaiden Wynn improved his season record to 25-2 with a pin and a forfeit win in the final. Wynn has not lost to a Class 2 opponent all season.

At 120, Brayden Forbes remained unbeaten after 28 bouts. He pinned Hayden Wills of Alleghany in 3:06 to win his championship final.

At 138, Nate Stewart improved his record to 22-3.

He pinned Haiden Nicely of Alleghany in the final in three minutes flat for the championship.

Caiden Martin finished second at 113 and three Knights took thirds, Ryan Daniels at 132, Efraim Echavarria at 150 and Jayden Alston at 175.

Everyone from the district gets to participate in this week's regional tournament, but only the top three advance to state.

## Region 3D

from page 11

work so hard and sacrifice so much to get to this point of the season the last thing we want is for it to end early due to injury or illness."

Staunton River will be the favorite this Saturday in the region.

"Our goal is to close the gap as a team," said Craft. "Staunton River is

obviously the team to beat, they're number one in the state across all divisions. We have to aim up at the highest possible goal. If we can't win it,

we want second. If we can't get second, we want third. We need as many guys as possible make the top four and qualify for state."

## LB Hoops

from page 11

the final shot as Auburn pulled out a 65-63 win. Botetourt led 49-44 heading into the fourth quarter before running out of gas. "It was great to again be a part of the Adam Ward Classic,"

said Hart. "This is a very well-run event for an awesome cause. We came up short in the fourth quarter against a really good Auburn team."

Botetourt had four players in

double figures, led by Dowdy with 19. Edwards had 14, Landon Hayes had 11 and Wells had 10 points. Edwards had 10 rebounds and took three charges.

"We didn't capitalize on

some opportunities and didn't quite make the winning plays on offense and defense that we needed in order to pull out the win," said Hart. "You can't get better at those situations unless

you are in them, so hopefully we will be better in 'crunch-time' when needed during our future games. We are ready to finish the regular season this week and send our seniors off with a win."