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# The Vinton Messenger

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## Town Council approves contract that will bring franchise hotel to Vinton



Possible orientation of a hotel on the downtown Vinton site.



Aerial view of the Town of Vinton indicating the hotel site.

**Debbie Adams**  
[dadams@ourvalley.org](mailto:dadams@ourvalley.org)

“Another drawing card bringing people to the Town of Vinton,” was Councilman Mike Stovall’s response to the news at the July 20 council meeting that the town has found a purchaser for six parcels of land in downtown Vinton for the purpose of building a hotel.

Vinton is home to many wedding and special events venues, Rosie’s Gaming Emporium, the Lancerlot Sports Complex, and Vinyard Park and its soccer fields; it is within shouting distance of Explore Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway, and in close proximity to Smith Mountain—with nowhere to house visitors.

The hotel property is located within the intersection of South Pollard Street, Cedar Avenue, and 1st Street at the Virginia Avenue Gateway into the town. The parcels were purchased by the town

See Council, page 3



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Emilie McCaskill** says the favorite part of her trip to France was her day in Paris. She is shown here at the Louvre.

## McCaskill spends vacation immersed in French language and culture—in France

**Debbie Adams**  
[dadams@ourvalley.org](mailto:dadams@ourvalley.org)

Emilie McCaskill, a rising senior at William Byrd High School, has a better “How did you spend your summer?” story than most. She just returned from two weeks in France, visiting two families she met here at home through the Roanoke Valley Sister Cities Program in October 2019. She spent a week with the Gosselein family and their daughter Constance in Barfleur and another week with Clothilde Mahé and her family in Saint-Lô.

The Sister Cities program was established in 1964 in an alliance between Roanoke and Wonju, South Korea. Dr. Young Kim, who trained at Roanoke’s Jefferson Hospital from 1956-58, felt so welcomed and loved by the community that he vowed never to forget Roanoke. After he returned to South Korea, his city asked for suggestions for an American city to partner with in its new Sister Cities initiative and he proposed Roanoke.

The program’s mission statement affirms, “Sister Cities is committed to promoting mutual understanding, friendship, and peace through cultural, medical, economic, educational and professional exchanges among the people of the Roanoke Valley and the citizens of seven sister cities on four continents.” Saint-Lô in France became one of those sister cities in 1998.

Saint-Lô is a medieval city in Normandy dating

back to the ninth century with a population of about 25,000. The town was the scene of a violent, decisive World War II battle between American Armed Forces and entrenched German forces after the Allies landed on D-Day on June 6, 1944. Ninety-five percent of the town was demolished. The Army’s 29th Division, 116th Infantry Regiment, composed of many Virginians, liberated Saint-Lô on July 19, 1944, for which the residents express their gratitude to this day.

Under the Sister Cities program, a bridge, the Le Pont De Roanoke (the Roanoke Bridge), spanning the Vire River, was dedicated in 1999. The late Roanoke D-Day veteran Bob Slaughter forged the relationship with Saint-Lô.

In the years since 1998, students and teachers from Saint-Lô have come to Roanoke to visit during the school year, while groups from Roanoke have visited Saint-Lô during the summer—until the pandemic. The McCaskills volunteered to host Constance and Clothilde for a week in 2019 when they learned of the need for families through Emilie’s French teacher. (Emilie’s brother had been an exchange student through Sister Cities in 2015.)

The two girls had many scheduled activities with the Sister Cities organization while they were here in 2019, but spent the mornings and evenings with the McCaskills, plus two days to do whatever they wanted.

Emilie and her family took them to visit the Mill Mountain Star, a pumpkin patch, and a UVA football game, in addition to everyday destinations, like the grocery store. The exchange students spent another week traveling in the United States visiting landmarks, including Washington, D.C.

Emilie had planned to

See Window Decal, page 6

## Newest Vinton Business Window Decal complete

**Debbie Adams**  
[dadams@ourvalley.org](mailto:dadams@ourvalley.org)

Sun Solutions has completed the installation of an eye-catching vinyl window decal at 121 West Lee Avenue in downtown Vinton—part of Vinton’s new Business Window Decal Program.

Jeff Belcher, owner of Sun Solutions on Walnut Avenue, has partnered with the Town of Vinton to create and install unique custom window designs in businesses in the business district.

They worked with Jeff Janney of Vinton Appliance on the project on Lee Avenue which is currently being used as warehousing space. The decal project is funded by the town.

The window design features the theme of the Vinton Farmers’ Market that is just across the street, with pictures of market products and also a guitar and music symbols, representing the many concerts and festivals held at the market.

“We wanted to dress up and communicate the positive energy and growth within downtown Vinton,” said Town Manager Pete Peters. “While locals may be aware of the activity, it occurred to me that we have so many commuters and visitors coming through town, that perhaps they wouldn’t know what Vinton Appliance, Twin Creeks Brewing, the Dogwood, or Star City Playhouse and others are up to with regards to expansions.

“With so much going on, but in various stages of construction, I felt we were missing an opportunity to show off that growth in a more attractive and consistent manner,” Peters said. “My hope is to continue to provide this assistance and work with each property owner to design a highlight to showcase their business, incorporate the ‘InVinton’ branding, and accurately communicate that something new and exciting is in production. These aren’t meant to be permanent—just a temporary solution until they are ready to open and show off what’s inside.”

The decals are perforated vinyl window statics, featuring a theme and the “InVinton” branding. Belcher says the



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The new window decal at 121 West Lee Avenue in downtown Vinton was created in a partnership between the Town of Vinton, Sun Solutions, and Jeff Janney of Vinton Appliance.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUN SOLUTIONS

Vinyl coming off the printer at Sun Solutions.

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See France, page 5

# Vinton Library hosts Roanoke Valley Astronomical Society

The Roanoke County Library theme this summer is "Find Wonder at the Library." Ray Bradley from the Roanoke Valley Astronomical Society brought the wonder of the night skies to the Vinton Library on Saturday night, July 17.

His presentation included the basics of astronomy and the equipment helpful in stargazing. Bradley said that beginning astronomers "just need your eyes to start with." With your naked eye, you can see the moon, stars, constellations, meteors, and comets. He suggested first studying the constellations as a way to develop a mental roadmap of the sky.

Once the sky has become familiar to the unaided eye, it's time to progress to binoculars, which are less expensive than telescopes and offer a large field of view. Many night sky targets can actually be seen better with

binoculars rather than a telescope.

Binoculars are especially useful in viewing the moon. Bradley noted that the earth and moon at one time were just one planet. He explained the maria (seas) on the moon are craters once filled with lava flows. He explained that the moon space missions so far have landed selectively on the maria.

He continued with a brief explanation of telescope basics and their inventors.

Bradley recommended a free app called Stellarium for the cell phone or computer, which shows exactly what you see when you look up at the stars (and can be upgraded at a cost). You can identify stars, constellations, planets, comets, satellites (such as the International Space Station), and other deep sky objects in real time in the sky above you in just a few seconds, just by pointing the phone at the sky. Stellarium has

become recognized as one of the best astronomical applications for adults and children who want to explore the night sky. You can view an accurate night sky simulation of stars and planets for any date, time, and location.

His most exciting news of the evening was the announcement of the November 2021 debut of the Artemis Program by NASA which plans to return astronauts to the surface of the moon by 2024.

The Apollo Program landed men on the moon in 1969, basically as tourists passing through. The goal for the Artemis program is not just to land on the moon, but to establish a sustainable human presence on the moon, at its south pole.

The planned Artemis I mission in November 2021 will be an uncrewed flight test of the Orion spacecraft and SLS rocket as an integrated system ahead of missions with astronauts.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Ray Bradley of the Roanoke Astronomical Society presented a program on amateur astronomy and the upcoming NASA mission to the moon at the Vinton Library on July 17. Vinton Branch Manager Kimberly Dean-Burnette tries out the Orion StarBlast telescope which patrons can check out from the library.

NASA's Artemis program will lead humanity forward to the moon and prepare for the next giant leap, the exploration of Mars, he explained. The ultimate goal is to build the infrastructure

on the moon to facilitate rocket launches to Mars from there and deep space travel.

For more details on the Artemis program visit <https://www.nasa.gov/topics/moon-to-mars>.

The South County and Vinton branches of Roanoke County Library offer Orion StarBlast telescopes for patrons to check out for a two-week period to explore the night skies on their own.

# Free Zumba classes at Firehouse Skate 'N Play to collect school supplies



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Zumba instructor Cherry Bell (center front) is offering free Zumba classes at the Firehouse Skate 'N Play with the donation of school supplies.

Local Zumba instructor and William Byrd High School teacher Cherry Bell will be hosting two free Zumba classes at the Firehouse Skate 'N Play in Vinton to collect school supplies for local elementary schools.

The free classes are scheduled for July 31 and August 7 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Firehouse Skate 'N Play located at 1620 Washington Avenue.

The classes are free with the donation of a school supply item.

The new school year is just around the corner, with Roanoke County Schools opening on August 12.

# Five Shades of Gray featured band at July 24 Mingle at the Market

The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce will be hosting its next Mingle at the Market Concert for 2021 on July 24 at the Vinton Farmers' Market. The concert will get underway on the HomeTrust Bank Stage at 7 p.m. with a performance by the band Five

Shades of Gray.

The band is known for "awesome rock from the 60's through the 90's and later."

The featured food truck this week is Munsey's Smoke Shack. Craft beer and adult beverages will be available for purchase.

Admission is \$6. This is a family-friendly event with children 12 and under admitted free of charge.

Bring your own seating and an ID. No pets are allowed. Wear a mask if you haven't been vaccinated.

Member One is the

lead sponsor for the 2021 Summer Concert Series. Diamond Level sponsors include Blue Ridge Beverage and the Vinton War Memorial. Special Sponsor is Roanoke County. Gold sponsors include Carilion Clinic, Winters Storage, and Servpro. Silver level sponsors include Berkshire Health Care, HomeTrust Bank, Lotz Funeral Home, Neely's Accounting, PFG, Coastal Insurance Planning of VA, and The Vinton Messenger. Sher-

ri Winkler of Nite Owl Artz has done the design work for the concert with printing by Vertex Signs.

Mingle concerts still to come in 2021 include Adam Rutledge on August 14, On Common Ground on August 28, Hardrive Crew on September 11, and Five Dollar Shake on September 25.

Food trucks yet to come this season include Mountain Grille Food Truck, Yani's Hot Kitchen, and the Lazy

Bull Dog.

The Vinton Farmers' Market is located in downtown Vinton at 204 W. Lee Avenue. Plenty of parking is available in the downtown area.

Volunteers are needed for each week's Mingle. Contact Angie Chewning, Executive Director of the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce at 540-343-1364 or email her [angie@vintonchamber.com](mailto:angie@vintonchamber.com) if you or your organization have some time to help with these events.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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60				61					62		63	
64				65						66		
67				68						69		

- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Fashion accessory
  - 5. Subatomic particle
  - 10. Ethnic group of the Philippines
  - 14. Popular cookie
  - 15. Fabric
  - 16. Alcoholic liquor
  - 17. Peter \_\_\_\_, Dutch portrait painter
  - 18. Longtime Chicago mayor
  - 19. A famous "Lady"
  - 20. Islamic calendar month
  - 22. Rocky peak
  - 23. Polio vaccine developer
  - 24. Songs sung in open air
  - 27. Military movements
  - 30. Male parent
  - 31. Beloved hot beverage
  - 32. Female sibling
  - 35. Tackled the QB
  - 37. Set a dog on someone
  - 38. Long live! (Spanish)
  - 39. Porticos
  - 40. Pouch
  - 41. Smooth fabric
  - 42. Enough (archaic)
  - 43. Institute legal proceedings against
  - 44. Scarred
  - 45. Draw from
  - 46. Brother or sister
  - 47. Body part
  - 48. Commercials
  - 49. London soccer team
  - 52. Satisfied
  - 55. Surgical technique (abbr.)
  - 56. Fencing sword
  - 60. French industrial city
  - 61. Intellectual property organization (abbr.)
  - 63. Helps to carry food
  - 64. "Rule, Britannia" composer
  - 65. One-time Empress of the Roman Empire
  - 66. Intestinal pouches
  - 67. None better
  - 68. "WandaVision" actress
  - 69. Comedic actress Kathryn
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Fifth notes of major scales
  - 2. Region
  - 3. Your consciousness of your own identity
  - 4. Georgetown athletes
  - 5. They follow A
  - 6. Spoke
  - 7. Hairdressers' domain
  - 8. Extravagantly theatrical
  - 9. End-blown flute
  - 10. Heroic tales
  - 11. Member of a Semitic people
  - 12. Members of a priestly caste
  - 13. Southern Ghana people
  - 21. Counsels
  - 23. Body of water
  - 25. Awesome!
  - 26. Calendar month
  - 27. Native of region in Caucasus
  - 28. Indian city
  - 29. Exclusive
  - 32. Alaskan town
  - 33. Covered with ivy
  - 34. Loose granular substances
  - 36. Native American tribe
  - 37. Written American English
  - 38. Holiday (informal)
  - 40. Add up
  - 41. Small brown and gray rails
  - 43. Get off your feet
  - 44. Express disgust
  - 46. Surface of the ground
  - 47. Put into a silo
  - 49. Belief
  - 50. British noblemen
  - 51. Tennis game
  - 52. Dry, protective crust
  - 53. Swiss river
  - 54. Large integers
  - 57. La \_\_ Tar Pits, Hollywood
  - 58. Every one of two or more
  - 59. "Deadpool" actor Reynolds
  - 61. Earlier
  - 62. Peter's last name



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Five Shades of Gray will be the featured band at the July 24 Mingle at the Market concert.

Submit your community news and photos to [vintonmessenger@ourvalley.org](mailto:vintonmessenger@ourvalley.org).

# PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

## Angie Chewing

Filling in for Bootie

Another great vacation in the books. I am a beach girl at heart but, Wow, the Maury River and River Bend Cabin are on the top of my favorites list. Greg, Nonie, Jeff Hall and I spent our seventh year there this past week. It is truly a breath of fresh air! Drake Lewis, Hannah, Steve and Tara Jones came up for a day to visit and enjoy the river us. We hope to be back next July!

Saturday, July 10 a "Brunch and Bubbly" bridal shower was given to Autumn Gilley at the Vinton Moose Lodge by Taylor Rice. Lisa Gilley, mother of the bride, Pam Belcher, mother of the groom, Autumn's grandmas, Jeanette Dooley and Mary Gilley, Ben's grand-

mother, Judy Rexwood, and his sisters, Laura and Sarah, were in attendance, along with many other family members and friends. September 19, 2021 is the wedding date.

Florida is always a great place to visit. The Laffertys found a new part they can't wait to go back to. Brian, Andrea, Ellison and Tucker love St. Augustine; and of course a side trip to Disney for the day. Although, not enough time to cover it all, a good time for sure.

Hope to see everyone on Saturday for Mingle at the Market. Five Shades of Grey will be our band and Munsey's Smoke Shack will be there serving up some good eats! Gates open at 6:30, music starts at 7; \$6 admission, children under 12 free. Bring your ID.

Jeremy Abbott, son of Beth and Todd Abbott, will turn 13 on July 24.



Autumn Gilley



Fun on the river.

## Council

from page 1

in 2018 and 2019 for the purpose of recruiting a much-needed hotel to be constructed on the site. (One parcel was donated by nearby Wells Fargo Bank.) Environmental assessments and hotel market studies were completed, structures on the properties were demolished, and a conceptual plan was developed for the site.

The town issued a Request for Proposals in May 2021 and received two formal proposals to develop a limited-service hotel. After review by the town's Economic Development Committee, the town selected The McDevitt Company as the developer.

McDevitt has agreed to terms of a Contract of Sale that provides a six-month due diligence period (similar to the Gish Mill agreement). It includes negotiating terms of a performance agreement with development incentive grants (with the town, Roanoke County, and the Roanoke County Economic Development Authority), finalizing building plans, making site improvements, and securing a hotel franchise for the property.

The purchase price of the property is \$10, with an estimated \$12 million investment expected. The hotel is expected to generate \$490,000 in annual revenue for Vinton and Roanoke County.

The hotel development will help diversify Vinton's economy by generating Transient Occupancy Tax; support further development of Explore Park; support Vinton and East County wedding venues, restaurants, and the service industry; support regional sports marketing efforts; and retain visitor spending from regional events, area attractions, the lake, and the parkway. A hotel will keep dollars in the town.

Town Manager Pete Peters says McDevitt "can walk" if franchising doesn't work out, but this contract sale "gives a green light to the project."

A public hearing was held at the July 20 council meeting to solicit public input on the project with no comments received.

The Contract of Sale states that McDevitt intends to develop the property into a mid-scale hotel with between 90 and 120 rooms, consisting of a limited-service hotel

brand such as a Hilton, Marriott, or Wyndham property. The contract does not obligate McDevitt to any particular franchise. The hotel is expected to include amenities such as a swimming pool, business center, rooftop deck or lounge, meeting space, a fitness center, and outdoor landscaped green spaces. The hotel is expected to fit with the aesthetics of the town established by the Vinton Library and Vinyard Station.

The town intends to close and abandon a portion of 1st Street between Virginia and Cedar Avenues and deed the street to the buyer at closing.

The Contract of Sale enables the developer to secure private financing, to secure a hotel franchise, and to design and engineer a site plan while Performance Incentives are negotiated. It, in essence, locks up the property for the developers.

The McDevitt Company, based in Pennsylvania, will work with Soundvue Development LLC. In fact, the project came to the table because of the presence of Rosie's Gaming Emporium in Vinton, which got the attention of McDevitt and Soundvue, who had worked with them on a previous development. McDevitt and Soundvue came to see the potential in the local market. "Rosie's got them to the table; the market potential got them over the edge," Peters said.

The project had its beginnings in 2016 with a market study jointly funded by the town and Roanoke County. It was determined that there was a need for a hotel in Vinton—not because of corporate or commercial travel as in most communities—but because of the social event and recreation venues in the town or close by, varied industry and technology in close proximity, highly developed commercial corridors, and the opportunity for strong family and business referrals.

The hotel study recommended a national brand hotel, situated on 1.5 to 2 acres (the selected site is just shy of two acres), in a high traffic/high visibility area. Eight sites were initially evaluated. The study indicated a "very good to excellent potential" for the success of a hotel venture in Vinton.

Peters said this proj-



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Public Works employees were recognized by Vinton Town Council and Public Works Director Bo Herndon for assisting a citizen, outside their regular duties. Shown left to right are Andrew Critcher, Herndon, Tyler Beard, Robert Rowell, and Kevin Orange.

ect was a long six years in the making, delayed by the pandemic after a hotel study had been completed, but now back on track. Town staff and Town Council were "persistent and patient" in the process. Mayor Brad Grose described the signing of the contract as a "celebration of years of hard work."

In other actions at the council meeting, retiring Roanoke Valley Greenway Coordinator Liz Belcher was recognized by Town Council with a proclamation honoring her years of service to the region since 1996. She has played an integral role in the growth and development of greenways and trails in the Town of Vinton including the Wolf Creek Greenway in 1999, Gladetown Trail in 2012, Glade Creek Greenway Phase I in 2017, and Glade Creek Greenway Phase IIA in 2021, with Phase IIB to be completed in 2022.

Former Vinton Councilwoman Janet Scheid said that she "did not know of anyone who has

changed the face of the Roanoke Valley more than Liz."

Public Works Director Bo Herndon recognized four Public Works employees for their actions on June 29 as they were dealing with a water main break. Kevin Orange, Tyler Beard, Andrew Critcher, and Robert Rowell assisted Pat Davidson whose car had broken down on Mountain View Road. They got her out of the car, out of the roadway, and safely on her way. She called the town to thank the employees for their efforts.

Councilwoman Laurie Mullins said, "This is just one incident; Public Works employees go above and beyond everyday" for the citizens of Vinton.

Assistant Town Manager Cody Sexton asked council to approve an amendment to the FY2021-2022 budget to accept and appropriate funds in the amount of \$4.2 million from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) after a

public hearing and a previous June briefing. This makes the funds available for spending.

Sexton said the town has no "concrete plans" as of yet for how the funds will be used, but this action gives the town flexibility as projects arise. He expects the second installment of another \$4.2 million in June 2022.

After public hearings, council also adopted resolutions presented by Finance Director Anne Cantrell appropriating funding to cover capital improvement projects and additional position funding not to exceed \$1.2 million and raising rate charges for contractual services by the Vinton Police Department. Rates were raised from \$48 per hour to \$52 per hour with a two-hour minimum. This brings the town's charges into alignment with surrounding jurisdictions.

Sexton briefed council on three positions to be

created: Police Officer and Capital Projects Manager and Utility Clerk in Public Works. ARPA funds can be used for these positions to "bring the highest level of service to citizens." The town would not be bound to fill the positions created.

Council authorized the town manager to file an application for Virginia Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF) funds for the Woodland Place Stream Restoration Project, discussed extensively at a previous council meeting.

Council approved payment of \$3,427 to Vinton Baptist Church as a Parking and Maintenance Contribution Agreement between the town and the church, which allows its parking lot to be used for business parking and special downtown events.

Cantrell reported the town has cash-on-hand of \$5.6 million and investments of \$3.2 million for a total of \$8.9 million.

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# Free meals program continues in Roanoke County schools

The free summer meals program continues at Herman L. Horn Elementary School in Vinton, and also at Burlington Elementary and Cave Spring Middle Schools.

Drive-through pickup of meals is available at Herman L. Horn on Wednesdays through July 28 from 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Nutrition associates, substitute teachers, and volunteers wait for families to pull up to the curb and pick up 10 freshly prepared breakfasts and lunch-

es each for children 18 and under.

The meal bags contain fresh fruits and vegetables, milk, vegetable and fruit juices, shelf staples like Goldfish, applesauce, cereal, muffins, and bagels, ham and cheese sandwiches, PB & J sandwiches, and cheese sticks.

There are no forms to fill out and no income restrictions. Addresses are not checked. No questions are asked. The workers serve meals until they run

out.

Roanoke County Public Schools Director of Community Relations Chuck Lionberger says that Roanoke County has distributed approximately 1.25 million meals since March 16, 2020, when schools closed for the pandemic. Herman L. Horn has been providing about 100 meals each Wednesday this summer.

"Even if just one child is fed, that is one child whose needs have been met," said Lionberger.

er.

Because of an extension of the federal COVID program which has provided free breakfast and lunch to all students since the pandemic struck in March 2020, free meals will continue for all students through the 2021-2022 school year, resuming on August 12. Meals for younger siblings not in school may be picked up curbside once again beginning on that date.

Those distributing the meals

say they do tend to see the same faces picking up meals from week to week. The families have expressed their gratitude for the meals program; some have said they did not know how they would have fed their families without the assistance from the school program.

The three Roanoke County Schools were selected as distribution sites using a variety of criteria. Some other area school systems are also operating similar programs.



Emily Nicely and Clinton Hager assist in distributing free meals for the summer meals program at Herman L. Horn Elementary in Vinton.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS  
Connie Shawver, Nutrition Manager at Herman L. Horn, displays some of the foods included in the free summer meals program—plenty of fruits, vegetables, juices, milk, along with shelf staples.

# Upcoming Free COVID vaccines in Vinton

The Town of Vinton is partnering again with the Virginia Department of Health and the Roanoke City and Alleghany Health Districts to host free COVID vaccine clinics.

Clinics are scheduled for:  
July 29, 204-6 p.m., Vinton War Memorial, Pfizer vaccine  
August 4, 4-6 p.m., Charles R. Hill Community Center,

Moderna vaccine

Preregister for the day and time you would like to attend on the website at <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/roanoke/covid-vaccine/> or by calling 540-613-6597 between the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Walk-ins are welcome while vaccine supplies last.



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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.

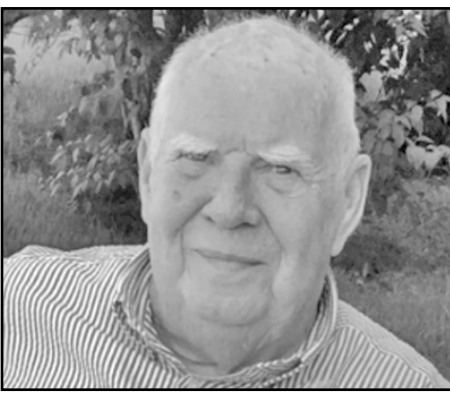
The Vinton Messenger (USPS 660-020) is published weekly for \$44 a year in Vinton and Roanoke County, \$48 a year in adjoining counties, \$52 a year out of state and the yearly bundle is \$59 a year by Virginia Media Inc. P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Vinton, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE VINTON MESSENGER, P.O. Box 1125, Salem, Va 24153

## OBITUARY

### Ronald E. Manning

Ronald E. "Ronnie" Manning, 84, of Vinton, passed away peacefully with his family by his side, on Sunday, July 18, 2021. He was born in Roanoke December 15, 1936, a son of the late Buddy and Addie Manning; his brother, Wayne Manning, also preceded him in death. Ronnie proudly served his country in the U.S. Air Force. He went to work as a stock clerk at Double Envelope as soon as he got out; retiring in 2017 as Plant Manager after 58 years of service. Ronnie enjoyed being outdoors, working in his yard and tending his gardens. He was a talented and artistic woodworker. He was kind hearted and had a marvelous sense of humor, well loved and respected by his

friends, neighbors and employees. Ronnie is survived by his beloved wife of 35 years, Donna; his three children, Kristy Stinnette (Chris Herron), Lori Barber (Jen Bickling), Scott Barrios; five grandchildren, Cynthia Stinnette, James Stinnette, Meghan Stinnette, Kayleigh Barber, Kristen Smith; his sister, Linda Sears (David). Also surviving are numerous other family members and friends. His family would like to thank his "Bexhill Family," his neighbors who lovingly helped him over the years. His family gathered at 1 p.m. Wednesday, July 21, at Oakey's Vinton Chapel, followed by a Celebration of Life with Military Honors at 2 p.m. Pastor Joe Elmore officiated.



# 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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to advertise in this space.

# RVARC elects new officers

The Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (RVARC) has elected new officers. Phil North, who serves the Hollins District on the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors will serve as Chair of the RVARC; Pam Marshall from the Town of Clifton Forge will serve as Vice Chair; Dean Martin of Roanoke County will serve as Treasurer; and Jeremy Holmes from RVARC will serve as Secretary.

The Commission thanked Vinton Mayor Brad Grose for his service to the region during his tenure as Chair of the Commission from October 2006-October 2009, October 2017 to October 2019, and October 2019-October 2021.

“Mayor Grose has been a great asset to the organization during his time as leader,” the Commission noted.

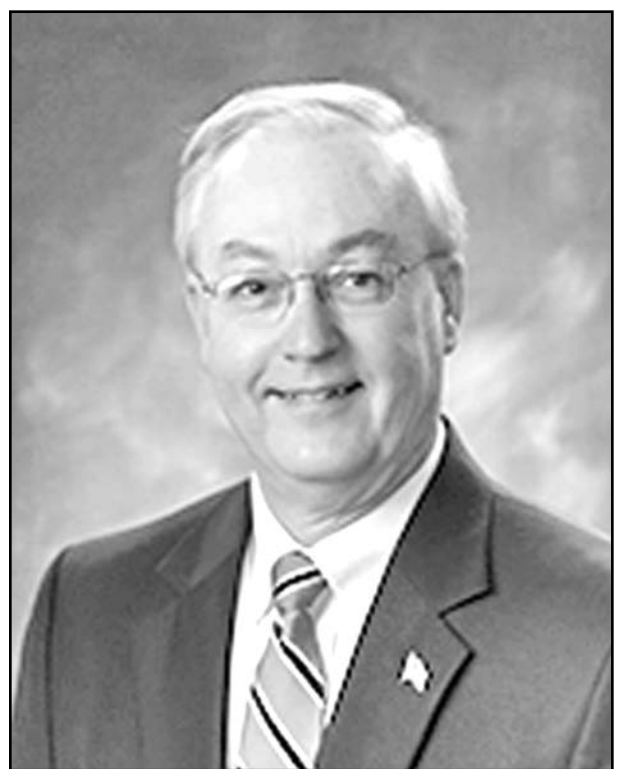
In 1968, Virginia was divided into planning districts based on the community of interest among its counties, cities, and towns. A Planning District Commission is a political subdivision of the Commonwealth chartered under the Regional Cooperation Act by the local governments of each planning district. As such, they are a creation of local government encouraged by the state. There are 21 Planning Districts in Virginia.

In 1999, the Fifth Planning District changed its name to the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission. The Commission is made up of elected officials and citizens appointed by member local governments (now numbering 11 governments).

Mayor Grose and Town Manager Pete Peters represent Vinton on the RVARC currently.

The purpose of Planning District Commissions, as set out in the Code of Virginia is to encourage and facilitate local government cooperation and state-local cooperation in addressing—on a regional basis—problems of greater than local significance.

This cooperation is intended to facilitate the recognition and analysis of regional opportunities and to take into account regional influences in planning and implementing public policies and services. The planning district commission also promotes the orderly and efficient development of the physical, social, and economic elements of the district by planning, and encouraging and assisting localities to plan for the future. One important duty of planning districts is to create a strategic plan for the region of service.



Phil North

## From the Pulpit

# A Devotional

If we give thanks or say “Thank you” only when we think we have something to be grateful for, our thanksgiving may just become no more than a response to an outside condition. Of course, we may give thanks for many good things happening in our lives: beautiful weather, achieving a goal, getting a reward, a neighbor’s kindness, a greeting card from an old friend. These kinds of things help us feel good and thankful.

However, how can we be thankful when our life is not so good? “Give thanks in all circumstances” (1 Thess. 5). Losing someone we

love can overshadow all our life. The loneliness can drown us in deep despair. When normalcy is taken away due to illness or disability, it can devastate us; “I cannot drive anymore. I cannot walk. I cannot hear and talk as I used to be able to.....” If our gratitude comes only from our life conditions, we cannot say “Thank you” when despair is dominating our life.

True thankfulness comes out of the heart, a heart filled and content, not because of any outer condition, but because of an inside truth about who I am; I am

a beloved son/daughter of God. God knows me and cares for me. If our hearts are fully charged with the unconditional love of our amazing God, our thankfulness overflows from the inside out, so that we may find in any moment a glimpse of the Creator’s beauty. We may discover a way to pour grace upon anything happening around us. So, let us say, “Thank you!” now.

By Pastor Jae Song,  
Red Valley Church,  
Associate Pastor at  
Thrasher Memorial UMC



Pastor Jae Song

## France from page 1

travel to France in the summer of 2020, but COVID delayed those plans until this year.

In the almost two years since the students visited Vinton, Emilie has kept in touch with them through social media and texting, with her mother, Angela, emailing their parents.

With so many health guidelines and restrictions—here and abroad—the Sister Cities program was not involved in facilitating the trip for Emilie this summer; the McCaskills made the arrangements for travel on their own.

While the pandemic did not stop her from traveling to France this summer, there were still ramifications from COVID. She had been fully vaccinated in February but was required to take a COVID test before she left and to fill out “lots of paperwork.” She was required to show her vaccination documentation to travel.

Her mother says that while France has opened its borders to American tourists, the United States has not reciprocated to permit the French to visit here. On her way back home, Emilie had to endure another COVID test and sign an attestation stating that her results were negative.

Emilie had hoped to be in France for four weeks, but ACL surgery due to a basketball injury shortened her stay to two weeks—one with each family. She left for France on June 28 and returned on July 12.

The Gosseleins—Constance, her parents, and her two older brothers—are a middle-class family who own a vegetable distribution company in Barfleur, which is located along the English Channel. While in Normandy, Emilie and Constance, on their own, visited D-Day sites and the medieval Mont-Saint-Michel Monastery.

The Mahés family—Clothilde, her parents, an older brother and a younger brother—also live a typically middle-class life. They use cell phones at the table, play games, and spent a good deal of time watching

sports on TV while Emilie was there, including the Tour de France and Euro League Soccer.

The Mahé family asked Emilie to choose their itinerary for the week, which included historic Saint-Lô, a zoo, and her favorite—Paris. Emilie says they saw everything—the Louvre, the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, and every other landmark that time allowed. In fact, they “walked it all,” with 23,000 steps that day.

Emilie says she felt very at ease with the Mahé family who did their best to make her feel at home. While she was there, Emilie spoke French with the families and their friends.

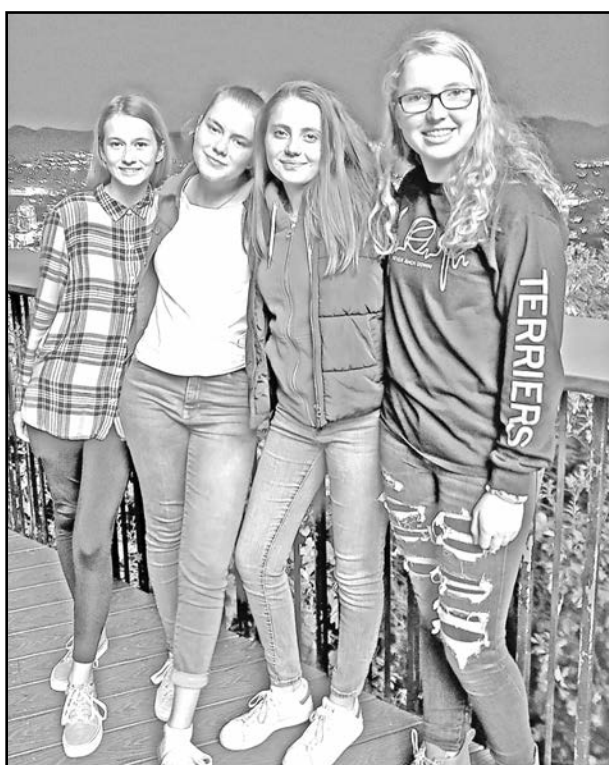
Emilie’s mother—a Francophile since middle school—says that Emilie could speak French before she could speak English. That’s partly due to French au pairs who lived with the family for Emilie’s first eight years. Her parents both spoke French fluently as well.

Emilie has studied French for four years at William Byrd, including a year with Philippe Pansiot, a French native. She was able to fine tune her language skills and learned some of the intricacies of colloquial French on the recent trip. When ordering in a restaurant, she thought she was ordering a steak, “steak haché” which turned out to be a hamburger.

She says that other than the language, life in France was not that different from Vinton. One dissimilarity was that the family tended to eat very late at night—a two-hour meal that usually ended about 10 p.m. The food was basically the same—and she loved their snacks.

Emilie is an outstanding student at William Byrd, having been named a Junior Marshal for the Class of 2021 graduation ceremonies. She plays basketball (captain of the team) and tennis. She will be serving as president of the SCA and FCA this year. She is an intern and volunteer at Vinton Baptist Church and works at Kroger.

In 2021-22, she will be enrolled in all AP classes at William Byrd—French,



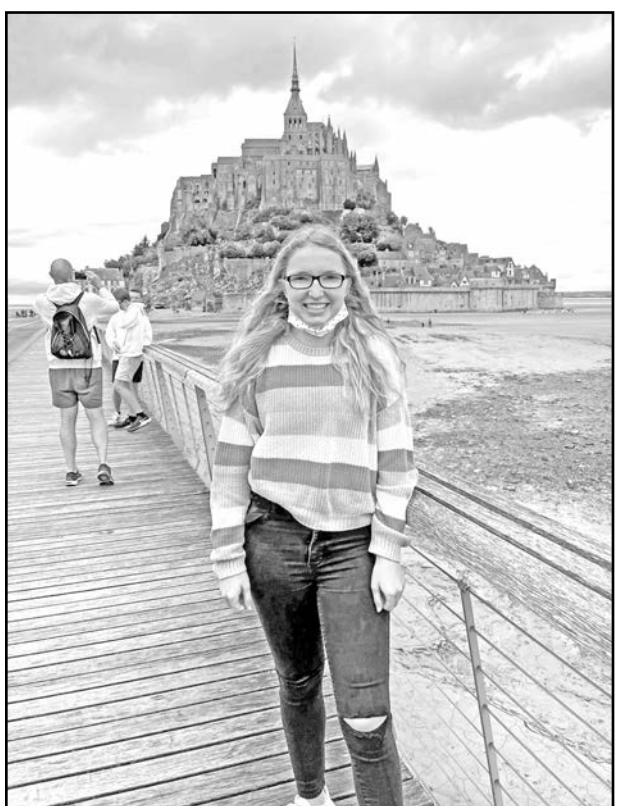
Emilie McCaskill (right) and her family hosted French students in their home in October 2019 as part of the Roanoke Valley Sister Cities program. She is shown with (left to right) her sister Kimmy, and exchange students Constance Gosselein, and Clothilde Mahe.

English, Biology, Government, Calculus, and Physics. Taking dual enrollment classes with Virginia Western Community College, she will receive her high school diploma and her Associate Degree both next spring. Her plans after graduation are to enroll at the University of Virginia to study pharmacy.

Emilie says she would definitely recommend the Sister Cities exchange program to other students as a way to learn not just the language, but the culture. “It was an immeasurable experience to go over and explore the culture firsthand.”

Angela McCaskill describes the trip as “awesome, and a way to get the experience of a lifetime in just a few days’ time.” They are “very grateful for the opportunity Emilie had because learning language is done best when you are immersed in the culture.”

CROSSWORD ANSWERS											
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Emilie spent a week with the Gosselein family in Normandy where she visited the Gothic Mont-Saint-Michel monastery.

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# Emory & Henry recognizes graduates, Dean's List students

The following local students have earned their degrees from Emory & Henry College in the Class of 2021:

- Hailey Ellis of Vinton earned a BA

- Elijah Vieira of Hardy earned a BA

Emory & Henry also named local students to the Spring 2021 Dean's list. To be named to the

Dean's list students must be a full-time student and receive a 3.6 GPA for the semester. Avery Adkins of Goodview and Hailey Ellis of Vinton made the list:



## Five dangerous backyard activities for kids; precautions parents should take

Research indicates that over 60 percent of all summer-related injuries occur among children ages 2-11.

A new SafeHome.org study, the 2021 Summer Home Safety Report, indicates that the five most dangerous backyard activities for children involve:

**Trampolines**—the most emergency room visits per year. Children account for about 85,000 of the 100,000 trampoline-related injuries treated in the U.S. each year. To avoid injuries, check that bolts are tight, install a safety net enclosure, put padding over the frame and springs, and set jumping rules with adult supervision.

**Monkey bars.** To avoid injury, make sure the child has enough upper body strength to swing, place padding underneath to soften falls, and check for loose bolts and splinters.

**Open porches and balconies.** To avoid injury, install safety netting or plastic guards to cover spaces between rails. Use safety gates at the top and

bottom of stairs. Check porches for loose boards or shaky handrails.

**Slides.** To avoid injury, do not go down the slide with your child in your lap, teach your child to go down feet first, and remove any dangerous debris from the landing spot.

**Swing sets.** To avoid injury, tighten equipment before use, ignore pleas from your child to push them too high.

**A swimming pool** is one of the top 10 riskiest areas in the backyard. Drowning is the No. 1 cause of death for kids 1 to 4 outside of birth defects. To avoid injury, develop house rules, have an adult chaperone, and install fencing to avoid young children falling into the pool by accident.

Built-in pools have been found to be more dangerous than above ground pools, due to the fact that in-ground pools have larger pool decks and accessories on which more injuries could occur. Diving, whether off the deck or a diving board, is a leading cause of swimming pool injury.

## Window Decal

from page 1

decal for 121 West Lee was created by graphic designer Paul Griffin, with suggestions on what to include from Chasity Barbour, the Vinton Director of Planning and Community Programs.

Once the design was complete, Sun Solutions printed out the vinyl sheets and transported them just down the street. Employee Nancy Rogers spent parts of three afternoons installing the vinyl—in a process similar to installing adhesive shelf paper (by peeling off the backing), but on a much larger scale, and requiring scaffolding and ladders.

Rogers has been involved in the sign industry since 1998. While the installation looked a little tricky, Rogers says that after over 20 years of working with vinyl, she isn't intimidated by the process anymore. Installation can be difficult since the vinyls are quite large, and she typically works alone. "The tricky part is not letting it slip and knock everything out of alignment." The process involved taping the vinyl, smoothing it continuously with a squeegee, retaping, and trimming with an Exacto knife.

Rogers says the vinyl is "a little more delicate" than shelf paper since it is per-

forated. The "ideal" temperature for installation is between 60 and 65 degrees. Hotter temperatures and higher humidity make the vinyl softer, stretchier, and harder to work with.

The vinyl and images appear to be solid from the outside but are transparent from inside the building. They will typically last about a year depending upon exposure to the sun and weather. The West Lee Avenue location doesn't get a lot of direct sunlight so it should last longer than most, Rogers says.

The project has been funded under a façade grant program in the Town of Vinton Economic Development Marketing Account which is allocated to promote the town in various manners.

"I've been very impressed with Jeff and his team's effort and creativity to make this project a reality," said Peters. "The business owners have also been very supportive and agreeable to participate. All in all, it's a 'win/win' for everyone involved and I think it really helps sell the town in the sense of better visualizing some of the progress of buildings being updated for future businesses, and this whole idea simply helps reinforce the theme of being

'In Vinton' all throughout our downtown."

"With Council's vision and support, the downtown has come a long way in the last several years and is popping with new energy and activity in every direction," Peters added. "Although the most exciting aspect is that we aren't even close to reaching our full potential and there are so many more amazing projects yet to come."

Janney said the town notified him of the possibility of being part of the business window decal program and he "couldn't be happier with the result," especially with the town picking up the cost. He had thought that the decals might make the interior of the building too dark, but that's definitely not the case. Janney commended the town leadership and staff for all the improvements in Vinton in the past several years.

Next up on the window decal list is most likely the former Star City Playhouse building at the corner of Washington Avenue and Pollard Street. Their decals will feature dining scenes, in addition to the "InVinton" branding.



Sun Solutions employee Nancy Rogers installing the window decals at 121 West Lee Avenue in Vinton.



The view from inside 121 West Lee Avenue. The decals are transparent from inside the business, while bright and colorful on the outside. Sun Solutions owner Jeff Belcher and decal installer Nancy Rogers are

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

**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.vintonbaptistchurch.org.

**CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
**BELMONT CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**, 1101 Jamison Ave. SE, Roanoke, VA 24013, 540-343-7502, Worship Services every Sunday at 11:00AM, Pastor Terry Brace. We look forward to seeing you this Sunday!

**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.

**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/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group, or call 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 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 - 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.

# Vinton Worship Directory

## Time to Rest

Read Exodus 30:1 through 32:35

"This project has to be done right, and it has to be done soon. Work all weekend if you have to." Some work assignments make us wonder if we need to make a few clones to help us get the work done. Life's responsibilities may seem larger than we can handle, yet we need to learn the importance of rest.

"It will be a sign between me and the Israelites forever, for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day he rested and was refreshed" (Exodus 31:17).

God created the Sabbath for two key purposes. First, people need to set aside

a day to worship God and fellowship with His people. Second, we need a day of rest and refreshing. Scientific research bears this out.

Nearly everyone must contend with deadlines and expectations from others. God, however, wants us to set aside time to rest and to seek Him. Obeying His instructions for rest and worship actually helps us gain the energy and renewal we need to be more effective and productive in the responsibilities we carry.

Prayer Suggestion: God, please direct me in ways to better rest in You.

Quicklook: Exodus 31:14-17

**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**

**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; Tuesdays Evening Bible Study 6:45pm; Wednesday Choir 7:00pm; Thursday Girl Scouts 7:00pm; 2nd Monday Supper with Rev. Skip at Fa-

mous 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.



# Marketplace

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

## Yard Sales - Radford City

**Huge Garage Sale**  
Friday 7.23  
8am-4pm  
Saturday 7.24  
8am-4pm  
1100 Forest Ave  
Radford VA  
Clothes (some new),  
Kitchen, Christmas, and  
misc. items  
Rain or Shine

## Auctions

**STORAGE AUCTION**  
Salem Storage  
736 Roanoke Street  
Salem, Va. 24153  
July 29, 2021 at 11:30 am  
Salem Storage  
will conduct  
a public sale of  
merchandise to  
collect liens from the  
following delinquent  
building. Owner  
Wanda Baier-Bordeaux  
Unit 73  
Cash Only  
We reserve the right to  
refuse bids.

## For Rent - Apartments

**2, 3, 4 BR  
Townhouse Style**  
accepting applications.  
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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.

## For Sale - Seasonal Items

**Use the patented Flea Beacon**  
to control fleas in the  
home without toxic  
aerosols or expensive  
exterminators. Results  
overnight! H&H Outdoors  
254-2420.  
(www.fleabeacon.com)

## Help Wanted - Clerical

**Administrative Assistant**  
Botetourt Resource Center, Inc.  
Opportunity to help serve the community in busy non-profit agency  
Downtown Buchanan  
Qualified candidates must be reliable, organized, personable, enjoy working with the general public, especially senior citizens. Work collaboratively with local churches, civic organizations, businesses and other non-profits. Ability to responsibly and efficiently manage priorities and maintain confidentiality and have MS Word, Excel and QuickBooks experience. Clerical duties include answering the telephone, filing, records management, assisting with activities and local errands.  
10-15 hours/week; flexible schedule.  
Mail or e-mail resume and references to BRC, Inc., P.O. Box 153, Buchanan, VA 24066  
mlucasbrc@yahoo.com

## 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 Radford

Hiring Full-Part Time  
Front Desk Clerk and  
Housekeeping.  
Apply in Person.  
Ph-540-639-3000



*TAP (Total Action for Progress) is the second largest community action agency in Virginia, employing more than 300 employees. We encourage people to think creatively, grow professionally, and make a positive impact within the agency and in the communities in which we serve.*

The following position is open with TAP:

### Home Based Coordinator

Responsible for the supervision of all Home Based staff. Provide direction, support and reinforcement to the Home Visitors. Ensure the Home Base Program exemplifies the Head Start philosophy of supporting and encouraging family goals and objectives, involving parents in the development and education of their children, and strengthening the capacity of parents and families to become self-sufficient and to support the general development of their own children. Serve as a resource person to Home Visitors and as the liaison between the Home Visitors and the Head Start Services Area staff.

Through experience and/or training with established organizational skills which will ensure the proper operation of the program.  
Models respect and acceptance with staff and holds self just as responsible for the outcome of the program as anyone else.  
Shows loyalty to staff for their dedicated work and acknowledges their success to the agency.  
Demonstrated knowledge of preschool development, community resources and agencies that work with families.  
Seeks opportunities to provide training for professional development within the agency, the state and the region.  
Capable of working independently with staff or in tandem with other agencies/institutions.  
Represents the Home Based program to the community, volunteers and patrons in a professional manner.  
A Bachelor's Degree with concentration in early childhood development or related field.  
Four years' experience working with families and young children.  
Three years' experience in a supervisory capacity.

For a full job description please visit Indeed.com or at our website www.tapintoheope.org

Must be able to adjust work schedule as needed. Complete background

## Help Wanted - General

check required. FT, w/competitive benefits. Salary: \$17.10- \$23.56 Per Hour. Submit cover letter and resume to: TAP, Human Resources, Job Code: HBC-EHS/HS, PO Box 2868, 302 2nd St., Roanoke, VA 24001-2868 or fax to 540-345-1944

Applicant email address is required for response concerning this job. For more information about this job and to apply online: See our website: www.tapintoheope.org TTY: 540-345-4096 AA/EOE/Drug Free Workplace Bilinguals encouraged to apply.



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- Must have experience using various tools and diagnostic equipment, read a tape measure, have basic mathematical skills
- Must possess the ability to understand and follow directions
- Must be able to read and speak English
- High school graduate or equivalent required
- Must have completed all Crew Technician classes and have a minimum of 6 months Field Experience

Must be able to adjust work schedule as needed. Complete background check required. FT, w/competitive benefits. Salary: \$15.00- \$17.00 per hour. Submit cover letter and resume to: TAP, Human Resources, Job Code: CT2-ECHR Box 2868, 302 2nd St., Roanoke, VA 24001-2868 or fax to 540-345-1944

Applicant email address is required for response concerning this job. For more information about this job and to apply online: See our website: www.tapintoheope.org TTY: 540-345-4096 AA/EOE/Drug Free Workplace Bilinguals encouraged to apply.

## Legals - City of Radford

### PUBLIC NOTICE

is hereby given that pursuant to VA State Code 15.2-1719, Radford City Police Department is advertising a list of found and unclaimed property which is currently being stored in our evidence room. If you have lost property and it matches the description below, please call (540) 267-3214 to identify and claim your property. Bicycles, Wallets, US Currency, Cell Phones, Firearms, Medical Equipment, Tobacco Products, Documents & Paperwork, Machetes, Knives, Personal Defense Devices, Keys, Purses, Jewelry, Coins, Clothes, Radios, Ammunition, Credit Cards, Tools and Electronics. You must show proof of ownership or provide a detailed description of your property. All unclaimed property will be disposed of after August 1, 2021. Dated this July 12, 2021 - Radford City Police Department, 20 Robertson Street Radford, VA 24141

## Legals - City of Radford

### Public Notice Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment and announce an informational briefing and public hearing on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the Radford Army Ammunition Plant Facility to manage hazardous waste in in Radford, Virginia. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: July 21, 2021 to September 20, 2021. INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING: 30 W. Main Street, Radford, VA 24141, Radford Public Library, Community Meeting Room, on August 12, 2021 from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm PUBLIC HEARING: 30 W. Main Street, Radford, VA 24141, Radford Public Library, Community Meeting Room, on August 25, 2021 at 7:00 pm PERMIT NAME AND NUMBER: Hazardous Waste Treatment Permit, EPA ID No. VA1210020730 APPLICANT NAME: Radford Army Ammunition Plant FACILITY NAME AND LOCATION: Radford Army Ammunition Plant, 4050 Peppers Ferry Road, Radford, VA 24143. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Radford Army Ammunition Plant applied for a reissued permit on March 20, 2012, for treatment of waste explosives by incineration. The facility is in Radford, Virginia. The draft permit will allow the facility to treat waste pyrotechnics, explosives, and propellants by incineration and store hazardous waste in tanks. HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts comments by hand-delivery, e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may also write to the contact person at the address below to be added to the facility mailing list. The public may review the draft permit, fact sheet, and application at the DEQ, Blue Ridge Regional Office at 901 Russell Drive, Salem, Virginia 24153, every workday by appointment. Copies of the permit documents are also available at the DEQ, Office of Financial Responsibility and Waste Programs, 1111 East Main Street, Suite 1400, Richmond, Virginia 23219, Radford Public Library, 30 W. Main Street, Radford, VA 24141, and the DEQ website www.deq.virginia.gov. CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Ashby Scott; DEQ, Office of Financial Responsibility and Waste Programs, P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, Virginia, 23218; Phone: 804 698-4467; Fax (804) 698-4178; E-mail: Ashby.Scott@deq.virginia.gov.

### Request for Proposals City of Radford East Main Street Business District Pedestrian Improvements

The City of Radford is seeking expressions of interest from consulting engineering firms who wish to be considered to provide professional engineering services for: The City of Radford East Main Business District Pedestrian Improvements. The selected firm(s) will partner with a downtown planning committee to develop shovel ready concepts that are aimed at expanding and improving the existing pedestrian-built environments. The objective of this project is to create outdoor spaces for outdoor dining, retail displays, green spaces, seating, and other uses. In addition, the selected firm(s) will also evaluate concepts to improve the existing pedestrian system and introduce traffic calming measures to reduce vehicular speed. Services may include, but not be limited to: planning perspectives, design, developing construction estimates, and other professional services as required to increase preparedness for the purpose of pursuing implementation funding.

## Legals - City of Radford

### Request for Proposals City of Radford East Main Street Business District Pedestrian Improvements

The City of Radford is seeking expressions of interest from consulting engineering firms who wish to be considered to provide professional engineering services for: The City of Radford East Main Business District Pedestrian Improvements. The selected firm(s) will partner with a downtown planning committee to develop shovel ready concepts that are aimed at expanding and improving the existing pedestrian-built environments. The objective of this project is to create outdoor spaces for outdoor dining, retail displays, green spaces, seating, and other uses. In addition, the selected firm(s) will also evaluate concepts to improve the existing pedestrian system and introduce traffic calming measures to reduce vehicular speed. Services may include, but not be limited to: planning perspectives, design, developing construction estimates, and other professional services as required to increase preparedness for the purpose of pursuing implementation funding.

The full RFP may be obtained from the City of Radford Website www.radfordva.gov or on

## Legals - City of Radford

the eVA website https://www.eva.virginia.gov

Submit a searchable PDF file to Kim Repass at kim.repass@radfordva.gov. The proposal must be received at the City office no later than 4:00 PM on August 2, 2021.

The City is an equal opportunity employer. Minority and/or female owned business firms are encouraged to apply.

### Request for Proposals City of Radford East Main Street Downtown Business District Building Revitalization Project

The City of Radford is seeking expressions of interest from consulting engineering firms who wish to be considered to provide professional architectural and/or engineering services for: The City of Radford East Main Street Downtown Business District Building Revitalization Project. The selected firm(s) will partner with a downtown planning committee to develop exterior and interior building design concepts that are aimed at improving the downtown streetscape and quality of building stock. The objective of this project is to eliminate blighting conditions, increase building occupancy, and grow the downtown mixed-use environment. Services may include, but not be limited to: planning perspectives, design, developing construction estimates, and other professional services as required to increase preparedness for the purpose of pursuing implementation funding.

The full RFP may be obtained from the City of Radford Website www.radfordva.gov or on the eVA website https://www.eva.virginia.gov

Submit a searchable PDF file to Kim Repass at kim.repass@radfordva.gov. The proposal must be received at the City office no later than 4:00 PM on August 2, 2021.

The City is an equal opportunity employer. Minority and/or female owned business firms are encouraged to apply.

## 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 August 4, 2021, at 3:00pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia. The purpose of the meeting and hearings shall be to determine if a certain structure is dangerous to the inhabitants of the City and whether such structure should be ordered to be repaired or demolished. The structure is located as follows:  
  
(1) A dilapidated structure located at 17 7th Street Street, Salem, Virginia (Tax Map # 184 - 2 - 2).

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  
Troy D. Loving,  
Building Official

## Legals - Montgomery County

### ABC NOTICE

SANDROCO, LLC, trading as Sandro's Pizzeria & Italian Restaurant, 2775 Market St. NE, Christiansburg, Montgomery County, Virginia 24073.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA

## Legals - Montgomery County

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Beer and Wine On Premises + Mixed Beverages license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Alessandro Pugliese,  
Owner

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Commonwealth of Virginia VA. CODE § 8.01-316 **Case No. JJ019381-01-00** MONTGOMERY COUNTY J & DR - JUV (CHRIST) Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Commonwealth of Virginia, in re ELSAYED, LAURA The object of this suit is to: CUSTODY It is ORDERED that the defendant ELSAYED, AHMED HASSAN appear at the above-named Court and protect his or her interests on or before 09/01/2021 08:30 AM 07/12/2021 Amie Blankenship CLERK

## AT&T Mobility, LLC

is proposing to construct a 30 foot metal pole telecommunications tower facility located near Patrick Henry Drive, Blacksburg, Montgomery Co., VA 24060 (37 14 45.28 N, 80 24 51.36 W). Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending comments to: Project 6121004806 - JLD EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA 17403, or via telephone at (203) 231-6643.

### CAUSE NO. 2021-07472

RECEIPT NO. 1010158, \$8.00, VBF 06/03/2021 TR # 82976137, EML PLAINTIFF: SULLIVAN, AMBER DAWN In The 311<sup>TH</sup> Judicial District Court vs. DEFENDANT: SULLIVAN, JERAMIE WARD of Harris County, Texas

### CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF HARRIS  
  
TO: SULLIVAN, JERAMIE WARD, AND TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, WHOSE RESIDENCE AND WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN, RESPONDENT(S):

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the Clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after you were served this citation and ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE Petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. The Petition of SULLIVAN, AMBER DAWN Petitioner, was filed in the 311<sup>TH</sup> Court of Harris County, Texas, on the 5<sup>TH</sup> day of FEBRUARY, 2021, against SULLIVAN, JERAMIE WARD, Respondent(s), and the said suit being numbered 2021-07472 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In the Matter of the Marriage" of SULLIVAN, AMBER DAWN and

## Legals - Montgomery County

SULLIVAN, JERAMIE WARD and in the interest of the child(ren): NAME: CULIN ALEXANDER SULLIVAN, DOB: 04/01/13, PLACE OF BIRTH: HOUSTON, STATE WHERE CHILD LIVES NOW: TEXAS; the nature of which suit is a request to ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE "The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property and custody and support of the children, which will be binding on you." ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT AT HOUSTON TEXAS ON THIS THE 15TH day of JUNE, 2021.

Lonya Porter  
Deputy

## Legals - Town of New Castle

### TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 3484 DICKS CREEK RD, NEW CASTLE, VA 24127

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$107,100.00, with an annual interest rate of 4.250000% dated April 30, 2014, recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for the County of Craig as Deed Book 192, Page 584, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction all that property located in the County of Craig, on the courthouse steps at the front of the Circuit Court building for the County of Craig located at 182 Main Street, New Castle, Virginia on August 17, 2021 at 2:00 PM, the property with improvements to wit:

Tax Map No. 66-1-3

### THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price, will be required in cash, certified or cashier's check. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustees may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. Loan type: USDA. Reference Number 21-288873. PROFESSIONAL FORECLOSURE CORPORATION OF VIRGINIA, Substitute Trustees, C/O LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP, 10021 Balls Ford Road, Suite 200, Manassas, Virginia 20109 (703) 449-5800.

Publication Dates:  
July 14 and July 21, 2021

## Legals - Roanoke County

### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104 **Case No. CL21-888** ROANOKE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT 305 E. MAIN ST SALEM, VA 24153 ALTIZER, ZANDER LEE v. MCGUIRE, CONNER LEE The object of this suit is to: NAME CHANGE OF MINOR It is ORDERED that Ashley Altizer appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on 8/27/21 @ 11:00 AM  
  
Enter 7/16/21  
Judge Dorsey

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**VIRGINIA REDISTRICTING** COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA REDISTRICTING COMMISSION. PUBLIC HEARINGS. Hearings to solicit public comments on the drawing of state and congressional legislative districts in Virginia. A total of eight public hearings will be held in July and August. Hearings are scheduled regionally both in person and virtually. Hearings will be livestreamed and archived online. For more information on dates and registration: https://www.virginiaredistricting.org

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# SPORTS

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## Vinton 8U Dixie All-Stars

The 2021 Vinton Dixie League Darlings(8U) All-Star softball team. Front row, L to R; Aria Hardifer, Addyson Lutz, Arizona Davis, Caroline Sink, Spencer Boyd and Janilla Harris. Second row; Emma Janney, Kaydence Lorek, Charlie Reynolds, Hayden Janney, Emmalyn Redden and Nicole Eggleston. Third row, coaches Blake Davis, Heather Davis, Bruce Janney and Cary Sink.



## Vinton 10U Dixie All-Stars

The 2021 Vinton Dixie League 10U All-Star softball team. Kneeling (L-R): Michal Hamlar, Tenley Hardifer, Kingsley Conner, Addison Bradford, Callie Lutz and Carlie Zimmerman. Standing (L-R): Madelynn Ray, Paylin Waldron, Mia Johnson, Rylan Lang, Serenity Jones and Raegan Henritze. Coaches (L-R): John Waldron, Randy Johnson and Tish Ray.



## Vinton 12U Dixie All-Stars

The 2021 Vinton Dixie League 12U All-Star softball team. Front Row L to R; Olivia Lorek, Katelyn Mills, Riley Cummings, Mia Vest and Hailey Webster. Second Row L to R: Izabella Trumble, Jenna Cruz, Arianna Krista, Alexis Short, Riley Niday, Kara Watkins and Emmalee Dodson. Third Row L to R Coaches Scott Hanger, Troy Short and Greg Krista.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

## City-County swim meet this week

The Christiansburg Aquatic Center will be the site of the annual Duane Whitenack City-County Championship this weekend. The meet includes 14 Roanoke Valley Aquatic Association teams, including the Vinton Area Swim Team.

Hunting Hills is the defending champion but several other teams are looking to unseat the Hound Dogs. Read Mountain was the runnerup in 2019 while Stonegate finished third. There was no season in 2020 due to COVID.

The meet starts on Friday at 10:30 am. The younger swimmers will compete in the morning session with the 11 and older swimmers taking the pool in the afternoon. The same scenario will be in place on Saturday, but with different events.

The RVAA will present several special awards, including the Duane Whitenack Award for dedication to swimming, scholarships in the

name of Sue Blackwell and George Devins, and the RVAA Tyler Nordgren Trophy. Nordgren, a member of the Read Mountain swim team, suffered a cerebral hemorrhage during warm ups for a Monday night meet in July 2001 and died later that week. His brief swimming career was marked by a drive to improve and the excitement that comes with competing and winning ribbons. At age 6, Tyler already had overcome a form of autism that had once required that he attend a school for the hearing-impaired.

A trophy will be awarded at the annual City-County Meet to an 8-and-under swimmer who embodies the spirit of Tyler Nordgren. I

A member of each team will also receive the Irene Hurley Volunteer Award. This award honors the service and dedication of Irene Hurley to the RVAA and the sport of swimming in the Roanoke Valley.

## Brian Hoffman Vintonotes

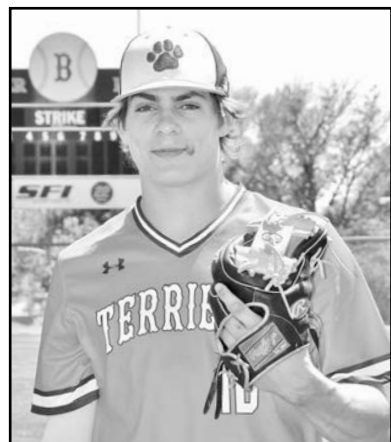


### Dean is headed to Blacksburg

Graduated William Byrd High School senior Tyler Dean will be pitching for Virginia Tech in the spring. Dean was on the bubble for the recent Major League Baseball Draft but was not selected by a big league team.

That wasn't totally unexpected. The draft was cut to just 20 rounds in an MLB money saving move and that hurt Tyler's chances of being drafted. In past years the draft was around 60 rounds.

"The clubs are very adamant about drafting guys that they will sign and not lose players by drafting and not signing them," said Tyler's dad, Steve Dean. "We decided since he was not going to be a top two or three round pick that our agent would put a high bonus figure out there to all the scouts. We felt like unless he could get X amount, it would be better for him to go to Virginia Tech and have a shot of going in the first couple of rounds three years from now and signing for a whole lot more. It's a bit of a risk, but we felt worth the gamble."



TYLER DEAN

Tyler's every start this spring was chronicled by MLB baseball scouts. In his first home start over 20 scouts crowded around the backstop at Walthall Park to watch him pitch and chart his speed with radar guns. He didn't disappoint, striking out seven Northside batters in five shutout innings. Tyler finished the season with an 0.70 earned run average with 50 strikeouts in 30 innings pitched. He allowed just 15 hits while pitching against some of Byrd's top opponents, including six innings of one-hit ball against a powerful Abingdon team in the Region 3D final. He left the game after 109 pitches, one away from the VHSL limit, and Byrd lost in the seventh inning, 2-1.

After the season Dean received an invite to the inaugural MLB Combine at the USA Complex in Cary, NC. He pitched against other top prospects from high school throughout the country and pitched two innings, striking out four and getting two lazy fly balls to right field. He gave up no hits and no runs.

This summer Tyler is playing in the Coastal Plains League for the Tri-City Chilipeppers, based in Colonial Heights, Va. He's the only upcoming freshman on the team with all the other players being either upcoming juniors or seniors in college. All his teammates reported at the end of May but with the high school season being delayed, along with playoffs and the Combine, Dean was not able to join the team until June 30th.

When Tyler reports to Virginia Tech he'll be teammates with Byrd batterymate Dylan Hatfield, who is also headed to Blacksburg.

### HOME RUN DERBY SET FOR JULY 31

The annual Home Run Derby for William Byrd baseball alumni will be held at Walthall Park on Saturday, July 31. Former players who would like to participate are asked to contact former Byrd coach Gary Walthall so he can finalize plans.

After the derby there will be a game if there are enough players to participate. If there aren't enough pitchers Doug Pence has volunteered to feed the pitching machine.

"If it rains, come to the hitting building and we will do some things inside," said Walthall. "Let me know who plans to just attend, who wants to do just the Derby, or play in a game so we can have some water for everyone."

### WEST TAKES THE SILVER

The West team took the silver medal in last weekend's Commonwealth Games baseball tournament at Liberty University in Lynchburg. The West was coached by former Byrd player and coach Rodney Spradlin and former Byrd player and current coach Neil Zimmerman was an assistant.

The West opened on Friday with an 8-6 win over the Central team. The West then beat the East team, 12-1, and the North, 6-2, on Saturday to advance to Sunday's championship game against the North.

In the Gold Medal game the West lost a heartbreaker, 6-5. The North team scored four unearned runs in the second inning. West battled back to tie the game at 5-5 but the North scored the deciding run in the seventh on a pop up that was lost in the sun, a sacrifice bunt and a two out single.

The West outit all four opponents, including a 9-8 edge over the North in the Gold Medal game. Sully Tibbs of Jefferson Forest led the West team, going seven-for-14 at the plate for the weekend. Lord Botetourt twins Owen and Nate Prince were a combined 10-for-21 at the plate with eight runs batted in.

### CORRECTION

In last week's sports section a picture of a Virginia Area Swim Team had the name of the swimmer misspelled. It should have been "Mia Pippin," but instead was spelled with an "e" like former NBA star Scottie Pippen. I'll take the blame for that.



Jada Karnes, a 2019 graduate of William Byrd High School, is an intern at WFXR TV this summer. Here she observes as David Deguzman interviews Salem High football coach Don Holter prior to Monday night's Roanoke Valley Sports Club "Kickoff" meeting at the Salem Civic Center. Karnes pitched for Byrd's 2019 state championship team and is now a standout player at Roanoke College as she enters her junior year this fall. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

# WWII vet celebrates 100th birthday

**Debbie Adams**  
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World War II veteran Earl Childress celebrated his 100th birthday at the Vinton War Memorial on July 17, along with his wife Shirley, who was celebrating her 89th. The couple has been married for 40 years.

Earl Childress was born on July 27, 1921, and grew up in Greensboro, N.C. He was drafted into the United States Army in August 1942 and served with the 630th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion in North Africa and Italy.

In an oral history recorded in 2016, Childress shared some of his experiences from the war. His basic training was at Camp Hulen in Texas, where he learned to fire a 40mm “ack ack” gun, a 50-caliber machine gun, and his Tommy automatic machine gun. He was assigned to duty as a truck driver.

His division shipped out from Boston in April 1943 and arrived in Oran, North Africa, in May. They immediately set up in the harbor to provide air protection. While in Oran, he was assigned to guard German and Italian prisoners of war. His outfit spent the next several weeks training for the invasion of Italy in September 1943. Childress was trained in the use of machine guns.

They landed on the beaches of Italy in flat bottom boats, but the ramps could not be lowered, so the soldiers were forced to go over the side—a problem for Childress, who said he couldn’t swim. When he made it to the beach, his first action was to dig a foxhole with his helmet with a German tank firing in their direction.

Eventually Italy surrendered and his division left for Naples where they set up on a racetrack, assigned to protect American artillery from the German planes. He recalls Mount Vesuvius erupting at the time in 1944 with planes damaged by the eruption. The Germans bombed nightly.

They were located for quite a while at Monte Cassimo, the site of a monastery, where quite a few Purple Hearts were won. Childress finished out the war in Rome. They returned to the states in November

1945. Childress said he was scared from the time he arrived in North Africa until he left for home; he spoke of friends and fellow soldiers who did not return. His mother was waiting for him in the street in front of their home when he arrived. Soon after, he married his first wife Mildred Cockman, who he had known before the war.

Childress lived in Greensboro for many years and then moved to the Roanoke area when he married his second wife Shirley, who is from Vinton. One of the stories shared at the birthday party was how they met. Apparently, both were on dates with other people. Earl saw Shirley across the room, and it was love at first sight. He went over to Shirley and asked her to stay there while he took his date home. They have been together ever since.

He worked for many years as a salesman for Johanson Electric, traveling during the week, but home on weekends.

The Childresses were surrounded by family and friends at the birthday celebration. Their family includes daughters Jeanne Griffith, Debbie Bray, and Karen Gilmore, four grandsons, four great-grandsons, and a large extended family.

Many shared their memories of Earl and Shirley. Almost everyone who spoke talked about the enormous vegetable gardens he planted, the food he shared over the years with friends, neighbors, and family, and the canning they did. He continued to raise gardens up until recently when he and Shirley have moved to assisted living.

He was applauded as a good father, a great provider, and a devout Christian.

The family reminisced about trips to the beach, and trips to Costa Rica, the Bahamas, and Montego Bay; Earl’s famous sense of humor (“he’s a hoot,” one said), and the hospitality always found in the Childress home.

Larry Cockman, a retired firefighter and battalion chief in Greensboro, and brother to Earl’s first wife, thanked him for always being a haven for him as a child, for letting him drive Earl’s car on his first date, and for being a great influence on his life. He also reminded those attending that Earl is one



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS  
**Earl Childress celebrates 100 years with family and friends—and cake.**

of the few World War II veterans still living and that “we wouldn’t be here today if not for people like Earl.”

Earl’s daughter, Jeanne, recalled her dad taking her hunting (she with a BB gun) as a child. She thanked Shirley for coming into her dad’s life.

Stepdaughter Karen, who organized the celebration, recalled some laughable mishaps involving a lawnmower blade replaced upside down and brake pads put on backwards as they did attempted repairs together.

Neighbor Bill Reynolds talked about their swaps—Earl gave him food from the garden in the summer; he kept Earl’s driveway cleared in winter.

Several talked about the countless birdhouses Earl built. Son-in-law David Griffith said that “people all over North Carolina have Earl’s birdhouses.”

A former neighbor, whose father was a minister, said that his father walked the straight and narrow until he met Earl. In one memorable incident, the two went turkey hunting and then decided to hunt for mushrooms. The resulting tickets from a park ranger for \$75 apiece for possessing guns overshadowed the one mushroom Earl was able to find in the woods.

Congratulations to Earl and Shirley on their milestone birthdays and their joyful lives well-lived.



**World War II veteran Earl Childress celebrated his 100th birthday at the Vinton War Memorial on July 17. His wife Shirley is celebrating her 89th.**



**Earl Childress has been an avid, renowned, and generous gardener most of his life.**



SUBMITTED PHOTOS  
**Earl Childress served in North Africa and Italy during World War II, a member of the 630th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion.**



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