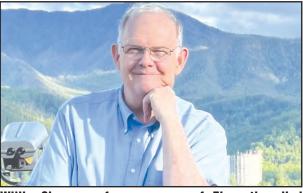
VOL. 160 NO. 15

1 SECTION • 12 PAGES

(USPS 190-680)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2025



Willie Simmons, former mayor of Fincastle, died tragically in a motorcycle accident on April 1 in Alleghany.



Willie's son, Hunter (left), Willie, and his "granddogs"



Simmons developed a love of work-working passed down from his father.

Remembering Fincastle's beloved Willie Simmons

Matt de Simone

mattdesimone@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Willie Simmons, former mayor of Fincastle, tragically passed away on April 1 in an automobile/motorcycle accident. His sudden departure has left the community mourning the loss of a dedicated public servant and a cherished friend.

Born and raised in Fincastle, Simmons, 69, was deeply rooted in the town's history. His passion for

public service led him to serve on the Fincastle Town Council before being elected mayor. Simmons also spent some time volunteering with the Fincastle Volunteer Fire Department. During his tenure, Simmons was instrumental in preserving the town's historical landmarks and promoting community initiatives that enhanced the quality of life for residents.

Simmons's love for his family was undeniable. His beloved dog, Jasper, was a constant companion, often



Simmons had a passion for riding his motorcycle across the country, often stopping to enjoy the scenery.

seen riding alongside Willie in his sidecar until Jasper's passing. He took immense pride in his son, Hunter, and

daughter-in-law, Meredith, admiring their intelligence, confidence, and

See **Simmons**, page 8

Economic Development Director Ken McFadyen accepts position as Alleghany County Administrator

Matt de Simone Managing Editor

Botetourt County is set to bid farewell to longtime Economic Development Director Ken McFadyen, as he transitions into a new role as Alleghany County Administrator. The Alleghany County Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to appoint McFadyen during its regular meeting on April 1. He is expected to assume his new position full-time in early June, according a release made by Alleghany County last

Since 2016, McFadyen has played a pivotal role in shaping Botetourt County's landscape. economic Under his leadership, seven companies announced plans to locate or expand within the county, resulting in nearly 1,000 new jobs and \$185 million in capital investment. He has also been a strong advocate for small businesses and has worked to expand broadband access to support remote work

opportunities.
"I am looking forward to the opportunity to work with the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors to achieve the supervisors' goals in serving the citizens of the county," McFadyen recently said when asked about his new position in Alleghany. "It will be challenging and I am looking forward to applying my 25-plus years of experience in local government and economic development in addressing

the community's needs. "Botetourt is a wonderful community with lots of assets and resources to be proud of. The people in the community care about their home and it has been clear to me that folks are eager to enhance Botetourt's quality of life and to protect what makes this



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT CO. **Longtime Botetourt County Economic Development Director Ken McFadyen** recently accepted the position of Alleghany **County Administrator.**

such a special place. I also want to thank the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors and Administration for nine, productive years. I am thankful for Botetourt County. My co-workers here with Botetourt County are serving diligently and selflessly to address the needs of the community and to make positive contributions in every respect. I am thankful for them and for the friendships we have made."

McFadyen believes that Botetourt County's economic development is in a good position in bringing more new businesses to the county. "Business is booming in Botetourt," McFadyen continued. "Private sector jobs and wages, particularly in manufacturing, are growing at rates that exceed state and national growth. That says something important about Botetourt being a great place for businesses to locate, grow, and thrive. Anyone who knows me also knows that I often say that everybody is an economic developer. Assisting to attract, keep, and grow a community's businesses is an all-hands-ondeck exercise and Botetourt County will remain well positioned to succeed in this regard. And, I will continue

See McFadyen, page 5





Join Botetourt in experiencing exciting spring activities

As spring blossoms in Botetourt Count, v residents and visitors can look forward to a variety of engaging events and activities. Here are some upcoming highlights for the 2025 spring season:

Trips Organized by Day Botetourt County Parks and

Botetourt County Parks and Recreation, in partnership with Roanoke Tours, is offering a series of day trips led by experienced local guide Ernie Dale. Upcoming

excursions include: May 3, - Conway, Cash, and the

King: A musical journey celebrating the legends of country and rock 'n'

May 17 – Cheerwine Festival: A trip to the annual Cheerwine Festival, celebrating the iconic cherry-flavored soft drink with live music, food, and entertainment.

May 26 – Memorial Day Lunch at Pipestem State Park: A scenic

outing featuring a commemorative lunch in honor of Memorial Day.

For more details and registration, visit the Botetourt County Parks and Recreation's Day Trips page at www.botetourtva.gov/917/Day-

Trips.

VBR Restaurant Week: May 31

Food enthusiasts can anticipate

the inaugural VBR Restaurant

See **Activities**, page 5

Evans provides update on courthouse project

Matt de Simone

mattdesimone@mainstreetnewspapers.com

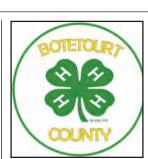
County Capital Projects Manager Rich Evans met with the Board of Supervisors at its March meeting to give the most recent update about the Botetourt County Courthouse construction project

Skanska, one of the world's largest project

See Courthouse, page 8



A sign signifying the construction of the new **Botetourt County Circuit Courthouse was recently** installed on the corner of Main Street and Route 220 in Fincastle.



Matt de Simone Managing Editor

Botetourt County Presentation Night is an annual where members present on topics of their choice, honing their public speaking skills and sharing their interests an audience, while also receiving constructive feedback from volunteer judges. This year's event takes place this Friday, April 11 at Central Academy

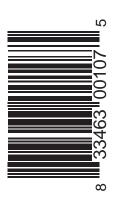
4-H's yearly Presentation Night this **Friday**

Middle School beginning at 6:30 p.m. Botetourt Extension Agent Tyler Painter recently shared that 110 Botetourt County fourth and fifth graders were invited to participate in this year's Presentation Night that include 30 "dramatic readers" and 80 "howto" presenters. Painter currently meets with all Botetourt County Public Schools fourth and fifth graders in

See **4-H**, page 3







Botetourt County History



This c. 1816 Pennsylvania long rifle was changed from flintlock to percussion. The original handmade stock is curly maple with a thin front. The octagon barrel has 7 grooves at its end. The original low front sight shows that the rifleman was a good shot. There is a brass set trigger card and brass butt plate, but no side plate. It was made in Lancaster, Pa. Davy Crockett is said to have used the same type of rifle.

Robert Hundley donated this rifle to the Botetourt Museum of History and Culture in 2019 in memory of the rifle's owner, Raymond F. Hundley, Jr., who was a resident of Sinking Creek in northern Botetourt. Mrs. Raymond Hundley shared that the rifle was given to her by her Hancock cousin while they lived in Richmond. It is displayed in the Back Gallery over the fireplace downstairs. BCHS always appreciates more information by calling 540-473-0148.

- Botetourt County Museum of History &

Jarrell piano students present recital



PHOTO COURTESY DEBBIE JARRELL

Debbie Jarrell of Roanoke presented her piano students in their recital on Thursday, March 13 at Woodland Church. Thirty-one students participated. A wide variety of music was shared with the audience, including sacred, patriotic, classical and pop tunes. Many family and friends attended the recital. The students are (from left): first row, Julia Steryous, Emmie Cotton, Indigo Carter, Wes Burke, Norah Moran, Jordan Cotton; second row, Nikolai Pavelka, Zane Burke, Ansley McMeans, Raelyn Farnsworth,

Afton Patrick, Piper Harden, Ava Mullins, Averi Alderman, Clayton Messer; third row, Amelia Floyd, Dublin Quillen, Terri Frantz, Avery Harden, Carly Messer, Layn Burke, Caroline Pavelka; back, Hunt Burke, Olivia Pavelka, Sophie Pavelka, Cameron Matutina, Miles Patrick, Adrienne Farnsworth, Morgan Gartland, Samuel Viesca. Not pictured, Andjenica

- Submitted by Debbie Jarrell

Fish Fry April 11 in Fincastle

The Knights of Columbus will have a fish fry on Friday, April 11, 5-7 p.m. at Church of the Transfiguration, 7624 Roanoke Road, Fincastle; little or no wait, eat in or take out; \$12, ages 7 and under are free.

The meal will consist of ample portions 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

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

- Knights of Columbus

Coming Soon!

Give a shout out to your favorite businesses around The Roanoke Valley



Get Ready To Vote

Cast your votes from April 14th to May 14th

More than 100 categories—from

- Steakhouse Wineries Pizzerias
- Event Centers Law firms Jewelry Stores Ice Cream Shops • and much more,
- You can cast your votes in each Category

Fill out the entire ballot if you're feeling ambitious, or pick and choose among our categories. Select from our drop down list, or if your favorite coffee shop or spa isn't listed, write in your own winner. And, take your time. Our voting platform saves your votes, so you don't have to feel rushed. That means you can return to the ballot to continue choosing your favorites without worrying about any of your votes being lost.

Our ballot is super simple! Don't know much about the accounting firm in your region? Feel free to skip it and move on.

Winner's will be published in

New Castle Record & Fincastle Herald on July 2nd & Salem Times Register & Vinton Messenger July 3rd.

Hayth to retire as CEO of Bank of Botetourt; Austin named successor



Lyn Hayth

Bank of Botetourt has announced that G. Lyn Hayth, III will retire as Chief Executive Officer on June 30, 2025, after dedicating nearly four decades to the bank. Hayth will remain Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors and transition into a part-time role as Chief Strategic Officer, where he will focus on strategic initiatives and leadership transition. The Board of Directors has appointed Michelle R. Austin, current President and Chief Operating Officer, as President and Chief Executive Officer, effective July

The news release from the bank says that, since joining the bank in 1986, Hayth has played a pivotal role in its evolution. Serving as president from 2002 to 2023, and CEO since 2010, he has overseen significant growth, with total assets expanding from \$310 million to \$864 million. Under his leadership, the bank has strategically expanded its footprint, establishing new offices in Salem, Cave Spring, Vinton, and Rocky Mount, and relocating the Daleville Office to the Daleville Town Center. He spearheaded the establishment of the bank's mortgage and wealth management divisions, Virginia Mountain Mortgage and Botetourt Wealth Management, respectively. His steady leadership guided Bank of Botetourt through the Great Recession, the COVID-19 pandemic, including the administration of the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). Through the PPP, the bank helped small businesses retain more than 4,000 jobs throughout the bank's footprint. In 2024, the bank was recognized by Forbes as Virginia's #1 Best-In-State Bank, a direct result of Hayth's leadership and strategic

Beyond his contributions to the bank, Hayth has been deeply engaged in the community and the banking industry. He has served as a member of the Board of Directors for the Virginia Bankers Association since 2021, and Bearing Insurance, LLC since 2011. His commitment to economic and educational advancement includes roles on the Virginia Innovation Accelerator Board and as chairman of the Roanoke Higher Education Authority Board of Trustees. He also serves on the Botetourt County Economic Development Authority Board and is an active member of the Kiwanis Club of Botetourt County. Previously, he served on the Community Bankers Bank Board of Directors and chaired the Virginia Association of Community Banks Board in 2018.

"As I reflect on my time at Bank of Botetourt, I am proud of all we have accomplished together," said Hayth. "The bank's strength lies in its people—our dedicated employees, senior management, and Board of Directors—who have upheld our values and commitment to our customers and communities. I have full confidence in Michelle's ability to lead the bank into its next chapter. Her strategic vision, deep expertise, and commitment to



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BANK OF BOTETOUR

Michelle R. Austin

excellence make her the ideal choice to

Austin, who has served as president since 2023, expressed her appreciation, saying, "It has been an honor to work alongside Lyn and learn from his leadership. His energy is unmatched, and his strategic foresight has strengthened the bank for the future."

Austin's career with Bank of Botetourt began as a college intern in 1991, leading to a full-time role in 1993. She holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from Roanoke College and an MBA from Troy University. A graduate of the Virginia Bankers Association School of Bank Management at the University of Virginia, where she now serves on the faculty, Austin also completed the Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University. She spent 11 years as an adjunct professor at Roanoke College's Department of Business

Administration and Economics. As President and COO since 2023, Austin has overseen key operational functions, having previously served as Chief Financial Officer for 18 years, including a decade as an SEC registrant on behalf of the bank. Earlier in her career, she worked in the bank's areas of Marketing, the Community Reinvestment Act, and Branch

Management. Board Chair Joyce Kessinger recognized Hayth's lasting impact and Austin's strengths, stating, "Lyn's leadership has positioned Bank of Botetourt as a trusted financial institution that continues to thrive. His vision and dedication have shaped the bank's growth and success, and we are grateful for his continued guidance. The board has been intentional in its succession planning, and Michelle Austin's depth of experience and keen understanding of the bank's operations will ensure its ongoing strength for years

Like Hayth, Austin is actively engaged in the industry and community. She has served on the Virginia Bankers Association Benefits Board since 2019 and represents Virginia on the American Bankers Association's Community Bankers Council. Additionally, she is a member of Roanoke College's President's Advisory Board, the Roanoke Regional Partnership Board of Directors, and the Mountain Gateway Community College Real Estate Foundation.

With more than three decades devoted to Bank of Botetourt, Austin stated, "As I step into the role of CEO, I am committed to building upon the strong foundation that has been established over the past 125 years. My focus will remain on fostering growth, innovation, and maintaining the bank's unwavering dedication to its customers, employees, and community. Together, we will continue to uphold the values that have made Bank of Botetourt a trusted institution and ensure its success for generations to come."

- Bank of Botetourt



Tina Underwood (left) and Nellie Ward talk about the **Toys-4-Bot-E-Tots Drive**



Beth Leffel talks about the upcoming Science

Eagle Rock Ruritan Club news

The March meeting of the Eagle Rock Ruritan Club began with the traditional singing of "My Country, 'Tis of Thee." Chaplain Robert McRae led in prayer before the members and guests enjoyed a meal catered by Twink's 220 Diner from Iron Gate. Three visitors were welcomed: Nellie Ward and her daughter Tina Underwood, and Shruthi Prabhakar.



See **Ruritans**, page 7

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

With senior graduation day just around the corner, here is a current list of 2025 scholarship opportunities still available for Botetourt County high school seniors. Deadlines are approaching. Apply now.

Botetourt Sheriff's Office offering scholarships to seniors

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office has launched of the Sheriff Student Scholarship, a new program dedicated to supporting local students in their pursuit of higher education. Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded, one for a graduating senior at James River High School and one for a graduating senior at Lord Botetourt High School.

scholarship possible thanks to the generous support from community business partners. It is designed to support students who excel academically, demonstrate leadership, and have displayed a consistent commitment to serving the community through ongoing volunteer work and active participation in local initiatives.

Who Can Apply?

Residents Botetourt County (proof required)

Students attending Virginia colleges, universities, or career/ technical education programs

Minimum GPA of 3.0 on a

Demonstrated leadership and community service

What's Required?

1. Completed online application 2. An essay about your educational goals, leadership experience, and community involvement

3. High school transcripts

4. A letter of recommendation from a non-family members Applications are currently being

accepted with a deadline to apply by April 15. For more details, contact Andrea

Mundy, Community Outreach Coordinator, at amundy@ botetourtva.gov or visit the school website for the scholarship link. Certificates of Awards will be presented at each high school's Senior Awards Ceremony.

Botetourt Town and Country Women's Club offering \$1000

scholarship

The Botetourt Town and Country Women's Club will present a \$1,000 scholarship to a deserving senior female applicant from James River High School or Lord Botetourt High School. The application and details are on the schools' websites. The deadline is April 15.

www.fincastleherald.com

Chamber of Commerce awarding four scholarships

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

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

Lord Botetourt, and Botetourt Technical Education Center (BTEC). These scholarships recognize students who are dedicated to furthering their

Commerce recently announced that it

is awarding four \$1,000 scholarships to

graduating seniors from James River,

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-

The deadline to apply is April 18.

Buchanan Lions Club scholarship

graduating-seniors-134858.

Buchanan Lions Club will be offering two \$750.00 scholarships this year, one to a graduating senior at James River High School and one to a graduating Senior at Botetourt Technical School. These Scholarship applications will be available through each school's counseling office. Funds have been raised through our fund-raising efforts including selling brooms at local events and festivals, our annual Tea Party, and running Bingo at the Botetourt Carnival. The applications will be available on Wednesday, April 9 with a deadline to be returned by May 1. The criteria for this scholarship is grounded in a commitment to learning and community service.

Botetourt Rotary supports Healing Strides, Boys State

Botetourt County Rotary Club recently donated \$1,200 to Healing Strides of Virginia. Healing Strides is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization established in 1991. It is located on 28 acres just north of Boones Mill with two large pastures, five paddocks, an enclosed arena, a Mental Health, Learning, and Coaching dedicated building, and a large outdoor arena. Healing Strides' mission is to promote wellness for people with personal challenges who benefit from equineassisted activities and therapies in a safe and supportive environment. To learn more about



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT ROTARY CLUB

Healing Strides, visit www.healingstridesofva. org. Pictured are Carol Young, CEO of Healing Strides. Rotary Area 6 Governor Anita Aaron, and Ashley Arney, Director of Development for Healing Strides.

Rotary Club donates to **Boys State**

The Botetourt Rotary Club presents Charlie Alphin, Commander of American Legion Post 93, with a donation check of \$500 to assist with the Boys State program. In



members (left to right) Brent Hershey, Bill Price, Deirdre Nichols, Don Nichols, and Anita Aaron present their donation to Alphin.

- Botetourt Rotary Club



Ebrahimi wins art award

Lily Ebrahimi of Troutville has won a Scholastic National Award for her acrylic painting "The last of the Cherry Tomatoes." She is a junior (11th grader) at Community High School of Arts and Science,

Lily has been an avid artist specifically in painting and sketching since a young child. She hopes to continue to explore and build upon her artistic talents in the coming years.

~ Phoebe Bosworth-Ebrahimi

from page 1

each elementary school throughout the school

them for presentations, covering topics like presence, format, and enthusiasm. 4-H Presentation Night helps young people develop communication their skills, build confidence, gain valuable experience in public speaking. Fourth and fifth grade teachers work with students as well during the preparation Teachers process. approve the students' book title or topic before beginning to prepare for the contest.

"The support from administration of Botetourt County Schools to allow me to go in and do this type of stuff is awesome," Painter noted in a recent interview. "(Presentation Night) corresponds with SOL requirements too because (students eventually) have to do verbal presentations and

Dramatic Reading involves youth practicing public speaking skills by reading a passage aloud with expression, focusing on aspects like pitch, volume, and tone, to enhance their communication abilities.

things like that."

A 4-H "how to" presentation, also known as a demonstration or illustrated talk, is a structured presentation where a 4-H member demonstrates a skill or process, or explains a topic, using visuals and clear communication to teach an audience. Additionally, members from the Horse and Pony Club will be presenting informative presentations

that they prepared for

their club.

have dramatic reading which Leaders work with is just fourth graders," now-to presentations are just fifth graders, and then we have, you could call them, community projects featuring two members of our Horse and Pony Club. New this year, anybody that does well at the county presentation contest (Friday night)—like if they win their category or they're the grand champion—will invited to an area contest on Saturday, May 3, in Floyd County where they will get to present against 4-H members from other counties."

Students demonstrating "how-to' presentations encouraged to choose topics that they are

passionate assess presentations based on factors like content, organization, delivery, and use of visuals.

"I love this contest," Painter continued. "I think it's a great way to not only showcase students' abilities but also showcasing what they know. We get some very off-the-wall topics/ readings."

Preparation Presentation Night begins in January with all fourth and fifth graders having the chance to either giving a reading or present a how-to demonstration. As a part of his lesson, Painter gives the students example topics like "how to tie a necktie"

about, and giving a dramatic whether related to reading of a book their 4-H projects or excerpt. He then shows other areas of interest. the students differences 4-H members to prepare Painter explained. "The Volunteer judges then in presenting a topic poorly and presenting a topic properly. Students then ask questions following the lesson to better help them put together their respective presentations. Painter encourages the students to use the "old-school" method of using visual aids like posterboards when giving their howto demonstrations.

Painter shared how proud he is of the fourth and fifth graders who have worked hard on their presentations for this year's contest.



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PARTIAL LISTING: Henry 22LR lever action; Ruger American .17HMR; Browning BLR .22; Benelli RM4 SRA, 12ga.; 2 Remington 700's 30.06, 2018 Ford F150XL pickup, 4X4, 130,000miles; 1985 Lund 14' aluminum boat w/30hp Suzuki outboard motor & 2018 EZ loader trailer; Mad River canoe; 12' aluminum trailer, Kubota B2710 4wd, 27hp w/6' mowing deck; Woods 6' scraper blade; spreader; 4 ft. 3pt. hitch tiller, Huskee log spitter; Husqvarna YT 42LS riding mower 42" cut, climbing stands, knives, game calls, Mathews DXT compound bow, rods & reels, numerous hand/power tools (Stihl, Sewalt, Makita+); 1920's 10 cent "Poinsettia" slot machine, antique chests, leather couch & recliner, sideboard, secretary, patio sets, Pyrex bowls, stoneware, sm. appliances, unique collectibles and pictures, Duck's Unlimited duck decoys+ Directions: : 164, exit 24 towards Clifton Forge, go to 1st light, left onto Commercial Ave., follow signs to Clifton Forge Armory. Terms: Cash, check or charge (proc. fees apply) day of sale and picture ID required.

Announcements day of sale take precedence over printed material. Food will be provided. Bleachers available or bring a chair. **NO BUYER'S PREMIUM!!**

Sale conducted for the Estate of Arne Peterson by NICELY'S AUCTION CO.

Brandon Nicely - Auctioneer #2620Va. Gail Nicely - Marketing 425 Soldiers Retreat Rd., Eagle Rock, Va. 24085 540/968-0962 540/968-2568



vendors, artists and direct **Support Local Businesses!**

Canned and non-perishable

food will be collected for the Salem-Roanoke Food Pantry. Bring a donation and shop local.

Please be aware: The location will enforce

the clear bag policy.

Clear bag up to 12x12x6 is permitted.



Special children's book sale at Blue Ridge Library

Friends of the Blue Ridge Library recently received very generous donations of children's books. Due to the amount of books, the Friends decided to have a special sale. The first

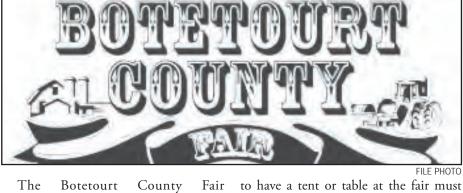
group of books went out on Tuesday, April 8 will be restocked each Tuesday morning. Books will be on the bottom shelf of the display case, just inside the library's front door, April 8-28, during library

hours; 5 for \$1 for this sale only. Blue Ridge Library is

located at 28 Avery Row, Roanoke, VA 24012.

- Friends of Blue Ridge

New rules to participate in Botetourt County Fair



Association has updated its participation process for the 2025 Botetourt County This year, every vendor (commercial

and local), community group (civic organization, church group), and educational club (4-H, FFA), wishing League for Animal Protection's

complete a vendor form, available on the fair's website. This process ensures that all participants are aware of the fair's rules and requirements, and it helps the association meet necessary legal and insurance obligations to safely and successfully host the event. The updated forms and detailed fair information

can be found at www. botetourtcountyfair.com.

- Botetourt County Fair

The Sheriff's Post

SHERIFF MATTHEW T. WARD

Botetourt County Sheriff's Office joins National Distracted Driving Awareness Campaign

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office is taking a stand against distracted driving this April by partnering with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in its annual Distracted Driving Awareness Campaign. The initiative aims to educate the public about the dangers of distracted driving and to enforce laws that help keep roadways safe for all. Distracted driving continues to be a

leading cause of traffic crashes across the country. Whether it's texting, talking on the phone, adjusting a GPS, or eating while behind the wheel, distractions can have deadly consequences. According to the NHTSA, over 3,000 lives were lost due to distracted driving in 2022 alone. In Botetourt County, the Sheriff's

Office is increasing patrols throughout the month to identify and stop distracted drivers before tragedies occur. "The message is simple, when you're

driving, your focus should be on the

road, not your phone," said Sheriff Matthew Ward. "We've seen firsthand how quickly lives can change due to one moment of distraction." Deputies will be on the lookout for

drivers who are texting, using handheld devices, or otherwise not giving their full attention to the task of driving. Sheriff Ward emphasized that the goal is not just enforcement, but also education.

We want to remind our community that no message, no social media post, no phone call is worth a life," Ward added. "We're urging everyone to put the phone down, stay alert, and just drive."

The Sheriff's Office encourages residents to talk to friends and family about the risks of distracted driving and to set a good example for young drivers in particular.

Put your phone on "Do Not Disturb" while driving

Set your GPS and playlist before you start the car

Pull over safely if you need to make a call or send a message Speak up if you're a passenger

and the driver is distracted The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office remains committed to protecting

safer for everyone. This April, and every day, remember: Eyes on the road. Hands on the wheel. Just drive.

the community and making our roads

- Botetourt County Sheriff's Office

RRESTS The Botetourt County Sheriff's

Miss., eluding, April 5

Office reported the following arrests March 31-April 6: Raymond W. Rivenbark Jr., 60, of Blue Ridge, domestic assault,

abduction, resisting arrest, drunk in public, March 31 • Cody A. Ruff, 29, of Roanoke, possession of Schedule drugs,

possession of paraphernalia, April 3 • Emily B. Allison, 33, of Blue Ridge, causing a telephone, digital pager, or other device to ring or signal with intent to annoy; emergency communications, April 6

Dallas W. Breedlove, 25, of Salem, driving under the influence, Quintina S. Asho, 38, of DeKalb,

• Justin B. Reynolds, 34, of

Roanoke, driving under the influence, refusal to submit to analysis, obstruction of justice, April

March 31-April 6, 2025

· Brandon D. Blackwell, 23, of Fincastle, drunk in public, April 4 Ronnie J. Honaker, 33, of

Roanoke, drunk in public, April 4 Jerry L. Orange, 71, of

Huddleston, possession of a firearm by a felon, possession of Schedule drugs, possession of a firearm with Schedule drugs, possession of a concealed weapon, April 4

• Kevin D. Lopez-Marquez, age unavailable, of Roanoke, driving under the influence, April 6

Waif of the Week Felicity Felicity,



Yellow Lab spayed, up to date on vaccines, and heartworm nega-She is very gentle and affectionate and loves going for walks.

(blue bag) cat food, Top Job, Mr. Clean, bleach, paper towels, laundry detergent, quality canned cat and dog food, dog pooper scoopers, and cat litter. The LAP Shelter is open from 8-11 and 3-5; 540-473-3853. Send donations to LAP, P.O. Box 561, Fincastle, 24090.

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edwardjones.com/josh-werle

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

Office located at 7 South Roanoke Street, Fincastle MATT de SIMONE.....Editor

MICHAEL SHOWELL

Group Publisher AILA BOYD Executive Editor

CHRISTINE JOURNELL Circulation & Marketing Manager

ALI WALLAdvertising

BRIAN HOFFMAN Sports Editor

BETTY JO BARGERCopy Editor The Fincastle Herald (USPS 160-680) is published weekly for \$46 a year in Botetour

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. On The Web At www.fincastleherald.com

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33. Midway between north and

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The Last Supper (2025)

events prior to the betrayal, as disciples gather, unveiling secrets and underlying motives. (1 hour, 54 minutes)

Friday, April 11

7 p.m. Saturday, April 12

7 p.m. Sunday, April 13

Thursday, April 17 7 p.m.

3 p.m.

See **Answers**, page 8



Eagle Rock Library 15th Anniversary

Sat, Apr 12, 10am-2pm, Eagle Rock

You're invited to Eagle Rock Library's 15th birthday party! Celebrate how the library has grown and look forward to the next chapter in its story. Enjoy live bluegrass music by Blue Connection (11am-1pm), an open chess game with Mr. Bill (10am-12pm), bingo (10:30am-11am and 1pm-1:30pm), and more! Food trucks on site are provided by Aaron's Smokehouse (the first 50 people, including kids, eat free!) and A & A Kettle Corn Company. Don't miss out on the fun, food, and festivities! We can't wait to celebrate with you!

Tree Care 101

Sat, Apr 12, 11am, Blue Ridge

Learn preventative maintenance steps to care for your trees and prevent expenses due to damage. Presented by William Smith, the "Dancing Lumberjack" and certified arborist.

Mon, Apr 14, 9am, Fincastle Mon, Apr 14, 10:30am, Eagle Rock

This program provides an opportunity for seniors to mingle through coffee, conversation,

and challenging/fun game!

Intro to Mahjong

Community Café

Mon, Apr 14, 10:30am, Blue Ridge Learn this popular tile-based game. Presented by Katherine Arney of Star City Mahjong.

To assist returning players and teach new players, Katherine Arney will be joining us on the second Monday of every month. Stop by to join the fun and learn about the game that is taking over social media. Registration required; call (540) 928-2900 to register.

Solar Energy & Your Home Sat, Apr 19, 10:30am, Blue Ridge

Learn what you need to consider before getting solar, what financial incentives there are,

and how to avoid scams. Presentation and Q&A led by Channing Preston of Advanced Roofing

Garden Crafts: A Lorax Inspiration Wed, Apr 16, 3:30pm, Fincastle

Tue, Apr 22, 4pm, Blue Ridge Tue, Apr 22, 4pm, Buchanan

Fri, Apr 25, 2:30pm, Eagle Rock Enjoy a read-aloud of Dr. Seuss' "The Lorax" and dive into garden-inspired crafts!

Botetourt & the Civil War

Thu, Apr 24, 11am, Wilson Warehouse Learn how the Civil War affected Botetourt County 160 years ago! Presented by local historian Ed McCoy. Light refreshments will be

Book Sale by Friends of the Fincastle Library

Thu—Sat, Ápr 24—26, Fincastle Library Spring is back, and that means it's once again time for the Friends of the Fincastle Library's used book sale! Browse and find that long-sought treasure or stumble upon an unexpected gem you didn't know you needed. The book sale will be open during the library's regular hours—don't

Earth Day Fair and Plant Swap

Sat, Apr 26, 10am-2pm, Fincastle Library Join the Fincastle Friends of the Library and the Fincastle Sustainability Committee for an exciting Earth Day Fair and Plant Swap. Explore fascinating topics like soil and water conservation, composting, bees and pollination, forestry, astronomy, and more! Learn about solar energy for your home, citizen-led climate action, and community gardening. There's even Earth Day art to inspire creativity! Don't miss this opportunity to connect with your community and celebrate our planet.

Story Trail Kickoff at Big Spring Park Sat, Apr 26, 3pm, Big Spring Park in the

Town of Fincastle (201 E. Back St.) Celebrate the new story trail at Fincastle's

Big Spring Park! Enjoy a story, listen to live music, and make a seed bomb to take home. In partnership with the Town of Fincastle and Friends of the Fincastle Library.

Local History & Genealogy

Explore the rich history of Botetourt County with Botetourt Memory, our digital archive of historic photos and records, or visit the Genealogy Room at Fincastle Library and the Local History Room at Eagle Rock Library for family histories, research tools, and more. Uncover the stories of the past-right at your fingertips! Research requests and more information can also be found on our website, BOCOLibraries.info.

Find even more events at BOCOLibraries.

McFadyen from page 1

to support the community in any way I can while serving the supervisors and

citizens next door in Alleghany County." McFadyen has more than 25 years of experience in local government and administration economic development. Prior to his time in Botetourt, he served as executive director of the Blue Ridge Crossroads Economic Development Authority, which supports Grayson County, the City of Galax, and Carroll County. He has also worked in county and town management roles in North Carolina.

Botetourt County Administrator Gary Larrowe recently shared, "Ken has served well in Botetourt as the director of Economic Development. We are sad to see Ken leave; however, we are excited for him to be able to influence the development of another regional community. Ken has a passion for rural areas and Alleghany will be fortunate to have him at the helm. Growth and development are key elements of a rural community to prosper and Ken has the

education, experience and tools to lead

In 2018, he served as president of

the Virginia Economic Developers Association and has collaborated with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, the Virginia General Assembly, and multiple gubernatorial administrations on economic initiatives. earned McFadyen both

undergraduate degree in history and his master's in public administration from Appalachian State University. He is an Eagle Scout and a former Rotary Club president. His wife, Melanie McFadyen, is the current Fincastle Town Manager. The couple resides in Botetourt with their two children, Sara, 18, and Conor, 16. In his free time, McFadyen enjoys hiking, camping, and photography.

As Botetourt County prepares for this transition, county officials will begin the process of selecting a new Economic Development director to continue the momentum of business growth and investment in the region.

Activities

Week, taking place from May 31 to June 8. This event will showcase the region's vibrant culinary scene, with participating restaurants from Botetourt County and neighboring areas offering special menus and promotions. It's an excellent opportunity to explore local flavors and support the community's dining establishments.

"VBR Restaurant Week is an excellent opportunity for people to explore new places to eat and for restaurants to market to new customers and try new menu options," said Botetourt County Board of Supervisors Chair Amy White. "We're thankful to our local business organization, Shop Botetourt, for helping us in this endeavor. BOCO is honored to partner with our fellow localities in this regional effort and I invite people to join me and eat local!"

VBR Restaurant Week will highlight the diverse range of culinary offerings in the region, while also supporting local businesses and the community.

More information is available in the official announcement at www. visitroanokeva.com/articles/post/vbrrestaurant-week-debuts-may-2025celebrating-regional-cuisine.

Ongoing Community Activities

In addition to these special events, Botetourt County offers a range of ongoing activities suitable for all ages. From fitness classes and yoga sessions to library programs and community meetings, there's always something happening. For a comprehensive list of events, visit the county's official calendar on the Botetourt County website at www.botetourtva.gov/Calendar.aspx.

Spring in Botetourt County promises a season filled with cultural, recreational, and culinary experiences. Whether you're interested in exploring new destinations, savoring local cuisine, or participating in community activities, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

- Fincastle Herald staff report





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Botestourt rship Director

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 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 BibleStudy&Prayer,Messages 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, 254-254-2570 2760 (church), Sunday School, 10 AM, AM; worship, 11 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

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 AM; Wednesday: Prayer & Bible Study - 6:30

10:30 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 (preschoolgrade 5) Wednesdays at 5:30

BRETHREN Cloverdale Church of the

CHURCH OF THE

Brethren- 4708 Read Mtn. Sunday 992-1060; Rd., 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.,

GOODBYE TO GUILT

Read Psalms 101:1-8; 103:1-22

Do you feel guilty long after a situation has been resolved? Do you continue to mentally kick yourself for rash words uttered in anger? Do errors you could have avoided keep you awake at night?

Such lingering self-reproach is

unhealthy. When you realize you've made a mistake, take the necessary steps to correct it; then let it go. Focusing on past problems will not lead to a productive future. If you have repented of sin and

confessed it to the Lord, do not

doubt God has forgiven you.

His Word makes that emphati-

cally clear. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us (Psalm 103:12).

God totally wipes clean our forgiven past. He not only removes the guilt of our sin, but the punishment we deserve. Because Jesus died for our sins, we can live eternally. He set us free from sin and guilt.

Guilt exposes the wrong committed. A forgiven sinner has no reason for guilt to remain (1 John 1:9). If you struggle with guilt, ask God to help you fi nd release.

guide you to God. He has the Quicklook: Psalm 103:1–12

Thought for Today: Let guilt

254-2298. Sunday School. 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m. Pastor Michael Tabor, (540) 309-Pleasant Dale Church of the

10 miles N of Buchanan,

Brethren, 3732 Breckinridge Mill Rd, Fincastle, Rev. Dr. David A. Tozar - pastor, Sunday worship at 11am, preceded by coffee fellowship Bible 10:30, 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 the month. Handicap Accessible. Our email address 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. email us 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.

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

EPISCOPAL

Lutheran Church (WELS) - 9068 Cloverdale Road, Troutville, VA: Workentine, Pastor; Worship Sunday at 10:00 AM. Sunday School at 11:30 AM. Info and calendar at oslroanoke. 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. School, 10AM; Sunday Worship, 11AM, Wed. Meeting 6:30PM. Prayer Website: woodlandchurchbc. E-mail address: com. woodlandchurchbc@gmail. **PRESBYTERIAN** Buchanan **Presbyterian**

Church – 19559 Main St. 540-254-1390. Buchanan. 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@

Church - 108 E. Back Street, Fincastle, VA 24090. Rev. Dr. David Dickerson, Supply Minister, Lori Turner, Worship Music Director. 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

fincastlepresbyterianchurch@

email

Evangelical

information please

gmail.com 540.473.2042.

Galatia

buchananpresbyterian.org

Presbyterian

Fincastle

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

Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. **ROMAN CATHOLIC** Church 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 Springwood Road, Springwood. Rev. Morris A. Bennett. Sunday School, 9:15 a.m. followed by Worship, 10

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 https://www.youtube. com/@FincastleUMCMedia or on Facebook at https:// www.facebook.com/profile. php?id=100068517955699. Reverend Jim Bollinger, 473-3001. E-mail: office, 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

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

Sundays of each month from

4 to 6pm!

BITUARIES

Simmons, William Painter

William (Willie) Painter Simmons older sister," Monty Leitch; and his of Fincastle died on April 1, 2025, at beloved dog Jasper, who Willie said

the age of 69. Willie always said his three passions in life were his son, motorcycles, and woodturning. He followed those passions through the end of his life - he made sure to FaceTime with his son (and his granddogs) weekly, take motorcycle rides whenever the weather cooperated (and

sometimes when it didn't), and was spending much of his time postretirement working in his shop on Botetourt Road in Fincastle.

Willie also loved traveling the U.S. and exploring beyond what most travelers do. He was proud of having visited all 50 states, including completing multiple cross-country trips, including on a bicycle, on a motorcycle, and in a car.

Willie was preceded in death by his wife, Brenda Simmons; his parents, Pat and Bill Simmons; his "much

was the best dog to ever

He is survived by his son and daughterin-law, Hunter and Meredith Simmons of Indianapolis, Ind,. along with his granddogs, Fin and Sawyer, who would like to add that their grandpa was very good at throwing tennis balls and taking them out to

harvest sticks.

Willie is also survived by many and extended family, friends including his sister, Patsy Dickerson and husband David; brother-in-law, Marshall Leitch; niece, Leeann Crews (Scott); nephews, Patrick Dickerson (Ariel), William Dickerson (Kyleen), and Allen Dickerson.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you consider donations to Keep Fincastle Lit, your local animal shelter, or better yet, adopt a dog in his memory.

Crain, Clifford Charles, Jr.

Clifford Charles Crain Jr. passed away at home surrounded by his electrician, plumber and contractor. Cliff

family on Saturday, April 5, 2025.

Cliff was the third of five children born to Clifford and Alice Crain. He was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters, Joyce and June; brother, Bill; and eldest son, Clifford Crain III. Cliff is survived by his

loving family: wife of 42 years, Christine; sons, Joe,

Christopher (Anne), Avery (Harley), and Billy (Amy); daughter, Ashley (Rob); granddaughters, Sarah, Anna and Sage; only grandson and namesake, Haden; and his favorite little man, Lachlan.

For over 50 years Cliff was a licensed was devoted to his family.

He was never happier than when his family was together. Cliff was a man of strong faith. He looked at life as the beginning, not the end.

Per Cliff's request, there will be no services. Anyone wishing to

honor his memory may donate to the American Lung Association, 55 W. Wacker Drive, Suite 1150, Chicago, IL

The family is so thankful for the

amazing care extended by Dr. Vishal Patel and Dr. Cirino-Marcono.

Mahfouz, Helen Yvonne

Helen Yvonne Mahfouz was born on February 13, 1956 in Alexandria,

La., to Pauline and Kelly Mahfouz Sr. She grew up in both Lafayette and Alexandria, graduated Bolton High School, attended college and eventually landed in Houston, Texas in 1978. That year she started a long career with the Toshiba Corporation as a project coordinator. Her son, Andy, was born

1981 and she spent the next several years going to work all day long, taking care of her son and attending night school to finish her degree,

which she did in 1994.

In 2001 she had a new opportunity with her career in Roanoke and took it. That year she met Jeff Frazier and his two daughters Becca and Bethany. They hit it off so well, by the next year, they were married. Together, Yvonne and Jeff enjoyed traveling all over the country riding the motorcycle, spending time with family and friends, and rooting on each other's favorite sports team. After 34 years with Toshiba, she finally retired, and they built their dream home out in the country. There they met even more great friends and spent time with their beautiful grandchildren and with each other. In her spare time Yvonne was an active member of the Church

of the Transfiguration, the Circle of Mary Church Club, and a member of the Botetourt Town

& Country Women's helping the local community with charity work. She was well known as vibrant, kind person who would brighten up a room and could make friends anyone. friends describe her as a generous and loving person who touched so

many lives and brought some closer with God. She was preceded in death by her

parents, Pauline and Kelly Mahfouz Sr., and her brother, Kelly Michael Mahfouz Jr. She is survived by her husband, Jeffry Frazier; her son, Andrew Wertz (Jenny); step-daughters, Rebecca Green (Nathan) and Bethany Mitchell (Christopher); seven grandchildren, Azariah, Fairlight, Gabriel, Adrian, Gavin, John, and Brady; brother, David Mahfouz (Paige); sisters, Annette Cheveallier (David) and Lisa Mahfouz; nieces, Jean-Clair and Alyse; nephews, Christian, Michael and Ian. Viewing will be at Rader funeral

Home Thursday, April 10 from 10:30 to 12 noon with a Catholic Mass at 1p.m. at the Church of Transfiguration. A reception and celebration of life will be in the church hall immediately after.

Cloverbuds compete in 'Horseless' Show



look like in that part of the show.

Botetourt County's youngest 4-H members brought their prized horse statuettes to Troutville Church of the Brethren's basement on February 25 to simulate part of the big horse shows in their futures. Each member of the Cloverbuds, aged

5 to 8, set up an equine scene. It might be a horse in a stable or an arena. Each participant then added "tack" to their equines—saddles, bridles, etc.—for the job their animal would do in a particular competitive class. Adding to the realism, Judge Lynda McGarry required each young exhibitor to answer questions about the performance. They might be asked to explain why they chose to decorate their

model horse in a particular way, and how

Every participant received a ribbon and

"This exercise for eight young equestrians

and their parents is one way 4-H combines education with fun, and a sample of a wholesome lifetime activity," said Rebekah Woodie, Botetourt Cloverbuds leader.

Cloverbuds welcomes any child in the 5-to-8 age group with an interest in horses. Parents of anyone wishing to join should contact Tyler H. Painter, Botetourt 4-H Extension Agent, tpaint85@vt.edu or

(540) 928-3210.

HURCH NEWS

Buchanan Food Pantry open Saturday

The Buchanan Presbyterian Church's Food Pantry will be open this Saturday, April 12, from 9-11 a.m. St. Mark's United Methodist Church members will distribute food at 19559 Main Street in front of the church.

The Food Pantry is open the second and fourth Saturdays of the month. Volunteers are encouraged to help distribute food on these dates. Anyone wishing to donate nonperishable food items may call 540-254-1390 for information.

Easter activities at St. Mark's

St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Daleville (19 Cedar Ridge Drive) will be hosting a Community-Wide Easter Event on Saturday, April 19 from 9-11 a.m., the Third Annual Easter Bunny Breakfast. The breakfast, pictures with the Easter Bunny, games and other activities will be from 9-10:30. At 10:30, there will be a free Easter Egg Hunt. Breakfast of pancakes, sausage and baked apples is \$12 for 12 years old to adults. Children 3-11 will be \$6 and children under 3 are free. The Easter Egg Hunt is free. Proceeds from the event support the Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing in September. To reserve a spot, go on the church website stmarksmethodist.com or email Susan Wagner susanbwagner59@gmail.com.

Cloverdale Thrift Store spring sale Spring has arrived at the Cloverdale

Church of the Brethren Thrift Store with a wide selection of new items and brand-name shirts for \$1. Donations are greatly appreciated. The store is open Saturdays, 9 to 12.

Springwood Baptist Church April events Springwood Baptist invites everyone

to these Easter activities: Sunday, April 13 - Easter Egg Hunt

Friday, April 18 - Good Friday Service at 6 p.m.

Sunday, April 20 - Easter Sunrise Service at 7 a.m., breakfast to follow; worship at 10 a.m.; .no Sunday School

The church is located at 88 Copps

Hill Road, Buchanan; Mike Anderson,

Fincastle Presbyterian special services

Fincastle Presbyterian Church has quite a line-up of special events and services in the next several weeks. All are invited to them: Sunday, April 13, Palm/Passion

Sunday, Fellowship Breakfast at 9:30 a.m., Palm Processional, Palm Sunday Services Thursday, April 17, Maundy

Thursday Services, Holy Communion and a Tenebrae Service at 7 p.m. Sunday, April 20, Resurrection of the

Lord/Easter Day, Service at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 23, Wholeness a

Healing service, followed by a light supper. 5 p.m.

Cantata at St. Mark's UMC

The Chancel Choir of St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Daleville invites the community to share in their presentation of "Sanctuary," a cantata written by Joseph Martin, to be presented on Sunday, April 13 at 10 a.m. The choir is conducted by Deborah Wiley and accompanied by Cara Hubbard.

Cedar Bluff Easter Story Event

Cedar Bluff Baptist will be having an Easter Story Event on Saturday, April 12. This is a free event, for all ages. Event begins at 2 p.m. with a walkthrough story of Holy Week, followed by crafts, an egg hunt, photo ops, games and fellowship. There is a Facebook event page created as well (facebook. com/events/658887567098899). All are welcome.

Woodland Church Easter services

Woodland Church will have a service on Good Friday, April 18 at 7 p.ma., A gathering to recognize the infinite sacrifice and indescribable love the Lord demonstrated nearly 2000 years ago. On Easter Sunday, the church will celebrate His resurrection at 10:30 a.m. and have a continental breakfast at 9:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend both

Creek Ford Farm joins American Angus Association

Creek Ford Farm, Eagle Rock, is a new member of the American Angus Association, reports McCully, Mark CEO of the national breed organization headquartered in Saint Joseph, Mo. American The

Angus Association, with more than 21,000 active adult and junior members, is the largest beef breed association in the world. Its computerized records include detailed information on over



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION

The

21 million registered Angus.

- Fincastle Herald staff

appreciation to member

Priscilla Vaughan for her

leadership in replacing the

sign at the Kanawha Canal

Eagle

Ruritan Club continues

to offer the Eagle Rock

Community Center for use

by individuals and groups

in the area. Reservations

may be secured by calling

- Eagle Rock Ruritan

Serving With

Compassion

540-884-2775.

Rock

Last Lock Historic Site.

Ruritans from page 2

Nellie and Tina gave a helpful update on the Toys-4-Bote-Tots Annual Drive. The drive has expanded to include toys, school supplies, coats, clothes, shoes, toiletries, as well as gifts cards for older kids. There are various fundraisers during the year, but the drive is concentrated beginning after Halloween and extending until school is out for the Christmas Holidays.

moments of happiness,

love, hope, and security.

Nellie and Tina expressed

their deep appreciation

for all who contribute to

make this annual effort a

Countless individuals as well as organizations and businesses assist in this effort in taking care of families in Botetourt County. The Botetourt County Department of Social Services provides the drive with a list of the needs along with the wishes expressed by the kids who will be recipients. The goal of the drive is to provide

great success.

The other guest for the meeting was Shruthi Prabhakar, representing ambassadorship program in the Roanoke Valley. This group of some 20 young people have an intense interest in science and they are available and eager to assist with science projects and other related school and club activities. Shruthi is a third-year med student in the Blue Ridge Health Program. She and others in the volunteer ambassadors program are serving as mentors for the Eagle Rock Elementary School Science Club. They are assisting the Eagle Rock Ruritan Club in planning the upcoming Third Annual Science Festival and helping students prepare science projects for the event to be held at the Eagle Rock Elementary School on May 3 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. The Science

Festival is open to all for

exhibits, food trucks, and

The club expressed

Funeral Home & Crematory **Buchanan** | Eagle Rock

254-3000 884-2276 14777 Church 14920 Lee Highway Street Karen C. Young,

Funeral Director Locally owned & operated by I. Ray & Bobbi Sloan

~ 4-H Agent Tyler Painter

development and construction companies, recently visited the construction sire to observe and record the work occurring in Fincastle. Evans shared those preparations around the retaining wall started with the removal of the existing chain link fence. Layout for the retaining wall and the footings have been completed in order for rock-drilling to begin. Dirt work has also begun around the retaining wall area.

Demolition preparations also continued. Inside the building, J&K Environmental completed its asbestos removal from the old courthouse and the building has since been cleared. Varney started disconnecting electrical breakers while J&K helped remove light bulbs and light fixtures.

Additionally, a new sign noting the ongoing courthouse construction project was installed on the corner of Main Street and Route 220 (Botetourt Road). Last week, the bell was removed from the cupola in front of the courthouse as well as the cannons. They are currently being stored and preserved.

Skanska representatives are currently awaiting training on the project site to track submittals for verification in preparing regular reports. A draft schedule of values was recently submitted which is a

line-for-line task list by the different subcontractors that places the value on the work being done. Evans noted that there will be general items that will be expanded as the subcontractor breakdowns are

The complete schedule of values was submitted at the end of March. The overall, detailed schedule of the project is expected to be released soon. Evans shared in a recent interview that "there are still some moving parts that haven't been nailed down. Until those are more firm, I would hate to put out a schedule and it

Simmons from page 1



accomplishments. Even within the family, his humor was a constant he lovingly referred to Patsy as his "older sister" and their late sister, Monty Leitch, as his "much older sister." As the youngest in their family, he held a special place in their hearts.

Daughter-in-law Meredith recently shared, "When you marry someone, you always worry about if the family you're marrying into will like you. I got lucky - because the Simmons family

welcomed me pretty much immediately. Both Hunter and I have one of our favorite memories centered around Willie meeting me for the first time – he felt comfortable enough to make a goodhumored joke at my expense, and getting me to laugh became one of his missions every time we'd visit or FaceTime. When he managed it, I'm pretty sure it made his day – when he knew I was coming to visit or he was coming to visit us, he'd make lists of jokes to see what he could get

a reaction with.'

Beyond his official duties around town, Simmons was known for his commitment to civic engagement. He actively participated in local events, supported small businesses, and was a familiar face at community gatherings. approachable demeanor and concern for the well being of Fincastle's citizens endeared him to many.

Simmons was a man of many other interests, a fixture of the Fincastle community presence will be deeply missed. Whether it was through his leadership, craftsmanship, or humor, he left an indelible mark on those around him. His sister, Patsy Dickerson, recalled when recently asked about her late brother that he "loved a

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

> The Stockyard Report was not received from the stockyard this week.



(Left) Simmons would often post photos of his travels on social media. Here, Simmons stops for a look over Mount Mitchell in North Carolina. (Right) Simmons and his son Hunter spending time at the beach.

good joke, and his mind was like a trap for a good joke that he could recall and retell at the drop of a hat." His ability to bring laughter into any room was just one of the many ways he connected with people. The former mayor was

brought up in his father's Fincastle woodshop repairing and finishing furniture. He would later go on to teach Woodshop and Agriculture classes in public schools. He would soon discover a love for woodturning—shaping wood with a lathe.

"(A lathe), which is a machine that revolves the wood, and you take a tool, and cut the wood away, as opposed to wood working, which is mostly flat," Simmons explained in a 2019 article in The Fincastle Herald. "It's addicting order to be an artist, you have to master the craft. I'm not really sure what art is. I see things, and I like them." Simmons soon opened his own

Beyond woodturning, Willie found solace on the open road. His motorcycle was his "asphalt therapy," and he treasured rides along the parkway and winding back roads. From his first motorcycle in the early 1970s to his final ride,

he remained a dedicated and careful motorcyclist. Patsy shared, "I think this past week was his first crash on one of his motorcycles, so he had a safety record of over 50 years. Of course, this accident was not his fault, and he was still being safe." His love of adventure and travel was well documented, first through slides and later with digital images that chronicled his journeys across the United States.

The Virginia State released statement last Wednesday confirming the details of the accident, noting that Simmons was the sole rider of a Honda Goldwing motorcycle. A 2008 Chrysler was traveling south on Route 60 at the intersection of Route 1104 in Alleghany and changed because if you're a flat lanes striking Simmons's wood worker, and then 2018 Honda Goldwing you start using a lathe, and a 2014 Freightliner all your flat wood just tractor-trailer which becomes shelves... In were stopped a red light. Simmons was rushed to LewisGale Hospital-Alleghany where he later died.

Current Fincastle Mayor Mary Bess Smith expressed her condolences, stating, "We are shocked and saddened to hear of Willie's accident. He and his wife were integral to so many of the traditions that make Fincastle a special place. We will miss him and will be praying for his family. He created lots of efficiencies that we still use today to make the process run smoothly."

Willie was deeply invested in his community. As the former mayor of Fincastle, he and his late wife, Brenda, spearheaded the "Keep Fincastle Lit" campaign to ensure that the town's Christmas lights remained a cherished tradition. Even after his tenure in public service, his commitment to local traditions lived on. He took up the responsibility of ringing the courthouse bell on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, a duty he inherited from his father, Bill Simmons. "I'm sure this tradition will continue without

Willie, but he will be missed," Dickerson said. "Willie was a good neighbor," Fincastle Town Council member Paige Ware recalled. She shared memories of her late husband, Richard, and Willie sitting on the back of Willie's truck discussing "all the issues of the town and the

world." Known for his candid nature, Willie loved talking with people and sharing Fincastle's history and lore. Yet, as Patsy humorously noted, "He wasn't afraid to let you know when he had visited with you long enough." She added that Willie honest, direct, unapologetically and himself. "Mary Beth Huey described him as a 'crusty old softie,'" Patsy

Simmons³ legacy is one of laughter, craftsmanship, adventure, community spirit. His contributions to Fincastle, both large and small, have left an enduring impact. Though he may be gone, his memory will continue to live on in the stories, traditions, and hearts of those who knew him.

added.



OF THE BOTETOURT COUNTY **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS** The Botetourt County Board of Supervisors will

hold a public hearing Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 6:00 PM in the Botetourt County Administration Center at 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville, Virginia to consider and receive comment on the following:

LEGAL NOTICE

OF PUBLIC HEARING

Amsterdam District: Wildwood Park LLC requests rezoning of 29.074-acres from the Residential, R-2 and Agricultural, A-1 Use Districts to the Industrial, M-2 Use District, with possible proffered conditions. Located at 955 Lee Highway, Hollins (US Route 11) at the Bryant Road (State Route 1007) intersection, identified on the Tax Map as 107-36.

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

> **Gary Larrowe Botetourt County Administrator**



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Big Spring Park Clean Up Day

April 12 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

The Town of Fincastle needs help to clean up the nature trail park. Please wear long pants and bring work gloves and gardening tools.

(Rain date: April 13 from 2 until 5 p.m.)

Questions? Call town office at 540-473-2200

ourvalley.org

THE FINCASTLE HERALD

Vinton Messenger

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

SALEM TIMES REGISTER

News Messenger

RADFORD News Journal

Cemetery Plots For Sale

NOTICE OF INTENT TO DECLARE INTERMENT **RIGHTS**

ABANDONED

Evergreen Develop Co. Inc., owners of Evergreen Burial Park declares its Intention to recover the abandoned cemetery lot know as Section O, Lot #14 own by and in the name of John W. Payne and Annie Frances Payne. If there Is no response from said lot owners or their heirs of assigns within 120 days from the publication of this notice, the interment rights

shall be deemed abandoned and shall revert to Evergreen Burial Park, 1307 Summit Avenue, SW

Help Wanted



Celebrating 25 Years of Service Now accepting

Applications for 3 MACHINE **OPERATORS FOR** LASER, **TURRET PUNCH AND PRESS BRAKE**

Roanoke based fabrication and machining company, is looking to fill the above positions

CNC Fabricators, a 25-year

Key qualifications for these positions include the ability to read and understand blueprints, read tape measure, and understand basic math skills to accurately measure dimensions.

MACHINE OPERATOR

The position calls for a motivated individual to run a variety of equipment including laser cutter, turret punch, press brake, and other equipment as needed. Medium to high volume orders will require paying strict attention to detail. Requirements include understanding and performing machine setups, resolving machinery issues to clear bottlenecks and performing equipment

solvers with critical and a good work ethic. Reliable transportation needed. All candidates may be required to operate a forklift and pallet jack. Performing timely quality checks and having safety awareness are necessary to the job.

preventive maintenance

We're looking for problem

If you have the ability to fill this role, please email a resume to info@cncfabricators.com.

CNC FABRICATORS 621 Ashlawn Street SW Roanoke, VA 24015 540-345-2031

Help Wanted PleasantDale Church of the

Brethren seeks a pianist to play at the 11 o'clock Sunday service. Salary negotiable Call Pastor David Tozar, 540-580-3257 or Gary Creed, 540-537-2412. **Help Wanted**

Part-Time REMAX Real Estate One

Secretary/Receptionist needed to answer phone, do light 540.353.8661

computer work, and filing **System Engineer** sought by TMEIC

CORPORATION AMERICAS in Roanoke, VA, to dsgn & test automation systems for industrial

applications, provide team & tech'l leadership in the application, engg, unit testing, & system testing of the h/ware & s/ware components of custom control systems. Availability to travel, domestically & internationally,

approximately 15%, with limited notice. Min Req: Bach's Deg in Mechatronics, Electrical or

Control Engg or related field, or foreign equiv deg, & 36 months of exp dsgng &/or maintaining industrial

control systems. Proficiency in industrial drives, & s/ware. Demonstrated knowl of relevant industrial

automation & control h/ware standards. Proficiency in MS Office Suite, MS Project. Send resume to recruitment@tmeic.com.

Ref#8024.

Help Wanted

HARDWARE ENGINEER 2 TORC Robotics, Inc. seeks a

Hardware Engineer 2 in Blacksburg, Virginia.

Position requires up to 10% dom. & int'l travel/yr. Job duties: lead the integration of new and existing selfdriving components onto vehicles and test benches Troubleshoot component and system integration issues. Provide necessary documentation in the form of DVP & R, Test procedures, Test plans, System requirements and technical reports, among other duties. To apply, email resume to

careers@torc.ai. Reference job number 773.

Auctions

Auction **Tuckit In Storage** Saturday April 12 at 9am 3950 South Main ST Blacksburg

Unit A15- Chiah Davis

Unit B2- Karen Sewell Unit B8- Drew Tanger Unit B39- Aliyssa Marsh Unit C4- Pamela Spencer Unit D22-Andrew Cuellar Unit E20- Oscar Alvarez Unit F2-Denise Cary Unit I67-Mary Sheets Unit J8-Erica Henegar **Notice of Public**

Auction The contents of the following storage unit(s) will be sold at Public Auction to enforce our owner's lien:

Unit #26

will be conducted at B&B Storage, At 645 Radford Street Christiansburg VA on Friday, April 11, 2025, at 10:00 A.M. All sales are final & CASH only



Saturday April 12th at 9:30amEstate of The Late Mrs. **Audrey Pruett** Armentrout 387 Cedar Creek Road,

Natural Bridge, VA 24578Visit www.CircleCAuction.com for Photos and Updated Listing!

Tractors, Vehicles, & Farm Equipment: 1979 Ford Granada (78K Miles) 1985 Chevrolet Silverado

1953 Chevrolet Ton Truck: SN- 14RW15578 (NO TITLE) John Deere 3010 Diesel

2WD Farmall 300 with 2 Row Mounted New Idea Corn

Picker New Holland 489 Haybine New Idea 3-Point Hitch PTO Hayrake

Hawk Bilt 3-Point Hitch Bail Mover Allis-Chalmers 2 Row Corn Planter Ford 2 Row Corn

Planter John Deere Seed Drills John Deere Offset Disc John Deere 8 Foot Brush

Hog John Deere 3-Point Hitch Finish Mower New Idea Pull Type Manure Spreader

John Deere 14T Square Baler Ford 2 Bottom Plow Post Hole Auger & Post

Driver Fuel Tanks Bale Stacker (2) 3 Bottom Plows

Round kitchen table with woven bottom chairs Humpback trunk Ladies' dresser with mirror Wardrobe

Furniture & Household:

Blue upholstered living room suite Children's rocking chairs

Highback full size bed Pair of mid-century twin size beds

mirror Oak wash stand with towel rack

Mid-century dresser with

Hall tree with mirror Collectibles, glassware, and

much more to be uncovered closer to the auction! Shop Tools & Miscellaneous: Seed cleaner Grist mill Hay trolly Blacksmith forage &

Auctions

blower Anvil Chainsaws Hand tools Parts bins Bandsaw Tool cabinets Tire changer

***So much more to be discovered! Terms: 10% buyers' premium, cash, good check, card(4%)

everything sold (As/Is, Where/Is); not responsible for accidents, loss, theft, or damage; announcements the day of the sale take presence over any written material; good food by the Natural Bridge Volunteer Fire Dept. Auctioneer: Circle C Auction Company

LLC VAAF#2908001046 Cody L. Manspile VAAL#2907004430

Legals -

City of Salem **NOTICE OF**

PUBLIC HEARING Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the

Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Salem, Virginia will hold a public hearing, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2309 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, on April 24, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, to

consider the following

applications

Hold public hearing to consider the request of Michael W. and Lisa P. Moeller, property owners, for a variance from Section 106-202.3(B)(2) of the City of Salem Zoning Ordinance pertaining to site development regulations.

for the property located at 615 Crestwood Drive, Tax Map # 89-4-7. Section 106 202.3(B)(2) states that accessory structures must be located behind the rear building line of the principal structure. Therefore, the petitioners are requesting a variance to construct an inground pool in the side yard.

At this hearing, all parties in interest will be given an opportunity to be heard, present evidence, and show cause why such requests should or should not be granted. For additional information, contact the Office of the Zoning Administrator, 21 South Bruffev Street, Salem. Virginia (Phone 375 3032).

THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM BY: Mary Ellen H. Wines, CZA, CFM Planning & Zoning Administrator

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, April 28, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114. N. 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 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.

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

Legals -City of Salem

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

Legals -Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF **CHRISTIANSBURG PLANNING** COMMISSION

The Town of Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 28, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street. Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

A. Code Amendment request by Town of Christiansburg, Applicant, to amend the Christiansburg Town Code, Chapter 42, Section 42-11 Amendments to chapter (c) Notice and hearing. The request is to 1) remove the requirement for notices of public hearings to be published once a week for two successive weeks and 2) amend the advertising requirements to the first notice appearing no more than 28 days before and the second notice appearing no less than seven days before the date of the meeting referenced in the notice. The change would bring Town Code into alignment with Code of Virginia § 15.2-2204. (Advertisement of plans ordinances, etc.; joint public hearings; written notice of certain amendments).

B. Conditional Use Permit request by Mary Frances Keith, Property Owner and Applicant, to allow a Single-Family or Two-Family Dwelling in the General Business District (B-3) on property located near the intersection of Boxwood Dr NW and Redwood Dr NW, identified as Tax Parcels 466-(1)-49, 50, 51, and 52: Parcel ID 013934, and consisting of approximately of 0.480 acres. The property is designated as Mixed Use with Buffer (Residential/Business) on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

C. Conditional Use Permit request by Burch Properties, LLC, Property Owner, and David Beasley, Applicant, to allow for a Kennel in the General Business District (B-3) on property located at 1605 N. Franklin Street, identified as Tax Parcel 466-((A))-20C, Parcel ID 013214, and consisting of approximately 10.9 acres. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan

D. Rezoning request by RN Investments Annex, LLC, Property Owner and Applicant, to rezone property located at 115 Farmview Rd NW, identified as Tax Parcels 466-((1))-60A-67A, Parcel ID 070719, consisting of approximately of 9.050 acres, from General Business District (B-3) to General Industrial District (I-2). The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan Town Hall will be open and

available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the application, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, Contact Retta Jackson, Planning Director, at (540) 382-6128, Ext. 1120 or by email at rjackson@christiansburg.or g, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations



Legals -Montgomery County **LEGAL NOTICE OF**

PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG **TOWN COUNCIL** The Town of Christiansburg

Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday April 22, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning: A. Conditional Use Permit request by SHAH Development LLC.

Applicant and Property Owner, to allow Single-Family or Two-Family Dwelling(s) in the General Business District (B-3) zoning district on property located on the western side of Plum Street across from Trent Dr. NE. identified as Tax Parcel 497-(2)-B; (Parcel ID 120350), and consisting of approximately of 0.776 acres. The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

A copy of the applications, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact

Retta Jackson, Planning Director, at (540) 382-6128, ext. 1120 or by email at rjackson@christiansburg.or g, with any questions or i you require reasonable accommodations Order of

Publication Commonwealth of Virginia

VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,-317,20-104 Case No. CA25000005-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1. CHRISTIASNBURG, VA 24073 GILLIAN ROSE SCHNIDER

MANNEBACH and MICHAEL CHRISTOPHER MANNEBACH, Petitioners Commonwealth of Virginia,

The object of this suit is to: ADOPTION OF CHILD TO

BE KNOWN AS CORY ROSE IRENE RODGERS It is ORDERED that **EDWARD LEE RODGERS** appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before May 16th, 2025 @ 9:00 AM Entered March 17, 2025 Honorable Robert M.D. Turk Judge

Order of **Publication** Commonwealth of Virginia

VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316-317,20-104 Case No. CL25-260 VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT

COURT OF THE COUNTY

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA, a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Complainant, v PATSY ANN CALDWELL, ET AL., Respondents. ORDER OF PUBLICATION

enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Montgomery, Virginia, for delinquent real

The object of this suit is to

estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Montgomery, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 063-A-2-35,36

Account No. 002962

All those two (2) certain lots or parcels of land, with all improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate, lying and being in the Riner Magisterial District of Montgomery County, Virginia, and being Lots No. Thirty-Five (35) and Thirty-Six (36) as shown and described on a map of the portion of the E.P. Eskridge Property on New River,

which map is recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, in Deed Book III at Page 186. And being the same real

property conveyed to Charles E. Caldwell and

Patsy Ann Caldwell,

Legals -Montgomery County

husband and wife, as tenants by the entirety with the right of survivorship, from Larry Snow Vaught and Hilda May Vaught, husband and wife, by deed dated August 28, 1967 and recorded September 27, 1967 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County Virginia, in Deed Book 279

at Page 368. This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and

reservations of record which

affect the property herein described including but not limited to those recorded in Deed Book III at Page 186, Instrument Number 2019006289. Deed Book 306 at Page 417. Deed Book 399 at Page 379, Instrument Number

2020006394 Deed Book 399 at Page 379, Instrument Number 2020006394 IT APPEARING that an Affidavit has been made and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of

certain parties to be served,

that the last known

addresses for the Respondents herein are as follows: Patsv Ann Caldwell. who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Charles E. Caldwell, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown: Carolyn A. Graves, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Harvey Graves, whose last known address is 1490 Mahone St, Christiansburg, Virginia

24073: Ricky W. Caldwell. whose last known address is unknown; Gary W. Barker, whose last known address is unknown; Charles E. Caldwell, Jr., whose last known address is 1201 Virginia Ridge Dr. Hardy, Virginia 24101; Phyllis Jean Caldwell Poff, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Monica Noble, whose last known address is 3353 Vista Rd. Pulaski, Virginia 24301; and that any officers, heirs, devisees and successors in title of the Respondent named herein are made parties Respondent to this action individually and/or by the general description of

hereby **ORDERED** that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained appear on or before May I, 2025 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.

Parties Unknown, it is

Entered on the 24th day of March, 2025 Honorable K. Mike Fleenor, Jr. Judge I Ask For This: John A. Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805) Jeffery A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No.30591) Mark K. Ames, Esq.

Publication Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-

(VSB No. 27409)

Order of

316.-317.20-104 Case No.CL25000550-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIASNBURG, VA 24073 Kayla Dawn Comer, Stanley Hunter Early

Commonwealth of Virginia, The object of this suit is to:

Name change of a minor

It is ORDERED that Anthony Paul Early appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before May 26th, 2025 @ 9:00 AM. Entered March 17, 2025

Honorable Robert M.D. Turk Judge Order of **Publication**

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-

316,-317,20-104 Case No.CL25000555-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Megan Alyssa Sawyers

Elden Raul Gonzalez

The object of this suit is to: Divorce

Legals -Montgomery County

It is ORDERED that Elden Raul Gonzalez appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before May 27, 2025 @ 9:00 AM. Entered March 25, 2025 Honorable Robert M.D. Turk

TRUSTEE'S SALE **OF 295 NEWTOWN** ROAD. SHAWSVILLE, VA

Judge

24162 In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated October 2, 2007, in the original principal amount of \$139,200.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Virginia as Instrument No. 2007013212. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of . the Circuit Court building for

Montgomery County, 55 East Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on May 19, 2025, at 1:30 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR

THEREON AND THE APPURTENANCES **THEREUNTO** BELONGING, SITUATE LYING AND BEING ON THE SOUTHWESTERLY SIDE OF NEWTOWN ROAD IN THE VILLAGE OF SHAWSVILLE, SHAWSVILLE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT

PARCEL OF LAND, WITH

THE IMPROVEMENTS

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY. . VIRGINIA. DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: ALL OF NEW PARCEL 2, CONTAINING 0.374 ACRES AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF C.B. SISSON AND R.D. SISSON **BOUNDARY LINE** REVISION AND LOT LINE VACATIONS, PREPARED BY C.S. CORRELL, LS. PLAN #P-1095, DATED

APRIL 2, 1999 A COPY OF WHICH IS RECORDED HEREWITH IN PLAT BOOK 19, PAGE 74, AND TO WHICH MAP REFERENCE IS MADE FOR A MORE **PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF THE** PROPERTY HEREBY SALE: ALL CASH. A

bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's

deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of

Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse

against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to

purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwwsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale

electronically. This is a

communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation.

Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240. Richmond, VA 23229.

For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003

301-961-6555, website: www.bwwsales.com. VA-375117-1.

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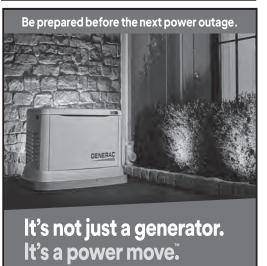
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Sports BOTETOURT

LB boys pound Abingdon on the pitch, girls drop three



Robbie Sanchez controls the ball for the Cavs in Salem last week.

The Lord Botetourt

boys scored five first half

goals on their way to

an 8-1 soccer win over

Abingdon in Daleville

Monday. With the win the

Cavaliers improved to 3-2

Isaiah Lankford hit the

net twice for LB in the first

half and also scoring were

Robbie Sanchez, Dean

Webb and Kalob Daniels.

Lankford completed a hat trick with his third

goal after intermission,

Sanchez scored his second

of the night and Mateo

Oviedo added the final

JB Cook was in the cage

goal for the Cavs.

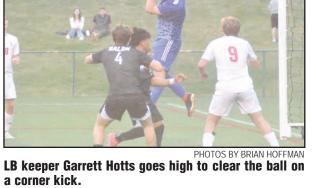
on the season.

for the first half against Abingdon while Garrett Honts played the second half. Abingdon scored in the second half to deny the Cavs a shutout.

a corner kick.

The loss snapped a twogame losing streak for LB. Last week the Cavs lost at home to Christiansburg, 3-0, then dropped a 2-1 overtime game to the Spartans in Salem on LB took the lead in

the first half at Salem when Josh Dickerson had a deep throw-in the Jeremy Simmons headed past the keeper. Salem scored midway through



the second half to send it to overtime, then scored their game winner in the first five minute period of OT.

The Cavs will host Staunton River in a Blue Ridge District game Friday while the LB girls are in Moneta to play the Eagles, hoping to break a three-game losing streak. Last week the girls lost at Blacksburg, 3-0, at Christiansburg, 3-0, and at home to Salem, 4-1. Bria Harvey scored the goal against Salem with an assist from Cailey Petrauskas. The girls fell to 1-4 with the loss.

LB tennis teams have matches today

The Lord Botetourt tennis teams both have matches today. The girls will be at Hollins University to host Liberty Christian Academy and the boys are at Rockbridge County

The boys played Magna Vista and the road when we play more close



Reagan Meade of LB hits a return in last week's match with Salem.

The Cavalier girls played Blacksburg and Salem last week, both on road, and split. They lost 9-0 at Blacksburg but bounced back to win 6-3 in Salem.

Singles winners against Salem were Elaina Brown, Gwyneth Farrar, Emmy Salem last week and lost both by scores of 5-4. "The team played well in both," said LB coach Blake Johnson. "These will help us down three doubles. Kennedy Dorsey and Sprouse won at two and Farrar and Walker won at third doubles.

River girls are at Carroll for tennis Thursday

The new James River girls tennis team will be looking for their first win Thursday when they travel to Hillsville for a Three Rivers District match with Carroll County.

The girls played Floyd County and Alleghany in the past week and lost both by scores of 9-0.

"The score says it was bad but both schools had to work for the win," said River coach Brian White. "We actually have a good team for a first year and that nobody has played. The first year is always the unknown. There's a lot to overcome.

LB will host track meet today

Lord Botetourt High will host the Cavaliers' first track meet of the spring season today with a 4:30 p.m. meet in Daleville. A variety of schools will be attending, including James River.

River opened the season last Saturday when the Knights competed in the Blacksburg Invitational at Blacksburg High School. The meet included 14 high school

For the River girls, Kaia Binns was third in the 100 and state qualified while Denver Rinehart state qualified in both the 100 and

200 meters. Rinehart, Binns, Rhaya Kitt and Samaya Osborne finished third in the

The girls also participated in the 4x100 "Throwers Relay." Chase Clemons, Grace Walcott, Janiya Falls and Osborne finished

For the boys, Gavin Binns won the 100 and state qualified in that event. Gavin also was sixth in the 200 and ran on the fifth place 4x100 relay with Ryder Ward, Xander Carlough and Nate Stewart.

Jayden Alston was fourth in the shot and fifth in the discus and state qualified

After today's meet at LB, both River and Lord Botetourt will compete in Vinton this Saturday in a meet at William Byrd High School. It's scheduled to begin at 9 a.m.

River boys will host Carroll County in soccer Thursday

The James River boys will try to get back to the winning side of the ledger Thursday when they host Carroll County in a Three Rivers District soccer match. The Knights fell to Alleghany in Springwood Monday, 5-2, to drop to 1-3 on the season.

"It was a good physical game by both teams," said River coach Jared Whiting. "We struggled a little in the first half and dug us into a hole. The second half we settled in and started working our way back out with excellent possession and controlled the game nicely."

River goals were scored by Brayden Forbes and Angel Morales. Noah Langley had a dozen saves in the cage for the Knights. "I was proud of how hard the guys

worked and saw some very sound soccer out of them," said Whiting. "We now need to work on that type of play for 80 minutes."



PHOTO BY LEIGH DOWNEY

Ben Whitt of James River controls the

River soccer girls win two to improve to 4-1

The James River girls defeated Nelson County and Alleghany in soccer to improve to 4-1 on the season. The Knights have a return match with Nelson in Springwood tonight. week

Lovingston the Knights defeated Nelson, a Region 2C rival, by a 3-1 score. The game was scoreless in the first half but the Knights drew first blood just four minutes into the second half when Rhaya Kitt finished off an assist from freshman Jordyn Simmons to put the visitors ahead.

Jordyn was there for another assist 10 minutes later with freshman Sonny Sharp finishing for the Knights and giving a little margin in the highly contested match. Avery Carr capitalized on a rare defensive mistake and finished unassisted at the midpoint of the half to make it 3-0, and that lead help up as the Governors scored one late goal. Kylee Aaron had 20 saves in the goal for River.

It was a cold and damp night in Axton Monday but the Knights heated things up with a 6-0 win over Alleghany in a Three Rivers District match at the Smith River Complex. River opened the

scoring with 17 minutes to go in the first half when Kitt finished with an assist from Sophia The pair Martin. repeated the combination four minutes taking the visitors to a 2-0 lead. Then, with less than two minutes on the clock, Jazmyn Rinehart finished from the rebound of a shot from Martin to take the Knights into the break with a comfortable 3-0

The second half was more of the same. Regan Childs scored 10 minutes into the half, assisted by Kitt. Avery Saunders finished a couple of minutes later, assisted by Simmons, and the final goal of the match was a second finish from Childs, this one assisted by Sharp.

The James River goal was split with senior Kylee Aaron making one save and her sister, freshman Kendall Aaron, finishing up with no saves required.

After tonight's home game with Nelson the girls will be back on the Springwood pitch Friday to host Carroll County.

"The girls are playing well, working together and having fun," said coach Bill Smith. "The two home games this week should be tough."



Cox is member of Hall of Fame baseball team

Matt Cox (center), a 2005 graduate of James River High School, was among the former baseball players honored last Saturday at Bluefield University's Bowen Field when the 2009 Rams baseball team was inducted into the school Hall of Fame. The 2009 team, under the leadership of Head Coach Mike White, claimed the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) World Series Championship, a first in program history. The championship, held from May 20-23, 2009, at Prasco Park and Legacy Field in Mason, Ohio, saw the Rams, ranked No. 4, battle their way through the tournament and ultimately defeat top-seeded Malone University 5-3 in a thrilling title game This was the first ever team to be inducted into the Bluefield University Athletic Hall of Fame.

Softball from page 12

The Buffalos used three singles, a walk, an error and a sacrifice fly to build the quick lead and that set the tone of the game.

River pitcher Saville settled down and only allowed three hits and five baserunners in the final six innings. After throwing 23 pitches in the first inning, Saville recovered in spectacular fashion, throwing just 46 pitches in the final six innings. She didn't strike out anyone but only walked two and allowed three earned

Joynes led the Knights with two hits, both singles. Downey, Crawford, and Paige Shotwell had one hit

"We had a tough start, but I am pleased with how we responded," said Austin. "We never quit and we

chipped away, we just didn't hit the ball well enough

to win. We're still figuring a lot of things out so it's hard for me to be anything other than optimistic. That being said, it's hard not to feel that we missed a good opportunity to win today."

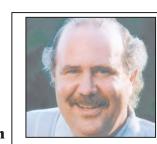
After tonight's home game with Northside the River girls will head to Hillsville Friday for a Three Rivers District game with Carroll County. River is now 4-1 counting a forfeit win over Waynesboro.

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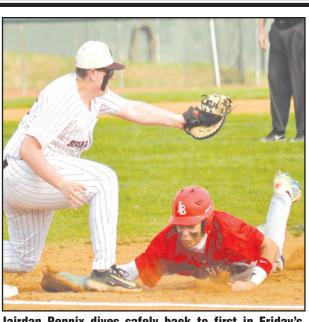
Brian Hoffman

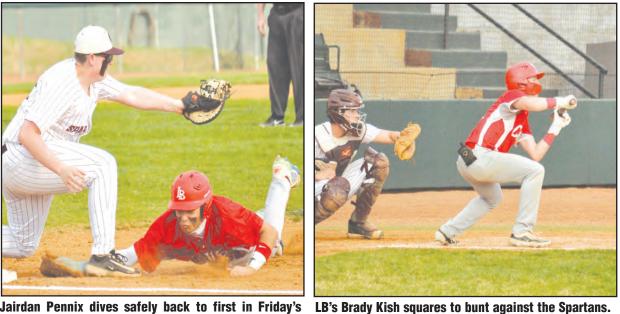
Sports Editor

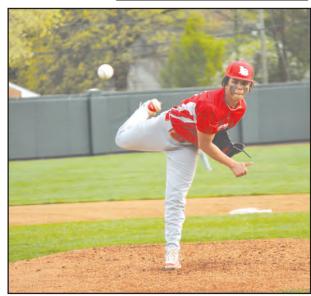
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PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Kobe Hairston pitches for LB in last week's game in

LB defeats River in an intracounty baseball showdown

James River played host to Lord Botetourt in the only intra-county baseball game of the season last week and the visiting Cavaliers got the win. LB took an 8-2 win in Springwood.

"We kind of beat ourselves with walks and errors in this one," said River coach Chance Henry, who played for LB as a high school student. "We actually hit the ball similar to LB and they made a couple plays that took away hits for us, but you can't walk 12 guys in a game and get away with it."

River used five pitchers in the game, beginning with Logan Joyce, who went an inning and twothirds. He was followed by Maddox Woodyard, Hunter Mays and Maddox Moore and all four walked three batters each before Colt Cook got the last out. Woodyard ended up taking the loss without allowing

Chase Peck pitched a complete game for LB, allowing five hits and four walks while striking out nine. At the plate LB's Noah Donaho continued his hot start to the season with two hits in four at-bats, scoring three times. Garrett Lonker had three runs batted in and Gavin Walker knocked in a pair. Hunter Mays had two hits for River.

"This one didn't go our way but we hung in there for a while with a high quality opponent," said Henry. "It felt great to play our intra-county rival and I hope this is something we can try to do once a year. I know my guys were super excited for it and are looking forward to it again next year, hopefully."

Both teams played again on Friday and lost. LB was at Salem where the Spartans took a 12-2 win



River catcher Evan Byers fires one from behind the plate.

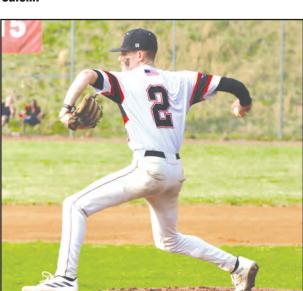
on Billy Sample Field. Kobe Hairston started on the mound for Botetourt and took the loss, allowing four earned runs while striking out three. Ethan Taylor pitched the last inning and a third in the five-inning game. LB had just two hits, one each by Lonker and Brady Kish.

"Very disappointing to have had four total errors on the season going into this game, and we made six errors tonight," said LB coach Todd Smith. "It's tough to beat anybody with that many errors, but we will work hard this week and be ready to go on Friday

LB is at Staunton River Friday, at Heritage next Monday and home to William Byrd on Tuesday, April 15. The Cavaliers are 4-3.

River fell to 3-2 with a 9-6 loss to Floyd County in Springwood last Friday. The Buffaloes stampeded for seven first inning runs to put the Knights in a big hole before a Riverman even came to bat.

"This started off as one of the most frustrating games I've had as a coach," said Henry. "We came out extremely flat and Floyd took it to us in the first inning. I was proud of how we fought back and made



River's Cam Saunders pitches in last Friday's game with Floyd.

it a game but baseball is a hard game and when you start like we did those first three innings while giving up an immediate seven spot, it's hard to come back from."

The Knights scored five in the fourth inning to cut

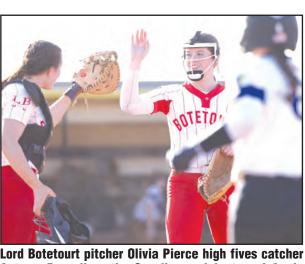
the lead to 7-5, then plated another in the sixth to creep back to within a run. However, Floyd put two insurance runs on the board in the top of the seventh and that was the ball game. We showed some fight and grit, putting up five

in the fourth and another in the sixth," said Henry. "Kody Park did a great job keeping them at seven until the seventh inning. He did everything I could've asked for and more. I was proud of his effort on the mound."

Park pitched six and a third innings in relief of Cam Saunders and allowed two runs while striking out six. River finished with four hits, one each by Jeremiah Mays, Hunter Mays, Evan Byers and Maddox Moore. Jeremiah scored twice and Hunter knocked in two for the Knights.

River was scheduled to play at Alleghany on Tuesday in a Three Rivers District game. They travel to Carroll County on Friday.

Botetourt softball team shuts out two



Autumn Russell as the Cavaliers celebrate a 3-0 win over Blacksburg.

The Lord Botetourt softball team picked up two big wins last week as Cavalier pitchers dominated Blacksburg and Magna Vista. The Cavs shut out both, winning 3-0 in Blacksburg and 10-0 over the Warriors on Saturday in Franklin County's "Battle of the

Bases" in Rocky Mount. "We had a great week," said LB coach Megan Cook. "Blacksburg is a good hitting team so I knew we would be tested, but our defense truly

Phoenix Humphries gained the win in the

circle in Blacksburg by allowing just four hits and no runs over four innings while Olivia Pierce came hits each. Pierce pitched on in relief, allowing no hits and fanning two in three innings. Autumn Russell had a tremendous game offensively with two team effort," said Cook. solo home runs in the first "A great outing for us and fourth innings. in

Saturday Franklin County, Russell 3-1 with the two wins and crushing a two-run home Jefferson Forest at home run in the third inning on Tuesday. They'll host against Magna Vista. LB Staunton River on Friday had a dozen hits in this before heading to Vinton game as Callie Kidd, for a game with William



Lord Botetourt's Autumn

Russell celebrates her second home run of the game as she rounds the bases against Blacksburg.

and shut out the Warriors with a one-hitter, striking out 13 and walking none. "It was collectively a

overall." The Cavs improved to the tone again, were scheduled to play

Abby Perkey, Pierce, and Byrd on Tuesday, April Gracie Sargent had two 15.



Caitlyn Downey slides home in Friday's



PHOTOS BY LEIGH DOWNEY

Kaylee Harlow of the Knights holds the ball aloft after making a diving catch.

James River will host Northside in softball today

The James River softball team is home to host Class 3 Northside today after splitting two games last week. The Knights won at Northside, 12-10, but lost for the first time this season when they fell to Floyd County at home on Friday, 4-3.

Last Wednesday in Roanoke County, River jumped ahead, 2-0, in the first inning on a Caitlyn Downey walk, a

Sydnee Breeding RBI double and a Cloey Joynes RBI single. River upped the lead to 5-0 before the Vikings scored four in the fourth to cut the lead to one at 5-4.

James River pushed across a run in the top of the fifth to go up 6-4. Then Northside used four hits and a walk in the bottom of the fifth to score three runs and grab a 7-6 lead.

In the top of the sixth inning Downey doubled to deep centerfield and Breeding hit a long home run to left center to

quickly put the Knights back on top, 8-7. Singles by Joynes, Ella Hutchens, Keira Crawford, and Kaylee Harlow led

to three more runs and a 11-7 advantage.

The home squad responded with three

more runs in the bottom of the sixth to cut the lead to 11-10 but the Knights got an insurance run in the seventh on an RBI double by Breeding. Northside left the bases loaded in the bottom of

Breeding finished with four hits, Downey and Joynes had three each and Hutchens, Crawford and Harlow had two hits each for a total of 16. Makenna Saville was the winning pitcher, going five and two-thirds innings before Sierra Ware threw an inning and a third to pick up the save.

"We had a very positive start to the game," said River coach Steve Austin. "The strange and uncharacteristic bottom of the fourth inning really woke them up, but the quick start, our determination and our resilience helped

us weather the storms." Last Friday in Springwood Floyd County got out of the gate quickly with a three run first inning and carried that momentum to a 4-3 win over River.

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