



Buchanan holds forum for residents to hear and engage with their candidates

Matt de Simone
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The Town of Buchanan hosted a public forum for this year's candidates for mayor and Town Council. In an informative, encouraging, and unifying discussion, Buchanan residents learned more from their candidates about their thoughts on various town topics and procedures.

Mayoral candidates Chris Witt and Sue Way were joined alongside Town Council candidates Landon "Brent" Witt, Edith "Sissy" Austin, Brenda Noszek, Daniel Bratcher, and James "Jamie" Manspile as they responded to several questions that included public decorum at meetings, understanding their respective positions, leadership styles, proper correspondence about the recent high turnover of town employees, and finding common ground among opposing ideas.

The forum kicked off with the mayoral candidates giving their opening statements, followed by answering a batch of questions from



The Town of Buchanan held a public forum on Oct. 21 for its upcoming mayoral and Town Council candidates in the 2024 election. The event took place at the historic Buchanan Theatre. Here, mayoral candidates Chris Witt and Sue Way answer questions from moderator Brittany Turman.

the forum's moderator, Brittany Turman.

During the discussion, candidates found themselves agreeing on many of the topics on the table. The major subjects of agreement were their respective love for the Buchanan community and hopes that the decisions made on November 5 will help propel the town into a prosperous future.

Mayoral candidate Chris Witt, a Buchanan native, U.S Marine veteran and former member of Town Council, added, "I've spent most of my adult life in servitude of

some sort.... Everybody that's running for council or for mayor- we all genuinely want what we feel is best for the town. We've had a lot of really good, in-depth conversations and I hope that we are able to continue those, whoever is elected to these positions, and I hope that we continue to make Buchanan a better place moving forward."

Mayoral candidate Sue Way, a lifetime educator who grew up in Buchanan, shared that, "Buchanan is my heart. This is where my family is and was and this is where I have a true

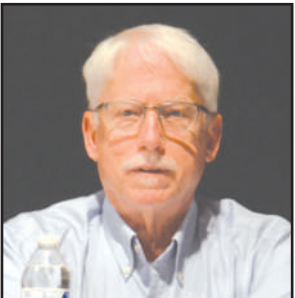
love for the town. That is why when someone asked me to run for mayor, I said 'yes' because I want the best for this town."

Following the questions for the town's mayoral hopefuls, the five Town Council candidates hit the stage and fielded more questions, with some provided by residents. The five are vying for two available seats on Buchanan Town Council.

One topic discussed was whether or not the Town of Buchanan should keep its charter, or relinquish it to the county. All seven candidates responded



Edith Austin



Daniel Bratcher



James Manspile



PHOTOCOURTESYOFBRENDA NOSZEK
Brenda Noszek

similarly agreeing that Buchanan should keep its charter.

Sissy Austin said, "I would like the town (charter) to stay as it is and not go back to the county. We just need to work on getting things together and where (they) need to be."

Daniel Bratcher shared, "If we were to relinquish (the town's) charter, I think that we would lose control of our own destiny to a degree. That



PHOTOSBYMATTDESIMONE
Brent Witt

would not be a good thing. We need to manage the growth coming into the

See Forum, page 3

Meet James River's new band director

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The 2024-25 school year has brought a new band director to James River High School (JRHS). Robert Chaplin, the band's new director, began his teaching career at Rappahannock High School in Richmond County.

Chaplin graduated from Parry McCluer High School in 2016 and later graduated from Eastern Mennonite University with a Bachelor in Music Education. Since then, he's taught music while working on completing his Master's in Music Education from Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Band enrollment in schools took a hit right after the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 with virtual music programs receiving more attention when there were no classrooms to enter. Without an idea of what to plan for, band directors saw themselves coming up with new ways to recruit and retain band students.

Since his arrival, Chaplin has worked with the current band students at James River and teaching band at Central Academy Middle School (CAMS). The schools' band programs are in a rebuilding process, transitioning



PHOTOBYMATTDESIMONE
Robert Chaplin is the new band director at James River High School.

out of the group of students who worked with former band director Kevin English since their sixth grade year. English left the program last spring.

See Chaplin, page 9

Early voting ends this Saturday

Botetourt County has had a strong turnout for the November 5, 2024 General Election. As of Saturday, October 26, 6,525 voters have cast their ballots in person since early voting began on September 20. In 2020, 6,328 in-person voters had cast their ballots as of the same date. In addition to early voting, approximately 1,200 voters have returned their marked vote-by-mail ballot for a total turnout of just under 28.5%.

Voters are reminded the deadline for in-person early voting is Saturday, November 2 at 5 p.m. The Registrar's Office will be open 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. through Friday and 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday, November 2. Voters must report to their assigned polling locations on Election Day. There is no voting on Election Day in the Registrar's Office. Voters who are unsure of their polling location can find it at <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/polling-place-lookup/>.



FILE PHOTO

Voters who have received a vote-by-mail ballot and wish to vote in person must surrender that ballot. If the ballot is not surrendered, the voter is required to cast a provisional ballot. Marked vote-by-mail ballots must be received in the Registrar's Office no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day if returned in person or put in the drop box. If the marked ballot is mailed, it must be postmarked by Election Day and received in the Registrar's Office by noon on Friday, November 8.

- Fincastle Herald staff report

County receives VACO Achievement Award, makes decisions on monitoring well and school trail

Dean Lynch, CAE, Executive Director of Virginia Association of Counties, visited Botetourt County for last week's Board of Supervisors meeting presenting the board and County Administrator Gary Larrowe with Botetourt's 2024 VACO Achievement Award. The county recently won the innovative county program award for "Setting the Record Straight: BOCO Facts 4 U."

The BOCO Facts 4 U page was created to correct misinformation spread through the grapevine and via social media in the county. This is the ninth VACO Achievement Award that the county has received. Learn more about BOCO Facts 4 U at www.bocofacts4u.com.

info.

Upcoming public hearing for well easement

The board was asked last Tuesday to consider granting a 100-square-foot easement from Botetourt County to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for a long-term drought monitoring well located within the Botetourt Sports Complex. The well would specifically monitor the groundwater table.

According to County Deputy Administrator David Moorman, the well would be located on the west side of

See Board, page 5



PHOTOCOURTESYOFBOTETOURT CO.

County Administrator Gary Larrowe holds the county's recent achievement award from VACO with Executive Director Dean Lynch.

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Botetourt County History



PHOTO COURTESY OF BCMHC

It is apple butter making time and a copper kettle is essential for cooking down apples over an open fire because it conducts heat so evenly which keeps the apple butter from scorching. This rare 19th century kettle has the maker's name, J.P. Schaum, stamped along the rim. J.P. Schaum and his son stopped making copper kettles in Pennsylvania in 1892 and turned their attention to making furniture. The technique was similar. In the 1800s, sheet copper had to be bought from England. Two sheets were dovetailed and soldered together

and then hammered into a cooking kettle. The heavy handle was riveted onto the kettle so it could be lifted from the heat. This kettle has a beautiful green patina because of its oxidation over the years. A similar apple butter kettle was appraised on Antiques Roadshow on July 29, 2012. Joyce and Ron Kessinger donated this artifact to the Botetourt Museum of History and Culture in May of 2024.

~ Botetourt County Museum of History & Culture



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BCSO

A Few Old Goats to celebrate grand opening with ribbon-cutting ceremony Saturday



PHOTO COURTESY OF AFOG

A Few Old Goats Brewing Company will hold a grand opening celebration in Buchanan this Saturday.

A Few Old Goats (AFOG) Brewing Company has announced the grand opening of its second brewery location in Buchanan, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony scheduled for Saturday, November 2, at 11:30 a.m. The event will take place at the brewery's location at 19318 Main Street and all community members are invited to join the celebration.

This small event will feature a ceremonial ribbon cutting, with some words from Buchanan Mayor Tristan Harris welcoming the business to the community. Attendees will have the opportunity

to meet the founders and the brewing team, learn about the brewing process, and find out what makes A Few Old Goats' beers truly unique, according to the company. Food trucks will be in attendance.

"We are excited to bring A Few Old Goats Brewing Company to Buchanan," said Kenny McGraw, co-founder of the brewery. "Our goal is to create a space where the community can come together to enjoy quality craft beer and foster connections. We can't wait to share our passion for brewing with everyone!"

"There has been a high level of excitement

and anticipation since it first became public that AFOG would be coming to town," said Mayor Harris. "I wholeheartedly share in this excitement. A Few Old Goats will be a great addition to our community, representing a continuation of new, locally owned businesses choosing to call Buchanan home."

For more information about the brewery and the event, visit www.afogbrewing.com or follow on social media.

~ Submitted by Town of Buchanan

Halloween safety tips from BCSO

As Halloween approaches, the Botetourt County Sheriff's Office wants to remind the community to prioritize safety while enjoying the festivities. This is a time for fun and spooky creativity, but it's essential to keep safety in mind for everyone involved, trick-or-treaters, parents, partygoers, and homeowners alike.

Each year, Halloween is celebrated with trick-or-treating, parties, candy,

and sometimes, drinking. Unfortunately, Halloween also involves potentially deadly crashes, and impaired drivers on the road. In 2022, nearly half of all crash fatalities during Halloween night were alcohol related. For those attending Halloween parties, designate a sober driver and plan ahead for a safe and sober ride home.

Drivers should be aware there will be

See **Halloween**, page 9

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YOUR
BUSINESS**

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BODY
SHOULD
BE TOO**

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2024**

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WALZ**

**KEN
MITCHELL**
FOR CONGRESS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HFI

Students win books from Historic Fincastle, Inc.

Historic Fincastle, Inc. gave away two copies of “Around Town” to two students from Botetourt County. Students just needed to sign up for a drawing at the recent Fincastle Festival. HFI President Patsy Dickerson met both of the students to present them their books. Lizzy Sumner (left), daughter of Mark and Angela Sumner, is a home-schooled kindergartener. Matthew Barker, son of Jeremy and Kelly Barker, is a seventh grader at Read Mountain Middle School.

~ Historic Fincastle, Inc.

Work to resume along old rail bed in Botetourt and Craig

Residents along the former Chesapeake & Ohio (C&O) Craig Valley Branch rail bed in Botetourt and Craig Counties may notice maintenance work continuing on the old rail bed starting in mid-November.

In spring 2024, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) began clearing brush and stabilizing the former rail bed. These activities are intended to prevent additional deterioration and to help designers who are developing plans for the Craig-Botetourt Scenic Trail.

The Craig-Botetourt Scenic Trail is a proposed multi-use trail for walking, running, biking, and horseback riding that utilizes the former C&O rail bed and some low-volume secondary roads.

VDOT continues to collect data and conduct site visits and field reviews on the rail bed. The cost estimate for the Craig-Botetourt Scenic Trail is still being refined and a specific schedule for construction has yet to be determined.

The Commonwealth Transportation Board in September 2022 authorized up to \$1 million to support preconstruction planning activities for the trail and allocated \$12.5 million to the trail project in December 2023 and an additional \$6 million in July 2024.

VDOT plans to hold public hearings on the project in 2025. The hearing dates have not yet been announced.

~ Virginia Department of Transportation

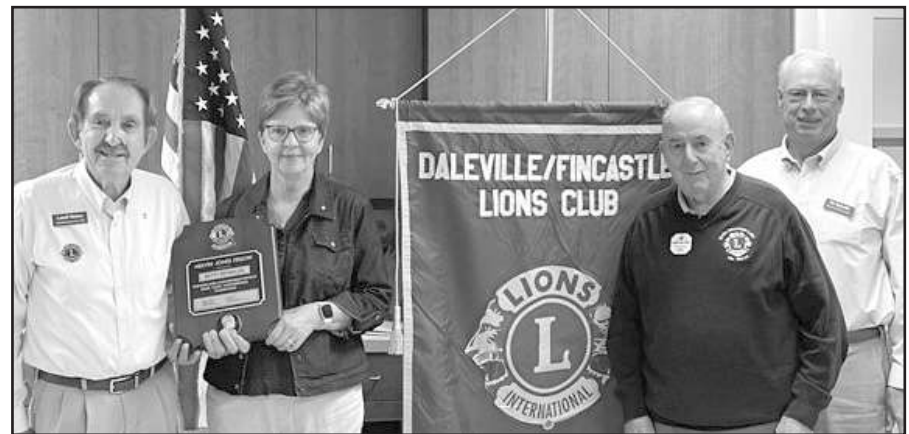


PHOTO COURTESY OF DALEVILLE-FINCASTLE LIONS

Celebrating with Betty Reynolds at the Melvin Jones Award ceremony are Club Secretary Lowell Skelton, Reynolds, District 24-C LCIF Coordinator Frederick Carroll and her spouse and sponsor, Jim Reynolds.

Reynolds receives Lions’ Melvin Jones Award

At their October 15 meeting, the Daleville Fincastle Lions presented one of their members, Betty Reynolds, with the coveted Melvin Jones Award. This is the highest honor awarded to a Lion in Lionism. Reynolds joined the Vinton Luncheon Club in 2010 and served as president of that club. After she moved to Fincastle, she transferred to the Daleville Fincastle Lions Club in 2020.

Since joining this club, she has been a very active member, serving as the Eyeglasses Assistance Coordinator and one of the key volunteers at the Botetourt Food Pantry. The club’s Signature Project is their Youth Vision Screening Program. This program provides vision screening for all of the elementary, middle and high schools in Botetourt County. Reynolds has been the coordinator of this program for the last two years.

~ Daleville-Fincastle Lions Club

Trick or treat at Botetourt Plaza

Botetourt Plaza, located across from Lord Botetourt High School in Daleville, is hosting a trick or treat event on October 31, 3-5 p.m., rain or shine.

This is a free community event.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report

Forum

from page 1

town.... I believe that it’s our best choice to address what we have here in our town and go forward with the town charter as it stands with any amendments agreed upon in the future.”

“We are a good people,” Brent Witt added. “We’re a proud people. We’ve just neglected to let the other end of the county know that we exist. Being from here, I feel like we have the most beautiful town in the county. I served three terms on Troutville Town Council and (was a member of the town’s Planning and) Zoning and one of the things that I saw was that too many matters that were good ideas getting swept under the map. We did have a wonderful comprehensive plan and I think that its key to keeping a sharp pencil in the box here in the Town of Buchanan.”

Brent’s son Chris added, “The question that needs to be asked to (Buchanan’s) citizens: what do you want to be years from now?.... You need results from your tax dollars. You need to really look at the structure of your organization and restructure it in a means to accomplish those goals.”

James Manspile agreed with the candidates about keeping the town’s charter. “I say it like this, you’ve got too many things to lose to lose your charter. Some good; some bad– do we need to work on things? Yes. The biggest thing that council has worked on for years is that (the charter) has never been fully updated reflecting that we have a Town Manager-Town Council setup. I think with what we’ve got proposed and working on to go to Richmond for adjustment... we may have had legal counsel finally get all the changes needed to reflect (our) type of government.”

Another interesting topic of discussion revolved around the hiring and firing of town staff and whether or not information regarding a termination should be made public. Over the last year, a high turnover rate of town employees led residents to speculate as to why these decisions were made.

Candidates agreed that employees have rights and while some matters could be made public, the town can’t share personnel records. Manspile commented that the recent turnover issue “is just as much employee choice” as it is the choice of the town. Those matters generally fall on the town manager. Town Council has

recently lauded the work of new Town Manager Angela Lawrence at recent meetings.

Town Council candidate Brenda Nozsek noted, “People tend to stay where they’re happy. On that note, I would say that we need to work harder on supporting our staff here in town—maybe more incentives for them to be here and work here. As far as public record, that is a slippery slope but I do believe there are times that the town deserves to know why that person chose to leave or why they were let go. I understand there are things are of a sensitive nature that have to stay sealed, but for the most part, I believe that the town elects the officials. Their taxes pay the salaries of those workers and that they have a right to know.”

Buchanan’s mayoral and Town Council nominees invited residents to add to the increased attendance of recent council meetings and not shying away from voicing their opinions on town matters when given the opportunity at each meeting.

Town Manager Angela Lawrence, who coordinated this year’s forum, thanked Turman for taking the time to moderate the event following the candidates’ Q&A.

Following the public forum, event attendees had the chance to talk with the candidates before casting their votes within the coming days.

The Buchanan Magisterial District has two precincts that will be open on November 5 at Buchanan Elementary School (225 Schoolhouse Road) and Mill Creek Baptist Church (11475 Lee Highway).

All voters wishing to vote on Election Day must do so in their assigned precinct based on their residential address. There is no voting in the Registrar’s Office on Election Day. Voters can check the status of their voter registration or find their polling location at vote.virginia.gov.

For more information, including a look at sample ballots in respective precincts, visit www.botetourtva.gov/405/Election-Information.

The candidates in Buchanan’s upcoming elections for mayor and Town Council were recently asked why they were running for positions in 2024. Read some of their responses on Page 4 (Letters to the Editor).



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

The candidates speak during last week’s public forum in Buchanan.

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Library Buzz

Holiday Closures

All library branches will be closed on Tuesday, November 5 for Election Day and Saturday, November 9 - Monday, November 11 for Veterans Day. Book returns and WiFi access remain open 24/7.

Looney's Ferry

Thu, Nov 7, 2pm, Buchanan
Learn about the history of Looney's Ferry, the James River crossing established in 1742. Presented by owner Charles Alphin and retired judge, senator, delegate and history buff, Malfourd "Bo" Trumbo.

Hawks, Falcons, and Owls

Tue, Nov 12, 5:30-7pm, Eagle Rock
Learn about local birds of prey and their role in our ecosystem – and meet some real birds of prey! Presented by Corey Basham.

Intro to Mahjong

Fri, Nov 15, 10:30am, Blue Ridge
Learn this popular tile-based game. Presented by Katherine Arney of Star City Mahjong.

Community Cooking: Ginger Gungas

Sat, Nov 16, 10:30am-12:30pm, Wilson Warehouse in Buchanan
Celebrate the town's historic Ginger Gungas cookbook with Buchanan's Town Improvement Society. Bring your favorite Fall treat to share (optional) and sample

ginger gungas, a type of gingerbread cookie, made from the original historic recipe.

Eclectic Readers

Wed, Nov 6, 12pm, Buchanan
The Seasons series by Ali Smith
Thu, Nov 7, 6:30pm, Fincastle
Her Hidden Genius by Marie Benedict
Fri, Nov 8, 11am, Blue Ridge
Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford
Wed, Nov 13, 10:30am, Fincastle
The Mystery of Mrs. Christie by Marie Benedict
Thu, Nov 21, 11am, Eagle Rock
We'll Meet Again by Mary Higgins Clark
Discuss books and authors with fellow readers.

Little Explorers

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

LEGO Club

2nd Thursdays, 4pm, Blue Ridge
3rd Mondays, 4pm, Fincastle
Develop engineering and creative skills through LEGO challenges. Older kids (6-11) tackle LEGO activities together while younger kids (0-5) play with large LEGO DUPLO blocks.
Find even more events at BOCOLibraries.info.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Daniel Bratcher for Buchanan Town Council

I am running for Buchanan Town Council to place our community first through the following:

- Listen openly to the concerns of our community members
- Work to preserve the character of our town
- Protect local property rights and values through existing zoning enforcement
- Promote tourism as an economic resource for town prosperity
- Increase visibility in Town Hall and provide greater service to residents
- Work with vacant commercial property owners to attract businesses
- Work to improve our town; farmer's market, full-service grocery, pharmacy, etc.
- Improve quality of life by creating new parks, trails and recreation options
- Review the fiscal management and environmental compliance of all town-owned properties and when necessary, consider revisions to current expenditures and agreements to ensure the best value for town residents
- Examine taxpayer concerns to ensure all town taxpayers are getting value from their hard-earned tax dollars

It will be a privilege to serve my community as a member of the Buchanan Town Council. I hope the people of Buchanan will find value in my ideas and vote for me so that we can work together to make Buchanan a better place to live, work and play!

Daniel Bratcher
Buchanan Town Council candidate

James Manspile for Buchanan Town Council

Hello, Citizens of Buchanan. I am James Manspile and my reason for running for re-election is as follows:

I would like to remain on council to help with the continuation of information from past councils. Having 2-year terms has led to council turnover. The retention of the facts fades and is often used against current council who has no knowledge of the facts and/or prior resolutions, causing duplicated work for council and staff.

I would like also to remain on council to put your tax dollars to work preserving the current resources of the town and not letting them fall into disrepair.

Additionally, I would like to work on various improvements in town, not just Main Street. We have areas of town that need dusk-to-dawn lighting, especially street intersections.

I would also like to see a comprehensive park pan that utilizes the full potential of the Town Park.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud to have been able to save the town thousands of dollars through my volunteer work with Public Works and would love to continue to do so.

James "Jamie" Manspile
Buchanan Town Council candidate

Brenda Noszek for Buchanan Town Council

My name is Brenda Noszek and I would like to introduce myself as a candidate for Buchanan's Town Council. Seven years ago my husband, Tim, and I were looking for our retirement destination. We happened across the lovely little town of Buchanan. We were immediately taken by your sweet hospitality, beautiful mountains and rich history. We had found our retirement destination. Several of our children soon followed. We immediately began volunteering at the theater and many town events. We are members of the Town Improvement Society and the local Moose Lodge.

I am a former business owner as well as a former

employee of Spotslvania County Schools. I have over 30 years of experience working with children in different capacities.

I have a strong sense of community and would like to thank all of the wonderful volunteers who give freely of their time and talents to our town. Some of these volunteers live outside of township, but bless us with their businesses, farms, non profits and volunteer with our many events. You are all an important part of this community.

Together we make Buchanan an even better place to live for all generations to come.

Brenda Noszek
Buchanan Town Council candidate

Edith Austin for Buchanan Town Council

I have lived in Buchanan for 63 years, I am running for Town Council, and I would like to think that I can make a difference in the town by listening to the people and seeing what they would like to have in town. I would like to see a pharmacy, a laundromat, and I would like to see the rundown houses be fixed up and more places for the people to live in town.

I think that stores would come in and be in town for more than a year during the tourist time of the year, as the rest of the stores will be here to bring in more revenue. I think we could have a good little town here and I would like to think that I could make a difference in the town for the people in a little town.

Edith Austin
Buchanan Town Council candidate

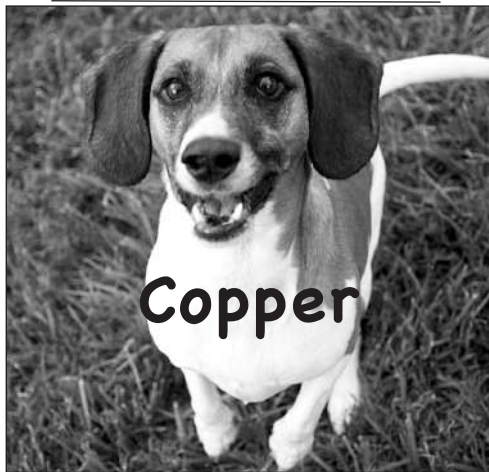
M. Sue Way for Mayor of Buchanan

Buchanan has been my family's home for four generations. Sixteen years ago, I was thrilled to be able to return home.

In my first job as an accident and claims investigator, I developed an important skill: listen to all sides of the story and research the facts before making a decision. That skill has been invaluable throughout my professional life as a litigation paralegal, teacher, computer

See Letters, page 8

League for Animal Protection's Waif of the Week



Copper

Copper came from the Floyd County Humane Society. He's 5 years old, up to date on vaccines, HW negative and neutered.

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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CLUES ACROSS

1. Nuclear undersea weapon
5. President of Syria al-___
10. Partner to flows
14. "Snow" in Welsh
15. Famed Mexican painter
16. Song
17. ticks outward from the crown
18. Doddering
19. Resist authority (slang)
20. Antsy
22. Wrath
23. Spills the beans
24. Past
27. The woman
30. One has 24 hours
31. Talk
32. It can sting
35. Astronomy unit
37. Halfway
38. Chinese dynasty
39. Australian river
40. Software to transfer audio (abbr.)

41. Fabric
42. Crucifix
43. Drefunct European economic group
44. "Hotel California" rockers
45. Michael Knight's car
46. Actress Ryan
47. A digital tape recording of sound
48. Insecticide
49. Scientific instrument
52. Golden-___ corn
55. Israeli city ___ Aviv
56. Sword
60. Ottoman military title
61. Aromatic plants
63. Cold wind
64. Large, semiaquatic reptile (slang)
65. Political unit
66. Indiscreetly reveal secrets
67. Comfort food dish
68. Actress Zellweger

CLUES DOWN

1. One point east of southeast
2. Italian monetary unit
3. Warship prison
4. Tropical American tree
5. Alias
6. Normal or sound powers of mind
7. English county
8. Not compatible with
9. Female deer
10. Not late
11. La ___ Tar Pits, Hollywood
12. "Jupiter's Legacy" actress Leslie
13. Impudence
21. Advises
23. Founder of Babism
25. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
26. Male parent
27. A type of plug
28. Capital of Vietnam
29. Fungal disease

32. Shelter
33. Finished
34. Excrete
36. Unhappy
37. Partner to cheese
38. Coffee receptacle
40. Spend time dully
41. Makes full
43. Snakelike fish
44. Take in solid food
46. ___ student, learns healing
47. A way to take away
49. Impart a lesson to
50. "Transformers" actress Fox
51. Spiritual leader
52. Every one of two or more things
53. Indian city
54. 17th stars
57. Weapon
58. Amounts of time
59. Isodor ___, American Nobel physicist
61. Soviet Socialist Republic
62. Witness

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On The Web At www.fincastleherald.com

See Answers, page 10

Board approves lease agreement for communications tower at county landfill

Botetourt County Board of Supervisors approved (4-0) a contract with Motorola Solutions Inc. in December 2023 to replace the aging public safety emergency communications system. Valley Supervisor Mac Scothorn was absent from last Tuesday’s meeting. As a part of the contract with Motorola, Botetourt County is responsible for constructing a communications tower on county owned land at the landfill located on Catawba Road. County staff has negotiated an agreement

with Datapath Wireless Group LLC (Datapath) to construct the communications tower with no capital outlay from the county. On August 21, the county Board of Supervisors approved a land lease with Datapath LLC to construct a communications tower. As a result of this land lease Datapath will pay the county rent of \$1,000 monthly. The co-location agreement, between Botetourt County and Datapath will include vertical space on the tower (to accommodate

antennas) as well as ground space for a communications shelter and generator. The cost to the county for this lease space will be \$3,250.00 per month. The net cost to taxpayers will be \$2,250.00 per month. The initial term is for 20 years with an option for four, five-year extensions. Some of the benefits of this arrangement with Datapath include:

- The county leasing space on a tower that is strategically located for the maximum effect of the emergency communications system



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BOTETOURT CO.

without a large capital outlay from taxpayers.

- County residents and visitors in the Catawba area, to include portions of the Appalachian Trail, will receive greater cell phone coverage as wireless

carriers co-locate on the tower. The expanded cell phone coverage will increase public safety by allowing callers to reach E-911 during emergencies. The county attorney

has reviewed and approved the land lease agreement with Datapath Wireless Group LLC.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report

Board

from page 1

the sports complex, between that and the frisbee golf parking area. It would be located along a service road area, not having any impact on county operations. There is currently a stable reference well at that location monitoring fluctuations. Following a public hearing, the board approved the easement, 4-0. (Valley Supervisor Mac Scothorn was absent from last Tuesday’s meeting.)

Board approves construction of new trail at Buchanan Elementary

The board approved an agreement (4-0) between the county and Botetourt County Public Schools (BCPS) for the construction, maintenance, and use of a pedestrian trail at Buchanan Elementary School. Deputy Administrator David Moorman presented the consideration to the board last Tuesday.

According to the county, BCPS and Botetourt County will permit the Town

of Buchanan through its Recreation Committee (including through volunteers) to construct and maintain the trail on school and county property conditional upon the town securing grant funding sufficient to pay for the work.

The town’s Recreation Committee recently applied for and was approved for a Recreation Economy for Rural Communities planning grant. Buchanan has engaged the public in a recreation facilities planning process including a group of volunteers known as the Buchanan Trail Committee.

Buchanan Supervisor Amy White acknowledged the work of Buchanan Town Council member Rose Jeter for her work in putting together this consideration.

“You can imagine the victory that we will feel that we have three municipalities—our government agencies— with their

respective three attorneys that agreed on something,” White said. “We all feel that this is really, really beneficial to our community. This came out of the Recreation Economy grant that the town has been working now for 18 months. We feel like this is the start of some better things to come. This will benefit all the residents in the community and we’re thrilled to have been a part of this.”

The agreement goes on to explain that the plan is to construct and maintain a pedestrian recreational trail for public use on properties owned by the county and BCPS located on Schoolhouse Road in general conformance with the drawing hereby incorporated as part of the agreement. The town intends to apply for grants to help fund construction, educational materials to enhance users’ experience, and possible trail maintenance.

Public access to and use of the trail will be permitted only when children are not required to be on the school premises before the start of the school day, after the school day ends, and any time school is not in session— including holidays when school closure occurs. BCPS offered to install and maintain signage displaying trail use days and hours and asserts its authority and responsibility to monitor and manage public access to and use of its property.

Botetourt County and BCPS will provide no financial or in-kind support to the construction or maintenance of the trail and will have authority to regulate trail usage. The county will issue permits and perform inspections during construction in conformance with the Virginia Statewide Building Code.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report



Community Service Directory



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Botetourt

Worship Directory

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

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

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

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

buchananbaptist.com; Phone - 254-2253, Minister of Music - Stephen Harris

Daleville Baptist Church- Corner of Valley Rd. and Orchard Dr., 992-1570; Senior Pastor Wes Belcher; Sunday School 9:15 AM, Worship 10:30 AM; Wednesday: Prayer & Bible Study - 6:30 PM, Youth - 6:30 PM

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

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

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

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

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

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

Troutville Baptist Church -P.O. Box 309, Troutville, VA 24175; 992-1026, Pastor Dr. Jeff Ritchey. Sunday School 9:45 AM; Worship 11 AM. Wednesday: Adult Prayer & Bible Study, 6:30PM; Youth & Children Activities 6:30PM.
Zion Hill Baptist Church- Intersection of Zion Hill Road and Old Fincastle Road. Pastor Donald Goforth (540) 884-2285. Sunday School -10 AM Worship 11AM. Youth Activities (grades 6-12) and Kingdom Kids (preschool-grade 5) Wednesdays at 5:30 PM.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

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

Mt. Bethel Church of the Brethren- 10603 Narrow

CONSEQUENCES

Read 2 Kings 14:26-29;
Amos 1:1 through 2:16

Perhaps we learned it in the principal's office after committing a misdeed or when a traffic court judge determined the fine for our traffic infraction. But at some point, we all learned that our actions have consequences.

God judged Israel's neighbors for atrocities they committed. When His attention turned to His chosen people, their "crimes" centered on how they had treated the living God as well as their fellow countrymen. Judah and Israel were living in moral deterioration.

Because they have rejected the law of the Lord and have not kept his decrees, because they have been led astray by false gods, the gods their ancestors followed, I will send fire on Judah that will consume the fortresses of Jerusalem (Amos 2:4,5).

Our attitude toward God and His Word has consequences. If we follow the instructions He has so plainly laid out for us, He promises blessing. The reverse is also true. If we persist in ignoring what He wants us to do, we will have to live with the consequences which may not be very pleasant. God leaves the choice to us.

Challenge for Today: Keep what God says in His Word front and center in your life.

Quicklook: Amos 2:4-16

Passage Rd., Eagle Rock. PO Box. 183 Eagle Rock, VA 24085. Interim Pastor Dreama Osborne. 884-2292 (church), 540-597-8272 (cell). Sunday School, 10 AM; worship, 11 AM; Ladies' Aid meets 2nd Thurs. monthly.

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

Pleasant Dale Church of the Brethren, 3732 Breckinridge Mill Rd, Fincastle, Rev. Dr. David A. Tozar - pastor, Sunday worship at 11am, preceded by coffee fellowship at 10:30, Bible Study Sunday at 6pm, 5th Sunday Potluck luncheon, Handicap Accessible, Contact Pastor Davd at dtozar9@yahoo.com. Follow on Facebook, Sunday worship and Thursday Bible study stream live.


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

CHURCH OF CHRIST
Dale Ridge Church of Christ - Will you "come back to the Bible", learn more and follow Him? If you live locally in this beautiful Roanoke Valley or Botetourt County area, there is a Church, you will know it's the ONE when you see the name on the end of the building that reads Church of Christ. 7165 Cloverdale Rd., NW, Roanoke, VA 24019. We offer a free 3 lesson, OPEN Bible course entitled "Back to the Bible." Only available in home or where our Church meets: Sign up now on our website, daleridgechurchofchrist.net or email us at comeback2thebible@gmail.com and request to be scheduled for lesson #1 of 3 entitled "who has the Authority In Religion today". You will be contacted promptly. All studies are conducted by 2 individuals, never alone. May God Bless you in choosing this "open book Bible study."

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ECKANKAR

Eckankar, the Path of Spiritual Freedom, is a simple teaching that focuses on the Light and Sound of God to help people find more love in their life. The Roanoke Eckankar Center is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. A light and sound service is held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 11:00 a.m. Since contracting COVID-19 may still be possible, please take the health steps that are best for you. It is appreciated that by attending you are taking responsibility for your own health. Visit www.eck-va.org or call 540-353-5365 for other Eckankar programs and for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar can lead you to spiritual freedom.



EPISCOPAL

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

LUTHERAN

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

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

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

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

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

Woodland Church-A Place Where You Can Grow - 45 Woodland Rd. Troutville, VA. Corner of Blacksburg/ Country Club Rds., 3.5 miles W. of Fincastle; 992-1008. Sunday School, 10AM; Worship, 11AM, Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30PM. Website: woodlandchurchbc.com. E-mail address: woodlandchurchbc@gmail.com.

PRESBYTERIAN

Buchanan Presbyterian Church - 19559 Main St. Buchanan. 540-254-1390. Donna Hopkins Britt, Pastor. Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. with background checked approved teachers, Choir practice at 9:30 a.m. Worship at 11 a.m. with children's nursery with background

checked approved staff. Videotaped services can be viewed on YouTube. The Food Pantry is open from 9-11 a.m. on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. Handicap accessible. Facebook page or website www.buchananpresbyterian.org. Contact www.admin@buchananpresbyterian.org

Fincastle Presbyterian Church - 108 E. Back Street, Fincastle, VA 24090. The Rev. Dr. David Dickerson, Supply Minister, Lori Turner, Music Director. Worship service in the Sanctuary and via Live Streaming (<https://www.facebook.com/fincastleresbyterianchurch/>) at 10:30 AM. Adult Sunday School offered at 9:30 AM. Fellowship time in the Fellowship Hall immediately following morning service. Bell choir practices after Sunday Fellowship, often providing special music in our services. For more information please email fincastlepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com or call 540.473.2042.

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

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

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

UNITED METHODIST

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

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

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

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

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

CHURCH NEWS

Eagle Rock Clothes Closet dates

The Eagle Rock Community Clothes Closet at Eagle Rock United Methodist Church, 14565 Church Street, will be open Saturdays, November 2 and 9, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and Wednesday, November 6, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Women's, men's and children's clothing, as well as shoes and toys, will be available at no charge. To make donations or volunteer to help with this mission, contact Pastor Ray Sandifer at 540-525-0258.

'Halloweenies' at Fincastle UMC October 31

Fincastle United Methodist Church invites trick-or-treaters and their families to the annual "Halloweenies" event on Thursday, Oct. 31, from 6-8 p.m. Let the church help feed you on this fun, festive, and time-limited evening. There will be free hot dogs, chips, lemonade, and hot chocolate. All children will receive treat bags. Feel free to come in costume.

Trunk or Treat at Troutville Brethren

The Troutville Church of the Brethren is hosting Trunk or Treat on October 31 from 5-7 p.m. The church is located at 5133 Lee Highway in Troutville.

Fincastle Clothes Closet dates

Fincastle United Methodist's Clothes Closet will be open on Saturday,

November 2, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., and Tuesday, November 5, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., in the Family Life Center at 137 S. Church Street. Donations of gently worn, clean fall/winter clothing and shoes for kids/teens are greatly appreciated at this time.

Upcoming concert at Pleasant Hill Baptist

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church will host the Gospel Harmony Boys, a West Virginia-based gospel group, on Sunday, November 3 at 11 a.m. All are invited to worship at Pleasant Hill – gospel-style.

Election Eve Community Prayer Service

Buchanan Presbyterian Church is hosting a non-partisan Prayer Service from 7-7:30 p.m. on Monday, November 4. All are invited to come pray together for leaders, localities, and the next day's elections. The church is located at 19559 Main Street in Buchanan.

Homecoming at Lapsleys Run November 10

Lapsleys Run Baptist Church will celebrate the annual Harvest Homecoming and 156th Church Anniversary on Sunday, November 10. The morning service will begin at 11 a.m. Brother Edgar Freeman will be the speaker. Dinner will follow.

The afternoon service will begin at 2 p.m. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Dwight Steele, Sr., who will be accompanied by the choir and congregation from Pilgrim Baptist Church of Roanoke.

Everyone is invited to attend these and regular services on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at Lapsleys Run Baptist Church, 608 Zion Hill Road, Fincastle.

Donations requested for Springwood Cemetery repair

Springwood Baptist Church has approved a contract of \$5,000 for stonework in the "old" cemetery. Approximately 29 marked stones will be straightened and leveled, along with reassembling many broken stones.

The church respectfully requests donations to this project. Please send donations to: Springwood Baptist Church, c/o Gary Peery, 234 Peery Lane, Buchanan, 24066. In memo of check, state Cemetery Repair.

Sale at Cloverdale Thrift Store

Cloverdale Church of the Brethren Thrift Store has a large selection of sweaters and jackets for the entire family. Start Christmas decorating early– the store has lots of antique and collectible ornaments available. Hours are 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Saturday. Donations are greatly appreciated.

Community Hymn Sing at Mt. Carmel

Mt. Carmel Church, Eagle Rock, will host a Community Hymn Sing on November 17 at 6:30 p.m., with light refreshments following. All are welcome.

Service of Prayer at Fincastle Presbyterian

Fincastle Presbyterian Church will be holding a Service of Prayer for Wholeness and Healing at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 20, and on Wednesday, December 18.

This is a special service of prayer, music, silence and scripture, and an opportunity to gather in Christian community and draw closer to God to offer prayers for individuals, the local community, the country and the world. Following the service, gather in the fellowship hall for a light supper. All are invited. The church is at 108 E. Back Street.

Special services at Andrew Chapel

The public is invited to an evening service on Sunday, November 17, at Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church. The service will begin at 7 p.m., led by Pastor Morris Bennet, with Pastor Mike Anderson from Springwood Baptist Church bringing the message. The church is located at 3936 Beaver Dam Road, Buchanan.

Springwood Baptist Thanksgiving service, meal

All are invited to the Sunday service on November 24 at Springwood Baptist Church, led by Pastor Mike Anderson, followed by a Thanksgiving potluck meal.

Bring a favorite meat, vegetable, or dessert to gather together to give thanks for God's blessings and enjoy fellowship with one another.

Eagle Rock Ruritan Club news

The Eagle Rock Ruritan Club held its monthly meeting at the Eagle Rock Community Center on Tuesday, October 15. The meal was catered by Twink's 220 Diner, located in Iron Gate.

As is customary, the evening began with the singing of "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," followed by the blessing given by Robert McRae, chaplain. Traditionally, the October Ruritan meeting is "Friends Night." Club President Beth Leffel welcomed eight guests who were attending. During the roll call, the guests were welcomed by name by the club members who had invited them.

Robin Bolton introduced the guest speaker, Lynette Saville, school counselor at Troutville Elementary School. Lynette gave an overall view of the many, varied responsibilities of an elementary school counselor. She gave a general description of some of the many challenges she encounters as she helps to deal with situations that arise on a daily basis in the school setting. Lynette concluded with a Q&A, during which time several club members indicated a keen interest in the well-being of students in the school setting, as well as their appreciation for the job of the elementary school counselors.

The Community Service Committees gave reports. Audrey Clark, chair of the Community Engagement Committee, informed the members of several "Dine and Donate"



PHOTOCOURTESYOFEAGLEROCKRURITANS
Lynette Saville, Eagle Rock Ruritan Club guest speaker

opportunities to support local organizations.

Erin Slusser-Pease, chair of the Public Services Committee, announced the PTA-sponsored Fall Festival at Eagle Rock Elementary School with apple butter making among many activities offered. She is also president of the PTA.

Bill Critcher, chair of Citizenship and Patriotism, reminded everyone of their privilege and civic responsibility to vote in the upcoming November 5 election.

Barbara Holaday, chair of the Environment Committee, announced that plans for the next litter pickup are in the making.

The next Potluck Community Fellowship Meal will be at the Eagle Rock Community Center at 12 noon on the first Monday of November, (Nov. 4 – note change from the regular second Monday). A Community Hymn Sing will be at Mount Carmel Church at 6:30 p.m. on November 17.

The Ruritan Club strives to show

appreciation and deep gratitude for veterans by placing flags on graves of veterans who buried in cemeteries in the surrounding area. Also, the club invites veterans who live in the Eagle Rock and surrounding communities to attend the November Ruritan Club meeting at which time members will honor veterans and give thanks for their service to the country.

The Ruritans are grateful for the opportunity to share the Eagle Rock Community Center with local individuals and groups for a nominal fee to help with utilities. Call 540-884-2775 for reservations.

All the services rendered by the Eagle Rock Ruritan Club are done in the spirit of "Fellowship, Goodwill, and Community Service," which is the motto of the club. The members meet at 6:30 p.m. each third Tuesday and invite anyone interested in bettering the surrounding community to join with them.

~ Submitted by Jane McRae

Fincastle couple celebrating 60th anniversary

Robert (Bob) and Martha Edwards are celebrating 60 years of marriage. They met through family and were both freshmen at Lord Botetourt High School, which opened in 1959. After graduation and settling into new jobs, they were engaged at age 19.

Twenty-one was the legal age for marriage in Virginia, so they had to drive to Leaksville, N.C., to be married on October 9, 1964.

For 60 years they have made their home in Botetourt County where they have been close to many friends and family. Their life together continues to be fulfilling and a testimony to many who know them that love can be everlasting.

They are celebrating with their children, Angela, Kevin and daughter-in-law Garylyn and granddaughter Rachel at Cedar Hill Farm in Fincastle.

~ Submitted by Garylyn Edwards



PHOTOSCOURTESYOFGARYLYNEDWARDS

Retired Educators meeting Nov. 11

The Botetourt Retired Educators will meet on Monday, November 11, at Mill Creek Baptist Church, 11475 Lee Highway, Fincastle. Registration starts at 10:30 a.m. and the meeting will begin at 11 a.m. The women of the church are preparing lunch for the group at a cost of \$15 per person. If you would like to attend and plan to eat lunch, let Susan Martin (540-473-2636 or susanmartin730@gmail.com) know by November 6.

Anyone retired from the field of education living in this area is eligible for membership. Dues (\$35) may be paid at any meeting. Shannon Abell will present a program about changes in Medicare. Donations for the Botetourt Food Pantry will be collected. If you have questions, contact Susan Martin.

~ Botetourt Retired Educators

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Pleasant Hill Baptist welcomes

GOSPEL HARMONY BOYS

November 03 | 10:45am

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church
4930 Country Club Road, Troutville, VA 24175

Seating is limited so come early!

Daleville Fincastle Lions receives Model Club award

District 24-C LCIF Coordinator Frederick Carroll attended the Daleville Fincastle Lions meeting on October 15 and presented the club with a special award for its financial support of the Lions Clubs International charitable organization, the Lions Clubs International Foundation. The local Lions club was only one of four clubs of the 50 clubs in the district to receive the Model Club award. Pictured right, Carroll (left) presents the Lions Club plaque to Daleville Fincastle Lion Mike Jackson.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DALEVILLE-FINCASTLE LIONS CLUB

~ Daleville-Fincastle Lions Club

Veterans Day program in Troutville November 11



Photos from Troutville’s Veterans Day celebration in 2023.

The Troutville Sunshine Girls will hosting their 15th Veterans Day program and lunch on Monday, November 11, at 11 a.m. at the Troutville Town Hall.

The Sunshine Girls’ first

program was held in 2009 with 12 WWII veterans in attendance. The veterans said they had never been to a program before and that’s when the Sunshine Girls decided to make it an annual event.

Through the years they have bonded with this group of veterans with home visits, sending birthday cards and homemade Valentines. In recent years a few of the veterans’ stories have been published in

The Herald from interviews by the Sunshine Girls.

This year the Sunshine Girls have been saddened by the loss of several veterans in the county. The group of veterans has become much smaller and seats

are available for the event this year. If you know of a veteran who would like to attend the program and lunch, call 540-819-6335.

~ The Sunshine Girls

Chaplin

from page 1



PHOTO COURTESY OF JRHS BAND

James River High School recently took top Class A honors at the Cavalier Classic.

Chaplin sees the challenges in building up a band program and is fully prepared to take on the responsibilities of recruitment and maintaining student engagement. He understands that the students have more of an opportunity to participate no matter the size of the ensemble. Chaplin wants students from a wide range of backgrounds and personalities to become a part of something special.

“Right now, we’re marching about 20-some kids in the high school marching band and the high school concert band is about the same,” Chaplin said during an interview last week. “My focus is recruiting at the middle school level so that, eventually, those numbers build back up at the high school.

“They are a small group but they are an awesome group. They have consistently impressed me with their abilities. We were probably one of the smallest bands at (the recent) Lord Botetourt competition, yet we walked away with first (place in the division).”

The Marching Knights have definitely been active performing at football games and various competitions. James River recently brought top honors at the October 26 Cavalier Classic Competition, hosted by Lord Botetourt High School. The school received first place awards in the categories of Drum Major, Percussions, Marching, General Effect, Music, and first place Overall in the Class 1A division.

Lori Wingo, an English teacher at James River who assists with the marching band, recently shared, “The key to the rebuilding process is JRHS’s feeder band program at CAMS, where Mr. Chaplin has been active in recruiting a new beginner band program while

encouraging this year’s seventh and eighth graders to stay involved in music and get involved with the high school band.”

“We’ve been getting out there, getting exposure for the band,” Chaplin added. “We’ve been doing the competitions, the James River Homecoming Parade, and we’re doing the Buchanan and the Fincastle Christmas Parades.”

Chaplin will soon take band students on a field trip to Maury River Middle School in Lexington to audition for All-Area Band, the most competitive honors ensemble in the state. With these types of activities, Chaplin hopes to showcase the element of fun when performing and learning in a school band.

“We’re just trying to get out there more,” Chaplin said. “Let the kids know, hey, you can do this and it’s fun.”

Chaplin has set goals towards betting the future of the programs at James River and CAMS. He wants to expand the concert band program and seeing the students perform at more community events. He is constant communication with Lord Botetourt Band Director Chris Caldwell and Read Mountain Middle School Director Jamie Lawson. The schools plan to soon visit with elementary school students, providing demonstrations, and sharing the fun and comradery of becoming a part of a school’s band.

James River’s and CAMS’s band programs are now preparing for their upcoming winter concerts. Central Academy’s takes place December 9 at 6 p.m. A week later, James River puts on the winter program December 17. Each concert takes place at the respective schools.



FILE PHOTO

Halloween

from page 2

more pedestrians on the roads. Drivers need to be alert for trick-or-treaters and other pedestrians. Slow down and scan the road. Remember – slower speeds save lives. Watch for young trick-or-treaters in unexpected places. Children may be unaware of traffic and dart into the street unexpectedly.

Trick-or-treaters,

always stick with your group or adult! There’s safety in numbers. Wearing bright, reflective costumes and carrying flashlights or glow sticks will help ensure you are seen by drivers. Remember to use sidewalks when available, cross at corners, and look both ways before crossing the street. Before you indulge in those tasty

treats, have an adult check the candy safety.

The Sheriff’s Office will be out in the community patrolling neighborhoods to help ensure everyone has a safe experience. If you see something suspicious or need assistance, please call the Sheriff’s Office or dial 911.

~ Botetourt County Sheriff’s Office

NOTICE

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- Telecommunications Relay Services
- Toll Blocking
- Lifeline Assistance, “Virginia Universal Service Plan”, to one qualifying residential household*


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*Michael Hudson, Executive Director of
Historic Smithfield*

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6:00 PM
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108 E. BACK ST., FINCASTLE

Join us as we learn about Col. William Preston's spy
who exposed the Tory underground in western
Virginia!

Historic Fincastle, Inc

Annual Membership Meeting

Thursday, November 14, 2024—see below for time
Fincastle Presbyterian Church



6:40 pm—1984 HFI Slide Show created by Harry
Kessler, Jr.

7:00 pm—Business Meeting for HFI and election of
Board of Directors

7:30 pm—Program by Donald and Caroline Naysmith—
Historical Restoration

HISTORIC FINCASTLE, INC Marketplace

Saturday, December 14,
2024

9:30 am—3 pm

There will be over 40 vendors of exceptional
holiday quality and lots of Holiday Cheer!

Fincastle Baptist Church
7330 Roanoke Road
Fincastle, VA 24090

Free Event



The next Holiday Home Tour will be December 2025
when homes are Main Street, Fincastle are highlighted.



GRAPHICS COURTESY OF HFI

Historic Fincastle announces three upcoming events

Historic Fincastle, Inc. (HFI) recently announced three exciting, upcoming events on social media.

This Monday, November 4, HFI presents “A Spy Unmasked 250 Years Later” at Fincastle Presbyterian Church at 6 p.m.

HFI welcomes Michael Hudson, Executive Director of Historic Smithfield, as he shares a bit of history about Col. William Preston's spy who exposed the Tory underground in western Virginia.

Then, on November 14, HFI

will hold its annual meeting of membership at Fincastle Presbyterian that starts at 6:40 p.m. with an HFI slide show created by Harry Kessler, Jr. That will be followed by a business meeting for HFI and the election of its board

of directors. Following the meeting will be a program by Donald and Caroline Naysmith on historical restoration.

On Saturday, December 14, from 9:30 a.m. until 3 p.m., HFI hosts a winter marketplace at Fincastle Baptist Church.

Over 40 vendors will be on hand selling holiday-themed wares.

For more information about HFI's upcoming events, visit hisfin.org/events.

- Fincastle Herald staff report

DWR Outdoor Report - Early Muzzleloading Season begins Saturday

Early muzzleloader season begins Saturday in Botetourt County (Nov. 2 through Nov. 15). Deer hunters west of the Blue Ridge Mountains may take their season limit of two antlered deer during the early muzzleloading season. In designated areas, EAB (Earn A Buck) regulations would apply. Muzzleloader deer hunters and persons accompanying a muzzleloader deer hunter are asked to wear a blaze color, except when physically located in a tree stand or other stationary hunting location.

Antlered deer may be taken every day of the season. Antlerless deer may only be taken on the designated either-sex deer hunting days in Botetourt County's private lands during the early muzzleloading season.

Late muzzleloading season in Botetourt lasts from December 14 through January 4.

Special restrictions apply to specific firearms use during this season. Muzzleloading guns that can be used during these deer seasons include:

- Single shot

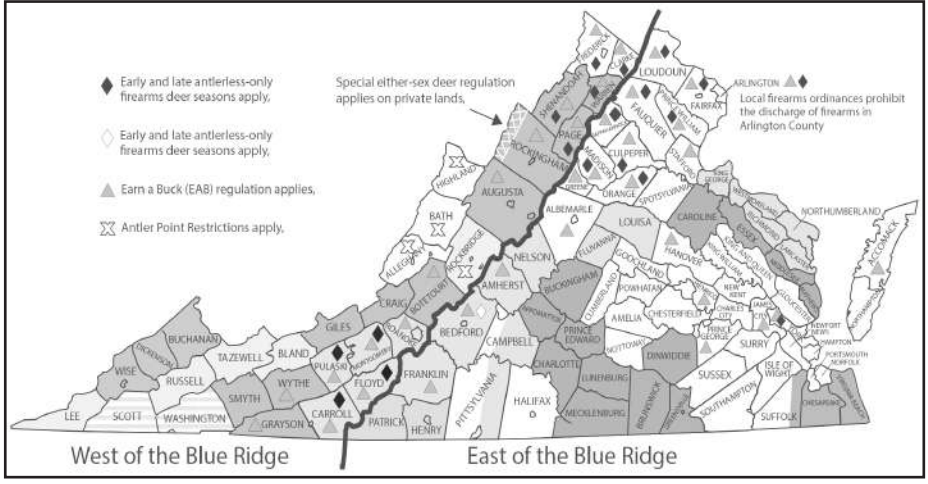
muzzleloading rifles .40 caliber or larger, firing a single projectile or sabot (with a .35 caliber or larger projectile) where the projectile is loaded from the muzzle;

- Muzzleloading shotguns (one or more barrels) not larger than 10 gauge where the projectiles are loaded from the muzzle;

- Muzzleloading pistols (one or more barrels) .45 caliber or larger, firing a single projectile or sabot (with a .35 caliber or larger projectile) per barrel where the propellant and projectile are loaded from the muzzle;

- Muzzleloading revolvers .45 caliber or larger, firing a single projectile or sabot (with a .35 caliber or larger projectile) per cylinder where the propellant and projectile are loaded from the forward end of the cylinder.

Other legal methods and restrictions during



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF DWR

muzzleloading deer seasons include:

- Flintlock, percussion, or electronic ignitions are permitted.

- It is unlawful to have in immediate possession any firearm other than a muzzleloading firearm while hunting with a muzzleloader.

- Smokeless powder is allowed in muzzleloading firearms designed for it. Never use smokeless powder in a muzzleloading

firearm that is not specifically designed for it.

- Scopes are permitted.
- For the purposes of transportation in a vehicle, muzzleloading firearms are considered “unloaded” when all powder has been removed from the flashpan, or the percussion cap, primer, or battery has been removed from the firearm.

- Pneumatic arrowguns are allowed.
- It is unlawful to hunt

deer with dogs, except that dogs may be used to track wounded deer.

- It is lawful to carry archery tackle when and where there is an overlap with a deer archery and deer muzzleloader season.

For more information, visit dwr.virginia.gov/hunting/regulations/deer/#muzzleloader.

- Virginia DWR



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF AARP

AARP Fraud Alert: Tech-Support Scams

Tech support is calling – but should you answer? One might think that a crime like the tech support scam, which has been around for over 15 years, might fade away, but it is more common than ever.

These scams start with an unsolicited phone call or a pop-up alert on your device, claiming to be from Microsoft, Norton, or another related company warning of grave problems. The goal is to persuade you to grant remote access to your device, after which they'll claim to find something terrible.

In reality, these criminals are likely trying to install malware, which enables them to steal personal information and account logins. They may also pressure you into paying for expensive (and fake) repairs or protection services.

If you receive an urgent phone call or a sudden, alarming pop-up, it's almost certainly

a scam. Don't engage, and to rid your screen of the message, exit out of your browser or restart your device. Keeping your operating systems and security software up to date is an important way to keep real viruses and malware out.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

AARP Fraud Watch Network is a free resource for all. Learn how to proactively spot scams or get guidance if you've been targeted. Visit aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork or call the dedicated helpline to speak to a fraud specialist at 877-908-3360.

- AARP

Stockyard Report	
Monday's sale at the Roanoke-Hollins Stockyard:	
113 Head	
Graded Steers	
400-499	\$250.00
500-599	\$254.00-\$261.00
600-699	\$216.00-\$247.00
700-799	\$234.00
Graded Bulls	
400-499	\$216.00-\$265.00
500-599	\$227.00-\$248.00
600-699	\$219.00
Graded Heifers	
400-499	\$236.00
500-599	\$233.00
600-699	\$226.00
700-799	\$218.00
Kill Cows	
\$57.00-\$132.00	
Kill Bulls	
\$149.50-\$150.00	

Letter

from page 8

Thank you to apple butter fundraiser volunteers

We would like to thank all the people who came out and helped us with making apple butter so that the Town of Fincastle can buy more Christmas lights. This year the volunteers made 65 gallons of apple butter and proceeds average over \$2,000!

Specifically, we would like to thank Donnie Booze, Barry Booze, Paul Booze, Bill and Becky Booze, Johnny Booze, Charlotte Sink, Samantha Campbell, Wayne Cunningham, Pat Fennigan, JD Fedor, Clay Fitzgerald, Mark and Marie Tate, Dean and Angela Clemmons, and Patrick Fitzgerald.

Special thanks to Chuckie Price for making the biscuits so we could slop the copper kettle. Thanks to Ben and Gwen Ikenberry for donating all the apples. Thanks

to Todd Leonard for helping put the kettle and stirrer together, and Booze's Flower House for donating the sugar.

If you would like to purchase some apple butter, it is being sold at Claudia Johnson's Roots Hair Salon and Dustin Ware's Sprinkel's Garage. Both are located in Fincastle.

Thank you all.

Henry and Debbie Booze
Fincastle

ARRESTS

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests October 21-27:

- James D. Boles, 60, of Blue Ridge, domestic assault, October 21
- Kristopher J. Abbott, 34, of Eagle Rock, domestic assault, October 21
- Brandon C. Huneault, 25, of Roanoke, eluding, reckless driving, October 22
- Steven A. Burnette, 52, of Roanoke, obstruction of justice, October 23
- Mark F. Bobbitt, 53, Roanoke, domestic assault,

October 23

- Joshua A. Spence, 41, of Buchanan, driving under the influence, October 26
- Carmen C. Hall, 52, of Troutville, unauthorized used of a motor vehicle, October 27
- Francisco Hernandez Calderon, 25, of Roanoke, drunk in public, October 27

COUNTY OF BOTETOURT IMPORTANT TAX NOTICE

Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Payment Due Date November 1, 2024

Tax bills have been mailed insofar as possible; however failure to receive a bill, does not relieve the taxpayer of any additional charges of penalty or interest that will accrue under the law for late or non-payment of the tax assessment.

Payment for these taxes must be postmarked or received by the Treasurer's Office on or before November 1, 2024, to avoid penalty. For your convenience, payments can also be made at Botetourt County branches of Bank of Botetourt and First Bank. Additional information and payment options can be found on our website at: www.botetourtva.gov/payments



Donna C. Boothe
Botetourt County Treasurer

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Legals - Montgomery County

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



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# Blue Ridge District volleyball championship is Thursday night

The Blue Ridge District volleyball championship will be held on Thursday of this week and there's a good chance Lord Botetourt will be the host team. The championship game is scheduled for 6 p.m. at the site of the highest remaining seed.

Botetourt comes into the tournament at 19-1 overall and 10-0 in district play. The Cavaliers and second place Franklin County had a first round bye on Monday. Third seeded William Byrd defeated sixth seeded William Fleming and fourth seeded Northside beat fifth seeded Staunton River. Both matches went three sets.

On Tuesday LB was scheduled to host Northside and William Byrd was at Franklin County. The two winners will play Thursday, and if LB defeated Northside then the championship will be in Daleville.

The Cavaliers ended the regular season with two wins last week, beginning with a three set win over Northside, 25-6, 25-9 and 25-8. Becca Huddleston had eight blocks and eight aces and Skylar Morris had 19 assists.

On Thursday of last week the girls swept the regular season series with Franklin County, 25-17, 25-23 and 25-17. Huddleston had 14 kills and Erica Gergely had 10. Bria Harvey had 23 digs and Gracelynn Clark had five blocks for LB.

The Region 3D tournament begins next Tuesday, November 5, and LB is the third seed behind Hidden Valley and Christiansburg. The Cavs will open with a home match against Magna Vista. Semifinals are November 7 and the region championship is November 12, and all games will be played at the higher seed.



Bria Harvey of LB handles a serve. PHOTO BY JIM DEVINNEY

# River will play for Three Rivers volleyball championship tonight



James River's Avery Williams (3) and Caitlin Canada (23) go up for a block in last week's match at Glenvar.

The James River volleyball team defeated Radford in three sets Monday to earn a spot in the Three Rivers District championship tonight. Alleghany will host the championship after defeating Carroll County in the other semifinal, also in three sets.

With the win River improved to 18-7 on the season. Only the top four teams in the district qualified for the tournament and River was the second seed behind Alleghany.

River finished up the regular season with two wins last week. The Knights beat Patrick County in three, 25-7, 25-19 and 25-16. Caitlin Canada had nine kills, Ayden Jennings had 22 assists and four aces and Brea Anduiza had eight kills.

On Thursday the Knights won at Glenvar in four, 25-21, 23-25, 25-14 and 25-18. Konner Myers had 18 digs, Jady N Miller had 16 kills and Anduiza had 14 kills and four aces. Jennings had 41 assists.

"Both of these were solid wins for us," said River coach Linsey Firebaugh. "We're missing one of our outsiders, so we were working with a new lineup. The girls played well as a team."

The Region 2C tournament is next



PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY  
Konner Myers of the Knights handles the ball in the win over Glenvar.

week and River will be included, but seedings were yet to be determined at press time.

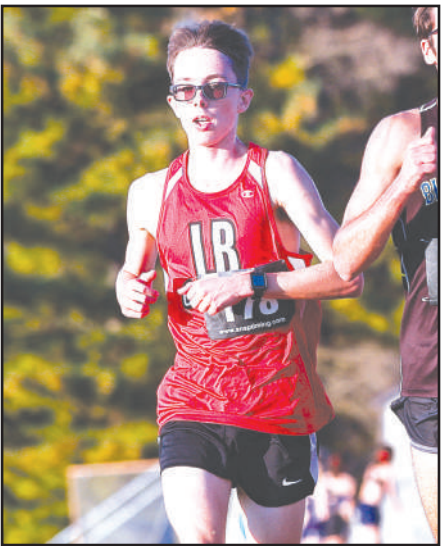
# Davidova is seventh in state girls golf

Lord Botetourt's Alisa Davidova tied for seventh place in the Virginia High School League Girls Open golf tournament Monday. The tournament, that included girls who qualified from all VHSL classifications, was held at the Heritage Oaks Golf Course in Harrisonburg.

Alisa shot a three-over par 73 on the par 70 course to tie three other golfers at 73. Kathryn Ha of Salem won the championship with a three-under 57, two strokes better than Erin Mullin of Robinson High and Kaylee Bell of Ocean Lakes.



Tristian Capo-Lopez of James River runs in the Metro.



Eric Duncan of Lord Botetourt was 14th overall in the Metro boys race.

# Cross country teams have district meets this week

The Greenfield Recreation Complex in Daleville will be the site of the Blue Ridge District cross country meet today. The BRD meet, including Lord Botetourt High, will begin with a girls race at 4:30 p.m. followed by a boys race at 5 p.m.

The James River runners were scheduled to run in the Three Rivers District meet on Tuesday of this week. That meet was scheduled for the Smith River Complex in Axton, near Martinsville.

Both schools ran in the Metro Cross Country Meet at Blacksburg last Wednesday, October 23. The Blacksburg boys and Christiansburg girls were team winners in the annual event at Blacksburg High School. Lord Botetourt's boys were 13th and the girls were 12th in the 5,000-meter races.

"Metro was our last regular season race and we used it as preparation for our championship season," said LB coach Elizabeth Edmonds.

Eric Duncan led the Cavalier boys, placing 14th with a time of 17:41. John Moghroubi



PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY  
Elizabeth Meadows was the third Cavalier across the line in Blacksburg.

was second for Lord Botetourt, followed by Archer Lee and Garrett Sutton. Rounding out the top five was Joel Butler.

Madeleine Gantzhorn led the girls team with a time of 24:17. Ember Wiley, Elizabeth Meadows and Maddie Moore stayed close together and ran good times while Riley Howell and Meredith Claterbaugh rounded out the girls team.

The James River

boys were 10th and the girls were 14th. Aiden Bartulis led the boys with a 32nd place finish in 18:40 while Braden Jones was 39th in 18:56. Rounding out the scoring were Mark Voight, Tristian Capo-Lopez and Barrett Pace.

For the girls, Jacey Walker had the best time at 30:53. Kaylee Dunbar finished in 31:01, one spot behind Walker, and also scoring were Holly Weddle, Whiteleigh Ronk and Janiya Falls.

# Botetourt 8-U football team will play in Sandlot Super Bowl

The Botetourt-Phillips sandlot football team defeated Cave Spring in the Sandlot Super Bowl semifinal last Saturday at Bogle Field in Roanoke County. With the win Botetourt advances to this Saturday's Sandlot Super Bowl championship game.

Botetourt will play the 10 a.m. game of the tripleheader against Glenvar at Bogle Field, behind Cave Spring Middle School. The 8-U, 10-U and 12-U championship games were scheduled for Salem Stadium but were forced to move when the Trump campaign scheduled a rally at

the Salem Civic Center for Saturday afternoon.

The 10-U championship game will follow Botetourt's game at noon, and that will be between Salem and Cave Spring Red. The 12-U game is at 2 p.m. and that will be between Salem and Franklin County.

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Brian Hoffman

Sports Editor



The ball is loose (lower left) in the end zone as LB quarterback Angel Rigney's hand is visible at the goal line Friday night. The ball was picked up by a Fleming player (far left) and returned 101 yards for a touchdown.

# Colonels finish strong to hold off LB in football

William Fleming remained undefeated in football with a 35-17 win over Lord Botetourt in Roanoke last Friday, but the Colonels knew they were in a game. LB trailed by just four points in the fourth quarter before host Fleming pulled away.

"I thought we won the physicality war," said LB coach Jamie Harless. "I thought our kids showed the most composure and character under some difficult circumstances."

LB drew first blood when Dean Webb kicked a 38-yard field goal with 3:58 to go in the first quarter. However, Fleming came firing back when Syracuse commit Malachi Coleman raced 63 yards for a score with just under two minutes left in the first period.

Botetourt put on a second long drive that carried well into the second quarter. The Cavaliers had the ball at the Fleming one but a fumble carried into the end zone and K-Ron Ferguson of the Colonels picked it up and raced 101 yards for a tide-turning score. Despite protests from the LB side it was ruled Cavalier quarterback Angel Rigney did not crack the plane of the goal line before fumbling the ball, a critical call in the game.

It was now midway through the second quarter and LB had dominated the time of possession but trailed 14-3. Fleming then tacked on another score 33 seconds before the half for a 21-3 lead at intermission.

The Cavaliers fought back in the second half. After a scoreless third quarter a 13-yard TD pass from Garrett Lonker to Seth Reiter cut the lead to

21-10 with 11:17 still to go. Botetourt's defense stiffened and Tristan Overbay's one yard run made it a one-score game at 21-17 with 7:20 still remaining, and Botetourt had all the momentum on their side.

At that point the Colonels turned it over to Coleman. The talented tailback carried eight straight times on the ensuing possession, culminating in a three-yard run with 3:54 to go, making it a two-possession game again. That was the killer score, although Fleming tacked on a late TD in a game that was closer than the 18 point final margin indicated.

Overbay had another big night with 202 yards rushing on 28 carries. Rigney had 67 yards on five attempts and Quinten Jones had 51 yards on 18 tries as LB rolled up 324 yards on the ground.

Lonker completed four passes for 45 yards. Reiter had two receptions for 24 yards and Rigney had a 37 yard reception.

With the loss LB fell to 6-2 on the season and dropped from first to second in the VHSL Region 3D rankings. Abingdon now has the top spot at 7-1 with a 24.37 rating while LB is close behind at 24.25.

This Friday the Cavaliers will travel to Northside to take on the Vikings. Northside is 4-4 but the Vikings have lost four of their last five and haven't beaten Lord Botetourt since 2018. The Cavaliers have won 11 of the last 12 meetings.

"They're athletic and they'll give you a lot of looks," said Harless. "We have a lot to work on in one week."



Angel Rigney runs for a good gain in last Friday's LB game in Roanoke.

# Glenvar defeats James River in football to retain Virginia Media Rocking Chair



River's Josiah Merchant brings down a Highlander ball carrier.

The Virginia Media Rocking Chair went back to Glenvar Friday when the visiting Highlanders defeated host James River in football, 40-7. The rocking chair goes to the annual winner of this rivalry game and Glenvar has now won the chair for the 11th season in a row.

This one was close for awhile. Glenvar led just 6-0 after the first quarter but the Highlanders scored two touchdowns late in the first half to open a 21-0 lead at intermission.

"I thought we played well but we couldn't put enough good plays together," said River coach Tim Jennings. "We were able to run the ball in the first half, but they made some adjustments at halftime and weren't able to run it as well in the second half."

River's touchdown came late in the game on a run by Kody Park, denying the Highlanders a shutout. Park was at quarterback for Pierce Woodyard and he was nine for 16 passing for 136 yards, although three interceptions were costly.

"We had a fumble and some ill times interceptions," said Jennings. "And we had



Jack Beheler (71) of the Knights makes a tackle.

72 yards in penalties, most of which came on calls after the play was dead."

Josiah Merchant had 97 yards on five receptions. Gavin Binns had 129 yards rushing on 19 carries and he also had an interception.

With the loss River dropped to 1-7 on the season and it was their sixth loss in a row. Things won't get any easier this week as the Knights travel to Covington to

play Alleghany High at Casey Field. The Cougars, who combined Alleghany and Covington schools beginning with the 2023 season, are 8-0 and that includes a 34-7 win over Glenvar for the Highlanders' only loss. Alleghany won last year's game in Springwood, 57-0.

"I don't think they're as good as last year, but they're good at what they do," said Jennings.



Gavin Binns of James River battles for yards against Glenvar.

# Local high school cheerleaders in local competitions

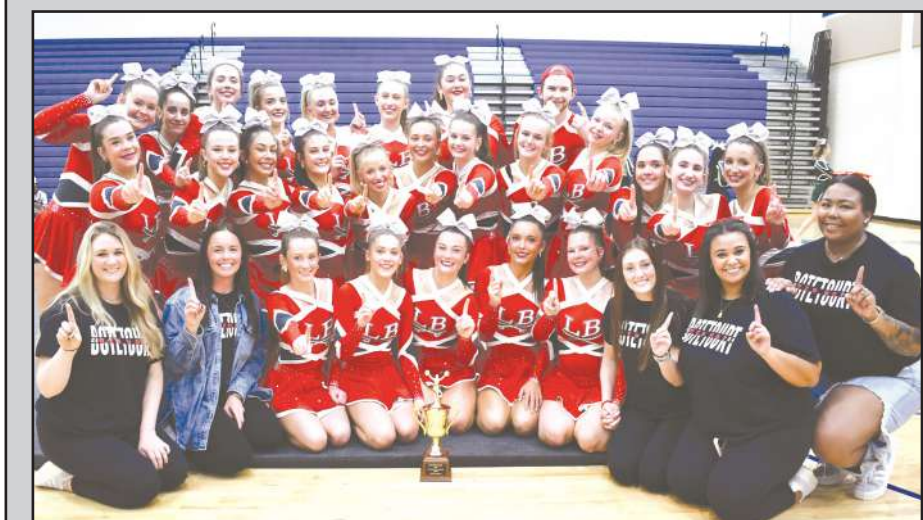


PHOTO COURTESY LB CHEERLEADING

## Cavaliers win district cheer competition

The Lord Botetourt competition cheering team won first place at the Blue Ridge District cheer-off at William Fleming High School. The Cavaliers advance to the Region 3D competition at William Byrd High this Saturday at 5 p.m., and the top two will make the VHSL Class 3 state tournament.



PHOTO BY LEIGH DOWNEY

## Knights end cheer season in region

The James River competition cheer team competed in the Region 2C&D competition at Glenvar last Saturday and finished fifth. Only the top two teams advance to the state so that ended the season for the Knights. Graham High finished first and Glenvar was second.