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Land Transfers - Page 3

The Fincastle Herald
& Botetourt County News
www.fincastleherald.com

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BCPS recognizes Kiwanis Educator of the Year, staff members

Botetourt County Public Schools recognized three employees for their contributions to students and school communities during the October School Board meeting last week, including a second grade teacher whose classroom has become a miniature community of its own.

Vicki Brown, a second grade teacher at Troutville Elementary School with 35 years in education, was named the 2026 Kiwanis Club of Botetourt County Educator of the Year. Lynne Bolton presented the award, which honors a BCPS educator in memory of longtime school division educator Jim Bushong.

Brown's classroom, known to students as "Browntown," brings learning to life by giving students opportunities to experience government, interview for classroom jobs, manage money and solve community problems while applying second grade learning standards.

See **BCPS**, page 10



PHOTO COURTESY OF BCPS

Troutville Elementary School Principal Steven Anderson, Kiwanis Educator of the Year Vicki Brown, and Botetourt Kiwanis Club's Lynne Bolton



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

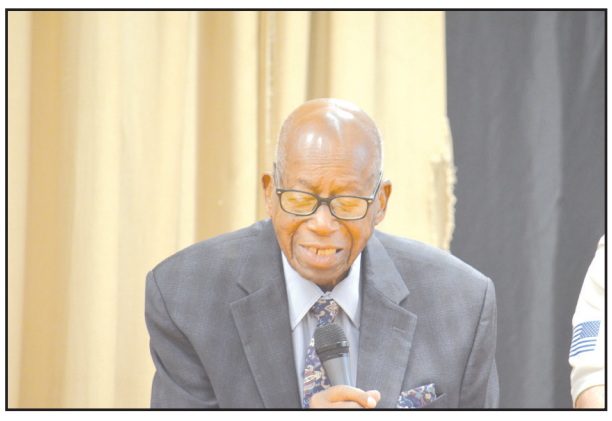
Sandy Craft (left) and Melissa Fridley of First Bank show off Richard Pauley's quilt made from the first 30 years of Fall Run shirts.

First Bank Fall Run celebrates 40th anniversary this weekend

Fincastle will welcome runners of all ages Saturday as the First Bank Fall Run celebrates its 40th anniversary, continuing a tradition that has brought together local students, families and competitive runners for four decades.

The 5K, 10K and pup run/walk are scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. at Central Academy Middle School, 367 Poor Farm Road, in Fincastle. Registration

See **First Bank Run**, page 5







PHOTOS BY MATT DE SIMONE

Lord Botetourt English 10 Advanced Studies classes hear from World War II veterans Rev. Ed Burton (left), George Hubbard (center), and Marion Noel (right, pictured with his son, Donnie) at Bruce Ingram's annual program giving the men an opportunity to share their stories with the young students.

Lord Botetourt students honor World War II veterans during annual programs

Matt de Simone
Managing Editor

Students in Bruce Ingram's English 10 Advanced Studies classes at Lord Botetourt High School honored three local World War II veterans during two programs that combined student presentations with firsthand accounts of military service.

The programs examined major events of the war while giving students an opportunity to hear from men who served in Europe and the Pacific and experienced the transition from wartime to postwar life.

During the first program, Brookelyn Fadia and Landon Sharp presented "What Our Three Veterans Experienced." Aaliyah Johnson introduced the Rev. Ed Burton, Sophia Wolfe introduced George Alcon Hubbard, and Karis Edwards introduced Marion Noel, with each student sharing a biography of the veteran.

The second program, "WW II Major Events," was presented by Gianna Pitzer, Jesse Caldwell and Noah Patterson. Veronica Helms introduced Hubbard, Rana Atayi introduced Noel, and Makinleigh Lee introduced Burton.

The student presentations traced the conflict from Japan's expansion in Asia and the attack on Pearl Harbor through the Allied advance across Europe and the Pacific, the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and Japan's surrender in September 1945.

But the programs also offered something beyond a history lesson: the opportunity to hear directly from men whose lives were shaped by the war.

Hubbard was born in Union Hall, Va., on Jan. 25, 1926. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in January 1943 at age 17 and served as a coxswain's mate, a

See **Veterans**, page 10

Town of Fincastle awarded $1.24 million grant for historic district revitalization

Matt de Simone
Managing Editor

Fincastle has been awarded $1,244,642 through Virginia's Community Development Block Grant program to fund improvements to its historic downtown, including building facade restoration, streetscape upgrades, and new signage.

The funding will support the Fincastle Historic District Revitalization 2026 project. Fincastle was one of 17 Virginia communities selected for funding this year, according to an announcement by Mayor Mary Bess Smith.

"Fincastle's downtown is more than just a

See **Grant**, page 10



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

The Town of Fincastle recently installed two new welcome signs, one at each end of Fincastle.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BIRDIE BOBLETT

James River Homecoming Queen Leanna Steger and Homecoming King Conor Childs



PHOTO COURTESY OF LBHS

Lord Botetourt Homecoming King and Queen Rylen Wright and Addison Underwood

Homecoming royalty crowned at area high schools

Homecoming celebrations recently took place at James River High School and Lord Botetourt High School, with students at both schools celebrating school spirit and honoring their 2026 homecoming royalty.

At James River High School, Leanna Steger was crowned homecoming queen and Conor Childs was crowned homecoming king. The James River homecoming dance was held Sept. 26 at Gracely Hills in Buchanan.

Members of the James River homecoming court included:

Seniors: **Conor Childs, Aidan Davis, Keegan Price, Sam Wilson, Remi Bingeman, Avery Carr, Aydia McMaster** and **Leanna Steger**

Juniors: **Kolton Moody, Oscar Seitz, Maggie Brewster** and **Molly Dewhirst**

Sophomores: **Matthew Lowe, Ashton Orange, Hadleigh Breeden** and **Madison Sparks**

Freshmen: **Will Gore, Sam Reynolds, Allie Johnson** and **Kinley Scott**

At Lord Botetourt High School, Addalyn Underwood was crowned homecoming queen and Rylen Wright

See **Homecoming**, page 10

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Botetourt County History



PHOTO COURTESY OF BCMHC

This is a Future Farmers of America (FFA) Vocational Agriculture plaque on loan from James River High School. It is part of the "Home Grown: Botetourt's Agricultural History" exhibit at the Botetourt Museum of History & Culture in Fincastle.

The Troutville Chapter of the FFA was chartered in 1935. Local members participate in competitions, supervised agricultural projects, fairs and leadership activities that reflect the changing nature of farming. They gain hands-on experience in mechanics, public speaking, record keeping, farming, and care of livestock.

Agriculture continues to thrive. In The Fincastle Herald on October 7, 2026, there is an article about Addison Kelly who placed first in the Virginia "State FFA Dairy Handlers Career Development Event." As a Botetourt County FFA and 4-H high school student, she also represented Botetourt County on a national stage at the Eastern States Exposition in September.

~ Botetourt County Museum of History & Culture

Friends of Botetourt K9 to host annual golf tournament this Saturday

Friends of Botetourt K9 will host its annual golf tournament Saturday, Oct. 17, at Ashley Plantation.

Check-in will begin at 8:30 a.m., followed by a 9 a.m. shotgun start.

Registration is open for four-person teams. Those interested in participating can register through FOBK9.org.

The team package includes a gift bag and lunch following the tournament, provided by Mission BBQ. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided by Dunkin' Donuts and Krispy Kreme, with bagels provided by Donnie D's.

Prizes will be awarded for longest drive, closest to the pin, and first-, second-, third- and last-place finishes.

The tournament will support Friends of Botetourt K9 and its work benefiting the community.

Organizers thanked Munters, Botetourt Veterinary Hospital and Metal Roofing for sponsoring the event.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report

FRIENDS OF BOTETOURT K9

FILE GRAPHIC

Open Studios-Botetourt returns to Fincastle this weekend

Open Studios-Botetourt, "Art in the Country," will return this weekend, 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.

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



Breckinridge 'Rocks' the school

On Friday, Oct. 2, Breckinridge Elementary School celebrated Rock Your School Day, an event sponsored by Get Your Teach On that encourages students and staff to find joy in even the smallest moments.

This year's theme, "Giant World of Games," transformed the school's halls into giant-sized versions of games with the help of numerous parents. Teachers also planned creative, out-of-the-box educational experiences designed to engage students and bring learning to life.

It was an exciting day filled with fun, creativity and learning for both students and staff.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report



Fourth grader Alice Stracke, center, was the queen of Candy Land in Mrs. Martin's fourth grade class.



Shylah Willis, Cooper Saunders, Ashby Bona, and Corbin Ware enjoy the supersize Sorry game in Mrs. Engels' second grade classroom.



Breckinridge Special Education teachers Gail McGee and Francesca Sample welcome Annabelle Wilson and Yinka Adeji to the World of Games.



PHOTOS CCOURTESY OF MARCY WOHLFORD

Some of the James River High School Band, led by Robert Chaplin, got up early to come play pep songs to start off the day in a festive mood.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ATTIC PRODUCTIONS

From left, Matthew Ridley, Liam Fentriss and Peter Farnham in a scene from "The Picture of Dorian Gray."

'Dorian Gray' continues at Attic Oct. 15-18

Oscar Wilde's gothic masterpiece "The Picture of Dorian Gray" continues this week at Attic Productions' D. Geraldine Lawson Performing Arts Center. The show runs October 15-18, with Thursday and Friday performances at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday shows at 2:30 p.m.

Set in Victorian London, a young Dorian Gray becomes infatuated by the portrait that Basil Hallward has painted of him. This stage adaptation follows the dark descent of Dorian Gray, who makes a desperate, unholy wish – that he might remain forever young while his painted portrait grows old and bears the scars of his sins.

The theater is located at 7490 Roanoke Road, Fincastle. Adult tickets are $20, students 18 and under and groups of 10 or more are $15 when paid in cash or by check at the box office. Tickets may be purchased on the website at www.atticproductions.info. For questions, call the box office at 540-473-1001.

~ Attic Productions

Lord Botetourt FFA welcomes new officer team



PHOTO COURTEST OF LBHS FFA

Lord Botetourt FFA members include (from left): front row, Briggsley Grant, John Vaughan, Julia Mosley, James Resse Lane, Noah Meyer, Matthew Barker, Lilah Barker, and Layla Cook; second row, Mathew Staley, Paige Lapham, Autumn Atkinson, Gage Vassar, Scotty Lapham, Joshua Fredrickson, Anastasia Lovasz, and Cayden Kroll; top center, Advisor Stuart Byrd.

The Lord Botetourt FFA Chapter is preparing for a new school year with a new team of student leaders ready to serve their chapter, school and community.

James Reese Lane will lead the chapter as president. Noah Meyer and Julia Mosley will serve as vice presidents, while Layla Cook will take on the duties of secretary. Matthew Barker will serve as treasurer, with Briggsley Grant serving as reporter and John Vaughan as sentinel.

Lilah Barker will serve as the chapter's student advisor, and Stuart Byrd will continue as the FFA chapter advisor.

The officers were selected through a process that included written applications and officer training. The process gave students an opportunity to demonstrate their leadership abilities and prepare for the responsibilities that come with serving as an FFA officer.

Throughout the coming school year, the new officer team will help plan and organize chapter activities, assist with FFA events and encourage fellow members to become involved. They will also represent Lord Botetourt FFA at school and community events.

Working alongside Advisor Byrd and the chapter's members, the officers will play an important role in promoting the FFA program and its commitment to leadership, service and agricultural education.

With a new team in place, Lord Botetourt FFA is looking forward to another active year and the opportunities ahead for its members and the community.

~ Submitted by Chapter Reporter Briggsley Grant

LAND TRANSFERS - SEPTEMBER 2026

The following land transfers were recorded in the Botetourt County Courthouse in September 2026. The names of only one seller and one buyer are listed; others may be involved in the transaction.

- Laura M. Allison to Laura M. Allison, 2.304 acres, $0
- Laura M. Allison to Suzanne Boggess, 2.304 acres, $0
- Ricardo Z. Almaraz to Marcus J. W. Andrews, half-acre, gift deed
- John K. Autry to Jolie Bryant, 3.02 acres, $0
- Scott E. Axelson to Scott E. Axelson Revocable Trust, lot, Steeplechase, $0
- Lisa D. Ayers to Dakota A. Duke, 1.08 acres, $164,000
- Charles M. Beckner to Ryan Mehalic, lot, Apple Tree Village, $539,000
- Susan B. Blaylock to Dennis A. Brown, lot, Heatherstone, $525,000
- April M. Ramey Boston to April M. R. Boston, parcel, $0
- Jeffrey A. Bowles to Jodi L. Harris, 1.250 acres, gift deed
- Boxley Materials Co. to Martin Marietta North Texas Cement, parcels, $1,400,000
- Jo Ann Burkholder to Nicholas Burkholder, 1.197 acres, gift deed
- David C. Burrows to David C. Burrows, trustee, 1.57 acres, $0
- Alice M. Carter to Valley Properties, 0.308 acre, $189,000
- Chad A. Clark to Ethan Plott, two parcels, $495,000
- Jon C. Clark to Jon C. Clark, lot, Sommersby, gift deed
- L. Jordan Combs to John T. Fedison, 6.257 acres, $850,000
- Rodney E. Cook to Cody Feury, 5 acres, $344,000
- Dennis W. Craft to Dennis W. Craft, parcel, $0
- Jeanne F. Douglass to Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Transportation, parcel, $1,000
- DSG Building to Vincent D. Cassidy, 10.948 acres, $799,285
- Richard L. Dudley Jr. to Kasey J. Dudley, one-half interest in 85.758 acres, gift deed
- Glenna Dunn to Michael Dunn, trustee, two parcels, $0
- Brittany N. Elmore to Jacob B. Hairfield, lot, Orchards of Ashley, $825,000
- Erbo Construction to Shay Lawson, lot, The Preserve at Ashley, $661,282
- Bill E. Fabian Jr. to Jesse B. O'Conner III, lot, Ashley Plantation, $700,000
- Beverly Faville to Thomas Blaylock, lot, Daleville Town Center, $560,000
- Brandon T. Firebaugh to Katherine J. Rand, 0.60 acre, $325,000
- First Fruit Farms to Brenda Smith, 1.250 acres, gift deed
- James K. Flint to James K. Flint, 3 parcels, gift deed
- Sherman D. Foutz to Bryan A. Speller, 2 parcels, $155,000
- Fralin & Waldron Inc. to Stateson Homes, 0.161 acre, Daleville Town Center, $86,654
- Fralin & Waldron Inc. to Stateson Homes, 0.251 acre, Daleville Town Center, $86,654
- Fralin & Waldron Inc. to Stateson Homes, 0.161 acre, Daleville Town Center, $86,654
- Paul Franklin to Taylor Mitchell, lot, Steeplechase, $525,000
- Randall H. Frazier to Randall H. Frazier and Janice B., 2 parcels, $0
- Mary Beth Goodman to Jose N. Cabrera Sanchez, 2.83 acres, $28,000
- Gary W. Guilliams to Renee Guilliams Favaro, lot, Country Club Meadows, gift deed
- Gary Wayne Guilliams to Colin Austin Guilliams, trustee, 4 parcels, $0
- Michaelle D. Hairfield to Jennifer Pittman, lot, Ashley Plantation, $681,000
- Glenn Barry Hammond Sr. to Glenn Barry Hammond II, 1 acre, $0
- Justin P. Hatter to Zackary Young, 5 acres less and except 1.268 acres, $253,000
- Valinda K. Hayes to Daniel M. Justis, lot, Steeplechase, $539,950
- Stanley M. Hill to Jason E. Hill, lot, The Preserve at Ashley, $0
- Stanley M. Hill to Jason E. Hill, lot, The Preserve at Ashley, $0
- Daniel Dean Humbert to Julie H. Beckner, parcels, gift deed
- Ethan Humbert to Matthew Ty Maust, 0.513 acre, $250,000
- Hungate Fields to Stanley M. Hill, lot, The Preserve at Ashley, $708,166
- Hungate Fields to Stanley M. Hill, lot, The Preserve at Ashley, $90,000
- Hurt Properties to Mark R. Mayberry, lot, $320,000
- Alan Wayne Jeffries to Donald Steven Arthur, lot, gift deed
- Aaron D. Kellerman to Benjamin Carey Linkous, 3.7093 acres, $825,000
- Michael S. Kinzie to The Conservation Fund, 32.244 acres, $620,000
- Marvin R. Kirk to Gary Richard Kirk, lot, Autumn Wood, $0
- Seth R. Konopasek, special commissioner, to Desiree Gomez Landram, 1.15 acres, $18,250
- Seth R. Konopasek, special commissioner, to Sylvia D. Powell, church lot, $7,500
- Seth R. Konopasek, special commissioner, to NDPonics Inc., 5 acres, $57,500
- Michelle M. Kowalski to Gerard F. Moseley, 79 acres, $100,000
- Michael L. Labrie to Michael L. Labrie, lot, Ashley Plantation, gift deed
- Lemus Aguilar Daleville to Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Transportation, Interstate 81 State Highway Project 0081-084-940, $2,000
- Chad Liberty to Zackary Griffith, lot, Blue Ridge Heights, $395,000
- LJJB Properties to David Frydrych, lot, Greenacres, $355,000
- LJJB Properties to William Gilbert Stickney II, lot, Apple Tree Village, $348,000
- LJJH Properties to William Carroll, lot, Botetourt East, $322,500
- Larry Edward Locke to Kyle Failla, 2 parcels, $1,420,000
- Joyce Arthur Manning to Household Investment, lot, $110,000
- Ryan Mehalic to Christopher M. McNary, 15 acres, $655,000
- Rose Marie Merchant to Evelyn K. Graham, 1.63 acres, gift deed
- William E. Miller III to William E. Miller III, 10.020 acres, gift deed
- Charles W. Morrison to John David Morrison, 1.397 acres, gift deed
- Billy R. Mottesheard to Sean Lavery, 1.715 acres, portion of lot, $235,000
- Wallace E. Muterspaugh Jr. to Map Dot Ventures, lots containing 19.134 acres, $450,000
- My Big Why to Zachary Spickard, part of lot and lot, Town of Buchanan, $246,000
- Abigail C. Neidigh to Abigail C. Neidigh, 4.038 acres, $0
- Andrew M. Neville, special commissioner, to Elite Estate Solutions, 1 acre, $100,000
- Andrew M. Neville, special commissioner, to Fahrbach Joint Revocable Trust, 0.78 acre, $21,000
- Brunilda M. Orellano to John A. Craft, lot, Dale Court, $0
- Jean Poague Overstreet, by attorney, to Sean Goldsmith, 5 acres, Ft. William Farms, $406,000
- Ruby T. Overstreet to Sydney J. Whorley, lot, Apple Tree Village, $0
- Deborah A. Patterson to Lauren G. Silcox, lot, Daleville Town Center, $455,000
- Katherine Grace La Pettipiece to Harry Richard Oliver, lot, Daleville Farms, $355,000
- Ethan C. Plott to Armando Villagomez, 2.469 acres, $280,000
- Kimberly Ann Prewitt to Kevin Keith Prewitt, lot, Altamira, $0
- Robert Radford to Thomas A. Elmore, lot, The Preserve at Ashley, $630,000
- Kassie S. Reeves to Andrew Blake Guthrie, 5.928 acres, $315,000
- Jesse Rhoades to Ann Jennings, lot, Tinkerview Gardens, $430,000
- Raylene S. Riley to Morgan Marie Monson, lot, Brookfield Patio Homes, $0
- RLJ Investments to Isaiah Manuel Patxot, lot, Knollwood, $390,000
- Donald B. Roberts to Jacob Thomas Bousman, 1 acre, $0
- Sherwin D. Rodgers to Harold Eugene Decker Jr., 2.264 acres, $200,000
- William H. Sapp Jr. to Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Transportation, parcel, $500
- Mary J. Schroeder to Robert J. Schroeder Jr., lot, Botetourt Forest, gift deed
- Timothy M. Secrist to Timothy M. Secrist, 2.117 acres, gift deed
- Timothy M. Secrist to Whitney A. McCloud, 2.117 acres, gift deed
- Joshua D. Severs to Shawn Michael Severs, lot, Mill Creek Acres, $132,500
- Donald G. Shelton to Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Transportation, parcel, $5,400
- Shenandoah Breeze to NHNR Holding Co., 30.5055 acres, $32,240,411
- Shooting Star Virginia Partner to NHNR Holding Co., 35.568 acres, $36,525,589
- Cynthia Ann Smith to Matthew W. Hampton, 1.25 acres, $350,000
- Lisa T. Sprinkel to Lisa T. Sprinkel, trustee, 85 acres less outconveyance, gift deed
- Stateson Homes to Janice Vandergrift, lot, Daleville Town Center, $489,070
- Stateson Homes to Michelle D. Shorter, lot, Millstone, $710,280
- Stateson Homes to John Barnes, lot, $537,520
- Stateson Homes to Stephanie Oestricher Perkins, lot, $561,635
- Stateson Homes to Pamela Hardman, lot, Millstone, $491,310
- Stateson Homes to John Gregory Mooney, lot, $544,795
- Stateson Homes to Jacob Pham, lot, Daleville Town Center, $612,475
- Stateson Homes to Diana Johnson, lot, Millstone, $401,195
- Stateson Homes to Oscar D. Bryant, trustee, lot, Daleville Town Center, $578,130
- T. Crouch Homes to Tanner Jay Oedel, lot, Duffield Estates, $238,000
- Jesse A. Teaford to Chad P. Teaford, 11.610 acres, $75,000
- Michael M. Tesoro to Jason Gordon, lot, Sowder Farm, $715,500
- The Village at Stonegate to Stateson Homes, lot, Millstone, $108,000
- The Village at Stonegate to Stateson Homes, lot, Millstone, $108,000
- The Village at Stonegate to Stateson Homes, lot, Millstone, $108,000
- The Village at Stonegate to Stateson Homes, lot, Millstone, $108,000
- Ernest F. Toler to Ernest F. Toler, lot, Rainbow Forest, gift deed
- Justin P. Wagner to Kevin L. Enix, lot, Laurel Mountain, $450,000
- Jennifer C. Waybright to Benjamin P. Hayden, lot, Sommersby, $579,950
- Wildwood Park to Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Transportation, parcel, $9,280
- Loretta B. Williams to Susan Via Campbell, one-half interest, 3.688 acres, $0
- Jani L. Williamson to My Big Why, parcel, $91,300
- Mark L. Wilsie to Stephanie L. Flowe, 5.056 acres, $570,000
- Ralph C. Workowski to Sean C. Workowski, trustee, 18.199 acres, Caldwell Mountain Acres, gift deed
- Sarah E. Wyrick to Kenneth L. Entsminger, 37.573 acres, gift deed





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The Sheriff's Post

SHERIFF MATTHEW T. WARD

BOCO Night Out brings community together

Botetourt County residents gathered Friday evening at Buchanan Town Park for BOCO Night Out, an annual community outreach event hosted by the Botetourt County Sheriff's Office.

The event ran from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the park's carnival grounds on Lowe Street, offering free food, activities and fireworks for residents and families. Live music was provided by Jerry Wimmer and Bottom of the Barrel, adding to an evening designed to bring local law enforcement and the community together in a family-friendly setting.

Sheriff Matt Ward described this year's event as a tremendous success, noting that attendance exceeded expectations. He expressed gratitude to the community partners, volunteers and sheriff's office staff who helped organize the gathering.

"More than anything, I hope residents walked away knowing their Sheriff's Office is here to support them," Ward said. "BOCO Night Out is about more than just food, entertainment, and activities. It's about bringing our community together and building relationships with those we serve."

Ward said the event gives residents an opportunity to become more comfortable approaching deputies, asking questions and getting to know the people behind the badge. He emphasized that building those relationships through everyday interactions helps strengthen connections between law enforcement and the community.

He also praised the community's support of the Sheriff's Office and said officials would continue looking for ways to bring residents together while working toward a safe community.

BOCO Night Out is part of the Sheriff's Office's community outreach efforts. Although the event is associated with the National Night Out initiative, Botetourt County holds its celebration in October.

The event was held at Buchanan Town Park, 485 Lowe St., with admission and activities offered free to the public.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report



BOCO Night Out was held last Friday night at Buchanan Town Park.


Kids enjoy skill games



Jerry Wimmer and Bottom of the Barrel


A Botetourt County deputy gives children a closer look at a sheriff's motorcycle.


Families gather for food and fellowship beneath the trees.


A young climber takes on the rock wall.



A dunk tank offers some splash-filled fun

Library Buzz

Sourdough Starters for Home Bakers

Wed, Oct. 14, 12 PM, Buchanan

Explore the world of sourdough in this casual library gathering. Discover helpful cookbooks, exchange recipes, discuss starter care, and learn from the successes and challenges of fellow home bakers. *Best for ages 19+.

Learn more about Botetourt Libraries at
bocolibraries.info



PHOTOS BY MATT DE SIMONE

Virginia State Police display patrol vehicles during the BOCO Night Out.

League for Animal Protection's Waif of the Week



Snuggles

Snuggles is a 5-month-old neutered male, and up to date on age-appropriate vaccines. He is a friendly hound mix and loves affection. He is still a puppy, so he has plenty of energy and likes to play. He may be a tad of Dalmatian as well. He is a total cutie!

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

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ARRESTS

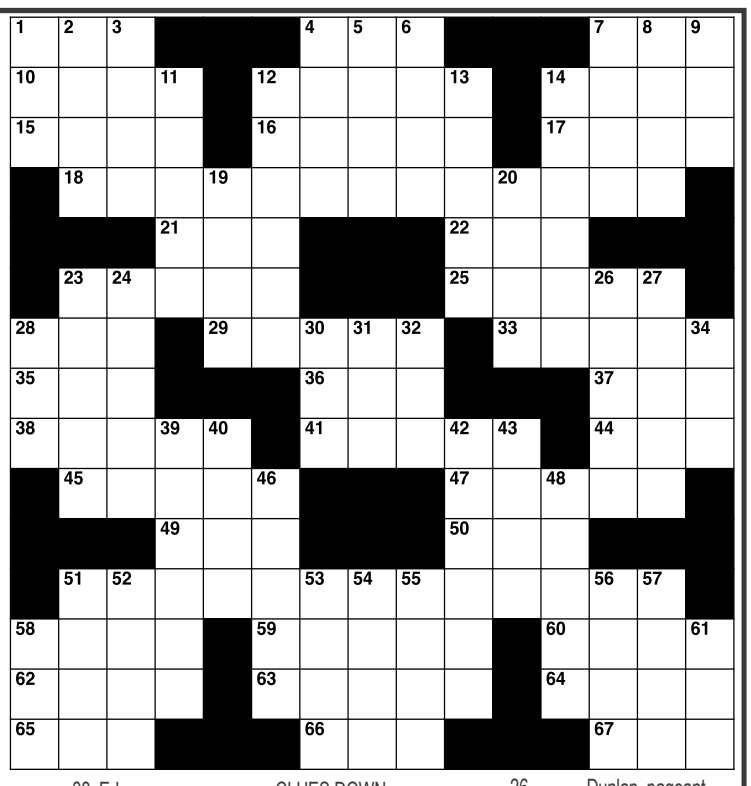
October 5-9, 2026

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests Oct. 5-9:

- Jacob R. Terry, 18, of Blue Ridge, contempt of court, Oct. 5
- Lyle L. Cochran, 39, of Aurora, Ind., warrant of extradition, Oct. 6
- Jade K. McCarty, 33, of Fincastle, drunk in public, Oct. 7
- Jose Abel Hernandez Morales, 32, of Roanoke, domestic assault, Oct. 8
- Kaitlin M. Webb, 35, of Clifton Forge, possession of Schedule drugs, Oct. 8
- Da'Quan M. Saunders-McNear, 28, of Roanoke, driving under the influence, Oct. 9
- Dakota R. Anderson, 29, of Eagle Rock, driving under the influence, Oct. 9


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CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS
1. Droop
4. Rested in a chair
7. Thai (var.)
10. Draw out wool
12. Coatis genus
14. Taxis
15. Beige
16. Supplementing with difficulty
17. Capital of Norway
18. A personal written history
21. Cologne
22. Australian flightless bird
23. Lowest freeman; early Eng.
25. 18th C. mathematician Leonhard
28. Cabinet Dept. for homes
29. Languages of Sulu islands
33. More scarce
35. Before
36. Swiss river
37. Actress & director Lupino
38. Edges
41. Thousand Leaves prefecture
44. Soldier hero of Spain El ___
45. Gains through work
47. To the front
49. I (German)
50. Price label
51. Barack's 1st lady
58. Drench with liquid
59. Child (scot.)
60. "Aba ____ Honeymoon"
62. Disappearing shade trees
63. Cricket frog genus
64. Union busting worker
65. A priest's liturgical vestment
66. Previously The Common Market
67. Upper left keyboard key

CLUES DOWN
1. Point midway between S and SE
2. Genus of birds
3. Personal spiritual leader
4. Japanese rice beverage
5. Eared owl genus
6. Wood oil finish
7. Hyphen
8. Competently
9. Equal, prefix
11. Broad-winged soaring hawks
12. A collection of star systems
13. Be in accord
14. Links subject & predicate (linguistics)
19. Paddles
20. Asian river between China and Russia
23. Physicists Marie or Pierre
24. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
26. _____ Dunlap, pageant titleholder
27. Made again
28. Norse goddess of death
30. A waterproof raincoat
31. Express pleasure
32. ___ Lanka
34. Radioactivity unit
39. Clay blocks for building
40. Linear unit
42. Conductor tools
43. Whale ship captain
46. Queen who tested Solomon
48. Good Gosh!
51. A gangster's girlfriend
52. Unstressed-stressed
53. Draw through holes
54. Old Italian monetary units
55. Musician Clapton
56. Ceremonial staff of authority
57. Fabrics of camels or goats
58. A very large body of water
61. Basics

Submit your letters to the editor today.

fincastle@ourvalley.org


The Fincastle Herald
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See **Answers**, page 10

Botetourt County Historical Society Celebrates 18th Annual Founder's Day Dinner

The Botetourt County Historical Society celebrated its 18th Annual Founder's Day Dinner on Sunday, October 4, at The Glebe in Daleville, bringing together community members, supporters, and history enthusiasts for an evening celebrating Botetourt County's rich heritage.

This year's event held special significance as the nation commemorates the 250th anniversary of American independence and the Historical Society celebrates its own milestone of 60 years preserving and sharing Botetourt County's history.

The evening featured William "Bill" Barker, the nation's premier historical interpreter of Thomas Jefferson. Barker, who portrayed Jefferson for more than two decades at Colonial Williamsburg and now serves as Jefferson at Monticello, brought the nation's third president to life for attendees.

His presentation explored Jefferson's life, ideas, and connections to Virginia, including the region's ties to Meriwether Lewis and William Clark's expedition, Colonel James Breckinridge, and Natural Bridge. These connections offered guests a distinctly local perspective on a familiar figure in American history.

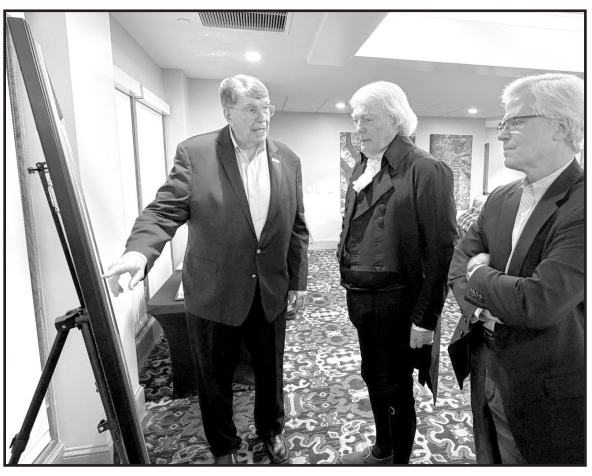
The Society also presented the Emily Honts Award to Roblyn Brand and Delegate Terry Austin in recognition of their contributions to preserving and celebrating Virginia's history. Brand is a longtime member of the BCHS Board of Directors and an active supporter of the museum and Historic Greenfield. Austin serves as Chair of the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250), helping lead the Commonwealth's commemoration of the nation's 250th anniversary.

The Society also took a moment to recognize the lasting contributions of Joseph B. Buhrman, a founding member and longtime supporter of BCHS. Through his will, Buhrman left his home to the Society, and the proceeds from that generous gift enabled BCHS to purchase its current museum building at 26 East Main Street in Fincastle. His legacy continues to support the Society's mission of preserving and sharing Botetourt County's rich history.

The Botetourt County Historical Society extends its sincere gratitude to the event's sponsors, members, volunteers, Board of Directors, and the staff at The Glebe for helping make the evening a success. This year's financial sponsors include Bank of Botetourt, John Alderson Insurance Agency, Ed & Betty Holt, FirstBank, Ikenberry Orchards and Country Store, The Glebe, Roanoke Cement, and Heritage Family Market. Special thanks goes to everyone whose continued support allows the Society to preserve Botetourt County's stories for future generations.

As the Society reflects on six decades of service, Founder's Day served as a reminder that local history remains an important part of the larger American story—and that preserving it is a community effort.

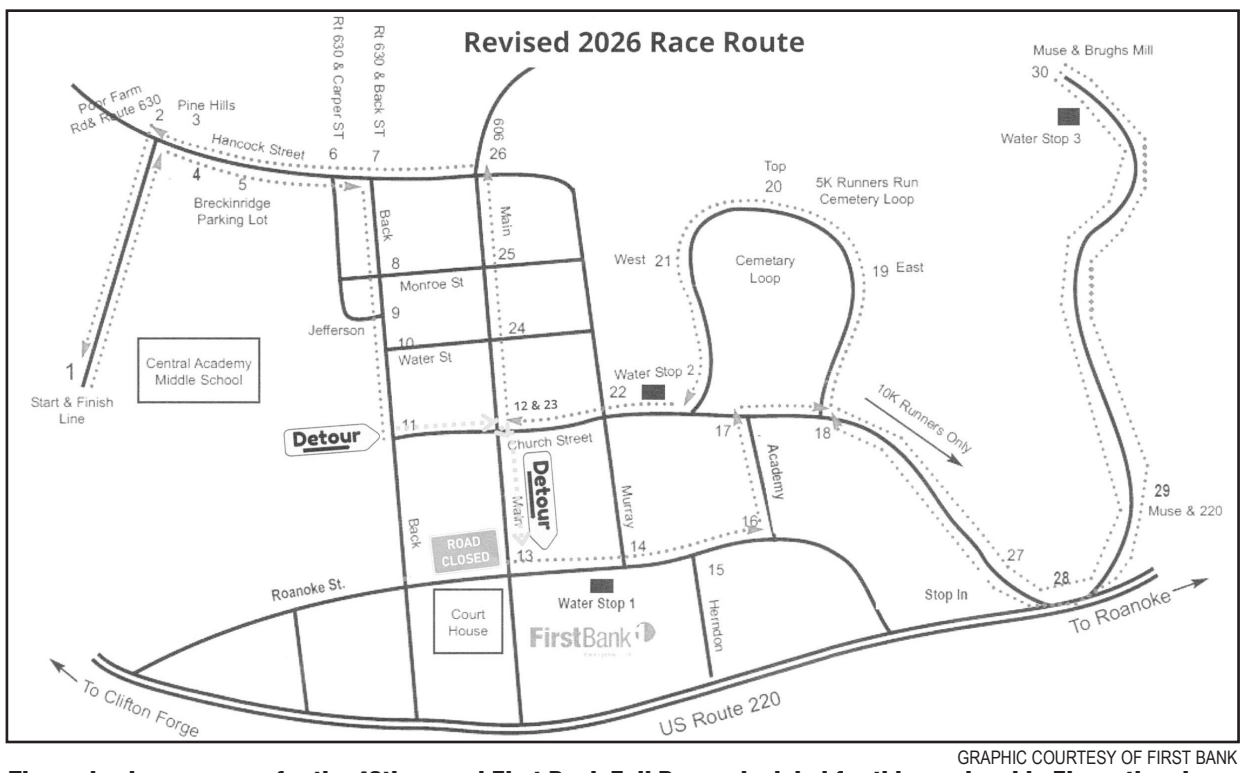
~ Submitted by BCHS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BCHS

BCHS President Ed Holt, shows the map of Botetourt County from 1773 to 1778 to Bill Barker, aka Thomas Jefferson and Boyce Brannock, Chairman of the Board of Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest

First Bank Run from page 1



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF FIRST BANK

The revised course map for the 40th annual First Bank Fall Run, scheduled for this weekend in Fincastle, shows the 5K and 10K routes, water stops, and detours around ongoing courthouse construction.

and additional information are available at runsignup.com/Race/VA/Fincastle/FirstBankFallRun.

The First Bank Fall Run, then known as The Bank of Fincastle Fall Run, began in 1987 with 155 participants. Its roots in Fincastle road racing reach back even further, to races organized by Richard and Patty King from 1981 through 1983 in conjunction with the Fincastle Festival.

Richard Pauley helped establish the bank-sponsored event and served as its race director for 30 years. He has preserved a piece of the event's history in a quilt made from T-shirts from its first 30 years.

The quilt offers a colorful look back at the race's evolution and the memories made along its challenging course through Fincastle and the surrounding roads.

Over the years, the event has grown to include elementary, middle school and open team competitions. Its scholarship program, which began in 1994 with a $1,000 award, expanded in 2018 to two annual $1,000 scholarships. The race also has attracted accomplished runners, including Olympian Steve Taylor and his wife, Lori, whose 5K course records from 1990 still stand, according to First Bank.

Last year's 39th annual event drew 669 runners. This year's anniversary provides an opportunity to recognize the bank, schools, local businesses, volunteers, and generations of participants who have helped sustain the tradition.

Runners and motorists should consult the revised course map for this year's route, which includes detours around ongoing courthouse construction and a road closure near Church Street.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reader says to listen for the genuine before voting

Some, out of compassion for the unborn, can't tolerate the thought of voting for a candidate regardless if said candidate's life and career have been dedicated to compassion for the born.

I applaud Leonora Drzymala (letter in last week's Herald) for having read one of Beth Macy's books, all evident of diligent research as well as compassion for the misunderstood and despised in our society.

The late Howard Thurman used to underscore the importance of "listening for the genuine" when another is speaking. May we not have become too jaded to listen for the sound of the genuine when one is seeking our vote.

My hope is that Ms. Drzymala, and others thinking like her, makes an effort to hear Beth Macy speak before casting her vote.

Charlie Finn
Fincastle

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.

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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.

Facing Change

Read Deuteronomy 9:1 through 11:32

Joe had lived in the country his entire life. Life on his parents' dairy farm was predictable and comfortable. Now he was leaving for college, and a whole new world lay ahead. When Joe's parents dropped him off at the university on orientation day, he reeled from the culture shock. This sure is going to be different, he thought.

The Israelites had a similar experience as they prepared to enter the Promised Land.

The land you are entering to take over is not like the land of Egypt, from which you have come (Deuteronomy 11:10).

After forty years of wandering in the desert, the Israelites were not familiar with cultivating crops. Even their knowledge of Egyptian agriculture, which relied on slave labor and the Nile for irrigation, would provide little help. In their new home, God himself would provide water for their fields and vineyards, as long as they continued to trust Him to do so.

Times of transition can be difficult, but if we rely on God, He will help us navigate each new season of life.

Challenge for Today: Pray for someone you know who is facing a major change in his or her life.

Quicklook: Deuteronomy 11:8–17

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

Journell, Lawrence E.

July 19, 1948 – October 8, 2026

Lawrence E. "Larry" Journell, 78, of Fincastle, passed away on Thursday, October 8, 2026.



Born July 19, 1948, in Roanoke, Larry was a graduate of Northside High School. He served his country in the U.S. Army in Vietnam, where he flew night missions as a forward observer in the Grumman OV-1 Mohawk. After his service he earned a degree from Virginia Western Community College, then an undergraduate degree from Madison College, where he was president of his fraternity, Tau Sigma Chi. He went on to earn a master's degree from the University of Virginia.

Larry devoted his career to education. He taught history at Lord Botetourt High School and was also Athletic Director there before becoming Assistant Principal and then Principal at James River High School. After retiring, he took great pleasure in farming, his Blue Heelers, his yearly hunting trips to Wyoming or South Dakota, and regular lunches at the North Star.

An avid hunter and a gifted storyteller, Larry will be remembered for the stories he told and the company he kept. Larry was also devoted to family and, hunting season permitting, could always be found at family gatherings.

He was predeceased by his father, Lawrence F. "Pete" Journell, and his brother-in-law, Euro Zuleta.

Larry is survived by his wife, Genevieve; his mother, Helen; his brother, Allen (Brenda) Journell; his sisters, Vicky (Gary) Carrell and Tracy (Jeff) Wright; and his sisters-in-law, Josephine Visser Zuleta and Sonja (Joe) Del Buono. He is also survived by many beloved nieces, nephews, and their children.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 31, in the James River High School gymnasium in Buchanan. The family will receive visitors beginning at 1 p.m. before the service, and again at a reception immediately following. Arrangements are by Botetourt Funeral Home, Buchanan. Those who wish may make memorial donations to the American Red Cross.

Bergendahl, Ella Mae

Ella Mae Bergendahl, 82, of The Glebe and formerly of Bonsack, passed away on Sunday, October 4, 2026. She was a member of Bonsack Baptist Church and was a Water Aerobics Instructor for many years.



She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles "Ed" Bergendahl and is survived by her daughter, Amy Rosenthal and husband, Evan; son, Allen Bergendahl and wife, Caitlin; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held at 2 p.m. on Friday, October 9, 2026 at Oakey's East Chapel with Pastor Rhon Williams officiating. The family received friends from 1-2 p.m. prior to the service. Memorials may be made to the Foundation for Women's Cancer, https://foundationforwomenscancer.org. Arrangements were by Oakey's East Chapel and Crematory, 540-977-3909.

Kelley, Lawrence Oliver

Lawrence (Larry) Oliver Kelley, 86, of Troutville, was born in Pickens, S.C., on April 6, 1940 to the late Oliver Kelley and Emroy Simmons Kelley. He died peacefully surrounded by family on Tuesday, September 29, 2026.

He was preceded in death by his late wife, Cynthia Butts Kelley; sister-in-law, Lorraine Kelley; and niece, Star Kelley. He is survived by his wife, Lillian Lee Kelley; sisters, Miriam Hendricks, Marie Edwards and husband, Frank; brother, James Kelley; his son, Mitchell Scott Kelley and wife, Sherian; niece, Krista Edwards; and nephews, John Kelley and wife, Autumn, Tim Hendricks and wife, Geri, Mark Hendricks and wife, Amy, and Jeff Hendricks and wife, Sonya; and several great-nephews. Larry was a member of St. Mark's United Methodist Church. Larry will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Larry graduated from Clemson in 1962 with a B.S. in Forestry. After graduation, he enlisted in the Army. He later earned a Master's Degree from Arizona State University in Engineering. While in the Army, he served two tours in Vietnam. He resigned from the Army as a Major. He then relocated to Reston, Va., and worked at the Pentagon. He retired from the Pentagon in 1995 after working there more than 30 years.

After his retirement, he became a commercial beekeeper, having learned bee keeping while growing up. He was a very successful beekeeper and was an active member of the American Beekeepers Federation. He also enjoyed fishing, hunting and traveling. He was an avid gardener. He enjoyed meeting new people and developing relationships. He maintained long-term relationships with people he met through bee keeping. He enjoyed helping people get started in bee keeping.

There will be a Military Service at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. Arrangements by Oakey's East Chapel and Crematory, 540-977-3909.

CHURCH NEWS

Springwood Food Pantry open Saturday

The Springwood Baptist Food Pantry will be open on Saturday, October 17, from 8:30-9:30 a.m. The pantry is located at 88 Copps Hill Road, Buchanan. This pantry is a drive-through pantry, so clients may remain in their cars and volunteers will load the food for them. The pantry is open each month on the third Saturday from 8:30-9:30 a.m. and is a partner with Feeding America Southwest Virginia. Anyone in need of food is invited to visit.

Fall Festival at Cedar Bluff Baptist

Cedar Bluff Baptist Church's "Fall Festival: Jesus & Pumpkins" will be held on Saturday, October 17 from 12-2:30 p.m. There will be games, face painting, a hot dog lunch, cake walk and fellowship from 12-2 p.m., then a devotion while cars set up for trunk-or-treat starting at 2 p.m., including a contest for the best trunk.

This is a free event, open to the public, for all ages. More information can be found on Facebook at facebook.com/CedarBluffBaptist.

New Beginnings plans special services

New Beginnings Assembly of God, 1317 Narrow Passage Road, Buchanan, is having a testimony and song service at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 18. Light refreshments will be served after the service. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

Daleville Baptist Fall Festival, Trunk-or-Treat

Daleville Baptist Church is having a Fall Festival and Trunk-or-Treat on Sunday, Oct. 25, from 3-5 p.m. at the church, 375 Orchard Drive. The free event for the entire family will include a bounce house, hayrides, face painting, cake walk, hot dogs and trunk-or-treat.

Trunk-or-Treat at Eagle Rock UMC

Eagle Rock United Methodist Church, in partnership with local churches, is hosting a Trunk-or-Treat on Sunday, Oct. 24, from 5-7 p.m. in the church parking lot. All are welcome.

Wheatland Lutheran holding Tractor Treat

Wheatland Lutheran Church is having the annual Tractor Treat on October 24 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Those attending are asked to bring canned goods to be distributed to the local food pantry. Children are encouraged to dress in their Halloween costumes.

There will be a bake sale and hot dogs for sale. The church is located at 1560 Wheatland Road, Buchanan.

'Jesus Fest' at Solomon's Mission

Solomon's Mission, located at 592 Lowe Street in Buchanan, will host the annual "Jesus Fest" event on October 31, from 6-8 p.m.

This free community celebration welcomes everyone for an evening of fellowship, fun, and family-friendly activities. Enjoy games, cake walks, food, candy and the Good News.

Organizers are gratefully accepting donations of bagged candy, which may be dropped off during regular business hours.

Cakes for the cake walk are also needed and can be delivered by 2 p.m. on October 31. Monetary donations to help purchase pizzas for the event are appreciated as well.

Trinity UMC Baby Pantry open October 24

Those in need of diapers and baby formula may come to the Baby Pantry at Trinity United Methodist Church, 19637 Main Street, Buchanan, from 9 a.m. to noon on the fourth Saturday of the month. Enter on Washington Street side of the building. The Baby Pantry will be open this month on October 24..

Diaper and wipes donations may be left at the Buchanan Library and Family Dollar Store.

Fincastle Clothes Closet open dates

Fincastle United Methodist's Clothes Closet will be open on Tuesday, Oct. 20, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and Saturday, Oct. 31, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., in the Family Life Center at 137 S. Church Street. Donations of gently worn, clean clothing and shoes also will be accepted. Call the church office at 540-473-3001 to arrange to bring donations during office hours, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday.

Lapsleys Run Homecoming

Lapsleys Run Baptist Church will celebrate the annual Harvest Homecoming and 158th Church Anniversary on Sunday, November 8, 2026. We will celebrate our Harvest Homecoming beginning at 11:00 a.m. Our own, Brother Edgar Freeman, will be the speaker for the morning service.

We will serve dinner after the morning service.

Our 158th Church Anniversary service will begin at 2:00 p.m. The guest speaker will be Bishop Mark Nichols of Lovely Zion Baptist Church in Bedford, VA.

Everyone is welcome to join us for these and all services at Lapsleys Run Baptist Church.

Our regular services are held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 11:00 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend these and all services at Lapsleys Run Baptist Church, 608 Zion Hill Road, Fincastle, VA 24090.

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.

Bank of Botetourt launches financial education program in county schools

Bank of Botetourt has launched a seven-month financial education pilot program in partnership with Botetourt County Public Schools.

The program, called "Investing in Future Leaders," began with third- and fifth-grade students at Buchanan, Cloverdale and Greenfield Elementary Schools.

Developed by Bank of Botetourt, the program brings age-appropriate financial education into classrooms through a series of 30-minute lessons led by local retired educators working with the bank. The educators involved have a combined 127 years of experience in education.

The three schools were selected as a starting point for the pilot based on proximity and the capacity needed to introduce the program, according to the bank. The focused approach will allow the bank and school system to gather feedback and refine the curriculum as the program progresses.

"As a community bank founded here in Botetourt County, we are grateful for the opportunity to begin this program alongside Botetourt County Public Schools and the educators who know their students best," said Michelle R. Austin, president and chief executive officer of Bank of Botetourt.

The curriculum is designed to complement classroom instruction and support Virginia Standards of Learning objectives while giving students practical applications of financial concepts.

Third-grade students will learn about earning, saving, spending, needs and wants, giving and goal-setting. Fifth-graders will build on those concepts through lessons on budgeting, banking, consumer decision-making, fraud awareness, entrepreneurship and planning for future financial goals.

Students will participate in interactive activities such as establishing savings goals, managing sample budgets, comparing prices, identifying potential scams, working through financial scenarios and developing simple business ideas.

The program also aims to strengthen skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, planning and responsible decision-making.

"We are grateful for Bank of Botetourt's investment in our students and for their partnership in bringing practical financial education into our classrooms," said Dr. Janet Womack, superintendent of Botetourt County Public Schools.

Throughout the seven-month pilot, Bank of Botetourt and the school system will gather feedback and evaluate the program to determine what is working, where it can be improved and how it could be expanded.

The bank said the program could eventually be offered at additional schools in Botetourt County and potentially in other communities within its regional service area.

~ Bank of Botetourt

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Legals - Montgomery County

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

The Town of Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:
A. Conditional Use Permit request by Kevin T. Carter and Anne M. Carter, Property Owners, and Tow 360 LLC, Applicant, to allow a towing service on approximately 4.396 acres located at 492 Kiwanis Lane SE and further identified as Tax Parcel 528 -((A)) - 73 (Parcel ID 014664), in the General Industrial (I-2) zoning district. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan..
Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comments in person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the applications, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact the Planning Department, at (540) 382-6128, ext. 1902 or by email at planning@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia that a public hearing is scheduled for Monday, October 26, 2026 at 7:15 p.m. or as soon thereafter at the Montgomery County Government Center, 2nd Floor Multipurpose Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia to receive public comment on a proposed Ordinance Designating a 2025 Ford Econoline Van used as a mobile vet clinic owned by the Humane Society of the New River Valley exempt from Taxation.
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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia that a public hearing is scheduled for Monday, October 26, 2026 at 7:15 p.m. or as soon thereafter at the Montgomery County Government Center, 2nd Floor Multipurpose Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia to receive public comment on a proposed Ordinance Designating Certain Real Estate Leased by Hacksburg from the Virginia Tech Foundation at the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, 1872 Pratt Drive, Suite 1500 Designated as Tax Map 316-2-8, Parcel ID 250265 in the Town of Blacksburg, Prices Fork Magisterial District in the County of Montgomery Virginia exempt From Taxation.

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

Legals - Montgomery County

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 - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 1796 ARCHWAY ROAD, BLUE RIDGE, VA 24064.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated March 31, 2011, in the original principal amount of $75,225.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 110001453. 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 December 11, 2026, at 2:45 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: LAND SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT IN THE STATE OF VA. LOT 13, CONTAINING 2.353 ACRES, ACCORDING TO A PLAT SHOWING MOUNTAIN ESTATES, MADE FOR CLARENCE E. LEONARD BY THOMAS W. GUFFEY, CERTIFIED LAND SURVEYOR, DATED JANUARY 17, 1984, OF RECORD IN THE CLERK`S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT BOOK 10, PAGE 214. 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.
1190-2348B.

Legals - City of Salem

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, November 9, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114. N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

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

Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia.
At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.
THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA
BY: H. Robert Light
Clerk of Council



STATEWIDE ADS

AUCTIONS

AUCTION: HISTORIC "LOCUST GROVE," AMHERST COUNTY, VA. 125± acres in 8 tracts featuring a stately 2-story brick manor built in 1840, nestled in the Blue Ridge foothills. 1024 Sunset Dr., Amherst, VA. Onsite auction Oct. 29 at 11 AM. Previews Oct. 11, 18 & 25, noon–4 PM. Online bidding available. Buyer's premium: 5% real estate; 10% personal property. Details: woltz.com or 800-551-3588. Woltz & Associates, Inc., Real Estate Brokers & Auctioneers (VA #321).

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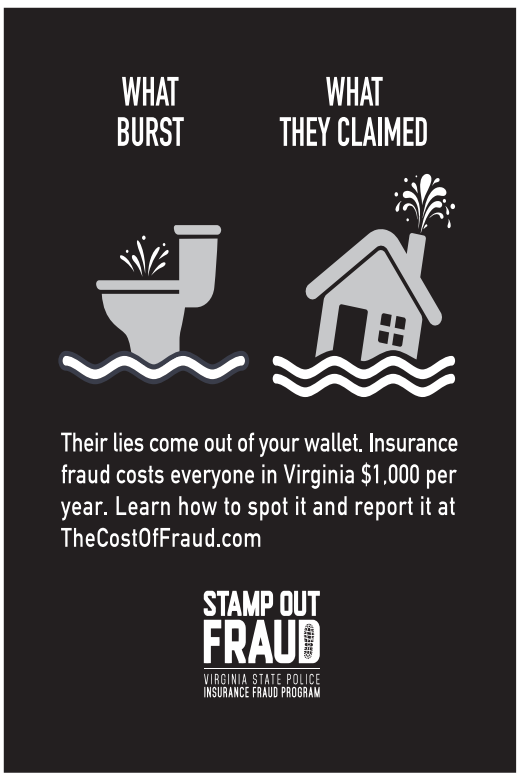
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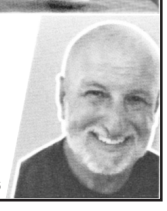
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Veterans from page 1

40-millimeter gunner, and a driver of a Higgins boat, an amphibious landing craft operated by a four-man crew.

During the war in Europe, Hubbard's boat transported troops and equipment across the English Channel to Utah Beach during the Normandy campaign. His unit also delivered more than 600 trucks associated with the Red Ball Express, the Allied supply operation that provided fuel and other essential supplies to advancing forces on the Western Front.

The journey was not without danger. Hubbard's boat nearly sank in a storm in the North Atlantic while traveling to Norfolk.

In November 1944, the vessel left Norfolk for the Pacific, where it participated in the invasion of Okinawa from April through June 1945.

Hubbard recalled a close call involving anti-aircraft fire from Allied ships attempting to shoot down Japanese kamikaze aircraft.

"It was exploding and falling everywhere," he recalled.

On May 12, 1945, Hubbard witnessed two kamikaze aircraft strike the battleship USS New Mexico, putting the vessel out of commission for the remainder of the war.

After Okinawa, Hubbard's unit traveled to the Philippines, where it was present for Japan's formal surrender on Sept. 2, 1945. His group and much of its crew subsequently served occupation duties throughout Japan.

During the assembly, Hubbard reflected on how the atomic bombings affected his own fate. He was in the Philippines preparing for the planned invasion of Japan when the bombs were dropped.

Hubbard credited the atomic bombings with saving his life, explaining that he likely would have participated in the invasion had the war continued.

Noel was born in Eagle Rock on Columbus Day in 1925 and attended Eagle Rock Elementary School before graduating from Eagle Rock High School in 1942.

On his 18th birthday in 1943, Noel traveled by train to Sampson, N.Y., for Navy boot camp. He subsequently attended diesel engine school in Richmond, trained at Camp Bradford in Norfolk, and continued his service as a crewman aboard an amphibious vessel.

Noel remained in the Navy until 1946, advancing through several ranks, including petty officer third class.

His ship became part of Task Force 58, a seagoing force that included U.S. Marines and arrived at Iwo Jima in February 1945. The flat-bottomed vessel measured approximately 350 feet long and 50 feet wide.

Noel's ship also had a connection to one of the most recognizable photographs of World War II. The vessel supplied the American flag used in the flag-raising ceremony atop Mount Suribachi, an extinct volcano and the highest point on Iwo Jima.

For Noel, the flag was more than a symbol in a photograph. He had seen it aboard his ship before it became part of an image that would be remembered for generations.

During the assembly, Noel explained that he and other sailors did not immediately see the photographs of the flag-raising and learned about the images later.

After receiving an honorable discharge in 1946, Noel returned to civilian life. He worked at an auto parts store and held several other jobs before joining the U.S. Postal Service, where he worked for 35 years before retiring in 1985.

He married Beveline Martin, a William Byrd High School graduate from Vinton, in 1947 and raised two sons, Donnie and Tony, in Roanoke County. Noel later attended an Iwo Jima memorial reunion, where he was among eight veterans of the battle in attendance.

Burton served in the U.S. Army's 15th Army band near the end of World War II and was stationed in Kobe, Japan, during the American occupation. His duties also included camp security.

During the assembly, Burton recounted an incident from his time on guard duty. While patrolling the fence around his encampment, he encountered Japanese individuals who approached the perimeter. He ordered them to move back, although he had no ammunition in his rifle.

The encounters happened three times before a sergeant brought him ammunition.

Burton used the experience to illustrate the difference between appearing threatening and being prepared, joking that some people have more mouth than bullets.

His service also unfolded during a period when the U.S. military remained segregated. Burton discussed the restrictions Black service members encountered during training and while traveling, particularly in the South, where Jim Crow laws barred them from eating at white restaurants.

President Harry S. Truman issued an executive order in July 1948 to desegregate the armed forces, several years after Burton's wartime service.

Following the war, Burton spent much of his life as a minister in Roanoke.

The veterans also answered students' questions about growing up during the Great Depression, forming friendships during wartime, and the possibility of losing close friends in combat.

Burton, who told students he had recently celebrated his 99th birthday, reflected on growing up without many of the conveniences that later generations would take for granted.

His family did not have a telephone or central heating, and he did not see television until later in life. Despite having little money, Burton explained, his family managed because goods were less expensive at the time.

He also recalled his father's Model E Ford, which did not have a self-starter and required a hand crank to get the engine running. Burton remembered taking pride in being able to start the car himself, a small but memorable accomplishment from his childhood.

The student presentations provided historical context for those personal stories, examining the Allied invasion of Normandy, the Battle of Midway, the island-hopping strategy in the Pacific, and the battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

Students also discussed the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the subsequent American occupation, which brought major political and social changes to Japan.

Together, the two programs offered students an opportunity to connect defining moments in history with the experiences of three men who lived through the war.



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

Grant from page 1

collection of buildings — it's the heart of who we are as a town," Town Manager Melanie McFadyen said in a statement provided by Smith. "This grant gives us the chance to protect that history while making sure our downtown stays vibrant and welcoming for the next generation."

McFadyen discussed the award during the Oct. 8 Town Council meeting, telling council members the town received the full amount requested in an application submitted in July.

"We got everything we asked for," McFadyen said.

More than half of the grant will support facade improvements to downtown buildings. Approximately $365,000 is designated for streetscape improvements, while another $85,000 will support wayfinding plans and initial implementation, including signage directing visitors to Fincastle's historic destinations.

The improvements are intended to preserve the character of the historic district while making downtown more welcoming for residents and visitors. Town officials also discussed how the facade program could encourage new businesses to locate downtown, including a potential requirement that participating property owners open a public-facing business within approximately three to five years.

The funding is not expected to become available until early 2027.

McFadyen credited Amanda McGee and regional partners for helping prepare the application.

The award represents a significant investment in the town's historic commercial district, with projects expected to address building appearances, pedestrian-oriented streetscape improvements, and signage to help visitors navigate downtown.

Stockyard Report

Monday's sale at the Roanoke-Hollins Stockyard:

209 Head

Head Cows $750.00-3100.00

Cow/Calf Pairs $2150.00- 3975.00

Graded Steers
500-599 $350.00
600-699 $335.00

Graded Bulls
400-499 $385.00-395.00
500-599 $341.00-360.00
600-699 $312.00

Graded Heifers
300-399 $367.00-403 .00
400-499 $310.00-354.00
500-599 $305.00-333.00
600-699 $294.00

Kill Cows $ 65.00-160.00

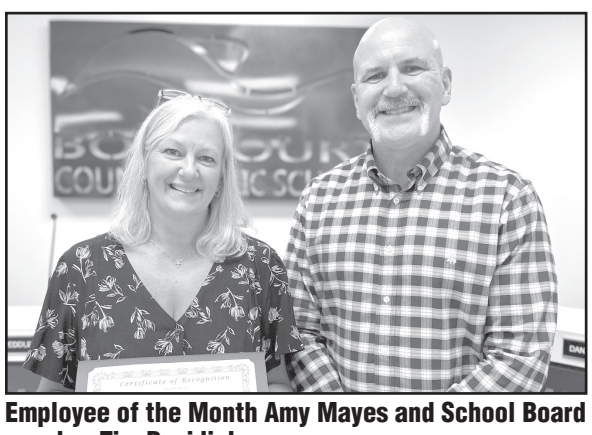
Kill Bulls $168.00-170.00

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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BCPS from page 1



Employee of the Month Amy Mayes and School Board member Tim Davidick



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BCPS

James River High School Principal Dr. Lisa Taylor, Employee of the Month Ricardo Echavarria Montoya, and School Board member Jenny Wilson

Her nomination praised her ability to combine the experience of a veteran educator with a willingness to embrace new instructional approaches and meet students' individual needs.

"Perhaps her greatest gift is her ability to help students discover what they are capable of achieving," Bolton read from the nomination.

The nomination also highlighted Brown's work as a lead teacher and member of Troutville Elementary's leadership team, roles in which she has helped guide colleagues and shape decisions affecting the school community.

The Kiwanis Club has presented its Educator of the Year Award for more than 20 years, according to the discussion following Brown's recognition.

The School Board also recognized its September Employees of the Month.

Amy Mayes, a fourth grade English teacher at Cloverdale Elementary School, was honored as the certified employee of the month. Mayes has worked for BCPS for 31 years. Her nomination described her as knowledgeable, kind and professional, praising her positive contributions to the school and community.

Ricardo Echavarria Montoya, a building custodian at James River High School, was recognized as the classified employee of the month. In his fourth year with BCPS, he was praised in multiple nominations for his dependability, strong work ethic and willingness to help colleagues.

His nomination noted that he recently took the initiative to mentor a fellow custodian while continuing to maintain his own work area.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report

VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

Route 220 (Roanoke Road)
Superstreet Intersection Improvements
Botetourt County

Find out about a project to improve the intersection of Route 220 (Roanoke Road) and Route 779 (Catawba Road) in Botetourt County. This project entails extending the Route 220 northbound left turn lane at the intersection of Route 779 and closing the crossover along Route 220 at the intersection of Route 779 (Valley Road).

Review the project information and National Environmental Policy Act document in the form of a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion at VDOT's Salem District Office located at 731 Harrison Avenue in Salem, 540-387-5353 1-800-FOR-ROAD, or TTY/TDD 711. Please call ahead to ensure the availability of appropriate personnel to answer your questions.

If your concerns cannot be satisfied, VDOT is willing to hold a public hearing. You may request that a public hearing be held by sending a written request to Jon Hall, Virginia Department of Transportation, 731 Harrison Avenue, Salem, VA 24153 on or prior to **October 22, 2026**.

If a request for a public hearing is received, notice of date, time and place of the hearing will be posted.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Jon Hall at the phone numbers listed above.

UPC 128661 State Project: 0220-011-841, P101, C501
Federal Project: RSTP-5128(600) Length: 0.2 mile

Homecoming from page 1

was crowned homecoming king. The Lord Botetourt homecoming dance was held Oct. 10 at Lord Botetourt High School.

Members of the Lord Botetourt homecoming court included:

Seniors: **Madeleine Gantzhorn, Margaret Johnson Koroma, Addison Purser, Addalyn Underwood, Daniel Estep, Landen Gray, Emory Lonker** and **Rylen Wright**

Juniors: **Caylin Barrett** and **Maddex Umber**

Sophomores: **Beahlen Deacon** and **Beau Lonker**

Freshmen: **Kinleigh Manley** and **Braxton Harvey**

~ Fincastle Herald staff report

Martin's Farm
818 Martins Lane
Fincastle
Frozen sausage and other pork products
NOW OPEN
Monday thru Saturday 9:30am-5:00pm
(540) 309-6106

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF TROUTVILLE
MACHINERY AND TOOL TAX

Pursuant to § 58.1-3507 of the Code of Virginia and § 23-350 of the Code of the Town of Troutville, the Town of Troutville will mail Machinery and Tool Tax forms for Tax Year 2026 on January 1, 2027.

There will be no change to the Machinery and Tool Tax rate or the method of valuation for Tax Year 2026.

Questions or comments regarding the Machinery and Tool Tax may be directed to:

Mayor, Town of Troutville
P.O. Box 276
Troutville, VA 24175



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

LB's Archer Lee (left) is one of three Cavaliers going to the Virginia Showcase Meet in Mechanicsville this weekend.

Cavaliers 'Run with the Wolves' at Jefferson Forest

The Lord Botetourt cross country teams competed at Jefferson Forest last Saturday for the annual "Runnin' with the Wolves" invitational. Times were strong, despite a more challenging, traditional-style race course.

Preston Vaughn led the way for the LB boys, placing fourth on the day in a very competitive field. Anne Thorne led the LB girls home, continuing her unbroken streak in 2026.

"With so many courses being pancake flat these days, it was great to see our runners perform so well on a more classic-style course," said LB coach Noel Preece.

The trio of Preston Vaughn, Anne Thorne and Archer Lee will next travel to Richmond this Saturday, October 17, to compete at "The VA XC Showcase," the nationally competitive meet at Pole Green Park in Mechanicsville. This is one of the most competitive meets in the nation.

Knights finish fourth in Class 2 state golf tournament



PHOTO COURTESY JAMES RIVER GOLF

The James River golfers finished fourth in the Class 2 state tournament this week. Left to right are Brayden Persinger, Mason Francis, Trenton Taylor, Tucker Hall, Mason Gilliland and Landon Bolling.

The James River golfers shot a 315 to finish fourth in Monday's Class 2 state golf tournament at the Hobbs Hole Golf Tournament in Tappahannock, Va. Graham High School won the state championship with a score of 307.

River's team score was just a stroke behind third place Windsor, who came in at 314. Poquoson High was second at 311. The Knights scored better than Three Rivers District champion Floyd County as well as Gate City, Fort Defiance and Strasburg.

Senior Mason Gilliland led the Knights with a two under par 69, earning all-state honors. Mason was in a four-way tie for medalist after 18 holes, and the four golfers went to a sudden death playoff to determine the state champion. All four replayed the 18th hole and Mason tied for second with Ryland Syzmanski of Windsor winning the playoff.

Also scoring for the Knights were Landon Bolling with a three over par 74, Braden Persinger at 82 and Trenton Taylor and Tucker Hall tied for the fourth scoring position with 90 each.

The Class 3 tournament was scheduled for Tuesday at the Cutalong course at the Tributer Resort in Mineral, Va., but results were too late for publication. Lord Botetourt's Alisa Davidova was competing in the tournament as an individual. Look for results in next week's Fincastle Herald sports section.

Knights second in Dublin

The James River cross country team ran at Randolph Park last Saturday on a rainy day in Dublin.

"The course itself has a lot of diversity with terrain," said River coach Daphne Davidson. "There are hills and flat areas, but it also has a very nice wooded section. It is not an easy PR course. With that being said we still had one runner, Macy Weddle, who PR'd again with a 22:12."

The James River boys' team had two runners finish in the top 10 and the girls had three in the top ten. The Knights had one very close run down with Holly Weddle diving across the line in an attempt to pass the fifth place girl from George Wythe.

"According to the results she missed her by a tenth of a second, but it was definitely a photo finish," said Davidson.

Both the boys' and girls' teams finished second overall. This week the Knights will run in the First Bank 5K in Fincastle.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Holly Weddle (130) of James River runs in a recent race. Holly dove at the tape in an attempt to pass a girl at the finish line in Dublin last week.

Sandlot football semifinals are Saturday at three locations



Jack Surber finds the corner and runs for a Botetourt touchdown.



Tripp Spangler breaks through the line to score Botetourt's first touchdown.

The Sandlot Super Bowl football tournaments continue this Saturday with quarterfinal games at Bogle Field and Hickam Field in Roanoke County and Cy Dillon Stadium at Franklin County High School. Opening round games were played at Bogle Field, behind Cave Spring Middle School, last Saturday.

Quarterfinals will be played for 8U, 10U and 12U teams. In the 8U class four games will be played at Bogle Field. Botetourt-Divers is the top seed and will play at 12:45 p.m. against North Roanoke, a 6-0 winner over Salem-Kesler last Saturday. Other quarterfinal games match Franklin County against Cave Spring at 9 a.m., Glenvar-Hudson against Vinton-Saunders at 10:15 a.m. and Salem-Chaney against Vinton-Havens at 11:30 a.m.

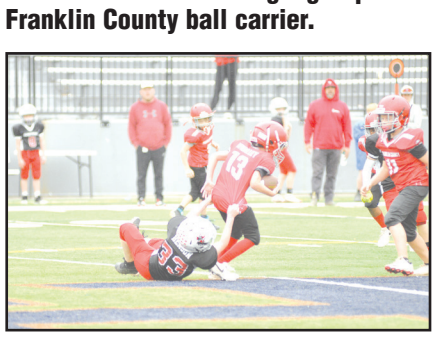
Four 10U quarterfinals are scheduled for Franklin County this Saturday, beginning with Cave Spring against Salem-Dyer at 9 a.m. Top-seeded North Roanoke and Franklin County will play at 10:15 a.m., followed by Botetourt-Phillips, the second seed, against Salem-Abbott at 11:30 a.m. The final game of the day in Rocky Mount will be at 12:45 p.m. with sixth seed Botetourt-Gusler taking on third seeded Glenvar-Edmonds. The Botetourt-Gusler team opened with a 38-0 win over Franklin County-Angle at Bogle Field last Saturday.

Three 12U quarterfinals will be played on Northside High's Jim Hickam Field this Saturday, beginning with a 9 a.m. game between fourth seeded Botetourt-Howery and fifth seeded Franklin County. At 10:15 Cave Spring will take on North Roanoke and at 11:30 Salem will play Vinton.

All semifinals are scheduled for October 24 at various locations and Sandlot Super Bowl championship games in all three divisions will be at Salem Stadium on November 7.



The Botetourt defense gangs up on a Franklin County ball carrier.



Jack Benson of the Botetourt Knights makes a tackle in the backfield.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

The Botetourt Knights come down the stairs at Bogle Field prior to Saturday's game.

Cavaliers take first at Glenvar

The Lord Botetourt competition cheer team took first place in the "G-town Throwdown" competition cheering event at Glenvar High School on Oct. 3.

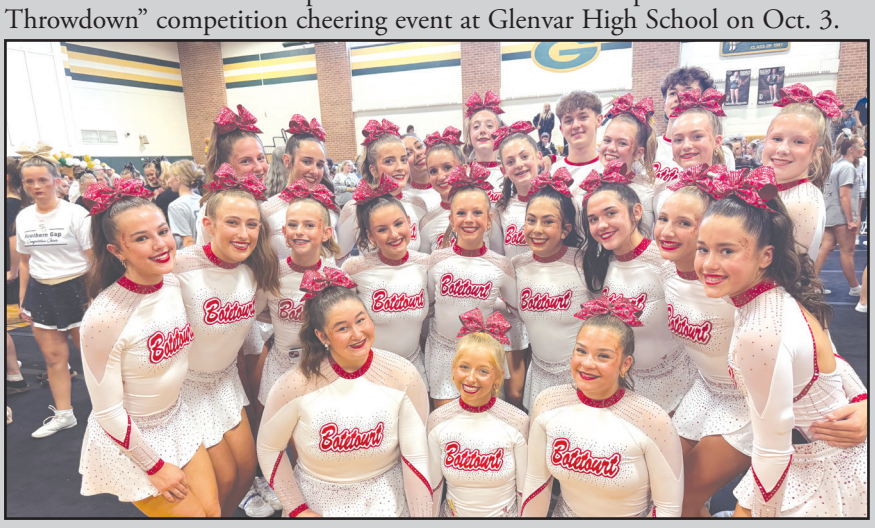
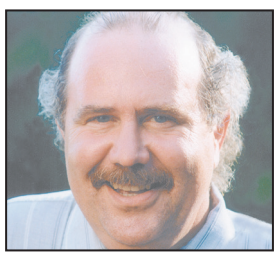


PHOTO COURTESY OF LBHS CHEER



BOTETOURT
Sports
www.fincastleherald.com



Brian Hoffman
Sports Editor

Cavaliers do it through the air in Homecoming win over Franklin County

The Lord Botetourt football team opened Blue Ridge District play with a convincing win over Franklin County last Friday night in Daleville. It was Homecoming for Lord Botetourt High and the football team made it a memorable night with a 37-14 win over the Eagles.

The Cavaliers were coming off their bye and had an extra week to prepare for the Eagles. LB coach Nick Leftwich must have seen something, because the Cavaliers uncharacteristically put the pig in the air often, rolling up 275 yards of passing offense and four touchdowns.

"They were putting eight men in the box and had man coverage, so we had to take some shots over the top," said Leftwich.

Indeed, on LB's first play from scrimmage quarterback Cael Burton found Jayden Windsor for an 80-yard touchdown strike and an early lead. Then, on LB's second possession, Burton hit Chris Paderick on a fade rout for a second score. When it was all said and done, Burton was seven for 12 passing for 260 yards and four scores. Paderick had two TDs and 109 yards, Windsor had two catches for 97 yards, Rylen Wright had two receptions for 41 yards and Tanner Gore caught two balls for 28.

Wright also had a TD catch, and that was a killer. He found the end zone with just one second left in the first half, giving the Cavaliers a 21-7 lead at the break.



Cael Burton looks to pass with protection from Rylen Wright (11)



PHOTOS BY KATIE PERRY

LB's Tanner Gore breaks free in Friday's win.

While the passing game was the big story on Friday night, the Cavaliers were able to run the ball as well. Gus Freeny had 111 yards on 18 attempts, Gore had 41 yards on eight carries and, as a team, Botetourt had 167 yards on the ground.

On defense, Callum McCoy led the Cavaliers with five solo tackles and three assists. He also forced a fumble to deny the Eagles a chance in the red zone in the second quarter, a big moment in the game.

Wright and Burton had three solos each and Jackson Crenshaw had two solos and three assists. Burton had two interceptions and Dalton Bradley also had a pick.

"It was a good win for us," said Leftwich. "It was Homecoming and the boys had a good time, but they also played a good game on Friday night."

Now 3-3, the Cavaliers hope to break their pattern of loss, win, loss, win, loss, win when they head to Moneta to play Staunton River Friday night. The Golden Eagles are also 3-3 with wins over Hidden Valley, Liberty and Pulaski, and losses to Class 5 William Fleming and two undefeated teams, Jefferson Forest and Magna Vista.

"They're physical and they'll play all four quarters," said Leftwich. "They run a Power I, similar to us. They're a good football team, and that's a tough place to play."



Merit Hammons passes as Efraim Echavarria (50) and Keegan Price (52) protect.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Sam Wilson (32) tackles a Glenvar ball carrier.

Knights have a bye week after loss to Glenvar

The James River football team will take this Friday off after dropping a 31-7 game at Glenvar last Friday. The host Highlanders got to keep the Virginia Media Rocking Chair for the 12th straight year with the win.

"They have a good team, and we just didn't play well enough against them," said River coach Jack Baker. "We had little spurts of offense, but for the most part we just didn't get it done."

The Highlanders took a lead they would not relinquish just 54 seconds into the game on a 24-yard TD run. Glenvar led 14-0 after the first quarter, and scored with 26 seconds left in the half to go up 21-0 at intermission. It was 31-0 before Merit Hammons ruined Glenvar's shutout with a two-yard touchdown run with four and a half minutes remaining in the game.

Statistically, both teams had 146 yards rushing but Glenvar accomplished it on 28 attempts and James River needed 50. The big difference was passing as Glenvar had 121 yards through the air and River had just 11. Bentley Painter had 59 yards rushing to lead the Knights. Hammons had 43 yards and Sam Wilson had 40.

On defense, Eli Baldwin led the Knights with 11 tackles and Wilson had 10, including a tackle for a loss. Cade Cook had an interception.

With the win the Highlanders get to keep the Virginia Media Rocking Chair, a symbol of this long-time rivalry, for the 12th straight season. The Highlanders improved to 4-3 while River dropped to 3-4.

The Knights are off this Friday, returning October 23 at Floyd County. Baker held practices Monday through Wednesday but gave the team off the end of this week as some of the players are going on a school trip.

"We'll work on Floyd and try to get some players healthy," said Baker of his plans for the bye week. "We're down two or three key players, but that's life when you have a 21- or 22-man roster."

Knights will host Floyd County in volleyball this Thursday night

The James River volleyball team will play host to Floyd County Thursday in a Three Rivers District match. The Knights are looking to bounce back after losses to Glenvar and Franklin County in the past week.

Last Thursday in Springwood the Knights hosted arch-rival Glenvar, a thorn in their side in recent years. Things didn't go River's way again as the Highlanders won in four sets, 25-16, 25-20 14-25 and 25-23.

"The Glenvar game was a tough one that could have gone either way," said River coach Linsey Firebaugh. "We played well the last three sets. Unfortunately, some calls and plays did not go our way."

On Monday of this week the girls were in Rocky Mount to take on Class 5 Franklin County, a school three classifications larger than Class 2 James River. Regardless, the Knights came out smoking and handily won the first set, 25-13. However, things went down hill from there as Franklin rallied to take the next three, and the match, 25-18, 25-7 and 25-18.



Leanna Steger goes up for a spike in last week's match in Springwood.

"We came out firing," said Firebaugh. "We kept Franklin out of system and they were unable to handle our serves. As the game went on we could not keep up with their big hitters. They got us out of system and we were unable to put the ball away."

The non-district loss dropped River to 10-6 overall. The Knights are 4-4 in district matches.



River's Hailee Vassar digs one out against Glenvar.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Cavaliers win two Blue Ridge District volleyball matches

The Lord Botetourt girls remained undefeated in Blue Ridge District matches with two more volleyball wins last week. The girls were scheduled to host Staunton River on Tuesday but results were too late for publication.

Last week at home the girls defeated Northside in three sets, 25-19, 25-22 and 25-18. Addison Naff and Skyla Corkins had nine kills each and Addison served up three aces. Ava Stephens had eight kills and three blocks.

Last Thursday the girls were in Rocky Mount to take on Franklin County in a BRD match and won in four sets, sweeping the season series from the Eagles. LB took the first two sets, 26-24 and 25-20, but the Eagles stayed a live with a 25-19 win in the third set. Botetourt then put it away in convincing fashion with a 25-6 win in the fourth set.

Stephens had a dozen kills in this one to go with four blocks and three aces. Corkins and Sydney Bergsten had seven kills each and combined for five blocks. Lilly Crenshaw had 33 assists and three aces and Addalyn Underwood had four aces and 16 digs.

The girls come into the week at 16-6 overall and 6-0 in the district. On Thursday they'll travel to Vinton for a big BRD match against William Byrd.

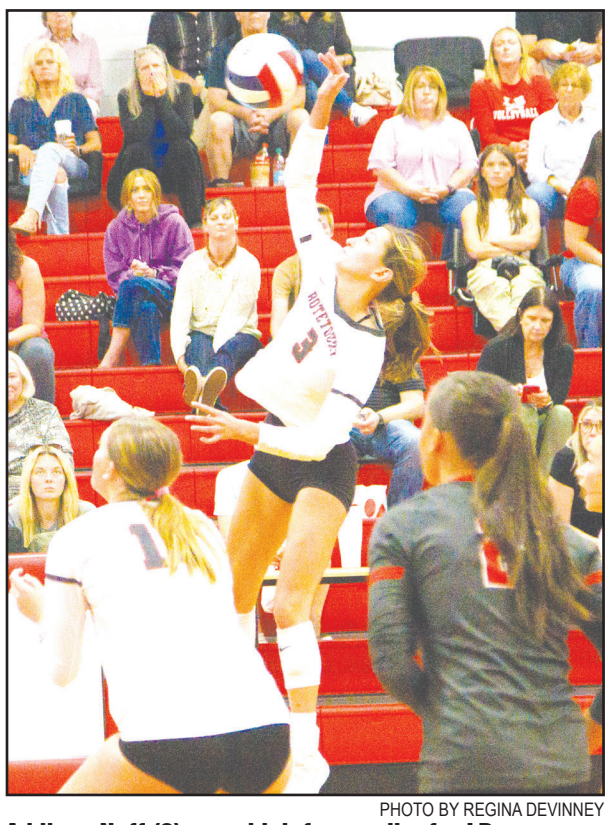


PHOTO BY REGINA DEVINNEY

Addison Naff (3) goes high for a spike for LB.





PHOTOS BY REGINA DEVINNEY

Cavs have Powder Puff games

It was Homecoming last week and the Lord Botetourt girls hit the gridiron for their annual Powder Puff games. The sophomores opened with a 26-6 win over the freshmen, then the juniors pulled somewhat of an upset with a 24-22 win over the seniors. Above, freshman Laney Shepherd runs by Aaliyah Johnson (left), and sophomore Olivia Burger (right) finds room to run.