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# The Vinton Messenger

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## WBMS students put Civics lessons into action

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

Elizabeth Martinez and Keith Schult seriously dislike Standards of Learning testing—always have, probably always will—seemingly just like the majority of students in Virginia.

The difference between them and most students is that they decided, with the help of teacher Megan Herndon and state Delegate Chris Head, to do something tangible about the SOLs—if not to get rid of them altogether, to at least make them more palatable to and beneficial for students. Through the ultimate Civics lesson, they have transformed their Civics knowledge into action and become participants in gov-

ernment.

Martinez and Schult are eighth graders at William Byrd Middle School. Herndon is their Advanced Civics teacher. Delegate Head represents citizens who live in District 17 which includes parts of Roanoke County, Botetourt County and Roanoke City. All of the Town of Vinton lies within his district.

The idea for changing the SOLs began in Herndon's class with the political process unit she teaches for Civics SOL CE.5. Herndon says this SOL covers the political spectrum on the local, state, and national level from functions of political parties and their similarities to campaigns for elective office, the role of the media, costs of campaigns and con-

tributions, voter registration, the role of the Electoral College, and the importance of voting.

As she emphasized in class the significance of voting and how laws affect individual lives, her students commented that they feel helpless “as kids” since they can't vote. Ah, but you can petition, Herndon informed them. That got the ball rolling on their efforts to eliminate or at least modify the SOLs.

Martinez and Schult decided to get in touch with Delegate Head, who responded almost immediately. They chose Head since SOLs are state tests and he is “closer to the action,” and “able to possibly do some-

See WBMS, page 5



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Teacher Megan Herndon inspired two of her eighth grade Advanced Civics students, Elizabeth Martinez and Keith Schult, to work for change in state SOL testing via petition.

## Vinton Breakfast Lions host annual Bland Music Scholarship competition

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

The Vinton Breakfast Lions Club hosted its sixth annual Bland Foundation Music Scholarship Competition at Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church on March 6. Thirteen contestants participated with vocal or instrumental performances, ranging in age from 9 to seniors in high school.

Pianist Latriva Pierce won first place in the instrumental category performing “One Summer's Day.”

Simon Sealey placed first in the vocal category, singing “You'll Be Back” from the musical “Hamilton.”

Second place in the instrumental division went to Lexi Williamson who performed “Maple Leaf Rag.” Third place in instrumentals was awarded to Lily Sealey who played “Arabesque—Op. 100, No. 2” on the piano.

Second place in vocal performance went to Brent Saunders singing, “If Only.” Ryleigh Woolwine was awarded third place in vocals, performing



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Vinton Breakfast Lions Club held its annual Bland Foundation Music Scholarship Competition on March 6. Winners (shown left to right) are Lily Sealey (3rd place instrumental), Ryleigh Woolwine (3rd place vocals), Lexi Williamson (in back, 2nd place instrumental), Brent Saunders (2nd place vocals), Latriva Pierce (1st place instrumental), and Simon Sealey (1st place vocals.)

“Born to Entertain.”

Other participants in this year's competition were:

- Aubri Kessler, singing “How Far I'll Go”
- Sofia Gonzalez, singing “Reflection”
- Bruce Kelly, playing “Russian Sailor Dance”
- Lucy Sealey, playing “My Favorite Things”

- Sydney Thomas, playing “Solfeggio in D Major”
- Paul Sealey, singing “Oh, What a Beautiful Morning”
- Carl Saunders, singing “My Way”

Bruce Kelley takes piano lessons with Carla Fosbre. The other musicians are students of

See Scholarship, page 6



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Mount Pleasant Lions Club James Bland Music Scholarship Competition was held on March 6. Shown left to right are pianist Alexander Whitt (2nd place), music teacher Kim Mucha, 1st place winner Jennah Rasoul, Elizabeth Martinez, Alyssa Walker, and music teacher Carol McCulloch.

## Mount Pleasant Lions sponsor Bland Music Competition

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

The Mount Pleasant Lions Club hosted the James Bland Music Scholarship Competition on March 6 at the club building on Mayfield Drive—the “Lions Den.” Lion Anne Ferguson commented that this was their first competition in about 15 years, but they plan to return to sponsoring an annual event.

Four students participated in the competition:

Jennah Rasoul, age 11, a sixth grader at Community School, performed “Für Elise” by Ludwig van Beethoven

Alyssa Walker, age 12, a sixth grader at Read Mountain Middle School, performed “Sonnet” by Rammstein

Elizabeth Martinez, age 13, an

See Bland Music, page 5

## WBHS named RCPS Science Fair High School of the Year



PHOTO FROM RCPS

William Byrd High School was named Science Fair High School of the Year at the RCPS Science Fair on Feb. 19.

William Byrd High School has been named as the Roanoke County Public Schools Science Fair High School of the Year for 2022. The Science Fair was held at Northside High School on February 19, organized and coordinated by Science Supervisor Erin Barnett, with assistance from teachers, judges, and many volunteers.

The High School of the Year award is calculated by giving 1st place finishers three points for their school; each 2nd place finisher, two points; and each 3rd place finisher, one point. The school with the highest total points gets to keep the travel trophy for the next year with the school's

name engraved on the trophy for 2022.

WBHS students participating in the 2022 RCPS Science Fair High School Division included:

Biomedical and Health Science Category  
 • “Face Masks • A Novel Approach to Efficacy” by Jacob Dickerson and Zach Palmer  
 • “The Most Suitable Common Suture Technique for High Tension Wounds” by Tracy Nguyen (2nd Place)

Cellular and Molecular Biology/Computational Biology Category  
 • “Analysis of Differential Gene Expression in Blood Samples to Predict Alzheimer's Disease” by

Maggie Parkhurst (3rd Place) (WBHS/RVGS)

• “PI3K Isoform-Selective Inhibitors for Novel Glioblastoma and Related Cancer Treatments via 3D In-Silico Modeling” by Rebecca Qiu (1st Place), (WBHS/RVGS)

Chemistry Category  
 • “Determination of Optimal Voltage in the Production of Hydrogen Gas Through the Electrolysis of Water” by Elliott Gaines, Dexter Gaines, Wyatt Bailey (1st Place)

Earth and Environmental Science Category  
 • “How Does Sound Affect Water Crystallization?” By Lily Kroese (4th Place)

• “Which Filtration Material Leads to Best Drinking Water?” By Samantha Start

Engineering Mechanics/Physics Category

• “MVES Facilities Assistance Technology” by Emiliano Gonzalez (WBHS/BCAT), Summer Smith, Lucy Pendleton (1st Place)

See Science Fair, page 10

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- David Belcher, Belcher Electric

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# SPOTLIGHT ON TOWN OF VINTON STAFF

## Amanda Payne

The Town of Vinton and The Vinton Messenger have united to “Spotlight the Town of Vinton Staff” during their respective birthday months. The town is proud to have these employees on staff and wants the community to see who is behind the scenes making the town look great and operate efficiently.

Amanda Payne has one of the fun jobs in Vinton—life could be considered an almost constant party for her, except for the hard work

she puts in. She began working for the Vinton Special Programs department on November 11, 2018, and serves as Community Programs Building Supervisor. She spends much of her time working at the Vinton War Memorial and Charles Hill Community Center assisting with both public and private events. She is responsible for all rentals at both facilities from set-up to take-down, along with the responsibility of building maintenance.

Her hobbies include hiking, paranormal investigations, gardening, batch cooking, theatre, and various crafts. Her husband is Jeffrey Harris.

Her secret—she is obsessed with bubbles. She keeps them in her car, at her desk, in her purse, and on every floor of her home. She says that no matter what she is going through in life, when she blows bubbles, “all my problems pop away. Yes, I get strange looks when a car pulls next to me as bubbles are flying out my window!”

Mayor Brad Grose says, “The Special Programs department is a

very important part of the staff/team in the Town of Vinton. The members of the department are often the main contact that people have with our town. The Special Programs staff does a wonderful job in representing our town in a very positive manner. The department is always busy, but they take time to provide personal service for our special programs as well as private personal events. We are very fortunate to have highly qualified, dedicated individuals in the Special Programs department that take pride in representing the Town of Vinton.”



Amanda Payne

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TOWN OF VINTON

# RECIPES OF THE WEEK

## Easy recipes from Vinton Vice Mayor Sabrina McCarty

Vinton Vice Mayor Sabrina McCarty shares more simple, delicious recipes.

### Amazing Coconut Custard Pie

- 1/2 cup Bisquick
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 4 eggs
- 2 cups milk
- 1 cup flaked coconut
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 Tbsp. butter, softened

Combine all ingredients and pour into a 9-inch pie pan. Bake at 400 degrees for 25-30 minutes until custard sets. Like magic — it layers into crust, custard, and coconut topping.

### Sausage Treats

- 6 Thomas English Muffins, split
- 5 oz. jar Old English Cheese
- 3/4 stick of butter, softened to room temperature
- 1 and 1/2 tsp. mayonnaise
- 1/2 tsp. garlic salt or garlic powder
- 8 oz. cooked sausage, crumbled

Mix cheese, mayo, and butter together. Add sausage and garlic. Spread onto muffin halves. Layer them in container with wax paper between each layer. Freeze and remove individually as needed. Brown in the oven about 10 minutes at 350 degrees.

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

## Pierce named to Dean’s List at Elon

Eva May Pierce has been named to the President’s List for the 2021 fall semester at Elon University. The President’s List is

composed of students with no grade below an A-minus in a minimum of 12 semester hours.

Pierce is the daughter of Robert Pierce of Warroad, Minn., and Gina K. Pierce of Vinton.



“2 End The Stigma would like to thank Rosie’s Gaming Emporium for this wonderful donation! This donation will help us to continue providing education, support, and connection to resources to those who struggle with Substance Use Disorder (SUD).”

**Jill Cichowicz, Founder**  
2 End The Stigma



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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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# Some Vintonites will soon be drinking Carvins Cove water

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

The Town of Vinton announced in December 2021 that it would be transferring ownership and operations of its public water distribution and treatment system and the sanitary sewer collection system to the Western Virginia Water Authority. One of the major changes in the transfer for many customers will be switching sources of water.

Groundwater wells are currently used to provide drinking water for Vinton residents and businesses. While some residents will continue to receive their drinking water from

the existing groundwater wells, the Authority will utilize existing water distribution interconnections to allow water from the Carvins Cove Reservoir to supply some homes and businesses with treated drinking water. Engineering studies are being conducted to determine if and how new distribution lines and water sources can be used to provide water in the town.

Carvins Cove is located north of the City of Roanoke near Hollins University. The Carvins Cove Natural Reserve covers 12,700 acres and includes a man-made reservoir.

Rainfall drains from the 11,200-acre watershed into the reservoir. In addition to receiving water from the watershed, the reservoir is fed from two underground tunnels that carry

overflow from Tinker and Catawba Creeks. This surface water source covers 630 acres and stores 6.42 billion gallons of water at full pond.

The land in the reserve above the 1,200-foot contour is owned and managed by the City of Roanoke. The land below this elevation, and the reservoir, are owned and operated by the Western Virginia Water Authority.

The water in Carvins Cove is treated at the Carvins Cove Water Treatment Plant which first went into operation on March 25, 1947. At the time the filtration plant had the capacity to treat six million gallons per day (MGD).

In 1954, the treatment plant was expanded, increasing the capacity to 16 MGD. After another expansion

in 1994, the plant production capacity increased to 28 MGD. This expansion also added computerized equipment.

During the water treatment process, the water is first oxygenated and treated with sodium permanganate to oxidize dissolved organic matter, iron and manganese. Water is aerated to remove unwanted dissolved gases and to oxidize dissolved metals, which reduces any unpleasant tastes and odors.

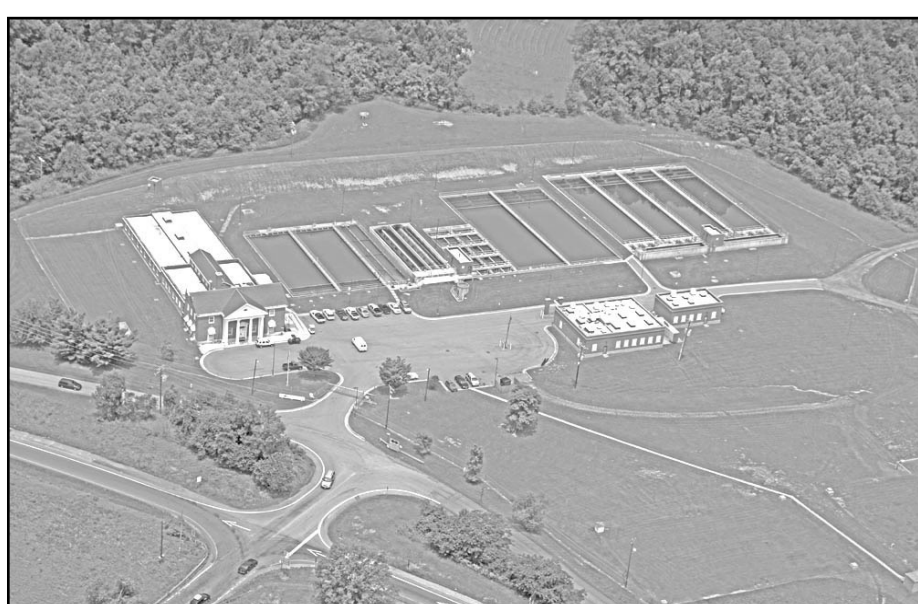
Flash mixing of chemicals is the next step, where ferric sulfate is added to coagulate suspended particles. Water then flows into settling basins where the particles clump together, become heavy and settle to the bottom of the basins. Next, the water is filtered through

sand and anthracite and disinfected with chlorine. Fluoride is added to promote strong teeth. Sodium hydroxide is added to adjust the pH and reduce corrosivity, and orthophosphate is added to control corrosion in pipes.

Carvins Cove serves a large part of the northeastern and northwestern parts of Roanoke City, and the majority of the southeastern part of the city, to Reserve Avenue, is served by Carvins Cove. Portions of northern and northeastern Roanoke County are also served by the Carvins Cove water source, as well as the Botetourt area around Exit 150 to Tinkerview and Greenfield. In July, many residents in Vinton will begin using the Carvins Cove water supply.



The Carvins Cove Water Treatment Plant first began operations in 1947.



The Carvins Cove Water Treatment Plant today

PHOTOS FROM WVWA

## PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS



SUBMITTED PHOTO

### Angie Chewing

Filling in for Bootie

A group of Vinton Moose members rode out to the Roanoke Moose Lodge for a fundraiser for a well-known and favorite musical talent in our area, Terry Foss. Terry has suffered from some medical issues and his friends and family wanted to show support. Those making the trip from Vinton were Kim and Dale Barker,

Nancy Mastry and Ricky Spradlin, Page (Stovall) and Brian Lovern, Dave and Sandy Hamblen, Aron Blankenship, Lori and Danny Meador, Karen Smith, Shannon Kendall, Angie Chewing and Greg Boitnott, Jack and Carolyn Mills, and Melissa Pantoja. Several bands played throughout the day, there were silent auctions, raffles, and door prizes.

A Celebration of Life will be held for Pete Kelly on Saturday, March 26 from 12:30 till 2:30 p.m. at the Veterans Monument and Community Center. If you knew Pete and the Kelly family, please join us for us for a full military honors service and a lunch to follow. Please dress casually and feel free to tell anyone who remembers Pete.

## Mollie Woods graduates from George Washington University

Mollie Woods graduated from the George Washington University School of Nursing with a BSN degree on December 10, 2021. She has passed her NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination) and started working for George Washington University Hospital as an RN in the Emergency Department. She has worked at the hospital as a nurse tech for the past year throughout the hospital. She has always dreamed of working in healthcare, said her mother, Laura, who added it is "heartwarming" to see her dreams come true. She now resides in Falls Church, Virginia.

Woods graduated from William Byrd High School with the Class of 2016 with many honors, including being named as a valedic-

torian. She served as an intern at the Vinton History Museum in the summer of 2015.

Woods graduated from Virginia Tech in the Class of 2020 with a BS in Psychology and a BS in Neuroscience.



Mollie Woods

SUBMITTED PHOTO

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CLUES ACROSS

1. European Common Market  
4. Poetic go quickly  
7. Parts per thousand (abbr.)  
10. Pigeon pea  
12. Sao \_\_, city in Brazil  
14. Longest division of geological time  
15. \_\_ Alto, California city  
16. Small terrestrial viper  
17. Coming after all others  
18. Penetrate with a sharp fork  
20. Still-hunt  
22. Chinese frying pan  
23. Cave-dwelling salamander  
24. Any thick messy substance  
26. About the moon  
29. AKA Tao  
30. Jet cabin requirement  
35. Prince Hirobumi, 1841-1909  
36. An easy return in a high arc  
37. Italian commune  
38. L. Comfort's illuminator  
44. Foot digit  
45. Minute tunicate genus  
46. Green regions of desert  
48. Direct a weapon  
49. \_\_ de Janeiro  
50. Equestrian animals  
53. Across Tomei  
56. Head of the RCC  
57. Twines  
59. Scientific workplace  
61. Minerals  
62. Hypothetical original substances  
63. Hit with the open hand  
64. Political action committee  
65. Winged goddess of the dawn  
66. W. states time zone

CLUES DOWN

1. Electronic data processing  
2. Man or boy (Br.)  
3. W. African nation  
4. Fault's incline from vertical  
5. Method of birth control  
6. City founded by Xenophanes  
7. Legumes  
8. Beckham's spice girl  
9. Explosive  
11. 1936 Nobel winner Otto  
12. Greenbay teammate  
13. Brass that looks like gold  
14. School graduates  
19. Lively, merry play  
21. Make indistinct  
24. Egyptian mythological figure associated with floods  
25. Washing sponge  
27. Old name for nitrogen  
28. Impounds for lack of payment  
29. Radiotelegraphic signal  
31. MN 55731  
32. Sun in spanish  
33. Helps little firms  
34. Cease living  
39. Flames up  
40. Egyptian sacred bull  
41. To wit  
42. Mire  
43. Bring two objects together  
47. Filths  
50. Israeli dance  
51. Oil cartel  
52. A particular instance of selling  
53. Microelectromechanical system  
54. Var. of 45 across  
55. Goat & camel hair fabrics  
56. Soda  
58. A firm's operational head  
60. Seaport (abbr.)

# Mount Pleasant Lions spring awakening

The Mount Pleasant Lions Club is starting to come out of the sad Covid winter doldrums. On Tuesday, March 1, Jason Peters, the Vinton District member of the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors, spoke to the club about items of concern to the community.

The new Bonsack fire and rescue facility and the widening of Route 419 in front of Tanglewood Mall were his lead-off topics.

Club members then asked about the status of broadband service to the Mount Pleasant

area, which was supposed to be part of the deal that ran water and sewer out Rutrough Road to the Bally Hack Country Club.

Peters acknowledged the lack of coverage there and in other more rural parts of the county, such as Catawba and Bent Mountain, and explained that there had been funding problems that should now be taken in hand with the Federal ARPA recovery funds the county has received and will yet receive.

He commiserated with the members about the less than

stellar service and ever-increasing costs that are part and parcel of Cox Communications. The county is required, by the FCC (Federal Communications Commission) to have one franchisee, a rule that seems to automatically inhibit competition and thus keep rates low and service responsive.

One thing that citizens can do is to let Glo-Fiber, the new provider coming into the valley, know of their interest so that entity will be more apt to invest the money to extend service into the local area.

Other concerns raised were about the Mount Pleasant library branch not being open, the lack of public water and sewer in Southeast Roanoke County, and the ongoing problems with Route 116 across Windy Gap Mountain.

The supervisor said the library branch, which is due to be replaced and combined with fire and rescue in a new building, is due to open April 1, that the county and the Western Virginia Water Authority are actively looking at expanding water lines, as well as sewer

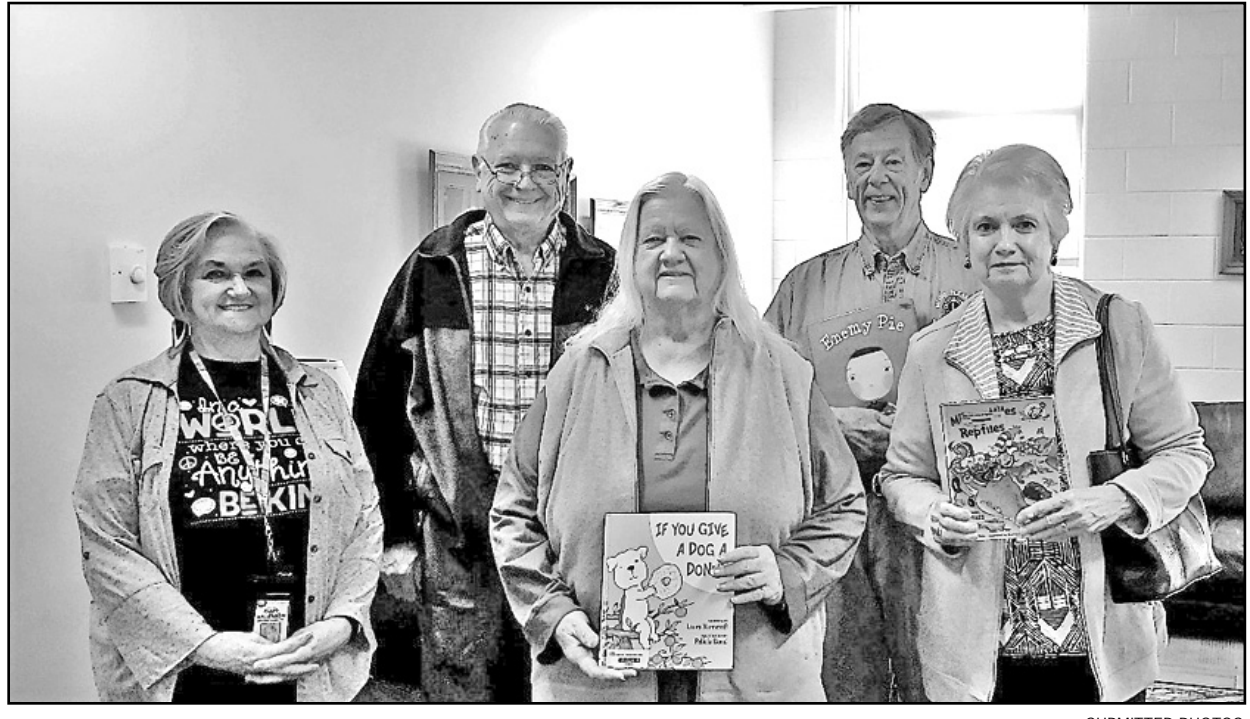
where practical, and that Interstate 73 will eventually take the load off Route 116, but it may not happen in the foreseeable future.

Another happening club matter was the Read Across America/Dr. Seuss Day at Mount Pleasant Elementary School on March 2, where four Lions – Brenda and Pat Musselwhite, Janet West, and Mike Ferguson, read to kindergarten, first, and second grade classes.

*By Michael Ferguson, Mount Pleasant Lions Club*



Roanoke County Board of Supervisors member Jason Peters was the guest speaker at the Mount Pleasant Lions Club on March 1. He is shown with Lion Anne Ferguson.



Members of the Mount Pleasant Lions Club read to kindergarten, first, and second graders at Mount Pleasant Elementary on March 2 as part of Read Across America/Dr. Seuss Day. Shown left to right are Mount Pleasant Elementary Administrative Assistant Suzy Anderson with Lions Pat Musselwhite, Janet West, Mike Ferguson, and Brenda Musselwhite.

## From the Pulpit: Thermometer or Thermostat

In Gary Ferngren's book, *Medicine and Health Care in Early Christianity*, he gives the history of how early Christians viewed medicine, miracles, healings, health-care, and philanthropy in the 2nd and 3rd centuries.

According to Ferngren, at that time the Romans approached illness and medical treatment from more of a mystical and magical viewpoint; their focus was the supernatural. The Greeks, on the other hand, took a

more modern approach to healthcare; they focused on the natural by identifying symptoms, looking for patterns, and prescribing the best medications to treat physical symptoms. Unlike the Romans, the Greeks developed more of a scientific methodology for diagnosing and treating common illnesses and deadly diseases.

Despite the medical advances of both the Greeks and Romans during the first centuries of modernity, neither group held a communal concern for the sick and dying. Like most religious beliefs at that time, one's fate was determined by one's decisions. If someone was disabled or deathly ill, the gods must be punishing them for something; therefore, no one needed to reach out and help them because their suffering was their fault. In response, family members would take care of their own, but the sick, poor, and destitute of any community who did not have familial support or the financial means to afford medical care were left to care for themselves.

To the surprise of the ancient world, early Christians took a different approach. Using Genesis 1:27 and

Matthew 25 as their reference, they took seriously the Bible's claim that humanity was made in God's image. They held fast to Jesus' parable of The Judgment of All Nations that describes the people asking the king, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, naked or poor, sick or imprisoned. To this the king will reply, "Just as much as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me (Matthew 25:40)."

For early Christians, reaching out in compassion to help the disabled, care for the sick, and bury the dead was not optional; this was not bonus-work. Because each person, rich or poor, sick or well, stranger or friend, bears the image of Christ, early Christians believed they were compelled to help. They did not have a choice. Whatever they did (or did not do) for the needs of the people in front of them, they did (or did not do) for Christ.

According to Ferngren, this uniquely Christian view of humanity, against the backdrop of widespread epidemics in the 2nd century, completely revolutionized

Christian discourse and response to human suffering. Through the persistent relief efforts of these Christians and their unwillingness to forsake the sick and dying of their communities, the first hospitals and orphanages in history were founded. In the midst of deadly diseases and devastating epidemics, the radical response of love and compassion from early Christians led to the establishment of two institutions that changed the course of history.

I recently read a quote that states, "A thermostat shapes the climate of any given space; a thermometer just reflects it." Christians living in the 2nd and 3rd centuries faced constant persecution, endless epidemics, and a divided region filled with a variety of people. It was an era of intense violence and injustice, disease and death, division and discord. The climate of their culture was filled with fear, hostility, egotism, and individualism.

If early Christians would have chosen to be a thermometer and simply reflect the climate of their time, who knows what would have happened to the Jesus movement. Thankfully, us-

ing Christ as their guide, they chose to shape their culture through their unrelenting love and compassion for those in need. As a result, hospitals and orphanages were formed and the world was forever changed.

We, too, live in an era of violence and injustice, disease and death, division and discord. Like early Christians, the cultural climate of our time seems to be one of fear and hostility, egotism and individualism. This is not unique to our society. Over the course of history, every generation has struggled with these same issues, which means, they are probably not going away anytime soon.

The question is, how will we respond to the current climate? As Christians, will we choose to be a thermometer or a thermostat? Will we reflect the climate of our culture or shape it? By choosing to be a thermostat, 2nd and 3rd century Christians revolutionized healthcare by creating two unprecedented institutions – hospitals and orphanages. What will we leave behind for future generations?

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

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

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

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# Bland Music

from page 1

eighth grader at William Byrd Middle School, performed "For Good" by Stephen Schwartz

Alexander Whitt, age 16, a sophomore at Community School, performed "La Fille aux Cheveux de Lin" ("The Girl with Flaxen Hair") by Claude Debussy

Rasoul and Whitt are students of Kimberly Mucha. Martinez and Walker are taught by Carol McCulloch. This was the first time any of the students had taken part in a music competition.

Lion Mike Ferguson explained the origin of the Bland Scholarship program. The contest is held in honor of songwriter James "Jimmy" Bland, composer of over 700 songs, including the former State Song, "Carry Me Back to Ole Virginny," which he wrote at age 19. He was inducted into the Songwriter's Hall of Fame in 1970.

Bland was born in 1854 as a free black American. He taught himself to play the banjo and earned spending money by singing and playing on the streets of Washington, D.C. By age 14, he had become a professional musician and entertained in hotels and restaurants. He began composing at age 15. He eventually performed for President Grover Cleveland

and Queen Victoria.

Judges for the Mount Pleasant Lions competition on March 6 were Judy Clark and Dr. Gordon Marsh. Clark is the founding Executive Director of Opera Roanoke, and also served as company rehearsal/performance pianist, working with conductors Victoria Bond, Steven Crawford, Scott Williamson, and Steven White. She has toured Japan twice with violinists Kevin and Bryan Matheson, including appearances at Tokyo's Yamaha Hall. In addition to her work as a teacher and freelance coach/accompanist, she serves as organist at South Roanoke United Methodist Church.

Dr. Marsh is a professor of music at Roanoke College, where he also serves as chairperson of the Department of Fine Arts. He has performed as a recitalist, chamber pianist, concerto soloist, and conductor. His scholarly work and created sound installations have been featured at regional, national, and international venues. His work has been published in scholarly journals and books devoted to contemporary music. His concert reviews are regularly featured in the Roanoke Times.

Once the students had

performed and the judges completed their evaluations, Jennah Rasoul was awarded first place in the competition and will advance to the district level. Whitt won second place. All received monetary gifts and certificates.

The goal of the Lions of Virginia Bland Music Scholarship Foundation is to promote cultural and educational opportunities for musically talented young people in Virginia, primarily at the secondary level.

This goal is achieved through progressive music competitions beginning in February/March at the local Lions Club level and culminating in a state competition in which 12 finalists (two per district) from the three Lions districts in Virginia compete at the state competition in May. Music scholarships are presented to the top finalists at the state level. The scholarships may be used for college tuition, music lessons, summer music programs, or other music education endeavors.

Lions Club International was founded in 1917 in Chicago as a service club (in fact, the Lions Club motto is "We Serve"), at first focused on eyesight and the blind at the urging of Helen Keller. They have grown to become the

largest service organization in the world.

The Mount Pleasant Lions Club was founded in 1961, at the urging of Mount Pleasant Elementary Principal Annie B. Stiff, who saw the need for a community-based service club. At first the club was limited to men, but now welcomes women as members. The Mount Pleasant Club celebrated their 60th anniversary last year.

Mount Pleasant Lions have their focus on the community. They continued their 40-year tradition this year of shopping for students at Mount Pleasant and Garden City Elementary Schools for school supplies and clothing prior to school opening and at the holiday season. They also began assisting Rivermont School when it moved into the area—they actually donated a piano to the school.

They are one of the few Lions Clubs fortunate enough to have their own building for meetings, but also make the space available to the surrounding community for parties, showers, reunions, etc.

They contribute to the schools' clothes closets by providing new underwear and socks and sponsors a weekend food backpack



PHOTO FROM VINTON MESSENGER ARCHIVE  
**The Mount Pleasant Lions Club was holding Bland Music competitions back in March 1972. Lion Mike Ferguson congratulates Marion Lynn Wray, winner in the vocalist category.**

project to make sure children don't go hungry when they are out of school. They stop by the school to read to students on "Read Across America Day." They conduct vision screenings for students in several local schools. They also show their support for the schools with Teacher Appreciation Day.

The Mount Pleasant Lions maintain historic Keauver Cemetery; they do regular roadside clean-ups in the community, and support eye-glass recycling.

The Mount Pleasant Li-

ons Club and Lions Clubs across the state raise funds for many service projects through the sale of LOVF (Lions of Virginia Foundation) raffle tickets with a grand prize of \$10,000. The LOVF provides grants to help communities in need with humanitarian services, disaster and emergency relief, youth assistance, hunger, vision, environment, and other community projects.

The Mount Pleasant Lions are the community-minded neighbors everyone wishes they could have.

# WBMS

from page 1



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

**WBMS students Elizabeth Martinez and Keith Schult were introduced to the Virginia House of Delegates by Delegate Chris Head as they visited on Feb. 7. They were accompanied by Elizabeth's mother, Danielle Middleton.**

thing about the issue."

They set up a virtual meeting and discussed their petition. Head assigned them more research on the topic with an invitation to meet with him at the Capitol in Richmond when it was complete, and the General Assembly was in session.

Martinez says the first step was a little rocky—it took them two hours to come up with the title for their petition, "End SOLs for All Students in Virginia." However, their research helped their ideas to coalesce.

Her main issue with SOL testing is the mental stress it puts on both students and teachers. Schult's concern is with the cookie cutter standardization of multiple-choice SOL testing, which does not conform to the individual needs of students who might do better on performance-based assessments. In the end, the two students came up with some suggestions for continuing SOL testing with modifications and alternatives if need be.

The petition begins, SOLs are "now putting more pressure than ever on students. Keith and I, as well as many students in Virginia, would be better off without these tests. First, these tests cause a high amount of stress on students. Some students do not work well under pressure, so the SOLs do not help. Students already have enough homework as it is, so the SOLs add on to that. SOLs also cause high levels of anxiety in students."

The petition continues, "SOLs are the current system keeping teachers accountable, but there are other ways that they can assess students. These days, students use technology in their day-to-day lives. This means, if educational video games are used, the tests can still be taken by students but would be more fun and less

stressful. With educational video games, students' skills can still be assessed, but in a way that the students will enjoy."

And, "Every single student in Virginia, as well as all around the world, has a different learning style. Some students learn things very fast, and others learn slow. Some students learn better in auditory ways, some learn by seeing, and others learn better by being hands-on and doing things. The SOLs are almost the exact opposite of these ways of learning. Since every student has a different learning style, one single test for all students would not show whether a student is smart, or if they may need help. A multiple-choice test, such as the SOLs, can't accurately assess problem-solving skills, application skills, or critical thinking."

Their research indicated that "49% of parents/guardians have agreed that students experience too much of the SOLs and that they should at least be downsized."

Other concerns derived from their research include:

- Teachers are always trying to prepare their students for the SOLs at the end of the year when they really should be preparing these students for college and the real world.

- Health consequences associated with standardized testing include stomach aches and vomiting, headaches, sleep problems, depression, attendance problems, and acting out.

- Students can have average or even amazing grades for the entire school year, and then they are made to feel bad over one test. While teachers are preparing kids for SOLs, they teach in a way that is standard and makes learning boring. Seventy percent of teachers surveyed feel that the focus on high-stakes testing takes too

much time away from learning. This causes lower test scores because kids start to lose interest.

- Fifty-four percent of Virginia tax money goes into schools, and this includes the funding for the SOLs. If the schools of Virginia take SOLs away, they could use the extra money to improve their schools.

Once the petition was complete, Martinez and Schult made their trip to the General Assembly when schools were closed on February 7. Delegate Head introduced them from the floor of the House of Delegates as they sat in the gallery above. They spent the day touring the Capitol, learning its history, watching committees work, and watching the delegates on the floor in debate as bills were advanced from committees to be considered for passage to the Senate.

Herndon says the students were able to observe lawmakers making choices that affect us every day.

Head described their stance on the SOLs, the petition they had been working on, and then said, "I can tell you I think we're going to have a piece of legislation crafted next year that these two had their hand in and that we will hope to bring forward. I would not be a bit surprised if you didn't see either one or both of them someday serving in this Chamber, because it really is pretty astounding. They are really, really, sharp kids. Their passion for government and the legislative process will serve the Roanoke region, and the entire Commonwealth, well. These two have a bright future!"

Roanoke County Public Schools Director of Assessment & Research Ben Williams says some options do currently exist for SOL assessments in some subjects.

"When the General Assembly removed the SOLs

several years ago in U.S. History to 1865 (6th grade), U.S. History from 1865 to Present (7th Grade), 3rd Grade Science, 3rd Grade Social Studies, and 5th Grade Writing they replaced those SOLs with required local assessments for those courses which have to be in performance assessment format," Williams explained. "There is also an option to do performance assessments in place of the high school VA/US History course as well."

Martinez, Schult, and Herndon agree that those performance assessments need to be extended to other courses evaluated by the SOLs.

Herndon says she doesn't ever recall having a student say they liked the SOLs. She believes the standardized testing "causes lots of anxiety and stress" and that was especially so during the pandemic. While she realizes it's a "data driven" world, there needs to be a change in assessments, gearing them toward individual student needs and strengths. Teachers are urged to differentiate for their students in preparing lessons, but there is no corresponding differentiation provided in assessments—"they are all

tested the same." She believes SOLs tend to take the creativity out of education.

The students were not only recognized at the General Assembly; they were also the focus at the February 24 Roanoke County School Board meeting when WBMS Principal Todd Kageals presented a video on the school as part of the "Spotlight on Schools" series. He highlighted their experience with developing the petition and partnering with Delegate Head as "deeper and authentic learning—a real life application of the political process."

Martinez, Schult, and Herndon also addressed the School Board on their petition, taking the opportunity to point out the shortcomings of the SOL process.

School Board Vice Chairman Brent Hudson commended Herndon as a "young teacher showing students how the system works who got behind them so they could get their voices heard."

Vinton's representative to the board, Tim Greenway, praised Herndon for her efforts (especially considering that she teaches three different subjects at three different schools),

and expressed his pride in her, Martinez, Schult, and Roanoke County schools.

Schult says he and Martinez are getting all kinds of suggestions from other students on what to do next—one requested a petition on doing away with homework. He also says he has learned from the experience not to just complain, but to actually take action on issues that affect you.

The two have become recognized at WBMS since their video at the General Assembly with Delegate Head was broadcast to all classes.

Martinez is also involved in piano and lacrosse. Her mother is Danielle Middleton. Schult is a swimmer, a jazz band musician, and plays baseball. His parents are Jennifer and Keith Schult.

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# Scholarship

from page 1

Susan Lewis.

As first place winners, Pierce and Simon Sealey will advance to the Lions Club Regional Competition to be held on March 20 at Community Church in Salem. Regional winners then advance to the Lions of Virginia State Competition on April 29 in Chesapeake, where usually 12 contestants compete. Over \$25,000 is awarded annually in prizes at the local, district, and state level. At the state level, first place winners receive \$3,000; second place winners, \$2,500; third place winners, \$2,000; and fourth through sixth places, \$1,500. Local winners receive monetary awards and certificates.

Judges for this year's Vinton competition were Dr. Chris Monroe and Kimberly Wilburn, who served as vocal judges, along with Wanda Melchers and Wally Mayo, who judged the instrumental performances.

Dr. Monroe is the Minister of Music at Vinton Baptist Church. Melchers is the owner and instructor of Melchers Piano Studio in Vinton. She is also a classroom teacher at Herman L. Horn Elementary School and serves as organist/pianist at Vin-

ton Baptist.

Mayo has taught piano, high school choruses, and jazz band throughout his career. He is a substitute teacher in Roanoke County and Roanoke City Schools, mainly in music and the sciences and at Roanoke Catholic. Wilburn teaches piano and vocal lessons in the Roanoke Valley and has performed at Carnegie Hall.

Lion Chris McCarty welcomed guests to the competition. Lions Club District Governor (and also a member of the Vinton Lions Club) Eric Mills served as master of ceremonies for the competition. He oversees 59 Lions Club across the region. He, too, thanked those in attendance, and the families of performers who support their music education.

Throughout interludes in the program when the judges were scoring performances, Mills shared the history of the Bland competition and some facts about the Vinton Breakfast Lions activities.

The Bland competition was established by the Lions Clubs of Virginia in 1948 to "assist and promote cultural and educational opportunities for

the musically talented youth of Virginia." Any elementary, middle, or high school student is eligible to participate. They may perform in the vocal or instrumental category—but not both. Presentations are limited to eight minutes and must be memorized.

Mills told the audience there are approximately 50,000 Lions Clubs in over 200 countries, with over 1.4 million members around the world—reportedly the largest service organizations in the world.

The Vinton Breakfast Lions Club was chartered in 1985. Its members serve the community in many ways throughout the year. They sponsor many fundraising events including a Pancake Breakfast during the Vinton Fall Festival and their Spaghetti Dinner traditionally prior to the Vinton Christmas Parade. Lions are well-known for their broom sales and the White Cane Project which provides support for eyeglasses and eye exams for needy children, the Old Dominion Eye Bank, and Leader Dogs for the Blind. Proceeds from all Breakfast Lions' fundraisers go back into the local community and communi-

ties across the Commonwealth, the nation, and the world.

One of their most important functions has become sponsoring the Leo Club at William Byrd High School which now has over 70 members. Leo Club members assist with virtually all Vinton Lions Club projects, including the music scholarship competition.

Each spring, the club awards scholarships to seniors at William Byrd High School and Staunton River High School.

The Breakfast Lions maintain the bright yellow eyeglass collection boxes in various Vinton locations. Donated eyeglasses are sorted by prescription by local Lions members at the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center in Roanoke and then distributed around the world.

A main focus for Lions is youth. Each year the Breakfast Lions sponsor a Christmas Shopping trip for about 20 students at Herman L. Horn, W.E. Cundiff, and Bonsack Elementary schools. The Lions also donate school supplies to the elementary schools and art supplies to William Byrd High School.

The Lions Club participates

in the Lions of Virginia Foundation which assists local Virginia communities in disaster relief.

The Lions are also active in the Hope To Walk project, which funds prosthetic limbs for individuals in third world countries. This program is based in Blacksburg and produces a new design of prostheses for those who lose limbs due to diabetes, cancer, trauma, and genetic or birth defects.

While commercial prosthetic legs can cost \$10,000 to \$25,000 each, Hope To Walk's prosthetic leg costs \$100 to make. The Lions Club has been partnering with Hope To Walk, fulfilling the Lions motto of "We Serve." Mills says that Lions Clubs in the district have purchased 78-80 prosthetic legs so far.

In the Vinton community, the Breakfast Lions have been the leaders in the preservation of the historic Gladetown Cemetery, in building a picnic shelter for the community at Herman L. Horn Elementary, and in making plans for a recreational project at the old Vinton Swimming Pool. Plans are in the works for bus shelters at Kroger and PFG.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Vinton Breakfast Lions Club held the Bland Foundation Music Scholarship Competition at Thrasher Memorial UMC with 13 musicians participating. From left are: front row, music teacher Susan Lewis, Lily Sealey, Lucy Sealey, Ryleigh Woolwine, Brent Saunders, Aubri Kessler, and Bruce Kelley; (middle row) Lexi Williamson, Latriva Pierce, Sophia Gonzalez, Sydney Thomas, music teacher Carla Fosbre, judge Wanda Melchers; and back row, Carl Saunders, Simon Sealey, Paul Sealey, and judge Wally Mayo.

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## 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!

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**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.

## FOUR SQUARE

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

## LUTHERAN

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

# Vinton Worship Directory

## WALK IN HIS STEPS

Read Deuteronomy 32:1 through 34.12

"What would Jesus do?" Pastor Charles Sheldon of Topeka, Kansas, asked his congregation this question in 1896 when he preached a series of messages on the topic. Sheldon then wrote a book of fiction titled In His Steps. The book asks what Jesus would do when confronted with poverty, racism, pride, and homelessness. In the 1990s the motto was revived and people wore bracelets and T-shirts with the letters WWJD?

Before he died, Moses reminding the Israelites to consider God's truths.

"Take to heart all the words I have solemnly declared to you this day, so that you may command your children to obey carefully all the words of this law. They are not just idle words for you—they are your life" (Deuteronomy 32:46-47).

Teaching the next generation is the responsibility of the present generation. We do this best by leading by examples. When we face tough issues, we can be sure people are watching our reactions. At these times, it is good to ask ourselves, "What would Jesus do?"

Prayer Suggestion: God, with Your help, I will walk as Jesus walked.

Quicklook: Deuteronomy 32:44-47

**If you would like to see your church services listed here in the Vinton Messenger contact Tucker Frye at 540-473-2741 or email [tfrye@ourvalley.org](mailto:tfrye@ourvalley.org)**

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

## NAZARENE

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

## PRESBYTERIAN

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

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

## UNITED METHODIST

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

## WESLEYAN

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



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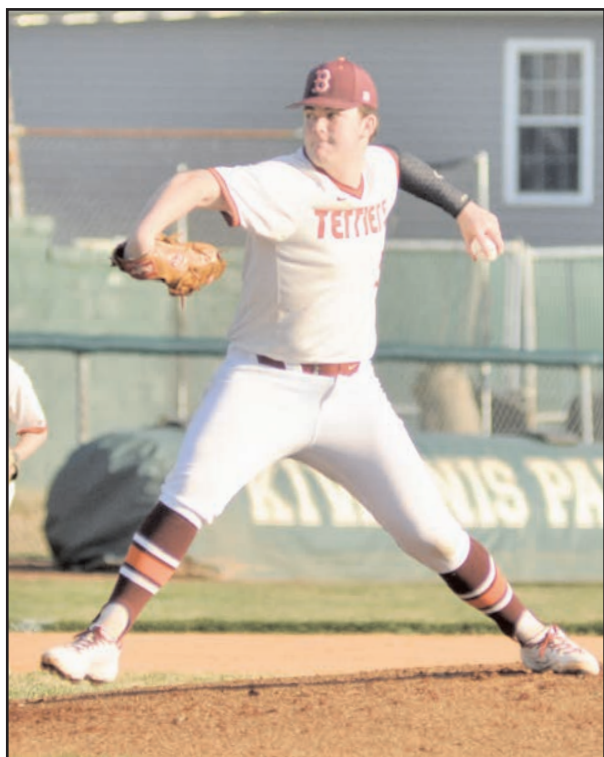
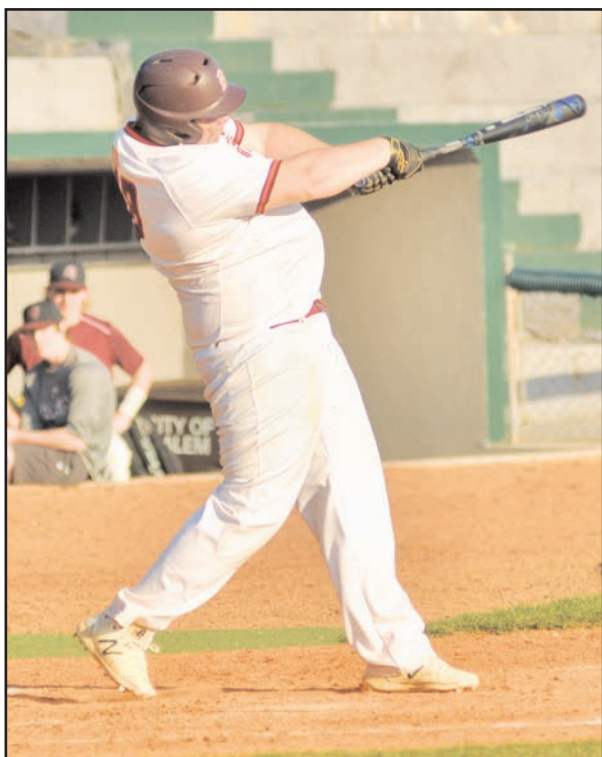
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# SPORTS

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The William Byrd baseball team participated in a preseason jamboree at Kiwanis Field in Salem last Saturday, scrimmaging Patrick County and Salem. Left, Devon Foutz connects for the Terriers. Middle, Juan Alatorre slides home safely for a run, and right Hunter Sipe delivers against Salem.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

## Byrd spring sports open with a full slate of action Tuesday

Virginia High School League spring sports are scheduled to open next week, with a full slate of William Byrd action on Tuesday, March 15.

Monday is the official opening day for VHSL spring sports but no Byrd games are scheduled. Tuesday it all breaks loose with the baseball team hosting Carroll County in coach Jason Taylor's Terrier debut. The boys lacrosse team also opens Tuesday in Lynchburg as new coach Will Satterfield

leads the team in a game at E.C. Glass.

Both boys and girls soccer and tennis teams will open Tuesday, with the boys' teams at home against Hidden Valley and the girls' tennis and soccer teams traveling to Hidden Valley. A day later, on Wednesday March 16, the softball team will debut at Patrick Henry.

A week from today, on March 17, the Byrd lacrosse teams will host a St. Patrick's Day doubleheader

against Blacksburg. The girls will open, followed by the boys' game at Byrd's Patterson Stadium. Tonight both teams will scrimmage at home.

Final preseason scrimmages will conclude on Friday of this week. Byrd has a full slate of action planned including baseball at Altavista and boys' soccer and tennis at Glenvar. Meanwhile, in Vinton the Terriers will host Glenvar in girls' tennis, soccer and softball.



## Former Vinton newspaper editor in the "G League"

Dan Vance, former editor for the now-defunct Vinton Voice weekly newspaper, is in his third year as the Media Relations Manager for the Fort Wayne Mad Ants basketball team in the National Basketball Association G League.

A native of Fort Wayne Indiana, Dan had several jobs in Indiana after leaving the Vinton Voice, including Marketing Director for "Living In The Fort" magazine. He has also served as Multimedia Editor of the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel.

The Mad Ants feature former Rockbridge County star Andrew Rowsey, who went on to play college ball at Marquette. A 5'11" point guard, Rowsey joined



DAN VANCE

the team in January and is averaging 11.5 points a game while shooting just under 40 percent from three point range.

The Mad Ants are a G League affiliate of the Indiana Pacers. Prior to playing for the Ants Rowsey was a member of the Raptors 905 team, affiliated with NBA's Toronto Raptors.

Former Rockbridge County High School star Andrew Rowsey is playing for the Fort Wayne Mad Ants of the NBA G League. Here he shoots and brings the ball up in a recent game against the Westchester Knicks. The Mad Ants were wearing special uniforms for "Hoops and Hounds Night."

PHOTOS BY DAN VANCE



## Byrd graduates play softball for University of Lynchburg

The University of Lynchburg softball team has three William Byrd High graduates on the 2022 roster. Left to right, Lexi Powell is a utility player for the Hornets, Bri Hodges is an outfielder and Cassie Powell is an infielder and pitcher. A sophomore, Lexi leads the team with 14 runs scored in 14 games with an on base percentage of .389. Hodges, also a sophomore, has a .286 batting average and is tied for the team lead with two home runs. Cassie is a graduate student who returned for another year, playing the corner infield positions. She's yet to pitch in a game but is capable of doing so, and was a solid pitcher during her days at Byrd. The Hornets have won their last three games to improve to 9-5 on the young season. They'll be at home this Saturday for a 1 pm doubleheader against Mary Washington.

PHOTOS BY BILLY POWELL

# Science Fair from page 1

Environmental Engineering

- “A Biodegradable Motion to Clean the Ocean” by Aiden Hundley (1st Place)
- “Plogging: The Amount of Pollution Along Roanoke Valley Trails and Urbanized Areas” by Maddy Simmons

Materials Science Category

- “The Effect of Thread Count on Its Thermal Insulation” by Jaslyn Bibby, Jayla Barger (2nd Place)

Microbiology Category

- “The Effect of Environmental Factors on Beta-Carotene Production in Genetically Engineered Yeast” by Haley Day (2nd Place) (WBHS/RVGS)

Plant Sciences Category

- “Comparing the Yields of Lactuca sativa var. Longifolia lam Through Hydroponics and Soil-based Growth” by Bethany Beecher (3rd Place)
- “Adaptations of Plants to Grow in an Aquaculture Setup” Joshua Hardy (1st Place) Cave Spring Middle School was named RCPS Science Fair Middle School of the Year for 2022 following the same calculation procedures as the high school division.

William Byrd Middle School students participating in this year’s RCPS Science Fair included:

Behavioral and Social Sciences/ Biomedical and Health Sciences Category

- “How Much Sugar is in

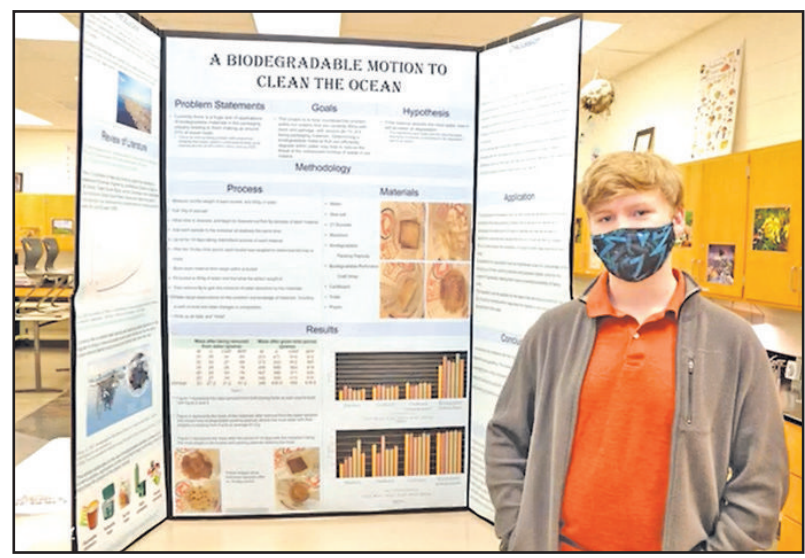
Different Drinks?” By Jaden Holmes (Third place)

- “The Effect of The Color Of Light on The Rate of Food Spoilage” by Heidi Wienke (2nd place)

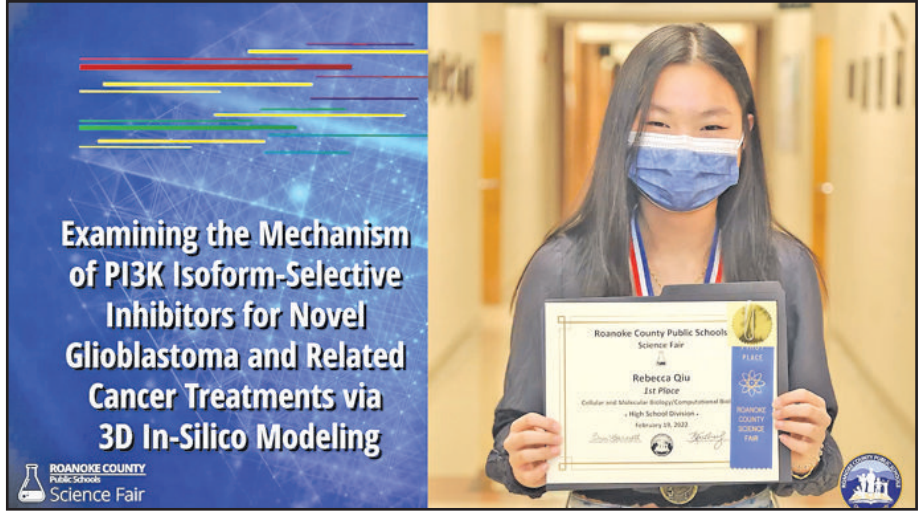
Chemistry Category

- “Height Of Cake” by Kyndall Agee
- “The Effect of Different Cheesecake Preparation Methods on The Amount of Rise and The Number of Cracks” by Willow Seth
- “Melting Away: The Effect of Materials on Ice Melt Rate” by Owen Webb (3rd place)

Selected projects will represent Roanoke County in the annual Western Virginia Regional Science Fair.



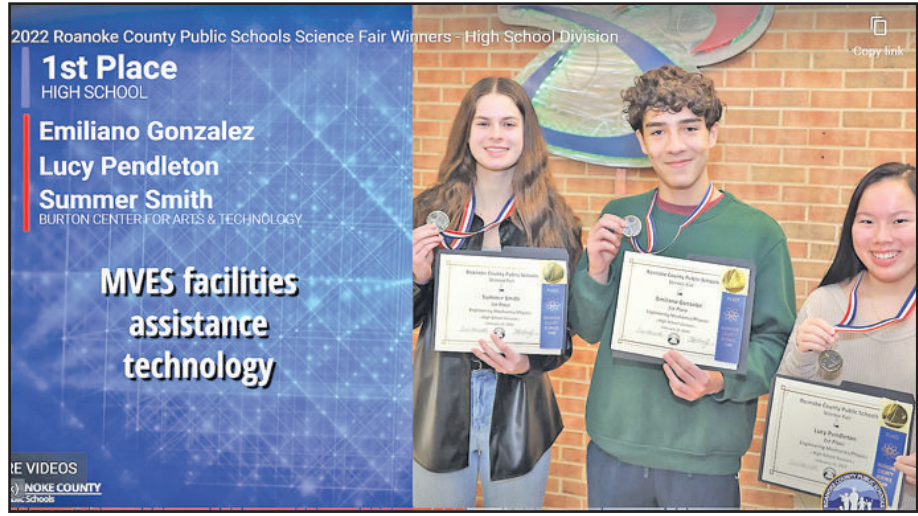
High School Division First Place Winner in the Environmental Engineering Category Aiden Hundley



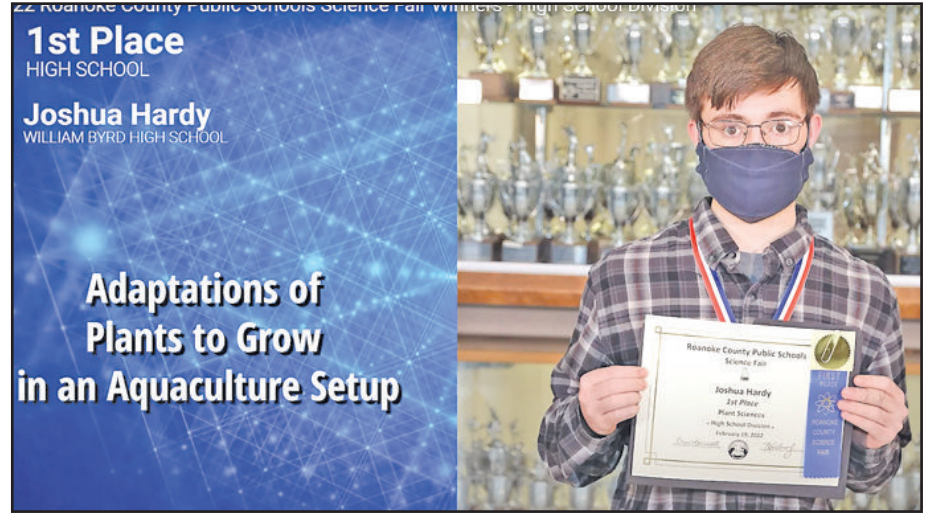
High School Division First Place Winner in the Cellular and Molecular Biology/Computational Biology Category Rebecca Qiu



High School Division First Place Winners in the Chemistry Category Elliott Gaines, Wyatte Bailey, and Dexter Gaines



High School Division First Place Winners in the Engineering Mechanics/Physics Category Summer Smith, Emiliano Gonzalez, and Lucy Pendleton



High School Division First Place Winner in the Plant Sciences Category Joshua Hardy.



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