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The Year in Review 2020, a somewhat rocky trip down memory lane



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Despite finishing the school year under stay-at-home orders, the Class of 2020 was celebrated by the Town of Vinton and Roanoke County Schools with a Senior Parade through the town on May 19, prior to their online graduation. Principal Tammy Newcomb hands Joseph Shail his diploma in a drive-through ceremony at William Byrd High School.

Debbie Adams

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The year 2020 will long be remembered as “unprecedented, challenging, earth-shattering – even cataclysmic.” But it didn’t start out that way in the Town of Vinton.

January 2020

In Vinton, 2020 started out on a very upbeat note. The town was anticipating a booming economy. The town calendar was filled with many traditional Vinton activities. The sports pages of The Vinton Messenger were packed full of athletic events – wrestling, basketball, track, and swimming.

Councilwoman Janet Scheid announced that she would not seek re-election to her position on Town Council. Scout Troop 235 was busy preparing for the annual Pinewood Derby. Farmburguesa restaurant announced that business was going so well it would be expanding to Grandin Village.

Desert Sun celebrated 32 years of the tanning business in Vinton. The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon-



Rosie's Gaming Emporium gave back to the community by providing meals for first responders and front line workers even though it temporarily shut down during the initial months of the pandemic.

cutting for Jason Boothe and Brad Greenway for the opening of their Greenway Boothe Real Estate Team. General Manager Dan Williams retired after 43 years with the Vinton McDonald's.

In a planning retreat, the Roanoke County School Board discussed the “imperative need” for renovations at William Byrd High School.

The “Let Me Tell Ya” storytelling group organized and held its first meeting at the Charles R. Hill Community Center in January with great hopes for the future. The Lancelot challenged businesses to a “Lose to Win” competition. The Vinton Dogwood Committee began searching for “past queens” to participate in the Dogwood Festival scheduled for April.

Several William Byrd students were spending a weekend in Blacksburg, honored as part of the Virginia Tech Honor Band.

Kimberly Burnette-Dean was named as Vinton Library Branch Librarian, with the library offering a robust array of programming.

The Vinton Municipal Building, Public Works, and the Vinton War Memorial enhanced security in those facilities with \$100,000 in upgrades and improvements.

Doug Adams, who served the town as a member of Town Council, the Vinton



The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce experienced cancellations of many events but pulled off a spectacular Fall Festival despite the pandemic.

Breakfast Lions Club, the First Aid Crew, and founder of the Vinton Needy Family Program, passed away in January. Businessman and fellow Lion Willie Leffell also passed away.

February 2020

The ever-expanding Gauntlet Business Program and Competition launched its sixth year of programming in February, meeting at the Vinton War Memorial on Tuesday evenings, in addition to three other locations.

The William Byrd Rocket League esports team won second place in state competition in its first year of existence. William Byrd Middle School hosted the annual Roanoke County Science Fair on February 22 with 109 entries from county middle and high schools – packed together in the gym. Assistant Principal Alan Moore announced he would be leaving at the end of the school year to become full-time pastor at Fellowship Community Church SW.

The Vinton Dogwood Festival Committee issued a call for entries and vendors in February for the festival scheduled for mid-April. A team from Vinton Baptist Church headed to India on a mission trip on February 10.

Vinton Town Manager Barry Thompson announced he would be retiring at the end



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Fabricio Drumond was named by Town Council as Chief of Police effective December 1, 2020.

of 2020. Mayor Brad Grose announced that he would run for re-election in the May town elections, and newcomer Laurie Jacobs Mullins announced her intention to run for Town Council.

Details were trickling out about the Carilion Clinic IRONMAN Triathlon scheduled to bring bicyclists down Washington Avenue on June 7.

Girl Scout Troop 94 held the annual Father-Daughter Dance at Thrasher to celebrate Valentine's Day.

Bank of Botetourt announced it would be building a new branch on Pollard Street in Vinton.

The Town of Vinton was awarded a \$300,000 Brownfields Grant which would be instrumental in redeveloping the historic Gish Mill project.

Vinton Town Council held the annual strategic retreat and sketched out plans for the next five years.

March 2020

March opened with the boys and girls bas-

See Year in Review, page 2



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TOWN OF VINTON
Pete Peters was named Town Manager effective January 1, 2021.



The Vinton Library showed its Halloween and community spirit with a curbside distribution of candy through the Candy Chute.



Downtown Trick or Treating was replaced by a Drive-in Halloween Movie Night in the parking lot of the Vinton War Memorial.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Olivia Grace Robertson had an outstanding year in 2020 despite the pandemic. She was named Vinton Dogwood Queen, DAR Good Citizen of the Year, and Best All Around Female at William Byrd High School. Here, she is being crowned Dogwood Queen by Vice Mayor Keith Liles.

Joe Goodpies restaurant at Vinyard Station plans January opening

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The Joe Goodpies restaurant at Vinyard Station (that's pizza pies, not dessert pies) is now anticipating a mid-to-late Janu-

ary opening. Owner Jack Winston says the upscale restaurant will offer a selection of at least 20 different pizzas baked in the eatery's 10,000-pound brick oven, along with specialty salads, fresh burgers, wings, and

more. Winston is also the owner of Jersey Lily's Roadhouse Grill on Orange Avenue and Jersey Lily's in Salem.

Vinyard Station is located at the corner of Pollard Street and Washington Avenue in downtown Vinton. The redevelopment project has been of intense interest to passing motorists who have watched its progress over the past year.

Developer Dale Wilkinson of the Wilkinson Group says half of the front space of Vinyard Station on Pollard Street has been leased along with half of what was the Parts Department of the old Vinton Motors.

Joe Goodpies occupies the section of the building nearest to the parking lot – about one-third of the available interior space.

Wilkinson and General Contractor Greg Rhodes of Construction Unlimited Inc. say work on the project has moved along steadily despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

Glass windows have recently been installed on the



PHOTO BY DALE WILKINSON

Joe Goodpies restaurant is now complete and opening soon at Washington Avenue and Pollard Street.

See Goodpies, page 5



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Owner/manager Abigail Lawton is opening an Our Daily Bread location on East Lee Avenue in downtown Vinton, hopefully in mid-January.

Our Daily Bread to open Vinton location

The dine-in options in Vinton just keep expanding. Our Daily Bread Bakery & Bistro is preparing to open a new location in the Bush Building in downtown Vinton at 126 East Lee Avenue. The building formerly housed Asia Gourmet and, before that, Barbecue Grill. At one time, CPA Joe Bush had his offices in the building.

Owner Abigail Lawton, the owner/manager of the Brambleton Avenue Our Daily Bread since 2017, hopes the Vinton location will be ready to open in January, depending upon renovations being completed.

“Most of the renovations are cosmetic,” Lawton said. “We are definitely aiming for the same atmosphere as Brambleton. We’ve

added a pastry area as well as a cafe area with an espresso/latte machine.”

The interior has been painted, and a dishwasher and oven installed.

Lawton is leasing the building from Bruce Mayer.

Asked why she chose to grow her business in the midst of the pandemic, Lawton explained, “While expanding during the pandemic is not optimal, we have been considering a new location in Vinton for several years and when the opportunity became available, we decided that we would go ahead with the plans.

“We have always been interested in

See Our Daily Bread, page 3

Year in Review from page 1



Dylan Hatfield was chosen by the faculty and students at William Byrd High School as Top Terrier for the 20-21 school year – the highest honor a student at WBHS can receive. Shown left to right are WBHS Principal Tammy Newcomb, Dylan's father Fred Hatfield, sister Reilly Hatfield, the Terrier Mascot, Dylan Hatfield, and mother Carla Hatfield.



Officer Brandon Alterio was named Vinton Officer of the Year by his peers.



Vinton compensated for the cancellation of their annual Christmas Parade by establishing a new tradition--the Santa Claus Crawl through the neighborhoods of Vinton.



The Roanoke County Elections Office officially moved to Vinton in August 2020 and hosted long lines of in-person voting in the November elections.



Lancerlot and East Coast Hockey League founder Henry Brabham passed away in March 2020.

ketball teams from William Byrd reading to students at Herman L. Horn Elementary on Dr. Seuss Day. The Town of Vinton received a \$300,000 Brownfields Grant to rehabilitate vacant or underutilized property like the historic Gish Mill to productive reuse.

The Vinton Breakfast Lions held the annual Bland Music Scholarship Competition on March 8. Andrea Gonzalez and Oliver Sealey placed first in instrumentals and vocals, respectively. The William Byrd players announced plans to present the musical "Charlie Brown" in mid-March.

Vice Mayor Keith Liles announced he would be running for re-election to Town Council.

And then it was March 12. Bonsack Elementary held Career Day with adult guests from across the community and region visiting the classrooms. Then later that day, Gov. Ralph Northam announced a state emergency due to COVID-19. Vinton followed suit and declared a local emergency. The Dogwood Committee soon after cancelled the Dogwood Festival and Parade.

Roanoke County Schools closed through March 27, although the school system continued to feed students through bus delivery of meals. Roanoke County Libraries closed, including the Vinton branch. Spring sports were put on hold.

Rosie's Gaming Emporium temporarily shuttered its doors in Vinton. The annual Chamber of Commerce Senior Expo was postponed from March to April – and eventually to August, then cancelled for the year.

Through it all, work on Vinyard Station, in the former Vinton Motors, continued.

Precision Fabrics Group (PFG) in Vinton stepped up manufacturing to provide personal protective gear, pharmaceutical wipes, and personal hygiene fabrics to help the medical community, the military, and the pharmaceutical industry cope with the pandemic.

At one point, Councilman Keith Liles complimented the town and its staff for "never missing a beat" in adapting to the pandemic and its restrictions.

Vinton chiropractor Jefferson Teass announced his retirement after 37 years in prac-

tice in Vinton.

Roanoke County and the Town of Vinton began urging voters to request absentee ballots for the May 5 elections and announced plans for just one in-person voting precinct at the Municipal Building.

WBHS senior Olivia Robertson received the prestigious honor of being named DAR Good Citizen of the Year for 2020.

On March 23, Governor Northam announced that all Virginia public schools would remain closed for the remainder of the academic year with a stay-at-home order in effect through mid-June.

Roanoke County Schools Superintendent Dr. Ken Nicely announced the educational plans for Roanoke County students for the remainder of the school year with guidance from the VDOE, the CDC, and the Virginia Health Department. State testing was waived.

Vinton Town Council held its meetings virtually via Zoom. Town buildings were closed to the general public. As many employees as possible began working from home. Amazingly, citizen services (refuse/water/sewer) were not seriously impacted by the coronavirus.

Music ministers in Vinton organized the first "Virtual Hymn Sing."

The IRONMAN Triathlon was postponed until June 2021.

Lancerlot and East Coast Hockey League founder and former Vinton Mayor Henry Brabham passed away on March 30.

April 2020

Through all the tumult, there was good economic news. A buyer was found for Gish Mill – Gish Mill Davii, LLC. Developers David Hill and David Trinkle presented plans to redevelop the mill into a small restaurant and an Airbnb, with a basement speakeasy and retail shops.

Vinton Mayor Brad Grose issued a statement assuring citizens that core services offered by the Town of Vinton would continue uninterrupted.

Rosie's Gaming Emporium, although not open for business, began distributing meals to first responders and frontline workers from its Vinton restaurant.

Many local organizations like the DAR and the Thrasher Quilters began making and distributing face masks.

Vinton's plans for a small hotel were not abandoned but proceeded with the demolition of properties at the triangle formed by Pollard, Cedar, and First Streets in downtown Vinton. The former High's Ice Cream store was demolished to make room for Bank of Botetourt.

The town received grants for pedestrian improvements at two major and troublesome intersections – Vinyard/Hardy Road and Pollard Street/Washington Avenue.

Music teachers, including Vinton's Susan Lewis, adapted to the pandemic restrictions and began offering online classes.

Vinton Town Council decided to revise its budget to cope with anticipated revenue losses due to COVID-19.

Although there was to be no Dogwood

Festival, the Dogwood Committee decided to continue with the Dogwood Queen and Court tradition, hoping to crown the queen at the annual Fourth of July event.

Court candidates were Meagan Burnette, Madeleine Glover, RoAnna Hylton, Kelly O'Conner, Kaleigh Stover, Caroline Faulkner, Eden Harrilla, Sloane Morton, Olivia Grace Robertson, and Kayla Witt.

Berkshire Health and Rehab held a parking lot parade on April 28 to give families and residents a chance to see one another, if only from afar.

The Vinton Farmers' Market announced plans to open for business on May 1 – with precautions.

May 5 elections were moved to May 19 by order of Gov. Northam. Absentee voting was encouraged.

The Vinton War Memorial was named "Wedding Venue of the Year."

Beloved former WBHS Principal Bob Patterson passed away in April, along with community servant Paul Ribelin.

May 2020

Olivia Robertson was named Best All Around Female for the Class of 2020, with Nathan Patrick named Best All Around Male. William Byrd teachers and staff delivered graduation yard signs to all graduating seniors in the William Byrd district. Vinton declared May 19 as Terrier Day in Vinton. Online graduation was scheduled for May 19 with the traditional speeches from valedictorians and dedicated to Bob Patterson.

The Class of 2020 began what may hopefully become a tradition – the Senior Parade through the streets of Vinton held earlier in the day, beginning at Rosie's Gaming Emporium and ending up at William Byrd High School where seniors were awarded their certificates by administrators and guidance staff.

On May 19, Town Manager Barry Thompson presented the budget revised due to the pandemic to Town Council, both a decrease from the 2020 budget and from the proposed 2021 budget presented earlier in the budget season.

Mayor Grose, Laurie Jacobs, and Keith Liles – all running unopposed – were elected or re-elected to four-year terms on Town Council which began on July 1, 2020.

Town leaders announced their decision to cancel the Fourth of July fireworks celebration due to limits in crowd size under COVID restrictions and the desire to reduce expenditures in uncertain financial times. The fireworks event usually costs between \$15,000 and \$18,000 and with an already strained budget, the town made the difficult decision to cancel the event.

On May 29, the indoor mask requirement took effect in Virginia.

Herman L. Horn Elementary ended the school year with a neighborhood parade including teachers and administrators.

Logan Baker of WBHS was named the B'Nai Brith winner for 2020 and also received the Artie Levin Award.

The DAR planted flags in the Municipal Garden for Memorial Day.

Hildrey Pollard passed away on May 31.

June 2020

Dr. Nicely introduced the school reopening plan for 2020-2021 which involved options for in-person classes for children in grades K-2, hybrid classes (two days in school, three days online) for grades 3-12, or 100 percent online for all grade levels.

The Lancerlot Sports Complex reopened partially on June 10 after being closed since March 18.

Will Satterwhite of Vinton participated in the JEOPARDY "Teachers Tournament" and eventually took third place.

The Zagster Bikeshare program ended across the Roanoke Valley. The LOA, which provides Meals on Wheels services, switched the annual luncheon fundraiser from "Let's Do Lunch" to "Let's Give Lunch."

Beginning on June 15, the Vinton Library began offering curbside services to check-out books and materials that had been requested online.

Bonsack Elementary was awarded the 2020 Virginia Board of Education Highest Achievement Award. William Byrd High School and W.E. Cundiff Elementary won the 2020 Board of Education Continuous Improvement Award.

The Vinton History Museum reopened on June 22 with mask and capacity requirements in place.

July 2020

Rosie's Gaming Emporium reopened on July 1 under capacity limits, social distancing, and face mask rules.

The town was notified that Gish Mill was eligible for state and national historic registry designations, putting the project one step closer to reality.

The Gauntlet Business Program and Competition held the awards ceremony virtually, after pivoting to online classes on March 17. The program managed to award \$300,000 in cash and in-kind prizes to dozens of entrepreneurs who completed the program and pitched their businesses.

Even though the town cancelled the Fourth of July celebration, the Dogwood Queen was still crowned by Vice Mayor Keith Liles on the steps of the Vinton War Memorial that morning. This year's winner was Olivia Grace Robertson. The crowning was followed by a mini-parade through Vinton led by Police Chief Tom Foster.

Chief Foster was confirmed by the United States Congress as the U.S. Marshal for the Western District of Virginia on July 7. Deputy Chief Captain Fabricio Drumond was named interim chief.

The outdoor pool at the Lancerlot opened to members on July 6, with restrictions.

The first Chamber of Commerce Mingle at the Market concert was held on July 11, not in June as planned. Concerts continued throughout the summer.

The Blue Ridge Parkway partially reopened in July to allow access to Explore Park after road closures between Vinton and Roanoke due to multiple landslides from

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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| CLUES ACROSS | activity (abbr.) | CLUES DOWN | 29. Peter's last name |
| 1. Hair care product | 34. Famed Hollywood producer | 1. More cloudy | 31. Outlying suburb of London |
| 4. Looped | 36. Yuck! | 2. Main course | 32. Used to cut steak |
| 10. It's present in all living cells | 37. Reject outright and bluntly | 3. Protect with plastic | 33. Deep inlets |
| 11. Choose | 39. ___ 500, car race | 4. Equally | 35. Type of tree |
| 12. South Dakota | 40. Small heap or pile | 5. Rebukes | 38. Done openly and unashamedly |
| 14. Cash machine | 41. Type of degree (abbr.) | 6. Friend to a salesman | 41. Indigenous person of N. Africa |
| 15. Of the pia mater | 42. Contagious skin disease | 7. Warms up | 43. Confessed openly |
| 16. Ancient Egyptian documents | 48. Erases from a surface | 8. Overshadow | 44. A way to separate with an instrument |
| 18. Layers at the back of the eyeballs | 50. In an enthusiastic way | 9. Interior lineman in football | 45. Influential journalist |
| 22. Not perceived | 51. Begin again | 12. San Antonio hoopster | 46. Manning and Roth are two |
| 23. Look over | 52. Intricately produced pattern | 13. Comedian Cook | 47. One who cares for horses in India |
| 24. Improve a tire | 53. It flows NW to the Seine | 17. Time zone | 49. Something to believe in |
| 26. Time zone | 54. Be obliged to repay | 19. First PM of India | 56. Form of "to be" |
| 27. Main branch of Islam | 55. Southeast | 20. Performing perfectly | 57. Atomic #73 |
| 28. Bark of the mulberry tree | 56. Slip in | 21. A way to hide | |
| 30. Sea eagles | 58. Leisure time activity | 25. Former NBA commissioner | |
| 31. Records heart muscle | 59. Breastbones | | |
| | 60. Sun up in New York | | |

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PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas. We had a great one! Christmas Eve was hosted by Angie and Greg. I know so many had to change their plans this year for so many things. I hope you all made something GREAT out of the holiday!

Reflecting on 2020, this year has had so many changes and challenges. The year of the COVID-19 pandemic, locust

swarms, Olympics postponed, Trump 2020 and an impeachment, massive flooding, earthquakes, volcano eruptions, Australian bush and West Coast fires, record number of hurricanes on the East and Gulf Coasts, Prince Harry and Meghan leave the Royal Family, the death of legends Kobe Bryant, RBG, Eddie Van Halen, 007 Sean Connery, Alex Trebek,

Angie Chewing

Filling in for Bootie

Little Richard, Congressman John Lewis, Regis Philbin, Kurt Douglas, Fred “Curly” Neal, and Kenny Rogers – among so many. The death of George

Floyd sparked riots and racial turmoil. We had murder horns, the first black female VP nominee, the United Kingdom withdrew from the European Union, UFOs are confirmed – just to name a few things. My list could go on and on.

So you see, 2021 is THE perfect year to start something new. Start a new tradition, start a new outlook, start a new hobby.

Make it a positive part of your life, make it a focal point in your life. We all need NEW and peacefulness and positive in our lives. I ask that each of you to wish a special blessing on your friends and families as we ring in the New Year.

I wish everyone a safe and Happy New Year. Praying that 2021 will be so much better than 2020.

Our Daily Bread

from page 1

downtown Vinton,” Lawton said. “When the Bush building came available, we knew it would be the perfect new location.”

According to its website, Our Daily Bread Bakery & Bistro was “established in 1980, and has steadily grown from a small bakery into a patisserie, bistro, and caterer.”

The menu at the Vinton

location will closely resemble the one at the Brambleton Our Daily Bread.

“Breakfast and lunch menus will be very close to the Brambleton offerings,” said Lawton. “We will not be doing dinners at the Vinton location, but we are planning on doing ‘reheatable’ family dinners ‘to go’ that can be picked up before we close at 3 p.m.”

Quite a few Vintonites have been making the trek to the Brambleton location, especially for weekend brunches, and welcome the new restaurant to the downtown area.

Those who frequent the Brambleton location note the patio area, which is very popular during the warmer months.

“While there is a front patio on the Bush building, it is a lot smaller than Brambleton,” Lawton said. “Currently, it only sits six people.”

The hours of operation at the Vinton Our Daily Bread will be Tuesday through Sunday (closed Monday) from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.

“We will be serving breakfast all day until we close at 3 p.m.” Lawton says.

The Vinton restaurant will be able to seat about 50 diners.

“We are expecting to

have around 10 employees and are currently still hiring, so we’re encouraging anyone who would love to be at the Vinton location from the start to apply!” Lawton added.

This will make four Our Daily Bread locations, including the original in Blacksburg which opened in 1980, the second in Roanoke County on Brambleton that opened in 2014, and the third in Salem that opened in 2015. Lawton does not own the Blacksburg or Salem locations. She is a 2013 graduate of Virginia Tech with a degree in Food Science and Technology.

The Vinton Our Daily Bread is located across Maple Street from Vinton Baptist and adjacent to Vinyard Station, with plenty of parking available.

Vinton Police Department gets new flagpole



PHOTO BY MANDIE BAKER

A new American flag and flagpole have been installed at the Vinton Police Department entrance to the Vinton Municipal Building. Installation was completed by American Pride Flagpoles, LLC.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

This is a photo of the pastry case at the Brambleton Our Daily Bread.

Year in Review

from page 2

torrential rains in May. That action allowed reopening of some activities at Explore Park, namely camping, the rope climbing course, and dining at the Twin Creeks Brewpub.

The Town of Vinton collaborated with Roanoke County in offering CARES Small Business Recovery Loans to small businesses affected by the pandemic.

Sabrina McCarty was sworn in as vice mayor of Vinton on July 21.

Paradis Apiary, with beekeepers Mark and McKenna Paradis, in Vinton reported a bumper crop of honey in its first harvest. They harvested 106 pounds of honey on July 25.

Roanoke County Schools established a task force to provide low-cost day programs for Roanoke County families coping with the hybrid learning model in grades 3 through 6 once schools reopened. Vinton Baptist Church volunteered to be one of the partners in the program.

William Byrd High School named a new assistant principal, Travis Anderson, and a new dean of students, Phillip Martin.

August 2020

As one of the cost-cutting measures resulting from budget revisions for the town to help balance the budget, bulk refuse collection switched to a bi-weekly schedule alternating with recycling collections, instead of being a weekly service. Regular refuse collection remained on a weekly basis.

Assistant Town Manager and Economic Development Director Pete Peters was named acting town manager, effective August 1.

The Town of Vinton received the 2020 Margaret A. Nichols Risk Management Leadership Award from the Virginia Risk Sharing Association in July for the efforts of the Safety Committee in strengthening the town’s security and employee protection plans.

The Vinton VFW organization hosted National Commander in Chief Hal Roesch on August 13 for the swearing-in of the new officers in an effort to revitalize the local Vinton Post 4522.

The Roanoke County Elections Office officially moved into the former Craig Avenue Recreation Center on Chestnut Street in Vinton after renovations paid for by CARES funding were complete. The offices at the Roanoke County Administration Building closed in March and found a new, more spacious home in Vinton.

Service counters and windows with shields were added, among other amenities, to ensure voter safety during the pandemic and beyond. The county began to publicize its voting procedures for absentee ballots, in-person voting at the Elections Office before Election Day, and in-person voting on Election Day in precincts.

The Vinton Breakfast Lions named Anthony Conner and Richard Goad as Melvin Jones Fellow Award winners for 2020. Chris McCarty was named Breakfast Lion of the Year.

Dylan Hatfield was named Top Terrier for 2020 by his classmates at WBHS – the highest honor a student there can receive. The announcement was made at a socially distanced, masked gathering in the stadium for seniors at Byrd on August 26.

September 2020

In September, the town and Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce began sharing plans for a drive through Christmas parade with floats and units remaining stationary and spectators driving past. Fall Festival was scheduled for October 3.

The town awarded its employees hazard pay and gratitude bonuses for their risks assumed during the COVID-19 crisis.

The Lancerlot remembered founder Henry Brabham with a “Celebration of Life” on September 19. A banner was unveiled during the ceremony stating “We’re Here Because You Were Here.”

Brandon Alterio was chosen as Vinton Police Officer of the Year for 2020 by his fellow officers and recognized at the awards dinner on September 22.

Thrasher Memorial held its annual September Prayer Circle around the church with social distancing and masks.

Coach Paul Hartsel passed away on September 10.

October 2020

The Vinton Police Department scheduled National Night Out for October 6, two months later than usual and with some accommodations to COVID-19. There was a movie, “Zootopia,” on a huge screen on the lawn and free popcorn. The lawn was meticulously marked off in pods for families to socially distance.

The 2020 Vinton Fall Festival was recognized as a huge success. Over 100 craft and business vendors lined one side of the street in downtown Vinton while the parking lot at Vinton

Baptist was set aside for food vendors with tables spaced across the lot. There was entertainment on two stages and the traditional Doggie Costume Contest.

Renovations got underway at River Park Shopping Center that will become the new home of the Vinton Big Lots.

The Vinton Library teamed up with Feeding Southwest Virginia for “Meals to Go” for children and teens.

William Byrd High School began recognizing its exceptional faculty and staff with the “Terrier Spotlight of the Week.”

The Roanoke Valley Chapter of the DAR continued its tradition of tying fleece lap blankets for vets. This year the members made and distributed 21.

Acting Town Manager Pete Peters shared more great economic news with Town Council at the October 20 meeting – Farmburguesa restaurant and The Dogwood both announced expansion plans downtown and would be leasing property from the town.

The topic of Stonebridge Park being rezoned for construction of a cell phone tower came up with the Board of Supervisors after being approved by the Planning Commission. Ultimately, the supervisors nixed the idea due to opposition from the neighborhood.

The Town of Vinton substituted a Drive-in Halloween Movie Night at the Vinton War Memorial on October 30 for the traditional Downtown Trick or Treating. The free event, co-sponsored by Vinton Baptist and the Vinton Police Department, provided free popcorn and drinks, along with a Halloween Costume Contest. Originally, the evening was scheduled as a movie on the lawn, but frigid temperatures led to the decision to have guests remain in their cars for viewing.

The Vinton Library got in the Halloween spirit by treating children to curbside trick or treating using a Candy Chute on Halloween afternoon.

Roanoke County added back third graders for in-person learning five days a week at the beginning of the second nine weeks in late October. Secondary students could opt for “Hybrid Help Days” in school on Wednesdays.

World War II hero Captain Russell Robinson passed away on October 19.

November 2020

The local DAR members were not deterred by the

pandemic. They continued their tradition of planting flags in the Municipal Building Garden in observance of both Election Day and Veterans Day. Scouts in Vinton continued their own tradition for Veterans Day by marking the graves of those who served in the military by planting flags at Mountain View Cemetery.

The contract for renovations at William Byrd High School beginning in the spring of 2021 was awarded to Avis Construction and Hughes and Associates Architects and Engineers – a project estimated at \$23 million.

KB Mercantile opened and Family Dentistry reopened in Vinton with ribbon-cutting ceremonies with the Chamber of Commerce.

Rosie’s Gaming Emporium announced plans to expand, almost doubling in size.

Gov. Ralph Northam took a break from issuing COVID notifications to award an Industrial Revitalization Fund (IRF) Grant

for \$468,750 to the Gish Mill renovation project.

Bank of Botetourt held a groundbreaking ceremony for its new branch bank on Pollard Street in Vinton.

The Vinton Library reopened to the public on November 30, to the delight of patrons.

December 2020

Fabricio Drumond was officially named Chief of Police in Vinton, effective December 1. The announcement was made that Pete Peters would officially take over as Vinton Town Manager on January 1, 2021.

The Hemp Mill celebrated its third anniversary in Vinton with the Chamber of Commerce and a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Vinton Baptist held its second annual Christmas storefront decorating contest with downtown businesses and organizations. Prizes were awarded to Citizen’s Upholstery, Creative Occasions, Edward Jones Investments, Rustic Creations, the Vinton History Museum, and Thrasher Me-

morial.

The town was able to hold its annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, but with a limit of 25 participants. It was live-streamed.

The planned Vintage Vinton Christmas Parade in reverse morphed into the Santa Claus Crawl through the neighborhoods of Vinton in response to tighter restrictions due to an increase in COVID cases in late November. The event was such fun and so popular that it will emerge as another Vinton tradition.

Santa put in an appearance up on the roof of the Vinton Library as families drove through to drop off their letters to Santa.

And finally, the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce, who had so many activities cancelled, sometimes more than once during this bizarre year, managed to elect new officers and the board of directors for 2021 virtually, not during the usual State of the Town Address.

Here’s hoping 2021 turns into the best year ever!

TOWN OF VINTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND INVITATION TO BID

PROPOSED SELLING AND GRANTING OF A FRANCHISE FOR AN ELECTRIC POWER TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IN THE TOWN OF VINTON, VIRGINIA, AND INVITATION TO BID

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 15.2-2100 et seq., of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, the Town Council of the Town of Vinton, Virginia, hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. to consider approving an Ordinance proposing to sell and grant a franchise for an electric power transmission and distribution system throughout the Town of Vinton to AEP Appalachian Power.

In addition, the Town shall publicly receive bids for the proposed franchise for an electric power transmission and distribution system throughout the Town of Vinton from other providers. Interested parties shall submit bids in writing by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 to Susan N. Johnson, Town Clerk, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia. Any bids will be opened in public session and marked for identification by the Town Clerk. The cost of this advertisement shall be paid by the town which shall be reimbursed by the company to whom the franchise is granted. The town shall have the right to reject any and all bids and reserves this right in the advertisement.

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 emergency, participation in this public hearing by Council members, staff, and the public will be available through electronic or other alternative means. The public may comment on the proposed Ordinance by emailing sjohnson@vintonva.gov, leaving a message at 540-983-0607 or writing to the Town Clerk, Vinton Municipal Building, 311 S. Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia 24179. Voice mails, emails and other messages containing comments on the Ordinance will be provided to Council members. The public also may be able to comment during the electronic public hearing. Citizens interested in this option must register in advance by calling the Town Clerk’s Office at 540-983-0607 or sending an email to sjohnson@vintonva.gov by 12 Noon on Monday, January 4, 2021. The public can observe this meeting through a livestream on the Town’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/vintonva. Additional information concerning the meeting and the public hearing will be made available on the Town’s website at least three days before the meeting date.

A complete copy of the proposed Ordinance and additional information concerning this public meeting is available in the Town Manager’s Office, located in the Vinton Municipal Building, (540) 983-0607. Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate at this public meeting should contact the Town Manager’s office at (540) 983-0607.

Susan N. Johnson, CMC
Town Clerk

Town distributes 2021 Vintage Vinton calendars via USPS

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

If you are a Vinton resident or business, keep your eye out for your annual town calendar for 2021 – arriving in your mailbox, instead of hand-delivered as in previous years.

The annual calendar is one of those prized perks of living in the town. The calendars have become very popular – so much so that citizens begin asking in early December when they are going to arrive. Many keep the calendars hanging on refrigerators or near their desks as a source of information on the town, its events, services, and emergency phone numbers – a summary of life in Vinton in brief.

The theme of this year's calendar is "Vintage Vinton" featuring black and white photographs of times past in the town. Most years, the calendar features photographs from special town events from the year before – and in color.

With so many events cancelled or postponed in 2020, creators Chasity Barbour and Sherri Winkler looked for alternatives. Barbour is the director of Community Programs and Facilities for the Town of Vinton. Winkler is the owner of Nite Owl Artz Creative Services and part-time employee of the town.

"Our vision for the calendar this year was to go back in time and make it vintage Vinton so hopefully with the 2022 calendar we will see how far we have come and grown," said Barbour.

"I have truly enjoyed working with Sherri Winkler designing this year's calendar, and Judy Cunningham at the History Museum was a wealth of knowledge during the process," Barbour said. "Not only does it give me more respect for a small-town

feel, it also made me realize how much history we actually hold in this town."

"Trying to round up photos for this calendar was like going on a treasure hunt," Winkler said. "Chasity asked each department to look for any old photos they may have on file and some were sent in. The majority of photos were unusable due to size and/or condition. It was very difficult to get my hands on original prints, which is what I needed to achieve the best resolution for the calendar.

"We never could have pulled this off without the help of Judy Cunningham at the museum," Winkler added. "Not only did she find appropriate images, she was an invaluable source of information. A million thanks to Judy!"

"Assigning the photos to a month did not really come into play this year, with the exception of the Dogwood Queen photo, which went with April, and the Santa photos for December. The rest were presented according to image quality. The smaller photos were arranged in collages," she said.

As for delivery by mail, instead of by town employees, "In the past it would take Public Works employees two weeks to deliver to each resident," said Barbour. "We feel mailing the calendars was a more efficient and effective way to get everyone their calendars in a timely manner."

Vinton Principal Planner Nathan McClung had been working with the GIS Division of Roanoke County to create a list of every property in the Town of Vinton.

"That list is what is being used to ensure that every single property owner in the town gets a calendar mailed to them," said McClung. "This list included businesses, churches, etc."

The town calendar is a treasure trove of information on all things Vinton.

This year's vintage calendar opens with greetings from Vinton Mayor Brad Grose, Vice Mayor Sabrina McCarty, and Councilmembers Keith Liles, Laurie Mullins, and Mike Stovall, and includes a history of the Town of Vinton, named for the VINyard and PresTON founding families. Settlers began arriving in the area in the mid-1700s.

Each year's calendar includes holidays, special event and festival dates sponsored by the town and the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce, some of the featured activities at the Vinton Library, the Vinton History Museum, the Vinton Farmers' Market, and classes at the Charles R. Hill Community Center, along with the basics of when the seasons change and when Daylight Saving Time begins and ends.

It contains the sometimes hard to remember regular refuse/bulk refuse/recycling schedules by the week, month, and year (including modified holiday schedules), due dates for real estate and personal property tax and utility bills, and Town Council meeting dates.

There are phone numbers for all town departments, emergency numbers for police, fire, and rescue, the Regional Center for Animal Care and Protection, the Vinton Post Office, and many frequently used Roanoke County numbers.

Designing and compiling the calendar each year involves countless hours of work. For the past six years Winkler, with her graphics expertise, has been in charge of design.

The department and information pages found at the back of the calendar

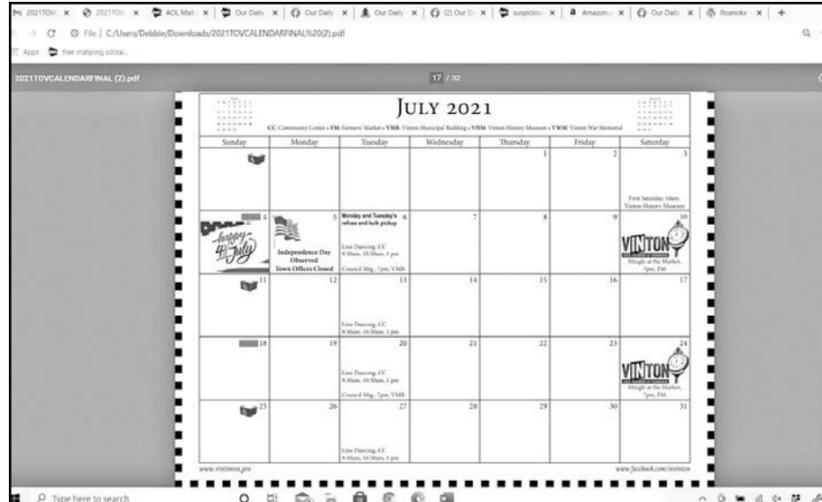
have been continual works in progress. Those tend to be the most helpful for newcomers or a refresher for long-time residents.

The idea for the town calendar originated several years ago. The town had previously been distributing magnets displaying the recycling schedule in packets with brochures from several different departments of the town. The calendar format was adopted to include all the information that might be needed by residents in one compact package. The town distributes the

calendars to new residents and businesses when they contact the Town of Vinton about water accounts, business licenses, etc.

This year 4,700 copies of the calendar were printed. The town worked with Bison Printing in Bedford once again this year. They "do a beautiful job," Winkler noted. (Its website is www.bisonprinting.com.)

Any residents or businesses who have not received a copy of the calendar should contact Chasity Barbour at Cbarbour@vintonva.gov or call 983-0645 and leave a message.



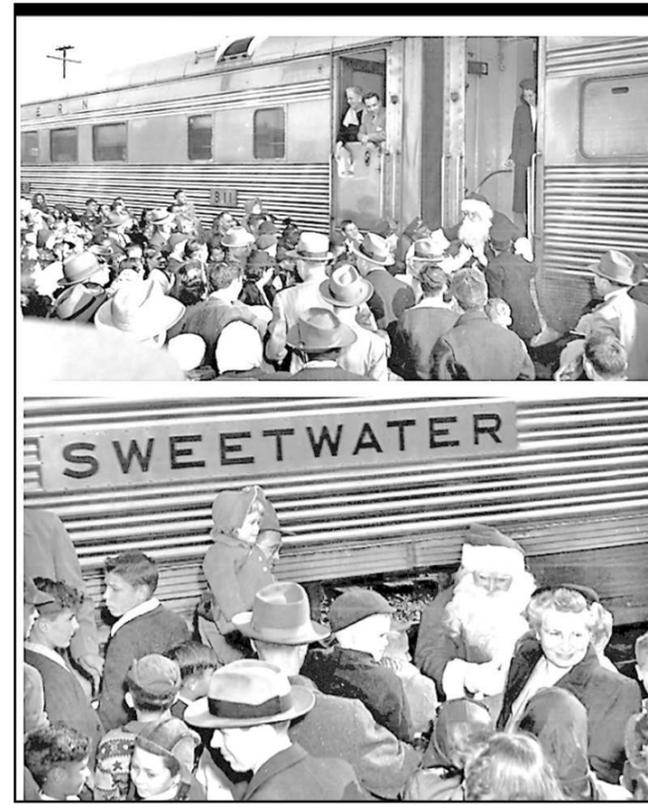
Each page of the town calendar has special information about the month's special events and, perhaps even more importantly, the refuse/bulk/recycling schedule.



The theme for the 2021 Town of Vinton calendar is "Vintage Vinton" with iconic photos from Vinton's past. This photo shows Pollard Street – the heart of downtown Vinton.



Vinton Director of Community Programs and Facilities Chasity Barbour visits Bison Printing in Bedford where the calendars are printed each year.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE TOWN OF VINTON
These rare photos from the 2021 Vinton calendar show Santa arriving at the Vinton Train Depot.

The Vinton Messenger

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ourvalley.org

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The Vinton Messenger encourages letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication. All letters will be verified by telephone before publication. The Messenger reserves the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length content and style.

The Vinton Messenger (USPS 660-020) is published weekly for \$41 a year in Vinton and Roanoke County, \$45 a year in adjoining counties, \$49 a year out of state and the yearly bundle is \$59 a year by Virginia Media Inc. P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Vinton, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE VINTON MESSENGER, P.O. Box 1125, Salem, Va 24153

Celebrating The Town of VINTON!

The Town of Vinton, a community nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains, welcomes you to our community. Vinton, a town rich with history, has over the years found itself to be one of a few communities that continue to relish the past by offering an environment of a comfortable lifestyle with the feeling of being a part of a large community family. The town, with its proximity to the Blue Ridge Parkway and Smith Mountain Lake, provides many opportunities for those who wish to stop and shop at our local farmers market or one of our unique specialty shops.

If festivals are your interest, the Vinton area hosts several festivals throughout the year from the Vinton Dogwood Festival to the Vinton

Fall Festival. Each festival offers its own unique atmosphere. When you are away from home it's always nice to feel as if you never left.

The Town of Vinton provides small town character with urban services and amenities located nearby. The small town atmosphere is characterized by a low crime rate; small, locally, and regionally owned businesses; and moderately priced homes. Views of the mountains and Blue Ridge Parkway abound.

Vinton represents the ideal type of community, small enough to provide a feeling of belonging, yet progressive enough to provide the facilities, services, and conveniences that are necessary to make a community feel like home to its citizens.

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or email tfrye@ourvalley.org
to advertise in this space.

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Southwest Virginia Deputy Commissioners of the Revenue donate \$3,500 to food bank

During its December meeting, the Southwest Virginia Deputy Commissioners of the Revenue Association voted to donate \$3,500 to Feeding Southwest Virginia, a regional branch of the Feeding America Organization. Association President and Smyth County Master Deputy Sara Kegley remarked, "This action is yet another example of how giving Deputy Commissioners of the Revenue are of their services and resources."

The motion to appropriate a portion of the fund was offered by Wise County Master Deputy John Mullins in response to the association's quest to give to a worthy cause. "This year has been a year many of us would like to forget," said Mullins. "It has changed our lives, at home and the workplace. But Southwestern Virginians are strong and resilient. We are our best when we are helping others."

In an overwhelming show of support, association members voted to donate the entire amount to help food banks throughout the region. After receiving news of the very gracious gift, Feeding Southwest Virginia associate Joe Kessler offered his heartfelt appreciation. "Thanks so much for contacting us with regards to the donation being made by the Deputy Commissioners of the Revenue Association," he said. "We are so

grateful in having your support to help us fight hunger all across our 26-county, nine-city region. With the Association's gift, we will recognize you as an official civic partner under our Funds, Fun, and Food partnership initiative. Our posts on LinkedIn and Facebook will recognize that the Association has made a donation that will help us to provide 17,500 meals to the region! Thank you for helping us feed our neighbors this winter!"

The Southwest Virginia Deputy Association was one of the first Deputy Commissioners of the Revenue organizations to form in the Commonwealth. Its members have always stressed the desire to grow in professionalism, knowledge, and service. In a subsequent email communication to the group, Kegley stated, "Bless you one and all...I am so very proud of our deputies for supporting this program. This is truly a team effort."

Goodpies

from page 1



PHOTO BY DALE WILKINSON

Glass windows have been installed in the section of Vinyard Station which fronts on Pollard Street, giving passers-by a view of the bowstring trusses original to the iconic structure.

front of the building facing Pollard Street, allowing a view of the exposed beams with the beautiful ceiling of bowstring trusses being preserved.

Town Manager Pete Peters says that the town is anticipating a ribbon-cutting for the entire complex in late winter to early spring when the remainder of the building will be further along in construction so that the entire space will be open for touring.

Vinton Town Council, the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors, the Roanoke County Economic Development Authority, and the development team of Dale Wilkinson, Greg Rhodes, David Spigel and Virginia Vinyard, who have all partnered in the project, will be invited guests.

By waiting until a little later, Peters hopes COVID-19 restrictions will have been eased so that more people can gather for a ceremony, especially one so significant to the Town of Vinton.

A walkway featuring the Town Seal has been in-

stalled linking the Vinyard Station parking lot to Lee Avenue. The parking lot has been repaved with curbs, lighting, and sidewalks, and landscaping installed.

Wilkinson says Peters first approached him with the vision of moving Vinton forward with the Gateway project in the former Vinton Motors building.

Town Council adopted two resolutions on November 19, 2019 to finalize plans for the redevelopment of the facility into a mixed-use commercial and retail business complex.

Council adopted a resolution authorizing then Town Manager Barry Thompson to execute a Performance Agreement with Vinyard Station LLC and the Roanoke County Economic Development Authority (EDA) for the purpose of investing in public infrastructure and incentivizing the redevelopment of the property.

Council also adopted a resolution authorizing Thompson to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Joe Goodpies in the Vinyard Station complex is now hiring with plans to open in mid to late January.

the town and Roanoke County for financial support from the county for the Vinyard Station Redevelopment Project.

The Performance Agreement is valued at up to \$750,000 over a 10-year period. In addition to building improvements, a primary function of the Performance Incentive was to establish and partially fund the addition of centralized parking infrastructure for the downtown business district – supporting both Vinyard Station and other existing businesses.

Under the agreement the town appropriated to the EDA an initial cash payment of \$250,000 towards the purchase of eight vacant parcels for the purpose of establishing parking and pedestrian access to the site. The town also agreed to an additional payment of \$50,000 annually for a period of 10 years for the balance of the Incentive Grant.

The Performance Agreement contains protections which will relieve the town from the funding commitment if the project does not materialize, does not meet

investment goals, or is sold before the end of the agreement.

In the MOU, the county agreed to offset costs to the town by reimbursing the town for a portion of the Incentive Grant in the amount of \$200,000 to be paid in annual installments of \$40,000 over a five-year period, based on the net revenue the county expects to generate as a result of the redevelopment project.

The town requested financial assistance from the county in September 2019. The Board of Supervisors approved the MOU unanimously. The MOU takes effect on January 1, 2021.

Vinyard Station will generate new and increased revenue for the Town of Vinton through collection of prepared food and beverage, sales, personal property, business license, and real estate taxes.

The business complex will generate revenue for Roanoke County through sales, personal property, and real estate taxes. In total, the project is expected to generate over \$130,000 annually in combined increased tax revenues for

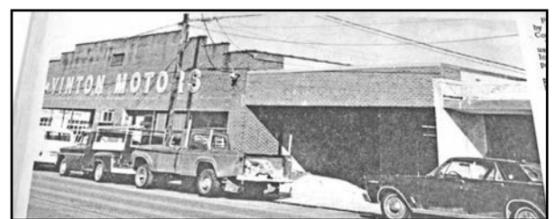


PHOTO FROM VINTON MESSENGER ARCHIVES

This photo from 1969 shows Vinton Motors (being redeveloped into Vinyard Station) from the Pollard Street view.

the town and county. This figure is based on just the secured restaurant tenant.

Total private investment for the purchase and renovation of Vinyard Station is estimated at \$2.7 million, creating nearly 12,000 square feet of move-in-ready leasable space. It will serve as a cornerstone of the downtown area and preserve the iconic Vinton Motors landmark.

Vinton Motor Company served the automotive needs of the Roanoke Valley for over 77 years.

In 1931, during the height of the Great Depression, Bill Vinyard left his family farm to build his own business: the Vinton Motors Company. Originally on the northwest corner of Pollard Street and Washington Avenue, Vinton Motors became a cornerstone of the Vinton community. Fourteen years later, Vinyard moved his dealership across the street to its now iconic location.

In 1979, Billy Vinyard Jr. took over his family's business. Vinton Motors continued its success, selling up to 300 cars per year and earning Ford's presti-

gious Blue Oval Status.

In 2008, during the height of the automotive industry crisis, Vinton Motors had to shut its doors and stood vacant for several years.

The Town of Vinton collaborated with the Vinyard family and the Wilkinson Group to bring new life into the classic structure with the Vinyard Station project. Unfortunately, Billy Vinyard passed away in September 2019 before renovations began.

Joe Goodpies is now hiring and training up to 45 employees. Winston says hours of operation will be normal restaurant hours from about 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekdays and until 11 p.m. on weekends.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

		G E L		A R C H E D			
		R N A		S E L E C T			
S D	A T M		P I A L				
P A P Y R I			R E T I N A S				
U N S E E N			I N S P E C T				
R E T R E A D	M T		S H I A				
		T A P A		E R N S			
E K G		E V A N S		U G H			
S N U B		I N D Y					
H I L L	B D		S C A B I E S				
E F F A C E S			A V I D L Y				
R E S T A R T			M O S A I C				
		A U B E		O W E			S E
		I N S E R T		R E C			
		S T E R N A		E D I T			

ANGLICAN

ST. THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH - located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit www.sttofc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

BAPTIST (SOUTHERN)

MINERAL SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH & CHRISTIAN SCHOOL - 1030 Bible Lane, Vinton, Va. 24179. Church Phone 890-4465. Rev. Jason Gault. Sunday Services: Traditional Service, 8:45 AM, Sunday School, 10:00 AM, Contemporary Service, 11:00 AM, Evening Worship 6:00 PM, Wednesday Services: AWANA 6:30 PM, Bible Study 7:00 PM

BAPTIST (COOPERATIVE)

VINTON BAPTIST CHURCH - 219 Washington Ave., Vinton, Virginia. 343-7685. Rev. Travis Russell. Sunday Services: Contemporary Service 8:45 a.m., Sunday School 9:50 a.m., Traditional Service 11:00 a.m., Wednesday Services: Family Dinner: 5:30 p.m., Bible Study 6:15 p.m., Children's Ministries 6:15 p.m., Youth Ministry 6:30 p.m. www.vinton-baptistchurch.org

CHURCH OF CHRIST

CHURCH OF CHRIST VINTON - 2107 Feather Road, Vinton. Terry Hodge, Minister, 540-890-1170. Sunday Bible Study 9:45 a.m., Sunday Morning Service 10:45 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 10 a.m.

COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF CHRIST, 3679 Sandlewood Road, Roanoke VA 24018, (540) 206-6160. Repent & Be Baptized... Acts 2:38. Come study the Bible with us! Sunday Bible Study 10 a.m., Sunday Worship 11 a.m., Wednesday 6:30 p.m., www.christianchurchofchristclearbrook.org

FOUR SQUARE

EVANGEL CHURCH - 2360 Hardy Road, Vinton, (corner of Hardy Road and Feather Road), 982-3694. Pastor-Tim Wright. Sunday, 10 AM - Worship Service, SuperChurch for Children; Wednesday 6:30-8PM - AWANA Clubs for ages 3-5th grade, Adult Bible Study.

LUTHERAN

ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, "The Church Under The Cross", 1201 Hardy Rd, Vinton VA 24179, Pastor, Rev. Dr. James B. Davis (540) 342- 1715, Sunday School 10:00am, Worship 11:00am, sttimothy1201@verizon.net

NAZARENE

FIRST CHURCH OF NAZARENE, 728 Highland Ave., SE, Roanoke, Virginia. 342-4003. Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Wednesday Night Bible Study 7 p.m.

PRESBYTERIAN

CAMPBELL MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1130 Hardy Rd, Vinton, VA, 540-343-1842; cmcp2verizon.net Sunday school 9:45am, Worship 11:00am; Communion 1st Sundays; 2nd Sunday Session; Monday Noon Bible School; Tuesdays & Thursdays Yoga 9:00am; 1st Tuesdays Deacons; Tuesday Evening Bible Study 6:45pm; Wednesday Choir 7:00pm; Thursday Girl Scouts 7:00pm; 2nd Monday Supper with Rev. Skip at Famous Anthony's 6:30pm; 2nd Tuesday Luncheon with

Rev. Skip at Famous Anthony's; 3rd Saturday Men's Breakfast 8:00am. Rev. Skip Hastings-Interim Pastor.

UNITED METHODIST

THREE OAKS FELLOWSHIP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 1026 Gravel Hill Road, Vinton, Va. 540-512-8070. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Rob Colwell. Sunday School - 9:45 a.m., Worship 11 a.m.

WESLEYAN

VINTON WESLEYAN CHURCH - 246 E. Jefferson Ave. Pastor Ricardo Rodriguez, 345-3385; Sunday Worship Service 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM. Sunday School for all ages 10:00 AM, Wednesday Night Life Ministries - Children - Awana; G-5 Youth Ministry; Adult Bible Study 6:30 PM.

Vinton Worship Directory

Testing and Comfort

Read Genesis 22:1 through 24:67

Rebounding from the joy of his promised son and the distress of dismissing Hagar and Ishmael, Abraham negotiated a peace treaty with King Abimelek and put down his tent pegs in Beersheba. Seed time and harvest became a way of life for this covenant family.

Imagine Abraham's surprise when God said this:

"Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you" (Genesis 22:2).

It is suggested by historians that Isaac was between the ages of sixteen and twenty-

five—old enough to know what was going on. Yet he did not resist. He trusted his father's faith that God would provide. And God did! Abraham was listening for and heard the voice of God. Isaac was saved.

Fast forward to the meeting of Abraham's servant and Rebekah at the well—Rebekah knew the God of Abraham, and in His design she was in the right place at the right time. Rebekah, like Isaac, did not resist. She left immediately, willing to trust the servant of Abraham.

Challenge for Today: Dare to trust the guidance of your spiritual leader.

Quicklook: Genesis 22:1-12

If you would like to see your church services listed here in the Vinton Messenger contact Tucker Frye at 540-473-2741 or email tfrye@ourvalley.org

Marketplace

ourvalley.org

THE FINCASTLE HERALD The Vinton Messenger THE NEW CASTLE RECORD SALEM TIMES REGISTER News Messenger RADFORD News Journal

For Rent - Apartments

2, 3, 4 BR Townhouse Style
accepting applications. Short waiting list. HUD subsidized, W/D hookups, private patio, water & trash incl. Fairfax Village Apts. 332 Fairfax St., Radford Cambridge Square 1805 Whipple Dr. NW Blacksburg 540-731-1786 EHO TDD #800-828-1120



For Sale - Firewood

FIREWOOD
Mixed Hardwood. Call 540-529-2745 Delivery in Botetourt only

For Sale - Misc

FOR SALE
Unprinted end rolls of newsprint. Great for packing & shipping, moving & storage and for art projects. Various sizes available. Stop by the Salem Times-Register 1633 West Main St. or call (540)389-9355 for details.

Help Wanted - General

Part Time Newspaper Production Help
The Salem TimesRegister has openings for afternoon/evening shift work inserting, labeling and bundling newspapers for delivery. No experience necessary. Hours may vary. Will train. \$7.50 per hour. Contact Lynn Hurst, General Manager, Salem-Times Register (540)389-9355 or email lhurst@ourvalley.org

Quality Inn
Hiring full-part time front desk & housekeeping. Apply in person. Phone 540-639-3000

We're Hiring!!

Trinity Service Group; A TKC Holdings Company

We have immediate openings for:
3 Cooks ASAP

Correctional Facilities in Salem, VA only

This facility has ZERO cases of Covid for both staff and inmates!

Starting pay: \$13 to \$15 Hourly paid weekly

Experience Requirements:

- 2 years of Cooking and Food Service experience preferred, additional training provided.
- The ability to read and prepare food according to provided recipes
- The ability to delegate and lead others is a must
- Positive self motivated food service professionals
- We offer:**
 - Full-time opportunity with flexible shift/scheduling
 - Comprehensive benefits

Medical, Life, Dental, and Vision Insurance
Paid time off,
Paid training
Education reimbursement,
retirement planning,
and so much more.

Let's build your career together.

About this position, our employees will:

•Supervise kitchen inmate labor in a secure environment

•Learn safe food preparation, service, and sanitation

•Build professional cooking skills for career growth and opportunity for advancement

Applying is easy!
Contact Missy at 717-577-2509 and send resume to Melissa.Fitzgerald@tkcholdings.com to secure your interview time

Help Wanted - Health Care

Assistant Director of Nursing

Life Center of Galax is searching for a dedicated individual to join our team as Assistant Director of Nursing. This person will assist the DON with directing, planning, coordinating, monitoring and supervising the effective and efficient use of the operations of nursing and the delivery of behavioral health/nursing services in a positive, empathetic, and professional attitude toward customers. Graduation from an accredited school of nursing required. Master's degree in psychiatric or mental health nursing preferred. Current RN license as required by Virginia. Five years of nursing experience required. Excellent benefits package:
-Company matching 401k
-Blue Cross Blue Shield health insurance
-Delta Dental insurance
-NVA vision insurance
-Lincoln Financial disability and life insurance
-Paid vacation, sick, and extended sick time
Apply today by going to: www.galaxrecovery.com
Life Center of Galax is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to

all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, January 11, 2021, at 6:30 p.m., in the Community Room of the Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard, 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) Request of Barry E. and Valerie T. Dick, property owners, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow a 1,288 SF detached garage on the property located at 1737 Amy Lane (Tax Map #212-1-10).
- 2) Request of Derbyshire Real Estate, applicant, and Sunset Ridge Holdings, LLC, property owner, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow a two-family dwelling on the property located at 703 E. Riverside Drive (Tax Map #232-2-9).

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

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

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA
BY
James E. Taliagerro, II
Clerk of Council

Legals - Craig County

TRUSTEE SALE OF 99 Laurel Hill Pass, New Castle, VA 24127

In execution of the Deed of Trust dated September 5, 2017, in the original principal amount of \$125,190.00, recorded as Inst. 170000491, assigned as Inst. 200000407, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County of Craig, Virginia, default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured and at the request of the holder of the note, the undersigned, as Substitute Trustees, either of whom may act, will sell at public auction at the front entrance of the Circuit Court for the County of Craig on January 7, 2021, at 11:00 a.m., the property located at the above address and described as Lot 2, containing 4.026 acres, together with a 25 foot access easement as shown on plat recorded in Deed Book 114, pages 274-277, County of Craig. TERMS: CASH. PROPERTY SOLD AS IS WITH SPECIAL WARRANTY OF TITLE. A deposit of \$12,000.00 or 10% of the successful bid amount (whichever is lower) will be required immediately of the successful bidder, in cash, cashier's check or certified funds only payable to "BRIAN DOLAN LAW OFFICES, TRUSTEE", balance due within 15 days from date of sale. No personal checks accepted. Sale is subject to post sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower filed for and obtained bankruptcy protection, entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, or if trustee is unable to complete the sale, or if it is set aside or not fully completed for any reason except purchaser's default, the sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Upon purchaser's default, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property resold at the risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, reservations and conditions, if any, of record, as well as inchoate liens and any other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises. Real estate taxes will be adjusted to the date of sale. All costs of conveyance, deed, examination of title, recording charges, grantor's tax and possession will be at the expense of the purchaser. All risks of casualty immediately pass to the successful bidder. Time is of the essence. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. For Information Contact: Brian Dolan Law Offices, PLLC, and G. Benny Moore Substitute Trustee(s) 12610 Patrick Henry Dr., Ste. C, Newport News, VA 23602; (757) 320-0255

Publish On: December 23 & 30, 2020

Legals - Montgomery County

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Commonwealth of Virginia VA. CODE § 8.01-316
Case No. JJ004492-01-00 & JJ004492-02-00
RADFORD J&DR- JUVENILE DIVISION
Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Commonwealth of Virginia, in re BOWLING, ALAYNA DAWN RENEE HILL, STEPHANIE /v. BOWLING, DAVID H.

The object of this suit is to: LOCATE PARENTS.

It is ORDERED that DAVID H. BOWLING appear at the above-named Court and protect his or her interests on or before 1/19/2021 2:00pm.

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Sally Davis Clerk

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Botetourt County makes move to return sports, Roanoke County plans to keep current system

"Give us a shot, we'll make it safe," Wm. Byrd Athletic Director Jason Taylor

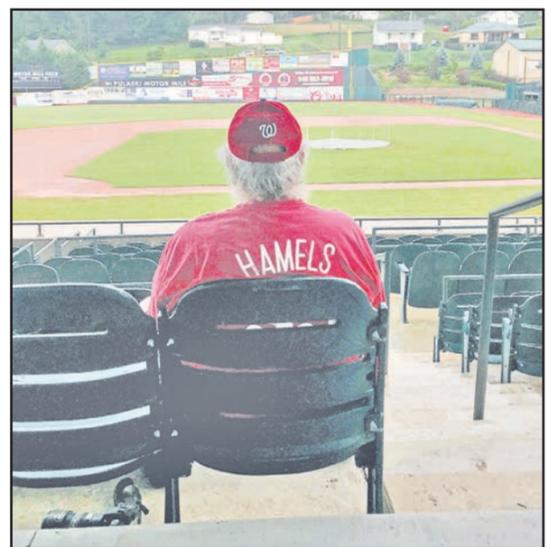
New Year's Day is Friday and there have been no Roanoke County sports since Rudy Gobert of the Utah Jazz came down with COVID 19 on March 11. That's a span of nine and a half months as we hit day 295 AG(After Gobert) today.

It's been a rough ride for the high school athletes, especially the seniors who aren't going on to play college sports. This was to be their final hurrah in competitive sports other than city league basketball, slow-pitch softball, touch league football and the like. Golfers and swimmers have outlets to compete but, if you play football and aren't going to play in college, this is it.

On Tuesday, Botetourt County made a major move toward returning to the court, mats, pool and track for the winter season. The Botetourt County School Board announced that sports were returning next week with games possible for Lord Botetourt and James



Above, travel softball tournaments were held at the Moyer Complex in Salem all summer but the high school season was cancelled. Below, this was typical of 2020 as your sportswriter waits out a rain delay during a Team Virginia game at Pulaski's Calfee Park.



River High School teams. They join Radford, Floyd County, Pulaski County and Giles County schools Narrows and Giles High Schools as area teams currently allowed to compete.

Lord Botetourt is scheduled to play William Byrd in both boys and girls basketball next Tuesday, but that's not going to happen. Byrd remains in a group of schools from Roanoke County, Roanoke City, Alleghany County, Craig County, Salem and Covington who are taking their cues from the Health Department. Each Friday Roanoke County will determine, using the CDC school metrics, if the county teams will be able to play the following week. The metrics uses the number of COVID cases in relation to the population to determine how safe it would be for sports participation.

"We're still going to use the metrics," said Byrd athletic director Jason Taylor, "and the metrics makes it almost impossible to play."

The metrics uses a color-coded system of Red, Orange and Yellow to determine what the student athletes can do. Yellow is the best, but the CDC currently is listing Red.

"Thomas Kessler(Byrd wrestling and assistant football coach) has been tracking it and he said we haven't been in yellow since August, and that was just for one day," said Taylor.

Many parents of William Byrd students are hoping the county will follow Botetourt's lead and allow kids to return to sports.

"What aggravates me is that kids are playing AAU and travel sports and there doesn't seem to be any problems," said Taylor. "I didn't do my fall(travel baseball) team because I didn't want the responsibility, but Luke(Jason's son) played for Team Virginia and we went to four or five tournaments and not one person was exposed to COVID."

"We want our kids to be back and a lot of us live this daily. Athletics is a big thing in people's lives and if the AAU teams can do it, why are we cancelling games? Give us a shot, we'll make it safe."

As of now, it appears Byrd won't be playing any games next week or in the near future if the pandemic continues to get worse after Christmas, as has been predicted. The metrics won't allow it.

"I don't know why they came up with this metrics,"



Masked William Byrd basketball coaches conduct a practice at the Terrier gym.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

said Taylor. "The governor didn't say we couldn't play sports and 87 percent of the school systems in Virginia are still planning on playing. Dr. (Roanoke County Superintendent of Schools Ken) Nicely said the plan is to get our spring sports in because they missed their season last year. If they continue to use this metrics we won't play the fall sports."

The Virginia High School League moved fall sports to the spring for an abbreviated schedule, with practice due to begin February 4. The first football games are scheduled for February 22nd, with Byrd scheduled to play Spotswood. Terrier coach Brad Lutz is determined to have the team ready, hoping to play as scheduled.

"Our workouts have been great," said Lutz. "Our players are committed to getting better and working hard. While restrictions have changed the format of our workouts, our players continue to push through and get closer to where they need to be. We still have a lot of work to do, and the dead period was a small bump in the road, but I'm confident that our players will be ready."

In the meantime many parents will be pushing Roanoke County to join Botetourt County in leaving the metrics system.

"Bedford isn't doing the metrics," said Taylor. "Floyd dropped us to play Giles, and I'm telling other athletic directors if they can play and want to drop us, go right ahead, because there's no guarantee we'll be playing under this system."

Ready or not, here comes 2021. It couldn't be any worse, could it?

Carolina League Red Sox were undefeated in 2020

By Benjamin Hill MiLB.com

At 5 p.m. on June 30, the news that many had feared finally became official: there would be no 2020 Minor League Baseball season. Amid the immediate and inevitable outpouring of sadness for the present and anxiety for the future, the Bowie Baysox found a silver lining.

The Baysox, the Orioles' Double-A affiliate that debuted in 1993, have lost at least 58 games in every season of their existence. But 2020 would be a different story. The inability to play games meant the inability to lose; therefore, the Baysox were, and would remain, undefeated. A T-shirt commemorating this unprecedented accomplishment went on sale less than a half-hour after the season was canceled, with the team humbly explaining -- or perhaps hoping -- that it was "THE HOTTEST T-SHIRT IN BAYSOX HISTORY." The scuttled season was rebranded as an "Undefeated Tour," with the back of the shirt listing the entire schedule that never was.

Baysox assistant general manager Phil Wyré said the idea for the shirts had been hatched several weeks earlier, as the season's cancellation began to look more and more like a foregone conclusion.

"We [in the front office] were throwing the idea around," he said. "We contacted 108 Stitches, who do some of our merch. We knew they had a concert tour type of design already. We wanted our undefeated schedule to look like all the stops of a band's tour, all the stops we would have made in 2020."

The Baysox, working in concert with 108 Stitches, finalized the T-shirt's design on June 29. At 5:20 p.m. the following day, they joined the chorus of teams that tweeted the season had been canceled. Eleven minutes later, the tone abruptly shifted as Bowie announced that it was, in fact, undefeated.

"We've received orders from 30 states across the country. There have been news mentions all over the place and our local media picked it up and ran with it," Wyré said. "It's been really cool for us, not the sort of stuff we necessarily see a whole lot of. The adage is to take your lemons and make lemonade, and I think we did a pretty good job of that."

Even in these unprecedented times, a basic maxim still holds throughout the Minor League Baseball industry: if one team has a good idea, other teams will borrow it. After the Baysox announced their

"Undefeated" T-shirt, 108 Stitches offered the same basic template to other MiLB clients. Thus, teams including the Greenville Drive and Portland Sea Dogs are selling similar shirts.

Meanwhile, a variety of teams offered variations on the theme. First up was the Salem Red Sox, who delivered an "Undefeated" shirt along with one designating 2020 as "The Longest Spring Training Ever."

A pair of International League icons, the Rochester Red Wings and Toledo Mud Hens, soon entered the fray. The latter took things further and declared themselves to be not just undefeated but 2020 International League champions. (One can only assume that the other IL clubs did not agree with the Mud Hens' brash declaration.)

Of course, not all teams decided to go the "Undefeated" route. The Myrtle Beach Pelicans and Durham Bulls, for example, took an antagonistic, not-quite-profanate T-shirt stance toward this accursed year.

"Unflockingbelievable," proclaimed the Pelicans. "This is some bullshit," retorted the Bulls.

The Class A Short Season Eugene Emeralds soon unveiled a saucy quartet of tees, simultaneously declaring themselves champions (of social distancing) while also turning the "Undefeated" concept on its head via the commemoration of an "0-76" season caused by COVID-19.

But it all comes back to the Baysox, the first Minor League team to employ sartorial snark as a season cancellation coping mechanism.

"Sure, bragging rights are great," Wyré said, "but, especially now, it's great to do things that other teams can benefit from as well. We share everything in this business, because what works for one will work for others. We're all still looking for that next great idea."

Benjamin Hill is a reporter for MiLB.com and writes Ben's Biz Blog. Follow Ben on Twitter @bensbiz.

