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# The Vinton Messenger

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## Volunteers are heart and soul of Dogwood Festival

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

The annual Dogwood Festival is Vinton's best-known and most cherished tradition – now in its 67th year. It is one of the oldest festivals in Southwest Virginia and the oldest in the Roanoke Valley.

The Dogwood Festival began in 1955 as a fundraising event for the William Byrd High School Band to help purchase new uniforms. It was so successful that the town and citizens decided it needed to become an annual occurrence. Town Council, the Chamber of Commerce, the Woman's Club, and many individuals kicked in donations and the festival was founded and has endured. This year's Vinton Dogwood Festival is scheduled for Thursday, April 28, through Sunday, May 1.

The Dogwood Festival has also become a tradition for the family of Connie, Callie, and Gary Houff.

Connie has been volunteering in some capacity with the Dogwood Festival for about 15 years. She started out helping to recruit volunteers, vendors, and crafters, and

assisting with the Dogwood Parade. She went on to serve for three years as president of the Dogwood Festival Committee – the term allotted in the festival's by-laws.

She is now Committee Co-chair of the Craft and Food Vendor Committee along with her daughter Callie Houff Webb. They volunteered husband and father, Gary Houff, to help with the event as well. He does whatever needs to be done and acts as a goodwill ambassador at large.

Connie says she was initially inspired to volunteer for the Dogwood Festival by Vinton's beloved Vice Mayor Billy Obenchain, who championed the Town of Vinton and the festival.

Callie not only volunteers for the event but was actually on the Dogwood Court as a senior at William Byrd High School in 2010. She says the fun she had on her own Dogwood Day is what led her to becoming a volunteer herself. She tells the girls on the court each year to focus on the day and enjoy the experience, which they will always treasure.

See **Dogwood Festival**, page 5



**The Houff family has been volunteering with the Dogwood Festival Committee for many years.**

SUBMITTED PHOTO

## “Never Give Up” filming at Jerry’s in Vinton



**A scene from the movie “Never Give Up” being filmed at Jerry’s Restaurant in Vinton.**



**The director of “Never Give Up” and crew review a take from “Never Give Up” at Jerry’s.**

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

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

ReelWorks Studios and the film department at Liberty University have teamed up for the movie production of “Never Give Up.” Professional filmmakers and Liberty

students spent a good part of the day on March 29 at Jerry's Restaurant in Vinton, shooting one of the scenes in the movie.

According to a synopsis from ReelWorks CEO Rick Eldridge, “Never Give Up” is based on the true story of

Brad Minns, who at age 20 “does the impossible in the Men's Singles Tennis Finals in the 1985 Deaf World Games. In a five-hour Match for the Ages, Minns somehow comes back from match point in the third set to winning the Gold Medal in the fifth set.”

“The match serves as a framework for the story of this inspirational man who became deaf at age three [from a high fever] and rose to the height of his sport thanks to God helping him to ‘Never Give Up. It's the tennis match of his life--Univer-

See **Never Give Up**, page 10

## Chen continues to thrive in America



**Matt Chen was awarded the prestigious Coaches Award for soccer by Roanoke Valley Christian Schools in October 2021.**

SUBMITTED PHOTO

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

Matt Chen came to the United States from Beijing, China, in August 2019 to enroll as a freshman at Roanoke Valley Christian Schools (RVCS). Before coming to America, Matt studied online with Dreyer Coaching to improve his English speaking, reading, and writing skills. The online school was founded in 2008 by Scott and Deborah Dreyer of Vinton. Scott teaches English to Chinese-language speakers, primarily located in China and Taiwan. Deborah teaches Chinese to English-speaking students.

Matt's family had discovered Dreyer Coaching through his father's co-worker, whose son was

studying with the school. Matt's online studies included 15 hours of intense instruction each week from 7 to 10 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Matt's mother, Lydia Du, a high school English teacher in Beijing, wanted him to come to America to continue his education because of the opportunities and possibilities available--to be an independent young adult, to explore a new environment, and to “experience a new kind of life,” free from the intense pressure of Chinese schools.

In his studies with Dreyer Coaching, Matt had shown an aptitude for the English language and was already quite fluent before he arrived in Vinton.

At the time, Matt said while studying online was

very beneficial to improving his English language skills; he wanted “to try American school life.” Learning online has many advantages, including a more flexible schedule and no traveling to classes, but he wanted to “live the life.”

When the family decided for Matt to live and study in the United States, Roanoke was the obvious choice since Dreyer Coaching was located here. One of the services offered by the Dreyers was boarding students during the school year. He felt comfortable with the Dreyers since they had already spent so much time together online.

Lydia has found the Dreyer Coaching team “very professional and committed to teaching Matt.”

The Dreyers have raised four children, all grown and out of the house now, and also have grandchildren, so adding Matt brought minimal disruption to their lives. Scott says that Matt is very mature, adaptable, and “easy to live with.”

Matt arrived in Vinton just before school opened in 2019. Scott had recom-



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See **Chen**, page 10

## Public invited to free Home Buyer Seminar on April 12



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Jason Boothe, Tim Greenway, and Brad Greenway (from left) will be hosting a free Home Buyer's Seminar at the Vinton War Memorial on April 12.



"I want to thank Rosie's so much for their generous donation! These funds will go towards our gala which is our biggest fundraiser that allows us to keep our doors open to help high school youth in the northside become productive members of society by teaching them the benefits of education, positive relationships, career readiness and community service."

**Jo White, Executive Director**  
Saving Our Youth  
www.savingouryouthva.org



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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 \$1,975,000**, and has logged over 2,500 service hours in Virginia communities.



The community is invited to a free Home Buyer Seminar on Tuesday, April 12, at the Vinton War Memorial from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The seminar is intended to provide a variety of information to anyone interested in owning a home with all aspects of purchasing a home being presented.

There will be question and answer opportunities, along with some giveaways, including a Big Screen TV, a Yeti cooler, and \$500 worth of gift cards to local businesses. Refreshments will be served.

The doors open at 6 p.m. The seminar begins at 6:30.

The event is hosted by the Greenway Boothe Real Estate Team. Other sponsors include Priority & Settlement LLC, Star City Pest Control, Fisher Financial Services Inc., Expect More Home Inspections, Alcovia Mortgage, and Mountain View Real Estate.

RSVP on the Greenway Boothe Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/GreenwayBootheTeam/> to be eligible for prizes.

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



Spring is finally here! The flowers are blooming, the birds are singing and there are plenty of fun new and continuing programs at the Vinton Library. We've got something for everyone, so stop on by and see what you can dip your toes into this month.

The DMV Connect service will be back April 27-28, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closing between 1-2 p.m. for lunch. There is no need to make an appointment; stop in to handle all your DMV business without having to trek over to the actual DMV.

The Open Bridge group for experienced players will be here every Tuesday from 1-4 p.m. and the Roanoke Valley Dulcimers will continue to meet on Saturday, April 16 from 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Adults are invited to revisit their favorite vintage cartoons from their childhoods at Saturday Morning Cartoons. Bring the whole family every Saturday from 10:30 a.m.-noon to the rooftop patio, weather permitting.

The Vinton Book Club will discuss "Russian Roulette" by Michael Isikoff on Thursday, April 7, at 3 p.m. and the As the Page Turns Book Club will discuss "Origins" by Dan Brown on Wednesday, April 13 at 2 p.m.; both will be hybrid events taking place in person and on Zoom.

On Monday, April 18 at 11 a.m. we will have a "Medicare 101" program, in conjunction with Harmon & Prouty Financial Group, which will help you to tailor your Medicare plan to fit your individual needs. You will learn about how to save money as well as important dates and deadlines for those over 65.

Tune in on Zoom on Wednesday, April 6 at 6 p.m. to get an "Introduction to Roman Mythology." Learn how Roman beliefs developed over time as they interacted with different cultures (some stories may include adult themes). If you're still hungry for more Roman history after that, adults should be sure to come in on the Thursday, April 21 at 5:30 p.m. to celebrate Rome's birthday by learning to make Roman Mosaics.

April is National Poetry Month. To celebrate, the Vinton Library will have "Blind Date with a Poet." Pick up an unmarked envelope filled with selections of poems from a book we have in our collection. If you like what you see, be sure to ask to check out the book and get to know more of the poet's full work!

On Friday, April 29 at 10 a.m., we will be having an Arbor Day Celebration with the Town of Vinton for the 150th anniversary of Arbor Day. We will feature a special Arbor Day-themed storytime and craft. In addition, the mayor will be here to give a speech and a Virginia Department of Forestry ranger will be giving out tree seeds.

When you visit Vinton's Dogwood Festival on April 30, be sure to swing by the library with the family. Spin the prize wheel, pick up a calendar of events, and participate in our Sidewalk Chalk Art from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

This month "Saturday" will be held on Saturday, April 16 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Register online for a 15-minute time slot to read to cats from the RCACP. You will be building early reading skills while also socializing the cats for adoption.

Also, on the 16th, Saturday gets even better with a "Meet the Author" event with Valerie Archual. Valerie will have a table on the first floor from 2-4 p.m. with her rescue cat, Roger, that she adopted from the RCACP during a previous Saturday event.

We have a couple of spring-related events this month. Our "Super Saturday" event will be a "Literary Egg Hunt," on Saturday, April 2 at 2:30 p.m. Register online to join us for the egg hunt with a literary twist.

Teens can come by on Thursday, April 14 at 4 p.m. for an Egg Drop Challenge. Register for this special STEM activity where you'll construct a carrier in order to protect an egg from breaking during a fall. If your egg survives, you get a prize!

Teen Drop-Ins are back this month. Drop by on Mondays from 4-6 p.m. for a surprise event, game, or take-home activity. Each week is different, so you won't know what's in store until you show! Join in the fun at Teen Gaming on Monday, April 25 from 5:30 -7:30 p.m. at the Teen Center.

For the kids this month, Junior Makers will meet on Wednesday, April 20 at 4 p.m. Register your 5- to 10-year-old children for this special club where we learn about a new STEM concept each month. This month's theme is "Earth Day." Drop in to create and share your Lego masterpieces at "Lego Play" on Thursday, April 21 at 4 p.m.

This month's storytime session runs from April 19-May 20. During this session, join us in your PJs for "Jammie Time" on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Attend the "Early Start Club" on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. where you and your infant can join other caregivers to learn about standards, resources, and methods for encouraging early literacy development. There will be songs, rhymes, motion, and play to build a foundation for lifelong learning. For ages 0-5, Family Storytime will be Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m., where participants can practice early literacy skills, enjoy activities, and listen to stories.

Kids Take and Creates for April:

- Week of April 4 - Rain Craft
- Week of April 11 - Bunny Craft
- Week of April 18 - Nature Scavenger Hunt
- Week of April 25 - Butterfly Craft
- Teen Take and Create for April- Animal Bookmark
- Adult Take and Create for April- Felt Bird Bookmark
- More Virtual Events through RCPL:
  - Tuesday, April 5 at 7 p.m.- Couch Trivia- The Arts
  - Wednesday, April 6 at 10 a.m.- Roanoke County Genealogy Club
  - Thursday, April 7 at 2 p.m.- Library Celebration
  - Tuesday, April 12 at 2 p.m.- Using Goodreads to Find Your Next Book
  - Thursday, April 14 at 6:30 p.m.- Anime Night
  - Thursday, April 14 at 6:30 p.m.- Make it Legal with Gale Legal Forms
  - Tuesday, April 18 at 6 p.m.- Evening Genealogy Club
  - Tuesday, April 26 at 2 p.m.- Discover Family Stories Using Newspapers.com
- Remember to register online for events at [roco-library.org](http://roco-library.org).
- By Vinton Library Assistant Molly Meador

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# County to host 200 Plan open house meetings

Seven planning meetings will be held around Roanoke County in this Spring for citizens to review draft goals and recommendation options based on the feedback received throughout the Fall 2021 community sessions.

The joint meeting for the Vinton/Bonsack/Mount Pleasant area is scheduled for Thursday, April 14, at the Charles Hill Community Center in Vinton from 4 to 6 p.m.

The county notes that approximately 1,000 citizens and community stakeholders have participated in the planning process so far. Draft goals were developed based on input received at the community meetings and online surveys in Fall 2021.

Roanoke County invites citizens this spring to review and provide comments on the new draft goals and recommendations that will shape the community over the next 15 years, impacting future land use, natural and cultural resources, public facilities and services, and transportation infrastructure.

The Roanoke County 200 Plan belongs to and will affect every citizen of Roanoke County. The plan:

- Expresses an overarching community vision as well as unique goals for 11 community planning areas within the county and the Town of Vinton

- Provides guidance for public policies about land development, public services, and resource protection

- Allows decision makers to study the long-term consequences of current decisions and recognize that today's actions will impact the county for many years to come

Citizens may visit the Roanoke County website for information on the 200 Plan and view enlightening story maps for the Vinton/Bonsack and Mount Pleasant Community Planning Areas (CPA) at <https://www.roanokecountyva.gov/2814/Roanoke-County-200-Plan>.

The Bonsack/Vinton CPA is home to 10,938 people

and spans 19,657 acres, east of the Town of Vinton in Roanoke County. Its population grew 101% from 1983 to 2010 and 4% from 2010 to 2020 to 10,938. County-wide, there were fewer babies born from 2010 to 2020, but population grew 4.9% due to people moving here from outside the region.

The majority of land in Bonsack/Vinton (44%) is zoned for single family neighborhoods, with 31% zoned Agricultural/Rural Preserve.

The Bonsack/Vinton CPA is characterized by diverse terrain and a variety of scenic features. Nearly a quarter of the CPA has a steep slope of greater than 33%. It is bisected by Glade Creek to the north and Wolf Creek to the south.

The village of Bonsack includes 20 historic structures: homes, churches and commercial. It was one of the first areas to be settled in the county, quickly becoming an important commercial center. The town prospered with the railroad, which came through in 1852 and established a depot there.

The Bonsack/Vinton CPA is home to several regional attractions and recreational spaces including Read Mountain Preserve, the Blue Ridge Parkway, Vinyard Park, the Wolf Creek Greenway, Goode Park, Stonebridge Park and Bonsack Park. The CPA is served by the No. 12 Read Mountain Fire and Rescue Station and No. 2 Vinton Fire and Rescue Station.

Schools serving the Bonsack/Vinton area are under maximum enrollment capacity, consistent with most Roanoke County Public School trends. They include Bonsack, Herman L. Horn, and W.E. Cundiff Elementary Schools, William Byrd Middle School, and William Byrd High School.

Issues and trends being addressed with the 200 Plan include:

The county-wide need for "aging in place" options, plus a need for housing that is affordable for a large range of

income levels, especially low to moderate income.

Road network changes to serve properties abutting and in the vicinity of Challenger Avenue between the City of Roanoke and Botetourt County.

Explore Park continues to expand, bringing more visitors into the area.

The Bonsack/Vinton CPA has 5.6% of total land located within the 100-year floodplain.

Approximately 23% of the acreage in this CPA is calculated as having a "steep slope," greater than 33%. Control of erosion and sedimentation and the management of stormwater runoff due to steep slopes and erodible soils can make land development difficult.

Phase I of the Restoration of Wolf Creek at Goode Park was completed last summer (2021) to stabilize the stream banks along Wolf Creek in a portion of Goode Park using natural stream methodologies. This will reduce sediment discharge and reduce bank erosion that is endangering portions of the existing greenway trail. A grant application has been submitted to extend the project approximately 1,500 linear feet upstream. If approved by the State, this work could be started in the summer of 2022.

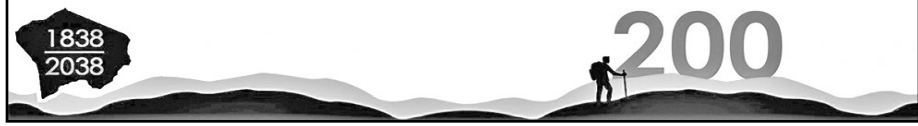
Out of 11 Community Planning Areas, Bonsack/Vinton is the sixth highest for Fire-EMS calls for service and the fourth highest for police calls. A new Bonsack/460 Fire Station is proposed for funding in Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023. This station would represent a new and enhanced service as the 12th station, which would reduce reliance on other locality responses for emergencies.

As for the Mount Pleasant Community Planning Area, it is home to 3,905 people and covers 9,626 acres in southeast Roanoke County. Its population decreased by 4% from 1983 to 2010 but grew 3% from 2010 to 2020 to 3,964. The median



Join us for your community's open house meeting this Spring  
All meetings are from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Catawba & Masons Cove: Masons Cove Elementary School - Monday, April 4  
Glenvar: Fort Lewis Elementary School - Thursday, April 7  
Peters Creek: Green Ridge Recreation Center - Monday, April 11  
Bonsack/Vinton & Mount Pleasant: Charles R. Hill Community Center - Thursday, April 14  
Back Creek & Bent Mountain: Bent Mountain Center - Monday, April 18  
Windsor Hills: Oak Grove Elementary School - Tuesday, April 19  
Cave Spring & Clearbrook: Cave Spring Elementary School - Thursday, April 21



SUBMITTED PHOTO

age of residents continues to increase as the baby boomer generation ages and is now 48. Countywide, over the last few decades families living in the same house have fewer people, and two-person households are increasing.

The majority of Mount Pleasant is rural and developed at low densities. Much of the region is made up of vacant fields, working farms or is forested. The majority of land in Mount Pleasant (nearly 80%) is zoned agricultural. Approximately 11% is zoned for neighborhoods and 7% for Explore Park on the eastern boundary.

The Explore Park Adventure Plan provides Roanoke County, its residents, and its visitors with a long-term strategy to improve the recreational, environmental, and economic potential of the park's 1,100 acres. The county is in the process of implementing the plan to bring new outdoor recreation amenities to the park.

Mount Pleasant has two prominent watercourses: Roanoke River and Back Creek. It is characterized by varied topography and large tracts of undeveloped land. Many of the natural features,

such as floodplains and steep slopes, create developmental constraints.

Schools serving the Mount Pleasant area are under enrollment capacity: Mount Pleasant Elementary, William Byrd Middle School, and William Byrd High School.

Of the 11 Roanoke County Community Planning Areas, Mount Pleasant ranks in the lower half for Fire-EMS and police service calls.

This CPA has a diverse range of outdoor recreation spaces such as Explore Park, Mayflower Hills Park and Disc Golf Course, the Blue Ridge Parkway, the Roanoke River Blueway and the Ballyhack Golf Club. The area is served by the No. 6 Mount Pleasant Fire and Rescue Station and the Mount Pleasant Library.

Issues and Trends in the Mount Pleasant CPA under discussion are:

The endangered Roanoke logperch is found predominantly in the Roanoke River and its tributaries. It requires clear, cool water and unsilted gravel and rubble to nest and avoid predators. Its habitat has been threatened by agriculture, overdevelopment, and other activities that pro-

duce excessive silt runoff.

Approximately 35% of the acreage in the Mount Pleasant CPA is calculated as having a "steep slope," greater than 33%. Control of erosion and sedimentation and the management of stormwater runoff due to steep slopes and erodible soils can make land development difficult.

Back Creek and the Roanoke River are currently listed as impaired streams that do not meet state water quality standards because pollutant levels are too high, mainly from bacteria (E. coli) that comes from discharges including municipal separate storm sewer systems, livestock, pet waste, unspecified domestic waste, and other sources.

The public is invited to come and share their views at the April 14 meeting.

After this round of public meetings, the document will be finalized in the Spring and Summer of 2022 based on public input before it moves to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors for public hearings in Fall 2022 with implementation begun in 2023.

## BBB hosts Secure Your ID Day on April 9 – Shred sensitive documents

As the weather warms, many people find themselves cleaning up around the house for spring.

While decluttering, consumers may find themselves with sensitive documents that they don't need anymore. Consumers should physically shred all information with their Social Security number on it, monthly statements, bills after they're paid, and some junk mail with sensitive information on it.

BBB Serving Western Va. is hosting the annual Secure Your ID Day on April 9, in the Salem

Civic Center parking lot, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., or until trucks are full.

Bring up to three boxes or bags of documents per person to be properly disposed of and shredded by an industrial shredder.

Consumers should also consider scrubbing their digital devices clean, too, as they can hold sensitive data. BBB Serving Western Va. offers the following tips to consumers:

- Lock down your login: Ensure passphrases for each account

are lengthy, unique, and safely stored. Enable 2-factor authentication on all accounts that offer it. Keep all your passwords private.

- Clean up your online presence: Check up on all your accounts and make sure you know who has administrative access.

- Update your system and software: Have the most current software, web browsers, and operating systems.

- Back up all data: Protect your data by making backups of your most important files. Use

the 3-2-1 rule: 3 backup copies, 2 different media types, and 1 offline in a separate location.

Consumers who are looking to sell or dispose of old devices and hard drives should also note the following:

- Empty your trash or recycle bin on all devices and be certain to wipe and overwrite: Simply deleting and emptying the trash isn't enough to completely get rid of a file. Use a program that deletes the data, "wipes" it from your device and then overwrites it by putting random data in

place of your information.

- Clear out stockpiles: If you have a stash of old hard drives or devices, information still exists and could be stolen. Wipe and/or destroy unneeded hard drives as soon as possible.

- Failed drives still contain data: On failed drives, wiping often fails, too. Shredding/destruction is the practical disposal approach for failed drives. Do not return a failed drive to the manufacturer; use a trusted shredding company to dispose of your old hard drives.

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**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Hillsides

6. A way to ingest

9. Large number

13. Southeastern Minnesota city

14. Cronies

15. Having sufficient skill, knowledge

16. Supplements with difficulty

17. Former VP nominee Palin

18. Cambodian monetary unit

19. Where coaches work

21. Secret political clique

22. A type of lute

23. Tan

24. Empire State

25. Where golfers begin

28. For each

29. Muslim inhabitants of the Philippines

31. Bird genus

33. Popular Dave Matthews Band song

36. Domesticates

38. "Boardwalk Empire" actress Gretchen

39. Asian antelope

41. One who takes apart

44. Kin

45. Dresses

46. Says something about you (abbr.)

48. Doctor of Education

49. One quintillion bytes (abbr.)

51. Overcharge

52. Sailboats

54. Indian musical patterns

56. Predisposition to a condition

60. Share a common boundary with

61. Wide

62. Skin disease

63. Monetary unit of Samoa

64. Source of the Blue Nile

65. Instrument

66. Red deer

67. Unidentified flying object

68. Bar or preclude

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Flying insects

2. Strong alcoholic spirit

3. Old

4. Moves in slowly

5. Symbol for tin

6. Having certain appendages

7. Expression of sorrow or pity

8. Type of hormone (abbr.)

9. One with an unjustified mistrust

10. Hebrew calendar month

11. Pure

12. LSU football coach

14. Unbroken views

17. Fathers

20. Part of a race

21. Hairstyle

23. Fifth note of a major scale

25. Body art

26. Amounts of time

27. Designed chairs

29. Sensational dramatic piece

30. Arrangement of steps

32. Classifies

34. Young child

35. Oh, no!

37. Astronomical period of about 18 years

40. Not or

42. Poke fun at

43. Consisting of roots

47. "\_\_\_ Humbug!"

49. A way to remove

50. A confusion of voices and other sounds

52. Keyed instrument

53. Varnishes

55. Unpleasantly sticky substance

56. Unable to hear

57. A short erect tail

58. Indicates interest

59. Flow or leak through

61. British thermal unit

65. Iron

# SPOTLIGHT ON TOWN OF VINTON STAFF

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

“The members of the Town of Vinton Planning and Zoning Department are some of the unsung heroes of our town staff,” said Vinton Mayor Brad Grose. “The Planning Department is the first point of contact for many important daily functions such as zoning questions and permits. In addition, the department performs many crucial functions such as grant application and administration, future land use planning, code enforcement and various other duties.”

The Director of the Vinton Planning and Zoning Department is Anita McMillan. She has been employed with the town for 27 years, since February 1995, and has been with the town longer than any other employee. She started as the Town Planner/Code Enforcement Officer and then be-

came the Town Planning and Zoning Director in March 1996.

McMillan’s main responsibilities include the day-to-day operations of the department including the administration of its zoning, subdivision and sign ordinances, and nuisance codes; review and approval of development and redevelopment projects; building, zoning, and sign permits; administration, implementation, and enforcement of its stormwater management program including the Town Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit; and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) grant funded projects.

She represents Vinton on the Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission, the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany the Regional Commission Pre-Disaster Mitigation Committee and Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Stormwater Committee, the Roanoke Valley Urban Forestry Council, the Roanoke Valley Regional Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) and Clean Valley Council (CVC).

Prior to joining the Town of Vinton, McMillan worked for the

County of Roanoke Department of Planning and Zoning as a Planning Technician, and as a City Planner for the Department of City Planning and Building Control, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and as a Planning Intern for the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Urban Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay in 1984 and a Master of Urban and Regional Planning from Virginia Tech in 1987.

McMillan was very proud with the completion of the Wolf Creek Greenway Trail; the first trail constructed in the Town of Vinton and completed in 1999.

She was also responsible for the following: the Downtown Revitalization Project planning grant in 2011 and CDBG Downtown Revitalization grant in 2013; the Tinker Creek Canoe Launch Improvement Project; the Glade Creek Greenway (two sections were completed and with one on-going); two Commonwealth’s Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) Urban Development Area (UDA) Tier 1 and Tier 3 Planning Grants to establish eight UDAs in the

town and to review the town’s zoning and subdivision ordinances to promote redevelopment and development projects that incorporate Traditional Neighborhood Design (TND) principles to make the community to become a bikeable and walkable community.

Currently, she is overseeing the Walnut Avenue Bike/Pedestrian Accommodations Project, (5th Street to Town West Limit) with construction to start this September; Walnut Avenue Bike/Pedestrian Accommodations Project, (W. Lee Avenue to 1st Street on the right-of-way phase); Hardy Road and Gus Nicks Blvd Pedestrian Crosswalks Projects with design engineering plans to start in August 2022.

McMillan was responsible for the town being designated as a Tree City USA in 2001 and has maintained this designation for the last 21 years by making sure that trees are planted in the town and an Arbor Day Celebration event is observed on an annual basis.

McMillan has been married to her husband David for 33 years. They met at Virginia Tech in 1986, while they were both completing their



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TOWN OF VINTON

Anita McMillan, Director of Planning and Zoning

graduate study at the school. They are blessed with a son, Jameel, a graduate of Virginia Tech in Mechanical Engineering, an engineer with the Naval Shipyard in Norfolk, his wife Emily, and a granddaughter, Leyna, residing in Chesapeake; and a daughter, Kiara, who will be graduating this May, with her Master’s Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Virginia Tech, who will be working in June with Vorbeck.

McMillan enjoys cooking, reading, walking, hiking and riding her bike with her hus-

band along the trails in the Roanoke Valley and surrounding areas. She misses her relatives in Malaysia and visits them when she can.

“The Planning Department staff consists of very special individuals with diverse talents, training, and education,” Mayor Grose said. “Perhaps some of their most outstanding qualities include their flexibility and their dedication to doing a professional job for our citizens and customers. The Town of Vinton is truly blessed to have such a devoted staff in our Planning Department.”

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

## RECIPES OF THE WEEK

### Recipes from Kathryn Sowers, Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce

#### Italian Lemon Buttered Chicken

- Fryer chicken, cut up and skinned
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 cup fine dry bread crumbs or Panko crumbs
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 1 Tbsp. grated onion
- 1 Tbsp. grated lemon peel
- 1 tsp. crushed thyme
- 1 tsp. crushed basil
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. black pepper

Melt butter in large shallow pan. Combine bread-crumbs & seasonings. Roll chicken pieces in melted butter, then in crumbs, turning to coat evenly. Bake in preheated 400-degree oven about 1 hour or until chicken is tender and golden brown. Makes at least 8 servings. Also, you may have enough of the bread crumb mixture for a second meal. Just put in a Ziploc bag in the fridge.

#### Peach Dumplings

- 2 whole large peaches
- 2 8oz. crescent rolls
- 2 sticks butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- Cinnamon to taste
- 1-1/2 cups orange juice

Peel and pit peaches. Cut both peaches into eight slices. Roll each peach slice in a crescent roll. Place in a 9x13 buttered pan. Melt butter, then add sugar and barely stir. Add vanilla, stir and pour all over peaches. Pour orange juice around the edges of the pan. Sprinkle with cinnamon and bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes.

The Vinton Messenger

USPS 660-020  
(540) 473-2741  
1633 W. Main St.  
Salem, VA 24153

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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

# Celebrating The Town of VINTON!

The Town of Vinton, a community nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains, welcomes you to our community. Vinton, a town rich with history, has over the years found itself to be one of a few communities that continue to relish the past by offering an environment of a comfortable lifestyle with the feeling of being a part of a large community family. The town, with its proximity to the Blue Ridge Parkway and Smith Mountain Lake, provides many opportunities for those who wish to stop and shop at our local farmers market or one of our unique specialty shops.

If festivals are your interest, the Vinton area hosts several festivals throughout the year from the Vinton Dogwood Festival to the Vinton Fall Festival. Each festival offers its own unique atmosphere. When you are away from home it’s always nice to feel as if you never left.

The Town of Vinton provides small town character with urban services and amenities located nearby. The small town atmosphere is characterized by a low crime rate; small, locally, and regionally owned businesses; and moderately priced homes. Views of the mountains and Blue Ridge Parkway abound.

Vinton represents the ideal type of community, small enough to provide a feeling of belonging, yet progressive enough to provide the facilities, services, and conveniences that are necessary to make a community feel like home to its citizens.

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PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

Angie Chewing

Filling in for Bootie

Congrats to Anita Hoback Webb, recently named principal at Stanley Elementary in Page County. She lives in Luray. Anita is a 1991 grad of WBHS and was named Young Woman of

the Year (and former Junior Miss). Goes to show that pageant girls can be smart, too. I know Mom Betsy and Dad Lewis Hoback and sisters Rebecca and Sarah are proud of her. What a wonderful achievement for her. I'm sure the students love her.

The GFWC Vinton Women's Club and the Vinton Police Department will be planting pinwheels in the flower bed at the Vinton Municipal Building on Tuesday, April 5 at 5 p.m. This is

in observance of Child Abuse Prevention Month. They will stay up through the month of April. They also have donated bird seed to Berkshire Health and Rehab for their bird feeders. The patients love watching the birds.

The Chamber office will be in a slight transition the next week or so. We are moving to downtown Vinton. We are very excited and looking forward to being in the middle of everything and there for Dogwood Festival!



Anita Hoback Webb

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Dogwood Festival

from page 1

The Houffs say the Dogwood Festival has always been a big part of their family. Callie remembers when she was a little girl spending the day of the parade at her grandmother's house on Meadow Street near the Vinton War Memorial.

Connie says the day of the Dogwood Parade was her mother-in-law's favorite day of the year. She loved to sit on her porch and watch all the people lining the streets and walking by. They say it was a "really big deal" for the family to go to grandmother's house – and part of the Houffs' traditions each year.

Callie and Connie recruited friend Brittany Lane, who was on the Dogwood Court in 2010, to volunteer as well. Lane was a member of the same church as the Houffs; she and Callie have been best friends since they were preschoolers.

"I continued to volunteer for three years because the event was a big part of our community and I knew people looked forward to it," Lane said. "It was a lot of work, but I learned a lot about working with other people and event organization through being on the Dogwood Committee."

The Festival Committee is always on the lookout for "young blood" and second-generation volunteers to ensure that the Dogwood tra-

dition continues in Vinton.

Callie moved to Charlotte after graduating from college, but now she is back in Vinton and back to volunteering. She wanted to get involved; she loves Vinton and helping the community. She has been surrounded by public servants her entire life, so that's her nature – her father retired as a Battalion Chief from Roanoke County Fire and Rescue. Her husband, Shane, is a firefighter with the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department.

She married him in a wedding delayed for two months by the pandemic. She found out the news from her venue the weekend after her mother and the Dogwood Committee had to make the decision to cancel the 2020 festival due to COVID restrictions.

Mother and daughter organized the Virtual Dogwood Parades which took the place of an in-person parade during two years of the pandemic. Children and organizations were encouraged to create mini-floats to be shown on the Dogwood Festival Facebook page on Dogwood Saturday.

The Dogwood Festival Committee is made up of volunteers—no one is paid—it's a community service and labor of love. They eagerly welcome volunteers. In fact, the Festival Commit-

tee says, "volunteers are the heart and soul of the Vinton Dogwood Festival."

Planning and preparing for the Dogwood Festival is a year-round task. Connie says once the festival is over, they generally take the summer off and then start up again in September meeting once a month until January when the meetings become bi-weekly and then weekly as the festival draws near.

All three Houffs and most of the other volunteers are involved with all aspects of the event come festival time—from drawing the lines on the downtown streets for vendors to helping manage the concerts, from set-up to clean-up. There are many different assignments available for volunteers, especially at the Friday night concert and on Dogwood Saturday.

The carnival is returning for all four days (Thursday and Friday from 6 to 10 p.m., Saturday from noon to 10 p.m., and Sunday from 1 to 6 p.m.)

There is a concert at the Vinton Farmers' Market on Friday night at 6 p.m. featuring the Pizazz Band that plays soul, funk, beach, country, and rock music.

On Dogwood Saturday, the downtown streets will be filled with craft, food, and retail vendors. There is a car show from 10 to 4 at Thrasher Memorial United

Methodist Church.

There will be entertainment on the stages at Vinton Baptist and the Farmers' Market, including the William Byrd Jazz Band, the McFlies, Tim Martin and Brian Wheeling, Defy Gravity, and Mason Creek Bluegrass.

Lighthouse Bible Church is sponsoring the free Kids Zone. New this year is a youth activity zone hosted by Mineral Springs Baptist, with an Escape Room.

The highlight of the day will be the introduction of the Dogwood Court and crowning of the Queen at noon at the Municipal Building, followed by the Dogwood Parade down Washington Avenue and through the streets of Vinton, led by the Dogwood Court in horse-drawn carriage.

There are dozens of craft vendors, food vendors, churches, and organizations signed up for this year's Dogwood event. The Houffs start by contacting last year's vendors to see if they would like to participate again and then advertised for others who might be interested. They accept a variety of crafters and attempt to limit duplication. This year, Callie has been posting the products of some of the craft vendors on the Dogwood Festival Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/vintondogwoodfestival>.



Callie Houff Webb (on left) and Brittany Lane were members of the Dogwood Court in 2010 and went on to become volunteers with the annual festival.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

facebook.com/vintondogwoodfestival.

In addition to Connie and Callie, this year's Dogwood Festival Committee is led by President Beth Abbott; Co-Vice President, Food Vendor Committee Chair, and Carnival Co-Chair Chasity Barbour; Co-Vice President and Treasurer Jeff Teass; Fundraising and Sponsorship Committee Chair Karen Obenchain; Queen and Court Committee Chair Susan Teass; Entertainment Committee Chair and Carnival Co-

Chair Joey Nicely; and Media Committee Chair Mary Beth Layman.

The Dogwood Festival is financed through fundraising events, donations, and sponsorships, along with fees from concessions, vendors, and the carnival.

Anyone interested in volunteering for this year's festival should contact Beth Abbott at [bethandtodd@cox.net](mailto:bethandtodd@cox.net) or call (540)556-6435. The committee will be delighted to hear from you, and it might turn into your family tradition as well.

Turmoil in the world's breadbasket adversely affecting Va. farmers

Russia's invasion of Ukraine is impacting global grain exports and production, oilseeds, fertilizer and petroleum, and is creating volatility for Virginia farmers.

"Ukraine is a country that's sensitive to shipping and sensitive to agricultural production," noted Robert Harper, Virginia Farm Bureau Federation grain manager. "Ukraine is one of the top five corn producers in the world."

Harper said that over 1 billion bushels of corn are exported from Ukraine, but because of the conflict, that crop will not be planted this year.

"This is creating extreme volatility in the futures markets," he explained.

Qu Dongyu, director general of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, wrote in a Morning Ag Clips op-ed that Russia is the world's largest exporter of wheat, and Ukraine is the fifth largest. Together, they supply 19% of the world's barley, 14% of wheat and 4% of corn, making up more than one-third of global cereal exports.

Since more than 30% of the world's wheat comes from the Black Sea nations like Russia and Ukraine, "traders

see that as 30% of the world's wheat disappearing," Harper said. "And the world is trying to figure out what we'll do if we lose 30% of our wheat."

Compounding this is the inability of commercial vessels to travel freely through the Black Sea, where Ukrainian ports have shuttered. That affects grains, crude oil and fertilizer, Harper noted. "Producers in Virginia will be dealing with the consequences of that."

Dr. Mark Alley, professor emeritus of crop and soil environmental sciences at Virginia Tech, told a gathering of cotton growers March 10 that the components of major fertilizers used in Virginia agriculture

also are affected.

"Belarus and Russia are significant exporters of potash and nitrogen, and these are now off the world market," Alley said. Fertilizer prices in the U.S. have increased as much as 200% from this time last year.

Lewis Everett, a cotton, peanut, and small grains farmer in Southampton County, said the rise in fertilizer prices is negatively affecting his farm.

He said even though prices for cotton are decent, inflation, supply issues and extremely high fertilizer costs mean that he'll operate in a deficit. "Even though we're looking at a high commodity price, our cost of production is going to offset the

margin difference in accelerated or inflated cotton price."

Everett added that he's concerned about the availability of supplies as well as the increasing costs of fertilizer and fuel. "And at what level of the ratio between the commodity price and the cost of production does it fall out at a net margin?"

He said the cost of nitrogen has more than doubled, and he typically applies it to the cotton throughout the growing season. "So that's just one fertilizer product ... that will definitely sting a little bit as we move into the '22 production year."

From Virginia's Farm Bureau

TOWN OF VINTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND INVITATION TO BID

PROPOSED SELLING AND GRANTING OF A COMPETITIVE CABLE FRANCHISE TO OPERATE A CABLE SYSTEM TO PROVIDE CABLE SERVICE WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF VINTON, VIRGINIA AND INVITATION TO BID

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 15.2-2108.20 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, and the Cable Communications Act of 1984, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 521 et seq., the Town Council of the Town of Vinton, Virginia, hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. to consider approving an Ordinance proposing to sell and grant one or more competitive cable franchises to operate a cable systems to provide cable service within the territorial limits of the Town of Vinton, Virginia.

In addition, the Town shall publicly receive bids for the proposed franchise for a competitive cable franchise to operate a cable system to provide cable service within the territorial limits of the Town of Vinton, Virginia from other providers. Interested parties shall submit bids in writing by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5, 2022 to Susan N. Johnson, Town Clerk, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia. Any bids will be opened in public session and marked for identification by the Town Clerk. The cost of this public session shall be paid by the town which shall be reimbursed by the company to whom the franchise is granted. The town shall have the right to reject any and all bids and reserves this right in the advertisement.

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

Susan N. Johnson  
Town Clerk

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**ANGLICAN**

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

**BAPTIST (SOUTHERN)**

**MINERAL SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH & CHRISTIAN SCHOOL** - 1030 Bible Lane, Vinton, Va. 24179. Church Phone 890-4465. Rev. Jason Gault. Sunday Services: Traditional Service, 8:45 AM, Sunday School, 10:00 AM, Contemporary Service, 11:00 AM, Evening Worship 6:00 PM, Wednesday Services: AWANA 6:30 PM, Bible Study 7:00 PM

**BAPTIST (COOPERATIVE)**

**VINTON BAPTIST CHURCH** - 219 Washington Ave., Vinton, Virginia. 343-7685. Rev. Travis Russell. Sunday Services: Contemporary Service 8:45 a.m., Sunday School 9:50 a.m., Traditional Service 11:00 a.m., Wednesday Services: Family Dinner: 5:30 p.m., Bible Study 6:15 p.m., Children's Ministries 6:15 p.m., Youth Ministry 6:30 p.m. [www.vintonbaptistchurch.org](http://www.vintonbaptistchurch.org).

**CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

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

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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

**ECKANKAR**

**Eckankar, the Path of Spiritual Freedom**, is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. However, due to COVID-19, the Light & Sound Services and other ECK programs are currently available online through Zoom. Visit [www.eck-va.org](http://www.eck-va.org) for program listings, [www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group](http://www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group), or call 540-353-5365 and leave a message. We will return your call. Also visit [www.eckankar.org](http://www.eckankar.org) for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar lead you to spiritual freedom.

**FOUR SQUARE**

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

**LUTHERAN**

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

# Vinton

# Worship Directory

## REPUTATION

Read Psalms 3:1-8; 69:1-36

Whenever a Christian public figure sins, or any of God's people sins, unsaved people inevitably cry, "Hypocrite! I won't be a Christian if that's what they're like!" As the body of Christ, when one of us sins, we all share in the bad characterization. Because we represent Christ to the world, our good or bad reputation reflects on Him.

May those who hope in you not be disgraced because of me, O Lord, the Lord Almighty; may those who seek you not be put to shame because of me, O God of Israel (Psalm 69:6).

David had sinned before God, and was deeply repentant. David's main concerns were not that his transgression be concealed or that his reputation be saved. One of his foremost prayers was that God's reputation and that of God's people would be protected from disgrace and shame. Perhaps this is one of the many reasons why David was called "a man after God's own heart."

Prayer for Today: Holy Spirit, please help me to remember that secret sins are not secret. Please help me to focus on giving You a good name before the world and my fellow believers.

Quicklook: Psalm 69:1-6

**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](mailto: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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**Legals - Botetourt County**

**Trustee's Sale 3772 Lithia Road, Buchanan, VA 24066 (Parcel ID: 77-38B)**

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust endorsed on April 13, 2012, in the original principal amount of \$136,694.30 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Botetourt, Virginia on April 27, 2012, as Instrument Number 120001762, and modified by a Loan Modification Agreement recorded on January 11, 2017, as Instrument Number 170000150, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on April 27, 2022 at 2:00 PM, in front of the building housing the County of Botetourt Circuit Court, 1 W. Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090, the property designated as New Parcel 38A-1, containing 1.250 acres, more or less, as more fully shown on that certain "Family Division for Ralph L., Jr. and Rebecca S. Watts", dated October 31, 2006, prepared by Kyle D. Austin, Land Surveyor, and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Plat Book 39, Page 20. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions, if any, of record, or other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the

**Legals - Botetourt County**

premises. TERMS: CASH. A deposit of \$13,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than \$9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review upon request before the sale, outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector. Tromberg, Morris & Poulin, PLLC on behalf of Southeast Equity Trustees, LLC and/or Auction.com-VA, LLC, Substitute Trustee(s),

**Legals - Botetourt County**

413 Stuart Circle, Suite 314, Richmond, VA 23220, File No. 21-000116, Tel: 561-338-4101.

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**LIVESTOCK SALES**

Knoll Crest Farm Spring Bull and Female Sale, Saturday, April 9, 2022 at Noon. Featuring 80+ Angus, Polled Hereford, Gelbvieh and Balancer Bulls. 40 Elite Registered Angus, Hereford & Balancer Bred Heifers. 75+ Commercial Bred Heifers. Knoll Crest Farm, Red House, VA 434-376-3567. Call or visit KnollCrestFarm.com to pre-register!

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HIRING? We can help you fill your open positions! Promote job

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listings regionally or statewide! Affordable Print and Digital Advertising Solutions reaching potential candidates. Call this paper or Landon Clark at Virginia Press Services 804-521-7576, HYPERLINK "mailto:landonc@vpa.net" landonc@vpa.net

**SERVICES**

**DIVORCE-Uncontested**, \$395+\$86 court cost. **WILLS** \$225.00. No court appearance. Estimated completion time twenty-one days. Hilton Oliver, Attorney (Facebook). 757-490-0126. Se Habla Espanol. BBB Member. HYPERLINK "https://hiltonoliverattorneyva.com"

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<https://hiltonoliverattorneyva.com>.

Up to \$15,000.00 of GUARANTEED Life Insurance! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company- 844-509-1697 or visit HYPERLINK "http://www.Life55plus.info/vapress" www.Life55plus.info/vapress

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**BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE**

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

**15% OFF** YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE + **5% OFF** TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS ONLY!

**10% OFF** SENIORS & MILITARY! WE INSTALL YEAR-ROUND!

**FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!**  
Promo Code: 285  
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CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE **1-877-614-6667**

Mon-Thu: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

\*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. \*\*Offer valid at time of estimate only. The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16-month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2018 and recognized LeafFilter as the "#1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America." Manufactured in Hamlet, Michigan and processed at LMT Mercer Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. CSLM #103579 DOPL #103855-5501 License# 7656 License# 50169 License# 41354 License# 9338 License# 128364 License# 218284 WAJSHR 00223377 License# 21021756 License# 2108212346 License# 2701821234 License# LEAFFINW22Z License# W005912 License# WC-2998-1177 NASSAU HIC License# 101007070 Registration# 17444 Registration# HIC264299 Registration# C127229 Registration# C127229 Registration# 366202018 Registration# PCL676 Registration# W231804 Registration# 13VH0993900 Registration# PA60383 Suffolk HIC License# 21225-H License# 220116445 StateReg# 20200022 License# 252000403 License# 6066990 Registration# H119114

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CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE  
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\*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

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**\$500 OFF** OR **No Payments & No Interest for 18 Months\*\***  
Military & Senior Discounts Available  
OFFER EXPIRES June 30, 2022

**CALL NOW!**  
**BCI BATH & SHOWER (844) 945-1631**

\*\*Includes product and labor: bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 6/30/2022. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. \*\*\*Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2022 BCI Acrylic Inc.



# Marketplace



THE FINCASTLE HERALD

The Vinton Messenger

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

News Messenger

RADFORD News Journal

## Services - Business

**Hill Turner Landscaping**  
Mowing, mulching, power washing, driveway sealing, brush removal, hedge and bush trimming. Radford & vicinity. Reasonable prices. Call (540)320-6973 or (540)392-4447.

## Wanted - To Buy

**Cash paid Coin Collections or Indian artifacts 540-988-2420**

## Yard Sales - Botetourt County

## \*ESTATE SALE - BLOW OUT SALE - LAST CHANCE\*

Continuation of Three Generation including some items from Lithia General Store Saturday, April 2, 2022 - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Please check EstateSales.org for photos and additional information 3012 Lithia Road, Buchanan, VA. Please be considerate of parking. Do not block neighbors or others in attendance.

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS OR INJURY ON PROPERTY.

Lots of quality items left - including antiques, primitives, mid century modern and newer. Loveseat, highboy, maple hutch and corner cabinet, Kimball piano. The old voting ballot box for Botetourt County, old army cot, porcelain enameled kitchen table with 3 chairs, Roll top deck and office desk with glass top, pressure cookers complete with books, Blue speckled enameled baking pans, Revere ware, corning, Pyrex, some depression, china - Independence Ironware 44 pcs, beautiful crystal including Candlewick, princess house, beautiful old books, vintage 1950's children's books, unique paint by number paintings, prints and lithographs, antique mahogany bed and dresser and mirror (painted white), Wooden saddle stirrups, wooden croquet set, handmade wood frames, lots vintage Christmas, Thanksgiving and misc. holiday decorations. Dishes, ceramics, needle work, quilts, afghans. Beautiful vintage classic clothing. Oriental carpet, and so much more.

Come and stock up - last chance.

## Auctions



## Farm Retirement Auction

of Mrs. Kathryn L. Bush and The Late Rodney Bush Saturday, April 2nd, 2022 9a.m 292 Shawnee Trail, Troutville, VA 24175

Internet Bidding Available on some Equipment at www.CircleCAuction.com VA AF# 2908001046 Sale Order Cattle, Tools/Shop Equipment, Tractors/ Farm Equipment Finishing on Miscellaneous

**Cattle:**  
30+/- Angus and Angus Cross Brood Cows  
15+/- will be Cow/Calf Pairs with the Balance being Bred  
One Coming 5 year Old Angus Bull  
All Cattle will be vet checked prior to the auction for Pregnancy and Age

200+/- of 2020 First Cutting 4'x5' Round Bales, String Tied Outside Kept

## Auctions

Tractors:  
New Holland T4.75 with 665 TL Loader (Skidsteer Attach) - only 353 hours  
John Deere 5055E with 553 Loader - 2798 hours (being used daily to feed)  
New Holland TL80 with 52 Loader (Skidsteer Attach) - 789 hours  
New Holland T4040 - 700 hours  
Case 1390 - showing 1379 hours - approximately 2300 on the tractor  
Case 580B construction series backhoe with 24" & 12" buckets  
Hay Equipment:  
New Holland BR7060, twine tie - less than 10,000 Bales  
New Holland 316 Square Baler  
New Holland H7220 Discbine with Rubber Roller Conditioners  
New Holland 488 Haybine - used less than 10 acres (like new)  
New Holland 474 Haybine  
New Holland 451 7' sickle bar mower  
Two New Holland 258 Rolabar Rakes (one has never been used)  
New Holland 163 Four baskets hydraulic fold tedder  
Two Basket tedder  
Two New Holland 80 3PT hitch bale carriers  
Four Flatbed Haywagons - 18'  
Equipment:  
2014 Cornpro 16' bumper pull livestock trailer  
Titan 1808P 8' pull type rotary cutter  
Tarter 3PT woven wire unroller (never used)  
LandPride RTA2072 3-point hitch tiller  
Woods 6' 3PT bushog  
2 Wheel flatbed cart  
Skidsteer pallet forks, bale spears (two)  
Two pull type discs  
Shaver HD10 3PT post driver  
Two 3PT potato plows  
Danuser F-8 post hole auger  
9" & 4" auger bits  
Ford 501 16' two bottom plow  
Bushog 90-08 8' 3pt scraper blade  
Quick attach 9' front blade  
Skid Steer (converts to a box blade)  
Herd 3PT Hitch Spreader  
Two Troy-Blit "Horse Rear Tine Trillers"  
FMC 3PT hitch sprayer with booms  
Tarter Creep Feeder  
Round Bale Rings  
Tarter American Squeeze Chute  
Shop Tools:  
Two Hydraulic Presses  
Vices  
Workbenches  
Air Compressors  
Wrenches  
Manual Tire Changers  
Metal Band Saw  
Log Chains  
Chain Binders  
And Much More, too  
Numerous to List

Terms: 5% Buyers Premium (EXCEPT FOR CATTLE), Cash, Good Check or Card (4%), Announcements made on the day of the sale will take precedence over any written matter. Everything is sold "As is - Where is" with NO implied or expressed warranty. Items are represented to the best of our knowledge, Hours and Mileage are Noted, But Not Guaranteed by Auctioneer or Seller, Auction company, Auctioneer, and/or seller assume no liability in the event of an accident on the grounds of the auction. Good Food by Mill Creek Baptist Church Auctioneers  
Cody L. Manspile - Lead Auctioneer VA AL# 2907004430  
Linford Berry- VA AL #2907004397  
Marcus A. Showalter- VA AL# 2907004772

## Cemetery Plots & Monuments

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New Castle  
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## For Sale - Firewood

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Mixed Hardwood.  
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Delivery in Botetourt only

## For Sale - Furniture

**Moving Sale**  
Two sofas, garden tiller, bookcase, round kitchen table, four chairs, Medicraft table with four chairs. Call 540-525-6747

## For Sale - Misc

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

## Help Wanted - Clerical

## Deputy Clerk Botetourt County Circuit Court

Botetourt County Circuit Court Clerk's Office will have a full time position for Deputy Clerk beginning April 11, 2022. General knowledge of Circuit Court system, ability to operate computers, computerized cash register, other office equipment and information system equipment; ability to communicate effectively and tactfully with the public; ability to read and understand legal documents; and ability to maintain confidentiality of information handled are all requirements of the job. High School diploma required plus additional education preferred. Apply at Clerk's Office of Circuit Court, Fincastle, Virginia by April 1, 2022. Salary within the Deputy Clerk scale. Applications are available at Botetourt County Circuit Court Clerk's Office and on the Botetourt County Virginia Human Resource page.

## Help Wanted - General

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

## Part Time Newspaper Production Help

The Salem TimesRegister has openings for afternoon/evening shift work inserting, labeling and bundling newspapers for delivery. No experience necessary. Hours may vary. Will train. \$7.50 per hour. Contact Lynn Hurst, General Manager, Salem-Times Register (540)389-9355 or email lhurst@ourvalley.org

## Help Wanted Salem

Start 4/16. Weeding, trimming and planting. \$15/hour+. Flexible hours, will train. Text your name to 602-663-3003

## Legals - City of Salem

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the City of Salem (VMRC #22-0365) is requesting a permit from the Virginia Marine Resources Commission to replace the Apperson Drive Bridge over the Roanoke River with a clear span bridge that includes five (5) travel lanes, shared use path, and associated temporary work causeways and coffer dams, in the City of Salem. Send comments/inquiries within 15 days to: Marine Resources Commission, Habitat Management Division, 380 Fenwick Road, Bldg. 96, Hampton, VA, Virginia 23651 or [jpa\\_permits@mrc.virginia.gov](mailto:jpa_permits@mrc.virginia.gov).

## Notice

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on April 13, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

## Legals - City of Salem

1. Consider the request of Philip M. and Rachel C. Knouff, property owners, for the issuance of a Home Occupation Permit to allow a small-scale wholesale cut flower farm (garden) on the property located at 275 Ft. Lewis Boulevard. (Tax Map # 130-2-22).

2. Consider the request of MO Salem, LLC, property owner and Midland Atlantic Properties, property owner's management affiliate, to rezone the properties located at 1923 Electric Road and 1951 Electric Road (Tax Map # 284-1-2.2 and Tax Map # 284-1-2.3) from HBD with conditions to HBD with amended conditions to allow retail sales.

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

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

## Legals - City of Salem

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA

BY: James E. Taliaferro, II Executive Secretary

## Legals - Montgomery County

## ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Commonwealth of Virginia VA. CODE § 8.01-316  
**Case No. JJ004883-09-00**  
Floyd County  
Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court  
Floyd County DSS

v. Brandi Reed

The object of this suit is to: Terminate the residual parental rights of Brandi Reed, legal parent of Luna Kelley, a minor, in that said parent has, without good cause, failed to correct the conditions which resulted in the child entering foster care and it is not reasonably likely that they will be able to do so in a reasonable amount of time, failed to maintain continuing contact with the child and

## Legals - Montgomery County

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 Brandi Reed appear at the above-named Court and protect his or her interests on or before May 3, 2022.

2/22/22  
Nikki King  
Clerk

## Legals - Montgomery County

## ORDER OF PUBLICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
VA CODE §§ 1-211 1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104  
**Case No. CL22000468-00**  
Montgomery County Circuit Court  
55 East Main Street, Suite 1, Christiansburg, VA 24073  
Kassie Reese  
Landen Clement  
v.  
None  
The object of this suit is to: Name Change of a Minor  
It is ordered that Jeremy Raymond Clement appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before May 25, 2022.

March 23, 2022  
Judge K. Mike Fleenor, Jr.

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# LEGAL NOTICE

## County of Montgomery, Virginia

### Synopsis of Advertised Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

This budget synopsis is prepared and published pursuant to Section 15.2-2506 of Code of Virginia, for information and fiscal planning purposes only.

A hearing will be held by the Board of Supervisors on April 7, 2022 at 6:15 P.M. at the County Government Center Board Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia at which time any citizen of the County shall have the opportunity to attend and state his or her views on the advertised budget.

A copy of the Advertised Budget is available for inspection at the County Government Center, in the County Administrator's Office, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg; the Blacksburg Library, 200 Miller St., Blacksburg; the Christiansburg Library, 125 Shelton St., Christiansburg; the Meadowbrook Library, 267 Allegheny Springs Road, Shawsville; the Blacksburg Community Center, 725 Patrick Henry Dr., Blacksburg; the Christiansburg Recreation Center, 1600 N. Franklin St., Christiansburg; the Blacksburg Municipal Building, in the Town Manager's Office, 300 S. Main St., Blacksburg; and the Christiansburg Town Hall, in the Town Manager's Office, 100 E. Main St., Christiansburg.

EXPENDITURES:	FY 2022	FY 2023	Increase (Decrease)
	Budget	Advertised Budget	
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT:</b>			
Board of Supervisors	\$ 282,503	\$ 282,521	\$ 18
County Administration	\$ 2,139,175	\$ 3,420,597	\$ 1,281,422
County Attorney	\$ 392,712	\$ 395,987	\$ 3,275
Finance	\$ 1,026,940	\$ 1,100,302	\$ 73,362
Insurance	\$ 210,695	\$ 230,695	\$ 20,000
Information Technology	\$ 2,166,844	\$ 2,251,939	\$ 85,095
Commissioner of the Revenue-State	\$ 604,072	\$ 607,609	\$ 3,537
Assessment-100% County	\$ 501,438	\$ 483,425	\$ (18,013)
Treasurer-State	\$ 503,805	\$ 494,464	\$ (9,341)
Collections-100% County	\$ 501,782	\$ 458,110	\$ (43,672)
Electoral Board/Director of Elections	\$ 480,599	\$ 550,237	\$ 69,638
Commonwealth Attorney	\$ 1,363,990	\$ 1,377,342	\$ 13,352
Courts	\$ 271,939	\$ 275,888	\$ 3,949
Clerk of the Circuit Court	\$ 777,980	\$ 808,014	\$ 30,034
Sheriff-State	\$ 8,414,297	\$ 8,260,821	\$ (153,476)
Sheriff-100% County	\$ 7,374,033	\$ 7,473,269	\$ 99,236
Fire Departments and Rescue Squads	\$ 1,494,981	\$ 1,528,181	\$ 33,200
Animal Care and Adoption Center	\$ 665,885	\$ 696,830	\$ 30,945
General Services	\$ 6,775,341	\$ 6,936,621	\$ 161,280
Children's Services Act	\$ 1,651,969	\$ 1,651,969	\$ -
Human Services	\$ 401,863	\$ 393,713	\$ (8,150)
Public Health Department	\$ 604,488	\$ 615,000	\$ 10,512
Social Services	\$ 6,467,965	\$ 6,814,076	\$ 346,111
Parks & Recreation	\$ 1,321,070	\$ 1,424,223	\$ 103,153
Regional Library	\$ 2,398,052	\$ 2,392,230	\$ (5,822)
Planning & GIS	\$ 965,982	\$ 982,839	\$ 16,857
Economic Development	\$ 470,549	\$ 482,054	\$ 11,505
Other Agencies	\$ 2,804,425	\$ 2,860,159	\$ 55,734
Contingencies-General	\$ 536,307	\$ 583,307	\$ 47,000
Contingencies-Special	\$ 8,141	\$ 2,319,702	\$ 2,311,561
Revenue Refunds	\$ 195,000	\$ 195,000	\$ -
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>\$ 53,774,822</b>	<b>\$ 58,347,124</b>	<b>\$ 4,572,302</b>
<b>Law Library</b>	<b>\$ 17,600</b>	<b>\$ 17,600</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>SCHOOLS:</b>			
School Operating	\$ 121,984,741	\$ 126,380,044	\$ 4,395,303
School Capital	\$ 2,195,645	\$ 2,259,973	\$ 64,328
School Nutrition	\$ 4,633,474	\$ 4,633,474	\$ -
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>\$ 128,813,860</b>	<b>\$ 133,273,491</b>	<b>\$ 4,459,631</b>
<b>County Capital</b>	<b>\$ 3,580,645</b>	<b>\$ 3,644,973</b>	<b>\$ 64,328</b>
<b>Debt Service</b>	<b>\$ 24,722,725</b>	<b>\$ 24,722,725</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Economic Development</b>	<b>\$ 380,000</b>	<b>\$ 380,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>COUNTY TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 211,289,652</b>	<b>\$ 220,385,913</b>	<b>\$ 9,096,261</b>
<b>RESOURCES:</b>	<b>FY 2022 Budget</b>	<b>FY 2023 Advertised Budget</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>
<b>REVENUE:</b>			
<b>General Undesignated Revenue:</b>			
Current Property Taxes (1)	\$ 103,807,971	\$ 107,793,451	\$ 3,985,480
Delinquent/Other Property Tax Revenue	\$ 2,996,000	\$ 3,359,323	\$ 363,323
Sales and Use Tax	\$ 10,202,157	\$ 11,153,109	\$ 950,952
Undesignated Consumer Utility Tax	\$ 1,628,000	\$ 1,563,000	\$ (65,000)
Motor Vehicle Licenses	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ -
All Other Local Taxes	\$ 1,325,000	\$ 1,455,000	\$ 130,000
Interest on Investments	\$ 113,268	\$ 75,028	\$ (38,240)
All Other Undesignated Revenue	\$ 520,384	\$ 616,384	\$ 96,000
<b>Total Undesignated Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 121,392,780</b>	<b>\$ 126,815,295</b>	<b>\$ 5,422,515</b>
General Designated Revenue	\$ 15,115,770	\$ 16,494,213	\$ 1,378,443
Law Library Designated Revenue	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -
School Operating Designated Revenue	\$ 68,516,128	\$ 70,811,431	\$ 2,295,303
Other School Designated Resources	\$ 4,633,474	\$ 4,633,474	\$ -
Debt Service Designated	\$ 1,613,900	\$ 1,613,900	\$ -
<b>Total Designated Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 89,894,272</b>	<b>\$ 93,568,018</b>	<b>\$ 3,673,746</b>
Law Library Fund Balance	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,600	\$ -
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,600</b>	<b>\$ 2,600</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES</b>	<b>\$ 211,289,652</b>	<b>\$ 220,385,913</b>	<b>\$ 9,096,261</b>

(1) Real Estate Tax Rate based on \$0.89 per \$100 of Assessed Valuation. Personal Property Tax Rate Based on \$2.55 per \$100 Assessed Valuation.  
**By Order of the Board of Supervisors:**  
F. Craig Meadows, County Administrator  
County of Montgomery, Virginia

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# SPORTS

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## Former Byrd baseball coach recognized

Former William Byrd High School baseball coach Neil Zimmerman was recognized at the first baseball game of the season and thanked for his six years of coaching at WBHS. He was presented with a Terrier baseball jersey signed by the 2021 team. Zimmerman took over the job of head coach in 2015 and stepped down when the 2021 season ended. He grew up playing for outstanding youth teams in Vinton and was a sophomore on the 1997 state championship Terrier team. After graduating from Byrd in 1999, Zimmerman played four years at Ferrum College.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



## Spring break yields light schedule for high school sports teams

It's spring break for Roanoke County schools and there is a limited schedule of activities this week. There were no William Byrd High School sports activities on the schedule from Saturday, March 26 through today, March 31.

Things pick up on Friday with the Byrd baseball team at Carroll County, and on Saturday the Terriers will be at Hidden Valley for a jayvee-varsity doubleheader beginning at noon. The Byrd softball team has two games in Franklin County that day as the Eagles host an invitational.

Things pick back up with a full schedule of action next Tuesday, April 5th. All Terriers teams play Hidden Valley with the baseball, softball, girls' soccer and girls' tennis teams at home while the boys soccer and tennis teams go to Hidden Valley.

The first track meet of the season will be on Wednesday, April 6, at Staunton River. Byrd had a meet postponed by inclement weather last week.

A week from today, on April 7, the girls' lacrosse team is at William Fleming, the girls' soccer team is at Alleghany and the boys' soccer team will be home at Patterson Stadium to host Bassett.

## Larry Hall steps down from directing wrestling tournaments after 37 years

*Valley wrestling icon was first director of state tournaments at the Salem Civic Center and every one since*

Larry Hall isn't retiring from wrestling, he's just stepping back from being in charge. After being a wrestler, coach, referee and tournament director for close to 60 years the sport is in his blood.

"Larry is 'Mr Wrestling' in Southwest Virginia," said Carey Harvey-cutter, who worked closely with Hall during state tournaments when Carey managed the Salem Civic Center. "He coordinated the VHSL events in Salem for over 20 years and coordinated the NCAA DIII Championship in Roanoke a few years ago. He has unbelievable skills in coordinating massive wrestling events."

That's what Larry is stepping away from. When he directed the Class 1, 2 and 3 state championships at the Salem Civic Center in February the "Big Dance" was his last dance.

"I told everyone I needed to get out of directing tournaments," he said. "It takes a tremendous amount of time and I have some other things I need to deal with. I'll still come watch and maybe be a scorer for them. I've always said the best seat for a match is to be the referee, and the next best is the score-keeper."

Larry has indeed been "Mr. Wrestling" in the Roanoke Valley and beyond for many years. He's a charter member of the area wrestling Hall of Fame and a familiar face at most of the big tournaments in the area. He served as director for the Titan Toughman, the Big Orange, the Region 3D tournaments and many other events in the past year and in prior years.

"Larry Hall has taken wrestling in the Roanoke Valley to where it currently is," said Lord Botetourt coach Chuck Burton. "He has put in countless hours to our great sport and has done so with the best interest of the wrestlers at all times. He will surely be missed by many in the Roanoke Valley, but I'm sure he'll always be around if needed."

No doubt, as Larry has been around or on the mats since he was a 95 pound sophomore at Northside High School in 1963. Ken Shelton, who is revered

to this day by many as the father of wrestling in the Roanoke Valley, had just taken a job as the Viking coach. He would go on to build a strong program at Northside and was a mentor to many as the sport took hold in the area.

"I was his first Northside wrestler to step on the mat, and I got his first win," said Hall. "He was a fantastic coach. He taught me everything I knew."

Shelton led the Vikings to three straight region championships in his first three years. Larry placed at the state when all schools in Virginia participated in just one tournament, and earned a partial scholarship to Appalachian State to wrestle in college.

"Five of the 10 wrestlers on a very powerful Appalachian State team were from Northside," said Hall, who joined former Vikings Dickie Myers, Ron Childress, Stan Parker and Ivan Winston on the Mountaineer mats. There he wrestled for another outstanding coach, Steve Gabriel.

"He coached at Appalachian High School and never lost a match in 20 some years," said Hall. "His closest match was against Northside when I was on the team."

Larry wrestled four years at Appalachian State and then served two years as a graduate assistant. It was at that time that he was introduced to another aspect of the sport, officiating.

"I was a junior in college and the coach asked me if I wanted to referee a high school match," he recalls. "They had a win streak of 63 matches and that night they lost. Their AD was the former wrestling coach at the school and he comes in the lockerroom after the match, balls up the check and throws it at me and tells me to never come back again. I guess some people just have to blame their losses on someone else."

In 1970 Larry returned to Northside to succeed his mentor, Ken Shelton, as Vikings' wrestling coach. Shelton had taken a job at the The Citadel as wrestling coach and professor and Larry kept the tradition alive. In his eight years as coach the Vikings won the

Blue Ridge District all eight years and won the region four times.

"We had some really good teams," he said. "A lot of the kids went to college and we had some All-Americans."

In 13 years at Northside he coached golf, freshman football, girls' track and tennis before moving to William Fleming for four years, where he coached soccer. He spent a year at James River as athletic director and assistant principal, then spent three years as principal at the Botetourt Technical Education Center. That was followed by 17 years as Director of Operations for Botetourt County Schools.

During that time he never stepped away from



Larry Hall enjoys his last weekend of directing state wrestling at the Salem Civic Center in February.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

the mats. He started officiating after he quit coaching, and in addition to doing high school matches he refereed at the Southern Conference Tournament and the NCAA Division III regional.

In 1987 the Virginia High School League held the Class 1 state tournament at Natural Bridge High School and Larry was appointed as Director. Three years later he talked to Larry Johnson of the VHSL and Harvey-cutter about combining Class 1 & 2 and holding it at the Salem Civic Center. That was 31 years ago and the civic center has been hosting state wrestling ever since, with Hall as Director. At one time the civic center had four classes all on the same weekend, and most recently it has hosted Class 1, 2 and 3.

Times have changed during that time. When Larry started everything was done on paper, and now everything is wireless with matches streamed for fans to watch on their computers.

While a lot has changed, one thing has remained the same. . . Larry Hall has been in charge. Now, that will change as well.

"For the past 12 years there's been a tournament about every weekend," he said. "It's gotten to where it just takes up too much of my time. They're starting in November and, with the colleges, it goes all the way into March."

Larry's patient wife, Debbie, will glad to see him at home on weekends. Their two daughters, Carla and Hollie, went to James River where Hollie played on a state championship softball team. Carla would sing the national anthem at the state championship finals.

"It's hard on the family," he said. "When Hollie scored her 1,000th point in basketball I didn't get to see it."

The local high school coaches appreciate what he's done.

"Running a wrestling tournament is a thankless job -- if everything goes

great no one notices but the minute something goes wrong everyone notices," said Glenvar coach Jason Cline. "Larry has been a staple of wrestling in Virginia for years and he's run a lot of great tournaments in the area."

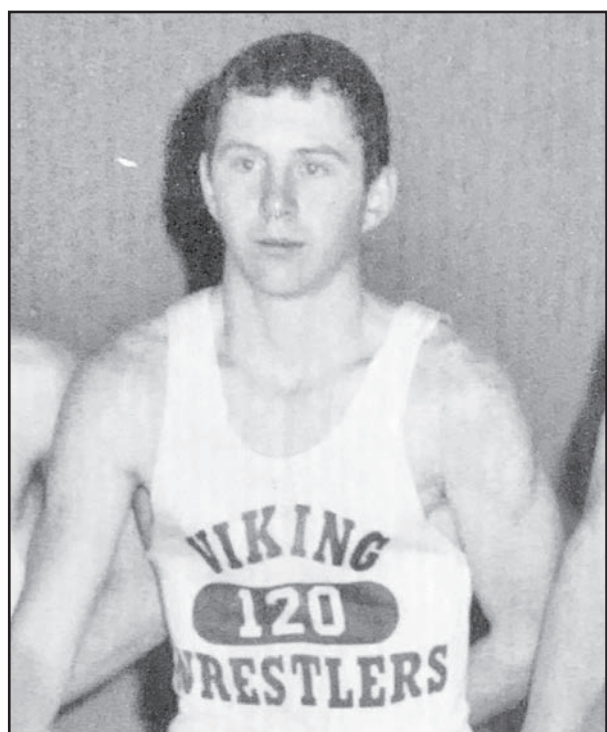
"One thing that lots of folks don't see is the time that he and his crew of workers devote to these tournaments ends up generating donations that give local kids scholarships through the Roanoke Valley Wrestling Association. Every year that organization has given thousands of dollars toward wrestlers furthering their education and he's been leading that organization for as long as I can remember. Wrestling's an intense sport but Larry's always been a calm presence at the head scorer's table and the impact he's had on countless kids' lives is immeasurable. He will be missed."

Hall also served as Mayor of Buchanan for six years, and he's currently serving as "Clerk of the Works" for the renovation project at Salem High School.

Larry trained Tyler Deacon, the athletic director at Northside High, to take over the role of directing tournaments. With Hall at his side Tyler directed the Region 3D tournament at Northside in February and Larry is comfortable turning over the reins to Deacon.

"In my 37 years working with the VHSL I've made so many friends in our wrestling family," he said. "I think we've run great tournaments and we have the best officials, I've prided myself on that."

"It's been a lot of work, but it's been a lot of fun, too. To be at the state finals and see the lights go out and the red and green smoke as they enter the arena to be introduced and try to win a state championship, that's just great fun. It's something I really enjoy, and I'm still planning to be there."



Hall won the first match coached by legendary Northside coach Ken Shelton when Larry was a sophomore on the Vikings wrestling team.

# Chen

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mended RVCS because of its excellent reputation and its long history of a strong international program. In the 2021-2022 school year, RVCS has two students from Mainland China and three from Taiwan.

Currently a junior, Matt is enrolled in Calculus, Chemistry, American History, English, Bible, art, and computer courses, with art his favorite. He no longer studies formally with Dreyer Coaching in his off hours from school. However, the Dreyers seem to include English instruction in everyday conversation and make every effort to expand his vocabulary in a “natural environment,” just as they would with their children.

Matt has made excellent progress at the school in his three years there. He is already preparing for the next step in his education, taking his PSAT and SATs and considering various four-year colleges and universities.

He will also be taking the challenging Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), which measures the English language ability of non-native speakers wishing to enroll in English-speaking universities. The tests cover English reading, listening, speaking, and writing skills and indicate the ability to apply the language.

Scott says Matt’s scores have been “awesome.” He is being recruited by colleges,

receiving mail almost daily from schools “interested in him.” Currently, the University of Pittsburgh is at the top of his list, mainly because of his friends there.

Matt is contemplating what to major in. He is currently focused on biology, considering a career as a physician’s assistant.

Matt came to the United States interested in sports—he has a passion for badminton. Unfortunately, he has found little opportunity to continue with that sport, but he plays soccer quite well. In October 2021, he was awarded the coveted Coaches’ Award at RVCS.

“This is a huge honor that shows his coaches not only appreciate his athletic skills but also his leadership, character, and determination,” Scott said.

“Some people just have a commanding presence,” his coach said in presenting the award. “Some may be in a place of authority or leadership; some may have strength or great physical gifts, but others may not. They just have an attitude, a swagger, a confidence. This player just has a swagger. A walk. It’s like he’s listening to some smooth jazz, and the rest of us don’t know what we are missing. Whether he is strolling onto the field or sauntering off, he is in charge.

“He has a quiet grace, and I can only remember him getting angry at the other team or the referee once all season on a call he

deserved. If he got mad at other times, he expressed it in ways I couldn’t understand. He played the point position for us most of the season and ended the year with four goals and one assist, and his quiet and relaxed leadership at the front of our formation was important for some of our younger players. It is for these reasons I awarded him the 2021 Coaches’ Award; he was also a Virginia Association of Christian Athletics (VACA) All-State finalist.”

Matt still communicates regularly on weekends with his family via Facetime and WeChat. His mother still teaches; his father, a chemist, has now retired. He says one of the challenges to living in America, separated from his family, is missing his younger brother, now seven years old. He says his parents have discussed sending his brother to the United States to study, perhaps when he reaches middle school age.

The original plan was for Matt to spend the school year living in Vinton with the Dreyers and then return home to his family in China each summer. The pandemic disrupted that plan, which struck in the spring of 2020. Because of all the health and travel restrictions, he could not return home to visit his family that first summer.

However, he made it home to China last summer in 2021—although it



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

## Chinese student Matt Chen with Scott Dreyer of Dreyer Coaching.

was a long and complicated endeavor, it was almost overwhelming.

Matt began making plans in January last year. He bought his tickets early for a May departure. Still, Matt had much to deal with on his way home to visit his family—COVID testing en route, talks with consulates, quarantining for several weeks in San Francisco, Shanghai, and Beijing. Because he was under the age of 18 at the time, he stayed in Airbnb’s, not a hotel. As a result, he’ll be staying put in America this coming summer.

Matt has been able to do more traveling within

the U.S. now that restrictions are easing. He visited Disney World over Thanksgiving with international student friends and looks forward to taking his family there when they can come to visit.

Matt isn’t driving yet, although that is on his to-do list. He has his learner’s permit but says he needs to buy a car before getting his driver’s license. Since he is here on a student visa, Matt is not permitted to get a job, unlike many of his friends.

As for Dreyer Coaching, the school is still thriving. During these difficult times internationally, the benefits

of online English instruction are obvious—small student-focused classes of no more than six students; professional, experienced native-speaking English teachers teaching in English with American textbooks; classes conducted safely at home available at any time with parents able to observe; and courses offered year-round which can be accessed from anywhere in the world.

For more information on Dreyer Coaching, visit their website at [www.Dreyercoaching.com](http://www.Dreyercoaching.com) or their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/DreyerCoaching>.

# Never Give Up

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tary school as the only non-hearing person, to learning tennis and upsetting the junior tennis world, to winning a walk-on spot on his college squad, and finally making the United States Tennis Team in the Deaf World Games.”

“With the help of his family, Minns is able to make it in a hearing world—and with the help of God, he is able to win this never-to-be-forgotten match.”

Eldridge describes the film as “The Blind Side meets Rocky—on the tennis court.”

ReelWorks is based in Charlotte. They have worked with Liberty University and their film students in the past on other projects. Eldridge says they like to produce films that have inspirational messages for the general market. He was especially touched by the story of Brad Minns, who learned to communicate by reading lips.

Eldridge says the film company is glad to give back by mentoring students from Liberty who have declared a major in film and giving upperclassmen hands-on experience working with the professionals from ReelWorks. Often when students graduate from college, they have little practical experience to list on their resumes as they apply for jobs; this group can say they helped produce “Never Give Up.”

As for how the company ended up filming a scene for

the movie in Vinton, the location manager from Liberty came across photos of Jerry’s online. They needed a nostalgic setting from the 1970s and ‘80s. Jerry’s projects that atmosphere, filled with memorabilia from those times.

The location manager came and took some photos, showed them to those in charge of the production, who decided it was “perfect for the film.”

Owner Jerry Lamb first opened the restaurant on Washington Avenue 18 years ago in 2004. He says he has gathered all the vintage pieces on display on the shelves and the walls of his restaurant from yard and consignment sales through the years and gifts he has received from others.

The film students were careful to take photos of the mementos in their places so that they could be returned to the correct spot once the filming ended. Students are taught to “respect the location you are working in and maintain its integrity.”

Eldridge says the company mainly films in “practical locations” to create an “authentic feel.”

Filming for “Never Give Up” began on March 22 in locations within a 50-mile radius of Lynchburg. He expects filming to be completed in the middle of April with plans to release the film in the second quarter of 2023.

Last week’s filming was a tennis court scene at a private school in Lynchburg, then on spring break. Next week’s scene will depict the Minns’ home, using another Lynchburg location.

The film segment at Jerry’s came from the middle of the story as Brad Minns (at age 7), and his mother dined out. Jerry and his general manager Lisa Payne were actually preparing some of the props for the movie to feed 25—chicken nuggets, hot dogs, grilled cheese, French fries—but not the sausage poofs and strawberry jam that made Jerry’s famous. Additionally, one of the film students created some “fake ice cream” with strawberries and yogurt.

The restaurant was overflowing with film equipment—lights, cameras, monitors, microphones, dollies, and more. Setting up took several hours. Eldridge says, “most of the time, it takes all morning to get a minute’s worth of actual usable film.”

He says that as a producer, most of his work was completed before the beginning of filming. He was on the set mainly to answer questions and solve problems.

One challenge they faced on this movie shoot was finding four young men whose features were similar enough to play Minns as he matured from age 3 to 7 to 14 to 20.

Scotty Curlee, a professor in the film department

at Liberty and co-producer of “Never Give Up,” was on hand for the filming in Vinton. He said that his students had received both general and specialized training to prepare them for the film’s production.

Patrick Jamison, a junior at LU who serves as background coordinator for the film, was responsible for coming up with the “extras” needed to fill the tables in the restaurant during the scene. He said that mainly he found them by word-of-mouth and networking, reaching out to attract those who might want to be part of the telling of this story. He said he has chosen film as a career because he “loves getting to tell stories that will impact people in a positive way.”

The actual filming session opened with Scripture, prayer, and reminders about safety on the set. The company and LU had done their best to ensure personal safety with COVID testing before filming began last week and required masks, except for the actors as they were performing.

The film crew was also admonished not to try crossing busy Washington Avenue to Lynn Haven Baptist Church, a holding and catering area for the film crew and actors, but to wait for transportation.

One Liberty student commented that the filming was “a bit chaotic, super fun, and

a great learning experience—although getting up at 5 a.m. is a little daunting.”

A junior from Charlottesville, Joe Housel, explained that the film is this year’s “Junior Class Project.” All of the students on the crew are members of the junior class at LU. Every spring, students enrolled in the Junior Film Class participate in a special hands-on project, hopefully actually producing a film. They indicate which niche in film production they might want to explore and hopefully are assigned to that duty. Most are more interested in working behind the camera than in front as actors.

This is a four-week endeavor. Some students majoring in specific fields will continue into the editing process. Housel said he isn’t sure where his film major will take him, but he believes he has some talents in the field and has a “Christian obligation to use his talents for the glory of God.”

ReelWorks will be releasing another film completed in conjunction with LU, entitled “The Mulligan Movie,” on April 18 and 19, on about 1000 screens across the nation—including Lynchburg and Roanoke. Sixty Liberty students were involved with that project, which featured some notable actors, including Eric Close, Nancy Stafford, and Pat Boone, and was filmed in North Georgia.



Jerry’s Restaurant on Washington Avenue turned into a movie production site for “Never Give Up” on March 29.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

From left are Jerry’s Restaurant General Manager Lisa Payne, owner Jerry Lamb, and ReelWorks Studios CEO Rick Eldridge