



Students provide visual aids for event attendees to learn more about the various clubs.



4-H/FFA Youth Expo and Share-the-Fun event this Friday

The Botetourt County 4-H and FFA Alumni Association will sponsor the 10th annual 4-H and FFA Youth Expo at Lord Botetourt High School this Friday, February 28, from 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. The 4-H Share-the-Fun Showcase will be held in the auditorium at 6:30 p.m.

The public is invited to attend the showcase and tour exhibits from local members who are active in the Future Farmers of America (FFA) and 4-H youth groups. Activities include

interacting with club members at display booths, seeing local livestock, learning archery skills, an enormous silent auction, and free hot dogs while they last. The 4-H Share-the-Fun is also an annual event featuring a local competition of junior, intermediate and senior 4-H members.

The annual Youth Expo showcases the FFA chapters and 4-H programs in Botetourt. Each chapter and many of the 4-H clubs will have an informational table in the cafeteria.



PHOTOS BY MATT DE SIMONE

Community engagement is an essential part of the 4-H and FFA Youth Expo.

Attendees can see each group's activities and request information if they want to join a specific club or chapter. The silent auction will benefit the local 4-H program and FFA chapters, through the 4-H and

FFA Alumni Group.

The Youth Expo offers several benefits to Botetourt County's youth:

- Skill Development:

See **Youth Expo 2025**, page 8



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAMP EAGLE

Students have the opportunity to connect with Botetourt's School Resource Officers at Camp LEO.

Registration is now open for the fifth annual BOCO Camp LEO

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) recently announced that registration for the fifth annual Camp LEO is underway.

In a post on its social media last week, BCSO announced that the office is excited to invite all Botetourt County students in fourth to eighth grade to join BCSO for an unforgettable week at Camp Eagle.

This camp is a unique opportunity for kids to connect with their School Resource Officers (SROs), learn about law enforcement, and enjoy action-packed activities—

See **Camp LEO**, page 8



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BCSO

Camp LEO takes place this year from June 2-6 and June 16-20.



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF VWCC

Agripalooza: where innovation meets tradition March 18

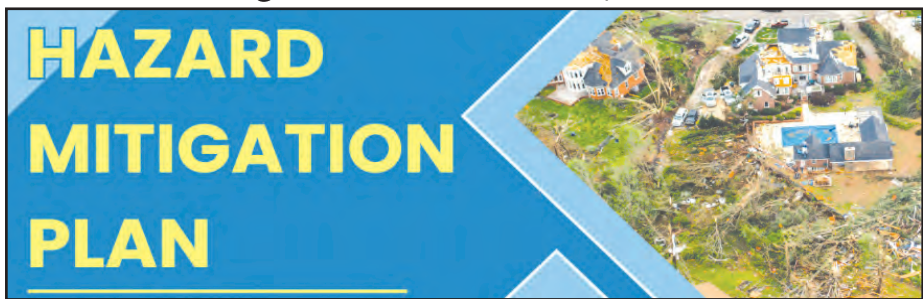
The Virginia Small Business Development Center, Greater Roanoke & NRV, in partnership with Virginia Western Community College (VWCC) and presenting sponsor Farm Credit of the Virginias, will host "Agripalooza" on National Agriculture Day, March 18.

Agripalooza will bring together established business owners, legacy farmers, and aspiring "agripreneurs" to gain new knowledge, build critical connections, and access key industry resources. Secretary of Agriculture Matt

Lohr and Dr. Scott Lowman of the Institute of Advanced Learning and Research are headlining the event as keynote speakers. "This conference is about ensuring that both established and next generation of folks in the agriculture industry have access to the resources, connections, and innovations they need to be successful in today's economy," said Heather Fay, regional program director, Virginia SBDC.

See **Agripalooza**, page 8

Hazard Mitigation Plan survey available now



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF RVARC

The Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (RVARC) is updating the region's Hazard Mitigation Plan. This survey is to assure that the changes in hazards and vulnerabilities within the region are identified and addressed.

According to RVARC, the Hazard Mitigation Plan is a regional

document that identifies possible natural disasters or hazards that could impact the area. It is required by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. This document guides efforts at mitigating hazards – that is, this document says what hazards the public is likely to see and how to prepare for them. Projects are generally

focused on government actions, such as improving infrastructure, buildings, or other facilities and engaging in education campaigns.

At this time, the plan includes the following hazards:

- Drought
- Earthquake

See **Survey**, page 8



Bank of Botetourt

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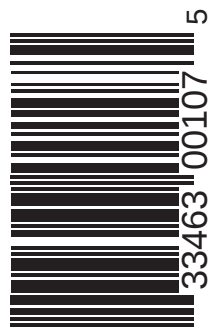
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Botetourt DAR Chapter celebrates Washington’s Birthday

The Botetourt County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution met Saturday, February 15, in the Family Life Center of Fincastle United Methodist Church. Family members and guests joined the DAR members to celebrate George Washington’s Birthday.

Two new members were inducted into the chapter, Susan Elizabeth Hays and Mildred Hooker Scott.

A memorial service was held for one DAR member who passed away during the past year. Mary Ann Rader Obenshain had been a member of DAR since December 5, 1981.

Carole Geiger, National Defense chair for the chapter, shared information on the men who served as President and their roles in the military service to the nation. President Jimmy Carter was the only member to have graduated from a service academy, and he was a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy.

In honor of our former Presidents, members played a First Ladies Trivia Game led by Cathy Cronise. An inspiring program was provided by Marsha Campbell, who portrayed First Lady Abigail Adams, wife of second President John Adams and mother of sixth President John Quincy Adams. Dressed in a beautiful blue dress that could have been worn by Mrs.

See DAR, page 5



New DAR members Susan Hays and Mildred Scott



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BOTETOURT DAR
DAR Regent Betty Holt and Marsha Campbell, who portrayed First Lady Abigail Adams

Botetourt County History



PHOTO COURTESY OF BCMHC

These four rifles are circa 1860 and were upstairs in the military section of the former Botetourt Museum. They are displayed now in the Museum of History and Culture at 26 E. Main Street in Fincastle, downstairs.

Family tradition relates that at least one of these guns was used in the Civil War (1861-1865). It might be one of the two in the middle. The top and bottom firearms could be breech-loading shotguns.

All four were donated to the Botetourt County Historical Society with the wooden gun rack by Liz Deisher. They were given to her by her father, Bernard Deisher of Eagle Rock. His father, James Quincy Deisher, also lived in Eagle Rock. The great-grandfather, who was the original owner of the guns, traveled from Ohio to Virginia.

Different branches of the Confederate military used specific types of firearms. They included rifle-muskets, repeating rifles and carbines. Learn more at bothistsoc.Wordpress.com.

~ Botetourt County Museum of History & Culture



DAR members and guests at the February meeting

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BOTETOURT DAR

some things

CHANGE

SOME THINGS

Don't

JA

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Anyone familiar with our area knows just how much growth we’ve experienced in recent history. That growth has changed the face of the county, especially in Daleville. Longtime residents remember when Route 220 was a simple, two-lane highway flanked on either side by farmland, orchards, the occasional church, and a handful of houses.

Still, it can be hard sometimes to remember just how different things were back then—those years *before* the first stoplight had even been installed. A time when no one could have imagined the places that now stand as familiar landmarks—Kroger, Food Lion, The Daleville Town Center, The Tap House, Sheetz, and many more.

Now try to imagine the amount of change John Alderson has seen since 1965, the year he entered the insurance business. Alderson recently sat down to reflect on those early days when his business was just getting off the ground. “Our office was one room,” he recalls. “We had one employee and one file cabinet. Technology meant a typewriter and a landline phone.”

Almost sixty years later, Alderson’s independent insurance agency occupies its own two-story building, has eleven employees (with 250 years of combined professional experience), and conducts business in 30 states.

Alderson agrees that today’s business environment is far more complicated than it was in 1965. The cost of doing business has also risen significantly. But not everything has changed.

Those core principles upon which Alderson founded his business have remained fixed. As he puts it, “Customer service is still number one. Everything else comes after that. That’s how it’s been and that’s how it will continue to be. Some things change, but some things don’t.”

Mountain Castles SWCD to host VCAP information session



PHOTO COURTESY OF TIM MILLER

Conservation landscaping is one of many eligible VCAP practices.

Mountain Castles Soil and Water Conservation District will host an information session for the Virginia Conservation Program (VCAP) on March 18 at 11 a.m. at the Green Ridge Recreation Center in Roanoke.

Landowners, landscape and hardscape contractors, and wildlife enthusiasts are invited to attend to learn more about conservation landscaping, rain gardens, permeable pavement, and more. A

brief program highlighting VCAP opportunities for landowners and contractors will be followed by a Q&A session. Lunch will be provided.

The event is free, but participants should RSVP to Emily at emily.williams@mountaincastles.org. For more information about VCAP, visit <https://vaswcd.org/vcap/>.

- Submitted by Tim Miller



PHOTO COURTESY OF DALEVILLE-FINCASTLE LIONS CLUB

Lions Club receives Excellence Award

The Daleville-Fincastle Lions Club is one of six clubs, out of 50 in Lions District 24, to receive the International Lions Club Excellence Award for the Lions Year 2023-2024.

Pictured is Lion Lowell Skelton, club secretary, receiving the award from 2013-2014 District Governor Lion Jean Cook at the Lions District 24-C meeting in Roanoke on January 26.

- Daleville-Fincastle Lions Club

ARRESTS

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests February 18-23:

- Jessica D. Redden, 43, of Troutville, domestic assault, February 18
- Hugh D. Shrader, 50, of Daleville, driving under the influence, February 19
- Morgan D. Rinehart, 39, of Buchanan, drunk in public, February 22
- Nathan B. San Juan, 22, of Staunton, driving under the influence, February 23
- Jason M. Skelton, 43, of Troutville, domestic assault, possession of a firearm by a felon, reckless handling of a firearm, property damage, February 23

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GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BOTETOURT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Botetourt County high school seniors: 'Scholarship season' is here

Attention Botetourt County high school seniors: 'Scholarship season' has officially begun.

This is an exciting time to explore various scholarship opportunities to help fund future academic endeavors. Stay informed and keep an eye out for announcements on upcoming scholarships throughout the season. Don't miss out on these valuable opportunities to support college goals.

The Botetourt County Chamber of Commerce

recently announced that it is awarding four \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors from James River, Lord Botetourt, and Botetourt Technical Education Center (BTEC).

These scholarships recognize students who are dedicated to furthering their education, pursuing career goals, and making an impact in their community. Each award will be paid directly to the student's postsecondary institution at the start of the school year.

More details regarding the Chamber's scholarship opportunities can be found at botetourt.glueup.com/event/2025-scholarships-for-graduating-seniors-134858.

Seniors: be sure to stay connected with high school guidance counselors and The Fincastle Herald for updates on scholarship application deadlines and details.

- Fincastle Herald staff report

Applications open for Bank of Botetourt scholarship

Bank of Botetourt's ninth annual "Focused on You" Community Scholarship will provide \$2,000 in financial assistance to local students. Three scholarships will be awarded: one for \$1,000, one for \$600, and one for \$400 to support students in their pursuit of higher education. Eligible applicants include high school seniors and current college students with a GPA of 2.50 or higher who maintain an active banking relationship with Bank of Botetourt.

Applicants must submit a two-page

essay addressing the topic: "How has Bank of Botetourt helped meet your family's financial needs, and what difference has the Bank made in your community?"

For full essay guidelines and additional details, visit <https://www.bankofbotetourt.com/Focused-on-You>. The submission deadline is March 31.

For questions, contact the Scholarship Committee at scholarship@bankofbotetourt.com.

- Bank of Botetourt

Lawrence Companies holds blood drive

Lawrence Companies collected 11 units of blood at the February 14 blood drive.

Giving the gift of life were Chip Lawrence, Michelle Barklow, Mike McKnew, Matt Assenat, Dyra Hodges,

Ronnie Huffman, James Williams, Tammy Swader, Delana Spence and Ben Harris. Visitors who donated were Barry Holland and Cindy Holland.

A first-time donor, Ben Harris, received

a paid sick day. The winner of the regular prize drawing for a \$15 gift card was Delana Spence.

- Lawrence Companies



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2025 Session Update: Week 6

To the Constituents of the 37th House District:

The final week of the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly has concluded. As you may recall, the 45-day “short session” was made shorter by the 3-day delay caused by the City of Richmond’s water system failure. Though the days and nights were longer than usual, the work of the legislature completed on time when it adjourned sine die on Saturday, February 22nd. Of the almost 2,000 bills introduced in the House and Senate, just over 900 will be sent to the Governor’s desk where he will sign, veto or amend the legislation before him. With the current makeup of the General Assembly, there will likely be many bills to consider during the Reconvene “Veto” Session on April 2nd.

Virginia's budget made it out of conference and was approved on the House floor on Saturday. As a budget conferee, and Ranking Republican on Appropriations, I am mostly satisfied with the budget that will be sent to the Governor. There are many positives, including the return of \$1.1 billion to taxpayers through one-time income tax rebates of \$200 for individuals and \$400 for couples filing jointly, and an increase in the standard deduction to \$8,750 for individuals and \$17,500 for joint filers.

The budget invests \$782 million in state funds to our public schools, lifts the cap on support personnel imposed during the Great Recession, and adds \$150 million for school construction. It also secures \$25 million for a public-private early childhood care and education partnership to share the cost of childcare slots between parents, employers, and the state. Teachers will receive a \$1,000 bonus in June with no local match required, state and state supported local employees will get a 1.5 percent bonus this summer, and E-911 dispatchers will get a raise.

\$175 million was added to support the advancement of projects along the Interstate 81 corridor, and an additional \$20 million was directed to the Virginia Business Site Ready Program to increase the Commonwealth's inventory of pad ready sites. Agricultural best management practices are fully funded, with \$27 million supplementing the \$201 million allocated in last year's budget, and \$50 million has been secured for disaster relief for areas hit by Hurricane Helene flooding.

Items that will benefit our region include my budget amendments for \$1.9 million to complete the buildout of Craig County's public safety radio system, \$6.5 million to double enrollment at Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, and \$450,000 to address the shortage of large animal veterinarians in Virginia. Importantly, \$20 million has been allocated to support a much-needed new Virginia State Police Division 6 headquarters, which serves the entirety of House District 37. \$4 million was appropriated to develop clean room space for the biotech lab in Roanoke, a key component of our region's health sciences ecosystem, and builds upon my \$15 million appropriation for the project in 2023.

As I have mentioned before, there are items that were

unfortunately removed from the Governor's introduced budget, including car tax relief and the proposal to allow taxpayers to deduct tips they receive from their income. The Governor has the ability to line-item veto the budget, and there will likely be a number of items he will object.

I am pleased to report that all but one of my bills that went through the committee process passed, including my bill to increase transportation options for our students in rural areas. Unfortunately, the one bill to not pass was HB2080 which sought to eliminate vehicle registration stickers. A summary of my legislation is below.

HB2720 seeks to address the school bus driver shortage and provide flexibility to students when it comes transportation options. Virginia school divisions collectively utilize 16,000 80-passenger yellow school buses to transport students to and from school each day. Unfortunately, school bus driver employment continues to remain below pre-pandemic levels. We all see the “School Bus Drivers Needed” signs as we pass by our schools. Interrupted bus route services and instability created by driver shortages disrupt learning time and contribute to absenteeism. Additionally, since 1980, the average cost per student transported has increased by over 75 percent, attributable in part to a steady decline in ridership. This bill will allow school systems that choose to participate the ability to utilize smaller vehicles to transport students to school and extracurricular activities. HB2720 is the same as the bill I patroned last year, with a few changes: it is limited to a two-year pilot program for school divisions with total fall membership enrollment of fewer than 4,500 students. I’m hopeful that school divisions will take advantage of this opportunity for the benefit of their students, and to illustrate the need to extend and expand this program.

HB2642 regulates and prohibits the sale of unsafe and counterfeit lighters in the Commonwealth, by creating definitions for lighters, unsafe lighters, and counterfeit lighters to protect children from these hazardous products. In 2017 alone, more than 300 million lighters were imported from China and other countries, and 70% of them failed to meet safety standards requiring child resistant mechanisms. HB2642 regulates the sale of lighters by defining unsafe lighters as those that fail to meet the American Society for Testing & Materials (ASTM) International Standard F400-20, which specifies consumer safety standards, and defining a counterfeit lighter as any device that infringes upon the intellectual property of any United States citizen or entity protected under federal or state intellectual property.

HB2080, sought to modernize the DMV vehicle registration process by eliminating license plate registration stickers. This change would save the DMV approximately \$2.3 million annually and greatly reduce the need for the currently more than 560,000 residents that spend thirty minutes a year waiting in line at DMV's customer service centers to obtain them in person. After discussion with Treasurers and Commissioners of

Revenue across the Commonwealth, it was determined that while the idea is sound, there are a few practical issues that need to be ironed out before this bill becomes law. As a result, I placed an amendment that would have delayed enactment by one year and required the DMV to work with the Commissioners and Treasurers to ensure a workable path forward. The bill passed out of the House 96-1 but was unfortunately “Passed By Indefinitely” in Senate Finance and Appropriations. I’m confident that this measure will eventually pass, and I will continue to advocate for streamlining the DMV to save dollars and create a better user experience.

HB2097 increases access to crucial health services by expanding coverage for prostate cancer screening in the Commonwealth. Virginia has the highest prostate cancer incidence rate and second highest mortality rate for black men in the nation. Because it is often asymptomatic until it becomes metastatic, screening helps detect the disease early when it's most survivable and least costly to treat. HB2097 seeks to address this by removing out-of-pocket prostate cancer screening costs for high-risk men. It does so by expanding coverage for Prostate Specific Antigen testing (known as PSA) and exams for those who are at higher risk as determined by the American Cancer Society's guidelines.

My final two bills were charter changes. HB2092 updates the Town of Buchanan's Charter to reflect the shift to November municipal elections and the town manager's requirements and responsibilities. HB2644 gives the City of Lexington the flexibility to appoint 5-7 members onto its EDA, rather than the currently required seven. Both bills came at the request of the respective localities, and each passed out of the House 96-0.

One of the more rewarding aspects of serving in Richmond for two months is being able to observe and interact with the House Pages. Each year, the Speaker of the House of Delegates appoints 13- and 14-year-olds from across the Commonwealth to work in the House Clerk's Office as Pages during the Regular Session of the Virginia General Assembly. They assist the Delegates and staff in the House Clerk's Office in performing a wide variety of daily duties required for the successful operation of the House. This year, Ms. Carson Slaydon of Rockbridge was chosen by the Speaker to represent the 37th House District, and she did so with distinction. Carson comported herself well and her composed demeanor garnered respect from her peers and my colleagues in the House. Well done, Carson!

It is an honor to serve you in the Virginia House of Delegates. If I can be of assistance to you, or you would like to share your position on any of my legislative priorities, please do not hesitate to contact me at DelTAustin@House.Virginia.gov or 804-698-1037.

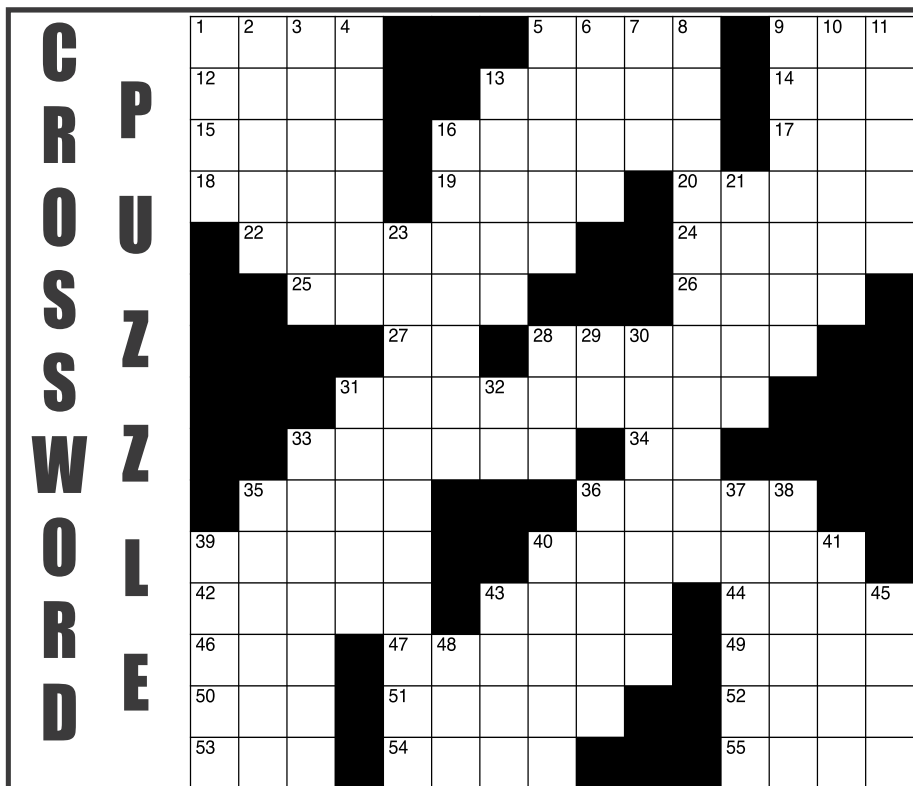
Sincerely,
Delegate Terry L. Austin
37th House District

Fish Fry March 7 in Fincastle

The Knights of Columbus will have a fish fry on Friday, March 7, 5-7 p.m. at Church of the Transfiguration, 7624 Roanoke Road, Fincastle; eat-in or take-out, \$12, ages 7 and under are free.

The meal will consist of two filets of lightly breaded flounder (or six chicken nuggets for children), sweet cornbread, crispy fries, creamy coleslaw, and choice of dessert. A 50/50 drawing will be held. No advance ticket sales.

Proceeds to benefit several Botetourt County charities: Backpack Ministry, Botetourt Food Pantry, Botetourt Resource Center and Quilts of Valor and New Freedom Farm. For more information, call 540-904-3126.

~ *Knights of Columbus*

CLUES ACROSS

1. Bay Area Transit Auth. (abbr.)
5. Pull apart by force
9. Ancient Egyptian King
12. Missing soldiers
13. Capital of Japan
14. Diamond month (abbr.)
15. Spheres
16. Surpassing good
17. British thermal unit
18. Philippine island & seaport
19. Legally argued
20. Belonging to singer Fitzgerald
22. Bowler hats
24. Has a strong odor
25. Doyens
26. London Gallery
27. Rural delivery

28. Roots
31. Stonehenge plain
33. Withdraw from membership
34. Execute or perform
35. Central or Yellowstone
36. Municipality in Norway
39. Bay of NW Rep. of Ireland
40. Skin designs
42. Son of Jephunneh
43. Baseball's Ruth
44. Clare Booth __, Am. writer
46. Black tropical America
cuckoo
47. Filled with fear or apprehension
49. 6th Jewish month
50. Wide metal vessel used in cooking

51. Make by pouring into a cast
52. Colombian city
53. Heat unit
54. Carpenter, red and army
55. Adam and Eve's garden
- CLUES DOWN**
 1. Big man on campus
 2. Made public by radio or television
 3. Labelled
 4. Inform positively
 5. Drinks habitually
 6. Supplemented with difficulty
 7. SW Scottish river & port
 8. American poet 1874-1963
 9. Pads
 10. Ingestion or intake
 11. Tie up a bird before cooking
 12. Bulrushes of the genus *Scirpus*
 16. Turned rod on a spinning wheel
 21. Having or covered with leaves

23. The 44th U.S. President
28. Midway between S
and SE
29. Tuberculosis (abbr.)
30. Inspected accounting
procedures
31. A twilled woolen fabric
32. Potato state
33. The work of a sailor
35. Involving 2 dimensions
36. Fanatical or overzealous
37. Consolation
38. Wild sheep of northern
Africa
39. Erect leafless flower-
bearing stalk
40. Afrikaans
41. Weighing device
43. Very dry champagne
45. Emerald Isle
48. A resident of Benin

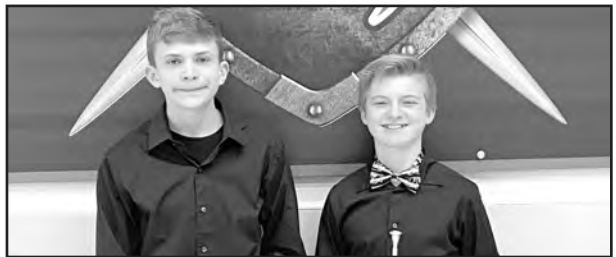


PHOTO COURTESY OF DEBBIE HARRIS

Read Mountain students perform in All-District Band

Read Mountain Middle School students Mason Gates (left) and SJ Stewart participated at the VBODA District VI All-District Band event at Cave Spring High School February 14-15. The students auditioned in January against 395 students from the district, which runs from

~ Submitted by RMMS
Principal Debbie Harris

THE FINCASTLE HERALD
& Botetourt County News
 Established 1866
 P.O. Box 127
 Fincastle, VA 24090
 USPS 190-680 • ISSN # 8750-7323
 Phone: (540) 473-2741
 Fax: (540) 473-2742
 E-mail: fincastle@mainstreetnewspapers.com
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The Fincastle Herald (USPS 160-680) is published weekly for \$46 a year in Botetourt County, \$50 in adjoining counties and \$54 elsewhere by Virginia Media Inc., 122 N. Court Street, Lewisburg, W.Va. 24901. Periodical postage paid at Fincastle, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Fincastle Herald, P.O. Box 127, Fincastle, VA 24090.

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Brave the Dark
Thursday, Feb. 27
7 p.m.

Dog Man
(Tentative)
(2025) When a dog and a police officer are injured together on the job, life-saving surgery changes the course of history. Half dog, half man, Dog Man is sworn to protect and serve as he pursues his arch-nemesis: the feline super villain Petey the Cat. But the rivalry between Dog Man and Petey is upended by the arrival of an adorable kitten clone of Petey—Li'l Petey. (1 hr. 23 min.)

Friday, Feb. 28
7 p.m.
Saturday, March 1
7 p.m.
Sunday, March 2
3 p.m.
Thursday, March 6
7 p.m.

Linda Rottman announces candidacy for Buchanan seat on Botetourt Board of Supervisors

Linda Rottman of Buchanan has announced her candidacy for the Buchanan District seat on the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors. The news release from Rottman announcing her candidacy said:

“I’m Linda Rottman and I’m running for the Buchanan District seat on the county Board of Supervisors. I’m running to give the people a new choice. The current scheme will continue to generate higher and higher taxes, spending and borrowing. It’s time for a new era of common sense fiscal responsibility.

I’m a Trump supporter and I would like to see Botetourt engage in a DOGE-style efficiency check as a standard part of the budgeting process. Let’s define what the essential functions of local government are and eliminate wasteful spending that doesn’t involve those functions. Let’s find out what return taxpayers are getting from the “investments” the board has made with the residents’ hard-earned tax dollars. Let’s dig into why the Board of Supervisors never directs the county administration to investigate cutting spending to provide some much-needed tax relief to county residents.

Our annual county budget, while still in the preliminary stage, is about \$100 million, and the annual school budget about \$80 million. But Botetourt citizens have bare minimum services.



Linda Rottman PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDA ROTTMAN

Let’s follow the DOGE example and find out why.

What are my qualifications? I’m retired now but I’ve had a long, varied career that has taught me many useful skills for being an effective supervisor.

One of my first jobs was waitressing to pay for my schooling. I learned there how to really listen to what people said in order to better serve them. As I canvass the Buchanan District, I’m hearing how hard pressed so many of us are by the recent tax increases. I’m hearing how fearful people are, including how afraid they are of losing their homes if they can’t meet their tax burden.

I hear you, I care, and I will fight for you. I’ll keep listening to you

through regular town halls, office hours, email and phone so that I can vote in accordance with a consensus of the majority.

Later in my career, I was a UPS driver, where I learned to see the big picture rather than focusing on the next few feet of the road – a skill that goes beyond driving a truck. For example, the promise of the county planners’ “heads and beds” economic development scheme is that businesses will be attracted to the county by a growing population. The theory is that as businesses move in and pay taxes, the residents’ tax burden will decrease. But the theory hasn’t worked in practice. Our taxes have increased with development. We need a bigger – more realistic

– picture to tackle the road ahead if we want to maintain our Botetourt way of life.

In the last part of my formal career, I was a trial lawyer and I learned how to dig beneath the surface to find the facts about what’s really happening. I’ve attended Botetourt School Board hearings,

Board of Supervisors hearings, and public meetings such as budget subcommittee meetings. I don’t see much digging going on. The budget process essentially starts with the previous year’s total budget number as a given, and the only question is how much the increase will be. I have not

observed the supervisors who are there to represent us in this process putting up any serious resistance to the administration’s proposals. That’s why I’ve gone from being a concerned observer to running for office. We need a digger, and we

See Rottman, page 7

DAR from page 2

Adams, she shared her experience as a Colonial woman at the perilous time surrounding and during the American Revolution.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is a women’s service organization whose members can trace their lineage to an individual who contributed to securing American independence during the Revolutionary War. Today’s DAR is dynamic and diverse, with over 185,000 members in 3,000 chapters in the United States and abroad. DAR members annually

provide millions of hours of volunteer service to their local communities across the country and world. DAR chapters participate in projects to promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism. If you are interested or have questions about joining the chapter, contact Membership Chair Emily Talbot-Guillote via email at eptg1019@gmail.com, or Registrar JoElla John, jjohnregistrar@gmail.com.

- Botetourt County DAR



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ANGLICAN
Orchard Hills Church - 6032 Cloverdale Rd. next to Read Mountain Fire Station. Worship at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays. Home group Bible studies available throughout the week. Pastor Scott McLucas, 977-6800. To find out more about Orchard Hills Church go to the website at www.orchardhillschurch.org.
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
New Beginnings Assembly of God, 1317 Narrow Passage Rd., 43 North. Sunday School, 10:00a.m.; Worship, 11a.m.; Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study, 6:00p.m., Pastor Steve Tremblay, email: pastorstevetremblay@gmail.com. Everyone welcome.

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

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST
Crossroads Baptist Church - 1128 Wheatland Rd., Buchanan, Pastor Elmer Clemons, (540)761-5074 Home, Sunday School 10:00 A.M., Morning Worship, 11:00 A.M., Sunday Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 5:30 P.M.

Faith Baptist Church— 4258 Botetourt Rd., Fincastle, VA. 24090, Pastor, Dr. John W. Reynolds, Phone; 540-473-2325, Email: jwr56fbc@yahoo.com, Church website: fincastlefaith.com, Services: 10 A.M. Bible Expositions, 11 A.M. Worship & Children’s Church, 7 P.M. Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer, Messages at www.youtube.com/@faithfbaptistchurch9219. We look forward to meeting you.
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 Chidren’s Church. Wednesday evening Worship and Bible study begins with a meal at 6:30 p.m.

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

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

Springwood Baptist Church –88 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 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.,

WHAT WE NEED

Read Judges 17:1 through 21:25

Cities are racked by chaos. Innocents are cruelly victimized. People of all stripes—leaders and followers alike—lie and steal, thinking nothing of it. Rage, destruction, and brutality are the stuff of daily headlines. When did things get so bad?

This world is no stranger to dark times, including the period of the Israelite judges. Today’s reading is full of horrific violence and inhumanity. After the miracles that brought the Israelites into the Promised Land, how did everything fall apart? Was it because they had no ruler to keep them in line? After all, it was repeatedly emphasized that “Israel had no king.” But there’s more to it than that.

In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit (Judges 21:25).

Our world is what it is because fit. God’s every action demonstrates that He desires peace, compassion, and community—things sorely missing from this world. Until we have the mind of Christ, politics will never offer hope. Our world doesn’t need a king. It needs God.

Prayer Suggestion: Father, remake my will from the inside out, so that I will desire what You desire.

Quicklook: Judges 21:15–25

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 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. We offer a Spiritual Event on the 2nd. Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. The program may be a Light and Sound Service, a Spiritual video and discussion, or other topics and techniques to help Raise Your Spiritual IQ. The Roanoke ECK Center is located at 1420 3rd. St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. For more information visit www.eck-va.org or call 540- 353-5365. People of all faiths are welcome.

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

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. Service is also live streamed on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@FincastleUMCMedia> or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068517955699>. 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.

OBITUARIES

McMurry, Betsy Keith

Betsy Keith McMurry, 97, of Daleville, died on February 17, 2025.

Betsy was born in Roanoke to Leslie Clinton and Anne Brady Keith. She graduated from Fincastle High School, Averett College in Danville, and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. After her marriage to Charles Reid McMurry in 1948, she lived in Nashville, Tennessee for two years before returning to Botetourt County where she lived for the rest of her life.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband; sister, Kitty Horsley; son, Reid McMurry; son-in-law, Larry Smith; and grandson-in-law, Darin Engle.

Survivors include her children, Leslieanne Smith, Keith McMurry, Chris McMurry (Dana), and Nan McMurry (Kevin Kelly); sister, Peggy Barnett; grandchildren, Marietta Engle, Dana Burgan (Nick), Cara McMurry (Ben), and Krista McMurry; great-grandchildren, Charlie and Eleanor Burgan, and Emeline Engle, as well as nieces, nephews, and their children.

A graveside service will be held at Sherwood Memorial Park at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, March 5, 2025.

Betsy’s family extend their sincere thanks to the Botetourt Rescue Squad, the staff and administration at Lewis Gale Hospital and Carrington Place, and caregivers at Care Advantage for the compassionate and dedicated care they provided to Betsy.

Tolley, James Richard, Jr.

James “Jim,” “Butch,” Richard Tolley, Jr., 76, passed away peacefully on February 15, 2025, surrounded by family.

He was born on January 28, 1949, and spent his life as a loving family member, loyal friend, and dedicated community member. Jim, affectionately known as “Butch” by those closest to him, was a dedicated son, father, and grandfather, a man of deep character and integrity. He was always ready to offer a helping hand, share a laugh, or lend a listening ear. His kindness and generosity were a gift to all who knew him.

Throughout his life, Jim worked tirelessly, dedicating himself to his family, his passions, and his career, spending 49 years with the same company. He was also a dedicated sports coach and Boy Scout leader, positively impacting many young lives.

He proudly served in the U.S. Army with the 483rd Engineer Battalion and was honorably discharged. He also wore the distinctive unit insignia of the 4th Armored Division as a testament to his service. During his service, he was awarded the Air Medal four times, the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Presidential Unit Citation.

Jim was preceded in death by his father, James R. Tolley, Sr.; his mother, Rena Tolley; and his sister, Diane McLane.



He is survived by his daughter, Jennifer Underwood; his son and daughter-in-law, Patrick and Kelli Tolley; daughter, Erica Tolley; step-daughter, Amanda Dollman; his grandchildren, Spencer Crowder, Ashley and Amber Dollman, Madison, Morgan, and Maggie Underwood, and Lakynn, Kase, and Millie Tolley; two great-grandchildren; his sisters and brothers-in-law, Bonnie and Earl Parker, Rena “BB” and Matt Wright, Tina and Mike Link, Janet Rogers, and J.E. McLane; his brother, Nelson Tolley; Brenda Tolley; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Jim’s life was held on Sunday, February 23, at 2 p.m. in the Buchanan Chapel of Botetourt Funeral Home, with visitation beginning at 1 p.m. when friends and family were invited to share memories and pay their respects. Jim’s passing leaves a void in the hearts of all who knew him, but his spirit will continue to live on in the countless memories and the love he shared with all. Rest in peace, Jim – you will be deeply missed, but never forgotten. Online condolences may be made at www.botetourtfuneralhome.com or 540-254-3000.

Watts, Helen Quarles

Helen Quarles Watts, born August 11, 1923 in Indian Rock of Buchanan, left her Earthly home to go live in her Heavenly home on February 14, 2025.

She joined Indian Rock Baptist Church at an early age of 9, where she stayed a faithful member until her Lord and Savior called her home. She never missed a Sunday and was known as the Mother of the Church. Helen attended Indian Rock School and Botetourt Training School; she graduated first of five Black girls in both 10th and 11th grades at Academy Hill School.

In 1945 she married the late Charlie R. Watts and within that union they were blessed with three children, Betty (Ralph) Terry, both deceased; Thomas (Karen), both deceased; and Leonard.

Helen was best known for her heart of gold. If you needed something and she had it, it was yours. Helen tried to instill in her family the value of forgiveness of others and to treat others with respect and decency, despite how they sometimes treated you. Helen was a devout Christian until her last breath. Although she was hard of hearing, due to nerve damage, and had arthritis in her knees, she never complained, because she knew she was in God’s care.

Helen has gone to Heaven to join her beloved husband, daughter, son, and grandson, Lawrence (Dwayne) Lee III. Sadly, she leaves behind to mourn, her youngest son, Leonard (Buchanan); granddaugh t e r , Cynthia (Lynn) Hayth (Hampton); grandchildren, Micheal Watts, Meagan Watts, Adrian Watts, and Aaron Watts (all of Glasgow); great-grandchildren, Xavier, Alisha (Tim), Amber, Ayden, Ashley, Allena, Aliya, Riley, Zoe, Adrian, Zyla, Julian; five great-great-grandchildren, four sisters-in-law, two brothers-in-law, and a host of nieces and nephews.

If Helen were here today, she would say “Be kind to one another, for that is the way of the Lord and He will bless you for it.”

Visitation was held from 1-2 p.m. with funeral services at 2p.m. on Friday, February 21, 2025 at the Buchanan Chapel of Botetourt Funeral Home. Interment followed in Indian Rock Baptist Church Cemetery.



Pillis, Elmer Samuel

Elmer Samuel Pillis, 74, of Daleville passed away peacefully in his home on February 17, 2025.

Sam was born December 2, 1950 to the late Elmer Samuel Pillis, Sr. and Helen Thompson Pillis (lovingly known as Pinkie). He was a graduate of William Fleming High School and completed a 41-year career with Norfolk Southern Railroad. He was a proud member of the Roanoke Valley Shag Club, loved to dance, and enjoyed spending his retirement years at his Craig’s Creek cabin and North Myrtle Beach condo. Sam truly lived life to the fullest. He was not afraid of hard work but knew life was not complete without a good measure of fun. He took every opportunity to be with his grandchildren and enjoyed teaching them to ride 4-wheelers and waves. He loved nothing more than attending sporting events or visiting “the shed.”

In addition to his parents and in-laws, Sam was preceded in death by his brothers-in-law, Bart Rowe and David Bowman.

He is survived by a large and loving family, his wife of 48 years, Nancy Bowman Pillis; son, Michael Pillis (Kimi); daughters, Denise Lisle (Jeremy) and Heather Pillis (Bradley Basham); grandchildren, Taylor, Jase, Tucker, Rieley, Lindsey, Brielle, Aleyah, Olivia, and Kaia; sisters, Becky Claggett (Mike) of Shiloh, N.C., and Marty Rowe (William Elliott) of Stuart Draft; brother, Greg Pillis (Joan) of Buchanan; and numerous beloved nieces, nephews, and cousins.

The family received visitors at Rader Funeral Home in Daleville on Friday, February 21 from 4 p.m.-7 p.m. A funeral service was held at Rader’s on Saturday, February 22 at 2 p.m.; no gravesite service at this time.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Trinity Church of the Brethren (P.O. Box 128, Daleville, 24083) or The League for Animal Protection (P.O. Box 561, Fincastle, 24090) or a charity of your choosing. sSam loved largely and will be missed by many friends and family.



CHURCH NEWS

Andrew Chapel UMC Ash Wednesday service

Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church will observe the first day of the Lenten season with an Ash Wednesday service on March 5 at 7 p.m. This service is open to the community and all are welcome. Andrew Chapel is located at 3936 Beaver Dam Road, just off Springwood Road in Springwood.

Buchanan Presbyterian Ash Wednesday service

Buchanan Presbyterian Church invites all who would like to start the season of Lent with a service of contemplation, song, and prayer, to the Ash Wednesday service on March 5 at 7 p.m. A potluck dinner will begin at 5:45

GriefShare will begin again at St. Mark’s UMC

GriefShare is a small support group offering hope and encouragement for those who have lost someone they love through death. The program consists of a workbook, video and small group discussion that offers compassion, confidentiality and sharing with others who understand. It doesn’t matter how recent or long ago the loss happened, it is hoped that participants can find God’s healing through this program.

St. Mark’s United Methodist Church in Daleville began the spring cycle of classes on February 20. There are 13 weeks of classes to be held in person in the fellowship hall. There are two sessions to choose from: 10-11:30 a.m. or 6:30-8 p.m.

Open enrolment for any session allows for those who can’t begin on February 20 to come when they can.

Call the church office at (540) 992-3030 for more information. Registrations may be made on the church website at www.stmarksmethodist.com. All are welcome.

Fincastle Presbyterian Service of Prayer dates

Fincastle Presbyterian Church will be holding a Service of Prayer for Wholeness and Healing at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays, February 26, and March 26.

This special service of prayer, music,

silence and scripture is an opportunity to gather in Christian community and draw closer to God and offer prayers for individuals, the community, the country and the world.

A light supper will be served in the fellowship hall after the service. All are invited. The church is located at 108 E. Back Street, Fincastle.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Meal in Buchanan

Trinity United Methodist Church invites the public to its Shrove Tuesday Pancake Meal on March 4. Pancakes, sausage, bacon, coffee and juice will be served between 4 and 7 p.m. on that Tuesday. The meal is free and open to the public. “Love” offerings will be accepted.

Trinity United Methodist Church is located at 10637 Main Street in Buchanan. The meal will be served in the fellowship hall, enter off Washington Street.

Ebenezer Shrove Tuesday Supper March 4

Ebenezer United Methodist Church is having a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper starting at 4 p.m. and ending at 7 p.m. on March 4. Ebenezer is located at 85 Nace Road. Donations will be accepted. All are invited.

Cloverdale Thrift Store temporarily closed

Cloverdale Church of the Brethren Thrift Store is temporarily closed due to water damage. Donations are welcome to help restock.

Men’s and Women’s Day at Lapsleys Run

Lapsleys Run Baptist Church’s Annual Men’s and Women’s Day will be held on Sunday, March 9, at 11 a.m. The speaker for the service will be Brother Edgar Freeman. The church will have the morning service only, but will serve lunch after the service.

Everyone is invited to attend these and all services at Lapsleys Run Baptist Church, 608 Zion Hill Road, Fincastle.

Come and join us for our

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

at **Trinity United Methodist Church**

Pancakes, bacon, sausage, and drinks are

free and open to the public

Pancakes served from 4 to 7 p.m.

on Tuesday, March 4

in the church Fellowship Hall of

Trinity United Methodist Church

10637 Main Street, Buchanan, VA

(Please enter off Washington Street)

“Love” offerings will be accepted

Rottman

from page 5

need transparency, so that everyone can know what’s really going on.

And now, retired and a first time farmer, I’ve come to deeply appreciate the efforts and contributions of our farmers and their deep devotion to the land, which I share. There will never be a solar or wind farm on my property so long as my husband or I own it. Although our farmers are essential to our Botetourt way of life, I fear that they have been forgotten by the county. That needs to change.

Together, We the People took our country back by raising our voices and turning out in force to vote for President Trump. Now it’s time to take our county back.

So I ask for your vote on June 17, 2025 at your usual precinct either at Buchanan Elementary School or Mill Creek Baptist Church. Early voting begins on May 2 at the Voter Registrar’s Office in Fincastle.

- Submitted by Linda Rottman

Serving With Compassion

Botetourt
Funeral Home & Crematory

Buchanan | **Eagle Rock**
254-3000 | **884-2276**
14920 Lee Highway | 14777 Church Street

Karen C. Young,
Funeral Director

Locally owned & operated by
I. Ray & Bobbi Sloan

Survey

from page 1



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF RVARC

- Extreme Temperature
- Flood
- Hurricane/Tropical Storm
- Karst/Sinkhole
- Landslide
- Tornado/Wind
- Wildfire
- Winter Weather

The planning boundary includes Botetourt, Craig, and Roanoke counties, among other surrounding localities. RVARC is currently looking for public input via survey through March 10. The final document is expected to be delivered to FEMA and VDEM by August 2025. Adoption of the document will follow FEMA and VDEM review and approval.

Attendees may provide input through the public input survey open through March 10 or at the public input meetings. The steering committee for the Hazard Mitigation Plan is composed of locality staff representatives, including emergency managers, planners, stormwater engineers, and others. The Western Virginia Water Authority has also been invited to participate. Additional agencies represented include the VDEM and VDOF.

To received updates regarding upcoming meetings and to learn more about the survey, visit engage.rvarc.org and find the “Active Projects” on the homepage.

- Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission

Agripalooza

from page 1

“We at Virginia Western are thrilled to partner with SBDC to welcome members of the agriculture community to our campus for Agripalooza,” said Dean of STEM and Workforce Solutions Amy White. “The sessions will help people new to the field and veterans alike expand ways to build partnerships and connect with resources. At Virginia

Western, we strive to foster partnerships that help those in agriculture build their businesses and provide much-needed resources to the state economy, and this event fits squarely into that mission.”

View the full schedule and register now at roanokesmallbusiness.org/agripalooza.

- Virginia Western Community College

RTS Farms
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PUBLIC NOTICE
Botetourt County School Board Work Session
The Botetourt County School Board will hold a Work Session on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Central Administration Office, 143 Poor Farm Road, Fincastle, Virginia, with a physical quorum present and electronic access through www.bcps.live.

Town of Fincastle Planning Commission and Town Council Public Hearings
Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285, this shall serve as notice that the Town of Fincastle Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on March 11, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Fincastle Volunteer Fire Department located at 25 Vine Street in Fincastle. This hearing is for the purpose of soliciting public input on:

1. A text amendment to the Town of Fincastle Zoning Ordinance definition to clarify the meanings of public and community utilities. And,

2. The addition of a section (Article VI, Section 613) to the Town Zoning Ordinance for the purpose of describing the procedure for the process of appeals to a decision made by Town Council.

3. A rezoning application received by Flagship Properties to rezone a portion of Lot Tax ID# 73A(1)102 from Residential-Low (RL) to Trade (T). This property is located at 203 Botetourt Road.

The Fincastle Town Council will then have a public hearing on the above items on March 13, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Fincastle Volunteer Fire Department, 25 Vine Street, Fincastle. In addition:

4. The Fincastle Town Council will hold a public hearing to discuss the planned submission of a Community Development Block Grant Community Improvement Grant application to fund the implementation of the previously presented Economic Restructuring Plan.

Copies of these proposals can be obtained by contacting the Fincastle Town Office during regular office hours or by contacting Scott Critzer at 540-473-3377 or the Town Manager at 540-473-2200.

Scott Critzer– Chairman
Fincastle Planning Commission
Melanie McFadyen– Fincastle Town Manager

Camp LEO

from page 1

there’s something for everyone.

BCSO shared, “Don’t miss out on a week of fun, learning, and the chance to meet new friends!”

Participants may choose from one of two weeks: June 2 through June 6, or June 16 through June 20.

BCSO’s Camp LEO offers students a comprehensive introduction to law enforcement through a variety of engaging activities. Past camps have included:

- Obstacle Courses and Team-Building Challenges: Designed to enhance physical fitness and foster teamwork among participants
- Creek Adventures: Activities that encourage exploration and environmental awareness
- Field Games: Interactive games promoting physical activity and camaraderie
- Swimming: Recreational swimming sessions for relaxation and enjoyment
- Fingerprinting: Hands-on experience with fingerprinting techniques, providing insight into forensic science
- K-9 Demonstrations: Showcases of K-9 units in action, highlighting their roles in law enforcement.
- SWAT Team Presentations: Educational sessions on the specialized operations of SWAT teams
- Educational Workshops: Discussions on critical topics such as drug and alcohol awareness, bullying prevention, and building trust between law enforcement and the community

Youth Expo 2025

from page 1



Free hot dogs will be provided during the event.



PHOTOS BY MATT DE SIMONE

The Share-the-Fun Showcase event features the talented students of Botetourt’s 4-H and FFA.

Participants enhance skills in areas such as cooking, beekeeping, horse handling, robotics, livestock care, and shooting education

CROSSWORD ANSWERS
BATA TEAR TUT
MIAS TOKYO APR
ORBS SUPERB BTU
CEBU PLED ELLAS
DERBIES REEKS
DEANS TATE
RD STAFFS
SALISBURY
SECEDE DO
PARK RISSA
SLIGO TATTOOS
CALEB BABE LUCE
ANI AFRAID ADAR
PAN MOULD CALI
ERG ANTS EDEN

- Leadership and Responsibility: Engaging in club activities fosters leadership abilities and a sense of responsibility among youth

- Community Engagement: The event strengthens community ties by showcasing local talent and agricultural heritage.

4-H clubs featured at past Expos include:

- Honey Bee Club: teaches safe hive management and honey collection

- Cooking Kings Club: focusing on

These activities aim to provide students with a well-rounded understanding of law enforcement duties and responsibilities, while also promoting personal growth and community engagement.

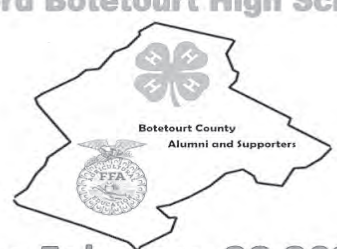
Register now and learn more about the camp by visiting campeagleva.org/boco.

- Fincastle Herald staff report



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAMP EAGLE

Camp LEO provides several exciting activities for students.

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

Friday, February 28, 2025
5:30 - 8:00 pm
Silent Auction 5:30 - 7:30
Come see Displays of 4H and FFA student Activities
4H Share the Fun
Live Animals on Display
Free Hotdogs, Chips, Dessert and Water.

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BOTETOURT 4-H/FFA ALUMNI

The 10th annual 4-H and FFA Youth Expo at Lord Botetourt High School this Friday, February 28, from 5:30 p.m.

baking, cooking skills, and nutrition

- Horse and Pony Club: covers horse handling, judging, and hippology

- Robotics Clubs: including FRC Robotics and Lego Robotics, emphasizing STEM education

- Livestock Club: provides knowledge on animal care and training

- Shooting Education Club: offers training in rifle, shotgun, archery, and air pistol disciplines

- Teen Leadership Club: focuses on developing leadership skills among teens

“The Youth Expo would not be possible without the dedication of volunteers, FFA chapter members and advisors, 4-H members, and the leadership committee of the Botetourt County 4-H and FFA Alumni Association,” Extension

Agent Tyler Painter shared. “The planning process for this event begins in the fall, right around the start of the new school year. It takes efforts from countless individuals to prepare and facilitate this program successfully each year. Having this event at Lord Botetourt High School has been a great success and we are thankful for the partnership with LBHS and Botetourt County Public Schools, allowing us to use their facilities.”

The alumni group was formed by adult volunteers who value the lessons and experiences that 4-H or FFA provided them in their youth. The organization provides support to clubs and chapters across Botetourt County. Follow Botetourt’s FFA and 4-H Alumni on Facebook at BoCoFFA4H.

- Fincastle Herald staff report

Martin’s Farm
818 Martins Lane
Fincastle

Fresh sausage and fresh pork products
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Wednesday thru Friday 9:30am-5pm
Saturday 9:30am-2pm
(540) 309-6106

Stockyard Report	
Monday’s sale at the Roanoke-Hollins Stockyard:	
94 Head	
Hogs	\$82.00-\$89.00
Cow/Calf Pairs	\$2700-\$3375
Graded Steers	
400-499	\$310.00-\$330.50
500-599	\$274.00-\$312.50
600-699	\$264.00-\$266.00
Graded Bulls	
400-499	\$304.00-\$311.00
500-599	\$261.00
600-699	\$246.00
Graded Heifers	
400-499	\$274.00-\$276.00
500-599	\$275.00
600-699	\$246.00
Kill Cows	
\$67.00-\$135.00	



Help
Wanted

Legals -
Craig County

Legals -
City of Radford

Legals -
Montgomery County

Legals -
Montgomery County

Legals -
Montgomery County

Legals -
Montgomery County

Liturgical Musician

The Church of the Transfiguration Catholic Church is seeking a part-time. This position provides musical accompaniment for Masses (Saturdays at 4:30pm and Sundays at 8:30am), special liturgies, weddings and funerals. The abilities to play the keyboard/piano competently and to sight read music when required are essential. Vocal skills and knowledge of Roman Catholic liturgy are preferred but not required. Interested applicants should send an email of interest and a resume to Suzanne Bowling at office@churchofthetransfiguration.com.

Cemetery Plots For Sale

For sale
Cemetery plots
mountain view cemetery
Vinton
evergreen memorial
2 plots side by side
beautiful location near road
and tree
good deal /best offer
540.339.9397

Legals -
City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission,

at its regular meeting on March 12, 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 Clipp Family Trust, or assigns, contract purchaser, to rezone the property located at 2381-2383 Roanoke Blvd. (T/M# 225-2-6.1) from HBD Highway Business District with conditions to HBD Highway Business District.

2. Consider the request of ABoone Real Estate, Inc., contact purchaser, to rezone the properties located at 1906 Mill Ln. & 1400 blk Penley Blvd. (T/M#s 205-2-5 & 204-13-1) from RSF/AG Residential Single Family/Agriculture Districts & AG Agriculture Districts to RSF Residential Single Family District and for a Special Exception Permit to include both parcels in the Cluster Housing Overlay District.

3. Consider the request of R. Fralin Development Corp. & Simms Property, LLC, property owners, to amend rezoning Ordinance #344 and the Special Exception Permit by removing condition #4 relating to the maximum height of 1.5 stories for structures constructed on cluster lots for the properties located at 113 Parker Ln (T/M #273-3-4), 117 Parker Ln (T/M #273-3-5), 121 Parker Ln (T/M #273-3-6), 125 Parker Ln (T/M #273-3-7), 129 Parker Ln (T/M #273-3-8), 133 Parker Ln (T/M #273-3-9), 137 Parker Ln (T/M #273-3-10), 141 Parker Ln (T/M #288-3-12), 142 Parker Ln (T/M #288-3-11), 134 Parker Ln (T/M #288-3-9), 130 Parker Ln (T/M #288-3-8), 126 Parker Ln (T/M #288-3-7), 122 Parker Ln (T/M #288-3-6), 118 Parker Ln (T/M #288-3-5), 114 Parker Ln (T/M #288-3-4), and 211 Diamond Rd, (T/M #272-2-1).

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



AMENDED NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE,

of all that certain lot, tract or parcel designated as Lot Three (3) containing 29.204 acres in the Simmonsville Magisterial District of Craig County, Virginia, designated as Tax Map Number 115-A-17C (previously incorrectly designated as Tax Map Number 114-A-17), in execution of a Deed of Trust, in the original principal amount of \$72,000.00, with an annual interest rate of 6.0% dated November 3, 2015, recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for the COUNTY OF CRAIG as Deed Instrument Number 150000517, the undersigned appointed Trustee will offer for sale at public auction all that property located in the COUNTY OF CRAIG, at the front of the Court House building for the County of Craig located at 182 Main Street, New Castle, Virginia 24127, on Thursday, March 6, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., the property with improvements to wit: 2288 Northside Road, Newport, VA 24128, containing approximately 29.204 Acres - Tax Map Number 115-A-17C; THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. TERMS OF SALE: CASH OR CHECK. Additional terms to be announced at sale. Trustee, John N. Spicer, C/O Spicer, Olin & Associates, P.C., 504 South Main Street, Blacksburg, VA 24060 (540) 552-0007.

Legals -
City of Radford

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

CITY OF RADFORD FY 2025-2026 HUD ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

The City of Radford will hold public meetings to gather input into housing, homelessness, public service and community development needs for the FY 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan for CDBG Funding, in accordance with the City of Radford's Citizen Participation Plan:

March 12, 2025, at 12:00 p.m.
March 13, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers
10 Robertson Street
Radford, VA 24141

The meeting will include information about the amount of anticipated CDBG funds that will be available and the range of CDBG eligible activities. CDBG funds must be used to benefit low- and moderate-income people and areas, and special populations. Please contact the Community Development Department at (540)267-3188 or Melissa.Skelton@radfordva.gov for any questions. Accommodations for persons with disabilities and non-English speaking residents will be provided upon request.



BAG
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Public Notice: CDBG Public Service Program COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

The City of Radford Department of Community Development will accept proposals for the 2025 Program Year (July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026) for funds provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Applicants must be a not-for profit organization as established by the IRS. Proposals for Public Services programs are due no later than March 26, 2025, by 4:00p.m. The major focus of the City of Radford's CDBG program is to provide a suitable living environment, decent housing, social services, and economic opportunities in low-income areas, and low-to-moderate- income persons.

Applications may be accessed at www.radfordva.gov or via email request to Melissa.Skelton@radfordva.gov. The applications can also be picked up at Radford Administration Building, 10 Robertson St, Radford, VA, Monday through Friday between 8:30a.m. and 5:00p.m. For more information regarding the CDBG program, please visit https://www.radfordva.gov/1261/HUD-Community-Development-Block-Grant.

Legals -
Montgomery County

ABC NOTICE

Fiesta Mexican Restaurant & Taqueria LLC., trading as Taqueria Fiesta, 1465 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073-3215

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Restaurant, Wine, Beer, Mixed Beverages, Consumed On and Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Bianca Limon-Perez, 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.

New River Valley HOME Consortium and Town of Blacksburg 2025 Annual Action Plan HOME and Community Development Block Grant Programs Notice of Public Comment Meeting

The New River Valley HOME Consortium and the Town of Blacksburg will hold a public comment meeting on the development of the 2025 Annual Action Plan for the New River Valley's HOME Program and the Town of Blacksburg's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

The Annual Action Plan provides a yearly accounting of HOME, CDBG, and other funds allocated towards the implementation of objectives outlined in the Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan identifies community needs and proposed solutions in the areas of Housing, Special Needs, Economic Development and Non-Housing Community Development.

Every CDBG-funded activity must qualify as meeting one of the three national program objectives:

- 1) Benefiting low- and moderate-income persons,
- 2) Preventing or eliminating

slums or blight, or 3) Meeting other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

HOME funds must be used in accordance with the following HUD HOME program objectives: 1) To expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing. 2) To make housing more affordable for low-income and very low-income families.

The 2022-2026 Consolidated Plan and the 2024 Action Plan can be viewed on the Town's website at: Blackburg.gov/HUDplan

Public comment hearing will be held at 12:00 pm (online) and at 5:00 pm (in person) Wed, March 13, 2025 at the Housing and Community Connections Office, 303 Wilson Avenue, Blacksburg.

A 30-day comment period for 2025 Annual Action Plan begins on Feb 26 and ends on March 27, 2025. For further information, the virtual meeting link, or to submit written/oral comments contact the HOME Program Coordinator, Jill Maher, at the Office of Housing and Community Development, Phone: 540-443-1615 Email: jmmaher@blacksburg.gov Accommodations for persons with disabilities and non-English speaking residents will be provided upon request. Call 540-443-1615.

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 March 12, 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 J. William Colbert II Declaration Trust and Jo Ann Bandi Colbert Declaration Trust for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow a Short-Term Tourist Rental within an existing single-family dwelling and attached accessory dwelling on property located at 1480 and 1482 Clay Street, approximately 0.07 miles from the end of state maintenance, 0.22 miles east of the intersection of Cedar Orchard Drive (State Route 1237). The property is further identified as Tax Parcel 041-A 63G (Parcel ID: 032846), 1.082 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 montva.com/pc.

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 J. William Colbert II Declaration Trust and Jo Ann Bandi Colbert Declaration Trust for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow a Short-Term Tourist Rental within an existing single-family dwelling and attached accessory dwelling on property located at 1480 and 1482 Clay Street, approximately 0.07 miles from the end of state maintenance, 0.22 miles east of the intersection of Cedar Orchard Drive (State Route 1237). The property is further identified as Tax Parcel 041-A 63G (Parcel ID: 032846), 1.082 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 montva.com/pc.

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 J. William Colbert II Declaration Trust and Jo Ann Bandi Colbert Declaration Trust for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow a Short-Term Tourist Rental within an existing single-family dwelling and attached accessory dwelling on property located at 1480 and 1482 Clay Street, approximately 0.07 miles from the end of state maintenance, 0.22 miles east of the intersection of Cedar Orchard Drive (State Route 1237). The property is further identified as Tax Parcel 041-A 63G (Parcel ID: 032846), 1.082 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 montva.com/pc.

CczC-3101 VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY IN RE: ESTATE OF JAMES P. WIGHTMAN, DECEASED SHOW CAUSE AGAINST DISTRIBUTION ORDER

It appearing that a report of the accounts of National Bank of Blacksburg, Executor of the Estate of James P. Wightman, Deceased, and of the debts and demands against his Estate have been filed in the Clerk's Office, and that six months have elapsed since the qualification, on Petition of National Bank of Blacksburg, Executor, it is ORDERED, that the creditors of, and all others interested in, the Estate to show cause, if any they can, on the 19th day of March, 2025, before this Court at 8:30 a.m., against the payment and delivery of the Estate of James P. Wightman, Deceased, to the distributees with or without requiring refunding bonds as the Court prescribes. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the foregoing portion of

MAKE AN “A” IN ADVERTISING!

To place your ad, call 389-9355

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 March 12, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Montgomery 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 Ordinances:

A request by Carriage Road, LLC to rezone 1.571 total acres from Agricultural (A1) to Traditional Neighborhood Development Infill (TND-I), to allow a mixed-use development. The proposed mixed-use development will mainly consist of a community center, coffee shop, and soccer practice facility. The property is located at 1708 & 1714 Carriage Road, Riner, at the intersection of Carriage Road (State Route 704) and Five Points Road (State Route 671). The property is further identified as Tax Maps 119-A A 8, 9 (Parcel IDs: 070635, 070611), 1.571 acres, zoned A-1 Agricultural in the Riner Magisterial District. The property currently lies in an area designated as Village Expansion in the 2025 Montgomery County Comprehensive Plan, and is further designated as Mixed Use in the Prices Fork Village 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.montgomerycountynyva.gov/pendingapplication.

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,20-104 Case No. **CL24-645** MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT 55 EAST MAIN STREET SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073. Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* Crystal Gayle Edwards v. Eddie Keith Edwards

The object of this suit is to: Divorce IT IS ORDERED that Eddie Keith Edwards appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before March 31, 2025 @ 9:00AM Entered 1/28/25 by Honorable Judge Robert M.D. Turk

CczC-3101 VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY IN RE: ESTATE OF JAMES P. WIGHTMAN, DECEASED SHOW CAUSE AGAINST DISTRIBUTION ORDER

It appearing that a report of the accounts of National Bank of Blacksburg, Executor of the Estate of James P. Wightman, Deceased, and of the debts and demands against his Estate have been filed in the Clerk's Office, and that six months have elapsed since the qualification, on Petition of National Bank of Blacksburg, Executor, it is ORDERED, that the creditors of, and all others interested in, the Estate to show cause, if any they can, on the 19th day of March, 2025, before this Court at 8:30 a.m., against the payment and delivery of the Estate of James P. Wightman, Deceased, to the distributees with or without requiring refunding bonds as the Court prescribes. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the foregoing portion of

this Order be published in The News Messenger, a newspaper published in Montgomery County, Virginia, once a week for two successive weeks. ENTER this Order this 19th day of February, 2025. Honorable Robert M.D. Turk JUDGE

I ask for this: Bettye Ackerman CAMPBELL & ACKERMAN 320 Clay Street SW Blacksburg, VA 24060 540-951-2953 phone 540-951-2966 fax VSB #72564 Counsel for National Bank of Blacksburg, Executor of the Estate of James P. Wightman, deceased

TOWN OF BLACKSBURG - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

BLACKSBURG TOWN COUNCIL will hold public hearings on Tuesday, March 11, 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/RZN-24-3: 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 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.

CUP-24-4: Request to Permit Lighting at a Public Park or Field at 2100 Toms Creek Road (Tax Parcel 195-A 2). The proposed Conditional Use Permit request would permit lighting at the Toms Creek Park and athletic field at 2100 Toms Creek Road.

Ordinance 2070: An Ordinance to Amend Town Code Section 5-701 of the Subdivision Ordinance Pertaining To Construction and Design of Sanitary Sewer. The revisions include the following: 1.Addition of a reference to the Town Sanitary Sewer Specifications in Section 5-701(a). 2.Addition of language in Section 5-701(b) to clarify that STEG (Septic Tank Effluent Gravity) or STEP (Septic Tank Effluent Pumping) systems must be used with a development application for a subdivision with multiple homes and is not intended for individually developed homes. 3.Removing references in Section 5-701(b) to the outdated references of a minor and major subdivision.

Ordinance 2071: An Ordinance to Amend Town Code Section 12-309 to Lower Speed Limits on Certain Town Streets. The proposed ordinance would establish a 15-mile-per hour speed on the following roads: •Church Street SE from Clay Street SE to Jackson Street NE; •Clay Street from Draper Road SW to Prospect Street; •Draper Road from Airport Road to Jackson Street NW; •Jackson Street; •Lee Street from Draper Road SW to Prospect Street; •Main Street from Eheart Street to Prices Fork Road; •Progress Street NE; •Roanoke Street from Draper Road NW to Owens Street; and •Washington Street from Draper Road NW to Wharton Street SE.

The proposed ordinance would establish a 20-mile-per hour speed on the following roads: •Church Street SE from Clay Street SE to Jackson Street NE; •Clay Street from Draper Road SW to Prospect Street; •Draper Road from Airport Road to Jackson Street NW; •Jackson Street; •Lee Street from Draper Road SW to Prospect Street; •Main Street from Eheart Street to Prices Fork Road; •Progress Street NE; •Roanoke Street from Draper Road NW to Owens Street; and •Washington Street from Draper Road NW to Wharton Street SE. Ordinance 2062/RZN-24-2: An Ordinance Rezoning 2.80± Acres of Land at 801 North Main Street, 800 Block of Kabrich Street, 100 Block of Winston Avenue and 900 Block of Progress Street from General Commercial and R-5

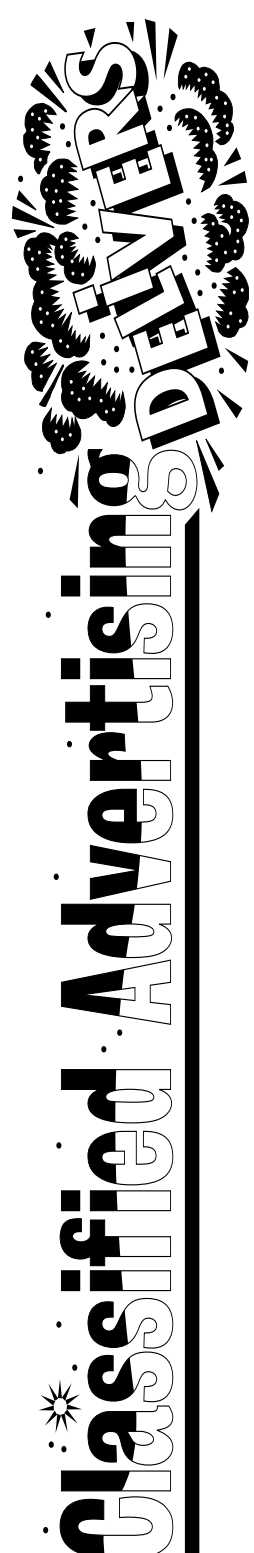
Transitional Residential District to Planned Residential District Zoning. The proposed ordinance would rezone 2.80± acres of land at 801 N. Main Street, the 800 block of Kabrich Street, 100 block of Winston Avenue and the 900 block of Progress Street from General Commercial (GC) and Transitional Residential (R-5) to Planned Residential (PR). It would permit the construction of an 8-story multifamily building with commercial on the ground floor, along with townhome-style multifamily units, up to 759 bedrooms.

Ordinance 2063/ROW-24-2: An Ordinance Vacating +/- 2,000 square feet of Town-owned Alley Right-of-way between the 800-block of Kabrich Street and the 900-block of Progress Street NW.

The proposed ordinance would vacate a town-owned alley of approximately 2,000 square feet. This request is related to Ordinance 2062. CUP-24-3: Conditional Use Permit Request to Use an Alley for Non-Single-Unit Residential Dwellings between the 900-block of Kabrich Street and the 900-block of Progress Street NW.

The Conditional Use permit request is related to Ordinances 2062 and 2063 and would allow use of the alley between the 900-block of Kabrich Street and the 900-block of Progress Street NW to provide access to twenty-two (22) townhomes.

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



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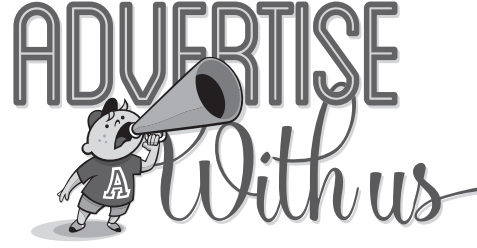


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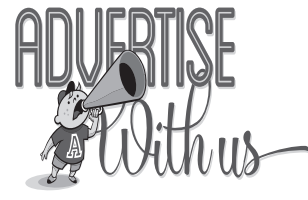
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Gavin and Kaia Binns sweep Region 55-meter dash races; River also wins both boys and girls titles in the shot put

James River siblings Gavin and Kaia Binns both won 55-meter dash Region championships at the Region 2C meet in Salem. The Region meet was postponed from Friday of last week and rescheduled for Sunday at the Cregger Indoor Fieldhouse on the campus of Roanoke College.

In the girls 55-meter race, Kaia Binns won in 7.48 while her teammate, Denver Rinehart, finished third in 7.85. Just minutes later, the boys ran and Gavin Binns won the 55

meters in 6.58.

Rinehart and Kaia Binns also ran the 300 meters and Rinehart took third and Kaia was eighth. The 4x200 relay team of Rinehart, Binns, Rhaya Kitt and Jordyn Simmons was second with a time of 1:56.

Also for the girls, sophomore Gretchen Huffman won the shot put with a toss of 32' 9" and Grace Walcott was seventh. Kitt and Simmons were eighth and ninth in the long jump and Simmons took sixth

in the triple.

For the boys, Gavin Binns added a third in the long jump and a seventh in the 300 to complete his big day. Jayden Alston won the shot put with a heave of 47'8" and Braden Jones took sixth in the 1,000 meters and seventh in the 1,600.

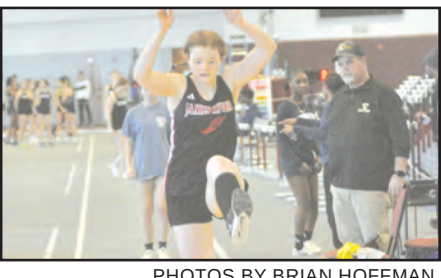
The Floyd boys and Glenvar girls, both fellow Three Rivers District schools with River, won Region 2C championships. The state Class 1 and 2 meets will be held on March 5 and 6.



Kaia Binns (right) and Denver Rinehart (second from left) of James River run the Region 55 meters. Kaia won the race and Denver finished third.



River's Gavin Binns is off and running in the Region 55 meters at RC.



River's Rhaya Kitt flies through the air in the long jump.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Lord Botetourt track competes in Region 3D meet



LB's Caleb Miller (5) runs a leg of the 4x200 relay.



Ratie Jensen of LB competes in the Region high jump event.



Walter Duffield throws the shot at the Region meet at RC.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Bria Harvey and Madeleine Gantzhorn of LB turn the corner at Saturday's Region meet.

The Cregger Indoor Fieldhouse was the site of the Region 3D high school track meet on Saturday and Lord Botetourt has some outstanding performances.

On the boys' side, the LB 4x800 meter relay team placed third and broke the school record in a time of 8:47.90. The team consisted of John Moughrabi, Lucas Carswell, Eric Duncan and Ethan Thorne.

In the 55 hurdles, Caleb Miller was second and Triston Graves took third. Graves was fifth in the 300 meters while Duncan and Thorne finished second and third in the 1,000 meters. The 4x200

team was third.

For the girls, Jillian Harris and Ratie Jensen were second and fifth in the 55 hurdles. Harris also placed fifth in the long jump and Jensen was sixth in the high jump.

Abigail Perkey took third place in the shot put. Karleigh Brown was sixth in the pole vault and Morgan Wilmer was seventh in the 300 meters.

Abingdon High won team championships in both the boys and girls meets. The Class 3 and 4 state meets will be held at Liberty University in Lynchburg on March 3 and 4.

Wrestling, swim state events rescheduled for this week

State wrestling tournaments and state swim meets were weathered out of their scheduled dates last week and rescheduled for better weather this week. Lord Botetourt and James River will have athletes participating in both sports.

For wrestling, the Lord Botetourt boys will compete in the Class 3 state tournament at Heritage High School on Saturday, and it's an all-day event. The girls will be at the Henrico Sports and Events Center for their state

on Wednesday and Thursday of this week for an "open" tournament, including all VHSL classifications.

Class 2 boys' wrestling, with James River, is also scheduled for Saturday at Virginia High School in Bristol. The Class 1

and 2 tournaments are both at Virginia High.

The Class 3 swimming and diving state events will be held on March 3 and 4. The diving will be at the Hampton Aquaplex on Monday, March 3, with the swimming events

at the SwimRVA facility in Richmond on Tuesday, March 4.

For Class 1&2 the swimming events will be at SwimRVA in Richmond on Thursday of this week, February 27.

RC Maroons announce 2025 football schedule

Head coach Bryan Stinespring and the Roanoke College football team released the 2025 schedule Friday, February 21, with 10 games on the slate.

The program is joining the Division III and the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) ranks in 2025 after competing last fall as a club sport. The Maroons finished the season 4-0 with two home games and two road contests. This is the first season of varsity football since 1942, when it was forced to disband the program because of the constraints of World War II.

"We are extremely excited to announce our Fall 2025 schedule," said Stinespring. "It is a great opportunity and a tremendous challenge. We can't wait to see you in Salem Stadium for Saturdays in the fall."

The Maroons open the season at home on Saturday, Sept. 6 against the Virginia University of Lynchburg. Salem Stadium, already the home of Salem High School's Spartans near Roanoke's Elizabeth Campus, will serve as the Maroons' home field and all home contests this year will have 2 p.m. kickoffs.

The Maroons travel to Greensboro College Sept. 13



before a bye week. The ODAC portion of the schedule opens with a home date on Sept. 27 against Gallaudet University. RC hosts defending ODAC champion Randolph-Macon College on Oct. 4, and will also host conference foes Shenandoah University (Oct. 18) and Guilford College (Nov. 1).

Other ODAC road contests include Bridgewater College (Oct. 11), Hampden-Sydney College (Oct. 25), Washington & Lee University (Nov. 8) and Averett University (Nov. 15).

Complete ticket information will be released at a later date.

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Cavaliers win Region 3D boys basketball play-in game

The Lord Botetourt boys defeated Bassett, 72-59, in a Region 3D tournament play-in game in Daleville last Friday. With the win LB advanced to the quarterfinal round in Hillsville on Tuesday night against Carroll County.

LB was the seventh-seeded team among 10, with the top six getting first round byes. Carroll County is the second seed and other Tuesday games found top-seeded Northside hosting number eight Tunstall, third-seeded Cave Spring hosting sixth-seeded Abingdon and fourth-seeded William Byrd hosting fifth-seeded Hidden Valley.

Tuesday results were too late for publication, but if Lord Botetourt won the Cavaliers would play the Cave Spring-Abingdon winner on Friday at Pulaski County High. Region semifinals are scheduled for 6 and 7:45 p.m. with the championship on Saturday at 3 p.m., also at Pulaski County High.

Last Friday in Daleville, Blake Lovern led LB in scoring with 21 points while adding five rebounds and four assists. Landon Hayes had 16 points and Carson Edwards had a double-double with a dozen points and 14 rebounds, also dishing out five assists.

"They're all must-win games at this point so we, as a coaching staff, were proud of our effort and how we executed the game plan on Friday night," said LB coach Josh Aliveto.

The Cavaliers were 11-13 after defeating Bassett.



Lord Botetourt cheerleader Briana Keith is "bottoms up" during a timeout at LB's Region basketball win over Bassett last week.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN
LB's Carson Edwards rips down one of his 14 rebounds against Bassett.



Landon Hayes of Lord Botetourt shoots a three.



Brady Kish of LB drives to the hoop against Bassett.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN
James River basketball coach Ethan Humphries talks to the team during a recent timeout.

River boys miss out on chance to play in Region tournament

With a 6-17 overall record, the James River boys failed to make the Region 2C basketball tournament for the second year in a row, but coach Ethan Humphries has high hopes for the future.

The Knights will graduate just one player from this year's team, senior Kody Park. Among the returnees is Three Rivers District honorable mention selection Ryder Ward, who averaged 11 points and four rebounds per game.

"We have a good mix coming back next year

but we understand a year older doesn't mean a year better without some sweat equity," said Humphries. "We are all excited and hungry about getting back to work later this spring in pursuit of our goal."

The Three Rivers was a tough draw this season and River failed to win a district game. Floyd County is the top-seed in the region tournament, Glenvar is fourth and a strong Radford team was no higher than seventh. That doesn't count Carroll County and Alleghany, who will

represent the district in Class 3 Region tournaments.

"We want more than anything to get back into the postseason," said Humphries. "It'll be the only thing on our mind this offseason. To do that we'll need to be better coaches and players, but this year's experiences and lessons are ones we are truly grateful for. Our guys' commitment level regardless of results was admirable. What we do on a daily basis is a lot of hard and not a lot of people sign up for it."

River girls are second seed in Region 3C tournament

The James River girls opened the Region 3C basketball tournament Tuesday with a 19-3 record and high hopes for a state tournament berth. The girls were scheduled to host seventh-seeded Radford in a battle of Three Rivers District teams to open the tournament.

Results were too late

for publication, but other quarterfinal games on Tuesday found top-seeded Liberty hosting eighth-seeded Patrick County, third-seeded Chatham hosting sixth-seeded Martinsville and fourth-seeded Appomattox hosting fifth-seeded Gretna.

Semifinals are Thursday at the higher seeds, and if

James River won Tuesday the girls would host the Chatham-Martinsville winner in Springwood at a time to be determined. The championship game is at the Roanoke College Cregger Center on Saturday at 6 p.m. and both finalists will be in the state tournament, with the Region champ hosting a state quarterfinal game.

LB girls are top seed in Region 3D basketball tournament

The Lord Botetourt girls are the top seed in the Region 3D basketball tournament and were scheduled to host eighth-seeded Christiansburg on Tuesday in Daleville in a quarterfinal game. Botetourt takes a 20-3 record into the Region tournament.

Results were too late for publication, but other Tuesday games had second-seeded Staunton River at home against seventh-seeded Hidden Valley, third-seeded Magna Vista hosting seventh-seed Bassett and fourth-seeded Abingdon

hosting fifth-seeded Pulaski County.

The tournament moves to Pulaski County High on Thursday for a semifinal doubleheader, and if Botetourt won Tuesday the Cavaliers will play the Abingdon-Pulaski winner. The championship game is Saturday at Pulaski County High at 1 p.m. in the first game of a doubleheader with the boys' championship. Both finalists make the state tournament and the Region champion gets to host a state quarterfinal game.

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