



Botetourt County Fair celebrates county's agricultural heritage



Spectators line the track as a team of draft horses competes during the Draft Horse Pull at the Botetourt County Fair in Buchanan on Saturday.



A young exhibitor presents the Grand Champion Breeding Heifer during the Youth Livestock Show at the 2026 Botetourt County Fair.



Turkeys were among the poultry exhibited during the Youth Poultry Show.



Visitors browse vendor booths.



Grand Champion and Best of Botetourt ribbons accompany winning egg entries displayed in The Farmhouse.

Matt de Simone
Managing Editor

The Botetourt County Fair returned to Buchanan Town Park on Saturday, bringing together residents, exhibitors and local organizations for a day celebrating agriculture, education and community traditions.

The annual event featured livestock exhibitions, traditional fair competitions, vendors and family-friendly activities highlighting Botetourt County's agricultural heritage. Admission was free.

Among the featured attractions was the Youth Livestock Show, where young exhibitors competed with beef cattle, swine, sheep, goats and poultry while demonstrating the skills they have developed through 4-H and FFA programs.

Traditional competitions were also held inside The Farmhouse, where residents displayed baked goods, canned goods, quilts, photography, artwork, flowers, produce and other handcrafted items showcasing local talent and craftsmanship.

Additional attractions included agricultural demonstrations, the Local Food Walk, the Kids Corral, live music, the Draft Horse Pull and exhibits from local organizations and vendors.

According to the Botetourt County Fair Association, the fair's mission is to preserve the county's agricultural past, promote its present and educate future generations about agriculture while providing opportunities for youth to exhibit and compete in both animal and non-animal projects.

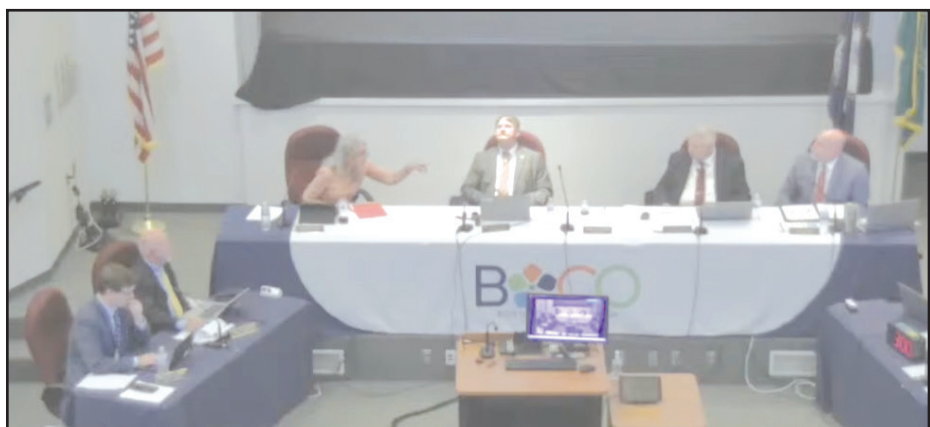
Following the event, the Botetourt County Fair Board of Directors thanked the many volunteers, exhibitors, businesses and sponsors who helped make this year's fair a success.

"In a world so easily divided, this event is a reminder that our community is and will remain one of the best," the board said in a statement. "To see so many volunteers, youth, parents, family, friends, businesses and neighbors near and far come together to create, enjoy and support this event is something many communities can only dream of."

The board also recognized its committee chairs and volunteer leaders, including Stefanie Manbeck (Youth Livestock Show), Mallory White (Youth Poultry Show), Emily Beavers (Feather-to-Fork Program), Loretta and Andrew Cahoon (Draft Horse Pull), Tracy and Brian Watts (Pedal Tractor Pull), Emily Bailey (vendors), and Jenna Lawrence (Farmhouse competitions).

The fair board is seeking fundraising and grounds committee chairs for next year's event. Those interested in volunteering can email botetourtcountyfair@gmail.

See Fair results, page 5



Buchanan District Supervisor Linda Rottman (seated top left) speaks to Amsterdam District Supervisor Tim Snyder (seated top right) during Tuesday's Board of Supervisors meeting as the board debated the creation of an independent commission to review issues related to the proposed Google data center.

Board creates independent commission to study proposed Google data center

Matt de Simone
Managing Editor

Rejecting the Planning Commission's request to organize a special public forum on water supply and demand, the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors voted 3-1 Tuesday to establish an independent commission to study the potential impacts of a proposed Google data center campus in Botetourt

County.

Vice Chairman Brandon Nicely (Fincastle), presiding in the absence of Chairman Mac Scothorn (Valley), joined Amsterdam District Supervisor Tim Snyder and Blue Ridge District Supervisor Walter Michael in approving the proposal. Buchanan District Supervisor Linda Rottman voted against the motion.

The decision followed more than an hour of

discussion over whether the Planning Commission or a newly created independent body was better suited to examine issues surrounding the proposed Google data center campus, including water resources, infrastructure, environmental impacts and quality of life.

Under the proposal approved by the board, a

See Board, page 10

Future of farmers market, SEP terminology discussed during eye care center hearing

Matt de Simone
mattdesimone@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Botetourt County Board of Supervisors approved a special exception permit (SEP) last Tuesday for a nearly 7,000-square-foot vision care facility in Daleville Town Center, clearing the way for what officials described as the final piece of the mixed-use development.

The permit allows Fralin & Waldron Inc. to construct the facility on a 0.876-acre parcel on Town Center Street adjacent to 70 Broad Street in the Amsterdam District. The site is currently occupied by the Botetourt Farmers Market.

Because Botetourt County's zoning ordinance requires all medical care facilities to obtain an SEP, the request came before the board for a public hearing and consideration of project-specific conditions.

The board approved the request with six conditions recommended by the Planning Commission. Those conditions require the project to be developed in substantial conformance with the submitted concept and building elevation plans, prohibit invasive landscaping in favor of native species where feasible, require compliance with

See Market, page 10



Customers browse vendors at the Botetourt Farmers Market in Daleville Town Center. County officials said the market is expected to continue operating while efforts continue to identify a permanent location after the Board of Supervisors approved a vision care facility for the property last week.

2026 SEASON

Daleville town center

Scan here for complete event schedule, and details.

AUGUST 8

8:30 - NOON

THE BOGEYS

5-9PM

AUGUST 14

ERIC WAYNE BAND

5-9PM

AUGUST 15

8:30 - NOON

THE BEN TROUT PARTY BAND

5-9PM

33463 00107 5

Botetourt County History



PHOTO COURTESY OF BCMHC

This photograph shows Blue Ridge Hall during the late 19th century when horse drawn buggies were commonly used for transportation in Botetourt County. The two-story structure was built in 1839 at the intersection of a regional turnpike and the Great Road (now Route 11). Over the years it served as a stagecoach stop, the Blue Ridge Hotel, the Blue Ridge Post Office and the family home. It is now owned by Joe and Elizabeth Obenshain and is one of 14 properties recognized as a “Century Farm” in Botetourt.

The Virginia Century Farm Program recognizes family-owned farms that

have sustained their land for the good of their communities and contributed to the economy of the Commonwealth for a hundred years or more. Places like this connect us to the past where memories and stories inspire us to create a stronger future. These historic farms remind us of the sacrifice early settlers made and the strength of their resilience.

This photograph is on display at the Botetourt Museum of History & Culture in Fincastle along with others.

- Botetourt County Museum of History & Culture

The Buchanan Lions Club Present

Movies in the Park

Fri, August 29, 2026

at sunset (8:30pm)

Buchanan Town Park

Free Admission & Parking

SNACKS AND DRINKS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE

The Sheep Detectives

Bring your own lawn chairs, blankets and bug spray.

FILE PHOTO

Free movie at Buchanan Town Park Aug. 29

The Buchanan Lions Club will present “The Sheep Detectives” free to the public on August 29 at sunset (8:30 p.m.) at the Buchanan Town Park. With renovations at the historic Buchanan Theatre underway, the Lions will show G-rated movies numerous times over the next year.

With funding help from the Buchanan Library, the Buchanan Lions, Friends of the Buchanan Library and the Town Improvement Society, the Lions will present the movies with the coordinated help of the Botetourt Parks and Recreation and the Buchanan Theatre. These organizations

will supply popcorn, sodas and homemade baked goods.

The Lions suggest bringing folding chairs, a blanket, and bug spray and turn off all cell phones or leave them locked in cars. Parking is free. Arrive early for best seats.

All families and children are encouraged to enjoy Buchanan’s fun family event evening (weather permitting).

The Lions will also be polling the audience at the food tables for the next G-rated showing in September.

- Submitted by Tim Heinlein

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Borer receives \$10,000 Angus scholarship

PHOTO BY NEXT LEVEL IMAGES

Ryan Borer of Buchanan has been awarded the Angus/Talon Youth Educational Learning Program Graduate \$10,000 Scholarship by the American Angus Association. Borer received the scholarship at the 2026 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) Scholarship Presentation, July 15-17 in Louisville, Ky. Since 1998, the Angus Foundation has awarded more than \$5.8 million in undergraduate and graduate scholarships to Angus youth.

-Submitted by American Angus Association

DAR: Our Patriot Ancestor

In recognition of the 250th celebration of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, the DAR America 250! Committee of the Botetourt County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution is placing a spotlight on members’ Patriot ancestors who helped the country achieve American Independence. Our Patriot Ancestors are men and women whose service to the American Revolution has been documented through careful research. Whether they served as soldiers, provided supplies, or performed essential public service, their contributions have been proven by previous members of DAR. Lieutenant John Phelps, Jr. and Caleb Heptinstall are Patriot ancestors of DAR associate member Sheila Campbell. Both of these Patriots are in her maternal grandmother’s line.

Lieutenant John Phelps, Jr. was born around 1740 in the area that later became Bedford County. He was the son of Colonel John Phelps and Mary Catherine Gibson. He married Jemima Turner in the early 1760s, and together they raised several children before her death around 1772. During the American Revolution, John served as a first lieutenant in the Virginia Militia, representing Bedford County. After the war, he married Susanna Younger, with whom he had additional children. A respected figure in his community, John Phelps lived his entire

FILE PHOTO

life in Bedford County, where he died on September 28, 1801, leaving behind a legacy of military service and family devotion.

Caleb Heptinstall (c. 1762-1824) was born in Virginia, likely in King George County. As a young man, he served as a soldier in the 1st Virginia Regiment of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. After the war, Caleb settled in Franklin County, where he married Lize “Tege” Greer in 1796. He became a substantial landowner, holding more than 600 acres on Gills Creek, where he raised a large family. Census records show that he managed both farmland and enslaved laborers, reflecting the era’s realities. Caleb wrote his will in October 1824 and died soon afterward, with his estate settled by 1833. Remembered as both a Revolutionary War soldier and a Virginia landholder, his legacy lives on through his descendants and

his recognition as an American Patriot.

These ancestors’ families lived in Bedford and Franklin Counties for generations. Although these two Patriots were not blood relatives, their families became connected through the marriage of Caleb’s son, William Heptinstall, and John Phelps’s granddaughter, Permelia Phelps, on December 7, 1819.

The Daughters of the American Revolution is a non-profit, non-political organization open to any woman who can document her lineage to a Patriot who contributed to the success of the American Revolution. Founded over 135 years ago, it is focused on service to the community through its mission of Historic Preservation, Education, and Patriotism. If you are interested in joining our chapter or have questions about membership, contact our Membership Chair Emily Talbot-Guillote by email at eptg1019@gmail.com, or Registrar JoElla John at jjohnregistrar@gmail.com.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Citizen recounts July Board meeting

Everyone heard the Disgruntled Californian (DC) Buchanan District supervisor refer to a “gigantic middle finger” at the Board of Supervisors (BoS) meeting last week. Doesn’t it seem as if she is the one making that gesture to Botetourt County?

Did she leave California because she couldn’t get her way? Just because she is seldom, if ever, able to convince the other four supervisors to see it her way, she criticizes them so that her puppets in the audience can applaud her as she has trained them to do. Ever notice the hand signals she gives to her disciples during the meetings?

What is her obsession with the Planning Commission (PC) that makes her feel that they are the only ones who can conduct an “unbiased” water study? Does she have financial concerns or contractual obligations that drive her to go on non-stop rants about it during the meetings?

The DC read the plan during the meeting, probably for the first time. Anyone can quickly see that there is a drastic difference between the efforts to get an unbiased report from the plan as opposed to letting the PC handle this.

Speaking of the PC, another disgruntled Californian who is from the Buchanan District is the main attraction. The disastrous performance witnessed at the PC’s 5 p.m. planning session on July 13 was not just an isolated look at his conduct. During the first recess at the meeting last Tuesday, he was shouting out profane expletives at a county official. Thankfully, his wife was able to get him to sit down and shut up!

But, that was not his only performance of the day. When (Supevisor) Snyder said he did not think the PC was unbiased, he jumped up from his seat and started to say something, but he was seen and halted by the chair before he could give everyone another look at his despicable behavior. You can actually see this on the YouTube recording. He quickly sat down before we got an encore performance.

Does the DC really think we need this “loose cannon” involved with the water study? Of course, she covers for him by calling his shameful behavior “great fervor,” all the while cackling about it as usual.

The DC proudly announced that she is the only member of the BoS or the PC who does not have a conflict of interest regarding anything to do with Google! She may want all of her disciples to think that she did not sign an NDA (the PC member she appointed screams and yells anytime anyone says they have signed an NDA, like he did regarding the proposed eye care facility in the Daleville Town Center), but she did sign one on January 13, 2026. Yet, she publicly declares that she does not have a conflict of interest regarding Google. Imagine that?

When she thinks something, she lets us know that she really, really, really, really thinks it. Does she think that makes it more important to others? As everyone has noticed, she interrupts or attempts to interrupt everyone. After she gave her lengthy speech opposing the plan and (Supervisor) Michael was making some very pertinent observations regarding it, she just had to interrupt him to ask a question. She does this frequently. Is it because she can’t remember it if she doesn’t get it in immediately? Why not make a note of it and let the one speaking be able to do so without interruption? Or is it possibly because she feels as if her viewpoint and questions are more important?

She called Snyder’s excellent presentation regarding the independent panel doing the water study “generic pabulum.” If anyone’s presentations lack intellectual depth, it most certainly would be hers! This must have been in the script for this meeting as other members of the Chronic Complainers Club (CCC) used the same terminology in their repetitious drivel.

After the county attorney answered her inquiry about what the law allows a PC to do, she stated, “That makes me dizzy.” It appears as if that is not all that makes her dizzy. And yet she loves to brag about allegedly being an attorney. When they were discussing procedure and “depositions” were mentioned, she let us know that she has deposed maybe a “bazillion” experts! That really makes

me feel sorry for those experts!

She makes statements like she is “sorry if she is not really tracking 100% on this matter.” Is she tracking 100% on anything she does? She referred to the county’s source of water as coming from “Carson’s” Cove karst. She referred to the “West” Virginia Water Authority. She complains that she is routinely (almost always) out-voted by the other members of the BoS. After the motion was made and followed by a lengthy discussion and when there was a call for the question, she inquired about what motion upon which they were voting and then read it aloud. Is all of that maybe because she “isn’t really tracking 100%”?

Thanks to the three common sense members of the BoS who voted in favor of us getting a true and unbiased report about water. And we all know that, if it does not fit into the narrative of the CCC, they will want another one, another one, another one and another one, hoping to get the conclusions they really, really, really, really want.

Bob Patterson
Fincastle
Buchanan District

So, what have we learned...?

Writing a singular, cohesive letter about all the ridiculous things going on in our region is a task that is far more than daunting.

This is purposeful – a tactic often called “flooding the zone” – originally used in sports, sometimes in the military, and now on the battlefields of state and small town public hearings.

Within the last few weeks, Botetourt County, the Western Virginia Water Authority, our local and state politicians, and Google have thrown so much bluster and bagwash at us that it is difficult to wade through.

We learned at the Western Virginia Water Authority meeting on July 16 that supposedly the need for a Dal-Nita Hills pipe expansion resulted from PFAS found in their water? Strange, as the resolution listed in April’s agenda packet said, “to improve quality and pressure,” but nothing as serious as PFAS was mentioned. Minutes of the Board of Supervisors meetings might have been helpful, if they had been updated since March. Residents have been asking for help with water pressure for years, but when Google came knocking those improvements began “for the good of the community.” Strange that the pipe will end in a T-intersection and allow an alarmingly high flow of water. Strange that PFAS are mentioned now, given that discussions regarding Dal-Nita Hills have been active for months. Shouldn’t there have been notices and/or water filters distributed? Strange.

We also learned that the vast majority of our elected and appointed officials have deserted their constitutional duties in favor of corporate interests – from the Boards of Supervisors in Botetourt and Franklin Counties blatantly ignoring the will of the people, to Ben Cline’s past campaign contributions from Google, to both he and Terry Austin ignoring constituents while welcoming contributions from and ties to Big Energy and Tech. Since Delegate Austin had time for a three-plus hour nightcap with Cathie Vick from Google after they both attended the annual Chamber of Commerce dinner, we hope he will allocate more time for constituent emails and listening sessions in the future.

At that dinner, we learned that Vick, Google’s Strategic Negotiator for Market Development & Policy and Global Infrastructure & Energy, is one of the many corporate pundits who continues to recycle the same old, tired propaganda. In her speech, she conflated hyperscale data centers with the much smaller and far less thirsty data centers that run our photo storage, GPS, and regular computing.

To be clear, the rapid expansion of hyperscale data centers draining our natural resources and destroying our health are a direct result of Enterprise-Level Generative AI, Crypto-Currency, and Flock and Palantir-level surveillance. In layman’s terms, that’s rich people getting richer on the backs of the working class – telling you your carbon footprint is to blame, not their private jets, and definitely not the air-cooling systems Google recently announced.

County supervisors and representatives from the Water Authority and AEP would do well to remember that they are far closer to the average American and to homelessness than they are to the corporate interests that seek to exploit our community. As one speaker at the Board of Supervisors meeting stated, “they do not care about you.”

Just ask Michael Rolband from Virginia’s Department of Environmental Quality. In an article published in Politico’s E&E News on July 24th, Ariel Wittenberg exposed that “emails show how Virginia regulators downplayed data center health concerns.” Rolband has learned his cozy relationship with Big Tech has done nothing for him and has instead destroyed his professional reputation. The same day, Sarah Rankin from the Associated Press revealed the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality had long-delayed the release of a study that examined the groundwater supply. This study found sharp declines in Virginia’s critical eastern aquifer due in large part to the exponential growth of data centers. Botetourt and Franklin Counties as well as all others in our region should learn from these horrible and completely avoidable mistakes.

Speaking of Virginia, our state holds the onerous title of Number One IN THE WORLD... for data centers. By most recent counts Virginia has OVER 650 data centers either built, under construction, or approved. When you add the proposed numbers, we climb over 700. Our closest second is the entirety of the United Kingdom with 565. China has 376 and has slowed its production. Claiming the need to stay competitive is also corporate propaganda.

It is ridiculous that economic development associations and overlay zones further decrease protections for communities. It is outrageous that county supervisors and administrators would ignore the will of the people and instead try to circumvent it by appointing their allies to “independent” boards and their developer friends to the Planning Commission.

It is horrifying that rumors are circulating of drilling in Roanoke Cement’s old quarries and revisiting the Hipes Dam project. It is absurd that the county attorney has been set on a narrow interpretation of Virginia Code to keep the Planning Commission “in its place” rather than figuring out how to break overreaching NDAs. It is laughable that we must show up to every meeting to avoid missing any Freudian slips – such as the county attorney saying that the Board of Supervisors could tell their “independent” and “expert panel” what the board wanted the panel’s results to be.

It is unconscionable that citizens would need to scrutinize every move that our elected and appointed officials and utility monopolies make. Unfortunately, we have learned... that we have to.

Members of the Southwest Virginia
Data Center Transparency Alliance

Is this what we want for future generations?

I am writing out of genuine concern

for the future of my children. Not a small subject, but one I’m confronted with daily. I grew up in Botetourt. I couldn’t have imagined the changes that could shape this community, especially when the end goal is all about revenue. I am deeply frustrated with our county officials’ performance, especially around the development and growth deals that constituents weren’t privy to until the dotted line had been signed.

We can cut to the chase, the proposed data center feels like the last straw. One resident described it as a “knife in the heart” of Botetourt County. I fear this is true if you look at the detrimental effects these sites have had on other rural areas.

Some may claim, “You can’t stop progress!” – I love that one. Except when you break down the “progress” presented to Botetourt, the benefit isn’t going to be reaped by the future generations. In fact, these deals are but a blazing meteor and our kids will be left with the massive crater in its wake. We deserve honest answers around the dangers of putting a multi-phase data center near an elementary school. Noise at the constant level of a hyperscale data center hurts our children. A NIH publication, “Assessment of Noise Exposure to Children: Considerations for the National Children’s Study,” by Susan Marie Viet, et al. cites the alarming effects, including reduced cognitive function, inability to concentrate, and high blood pressure in children. This science isn’t new – Google and companies like it know better, and they are doing it anyway.

Furthermore, when Botetourt officials have been presented with a chance to prove their loyalties to the voters and taxpayers of this county, they have turned to pledge allegiance to large corporations, leaving us to wonder if money is really what drives democracy, and not the people like we’ve been promised.

Will this “independent board of experts” chosen by the county administrator and the Board of Supervisors really live up to their mission, or will they only represent Google’s interests too?

Amanda Taylor
Troutville

Data center not the only issue that officials face

I grew up in a strong Democratic home. Although I became a Republican and committed conservative long before the Obama years, I have never forgotten one important lesson my parents taught me: never support or oppose a candidate based on a single issue. Instead, look at the whole person, their judgment, and the full range of issues they will face once elected.

Unfortunately, that wisdom seems to be getting lost in Botetourt County.

The proposed Google data center has become the defining issue for many residents. Let me be clear– I am not in favor of the project as currently proposed, largely because of its proximity to so many homes and the impact it could have on nearby

See **Letters**, page 11

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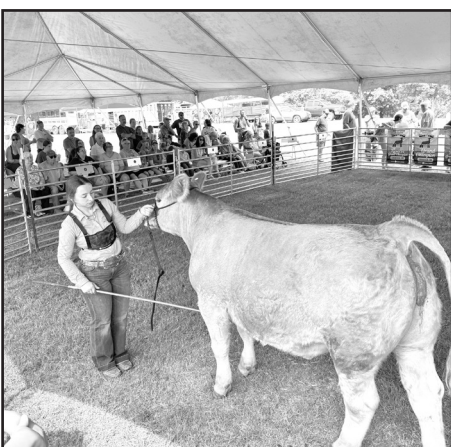
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Fair results

from page 1



Farmhouse photography display



Youth livestock show



Woodcarvings on display



Award-winning cookies



The youth livestock show canopy

PHOTOS BY MATT DE SIMONE

com or visit botetourtcountyfair.com for more information.

Youth Livestock Show results

- Swine**
- Grand Champion Market Hog: Stockton Brown
 - Reserve Champion Market Hog: Foster Brown
 - Grand Champion Breed Gilt: Stockton Brown
 - Reserve Champion Breeding Gilt: Foster Brown
 - Best of Botetourt Beef: Riley Martino
- Goats**
- Grand Champion Commercial Doe: Wyatt Manbeck
 - Reserve Champion Commercial Doe: Walker Manbeck
 - Grand Champion Market Goat: Wyatt Manbeck
 - Reserve Champion Market Goat: Walker Manbeck
 - Best of Botetourt Goat: Wyatt Manbeck
- Lambs**
- Grand Champion Market Lamb: Angie McDonald
 - Reserve Champion Market Lamb: Riley Potter
 - Grand Champion Commercial Ewe: Wren Manbeck
 - Reserve Champion Commercial Ewe: Andi Potter
 - Best of Botetourt Lamb: Wren Manbeck

Youth Poultry Show

- Feather-to-Fork**
- Best Pen of Three: Schylar Zollman
 - Reserve Pen of Three: Jude and Jesse Walker
 - Third Place: Lily and Sadie Holland
- Feather-to-Fork Showmanship**
- Junior Grand Champion: Riley Martino
 - Junior Reserve Champion: Abbott Seay
 - Third Place: Paul Turman
 - Fourth Place: Colton Martino
 - Senior Grand Champion: Schylar Zollman
- Open Showmanship**
- Junior Grand Champion: Riley Martino
 - Junior Reserve Champion: Colton Martino
 - Senior Grand Champion: Gabi Woodson

The fair also recognized supporters of the Youth Livestock and Poultry Auction, including Rockingham Cooperative, Botetourt Farm Bureau, Clara and Travis Holland, Willow Tree Farms, Little Wasprock Farm, Emily Bailey, and Beth Leffel.

Farmhouse at the Fair Results

- Fine Arts**
- Pottery & Sculpture**
- Red Ribbon: Brooklyn Focht
 - Green Ribbon: Avery Focht
- Painting & Drawing**
- Blue Ribbon: Ethan Clemmer (2), Lily Holland, Brooklyn Focht, Susan DeMoss (Best in Show, Best in Botetourt), Brenda Porter
 - Red Ribbon: Schylar Zollman, Abigail Flinchum (2), Addison DeMoss,

See Results, page 7

SALEM RIDGEYAKS VS FAYETTEVILLE WOODPECKERS



AUGUST 5th 6:35 PM

Bark in the Park

AUGUST 6th 6:35 PM

AUGUST 7th 6:35 PM

Toy Story Night

AUGUST 8th 6:35 PM

Outdoors Night

AUGUST 9th 4:05 PM

American Legion Post announces monthly meeting

American Legion Post 240 will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, Aug. 6, at the VFW building at the corner of U.S. 220 and Country Club Road, Daleville.

A social hour with a light supper will be held from 6-7 p.m., followed by the business meeting at 7 p.m. The meeting typically lasts about one hour.

All members and military veterans who are not currently members are invited to attend.

~ Submitted by American Legion Post 240 Board of Directors

Sign up now for JRHS Class of '76 reunion

The James River High School Class of 1976 will celebrate its 50-year reunion on October 31. Class members interested in attending can contact the reunion committee by email: jrhsclassof1976@gmail.com or on its

Facebook page: James River High School Class of 76 Reunion.

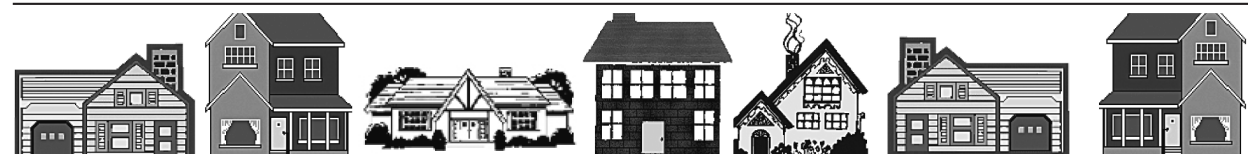
Class members should share their intent to attend (along with contact information) as soon as possible.

~ JRHS Class of 1976

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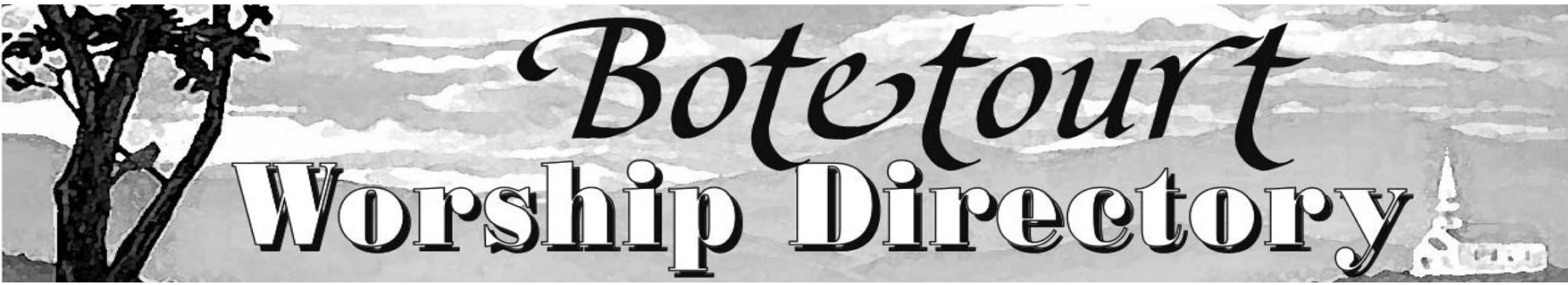
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ANGLICAN
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ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
New Beginnings Assembly of God, 1317 Narrow Passage Rd., 43 North. Sunday School, 10:00a.m.; Worship, 11a.m.; Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study, 6:00p.m., Pastor Steve Tremblay, email: pastorstvetremblay@gmail.com. Everyone welcome.
Troutville Assembly of God, 118 Conner Lane, P.O. Box 728, Troutville, VA 24175, Pastor Dennis Carroll, 540-960-1224, Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church 11:00 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Everyone welcome.

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST
Crossroads Baptist Church - 1128 Wheatland Rd., Buchanan, Pastor Elmer Clemons, (540) 510-0927 Home, Sunday School 10:00 A.M., Morning Worship, 11:00 A.M., Sunday Evening 5:30 P.M., Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 5:30 P.M.
Faith Baptist Church— 4258 Botetourt Rd., Fincastle, VA. 24090, Pastor, Dr. John W. Reynolds, Phone; 540-473-2325, Email: jwr56fbc@yahoo.com, Church website: fincastlefaith.com, Services: 10 A.M. Bible Expositions, 11 A.M. Worship & Children's Church, 7 P.M. Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer, Messages at www.youtube.com/@faithfbaptistchurch9219. We look forward to meeting you.
Lapsleys Run Baptist Church- 608 Zion Hill Road, Fincastle. 540-556-3504. Worship: 2nd & 4th Sundays at 11:00a.m.
New Hope Baptist Church— 2315 Blue Ridge Blvd. (US 460), 977-6610, Pastor David McNeill; Sunday School, 9:45AM; Worship, 10:45AM, 7PM; Wed., Bible Study 7PM; Kings Kids, 7PM; Daycare and Preschool, Mon-Fri. 6:30AM-6PM.

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

SOUTHERN BAPTIST
Bonsack Baptist Church - 4845 Cloverdale Rd. (Alt. 220) Dr. Chris Cadenhead, 977-5701, Sunday School, 8:30a.m. and 11a.m.; Worship 9:45a.m.; Wed. Bible study, 6 p.m.
Buchanan Baptist Church – 19730 Main Street, Buchanan, Sunday Bible Study for all ages 9:45 a.m.; Worship at 11 a.m. Wednesday Fellowship Meal at 6 p.m. followed by Bible Study and activities for all ages. Facebook - Buchanan Baptist Church; Web Site - buchananbaptist.com; Phone - 254-2253, Minister of Music - Stephen Harris
Daleville Baptist Church— Corner of Valley Rd. and Orchard Dr., 992-1570; Senior Pastor Wes Belcher;

Sunday School 9:15 AM, Worship 10:30 AM; Wednesday: Prayer & Bible Study - 6:30 PM, Youth - 6:30 PM

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

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

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

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

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

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

Troutville Baptist Church –P.O. Box 309, Troutville, VA 24175; 992-1026, Rev. Carol Johnson. Sunday School 10:00AM; Worship 11AM. Wednesday: Adult Prayer & Bible Study, 6:15PM; Youth & Children Activities 6:30PM.

Zion Hill Baptist Church— Intersection of Zion Hill Road and Old Fincastle Road. Pastor Donald Goforth (540) 884-2285. Sunday School -10 AM Worship 11AM. Youth Activities (grades 6-12) and Kingdom Kids (preschool-grade 5) Wednesdays at 5:30 PM.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Cloverdale Church of the Brethren— 4708 Read Mtn. Rd., 992-1060; Sunday School, 9:15 a.m., worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wed. (Sept.-May), Family Dinner, 6 p.m., Bible study, 6:45 p.m.

The True Leader

Read Jeremiah 25:1 through 27:22

Jack had stayed up late to watch the election results, but he knew even before the polls closed that he would not like the outcome. His candidate lost. Jack felt ill at the thought of living for years under the political agenda of someone who stood against all he believed in. How could God have allowed this to happen?

“With my great power and outstretched arm I made the earth and its people and the animals that are on it, and I give it to anyone I please. Now I will give all your countries into the hands of my servant Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; I will make even the wild animals subject to him” (Jeremiah 27:5–6).

Almighty God is the One who spoke the universe into existence. He directs the hearts of kings (and other political figures). Nothing happens outside of His knowledge and His Sovereignty. We may be discouraged at the outcome of an election, a judicial ruling, or even the passage of legislation, but God is not surprised or discouraged. We can relax knowing that no matter who is leading the country, God is still in control.

Prayer Suggestion: Ask God to guide your political leaders.

Quicklook: Jeremiah 27:1–11

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., 10 miles N of Buchanan, 254-2298. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m. Pastor Michael Tabor, (540) 309-7595.

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

Troutville Church of the Brethren - 5133 Lee Hwy., 992-1571; Terry R. Johnson, Pastor; Don Obenshain, Choir Director. Sunday Morning Services: Sunday School, 10 am; Worship Service, 11 am. Sunday Night Meetings: Family Fellowship Sept-May. Wednesday Night Bible Study, 6:00 pm Sept-May. Choir practice, 7:00 pm. Praise Band Family Practice Thursdays 7p.m. Family Fellowship Time will be held each 3rd Sunday of the month. Our email address is: troutvillecob@hotmail.com and website is troutvillecob.org.

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. The program may be a Light and Sound Service, a Spiritual video and discussion, or other topics and techniques to help Raise Your Spiritual IQ. The Roanoke ECK Center is located at 1420 3rd. St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. For more information visit www.eck-va.org or call 540- 353-5365. People of all faiths are welcome.

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

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

Wheatland Evangelical Lutheran Church— 1560 Wheatland Road, Buchanan, 24066; 540-254-1605. Sunday worship service, 10:30 a.m. (in person or parking lot, tune car radio to 88.9 FM). Interim Pastor: Phyllis Diamond. 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 – We Present Christ – 45 Woodland Rd. Troutville, VA. Corner of Blacksburg/ Country Club Rds., 3.5 miles W. of Fincastle. 540-632-1515. Pastor: Caleb Lythgoe. Sunday School, 10AM; Worship, 11AM, Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30PM. Website: woodlandchurchbc.com. E-mail address: woodlandchurchbc@gmail.com.

PRESBYTERIAN
Buchanan Presbyterian Church – 19559 Main St. Buchanan. 540-254-1390. Donna Hopkins Britt, Pastor. Choir rehearsal at 9:00 am. Sunday School at 10:00 am. Worship at 11:00 am. Videotaped services can be viewed on YouTube. The Food Pantry is open from 9-11 a.m. on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. Handicap accessible. Facebook page or website: www.buchananpresbyterian.org. Contact www.admin@buchananpresbyterian.org
Fincastle Presbyterian

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

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

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

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

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

Eagle Rock United Methodist Church – 14565 Church St., Eagle Rock, 10:15 AM; Glen Wilton UMC, Main St., Glen Wilton, 9:00 AM; Shiloh UMC, Shiloh Rd, Eagle Rock, 11:15 AM. Pastor Ray Sandifer (540) 525-0258. Mail donations for the building fund to P.O. Box 85, Eagle Rock.

Fincastle United Methodist Church – Sunday School at 9 a.m. in the Family Life Center. In person services Sunday, 10 a.m. in the sanctuary, 136 S. Church St., Fincastle. Service is also live streamed on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@FincastleUMCMedia> or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068517955699>. Reverend Scott A. Robertson-Gouge, office, 540-473-3001. Office hours: Tues., Wed., & Thurs.: 9a.m.-2p.m. E-mail: office@fincastleumc.org.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church – 19 Cedar Ridge Drive, Daleville. Pastor Samuel Plymale, 992-3030. We have one service on Sundays at 10:00am, with Sunday School for children, youth, and adults following at 11:00am. Shipyard Youth meets every Sunday from 4:00 to 6:00pm, unless there is a special monthly mission event. Frogs and Tadpoles Children's Ministry meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, September through April, from 4:00 to 6:00pm.

Trinity United Methodist Church – 19637 Main St., Buchanan; Rev. Greg Knopff, (540) 471-3747, (O) 540-254-2475. Worship, 9:45AM, Sunday School 10:30 AM.

CHURCH NEWS

Big sale at Solomon’s Mission

Solomon’s Mission will hold a sale starting August 6. Fill a large bag for \$1 of household items, pictures, and linens. Clothing will be buy one bag, get one free; shoes are buy one pair, get one free; and furniture is 50% off.

The store will be closed on August 10, and is not accepting donations until August 20.

It is not accepting donations in order to make the area safer with incoming donations and to enlarge the Thrift Store. The store remains open during the remake; if the store needs to close at any point during the remake, updates will be posted on Solomon’s Facebook page.

Pleasant Hill distributing food Saturday

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church will hold its monthly Food Box Ministry distribution on Saturday, August 8. If you or someone you know is in need of food, stop by one of the two pick-up locations from 9-10:30 a.m.:

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, 4930 Country Club Road, Troutville (at the corner of Haymakertown and Country Club Roads); and the Eagle Rock Library, 55 Eagle’s Nest Drive, Eagle Rock.

Buchanan Baptist Homecoming Celebration

Everyone is invited to Homecoming on August 9 at Buchanan Baptist Church.

The church is celebrating its 190th year. Morning worship begins at 11 a.m. and will feature a special message by Caleb Bittler.

A potluck lunch will be served immediately following the worship service. A time of special music and fellowship will follow lunch. There will also be plenty of fun for children with activities on the lawn, plus treats from the Smooshed Ice Cream Truck and the Delcio Icee Truck. Everyone is welcome

Eagle Rock Clothes Closet dates

The Eagle Rock Community Clothes Closet at Eagle Rock United Methodist Church is open Wednesday, August 5, from 5-6:30 p.m., and Saturday, August 15, from 9 a.m. to noon. It offers men’s, women’s and children’s clothing and shoes along with toys and household items. Bags will be provided and patrons are asked to honor the bag limit posted.

Fincastle Clothes Closet August dates

Fincastle United Methodist’s Clothes Closet will be open on Saturday, August 15, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; Tuesday, August 18, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and Saturday, August 29, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Family Life Center at 137 S. Church Street. Donations of gently worn, clean clothing and shoes also will be accepted. Call the church office at 540-473-3001 to arrange to bring donations during office hours, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday.

Botetourt Chorus rehearsals set to begin August 10



FILE PHOTO

The Botetourt County Chorus will begin practice on Monday, Aug. 10 at 7 p.m. at Ebenezer United Methodist Church, 85 Nace Road, Troutville. The chorus is officially on the “Countdown to Christmas.” There will be two concerts: November 8 at Daleville Baptist Church, 375 Orchard Drive, and November 15 at Buchanan Baptist Church, 19730 Main Street.

The chorus is under the direction of Stephen Harris with accompanist Debbie Lester.

Anyone who likes to sing is welcome. No auditions are held. For more information, contact Faye Bolt at 540-798-4049 or Kristie Claytor at 540-556-1563.

~ Submitted by Kristie Claytor

James River High School Class of 1966 plans 60-year reunion

The James River High School Class of 1966 will celebrate its 60-year class reunion on Saturday, Sept. 26.

Organizers are asking classmates who have not yet responded to complete and return their reunion forms as soon as possible. Those who did not receive a mailing or need additional information are encouraged to contact reunion organizer Linda Henninger.

Henninger is also seeking updated contact information for several

classmates whose reunion notices were returned because of incorrect addresses. Anyone with information on Jackie Haymaker Key, Dreama Tolley Wykle, Dwight McDilda, Alice Selby Horton or Delores Hagar is asked to get in touch.

For more information, contact Henninger at -540-589-0958 or by email at lhenninger1@verizon.net.

~ Submitted by Linda Henninger

GriefShare support group beginning session of meetings on August 20

GriefShare is a small support group offering hope and encouragement for those who have lost someone they love through death. St. Mark’s United Methodist Church in Daleville will begin the 13-week fall session of classes on August 20 and end on November 12, meeting every Thursday. There are two sessions to choose from: 10-11:30 a.m. and 6:30-8 p.m.

This group can be joined at any point in the fall cycle.

During this program, participants will view a 30-minute video filled with helpful guidance, discuss grief-related issues, and gain personal recovery tips through a workbook. The videos are available on the GriefShare website to watch following a scheduled session, should a participant miss a session or want

to review a video. It is a secured link for each local site, so the link will become available after registration is completed. This support group is completely free.

Call the church office at 540-992-3030 or Courtney at 540-598-8373 for information and registration. All are welcome to participate.

~Submitted by Courtney Ashby

Results

from page 5

Treva Campbell
• Green Ribbon:
Avery Focht, Sadie Holland

Needlework & Sewing Needlework
• Best in Show:
Lucy Richardson

• Blue Ribbon:
Lucy Richardson, Maribeth Rush, Jordan Lawrence

• Red Ribbon:
Treva Campbell, Hannah Harvey

• Green Ribbon:
Jude Walker

Hand Quilting
• Best in Botetourt:
Chloe Simpson

• Blue Ribbon:
Eleanor Clemmer (3), Chloe Simpson (2), Treva Campbell

Machine Quilting
• Blue Ribbon:
Treva Campbell, Diane Taylor

Knitting & Crochet
• Blue Ribbon:
Abigail Howard, Pat Wertz, Corri Randall, Lucy Richardson (2), Brittany Turman

• Red Ribbon:
Treva Campbell, Pat Wertz, Brittany Bostic

Clothing
• Blue Ribbon:
Jordan Lawrence

• Red Ribbon:
Hannah Harvey

Miscellaneous Needlework & Sewing
• Red Ribbon:
Hannah Harvey, Treva Campbell

Woodworking
Miscellaneous Woodworking
• Green Ribbon:
Hudson Kritzberger, Jesse Walker

Photography
Color Agriculture
• Best in Botetourt:
Sam Wilson

• Blue Ribbon:
Treva Campbell, Beth Leffel, Sam Wilson

• Red Ribbon:
Holly Weddle

Color Miscellaneous
• Blue Ribbon:
Rose Jeter, Holly Weddle, Anna Weddle, Treva Campbell

• Red Ribbon:
Michelle Wolven, Beth Leffel, Schylar Zollman, Jenny Wilson

• White Ribbon:
Sam Wilson, Michelle Flinchum

Black & White Agriculture
• Best in Show:
Emily Beavers

• Blue Ribbon:
Beth Leffel, Emily Beavers, Schylar Zollman

Black & White Miscellaneous
• Blue Ribbon:
Emily Beavers

• Red Ribbon:
Schylar Zollman, Beth Leffel, Michelle Wolven

Crafts
Lego Creation
• Green Ribbon:
Hudson Kritzberger

Home Décor
• Best in Show:
Brenda Porter

• Blue Ribbon:
Brenda Porter

• Red Ribbon:
Treva Campbell, Pat Wertz

Upcycle/Recycle
• Best in Botetourt:
Patricia Kidd

• Blue Ribbon:
Patricia Kidd (2), Emma Calloway

• Red Ribbon:
Hannah Harvey

Miscellaneous Crafts
• Blue Ribbon:
Treva Campbell, Amy Dudley

• Red Ribbon:
Pat Wertz

Baked Goods
Cakes
• Blue Ribbon:
Patricia Wertz (5 Flavor Pound Cake), Beth Leffel (Pound Cake)

• Red Ribbon:
Lily Holland (Pound Cake), Abby Cook (Pixie Pound Cake)

• White Ribbon:
Heather Staley (Bananas Foster Cake)

Cookies
• Blue Ribbon:
Macy Weddle (Fudgy Chocolate Crinkle),

Jamie Barnett (Brown Sugar Chocolate Chip), Stella Zollman (Cherry Cordials)

• Red Ribbon:
Greg & Dawn Lamport (Fresh Strawberry Rhubarb), Debbie Rago (Butter Pecan)

• White Ribbon:
Stella Zollman (Lace Cookies)

• Green Ribbon:
Sadie Holland (Chocolate Chip)

Iced Cookies
• Best in Show/
Best in Botetourt:
Jenna Lawrence (Lemon Crème Pies)

• Blue Ribbon:
Jenna Lawrence, Wren Manbeck (Pig Cookies)

• Red Ribbon:
Greg & Dawn Lamport (Strawberry Rhubarb), Mary Jean Sullivan (Black and White)

Pies
• Blue Ribbon:
Sharon Coleman (Brown Sugar Coconut Pie)

Quick Breads
• Blue Ribbon:
Brittany Bostic (Blueberry Muffins), Brittany Turman (Buttermilk Biscuits)

• Red Ribbon:
Brooklyn Focht (Banana Chocolate Chip Bread), Etta Claire Montgomery (Cinnamon Rolls), Whitney Hogan (Banana Bread)

• Green Ribbon:
Avery Focht (Blueberry Breakfast Snacks)

Sourdough
• Best in Show/
Best in Botetourt:
Emma Calloway (Fresh Rosemary Sourdough Loaf)

• Blue Ribbon:
Jenna Lawrence (Sourdough Loaf), Emma Calloway

• Red Ribbon:
Lucy Richardson (Sourdough Rolls), Amy White (Sourdough Rolls)

Yeast Breads
• Blue Ribbon:
Sharon Coleman (Loaf Bread)

• White Ribbon:
Brittany Bostic (White Sandwich Loaf)

Eggs
Brown Eggs
• Best in Show/
Best in Botetourt:
Rick Woods

• Blue Ribbon:
Schylar Zollman, Rick Woods, Amy White

• Red Ribbon:
Paul Turman

• Green Ribbon:
Hallie Rush, Evan Kritzberger

Colored Eggs
• Red Ribbon:
Amy White, Loreley Seay

Canned Goods
Salsa
• Best in Show:
Michelle Wolven

• Blue Ribbon:
Michelle Wolven

• Red Ribbon:
Whitney Hogan, Victoria Swartz

Jam
• Best in Botetourt:
Jenna Lawrence (Pineapple Habanero Jam)

• Blue Ribbon:
Jenna Lawrence, Amy White (Sour Cherry Almond)

• Red Ribbon:
Jenna Lawrence (Strawberry), Amy White (Sour Cherry), Michelle Wolven (S GriefShare support group beginning session of meetings on August 20

(Strawberry)

• White Ribbon:
Ribbons: Brittany Bostic (Blueberry)

Jelly
• Blue Ribbon:
Emily Bailey (Salted Caramel Apple Pie)

• Red Ribbon:
Victoria Swartz (Red Clover), Amy White (Red Raspberry)

• White Ribbon:
Loreley Seay (Red Bud)

Preserves
• Blue Ribbon:
Brittany Bostic (Blueberry)

Apple Butter
• Blue Ribbon:
Treva Campbell

• Red Ribbon:
Michelle Wolven, Victoria Swartz

• White Ribbon:
Brad Zollman, Mallory White

Vegetables
• Blue Ribbon:
Michelle Wolven (Asparagus), Treva Campbell (Green Beans), Brittany Turman (Carrots)

Cucumbers Pickles
• Best in Botetourt:
Patricia Witt (Refrigerator Pickles)

• Blue Ribbon:
Michelle Wolven (Kosher Dill), Amy White (Lime), Patricia Witt (Refrigerator)

• Red Ribbon:
Victoria Swartz (Dill Bread & Butter)

• White Ribbon:
Ribbons: Brittany Bostic (Refrigerator)

Other Pickled Items
• Blue Ribbon:
Amy White (Pickled Okra), Jenna Lawrence (Pickled Peppers)

• Red Ribbon:
Amy White (Cowboy Candy)

Canned Fruit
• Blue Ribbon:
Amy White (Dried Apples)

Meat
• Blue Ribbon:
Michelle Wolven (Ham & Bean Soup)

Miscellaneous Canned Goods
• Blue Ribbon:
Amy White (Basil Salt), Amy White (Banana Pepper Mustard)

Produce
Melons
• Blue Ribbon:
Rick Woods (Watermelon)

Tomatoes
• Blue Ribbon:
Justin Williamson (Mortgage Lifter), Treva Campbell (Tomato), Beau Thrasher (Roma)

• Red Ribbon:
Rick Woods (Striped Roma)

Onions
• Best in Show:
Rick Woods (Sweet Onions)

Cucumbers
• Red Ribbon:
Treva Campbell

Miscellaneous Vegetables
• Red Ribbon:
Greg & Donna Lamport (Rhubarb)

Harvest Basket
• Best in Botetourt:
Brittany Thrasher

• Blue Ribbon:
Brittany Thrasher

• Red Ribbon:
Treva Campbell

Floral Arrangements
Cut Flowers
• Best in Show/
Best in Botetourt:
Tammy Woods

• Blue Ribbon:
Jeff Sullivan, Ashleigh Kritzberger, Tammy Woods, Clara Holland

• Green Ribbon:
Sadie Holland

Honey
• First Place/Best in Botetourt:
Morgan Wilson

• Second Place:
Ben Witt

• Third Place:
Johnny Eanes

• Additional exhibitors:
Patricia Witt, Brad Zollman, Beth Leffel, Victoria Swartz, Sam Wilson, Jane Huff, Shea & Blakely Whitson.

More photos available online on The Fincastle Herald website.

Serving With Compassion



Botetourt Funeral Home & Crematory

Buchanan

254-3000

14920 Lee Highway

Eagle Rock

884-2276

14777 Church Street

Karen C. Young,
Funeral Director

Locally owned & operated by
I. Ray & Bobbi Sloan



Help Wanted

Fincastle United Methodist Church is seeking a part-time Adult Choir Director

to join our worship team, lead our adult choir effectively and joyfully, and improve and encourage the musical capabilities of our musicians. Responsibilities include selecting music for the choir, leading weekly choir rehearsal (September – June), conducting the choir and congregation for Sunday morning and special services, planning and coordinating special music for summer services, and serving as coordinator/advisor for related musical groups. Qualifications:

- Experience directing church choirs.
- Formal education and background in music or music education.
- Ability to collaborate with, teach, and inspire volunteer musicians in an affirming manner.

Compensation:

- Choir Director: \$11,000 - \$13,000

Please reply to office@fincastleumc.org or call (540) 473-3001

Fincastle United Methodist Church is seeking a part-time Piano and/or Organist

Accompanist to join our worship team and help lead our congregation in meaningful, spirit-filled worship. Responsibilities include playing music for Sunday morning and special services, practicing with and accompanying the choir and other musicians, selecting music, and maintaining our instruments in good working order. Qualifications:

- Proficiency with piano and/or organ
- Ability to sight-read music
- Ability to work collaboratively with clergy, choir, and other musicians
- Strong sense of musicality and sensitivity to worship flow

Compensation:

- Pianist: \$5,000 - \$7,000
- Organist: \$12,000 - \$16,000

Please reply to office@fincastleumc.org or call (540) 473-3001

Cybersecurity Engineer - Operational Technology sought by TMEIC Corporation Americas

in Roanoke, VA, to dvlp & sustain, cybersecurity solutions for project & dvlpmt n/works, computing & virtual machine infrastructure used in industrial automation systems. Availability to travel, domestically & internationally, approximately 10%, w/ limited notice, for site assignments up to approximately 1 month in duration. Min Req: Bach's deg in Comp Engg, Comp Sci, or a foreign equiv deg, & 24 months of N/work/server system dsgn exp; &, 24 months of exp dsgng &/or maintaining n/works, servers & cyber security systems. Must have a Cisco Certified N/work Associate Certification, or equiv or higher rtd certification. Proficiency in MS Windows operating systems & MS Office prgms. Annual salary: \$165,089.60. Send resume to recruitment@tmeic.com. Ref# 8036.

Storage Auction

STORAGE AUCTION
Salem Storage
736 Roanoke Street
Salem, Va. 24153
August 20,2026 at 9:00 AM
Salem Storage will conduct a public sale of merchandise to collect liens from the following delinquent building.
Owner: Linda Devincenzi
Units 29,103
Cash Only
We reserve the right to refuse bids.



Public Auction

SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION TO SATISFY MECHANIC'S LIEN PROPERTY TO BE SOLD IN C/O EXCEL EQUIPMENT, LLC

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that pursuant to Virginia Code §43-34, Excel Equipment, LLC, will offer for sale at public auction, outside the main entrance of the Botetourt County Circuit Courthouse, 205 North Roanoke St., Fincastle, VA, 24090, on August 12, 2026 , at 12:00 p.m., a New Holland L228 Loader (Serial No.: NGM418546) ("Loader"). For reference, a picture of the Loader is included below:



In accordance with Virginia Code § 43-34, Excel Equipment, LLC, is advertising the aforementioned public auction in this newspaper of general circulation in Botetourt County, Virginia. Likewise, notice of the aforementioned sale has been provided to the present owner of the Loader by certified or registered mail at least ten (10) days prior to the sale and notice has been provided to any secured party who has filed a financing statement against the Loader. TERMS: Cash- Bidder's deposit of one-hundred (100%) of the sales price at the time of sale. For Information Regarding the Sale, Contact: Woods Rogers Vandeverter Black, PLC. 10 S. Jefferson St. Suite 1800, Roanoke, VA 24011. (540) 983-7560. For Information Regarding the Loader, Contact: Dustin Cole, Vice-president, Excel Equipment, LLC. (540)-580-6747. The Loader is currently located at 1020 Lee Highway, Roanoke, VA 24019.

Legals - Botetourt County

Commissioner's Sale

Pursuant to the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. Chapter 38A and the Secretary's Foreclosure Commissioner designation, a COMMISSIONER'S SALE of 360 Maple Ridge Lane, Fincastle, VA 24090 (Short Legal Description: TAX ID 27569) will occur at public auction outside the main entrance to the building of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County Circuit Court, VA located at 1 W Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090 on August 21,2026 at 1:00 PM, pursuant to a default of a note secured by a deed of trust executed by Cary W. Obenshain and Patricia Y. Obenshain recorded 4/24/2012, in the Circuit Court for Botetourt County Circuit Court, VA, Instrument Number 120001707, and the Assignment in favor of the Secretary of HUD recorded 10/31/2019, in the Circuit Court for Botetourt County Circuit Court, VA Instrument Number 190004095. THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. TERMS OF SALE can be reviewed by the recorded notice of default on file with the Botetourt County Circuit Court Circuit Court, for which all terms are incorporated herein into this notice. A 10% deposit payable to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development is immediately required for winning bidder in certified funds. Third party certified checks will not be accepted. Full Terms of Sale and opening bids are listed at http://www.virginialawoffice.com/hud. Anderson Law, 2492 N. Landing Rd, #104, Va Beach, VA 23456.

Legals - Botetourt County

ABC NOTICE

THE GLEBE INC. trading as THE GLEBE INC., 200 The Glebe BLVD, Daleville, Botetourt County, VA 24083.

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

ELLEN D'ARDENNE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,-317,20-104 Case No.W240000024 BOTETOURT COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT, 5 W. MAIN STREET, FINCASTLE VA 24090

ESTATE OF RUBY ANN HALL PERDUE, DECEASED

The object of this suit is to: CREDITORS AND ALL OTHERS SHOW CAUSE AGAINST PAYMENT AND DELIVERY OF ESTATE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE AGAINST DISTRIBUTION It appearing that the report of the account of Bria Lashae Stephens, Administrator of the Estate of Ruby Ann Hall Perdue, deceased, and of the debts and demands against her estate have been filed in the Clerk's Office of this Court, and that six (6) months have elapsed since the qualification of the administrator, on motion of Bria Lashae Stephens, Administrator; IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the creditors of and all others interested in the estate do show cause, if they can, on the 6th day of October, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. before this Court at its courtroom in the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, 1 W. Main Street #120, Fincastle, Virginia, 24090, against the payment and delivery of the Estate of Ruby Ann Hall =Perdue, deceased, to pay all the unpaid taxes and levies thereon and all debts and demands reported by the Commissioner of Accounts that are approved and remain unsatisfied, and then to make payment and delivery of the remaining estate, if any, to the heirs, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia with or without refunding bonds, as the Court Prescribes.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the foregoing portion of this Order be published for two (2) successive weeks in The Fincastle Herald, a newspaper of general circulation in The County of Botetourt, Virginia. Enter: July 27, 2026 Honorable Joel R. Branscom, Judge

I ask for this: Michael S. Whitlow, (VSB No. 38320) P.O. Box 779 Roanoke Va 24004 (540) 904-7835 Fax: (866) 684-7835 Counsel for Bria Lashae Stephen, Administrator of the Estate of Ruby Ann Hall Perdue

Legals - City of Salem

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,-317,20-104 Case No. 26-1292 VIRGINIA: IN THE COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ROANOKE COUNTY OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA, Complainant, Vs. PURCELL BARRETT, et al, Respondents. TO: THE RESPONDENTS: The object of this suit is to enforce the lien for taxes assessed by the County of Roanoke, Virginia against certain real property designated as Tax Map Parcel No. 026.19-01-

Legals - City of Salem

27.00-0000. An affidavit having been made and filed that diligence has been used without effect to ascertain the location of Clyde B. Barrett and that there are or may be persons with an interest in the subject property, including heirs, devisees, and successors in title of Clyde B. Barrett and that there are or may be persons with an interest in the subject property, including heirs, devisees, and successors in title of Clyde B. Barrett, who may be deceased, whose names and addresses are unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that each of the parties appear on or before the August 12, 2026, and do whatever is necessary to protect their interests in said land.

It is further ORDERED, pursuant of Va. Code Ann.§8.01-321, that this Order of Publication be published once a week for four (4) successive weeks in the Salem Times, a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Roanoke, and that a copy be posted at the front door of the Courthouse in County of Roanoke, Virginia. Entered this 7th day of July 2026. Hon. Charles N. Dorsey, Judge

I ask for this: Amy H. Geddes, Esquire VSB#38650 OPN Law 3140 Chaparral Drive, Suite 200-C Roanoke Va 24018 Ph: (540) 725-8181 FX:540)772-0126 Email: ageddes@opnlaw.com Counsel for Complainant

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

at its regular meeting on August 12, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold public hearings, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1.Consider the request of Terry Properties of VA Inc., property owner, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow a two-family dwelling on the property located at 432 Chestnut Street, (Tax Map # 161-3-1).

2.Consider amending Chapter 66, Signs, Article I In General, Section 66-11.1 Minor signs during voting, of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA, pertaining to minor signs during voting.

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

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

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA

BY: Christopher J. Dorsey Executive Secretary

VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP

The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Salem Residency which includes the counties of Roanoke, Botetourt and Craig during the winter of 2026-2027. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the

Legals - City of Salem

equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a bonus payment and a minimum guaranteed payment for the season. Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov . All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (https://eva.virginia.gov). Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 18, 2026 may be eligible for a bonus payment. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements. Questions can be directed to the Salem Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday – Friday. Phone: 540-387-5497. Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov EEO/AA Employee

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, August 17, 2026, 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, Sec. 42-397 – Permitted uses. Data centers are currently allowed by right in the General Industrial (I-2) Zoning District, and the request is to require a conditional use permit for data centers in the General Industrial (I-2) Zoning District.

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 the Planning Department, at (540) 382-6128, Ext. 1902 or by email at planning@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP

The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Christiansburg Residency which includes the counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski during the winter of 2026-2027. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the

Legals - Montgomery County

task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a bonus payment and a minimum guaranteed payment for the season. Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov . All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (https://eva.virginia.gov). Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 18, 2026 may be eligible for a bonus payment. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements. Questions can be directed to the Christiansburg Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday –Friday. Phone: 540-381-7201 Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov EEO/AA Employer

NOTICE OF TRUSTEES' SALE OF COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

7120 Roanoke Road, Shawsville, Virginia (a/k/a Shawnee Mini Mart)

9311 Roanoke Road, Elliston, Virginia (a/k/a Elliston Food Mart)

Pursuant to the terms of a Deed of Trust (the "Deed of Trust") dated as of July 22, 2016, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia (the "Clerk's Office") as Instrument Number 160005662, and an Appointment of Substitute Trustee dated November 19, 2018, recorded in the Clerk's Office as Instrument No. 2018008463, the property briefly described below (the "Property") will be offered for sale at public auction on August 14, 2026, at noon, at the Shawnee Mini Mart, 7120 Roanoke Road, Shawsville, VA 24162.

Shawnee Mini Mart - 7120 Roanoke Road, Shawsville, VA 24162:

All that certain lot or parcel of land situate in the County of Montgomery, Commonwealth of Virginia, and being more particularly described as follows:

PARCEL 1: Tax Map Nos. 083-C1 3 13, 083-C2 5 14A, 083-C2 5 17

BEING all of Lots 13, 14A, and 17 as shown on a plat of survey entitled, "Plat Showing Boundary Survey of Lot 13 and Lot 17, Boundary Line Vacation on Lot 14, Lot 15, and Lot 16, and Vacation of Drainage Easement on Lot 14 and Lot 15 'Map of Shawsville Subdivision' located in Shawsville Magisterial District, Montgomery County, Virginia", prepared by Marvi D. Stine, L.S, dated November 15, 2007, designated as Plan No. S-83269, a copy of which is recorded in the Clerk's Office of Montgomery County, Virginia, as Instrument Number 2008001140.

BEING the same property conveyed to 7 Hills, Inc., a Virginia corporation, by deed from Gary D. Creed and Linda M. Creed, dated November 17, 2006, and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office as Instrument Number 06013235.

Elliston Food Mart - 9311 Roanoke Road, Elliston, VA 24087:

All that certain lot or parcel of land situate in the County of Montgomery, Commonwealth of Virginia, and being more particularly described as follows:

PARCEL II: Tax Map Number 059-A A 109

BEGINNING at a point on marked by a monument found, being the point of intersection of Route 754 and U.S. Route 11 & 460 (Roanoke Road); thence N. 29 deg. 59' 21" E. 174.84 feet (shown as 175.00 feet in Deed Book 1037, page 659), to a point marked by an iron pin set; thence S. 58 deg. 41' 04" E. 136.47 feet to a point marked by an iron pin set; thence S. 28 deg. 11' 16" W. 75.63 feet to a point marked by an iron pin set; thence N. 58 deg. 59' 50" W. 55.00 feet to a point

marked by an iron pin set; thence S. 27 deg. 32' 15" W. 97.80 feet to a point marked by an iron pin set; thence N. 59 deg. 35' 06" W. 88.00 feet to a point marked by an iron pin set, THE POINT AND PLACE OF BEGINNING, containing 0.433 acres as shown on that certain plat of survey entitled "Physical Improvement Survey for P.P. Raj, Inc.", dated January 24, 2002, prepared by John R. McAden of Balzer and Associates, Inc., and recorded as Instrument Number 2012006665. Said property further shown and described on Plat of Survey prepared by Anderson & Associates, Inc., dated January 14, 1986, and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia in Deed Book 572, Page 679.

BEING the same property conveyed unto 7 Hills, Inc., a Virginia corporation, by Deed from P.P. Raj, Inc., dated August 7, 2012, and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office as Instrument Number 12006665.

Terms: A deposit in the form of cash or certified funds in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the successful bid will be required at the time of sale. Closing within thirty (30) days of sale. Time is of the essence. The Property is being sold "AS IS" without representation or warranty of any sort or nature concerning its condition. Obtaining possession of the Property shall not be the responsibility of the Trustee or the holder of the note secured by the Deed of Trust, but shall be at the sole cost, risk, and expense of the successful bidder. The successful bidder shall pay for all recording charges, examination of title, settlement fees, and all costs of conveyancing, which shall be by Special Warranty Deed. The Trustees reserve the right to reject any bid(s), withdraw the Property from the sale at any time before the termination of the bidding, keep the bidding open for any length of time, postpone the sale, review the qualifications of all bidders, and amend and/or supplement the terms of sale by verbal and written announcements prior to and/or during the sale. For more information visit Linkous Auction Group at www.linkousauction.com.

The Substitute Trustee may be able to respond to inquiries concerning the sale: N. Reid Broughton, Substitute Trustee Sands Anderson PC P.O. Box 2009 Christiansburg, Virginia 24068-2009 540-260-9011 540-260-0022 (facsimile) rbroughton@sandsanderso n.com

Legals - Town of Vinton

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF A BOND BY THE TOWN OF VINTON, VIRGINIA

The Council of the Town of Vinton, Virginia (the "Council") will hold a public hearing on the proposed issuance of a bond by the Town of Vinton, Virginia (the "Town") at one time or from time to time. The estimated maximum aggregate amount of the bond is \$2,500,000. The bond proceeds are expected to be used to finance capital improvements to the Vinton War Memorial, grounds and infrastructure and costs of issuance of the bond. The public hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, and at which persons may appear and present their views on the proposed bond issue, will be held at 6:00 pm, prevailing local time, or as soon thereafter as the agenda permits, on Tuesday, August 18, 2026, before Council in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia. The Town of Vinton is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you wish to have a reasonable accommodation to participate in this public hearing, please contact Town Clerk Megan Lawless at (540) 983-0607 at least two business days in advance of the meeting to arrange an accommodation.

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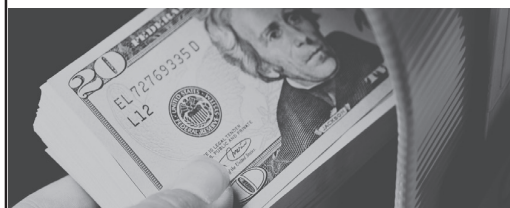
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Bank

from page 4

compliance, Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) and fraud, with the additional responsibility of board recording secretary

- T. Rosa Coffey to enterprise risk and information security officer
- Kelly H. Focht to BSA and fraud officer
- Dana B. Horan to human resources officer.

Annette Lane retires following 14 years of service with Bank of Botetourt. During her tenure, she served as board recording secretary, accounting officer and executive assistant, providing support for executive leadership, shareholder relations, board governance and accounting operations. Prior to joining the bank, she spent 10 years in accounting positions with Norfolk Southern.

A native of Waycross, Ga., Lane earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from Berry College in Rome, Ga., and has called the Roanoke Valley home for more than 30 years. She looks forward to spending retirement with her husband of 45 years, their children and grandchildren.

"It has been a privilege to serve Bank of Botetourt over the past 14 years," Lane said. "I am grateful for the opportunities I've had, the colleagues I've worked alongside and the relationships I've built throughout my career. I wish the bank continued success as it builds on its long tradition of serving customers and communities."

"Annette's professionalism, integrity and unwavering commitment have left a lasting impact on Bank of Botetourt, and we are deeply grateful for her years of dedicated service," said Michelle R. Austin, president and chief executive officer. "As we celebrate her retirement, we are equally excited to recognize Pam, Rosa, Kelly and Dana. Their experience, leadership and commitment to our customers, employees and communities position the bank well for the future."

As part of the leadership transition, Haley Caldwell, accounts payable clerk, will assume responsibility for shareholder relations, while Harris will take on the additional role of board recording secretary. In her role as vice president, head of Deposit Compliance, BSA and Fraud, Harris will continue to oversee deposit compliance, anti-money laundering efforts, fraud prevention and related functions.

A Rockbridge County native, Harris has more than 21 years of banking experience, all with Bank of Botetourt. She is based at the bank's Customer Care Center in Buchanan and remains actively involved in community service, including volunteer work with Habitat for Humanity. She resides in Buchanan with her husband and their daughter.

Coffey has been promoted to enterprise risk and information security officer. In her expanded role, she will oversee the bank's

information security program, enterprise risk management, internal audit and policy administration while continuing to lead cybersecurity initiatives and ensure compliance with industry standards.

Raised in Botetourt County, Coffey brings more than 30 years of financial services experience, including 18 years with Bank of Botetourt. She holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from National Business College, now American National University, and is a Certified Banking Cybersecurity Manager through SBS Cybersecurity. She is an active member of the Roanoke-Blacksburg Technology Council and lives in Buchanan with her husband and two daughters.

Focht has been promoted to BSA and fraud officer. She will partner with Harris in leading the bank's BSA and anti-money laundering program while continuing to oversee fraud prevention initiatives.

A Buchanan native and Ferrum College graduate, Focht has served Bank of Botetourt for 15 years. In addition to her leadership responsibilities, she represents the bank at community fraud awareness programs hosted by local sheriff's offices, chambers of commerce and community organizations, helping educate consumers and businesses about fraud prevention and financial security. She lives in Buchanan with her husband and their two daughters.

Horan has been promoted to human

resources officer. In her expanded role, she will oversee the bank's day-to-day human resources operations while partnering with senior leadership to strengthen organizational effectiveness, support strategic initiatives and advance the bank's employee-focused culture.

Since joining Bank of Botetourt nearly two years ago, Horan has brought more than 15 years of administrative and human resources experience from Virginia Tech, the Virginia Tech Foundation, Hollins University and Roanoke College. She is a Society for Human Resource Management Certified Professional (SHRM-CP) and earned a bachelor's degree in education from Virginia Tech. A Fincastle resident, Horan enjoys photography, traveling and attending Virginia Tech football games with her family. She and her husband celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary this year and have one daughter.

"Leadership transitions are an important part of every organization's continued success," said George E. "Ned" Honts IV, chief operating officer. "We are grateful for Annette's many contributions and wish her all the best in retirement. We also congratulate Pam, Rosa, Kelly and Dana as they assume expanded leadership responsibilities."

- Bank of Botetourt

Market

from page 1

the county's noise ordinance and all applicable development regulations, and limit the approved use to a vision care facility by excluding other medical, dental or health care services.

During the public hearing, residents voiced concerns about the loss of green space within Daleville Town Center, the future of the Botetourt Farmers Market, potential conflicts of interest and the possibility of other medical uses occupying the site.

One of the primary topics during the board's discussion centered on the future of the farmers market, which has operated from the Town Center property for several years.

Supervisors sought clarification on whether the market would continue and what plans exist for a future location. County officials said the market is expected to continue operating while efforts continue to identify a permanent home for it.

The discussion comes more than four years after previous Botetourt Farmers Market managers outlined plans to establish a permanent location and develop a mobile market during a presentation to the board in early 2022.

Before the public hearing began, supervisors verified that Board Chairman Mac Scothorn, who was absent from the July meeting, had a personal interest in the project and would not

participate in discussion or vote on the request.

Planning staff also noted the vision care facility represents the final planned development within Daleville Town Center, bringing completion to the long-envisioned mixed-use project.

The public hearing also prompted a broader discussion about the county's use of the term "Special Exception Permit." Following comments from a resident who said the terminology is frequently misunderstood, the board directed the Community Development Department to add a review of the term to its work plan as time and resources allow. Supervisors authorized

staff to explore alternative language that more clearly communicates the purpose of the approval process while remaining consistent with the county's zoning ordinance and applicable legal requirements.

Construction will move forward following completion of the county's site plan review and permitting process.

In another public hearing, the board unanimously approved amendments to Botetourt County's Sign Ordinance creating a new "Industrial Park Directory" sign classification. The changes, developed collaboratively by the county's Community Development and Economic Development departments, are intended

to address deficiencies in the existing ordinance by allowing directory signs within industrial and commerce parks.

Additionally, the board voted to deny a resolution seeking a Virginia Department of Transportation Revenue Sharing Grant for the proposed Eagle Rock Greenway, a project estimated to cost approximately \$4.84 million. The grant would have provided up to \$2.19 million in state funding, with Botetourt County responsible for a local match of approximately \$2.65 million. Board members indicated they intend to revisit the project and pursue funding opportunities when the greenway becomes a higher priority for the county.

Board

from page 1

five-member commission appointed by the Board of Supervisors will conduct an independent assessment of the proposed Google data center campus.

Commissioners must have no affiliation with Botetourt County government, Google, the data center industry, or advocacy groups with a direct interest in the project. They will serve without compensation and produce a public report detailing the commission's findings. The board will also appropriate funding for the commission's work, including the hiring of outside consultants or experts if needed.

The action came after the Planning Commission unanimously requested authorization to organize a public forum examining water supply and demand in relation to current and anticipated development in Botetourt County. County staff instead recommended establishing an independent commission, arguing that an outside body free from affiliations with the county, Google or the data center industry would provide the most objective and credible

review.

After making his motion, Snyder read from a prepared statement in which he said the proposal was intended to ensure the county would receive an independent evaluation of the proposed Google data center campus rather than advocate for or against the project itself.

"This motion is not about being for or against a data center," Snyder said. "It is about ensuring that our community has access to factual, unbiased information."

He said an independent commission would either reinforce previous analyses conducted by the Western Virginia Water Authority (WVWA), the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (RVARC) and other technical experts or identify additional issues that should be considered before future decisions are made.

"Either outcome benefits Botetourt County," Snyder added.

Snyder also argued the county had an opportunity to establish a process that could serve as a model for other communities facing similar proposals.

"Communities across Virginia and throughout

the nation are grappling with how to evaluate large-scale data center projects," he said. "Botetourt County has the opportunity to help create that blueprint."

Rottman questioned both the proposal itself and the process by which the board arrived at it, saying residents who had attended recent meetings overwhelmingly supported allowing the Planning Commission to continue its work.

Reading from an email she said she had received from constituents, Rottman argued the administration's proposal would further erode public trust.

"This does not address the public's concern about transparency, accountability and truthfulness," she read. "Quite the opposite."

Rottman contended the Planning Commission had already begun identifying the questions residents wanted answered and should remain responsible for organizing an independent review. She outlined an alternative process that would have the Planning Commission coordinate a public forum featuring representatives from Google, WVWA, county administration and an independent water expert. Written questions would be submitted beforehand, with responses made available to the public before the forum.

"I really, really think

that we have to go with the public on this one and hand it over to the Planning Commission," Rottman said.

She later criticized Snyder's prepared remarks, describing them as "generic pabulum" that failed to address what she viewed as the public's desire for an investigation led by the Planning Commission rather than a newly appointed commission.

Michael also supported the independent commission, saying he believed the county first needed to identify the questions requiring expert analysis before seeking answers. He suggested the process should include outside experts and a discovery process conducted independently of both the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission to ensure public confidence in the findings, adding that the effort could cost between \$75,000 and \$100,000.

The board's decision prompted another round of public comment, with many of the speakers criticizing supervisors for rejecting the Planning Commission's request in favor of creating a new commission.

Several residents questioned whether a commission appointed by the board would be viewed as truly independent, arguing the Planning Commission

had already identified many of the questions the public wanted answered regarding water availability and the proposed Google data center campus' potential impacts. Others criticized what they described as a lack of transparency throughout the county's negotiations with Google and said studies examining water resources, environmental impacts and other issues should have been completed before agreements related to the project were reached. Some also urged the county to expand any future review to include potential effects on wildlife and wildlife habitat.

The Southwestern Virginia Data Center Transparency Alliance (SWVA DCTA), which has opposed the proposed Google data center campus, also criticized the board's decision following the meeting.

"Tuesday's meeting torched what was left of the Board of Supervisors' credibility," the organization said in a statement. "Not only did they bypass the Planning Commission's recommendation for a water study free of their influence and clear interest in its outcome, they tried to paint the commission as biased instead."

The organization went on to say the board "acted like their belated, grudging gesture was magnanimous and responsible," calling the decision "both clueless and condescending."

Asked whether it was aware of other localities that have

established independent commissions or similar review processes before considering proposed Google data center projects, a Google spokesperson said Monday, "We don't have anything to include at this time."

A review of publicly available information on several recent Google data center proposals in Virginia and elsewhere did not identify another locality that created an independent commission to evaluate a proposed Google data center campus before local land-use decisions were made.

Following the meeting, the county was asked to clarify several issues raised during the board's discussion, including comments by County Attorney Mike Lockaby, the process for selecting commission members, the commission's budget and whether Snyder prepared his statement independently. The county confirmed Snyder prepared the statement himself and said prospective commission members will be presented to the board for formal appointment. Officials also said no formal budget has been established and that any appropriation will require board approval at a future meeting. Regarding Lockaby's comments, the county said his remarks "were not directed at one specific communication or event."

The board is expected to consider appointments to the independent commission, along with a proposed budget for its work, during its Aug. 26 meeting. Under the framework approved last Tuesday, the commission will have six months from the date its members are appointed to complete its work and submit a written report to the board.

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Stockyard Report

Monday's sale at the
Roanoke-Hollins Stockyard:
158 Head

Cow/Calf Pairs

\$3,200.00-3,300.00

Head Cows \$2,800.00

Bottle Calves \$ 875.00-1,375.00

Graded Steers

400-499 \$434.00

500-599 \$350.00-416.00

600-699 \$351.00-356.00

900-999 \$287.00-309.00

Graded Bulls

400-499 \$402.00

500-599 \$387.00

600-699 330.00

Graded Heifers

300-399 \$381.00-394.00

400-499 \$387.00-418.00

500-599 \$361.00-381.00

600-699 \$332.00-353.00

700-799 \$299.00-309.00

Kill Cows \$100.00-189.00

Kill Bulls \$185.00-205.00

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOTETOURT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

REGULAR MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

The Botetourt County School Board will hold a Regular Meeting of the School Board on Thursday, August 13, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m., immediately followed by closed meeting. The School Board reconvenes to an open public meeting at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at 143 Poor Farm Road, Fincastle, Virginia, with a physical quorum present and electronic access through www.bcps.live. Citizens wishing to address the School Board are asked to complete a Request to Speak form prior to 10:00 a.m. August 13, 2026 at: https://forms.gle/9vZoPXyxZR8bgEoQ6 or by contacting Susan Albert, School Board Clerk, at (540) 473-8263 or by email at salbert @bcps.k12.va.us.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

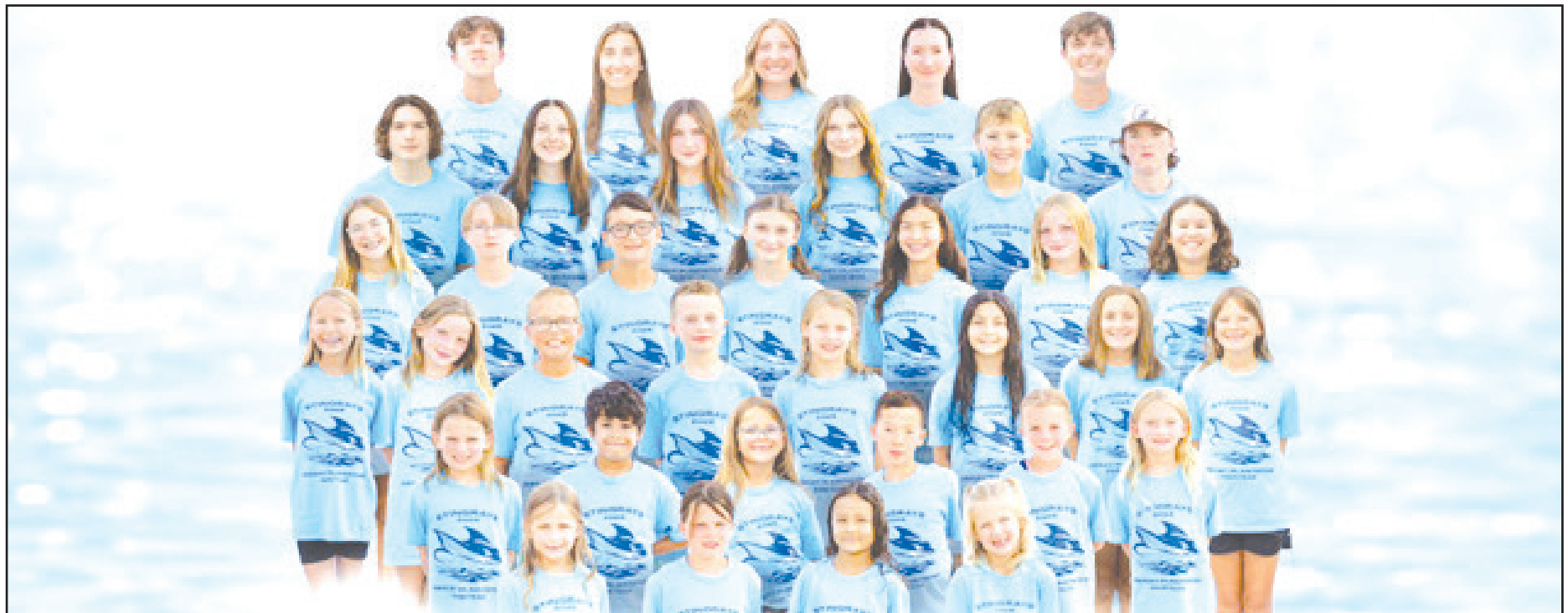
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Botetourt County teams competed in RVAA City-County meet

Three Botetourt County swim teams competed in the Roanoke Valley Aquatic Association City-County swim meet in Lynchburg July 24 and 25. The meet included 13 area swim teams and was held at the Liberty University Natatorium. Olympic Park won the team championship, ending Stonegate’s two-season run as RVAA champ. Stonegate finished second and the Hunting Hills Country Club took third. Locally, Read Mountain was eighth, Ashley Plantation was ninth, and a smaller Limestone Park team finished 13th.



Read Mountain Swin Team



Ashley Plantation Swin Team



Limestone Park Swim Team

COURTESY PHOTOS

Date announced for annual craft show at Lord Botetourt

The Lord Botetourt High School Bands Holiday Craft Show Committee has announced that the annual Holiday Craft Show is returning this year on Saturday, Nov. 14– and says to save the date.

Details are still being finalized. More information, including vendor registration details, will be announced soon.

~ Submitted by Cavalier Bands



FILE PHOTO

LB Golf from page 12

finishing in second place with three rounds of 70.

“I was very lucky to have also played in RLX, with pool match play format, at Bethpage Black, which was definitely one of my favorite courses overall,” said Davidova.

Most recently Alisa played in the VSGA Amateur at the Roanoke Country Club. She made it to the semifinals as the number four seed.

“She has a busy golf schedule, so having her for our district matches is going to be tough,” said LB coach Todd Smith.

Other returning starters include senior Derek Bond and juniors Cole Cecil, Kennedy Carpenter and Jackson Taylor.

Senior Peyton Poff and junior Jonah Dunker have put in a lot of work this off-season and are hoping that will carry over into the season.

“We have six newcomers to the team this year that will hopefully gain experience and contribute as well,” said Smith. “The newcomers are junior CJ Johnson, sophomore Avery Huffman and freshmen Josiah Dunker, Eli Hall, Micah Perdue and Brady O’Quinn.”

Botetourt hopes to contend in a strong Region 3D group and beyond.

“There are a lot of good teams in our region this year, so we will need to be playing our best at the end of the season, said Smith.”

Fall sports are near. Read about them here.
www.FincastleHerald.com

AARP Scam Alert: Spot the Fake Tech Support Scams

A new surge of tech support scams is threatening consumers. Criminals use scary warning pop-up messages, or cold calls pretending to be a major software company to gain access to your device.

Many modern tech support alerts closely resemble real system warnings, making them difficult to detect at first glance. Vulnerable targets include stand-alone home computers, tablets used for online banking, and personal laptops used in busy public Wi-Fi areas.

If your screen freezes or a strange alert pops up, pause before reacting. Reflect on what you might have heard (or read) about scams that start out like

this. To clear the warnings, you may have to shut down your device to get rid of them.

To help stay safe, keep your operating system and antivirus software up to date. If you are concerned that your device may be compromised, get it checked out at a repair shop you trust.

Learn how to spot and avoid scams with AARP Fraud Watch Network. Suspect a scam? Call the free helpline at 877-908-3360 and talk to a fraud specialist about what to do next.

~ AARP

Letters from page 3

residents.

What concerns me just as much, however, is watching this become a one-issue county.

I’ve seen social media pages that once championed conservative values now openly embracing Democratic candidates simply because of their position on the data center. I’ve also watched Delegate Terry Austin be publicly criticized and harassed at community events because he did not respond in the way some

people demanded. Healthy debate is part of our democracy, but intimidation is not.

Botetourt County and the Commonwealth of Virginia face many important challenges. Public safety, responsible spending, taxes, and protecting our constitutional freedoms all deserve our attention. The officials we elect and support will make decisions on all of these issues– not just one.

I hope everyone will take a step back and consider the bigger picture. Disagreement over a single proposal should

not cause us to abandon the principles that have guided us for years or overlook the many other responsibilities our elected leaders must shoulder.

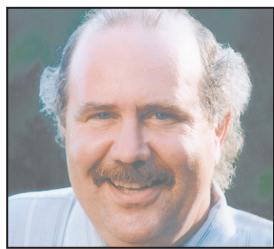
The data center debate will eventually pass. The leaders we choose to support– and the principles we choose to uphold– will have a lasting impact on Botetourt County for years to come.

Sally McGuffin
Blue Ridge

BOTETOVRT

Sports

www.fincastleherald.com



Brian Hoffman

Sports Editor

Football practice begins

Football practice for Lord Botetourt and James River High Schools officially began last Thursday with the fall season fast approaching.

Lord Botetourt’s season will begin sooner than most. For the second year in a row the Cavaliers will play a “week zero” game on Saturday, August 22, which is a week sooner than most everyone else in the state. The Cavaliers will play Rye Cove High School at Emory & Henry University’s field at 7 p.m. on a Saturday.

With that in mind, the Cavaliers will have to rev it up a little quicker under first year coach Nick Leftwich. LB had a Saturday morning practice last weekend and will scrimmage this Saturday, August 8, against New Kent High School. That will be held at Hampden-Sydney College and begin at 10 a.m. The Cavs will have an intra-squad scrimmage the weekend before their opener.

James River High will practice from 4-8 p.m. the rest of this week and won’t scrimmage until Friday, August 14, when the Knights will host Rockbridge County at 6 p.m. The Knights will host Nelson County on August 21 at 6 p.m. before their season opener on August 28 against Auburn at 7 p.m. River’s first two games are at home, with Blacksburg coming to Springwood on the second week of the season on September 4.

Look for previews of the Cavaliers and Knights in a special section of The Fincastle Herald on August 26.



JRHS PHOTOS BY REGINA DEVINNEY | LBHS PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Botetourt Metro is first big tournament of the fall high school golf season

The Lord Botetourt and James River golf teams were scheduled to tee-it up Tuesday in the annual Botetourt Metro Golf Tournament. This year’s tournament was scheduled to include 18 teams at the Botetourt Golf & Swim Club.

This year’s field was wide open. Floyd County was the team winner last year, followed by Auburn in second place,

and Blacksburg in third. This year’s field, in addition to LB and River, included Floyd, Blacksburg, Salem, William Byrd, Glenvar, Franklin County, Northside, Patrick Henry Cave Spring, Hidden Valley, Auburn, Rockbridge, Abingdon, EC Glass, and Jefferson Forest.

Look for results in next week’s Fincastle Herald sports section.



FILE PHOTOS

Mason Gilliland (left) was a first team all-state golfer for James River last year while Landon Bolling (right) was the Region 2C Player of the Year and second team all-state.

High hopes for River golf team with season opening this week

The James River golf team opens play this week with high hopes for a good season. Coach Donna Cox returns a lineup with talent and experience.

The Knights were scheduled to open on Monday with a Three Rivers match at Olde Mill Golf Club, hosted by Carroll County, but that was rained out. Results of Tuesday’s Botetourt Metro at the Botetourt Golf & Swim Club were too late for publication, and on Thursday the Knights will be at the Forest Park Country Club for a match hosted by Martinsville High School.

River has a strong lineup led by returning seniors Landon Bolling and Mason Gilliland. Bolling was the Region 2C Player of the Year last season, shooting a 70 for medalist honors in the region tournament. Gilliland had the second best score with a 71 in the region tourney as River qualified for the state tournament. Gilliland then went on to earn first team all-state honors and Bolling was second team all-state.

“These two are strong players and I look for them to finish at the top in the district,” said Cox. “I’m very excited to get the golf season underway, we have a strong lineup returning.”

Sitting in the number three spot will most likely be rising sophomore Braden Persinger. Braden has spent the summer working on his game and playing in some various tournaments. Returning players Cam Saunders and Trenton Taylor should be competitive this year and rounding out the top six is returning player Mason Francis.

“Not only do we have these six strong players, we have several younger players who will be competing for one of those starting spots,” said Cox. “Rising sophomore Charlie Tingle will be pushing for a starting spot as well as Tucker Hall.”

River has several golfers who will make up the JV program this year. The JV team will be led by eighth grader Everett Hash, who recently placed third in the Drive, Chip & Putt Contest that was held at Birdwood in Charlottesville.

Next week the Knights continue a busy early season schedule. They’re at Great Oaks on Monday for a match hosted by Floyd County and a day later, on August 11, they’re at Hobbs Hole to play Rappahannock High. Then the Knights host a match at the Botetourt Golf & Swim Club on Thursday, August 13 at 1 p.m.

Lord Botetourt returns five of six golfers from last year’s lineup

Expectations are high for the Lord Botetourt golf team with the season getting underway this week. The Cavaliers were scheduled to open in the Botetourt Metro Tuesday at the Botetourt Golf & Swim Club.

Botetourt returns five of six starters from last year’s team, including senior standout Alisa Davidova. She’s not only one of the top female golfers in the area, she’s one of the best among all high school players.

Last fall Alisa was the Blue Ridge District Player of the Year for the second year in a row. She had a busy summer, including a second place finish in the Scott Robertson Memorial Tournament on her home course, the Roanoke Country Club. She shot 72, 68 and 70 at RCC to tie for runner-up in a national field of competitors.

Alisa also played

in a tournament at the Concession Golf Club in Manatee County, Fla. That was quite an experience.

“It was such a great course and it definitely challenged me,” she said. “I was able to meet Nelly there.”

She played in the Dye Invitational at Crooked Stick and finished in the top 10. The course is a private golf club located in Carmel, Ind., a northern suburb of Indianapolis. It was designed by legendary architects Pete and Alice Dye in 1964, and the 18-hole, par-72 championship course is celebrated for its radical design features and challenging greens.

“It was a very memorable tournament,” said Alisa. “I finished top 10 and I was very lucky to have my brother, Samir Davidov, on the bag that week.”

Her fourth big



AJGA PHOTO

Lord Botetourt senior Alisa Davidova had a busy summer on the links.

tournament of the summer was the Rolex Girls Junior Championship at the Sycamore Hills Golf Club in Fort Wayne, Ind.

“It was definitely one of my favorite courses of the summer,” said Alisa. “I was able to put two of the three rounds together and I played in the leader group the last day.”

Davidova also played in the VSGA Junior Girls tournament at the Danville Golf Club,

See LB Golf, page 11



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