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# The Vinton Messenger

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## Rosie's lights up the night sky for grand opening

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

Rosie's Gaming Emporium caught the attention of the entire valley as it celebrated the grand opening of the new \$28 million expansion in Vinton on January 14 and 15. Rotating searchlights beaming upward from Rosie's lit up the night sky for miles around.

The grand opening festivities included a free concert by Parmalee, a North Carolina-based country music band, on January 15. The musicians per-

formed their No. 1 hits "Carolina" and "Just the Way" as well as their new hit single "Take My Name" on Rosie's new concert style stage.

There were drawings for cash, prizes, \$1,500 in free spins, a chance to win over \$1 million in total jackpots, and T-shirt giveaways.

"We wanted everyone to come check out our new 33,000-square-foot gaming floor that includes 350 never seen games and a remodeled high limit gaming area," said Rosie's Regional General Man-

ager Ernie Dellaverson. "We also wanted to thank the community that has been so supportive of our construction and expansion in Vinton."

The Rosie's expansion also includes a new, brightly lit parking garage with over 280 spaces—the first parking garage in Vinton.

Marketing Manager Jeff Spough says Rosie's rented the searchlights from a company called "Hit Play," a live event production company hired to help with the Parmalee concert. Roanoke's Big Lick Entertain-

ment generally books and produces most of Rosie's shows, but the one on January 15 was a cooperation of multiple companies, Spough said.

In 2021, Colonial Downs and Rosie's donated \$52,000 to 52 charities in 52 weeks across Virginia. Some of those \$1,000 weekly donations went to local organizations including CHIP of Roanoke, Angels of Assisi, Kid's Soar, Boys & Girls Club of Southwest Virginia, Kids Square, LEAP of Roanoke, West End Center for Youth, Carilion Clinic, and Blue Ridge

Literacy.

In addition, Rosie's presented generous donations of \$5,000 to the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club, \$5,000 to the Vinton History Museum, and \$25,000 to the Vinton First Aid Crew on the occasion of Rosie's official Grand Opening Day of their new facility on December 8.

Colonial Downs, owners of Rosie's, decided to keep it going in 2022, once again donating \$1,000 each week to a local charity in the communities in which they operate.



Rosie's Gaming Emporium in Vinton celebrated the grand opening of the \$28 million expansion on January 14 and 15 with searchlights illuminating the skies over Vinton. PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

## Council commends Public Works, police for snowstorm response

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

At their meeting on January 18, members of Vinton Town Council expressed their heartfelt thanks to employees of the Public Works and Vinton Police Departments for their quick and efficient response to the weekend snowstorm. Police Chief Fabricio Drumond thanked not only Public Works, but the community and its citizens for their part in dealing successfully with that storm and one the previous weekend.

Drumond said that there were "no crashes" as a result of the first storm, and two

minor incidents with the second. He thanked Public Works "for working tirelessly to make our jobs in the VPD easier."

The council meeting included a report from Chief Chris Sayre of the Vinton First Aid Crew (VFAC) on their activities in the year 2021. The crew responds to calls between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. seven days a week and also from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

"The Vinton First Aid Crew is an all-volunteer organization proudly serving the community since 1939," Sayre said. "The volunteer operations of the crew, as with all entities, have been

impacted by the global pandemic. Our 2021 operational report reflects the impact of COVID on our membership and ability to serve in the manner to which we had become accustomed."

Sayre noted that in 2021, there were a total of 1,421 calls. The VFAC responded to 654 of those calls (46%) and handled 570 of the calls (40%). The career Fire and Rescue staff handled 767 calls. The VFAC also provided transport for 320 individuals.

Current membership in the VFAC stands at about 36 with recruitment efforts un-

See **Public Works**, page 5



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS  
The Town of Vinton Public Works Department is well known for its exceptional work ethic in cleaning up after winter storms. While the snow and ice continued to fall late Sunday night, this was the scene in the Briarcliff subdivision in Vinton on Monday at 7:30 a.m.— streets cleared and navigable. A TV news reporter traveling around the area commended Vinton for having the cleanest streets in the region.

## WVWA/Town of Vinton to host open house on changes in water/wastewater operations

The Town of Vinton and the Western Virginia Water Authority will host an open house at the Vinton War Memorial on Tuesday, January 25, to provide information to the public on changes to the Vinton water/wastewater system.

The town is in the process of transferring its utility assets to the Water Authority effective next summer.

The open house is scheduled for 5-7:30 p.m. Representatives from the town and the Water Authority will be on hand.

There will be no formal presentation; guests are invited to attend at any time. Representatives from the Water Authority will be spread out in the ballroom of the War Memorial to answer questions about the water and wastewater

services offered by the WVWA.

"The Water Authority plans on having staff at table displays that focus on different aspects of our business," said Sarah Baumgardner, director of Public Relations for the Water Authority. "Guests will be given a handout when they enter that briefly describes what each table will be discussing so they can go to the tables that interest

them the most."

An Overview PowerPoint will be on display on the main screen at the front of the room sharing general information about the Authority.

Guests may visit specific tables for information on:

Water Quality: Drinking water. The display includes a PowerPoint on the treatment process at Carvins Cove, water quality reports, a

poster showing the map of the entire Roanoke Valley service area, and information about potential conversions from Town water to Cove water.

Wastewater treatment, including an aerial image of the plant, and treatment process brochures.

Customer Service/Billing: Available information includes the iPerl meter and transmitter, toilet dye tabs for leak detection, consumption graphs (from Customer Web), information about bill payment options, and Authority Cares.


Finance: Information includes rate tables, budget information, and copies of the Annual Report.

Engineering: The display includes GIS on the monitor and a map of the Town of Vinton's lines plus information for Developers.

Field Operations: Information includes charts that show proactive maintenance efforts by CIP, and examples of types of pipe material.

Human Resources: This table features information on the number of employees per division, key benefits, DEI ideas, and handouts with links to the job application page.

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# Awards presented to Christmas Storefront Decorating competition winners



Vinton Director of Human Resources and Risk Management Donna Collins received a “Best All Around” trophy in the Christmas Storefront Decorating contest. She hand-painted the windows in the Municipal Building upstairs and down in the holiday spirit.

Vinton Director of Community Programs Chasity Barbour recently presented trophies to winners of the 2021 Vinton Christmas Storefront Decorating competition.

Many area businesses and the Town of Vinton employees put forth a great effort to beautify Vinton in celebration of the holidays in 2021.

All downtown and corridor businesses were invited to participate in the contest by decorating their storefronts, windows, or even their interiors, by December 1, in time for the Vinton Christmas Parade on December 2.

Later in December, judges toured the town to choose the winners in four categories: Mayor’s Choice, Most Creative, Best Exemplifies the Spirit of Christmas, and Best All Around.

The winners for the 2021 holiday season were:

- Mayor’s Choice: the Vinton History Museum
- Most Creative: D.R. Music on Lee Avenue
- Best Exemplifies the Spirit of Christmas: Citizen’s Upholstery, also on Lee Avenue.
- Best All Around: the numerous Town of Vinton facilities including the Municipal Building, Public Works, the Vinton War Memorial, the Vinton Police Department, the Finance Office, and Planning and Zoning

Honorable Mention: Pinnacle Bank for being “IN” and the Dogwood Restaurant

Other participants in the competition included Rosie’s, Kroger, the Robbin’s Nest, Roanoke County Library/Vinton Branch, Creative Occasions, Rustic Creations, and Vinton’s Pro Barber and Hair-styling.

Once the trophies arrived, Barbour visited the various businesses to present the trophies. She was especially proud of the efforts of all the Town of Vinton departments—the first year that every department participated.

Each year, the Vinton Public Works Department handles putting up the outdoor decorations, including the Christmas tree, banners and lights throughout the town. This year, all the town departments celebrated by decorating individually: Public Works on the 3rd Street grounds, inside at the Treasurer/Finance, and Planning and Zoning offices, outdoors at the Vinton Police Department, both inside and out at the Vinton War Memorial, and indoors in the lobby of the Municipal Building. Human Resources and Risk Management Director Donna Collins hand-painted (with a little help from her son) the windows at the upper and lower-level entrances to the Municipal Building.



Citizen’s Upholstery won the “Best Exemplifies the Spirit of Christmas” award in the Christmas Storefront Decorating competition for 2021. Vinton Director of Community Programs Chasity Barbour presented the trophy to Cliff Chumley of Citizen’s Upholstery, whose wife Jennifer did the decorating. Each year they decorate their windows with teddy bears in honor of Cliff’s mother, who loved the stuffed animals.



The Dogwood Restaurant in downtown Vinton won honorable mention for the holiday windows. Shown are co-owners Keith Poff (left) and Jamie McCarthy.



Chasity Barbour presented a “Best All Around” trophy to the Vinton Public Works Department for the contributions in decorating the entire town, including banners, lights, and the Public Works Department on 3rd Street. She is shown with Utilities Service Manager Kenny Sledd (left) and Public Works Director Bo Herndon.

## SPOTLIGHT ON TOWN OF VINTON STAFF

Thank you, and a happy January birthday, to Police Sgt. Myke Caldwell of the Vinton Police Department, for his service to the Town and citizens of Vinton.

Sgt. Caldwell has been employed by the Town of Vinton since December 2012. He has been named Officer of the Month on several occasions, Police Officer of the Year in 2015, and in 2019 he was chosen by his peers for the prestigious 2019 Leadership Award.

He enjoys hunting, fishing, taxidermy, and playing guitar and piano. He says for him a dream vacation would be “to spend time hunting with Michael Waddell, playing guitar with Jerry Reed, and hanging out with SLX.”

He is the father of two teenagers, ages 15 and 18.

“The Vinton Police Department continues to make us proud every day by providing excellent, exceedingly professional service for all the citizens of our town,” said Vinton Mayor Brad Grose. “The VPD is fully accredited, which means the leadership and the officers maintain an extremely high level of integrity and operational excellence. The members of the Police Department are not only well trained and well equipped, but they also truly care about the citizens of Vinton. There have been numerous stories of our officers going above and beyond their duty requirements. The Town of Vinton is a better, quieter, safer place because of the dedicated professionals in the Vinton

Police Department.”

The Town of Vinton and The Vinton Messenger are partnering to put the spotlight on Town of Vinton employees—during the month of their birthdays. The town is proud to have these individuals on the staff and want to make the community aware of who is “behind the scenes” making the town look great and operate so successfully.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TOWN OF VINTON  
Police Sgt. Myke Caldwell

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**CLUES ACROSS**

- Breathe noisily
- \_\_\_ Nui, Easter Island
- Reddish browns
- Simple shoes
- Produce alcohol illegally
- Home to famed golf tournament
- Tax collector
- Famous people
- Urban area
- Units of syllable weight
- Pituitary hormone (abbr.)
- Dismounted
- Actor Damon
- Vietnamese offensive
- Retail term
- Netted
- Partner to carrots

**CLUES DOWN**

- Illinois city
- One of the original disciples chosen by Christ
- Young form of a louse
- Type of powder
- Finger millet
- Share a common boundary
- Assumed as a fact
- Provide clear evidence of
- Invests in little enterprises
- A way to be
- Monies given in support
- Fashion accessory
- Steal
- Becomes less intense
- Geological times
- Hooray!
- Monetary unit
- Male reproductive organs

**CLUES ACROSS**

- Witnesses
- Caulked
- Satisfy
- R&B performer \_\_\_ Lo
- Monetary units of Macao
- Give advice, explain
- Possesses
- Turn back
- Gentlemen
- One who fertilizes
- Italian monk title (prefix)
- Parties
- Type of horse
- Cuts in half
- Raises
- Expresses contempt or disgust
- Ancient Italian-Greek colony

**CLUES DOWN**

- Earnings
- Close by
- Small integers
- Fixed in place
- Used to treat Parkinson’s disease
- Large, imposing building
- A rooflike shelter
- Stiff, hairlike structure
- Print errors
- To show disapproval
- Body of traditions
- Without
- \_\_\_ Clapton, musician
- Dangerous illegal drug
- Infrequent
- Sound unit

# Town Council, Planning Commission hold joint work session on Zoning Ordinance

## Types of ADUs

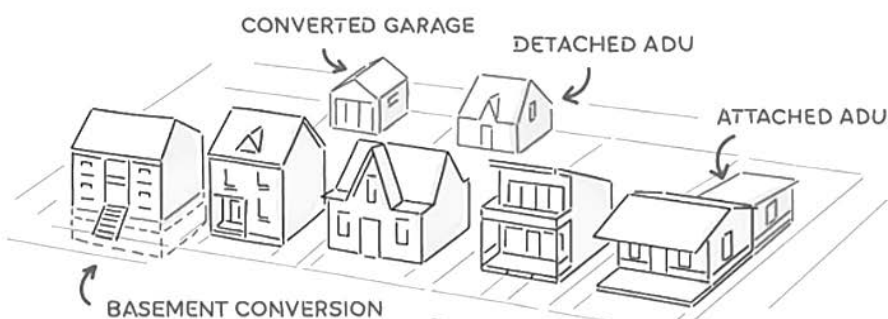


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TOWN OF VINTON

One topic discussed at the joint meeting of Vinton Town Council and the Planning Commission was Accessory Dwelling Units.

**Debbie Adams**  
dadams@ourvalley.org

Vinton Town Council and the Vinton Planning Commission held a joint work session on January 18 to discuss proposed amendments to the town's Zoning Ordinance, led by Assistant Director of Planning and Zoning Nathan McClung.

For the past three years town staff and the Planning Commission have conducted a complete/in-depth revision of the existing Zoning Ordinance, last done in 1995.

After "extensive deliberative public feedback processes (both virtual and in-person) and legal reviews, town staff presented the revised Zoning Ordinance (still in the draft stage) for a review by the Planning Commission and Town Council before it is adopted." The existing Zoning Ordinance will be repealed as part of the process.

At a public meeting in 2021, McClung said, "The staff has been working to meaningfully revise and update zoning ordinances in the Town of Vinton to 'put more balance back in the regulations.'"

Topics covered in the Zoning Ordinance include:

- Signage Regulations
- Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)

- Homestays (AirBnB, Vrbo, etc.)
- Off-Street Parking Regulations
- Dimensional Regulations (setbacks, building height, etc.)
- Proposed New and Revised Use Regulations
- Landscaping, Buffering, and Screening Requirements

Signage and ADUs were covered in the January 18 joint work session, with more work sessions to follow.

McClung says that signage, especially commercial and temporary signage, is one of the prickliest issues the Planning and Zoning Department has to deal with.

Under the Proposed Sign Ordinance, the main goals of the revisions are to:

- Amend regulations related to temporary signs to align with changes made by the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Reed v. Town of Gilbert and promote a greater balance between effective business marketing and efficient enforcement strategies
- Develop new methods of measuring sign area to facilitate the permitting process, while preserving the major tenets set out in the purpose section of the signage ordinance
- Promote contemporary sign types that allow for proactive business promotion

and economic growth, while restricting current and new sign types that affect public safety and welfare

- Develop a user-friendly ordinance with tables, graphics, and organized sections that will facilitate the permitting process both for the applicant and town staff

Major changes highlighted in the briefing include new exemptions and prohibitions of certain sign types; temporary sign regulations; new measuring methodology; illuminated signs; obsolete sign removal; and efficient organization and the use of graphics in signage. The proposed ordinance also includes the provision that temporary signs will not require a sign permit as long as they meet the regulations in the ordinance section. The Town of Vinton will be among the first to enact this provision.

There was a lengthy discussion on the topic of "grand opening" exemptions for signage. Councilman Keith Liles questioned the policy of animated signage for grand openings, such as inflatables, which are costly but only allowed for 14 days around the opening of a new business. He suggested that such signage be allowed for special weekend sales so that businesses can recoup the cost of the expenditures and that existing businesses also be able to use such spe-

cial promotion signage to inform and attract customers. His perspective was that such signage rules can hinder businesses and perhaps discourage them from opening in the town.

Town Manager Pete Peters commented that the new Zoning Ordinance is still under review and changes can be made. McClung stated that Vinton wants to be business-friendly and is attempting to take a progressive look at zoning regulations. Mayor Brad Grose emphasized the desire to balance a friendly atmosphere for businesses with an attractive community.

Planning Commission members Bob Benninger and Dave Jones remarked that the issue of signage requires a balancing act—how much to allow, how much to prohibit. Council and Planning Commission members emphasized the need to focus on safety in signage with as little distraction as possible—while remaining business-friendly.

Another trendy topic that the Zoning Ordinance deals with is Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), because of their increasing popularity. ADUs are independent housing units created within single-family homes or on their lots. The names ascribed to these units come in different forms and have popularly been called moth-

er-in-law suites, accessory apartments, garden cottages, granny flats, and more.

It is estimated that by 2035 older individuals will outnumber children for the first time in U.S. history. The potential benefits of ADUs include giving elderly populations the capability to age-in-place, potential secondary income resources for homeowners, and long-term cost savings for public utilities through limiting greater suburban sprawl.

Types of ADUs generally include basement conversions, converted garages, detached ADUs, and attached ADUs. Town staff has recommended that ADUs be permitted by-right as an accessory use to detached single-family dwelling, but only in the R-LD, R-1, R-2, R-3, and R-B zoning districts.

In addition, the property owner must reside on-site, either in the principal dwelling or in the ADU, during times that the unit is available for rent. The minimum floor area of the ADU must be 300 square feet. Only one ADU would be allowed on any one lot or parcel.

Research indicates that in the Town of Vinton, the average finished square footage for a single-family residence is 1,420 square feet. So, for a lot with the average size home located on it, the maximum size ADU that could be developed on the property would be 568 square feet for an attached or

internal ADU or a detached ADU.

Other development standards for ADUs include:

- An ADU is not allowed in front of the primary dwelling unit.
  - All façades of an attached accessory dwelling shall have similar materials and architectural treatment that are balanced with the main building design and exterior elevation.
  - Exterior entrances to an accessory dwelling unit in a principal structure shall be located so as to appear as a single-family dwelling. The accessory dwelling unit entrance shall be located on the side or in the rear of the single-family residence.
  - One additional unobstructed parking space shall be required for the accessory dwelling unit.
  - An accessory building in which the ADU is located shall not be separately metered for utilities (water, sanitary sewer, gas, electric, etc.) from the principal single-family detached dwelling.
  - The ADU will use the same driveway as the principal dwelling, unless it is accessed from a right-of-way not used by the principal use (e.g., a rear alley or separate street access on a corner or through-lot).
- Citizens will be able to add their input on the Zoning Ordinance at a public hearing in the upcoming months.

## Defy Gravity moves a few doors down

The Defy Gravity Training Center is still located in Vinton at River Park Shopping Center, but it has moved a few doors down to a much larger space to the left of Big Lots. The center opened in Vinton about seven years ago in one small space at the end of the shopping center, expanded into the room next door, and has continued to grow the business and expand in area.

Defy Gravity offers classes in Ninja, tumble, and cheer. Jonathan Hatcher has been the owner and coach since 2014.

January classes are underway with Ninja and Cheer Team practices on Sunday afternoons and Sunday and Wednesday evenings, and Ninja, Tumble, and Cheer classes on Monday, Tuesday, Thurs-

day, and Friday evenings. Check out the Facebook page for the schedule at <https://www.facebook.com/DefyGravityRoanoke/> or visit the website for more information at <https://defygravityroanoke.com/>.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Defy Gravity Training Center has moved into a larger space at River Park Shopping Center.

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## Open House

You are invited to come and learn about the transfer of utility assets from the Town of Vinton to the Western Virginia Water Authority

Representatives will be on hand to share information about the water and wastewater services offered by the Western Virginia Water Authority. No formal presentation will be given. Please attend anytime during the Open House to have your questions answered about this system transfer.

Tuesday, January 25  
5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Vinton War Memorial

[www.vintonva.gov](http://www.vintonva.gov) [www.westernvawater.org](http://www.westernvawater.org)

# RCPS awaits state COVID guidance on masks

**Debbie Adams**  
dadams@ourvalley.org

Thirty-two speakers addressed the Roanoke County School Board at the January 18 meeting on the issue of masks in schools—specifically, whether to make masks optional or to continue the policy of requiring all students and staff to wear masks while in school. There were many voices on both sides of the issue, but the majority of parents, teachers, and students who spoke favored continuing mandated masks.

With Executive Order #2 from Governor Glenn Youngkin issued on January 15, masks become optional in Virginia schools effective January 24 at midnight. His new order states that parents may elect for their children not to be subject to any mask mandate in effect at the child's school. Direction was given to the Superintendent of Public Instruction by the governor "to rescind the Interim

Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in Virginia Schools and issue new guidance with this order."

School Board Chairman David Linden announced that the board would not be voting on whether to make masks optional in Roanoke County schools at the January 18 meeting.

While there would be discussion, no vote would be taken until more guidance is received on how Executive Order # 2 impacts Senate Bill 1303, which does not expire until August 1, 2022.

State Law SB1303 requires each school board to "offer in-person instruction.... In a manner in which it adheres, to the maximum extent practicable, to any current applicable mitigation strategies for K-12 schools to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 that have been provided by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention."

The board also awaits the Interim Guidance from the Superintendent

of Public Instruction as well as new quarantine guidance as it pertains to the removal of universal masking.

The School Board made an uncharacteristic misstep at a work session on January 3, voting 3-2 to pass a motion making masks optional in RCPS in anticipation of Youngkin's upcoming announcement. The board subsequently had a change of heart and four days later called a special meeting for January 6 to rescind the vote (4-1), in order to consult with legal counsel and receive public input.

Assistant Superintendent of Administration Dr. Rhonda Stegall gave her regular COVID update at the January 18 meeting, sharing data that indicates transmission rates remain high with a 35% positivity rate and 1,545 new cases in the county from January 9-15, compared to a 27% positivity rate and 626 new cases the week before. The rate of vaccinations is gradually increasing.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RCPS

**The Roanoke County School Board meeting on January 18 was packed with citizens wishing to express their opinions about making masks optional in schools. Not only was this room full, overflow rooms were needed as well.**

A snapshot from Friday, January 15, showed 1,184 in isolation/quarantine on that date with 37% asymptomatic (144 exposed at school and 289 exposed outside school) and 63% (751) positive or symptomatic (364 positive, 118 positive and exposed at school with 633 symptomatic and exposed outside of school). There were 93 new cases that one day

(January 14).

Linden said that the School Board would have an announcement for parents about the optional masking by the end of the week. They want to make sure they hear from the state superintendent and receive more information, and "not make a rush to judgment" on the issue. He noted that it doesn't help that "the omicron

numbers are through the roof right now."

His biggest concern and fear, he said, is that "taking off the masks will cause the numbers to go up" and "we'll be back to virtual learning again, which nobody wants." He closed out the meeting by saying that the board wants to "get the masks off but keep children in school while doing it."

# Full text of Gov. Glenn Youngkin's Executive Order 2 on Masks in Schools

On his first day in office on January 15, Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin issued Executive Order Number Two and Order of Public Health Emergency One dealing with masks in schools. Here is the full text of his order:

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor, I hereby issue this Executive Order reaffirming the rights of parents in the upbringing, education, and care of their children.

Importance of the Issue

There is no greater priority than the health and welfare of Virginia's children. Under Virginia law, parents, not the government, have the fundamental right to make decisions concerning

the care of their children.

Recent government orders requiring virtually every child in Virginia wear masks virtually every moment they are in school have proven ineffective and impractical. They have also failed to keep up with rapidly changing scientific information. For example, the August 12, 2021, Order of the State Health Commissioner explicitly relates to the Delta variant and not the Omicron variant, which results in less severe illness.

The order states children under the age of 12 cannot obtain vaccines. Now children five and older are eligible. The order also states vaccination rates for children that are now out of

date. The order notes that "universal and correct mask use" helps reduce transmission. As parents and educators have observed, many children wear masks incorrectly, providing little or no health benefit. The masks worn by children are often ineffective because they are made from cloth material, and they are often not clean, resulting in the collection of impurities, including bacteria and parasites. Additionally, wearing masks for prolonged periods of time, such as for an entire school day, decreases their effectiveness. Masking may be more or less effective dependent on the age of the child.

At the same time that a universal masking requirement in schools has provided inconsistent health benefits, the universal requirement has also inflicted notable harm and proven to be impracticable. Masks inhibit the ability of children to communicate, delay language development, and impede the growth of emotional and social skills. Some children report difficulty breathing and discomfort as a result of masks. Masks have also increased feelings of isolation, exacerbating mental health issues, which in many cases pose a greater health risk to children than COVID-19. Two years into the COVID-19 pandemic, mask mandates in schools have proved demoralizing to children facing these and other difficulties.

While the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends masks, its research has found no sta-

tistically significant link between mandatory masking for students and reduced transmission of COVID-19. And the CDC has acknowledged that certain masks may be ineffective due to the material from which they are made or how they are worn. A review of CDC, WHO, and other local and international health authorities' recommendations reveals a lack of consensus on the costs and benefits of mask-wearing for children in school for many of the reasons noted above.

In light of the variety of circumstances confronted by students in the Commonwealth, parents should have the ability to decide whether their child should wear masks for the duration of the school day. This approach is consistent with the broad rights of parents.

The Commonwealth recognizes in § 1-240.1 of the Code of Virginia, that "a parent has a fundamental right to make decisions concerning the upbringing, education, and care of the parent's child." Permitting parents to make decisions on where and when to wear masks permits the Commonwealth's parents to make the best decision for the circumstances confronting each child. Parents can assess the risks and benefits facing their child, consult their medical providers, and make the best decision for their children based on the most up to date health information available.

While parents of some students with conditions that increase the risks of COVID-19 infection

might require their children to remain masked during the duration of the school day, other parents may require masks for a more limited duration, if at all.

Masks are not the only method to reduce transmission of COVID-19. Local schools must ensure they are improving inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement and upgrades of equipment to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including mechanical and nonmechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, filtering, purification, fans, control systems and window and door repair. Other mitigation efforts can be made in consultation with health authorities. The benefit of mitigation efforts must always be weighed against the cost to children's overall wellbeing.

Directive  
Therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor by Article V of the Constitution of Virginia, by § 44-146.17 of the Code of Virginia, by any other applicable law, and by virtue of the authority vested in the State Health Commissioner pursuant to §§ 32.1-13, 32.1-20, and 35.1-10 of the Code of Virginia, Executive Order Number Seventy-Nine (2021) is rescinded and the following is ordered:

1. The State Health Commissioner shall terminate Order of Public Health Emergency Order Ten (2021).

2. The parents of any child enrolled in an elementary or secondary school, or

a school based early child-care and educational program, may elect for their children not to be subject to any mask mandate in effect at the child's school or educational program.

3. No parent electing that a mask mandate should not apply to his or her child shall be required to provide a reason or make any certification concerning their child's health or education.

4. A child whose parent has elected that he or she is not subject to a mask mandate should not be required to wear a mask under any policy implemented by a teacher, school, school district, the Department of Education, or any other state authority.

5. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall rescind the Interim Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in Virginia PreK-12 Schools, issued January 14, 2021, and updated October 14, 2021, and issue new guidance for COVID-19 Prevention consistent with this Order.

6. School districts should marshal any resources available to improve inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrades of equipment to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including mechanical and non-mechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, filtering, purification, fans, control systems and window and door repair.

Youngkin's Executive Order # 2 takes effect at midnight on Monday, January 24, 2022.

**The Vinton Messenger**  
 Submissions: dadams@ourvalley.org  
 To subscribe: (540) 473-2741

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 (540) 473-2741  
 1633 W. Main St.  
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 ourvalley.org

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

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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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# Public Works from page 1

derway. Their goal for 2022 include reaching a goal of 55 members by December.

Other plans for the upcoming year include implementing handtevy, a pediatric treatment tool purchased by the state of Virginia; digitalizing reporting systems for improved data collection and analysis to improve efficiency; sponsoring a Continuing Education Weekend for all local and regional responders; and purchasing a new ambulance to serve the community.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer with the Vinton First Aid Crew should complete an application on their website at <https://www.vintonems.org/>. The minimum age for volunteers is 16.

Randy Layman, president of the Vinton Historical Society, presented a report on activities at the Vinton History Museum in 2021.

"I'd like to express both thanks and appreciation to Vinton Town Council and town citizens for their unwavering support of our recently revised mission statement for the Vinton Historical Society: 'Preserving the past of Vinton, East Roanoke County and surrounding communities, contributing to our future, understanding of our past,'" Layman said.

"Considering the attendance (2,000 visitors) and other physical limitations we've endured in the world of COVID-19, whether delta, omicron, or others; we've had a great year and have

obtained even greater interest and opportunities to promote our mission and aspire to make our hometown of Vinton more visible and appreciated by non-residents," Layman said.

"We've identified many more opportunities for securing outside funding via charitable foundations and other corporate charity marketing programs, although frankly, we've done a pretty good job of that in the past. Our current financial team, headed by Treasurer Debbie Pitts, is constantly searching 'in and outside the box' for additional means of support. Even now, we're in the running for a significant charity contribution from a local bank's charitable foundation.

"We've numerous Priority Unfunded Capital Projects that will secure and improve the building the town has so generously allowed us to occupy and continue the operations we've put in place to educate and serve the public," Layman continued. "Several of our pending projects will start up anew in the spring, the most critical being an early March encapsulation of the basement crawl space and wall and floor sealing, and dehumidification of our basement allowing long-term document and artifact storage."

Layman said that 20 volunteers and two college summer interns had assisted the museum in 2021. The historical society and museum maintain two Facebook pages— the Vinton Museum (2,006 followers) and Vin-

ton Memories & History (3,300 followers) pages.

"Program-wise, when possible, under restrictions of social distancing, masking, sanitation, and ventilation, we've had a full schedule of meetings and events in and outside the museum building this past year. That includes the Little Free Library organizations' "National Day of Unplugging" celebration on March 5-6, a Town Scavenger Hunt in March and April, Speaker Karen "Warrior Wolf" Herdman's (a native Cherokee whose family originated in east Tennessee and Kentucky) talk on Native American tribal life in our area on March 31, the Dogwood Festival April 24, a "Walk-up or Drive-by Ice Cream Social" featuring Dixie Cup servings handed out on May 1, opening of several new exhibits by our two Roanoke College Interns Grace Johnson and Ben Tate in June and July, an on-line auction of collectibles conducted August 11, a Roanoke Valley Dulcimers concert on August 17, a reception for Directors Emeritus Doug and Mattie Forbes (co-author of "Vinton History 1884 to 1984) on August 20, our Fall Yard Sale September 11, Vinton Fall Festival October 2, CHAIRity Auction (including Downtown merchant's window display of chairs) on October 25, Downtown Trick-or-Treat November 1 and a Museum Open House, the Town Christmas decoration competition and, for the first time, "Fashions

for Evergreens" at the Hotel Roanoke, at which our Vinton History Museum "Victorian Christmas" tree placed Second; all held in December 2021.

"We engage Town residents even more so with our maintenance of the Little Free Library box on our front sidewalk," Layman said. "Over the past year, we've collected over 1,300 books and distributed over 1,000."

New Vinton citizen Carl Brown addressed council during the comments and petitions segment of the meeting, requesting that the town consider designation as a Second Amendment Constitutional City rather than a Second Amendment Sanctuary City.

Town Manager Pete Peters and Assistant Director of Planning and Zoning Nathan McClung briefed council on establishment of Outdoor Refreshment Areas (ORAs) which are replacing Local Special Events licenses with the Virginia ABC. Details are

still under review, but an ORA ordinance would allow the Town of Vinton to designate an outdoor area where alcoholic beverages may be purchased at a permanent retail establishment, such as Twin Creeks Brewing Company, and consumed within the designated ORA area, for up to 16 special events each year. Peters said customers would be able to "freely roam" with their beverages within the ORA.

This action would allow brick and mortar businesses to gain revenues from special events, which they cannot do currently. The ORA license would be purchased by the town. Specifics of signage and public safety plans for the ORAs are still to be determined.

Council took action to appropriate funds in the amount of \$500 received from AMVETS to the Vinton War Memorial Operating Supplies Account.

Council also adopted a resolution approving an annual payment of \$500 to

Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church for parking lot maintenance, similar to an agreement with Vinton Baptist. Both churches allow the town to use their parking lots for special events in the town. The funds will provide a financial contribution to assist in resealing, restriping, and maintaining the parking lot.

Peters informed council that on-site work has begun on the Gish Mill Redevelopment Project.

Public Works Director Bo Herndon noted that parts have arrived for the traffic signal at 3rd Street and will be installed by the end of January. The meter project upgrade continues for the 5,189 water meters in the town; 1,550 residential meters have been replaced (33%) along with 323 commercial meters (59%). The geo-technical study of Mountain View Road is complete, and the town will be meeting with consultants on the next step in rebuilding the road.

# RECIPES OF THE WEEK

## Chili Time

**National Chili Month doesn't come until October, but cold weather always brings a bowl of chili to mind. And, of course, when you have chili, you need some cornbread.**

### Sweet Corn Bread Puff

- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine, softened
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup yellow cornmeal
- 1 and 1/4 cups flour
- 3 tsp. baking powder
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1 cup milk

Cream sugar and softened butter. Add eggs, beat well. Combine cornmeal, flour, baking powder, salt and add alternately with milk to egg/butter/sugar mixture. Pour into greased 9-inch square pan and bake at 350° for 35 minutes.

### Scaredy-Cat Chili

*For the faint of heart who like milder flavors*

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 lb. can (2 cups) tomatoes, broken up
- 1 lb. (2 cups) can pintos or kidney beans, drained
- 8 oz. can tomato sauce
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1-2 tsp. chili powder
- 1 bay leaf
- Pinch of sugar
- 3/4 cup chopped green pepper (optional)

Brown ground beef, onions, and green peppers. Stir in remaining ingredients. Cover and simmer for 1 hour. Remove bay leaf. Serves 4. Serve over rice with cheese sprinkled on top.

### White Chicken Chili

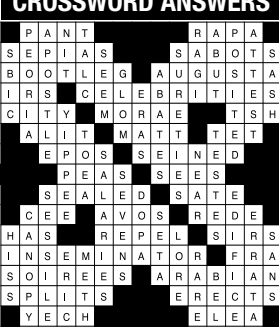
*Recipe shared by Vice Mayor Sabrina McCarty*

- 1 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1 small yellow onion, diced
- 1 jalapeno, seeded and minced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 tsp. oregano
- 1/2 tsp. ground cumin
- 2 (4.5 oz) can green chilies
- 3 boneless chicken breasts, cut into thirds
- 5 cups low sodium chicken broth
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 2 (15 oz.) cans white beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 and 1/2 cups frozen corn
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- Freshly chopped cilantro for garnish
- 1/4 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese
- 1/4 cup crushed tortilla chips

Heat oil in large pot over medium heat. Add onion and jalapeno and cook until soft, about 5 minutes. Add garlic, oregano, and cumin; cook until fragrant, about 1 minute. Add green chilies, chicken, and broth. Season with salt and pepper. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat to simmer, covered 10-12 minutes, until chicken is tender and cooked through.

Transfer chicken to plate and shred with two forks. Return to pot and add white beans and corn. Bring to a simmer and cook 10 minutes. Turn off heat and stir in sour cream. Ladle into bowls; garnish with cilantro, cheese, and chips.

### CROSSWORD ANSWERS



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



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# Remembering Vinton

with the Vinton Historical Society

## 50 years ago this week

**Debbie Adams**  
dadams@ourvalley.org

The Vinton Messenger headlines for the third week of January 1972 focused on town and county business.

Businessman Henry Brabham offered the Town of Vinton a free landfill site. The town faced a dilemma when the state of Virginia required a 20-year plan for solid waste disposal. Cramped for space, the town was in a bind.

Brabham, who was the Vinton Fuel Company president and later elected to Town Council, authorized the town to use— indefinitely and free of charge— a 12-acre site that he had purchased from the town in 1966. It was a former landfill property, just beyond the Vinton Sewage Treatment Plant, adjoining Norfolk & Western Railway and Tinker Creek.

Brabham had purchased the land to construct a petroleum terminal. He said he had not abandoned those plans but was “happy to be in the position of aiding the municipality by allowing use of it as a landfill.” The town planned to award Brabham a Letter of Commendation for his action.

The Vinton Messenger had

come under fire for revealing that the town was facing financial difficulties because some citizens had not paid their utility bills and contractors had not paid their sewer connection fees— forcing the town to borrow money to meet payroll and pay operating expenses.

The newspaper justified its reporting with the “public’s right to know,” and added a comment about Roanoke City “jerk[ing] Vinton around” by increasing wholesale water rates exorbitantly— the initial cause of the problem. The paper praised citizens who stepped up “four-deep at the treasurer’s window paying their water bills in an effort to ease the situation.”

A new self-service ABC store opened in Vinton on January 20, the second of its type in the Roanoke Valley.

Engineers were studying pressure problems with Vinton’s 800,000-gallon water tank, which had cost the town \$64,000 to build in 1971. The problem seemed to be with the main valve with the pressure of water going into the tank greater than the pressure of water leaving the tank.

The Roanoke County School Board was developing plans to expand the vocational education

program in the county’s schools into the lower grades— most vocational programs began in 11th grade. The board wanted to expand the program into grades 8, 9, and 10 where 75% of the “dropouts drop out of school.”

In 1972, the county had 1,083 students enrolled in vocational courses. The Roanoke County Educational Center was filled to capacity with 485 students (mainly in auto mechanics and nursing) with another 598 students enrolled in vocational program at their respective high schools, generally in typing, business, or sales.

There was only room for 60 students in a pilot small engine maintenance and repair program at the center, when 250 had expressed an interest in enrolling.

School Board Chairman Hildrey Pollard emphatically stated that “something must be done” to provide programs for those who were not interested in attending college and needed to develop job skills.

The telephone company was warning customers of long-distance fraudulent activity involving credit cards.

At Kroger, shoppers could buy 30 California Navel oranges for \$1, three pounds of bacon for \$1,

and three loaves of bread for 89 cents.

With a coupon, customers could purchase a half gallon of ice cream at H&H Supermarket for 20 cents.

Vinton Chamber of Commerce President O. Goode stepped down after two years in the position. During his term, membership rose from 90 to 110 and the business community experienced unprecedented growth. Many subdivisions were under construction, bringing newcomers to the area. He believed that the Chamber should focus on improvements to the downtown business district by widening streets and employing beautification efforts. He was hoping the town would soon create and operate an independent water system.

A.T. Huddleston of the Vinton District (formerly the Big Lick District) was stepping down from the Board of Supervisors after four years. Huddleston said that his biggest frustration during his term was the “lack of interest on the part of the public.” He commented that only three citizens attended a public hearing on a \$30 million budget and setting a new tax rate, but “just mention a dog ordinance and you can

pack ’em in until there isn’t standing room.”

He estimated that during his four years, he attended 1,100 meetings. He was proud of upgrades to the Sheriff’s Department and school and library construction during his time in office. His biggest disappointment was that there was no cooperation between Valley governments on sewage treatment water, and other services. His future plans included a relaxing trip to Jamaica.

The Junior Woman’s Club was planning a mass planting of 200 dogwood trees in the town, starting with Washington Avenue, and eventually lining all the streets along the Vinton Dogwood Festival Parade route.

The school menu at Roland E. Cook for the week was: Salisbury steak with rice, peas, and fresh rolls on Monday; meat loaf, mashed potatoes, buttered greens, and hot bread on Tuesday; sausage, fried apples, and hot biscuits on Wednesday; hot dogs with chili on Thursday; and fishburgers with cole slaw and banana pudding on Friday.

And subscriptions to The Vinton Messenger were \$5 for a year in Virginia; \$6 if mailed outside the state.



AMINE TANK--This group spent extensive time today examining a valving problem at Vinton's 800,000-gallon water storage tank on Pine Street. From left, second from left, represented Wiley & Wilson, consulting engineers. Don A. Smith is standing next to the door to the tank's valving, controls, and connections.

### Engineers Studying Pressure Problems With Vinton's 800,000 Gallon

**H & H SUPER MARKET**  
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for Finer Foods at lower prices.

CLIP THIS VALUABLE COUPON ON ANY HALF GALLON OF ICE CREAM FOR 20¢

PARADE PEACHES California Cling Sliced or Halves No. 2 1/2 3 Cans 95¢

The H&H Supermarket special in January 1972 was a half gallon of ice cream for 20 cents.

**GRAND OPENING**  
FIRST FEDERAL'S  
**Parkside Plaza Branch**  
CONTINUING THRU FRIDAY - JANUARY 28<sup>th</sup>

Free Gifts for all!

**5 PRIZES TO BE AWARDED!**

Register to win one of these handsome prizes.

First drawing Friday the 21st at 4:45 PM: 12" Personal portable black & white TV, Mediterranean styling; Digital FM/AM clock radio; Transistorized FM/AM portable radio - AC/Battery.

Second drawing Friday the 28th at 4:45 PM: 18" Portable color TV with Rollabout stand (pictured); stereo tape player, FM/AM receiver with matched stereo sound system and stand.

PHOTO FROM VINTON MESSENGER ARCHIVES AT VINTON HISTORY MUSEUM  
First Federal was opening a new branch at Parkside Plaza (now Walmart) with prize drawings for black and white TVs.

**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.eckva.org](http://www.eckva.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.

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

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

# Vinton Worship Directory

**THE NIGHT SEASON**  
Read Psalms 62:1 through 68:35

George A. Young, a bivocational preacher in the nineteenth century, ministered mainly to rural churches while he supplemented his income as a carpenter. After many years of struggle he was able to build a home for his family with his own hands. While away from home in ministry, some who disagreed with his preaching burned his house to the ground. Shortly thereafter he wrote the hymn, "God Leads Us Along."

Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me. I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue (Psalm 66:16-17).

The Psalmist's words speak to us when we are going through life's challenges. And Pastor Young speaks to us of praising God in the night seasons of life: "Some through great sorrow, but God gives a song, in the night season and all the day long."

Like Pastor Young, we can pray and we sing in the night. Prayer plus praise equals power. Focus on God's presence and power and don't let sin cut the lines of communication.

Prayer Suggestion: Lord, we are thankful that through the challenges, we can still sing praises to You.

Quicklook: Psalm 66:13-20

**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; [cmpe2verizon.net](mailto:cmpe2verizon.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.



# Marketplace



THE FINCASTLE HERALD

The Vinton Messenger

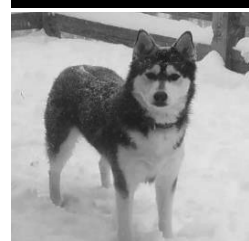
THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

SALEM TIMES REGISTER

News Messenger

RADFORD News Journal

## Lost & Found



**LOST MALE HUSKY, Brown Eyes**  
**\*\* \$500.00 REWARD for safe return \*\***  
 CALL/TEXT-Facebook/IM: Sherri Combs Turnbull 540-580-2929

Max went missing November 8, 2021 in the Solitude Rd area of Arcadia, Va. Please help us find Max, if you see something, say something, ask questions, he's out there somewhere. He is loved and missed terribly by his family and twin sister Bella. We need Max home, PLEASE!!

## For Sale - Firewood

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

## For Sale - Misc

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

## Help Wanted - General

**Quality Inn Radford**  
 Hiring Full-Part Time Front Desk Clerk/Night Auditor and Housekeeping. Apply in Person. Ph-540-639-3000

## 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



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## Help Wanted - General

**Part-time pianist/organist**  
 needed by Buchanan Presbyterian Church to lead our merry band of joyful singers in Sunday morning worship. Choir practice is held just before worship. Job description available from memere1@lumos.net or call Mrs. Kidd at 540-589-3107.

## Sr. Human Resource Analyst, Roanoke, VA.

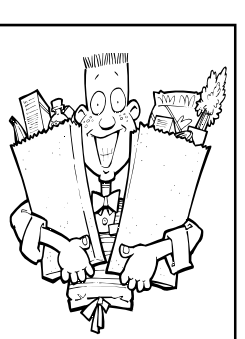
Gather & analyze data. Dvlp & optimize strategic HR reports. Design & implement self-svc reporting tools & data mgmt. Dvlp forward-looking projections & predictive analytics. Provide reports & analyses. Build, deploy, & analyze employee surveys, & summarize results. Mail resumes to S. Meadows, Carilion Services, Inc., 1212 Third Street SW, Roanoke, VA 24016.

## Legals - City of Salem

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On Monday, the 14th day of February, 2022, the Council of the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing on the proposed issuance of general obligation public improvement bonds of the City in an estimated maximum principal amount of \$2,350,000 for the purposes of financing the City's share of the costs to renovate the existing anaerobic digestion facilities at the Western Virginia Water Authority Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant, together with related expenses, and paying the associated financing and issuance costs. Such bonds will be secured by a pledge of the full faith and credit and taxing power of the City. The public hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, will be conducted during the regular meeting of the City Council which is scheduled to start at 6:30 p.m. at Community Room, Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard, Salem, Virginia 24153. Interested persons may appear at such time and place and present their views.

Rosemarie Jordan  
 Director of Finance  
 City of Salem, Virginia



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## Legals - Montgomery County

### TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 3426 MOUNT ZION ROAD, BLACKSBURG, VA 24060.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated March 11, 2005, in the original principal amount of \$177,800.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Virginia as Instrument No. 2005002842. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Montgomery County, 55 East Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia on February 24, 2022, at 1:00 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: BEGINNING AT A POINT, A ROD SET ON THE NORTH SIDE OF MT. ZION ROAD (VA. RTE. 655), CORNER TO PROPERTY OF RALPH L. AND THERESA P. RUPERT; THENCE LEAVING MT. ZION ROAD AND WITH THE RUPERT LINE, N. 00° 24' 13" E. 284.49 FEET TO A POINT, AN EXISTING ROD FOUND AND CORNER TO THE PROPERTY OF GLEN E. AND DENISE G. PRICE; THENCE LEAVING RUPERT AND WITH THE PRICE LINE, S. 88° 21' 17" E. 76.84 FEET TO A ROD FOUND AT AN ANGLE POINT; THENCE CONTINUING WITH PRICE, S. 01° 31' 00" E. 191.00 FEET TO A ROD SET AT AN ANGLE POINT; THENCE STILL CONTINUING WITH PRICE, S. 64° 26' 19" E. 33.48 FEET TO A POINT, A ROD SET CORNER TO THE PROPERTY OF ROY B. MILLER, JR. AND DONNA C. MILLER; THENCE LEAVING PRICE AND WITH THE MILLER LINE, S. 15° 23' 00" W. 108.00 FEET TO A POINT, A ROD SET ON THE NORTH SIDE OF MT. ZION ROAD (VA. RTE. 655); THENCE LEAVING MILLER AND WITH MT. ZION ROAD, N. 72° 15' 48" W. 79.15 FEET TO A ROD FOUND ON SAME; THENCE CONTINUING WITH SAID ROAD, N. 72° 45' 29" W. 10.50 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. 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.bwwsales.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.bwwsales.com. VA-353027-1.

## Legals - Montgomery County

### Proposed Tower Replacement

New River Valley Emergency Communications Regional Authority is proposing to replace the telecommunications tower and equipment at 2080 Oilwell Road, Blacksburg, Virginia. Please submit comments regarding potential effects on historic properties to: Mr. Lucas Powell, F&R, 3015 Dumbarton Road, Richmond, VA 23228. Telephone: 804-264-2701

### Public Notice Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the release of treated wastewater into a water body in Montgomery County, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: January 19, 2022 to February 18, 2022

PERMIT NAME: Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permit - wastewater issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Water Control Board

APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: NRV Regional Water Authority, 3515 Peppers Ferry Road, Radford, VA 24141; VA0052850

FACILITY NAME AND LOCATION: NRV Regional Water Authority WTP; 3515 Peppers Ferry Road, Radford, VA 24141

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: NRV Regional Water Authority has applied for reissuance of a permit for the public NRV Regional Water Authority WTP. The applicant proposes to release treated industrial wastewater at a rate of 0.125 million gallons per day (MGD) into a water body. The facility proposes to release the treated industrial wastewater into an unnamed tributary of Stroubles Creek in Montgomery County in the New River watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. The permit will limit the following pollutants to amounts that protect water quality: physical and chemical parameters, solids, chlorine, and toxicity.

HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by hand-delivery, by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) the reason why a public hearing is requested 2) a brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requester, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit 3) specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Kevin A. Harlow, DEQ Blue Ridge Regional Office, 901 Russell Dr, Salem, VA 24153; Phone: (540) 562-6700; E-mail: [Kevin.Harlow@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Kevin.Harlow@deq.virginia.gov); Fax: (804) 698-7148. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed above.

## Legals - Montgomery County

### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
 VA CODE §§ 1-211 1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104  
**Case No. CL21001989**  
 Montgomery County Circuit Court  
 55 East Main Street, Suite 1, Christiansburg, VA 24073  
 Estate Of Ernestine B. Frith v.  
 Commonwealth of Virginia Mark B. Frith v.  
 Commonwealth of Virginia  
 The object of this suit is to: Sale of Ernestine Burton Frith's Real Property  
 It is ORDERED that Dennis L. Frith appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before March 14, 2022.

January 13, 2022  
 Judge K. Mike Fleenor, Jr.

## Legals - Town of Vinton

### LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF VINTON, VIRGINIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that the Vinton Town Council will hold a public hearing at its meeting on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia, concerning the proposed amendment to the Town of Vinton's FY 2021-2022 budget to appropriate funding from the FY21 Virginia Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF) for The Woodland Place Stream Restoration Project in the amount of \$570,000.00.

Any additional information on this public meeting is available in the Town Manager's Office, located in the Vinton Municipal Building, (540) 983-0607. Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate at this public meeting should contact the Town Manager's office at (540) 983-0607.

Susan N. Johnson  
 Town Clerk

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# SPORTS

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These William Byrd seniors were honored on "Senior Night" last week at the Gator Center when the Terriers swam against Salem. Left to right: Austin Nielsen, Aiden Brinkley, Griffin Horacek, Matthew Hoyos, Catie Harless, Emma Copening, Elsie Kincer, Anna Milliron and Amber Vaughn. Seniors not pictured are Nathan Miller, Madeline Miller and Natalie Schneider.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

## A dozen Byrd senior swimmers recognized at the Gator Center

The William Byrd swim team celebrated "Senior Night" at the Gator Center last Wednesday, January 12, when they hosted Salem in a meet.

The Byrd boys took a 100-67 win over the Spartans while Salem won the girls event, 76-68. First place finishes for the boys included Colin Murtaugh in the 200 free and 100 fly, Aiden Brinkley in the 200 IM and 100 back, Austin Nielsen in the 500 free and 100 breast and both the 200 Medley and 400 free relay teams.

For the girls, Emma Copening won the 50 free and 100 breast, Isabella Posadas took the 500 free, Amber Vaughn won the 100 back and the girls also won both relays.

Prior to the meet Byrd recognized a dozen seniors.

"We are all going to miss them so much" said coach Krista Martin. "The best part about coaching is really getting to know a swimmer over the course of several years. It's hard to imagine the team without them."

Following is a capsule provided by coach Martin of each of the seniors as they were recognized last week.

**Aiden Brinkley:** Aiden was escorted by his parents Stacie and Todd. He has been on the team for 5 years. His best events are the 200 IM and the 100 back. His best swim team memories have been competing with his team at states. Aiden plans to study sports therapy and continue club swimming.

**Griffin Horacek:** Griffin was escorted by his mom Tracey. He has been on the team for 5 years. His best strokes are backstroke and freestyle. One

of his favorite memories has been making the state team. Griffin plans to attend college and study cyber security.

**Matthew Hoyos:** Matthew was escorted by his mom, Candice. He has been on our team for 5 years. His best events are the 100 fly and the 500 free. Matthew says one of his favorite memories on the team has been "making states and relays". He plans to join the Navy Nuclear School.

**Nathan Miller:** Nathan Miller has been on the team for 5 years and his best events are the 50 and 100 freestyle.

**Austin Nielsen:** Austin was escorted by his parents, Sarah and Ben. He has been on the team for 5 years. His best events are the 200 IM and the 100 Breast. One of Austin's favorite memories was when our team placed 3rd last year at states. Austin plans to go to Roanoke College next year and study health and exercise science.

**Emma Copening:** Emma was escorted by her parents, Brian and Jennifer. She has been on the team for 5 years. Her best events are the 200 IM and the 100 breast. Emma says her favorite part about the team has been "getting to cheer on her friends". Emma plans to study biomedical and mechanical engineering at Virginia Tech.

**Catie Harless:** Catie was escorted by her parents Harold and Diane. She has been on the team for 3 years. Her best events are 50 and 100 freestyle. One of her favorite memories was making finals at the All Timesland Invitational. Next year, she plans to attend JMU and study to become a physicians assistant.

**Elsie Kincer:** Elsie was escorted by her parents Sharece and Troy. She has been on our team for 5 years. Her best events are the 100 breast and 50 free. Elsie says the best part about being on the team "are the friends I've made". She plans to go to college next year to study psychology.

**Madeline Miller:** Madeline has been on the team for 5 years and her best events are the 200 IM and the 50 free. She says the best part about being part of the team is getting to spend time with her friends. She plans to attend a 4 year university next year.

**Anna Milliron:** Anna was escorted by her parents Stephanie and Jay. She has been on our team for 2 years and her best events are the 50 and 100 free. Her favorite part about being on the swim team is "how supportive everyone is and how it truly feels like family." Anna plans to attend Ferrum College in the fall to play soccer and study psychology.

**Natalie Schneider:** Natalie has been on our team for 1 year and her best events are the 50 and 100 freestyle. Natalie's favorite part about being on the swim team is that she says, "I love pushing myself at practice and getting to see friends she's met on the team"... she says next year she's hoping to attend Virginia Western in the fall.

**Amber Vaughn:** Amber was escorted by her parents Regina and Ed. She's been on our team for 3 years. Her best events are the 100 back and the 100 free. Amber says that the best part about swim team would be "the team and the coaches".. she says, "they are always so supportive and fun to be around." Amber plans to attend Roanoke College in the fall to play softball and study business.

## Big 4th quarter lifts Fleming over Byrd in BRD basketball

Homestanding William Fleming broke open a tie game with a big fourth quarter to take a 70-58 win over William Byrd in a Blue Ridge District basketball game last Friday night in Roanoke.

This game was razor close through three quarters. Fleming led 22-15 after one quarter but Byrd tied the game at 31-31 at the half, and it was still tied at 49-49 after three quarters.

"We came out of the gates in a zone look that Fleming pretty much ate up so quickly we moved away from it," said Byrd coach Brad Greenway. "That's my fault for having us in that to start the game. Bad calculation on my part.

"Once we got away from that we settled down and were able to force some misses, which allowed us to get back into the game against a very talented William Fleming team. It's probably one of their best teams in a while in my opinion."



Ethan Hairston goes high to score in last week's game at Fleming. PHOTO BY PAULA GREENWAY

Fleming finished strong, winning the fourth quarter 21-9 as the Terriers ran out of gas.

"We just ran out of stops," said Greenway. "We lost sight of our man a few times on drives and gave up costly layups and, on the flip side, we just ran out of juice."

Ethan Hairston led the Terriers with 20 points. Trevor Ruble had 17, Ross Divers had 10 and Jaiden Childress had nine in a balanced attack.

"I'm proud of these guys," said Greenway. "We were down three contributors and that limited our bench a little, but at this point in the season we are used to that, and guys have adjusted. We're playing better and better, we just have to punch through that wall soon."

The Terriers fell to 5-10 with the loss and Fleming improved to 10-2. Byrd had two games postponed early this week due to the weekend snowstorm, a Tuesday home game with Liberty and a Wednesday trip to Moneta to play Staunton River. The Byrdmen would have been favored in both of those games.

This Friday, not so much as Byrd is at Lord Botetourt for a district game against the Cavaliers. LB is 9-3 with a cast of good shooters.

Next Tuesday, January 25, the Terriers are scheduled to host Staunton River in the second game of a doubleheader with the girls.



Above, Byrd's Trevor Ruble goes to the hoop in last Friday's game at William Fleming. Left, Ross Divers is fouled.

PHOTOS BY PAULA GREENWAY



**Terriers run at LU**

The Liberty University indoor track facility was the site of the Walter Bass Invitational last Saturday and William Byrd athletes were among the hundreds of high school competitors who converged on Lynchburg for the big meet. Above left, the Byrd 4x200 relay team of, left to right, Sydney Blewett, Remi Figart, Chloe Harrilla and Emma Dalton smiles for a photo after completing their race. Above right, Samantha Flippen runs the 55 meters. Below left, Byrd's Walker Nance glides over a hurdle in the 55 meter hurdle race and, below right, the Byrd boys' 4x200 team watches a race as they await their turn on the Liberty oval. Left to right are Dylan Hughes, Wyatt Bailey, Noah Thompson and Brady Reachy. PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



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*Girls beat Titans after falling to Fleming, will host Lord Botetourt Friday night*

The William Byrd girls will be home Friday night to host Lord Botetourt in a big Blue Ridge District basketball game. The Cavaliers are 11-3 coming into the week and one of the top teams in the district.

William Byrd is an even 7-7 after splitting two games last week on back-to-back days. The Terriers lost to William Fleming on Friday night but bounced back to beat Hidden Valley on Saturday.

Friday's game in Vinton was a barn burner, ending 49-42 in Fleming's favor. The Terriers led 24-23 at the half and hung tough down the stretch before the Colonels pulled out

the win.

"It was a great atmosphere and a hard-fought game, we just came up a little short," said Byrd coach Randy Bush. "I'm very proud of how the girls competed."

Emilie McCaskill had 20 points to lead the Terriers while Sophia Chrisley had 13. Alexis Helton and Sarah Fuchs had four points each.

The Terriers were back on the floor less than 24 hours later to host Hidden Valley. Byrd jumped on top early, taking a 13-7 lead after the first quarter. Byrd had a nine point lead at the half and never trailed after intermission, winning 52-31.

"It was a quick turnaround and I didn't know what to expect as far as how they would fair mentally after the tough outing the night before," said Bush. "That unknown was quickly erased as soon as the girls got to the school. I could tell they were ready to get back on the court and compete. Very proud of this team."

McCaskill had 13 and Chrisley had a dozen points for the Terriers. Samantha Martin had eight and eight different Terriers scored.

Byrd was scheduled to host 12-1 Carroll County on Monday of this week but that game was postponed by the weekend snow-storm and rescheduled for January 27th. On Wednesday of this week the girls were supposed to play Franklin County at home, but that was also postponed and no makeup date was announced as of press time.

On Saturday the girls are scheduled to play in the "Play for Preemies" event against William Monroe at Western Albemarle High. The six game charity event to benefit neonatal care was rescheduled from January 8.



Emilie McCaskill lines up a three in a recent game. PHOTO BY JIM DEVINNEY

**Byrd will wrestle in "Big Blue"**

The William Byrd "Big Orange" wrestling team will be competing in the "Big Blue" tournament at Christiansburg High School this weekend. The annual tournament will begin at 3:30 pm Friday and pick back up at 10:30 am Saturday, with finals scheduled for around 6 pm Saturday evening.

This is the first "Big Blue" since 2020, as last year's tournament was not held due to the coronavirus pandemic. Host Christiansburg won the tournament that year among 32 teams entered from all over the east coast.

The Terriers have been on the mats in competition since January 12. They had a quad at Patrick Henry postponed on Wednesday of this with no-reschedule as of press time.

Last week the Byrdmen were in Moneta for a quad and took two of three duals, defeating William Fleming and Lord Botetourt but losing to host Staunton River. William Fleming had only six wrestlers so Byrd it won before the first whistle. The final score was 63-6.

Against LB the match ended in a 40-40 tie but Byrd got the win on criteria.

"Freshman Aiden Lucas went out against a senior wrestler, Connor Shifflet, who has placed in state, and wrestled tough for six minutes and did not give up a pin," said Byrd coach Thomas Kessler. "No single match wins or loses a dual but his effort saved us from losing."

Staunton River won all three, including a 57-24 win over Byrd.

"They are loaded with talent and we did not wrestle to our potential," said Kessler.

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