



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF PIXABAY

Halloween treats Botetourt this weekend

Matt de Simone mattdesimone@mainstreetnewspapers.com

From candy-filled streets and decorated car trunks to haunted trails and spooky scavenger hunts, Halloween festivities will offer Botetourt County families plenty of opportunities to get into the spirit this weekend. Communities across the county are preparing for Saturday's trick-or-treating, while local churches, camps and libraries have scheduled activities leading up to

and throughout Halloween. Fincastle will welcome trick-or-treaters Saturday, Oct. 31, with street closures beginning at 6 p.m. and trick-or-treating starting shortly afterward. Sheriff Matt Ward will make announcements during the festivities, and roads are scheduled to reopen at 7:30 p.m. The town is seeking candy donations for distribution to trick-or-treaters. Donations can be brought to the Town

See Halloween, page 11

Grand jury returns October indictments

A Botetourt grand jury met earlier this month and returned true bills including:

CERTIFIED

- Gail Carter Black of Troutville, receiving stolen goods
- Michael Aaron Bowden of Roanoke, grand larceny
- Bryan Austin Bowling of Covington, possession with intent to distribute cocaine, possession of a firearm with drugs
- Jessica Belle Broughman of Natural Bridge, possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine
- Crystal Marie Butler, a/k/a Carmen Rodriguez-Damotta, of Clifton Forge, attempted assault on a police officer, hit and run, eluding
- Michael Louis Cardwell of Hot Springs, possession of cocaine
- Megan Jean Carson of Bumpass, possession of methamphetamine
- Ricky Wayne Harris Jr. of Hardy, possession of methamphetamine

- David Vernon Keith of Fincastle, abduction
- Dennis Lee King of Natural Bridge Station, possession with intent to distribute methmethamphetamine, two counts of possession with intent to distribute cocaine
- Alexander Joseph Lavioette of Covington, possession of methamphetamine
- Shannon Hayden McCormick of Buchanan, possession of methamphetamine
- Matthew Lee Minter of Goshen, possession of methamphetamine
- Chad Allen Nichols of Troutville, driving revoked, third offense
- Matthew David Parsons, a/k/a Thom Shelby, of Eagle Rock, assault on a police officer
- Thomas Edward Pratt of Fincastle, bomb threat
- Joseph Lee Sartin of Salem, breaking

See Indictments, page 10



PHOTO COURTESY OF DANNY KYLE

The remains of Catawba Furnace stand among the trees in Catawba Valley. Local author Rachel Edwards is working with Preservation Botetourt Inc. to pursue a historical marker commemorating the area's iron-making history.

Preservation effort seeks historical marker for Catawba Furnace

The mountains of Catawba Valley may appear untouched from above, but they hold traces of a long industrial history. During the Civil War era, the 7,000-acre Catawba Coal and Iron Company estate stretched from McAfee's Knob to Caldwell Mountain. Confederate surveys described the property as "one of the most inviting and available mineral properties in the South." Built along Catawba Creek, the thriving estate included a distinctive iron furnace, saw and corn mills, blacksmith and wheelwright shops, a manager's house and office, and stables. About 100 acres of

See Furnace, page 10

Wawa sets November 4 grand opening in Daleville

Wawa will celebrate the grand opening of its new Daleville location on Wednesday, Nov. 4, bringing the convenience store chain's made-to-order food, beverages and fuel to the corner of Roanoke and Glebe Roads. The new store at Daleville Town Center will offer Wawa's selection of built-to-order food and drinks, freshly brewed coffee and a fuel station. The Daleville location will be Wawa's second in the Roanoke Valley, following the opening of its Salem store.

~ Fincastle Herald staff report



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT CO.

Botetourt County Museum



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BOTETOURT CO.

A rendering shows the proposed Botetourt County Museum at Greenfield.

Botetourt County Museum cost estimate reaches \$12.4 million

Matt de Simone Managing Editor

Botetourt County's proposed museum project carries an estimated completion cost of \$12.4 million, with \$9 million in funding secured as the Board of Supervisors prepares to discuss the project's future. An updated county webpage outlines the proposed facility, its funding and development history. The project remains in the planning stage, and county officials planned to gauge

supervisors' interest in moving forward during Tuesday's board meeting. The \$12.4 million estimate covers construction of the museum building and exhibit space but excludes the exhibits themselves and future operating expenses. Del. Terry Austin secured the project's initial \$6 million state appropriation in 2022 and an additional \$2.5 million in 2026. At press time, the county had not confirmed whether Austin or a

member of his museum committee would attend Tuesday's meeting, where supervisors were scheduled to receive an update on the project, according to County Communications Manager Brent Watts. Coverage of the meeting will appear in next week's edition. Securing the original \$6 million appropriation required a \$500,000 local allocation. Botetourt County ultimately used money from a

See Museum, page 10



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

Wawa is scheduled to open in Daleville next Wednesday, Nov. 4.

Bank of Botetourt

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Looking Back: 1776 - Botetourt County and Beyond

October 1776: A Nation Tested

United States

October 1776 was a month of retreat, delay, and difficult decisions for the American cause. In New York, General William Howe's army, having captured Manhattan in September, sought to trap George Washington's forces. On October 9, three British warships sailed up the Hudson River past American forts, demonstrating that the river defenses could not stop the Royal Navy. Howe landed troops at Throggs Neck on October 12, but marshland and a narrow causeway hindered their advance. He landed again at Pell's Point on October 18, where Colonel John Glover's Massachusetts brigade slowed the British advance. Washington used the time to move his army north toward White Plains, where fighting on October 28 ended with the Americans withdrawing to stronger ground.

Farther north, Benedict Arnold's improvised fleet engaged a British squadron on Lake Champlain near Valcour Island on October 11. By October 13, Arnold had lost most of his ships. Nevertheless, his efforts delayed the British invasion from Canada until the following year, a delay that would prove significant in the campaign culminating at Saratoga in 1777.

In Philadelphia, the Second Continental Congress focused less on new declarations of principle and more on the urgent practical challenges of keeping the Revolution alive. These included defending the Hudson River, retaining and recruiting soldiers through land bounties, paying the army, administering prisoners, obtaining foreign supplies, and maintaining military discipline. Congress also appointed Benjamin Franklin as a commissioner to France, joining Silas Deane and Arthur Lee in seeking French support for the American cause. Franklin sailed for France on October 27. Meanwhile, the newly independent states were establishing governments under written constitutions.

Virginia

Virginia was building a new government under its 1776 constitution. The first

General Assembly elected under the new constitution convened in Williamsburg on October 7, with Patrick Henry serving as the state's first governor. Thomas Jefferson, having returned from the Continental Congress, took his seat in the House of Delegates and began an ambitious effort to reform Virginia's laws. Among his priorities was the abolition of primogeniture, the system that favored the eldest son in inheritance and helped keep large estates intact across generations. The reform passed in October, weakening one of the legal foundations of Virginia's traditional landed aristocracy.

Petitions from Baptists, Presbyterians, and other religious dissenters also pressed for an end to the privileges enjoyed by the Anglican Church. Their demands fueled a debate over religious liberty that would eventually contribute to the passage of the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom.

On the western frontier, approximately 1,800 Virginia militiamen under Colonel William Christian departed Fort Patrick Henry, near present-day Kingsport, Tennessee, on October 6. As many Cherokee withdrew, Christian's forces burned crops and villages and killed Cherokee livestock, both to feed the militia and to deny supplies to the Cherokee. The Cherokee divided between factions favoring war and those seeking peace. Christian negotiated with the peace faction while continuing operations against those who resisted.

Botetourt County

When the General Assembly convened in Williamsburg on October 7, John Bowyer and Patrick Lockhart took their seats in the House of Delegates representing Botetourt County. Bowyer, who lived in what is now Lexington, had represented Botetourt in the House of Burgesses since the county's establishment in 1770. Lockhart, of Fincastle, was serving as a representative for the first time, replacing Andrew Lewis, who was serving in the Continental Army.

William Christian, whose father, Israel, had donated the land on which Fincastle

Greenfield has Jack O'Lantern light show

Greenfield Elementary third graders utilized a coding platform called SAM Labs to program Jack O'Lanterns to automatically light up when the lights turned off. These lessons help students understand how technology works and practice computational thinking and problem-solving. SAM Labs are led by art teacher Holly Clary and the classroom teacher.

- Fincastle Herald staff report



Mrs. Clary introducing the lesson on input, output and behaviors.



Ivan Guthrie and Emerson Ford working together to code.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SHANNON FARRAR

Noelle Ludden and Adam Moser feeling successful as their Jack O'Lantern lit up!

was established, represented Botetourt and Fincastle counties in the newly formed Senate. Christian was married to Anne Henry, the sister of Patrick Henry. However, he did not take his seat in the Senate because Patrick Henry selected him to command the Virginia militia campaigning against the Cherokee, primarily in what is now Tennessee.

Captain Thomas Madison of Cloverdale served as commissary and paymaster for Christian's force. Madison's wife, Susanna Henry, was the sister of both Anne Christian and Patrick Henry, making Thomas and

William brothers-in-law. The Madisons were residing in the "Stone House" originally occupied by the Christians prior to the Christians' moving farther west to Dunkard's Bottom. Traditional estimates are that approximately 20 to 25 percent of Christian's force came from Botetourt County, underscoring the county's substantial contribution to Virginia's frontier campaign.

Submitted on the behalf of the Botetourt Preservation Partnership by Ed Holt

Election Day is this Tuesday

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

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

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

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

Botetourt County Circuit Court in July.

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

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

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

Fincastle voters will choose a mayor and three Town Council members. Mary Bess Smith is listed for mayor, while Paige

Wright Ware, Pamela D. Binns and Edward D. Bordett are listed for Town Council. The ballot also provides write-in options in both races.

Troutville voters will likewise have local races in addition to the countywide contests,

although the offices and names appearing on their ballots differ from those in Buchanan and Fincastle.

The Troutville ballot includes a mayoral race with a write-in option, as no candidates submitted paperwork to have their name on the ballot. Voters

will also choose three Town Council members. Granville E. Grant and Henry John Cook Jr. are listed for Town Council, along with three write-in options.

Voters who live outside

See **Vote**, page 11

PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – QUESTION 2

To Be Voted On at the November 3, 2026, Election



BALLOT QUESTION

Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) remove the ban on same-sex marriage; (ii) affirm that two adults may marry regardless of sex, gender, or race; and (iii) require all legally valid marriages to be treated equally under the law?

EXPLANATION FOR VOTERS QUESTION 2

Present Law

Marriages, civil unions, and other legal relationships with the same rights, benefits, and effects of marriage between persons of the same sex or gender are prohibited under Virginia's Constitution. This prohibition is no longer enforceable as a result of the United States Supreme Court decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges* in 2015, but the prohibition on marriages between persons of the same sex or gender remains in the state's Constitution. If the Supreme Court were to overturn its previous decision, that prohibition would be enforceable again.

Proposed Amendment

The proposed amendment removes the prohibition on marriages between persons of the same sex or gender from the Virginia Constitution's Bill of Rights. It is replaced with the fundamental right to marry, requiring the state to recognize and treat equally under the law any lawful marriage between two adult persons, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of either person. The proposed amendment prohibits the state from denying a marriage license to two adult persons because of their sex, gender, or race.

FULL TEXT OF AMENDMENT

[Proposed new language is underlined. Deleted old language is ~~stricken~~.]

ARTICLE I

BILL OF RIGHTS

Section 15-A. Marriage.

~~That only a union between one man and one woman may be a marriage valid in or recognized by this Commonwealth and its political subdivisions~~ marriage is one of the vital personal rights essential to the orderly pursuit of happiness.

~~This Commonwealth and its political subdivisions shall not create or recognize a legal status for relationships of unmarried individuals that intends to approximate the design, qualities, significance, or effects of marriage~~ deny the issuance of a marriage license to two adult persons seeking a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of such persons. Nor shall this Commonwealth or its political subdivisions create or recognize another union, partnership, or other legal status to which is assigned the rights, benefits, obligations, qualities, or effects of marriage This Commonwealth and its political subdivisions shall recognize any lawful marriage between two adult persons and treat such marriages equally under the law, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such persons.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – QUESTION 1

To Be Voted On at the November 3, 2026, Election



BALLOT QUESTION

Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) protect the freedom to make personal decisions about prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, birth control, abortion, miscarriage management, and fertility care; (ii) protect doctors, nurses, and patients from being punished for these decisions; and (iii) allow for restrictions on access to abortion during the third trimester of pregnancy except when the patient's health is at risk or the pregnancy cannot survive?

EXPLANATION FOR VOTERS QUESTION 1

Present Law

Currently, the Virginia Constitution does not explicitly provide to its citizens a right to reproductive freedom nor does it explicitly protect or prohibit certain kinds of health care procedures or decisions.

Proposed Amendment

The proposed amendment would add to the Virginia Constitution's Bill of Rights the fundamental right to make and carry out decisions about a person's own reproductive care with only certain, specific exceptions. The proposed amendment specifically allows the state government to pass laws to regulate abortion care in the third trimester of pregnancy, but requires any such law to allow for abortion care when it is medically needed to protect the life and health of the pregnant person or because the fetus is not viable.

FULL TEXT OF AMENDMENT

[Proposed new language is underlined. Deleted old language is ~~stricken~~.]

ARTICLE I

BILL OF RIGHTS

Section 11-A. Fundamental right to reproductive freedom.

That every individual has the fundamental right to reproductive freedom, including the ability to make and carry out decisions relating to one's own prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, contraception, abortion care, miscarriage management, and fertility care.

An individual's right to reproductive freedom shall not be, directly or indirectly, denied, burdened, or infringed upon unless justified by a compelling state interest achieved by the least restrictive means.

Notwithstanding the above, the Commonwealth may regulate the provision of abortion care in the third trimester, provided that in no circumstance shall the Commonwealth prohibit an abortion (i) that in the professional judgment of a physician is medically indicated to protect the life or physical or mental health of the pregnant individual or (ii) when in the professional judgment of a physician the fetus is not viable.

The Commonwealth shall not discriminate in the protection or enforcement of this fundamental right.

The Commonwealth shall not penalize, prosecute, or otherwise take adverse action against an individual based on such individual's own exercise of this fundamental right or such individual's own actual, potential, perceived, or alleged pregnancy outcomes, including miscarriage, stillbirth, or abortion. The Commonwealth shall not penalize, prosecute, or otherwise take adverse action against any individual for aiding or assisting another individual in exercising such other individual's right to reproductive freedom with such other individual's voluntary consent.

For the purposes of this section, a state interest is compelling only if it is for the limited purpose of maintaining or improving the health of an individual seeking care, consistent with accepted clinical standards of care and evidence-based medicine and does not infringe on that individual's autonomous decision making.

This section shall be self-executing. Any provision of this section held invalid shall be severable from the remaining portions of the section.



Library Buzz

Botetourt Libraries will be closed on Tuesday, Nov. 3, for Election Day.

Upcoming Events

Halloween Drop-In Activities

Sat, Oct 31, All Day, Buchanan
Drop in for a frightfully fun day at the library! Visit three Halloween-themed activity stations where you can create festive crafts, design your own monster, and complete a spooky scavenger hunt. Participate in one activity or enjoy them all—no registration required, just stop by for some Halloween fun! Best for ages 0-11.

BoCo Eclectic Readers at Blue Ridge

Fri, Oct 30, 11 AM, Blue Ridge
Discuss books and authors with fellow readers. Best for ages 19+. This month – “No One is Coming to Save Us” by Stephanie Powell Watts. Best for ages 19+.

Torn Between Two Worlds

Mon, Nov 2, 6 PM, Fincastle
Meet Mary “Tame Dove” Brock

Osborne — portrayed by her four-times-great-niece, Chief Ren Herdman of the Central Appalachian Cherokee Tribe. Daughter of Cherokee Chief Aaron “Red Bird” Brock, Mary’s story reveals the hidden history of Cherokee women who intermarried and assimilated into white society during the Revolutionary War era. A living history re-enactment blending documented fact and family oral tradition. Presented by Chief Ren Herdman, CEO of the Appalachian Cherokee Tribe. Best for ages 19+.

Let’s Learn English

Paper Piecing

Wed, Nov 4, 10 AM, Fincastle
Learn the basics of English paper piecing, a relaxing hand-sewing technique that uses paper templates to create precise, intricate patterns like hexagons and diamonds. No sewing machine needed — just fabric, needle, and thread. A great introduction for beginners looking to try a new, portable craft. Led by Susan Divers. Best for ages 19+. Registration Required. Register at <https://botetourtva.libcal.com/> or call 540-928-2900 with questions.

Learn more about Botetourt Libraries at bocolibraries.info

First Bank Fall Run 2026 results

Results from the 2026 First Bank Fall Run held on Oct. 17 are listed below, recognizing the top finishers in the 5K and 10K races. The times were not included in last week’s coverage, so this listing provides a closer look at the runners who led their respective races and the age divisions in which they competed.

A full list of all results can be found at <https://runsignup.com/Race/Results/Overview/129069>.

5K male finishers

1. Braden Jones, Buchanan — 17:37.9 (M Open)
2. Mark Voight, Fincastle — 17:48.2 (M Open)
3. Nolan Linthicum, Fincastle — 18:49.2 (M Open)
4. Judah Groth, Troutville — 18:53.5 (Men 14 to 17)
5. Malon Lafon, Roanoke —

19:44.2 (Men 10 to 13)

5K female finishers

1. Maren Pauley, Troutville — 21:53.8 (F Open; 12th overall)
2. Jasmine Montgomery, Buchanan — 22:47.9 (F Open; 21st overall)
3. J. Immel, Buchanan — 23:13.9 (F Open; 26th overall)
4. S. Whitson, Buchanan — 23:24.0 (F Open; 29th overall)
5. W. Slaughter, Daleville — 23:33.8 (F Open; 31st overall)

10K male finishers

1. Mason Tuck, Troutville — 45:13.7 (M Open)
2. Darin De Lannoy, Bonaire — 45:37.2 (M Open)
3. Scot Harrison, Roanoke — 48:15.7 (M Open; fourth overall)
4. Logan Russell, Roanoke — 52:32.3 (Men 40 to 44; seventh overall)
5. Page Terry, Montvale — 56:07.1 (Men 23 to 29; ninth overall)

See **Results**, page 5

The Sheriff’s Post

SHERIFF MATTHEW T. WARD

Have a safe and happy Halloween

As Halloween approaches, the Botetourt County Sheriff’s Office is reminding residents to make safety a priority while enjoying this year’s festivities. Whether trick-or-treating, attending a Halloween party or welcoming visitors to the neighborhood, a few simple precautions can help ensure a safe and enjoyable evening.

With more children and families walking through neighborhoods after dark, drivers are urged to slow down, avoid distractions and watch for trick-or-treaters who may unexpectedly enter the roadway. Costumes can sometimes limit a child’s visibility, making extra caution behind the wheel especially important.

Parents and trick-or-treaters should plan a safe route, stay together and use sidewalks whenever possible. Cross streets at intersections, look both ways before crossing and never assume a driver sees you. Bright-colored costumes, reflective materials, flashlights and glow sticks can help



FILE GRAPHIC

improve visibility after dark. Parents should also inspect candy and other treats before allowing children to eat them.

Those attending Halloween celebrations involving alcohol should designate a sober driver, arrange for a rideshare or make plans to stay where they are. Never drive impaired or allow friends or family members to do so.

Homeowners welcoming trick-or-treaters should keep walkways and entrances well-lit and free of obstacles. Decorations, electrical cords and other potential tripping hazards can pose risks to visitors.

“Halloween is a great opportunity for families and neighbors to come together and enjoy time in our communities,” said Sheriff Matt Ward. “We

want everyone to have a fun evening, but we also encourage drivers to slow down, parents to stay attentive, and everyone celebrating to make responsible decisions. A little extra caution can go a long way toward keeping our community safe.”

The Sheriff’s Office will have deputies patrolling throughout the county during Halloween festivities, with an emphasis on neighborhood safety and impaired-driving prevention. Residents are encouraged to report suspicious activity and call 9-1-1 in an emergency.

Sheriff Ward and the Botetourt County Sheriff’s Office wish everyone a safe and happy Halloween!

~ Botetourt County Sheriff’s Office

ARRESTS

October 19-25, 2026

The Botetourt County Sheriff’s Office reported the following arrests Oct. 19-25:

- Carol A. Overby, 34, of Buchanan, domestic assault, Oct. 19
- David L. Kanouff, 25, of Madera, Pa., driving under the influence, Oct. 19
- Cody A. Hinkley, 23, of Daleville, driving revoked, Oct. 19
- Eric Crawford, 46, of Eagle Rock, reckless handling of a firearm, Oct. 20
- Michael G. Dudding Jr., 32, of Eagle Rock, reckless handling of a firearm, Oct. 20
- William S. Liming, 50, of Buchanan, domestic assault, Oct. 21
- Jerrod L. Roe, 40, of Kearneysville, W.Va., eluding, reckless driving, driving revoked, Oct. 22
- Timothy A. Jennings, 58, of Eagle Rock, trespassing, Oct. 25

League for Animal Protection’s Waif of the Week Kansas



Kansas is about 4 years old, spayed and up to date on vaccines. She is a sweet girl ready for love and attention.

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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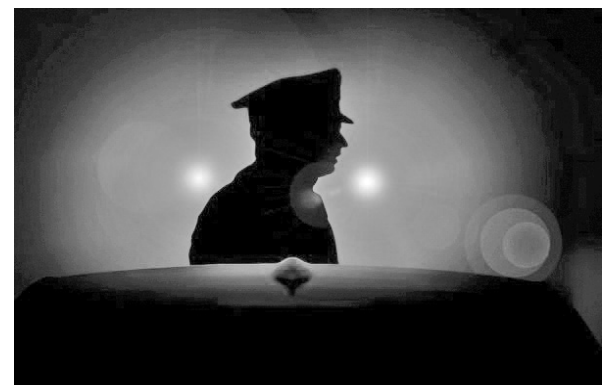
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Atomic mass unit
4. Criticize mightily
7. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
10. Stand in for
11. Everyone has one
12. Brew
13. Rectify
15. Popular Dodge truck model
16. Beef or chicken intestine
19. Satisfy
21. Of a particular people or localized region
23. Movements in quick tempos
24. Able to pay one's debts
25. Fleshy bird beak covering
26. Dueling sword
27. Helps
30. Court is in it
34. Touch lightly

CLUES DOWN

35. Airborne (abbr.)
36. Of one
41. Baked good
45. Jai __ sport
46. About aviation
47. Low oval mound
50. Rugged mountain ranges
54. Compel to do something
55. A way to carve
56. Sao __, city in Brazil
57. Mustachioed actor Elliott
59. American Idol runner-up Clay
60. A way to soak
61. Car mechanics group
62. Born of
63. Time zone
64. Sea eagle
65. Even's opposite

CLUES DOWN

1. Sharp mountain ridge
2. Thin, fibrous cartilages
3. Provides new details
4. Muscular weaknesses
5. Ottoman military title
6. Banes
7. Horse-riding seats
8. Arms of a shirt
9. Narrow path along a road edge
13. Viper
14. Disfigure
17. Variety of Chinese language
18. Portray in a show
20. Wrongful act
22. No (slang)
27. State of agitation
28. __ Diego
29. One point east of due south
31. 007's creator
32. The NBA's Toppin
33. Midway between north and

northeast
37. Examples
38. __ Gould, actor
39. The habitat of wild animals
40. Artful subtlety
41. Infielders
42. Keep under control
43. Herb
44. Distressed
47. A way to go down
48. Type of acid
49. Take by force
51. Collected fallen leaves
52. Shout of welcome or farewell
53. Monetary unit
58. Swiss river

Submit your letters to the editor today.

fincastle@ourvalley.org



The Fincastle Herald

Serving Botetourt
Since 1866

See **Answers**, page 10

Results

from page 4

overall)	2.	I. Williams, Daleville — 50:42.8	4.	Grace Hoover, Daleville — 57:05.3 (Women 14 to 17; 10th overall)
10K female finishers		(F Open; fifth overall)		52:43.4 (Women 14 to 17; eighth overall)
1. Hannah Laiti, Roanoke — 46:42.8 (F Open; third overall)	3.	Michelle Gentry, Fincastle — 52:18.3 (F Open; sixth overall)	5.	Maggie Hoover, Daleville —

- Fincastle Herald staff report

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Botetourt Museum in Greenfield important for children

Botetourt County has a remarkable story. Its settlers pushed Virginia’s frontier westward to the Mississippi River, and at one time Botetourt was the largest county in Virginia, encompassing lands that are now parts of several other states. Our history stretches from the Revolutionary War and the Lewis & Clark Expedition to the farms, orchards, railroads and industries that shaped Southwest Virginia. That history is easily forgotten if we do not actively support its telling to every generation. For too long, volunteers have been limited by the structure that houses our priceless county artifacts. We now have an opportunity to give Botetourt’s history a permanent home worthy of its historical significance: a museum with reliable climate control to protect artifacts, safe access and parking for school buses, classrooms and meeting space, full ADA accessibility, secure collection storage, and room for history and genealogy research.

The proposed museum is approximately 10,000 square feet, with about 4,000 square feet reserved for exhibit space, including a gallery of rotating exhibits, and more than 1,000 square feet of classroom and flexible-use space for use by schools and civic organizations. The design is not intended to imitate a Colonial building. Instead, it draws inspiration from the materials of agricultural barns that are part of Botetourt’s landscape and the design of successful regional museums like the one in Appomattox. The purpose is to keep the building practical and affordable to build and maintain while focusing investment where it belongs: in the collections, exhibits and educational programs. Most importantly, this museum is for our children. I have three grandsons who I am very proud of. I want them to be proud of where they are from. I want every child who lives here to be proud to be from Botetourt. They should all have the opportunity to step off a school bus and understand the history of their home.

That includes the Indigenous peoples who were here first, the families who settled the frontier, the men and women who worked the land, those who served in our wars, and the farmers, railroaders and business owners who built our communities.

Preserving our past and building our future are not competing goals. The same ground can hold centuries of history while also creating opportunity for the future. Botetourt County does not have to choose between honoring where we came from and building where we are going. We can do both.

Ann Layman
Botetourt County Historical Society

Supports Greenfield as site of museum

As an educator in Botetourt County, I have spent much of my career helping students connect what they learn in school to the people, places, and stories that shaped their community. That is why I believe a museum at Greenfield would be a valuable investment in Botetourt County’s future. As a member of the Virginia 250 Education Steering Committee, I have seen firsthand how important it is to make history accessible, engaging, and meaningful for students. A museum at Greenfield could bring classroom lessons to life through historical artifacts, exhibits, and local stories. Rather than simply reading about the past, students could explore the people, communities, and events that shaped Botetourt County and discover how local history connects to Virginia and our nation, particularly the American Revolution, which students begin studying in fourth grade. Greenfield offers the opportunity to create more than a traditional museum. Its location provides a chance to connect students with surrounding historical features, including the slave cabin, kitchen, and gravesite along

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the trail. Together, these resources could encourage historical research and a deeper understanding of the many people and experiences that shaped our community. Preserving and interpreting these places allows future generations to learn from our history in meaningful and responsible ways. As an educator, I see the potential for this museum to become a destination schools return to year after year. It could support classroom instruction, strengthen partnerships between educators and historical organizations, and provide hands-on learning that cannot be fully replicated within four classroom walls. Most importantly, it could help students develop a stronger sense of place and appreciation for the generations who came before them. Our students deserve the opportunity to understand the history in their own backyard. Supporting a museum at Greenfield means investing in that opportunity and keeping Botetourt County’s heritage a living, meaningful part of our future.

Sarah Quesenberry
Botetourt County Educator

County officials playing ‘Water Roulette’

“Russian Roulette” is when one places a single round in a revolver, spins the cylinder, places the muzzle against the head or body and pulls the trigger. It is incomprehensible that anyone would do something so potentially lethal based on chance. Yet that is analogous to what those in power here have done regarding our water situation in approving data centers requiring extreme amounts of water, regardless of the area’s limited water supply and its history of serious prolonged droughts. It’s “Water Roulette”! It’s not the chance probability of a round lining up in a chamber, but the probability of an extreme drought occurring while supplying data centers far more water than the entire area needs to survive. Both are insane. But, unlike “Russian Roulette,” with “Water Roulette,” all become participants in its horrific potential consequence. During this area’s worst drought that lasted over 1,000 days from April 2000 through February 2003, Carvins Cove Reservoir’s falling water levels were depleted at the average rate of 4-1/2 million gallons

of water each day. Our current very serious drought, now lasting over 500 days, has been depleting Carvins Cove Reservoir at a much greater depletion rate of 6-1/4 million gallons of water per day. Now with the approved data centers, future depletion rates may well exceed 15 million gallons per day during serious prolonged drought periods. At that rate, Carvins Cove would be totally empty of usable water in 375 days. If the drought lasted as long as the current drought has lasted, this area would have to exist with no usable water from Carvins Cove Reservoir, the lifeblood for this area, for four months – or more. Fathom that real future probability. For all those that are comforted being on a well rather than receiving public water supplied through Western Virginia Water Authority, think again. There is a significant adverse effect on ground water when seriously depleting available surface water. Many wells have gone dry just during this current drought with Carvins Cove dropping over 20 feet and leaving 45% of its usable water capacity. The probability of Carvins Cove getting entirely emptied of usable water could adversely impact more than 25% of all the wells in this greater area. Imagine that additional consequence and the resulting devastation to many of our farmers. Of those that were entrusted to protect the well-being of the citizens here and acted instead to allow water hungry data centers, I contend that they were irresponsible and blinded by all the anticipated money from the data centers, knowing the serious consequences and not caring, or not caring enough to know. Regardless, they all inflicted the frightening chances of “Water Roulette” and should be held accountable. They should also be compelled to still prevent the endangering of our area’s insufficient water supply, but not by encumbering the people with a half-billion dollar new water source development obligation that would financially cripple us while giving a free pass to the data centers that they allowed to critically exacerbate the water shortage gamble. The obvious answer is totally avoiding data center “Water Roulette” risks altogether with Google announcing that only alternate cooling technologies will be utilized that would not consume any water. That must happen, or Google must leave.

Mark Tyson
Buchanan District



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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 McClucas, 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 Children'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.

CONSEQUENCES

Read 2 Kings 14:26-29;
Amos 1:1 through 2:16

Perhaps we learned it in the principal's office after committing a misdeed or when a traffic court judge determined the fine for our traffic infraction. But at some point, we all learned that our actions have consequences.

God judged Israel's neighbors for atrocities they committed. When His attention turned to His chosen people, their "crimes" centered on how they had treated the living God as well as their fellow countrymen. Judah and Israel were living in moral deterioration.

Because they have rejected the law of the Lord and have not kept his decrees, because they have been led astray by false gods, the gods their ancestors followed, I will send fire on Judah that will consume the fortresses of Jerusalem (Amos 2:4,5).

Our attitude toward God and His Word has consequences. If we follow the instructions He has so plainly laid out for us, He promises blessing. The reverse is also true. If we persist in ignoring what He wants us to do, we will have to live with the consequences which may not be very pleasant. God leaves the choice to us.

Challenge for Today: Keep what God says in His Word front and center in your life.

Quicklook: Amos 2:4-16

Preschool, after-school care & summer day camp for preschool and elementary age children. Patrick Starkey, Pastor; Shawna Burkhart, preschool director.

Mt. Bethel Church of the Brethren— 10603 Narrow Passage Rd., Eagle Rock. PO Box. 183 Eagle Rock, VA 24085. Interim Pastor Dreama Osborne. 884-2292 (church), 540-597-8272 (cell). Sunday School, 10 AM; worship, 11 AM; Ladies' Aid meets 2nd Thurs. monthly.

Mt. Joy Church of the Brethren— 2565 Buffalo Rd., 10 miles N of Buchanan, 254-2298. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m. Pastor Michael Tabor, (540) 309-7595.

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

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

ECKANKAR

Eckankar, The Path of Spiritual Freedom, is a simple teaching that focuses on the Light and Sound of God to help people find more

love in their life. We offer a Spiritual Event on the 2nd. Sunday of each month. The program may be a Light and Sound Service, a Spiritual video and discussion, or other topics and techniques to help Raise Your Spiritual IQ. The Roanoke ECK Center is located at 1420 3rd. St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. For more information visit www.eck-va.org or call 540- 353-5365. People of all faiths are welcome.

EPISCOPAL

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

LUTHERAN

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

Wheatland Evangelical Lutheran Church— 1560 Wheatland Road, Buchanan, 24066; 540-254-1605. Sunday worship service, 10:30 a.m. (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. J. Hoover Haney, 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

Kelly, Lisa Ann

Lisa Ann “Chip” Kelly passed away on Friday, October 23, 2026 after a brief battle with leukemia.

Chip graduated from Mary Baldwin College and worked at Carter Machinery before moving to Richmond for several years. She returned to Buchanan and worked at National Business College before joining the staff at Virginia Military Institute. She also worked part-time at Kroger. Chip was a life-long member of Buchanan Baptist Church, where she had served as a Sunday School teacher. She volunteered at the Sunflower Festival, the Buchanan Theatre, and the carnival.

Chip was preceded in death by her father, Rex Stevens Kelly, and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. R.D. Kelly, and Mr. and Mrs. E.P. Sexton. She is survived by her mother, Gay Sexton Kelly, and her sister, Amy Sexton Kelly. She also leaves behind many cousins, special friends, travel companions, and co-workers.

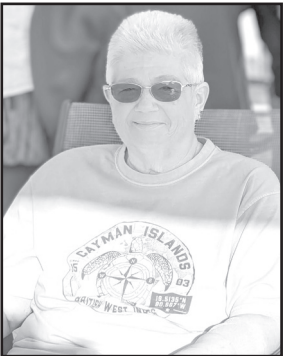
Chip loved concerts and travel, especially cruising and spending vacations at Holden Beach with her beach girls.

She had a special love for Hawaii. Chip loved interacting with others and, much like her father, she never met a stranger. While in the hospital, Chip enjoyed talking with staff, always remembering their names and knowing their life story after her interactions.

Chip’s one request was that others celebrate her life rather than mourn her loss. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Buchanan Baptist Church, the Red Cross, or a local food bank of your choice.

The family would like to extend special thanks to the oncology staff at RMH, Good Samaritan Hospice, the church family, special neighbors and cousins, and the girls of the classes of ’79 and ’83 for all their love and support.

A service will be held on Friday, October 30 at 4 p.m. at Botetourt Funeral Home. A meal will be provided at the Event Center (next to the funeral home) after the service to allow time for fellowship and visitation. The family will have a private burial. As Chip’s favorite color was purple, consider wearing purple in her memory.



Rhodes, Carl Lynwood

Carl “Lynwood” Rhodes was born on August 8, 1945, and went to be with Jesus on October 25, 2026, after suffering with Alzheimer’s for some time.

Lynwood was preceded in death by his father, Rush Rhodes and his precious mother, Ruby Cooper Rhodes; three brothers, Joe, Tommy, and Russell, and sister, Martha.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Kathy Crowder Rhodes; one son, Jason Lynwood Rhodes, and stepdaughter, Corinna (Clay) Grogan; as well as two brothers, David (Carolyn) and Jerry (Linda); two sisters, Hazel Rhodes

Weathers and Linda Rhodes Smith. Lynwood is also survived by a number of nieces and nephews.

Lynwood loved his family and the mountains he grew up in. He loved deer hunting every year, as well as NASCAR and the Pittsburgh Steelers. He also loved having a day off from the concrete business due to rain.

Lynwood was a veteran of the Vietnam War where he served proudly in the U.S. Army.

There will be a graveside service will be held Wednesday, Oct. 28, at 1 p.m. in Mount Union Cemetery.

Yopp, Anthony David

February 18, 1975 – October 17, 2026

Anthony David Yopp, 51, of Buchanan, passed away on October 17, 2026.

Anthony was a graduate of Franklin County High School and worked as a mechanic by trade. He was a man whose life was connected to the people and companions he held dear. He will be remembered by those who knew and loved him, and his memory will continue to live on in the hearts of his family and friends.

Anthony was preceded in death by his father, Larry Junior Yopp; his paternal grandparents, Garnett and Eunice Yopp; his maternal grandparents, Jerry Surface and Lina Mitchell; step-grandmother, Melva Surface; mother-in-law, Jodi Falsteaux; and sister, Sherry Yopp Ferguson.

He leaves behind to cherish his memory his loving wife, Yvonne Falstreux Yopp; his mother, Francis (Bruce) Young; brother, Larry Michael

Yopp; nephew, Joshua Parker; nieces, April Parker and Stormy Young; great-nieces, Rylee Parker and Raelynn Parker; his best friend, Eddie Nelson; and his beloved best buddy, Moonpie; as well as numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Though Anthony’s passing leaves a void in the lives of those who loved him, the memories made, the bonds shared, and the love he leaves behind will never be forgotten. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

A memorial service honoring Anthony’s life will be held on Friday, October 30, 2026, at 2 p.m. at Botetourt Funeral Home in Buchanan, with Pastor Gareth Stephenson officiating. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Botetourt Funeral Home to help cover funeral expenses.

May Anthony rest in peace, forever loved and never forgotten.



Retired Educators will meet at Wheatland Lutheran

The Botetourt Retired Educators will meet on Monday, Nov. 9, at 11 a.m. at Wheatland Lutheran Church, 1560 Wheatland Road, Buchanan. All retired school personnel living in the area are invited to attend. Katrina Kish will be speaking about her class, “Teachers for Tomorrow.”

Dues (\$45) may be paid at this meeting, and donations for the Scholarship Fund and the Book Fund will be collected at the meeting. Members of the church are preparing lunch at a cost of \$16 per person.

Those who would like to attend the meeting and plan to eat lunch are asked to let Susan Martin know by Thursday, Nov. 5, at susanmartin730@gmail.com or 540-309-3795.

- Submitted by Susan Martin



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Mill Creek Baptist Church
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CHURCH NEWS

Fincastle UMC Halloween event

Come dressed in your Halloween best for “Halloweenies” at the Fincastle United Methodist Family Life Center for free hot dogs, chips, chili, drinks and candy. It will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. Saturday at 137 S. Church Street. Everyone is welcome.

‘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 still 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.

In preparation for Jesus Fest, Solomon’s Mission will not be accepting donations on October 30, 31, and November 2.

Fincastle Baptist Harvest Fest

Fincastle Baptist will have Harvest Fest on October 31 from 5-7:30 p.m. There will be an illusionist, food trucks, Trunk-or-Treat and more. This free event is open to the whole family.

St. Mark’s UMC Trunk-or-Treat

All are invited for some Halloween fun at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church for Trunk-or-Treat on Friday, Oct. 30 from 5:30-7 p.m. St. Mark’s UMC is located at 19 Cedar Ridge Drive in Daleville. In case of bad weather, Trunk-or-Treat will be held inside the Family Life Center. Everyone is encouraged to wear a costume and bring a container to collect candy.

Special services at Lpsleys Run Baptist

Lapsleys Run Baptist Church will celebrate the annual Harvest Homecoming and the 158th church anniversary on Sunday, Nov. 8, beginning at 11 a.m. Brother Edgar Freeman will be the speaker for the morning service. Dinner will be served after the morning service.

The 158th church anniversary service

will begin at 2 p.m. The guest speaker will be Bishop Mark Nichols of Lovely Zion Baptist Church in Bedford.

Everyone is welcome to these and all services at Lapsleys Run Baptist Church, 608 Zion Hill Road, Fincastle. Regular services are held on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 11 a.m.

Pork chop dinner at Limestone Park

A pork chop sandwich dinner, with green beans, baked apples, brownie and bottled water for \$15 will be available at Limestone Park on Saturday, Nov. 7, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. To reserve tickets, call Nancy at 540-520-6600 or Pat at 540-793-2128.

Eagle Rock Community Meal November 9

The Eagle Rock Potluck Community Meal will be Monday, Nov. 9, at the Community Center in Eagle Rock. Area residents are invited to bring a dish or dessert to share with everyone and come for good food and fellowship.

Fincastle Clothes Closet open dates

Fincastle United Methodist’s Clothes Closet will be open on Saturday, Oct. 31, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 7, 10-1; Saturday, Nov. 14, 10-1; and Tuesday Nov. 17, 10-2, 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.

Eagle Rock Clothes Closet dates

The Eagle Rock Community Clothes Closet on Church Street in Eagle Rock will be open on Saturdays, Nov. 7 and 11, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and Wednesday, Nov. 11, from 5-6:30 p.m. The Clothes Closet offers free clothes, shoes, household items and toys to all patrons. Bags are provided. Please honor the for-bag limit per household so everyone has the opportunity to find what they need.

Cloverdale Church of the Brethren Thrift Store

Get in the Christmas Spirit at the Thrift Store. It has trees, decorations, ornaments, and more. The outerwear sale has sweaters for \$1.50 and jackets, \$2. Donations are welcome and appreciated. The store is open Saturdays, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry November 6

Little-to-no wait, eat in or take out from 5-7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 6, at Church of the Transfiguration, 7624 Roanoke Road, Fincastle; \$12, ages 7 and under are free. The meal is two filets of lightly breaded flounder, or six chicken nuggets for children, fries, sweet cornbread, homemade coleslaw, and choice of one dessert. A 50/50 drawing will be held. No advance ticket sales. Proceeds to benefit Botetourt’s Food Pantry, Backpack Ministry, Botetourt Resource Center, and Quilts of Valor. Questions, call 540-904-3126.

- Knights of Columbus

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In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated February 5, 2007, in the original principal amount of \$115,710.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Virginia as Instrument No. 07001559. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for the City of Radford, 619 Second St., W., Radford, VA, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on December 22, 2026, at 11:15 AM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN PARCEL CONTAINING 2.1685 ACRES, AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT SHOWING SURVEY PREPARED BY MATHEW AND HENEGAR, PLC, DATED 10/13/2003, ENTITLED, "BOUNDARY LINE ADJUSTMENT ON THE PROPERTY OF PHYLLIS M. PALMER AND RICHARD S. & ALICE L. ALLEY", AND DESIGNATED AS JOB NO. 108696, A COPY OF WHICH PLAT IS OF RECORD IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AS INSTRUMENT NO. 04004601, IN PLATBOOK 24, PAGE 243. 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

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated September 5, 2003, in the original principal amount of \$62,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Virginia as Instrument No. 03016736. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for the City of Radford, 619 Second St., W., Radford, VA, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on December 11, 2026, at 12:00 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY SITUATED IN CITY OF BLACKSBURG IN THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY AND STATE OF VIRGINIA AND BEING DESCRIBED IN A DEED DATED 07/05/1977 AND RECORDED 08/25/1977 IN BOOK 388, PAGE 226 AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF THE COUNTY AND STATE SET FORTH ABOVE. 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.aldridgepette.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.aldridgepette.com. 1113-1075B.

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

1. Consider the request of ABNA LLC, property owner, and Karl Budzevski, lessee, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow automobile rental/leasing, on the property located at 504 Roanoke Street (Tax Map 162-1-6).
2. Consider amending Chapter 106 Zoning, Article II District Regulations, Article III Use and Design Standards, and Article VI Definitions and Use Types pertaining to the state's allowance of adult-use marijuana.
3. Consider amending Chapter 106 Zoning, Article II District Regulations, Article III Use and Design Standards, and Article VI Definitions and Use Types pertaining to the state's allowance of manufactured homes.
4. Consider amending Chapter 106 Zoning, Article V Administration, pertaining to the procedures for filing a petition for review of a decision by the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Detailed copies of the proposed plans, ordinances, or amendments may be found online at the following URL:

<https://salemva.gov/209/PlanningZoning>

OR examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia.

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

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA

BY: Christopher J. Dorsey
Executive Secretary

Commonwealth of Virginia
VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-
316, -317, 20-104
Case No. CL26-620
VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT FOR THE
COUNTY OF ROANOKE
COUNTY OF ROANOKE,
VIRGINIA, Complainant,
vs.
CAROLYN S. SPANGLER,
et al, Respondents.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

TO: THE RESPONDENTS: The object of this suit is to enforce the lien for taxes assessed by the County of Roanoke, Virginia against certain real property designated as Tax Map Parcel No. 072.02-02-24.00-0000.

An affidavit having been made and filed that diligence has been used without effect to ascertain the location of Carolyn Spangler and that there are or may be persons with an interest in the subject property, including heirs, devisees, and successors in title of Carolyn S. Spangler, who may be deceased, whose names and addresses are unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that each of the parties appear on or before the December 15, 2026, and do whatever is necessary to protect their interests in said land.

It is further ORDERED, pursuant to Va. Code Ann §8.01-321, that this Order of Publication be published once a week for four successive weeks in the *Salem Times Register*, a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Roanoke, and that a copy be posted at the front door of the Courthouse in County of Roanoke, Virginia.

Entered this 13th day of October, 2026.

October, 2020:
Honorable
James R. Swanson
Judge
I ASK FOR THIS:
Amy H. Geddes, Esquire
VSB #38650
OPN Law
3140 Chaparral Drive,
Suite 200-C
Roanoke, VA 24018
Phone: (540) 725-8181
Fax: (540) 772-0126

ageddes@opnlaw.com
Counsel for Complainant



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Truck

from page 2

their equipment to get the job done.

Organizers extend a big thank you to Cedar Hill Environmental, Hugh's Transport, S&N Infrastructure, James River Equipment, Robert Young's Towing, Underwood Farms, Cove Mountain Tree Service, State Police K-9 and Bomb Units, Buchanan Fire and Rescue, U.S. Forest Service and the Botetourt County Sheriff's Office.

- Fincastle Herald staff report



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANGELA HODGES

Indictments

from page 1

and entering, grand larceny, grand larceny-auto

- Jacob Matthew Smith of Fincastle, breaking and entering, threat in writing
- Orlando Joseph Spence of Roanoke, possession of Schedule I/II drugs
- Christina Danyell Tate of Troutville, hit and run
- Christophr Patrick Ulrey of Troutville, possession of methamphetamine

DIRECT

- Serena Alexis Alderman of Woodlawn, possession of methamphetamine
- Sierra Dawnn Alderman of Salem, possession of methamphetamine
- David Lee Altice Jr. of Roanoke, possession of methamphetamine
- Clarence Spencer Artis Jr. of Roanoke, grand larceny
- Kelly Jo Beasley of Roanoke, possession of methamphetamine
- Jazmin Dawn Beuther of Roanoke, possession of methamphetamine
- Gail Carter Black of Troutville, possession of methamphetamine
- Jacqueline Faye Burgess of White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., possession of methamphetamine
- Kevin Paul Daly of Roanoke, possession of cocaine
- Cheyenne Souix Didomenico of Roanoke,

possession of cocaine

- Randy Lee Elmore of Covington, possession of methamphetamine
- Alexander Bryce Gill of Roanoke, possession of methamphetamine
- Aaron Wayne Gregg of Clifton Forge, possession of methamphetamine
- Thomas McClan Guinn of Roanoke, possession of methamphetamine
- Matthew Lynn Hostetter of Lexington, possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine
- John Kevin Kennedy of Roanoke, possession of methamphetamine
- Shannon Eugene Milledge of Covington, possession of methamphetamine
- Timothy Justin Mode of White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., possession of methamphetamine
- Damien Ryan Moore of Roanoke, reckless driving, two counts of eluding
- Christopher Kyle Mullins of Roanoke, possession of methamphetamine
- Crystal Brooks Mullins of Roanoke, possession of methamphetamine
- Mandwolyn Odessa Nicely of Huddleston, possession of methamphetamine
- Tiffany Lynn Nicely of Clifton Forge, possession of methamphetamine

- April Faye Nichols of Boones Mill, possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine
- Chad Allen Nichols of Roanoke, possession of methamphetamine
- Robert Rigby of Inwood, W.Va., possession of LSD
- Crystal Layne Robbins of Salem, possession of fentanyl
- William Gregory Shannon of Clifton Forge, possession of methamphetamine
- Misty Flickinger Sheppard of Covington, possession of methamphetamine
- Celeste Marie Sizemore of Covington, possession of cocaine
- Joseph Lenwood Stinnett of Covington, possession of a weapon by a prisoner, possession of drug by a prisoner
- Larry Travis Teems of Charlottesville, possession of methamphetamine
- John Benjamin Vail of Roanoke, possession of fentanyl
- Emani Slyva Walker of Maple Heights, Ohio, credit card theft, credit card fraud
- Taylor Andrew Wheeling of Daleville, use of a computer to solicit a minor
- Morgan Brooke Wright of Roanoke, possession of methamphetamine

Museum

from page 1

Google community grant to cover that requirement in 2025, Watts said.

Austin requested the additional \$2.5 million during the 2026 General Assembly session, bringing state appropriations to \$8.5 million. With the Google grant covering the required local match, total available project funding stands at \$9 million.

Although the project has received substantial state support, the county has not committed to construction. Available funding falls short of the estimated completion cost, and the next steps will depend in part on the Board of

Supervisors' direction.

Plans call for the museum to be built within the Historic Greenfield Preservation Area at Botetourt Center at Greenfield, along U.S. 220 between Daleville and Fincastle. The site is approximately 5.5 miles south of Historic Fincastle.

The museum was originally proposed for a location within Fincastle, but a feasibility study determined that no suitable site was available there. State legislation was subsequently amended to allow the facility to be located elsewhere in Botetourt County.

Preliminary designs envision a building of approximately 10,225 square feet, including about 4,000 square feet of exhibition space, a classroom designed to accommodate approximately 30 students, offices, exhibit storage and supporting facilities.

Developed by AECOM, the design draws inspiration from traditional barns found throughout Botetourt County. Proposed site improvements include grading, paving, utilities, landscaping and potential pathways connecting to existing historic structures.

To advance the design, the county

authorized additional architectural and engineering work in 2024 and approved another \$456,000 in design services in November 2025 to complete construction drawings and permitting documents.

The proposed museum would showcase Botetourt County's history through exhibits, educational programming, classroom space and community outreach.

Design renderings and additional project information are available at botetourtva.gov/1096/Botetourt-County-Museum.

Furnace

from page 1

cornfields, vineyards and other crops helped feed the community.



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In 1864, records documented 90 enslaved African Americans and 114 white residents living there.

The Catawba estate traces its origins to a land grant from Patrick Henry in the late 1700s that authorized coal mining at what is now known as Stone Coal Gap. Catawba's coal mines are considered the oldest in Botetourt County. The Catawba Iron Furnace, built in 1830, featured a distinctive round design and later became an important source of iron for the Confederacy's Navy.

Catawba iron is

associated with the ironclad warship USS Merrimack, known for its role in the Battle of Hampton Roads. Despite the furnace's importance, it escaped Union raids that destroyed many of Botetourt's other furnaces.

At the time, the property was owned by Joseph R. Anderson, the Fincastle-born owner of Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond. In a letter to Confederate topographer Jedidiah Hotchkiss, Anderson praised the quality of Catawba's iron, writing that he could "speak with confidence of its quality." After the war,

Hotchkiss came to own part of the Catawba property and published Confederate surveys that remain among the surviving descriptions of the company during its most productive years.

Following the Civil War, the property was divided multiple times. When a railroad connecting Catawba to Cloverdale was completed in 1910, the valley's resources attracted renewed interest from investors.

The Richmond Virginian reported that investors had purchased the former Catawba Coal and Iron Company for \$250,000, describing the property as containing some of the world's greatest deposits of coal, iron and limestone. The Roanoke Times reported

plans to develop the valley with 25 miners' houses and a hotel. When one of the investors unexpectedly died, however, the company had to be sold, and the plans never came to fruition.

Around 1930, vandals damaged the Catawba Furnace by stealing one of its iron lintels. Although the perpetrators were arrested, the damage was never undone. Today, the ruined furnace on Haymakertown Road is the most visible remnant of the Catawba Coal and Iron Company. Since the 1960s, the property has been part of Jefferson National Forest. The same limestone quarries that once supplied the furnace now supply Roanoke Cement Company.

Although Catawba Furnace is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the story of the company and the people who lived and worked there remains

largely forgotten.

In 2024, local author Rachel Nicole Edwards published her historical fantasy novel, "This World Below," about an Irish immigrant family settling in Civil War-era Catawba. The novel is dedicated to Peter Collins, an Irishman who died in Catawba's mines in 1868. More information about Edwards and her work is available at rachelnicoleedwards.com.

Now, Edwards is working with Preservation Botetourt Inc. to pursue a historical highway marker near Catawba Furnace to help preserve and share the area's history.

Those interested in supporting the effort may send donations to Preservation Botetourt Inc., P.O. Box 273, Fincastle, 24090.

- Preservation Botetourt Inc.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE OF THE BOTETOURT COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

The Botetourt County Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at 9:00 AM in the Botetourt County Administration Center at 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville, Virginia to consider and receive comment on the following:

Amsterdam District: Gracey's Daleville LLC requests a variance in accordance with *Section 25-551.- Variance procedure of the Botetourt County Code*. Gracey's Daleville LLC seeks a 7-foot side and rear yard setback variance for the construction of a dumpster enclosure and a 10-foot front setback variance for the placement of a freestanding monument sign. This 0.602-acre lot is located within the Business (B-2) Use District, at 490 Roanoke Road, Daleville, and is identified on the Tax Map as 101-64.

Valley District: David and Dawn Ostrom request a variance in accordance with *Section 25-551.- Variance procedure of the Botetourt County Code*. David and Dawn Ostrom seek a 15 feet front yard setback variance for the construction of a residence. This 1.814-acre lot is located within the Rural Residential (RR) Use District and is identified on the Tax Map as 102(8)1.

Information is in the Botetourt County Planning & Zoning Office, 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville, VA, and online at www.botetourtva.gov/planningcommissionagenda. Individuals may comment at the meeting in-person, by email at planning@botetourtva.gov, via the online form at www.botetourtva.gov, or by mail at 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville, VA 24083. Postal mail comment deadline is the Friday before the hearing. Website and email comments are due by 12:00 noon, the day before the hearing.

Jonathan McCoy, AICP
Interim Director of Community Development

NOTICE
Botetourt County Government Offices and Libraries WILL BE CLOSED on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, in observance of Election Day.
The Citizens Convenience Center located at the county landfill will be open.

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

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River will open Region 2C volleyball tournament next Tuesday



Hailee Vassar serves against Carroll County.



Laighton Tate (1) and the Knights celebrate a point.

PHOTOS BY BIRDIE BOBLETT

The Three Rivers District does not have a post-season volleyball tournament, so the James River team won't be playing until the Region 2C tournament begins next Tuesday, November 3. Pairings were not yet decided at press time with regular season games still to be played this week.

The Knights were scheduled to wrap up the regular season on Tuesday of this week with

a rescheduled match against Patrick County. River comes into the week at 13-6 overall and riding a three-game winning streak. Last week they beat Patrick County on the road and Carroll County at home to improve their Three Rivers record to 5-4.

River beat Patrick in five sets after dropping the first two, 25-16 and 25-15. They pulled out two close ones, 25-22 and 25-23, to even

the score and then put the Cougars away in the deciding set to 15, 15-6.

"This started out rough," said River coach Linsey Firebaugh. "We could not get anything going and all the momentum was going the other way. Finally in the third set we went on a serving run to gain some energy and momentum and we played well the rest of the night."

Ashby Wilkes finished with

16 kills and 20 digs. Kinley Millman had nine kills and Ayden Jennings had 26 assists and a dozen digs.

On Thursday at home the Knight beat a strong Carroll team in four. The first three sets were decided by two points each with River winning two of three, 28-26, 23-25 and 28-26. The Knights then turned it up a notch in the fourth for a 25-15 decision and the win.

"This was a big win for us,"

said Firebaugh. "They are a tough team. We were able to keep them out of system and they could not take many hard attacks on us."

It was Senior Night for River as the Knights honored Ayden Jennings, Leanna Steger, Kyleigh Napier and Laighton Tate. Jennings had 39 assists while Wilkes had 14 kills, Millman had 13 and Hailee Vassar served up six aces.

Cavaliers win BRD cheer competition

The Lord Botetourt competition cheerleaders are the Blue Ridge District champs. The Cavaliers won the competition in Daleville last week and will compete in the Region 3D event at Northside High School tonight. Botetourt will take the floor at 7:45 p.m. in the Billy Pope gym. The Cavaliers also recently won the JF Rumble at Jefferson Forest High, not only taking first in their division but also being declared the grand champions of the competition.



PHOTO COURTESY LB VOLLEYBALL

Vote

from page 3

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

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

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

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

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

Question 3 asks whether the Constitution should be amended to establish a fundamental right to vote,

change the qualifications concerning people convicted of felonies so that voting rights are automatically restored upon release from incarceration, and replace existing language concerning people found to be "mentally incompetent" with language concerning people found to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting.

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

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

In-person early voting is underway at the Botetourt County Department of Elections and Voter Registration, 2 E. Main Street in Fincastle. Early voting will conclude at 5 p.m., this Saturday, Oct. 31. Regular weekday hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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

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

Botetourt County has 10 precincts, with the Buchanan, Fincastle, and Troutville precincts also serving voters within those respective towns. The

county lists Buchanan Elementary School as the polling location for Buchanan Precinct 301, Fincastle Baptist Church as the polling location for Fincastle Precinct 406, and Troutville Elementary School as the polling location for Troutville Precinct 501.

The deadline to register has ended, but voters may do a "Same Day Registration" during early voting and on Election Day in their precinct and cast a provisional ballot. Voters who received a mailed absentee ballot and decide to vote in person must bring the absentee ballot package with them to surrender it. Otherwise, they will be required to vote a provisional ballot.

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

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

For sample ballots, polling locations, voter registration information and other election details, visit [//BotetourtVA.gov/vote](http://BotetourtVA.gov/vote).

- Fincastle Herald staff report

Halloween

from page 1

Office by Friday, Oct. 30, or delivered during the festivities Saturday evening.

Earlier in the week, the Botetourt County Chamber of Commerce's Haunted History walking tour will bring participants through historic Fincastle on Thursday, Oct. 29. The event features local legends and stops at two cemeteries and the Early Cabin. All tickets have sold out, filling the available spots for the Halloween-themed tour.

In Buchanan, downtown trick-or-treating will take place Saturday from 5 to 7 p.m., according to the town. Officials encouraged families to enjoy a fun and safe Halloween.

The town is also accepting donations of individually

wrapped candy to help make its Halloween celebration enjoyable for local children and families. Donations may be dropped off at Town Hall during normal business hours. For more information, call 540-254-1212.

The Buchanan Library will offer Halloween drop-in activities throughout the day Saturday for children ages 11 and younger. Activities in the Children's Reading Area will include festive crafts, monster design and a spooky scavenger hunt. Families can participate in one or all of the activities, and registration is not required.

Elsewhere, St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Daleville will host a trunk-or-treat event Friday, Oct. 30, from 5:30 to

7 p.m. Children are invited to wear costumes and bring a bag for collecting candy. Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes and decorated trunks. In case of rain, the event will move inside the church's Family Life Center.

Camp Bethel, 328 Bethel Road, Fincastle, will host its annual Trek-or-Treat on Saturday from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Families can walk around the camp, where building porches and outdoor areas will be decorated and volunteers will hand out treats. The evening will conclude with complimentary hot chocolate or apple cider at Ark Dining Hall. The event is free, and all children and families are welcome.

As Halloween approaches, the Botetourt County Sheriff's Office is reminding residents that a few simple precautions can help keep the festivities safe. Sheriff Matt Ward and the office are encouraging motorists to slow down in residential areas, avoid distractions and watch for children who may enter roadways unexpectedly.

Parents and trick-or-treaters should plan a safe route, stay together, use sidewalks when possible and cross streets at intersections. Bright or reflective clothing, flashlights and glow sticks can help children remain visible after dark. Parents should also inspect candy before allowing children to eat it.

The Sheriff's Office said

deputies will patrol throughout the county during Halloween festivities, emphasizing neighborhood safety and impaired-driving prevention. Anyone planning to consume alcohol should arrange for a sober ride rather than drive impaired.

County officials also recommend that homeowners keep sidewalks, steps and porches clear of decorations and electrical cords, ensure walkways are well-lit, use battery-operated candles or LED lights in jack-o'-lanterns and keep pets safely indoors.

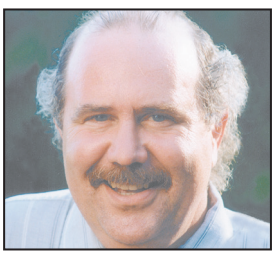
Residents should check with event organizers for any last-minute changes to schedules, locations or weather arrangements.

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Brian Hoffman

Sports Editor

Botetourt 10U football team will play in the Sandlot Super Bowl

The Botetourt-Phillips 10U football team will be playing in the Sandlot Super Bowl at Salem Stadium on November 7. The Cavaliers qualified for the game with a win over Glenvar last Saturday at Cy Dillon Stadium in Rocky Mount.

Botetourt, the second seed in the bracket, put up 38 points in the win to outscore third seeded Glenvar, who had 24. In the other 10U bracket, fifth seeded Salem edged the top seed, North Roanoke, 14-6. Botetourt and Salem will play for the championship at 10:30 a.m. on November 7.

Botetourt had two other teams playing in the semifinals but both came up short. In the 8U tournament Cave Spring defeated Botetourt-Divers, 8-0. Glenvar defeated Salem in the other bracket and Glenvar and Cave Spring will play in the Super Bowl final at 9 a.m.

In the 12U tournament top-seeded Cave Spring-Barmore shut out the Cavaliers. Cave Spring-Ellis won the other semifinal and two Cave Spring teams will play for the 12U championship on November 7 at noon.



Botetourt 8U quarterback Nolan Divers (5) looks for room to run.



Botetourt players tackle a Cave Spring player in last Saturday Sandlot 12U semifinal.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Cavaliers play William Fleming in football Friday

The Lord Boteourt football team is hoping to pick up some important VHSL points when the Cavaliers travel to Roanoke Friday to play William Fleming. Game time is 7 p.m.

The Cavs missed an opportunity to pick up big points last Friday when they fell to undefeated William Byrd in Daleville, 35-14. Byrd's Gray Matthews scored five touchdowns and ran for 333 yards for the Terriers.

While beating an undefeated team would have helped LB's cause, this week's game against Class 5 Fleming is also a big one as extra points are awarded for playing teams above Botetourt's Class 3 division. As it stands the Cavaliers are in fourth place in the Region 3D rankings at 20.5 with a 4-4 record. Christiansburg is close behind after defeating Blacksburg last week, posting a 4-4 record and a 20.12 ranking. The top four teams open the playoffs at home so this week will be big for both, and Bassett is close behind Christiansburg at 4-5 and 20.11 with just one game remaining.



Jayden Windsor of LB goes high for a catch against Byrd.



LB's Bradley Dalton (2) returns the opening kickoff 55 yards.



Rylen Wright (11) of the Cavaliers battles for extra yardage.



Botetourt's Cael Burton dives to grab the leg of Byrd's Gray Matthews.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

rushing for just 85 yards in the game. Gus Feeny had 61 of those yards in a dozen carries.

LB had better success throwing the ball. Cael Burton was 15 for 29 for 219 yards passing and threw touchdown passes to Jayden Windsor and Rylen Wright. Dalton Bradley

had five receptions.

"Kudos to Byrd but we just didn't play well," said Leftwich. "We could have done better. They got the job done and we didn't."

Botetourt's jayvees remained undefeated in district games with a 24-6 win over Byrd last Thursday.

Region cross country meets are this week

Region cross country meets for Lord Botetourt and James River are scheduled for today, with the Region 2C meet being held in Botetourt County. That's scheduled for the Greenfield Complex in Daleville.

The Three Rivers District does not have a district meet, so the James River runners were off last week. Today's Region 2C meet will begin with a 3 p.m. start for the girls, followed by a 3:45 p.m. start for the boys' race. The top three teams go to state as a team and the top

five individuals not on those teams also advance.

The Region 3D meet will be held at Sugar Hollow Park in Bristol today. Once again the top three teams go to state as a team and the top five individuals not on those teams also advance.

The Blue Ridge District had a cross country meet last week at Waid Park in Franklin County. William Byrd's boys won the district championship with LB finishing fourth. The Cavaliers had the individual winner as Preston



Efraim Echavarria has been a solid defender for James River.

PHOTO BY BIRDIE BOBLETT

James River will host Patrick County in football Friday

It will be Hall of Fame Night Friday when James River hosts Patrick County in football, and the Knights are planning to make it a memorable one. River is hoping to snap a four-game losing streak when they host 3-6 Patrick County.

This is a big game for both teams. River is sitting in the seventh spot in the VHSL Class 2C rankings while Patrick County is ninth, with the top eight making the playoffs. This is the last game of the season for Patrick, who has their bye on week 11 of the season. If they don't make the playoffs, that week off is going to turn into 10 months off.

Meanwhile, the Knights are still looking for a district win after

opening the season 3-1 against non-district teams. They were at Floyd last week and trailed the Buffaloes just 7-0 at the half before falling 24-6.

"We played them real tough," said River coach Jack Baker. "It was a real competitive game. We missed two scoring opportunities in the first half that didn't result in points."

Floyd opened a 21-0 lead in the third quarter. River struck back on a five-yard run by Ashton Orange with 5:19 remaining in the game but it was too late to mount a rally at that point. Floyd added a field goal with less than two minutes to go.

Orange finished with 58 yards rushing on 20 attempts and quarterback

Merit Hammons had 63 yards on 17 attempts. Merit completed three of 10 passes for 60 yards with two to Bentley Painter and one to Wyatt Dewhirst.

On defense, Alijah Orange had two sacks. Hammons, Ryan Daniels and Eli Baldwin had eight tackles each.

The Knights are hoping for a little more success against Patrick. The Cougars are also 0-4 in district games and coming off a 42-14 loss to Glenvar in Stuart last Friday.

"They play hard and they have the best quarterback we'll see," said Baker. "They have some good athletes and they're a physical bunch. We could both use a win."

Blue Ridge District volleyball is this week, Region 3D next week

The Blue Ridge District volleyball tournament is being played this week at the sites of the top seeded teams. Lord Botetourt is the top seed and was scheduled to host Staunton River Tuesday. If the Cavaliers won, they will host Thursday's championship match at 6 p.m.

The Region 3D tournament will open next Tuesday, November 3. LB is the fifth seed and will open at fourth seeded Magna Vista.

Botetourt comes into the post-season with a 20-6 overall record. The Cavaliers were undefeated in Blue Ridge District play after defeating William Fleming and Northside last week to end the regular season.

Against Fleming, LB won 25-7, 25-5 and 25-9. It was Senior Night and six seniors were honored, Addalyn Underwood, Adyson Greathouse, Lilly Crenshaw, Addison Harper, Skyla Corkins and Ava Stephens.

On Wednesday at Northside, LB won 25-16, 25-20 and 25-18. Stephens had nine kills, Underwood had 17 digs and Lilly Crenshaw had 20 assists.



LB's Addalyn Underwood sets one up against Northside last week.

PHOTO BY REGINA DEVINNEY

Vaughn had a time of 15:58.44 to win the 5,000-meter race. Archer Lee was fourth and John Moughrbi was ninth, both earning All-District honors. Lee and Mason Tuck had personal bests and Vaughn was named the BRD "Runner of the Year."

In the girls' meet only two schools had full teams with Franklin County winning the district championship and LB taking second. Caitlyn Roach

of Franklin County won the race in 20:14.68 and LB's Anne Thorne took third in 20:56.49. Grace Hoover was also named All-District with a sixth place finish in 21:40.05. Personal best performances were turned in by Grace Hoover, Maggie Hoover, Addison Purser and Laurel Wiley.

State races for both Class 2 and 3 will be held at Green Hill Park in Roanoke County on November 7.