

Special Coverage of the Vinton Dogwood Queen and Court Tradition



The Vinton Messenger

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Dogwood Queen to be crowned April 24

Ten young women are vying for the title of Vinton Dogwood Queen 2021



Urunna Anyanwu



Amna Becirevic



Grayce Dantzler



Ellen Frary



Caroline Gibbs

Debbie Adams dadams@ourvalley.org

The Vinton Dogwood Queen will be crowned at noon on April 24 by Vinton Mayor Brad Grose on the stage at the Vinton Municipal Building. The Dogwood Court is made up of 10 young women who are seniors at William Byrd High School and nominated by the faculty for the 2021 Dogwood Festival Queen's

Members of the Dogwood Court will be interviewed by a panel of judges the morning of the event. They will choose the Dogwood Queen.

The young women vying for the title of Vinton Dogwood Queen 2021 are Urunna Anyanwu, Amna Becirevic, Gravce Dantzler, Ellen Frary, Caroline Gibbs, Kasey McKee, Natalie Mullins, Elizabeth Recktenwald, Erin Taylor, and Reagan Tuck.

William Byrd Principal Tammy Newcomb commented, "The girls selected are all worthy of the title of Dogwood Queen. They have been exemplary students while students at William Byrd High School."

Urunna Anyanwu is the daughter of Chinekwu and Benjamin Anyanwu. Her high school activities include Speech and Debate, the Sketches Literary Magazine, the Knitting Club, Girls Who Code, and the Beta Club. Her hobbies include drawing and painting, knitting, coding, and acting (related to speech and debate).

Anyanwu was recently selected as a National Silver Medalist in the 2021 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards program. She placed first at the debate Super Regions in Humorous Interpretation and second in the state

She plans to make a career in the web-development or a similar field to combine her creative side and love for technology together. Aside from that, she says she generally hopes to make a name for herself with her work, both inside and outside of further education. She sells commissions and prints of her artwork.

Amna Becirevic is the daughter of Edin and Denana Becirevic. Her high school activities have included four years of varsity basketball and volleyball. She is a member of the DECA Club, the Beta Club, the Leo Club, and the Reindeer Club.

Her hobbies include volleyball, basketball, working, community service, hiking, painting, and tutoring.

Becirevic plans to study accounting at Virginia Tech and continue for her Master's degree. To follow that later on, she plans to pass the CPA. Her plan is to one day be a bank audit accountant.

She and her family are from Bosnia and she can speak, read, and write

five different languages. Grayce Dantzler is the daughter of David and Alyce Dantzler. Her high school activities have included four years of varsity volleyball, indoor track, the FCA, Beta Club, DECA, and the Red Cross Club. She has served as Senior Class vice president, and on student council. She was chosen by her peers as a member of Se-

Her hobbies include volleyball, horseback riding, and spending time with her family.

Dantzler will be attending Virginia Tech to study Animal Science. She will then apply to the Virginia Tech veterinary school in hopes of becoming a veterinarian. She loves volunteering and helping other people. She lists as a "fun fact" that she is color-

Ellen Frary is the daughter of John and Amy Frary. Her high school activities include dance with the Star City School of Ballet, Mill Mountain Theatre, and the Virginia Summer 2019 Residential Governor's School in Performing Arts and Dance; Voice coaching with Calliope Studios; Theatre/Dance/Voice with Mill Mountain Theatre Conservatory and the Burton Center for Performing Arts.

Her performances have included: Mill Mountain Theatre's 2019 "The Sound of Music" (as Liesl), and 2020 Summer Zoomsical "High School Musical" (as Gabriella). She was also in the WBHS Player's 2018 "Wizard of Oz" (as Scarecrow and as the choreographer). She appeared in the Burton Center for Performing Arts "The Adam's Family" and "Singin' in

Frary is also a member of the Beta Club and Student Voice, a camp counselor, and worked with Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church in the Camp Possible program.

Her hobbies are guitar and ukulele, photography, sewing/costuming, and Art/Design.

Frary plans to pursue a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Musical Theatre and hopes to perform on a regional and hopefully national level. She says that like many musical theatre students, her dream is Broadway, but she knows (or at least thinks she knows) how challenging a life in theatre can be, and that there is much more to a musical theatre career than Broadway. She is interested in cinema arts and how theatre is moving into digital as well. Short term, she hopes to explore all possibilities that "make sense for me as a performer." She hopes that her decisions and direction will help her stay in touch with who she is and why she chose to follow her passion and career in the

performing arts. At some point in her career, she would like to be involved in forming arts education. Some of her most rewarding experiences in the performing arts have involved working with children. She says those opportunities meant so much to her because she knows what a difference the performing arts can make in a young person's life. Throughout elementary school, Frary didn't realize she was dyslexic, so school could be stressful. With dance, everything made sense to her. Later in middle and high school, musical theatre changed her life direction. She says the performing arts have helped her learn teamwork, time management, and accountability. They have helped her build creativity, discipline, and confidence. During the darkest, most frustrating times, the arts have helped her understand and love herself. She wants to help others experience that

Caroline Gibbs is the daughter of Sharon and William Gibbs. She is president of the Leo Club and Byrd Buddies at William Byrd and an officer in DECA. She is a member of the FCA, plays varsity lacrosse, and is a Dog Pound leader.

Her hobbies are playing lacrosse and volleyball. She loves being outside—hiking, fishing, kayaking and being with friends.

She will be attending Wingate University to major in Nursing.

Gibbs is also a youth leader at Vinton Baptist Church, and a member of the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club.

Kasey McKee is the daughter of Mark and Kim McKee. Her high

See **Dogwood Tradition**, page 2



Kasey McKee



Natalie Mullins



Elizabeth Recktenwald



Erin Taylor



Reagan Tuck

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Terrier Spotlight of the Week for April 9



Each week the administra-

tion at William Byrd High

School recognizes faculty and

staff members for their wonder-

ful contributions to our students

and community with the Terrier

students are essential. A favorite

among students, Ms. Gunn's of-

fice is rarely empty. If being our

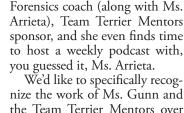
Life Counselor wasn't enough,

she also serves as our PBIS coach,





Amanda Sabin (left) and Alicia Spangler



Spotlight of the Week. The first spotlight of the the Team Terrier Mentors over week is Alex Gunn. She is on a Spring Break. They helped create roll this week, fresh off winning Easter Egg scavenger hunts for the school-wide NCAA Men's their mentees at W.E. Cundiff. Bracket Challenge, and now be-We are all proud of the work ing recognized as a Terrific Terthat they do for our community. rier! You simply cannot stop her Outside of school, the Chicago from shining at the moment. native enjoys playing tennis, making crafts, and spending Ms. Gunn serves as our Life Counselor here at WBHS. The most of her paycheck on shopping sprees at Target. Thanks counseling, guidance, support, again, Ms. Gunn, for being a and services she provides to our

> our students! Our next spotlight of the week recognizes someone new to the Byrd community, and to the art

great counselor and mentor for

of teaching, it's Spike Geffert. A recent graduate of Virginia Tech, he has brought some of that acclaimed Hokie engineering and design knowledge to the students of Byrd. Mr. Geffert teaches digital photography, CAD design, woods technology, and electrical engineering. Students in his class can be seen regularly engaging in hands-on activities and using cutting-edge technology. It's also worth highlighting that in his short time here at WBHS, Mr. Geffert has quickly become a favorite among the students.

Outside of teaching, Mr. Geffert enjoys gaming in all its forms. Whether it's tabletop, sports, or video games, Mr. Geffert stays gaming. In fact, he has even built a human sized Foosball court. Thanks again, Mr. Geffert, for all that you have done this year. Keep up the great

It only seems right that our next two spotlights be done together. You could call them a "perfect pair," a "dynamic duo," or perhaps "double trouble." What's certain is that these two are as close and in-sync of a coteacher partnership as you'll ever find -Amanda Sabin and Alicia Spangler. These two English 11 teachers have been producing wonderful lessons and results for our students over the past eight years. They both care deeply and work tirelessly for their students. They also each perfectly balanced and complement one another. Ms. Sabin provides what you might call the parental oversight and structure that Ms. Spangler needs. And Ms. Spangler provides the energy, creativity, and amusement that keeps Ms. Sabin on her toes and at the top of her game.

Outside of school, Ms. Spangler enjoys being creative and making things, which often make their way into school, much to everyone's joy and amusement. She also enjoys sleeping in any situation and location. She believes this is one of her greatest talents, but the jury is still out.

For Ms. Sabin, outside of school, she enjoys reading, camping, and kayaking, when not serving as her daughter Lily's personal chauffer. Thank you again to "double trouble" for being great teachers and for always keeping things interesting!

> By the Administrative Team at William Byrd High School

Dogwood Tradition

school activities include DECA, the Leo Club, the American Red Cross Club, the FCA, being a member of the Team Terrier mentoring program, and a member of the Homecoming Court.

Her hobbies include volleyball, church, shoplifting/working ping, out, babysitting, and working with children.

She plans to attend Virginia Tech in the fall to study Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise in the HNFE program. After graduation, she plans to go to Physician's Assistant school for two more years and become a Physician's Assistant.

for interesting facts, McKee was named after her grandmothers. "Kasey" was her grand-mother's maiden name and "Lillian" (her middle name) was her other grandmother's and greatgrandmother's middle

Natalie Mullins is the daughter of Tommy and Laurie Mullins. She has been the editor-in-chief of the school yearbook, the "Black Swan," president of the SCA, and cofounder and president of the American Red Cross Club. She is a member of the Team Terrier mentor program, captain of the Academic Team, historian of the Leo Club, and captain of the varsity tennis team. She is also a member of the FCA. She is a member of the Roanoke County Public Schools Student Advisory Council (SAC), a DECA officer, a Middle School Tennis Club vol-

unteer, and a Beta Club member.

Her hobbies include travel, reading, watching hockey, playing tennis, supporting Byrd sports teams, and photography.

Mullins plans to attend a four-year university and double major in journalism and business.

She lists as interesting facts that she is an AP Scholar with Distinction, a Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs Hockey season ticket holder and Booster Club member, and a member of Bedrock Roanoke Community Church.

Elizabeth wald is the daughter of John and Paulette Recktenwald. Her high school William activities at Byrd have included cross country, swim team, and

outdoor track all four years. She has been captain of the cross-country team her junior and senior years and swim team captain her senior year. She has been a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) all four years, serving as president and music coordinator her senior year and an officer as a junior. She is First Chair French Horn in Symphonic Band (all four years) and a member of the Beta

Her hobbies include music (playing piano, keyboard, acoustic guitar, cajon box drum, and French horn,) making TikTok videos (with 38,000 followers), runhiking, ning, skiing, photography, sewing, and embroidery.

Recktenwald aspires to be a medical doctor. She plans to major in business and pre-health. She has been accepted at UVA, Virginia Tech, Baylor, and JMU and is waiting for decisions from two other schools.

She is active in the youth group at Bonsack Baptist Church. She has been a member of the youth group since seventh grade and served in other states on mission trips. She has played keyboard in the Bonsack Baptist Youth Praise Band since her freshman year. She is lead singer in the youth band this year. She has been elected to the Bonsack Baptist Youth Council every year since seventh grade. She leads worship songs on guitar at FCA meetings.

Erin Taylor is the daughter of Kari and David Taylor. At William Byrd she has been a member of the Red Cross Club (co-founder), the Prevention Club, Student Council Association, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Math Pound, Latin Club, Habitat for Humanity Club, and a Team Terrier Mentor. She has participated in volleyball and cross country, and the Academic Team. She is a Carilion Clinic Emergency Department volunteer. She was named as DAR Good Citizen for 2021.

Taylor's hobbies include running, yoga, cooking, reading, journaling, and coloring.

She remains undecided on which college

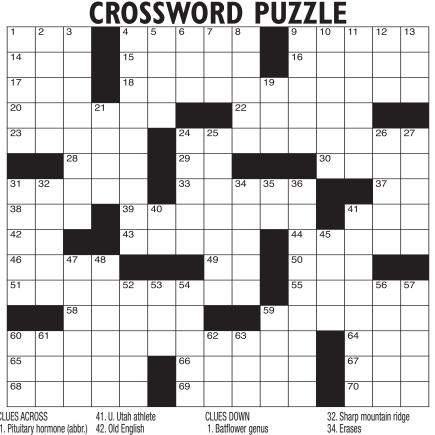
to attend but plans to attend a four-year university and major in Nutrition. After undergraduate school, she will work either as a dietitian for a few years and then attend medical school or apply directly to med school after graduation. She would eventually like to become a derma-

tologist. Taylor says she is an only child, so she loves spending time with her dog since that's her "sibling." She also loves vacationing in Emerald Isle during the summer and for long weekends.

Reagan Tuck is the daughter of Kevin and Melissa Tuck. Her high school activities have included volleyball from eighth grade through senior year. She is a member of the DECA Club, FCA, Red Cross Club, Reindeer Club, and Beta Club. She was chosen by her peers as Senior Court Queen recently.

Her hobbies include volleyball and caring for

She plans to attend Virginia Tech and major in Public Health with plans to go on to physical therapy school.



Fish farm

4. Arrangements

Maria'

Extremely angry

31. Swiss mountain pass

27. Surrenders

5. Go in advance of others

- **CLUES ACROSS** 1. Pituitary hormone (abbr.) 4. Ceramic jars 9. Monetary units
- 14. Alias 15. "Superman" actor 16. Britonic tribe 17. Shorten
- 18. LA Dodgers manager 20. Hoarded 22. Theatrically portray 23. Noah's grandson 24. Dependent
- 28. Peyton's little brother 29. Cools the house 30. Principle part of 31. Type of wrap 33. Peels

37. Commercial

38. Make an attempt

39. Arrange in steps

- 42. Old English 43. Trade 44. Nostrils 46. Ticket seller __Hub
- 49. Of I 50. Institute legal proceedings against 51. Takes apart
 - 55. Doorway 58. Long int'l river 59. Trailblazing athlete Gibson 60. Former CBS News host 64. Sign language
 - 65. Badgerlike mammal 66. Thin strips of wood
 - 67. Brooklyn hoopster 68. Portents of good or evil 69. Footwear 70. When you think you'll arrive
- 6. Bulgarian monetary unit 8. W. African ethnoreligious group 9. Wild Asian oxen genus
- Vinegary 11. To this 12. Explosive
- 13. Female sibling 19. Orlando museum (abbr.) 21. Type of hoop 24. About Holy Father 25. Academic environment
- 34. Erases 2. Predatory seabirds
 - 35. Spielberg's alien 36. Absurd 40. Dorm worker
 - 41. Used to make pesticides 45. The sister of your father or mother
 - 47. A way to let know
 - 48. Can't produce much vegetation 52. Small streams 53. Folk singer DiFranco
 - 56. Start over 57. Black Sea resort city 59. Wimbledon champ 60. Corporate executive (abbr.)

54. Weights

61. Unskilled actor who overacts 62. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo! 63. Of or relating to ears



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Vinton hires Cody Sexton as new assistant town manager

The Town of Vinton has announced the appointment of Cody Sexton as the new assistant town manager.

The appointment is the culmination of a comprehensive search process undertaken by the town's leadership as a result of the promotion of Richard "Pete" Peters to town manager.

In his position, Sexton will assist in the overall management of the day-to-day operations of the town government and work with the mayor, members of council and the town manager to implement their strategic vision for the community.

"Vinton is truly a special place and is quickly becoming one of the best places to enjoy every aspect of the high quality of life we have come to love in the Roanoke Valley," said Sexton. "I am excited to work with elected officials and a talented staff who have such enthusiasm to improve the lives of the residents, businesses, and visitors."

Sexton currently is serving as the assistant to the county administrator in Botetourt County. He will begin his role as Vinton assistant town manager on May 3.

In his seven years with Botetourt, he served on Botetourt's Executive Leadership Team, was the primary media contact and general spokesperson for the county, coordinated transportation planning and projects at both the local and regional levels, and provided staff support to a number of commissions and committees.

Sexton also provided leadership to the county's annual budgeting process and oversaw Central Garage operations and the security/reception staff for the county's Administration Center. He also led and worked on projects that touched nearly every aspect of county government. Before coming to Botetourt County, Sexton worked as an analyst for Stafford County in Northern Virginia.

"The town was pleased to have attracted a very impressive pool of over 30 candidates with interest in the position," said Town



Cody Sexton has been named as the new assistant town manager for the Town of Vinton. He takes the place of Pete Peters who is now Vinton town manager

Manager Pete Peters. "Mr. Sexton emerged as the top candidate after a thorough interview process that involved the town's entire eight-member Leadership Team. Cody's knowledge and experience in local government management and his passion for public service were key factors in him being selected and we are very excited to have him join our team."

In addition to his local government experience, Sexton holds a Master of Public Administration degree and a Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management from Virginia Tech. He also has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Roanoke College, where he serves as a lecturer in the Department of Public Affairs. In addition, Sexton is active in the Virginia Local Government Management Association (VLGMA) and serves on the Communications and Networking Committee.

"Local government is where the rubber meets the road in our democracy," said Sexton. "I believe this work is a calling, and we have been entrusted by our communities to work hard and to provide the highest levels of service to our people. My goal is to infuse that passion for service into all I do for the town."

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

Angie Chewning

Filling in for Bootie

Congratulations! It's a girl! A gender reveal party was held on Saturday for Tori Slusher and Josh Barker and the home of Tori's mom, Mindy Campbell. Everyone pitched in to help make the day wonderful and full of love! There was lots of good food and of course great people! So nice to meet all of Tori's family and her and Josh's friends.

Those celebrating the big day: Josh's parents, Kim Barker (Gigi) and Dale Barker (Bop); Tori's grandparents, Kay and Mike Slusher; uncle, Terry Slusher; Gail Tankersley; Josh's sister, Abbey Haldeman, and her son Colton (Josh's other sister, Katie Kearney, was anxiously awaiting on Facetime); Wesley Palmer, Brooklyn Mills, Kassidy and Tessa Hill, Cheyenne Carpenter, Sarah Bixby, Gabrielle Mills, Jimmy Ashlee Bartley, Spangler, Leigh Wingo (huge help with the party), Sarah

Painter, Noah Shahinian, Danielle Ingram, Hall of Bonita Ingram, Taylor Holman, Sydney and Taylor Byrd and me (Angie). It was so awesome to be there on their special day! Love you guys!

Congratulations

Congratulations

Karen Eden Herdman

Clevelan

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Perry and
by the
of Famo
of

Congratulations Karen Eden Herdman
– WBHS graduate – for being inducted into the Cleveland Martial Arts Hall of Fame! Thank you for the recommendation, Grandmaster AJ Perry and the induction by the Cleveland Hall of Fame board Richard J. McClain, Don DeVries, Ciro Grandini, and others ...also to fellow FOX News anchor Todd Meany for their support!



Pinnacle employees volunteer for Clean Valley Day



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Pinnacle Financial Partners employees Sabrina McCarty, Yvee Gonzalez, and Jocelyn Wheeler, along with Wheeler's daughter Paisleigh, spent Clean Valley Day sprucing up the grounds at Pinnacle on Hardy Road in Vinton. McCarty is the Pinnacle office leader and also Vinton's vice mayor. Gonzalez and Wheeler are both financial specialists at the Vinton Pinnacle branch.

Employees at Pinnacle Financial Partners on Hardy Road in Vinton spruced up their own corner of the valley on Saturday, April 10, for Clean Valley Day.

Office Leader (and Vinton Vice Mayor) Sabrina McCarty, along with Financial Specialists Yvee Gonzalez and Jocelyn Wheeler spent the morning cleaning up debris around the grounds at Pinnacle.

The Town of Vinton is one of the sponsors of the valley-wide Clean Valley Day, facilitated by the Clean Valley Council. Individuals and groups are invited to volunteer for the annual spring clean-up, including the Cities of Roanoke and Salem, along with Roanoke and Botetourt counties.

This valley-wide cleanup promotes respect and cares for the community and usually results in collection of many tons of trash every year.

Volunteers choose their own locations and receive trash bags and gloves.

The Clean Valley Council had its beginnings in 1978 with a group of concerned citizens determined to combat litter in the community.

The organization provides free educational resources and programming tailored to the general public, both in schools and through municipal outreach. Its programs center around four key areas: recycling, litter prevention, stormwater protection, and stewardship.



Lucas Wheeler spent his Saturday morning on April 10 volunteering for Clean Valley Day at Pinnacle Financial Partners in Vinton.

Visit the website at http://cleanvalley.org/ for other programs they sup-

port, such as Adopt-a-Street, and Clean Valley

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DAR makes plans for 60th anniversary celebration

The Roanoke Valley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution held its monthly meeting on April 10, again via Zoom. Members continued making plans for their 60th anniversary celebration to be held on November 6 at Bonsack Baptist Church.

The local DAR chapter was chartered in November 1961 in Vinton.

The chapter is taking on a new project—recycling plastic film overwrap which is used in the NexTrex recycling program, processing the materials into decking. Details were shared by member Sharon Menzies and Regent Cindy Higgins.

They will be setting up locations to collect grocery and retail bags, case overwraps, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, Ziploc and other recloseable bags, produce bags, bubble wrap, salt bags, cereal box liners, and wood pellet bags.

Groups who collect more than 500 pounds of plastic refuse in a six-month span (about 40,500 plastic bags), receive a donation of a high-performance composite Trex bench to the community.

The project officially

The project officially gets underway in November, but chapter members are encouraged to begin saving the plastic wrap now. The chapter is working with the Town of Vinton to place their bench in a Vinton location when they have met their goal.

At each meeting, the chapter supports the DAR's America 250 Project—which will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026—by honoring the Patriot ancestor of members, "to raise the visibility of our Patriots and enthusiasm for what they accomplished."

At the April meeting, Patriots of founding chapter members

were honored. Caroline Honts Etzler was one of those founding members of the chapter that formed in Vinton back in 1961. Her Patriot ancestor was Daniel Brugh, who was born in Pennsylvania and then moved to Botetourt County during the time of the American Revolution where he aided in the Revolutionary

The Patriot of founding member Carrie Willis Bush McDonald was also remembered—William Muse, who provided beef to the soldiers fighting in the American Revolution.

The Roanoke Valley Chapter of the DAR will begin meeting again on the second Saturday of each month at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church on Hardy Road in Vinton once CO-VID-19 restrictions are loosened. The chapter's focus is on community service activities, especially those helping veterans

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WBHS keeps Prom/After Prom traditions alive



Mullins, along with junior Grace Saunders (a member of the Prom Committee) entertained with a karaoke performance.



Gifts cards and prizes are always featured at the William Byrd After Prom events. This lucky student took home a free TV after winning a drawing.

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The administration, staff, and students at William Byrd High School have done their best throughout the past pandemic year to make the best of a challenging situation. They have been determined to keep as many traditions alive as possible—or to create new ones—especially for members of the Senior Class.

The Senior Prom/After Prom the school hosted at Braeloch on April 10 is one such tradition and just one more example of rising above adversity, or as one newspaper headline put it, "To find pomp in the worst circumstance," with innovative so-

In past years, students have attended the formal prom at a local venue, and then afterwards a much more casual After Prom at the high school. Due to health guidelines and restrictions, the school, the PTSO, and the Prom Committee decided to combine all resources and entertainment for both activities into one event in 2021.

Only seniors and their dates were

allowed to attend. (Juniors on the Prom Committee were there to help set up and clean up.) The prom remained formal with girls in beautiful gowns and boys in suits and tuxedos. Braeloch Lodge in Vinton was decorated with sparkling lights and white tablecloths. The evening started out with a dinner catered by Mission BBQ.

However, it didn't look quite like a normal prom since it came with temperature checks, masks (although they could be glamorous), and social distancing—although it was evident girls could still look beautiful and boys handsome while wearing masks.

There was music, but mainly provided by students and staff themselves (assisted by Choir Director Matt Bartley) with a Karaoke system. No couples dancing was per-

Students could try their luck at the basketball arcade or playing corn hole. There was a group playing the party game "Mafia." Attendees could have their pictures taken at the photo booth.

Students could participate in an old-fashioned cake walk to win one

of 25 giant Kroger cupcakes decorated in William Byrd colors.

Members of the faculty, staff, parents, and the community had donated piles of gift cards from area businesses and restaurants for drawings, along with a crisp \$100 bill, two TVs, and a DOT smart-speaker device. The PTSO usually raises money for After Prom by working football concessions, but without those revenues available this year, the school asked for donations.

Other generous donors provided tons of boxed candy, free for all. Everyone who attended received a William Byrd T-shirt.

The Prom/After Prom event was planned by a committee led by faculty member Cherry Bell Damasco-Farrington, assisted by Senior Class sponsor Hannah Blais and teacher Alicia Spangler, along with students on the Junior Council, and members of the PTSO After Prom Committee, chaired by Shannon Smith.

William Byrd Principal Tammy Newcomb expressed her thanks to all those who made the Prom/After Prom even more special by donating gift cards, money, and candy to add to the excitement.



fashioned cake walk.



Student Don McCadden dunks the ball at the basketball arcade at Braeloch during William Byrd's Prom/After Prom.



Student Wyatt Milton, WBHS Choir Director Matt Bartley, and ITRT/Junior Class sponsor Cherry Bell Damasco-Farrington entertained the crowd at Senior Prom/After Prom with karaoke.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

WBHS Assistant Principal Marcee Cook (left) and Principal Tammy Newcomb featured glamorous sequined masks at Byrd's Senior Prom.

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.

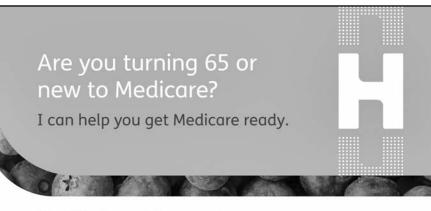
The Town of Vinton provides small town character with urban services and amenities located nearby. The small town atmosphere is characterized by a low crime rate; small, locally, and regionally owned businesses; and moderately priced homes. Views of the mountains and Blue Ridge Parkway abound.

Vinton represents the ideal type of community, small enough to provide a feeling

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Y0040_GHHHXDDEN21_C

Karl Dingledine graduated from William Byrd High

KARL MANFORD DINGLEDINE Nice as they come; determined and dependable.

Vinton First Aid Crew, Inc

LIFE MIEMBERS

Remembering Vinton's Citizen Servant Karl Dingledine



Karl Dingledine joined the Vinton First Aid Crew in 1954 and served until he moved to Petersburg in 1968 where he continued to volunteer for the emergency crew there throughout his life. This photo from the 1950s shows (front row, left to right): Guy Gearhart, William Ray Spencer, Karl Dingledine, Sydney Myers, Contee Franklin, and Buck Adkins; second row, Tommy Snead, Hubert Martin, Harry Goggin, Bobby Altice, Fred Goggin, Raymond Shepherd, Howard Chewning, and Norman Dowdy, and back row, Wallace Cundiff, Roy Martin, Frank Spradlin, and Maroni



Karl Dingledine (center, front) was sworn in as first lieutenant of the Vinton First Aid Crew in 1963.



School with the Class of 1954.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE VINTON HISTORY MUSEUM

Karl Dingledine was awarded Life Member Status in the Vinton First Aid Crew.

Debbie Adams

dadams@ourvalley.org

Karl Dingledine passed away on April 1, 2021, at the age of 85. He grew up in Vinton, one of eight children of Lou and Edith Dingledine, and graduated from William Byrd High School in 1954. His was a life well-lived in service to others.

The quotation next to his photograph in the Black Swan yearbook described him as "nice as they come, determined and dependable," traits he was known for his entire

Early on, he developed a reputation as a hard worker beginning at Doc Edmundson's filling station on Pollard Street when he was 15 years old. Doc's was a favorite hangout for men and boys in the community. He also worked on his own cars at Jack Anderson's gas station just up the street.

He attended National Business College. In 1957 he married his wife Fran-

Dingledine was a loan officer with the Bank of Virginia. While his career was in finance, his passion was in service to the community, beginning when he was a Safety Patrol officer in grade school.

He began his career in the field of first aid, lifesaving, and rescue in 1954. According to Vinton First Aid Crew Chief Tom Philpott, Karl was a member of the Vinton First Aid Crew from 1954

He served in various offices during his time with the First Aid Crew: as 2nd Lieutenant, 1st Lieutenant, Captain for three terms from 1962-1964, Treasurer, and President of the Board of Directors.

In 1962, he was named "Best All Around Crewman," "Outstanding Crewman" in 1963, and "Mr. Rescue Squad" on the statewide level.

According to a newspaper article about Dingledine, "While under his leadership, the crew moved rapidly in the advanced techniques of lifesaving and obtained additional vehicles and lifesaving equipment necessary to provide the service required in the areas served.

Dingledine's Under administration as captain and chief executive officer, the crew placed first in the first aid competition at the annual convention

held in Natural Bridge, Virginia he also contribmaking the Vinton crew "the best in the state." Later the crew placed first er and as Santa Claus. He in state as "best crew-converted station."

Dingledine was awarded Life Member Status in the Vinton Crew. His name remains on a plaque in their offices.

"His service to our sociation. community was greatly appreciated," Philpott

said. While a member of the Vinton First Aid Crew, he was elected state treasurer of the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads, Inc. (VAVRS). He served for over a quarter of a century as their executive officer, with seven terms as state treasurer, the only person to serve more than one term in the 44-year history of the association. He also moved through the state ranks, was elected vice president, and served in other positions over the years. He was made a Life Member of the VAVRS in 1978 at a convention held at the

Roanoke Civic Center. Upon moving to Petersburg in 1968, Dingledine joined the Southside Virginia Emergency Crew and served as its Head Finance Officer. He was named a Life Member of the Southside Virginia Emergency Crew in 2006, with a certificate which honored him for, "having given of his time and talent for the health and welfare of others in time of emergency, illness, and accidents, without thought of compensation other than personal satisfaction in helping someone else in need.'

A highlight of his rescue squad career was appointment to the Executive Task Force, which was involved in the creation of the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads (VAVRS) Executive Office.

He was instrumental in the implementation of a uniform accounting system of the VAVRS and assisted in the acquisition of modern equipment that would streamline and save countless hours of work by volunteers and staff.

He was a First Aid instructor throughout the

Dingledine was a Ruritan Club member in Bonsack, and then Dinwiddie County. He was named "Ruritan of the Year" for "Outstanding Leadership" in Dinwiddie.

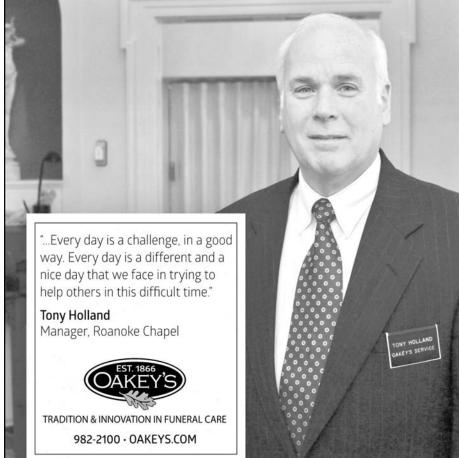
While living in eastern

uted to the community as a Salvation Army bellringserved for approximately 25 years as a volunteer for the American Red Cross, both in the Roanoke Valley and in Petersburg. He was a member of the International First Aid As-

Over his lifetime of ser-Philpott vice on rescue squads and first aid crews, Dingledine was personally credited with saving the life of a

See **Dingledine**, page 6







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WBMS announces honor rolls for third nine weeks

William Byrd Middle School has announced students who have been named to the A and A/B Honor Rolls for the third nine

A HONOR ROLL

Grade 6: Alyssa Abdelhadi, Elizabeth Abrams, Kyle Bell, Raegan Bowman, Lane Brunk, Hudson Cain, Addison Collins, Cohen Cook, Jenna Cruz, Colter Dean, Carina Dibenedetto, Heidi Dixon, Brihanna Harris, Emmalee Harris, Lukas Johnson, Cole Johnston, Stella Jones, Britton Jordan, Landyn Kidman, Joel Kinney, Reagan Kirby, David Krawczyk, Arianna Krista, Austin Kroner, Scotlyn Leonard, Vincent Liu, Olivia Long, Helena Longstreth, Olivia Lorek, Emma Milliron, Tyler Minnix, Kaden Mitchell, Penley Moore, Ayden Morrison, Elena Mullen, Sarah Nguyen, Sydney Nichols, Carly Norton, Kendall Norton, Sadie Panko, Brody Parrish, Sebastian Perdomo, Nathan Pickeral, Myles Preston, Luke Richardson, Abigail Saritelli, Willow Seth, Aubrey Sink, Riley Slusher, Riley Spradlin, Bailey Tabor, Zane Telsch, Gavin Thornton, McKayla

Tingler, Lauren Toney, Nicholas Toney, Sydney Tuck, Owen Webb, Connor Whitehead, Skye Williams, Mija Zavala, and Maggie Zimmerman

Grade 7: Kyndall Agee, Joshua Allen, Olivia Basham, Ainsley Bolen, Braeden Booth, Aubrey Booze, Austin Bumgarner, Kaylin Bumgarner, Olivia Bustamante, Lily Carrell, Addison Clark, Sydney Coles, Paul Ferrebee, Halie Foster, Katelynn Franks, Samuel Geist, Sofia Gonzalez, Keegan Harnish, Keegan Harold, Brooke Hershel, Ryan Hurley, Macabe James, Cary Jones, Brooke Justus, Tate Kotz, Tatianna Kubik, Carter Leonard, Kenady Leonard, Elizabeth Martinez, Emily Ngo, Jayden Niday, Lilian Perez, Mallory Peroulas, Andrew Reynolds, Meisha Robinson, Gabrielle Romeo, Kyle Saccocci, Bryce Simpson, Emma Simpson, James Smith, Jarrett Smith, Ethan Sutton, Annabelle Teague, Zane Vasser, Lucy Whitenack, Darin Witcher, and Lennon Wright

Grade 8: Mario Arias, Ava Ashworth, Graysen Divers, Abigail Dooley, Camryn Dullaghan, Emily Fisher, Skylar Fitzgerald, Kendall Gordon, Macie Hall, Aidan Hardy, Sophie Holcomb, Hannah Janney, Jada Johnson, Kristin Kochendarfer, Kaylee Makuch, Ryan Markham, Grace Onwi, Eliza Otev, Ellawyn Pagan, Christian Parker, Madelyn Pittman, Ethan Powell, Meera Raichura, Gino Ruks, Emma Rupe, Vanessa Sattah, Gregory Stiltner, William Thompson, and Camden West

A/B HONOR ROLL

Grade 6: Gabriel Bailey, Erica Barton, Janelle Bibby, Aubrey Blewett, Alanah Bonnell, Tanner Bromfield, Ava Brown, Madelyn Brown, Natalie Buck, Bridget Carlisle, Andrew Carter, Brihanna Carter, Emily Clinebell, Fallon Davis, Cooper Dooley, Campbell Duff, Hannah Eakin, David Foster, Jaxon Fowler, Ethan Francis, Clarissa Gill, Lanaiya Hardy, Jeremiah Harper, Bryson Harris, Sophie Hoagland, Shayla Hunt, Christopher Hurd, Brandon Hurley, Owen Johnson, Alexander Jones, Jocelyn Lyons, Ailynn Macauley, Joseph Madonna, Bradley Martin, Mia Martin, Layla Matz, Ella McCoy, Jackson McCoy, Ellie McCulloch, Michael McGrath, Giovanni Pandolfini, Jeremy Paul, Maggie Peters, Thomas Purcell, Michael Ramos, Hope Reynolds, Bruce Robinson, Colin Rodgers, Ashlei Rutland, Hayleigh Sallee, Jonah Schofield, Charley Sherburne, Elliott Smith, Noah Spradlin, Ramsay Stephens, Zachary Stiltner, Kaitlyn Tang, Aubrey Tidrow, Michael Tidrow, Jakeem Toler, Izabella Trumble, William Turman, Fernando Tzompaxtle, Kara Watkins, Colton West, Makaylah Witt, Logan Wood, Isabella Worley, Aiden Wright, Carsyn Yates, and Ava Yost

Grade 7: Jeremy Abbott, Ethan Alexander, Logan Andrews, Lillian Ashley, Blake Austin, Ceiliann Baldwin, Ryan Barber, Ashleigh Barton, Kelsey Bell, Ella Brady, Jacob Bray, Sophia Brown, Anna Carter, Quin Carter, Tyler Chambers, Madison Chandler, Asher Claybrook, Cameron Cobb, Bladimir Cortes'Martinez, Jacob Courtemanche, Evelyn Dickason, Kendall Dodson, Emma Dooley, Nevaeh Edwards, Shelby Ensor, Draven Flinchum, Cody Gardner, Braelynn Gibson, Kevin Green, Benjamin Grimm, Ryleigh Grubb, Tyler Harris, Kalee Hayes, Luke Helton, Jaden Holmes, Owen Humphreys, Taylor Jacobsen, Connor Jones, Addison Kincer, Shelby Krawczyk, Jack Law, Carleigh Leonard, Jacob Ligon, Cara May, Ryan McIntyre, Collin Mills, Parker Minnix, Miley Moses, Lindsay Murtaugh, Cason Nichols, Morgan Odum, DeShannon Reed, Adleigh Ross, Keith Schult, Makenzie Scott, Ava Sexton, Christian Stanley, Mallory Summo, Evan Tabor, Jamez Toler, and Noah Williams

Grade 8: Natalia Baker, Christian Barrette, Isaiah Board, Brooke Brant, Hunter Butterworth, Abigail Clyde, Evan Copening, Emma Craddock, Madeline Cunningham, Hayden Eads, Adrionna Eanes, Devin Freeman, Carson Gill, Emily Glass, Payton Hall, Riley Helmintoller, Nathan Hiemstra, Megan Higgins, Lillian Johnson, Mallory Johnson, Kyle Kalinke, Aidan Kelly, Raelyn Lancaster, Sara Lang, Kendall Lecas, Nathaniel Lynn, Zoey Mann, Samantha Martin, Khloe Mills, Alexander Montgomery, Ashley Ortiz'Martinez, Spencer Peters, Becca Radford, Blake Richardson, Reid Ruble, Landon Sarver, Madison Saunders, and Sarah Wilcox

Dingledine

14-year-old boy involved in an automobile accident. When he was 81 years old, he rescued his elderly neighbor from what started as a kitchen fire but went on to consume the house.

Petersburg City Council recognized him with a proclamation in 2017 for his "heroic efforts," saying, "During a recent structure fire, Mr. Dingledine made every attempt to extinguish a fire in the City of Petersburg. During this time, Mr. Dingledine was directly related to the removal of the resident prior to the arrival of First Responders."

The Petersburg Fire Chief announced that they would like to make Dingledine an honorary member of the fire de-

His comment upon the proclamation was

that all his life he had been "at the right place at the right time.

from page 5

The Board of Commissioners of the Petersburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority acknowledged Dingledine as a long-serving member of the Board of Commissioners beginning in the early 1990s until 2020, just last year.

"He was a strong example of a 'citizen servant' for his community and local housing authority," said Leonard Muse, chairman of the Board of Commissioners, on Dingledine's passing.

Mr. Dingledine is survived by his wife, Frances Davis Dingledine.

Thanks to Judy Cunningham of the Vinton History Museum, Vinton First Aid Crew Chief Tom Philpott, and the Dingledine family for contributing to this article.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE VINTON HISTORY MUSEUM

Directo

Vinton First Aid Crew Captain Karl Dingledine (right) shows Town Manager Guy Gearhart and nurse Naomi Hubbard the equipment carried by the crew's new vehicle in 1963.

ANGLICAN

ST. THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH - 10cated 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

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.vintonbaptistchurch.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

ECKANKAR

Eckankar, the Path of Spiritual Freedom, is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. However, due to COVID-19, the Light & Sound Services and other ECK programs are currently available online through Zoom. Visit www.eckva.org for program listings, www.meetup.com/ 1201 Hardy Rd, Vinton VA 24179, Pastor, Rev. Dr. James Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group, or call B. Davis (540) 342- 1715, Sunday School 10:00am, Wor-540-353-5365 and leave a message. We will return your call. Also visit www.eckankar.org for more information about how the teachings of FIRST CHURCH OF NAZARENE, 728 Highland Ave., Eckankar lead you to spiritual freedom.

FOURSQUARE

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

LUTHERAN

Obeying God Read 1 Kings 4:1 through

King Solomon was so wise that kings all over the world heard about Him and sent their people to listen to him. Solomon wrote many songs and proverbs. He knew a lot about animals and plants. He also wrote the Book of Ecclelsiastes, which teaches us that knowing and pleasing God are more important than being wise.

Solomon decided it was time to build a temple for God. So, 🎇 four hundred eighty years after the Israelites left Egypt, Solomon began construction on the temple. He finished it just seven years later. It was beautiful—made of stone, carved wood, and a lot of

gold. God made a promise to

Solomon: "If you follow my decrees, observe my laws and keep all my commands and obey them, I will fulfill through you the promise I gave to David your father. And I will live among the Israelites and will not abandon my people

Israel" (1 Kings 6:12-13).

God values obedience above all other virtues. That is how we show God we love Him. In return for our obedience, God blesses us and will not forsake us.

Thought for Today: Blessing will come from God when you obey His rules.

Ouicklook: 1 Kings 6:11-14

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ship 11:00am, sttimothy1201@verizon.net. **NAZARENE**

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ship 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Wednesday Night Bible Study 7 p.m. **PRESBYTERIAN MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN**

CHURCH, 1130 Hardy Rd, Vinton, VA, 540-343-1842; cmpc2verizon.net Sunday school 9:45am, Worship 11:00am; Communion 1st Su.ndays; 2nd Sunday Session; Monday Noon Bible School; Tuesdays & Thursdays Yoga ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL LUTHER- 9:00am; 1st Tuesdays Deacons; Tuesday Evening Bible AN CHURCH, "The Church Under The Cross", 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 METHOD-IST 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.

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Legals - City of Radford

ORDER OF **PUBLICATION**

Commonwealth of Virginia VA. CODE § 8.01-316 Case No. JJ003895-07-03 RADFORD J&DR JUVENILE DIVISION Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Commonwealth of Virginia. in re CHRISLEY, KAYLEIGH MARIE The object of this suit is to: TO LOCATE MOTHER KHASI CHRISLEY IN RE: MOTION TO AMEND CUSTODY It is ORDERED that KHASI CHRISLEY appear at the above-named Court and protect his or her interests on or before 05/28/2021

03/29/2021 Sally Davis

11:00 AM

Legals - City of Salem

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Salem, Virginia will hold a public hearing, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2309 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, on April 22, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard, in the City of Salem, Virginia, to consider the following applications

The request of Aquarius Pools, Inc., contractor, and James and Kathryn Long, property owners, for a variance from Section 106-202.3(B)(2) pertaining to site development regulations, for the property located at 825 Pendleton Drive, Tax Map # 67-6-1. The petitioners are requesting to construct an in-ground pool encroaching into the side yard.

At this hearing, all parties in interest will be given an opportunity to be heard, present evidence, and show cause why such requests should or should not be granted. For additional information, contact the Office of the Zoning Administrator, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia (Phone 375 3032).

THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM

BY: Mary Ellen H. Wines, CZA, CFM Zoning Administrator

ADVERTISE!

Legals - City of Salem

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Board of Appeals (Building) of the City of Salem, Virginia will hold public hearings, in accordance with the provisions of Section 18-38 Code of City of Salem, Virginia, on May 5, 2021, at 3:00pm in the Community Room at the Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard, in the City of Salem, Virginia. The purpose of the meeting and hearings shall be to determine if certain structures are dangerous to the inhabitants of the City and whether such structures should be ordered to be repaired or demolished. The structures are located as follows:

(1) A dilapidated structure located at 1441 Filson Street, Salem, Virginia (Tax Map # 239 - 5 - 18): (2) A dilapidated structure located at 300 South Broad Street, Salem, Virginia (Tax Map #121-4-11); and (3) A dilapidated structure located at 955 Camp North Road, Salem, Virginia (Tax Map #27-2-1).

All parties in interest at the public hearings will be given an opportunity to be heard, present evidence, and show cause why action by the City and Board to remedy a potential dangerous situation should or should not be granted. For additional information, contact the Building Official's Office, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia (Phone 375-3036).

THE BOARD OF BUILDING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM BY Troy D. Loving

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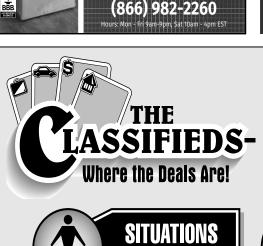


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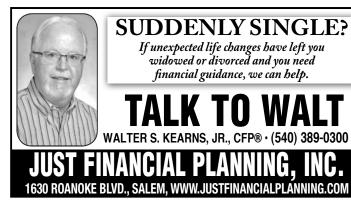




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Thursday, April 15, 2021 • The Vinton Messenger • Page 9 www.ourvallev.org



Byrd girls end season with heartbreaking loss to LB

The William Byrd volleyball team was eliminated from the Region 3D tournament on Monday but they didn't go down without a fight. Byrd lost a five-set marathon to Lord Botetourt in Vinton as the Terriers' season came to an end.

This was the third meeting between the two Blue Ridge District rivals this season, and Byrd had won the first two. The Terriers ended Botetourt's 56 game winning streak in the first match, coming from two sets down to win. Then, in the second match, Byrd swept the Cavs in three in Vinton.

So, when Byrd dropped the first two sets by 25-22 scores on Monday there was no reason to panic. Like the first match, Byrd came storming back to win the third, 25-14, then pulled out a dramatic 27-25 win in the fourth to tie things up. However, this time LB won the fifth and deciding set to 15, 15-12, to end Byrd's season with a heartbreaking defeat. The Terriers actually outpointed LB on the night, 108-104, but didn't get them when they needed them

Byrd's season ended with an 8-4 record and a second place finish in the Blue Ridge District. The Terriers ended the regular season in style by sweeping a doubleheader from Northside at Byrd last week.

For the season, Mattie Andrews led Byrd with 158 kills. Amna Becirevic and Kasey McKee combined for 46 blocks at the net. Trinity Hylton had 199 assists and Carsyn Kotz had 159.

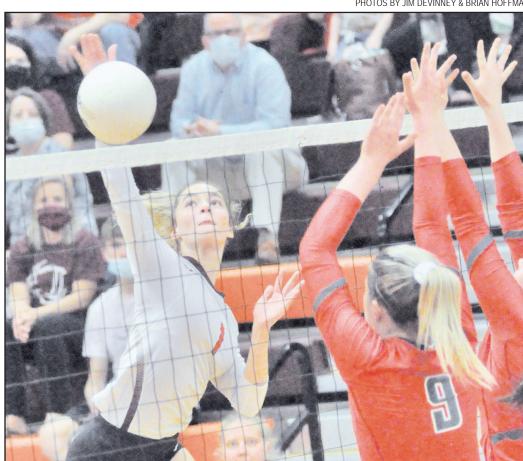
McKee had 22 serving aces and those serving at 90 percent or higher included Chloe Harrilla, Ella Ashworth, Grayce Dantzler, Reagan Tuck, Hylton, McKee, and Kotz. Dantzler led the team with

Dantzler, Tuck, McKee, Becirevic and Erin Courtemanche are seniors. They'll be missed, but Byrd will have a solid core returning. "Our Class of 2021 made a huge impact in our program," said



Left, Kasey McKee makes a block in last week's match with Northside, and above Grayce Dantzler digs one out. Below, Mattie Andrews spikes the ball in Monday's match with Lord **Botetourt.**

PHOTOS BY JIM DEVINNEY & BRIAN HOFFMAN



Thornton. "These ladies have brought so much passion and success to our program over the last four years and their commitment and leadership will certainly be missed. We want to wish continued success in their next journey and can't wait to continue to see where life leads them."

This was an unusual season in that it was played in the spring with an abbreviated schedule. However, the general consensus was that the girls were just happy to play.

"We are so thankful we were able to play safely this season," said Thornton. "Just a couple months and we will be back on the court."





Evan Mullen(left) and Kendrick South tee off at Hanging Rock last week.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Region 3D cross country meet is today

The William Byrd cross country team will be running for a spot in the state meet today when they compete at the Smith River Sports Complex in Axton. The meet is hosted by Bassett and scheduled for 3 pm.

The top two teams and the next three individuals not on those teams will compete in the state meet. Byrd warmed up for the region meet with a run at Northside last week, and the Byrd girls finished first in a four team meet with Franklin County, Lord Botetourt and host Northside.

The Byrd girls had three of the top nine runners at Northside, with Olivia Hurd finishing third, Claire Glover fourth and Maci Glass ninth. Also scoring were Emma Gordon in 14th place and Elizabeth Recktenwald in 18th. Bethany Beecher and Emory Whitehead also ran well.

"This was a great meet for the girls building confidence and getting ready for the region meet at Bassett," said Byrd coach Eric Royal.

The boys were led by Ryan Krawczyk, who finished sixth overall. Kollin Slusher was 22nd, Dakota Bell was 23rd and rounding out the scoring were Reagan Lilley in 26th and Brayden McCulloch in 27th. Also running were John Belcher, Payten Richardson and Stephen Underwood.

The top two teams and top three individuals today will advance to the state meet at Green Hill Park next Wednesday, April 21.

"The Bassett course is a good cross country course and it will be exciting to see how we race,' said Royal. '

Byrd golfers are eighth in Region 3D tournament

The William Byrd golfers wrapped up a rare spring season with an eighth place finish in the Region 3D golf tournament Monday. Abingdon High won the tournament at the Ashley Plantation course

The victorious Falcons shot a team total of 294 to outscore Lord Botetourt by nine strokes. The Cavaliers dominated the Blue Ridge District minitour and were considered to be a contender for the regional title, but they couldn't keep pace with Abingdon and only one team advances to the state tournament.

"I knew they were good but I wasn't expecting them to be that good," said LB coach Todd Smith. "We looked at their scores this season and they averaged about a 303, and I thought we could beat that. But they played really well. They had two girls in the top four and they didn't mess up once."

Byrd finished with a 359, led by Kendrick South's 84. Also scoring for the Terriers were Clayton Gilmore at 91 and both Evan Mullen and Chris Blankenship at 92. Griffin Horacek carded a 94 and Kobe Turner shot 104.

'We did well considering it was our first match playing the ball down not in our own fairway, having to replay shots without being able to drop in fairway, and playing no max score," said Byrd coach Scott Whitehead. "We improved almost 40 shots from our first match to our last and I'm excited about the fact that we have just one senior, Chris Blankenship."

The Blue Ridge District wrapped up the mini-tour with a match at Hanging Rock last week and Lord Botetourt had the low score, as has been the case in all five matches. Byrd shot a 353 at Hanging Rock, led by Horacek's 85. Blankenship had 88, South had 89 and Mullen shot 91.

Samir Davidov won the district individual crown as LB took four of the top five spots. Davidov and teammate Ashton Harper also qualified for the state as individuals Monday.

Byrd's top golfer in the season long standings was Horacek, who finished 14th in the BRD. Mullen was right behind in 15th while Blankenship was 19th and South was 21st.

"We have some great kids and good golfers returning next year and are excited to see what they can do in August," said Whitehead. "I am hopeful that our kids will find their way to the golf course in the next few months and we can push for a better finish."

JMU coach Byington will speak to RV Sports Club Monday, Vinton's **Paul Barnard will be** honored as "Legend"

Mark Byington, the first year men's basketball coach at James Madison University, will be the guest speaker at the monthly meeting of the Roanoke Valley Sports Club on

Monday. The meeting will be held at 5:45 pm at the Salem In his first season coaching the Dukes Byington was named as a finalist for the 2020-21 Hugh Durham Award, presented annually to the top Division I mid-major coach in college basketball. The 2021 Colonial Athletic Association

Coach of the Year was also named the NABC District 10

Coach of the Year less than a year after his hiring. Mark

took a team that was picked to finish ninth in the CAA Preseason Poll and led it to the CAA Regular Season Championship, taking the Dukes from last place to first place in his first season.

Also scheduled for Monday the club will honor long-time area basketball coaches Morgan and Paul Barnard, who will be recognized as "Legends of the Game." In addition, the Glenvar swim team and VHSL state Class 2 champion wrestler Jake Cline of Glenvar will also be recognized.

A limited number of seats are available. To attend visit the club web site at wwwroanokevalleysportsclub.com.

SPORTS

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The Terriers gather for a group shot in front of the Wilson Memorial scoreboard after winning their final game last Friday in Fishersville.

PHOTO BY BILL HOAL

Terriers win "plus one" game to finish with winning record

The William Byrd football team played a "plus one" football game last Friday and the Terriers took a win over Wilson Memorial to end the pandemic-shortened season with a winning record. The Terriers won 39-12 in Fishersville.

"Our staff is very proud of how our players played Friday," said Byrd coach Brad Lutz. "Wilson Memorial has a good football team, and our players had to make a long trip to Fishersville to play in a very physical game. Led by our seniors, our team was able to earn big plays in all three phases of the game and sent our seniors out with a huge win."

Wilson Memorial scored first, but Byrd rallied with 20 second quarter points to take a 14 point lead at the half. Israel Hairston threw touchdown passes to Ethan Tinsley for 72 yards and Tyler Dean for 29 yards, then El-amin Shareef scored on a one yard

Byrd broke it open in the second half, as Hairston threw his third TD pass, a nine yarder to Tinsley, and Shareef ran in from 14 yards for a 33-6 lead. Shareef's third score followed a long Green Hornet run to finish out the scoring.

Shareef finished with 90 yards on 17 carries while Hairston, a freshman, was 11 for 16 passing for 231 yards and three touchdowns. Tinsley had four catches for 102 yards and Dean had two for 45.

On defense, Hunter Richards had a big night with 10 tackles, a fumble recovery and a blocked kick. Bryson Lutz had seven tackles, including a big tackle for a loss on fourth down to stop a drive right before the half. Dustin Richards had 13 tackles, Dean had 10, Shareef had nine and Jeff Williams had seven.

With the win Byrd finished the season at 4-3. Both Byrd and Wilson Memorial would have made the playoffs this year under a normal season, but with the pandemic only four teams

advanced instead of eight and the two hooked up for one more game.

"We were thankful to get a plus one game and end our season with an important win over a strong, physical Wilson Memorial team, who would have been in the playoffs in a normal season," said Lutz. "Our junior var-sity and varsity program made huge improvements from our first season and our players saw the product of their commitment to getting stronger in the weight room.'

The Terriers are already looking forward to next year and a normal fall

"We will have a very young team next season," said Lutz. "It might be the youngest team that I have coached, but they are a great group of players who are invested in the program. Most of them are multiple sport athletes who are currently playing spring sports, but they will also lift to prepare for the season. The shortened off-season will actually help our young team, because there will not be a lot of down time between seasons."

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Above, Bryson Lutz(#50) blocks for Shareef El-amin after a handoff from Israel Hairston(#4). Below, coach Brad Lutz talks to the team. PHOTOS BY BILL HOAL

