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# The Vinton Messenger

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William Byrd High School seniors Simon Band and Madison Tuck were chosen by their classmates and the WBHS staff as the 2021 Homecoming King and Queen. They are shown with William Byrd Principal Tammy Newcomb, crown bearer James Anderson, and the William Byrd mascot.

## William Byrd crowns 2021 Homecoming King and Queen



Twenty freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors were nominated by their peers for the 2021 Homecoming Court. Shown left to right are: freshman Brogan Dent, sophomore John Kiker, sophomore Shiloh Markwith, junior Shane Heldenbrand, junior Dustin Richards, junior Justin Patrick, senior Trevor Ruble, senior Landon Niday, former King Keaton Band, new King Simon Band, new Queen Maddy Tuck, former Queen Reagan Tuck, senior Jenna Nicely, senior Sela Beatty, senior Annabelle Moore, junior Maddy Simmons, junior Bailey Warden, junior Breanna Hodges, sophomore Kyra Lane, sophomore Emily Tuck, freshman Jada Johnson, and the William Byrd mascot.



Last year's Senior King Keaton Band (left) crowned Homecoming King Simon Band. Last year's Senior Queen Reagan Tuck (far right) crowned Maddy Tuck as the 2021 Homecoming Queen. Coincidentally, Simon and Keaton are brothers; Maddy and Reagan are cousins.



The Homecoming Night festivities kicked off with a parade through the neighborhoods surrounding WBHS, up Route 24, and into the school parking lot—led by the Marching Terriers band.

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

William Byrd High School seniors Madison Tuck and Simon Band were crowned the 2021 Homecoming Queen and King during half-time festivities at the football game on October 8.

The Homecoming Court was made up of 20 students at Byrd this year—two freshmen, four sophomores, six juniors, and eight seniors. Members of the Homecoming Court are nominated by their classmates (freshmen nominate freshmen,

etc.) with the entire student body and staff voting online to select the Homecoming King and Queen from the senior candidates. Nominees introduced themselves to the student body before the voting via video with

See Homecoming, page 2

## Keller Williams real estate opens in Vinton



The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce and Vinton Mayor Brad Grose welcomed the new Keller Williams Vinton real estate firm to Vinton. Shown front row, left to right, are Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Assistant Kathryn Sowers, owner Tina Friar, Miss Virginia Tatum Sheppard, owner Matt Hogan and his daughter, Hogan's mother Darla Thompson, Vinton Mayor Brad Grose and Chamber Executive Director Angie Chewning.



The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce and KW Vinton hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony at their new office on Washington Avenue in downtown Vinton on October 12. Shown left to right are owner Tina Friar, Miss Virginia Tatum Sheppard, owner Matt Hogan and daughter, and Vinton Mayor Brad Grose.

Matt Hogan and Tina Friar have opened a new real estate firm in Vinton—Keller Williams Vinton. They celebrated their grand opening with the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce, Mayor Brad Grose, and Miss Virginia Tatum Sheppard in a ribbon-cutting ceremony on October 12.

Mayor Grose presented Hogan and Friar with

a plaque welcoming them to the Town of Vinton. Their new office is located on Washington Avenue near downtown Vinton in the residence which housed Hayden Insurance for many years. KW Vinton is a franchise, independently owned and operated—and a joint venture for Hogan and Friar. Hogan, a real estate

agent, has worked for Keller Williams Realty Roanoke (located on Electric Road) for most of his five years in the real estate business. He brought the idea for the Vinton office to Friar, a real estate broker for KW. She has been a realtor for over 25 years—mainly in Lynchburg, Central, and Southwest Virginia. Hogan will be the

day-to-day presence and “face of the business” in the Vinton office. Friar plans to be in Vinton on a weekly basis to support Hogan and help the business grow. She also works with Keller Williams offices in Roanoke, Christiansburg, and Lynchburg. The company has plans for a Hollins office as well. Friar describes Keller

Williams as the “number one real estate company world.” Hogan is a graduate of Patrick Henry High School and Liberty University. He serves on the board of directors of the Miss Virginia organization. Friar is a Virginia Tech graduate and avid “Hokie.” As for why they decided to open the new office in Vinton, the two wanted to “expand from the other side of the valley. Vinton is an ‘up and coming town with a quality of purpose’ they “found appealing in addition to the draw of a great traffic count passing through the town and plentiful parking in the area.” Hogan was acquainted with Mayor Grose as they

See Williams, page 3

### Meet Vinton's NEW community partners

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# Homecoming

from page 1



Members of the 2021 Homecoming Court rode atop convertibles in the parade. Shown are sophomores Kyra Lane and Shiloh Markwith.



Members of the William Byrd student Dog Pound cheered on the Terriers, who were playing Lord Botetourt.



The new Homecoming King and Queen are shown with their parents. Simon Band is shown with his mother Sandy Cales. Maddy Tuck is shown with her father and escort Mark Tuck. Her mother, Amanda Trent, is not pictured.



William Byrd students celebrated Spirit Week October 4-8 with Flannel Day, Jersey Day, Class Colors Day, Throwback Thursday Decades Day, and (shown here) Breast Cancer Awareness Day.



The junior girls were the winners of the 2021 Powder Puff football game..



The WBHS cheerleaders welcomed the Terriers to the field. PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

the assistance of ITRT and Junior Class sponsor Cherry Bell Damasco-Farrington. During half-time, members of the Homecoming Court were introduced and escorted to mid-field by a member of their

family. The winners were announced—a secret until then. Principal Tammy Newcomb presented trophies to the new king and queen, who were crowned by last year's king and queen—Keaton Band and Reagan Tuck. (Coincidentally, Simon and Keaton are brothers, while Maddy and Reagan are cousins. Sophomore Emily Tuck, a member of the Homecoming Court, is Reagan Tuck's sister and Maddy Tuck's cousin.)

Melissa Tuck), John Kiker (parents are Tosha and Josh Kiker), Kyra Lane (parents are Stacey and Jason Lane), and Shiloh Markwith (son of Aaron Markwith and Ronda Markwith),

and a pep rally in the stadium on Friday afternoon prior to the annual Homecoming Parade through the neighborhoods surrounding the high school. The parade started out at the baseball field in the Spring Grove subdivision, proceeded down Route 24, up the driveway to the school and through the parking lot.

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**Danielle Stockbridge**

Ruther Glen Advancement Associate | Paws for Purple Hearts



Every week in 2021 we will award a local charity from a community in which we operate a donation of \$1,000. Helping those communities around us is at the core of our operational philosophy. We truly believe that high tides raise all ships and we are determined to add value to the communities in which we operate.

Through the charitable program, Rosie's Gives Back, Colonial Downs Group has made

**monetary and in-kind donations of more than \$1,357,500,**

and has logged over 2,500 service hours in Virginia communities.



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In 2020, due to the pandemic, there was no fall football and no Homecoming Court; a senior king and queen were chosen during the spring football season—Keaton Band and Reagan Tuck.

Maddy Tuck is one of this year's Dog Pound leaders, participates in varsity softball and indoor track and plays travel softball. She is a member of the FCA, Beta Club, and Byrd Buddies. Her parents are Amanda Trent and Mark Tuck. Simon Band plays varsity soccer. His mother is Sandy Cales.

The crown bearer was James Anderson, son of Assistant Principal Travis Anderson and his wife Christine; James also delivered the crowns at Homecoming in 2019.

Members of this year's 2021 Homecoming Court are freshmen Jada Johnson and Brogan Dent (parents are Justin and Kim Dent).

Sophomores on the court are Emily Tuck (daughter of Kevin and

Juniors on the court were: Bre Hodges (daughter of Angie Hodges and Tim Hodges), Shane Heldenbrand (parents are Stephanie Blankenship and Andy Heldenbrand), Bailey Warden (daughter of Steve and Denise Sartell), Dustin Richards (parents are John and Christie Richards), Madeline Simmons (parents are Samantha and Brian Simmons), and Justin Patrick (son of Ginny and Keith Patrick).

Seniors on the court in addition to Simon Band and Maddy Tuck are: Jenna Nicely (daughter of Sherry and Randy Nicely), Jonah Bowser (son of Doug and Suzanne Bowser), Sela Beatty (parents are Letitia Hawkins-Beatty and Timothy Beatty), Trevor Ruble (son of Hannah Ruble and Richard Ruble), Annabelle Moore (her mother is Lisa Moore), and Landon Niday (son of Kevin and Wendy Niday).

Homecoming festivities this year also included five days of Spirit Week at William Byrd, including Flannel Day, Jersey Day, Breast Cancer Awareness Day, Throwback Thursday Decades Day, and Class Colors Day. The Sophomore Class was declared the winner of Spirit Week for its participation.

There was a Powder Puff football game midweek (junior girls versus senior girls)

Instead of their usual halftime performance, the marching band performed their "Escape from the Mind" program prior to the game.

Terriers Head Coach Brad Lutz and his players dedicated the game to a fallen military hero—Army Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Westbrook. He joined the Army even before graduating from high school and was assigned to the 1st Battalion 1st Infantry Division Fort Riley, Kansas. Westbrook was killed in October 2009 at age 41 by insurgents in Afghanistan who attacked his unit. He is survived by his wife and three sons. His brother also died in combat in Iraq. These special tributes to "those who protect our freedoms" have become a part of each game played by the Terriers.

The grand finale came on Saturday, October 9, with the Homecoming Dance in the school gym.

## Vinton Treasurer's Office to be closed October 18, 19, 20

The Town of Vinton Treasurer's Office in the Municipal Building at 311 S. Polard Street will be temporarily closed for computer upgrades from Monday, October 18, through the end of the day on Wednesday, October 20.

The closure is the result of the first phase of an important software system upgrade by the town. If any future clo-

sures are required, the town will be sure to give as much advance notice as possible.

The Treasurer's Office will reopen on Thursday, October 21 for normal business hours.

Online tax payments will also not be available beginning October 15 but will resume after October 22.

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

I loved seeing all the Homecoming pictures this weekend. Many thanks to everyone who helped put this event on. I hope everyone had a great time!

So glad to know Sam Cundiff is home. Continued thoughts and prayers for him and his family.

We are accepting entries for the Vinton Christmas Parade-Visit [www.vintonchamber.com](http://www.vintonchamber.com) or call the Chamber office, 343-1364.

Blood Drive - Vinton Moose Lodge - Thursday, October 21, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The Sassy Sisters are sponsoring this blood drive and need everyone's help in recruiting donors to make this drive a success!

October is Breast Cancer

Awareness Month and the American Red Cross wants to remind donors that blood and platelets are needed to help ensure blood is on the shelves for cancer patients and others who rely on transfusions. Donated blood remains essential to meet the needs of patients in hospitals all over Virginia. There aren't enough people donating blood to help patients in need. Do you know someone who has never donated before? Please encourage them to make an appointment to donate on October 21.

A blood donation is a simple act of kindness that can be done in approximately one hour! Many employers also allow their employees to donate

Angie Chewing

Filling in for Bootie

blood without losing pay for being away from work ... which makes it a win/win for all involved! We all have either known someone or may have personally experienced ourselves or within our own families, someone that has had breast cancer or some other type of cancer which resulted in the need for transfusions and these transfusions were only made possible due to a donation from someone that rolled up their sleeves and do-

ated blood and platelets. The role of a "donor" is the key to providing a patient with the hope and chance of survival. Can you recruit at least three donors to schedule an appointment for our blood drive? Can you schedule an appointment to personally donate blood?

Donating personally or recruiting donors to make an appointment, either way, every donation that is scheduled is a life saved. Donors are a lifeline to cancer patients in need!!

How to schedule an appointment - go online at [redcross-blood.org](http://redcross-blood.org) (In Upper Right Corner Enter Sponsor Code 1521 in the Box Highlighted "Find a Blood Drive" and this will take you directly to our blood drive)

Note: Donors must create an account in order to schedule an appointment online.

Call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) - Tell them you want to schedule an appointment for Sponsor Code 1521 (Vinton Moose Lodge)

Contact Carolyn Mills, via email at [cmills@mm-transfer.com](mailto:cmills@mm-transfer.com) with a requested appointment time.

If you have any questions, or need any additional information, please feel free to contact Carolyn. Also feel free to share this email with your friends, family, co-workers, etc.... as a tool to help recruit donors for our blood drive.... every single donor can and will make a difference in someone's life!

St. Timothy Lutheran Church to celebrate 50th anniversary

St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Vinton will celebrate the congregation's 50th anniversary with a worship service on Sunday, October 17, at 11 a.m. The Rev. Dr. Janet Ramsey, who was pastor at the church from 1990 to 1992, will preach the sermon in the service. A reception with light refreshments will follow.

The congregation had its beginnings in 1970 when the Rev. James W. Sheldon started a mission development in Vinton. According to an article in The Vinton Messenger, the first meeting was held on September 20, 1970, in the recreation building on the grounds of the Vinton War Memorial. A steering committee was formed which included Mrs. Robert Bowyer, Melva Jones, Dr. Stan Eichelberger, James Blackwell, F.A. Holdren, and Richard Haley.

St. Timothy was organized as a church in April of 1971 with the Rev. Sheldon as the first pastor.

The current church building was dedicated in September of 1974. In the 50 years since, St. Timothy has been served

by eight pastors: the Rev. James Sheldon, the Rev. Robert Busch, the Rev. Pat McGlaughlin, the Rev. Jan Ramsey, the Rev. Harold Uhl, the Rev. Amy Oehlschlaeger, the Rev. Judy Tavela, and the Rev. James Davis.

In addition to worship and educational opportunities, the congregation is involved in several community programs in the area.

Since its beginning, St. Timothy has been a small, but active, congregation. Many of the facilities and improvements were completed by the parishioners. Many charter members still attend each week. Its congregation says that St. Timothy remains "a small but mighty church of Christ."

The church is well known for its elegant display of angels on the lawn at Christmas.

St. Timothy is located at 1201 Hardy Road in Vinton. All are welcome to join in the celebration. Face masks are encouraged, especially for the unvaccinated.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

St. Timothy Lutheran Church, located on Hardy Road in Vinton, will celebrate its 50th anniversary on October 17.

WBHS Choir presents Fall Concert

The William Byrd High School Choir had its first concert of the year on Thursday, October 7. This was their first performance in the WBHS auditorium since December 2019.

The Mixed Chorus presented "The Wellerman," a sea shanty

that had become famous on TikTok, as well as an original called "More to Me," which celebrates the uniqueness of every individual.

The Vocal Ensemble has rebranded to include more choreography while singing, and

danced to "The Monster Mash" as well as a stand-still performance of "That Lonesome Road," which will be part of a fully themed set that will culminate at the spring concert.

Volunteer singers and director Matt Bartley also surprised

his wife for their fifth wedding anniversary by singing a song that was performed at their wedding.

The evening ended in a gorgeous song called "Sing Gently" which was performed by both groups. It was originally written

in the peak of COVID for virtual choir and speaks of the desire to sing together as one.

The WBHS Choir will perform the national anthem at the October 22 varsity home football game and later at the winter concert on December 16.



The William Byrd High School Choir held its Fall Concert on October 7 in the WBHS auditorium.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Williams from page 1

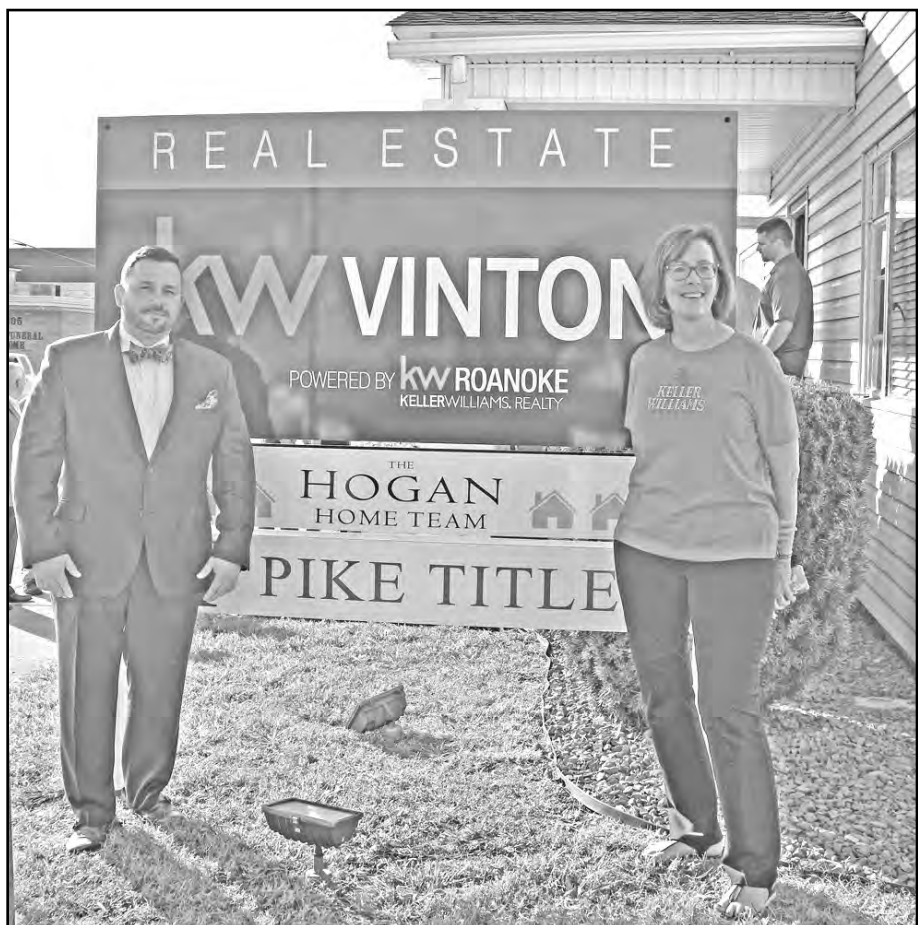


PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The new KW Vinton real estate firm is a joint venture between Tina Friar and Matt Hogan.

"go to church together," and with Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Angie Chewing and her mother, Bootie, who also serves on the Miss Virginia board of directors.

Friar says that the current real estate market remains strong. "All real estate is hyper-local and embedded in the community," and they plan to serve the Vinton community.

They chose the location at 324 East Washington Avenue when they saw the "For Sale" sign on the residence-turned-office-space on the highly traveled corridor.

Hogan says they are looking for more real estate agents to join and expand the new business.

The Keller Williams website states that the company was founded over 37 years ago and now has offices in more than 50 regions, including in the United States and Canada with 10,000

agents outside of North America, and still growing, "fostering a global network as the largest, fastest-growing real estate franchise in the world, at the forefront of technology, training, and culture."

The festive grand

opening featured not just the ribbon-cutting, but a visit from Miss Virginia, a live DJ, giveaways, gift certificates, cornhole, vendors, and refreshments throughout the two floors of the new offices.

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# BCAT hosts annual Expo, open house

**Debbie Adams**  
dadams@ourvalley.org

Students and staff at the Burton Center for Arts and Technology (BCAT) hosted its annual Expo and open house on October 7.

Those who attended—mainly prospective students and their families—were able to learn about the various programs BCAT offers that they can apply for, for next year. The open house began at 5:30 p.m. and ran until 7:30, allowing guests to visit about eight different programs if they kept up the pace of the schedule.

The programs were located in the three separate buildings that make up the BCAT campus. Building A houses the Center for Visual Arts and Museum Studies, Cosmetology, Early Childhood Education and Teaching Internship, Game Design, and Introduction to Nursing Careers.

Programs in Auto Service Technology, the Center for Mass Communication, the Center for Performing Arts, Culinary Arts, Emergency Medical Technicians, and Welding and Motorsports are located in Building B.

Building Trades, the Center for Engineering (STEM), Computer Information and Technology and Networking Concepts, Criminal Justice, Masonry, and Robotics (STEM) are housed in Building C.

According to Principal Christian Kish, “BCAT is considered a ‘specialty school’ and takes applications from students from all five Roanoke County high schools (base schools). The plan is to propel students into a successful career in their chosen field—having them ‘Opportunity Ready’ for a bright future. BCAT is a special place because the students choose to be here with us and because the students were chosen by us to be here.”

About 180 students from William Byrd High School are enrolled in programs at BCAT.

The first building at BCAT (then known as the Roanoke County Education Center) was constructed in 1962. There were only four programs at the time; only two—Cosmetology and Auto Mechanics—still remain on the list of offerings. To begin with, BCAT served roughly 300 students.

In 60 years, the campus has gradually added two more buildings and many more programs—in approximately 20 areas, and now counts over 800 students. The facilities have become somewhat antiquated and are the focus of a joint rebuilding effort (in a new location) by the county School Board and Board of Supervisors who want to create a state-of-the-art center.

Students at BCAT are instructed in “Super Blocks,” meaning their instructional time is greater than a regular block at the high school level. Students taking classes in the morning are at BCAT from 7:30 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. Students taking afternoon classes do so from 12:25 p.m. to 2:55 p.m.

Students take other required classes (such as math, English, science, social studies, and other electives) at their base high school. Transportation is not provided from the students’ home to BCAT. If they register for morning classes, the family has the responsibility of transporting them from home to their base school to catch a morning shuttle to BCAT—which is located in Salem. For afternoon classes, students are transported after lunch from their base school to BCAT.

Some students sign up for a one-year program; others stay all four years of their high school career.

Families who stopped by Automotive Technology

program heard from instructor Steve Hoback about the program designed for students who want to enter the automotive field. Students receive theory and hands-on training in automotive repair to prepare for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certification testing and gain valuable hands-on training using the latest automotive diagnostic and repair equipment.

The Building Trades Program taught by Tom Shelton “is a doorway into the high-paying careers found in the construction industries. Students have opportunities to develop their skills in the shop and off-site on jobs in the community, learning carpentry/cabinetry, electrical wiring, and plumbing.”

Burton’s Computer Information Technology program offers hands-on training and classroom lecture designed to help students pass the CompTIA A+ and Network + exams and attain their certifications. Students planning to attend college can acquire Dual Enrollment college credits. Students learn the components of a computer, followed by a focus on Operating Systems. An advanced class focuses on in-depth networking hardware, topologies, protocols, and troubleshooting.

Cosmetology, taught by Gwen Bower, is a three-year program which consists of hands-on experience in a salon atmosphere. Students learn about skin care, nail care, and hair care, as well as salon management. They perfect their skills by working on clients. They gain the experience needed to pass the Virginia Cosmetology State Board exam, allowing students to be licensed to work in a salon or spa.

Culinary Arts is a two-year hands-on class that teaches potential chefs how to prepare and present food, alongside experienced chef instructor Teresa Baxter. These classes are held in the original school kitchen at Burton.

Amanda Kinser leads both the Early Education program which allows students to intern at local schools one or two days a week and the Teaching Internship Program, in which students shadow a mentor/teacher. Both programs give students the opportunity to work with students in classroom settings.

The Emergency Medical Technician Program (EMT-B) is available with cooperation from Virginia Western Community College, Jefferson College, and the support of the Roanoke County Fire & Rescue Department. Students are trained to national standards as EMT-B’s with current American Heart Association CPR certification and perform ride-along assignments with Roanoke

County Fire Rescue.

Game Design & Programming introduces students to the gaming industry as well as a foundation in Information Technology and Programming concepts, in preparation for careers as a Game Level Designer, Game Tester, or Entry Level Programmer. Students learn how to create and test their own games as well as research the gaming industry. Students take an industry certification test.

The Introduction to Nursing Careers program allows students to explore opportunities in the health care field. Supervised work-based learning in health care settings is managed by a board-certified RN. Students have the opportunity to earn the Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) credential by the end of the school year. Year two students participate in hands-on clinical nursing experiences at a program partner location, performing the skills learned in the skills lab during year one, on actual patients. Qualified students will take the CNA exam at BCAT’s skills lab by the end of the 1st semester in year two.

In the Masonry program, students learn entry-level masonry skills such as laying brick and block from instructor David Baxter. They gain hands-on experience working with local contractors and industry professionals, and through a variety of community service projects. Masonry students have the option to participate in Skills USA and compete statewide in the trade, where Burton has a tradition of performing extremely well.

Instructor Shawn Burns, says the Mechatronics program is highly popular, with only 25 of 100 applicants accepted this year because you “get to make stuff. It’s a project-based class.” This is a two-year program that offers dual enrollment credit with Virginia Western Community College and many certifications.

Areas of study include Shop Math and Precision Measuring; blueprint reading and applying tolerances; OSHA safety training; tooling and fixtures; use of saws, drill presses, lathes and mills; building and competing with Radio-Controlled Robots; introduction to 2D and 3D CAD systems; building mechanical drive systems and simulation; introduction to electronics, pneumatics, hydraulics and computer controllers, electronic circuits and schematics soldering lab; building and competing with autonomous robots; introduction to CAD/CAM and CNC machining processes; introduction to Automated Manufacturing Cell simulation; and 3D printing and CNC engraving.

In the Burton Motors-



William Byrd student Sam Wilcox is shown next to his masonry project at BCAT.



WBHS students Nathan Rowland (on left) and Ethan Pekala are part of the Motorsports program at BCAT



Chris Overfelt is the long-time Motorsports and Welding instructor at BCAT.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS  
The EMT program at BCAT leads to EMT-B certification. A student demonstrates the Heimlich Maneuver at the BCAT Open House.

ports program, taught by Chris Overfelt, students learn how to use the tools and machines needed to build a racecar from scratch. Students receive training in welding, fabricating, auto painting, and engine performance and build cars from the ground up. Students may attend field trips to racetracks and participate in Skills USA where BCAT has become nationally recognized and ranked. Students work on drag cars, Go-karts, Street rods, and Race car trailers. Overfelt is also the instructor for the welding

program. BCAT also offers specialty centers for Engineering, Mass Communications, Performing Arts (voice, acting, and dance), and Visual Arts and Museum Studies as part of the Roanoke County Governor’s STEM Academy.

The procedure to follow to apply for BCAT programs can be found by emailing tgibbons@rcps.us. Information is also available on the RCPS website at www.rcps.us/BCAT. Applications are now being accepted. The deadline is January 31, 2022.

**The Vinton Messenger**

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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.

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# 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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# Vinton Woman's Club hosts fall GFWC Blue Ridge District meeting

The fall meeting of the GFWC Blue Ridge District Women's Clubs meeting was hosted by the GFWC Woman's Club of Vinton. It began on Friday night, October 8, at the Charles R. Hill Community Center with a meet-and-greet dinner honoring GFWC Virginia President Dale Fisher from Manassas and GFWC Virginia Third Vice President/Director of Juniors

Jenny Hindgardener from Staunton. A district meeting followed on Saturday at the Roanoke Country Club and included members from the Bedford, Blacksburg, Botetourt Town & Country, Floyd County, Roanoke, Roanoke County, Totera, and Vinton Woman's Clubs. Included in the Saturday meeting were speeches by the state officers and a

hands-on project. Each club was responsible for bringing a specific item and these were then compiled into goodie bags to be given to each employee of the Roanoke County/Salem Department of Social Services, thanking them for their service to the communities they serve. The members stuffed a total of 127 goodies bags to be delivered this week to the offices in Salem.



GFWC Virginia President Dale Fisher speaking to the district GFWC Woman's Club members on Saturday, October 8, at the Roanoke Country Club.



GFWC Woman's Club members gathered at the Charles R. Hill Community Center on October 7 for a meet-and-greet dinner honoring GFWC Virginia President Dale Fisher from Manassas and GFWC Virginia Third Vice President/Director of Juniors Jenny Hindgardener from Staunton. Shown left to right, are Judy Banik (Vinton), Donna Darist (Roanoke), Lois Creasy (Vinton), Camilla Cabaniss (Vinton and Roanoke County), Yolanda Adams (Bedford), Amber Holdren, Blue Ridge District President (Vinton and Bedford), Kathryn Sowers (Vinton and Totera), Marlene Wine (Roanoke), Mary Kay Brown (Vinton), Carol Williams-Mills (Vinton and Roanoke), Teresa Craig (Bedford), Jenny Hindgardener, (GFWC Virginia Third Vice President/Director of Juniors), Sandy Pauley (Botetourt), Carolyn Fellers (Bedford) and Dale Fisher (GFWC Virginia President).



At their district meeting, GFWC Woman's Club members stuffed goodie bags for distribution to the Roanoke County/Salem Department of Social Services, thanking them for their service to the communities they serve. From left to right, front to back, Mary Kay Brown, Patty Fezell, Dale Fisher, GFWC VA President, Maggie Angell, and Amber Holdren, Blue Ridge District President.

# Mt Pleasant Lions host 'Jeep'

The Mount Pleasant Lions hosted Col. Jennifer Krohe, who is retired from the Marine Corps, as the speaker at the club's last meeting. Col. Krohe, who has been known as "Jeep" since childhood, spoke about Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, particularly as it relates to members of the military and first responders. She was formerly at Walter Reed Military Hospital in Bethesda, Md., where she was in charge of all soldier/sailor/airman/marine personnel recovering from traumatic injuries. She found that mental distress seemed to be more debilitating than actual physical wounds and healing that distress to be much more difficult. After retiring from the Marine Corps, Jeep has helped found and operate an organization, Warrior PATHH (Progressive and Alternative Training

for Healing Heroes) that targets and engages small groups of PTSD-affected combat veterans and first responders, no more than eight at a time, for intensive self-searching and discussion over a one-week period which is followed up with online classes. The goal is to help PTSD victims learn to use their stress to overcome their trauma-caused disability/fears and not only survive but thrive. The program, which is free to participants with all expenses paid, is still in its infancy, with new sites coming online as faculty members are trained and made ready to oversee the participants. There are generally six staff members to the eight class members. Jeep's group, Sheep Dog, named after their Australian Shepherd, currently meets at a secluded ranch in Northwest Arkansas, where the staff is quartered in a sepa-

rate house from the attendees, so she is away from her husband, Tim, "Call me Mr. Col.," a physician at the Salem Veterans Administration Hospital, for about 10 days each month. They both look forward to the reunions. Jeep and Tim live in the Mount Pleasant neighborhood, so she would like to form a group in this area once sufficient staff members are trained and available. "The Mount Pleasant Lions were pleased to have such a distinguished person and area resident come and talk about a serious and on-going problem for our military and first responders. The work Col. Krohe is doing is the personification of the Lions motto, "We Serve," a Lions Club spokesman said. Submitted by Lion Mike Ferguson



Retired Marine Corps Col. Jennifer Krohe, known as "Jeep," was the guest speaker for the Mount Pleasant Lions Club at the last meeting. She spoke about Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, particularly as it relates to members of the military and first responders.

# Vinton McDonald's shooting now being investigated as homicide



According to the Vinton Police Department, the malicious wounding that took place on October 11 at 809 Hardy Road is now being investigated as a homicide, as the victim of this incident, Gary McMiller, age 38, of Vinton has succumbed to his injury. Detectives with the Vinton Police Department have been in contact with the Roanoke County Commonwealth Attorney's Office with the details of this case. No arrests have been made at this time. An earlier press release by the Vinton Police Department said that their officers had responded to a malicious wounding at the Vinton McDonald's on Monday, October 11, at 9:30 p.m. after receiving reports of a person with what appeared to be a gunshot wound.

A preliminary investigation indicated that a shooting took place in the parking lot of the restaurant. The suspected vehicle, a silver sedan, fled the scene prior to officers' arrival. McMiller was transported to Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital for treatment. Detectives with the Criminal Investigations Division are still actively working to determine the circumstances that led up to the shooting. This matter remains under investigation and no further information regarding the details of this incident is available at this time. Anyone with information regarding the incident is asked to call the Vinton Police Department at (540) 283-7034.

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## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10		
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											63	

**CLUES ACROSS**  
 1. Flat-topped hill  
 5. Move upward  
 11. Admiration  
 14. It's useful for serving food  
 15. Kidnap  
 18. One of the Greek Muses  
 19. A type of media  
 21. Sunscreen rating  
 23. Former Michigan coach Brady  
 24. German town devastated in WW2  
 28. Gasteyer and Ortiz are two  
 29. Leave  
 30. Forearm bone  
 32. Very fast airplane  
 33. Helps little firms  
 35. Defunct economic organization

**CLUES DOWN**  
 1. Where wrestlers work  
 2. Dueling sword  
 3. Practice fight  
 36. Science-based students organization (abbr.)  
 39. Feels ill  
 41. Indicates position  
 42. Beverage containers  
 44. Assists  
 46. Science accreditation organization (abbr.)  
 47. Purpose  
 49. Group of elected officials  
 52. Hebrew prophet  
 56. They help you drink  
 58. Lawmaker  
 60. Charitable  
 62. Doctrines  
 63. Footwear

**CLUES ACROSS**  
 4. Genus of ciams  
 5. Fear of heights  
 6. What some tell their dog  
 7. The Golden State  
 8. When you expect to get there  
 9. Pointed ends  
 10. Extinct flightless bird  
 12. Feeds  
 13. Nape of neck  
 16. Descendant  
 17. Small boats found in Turkey  
 20. To avoid the risk of (abbr.)  
 22. Athlete with no contract  
 25. 13th letter of the Greek alphabet  
 26. Brew  
 27. Feeling of anxiety  
 29. Young girls group  
 31. Perform on stage

**CLUES DOWN**  
 34. White clerical vestment  
 36. Popular musical awards show  
 37. Bumpkins  
 38. One who acts on another's behalf  
 40. Direction  
 43. Look at with fixed eyes  
 45. One who helps professors (abbr.)  
 48. A large number of  
 50. Type of powder  
 51. Large jug  
 53. \_\_\_ Christian Anderson, children's author (abbr.)  
 54. American state  
 55. Muslim inhabitant of the Philippines  
 57. Witness  
 58. Landscapers lay it  
 59. Type of bread  
 61. Of I

# DAR chapter meets for annual blanket tying for vets

The Roanoke Valley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (RVCDAR) members completed their annual blanket tying for vets community service project at their meeting on October 9.

Each summer several members meet to cut and fringe the fleece for the blankets; then the entire chapter takes part in the fringe knotting at the October meeting. The blankets are always made from fabric with patriotic designs and given to veterans at the Veterans Care Center.

While the DAR generally focuses on the history of the Revolutionary War period, at this meeting they focused instead on the history of the honeybee with guest speaker Roger Reed, owner of Reed's Apiaries in Blue Ridge.

Regent Cindy Higgins introduced him as a member of the Botetourt Beekeepers and the Blue Ridge Beekeepers Association. He is known as an Adventure Beekeeper who removes unwanted bees from people's homes and property. He also teaches beekeeping classes each spring. And in addition to bottling honey, he also makes mead.

Reed, retired from the Navy, currently has eight hives of bees and brought along some of his equipment—his toolkit—to explain the process. He has been raising honeybees for about 12 years and remembers his grandfather "had bees." Reed notes that he has only been stung nine times in those 12 years.

As for the history, Reed explained that the honeybee is not native to North America—while about 4,000 other types of bees are. Honeybees were brought here in 1622 from Europe; it took 231 years for them to spread across the continent.

He talked about the roles of the Queen bee, work-

ers, and drones and their lifespans in what is a complicated process of honey production. In a lifetime, a honeybee only produces 1/12th of a teaspoon of honey. He noted that honey is the only product made by insects that humans eat.

Reed warned of the dangers of Round-up—the worst product affecting honeybees—and the many enemies and diseases bees face. He shared how to heat honey to stop the crystallization process. He talked about the "Hey, Honey" he gathers and sells as being "smorgasbord" honey, the product most likely of locust, red clover, and other plants. He commented on the numerous medical uses of honey—seen by some as a "miracle drug."

In DAR chapter business, an investiture ceremony was held for new member Carla Mann Honaker who took the RVCDAR Oath of Membership. Janice Taylor announced that there are seven prospective members and two pending members as the chapter continues to grow.

Member Sharon Menzies reported on a community service project with the Town of Vinton. The DAR and the town, with assistance from the PFG corporation, are collecting soft recyclable plastics. The Trex corporation will donate a bench for every 500 pounds of recyclables collected. Menzies and Higgins said that about 800 pounds of recyclables have already been collected even though the project doesn't officially get underway until November. No worries—the town will be happy to accept as many benches for the greenways as become available through the project. Collection boxes are located at the Charles R. Hill Community Center and the Municipal Building.

The local DAR has a special focus on veterans. They will once again be collecting white socks, white T-shirts, and Christmas

cards for the Veterans Care Center. Members also send care packages to deployed troops.

Menzies shared information on the National Day of the Deployed—October 26—which honors American military personnel around the globe. Data shows that as of August 7, 2021, between 150,000 and 200,000 active-duty personnel are stationed outside the United States, including Menzies' daughter, who is currently serving abroad.

The Roanoke Valley Chapter will be celebrating its 60th anniversary on November 6 at Bonsack Baptist Church with several state and regional DAR officials. Higgins noted that the local chapter was the first in Virginia to begin meeting on Saturdays to accommodate working women.

Higgins and Susan Doyle shared information for the Patriot Minute Project, celebrating Patriots all year long in conjunction with the national DAR's America 250! Project. (Members of the DAR trace their lineage to ancestors who aided in achieving American independence—their Patriot.)

Higgins focused on the Patriot for founding member Florence Emily Bowman White—William Acker or Akers. He was born in Augusta County in 1735 and died in Franklin County in November 1836 at the age of 101. He furnished supplies for the cause of independence.

Doyle shared the story of her Patriot, Hugh Caldwell, who was born in Ireland between 1740 and 1751. He married Rutha Holstein in Botetourt County and was the father of 11 children. He served in the Botetourt Militia (Botetourt County Riflemen). He died on Craigs Creek in 1838.

The Botetourt County Riflemen were experts in using rifles—not common during the Revolutionary



The Roanoke Valley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which meets in Vinton, completed one of the community service projects—the tying of fleece blankets for veterans at the meeting on October 9.

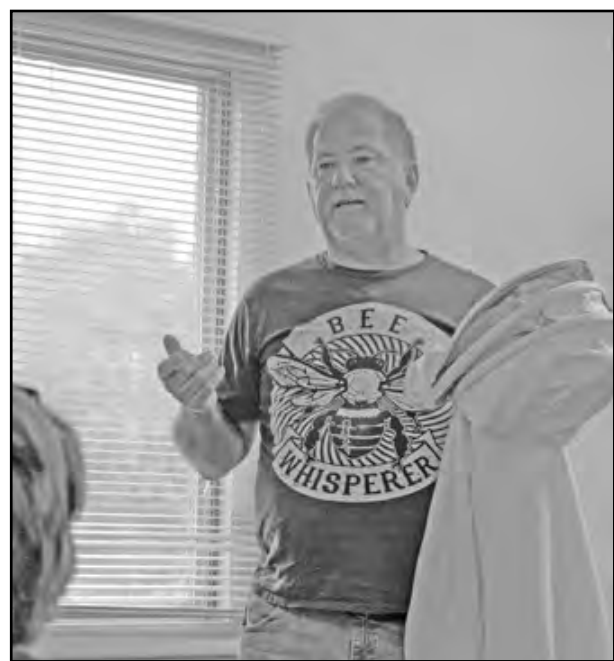


New member Carla Mann Honaker was administered the Oath of Membership at the October 9 meeting. Shown left to right are Registrar Janice Taylor, Carla Mann Honaker, Regent Cindy Higgins, and Treasurer Shannon Campbell.

War. At that time, Botetourt County was one of the largest counties in Virginia and included Craig County. The militia was composed of frontier men, most of whom did not have formal military training or experience in close combat, but they were excellent shots due to frontier life. Caldwell participated in the Alamance Campaign under General Green.

Higgins closed the meeting with a quote from Teddy Roosevelt, "May we think of freedom, not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right."

The Roanoke Valley DAR Chapter meets at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church in Vinton.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS  
Beekeeper Roger Reed of Reed's Apiaries was the guest speaker for the October 9 DAR meeting.

## 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](http://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](http://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.eck-va.org](http://www.eck-va.org) for program listings, [www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group](http://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](http://www.eckankar.org) for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar lead you to spiritual freedom.

## FOUR SQUARE

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

## LUTHERAN

**ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**, "The Church Under The Cross", 1201 Hardy Rd, Vinton VA 24179, Pastor, Rev. Dr. James B. Davis (540) 342- 1715, Sunday

# Vinton

# Worship Directory

"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure."  
1 John 3:1-3

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"Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful."  
Hebrews 10:19-23

**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](mailto:tfrye@ourvalley.org)**

School 10:00am, Worship 11:00am, [sttimothy1201@verizon.net](mailto:sttimothy1201@verizon.net).

## NAZARENE

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

## PRESBYTERIAN

**CAMPBELL MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**, 1130 Hardy Rd, Vinton, VA, 540-343-1842; [cmcp2verizon.net](http://cmcp2verizon.net) Sunday school 9:45am, Worship 11:00am; Communion 1st Sundays; 2nd Sunday Session; Monday Noon Bible Study; Tuesdays & Thursdays Stretch Class 9:00am; 1st Tuesdays Deacons; Wednesday Choir

7:00pm; Monday Girl Scouts 7:00pm; 3rd Saturday Men's Breakfast 8:00am. Rev. Jonathan Moelker, pastor

## UNITED METHODIST

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

## WESLEYAN

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

# Vinton asks citizens to participate in Bike/Pedestrian survey

The Town of Vinton is conducting a Route 24 Bike/Pedestrian Study and asking citizens to participate in an online survey to identify areas of focus.

The town won a grant for consultant assistance to create a Multimodal Access and Improvement Study for the heart of Vinton—the area between Route 24, East Washington Avenue, and South Pollard Street.

This area includes highly variable land uses from walkable downtown blocks to neighborhoods

and highway commercial. Route 24 is an important route, not only to the Town of Vinton, but as an important commuter link in the greater Roanoke area, and the project area includes parts of four designated Urban Development Areas.

This plan will build on the Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Commission's "Major Corridors—Bicycle & Pedestrian Accommodations" study and will create a list of specific improvements to help make biking

and walking in this area safer and more comfortable. The grant comes from the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment's (OIP) Growth & Accessibility Planning Technical Assistance Program.

Increased multimodal access improving accessibility, safety, and efficiency can create a more cohesive area that helps to achieve local goals for community services and economic development. The plan will ultimately provide local decision-makers with a de-

tailed guide to next steps for the corridor.

Safety is of the ultimate concern since data shows that between 2008 and 2017 pedestrian deaths increased by 35.4 percent while auto deaths declined. The economy also plays a role in studies such as these since the bicycle industry in the United States contributes \$133 billion towards the U.S. economy.

Completing the survey is simple and somewhat unique in that it allows individuals to utilize an inter-

active map to place points within a designated area of the town to identify the areas for improvements—and also those of safety concern. Participants are able to drag markers to particular areas they choose and leave comments that will help plan for the future.

Planning and Zoning Assistant Director Nathan McClung says that responses to the survey will help craft a plan for improvements to be funded both near-term and in the future when funding becomes available.

During the course of the year-long survey, the consultants and town staff will review existing land use and transportation plans and inventory existing and planned facilities in or affecting the project area.

The team will seek input from local property owners, business owners, residents, and other local stakeholders to establish a consensus on what is needed. A local steering committee and a technical committee will be organized to guide the project and choose areas of focus.

Public meetings will be held, in-person and online, to allow input from stakeholders. The first was held on October 4 at the Vinton War Memorial.

A toolkit of bicycle and pedestrian facility options will be developed. The bicycle toolkit options to be studied include shared lane markings for bikes and mo-

tor vehicles, separate bike lanes, buffered bike lanes to separate bicycles and motor vehicles, and shared use paths along roadways for bikes and pedestrians.

Pedestrian toolkit options will include crosswalks, in-street pedestrian warnings, rapidly flashing beacons, curb extensions, pedestrian refuges within the crosswalk, HAWK Beacons which stop traffic when pedestrians are present, and wide sidewalks.

The team will use experienced transportation planners and engineers to provide cost estimates and help the town budget for capital projects and/or seek outside funding to enhance the Route 24 corridor.

Priorities will be established to maximize safe and efficient bicycle and pedestrian connectivity while minimizing costs and complex construction. To help select the most advantageous projects, the consultant team will work with the steering committees to develop criteria for ranking and promoting select projects. Criteria may include financial feasibility, engineering feasibility, cost-benefit position, duration of construction disruption, need for right-of-way acquisition, or other measures.

To participate in the survey, visit <https://eprpc.mysocialpinpoint.com/vinton-multimodal-plan/> by October 31.

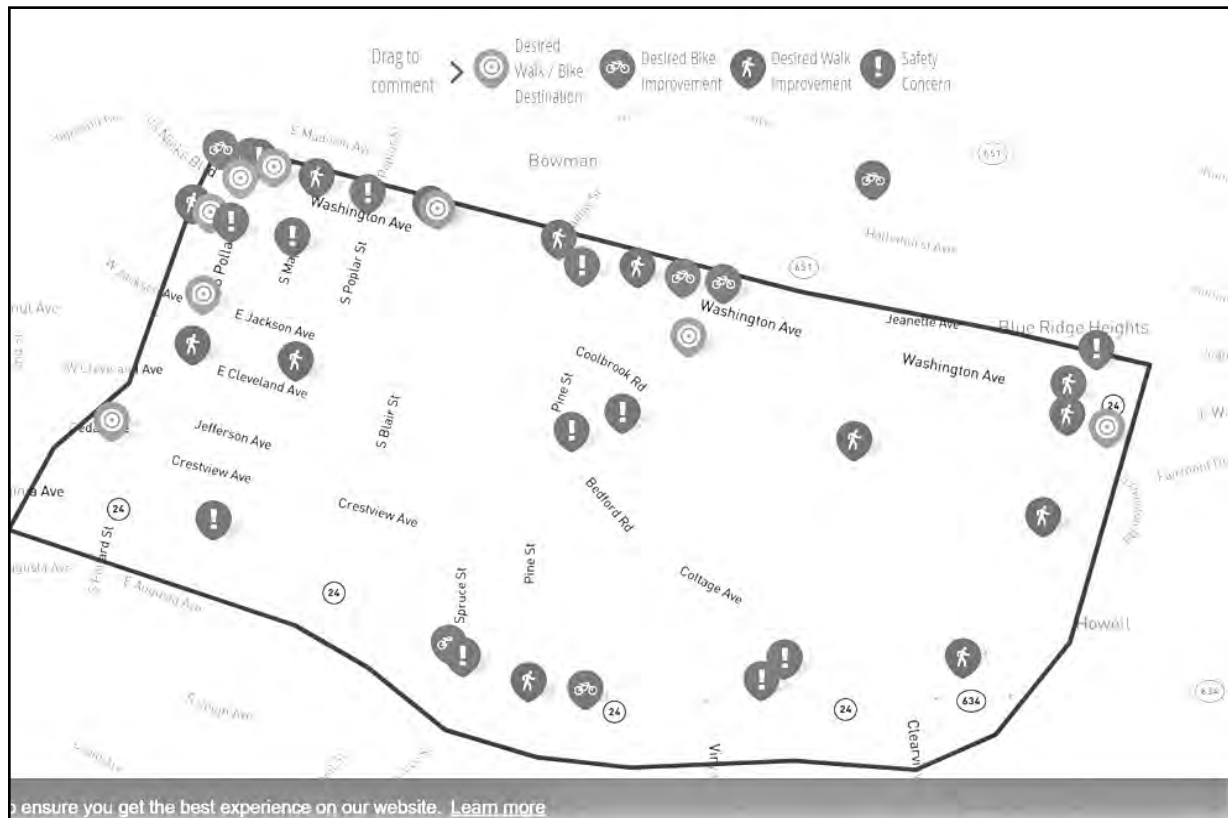


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TOWN OF VINTON

The Town of Vinton asks residents to participate in the Route 24 Bike/Pedestrian Survey to identify areas for improvements and those causing safety concerns.

## From the Pulpit

### By This You Are Known

We know that when we pray, God gives us power and wisdom to do all these: sharing God's love, preaching the Gospel, and making disciples. And we are called to participate in God's works, ministry and mission.

In other words, we are called to serve, not to be served. I'm here to serve God and God's people and you are here to serve your church and your neighbors that God brought to be in your life.

When we pray and ask, God gives us power to serve. Therefore, it is important to first understand what the Bible says about service. Ephesians 4:11-12 says, "The gifts Jesus gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists,

some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ." In other words, God has called you and I, all believers to serve, in order to build up the church.

The church is an organization designed by God to be run through service. So, no one can be an exception to this work of service.

Pastors and other staff set an example as people who serve, and we only play a role in guiding the congregations to serve in a right way and in a right place. I just want to thank you, every single one of you serving God, church, and people.

We really appreciate of your dedication, commitment, and heart to serve, help, and ultimately glo-

rify God together as ONE CHURCH and ONE BODY in Christ.

Yes, of course, our attitude also matters. According to Paul, he clearly said and showed that the key point of his ministry was the attitude of a servant. By becoming a servant, Paul was able to preach the best in the gospel, and he could be used with power by God. That's the life of a servant. Paul also talks about important principles or points of service in a church in Philippians chapter 2, especially for the Philippian's church.

The characteristics of a servant or volunteer are being humble and genuinely interested in others. Being humble here means, having a heart of thinking that the other person

deserves to be served. Also being genuinely interested in others means that I am not serving for the benefit that I will receive through service, but I am serving as a genuine expression of love following the example set by Jesus.

Service sometimes requires us to be willing to give up our right to rest, to be treated.

In addition, even when the results and rewards of our service are not clear, we must have an attitude of serving with a joyful heart.

Therefore, the setting of service and its consistency is important as well. Volunteering can be the most effective and satisfying service when I get to link my spiritual gifts to my field of passion. And, of course, it is important to discover my area of interest and gifts for effective and con-

sistent service. Volunteering in the area where I can work most passionately is not difficult, but that moment becomes the most exciting time.

Of course, there are results or consequences of service:

1. Above all, through service, our attention moves from ourselves to others.

2. The world also transforms through our service.

3. Service enables us to see others and the world with the mind and heart of Christ, so that the Lord's will could be done here in earth.

A life of a servant is a marathon, not a sprint. I hope and pray we, as today's scripture says, become the servant of God, who gives food and drink when we see people who are hungry or thirsty; welcome when we see a

stranger; gives clothing to those who are naked, and visits when we see people who are sick or in prison.

This does not only mean a physical condition, but also spiritually as well.

Therefore, I pray to see examples of doing God's will in our daily lives. And I deeply hope that all of us would value the people next to us just as equal as ourselves and love and serve those in need.

Jesus says in verse 40, "just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me. God is asking each and every one of us today, would you serve me, my church, and my people? I hope and pray we can receive and accept His invitation today.

By Pastor Seong Jae Jo, Thrasher United Methodist Church

## Final book sale at Blue Ridge Library



Friends of the Blue Ridge Library will be holding their last book sale of the year October 14-16. All items will be sold at extra low prices at this sale only. Hardcover books, DVDs and CDs will be only 50 cents each. Paperbacks and children's books will be only 25 cents each. This special sale begins on Thursday, Oct. 14, from 5-8 p.m., and continues on Friday, Oct. 15 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and

Saturday, Oct. 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Proceeds from the book sale help the Friends to support library programs such as the annual summer reading challenge or to purchase materials that the library needs especially those not covered in the annual operating budget. Blue Ridge Library is located at 28 Avery Row on US 460 east about a half-mile east of the Bonsack Walmart.

For directions, call 928-2900.



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Byrd's Olivia Hurd finished 15th in the Blue Ridge Invitational. PHOTO BY HANK EBERT

## Terriers prepare for Metro after running in Blue Ridge Invit.

The Christiansburg girls and boys swept the team titles at last Saturday's Blue Ridge Invitational cross country meet at Greenfield Recreation Park in Daleville. William Byrd participated in the meet and the Byrd girls took sixth while the boys were 11th.

Olivia Hurd led the Byrd girls with a 15th place finish in a time of 22:38. Glenvar's Carly Wilkes continued to dominate the local girls' competition with a first place run in 20:12.

"Olivia has really been working hard, focusing on the post season," said Byrd coach Eric Royal.

Other scorers for Byrd included Claire Glover in 25th place, Maci Glass in 29th, Rebecca Qui in 47th and Bethany Beecher in 69th. A total of 86 girls finished the race and Kristianna Fitzgerald, Skylar Fitzgerald, Liz Dixon and Emma Rupe of Byrd all endured the wet soggy course as well.

In the boys race Lawson Mecom of Christiansburg had the winning time at 17:13. Freshman DeShawn Austin had Byrd's best run with a 37th place finish among 127 runners, posting a time of 20:10. Also scoring for the Terriers were Stephen Underwood in 56th, Dakota Bell in 79th, Reagan Lilley in 81st and Brayden McCulloch in 82nd. Bodie Gonzalez and Issiac Hartsel also ran for Byrd.

This was the final race of the season for the middle school runners. Leading the way to an 8th place finish among the girls was Heidi Wienke, followed by Elena Mullen, Lucy Whitenack and Arianna Krista. For the boys Riley Slusher was the top finisher followed by Christopher Hurd and Owen Webb.

"I'm very proud of these young runners, coming to practice every day and doing an abbreviated version of the high school workouts," said Royal. "I look forward to seeing them develop into high school runners."

The Terriers next meet will be the annual Metro Cross County meet in Blacksburg next Wednesday, October 20.

"It's a great course and gauge to see who is going to be ready for the post season," said Royal.



Freshman DeShawn Austin led the Byrd boys at Greenfield Recreation Park. PHOTO BY HANK EBERT



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Left, Israel Hairston(#4) gets good protection from Caleb Thompson(#52) as he cuts loose on a 44 yard TD pass to brother Ethan in the first half of Friday's game with Lord Botetourt. Right, Lane Shoemaker(#6), John Kiker, Doniven Davis and Wyattte Bailey(#30) combine to bring down LB's Jakari Nicely.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

## *Terriers take on Franklin County after "best game of the season"*

The William Byrd football team is off to Rocky Mount this Friday for a meeting with the Franklin County Eagles after one of their best performances of the season last week. Byrd battled to the end before falling to Lord Botetourt at Vinton's Patterson Stadium, 26-12.

"We had our best week of practice all season," said Byrd coach Brad Lutz. "Our coaches were very pleased with the intensity and focus that our players brought last week and it showed on the field. Our players played very physical and played with a lot of energy."

In the last two meetings between these two teams Lord Botetourt dominated, winning 55-13 in the spring game and 41-7 in 2019 while advancing to the state championship game both seasons. However, Byrd didn't seem to be the least bit intimidated last Friday. The Terriers took the opening kickoff and drove right down the field before a fumble ended the drive deep in LB territory.

Defense prevailed for most of the half, and it seemed all but certain to be a scoreless first half as the clock wound down. However, with under a minute to go Byrd quarterback Israel Hairston found his brother Ethan behind the LB cornerback and hit him in stride for a 44 yard TD pass with just 48 seconds on the clock. The extra point was missed but Byrd had a 6-0 lead and all the momentum.

That lasted about 20 seconds of clock time. Instead of taking a knee and heading to the locker room to regroup, Cavalier quarterback Jakari Nicely hit KJ Bratton in the left flat and Bratton outraced the defense to the end zone for a 66 yard TD. The extra point was blocked, but the momentum had swung.

"While their score before the half gave them an opportunity to gain some momentum, I thought our first score proved to be huge for us in the game," said Lutz. "Our players gained a lot of confidence, and it gave us the momentum, which helped us play our best game of the season."

Botetourt took the lead with two more long scoring plays in the third period. Nicely ran 47 yards for a score, and the extra point was blocked again. Then Nicely found Bratton on another swing pass, this time for an 88 yard score. The two point conversion run failed but LB led 18-6.

Byrd hung in the game with a 25 yard TD pass from Israel Hairston to Dominic Dulek right down the middle of the gridiron to cut the lead to 18-12, as again the extra point was missed, but LB answered with just under three minutes remaining to ice the game.

Statistically, Israel Hairston had one of his best games passing with 10 completions on 14 attempts for 153 yards and two touchdowns. Ethan Hairston had two catches for 58 yards, Dulak had three for 41, Dillon Anderson and Cooper Minnix had two receptions each and Peyton Fuchs had one.

Israel also led the team in rushing with 92 yards on



Above, Hunter Richards(#56) and Doniven Davis(#55) lead the charge as Byrd blocks an extra point attempt by LB. Below left, coach Brad Lutz sends in a play with Ethan Hairston, and below right Nathen Williamsen (#60) drives KJ Bratton into the artificial turf.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



a dozen carries. Fuchs had 66 yards on 28 attempts and the Byrd defense held Botetourt to 174 yards rushing. In the spring game Botetourt had 342 yards rushing against Byrd.

"We executed in all three phases of the game, and had a lot of players help on the field," said Lutz. "Our entire coaching staff was pleased with our improvements, but we are still working for our first win."

Now 0-5, Byrd will have their work cut out for them this week. Franklin County is just 2-3 but the Eagles are a Class 6 school and they play a tough schedule. Franklin has wins over Magna Vista and Staunton River with losses to Bassett, Liberty Christian and Hidden Valley. Liberty Christian is the top ranked team in Region 3C of the VHSL rankings, which came out for the first time this week, Hidden Valley is second in Region 3D and Bassett is fourth

in 3D.

"Franklin County is big and athletic and their team features the best lineman and running back we have faced all season," said Lutz.

The Eagles are coached by JR Edwards, who was a standout quarterback for Byrd during his high school days and also served as an assistant to former Terrier coach Jeff Highfill. Long time Byrd fans will recognize some of the things Edwards runs. JR is 2-0 against his alma mater with a 14-10 win in Rocky Mount in 2019 and a 41-26 win in his return to Vinton in the spring.

The Byrd jayvees lost to Lord Botetourt as well and will host Franklin County today at 6 pm. The middle school team lost to Ben Franklin last week and were scheduled to wrap up their season against Glenvar on Wednesday of this week.



## DOG POUND

The William Byrd "Dog Pound" was decked out in white and fired up for last week's Homecoming game with Lord Botetourt at Patterson Stadium.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN