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William Byrd Middle School introduces new faculty for 2022-2023

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

William Byrd Middle School is welcoming several new faculty members for the 2022-2023 school year.

First and foremost, WBMS has a new principal this year—Dana Stevens—although she is a familiar face to many, since she served as Assistant Principal at the school before becoming principal at Mount Pleasant Elementary in 2019. She replaces Todd Kageals who is now Director of Facilities and Operations for Roanoke County Public Schools.

Stevens has worked for RCPS for 33 years with nine years of administrative experience. She grew up in Vinton, attended W. E. Cundiff Elementary

and graduated from WBMS in 1985. She went on to earn her degree in Elementary Education from Radford University.

She began her teaching career in Roanoke County at Clearbrook Elementary and then in 1991 moved to Mount Pleasant Elementary where she spent the next twenty-two years teaching “most everything from kindergarten through fifth grade” and was even the reading specialist for a time.

She completed her master’s degree in administration from Virginia Tech in May 2013 and became Assistant Principal at W. E. Cundiff. In 2017, she moved to William Byrd Middle School as an assistant principal and then to Mount Pleasant

as principal.

Laura Baldwin is teaching 7th grade Special Education at WBMS. She graduated from Covington High School. Baldwin earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Fine Arts from Roanoke College with a minor in education. She is currently working towards her Master’s degree at Radford University. Her husband is one of the PE/Health teachers at the middle school and recommended her for the position. She now has six years of teaching experience and 15 years of related experiences with youth and school-age children.

Outside of the classroom, she enjoys spending time with her husband, two daughters,

See **New Faculty**, page 5



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

William Byrd Middle School welcomes several new faculty members for the 2022-2023 school year, including (front row, left to right) Becky Gruber, Megan Peery, Code Sizemore, Annette Gilmore, and Julie Vest; second row, WBMS Principal Dana Stevens, Ashley Farrer, Laura Baldwin, and Hannah Moore; third row, Crystal Ingle and Ki’ara Stanley; and top row, Andrew Close, Michelle Yamatani, and Ryan Hathaway. New faculty members not pictured are Catie Long, Laury Ward, Johannes Grow, and Jordan Downing.

Journey of Hope cyclists stop in Vinton on 4,400-mile cross-country trip



The Journey of Hope TransAmerica route team stopped at the Lancerlot Sports Complex in Vinton to rest for a couple of days on their cross-country trip of 4,400 miles from Seattle, Washington, to Washington, D.C. spreading “disability awareness.”

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Seventeen cyclists and six crew members on the 2022 “Journey of Hope” cross-country bicycle ride to raise disability awareness stopped at the Lancerlot Sports Complex in Vinton on August 7 for a couple of days rest. Arrangements for the stay at the Lancerlot had been made through a connection at Roanoke College. The group had spent the night before at Camp Easterseals UCP in New Castle.

The plan was to leave Vinton early on August 9 bound for their final destination – Washington, D. C., via Route 24 to

Lynchburg.

Each year dozens of men who are members of the Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity, and part of its Ability Experience philanthropic initiative across the nation, embark on the 4,400-mile journey from the West Coast to the nation’s capital.

The Ability Experience was founded in 1977 with the purpose of “instilling lifelong service in our fraternity members and serving people with disabilities.” It all started out with designing a therapeutic play unit for children with severe disabilities.

“Together, we’re helping to

change the way society views people with disabilities and views fraternities” is the message on their website. “Because labels should not define us. We prefer to put our values into action, bringing our mission for a more inclusive community to life every single day.”

There are three different routes for the trip – the North Route, the TransAmerica Route, and the Southern Route. Two originate in California and one in Washington State. The Trans-America Route group that visited Vinton started off officially in Seattle on June 8 after a few days

See **Journey of Hope**, page 3



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Vinton cyclist Gary Myers (plaid shirt) was on hand at the Lancerlot to welcome the cyclists to town on August 7.



Simulated bombing at Advanced Disaster Life Support class at the Charles R. Hill Community Center.

First responders, healthcare providers receive disaster training



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Victims removed from scene at simulated bombing.

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When most people think of the Vinton War Memorial, they envision weddings and receptions, parties, festivals on the lawn, concerts, and community events such as the annual Fourth of July celebrations. However, the venue is also extremely well-known in the region for hosting corporate events and business func-

tions, meetings, and a variety of classes.

During the week of July 25, the Near Southwest Preparedness Alliance (NSPA) held Basic and Advanced Disaster Life Support Classes in Vinton. Monica McCullough, a member of the Western Virginia EMS Council and NSPA Training and Exercise Coordinator, facilitated the event.

On Day 1, July 25, a class

in Basic Disaster Life Support (BDLS) was offered at the Vinton First Aid Crew Building. This class is targeted to multiple disciplines including emergency medical service (EMS) personnel, hazardous materials personnel, public safety and public health personnel, and health care

See **Disaster Training**, page 10


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SPOTLIGHT ON TOWN STAFF

“The Vinton Police Department continues to make us proud every day by providing excellent, exceedingly professional service for all the citizens of our town,” said Vinton Mayor Brad Grose. “The VPD is fully accredited, which means the leadership and the officers maintain an extremely high level of integrity and operational excellence. The members of the Police Department are not only well trained and well equipped, but they also truly care about the citizens of Vinton. There have been numerous stories of our officers going above and beyond their duty requirements. The Town of Vinton is a better, quieter, safer place because of the dedicated professionals in the Vinton Police Department.”

Vinton Police Corporal Brandon Alterio is one of those officers.

Alterio is a 2005 graduate of William Byrd High School. He earned his Bachelor and Master's Degrees in Criminal Justice from Liberty University. He served almost seven years on active duty in the United States Air Force earning the rank of Staff Sergeant. He joined the Vinton Police Department in March 2019 after serving with the Salem Police for four years. That year he was named as Vinton Police Officer of the Year.

During the 2019 awards ceremony, Vinton Police Chief Fabricio Drumond said, “We are here to recognize one officer, recognized by his peers, for his devotion to the town, the agency, and the profession. Officer Alterio has exhibited exemplary skills, a can-do attitude, and a desire to succeed. He serves the community with excellence, compassion, and fairness.

For someone so young in his law enforcement career to exhibit such strong character and skill in being a well-rounded officer is a blessing for our team. We look forward to watching him grow and become an even better person than he is now.”

Alterio enjoys spending time with his wife and two sons (ages 9 and 3). His hobbies include golfing, watching sports, and collecting sports cards.

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, like Corporal Alterio, on the staff and want to make the community aware of who is “behind the scenes” making the town look great and operate so successfully.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TOWN OF VINTON
Vinton Police Corporal Brandon Alterio.

MINGLE AT THE MARKET

PRESENTED BY MemberOne

August 13th 7 P.M. - 10 P.M.
Band: Five Dollar Shake
Food: Mountain Grille Food Truck
Volunteer group: Pawsh salon for dogs

August 27th 7 P.M. - 10 P.M.
Band: Fuzzy Logic
Food: Ferguson Family Provisions
Volunteer Group: Town of Vinton

ID REQUIRED
Please have out and ready for volunteers to check.

BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR

KID ZONE
Food Truck will be on site.

Mingle concert on August 13 features Five Dollar Shake

The Mingle at the Market concert on Saturday, August 13, will feature band favorite, Five Dollar Shake.

Mingle concerts are sponsored by the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce and MemberOne and take place on the Vinton Farmers' Market HomeTrust stage in downtown Vinton. This week's event gets underway at 7 p.m.

Admission is \$6 for adults. Since this is a family-friendly event, kids under 12 enter free.

This week's food truck

is the always popular Mountain Grille.

There will be the usual beer garden—ID required. The Chamber asks that you have your ID out and ready for volunteers to check to speed up entry to the event.

Volunteers assisting with this week's Mingle are from Pawsh Salon for Dogs, pet groomers located on East Lee Avenue in downtown Vinton.

Bring your own chair. No pets are allowed. No outside food or drink.

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, Mayor Brad Grose, and KP Strategies.



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Five Dollar Shake is the featured band for the August 13 Mingle at the Market concert.

Blue Ridge Baptist hosting Gospel Plowboys

Blue Ridge Baptist Church at 2410 Hardy Road in Vinton will host the Gospel Plowboys blue-

grass band on Sunday, August 14 at 5 p.m.

The Gospel Plowboys is a bluegrass gospel group,

founded by David Murph, after two years of diligent prayer. He had a passion for seeing people come to

know Jesus as their Lord and Savior – “Plowing the ground, planting the seed...that Christ died for you”

The band is known for dressing in denim bib overalls, white shirts, and red ties—in tribute to the

1930s when bluegrass music was becoming popular.

Dress is casual. There is no charge for the concert, but a cash love offering will be taken.

For more information on the Gospel Plowboys visit the website at [https://](https://gospelplowboys.com/)

gospelplowboys.com/ or their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/GospelPlowboys

For more information on the concert, email the church at brbcvinton@gmail.com.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11			12		13		14		
15					16		17		
	18			19		20		21	
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32						33	34	35	36
			38	39	40		41	42	
			43			44			
	45	46	47						
48				49		50	51	52	53
55				56			57		58
59				60			61		
62				63			64		

CLUES ACROSS

1. Breezed through
5. Time units (abbr.)
8. Pigeon's murmur
11. Moves aside in fright
13. Partner to "ahh"
14. Taxis
15. Monetary units of Turkey
16. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
17. Prolific Italian opera composer
18. Restaurants
20. One's grandmother
21. Ancient Greek City
22. Italian mountain ranges
25. Data
30. Acted in an obedient way
31. Autonomic nervous system
32. Not on the up-and-up
33. Mock lightly
38. Mimic
41. Built

43. A neighborhood
45. Inflammation of the kidneys
48. Semitic fertility god
49. Temporary name of Seaborgium
50. Wise people
55. Tear down
56. ___-fi (slang)
57. Diamond weight
59. Frosted
60. Predecessor to EU
61. Makes changes to
62. Some are secret
63. Tooth caregiver
64. Old English poet

CLUES DOWN

1. Sign language
2. In style
3. Norwegian river
4. People with impaired hearing

5. Large stinging paper wasp
6. Bucharest is its capital
7. River in Ireland
8. Type of TV
9. Double-reed instruments
10. Spanish motorcycle manufacturer
12. Midway between south and southeast
14. French commune
19. Alike
23. A bachelor's apartment
24. Foot part between the ball and ankle
25. Belonging to a thing
26. Japanese classical theater
27. Supervises flying
28. Not even
29. Capital of Saudi Arabia
34. Electronic counter-measure
35. Consumed
36. American politician (abbr.)
37. Sun up in New York
39. Casually looked through
40. Revealed the presence of
41. Peyton's little brother
42. Diana __, singer
44. Study of moral values and rules
45. Civil Rights group
46. Makes less severe
47. Made an emotional appeal
48. Vivacity of style
51. One who is highly skilled
52. Gets around in pursuit of pleasure
53. Famed guitarist Clapton
54. Most common Japanese surname
58. Recipe abbreviation

Conner named Top Best-in-State Financial Security Professionals

John Conner, a partner in The Conner Group in Vinton, has been ranked as one of the top professionals in the insurance industry by Forbes and SHOOK Research. He has been included in their annual list of Top Financial Security Professionals for 2022.

This year's list includes an overall ranking of the best insurance professionals across the country, as well as the top candidates in each state. Conner is part of the 800 distinguished insurance specialists sorted by state who oversee client policies exceeding \$1 trillion.

As stocks face sharp declines this year and the economy teeters on the brink of recession, these distinguished security professionals are working hard to keep their clients calm and, more importantly, preserve their wealth.

Conner is a native of

Vinton, a graduate of William Byrd High School, and earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance

from Roanoke College in 2013. He also joined The Conner Group in 2013. He serves on the board of the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce.



John Conner SUBMITTED PHOTO

Joy Sylvester-Johnson's launch of 'The Seed and the Song' scheduled for August 13, proceeds benefit Mercy Care Academy in Kenya

This Saturday, August 13, marks the book launch celebration of the children's picture book, "The Seed and the Song," written by Joy Sylvester-Johnson and illustrated by Marian McConnell. The two met while serving together in ministry at the Rescue Mission of Roanoke.

Sylvester-Johnson served at the Rescuer Mission for 31 years and retired as its CEO; McConnell came to the Mission when she retired after 39 years at the VA Hospital in Salem.

This free, family event takes place in the auditorium at South County Library on Merriman Road in Roanoke from 11 a.m. to noon. The doors will open at 10:30 a.m.

According to a press release, "The Seed and the Song" is a modern re-telling of the biblical parable of the mustard seed. The book is appropriate for children of all ages.

The three siblings in the story are based on Sylvester-Johnson's own grandchildren; in fact, she wrote the book for them. The story begins when they discover something pre-

cious is missing.

Accompanied by their dog, Lily, the children begin their quest to find what has been lost.

"I wrote it for my grandchildren because I think it is very important that we adults talk about important things with our children when they are young – it's also important we tell them the truth," Sylvester-Johnson explains. She hopes that this book helps children come to see how to apply the parable of the mustard seed to their own lives.

She was once asked, "Is this a theology book for children or a story book for adults?" Her reply was, "Yes."

Sylvester-Johnson says this is her second book. The first was written when she was 17 years old – a book of sayings. "The Seed and the Song" is 29 colorful pages in length.

The proceeds from the book are designated to benefit the Mercy Care Academy in the Mather Valley in Nairobi, Kenya, which is mentioned in the book.

According to its website, the Mercy Care Centre Foundation was found-

ed in Lynchburg over 20 years ago and has been the nucleus from which several Christian schools have been started in Kenya. The Foundation wants to raise funds to feed and educate the children who live in the Mathare Valley, one of the oldest slum areas in Kenya. Approximately 600,000 people live in an area of three square miles, and most live on an income of less than \$1 per day. Crime, gangs, and HIV/AIDS are common. Many parents die of AIDS and leave their children to fend for themselves. Most people live in tiny shanties made of old tin and mud with no beds, no electricity, no running water, and limited access to toilets. The Academy is a light of hope in the darkness, providing a safe, loving environment where children can experience God's love through their teachers.

Bethany Butcher, who spent part of her childhood in Africa with her missionary parents, has just returned from Kenya and will be available to answer questions about the Mercy Care Academy.

Books will be on sale at the book launch with

discounts offered for multiple copies purchased.

In addition to the books, there will be a free mustard seed take-away gift, coloring pages, and the debut of a special song

written and performed by Marian McConnell. Books will be signed (even Lily, the dog in the story, will be signing books!).

Sylvester-Johnson and McConnell are both local

residents. Sylvester-Johnson lives in Southwest Roanoke County; McConnell lives in Catawba.

For more information, visit www.theseedandthesong.com.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A book launch celebration will be held at South County Library for Joy Sylvester-Johnson's "The Seed and the Song" on August 13. Proceeds benefit the Mercy Care Academy in Kenya.

Community meetings scheduled for new Roanoke County Career Center



PHOTO COURTESY ROANOKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Land has been purchased off Peters Creek Road for the new Roanoke County Schools CTE Center.

Roanoke County Public Schools provides a robust curriculum of Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses for students in multiple career clusters. These CTE students can obtain a nationally recognized career readiness certificate in high school, comprehensive community college, or workforce center.

CTE provides students with the academic and technical skills, knowledge, and training necessary to succeed in future careers and to become lifelong learners. CTE prepares these learners for the world of work by introducing them to workplace competencies and makes academic content accessible to students by providing it in a hands-on context.

Two Business Community Input Meetings have

been scheduled to discuss CTE and business training needs for the proposed Roanoke County Public Schools CTE Center at 6521 Peters Creek Road. This new CTE Center will replace the existing CTE facility that is housed at the Burton Center for Arts & Technology (BCAT).

The first community meeting will be held in North County on August 17 at 6 p.m. at the Roanoke County Schools Central Office Gymnasium located at 5937 Cove Road in Roanoke.

The second meeting will be held in South County on August 24 at 6 p.m. in the South County Library auditorium, located at 6303 Merriman Road in Roanoke.

The public is invited to attend either of the community meetings.

Journey of Hope

from page 1

of orientation. Their goal is to reach Washington, D.C., on August 13. The leader of the team is Harrison Covert, who drives one of the vans.

Their itinerary took them from Washington State to Washington, D.C. through Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Virginia. They rested up for a couple of days in Spokane (Washington), Missoula (Montana), West Yellowstone (Montana), Jackson (Wyoming), Casper (Wyoming), Denver, Colorado Springs, Wichita, Olathe (Kansas), St. Louis, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, and Roanoke. Otherwise, they just kept pedaling day after day.

On the stopovers, the cyclists usually visit sponsors who are serving the disabled through employment centers which assist the disabled, assisted living facilities, organizations for the disabled, or plants where all of the employees might have disabilities. They also meet with disabled individuals themselves in what are often fun settings. In the Roanoke area the fraternity's sponsor was the Down Syndrome Association of Roanoke, with a "friendship visit" and dinner scheduled at the Mill Mountain Zoo.

The rides vary in length each day; the longest trek was about 130 miles in Wyoming. They more typically average about 75 miles per day. This year

they battled extreme heat and heavy storms at several points along the way.

Cyclists are required to raise \$6,500 each to finance their trip. They supply their own bikes and accessories. Safety equipment and team uniforms are provided. They must be an associate, active, or alumni member of Pi Kappa Phi, and in good standing with their fraternity.

Cyclist Lukas Wiedemann talked about his experiences on the trip thus far. This is his second time around, having completed the Southern Route in 2019. He says he is the oldest man on the team. He was looking for a bike shop on Sunday, having broken his chain on the latest ride.

He just graduated from Rochester Institute of Technology in New York, majoring in Business Management Information Systems. He would like to work in the IT industry.

Wiedemann says his favorite part of the trip was near the beginning at Mount Rainier in Washington State, because that is where he is from and where he plans to return now that he has graduated from college. He says that particular ride was exhausting, but brought back childhood memories of seeing Mount Rainier in the distance from his home.

He says that the group had been scheduled to ride through Yellowstone National Park, but those plans had to be changed because of the extreme flooding and

destruction of roads in the area. There was a memorable heat wave as they rode through Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri. Fortunately, none of the cyclists suffered ill effects. The past week had been a little stormy but hadn't significantly delayed their trip on any occasion.

Wiedemann says his motivation in signing up for the Journey of Hope was his desire to have a positive impact on the world and the disabled individuals he would meet on the trip. Fraternity brothers who had participated described it as "life-changing." In addition, he was attracted to the physical challenge of the project, plus it was an opportunity to see the country.

He, and many others in the group, confess that they were not really "much of a cyclist" before undertaking the Journey of Hope. Wiedemann said he used to row, but that was about the sum total of his participation in athletics. Five of the team members were making their second cross-country ride with Pi Kappa Phi. The 27 members of the team represented all parts of the nation.

Wiedemann says the cyclists stick mainly to rural routes and back roads. Strangely enough, they were not much in favor of bike lanes, which collect dangerous debris and are sometimes ignored by motorists. They shared some tales about frightening encounters with drivers with little respect for bike riders.

On the journey, the cyclists travel in groups of three to five, riding single file in a paceline. They generally stop to rest every 10 miles.

The team arrived in Vinton around 11 a.m. on Sunday and were getting more rest than usual with time off that afternoon from 2 to 5 p.m. before leaving for the Down Syndrome Association event. Some headed off for lunch at nearby fast-food chains.

Others ate "real food" leftovers (mac and cheese) from a sponsor dinner the night before. There were questions about where

to get a good breakfast in Vinton on Monday morning – especially a meal that involved eggs, a rare treat on the trip.

The team would be staying inside the offices on the second floor of the Lancerlot, overlooking the ice rink, with showers available in the ice hockey area. Team members travel with sleeping bags and camping equipment so they can stay most anywhere. Wiedemann says they usually stay in churches, high schools, and YMCAs.

Before they left for Lynchburg on Tuesday, they would need to com-

plete a variety of errands in addition to some shopping, with some team members washing clothes, others getting water and ice for their coolers, some scouting out the upcoming route to be followed, others doing "sweeps" (cleaning up the area before they leave), along with individual bike maintenance.

Wiedemann says that once the teams reach Washington, D.C., and meet up on the Capitol Lawn, there will be a big celebration before they head home, richer for the journey and the people they met along the way.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Journey of Hope team spent two nights at the Lancerlot, storing their bikes and sleeping in the office area above the ice rink.

From the Pulpit

7 The end of all things is near; therefore, be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. 8 Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. 9 Be hospitable to one another without complaining. 10 Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 11 Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen. (1 Peter 4:7-11)

Two weeks ago, during our family beach trip

to Emerald Isle, we took our flashlights down to the surf one night and went on our annual family crab hunt. Though everyone had their own flashlight, there were only two shovels. My nieces shared one of them, and our boys shared the other. The purpose of the shovel is to scoop up the crabs and bring them up to the dry sand for all to see and enjoy. Most of the crabs we find are called Speckled Swimming Crabs. At night, they can be found in the wet sand as the waves crash onto the beach and the waters quickly retreat. It takes careful attention and a good flashlight to spot them before they bury into the sand. Once found, you need a good shovel to scoop them up before the next wave allows them to fully sub-

merge beneath the wet sand and out of sight.

All the kids have a bit of a love-hate relationship with the shovel. On the one hand, they want to be the one to scoop up the crab and bring it back to the group for all to see and admire; on the other hand, they are nervous about getting that close to a crab. Our crab hunts are filled with a lot of screams and laughter. So far no one has gotten pinched, but the fear of that potential is always within reach. Oddly enough, the risk itself seems to be what holds their attention and creates the sense of fun and adventure that permeates throughout the entire hunt.

The one holding the shovel is at the epicenter of the excitement. That is the one risking it all for the honor and glory

of bringing the crab up from the surf and onto dry land. And yet, no matter how brave or courageous, the shovel is typically dropped numerous times and almost lost into the heart of the sea whenever one of the crabs decides to move ever-so-slightly while being displayed on the shovel's blade.

Despite this complicated relationship with the shovel, it remains the most coveted tool of all during the crab hunt. At one point during this year's quest, after Carter had dropped the shovel several times and lost multiple crabs as a result, Parker frustratingly exclaimed, "Carter, if you're going to keep the shovel, you have to use the shovel." Whether positively inspired by Parker's words or annoyingly challenged by

them, as the next crab emerged, Carter scooped it up and proudly held it high for all to see and enjoy.

All throughout the New Testament, scripture reminds us of the "shovels" God has given us. Most often, they are referred to as "gifts" of the Spirit. Thankfully, unlike the shovels we use for our crab hunt, God does not expect us to share our gifts with someone else. We have all been given our own shovels that are unique to each of us. However, as Peter described in his first letter, we are expected to use them to serve one another. That is not always easy. It takes courage and commitment. As Peter described, it takes serious discipline.

In Jesus' Parable of the Talents, those who were rewarded were

those who actually used the talents the master had given them. The one who lost his talent was the only one who buried it. He wanted to keep the shovel, but he did not want to use it. As a result, when his master returned and learned of his servant's decision to bury his talent, this servant's talent was lost into the heart of the sea. As Peter instructed the early church, we are called to "serve one another with whatever gift [we] have received." In other words, if we're going to keep the shovel, we have to use the shovel. What shovel has God given you? How might it be used to serve someone today?

By The Rev. Travis Russell, Vinton Baptist Church

The Vinton Messenger

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RECIPES

What to do with all those tomatoes

If you have an abundance of tomatoes this summer, here are a couple of recipes to help preserve them for the fall and winter.

Freezer Spaghetti Sauce

1/4 cup olive oil
3 medium onions, chopped
2 garlic cloves, minced
12 cups of peeled and chopped fresh tomatoes (first place in boiling water for a minute to loosen peels)
3 12-oz. cans tomato paste
3 tsp. brown sugar
1 Tbsp. dried oregano
4 tsp. salt
2 tsp. dried basil
1 tsp black pepper

Heat oil in large pot. Saute onions and garlic until tender. Add remaining ingredients. Heat to boiling. Reduce heat. Simmer, partially covered for 2 hours, stirring occasionally. Cool completely. Store in the freezer in freezer bags, containers, or jars (quart or pint canning jars with lids and rings). When ready to use, thaw and heat. (Add mushrooms, browned meats, etc., at this point.)

If you don't have fresh tomatoes, you can use two 28-oz. cans of whole tomatoes and two 28-oz. cans of crushed tomatoes in the recipe.

Wonderful Salsa

8 cups peeled, chopped, and drained tomatoes
2-1/2 cups onions chopped
1-1/2 cups green peppers, chopped
1 cup jalapeno pepper, chopped (you can adjust the amount to taste preferences)
6 garlic cloves, minced
2 tsp. cumin
2 tsp. black pepper
1/8 cup canning salt
1/3 cup sugar
1/3 cup vinegar
1 (15 oz.) can tomato sauce
1 (12 oz.) can tomato paste

Combine all ingredients together in large pot. Bring to a slow boil and cook 10 minutes. Pour into pint or half-pint jars.

Seal jars with lids and rings and cook in boiling water bath for 10 minutes (pH of recipe doesn't require pressure canning).

This is a medium chunky salsa. If you prefer a smoother salsa, cut the veggies into smaller pieces.

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
DALE RIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST - 7165 Cloverdale Rd., Roanoke, 24019; beside the Boteourt Athletic Club. Leave message 992-4385. Sunday Bible Study, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study, 6 p.m. Please come visit us in person or get to know about us first by visiting our web page: daleridgechurchofchrist.net. Updated each week with a new sermon by Mike Mazzalongo, four minutes of video showing our nearly six acres of land and our beautiful, functional inside facilities, articles, events, news from Christian sources around the world and here locally plus much, much more. See how many ways Dale Ridge is "Reaching Out There" to the Roanoke Valley with the "Good News of Jesus. By clicking on "visit us virtually" real time access to our Worship services is available via your computer, a tablet or smartphone: Just follow the instructions. We believe in the inspired Word of God which is as relevant today as it was when it was written. We believe the Holy Spirit is a gift to every Christian upon their response to the Gospel as demonstrated by the 3000 obedient souls in (Acts 2:38). We believe Jesus is the only author of our salvation. (Acts 4:12) Have you been looking for a church family that is progressive, outside the box thinkers, led by the Holy Spirit into all truth. (John 16:13). You will know we are His disciples by our love for one another. (John 13:35) Real time contact thru our website via email.

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

Vinton Worship Directory

Almighty God

Read Genesis 40:1 through 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

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, 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 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 Su.ndays; 2nd Sunday Session; Monday Noon Bible Study; Tuesdays & Thursdays Stretch Class 9:00am; 1st Tuesdays Deacons; Wednesday Choir 7:00pm; Monday Girl Scouts 7:00pm; 3rd Saturday Men's Breakfast 8:00am. Rev. Jonathan Moelker, pastor

UNITED METHODIST
THREE OAKS FELLOWSHIP UNITED 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.

New Faculty

from page 1

their son, and their dog. The family especially likes traveling and trying new foods. Baldwin loves painting, culturally rich activities centered around the arts, and “loving on” all animals.

Andrew Close is teaching 6th grade science at William Byrd Middle. He is from Salem and a graduate of Salem High School. He is also a graduate of Washington and Lee University. Close says he has been working on becoming a teacher in the past couple of years. He spent last year as an assistant football coach at William Byrd High School. He was a four-year letter winner in football in college.

He has also spent two years as a substitute teacher and remediation teacher.

“I am in education because I enjoy the opportunity to help children learn and grow in not just their academics, but life,” Close said.

Jordan Downing is a new English teacher at both WBHS and WBMS. She will be teaching 7th grade English and 9th grade English. She is also the new assistant director for the Marching Terriers band. Downing is originally from Fredericksburg, Va., and a graduate of Massaponax High School. She graduated from Virginia Tech in 2021 with a Bachelor of Arts in English literature and creative writing. In 2022, she completed her Master’s Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Tech.

Ashley Farrer is teaching Advanced 6th and 7th grade English at WBMS. She is from Chesapeake and a graduate of Hickory High School. She has lived in Roanoke since entering Hollins University in 2011. She earned her BA in English and History from Hollins in 2015 and her Master of Arts in Teaching in 2017. She has been teaching for four years. Farrer says she accepted the position at William Byrd because the school was “highly recommended” by colleagues and friends.

As for why she chose to major in English and history, “Not only do I have a deep love of reading, but I had teachers who recognized that. They nurtured my desire to learn.”

This school year is not only going to be special for her because of teaching at WBMS—she also has wedding plans for January 2023.

Annette Gilmore is working as a Reading Specialist/Literacy Coach this year at William Byrd. She grew up in Vinton, where she attended Hardy Road Elementary School (now W. E. Cundiff), William Byrd Intermediate School, and graduated from William Byrd High School.

Gilmore majored in Psychology at Roanoke College. received her teaching certificate

for grades PK-8, and then her Master’s from Radford University in Literacy Education.

She has been working in the field of education for 20 years, beginning in 2002 as an Instructional Assistant.

She taught 7th grade English for three years at WBMS, and then stayed home with her youngest son. When she returned to the classroom, she taught 4th and 5th grades at W. E. Cundiff. She made her way back to WBMS in 2018, teaching 6th and 7th grade English.

“I love teaching reading,” Gilmore says. “It is my passion. I enjoy working with students at different levels and the challenge of helping them develop into lifelong readers. RCPS hired Reading Specialists for the first time in secondary schools and I’m so excited to be part of it. This is a role that has been needed for a long time and will positively impact RCPS students.”

Johannes Grow is teaching 6th grade U.S. History 1 at William Byrd. She was born in Germany to a German mom and an American dad. She and her family moved back and forth between the two countries eleven times or so. She graduated from Jamestown High School in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Grow earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in International Studies and German from Virginia Tech, as well as her Master’s in Public and International Affairs. She speaks German fluently.

She is teaching at three schools this year—Hidden Valley Middle, William Byrd Middle, and William Byrd High School.

Grow has been teaching at the college/university level since 2014. Prior to teaching at William Byrd Middle, she was a faculty member at Radford University where she had been teaching since 2017.

Becky Gruber’s position at WBMS this year is as Special Education Coordinator. She is originally from Massachusetts but has lived in Virginia for the past 12 years. She majored in Special Education and Early Childhood Education at Cedarville University.

Gruber has held various positions in Roanoke County Schools, and she accepted the Special Education Coordinator position when it opened up this summer. She has 15 years of experience in the field of education. As for why she chose to work in Special Education, “I love working with students and parents and problem solving for student success.”

Outside of school, her focus is on her family, which grew by one this year. She now has a six-year-old and a six-month old!

Ryan Hathaway will be teaching U.S. History at WBMS this year. He studied

history, archaeology, and anthropology in college. He is especially interested in the late Bronze Age, Greco-Roman, the Crusades, the English Monarchy during the Middle Ages, and Napoleonic and U.S. History.

“I am very excited to teach U.S. History at William Byrd Middle School, and I hope to incorporate some practical elements of historical interpretation into my lesson plans,” Hathaway said.

Crystal Ingle will be teaching 7th grade Special Education. She is from Roanoke, and a graduate of Northside High School. She earned her degree in Theatre/Music from Bethany University in Santa Cruz, California.

As for why she chose to teach, Ingle says, “I love to help facilitate and see those ‘light bulb’ moments when content becomes understandable. I hope to see students gain a love for learning for life.”

Catie Long will be serving as the English Language Learner (ELL) teacher at both William Byrd Middle and William Byrd High schools. She is from Roanoke and a graduate of Roanoke Valley Christian School. She graduated from Cedarville University with a degree in Elementary Education. She has been teaching for 25 years.

Long says she chose to teach English as a Second Language because of her love for internationals. Her special interests include knitting and reading.

Hannah Moore is teaching 7th grade English this year at WBMS. She is from Mount Olive, North Carolina, and graduated from Southern Wayne High School in Dudley, North Carolina. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from the University of Mount Olive, and her Master’s in Music Education from Anderson University.

Moore and her family moved to the Roanoke area from North Carolina this past April. She applied at William Byrd after hearing several friends from the area talk about what a wonderful school it was.

This will be her 8th year in public education. She also teaches online at Reynolds Community College in Richmond, Virginia. Moore says she “loves teaching and helping students succeed.”

“I have three young kids (ages 8, 7, and 3) and look forward to watching them grow up here in Roanoke,” Moore said.

Megan Peery is teaching 6th grade English at WBMS. She is from Salem and a 2006 graduate of Northside High School. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from Radford University and her Master of Arts in Teaching from Mary Baldwin University. This is her first year in teaching.

Prior to coming to William Byrd Middle, she worked for Salem City Schools as an Instructional Assistant, substitute teacher, and also did her student teaching there.

“I always knew that I wanted to be a teacher, but it became more apparent when I witnessed the impact that I was making on my students and the impact that they were making on me,” Peery said. “I chose to teach English because I love the complexity of it and how it can introduce you to a world that you did not know existed. Reading helps ignite a child’s imagination and creativity while also helping them build their self-confidence. Writing is an invaluable tool because it is an outlet for self-expression. As a teacher, there is nothing more amazing than seeing a child discover who they are through their own unique words.”

Codé Sizemore is teaching 6th grade English at WBMS. She is from Roanoke and a graduate of William Byrd High School. She earned her Bachelor’s degree from Roanoke College and her teacher certification from the University of Virginia. Sizemore previously taught at WBMS and returned after eight years in Bath County (first and third grades) and as Lead elementary STEM teacher in Montgomery County schools. This is her 20th year in teaching.

“I love teaching English because I absolutely love teaching reading and writing,” Sizemore said.

Sizemore and her husband taught together at Byrd Middle for many years. He is now principal at an elementary school in Blacksburg.

“I am so excited to be returning to WBMS,” Sizemore said. “It feels like coming home!”

Ki’ara Stanley is William Byrd Middle School’s psychologist for grades 6-8. She is from Roanoke and a graduate of Northside High School. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Human Development from Virginia Tech and her Master of Science degree in Psychology from Radford University.

“I am beginning my internship to complete my EdS degree in School Psychology (Radford University) with Roanoke County Public Schools,” Stanley explained.

She has one year of experience as a school psychologist practicum student.

As for why she chose to become a school psychologist, “I want to be a positive influence on students and help build children’s chances of success.”

Stanley says one of her special interests is the promotion of mental health care for students and their families.

Julie Vest is the Speech-Language Pathologist at WBMS. She graduated from James

Madison University with her Master’s of Science degree in Speech-Language Pathology and has been a speech-language pathologist for seven years.

“I have a passion for working with students and am excited about this upcoming school year,” Vest says.

Laury Ward is teaching Latin I to 8th graders at William Byrd. She says she has “lived all over—seven states in the United States and overseas in Germany.” She graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Alexandria, Virginia. Ward earned her BA in Philosophy and Classical Studies and a BS in Psychology from Virginia Tech. She received her PhD in Classical Studies from Duke University and has taught for 11 years on the collegiate level.

“I was teaching at a college in Michigan, but my family was looking to relocate to Virginia, and I was looking to move to teaching Latin at the secondary level—William Byrd was the perfect fit!” says Ward.

“I love the classics!” Ward says. “Greek and Latin were the first foreign languages that really clicked for me, and I adore getting to share my love of the ancients with a new generation of students!”

Ward will also be teaching at WBHS this year.

Michelle Yamatani is the new SOL testing coordinator at WBMS. She is originally from Pennsylvania but moved here five years ago. She taught Math at Read Mountain Middle School for the past four years.

Yamatani graduated from Upper Moreland High School and from Millersville University in Pennsylvania with a major in Elementary Education and a minor in coaching. She also has endorsements in Middle School Math and Algebra I.

This year, she wanted to try something new and thought SOL coordinator would be a good fit since she loves data.

“I have taught at just about every grade level,” Yamatani says. “I was a director of a preschool for three years, taught first grade for two years, then landed in my passion of Middle School Math. I taught advanced math for three years in Pennsylvania (grades 5-8) before moving to Virginia, and then four years of advanced math at RMMS.”

“I always wanted to be a teacher,” Yamatani says. “I developed a passion for it in 3rd grade and it stuck!”

As for special interests, Yamatani says, “I love soccer; I played it my entire life and watch it whenever I can. I have two children, Mia and Michael; both are in high school at Lord Botetourt. I am looking forward to the next journey in my career.”

Line dancing classes offered at Community Center in Vinton

Free line dancing classes are available at the Charles R. Hill Community Center at the Vinton War Memorial in Vinton on Tuesdays at 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

The 10 a.m. class is appropriate for “beginner-plus” students, who are just a little more advanced than beginners. The 11:30 a.m. class is for those just starting out in line dancing.

The 6 p.m. class is an advanced class.

These classes are open to everyone. Registration is not required.

For more information call 540-983-0645 or email cbarbour@vintonva.gov.



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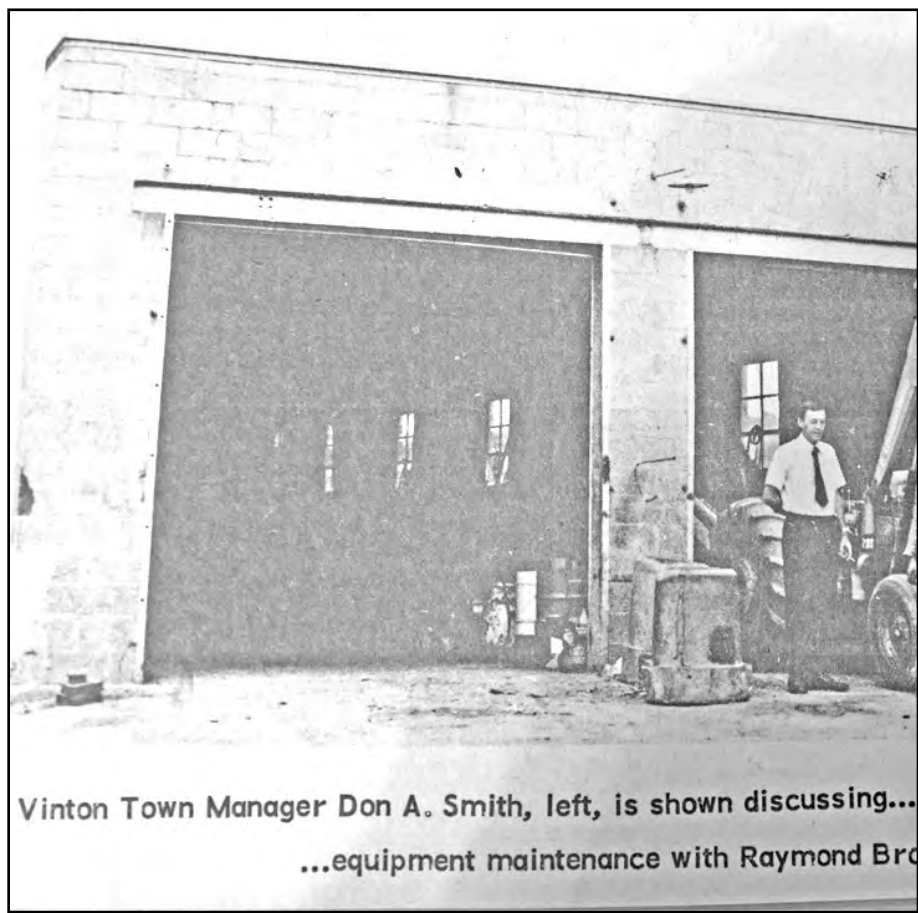
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Remembering Vinton

with the Vinton Historical Society

50 years ago in August 1972



Vinton Town Manager Don A. Smith, left, is shown discussing...
...equipment maintenance with Raymond Brooks.

Vinton Public Works established the first maintenance and repair shop in August 1972 to save taxpayer money.

Debbie Adams

dadams@ourvalley.org

Just like 2022, the weather 50 years ago in August 1972 in Vinton was hot and dry. Mayor Gus Nicks asked town residents to refrain from watering lawns from 4 to 10 p.m. when household demands for water were the greatest. Some homes on higher streets were experiencing "mere trickles" or no water pressure at all during that timeframe. The mayor thanked citizens for complying with his request and the problem was alleviated.

The Vinton Police Department announced that it was fully staffed with 12 officers. The department was also introducing a new drug abuse education program, "Users Are Losers" for fifth through eighth graders.

Doctors in the Roanoke Valley announced that they would no longer be carrying narcotics

in their bags or keep them in their offices – to deter "drug-seeking thieves."

A new director had been hired for the Vinton Department of Parks and Recreation – Tom Johnson. The refurbished Vinton Municipal Pool had 6,301 admissions over 39 days during the summer of 1972 with a profit of \$3,723.

A maintenance and repair shop was established for the Public Works Department to reduce costs. The previous year the town had paid \$17,000 for equipment repairs, about half for labor. The town hired a mechanic, Raymond Brooks, to keep the town's 32 major pieces of equipment, with an estimated value of \$150,000, up and running.

In other financial news, the Town of Vinton was applying for \$12,000 in federal aid to pay for flood damages to the sewer

age treatment plant and streets caused by Hurricane Agnes.

Town Council also made the decision to purchase a 375-acre tract of land in Bedford County on Falling Creek to develop a water reservoir. The cost for the land would be \$100,000 financed over 30 years. The town would need an additional \$2.6 million for its 50% share in constructing a dam that would provide water to Vinton, East Roanoke County, and the western part of Bedford County. The town would be issuing revenue bonds to cover the cost.

Citizens were up in arms when the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors declined to fund repairs to the lighting system at the William Byrd Middle School athletic fields, but approved actions for recreation groups in Glenvar and Hollins. The request amounted to about \$1,200.

Karen Chewning and Tommy Wood announced their engagement.

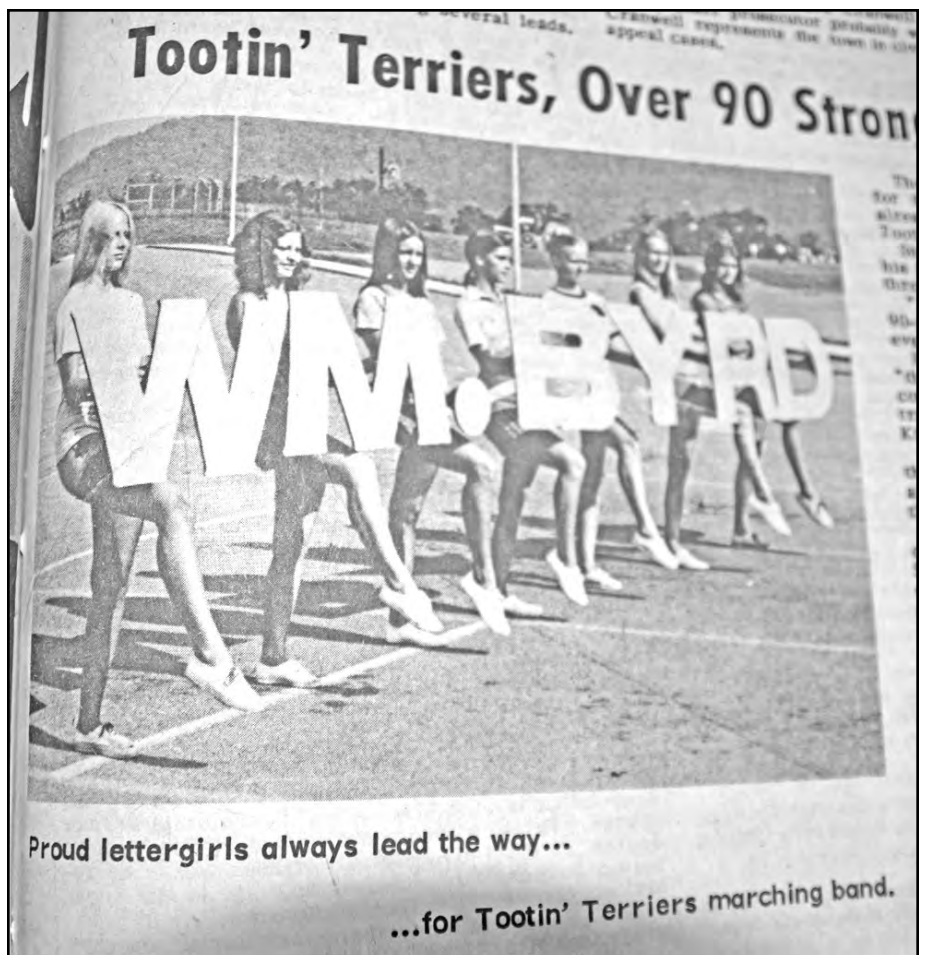
Sadly, a 9-year-old boy was killed playing on the 80-foot train trestle near Walnut Avenue and Fifth Street.

Hardy Road Elementary School opened on August 30 with Frank Stone as principal, and an enrollment of 708 students.

Don Oakes took over as head coach of the football team at William Byrd High School when Coach Steve Lonker moved to the assistant principal position at William Byrd Intermediate School. The first game of the season would be at home against Cave Spring High School. Other opponents during the season included Glenvar, Clifton Forge, Parry McCluer, Addison, Alleghany, Staunton River, Lord Botetourt, Covington, and Roanoke Catholic.

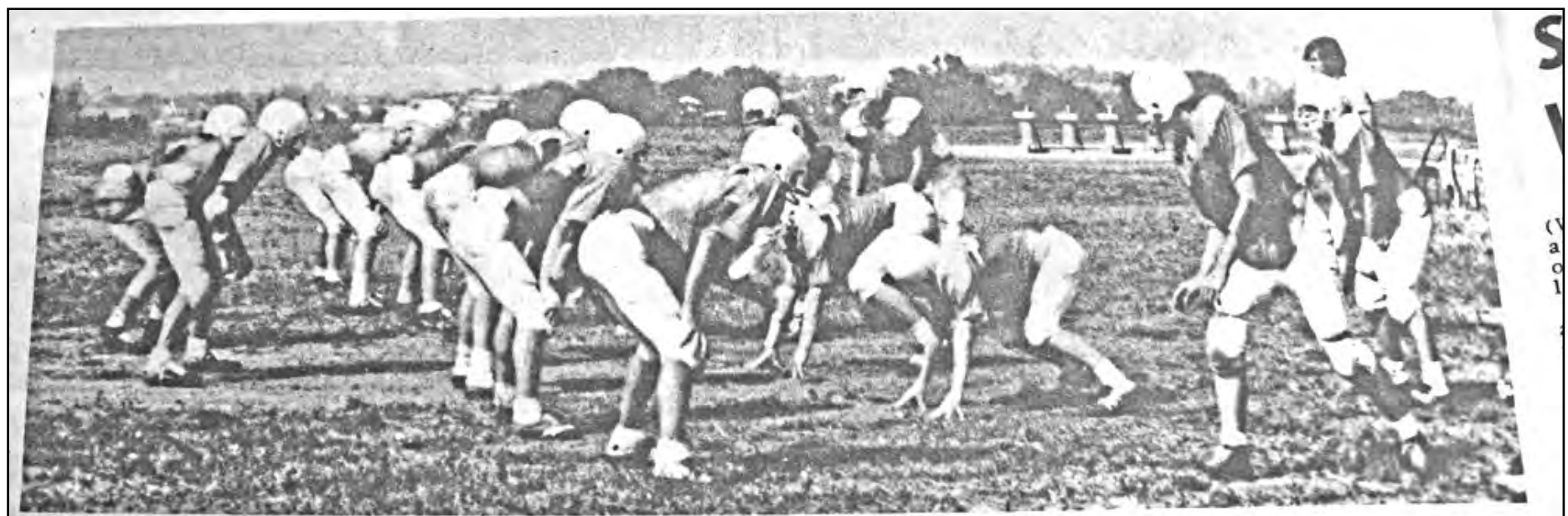
The Tootin' Terriers of WBHS were preparing for a new season of half-time shows, with plans to add a flag corps to the band, which already had four majorettes. Steve King was the band director. Vanessa Williamson was the drum major. The band also featured "Letter Girls" who marched in front of the band.

The Sportsman's Skeet Shooting Range celebrated its first anniversary on Hardy Road in Vinton – the only such facility in the valley. H&H Supermarket was celebrating 32 years in business in downtown Vinton. The popular grocery was owned by Warren Huddleston and W.H. Harris, who had retired in 1970. Bread was 29 cents in August of 1972, while you could buy four cans of Pillsbury Buttermilk Biscuits for 39 cents. Plus, you received King Korn Stamps with your purchase.



Proud lettergirls always lead the way...
...for Tootin' Terriers marching band.

The William Byrd High School Letter Girls led the Tootin' Terrier band.



The Terrier football team at practice in August 1972.



R. Frank Stone--Hardy Road principal

an overall county trend," Burton has said.
...teacher's aide; Mrs. Ethel Holdren, secretary; and Mrs. Phyllis Howell, teacher's aide; prepare for the opening of classes today at the new Hardy Road Elementary School.
(Messenger Photo)



OPEN SPACES--This large area is part of the kindergarten area at the new Hardy Road Elementary School. Pictured, left to right, are: Mrs. Harriett Overstreet, teacher's aide; Miss Mary Shirl Crowder, kindergarten teachers; and Mrs. Sandra Farmer, kindergarten teacher.
(Messenger Photo)

PHOTOS FROM THE VINTON HISTORY MUSEUM, VINTON MESSENGER ARCHIVES

Frank Stone was the principal of the new Hardy Road Elementary School (now W.E. Cundiff), which opened in August 1972 with the open space classroom concept.

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GETTIN' READY

Above left, Terriers work on the kicking game in a practice at Patterson Stadium last week. Above right, the line opens a nice hole. Left, Byrd volleyball girls prepare for their season opener against Hidden Valley on August 23. The girls are practicing in the middle school gym as construction continues at the high school.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Byrd teams have scrimmages as fall season nears

The William Byrd volleyball and football teams will have preseason scrimmages in the coming week as they prepare for the fall sports season.

The Byrd football team will host Glenvar in a scrimmage at Patterson Stadium this Friday night. The scrimmage will include both jayvee and varsity teams with the varsity opening at 6 pm. It will be a controlled scrimmage with the first offense running 10 plays, then the first defense going for 10 plays. The second teams will go on the same schedule, followed by some game situations. After the varsity is done the jayvees will go through the same routine for their scrimmage.

Byrd has had a good turnout for the team. They

averaged around 60 or more for workouts all summer.

"Our staff is excited about the numbers," said coach Brad Lutz. "It's fun to have so many players excited about football. While the numbers are important, we are more excited about the numbers that we had at off-season workouts. That shows that not only do we have the numbers, but those players want to work and get better."

Byrd will play a Benefit Game at Rockbridge on August 19, then open the season on August 26 at Liberty High.

The volleyball team will host E.C. Glass for a scrimmage on Monday of next week. The jayvees

will go at 5:30 pm with the varsity to follow at approximately 7 pm. A week from today, on August 18, the Terriers will be at Patrick Henry for the same 5:30/7:00 pm schedule. They'll open the season on Tuesday, August 23, at home against Hidden Valley.

Also, today the Andrew Lewis Middle School football team will be hosting a jamboree at Spartan Field, in front of Salem High School. William Byrd, William Fleming and Patrick Henry will join Lewis for a series of 20 plays each. The jamboree will begin at 5 pm with Lewis against Fleming and PH against Byrd. Lewis and Byrd will switch opponents for the next round, and the third series will pit Lewis against Byrd while PH goes against Fleming.

Brian Hoffman



The good, the bad and the smugly

A couple comments about two guys who seem to be better on the field than in society.

First, DeShaun Watson. If you're a football fan you most likely know about the things he's been accused of. He denies it, but it's one man's word against the word of 24 women. Maybe if it's two women I'd have my doubts, but 24?

Whatever, he's been accused of abusing women in the guise of getting a message and, guilty or not, it's not good publicity for the National Football League. They say no publicity is bad publicity, but in this case I beg to differ.

As you football fans know, Watson was recently traded to the Cleveland Browns for a bunch of draft picks after he agreed to waive his no trade clause so he could accept a guaranteed \$240 million. Not the MegaMillions jackpot, but not bad.

Watson sat out last season in Houston as this hung over his head (no jokes please), and in fact he was paid last year for not even playing. Currently he has not been charged with any crime after settling with all but one of his accusers, and don't think \$240 million doesn't help you settle stuff.

Under NFL rules the commissioner, Roger Goodell, still has the right to suspend Watson for his perceived violations of the league code of conduct. In cases like this the NFL has an arbiter, appointed jointly by the league and players association, to rule on such cases. The arbiter, retired federal judge Sue L. Robinson, decided a fair suspension for Watson would be six games.

Most folks felt Watson got off easy, real easy, with that decision. One of those folks was Goodell, and the NFL has a right to appeal that decision and decided to do so. In fact, Goodell has the right to appeal and appoint himself as the person to hear the appeal, but instead he appointed Peter Harvey, a former New Jersey attorney general. No decision was handed down by press time, but I'll just bet (the NFL likes betting) Harvey is going to come up with a much longer suspension.

To me, this is ridiculous. No matter what I feel about what Watson did, why even have an arbiter if you don't have to abide by what the arbiter decides?

Let's look at this way. Let's say I get arrested for selling crack cocaine to middle school children on school property. Everyone knows that's a bad thing, and I'm arrested and go to trial. I'm found guilty by a jury of my peers and the judge sentences me to six years in jail.

HOWEVER, the prosecuting attorney thinks that's way too light a sentence for what I've done so he appeals. Then, he gets to decide who hears the appeal, and he can even appoint himself to hear it if he so chooses.

Why even have a judge if that's the case? Likewise, why even have an arbiter if Roger

Goodell is going to do what he wants anyway?

Meanwhile the Browns are in limbo, not knowing how long it will be before they know if they have an all-pro quarterback this season. Not that I feel sorry for them, they knew they were buying a snake when they sent all those draft picks to Houston.

And then we have Pete Rose. Oh, Pete Rose, will you ever learn?

Rose was back on a baseball field Sunday when the Philadelphia Phillies celebrated the 40th anniversary of their 1980 World Championship. If 2022 minus 40 doesn't equal 1980 you can blame the COVID pandemic for that.

Rose got a big cheer, because everyone loved him as a player, and he was a big part of the Phillies first ever World Series championship. Remember when he caught that foul ball after it popped out of Bob Boone's catcher's mitt?

Again, as most of you likely know, after retiring as a player Rose was banned from baseball for betting on games when he was the manager of the Cincinnati Reds, and you can be pretty sure he was betting on games as a player as well. I've heard the stories about him being on the clubhouse phone shortly before he stepped on the field, and it doesn't take The Amazing Kreskin to figure out who he might be calling.

Five years ago the Phillies decided to add Pete to their "Wall of Fame," but not long before the ceremony a woman accused him of having an affair with her when she was 14 and Pete was 32. Wisely, this time, the Phillies decided to postpone that ceremony to a later date, and that date has yet to arrive.

HOWEVER, that didn't keep Rose from arriving Sunday and one of the things he was asked was about that case. Pete could have politely sidestepped the question but that's not his style. Instead he said this to the female reporter who asked the question, "No, I'm not here to talk about that. Sorry about that. It was 55 years ago, babe."

He'll never learn, will he? Rose, the all-time hits leader, is not in the Hall of Fame because of his gambling, but even at 81 years old he can't avoid controversy because he constantly puts his foot in his mouth. He said some other stuff during his weekend trip to Philadelphia that had people cringing, and in hind sight it was probably a bad idea to invite him to the reunion despite what he meant to that team on the field.

I've always been of the opinion that Rose deserves to be in the Hall of Fame because he was a great baseball player, and it's not the Hall of Nice People. Ty Cobb was a known bigot who was hated by just about everyone in his day, but he was a great hitter. Other great players had their flaws, but I think you can appreciate the player without liking the person, and the Baseball Hall of Fame is to recognize great players.

HOWEVER, listening to a radio show on Monday I heard something interesting in that regard. If Pete would actually make the Hall of Fame tradition has the player making an acceptance speech, and can you just imagine what he might say? It was suggested that if he ever went into the Hall most likely it would be posthumously, and when's the last time you heard someone should be put in a Hall of Fame posthumously when they were still alive?

Only a Rose, I give you.



Byrd's Nathan Carter shot 85 at the Botetourt Metro.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Terriers shoot 341 at Metro

The William Byrd golfers finished ninth among 13 teams at the Botetourt Metro Golf Tournament Monday. Jefferson Forest edged Salem, 304 to 305, to claim the championships at the Botetourt Golf & Swim Club.

Byrd finished with a team total of 341, led by Clayton Gilmore's 79. Also scoring for the Terriers were Nathan Carter at 85, Evan Mullen at 88 and Maddox Wolfe with an 89. Madeline Cunningham also played and finished with a 94.

After JF and Salem, Patrick Henry finished third with 316 while Blacksburg came in fourth at 317. Franklin County was fifth with 324, Northside carded

330, Lord Botetourt had 332, James River was eighth with a 338 and Byrd's 341 was next. Hidden Valley was 10th with a 347, Glenvar was next at 358 and Cave Spring was 12th at 387. William Fleming had three competitors but did not have a full team. Nick Crawford of Northside was medalist with an even par 71.

The Terriers will be back in action today when they head to Copper Cove for a match hosted by Franklin County. It will be the first Blue Ridge District "Mini Match" of the season.

Next Tuesday, August 16, the Terriers will have their second district Mini at Ole Monterey, hosted by William Fleming.

LL Challenger has golf tournament

The Little League Challenger baseball program will have a fund-raising golf tournament on Saturday, August 1st, at the Ashley Plantation course in Daleville.

The tournament is a captain's choice and cost is \$85 per golfer or \$340 for a team of four. Many prizes will be offered, including an all-inclusive trip to Pebble Beach for two for a Hole-in-One. Sponsorships are also available. Price includes green fees, cart, range balls, lunch and beverages.

To sign up or for more information call Sid Witt at 540-309-6274. The Little League Challenger program is for physically and mentally challenged youth.

Disaster Training from page 1

providers. The concept is that “by teaching multiple disciplines simultaneously, a commonality of approach and language will develop, improving the care and coordination of response to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) incidents, Mass Casualty Incidents (MCIs), disasters and public health emergencies” is the statement from the NSPA.

Many of the class participants were residents in Emergency Medicine at Carilion, i.e., new doctors, along with some first responders, disaster responders, and emergency management personnel.

Information was presented on natural disasters, chemical disasters, Mass Casualty Incidents, fatality management, explosive and radiologic disasters, and biologic disasters. There was a pre-test and a post-test to earn certification in BDLS after the 7.5-hour class.

On July 26, those who had obtained their BDLS certification moved to the Vinton War Memorial for a two-day, 15-hour, intensive class in Advanced Disaster Life Support (ADLS), which built upon the skills learned the previous day.

The target audience for this class includes physicians, nurses, physician assistants, EMTs, paramedics, pharmacists, allied health professionals, and students in health professional schools.

At the end of the ADLS course, participants are able to demonstrate competencies in mass casualty management. The class in-

cludes interactive lectures on disasters and public health emergencies and triage during those events, along with PPE and Decontamination exercises.

Members of the ADLS class divided into groups. One participated in a scenario set up at the Charles R. Hill Community Center (inside and in the parking lot) involving a simulated bombing at a downtown hotel that required triage—in essence, a field mass casualty exercise. An incident commander was placed in charge with an emphasis on communication, cooperation, and coordination.

The simulated Mass Casualty Incident involved victims of multiple ages, who were represented by inflatable mannequins. Severity of injuries was noted by colors of tape applied to the “bodies.” Participants were assigned various roles. The most exhausting turned out to be transporting the numerous victims to the parking lot for advanced triage.

The interior of the center was darkened to simulate a night-time scene, requiring the use of flashlights. Participants learned that triage involves many decisions, sometimes difficult. Treatment for victims who were able to walk, wave, and move were delayed. The team learned to work in grids for triage, leave the dead behind for later, and evacuate and treat those who would benefit most.

Participants were asked to be mindful of security at the scene and to be firm in removing

media and family members from the site who were anxious for information.

The second group took part in a situational training exercise at the War Memorial simulating table-top management at an emergency operations center. Their assigned scenario involves a hot August day in Georgia with a presidential candidate set to hold a rally in a crowded shopping mall. The rally is interrupted by an explosion, resulting in 100 fatalities, 200 who need immediate medical attention, and 1,000 fleeing the scene. An SUV is discovered containing 3,000 more explosives. Terrifyingly, the first explosion is followed by a second, emitting a green cloud—possibly chlorine gas.

An incident commander from the class was appointed for this exercise as well. This session was spent mainly on strategizing, the best way to evacuate a mass casualty and chemical disaster scene, collecting data, the methods of contacting facilities which would handle the casualties, how to use the media to inform the public, determining jurisdiction, and so much more. After about an hour, the groups swapped stations.

This class also included pre- and post-testing for certification in ADLS.

At the end of the second day, in wrapping up the classes, participants complimented the instructors and expressed their appreciation not only for the knowledge shared, but for the networking the classes made possible.



Persistent reporter removed from the scene at the simulated bombing.



Advanced triage at the scene of the simulated bombing.



Removing uninjured children from the scene of the bombing. PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Students—and buses--return to schools for first day of school on August 11 in Roanoke County

The buses are back for the first day of the 2022-2023 school year on August 11. Roanoke County Public Schools asks motorists to be aware of all buses and give them plenty of space on the roads, particularly during the morning and afternoon runs.

While following a bus, drivers should be alert to the bus and its numerous stops. Drivers should permit a safe distance of twenty feet or more between their vehicle and the bus. They should not only be prepared to stop when following buses but be responsible and obey all laws to guarantee the safety of our children.

By Virginia law, motorists are required to stop for a school bus with flashing red lights that is loading or unloading children, whether the motorist is approaching a bus from the opposite direction or following a bus. Motorists must stay stopped until all children are clear of the roadway, the flashing red lights cease, and the bus starts moving again. This includes roadways with center turn lanes.

There is exception to this law: motorists are not required to stop for

a school bus with flashing red lights if the motorist is driving in the opposite direction of the school bus on a roadway with travel lanes that are separated by a barrier or physical median.


“Please give our school buses space and please stop for our school buses when you see the flashing red lights. We want to make sure our students safely arrive at school in the morning and at home at the end of the school day,” said Dr. Ken Nicely, superintendent for Roanoke County Public Schools.

Here are some additional safety tips for motorists (source DMV/NHTSA):

- Watch for children playing and gathering near school bus stops.
- Be alert. Children arriving late for a school bus may dart into the street without looking for traffic.
- Never pass on the right side of a school bus where children enter or exit. This is illegal and can have tragic results.
- Parents of children who may be waiting at a school bus stop should keep the following tips in mind (source DMV/NHTSA & RCPS Poli-

cy):

- Practice Safety: Students should be at the bus stop at least 5 minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. Students must be at the bus stop when the bus arrives.
- Children must always cross the street in front of the bus and never behind the bus. This allows the driver to see the children as they walk in front of the bus.
- Make sure your children stand at least 10 feet (five giant steps) from the road while waiting for the school bus. The children will then be out of the way of traffic. Have younger children practice taking five giant steps to become familiar with how far away 10 feet is from the side of the road.
- Go to the bus stop with a young child and have older children walk in groups. There is safety in numbers because groups are easier for drivers to see.
- If you meet your children at the bus stop after school, wait on the side where they will be dropped off, not across the street. Children can be so excited at seeing you after school that they dash across the street and forget the safety rules.



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