

Botetourt County History



PHOTO COURTESY OF BCMHC

This 19th century pottery mug was decorated and glazed in Fincastle. It was owned and used by the Thomas family of Buchanan for many years. Miss Alma Thomas donated it to the Botetourt Museum of History and Culture when she lived in Roanoke. The angel is blowing a horn and holds a banner that reads "LOVED" but the E is backward. It is unknown where this mug was made in Fincastle. However, it is known that pottery was made in two large fireplaces at Aspen Hill (322 E. Main Street). The home was built circa 1835 by Captain

Sam Figgat and has just been restored by Donald and Caroline Naysmith. There were also several famous pottery makers in Botetourt County between 1830-1894 who built their own kilns. They include George N. Fulton, Robert Fulwiler, Peter Obenshain, Jesse Henkel and Philip Spigle. This mug was not made by them, but is on display at the Museum. The more famous pottery is located upstairs.

~ Botetourt County Museum of History & Culture

Longbeards donate holiday turkeys



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT LONGBEARDS

The Botetourt Longbeards Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation was able to donate frozen turkeys to the food pantries in Botetourt County again this year. This is one of the chapter's primary outreach projects each year. Pictured from left are Doug and Lee Lang, Richard Pauley and Jimmy Wilhelm.

~ Botetourt Longbeards

Buchanan Lions support Eagle Rock Elementary PTA



PHOTO COURTESY OF BUCHANAN LIONS

Buchanan Lions (from left) Danette Heinlein, Audrey Clark, President Tim Heinlein, and Pat Jasper present the check to PTA President Erin Slusser-Pease.

The Buchanan Lions Club has been raising funds for a variety of school needs, and heard about a need at Eagle Rock Elementary School. The Lions of Virginia Foundation, Inc. (LCIF) has a grant program, and by combining their local fundraising with a grant application to LCIF, the Buchanan Lions were able to give the Eagle Rock PTA a check for \$1,000.

This last year the Buchanan Lions have held a variety of fund-raising

efforts, including sponsoring Bingo at the Buchanan Carnival, the annual Tea Party, broom sales, and other events. All of those funds are used in the Lions' programs for sight, diabetes, and community and school efforts.

For more information regarding Buchanan Lions, contact Lion Tim Heinlein at tim.heinlein@gmail.com or 540-450-6716.

~ Buchanan Lions Club

Daleville-Fincastle Lions Club members receive awards



The Daleville-Fincastle Lions Club recognized several members at the November meeting. Treasurer Mary Sue McCormack (above) was presented with a Lions of Virginia 100% Treasurer's Award by Club Secretary Lowell Skelton. Lion Mike Jackson (lower left) was presented with his 15-year service award and Lion Lowell Skelton (right) was presented with his 20-year service award by District Governor Andre' Peery (center).

~ Daleville-Fincastle Lions Club



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DALEVILLE-FINCASTLE LIONS CLUB

Chaplin brings band instruments to Breckinridge

Central Academy Middle School (CAMS) and James River High School band director Robert Chaplin stopped by Breckinridge Elementary last Thursday to demonstrate instruments to the fifth grade music classes. The

visit was a collaboration between Chaplin and Breckinridge music teacher Jennifer Bradshaw to introduce students to band instruments and to spark interest in the fifth graders to participate in band next year when they get

to middle school. Here, Chaplin demonstrates the trumpet to Charlotte Moulton and Caden Rucker.

~ Submitted by Marcy Wohlford



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARCY WOHLFORD

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Year in Review 2024

In this year-end edition of The Fincastle Herald, take a look back at some news stories over the last year within the Botetourt community

County Board of Supervisors approves Wawa development SEPs

The Botetourt County Board of Supervisors approved two Special Exception Permit (SEP) requests for a new Wawa convenience store at the Daleville Town Center on the corner of Roanoke Road (Route 220) and Glebe Road in the Amsterdam District in February. The board voted to approve the SEP for a convenience store with possible conditions, and a SEP for an electronic message board sign, with possible conditions in the Traditional Neighborhood District. The board voted to approved the SEP for the Wawa with a 4-1 vote. Blue Ridge Supervisor Walter Michael was the only board member who voted no. The board unanimously approved the SEP for an electronic board sign.

The initial SEP request was proposed during the Jan. 23, 2024 meeting and tabled for the review of additional conditions that were needed. Citizens provided comments both in opposition and approval of the Wawa at the January and February meetings. One of the conditions suggested by public comment was to not have any signage on the interstate to prevent a traffic increase, which became part of the new conditions presented by the applicant.

According to information provided in the February 27 meeting agenda packet, following the January Board of Supervisors meeting, county staff met with the applicant, Fralin & Waldron, to discuss their application. As a result, staff proposed additional conditions:

- All other specifications and general provisions shall be met as required by the Botetourt County Zoning Ordinance and in no instance shall the zoning conditions exempt a project from any local, state, or federal development requirements, except where allowed by the Zoning Ordinance
- The applicant will install a bench for outdoor seating at the property
- The development shall not be advertised upon Virginia's Interstate and Controlled-access Highway Specific Travel Services (Logo) Signs

The applicant stated that they were not opposed to these recommended conditions. Additionally, the applicant submitted information related to the Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) that will be presented by a representative of the applicant team.

Board Vice Chair and Buchanan Supervisor Amy White clarified that the county isn't "breaking their own rules" approving the SEP due to the fact that the Wawa is a fuel station and an SEP is required by the state.

Fincastle Supervisor Brandon Nicely noted that "these are the type of businesses that generate a lot of tax revenue. We're going to need that, there's no doubt about it. That helps us when we start to consider rate adjustments. I hope you can bear with us. (Wawa) is a community-oriented business. They support education. They're going to provide some jobs."

Blue Ridge District Supervisor Walter Michael was the only board member who voted against the SEP for the convenience store. He explained, "I still feel that we have given this to our Planning Commission – which (consists of) county executives and knowledgeable people on these topics and I have to go with them. I need to support them as well as the voters in the community."

Valley District Supervisor Mac Scothorn, who suggested to table the discussion in January, stated that safety was one of the biggest concerns and the applicant did a good job providing the county additional information ensuring proper safety measures when blocking the potential traffic on that corner of Route 220.

When recently asked about movement on the Wawa development, a county representative said, there currently is "no new news to report" on the store's construction in Daleville.



FILE PHOTO

New sign shows Botetourt's LOVE

This article was originally published in the October 23 edition.

Botetourt County officially introduced its very own LOVEWorks sign at the Botetourt Sports Complex on October 21. Members of the county's leadership team were joined by representatives from Virginia Tourism, Roanoke Regional Small Business Development Center, and Botetourt Technical Education Center (BTEC) to welcome LOVEWorks' newest sign to the community.

The sign overlooks Tinker Cliffs and makes for quite the photo opportunity to any and all who visit the Sports Complex. The colors in the sign represent the county's "BOCO" branding spreading continuous love for Botetourt County.



FILE PHOTO

Chapter Treasurer Alicia White-Braxton, "America 250!" Committee Chair Trish Morris, and Botetourt DAR Chapter Regent Betty Holt unveil the new Patriot marker at the Botetourt Museum of History & Culture on May 18, 2024.

DAR Patriots marker unveiled in Fincastle

This article was originally published in the May 22, 2024 edition.

The Botetourt Chapter of the Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) unveiled a new marker outside of the Botetourt Museum of History & Culture in Fincastle on May 18. The marker commemorates the 250th anniversary of the United States and the Revolutionary War patriots who fought for freedom from 1775-1783.

The marker program honors the memory of the men and women who fought to ensure that the United States of America continues as a government "of the people, by the people, for the people." It is also designed to raise appreciation amongst current and future generations of Americans of their countrymen's sacrifice.

"The goal of the national society has been to place at least one marker in every state before July 2026," Botetourt Chapter Regent Betty Holt said during her remarks. "Ours is not the first one in the Commonwealth, but it is one of the first to be dedicated. Thank you for sharing this special day with us here in Fincastle."

Holt read an article that was printed in the June 14, 1973 edition The Fincastle Herald about a grave marking ceremony held at Fincastle Presbyterian Church honoring Revolutionary War

soldiers and patriots buried in the cemetery. Outside of the church is a marker put up by the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) honoring 36 patriots. Holt noted that since they decided not to hold the ceremony at the museum due to weather, Fincastle Presbyterian was a natural substitute due to its historical significance.

Virginia DAR State Regent Lauris Parker Nesbitt was invited by the Botetourt Chapter to speak during the dedication ceremony. She shared her excitement about the Fincastle marker.

Del. Terry Austin shared some remarks about the marker's significance and the significance of Botetourt County to United States history.

"It's amazing to think how much of our history sits right here in Fincastle, in Botetourt County," Austin noted. He spoke about some of the notable historical highlights that occurred in the county many years ago and proudly told attendees about the Fincastle Resolutions which established the first adopted settlement by the colonists promising resistance to the British crown in order to preserve political liberties.

"It's for these reasons, and countless others, that I contend Virginia is the birthplace of the nation," Austin continued. "As chairman of the VA250, I'm proud of the work we're doing to ensure

that Virginia's leadership enrolled in the founding of the United States is acknowledged, promoted and celebrated."

Botetourt County Historical Society Executive Director Lynsey Allie added her appreciation for all who attended the event saying, "I want to extend our deepest gratitude for all of you joining us today in honoring our earlier patriots in the VA250 marker dedication. This marker symbolizes more than just a plaque. It represents our commitment to preserving history and honoring those who came before us. Their contributions have shaped our community and inspire us to continue their legacy. I want to express appreciation to the Daughters of the American Revolution for their dedication for historic preservation... May this marker serve as a reminder of our shared history for generations to come."

Holt closed the ceremony thanking the DAR VA250 committee and expressed her gratitude for the marker's placement and the people who attended the event. Following the dedication, attendees enjoyed a reception at the church that featured Fincastle Mayor Mary Bess Smith reading the proclamation approved by Fincastle Town Council at its May 9 meeting thanking the Botetourt DAR for the new patriots marker.

Science on display at Eagle Rock's Science Festival

This article was originally published in the May 15, 2024 edition.

Sun and science painted the hills at Blue Ridge Vineyards last Saturday during the Eagle Rock Ruritans' second annual Science Festival.

Community members young and old learned more about the discoveries of some of Botetourt's young minds who displayed experiments like seeding sprouts, building baking soda-propelled rockets out of soda bottles, and "the power

of chocolate," to name a few. Attendees had the opportunity to enjoy tri-fold posters taking them through the steps of each experiment displaying local Botetourt

youths' skills in technology and engineering.

"It was such a gorgeous day to host an event that allowed families to enjoy the outdoors and learn so

much while being able to play freely throughout the vineyard," Eagle Rock Ruritan Beth Leffel said

See 2024, page 5

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Holiday Closing

All libraries will be closed Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25 for the Christmas holiday. The libraries will also close at 6pm on Tuesday, December 31 and remain closed Wednesday, January 1 for the New Year holiday. Book returns and Wi-Fi access remain open 24/7.

Art Club

Fri, Jan 3, 3pm, Buchanan
Ages 18+. Explore simple art techniques and concepts in a relaxing atmosphere.

James Patterson Book Club

Wed, Jan 8, 10:30am, Blue Ridge
Discuss books by this popular author with fellow fans. January's book: Suzanne's Diary for Nicholas.

Beginning Engineering

Ages 10+. Get hands-on experience with electrical projects that focus on safety and real-world engineering skills. Presented by engineer David Sproles. No prior experience required – just curious minds! *Registration required; class size limited to 8 (no exceptions).

January project: Hurricane Season Night Light

Tue, Jan 7, 4pm, Fincastle
Wed, Jan 8, 4pm, Blue Ridge
Tue, Jan 14, 4pm, Buchanan
Wed, Jan 15, 4pm, Eagle Rock

Genealogy Research Using City Directories

Thu, Jan 9, 2pm, Buchanan
Dig into your family history by using city directors to find out about people, where they lived, and their professions. Presented by Rena

Worthen, Library Genealogist.

State Trooper Storytime

State Trooper Rick Jarrell will read the book Officer Buckle and Gloria by Peggy Rathmann, followed by an interactive discussion about the story, safety tips, and state troopers.

Thu, Jan 9, 3pm, Fincastle
Fri, Jan 10, 3pm, Buchanan
Tue, Jan 14, 3pm, Eagle Rock
Wed, Jan 15, 3pm, Blue Ridge

Botetourt Senior Bingo

Tue, Jan 14, 10:30am, 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.

Puzzles & Games for Seniors

Begins at all locations this January! Check our calendar for more information!

Mailbox Plus – Teacher/homeschool resource for pre-K–6th grade

Mailbox Plus is a rich resource for teachers and homeschool parents, offering thousands of activities and worksheets for kids pre-K through 6th grade. From arts and crafts to math and reading, it includes tools like lesson plan builders and flashcard creators. Access it on our website under Online Resources.

Find even more events at BOCOLibraries.info.

Inmate hangs himself in Botetourt-Craig Regional Jail

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office reported last week that an inmate at the Botetourt-Craig Regional Jail was discovered unresponsive in his cell on Tuesday, December 17.

David W. Jones, Jr., 39, was found hanging from a bed sheet wrapped around part of his cell bunk from an apparent suicide. At approximately 4:28 p.m., deputies conducted a routine check of the inmate's cell and found no signs of distress. A subsequent check a few minutes later at 4:32 p.m. revealed Jones was unresponsive, having apparently taken his own life by hanging.

Deputies and medical personnel immediately initiated life-saving measures until emergency services arrived. Jones was pronounced deceased at the scene. His body was transported

to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Roanoke for an autopsy.

Jones was being held in the Botetourt-Craig Regional Jail for 10 counts of possession of obscene material involving a minor.

As part of the jail's standard procedures, deputies conduct routine checks of all inmates twice per hour to ensure their safety and well being. An investigation into the incident is being conducted. No foul play is suspected, and Jones was housed alone in a secure cell at the time of the incident.

As standard practice, the Virginia State Police and the Commonwealth Attorney have been asked to conduct an independent review of the investigation.

– Botetourt County Sheriff's Office

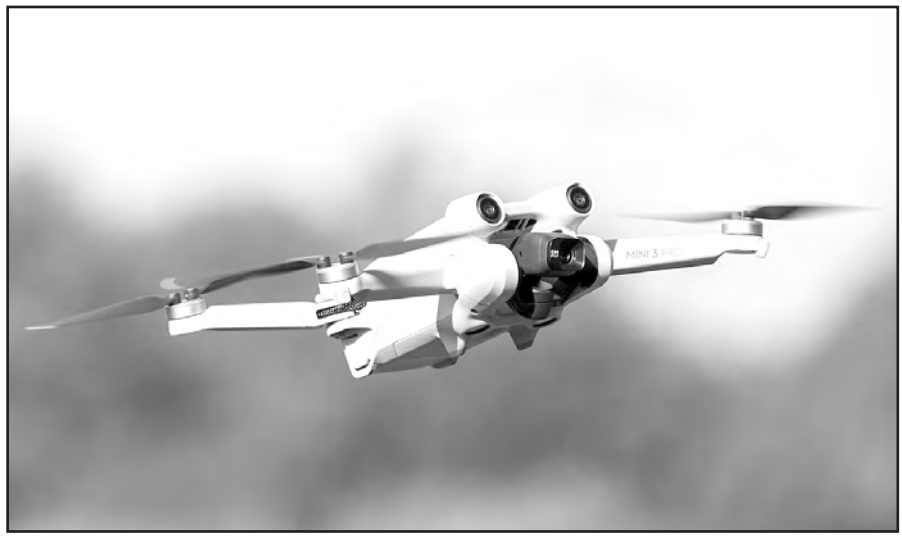


IMAGE COURTESY OF PIXABAY

Virginia State Police continue to investigate drone tips; offer guide to rules for flying drones in the Commonwealth

The Virginia Fusion Center (VFC), located within the Homeland Security Division of the Virginia State Police, has received more than 150 tips regarding drone activity in the Commonwealth during December. All of the tips are being investigated and

shared with key stakeholders. This comes as there have been reports of drones flying in other areas of the country, including in New Jersey.

Law enforcement is encouraging citizens to contact the Virginia Fusion Center at vfc@vfc.vsp.virginia.gov, if they see drones acting suspiciously.

“We encourage anyone that witnesses a drone flying over critical infrastructure, such as energy installations, or military sites, to contact the Virginia Fusion Center,” said Virginia State Police Special Agent D. Robinson. “This will enable us to work with our partners to determine exactly what is occurring, and how to move forward.”

Drones are required to remain in sight of either the operator or a visual observer and have a maximum allowable altitude of 400 feet unless waived by federal regulators. Operators

are required to have a remote pilot certificate for recreational use or a license from the FAA for commercial use. The public can learn more about the rules and regulations at Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) | Federal Aviation Administration.

It is against the law to shoot at a drone. Airspace is governed by the federal government.

State law does prohibit flying drones within 50 feet of a residence, unless the person is authorized by the federal government to operate and is doing so lawfully and consistent with federal regulations.

The Virginia Fusion Center Shield Program has released additional information on drones available at All Sectors Bulletin - UAV Assessment. All information bulletins distributed by the VFC Shield are public and are intended to be shared. The public is encouraged to sign up for this free outreach program by visiting www.fusion.vsp.virginia.gov/shield.

– Virginia State Police

League for Animal Protection's
Waif of the Week

Sweetie
Sweetie, a Husky mix with one blue eye, is 4 years old, HW negative, and micro-chipped. She's a real sweetie, fine with other dogs and very treat motivated.



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. Product or ____ (abbr.)
4. Zodiac sign
9. S. China seaport
14. Former OSS
15. Early English printer
16. Aphid genus
17. General's assistant (abbr.)
18. Aussies
20. Dissuades
22. Make law
23. Drench
24. Soak in a liquid
28. Male child
29. It cools your home
30. Small constellation
31. To call (archaic)
33. Explores beneath the Earth
37. Commercial
38. W. hemisphere organization

39. You can find it in a can
41. "Land of the free"
42 36 inches
43. Footwear
44. Challenges
46. They hold things together
49. Of I
50. Partner to flow
51. Not connected by kinship
55. Worries
58. Garlic mayonnaise
59. A way to take by force
60. Legendary English rockers
64. Your consciousness of your own identity
65. Fencing swords
66. Silly
67. Actor DiCaprio
68. Encircles with a belt
69. Mails a message

CLUES DOWN

1. Horse mackerels
2. It can be viral
3. Prickly plants
4. Consciousness
5. Type of sarcoma
6. Tax collector
7. Sun up in New York
8. One who scorches
9. Influential psychotherapist
10. Situated at an apex
11. Communicative
12. Forearm nerve
13. Former CIA
19. Folk singer DiFranco
21. Employee stock ownership plan
24. Large-scale
25. School environment
26. Remove
27. Male parents
31. Large rodent

32. Weighed down
34. Held tightly
35. ____ route: going there
36. Explains again
40. Exclamation of surprise
41. Courteously
45. Lying down
47. Judge
48. Forcefully took
52. Loosely compacted sediment
53. High mountain
54. Portable conical tents
56. Cereal grass
57. Dining utensil
59. Thoughtful
60. Helps you walk
61. Indicates near
62. Midway between northeast and east
63. Local area network



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Red One
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7 p.m.

Wicked
(2024) Elphaba, a misunderstood young woman because of her green skin, and Glinda, a popular girl, become friends at Shiz University in the Land of Oz. After an encounter with the Wonderful Wizard of Oz, their friendship reaches a crossroads. (2 hr. 40 min.)

Friday, Dec. 27
7 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 28
7 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 29
3 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 2
7 p.m.

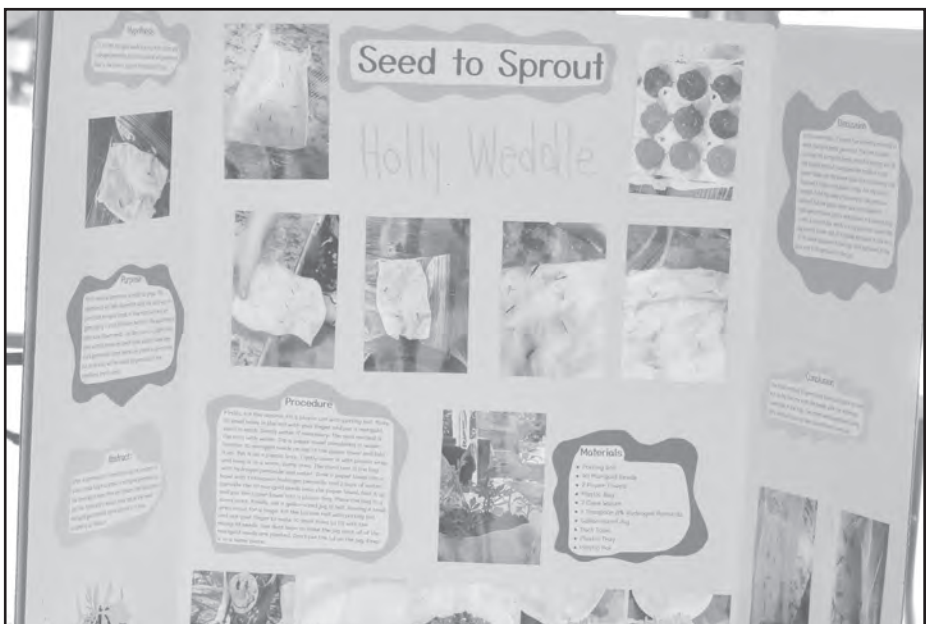
See Answers, page 7



The Eagle Rock Ruritans held their second annual Science Festival at Blue Ridge Vineyards on May 11, 2024.

when asked about the festival. “We estimate 300 people attended the Festival and there were 24 science fair posters from youth in Botetourt, Roanoke and Alleghany counties.

The Ruritan Club is especially appreciative of all the community leaders who dedicated their time to lead interactive science activities and for the overwhelming financial support



FILE PHOTOS

Youth were invited to create informative experiences using the scientific method while designing their project.

we received from corporate sponsors.”

Additionally, people could learn more about community organizations that included Botetourt 4-H along with schools that provide studies in scientific fields like the Botetourt Technical Education Center (BTEC) and Virginia Western.

See Year in Review 2024, page 11

Recreation

from page 1

The department requested \$44,550.95 for 2025’s projects.

Below are the upcoming RIF projects listed by organization, location, project description, and total cost:

- Troutville Elementary PTA – Troutville Elementary – Complete repainting of the gym walls, doors, door frames, window frames, ceiling rafters, and rock wall - \$15,911 (\$7,955.50 requested)
- Central Academy Middle School – Buchanan Elementary – Baseball and softball scoreboard replacements - \$11,920 (\$5,960 requested)
- Cloverdale Elementary PTA – New playground equipment featuring a spider climber, tire swing, and spinner - \$18,270.90 (\$9,135.45 requested)
- Greenfield Elementary PTA – Greenfield

Elementary – Repair of recreation blacktop area - \$14,770.00 (\$7,000 requested)

- Colonial Elementary School PTA – Colonial Elementary – Handicap accessible seating area and walking path - \$19,500 (\$9,500 requested)
- Buchanan Elementary – Buchanan Elementary – Upgrades to outdoor basketball courts - \$10,000 (\$5,000 requested)

Applicants presented their projects to the Botetourt Parks and Recreation Commission which serves as the Selection Committee. The committee made recommendations to the Board of Supervisors which serves as the final approving authority and last Tuesday, the supervisors unanimously approved the projects.

Since the program’s inception in 1998, the grant has led to over \$2 million worth of improvements to property

within the county. Some of the completed projects include the design and installation of the James River mile marker signage, improvements made to Buchanan Elementary’s playground equipment, installation of an AED at the Greenfield soccer fields, improvements to concession stands at Read Mountain Middle School, scoreboards at James River High School, new picnic tables at Blue Ridge Park, and senior fitness equipment installed at Troutville Town Park. Local schools and booster clubs have also used grant funding for batting cages, track improvements, and other recreation/sports amenities to help benefit the community.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report



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Botetourt Worship Directory

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

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

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

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- 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 Children's Church. Wednesday evening Worship and Bible study begins with a meal at 6:30 p.m.

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

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

Springwood Baptist Church - 88 Copps 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

READY OR NOT

Read Revelation 22:1-21

At the turn of the century, the world was in a panic. On the eve of a new millennium, no one was sure what midnight would bring. Experts claimed a programming glitch could cause computers to struggle with the date change. The acronym Y2K became a household phrase connected to the possible collapse of computer-dependent industrialized nations.

Some scoffed, but others prepared. They stockpiled canned goods and bottled water. They outlined a strategy for living without electricity. They took the doomsday warnings seriously and wanted to be ready.

John's Revelation contains a similar foretelling of a future event that will change life on earth.

"Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done" (Revelation 22:12).

Whether or not you prepared for Y2K, the forewarned tragedy did not amount to anything. As believers, however, we all must be ready for Christ's return. The events prophesied in Scripture will come to pass. So, as 2012 comes to a close, ask yourself this question: Am I ready?

Prayer Suggestion: Lord, help me be ready for Your soon return.

Quicklook: Revelation 22:7-17

Brethren- 10603 Narrow Passage Rd., Eagle Rock. PO Box. 183 Eagle Rock, VA 24085. Interim Pastor Dreama Osborne. 884-2292 (church), 540-597-8272 (cell). Sunday School, 10 AM; worship, 11 AM; Ladies' Aid meets 2nd Thurs. monthly.

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

Pleasant Dale Church of the Brethren, 3732 Breckinridge Mill Rd, Fincastle, Rev. Dr. David A. Tozar - pastor, Sunday worship at 11am, preceded by coffee fellowship at 10:30, Bible Study Sunday at 4pm, 5th Sunday Potluck luncheon, Handicap Accessible, Contact Pastor Davd at dtozar9@yahoo.com. Follow on Facebook, Sunday worship and 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

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.

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 osloanoke.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. Mail donations for the building fund to P.O. Box 85, Eagle Rock.

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.

Contract

from page 1



FILE PHOTO

Construction on the Botetourt County Circuit Courthouse is slated to take approximately 870 days to complete.

up a temporary courtroom, judge’s chambers, and the circuit court clerk’s offices. Evans that there are several items from “Package A” that have now been incorporated into “Package B.”

Next step is for the county to give Jamerson-Lewis a notice to proceed (NTP) on the requested date of January 20, 2025. This notice is a formal notification issued by a contractor, signaling the official start of a construction or project phase.

As part of the project, the relocation of the old Breckinridge Law Office and Hotel (LOH) is still scheduled as planned. Evans shared that there is still some foundation work before the building is lifted onto a new location a few hundred feet from where it

currently stands.

“There is some masonry work that has to be redone at the law office and hotel before it can be moved,” Evans said. “The foundation it will be moved to has to be built first.”

A small “road” will be constructed from the old location of the office and hotel to its new location upon completion of the foundation. The “L-shaped” building will be relocated in two pieces.

“I have full confidence in Jamerson-Lewis and getting it done right,” Evans added.

A project/construction schedule is still forthcoming. Visit www.botetourtva.gov/707/Circuit-Courthouse-in-Fincastle to learn more about the circuit courthouse construction project.

Board

from page 1

We didn’t take this decision lightly. As you can imagine it was a very emotional and very difficult decision for (the incorporation) to close our doors and haul down our flag.”

Dickerson thanked the community for their support of the incorporation’s decision and shared their members will remain active in the Botetourt community.

“If you go through the amount of people that you spent time with to train to save the lives within the area it is just outstanding,” Valley District Supervisor Mac Scothorn said. “Thank you for the service that you provided. I’m looking forward to what you guys have put down and put in seed to grow further.”

The board also recognized the Fire & EMS department for receiving an award from the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), Volunteer Combination Officers Section (VCOS) for its continuous efforts to recruit and retain career and volunteer personnel. “Obviously, with what we just went over with Read Mountain, volunteerism and the recruitment and retention of volunteers is an ever-growing challenge across the nation,” Ferguson said. “It’s about the efforts. We need to make sure that we have the things in place to recruit new folks into the organization and to retain the ones we have.”

Ferguson and Fire & EMS Recruitment and Retainment Specialist Taylor Lunsford saw an opportunity for the award through the IFAC and its subset, VCOS. The chief noted that the department

has benefited from many free local programs and educational opportunities sponsored by VCOS.

Lunsford, who recently attended a VCOS Symposium in Clearwater, Fla., spoke about the award. She shared what she feels are the reasons why career and volunteer emergency workers seek to work in Botetourt County.

“We work to create an environment where people feel valued and heard,” Lunsford said. “We think ‘people first’ always. (We provide) a sturdy foundation for new members through our new orientation program this year and training. (We give) our people the right tools to recruit and encourage our personnel to be empowered when they speak about their experience as a volunteer or career member to those that they recruit.

“I couldn’t be more grateful to our personnel to help work towards best practices for recruitment and retention and to Botetourt County for championing the cause so that we can create and cultivate the programs we have in place today.”

Additionally, the board recognized employment

anniversaries from Fire & EMS and other county employees. The individuals recognized at last week’s board meeting were:

5Years—Eric Blankenship (Maintenance), Robert Hagan (Fire/EMS), Kim Hartman (Purchasing), Kayla Jones (Fire/EMS), Julie Phillips (Libraries), Justin Schmidt (Fire/EMS), and Nathan Shields (Fire/EMS)

10 Years — Chason Croom (Technology Services), Karen Dunbar (Finance), Eddie McDaniel (Registrar), Amy Moyer (Commissioner of Revenue), and Nicole Pendleton (Community Development)

15 Years — David Dupree (Central Garage)

20 Years — Brian Bower (Technology Services), Gillian Deegan (Commonwealth Attorney), and Heather Gilliland (Commonwealth Attorney)

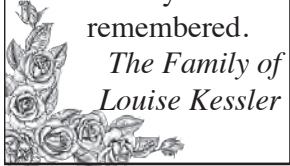
30 Years — Sharon Clark (Clerk of Circuit Court)

35 Years — Greg Hannah (Solid Waste Management)

Thank You

Whether you kept us in your thoughts and prayers, sent a lovely arrangement, gave a memorial donation, or helped out in any way, your love and kindness brought us great comfort and will always be remembered.

The Family of Louise Kessler



CROSSWORD ANSWERS												
SVC	ARIES	MACAO										
CIA	WORDE	APHIS										
ADC	AUSTRALIANS											
DETERS	ENACT											
SOUSE	MARINATED											
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PEGS	ME	EBB										
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OBITUARIES

Silcox, Louis Clark

Louis Clark Silcox, 94, of Daleville, passed away peacefully on December 15, 2024.

Born on February 16, 1930, in Roanoke County, Louis lived a long and fulfilling life, deeply rooted in faith, service, and love for his family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Richard Benjamin Silcox and Willie Silcox; his son, Ben Silcox; his brother, Frank Silcox; and sister, Elizabeth Adams.

Louis is survived by his loving son, Richard Silcox (Mary); his dear sister, Ann Holloman; his five cherished grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren, all of whom brought immense joy and pride to his life.

Louis proudly served his country in the United States Army, where he exemplified dedication and honor. After completing his military service, he began a long and successful career

as a Heavy Equipment Inspector.

A proud and active member of his community, Louis was affiliated with VFW Post 1841 in Daleville and the American Legion in Daleville, where he built lasting friendships and contributed to supporting fellow veterans. A man of faith, Louis was a devoted member of Daleville Church of the Brethren.

Louis will be remembered for his dedication to his family, his unwavering faith, and his commitment to serving his country and community. He leaves behind a legacy of kindness, strength, and love that will live on in the hearts of all who knew him.

A memorial service was held on December 21, 2024, at 11 a.m. at Rader Funeral Home in Daleville. Officiating the service was Pastor Danny Barham.

Hall, Charles Wilmo

Charles Wilmo Hall, Jr., 92, of Fincastle, joined Alma, his wife of 64 years, in Heaven on Thursday, December 19, 2024.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Thelma Hall; brothers, John and David Hall; and sister, Jeannette Vaughn.

He is survived by his daughters,

Susan Hall and Robin Lyons; son, David Hall; grandsons, Joshua Lyons and Jared Hall; and granddaughters, Lynsey Lyons Dixon and Danielle Lyons.

Per Charles’ wishes, there will be no service. Online condolences may be made at www.botetourtfuneralhome.com or 540-254-3000.

CHURCH NEWS

Buchanan Presbyterian Christmas Eve service

B u c h a n a n Presbyterian Church invites all ages to the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, December 24. It will include Scripture, carols, special music, and sharing God’s light.

Troutville Brethren Christmas Eve service

Join the Troutville Church of the Brethren on Christmas Eve at 5:30 for a candlelight service. The church is located at 5133 Lee Highway in Troutville.

Eagle Rock Charge Christmas Eve service

The Eagle Rock

United Methodist Church Charge invites everyone on Christmas Eve, December 24, at 2 p.m. for the story of Christmas and joyful caroling. Light refreshments will be served immediately following the service. It will be held at Shiloh United Methodist Church, 519 Shiloh Drive Eagle Rock.

Valley View Baptist Christmas Eve service

Valley View Baptist Church will have a candlelight service Christmas Eve at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Fincastle Presbyterian special services

Fincastle Presbyterian Church has announced a calendar of special services for the remainder of the year:

- Tuesday, December 24 is the Christmas Eve service, featuring the Back Street Ringers hand bell choir. I n addition to the bells, soloist Lynne Bolton will be adding a special element to a joyful Christmas Eve service.

Services are live-streamed on Fincastle Presbyterian’s Facebook page. Live-streaming starts at 10:20 a.m. and the Sunday services start at

See Church, page 11

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING OF THE BOTETOURT COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

The Botetourt County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing Monday, January 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Botetourt County Administration Center at 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville, Virginia to consider and receive comments on the following:

Blue Ridge District: Kendall Erin and Kylee Ann Lucas request to rezone 8.637-acres from the Low Density Residential R-1 Use District to the Agricultural A-1 Use District, with possible proffered conditions. These properties are located on Laymantown Road (State Route 658) at the Sunnydale Court (State Route 780) intersection, identified on the Tax Map as 108A(5)BK26-5; 108A(5)BK26-4B; 108A(5)BK26-3; 108A(5)BK26-2.

Information is in the Botetourt County Planning & Zoning Office, 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville, VA, and online at www.botetourtva.gov/planning-commissionagenda. Individuals may comment at the meeting in-person, by email at planning@botetourtva.gov, via the online form at www.botetourtva.gov, or by mail at 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville, VA 24083. Postal mail comment deadline is the Friday before the hearing. Website and email comments are due 9:00 a.m., day of the hearing.

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

Join us for a
Christmas Day Service!
*Celebrate the birth of Christ
the way it should be celebrated!*
Service at 11am
ALL ARE WELCOME!!

PLEASANT DALE
CHURCH OF THE
BRETHREN
3732 Breckinridge Mill Rd,
Fincastle, VA
540 580-3257

Key to a Happy New Year: Don't Drink & Drive



You're going to have a great time dancing, dining, laughing, and just generally enjoying yourself. But drinking and driving could not only ruin the night for you and your friends by getting you arrested, but could have even more serious consequences. We want you to go out and have the time of your life. But please don't turn the night into a nightmare by drinking and driving.

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Highway

**Eagle Rock
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14777 Church
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*Keep our county's roads and
highways safe this New Year's Eve!
Please DON'T DRINK & DRIVE!*

JOHN ALDERSON AGENCY
1215 Roanoke Road; Daleville
540-992-4800

(Access our office through
Bank of Fincastle's parking lot)

Celebrate Like Your Life Depends on It:

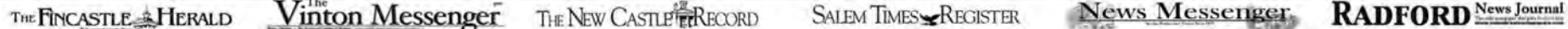
DON'T Drink & Drive!

Fincastle Herald

**Celebrate
Responsibly**

Please Don't Drink and Drive





Help
Wanted

Application Engineer - Variable Speed Drives sought by TMEIC International Corporation in Roanoke, VA,
to define project system reqmts & dvp system specs for Variable Speed Drive applic to Industrial Systems projects. Availability to travel, domestically & int'lly, approx 15%, occasionally w/ limited notice. Telecommuting is allowed. Min Req: Bachelor's deg in Electrical Engg, or rlt'd field or foreign equiv deg. 24 mos of rlt'd work exp in specifying, dsngng, commissioning, &/or maintaining low &/or medium voltage, variable frequency drives. Proficiency in MS Outlook, Word, Excel, Access, & Visio. Send resume to recruitment@tmeic.com. Ref#8019.

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Auction

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Legals -
Montgomery County

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia
hereby schedules a public hearing on Monday, January 13, 2025 at 7:15 p.m. or as soon thereafter in the Board Room in the Montgomery County Government Center located at 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, in order to hear citizens comments on a proposed ordinance approving the 2025 Organizational Cooperative Agreement Between Montgomery County and the Towns of Blacksburg and Christiansburg for the Creation and Implementation of the Joint Tourism Program.

A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the County Administrator and is available 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday for public inspection or copying.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Angela M. Hill
County Administrator

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 & 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on January 13, 2025 at 7:15 p.m. in the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to hear citizen comments regarding the Board of Supervisor's intention to act on the following Special Use Permit request:

A request by Andrew and Katie Wells for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow a ShortTerm Tourist Rental within an existing residential structure on property located at 2671 Luster's Gate Road, approximately 0.08 miles southeast of the intersection of Harding Road (State Route 785) and Luster's Gate Road (State Route 723). The property is further identified as Tax Parcel 042-A 1 77A (Parcel ID: 000020), 3.483 acres, zoned Residential (R-2) in the Mount Tabor Magisterial District. The property currently lies in an area designated as Residential Transition in the 2025 Comprehensive Plan.

Copies of the proposed plans, applications, ordinances or amendments may be examined at the Department of Planning and GIS Services, County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 2A, Christiansburg, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or at <http://www.montgomerycountyva.gov/pendingapplicatio> ns.

Legals -
Montgomery County

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 & 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Montgomery County Planning Commission hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on January 8, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to hear citizen comments regarding the Planning Commission's intention to act on the following Special Use Permit request:

A request by Network Towers, LLC for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow a 199-foot monopole wireless telecommunications tower, freestanding. The property is owned by S. R. Goff Hauling, Inc. and is located at 6000 North Fork Road, Elliston, northeast of Roanoke Road (State Route 11). The property is further identified as Tax Map 047-3 1A (Parcel ID: 026253), 3.914 acres, zoned Manufacturing (M1) in the Shawsville Magisterial District. The property currently lies in an area designated as Village Expansion in the 2025 Comprehensive Plan, and is further designated as Mixed Use in the Elliston-Lafayette Village Expansion Area. Copies of the proposed plans, applications, ordinances or amendments may be examined at the Department of Planning and GIS Services, County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 2A, Christiansburg, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or at <http://www.montgomerycountyva.gov/pendingapplicatio> ns.

TOWN OF
BLACKSBURG -
NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARINGS

BLACKSBURG TOWN COUNCIL will hold public hearings on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers of the Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 South Main Street, Blacksburg, regarding the following items:

Ordinance 2068: An Ordinance Rezoning 1.59 ± Acres of Land at 402 Clay Street from R-5 Transitional Residential to Planned Residential Zoning. The proposed ordinance would rezone the property at 402 Clay Street from Transitional Residential (R-5) to Planned Residential (PR), which would permit the construction of two 3-story multifamily buildings with up to a maximum of 72 bedrooms. Twenty percent (20%) of the units will be income restricted to households earning less than 80% of Area Median Income (AMI).

Recommended Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2025/2026 to 2029/2030: A summary of the proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is being published as a stand-alone advertisement in the December 25, 2024 edition of this newspaper.

All persons affected by or interested in the proposed items above may appear and present their views. After each public hearing, Town Council will consider action on the item. Copies of materials related to the above items are on file and can be obtained in the Office of the Town Clerk, 300 South Main Street, Blacksburg, weekdays between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. For land use matters, copies of applications and all related items may also be found online at www.blacksburg.gov/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).

Legals -
Montgomery County

Notice of Public Hearing Town of Blacksburg Planning Commission Tuesday, January 7, 2025

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Town of Blacksburg will conduct the following public hearing on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 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:

801 North Main Street Planned Residential Development with associated Conditional Use Permit request (CUP-24-3) and Right-of-Way vacation request (ROW-24-2) at 801 North Main Street with additional locations on Kabrich Street, Winston Avenue and Progress Street for LV Hokie GP, LLC (contract purchaser). This project consists of three (3) requests, which include (a) RZN-24-2 to rezone the subject properties from (i) GC General Commercial and R-5 Transitional Residential to (ii) PR Planned Residential, which will permit the construction of an 8-story multifamily buildings with commercial space on the ground floor and three (3) townhome-style multifamily buildings, resulting in a total of up to 759 bedrooms (270 bedrooms/acre; (b) ROW-24-2 companion request to vacate a town-owned alley right-of-way of approximately 2,000 square feet extending southeast from Winston Avenue; and (c) CUP-24-3 to use an alley extending northeast from Winston Avenue for access to twenty-two (22) townhome-style multifamily units.

Persons affected by or interested in the rezoning, conditional use permit or right-of-way requests may appear and present their views. After the hearing, the Planning Commission may take action. Copies of the applications, staff report and all related items may 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. 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.

Order of Publication
Commonwealth of Virginia
VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
Case No.**CL24001556-00**
VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

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

TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA a Municipal Locality of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Complainant, v. FRANCES K DICKASON, 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. 497-29 9 Account No. 004978 All that certain tract or parcel of land situate in the Shawsville Magisterial District, Town of Christiansburg, Montgomery County, Virginia, and more particularly designated and described as follows, to-wit:

BEGINNING at a point on the Northerly side of Sunnyside Lane, N.E., at the Southeast corner of (now or formerly) Mary Elizabeth Karr's lot; thence running N 0° 31 ' 00" E 99.94 feet to point; thence N 81° 00' 30" E 97.50 to a point; thence S 8° 05' 50" E 94.09 feet to a point; thence S 78° 43' 10" W 112.63 feet, parallel to the Northerly side of Sunnyside Lane, N.E.;

and being all of Lot No. 9, Sunnyside, Section III, as shown on a plat recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County. Virginia in Plat Book 8, Page 127. And being the same real property conveyed to Frances K. Dickason from Poff Construction, Inc., a Virginia corporation, by deed, dated October 7, 1 976 and recorded October 29, 1976 in the Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 377 at Page 57.

This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described including but not limited to those recorded in Plat Book 8 at Page 127.

IT APPEARING that an 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 addresses for the Respondents herein are as follows: Frances K. Dickason aka Kathleen Dickason Spencer, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Larry Ingram, whose last known address is 525 Sunnyside Ln, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073; 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 appear on or before January 20, 2025 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause. Entered on the 11th day of December, 2024 Honorable Judge K. Mike Fleenor, Jr.

I ask for this:
John A. Rife sq. (VSB No. 45805)
Jeffrey 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)
Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC
P.O. Box 31800
Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800
Phone: (804) 545-2500
Facsimile: (804) 545-2378
TACS No.: 779364

Order of Publication
Commonwealth of Virginia
VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
Case No.**CL24001914-00**
MONTGOMERY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073
Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* BRITTNEY FAYE TILSON v. WILLIAM MATTHEW TILSON
The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that WILLIAM MATTHEW TILSON appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before February 6,2025 @9:00 am
December 4/2024
November 6, 2024
Robert M.D. Turk, Judge

PUBLIC NOTICE
PROPOSAL TO
CLEANUP AN
UNDERGROUND
STORAGE TANK
(UST) SITE

There has been a release of petroleum from a former underground storage tank system at:
Shell VA0063
2655 Roanoke Street
Christiansburg, Virginia 24073

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is requiring a Corrective Action Plan to address cleanup of petroleum at the site. If you have any questions regarding the cleanup, please contact:
Evan R. Bishop, P.G.
EarthNet
2314 Ridgefield Street
Roanoke, Virginia 24012
(540) 362-5636

Legals -
Montgomery County

The Corrective Action Plan will be submitted to the Blue Ridge Regional Office of the DEQ by December 23, 2024. If you would like to review or discuss the proposed Corrective Action Plan with the staff of the DEQ, please feel free to contact David K. Kirby at (540) 598-1502 after the date of the Corrective Action Plan submittal. The DEQ Blue Ridge Regional Office will consider written comments regarding the proposed Corrective Action Plan until February 23, 2024 and may decide to hold a public meeting if there is significant public interest. Written comments should be sent to the DEQ at the address listed below. The DEQ requests that all written comments reference the tracking number for this case; PC #2023-2218
Department of Environmental Quality
Blue Ridge Regional Office
Storage Tank Program
901 Russell Drive
Salem, Virginia 24153

Legals -
City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on January 15, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

- 1.Consider the request of Heather Pollard, contract purchaser, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow a personal service, beauty salon, on the property located at 707 South Colorado Street, Tax Map 160-7-3.
- 2.Consider the request of Patrick and Jamie Snead to amend Chapter 106 Zoning, Article III Use and Design Standards, Section 106-304.17(B)(6) Townhouse, of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA pertaining to setbacks for townhouses.
- 3.Consider amending Chapter 66 Signs, Article IV Permitted Signs by Use and District, Section 66-105 Permitted Signs, of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA pertaining to wall signs.

Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia.

At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA
BY: Christopher J. Dorsey
Executive Secretary

Order of
Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia
VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
Case No. **CL24-463**
VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT
COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA, a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Complainant, MILDRED HAMBRICK JOHNSON, ET AL., Respondent(s).

ORDER OF PUBLICATION
The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Botetourt, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Botetourt, Virginia, described as follows:

Tax Map No. 27-55
Account No. 18062

Legals -
City of Salem

All that certain tract or parcel of land, lying and being situate on the south side of the James River in Eagle Rock, Fincastle Magisterial District, Botetourt County, Virginia, containing 1.15 acres, more or less.

And being a portion of the same property conveyed to E.W. Hambrick aka Emory W. Hambrick from George E. Robinson and Louella Robinson, his wife, by Deed dated November 1, 1927, and recorded November 22, 1927, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, in Deed Book S, at Page 425.

The said E.W. Hambrick aka Emory W. Hambrick died March 12, 1965, and pursuant to his Last Will and Testament dated November 19, 1959, and recorded March 16, 1965, in the aforementioned Clerk's Office in Will Book 16, at Page 55, E.W. Hambrick aka Emory W. Hambrick devised the above-described property to his wife, Gladys V. Hambrick, for her life, with the remainder passing to his children, namely L.H. Hambrick aka Leslie Harold Hambrick, C.R. Hambrick aka Clayton Rudolph Hambrick, R.L. Hambrick aka Robert Lewis Hambrick, W.R. Hambrick aka William Russell Hambrick, H.M. Hambrick aka Hollis Milton Hambrick, E.C. Hambrick aka Eugene Carl Hambrick, and Mildred Hambrick Johnson. The said Gladys V. Hambrick died September 26, 1994, thus extinguishing her life interest in the above-described property. This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described.

IT APPEARING that an 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 addresses for the Respondents herein are as follows: Mildred Hambrick Johnson, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 378 Shady Oak Lane, Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901; Susan J. Ross, whose last known address is 209 Highland Circle, Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901 ; Karen J. Anderson, whose last known address is 378 Shady Oak Lane, Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901 ; L.H. Hambrick aka Leslie Harold Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Leslie H. Hambrick, whose last known address is P.O. Box 16, Buchanan, Virginia 24066; Gladys L. Painter, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 7064 Linn Cove Court, Roanoke, Virginia 24018; James W. Painter, whose last known address is 5241 N Spring Drive, Roanoke, Virginia 24019; Edith M. Parsons, whose last known address is 2151 Broadway Avenue SW, Apt. 2, Roanoke, Virginia 24014; Carl Hambrick, whose last known address is 1025 1st Street S W, Apt. 5, Roanoke, Virginia 24016; C.R. Hambrick aka Clayton Rudolph Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Isobel K. Hambrick aka Isobel K. Clark, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 800 W Ridgeway Street, Apt. 215, Clifton Forge, Virginia 24422; Clayton R. Hambrick, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 35 Edgewood Drive, Lenox, Massachusetts 01240; Larry W. Hambrick, whose last known address is 1 176 Old Grandview Road, Beaver, West Virginia 25813; Melinda H. King, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 802 W Ridgeway Street, Apt. 205, Clifton Forge, Virginia 24422; Tiffany K. Snedegar, whose last known address is 807 Kanawha Trail, Covington, Virginia 24426; Christian M. King, whose last known address is P.O. Box 355, Buchanan, Virginia 24066; R.L. Hambrick aka Robert Lewis Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 6704 Old Fincastle Road, Fincastle,

Virginia 24090; Judy A. Cahoon, whose last known address is 7093 Old Fincastle Road, Fincastle, Virginia 24090; Jean E. Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 1725 Johnson Road, Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania 19462; H.M. Hambrick aka Hollis Milton Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Betty C. Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 3455 Pitzer Road, Roanoke, Virginia 24014; Dale M. Hambrick, whose last known address is 4393 Ponderosa Road, Milton, Florida 32583; Alan M. Hambrick, whose last known address is 2115 Courtland Road NE, Roanoke, Virginia 24012; Mark E. Hambrick, whose last known address is 1004 W Center Street, Bald Knob, Arkansas 72010; E.C. Hambrick aka Eugene Carl Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 565 N Hills Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia 23320; Rita J. Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 505 N Hills Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia 23320; Eugene C. Hambrick, Jr., whose last known address is 4512 Blackwater Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23457; Donna L. Underhill, whose last known address is 23 14 Hatten Street, Apt. B, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451; David G. Hambrick, whose last known address is 3313 Woodbaugh Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia 23321; 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 appear on or before January 29, 2025 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Botetourt, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause. Entered on the 17th day of December, 2024 Hon. Joel R. Branscom, Judge

I Ask For This:
John A. Rife sq. (VSB No. 45805)
Jeffrey 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)
W. Patton, Esq. (VSB No. 98345)
Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC
P.O. Box 31800
Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800
Phone: (804) 864-0080
Facsimile: (804) 545-2378
TACS No.: 924073

Legals - Town of
Vinton

ABC NOTICE
LND VA STORES LLC., trading as EZ STOP 13, 3348 ORANGE AVE NE, ROANOKE VA 24012-6334

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

JAY PATEL, MEMBER.

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

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STATEWIDE ADS

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Year in Review 2024

from page 5

Career Signing Day for BTEC students

This article was originally published in the May 15, 2024 edition.

One of the many highlights from the Botetourt Technical Education Center (BTEC) each school year is the annual “Signing Day” event where BTEC students sign letters of commitment to continue their education in their respective fields of study following high school graduation. This year’s ceremony was held in the auditorium at Central Academy Middle School on May 10.

The ceremony saw 38 Botetourt County students take their first steps toward new experiences. BTEC Principal and BCPS Supervisor of Career & Technical Education Mike Ketron provided welcoming remarks to the crowd in attendance celebrating the students’ accomplishments

“One of the things I see in the news all the time about workforce development and ‘how are we going to train tomorrow’s workforce?’ or ‘who are we going to get workers from?’ especially in industry,” Ketron said during his opening comments. “They talk about workers getting older and are finding it hard to replace them. I would like those folks to give me a call, because I can show you (where to find them). These guys right here, this is what it looks like.”

Ketron noted the “community effort” from the parents, BCPS, BTEC faculty and students, and the local businesses who help and support BTEC students’ successes. He added the “instrumental” effort of the BTEC faculty who provide the support and advisement to their students ensuring their future accomplishments in their specializations.

“It’s all about a career path,” Ketron continued. “You take a kid on their career path—whether it be going straight to work or school, that’s what we want to do, and that’s what we’re doing today in recognizing these students.

President of the Botetourt Education Foundation Bob Patterson presented auto service technology student Edward Shumate the Bernie Odasz Memorial Award, which is an endowment that guarantees a scholarship to a BTEC student annually.

The following students signed their letters of commitment during the event:

Teachers for Tomorrow (Katrina Kish, instructor) – Skyler Piluso and Cheyenne Robertson

Health Aide (Shanon Griffin, instructor) – Isaac Caldwell, Ashley Cayton, Kalei Delp, Lily Hutchinson, Paiton Moore, Kadence Overstreet, Sydney Parr, Karly Potter, Marisa Roosa, Janell Saunders, Sophie Stewart, Randalyn Taylor, Lily Waddell, and Drew Whitson

Auto Service Technology (Chris Frost, instructor) – Dylan Metheny, Rey Pablo, and Edward Shumate

Cosmetology (Whitney Witt, instructor) – Kaylyn Bryant, Kaitlyn Fitzgerald, Alyssa McGhee, Kaela Riddle, and Jayden Widner

Computer Systems Technology (Chris Shaffer, instructor) – Nicholas Hall and David Merritt

Building Trades (Phillip Simmons, instructor) – Cameron LeBlanc, Colt Race-Waller, Briana Waldron, and Jeffrey Whitacre

Auto Body Technology (Nathaniel Kingery, instructor) – Trevor St. Clair

Marketing (Jonathan Cook, instructor) – Tyler Cronise and Dylan Young

Welding (Troy Linkenhoker and Chris Zalewski, instructors) – Peyton Adkins, Timothy Hight, Anna Lakes, Jayden Smith, and Seth Williamson



Madison Savage and David Walton in “The Miracle Worker”



Caliban, played by Nathan Bradley, emerging from his cave

Attic Productions continues to entertain

Throughout 2024, Attic Productions presented several productions that included “Footloose,” “The Tempest,” “The Miracle Worker,” and “Nunsensations, the Nonsense Vegas Revue.” Here are images of some of this year’s performers.

Attic Productions is a community performing arts center founded by the late Geraldine Lawson that produces a variety of shows each year. To learn more about Attic, please visit atticproductions.info.



Rehearsing for “Footloose” at the “Burger Barn” are (from left) Dylan Ludlow, Kaiya Hoagland, Demarion Williams, and Josh Miner.



The cast of “Nunsensations”

FILE PHOTOS

Banners for Buchanan’s Hometown Heroes

This article was originally published in the September 11 edition.

When traveling through Buchanan’s downtown district, look up to see tributes to Buchanan’s Hometown Heroes. There are currently 136 banners honoring the town’s military veterans that can all be seen along Main Street and Lowe Street and other surrounding areas downtown.

In August, Buchanan resident and U.S. Army veteran Carroll Boblett, with help from S&N Communications, completed the banner project.

The banners were purchased by family and/or friends of Buchanan’s military veterans who are honoring them for their service. Each banner includes the veteran’s name, photograph, service branch, rank, era of service, and any special commendations or awards received.

A decade ago, Boblett visited White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. and it was there where he came up with the idea to display banners honoring Buchanan’s veterans in town. After getting permission from town and from local communication service providers to use the poles, it took Boblett and company about two years to complete the project, which finished up last month.

“I noticed (White Sulphur Springs) looked just like Buchanan does now with all of the banners hung up everywhere,” Boblett said in a recent interview. “I called the town and asked them about the banners. I assumed that the town had put them up, but they said, ‘No, we didn’t do it. The town’s veterans did it.’”

Boblett said the town gave him the names in



FILE PHOTO

charge of the program in White Sulphur Springs. After speaking with the town’s veterans who helped raise its banners, Boblett spoke with Buchanan Town Council and Buchanan’s Hometown Heroes program officially began.

The banners were made by Holiday Outdoor Décor based out of Bethlehem, Pa., the same manufacturer who made the veterans banners in White Sulphur Springs.

“When you see something like this in another town, you start thinking, ‘Why don’t we do this?’” Boblett added. “I couldn’t have been the first person to ever think about that, but it made a lot of people and that’s the main thing. A lot of the descendants and veterans were overjoyed to see it.”

A website (buchananhometownheroes.wordpress.com) was created to share the details of the banner program and to help spread awareness of the many veterans from Buchanan that have served their country over the years. A map is available to find the location of each veteran’s banner in town.

For the full list of veterans honored with banner throughout downtown Buchanan, please visit fincastleherald.com/discover-buchanans-hometown-heroes.

Troutville fugitive apprehended in Mexico

This article was originally published in the April 24 edition.

The Botetourt County Sheriff’s Office (BCSO) along with the U.S. Marshals Service-Roanoke Division held a April 19 press conference outside of the County Sheriff’s Office and Jail announcing the arrest of fugitive Michael Dennis Hightower, Jr.

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. BSCO’s investigation is currently ongoing. No court dates have been set as Hightower is currently awaiting arraignment at the Botetourt County Jail.

The informative press conference highlighted 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, 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 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



FILE PHOTO

Botetourt County Sheriff Matt Ward speaks during the April 19 press conference about the apprehension of a Troutville fugitive found in Mexico on March 27.

go out and do what we do every day and track fugitives.”

The Western District of Virginia U.S. Marshals, based out of Roanoke, 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 stated. “I couldn’t be more proud of the effort and the work that they did to make this apprehension and keeping this community safe.”

Church

from page 7

10:30 a.m. Services can be attended in person at 108 E. Back Street, Fincastle.

The office is open part-time. Messages can be left at 540-473-2042, or emailed at fincastlepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com.

Springwood Baptist Christmas Eve service

Springwood Baptist Church invites the public to a special Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Wednesday, December 24, at 5:30 p.m. The service

will be led by Pastor Mike Anderson.

Glade Creek Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Glade Creek Baptist Church will

host its annual Christmas Eve Carols and Candlelight Service on Tuesday, December 24 at 4 p.m. Everyone from the community is invited to take part in this special service that will be held in the historic chapel.

BOTETOURT

Sports

www.fincastleherald.com



Brian Hoffman

Sports Editor



James River's Kody Park guards LB's Jase Lisle in last week's game.



Maddox Pichay of James River attempts to pass over Landon Hayes of LB.

Light schedule for holiday high school sports

Action is few and far between for the two county high school sports teams as they take time off for Christmas vacation.

The only thing scheduled for this week for Lord Botetourt is a girls basketball game at Abingdon on Saturday. A jayvee game is scheduled for 6 p.m. with the varsity to follow. That's the last event of the year before a wrestling tournament on January 2.

At James River, the only event scheduled before

the New Year rings in is a girls basketball game next Monday, December 30, when the Cave Spring girls visit. The jayvees will play at 5:30 p.m. with the varsity to follow.

Most of last week's events were too late for early Christmas deadlines. On December 17, the Lord Botetourt boys basketball team hosted James River and took a 51-42 win over the Knights. Events too late for this week will be updated in next week's Fincastle Herald sports section.



Brady Kish of the Cavaliers handles the ball as Kody Park defends.



Ryder Ward of the Knights gets off a shot around LB's Blake Lovern.



PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY
River's Mark Voight goes to the hoop as LB's Carson Edwards defends.

County coaches talk wrestling with Benson

When James River hosted Lord Botetourt for a wrestling match on December 11, it was no surprise to see former LB wrestler and wrestling coach Tater Benson in the crowd. Benson coached current LB coach Paul Craft and James River coach Bobby Stewart in high school and Tater's children have played sports for River, so he's been on both sides of the county rivalry. "It's great seeing him and knowing he's still looking out for both Bobby and me," said Craft. "Once a coach always a coach. I can't speak for Bobby, but I know I wouldn't be coaching right now if I didn't have Benson in my corner in high school." Here, Benson (center) poses for a photo with Stewart (left) and Craft (right).



PHOTO COURTESY LB WRESTLING



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN
James River grad Patrick Clevenger has been a solid player for the Roanoke College basketball team as a sophomore.

The Roanoke College men and women will be hosting holiday basketball tournaments at the Cregger Center in Salem this weekend. Both are scheduled for December 29 and 30.

The Cregger Invitational, for men's teams, will open on December 29 with a noon game between

Roanoke College and Bryn Athyn. Susquehanna and Maryville will play in the second game at approximately 2 p.m.

On Monday, December 30, there will be a consolation game at noon for Sunday's losing teams and the championship is scheduled for 2 p.m.

The women's team will host the Susan Dunagan

Holiday Classic on December 29 and 30 and those games will follow the men's games on both days. On Sunday, Roanoke will play Maryville at 5 p.m., followed by Ferrum against Oglethorpe at 7 p.m. The women's tournament has set brackets with Roanoke meeting Oglethorpe at 5 p.m. Monday, followed by Ferrum against Maryville.

Two holiday basketball tournaments at Roanoke College



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN
These members of the Maroon basketball family recently gathered at the President's Home to kick off the "Ed Green Fund." Left to right are Page Moir, Jim Buriak, George Seals, Bill Dorsey, Paul Dotson, George "Tic" Price, Bobby Nelms, Kenny Belton, Ed Green, Donnie Morris, Jeff Rakes, Deneen Evans, Mike Baker, Nate Stewart, Gerald Holmes, Bruce Hembrick, Dr. Cheryl Hopson, Tim Aldinger and Dwayne Evans.

Former RC Maroons start 'Ed Green Fund'

Ken Belton and members of the Maroon basketball family have started the "Coach Ed Green Fund" to honor Belton's mentor at Roanoke College. Ken played for Green through the 1980-81 season and is a school athletic Hall of Famer and member of the college Board of Trustees.

"This fund is being created to honor Coach Green's legacy and service to Roanoke College and the Roanoke Valley community," said Belton. "It will support his continued efforts to impact students' lives now and in the future."

The recipients of The Coach Ed Green Fund must demonstrate financial need

and embody Green's values of leadership, academic excellence, extracurricular involvement and community service. Scholarships will be awarded for room and board. Students who benefit will receive a copy of Green's legacy and contribution to Roanoke College and the Roanoke Valley.

A donation of any amount is welcome, and a list of donors will be presented to Green. Checks can be mailed to Roanoke College, Advancement Office, Attn: Suzanne Hiner, 221 College Lane, Salem, 24153. Make checks payable to Roanoke College and on the memo line put "Ed Green Fund."

Virginia High School League (VHSL) announces partnership with James River Equipment to enhance student programs

The Virginia High School League (VHSL) has announced a new partnership with James River Equipment, one of the state's leading suppliers of agricultural and construction equipment. This collaboration is set to support and expand VHSL programs, providing Virginia students with unique educational opportunities that bridge the gap between academics, athletics, and real-world skills. As part of this initiative, James River Equipment will provide \$13,000 in scholarships to high school students pursuing higher education or vocational training, furthering their commitment to developing future leaders and industry professionals.

The \$13,000 scholarship fund will be awarded to deserving students who demonstrate leadership, commitment, and excellence in VHSL-sponsored activities, with a focus on students interested in fields like agriculture, engineering, technology, and skilled trades. The new scholarship opportunities

reflect the shared mission of VHSL and James River Equipment to foster personal growth and career readiness among Virginia's youth.

"We are thrilled to welcome James River Equipment as a valued partner of the VHSL," said Dr. John W. "Billy" Haun, VHSL Executive Director. "Their commitment to education and support for career development align perfectly with our goals. Together, we are enhancing the opportunities available to Virginia's students, both in their extracurricular activities and through financial support to pursue their dreams after high school."

James River Equipment, a family-owned company serving the equipment needs of Virginia and surrounding states since 1977, has long been dedicated to youth development and community support. This partnership underscores their commitment to providing practical pathways into skilled trades and technical careers that are essential

in today's economy.

"Supporting our local communities, schools, and students has always been a priority for James River Equipment," said Dustin Freeman, Vice President of Product Support at James River Equipment. "We are proud to sponsor \$13,000 in scholarships to help deserving students pursue higher education or vocational training. By partnering with VHSL, we're able to encourage the next generation of innovators and leaders, reinforcing our dedication to the communities we serve."

Alongside the scholarships, James River Equipment will sponsor key VHSL events throughout the year and provide opportunities for students, athletes, and fans to engage with their team directly. These efforts will open doors for students interested in fields related to agriculture, construction, and technology, reinforcing career readiness as part of a comprehensive high school education.