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Town to transition ownership/operation of water/wastewater system to WVWA



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Members of Vinton Town Council and town administrators, and Roanoke County and Western Virginia Water Authority officials gathered in Council Chambers on Dec. 7 to announce the transfer of ownership and operation of Vinton's water/wastewater system to the WVWA effective in July 2022. From left are: front, Vice Mayor Sabrina McCarty and Mayor Brad Grose; middle row, Board of Supervisors Chair Jason Peters, former Vinton Mayor and current WVWA Board member Don Davis, WVWA Executive Director Mike McEvoy, Roanoke County Administrator Dan O'Donnell, and Vinton Town Manager Pete Peters; and back row, Council members Laurie Mullins, Mike Stovall, and Keith Liles.

By Debbie Adams
Vinton Mayor Brad Grose announced what he described as a "momentous decision" at the December 7 Town Council meeting. "This council has agreed that the time is right to transition ownership and operation of the Vinton Water and Wastewater System to the Western Virginia Water Authority (WVWA) as of July 1, 2022. The decision being announced tonight has not been reached lightly and has been many years in the making," said Grose. "With the desire to continue to provide the highest quality product, at the lowest possible cost, it has become apparent that it is in the best interests of our current and future customers to make this necessary move."

"The town has recently celebrated many redevelopment successes; although, there remains much work to be done," Grose continued. "The transfer of our water system will provide the town the flexibility for a more focused approach to additional community development and revitalization efforts that will continue to move Vinton forward. "These include a more robust paving program, replacement of our traffic signals and increased pedestrian accommodations to include new crosswalks and sidewalks. Also, the upgrading of our stormwater management facilities, neighborhood revitalization, and corridor and gateway enhancements are all needed improvements that will result in a better quality of life," the mayor

said. "These advancements will simply be more attainable for Vinton after tonight's action." Grose noted that many details associated with the transfer of ownership remain to be worked out over the next six months, "however, this council has listened to our citizens and customers, and we are pleased to take this necessary step forward." Grose praised the town leaders who made the initial decision years ago to create a water system for the town—the "right thing to do at the time," he said. "Their decision resulted in tremendous residential and commercial growth in eastern Roanoke County and provided financial stability for Vinton for decades. But

See WVWA, page 7

Vinton Christmas Parade wows the crowds

Spirits were definitely bright in Vinton on December 2 with the spectacular 2021 Vinton Christmas

Parade, co-sponsored by the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Vinton. The weather was

almost perfect with a beautiful sunset; the crowds were enthusiastic and appreciative of returning to a long-

time tradition. The evening kicked off at 6 p.m. with the traditional tree lighting ceremony

at the Vinton Municipal Building, featuring Mayor Brad Grose, Miss Roanoke Valley Isabella Jessee, the

Floyd Ward Dancers, and students from the Susan Lewis Music Studio.



The Berkshire Health and Rehab float won the Mayor's Award (Best in Parade) in this year's Vinton Christmas Parade.



Gospel Light Baptist Church won first place in the religious category in the Vinton Christmas Parade.

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The mayor welcomed the crowd with lines from the "Three Wisemen" play being presented at his church, "Just above the special town, with all its blinking lights aglow, shine millions of reminders of a birthday long ago. So, find yourself a special star and take time to recall, that glorious first Christmas, that's the reason for them all."

Susan Lewis Music Studio voice students who performed included: Ryleigh Woolwine singing "Light Of The World," Madison Saunders performing "My Grown Up Christmas List," Tes Smith singing "Snowman," and Abby Shelton performing "Ave Maria."

See Parade, page 5

Santa Crawl vINton

SANTA & ELVES HIT THE STREETS OF VINTON

14TH DECEMBER 2021

5:30 pm Start time from Vinton War Memorial
4 Routes

Santa Crawl vINton returns on December 14



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

If you live in Vinton, keep your eye out for the Santa Crawl vINton on Tuesday, December 14, between 5:30 p.m. and about 8. Santa and his elves will be returning to the neighborhoods of Vinton with treats for the children and their pets.

In 2020, the annual Vinton Christmas Parade had to be cancelled due to the pandemic, but creative souls with the Town of Vinton, the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce, the Vinton Police Department, the Vinton Public Works Department, the Vinton Moose Lodge, and the Sassy Sisters of the Moose came up with a substitute that turned out to be wildly popular—the Santa Claus Crawl.

They were motivated solely by the desire to brighten the spirits of town residents, especially the children who had experienced a disheartening year.

This year there was a traditional Vinton Christmas Parade on December 2, but the town and Chamber decided that the Santa Crawl was so exciting they would add it to the list of Special Events in the Town of Vinton for the holiday season.

They have renamed it the Santa Crawl vINton,

See Santa Crawl, page 3

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SPOTLIGHT ON TOWN OF VINTON STAFF



Christopher Froeschl, Vinton Police Department



Andrew Critcher, Vinton Public Works Department



Jill Acker, Vinton Public Works Department

PHOTOS COURTESY OF RVTV

The Town of Vinton and The Vinton Messenger have

united to “Spotlight the Town of Vinton Staff” during their

respective birthday months. The town is proud to have these

employees on staff and wants the community to see who is behind the scenes making the town look great and operate efficiently.

First up is Sergeant of Patrol Christopher Froeschl, who has been employed by the Vinton Police Department since 2012. Sgt. Froeschl is married with four children (Megan, Eric, Callie, and Cameron), two grandchildren (Harper and Margaret), retired Police K9 (Jax), and two cats. He has been recognized by his department and Town Council as Officer of the Month several times.

His hobbies are flying airplanes and ice hockey. A fun fact about Sgt. Froeschl is that he rescues animals by volunteering to fly them to their adoptive homes up and down

the East Coast. He celebrates his birthday on December 20.

Andrew Critcher is the Grounds Crew Leader in the Public Works Department. He is married with twins—a boy and a girl. He has been employed by the Town of Vinton since 2017. He was recognized by Vinton Town Council in recent months for his actions, along with others in the Public Works Department, in assisting a motorist whose car had broken down during a water main break on Mountain View Road. His birthday is on December 26.

Jill Acker is the Administrative Manager in the Public Works Department. She has been employed by the Town of Vinton since July 2012. Her birthday is December 29.

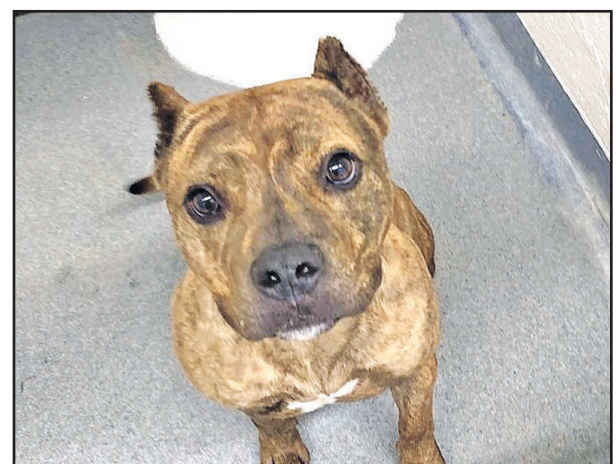
Don't shop – Save a life and adopt a Pet of the Week



Vanderbilt



Dave



Mozzy

At the Regional Center for Animal Care and Protection (RCACP), the goal is to connect adoptable pets with suitable forever homes. Take a look at some of the pets available this week— Vanderbilt, Dave, and Mozzy and Meowowy Holidays!

“Cat of the Week” Vanderbilt is a 5-year-old neutered fellow looking for his “forever” home just in time for the holidays. Don't let

his majestic name and demeanor fool you! He is a very friendly, social cat who would love to come live with you. His adoption fee is free with your approved application.

“Cat of the Week” Dave is a 9-month-old neutered guy— practically still a baby. He is a chill boy who enjoys being held. He purrs up a storm when held. He can be a bit shy at first and would enjoy a quieter home where

he could relax with you. He would love to celebrate the holidays with you in his “forever” home.

“Dog of the Week” Mozzy is a 1-year-old “fixed” Pit fellow. He has asked Santa Paws to bring him a home with kids and other dogs. He loves to play. He has also asked for a couple of new toys to play with. He is ready to go to his “forever” home just in time for the festivities.

Vanderbilt, Dave, and Mozzy are currently staying at the Regional Center for Animal Care and Protection (RCACP). As an open intake public shelter, they may face difficult decisions to make space. If you are interested in saving a pet's life by adopting, please contact the RCACP at 540-344-4922.

The first step in adopting through RCACP is completing an adoption application. The next step is having a meet and greet with the animal to make sure that he/

she is compatible with your family, human and animal alike.

When adopting dogs, RCACP requires that all family members living in the home (or ones that will have frequent contact with the dog), come to the shelter to meet the dog prior to approval for adoption. RCACP also requires that any other dogs in the home come to the shelter to meet the selected dog to ensure that they are compatible prior to adoption.

For cat adoptions, it is recommended that everyone in the household meet the cat prior to adoption as well. If all goes well, the selected animal will go home with you and a folder full of helpful hints to introduce the animal into its new home! Thank you for saving a life!




The RCACP accepts stray and lost animals from animal control officers and the public, as well as owner-relinquished pets, from the City and County of Roanoke, the County of Botetourt, and the Town of Vinton. The RCACP posts pictures of lost or strayed animals on their website, at <https://www.rcacp.org/> to make it possible to search for a lost pet online. Contact the RCACP to report a lost or found pet.

Once an animal has passed his/her required holding time at the facility to allow the owner to reclaim him/her, the RCACP works with the Roanoke Valley SPCA, rescue groups and other shelters to place available animals in suitable homes. Animals who are housed at the RCACP that are posted on the Petfinder.com website have been deemed available and can be seen by visiting the center Monday through Saturday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Once an adoption request is placed, an appointment will be made to complete the adoption through the RVSPCA. Each will be spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped before being adopted.

MAY YOU AND YOURS HAVE A

Happy Holidays

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Some historical perspective on the water/wastewater system in Vinton

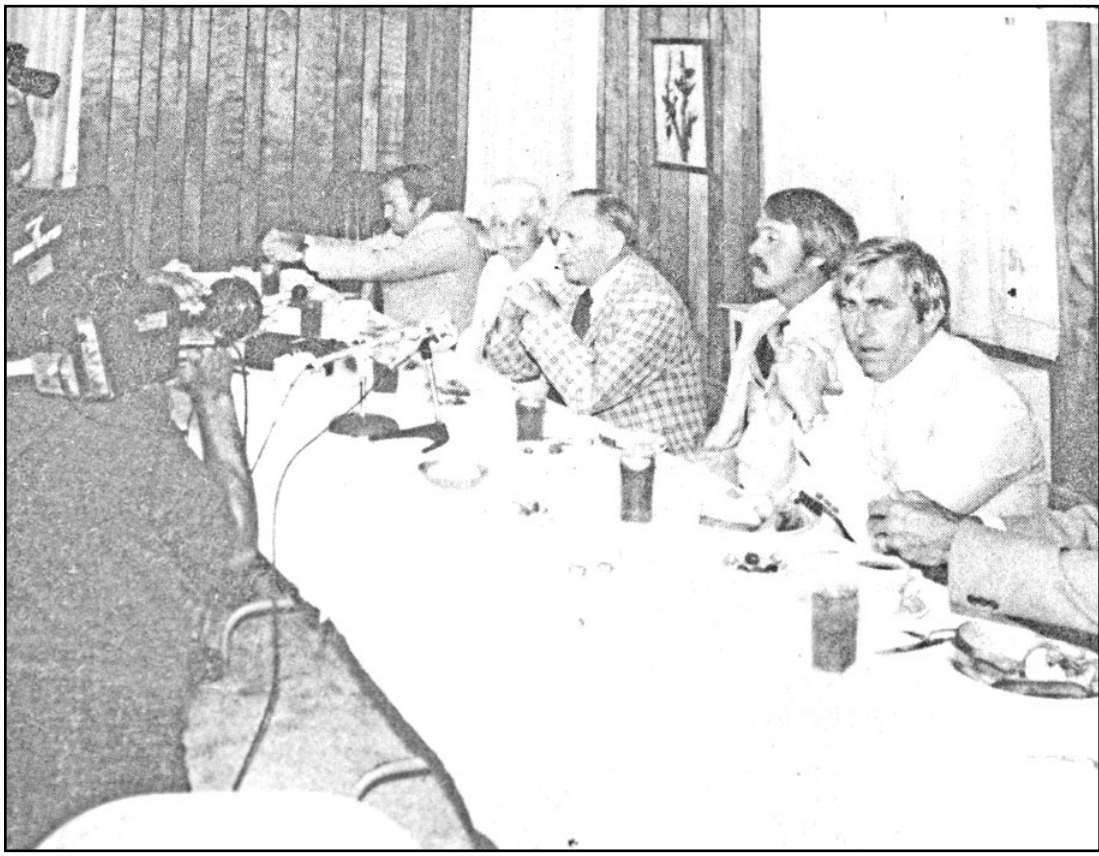


PHOTO FROM THE VINTON MESSENGER ARCHIVES

Vinton Town Council and the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors signed a historic 50-year water agreement on May 25, 1979. Councilman Henry Brabham (right) and Vinton's representative to the Board of Supervisors Edward Park, Jr. (second from right) have been described as the "ramrods" who pushed the deal through. Also shown is Vinton Mayor Gus Nicks (plaid jacket).

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

The topics of water and wastewater management don't often make the front pages of newspapers or become the leading story on the local news— unless something isn't working, or prices have increased significantly.

Reviewing "When Past is Prologue: A History of Roanoke County" by Deedie Kagey, and the archives of The Vinton Messenger, that's been the case in Vinton for over a hundred years.

According to Kagey, the first mention of a formal water and sanitation system in Vinton was in 1914 when citizens of the town voted a bond issue for the purpose of installing a sewer system in the town—"to make it a safer and more desirable place to live."

The need for a sanitation system had been brought to the forefront mainly because of numerous hog pens in the town and cows wandering through the streets at will. Wells and springs furnished the water supply, and the livestock was tainting the water.

In addition, says Kagey, school children used a common drinking cup, and few houses were screened against swarms of flies. The threat of typhoid fever was serious, as well as some distressing, and

even fatal, intestinal disturbances among the children. Boards of health were beginning to be organized across the state to regulate sanitation.

Installation of the sanitary sewer system helped to alleviate the problems in Vinton and "consequently, by 1930, more people were choosing Vinton as their place of residence."

Kagey's research shows that water and sewer connections for the weaving mill were added in 1936. In 1938, 3,000 linear feet of eight-inch sanitary sewer pipe had been laid and 1,000 feet of six-inch sewer pipe with service connections had been installed. Approximately 4,000 feet of water mains had been laid and several mains connected. Ditches, storm drains, and catch basins were also installed.

Six hundred feet of sewer line were laid in Gladetown in 1943 to serve seven houses at a cost of \$284. Storm drains were laid on West Cleveland Avenue.

Vinton's first sewage treatment plant was built in 1950. The EPA recommended in the 1960s that one regional plant be built in the Roanoke Valley to serve Roanoke City, Salem, Roanoke County, and Vinton. It was agreed that a 35-million-gallon per day plant be built in Roanoke to treat the sewage from all those

municipalities. The plant was designed to act as an advance wastewater treatment plant. This meant that the water was treated and released into the Roanoke River cleaner than the rest of the Roanoke River.

Unfortunately, in January 1972, many years of rancor between Roanoke City, the Town of Vinton, and Roanoke County over water and sewer issues intensified, when Roanoke City increased water rates (exorbitantly, The Vinton Messenger said) by about 25%, causing a financial crisis in Vinton leading to the town having to borrow money to meet payroll and several employees being laid off.

In March 1972, Vinton Mayor Gus Nicks said that complete independence of the water supply system was the most critical issue facing Vinton. Vinton had depended on Roanoke City for its water supply—which put the town at a disadvantage.

On March 29, 1972, Vinton was connected to the regional sewage treatment plant by construction of a pump station that pumped Vinton sewage across Tinker Creek into the Tinker Creek interceptor. Vinton received an allocation in the Tinker Creek interceptor line and sewage treatment plant of 1.12 million gallons per day. Five regional governments, under pressure from the

state of Virginia, had signed the agreement—Vinton, Roanoke County, Roanoke City, Salem, and Botetourt County.

In the local May 1972 elections, an independent water system for Vinton was the biggest topic of debate.

There were many twists and turns to the water/sewer system issues and debates through the years, and many arguments (to the point of temper tantrums) between board members and between governmental bodies, many seemingly politically motivated and even "petty." The issue at times became interconnected with annexation issues. For quite some time, Roanoke City wanted to take over Vinton's water system. There was consternation among developers ready to begin projects in Vinton, but unable to hook up to water and sewer because of ongoing disputes.

However, after several months of secret meetings between the town and county at the Vinton Fire Station and the Peaks of Otter, an unexpected agreement was reached. The meetings and their topic had been kept confidential due to the tendency of the press to "sensationalize" and even "encourage discord," according to government leaders. The Vinton newspaper claimed the town and county had denied them the right to view the agreement because they hadn't "provided stamped envelopes to insure notification."

On May 25, 1979, the Town of Vinton and Roanoke County entered into the water agreement. Credit was given to Vinton Town Councilman Henry Brabham and Vinton's representative to the Board of Supervisors Edward Park, Jr., describing them as "ramrods" pushing through the deal, and also to state Delegate Richard Cranwell for "smoothing the differences between all the parties involved."

As a result, the town provided water and sewer service to its own residents and the East Roanoke County area.

According to Kagey's book, prior to this agreement the town underwrote the operation of their utility system, which included service to the East County area, on its ability to tax. Consequently, the residents of Vinton were at greater risk for improvements of the utility system due to a potential increase in property taxes if it became necessary to undertake important capital improvements within its util-

ity system.

As the residents of the county served by Vinton did not experience this risk, their rates were one and a half times the rate of Vinton users. East Roanoke County participants challenged Vinton's fee and it ended up in Circuit Court, which ruled that Vinton had the authority to levy the surcharge.

Stemming from the court challenge, Vinton and Roanoke County recognized that the town's purchase of water from Roanoke City's Falling Creek Reservoir placed the county and the town users at a potential disadvantage because of increases in water service purchases.

Town officials realized that a more efficient system of providing water was necessary and pursued the establishment of a series of wells. The wells were effective, providing a sufficient quantity and quality of water. The county and Vinton agreed that the town would be responsible for developing wells and storage systems within the town limits and that the county would be responsible for the same in its area.

After the system was completed, it was turned over to the town for operation. The combined system then operated as an aggregate system under the control of Vinton. In return, Vinton equalized rates for its Roanoke County customers.

The benefit from this contract for water with Roanoke County was that Vinton no longer needed to buy water from Roanoke and rates were equalized for Vinton and Roanoke County customers. It gave Vinton express authority to provide water and sewer service to the town and East County areas. However, the county was only willing to grant exclusive rights to Vinton to use and operate the water/sewer system for 50 years, not indefinitely.

There was still some bickering between the county and Vinton; after the agreement was signed, some of the Vinton leaders did not feel Roanoke County was acting quickly enough and in good faith in putting out bids for the wells to be drilled. But cooler heads prevailed, and the Town of Vinton has operated the water/sewer system for the town and East County residents ever since. That ends on June 30, 2022.

Santa Crawl from page 1

sponsored this year by the Town of Vinton, its Police and Public Works Departments, and the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce.

So, if you are home on the evening of Tuesday, December 14, and glance out the window, you may see Santa and some of his elves coming through your neighborhood to leave candy, Vinton coloring books, and doggie treats for the children and pets. Run on out and greet them at the edge of your yard or sidewalk.

The Santas (four of them), their wives, and many helpers (including the Vinton Town Council elves) will be boarding Public Works Department holiday trucks and trailers and leaving the Vinton War Memorial at 5:30 to travel through the different neighborhoods in Vinton, divided into four routes. Director of Special Programs Director Chasity Barbour says most likely it will take until 8 or 8:30 to cover all the territory in Vinton.

Here are the designat-

ed routes for this year's Santa Crawl in Vinton:

- Route 1
 - Bush Farms to Warner
 - Meadows subdivision—take a right
 - Olney
 - Holiday to Mountain View
 - Sharon Circle
 - Right onto Kenyon, circle back to Ramada
 - Right onto Olney to South Pacific
 - Left onto Bali Hai—right onto Olney
 - Olney back to Mountain View
 - Mtn. View to left onto Ruddell
 - Ruddell to Lynn Haven Circle
 - Washington to North Mitchell
 - Jeanette to Halli-hurst
 - Right onto Mountain View
- Route 2:
 - Bush Drive to McDonald
 - McDonald to Duke
 - Duke to Fairmount
 - Fairmount to Tobias/Mini Bell
 - Fairmount to South Preston
 - Bedford to Cottage
 - Cottage/Wood left onto East Cleveland

- Turn around at Dogwood Manor
- East Cleveland to Manson Square
- Pine Street up to Jackson, right onto Jackson
- Jackson to Maple
- Left on Maple
- Left onto East Cleveland to Bedford
- Right on Old Va.
- On Pine Street, follow down Jefferson
- Route 3:
 - Dillon Drive to Arcadia Drive
 - Arcadia Drive to Mason/Bexhill
 - Dillon Drive to Aragona
 - Right onto Aragona to Cul de sac
 - Cross over to Dillon Dr-Aragona
 - Aragona Drive to Allison Drive
 - Aragona to Broadhill (left)
 - Right onto Broadhill to Dillon to left at Almond
 - Almond back to Broadhill to Clearview
 - Left on Clearview to Colbourne
 - Colbourne to Norbourne
 - Clearview to Lauderdale
 - Left onto Wyndham

- Right on Niagara and stop at Woodland Place, upper lot for kids to come down
- Niagara to Emerald/Shelborne
- Shelborne to Maywood
- Left onto Clearview to Blandford
- Left onto Blandford
- Right onto Clairborne back to Clearview
- Lauderdale to Wyndham to South Hampton
- Stop at South Hampton
- Stop at Cambridge Square
- North Hampton Apts.
- Wyndham to Franklin
- Franklin to Chestnut
- Left onto Craig
- Craig to South Pollard
- Right onto Raleigh back down Chestnut to Franklin
- Franklin to 3rd Street
- 3rd Street to West Augusta
- All of Augusta and Augusta to Timberidge
- Route 4:
 - Left on Ruddell
 - Left on Morrison

- Right on Davidson
- Right on Ruddell
- Right on Peake back to Meadow Street
- Meadow Street to Monroe Street
- Left on Bowman
- Right on East Madison
- Right onto North Maple
- Foxland to North Blair
- Right onto North Blair
- East Madison to Stop In
- Down South Pollard

- to Cedar
- Cedar to 5th Street
- Left onto 5th Street around mobile home park
- West Cleveland and left onto 2nd
- 2nd to Walnut
- Walnut to Longwood Apts.
- 8th Street onto Vale Ave.
- Vale to Clyde Dale
- Left onto Dale to 7th Street, loop around to 9th Street
- 9th Street to Hill

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Greenway Coordinator McGuire introduced to Town Council

Janet Scheid, Chair of the Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission (and former Vinton Town Council member), introduced Frank McGuire, the new Greenway Coordinator at the Vinton Town Council meeting on December 7. In August, McGuire replaced Liz Belcher, the only other Greenway Coordinator Roanoke has had. She served in the position for 25 years and retired this past summer. McGuire says Belcher "left big shoes to fill."

Scheid told council that McGuire was selected from a "great pool of candidates" who were interviewed in Vinton Town Council Chambers. Before taking on the Greenway Coordinator position, he was the Trails & Recreation Program Director for the Pennsylvania Environmental Council where he helped communicate, envision, plan, and implement regional trail priorities since 2015. His main focus was on rail-trails as well as managing the Pennsylvania Water Trail Partnership.

"I saw myself as a voice for protecting the places people play," McGuire has said. "I strongly believe that when people have a connection to the landscape, they have a deeper understanding of the environment and why open spaces are critical to our well-being."

He started out as a trail volunteer and served on the Pennsylvania Recreation Advisory Committee and as the International Mountain Bicycle Association's (IMBA) state representative, which involved him in a 32-mile project which took seven years to complete.

He was hired to be IMBA's Mid-Atlantic Regional Director. He first got acquainted with the Roanoke area in that role, participating in planning meetings for the Blue Ridge Parkway and helping form the Roanoke IMBA.

McGuire said he is excited about his new job and the passionate greenway enthusiasts and advocates he has found in the region.

In other council business, Travis Gilmer of Brown Edwards & Company, presented the June 30, 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the town, giving Vinton the top rating—"a clean, unmodified opinion." Council adopted a resolution approving and accepting the report.

Council adopted an ordinance authorizing Premium Pay up to \$138,869 from ARPA funds for Vinton's sworn public safety employees and essential public works employees and Gratitude Bonuses for all other Town of Vinton employees from the General Fund up to \$37,813

from the Utility Fund up to \$13,887, and the Stormwater Fund up to \$781 for town employees.

Sworn officers in the Police Department and essential employees in the Public Works Department employed prior to July 1, 2021, will receive \$3,000 bonuses of ARPA Premium Pay. Those employed after July 1, 2021, will receive \$1,500.

All other full-time employees working for the

town before July 1, 2021, will receive a \$2,000 gratitude bonus. Those employed after July 1, 2021, will receive \$1,000.

Part-time workers employed before July 1, 2021, will receive a \$500 gratitude bonus. Part-time workers employed after July 1, 2021, will receive \$250.

This ordinance was discussed extensively at the last council meeting. Payments will be made on De-

ember 14.

Council members also adopted a resolution authorizing the town manager to execute an MOU and Certification for Use of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) through ARPA for the Municipal Utility Assistance Program. They also adopted an ordinance accepting and appropriating funds of \$118,089 for the program. The award will be used to directly assist

residential municipal utility customers in the town with arrearages greater than 60 days between March 12, 2020, and August 31, 2021.

Roanoke County has agreed to act as the fiscal agent for the town to facilitate assistance to eligible customers, thus the MOU. (The county will take action on December 14.) This was also discussed at length at a previous meeting.

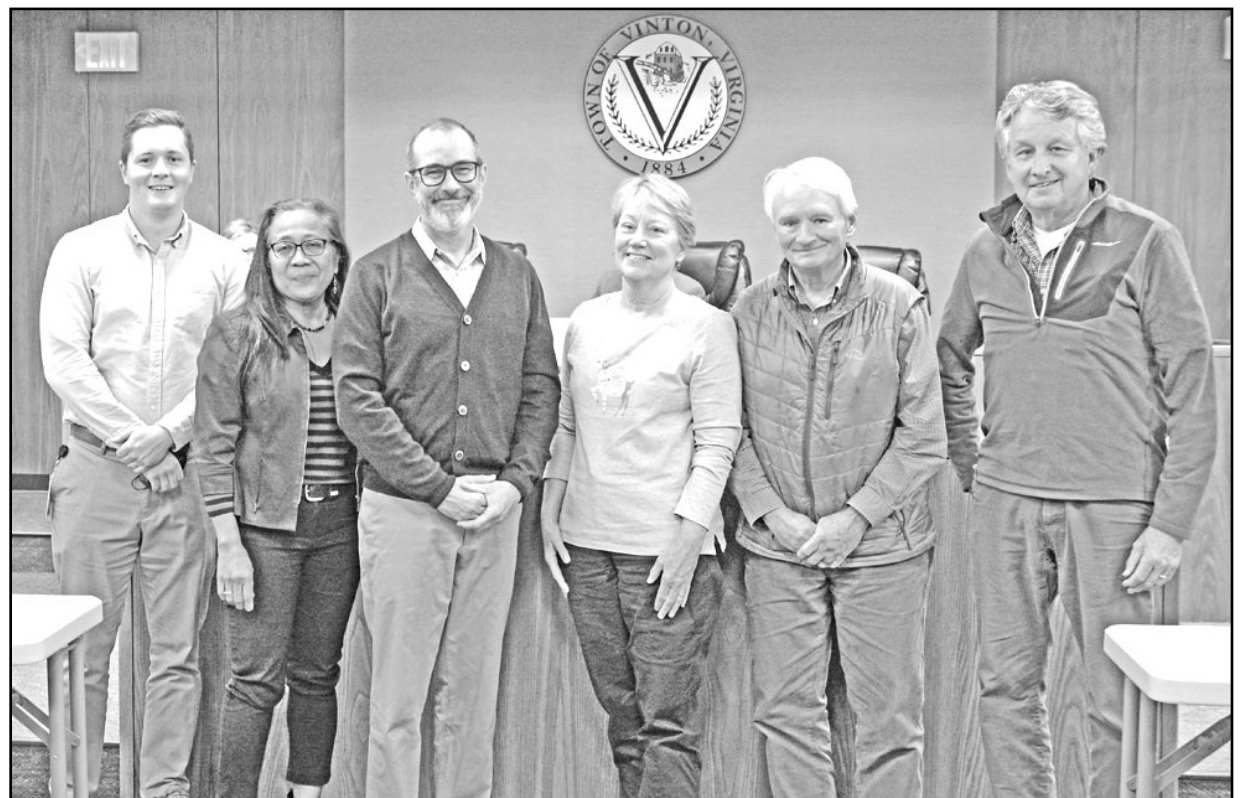


PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

New Roanoke Valley Greenway Coordinator Frank McGuire was introduced to Town Council at their meeting on December 7. Shown left to right are Vinton's representatives to the 2021 Greenway Commission Nathan McClung and Anita McMillan, McGuire, Greenway Commission Chair Janet Scheid, and Vinton's citizen members Bud LaRoche and Rob Lyon.

From the Pulpit

God Positioning System

Last week, we spent some time on the road in order to be with our family for all of the Thanksgiving festivities.

Though I have learned the best routes for us to take when driving to North Carolina, I still use the GPS on my

phone to ensure I do not miss a turn or exit.

Because my watch is connected to my phone, not only does my phone give verbal instructions when a turn or exit is approaching, but my watch also vibrates in unison with these directives. These reminders really help to keep me on track. When I get distracted talking with Whitney, helping the boys with something they need, or listening to music, it is easy to get off course.

I have noticed that the intensity of my phone's verbal instructions and my watch's vibrations vary, depending on how close I am to the suggested route. The closer I am to the intended path of my GPS, the more it will call out to me when I make a wrong turn. The farther I get from the designated route or the longer I stay off of it, the less my GPS devices continue to buzz, beep, vibrate, and call out to me.

Last week, when we pulled off the interstate and turned into a Sheetz gas station, the GPS on my phone repeatedly told me to make a U-turn and my watch vibrated incessantly.

However, the longer we stayed at the gas station, the quieter each one became. The screen on each device clearly indicated that we were off course, but the bells and buzzers to indicate this error grew faint.

Rather than a Global Positioning System (i.e., GPS), scripture reveals that we were created with a "God Positioning System." As those created in God's image, God's very essence is intricately woven into our innermost being. In John, Jesus said to his disciples: "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word; and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him (John 14:23)."

Paul wrote to Timothy, "Through the power of the Holy Spirit who

dwells in us, guard the treasure which has been entrusted to you (2 Timothy 1:14)."

He also wrote to the Corinthians, "Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you (1 Corinthians 3:16)?" All throughout the New Testament, we are reminded that God did not just create us, but continues to live and abide, speak, and move within us. This is our very own God Positioning System built within us that sets our course, directs our steps, and seeks to keep us on a path that travels with God and ultimately lead us home to God.

Like my phone's GPS, this God Positioning System not only sets our route, but it too calls out to us when we get off course.

After Adam and Eve's sin, scripture records: "But the Lord called out to Adam, 'Where are

you' (Genesis 3:9)?"

When Moses needed to take a detour from herding sheep to freeing God's people, "God called out to him from the bush, 'Moses, Moses' (Exodus 3:4b)!"

When Elijah took a wrong turn and ended up lost in a cave, God's still small voice called out to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah (1 Kings 19:13b)?"

All throughout scripture, when God's people made a wrong turn, missed their exit, strayed off course and lost their way, like the GPS on my phone and watch, God's voice called out to them. However, the longer God's people stayed off course, the more God's voice seemed to grow dim. This can be heard through David's plea: "How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me (Psalm 13:1)?"

David knew he was

See From the Pulpit, page 6

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.

Want to keep up with local news, sports and events?

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Parade

from page 1

Several dancers from Floyd Ward performed to holiday music, and then went on to take part in the parade itself.

The parade got underway at 7 p.m. at the Vinton War Memorial with 72 entries, over 100 vehicles, and bands from William Byrd, Northside, Staunton River, and Cave Spring High Schools.

Float winners included: Mayor's Award (Best in Parade, given by the Town of Vinton): Berkshire Health and Rehab

Religious Category: 1st place Gospel Light Baptist Church

2nd place Lighthouse Bible Church

3rd place Roanoke Adventist Christian

Non-religious Category:
1st place Best Trees in Town
2nd place Bank of Botetourt
3rd place Friendship Manor and Salem Terrace

Best Children's Float winner: Floyd Ward School of Dance (sponsored by Eric Thomas, Associate Broker, Mountain View Real Estate)

Best Children's Other winner: HopeTree Foster Care (sponsored by Eric Thomas, Associate Broker,

Mountain View Real Estate)

For decades, the Chamber and the town have collaborated to sponsor a Christmas Parade each year to celebrate the season, to highlight local businesses, to showcase local talent and officials, and to draw crowds of visitors to the town. The parade is always scheduled for the first Thursday after Thanksgiving to be the first in the valley and a kick-off for the holiday season.

"We couldn't have asked for better weather, the best participants and the cutest decorated town!" said Chasity Barbour, Di-

rector of Community Programs in Vinton. "We are looking forward to parades for years to come! It was nice to have it back after two years."

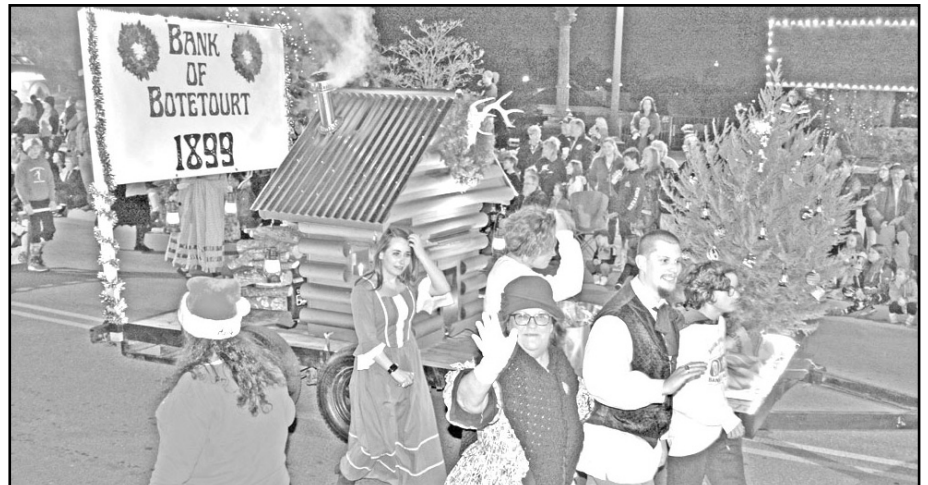
"Oh, what a night!" was the comment from Chamber Executive Director Angie Chewning. "Our town showed off for our annual Christmas Parade. The town was decorated beautifully. The parade participants were amazing, and the parade route was packed. Many thanks to so many people for such a wonderful night!"

"I want to thank all the great

sponsors, entries, and volunteers who made it all possible," said Justin Davison, President of the Chamber of Commerce. "To see all the streets of Vinton lined with families there to see the first parade of the holiday season was amazing. The holiday cheer and atmosphere were in full effect, and I couldn't be happier with how it all turned out. I am excited about finishing 2021 strong at the Vinton Chamber and looking forward to a great 2022." Check The Vinton Messenger Facebook page for more Christmas Parade photos.



Best Trees in Town won first place in the non-religious category at the Vinton Parade.



Bank of Botetourt won second place in the non-religious category at the Vinton Parade.



The Floyd Ward School of Dance won Best Children's Float in the Vinton Parade— and probably would have won for most participants. Some of the dancers performed at the Tree Lighting Ceremony prior to the parade.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Prior to the Vinton Christmas Parade the town held its annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Municipal Building featuring Vinton Mayor Brad Grose, Miss Roanoke Valley Isabella Jessee, the Floyd Ward dancers, and students from the Susan Lewis Music Studio. Shown left to right are Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Assistant Kathryn Sowers, Mayor Brad Grose, Miss Roanoke Valley Isabella Jessee, and Chamber Executive Director Angie Chewning.

DAR Chapter remembers Bedford Boys



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of the Botetourt County DAR and their guests met at the Olde Liberty Station restaurant recently to recognize the Bedford Boys. Several guests from Vinton and the Roanoke Valley Chapter DAR attended.

Members and guests of the Botetourt County Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution gathered in Bedford recently to remember the men who lost their lives in the June 6, 1944, D-Day invasion of Normandy.

Thirty-four Virginia National Guard soldiers from Bedford were part of the D-Day invasion; 19 were killed during the first day, and four more died during the rest of the Normandy campaign. This town and the "Bedford Boys" proportionately suffered the greatest losses of any American town during the campaign. That's the reason the National D-Day Memorial is located in Bedford, representing American D-Day veterans on its 50 acres.

The DAR members and their guests enjoyed lunch at the Olde Liberty Station, a restaurant in Bedford located in the former Norfolk and Western Railway Station. This station once trans-

ported men, supplies and ammunition during World War II. Once the hub of community life, it has been restored and now serves lunch and dinner.

The guest speaker was John Long, Educational Director of the D-Day Memorial. After his talk, Long took questions and comments. He told the story of André Fallwell, a boy from Roanoke who wrote the poem inscribed on the Roanoke Valley War Memorial. He was killed at the Battle of the Bulge on Christmas Day 1944. Members who were present at this meeting knew of the Bedford Boys, and some were neighbors to their families.

Barbara Helms spoke about the Bedford Boys from personal knowledge as members of her church.

Guests from Vinton who attended this luncheon were Mildred Scott, Linda Adamo, Joe Adamo, and Lisa Adamo, along with Roanoke Val-

ley Chapter DAR Regent Cindy Higgins, member Lillian Lowe, and her husband, Bill Lowe, representing the Roanoke Valley Chapter DAR which meets in Vinton. Higgins and her mother, Barbara Helms, are associate members of the Botetourt DAR Chapter.

The Daughters of the American Revolution is a non-profit, non-political organization open to any woman who has lineage to a Patriot who contributed to the success of the American Revolution.

If you are interested or have questions about joining the Botetourt DAR organization, contact Membership Chair Emily Talbot-Guillote via email at eptg1019@gmail.com or Regent Jo-Ella Hall John at jjohnregent@gmail.com. Visit the website at <https://bocodar.wixsite.com/bocodar>.

Questions about the Roanoke Valley DAR Chapter in Vinton can be sent to Cindy Higgins at cghiggins@comcast.net.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15				16				
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53						54				55	56		
57										58			
59					60					61			

CLUES ACROSS

- Polish city
- Very eager
- Identifies a specific person or thing
- Tennis great Naomi
- One concerned by professional advancement
- PGA Championship reward
- A fashionable hotel
- Norse mythology after-life location
- Stood up
- Car mechanics group
- Weather forecasters use it (abbr.)
- Broken branch
- Astronomy unit
- East Asian nursemaid
- "Airplane!" actor
- Exclamation that

CLUES DOWN

- denotes disgust
- "Batman" villain
- Downfalls
- Philippine province
- Once-vital TV part
- Tax
- Classic Scorsese film
- Subway dwellers
- Book part
- Taxi
- Pancakes made from buckwheat flour
- Swiss river
- Founder of Babism
- Have surgery
- Withdrawal from a larger entity
- Lot's father
- Greek war god
- 2,000 lbs.
- Lemur

CLUES DOWN

- Quarrels
- Right away
- Comedian Carvey
- Egyptian unit of weight
- A Brit's mother
- Tropical tree
- One who speaks Gaelic
- NHL legend Bobby
- Vacation spots
- Military personnel
- Shakira's don't lie
- Wimbledon champ
- Teletypewriter
- Mistakes
- Whale ship captain
- Thus
- From end to end
- Kids love him
- One and only
- Fencing swords
- Taxis
- Basics
- Refuse of grapes
- Go quickly
- French ballet dynasty
- Most open
- Popular soap ingredient
- US time zone (abbr.)
- Items of food
- Backbones
- Infrequent
- Blood type
- "Let It Snow!" songwriter
- Dutch colonist
- Pike
- Egyptian sun god
- A cardinal is one
- From a distance
- Bolivian river
- American student organization (abbr.)
- River (Spanish)
- Chinese life force
- Chinese surname

OBITUARIES

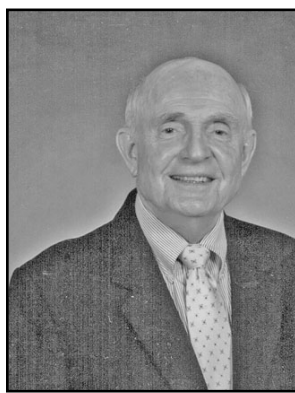
Barrie Douglas Booth

Barrie Douglas Booth, 83, was called to be with his Lord and Savior on Saturday, November 27, 2021 at his home in Daleville from complications related to melanoma.

Born in Vinton to Maurice and Frances Booth, who predeceased him, Barrie was an honor student and star athlete at William Byrd High School and was awarded a basketball scholarship to Washington and Lee University. He graduated from Roanoke College.

A devout Christian, for many years he taught Sunday School to adults, but found his greatest joy in teaching toddlers and preschoolers about the life and lessons of Jesus Christ. He was a member of Bonsack Baptist Church and the Logos Sunday School Class.

Known as a great storyteller, he spread laughter throughout the German-owned company for which he sold heavy equipment, while spinning yarns to customers from all walks of life in the coalfields of West Virginia to the mountain and valley towns of Virginia where his wit and



wisdom no doubt helped him garner numerous top salesmen awards.

Barrie is survived by his wife, of 34 years, Barbara Booth; sister, Connie Booth Collins; daughter, Michele "Mitzie" Denise Booth; son, Brendon Scott Booth, and wife, Bonnie and their three children, Forrest Booth and his wife, Erin, Ashlyn Booth and Chandler Booth.

Also his stepson, David Robertson and his wife, Kathy, their two daughters, Amanda Henderson (deceased), Kristin Atkinson (deceased); and two step great grandchildren, Bailey Atkinson and Connor Johnson.

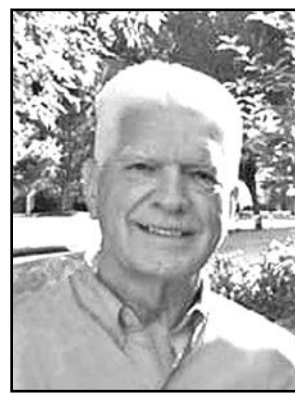
A Celebration of Barrie's life will be held on Saturday, December 11, with visitation at 2 p.m., followed by a memorial service at 3 p.m. at Oakey's East Chapel with Dr. Chris Cadenhead officiating.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Bonsack Baptist Church building fund or food pantry.

Arrangements are by Oakey's East Chapel and Crematory, 540-977-3909.

Steve L. Lonker

Steve L. Lonker, 80, of Vinton, left his earthly home on November 30, 2021. He was born in Sullivan, WV, but spent most of his younger years in Sarah Ann, WV, and in Logan, WV. He was preceded in death by his father Mike Lonker, his mother Ruby Ragle Lonker, and by his two brothers, Mike Lonker II and Robert Gene Lonker.



and Stephens Co, where he worked until his second retirement in 2002.

Steve was known for many positive qualities: his character, his helping nature, his goodness, his integrity, his "random acts of kindness," and that head of beautiful white hair! He loved his family unconditionally and was the most wonderful husband, father,

grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, brother-in-law, and uncle anyone could imagine.

Steve loved going to BoJangles with "the coffee club" to solve world problems and/or to discuss various sports activities. He was a member and deacon at Vinton Baptist Church and a member of various service organizations, such as the Vinton Host Lion's Club, where he was past president and received the Melvin Jones Fellow for humanitarian service award. He served on the War Memorial Renovation Committee and on the Vision Committee that was in part responsible for the building of the Vinton/Roanoke County Veterans Monument "High Ground." He spent many hours tending to his lawn and field...most of those were enjoyable hours. He also enjoyed golfing and spending time with family.

Steve will be greatly missed by many, but God just received one who offered all the qualities He asks from us.

Until we meet again....we love you now and forever.

The family would like to thank the staff at Brookdale Roanoke and the Good Samaritan Hospice for the care and love they provided for Steve during his time there.

The family requests, in lieu of flowers, donations be given to the Music Ministry at Vinton Baptist Church.

The family will receive friends from 12 until 3 p.m. on Friday, December 10, 2021, at Vinton Baptist Church. A Celebration of his Life will begin at 3 p.m. on Friday at the church with Pastors Chris Monroe and Travis Russell officiating.

Arrangements are being handled by Oakey's Funeral Service - Vinton Chapel, (540) 982-2221. Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.oakeys.com.

From the Pulpit from page 4

off-track when God's voice seemed to fall silent, when the bells and buzzers of God's directions grew faint. And yet through Jesus, God revealed that he is with us; he promised that he will never leave nor forsake us.

What David did not fully understand, but Christ would later reveal, is that God is never absent from us, but sometimes we can be absent from God.

As we navigate our way through life, it can be easy for us to get distracted, miss our turn, and get off-track. Thankfully, we have a God Positioning System built within us that sets our course, directs our steps, and seeks to keep us on a path that leads to God. The more we follow this route and do our best to stay close to

it, the clearer we will hear God's instructions buzz, beep, and call out to us when we need to make a turn, take a detour, or stay straight.

If those signals have grown dim in our lives, it's a fairly safe bet that we've wandered off course.

The Advent season is a perfect time to begin making our way back. Through Advent, we are reminded that no matter where we are on life's journey, God is with us; He is within us. The more we head in his direction, the louder his voice can be heard and the clearer his instructions will be that ultimately lead us home to God.

*By The Rev. Travis Russell,
Vinton Baptist Church*

www.vintonmessenger.com

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.sttofoe.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.eck-va.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.

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

TRUST THE TRUTH
Read 2 Timothy 1:1 through 4:22

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15).

The Greek word orthotomeo, translated here as "correctly handles," is rendered "rightly dividing" in other versions.

It carries the idea of cutting straight like a surgeon and getting to the heart of the matter. Paul's letters to Timothy emphasize sound doctrine, which must be taught in the churches so believers will be established in the truth. Is false teaching being advocated? Stand firm on God's truth. Do unbelievers mock our Christian life? Stand firm on God's truth.

We are all to be students of God's Word—diligently studying it, faithfully putting it into practice in our daily lives, and effectively sharing it. We should never be ashamed to be identified with Christ, nor do we want to be embarrassed by our lack of preparation for witnessing.

We need to be ready with knowledge of the truth and guided by God's Spirit in sharing it with others.

Thought for Today: Train in the truth and trust its teaching.

Quicklook: 2 Timothy 2:7-15

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

School 10:00am, Worship 11:00am, sttimothy1201@verizon.net.

NAZARENE

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

PRESBYTERIAN

CAMPBELL MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1130 Hardy Rd, Vinton, VA, 540-343-1842; cmcp2verizon.net Sunday school 9:45am, Worship 11:00am; Communion 1st Sundays; 2nd Sunday Session; Monday Noon Bible 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.

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

Ring in the New Year with Five Dollar Shake, friends and family and make some new friends at the Vinton Moose Event Center December 31, * 8 p.m.-1a.m., \$25 per person, \$50 per couple. Ticket price includes heavy hor d'oeuvres, New Year's

party accessories, BYOB, cash Bar for beer only. For more information call (540) 890-1335 or email angie@vintonchamber.com.

Our Thanksgiving food drive at the Vinton Moose Lodge was a huge success. We have been notified there

Angie Chewning

Filling in for Bootie

more families in need. We are collecting non-perishable food items to help with this

community outreach. If you would like to make a donation, please stop by the lodge or email angie@vintonchamber.com.

There are still Angels available on the Chamber's Angel Tree. For more info call the Chamber office at 343-1364

or email angie@vintonchamber.com These are all Vinton families that need our help! Thanks so much!

The Second Annual Santa Crawl is Tuesday, December 14; Santa's start time from the Vinton War Memorial is 5:30 p.m.

WVWA

from page 1

now it's time to go in a different direction.

Town Clerk Susan Johnson read the Resolution of Intent which council adopted to begin formal discussions with the WVWA to develop a "mutually beneficial comprehensive agreement to finalize the authority's acquisition of the town's utility system."

The town invited several guests involved with the project to attend and speak, including Board of Supervisors Chairman Jason Peters, who represents Vinton on the board, WVWA Executive Director Mike McEvoy, former Mayor Don Davis, who currently serves on the WVWA board, and Roanoke County Administrator Dan O'Donnell.

Jason Peters noted that the decision had been "in the works for a long time." The town and county have partnered successfully on a number of joint projects, "doing so many great things together rather than individually." Since the number one priority of both parties is "service to citizens" the transfer of the water/wastewater system to the WVWA will ensure that utility issues won't be a "hindrance" in projects to come.

In an interview, Peters commented that when he ran for re-election in 2017, the water system and water quality were the topics of most concern to his constituents. He lives in the Lindenwood area, which is in need of many, most likely costly, infrastructure repairs and upgrades.

Davis, who has served on the WVWA board since 2006, commented that he has been encouraging the partnership between town, county, and WVWA for 15 years. He believes economic development should be the main focus of the town; transferring the water/wastewater system to the WVWA will allow the town to focus on those priorities.

McEvoy thanked Town Council for their "vote of confidence" in the WVWA, commending Town Manager Pete Peters and his staff for their diligence, dedication, and contributions in putting this proposal together.

In early November, Pete Peters wrote to McEvoy noting that the 1979 Water Agreement between the town and county, in which the town provides water and sewer services to its own residents and the East County area, is set to expire on May 25, 2029. All physical assets related to the utility system's operation that remain in Roanoke County will defer back to Roanoke County's ownership. Upon expiration of the agreement, the loss of the wells, storage tanks, pumps, and water lines, will effectively eliminate the town's ability to operate any of the remaining water system located within the town limits.

The town initially inquired about the county extending the agreement past the 2029 date, due in part to the town receiving ARPA funding which would be designated for water and sewer improvements—many of them in East County. At that point, Supervisor Peters and county administrators steered the discussion in a different direction, asking the town and county to consider other options. Preliminary discussions

have taken place in closed sessions over the past several months.

According to the town manager, the town wanted to be proactive and continue to provide a good system for its customers, and at affordable rates. However, the town's system is deteriorating at almost a faster rate than it can be replaced. Rates would most likely have to increase to finance continual repairs. Debt would need to be taken on.

In addition, the Public Works Department, which maintains and operates the utility system, is stretched thin.

"Currently, if repairs become necessary, say there's a water line break, it's 'all hands on deck'—other projects go on the back burner," said Peters. "At times, we must make the decision to interrupt repairs for snow removal."

Another factor is the need for a stable and high-quality water supply with so much new industry and so many new businesses in the town—and the desire to attract more.

"The financial impact of the imminent termination of the 1979 Water Agreement with Roanoke County and the current availability of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for water and waste-water improvements has created a confluence of opportunities to better position the town and the broader East Roanoke County community for a prosperous future," he noted.

In his letter, Pete Peters stated, "The Town of Vinton hereby proposes to sell all water and waste-water assets and real property associated with the Vinton/East County Utility System to the Western Virginia Water Authority (Authority), forego the remaining seven years of the 1979 agreement with Roanoke County and discontinue all further operations of the water and waste-water utility within the town limits effective June 30, 2022.

"The town continues to seek to provide the highest level of services for our residents and businesses shared with the county," he continued. "The decision to transfer the town's utility system to the authority offers a sustainable financial withdrawal for the town and will result in increased efficiencies and quality in the delivery of water and wastewater services for the customers."

According to Peters, particulars of the proposal include: the WVWA will pay the town \$3 million over three years and the town will also retain the balance of the Utility Fund (approximately \$2.5 million) that will be used for other capital improvement projects within the town such as traffic signal replacement, construction/repair of sidewalks and storm water improvements. The town will receive joint appointment authority to select a candidate for one of Roanoke County's three seats on the WVWA Board. No town or authority jobs will be lost due to the acquisition by WVWA of the utility system.

The town currently pays for wastewater treatment. Once the WVWA takes over, the town will not bear the expense for wastewater treatment.

WVWA will assume

100% of the town's debt associated with the Utility System (approximately \$9 million). Vinton will provide WVWA with \$5.7 million of ARPA funds for water/wastewater-related capital improvement within the Vinton/East Roanoke County Utility Service Area.

The Town of Vinton will complete current utility system improvement projects by June 30, 2022: SCADA system updates of \$400,000; 3rd Street sewer lift station rebuild of \$2,000,000; the system-wide radio read meter replacement of \$1,600,000; and the 1st Street Water Line Replacement, \$400,000.

Over the next six months, the town and authority will work together to finalize all the steps for this acquisition. Engineering studies will be conducted to determine if and how new distribution lines and water sources can be used to provide water in the town.

As for the benefits for customers, a joint press release states, "The town's governmental leaders and management have listened to their utility customers and wanted to provide the best rate and infrastructure stability, service, and water quality for current and future customers. The best way to do that is a regional approach. Working together regionally provides better rate stability, drought protection, infrastructure planning and maintenance for all customers. The authority's footprint across multiple jurisdictions supports economic development in the entire valley through high quality and quantity of water, sewage treatment capacity and competitive rate structures.

"Customers in the Town of Vinton will receive a high level of service and an investment in water supply, treatment and delivery that is more readily available on the larger scale the Authority can offer. The town will also be able to focus more of its time and funding on important community development projects such as transportation enhancements, improving the town's walkability, and improving stormwater management."

For existing customers in the authority's service area, the addition of the approximately 5,200 Vinton water customers provides a larger base in which to spread the organization's operational and capital expenses.

What will change for current Vinton customers? "Groundwater wells are currently used to provide drinking water for town residents and businesses. While some residents will continue to receive their drinking water from the existing groundwater wells, the authority will utilize existing water distribution interconnections to allow water from the Carvins Cove Reservoir to supply some homes and businesses with treated drinking water."

Water from Carvins Cove is treated at a conventional treatment facility, filtered, and then disinfected with chlorine, with fluoride added. The facility has the capacity to treat 28 million gallons of water per day.

Sanitary sewer for town customers is currently transported through pipes

to the Roanoke Regional Water Pollution Control Plant. Customers will continue to receive the same high level of service provided by this facility.

Currently, WVWA customers who use 5,000 gallons per month pay \$28.75 for water and \$35.25 for sewer service. Current town customers pay \$28.97 a month for 5,000 gallons of water and \$37.38 a month for sewer (based on 5,000 gallons of water consumption). It is anticipated that rates would be equalized with the authority rates in effect July 1, 2022.

McEvoy says the WVWA currently has about 64,000 customer connections so the addition of the Vinton customers is an increase of about 8.5%. "There are several reasons that working with Vinton makes sense. First, customer size is important in utilities. More customers to share expenses, especially fixed expenses, means each individual customer has a lower cost to carry. Working together regionally provides better rate stability, drought protection, infrastructure planning and maintenance for all customers. Also, there are redundancies that can be eliminated. For example, there is no need for the town and authority to run separate utility billing systems. This will not result in lower rates but will likely slow increases in rates for everyone.

"Second, a significant portion of Vinton customers are in Roanoke County. As the county is a member locality, we feel an obligation to work on solutions for their benefit. Finally, the authority was created in 2004 with a goal of creating a regional utility to benefit the citizens of the Roanoke Valley. In fact, being a regional leader is one of four points in our vision statement. Working together creates a stronger utility system for everyone."

As for the financial aspects, McEvoy believes "the agreement reached is fair to both parties. Nearly

every expansion or acquisition by the authority has involved some debt assumption as utilities is a capital-intensive industry, so we are used to that component. From a cash standpoint, the authority will increase revenues and will benefit from new additional customers that connect."

The town and East County service areas have many needs already on the Town of Vinton's list for line repairs and replacements. Without this agreement with the WVWA, much of the \$5.7 million ARPA funding would have gone to those infrastructure needs in specific neighborhoods. With the agreement, those funds go to the authority. McEvoy says, "These funds have to be spent by a certain deadline, so I see these projects happening on the same time schedule the town would have spent them."

"The authority is just completing the first phase of a master planning exercise that looks at opportunities (new construction, growth potential, efficiency improvements, etc.) in Franklin and Botetourt Counties," said McEvoy. "Phase two examines the City of Roanoke and Roanoke County, so we will include the town and East County service areas in that process. Overall, we are excited about the possibility to serve this portion of Roanoke County.

"The town is already full integrated with the authority when it comes to wastewater service, having been a partner in the Regional WPC Plant for many years, so almost no work will be needed except normal ongoing maintenance," McEvoy explained when asked about changes to the existing infrastructure. "As for water, we are still evaluating how much and how quickly we can transition town customers to Carvins Cove water. Likely we will have to make some pumping improvements to service town customers at higher elevations, but it appears that quite a few customers

can be served with Carvins Cove water now. Before any switch, staff needs to look at possible effects on fire flows; however, we think this will have a positive impact. We would of course provide customers with advance notice of any changes.

"Probably the biggest immediate change town customers will notice is billing and payment options," McEvoy said. "Billing will be monthly instead of every two months, and the authority uses a sewer billing method that limits charges should customers use more water in the summer for irrigation. The authority also has a number of payment options that I think customers will like, such a pay by text, automatic bank drafting, pay by phone, online payments and the traditional payment by mail."

Vinton's Assistant Town Manager Cody Sexton summed it all up: "With the utility customers in the town receiving a high level of service from the authority, we are excited to be able to focus more time and funding on important projects throughout the community."

Mayor Grose invited all citizens and customers of the utility system that may have questions to attend a special public information open house to be held on Tuesday, January 25, from 5-7:30 p.m. at the Vinton War Memorial. Staff from the WVWA and the town will be present to answer questions and will have information available regarding the utility system transfer.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

R	A	D	O	M	A	G	O	G	T	H	A	T		
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Marketplace



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For Sale - Animals

Mini Rex Rabbits
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 2 Females,
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 Call 540-763-2232

For Sale - Firewood

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 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.

Wanted - To Buy

WANTED TO BUY
 Want to buy an acre or more of land, near Hollins. Call 353-8245.

Personal Ads

PERSONALS
 Wanted - Someone to live in. Call 353-8245.

Help Wanted - Drivers

ROUTE DELIVERY
 ROANOKE AND SURROUNDING CITIES - MAGAZINE DELIVERY TO ESTABLISHED LOCATIONS - PART TIME FLESCIBLE HOURS (Monday through Friday during first two weeks each month) - GREAT DELIVERY RATES PAID PER LOCATION - SUV OR MINIVAN REQUIRED - INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR
 Call Mike (513) 773-9374

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/Night Auditor 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:

Supervisor of Family Services

The Supervisor of Family Services develops, implements, and coordinates the Head Start Family and Community Partnership services to meet the Department of Health and Human Services and TAP's policies and guidelines. The Supervisor is responsible for establishing a system of identification of families in the area that are in need of social services and parent involvement.

- Knowledge of the existing community and human services Agencies
- Must possess skill in expressing self orally and written

Help Wanted - General

•Record keeping and data collecting skills required
 •Associate or Bachelor's Degree in Social Work or related field or equivalent experience
 •One year's experience working with an agency or institution; providing social services to people
 •Must have at least three years supervisory experience
 •TAP is a mandatory COVID vaccine employer.

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

Must be able to adjust work schedule as needed. Complete background required. Salary: \$43,680.- \$54,433. per year. Submit cover letter and resume to: TAP, Human Resources, Job Code: SFS-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.tapintohope.org TTY: 540-345-4096 AA/EOE/Drug Free Workplace

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Craig County DSS Primary responsibility is determining initial and ongoing eligibility for benefit programs. Requires ability to effectively interact with public, good writing, basic math and computer skills. Minimum educational requirement is a high school degree or equivalent.

\$32,415 to \$35,657 (depending on qualifications)

Find full job description and application at: <http://jobs.virginia.gov> questions: call (540) 864-5117 ext. 237 Equal Opportunity Employer

Legals - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 18547 BOTETOURT ROAD, EAGLE ROCK, VA 24085.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated July 5, 2007, in the original principal amount of \$128,600.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 070004336. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090 on January 10, 2022, at 1:30 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL OF THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, STATE OF VIRGINIA AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: BEGINNING AT AN OLD IRON PIPE ON THE WESTERLY SIDE OF U.S. HIGHWAY ROUTE 220; THENCE LEAVING SAID HIGHWAY N. 61° 43' W. 279.10 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE N. 28° 47' 46" E. 247.0 FEET TO AN 18 INCH TALL PIPE; THENCE N. 54° 33' W. 274.96 FEET TO AN OLD PIPE; THENCE N. 41° 24' 54" E. 227.63 FEET TO AN OLD 3 FOOT TALL IRON PIPE; THENCE S. 64° 13' 24" E. 485.24 FEET TO AN OLD ROD ON THE EASTERLY SIDE OF U.S. HIGHWAY ROUTE 220; THENCE ALONG SAID HIGHWAY S.

Legals - Botetourt County

26° 50' W. 524.36 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; AND BEING A 4.613 ACRES TRACT AS IS SHOWN ON THE SURVEY FOR GRAT C. AND ELLA FAYE SHELTON, BY T.P. PARKER AND SON, ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS, LTD., DATED OCTOBER 11, 1985, A COPY OF WHICH IS RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 309, AT PAGE 355. TOGETHER WITH THAT EASEMENT OF RIGHT - OF-WAY FROM U.S. HIGHWAY ROUTE 220 TO THE HOUSE LOCATED ON THE HEREIN DESCRIBED REAL PROPERTY WHICH HAS BEEN RESERVED OVER THAT PAVED DRIVE LOCATED ON THE ADJOINING 1.50 ACRES TRACT OF NOW OR FORMERLY P. Y. DUDLEY, EXCEPTING AND RESERVING THEREFROM: PARCEL NO. 032. BEING AS SHOWN ON SHEETS 24 AND 25 OF THE PLANS FOR ROUTE 220, STATE HIGHWAY PROJECT 6220-011-111, RW-202, AND BEGINNING ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ROUTE 220 SBL CONSTRUCTION BASELINE, FROM THE LANDS NOW ON FORMERLY BELONGING TO DOROTHY S. ST. CLAIR, WENDY S. FAIRBURN, MELANIE S. SPANGLER, AND SHARON M. PUGH AT APPROXIMATE STATION 2271+13, AND ENDING ON BOTH SIDES OF SAID BASELINE, THE LANDS NOW OR FORMERLY BEGINNING TO DANNY HAYDEN DUDLEY, AT APPROXIMATE STATION 2272+72, AND CONTAINING 1.627 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, LAND. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwvsales.com. BIDDERS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO WEAR A COVER OVER BOTH NOSE AND MOUTH AND PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING AT THE AUCTION. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwvsales.com. VA-348075-1.

Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to

all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on December 15, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

Hold public hearing to consider the request of Sia Asset Management, LLC, applicant, and Helm Building Enterprises, LTD, property owner, for a Use Not Provided For Permit to allow crypto mining at 1401 Southside Drive, Tax Map # 165-4-2.1.

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

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

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY James E. Taliano, II Executive Secretary

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104
Case No. CL21000359-00
 City Of Salem Circuit Court 2 East Calhoun Street, Salem, VA 24153
 DANA LYNN FRANCISCO MEADOR v. PAUL CLINTON MEADOR
 The object of this suit is to: FOR ENTRY OF DIVORCE It is ORDERED that PAUL CLINTON appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before JANUARY 20, 2022. November 19, 2021 Stacy L. Owen

PUBLIC ONLINE AUCTION

Secure Store- 70 Market Ridge Ln, Daleville, VA 24083, has a possessory lien on all of the goods stored in unit 537, 245 and unit 191. The auction will end on 12/15/21 at 12 Noon. All these items of personal property are being auctioned online through lockerfox.com These auctions will run until December 15, 2021. Pictures of the unit can be inspected online Cash payments only. For more details visit www.lockerfox.com/storage-auctions/us/

Legals - Montgomery County

Trustee's Sale

812 Village Way North, Blacksburg, VA 24060 (Parcel ID: 120106)
 Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated August 21, 2015, in the original principal amount of \$170,000.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia on August 21, 2015, as Instrument Number 150006097, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on January 4, 2022 at 11:00 AM, in front of the building housing the County of Montgomery Circuit Court, 55 East Main Street, Suite 1, Christiansburg, VA 24073, the property designated as Lot Number 84, as shown and described on a plat of survey entitled, "Plat Showing Subdivision of Lots 84-86, Village at Tom's Creek, Phase IIB, Town of Blacksburg, Prices Fork Magisterial District, Montgomery County, Virginia," dated March 8, 2005, which plat is of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Plat Book 25, Page 91, Slide 1186. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions, if any, of record, or other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises. TERMS: CASH. A deposit of \$17,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than \$9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful

Legals - Montgomery County

bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review upon request before the sale, outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector. Tromberg, Morris & Poulin, PLLC on behalf of Southeast Equity Trustees, LLC, Substitute Trustee(s), 413 Stuart Circle, Suite 314, Richmond, VA 23220, File No. 19-001735, Tel: 561-338-4101.

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Byrd boys take second at 26 team swim invitational

The William Byrd swimmers got off to a fast start last week with a meet at the Bedford Y and a trip to Christiansburg for the Southwest Virginia High School Invitational at the Christiansburg Aquatic Center.

Byrd has a roster of 31 swimmers this year, including senior captains Austin Nielsen, Griffin Horacek and Emma Copening. The team had a dozen seniors in the water when they took the horn last Wednesday at the Bedford Y against Staunton River and Jefferson Forest.

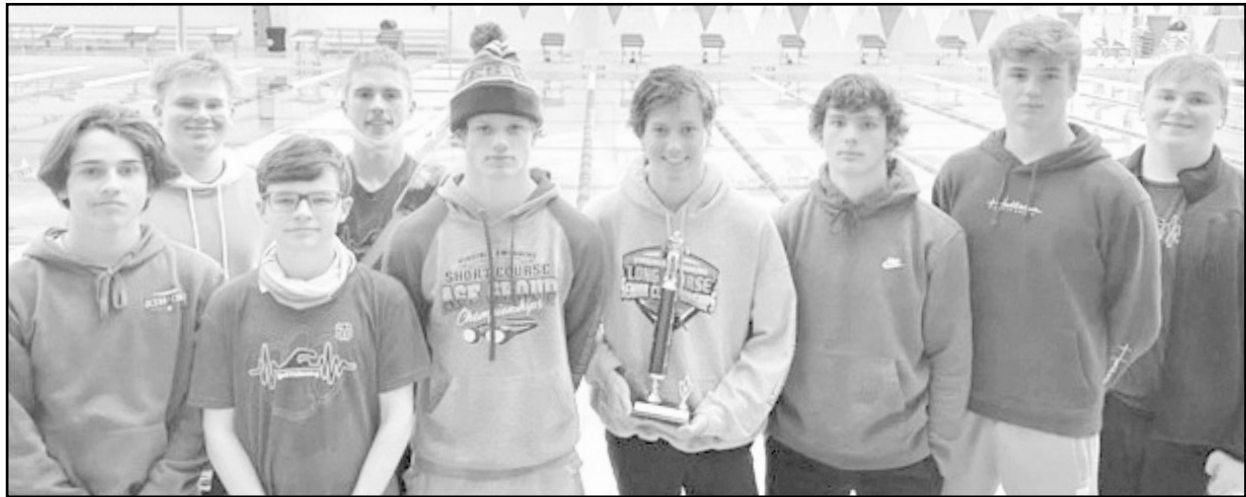
“Our upperclassmen have done a wonderful job helping swimmers new to our team learn the ropes,” said coach Krista Martin. “Wednesday’s meet was a great way to kick off our season.”

The boys won the meet with 148 points, followed by Jefferson Forest with 105 and Staunton River with 21. First place finishes in Bedford included the Boys 200 Medley Relay team of Aiden Brinkley, Nielsen, Colin Murtaugh and Nathan Miller, earning a state cut for the event. Byrd swept the relays as the 200 Freestyle team of Miller, Horacek, Matthew Hoyos and Dawson Brinkley took first, as did the 400 Free team of Nielsen, Aiden Brinkley, Dawson Brinkley and Murtaugh.

Individually, Aiden Brinkley won the 200 IM and 100 Butterfly while Dawson won the 100 Free. Murtaugh took the 50 Free and 100 Backstroke and Michael Hoyos won the 200 Free.

Jefferson Forest won the girls’ meet with 157 points, followed by Byrd with 86 and Staunton River with 29. Byrd’s Emma Copening won the 100 Fly.

Last Saturday the Terriers competed in the first big meet of the year as 26 teams gathered at the



Above is the Byrd boys’ swim team that finished second in Christiansburg last week. Left to right, front: Bruno DeMelo, Jay Rozenbloom, Dawson Brinkley, Aiden Brinkley, Colin Murtaugh, Elliott Gaines and Michael Hoyos. Second row left to right, two boys in the back on the left side; Matthew Hoyos and Jesse Smith. Left are members of the 200 Free Relay that set a new school record. Left to right; Aiden Brinkley, Dawson Brinkley, Nathan Miller and Colin Murtaugh.



Colin Murtaugh swims at Christiansburg Saturday.

PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Christiansburg Aquatic Center. Science Hill High of Tennessee swept the team titles but the William Byrd boys finished second with 212 points to 271 for Science Hill.

“It was super exciting to have so many teams in one place,” said Martin. “We were not able to participate in any big regular season meets like this last season due to COVID. It was so nice to be back. We had some terrific races, several best times and our boys’ team really proved they are going to be contenders this year for big things.”

Byrd had a bunch of swimmers finish in the top three in the boys’ meet. The 200 Free relay team won with a time of 1:31.32, earning a state cut and breaking the school record by over three seconds. That team was comprised of both Brinkley boys, Miller and

Murtaugh, and the 400 Free relay team also took first with the same four Terriers in the lineup.

Individually, Murtaugh took a first in both the 50 Free and 100 Butterfly while Dawson Brinkley was second in the 200 IM, second in the 100 Breast and earned his state cut in the 50 Free as the lead off man for Byrd’s relay team. Aiden Brinkley was third in the 200 freestyle and third in the 100 Back, earning his state cut.

In the girls’ meet Science Hill dominated with 329 points, topping runnerup Patrick Henry by 69 points. The Byrd girls were 17th with 30 points.

The Terriers stay busy this week. They were scheduled to swim at the Gator Center Wednesday against Glenvar and James River, and Friday Byrd is at the Kirk YMCA to swim against Patrick Henry at 6 pm.

Big Orange wrestlers are third at River Rumble

The Big Orange wrestlers will be splitting up to hit the mats on two fronts this weekend. The Byrd starters will be heading to Skyline High School in Front Royal while the rest of the team competes in the Titan Toughman Tournament at Hidden Valley.

The “Appalachian Duals” tournament at Skyline is a team tournament while the Toughman is an individual tourney. The two-day event at Hidden Valley will begin with matches at 3 pm Friday afternoon and continue

into the evening. It will pick up at 10 am Saturday with the championship matches sometime in the late afternoon or early evening. There are 21 teams scheduled to compete in one of the top early season tournaments of the season.

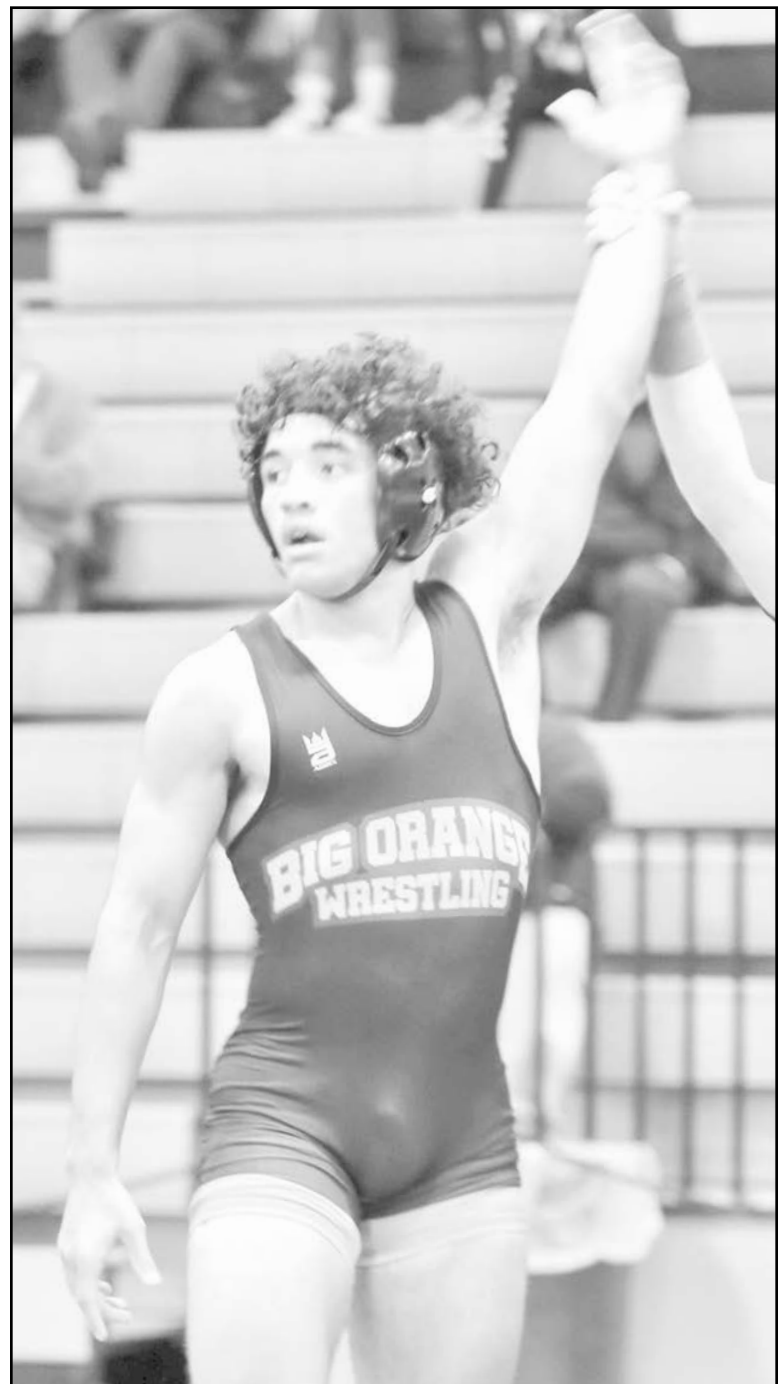
The Big Orange opened last weekend with a third place finish in the “River Rumble” in Moneta. Host Staunton River was the team winner while Jefferson Forest finished second.

Byrd had three champions at the Rumble, Xavier Preston at 160, Aiden Lucas at 195 and Hunter Richards at 285. Preston won most outstanding wrestler with a dominant performance in the finals as he tech falled his opponent from Jefferson Forest.

Other Terriers who placed included Dominic Pascoe with a second at 120 while thirds went to Gage Cockran at 113 and Nick Bustamante at 220 and Kyle Kalinke took a fourth at 106.

“Currently we are starting nine

freshmen and sophomores on the roster this year, so we are super young,” said Byrd coach Thomas Kessler. “We are returning five state placers from the previous season in Gage Cockran, Dominic Pascoe, Dexter Gaines, Xavier Preston and Hunter Richards. We have a lot of green wrestlers on the team so the more mat time we can get for them the better. We look to build on the successful season we had last year and should have another solid year this year.”



Top left, Byrd 285 pounder Hunter Richards is close to a pin in the “River Rumble” at Staunton River Saturday. Left, Aiden Lucas(right in photo) is on his way to a win over a Jefferson Forest opponent at 195 and, above, Xavier Preston is declared the winner at 160 pounds. Richards, Lucas and Preston all won their weight classes and Preston was named the Outstanding Wrestler of the tournament.

PHOTOS BY BARRY COX



Action from last Friday's William Byrd basketball game against Glenvar. Left, Ethan Hairston goes high for a rebound. Center, Trevor Ruble shoots a jumper. Right, Grayson Webb blocks a shot by Glenvar's Stephen Barber.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

WB hoop teams in Roy Stanley Memorial Sat.

The William Byrd basketball teams will be both be playing in the Roy Stanley Memorial at the Roanoke College Cregger Center in Salem Saturday. The four game event honors the late WDBJ-TV sportscaster who died of cancer in April of 2002.

This year's lineup includes William Byrd against Hidden Valley in a 1 pm boys' game, with the girls from those same two schools playing at 2:45 pm. At 4:30 pm the Greenbriar East boys will play Roanoke Catholic and the day will wrap up with a good one, as Class 2 state contender James River takes on always tough William Fleming.

The games are a fundraiser for the Salem Kiwanis Club, with money going to assist organizations throughout the Roanoke Valley. Marcus Wade of the Kiwanis Club is the tournament director.

The Byrd girls will head to RC with a 1-2 record after falling to Cave Spring Tuesday in

Vinton, 54-51. Sophia Chrisley led the Terriers with 22 points while Emilie McCaskill had 19.

"We're playing hard and getting better," said coach Randy Bush. "It was a very competitive game."

The girls picked up their first win at Glenvar last Friday, 44-40. Chrisley had 14 points and McCaskill had 11. It was a tight game throughout but the Terriers made a fourth quarter run to put it away.

The Byrd boys were still looking for their first win when they traveled to Christiansburg Wednesday, just one day after losing at Cave Spring, 69-41, to fall to 0-3.

"I tip my hat to Cave, that's a really good basketball team," said Byrd coach Brad Greenway. "I thought our guys came out playing really hard, attacking the basket, and put together a really solid first half. We felt good about where we were given how well Cave was playing offensively

and just how things were going.

"We came out in the second half and just couldn't keep up with them. We had to play such a flawless and perfect game to stay with them, and we did a good job of that for about two and a half quarters, but you could just see, once they broke us down and got rolling, we unraveled a little bit. That's what really good teams do to you."

Ethan Hairston led the Terriers with 10 points and Camden Richardson had seven.

Last Friday in Vinton the Terriers fell to visiting Glenvar, 80-67. Byrd came out smoking and led 24-11 after the first quarter but the Highlanders slowly cut into the margin behind standout guard Stephen Barber, who finished with 31 points.

"That was a wild, frustrating game of momentum swings and we let it get away from us," said Greenway. "Give credit to the Barber kid. They

put up 80 points on us, and when you give up 80 points you have to be really good offensively. We were for half the game, and in the second half we couldn't buy a bucket to save our lives."

Garrett Hendrick led the Terriers with 20 points and Hairston had 13.

"Ethan had a great first half offensively, he is finding his confidence right now in real time, right before our eyes," said Greenway. "I love how he is playing right now and we need to build around that."

Next week girls are at Carroll County on Tuesday and the boys go to Liberty on Wednesday, although that game may be in jeopardy due to health protocols. Liberty's game with Salem last Friday night was postponed for that reason.



Above, William Byrd's Alexis Helton drives by a Glenvar defender in last Friday's win. Right, Sarah Fuchs of the Terriers looks to score under the basket.



PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY

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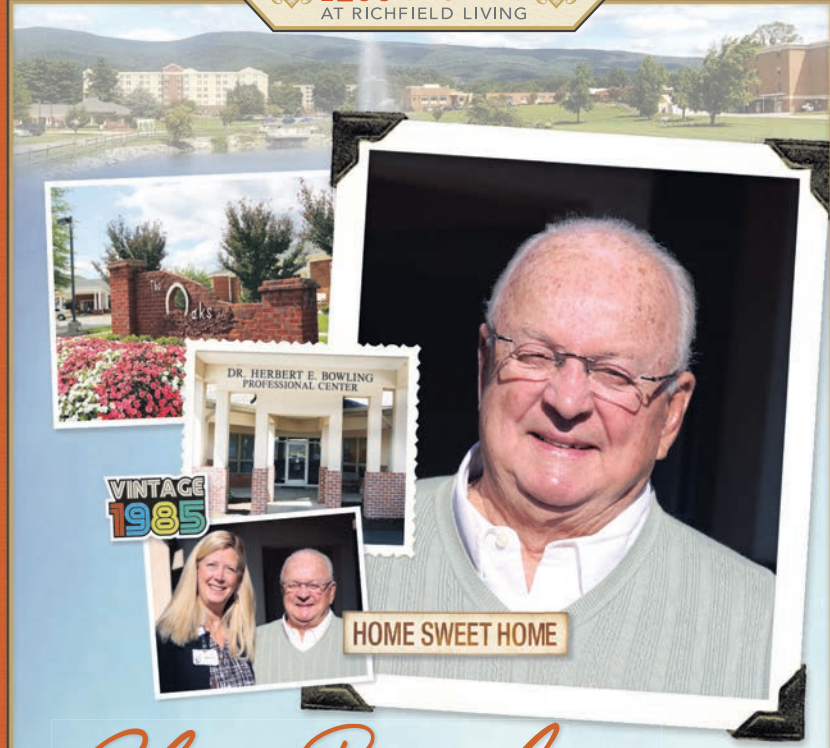
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