

Thursday, February 24, 2022 • Dogwood Capital of Virginia • Covering Vinton, Bonsack & Stewartsville

# **Renovations well underway at William Byrd High**

#### **Debbie Adams** dadams@ourvalley.org

"William Byrd High School has a proud history in the Roanoke Valley as one of the original large public high schools opened in the 1930s," said Roanoke County Schools Superintendent Dr. Ken Nicely. "The current building built in 1969 has had a couple of additions to keep pace with growing enrollment, but the project we are undertaking now is a true, comprehensive renovation of the entire school to bring it up to modern standards. Principal Tammy Newcomb and our district staff have been highly involved in working with our design and construction partners from Avis and Hughes Associates to launch the project and see it through. The project is on schedule and, when completed, will give our students and community a facility to match Terrier pride and support innovative learning."

Dr. Nicely was one of the

guests for an update tour of the ongoing renovations at William Byrd High School, which began in earnest in the spring and summer of 2021. and will be completed in the summer of 2023, hopefully in time for the opening of the 2023-2024 school year.

Dr. Nicely, School Board Chair David Linden and member Cheryl Facciani accompanied WBHS Principal Tammy Newcomb, Assistant Principal Travis Anderson and representatives from General<sup>\*</sup> Contractor Avis Construction, Hughes Associates Architects & Engineers, the Ascent Engineering Group, the RCPS Director of Facilities and Operations Chris Lowe and Assistant Director Harley Grimes on a progress tour on February 16.

Guests were also invited to sit in on the bi-weekly contractors and architects meeting for an update on the project, led by Project Manager Laura Bradford and Avis Job Superintendent Brian Dodson.

During the meeting, Earle Shumate from Hughes Associates Architects & Engineers, who designed the project, said that the philosophy of the company was to make the Vinton school "look and feel like a new school without building a new school; to make the Byrd facility more cohesive, modern, and up-todate-to look like a school that was built all at the same time."

"It is exciting to see the wonderful progress being made on the Wil-liam Byrd High School renovation project," said Linden. "I'm confident the students at William Byrd will be excited about the additions and the welcoming feel these updates and renovations will bring. Avis Construction and Hughes Associates have combined to create a beautiful look to the school, and it will be something I think the ning next school year and are residents of Vinton, Bonsack and Mount Pleasant will be very proud of. We look forward to opening up a por-



PHOTO COURTESTY OF HUGHES ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS Renderings of WBHS with renovations to the front senior entrance, media center, senior lobby, and wrestling/cheer gym.

tion of the building beginpleased to be on schedule to have it completed by August 2023."

The renovation project

will include the school's first and second floors and will entail over 100,000 square feet of renovations and roughly

13,500 square feet of additions. While the footprint of the school isn't changing, classrooms and other instruc-

See Renovations, page 12

# **Churchill Downs to purchase Colonial Downs/Rosie's Gaming Emporiums**

#### **Debbie Adams** dadams@ourvalley.org

Churchill Downs Inc. (CDI) - best known for the Kentucky Derby – has announced an agreement to acquire substantially all of the assets of Peninsula Pacific Entertainment (P2E) for \$2.485 billion. CDI will acquire all of P2E's assets in Virginia and New York as well as the operations of its Sioux City casino property. The P2E transaction is dependent on usual and customary closing conditions, including the company obtaining approvals from the Virginia Racing Commission, the New York State Gaming Commission, and the Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission. The transaction is expected to close by the end of 2022.

"This unique set of assets expands our geographic footprint and provides additional scale," said Bill Carstanjen, Chief Executive Officer of CDI. "P2E has done an exceptional job developing and managing this collection of assets, which we

2,700 historical racing machines (HRMs). The newly remodeled Vinton Rosie's has recently expanded to 500 HRMs.

The transaction significantly expands the geographic diversity of CDI's live and historical racing entertainment venues and reinforces CDI's role as a national leader in historical horse racing.



are very excited to acquire and plan to strategically grow in the years ahead."

CDI will acquire Colonial Downs Racetrack, a Thoroughbred racing facility in New Kent, Va., as well as six successful and growing "Rosie's Gaming Emporium" historical horse racing facilities across Virginia.

Rosie's Gaming Emporium locations currently include Vinton, Collinsville, Dumfries, Hampton, New Kent, and Richmond. These facilities currently have approximately

As part of the agreement, CDI will also acquire del Lago Resort & Casino in Waterloo, N.Y., and the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Sioux City, Iowa.

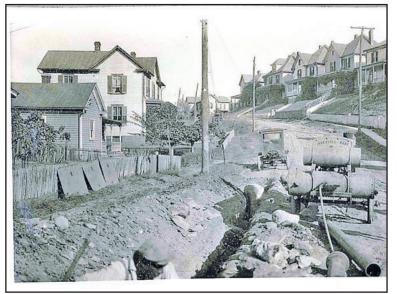
Under Virginia law, CDI will have the opportunity to develop up to five additional historical racing entertainment venues in Virginia with collectively up to approximately 2,300 additional

See **Churchill Downs**, page 5

PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Churchill Downs is purchasing Colonial Downs and Rosie's Gaming Emporiums, including the Vinton Rosie's location.

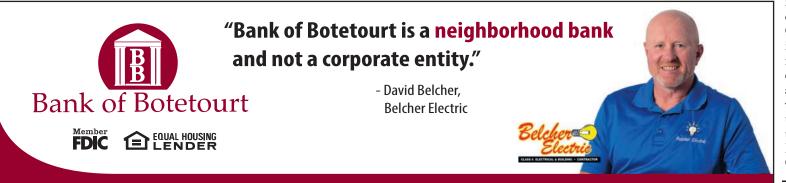
### The history of water and wastewater systems in the Roanoke area



The Western Virginia Water Authority has over 1,500 miles of water mains in service today. This image from November 1926 shows the beginning of a six-inch main on Bullitt Avenue, S.E.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WESTERN VIRGINIA WATER AUTHORITY A trenching machine at work on Hanover Avenue in September 1926.



By Debbie Adams, based on information from Sarah Baumgardner, Director of Public Relations for the Western Virginia Water Authority

On July 1, 2022, the Town of Vinton will transfer ownership and operations of the Vinton Water and Wastewater System to the Western Virginia Water Authority.

This is foreseen as a mutually beneficial arrangement which, according to the town and the Authority, will "provide better rate stability, drought protection, infrastructure planning, and maintenance for all Authority customers."

The WVWA was established in 2004 in an agreement between the City of Roanoke and Roanoke County--the first authority in the Commonwealth formed from two existing entities to treat, deliver, and administer water and wastewater. The reach of the authority now extends throughout the region to Franklin and Botetourt Counties and soon the

# Local college students receive honors

Many local students have been recognized by colleges and universities on their Dean's and President's Lists, and graduation lists for Fall 2021, including:

Cedarville University Dean's List:

Josiah St. Clair of Goodview, majoring in Biblical Studies

Christopher Newport University Dean's List:

Daniel Shelton, a sophomore with a double major in Political Science and Leadership and a double minor in International Business and German

Hannah Shelton, a senior with a double major in Management and Marketing with a minor in Leadership

George Mason University Dean's List:

Abigail Murtaugh, a sophomore majoring in Public Health and Clinical Health

Hollins Dean's List:

Kasey Copeland of

Hardy Kennah Hebert of Vin-

ton Anika Holley of Vinton

Rose Osborne of Goodview

٠ James Madison University Dean's List:

Judith Gudiel of Har-٠ dy, majoring in architectural design

Danielle Haldren of Vinton, majoring in integrated science & technology

Frank Kelly of Vinton, majoring in integrated science & technology

Haley Lawson of Vinton, majoring in nursing

Lexis Mason of Vinton, majoring in psychology Mikara Mitchell of

Vinton, majoring in individualized study

Connor Ranson of Hardy, majoring in architectural design

Kaylee Shrewsbury of ٠ Vinton, majoring in health sciences

Leah Shrewsbury of Vinton, majoring in health science

James Madison Univer-

Pete Peters

**S**POT<u>LIGHT ON TOWN (</u>

sity President's List: Bayla Kessler of Vin-

ton, majoring in theatre Sarah Shinault of Vinton, majoring in nursing

James Madison University December 2021 graduate:

Danielle Haldren, with a degree in Speech Pathology

Longwood University:

Briahna Stacey, Elementary education major, President's List

Caroline Faulkner, Nursing, Dean's List

Radford University • Graduates Fall 2021

Ryan Zane Dippel of Vinton, Bachelor of Science in Biology

Kacee Lorraine Ferrell ٠ of Hardy, Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Brittney Nichole Howell of Vinton, Master of Occupational Therapy

Cameron Alexander Livingstone of Vinton, Master of Occupational Therapy

Kristin Paige Ransome of Goodview, Bachelor of Science in Biology

Jami Marie Salzberg of ٠ Goodview, Doctor of Nursing Practice

Robert Patrick Vorbro-٠ ker of Vinton, Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Jared Griffin Williamson of Hardy, Master of Science in Physician Assistant

Radford University ٠ Dean's List:

Johanna Arrington, Healthcare Administration major from Vinton

Christopher Blankenship, majoring in biomedical science

Brenna Boksa, Art major from Vinton

Sarah Butterworth, Criminal Justice major from Vinton

Bridgette Congleton, • Nursing major from Hardy

Jennah DiMaggio, Geology major from Goodview

Kerrigan Ferguson, Interdisciplinary Studies major from Vinton

Kacee Ferrell, Nursing major from Hardy

Callie Foutz, Interdisci-

been employed by the Catholic School, and

plinary Studies major from Vinton

Zachary Gross, Finance major from Vinton

Robert Hage, Allied Health Sciences major from Hardy

Adam Harrison, History major from Goodview

Kara Harvey, Sociology major from Vinton

Lindsay Heck, Economics major from Goodview

Joseph Johnson, Marketing major from Vinton

Aldin Krecic, Healthcare Administration major from Vinton

Jenna Layman, Nursing major from Hardy

Joshua Maloney, Nursing major from Goodview

Abbey Maxey, Nursing major from Goodview

Shane McCarthy, Marketing major from Vinton

Éric McGuire, Nursing major from Hardy

Elizabeth Musselman, Pre-Nursing major from Vinton Julie Nicely, social sci-

ence major

Jessica Pursel, Nursing major from Vinton

Thomas Ransone, Social Science major from Vinton Stephanie Reynolds,

Nursing major from Vinton Alexis Rhodes, Nursing major from Vinton

Lena Rice, Nursing

major from Hardy Kayla Rippey, Nursing

major from Vinton

Grace Scott, majoring in Nutrition & Dietetics

Carrie Sizemore, Social Work major from Vinton

Youssef Sorial, Criminal Justice major from Vinton

Kari Spradlin, Healthcare Management major from Vinton

Meghan Stinnette, Communication Sciences & Disorders major from Vinton

Amy Taylor, Interdisciplinary Studies major from Vin-

ton Emma Teter, Nursing major from Vinton Megan Thomas, Pre-

Nursing major from Vinton

Tucker Vest, Nursing major from Vinton

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Megan James, major-

Luke Johnston, major-

Autumn Krebs, Inter-

Natalie Mullins, major-

Courtney Palmer, Col-

Olivia Robertson, ma-

Chad Ronan, majoring

Justin Seymour, major-

Abby Spotswood, ma-

Sarah Spradlin, major-

Mara Strum, majoring

Erin Taylor, majoring

Payton Taylor, major-

Reagan Tuck, majoring

Virginia Western Com-

Erik Crowell of Vin-

Chelsea Kunkel of Vin-

Christian Runyon of

Amber Smith of Good-

Zimmerman,

McCormack,

ing in Industrial and Systems

ing in Mechanical Engineering

ing in multimedia journalism

lege of Business, Management

joring in Childhood Pre-Educa-

ing in Accounting and Informa-

joring in Environmental Re-

in Human Nutrition, Foods,

in Human Nutrition, Foods,

majoring in Animal and Poultry

munity College President's List:

Western Governor's Univer-

Lindsey Bixel of Vinton, Col-

ton, College of Health Profes-

Vinton, College of Health Pro-

If your child has been recog-

nized on a Dean's or President's

List or graduated from a college

or university in Fall 2021, and

have not been included on this

list, please email dadams@main-

streetnewspapers.com.

view, College of Business

Will Howell

sity Awards of Excellence:

lege of Health Professions

ton, College of Business

Engineering

tion

disciplinary Studies

in Computer Science

sources Management

ing in Biochemistry

tion Systems

and Exercise

and Exercise

ing in Psychology

in Veterinary Medicine

Taylor

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Sciences

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sions

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fessions

Brian majoring in Math

Vorbroker, Robert Nursing major from Vinton

Braydon Wiseman, History major from Hardy

Emily Woods, graphic design major

Ethan Wright, Emer-Services major from gency Goodview

Shenandoah University Conservatory) (Shenandoah President's List:

Ellen Frary Virginia Commonwealth University School of Arts Dean's List:

Andrea Gonzalez

Virginia Tech Dean's List:

Olivia Ashworth, majoring in Human Development

Keaton Band, College of Science, NEUS

Amna Becirevic, majoring in Accounting and Infor-

mation Systems Elena Boitnott, major-

ing in Finance Ethan Bowser, major-

ing in Music

Emily Brooks, majoring in Political Science

Andrew Brooks, majoring in Accounting and Information Systems

Ryan Buxton

joring in Creative Writing

joring in Theatre Arts

joring in Marketing

Technology

Technologies

and Exercise

neering

Tyler Buxton, majoring in General Engineering Will Cummings, ma-

joring in Business Information

lege of Architecture and Urban

Studies, majoring in Creative

ing in Human Development

ing in Human Nutrition, Foods,

ing in Biological Systems Engi-

of Science, majoring in ESCI

in General Engineering

Cameron Davis, ma-

Austin Dickson, ma-

Kaitlyn Dickson, ma-

Natalie Ferguson, Col-

Sophie Griffin, major-

Dylan Hatfield, major-

Reilly Hatfield, major-

Hanna Howell, College

Adithya Iyer, majoring

senger 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.

and The Vinton Mes-

Pete Peters is Vinton's

2015, hired first as Assistant Town Manager and of Parks and Recreation. Economic Development Director. He served in Mount Pleasant and was those positions for five the last class (1993) to years and was then appointed to the position Byrd High School (now of Town Manager as of the Billy Byrd apart-January 1, 2021.

The Town of Vinton Town Manager. He has Facilities at Roanoke

He spent 10 years as reation, and Tourism ation

town since December seven years with the City of Roanoke Department

for Botetourt County,

two years as Director of

Athletic Programs and

Peters grew up in attend the old William ments) as a 7th grader.

He received his Bach-Director of Parks, Rec- elor's Degree in Recre-Administration



27. Brotherhoods

61. It cools your home

3. Grócer

35. Electronic data

Richard and my nickname growing up was Richie," Peters says. "I didn't get the nickname of 'Pete' until college (short for Peters) and it has stuck professionally throughout the years, although many of my family and friends from growing up still call me Richie.

from Ferrum College,

and his Graduate Cer-

tificate in Local Govern-

ment Management from

"My actual name is

Virginia Tech.

He lists his hobbies as mountain biking, kayaking, camping, hunting, handyman/landand scaping.

He and his wife Cameron have been married for 21 years. They have



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TOWN OF VINTON

Vinton Town Manager Pete Peters

two daughters, Cadence (17) and Falan (16), and a boxer pup, Eleanor Rigby.

A fun fact about Peters is his obsession with Jeeps.

'I have owned seven

#### different jeeps since high school and one of each model type: '73 CJ5, '77 CJ7, '81 CJ7, '89 YJ, '02 TJ, '13 JK and a '20 JT."

Thanks for all you do, Pete Peters!

# Big consignment sale this Saturday at Bonsack Baptist

The annual Bonsack Baptist Preschool Consignment Sale is this Saturday, Feb. 26, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Bonsack Baptist Church CLC, 4845 Cloverdale Road, Roanoke. Admission is free. Sellers receive 60% of their items' profits and the other 40% goes to the preschool to provide necessary learning tools and environments for the students.

After each sale, all the leftover items marked "Donate" are sent to Truth Fellowship Ministries.

The consignment sale fundraiser is offering over 100,000 consignment items ranging from infant to teens, even for moms to be.

Organizers accept clothes, shoes, accessories, toys, home decor, strollers, cribs, and more. They only accept high-quality items, making sure clothes are stain-free, not faded and all batteryoperated items work. These items have been inspected and selected for quality and value. There are also many unique and one-of-a kind items. The nonprofit sale is run by a committee made up entirely of local volunteers. Cash or credit/debit cards are accepted (\$2 fee

for cards).

The organizers offer some shopping

• Bring a rolling cart, stroller, basket, or bag with you to help carry items while you shop.

• Have time to spare. Since there typically aren't large amounts of one item, there are a lot of items to choose from. Slow down and really look, don't just fly through the racks – you'll likely miss the best deals.

• The big items and best deals go fast. Organizers recommend coming early Saturday.

• Saturday between 11 a.m.-1 p.m. is the best time to shop during a slow time.

• Wear the right shoes- simple, but often overlooked.

• Kids' brand sizing runs different, so make note of your kids' favorite brands and current sizes before the sale. You can trace your children's feet on a piece of cardboard to help determine shoe sizes.

For photos, go to https://bonsackconsignment.wixsite.com/bonsackconsignment.



Spring is right around the corner, and the Vinton Library has plenty of programs and activities coming up to get you out of those winter blues. For starters, on Monday, March 21 at 6 p.m., adults can tune into our Heirloom Gardening program on Zoom to learn about obtaining heirloom seed varieties and why they are important to preserve.

If you're like the rest of us and prefer to avoid going to the DMV at all costs, the DMV Connect service will be here March 1, 30 and 31 from 10-5 with no appointment necessary (closed for lunch from 1-2).

The Roanoke Valley Dulcimers will be meeting on Saturday, March 19, from 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Come to share songs, playing techniques, and to learn more history about the mountain dulcimer. Beginners are always welcome.

On Thursday the 17th at 6 p.m., join Caitlin on Zoom to celebrate Women's History Month by learning all about Women in Ancient Greece. Also, Open Bridge Group is back. Join experienced players every Tuesday from 1 to 4 p.m.

Looking to join a new book club? This month the Vinton Book Club will be discussing "Project Hail Mary" by Andy Weir on the first Thursday at 3 p.m. on Zoom. The As the Page Turns Book Club will be discussing "The Lions of Fifth Avenue" by Fiona Davis on the second Wednesday at 2 p.m., on Zoom as well.

Teen Grab-and-Go kits will be available on March 14 and 28 this month. Monday the 28th is also Teen Gaming night. Visit us between 5:30-7:30 p.m. for fun video, card, and board games in the Teen Center.

Bring the family in for Caturday" on the 19th from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Register online for a 15-minute time slot to read aloud to cats from the Regional Center for Animal Care and Protection. Help your child build their reading skills while also helping a cat get socialized before adoption.

Be sure to register for one of our early literacy programs happening this month. Bring your children in their cutest PJs to Jammie Time on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. If you'd prefer mornings, come to Family Storytime Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. Join us to practice literacy skills, enjoy fun activities and listen to stories. We will also be having Early Start Club on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. for infants and their caregivers; you'll learn about standards, resources, and methods for encouraging early literacy development. There will be rhymes, songs, motion and play to build a foundation for reading with your little one.

Once you've brushed up on your early reading skills drop in on the 17th for Lego Play at 4 p.m. to have fun creating and sharing Lego masterpieces. This month's Junior Makers Club will take place on Wednesday the 16th at 4 p.m. We will explore the fun of gardening and the science behind it. Plant your own seeds to take home and watch them grow.

Don't miss this month's STEM Super Saturday, "In Flight." On Saturday the 5th at 2:30 p.m., learn how to make static flyers and paper airplanes and fly them outside of the library. You can also celebrate St. Patrick's Day with us all day on the 17th; drop by for fun crafts and activities while supplies last. Be sure to pick up this month's Wonder Pack as well, a STEM project for Building Bridges.

Kid's Take and Creates for March:

Week of March 1: Giraffe Craft

Week of March 7: Flower STEM Science

Week of March 14: St. Patrick's Day Craft

Week of March 21: Grow a Seed Activity

Week of March 28: Basketball Craft

Teen Take and Create: Bookmark

Adult Take and Create: Macramé Keychain

Join us for these virtual events happening this month: Storytime at Home: Tues-

days and Thursdays at 10 a.m. Couch Trivia (Books and

Authors): Tuesday, March 1 at 7 p.m.

Roanoke County Genealogy Club: Wednesday, March 2 at 10 a.m.

Keeping Kids Safe Online with iPads and iPhones: Tuesday, March 8 at 2 p.m.

Wash Daze: Wednesday, March 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Evening Genealogy Club: Tuesday, March 15 at 6 p.m.

Celebrate Freedom of Information Day: Wednesday, March 16 at 2 p.m.

Angie Chewning

Filling in for Bootie

Chris and Gina Keaton have moved back to Vinton after nearly thirty years in Nashville, Tenn. "All the stars aligned and with most of my business being online we could live anywhere. That and the chance to spend more time with our parents made the move home make sense for us." Chris will continue to commute to Music City and beyond for his music industry consulting business. He is also a Celebrations Consultant for Macy's and will travel with that position, too.

Congratulations to William Byrd Middle School Cheerleading Team Coach Shannon McColluch for WINS at Battle At Byrd, Gtown throwdown (Glenvar) and Northside Invitational Cheer Competi-

Team members are Aubrey Booze, Ashley Arven, Bailey Tabor, Brihanna Harris, Carleigh Leonard, Jamya Rosbourough, Kelsey Bell, Lily Varrell, Makenzie Scott, Mattie Cox, Miley Moses, Taylor Jacobson, Kaidence Stores, Aniyah Harper.

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

A fun dinner with WBHS class-

mates was had at Macado's. Those joining the fun were Amy White Wentzel, Deb Kitts, Cheryl Blankenship, Vickie Perdue Fuller, Kathy Overstreet, Linda Sturgill Aylor, April Brammer Brown, Deb Ayers, and Belinda Jones. What great times to get together with old friends!







Microsoft Excel: Just the Basics: Wednesday, March 16 at 2 p.m.

Secure Your Stuff: Thursday March 31 at 4 p.m.

Please note that in person events are subject to change and remember to register online for events at www.rocolibrary.org.

By Vinton Library Assistant Molly Meador

# **Mount Pleasant Lions Club** updates for February

Mount Pleasant Lions Club members were saddened to learn that Lion Kyle Martin, who had been a Mount Pleasant Lion for more than 47 years, passed away due to natural causes on Thursday, February 17. Lion Kyle was a past president and the recipient of the prestigious Melvin Jones Fellow award, the highest accolade a club can bestow on a member.

He lived all his adult life on Bandy Road S.E., where he and his predeceasing wife, the former Nancy Weaver, raised three daughters through Mount Pleasant Elementary and William Byrd Schools and looked on with bemusement as those daughters married and reared their own children. Kyle was always ready and willing to help with Lions projects and brought many area needs before the club for assistance. He was a perfect example of the Lions motto "We Serve" and he will be missed.

noke County Board of School. Supervisors member for the Vinton District, will be speaking to the Mount Pleasant Lions Club on be at the regularly scheduled meeting at the club's meeting hall, the "Lions Den," with his remarks beginning at 7:30 p.m. All members of the community are invited to attend and hear what may, or may not, be in store for the Mount Pleasant area and Roanoke County as a whole. Anyone desiring more information may contact the club recording secretary, Lea Whitbeck, at 540-204-2183.

The Mount Pleasant Lions Club PACK-A-SNACK program continues. Members of the Mount Pleasant Lions Club shopped for appropriate food items on Thursday, February 17, and then met a couple more members at the "Lions Den" to pack 57 bags of mostly healthy snacks for children

Jason Peters, the Roa- at Garden City Elementary

Two of the packers, Lions Janet West and Tommy Moore, actually attended Tuesday, March 1. This will that school back in the day and were especially pleased that they could pay back a bit of what they learned there. The Lions Club is one member of the CIA

(Communities In Action), a rotating group which packs food each week for students whose families request such assistance through the school. The other partner members of the CIA are the Garden City Nazarene Church and New Hope Christian Church.

By Lion Mike Ferguson

#### • Forestry Mulching/Brush Cutting Right of Way & Land Clearing Stream & Pond Services Light Excavating/Grading Pipe & Culvert Cleaning Rock & Stump Removal • Crane Services Bucket Truck Services 6 Underground Utilities Storm Water Management Site Prep Small Job Specialty APX Services LLC 540-566-6920



14 additional newspapers in WV & VA



Over 40 editors, reporters & writers

# **DAR tours Vinton History Museum**

The Vinton History Museum hosted the February meeting of the Roanoke Valley Chapter of the DAR on February 12. About 15 DAR members were given a tour of the museum and commentary on its exhibits by Judy Cunningham, Executive Director of the museum. Vinton Historical Society President Randy Layman and Treasurer Debbie Pitts visited with the DAR guests as well.

Cunningham started with some history of the building. What is now the museum at the corner of Jackson Avenue and Maple Street in downtown Vinton was the residence of the Upson family. The home was built in 1906 and still features its original floors. Until recently it unfortunately also had its original electrical wiring, but some fundraising and upkeep funding from the Town of Vinton resulted in upgrades to the system.

Cunningham pointed out that each room in the museum has a theme- there is a Church and School Room, featuring mainly William Byrd High School and Roland E. Cook Elementary. That room also houses some arrowheads uncovered on the Vinton War Memorial property, and some religious books donated by Explore Park. There is a Gish Mill Room within the School Room.

The foyer and lower hallway make up the Military Hall, featuring wars from the Spanish American to World War II, with a special exhibit honoring Vinton's own Lt. Gen. Dan Darnell, now retired as Deputy Commander of the U.S. Pacific Command. Some of the military memorabilia is secured in a display case donated by The Hotel Roanoke.

DAR members were astounded at the number of items on display and the quality of the displays themselves. The museum has accumulated over 4,000 items for viewing and preservation. Cunningham told the DAR members that every object or document in the museum has been donated, except for a few items that are on loan.

There is a Sight and Sound Room featuring vintage phonographs, TVs, radios, an organ, instruments, and records. The Dining Room is home to a set of butter churns, along with dishes and a doll collection. There is a display of Girl Scout pins and Lions Club pins.

The kitchen features a wringer washing machine and washboards and a set of oil lamps, as well as an-

tique glass.

The Town of Vinton Room is where The Vinton Messenger newspapers are archived. The Tool Room contains a wide variety of tools from bygone days. There is a Business Room, a Bedroom, and a Children's Room. Past DAR regent Sharon Menzies, who was on the tour, had donated her grandmother's baby buggy from the 1880s to the museum along with a baby doll and parasol.

The upstairs hallway displays a vintage hat collection, a quilt collection, and an enormous display of doll houses.

The museum office is filled with binders on well-known Vinton families, an almost complete set of Black Swan yearbooks from William Byrd High School, and notebooks on various clubs, organiza-

tions, churches, homes, buildings, cemeteries, and special events in the Vinton area

www.ourvalley.org

The museum has a huge collection of photographs and archives of weddings, obituaries, and military service.

Cunningham invited the DAR members to return, bring friends, and become members of the Historical Society.

The museum is open Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and the first Saturday each month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There is no charge for admission.

More information is available at https://www.vintonhistorymuseum.org/. The museum and Historical Society have two Facebook pages-one, the Vinton History Museum, and another called Vinton Memories and History.



The Children's Room at the Vinton History Museum includes a donation by DAR member Sharon Menzies- her grandmother's baby buggy, doll, and parasol.



Members of the Roanoke Valley Chapter DAR visited the Vinton History Museum on February 12.



## From the Pulpit: God's Masterpiece

Whether we are a lover of art, its beauty, colors, craftsmanship, history, and cultural influence, or can barely keep a straight line and draw a stick-figure, almost everyone recognizes the name of the Ital-



Michelangelo. Born on March 6, Beginning in his ear-1475, in the Republic of ly 20s, Michelangelo Florence, Michelangelo sculpted one of the most di Lodovico Buonarroti famous sculptures of all Simoni would create time, known as "The Pisome of the most rec- ety," which depicts the



ian sculptor and painter history before the age of 30.

ognized works of art in lifeless body of Jesus on the lap of Mary fol-

lowing his crucifixion. Though it was originally created as a funeral monument, it is now the only work of art from the Renaissance era to be housed at St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. After completing this statue, Michelangelo would construct what many believe to be one of the most famous pieces of artwork of all time, which is the sculpture known as "David." According to histori-cal records, "David" was commisoriginally sioned as one of a series of statues of prophets to be positioned along the roofline of the east end of Florence Cathedral, but was instead placed in a public square in the Piazza della Signoria, where it was unveiled in September of 1504.

transferred to the Galdell'Accademia leria in Florence in 1873. Known for its unmistakable posture and lack of modesty, "David" is considered by many to be one of the most recognizable pieces of art in history. According to some records, when asked how he was able to produce such a remarkable piece of art out of a block of stone, Michelangelo reportedly responded: "It was easy. You just chip away at the stone that doesn't look like David."

Whether the famed Renaissance artist actuthat was already there.

The author of Genesis wrote: "So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them" (Genesis 1:27).

David expounded on this idea in Psalm 139 by writing: "For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:13-14a).

Bringing it all together, Paul wrote to the Ephesians: "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago" (Ephesians 2:10). Scripture assures us that we are wonderfully made in the likeness of God. We all bear the image of the Perfect One. However, life has a way of suppressing and covering that image with layers upon layers of sin, brokenness, and discord. Like precious gold buried under layers of rock, the perfect image of God upon us becomes buried under layers and layers of bad habits, misplaced desires, selfish ambitions, unjust prejudices, hurtful words, painful wounds, unresolved grief, and destructive behaviors.

And yet, God assures us we are his masterpiece; we are his greatest creation; we bear his very image. Maybe the best way for that image to be uncovered and restored is to adopt Michelangelo's strategy and start chipping away at anything in our lives that does not look like Jesus. We are not a formless stone; we are wonderfully made. The beauty of God is already within us and upon us. All we need to do is start chipping away at the excess and allow what is already there- God's masterpiece- to be revealed.

Lynn Hurst, General Manager	inurst@ourvalley.org
Matt de Simone, <i>Editor</i>	fincastle.editor@ourvalley.org
Debbie Adams, Staff Writer	dadams@ourvalley.org
Brian Hoffman, Sports Editor	bhoffman@ourvalley.org
Betty Jo Barger, Copy Editor	fincastle@ourvalley.org
James "Tucker" Frye, Advertising	tfrye@ourvalley.org

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

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

The statue was later

ally said this or not, Michelangelo was known for looking at a large piece of stone and seeing something different than most. Rather than a formless block of marble that needed an artist to create it into something beautiful, Michelangelo had the ability to see the beauty of the sculpture before the first cut was made. As an artist, he believed his job was to cut off all of the excess stone to reveal the masterpiece

By The Rev. Travis Russell, Vinton Baptist Church

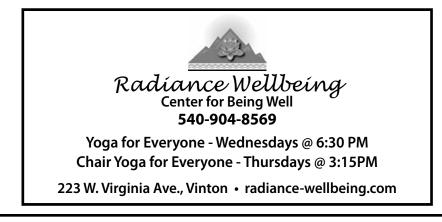


The Town of Vinton, a community nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains, welcomes you to our community. Vinton, a town rich with history, has over the years found itself to be one of a few communities that continue to relish the past by offering an environment of a comfortable lifestyle with the feeling 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? SUBCRIBE TODAY Call (540) 389-9355



# **Clean Valley Day** scheduled for April 9

Clean Valley Day in the Roanoke Valley is scheduled for Saturday, April 9. The Clean Valley Council welcomes individuals and groups to volunteer for the annual spring cleanup. Volunteers come from the cities of Roanoke and Salem, the Town of Vinton, and the counties of Roanoke and Botetourt to collect many tons of trash every year.

This valley-wide cleanup promotes respect and cares for the community and is an excellent teambuilding opportunity for corporations, civic or-ganizations, youth, and church groups. Pick your spot– a park, playground, roadside, stream bank, or your very own neighborhood – and help get rid of the litter and make it a cleaner, healthier place.

Volunteers may register at https://cleanvalley. org/register-here/ and will be provided orange trash bags, gloves, and/or grabbers. They are asked which locality they plan clean-up-Roanoke to City, Roanoke County, the Town of Vinton, the City of Salem, or Botetourt County-and for a brief description of the clean-up location.

In addition to Clean Valley Day, there are also Adopt-a-Street programs in Roanoke City and Adopt-a-Highway programs outside Roanoke City.

The Clean Valley Council has issued some guidelines on Litter Clean-up during the pandemic:

1. Keep yourself safe--Wear a safety vest and make sure you pay attention to traffic and other conditions around you while collecting litter or trash.

2. Avoid personal injury-- Only pick up litter or trash that you can individually manage. Don't exceed your physical weightlifting limitations. Report finding any of the following to local officials for their safe removal and Do Not Touch!

Items with a hazardous material label

Items that could pose an immediate danger Items that could be

crime-scene evidence

Items emitting a strong odor

3. Stay Hydrated and Energized--Single-serve packaging of food and water is appropriate at this time. If using disposable cups filled from refillable containers, make sure disinfectant wipes are available and used to wipe off the water spigot/ handle or outside of refillable containers between users. Keep in mind sin-

#### See Clean Valley Day, page 6

### **Pop-Up Cleanups**



Join Clean Valley Council staff, board members, interns and volunteers in various locations throughout City of Roanoke, Roanoke County, Town of Vinton and City of Salem as we pick up litter and make a big difference around the Roanoke Valley.

We provide the safety vests, trash bags, gloves and trash grabbers.

Who: Anyone and Everyone

What: Lunchtime cleanups in the municipalities that we serve

When: 12:30-1:30pm, second Thursday of each month.

Clean Valley Council

# **U**BITUARIES **Delbert Ralph Spangler**

Delbert Ralph Spangler, 95, Lynchburg passed away at home on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, surrounded by his loving family and faithful caregivers.

He is survived by Rebecca (Becky) Seale Spangler, his loving wife of 30 years in Lynchburg.

He was preceded in death by his first wife and the mother, his children, Mary Anna Howe Spangler, Vin-

ton; his sister, Janice Spangler, Anderson, Ind.; his daughter, Linda Spangler Sandifer, Vinton; and his son, Mark Edward Spangler, Aurora, Colo.

He was born August 19, 1926 in Kentland, Ind., the son of the late Harold Edward Spangler and the late Loreita Buswell Spangler.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sisters, Donna Colvill Crim, Columbus, Ind. and Dorothy Spangler Walker, Flint, Mich.; son, David Marvin Spangler (Donna), Roanoke; son-in-law, Ray Sandifer, Vinton; step-children, Joy Lee Price (Mark Pretty), Lynchburg, Kendra Price Toney (Donnie) and Ginger Price Lovell (Jon), all of Forest; grandchildren, Todd Spangler (Lisa), Grand Rapids, Mich., Tiffany Sandifer, Vinton, Justin Spangler (Jessica), Vinton, Cody Spangler (Liz), Highlands Ranch, Colo. and Eli Spangler (Emily), Midlothian; step-grandchildren, Landon Pretty (Anna), Lynchburg, Allie Lovell, Galax, Robbie Toney (Story), Lynchburg, Kathryn Toney, John Toney and J.D. Lovell, all of Forest; great-grandchildren, Eliana, Logan and Kaitlyn Spangler, Grand Rapids, Mich., Devlyn Meadows, Keely Meadows and Taylor Spangler, all of Vinton, as well as many cousins, nieces and nephews who adored him.

Delbert majored in Mechanical Engineering and was a proud graduate of Purdue University in 1950 where he was in the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society and the Wesley Foundation on campus. Before college, however, he honorably served in the U.S. Army during World War II in Germany and Japan. He shared his love of engineering at Howe Fire Apparatus Company in Indiana, where he was the Chief Engineer and an instrumental part of building extraordinary firetrucks. When he moved to Virginia, he was the plant manager for the Oren Howe Fire Apparatus Company in Vinton and later retired in 1989 from Grumman Inc. in Roanoke.

Delbert was a long-time devoted member of both Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church in Vinton and Fort Hill United Methodist Church in Lynchburg, where he was a faithful servant and leader in the choirs and various committees. Not only did he share his love of music and singing in church choirs, but he did the same throughout the barbershop singing community. He was a part of "The Virginia



bershop Harmony Society), the Smith Mountain Lake Harmoneers and various barbershop quartets. He was a long-time member of the Lions Club in Vinton where he served as President.

Delbert shared his love of family by researching and studying his family genealogy. He was particularly good at keeping detailed records and loved sharing

his important papers and interesting family archives. He enjoyed discovering new places by traveling throughout the United States and the world. Collegiate basketball and football were highlights for him, especially if it involved his beloved Purdue Boilermakers or Virginia Tech Hokies. He often could be seen enjoying all types, seafood and would hardly go a day without a bowl of ice cream or milk and cookies at bedtime.

Delbert's love for Christ was so evident in his everyday life. He was a gentle and kind soul to everyone he met and knew. He was humble and a man of few words; however, when he did speak, he did so in truth and with wisdom. He was a loving and faithful man to his wife and family. Patience was a true virtue of Delbert's and his unique sense of humor brought joy to those around him. Delbert was a true gentleman and a loyal friend to anyone blessed enough to call him the same.

The family extends a special, heartfelt thank you to Delbert's team of caregivers who are now like family. Teena, Jenny, Jennifer, Tiana, Doris, Cynthia, Myra, Tiffany, Mary and Tanya-thank you for your love and care. They wish to thank Teresa and the team at Centra Hospice for their support during his last days. They also wish to acknowledge the many expressions of love and compassion from their church family, friends and loved ones during Delbert's illness and their time of sorrow.

A celebration of life will be held at Fort Hill United Methodist Church (106 Oakridge Blvd.) in Lynchburg at 11 a.m. on Saturday, February 26. A graveside service will be held at Mountain View Cemetery (1401 Mountain View Rd.) in Vinton at 3 p.m. on the same day. Both services are open to everyone and they will also be online at the funeral home's website below. The family will receive friends after the services for a short time at the church and at the cemetery on the same day. Thanks to the DAV in Roanoke and the US Army, this special WWII veteran will be buried with military honors.

The family suggests that those wishing to make memorials on Delbert's behalf should do so to Fort Hill United Methodist Church, 106 Oakridge Blvd., Lynchburg 24502. Visit the online tribute at www. heritagefuneralandcremation.com to share a memory or send a condolence to the family. Heritage Funeral Service and Crematory

Our next Pop-Up Cleanup will be Thursday, March 10, 2021. We will cleanup along 9th Street SE near River Avenue. Park in the Greenway Access parking near Willis Welding on **River Avenue**.

Be sure to fill out a safety waiver in advance:



### Churchill Downs from page 1

#### HRMs.

As part of the P2E Transaction, CDI will also acquire the rights to build a large gaming resort (the "Dumfries Project"), with up to 1,800 HRMs in Northern Virginia. P2E previously announced plans to invest up to \$400 million to build the initial phase of the Dumfries Project, which is scheduled to open in 2023.

CDI will also acquire the rights to develop Rosie's Gaming Emporium in Emporia, Va., the seventh historical racing entertainment venue under P2E's Colonial Downs license. The Emporia facility, located along I-95 near the North Carolina border, will have 150 HRMs and is expected to open in 2023.

Also included in the P2E transaction are the rights to P2E's ongoing effort in partnership with Urban One, to develop ONE Casino + Resort, a \$565 million destination casino in Richmond.

Churchill Downs Inc. is an industry-leading racing, online wagering and gaming entertainment company anchored by its iconic flagship event, the Kentucky Derby. It owns and operates three pari-mutuel gaming entertainment venues with approximately 3,050 historical racing machines in Kentucky.

It also owns and operates TwinSpires, one of the largest and most profitable online wagering platforms for horse racing, sports and iGaming in the U.S. and has nine retail sportsbooks.

CDI is also a leader in brick-and-mortar casino gaming in nine states with approximately 11,000 slot machines and video lottery terminals and 200 table games.

"The sale of Colonial Downs Group is a change in ownership and will not impact daily operations, our dedicated team members, or our loyal customers," said Colonial Downs Chief Operating Officer Aaron Gomes. "Our team will continue to focus on providing a top-notch entertainment experience as part of Churchill Downs when the sale is completed later this year.

We are extremely proud of our efforts to bring world class thoroughbred horse racing back to Virginia and introduce a new type of gaming in the state that was crucial to our success," Gomes said. "Along the way, we have created hundreds of jobs and made significant contributions to the communities where we operate. We've admired Churchill Downs as a well-known brand in racing and a competitor for some time and Peninsula Pacific Entertainment's properties are becoming part of an iconic company that continues to revolutionize our industry."

The Vinton Rosie's Gaming Emporium opened in 2019 and not only survived, but thrived, during the COVID pandemic, completing a \$28 million expansion in December 2021. The expansion increased gaming floor footage to 33,000 square feet, and includes 350 new HRMs, a remodeled high limit gaming area, and a 280-space parking garage.

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 the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club, the Vinton First Aid Crew, the Vinton History Museum, CHIP of Roanoke, Angels of Assisi, Kid's Soar, Boys & Girls Club of Southwest VA, Kids Square, LEAP of Roanoke, West End Center for Youth, Carilion Clinic, and Blue Ridge Literacy.

Tax revenues generated by Rosie's have been an economic boon to the town as well, allowing long-delayed Capital Improvement Projects to be realized.

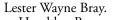
Gentlemen" (Roanoke Chapter, the Bar- is handling funeral arrangements.

### Harold Dean Bray

Harold Dean Bray, born July 19, 1956, in Clay County, Ky., passed away in his sleep on February 17, 2022, due to complications of pancreatic cancer. His beloved wife, dog and cats were at his side. Over the years he loved and cared for a multitude of cats and dogs and saw to their every need.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Barnes

Bray of Bedford County; sister, Marcella Jackson, London, Ky.; brother, Wendell Bray, Manchester, Ky.; brother, Lesley Bray; Salado, Texas. He was preceded in death by his parents Miller and Peggy Bray; sister, Mary Etta Tackett; brother,



Harold Bray gave freely of his money and time. He was skilled with his hands, secured the roof bolts in a coal mine, had his own business building fences, and remodeled three homes during his marriage. Ever industrious, he single handedly brought down two dead ash trees, and chopped and stacked

the wood for the stove that kept he and his wife warm throughout the winter. With his good friend Richard, he built a chicken coop where he kept a flock of 10 laying hens. He would help anyone in need and will be deeply missed!



# Kecip<u>es of the week</u>

## **Fast and simple Asian-American Recipes**

Here are three simple and fast Asian-American recipes. The sesame oil adds a unique flavor. You can buy a small bottle at most any grocery store. It is a staple in Asian-American recipes.

#### Korean Bul-Kogi 2 lbs. beef - sirloin, ribeye, flank, most any fairly

- tender cut
- 1 Tbsp. sesame seeds
- 3 green onions, chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 cup plus 1 Tbsp. soy sauce
- 2 Tbsp. sesame oil
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 2 Tbsp. sherry or beef stock
- 1/8 tsp. black pepper

Slice the meat very thin. Combine other ingredients in bowl and mix well. Add the meat and stir until well-coated. Let stand 20 minutes or longer. Stir fry quickly in skillet until meat is no longer pink. Serve over rice.

#### **Clean Valley Day** from page 5

gle-use gloves are not effective unless changed before each activity.

4. Physical Distance--Keep a minimum of six feet away from others, unless you live or work with them regularly. The need for physical distancing is critical to stemming off a resurgence of COVID-19.

5. Minimize physical contact with litter--It is best to use some litter grabber and/or protective work gloves to protect yourself from cuts, scrapes, and any contaminant that may be on the collected litter or trash.

6. Keep your hands away from your face--During and after collecting litter, do not touch your face with gloved hands or hands that have not been washed and sanitized.

7. Secure the collected materials--In an abundance of extreme caution, secure the collected litter in closable plastic bags or a trash container with a secure lid. Try to minimize the handling and transfer of the materials collected.

COVID-19 is spread primarily via airborne particles, and anyone transferring materials in bulk from one container to another should take extra precautions to not come in contact with airborne particles, e.g., wear a mask, wash hands thoroughly, and don't touch clothing and then your face.

Post-Cleanup Activities

A. If you used any litter collection equipment, e.g., litter grabber or bucket, wipe with a disinfectant cloth/wipe prior to storage or return to CVC.

B. Carefully remove gloves and other protective clothing. If you plan on reusing your safety vest, gloves, and other clothing, sanitize them by washing them in a washer with regular detergent and cleaning

cycles.

C. Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds at the end of the cleanup. Use hand sanitizer until you get to running water.

The Clean Valley Council shares some interesting facts about litter on its website:

Cigarette Butts and Single-Use Plastics are the Most Common Litter: The most littered items often are made out of plastic, especially wrappers and other materials used for packaging. Aside from that, single-use plastics such as shopping bags and bottled water also top the list of the most littered items in the world. Not surprisingly, another item that people try to throw away recklessly is cigarette butts. Smokers often flick them away on the streets once they are done smoking. However, much like plastics, these small cigarette

filters can clog the street drains and worsen the flood. They also contain harmful chemicals that can endanger marine and terrestrial life.

Tons of Fast-Food Litter Ends Up in the Ocean: We all have our go-to fast food chains when we want to grab a bite on the go. However, both fast food companies and consumers seem to have forgotten how to clean up after themselves. Items from fast food restaurants such as plastic bags, straws, cups, spoons, forks, and paper plates are some of the most found litter, especially in the city.

The world Spends \$11.5 Billion a Year Just to Clean Up Litter: Cleaning up litter is costly, not to mention laborintensive. The world spends a large amount of unnecessary money just to remove litter from public places. These

funds could have gone to something more productive if only we know how to take care of our garbage.

In Japan, there is a Town that Doesn't have trash: You read it right--there is a town in Japan that has gone nearly zero-waste, and they continue to do so today. Kamikatsu, a small village in the southwestern part of the country, sorts 34 categories of trash from paper, aluminum, steel cans, cardboard papers and a lot more. That goes beyond the usual biodegradable, non-biodegradable, and recyclable bins of many modern cities.

The Clean Valley Council (CVC) is a tax-exempt, nonprofit organization, headquartered on Grandin Road in Roanoke. For more information, visit www.cleanvalley.org, email info@cleanvalley.org, or call 540-345-5523.

#### **ANGLICAN**

ST. THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH - located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit www.sttofc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger L on Hubert to 4910)

### Homemade Ramen Soup

- 2 Tbsp. olive oil
- 3 cloves minced garlic
- 1/2 inch minced ginger (optional)
- 1 julienned carrot
- 2-3 sliced green onions
- 4 cups vegetable or chicken broth

2 Tbsp. soy sauce

1/2 cup frozen peas

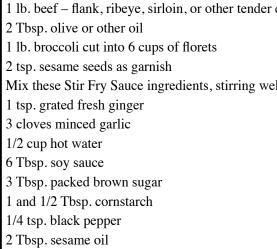
About 1/4 pound angel hair pasta

Saute garlic, ginger, carrots, and green onions in oil in saucepan until tender-don't burn the garlic. Add broth and soy sauce and bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer about 5 minutes. Add pasta and cook for time indicated on package, usually about 5-6 minutes. Add peas near end of cooking. Add salt and pepper to taste if needed. You can also add chopped mushrooms, some spinach, chicken, pork, or thin strips of ham, to this soup.

**Beef & Broccoli** 1 lb. beef – flank, ribeye, sirloin, or other tender cut 2 Tbsp. olive or other oil 1 lb. broccoli cut into 6 cups of florets 2 tsp. sesame seeds as garnish Mix these Stir Fry Sauce ingredients, stirring well: 1 tsp. grated fresh ginger 3 cloves minced garlic 1/2 cup hot water 6 Tbsp. soy sauce 3 Tbsp. packed brown sugar 1 and 1/2 Tbsp. cornstarch 1/4 tsp. black pepper 2 Tbsp. sesame oil Saute broccoli in 1 Tbsp. sesame oil over medium

heat for about 5 minutes, partially covered with lid, stirring and tossing until broccoli is bright green and crisp tender. (You can also steam the broccoli before stir frying in a steamer if you like more tender broccoli or just add 2 Tbsp. water to the broccoli in skillet before covering with the lid to steam.)

Increase heat to high, add the other Tbsp. of oil and beef. Stir fry about 2 minutes until just cooked through. Add Stir Fry Sauce and heat on medium heat for 3-4 minutes until it thickens. Add the broccoli. If the sauce is too thick, stir in 1-2 Tbsp. water. Serve over rice.





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

#### **CHURCH OF CHRIST** CHURCH OF CHRIST VINTON - 2107 Feather Road, Vinton. Terry Hodge, Minister, 540-890-1170. Sunday Bible Study 9:45 a.m., Sunday Morning Service 10:45 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 10 a.m.

#### ECKANKAR

Eckankar, the Path of Spiritual Freedom, is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. However, due to COVID-19, the Light & Sound Services and other ECK programs are currently available online through Zoom. Visit www.eckva.org for program listings, www.meetup.com/ Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group, or call 540-353-5365 and leave a message. We will return your call. Also visit www.eckankar.org for

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 LUTHER-AN CHURCH, "The Church Under The Cross", 1201 Hardy Rd, Vinton VA 24179, Pastor, Rev. Dr. James B. Davis (540) 342- 1715, Sunday

# s desc

#### YOU ALONE

#### Read Numbers 18:1 through 19:22

Monte had given his son one job: Shovel the walk. Monte returned to see messy piles of snow haphazardly scattered about. The boy had convinced his younger sister-who could barely lift the shovel-to do it for hims o he could play video games. Monte promptly unplugged the game and sent the boy out to finish the job.

Similarly, God gave Aaron and his sons enormous responsibility. He expected them-and them alone-to follow through.

"But only you and your sons may serve as priests in connection with everything at the altar and inside the curtain. I am giving you the service of the priesthood as a gift. Anyone else who comes near the sanctuary is to be put to death" (Numbers 18:7).

Has God placed a burden on your heart? Is He pointing you toward work that will expand His kingdom? You are uniquely gifted and in just the right place to effect divine change in this world. Don't wait for someone else to do the job the Lord has given you. He wants you, and you alone, to follow through.

Thought for Today: The work of the Kingdom changes our hearts as it changes our world.

Quicklook: Numbers 18:1-7

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

more information about how the teachings of 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

MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CAMPBELL CHURCH, 1130 Hardy Rd, Vinton, VA, 540-343-1842; cmpc2verizon.net Sunday school 9:45am, Worship 11:00am; Communion 1st Su.ndays; 2nd Sunday Session; Monday Noon Bible 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

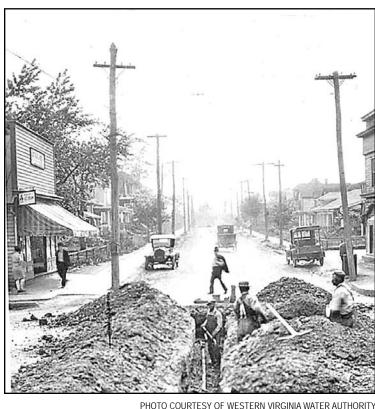
#### **UNITED METHODIST**

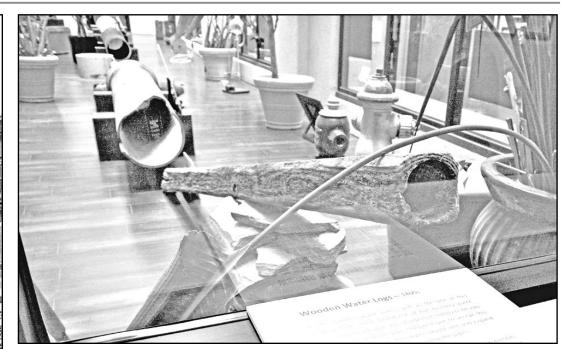
THREE OAKS FELLOWSHIP UNITED METHOD-IST CHURCH - 1026 Gravel Hill Road, Vinton, Va. 540-512-8070. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Rob Colwell. Sunday School -9:45 a.m., Worship 11 a.m.

#### WESLEYAN

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

# WVWA from page 1





houses a history museum with memorabilia from water systems in the Roanoke Valley. This display shows one of the earliest water lines. Holes were bored in logs to carry water. One end of each

pipe was sharpened slightly to fit into the end of another pipe. Once in use, the water would wet

PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS The Western Virginia Water Authority headquarters on Jefferson Street in downtown Roanoke

Lines at Tazewell and 13th Street in the old Vinton system in 1927.

Town of Vinton.

Prior to 2004, each of the four separate governments in the Roanoke Valley-Roanoke County, the Cities of Roanoke and Salem, and the Town of Vinton-had its own water supply agency. There had been discussions and negotiations for the governments to join to form one water agency, which were ultimately futile.

In fact, the topic of water and wastewater has a long and rather contentious history in the Roanoke Valley, accompanied by many name changes of the companies involved in the water/wastewater supply and treatment, most of which included the words "Roanoke" and/or "Water."

Here is some of that history:

In August 1882, the Council of the Town of Roanoke granted the Roanoke Land and Improvement Company the right to supply water to its citizens. Water from Crystal Spring was delivered through a 12inch pipe to the town starting October 27, 1882. The company also constructed terra-cotta sewers.

In March 1887, Roanoke City Council authorized the Roanoke Land and Improvement Company to transfer the right to supply water to Roanoke Water Works who acquired the rights and title to 143 acres of land, including Crystal Spring.

On January 11, 1889, Roanoke Gas Company and Roanoke Water Works transferred the right to supply water to Roanoke Gas & Water Company. Assets included Crystal Spring, its pumps, and approximately 15 miles of water main.

In 1891, the City of Roanoke appropriated \$150,000 for a sewerage collection system. On December 9, 1897, a franchise was granted to the Vinton-Roanoke Water Company (organized in March 1890) to furnish water to the City of Roanoke and its inhabitants at a rate not to exceed 25 cents per 1,000 gallons. Assets included the Falling Creek Reservoir and the tunnels to the future Beaverdam Creek Reservoir. The ordinance stat-

ed that the Company was required to provide water to fire hydrants and install three troughs for horses and three drinking fountains for citizens. One of these fountains, the Dog Mouth Fountain in the Roanoke City Market area, is still in use today.

On June 24, 1899, the Roanoke-Vinton Water Company purchased Beaverdam Creek property from R. A. Lawhorn for a reservoir.

In December 1915, Roanoke Water Works Company was incorporated and purchased the Roanoke Water Company, the successor of the old Roanoke Gas & Water Company. The company had 7,750 meters and 270 flat rate services. Customers were charged 25 cents per 1,000 gallons of water with a 55 cents minimum charge.

Moving along to September 1923, charters were granted to the Richmond Development Corporation and the Virginia Water Company, a public service corporation with power of eminent domain to acquire land in the Carvins Cove watershed.

In April 1924, Hollins College sold land on Carvins Creek and the land below The Falls to the Richmond Development Corporation for \$50,000.

In July 1925, the Vinton-Roanoke Water Company merged with the Roanoke Water Works Company.

In January 1928, construction on the Carvins Cove dam was completed by the Roanoke Water Works Company through its affiliates, the Virginia Water Company and the Richmond Development Corporation.

In May 1931, the Consumers Water Co. of Portland, Maine, acuired the Roanoke Water Works Company for more than \$4 million. In June 1933, the Beaverdam Creek Reservoir reached full pond.

Water Works Company purchased the assets of the Virginia Water Company, acquiring Carvins Cove property and liquidating the Virginia Water Company.

and expand the wood, effectively sealing the pipes.

The following month after a final purchase offer of \$2.95 million was refused by the Roanoke Water Works Company, Roanoke City Council called for a special election to condemn the Roanoke Water Works Company.

In January 1938, one of the first sewerage treatment plants in Roanoke went into operation. Located in Northeast Roanoke, it was capable of processing 100,000 gallons per day.

In April 1938, following a citywide vote in favor of condemning Roanoke Water Works, the City of Roanoke paid \$4.5 million for all lands held by Roanoke Water Works Company, including Carvins Cove.

From April to June 1945, German prisoners of war cleared timber at Carvins Cove.

In May 1946, Carvins Cove reached full pond.

In March 1947, the Carvins Cove Water Treatment Plant began operations.

Moving along to 1951, the Roanoke Sewer Treatment Plant opened to treat the valley's wastewater and smaller facilities around the area connected to the new plant.

In April 1955, the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors, passed a resolution to form the Roanoke County Sanitation Authority. The first project was the U.S. Route 11 North area sanitary sewer lines.

On February 24, 1966, the Snow Steam Pump at Crystal Spring was replaced with electric pumps.

On July 1, 1976, the Roanoke noke County with its debt County Public Service Authority conveyed its water utility assets to Roanoke County.

In June 1979, the Roanoke County Public Service Author-ity purchased the Roanoke Sanitary Disposal Corporation located on Starkey Road and the Craighead Water Company and Utility Services Corporation for \$1.25 million.

A couple of weeks later, on July 6, 1979, the City of Roanoke and Roanoke County signed an historic agreement on water and sewer. The city agreed to sell water in bulk to the county and allow the county to develop its own water supplies. Each locality exchanged water and sewer lines in the other's jurisdictions that had been annexed in 1976. "Sewer serfs", Roanoke County customers who live in the City of Roanoke, fought to get lower-cost service from their home jurisdiction.

In July 1980, the Roanoke County Public Service Authority dissolved, and the sewer utility organization became part of County government.

In November 1981, leaders of the County joined the Author-City of Roanoke, Roanoke County, the City of Salem, and the Town of Vinton met to explore options to solve the area's water problems. However, discussions ceased when record rains in March 1982 ended the drought.

In May 1995, the Spring Hollow Reservoir reached full pond.

In January 1996, the Spring Hollow Water Treatment Facility opened.

In September 1999, City of Roanoke and Roanoke County officials agree upon a new water contract that eliminated required minimum purchases, allowed either party to purchase bulk water and allowed use of each party's lines when needed for transfer of water. In 2002, historic drought conditions brought the City of Roanoke and Roanoke County staff members together to explore ways to improve the 1999 Traded Water Agreement, find an additional water supply for the City of Roanoke and help Roa-

on Spring Hollow.

In December 2002, the Crystal Spring Water Filtration Plant opened.

On July 1, 2004, Roanoke City and County merged to form the WVWA.

In September 2007, a \$50 million renovation of the Regional Water Pollution Control Plant was completed, increasing the daily treatment capacity to 55-million gallons per day with 900 miles of sewer main are upgraded.

In November 2009, the WVWA system expanded when Franklin County joined the Authority.

In September 2010, the 65,000-foot U.S. 220 water line was completed, providing drinking water and fire protection to residents of Franklin County.

In May 2011, the Falling Creek Dam remediation project was completed.

Ín June 2015, Botetourt

And on July 1, 2022, the Town of Vinton will join the WWVA.

For more information on the transfer of ownership and operations of the Town of Vinton utility systems to the Western Virginia Water Authority visit: https://www. westernvawater.org/aboutus/newsroom/town-of-vinton-utility-transfer.

On January 25, 1936, Roanoke City Council stated its opposition to a proposed 18% rate increase by the Roanoke Water Works Company. In fact, the City proposed a 15% decrease in rates and a disagreement escalated over the next several months. In August 1936, the Roanoke

In November 1966, the Linker Creek tunnel under Tinker Mountain opened to divert water from Tinker Creek to the Carvins Cove reservoir. The \$1.25 million tunnel has a maximum flow of 268 million gallons per day.

In December 1974, water began flowing through the 10,595-foot Catawba Tunnel with a maximum flow capacity of 355 MGD. The project cost \$2.1 million.



# Free beginner Carolina **Shag Dance lessons**

The Roanoke Valley Shag Club will offer free Carolina Shag Dance Thursdays, lessons, March 3, 10, 24, 31 and April 7, 14, from 5:30-6 p.m., at Schooners, 7226 Williamson Road, Roanoke. Instruction will be provided by Greg and Cassie Nunn. They suggest wearing leather, suede, or smooth sole shoes for dancing. Register by February 24 by

emailing or calling Mary Beth Layman at laymanmb@gmail.com or call (540) 655-3563.

Visit the Roanoke Valley Shag Club Facebook Page for updates and information.

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#### Page 8 • Thursday, February 24, 2022 • The Vinton Messenger

9-5



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#### 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

Monday, March 7, in order to be placed on the agenda. Individuals who plan to address the Board are requested to bring a copy of their remarks for the record. In accordance with Board Policy KD, Public Participation in Board Meetings, individuals who plan to address the Board are requested to: provide their name and address,

address their remarks to the Board be brief,

 provide a copy of their remarks for the record, and be prepared to answer questions from the Board,

In unusual cases or cases of emergency, the Board, by consensus, may allow an individual or organization to speak if not on the agenda.

will be able to do so in a reasonable amount of time failed to maintain continuing contact with the child and substantially plan for the child's future. Residual parental rights include, but are not limited to the right to visitation, consent to adoption, the right to determine religious affiliation, and the responsibility for support. The termination of your residual parental rights will permanently end all of your rights and responsibilities to the child named in the petition

It is ORDERED that Charles E. Barkley, Jr. appear at the above-named Court and protect her interests on or before March 14, 2022.

2-1-22 Amie Blankenship Clerk



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# Sports

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### Terrier boys, girls are eliminated in Region 3D basketball quarterfinal

The basketball season came to an end for the William Byrd High School team as both the girls and boys fell in Region 3D quarterfinal games on Tuesday. The boys lost at Cave Spring and the girls were defeated by Lord Botetourt in Daleville.

The boys game once beaten Cave Spring all they could handle. Byrd led 31-24 at the half and the Terriers were still holding on to a 43-40 lead heading into the fourth quarter. However, the Knights would finish on a 24-0 run, holding Byrd scoreless in the fourth quarter, to win by a score of 64-43.

"We (Trevor Ruble) hit a three late in the third quarter to take the lead and we didn't score again," said Byrd coach Brad Greenway.

Three of Byrd's best players, seniors Cam Richardson, Trevor Ruble and Ross Divers, all got into foul trouble in the first half. Richardson is Byrd's top scorer, Ruble is the point guard and Divers is the rim protector, which was important against a tall Cave Spring team.

"Those three had to sit for a third of the game and we struggled on offense when they were on the bench," said Greenway. "It was a tough loss, but I'm very proud of our kids. We worked hard on Cave Spring all last week and we thought we had a good game plan. The kids played as hard as they could and I felt like we gave them our best punch."

Richardson led the Terriers with 18 points while Ethan Hairston had 10 and Ruble had nine on three three-pointers. Richardson and Hairston had two three pointers each.

Byrd came into the tournament as the number eight seed so the Terriers had a "play in" game at home against ninth seeded Carroll County on Monday night. Byrd jumped to a 31-18 halftime lead and won every quarter on the way to a 68-56 win. Ruble led Byrd with 15 points, Richardson had 13 and Hairston had 11.

The girls were the fifth seed so they didn't have to play Monday. They went right to Tuesday's quarterfinal round where they found a familiar opponent in fourth seeded Lord Botetourt. The Cavaliers made it a season sweep over Byrd with a 59-36 win in Daleville, eliminating the Byrd girls from the tournament.

Sophia Chrisley, who missed much of the second half of the season with an injury, led the Terriers with 11 points. Emilie McCaskill had nine and Alexis Helton had six points.

The semifinal rounds of the Region 3D tournaments are tonight, Thursday. In the boys' tournament Abingdon is at Cave Spring and Lord Botetourt will play at Northside, the fourth meeting between the two. The championship is at the site of the highest remaining seed on Saturday and Cave spring, at 24-1, is top seeded.

In the girls' tournament Carroll County is the top seed and they'll host LB tonight in a battle of Cavalies. Staunton River, the second seed at 24-0, will host Magna Vista tonight and, again, the championship is Saturday at the highest remaining seed.

Above left, Byrd's Camden Richardson pulls down a rebound in Monday's win over Carroll County. Top right, Garrett Hendrick drives the lane and, below, Trevor Ruble hits a cutting teammate with a bounce pass.

to host a quarterfinal state game and the runnerup will play on the road.

With the loss Tuesday Byrd's girls finished with a 9-14 record in their first year under head coach Randy Bush.

"I'm very proud of this group of ladies, they played extremely hard," said Bush. 'The Ladies came into the game ready to compete and they did. Since it turned out to be our last game for this group, as a coach you want them to play their hardest and they did.

"It was about the Journey for them and not the destination. For this to be my first year at Byrd, I could not ask for a better group to have for my 'Rookie ' year."

Brad Greenway moved from the girls' bench to the boys' team in the off-season and he guided the boys to a 9-15 record.

"We had five games that we lost by one bucket," said Greenway. "Everyone we played talked about how tough we were to put away. We had a good group of guys and I thought we moved the needle in the right direction."





The top two teams in the region advance to state play in both boys and girls. The region champ will get



Left, Byrd's Mya Rosser looks for a teammate and, right, Sophia Chrisley is guarded by Lord Botetourt's Taylor Orange in front of the Terrier bench.

PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY



Byrd's 200 Medley Relay team broke the school record at the state meet. Left to right are Colin Murtaugh, Dawson Brinkley, Aiden Brinkley and Austin Nielsen.

## Byrd boys break records, finish 3rd at state meet

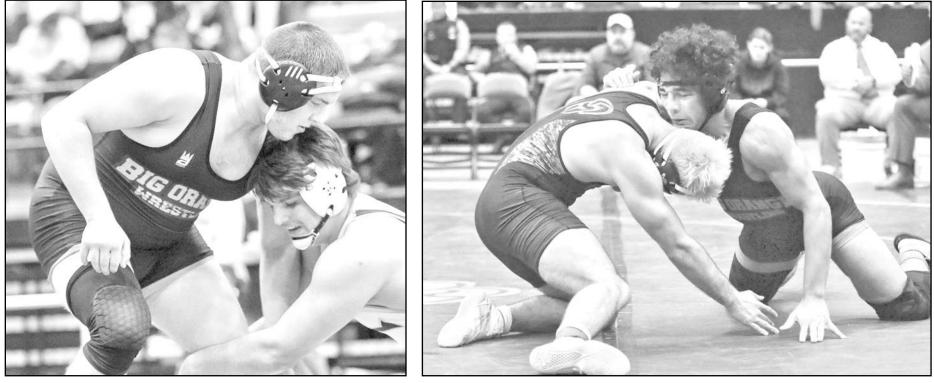
Ten William Byrd boys combined to swim to a third place finish among 26 teams in last week's state Class 3 swim meet in Richmond. The Maggie L. Walker Governor's School swept the boys' and girls' team championships a Swim RVA facility.

The 10 swimmers making up the Byrd team included Cole Kovacevic, Matthew Hoyos, Michael Hoyos, Colin Murtaugh, Dawson Brinkley, Aiden Brinkley, Austin Nielsen, Evan Copening, Nathan Miller and Griffin Horacek. Byrd also had one girl, Emma Copening, who took 16th in the 100 meter breaststroke.

Byrd's boys' 200 Medley Relay swam fast at prelims and broke their own school record that was set in early January at the All Timesland meet. They showed up ready to start the championship finals off with a fantastic swim and broke their record again while taking second. The new school record in the 200 Medley Relay for boys' is now 1:37.53 by the foursome of Aiden Brinkley, Nielsen, Murtaugh and

www.ourvalley.org

Thursday, February 24, 2022 • The Vinton Messenger • Page 11



Top left, Byrd's Hunter Richards(left in photo) battles Aiden Lacoma of Christiansburg in Saturday's state 285 pound Class 3 championship match. Above right, Xavier Preston(right in photo) tangles with Nick Vafiadis of New Kent in the 160 final and, below, Dominic Pascoe(left) wrestles in Friday's quarterfinal round at 120 pounds.

#### PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY, BARRY COX & BRIAN HOFFMAN

### Big Orange 8th on state mats Preston, Richards are state runners-up in Class 3

The Big Orange wrestling team had two wrestlers in the state final as William Byrd finished eighth in the Virginia High School League Class 3 state tournament. New Kent High, the pre-tourney favorite, won the state championship at the Salem Civic Center.

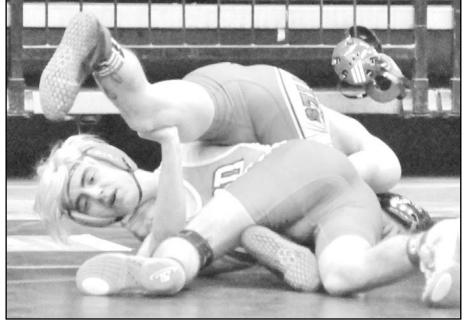
New Kent finished with 273 points to top second place Skyline by exactly 100 points. Staunton River, the Region Blue Ridge District and 3D champ, was third with 158 and Byrd was eighth with 65 points, just one fewer than seventh place Lord Botetourt as Blue Ridge District teams took three of the top eight spots.

Two Terriers made the championship round. Junior Xavier Preston came into the weekend undefeated, then won his first three matches to improve to 29-0 and earn a spot on the championship mat Saturday night. However, Xavier ran into three time state champ Nick Vafiadis of New Kent, and he made it four in a row with a 10-3 win over Preston in the final.

Senior Hunter Richards improved to 27-4 with three wins in his first three matches, but he was pinned by Aiden LaComa of Christiansburg in the 285 pound championship match. Lacoma had also defeated Hunter in the region final.

"Hunter lost to a previous state champion and Xavier lost to a four-time state champion," said Byrd coach Thomas Kessler. "Both wrestled tough and we are proud of their season."

Also scoring for the Orangemen was Dominic Pascoe, who took sixth place at 120. Gage Cockran lost in the blood round at 113, needing just one more win to earn a spot on the podium. Bricen Lancaster won one match at 145 and Aiden



Lucas also competed at 195.

"We will return a lot of our lineup next year and we are very excited about the eighth grade group that is moving up next year," said Kessler.

# Byrd girls take second, boys fourth in Region 3D indoor track

The William Byrd girls were runnersup and the boys took fourth at the Region 3D track meet at Roanoke College Saturday. Abingdon High swept the boys' and girls' team titles at the Kerr-Cregger Indoor Fieldhouse in Salem.

The girls had some terrific performances. Sela Beatty won the 55 meter dash with a time of 7l45 and also took third in the 300 in 45.13. Beatty, Chloe Harrilla, Emma Dalton and Sydney Blewett won the 4x200 relay with a meet and school record time of

#### 1:51.50.

The 4x400 relay team took third in 4:33.31 with the foursome of Harrilla, Emma Gordon, Olivia Hurd and Remi Figart. Gordon took a third in the 500 meters and Hurd was third in the 1,000.

In the field events Blewett won the shot put with a toss of 33'5" and Mya Rosser was third, two feet behind. Figart and Harrilla were second and third in the high jump at 4'8" and 4'6". Figart also took second in the triple jump and Harrilla was runnerup in the long jump.

For the boys, Dylan Hughes took second in the 300 meters in 37.4, took second in the long jump at 18'2" and ran on the third place 4x200 relay team with Wyatte Bailey, Brady Reachy and Noah Thompson. Bailey took a third in the 500 and Walker Nance was second in the 55 Hurdles.

All these athletes advanced to the Class 3 state meet at Liberty University on February 28 and March 1.







Left, Byrd's Aleandra Bonilla(#7) and Elizabeth Dixon(#8) run the mile in last Saturday's Region 3D indoor track meet at Roanoke College. Center, Noah Thompson comes down the stretch in the 300 meters and, right, Remi Figart is on her way to a second place finish in the triple jump.



These members of the William Byrd swim team competed in the finals in Richmond last week. Front row, left to right; Coach James Martin, Evan Copening, Dawson Brinkley, Aiden Brinkley and Coach Krista Martin. Back row; Colin Murtaugh, Griffin Horacek, Nathan Miller, Emma Copening and Austin Nielsen.

# STATE SWIMMING

Dawson Brinkley.

Murtaugh was second in the 100 fly and fifth in the 50 free.

"Colin's butterfly race in particular was amazing," said Byrd coach Krista Martin. "He is so fast underwater and his stroke is just beautiful. He had an amazing race all the way to the finish."

In the 200 IM Austin Nielsen finished third and he also finished third in the 100 breaststroke.

"Austin swims with passion and purpose and had several outstanding swims at the meet," said Martin.

Freshman Dawson Brinkley was fourth in the 100 IM and fourth in the 100 breast while older brother Aiden Brinkley, a four year varsity senior, finished sixth in the 100 back.

The Terriers ended the night with another school record set by the boys' 400 freestyle relay team of Miller, Nielsen, Dawson Brinkley and Murtaugh. The previous record set in February of 2021 was 3:20.05 and the foursome lowered it to a new school record of 3:19.19.

Dawson Brinkley also took 12th in the 50 free and Miller was 16th in that event and 15th in the 100 free. Evan Copening finished 15th in the 200 IM.

The boys' 200 freestyle relay team of Miller, Copening, Griffin Horacek and Aiden Brinkley took 13th in the state.

"I am so proud of all of our state team swimmers," said Martin. "We had several swimmers make the drive to Richmond to cheer on their teammates and I thought that was just awesome. It was a great day with a lot of fast swimming. I am going to miss our seniors tremendously and I hope they were able to make some lasting memories this past weekend."

### Renovations from page 1

tional areas are being enlarged. Renovations will include science labs, the band room, weight room, media center, guidance offices, library, the main gym, and front lobby. The dim auditorium will have improved lighting and sound systems. The guidance offices and media center will be swapping places.

Additions will include a choir room (there is not one currently at the school) and art rooms, wrestling, a front entrance portico, new toilets in the cafeteria and major renovations throughout the classrooms and hallways.

The budget for the WBHS Renovation project is \$30.7 million including a Reserve Contingency Fund of \$800,000.

The discussion at the February 16 update meeting focused on different phases of the project, not all necessarily glamourous or exciting, but the items that will make the renovation project successful.

The first item on the agenda that day was completion of the restrooms in the cafeteria area. The cafeteria was beautifully renovated in a past project, but modern restrooms have now been added—converted from an area of unused serving lines.

Restroom locks and doors were the topic of discussion. Stripping and waxing floors in hallways and classrooms prior to moving furniture and students back into English, math, and special needs sections in the Phase 1 area of the building received a lot of attention.

Principal Newcomb and her various staff teams are paying meticulous attention to detail in the entire project. Newcomb says she knows where the problems are that need to be addressed because of her familiarity with the building—she is a graduate of William Byrd herself.

Newcomb is giving a great deal of thought on how to preserve the sports trophy, jerseys, and photo displays now located on the walls and in display cases in the front entrance area of the building—the "Hall of Fame," given its importance to the community.

There was talk of the new and very substantial wooden doors installed throughout the building, the paint scheme and finishes, HVAC and return air sensors, along with all new windows to allow in the light throughout the building. The update meeting also included the dreaded talk of "supply chain issues" which have plagued most construction sites in the past year. Steel has been a top issue with the Byrd project but is set for delivery in the immediate future.

The contractors assured Newcomb that they were doing their best to schedule deliveries at a time which would not impact students arriving at or departing from school. Newcomb noted that there has been no disruption or interruption of classes during the construc-

tion/renovation process thus far.

Classrooms in Phase 1 of the renovations are near completion upstairs and down, which will allow most students now taking classes in the "learning cottages" installed in the rear parking lot, to return to those classes inside the building. Other classes in other subject areas will be moving to the cottages as the focus turns to classrooms in other areas of the facility. The renovated areas of the school will be re-opening in phases over the next 18 months until renovations are complete.

Attention has also turned to an enlarged weight room, along with dedicated wrestling and cheer practice facilities in the next phase of construction/renovations.

Plans are to accomplish "a tremendous amount of work this summer" while students are not in the building. Administrators and contractors are determined to maintain Internet connections and power during the summer months, especially since nearby William Byrd Middle School will be a summer school site.

To keep track of the progress of the project, visit https://www.rcps. us/Page/4736 on the William Byrd High School website.



WBHS restrooms before (top) and after renovations.



The WBHS renovations include infill projects such as dedicated spaces for wrestling and cheer practice.







WBHS classrooms before (dark with dangling cords) and with renovations.



Roanoke County School Board members, contractors, and administrators tour the ongoing renovations at William Byrd High School on February 16.

"We want to thank Rosie's for being a partner in ending domestic violence and human trafficking in our community. This generous contribution will help us provide shelter to individuals and families displaced due to domestic violence on the Virginia Peninsula."

> Sanu Dieng, Executive Director Transitions Family Violence Services



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Through the charitable program, Rosie's Gives Back, Colonial Downs Group has made **monetary and in-kind donations of more than \$1,700,000,** and has logged over 2,500 service hours in Virginia communities.



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