The Fincastle Herald

& Botetourt County News

www.fincastleherald.com

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Visitors browse the many exhibits, activities and displays during Saturday's Fincastle Festival.



An antique car show was a hit for many attendees.



Traditional crafts and demonstrations were among the attractions featured during the Fincastle Festival.



PHOTOS BY MATT DE SIMONE

A large crowd peruses the vendors on South Roanoke Street.

Fincastle Festival brings community together

Matt de Simone
Managing Editor

The streets of historic Fincastle came alive Saturday as the annual Fincastle Festival brought residents and visitors together for a day celebrating the community's history, arts and traditions.

Hosted by Historic Fincastle Inc., the festival featured music, food, crafts, historical exhibits, children's activities and demonstrations throughout the center of town. The event was also part of the community's celebration of the nation's 250th birthday.

"Thank you to all of the participants who made the Fincastle Fall Festival this past Saturday one to remember – the crafters and artists, the food trucks, the petting zoo, the musicians, the blacksmiths, the Fincastle Company, the old cars, the touch-a-truck and our local businesses," HFI President Patsy Dickerson said. "The entire HFI Board of Directors helped to plan and volunteer to produce a great event for the community. A special thank you to Lynne Bolton for being the long-time leader of the festival. I'm so glad that so many people came out to 'Experience the Charm of Fincastle.'"

"It was a glorious day!" Lynne Bolton said when asked about the event. "The weather was spectacular and the crowds were a welcome sight to see after three previous years of rain. We value our vendors so much, and are delighted that they had a good day as well."

Visitors explored the Botetourt County Museum of History & Culture, browsed exhibits and historic artifacts, and visited the Wysong Blacksmith Shop, where demonstrations offered a look at the traditional craft.

The blacksmith demonstrations included the creation of several small forged pieces, giving visitors an opportunity to watch the

See **Festival**, page 10

County seeks funding for Eagle Rock cleanup



FILE PHOTO

Rubble remains at the site of a collapsed building at 72 Railroad Ave. in Eagle Rock. The county is moving forward with plans to clean up the property.

Botetourt County is moving forward with plans to clean up a blighted property in Eagle Rock after bids for the work came in significantly higher than available grant funding.

The property at 72 Railroad Avenue, which is now owned by the county, includes a building that partially collapsed in November 2023. At the request of the former property owner, the county pursued grant funding through the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to remove the structure and remediate the property.

The county received a $132,854 VDEM Hazard Mitigation Grant and later sought bids from contractors for the cleanup. Seven bids were received, ranging from $225,051 to $883,959. The lowest bid was submitted by A.R. Coffey & Sons Inc.

County staff worked with VDEM to restructure the

See **Eagle Rock**, page 3



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF TOWN OF BUCHANAN

Buchanan to host Mountain Magic in Fall this Saturday

The Town of Buchanan will celebrate the arrival of fall Saturday, Oct. 3, with its annual Mountain Magic in Fall event at Buchanan Town Park.

The event is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will feature local artisan vendors, food trucks, a car show, live music and other activities.

Vendor applications for the event have closed, with the town thanking those who signed up to participate.

Car show participants may still register the morning of the event.

Live music will be provided throughout the day, with Haymakertown Xpress scheduled to perform from 10 to 10:30 a.m., followed by The Comptons from 10:30 a.m. to noon, Blue Connection from noon to 1:30 p.m., Wasted Ways from 1:30 to 3 p.m. and Mill Creek from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

The town is also seeking volunteers and sponsors to help support the event.

Those interested in volunteering can sign up through the town's online volunteer registration. Sponsorship information is available by contacting jbates@buchanan-va.gov.

Mountain Magic in Fall will offer residents and visitors an opportunity to enjoy fall activities, food, shopping, music and community in downtown Buchanan.

For more information, visit the Town of Buchanan's Facebook page or website.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report

Board denies therapeutic recreation partnership with Roanoke County

Matt de Simone
mattdesimone@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Botetourt County Board of Supervisors has declined to enter into a proposed four-year partnership with Roanoke County that would have provided Botetourt residents with priority access to therapeutic recreation programs for children and adults with disabilities.

The board voted Sept. 22 to deny a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that would have committed $15,000 annually to Roanoke County's Therapeutic Recreation Services program. The proposed MOU would have run from Oct. 1, 2026, through Sept. 30, 2030, with the possibility of annual renewals.

The existing Roanoke County program offers activities including summer camps, social and leisure programs, life-skills activities, cultural arts, health and wellness activities, outdoor recreation and community outings. Under the proposed agreement, eligible Botetourt residents would have received priority registration but would not have been guaranteed a spot in any particular program.

Parks & Recreation Director

See **Recreation**, page 5

2026 SEASON

DALEVILLE town center

Scan here for complete event schedule, and details.

OCTOBER 3

BOTETOURT FARMERS MARKET DALEVILLE TOWN CENTER

8:30 - NOON

OUT OF SPITE

THAT 80's SHOW

5-9PM

OCTOBER 10

BOTETOURT FARMERS MARKET DALEVILLE TOWN CENTER

5-9PM

Botetourt County History



PHOTO COURTESY OF BCMHC

Glenda M. Snyder is shown on the right with four of her students holding their 4-H ribbons many years ago. Glenda began her career as Botetourt's Unit Director in 1979 and went on to become the county's 4-H Extension Agent for three decades. This photo is part of the "Home Grown: Botetourt's Agricultural History" exhibit. It is also on a slide show that captures some of the people, places and traditions that have shaped Botetourt's rich history. The 4-H name in Virginia was officially adopted in 1920. It is structured around four primary pillars: stem education, agriculture, healthy living and civic engagement.

The Botetourt Museum of History & Culture will have a program to celebrate National 4-H Week on Thursday, Oct. 8 at 7 p.m. at the Fincastle United Methodist Church Family Life Center. Glenda Snyder will present the program "Memories of Botetourt 4-H."

~ Botetourt County Museum of History & Culture

Understanding Botetourt County's budget amendments

Matt de Simone
Managing Editor

Botetourt County approved its fiscal year 2026-27 budget in June after weeks of discussion over school funding, county finances and spending priorities. But the county's budget process does not end with adoption.

Since then, the Board of Supervisors has considered and approved budget amendments, including one at its Sept. 22 meeting. The September amendment included funds carried forward from the previous fiscal year, restricted funds and other adjustments to the county's FY2026-27 budget.

So why does a budget approved only a few months earlier already need to be amended?

The short answer is that budget amendments are a normal part of the county's financial process.

Chad Sweeney, the county's senior financial analyst, said the county's budget structure is designed to adapt as funding becomes available and circumstances develop during the fiscal year.

"Our budget structure is designed to adapt throughout the year," Sweeney said when asked last week about the process.

For example, the county does not project certain grants in advance because it does not know whether or when they will be awarded. Once the funding is received, the

See **Budget**, page 5

Botetourt begins search for options following county attorney transition

Botetourt County is beginning a process to evaluate its future legal representation as County Attorney Mike Lockaby transitions his legal practice away from general county government work.

Lockaby is a member of Spilman Thomas & Battle PLLC, which has provided legal services to the county. Spilman identifies Lockaby as a member of its Local Government & Public Entity practice and lists his role as Botetourt County attorney.

At the Sept. 22 meeting of the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors, Deputy County Administrator David Moorman said Lockaby is transitioning his county work and has been working with another attorney at the firm to ensure continuity on ongoing matters. Rob Hubbard of Spilman Thomas & Battle will assist during the transition.

The county is also considering whether it should continue using outside counsel or establish an in-house county attorney position.

Moorman told the board that Lockaby had suggested the county's legal workload could potentially justify an in-house attorney and that such an arrangement could be more economical. The county has not made a decision between the two options.



FILE GRAPHIC

Instead, staff plans to solicit proposals from firms that can assist with evaluating the county's legal needs and its options for future representation. The county's agenda states that staff intends to solicit written quotes from qualified firms to conduct a professional search for the county's next attorney, with a summary of responses and a recommendation expected to come before the board.

During the meeting, board members also discussed the potential salary range for an in-house attorney. Moorman gave an informal estimate of approximately $130,000 to $200,000 annually, depending on experience.

The county's communications manager said Lockaby has already begun transitioning county work and will remain a resource as the board considers whether to hire an in-house attorney or continue with an outside firm.

The consultant will be asked to evaluate both options, including the county's legal needs and its current outside-counsel arrangement. The board will ultimately consider the financial and operational implications of the alternatives, according to the county.

No specific timeline has been established for the request for proposals, Watts said.

The transition comes as the county is also experiencing turnover among several other longtime members of its leadership. Deputy County Administrator David Moorman is scheduled to leave at the end of the year after more than 30 years with the county, while Community Development Director Nicole Pendleton is leaving Sept. 30 after leading the department since 2014. Fire and EMS Chief Jason Ferguson also left the county this summer after 25 years to become fire chief in Bedford County.

Those departures involve different positions and circumstances, but together represent a period of change among several of the county's longtime leadership personnel.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report

Election 2026: What Botetourt County voters will see on the ballot

Botetourt County voters will head to the polls Tuesday, Nov. 3, for the 2026 general and special elections, with federal races, a special local election, town races and three proposed amendments to the Virginia Constitution appearing on ballots.

While the federal races and the special election for clerk of the Circuit Court will appear on ballots throughout the county, the rest of the ballot will depend on where a voter lives.

Voters countywide will choose one candidate for the U.S. Senate and one candidate for the Sixth District seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. The countywide ballot also includes a special election for clerk of the Circuit Court to fill the unexpired term ending Dec. 31, 2031. Chad Simmons is listed on the sample ballot for the clerk's race.

The special election was called following the announcement by Clerk Tommy L. Moore that he will retire effective Dec. 31, 2026. A writ of special election was issued by the Botetourt County Circuit Court in July.

For voters within Botetourt County's three incorporated towns, the ballot will include additional local races.

Buchanan voters will choose two members of Town Council. The sample ballot lists Marlon E. "Marty" Rickman and Shean C. Bowers, with two write-in options.

The town races differ from one community to the next, with Buchanan voters choosing Town Council members while Fincastle voters will see both a mayoral race and a Town Council race.

Fincastle voters will choose a mayor and three Town Council members. Mary Bess Smith is listed for mayor, while Paige Wright Ware, Pamela D. Binns and Edward D. Bordett are listed for Town

See **Ballot**, page 5

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

As Election Day approaches, candidates appearing on the ballot and their supporters are welcome to submit Letters to the Editor for consideration in *The Fincastle Herald.*

Letters must follow the Herald's standard guidelines for Letters to the Editor. Submissions must be received by **10 a.m. Monday** for consideration in that week's edition and will be considered for publication on the same basis as other submissions.



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

The VELVET CASE
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Buchanan District resident writes about Sept. Board meeting

The September Board of Supervisors (BoS) meeting was the first meeting in recent memory at which matters on the agenda came up for consideration before their scheduled time. What a difference it makes when only three speakers (two of which may have been included in those referred to as "howling monkeys" in a recent social media post someone made) spoke during the citizen comment period contrasted with the 30 such critters who spoke and/or attempted to dance at the August BoS meeting.

Furthermore, one who spoke complained about the minutes not setting out what each of the 30 speakers and/or dancers had said or done during the citizen comment period–specific to agenda at the August meeting. Just guessing here, but I sincerely doubt that anyone who did not attend that BoS meeting, and/or watch it on YouTube, would have any complaint about what was or was not reflected in the minutes regarding the citizen comment period–specific to agenda. If anyone were to attempt to do that, as much as those speakers ramble on in their presentations or as repugnant as their dancing may have been, then those performers could complain that the minutes did not reflect exactly what they said or correctly describe their nauseating performance.

It was pointed out that, in the past, there was a summary of what each speaker said. The best way for the August meeting minutes to address that complaint is to list each speaker or dancer and then refer them to the last three, five, eight, etc. previous meetings when each one spoke about everything at every opportunity, ad infinitum.

And then, the most disgusting and shameful action of the day, and probably of the year, was taken near the end of the meeting regarding Item 8 on the agenda – a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Roanoke County and Botetourt County. This MOU was not seeking any additional funding, as it was included in this year's Parks & Recreation budget, which was approved by the Budget Subcommittee (chaired by Mr. Michael and vice-chaired by DC Rottman) and by the BoS.

This MOU was regarding therapeutic recreation services, which serve adults and children with developmental disabilities and empower them to gain the knowledge and skills for the development of a quality lifestyle to meet their interests and needs. In past years, citizens of Botetourt County were not able to get the services they wanted to receive and this MOU allowed them to sign up one week ahead of anyone who was not a part of this program. The already budgeted and approved expenditure of $15,000 for this would expand therapeutic recreation opportunities for our citizens with developmental disabilities. Those citizens participating in these programs would still have to pay the cost of whatever programs they choose. There was not and never has been any request for Botetourt County to pay those costs.

The mission of the Botetourt County Parks & Recreation Department is "To enhance the quality of life for all Botetourt County residents by providing structured, fun, and fitness-oriented recreational opportunities that promote teamwork, well-being, and community engagement." It is submitted that, if our adults and children with developmental disabilities do not get the opportunity to enroll in these programs before all available spots are filled, then the above-stated mission is completely and totally missed, and the word "all" in the mission statement becomes meaningless.

Our disgraceful Disgruntled Californian (DC) Buchanan District Supervisor Rottman could barely wait to make the negative motion to deny the request. From her viewpoint, living on a 25+ acre parcel with her exotic riding horses and her 75'x150' covered riding rink she enjoys with them, she could care less about those who are less fortunate than she. Oh yes, she talks a great game, but her actions speak much louder than her words. From starting out with a negative motion, which is improper, out of order and quite confusing, it appeared that it was not clear to all of the other supervisors about what it was upon which they were voting. Accordingly, this MOU with Roanoke County should be placed on the agenda for the October BoS meeting to be properly considered. If there is no motion to approve it, or, if there is a motion and no second, then it fails. If there is a motion to approve it and a second, then whatever the vote is determines its fate. And, if it fails, all Botetourt County citizens will know exactly which supervisors to blame in addition to DC Rottman, who will surely be upset if she can't make the negative motion.

Are the past actions and comments by DC Rottman an indication of the disdain she bears for children, schools and libraries? When an elementary school student was allowed to speak first at the public hearing on the budget, she complained. Does it appear we can now add citizens with developmental disabilities to the matters for which she holds such an aversion?

In the Board Member Comments portion of the meeting, DC Rottman raised a question about splitting the meeting into sessions where some things can be heard in the afternoon, and others at 6 o'clock in the evening. Supposedly, that will be on a future agenda for discussion. I have suggested that there should be a separate day for the Chronic Complainers Club (now referred to by someone else as "howling monkeys"?) to gather for their drivel to be heard. How about that instead?

Years ago, BoS meetings were held in the evening and, due to lack of attendance, they were moved to the afternoon. We have had overflow crowds several times this year, so why do we need to change anything?

Bob Patterson
Fincastle
Buchanan District

Ben Cline – Six years of failed stewardship

The vote is in: Worst Conservation Steward of any of our 11 congressmen: Ben Cline.

There can only be one "worst" stewardship congressman in Virginia. The League of Conservation Voters has voted "the worst" award to Ben Cline. His six-year stewardship record: an easy to remember score: 0. Yes, zero.

Some of his votes are truly awful, and usually for his own constituents. An example: Cline voted for HR3838, a Trump toadie bill from New Jersey that would load up on crazy Trump regulations to kill offshore wind projects. The biggest impact would be on Virginia's Dominion Power wind project, supported by everyone who can recognize a breeze. The Trump/Cline bill would:

- require the Secretary of Defense to certify wind projects would not interfere with radar
- require the Department of Transportation to do another study on the exact same subject Trump's claim that wind projects impact radar has already been rejected by federal judges. Trump's own Department of Defense has refuted Trump's claims, too.

On September 10, 2025, the House of Representatives rejected the Trump/Cline wind project bill 3838 by a vote of 224 to 209. Trump/Cline lost and Virginians benefited. Again.

Trump and Cline rave and rant about too many regulations Trump doesn't like how wind projects interfere with his views from his golf course, so Cline sucked up to Trump like he always does and voted for more Trump regulations.

Another example: A North Carolina Trump bill, HR 7023, would shield water polluters from taking responsibility when they dump pollutants into our streams, lakes and other waters.

This bill would undermine EPA's process for permitting and make it easier to dump PFAS into our waters. It would eliminate EPA's ability to stop the most devastating projects.

Another Trump/Cline bill that will hurt Cline's own constituents.

One more example: Another Trump toadie bill HR 8070 from Arizona would exempt the Defense Department from the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The bill would kill the partnership between the Department of Defense (DOD), US Fish & Wildlife and state wildlife agencies to protect resources on DOD military lands.

Naturally, the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) was against this bill. Some other opponents: unhappy campers, hunters, fishermen, birders, hikers, crabbers, clammers, conservationists and all outdoor sports fans!

The House rejected this bill on June 12 by a vote of 231 to 196. No Congressman in Virginia voted for the 8070 Trump bill except Cline. I could go on and on, but you get the idea.

The alternative is before us: Beth Macy. Light years smarter, a more responsible steward, and ethical instead of all about how much money you can make as a congressman. Vote.

Bill Tanger
Cloverdale

Thank you for supporting book sale

The Fincastle Friends of the Library would like to thank everyone who came out to support our recent book sale.

Whether you purchased a bag of books, donated books, volunteered your time, or simply stopped by to say hello, your support makes a difference. The proceeds from the sale help the Fincastle Library provide furnishings, supplies, programs, special events, and activities for our community.

And if the book sale reminded you of the library, we hope it also reminds you that today's library is much more than books!

Botetourt County Libraries provide free Wi-Fi and computer access, printing, scanning and fax services, free notary services, test proctoring, online learning resources, genealogy and local history research,

See **Letters**, page 4

Bank of Botetourt joins OTCQX Market

OTC Markets Group Inc., operator of regulated markets for trading 12,000 U.S. and international securities, has announced that Buchanan-based Bank of Botetourt has qualified to trade on the OTCQX® Best Market. Bank of Botetourt previously traded on the OTCID™ Basic Market.

Bank of Botetourt has begun trading on OTCQX under the symbol "BORT" and "BORTP." The OTCQX Market enables Bank of Botetourt to maximize its value as a public company by providing transparent trading and easy access to company information for shareholders. To qualify for OTCQX, community banks must meet high financial standards, follow best practice corporate governance, and demonstrate compliance with applicable securities laws.

Executive Vice President & CFO Dustin Bays said, "Our transition to the OTCQX Market represents an important milestone for the Bank, enhancing our visibility, accessibility, and credibility with investors. We are excited about the opportunities this advancement creates to strengthen long-term shareholder value while continuing to build on our legacy of financial strength and community banking."

~ Bank of Botetourt

FILE GRAPHIC

McCoy presenting program at Early Cabin

Historic Fincastle Inc. is sponsoring an event on Monday, Oct. 5 at 6 p.m.

Ed McCoy will present a program at the Early Cabin on Murray Street. He will speak about three stories from The Fincastle Herald.

The public is invited to attend.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF HFI

Eagle Rock from page 1

grant funding and eliminate optional grant line items to increase the amount available for the project. Even after those changes, the county faced a shortfall of approximately $24,000.

County staff considered seeking additional FEMA funding but determined that doing so could delay the project and require another bidding process, potentially resulting in higher construction costs. FEMA has extended the project's performance deadline by one year to Sept. 30, 2027.

During the Sept. 22 meeting of the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors, Deputy County Administrator David Moorman asked the board to approve funding for the shortfall and award the contract to A.R. Coffey & Sons.

The board ultimately approved the contract but did not include the $24,000 Eagle Rock appropriation in its budget amendment. Instead, supervisors directed staff to look for the necessary funding within the county's existing budget.

Following the meeting, county spokesman Brent Watts said no specific source of funding had been identified as of late last week. Staff is reviewing the budget for potential savings or available funds that could be used to address the approximately $24,000 gap.

Watts said staff is confident the necessary savings can be identified and does not anticipate the matter returning to the board for another appropriation.

The county also confirmed that it is now the sole owner of the property, meaning there is no separate property owner contributing money toward the cleanup.

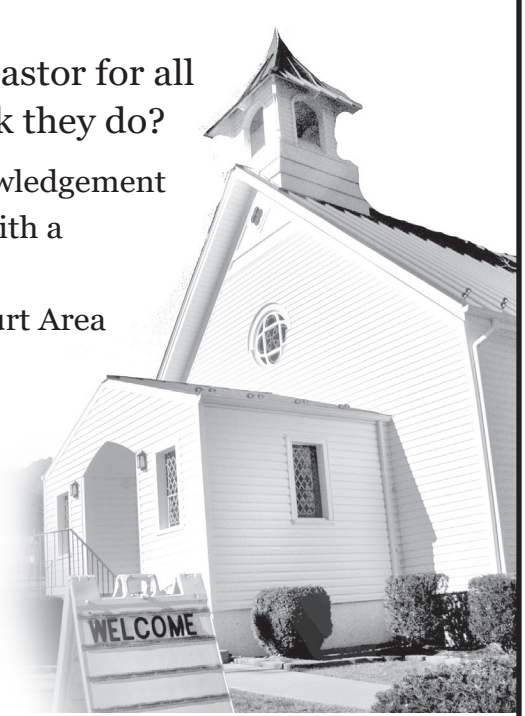
Once the cleanup is completed, the immediate plan is to restore the site as green space that can be enjoyed and used by residents. The county will evaluate potential future uses for the property as the project progresses.

The county's original grant application was based on substantially lower cleanup estimates. Moorman told the board that inflation and contractor concerns about asbestos and material disposal contributed to the higher bids received during the most recent bidding process.

The county's agenda materials said abandoning the project could require repayment of grant funds already received for required property surveys and an environmental report.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report

October is
Pastor Appreciation Month
Want to thank your pastor for all of the wonderful work they do?
Reserve your paid acknowledgement in the Fincastle Herald with a Special Tribute to honor Clergymen in the Botetourt Area
The Fincastle Herald
Contact Tucker Frye:
540-389-9355 or
email: tfrye@ourvalley.org



Open Studios-Botetourt returns Oct. 17-18

Open Studios-Botetourt, "Art in the Country," will return Oct. 17-18 for its annual open studio and workshop tour.

The event will feature artists working in photography, jewelry, painting, collage, wood carving, printmaking and woodworking. Studios, workshops and residences at seven locations throughout Botetourt County will showcase 16 artists.

The tour will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 18.

A new location this year is the Botetourt Museum of History and Culture. The tour will extend from the Daleville/Troutville area into historic Fincastle and slightly beyond, with stops ranging from several artists working together at a single location to individual studios.

Returning Botetourt artists include Ed Bordett, Leah Coffman, Vera Dickerson, Dan Jones, Diane Harto, Kristen Corbett, Brett LaGue, Cheryl Miller Lackey, Judith F. Lochbrunner, Jim Stadtlander and Mark Woodie. Returning guest artist Karin Carlson also will participate.

New guest artists are Richard Fuman, Michele Walter, Chelsea Dudley and Julie Gale.

Visitors can learn more about the artists and tour locations at openstudiosbotetourt.com, which includes a map with addresses and contact information. Visitors also can begin the tour at 5 East Main Street in Fincastle, where they can pick up a brochure containing the map and artist information. Brochures also are available at Roanoke Valley Bank of Botetourt locations.

Open Studios-Botetourt also maintains a Facebook page and an Instagram account at @openstudiosbotetourt.

For more information, email openstudiosbotetourtinfo@gmail.com or contact Judith Lochbrunner at 540-293-9642.



FILE GRAPHIC

The event is sponsored by Botetourt County, Bank of Botetourt, Virginia Mountain Mortgage, Jay Kilby RE/MAX Realty, Thomas Diesel, Colonial Title and Settlement, Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge, the Town of Fincastle and Bible Accounting.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report



Flying Ghosts and Bats, Oh My!

Thu, Oct. 1, 4 PM, Blue Ridge
Wed, Oct. 7, 4 PM, Fincastle

Join us for a hands-on, Halloween-themed STEM adventure where science and imagination collide! Build paper bats and ghosts and then use the science of magnets, paper clips, and strings to make our creations fly. *Best for ages 6-11.

Teen Takeover

Thu, Oct. 1, 4 PM, Eagle Rock

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

Tween Connect & Create

Thu, Oct. 1, 4 PM, Fincastle

A monthly hangout just for pre-teens! Come connect with other kids your age, have some fun, and take home something you made. Each month features a new hands-on activity — no experience needed, just show up ready to create. *Best for ages 9-12.

You're a Caregiver - Now What

Fri, Oct. 2, 10 AM, Fincastle

Learn how to get started caregiving for adults, find helpful resources for taking care of someone else and yourself, and have time to ask specific questions concerning your journey as a caregiver. Presented by Delanie Caldwell, Elder Care Rights Manager with the Local Office on Aging. *Best for ages 19+.

*Registration required. Register at https://botetourtva.libcal.com/ or call 540-928-2900 with questions.

Art Workshop

Fri, Oct. 2, 3 PM, Buchanan

Explore simple art techniques and materials in a relaxing atmosphere. *Best for ages 19+.

Learn more about Botetourt Libraries at bocolibraries.info

Letters from page 3

and programs for children, families and adults. The Fincastle Library's genealogy and local history resources are a wonderful example of the library's role in preserving and connecting our community's history.

So the next time you need a document notarized, have a test to take, need to print or scan something, want to research your family history, or simply want to learn something new, remember your local library.

Last, but certainly not least, a very special thank you goes to the Brae and Beck Garden Club for creating the beautiful new pollinator garden at the library. Their time, effort, and generosity have added something truly special to the library grounds and created a welcoming space for both our community and our local pollinators to enjoy.

Thank you, Botetourt community, for continuing to support the Fincastle Friends of the Library and the Fincastle Library. We are grateful to be part of such a generous community.

Jim Malue
Fincastle Friends of the Library

Sunflower Festival team expresses thanks

On behalf of my family and the Beaver Dam Farm Sunflower Festival team, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our community for another incredible year. What began 11 years ago as a one-day idea has blossomed into one of the largest sunflower festivals and vendor shows on the East Coast, and it would not be possible without the support of our neighbors, volunteers, vendors, sponsors, and visitors near and far.

This year, visitors came to Buchanan to experience the beauty of our fields and the joy of gathering together. Their presence not only celebrates agriculture, but also creates a positive ripple effect throughout Botetourt County – from our local shops, tourism destinations and restaurants to our lodging partners and beyond.

We are especially grateful to the many volunteers and community members who give their time, energy, and talents. From parking cars and greeting guests, to cutting flowers and tending to the animals, you are a major part of this festival.

The Beaver Dam Farm Sunflower Festival is more than just a sea of blooms – it's a celebration of family, farming, and community spirit. Thank you for making it possible year after year.

Candace W. Monaghan
Beaver Dam Farm Sunflower Festival

ARRESTS

Sept. 21-27, 2026

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests Sept. 21-Sept. 27:

- David P. Sisson, 46, of Blue Ridge, grand larceny, Sept. 21
- Jeffrey R. Beasley, 57, of Troutville, wearing a mask in public, drunk in public, Sept. 21
- Leah F. Hall, 19, of Daleville, assault and battery, Sept. 22
- Preston S. Austin, 33, of Cloverdale, domestic assault, Sept. 22
- Lindsey R. Epperly, 38, of Roanoke, possession of Schedule drugs, driving under the influence, Sept. 22
- Carol A. Overby, 34, of Buchanan, domestic assault, Sept. 25
- Wesley A. Webb, 47, Troutville, drunk in public, Sept. 25
- Thomas W. Jenkins, 56, of Troutville, brandishing a firearm, Sept. 26
- Chad A. Cochran, 50, no fixed address, drunk in public, Sept. 26
- Daniel E. Lovelace, 33, of Roanoke, drinking alcoholic beverages, or offering to another, in public place, trespassing, Sept. 27
- Ricky A. Spence, 66, of Fincastle, possession of Schedule drugs, Sept. 27
- Michael J. Barger, 39, of Vinton, possession of a firearm by a felon, Sept. 27
- Michael W. Clark, 47, of Buena Vista, possession of Schedule drugs, Sept. 27

League for Animal Protection's Waif of the Week



Lucky

Lucky is one of LAP's longest cat residents. Lucky is a sweet, calm, loving cat! He is about 5 years old and just loves pats and relaxing. He's up to date on everything and neutered. He would be great in a low-energy environment.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS
1. "Wicker Man" actor Nic
5. Protection
8. Cloth worn over a shoulder
12. Ceramic jars
14. Midway between northeast and east
15. South American hummingbird
16. Platforms
18. Taxi
19. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
20. A citizen of Yemen
21. Military mailbox
22. Nuclear near reach weapon
23. Clears
26. Broken
30. Actress Lathan
31. Avid fan
32. One and only
33. Proceeding
34. River in Portugal and Spain
39. Doctor of Education
42. Defeat handily
44. Less complicated
46. Handyman tools
47. Written works
49. Castle dweller's safety net
50. Honorable title (Turkish)
51. Greatest
56. Can do
57. A place to sleep on the road
58. Member of U.S. Navy
59. 24-hour units of time
60. Actor Horsley
61. In a way, sounds off
62. Formerly (archaic)
63. Eye infection
64. Plundered

CLUES DOWN
1. William __, Buffalo Bill
2. Wings
3. Candle or lantern
4. Freedom from difficulty
5. A type of pie
6. Metrical foot
7. __ Kerr, actress
8. Nap
9. Popular singer Bocelli
10. Immune responses
11. "Mad Men" leading man
13. A citizen of Senegal
17. Philly basketball player
24. Not even
25. Measures wind speed
26. Insecticide
27. Jordan glided through it
28. Bird-like dinosaur genus
29. Expression of satisfaction
35. Big Blue
36. One point east (clockwise) of due north
37. Of she
38. Oral rehydration solution
40. Knocks off course
41. Popular cop show of yesteryear
42. Zhou dynasty state
43. Genus of gulls
44. Onion flatbreads
45. Declare as true
47. Of a lobe
48. Missouri county
49. Produced
52. Volcanic crater
53. Off-Broadway theater award
54. KU hoops coach Bill
55. Check for

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See **Answers**, page 10

Budget from page 2

county adds the money and the related spending authority through a budget amendment.

Restricted and special-use funds also are kept separate from the standard annual budget to ensure they are used only for their designated purposes. Funds remaining from the previous fiscal year can be carried forward for ongoing projects.

Sweeney said fiscal year 2026-27 has seen a larger-than-usual amount of budget amendments because of three new fire apparatus purchases, new grants and three major capital projects.

Budget amendments approved so far total about $45.3 million. That figure does not mean the county suddenly decided to spend $45.3 million more in taxpayer money than it approved in June.

Much of that amount consists of grants, non-general funds, capital projects and other funding that was not included in the original budget.

For a more direct comparison, excluding grants and non-general funds, Sweeney said the county's budget authority has increased from about $159 million to $170.4 million, an increase of about $11.4 million.

The recent decision regarding the Eagle Rock cleanup project also illustrates how the county can address an unexpected expense within its existing budget. The board approved $24,000 in funding to address a shortfall in the cleanup of a collapsed building, but did not include the amount as a new appropriation in the budget amendment. Instead, supervisors directed staff to identify savings or available funds within the existing budget to cover the gap.

Sweeney said the budget adjustments processed so far have been primarily routine fiscal actions. He said the county does not anticipate significant additional amendments this fiscal year beyond routine adjustments as grants are awarded and restricted funds are adjusted.

In other words, the annual budget approved by the Board of Supervisors establishes the county's spending plan, but it is not intended to remain unchanged for the entire fiscal year.

For more information about Botetourt County's budget process and to view budget documents, visit botetourtva.gov/999/Annual-Budget.

Recreation from page 1

Victor Morales told the board that the $15,000 had already been included in Botetourt's FY2026-27 Parks & Recreation budget. The proposed contribution was based on 99 Botetourt registrations in fiscal year 2025, with the agreement calling for the arrangement to be reevaluated after two years.

Morales said the regional partnership currently includes Roanoke County, Roanoke City and Salem. In fiscal year 2026, Roanoke County contributed $208,903 to the program, while Roanoke City contributed $58,000 and Salem contributed $20,000.

The proposed agreement came after changes in funding for Roanoke County's program left Botetourt residents without priority registration. Eighteen letters submitted to the county supported either joining the regional partnership or developing a therapeutic recreation program in Botetourt County.

The letters came from parents, educators, professionals and other residents who described the importance of recreational opportunities for children and adults with disabilities. Several writers said Botetourt residents had difficulty getting into popular programs because they had to wait until priority registration ended. Others raised concerns about young people losing access to structured activities after aging out of the public school system.

During the discussion, Buchanan District Supervisor Linda Rottman moved to deny the MOU. Rottman said she supported the goal of providing therapeutic recreation opportunities but questioned committing county funds to a program operated by another locality rather than developing a program within Botetourt County.

Rottman also raised questions about the long-term implications of entering into the agreement and whether Botetourt should pursue its own approach to therapeutic recreation rather than simply paying into Roanoke County's existing program.

The motion to deny the MOU was seconded and approved by the board by a vote of 3-2.

Morales said the $15,000 remains available in the FY2026-27 Parks & Recreation budget following the board's decision.

Botetourt residents will continue to have access to Roanoke County's therapeutic recreation programs under the existing arrangement, Morales said when asked about last week's denial of the MOU. Residents can register one week after priority registration for programs that still have available spaces.

"There are no guarantees this will stay the same, but we have no reason to believe it would change," Morales added.

Morales also said Botetourt Parks & Recreation is researching ways to provide therapeutic and adaptive recreation opportunities through partnerships or outsourcing rather than immediately creating a county-operated program.

"We aim to enhance the quality of life for all our residents and will seek creative ways to make that happen," Morales continued. "Due to the specialized nature of the work, we are researching ways to outsource/partner with other organizations."

The county could revisit the MOU in the future if there are substantial changes to the agreement or if members of the Board of Supervisors decide to reconsider it, Morales said.

The proposed MOU specifically stated that Roanoke County would operate and manage the therapeutic recreation programs while Botetourt County would provide the annual $15,000 contribution. Botetourt residents would still have been responsible for applicable program fees.

The county's decision does not create a new Botetourt therapeutic recreation program, but Morales' comments indicate Parks & Recreation will continue exploring options for providing specialized recreation opportunities locally or through another partnership.

Ballot from page 2

Council. The ballot also provides write-in options in both races.

Troutville voters will likewise have local races in addition to the countywide contests, although the offices and names appearing on their ballots differ from those in Buchanan and Fincastle.

The Troutville ballot includes a mayoral race with a write-in option. Voters also will choose three Town Council members. Granville E. Grant and Henry John Cook Jr. are listed for Town Council, along with three write-in options.

Voters who live outside the town limits will not vote in the town races. The county's non-town ballot includes the federal races, clerk of Circuit Court race and constitutional amendments.

Regardless of whether they live in one of the three towns or in an unincorporated part of the county, Botetourt voters also will be asked to decide three proposed amendments to the Virginia Constitution.

The three questions address separate areas of Virginia law, ranging from reproductive and fertility care to marriage and voting rights.

Question 1 asks whether the Virginia Constitution should be amended to protect personal decisions involving prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, birth control, abortion, miscarriage management and fertility care. The proposed amendment also addresses protections for doctors, nurses and patients and would permit restrictions on abortion during the third trimester, except when the patient's health is at risk or the pregnancy cannot survive.

Question 2 asks whether the Constitution should be amended to remove the ban on same-sex marriage, affirm that two adults may marry regardless of sex, gender or race, and require legally valid marriages to be treated equally under the law.

Question 3 asks whether the Constitution should be amended to establish a fundamental right to vote, change the qualifications concerning people convicted of felonies so that voting rights are automatically restored upon release from incarceration, and replace existing language concerning people found to be "mentally incompetent" with language concerning people found to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting.

The same three constitutional questions appear on the sample ballots for Buchanan, Fincastle and Troutville.

Once voters know what will appear on their particular ballot, the next question is when and where they can cast it.

In-person early voting is underway at the Botetourt County Department of Elections and Voter Registration, 2 E. Main Stret in Fincastle. Early voting will continue through 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31. Regular weekday hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with additional weekend hours scheduled for Oct. 18, Oct. 24, Oct. 25 and Oct. 31.

The county's election office will be closed Oct. 12 in observance of the Columbus Day holiday. The additional early-voting hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 18; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Oct. 24; 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 25; and 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 31.

For those who choose to vote in person on Election Day, the process differs from early voting, including where ballots are cast.

There is no voting at the Voter Registration Office on Election Day. Voters must report to their assigned precinct, with polling places open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Anyone in line at 7 p.m. will be allowed to vote.

Botetourt County has 10 precincts, with the Buchanan, Fincastle and Troutville precincts also serving voters within those respective towns. The county lists Buchanan Elementary School as the polling location for Buchanan Precinct 301, Fincastle Baptist Church as the polling location for Fincastle Precinct 406, and Troutville Elementary School as the polling location for Troutville Precinct 501.

The deadline to register to vote for the Nov. 3 election is Oct. 23. The deadline to request a mailed absentee ballot is also Oct. 23 at 5 p.m., while in-person early voting continues through Oct. 31 at 5 p.m.

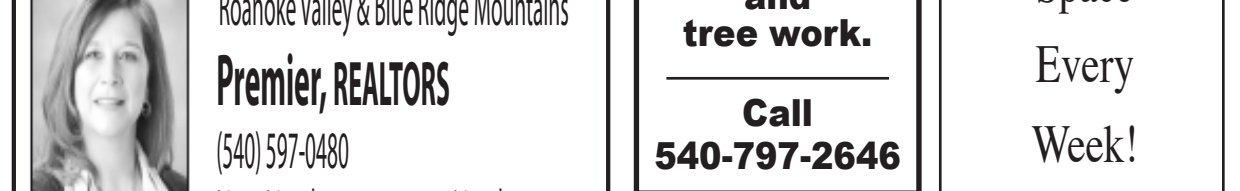
Voters who receive a mailed absentee ballot and later decide to vote in person must bring the absentee ballot package with them to surrender it. Otherwise, they will be required to vote a provisional ballot.

Voters also can check their registration status and assigned polling location through the Virginia Department of Elections. The county's Elections and Voter Registration Office can be reached at 540-928-2120.

With the races, constitutional questions and local contests varying by location, voters can review their individual ballot and polling place before heading to the polls Nov. 3.

For sample ballots, polling locations, voter registration information and other election details, visit BotetourtVA.gov/vote.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report



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Botetourt Worship Directory

ANGLICAN

Orchard Hills Church - 6032 Cloverdale Rd. next to Read Mountain Fire Station. Worship at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays. Home group Bible studies available throughout the week. Pastor Scott 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.

Almighty God

Read Genesis 40:1 through 41:57

Joseph spent two years in a dungeon after interpreting the dreams of Pharaoh's cupbearer. Joseph had asked this man to mention him to the king upon being reinstated, but, as each day dragged on, no communication came from the Pharaoh. When Pharaoh had a dream and told it to all his wise men, no one could interpret it. The cupbearer finally remembered Joseph and told Pharaoh about him.

So Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was quickly brought from the dungeon. When he had shaved and changed his clothes, he came before Pharaoh (Genesis 41:14).

Joseph was going to be taken into the presence of the nation's highest ruler. His first order of business was to make himself presentable. His prison clothing and his haggard appearance were hardly appropriate to stand before royalty. Joseph prepared to see the king, honoring the authority and majesty of Pharaoh.

We have the privilege of an audience at any time with our King, Jesus Christ. May we never forget His majesty or approach Him with less than honor and adoration.

Thought for Today: Consider the majesty of God.

Quicklook: Genesis 41:1–14

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; Rev. Peter Naah. 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.

OBITUARIES

Hickman, Arlene Link

Arlene Janet Link Hickman, 78, of Natural Bridge, passed away on Saturday, September 26, 2026.



She was preceded in death by her husband, Andrew Sherman Hickman; parents, James Garwood and Margaret Broughman Link; brothers, Howard "Buck" Link and Leonard "Wee" Link.

The light of her life was her family, especially the grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a natural caregiver all her life and enjoyed laughing, God's creatures, especially birds and horses; her Friday lunch ladies (Sissy, Charlotte, and Katie "Sis"); and Sunday dinners.

Left to cherish Grammie's memory are her daughters and sons-in-law, Angie and David Walker, Janet and Randall Floyd, and Teresa and Chris Joynes; beloved grandchildren, Daniel and Kristen, Taylor and Ashlee, Drew, Cari and Noah, Cloey, and Christian; precious great-grandchildren, Micah, Maycie, Bailey, Skylar, Oaklee, and Easton; six God-Children; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, October 1, 2026 in the Buchanan Chapel of Botetourt Funeral Home with Pastor Terry Bostic officiating. Interment will follow in Glasgow Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday, September 30, at the funeral home.

Please consider donations to Connections Plus Hospice, 315 Myers St., Lexington. Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.botetourtfh.com or by calling 540-254-3000.

Omer, Margaret Heck

Margaret Heck Omer, a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend, passed away peacefully on September 25, 2026.



Margaret was a lifelong resident of the Fincastle community and a devoted member of Fincastle Presbyterian Church. Her faith was an important part of her life, and she was deeply involved in the church and in the community she loved. She was a member of the Botetourt Women's Club, the Church Ladies Group, Historic Fincastle, and the Book Club.

Margaret found great joy in the simple things in life. She loved gardening, especially tending to her flowers and plants, and she was an avid reader with a particular interest in American and English history and mysteries. She enjoyed participating in church and community events and treasured the friendships and relationships she formed throughout her life.

Above all, Margaret dedicated her life to her family. She took great pride and joy in raising her two sons and spending time with her grandchildren. Her love, guidance, and devotion to her family will remain a lasting part of the lives of those who knew and loved her.

Margaret was preceded in death by her parents, Laura Margaret Boone Heck and James Daniel Heck, as well as many aunts and uncles.

She leaves to cherish her memory her loving husband, Robert Omer; her sons, Robert Omer, II and his wife, Jenn, and James Omer and his wife, Lilly; her sister, Becky Grohovsky; her brother-in-law, Larry Grohovsky; and nephew, Matthew. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Morgan Omer and Lawson Omer and his wife, Mikayla, and her great-granddaughter, Palmer, who brought her great joy.

The family would like to express their heartfelt appreciation to the members of Fincastle Presbyterian Church, their neighbors and friends, and the hospice nurses who provided care, comfort, and support to Margaret and her family.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, September 30, 2026, from 1-2 p.m. at Rader Funeral Home, Daleville. A funeral service will follow at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Rader Funeral Home. Burial will follow in Godwin Cemetery in Fincastle, Virginia.

Margaret will be remembered for her unwavering love of family, her faith, her love of her community, and the kindness she shared with those around her. She will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

CHURCH NEWS

Springwood Baptist pork barbecue dinner

The annual pork barbecue dinner, prepared by Aaron's Smokehouse, will be held on Saturday, October 3, from 4-6 p.m. at Springwood Baptist Church, 88 Copps Hill Road, Buchanan.

Each meal includes two pork barbecue sandwiches, coleslaw, baked beans, and a drink for $15. Desserts will be available for an additional charge.

This is a takeout-only event, with meals available on a first-come, first-served basis. No pre-sold tickets or reservations will be accepted. The community is invited.

Homecoming at Mount Olivet UMC

Homecoming at Mount Olivet United Methodist Church is Sunday, October 4, beginning at 11 a.m. There will be music by Keith Wood, followed by a potluck luncheon. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the fellowship, music and food. The church is located at 26310 Lee Highway, Buchanan,

Cloverdale Church of the Brethren Thrift Store

New Fall fashions have arrived, along with Halloween costumes and decorations. Linens are on sale with a large selection available.

With the holidays coming, clothing donations are greatly needed. Donations are welcome and appreciated. The store is open Saturdays, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Cloverdale Church of the Brethren has a food pantry

Cloverdale Church of the Brethren maintains a small rescue food pantry (non-perishables) for Botetourt County residents. People may come in any time the church office is open to pick up their food bags. Each person may pick up once every two months, but they should coordinate with Amelia in the church office. She keeps a spreadsheet to keep track of when they can pick up the food. Any new recipients also should contact the church office.

The phone number is 540-992-1060 and office hours are 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Thursday. The church is located at 4708 Read Mountain Road in Cloverdale.

Haney new minister at Fincastle Presbyterian

Fincastle Presbyterian Church will welcome its new full-time minister, Dr. John Hoover Haney, on October 1. His first Sunday in the pulpit will be on October 4 at 10:30 a.m. Dr. Haney brings more than four decades of pastoral leadership and service within the Presbyterian Church (USA).

A native of the Scots-Irish-French-Austrian Reformed tradition, Dr. Haney earned his Master of Divinity from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary in 1985 and completed his Doctor of Ministry at Union Presbyterian Seminary in 2011. He served for 30 years as minister of the Parish of the Pastures in Goshen, Va., before spending the past three years as Interim Co Executive Presbyter of the Central Florida Presbytery in Orlando.

Throughout his career, Dr. Haney has served on numerous Presbytery committees and is currently a member of the Association of Smaller Congregations for the Synod of South Atlantic.

In his statement of faith, Dr. Haney reflects on the tradition that shaped him: "Into this line of Scots-Irish-French-Austrian Reformed folk, I was born, baptized, and redeemed, and empowered by the Holy Spirit to be taught scripture, hymns, church curriculum, and to depend on the prayers to the Holy Spirit to watch, guide and protect me through life and into the communion of the saints of the PCUSA."



PHOTO COURTESY OF FINCASTLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. John Hoover Haney

Dr. Haney and his wife, the Rev. Olivia Haney, also an ordained minister, reside in Goshen. They have four adult children living in Goshen, Lynchburg, Abingdon, and Harrisonburg.

~ Fincastle Presbyterian Church



Post 240 Notes

American Legion Post 240 announces monthly meetings

American Legion Post 240 will hold its monthly meetings Wednesday, Sept. 30, and Thursday, Oct. 1.

The post's executive board will meet from 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesday.

The monthly membership meeting will be held Thursday at the VFW building at the intersection of U.S. 220 and Country Club Road. A social hour and light supper will begin at 6 p.m., followed by the business portion of the meeting at 7 p.m. The business meeting typically lasts about one hour.

Post 240 invites all members and non-member veterans to attend.

~ Submitted by Post 240 Executive Board

Lawrence employees, visitors donate blood

Lawrence Companies held a blood drive in August and collected 19 units.

Employees who donated the gift of life were Jim Williams, Chip Lawrence, Tammy Swader, Delana Spence, Heidi Delgado, Kim Rose, Matt Assenat, Dyra Hodges, Ronnie Huffman, Tim St.Clair, Ashley Dillon, Chris O'Dell, Katy Barker, and Anna Muncy. Visitors giving the gift of life were Barry Holland, Cindy Holland, Cathy Henderson, JD Robinson and Kevin McMahon.

Winners of the prize drawings were Chris O'Dell for a paid sick day and Jim Williams, a $20 Walmart gift card. First-time donor Heidi Delgado won a paid sick day as well.

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and/or submit your resume to tfrye@ourvalley.org

Garage Sale

Living Estate of Opal Caldwell Craig County, New Castle, VA.

COME VISIT US IN BEAUTIFUL CRAIG COUNTY
This estate is in the heart of the beautiful town of New Castle, 61 Caldwell Street , New Castle, Va
From Newport on route 42 the drive is one of the most scenic byways in Virginia.

Oct 2, Friday 9am to 2pm
Oct. 3rd Sat. 9am to 2pm
Oct 4th Sun. 12 pm to 4pm

The house is packed with Antiques and Vintage! Grandma Core galore!!

Case Knife Store Display, knife collection, large a collection of Pink Depression glass, Fenton glassware including cranberry, antique carnival glass, Pyrex crazy daisy, cobalt glass, Craig County collectibles including wall plates of historical sites including churches, old hotel, and courthouse, and wooden town New Castle village, Willow Tree collection, Easter bunny blow mold, vintage bread box with mushrooms, praying grandmother picture, duck collectibles including clock and large churn, vintage country spice rack, orange Tupperware canisters, cast iron skillets, pots, flat irons and tea kettle, many crocks #6, #4 gallons, pitchers, gone with the wind lamps, floor lamps, linens, curio, antique oak washstand, antique oak buffet, 1970s china cabinet, kitchen table drop leaf with two chairs, newish Gray sofa and recliner, three piece floral living room set, occasional tables, three piece bedroom set, three piece bedroom set with chest and dresser, wrought iron day bed, desk, clocks, pictures, coffee tables, wrought iron Mid Century round table with chairs, vintage croquet set, lay off plow, hand tools. Wheel barrel, weed eaters, bouncy chair, concrete yard decor, wrought iron table, two matching white rocking chairs, 2 piece wicker set with cushions, exterior blue rug, tables of glassware including cobalt, depression and clear. Pots and pans, tables of Christmas decor, Christmas village, Santas, Quantum power washer, double galvanized sink on rollers, 3 piece white wicker set, Work and Troy bilt blowers, fishing poles, chainsaw, hedge trimmer, primitive blacksmith box, concrete yard décor, wrought iron tea cart, pitchfork, saws, rake, flower pots, small Coleman generator, and so much more!

THE CLASSIFIEDS- Where the Deals Are!

Legals - Montgomery County

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia that the Board of Supervisors hereby schedules a public hearing on Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 7:15 p.m. or as soon thereafter at the Montgomery County Government Center, 2 nd Floor Board Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, to hear citizen comments on the proposed ordinance entitled “Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, Division 5, Section 2-107 of the Code of the County of Montgomery, Virginia Entitled Tax Exemption and Deferrals for Elderly and Disabled by Increasing the Net Combined Financial Worth and the Income Limits to be Eligible for Tax Relief”.
A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the County Administrator and is available for public inspection or copying.

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

ABC NOTICE

BUCKOS TRIPSTOP INC., trading as TRIPSTOP BUCKOS, 802 Roanoke Street Christiansburg, Montgomery County, VA 24073-3160

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.

Tejendrakumar Patadia, President

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

BUCKOS TRIPSTOP INC., trading as TRIPSTOP BUCKOS, 1700 West Main Street, Radford Va 24141.

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

Tejendrakumar Patadia, President

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.

Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on the proposed modification of a permit that allows the land application of potable water treatment plant residuals in Pulaski County.
PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: September 23, 2026 – October 23, 2026.
PERMIT NAME AND NUMBER: Virginia Pollution Abatement VPA02069 – Radford City Water Treatment Plant issued by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) pursuant to applicable water laws and regulations.
APPLICANT NAME AND ADDRESS: City of Radford; 20 Forest Avenue; Radford, VA 24141.
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The City of Radford has applied for the modification of a permit that would authorize land application of water treatment plant residuals as a fertilizer on a total of 220.61 acres of agricultural land in Pulaski County. Additional land totaling 129.02 acres are proposed to be added to the permit, with some minor modification to existing fields. The permit will limit the application of nutrients and metals contained in these materials to amounts that protect water quality and human health. For site-specific information about these applications and additional information about the DEQ permitting program for industrial residuals visit the following website: http://www.deq.virginia.gov/VPAnotices
TENTATIVE AND FINAL PERMIT DECISION PROCEDURES: DEQ’s tentative decision is to issue the permit. Based on comments received on the draft permit, DEQ may make a final decision on the permit, or hold a public hearing on the draft permit before making a final permit decision.
HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by hand-delivery, e-mail, or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the permit number, and name, postal mailing or email address of the commenter/requester. A request for a public hearing must also include 1) Name and permit number for which the hearing is requested.
2) The reason why a public hearing is requested.
3) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit.
4) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial disputed issues relevant to the permit.
CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Brad Morrison, DEQ Central Office, 1111 E Main St, Richmond, VA 23219, Phone: (804) 659-1545; E-mail: bradley.s.morrison@deq.virginia.gov. The public may review the draft permit and associated documents at the DEQ office named above by appointment or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed above.

TRUSTEE’S SALE OF 1449 LAKERIDGE CIRCLE, TROUTVILLE, VA 24175.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated January 4, 2006, in the original principal amount of $175,000.00 recorded in the Clerk’s Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 060000421. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on November 2, 2026, at 2:45 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH ALL THE APPURTENANCES THEREUNTO BELONGING LYING AND BEING THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, STATE OF VIRGINIA, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO WIT: BEING LOT 17, BLOCK 5, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OF RAINBOW FOREST, PROPERTY OF, BOTETOURT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, MADE BY C.B. MALCOLM AND SON, S.C.E.`S, DATED AUGUST 15, 1960 OF RECORD IN TILE CLERK`S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 102. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder’s deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser’s deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee’s Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a $50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee’s attorney. A form copy of the Trustee’s memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.aldridgepite.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Virginia Pre-Sale Department of counsel for Equity Trustees, LLC at 301-961-6555, website: www.aldridgepite.com. VA-372477-1.

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia
VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,-317,20-104
Case No.CL26001794-00
MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIASNBURG, VA 24073
CARMEL JACINTA CULLOP
v.
AARON CHANCE LYALL

The object of this suit is to: ANNULMENT
It is ORDERED that AARON CHANCE LYALL appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before NOVEMBER 20, 2026 @ 9:00 AM.
Entered September 17, 2026
Honorable
K. Mike Fleenor, Jr.
Judge

Legals - City of Salem

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

At its regular meeting on October 14, 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:
Consider the request of Salem Body Shop, LLC, to amend Chapter 66, Signs, of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA, by adding Section 66-106, Comprehensive Sign Plan, pertaining to the establishment of a permit process for comprehensive signage plans for eligible properties.
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

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Legals - Botetourt County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia
VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317,20-104
Case No.CL26-485
VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT
In re: Surplus Funds Derived from the Foreclosure Sale of Property Located at 4427 Lee Highway, Troutville, Virginia 24175
PETER M. PEARL, BRYSON J. HUNTER and TIMOTHY J. LOVETT, Trustees *Petitioners*, v. UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JIMMY W. HUFFMAN and JIMMY WAYNE HUFFMAN, JR.
Respondents.

The object of this suit is to Interplead surplus funds remaining following the foreclosure sale of certain real property commonly known as 4427 Lee Highway, Troutville, Virginia 24175. It appearing the Respondents’ identity and present whereabouts are unknown, and that diligence has been used by or on behalf of the Petitioners without effect to ascertain the identity and location of any unknown heirs, it is ORDERED that any potential heirs appear on or before October 5, 2026, in the Clerk’s Office of the Circuit Court for the Botetourt County, Virginia and do what my be necessary to protect their interest in this suit.

IIT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order be posted at the front door of the Courthouse, on the Court Website, AND a copy mailed to each party at their addresses below.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order be published once per week for four successive weeks in the Fincastle Herald.
The Clerk of this Court shall post this Order at the front door of the Courthouse and Shall mail a copy of this Order to the parties at their last known and provided addresses, if any, herein.
Entered 8/27/26
Joel R. Branscom, Circuit Court Judge
I ask for this:
Timothy J. Lovett
(VSB No. 97438)
Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC
P.O. Box 90
Roanoke, VA 24002-0090
540-512-1800
540-342-4480 (facsimile)
tlovett@spilmanlaw.com

Last Known addresses for Respondents
Unknown Heirs of
Jimmy W. Huffman
4427 Lee Highway,
Troutville Va 24175

Jimmy Wayne Huffman, Jr.
172 Trading Ford Way
Lexington, NC 27292



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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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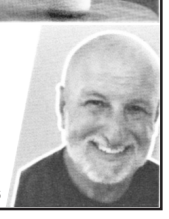

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Cross Country

from page 11

"This season alone Nolan has shaved a full minute off of his personal record, very impressive for his third year of cross country," said Knights' coach Daphne Davidson.

Charlie Stull came through three seconds over his PR, but ran a very strong three mile. Barrett Pace ran a strong race and came in just shy of breaking his own personal record. Brandon Baka-Collins set another new record for himself by about 13 seconds.

"The boys' team had very strong individual races Saturday and they are looking strong heading into mid-season," said Davidson.

The girls followed the boys' race and did not disappoint. Maren Pauley came in first for the Knights with a strong race, setting a new PR for herself with a time of 21:19. Maddie Davidson was a little under the weather but still ran a great race with a time of 21:35. Macy Weddle ran a strong race of 22:43, shaving off about a minute and a half off of her former PR.

Jasmine Montgomery came in fourth for the girls with a new record of 22:58, also beating her former PR by about a minute and a half. Holly Weddle ran a very consistent race, setting a brand new PR for herself, while Alex Bona keeps dropping her season times and getting closer every race to her personal record. Jacey Walker ran a great race and set a new personal record for herself by 12 seconds.

"Setting personal records (PRs) is an accomplishment that gets harder and harder the longer you run," said Davidson. "When freshmen come in, a lot of times they and we (coaches) don't know what they are capable of achieving. It's very exciting to watch them start and continue their season setting PRs and getting faster. When runners have been running for years it's much harder to take off chunks of time due to them not wanting to break out of their comfort zones, fear of getting hurt, or just self doubt.

"Watching this team continue to reach and achieve new times every season has been such an exciting journey. They are truly some of the best kids to coach and I can't wait to see where this season ends."



FILE PHOTO

Book sale in Buchanan coming up this week

The Friends of the Buchanan Library will hold a Used Book Sale October 1-3. Hours are Thursday, 3-7 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The sale is held in the Carson Memorial Rescue Squad Building, 19673 Main Street, Buchanan, across from the fire station. Hardback books are $1, paperbacks, 50 cents, DVDs and CDs, 25 cents, and children's books are free (limit five per child). A selection of unique books is specially priced. The sale benefits the Buchanan Library. Cash or check only.

~ Friends of the Buchanan Library

Festival

from page 1

process and learn more about a craft that has long been part of the region's history. Members of the Old Dominion Blacksmith Association also participated in the festival, sharing information about the craft and its preservation.

Music was performed at multiple locations throughout town, including performances by local students and bands. Children's activities, a petting zoo, food vendors, a book sale and other attractions gave families plenty of opportunities to explore Fincastle.

The Heritage Quilt Show at the historic Baptist Church was another highlight of the festival. About 350 visitors attended the show and voted on their favorite quilts.

The American Flag quilt made by Debby Sowers was selected as the winner of the Patriotic Award, while a Baltimore Album quilt made by Kathleen Walker received the Traditional Award.

The festival also featured a Quilts of Valor presentation honoring two veterans. Ray McCaleb, U.S. Army, and Billy Simmons, U.S. Navy, were presented with quilts during the ceremony.

Art also had a prominent place in this year's festival. An exhibit featured artwork by Botetourt County students, while another display highlighted artwork by the great-grandchildren of the late Peggy Davis.

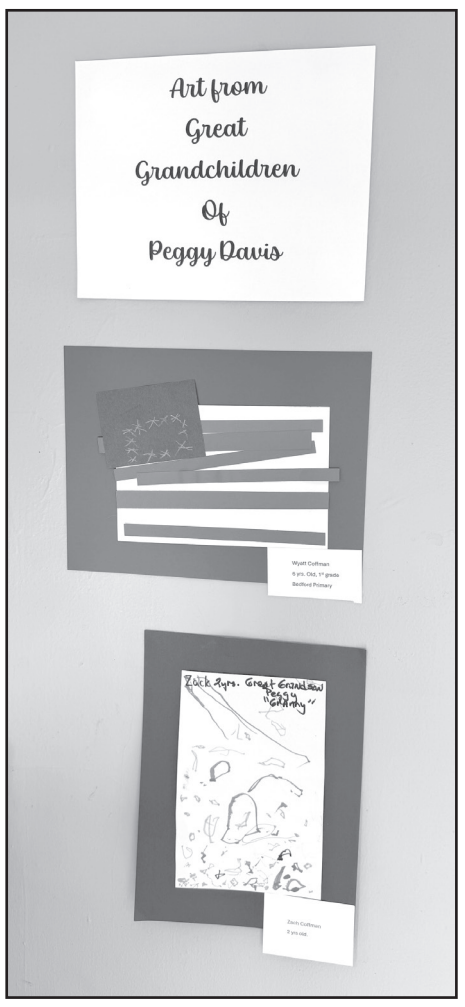
The student art show honored Davis, whose longtime involvement with Historic Fincastle and commitment to the arts and community were highlighted as part of the festival.

Throughout the day, visitors moved among Fincastle's historic buildings and public spaces, taking in the exhibits, demonstrations, music and other activities.

The festival brought together local artists, musicians, craftspeople, organizations and families while showcasing the history and traditions that continue to define the community.



About 350 visitors attended the Heritage Quilt Show during the Fincastle Festival and voted on their favorite quilts.



Artwork by Wyatt and Zach Coffman featured in the student art show honoring their great-grandmother, the late Peggy Davis.



Visitors enjoy the festival's petting zoo in Wysong Park.



PHOTOS BY MATT DE SIMONE

Blacksmithing demonstrations gave festival visitors a look at the traditional craft during the Fincastle Festival.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARCIA NEIGHBORS

Ray McCaleb (left), U.S. Army, and Billy Simmons, U.S. Navy, were honored with Quilts of Valor during Saturday's Fincastle Festival.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
OF THE BOTETOURT COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION

The Botetourt County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing **Tuesday, October 13, 2026,** at 6:00 PM in the Botetourt County Administration Center at 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville, Virginia to consider and receive comment on the following:

Amsterdam District: Timberbrook Associates, LLC requests a Special Exception Permit, with possible conditions, in the Shopping Center (SC) Use District in accordance with Sec. 25-583 Special Exceptions and Sec. 25-462(e)(3) Electronic message board/L.E.D. of the Botetourt County Code to construct and maintain an electronic message board located at the corner of Commons Parkway and Kingston Drive. The parcel totals 0.723 acres, located at 101 Kingston Drive, and is identified as tax parcel 101(13)4B.

Blue Ridge District: Diamond Communications requests a Special Exception Permit, with possible conditions, in the Industrial (M-2) Use District in accordance with Sec. 25-323 Special Exceptions and a commission permit to construct a Freestanding Telecommunications Tower as part of the County's 911 System. This project is located at the corner of Cloverdale Road (Alt. 220) and East Park Drive (VA 1499), 40 East Park Circle in Roanoke, VA. This parcel covers 6.835 acres and is identified on tax maps as 108(13)9B.

Valley District: Summers Property LLC requests a Rezoning from the Medium Density Residential (R-3) Use District to the High Density Residential (R-4) Use District, with possible conditions, and a Special Exception Permit (SEP) for "Dwellings, single-family attached, up to twelve (12) dwelling units per net acre" on a parcel located 168 Bonny View Lane and is identified on tax maps as parcel 107-200.

The Botetourt County Board of Supervisors, at their September 22, 2026, meeting, authorized a text amendment to revise Ch. 25 Article IV Div. 1 Sec 25-441 – Telecommunications Facilities to address modernizing regulations pertaining to setback requirements.

The Botetourt County Board of Supervisors, at their July 28, 2026, meeting, authorized a text amendment to revise Ch. 25 Art. II Div. 7 Sec.s 25-171 – Building requirements; minimum yards to consider an update that would reduce the minimum required number of attached dwelling units per grouping from six (6) to three (3) in the High Density Residential (R-4) Use District.

Botetourt County requests a Comprehensive Plan Amendment to update map 9.6 – "Telecommunication Towers in Botetourt County" to show the proposed location of a new 911 Telecommunication Tower located at 40 East Park Circle, Roanoke, VA and shown on tax maps as parcel 108(13)9B.

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

Jonathan McCoy, AICP
Interim Director of Community Development
Botetourt County, Virginia

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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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 SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

The Botetourt County School Board will hold a Regular Meeting of the School Board on Thursday, October 8, 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. October 8, 2026 at:

https://forms.gle/9vZoPXyxZR8bgEoQ6

or by contacting the School Board Clerk by phone, (540) 473-8263, or by email, salbert@bcps.k12.va.us.



Eli Hall tees off for Lord Botetourt at a recent match.

PHOTO BY JOHN WACHER

Davidova qualifies for Class 3 state golf tournament

Lord Botetourt senior Alisa Davidova finished second overall among 78 golfers in the Region 3D tournament Monday at the Draper Golf Course, hosted by Abingdon High School.

The tournament included 13 schools with just two qualifying for the Class 3 state tournament. Hidden Valley was the team champion with a 298 and Cave Spring was second at 306 as both south Roanoke County team advance to the state tournament on October 13 at the Cutalong Golf Course, located at the Tributer Resort in Mineral, Va.

Host Abingdon finished third with a 314, just one stroke ahead of LB's 315. Davidova led LB with a 74 followed by Derek Bond at 76, Jonah Dunker at 82 and Cole Cecil at 83.

The top four individuals not on Hidden Valley or Cave Spring teams also qualified for the state and Davidova was second overall behind medalist Harris Camp of Hidden Valley, who shot 67. Bond tied for third with three other golfers for the last two individual spots in the state, and a playoff ensued. It took three holes to decide the two spots but Bond did not advance.

Davidova, who recently committed to play college golf at Clemson University, will be the only representative from LB in the state tournament that includes both men's and women's players. Alisa and Bond both were named first team All-Region 3D.

River golfers qualify for Region 2C tournament

The James River golf team finished third in the Region 2C sub-region tournament at Great Oaks in Floyd County Monday, qualifying for a spot in next Monday's region tournament. The region tournament will be held at the Stoney Creek course in Wintergreen.

The top three teams from the sub-region advanced and it was a battle to the end. Radford won the sub-region with a team score of 321 followed by Floyd County at 322. River was next at 335 as all three teams that advance come from the Three Rivers District.

"We hung in there and finished third," said River coach Donna Cox. "Great Oaks was set up as difficult as I've ever seen it."

Mason Gilliland led River with a 76, followed by Landon Bolling at 79. Also scoring for River were Braden Persinger and Tucker Hall with 90 each. Hunter Crist of Radford was the medalist with a 70.

The Class 2 state tournament will be October 12 at the Hobbs Hole course in Tappahannock, Va.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Mason Gilliland hits a fairway shot for James River. Mason had River's low score in Monday's sub-region tournament at Great Oaks.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

River's Maren Pauley runs in a recent race. Maren led the James River girls at last Saturday's Alleghany Invitational.

LB, River cross country teams compete in Alleghany Invitational

The Lord Botetourt and James River cross country teams competed in a big field of competitors in the Alleghany Invitational last Saturday. The meet was held at the Jackson River Sports Complex course in Covington.

For LB, Preston Vaughn led the Cavaliers home to place fourth individually, beating out many Class 3 rivals including state leader Enzo Coliglione of Hidden Valley. Vaughn's performance of 15:48 makes him the third Cavalier in history to break the 16-minute barrier, and he now joins Eric Duncan and Ethan Thorne at the top of the all-time list.

Archer Lee followed Vaughn home, breaking the 17-minute barrier for the first time and missing out on the all-time top 10 list for LB by just over one second. Mason Tuck and Caleb Thorne both posted personal best times as well.

In the women's varsity race, Anne Thorne led the pack with another season best, nabbing the final podium position in the process with a 15th place finish. She was supported by personal best performances from Laurel Wiley, Maggie Hoover, Claire Conn, and the Vess twins, Cameron and Allison.

"Almost three-quarters of the team posted personal bests today," said LB coach Noel Preece. "The coaches and I are incredibly proud of the work that these athletes continue to put in. Our depth in the girls' team is going to make for some tough decisions next month when we have to decide on a top seven to take to the district meet. We have at least nine girls who could make real arguments for that final varsity selection."

For James River, Braden Jones came through in the boys' race, running a season PR of 17:27. Mark Voight was on his heels with a new personal record of 18:01 and behind him another new record for Nolan Linthicum at 18:45.

See **Cross Country**, page 10

Cavaliers induct five into Athletic Hall of Fame



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Five LB greats were inducted into the school Athletic Hall of Fame last Friday in a ceremony in the Lord Botetourt High School auditorium. The athletes were also recognized at Friday night's football game in Daleville. Left to right: Bradley Lythgoe, Ryan Fralin, Kate Spradlin Failla, Emily Martin Keogh and Barry Williams.

Cavaliers take second at Battle at Byrd



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Lord Botetourt competition cheer team was runner-up in the "Battle at Byrd" last Saturday in Vinton. The Cavaliers took first on September 19 in the "Viking Voyage" at Northside. This Saturday they're in the "G-Town Throwdown" at Glenvar High School.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

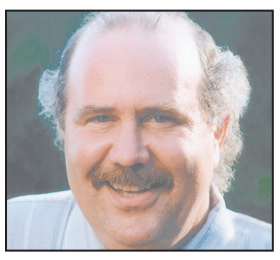
Hull on the run against Salem

Beau Hull (10) of the Botetourt Cavaliers Junior football team turns the corner and picks up big yardage in a recent game against Salem.

BOTETOURT

Sports

www.fincastleherald.com



Brian Hoffman

Sports Editor

Radford rallies for football win over James River



Ben Whitt closes in on a Bobcat.



Ashton Orange picks up yardage for the Knights.



PHOTOS BY BIRDIE BOBLETT

Ryan Daniels is open on the 20-yard line.

The James River football team led Radford at the half but the Bobcats bounced back in the second half to remain undefeated with a 31-21 win in Springwood.

Early in the game it was all Knights. River drew first blood when Ashton Orange picked off a pass and took it 74 yards for a touchdown just four minutes into the game. Radford answered with a 30-yard TD pass and it was tied at 7-7 after one quarter.

The Knights took a two-touchdown lead in the second period. Sam Wilson scored on a 20-yard run but the extra point attempt failed. Then quarterback Merit Hammons fought his way into the end zone from the two and Wilson ran in a two-point conversion, giving River a 21-7 lead with 5:55 until the half.

That was all the scoring the Knights could manage. The Bobcats scored on the ensuing possession to make it 21-14 and added a 27-yard field goal with just a second remaining in the half to cut the lead to 21-17 at intermission.

Radford shut out River in the second half while scoring twice, including a 36-yard run after a fumble recovery in the third period. That gave the visitors the lead for the first time in the game and they added a four-yard TD with just 1:07 remaining to seal the win.

"We played hard all night but we had too many turnovers," said River coach Jack Baker. "We moved the ball well in the second half but fumbles hurt us. Other than laying the ball on the field we played really well."

River lost three fumbles in the game. The Knights also had four takeaways as Bentley Painter, Wilson, Hammons and Orange all had interceptions on defense.

River outrushed the Bobcats, 209 to 68. Wilson had 69 yards on just five carries while Orange had 66 yards rushing and Hammons had 64.

Radford had more passing yards, 232 to 29, and had three TD passes to offset the interceptions. Wilson led River with 11 tackles and Orange had 10.

Now 3-2, the Knights will play their second Three Rivers District game in a row this Friday when they head to the Dog Pound to play Martinsville. The Bulldogs are 2-2 and coming off a 17-13 loss at Glenvar where they were leading until late in the game. Martinsville is much improved after going 1-9 last year, including a 35-34 loss to James River in Springwood.

"They have two or three real special ability types who can score from anywhere on the field," said Baker. "They have some size and they're similar to Radford. It will be another big challenge for us."

Lord Botetourt football team has a bye this week

The Lord Botetourt football team is 2-3 as the Cavaliers head into their bye week. Botetourt lost to undefeated George Washington of Danville last Friday night, 34-14, to conclude the first half of their regular season.

"We fought our tails off but we had too many missed opportunities," said LB coach Nick Leftwich. "We didn't take advantage of some chances we had and you can't afford to do that against a good team."

The Eagles held the LB rushing game in check, as Botetourt had just 55 yards on 21 attempts. Cael Burton completed eight of 21 pass attempts for 126 yards and Beau Lonker completed two of three for 30 yards, including a TD pass to Rylen Wright. Jerry Smith had two receptions for 62 yards and Wright and Dalton Bradley had two receptions each. Burton rushed for LB's other score.

On defense, Wright and Callum McCoy led the Cavs with five solo tackles each. Jackson Crenshaw had four solos and eight assists while Blake Markham had a sack.

Botetourt will now take a week off before returning to action October 9 for their Blue Ridge District opener against Franklin County.

"We'll continue working on us and working some on Franklin County as well," said Leftwich. "The little things are hurting us. We just need to keep working hard to get better."



Cael Burton looks to pass for the Cavs.



PHOTOS BY KATIE PERRY

Maddex Umber (8) and Tanner Gore (9) combine on the tackle.

Cavaliers will play in Cave Spring volleyball event Saturday

The Lord Botetourt girls will be busy Saturday as they'll play five matches in a big volleyball event at Cave Spring High School.

LB will start the day bright and early with an 8:30 a.m. match against Hidden Valley. They're back on the court at 11 a.m. to play Rustburg, followed by a match with Abingdon at 12:15 p.m. After a short break the Cavs take on host Cave Spring at 2:45 p.m. and wrap it up at 4 p.m. against Liberty Christian Academy.

The Cavaliers have two other matches this week, at home with William Byrd on Tuesday and at William Fleming on Thursday. The Tuesday match was the big "Spike Out Kids Cancer Night." Look for results in next week's edition.

LB comes into the week with a 9-4 record after defeating two Blue Ridge District teams last week, both in three sets. Against Franklin County, at home, Ava Stephens and Skyla Corkins had nine kills each, Sydney Bergsten had six and Olivia Bergsten had 12 digs. In a win over Staunton River in Moneta last Thursday, Stephens had eight kills and three blocks, Eliza Payne had five kills and Bergsten had 16 digs and four aces.

Next Tuesday, October 6, the girls will host Northside in a BRD match.



PHOTO BY JIM DEVINNEY

Lillian Crenshaw sets one up for LB.

Want to stay informed on local fall sports news?
www.FincastleHerald.com



PHOTO BY BIRDIE BOBLETT

Ayden Jennings gets a dig for River. Ayden recorded her 1,000th assist on September 17 against Franklin County.

James River Knights have three volleyball matches next week

The James River volleyball team had a light schedule in the past week but that will change in a hurry. River will play three matches in four days next week, all against Three Rivers District opponents.

On Monday the girls will play at Radford, the 2025 Class 2 state champ. Then, a day later, they host Martinsville. After a day off Wednesday they return to the court on Thursday, October 8, to take on arch-rival Glenvar. The Highlanders are the only district team to beat River thus far.

The Knights were 9-2 overall prior to a Tuesday match at Carroll County that was too late for press deadlines. Last week they had just one match, a three-set win at Floyd County by scores of 25-23, 25-8 and 25-18.

"We started out slow, however we came alive in the second set," said coach Linsey Firebaugh. "We served tough and kept them out of system and made them make a lot of errors.

Kinley Millman had a dozen kills for the Knights and Ashby Wilkes had nine. Ayden Jennings had 11 assists and 11 digs. Ayden recently recorded the 1,000th assist of her high school career in a September 17 win over Franklin County in Springwood.