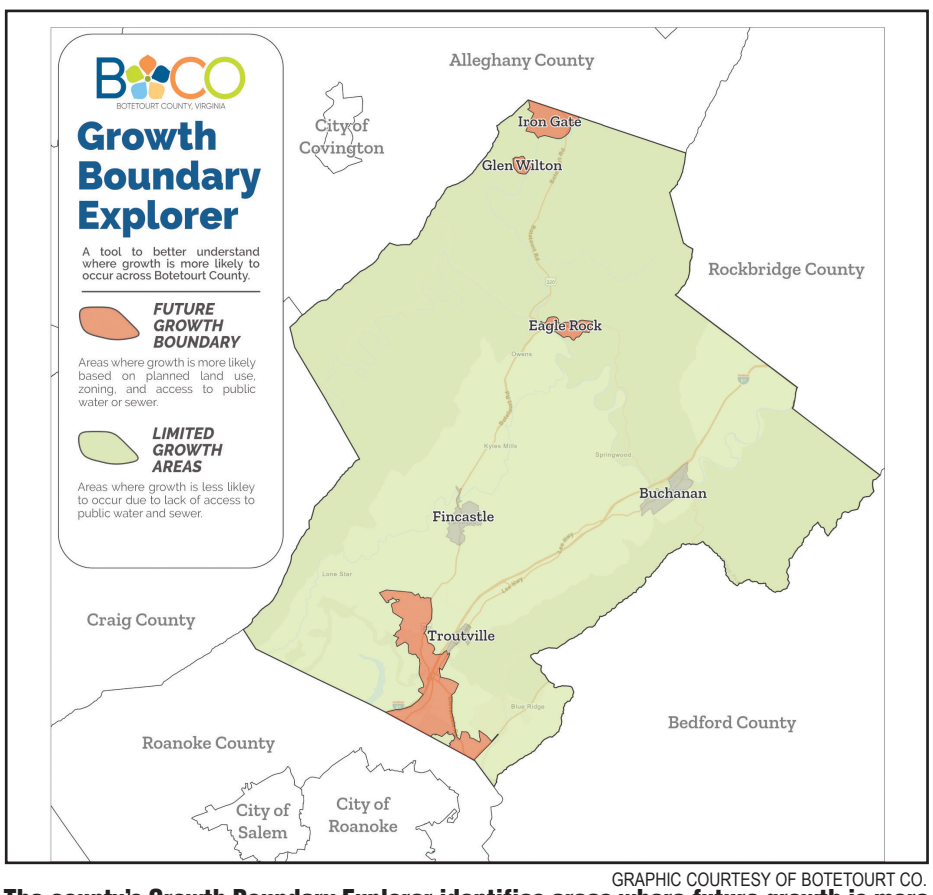
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& Botetourt County News

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GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BOTETOURT CO.

The county's Growth Boundary Explorer identifies areas where future growth is more likely based on land use, zoning and access to public water and sewer.

County updates span growth planning, Eagle Rock cleanup and other projects

Botetourt County officials provided updates on long-term growth planning, the cleanup of a flood-prone Eagle Rock property and several other projects during the Board of Supervisors' Aug. 25 meeting.

The board received a preview of the county's upcoming Growth Boundary Explorer, an online mapping tool intended to help residents better understand where future development is envisioned under the county's long-term land use policies.

The tool is based on the county's 2025 Future Land Use Map and will be made available through the county's GIS resources.

According to county staff, the explorer is intended to provide a visual reference for understanding where different types of development may be appropriate based on the county's Comprehensive Plan and the availability of public utilities.

The county's current long-term plan, Envision Botetourt 2045, was adopted in 2025 and continues a planning strategy that has been used in the county for more than two decades. That strategy generally directs higher-intensity development toward areas where public water and sewer service are available while preserving most of the county for lower-density residential, agricultural, less-intensive commercial and natural-resource uses.

The Growth Boundary Explorer will allow residents to compare the 2025 Future Land Use Map with the previous 2004 map and see how

See **County**, page 10

Grading to begin for Google data center campus in Botetourt County

Grading work is set to begin on Google's planned data center campus in Botetourt County after the company received a Land Disturbance Permit from the county.

According to an Aug. 28 county announcement, Google has satisfied the requirements for the permit, allowing the company to begin phased grading work on the 312-acre site inside the Botetourt Center at Greenfield.

The county said work requiring additional state or federal environmental permits will continue to be reviewed by the appropriate agencies. The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will oversee several environmental permits associated with the project.

No wetlands will be disturbed as part of the project, according to the county. Temporary access across wetlands may be provided using military-style "dry support bridges" to allow construction activities without impacting the wetlands.

The Land Disturbance Permit also requires erosion and sediment control and stormwater management measures intended to manage runoff and reduce the potential for sediment leaving the construction site.

Intermittent blasting is expected

See **Grading**, page 10



FILE GRAPHIC



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

The Dal-Nita Hills subdivision is set to receive improved water service following the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors' unanimous approval of a proposed waterline project.

Supervisors unanimously approve Dal-Nita Hills waterline project

Matt de Simone
Managing Editor

The Botetourt County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a proposed waterline project last Tuesday that officials say will improve water pressure, reliability and fire protection for residents of the Dal-Nita Hills subdivision.

The project, proposed by the Western Virginia Water Authority, calls for approximately 3,800 feet of new waterline along Etzler Drive and Victoria Road. The project includes 12-inch and 8-inch waterline, pressure-reducing valves and four new fire hydrants. The line will connect to the existing public water system at Greenfield Recreation Park.

The project is intended to loop existing waterlines, improve system pressure and reliability, and allow Dal-Nita Hills residents to transition from an aging community well system to the Water Authority's public water network. County staff previously reported that the existing system does not provide enough pressure to support fire hydrants.

The project carries an estimated cost of $1.5 million, according to comments made during Tuesday's meeting. The Water Authority has an annual capital improvement budget of approximately $11 million.

The project became the subject of considerable discussion during the

See **Dal-Nita**, page 5

New solar rules advance, broader review extended through rest of the year

Matt de Simone
mattdesimone@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Botetourt County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved changes to the county's regulations for solar energy facilities last Tuesday while giving the Planning Commission additional time to continue reviewing the county's broader solar policies.

The action came after the Botetourt County Planning Commission unanimously voted Aug. 10 to deny the proposed text amendments in their current form and requested additional time to work on the regulations and related Comprehensive Plan changes.

Community Development Director Nicole Pendleton told supervisors that the Planning Commission had been authorized by the board in May to consider amendments to the county code governing solar energy facilities, including changes to accessory uses, definitions and the permissibility of different types of solar facilities in various zoning districts.

The proposed amendments were prompted in part by changes to

See **Solar**, page 5



FILE PHOTO



Botetourt County History



PHOTO COURTESY OF BCMHC

This historic photograph shows Richard D. Thompson on the left with his father, Grover Cleveland (G.C.) Thompson, Jr. (1925-2007), on the right. G.C. was a prominent dairy and livestock farmer and community leader who lived in Gala north of Eagle Rock. He served on the Board of Directors for The Bank of Fincastle, Dominion Bank, the Roanoke-Hollins Stockyard and the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors.

In the photo they are holding a bag of their hybrid corn which they developed for its resistance to disease. The sale of this locally developed Thompson Seed Corn for grain and silage allowed farmers to purchase varieties that increased their productivity and performance. Farmers didn't have to rely solely on saving kernels of corn from year to year to plant. This demonstrates how Botetourt farmers, seed companies and agricultural researchers contributed to the ongoing effort to improve crops and modernize agriculture throughout the 20th century.

The photo is on loan from Richard Thompson, who continues to own and operate the family farm where this corn is grown. It is on display at the Botetourt Museum of History & Culture in the Home Grown: Botetourt's Agricultural History exhibit.

By examining and learning the stories of local farmers, a new appreciation for Botetourt's history will be gained. Agriculture is still one of the most important businesses in Virginia. "No Farm, No Food."

~ Botetourt County Museum of History & Culture

Clinton recognized for 23 years of service to Botetourt



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT CO.

Del. Terry Austin, left, presents former Botetourt County Supervisor Steve Clinton with a Virginia House of Delegates resolution recognizing Clinton's 23 years of service to Botetourt County during the Aug. 25 Board of Supervisors meeting.

Former Botetourt County Board of Supervisors member Steve Clinton was recognized Tuesday for 23 years of service to Botetourt County and the Amsterdam District, with Del. Terry Austin reading the Virginia House of Delegates' resolution honoring Clinton in its entirety during the Board of Supervisors meeting.

"I know firsthand how beneficial it was for Botetourt County to have Steve Clinton serve on our board as long as he did," Austin said during the recognition. "He's a very responsible individual … He thinks things through to detail. That's really important. Oftentimes, we would collaborate and communicate about issues coming before the board and, sometimes, we would have polar opposite opinions. But through the conversation working together, I often found at times Steve was more on track than I was."

The House approved the resolution March 13, 2026, recognizing Clinton's contributions to Botetourt County during his 23 years on the Board of Supervisors, including multiple terms as chairman.

During his tenure, Clinton helped advance projects and initiatives that continue to affect residents throughout the county, including the Botetourt Sports Complex at Greenfield, Botetourt-Craig Counties Regional Jail, Eagle Rock Library, James River High School renovations, Fincastle Library improvements and the Landfill Convenience Center.

The resolution also recognized Clinton's efforts to support historic preservation, including his work with the Historic Greenfield Preservation Advisory Council and other efforts to preserve and interpret Botetourt County's history.

"It's been an honor and a privilege and one of the greatest circumstances of my life," Clinton said. "But now, to have those years recognized by the General Assembly of Virginia, the House of Burgesses, the longest active legislature of the New World – to be honored by that group is a profound tribute."

Clinton's public service followed a career of more than 25 years in the U.S. Air Force, where he attained the rank of lieutenant colonel.

He also brought an extensive background in engineering, finance and planning to local government. Clinton holds degrees from The Citadel, Radford University and the University of Virginia and held senior leadership positions with engineering and planning firms, including Hayes, Seay, Mattern & Mattern and AECOM.

The House resolution cited Clinton's leadership in advancing community goals, maintaining fiscal responsibility, supporting sustainable growth and helping bring new jobs to the county.

The resolution described Clinton's time on the board as a "legacy of achievements" and directed the Clerk of the House to prepare a copy for presentation to Clinton.

During his remarks, Clinton reflected on what he and fellow board members helped build throughout the county. He also spoke about the importance of creating an environment that "attracts and retains quality employees."

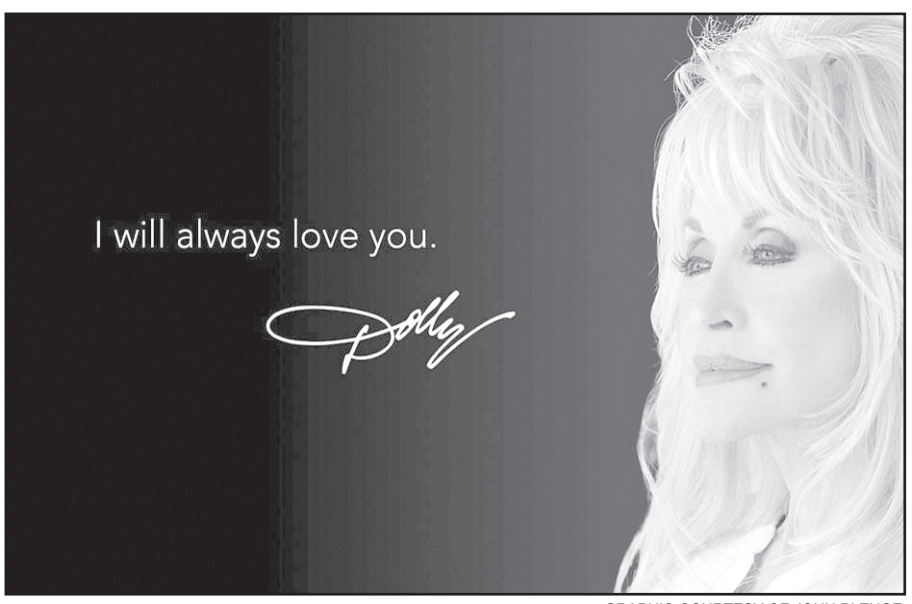
"I firmly believe that Botetourt County doesn't have to accept the status quo," Clinton said. "We can choose to be a community that looks forward and not backward. An economic community that is anxious to participate in an expanding economy. A place where businesses and families can grow and invest their futures."

Clinton's 23 years representing the Amsterdam District make him one of the longest-serving supervisors in the county's history. His tenure included major investments in public facilities, economic development and community infrastructure, as well as efforts to preserve the county's historic resources.

Clinton thanked Austin and the employees of Botetourt County for the recognition and their work during his time on the board.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report

Remembering Dolly



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF JOHN PLENGE

January 19, 1946 – August 25, 2026

Serving as a member of our local Kiwanis Club – the official affiliate partner of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library here in Botetourt County – I have had the privilege of witnessing firsthand the profound impact of Dolly's vision on our youngest children. While the world remembers a musical icon, those who knew her work best remember a woman whose memory was as vast and generous as her heart.

Whether speaking with a stagehand, a lifelong fan, or a local volunteer, Dolly possessed an uncanny gift for remembering names, asking after someone's child, and recalling the small, personal details shared with her years prior. No matter how many millions adored her, Dolly had a rare gift for making whoever stood before her feel like the only person in the room – uniquely cherished, listened to, and remembered.

That radiant kindness was the heartbeat of the Imagination Library. Dolly believed deeply that every child deserved to feel seen and cherished – and putting a brand-new book directly into a child's hands with their name on the mailing label was a direct extension of how she treated everyone she met. As our community mourns her passing, we honor her memory best by carrying forward her warmth: taking the time to listen, remembering the stories of those around us, and continuing to nurture a love of reading in the next generation.

As you celebrate Dolly's life, please consider honoring her legacy by donating to sponsor books for a Botetourt child, volunteering to help with the local Imagination Library, or simply reading a story to a child to inspire a love of reading.

~ Submitted by John Plenge
Kiwanis Children Literacy Community Service Project Chair

Thanks for the beautiful cards, visits, phone calls, and greetings in song. All of the above made my 100th year birthday exciting, full of surprises, and lots of fun.
Catherine Watts

Attic Productions continues 'Puffs'



PHOTO COURTESY OF ATTIC PRODUCTIONS

Hope Glaze as Leanne, Elias Payne as Oliver, Ellie Rosine as Megan, and Sophie Hoagland as Wayne, members of the Puffs House in Attic's current production

Attic Productions is bringing a different perspective to the world of wizardry with its latest production, "Puffs (or: Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic)," Thursday at the D. Geraldine Lawson Performing Arts Center in Fincastle.

Written by Matt Cox and directed by Kalee Weimann, "Puffs" follows a group of students who attend a certain famous school of magic during the same seven years as a certain famous boy wizard,

See **Attic**, page 7

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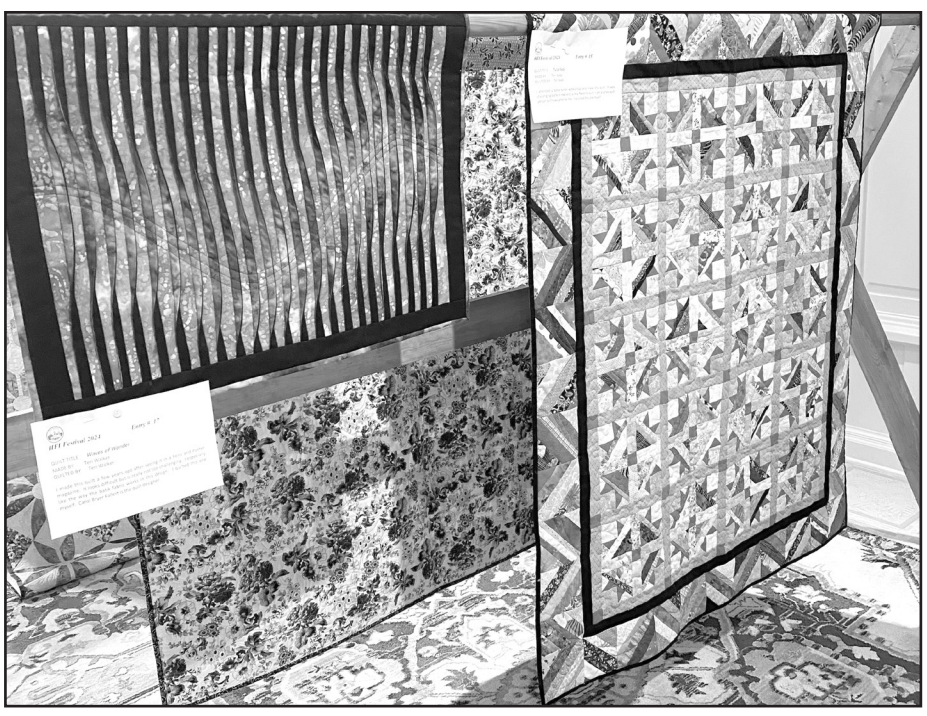
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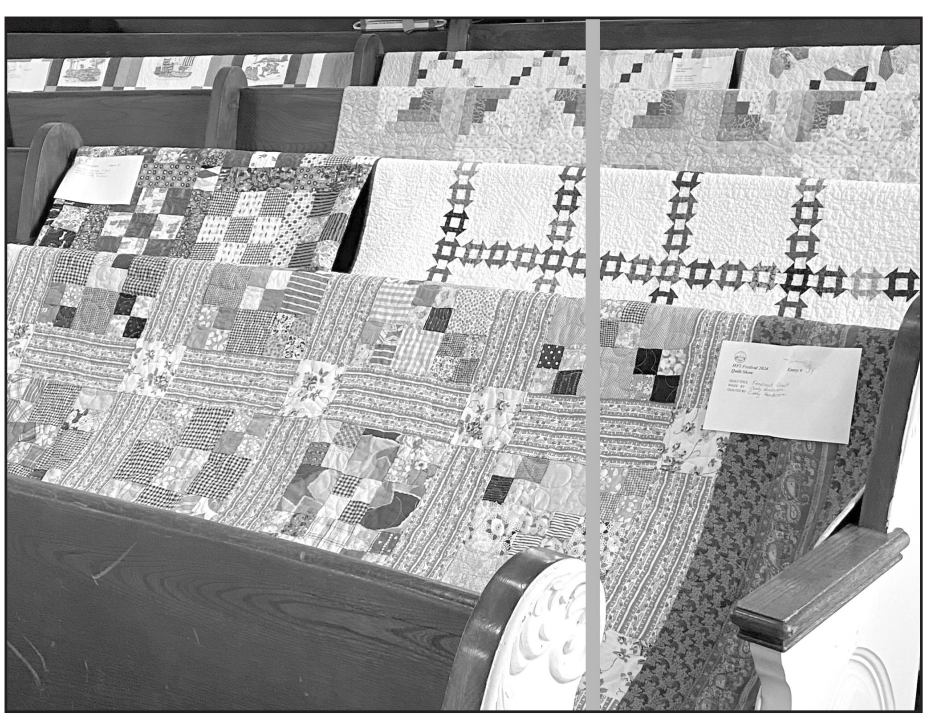
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PHOTOS COURTESY OF LYNNE BOLTON

Historic Fincastle, Inc. Festival Quilt Show accepting entries

Once again this year, the HFI Quilt Show will be held at the Historic Fincastle Baptist Church at 45 East Main Street in Fincastle. Quilt show hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. There will be a Quilt of Valor presentation at 11:30 a.m. on the front steps of the church.

There will be two categories of People's Choice awards presented – General Quilts and Patriotic Quilts. If you are interested in displaying a quilt, go to www.hisfin.org and download an entry form. Either mail it to one of the directors no later than September 16, or email a photo copy of the form and a photo copy picture of the quilt to marcianeighbors@yahoo.com. Bring the form with the quilt to the church on Friday, Sept. 25 from 5-7 p.m.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report

RVRA encourages residents to identify hidden hazards during National Preparedness Month

When most people think about emergency preparedness, they picture flashlights, bottled water, first aid kits, and emergency supplies. But the Roanoke Valley Resource Authority (RVRA) is reminding residents that preparedness also means taking a closer look at what's stored in garages, sheds, laundry rooms, and junk drawers.

In recognition of National Preparedness Month, RVRA has launched a new online resource to help residents identify common household hazards, store them safely, and dispose of them responsibly.

"Preparedness isn't just about having the right supplies when an emergency happens. It's also about reducing the hazards already inside your home," said Tiffany Bradbury, director of Community Engagement for RVRA. "Many everyday products can pose fire, safety, or environmental risks if they're stored improperly or thrown in the trash. Here at RVRA we want to help our residents learn how to keep their families safe from these hidden dangers."

Common household items that require special handling include:

- Lithium-ion and rechargeable batteries
- Paints, stains, and solvents
- Gasoline and automotive fluids
- Pesticides and pool chemicals
- Propane cylinders
- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Cleaning chemicals such as bleach and ammonia

Improper disposal of these materials can increase the risk of fires, chemical spills, injuries, and environmental contamination. Lithium batteries, in particular, have become a growing concern because they can ignite when damaged or crushed in garbage trucks, transfer stations, or landfills. These batteries are found in many household items such as cell phones, laptops, remote controls, toys, electric scooters and e-bikes.

To help residents create a safer home, RVRA has developed a Home Hazardous Waste Safety Plan and a free downloadable Home Safety Checklist that walks families through identifying hidden hazards, safely storing hazardous products, and planning for proper disposal. Residents can access these free resources by visiting: www.rvra.net/beprepared.

~ Roanoke Valley Resource Authority

SALEM RIDGEYAKS VS HILL CITY HOWLERS

SALEM RIDGEYAKS

SEPT. 2 6:35 PM
SEPT. 3 6:35 PM
SEPT. 4 6:35 PM
Fan Appreciation Night
SEPT. 5 6:35 PM
First Responders Appreciation Night
SEPT. 6 2:05 PM

SIRENS AND SALUTES

9/11 Memorial Walk
Buchanan, Va
Friday, September 11
Walk starts at Buchanan Fire House,
Meet at 08:30
Walk promptly starts at 8:46
ALL ARE WELCOME

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF SIRENS AND SALUTES

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Library Buzz

Botetourt County Libraries will be closed on Monday, Sept. 7 in observance of Labor Day.

Teen Takeover

Thu, Sept 3, 4 PM, Eagle Rock

Enjoy fun crafts and activities while building social skills and forging great friendships. Best for ages 12-17.

Podcraft

Fri, Sept 4, 12 PM, Blue Ridge

Join us for PodCraft, a monthly program designed for seniors and adults of all abilities. Each month, we will tune into an engaging, bite-sized podcast to learn about a fascinating new topic—ranging from history and nature to science and culture. While we listen, we'll work on a simple, hands-on craft designed to be enjoyable, stress-free, and great for exercising fine motor skills. Best for ages 19+.

Botetourt Senior Bingo

Tue, Sept 8, 10 AM, Fincastle

Win fun prizes and enjoy social time with this popular game. Offered in partnership with the Botetourt County Sheriff's Office and Parks & Recreation.

Sourdough Starter for Home Bakers

Wed, Sept 9, 12 PM, Buchanan

Explore the world of sourdough in this casual library gathering. Discover helpful cookbooks, exchange recipes, discuss starter care, and learn from the successes and challenges of fellow home bakers. Bringing a baked sourdough item to share is encouraged but not required.

Learn more about Botetourt Libraries at bocolibraries.info

BCO LIBRARIES

Fincastle Friends of the Library book sale

Just in time for the Fincastle Festival, the Fincastle Friends of the Library will hold a used book sale on Thursday, September 24 (9 a.m. to 8 p.m.); Friday, September 25 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.); and Saturday, September 26 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.).

Shoppers will find a wide selection of gently used books, puzzles, games, and movies for all ages and interests. On Thursday, items will be individually priced. On Friday, books may be purchased by the bag for $10, and on Saturday, bags of books will be available for $5. Plan to pay with cash or check.

Thanks to generous donations from members of the community, the Fincastle Library meeting room will be filled with books, movies, and music. Donations will continue to be accepted during the sale.

Proceeds from the sale help support the Fincastle Library through contributions toward furnishings, supplies, programs, special events, and Summer Learning activities. Community support through donations, volunteer service, and purchases at the sale are greatly appreciated.

~ Fincastle Friends of the Library

League for Animal Protection's Waif of the Week

Cherry



Cherry is a little 4-year-old Beagle. She likes to play, but also loves to snuggle, too!

The LAP Shelter is open from 8-11 and 3-5; 540-473-3853. Send donations to LAP, P.O. Box 561, Fincastle, 24090.

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& Botetourt County News

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Letters to the Editor

Letter questions conduct at Board meeting

Last week's Board of Supervisors (BoS) meeting started with a well-deserved recognition of Steve Clinton for his long-time excellent service to his country, county, community and family which received a standing ovation from almost all in attendance.

Did those who remained seated and so rarely silent do so out of their jealousy of his having accomplished so much when they have accomplished so little? Did they ignore the ceremony because of their disdain for him and the great things he did to move Botetourt County forward? Did they do so because they are trained and experienced "leaders" as proclaimed, or "real men" as inferred, by one of them? Or, is it because they are miserable and love to attend BoS meetings to be in the company of other members of the Chronic Complainers Club (CCC)? Are they, for some unknown and baseless reason(s), so proud of themselves that they refuse to acknowledge the achievements of others?

The behavior of some in attendance displayed the highest level of impropriety many have ever seen at a BoS meeting, a total and complete lack of decorum starting with the disgraceful "bachelor party" style dance performed by the wife of an appointed member of the Planning Commission which she and another collaborator exhibited during the citizen comment (not dance) period. Were they trying to emulate something one might imagine could happen in a cheap motel or bar? Emesis bags should have been distributed to the audience beforehand! Those two distasteful dance-hall performers were obviously the "puppets" of one of the BoS members. Did she appear so extremely pleased because their show went exactly as had been planned?

Through the years, many have witnessed the appointment of citizens to various authorities, committees, commissions, councils, organizations, teams, etc., but none recall the third grade elementary school student government association style signs like those displayed by members of the CCC at this meeting, and no one remembers a campaign speech by anyone being considered for such an appointment.

Why was all of the foregoing necessary when, as one charter CCC member who frequently contributes her repetitious drivel, said, "We can always tell who's going to vote for what in here – three of you always vote the same. It's already pre-determined." After all, the vote was four in favor with one abstention, so that tells you just how wrong she was about that, but that is normal for her.

A lot was said about the "right" of a supervisor to make an appointment for his or her district. If it is a "right," why do they even need to vote on it? Hopefully, the disaster emanating from the appointment to the Planning Commission (PC) earlier this year of one chosen by Disgruntled Californian (DC) Rottman may cause some to decide that that method may not be the best for us?

I do not know Mr. Turner. I look forward to seeing him performing as he indicated in his campaign speech. I do not know Mr. Wilkinson, but I hesitate to think he is the culprit he was described by the CCC to be. Rottman knows him and knew the identity of the principals of Summers Properties LLC long before she asked that question. Did she only ask this so she could give CCC members a further opportunity to impugn him?

One of the biggest gripes from the 20-30 CCC members at every BoS meeting is that the BoS doesn't listen to them. That is a total mischaracterization. The BoS listens to them, but most members of the BoS also listen to their constituents who do not express the same concerns as the CCC members express, ad nauseum, at every opportunity. Those are also the constituents who do not attend BoS meetings because they do not want to observe the total lack of decorum displayed there by CCC members. Often the supervisors hear more from the "silent majority" than they hear at every meeting from the loud and obnoxious CCC members.

The email from the DC which Mr. Tyson displayed at the last PC meeting accurately sums up exactly how the "silent majority" feels about dealing with what is allowed to happen at BoS meetings. They remain silent because they actually fear retaliation from those who conduct themselves that

See **Letters**, page 5

Arrests

Aug. 24-Aug. 26, 2026

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests Aug. 24-Aug. 26:

- James B. Cox, 52, of Covington, driving under the influence, Aug. 24
- Lacey N. Hawthorne, 21, of Glasgow, vandalism, obstruction of justice, Aug. 24
- Caton J. Aldridge, 29, of Eagle Rock, domestic assault, Aug. 24
- Sierra N. Aldridge, 29, of Eagle Rock, domestic assault, Aug. 24
- Nathan B. Mullens, 18, of Blue Ridge, driving under the influence, Aug. 25
- Kenneth A. Thomas, 33, no fixed address, petit larceny, Aug. 25
- Cameron M. Blanton, 34, of Roanoke, assault and battery, Aug. 26

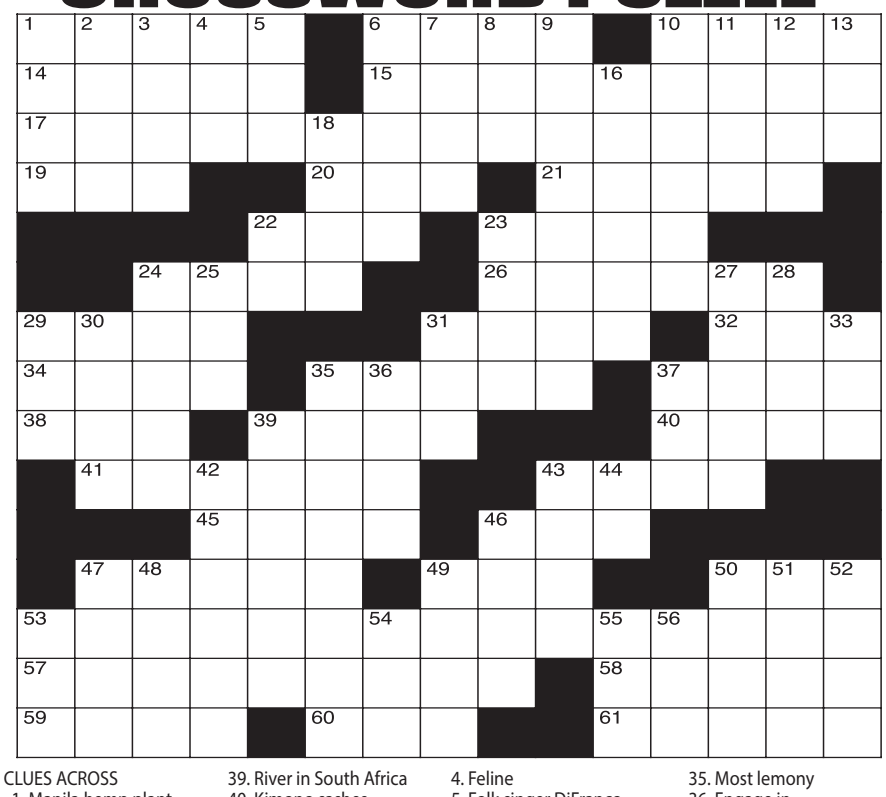


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CLUES ACROSS
1. Manila hemp plant
6. Turkish river
10. Something to read
14. In a way, initiated
15. Popular Apple TV series
17. King Charles is part of it
19. Earlier
20. Foot (Latin)
21. Zodiac sign
22. A browning of the skin
23. Remain as is
24. Turfs
26. ItÕs used to slaughter animals
29. Volcanic crater
31. The mother of Jesus
32. OneÕs life story
34. One-time Liverpool coach Slot
35. Counterparts
37. Jacob __, American journalist
38. Digital audiotape
39. River in South Africa
40. Kimono sashes
41. Rooting somewhere
43. American spy Aldrich
45. A way to call for
46. Taxi
47. Pancakes made of buckwheat flour
49. Swiss river
50. Popular type of video game (abbr.)
53. Have surgery
57. Formal withdrawal from a union
58. Performs spoken improv
59. Greek war god
60. 2,000 lbs.
61. Helps to evade capture

CLUES DOWN
1. Swedish rock group
2. ÒFriday Night LightsÓ director Peter
3. Currency exchange fee
4. Feline
5. Folk singer DiFranco
6. Ghastly pale from distress
7. Rapid eye movements
8. Monetary unit of Macao
9. Lawmakers
10. Colorless mineral
11. At some prior time
12. American protest singer
13. Opener
16. Seldom
18. Relaxing places
22. Touchdown
23. From end to end
24. Kids love him
25. Metal-bearing solid
27. Skin care product manufacturer
28. Thirteen
29. Angry
30. Member of a Semitic people
31. One-thousandth of an inch
33. Former CIA
35. Most lemony
36. Engage in
37. Mass of fish eggs
39. Food supplies
42. Backbones
43. American real estate investment firm
44. Megabyte
46. ÒThree Coins in the FountainÓ songwriter
47. Dutch colonist
48. Full-grown pike fish
49. Emergency prep expert Edwards
50. Flute
51. Dismissive sound
52. Slang term for marijuana
53. Young womenÕs association
54. Cosmopolitan city
55. Narrow isthmus in Thailand
56. Pointed end of a pen

See **Answers**, page 10

Submit your letters to the editor today.

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The Fincastle Herald

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Letters from page 4

way at those meetings. So, they communicate their positions directly to their supervisor who considers all viewpoints when arriving at a decision, not just what is yelled and screamed out by the same few at the meetings.

The subject of personal property tax relief came up at the meeting. The DC mentioned she did not want to cause people to have to pay more in personal property taxes, yet she "hesitantly" moved to take no action to avoid that happening. She ran on reducing taxes, which has yet to be seen. Is this how she fulfills campaign promises?

Mention was made that well drillers are so busy because wells are going dry. That's strange! The well drillers I know say they are so busy because of new construction.

Thankfully, those people in Dal-Nita Hills are finally going to get the water they deserve! I just hope that this is the last we hear about the myth that this is being done for Google, but you can rest assured that more conspiracy theories will emerge!

Does anyone wonder why the DC has to prompt Walt (Michael) to get him to speak up about things before she does? No one has to urge her to speak. She does it far too often, and far too many times while someone else is speaking.

Bob Patterson
Fincastle
Buchanan District

Solar from page 1

Virginia law governing solar energy facilities and battery energy storage systems.

The state legislation limits the ability of local governments to regulate certain aspects of solar facilities while requiring localities to update their zoning ordinances to address matters including setbacks, fencing, screening, visual impacts, grading and decommissioning.

At Tuesday's meeting, supervisors added two amendments specifically addressing agricultural soils.

The first requires applicants for ground-mounted minor or utility-scale solar facilities to identify cultivated lands and predominant soil types, including prime farmland and highly erodible or potentially highly erodible land.

The determination would have to be based either on a current technical determination from the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service or a site-specific soil evaluation prepared by a Virginia-licensed professional soil scientist.

The second amendment adds soil-testing requirements to decommissioning plans for solar facilities in A-1 agricultural zoning districts.

The requirement calls for a preconstruction baseline report documenting soil conditions, including depth, density and quality. The testing would include at least eight boreholes per five megawatts of the proposed facility and would have to be conducted by an accredited laboratory.

Soil conditions would then be tested at the same locations every five years after commercial operation begins and again after equipment is removed during decommissioning.

Restoration activities would be required as necessary to return soil conditions to at least their baseline levels.

Pendleton noted that county staff had not received the proposed amendments before the meeting.

"I did not receive that. I haven't seen it," Pendleton said. "As the zoning administrator who enforces the ordinance, it's really tough to be able to provide a response or reaction to that tonight."

The board unanimously approved the amendments.

According to County Communications Manager Brent Watts, the additional soil-testing and baseline-reporting provisions came out of the board's discussion during the public hearing and were not part of the materials county staff reviewed beforehand.

"We haven't had a chance to fully evaluate any future potential impacts on permitting, costs, or timing yet," Watts said.

The board then approved the broader ordinance as amended while giving the Planning Commission until Dec. 31 to continue working with county staff on changes to the Comprehensive Plan and zoning ordinance related to solar facilities and associated interconnection facilities.

The board's stated intent is for the additional work to give particular consideration to preserving prime farmland, preventing erosion and damage to agricultural soils, protecting steep slopes and similar features, as well as establishing appropriate requirements for decommissioning solar facilities and returning sites to their pre-development condition.

Watts said county staff has not received additional direction regarding specific changes to the Comprehensive Plan or zoning ordinance beyond the discussion and motion at Tuesday's meeting.

"County staff will need further direction and an opportunity to evaluate any proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan," Watts said. Questions about the board's specific intent for the future review, including whether additional amendments are anticipated, would be best directed to individual board members, he said.

The Planning Commission requested additional time to consider how the county's solar regulations should address agricultural land and other land-use concerns while complying with changes in state law. The commission is expected to continue its review through the end of the year.

Dal-Nita from page 1

public hearing, however, because of its proximity to the planned Google data center campus at Botetourt Center at Greenfield.

Several residents questioned why a 12-inch line was being extended toward Dal-Nita Hills and whether the infrastructure could eventually be used to provide water to the data center. Some speakers said they supported providing Dal-Nita Hills residents with better water service but remained skeptical about the project's configuration and the county's assurances that it was unrelated to Google.

Other Dal-Nita Hills residents spoke in favor of the project, citing years of problems with low water pressure, water quality, aging equipment and interruptions in service.

Residents described replacing pumps, water softeners and water heaters because of problems with the existing system. Some also described periods when water had to be brought into the subdivision by truck.

County staff previously reported that recent sampling had detected PFAS in the existing well system.

Amsterdam District Supervisor Tim Snyder thanked Dal-Nita Hills residents for attending the meeting and urged the board to listen carefully to what they had said during the public hearing.

Snyder said the Water Authority already has a 12-inch main in Greenfield and that the proposed project would extend that infrastructure to the neighborhood. He also emphasized that the project would replace the existing water source for Dal-Nita Hills rather than provide water service to the Google campus.

The project's connection to Google became a particular focus of discussion after Snyder made a motion to approve the Commission Permit, which was seconded by Fincastle District Supervisor Brandon Nicely.

Buchanan District Supervisor Linda Rottman questioned County Attorney Mike Lockaby about whether Google could eventually connect to the waterline.

Lockaby explained that the board's action Tuesday was a 2232 review, which determines whether the general location, character and extent of a public facility are consistent with the county's Comprehensive Plan. It does not approve future connections or uses of the line, and a Commission Permit is not a construction permit.

Rottman said she did not fully understand how Lockaby's explanation fit with Snyder's comments and continued to question what would happen if Google sought to connect to the system in the future.

Community Development Director Nicole Pendleton explained that Dal-Nita Hills represents a "little hole" in the area covered by the Water Authority's existing service territory under the Comprehensive Plan. The Greenfield area, by contrast, is already within the designated service area.

Pendleton said Google could connect to the existing water system in Greenfield without requiring the same 2232 review because that area is already contemplated for public water service. A future extension outside the existing service area, however, would require whatever additional approvals are applicable at that time.

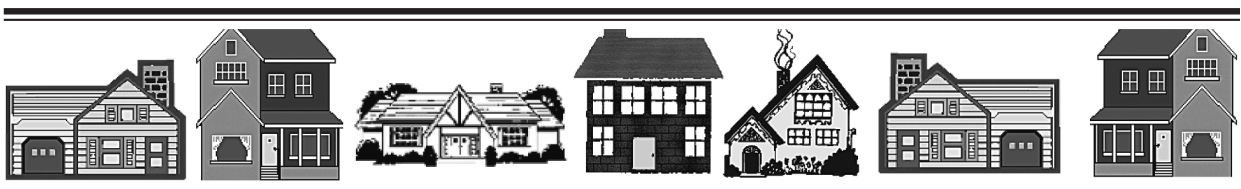
Pendleton also noted that the board's approval of a waterline easement for the Water Authority on county property in May should have included the same 2232 review. She said the Dal-Nita Hills area likely should have been included when the Comprehensive Plan was updated because the project was already part of the Water Authority's capital plan.

The Dal-Nita Hills project previously went before the Planning Commission, where a motion to recommend approval resulted in a 2-2 vote. Because the commission's consideration occurred after the statutory 60-day review period, the application was deemed approved under state and county law and advanced to the Board of Supervisors.

Tuesday's unanimous vote clears the way for the next stage of the project.

Pendleton said the county will notify the Water Authority that the Commission Permit has been approved, after which the approved plans will be taken out to bid.

The project is expected to provide Dal-Nita Hills residents with improved water pressure and reliability while replacing the subdivision's aging well system with public water service.



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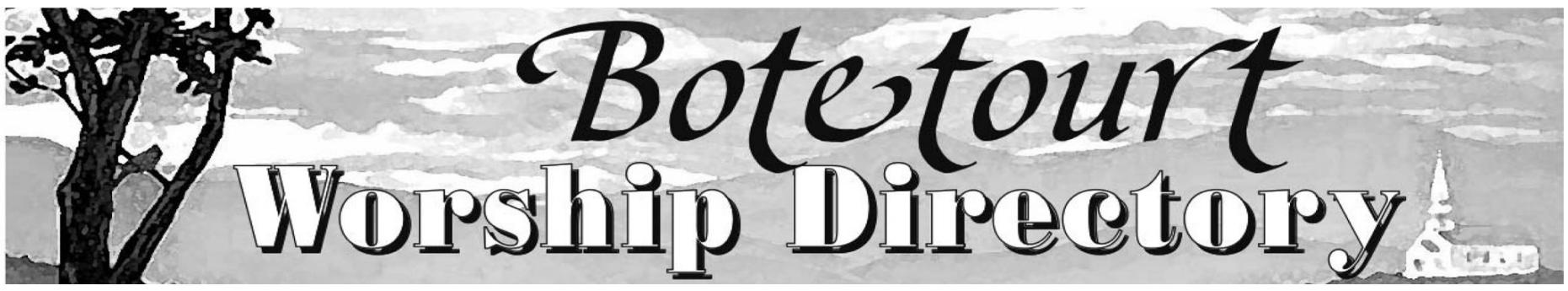
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ANGLICAN

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

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

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

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

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST

Crossroads Baptist Church - 1128 Wheatland Rd., Buchanan, Pastor Elmer Clemons, (540) 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 Johnston. 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. 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 oslroanoke.com. Phone: 540-977- 4888.

Wheatland Evangelical Lutheran Church– 1560 Wheatland Road, Buchanan, 24066; 540-254-1605. Sunday worship service, 10:30 a.m. (Services are live streamed on Face Book). 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.

Honor in Work

Read Proverbs 5:1 through 8:36

In past generations, parents taught their children the value of hard work and faithfulness to their families. People had at least one job. When a person lost a job, he worked very hard to get a new one as soon as possible. He knew hard work honored his family and God.

Maybe times and values have changed, but today it seems like more and more young adults would rather not work at all. An entire generation of young people have been lured away by different types of leisure activities. Scripture warns against neglecting one's work:

A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—and poverty will come on you like a thief and scarcity like an armed man (Proverbs6:10–11).

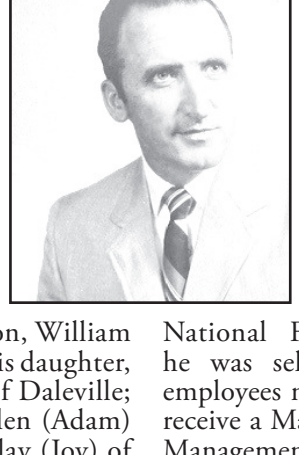
God created people to work hard with the giftedness and talents He gave us. Like no other generation in the world, we have access to education and job training to prepare us for our work. It is good for parents to provide for the needs of their family through the work God has provided.

Prayer Suggestion: Thank God for your talents and abilities and for the work He has placed before you.

Quicklook: Proverbs 6:6–11

OBITUARIES

Lockhart, Robert E.



Robert E. "Bob" Lockhart slipped from his earthly cloak into the arms of his Savior on August 30, 2026 at age 95. He will finally join his beloved wife, Ruby Jewell, who passed in 2011 after 59 years of marriage. He was preceded in death by his parents, William Clay Lockhart and Martha Evelyn Davis Lockhart, and his sister, Janet Battin (Mike).

He is survived by his son, William Bret of Mesa, Ariz., and his daughter, Beth Ann Gold (Chris) of Daleville; grandchildren, Jessica Allen (Adam) of Mesa, Ariz., Jeremy Clay (Joy) of Roseville, Calif., and Emily Reburn (Tyler) of Salem. Surviving great-grandchildren are Dillon, Abby, Briley and Emmy of Mesa, Ariz., Conner and Evelyn of Salem, and Ivy and Reed of Roseville, Calif. Also surviving are his nephew and nieces, Jeff McMullen, Joyce McMullen and Jeannie Ramey of Virginia, and his niece, Tamra Gould of Georgia. Others include cherished relatives, friends, and his Fincastle United Methodist Church family.

He was born February 16, 1931, in Ravenswood, W.Va., during the Great Depression and was raised in Parkersburg, W.Va., graduating in 1949 from Parkersburg High School. He completed his B.S. Degree in Forest Management in 1953 from West Virginia University. During the Korean War he served his country honorably as a still photographer in Germany.

Following his discharge, he began an eventful career with the U.S. Forest Service in the George Washington National Forest at Buena Vista in June 1955. In 1957 he was promoted to District Forest Ranger on a newly created District on the Allegheny National Forest in Ridgway, Pa. Other assignments saw him serving on four Ranger districts, six National Forests, three Forest Supervisor offices, a Regional Forest Office, the Chiefs Office in Washington, D.C. (where he conducted a study that resulted in the staffing of National Forests with law enforcement personnel), and in two state and private area offices (where he provided organization management assistance to 18 State Forestry offices).

In 1961, he was chosen to portray a District Forest Ranger in a movie produced by the U.S. Department of Agriculture depicting the many uses of the National Forests. Also, in 1961 he was selected as one of three employees nationwide to pursue and receive a Master's Degree in Wildfire Management at Yale University. In 1965 he was selected as one of three District Rangers to serve as guides at Lady Bird Johnson's White House Conference on Natural Beauty.

In 1970 he left the USFS temporarily to become the first Head of Forest Technology to train Forest Technicians at Dabney Lancaster Community College (now Mountain Gateway CC) in Clifton Forge. He led the program for five years, leaving as Associate Professor. He returned to the USFS in 1975 and retired in 1987 while residing in Cadillac, MI.

He has been a Golden Member of the Society of American Foresters since 1953. He enjoyed woodworking and created beautiful and functional pieces of furniture. His musical talent was playing the jug in the WVU Forestry Jug Band with whom he enjoyed participating even into retirement. After waiting until age 50 to try his hand at golf, he achieved a hole-in-one during what he called his "duffer" style of golf.

The family will receive friends at Rader Funeral Home on Saturday, September 5, 2026 from 10-11:30 a.m. A funeral service will follow in the chapel of Rader Funeral Home at 12 p.m. Burial will be in Godwin Cemetery in Fincastle, privately for family.

This one-of-a-kind soul served his Lord, protected his country and family and will be forever missed.

Loope, Susan Michelle



Susan "Michelle" Loope, 59, of Botetourt County, passed peacefully on Sunday, August 30, 2026.

She was preceded in death by her father, William G. "Bill" Loope; grandparents, Howard and Katherine Loope; Joseph M. Arrington Sr. and Christine Newman Arrington, all of Botetourt County.

She is survived by her mother, Mary Lee Arrington Loope; brother, J. Glynn Loope (Jill) of Botetourt County; and her niece, Emilee Loope of Jacksonville, Fla.

A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, September 3, 2026 at Evergreen Burial Park with the Rev. Dr. Robert G. Moore, III officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the League for Animal Protection (LAP), P.O. Box 561, Fincastle, 24090.

Longbeards annual banquet September 17

The Botetourt Longbeards Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation is holding its annual fundraising banquet on Thursday, Sept. 17. Again this year the event will be held at the Barn at Back Creek, 528 Back Creek Lane, Buchanan.

Tickets may be purchased from any Longbeards member or online by accessing events.nwtf.org. Questions can be directed to Richard Pauley (540-254-2564) or Ed McCoy (540-339-0622).

~ Botetourt Longbeards

Attic from page 2

only this story focuses on the students who were never destined to save the world.

The fast-paced comedy offers a humorous look at the magical school experience through the eyes of the Puffs, a group known for being loyal, hardworking and perhaps a little less celebrated than some of the school's more famous students.

The show continues through Sept. 6. Performances are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, with 2:30 p.m. matinees on Saturdays and Sundays.

For more information, visit Attic Productions' website or contact the theater at 540-473-1001.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report



FILE PHOTO

CHURCH NEWS

News from Solomon's Mission

Solomon's Mission will be closed on Labor Day, September 7.

Solomon's Mission will have Senior Shopping on Tuesday, September 8 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. This event is open to anyone ages 55 and up. There will be free soup and sandwich available from 12-1.

The Second Saturday Lunch will return on September 12 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Lunch is free and open to all.

Solomon's Mission is located at 592 Lowe Street in Buchanan.

Ice cream supper at Andrew Chapel

Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church will hold its annual ice cream supper on Saturday, September 5, beginning at 5 p.m. Meals include hot dogs or bratwurst with full fixings and chips. A variety of homemade ice cream and desserts will also be available. Music will be provided by Mike Lee & Friends. Proceeds benefit the church building fund. Andrew Chapel is located at 3936 Beaver Dam Road, just off Springwood Road, in Buchanan.

Troutville AOG hosting luncheon

Troutville Assembly of God is hosting a luncheon from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, September 12. All are invited for a time of food and fellowship. The luncheon will be held at the church, 118 Conner Lane in Troutville.

Community Meal at Eagle Rock

The Eagle Rock Potluck Community Meal will be September 14 at 12 noon at the Eagle Rock Community Center. Bring a dish or dessert to share with everyone and come for good fellowship and food.

Fincastle Clothes Closet open dates

Fincastle United Methodist's Clothes Closet will be open on Saturday, Sept. 5, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; Tuesday, Sept. 8, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 19, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., and Tuesday, Sept. 22, 10 a.m.-2 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.

Cloverdale Church of the Brethren Thrift Store

All clothes and shoes are half off at the Thrift Store in September. Shoes and pocketbooks are needed. Donations are welcome and appreciated. The store is open Saturdays, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Buchanan Lions announce annual English Style Tea fundraiser

The Buchanan Lions Club will host its annual English Style Tea fundraiser from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 27, at the Buchanan Community House, 421 Lowe Street, Buchanan.

The event will feature a four-course English-style afternoon tea and silent auction. Attendees will receive a party favor, and the silent auction will include items for a variety of ages and budgets.

Prizes will be awarded for the best tea hat in two categories: adult and children. Dressy attire is suggested.

Tickets are $35 per person and are available from Buchanan Lions Club members.



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BUCHANAN LIONS

Proceeds from the tea and other Lions Club fundraisers are returned to the community through the organization's service efforts, which focus on vision, diabetes care, education and local community needs.

For more information, contact Danette Heinlein at 540-323-3073 or Danette.Heinlein@gmail.com.

The Buchanan Lions Club's motto is "We Serve."

~ Submitted by Buchanan Lions Club

Tuesday Morning Club holds August meeting



PHOTO COURTESY OF TUESDAY MORNING CLUB

The Tuesday Morning Club met at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church on August 11 with 13 members and two guests. Ruby Taylor called the meeting to order. Barbara Harris was hostess and had devotions. Priscilla Hedrick won hostess gift. Nancy Waddell read the minutes. Ruby gave treasure's report. August's project was a donation to the Greenfield pre-school class. The September project is a donation to Keep Fincastle Lit and the Botetourt Resource Center. Barbara Redden and Jill Defede won game prizes. The club meets on the second Tuesday each month at the church. From left are: front, Sheryl Meador, Linda Harris, Dorothy Brogan, Nancy Waddell, Priscilla Hedrick, Dot Hillard, and Barbara Harris; back, Barbara Redden, Cheryl Wood, Julie Harris, Anne Christensen, Jill Defede, Pam Obenchain, Ruby Taylor, and Barrie Knox.

~ Submitted by Nancy Waddell

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The Director of Finance functions in an administrative role to oversee and be responsible for the operations of the Finance Department within the organization.
 Carries out the plans and the activities of the Finance component of TAP;
 Manages the preparation and administration of TAP's budget and advises other TAP officials regarding the same;
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 Manages other components with the development and implementation of financial systems;
 Comprehensive knowledge of fiscal controls, laws and regulations governing receipt, custody and expenditures of federal moneys under agency contract;
 Comprehensive knowledge of Accounting principles and practices;
 Ability to evaluate financial systems and efficiently formulate and install applicable methods, procedures, forms and records;
 BS in Accounting or Finance from an accredited college or university with major work in accounting, finance or business administration. This is to be supplemented with graduate level courses and/or extensive experience in finance, administration, budgeting, federal funding practices and regulations, purchasing and property management.
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 Assists in carrying out the plans and the activities of the Finance component of TAP;
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 Assists in the submission of reports and timely drawdowns of accounts receivable; Assists other components with the development of implementation of financial systems;
 Comprehensive knowledge of fiscal controls, laws and regulations governing receipt, custody and expenditures of federal money under agency contracts;
 Comprehensive knowledge of principles and practices;
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AA/EOE/Drug Free Workplace
Bilingual ability is a plus

Legals - City of Salem

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, September 14, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114. N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1. Consider the request of 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 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA
BY:
H. Robert Light
Clerk of Council

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on September 16, 2026 at 6:30 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1.Consider the request of Roanoke College Trustees, property owner, to rezone the property located at 102 North Market Street (Tax Map # 106-6-1) from RB Residential Business District to CUD College and University District with proffered conditions.

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, Botetotourt 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, rubbertire 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 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 Employe

Legals - Botetourt County

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOTETOURT COUNTY IN RE: ESTATE OF CHARLES ELLIS ALFORD, DECEASED NOTICE

Having been requested to do so by Michael Deneka, Esq., executor of the estate of Charles Ellis Alford, Deceased, and in accordance with Section 64.2-550 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, all creditors of Charles Ellis Alford, and all persons in any way interested in his estate, are hereby notified that I have fixed the 30th day of September, 2026 at 10 o'clock a.m., at my office at 13 South Roanoke Street, Fincastle, Virginia as the time and place for determining an account of the debts and demands against said Charles Ellis Alford or his estate, the priorities among them, and the names of the persons to whom they are due.
All creditors of Charles Ellis Alford, deceased, and persons interested in his estate should appear at the time and place named, or any other time or place to which the proceedings may be adjourned, and protect their interest.
Given under my hand this the 31st day of August, 2026.
Malcolm McL. Doubles
Commissioner of Accounts

Legals - Montgomery County

ABC NOTICE

SUNSHINE EATS LLC, trading as ADDY KATZ, 3165 N. Franklin St., Christiansburg, Montgomery County, Virginia, 24073-4025

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.
Ronald J. Frank Jr. Owner

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.

ABC NOTICE

VD RETAIL LLC., trading as GOOSE CREEK MARKET, 2370 Roanoke St, Montgomery County, Christiansburg, VA 24073

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

Deep Patel, Owner

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.

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 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

Legals - Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL

The Town of Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 22, 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. Conditional Use Permit request by The Economic Development Authority of Montgomery County, Virginia, Property Owner and Applicant, to allow a structure greater than 70 feet in height, specifically a manufacturing area with a footprint of 8,500 square feet and a height of 105 feet, in the General Industrial (I-2) zoning district on property located at 2040 Parkway Drive SE, identified as Tax Parcel 558-((A))-24A (Parcel ID 300149), consisting of approximately 38.102 total acres. The property is designated as Mixed Use w/ Buffer (Industrial) on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.
Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comments in person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the applications, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact 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.

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia
VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,-317,20-104
Case No.CL26-1624
MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIASNBURG, VA 24073
VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY
ALISON JUSTUS, Plaintiff,
v.
UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MELVIN E. SCOTT, INDIVIDUALLY, AND AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE SCOTT LIVING TRUST DATED JUNE 16, 1999,

UNKNOWN HEIRS OF NAOMI W. SCOTT, INDIVIDUALLY, AND AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE SCOTT LIVING TRUST DATED JUNE 16, 1999,

UNKNOWN SUCCESSORS IN TRUST UNDER THE SCOTT LIVING TUST DATED JUNE 16, 1999, and

UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES UNDER THE SCOTT LIVING TRUST DATED JUNE 16, 1999,
Defendant(s).

The object of this suit is to reform the Deed dated August 21, 2003, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, as Instrument No. 2003014538, and confirm title in Alison Justus. An Affidavit having been filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the location of the named Defendant(s), that the Defendant(s) may be non-residents of Virginia and maintain no domicile with ion the borders of the Commonwealth, or are deceased, or that there may be parties who have an interest in the property but are unknown, namely, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the named Defendant(s), made Defendant(s) by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that he named Defendant(s) and all Parties Unknown appear on or before October 14, 2026, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.
Entered 8/17/26
Honorable Robert M.D. Turk
Judge
I Ask For This:
N. Reid Broughton (VSB No. 38899)
Katie M. Decoster (VSB No. 82696)
Sands Anderson PC
P.O. Box 2009
Christiansburg, VA 24068-2009
(540)260-9011
(540) 260-0022 fax

Legals - Montgomery County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia
VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,-317,20-104
Case No.**CL26001226-00**
MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIASNBURG, VA 24073

LUZ MARIA LOPEZ
v.
ILIAK LOPEZ

The object of this suit is to:
DIVORCE
It is ORDERED that ILIAK LOPEZ appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before October 23, 2026 @ 9:00 AM.
Entered August 24, 2026
Honorable Circuit Court Clerk, Tiffany M. Couch

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, September 14, 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. An ordinance of the Town of Christiansburg amending the 2013 Comprehensive Plan by adopting a revised Comprehensive Plan consisting of the following elements:
Government, Environment, Economic Development, Recreation and Destination, Infrastructure, Transportation, Public Safety, Housing, and Future Land Use, including the Future Land Use Map.
Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comments in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the proposed revised Comprehensive Plan 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.

Legals - Town of Vinton

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF VINTON, VIRGINIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that the Vinton Town Council will hold a public hearing at its meeting on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia, concerning the proposed amendment and additional appropriation to the Town of Vinton's FY 2026-2027 budget.
The proposed budget amendment would appropriate $2,500,000 received from a General Obligation Bond and $1,150,000 from unappropriated fund balance in the Capital Fund for the funding of the Vinton War Memorial Renovation Project in the total amount of $3,650,000.
State law requires a public hearing to be held whenever a proposed budget amendment exceeds one percent (1%) of the total expenditures shown in the currently adopted budget. The Town Council intends to consider and may adopt the proposed budget amendment following the public hearing, in accordance with § 15.2-2507 of the Code of Virginia.
Any additional information on this public meeting is available in the Town Manager's Office, located in the Vinton Municipal Building, (540) 983-0607.
Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate in this public meeting should contact the Town Manager's Office at (540) 983-0607.
Megan Lawless
Town Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF VINTON, VIRGINIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that the Vinton Town Council will hold a public hearing at its meeting on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia, concerning the proposed amendments, transfers, and additional appropriations to the Town of Vinton's FY 2026-2027 budget to appropriate funding for projects and activities that were budgeted and appropriated in the previous fiscal year in the total amount of $1,160,000 in the General Fund and the Capital Fund. These previously funded projects include equipment purchases and repairs, contractual services, and capital projects for the History Museum, water infrastructure, and stormwater infrastructure.
State law requires a public hearing to be held whenever a proposed budget amendment exceeds 1% of the locality's total budget.
Any additional information on this public meeting is available in the Town Manager's Office, located in the Vinton Municipal Building, (540) 983-0607. Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate in this public meeting should contact the Town Manager's



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SERVICES

DIVORCE-Uncontested, $525.00 + $89.00 court cost. WILLS-$295.00. No court appearance. Estimated completion time twenty-one days. Hilton Oliver, Attorney (Facebook). 757-490-0126. Se Habla Espanol. BBB Member. https://hiltonoliverattorneyva.com

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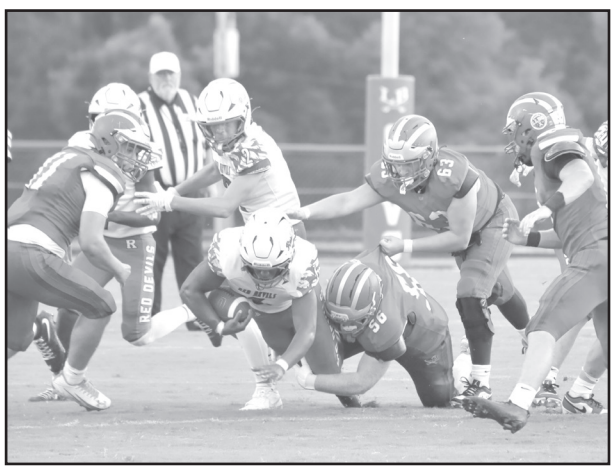
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Cavaliers

from page 12



LB's Beau Lonker (13) runs through a big hole against Rustburg.



Matthew Fuller (56) makes the tackle as Blake Markham (63) swoops in.



PHOTOS BY KATIE PERRY

Lonker and teammate Jackson Crenshaw (10) combine for the tackle.

couple Rustburg fumbles. Callum McCoy led the team with five solo tackles and 10 assists. Lonker had four solos and Gabe Towe had a sack.

Now 1-1, the Cavaliers will have their first of two byes this week. LB will get two byes since they played a game on the "Zero Week" against Rye Cove when most teams in the state were still having scrimmages. Botetourt's second bye will be in week six.

"Bye weeks are good, but sometimes you'd just as soon play when you're coming off a win," said Leftwich. "We'll start getting ready for Magna Vista this week."

The Cavs will host Magna Vista in their next game on September 11. Magna Vista opened with a 41-12 win over Rockingham County High of North Carolina last week. The Warriors are at Martinsville this Friday.

Botetourt's jayvee team defeated Rustburg last Thursday, 29-14. The LB jayvees are also off this week.

Grading

from page 1

during site preparation. The blasting will be regulated by the Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office, which will review blasting plans and must be notified before each blast.

The county said the frequency of blasting will depend on construction needs and site conditions.

Construction and other noise-generating activities will be prohibited between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m. under the county's regulations.

The county's noise ordinance also generally prohibits clearly audible noise at 50 feet from the property line after construction is complete. The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office is responsible for enforcing the county's noise ordinance.

Google has committed to conducting on-site sound monitoring during both construction and ongoing operations, according to the county.

The county said it will continue providing updates as additional county-regulated plans and permits associated with the project are reviewed and approved.

Additional project information and available documents can be found at bocodatacenter.com.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report

County

from page 1

planned land uses have changed over time.

The county's anticipated growth corridor remains concentrated in several areas, including south of Greenfield toward Exit 150, along U.S. 11 toward Cloverdale and the Roanoke County line, and along Alternate U.S. 220 toward U.S. 460.

The county noted that those areas generally correspond with the availability of public water and sewer infrastructure.

The map also identifies established village communities, including Iron Gate, Glen Wilton and Eagle Rock, where the county's plan calls for cautiously welcoming an appropriate mix of residential and commercial development.

Officials emphasized that the map is not a guarantee that development will occur on a particular property. Rather, it is intended to show residents how existing land use policies influence where different types of growth are more or less likely.

Any future changes to the Comprehensive Plan or zoning ordinance would continue to require review and public hearings before the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors.

In Eagle Rock, the county continues to work toward cleaning up the property at 72 Railroad Avenue, after initially facing a significant funding gap following bids for the work.

The county received seven bids for demolition, debris removal and site stabilization, with proposals ranging from $225,051 to $883,959. The county had $132,854 available for the project, leaving a gap of $92,197 even with the lowest bid.

Since the Aug. 25 meeting, negotiations and cost adjustments with the low bidder have reduced the county's remaining contribution to $23,782, according to County Communications Manager Brent Watts. The Board of Supervisors will need to appropriate the additional money at its September meeting to prevent project delays and potential price increases.

The county has also received an extension on the project's grant deadline, moving the completion date from Sept. 30, 2026, to Sept. 30, 2027.

The cleanup involves a property where a commercial structure suffered a substantial structural failure in 2023. The county subsequently conducted limited demolition to address immediate public-safety concerns and prevent additional portions of the structure from falling into the street or onto neighboring property.

The remaining debris has been a longstanding concern in Eagle Rock, particularly because the property sits near the James River and is susceptible to flooding.

The county was awarded up to $241,395 through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, administered through the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, to support acquisition, cleanup and mitigation of the property. The county completed the acquisition in 2026.



FILE PHOTO

The county is moving forward with cleanup of the property at 72 Railroad Ave. in Eagle Rock, where a damaged structure and debris remain following a 2023 structural failure.

Under the grant requirements, the property is intended for future park, open-space and flood plain-management purposes rather than redevelopment.

The planned work includes demolition and removal of the remaining condemned structure, a detached shed and retaining walls, removal and disposal of debris, grading, erosion-control measures, placement of topsoil and seeding.

The board also received an update on the planned reconstruction of the James Breckinridge Law Office and Museum in Fincastle.

The project, which has gone through historical research, programming and concept design since a January kickoff meeting, reached its final concept stage Aug. 25.

The proposed program includes a 494-square-foot James Breckinridge office and museum, a 1,266-square-foot multipurpose interior space, 154 square feet of restrooms and a 349-square-foot balcony.

The presentation included site plans, floor plans, elevations and renderings of the proposed reconstruction, as well as documentation of historic materials salvaged from the original structure.

The board also received an informational update from the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission regarding its regional water study. No action was requested on the study.

Supervisors also approved an amendment to an existing agreement for the Tinker Mountain tower site, correcting the commencement date in the agreement with Vertical Bridge from Feb. 1, 2025, to Feb. 1, 2026.

The next meeting of the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 22, at 2 p.m. at the Daleville Center at Greenfield.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
TOWN OF TROUTVILLE

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of Troutville will hold a public hearing on Monday, September 21, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at Troutville Town Hall, 5419 Lee Highway, Troutville, Virginia, to receive public comment regarding the proposed adoption of new Town ordinances.

Copies of the proposed ordinances are available for public review on the Town of Troutville website.

All interested persons are invited to attend and be heard.

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, September 10, 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. September 10, 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.

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Stockyard Report

Monday's sale at the Roanoke-Hollins Stockyard:

The sale report was not received from the stockyard this week.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Botetourt County Governmental Offices and Libraries will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2026, in observance of Labor Day.

The Citizens Convenience Center located at the County Landfill also will be closed.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

A	B	A	C	A	■	A	R	A	S	■	B	O	O	K
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Cavaliers play Patrick Henry in volleyball Thursday

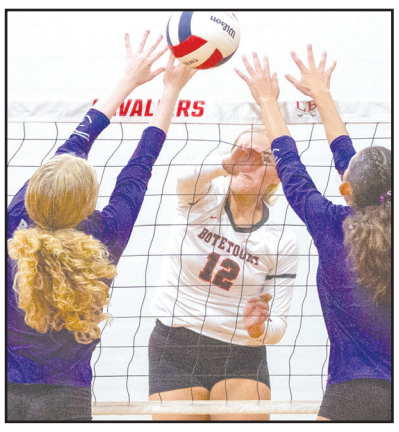
The Lord Botetourt volleyball team will be in Roanoke Thursday for a match with Class 5 Patrick Henry. It will be a rematch of last week's season opener, won by LB in four sets in Daleville.

Ava Stephens had 17 kills in last week's win over the Patriots. After Botetourt won the first set, 25-15, Patrick Henry squeaked by in the second, 29-27. The Cavs then put it away by winning 25-17 and 25-16.

It's been a busy opening week for LB. They were in Christiansburg last Thursday to take on the Blue Demons, who were Class 3 state runners-up last year and had eliminated LB in the region tournament. This was another barn burner, going five sets before it was decided.

Botetourt won the first two sets, 25-23 and 25-13, but the Demons battled back to win the next three in a row, including a 26-24 win in the third set that prevented Botetourt from sweeping. With new life, Christiansburg took the fourth set, 25-19, then won the fifth and deciding set to 15, 15-7, to stun the visitors in the marathon match.

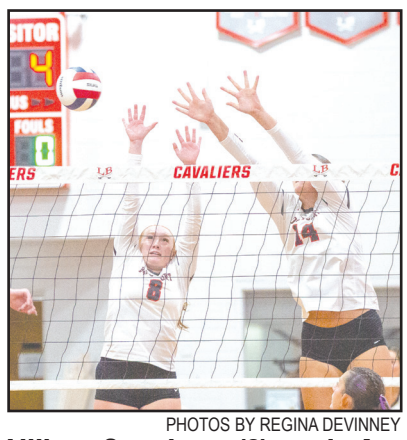
Stephens had 12 kills and seven blocks in this one. Addalyn Underwood had 37 digs and four aces and Lily Crenshaw contributed 33 digs.



Sydney Bergsten of the Cavs hits a spike between two PH defenders.



LB's Addalyn Underwood digs one out.



PHOTOS BY REGINA DEVINNEY

Lillian Crenshaw (8) and Ava Stephens (14) put up a block for LB.

On Monday of this week the Cavs were back on the hardwood to host Tunstall and lost in four. LB won the first set by two points, 25-23, then lost the second by two, 26-24. The visiting Trojans then turned it up a notch to win the last two, 25-19 and 25-18.

Stephens had five blocks against Tunstall to go with nine kills. Skyla Corkin had eight kills and two blocks and Olivia Bergsten had 20 digs.

The Cavaliers will return the trip to Tunstall next Tuesday, September 8.

Slow week for county golf teams

It's a slow week for the county golf teams as Lord Botetourt has just one match scheduled and James River is off after having two events postponed.

Lord Botetourt was scheduled to play in a Blue Ridge District match at the Copper Cove course on Tuesday of this week but results were too late for publication. Last week the Cavaliers played in a district match at the Ashley Plantation in Botetourt County.

The match at Ashley was a nine-hole event and Lord Botetourt won the round with a team score of 142. William Byrd was second at 147 followed by Northside at 150, Franklin County at 159 and Staunton River at 175.

Botetourt's Alisa Davidova and Cole Cecil tied for medalist honors along with David Foster of William Byrd with 33 each. Also scoring for the Cavs were Eli Hall at 37, good for seventh individually, and Derek Bond and Jonah Dunker tied for the fourth spot with 39 each.



PHOTO BY JOHN WACHER

Alisa Davidova hits a drive in last week's Blue Ridge District golf match at the Ashley Plantation.

"As a whole we played really well at Ashley," said LB coach Todd Smith. "We were able to cut Northside's regular season lead down to five with three matches remaining. Hopefully we will keep gaining confidence and make a strong push towards the end of the year."

James River had two matches postponed. Last week's match at the Hanging Rock Golf Club in Roanoke County was postponed by weather and rescheduled for September 17 at 1 p.m. Monday's match at Radford was also postponed and rescheduled for September 14.

Cavs 9-10 team wins opener



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Andrew Eggleston (14) of the Botetourt 9-10 Cavaliers has a big hole in a recreation football league win over Salem at Salem's Spartan Field August 22. The Cavs came from 6-0 down at the half to win the game, 18-6.

Tucker throws out first ball at Yaks game

Andrew Tucker of the Bank of Botetourt throws out the first ball on Military Appreciation Night at the Salem RidgeYaks Carolina League baseball game on August 22. Tucker is a former Marine, and after firing one in he was given the ball by RidgeYaks shortstop Wills Maginnis. Bank of Botetourt sponsored a bobblehead giveaway of Yaks GM Allen Lawrence that day.



PHOTO BY JOHN WACHER

James River wins first two volleyball matches

The James River volleyball team opened the season with two wins last week and will play the same two opponents this week, only at opposite locations.

River opened the season on August 25 with a home match against Staunton River and won in four sets, 25-20, 21-25, 25-20 and 25-21. Ashby Wilkes led the team with 22 kills and also had eight digs. Kendall Childs had 19 assists and seven digs, Auden Jennings had 16 assists, 11 digs and three aces and Kinley Millman contributed nine kills.

"Good competition for the first match," said River coach Linsey Firebaugh. "Staunton River had a lot of athletes, we were just able to serve aggressively and keep them out of system. We had 14 aces as a team and attacked aggressively."

Last Friday the girls were at Parry McCluer and won in three, 25-7, 25-17 and 24-10. Wilkes had a dozen kills.

"Our serving and ball control are what made us dominate this match," said Firebaugh. "Parry McCluer struggled to return the ball from our serving and attacks."

The Knights were scheduled to return the trip to Staunton River on Tuesday of this week but results were too late for publication. Parry McCluer will come to Springwood on Thursday and next Tuesday, September 8, the Knights will host Radford in their Three Rivers District opener.



The varsity girls are off in last week's Blue Ridge Invitational at Greenfield.

County teams host season-opening cross country event at Greenfield

Lord Botetourt and James River High Schools combined to host the Blue Ridge Invitational as the 2026 cross country season took the horn at the Greenfield Recreation Complex last Wednesday. Over 20 high school and middle school teams converged on the Botetourt County course for varsity, jayvee and middle school races for both boys and girls.

"I want to give a huge thank you to James River High School and their coaching staff for doing so much behind the scenes to make this event a success," said Lord Botetourt coach Noel Preece. "We had over 450 middle and high school athletes compete between five races. Greenfield is a fantastic race course for our kids to get to compete on a more traditional-style course, and the hardest course of the season for many of these teams."

The Christiansburg boys and girls swept the varsity races. The best finish by a Botetourt County runner was a sixth in the boys' varsity race by LB's Preston Vaughn. Archer Lee of the Cavs was ninth and James River had two medalists as Maddie Davidson and Braden Jones both medaled, both finishing 11th in their respective races.

"With the meet falling so early in the season this year, we elected to keep our powder dry and only race a few athletes," said Preece. "Our two women, (Claire) Conn and (Brookelyn) Fadia, completed their first-ever cross country races and we are excited to see how they develop over the coming months. We expect these ladies to complement a strong women's team as we look toward the rest of the season.

"All three of our men are returning upperclassmen, and all three clocked best-ever times for the course by over a minute. Vaughn led Lee to a double-podium in the varsity race and (Mason) Tuck bettered his outright personal best by over two minutes, stopping the clock over five minutes faster than his previous best on the Greenfield course."

James River's girls took fourth overall in the varsity team standings behind Christiansburg, North Cross and Radford. The River boys were eighth.

"The boys' team is battling back from sickness this week and some back to school mental fatigue," said coach Daphne Davidson. "No PRs, however this race was much later in the season last year and both of the top runners are running a minute faster in the first race of the season than they ran this same race last year."

The Knights will be back on the trails on Thursday of this week to compete in the Bengal Invitational at the Smith River Complex in Axton. LB's next meet is September 12 at Green Hill Park for the huge Knights' Invitational, hosted by Cave Spring, and James River is also slated to run in that event.



Braden Jones was the first boy across the line for James River.



Macy Weddle comes down the home stretch for River.



Preston Vaughn sprints home for the Cavaliers.



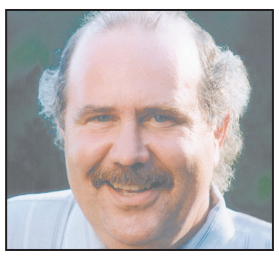
PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Claire Conn runs in the Blue Ridge Invitational for LB.

BOTETOURT

Sports

www.fincastleherald.com



Brian Hoffman

Sports Editor

Cavaliers win home opener to give Leftwich first win as LB coach



Cavaliers celebrate the first victory of the young season.



PHOTOS BY KATIE PERRY

Gus Freeny breaks free for the Cavs.

After a disappointing start to the season the Lord Botetourt football team bounced back with a dominating win in their home opener. The Cavaliers defeated Rustburg in Daleville last Friday, 38-12, to give Nick Leftwich his first win as LB head coach.

"We played much better this week," said Leftwich, after Botetourt opened with a 12-9 loss to Rye Cove on a last minute TD the previous week. "We ran the ball well. We got in our heavy set and controlled the clock."

The Cavaliers used a decided size advantage to run the ball down the Red Devils' throats. Botetourt had 300 yards rushing on 45 attempts with five touchdowns on the ground. LB had two backs go over 100 yards as Beau Lonker had 141 yards on 19 carries and Gus Feeny had 139 on 18. Lonker scored three TDs and Feeny had two. Quarterback Cael Burton passed just three times, completing one to Rylen Wright for five yards.

"There was no need to pass, we figured we could run right at 'em," said Leftwich. "They had some speed but they were small."

After a 6-6 first quarter the Cavaliers put up 13 in the second period for a 19-6 halftime lead. They put it away with two more scores in the third period for a 32-12 lead and then they turned it over to the defense.

"The defense played well," said Leftwich. "We got some turnovers, and we got a break when they snapped one over the punter's head."

Chris Paderick had an interception for the Cavs and LB recovered a

See **Cavaliers**, page 10



Knights bust through the banner to open the 2026 season in Springwood.

Knights open the football season with shutout win over Auburn

The James River football team got the season off to a flying start with a win over Auburn last Friday night. The Knights shut out the Eagles, 21-0, in Springwood.

"It's always good to win your opener, you know you're going to win at least one game," said coach Jack Baker with a smile.

If the Knights keep playing defense like they did Friday night many wins could follow. Auburn didn't get any closer to the James River goal line than 35 yards away all night. The Eagles managed just five first downs and 118 yards of total offense, an average of two yards per play for the whole game.

"Our defense did a nice job," said Baker. "It's always a good feeling to shut someone out."

The Knights scored one touchdown in each of the first three quarters, leading 14-0 at the half and 21-0 after three periods. They ended the game on a 13-play drive, taking 8:05 off the clock.

River relied on the rushing attack, gaining 200 yards on the ground while spreading the work around. Ashton Orange had 62 yards on 14 carries, Merit Hammons had 57 yards on 15 attempts and a score, Ryan Daniels ran once for 28 yards and a touchdown and Bryson Spangler had five carries for 20 yards.

Hammons passed just four times, completing three for 41 yards. One was a 17-yard touchdown to Sam Wilson and Bentley Painter caught two passes for 24 yards.

"What I was really pleased with is that we didn't have a turnover on offense," said Baker. "We only had one negative play all game."

On defense, Orange led the Knights with six solo tackles and two assists, including two tackles for losses totaling 14 yards. Wilson and Keegan Price had six tackles each and Efraim Echavarria had two tackles in the backfield. Painter had an interception, Eli Baldwin recovered a fumble, Hammons had three pass breakups and Daniels broke up two.

This Friday the Knights are home again to host Blacksburg, a Class 4 team from the River Ridge District. The once mighty Bruins have struggled in recent years, going winless for three seasons through 2022, but they're steadily coming back. They won two games in 2023, four in '24 and went 5-6 last year, qualifying for the Region 4D playoffs. The Bruins beat James River in Blacksburg last year, 36-26.

Blacksburg has a new head coach in Phillip Reese, who was on Zack Leonard's staff before Zack moved to William Fleming this year. Blacksburg opened their season with a 27-22 win over Giles last week.

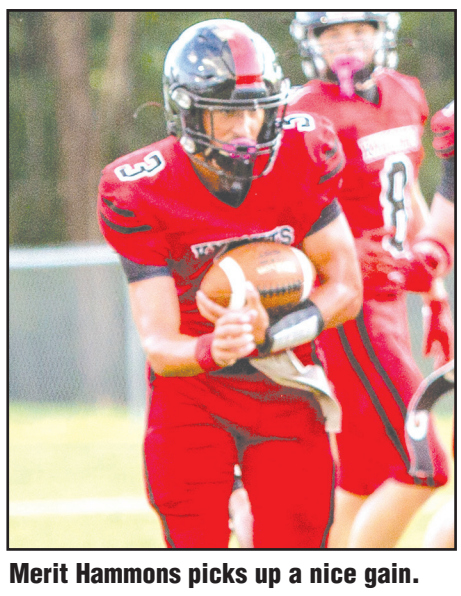
"Their offense is very similar to what they did last year," said Baker. "When you play Giles it doesn't show a true picture of who you are. They run that single-wing and you defend it differently."

The River jayvees played Northside last week and lost 14-6. There is no jayvee game this week.

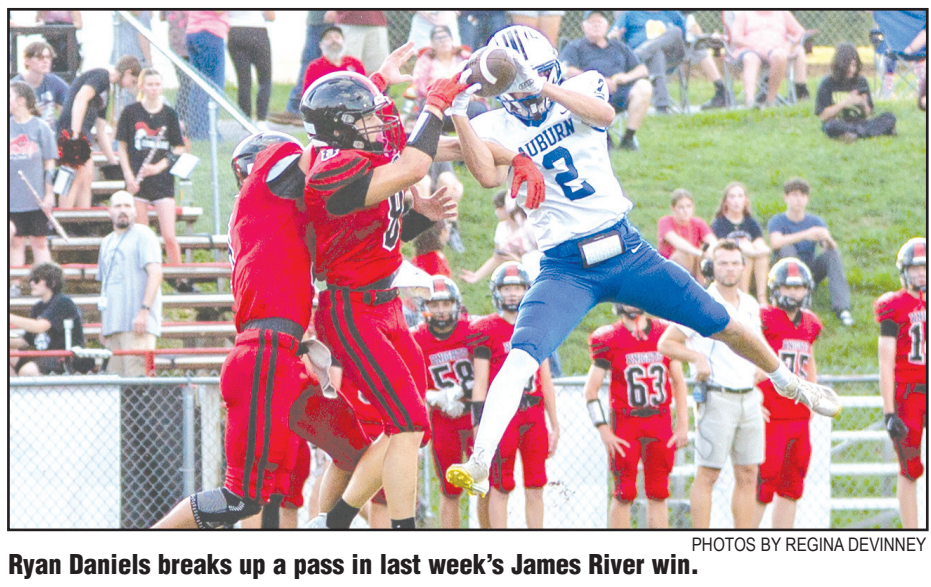
"I thought they made a good showing to have just 14 kids," said Baker of the jayvees.



Bentley Painter picks up yards for the Knights.



Merit Hammons picks up a nice gain.



PHOTOS BY REGINA DEVINNEY

Ryan Daniels breaks up a pass in last week's James River win.



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