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CHRISTMAS PARADE OF THE FUTURE

Thursday, December 1st
6 p.m. Pre-parade Entertainment
Vinton Municipal Building
7 p.m. Parade




American Indian Gerri Reynolds Wade shares her story and traditions

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Gerri Reynolds Wade is a birthright member of the federally recognized Rappahannock Tribe of Virginia. Wade's native name is "Singing Heart Woman," which means "songs of my soul." She is a musician who enjoys singing and playing piano.

She served as Chief Executive Officer for the Virginia Tribal Educational Consortium, founded in 2019 by Tribal leaders from the seven federally recognized tribal Nations across Virginia to create a non-profit Tribal Education Agency, "to build the leadership capacity of our Tribal Nations to support academic excellence, cultural awareness, and historical accuracy."

Previously Wade served as Vice President for the Developmental Disabilities Ministry at HopeTree Family Services. She retired from this job that she loved after 18 years. She also retired from Roa-



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS
American Indian Gerri Wade was the guest speaker for Circle 3 at Thrasher Memorial UMC on Nov. 8, sharing Native American traditions, history, and her own story

See Gerri Reynolds Wade, page 3

Vinton churches unite for Community Thanksgiving Service

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Vinton Wesleyan Church hosted this year's Community Thanksgiving Service on Nov. 20, joined by Vinton Baptist, Lynn Haven Baptist, Parkway Church on the Mountain, and Campbell Memorial Presbyterian Church.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS
Vinton area churches came together at Vinton Wesleyan on Nov. 20 to celebrate Thanksgiving and give thanks. Shown left to right are: Vinton Wesleyan Church pastor Rev. Ricardo Rodriguez, Vinton Wesleyan soloist Steve Whorley, soloist Randy Nicely (Villa Heights Baptist), Vinton Breakfast Lion Eric Mills (in front), Vinton Wesleyan Music Director Joyce Rodriguez, soloist Olivia Foster from Vinton Baptist, Vinton Wesleyan Associate Pastor John Ryall, Rev. Jonathan Moelker from Campbell Memorial Presbyterian, soloist Dr. Ken Nicely from Vinton Baptist, Rev. Travis Russell from Vinton Baptist, Dr. John Ott, Senior Pastor at Parkway Church on the Mountain, and Vinton Wesleyan pianist Denis Looney. Not pictured - soloist Beth Radford from Lynn Haven Baptist and accompanist Gari Melchers from Vinton Baptist.

The service was filled with song, prayer, scripture, laughter, and a Thanksgiving message.

Soloists included Vinton Wesleyan pianist Denis Looney, Olivia Foster, a student at Read Mountain Middle School, who sang "In Jesus Name," Steve Whorley from Vinton Wesleyan who sang "There's Always a Place at the Table," and Beth Radford from Lynn Haven Baptist who performed "My Tribute."

Dr. Ken Nicely from

See Thanksgiving Service, page 6

Vinton Christmas Parade kicks off the holiday season on Dec. 1

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

The annual Vinton Christmas Parade kicks off the holiday season on Dec. 1. The traditional tree-lighting ceremony begins at 6 p.m. with greetings from Vinton Mayor Brad Grose, the lighting of the tree, and entertainment by Floyd Ward School of Dance.

The parade itself steps off from the Vinton War Memorial at 7 p.m. and continues down Washington Avenue through the streets of downtown Vinton and ends up at the Billy Byrd Apartments.

Several roads will be closed from

5:30 to 10:30 p.m.

Food trucks will be in the area, the Vinton Lions Club will be hosting their annual spaghetti supper at the VFW from 4 to 7 p.m. and local restaurants will be open to parade goers.

The first Parade of Trees will be on display on the Vinton War Memorial lawn from Nov. 24 through Jan. 2, 2023. Santa himself will be on the lawn for pictures on Dec. 6 from 5:30-7 p.m., Dec. 10 from 9-11 a.m., Dec. 17 from 9-11 a.m. and Dec. 22 from 5:30-7 p.m.

Submitted by Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce and Town of Vinton Community Programs

Vinton Business of the Week – Welcome Pok-E-Joe's Smokehouse and Grill



Cory Welch will be opening Pok-E-Joe's Smokehouse and Grill in the space formerly occupied by Joe Goodpies restaurant at Vinyard Station in downtown Vinton. He is shown with one of his signature burgers, the Smokehouse Burger, served with lettuce, tomato, mayo, onion straws, and Honey Chipotle Sauce.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CORY WELCH
Cory Welch and his family will be opening Pok-E-Joe's Smokehouse and Grill in Vinton, anticipating an opening in February 2023.

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Vinton is anxiously awaiting the opening of Pok-E-Joe's Smokehouse and Grill which is moving into Vinyard Station in the former Joe Goodpies location at 105 East Washington Avenue.

Owner Cory Welch announced the opening on local TV and Facebook last week with "Pok-E-Joe's is coming home! With more than four generations of Vinton roots and William Byrd Terriers driving our passion for great southern-style food, we are excited to announce a new location to enjoy our award-winning house smoked

meats from Pok-E-Joe's Smokehouse and Grill. We are excited to share this next chapter in our story with a community that we've always considered family!"


Welch graduated in the William Byrd Class of 1992. Vinton Town Manager Pete Peters was a classmate.

"I was thrilled to learn that Cory was selected to backfill the former Joe's Goodpies location at Vinyard Station, and I was certainly pulling for him behind the scenes," Peters said. "Cory's Pok-E-Joe's restaurant location in the Lynchburg area gets rave reviews and any time you can have one of your own come back home, I think that is a great thing. His connection to community and knowing his customers is to me a huge advantage that shouldn't be understated. Restaurants in general are a tough business, particularly in the current staff shortage environment. So, the fact that Cory has a proven product and extensive management experience in this field will certainly give him a leg up. I



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See Pok-E-Joe's, page 5

VINTON HISTORY

Santa is probably the most beloved and exciting tradition of Christmas, especially for children. But where did the tradition of Santa come from?

The first signs of Santa lead back to a 4th Century monk known as Saint Nicholas. He gave away his inherited wealth and traveled the countryside helping the poor and sick. He was depicted as a bearded man dressed in canonical robes, carrying a sack over his shoulder.

The picture we have of Santa today is largely thanks to Clement Clarke Moore's 1822 poem "Twas the Night Before Christmas" being described as a "jolly old elf" with "a little round belly."

Coca-Cola and its intensive Christmas advertising also played a role in cementing the image we have of Santa today in people's minds. Santa did not pop into existence but was rather a melding and morphing over time of many countries' folklores, traditions, and beliefs. It is no wonder that Santa is a universal and much-loved figure.

The Santas pictured were donated by Ann Hewitt, a museum volunteer and director of the Vinton Historical Society. The different years of Santa's had special meaning to her family.

Submitted by Judy Cunningham, Vinton History Museum Executive Director



PHOTO BY JUDY CUNNINGHAM

These Santas on display at the Vinton History Museum were donated by Ann Hewitt.

Vinton Wesleyan holding silent auction of Christmas Nativity sets

Vinton Wesleyan Church will be holding a Silent Auction of 175 Nativity sets along with other Christmas items (220 total) in the fellowship hall on Sunday, November 20 and Sunday, November 27 from 1 to 5 p.m.

These items were donated by

Sharon Hammack in memory of her mother, June Perkins, who collected the Christmas items over many years.

Proceeds from the silent auction will benefit Vinton Wesleyan Church Missions.

Vinton Wesleyan is located at 246

East Jefferson Avenue in downtown Vinton. Use the ramp entrance on South Pollard, across from the Roland E. Cook Lofts.

Call 540-345-3385 for more information.

Submitted by Vinton Wesleyan Church

Lancerlot Sports Complex releases holiday ice skating schedule

It's the most wonderful time of the year and Lancerlot Sports Complex (LSC) in Vinton welcomes the public to holiday open ice skating presented by the Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs.

With an over abundant amount of Christmas trees and holiday decorations, LSC turns their ice rink into a winter wonderland every November with holiday decorations, hot cocoa, holiday tunes, smooth ice, and plenty of fun.

Visit Lancerlot Sports Complex.com or on Facebook for the most updated skating times and to see all the things happening at "The Lot."

Open ice skating is year-round at the Lancerlot Sport Com-

plex, but the below dates and times highlight the holiday-themed skates:

- Nov. 25: 1-4 p.m., 7:30-10:30 p.m.
- Nov. 26: 3-5:45 p.m., 7:30-10:30 p.m.
- Nov. 27: 1:30-3:30 p.m.
- Nov. 28: 1-3:30 p.m.
- Nov. 29: 1-3:30 p.m.
- Nov. 30: 1-3:30 p.m.
- Dec. 1: 1-3:30 p.m.
- Dec. 2: 1-3:30 p.m., 7-10 p.m.
- Dec. 3: 7:30-10:30 p.m.
- Dec. 4: 1:30-3:30 p.m.
- Dec. 5: 1-3:30 p.m.
- Dec. 6: 1-3:30 p.m.
- Dec. 7: 1-3:30 p.m.
- Dec. 8: 1-3:30 p.m.
- Dec. 9: 1-3:30 p.m., 7-10 p.m.
- Dec. 10: 12:15-2:45 p.m., 8-11 p.m.

- Dec. 11: 3-5 p.m.
- Dec. 12: 1-3:30 p.m.
- Dec. 13: 1-3:30 p.m.
- Dec. 14: 1-3:30 p.m.
- Dec. 15: 1-3:30 p.m., 7-10 p.m.
- Dec. 16: 1-3:30 p.m., 7-10 p.m.
- Dec. 17: 12:15-2:45 p.m., 7:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m.
- Dec. 18: 12-3:00 p.m., 3:30 p.m.-6:30pm, 7-10 p.m.
- Dec. 19: 12-3:30 p.m.
- Dec. 20: 12-3:00 p.m., 3:30-6:30 p.m., 7-10:00 p.m.
- Dec. 21: 12-3:00 p.m., 3:30-6:30 p.m., 7-10:00 p.m.
- Dec. 22: 12-3:00 p.m., 3:30-6:30 p.m., 7-10:00 p.m.
- Dec. 2: 12-3:00 p.m., 3:30-6:30 p.m., 7:00-10:00 p.m.

- Dec. 24: 8:30-11:30 a.m., 12-3:00 p.m., 3:30-6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 26: 12-3:00 p.m., 3:30-6:30 p.m., 7-10:00 p.m.
- Dec. 27: 12-3:00 p.m., 3:30-6:30 p.m., 7-10:00 p.m.
- Dec. 28: 12-3:00 p.m., 3:30-6:30 p.m., 7-10:00 p.m.
- Dec. 29: 12-3:00 p.m., 3:30-6:30 p.m., 7-10:00 p.m.
- Dec. 30: 12-3:00 p.m., 3:30-6:30 p.m., 7-10:00 p.m.
- Dec. 31: 8:30-11:30 a.m., 12:00-3:00 p.m., 3:30-6:30 p.m.

Contact: Joe Miller General Manager by calling 540-981-0205 or email him at JMiller@LancerlotSportsComplex.com.

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Holiday Schedule		
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November 26th: 3:00pm-5:45pm 7:30pm-10:30pm	December 17th: 12:15pm-2:45pm 7:30pm-10:30pm	December 24th: 8:30am-11:30am 12:00pm-3:00pm 3:30pm-6:30pm
November 27th: 1:30pm-3:30pm November 28th: 1:00pm-3:30pm November 29th: 1:00pm-3:30pm November 30th: 1:00pm-3:30pm	December 18th: 12:00pm-3:00pm 3:30pm-6:30pm 7:00pm-10:00pm	December 26th: 12:00pm-3:00pm 3:30pm-6:30pm 7:00pm-10:00pm
December 1st: 1:00pm-3:30pm December 2nd: 1:00pm-3:30pm 7:00pm-10:00pm	December 19th: 12:00pm-3:30pm December 20th: 12:00pm-3:00pm 3:30pm-6:30pm 7:00pm-10:00pm	December 27th: 12:00pm-3:00pm 3:30pm-6:30pm 7:00pm-10:00pm
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December 10th: 12:15pm 2:45pm 8:00pm-11:00pm	December 22nd: 12:00pm-3:00pm 3:30pm-6:30pm 7:00pm-10:00pm	December 29th: 12:00pm-3:00pm 3:30pm-6:30pm 7:00pm-10:00pm
		December 30th: 12:00pm-3:00pm 3:30pm-6:30pm 7:00pm-10:00pm
		December 31st: 8:30am-11:30am 12:00pm-3:00pm 3:30pm-6:30pm



The holiday season is finally upon us! Are you ready to get in the spirit? If you're looking for festive things to do this year with the family, we've got you covered. Stop by outside the library with the family before the Vinton Christmas Parade on Dec. 1 from 4-6 p.m. for all kinds of fun: get a candy cane from the Grinch, spin our prize wheel, enjoy a showing of Dr. Seuss's "The Grinch" on the patio, make cute crafts, and much more. The Vinton Police Department will also be here providing hot beverages.

Register online to come to our Santa Breakfast on Friday, Dec. 9 from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Bring the whole family to meet Santa, have a breakfast snack, and enjoy a holiday-themed story time and craft! During the breakfast, be sure to stop by to see author Valerie Archual and her rescue cat, Roger, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; she will have a table of her holiday books in the lobby area.

We will also be celebrating this year with Gingerbread Houses. Register the family to come build your own gingerbread house together on Thursday, Dec. 15 from 4-5 p.m. If that wasn't enough of the festive spirit for you, be sure to come by for Holiday Movies on the Patio on Dec. 6, 13, and 20 from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

If, like some of us, you've still got Halloween on the brain and you just can't let go of the spooky season, we've got a little pick-me-up for you. On Monday, Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. we will have a Paranormal Investigator Presentation by Research Society Virginia Paranormal. Be sure to come by to learn about local hauntings and other anomalies.

Remember to register for this month's Creations and Temptations on Thursday, Dec. 8 from 6-7:30 p.m.; join Melinda in making a Mountain Sunset Sun-catcher from recycled DVD discs.

Open Bridge will con-

tinue every Tuesday from 1-4 p.m. The Roanoke Valley Dulcimers will meet Saturday, Dec. 17 from 10:15 a.m.-2:15 p.m.

DMV Connect will be here on Wednesday, Dec. 28 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., closing from 1-2 p.m. for lunch.

Having tech problems? Make a Tech appointment to bring your device and questions into the library for some help. Also, GED Classes with Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Region 5 Adult Education continue every Tuesday and Thursday from 5-7:30 p.m. Register for these free classes at www.regionfiveadulthood.com. (Classes will not be held Dec. 20, 22, 27, or 29.)

Looking to join a new book club? This month the Vinton Book Club will be having a free for all discussion; come by to talk about whatever you've been reading this month on Thursday, Dec. 8 at 3 p.m. The As the Page Turns Book Club will discuss "Red-head by the Side of the Road" by Anne Tyler on Wednesday, Dec. 14 at 2 p.m.

Don't be a cotton-headed ninny muggings! Teens, join us on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 2-4 p.m. for "Elf" (not on the shelf). Enjoy this classic holiday movie, some yummy hot chocolate, and fun crafts. Teen Book Club will be Monday, Dec. 12 from 5-6 p.m., and don't forget to register for Teen Anime Club on Monday, Dec. 19 from 6-7 p.m.

Drop in with the kids for Lego Play on Wednesday, Dec. 28 from 4-5 p.m., to have fun creating and sharing your Lego masterpieces.

Have you noticed the changes in the library catalog and need a little help? Come by and we'll show you how things work on Thursday, Dec. 15 at 6 p.m. in our Welcome to Wise program.

Last, but certainly not least, Happy Holidays from all of us here at the Vinton Library!

Submitted by Molly Meador, Library Assistant, Vinton Library

WBHS students make All District Choir

Matt Bartley, Director of Choirs at William Byrd Middle and High schools, has announced that 21 WBHS choir students scored high enough in All-District Choir auditions on November 5 to make the 2022-2023 All District Choir.

Bartley says their musical district is made up of any school choir program between Radford, Lynchburg, Roanoke, and Danville. Thirty-four choir programs in the district participated in auditions this year.

"Only two schools have a higher number of students who were selected," Bartley said. "Furthermore, if this audition were identical to the All-Virginia audition, we would have had four to make All-State."

At the audition, students perform a pre-selected prepared piece in a comfortable range for their voice part and also a sight reading (an excerpt of music they have never seen) for two judges in a blind audition.

Using a performance rubric, the judges give the students a score based on their audition. Scores are

then tabulated and put together in order to select delegates.

WBHS students making All District Choir include:

- Soprano 1: Grace Long
- Soprano 2: Cindel Camper, Sydney Wintz, Taylor Davis
- Alto 1: Maggie Rusinak
- Alto 2: Abigail Bush, Brooke Hershel, Kaeleigh Swan, Lily Kroese, Miley Moses, Olaedo Anyanwu
- Tenor 1: Christian Parker, Daniel Chappell, Olivia Staten, Riley Wheeler
- Tenor 2: Jason Cox
- Bass 1: Corben Draper
- Bass 2: A'Man Banks, Connor Wheeler, Demarion Williams, Owen Humphreys

Students who made All-District Choir are eligible to try out for All State Choir in February.

"A big shoutout to the Leo and Beta Clubs for helping us host auditions," Bartley said. He was expecting to verify volunteer hours for the students, "but many said they just wanted to help and that is special."

Submitted by WBMS/WBHS Choir Director Matt Bartley

Gerri Reynolds Wade from page 1

noke City Schools as a principal, after a career in administration for Loudoun County Schools. If you have children who have attended public schools in Virginia, she has impacted their lives with her work as the sole Virginia American Indian representative for writing the Virginia 2015 SOLs for Social Studies.

Wade spent the morning of Nov. 8 sharing stories about her life and family with the members of Circle 3 at Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church. She was invited as guest speaker by Janice Carter, her friend for over four decades. They were teachers together in Danville, where Wade was named "Outstanding Educator."

In her presentation, Wade addressed Rappahannock tribal history, including state and federal recognition, family heritage, American Indian education in Virginia, and cultural traditions including dances, faith, food, and pow wows. She was speaking only for her tribe as every tribe has its own traditions.

Wade earned her Bachelor's degree in Music & Elementary Education from Averett University, her Master's degree in Education, Curriculum & Instruction, and Administration & Supervision from the University of Virginia. She also earned endorsements in Educational Leadership

& Administration from the College of William & Mary, and in Urban Education & Leadership from Harvard.

That's quite an impressive resume from someone who was denied basic public school education by the state of Virginia due to her ethnicity.

Wade is one of four children of Llewellyn B. and Dorothy Elkanahr Johnson Richardson. Llewellyn was one of 14 children who grew up on a farm in Essex County. He later became

a farmer and lumber mill owner in Caroline County. Because they weren't allowed to attend public schools, tribal members taught one another in tribal schools they established. Dorothy followed in the footsteps of her mother in that they both taught in the American Indian schools in Caroline County. Her father, Assistant Chief Samuel E. Johnson, owned a sawmill and farmed the land they lived on.

While much is known about segregation and African Americans, especially in education, understanding of how Native Americans received even fewer rights in schooling may not be commonly known.

In 1924, Virginia's General Assembly supported Dr. Walter Plecker's proclamation that all Virginians must be classified as "white" or "colored," and passed the "Racial Integrity Law" which stated that in matters of births, marriages, and deaths, the Bureau of Vital Statistics recognized only two races – white and colored. In essence, people of Native American descent did not exist. School options became "white" or "colored," with American Indians classified as "colored." They were not accepted by either. Thus, tribal schools were opened with families paying out of pocket for teachers and textbooks, as counties refused to fund them. Until the late 1950s most tribal schools did not go beyond seventh grade. That's when Gerri Wade's father's formal education ended, although she said he had an amazing "mathematical mind." He did develop ways of learning with his children when they did homework. Through determination and intelligence, he became a landowner and businessman. During the 1960s, families like the Richardson's were left with their children being bused 20 miles away to African American schools.

Wade's mother "believed in the power of education." She ensured that her own children received topnotch educations in private schools, as it was denied in public schools. Wade attended Walsingham Academy in Williamsburg, one brother attended New York Military Academy, and one Charlotte Hall Military Academy, and her sister attended Marymount in Richmond. All have advanced degrees with grandchildren earning advanced degrees in architecture, engineering, music, medicine and two with a Ph.D. "She rubbed off on us," Wade says.

Wade hopes one day to write her mother's biography. It is clear from her presentation that her mother is her hero. "She was a force to be reckoned with, a woman of faith and quiet determination, a cross cultural ambassador, a strong woman, forward thinking, and ahead of her time—a true role model."

When American Indians were denied accurate birth certificates, Richardson took it upon herself to visit the Virginia Bureau of Vital Statistics in the 1970s. The director listened to the facts of the plight of Virginia Indians. She went home with six accurate birth certificates for her family. "That took moxy," Wade said. The director encouraged her to have others get their vital records corrected.

She wasn't content with righting the wrongs for her own family. She put her efforts into changing the inequities of society for all Virginia Native Americans. Wade said that Richardson was a woman of deep faith who intermingled her tribe and that faith.

Richardson is well-known throughout the state for what she accomplished through sheer determination and persistence. She served as representative for the chief and as treasurer for the tribe for 57 years. She appears in a photograph in 1983

with Governor Chuck Robb and members from other tribes when state recognition was attained.

"She was diplomatic, but not afraid of controversy," Wade said. "Her efforts and deeds were done out of love with no desire for praise or recognition. She was selfless; her life's work was done faithfully, humbly, and lovingly."

In 1965, when Native Americans were finally given the right to vote, that voting took place at the home of the Caroline County registrar. Wade said, "We were not liked; the registrar didn't like us, and registration took place in his home." That didn't deter Richardson—she showed up and quietly exercised her right to vote.

"It was not cool to be an American Indian early on," Wade says.

Wade dressed in her unique custom-designed Native American "regalia" for the presentation at Thrasher, wearing a buckskin (deer) dress adorned with fringe and beads. She noted that it was "hot and heavy" and not worn except on special occasions. She also explained that the regalia is not a "costume" and that it is disrespectful to copy American Indian attire on occasions such as Halloween.

There is symbolism in the design of her regalia, and her dance shawl and prayer fan—the Circle of Life, and the colors of red (representing success), yellow (knowledge and happiness), black (the Final Harvest and reflection), and white (peace, purity, and wisdom). Because her mother's father was assistant chief, there is purple for royalty in her jewelry. The hawk feathers in the fan are from a bird repository where the animal died a natural death.

She wears the regalia for specific celebrations, in pow wows and dances. Now an elder, she gathers with other elders at the

front for pow wow grand entry.

Wade shared brief history of American Indians living in Virginia some 17,000 years ago (before the arrival of the European "squatters," she joked). There was no written language, but they did use symbolic drawings. Women did the everyday work, while men were hunters, fishermen, warriors, and members of the "moccasin telegraph" spreading news to other tribes. American Indians in Virginia did not live in teepees. Rappahannocks lived in longhouses.

In the 1600s there were up to 21,000 Native Americans in different tribes in the state. In year 2000, that dwindled to only 11 state recognized tribes as they were forced off their lands over the centuries.

As for the SOLs, Wade believed there was too much emphasis on Western tribes and wanted "To get us in" the Virginia SOLs. She "didn't get as much in" as she wanted, but that may change as the Social Studies curriculum is now up for review and public input.

Wade has been active in tribal affairs over the years as a tribal representative and speaker. She has served as emcee for tribal building dedication, as an education committee leader, as a director for social events and fundraisers. She participated in Native dance demonstrations and a pow wow in Gravesend, England. She also authored a curriculum for Native presentations for grades K-8 in 18 schools. She was a guest speaker for George Mason University's series on "Pocahontas: The Legacy, Myths, Realities, and Relevance," which was not an accurate depiction of Virginia Indians.

As for what's on the horizon, in addition to the biography of her mother, Wade would like to write children's books from her view as a Virginia Indian.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Fry Bread

From the kitchen of Gerri Wade

When Gerri Wade visited Thrasher Memorial on Nov. 8, she brought along some Native American recipes to share, including this one for Fry Bread.

- Ingredients**
 4 cups all-purpose flour
 1 tsp. salt
 4 cups oil for frying
 1 tsp. baking powder
 1 cup warm milk

Optional: butter and powdered sugar

In large mixing bowl, stir together flour, baking powder, and salt. Stir in warm milk. Mix with hands or spoon until dough combines thoroughly. It

will be sticky. Add more flour if needed to be able to handle the dough. On a floured surface, knead the dough until smooth—at least 5 minutes. Let dough rest for 5 minutes. Break off egg-size pieces. Shape into round discs, ¼ inch thick, luncheon plate size. Cut slit in center.

Pour about 2 inches of cooking oil in large heavy skillet. Heat to 365 degrees. Working one at a time, fry the dough in hot oil until golden brown, turning once halfway through. Transfer to paper-towel-lined plate to serve warm or hot. For added calories, top with butter and powdered sugar. Makes a quick dessert.

To make an Indian taco, top the fry bread with your favorite taco ingredients such as cooked ground beef seasoned with taco seasoning, lettuce, tomatoes, salsa, etc. Lip-smacking good!

Grant application submitted for Vinton hotel

The Vinton hotel project continues. Town Manager Pete Peters has just submitted a grant application through the U.S. Economic Development Association for \$867,150 for site engineering. If the grant application is successful, the town would apply for a subsequent site preparation grant for grading.

"This approach has become necessary due to the current inflationary environ-

ment for construction services, materials, and interest rates," Peters said. "Our goal is to 'buy down' the overall cost of development for the owner and bringing in grant funds to the table. This is a similar approach that was taken for Gish Mill by acquiring Department of Historic Resources and DHCD/IRF (Department of Housing and Community Development/Industrial Revitalization Fund) funds."

See more at www.vintonmessenger.com

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E			48				49						
		50	51				52	53			54	55	56
	57						58			59			
	60						61			62			
	63						64			65			

- CLUES ACROSS**
 1. 1965 PGA Champion David
 5. Pesetas (abbr.)
 9. So. Am. treeless grassland
 14. A fencing sword
 15. Do over, as of a house
 16. Confederate general Richard S.
 17. Seamen
 18. Honey bee genus
 19. City in central Poland on the Miecza
 20. E. M. Forster novel
 23. Jenny __, Swedish soprano
 24. Illumined
 25. Escargots
 28. Surgical clamp
 33. Maize
 34. Ngerulmud is the Republic's capital
- CLUES DOWN**
 1. Denotes change of position
 2. So. Am. armadillo with 3 bands of bony plates
 3. About aviation
 4. Repairing worn shoes
 5. Decapods
 6. Having moderate heat
 7. Almost horizontal entrance to a mine
 8. Somali shilling (abbr.)
 9. Penetrable
 10. To be in store for
 11. People of ancient Media
 12. A way to work the soil
 13. Air-launched missile
 21. 1/1000 of an inch
 22. __ Mater, one's school
 25. Old English poet or bard
 26. Persian wheel used to raise water
- CLUES ACROSS**
 35. __ Jima, WW II battlefield
 36. Master copies
 39. Jack of little fat
 41. Apple or lemon meringue
 42. Actress Zellwegger
 43. At this place
 44. Remunerations
 46. Removes writing
 48. Fit out a ship with sails, etc.
 49. Elinor __, British novelist
 50. M. Ali's famous boast
 57. Damascus is the capital
 58. Worldly rather than spiritual
 59. Winglike structures
 60. Indicating silence
 61. Myanmar monetary unit
 62. 100 = 1 tala
 63. Translucent, greenish variety of chalcedony
- CLUES DOWN**
 27. Spirit in "The Tempest"
 28. Drag, cart or haul
 29. If not; otherwise
 30. Coverings for wheels
 31. Having cognizance
 32. Lugs
 34. Sheet of glass in a window
 37. Cause annoyance in
 38. Sound of a horse
 40. Apparition
 45. Military land forces
 46. Selects by votes
 47. A shag rug made in Sweden
 49. Anchovy pear tree
 50. 8th Jewish calendar month
 51. Blood clams genus
 52. Benevolent & Protective Order of
- CLUES ACROSS**
 53. Birthplace of Buddhism Both
 54. Ancient Greek City aka Velia
 55. Capital of Yemen
 56. Golf ball pegs
 57. Engine additive



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Vinton History Museum enters Hotel Roanoke Fashions for Evergreens competition

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Last year, the Vinton History Museum won second place in the annual Hotel Roanoke Fashions for Evergreens competition. The event is a fundraiser for the United Way of Roanoke Valley, having raised tens of thousands of dollars over the past decade.

Because they won last year, the museum was invited to participate again this year—one of about 26 entries.

Their theme last year was “Victorian Christmas,” using ornaments that had been donated to the museum. They came up with this year’s theme while they were decorating that one, brainstorming about using the Dogwood as their inspiration. Dogwoods traditionally represent kindness, stability, and determination, plus Vinton is famous for its Dogwood Festival.

Hotel Roanoke staff told them that there had never been a Dogwood-themed tree in the competition before.

Volunteers, members of the museum’s board of directors, and museum Executive Director Judy Cunningham formed a committee and worked on the design and/or decorating of the tree—including Debbie Pitts, Mary Beth Layman, Ann Hewitt, Julie Tucei, Jan Dickens, Judy Kelly, Ann Anderson, and Aaron Layman. Several showed up bright and early on November 21 to spend the day working on the 10-foot tree, which was provided by the Hotel Roanoke.

The tree was festooned with several strings of lights, including sets of cascading, twinkling lights which had been donated to the museum, many white and pink dogwood garlands discovered on clearance at discount prices last March at local retailers,

glittering ribbon also on sale, and a beautiful lace skirt for under the tree.

The Fashions for Evergreens trees will be on display at the Hotel Roanoke during the holiday season from Thanksgiving until New Year’s. The community is encouraged to tour the display and cast a monetary vote for their favorite tree with proceeds benefitting the United Way.

Mary Beth Layman says one of the benefits of being invited to provide a tree for Fashions for Evergreens is the publicity it brings to your cause or organization.

The Vinton History Museum is located at 210 E. Jackson Avenue in downtown Vinton. It is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

You may contact the museum at info@vintonhistorymuseum.org or call 540-342-8634 for information.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Volunteers and members of the Vinton History Museum board of directors are shown decorating their entry in the Hotel Roanoke Fashions for Evergreens competition. Shown clockwise from left are Mary Beth Layman, Julie Tucei, Ann Hewitt, Debbie Pitts, Ann Anderson, and Judy Cunningham.

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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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,” like Deputy Chief Captain Tim Lawless.

Captain Lawless was named Deputy Chief in November 2021. He is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Vinton Police Department. He began his law enforcement career in 2005 with the Town of Bedford Police Department and came to the Vinton Police Department in November 2010 where he has risen

through the ranks. He graduated from Franklin County High School with the Class of 1999 and is a graduate of the Cardinal Criminal Justice Academy.

He has received the department’s highest supervisory achievement—the Leadership Award—three times and has been recognized as Officer of the Month and Top Gun. He has also received the Life Saving Award. In 2015, he was recognized by the Office of the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, for his actions during a federal search warrant operation.

During his time as a senior supervisor, Lawless successfully applied for a competitive federal grant that helped fund the department’s vision of implementing body-worn cameras.

Lawless enjoys spending time with his wife and daughter. His hobbies include camping, fishing, ATV riding, and kayaking.

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 Captain Lawless, on their staff and wants to make the community aware of who is “behind the scenes” making the town operate so successfully.



PHOTO COURTESY TOWN OF VINTON

Deputy Police Chief Captain Tim Lawless

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 Botsourt 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 Morning Service 10:45 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 10 a.m.

Vinton

Worship Directory

TESTING AND COMFORT
Read Genesis 22:1 through 24:67

Rebounding from the joy of his promised son and the distress of dismissing Hagar and Ishmael, Abraham negotiated a peace treaty with King Abimelek and put down his tent pegs in Beer-sheba. Seed time and harvest became a way of life for this covenant family.

Imagine Abraham’s surprise when God said this: “Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you” (Genesis 22:2).

It is suggested by historians that Isaac was between the ages of sixteen and twentyfive—old enough to know what was going on. Yet he did not resist. He trusted his father’s faith that God would provide. And God did! Abraham was listening for and heard the voice of God. Isaac was saved.

Fast forward to the meeting of Abraham’s servant and Rebekah at the well—Rebekah knew the God of Abraham, and in His design she was in the right place at the right time. Rebekah, like Isaac, did not resist. She left immediately, willing to trust the servant of Abraham.

Challenge for Today: Dare to trust the guidance of your spiritual leader. Quicklook: Genesis 22:1–12

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

ECKANKAR
ECKANKAR, THE PATH OF SPIRITUAL FREEDOM, is a simple teaching that focuses on the Light and Sound of God to help people find more love in their life. The Roanoke Eckankar Center is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. The Center was closed during the COVID crisis but is now open. A spiritual event is held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. Since contracting COVID-19 may still be possible, please take the health steps that are best for you. It is appreciated that by attending you are taking responsibility for your own health. Visit www.eck-va.org, www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences Group or call 540-353-5365 for other Eckankar programs and for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar can 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; cmcpc2verizon.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.

Vinton Wesleyan Church welcomes Pastor John Ryall

Vinton Wesleyan Church welcomes Pastor John Ryall as the new Assistant Pastor/Minister of Youth. Pastor John grew up in Harrington, Del. He is a 2019 graduate of Southern Wesleyan University where he studied Religion, with a focus in Youth Ministry.

During his education at Southern Wesleyan, he was a part of various ministries. He served in different youth and children's ministries, and even traveled to Port Arthur, Texas, in 2017 to aid in Hurricane Harvey relief.

The pastor said he believes in the importance of Next Generation Ministry, as it helps to grow and disciple teens who will become a part of the Kingdom of God. He believes that the building of family relationships will allow for parents to have an active role in their children's spiritual life so they can help them grow in Christ. He believes Next Generation Ministries helps kids and teens not only learn about Jesus, but to know they are cared for and loved.

In addition to his work at Vinton Wesleyan, he is currently an instructional assistant at William Byrd High School.

In his free time, he enjoys a variety of hobbies, spending time with friends and family, finding new coffee shops

and spending time outdoors. He and Vinton Wesleyan are excited for this new season, and they believe that this is an amazing opportunity for everyone involved.

Submitted by Joyce Rodriguez, Vinton Wesleyan Church



PHOTO COURTESY OF VINTON WESLEYAN CHURCH
Vinton Wesleyan Assistant Pastor/Minister of Youth John Ryall

Pok-E-Joe's from page 1

think his style food will be a home run in our community and will attract customers from all over. I personally can't wait to enjoy his extensive menu and see the parking lot overflowing again in the very near future."

Welch is not new to the food or restaurant business. He is also the owner of Pok-E-Joe's in Lynchburg. He says initially barbecue was a hobby until it became a passion and now an obsession.

Welch explains some of his history in BBQ: "In 2005, Walter Hughes came to Lynchburg to start the very first food truck in the area. Specializing in authentic Texas-style BBQ and sauces, Walter toured the Quick-e marts serving up some of the best BBQ in the area. In 2007, Walter opened the current location in the Boonsboro Shopping Plaza. In 2011, Bill Dawson of Bunks BBQ out of Nelson County purchased the restaurant. 'Bunk' would go on to add many of today's menu favorites. He renovated the food truck to accommodate working receptions, weddings, corporate events, parties, and more."

After catering numerous events for friends and family. Welch had opened CMKS BBQ in 2018, which put him on the track back to Vinton. The CMKS BBQ food truck has on occasion set up at Twin Creeks Brewing Company and at the Dogwood Festival.

In September 2019, Welch purchased the Lynchburg restaurant. Born in the heart of barbecue country in Memphis, Tenn., and raised in Vinton, he "had a vision of a 'Tour of America' style barbecue utilizing Texas brisket, Carolina-inspired pork, and Memphis ribs flavoring methods.

When Joe Goodpies closed unexpectedly last August, many of Welch's friends and associates recommended him to developer Dale Wilkinson, who owns Vinyard Station. Wilkinson went to the Lynchburg restaurant to sample the menu, was impressed, and that set the ball rolling.

Currently, Welch is anticipating a soft opening on or around Feb. 1, depending upon equipment arrivals, inspections, and staffing.

His plan now is to be open Tuesday-

Thursday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays from 11 to 11, and Sunday from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. He may adjust the schedule once he is up and running, depending on the flow of business.

His daughter Kaitlyn Welch will be serving as assistant general manager. In fact, Pok-E-Joe's is a family operation.

"My wife Fran and father-in-law Tim Bowers are a very important part of the business," Welch says. "She handles human resources; Tim is our 'investor.' We really wouldn't be where we're at if it wasn't for the whole team/family."

Welch has won numerous awards for his BBQ, burgers, and wings. The Pok-E-Joe's Smokehouse and Grill menu will include pulled pork, smoked chicken, his famous brisket, jumbo wings, mac and cheese, collards, southern-style baked beans, hand-cut French fries, and more. There is a variety of BBQ sauces—Carolina, Honey Chipotle, traditional, Alabama White Sauce, and sweet and spicy.

They do not plan to include tacos on the Vinton menu—which have been popular in Lynchburg. Pok-E-Joe's comes equipped with a large brick pizza oven, so they will be serving flatbreads instead.

Pok-E-Joe's won "Best of BBQ" in Lynchburg in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2022. In 2020, and won Top 100 in the State of Virginia. They competed in the Uncle Billy's Beer, Bourbon, and BBQ competition in 2021 against teams from local area restaurants, and as far away as North Carolina and came out with first place finishes in brisket, pulled pork, and ribs, and third in chicken—and were named overall Grand Champion.

Not much will be changed at the Vinton restaurant, since it's practically brand new—maybe some paint, signage, and new equipment.

Welch is excited about the size of the Vinyard Station restaurant as the Lynchburg one is much smaller. He anticipates being able to seat about 134 customers inside, plus 20 more on the patio. There is plenty of parking as well.

Keep up with their progress at <https://www.facebook.com/people/Pok-E-JoeS-Smokehouse-and-Grill/100087660307634/>.

OBITUARY

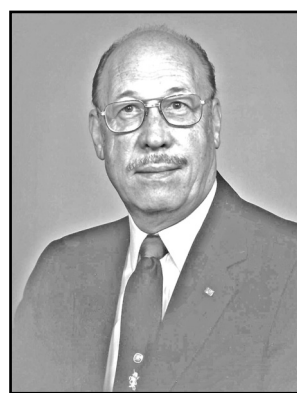
Stephen Thomas Wood Jr.

Stephen Thomas Wood Jr., 99, of Vinton, joined his family in Heaven on Tuesday, November 15, 2022.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Willie C. Wood; parents, Stephen and Roberta Wood; sisters, Elinor Oliver, Frances Thrasher, Elaine Leslie, Jane Gross, and Emily Olive; and nephew, David Thrasher.

Stephen was a veteran of World War II in the Pacific Theatre and a long-time employee of Norfolk & Western Railway.

He is survived by his nieces and nephews, Donna Thrasher Jacobs, Richard



Thrasher, Steve Thrasher (Becky), Tim Olive (Denise), Greg Leslie (Vikki), Charlotte Leslie Carver (Larry), Tom Gross (Kelly), and Laura Gross Wilkinson (David).

The family wishes to send a special thanks to his caregivers with Ellis Senior Care.

The family received friends from 9 until 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 19, 2022, at Oakey's Vinton Chapel with the graveside service at 11 a.m. at Mountain View Cemetery in Vinton. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.Oakeys.com.

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

Angie Chewning

Farm living's the place for me! What an amazing time we had visiting Cydney, Todd and Kellen McGhee and Becky Gilbert in Concord, N.C. Drake and Hannah Lewis and myself got to experience the Christmas Tree lighting in downtown Concord on Friday night—what a celebration. On Saturday we did some holiday shopping and watched Kellen play in his All - Stars Football game—so much fun. And, of course, like every other trip, we can't miss going to What-a-Burger before heading home.

A Vinton Terrier girl, Catherine "Shorty" Reed, is the new Mayor-Elect of Fairfax City—the first woman and first George Mason University alumnus to hold the office. She's amazing.

Don't forget to shop local this Holiday Season, especially on Saturday, Nov. 26, "Shop Local Day." Support your small businesses.

We hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving!



Catherine "Shorty" Reed, formerly of Vinton, has been elected mayor of Fairfax City.

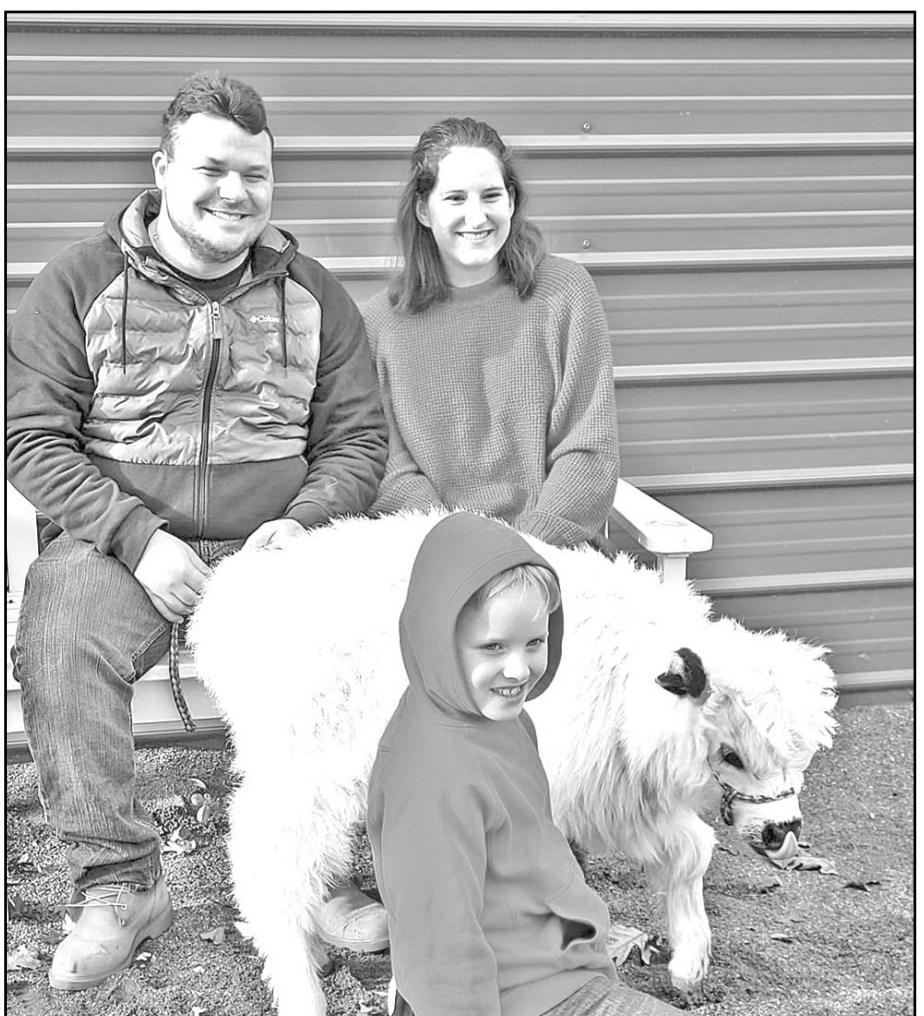


PHOTO COURTESY OF ANGIE CHEWNING
Drake and Hannah Lewis visited Kellen McGhee last weekend as he played in his All-Stars game.

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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Vinton Breakfast Lions sponsor annual Christmas shopping trip, food drive; will host annual spaghetti dinner Dec. 1

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

The Vinton Breakfast Lions Club held the annual Christmas shopping trip for local elementary school students in need at Herman L. Horn and W.E. Cundiff Elementary Schools on Nov. 16. Children are recommended by the guidance staff and administration at their schools.

Not only were there Lions Club members checking off their lists and filling up their shopping carts, members of the Vinton Police Department and William Byrd Leo Club volunteered their time as well.

The Lions shopped for a total of 20 students, buying them clothing, shoes, coats and one toy, spending about \$125 per child. The club receives lists of clothing sizes for the children

for the shopping trip.

Walmart Front End Manager Kevin Dixon along with Associates Annette Johnson and Amber Habeck moved the process along and helped the Lions bag the gifts. The Lions will meet at the Vinton Moose Lodge to wrap the gifts and then coordinate with the schools on delivery in time for the holidays.

The Breakfast Lions will be hosting their annual spaghetti

dinner fundraiser on Dec. 1 at the VFW located at 117 East Lee Avenue in downtown Vinton. The dinner is traditionally held the evening of the Vinton Christmas Parade.

This year's dinner is scheduled from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. The meal includes "all you can eat" spaghetti, salad, a dinner roll, and dessert with tea or coffee. Tickets are available in advance from club members or may be

purchased at the door.

Proceeds from the fundraiser go to the multitude of community service projects the Lions undertake each year—including the Christmas shopping trip.

The Breakfast Lions also held a food drive at the Vinton Food Lion on Nov. 12, which was Lions Club Day in Virginia. Contributions went to the food pantry at Vinton Baptist Church.



Members of the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club and several volunteers held their annual Christmas shopping trip for children in need at Herman L. Horn and W.E. Cundiff Elementary Schools on Nov. 16 at the Bonsack Walmart. Shown left to right are Jeff Mason, Sandra Witmer, Gary Myers, Sabrina McCarty, Chris McCarty, Gwynne Myers, Bob Benninger, Zach McCarty, Walmart Front End Manager Kevin Dixon, and Walmart Associates Amber Habeck and Annette Johnson.



Members of the Vinton Police Department also volunteered with the shopping trip. Shown left to right are Det. Justin Baker, Sgt. Todd Bailey, Community Resource Officer William Holland, Deputy Chief Tim Lawless, and Executive Assistant to the Chief Mandie Baker.



Members of the William Byrd High School Leo Club, which is sponsored by the Lions, assisted with the shopping. Shown left to right are students Dexter Gaines, Elliott Gaines, Maci Glass, and sponsor Lisa Stover.



The Vinton Breakfast Lions also held a food drive at Food Lion on Nov. 12, Lions Club Day in Virginia. Food collected went to the food pantry at Vinton Baptist Church.

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

PHOTO COURTESY VINTON BREAKFAST LIONS CLUB

Thanksgiving Service

from page 1

Vinton Baptist and his brother, Randy Nicely, from Villa Heights Baptist, sang "How Great Thou Art," accompanied by Gari Melchers, also from Vinton Baptist. Dr. Nicely noted that "not every day is easy but "blessed is the name of the Lord whatever we are going through."

Joyce Rodriguez, Music Director at Vinton Wesleyan, led the congregation in several Thanksgiving hymns.

The Rev. Ricardo Rodriguez from Vinton Wesleyan welcomed guests and his own congregation to the service. Dr. John Ott, from Parkway Church on the Mountain, led a responsive reading of thanksgiving to God. The Rev. Travis Russell from Vinton Baptist read the Scripture from 1 Thessalonians 5-16-18, a letter from Paul to the Christians in Thessalonica on how to live their lives, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

Eric Mills from the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club described the Christmas shopping project the local Lions established and have continued for 37 years. The Lions spend a morning shopping for students in need from Herman L. Horn and W.E. Cundiff Elementary Schools selected by the guidance counselors. Pre-COVID students went along on the shopping trips with Lions Club members. In recent years, the Lions have received lists of sizes and needs from the guidance counselors and done the shopping for the students. Generally, about 20 students are cho-

sen and receive gifts of clothing and one toy, at a cost of about \$125 per child. The love offering taken at the Thanksgiving service was designated for the Lions project.

Darrell English, who is turning 96 on Dec. 10, delivered the offertory prayer. He has lived his entire life in Vinton, other than time served in the U.S. Navy in World War II. He still teaches Sunday School—now for 65 years. He thanked God for the fellowship and rejoicing of multiple churches at the Community Thanksgiving Service—"we all going to the same place."

The Rev. Jonathan Moelker, pastor at Campbell Memorial Presbyterian, brought the Thanksgiving message. He shared that he is new to Campbell Memorial (August 2021) and to preaching—this is his first full-time job as a pastor.

He explained that minister's jobs sometimes have unexpected requirements—things you don't necessarily learn in seminary. One of those he has found difficult is finding clever sayings to go on the church sign. He joked that after having no success at finding a Thanksgiving saying on Google, he turned to a different source—the Bible; and found the passage from Thessalonians, "rejoice, give thanks, and pray."

"Simple enough advice," he noted, except that Paul said to "Rejoice always; pray always, give thanks always. There are times when I find these things difficult to do. And sometimes they don't seem very appropriate. There are times when rejoicing simply isn't called for, when the most important things

are all wrong and giving thanks doesn't make any sense. As for praying without ceasing... that will probably get in the way of everything else you are trying to do with your day.

"I want to be clear that God isn't bargaining here. This isn't a negotiation. There is no equation that so long as you pray enough and with enough fervor God will only give you things worth rejoicing and giving thanks over.

"Paul certainly knew that. His life was full of dangerous twists and turns. He often found himself in and out of prison, chased in and out of cities, beaten by public officials, and, after a lengthy legal process, he was eventually executed. Hardly a life that would inspire joy and thanksgiving.

"And yet he regularly writes of his own joy. In some of his letters, we find Paul rejoicing from prison itself! He wrote the letter to the Philippians from prison saying, 'Rejoice in the Lord always'! Joy and thanksgiving are recurring themes in the letters that Paul wrote again and again in all sorts of circumstances.

"When you read this passage the first time through, you probably read this as hyperbole, a little bit of an overstatement, like really, we are just supposed to

give thanks a lot, pray a lot, and rejoice a lot. But Paul means do it all the time, live an entirely new way of life; respond first with joy and thanksgiving.

"I think we have a tendency to undercut our prayers. We only think about something as a prayer if it starts with 'Lord God' and ends with 'Amen.' Or we only think about something as a prayer if we are thinking upward as we say it; if it's explicitly a prayer.

"There is much more to prayer than that. You don't have to point upward to make something a prayer. Prayer is when we talk to God, right? God isn't like Siri or Alexa, waiting for us to activate them. God is always listening. The way that we live our life is the most important prayer. Every action

we take is part of a lifelong conversation with God. Our life is one long prayer.

"We can embrace life as a prayer, living our life with complete joy because every moment of our lives we are in the presence of God—when we are walking down the street there is joy because God is with us.

"If we, like Paul, are in prison, then we are in prison with God. If we are being executed, even there, God is with us. Who more so, since Jesus himself was executed, killed on a cross?

"God's desire for us is not that we are simply happy all the time. Paul isn't trying to say that we should just ignore all the miserable parts of life in favor of putting on a fake smile. Instead, Paul is reminding us that in all times, God is not as far away as

we might picture. Even when we can't imagine how God is close, God is always right there—not looking over your shoulder like a school principal, but near like a loving parent, who is never far away. It's like when you were a child—you fell off the swings and Mom was there before you even realized that you had to cry. That's what God is like. God is there, comforting us, before we have even begun to shed tears.

"We typically only notice God in the highs and lows of life. But as Paul says, God's hope for us in Christ Jesus is that we are always aware of God's presence. Aware with thanksgiving, aware as a prayer, aware and rejoicing that God is there always, without ceasing, and in all circumstances."

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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STATEWIDE ADS

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Help Wanted - General

Seeking a New Musician for Fincastle Presbyterian Church

The Fincastle Presbyterian Church is seeking a musician to play for its Sunday service. The church has both a pipe organ and a parlor grand piano, so the ability to play either one of those or both of those would be just fine. The church service is from 10:30 - 11:30 each Sunday. If interested, please contact the church at: (540) 473-2042 or email: fincastlepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com

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Legals - Botetourt County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104 Botetourt County Circuit Court 1 West Main Street P.O. Box 219, Fincastle, VA 24090 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re WILLIAM P. ARNEY, THEASURER OF BOTETOURT COUNTY Case No. CL22000461-00 Civil Action No. 22-461 The object of this suit is to: **RULE TO SHOW CAUSE THIS CAUSE** came to be heard upon the Petition of William P. Arney, that he be released and fully discharged from liability as Treasurer of Botetourt County, Virginia, pursuant to §58.1-3145 et seq. of the Virginia Code. That in the aforesaid Petition, the Petitioner, William P. Arney, states that he has filed certificates from the Comptroller of the Commonwealth, the Board of Supervisors of Botetourt County, Virginia and the School Board of Botetourt County, Virginia showing the final settlement of his accounts, that he has turned over to his successor in office, Donna Boothe, all books and papers in his possession as Treasurer and that he is requesting that he be discharged of his liability as Treasurer of Botetourt County, Virginia. It appearing proper in all respects to do so, it is accordingly ADJUDGED, ORDERED and DECREED that this rule be served upon David A. Von Moll, the Comptroller of the Commonwealth of Virginia, upon Richard Baily, Chair of the Board of Supervisors of Botetourt County, and John Russ, Superintendent of

Legals - Botetourt County

Schools, and shall be published once a week for four successive weeks in the Fincastle Herald and by posting at the front door of the Courthouse. That a hearing upon his Petition requesting the he be released of liability and granted his final discharge as Treasurer, shall be held the 6th of December 2022 at 11:00 a.m. in the Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia. Any party who feels that William P. Arney should not be released of liability shall file an objection to the release from liability or appear in Court at said date and time. It is ORDERED that INTERESTED PARTIES appear at the above-named court to protect his/her interests on December 6, 2022 at 11:00am. Entered this the 14th day of October, 2022 by Joel R. Branscom I ask for this: Michael W.S. Lockaby VSB# 74136 Botetourt County Attorney Guynn, Waddell, Carroll & Lockaby, P.C. 415 South Collage Avenue Salem, Virginia 24153 Phone: (540)387-2320 Fax: (540)389-2350 MikeL@guynnwaddell.com Counsel for William P. Arney Dated: October 13th, 2022

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT

COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA, a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Complainant, V. GEORGE FRANK ROSS, ET AL., Respondent(s). **Case No. CL22-391 ORDER OF PUBLICATION** The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Botetourt, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Botetourt, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 5-59 Account No. 20254 All that certain tract or parcel of land, situate, lying, and being in Botetourt County, Virginia, containing 13.38 acres, more or less, assessed in the name George Ross, and known on the Tax Rolls of Botetourt County, Virginia, as Tax Map Number 5-59, Account Number 20254. And being a portion of the same property in which Oliver Bruce Ross obtained a fractional interest from Bobby Ross Yaeckel and L.H. Yaeckel, her husband, Stella Ross Wilson and R.L. Wilson, her husband Harry P. Ross, unmarried, Mary Ross Traphoner and John R. Traphoner, her husband, subject to the life estate interest of Mae C. Jones, by Deed dated October 11, 1955, and recorded July 31, 1957, in the Office of the Circuit Court Clerk of Botetourt County, Virginia, in Deed Book 129, at Page 493. And further being the same property in which an interest was devised to Frances Jean Franks, Charles Bruce Ross, Margaret E. Caskie, and George Frank Ross pursuant to the Last Will and Testament of Oliver Bruce Ross dated November 21, 1956, and recorded July 11, 1975, in the aforementioned Clerk's Office in Will Book 22, at Page 33. This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described. **IT APPEARING** that an Affidavit has been made and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served, that the last known addresses for the Respondents herein are as follows: George Frank Ross, whose last known address is 603 Dixie Airport Road, Madison Heights, Virginia 24572; Al Galliher aka Allison B. Galliher, whose last known address is 58 Running Fox Road, Columbia, South Carolina 29223; Rita R. Drewry, whose last known address is 5121 Glade Creek Road, Roanoke, Virginia 24012; Jackie Lee Abshire, whose last known address is 2210 Fairview Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073; Carolyn Martin Rader, whose last known address is 3582 Colony Lane, Roanoke, Virginia 24018; Trudy B. Montgomery, whose last known address is 107 Springbeauty Street, Apt. 204, Roanoke, Virginia 24012; Judith G. Kelly, whose last known address

Legals - Botetourt County

is 315 Reynolds Drive, Fincastle, Virginia 24090; Vance A. Bower, whose last known address is 4756 Peach Tree Drive NW, Roanoke, Virginia 24017; Gregory D. Bower, whose last known address is 5940 Garnet Hill Lane, Fort Worth, Texas 76179; Brian N. Bower, whose last known address is 339 N. Rome Drive, Roanoke, Virginia 24019; Pamela Franks Crone, whose last known address is 12270 Sutton Estates Circle W, Jacksonville, Florida 32223; Tamra Montgomery aka Beth L. Sanger, whose last known address is 711 Main Street, Edmonds, Washington 98020; Raina Langan aka Raina C. Fish, whose last known address is 151 Temple Avenue, Old Orchard Beach, Maine 04064; Donald R. Caskie, whose last known address is 2368 Madison Avenue, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23455; David M. Caskie, whose last known address is 514 N. 41st Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104; Daniel L. Caskie, whose last known address is 10216 Scots Landing Road, Mechanicsville, Virginia 23116; Katherine C. Lurtz aka Katherine L. Caskie, whose last known address is 5203 S. Pennsylvania Street, Littleton, Colorado 80121; Catherine L. Widell, whose last known address is 1015 Bennett Way, Newmarket, New Hampshire 03857; Charles R. Davis, whose last known address is 2900W, 18th Street N, Wichita, Kansas 67203; Judith Nickerson Peterson, whose last known address is 13534 Mallard Watch Way, Clifton, Virginia 20124; Robert B. Perkins, whose last known address is 27 Davis Road, Kezar Falls, Maine 04047; The following respondents are those whose last known addresses are unknown: Amy Adams; Carol Franks Scott; Donna Franks Maykatt; Julie Thompson and Susan Ross Williamson. The following respondents are believed to be deceased, and their last known addresses are unknown: Gloria Maxine Rader Bower; Maxwell Albert Rader; Callie Rader Galliher Weddle; Harry Roland Rader; Claggett Thornhill Rader; Clarence Lee Rader; Charlotte Jean Rader Abshire; Susan Catherine Rader Pearcy; John Barkley Pearcy; Edmonia Christeanna Pearcy Boblett; Irló Hix Rader; Lawrence William Rader aka William Lawrence Rader; Conrad Odell Rader; Ruth Ross Nickerson; Roxanne Davis and W.E. Nickerson. The following respondent are believed to be deceased: John B. Galliher, whose last known address is 58 Running Fox Road, Columbia, South Carolina 29223; June G. Whittaker aka Oiena June Whittaker, whose last known address is 2060 Walkers Creek Valley Road, Pearisburg, Virginia 24134; Carl Allen Whittaker, whose last known address is 1729 White Pine Road, Pearisburg, Virginia 24134; Harry R. Rader, Jr., whose last known address is 3218 Lee Highway, Troutville, Virginia 24175; Katie L. Dooley Rader, whose last known address is 88 Willow Spring Road, Troutville, Virginia 24175; Ronald L. Rader, whose last known address is 5300Hawthorne Road, Apt. 310, Roanoke, Virginia 24012; Kathy R. Boatright, whose last known address is 924 Ridgcrest Drive, Roanoke, Virginia 24019; Robert L. Boatright, whose last known address is 924 Ridgcrest Drive, Roanoke, Virginia 24019; Frances Fringer Rader Littrell, whose last known address is 110 Ridgcrest Court, Winchester, Virginia 22602; Richard B. Rader, whose last known address is 3582 Colony Lane, Roanoke, Virginia 24018; Warren David Bower, whose last known address is 1045 Darby Road, Troutville, Virginia 24175; Doris J. Bower aka Doris J. Niday, whose last known address is 117 Darby Road, Troutville, Virginia 24175; Gordon Preston Niday, whose last known address is 2470 Stone Battery Road, Troutville, Virginia 24175; Sandra B. Lewis, whose last known address is 4859 Showalter Road NW, Roanoke, Virginia 24017; Jerry L. Bower, whose last known address is 4305 Garst Mill Road, Roanoke, Virginia 24018; Frances Jean Franks, whose last known address is 2241 Maluke Landing, Middleburg, Florida 32068;

Legals - Botetourt County

Margaret E. Caskie, whose last known address is 1239 Kelley Neck Road, Lancaster, Virginia 22503; Virginia Nickerson Davis, whose last known address is 180 Low Street, Newburyport, Massachusetts 01950; Gail Nickerson Perkins, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 114 Day Road, Lyman, Maine 04002; Charles Bruce Ross, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is P.O. Box 1204, Amherst, Virginia 24521; Eleanor Weber Ross, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is P.O. Box 1204, Amherst, Virginia 24521; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, successors in title of the Respondents named herein or any lienholders of any named Respondents or against the aforementioned property are made parties Respondent to this actions 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 December 12, 2022 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Botetourt, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.

Entered on the 1st day of November, 2022. Joel R. Branscom

I Ask For This: Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372) John A. Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805) Jeffrey A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591) Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409) Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609) Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158) Seth R. Konopasek, Esq. (VSB No. 97065) Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC P.O. Box 31800 Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800 Phone: (804) 864-0080 Facsimile: (804) 545-2378 TACS No.: 639646

Legals - Craig County

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Commonwealth of Virginia VA. CODE § 8.01-316 CRAIG COMBINED COURT- JUVENILE **Case No JJ002184-18-00 Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Commonwealth of Virginia, in re EVANS, MASON GRAY** The object of this suit is to: terminate, the residual parental Rights of the father of Mason Gray Evans thought to be either Ryan Quinlin, Mark Evans, James Cook, or Unknown Father pursuant to Virginia Code Sections 16.1-283 B and C, and which child is seven (7) years of age and was born to Katlin Daniel Evans. Residual parental rights are defined in Section 16.1-228 of the Code of Virginia (1950, as amended) as the rights and responsibilities remaining with a parent after the parent loses custody of a child, including but not limited to the right to visitation, consent to adoption, the right to determine religious affiliation, and the responsibility for support. The termination of your residual parental rights will permanently end all of your rights and responsibilities to the child named in the petition. The ties between you and your child are severed forever and you become a legal stranger to the child. It is ORDERED that JAMES COOK appear at the above-named Court and protect his or her interests on or before 12/02/2022 10:30AM signed by Patty Taylor, clerk 09/08/2022

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Commonwealth of Virginia VA. CODE § 8.01-316 CRAIG COMBINED COURT- JUVENILE **Case No JJ002184-19-00 Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Commonwealth of Virginia, in re EVANS, MASON GRAY** The object of this suit is to: terminate, the residual parental Rights of the father of Mason Gray Evans thought to be either Ryan Quinlin, Mark Evans, James

Legals - Craig County

Cook, or Unknown Father pursuant to Virginia Code Sections 16.1-283 B and C, and which child is seven (7) years of age and was born to Katlin Daniel Evans. Residual parental rights are defined in Section 16.1-228 of the Code of Virginia (1950, as amended) as the rights and responsibilities remaining with a parent after the parent loses custody of a child, including but not limited to the right to visitation, consent to adoption, the right to determine religious affiliation, and the responsibility for support. The termination of your residual parental rights will permanently end all of your rights and responsibilities to the child named in the petition. The ties between you and your child are severed forever and you become a legal stranger to the child. It is ORDERED that UNKNOWN FATHER appear at the above-named Court and protect his or her interests on or before 12/02/2022 10:30AM signed by Patty Taylor, clerk 09/08/2022

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Commonwealth of Virginia VA. CODE § 8.01-316 CRAIG COMBINED COURT- JUVENILE **Case No JJ002185-16-00 Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Commonwealth of Virginia, in re EVANS, JACOB LUCAS** The object of this suit is to: terminate, the residual parental Rights of the father of Jacob Lucas Evans thought to be either Ryan Quinlin, Mark Evans, Kevin Scott Minnix, or Unknown Father pursuant to Virginia Code Sections 16.1-283 B and C, and which child is six (6) years of age and was born to Katlin Daniel Evans. Residual parental rights are defined in Section 16.1-228 of the Code of Virginia (1950, as amended) as the rights and responsibilities remaining with a parent after the parent loses custody of a child, including but not limited to the right to visitation, consent to adoption, the right to determine religious affiliation, and the responsibility for support. The termination of your residual parental rights will permanently end all of your rights and responsibilities to the child named in the petition. The ties between you and your child are severed forever and you become a legal stranger to the child. It is ORDERED that UNKNOWN FATHER appear at the above-named Court and protect his or her interests on or before 12/02/2022 10:30AM signed by Patty Taylor, clerk 09/08/2022

Legals - Town of Vinton

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF VINTON, VIRGINIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that the Vinton Town Council will hold a public hearing at its meeting on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia, concerning the proposed amendment to the Town of Vinton's FY 2022-2023 budget to appropriate funding for the Capital Fund and the projects budgeted therein from the Utility Fund balance in the total amount of \$2,984,236.25. 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



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Left to right, seniors Jaiden Childress, Grayson Webb, Sophia Chrisley and Alexis Helton will be among the key returning players for the William Byrd basketball teams.

MESSENGER FILE PHOTOS

Byrd basketball teams open season against Blacksburg next week

The high school basketball season will tip-off next week with both the William Byrd girls and boys scheduled to play on Tuesday against Blacksburg. The girls will be home and the boys are at Blacksburg.

This is the second season for boys' head coach Brad Greenway after moving from the girls' locker room. The Terriers had a home scrimmage this week as they prepare to jump full force into the season.

"I don't know what this team will end up doing at the end, but our goal right now is to win each day," said Greenway. "We are a young and inexperienced team relative to the teams we are playing, and it's really important that we have a good practice each time we step on the floor so that we have a chance to reach our potential this season."

Key returning players for the Terriers include Hayden Eads, Isaiah Board and Jaiden Childress.

"Those are three guys we need to be anxious in order for us to be successful this year," said

Greenway. "Eads is a returning sophomore who is a talented player that can do a little bit of everything, great footwork, shows leadership qualities and is still young but we have high hopes for him."

"Board is also a sophomore, but an excellent shooter and scorer, natural instincts are 10/10. Jaiden, a senior, is probably our best athlete on the floor and brings some unique aspects to the team with his ability to get to the basket in traffic and score."

Greenway also has high hopes for Grayson Webb, a senior who will protect the rim. He showed some unique shot blocking ability last year.

"Grayson Webb is a guy we need to have a big year," said Greenway. "He's a senior that has played a little bit here and there but never really had a huge role. He's going to have to play inside and out for us to have success by the time it's over."

"Also a guy that could end up being a big part of what we do this year is Ty Blalock. Big frame,

athletic, what you look for in a lot of ways in a basketball player. He was on our JV team last year as a sophomore and his first year in our program but truthfully could have been on our varsity team by the end of the year. He's got some leadership qualities and is a smart player. Big hopes for him."

Randy Bush is also entering his second season as head coach after assisting Greenway with the girls prior to last season. He returns three seniors, point guard Sophia Chrisley, Alexis Helton and Taylor Davis.

"We will be led by a committee," he said. "One game might look different than the game before but as they develop they will become more adhesive."

Bush has two juniors and eight sophomores on the varsity along with one freshman.

"Of these 14 only five have any varsity experience," he said. "However, they are competing each day in practice and getting better. I love how close this group is already."

Terriers put a dozen on All-Blue Ridge District football teams

Richards is first team at three positions and the BRD Offensive Lineman of the Year

The All-Blue Ridge District football team has been released and William Byrd is well-represented. The Terriers filled a dozen positions on the combined first and second teams and had the Offensive Lineman of the Year in senior Dustin Richards.

Richards was named to three first team positions on the All-BRD team. He was a two-way selection at tight end and defensive end and was also named first team at punter in his first year manning that position. He shared Offensive Lineman of the Year honors with DJ Toliver of Lord Botetourt.

Six other Terriers were named to the All-District first team, including quarterback Israel Hairston at the "All-Purpose" position. Other first teamers on offense included center Luis Hernandez, placekicker Bricen Lancaster and kick returner Alex Dunn, a freshman. On defense lineman Doniven Davis and linebacker John Kiker were named to the first team.

Byrd also had three second team selections, including Dunn who was named as a wide receiver. DeShannon Reed, another freshman, is second team at running back and BJ Cheatwood was a second team selection on the offensive line.

Jakari Nicely of Lord Botetourt shared Most Valuable Offensive Back honors with Jahylen Lee of Franklin County and Nicely was named Offensive Player of the Year. On defense Cade Lang of LB was the Player of the Year and Most Valuable Defensive back while teammate Titus Hopkins was named Most Valuable Defensive Lineman.

Jamar Lovelace of William Fleming was named Blue Ridge District Coach of the Year.



DUSTIN RICHARDS



ISRAEL HAIRSTON



Best in the Nest

The William Byrd Middle School wrestling team opened the winter season with a tournament in Franklin County Saturday and the Terrier team won "Best in the Nest" honors. The team is coached by Avery Brunk.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



NICK HALE

MATT HALE

Yellow Jackets win NCAA opener

William Byrd graduate Nick Hale rushed for 57 yards and a touchdown as Randolph-Macon advanced to the second round of the NCAA Division III football playoffs with a 35-28 win over SUNY Cortland on Day Field in Ashland last Saturday.

Nick and twin brother Matt Hale, the starting center, are seniors on the Randolph-Macon team. The Yellow Jackets remained undefeated at 11-0 with the win and will face Delaware Valley in the second round of play this Saturday. The Aggies defeated Gallaudet, 59-0, in their first round game.

Saturday's game will be played at noon at Delaware Valley University in Doylestown, PA.



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Rosie's sold to Churchill Downs Inc.

Virginia's Colonial Downs Racetrack and six Rosie's Gaming Emporium locations, including the Vinton Rosie's, have been sold to Churchill Downs Inc. for a reported \$2.75 billion. Colonial Downs and the Rosie's locations in Vinton, Collinsville, Dumfries, Hampton, New Kent, and Richmond were owned by Peninsula Pacific Entertainment LLC.

The purchase, previously announced, has been in the works for several months and has now received licensing approvals from the racing commissions in Virginia, New York, and Iowa. Churchill Downs Inc. is the company behind the Kentucky Derby.

The deal also involves Peninsula Pacific Entertainment operations in New York and Sioux City, Iowa, along with those in Virginia.

In addition to the racetrack in New Kent County, the company's Virginia assets include 2,700 historical horse racing machines (HRMs) at Rosie's locations throughout the

state. New York assets purchased include Del Lago Resort & Casino in Waterloo, N.Y., a 96,000-sq.-ft. casino with approximately 1,700 slot machines, 80 table games, a 205-room hotel, nine restaurants / bar areas, 758 covered parking spaces, a 6,000 sq. ft. sportsbook area, a 2,400-seat entertainment venue, and a 7,200-sq.-ft. outdoor event venue.

Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Sioux City, Iowa, is a 45,000-sq.-ft. casino with 639 slot machines, 20 table games, a 54-room hotel, 1,511 parking spaces, two live entertainment venues, a 100-piece music memorabilia collection, and a Hard Rock-branded sportsbook.

In a press release, CEO Bill Carstanjen said, "Today marks a significant moment in the evolution of Churchill Downs Inc. This transaction meaningfully expands our geographic footprint to Iowa, New York, and Virginia, introducing a very unique set of assets and attractive organic growth opportunities to our company. We

are excited to welcome the teams from each of these well-established properties into Churchill Downs."

The acquisition also includes other development rights in Virginia:

The opportunity, under Virginia law, to develop up to five additional HRM entertainment venues in Virginia with collectively up to approximately 2,300 additional HRMs.

The rights to build a new HRM entertainment venue with up to 1,800 HRMs in Dumfries. The Dumfries project is located in Northern Virginia with the initial phase expected to open in 2023.

The rights to develop a new HRM entertainment venue with up to 150 HRMs in Emporia. The Emporia project, located along I-95 near the North Carolina border, is expected to open in 2023.

The rights to P2E's ongoing effort, in partnership with Urban One, to develop ONE Casino + Resort, a \$565 million destination casino in Richmond.

Submitted by Churchill Downs Inc.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Churchill Downs has purchased Colonial Downs and the Rosie's Gaming Emporiums in Virginia, including the Vinton Rosie's.

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