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PHOTO BY MANDIE BAKER

Officer Grant William Shepherd was sworn in as Vinton's newest law enforcement officer at the Town Council meeting on May 17. Shown left to right are Police Chief Fabricio Drumond, Maddie Shepherd, Officer Grant Shepherd, and Deputy Chief Tim Lawless.

Town Council reviews proposed budget, public hearing scheduled for June 7

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Vinton Town Council members invite residents of the town to a public hearing on the proposed FY2022-2023 budget on June 7.

Budget development has become almost a year-round process, but adoption of the final budget is due by June 30, and the document is now in its final stages, awaiting public input. Adoption is planned for June 21.

Town Manager Pete Peters presented an overview of the recommended budget to council at the meeting on May 17 with \$17,744,709 in expected revenues and a matching \$17,744,709 in planned expenditures (local governments in Virginia must adopt balanced budgets). The proposed 2022-2023 budget represents an increase of 28.4% over the last fiscal year budget.

The past year and upcoming year are an anomaly as relates to Vinton's financial situation with both one-time gains in revenue from various funds and grants related to the pandemic and proceeds from the sale of the utility system to the Western Virginia Water Authority. These one-time gains have allowed the town to plan for a variety of capital improvement projects that have been delayed for several years due to budget constraints.

Peters opened the briefing by reminding council members that the budget is based on a strategic plan adopted by Town Council in 2020 which focuses:

- Enhancing the town's infrastructure and livability
- Maintaining an efficient and high-performing government

See **Town Council**, page 6

WBHS celebrates Class of 2022 scholarship and award winners

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

William Byrd High School held its annual Senior Awards Program on May 17 to announce the winners of awards and scholarships by the Class of 2022. The program is sponsored by the PTSO.

PTSO President Kori Webb welcomed the students and their families in attendance. WBHS Principal Tammy Newcomb thanked the PTSO, the faculty, staff, parents, students, and participants in the ceremony for everything they have done to make this a successful school year.

Madison Burks, SCA president for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year, thanked the seniors who have led the Student Council Association in the current year, presenting SCA awards to current President Emilie McCaskill, Claire Wray, Alexa Aquino, Hannah Sutton, Jaiden Lorton, Grace Saunders, Hunter Sipe, and Jocelyn Hunter.

The PTSO Senior Awards Assembly includes the presentation of many scholarships established in memory of former students, past educators or community leaders. Many scholarships are presented by local organizations as well.

The following scholarships and awards were presented on May 17:

Kori Webb presented two \$500 WBHS PTSO Scholarships to Nathan Hinkle and Nathan Andersen.

Charlie and Carolee Lovelace presented Dr. Charlie J. "Jay" Lovelace III Memorial Scholarships to Emilie McCaskill and Landon Niday. Recipients of these \$1,000 scholarships must be members of Vinton Baptist Church and

See **Class of 2022**, page 7



WBHS senior Samantha Shramer was awarded a four-year full tuition scholarship to Hollins University.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

WBHS senior Ross Divers won the first Dee Graybill Memorial Baseball Scholarship and the Tina Cook Woods Memorial Scholarship.

Roanoke County School Board recognizes multiple student award winners



Among those recognized by the Roanoke County School Board as first place winners in state competition were (left to right) Olivia Bott (Glenvar), Dakota Vaughan (WBHS), and Skylar Fitzgerald (WBHS) from the FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) who won first place in Professional Presentation. They are shown with School Board member Mike Wray.



State winners in the SkillsUSA competition for Occupational Display were (left to right) John Gagnon (CSHS) and Tanner Montgomery (WBHS). They are shown with School Board member Mike Wray. Team member Charles Slusher was unable to attend.



Maggie Rusinak (WBHS) was recognized by the Roanoke County School Board for making All-Virginia High School Choir. She is shown with School Board member Mike Wray.



Staceyjo Cook (WBHS) placed first in the state SkillsUSA competition in plumbing.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

State winners from the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) in 3-D Animation were (left to right) Alice Crowder (WBHS) and Aimee Leong (HVHS), shown with School Board member Mike Wray.

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

The Roanoke County School Board spent most of its May 12 session recognizing students for a variety of achievements. The meeting room and hallways at Central Office

were filled with students preparing to accept their awards, and parents eager to snap their photos.

Up first were seniors on the Student Advisory Council (SAC) who represent all five county high schools:

Verity Watkins and

Kassidy Wrye from William Byrd High School
Rachel Baffoe-Bonnie and Taylor Hilovsky from Cave Spring High School
Clay Caldwell and Bailey Conner from Glenvar High School
Thomas Rogers and Sophie Saunders from Hid-

den Valley High School
Tse'Lani Carter, Ethan Klepper, and Sanii Nash-Fuell from Northside High School

The purpose of the Student Advisory Council to the School Board is to act on behalf of all students of the Roanoke County

Public Schools. SAC representatives work cooperatively to improve the education and environment in all Roanoke County Public Schools and aid in the communication among the students, the school administration, the School Board, and the

community.

Next to be recognized were state winners in Career and Technical Student Organizations, who competed at the state level in April. Christian Kish, who is the principal of the Burton Center for Arts and Technology (BCAT), "celebrated the first-place winners" in presenting these awards:

SkillsUSA State first place winners included:

Joel Hetherington (Northside High School) in Related Technical Math

Staceyjo Cook (William Byrd High School) in Plumbing

Nathaniel Heavener

See **Award**, page 5

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CONGRATULATIONS WILLIAM BIRD HIGH SCHOOL'S CLASS OF 2022

Alyssa Allen	Grace Altice	Nathaniel Andersen	Alexis Anderson	Mattie Andrews	Alexa Aquino	Tyler Atkins	Jarrett Austin	Andrew Ballinger
Simon Band	Darian Banks	Dezmond Barrett	Sela Beatty	Tyler Begasse	Chayton Behrens	Mason Bennett	Anastasia Blair	Yulissa Bonilla Guacheta
Jonah Bowser	Jon Brabham	Aiden Brinkley	Shawn Brockerman Jr.	Kamryn Brown	Mackenzie Browne	Chancellor Bruner	Bailey Burger	Bennett Burger
Isabel Burnett	Ashton Burns	Charleston Campbell	Gentry Carle	August Carr	Abel Cataneo-Luna	Anna Chitwood	Maddie Chitwood	Sidney Clemmer
Connor Colgan	Joshua Collins	Colten Cook	John Cooley	Colin Cooper	Emma Copening	Treveon Cossaboon	Bryson Crawford	Jerry Cruz
Emily Cummings	Nicholas Dales	Emily Dalton	Michael Davis	Priscilla Davis	Haley Day	Mia-Eve DeHart	Abigail Dillon	Autymn Dillon



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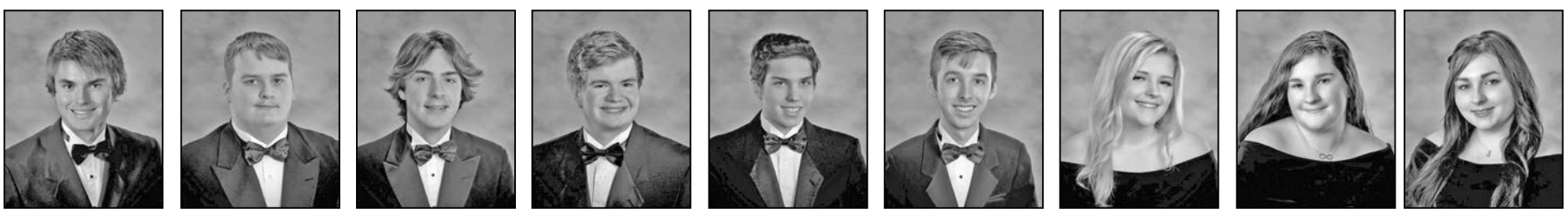
We Believe in You.

Congratulations Class of 2022!



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**Ross
Divers**

**Graham
Dooley**

**Gavin
Dorsey**

**Caleb
Drewery**

**Thomas
Dulak Jr.**

**Lucas
Duncan**

**Kylea
Early**

**Cassidy
Entsminger**

**Makayla
Entsminger**



**Ema
Fay**

**Bronwyn
Fenimore**

**Kaitlyn
Ferguson**

**Remington
FiGart**

**Haley
Firebaugh**

**Josilyn
Firebaugh**

**Riley
Firebaugh**

**Jade
Fleitz**

**Mackenzie
Foley**



**Isabella
Franco**

**Peyton
Fuchs**

**Sarah
Fuchs**

**Reid
Gallier**

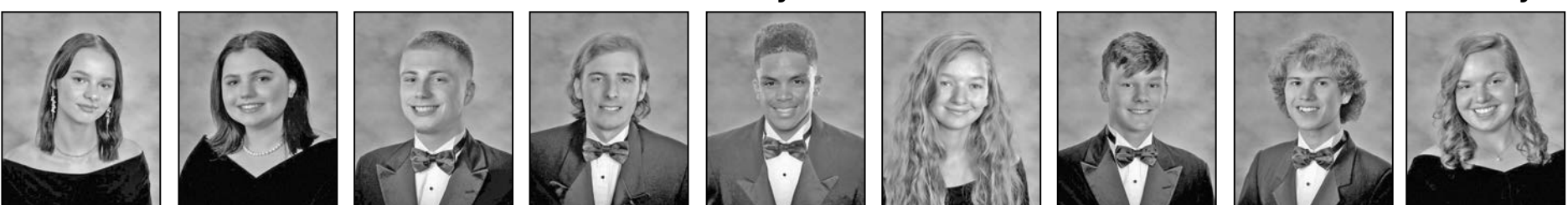
**Elisha
Gayles**

**Emiliano
Gonzalez**

**Corbin
Graham**

**Bryanna
Grasmick**

**Alageon
Gravelly**



**Nevaeh
Guenther**

**Abigail
Gunn**

**Kyle
Gwyn**

**Blake
Hagy**

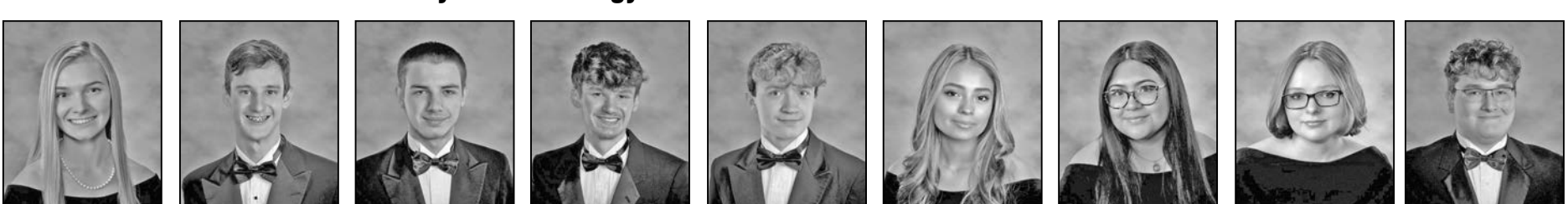
**Ethan
Hairston**

**Briannah
Hall**

**Wills
Halliwill**

**Johnathan
Ham**

**Catharine
Harless**



**Catharine
Harless**

**Issiac
Hartsel**

**Nathan
Hayslett**

**Nathan
Hendrick**

**Diryus
Henthorn**

**Alejandra
Hernandez**

**Vivian
Hernandez**

**Destiny
Hewitt**

**Jacob
Hilliard**



**Nathan
Hinkle**

**Cody
Hinkley**

**Kaiya
Hoagland**

**Keely
Hoal**

**Kenley
Hodges**

**Sean
Hoey**

**Griffin
Horacek**

**Matthew
Hoyos**

**Jackson
Huff**



**Anya
Hunter**

**Jocelyn
Hunter**

**Carlee
Hutchens**

**Trinity
Hylton**

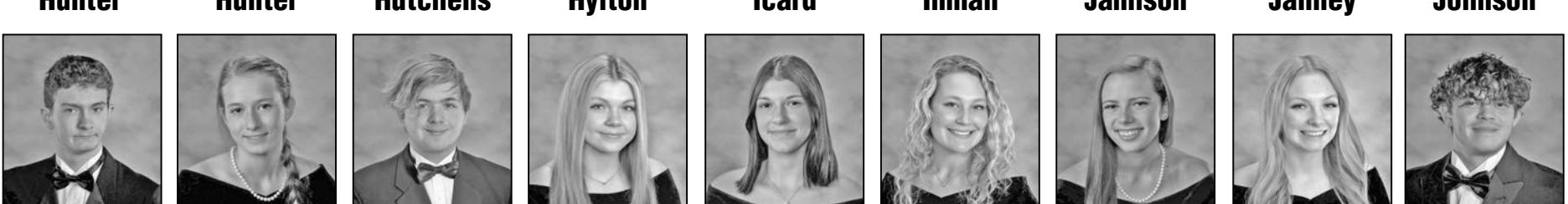
**Macy
Icard**

**Kylee
Inman**

**Ashlynn
Jamison**

**Robert
Janney**

**Alek
Johnson**



**Charles
Johnson**

**Kimberlyn
Johnson**

**Hunter
Keesee**

**Mackenzie
Kelley**

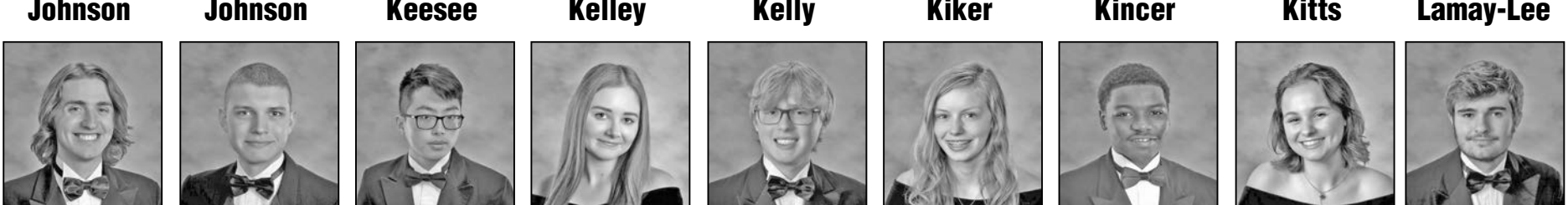
**Morgan
Kelly**

**Micah
Kiker**

**Elsie
Kincer**

**Elyssa
Kitts**

**Aden
Lamay-Lee**



**Daniel
Letz**

**Brysen
Lish**

**Devin
Liu**

**Summer
Lohrmann**

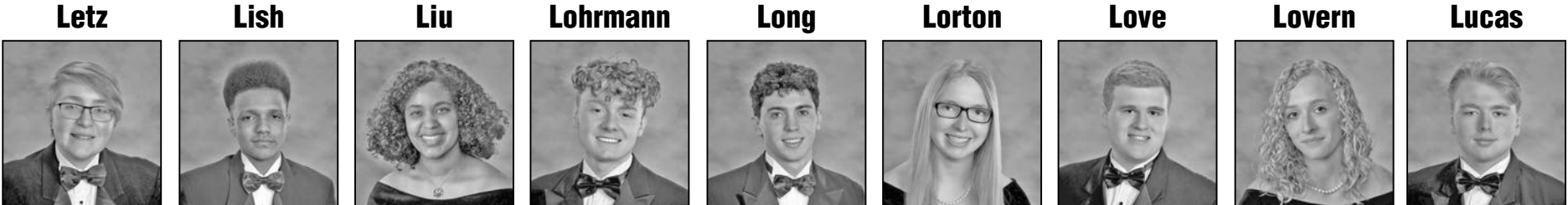
**Nicholas
Long**

**Jaiden
Lorton**

**Demetrius
Love**

**Victoria
Lovern**

**William
Lucas**



**Amaris
Markham**

**Jay
Marshall**

**Savannah
Martinez**

**Jayson
Marvin**

**Connor
McCarthy**

**Emilie
McCaskill**

**Logan
McDaniel**

**Madison
McDaniel**

**Jacob
McKinney**



**Melanie
McMahon**

**Madeline
Miller**

**Robert
Miller**

**Anna
Milliron**

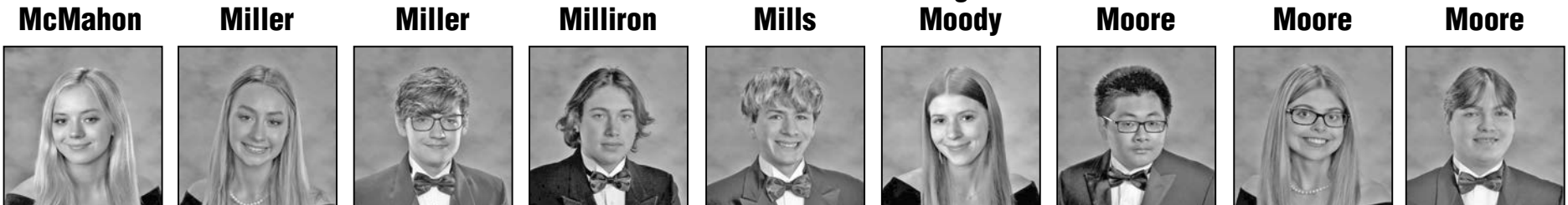
**Natalee
Mills**

**Ragan
Moody**

**Annabelle
Moore**

**Carter
Moore**

**Dillon
Moore**



**Karsyn
Moore**

**Jada
Morgan**

**Hunter
Muddiman**

**Carter
Mullins**

**Wesley
Nance**

**Turessa
Nash**

**Steven
Nguyen**

**Jenna
Nicely**

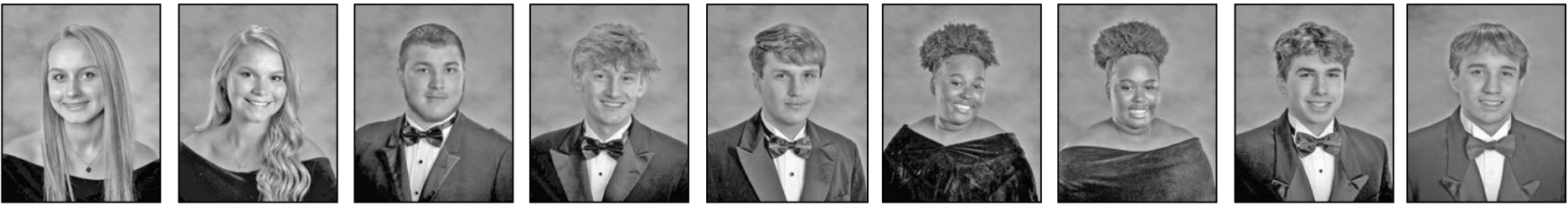
**Ethan
Nichols**



Landon Niday Austin Nielsen Tanner Nininger Tori Nininger Ana Nolasco Aidan Nunn Airic Osborne Kaylie Pampani Shivani Patel



Logan Pekala Connor Pero Jada Peters Dylan Price Cheyenne Pruitt Brock Rader Timber Raines Summer Ramsey Trevor Reed



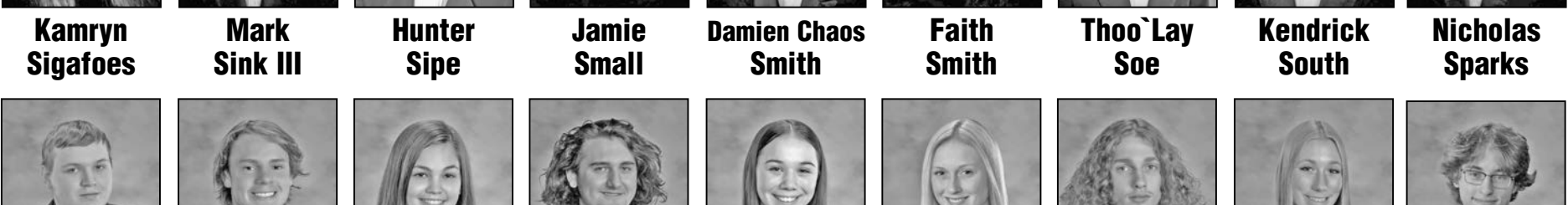
Angel Reis Ashlynn ReMine Hunter Richards Camden Richardson Joshua Roop Jaylen Rosser Mya Rosser Trevor Ruble John Sandzimier



Daniel Sarver Grace Saunders William Sayers Matthew Scavelli Natalie Schneider Jacob Schult Kendal Seale Delaena Shemoun Samantha Shrader



Kamryn Sigafos Mark Sink III Hunter Sipe Jamie Small Damien Chaos Smith Faith Smith Thoo Lay Soe Kendrick South Nicholas Sparks



Dyson Spence Cole Spencer Alexandria Spickard Joseph Spickard Skylar Stiltner Ashlyn Stover Logan Stroop Hannah Sutton Alec Theodor



Jacob Thorne Trey Thornton Faith Trent Charles Trogdon Jr. Brandon Tuck Madison Tuck Lana Turner Amber Vaughn Greta Walls



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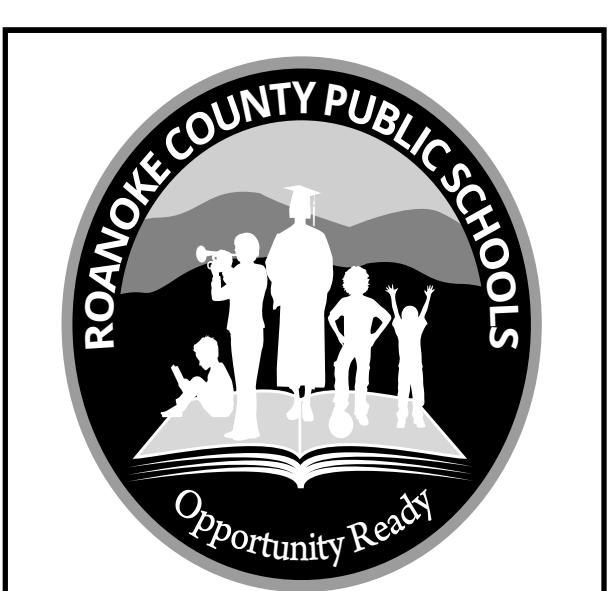
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Verity Watkins Victoria Watts Colin Webb Kaden West Travis West Connor Wheeler



Jasia Wheeler Christian Wilhelm Cadence Wilkerson Janiya Williams Shirldon Winegard III Nataleigh Witt

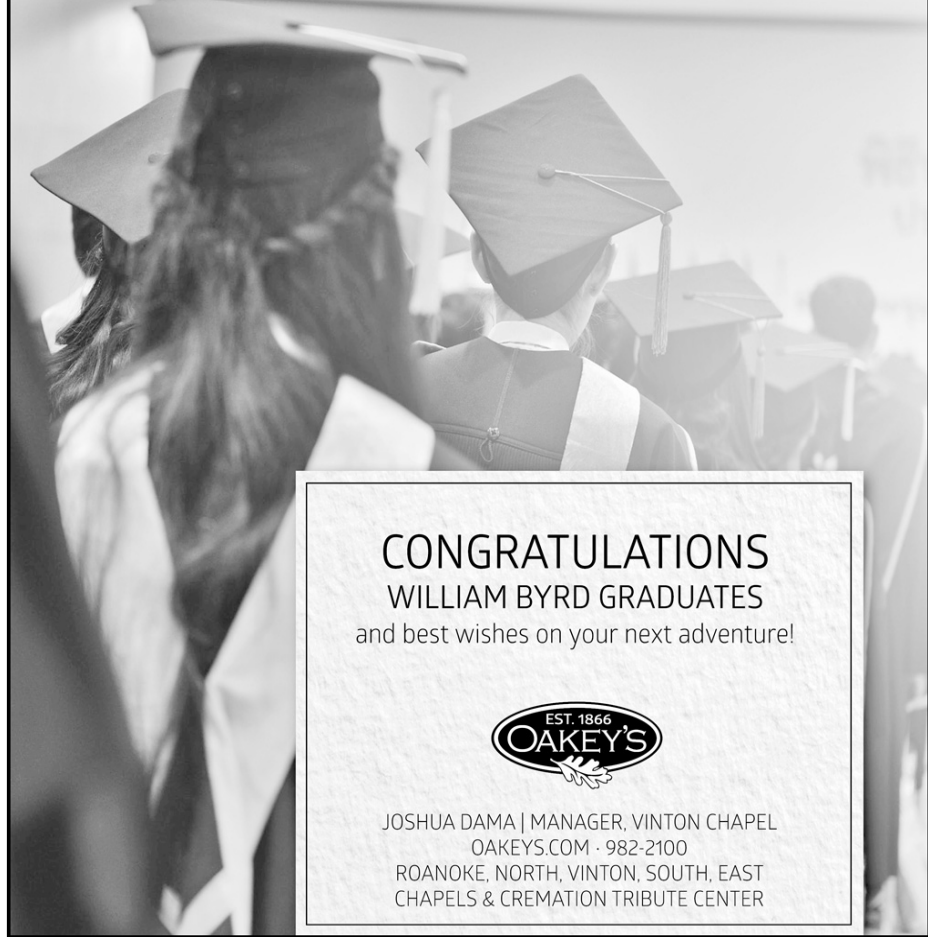


Congratulations Terriers Class of 2022!

Good Luck!



Jasia Wheeler Christian Wilhelm Cadence Wilkerson Janiya Williams Shirldon Winegard III Nataleigh Witt



CONGRATULATIONS WILLIAM BYRD GRADUATES
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Bryce Wolfe



Claire Wray



Kassidy Wrye



Cross Yonce

WILLIAM BYRD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS GRADUATING, BUT NOT PICTURED:

AIDEN ARRIOLA
KENDRA BAKER-THOMPSON
CORTNEY CARTER
SYDNEY CARRIKER
BRIAN CORTEZ-JIMENEZ
NICHOLAS FLURNOY
DAMON FOWLER
FALLON FRANKLIN

ELIJAH GRIFFIN
AUSTIN HENSLEY
WESLEY MCPHERSON
CIARA MUTZ
AUSTIN PALMERIO
GAGE PRITCHARD
DAKOTA RIPLEY
JUAN RODRIGUEZ
JACOB SCRUGGS
JASON SPRADLIN
KHALI THOMAS
WARDHA WAJED

OBITUARY

Nancy Chewning Thompson

Nancy Chewning Thompson, 87, of Vinton, went home to be with the Lord and her beloved husband on Sunday, May 15, 2022. She was the 10th of 12 children, born to the late Peter (Pet) and Della Owen Chewning on April 1, 1935, in Moneta, Va.

Nancy was preceded in death by her wonderful husband, Paul Edward Thompson, on May 31, 2015; six brothers, Jerry, Ed, Jim, Bob, Dick, and Corky Chewning; two sisters, Mabel C. McLain and Sallie C. Meador; father- and mother-in-law, John William and Elsie Young Thompson; brothers-in-law, Roy William Thompson, Cleatis (Click) Earl Thompson, Thomas Craig, Leonard (Pete) McLain, and Alton Meador; sisters-in-law, Lorraine, Connie, Claudine, Marie, Janie, Jean and Peggy Chewning, Mildred Craig, and Mary Thompson; niece, Judi Chewning Shannon; great-niece, Dana Chewning; great-nephew, Jerry Weaver; and niece, Jo Alice Thompson.

Nancy is survived by her very supportive sons and daughters-in-law, Keith and Patti Thompson, Doug and Pam Thompson, and Dean and Jenna Thompson; grandsons, Matthew Thompson, Aaron Thompson and wife, Sara, and Trevor Thompson; granddaughters, Courtney Lindeman and husband, Joe, Amanda Thompson, Amy Thompson, and Samantha Lindsey and husband, Clay; great-granddaughters, Juliet and Josie Thompson, and Ivey Lindeman; great-grandsons, Asher and Maddox Lindeman, Tyson Thompson, and Brock Lindsey; brothers, Melvin Chewning, Bill Chewning, and Alvin Chewning; sisters-in-law, Bootie Chewning, Shirley Chewning, and Betty T. Anderson; and many beloved nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and friends.

Nancy was a 1954 graduate of Moneta High School and attended night classes at Cornett School of Business for several years. She did office and secretarial work at Glenn-Minnich Clothing Company and Chas. Lunsford Insurance Company.

Nancy was the recipient of the Daughters of the American Revolution Award her senior year at Moneta, of which she was very proud. After she and Paul raised their three sons, they decided to go into the bus tour business. They owned and operated "Jolly Tours" for 18 years and traveled extensively around the country, going as far as Alaska, California and the Rockies. They enjoyed every minute traveling with their friends and family. They retired from their tour business in 2012, due to Paul's health.



Nancy and Paul were married at Belmont Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) on November 1, 1958. They celebrated their 50th anniversary on November 1, 2008, at Belmont with a candlelight service and renewed their wedding vows. Nancy had been a devoted member at Belmont since November 1958 and had been a Deacon for many years. She loved her church family very much.

Nancy was a loving wife, mother, "Nana," mother-in-law, sister, sister-in-law, and aunt to her many nieces and nephews. She never met a stranger and adored her many friends in Orchard Villas and Friendship Manor Retirement Community. She and Paul (on his scooter) would walk around the neighborhood with their friends.

The family would like to express their sincere appreciation to all the friends and church family for all the love and prayers shown to our Mother during her illness. Also, thanks to Dr. Lawrence Monahan (deceased) and his staff at Jefferson Internal Medicine, also thanks to Davida Monahan, NP, and Katherine Barnhill, NP, and their staff at Physicians Associates of Virginia, and to Dr. Mark Currie and his infusion staff at Lewis Gale Medical Center for their skill and compassion shown to her for many years. A special thank you to Our Lady of the Valley and Good Samaritan Hospice for the care you provided to Nancy during her final weeks.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Friday, May 20, at Belmont Christian Church with the Rev. Terry Brace and the Rev. David Walton officiating. Burial will follow in Mountain View Cemetery in Vinton. Pallbearers will be nephews. The family will receive friends from 5 until 8 p.m. on Thursday, May 19, at Oakey's Vinton Chapel.

Flowers will be appreciated, or you may make donations to Belmont Christian Church, 1101 Jamison Ave., SE, Roanoke, VA. 24013, The Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, The American Cancer Society (Relay for Life of Vinton), or to Good Samaritan Hospice. Online condolences may be expressed at www.oakeys.com.

Although our hearts are broken, we can rejoice in the promise that we will one day be reunited with Mom and Dad because of what Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in me shall never die." John 11:25

Arrangements entrusted to Oakey's Vinton Chapel, (540) 982-2221.

Public invited to Memorial Day Ceremony to honor Bedford Boys

The Bedford International Alliance will be holding its annual Memorial Day Ceremony at Greenwood Cemetery in Bedford to honor the Bedford Boys who perished on the beaches of Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

Following the ceremony in remembrance of these fallen heroes, flowers will be placed on the graves of those buried at the cemetery, and recognition will also be given to those buried in Normandy and

on the Tablet of the Missing.

The event will be held on Monday, May 30, at 2 p.m. (rain or shine).

The public is invited to attend this tribute to local heroes.

The mission of the Bedford International Alliance is to continue to promote awareness and appreciation of the rich historical legacy between the communities of Normandy in France, Ivybridge in England, and Bedford, Virginia.

Awards from page 1

(Glenvar), Bricklayer

John Gagnon (CSHS), Tanner Montgomery (WBHS), and Charles Slusher (NHS) for Occupational Display

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) state winners are:

Ashley Tatum (HVHS) and Kenna Sarver (WBHS), Public Service Announcement

Neil Shah (CSHS), Holt Konstance (HVHS), and Noah Tillman (HVHS), Computer Game and Simulation Programming

Alice Crowder (WBHS) and Aimee Leong (HVHS), 3-D Animation

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) State Competition winners are:

Skylar Fitzgerald (WBHS), Olivia Bott (GHS), and Dakota Vaughan (WBHS), Professional Presentation

State SkillsUSA winners will be able to compete in nationals in Atlanta next month. State FBLA winners will compete at the national level in Chicago in June. State FCCLA winners will compete at the national level in San Diego, also in June.

Joel Hetherington will also be competing in the DECA International Career Development Conference (Business Finance Services) this summer.

Kish thanked the parents of BCAT students for their support, commenting that they had done a "good job raising" their children and now have some "extra bragging rights" for their accomplishments.

School Board Vice Chairman Brent Hudson noted the importance of the BCAT program, as shown by the many awards the students have received.

National Scholastic Art Competition winners were introduced by RCPS Art Supervisor Sara Cubberly:

Mary Wissinger, an 8th grader at Cave Spring Middle School won the National Gold Medal for "Feline Contemplation." Her teacher is Brooks Bousquet. Cubberly believes Wissinger may be the first RCPS middle school student to win a national award.

Emalyn Sylvester-Johnson, a senior at BCAT/CSHS, won the National Gold Medal and American Visions Medal for "Beach Trip from a Distance." The American Visions Medal is the highest honor in the competition. Her teacher is Natalie Strum.

The National Scholastic Art Competition winners will be honored at Carnegie Hall in June.

Music and Performing Arts Supervisor Rick Elliott informed the School Board that the NAMM Foundation has again recognized Roanoke County Public Schools for its outstanding commitment to music education with a "Best Communities for Music Education" (BCME) designation for the 18th year. This designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students.

Elliott introduced two of the county's top music instructors to present the next awards. Members of the All-Virginia Middle School and All-Virginia High School Choirs were honored. Students were introduced by Choral Director Andrew Miller from Hidden Valley Middle and High Schools and Matt Bartley, the Choir Director at William Byrd Middle and High Schools.

In order to be chosen for the All-Virginia High School Choir, held in

Richmond, students auditioned against other choir members in the district in the fall of 2021 for both the All-District Choir and All-Virginia Choir. The local district includes 34 high schools so the competition was challenging. Miller said you "must be a top singer" to make All-Virginia Choir.

Members of the All-Virginia High School Choir included:

Maggie Rusinak – WBHS
Olaedo Anyanwu – WBHS
Mariah Eakin – HVHS
Leah Tillman – HVHS
Bethany Munsey – HVHS
Simon Sealey – HVHS

There are some subtle differences in the selection process for All-Virginia Middle School Choir. Bartley remarked that the state middle school choir is an "elite opportunity and a very select choir."

Students who made All Virginia Middle School Choir included:

Aubrey Booze – WBMS
Olivia Hypes – Cave Spring Middle School

Randall Landes – CSMS
School Board member Tim Greenway (Vinton) commended Bartley for being recognized in the community as "one of the most passionate teachers in the county, always going above and beyond for his students."

Elliott also recognized the All-Virginia Band student from Roanoke County, Nicholas Louvet, who was named "14th clarinet out of the 118 who auditioned and made the top band."

State Science Fair Award winners were recognized by Science Supervisor Erin Barnett and Mark Levy from the Roanoke Valley Governor's School:

Rebecca Qui from the RVGS/WBHS received Honorable Mention in Computational Biology, Bioinformatics, and Translational Medicine (She was attending the International Competition at the time of the School Board meeting). Qiu worked with Fralin Bio-Medical Research Institute on her project.

Sophia Schumaecker from the Roanoke Valley Governor's School/CSHS won 2nd Place in Plant Sciences

Abhi Karri from the RVGS/HVHS, received Honorable Mention in Animal Sciences

Ella Bryant and Christina Okenquist - RVGS/NHS received Honorable Mention in Biomedical & Health Sciences

Dhruvi Patel from the RVGS/GHS received a Special Award from the American Water Works Association Special Award, second place in Environmental Engineering

(Several students were unable to attend the School Board meeting to accept their certificates in person due to spring sports, national competitions, or other end-of-year extracurricular commitments.)

Principal Beth Grim presented the Spotlight on Schools on Burlington Elementary, focusing especially on the Boys and Girls Program.

Edie York was elected as Deputy Clerk of the Roanoke County School Board.

Tim Greenway, who represents Vinton on the School Board, expressed his concerns about the deteriorating condition of the baseball fields at William Byrd High School – a continuing issue – and the need for renovations to the existing field.

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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Phone: (540) 982-8777

Town Council from page 1

Ensuring the town's continued financial viability by actively pursuing quality economic development

Highlights of the proposed FY2022-23 budget include:

Investment in personnel— with a 5.0% Cost of Living Adjustment for all employees and no change to employee plan premiums

Continued support for economic development projects

Paid-off debt to free up operating budget capacity

Absorbing administrative costs associated with selling the utility system

Full allocation for an aggressive capital improvement plan

Cost share budget reductions with Roanoke County

Funding new positions to fill service delivery gaps— addition of one position in the Police Department, one in Community Programs, and one in Economic Development, with a net reduction of four positions with the transfer of the water and wastewater utility systems to the Western Virginia Water Authority

The town is budgeting for 69 funded full-time positions in the upcoming fiscal year. The greatest number of employees are in the Public Works (23) and Police (27) Departments. Personnel costs make up approximately 50% of the budget expenditures.

Peters said that Vinton is fortunate to have highly diversified sources of revenue. While many localities center their budgets around revenue from real estate and property taxes, those make up only 9.5% of the general fund revenues in Vinton. Other

top tax sources for the town are the meals tax (15% of the budget), state sales tax (11%), Business License tax (7%), and pari-mutuel taxes (9.8%).

Although real estate and personal property tax rates have remained steady, the revenues from these two sources have risen somewhat due to fluctuations in assessed market value of homes and vehicles. The town has provided tax relief for Vinton residents to help ameliorate this situation.

Since the Commonwealth of Virginia as of yet has not adopted its own budget, there are some unknowns in the town's budget. Vinton and Roanoke County are presuming that the state will end or reduce the grocery tax, which would impact local tax revenues.

The best news the town has received lately is that through unexpected funding, Vinton has been able to pay off an enormous amount of its debt— with only about \$213,000 remaining. Assistant Town Manager Cody Sexton noted that there is "an end to the town's debt in sight."

Peters noted that about \$2.6 million is being set aside in the budget for capital improvement projects including: community blight abatement and acquisition, Mountain View Road engineering and design, 3rd Street Geotech and Review, Glade Creek Greenway Phase 2B gap funding, swimming pool closure and Park Development Phase 1, Vinton War Memorial audio and visual equipment upgrades, community programs holiday and

banner décor, traffic signal improvements, a Virginia/Hardy Road traffic signalization study, Walnut Avenue Public Parking Construction, Vinton History Museum repairs, adding a wood chipper, mini-excavator with trailer, an enclosed Police Department firearms trailer, curb, gutter and sidewalk construction on Cleveland Avenue, the Gish Mill utility connection, Vinton hotel site development, South Pollard commercial development incentives, updating the fuel pump system and software, replacing the Public Works generator switchgear, street sign replacement, and additional money for paving.

Generally, the town spends about \$350,000 for paving in the summer; this year the budget is \$1.1 million.

The complete proposed budget for FY2022-2023 is available for review on the town's website at www.vintonva.gov.

In other action at council, a new police officer, Grant Shepherd, was introduced by Chief Fabricio Drummond and Deputy Chief Tim Lawless, sworn in by Town Clerk Susan Johnson, and pinned by his wife.

Shepherd, 23, is a native of Florida. He is the oldest of four children. His mother is a science teacher; his father is an entrepreneur.

He graduated from Liberty University with a Bachelor's Degree in Religion with a Cognate in Christian Old Testament in 2019. While at college, he met his now wife Maddie, who graduated from Liberty University's Social Work program. They both fell in love with the Blue Ridge

Mountains and moved to the Roanoke Valley area where his wife currently works as a Child Protective Services investigator for Roanoke City.

Shepherd furthered his education by graduating with a Master's Degree in Professional Writing in 2021; however, his desire to serve and give back to his new community never diminished. With his desire to serve and his interest in law enforcement, he chose to serve as a police officer in Vinton. When he is not on duty, he likes to work out, fish, kayak, shoot, and hike with his two Belgian Malinois dogs, Cairo and Sparta.

Officer Shepherd has just completed five months of law enforcement training at Cardinal Criminal Justice Academy.

Council declared May 15-21 as National Public Works Week with a proclamation. Public Works Director Bo Herndon noted that the theme of the week is "Ready and Resilient."

"Our community, 8,000 citizens in the town and another 5,000 in the East Roanoke County utility service area, depend on the men and women of the public works profession who work tirelessly every day and often at night and on weekends, under all weather conditions with quiet dedication to serve and support our community. This will be the 17th year of celebration in the Town of Vinton.

"From providing water to disposing of solid waste, to maintaining our roads and bridges, removing snow on our roadways, or devising emergency management



PHOTO BY CHASITY BARBOUR

Public Works Director Bo Herndon (on right) accepts a proclamation from Vinton Mayor Brad Grose naming May 15-21 as National Public Works Week.

strategies, Public Works services help determine the quality of life of our community," he said.

Council also issued a proclamation declaring May as "Business Appreciation Month," recognizing all businesses for their contributions to fostering an attractive and prosperous economic environment in the Town of Vinton. The town has a dynamic mix of 535 active businesses within the town.

Council adopted a resolution presented by Peters, authorizing a Performance Agreement accepting a \$50,000 Virginia Brownfields Restoration and Economic Development Assistance Fund Grant from the Virginia Resource Authority, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. The grant will fund a Soil Study, Groundwater Study, and Subslab Vapor Conditions Study for the Vinton Dry Cleaners

property at 100 West Virginia Avenue.

Vinton staff applied for the VBAF Grant in October of 2021 for additional environmental studies for the Vinton Dry Cleaners property to assist with the redevelopment in concert with the Vinton Hotel Project.

The town was recently notified that the grant request was approved, and execution of a Performance Agreement is required to receive the funds and confirm acceptance of the grant requirements. The town's existing expenses associated with completed environmental testing and use of the EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant is sufficient to meet the required local match. There is no cost to taxpayers.

Assistant Town Manager and Interim Treasurer Cody Sexton reported that the town has \$10.2 million in cash on hand and \$3.3 million in investments for a total of \$13.5 million.

RCPS Graduation Live returns

Roanoke County Public Schools is returning to Graduation Live on May 24 and 25 for all five county high schools.

Family and friends who are unable to attend graduation in person may simply go to the Roanoke County Schools website at www.rcps.us

to access the broadcast beginning about 10 minutes before each graduation ceremony gets underway.

Graduation ceremonies will be live-streamed on:

Tuesday, May 24 from the Salem Civic Center for: Hidden Valley High School at 3 p.m.

Cave Spring High School at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 25 from the Salem Civic Center for: William Byrd High School at 3 p.m.

Northside High School at 5:30 p.m.

Graduation for Glenvar High School will be live-streamed on May 25 at 7 p.m. from Highlander Stadium— which is the tradition— unless there is inclement weather, which will move the ceremony to the Salem Civic Center at 8 p.m.

The Graduation Live tradition began over a decade ago to bring the graduation ceremonies to families and friends who do not live in the Roanoke Valley or even in the United States, including those stationed abroad in the military.

Lovern named Senior of the Year at BCAT

Victoria Lovern has been named Senior of the Year for 2022 at the Burton Center for Arts and Technology (BCAT), representing William Byrd High School.

Victoria is in the Performing Arts program at BCAT.

"Victoria is a wonderful example of what character matters," said BCAT Principal Christian Kish. "She is a phenomenal vocal talent. Combine that with the fact that she is also a genuinely good person and exudes positivity. She also has a four-year track record of good grades and attendance. She has earned this recognition,

and I am proud of her."

Victoria was nominated by Carol Webster, the director for the Center for Performing Arts at BCAT, "because of her strong work ethic, kindness to others, and inclusivity."

Other Roanoke County high school seniors receiving the Senior of the Year honor for 2022 are:

- Benjamin Rubin from Cave Spring High School
- Willow Dundas from Glenvar High School
- Nathaniel Semones from Hidden Valley High School
- Kellan Enos from Northside High School

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Victoria Lovern

SUBMITTED PHOTO

From the Pulpit

A Little Faith

In the book of Matthew, Jesus cures a boy with a demon. (Matthew 17:14-20), 14 When they came to the crowd, a man came to him, knelt before him, 15 and said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he has epilepsy and suffers terribly; he often falls into the fire and often into the water. 16 And I brought him to your disciples, but they could not cure him." 17 Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him here to me." 18 And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him, and the boy was cured from that moment. 19 Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" 20 He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you."

When facing difficult circumstances, a common word of encouragement many will give is, "You just got to have a little faith." When I

was growing up, I used to hear that phrase quite a bit. Whether I was dealing with a conflict at school, nervous about an upcoming test, or struggling to make a decision, many in whom I confided would respond with a similar adage about having "a little faith."

While I appreciated these words and the way they encouraged me to be guided by faith, I would often wonder, how do you measure faith? How do you know whether you have a lot of faith or a little? If "a little more faith" is what you need, how do you add more faith to what you already have? The quantity of faith from one person to the next was always confusing to me.

In the biblical story of the boy with a demon, Jesus seems to muddy the water even more. After voicing his frustration with the disciples for their "little faith," he also declares the power of a little faith—"faith the size of a mustard seed."

When the disciples unsuccessfully tried to exorcise a demon from a young boy, the boy's father brought his son to Jesus. Before rebuking the demon and casting him out of the boy, Jesus rebuked his disciples. He called them a "faithless" and "perverse" generation. When they asked Jesus why they were unable to cure

the boy, he responded, "Because of your little faith."

Initially, the amount of faith seems to be the problem. However, Jesus expounds on this statement with a familiar image: "For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you."

If the quantity of the disciples' faith was the problem, why did Jesus say that faith even as small as a mustard seed could move mountains? Rather than instructing them to have more faith, Jesus pointed to the power of even the smallest amount of faith. Which one is it? Do we need more faith, or can a little faith accomplish the impossible?

In his book "Practical Christianity," Eugene Peterson explains: "I think it is wise to completely eliminate talk about how much faith we have, or how we need more faith. All too often when we say these things, we aren't talking about faith at all but a feeling we have. When we define faith as a feeling—of belief, or of piety—what we're actually measuring is not faith but an emotion. Faith is not a feeling. It is simply an act of assent, of openness, and often doesn't feel like much at

all. Faith has to do with what God is doing, not with what we are feeling."

I wonder if Jesus' rebuke had less to do with his disciples' amount of faith, and more with their understanding of faith. Rather than giving them the power to cure a demon-possessed boy, faith was meant to direct their attention to God, and trust whatever God chose to do in response to the boy's illness.

The disciples understood faith as the substance that would give them the power to achieve the miraculous; Jesus utilized faith as a conduit that allowed God to do the miraculous through him. Jesus did not rebuke the amount of faith within his disciples; he rebuked the focus of their faith. Rather than emphasizing God's power and trusting when and where God chose to use it, the disciples focused on themselves and what they could achieve through the power of their faith.

What if faith the size of a mustard seed moving mountains has nothing to do with the power of faith, but rather the power of God we encounter through faith. When the power of faith becomes about an amount of faith, then faith becomes the goal.

As the disciples discovered, faith

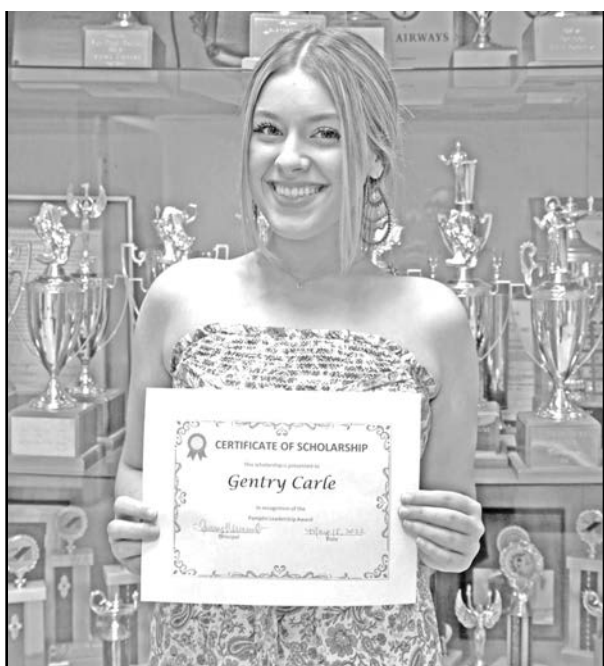
is not the goal; faith is a means to an end. The goal is Jesus. He is our source of strength and power. He is the only one who has the power to move mountains. He is the only one who has the power to command the winds and the waves to obey him (Matthew 8:23-27). He is the only one who has the power to lay down his life and pick it back up again (John 10:18). The purpose of faith is not to give us power, but to be a conduit through which we experience, encounter, and channel the source of all power, which is Jesus.

This week, may we stop focusing on what we can do through faith and be open and attentive to what God is doing in us through our faith. We will never have the power to move mountains. That was not Jesus' point. Faith is putting our trust in the only one who can "say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move." Rather than calling on God in faith to do what we want, may we simply be open to what God wants to do through us by our faith. If we will, nothing will be impossible, for according to Jesus, "with mortals it is impossible, but with God all things are possible (Matthew 19:26)."

Shared by the Rev. Travis Russell, Vinton Baptist Church

Class of 2022

from page 1



Gentry Carle won the coveted Virginia Tech Pamplin Leadership Award scholarship.



Jenna Nicely won the Wallace Cundiff Memorial Scholarship, the Vinton Host Lions Club Scholarship, the Delta Kappa Gamma Scholarship, and the Vinton McDonalds Scholarship.



Bailey Burger was awarded a four-year full tuition scholarship to Hollins University.

planning to attend a four-year college or university. This is the 23rd year the Lovelaces have presented the scholarship in memory of their son who was tragically killed in an accident in 1997.

The Erica Thomas Memorial Scholarship was presented to Madison Tuck by Gary Walthall, representing the Thomas family. Erica, a 1999 honor graduate of WBHS, died tragically in a car accident in 2003, and her family has chosen to honor her memory with the annual scholarship.

Vicki Newburn from the GFWC Vinton Woman's Club presented the organization's annual \$1,000 scholarship to Emilie McCaskill.

Coach Paul Barnard presented Arnold R. Burton Scholarships to Haley Day and Daniel Sarver. This scholarship, now in its 35th year, is awarded in memory of educator Arnold R. Burton, who was known for saying, "Whatever you do, do first class and with character."

Scott Graybill and his family awarded the Dee Graybill Memorial Baseball Scholarship to Ross Divers. This is the first year for this scholarship, established by the family in memory of his mother Dee Graybill, well known as a strong supporter of the Vinton community for many years. Her belief was "in being present and giving." Scott, recalling his struggles to pay for college, said the amount of the scholarship, \$2500, has special meaning—it's the amount of money he needed to earn each summer to finance his own college education.

Mount Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department members presented a \$500 scholarship in honor and memory of their members to Nathan Hinkle.

Deedie Kagey from the Bonsack/Blue Ridge

Ruritan Club, awarded the club's scholarship to Cadence Wilkerson. The club awards two \$1,000 scholarships each year, one to a William Byrd student and one to a Lord Boteourt student. The Ruritan Club is very active in the community and bases the award on a student's service to the community, as well.

Sam Cundiff presented a total of eight scholarships to William Byrd students:

Reindeer Club Scholarships in the amount of \$750 were presented to Alexa Aquino, Sela Beatty (the Bond of Friendship Scholarship), Yulissa Bonilla Guacheta, and Josh Roop (the Josh Hale Love of a Son Scholarship). These recipients are chosen on the basis of school pride, community service, and the bonds of friendship.

Cundiff also presented \$1,000 Wallace Cundiff Memorial Scholarships to Emiliano Gonzalez, Ethan Hairston, and Jenna Nicely. These scholarships are in memory of Cundiff's father, Wallace, beloved in the Vinton community, and a School Board member, and lifelong Lions Club member.

Jenna Nicely received the Vinton Host Lions Club Scholarship from Cundiff, also. The award was based on service in the William Byrd Leo Club, which is sponsored by the Lions Club. Cundiff reminded the seniors presented that "wherever you go, there will be a community to serve."

Tammy Newcomb presented the Stovall-Page Scholarship to Emilie McCaskill.

"Recognition of the Stovall-Page scholarship is an annual WBHS tradition spanning the past 45 years," Newcomb said. "Raymond Page and Jo-

seph Stovall were both graduates of WBHS and lifelong members of Vinton Baptist Church. Mr. Stovall was also a lifelong member of the Lions Club. Mr. Page, who developed the scholarship, made the first class ring for William Byrd High School, and he wanted to do something to help the students of WBHS.

A representative from Delta Kappa Gamma, a group of women educators in the Roanoke Valley, presented their scholarship to Jenna Nicely.

Another new scholarship was introduced by the Willis family— Kelly, Blaine, and son Brandon—the "Crossing Jordan Willis Legacy Scholarship." This \$1,500 scholarship goes to a student who has written the best essay on "something God helped you overcome." Emily Dalton was the recipient of this award.

Whitney Puckett, from Hollins University, presented two "Hollins HOPE Scholarships" to Bailey Burger and Samantha Shrader. These scholarships provide four years of full tuition to Hollins University.

Carolyn Payne from Virginia Western Community College presented three-year CCAP Scholarships with a value of \$17,000 each to: Andrew Ballinger, Chayton Behrens, Bennett Burger, Sidney Clemmer, Connor Colgan, Joshua Collins, Treveon Cossaboon, Bryson Crawford, Gavin Dorsey, Makayla Entsminger, Kaitlyn Ferguson, Isabella Franco, Abigail Gunn, Kyle Gwyn, Nathan Hendrick, Nathan Hinkle, Kaiya Hoagland, Kenley Hodges, Sean Hoey, Jocelyn Hunter, Ashlynn Jamison, Robert Janney, Aden Lamay-Lee, Jaiden Lorton, Amaris Markham, Jay Marshall, Jayson Marvin, Logan McDaniel, Steven Nguyen, Tori Nininger, Shivani



Emma Dalton won the Crossing Jordan Willis Legacy Scholarship from the Willis family in the first year it was presented. Shown left to right are Kelly Willis, Emma Dalton, and Blaine Willis.

Patel, Brock Rader, John Sandzimir, Kendal Seale, Samantha Shrader, Jamie Small, Damien Chaos Smith, Faith Smith, Thoo Lay Soe, Lana Turner, Gretta Walls, Colin Webb, Kaden West, and Cross Yonce.

Sgt. Jennings from the United States Air Force presented the Air Force Math & Science Award to Haley Day.

The prestigious Roanoke County Public School Education Foundation Scholarships were presented by Principal Newcomb. The Education Foundation was formed to help young people in Roanoke County Schools meet some of their educational and personal goals. The foundation assists in the following educational opportunities: providing student scholarships for graduating seniors; providing teacher grants for innovative classroom projects and providing financial support for educational projects and programs. This year several WBHS students won county-wide scholarships, competing against seniors from all county schools:

Jaiden Lorton--Bayer E. Wilson Scholarship
Chloe Harrilla--Carilion Clinic Nursing Scholarship

Emilie McCaskill--Carilion Clinic Pre-Med Scholarship
Emma Copening--Carilion Clinic Research Scholarship
Trevor Ruble--Education Golf-Rockydale Scholarship
Emiliano Gonzalez--Garland Reeves Life Scholarship
Hunter Sipe--Gordon C. Willis Scholarship
Landon Niday--Herman L. Horn PTA Scholarship
Ethan Hairston--LaCole Board Memorial
Jocelyn Hunter--Michelle Montano Dowdy Memorial
Grace Saunders--Quincy Development Company Scholarship
Hunter Richards--Robert A. Patterson Scholarship
Ross Divers--Tina Cook Woods Memorial
Jenna Nicely--Vinton McDonalds Scholarship
Newcomb next presented the Virginia Tech Pamplin Leadership Award scholarship to Gentry Carle.

The Pamplin Leadership Award is a one-year merit-based Virginia Tech tuition scholarship and is presented to up to 40 qualified students. Each Virginia public school can nominate one student per school year. Chosen stu-

dents are those who demonstrate superior intellectual promise, academic performance, dedication to their communities, and integrity.

The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets-Emerging Leader Scholarship was presented to Robert Miller.

This scholarship is awarded based on merit and well-rounded future Virginia Tech Cadets with leadership potential. Miller will also be playing in the Eighty-Tighty Band at Virginia Tech this fall.

Emilie McCaskill was recognized for completing her General Studies Associate Degree at Virginia Western Community College through the Governor's Scholar Program

In closing, Newcomb said, "Our students have made incredible strides over the past four years, and we are proud of all of their accomplishments."

The Senior Awards Program is sponsored by the school's PTSO, which supports and funds many programs at the school each year, including appreciation breakfasts, goodie bags, and T-shirts for staff, the Senior Day lunch, and After Prom. Most of these programs are funded by the PTSO concessions sales at varsity sports events.

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Roanoke Valley Chapter DAR installs new officers

The Roanoke Valley Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution (RVCDAR) installed new officers for the upcoming year at their meeting on May 14. They will assume their positions after the DAR Continental Congress meets at the end of June.

Cindy Higgins will continue in her position as Regent of the chapter. Shannon Campbell will be serving as Vice Regent, Donna Minnix as Secretary, Diane Goode as Chaplain, Carla Honaker as Treasurer, Janice Taylor as Registrar, and Susan Doyle as Historian.

Higgins presented gifts of candy to the officers, comparing them to different kinds of chocolate bars. To Past Regent Sharon Menzies, she presented a Twix bar, for being the bridge between boards; to Historian Susan Doyle, a Milky Way signifying the history of the chapter as infinite as the galaxy; to Treasurer Carla Honaker, a "100 Grand" bar to meet her financial duties; to Vice Regent Shannon Campbell, M&Ms representing the variety of programs she must come up with as part of her duties; to Chaplain Diane Goode, Hershey Kisses reminding her to bring a touch of Heaven's kisses to each meeting; to Registrar Janice Taylor, a Mounds bar, signifying the mounds of work she will have in recruiting new members and researching their family trees; to Secretary Donna Minnix, also a Mounds bar,

for the mounds of notes she will take and correspondence she will send. Finally, Higgins distributed 3 Musketeers bars to all the members of the chapter as they continue into their next 60 years as a chapter – "One for all and all for One."

The chapter welcomed new member Mary Darnell by a transfer of membership from another DAR chapter.

Sharon Menzies announced that the chapter's recycling project is now complete and has been quite successful. The goal had been to collect 500 pounds of soft plastics which would enable them to receive a bench from the Trex Corporation to be placed on one of the Town of Vinton greenways. Instead, they far surpassed their goal and collected enough recyclables for at least five benches.

This was made possible through contributions from the Precision Fabrics Group (PFG) that donated over 2,296 pounds of plastic film and the Town of Vinton, which collected 732 pounds at the Municipal Building and Community Center, in addition to local Food Lion stores.

Menzies spearheaded the project, and was assisted by her husband Gordon, in collecting the mountains of recycling from PFG.

Another chapter project, sending care packages to deployed military members, continues. The local chapter focuses many of its projects on veterans and those serving in the military.

In the May National

Defense Moment, Ellen Hannan shared the story of Edith Nourse Rogers, who is known as the "Mother of the Women's Army Corps."

During World War I, she served as a field hospital inspector and Red Cross volunteer in France. She returned from the war front dedicated to veterans' causes. Her nursing at Walter Redd General Hospital earned her the nickname "The Angel of Walter Redd."

When her husband, a congressman from Massachusetts, died, Rogers took his seat and served 18 terms in the House of Representatives. She supported a variety of laws affecting veterans and service members, sponsored the creation of veterans' hospitals, and secured pensions for women Army nurses.

Rogers voted for the Selective Service Act, which established the draft during World War II. She sponsored the GI Bill of Rights, which helped returning veterans access education and low interest loans and suggested that the federal government establish a Department of Veterans Affairs.

Rogers paved the way for women to officially participate in the Armed Forces with a bill that created the Women's Army Corps (WAC). She was the first woman to be awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

The Roanoke Valley Chapter DAR meets on the second Saturday of each month at St. Timothy's Lu-



The Roanoke Valley Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution installed new officers at their meeting on May 14. Shown left to right are Regent Cindy Higgins, Vice Regent Shannon Campbell, Secretary Donna Minnix, Chaplain Diane Goode, Treasurer Carla Honaker, Registrar Janice Taylor, and Historian Susan Doyle.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

RVCDAR Regent Cindy Higgins (left) welcomes new member Mary Darnell, who transferred from another DAR chapter.

theran Church on Hardy Road in Vinton, generally from September through May.

New members who can establish lineage to a Patriot of the American Revolution make up the membership.

The chapter is more than willing to help with research into family trees to trace that lineage.

Vinton Breakfast Lions continue preservation efforts at historic Gladetown Cemetery

The motto of Lions Club International is "We Serve." Vinton Breakfast Lions Club members not only serve – they also know how to keep a commitment.

The local Lions are well-known for their contributions to the community in a wide variety of ways from scholarships for high school seniors, to sponsoring holiday shopping trips for needy children, to vision screenings in area preschools and public schools, to their annual Pancake Breakfasts at Fall Festival and Spaghetti Dinner before the Vinton Christmas Parade. They sponsor the Leo Club at William Byrd High School and maintain eyeglass collection boxes in the community; they help purchase prosthetic legs for individuals in Third World countries. They donated a picnic shelter at Herman L. Horn Elementary and are involved in a project to add bus stop shelters in the town.

However, back in March 2015, they took on a new type of project – reclaiming the historic Gladetown Cemetery from the harsh effects of years of brush, trees, and debris deposited by Mother Nature. Lions armed with chain saws, rakes, trimmers, and clippers removed years of undergrowth from the cemetery which is located on top of a steep hill on Giles Avenue in the Gladetown community.

Graves in the cemetery date from the 1820s. An in-depth survey completed in 1996 by the Department of Historic Resources (DHR)

indicated that there are at least 126 gravesites, some over 100 years old. Sixty-six graves have markers, while there are upwards of 40 unmarked internments identified by surface depressions. The study noted that the "Gladetown Cemetery is the only known African American cemetery in Vinton and is an important part of the region's cultural and social history."

The clean-up project was the result of a conversation between longtime Gladetown resident Joe Banks and Breakfast Lion Chris McCarty at the town's annual Arbor Day observance in the spring of 2014 at the nearby Craig Avenue Center. Banks told McCarty that for many years men from the community maintained the cemetery. However, many of them were getting up in years or not in good health and the cemetery was quickly taken over by vines, underbrush, and small trees.

The Breakfast Lions decided to take on the clean-up project, and it was not a one-time event. The Lions are still maintaining the cemetery, mowing and trimming, sprucing things up about once a week in warm weather. On May 11, Lions Dave Jones, Gary Myers, Bob Benninger, and Joel Lytton were at the site with mowers and weed eaters. In the intervening years since 2015, the Lions have enclosed the cemetery with a decorative metal fence and Lions John Berry and Joel Lytton donated a bench for visitors or Lions to take a rest.



In March 2015, the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club adopted the project of rescuing the historic Gladetown Cemetery from the ravages of Mother Nature.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Lions Dave Jones (with mower) and Bob Benninger spruce up the historic Gladetown Cemetery – a continuing project for the Breakfast Lions Club.

SPOTLIGHT ON TOWN OF VINTON STAFF

Garrett Chappell

This week's Spotlight on Town Staff is on Garrett Chappell, an employee of the Vinton Public Works Department. He has been employed with the Town of Vinton since July 8, 2019. His job position is Equipment Operator II.

In his free time, Chappell enjoys hunting, fishing, traveling, and digital investments, along with spending time with his wife Holly,

son Hayden, and daughter Ariel.

He holds a title for "Chili Cookoff Champion."

"The Vinton Public Works Department touches the lives of thousands of people every day in a very professional manner," says Mayor Brad Grose. "The dedicated individuals in the department enhance the quality of life in Vinton by maintaining all the systems that provide safety, convenience, recreation, and a pleasing appearance in our town. We are truly blessed to

have such skilled, devoted people in the Vinton Public Works Department."

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



Garrett Chappell

PHOTO FROM TOWN OF VINTON

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

Please be advised that the Vinton Town Council will hold a public hearing at its meeting on Tuesday, June 7, 2022, at the Vinton Municipal Building, 311 S. Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia, at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, for the purpose of discussing the proposed FY2022-2023 Town of Vinton Budget.

Revenues	Total All Funds
General Fund	\$10,246,696
Grant Fund	4,208,017
Capital Fund	2,669,000
Stormwater Fund	620,996
Total Revenues	\$17,744,709

Expenditures	
General Fund:	
Town Council	\$150,014
Town Manager's Office	539,518
Human Resources	170,114
Legal Services	58,517
Treasurer/Finance Department	669,688
Police Department	2,756,226
Communications Services	150,000
Fire & EMS	2,385
Police/Animal Control	2,880
Public Works Administration	461,395
Maintenance/Highways/Streets/Bridges	1,164,274
Snow and Ice Removal	23,983
Traffic Signs and Street Light	89,875
Refuse Collection	558,940
Recycling	74,898
Building & Grounds	213,547
Health Department	24,520
Special Programs	225,225
War Memorial	313,188
Vinton Veterans Monument	5,000
Swimming Pool/Parks	2,965
Senior Program	30,708
Town Museum	14,227
Planning & Zoning	460,403
Economic Development	35,666
Public Transportation	120,000
Vinton Business Center	7,350
Debt Retirement	1,171,674
Performance Agreements	154,720
Retiree Insurance	4,800
Transfer to Other Funds	589,996
Total General Fund	\$10,246,696

Grant Fund:	
VML Risk Management Grant	4,000
ARPA Funding	4,204,017
Total Grant Fund	\$4,208,017

Capital Fund:	
Police Department	\$11,000
Highway Maintenance	580,000
Building & Grounds	462,000
Traffic Signs & Streets	266,000
Town Museum	15,000
Planning & Zoning	275,000
Economic Development	860,000
Transfer to Stormwater	200,000
Total Grant Fund	\$2,669,000

Stormwater Fund	
Administration	\$102,874
Street & Road Cleaning	85,081
Operations	433,041
Total Stormwater Fund	\$620,996

Total Combined Expenditures	\$17,744,709
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Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate at this public hearing should contact the Town Manager's office at (540) 983-0607.

Susan N. Johnson
Town Clerk

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

*Angie
Chewning*

Filling in for Bootie


Congratulations to Elena Boitnott and all the other graduates from Virginia Tech. We joined in the fun to celebrate— Mom Carmen Agra, Dad Greg Boitnott, Grandma Shirley Agra, Aunt and Cousin Maria and Mia, and myself. After graduation we all (add Blake) had lunch at Mountain Lake Resort. It was beautiful! I am so glad I got to join the celebration!

Thank you to everyone who understood us postponing the Vinton Palooza. With the threat of bad weather, we just didn't want to take the risk of ruining what will be a GREAT event. Mark your calendar: August 21, SUNDAY FUNDAY!

The Chamber is still accepting teams for our annual Golf Tournament on May 26 at Botetourt Country Club. For more info please call the Chamber office 540-343-1364 or email angie@vintonchamber.com.



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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 for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

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

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

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

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

ECKANKAR
Eckankar, the Path of Spiritual Freedom, is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. However, due to COVID-19, the Light & Sound

Services and other ECK programs are currently available online through Zoom. Visit www.eck-va.org for program listings, www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group, or call 540-353-5365 and leave a message. We will return your call. Also visit www.eckankar.org for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar lead you to spiritual freedom.

FOURSQUARE
EVANGEL CHURCH - 2360 Hardy Road, Vinton, (corner of Hardy Road and Feather Road), 982-3694. Pastor-Tim Wright. Sunday, 10 AM - Worship Service, Super-Church 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 School 10:00am, Worship 11:00am, sttimothy1201@verizon.net.

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

PRESBYTERIAN
CAMPBELL MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1130 Hardy Rd, Vinton, VA, 540-343-1842; cmpc2verizon.net Sunday school 9:45am, Worship 11:00am; Communion 1st Sundays; 2nd Sunday Session; Monday Noon Bible Study; Tuesdays & Thursdays Stretch Class 9:00am; 1st Tuesdays Deacons; Wednesday Choir 7:00pm; Monday Girl Scouts 7:00pm; 3rd Saturday Men's Breakfast 8:00am. Rev. Jonathan Moelker, pastor

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

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

Marketplace ourvalley.org

THE FINCASTLE HERALD The Vinton Messenger THE NEW CASTLE RECORD SALEM TIMES REGISTER News Messenger RADFORD News Journal

Yard Sales - Botetourt County

Multi-Family Yard Sale

May 20 and 21 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Multi-family yard sale Settler Road, Fincastle, Virginia 24090. Large-screen tv, furniture, wall hangings, household items and more.

Yard Sale

Big yard sale. Mill Creek Area. 395 Oak Ridge Road, Buchanan, Virginia. Friday and Saturday, May 20th and 21st, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Rain or shine. No early sales.

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Legals - Craig County

PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Fiber to the Home Broadband Internet Service

CRAIG COUNTY, VIRGINIA

The County of Craig hereby solicits proposals from qualified Offerors for broadband internet projects for any area of the county not currently receiving at a minimum 100Mbps download and 20Mbps upload speeds. The Craig County Broadband Committee would like to partner with such providers in securing grants and local funding. Broadband service must be fiber to the home. No other means of broadband delivery will be considered. Projects will be chosen by the broadband committee based on cost, time to project completion, number of passings included in the project, and guaranteed broadband speed of completed project. Service providers may reach out to the Broadband Committee if they have any questions. Proposals are due no later than June 10th 2022, at 5pm. Proposals and questions can be directed to broadband@craigcountyva.gov.

The County reserves the right to reject any bids and reserves the right to engage in negotiations with any providers, or other interested parties.

In accordance with Section 2.2-4302.2 of the Code of Virginia, Virginia Public Procurement Act.

Notice

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 6484 Cumberland Gap Road, Newport, VA 24128 Tax Map No.: 105-A-43A In execution of a Deed of Trust dated February 23, 2011, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for Craig County, Virginia, in Deed Book 181, page 668, the Substitute Trustee will offer the above-described property for sale to the highest bidder at public auction on the date and time referenced below. All that certain tract or parcel of land, with the improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate, lying and being in the Simmonsville District of Craig County, Virginia, and BEING Parcel One (1) containing 10.886 acres, as shown on a plat recorded in the Circuit Court Clerk's Office of Craig County, Virginia, in Deed Book 74, page 635. Date of Sale: May 31, 2022 at 12:00 noon at Craig County Circuit Court, 182 Main Street, Suite 4 New Castle, VA 24127. Terms: CASH: a deposit in the form of certified funds in the amount of \$10,000 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower. Settlement within thirty (30) days of date of sale. Time is of the essence.

- OPTIONS: 1. All costs of conveyance, examination of title, recording charges, etc. will be at cost of purchaser with the exception of the grantor's tax. Neither the Substitute Trustee nor any other party guarantees or covenants to deliver or in any way to obtain possession of the premises for any third party purchaser. 2. The Substitute Trustee reserves the right to reject all bids, extend the time to

Legals - Craig County

receive bids or withdraw the property from sale at any time. In addition, should the Substitute Trustee be unable, for any reason, in its sole discretion, to convey title, the successful bidder's sole remedy in law or equity shall be the return of his deposit. Upon refund of the deposit, the sale shall be void and of no effect. Additional terms may be announced at the time of the sale. The Substitute Trustee will convey the above-described property to the purchaser(s) by Special Warranty deed at settlement and makes no additional representations or warranties of any kind regarding the title to said property. David C. Hellscher, Esq. Substitute Trustee

For Information Contact: David C. Hellscher, Esq. OPN LAW 3140 Chaparral Drive Roanoke, VA 24018 (540) 725-8182

Legals - Botetourt County

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104 Case No. CL22000143-00 BOTETOURT COUNTY 1 WEST MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 219, FINCASTLE, VA 24090

FLORIARES DE LA CRUZ ANTIVOLA v. LINDY MICHAEL SANTOS MONTANA, JR The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that LINDY MICHAEL SANTOS MONTANA, JR appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MAY 16, 2022.

APRIL 15, 2022 Tommy L. Moore Clerk

Legals - Montgomery County

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Case No. CL22000727-00 Montgomery County Circuit Court, 55 East Main Street Christiansburg, VA 24073

YINGQIU ZHANG v. LI JIA

The petitioner's object of this proceeding is to obtain a divorce of bond of matrimony from the Defendant on the ground of having lived separate and apart for a period exceeding one year. It appearing by affidavit that the Defendant's last known address was 1101 Joyce Street, Apartment 2318, Arlington, Virginia 22202, the Defendant's present whereabouts are unknown, and diligence has been used by the Plaintiff to ascertain in what county or city the Defendant is without effect, it is ORDERED that the defendant appear before this court on July 20, 2022 and protect her interests herein.

It is further ORDERED that the foregoing portion of this order be published once a week for four successive weeks in the News Messenger, a newspaper published in Montgomery County, Virginia, and having general circulation in Montgomery County, Virginia, and a copy of this order is to be posted at the front door of the Montgomery County Court House of Virginia.

May 4, 2022 Erica W. Conner Clerk of Court

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Case No. CL22000744-00 COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104

Montgomery County Circuit Court 55 East Main Street, Suite 1, Christiansburg, VA 24073 Yonce, Sandra Kay v. Yonce, Kenneth Lee, II

Legals - Montgomery County

The object of this suit is to: OBTAIN A DIVORCE It is ORDERED that KENNETH LEE YONCE, II appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before July 11, 2022.

May 10, 2022 Erica W. Conner Clerk of Court

Notice

Trustee's Sale 3511 Dove Lane, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060 (Parcel ID: 024529; Tax Map No.: 051-A 33E)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated August 22, 2002, in the original principal amount of \$115,098.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia in Instrument No. 2002012050, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on June 10, 2022, at 3:00 pm, in front of the building housing the Montgomery County Circuit Court, 55 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, the property containing 2.077 ac., as shown on plat entitled "Plat from . . . Graham of an un-numbered 2.077 ac. lot at Price's Fork in Price's Lot Magisterial District, Montgomery County, Virginia," recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 962, Page 482. TOGETHER WITH a 20 ft. ingress/egress easement, from Virginia State Route 718 over Dove Lane to the aforesaid property. SUBJECT TO a road maintenance agreement recorded in Deed Book 1142 at Page 104 in the aforesaid Clerk's Office. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions, if any, of record, or other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises. TERMS: CASH. A deposit of \$11,500.00 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

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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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Left, William Byrd's Trinity Hylton is ready to fire on the goal. Right, Dominic Dulak comes out of the pack with the ball in last week's game in Salem.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Byrd teams playing their best lacrosse as post-season nears

The William Byrd girls and boys lacrosse teams will open region play next week and both teams are playing their best as the post-season nears.

Both teams were scheduled to host Hidden Valley on Wednesday of this week at Patterson Stadium, but results were too late for publication. Depending on how the girls did Wednesday, they will open the region at either Salem or Rockbridge next Monday or Tuesday. The boys appear to be locked in for a date at E.C. Glass on Tuesday of next week.

The boys are coming off a 5-3 win over Franklin County on Saturday in Vinton. It was their second

win of the season, and guaranteed the Terriers a spot in the region.

"It was a big win for our program and this team," said coach Will Satterfield. "That win put us in the playoffs for the first time in program history. I'm really proud of this team and their resilience."

Kaden West scored four goals and Connor McCarthy added one for the Terriers.

"Our defense played our first four-quarter game of team defense," said Satterfield. "Ian Vest, Cole Spencer and Donnie Davis played great on-ball and shut down their productive attack men."

John Sandzimier had 11 saves in goal, holding the Eagles to just three scores.

Both the boys and girls hosted strong Jefferson Forest teams last Thursday. The boys lost 13-2 and the girls dropped a 14-10 decision at Patterson Stadium.

Trinity Hylton and Ashlyn Stover had three goals and one assist each for the Byrd girls. Olivia Hurd also had three goals and Jada Johnson had her first varsity goal. Haley Firebaugh had 15 saves to keep the Byrd girls in the game, including her 200th career save.

Emilie McCaskill prepares to serve one up for Byrd.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



Girls battle for BRD tennis crown

The William Byrd girls were scheduled to play a tennis doubleheader at Franklin County on Wednesday with the Blue Ridge District regular season on the line. Both teams were undefeated in BRD play coming into the week.

Wednesday's doubleheader is a reschedule from last Thursday when the two teams attempted to play in Vinton. The weather didn't cooperate and the match was washed out.

"It rained, we squeegeed, it rained and it was just terrible," said Byrd coach Kayla Mitchell-McCroskey. "We were finally able to get started and we actually almost finished. However, we ran out of daylight and it started raining again. We are finishing our match against them Wednesday, then we will start a second match against them right after."

The Terriers were able to get in a match with William Fleming last week and Byrd took a 9-0 win, with Fleming forfeiting at six singles and third doubles. Singles winners, in ladder order, were Lexi Aquino, Makenna Jacobsen, Emilie McCaskill, Timber Raines and Cassidy Wrye. Aquino and Jacobsen won at first doubles and McCaskill and Sylvia Bautista won at second doubles.

On Monday the girls hosted Northside and won 7-2. Singles winners were Aquino, Jacobsen, McCaskill and Raines and Byrd swept the doubles.

"It was a great match," said Mitchell-McCroskey. "Northside has some girls that can really get it if they stick to it. Our girls were just ready to get it done and that's exactly what they did."

Byrd will wrap up the regular season tonight with a non-district match against Bassett at home, and it will be Senior Night. The regionals start early next week at the higher seeds.

The boys were scheduled to play their final regular season match on Wednesday at home against Franklin County. The Terriers won their first match last week, defeating William Fleming 5-4.

Franklin County is site for BRD track meet Saturday

Franklin County High School will be the site of the Blue Ridge District track meet this Saturday. Field events will begin at 9 am with running events scheduled to take the gun at 10:30 am.

Last Wednesday, May 11th, the Terriers hosted a meet with Lord Botetourt, Bassett, Glenvar, North Cross and Martinsville. It was Senior Day for the Byrd thinclads and a host of seniors were recognized prior to the meet, including Hunter Richards, Hayden Janney, Trevor Ruble, Walker Nance, Jayson Marvin, Remi Figart, Chloe Harrilla, Sela Beatty, Emma Dalton, Jaylen Rosser, Mya Rosser, Mackenzie Foley and Sarah Fuchs.

Once the action started Byrd had some solid performances. On the ladies side Sela Beatty finished second in the 100m and Remi Figart finished third in the 100 and 200m dash. Grace Owni took second in the 400m dash and Kendall Gordon finished third. Emma Kageals finished second in the 300m hurdles.

In the field events Figart finished second in the high jump, Gracie Mick won pole vault, Kageals finished third in the long jump and Mya Rosser won the shot and discus. Jaylen Rosser finished second in shot and third in discus.

On the boys side Deshawn Austin finished fourth in the 400m. Wyatt Bailey took fourth in the 800m run while Walker Nance was third in the 110m hurdles and Landon Martin finished 4th in the 300m hurdles. Jaiden Childress won and state qualified in the high jump by clearing 5'11 and Ethan Haston finished second in the long jump.

Lane Shoemaker was third in the triple jump and Bailey and Haston finished one-two in the pole vault. Caleb Thompson won the discus with a throw of 120'1.

After Saturday's district meet the Terriers will get ready for the Region 3D meet at Staunton River on Thursday, May 26.



Above, Byrd freshman Ethan Haston is up and over in the pole vault competition at Patterson Stadium last week. Below, left to right; the Terrier 4x100 relay team of Jaiden Childress, Isaiah Bond, Trevor Ruble and Jayson Marvin takes time out to pose for a photo. Left, Byrd's Gracie Mick competes in the long jump.

PHOTOS BY JEFF MARVIN & BRIAN HOFFMAN



Terriers will travel for first round of region

The William Byrd softball team will have a play-in game at a site to be determined when the Region 3D tournament begins a week from today, on May 26. The girls finished the regular season with a 7-13 overall record and a 2-8 mark in the Blue Ridge District. That was good for fifth in the district, missing out on the four team BRD tournament this weekend.

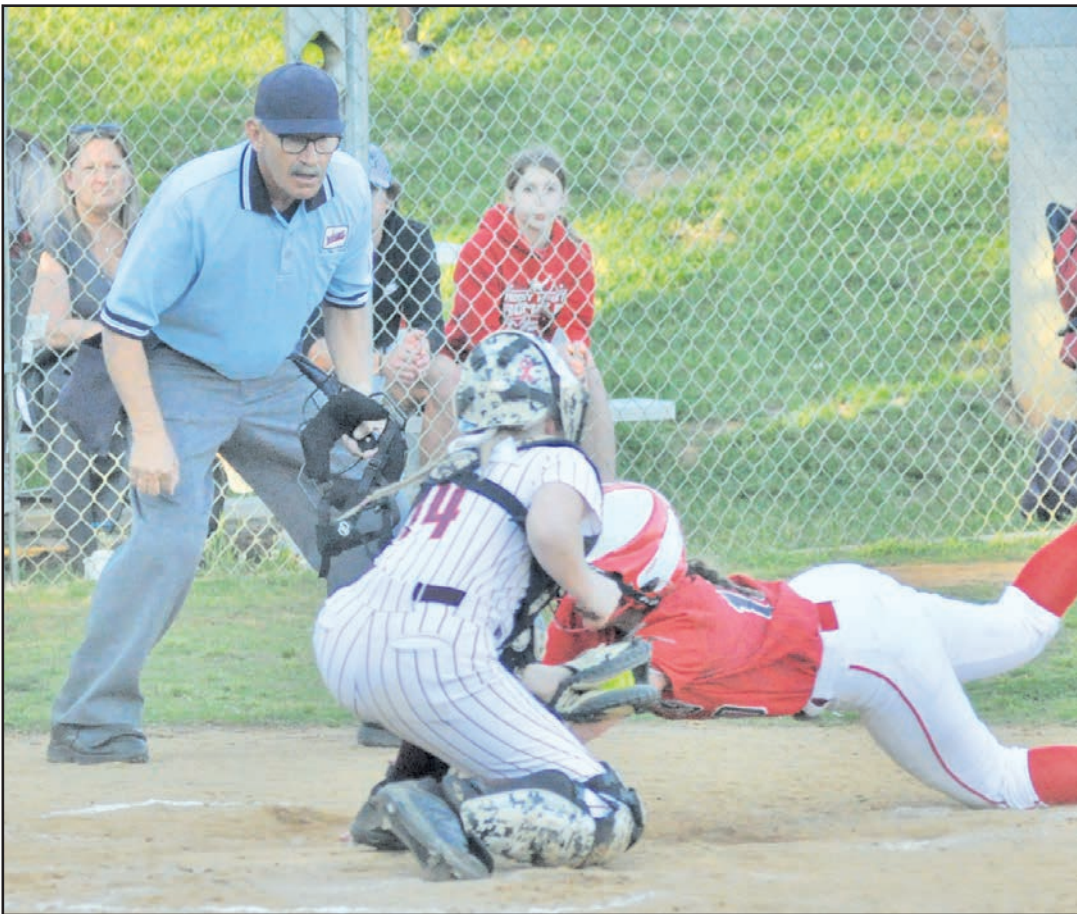
The Terriers split their last two regular season games, both by lopsided scores. Last week they beat William Fleming, 14-4, then dropped a 15-0 game to Franklin County in Vinton Monday.

Against Fleming Maddy Tuck drove in four runs on two hits to lead the Terriers as Byrd ripped Colonel pitching for 16 total hits. Maddy had a home run in a five run third inning and a triple in fifth. Tuck, Logan Pekala, Amber Vaughn, Keely Hoal, Elyssa Kitts, Sydney Blewett, and Haleigh Vaughan all collected multiple hits for Byrd and Pekala and Vaughan both had triples.

Chloe Varney was the winning pitcher with three innings on the mound, allowing two hits and one run while striking out five and walking one. Olivia Lyle and Pekala closed out the game in relief.

On Monday in Vinton Franklin County had their way with the Terriers in the shutout win as the Eagles touched Varney for seven runs through the fifth inning. Vaughan's single was the lone bright spot at the plate for the Terriers.

The district tournament will be this weekend with Lord Botetourt hosting Franklin County and Northside at Staunton River on Friday, followed by the championship game at 2 pm at Ben Franklin Middle School in Rocky Mount on Saturday.



Above, Byrd catcher Alyssa Kitts attempts to put the tag on a sliding Franklin County runner, who was called safe, in Monday's game in Vinton. Below, Haleigh Vaughan takes a rip for the Terriers.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

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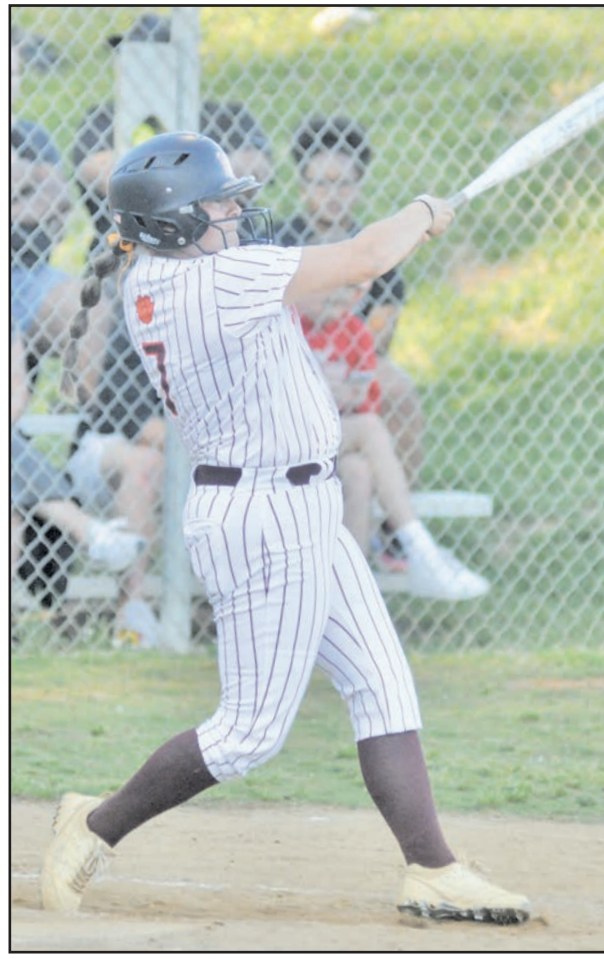


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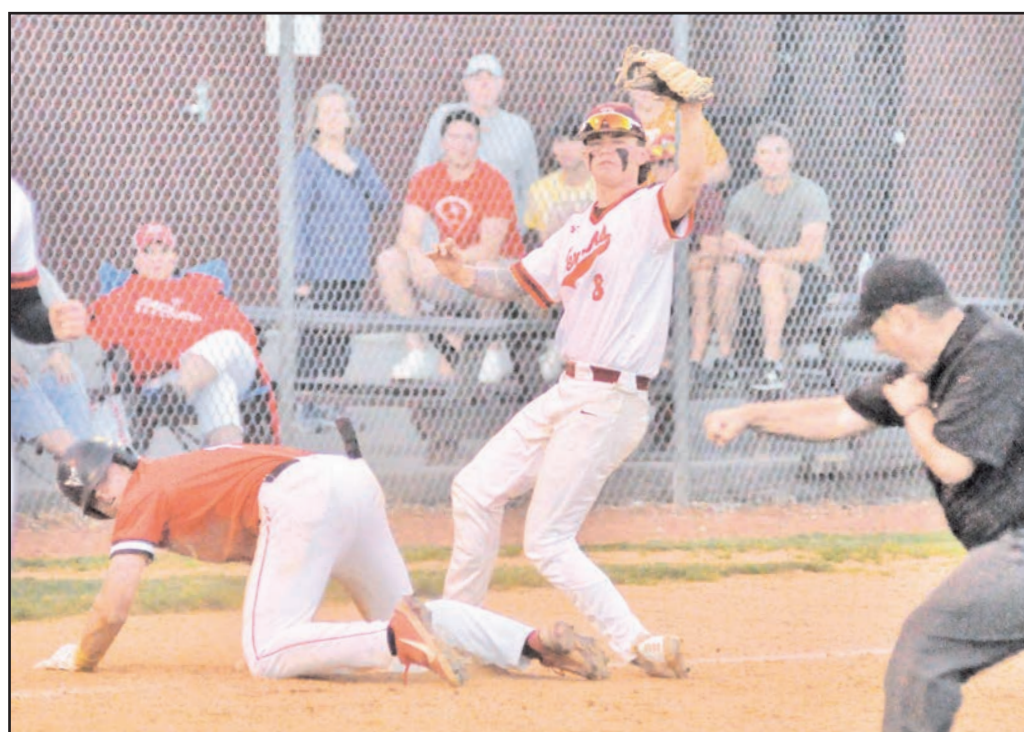
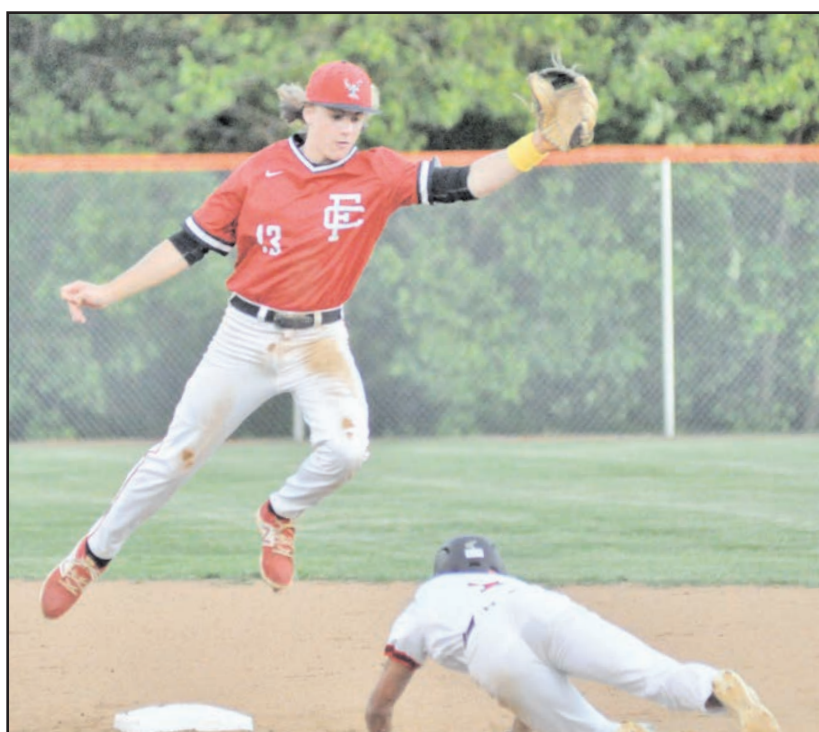


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Left, Byrd's Ethan Hairston steals second against Franklin County. Right, Trenton Sayers holds up the ball as an Eagle trying to stretch a double is called out at third.

PHOTO S BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Terriers win marathon over Franklin County to earn top seed in BRD

Will host Lord Botetourt in Vinton Friday in semifinal

The William Byrd baseball team is the top seed in the four-team Blue Ridge District tournament, which is scheduled for Friday night and Saturday afternoon. Byrd will host a game Friday night and the championship is at 2 pm Saturday at Ben Franklin Middle School in Rocky Mount.

As the number one seed Byrd will host fourth seeded Lord Botetourt at 6 pm Friday night at Walthall Park. Second seeded Franklin County will host third seeded Northside in the other Friday semifinal, and if the Eagles win they'll play the championship game on their home field. BRD baseball, softball, track and both boys and girls soccer championships are all being played in Franklin County Saturday.

The Terriers earned the home seed with a thrilling 6-5 win over Franklin County in Vinton Monday. The game went 13 innings and didn't end until after 11 pm as the two heavyweights slugged it out at Walthall Park.

Byrd had to rally from behind to force overtime. Down 5-3 in the bottom of the seventh, the Terriers had the bases loaded with two outs. Ross Divers was at the plate, one strike away from the game being over, but his single scored two and sent the game into extra innings.

That's how it stood into the bottom of the 13th, when Byrd loaded the bases again. Ironically Divers was at the dish once again, and his fly ball to right was dropped by the rightfielder for a "sacrifice fly error" to score the winning run.

Byrd burned two pitchers in the game, Hunter Sipe and Trenton Sayers, and neither will be eligible to pitch Friday. Sipe started and went five and a third innings before Blake Glover got the last two outs in the sixth. Brogan Dent pitched the seventh, then Sayers went six innings to pick up the win, holding the Eagles to one hit and fanning eight through the top of the 13th inning.

The Terriers finished with 11 hits by 10 different

batters. Ethan Hairston was the only Byrd player with two hits and he also had an RBI and scored three times.

Divers had a memorable night. He dropped down a suicide squeeze to score a run before knocking in the tying runs in the seventh and the winning run in the 13th.

With the win the Terriers took sole possession of first place in the BRD with a 15-4 overall record and an 8-2 mark in the BRD. Franklin fell to 8-2 but Byrd won the tie-breaker for the top seed in the district, having split with a common opponent, Cave Spring, while the Eagles lost to Cave Spring twice.

Byrd and Franklin split games during the regular season, with both going extra innings, and the two will likely be recognized as "co-champs" of the regu-

lar season. This weekend will put someone on top after Saturday's tournament championship, and while the four team district tournament means nothing as far as region seeding Byrd coach Jason Taylor would like to have that trophy.

"We want to win every game we play, I don't care who it's against or what it's for," he said. "It gives the boys confidence."

Monday's win will likely give the Terriers a first round home game in the Region 3D tournament, which will start with play-in games on May 26 and run through June 3rd. The Terriers were scheduled to play their 20th regular season game against Carroll County on Wednesday but that was cancelled so Carroll could play a district opponent in a makeup game.



Byrd's Ross Divers drops down a successful suicide squeeze against Franklin County.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Wm. Byrd's Landon Niday celebrates after scoring the second of his three goals in Friday's win over William Fleming



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Girls are 2nd seed in BRD soccer

The William Byrd girls will host Staunton River at 6 pm Friday night at Vinton's Patterson Stadium in the first round of the four-team Blue Ridge District soccer tournament. The girls are the second seed behind Lord Botetourt.

LB, who is undefeated in district play, will host Northside in the other semifinal game Friday. The two winners will play at noon Saturday at Franklin County High School for the Blue Ridge District championship.

Byrd finished the regular season on a high note. The Terriers shut out their last two opponents to finish 6-3-1 in the district and 11-4-1 overall.

Last Friday in the rain the girls

took a 9-0 win over visiting William Fleming at Patterson Stadium. Byrd scored six goals in the first half to build a big lead and never looked back. Anna Milliron and Maddy Simmons had two goals each and scoring one each were Claire Glover, Riley Firebaugh, Yulissa Bonilla-Gaucheta, Ella Ashworth and Martina Mihelcic. The game was called 20 minutes early due to the slaughter rule.

On Monday at home the girls played host to Franklin County and closed out the regular season with a 4-0 win. It was senior night and Byrd's four seniors were honored before the game, Firebaugh, Milliron, Bonilla-Baucheta and Hannah Sutton.

Once the game started Simmons took over with a three goal hat trick. She got the Terriers on the board first 16 minutes into the game off an assist from Glover. Addisyn St. Clair put Byrd up 2-0 at the half off an assist from Milliron just three minutes before intermission, and Simmons hit the net twice more in the second half, both assisted by St. Clair.

The Region 3D tournament will begin next week and Byrd looks to be the third seed. That would give the Terriers a first round bye followed by a home game on Memorial Day.



Byrd's Maci Glass holds off a Franklin County foe in Monday's soccer win in Vinton.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Soccer boys are at LB Friday

The William Byrd boys finished fourth in the Blue Ridge District soccer standings and will play top-seeded Lord Botetourt in the semifinal round of this weekend's district tournament.

Byrd finished 3-5-2 in the district and that was good for fourth place. The Terriers will play LB, who is 8-2 in the BRD, in Daleville on Friday at approximately 7:15 pm. The game is the second of a doubleheader, with the LB girls taking on Northside in the opener.

Friday's winners will meet on Saturday at 2 pm at Franklin County High for the boys' BRD district championship. Byrd will open Region 3D play on May 26 at Bassett.

Last Friday in Roanoke the Terriers took on William Fleming in a light rain and Landon Niday's three goal hat trick led the Terriers to a 3-2 win over the host Colonels. The first goal resulted when Dylan Hughes played a ball from the back that went over the defenders and Niday was able to go one-on-one with the keeper to put Byrd up 1-0. Then, just before half time, Braden Crossan was able to find

Landon for another one-on-one to put the Terriers up 2-0 going into the half.

Fleming cut the lead to 2-1 in the second half but Niday answered with his third goal. Fleming scored again late in the contest but the Terriers were able to hang on for the win. The win knocked the Colonels out of first place in the district, allowing Lord Botetourt to win the regular season.

On Monday the Byrdmen played a makeup game at Franklin County and lost in overtime, 4-3. Byrd trailed 1-0 at the half but took the lead in the second half on two goals by Niday, one on a penalty kick and the second on an assist from Daniel Britts.

Franklin tied the game with 10 minutes to go and it was 2-2 after regulation. In overtime the Eagles scored twice and held on despite a third goal by Niday, giving him his second three-goal hat trick in two matches.

"I was extremely proud of the boys for their continued work and effort," said coach Russell Dishman. "They never gave up and that was awesome. It hurts to lose like that but it was a good performance."