

# The Fincastle Herald



& Botetourt County News

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2024

\$1.00

## Troutville fugitive apprehended in Mexico

**Matt de Simone**

mattdesimone@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) along with the U.S. Marshals Service-Roanoke Division held a press conference last Friday morning outside of the County Sheriff's Office and Jail announcing the arrest of fugitive Michael Dennis Hightower, Jr of Troutville.

Hightower, 41, was indicted with four counts of aggravated sexual battery by a Botetourt grand jury on October 2, 2023 and then fled to Mexico, according to a BCSO release last week. The seven-month investigation culminated on March 27 when Hightower was located, taken into custody by Mexican authorities, and then into U.S. custody. The fugitive was extradited to Botetourt County from Webb County, Texas last Thursday. BCSO's investigation is currently ongoing. No court dates have been set as Hightower is currently awaiting arraignment at the Botetourt County Jail.

The uniformity of BCSO and the U.S. Marshal's Service in finding, arresting, and extraditing the Troutville fugitive. Botetourt County Sheriff Matt Ward added that local law enforcement believed Hightower attempted to avoid arrest by fleeing to Nuevo Laredo, Mexico.

Ward was joined at the podium by members of the Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force (CARFTF), Western District of Virginia U.S. Marshal Thomas Foster, Western District of Virginia Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshal Frank Schermer, BCSO Detective Christie Bolton, officers, and county staff.

"This individual thought he could go to Mexico and avoid arrest but, I can assure you right now today, he's right here to the left of me (in jail) awaiting trial... What this individual did—going beyond the borders of the United States—certainly poses certain challenges for us. However, they were able to apprehend this individual to bring him back here to Botetourt... This arrest exemplifies the commitment of our officers and the federal partnerships we have with the task force to ensure these individuals are brought to justice,



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

**Botetourt County Sheriff Matt Ward stands next to a photo of Michael D. Hightower (41, Troutville) who was recently extradited to Botetourt from Texas by members of BCSO and the U.S. Marshals last Thursday. He's charged with four counts of aggravated sexual battery.**

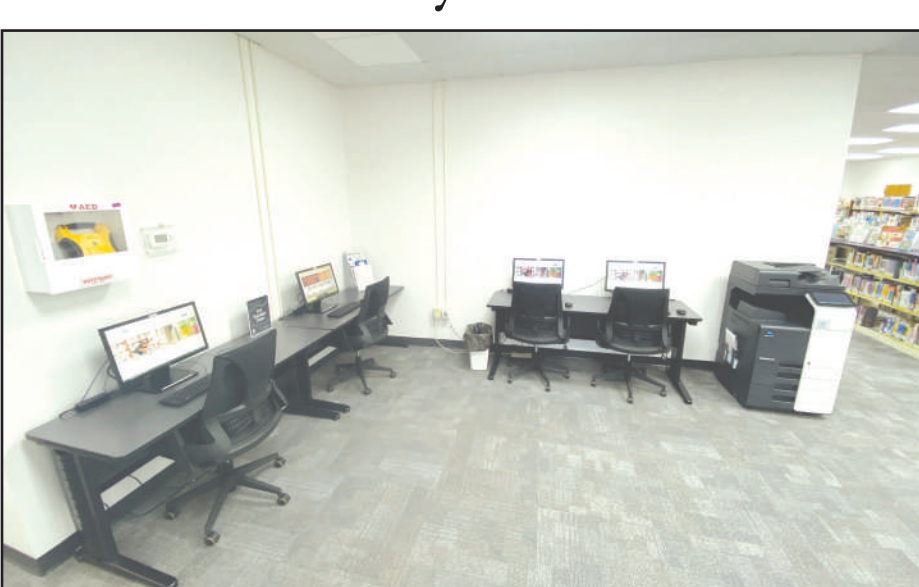
regardless of where they attempt to hide."

This joint effort was conducted through BCSO in collaboration with CARFTF and federal partners that include: U.S. Marshal Services of Roanoke, Southern District of Texas, Mexico Field Office, and Headquarters Major Case Unit; U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, U.S. Homeland Security Investigations, U.S. State Department, and the Mexico State Police.

CARFTF began operations in June of 2004 and has partnership agreements with over 100 federal, state, and local agencies and has eight fully operational offices. The task force successfully apprehended over 102,700 fugitives over the last 20 years and has made an impact on the apprehension of the region's most dangerous and

See **BCSO**, page 9

## Fincastle Library has a new look



PHOTOS BY MATT DE SIMONE

### Before... and after!

Mural artist **Cheyenne Renee** recently completed work inside of the Fincastle Library. Top photo: the look of the walls in the media center in January. On the bottom, a mural highlighting some of Fincastle's rich history. More about the recent renovations, see **Library** on page 5.

## What's up with the courthouse project?

**Matt de Simone**

mattdesimone@mainstreetnewspapers.com

For the last two years, many people have wondered about the status of the Botetourt County Courthouse renovation project after being met with delays. According to the original plan, the project should have been well into the construction phase at

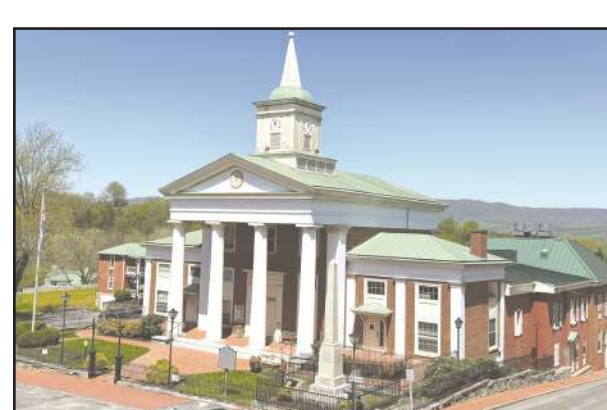


PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

**Botetourt County Courthouse renovations remain delayed with "no definite timeline" as to when the project will see completion.**

this point. Currently, there is "no definite timeline" on when the project will resume, according to Capital Projects Manager Rich Evans, who recently

provided a brief update about the ongoing courthouse renovations.

At a June 22, 2022

See **Courthouse**, page 9



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

**Last Saturday saw two Earth Day events held in Botetourt. Here, an educational event was held by the Friends of the Fincastle Library.**

## Earth Day events in Botetourt

Two Earth Day activities highlighted last weekend in Botetourt. The Fincastle Sustainability Committee (SusCom) and the Friends of the Fincastle Library put on a fun Earth Day Event at the Fincastle Library. Local experts led in Earth Day activities where guests

learned about bees from the 4-H Honey Bee Club, composting and plant exchange information via the Big Spring Garden Club, water and soil exploration with Virginia Cooperative Extension's

See **Earth Day**, page 9

The Place to be in 2024!



**MAY 4**

**FUZZY LOGIC**

5-9PM

**MAY 5**

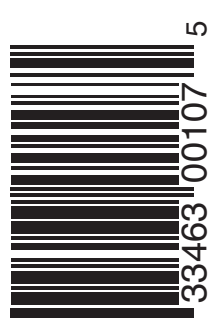
**Botetourt FARMER'S MARKET**

8:30 to NOON

**MAY 10**

**RED DIRT REVOLUTION**

5-9PM



8 33463 00107 5

## Botetourt County History



PHOTO COURTESY OF BCMHC

A bottle from the Gala Springs Co. is featured in a special display about the many natural springs that are in Botetourt County. Native Americans used these springs to quench their thirst before early settlers discovered them. There were many illnesses during this time in history and local springs were important for their pure drinking water and for their healing properties. Although not much is known about the Gala Springs Co., water was shipped by mail in these bottles. It was among the first springs in Botetourt to be commercialized. Joseph "Joe" Buhrman II (1924-2019) donated this artifact to the Botetourt County Historical Society, Inc. in

2019. He was a charter member who continued his involvement in preserving Botetourt history for more than 50 years as an active member of the Board of Directors. He was a philanthropist who lived in Gala just north of Eagle Rock on his family's farm. It is through his generosity that BCHS was able to purchase their Botetourt Museum of History and Culture at 26 East Main Street, Fincastle.

~ Botetourt County Museum of History & Culture

## TINA McCONCHIE FINE ART STUDIO/GALLERY



## SPRING Celebration

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SATURDAY, MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>  
(10:00 - 4:00)

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# Volunteer trail builders continue work at Big Spring Park

**Matt de Simone**

mattdesimone@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The volunteer trail builders who have spent time over the last year building out the walking trail along Fincastle's revitalized Big Spring Park continued their work last week. The latest step in the project is preparing the outdoor classroom neighboring Breckinridge Elementary School. On Wednesday, the volunteers worked on the clearing next to the school. Over the weekend, Eagle Scout Carter Baka-Collins from Troop 211 in Troutville and other volunteers from the Boy Scouts began construction of the entry gate and fencing along the classroom.

Town Manager Melanie McFadyen recently talked about the work done to Big Spring Park over the last several months.

"Liz Belcher and the Pathfinders for Greenways Midweek Crew dedicated two Wednesdays in a row to working on the Fincastle Big Spring Park Trail and Outdoor Classroom," McFadyen

explained. "Between 15 and 17 volunteers provided a total of 13 hours work to complete three trail benches with concrete pads; maintenance on the existing trail; installation of nine benches for the outdoor classroom and extension of the trail into the classroom for ADA compliance.

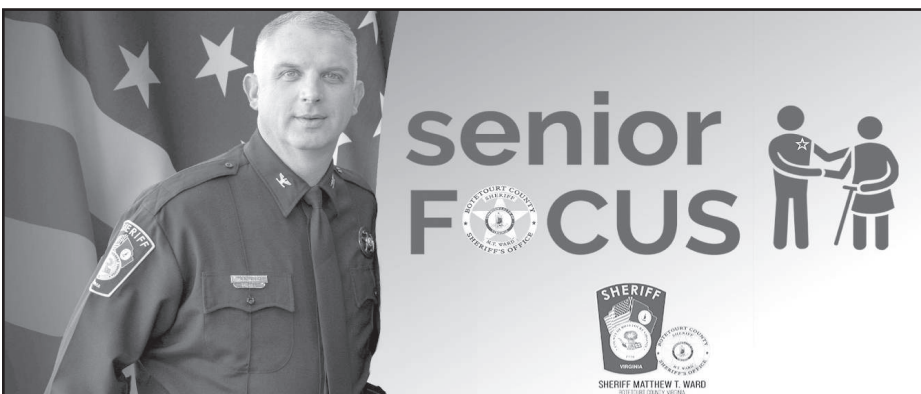
"This was a massive undertaking that saved the town thousands of dollars in construction costs as well as machinery which was provided in-kind. Up to this point, Pathfinders has provided well over \$6,000 of in-kind support for our trails. Their work has made it possible for grant funds to be used for other important additions to our trail amenities. This group of volunteers arrived early and stayed late in order to complete this project and kept smiling doing the work that they love. The town owes them a debt of gratitude and can't thank them enough for all their time and energy."

Here are some photos of the crew hard at work last week.



PHOTOS BY MATT DE SIMONE AND BLANCHE BROWER

Put The Classifieds To Work!  
Call 389-9355



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BCSO

## Join Sheriff Ward for 'Senior Social' event May 3

"Senior Social," a component of the Botetourt County Sheriff's Office Senior Focus Outreach Program, announces its next upcoming community event on Friday, May 3, at Orchard Hills Church at 11:30 a.m. The Senior Focus Program exists to empower seniors to live independent lives through essential services and support.

A free lunch will be served by the Botetourt County Sheriff's Office and Sheriff Matt Ward will be presenting an abbreviated summarization on Senior Social Fraud and Prevention, followed by a brief presentation by Scotti Hartman, guest speaker from Good Samaritan Hospice.

Seniors will be able to visit with many of the public and private services available to seniors. Services such as daily wellbeing checks, general health, and financial wellbeing will be on site. Government services will also be on hand to answer questions and help

seniors navigate their future needs. The event and all services are provided free of charge to the senior community.

"We remain committed to partnering with our senior community through our Senior Focus Outreach Program," said Sheriff Matt Ward. "Our Senior Social event allows us to network with our seniors, allows our seniors to network with each other, and it facilitates the opportunity for us to provide information to our senior communities in order to prevent them from becoming victims of crime."

Sheriff Ward invites the senior community to join him at the Senior Social event Friday, May 3, at Orchard Hills Church (6032 Cloverdale Road, Roanoke, at 11:30 a.m. For more information on the event, contact Andrea Mundy at 540-928-2233.

- Botetourt County Sheriff's Office

# Green gets first turkey



PHOTO COURTESY OF CODY GREEN

Easton Green of Fincastle killed his first turkey while hunting with his dad, Cody Green, and younger brother, Ariat Green, on opening day 2024.

- Submitted by Cody Green

## Book sale, yard sale in Buchanan

The Friends of the Buchanan Library will be holding a Used Book Sale/Yard Sale on Friday,

April 26 and Saturday, April 27. Hours both days are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The sale is held in the Carson Memorial Rescue Squad Building, 19673 Main Street, Buchanan, across from the fire station. Hardback books are \$1, paperbacks 50 cents and children's books are free. Some unique books are specially priced. A large assortment of "yard sale" items is also available. Sales are cash or check only.

- Friends of Buchanan Library

# MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLLS

Botetourt County middle schools have released the following honor rolls for the third nine weeks grading period:

## CENTRAL ACADEMY A HONOR ROLL

**EIGHTH GRADE:** Kennedy Agee, Katelyn Brown, Bella DiBenedetto, Spencer Fornecker, Isabell Garrett, Katelyn Manspile, Barrett Pace, Reagan Rowland, Sonny Sharp, Paige Shotwell, Houston Sieger, Jeremy Tribble, Jacey Walker, Holly Weddle, Gracelynn Wolcott

**SEVENTH GRADE:** Julianna Banka, Charlotte Brock, Mirai Burton, Cohen Byer, Garet Cook, Elijah Copeland, Madelyn Davidson, Dylan Davis, Brookelyn Fadia, Logan Galanes, William Hall, Charlotte Hipes, Briana Huthwaite, Jarrett Jennings, Mary Lipes, Jordan Mathews, Grace Matre, Braden Persinger, Siena Riddle, Laken Robinson, Caroline Rushing, Coraline Sink, Isaac Theimer, Emma Thurston, Charlie Tingler, Ava Updike, Carolena Williams

**SIXTH GRADE:** Camryn Adams, Landon Anderson, Ashlyn Bankert, Levi Beale, Lillian Cress, Sophie Dewhirst, Aubriella Dickerson, Blaine Dooley, Ridley Engstrom, Hannah Ferguson, Aspen Franklin, Aubrey Ginapp, William Gore, Brett Henry, Raegan Hickey, Kaylen Hicks, Noah Horne, Addison Kelly, Wyatt Manbeck, Ethan Martin, Jasmine Montgomery, Cristie Morris, Evan Mundy, Gavin Price, Samuel Reynolds, Brianna Roper, Chase Schoch, Kinley Scott, Alora Seitz, Bayleigh Sieger, Jydan Wade, Reagan Walker, Macy Weddle, Angela Williams

## A-B HONOR ROLL

**EIGHTH GRADE:** Kendall Aaron, Joel Barber, Katelyn Barrett, Jayden Beale, Brooklyn Beckner, Carter Bircckhead, William Bryant, Caroline Church, Cade Cook, Joseph Coolick, Molly Dewhirst, Janiya Falls, Grace Ferguson, Pepper Henderson, Kayla Henry, Elizabeth Johnson, Lydia Jones, Ayden Keyser, Andrea Kreklow, Kaycee Lemon, Sawyer Lucas, Collin Martin, Kenaya McKenzie, Gabriel McCurry, Khloe Robinson, Oscar Seitz, Jacob Snare, Jacari Thomas, Hailee Vassar, Madalynn Wagner, Payton White

**SEVENTH GRADE:** Adelynn Bankert, Birdie Boblett, Hadleigh Breeden, Tyler Britnell, Layla Bryant, Cheyenne Byrd, Jezreal Capo, Gavin Childs, Cora Clark, Peyton Crowder, Memphis Duty, Olivia Elmore, Peyton Frazee, Zaylen Fridley, Trevor Gilmer, Briley Goyer, Madison Gray, Merit Hammons, Brody Helmandollar, Ava Hoosey, Joel Laughridge, Brianna Link, Kyla Martin, Harleigh Masters, Autumn McDermott, William McMeans, Isaac Meade, Jackson Meador, Andrew Monteith, Kishi Morales-Tomas, Daniella Murray, Camden Newman, Ashton Orange, Colton Payne, Brianna Petty, Daniel Pratt, Zoe Serrano, Addison Shorter, Savanna Sieger, Jacob Simmons, Isabella Taylor, Ashton Wertz, Ashby Wilkes, Tobyann Windsor, Kendra Zepp

**SIXTH GRADE:** Haley Bailey, Brandon Baka-Collins, Skyla-Alaire Blinco, Brody Britt, Shylo'Ve Capo, Carter Cecil, Louis Coolick, Emma Dalton, Marinette Devinney, Brooklyn Dooley, Mazi Elmore, Bentley Flores, Jaden Fralin, Avery Garcia, Andrew Gladfelter, James Hensley, Laikyn Hughes, Allie Johnson, Reed Lowman, Garland Miller, Naima Minnis, Emma Monaghan, David Moran, Luke Mundy, Tristan Rae, Braelyn Rinehart, Brantley Ruley, Michela Rusgrove, Hudson Saunders, Braelyn Scott, Brady Stevens, Thomas Taylor, Haylee Thompson, Brayden Turman, Melynda Turman, Diesel Weikle, Carter Whitmer

## READ MOUNTAIN A HONOR ROLL

**EIGHTH GRADE:** Nicholas Antivero, Maryn Barnes, Mason Boitnott, Cael Burton, Chloe Clowdis, Jonah Dunker, Mia Etzler, Gwyneth Farrar, Cohen Folks, MaKenna Foster, Sara Foster, Lois Frederickson, Kristen Hale, Khyler Hambrick-King, Braeden Harvey, Evie Hogan, Holden Hooven, Chloe Hopkins, Phoenix Humphries, Braylen Johnson, Christopher Johnson, Hailey Knick, Avarie Kramzar, Hannah Lewis, Jordan Lin, Sharise McGowan, Christopher Myers, Mathias Newton, Georgiana O&#39;Brynn, Piper Osborne, Olivia Pierce, Annabelle Puckett, Anna Radtke, Lucille Rock, Eleanor Rosine, Autumn Sparks, Sam Stelter, Jackson Taylor, Paphada Thepsimuang, Mason Tuck, Finn Wilkinson, Lucas Young

**SEVENTH GRADE:** Alexandra Amos, Jared Atwell, Alexander Barbour, Evelyn Bowden, Olivia Burger, Misael Caballero, Annalee Campbell, Carter Cecil, Swisher Cook, Olivia Crigger, Carter Dalglish, Lucas Dehr, Callie Dozier, Camden Dudding, Jessalyn Dunker, Olivia Foster, Lillian Foutz, Jayleen Galvao, Mason Gates, Brynn Gentry, Cambridge Gibson, Jordan Gilbert, Evan Gordon, Oliver Greene, Ethan Greer, Alyssa Grooms, Lucas Higgins, Samantha Hoover, Boyd Jensen, Ciera Jones, Kathryn Kidd, Mackenzie Kramzar, Kenzie LaVenture, Noah McCarren, Titus Megow, Wyatt Nicely, Charlene Olivier, Noah Patterson, Ellie Persing, Gianna Pitzer, Evelyn Powell, Elena Preston, Sherman Price, Gabriel Puckett, Tenley Scharf, , Madisen Sealey, Ellie Shawn, Joshua Sherratt, Sean Stewart Jr, Lyla Thomas, Nicole Thomas, Madison Weppner, Macyn Woody,

**SIXTH GRADE:** Paige Abney, Klayton Akers, Mackenzie Akers, Annaleigh Aldridge, Michael Aliveto, Grayson Amos, Karson Anderson, Matthew Barker, Grayson Beckner, Lillian Bishop, Cailyn Booth, Austyn Borba, Colleen Burton, Claire Conn, William Conn, Brayden Deacon, Gabriella DeHaven, Kinsley Dent, Noah Dillow, Jaxon Dively, Colbie Dix, Josiah Dunker, Gabrielle Elmore, Joshua Frederickson, Thomas Frederickson, Morgan Gartland, Nathan Gergely, Berkley Gray, Millie Haniewich, Trevor Harrison, William Hedrick, Brooke Heizer, Grace Hoover, Ian Huddleston, , Everleigh Hudson, Kinley Huffman, Kara Kaufman, Cayden Kroll, Ava Lee, Brock Lough, Everly Lucas, Emma Lugar, Evan May, Adam McNamara, John McNamara, Willow Meyers, Braelyn Miley, Hadley Milko, Caitlyn Moser, Lily Mullins, Berkley Murray, Miles Patrick, Micah Perdue, Dylan Pham,

Alisha Poudel, Aisha Poudyel, Cayden Ray, Jackson Rock, Camden Rosenberger, Oliver Saville, Fredy Solito Aleman, Kiryn Sollars, Isaac Spencer, Rebecca Stakor, Asia Stephens, Walker Stevens, Ella Stewart, Brayden Tars, Emily Taylor, Addison Thompson, Joseph Thompson, Malachi Tribble, Allison Vess, Cameron Vess, Ryan Waggoner, Parker Ward, Laurel Wiley, Archer Wilkinson, Isaac Williams, Olivia Wolfe, Nathaniel Wright, Levi Young, Toby Zhu

## A-B HONOR ROLL

**EIGHTH GRADE:** Christian Adams, Reese Adkins, David Aldrich, Caylin Barrett, Olivia Bergsten, Kaylee Bradbury, Dalton Bradley, Connor Bratton, Annika Brown, Thomas Burns, Analise Buyalos, Ella Carpenter, Kennedy Carpenter, Cole Cecil, Olivia Cook, Cinthya Diaz Villeda, Caleb Duncan, Wren Eggleston, Noah Estes, Madelyn Fields, Ella Foutz, Matthew Fuller, Strummer Giffin, Tanner Gore, Kinley Graham, Briggsley Grant, Evan Grant, Jolean Gross, Reagan Helms, Bailey Hutchins, Davis Kidd, Destiny Kiser, James Lane, Alyvia Lee, Archer Lee, Sadaf Lemar, Warner Lewis, Ryan Lindsay, Wyatt Marion, Cristofer Martinez-Rodriguez, , Thomas Mattarocchia, Madeline May, Layla McGavock, Samuel McLucas, Hannah McNamara, Emerson Meador, Nicholas Morris, Nathan Moser, Natalie Mullins, Addison Naff, Mackenzie Nichols, Renee Nunez Torres, Elizabeth Odell, Jeffrey Palmer, Diya Patel, Eliza Payne, Eva Pendleton, Izabella Perry, Carson Puckett, Kaden Reczek, Haiden Reedy, Alexandria Rickman, Adelle Roberts, Emilee Rogers, Maddlynn Roop, Mason Scott, Grace Shonhor, Audrey Sparks, Kylie Sutler, Ryder Toup, Annagail Tribbett, Josiah Tribble, Maddex Umber, Alyssa Walker, Dylan Welch, Cherie Westervelt, Rylan Wilcher, Stephen Wise, Deacon Witt, Holly Wood

**SEVENTH GRADE:** Matthew Alban, Carter Bierce, Brooke Boone, Khyron Brown, Siomara Clark, Emery Collins, Matthew Collins, Paityn Conley, Garrett Cooper, Schaeffer Crane, Virginia Crawford, Eric Damian-Mariano, Jackson Dean, Jady Deaner, Katelin Dent, Abigail Dillard, Benjamin Dodd, Connor Dooley, Brody Doss, Kailyn Edwards, Karis Edwards, Kylee Fernandez, Averie Flannigan, Elliana Foutz, Avery Gilbert, Aiden Gillespie, Avery Goad, Colin Goad, Peyton Guy, Maddox Hartzel, Ryan Harrison, Liam Hagan, Addison Holloman, Kaylee Hudgins, Josephine Ingrassia, Jacob Jenkins, Kiyomi Jennings, Ronnie Johansen, Aaliyah Johnson, Macy Johnson, Morgan Keleher, Porter Kincer, Elijah Laffoon, Paige Lapham, Makinleigh Lee, Ahmad Lemar, Molly Lusk, Brady McConnaughey, Addison McCormack, Jayce McLemore, Ashton McMillion, Arianna Moore, Noah Nagle, Marie Olivier, Alexa Olwage, Mia Orellana-Hernandez, Henry Ostendorf, Doruk Ali Ozgor, Michael Pastrokos, Luke Peery, Emma Rickman, Joselyn Rivera Perez, Alekzandre Rizvanovic, Joycklin Sanchez Martinez, Landon Sharp, Sophie Shonhor, Kassidy Snead, Amelia Stump, Gage Vassar, John Vaughan, David Wallace, Kambri Weaver, Layla Weber, Kailey Whitson, Jonathan Williamson, James Yager, Bentley Young, Ryan Young

**SIXTH GRADE:** Elijah Anderson, Sydney Bergsten, Cameron Booth, Annabel Brown, Aylah Brown, Trenton Brubaker, Otto Brummer, David Cloninger, Ella Cook, Layla Cook, Tristen Craddock, Asim Dahal, Justin Damian-Ambrocio, Katelyn Engels, Selin Ertcioglu, Mia Fields, Grace Forster, Elijah Foskey, Bryce Foutz, Hamilton Gallacher, Dorian Granados Armas, Peyton Greathouse, Alyssa Griffin, Karissa Griffith, Eli Hall, Tayler Hatter, Seth Hayslett, Yan Hernandez-Mancia, Mason Hibbs, Gabriel Kemper, Jerrica Lee, Christopher LeMond, Bryson Long, Dawson Lyle, Kinleigh Manley, Cody McLucas, Ethan Moore, Melody Moore, Jalissa Moreno, Julia Mosley, Elliott Mountcastle, Kennedy Mulford, Wyatt Naff, Manav Nayak, Viraj Nayak, Aubrey Nicely, Brady O'Quinn, John Pastrokos, Isaiah Perdue, Camden Persinger, Gracie Poff, Meredith Purser, Ella Purves, Brenden Reedy, Joseph Reiner, Maya Remusat, Camden Reynolds, Leo Ruiz-Hill, Laney Shepherd, Kendall Spencer, Kerington Stuart, Caleb Thorne, Charlee Truax, Olivia Waff, Greyson Webb, Christopher Wise, Grace Witt, Ryleigh Woolwine, Charlotte Wright



# Bank of The James

**Congratulations  
to all of these  
hard-working  
students!**



# Library Buzz

## UPCOMING COUNTY LIBRARY EVENTS

### Bird Watching for Beginners

Sat, Apr 27, 10:30-11:30am, Blue Ridge  
 Sat, Apr 27, 12:30-1:30pm, Buchanan  
 Dive into a hands-on bird watching lesson from the Roanoke Valley Bird Club. Learn about birds in our area, why they are important to the ecosystem, issues our birds face, as well as tips and tricks for spotting them.

### Eclectic Readers

Thu, Apr 25, 11am-12pm, Eagle Rock  
 The Dutch House by Ann Patchett  
 Fri, Apr 26, 11am-12pm, Blue Ridge  
 The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich  
 Discuss books and authors with fellow readers while enjoying coffee and social connection.

### Senior Bingo

Thu, Apr 25, 10-11:30am, Eagle Rock  
 Wed, May 14, 10-11:30am, Fincastle  
 Win fun prizes and enjoy social time with this popular game. Offered in partnership with the Botetourt County Sheriff's Office and Parks & Recreation.

### Choose Your Own Adventure

Thu, Apr 25, 4-6pm, Fincastle

Tue, Apr 30, 4-6pm, Eagle Rock  
 Based on the popular book series, follow a story and choose your own plot twists to create a unique adventure! Follow your adventure to craft stations inspired by the first four original books in the "Choose Your Own Adventure" series. Best for ages 7-14.

### STEM Club

1st Tuesdays, 4-5pm, Fincastle  
 2nd Wednesdays, 4-5pm, Buchanan  
 3rd Tuesdays, 2:30-3:30pm, Eagle Rock  
 4th Tuesdays, 4-5pm, Blue Ridge  
 Learn the scientific method and engineering design processes with hands-on projects. Best for ages 6-11. Registration required - call 540-928-2900 to sign up.

### Summer Reading Challenge

May 13 - June 30  
 Calling kids age 0-12 to "Dive into Reading" with our ocean-themed challenge! Earn brag tags and prizes by reading books of your choice, and participate in fun activities and events all summer long.

Find even more events at [BOCOLibraries.info](http://BOCOLibraries.info).

## JRHS Class of 1974 reunion

The James River High School Class of 1974 will hold its 50-year reunion on August 24 from 5-9 p.m. at the Blue Ridge Vineyard, catered by Aaron's Smokehouse, with DJ Randy Riddle. Invitations will be emailed/mailed in

May. Class members may contact Charlie Alphin at [cealphin@gmail.com](mailto:cealphin@gmail.com), or Cathy Henderson at [fincathyrd@intelos.net](mailto:fincathyrd@intelos.net).

-Submitted by Charlie Alphin

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### First program of Celebrating Fincastle Churches successful

Dear First Baptist Church members and participants who came to the Celebrating Fincastle's Historic Churches first program:

Thank you so much for hosting the first Historic Fincastle, Inc. program Celebrating Fincastle's Historic Churches - 2024. Your rich history from 1831 when the church began with three members and no church building was shared with all. After 1866, the "Fincastle African Church" was able to purchase a plot of land and erect the first building. The basement of the church was first used as a public school for the Negroes for a 30-year period.

On April 13, 2024, it was the sight of a delicious and friendly fellowship time after a rousing program of spiritual music presented by The Glorylanders of New River Valley. They are an A Capella group that has been singing together for over 30 years. The approximately 60 of us in attendance were treated to about 40 minutes of heartfelt gospel music. Toes were tapping and hands were clapping all over the sanctuary. It was truly a blessing. A special thank you to Deacon Chester and Minister Dolly Adams for helping to organize and lead the program.

Historic Fincastle is blessed to have beautiful historic churches that we are celebrating throughout 2024. The next program will be at Fincastle Presbyterian Church on Thursday, May 30 at 6:30 p.m. The program will begin with gathering music provided by Lori Turner, music director, followed by a brief history of Fincastle Presbyterian Church. Hannah Cox, an elder scholar presenter from the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra, will present a program on the history of music. The program will cover the history of music from "field songs" to "gospel" to "the blues" to "Motown" to "grunge." A fellowship time will follow the presentation.

The third program will be held on Sunday, June 30 at 3 p.m. at Fincastle United Methodist Church. The format will be the same: a welcome, a history and a musical performance by the talented musicians from the church.

The fourth program will be held on Saturday, September 28 at 2 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church during the Historic Fincastle Festival. After

a welcome and history of the church, the choir of the Botetourt Academy of Music will perform.

Historic Fincastle, Inc. hopes that everyone will come support our talented musicians and historic churches through this program. There is no charge, but a love offering will be collected during each program for the performers.

*Patsy Dickerson, President  
Historic Fincastle, Inc.*

### Thanks for helping fishing rodeo raise over \$12,000

We would like to thank every person who attended the annual fishing rodeo held at Thrasher's Pond in Buchanan on April 20. This year the rodeo was to benefit the Backpack Buddies program to help feed local kids. We raised \$12,169.73.

We would like to extend a special thanks to the following businesses for their donations to make this event successful: San Mar Co, Pink Cadillac, Scott's, Rockbridge Co-Op, Tractor Supply in Lexington, North Star Restaurant, McCarty Tire, Hair Affair, Adams Construction, Don Ho's, Beaver Dam Sunflower Festival, Buchanan Theatre, Sirens & Salutes, Bank of Botetourt, Stylin' Shed, Andrea Mundy, Anita Aaron, Natural Bridge Animal Hospital, First IV Coffee of Buchanan, Town of Buchanan, Hickman's Logging, Twin River Outfitters, Jellystone, Limestone Park, Good Times Café, Layman Family Farms, James River Drip, Arcadia Shell Station, Bryant Orchards, Advanced Auto, Marlene Bryant, Pancho Restaurant, AAA Entertainment, Spring Valley Farm petting zoo, Town Center Tap House, Food Lion, Donnie D's Bagels, YMCA-Daleville, Missy Gattis, Alison O'Conner, New Freedom Farm in Buchanan, Buchanan Fountain & Grille, Brogan Maintenance, Natural Bridge KOAH, Capps-Troutville, Country Breeze, Hazel Bowers, and Iron & Oar Restaurant.

We would also like to say thank you to all the volunteers and behind-the-scenes people who no one ever sees but they all do so much.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

*Steve Thrasher,  
Melissa Hutchens,  
Buchanan Moose Lodge*

### Retired Educators meeting May 13

The Botetourt Retired Educators will meet on Monday, May 13, in the Family Life Center of Fincastle United Methodist Church. Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m. with the meeting starting at 11. Wanda Martin will present a program about the Character Counts Academy. The menu for lunch will be a baked potato bar, chili, salad and dessert at a cost of \$15. Reservations for lunch should be made by Wednesday, May 8. Dues for 2024-2025

(\$35) may be paid at this meeting. Donations for the Scholarship Fund and Book Fund will be collected. New members are always welcome. If you want more information about the Botetourt Retired Educators or you would like to attend the May 13 meeting, contact Susan Martin at 540-473-2636 or at [susanmartin730@gmail.com](mailto:susanmartin730@gmail.com).

-Submitted by BRE

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



**Rosie**

Rosie is 3 years old, spayed, and up to date with vaccines. She loves humans, but should be an only cat in the household.

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

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### CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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53						54			55	56			
57									58				
59					60				61				

- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. North American people
  - 6. Chinese surname
  - 10. Fit in at the last minute
  - 14. "Very" in musical terminology
  - 15. Underwater displays
  - 17. Crosby's bandmates
  - 19. Belong to he
  - 20. Informed about the latest trends (archaic)
  - 21. Sequences of alternating turns
  - 22. Genus of grasses
  - 23. Satisfy
  - 24. Petty quarrel
  - 26. Made level
  - 29. Ruler of Iran
  - 31. Historical region of Syria
  - 32. Food suitable for babies
  - 34. Something to lend
  - 35. Zone of oceanic trenches
  - 37. Philippine island
  - 38. Domesticated animal
  - 39. Plant of the lily family
  - 40. Bluish green
  - 41. \_\_\_ Tomei, (French)
  - 43. Without (accent)
  - 45. Lilly and Manning are two
  - 46. Apply pressure to
  - 47. Divide in half
  - 49. Bad deed
  - 50. Don't know when yet
  - 53. Hollywood's greatest honor
  - 57. Aiming to exhort
  - 58. Faked
  - 59. A way to pierce
  - 60. Midway between north-east and east
  - 61. Points
  - CLUES DOWN
  - 1. Chop up
  - 2. \_\_\_ Spumante (Italian wine)
  - 3. Egyptian goddess
  - 4. Split pulses
  - 5. Afflict
  - 6. Type of area rug
  - 7. Tide
  - 8. Affirmative
  - 9. Sudden change
  - 10. One picked
  - 11. Debauched man
  - 12. Stiff bristles
  - 13. Famous arena
  - 16. Established rules and methods
  - 18. Injection
  - 22. Father
  - 23. Protein-rich liquids
  - 24. He delivers gifts
  - 25. Advanced degree
  - 27. Fencing swords
  - 28. Chinese mountain range
  - 29. Shaft horsepower (abbr.)
  - 30. Precursor to hemoglobin
  - 31. Much \_\_\_ about nothing
  - 33. Compound fabric (abbr.)
  - 35. A way to act slowly on
  - 36. Ottoman military commanders
  - 37. Popular kids' network
  - 39. Hard compound
  - 42. Sympathize with
  - 43. Northeast college
  - 44. Blood group
  - 46. Frosted
  - 47. Turn away
  - 48. Benefit
  - 49. Dry or withered
  - 50. Bangladeshi monetary unit
  - 51. Reproduced
  - 52. Contributes
  - 53. Thrust horse power (abbr.)
  - 54. Wear
  - 55. Promotes retention of water (abbr.)
  - 56. Very small

## THE FINCASTLE HERALD & Botetourt County News

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**One Life**  
 Thursday, April 25  
 7 p.m.

**Arthur the King**  
 (tentative)

Over the course of 10 days and 435 miles, an unbreakable bond is forged between pro adventure racer Michael Light (Mark Wahlberg) and a scrappy street dog, Arthur. Based on a true story, it follows Light as he convinces a sponsor to back him and a team of athletes for the Adventure Racing World Championship. As the team is pushed to the outer limits of endurance in the race, Arthur redefines what victory, loyalty and friendship truly mean.

**Fri., April 26 - 7 p.m.**  
**Sat., April 27 - 7 p.m.**  
**Sun., April 28 - 3 p.m.**  
**Thurs., May 2 - 7 p.m.**

See Answers, page 9

**Subscribe!  
389-9355**

# Library from page 1

The Fincastle Library recently received a makeover including beautiful painted murals from local artist Cheyenne Renee. The renovated space includes new paint and carpet, furnishings, murals, cafe area, teen area, LED lighting, display shelving, interior bookdrop, and more in a redesigned space that creates a brighter and more open environment and reflects community usage trends and needs. The murals in the computer and children's areas celebrate the rich history of the Fincastle area through key historic structures and local natural and agricultural scenery.

County Library Director Julie Phillips recently shared that the library's core renovations (new paint and carpet) were routine building maintenance needs previously included in the normal county budgeting process. The other improvements (murals, furnishings) were made possible through funding by the Friends of the Library, with a partial funding match from the county's Library Incentive Fund as approved by the Board of Supervisors.

"We're grateful to the many people who made this project possible," Phillips shared. "With some transport help from the sheriff's trustees, county maintenance staff helped move heavy shelving, furnishings, and over 38,000 books so contractors could put in new carpet and paint. County Technology Services staff helped move computers and make sure everything was connected."

"The Fincastle Library staff, along with some staff from other library branches, planned out the redesigned space, reshelved books, and made sure everything was put back in the right place. Local artist Cheyenne Renee painted the beautiful murals in the computer and children's areas. Special thanks to the Friends of the Library for generously funding many of these facility enhancements, including murals and furnishings."

Some other new features include a new rolling display of books upon entry to the library, a new coffee bar, and comfortable seating to relax in while enjoying a beverage or a book. There are also new chairs for individuals to sit comfortably in while surfing the web on one of the library's computers.

To learn more about Botetourt County Libraries, visit [www.botetourtva.gov/161/Libraries](http://www.botetourtva.gov/161/Libraries).



More of Renee's work can be found along the walls of the library's children's section.



The Fincastle Library has a new coffee bar and relaxing furniture.



PHOTOS BY MATT DE SIMONE



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# OBITUARY

## Trammell, Eugene B. "Colby"

Eugene Byron "Colby" Trammell, 76, passed away peacefully at his home in Fincastle on April 16, 2024 with his wife, Trudy, by his side.

Colby is survived by Trudy, his wife of 54 years; his daughter Kimberly and husband Jason; grandchildren, Sadie and Drew; sister and brother-in-law, Chyleen and Hank Bradley; brother and sister-in-law, Pat and Maureen Trammell; six nieces and nephews; and many close family members and friends. These friends have shown up strong for the family in the recent weeks.

Colby has born on February 19, 1948 in Corbin, Ky. to Eugene Howard "Big Colby" Trammell and Virginia Lee "Babe" Steele Trammell. Colby had a happy childhood playing sports, camping, fishing and hunting; and generally getting into good trouble. He graduated from Northside High School in 1966 and moved on to the Virginia Military Institute where he played football and received a B.S. in Biology in 1970. He enjoyed reconnecting with his VMI classmates in recent years and their support has been greatly appreciated. He received his Master's in Education Administration from the University of Virginia.

Colby met Trudy at a beach party in Virginia Beach in the summer of 1969. Despite showing up at his future in-laws' house in beach attire without shoes on, he managed to keep Trudy and they got married in 1971.

Following time as an officer in the Army in Fort Benning, Ga., Colby and Trudy returned to Virginia to start their careers in education. They spent time and served in education in Clifton Forge, Lancaster County, Bath County, and finally Botetourt

County. During those travels they collected a wonderful set of friends in each location that they have maintained since. During that time, they also welcomed Kimberly into the family. Colby was a loving father, always supporting Kim and her interests.

Colby retired from education in 2000 as Assistant Principal of James River High School and enjoyed 24 years of active retirement! He pursued many interests including but not limited to hunting and working on the Roho Hunt Camp that he was a member of for more than 40 years, fishing and taking fishing trips as far as Quebec, attending any sporting event, archery, horses and cattle and maintaining his beautiful home and property between Fincastle and Eagle Rock. He also enjoyed spending time with Trudy, Kim, Jason, Sadie and Drew. He was a terrific grandfather and Sadie and Drew will keep the important lessons he taught them throughout their lives. Colby was an intelligent, kind, strong, curious and honest man. We will miss him terribly but take comfort in the memories and countless lessons he taught us.

In keeping with his wishes, his body has been cremated. The life of Colby Trammell will be celebrated on Sunday, May 5, from 4 until 6 p.m. at Bailey Wick Family Farm in Fincastle.

Colby's family suggests memorial tributes take the form of contributions to the American Cancer Society, or your favorite charity, in his memory.

Nicely Funeral Home, Clifton Forge handled arrangements. To send condolences to the family online, visit [www.nicelyfuneralhome.com](http://www.nicelyfuneralhome.com).

## Breakfast at the Historic Wilson Warehouse in Buchanan

The Buchanan Town Improvement Society, which operates the Wilson Warehouse, will be serving a community breakfast Saturday, April 27, 8 a.m.-10 a.m. and Sunday, April 28, 8 a.m.-10 a.m. Cost is \$8 per person each day.

Saturday's menu is scrambled eggs, sausage links, hash browns, biscuits, coffee and juice.

Sunday's menu is breakfast casserole, fruits,

homemade muffins, coffee and juice.

The public is invited to come and enjoy breakfast in this 185-year-old building amidst beautiful antiques and learn more about its history.

For many decades the Wilson Warehouse was a place for weddings, receptions, service club meetings and community events. It features a large, open event space and commercial kitchen. The

space is available for rental.

The Town Improvement Society actively seeks new members as well as local and corporate sponsors. For information, call (540) 817-5772 or email: [tis1903@gmail.com](mailto:tis1903@gmail.com).

-Submitted by Buchanan Town Improvement Society.

- Buchanan Town Improvement Society



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAP

## Troutville students donate to LAP

Troutville Elementary students brought a bounty of donations to the League for Animal Protection (LAP) in Fincastle on April 16. The donations were raised by the fifth grade class.

- Submitted by LAP

## Drug Take Back Day April 27

The Roanoke Area Youth Substance Abuse Coalition (RAYSAC), the Western Virginia Water Authority, The Partnership for Community Wellness (PCW), and the Franklin County F.R.E.S.H. Coalition are once again partnering with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and local law enforcement agencies to support National Prescription Drug Take Back Day.

The DEA and local law enforcement agencies will collect expired, unused and unwanted prescription and over the counter medications for safe destruction on Saturday, April 27, from 10 a.m.-2

p.m. at multiple locations throughout the Roanoke Valley.

In Botetourt, drugs may be taken to Penelope at Botetourt Commons in Daleville and Solomon's Mission, 592 Lowe Street in Buchanan.

This initiative addresses vital public safety and public health issues. Medications that are stored in home cabinets are highly susceptible for diversion, misuse and abuse. Safe disposal of medications is key for protecting youth and waterways.

- RAYSAC

# CHURCH NEWS

## Special service at Fincastle Presbyterian today

Fincastle Presbyterian Church will be holding a Service of Prayer for Wholeness and Healing at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24. This is a special service of prayer, music, silence and scripture. This is an opportunity to gather in Christian community and draw closer to God as prayers will be offered for individuals, the local community, the country and the world. Following the service, participants will gather in the fellowship hall for a light supper. All are invited.

## Buchanan Food Pantry open Saturday

The Buchanan Presbyterian Church Food Pantry will be open Saturday, April 27 from 9 till 11 a.m. Church members will be distributing meat, bread, milk and staples at the curb. Anyone needing food is welcome to receive food. The church is at 19559 Main Street, Buchanan.

## Spring Fashion Show in Cloverdale

Cloverdale Church of Brethren, along with the Heaven Sent Thrift Shop, will host a Spring Fashion Show with refreshments on Saturday, April 27, from 11a.m.-1 p.m.

## New outreach program at Fincastle United Methodist

Fincastle United Methodist Church is starting a new outreach program, "Terrific Tuesdays," beginning April 30. Terrific Tuesdays will be a church and community dinner, taking place on the last Tuesday of each month, year-round. The dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. and is free to all. Donations will be accepted. Plan to come to a meal and enjoy visiting with the community.

## Spring Bazaar at Mount Olivet

Mount Olivet United Methodist Church's Spring Bazaar will be held from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, May 4, with breakfast and lunch, a bake sale, yard sale (space, \$5), and items for sale made by the Mt. Olivet Quilters. The church is located at 26310 Lee Highway, Buchanan. Come and enjoy the food and fellowship. For information, call 540-254-1353 or 540-798-8192.

## Top Dawg Food Truck coming to Ebenezer UMC

The Top Dawg Food Truck will be at Ebenezer United Methodist Church, 85 Nace Road, Troutville, every Monday from 5-7 p.m. at least until June. All are welcome to stop by for great food.

## Cloverdale Church of the Brethren Thrift Store

Spring has sprung at the Thrift Store. There is summer apparel for the entire family - name brand clothes for only \$1. The Thrift Store is open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Donations are welcome.

## Wesley Chapel Cemetery Fund needs donations for upkeep

Donations are needed for the upkeep of the Wesley Chapel Cemetery in Eagle Rock. Those who wish to help may send checks to Wesley Chapel Cemetery Fund, c/o Doris Johnson, 1906 Salt Petre Cave Road, Eagle Rock, 24085.

## Galatia Community Meal moving to Community Center

The Galatia EPC Potluck Community Meal is moving from Galatia Evangelical Presbyterian Church to the Eagle Rock Community Center and will be held on the second Tuesday, every other month. The next Potluck Community Meal will be Tuesday, May 13 at 12 noon. Bring a dish and come for good food and fellowship. Galatia EPC will be providing plates, cups, napkins and eating utensils. Drinks will also be provided.

## Mother's Day Tea at St. Mark's UMC

The TAME (That All May Eat) Ministry at St. Mark's United Methodist will host the fourth annual Mother's Day Tea on Saturday, May 11 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Proceeds from this event will go towards packing 10,000 meals for the Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing this September.

Enjoy the atmosphere of a tearoom serving "High Tea" in the church fellowship hall or get tea boxes to go. One box is \$20. Two boxes are \$36. Three boxes are \$48 and four boxes are \$60. Five or more boxes are \$16 each. Children under 12 are \$10. To reserve meal/meals, go to the church website, [www.stmarksmethodist.com](http://www.stmarksmethodist.com), or call 540-966-3629 and leave a message.

## Springwood Baptist yard sale May 4

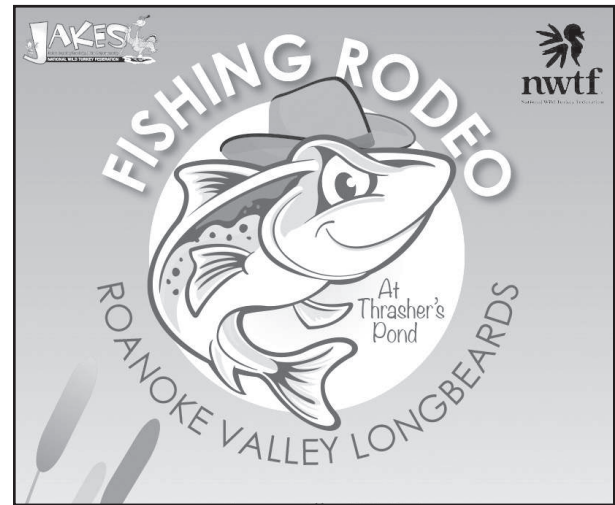
Springwood Baptist Church is sponsoring an indoor yard sale on May 4 from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the fellowship hall. A variety of gently used clothing items and household goods will be available for purchase at reasonable prices. From noon until 1 p.m. on the day of the sale, a \$1 Bag Sale will take place - items that can be placed in a single bag may be purchased for \$1 during this hour. Fill as many bags as you would like for the price of \$1 each. Additionally, a bake sale will be held with homemade baked goods and drinks. All proceeds from this sale will be donated to the church's Community Emergency Relief Fund and the Patricia S. Shiflett Scholarship Fund.

## Shiloh Cemetery needs donations

Shiloh Methodist Church Cemetery on Shiloh Road, Eagle Rock, is asking for those who have loved ones buried in the cemetery or own plots to give monetary donations to help with the upkeep of the cemetery. Expenses for gasoline, equipment and labor have gone up. If you have any questions, call 540-620-2625, or are interested in a final resting place. Make checks payable to Shiloh Cemetery and send to: Shiloh Church Cemetery, c/o Sharon Britt 1281 Salt Petre Cave Road, Eagle Rock, 24085.

## Fishing rodeo at Thrasher's Pond May 4

The Roanoke Valley Longbeards will hold a fishing rodeo at Thrasher's Pond in Springwood on Saturday, May 4, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. The event is free and limited to 50 participants age 17 and under. Check-in takes place between 9-10 a.m., followed by fishing from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch will be provided for participants and their families. Due to space



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF RVL

limitations, walk-ins are not allowed. Register in advance online at <http://your.nwtf.org/members/> events.

- Roanoke Valley Longbeards

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## Limestone Park Beef BBQ this Saturday, April 27

Beef BBQ dinners will be available from noon until 5 p.m. Saturday, April 27 at Limestone Park in Buchanan. The dinners will consist of two sandwiches, baked beans, slaw and a drink for \$12. Contact Nancy Epperly or Pat Shotwell, at 540-254-1616 or 540-254-2616, to reserve tickets.

Baked goods will also be available for purchase. All proceeds from the beef BBQ and bake sale will benefit Limestone Park Ministries.

The Alaska Mission Team will be having their annual flower sale from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. All proceeds from the flower sale will go

to Alaska Missions.

Limestone will not be having a yard sale this year, but yard sale spaces will be available for \$15 beginning at 8 a.m. for anyone who would like to set up to sell.

- Limestone Park Ministries



DAR members and guests visit Poplar Forest

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAR

# Botetourt DAR visits Poplar Forest

Three Daughters of the American Revolution Chapters from around the area traveled to Poplar Forest on Saturday, April 13 to tour this historic home of Founding Father Thomas Jefferson. Members of the Botetourt County Chapter, the Roanoke Valley Chapter, and the Craig County Chapter gathered in Forest where Jefferson “came to indulge in the life of the mind and renew his personal creativity.” Jefferson and his wife, Martha Wayles Jefferson, inherited this Bedford County plantation from her father in 1773. Jefferson began designing

and working on his retreat home in 1806, and work continued for two decades. The octagonal house that he built may have been the first of its kind built in this country. The house at Poplar Forest is made of brick and consists of a central square space and three sides made of elongated octagon rooms. The central dining room has a skylight and the dimensions are 20’x20’ x20’, which makes it a perfect cube. Designated a National Historic Landmark, Poplar Forest is an award-winning historic restoration in progress. It is open daily for

document-guided or self-guided tours. Thomas Jefferson was the primary author of the Declaration of Independence, the first Secretary of State, the second Vice President of the United States, and the third President of the United States. He died on July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. As the nation is preparing to celebrate America 250, DAR chapters encourage everyone to learn more about Virginia’s history during the Revolutionary time period as well as the lives, histories, sites,

stories and communities of the citizens in the Revolutionary time period. The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is a women’s service organization whose members can trace their lineage to an individual who contributed to securing American independence during the Revolutionary War. DAR chapters participate in projects to promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism.  
-Botetourt DAR

# New Freedom Farm to reopen May 22

In a recent release, the New Freedom Farm Board of Directors announced that the beloved nonprofit dedicated to supporting veterans and first responders through equine interaction and supportive peer networks is reopening its doors on May 22. “After a necessary pause, [New Freedom Farm is] back and more committed than ever to our mission of providing healing and hope to our nation’s heroes,” the release went on to say. “During this time, we took the opportunity to reevaluate and enhance

our operations, events, and programs to ensure that we can continue delivering the highest-quality services to our veterans, first responders, and their families. We are excited for this next chapter of our journey. Starting May 22 the farm will be open on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Veterans and first responders are invited to visit during these hours for healing and camaraderie. The farm will soon announce new programs over the coming weeks,

designed to provide a supportive environment for healing and growth. Anyone who knows someone who could benefit from the programs at New Freedom Farm or those wishing to become a sponsor are encouraged them to contact them by visiting the website at newfreedomfarm.org or by phone at 540-855-1158. “Your generous support has always been the backbone of our organization. Consider making a donation, becoming a sponsor, or spreading the word about



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

New Freedom Farm to help us reach more heroes in need,” the news release continued. As New Freedom Farm reopens, they reflect on “the challenges of the past year and feel compelled to

share a deep commitment to eliminating the stigma around mental health struggles in hopes of making a positive impact on the lives of local veterans and their families.” New Freedom Farm

is located at 6118 Lithia Road in Buchanan.  
- Fincastle Herald staff report

# LB FFA BBQ April 27

Lord Botetourt FFA members will hold their annual chicken BBQ on Saturday, April 27 in the Lord Botetourt High School Cafeteria.

The meal includes half of a barbecued chicken, baked potato, green beans, roll and a bottle of water. Meals will be available in the Lord Botetourt cafeteria, dine in or carry out, from 5-7 p.m. Tickets are on sale now for \$15 per meal through April 23. To purchase a ticket, see any Lord Botetourt FFA member, call the school at 992-1261, or send an

email at lbffa@bcps.k12.va.us. All proceeds from the barbecue will provide opportunities for FFA members to compete at state and national conventions and provide funding for many community service projects throughout the year.  
- LB FFA

# Botetourt County Democratic Committee meeting May 6

The Botetourt County Democratic Committee will hold its next meeting on Monday, May 6 at Pomegranate Event Center, 106 Stoney Battery Road, Troutville. Delegate Sam Rasoul will be the guest speaker and will provide a legislative update from the 2024 General Assembly and an overview of

the Impact Center. Hors d’oeuvres and fellowship begin at 6:15 p.m., followed by the business meeting and speaker beginning at 6:45 p.m.  
-Submitted by Botetourt Democratic Committee

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## VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

### Culvert Repairs on Various Routes Botetourt, Craig and Franklin Counties

Find out about a project to repair drainage culverts in three counties in the Virginia Department of Transportation’s 12-county Salem District. The culverts are at the following locations:

County	Route	Road Name	Crossing
Botetourt	43	Parkway Drive	Bearwallow Creek
Craig	42	Cumberland Gap Road	Branch of Sinking Creek
Franklin	220	Virgil Goode Highway	Branch of North Fork of Chestnut Creek
Franklin	834	Brooks Mill Road	Popular Camp Creek

Review the project information and the National Environmental Policy Act document in the form of a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion at VDOT’s Salem District Office located at 731 Harrison Avenue in Salem, 540-387-5353, 800-367-7623, TTY/TDD 711. Please call ahead to ensure the availability of appropriate personnel to answer your questions.

If your concerns cannot be satisfied, VDOT is willing to hold a public hearing. You may request that a public hearing be held by sending a written request to Mr. Jack Bayne, Virginia Department of Transportation, 731 Harrison Avenue, Salem, VA 24153 on or prior to **May 9, 2024**. If a request for a public hearing is received, notice of date, time and place of the hearing will be posted.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you have questions or concerns about your civil rights in regards to this project or need special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Jack Bayne at the phone numbers listed above.

State Project: BR02-962-816, P101, D648, D649, D650, D651, D652, D653, D654  
Federal Project: STP-BR02(464) UPC: 121223

## Subscribe to The Herald!

# 389-9355



# Earth Day from page 1

Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent Anne Jones, information about the upcoming 2024 Eagle Rock Science Fair with Eagle Rock Ruritan Beth Leffel, and more.

The Botetourt County Farmers Market hosted an "Earth Day Market" featuring items sold by local vendors that featured

sustainable products. Visitors spent the morning perusing the local wares and learning about the environment. The regular season of the market begins on May 4 from 8:30 a.m. until 12 p.m. at the Daleville Town Center.

- Fincastle Herald staff report



Botetourt Farmers Market unofficially open their 2024 season last weekend in Daleville.



The county farmers market opens May 4 at 8:30 a.m.



Members of the Botetourt 4-H Honey Bee Club stand with club information.



PHOTOS BY MATT DE SIMONE

A group of kids participate in Earth Day activities at the Fincastle Library.

# Courthouse from page 1

meeting of the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors, the board unanimously approved a proposed courthouse plan. The conceptual plan, developed by an advisory committee consisting of local officials and local history advocates, called for building a new courthouse on the site of the existing Circuit Courthouse on Main Street in Fincastle. The plan includes a new courthouse "green" area for public use and gatherings, expanded parking, and relocating the museum/old Breckinridge law office that was formerly occupied by the Botetourt County Historical Society.

The original estimated cost of the project was then

approximately \$25 million and was slated for completion December of 2024, as of the summer of 2022. Last September, the county removed the original general contractor, KNA Contracting. Now, the county is continuously working to get the project completed, but still has some bridges to cross.

The project was originally set up in two phases, "A" and "B." Phase A set up the infrastructure to tear down the courthouse, move the old museum for preservation, and moving the historical files out of the courthouse. This was the part of the project that was left unfinished. Namely,

the physical move of the old Breckinridge law office in front of a retaining wall built to the west of courthouse square. Phase B was for general construction of the new courthouse/square. Evans noted that the contractor will still need to complete the initial phase before any other work can begin.

Currently, the county is negotiating with a bonding company, who is responsible for arranging for the completion of the contract if the contractor fails to perform. Additionally, the county is negotiating with an architecture/engineering (A&E) firm, Architectural Partners, who were originally

awarded the contract by the county.

"When a general contractor is removed, they have insurance through a bonding company to basically pick up the pieces/cost if they get removed for cause from a project," Evans explained. "So, the regional general contractor was removed, so now Botetourt County, the bond company, the A&E firm, and a new general contractor are all in negotiations to get this project back on track."

Evans noted that the four-way negotiations are "very sensitive" with "a lot of money involved."

"Once that gets settled, we'll have a new general contractor

out here and work can resume," Evans added.

Evans is also in the process of working negotiations for the renovation of the Buchanan Library and adding a 911 call center to the Read Mountain Fire Department on top of other county projects.

"For a county that's got a population of 34,000 people, I will say that the Botetourt County government is exceptionally professional," Evans said. "I'm really impressed with the caliber of people they have for such a small populated county. I'm happy to be here. It amazes me that the county has this many improvement projects going on."

# BCSO from page 1

violent fugitives.

In 2023, BCSO was notified about a sexual battery of a minor, Ward explained. Lead Detective Christie Bolton and BCSO began their

investigation. Ward noted the "incredible job" of Bolton's pursuit in gathering facts and evidence necessary for prosecution.

The task force was led

to believe Hightower had connections in Mexico, which "made this investigation more difficult," according to Western District of Virginia Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshal Frank Schermer. He explained that Hightower "receiving material support" added to the complexities of the investigation and was a reason why there were so many individuals involved. Schermer added that "it was no short of 100 people" involved in the apprehension of Hightower.

"This investigation is

just another example of why (BCSO) joined the U.S. Marshals Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force," Ward added. "The extraordinary job, the assets they provide—when they turn their focus over to working on missing/exploited children, this was a beneficial move for us. This right here proves why we decided to join this team. It's been an invaluable asset for the safety of this community."

Western District of Virginia U.S. Marshal Thomas Foster shared his thoughts on the recent investigation/apprehension of Hightower.

"The partnership with the Botetourt County Sheriff's Office is amazing," Foster said. "Having them on board with our task force has enhanced our ability to go out and do what we do every day and track fugitives."

The Western District of Virginia U.S. Marshals, based out of Roanoke,



Western District of Virginia U.S. Marshal Thomas Foster



Western District of Virginia Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshal Frank Schermer

hand out roughly 2,700 warrants every year. The U.S. Marshals Service captures over 100,000 fugitives annually and, on average, Marshals arrest 303 fugitives a day.

"The reach of the United States Marshal Service and our state and local partners is long and unwavering," Foster continued. "The suspect's presence in the Botetourt County Sheriff's jail illustrates that it's still true today."

Foster thanked Ward and BCSO for their roles in the task force and their "invaluable" contributions.

"We have an exceptional group of men and women who get up every day here in Botetourt County to ensure one thing and that's to ensure a safer Botetourt," Ward said. "I couldn't be more proud of the effort and the work that they did to make this apprehension and keeping this community safe."

PHOTOS BY MATT DE SIMONE

## PUBLIC NOTICE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION for the County of Botetourt

Public notice is hereby given that the Board of Equalization for Botetourt County will meet on the days hereafter listed for the purpose of hearing complaints of inequalities, errors, or that the real property is assessed at more than fair market value. Upon hearing such objections, either oral or written, the Board will give consideration and INCREASE, DECREASE, OR AFFIRM such real estate assessments. Before a change is granted, the taxpayer or his agent must overcome a clear presumption in favor of the assessment. The taxpayer or agent must provide a preponderance of the evidence that the property is not uniform with other similar properties or prove that the property is assessed in excess of its fair market value.

The Board will hear objections by appointment only scheduled every 30 minutes to minimize waiting. To appear before the Board of Equalization, please call 540-613-3026. Meetings will be held in Room 229 at the Botetourt County Administration Center located at 57 S. Center Dr., Daleville, Virginia. The dates and times are:

- Wednesday, April 24 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Thursday, April 25 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- Friday, April 26 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Wednesday, May 1 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Thursday, May 2 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- Friday, May 3 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Thursday, May 9 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- Friday, May 10 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Wednesday, May 15 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Wednesday, May 22 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- Thursday, May 23 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- Friday, May 24 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Additional dates and times will be scheduled and advertised, if needed. County ordinance requires all applications be received by 5:00 p.m. on May 10, 2024, and the Board of Equalization must complete their work by June 28, 2024.

By order of the Botetourt County Board of Equalization  
John F. Kilby, Chairman

**CROSSWORD ANSWERS**

H	A	I	D	A	A	N	Y	U	C	R	A	M			
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Call to purchase (540)992-1361  
By the whole quarter or piece side (all cuts are boneless)

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Ikenberry Orchards & Country Store, Daleville

Individually frozen packages  
Vacuum sealed

No Hormones, Steroids or Antibiotics  
Website: RTSFarms.com

**Stockyard Report**  
Monday's sale at the Roanoke-Hollins Stockyard: 111 Head

**Graded Steers**  
400-499 \$293.00-\$317.00  
500-599 \$239.00-\$285.00  
600-699 \$274.00

**Graded Bulls**  
400-499 \$273.00  
500-599 \$254.00  
600-699 \$241.00

**Graded Heifers**  
400-499 \$235.00-\$255.00  
500-599 \$239.00  
600-699 \$203.00-\$225.00

**Kill Cows**  
\$40.00-\$115.00

**Kill Bulls**  
\$138.00-\$140.00

Fincastle needs donations for the July 4 fireworks show!  
VENMO: @Townof-Fincastle



# Marketplace



THE FINCASTLE HERALD The Messenger THE NEW CASTLE RECORD SALEM TIMES REGISTER News Messenger RADFORD News Journal

### Yard Sales - Craig County

**Yard Sale Lots of Items!**  
Saturday, April 27  
8:00 am to 1:00 pm  
New Castle United Methodist Church

### Auctions

**Notice of Public Auction  
Bath and Hotel Fixtures  
2635 Roanoke Street,  
Christiansburg, VA 24073  
Days Inn Christiansburg**

New in Boxes Bath and Hotel Fixtures  
  
Sale Starts: Friday, May 10th, 2024 12:00 Noon

Fixtures Include: 50 plus 60 x30 x 14.25 Profit steel Bathtubs Left and Right, 60 plus Chair Height Commodes, 35 plus A Grade 800 x 1600 x 9mm Sink Countertops, Bhukhara Vitrified Tile, Tub Tile, Full and King Size Headboards, 100 plus Delta Shower Heads, Plumbing Fittings, Supply Lines, Full Length Mirrors, 36" ROund Mirrors, 40 plus Night Stands, Blu Vinyl Lounge Chairs, 25 plus LED Lighted Mirrors, 45 Plus Bench Seats and many more items too numerous to mention!

All Items Must Be Removed at the Conclusion of this Auction!

Terms of Sale for Personal Property: Cash, Checks, Visa or Master Card. A 13% buyer's premium will be charged, 3% will be waived if payment is made by cash or check.

Sale is Being Conducted by: Larry J. Linkous, VAAL #3

For Further Information, call: 540.961.2608 or check website at www.linkousauctioneers.com

All information contained in this listing was derived from sources believed to be correct, but is not guaranteed. Any announcement made from the auction stand shall take precedence over any printed material.

### Help Wanted - General

**Pianist Wanted**  
Troutville Baptist church is seeking a pianist to provide accompaniment for services and choir rehearsals. Parttime, salaried, for more information Troutvillebaptistchurchpc@gmail.com

### Help Wanted - Health Care

**Catawba Hospital is now hiring floor technicians and housekeepers!**  
  
Starting pay is \$15/hr+ depending on experience. Excellent Benefits including affordable health insurance, VRS retirement plan, and 12 days of Paid Time Off!

Please apply on our website, <https://dbhds.virginia.gov/facilities/catawba/virginia> -opportunities  
Contact Austin Grasty for details  
Ph: (540) 375-4368  
Email: [austin.grasty@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:austin.grasty@dbhds.virginia.gov)

### Legals - Botetourt County

**TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 423 TINKERVIEW DRIVE, CLOVERDALE, VA 24077.**  
In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated October 31, 2016, in the original principal amount of \$114,075.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 160004078. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court,

### Legals - Botetourt County

on May 31, 2024, at 10:30 AM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: UNIT 2004 OF PHASE IV, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT SHOWING PHASE IV SUBDIVISION OF TINKERVIEW TOWNHOUSE PROPERTY, BLUE RIDGE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, DATED JUNE 30, 1988, PREPARED BY MATTERN & CRAIG, CERTIFIED LAND SURVEYORS, OF RECORD IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT BOOK 12, PAGE 166. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at [www.bwvsales.com](http://www.bwvsales.com). Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: [www.bwvsales.com](http://www.bwvsales.com). VA-369557-1.

### Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104  
Case No. **CL24000530-00** MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* ERIC RANDALE BRYANT v. CHRISTINA MARIE BRYANT

The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that CHRISTINA MARIE BRYANT appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before JUNE 5, 2024.  
APRIL 2, 2024  
ROBERT M.D. TURK, JUDGE  
TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* ESTATE OF CHARLES MATTHEW BARTON, DECEASED v.

The object of this suit is to: SHOW CAUSE AGAINST PAYMENT AND DELIVERY OF ASSETS IN INSOLVENT ESTATE.

It appearing that a report of the accounts of James A. McClure, Administrator of the Estate of Charles Matthew Barton, deceased, and the debts and demands against the estate have been filed in the Clerk's Office and that six months have elapsed since the qualification, on motion of the personal representative, it is ORDERED that the creditors of, and all others interested in, the Estate of Charles Mathew Barton show cause, if any they can, on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024, at 11:00 a.m., before this Court at its Courthouse at 1 Main Street, Fincastle, Virginia, against the payment and delivery of the assets in the insolvent estate, pursuant to Virginia Code §64.2-528, to the creditors as listed on Schedule B of the Motion for Entry of Show Cause Order previously filed in this matter. It is ORDERED that the foregoing portion of this Order be published once a week for two successive weeks in the Fincastle Herald, a newspaper having general circulation in the County of Botetourt, Virginia.  
Enter: April 11, 2024  
Leslianne Smith Clerk  
I ask for this:  
Lenden A. Eakin (VSB #23885)  
FERRIS & EAKIN, P.C. 22 Luck Avenue, SW

### Legals - Botetourt County

Roanoke, Va 24011  
Phone: 540-345-1000  
Fax: 540-344-6608  
Email: [Lenden@rvalaw.com](mailto:Lenden@rvalaw.com)  
*Counsel for James A. McClure, Administrator of the Estate of Charles Matthew Barton, deceased*

### Legals - City of Salem

**VDOT Bristol Bundle Bridges Bidding Opportunity! Archer Western is seeking subcontractors and suppliers for VDOT - Bristol and Salem Districts Bridge Bundle DB this Project bids on May 5th, 2024. The Project includes, among other things**  
the Design and Construction of:  
(a) roadway; (b) survey; (c) structure and/or bridge; (d) environmental; (e) geotechnical; (f) hydraulics, drainage, stormwater management, and erosion and sediment control; (g) traffic control devices; (h) transportation management plan; (i) right-of-way; (j) utilities; (k) quality assurance and quality control.  
Estimating Contact 301-347-4680.  
Submit questions and quotes by May 1st COB.  
To: [awcstimating@walsghro.com](mailto:awcstimating@walsghro.com).

An Equal Opportunity Employer, Disability/Veteran

### Legals - Montgomery County

### Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104  
Case No. **CL24000530-00** MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* ERIC RANDALE BRYANT v. CHRISTINA MARIE BRYANT

The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that CHRISTINA MARIE BRYANT appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before JUNE 5, 2024.  
APRIL 2, 2024  
ROBERT M.D. TURK, JUDGE  
TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

### TRUSTEE'S SALE PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN: West Ward of the City of Radford, Virginia Containing 0.2479 acres, more or less Commonly Known as: 1002 West Main Street, Radford, Virginia

IN EXECUTION OF A CERTAIN DEED OF TRUST OF RECORD IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF RADFORD CITY, VIRGINIA, AS INSTRUMENT NO. 201100838, DATED AUGUST 29, 2011, WHEREAS, BY DEED OF BARGAIN AND SALE AND ASSUMPTION DATED SEPTEMBER 1, 2016, RECORDED IN THE AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE AS INSTRUMENT NO: 201600804 THE DEED OF TRUST WAS ASSUMED BY MARK BROOKNER. DEFAULT HAVING BEEN MADE IN THE PAYMENT OF THE DEBT THEREIN SECURED AND BEING REQUIRED TO DO SO BY THE NOTEHOLDER, THE UNDERSIGNED SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, AFTER GIVING FOURTEEN (14) DAYS DUE NOTICE TO THE OWNERS OF THE REAL ESTATE OF THE DATE, TIME, PLACE AND TERMS OF SALE, WILL OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION, IN FRONT OF THE RADFORD CITY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 619 SECOND STREET, RADFORD, VIRGINIA, ON THE 9th DAY OF MAY, 2024, AT 10:00 A.M., THE REAL ESTATE WITH

### Legals - Montgomery County

### IMPROVEMENTS THEREON KNOWN AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

All that certain tracts or parcels of land, with the improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate, lying and being in the City of Radford, Virginia, and described as follows: BEING all of Lots 28 and 29, part of Lots 27, 30, 34, 35, Section 1, Plan C, Radford Land and Improvement Company Lots, containing 0.2479 acres (10,800 sq. ft.), as designated and described on a plat of survey entitled, Physical Survey Lots 28, 29 and Part of Lots 27, 30, 34, 35 Section 1, Plan C Radford Land and Improvement Co. West Ward City of Radford, Virginia for Ronald R. Sowers", dated August 23, 2011, Job No. 565811, by James Conrad Groseclose, II, Land Surveyor, Mathews and Henegar Inc., professional engineers and land surveyors, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof and reference is hereby made to said plat of survey for a more accurate description of the property herein conveyed.

Tax Map Number: 13-(5)-SEC 1-27A-28-29-30A-34A+  
Account Number: 020000684.  
Commonly Known As: 1002 West Main Street, Radford, Virginia

SALE WILL BE MADE SUBJECT TO ALL EXISTING EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS AS THE SAME MAY LAWFULLY AFFECT THE REAL ESTATE.

TERMS OF SALE: CASH, SETTLEMENT WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF SALE. A BIDDERS DEPOSIT OF TEN PERCENT (10%) MAY BE REQUIRED.

PLACE OF SALE: FRONT OF RADFORD CITY COURTHOUSE, AT 619 SECOND STREET, RADFORD, VIRGINIA

DATE OF SALE: MAY 9, 2024  
TIME OF SALE: 10:00 A.M.

Daniel D. Hamrick, PC Substitute Trustee  
By: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent  
For Daniel D. Hamrick, PC

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent Daniel D. Hamrick, P.C. 104 South Franklin Street Christiansburg, VA 24073 (540) 382-0131

### Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104  
Case No. **CL24-228** MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073

COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA, a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Complainant, V.

FRANK E. LYTTON, ET AL., Respondent(s).

ORDER OF PUBLICATION] The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Montgomery, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Montgomery, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 076-A 74 Account No. 011621 All that certain tract or parcel of land, with the improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate, lying or being in the Riner Magisterial District, Montgomery County, Virginia, which contains one acre, more or less, described as follows: BEGINNING at an iron stake in or near the line of (now or formerly) Gifford McGuire and C.R. Thompson and running with said line in a westerly direction to another stake; thence northward to the N & W Railway Line, and east ward with the said N & W line back to about the center of a two-acre tract of land belonging now or formerly

### Legals - Montgomery County

to the said Gifford McGuire; thence southward back to the point of BEGINNING.

And being the same property conveyed to Frank E. Lytton and Gladys E. Lytton, husband and wife, by Deed, dated July 2, 1951 and recorded July 2, 1951 in the Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 172 at Page 59. This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described.

IT APPEARING that a Affidavit has been made and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served, that the last known addresser for the Respondents herein are as follows: Frank E. Lytton, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Don Edward Lytton, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Donna Lytton, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Glenn Lytton, whose last known address is unknown; Harrison Edward Lytton, Whose last known address is 5391 Ivanhoe Rd, Apt. A, Fries, Virginia 24330; Janet Lytton, whose last known address is 3664 Caboose Rd. Christiansburg, Virginia, 24073; Violet Pagen aka Violet Lyons, whose last known address is 3428 Case Knife Rd. Pulaski, Virginia 24301; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the Respondent named herein are made parties Respondent to this action individually and/or by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby

ORDERED that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained apparat on or before May 15, 2024 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interest in this cause. Entered on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024.  
K. Mike Fleenor, Judge

I Ask For This: John A Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805)

Jeffery A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591)

Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409)

Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372)

Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609)

Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158)

Seth R. Konopasek, Esq. (VSB No. 97065)

Garrett W. Patton, Esq. (VSB No. 98345)

### Notice of Public Hearing Town of Blacksburg Planning Commission Tuesday, May 7, 2024

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Town of Blacksburg will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 during its meeting beginning at 6:30 PM in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Council Chamber, 300 South Main St, Blacksburg, VA on the following item:

AFD-24-1/ORD 2052- Withdrawal of 3.036 acres of land from the Agricultural and Forestal District at 701 Bishop Road (Tax Map No. 137-T-A-1, Parcel # 006339) by James and Carol Burger (property owner).

Request to withdraw 3.036 acres of land from the Town of Blacksburg Agricultural and Forestal District (AFD) at 701 Bishop Road by James and Carol Burger. A minor subdivision application (SUB 23-0006) for the creation of three (3) parcels is currently under review by the Planning and Engineering Department.

Persons affected by or interested in this Agricultural and Forestal District withdrawal may appear and present their views. After

### Legals - Montgomery County

the hearing, the Planning Commission will take action. Copies of the request and all related items may be found online at [www.blacksburg.gov/public hearings](http://www.blacksburg.gov/public hearings) or reviewed in person at the Blacksburg Planning and Building Department, 400 South Main Street, Blacksburg, Virginia.

You may also call the office at (540) 443-1300 for more information. Individuals with disabilities who require special assistance to attend and participate in the public hearing on the above should contact the Planning & Building Department at (540) 443-1300, or (540)-443-1000-TDD.

### Legals - Town of Vinton

### INVITATION FOR BIDS

### Town of Vinton Virginia

### Legals - Town of Vinton

### "Resurface Various Streets"

The Town of Vinton Virginia is seeking Competitive Sealed Bids for Solicitation No. TOV-2024-001-PW, Resurface Various Streets in the Town of Vinton, VA.

The work includes pavement planing (milling) and asphalt pavement overlay. Intent is to award a contract based upon Estimated Quantities and Unit Prices. Public Bid Opening scheduled for Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at 10:00 AM at the Town of Vinton Public Works Department, 804 3rd Street, Vinton VA. For information and copies of the solicitation documents, contact Vinton Public Works Department by phone at (540) 983-0646 or in person at 804 3rd Street, Vinton, VA 24179 between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday or visit the Town of Vinton's Website at [www.vintonva.gov](http://www.vintonva.gov). Contract Documents will also be available at Valley Construction News, 426 Campbell Ave., Roanoke VA

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**\$1000 OFF** AND **No Payments & No Interest For 18 Months\***  
OFFER EXPIRES 6/30/24  
**BCI BATH & SHOWER**  
CALL NOW (844) 945-1631  
\*Includes product and labor; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 6/30/24. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. \*\*Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2024 BCI Acrylic, Inc.

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## Knights have two district softball games this week

The James River softball team is looking to bounce back from a forgettable loss when they take on two tough Three Rivers District opponents this week. The Knights were scheduled to play at Floyd on Tuesday and at Alleghany on Friday, hoping to turn things around against two teams they lost to in their first meeting.

River will be trying to put a loss to Eastern Montgomery in the rear view mirror. The Knights dropped a 10-8 heartbreaker to the Mustangs in Elliston last week, letting an 8-0 lead slip away.

"After an amazing top of the first, somehow a switch got turned off and everything went haywire for us...in every phase," said River coach Steve Austin.

The Knights started with a bang as leadoff hitter Caitlyn Downey began the contest with a solo home run to left field to put the Knights ahead, 1-0. Four singles, two doubles and a walk later, James River had an 8-0 lead after their first at-bat. The Mustangs were not ready to concede, however, and they used four singles and a throwing error to plate four

runs of their own in their initial at-bat and after one inning the score was 8-4.

East Mont scored single runs in the second and fifth to slice the lead to 8-6. Meanwhile, the Knights were thwarted after the big first inning, but they did leave three runners in scoring position during that stretch.

In the bottom of the sixth the Mustangs struck for four two-out runs on two singles, a walk, a hit batter and two Knight miscues to grab a 10-8 lead. A three-up-three-down top of the seventh left the Knights with their second straight loss as River fell to 3-5 and the Pioneer District Mustangs improved to 7-3.

Downey led James River with three hits, a single, double and home run. Abbie Wilson, Chloe Joy nes and Keira Crawford had two hits apiece for River while Ella Hutchens had a double and two RBIs in the disappointing loss.

"We've been ahead or tied in seven of our eight games going into the sixth inning," said Austin. "We need to keep fighting and competing and figure out a way to finish— and learn to hate losing a little more."



PHOTO BY LEIGH DOWNEY

**Caitlyn Downey is ready to run for River. Caitlyn had three hits, including a home run, in last week's game at Eastern Montgomery.**

## Lord Botetourt girls have big soccer matches against Franklin County



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

**Bria Harvey (6) goes high to head in a corner kick for a goal against Salem.**

First place in the Blue Ridge District will be on the line this week when Lord Botetourt and Franklin County go head-to-head in girls soccer— twice! The two were scheduled to play in Rocky Mount on Tuesday and they'll meet again in Daleville Friday.

Both teams come into the week at 4-0 in district games. The Cavaliers improved to 4-0 in the BRD with two district wins last week over William Fleming and Northside. Against Fleming, LB won 10-0 as

Karis Hambrick had a three-goal hat trick and Emma Rice and Bria Harvey had two goals each.

On Friday at home the girls shut out Northside, 8-0. Rice had three goals, Harvey had two and Cailey Petrauskas, Autumn Estrada and Janey Farrar had one each.

LB also had two non-district wins in the past week against quality Class 4 opponents. Last Thursday at home the girls edged Salem in a shootout, 4-3. This game was tied 3-3 at the half before Rice scored her second

goal of the night in the second half for what proved to be the difference. Katherine Woodward had the first goal for LB and Harvey headed in a corner kick.

On Monday at home the girls ran their winning streak to six straight game with a 3-2 win over E.C. Glass. Petrauskas opened the scoring off an assist from Harvey and Rice had the other two goals, one unassisted and the other off an Ella Fletcher assist.

Monday's win lifted LB to 7-3 overall.

## River soccer teams will take on Alleghany Friday

The James River soccer teams will be back on the pitch Thursday to take on Alleghany opponents. The girls will be in Springwood and the boys will be at Clifton Middle School for Three Rivers District matches.

The local teams have had a light schedule in the past week. The boys had a Monday game with Radford postponed and they haven't played since April 15 at Patrick County.

The girls had one game in the past week, as they were able to play at Radford Monday where they took a 4-1 loss.

The River girls conceded an early goal and trailed 1-0 at the

half. After intermission the Bobcats scored early to increase their lead to 2-0.

The Knights developed several attacks in the second half, keeping the game interesting, but the Bobcat back line proved to be tough to penetrate. At the midpoint of the period Radford scored again to make it 3-0.

Then, despite facing a daunting disadvantage and a tough defense, the Knights would not give up, continuing to work in the offensive end of the field. With 16 minutes on the clock Rhaya Kitt finished, knocking in a rebound from a Sophia Martin shot to cut the lead to 3-1. The goal added energy and some excitement, but the



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

**Ava Thacker heads the ball for the Knights.**

Knights were unable to add to the score and Radford converted in the closing minutes for the 4-1 final. James River keeper Kylee Aaron had 10 saves on the night.

After Thursday's games with Alleghany the Knights will play Carroll County on Monday with the boys at home and the girls in Hillsville.

## LBHS, JRHS track teams are at LB today and Hidden Valley Saturday

The Lord Botetourt and James River track teams will have two meets this week, including a meet today in Daleville.

The LB boys and girls and James River will be running today in a six-team meet on the new Lord Botetourt High track. Both the Cavaliers and Knights will also run this Saturday in a larger meet hosted by Hidden Valley High School. Field events are scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. with running events at 10 a.m. on the Titans' track.

Both schools were in meets last week. James River competed in the Buffalo Invitational at Floyd County High School on Friday and Naveah VanBuren had a big day. She won the discus and triple jump, took fourth in the long jump and sixth in the high jump. Emma Bobbitt was third in the discus and fourth in the shot put.

For the River boys, Jayden Alston was sixth in the shot and Jack Beheler took sixth in the discus.

The LB girls competed in a meet at Northside High Saturday in the Northside Invitational. Jillian Harris won the 100-meter hurdles while Ratie Jensen was third. Anne Thorne took second in the 1,600 and in the 100 meters Elizabeth Meadows was eighth, Riley Shupe was ninth and Annalise Coon was 11th. The LB 4x800 relay took fourth.

The LB boys team was in Abingdon Saturday to compete in the Grasshoppers LLC Abingdon Invitational. Ethan Thorne won the 1,600 and Caleb Miller won the 110 hurdles.

In the 100, Zion Woody was fourth and Quinten Jones took sixth. Triston Graves was second in the 300 hurdles, third in the 110 hurdles and sixth in the 200. Miller was third in the 300 hurdles as the boys took fourth in the meet.

"And what topped it off is I got to see my mom," said LB coach Jamie Harless, who grew up in Abingdon.

## Cavaliers

from page 13

and in the final 10 minutes Isaac Alderman pressured the Vikings' back line and was able to strip the ball from them and take it down the left side. Alderman was fouled inside the box to give the Cavaliers a penalty kick and Daniels stepped up to the line and knocked in the shot to give Lord Botetourt a comfortable lead with the clock running out, sealing the win.

The victory was a much-needed confidence booster for the Cavaliers, who lost to two strong teams in prior games last week. The Cavs were at William Fleming Tuesday and dropped a 4-1 decision. Barroso scored Botetourt's goal

as the Colonels remained unbeaten in the district.

Then, on Thursday, the Cavaliers were at Salem where the host Spartans took a 6-0 win. Salem has lost just once this spring, to perennial state contender Blacksburg.

LB comes into the week with a 3-6 overall record but they've played a tough non-district schedule, with two losses to once beaten Salem and two to undefeated Glenvar, the defending Class 2 state champs. This week LB is home to Franklin County Tuesday, at Christiansburg Thursday and at Franklin County Friday.

## Tennis

from page 13

coach Sam Belcher. "It was an awesome comeback."

LB's number one seed, Meade, beat Staunton River's top seed, 8-4. Last year Reagan lost to the same girl, 8-0.

Friday the girls won at Northside, 9-0. Kennedy Dorsey played at third singles and won 8-0 and Elaina Brown played at the six seed and won 8-1.

The boys also played those three teams

last week and won two of three. Fleming edged the Cavaliers, 5-4, but Botetourt bounced back to beat Staunton River, 6-3, and Northside, 8-1.

This week both teams were scheduled to play Franklin County on Tuesday. On Thursday the Cavaliers will take on Christiansburg in non-district matches with the girls at Christiansburg and the boys at Hollins.

## RVWA

from page 14

was the Class 2 state runner-up.

Henderson wrestled at William Byrd from 1985-87 and then coached at William Byrd Middle School. He has worked the Big Orange tournament for 36 years and is also a former Roanoke Valley Wrestling Official.

Labiosa also wrestled at Byrd when he won two Big Orange and

two Group AA state championships. He was All-Metro Co-Wrestler of the Year in 1982 and a 1983 Scholastic High School All-American.

A third Byrd product in the Class of 24 is Bruce Palmer, who won two district, region and state championships with the Terriers. Bruce was undefeated his junior and senior years and

named the Roanoke Valley Heavyweight Wrestler of the Year.

The Roanoke Valley Wrestling Association also gave their annual awards for Coach of the Year, Wrestler of the Year. Noah Ninger of Staunton River was named the Wrestler of the Year and Lawrence Van Liew of Salem was named the Coach of the Year.

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# LB baseball team has big week with two games against the Eagles



Nolan Medley runs home with Noah Donahoo steaming into third in last week's game with Hidden Valley.



Lord Botetourt's JJ Tyree slides home with a run against Northside.

PHOTOS BY JENN KING

First place in the Blue Ridge District baseball standings is up for grabs this week as Lord Botetourt and Franklin County will play a home-and-home series. The two come into the week tied for first place in the BRD with 4-0 records.

LB was scheduled to travel to Rocky Mount on Tuesday for the first meeting, and it was a jayvee-varsity doubleheader. The same is true Friday when the Eagles come to Daleville, as the jayvees will open the

doubleheader with the varsity game scheduled for around 7 p.m.

Botetourt comes into the week at 8-2 overall and Monday's 5-3 non-district win over Pulaski County in Daleville was the Cavaliers' seventh straight win. JJ Tyree earned the victory on the mound as he allowed the Cougars just two hits over five innings. Ethan Deschambault pitched the last two innings and picked up a save.

Offensively, Brayden Wells

and Gavin Walker had two hits each for LB and Walker drove in two runs.

Last week the Cavaliers won three games, all at home. The busy week began with a 10-0 win over winless William Fleming. Tyree pitched the first two innings and allowed no hits while striking out five. Walker, Cameron Bailey, Layne Sullivan and Noah Donahoo pitched one inning each and combined to strike out nine of a possible 12

outs. Noah Medley had two hits and two RBIs.

On Wednesday Caleb O'Quinn pitched a complete game to pick up the win as Botetourt beat visiting Hidden Valley, 3-1. O'Quinn allowed just three hits and one unearned run while fanning five. Tyree, Medley and Wells had two hits each.

The Cavs wrapped up the week with a 4-2 win over Northside Friday. Medley started on the mound in this

one and pitched into the seventh inning, allowing one earned run and striking out nine. Deschambault relieved with one out and the bases loaded in the top of the seventh and got out of the jam to pick up the save. Tyree was three-for-three at the plate to highlight the offense.

"We've been playing pretty well," said LB coach Todd Smith. "We're getting good pitching and timely hits."

## LB softball team wins three straight

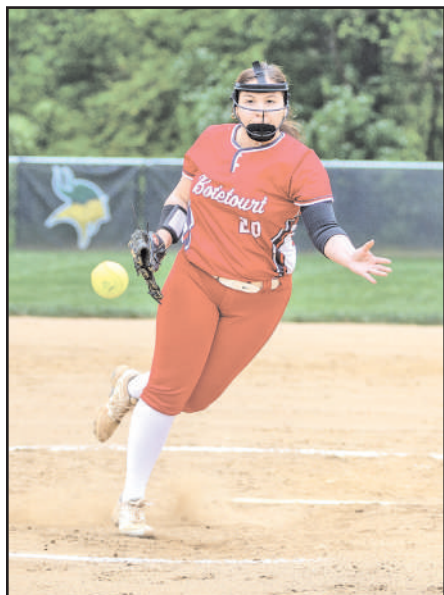
The Lord Botetourt softball team bounced back in a big way last week with three wins, all on the road, including two against Blue Ridge District opponents. The Cavaliers had lost four in a row prior to last week.

"Last week was a great reset for us as we regained confidence in ourselves to stay strong in the district," said LB coach Megan Cook.

Botetourt opened the week with a 15-0 win at William Fleming. Callie Kidd was three-for-three at the plate and Gracelynn Clark also had three hits. Kidd and Sammie Carroll drove in three runs and Maya Mougin and Mikayla Reed also had multiple hits to back the pitching of Grace Thomas, who pitched a one-hitter for LB.

Last Wednesday the Cavaliers traveled to Hidden Valley where they took a 12-6 non-district win. Autumn Russell drove in five runs on three hits, highlighted by a third inning home run. The Botetourt bats were alive with 17 hits as Riley Shupe, Jackson Kemper and Reed joined Russell with three-hit days. Kidd and Gracie Sargent had clutch RBIs for the Cavs and Bry Orange earned the win in the circle.

On Friday LB was back in the Blue Ridge District with a game at Northside, and LB made it a clean sweep for the week with a 13-0 win. Russell had another big game with three hits,

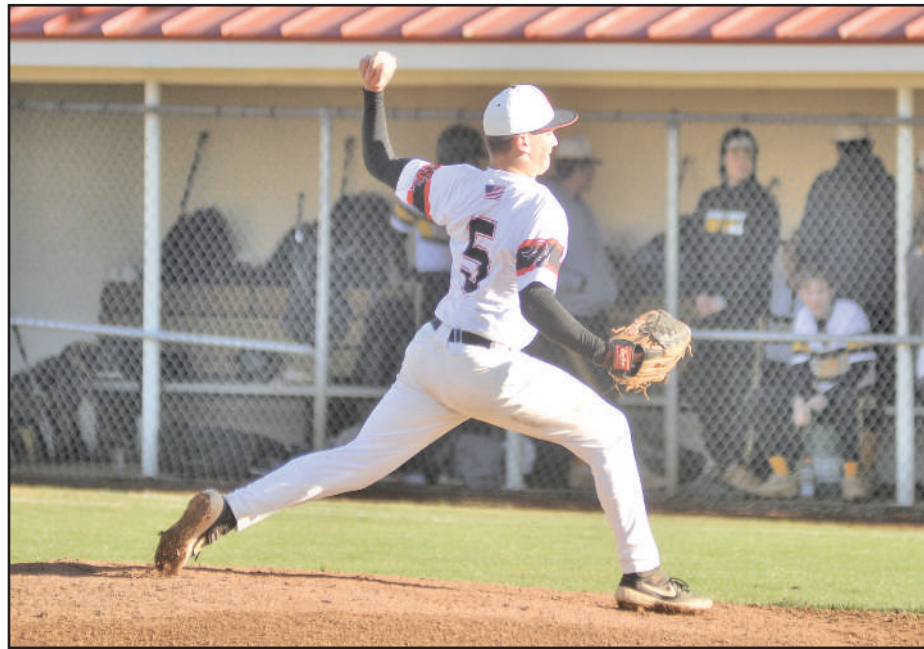


Grace Thomas pitches against Northside.

PHOTO BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY

including another home run. Botetourt continued to pound the ball with 15 hits. Shupe, Sargent and Hadley Evans led the way with multiple hits and Thomas picked up her second pitching win of the week as the Cavaliers shut out Northside.

With the big week the Cavs moved back over .500 at 6-5 and they took a 2-1 BRD record to Franklin County Tuesday. The girls will play Franklin again on Friday at home.



Kody Park pitches for James River at a recent game.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

## Carroll tops River baseball team in Saturday matinee

The James River baseball team played a rare Saturday afternoon game last weekend and dropped a 7-0 decision to Carroll County. The varsity game was the second of a jayvee-varsity doubleheader in Hillsville.

Carroll only scored in two innings against the Knights, but a five-run second put River in a hole early in the game. Kody Park started on the mound and Zeal Hammons, Hunter Mays

and Maddox Woodyard also saw time on the bump for River.

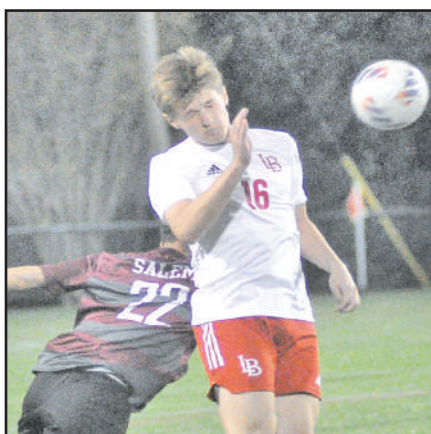
"Just one inning where Carroll hit the ball put us in the hole early," said LB coach Chance Henry. "It doesn't help that we couldn't get anyone in offensively. We had our opportunities to do so but couldn't break through."

The Knights had three hits, two for leadoff man Mays and one by Logan Joyce. Three Carroll pitchers combined to

strike out 14.

James River will be looking to bounce back this week with two Three Rivers District games. They were scheduled to play at Floyd Tuesday followed by a home game with Alleghany on Friday.

"We're pushing to get it going in the right direction and have some sustained success," said Henry. "Our process is improving every day and we're hopeful better results are coming soon."



Danny Kidd heads the ball against Salem.



Jacob Malue of LB (white jersey) battles a Spartan for the ball.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

## Cavaliers are second in BRD boys soccer

The Lord Botetourt soccer team improved to 3-1 in Blue Ridge District games with a 3-1 win at Northside last Friday night. LB trails only William Fleming in the BRD standings heading into this week.

The Cavaliers stepped on the gas early against the Vikings as Will Hall

was able to dribble down the left side and cross the ball to Kalob Daniels, who laid the ball off to Andres Barroso. Andres then found the back of the net and Botetourt led just 45 seconds into the match.

Five minutes later, Barroso knocked a corner kick into the box where Hunter Atkinson was at

the back post to head it over the keeper and give the Cavaliers an early 2-0 lead.

The Vikings knocked in a rebound shot with three minutes until intermission to bring the deficit to one at the half, 2-1. The second half was a full on battle

See **Cavaliers**, page 12

## Girls tennis is leading Blue Ridge District, boys team takes two of three last week

The Lord Botetourt girls are leading the Blue Ridge District after winning three tennis matches last week. The girls are the only team who has not lost a match in the district.

Botetourt opened last week with a 9-0 win over William Fleming at Hollins University. Meredith Claterbaugh won her first match as a seeded player in singles this season, beating Fleming's number six girl 8-0. Zoe Brown and Reagan Meade continued their good play at number one doubles and won 8-0.

On Thursday in Moneta the girls took down Staunton River, 8-1. Kadence Overstreet won in a match tiebreaker at third singles, 7-4.

"We were playing eight-game pro-sets



Emmy Sprouse of LB hits a backhand.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

and Kadence was down 7-4 and came back and won in the tiebreaker," said LB

See **Tennis**, page 12

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**Brian Hoffman**

Sports Editor

## Farrell recognized for Senior Day at RC



PHOTO BY JOHN WACHER

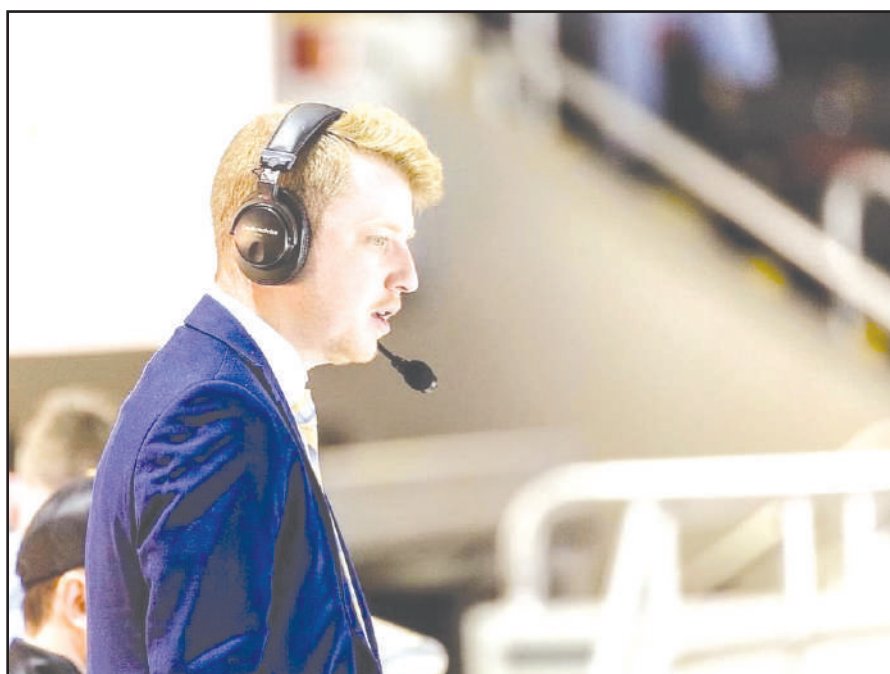
Lord Botetourt graduate Brae Farrell, a senior pitcher on the Roanoke College baseball team, was recently recognized at Salem Memorial Ballpark on "Senior Day." Brae is 2-0 for the Maroons with 19 strikeouts in 23 innings pitched. He's appeared in 12 games for the 20-16 Maroons. Roanoke is 13-6 in ODAC games and will be home today for a 4 p.m. non-conference game against Pfeiffer University at Salem Memorial Ballpark.

## The Roanoke Valley Wrestling Association inducts four

Four new members entered the Roanoke Valley Wrestling Hall of Fame when the group held its annual banquet Monday at the Tanglewood Holiday Inn Ballroom. This year's class includes Jason Cline, Greg Henderson, David Labiosa and Bruce Palmer and special awards from the recently concluded high school season were also presented.

Cline wrestled at Grundy High School where he was a two-time VHSL state champion and a three-time district and Region IV champ. He went on to coach at Glenvar Middle School, then the high school as well as coaching the Virginia Elite Youth. Jason's 2023 Glenvar team

See **RVWA**, page 12



RAIL YARD DAWGS PHOTO

Lord Botetourt High grad Mitch Stewart has been named the 2023-2024 SPHL Broadcaster of the Year.

## LB grad is named SPHL Broadcaster of the Year

Mitch Stewart of the Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs has been named the 2023-2024 SPHL Broadcaster of the Year. This is the inaugural season of the award and it was decided on by a vote of the league's broadcasters.

Stewart, a Lord Botetourt High School graduate, is currently the team's Media Manager and Play-By-Play Broadcaster, and is in his third season with the Dawgs. Prior to his professional debut with the Dawgs in October 2021, the Botetourt native attended Penn State University,

earning a degree in Broadcast Journalism.

As the Voice of the Rail Yard Dawgs, Stewart manages the team's play-by-play broadcast and media relations. He also coordinates community appearances and assists in producing social media content.

"I'm truly humbled and honored to be recognized by my peers for this award," Stewart said. "This league has had a lot of talented broadcasters during my three seasons in the league, and the relationships and friendships I've

formed while working alongside them have been extremely helpful and beneficial to me in a number of ways. I've been fortunate to do what I love right here in my hometown, and I'm really grateful for the support I've received from our franchise from the top on down, as well as from our passionate fan base."

The Rail Yard Dawgs season came to an end Saturday when they dropped their best-of-three semifinal playoff series to the Huntsville Havoc, two games to one.

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