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Bonsack Elementary fifth graders perform the Merengue dance during their annual "Night of Music and Dancing" on Dec. 15.

Bonsack students present 'A Night of Music and Dancing' to celebrate the holidays

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

The fourth and fifth graders at Bonsack Elementary School presented "A Night of Music and Dancing" for their fellow students and for their families on Dec. 15 in celebration of the holidays. This tradition began in 2016 with music teacher Katie Saunders and P.E. teacher Dustin King but took a break during the pandemic years. Students presented this year's program twice—in the early morning for students in grades K-3 and again at night for their families. Fourth graders demonstrated their musical skills in playing the recorder. Fifth grad-

ers showed off their ballroom dancing skills. Saunders introduced the fifth-grade students to ballroom dancing by having them view the documentary, "Mad Hot Ballroom," about a dance program in the New York City Public Schools. "This gave them an idea of what they would be learning," Saunders said. "We started lessons around November 1 and have been dancing ever since! Each class received nine full lessons. We combined the PE and music classes to teach them together." Students were paired up with their partners based on

See **Dancing**, page 7



Bonsack fourth graders performed on recorders throughout the "Night of Music and Dancing" program.



Fifth graders performing the Foxtrot. PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

WBMS combines annual faculty/student ball game with food drive finale



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The William Byrd Middle School faculty members who participated in the annual faculty/student basketball game gathered for a photo after their victory.

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

William Byrd Middle School honored two traditions on one afternoon on Dec. 16 combining the annual faculty/student basketball game and the grand finale of the 2022 food drive.

According to guidance counselor Lubeth Jones, over a three-week period in November, the

middle school students and staff contributed 1,200 items for families in need this holiday season. The donations are going to the Community Christmas Store once again. The Community Christmas Store (CCS) of the Roanoke Valley has been providing for families in need since 1993. In 2021, CCS served 728 people from 308 families, including

389 children. In 2022, their goal is to serve 600 families. Teams of WBMS students helped with counting, labeling, sorting, packing, and record-keeping of the donated items. Student leaders were eighth graders Emily Clinebell and Isabella Worley. Sixth grade students also on the volunteer

See **Food Drive**, page 8

Gladetown Trail, Vinton's best-kept secret, gets some loving care

Debbie Adams
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The Gladetown Trail is one of Vinton's best-kept secrets. Nestled

in the area between the Roanoke Elections Office (formerly the Craig Avenue Recreation Center) on Chestnut Street and Woodland Place on Niagara Road, it is

one of the segments of the Roanoke Valley Greenway System that is most pure in nature.



PHOTO BY ANITA MCMILLAN

The Pathfinders for Greenways Midweek Crew spent Dec. 14 sprucing up the Gladetown Trail and rebuilding the ramp to the bridge that crosses the spring-fed stream along the trail. This group rebuilt the bridge ramp while others were involved in trail clearance.

The 0.7-mile loop trail has a natural surface – no tiny gravels or paving. It is heavily wooded with a spring-fed stream. Those who frequent the trail have reported seeing 56 different bird species, along with several species of mammals – unusual to find in an urban setting. The land was originally part of the Vinyard Farm, owned by Vinton's founding fathers in the 1700s. The trail is rated "easy" on the difficulty scale. It is mostly flat, 165 feet in

See **Gladetown Trail**, page 8

Kerry Werner takes first place in USA Men's Singlespeed Cyclocross race; Emily Werner places in women's Elite Championship race

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org



PHOTO BY KATIE DEAL

Kerry Werner racing in the Oct. 1, 2022, Charm City Cyclocross in Baltimore, part of the 2022 USCX Cyclocross Series.

Kerry Werner of Vinton took first place in the Men's Singlespeed Cyclocross event in the 2022 USA Cycling Cyclocross Nationals in Hartford, Connecticut, on Dec. 10. He completed the four laps of the single speed race in 36 minutes competing against about 100 other starters.

The following day he placed third in the Elite Men's 2022 USA Cycling Cyclocross National Championship, with a speed of 1:04:27 for seven laps.

His wife, Emily Shields Werner, also raced on Dec. 11 in the Elite Women's division of the 2022 USA Cycling Cyclocross National Championship, placing tenth in the competition.

According to the USA Cycling Foundation, "Cyclocross is a unique discipline of cycling that can best be described as a cross between road cycling, mountain biking and steeplechase, a multi-terrain form of bike racing."

See **Cyclocross**, page 2

Happy Holidays

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Cyclocross from page 1



PHOTO BY KATIE DEAL

Emily Werner racing in the Charm City Cyclocross UCI Elite Women race in Baltimore on Oct. 1, 2022.

Cyclocross Magazine defines the sport as a “form of bike racing that is mostly off-road but includes portions of pavement. Its courses typically include hills, sand pits, and muddy sections, sometimes leading a racer to shoulder their bike and run with it.”

Kerry Werner said, “Cyclocross is very similar to a cross-country running race, in course and style. It’s a mass start event with different age groups, I race the pro-open age group, which is the fastest group. The race is one hour long, full gas. After you do a couple of laps, the officials set a lap counter and try to make the race as close to an hour as possible. The first one to cross the line at the end of the race wins. The courses are usually set in a park and are roughly two miles long. At race pace, the lap takes anywhere from 7 to 10 minutes to complete. We usually do 7 to 10 laps per race.”

The Werners moved to the Vinton area in 2020 from Winston-Salem, N.C., specifically because of the “high quality, diverse, and plentiful trails, roads, and hikes the Roanoke Region has to offer.”

“We came up here because we have friends that we went to school with that live in town and they took us out on an awesome weekend of riding and checking out the place,” Kerry Werner said. “Within one week we were back and looking at houses. After three

weeks we put a down payment on a house and moved here in July 2020. We have both been here for Go-Cross before, Roanoke’s own UCI CX race, and so we knew a little bit about the cycling community, but once we moved here, we fell even more in love with it and have been super happy with the decision to live here ever since.”

The Werners own Virginia Blue Ridge Adventures, a guided cycling tour business, providing one day and multi-day guided rides and offering road, mountain biking, and gravel biking, and even bike path cruising in downtown Roanoke. However, professional racing is the main occupation for both.

“I set up Virginia Blue Ridge Adventures because— one, I love the area and wanted to be able to have a way to show people the area, but also as a potential retirement plan. I just don’t have the time to solely focus on building that business and guiding people or doing skills clinics. Right now, the opportunity to race full-time is what I am focused on because I know that my ability to do so is limited. I’ll always have VBRA waiting for me.”

Kerry is a member of the Kona Adventure Team based out of Washington State, where Kona bicycles headquarters is located.

See **Cyclocross**, page 6

Heroes volunteer here: Vinton salutes its First Aid Crew



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Trace Poindexter is this week’s Vinton First Aid Crew volunteer of the week.

The Town of Vinton and The Vinton Messenger are saluting members of the Vinton First Aid Crew (VFAC). This week’s featured volunteer is Trace Poindexter. He has been with the crew for about a year and four months. He is an EMT.

“The experiences I have had with the crew over the short time have given me tons of invaluable training and experience I could not possibly get anywhere else,” Poindexter says. “They are my sec-

ond family and that is how we act around one another, so it just adds this feeling of being at home when I’m around the station with my crew. These are just a few of the reasons why I love our crew, but the list goes on and on. It was definitely one of the best decisions I have made.”

He was named VFAC “Rookie of the Year” for 2022 at the recent Installation of Officers ceremony on Dec. 7.

Poindexter is a fourth-generation first responder. His father, Jimmy Poindexter, is a Lifetime member of the Mount Pleasant First Aid Crew and retired from the City of Salem Fire and EMS Department. His grandfather, Jim Poindexter, and his great-grandfather, Hope Poindexter, were firefighters for Roanoke City.

“We are truly blessed to have the Vinton First Aid Crew in our town,” says Vinton Mayor Brad Grose. “The crew has a long history of service to the residents of Vinton and the surrounding area. Many of our citizens have amazing stories about the wonderful service provided to them by the devoted members of the crew.

“A common trait among individual members of the crew is their desire to serve their fellowman,” Grose said. “The Vinton First Aid Crew offers an opportunity to serve, and it also provides valuable medical training that can truly be lifesaving. There is a strong sense of camaraderie and family in the crew that is rarely duplicated in organizations of its size.

“The citizens of Vinton can rest assured that they will always receive professional and caring service from the dedicated members of our Vinton First Aid Crew.”

Thank you for your service, Trace Poindexter!



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Students from the Navy National Defense Cadet Corps program based at William Byrd High School joined with other units from around the region for a showing of the new film “Devotion” at Tanglewood Mall on Dec. 15. The film is based on a true story of naval aviators during the Korean War. Pictured left to right are Senior Chief David Perrin, Cadet Charles, Cadet West, Cadet Sloane, Cadet Patrick, Cadet Davila, Commander Julie Shank, Cadet Rowlette, Cadet Agee, Cadet Perdue, Cadet Fliasher, Cadet Murphy, Cadet Rider, Cadet Truslow, Cadet Nolan, Cadet Ragnone, and Cadet Armstrong.

Byrd’s Navy cadets join other units for Roanoke showing of ‘Devotion’

Students from the Navy National Defense Cadet Corps (NNDCC) based at William Byrd High School joined other cadet units in the area at Tanglewood Cinema on Dec. 15 for a showing of the new film, “Devotion.”

According to Senior Chief David Perrin, the Naval Science instructor for the NNDCC, “The movie is the inspirational true story of Jesse Brown, the first African American aviator in U.S. Navy history, and his enduring friendship with fellow fighter pilot, Tom Hudner. Helping to turn the tide in the most brutal battle in the Korean War, their heroic sacrifices ultimately made them the Navy’s most celebrated wingmen.”

The movie is based on the book of the same name.

Cadets who attended from the WBHS program included Cadet Charles, Cadet West, Cadet Sloane, Cadet Patrick, Cadet Davila, Cadet Rowlette, Cadet Agee, Cadet Perdue, Cadet Fliasher, Cadet

Murphy, Cadet Rider, Cadet Truslow, Cadet Nolan, Cadet Ragnone, and Cadet Armstrong. They were accompanied by Senior Chief Perrin.

Commander Julie Shank, US Navy, retired, was the guest speaker prior to the showing of the film. She is a retired Navy pilot and currently serves as the Deputy Commandant for Operations, Plans, and Training at Virginia Military Institute. She spoke briefly about her career as a pilot in the Navy and stressed the strides the Navy has made over the years. She answered several questions from cadets about the program at VMI and her experiences as a pilot.

The purpose of the field trip was to bring several of the cadet units in the area together to build camaraderie and to establish new relationships and friendships. Other units attending were the E.C. Glass AFJROTC, the Roanoke and Lynchburg Civil Air Patrols, and cadets from VMI.

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Watch your mailbox for the 2023 Town of Vinton Calendar

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Vinton Community Programs Director Chasity Barbour says to keep your eye on your mailbox. The 2023 Town of Vinton Calendar should be arriving shortly—one of the perks of living in Vinton. Citizens begin asking in early December when the calendars will be arriving.

This year's theme is "Home Sweet Home" and features photographs of familiar sights throughout the town, from the Police Department to the streetsweeper, to the "LOVE" artwork at the Vinton War Memorial and ending up with Gish Mill labeled "to be continued," as that project will take wings in 2023.

The calendars were once again designed by Sherri Winkler and produced by Bison Printing in Bedford. The photographs are mainly by Jenny Marie Photography with a couple from The Vinton Messenger. Several members of town staff were tasked with proofreading and editing, Barbour says about 4,500 were printed and mailed for the upcoming year.

Each year's calendar includes holidays, special event and festival dates sponsored by the town and the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce, some of the featured activities at the Vinton Library, the Vinton History Museum, the Vinton Farmers' Market, and classes at the Charles Hill Community Center, along with the basics of when the seasons change and when daylight savings time begins and ends, due dates for real estate and personal property tax and utility bills, and Town Council meeting dates.

There are phone numbers for all town departments, the Vinton Library, the Post Office, the Regional Center for Animal Care and Protection, the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce, the Vinton History Museum, and emergency numbers for police, fire, and rescue, plus many frequently used Roanoke County numbers.

One of the most valued features of the calendars is the reminder each week of refuse collection dates (and potential adjustments to the schedule). Many keep the calendars hanging on refrigerators or near their desks as a source of information on the town, its events, its services, and its emergency phone numbers—a summary of life in Vinton in brief.

The idea for the town calendar origi-

nated several years ago. The town had previously been distributing magnets displaying the recycling schedule in packets with brochures from several different departments of the town. The calendar format was adopted to include all the information that might be needed by residents in one compact package. The town distributes the calendars to new residents and businesses when they contact the Town of Vinton about water accounts, business licenses, etc.

For many years, calendars were delivered by hand to each home, church, and business by town employees, mostly from the Public Works Department. Generally, the process took about two weeks. Beginning last year, the town decided mailing the calendars would be much more efficient.

Once again, for 2023, there is a message in the calendar from Vinton Town Council (Mayor Brad Grose, Vice Mayor Sabrina McCarty and council members Laurie Mullins, Keith Liles, and Mike Stovall), and town leadership on the upcoming year.

"The best way to predict your future is to create it," reads a quote from educator and author Peter Drucker on the first page of the calendar. "Creating the future sounds like a lofty goal, but as Booker T. Washington said, 'Nothing ever comes to one that is worth having, except as a result of hard work.'"

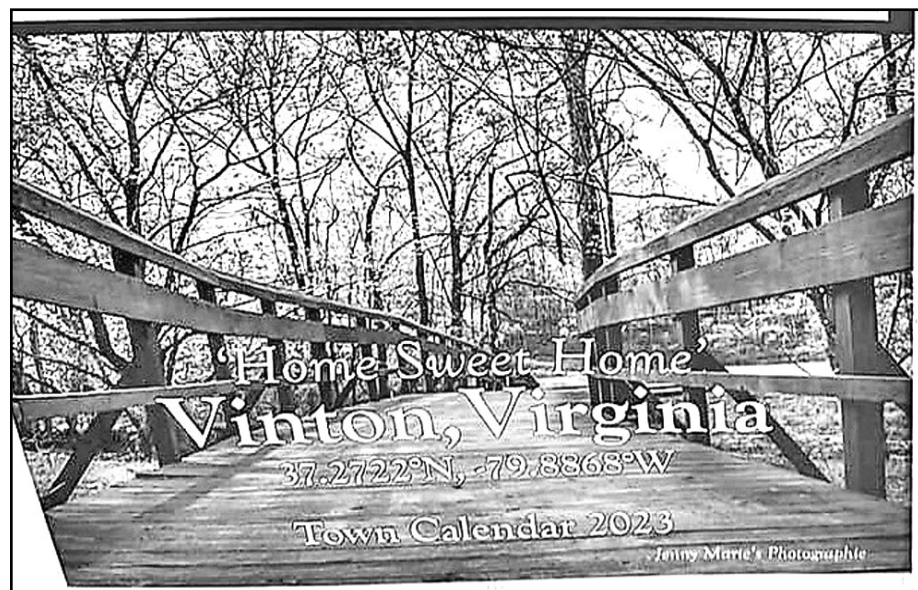
"Vinton became what it is today through the hard work, commitments, and sacrifices that were made many years ago by those who believed that Vinton could become a town where there is a sense of community and be a place where people want to eat, shop, play, work, and live.

"The town's economic outlook is extremely positive, as our financial condition is in the best shape we have seen in many years," the message continues. "The town has begun to realize much-needed revenue growth as a result of recent economic development and initiatives that have brought new businesses and development as well as redevelopment to the town.

"Our future is bright, and we have much to celebrate 'InVinton.' In 2023, and over the next few years, you will see a consistent wave of investment in our citizens and in the community to maintain our position as a great place to live and do business and it will truly solidify Vinton as the IN place to be in the Valley!"



Vinton's Community Programs Director Chasity Barbour examines the new calendars from Bison Printing.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHASITY BARBOUR

The 2023 Vinton Town Calendar will be arriving soon in the mailboxes of about 4,500 residents. This year's theme is "Home Sweet Home."

VINTON HISTORY

Christmas Carolers

Christmas carols commemorating the nativity, or birth of Jesus Christ, were first written in Latin in the 4th and 5th centuries. The energetic, joyful carols were sung in sharp contrast to the somber Christmas music of the day. Only a few carols have achieved legendary status.

The concept of Christmas carols spread across Europe and to America. Today, many caroling

groups sing for charity in churches and neighborhoods.

A common legend says that Christmas carols were named after Carol Poles, a little English girl who supposedly went missing in London during the holiday season in the late 19th century. People supposedly searched for her by going door-to-door, singing to declare their good intentions. Although it may

be a nice story, it has no factual basis.

We invite you to see three very large vintage Christmas caroler figures made of plaster on display at the Vinton History Museum. They were donated many years ago and the donor is not known.

Submitted by Judy Cunningham, Vinton History Museum Executive Director



PHOTO BY JUDY CUNNINGHAM

These carolers are on display at the Vinton History Museum this holiday season.

CROSSWORD

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CLUES ACROSS

- Baseball stat
- Blaze
- Sea eagles
- Tails in Italian
- Monocot genus
- Mother or father
- The Jungian inner self
- Covered with gold
- Residual oil
- Signs up for school
- Furniture for daily meals
- Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand
- Lower limb
- Guy (slang)
- Get free of
- Snake-like fish
- Adult female bird
- Formal window coverings
- Break into small pieces
- "1836 siege" of U.S.
- Made violet-red
- Food chopper
- Removes writing
- Ethiopian monetary unit
- Wine bottle
- Containers
- English prelate
- Wm. Ralph
- Small storage
- structure
- A jelly-like substance
- CLUES DOWN
- A brief comment
- Sultanate of NW Borneo
- Importune
- Forelimb
- Models of ethical behavior
- Harangues
- This (Spanish)
- Springfield Area Mobile Intensive Care
- Sang at Christmas door to door
- Partly or nearly blind
- Posterior pituitary gland hormone
- American Nurses Association (abbr.)
- The 7th Greek letter
- Strives to equal
- Toff
- Coleoptera insects
- The color of blood
- Slipped by
- Of she
- A short musical passage
- CNN's founder Turner
- Radioactivity unit
- Exculpation defense
- Walking back and forth
- Come forth from
- Oxalis
- A soft twilled fabric of silk
- The two large chest muscles

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Santa makes final appearance at War Memorial for 2022

Santa has made several special stops in Vinton over the past few weeks, including four

meet-and-greets at the Vinton War Memorial. His final visit in Vinton before setting off on

his Christmas Eve deliveries is on Thursday, Dec. 22, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Visits have been

inside and outside the War Memorial, depending upon the weather. Those who visited

Santa were also able to see the Parade of Trees on the front lawn of the facility.



Santa knows Vinton is the place to be in 2022. He has made several stops in town this Christmas season to visit with children and even pets



Santa's final visit to the Vinton War Memorial this season is on Dec. 22 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Come join him.

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

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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UPCOMING EVENTS

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dadams@ourvalley.org

Roanoke County Public Libraries closed at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 22 and will reopen on Tuesday, Dec. 27.

Town of Vinton town offices will be closed on Friday, Dec. 23 and Monday, Dec. 26 in observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas.

Roanoke County offices will be closed on Friday, Dec. 23 and Monday, Dec. 26 for Christmas.

Roanoke Coun-

ty Schools are closed through Jan. 2, 2023.

Rosie's Gaming Emporium: JoJo Stockton and Solacoustix perform at 8 p.m. on Dec. 23.

Lancerlot: Holiday Hours, Christmas Eve Health and Fitness 5 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Ice Rink, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Christmas Day--Health and Fitness and Ice rink closed.

Thrasher Memorial UMC: Christmas Eve services are scheduled for Dec. 24 with a family service at 5 p.m. followed by a traditional

service at 7:30. There will be one combined service on Christmas Day at 10 a.m. in the main sanctuary.

Vinton Baptist Church: Christmas Eve worship at 5 p.m.; Christmas Day service at 10:30 a.m.

Vinton Wesleyan Church: Christmas Eve Communion Dec. 24 at 4 p.m.; Christmas Day service at 10:30 a.m.

Vinton Library will host DMV Connect on Dec. 28 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closing for lunch from 1-2 p.m.; Kids

Lego Play will be held on Dec. 28 from 4-5 p.m. for creating and sharing Lego masterpieces.

William Byrd High School: The WBHS boys basketball team will participate in the annual Northside Invitational Tournament beginning on Dec. 28 at 4:15 when they face Roanoke Catholic. The tournament continues for three days.

Please submit Upcoming Community News announcements to dadams@mainstreetnewspapers.com.

See more online
at www.vintonmessenger.com

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

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

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

Vinton

Worship Directory

ONLY ONE WAY

"I am the way, the truth and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6

In our culture, almost anything goes. The overwhelming idea is: whatever works for you. It's okay to believe in God, but it's not acceptable to suggest there is only one way to know Him. The problem is that if you believe in Christ, you must also believe His words. He did not say, "I am a way." He said, "I am THE way." Think about it. If anything would work, why suffer? If anything else could save us, why would God send His son? Read Isaiah 43:10-11. First, understand that God does want us to know Him. It's why He sent His son in the first place. Second, recognize that there is only one Savior and put your trust in Him. Perhaps you have long since accepted that only Christ can save you, but have you really accepted that only He can save somebody else? Knowing how much others need Christ motivates us to tell them about Him. After all, "how, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard?" (Romans 10:14) Tell someone about the Savior today!

Worship: Today, thank God for sending the Savior. Pray for those who do not know Him, those who live and work right around you as well as those in foreign lands. Read Romans 10:14-15. Pray that God will send His people to preach good news and ask Him to give you opportunities today to share His love with someone.

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

ID 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; cmcp2verizon.net Sunday school 9:45am, Worship 11:00am; Communion 1st Sundays; 2nd Sunday Session; Monday Noon Bible Study; Tuesdays & Thursdays Stretch Class 9:00am; 1st Tuesdays Deacons; Wednesday Choir 7:00pm; Monday Girl Scouts 7:00pm; 3rd Saturday Men's Breakfast 8:00am. Rev. Jonathan Moelker, pastor

UNITED METHODIST

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

WESLEYAN

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

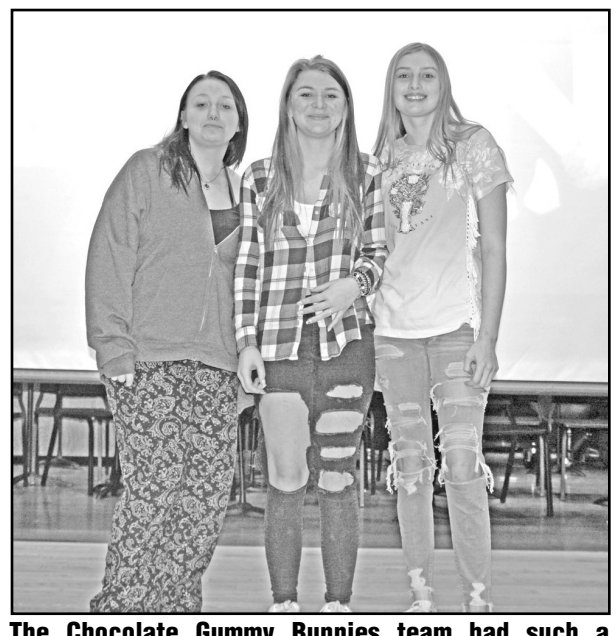
Eighth grade entrepreneurs make their pitches in Terrier Kennel project



The Cloudz Comfort team presents their child's hoodie product to the panel of investors for examination.



The RAM team explained the video game they developed to the panel of investors.



The Chocolate Gummy Bunnies team had such a delicious product that they attracted more than one investor.



Eighth graders in Ryan Hutchison's "Programming Solutions" class presented their "Terrier Kennel" business projects to a panel of investors on Dec. 14.



The Baby Gagets team was poised and articulate in their presentation to the panel.

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Last spring, William Byrd Middle School Tech Ed teacher Ryan Hutchison challenged the eighth grade students in his "Programming Solutions" class to develop a business, research the particulars, and present their ideas to a panel of potential investors. He used this "deeper learning experience" to introduce the students to the business world using the "Shark Tank" TV show concept, renamed at WBMS as "Terrier Kennel."

This school year a second section of the Programming Solutions class was added to the schedule at WBMS during the fall semester.

For this project, the class divided into five teams, did extensive research to develop five viable companies, and presented their results in a "pitch" to a panel of investors on Dec. 14.

The panel was made up of Roanoke County Public Schools Career and Technical Education Director Jason Suhr, School Board member Tim Greenway, CTE Supervisor Mark Jones, WBMS Assistant Principal John Eggleston, and WBMS Principal Dana Stevens—all of whom were willing to ask difficult questions and offer solid advice.

The panel was made up of Roanoke County Public Schools Career and Technical Education Director Jason Suhr, School Board member Tim Greenway, CTE Supervisor Mark Jones, WBMS Assistant Principal John Eggleston, and WBMS Principal Dana Stevens—all of whom were willing to ask difficult questions and offer solid advice.

a challenging assignment. Each group had prepared a PowerPoint presentation detailing their business concept (products and services), a "business hook" or "pitch" to sell their idea, and a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) analysis, plus the results of their research on the need for their particular business, their target market, their competition and how they planned to counter that competition, an overview of their industry at a glance, expected sales and profits, and marketing strategies.

Hutchison had encouraged them to develop a product or service they were "passionate about." They came up with "Cloudz Comfort," the "RAM" game, "Baby Gagets," "Chocolate Gummy Bunnies," and "Cooking Up."

The panel of investors had each been given \$200,000 to make a deal or deals with the entrepreneurs.

The Cloudz Comfort team was marketing customized high quality children's hoodies—a vastly expanding market according to their research. One member of the team presented a sample hoodie to the panel for examination, pointing out its features. The group was asking for a \$40,000 investment for a 40% stake in the company. Greenway asked where the company would be located and was pleased to hear they planned to set up shop in Vinton. Stevens ultimately made the deal.

Next up were the developers of the "RAM" video game. They reported that the cost to make their game was \$9.99; the selling price would be \$25. The team was asking for a \$15,000 investment for a 15% stake in the company. One team member demonstrated how the game was played on the computer to each potential investor.

When questioned about their target audience for their video game, students told the panel it was appropriate for all age levels. Jones quizzed them on what platforms might best support the game, rather than, or in addition to, the PC platform they planned to use exclusively. He suggested that a mobile app platform might earn a greater profit. Greenway offered them \$25,000—more than their asking price.

The third team presented their product—Baby Gagets—a simple play board for young children. They explained that the cost of making their prototype was \$36.09 and their asking price would be \$45 with a goal of producing 1,440 boards annually. They were offering the investors a 20% stake in the company for an investment of \$12,000.

Greenway complimented them on their detailed presentation, reminded them that the cost per unit would decrease over time as they became more efficient, and discussed patents. Jones reminded them of the need for product safety, especially when children are involved. Suhr offered them the deal that they accepted—a \$24,000 investment for a 40% stake in the firm.

The Chocolate Gummy Bunnies were up next—to the delight of the panel who were offered a taste of the homemade candy. The team's plan is to focus on candy for Valentine's Day and Easter with unique flavors of orange, coconut, cotton candy, and white chocolate. Greenway was again happy that this team planned to open their business in Vinton.

The candy team asked for an investment of \$15,000 for a stake of 25%. The cost to make a box of their chocolate gummies had been \$3; they planned to sell the box for \$5. Their product was so delicious that three panelists made offers. The team

accepted the offer from Mr. Eggleston—\$50,000 for a 25% stake.

The final team presented their vision of "Cooking Up," a business which combined a restaurant serving tacos with special seasoning with merchandise—or as one team member described it, "the Mexican version of Cracker Barrel." They were asking for an investment of \$25,000 for a 20% stake.

When told that they also planned to open their restaurant/store in downtown Vinton, Greenway this time questioned the wisdom of their decision, given the number of Mexican restaurants already located in or near the town. He said he feared the market might be oversaturated—and opening a restaurant is an expensive and difficult venture.

The team countered with how unique their business would be, selling not just meals, but merchandise. Several panelists made offers, but the team selected the one from Suhr—\$75,000 for a 20% stake, unwilling to give up control of half of their company to Jones who had offered \$100,000 for 50% of the company.

In concluding the session, Hutchison reiterated that theirs was not an easy task, and that he, at their

age, would probably have looked for an "excuse to stay home" on presentation day. He commended the students for their courage and urged them to maintain their self-confidence as they move on to high school.

He also thanked the panel of investors for taking part in an opportunity which "provided the students with a real-world experience that was invaluable. My hope is the students will take the knowledge imparted today with them to high school level (and beyond)."

Dr. Nicely applauded Hutchison's efforts "to teach students these important business and life skills. Thank you for having the courage to go above and beyond to give students the opportunity to learn in an authentic way. These kinds of experiences, with feedback, will only serve to inspire and empower them to work harder and rise to the occasion with future opportunities. Each group truly came up with some intriguing ideas. We admire their courage and look forward to seeing what they will do in the future as they continue to work hard and explore possibilities."

Tim Greenway commented that "Mr. Hutchison does a fantastic job

highlighting the opportunities available to these students in the real world."

"It was great to see students in action, applying what they are learning in their Technology Education class with Mr. Hutchison," Suhr remarked. "The five student-teams presented some interesting and creative business concepts, and the presentation and judging process were fun to be part of. Mr. Hutchison does a great job with his students at William Byrd Middle School and this project is an example of the creative ways he challenges his students to do hard things."

Ryan Hutchison spent 15 years working in the corporate world before accepting a position teaching Technology Education at William Byrd Middle School in the fall of 2021. He earned his MBA from Syracuse University and one of his course requirements there was creating a business. In examining the middle school curriculum on business concepts, he decided that the best practice for imparting the knowledge to his students might be through a hands-on, higher level, challenging experience, like Terrier Kennel.

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Gauntlet offering Virtual Information Sessions

The Advancement Foundation will be holding several virtual information sessions in January for entrepreneurs who might be interested in participating in the 9th annual Gauntlet Business Program and Competition, and for folks who have an interest in becoming a mentor and/or sponsor for the 2023 Gauntlet program.

Info Sessions are scheduled for Jan. 3, 10, 17, and 24 from 6 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday evenings. These are for anyone who has an idea for a business or for a business they want to expand. Organizers will be answering all the Gauntlet Business Program and Competition related questions during these sessions.

be held on Jan. 5, 12, 19, and 26 from 6 to 7 p.m., on Thursday evenings. These are for anyone interested in learning more about becoming a mentor or cash/in-kind donor for the 2023 Gauntlet Business Program and Competition.

menting businesses. The Gauntlet has empowered more than 700 entrepreneurs, developed and connected a mentor network of 250 professionals, and awarded over \$7 million in resources including grants, cash, and in-kind prizes since its inception.

The Gauntlet ignites opportunities through business training, mentorship opportunities, scaling strategies, and

entrepreneurial ecosystem building. Anyone can participate in this competition for over \$300,000 in cash and prizes.

Virtual classes begin on Tuesday, February 7, 2023. For more information about The Gauntlet and to Apply online, please visit www.TheAdvancementFoundation.org/Gauntlet.

Submitted by The Advancement Foundation



From the Pulpit

Love is patient and kind

The pace of the last few weeks has seemed to grow with every day that passes. There is so much to do, so many places to be, and so little time to accomplish it all.

From trying to complete all of my assignments for the upcoming semester, shuttling the boys to parties and practices, making sure their homework is done, teeth are brushed, and pants (not shorts) are being worn, to all of the Christmas decorating, baking, shopping, and celebrating, the past few weeks have been moving at an

unsustainable speed.

I imagine for many of you that your weeks have been just as chaotic. As fleeting as our time seems to be this time of year, so often is our patience and kindness.

Last weekend, the Russell family ventured over to Valley View Mall for our annual Christmas shopping spree. Though Christmas carols could be heard playing all throughout the mall, their joyful melody and cheerful words were quickly drowned out by the sounds of car horns honking, babies cry-

ing, siblings squawking, parents yelling, and a multitude of anxious footsteps racing from one store to the next. In that sea of anxious and exhausted people, the hope, peace, joy, and love of Advent seemed more like an ideal than a reality.

And yet, at Christmas we celebrate that the hope, peace, joy, and love of God has been born to us in Christ. These gifts are more than a possibility or ideal; through the birth of Jesus, they have been fulfilled for the world. But how do we access them? How can we experience the fullness of God's love through Christ's birth in a way that fills us with the hope, peace, and

joy of Christmas? What would it take for us to fully live into the promise of Emmanuel that "God is with us"?

I think it begins by choosing each day to personify the love that God incarnated in Christ. There are many ways to do that. In I Corinthians 13, Paul defined the qualities that exemplify God's love. To begin, the apostle wrote that love is patient and kind. In order for us not to become arrogant or boastful, rude or irritable, selfish or cruel, we need God's gift of love. In order for God's love within us to bear, believe, hope, and endure all things, it must first be a love that is patient and kind.

Last Saturday at Valley View, I saw very little patience or kindness; in some instances, I, too, expressed very little. And yet, according to Paul, it is in these two virtues that God's greatest gift of love begins. This week, as we eagerly await the fulfillment of God's promises, may we experience the hope, peace, and joy of our God by choosing to become the fullness of his love born in Christ. In every place we go and with every person we meet, may we practice patience and choose kindness because God is love, and love is patient and kind.

*By the Rev. Travis Russell,
Vinton Baptist Church*

RECIPES OF THE WEEK

More insanely good Christmas goodie recipes

If you don't have enough Christmas goodies around your house yet, here are two more recipes to try. They might become your signature treats.

Mixed Nut Brittle

Ingredients:
2 cups sugar
1 cup light corn syrup
1 cup water
2 cups mixed nuts (you can cut Brazil nuts into smaller chunks for more uniform appearance)
1 Tbsp. margarine or butter
1 tsp. vanilla
1 tsp. baking soda
Generously butter two cookie sheets.

In large saucepan, combine sugar, corn syrup, and water. Cook until sugar dissolves, stirring constantly. Continue cooking until candy thermometer reaches 300° (the hard ball stage), stirring occasionally. Stir in margarine and mixed nuts. Remove from heat; stir in vanilla and baking soda. Pour onto prepared cookie sheets; spread as thin as possible. When completely cool, break into pieces. Store in airtight container in cool place. Makes 2 lbs. candy.

Rocky Road Fudge Bars

Bar ingredients:
1/2 cup margarine or butter
1 square (1 oz.) unsweetened chocolate
1 cup sugar
1 cup all purpose flour
1/2 to 1 cup chopped nuts
1 tsp. baking powder

1 tsp. vanilla
2 eggs
Filling Ingredients:
8 oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened, (reserve 2 oz. for frosting)
1/2 cup sugar
2 Tbsp. all purpose flour
1/4 cup butter or margarine, softened
1 egg
1/2 tsp. vanilla
1/4 cup chopped nuts
6 oz. pkg. (1 cup) semi-sweet chocolate chips
Frosting Ingredients:
2 cups miniature marshmallows
1/4 cup butter or margarine
1 square (1 oz.) unsweetened chocolate
The 2 oz. reserved cream cheese
1/4 cup milk
3 cups powdered sugar
1 tsp. vanilla
Heat oven to 350°. Grease (not oil) and flour 9x13-inch pan. In large sauce-

pan over low heat, melt 1/2 cup margarine and 1 square chocolate. Lightly spoon flour into measuring cup and level off. Add remaining Bar ingredients; mix well. Spread in pan.

In bowl, combine 6 oz. cream cheese with next 5 filling ingredients. Beat 1 minute at medium speed until smooth and fluffy; stir in nuts. Spread over chocolate mixture in pan. Sprinkle with chocolate chips. Bake at 350° for 25-35 minutes until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Remove from oven. Sprinkle with marshmallows. Bake two minutes more.

In large saucepan, over low heat, melt 1/4 cup margarine, 1 sq. chocolate, remaining 2 ounces of cream cheese, and milk. Stir in powdered sugar and vanilla until smooth. Immediately pour over marshmallows and swirl together. Cool; cut into bars. Store in refrigerator. Makes 3-4 dozen bars.

Cyclocross from page 2

"I've been riding for Kona since 2016 and they have provided me with an amazing amount of support and freedom to race races that I think are important to promote the brand and push myself to be better," Kerry explains. "Most races are on the weekends. I think I rack up between 30 and 50 races per year. So, if you do the math, with only 52 weeks in a year, I definitely race the majority of the time."

"Preparing for a race is pretty simple in concept. Basically, we just ride and train, fine-tuning our fitness and skills as the season goes on so that we can hit specific races at our best ability and usually those races are the most high-profile races."

"A typical training week usually consists of 15 to 30 hours of riding. But there's so much more behind the scenes stuff that goes on which makes this a full-time job. Proper nutrition, proper recovery, stretching, self-care basically. When you're an elite athlete, every move you make is scrutinized under a microscope and wondering how it will affect training and recovery so you can tease out the most subtle gains possible."

"Emily is also a professional cyclist and a registered dietician," Kerry said. "She works for two long-term care facilities in the area as well as her own personal nutrition coaching company. Her main focus is cyclocross, but she also races

mountain bike and a handful of gravel races throughout the year."

"This year she's had top-five finishes and the fastest CX races in the country and finished fifth in the overall US Cyclocross series. She is flying over to Europe this week to race a handful of cyclocross world cups, the toughest, fastest cyclocross races in the world."

(He proposed to her at the peak of Mount Massive in the Rocky Mountains in Colorado. They were married in 2018.)

Emily says she started racing when she was just 10 years old.

"My twin sister and I were at a cyclocross race my dad was promoting," she explains. "He has been a cyclist since his 30s. We saw some other kids rac-

ing and wanted to try it, so my mom ran home to get our mountain bikes. I fell in love with cyclocross that day and have been racing ever since."

"My sister now lives in Utah and races locally out there. I continued with racing professionally because I wanted to see how far I could go with it and what I could achieve. I work part time for two long term care facilities in the area and have my own sports dietitian practice so I can support myself and continue to race."

Emily earned her undergraduate degree in biology at Lees McRae College and her Master's in Nutrition at UNC Greensboro. She is a Registered Dietician who "loves helping people improve their cycling

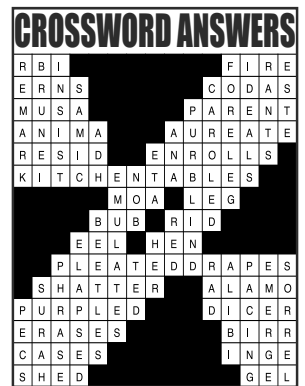
performance through nutrition."

During her undergraduate and graduate education, she raced collegiately and was a three-time National Champion in Cyclocross and Short Track.

For more information on Emily's company visit <https://emilywernersportsnutrition.com>. For more information on Virginia Blue Ridge Adventures check out their website at <https://www.vbradventures.com/>.

To view a multitude of fun race photos and videos, look at Kerry Werner's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/kerrywernerathlete> and his YouTube page at <https://www.youtube.com/kerrywernervlog>.

Submit your community news and photos to vintonmessenger@ourvalley.org.



Celebrating The Town of VINTON!


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

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

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

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

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PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

What a week IN vINton! Tuesday the town continued our new tradition of the Santa Crawl. I love this event. Seeing the faces and hearing the stories of all the children in town is amazing. Thank you to everyone who makes this event possible. Our Public Works is the best; our Police Department is the best; our volunteers are the best; and our community is the best!

Many thanks to everyone who came out for the Chamber's Holiday Open House on Dec. 15. Always a good time.

Congratulations to Otis Dowdy on receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Roanoke Valley Wrestling Association.

By Angie and Bootie Chewing

ciation. Otis is from the William Byrd High School Class of 1965—very well deserved.

The Vinton Chamber had the blessings of helping organize and distribute 142 Angel Tree Angels from the Vinton Area. Many thanks to the school(s) staff who help with the names and distri-

but ion and to all the Angels that help shop for these kids.

From Bootie: Last Thursday I had the privilege of being with my Toter friends at Pancho's—seven lovely women and we all bought gifts to exchange. Those attending were Linda Waybright, Maryce Likens, Joanne Mitchell, Nikki Rhea, Kathryn Sowers, and Becky Stinnett. It was a wonderful time to see these people since I have not been with them for the past five years. It's great getting out, and I enjoyed it thoroughly. Merry Christmas to all!

Last week we shared a wedding picture from the Simmons/Hipp wedding. Thank you to Tyler Phenex Photography.

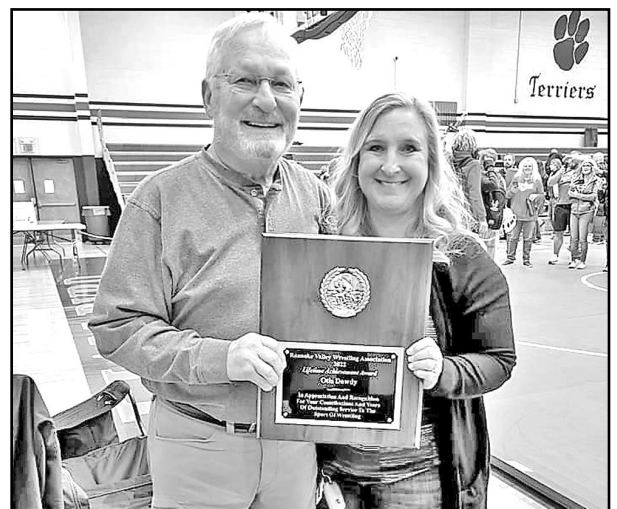


PHOTO SUBMITTED BY ANGIE CHEWNING

Otis Dowdy (shown with his daughter) received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Roanoke Valley Wrestling Association.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce held its Holiday Open House on Dec. 15.



PHOTO BY ANGIE CHEWNING

The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce helped organize and distribute gifts to 142 Angels this year.

Dancing from page 1



Bonsack fifth graders performing the Swing.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Fifth graders at Bonsack performing the Cha Cha.

height and skill level, and which of the dances they liked the best.

"All the lessons were done in school during the regularly scheduled Encore classes. Students were not pulled from any academic class in order to learn the dances and recorder pieces. There were no after-school hours."

Saunders choreographed the program with some assistance from a former teacher, Gloria Howell, a retired Roanoke County music teacher.

"I worked with her for several years and learned how to teach these dances from observing and working with her," Saunders said. "I then took them and put my own spin on them."

Saunders said she does not have a background in dance but has "picked up things here and there during my 24 years of teaching, attending conferences, and traveling."

"Mr. King and I both co-taught the dances again this year," Saunders added. "In

fact, he had to teach them a few days by himself when I was out of school in November. He did an excellent job. I couldn't do this program without him. He keeps things rolling backstage so I can concentrate on what is going on out front."

The holiday program alternated between the fifth graders demonstrating the ballroom numbers they have mastered and the fourth graders playing holiday songs on their recorders. (In Roanoke County Public Schools, elementary students begin playing the recorder in third grade and continue in fourth and fifth.)

Saunders says the fifth grade students dressed up for the night performance with "the ladies in dresses or skirts and the guys in nice dress pants and shirts...some in suits! They all looked like young ladies and gentlemen. Fourth grade students dressed in holiday colors with Christmas hats/headgear or neck-

laces, etc."

Saunders began the program on Dec. 15 with some coaching of the younger K-3rd grade students on how to "be a good audience by listening and showing your appreciation by clapping."

Fifth graders opened with the Cha Cha, performed to "Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays." Fourth graders in Haley Burnett's class then played "On Christmas Night" on their recorders.

The fifth grade next danced the Merengue to "Menea," followed by fourth graders from Jenn Hancock's class on the recorders with "Gingerbread Jazz."

Fifth graders danced the Foxtrot to "White Christmas," followed by the fourth graders from Nikki Hall's class performing "Jinglebotz."

The fifth grade concluded the program with "The Swing"—the dance with the highest difficulty level—to "Cool Yule."

While the Cha Cha, the

Foxtrot, and the Swing are relatively familiar dances, the Merengue is not very well-known in this country. In fact, it is a dance which originated in the Dominican Republic. Saunders learned the finer points of the Merengue on a mission trip there in 2016.

"I was able to see how the dance is done in the country," added Saunders. "I was there to assist the local church with music and to work in the schools. We were able to learn about the local culture as well; that's when I got to learn how to dance the Merengue like the Dominicans do."

Fourth grade teachers who have assisted throughout the preparations for the concert are Haley Burnett, Nikki Hall, and Jenn Hancock. Fifth grade teachers assisting were Laura Muncey, Christi Stanley, and Suzanne Witcher.

"Bonsack students are fabulous!" Saunders said. "These kids worked really hard and

were excited to show what they are learning in music and PE class. I feel really blessed to teach here at Bonsack. We have a great team of teachers who are proud of the success of our students."

"The fifth graders were really nervous and a little awkward when we first started dancing. Comments like 'I have to touch a boy!' or 'Gross!' were heard from many of them. Once we started lessons and they realized how much fun it was, that awkwardness and those comments disappeared, and they were transformed into young ladies and gentlemen. The fourth graders worked really hard to learn some new notes on their recorders in order to present the music."

In the New Year, the fourth and fifth graders will be singing the national anthem at a Railyard Dawgs game in February. Kindergartners and first graders will be presenting their own spring program in May 2023.

Submit your community news and photos to vintonmessenger@ourvalley.org.

Food Drive from page 1



The William Byrd Middle School students who participated in the annual faculty/student basketball game gave it their best effort.

team included Lacey Russell, Mahkenna Ramsey, Ella McReynolds, Emma Boyd, Payten Childress, and Ace Adkins.

Organizers came up with a special enticement to encourage students to participate more fully in the food drive: several students would earn the privilege of “pie-ing” five staff members who topped the list for donations— Assistant Principal John Eggleston, along with teachers Matt Bartley, Bill Pratt, Denise Aspell, and Stephanie Hiemstra.

Students armed with pies included: Emily Clinebell, Isabella Worley, Jonah Wilkerson, Nate Roberts, Nate Doan, Lilly Duffy, Ben Gardner, and Carlee Zimmerman.

Eggleston has been a frequent pie-in-the-face target for charity events in his years in education, but he said that five pies in one day was a record for him.

Eggleston and WBMS Principal Dana Stevens served as officials during the faculty/student basketball game.

Faculty members on the men’s team included Choir Director Matt Bartley, P.E. teacher Jeremy Baldwin, teacher and WBMS Boys Head Basketball Coach Jaylen Clark, science teacher Andrew Close, math teacher Brad Collins, IT and Golf Coach Tyler Goodman, Tech Ed. and Middle School Head Football Coach Ryan Hutchison, English teacher and Assistant Varsity football Coach Andrew Mitchell, P.E. teacher Ben Munsey, and P.E. teacher Bill Pratt.

Female faculty members playing in the game included math teacher and tennis coach Kayla Mitchell, IA and Assistant WBMS girls basketball Coach Morgan Booth, Central Office biology teacher and Head

WBMS Girls Lacrosse Coach Kelsey Harris, Administrative Assistant and Assistant Varsity Girls Basketball Coach Brandy Helton, WBMS Girls Basketball Head Coach Missy Hershel, history teacher Bonnie Reedy, English teacher Erica Rosser, school psychologist Ki’Ari Stanley, teacher and Assistant Varsity Girls Basketball Coach Samantha Webster, and testing coordinator Michelle Yamantani.

Math teacher and Tennis Coach Ashley Stultz served as coach for the student team.

Faculty cheerleaders who cheered alongside the WBMS cheerleaders were science teacher Erin O’Donnell, band director Denise Aspell, science teacher Jessica Kingery, English teacher Tracy Addison, and Middle School Head Cheer Coach Shannon McCullough.

In addition to cheer-

ing on the sidelines, the WBMS cheerleaders put on quite a performance at half time, with elaborate choreography performed to traditional and not-so-traditional Christmas

songs.

Announcer (and math teacher) Scott Whitehead made every effort to keep the crowd stirred up and cheering. The entire event was coordinated by Gloria

Harris, Guidance Department Administrative Assistant.

Final score for game: Faculty, 33; Students, 22.



WBMS Assistant Principal John Eggleston gracefully endures five pies in the face for charity— the WBMS Food Drive.



Faculty and student cheerleaders present the half-time show at the faculty/student basketball game.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The 2022 Food Drive at WBMS was a rousing success due to the efforts of these students and faculty members.

Gladetown Trail from page 1



The original bridge on the Gladetown Trail was constructed by the Pathfinders Midweek Crew in 2012.



Gladetown Bridge repair —2022. PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

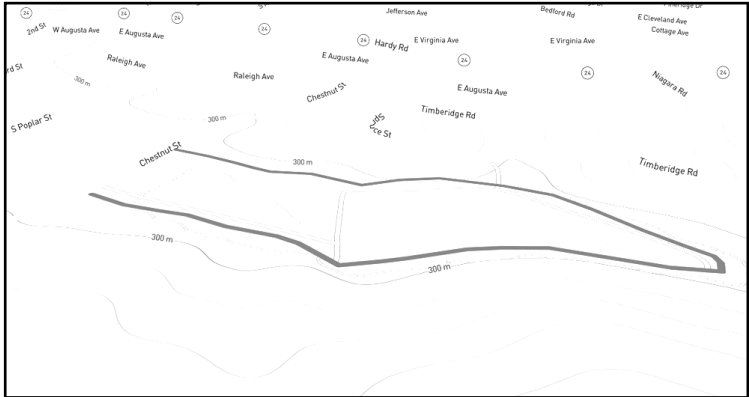


PHOTO COURTESY TOWN OF VINTON

The Gladetown Trail runs in a loop from Chestnut Street almost to Woodland Place and back in the Town of Vinton.

elevation, and seldom crowded. Recommended activities are walking, mountain biking, jogging, dog walking, and bird watching. It is not wheelchair accessible.

The Gladetown Trail started out long ago as a footpath and was turned into a greenway trail in 2012 by the volunteer Pathfinders for Greenways Midweek Crew.

The Midweek Crew paid a return visit last week to do some maintenance work on the trail itself and especially the bridge that crosses the creek near Woodland Place. A smaller crew came out the week before to clear some fallen trees from the trail.

On Dec. 14, two kinds of work went on: the whole trail was cleaned up including weed-eating, raking, minor re-benching in a few spots, cutting overgrowing grass and stick weeds, and lopping; plus, the wooden ramp to the bridge and some handrails were replaced.

Volunteers brought along tools for both projects— a generator, portable drills, saws, squares, tapes, and crowbars for demolition of the old ramp. Their first task was carrying in the lumber for the bridge repairs.

What was first named the Gladetown Loop Trail came to the town’s attention in October 2005, when community leader Joe Banks asked the Town of Vinton to consider building a trail from the Gladetown community to Niagara Road— not only for recreation and eventual connection to the Wolf Creek Greenway, but also to give residents the option of walking via a shortcut to Lake Drive Shop-

ping Center.

Due to its own limited resources, the town submitted a grant application to the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation in 2007 for funding to complete the part of the proposed trail which is on town-owned property and used for a stormwater management pond, built in the years after the flood of 1985. The construction of the town’s industrial park on Third Street and the Lake Drive Shopping Plaza on Hardy Road had led to some flooding issues in the area. At one time it was estimated that two-thirds of the town’s water drained into the Gladetown section.

When the grant did not receive approval, the town decided to seek assistance from the Pathfinders for the Greenways in building the trail.

In situating the trail in the fall of 2009, town staff discovered that, in order to be out of the wet area, a portion of the remainder of the proposed pathway would have to be built on property owned by Woodland Place.

Former Town Manager Chris Lawrence and Planning and Zoning Director Anita McMillan met with Tommy Wood and his wife, Karen, then owners of the Woodland Place property, to ask for an easement. Instead of granting an easement, the Woods generously decided to donate a triangular portion of their property to the Town of Vinton for the trail.

In addition to the Woods family and the town, the Gladetown Trail became a cooperative effort involving Roanoke County, the Roanoke Valley Greenway Com-

mission, and Pathfinders for the Greenways. The proposed greenway was a Class C trail, using a natural-type surface. Hopes were for completing the project in the spring of 2012, and, thanks to the Pathfinders Midweek Crew, it was.

If you aren’t familiar with the Gladetown Trail, you should make it a point to get connected. On your walk or run, you might be fortunate enough to see one of those 56 bird species, which include the Yellow-crowned Night Heron, wild turkeys, Northern Mockingbirds, Downy, Red-billed, Hairy, and Pileated Woodpeckers, Yellow-billed Cuckoos, Indigo Buntings, Red-winged Blackbirds, mallards, Cooper’s Hawks, Canada geese, Eastern Bluebirds, American Goldfinches, Red-shouldered Hawks, Northern Flickers, Cedar Waxwings, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, and Scarlet Tanagers.

There is plenty of parking at the trailhead, on the street, and in the nearby Elections Building parking lot on evenings and weekends. Motorized vehicles and horses aren’t allowed on the trail. You can’t camp, hunt, or build a fire. You are asked to clean up after your dogs and not litter. Also, please don’t feed the wildlife.

“We’re very excited about the work the Midweek Crew of the Pathfinders for Greenways has done at Gladetown Trail,” said Vinton Economic Development Specialist Marshall Stanley. “It’s invigorating to see members of our community help maintain a great outdoor recreation asset in Vinton.”

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Legals - City of Salem

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, January 9, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA: The request of Friendship Salem Terrace, LLC, contract purchaser, and White Whale Two, LLC, property owner of 1871 Harrogate Drive (Tax Map # 128-1-5), and Friendship Salem Terrace, LLC, property owner of 1851 Harrogate Drive (Tax Map # 128-1-13) for rezoning the properties from RMF Residential Multifamily District, with conditions to HBD Highway Business District, with conditions. Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia. At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY: H. Robert Light Clerk of Council

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Legals - Craig County

ORDER OF PUBLICATION VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF CRAIG

THE COUNTY OF CRAIG, VIRGINIA a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Plaintiff, v. UNKNOWN HEIRS OF WILLIAM TABOR, BRUCE DONALD KING, DOUGLAS MARK KING, BRYANT C. FISHER, KIMBERLY FISHER, FREDERICK BROWN, PAMELA BROWN, and PARTIES UNKNOWN, Defendant(s). **Case No. CL22-234** The object of this suit is to enforce a lien for delinquent real estate taxes against the property known as Parcel No. 113-A-19 (property on Giles County/ Craig County line). An Affidavit having been filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the location of the named Defendant(s), that the Defendant(s) may be non-residents of Virginia and maintain no domicile within the borders of the Commonwealth, or are deceased, or that there may be parties who have an interest in the property but are unknown, namely, the heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the named Defendant(s), made Defendants by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that the named Defendant(s) and all Parties Unknown appear on or before January 17, 2023, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause. I Ask For This: N. Reid Broughton (VSB No. 38899) Katie M. DeCoster, Esq. (VSB No. 82696) Sands Anderson PC P.O. Box 2009 Christiansburg, Virginia 24068-2009 (540) 260-9011 (540) 260-0022 (facsimile) Entered: 12/08/2022 by Sharon P. Oliver (Deputy) Clerk, County of Craig, Virginia

Legals - Montgomery County

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SA 19 LLC, trading as G2s 145 College Ave. Blacksburg, county of Montgomery, Virginia 24060-7401 The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Wine and Beer On and Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. George Abboud, Owner. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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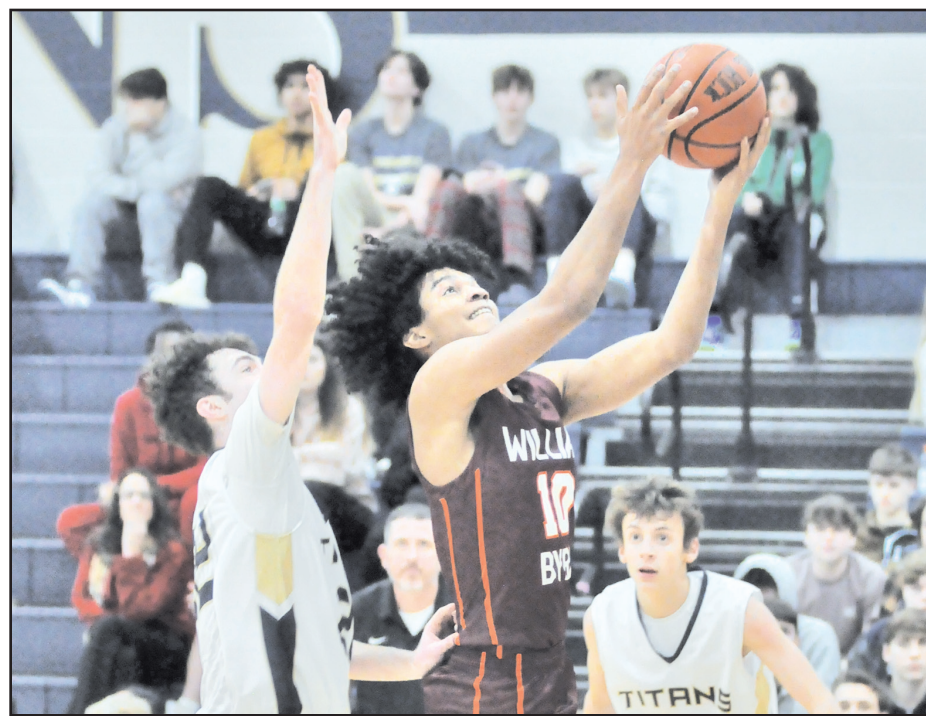
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Far left, Titus Blalock takes it to the basket for Byrd in last week's win over Hidden Valley. Left, Jaiden Childress scores for the Terriers.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Terriers will play in Northside Invitational Tournament next week

The William Byrd boys' will be participating in the annual Northside Invitational Tournament next week, beginning December 28.

The Terriers will open with Roanoke Catholic at 4:15 pm on opening night. The three day tournament also includes Glenvar, Liberty Christian, Auburn, Abingdon, Hidden Valley and host Northside.

Byrd is currently 3-2 with a game at Bassett tonight, their final game before Christmas. Last week the Terriers won at Hidden Valley, 63-48. Byrd trailed by a point at the half but outscored the Titans by 16 after intermission.

"Good win for us," said coach Brad Greenway. "We had nine turnovers in the first half compared to 5 in the second. Came out of the half and just played a really strong third quarter."

The Terriers played host to Christiansburg December 12 in a game that was postponed from December 2nd due to the Demons participation in the VHSL football playoffs. The extra time didn't help the visiting Demons as Byrd took a 63-48 win in Vinton.

The Terriers started off red hot, scoring the first 11 points of the

game. Jaiden Childress had 10 points in the first quarter as Byrd led 16-13 after one period.

"Our student section brought a lot of energy and that got us going," said Greenway. "Jaiden's energy was a constant for us and really kept us moving forward during the game."

The Terriers increased their lead to 37-25 at the half as Isaiah Board warmed up, hitting three three-pointers. Isaiah had four threes in the first half and five for the game.

"Isaiah had a great night shooting from outside, and Izzy (Hairston) played his normal steady game at the point guard spot for us," said Greenway. "He brings us steady

leadership night in and night out."

The Demons outscored Byrd in the third period, 15-14, but Childress scored seven points in the fourth quarter as the Terriers pulled away for the win. Jaiden led the team with 24 points, followed by Board with 17 and Hairston with 11.

Consolation Championship Rounds

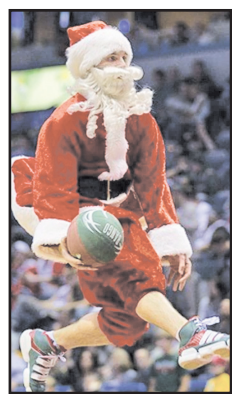
Game # 9
Loser Games 5 & 6
Dec 30 - 2:30 PM

Consolation Runner Up

NORTHSIDE INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

Game # 5
Loser Games 1 & 2
Dec 29 - 2:30 PM

Game # 10
Consolation Champion >>
Dec 30 - 4:15 PM



Game # 6
Loser Games 3 & 4
Dec 29 - 4:15 PM

Glenvar

Game # 1
Dec 28 - 2:30 PM

Liberty Christian

Game # 2
Dec 28 - 4:15 PM

William Byrd

Game # 3
Dec 28 - 6:00 PM

Auburn

Abingdon

Game # 4
Dec 28 - 7:45 PM

Hidden Valley

Northside

NIT Championship Rounds

Game # 11
Losers Games 7 & 8
Dec 30 - 6:00 PM

Third Place

Game # 7
Winner Games 1 & 2
Dec 29 - 6:00 PM



Game # 12
Championship Game
Dec 30 - 7:45 PM

NIT Champion

Second Place



hand, pull it back, and try to hit a receiver with the ball when you let go. It's almost impossible to complete a pass, sort of like Russell Wilson this season.

As for the kicker, it's somewhat the same concept. You put the magnetic football on his foot and when you push down on a lever it kicks the ball. You can easily kick the ball the entire length of the field, but it's tough to put it through the goal posts, so normally you would go for it on fourth down and go for two on extra points. In other words, "just run the ball." I expect offensive line coaches love this game.

Anyway, my neighbor had the game and I wanted one for myself for Christmas. I let my desires be known and was hoping to open a package on Christmas morning and be playing by noon when my mom was cooking our Christmas dinner. Only thing is, Santa didn't bring one.

I don't remember what was under the tree that year but it wasn't an electric football game. I'm sure it was something nice, as my very middle class parents always made sure my sister and I had a good Christmas. However, I have to admit I was a little disappointed.

Then my grandparents showed up for dinner. I looked out the window as they walked up the snow-lined sidewalk to our front door and what, to my surprise, did I see? My grandfather was holding a large, rectangular package that was just about the right size for electric football. As I ripped off the paper I was not only thrilled to see it was, indeed, the game, but it was the high end of the line model.

Apparently, that was par for the course for my grandparents. My mother often said her dad was

frugal with his money, but when he bought something he bought the best. For an example she always mentioned how she didn't get a bike until she was 14 years old, but when she got one it was the best you could buy. In fact, our family still has that bike.

The football game was a sight to behold. It had three dimensional characters, posed in different positions like linemen, linebackers and running backs. The playing field was larger than my friend down the street's game and instead of a metal field it was cork board with cool graphics surrounded by a metal base. It even came with a grandstand that could be attached around one side of the field and a large scoreboard behind the end zone. I played that game many, many times, sometimes with friends but often just by myself.

I don't know what happened to that football game. I also had one of those hockey games and I know what happened to it. I took it to college one year and it was played 24 hours around the clock at my fraternity house before someone broke it beyond repair.

Upon "googling" electric football I was surprised to see that they still make the game. The Tudor company has a site where you can purchase a game customized to your favorite NFL team. The field has the name of your team in the end zone and the logo on the 50 yard line, and you can even order the players in NFL uniforms. It will set you back over \$300 and I imagine some of the figures still go around in circles.

Why you would buy that game today when you can play NFL Madden, I have no idea. However, I do know back in 1962 one little boy got a present he still remembers fondly 60 years later.



Brian Hoffman

ELECTRIC CHRISTMAS

Merry Christmas everyone.

As you know, this is the most wonderful time of the year. We have early sports deadlines this week so your sportswriter can have Christmas with family, so if something is missing from the sports section we'll catch you up next week.

Like many of you, I've always loved Christmas. There's nothing like the joy of a child on Christmas Eve, anticipating the arrival of Santa. It's great when you're a child, and when you get older it's just as great to watch the children, maybe even better.

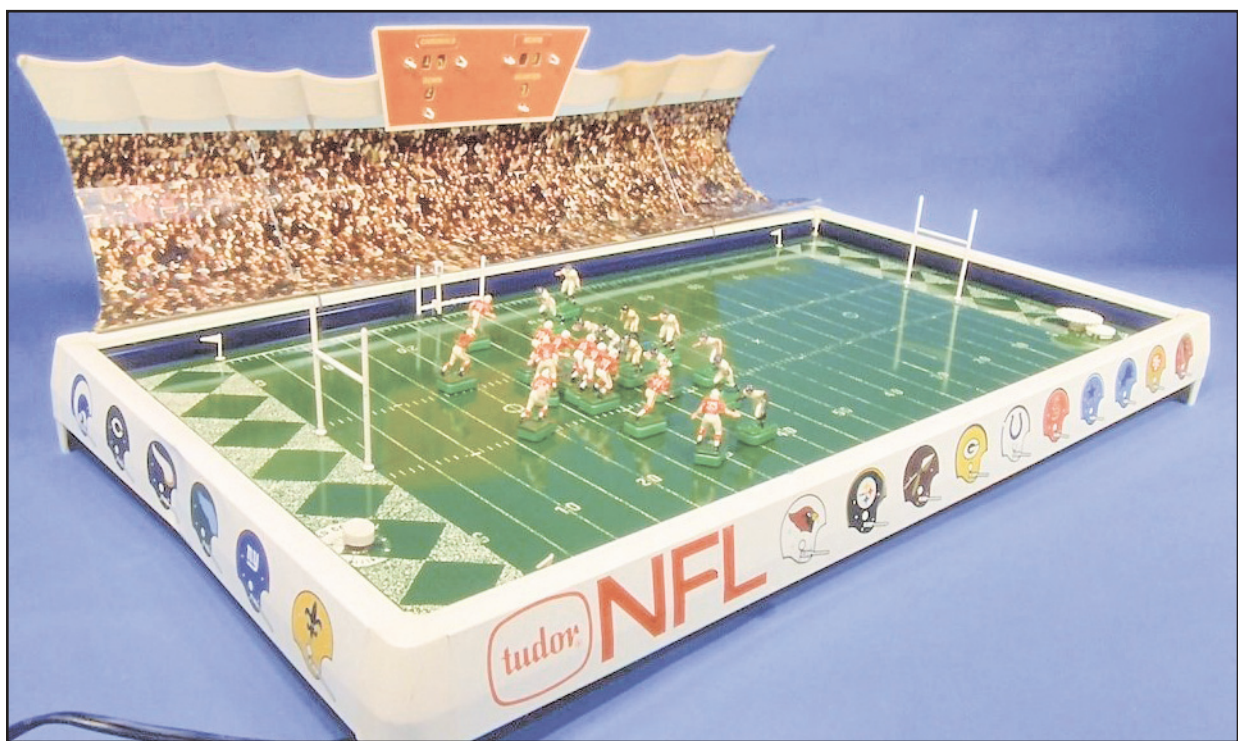
I can remember one particular present when I was a child, and it's right up there with my first bike. I wanted one of those electric football games that were so popular in the 50s, 60s and 70s, way before the EA Sports folks put out the John Madden game. That Madden game is about as close to real football as you can get without putting on a helmet.

When I was a kid my neighbor down the street had one of those electric football games and we spent hours sitting on the floor playing. If you've never played, it's a simple premise. Each team has 11 little players and a football field hooked up to something that makes the field vibrate. One player arranges his men in an offensive formation and the other does the same on defense.

The play starts when you flip the switch that makes the field vibrate, and the players move around on the gridiron. The play ends when a defensive player bumps the man with the ball, resulting in a tackle.

There's a lot of strategy to the game. First of all, you have to know your little players. Some of them will go straight and some of them will just go around in circles. Usually the guys that go straight are the backs and the ones who just go around in circles are linemen.

Most of the time you're going to run the ball in electric football, as passing is very difficult. You have one "passer-kicker" who is shared by both teams. It's a two-dimensional metal player, and to pass you put the magnetic football in his raised



SPORTS

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William Byrd wrestlers take second in Big Orange Classic

The Big Orange wrestlers finished second among 17 teams in last Saturday's Big Orange Classic wrestling tournament in Vinton. This year the Big Orange, the oldest continuous tournament of its' kind in the Roanoke Valley, was held on one day in the middle school due to continuing construction at the high school.

Lord Botetourt won the tournament with 230 points and the Terriers were second with 168.5, 13 and a half points more than third place Rockbridge. Byrd had a Big Orange champ in Dominic Pascoe, who went 4-0 at 120 to improve to 10-2 on the season. He beat Nathan Stewart of James River in overtime in the championship match.

"Dominic made it happen scoring a takedown in overtime," said Byrd coach Thomas Kessler. "He was up most of the match but his opponent caught him on his back and he had to fight off of his back for the last 30 seconds of the match. Nate, a freshman and son of James Rivers coach Bobby Stewart, is going to be a great wrestler."

Darin Witcher and Aidan Lucas placed second. Witcher is now 6-4 at 106 and Lucas is 10-3 at 215.

Gage Cockran and Stephen Underwood placed third, Landon Barber and Graylen Castleberry placed fourth and Bricen Lancaster took a fifth.

"Even though we couldn't have the tournament over two days and we had to do it Middle School, the tournament ran smooth and it was a success," said Kessler. "We're looking forward to doing it next year



Terriers pose for a group shot after taking second in the Big Orange last Saturday.

PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER

in the high school."

The Terriers were scheduled to return to the mats Wednesday for the Blue Ridge District duals. They'll

take off for Christmas this weekend, then participate in the Takedown the New Year tournament at Heritage High on December 29 and 30.



Left, Dominic Pascoe(on top) wrestles James River's Nathan Stewart to win the 120 pound class at the Big Orange. Right, Aiden Lucas took second at 215.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Byrd girls in Cave Spring Christmas Classic this week

The William Byrd girls are one of six teams that will play in the Cave Spring Christmas Classic this week. The tournament is scheduled to begin Wednesday and run for three days.

The schedule is preset, and Byrd will play at 2 pm each today. On Wednesday the Terriers were scheduled to play Staunton River at 2 pm, followed by EC Glass against Magna Vista at 4 pm and Cave Spring against Floyd at 6 pm.

Tonight Byrd will play Glass at 2 pm, followed by Floyd-Magna Vista and Cave Spring-Staunton River. The classic wraps up Friday with Byrd against Floyd

at 2 pm, followed by Magna Vista-Staunton River at 4 and Cave Spring against EC Glass at 6 pm.

The Terriers come into the tournament with a 1-4 record after falling to Hidden Valley in Vinton last Wednesday, 55-49. Alexis Helton had 19 points to lead Byrd, followed by Sam Martin with a dozen and Logan Andrews with 11. Byrd led 32-22 at the half but the Titans used a big third quarter to grab the lead, out-scoring Byrd 19-8 to take a one point lead into the fourth quarter. Hidden Valley then finished strong for the win.



Left to right, Byrd's Sam Martin(#20), Logan Andrews(#21) and Alexis Helton(#14) take it to the hoop in last week's win over Hidden Valley at the William Byrd gym.

PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY

Indoor team runs in Liberty Christmas Invitational

The William Byrd indoor track and field team ran at Liberty University in the Liberty University Christmas High School Invitational on December 17 in Lynchburg.

On the ladies' side of the competition Sydney Blewett qualified for states in the shot put with a throw of 34'6 and a second place finish. Sydney also ran the 55m dash with a time of 7.99 and Maddie Simmons had a time of 8.09.

In the 300m dash Grace Onwi had a time of 45.48. Emma Gordon had a time of 1:30.26 in the 500 m and Kendall Gordon ran it in 1:34.97. Alexandra Bonilla ran a 3:49.45

in the 1,000m.

In the men's competition Wyatt Bailey clocked 6.96 in the 55m dash and Noah Thompson ran a 7.04. Bailey just missed state qualifying in the 300m with a time of 37.39 followed by Deshawn Austin in 38.57 and Elliott Gaines in 39.53. In the 500m dash Donald Mullins had a time of 1:12.50 and in the 1000m run he ran 2:50.54.

The William Byrd indoor team will be off the next two weeks, returning January 7th for the East Coast Invite at VMI.