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Pastor B. Failes of Thrasher celebrates retirement with Rise Against Hunger project

Debbie Adams
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Sunday, June 12, was Pastor B. Failes' last day as pastor of Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church. He will be retiring after 38 years in the ministry, the last 11 at Thrasher in Vinton.

"When I first came to Thrasher, I said I would stay 10 years and retire," said Failes. "I decided last year to stay one more year because of the pandemic. But now the time has come. I will be retiring at Annual Conference this year."

Instead of a reception with cake and balloons, Failes asked to mark the milestone with a mission project "to make a difference in the world." He invited the congregation to gather for just one service that day (usually there are three) and package meals to feed 10,000 people through the "Rise Against Hunger" program.

Failes had planned his final worship service, start to finish, to include his favorite scriptures and hymns. It was emotional. There was laughter; there were tears. There was joy for Pastor B. and his wife, Jan, as they start a new chapter in their lives. There was anticipation as

Thrasher prepares to welcome a new pastor – John Hemmings and his family.

Pastor B. opened with 2 Timothy 4:6-8, which he noted many pastors choose as their text on their retirement day.

"6 As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. 7 I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. 8 From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing."

The songs included the mellow "What a Wonderful World," the boisterous "When the Saints Go Marching In," the poignant "This is My Song," plus "Standing on the Promises."

Failes is well-known as a storyteller; he has used his stories to explain how his ministry, life, and understanding of God have been shaped.

His message on June 12 centered around the topic of "One Key." When Failes came to Thrasher, he was given two large key rings filled with unmarked keys to unknown doors. Over



Pastor B. Failes and his wife Jan are in full retirement as of June 12, 2022.



Pastor B. requested that the congregation send him off to retirement, not with a traditional party, but with a mission project, Rise Against Hunger, packaging 10,000 meals for the hungry around the world.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The packaging of every 1,000 meals was marked with the ringing of a gong, this time by Ember Sell.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Pastor B. Failes and his wife Jan starting out in the ministry in the 1980s.

See Rise Against Hunger, page 8



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Vinton Police Department manned the grill to provide free hot dogs at the Vinton Library Summer Reading kick-off on June 9. Shown left to right are police recruits Daniel Valladarez and Trinity Otey, Captain and Deputy Chief Tim Lawless, Executive Assistant to the Chief of Police Mandie Baker, Police Chief Fabricio Drumond, Sgt. Michael Caldwell, Sgt. Silas Chapman, and police recruit Stephanie Walsh.

Vinton Library kicks off Summer Reading Program with hot dogs, petting zoo

The Vinton Library kicked off its Summer Reading Program in style with two days of fun events on the library grounds on the afternoons of June 9 and 10.

Thursday's activities included free hot dogs from the Vinton Police Department, with the grill and Mobile Unit manned by Police Chief Fabricio Drumond, Captain and Deputy Chief Tim Lawless, Executive Assistant to the Chief of Police and Deputy Emergency Management Co-

ordinator Mandie Baker, Sgt. Michael Caldwell, Sgt. Silas Chapman, Human Resources Director Donna Collins, and police recruits Daniel Valladarez, Trinity Otey, and Stephanie Walsh.

Families patiently stood in line for twisted balloon animal creations from Lib's Lab. There was a magnetic fishing pole pool, a story stroll, a chalk obstacle course, bubbles, a photo booth, and a showing of the movie "The Never-ending Story" on the patio

See Summer Reading Program, page 5

Susan Lewis Music Studio presents impressive Spring Recital



Susan Lewis Music Studio vocal and piano students performed their Spring Recital on June 12 at Thrasher Memorial UMC.



Seniors in the Class of 2022 were showcased during the Susan Lewis Music Studio Spring Recital. Shown left to right are teacher Susan Lewis, Sydney Thomas, Simon Sealey, and Chloe Hopkins.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Brent Saunders performed "Neon Moon" at the Spring Recital, accompanied by members of his family. Shown left to right are Trey Saunders on guitar, Brent Saunders, Carl Saunders (dobro), and Jeff Saunders (bass).

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Susan Lewis Music Studio voice and piano students presented their annual Spring Recital on June 12 at Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church in Vinton in a sanctuary packed with families and friends.

"I teach with my heart, and my heart is overflowing with joy right now," said Lewis. "Sixty of my piano and voice students delivered incredible performances at the 2022 Spring Recital."

"The high level of talent and skill displayed involved numerous students who are among the finest musicians in not only our area, but anywhere!" she added. "Many of them are at a level comparable to contestants on 'The Voice,' 'American Idol,' or 'America's Got Talent.' I even have a few students who are amazing songwriters and are already performing locally."

"The benefits of piano/voice recitals and public performances for students are priceless," Lewis said. "These benefits include building confidence, achievement recognition, family bonding, improving skills, time management, and discipline, to name a few."

Students performing piano solos included:

- Charlotte McGrath, "It's a Small World"
- Nolan Cranwell, "Old McDonald"
- Karlee Smith, "Winnie the Pooh"
- Aniya Smith, "Super-califragilistic"
- Addy McLennan, "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"
- Emory Mullins,

See Recital, page 5



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SPOTLIGHT ON TOWN STAFF

The Town of Vinton and The Vinton Messenger have teamed up 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.

This week the spotlight is on Vinton’s Executive Assistant and Town Clerk Susan Johnson. She has been employed by the town since July 27, 2011.

“We are truly blessed to have Susan Johnson as part of the professional team in the Town of Vinton,” said Mayor Brad Grose. “Susan excels in her position as our Town Clerk

as well as the Executive Assistant. It would be very difficult to describe all the tasks that Susan performs daily. The value of Susan’s extensive knowledge of local government operation cannot be overstated. In addition to performing her usual duties in a very efficient manner, she is always ready to assist with special projects. Susan helps keep all of us on track and on schedule. A bonus to her professional performance is the manner in which she conducts herself as a person of great faith! I am very grateful for the assistance she provides to me and all the staff.”

Her patience, knowledge, and efficiency have also been of immeasurable value to The Vinton Messenger in From 1995 to 2007, Johnson

served as Administrative Office Associate and then as the Executive Services Coordinator/Clerk for the City of Martinsville. She also spent 17 years with a private law firm in Martinsville and four years with the City of Roanoke Attorney’s Office.

“My first visit to Vinton was in 1976 to march with the John D. Bassett High School Band in the Dogwood Festival Parade,” Johnson shared.

Her hobbies include bicycling, cruises, scrapbooking, playing Hand and Foot, and visiting consignment shops and thrift stores.

She most enjoys spending time with her husband Donnie, her daughter Cora Beth Akers, her son-in-law Curtis Akers, and her grandsons Klayton and Harrison Akers.



PHOTO FROM THE TOWN OF VINTON
Susan Johnson, Town Clerk and Executive Assistant

Mingle concert series off to a great start



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The crowd was enthusiastic at this year’s first Mingle, dancing in the streets.



The Five Shades of Gray band was the featured performer at the first Mingle at the Market concert for 2022.

The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce hosted the first Mingle at the Market concert of the 2022 season on June 11 with a performance from the Five Shades of Gray band.

There was a great turn-out for the event, despite a brief rain shower at the start of the evening. The band kept playing while the crowd gathered briefly under

the Farmers’ Market pavilion.

“Oh, what a night!” said Chamber Executive Director Angie Chewning. “No, it’s not late December back in ’63. It’s Mingle season, sponsored by MemberOne Federal Credit Union. What a great start! Many thanks to all our sponsors, to William Byrd football, and Fisher Financial for being

such great volunteers, Five Shades of Gray for the great music, Food on the Go and Dodge Store for the great food, Blue Ridge Beverage for the cold beverages and, of course, everyone who came out to have some fun and even waited out the quick rain shower.”

“This is a direct reflection of what is going on in Vinton,” said Chamber President Jason Boothe. “What an amazing turnout for the first Mingle of the season. This would not be possible without our great town officials who support what we do 100%, our supporters who show up every year, our Title Sponsor MemberOne, our VIP sponsors Mountain View Real Estate, Alcova Mortgage, and Coastal Planning Insurance— all Vinton based companies. We also have William Byrd football players helping with the setup and take down this year, and they were a lifesaver! We have some great volunteer groups lined up as well as a great lineup of bands this year. I’m really excited about the Super Mingles and Double the Bands on three nights. Angie [Chewning] and Kathryn [Sowers] do an amazing job coordinating this event and it truly takes a village to pull it together.”

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The second Mingle is already set for June 25 from 7 to 10 p.m.

“Join us next time when Glam’r Kiti and Adrenaline 6 will rock the Farmers Market stage,” Chewning said. “And Mountain Grille will be serving up that yummy butter burger and much more.”

Sponsors for this year’s Mingle at the Market concerts include Oakey’s, Coastal Insurance Planning, MemberOne, PFG, Mountain View Real Estate, Fox Radio 910, ServPro, Winters Storage, Bank of Botetourt, the Vinton War Memorial, Blue Ridge Beverage, the Greenway Boothe Real Estate Team, Roanoke County, HomeTrust Bank, the Town of Vinton, Food Lion, The Vinton Messenger, Farmburguesa, Vertex Signs, Magnets USA, Cox, Carilion Clinic, Brad Grose, and KP Strategies.

Vinton Veterinary Hospital to expand

The Vinton Veterinary Hospital on Washington Avenue in Vinton has announced plans for an extensive multi-million-dollar expansion and renovation starting later this summer.

They will be breaking ground on what will become a “campus-style” veterinary hospital for clients and patients, unique in the Roanoke Valley and surrounding area.

Vinton Vet will first be building a “fully loaded, state-of-the-art” second veterinary facility next door to the existing office in the old Sweet Dreams Mattress store. This will become their Special Procedures Building where all surgery, dentistry, endoscopy, and exotics procedures will be performed. This is to facilitate a quiet, fear-free and dedicated hospital for these services. They will also have a “comfort room” for euthanasia purposes so clients have a “beautiful environment to spend their last moments with their beloved pets.”

Next, they will embark on a massive renovation of the existing main building which will become the Vinton Veterinary Wellness and Urgent Care.

They plan to revamp their lobby and reception area to have separate cat and dog waiting areas and a much better flow.

They will also be updating their kennel and creating a huge office for their ever-growing veterinarian team (now nine and counting). And finally, they will double the treatment room area to create a dedicated, updated, and quiet ICU and updated Isolation Ward.

Vinton Vet is well-known throughout the valley and region for their level of care for pets, for their personal touch and compassion. They have been recipients of many “Best Veterinary Hospital” awards over the years.

The veterinary hospital was established by Dr. Jesse Webster in 1973. Their first offices were across Washington Avenue from their current location in the Valley Hall building. Dr. Gerald Buckland joined the practice in 1975. In 1979 when the building became available, they moved their practice across the street. Dr. Courtney Wiegard joined the staff in 2005 and now is the owner of the veterinary hospital.



The Vinton Veterinary Hospital on Washington Avenue has announced plans for extensive expansion and renovations.



The old Sweet Dreams Mattress Store on Washington Avenue next door to the Vinton Veterinary Hospital is part of the expansion plan.

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Vinton Cruise In returns

The Vinton Cruise In is returning to downtown Vinton this summer beginning on Saturday, June 18, from 3 to 7 p.m.

The event has a new name, “Vinyard’s Cruise In,” in memory of Vinton’s Billy Vinyard who had a love for

cars and the town. He was the owner of Vinton Motors at the corner of Washington Avenue and Pollard Street where Vinyard Station now stands.

The community is invited to “park, cruise, and listen to the music of the ’60s and ’70s at

the Vinton Farmers’ Market.”

Come out and show off your car or just admire those of other car enthusiasts.

This will be a monthly event during the summer months on June 18, July 16, and August 20.

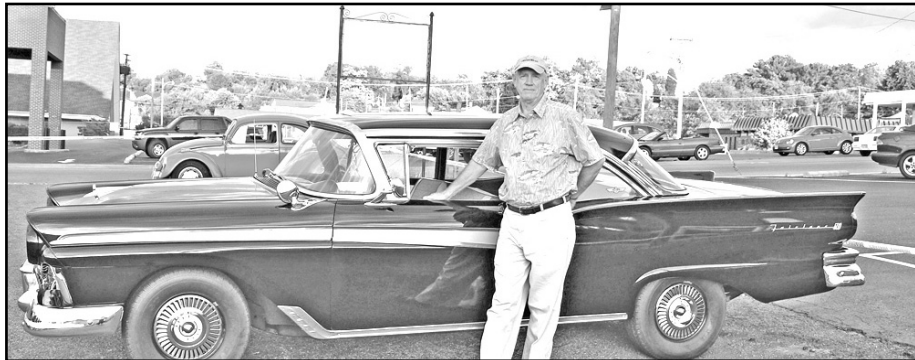


PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The always popular Vinton Cruise In is being revived this summer—and renamed for Billy Vinyard. The first Vinyard Cruise In is scheduled for June 18 from 3-7 p.m. at the Vinton Farmers’ Market. Jim Cunningham is shown with his 1957 Ford Fairlane at a former Cruise In.

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4th of July

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Formed by burning tobacco

4. Luxury automaker

7. Religious residences

12. Crusaders

14. Puzzled

15. In a curt way

18. Selling tool

19. Solid material

20. Gold

21. Thick piece of something

24. Pouch

27. “Wonder Years” actor Fred

30. Strong and healthy

31. Waste matter

33. Apply lightly

34. Type of squad

35. Secret political faction

37. Mock

39. Immoral act

41. Early Syrian kingdom

42. Neutralizes alkalis

44. Loud, confused noise

47. Sweet potato

48. Yemen’s largest city

49. Farm state

50. Bird’s beak

52. Measures distance

53. Pacify

56. Spanish noble

61. Lodging supplied for public convenience

63. Womanized

64. Not divisible by two

65. Monetary unit

CLUES DOWN

1. Used in perfumery

2. Arabic man’s name

3. Assess

4. Prickly plants

5. Falsely assess

6. “_ the whistle”

7. Mama

8. Rocker ___ Vicious

9. Toward

10. Prefix meaning within

11. Midway between south and southeast

12. Cause to be embarrassed

13. Pandemonium

16. Fall behind

17. Cantonese

22. Shad

23. A way to make dark

24. Specialized systems consultant

25. Wings

26. Taxi driver

28. Linear units

29. Large Philippine plant

32. Celebration

36. Fugitives are on this

38. Chinese tree

40. Not sour

43. “Bourne” actor Matt

44. Former OSS

45. Runners run this

46. Offered again

51. Sanctuary

54. Food suitable for babies

55. Caused by a reflection of sound

56. Mortar trough

57. Days in mid-month

58. Exhibit the courage to do

59. Disk of the sun in Egyptian mythology

60. Protects from weather

62. Manganese

Vinton prepares to host another spectacular Fourth of July Celebration

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

—If you attended Vinton’s Fourth of July Celebration in 2021, you most likely remember it as the most spectacular in the town’s history. The fireworks show was described as “beyond all expectations” by the town and “the best ever in the Roanoke Valley” by many spectators.

Community Programs Director Chasity Barbour promises another impressive show this year with fireworks again by Grucci. In fact, the budget has increased over last year.

The festivities will get underway on Monday, July 4, at 7 p.m. at the War Memorial with a patriotic program followed by music from DJ Flex before the fireworks show at 9:30.

Those who attend are reminded to bring a chair or blanket to sit on the front lawn. No pets are allowed. There is no charge for admission.

Food will be available from DG Ice, Duck Donuts, Saltys Lobster & Company, Tinker Mountain Kettle Korn Co., Munsey’s Smoke Shack, and Deb’s Frozen Lemonade.

The Vinton War Memorial is located at 814 Washington Avenue in Vinton.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Four on the 4th race moves to Vinton in 2022

American National Bank and Fleet Feet will once again be sponsoring the “Four on the 4th” race to benefit the Boys and Girls Clubs of SWVA—except this year the race will take place in Vinton. The four-miler will begin and end at the Vinton War Memorial.

“Four on the 4th” is one of the main annual fundraisers for the Boys & Girls Clubs of SWVA. They rely on the financial support from this race to provide summer camps and after school programs for disadvantaged youth in Roanoke City, Roanoke County, Salem City, Franklin County, Montgomery County, and Vinton. One of their programs is housed at Vinton Baptist Church and serves students from Herman L. Horn and W.E. Cundiff Elementary Schools. In 2021, the race raised over \$18,000 for Boys & Girls Clubs of SWVA.

Four on the 4th has become a 4th of July tradition among friends and family in the Roanoke Valley as a way to kick off the holiday’s festivities. Sponsors invite the public to help break the record number of participants—517 four-milers.

Registration for Four on the 4th is \$35 through June 30; \$40 from July 1-4.

The Four on the 4th Kids Fun Run is free or \$10 with a T-shirt. While the kids race is free, registration is required.

Race-Day registration for both Four on the 4th

and the Kids Fun Run will be available on-site from 7 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. for adults and until 8:45 a.m. for children. The adult race starts at 8 a.m. sharp. There is a 90-minute course limit.

In case of inclement weather, the race will go virtual.

Dogs and pets are not permitted to participate in either race. Strollers are allowed.

All four-miler participants will get an “awesome” finishers medal and commemorative T-shirt.

Packet pickup will be available at Fleet Feet Roanoke (located at 4347 Franklin Road) from 10 a.m. through 6 p.m. on Friday, July 1 and Saturday, July 2. You will also be able to pick up your packet at the event, starting at 7 a.m.

The Kids Fun Run starts at 9 a.m. Registration will be open until 8:45 a.m. race morning. This free Kids event is a great way to get your kid out running and walking. The Four on the 4th Kids Fun Run is approximately a half mile (out and back). Parents are allowed to join their kids.

All kids will receive a #1 race bib, along with a Kids Fun Run finishers medal when they cross the finish line. You can register your kids for the Four on the 4th Kids Fun Run with a t-shirt for \$10; they’ll receive the kids race shirt at Packet Pick-up.

The awards ceremony will start once everyone has completed the race.

Top awards will be presented to: the Top 3 Males, Top 3 Females, Top Male Master (40+), Top Female Master (40+), Top Male Grand Master (50+), and Top Female Grand Master (50+).

Age group awards will be presented to Top 3 Males and Females in each age group category:

1-14, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70 and up.

The Top 3 Males, Top 3 Females, Top Male Master, Top Female Master, Top Male Grand Master and Top Female Grand Master will win a pair of On shoes from Fleet Feet.

Freedom Awards will also be given. All Freedom award winners will win a \$250 gift card to Fleet Feet. The awards include the:

Best SmileAward: Show

off your best smile on race day. Snap a pic and post it on your social media to get entered to win.

Biggest Family Award: The family with the most members to participate in Four on the 4th together will win. Snap a pic and post it to your social media to get entered to win.

Social Butterfly Award: The participant with the most “likes” on their Four on the 4th race picture on Facebook or Instagram will win the Social Butterfly Award.

Most Patriotic Award - presented by Fleet Feet. Get your red, white and blue ready. The most patriotic race outfit will win this award.

If you are participating virtually, snap a photo and post it to your social media to get entered to win one of the Freedom Awards:

SNAP a picture of your best smile, most creative race route, your family, your patriotic outfit, or any selfie or pic from YOUR virtual Four on the 4th race.

POST the picture to your Facebook or Instagram. If you’re private or prefer not to post – email your picture(s) to tyler@fleetfeetroanoke.com

TAG the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest Virginia (@bgcswva on Instagram) AND Fleet Feet Roanoke (@fleetfeetroanoke on Instagram)

USE #fouronthe4th Be sure to post your race pictures on your social media anytime between 12 a.m. on July 4 through 11:59 p.m. on July 5. Winners will be announced on July 7. Winners must be local or able to pick up their prize at Fleet Feet Roanoke.

Volunteers are still needed to assist with the race. Signup online at <https://runsignup.com/Race/Volunteer/VA/Roanoke/Fouronthe4th>.

Sponsors of this year’s Four on the 4th include: American National Bank & Trust Company FocusOne, Cox, Freedom First, Roanoke Valley Orthodontics, Fleet Feet, the Boys and Girls Clubs of SWVA, and the Sign Factory.

If you have any questions about this race, contact the race director at tyler@fleetfeetroanoke.com or visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Vinton/Fouronthe4th> for more information.

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Summer Reading Program from page 1

at the end of the afternoon.

Library staff members were available to register children, teens, and adults for the Summer Reading Program which runs through August 6. Participants of all ages only need to read three books to qualify for prizes. (You may also register online at <https://www.roanokecountyva.gov/1970/Library>.)

On Friday afternoon, the Little Critters Traveling Petting Zoo from Troutville brought chickens, bunnies, alpacas, pygmy goats, and miniature horses and donkeys more than willing to be petted—to the children's delight.

The library plans a fun-packed summer for children, teens, and adults. The Summer Storytime session starts the week of June 20 and ends the week of July 18 with Jammie Time on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. (ages 3-5) and Family Storytime on Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. (ages 0-5). Jen Whitcomb is the librarian for youth services at the Vinton Library.

Keep an eye out each month for the "Beyond Books" column by Library Assistant Molly Meador in The Vinton Messenger detailing all the happenings at the Vinton Library for the month.



Lib's Lab provided twisted balloon animals. This one becomes a puppy.



Ethan Dailey gently pets a bunny from the Little Critters Traveling Petting Zoo.



Pygmy goats were popular with the toddlers at the Summer Reading Kickoff.

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Recital from page 1



Emory Mullins performed "Grapes Are Great" at the Susan Lewis Music Studio Spring Recital.



Karlee Smith performed "A Million Dreams" from "The Greatest Showman."



Ella Folk performed an original composition, "This Song."

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

"Grapes are Great"

- Kori Carter, "The Grandfather Clock"
- Sadie Underwood, "All of You" (Encanto)
- William Dodge, "This is the Day"
- RJ McLennan, "For the Beauty of the Earth"
- Jackson Morris, "Star Wars Theme"
- Aubri Kessler, "Colors of the Wind" (Pocahontas)
- Mara Roche, "Morning Prelude"
- Addi Thiel, "This is Me" (The Greatest Showman)
- Milton Clark, "Music Box Dancer"
- Mario Villarreal, "Bare Necessities" (The Jungle Book)
- Deon Staunton, "Over the Rainbow" (The Wizard of Oz)
- Kathryn Dodson, "Easy on Me"
- Nolan Ferguson, "Ezekiel Saw the Wheel"
- Lilla Clark, "A Sky Full of Stars"
- Abigail Harvey, "This Train"
- Philip Saben, "Wet Hands" (Minecraft)
- Petra Dodge, "Jesus Loves Me"
- John Hart, "Theme from M*A*S*H"
- Emily Hall, "Rise and Shine"
- Lucy Sealey, "My Favorite Things" (The Sound of Music)
- Emily Mower, "Wheel of Fortune" (Pirates of the Caribbean, Dead Man's Chest)
- John Saben, "He's a Pirate" (Pirates of the Caribbean)
- Lily Sealey, "Arabesque"
- Enna Schofield, "Piano Man"
- Trevor Bono, "You are the Reason"
- Scotlyn Leonard, "Circle of Life" (The Lion King)
- David Saben, "Stereo Madness"
- Ellawyn Pagan, "Interstellar Main Theme"
- Steve Miller, "When the Saints Go Marching In"
- Cary Jones, "Equinox"
- Henry Saben, "River Flows in You"
- Sydney Thomas, "Solfeggio in D Major" and "Vienna"

•Chloe Hopkins, "Emma's Theme"

- Allie Watson, "Telephone"
- Madison Saunders, "A Million Reasons" (piano and vocal)
- Lexi Williamson, "Maple Leaf Rag"
- Latriva Pierce, "Sorrow without Solace" (Final Fantasy XV Piano Collections)
- Voice students performing included:
- Brooklyn Williams, "Blessed Is the One"
- Emily Hall, "Jesus, Strong and Kind"
- Karlee Smith, "A Million Dreams" (The Greatest Showman)
- Josue Smales, "Memories"
- Aniya Smith, "Easy on Me"
- Nolan Ferguson, "The Old Rugged Cross"
- Petra Dodge, "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"
- Aubri Kessler, "Things a Man Oughta Know"
- Ryleigh Woolwine, "Born to Entertain" (Ruthless)
- Emily Mower, "Apex Predator" (Mean Girls Musical)
- Sofia Gonzalez, "Reflection" (Mulan)
- Heather Saunders, "There is a Reason" (accompanied self on piano)
- Dr. Mark Schueler, "Teddy" (original children's song, accompanied self on guitar)
- Chloe Hopkins, "Bury Me Beneath the Willow" (playing mandolin, accompanied by Lisa Ratliff on guitar) and "Who You Say I Am"
- Brent Saunders, "Neon Moon" (accompanied by Trey Saunders on guitar, Carl Saunders on dobro, and Jeff Saunders on bass)
- Trey Saunders, "Ghost Riders in the Sky" (playing guitar, accompanied by Carl Saunders on dobro and Jeff Saunders on bass)
- Ella Folk, "This Song" (original composition with guitar)
- Trevor Bono, "Evermore" (Beauty and the Beast 2017)
- Kelly Ronan, "I Will Survive"
- Paul Sealey, "This Is the Moment" (Jekyll and Hyde)

•Simon and Paul Sealey, duet, "The Sound of Silence"

- Latriva Pierce, "Two" (Sleeping at Last)
 - Gary Feazelle, "Deep River"
 - Lexi Williamson, "Where Do Rainbows Go" (vocal/piano original composition)
 - Madison Saunders, "All I Ask"
 - Tes Smith, "Turn Your Face"
 - Abby Shelton, "Nessun Dorma" (Turandot)
 - Simon Sealey, "In Case You Don't Live Forever" and "You'll Be Back" (Hamilton)
- Twelve students performed in both categories—voice and piano.

Lewis's students range in age from preschool to adult. She currently teaches four college students: Madison Saunders, Abby Shelton, Tes Smith, and Allie Watson. Her adult students performing on June 12 included Trevor Bono, Gary Feazelle, Steve Miller, Kelly Ronan, Heather Saunders, and Dr. Mark Schueler.

The 60 students who performed did not include all of the students she teaches—a few were out of town, and she also has virtual/online non-local students and several more adult students.

The custom each year at the Spring Recital is to showcase students who have just graduated from high school. This year there were three—Chloe Hopkins, Simon Sealey, and Sydney Thomas. Each performed two or more pieces during the recital and were recognized at the end of the program.

Chloe Hopkins is a 2022 graduate of Liberty Online Academy High School and has studied piano for seven years. She recently began voice lessons as well. She has also been playing violin/fiddle since the age of four. Other instruments Chloe plays include mandolin, guitar, and she recently started teaching herself to play the dobro. According to Lewis, Chloe is a "very musical young lady."

Chloe participated in the Roanoke Youth Symphony

program. She enjoys playing in local jams with other musicians as well as competing in local fiddle competitions. She was named as the winner of the Houston/Fest Scholarship in Galax.

Her future plans include attending Liberty University Online in the fall in Interdisciplinary Studies. She will be continuing her voice and piano lessons with Lewis.

"Her love and passion for her music, and her talent, make teaching her so enjoyable," Lewis said.

Simon Sealey is a 2022 graduate and valedictorian of Hidden Valley High School. He has been a year-round voice student for several years and is "an outstanding young man with quite an impressive resume."

Lewis says it has been a special privilege to teach not only Simon, but several of his siblings, Simon plans to attend Old Dominion University, majoring in chemistry and minoring in vocal performance.

Simon was selected to the Class of 2022 Titan 12, becoming a member of the prestigious group who advise the school administration and provide student leadership at Hidden Valley. He became the first Hidden Valley student to be accepted into the VMEA Senior Honor Choir, made 1st Tenor in All-District Choir, and made All-Virginia Choir for the second year.

He is also an outstanding athlete. He placed sixth in Region 3D indoor track with a new school record time. Recently, he not only qualified for state in outdoor track, but won 3rd place in state in the 300-meter hurdles. Along with three other teammates, he has qualified for Outdoor Track Nationals in the SMR Relay, coming up later this month.

Simon has won numerous scholarships, including the ODU Presidential Scholarship, the ODU Diehn Choir, ODU Perry's Honor College, Lions Club Bland Foundation Music Scholarship Competi-

tion second place in the state, the Cosmopolitan Track Club Scholarship, and the Blue Eagle Alexander Scholarship.

Sydney Thomas is a 2022 graduate of Staunton River High School. According to Lewis, she has been a piano student for less than two years, "making an incredible amount of progress in that time," due to her hard work, dependability, and dedication. She played in the Bland Foundation Music Scholarship Competition after just a year of lessons.

Her honors include receiving the Bedford County Council PTA Scholarship for Staunton River High School, along with several other local scholarships. Her SRHS Senior Awards include being the Golden Eagle Recipient as well as winning the English Award.

She has enjoyed participating in yearbook, journalism, theatre, the National Honor Society, and her church youth group while in high school.

Sydney plans to attend Virginia Tech to pursue a degree in the field of communications and has been accepted into the Honors College, as well.

"I must thank Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church for the use of their lovely facility, Greg Chewning for his incredible sound technician skills, Jamie Archual (Enoch Creek Productions) for videography work, and Debbie Adams with The Vinton Messenger for always supporting my studio students," Lewis said in conclusion.

She especially thanked the families for supporting and encouraging their children through their music education studies—"it's a team effort."

Be sure to check out videos of each piano and vocal performance (produced by Jamie Archual) to be uploaded soon to Lewis's YouTube Channel: Susan Lewis Music Studio.

Lewis can be contacted by email: pianoandvoice@cox.net, on Facebook at Susan Lewis Music Studio, or by calling 540-890-3400.

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

Suzanne Booth Bell was given 30-year award Saturday at Relay for Life held at the Salem Civic Center. To say it is well deserved is an understatement. For years she was captain of the Flower Children team which won many awards through the years, especially when it was held for 10 years in Vinton. She was always working hard and this past Saturday set up her tent and went

by herself. Many years ago and through the years her daughters Valerie B. Hendricks and Lindsey B. Wells came in from Richmond and brought their kids. Chase very young when he first came now he is graduating from high school and on to Va. Tech. Cade, his brother, and Amber, his cousin, all came to help every year. It was a family affair and they loved to help. As did

Angie Chewing

Filling in for Bootie

Drake and Abbie Lewis. Our kids didn't know anything but to schedule Relay for Life each year. So, Suzanne well deserved this award and more.

Carolyn Hodges Campbell, who has Relayed for 24 years, was number one in Relay for Life of Virginia's Blue Ridge by reaching her goal of \$4,000. Both of these ladies are an inspiration and are cancer survivors themselves! I know our families have enjoyed so many Relays over the years. My children and I always came in from Myrtle Beach for the events

and I served as Vinton's Relay chair for several years. Something new this year that was really special—every survivor at Relay got to come to the front of the stage and ring a purple bell. Of course, ringing a bell is what you do at the end of your chemo but some people that did not have chemo never got to ring the bell. Such an inspiring moment.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

B'nai Brith Achievement Award winners announced for 2022

Each year the B'nai Brith Athletic Achievement Awards are presented to two outstanding athletes from Southwest Virginia. The awards were established in 1953 by the Israel Friedlander Lodge of Roanoke as a means to recognize outstanding senior student athletes.

Students from 20 high schools participated this year including: Blacksburg (Bennett Shealor and Kylene Monaghan), Cave Spring (Bryce Cooper and Abigail Holbrook), Christiansburg (Nicklas Bissey and Baylee Reasor), Craig County (Lucas Taylor

and Kylee Clifton), Faith Christian (Jonah Petri and Martha Corsale), Franklin County (Elijah Davis and Kylie Cooper), Glenvar (Tyler Johnson and Carly Wilkes), Hidden Valley (Sam Dragovich and Cam Davenport), James River, (Benjamin Bailey and Ella Wright), Lord Botetourt (Joey Isaacs and Angelina Zeidan), North Cross (Spencer Brown and Adoria Sanders), Northside (Andrew Binns-Loveman and Emma Jones), Patrick Henry (Ford Beasley and Gracie Kahoun), Pulaski County (Evan Hull and Jordan Hill), Radford

(Tyrel Dobson and Laney Cline), Roanoke Catholic (Ethan Leonard and Clare O'Herron), Roanoke Valley Christian (Noah Gay and Tess Carroll), Salem (Hunter King and Katelyn Crumpacker), William Byrd (Hunter Richards and Remington FiGart), and William Fleming (Micah Jones and Natalie Saville).

The awards are viewed locally as the area "Heisman trophy" of high school awards. The student-athletes are judged differently than most awards of this kind. The nominees are not judged just on athletic ability (50%), but on scholarship (30%) and personal life/citizenship (20%). The overall winners receive \$1000 scholarships.

The winners were announced at a banquet at the Hotel Roanoke on June 13. Runner Carly Wilkes from Glenvar High School was named as the female B'nai Brith winner for 2022. Baseball and basketball player Ford Beasley from Patrick Henry High School was named as the male winner. Micah Jones from William Fleming was the recipient of the Artie Levin Personal Life Award for receiving the highest citizenship score.

Each year one male and one female are nominated for the honor from William Byrd High School. The 2022 B'nai Brith winners for WBHS are Hunt-

er Richards and Remington FiGart.

Richards plays football and is a wrestler. He was named All-Region 3D first team offensive lineman, first team Blue Ridge District, team captain, and received the Power of Influence Award. In wrestling, he was VHSL Class 3 state runner-up at 285 pounds, and topped 100 career wins.

He is a member of the East Gate Church of the Nazarene youth group, a youth wrestling and football clinic volunteer, a Dave Ross Bowl cancer fundraiser volunteer, and a Special Olympics Rodeo

volunteer.

Richards will be playing Division II football at Emory and Henry in the fall. He is a multi-sport athlete and "the most highly decorated player on the team," according to Coach Brad Lutz. He has received numerous recognitions—local, district, and state. Lutz said that Richards is equally as good on offense or defense, "playing either side of the ball." His parents are John and Christie Richards.

FiGart will be attending James Madison University in the fall. Her sports are cheerleading and track.

She has made first-team Region 3D three times, participates in track and field where she made first team Blue Ridge District for high jump. In outdoor track, she has made first team All-Region in the 400 meters.

FiGart is a L.I.F.T. founder, an assistant teacher at the Floyd Ward School of Dance, a volunteer for the Grace Family Church Nursery and the Miss Virginia Outstanding Teen CMN Toy Drive, the Roanoke Rescue Mission, the Miss Virginia Wheelchair Pageant, Carilion Children's Hospital Camp, and Relay for Life.

The Vinton Messenger

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

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PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Hunter Richards and Remi FiGart were this year's B'nai Brith award winners representing William Byrd High School.

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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Mount Pleasant Lions install officers for 2022-23, plan National Night Out

At their meeting on May 22, which was the annual picnic at Smith Mountain Lake, the newly elected officers of the Mount Pleasant Lions Club were installed for the upcoming Lions year 2022-23.

Lions Governor for District 24-C Eric Mills, who is a member of the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club, presided and performed the installation. Those officers were Anne Ferguson, President; Tommy Moore, Vice President; Janet West, Recording Secretary; Lea Whitbeck, corresponding Secretary; Pat Musselwhite, Treasurer; Kenny Price, Tail Twister; and Brenda Musselwhite Lion Tamer. These Lions will serve from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023.

District Governor Mills noted in his comments that District C, which is a combination of old Districts E and F, now stretches from Forest, just west of Lynchburg, to Jonesville out in Lee County and from Rich Creek, near the West Virginia line, south to Martinsville in Henry County on the border of North Carolina. There are 59 Lions Clubs within those boundaries in the various communities, towns and cities, all performing service and charitable acts benefiting their local areas while living up to the Lions motto "We Serve."

The picnic lunch, a potluck event which garnered outstanding dishes and desserts, featured both bar-b-que and chicken salad croissants with the traditional summer drinks of iced tea and lemonade.

At the most recent meeting the Mount Pleasant Lions Club hosted two guests who spoke about their involvement with the National Night Out event. National Night Out is a community get together, celebrated on the first Tuesday in August each year, to show support for all law enforcement personnel and other first responders such as Fire and Rescue people. The Mount Pleasant area has not held such a gathering for several years as the previous organizers

had aged out of participation.

Cindy Pasternak, who has previously honchoed National Nights Out for the Riverdale Farm Neighborhood Association, talked about her organization and how they had sponsored several of the events at Golden Park and Explore Park. Due to the fact that she will not be able to be present this coming August 2, Cindy was pleased to hear of the Lions interest in restarting the celebration in Mount Pleasant and felt it would be good for her group to join in. She offered her help in the planning and contacting of police and sheriff officials.

Mark Jervis, a retired Roanoke County policeman who lives in the Mount Pleasant area, and who is now with the security service at the Federal Courthouse in Roanoke, spoke passionately about the need for positive reinforcement and encouragement for all law enforcement officers and staff, particularly in the present environment of overt conflict between the police and the citizens they are sworn to protect and defend.

He believes that Mount Pleasant is in County Police District 3 and that most of the nine districts in the county will have a National Night Out event this year, and that each one will be appreciated by the first responders in those areas.

So, now it is planned that on August 2, the National Night Out will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 at the Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church, 3035 Mount Pleasant Boulevard, where there is adequate parking and a picnic shelter. The pastor, Robert Stutes, who is a member of the club, had offered the facility and it was gratefully accepted.

Hot dogs, potluck dishes, face painting for the kids and other as yet to be determined enticements, all backed by DJ music provided by Pat Musselwhite are in the offing.

By Lion Mike Ferguson



Members of the Mount Pleasant Lions Club installed new officers on May 22. Shown left to right are District 24-C Governor Eric Mills, Pat Musselwhite, Brenda Musselwhite, Lea Whitbeck, Janet West, Anne Ferguson and Kenny Price.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Mark Jervis, retired Roanoke County Police officer, speaks to the Mount Pleasant Lions about the importance of positive reinforcement and encouragement for law enforcement officers during these troubling times.

TOWN OF VINTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-1800 (B) et seq., of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, the Town Council of the Town of Vinton, Virginia, hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on **Tuesday, June 21, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.**, or immediately thereafter, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia.

The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments on the proposed conveyance (either of the fee simple interest or less than fee simple interest) of the properties listed below to the Western Virginia Water Authority as part of the transfer of the Town's water and wastewater system to the Western Virginia Water Authority. The effected properties are the following:

CONVEYANCES OF FEE SIMPLE INTEREST:

Name	Parcel ID Number	Other Identifier
Niagara Road Pump Station	071.09-02-41.01-0000	0 Niagara Road
Hardy Road Pump Station	061.18-04-12.00-0000	0 Hardy Road
Falling Creek Well	050.04-01-52.00-0000	0 Falling Creek Drive
Mansard Square Well	061.13-04-01.00-0000	805 Pineridge Road
Melissa Circle Lot 1 Well	050.03-02-05.00-0000	1830 Melissa Circle
Melissa Circle Lot 2 Well	050.03-02-04.00-0000	1824 Melissa Circle
Toddsbury Well	051.03-02-17.01-0000	4486 Toddsbury Drive
Parkway Water Storage Tank ("WST")	050.03-01-15.00-0000	0 Mountain View Road
Toddsbury WST & Booster	050.04-03-18.00-0000	4296 Toddsbury Drive
Twin Mtn WST & Booster	050.04-01-01.00-0000	0 Twin Mountains Road
Twin Mtn WST & Booster Lot 2	050.04-01-02.00-0000	
Twin Mtn WST & Booster Access	050.04-01-03.00-0000	
	050.04-01-77.00-0000	
3 rd Street WST	070.08-01-01.10-0000	945 3 rd Street
Camney Lane WST	061.04-02-17.00-0000	0 Camney Lane
Camney Lane WST Access 1	061.04-02-16.01-0000	0 Camney Lane
Camney Lane Tank Access 3	061.04-02-16.05-0000	0 Camney Lane
Upper Toddsbury Tank	051.03-02-17.01-0000	4486 Toddsbury Drive
Lindenwood Booster Station	061.04-01-17.00-0000	0 Parkview Drive
Falling Creek Booster Station	061.02-01-10.01-0000	2185 Mountain View Road
Toddsbury Booster Station	050.04-03-18.00-0000	4296 Toddsbury Drive
Twin Mtn Booster Station	050.04-01-01.00-0000	0 Twin Mountains Drive
Miscellaneous 1	061.10-07-26.01-0000	0 Mountain View Road
Miscellaneous 2	061.15-03-73.00-0000	0 Briar Avenue

CONVEYANCES OF LESS THAN FEE SIMPLE INTEREST (SUCH AS LEASEHOLD INTEREST, LICENSE, EASEMENT OR RIGHT OF WAY)

Name	Parcel ID Number	Other Identifier
Niagara Road Pump Station Access 1	071.09-02-41.00-0000	
Niagara Road Pump Station Access 2	071.09-02-23.00-0000	
3 rd Street Pump Station	060.19-01-09.00-0000	804 3 rd Street
Bush #1 Well	061.18-02-22.00-0000	Behind Lynn Haven Baptist
Bush #2 Well	061.18-02-22.00-0000	1505 Washington Avenue
Bush #3 Well	061.18-02-22.00-0000	Behind Lynn Haven Baptist
Chestnut Street Well	070.08-01-01.06.0000	900 Chestnut Street
Craig Avenue Well	060.19-04-29.00-0000	131 Craig Avenue
Route 24 Well	061.12-01-39.00-0000	0 Washington Avenue
Toddsbury 2 Well	051.03-02-16.00-0000	4468 Toddsbury Drive
Spring Grove Well	061.11-01-50.00-0000	2642 Tulip Lane
Stonebridge Well	061.11-01-11.01-0000	0 Swan Drive
Stonebridge Well Access 1	061.11-01-03.00-0000	
Stonebridge Well Access 2	061.11-01-02.00-0000	
Chestnut Mountain WST		1424 Marvin Drive
Chestnut Mountain WST Access 1	061.04-02-49.00-0000	1430 Marvin Drive
Chestnut Mountain WST Access 2	061.04-02-48.00-0000	1416 Marvin Drive
Camney Lane WST Access 2	061.04-02-16.03-0000	0 Camney Lane
Camney/Chestnut Mtn Booster Station		1424 Marvin Drive
Chestnut Mtn Halfway Booster Station	061.04-02-69.00-0000	0 Chestnut Mountain Road
Bali Hai Booster Station		In town right of way
Miscellaneous 3	071.10-01-01.01-0000	1402 Niagara Road
Miscellaneous 4	071.10-01-01.01-0000	1404 Niagara Road

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

Susan N. Johnson
Town Clerk

Submit your

community

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photos to

vintonmessenger

@ourvalley.org.

Rise Against Hunger from page 1



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Pastor B Failes, his wife Jan, and son Britt.

time, he discovered the “One Key” that opened almost every door of importance at Thrasher. He talked about the joy of doors being opened by members of the church, inviting him to participate in their lives individually in times of both joy and sorrow.

“Thank you for supporting me all these years and helping to make a difference in this church, community, and world,” Failes said. “It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your pastor.”

He recently spoke of the three different worship services at Thrasher and the unique qualities of each.

“The 8 a.m. service in the chapel has been a blessing to me. This service reminds me of my home church. Consistently, around 35-40 folks have shown up every week. The 9 a.m. service has been full of energy. Humble Praise, our praise band, has been excellent. With lots of changes in personnel over the years, they continue to lead inspired worship. Exploration Worship and now ThrasherKIDS have been

inspirational for a generation of children. The 11 a.m. service with the choir, orchestra, and bells has been uplifting and fulfilling. If I had to pick a favorite, I would be lost. It would be like picking a favorite of my three grandchildren. Each is unique and very special.”

He talked about the history of Thrasher, founded by Paul and Sallie Thrasher and situated on the same spot in Vinton since 1815, “serving as a beacon to the presence of God in this community.”

Failes said that the one standard he tried to keep throughout his ministry was to “preach the gospel of Jesus Christ.”

As for the “One Key” the congregation had been waiting for him to identify, Failes said it is simply to “love one another, above all things” the final message from Jesus to his disciples.

He asked the church to always remember that “God loves you unconditionally; there is nothing that can separate you from God’s love, nothing you can do to change that,” and that “B. Failes loves you,

too.” Failes is originally from Bath County, where his father worked at The Homestead in Hot Springs. Many of his best stories over the years have come from his childhood there.

Failes says being shot in a hunting accident when he was 10 years old changed the course of his life. He ended up at Roanoke Memorial Hospital, where a nurse told him that “God saved you for a reason.”

“That moment was my call to the ministry,” said Failes.

He graduated from Bath County High School and attended Dabney Lancaster Community College.

As a college student, Failes joined a group called “Up with People” which traveled the world with an international good will mission of “building bridges of understanding among cultures.”

That’s where he met his wife Jan, a native of Canada, who was one of the 120 members of the cast that year. They danced and sang their way through eight countries and 29 states, staying with 84 different host families in accommodations that ranged from mansions to hovels with dirt floors. They performed in a variety of venues in gyms, stadiums, barns, and auditoriums.

Failes recalls tap dancing on the 45-yard line at Super Bowl XIV in 1979 at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif.

The Failesees completed their undergraduate degrees at the University of Winnipeg in central Canada. He then graduated from Candler School of Theology at Emory University.

They have a son, Britt, daughter-in-law Courtney, and three grandchildren,

Kimmy, Jayden, and Jude. Pastor B. has served churches throughout Virginia, given the Methodist custom of being appointed for one-year terms and changing churches fairly regularly; Thrasher was his sixth and largest church.

He has been involved in mission trips to Europe, Africa, Mexico, Alaska, Asia, and the Caribbean over the years.

In May, Pastor B. said in one of his weekly emails, “During this last month, I will cry, I will also laugh, I will remember, I will hope, I will pray. But through it all, I know that God will continue to bless this church and its ministry. I know that this church will always be strong in its faith. I understand that the solid foundation that I inherited will continue to be the groundwork for all future endeavors. With God as the foundation, the future looks excellent for Thrasher!”

Members of the congregation raised the \$3,350 needed to provide the packaged meals to honor Pastor B.

A huge crowd of all ages gathered in the fellowship hall after the June 12 worship service to don hairnets and gloves, and form assembly lines to package rice, soy, veggie and vitamin packets into meal bags which were weighed for uniformity and then packed in boxes for shipping. Every time 1,000 meals were completed, a large gong was rung in celebration. It took about an hour and a half to reach the goal of 10,000 meals.

The Rise Against Hunger representative, Sheila Russ, explained that the organization packages a rice meal to feed a family of six everything it needs for a day. Most of the meals are given to children in schools around the world. In 2021, over 17 million meals were distributed in 29 countries.

Failes said he could not think of a better send-off for his retirement than to help feed people worldwide.

Best wishes, Pastor B. and thank you for your years of dedicated service to Thrasher and the community!

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CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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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.eckva.org for program listings, www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group, or call 540-353-5365 and leave a message. We will return your call. Also visit www.eckankar.org for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar lead you to spiritual freedom.

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

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

Vinton Worship Directory

ALMIGHTY GOD
Read Genesis 40:1 thru 41:57

Joseph spent two years in a dungeon after interpreting the dreams of Pharaoh’s cupbearer. Joseph had asked this man to mention him to the king upon being reinstated, but, as each day dragged on, no communication came from the Pharaoh.

When Pharaoh had a dream and told it to all his wise men, no one could interpret it. The cupbearer finally remembered Joseph and told Pharaoh about him.

So Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was quickly brought from the dungeon. When he had shaved and changed his clothes, he came before Pharaoh (Genesis 41:14).

Joseph was going to be taken into the presence of the nation’s highest ruler. His first order of business was to make himself presentable. His prison clothing and his haggard appearance were hardly appropriate to stand before royalty. Joseph prepared to see the king, honoring the authority and majesty of Pharaoh.

We have the privilege of an audience at any time with our King, Jesus Christ. May we never forget His majesty or approach Him with less than honor and adoration.

Thought for Today: Consider the majesty of God.

Quicklook: Genesis 41:1-14

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

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; cmcp2verizon.net Sunday school 9:45am, Worship 11:00am; Communion 1st Sunday; 2nd Sunday Session; Monday Noon Bible Study; Tuesdays & Thursdays Stretch Class 9:00am; 1st Tuesdays Deacons; Wednesday Choir

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

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

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

Marketplace

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

Yard Sales - Botetourt County

HUGE INDOOR YARD SALE
Loads of housewares,, toys, sporting goods,, tools, books, etc.! Rain or Shine! June 10th and 11th from 8a.m.- 1p.m. Located on the corner of Valley Rd. and Rt. 220.

Wanted - To Buy

Cash paid Coin Collections Or Indian artifacts 540-988-2420

Lawn & Garden

Help Wanted In Salem After Injury
Start immediately. Mulching, planting, ladder trimming.\$20/hour. Daylight hours. Text 602-663-3303 or call 540-387-5830

Services - Other

Salem Kitty-sitter needed
Daily House visits. Indoor twin boy kitties. 6/18-7/11 \$25/hr, 1hr daily. Call 540-387-5830 or text 602-663-3303.

Help Wanted

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

Hotel Front Desk

Hotel near New River Valley mall looking to hire front desk night auditor/manager Experience preferred. Will train. Computer knowledge/cashier/ customer service experience. Above average salary and benefits. Email resume to mvfrainc@gmail.com with your contact telephone number for interview.

Part Time Newspaper Production Help

Salem Times Register has openings for afternoon/evening shift work- inserting, labeling and bundling newspapers for delivery. No experience necessary. Hours may vary. Will train. \$11 per hour. Contact Lynn Hurst, General Manager, Salem-Times Register (540)389-9355 or email lhurst@ourvalley.org

For Rent

One bedroom furnished
nice location. Deck with steps, clean and quiet. No drinking drugs or pets. \$725/monthly \$250 deposit 5407933796 leave a brief message

Auctions

Estate Sale
Two Sales in one 1035 & 1039 East Washington Ave Vinton Friday June, 17 9am-3pm Saturday June, 18 9am-3pm H & S Estate Services

For Sale - Firewood

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

For Sale - Misc

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

Legals - Botetourt County

Order of Publication
Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104 **Case No. CL21000744-00** Botetourt County Circuit Court 1 West Main Street/ P.O. Box 219, Fincastle, VA 24090

Legals - Botetourt County

Commonwealth of Virginia, in re **Jimmie Lois Williams** The object of this suit is to: Appoint guardian and conservator for Jimmie Lois Williams. It is ordered that unknown relatives of Jimmie Lois Williams and Samuel Jones appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before **July 13,2022** Signed by: Judge Joel R. Branscom June 6, 2022

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF PROPERTY
290 White Oak Drive, Blue Ridge, VA 24064 Tax Map No. 103-59B Parcel ID 12202

In execution of a Deed of Trust dated September 26, 2002, in the principal amount of \$59,850.89, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, of record as Instrument Number 0207122, Woods Rogers PLC, Substitute Trustee, will offer for sale at public auction outside the main entrance of the Botetourt County Circuit Court, 1 W. Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090, on **June 21, 2022 at 12:00 noon**, the property described in said Deed of Trust lying in the County of Botetourt, Virginia, and more fully described as follows:

All of the following tract or parcel of land lying and being in the County of Botetourt, Virginia, near Blue Ridge Springs being a portion of the original tract which contained 7 acres, more or less, on the northeast side of the Grubb Railroad, and more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

BEGINNING at a southwest corner of the property now or formerly owned by Blue Ridge Heights Corporation recorded at Deed Book 159, page 352, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia, S. 74 degs. 19' 07" and along a curve to the right along an arc at 198.30' as set out on the recorded plat of Buford T. Lumsden and recorded at Deed Book 290, page 161, to the point of BEGINNING, thence S. 74 degs. 19' 07" E. on a curve to the right along an arc at 616.49' to an iron pin set thence; S. 34 degs. 37' 07" E. for a distance of 210.60' to an iron pin set; thence N. 55 degs. 22' 53" E. for a distance of 25.25' to an iron pin set; thence N. 21 degs. 15' 07" W. for a distance of 819.30' to a point; thence S. 55 degs. 38' 0" W. for a distance of 372.71' to the point of BEGINNING, being 2.89 acres.

TERMS: Cash - Bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sales price by cashier's or certified check may be required. Balance of purchase price shall be due and payable not later than ten (10) days after sale.

WOODS ROGERS PLC, Substitute Trustee
For Information Contact:
Woods Rogers PLC
P.O. Box 14125
Roanoke, VA 24038-4125
Telephone: 540-983-7729

Legals - City of Salem

ABC NOTICE
Sree Murlu LLC, trading as H.K. Market, 5383 West Main Street Salem, Roanoke County, VA 24153..

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Wine and Beer OFF Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Dilip Patel, Owner.

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL

Legals - City of Salem

COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION COUNTY OF AVERY **FILE NO. 22-CVD-105**

TINA MARIE JACKSON, Plaintiff,
-v-
CHARLES MARTIN JACKSON, Defendant.

TAKE NOTICE that a Complaint seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled proceeding. The nature of the relief sought is: **JUDGMENT OF ABSOLUTE DIVORCE.** You are required to Answer this Complaint not later than July 27, 2022, that being 40 days from the date of the first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the Plaintiff herein will seek the relief sought by the action. This, the 16th day of June, 2022.
Thomas G. McMurray, Esq. Attorney for the Plaintiff 756 West King St. Boone, NC 28607 (828) 386-1116

Legals - Craig County

LAND FOR SALE

The Craig County Board of Supervisors is offering land for sale: Tax Parcel 47A3-3-1536-A-22, A portion of the Craig County Landfill Property located near State Route 609 and Landfill Road. The 53.324-acre parcel located at the Craig County Landfill site includes a 6.473 acre "Closed Area" tract from the previous landfill. The County will retain approximately 11.5 acres. The County of Craig will receive sealed bids for the remaining parcel consisting of approximately 41 Acres. The "Closed Area" and all Ground Water Monitoring Wells will be maintained in accordance with DEQ regulations by the purchaser. All bids must be submitted on a per acre basis. The County reserves the right to reject any bids and reserves the right to engage in negotiations with any offerors or other interested parties.

Please submit sealed bids to: R.R. Dan Collins County Administrator County of Craig P.O. Box 308 108 Court Street New Castle, VA 24127 Submit all Bids by: Noon, June 30th, 2022 Requests for additional information, please contact the County Administration Office by calling (540)864-5010 or in writing to P.O. Box 308, New Castle, Virginia 24127.

Legals - Montgomery County

ORDER OF PUBLICATION COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA CODE §§ 1-211 1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104 Case No. CL22000837-00 Montgomery County Circuit Court 55 East Main Street, Suite 1, Christiansburg, VA 24073 Adkins, Shay Marie v. Commonwealth of Virginia The object of this suit is to: Name Change of a Minor It is ordered that Billy Baxter Mullins appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before July 29, 2022.

May 25, 2022 Erica W. Conner, Clerk

ABC NOTICE

Ghaly INC, trading as The Black Hen Bar & Blue, 126 Jackson St NW Blacksburg, Montgomery County, Virginia 24073.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer ON Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Magdy Ghaly, Owner

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

Legals - Montgomery County

ABC NOTICE
Roanoke Commons Inc., trading as Sheetz #750, 2390 Roanoke Street Christiansburg, Montgomery County, Virginia 24073.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Wine and Beer OFF Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Thomas Luciano, President

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, **Case No. CL22-447** Complainant, v. ARCHIE E. CROMER, JR., ET AL., Respondent(s). **ORDER OF PUBLICATION** The object of this suit is to enforce he lien of the Complainant, County of Montgomery, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Montgomery, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 091-A35 Account No. 004387. All that certain lot, piece or parcel of land with all improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto, lying and being in the Riner District, Montgomery County, Virginia, lying on the waters of Plum Creek, located south of (now or formerly) Lee Highway, about five miles west of the Town of Christiansburg, to-wit: BEGINNING at an iron in a line of (now or formerly)Charlton's land; thence with a line of said Charlton land and with the line of the land of Ruth C. and Archie E. Cromer, Jr. (now or formerly) S 55 degrees 45 minutes E (passing said Cromer's corner at 79 feet) 1000 feet to a chestnut snag at a corner in said Cromer's lines; thence with another line of the land of said Ruth C. and Archie E. Cromer, Jr., S 35 degrees 10 minutes W 400 feet to an iron; thence running two new lines with P.H. and Beulah Mae Wright as follows: N 55 degrees 45 W 1000 feet to an iron and thence N 35 degrees 10 minutes E 400 to the BEGINNING, containing an area of 9.1815 acres, according to a survey and plat, dated June 14, 1955, made by John W. McNair, Jr., Certified Land Surveyor, plat of which was recorded in the Montgomery County Circuit Court Court's Office on July 8, 1955 in Deed Book 194 at Page 160B, to which reference is hereby made for a more particular description. And being the same property conveyed to Archie E. Cromer and Ruth Charlton Cromer, husband and wife, as tenants by the entirety with the right of survivorship, on P.H. Wright and Beulah Mae Wright, husband and wife, by Deed, dated July 1, 1955 and recorded July 8, 1955 in the Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 194 at page 160.

This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described including but not limited to those recorded in Deed Book 194 at Page 160B, Deed Book 566 at Page 810, Deed Book 861 at Page 269, Deed Book 458 at Page 232. IT APPEARING that an Affidavit has been made and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identities and location of certain parties to be served, that the last known address for the Respondents herein are as follows: Archie E. Cromer, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Ruth Charlton Cromer, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Archie E.

Legals - Montgomery County

Cromer, III, whose last known address is 2809 Plum Creek Rd, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073; Charlton Cromer, whose last known address is 1725 Gate Rd #6, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the Respondent named herein are made parties Respondent to this action individually and/or by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained appear on or before July 7, 2022 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause. Entered on the 8th day of June, 2022, Erica W. Conner, Clerk I Ask For This: John A. Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805) Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC P.O. Box 31800 Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800 Phone:(804)545-2500 Facsimile: (804)545-2378 TACS No.: 647066

Public Auction

To enforce our owner's lien(s) by Craft Self Storage, 540-260-9563, 100 Roger St. Christiansburg VA, per 55-416 Code of Virginia, Virginia Self Storage Act; the following units will be sold by absolute auction unless payment in full is made to Craft Self Storage prior to auction start:

Units G60 and G16 both are 10 x 10 units. Auction date June 19th, 2022 at 10:00 A.M. Only registered bidders will be allowed into facility. Register at main office beginning at 9:30 am. No Parking in Bank or B&K lots allowed. Call for make-up date in case of bad weather.

Legals - City of Radford

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL ESTATE Located at: 1011 Sutton Street, Radford, VA 24141, Tax Map No: 15-(8) 2-23-24

IN EXECUTION OF A DEED OF TRUST IN THE ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$143,000.00, DATED THE 29TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2013, RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE CITY OF RADFORD, VIRGINIA, AS INSTRUMENT NO. 201301396, DEFAULT HAVING OCCURRED IN THE PAYMENT OF THE NOTE SECURED THEREBY, AND AT THE REQUEST OF THE HOLDER OF THE NOTE, THE UNDERSIGNED SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, WILL OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE CITY OF RADFORD, LOCATED AT: 619 SECOND STREET, RADFORD, VIRGINIA, ON JUNE 17, 2022 AT 10:00 A.M., THE REAL ESTATE WITH IMPROVEMENTS THEREON KNOWN AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

Being that certain 0.3665 acre parcel designated as Lot B on a certain plat of survey entitled "PHYSICAL SURVEY OF LOT B BEING THE EASTERLY PORTION OF LOT 24 AND THE WESTERLY PORTION OF LOT 23, SEC. 2, FOREST PARK SUBDIVISION, CITY OF RADFORD, VIRGINIA, FOR THOMAS A. & CYNTHIA L. PAREDES " dated October 7,1993, prepared by Matthews & Henegar, PLS, a copy of which survey appears in record in the Radford City Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 176, Page 747.

TAX MAP #: 15-(8)-Sec 2-23-24 / ACCOUNT #: 0000321 Address: 1011 Sutton Street, Radford, VA 24141

SALE WILL BE MADE SUBJECT TO ALL EXISTING EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS AS THE SAME MAY LAWFULLY

Legals - City of Radford

AFFECT THE REAL ESTATE.

TERMS OF SALE: CERTIFIED FUNDS OR CASHIER'S CHECK. A BIDDER'S DEPOSIT OF TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THE SALES PRICE, WITH FULL SETTLEMENT TO BE MADE WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS FROM DATE OF SALE. ADDITIONAL TERMS MAY BE ANNOUNCED AT THE TIME OF SALE.

THIS NOTICE IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

PLACE OF SALE: FRONT OF RADFORD CITY

Legals - City of Radford

COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT: 619 SECOND STREET, RADFORD, VA 24141

DATE OF SALE: JUNE 17, 2022

TIME OF SALE: 10:00 A.M.

Daniel D. Hamrick, PC Substitute Trustee
By: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent for Daniel D. Hamrick, P.C., Substitute Trustee 104 South Franklin Street Christiansburg, VA 24073 (540) 382-0131

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SPORTS

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RV Wrestling Hall of Fame Class of '22 has many ties to Vinton

The Roanoke Valley Wrestling Association held its annual Hall of Fame and Awards Banquet in the spring and the "Class of 2022" had lots of ties to Vinton. In fact, four of this year's inductees either coached, wrestled or served as a trainer for William Byrd High School with Ron Wood, Randall Sell, Mike Gibson and Talina Williams among the class of five. Don Cox was the other inductee, and he was presented by former Byrd wrestler and coach Barry Trent, while 2022 Byrd graduate Hunter Richards also received a special honor.

Wood attended William Byrd High School and wrestled there in the mid-seventies. Ron wrestled at 112 lbs, then moved up to 119 lbs. He was a three-year letterman and was a Blue Ridge Champion and two-time district runner-up. Ronnie also placed in the Region 3 Tournament two years. He wrestled to a third-place finish one year and a fourth place another year.

Wood was a contributing member of a team that was District, Region, and State Champions not once, but twice. His coach said, "He was a leader in the wrestling room by example, not words. Ronnie could be counted on to score valuable team points in big tournaments. He had a great work ethic."

Wood stayed involved in wrestling after high school by volunteering as a coach at William Byrd. Ronnie has continued as a volunteer assistant coach for close to 20 years. He has worked with multiple head coaches. As head coaches changed over the years, Ronnie was a staple there. During this time, he was able to coach while his son, Brian wrestled.

Over the years, Ronnie helped out at local wrestling tournaments on a regular basis. The Roanoke Valley Wrestling Association presented him with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Big Orange Tournament in 2016.

Sell comes from a wrestling family. He wrestled at William Byrd High School where he was a four-year starter and won multiple district and region titles. He placed three times in the AA State Tournament, including 6th place as a 112 pounder and 3rd place as a 119 pounder. After graduating, Randall wrestled at Messiah College and Longwood University.

Randall has coached at several schools throughout the Roanoke Valley. He spent several years as the head coach at Staunton River, then moved to Salem High School as head coach. He also served as a volunteer assistant coach at Lord Botetourt and head coach at Andrew Lewis Middle School while working with several youth programs, including the Botetourt Wrestling Club.

Sell has taught Physical Education and Health for over 15 years. He has made a positive impact on his students and wrestlers through the years. The wrestlers, students, and their parents



Left to right are 2022 Roanoke Valley Wrestling Association Hall of Fame inductees Mike Gibson, Randall Sell, Ronnie Wood, Talina Williams and Don Cox.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

respect him and appreciate his leadership.

In 2021, Randall became a host of the Noke Wrestling News, where he and RC coach Nate Yetzer give updates on the Roanoke College wrestling program and the Blue Ridge Wrestling Training Center.

Randall and his wife, Alicia, have two sons, Hunter and Colin, and a daughter, Olivia. Both Hunter and Colin carried on the wrestling tradition and Randall has been able to help coach them. Colin, a graduated senior at Lord Botetourt, received the Roy Stanley Outstanding Achievement Award at the spring Hall of Fame banquet.

Gibson began wrestling in eighth grade for Glenvar High School and wrestled through his senior year under Dickie Myers and Stan Parker. He started in the 105 lb. weight class, moved up to 119, and then to 138. "Gibby" qualified for the State Tournament with a 5th-place finish in the Region III Tournament in 1973. Unfortunately, his senior year was cut short when he had a broken sternum. Mike went to James Madison University where he was a walk-on and wrestled in the 142 lb. class and 150 lb. class.

After graduation from JMU, Mike taught Art and coached boys' basketball and football at Craig County from 1978 through 1980. From there he went to William Byrd, where he taught Drivers Ed and Art from 1980-1993. Gibby coached football, wrestling and tennis from 1980 through 1988. While coaching at Byrd, he worked with Barry Trent for eight years and won the Blue Ridge District and Region III for several years. In 1982 he helped coach the wrestling team to the AA State Championship.

Gibson moved to the world of officiating in 1988. He was a member of

the Roanoke Valley Wrestling Officials Association, and was a referee for middle school and high school matches and tournaments including the state tournament. Mike also officiated at the college level including the CAA Wrestling Championships.

His next stop was Salem High School where he taught Art from 1993-2019. While at Salem, he coached wrestling, boys' and girls' tennis and basketball.

Williams' relationship with wrestling and the wrestling community likely began at birth in Grundy and continued through the years with the Grundy Wrestling Club. She does have bragging rights from an Elementary School Tournament when she beat 4-time Virginia State Champion, Shane Bowman.

Talina was part of the first Athletic Trainer cohort hired by Roanoke County Schools in 1997 and served at William Byrd High School. She was instrumental in helping develop weight loss guidelines in Virginia and she did so with the wrestlers and competition in mind. As part of On-Site Sports Medicine and Carilion sports Medicine, Talena helped design and implement a concussion protocol used for all contact sports.

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CORRECTION



Kids and parents go “ballin” at Byrd Middle gym

William Byrd High School boys’ basketball coach Brad Greenway (above photo, white shirt) conducted a father-son basketball camp for kids last Saturday at the William Byrd Middle School gym. It was the first year for the camp, with the emphasis on promoting positive male leadership being present in the home.

PHOTOS BY PAULA GREENWAY

Brian Hoffman



Remembering “Willie Mays Night”

There isn’t much good about getting older but there are a few things, like being able to remember watching Willie Mays play baseball in his prime. I did, and I’m not so old that I can’t remember it like it was yesterday. And it certainly wasn’t yesterday, because Willie turned 91 in May of this year.

It was in the early ‘60s and I was about 10 years old, give or take a year. Our church group took a bus to a Phillies game every summer and my dad always made sure we had a couple seats for the trip. He wasn’t a big baseball fan, but I was falling in love with the game at that stage of my life and I’m sure he enjoyed how excited I was to go to a big league game.

The Phillies played at Connie Mack Stadium at that time, a quaint old ballpark in the middle of Philadelphia that seated about 32,000 people. It smelled of beer on the concourse and the wooden seats were small, but the bleachers were close to the field and it was a great place to watch a game up close.

On this particular season the guy in charge of the trip, Jim Church (that’s his real name, by the way), picked a game against the San Francisco Giants for our group to see. They were loaded with stars like Orlando Cepeda, Willie McCovey, Felipe Alou, Juan Marichal and others, but the biggest star of all was Willie Mays.

I can remember the Giants warming up on the immaculately kept green grass, and my eyes never left Willie Mays. He was my favorite “Non-Phillie” player. He could do it all; hit, run, hit for power, throw people out and make spectacular catches in centerfield, ones that are still replayed today. And, he did it all with a flair, losing his cap during the bases or making those “basket catches” of easy fly balls that our Little League coaches would warn us not to try. I can still hear coach “Wormie” Alderfer telling us, “when you get to be as good as Willie Mays you can catch the ball like that, until then catch it in front of your face and use two hands.”

Here’s what I remember most about that game. At one point there were runners on second and third and Mays was due up. Phillies manager Gene Mauch decided to intentionally walk Mays and pitch to Cepeda with the bases loaded. The move backfired when Cepeda hit a grand slam home run off one of the big billboards that sat atop the leftfield pavilion

roof at ole’ Connie Mack. I’ll never forget it.

Hard to believe Willie Mays turned 90 a couple weeks ago. He was one of the all-time greats, and the best ever in the eyes of many.

My trip to Connie Mack in the early ‘60s wasn’t the last time I saw Mays in person. He came to Salem for “Willie Mays Night” in 1985. Our owners at the time, Arthur Hecht and Stanley Waldshan, were from New York and Arthur in particular was a big Mays fan going back to when the Giants were in New York. Somehow they got Mays to come here for a day and throw out the first ball at a Salem Redbirds Carolina League game.

Willie visited a local hospital in the afternoon. The late Jon Kaufman, a good friend of mine who worked for the Redbirds, was in charge of Willie’s trip and he carried a bunch of photos for Willie to sign and give away. He told me how impatient Willie got if he didn’t get him the pictures as quickly as he liked. Jon was getting irritated with the way Willie was treating him, but about that time Willie took off his watch and gave it to a patient who was a veteran, and Jon had nothing bad to say after that.

The Redbirds had made up a uniform number “24” Salem jersey to present to Willie before the game that night. He was to throw out the first ball after signing autographs in front of the clubhouse for

about a half hour before the game. However, it was a rainy night and the game was delayed, and that got Willie aggravated.

“He kept saying, ‘I gotta hop a plane out of here, I can’t wait,’” recalled Kaufman as the rain delay continued.

Finally the game got underway and Willie threw out the first pitch to the cheers of many at old Salem Municipal Field, which is now Billy Sample Field at Kiwanis Park. As soon as he threw out that pitch he was “outta there,” hoppin’ a plane back to wherever he came from.

It’s a game I’ll always remember, and not just because of Willie. Mitch Williams, who went on to have a nice career in the big leagues, was a Texas Rangers’ prospect at the time and he was our starting pitcher that night. Williams was known to be wild at times, and he was at his wildest on this night. He walked a couple batters, hit one, then walked a couple more as the big crowd on hand to see Willie groaned. Williams never made it out of the first inning before he was relieved, to the relief of the Redbirds’ fans.

I’m sure Willie had hopped on that plane before Williams turned on the shower. It was a night I’ll always remember and I have Willie’s autograph on a baseball to remind me.



Willie Mays signs an autograph for a young fan on “Willie Mays Night” at the Salem Redbirds game in 1985. Willie turned 91 last month and that fan is now 37.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

SPORTS

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RV Wrestling Hall of Fame Class of '22 has many ties to Vinton

The Roanoke Valley Wrestling Association held its annual Hall of Fame and Awards Banquet in the spring and the "Class of 2022" had lots of ties to Vinton. In fact, four of this year's inductees either coached, wrestled or served as a trainer for William Byrd High School with Ron Wood, Randall Sell, Mike Gibson and Talina Williams among the class of five. Don Cox was the other inductee, and he was presented by former Byrd wrestler and coach Barry Trent, while 2022 Byrd graduate Hunter Richards also received a special honor.

Wood attended William Byrd High School and wrestled there in the mid-seventies. Ron wrestled at 112 lbs, then moved up to 119 lbs. He was a three-year letterman and was a Blue Ridge Champion and two-time district runner-up. Ronnie also placed in the Region 3 Tournament two years. He wrestled to a third-place finish one year and a fourth place another year.

Wood was a contributing member of a team that was District, Region, and State Champions not once, but twice. His coach said, "He was a leader in the wrestling room by example, not words. Ronnie could be counted on to score valuable team points in big tournaments. He had a great work ethic."

Wood stayed involved in wrestling after high school by volunteering as a coach at William Byrd. Ronnie has continued as a volunteer assistant coach for close to 20 years. He has worked with multiple head coaches. As head coaches changed over the years, Ronnie was a staple there. During this time, he was able to coach while his son, Brian wrestled.

Over the years, Ronnie helped out at local wrestling tournaments on a regular basis. The Roanoke Valley Wrestling Association presented him with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Big Orange Tournament in 2016.

Sell comes from a wrestling family. He wrestled at William Byrd High School where he was a four-year starter and won multiple district and region titles. He placed three times in the AA State Tournament, including 6th place as a 112 pounder and 3rd place as a 119 pounder. After graduating, Randall wrestled at Messiah College and Longwood University.

Randall has coached at several schools throughout the Roanoke Valley. He spent several years as the head coach at Staunton River, then moved to Salem High School as head coach. He also served as a volunteer assistant coach at Lord Botetourt and head coach at Andrew Lewis Middle School while working with several youth programs, including the Botetourt Wrestling Club.

Sell has taught Physical Education and Health for over 15 years. He has made a positive impact on his students and wrestlers through the years. The wrestlers, students, and their parents



Left to right are 2022 Roanoke Valley Wrestling Association Hall of Fame inductees Mike Gibson, Randall Sell, Ronnie Wood, Talina Williams and Don Cox. SUBMITTED PHOTO

respect him and appreciate his leadership.

In 2021, Randall became a host of the Noke Wrestling News, where he and RC coach Nate Yetzer give updates on the Roanoke College wrestling program and the Blue Ridge Wrestling Training Center.

Randall and his wife, Alicia, have two sons, Hunter and Colin, and a daughter, Olivia. Both Hunter and Colin carried on the wrestling tradition and Randall has been able to help coach them. Colin, a graduated senior at Lord Botetourt, received the Roy Stanley Outstanding Achievement Award at the spring Hall of Fame banquet.

Gibson began wrestling in eighth grade for Glenvar High School and wrestled through his senior year under Dickie Myers and Stan Parker. He started in the 105 lb. weight class, moved up to 119, and then to 138. "Gibby" qualified for the State Tournament with a 5th-place finish in the Region III Tournament in 1973. Unfortunately, his senior year was cut short when he had a broken sternum. Mike went to James Madison University where he was a walk-on and wrestled in the 142 lb. class and 150 lb. class.

After graduation from JMU, Mike taught Art and coached boys' basketball and football at Craig County from 1978 through 1980. From there he went to William Byrd, where he taught Drivers Ed and Art from 1980-1993. Gibby coached football, wrestling and tennis from 1980 through 1988. While coaching at Byrd, he worked with Barry Trent for eight years and won the Blue Ridge District and Region III for several years. In 1982 he helped coach the wrestling team to the AA State Championship.

Gibson moved to the world of officiating in 1988. He was a member of

the Roanoke Valley Wrestling Officials Association, and was a referee for middle school and high school matches and tournaments including the state tournament. Mike also officiated at the college level including the CAA Wrestling Championships.

His next stop was Salem High School where he taught Art from 1993-2019. While at Salem, he coached wrestling, boys' and girls' tennis and basketball.

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