

VESTED
PARTNERS
A MULTI-FAMILY OFFICE

LEGAL

FINANCIAL

FIDUCIARY

INSURANCE

Robyn Smith Ellis, Attorney

www.vestedmfo.com
540.389.6060

The Vinton Messenger

**Haley Has It For Less...
For Vinton!**

Haley Toyota

1530 Courtland Road NE,
Roanoke, VA 24012 • 540.345.1666

Haleyhasitforless.com

**Bring this coupon in for
\$100 Off Your Best Deal!**

Limit One Per Customer
Expiration Date: JANUARY 31, 2023

Thursday, December 29, 2022 • Dogwood Capital of Virginia • Covering Vinton, Bonsack & Stewartsville (USPS-660-020) OurValley.org • \$1.00



One of the most memorable events in Vinton in 2022 was the fire which devastated a downtown block on July 2.

Vinton 2022 –A year of extremes; pulling together to improve, while preserving what makes Vinton special

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

The year 2022 was a time of the highest highs in the Town of Vinton interrupted midway by one jarring catastrophe. The most memorable event from 2022 will likely be the devastating fire in Vinton on July 2, which destroyed and displaced several businesses in the heart of the downtown area.

The historic D.R. Music building at the corner of Lee Avenue and Pollard Street, owned by

Donnie and Rhonda Wray, did not survive the fire. It has been demolished. The Edward Jones office and Rustic Creations on Lee Avenue were displaced. The cause of the fire has yet to be announced. Decisions on the properties are somewhat in limbo. An alterations shop and hair salon on Pollard Street were impacted as well, along with several apartments above the businesses.

The Wrays have reopened a block down Pollard Street. Rustic

See **2022 Review**, page 5



PHOTO AND COLLAGE BY DEBBIE ADAMS

One of the events that will have the most impact on citizens of Vinton long-term is the transfer of ownership from the town to the Western Virginia Water Authority. (top photo) On June 7, 2022, officials from the Town of Vinton and the Western Virginia Water Authority signed the official agreement transferring ownership and operation of the Town of Vinton water and wastewater system to the Authority. Shown left to right (front row) are WVWA Executive Director Mike McEvoy, former Vinton Mayor and WVWA Board member Don Davis, Mayor Brad Grose, Vice Mayor Sabrina McCarty, and council members Keith Liles, Mike Stovall, and Laurie Mullins; back row, WVWA Board members Shirley Holland, Richard Caywood (also Roanoke County Administrator), Hunter Young, Harvey Brookins, Jr., and John Bradshaw. (bottom photo) A ceremonial “valve turning” was held at the signing of the WVWA/Town of Vinton agreement. Shown left to right are Assistant Town Manager Cody Sexton, Town Manager Pete Peters, Councilman Mike Stovall, Mayor Brad Grose, Councilwoman Laurie Mullins, Vice Mayor Sabrina McCarty, Public Works Administrative Manager Jill Acker, Public Works Director Bo Herndon, and Councilman Keith Liles.

Vinton Moose Lodge welcomes Down Syndrome Association for Christmas party



Santa paid a visit to the Vinton Moose Lodge during a Christmas Party hosted by the Down Syndrome Association of Roanoke (DSAR) on Dec. 10. Amanda Adams (on right), DSAR Program Director, facilitated the event and brought it to the Moose Lodge for the first time.

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Vinton Moose Lodge 1121 welcomed the Down Syndrome Association of Roanoke (DSAR) to celebrate the holiday season with a Christmas party on Dec. 10.

About 130 children and adults from all over the valley attended the event, ranging in age from an infant celebrating a first birthday up to age 40. The DSAR has been hosting the annual party since the 1990s, except during the pandemic years, but this was the first year the Christmas party was held at the lodge in Vinton.

The DSAR is made up of individuals with Down syndrome in Southwest Virginia, along

with their families, friends, and professionals.

Its mission is to provide advocacy for individuals of all ages with Down syndrome as well as educational opportunities and support for their families, caregivers, and the professionals who provide medical, therapeutic, and instructional services.

The afternoon included a visit with Santa and a complimentary photo from April Dawn Photography, a Christmas craft (decorating ornaments), games and activities, and a luncheon catered by Sal's Italian Restaurant in Bonsack.

One of the special guests at the event was music therapist Noel Anderson, founder of Anderson Music Therapy Ser-

vices, who played the guitar and brought along a variety of instruments (122 in total, including maracas, shakers, drums and more) for the guests to play—a big hit with those who attended.

Hers is the only full-time music therapy private practice in Roanoke and helps toddlers through older adults with various developmental and neurologic needs reach their full potential through the power of music. It gives Anderson, a board-certified music therapist and music educator, the opportunity to combine her passion for music with therapeutic services.

The 2022 DSAR Christmas

See **Christmas Party**, page 3



PHOTOS BY APRIL DAWN PHOTOGRAPHY

Vinton Moose Lodge 1121 donated use of the venue to the DSAR for their holiday event and made a donation of \$500 to the non-profit. Moose Lodge Administrator Clark Crawley is shown presenting the check to Amanda Adams.

Vinton loses renowned artist Fred Cramer



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Fred Cramer was a well-known photographer and artist of many genres (especially carving and sculpting) who spent most of his life in Vinton. He disliked the bare foundation walls at his home, so, on a whim, he added a lion.

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Fred Cramer passed away on Dec. 16 at age 87. The first line of his obituary described him as “renowned local artist.” That was an understatement. I was fortunate enough to spend a morning with Mr. Cramer at his studio several years ago because he was opening an exhibit of his photographs (mostly birds), watercolors, and wood cuts in the Vinton Municipal Building and the town wanted to showcase the event.

He wasn't just a great artist—sculptor, carver, technical illustrator, commercial artist, painter, photographer—but a fount of knowledge about the Vinton community.

Cramer said he loved the small-town life he found in Vinton. Here he was a businessman, environmentalist, birder, hiker, sailor, mountain biker, and all-around outdoor sportsman—and a family man.

He came to Vinton in the 1940s when he was

See **Fred Cramer**, page 7

Happy Holidays

FROM ALL OF US AT BANK OF BOTETOURT AND VIRGINIA MOUNTAIN MORTGAGE

Bank of Botetourt

VIRGINIA MOUNTAIN MORTGAGE
NMLS#476841

Member FDIC
EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

HOLIDAY HOURS:
WE WILL BE CLOSING AT 5 PM
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

WE WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY, DECEMBER 26
& MONDAY, JANUARY 2

Beyond Books

Happy New Year from all of us here at the Vinton Library! We hope your holidays were wonderful and you're as ready as we are to get 2023 started with all kinds of fun programs and events.

First of all we want to make sure everyone is comfortable with our new online experience. If you're having any trouble navigating the new online catalog, come by the library on Tuesday, Jan. 10 from 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. for "Welcome to Wise" and we will answer your questions and show you how things work. Do you have other technology related questions? Call to set up a Tech Time appointment to bring your device and questions to the library.

Drop off your non-perishable food items from Friday, Jan. 27 through Monday, Feb. 6 for Soup for Seniors, hosted by the Local Office on Aging.

GED Classes with Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Region 5 Adult Education continue every Tuesday and Thursday from 5-7:30 p.m. in our conference room. Register for these free classes at www.regionfiveadulthood.com.

The Open Bridge group meets every Tuesday from 1-4 p.m.

The Roanoke Valley Dulcimers will meet on Saturday, Jan. 21, from 10:15 a.m.-2:15 p.m.

Do you want to get crafty? Register online for this month's Creations and Temptations on Saturday, Jan. 14, from 3-4 p.m. to make pretty, essential oil air fresheners out of Oui yogurt jars.

Looking to read more or join a book club in the new year? This month the Vinton Book Club will discuss The Dutch House by Ann Patchett on Thursday, Jan. 5 at 3 p.m. On Wednesday, Jan. 11 at 2 p.m., the As the Page Turns Book Club will discuss Darling Rose Gold by Stephanie Wrobel.

Teens may drop by the Teen Center on Monday, Jan. 9 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. for Switch Gaming: Teens vs. Cops. Test your gaming skills against officers from the Vinton Police Department and enjoy yummy snacks.

Register for Anime Club on Monday, Jan. 23 from 6-7 p.m.; come to watch and discuss your favorite shows and manga. Prizes will be awarded for (optional) cosplay. Register for Book Club on Monday, Jan. 30 from 5-6 p.m. Come to enjoy snacks and activities while talking to other teens about what you're reading or get help picking out your next book.

Kids may register for Crafternoon on Wednesday, Jan. 4 from 4-5 p.m. for a fun craft after school. We will have Wonder Time on Thursday, Jan. 12 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. for children ages 2-5; register online for fun STEM and sensory activities.

We'll also have our Junior Makers Club (ages 5-10) on Wednesday, Jan. 18 from 4-5 p.m.; register for a fun, stimulating STEM project.

Lego Play will be Wednesday, Jan. 25, from 4-5 p.m. Also, be sure to drop by the children's area on Friday, Jan. 20 to celebrate the Year of the Rabbit with Lunar New Year Crafts all day, while supplies last.

The next Storytime session runs from Jan. 9 to Feb. 6 and the theme will be Weather. Jammie Time (ages 3-5) will be Tuesdays at 6 p.m. and Family Storytime (ages 0-5) is on Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. Registration is required.

Also, don't forget to register for Saturday on Saturday, Jan. 21 from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 pm, along with our "Meet-the-Author: Valerie Archual" event the same day from 11a.m.-1p.m.

~ Submitted by Molly Meador, Vinton Library Assistant

Heroes volunteer here: Vinton salutes its First Aid Crew

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

The Town of Vinton and The Vinton Messenger are saluting members of the Vinton First Aid Crew (VFAC). This week's featured volunteer is Logan Klepal. He has been with the crew for three years, serving as a paramedic.

He was named VFAC "Member of the Year" for 2022 at the recent Installation of Officers ceremony on Dec. 7, chosen by his peers. He was installed as 2nd Lieutenant with the crew.

Klepal is from Pittsburgh and is currently a Critical Care student at Radford University-Carilion. He was motivated to join the Vinton First Aid Crew by his past 911 experiences and his desire to serve the community.

He says that volunteering in Vinton, he is surrounded by "good people," he receives high activity experience, and "sometimes there are free

sandwiches."

"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 fellow man," 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, Logan Klepal!

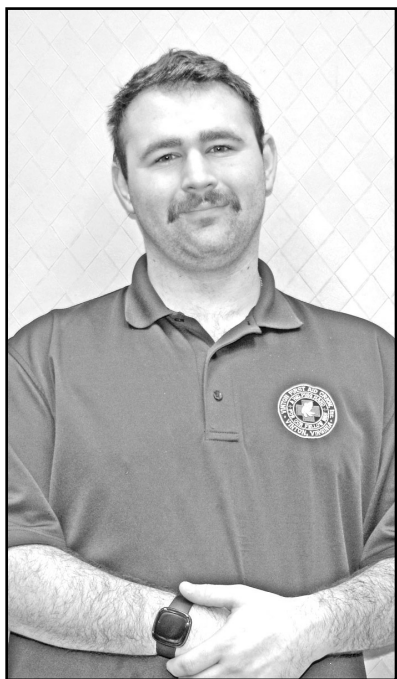


PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Logan Klepal is this week's Vinton First Aid Crew Volunteer of the Week.

VINTON HISTORY: NUTCRACKERS

Nutcrackers are common holiday decorative pieces but did not become popular in the United States until the 1950s.

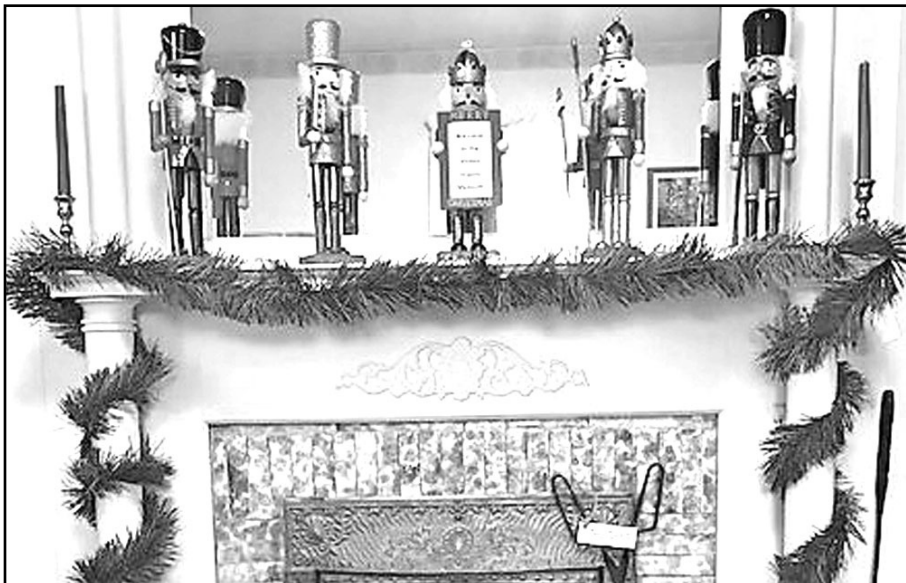
Christmas nutcrackers have become an integral part of the Christmas season. Known well for their authentic costumes, nutcracker figurines are a great option to portray the holiday spirit. They carry a depth of tradition as they have been around for a long time.

Nutcrackers were first made in Germany – all hand-made of wood carvings with a mix of tradition, attention to detail and finest materials. The Germans made contacts with the U.S. soldiers who were stationed there, introducing their "Nutcrackers," an original German souvenir to take back to the United States after their service.

The Vinton History Museum has a display of various nutcrackers donated by Sheryl Pagans Vaden and several other donors.

The museum is closed during the holidays, reopening on Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2023. Regular hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and every first Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Stop by the museum for a visit, tour, or research at 210 East Jackson Avenue in downtown Vinton.

Submitted by Judy Cunningham, Executive Director of the Vinton History Museum



Nutcrackers on display at the Vinton History Museum.

PHOTO BY JUDY CUNNINGHAM



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Vinton Historical Society hosted a holiday reception on Dec. 20 for supporters of the Vinton History Museum, especially the volunteers who give so generously of their time to keep the museum not only going, but growing.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | | | | 15 | | | | | | 16 | | | | |
| 17 | | | | 18 | | | | | 19 | | | | | |
| 20 | | | 21 | | | | | 22 | | | | | | |
| 23 | | | | | | 24 | 25 | | | | | 26 | 27 | |
| | | 28 | | | | 29 | | | | 30 | | | | |
| 31 | 32 | | | | | 33 | | 34 | 35 | 36 | | | 37 | |
| 38 | | | | 39 | 40 | | | | | | | 41 | | |
| 42 | | | | 43 | | | | | | 44 | 45 | | | |
| 46 | | 47 | 48 | | | | | 49 | | 50 | | | | |
| 51 | | | | | 52 | 53 | 54 | | | | 55 | | 56 | 57 |
| | | | 58 | | | | | | | 59 | | | | |
| 60 | 61 | | | | | | | 62 | 63 | | | | 64 | |
| 65 | | | | | | 66 | | | | | | 67 | | |
| 68 | | | | | | 69 | | | | | | 70 | | |

CLUES ACROSS

1. Product or __ (abbr.)

4. Zodiac sign

9. S. China seaport

14. Former OSS

15. Early English printer

16. Aphid genus

17. General's assistant (abbr.)

18. Aussies

20. Dissuades

22. Make law

23. Drench

24. Soak in a liquid

28. Male child

29. It cools your home

30. Small constellation

31. To call (archaic)

33. Explores beneath the Earth

37. Commercial

38. W. hemisphere organization

39. You can find it in a can

41. "Land of the free"

42 36 inches

43. Footwear

44. Challenges

46. They hold things together

49. Of I

50. Partner to flow

51. Not connected by kinship

55. Worries

58. Garlic mayonnaise

59. A way to take by force

60. Legendary English rockers

64. Your consciousness of your own identity

65. Fencing swords

66. Silly

67. Actor DiCaprio

68. Encircles with a belt

69. Mails a message

70. Longing

CLUES DOWN

1. Horse mackerels

2. It can be viral

3. Prickly plants

4. Consciousness

5. Type of sarcoma

6. Tax collector

7. Sun up in New York

8. One who scorches

9. Influential psychotherapist

10. Situated at an apex

11. Communicative

12. Forearm nerve

13. Former CIA

19. Folk singer DiFranco

21. Employee stock ownership plan

24. Large-scale

25. School environment

26. Remove

27. Male parents

31. Large rodent

32. Weighed down

34. Held tightly

35. __ route: going there

36. Explains again

40. Exclamation of surprise

41. Courteously

45. Lying down

47. Judge

48. Forcefully took

52. Loosely compacted sediment

53. High mountain

54. Portable conical tents

56. Cereal grass

57. Dining utensil

59. Thoughtful

60. Helps you walk

61. Indicates near

62. Midway between northeast and east

63. Local area network

RECIPES OF THE WEEK

New Year's Eve Appetizers

Here are three tried-and-true appetizers for New Year's Eve.

Sweet Chicken Bacon Wraps

Ingredients:

1 and 1/4 lbs. boneless, skinless chicken breasts (about 4 breasts)
1 one-pound pkg. sliced bacon
3/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar
2 Tbsp. chili powder (adjust for taste)
Preheat oven to 350°. Cut chicken breasts into 1-inch cubes. Cut each bacon slice in thirds. Wrap each chicken cube with bacon and secure with wooden toothpick. Stir together brown sugar and chili powder. Dredge wrapped chicken in mixture. Coat a rack and broiler pan with non-stick cooking spray. Place chicken on rack in pan. Bake at 350° for 30-35 minutes or until bacon is crisp.

Spicy Sweet and Sour Meatballs

Meatball Ingredients:

1 lb. lean ground beef
1 cup dry breadcrumbs or Panko
2 cloves of garlic, minced
1 small onion, minced
1 egg
Salt and pepper to taste
Sauce Ingredients:
1/2 cup chopped onion
8 Tbsp. sugar
1/4 tsp. black pepper
1/2 cup catsup
6 Tbsp. vinegar
2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce

Combine ground beef and other ingredients; roll into balls. Fry and drain. Cook slowly in sauce for one hour. Keep

warm in crockpot or fondue pot.

Sausage Pinwheels

Ingredients:

2 cups flour
1 Tbsp. baking powder
1 tsp. salt
1/4 cup shortening
2/3 cup milk
1 lb. hot pork sausage, room temperature

Combine flour, baking powder, salt. Cut in shortening until mixture resembles coarse meal. Add milk, stirring until well blended. Turn dough out onto lightly floured surface. Knead 3 or 4 times. Roll dough into 12x18 rectangle. Spread sausage over dough, leaving 1/2 inch margin on all sides. Carefully roll dough lengthwise. Pinch seam and ends to seal. Cover and refrigerate at least one hour or overnight. Slice dough into 1/4inch slices. Bake one inch apart on baking sheet at 350° degrees for 20 minutes or until browned. Makes 3 and 1/2 dozen pinwheels.

Olive Cheese Puffs

Ingredients:

1 cup grated sharp Cheddar
1/4 cup butter or margarine, softened
1/2 cup flour
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. paprika
30 stuffed green olives, well-drained
Blend cheese and butter. Stir in flour, salt, paprika. Blend thoroughly. Mold 1 tsp. cheese mixture around each olive. Place on foil-lined baking sheet. Freeze until firm. Then bake at 400° about 15 minutes, until golden brown.

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



PHOTO BY KELLY SIKKEMA

Christmas Party

from page 1

party came together through the combined efforts of Amanda Adams, Clark Crawley, and Crystal Dillon.

Amanda Adams, a member of the DSAR Board of Directors and the Program Director, was seeking a location for this year's event. She posted a notice that the organization was looking for a venue that would accommodate up to 150 children and adults.

Her friend, Crystal Dillon, treasurer of the Vinton Moose Lodge, noticed the post, and spoke with Clark Crawley, Vinton Moose Lodge administrator, who offered the venue, free of charge, for the DSAR party. They worked out the details for what turned out to be a very successful holiday event from everyone's point of view— guests and organizers.

Adams was unfamiliar with

the Moose Lodge but delighted to discover what she describes as “a hidden gem. You wouldn't know passing by that it exists.” Crawley says that the growing DSAR is a good fit for their facility. Vinton Moose Lodge 1121, a private charitable organization, is dedicated to community service and hopes to be contacted when needs arise in the Vinton area and throughout the region.

DSAR members came in the night before the party to decorate the hall, although the Moose Lodge was already decked out for the holiday season.

The Moose Lodge banquet hall occupies the bottom level of the facility. It features a huge ballroom with a dance floor, a kitchen and bar area, a fireplace, and, during the Christmas season, many decorations and props that make it a perfect

location for large holiday parties. This year Moose members decorated with a huge sleigh for Santa, his regal chair for greeting visitors, a Christmas tree, and more.

Both Adams and Crawley hope the DSAR Christmas party will become an annual event at the Moose Lodge. Not only did the Moose provide the venue, the Moose Lodge made a donation of \$500 to the DSAR.

This is one of many contributions the Moose have made to the community across the valley. On December 2, the Sassy Sisters of the Moose hosted special education students from Roanoke County Public Schools for their annual Breakfast with Santa and provided the food as well as the facility.

Last August, the Vinton Moose Lodge hosted the USA Patriots Softball Team for lunch

as they visited the Roanoke Valley for the weekend. They are a non-profit group whose mission is “to bring athletic and veteran amputees together to promote the benefits of inclusive sport (slow pitch softball) and therapeutic recreational activities.” They were here to take on a team of first responders at Salem Memorial Ballpark and raise awareness of, and funds for, their cause.

The Vinton Moose made a generous contribution of \$1,000 to them as well.

In January 2022, the Vinton Moose made a \$10,000 donation to Vetshouse, Inc., a nonprofit organization in the Hampton Roads area that helps homeless veterans secure housing and job opportunities.

The Vinton Moose Lodge was chartered on January 3, 1961; the members are about to

celebrate their 62nd anniversary. The lodge is located at 2127 East Washington Avenue,

For up-to-date information on the Vinton Moose Lodge 1121 and activities, visit the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Vinton-Moose-Lodge-Family-Center-1121-789466891114946/>.

More information on the DSAR is available on the website at <http://dsar.org/> or on the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/dsar.org>. Amanda Adams is eager to reach out to families with parent packets about the organization and Down syndrome in general.

For more information on Anderson Music Therapy check the website at www.aMusicTherapy.com or the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/AndersonMTx>.



The children at the DSAR Christmas party were delighted with Christmas crafts and a special treat, playing musical instruments with music therapist Noel Anderson.



Another happy child meeting Santa.



The Moose Lodge provided the venue; the DSAR added even more decorations; Sal's Italian Restaurant catered the party.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Town of Vinton will hold its regularly scheduled Town Council meeting in Municipal Chambers on Tuesday, Jan. 3 at 6 p.m.

Roanoke County Schools reopen on Jan. 3.

Rosie's Gaming Emporium: The Charissa Joy Duo performs at 8 p.m. on Dec. 30; Tony Camm and the Funk All-Stars perform on Dec. 31, New Year's Eve, at 8 p.m. Both are free shows.

Lancerlot: Holiday ice skating continues

on Dec. 29 (12-3 p.m., 3:30-6:30 p.m. and 7-10 p.m.), 30 (12-3 p.m., 3:30-6:30 p.m. and 7-10 p.m.), and 31 (8:30-11:30 a.m., 12-3 p.m., and 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.)

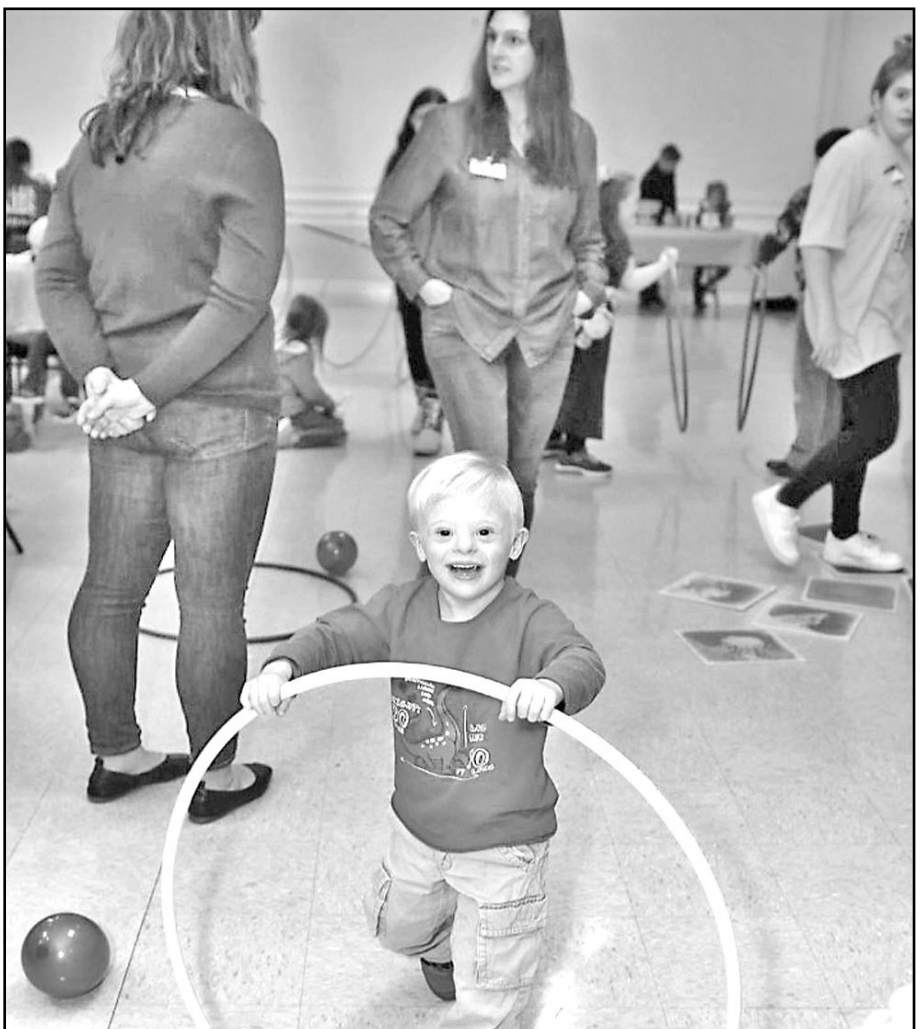
Mount Pleasant Library: Starry Night Mosaics for all ages on Jan. 3 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Using a coloring sheet of Van Gogh's Starry Night painting, participants will add bits of colored paper to create a mosaic. Register online at <https://roanokecountyva.gov/1970/Library>.

Thrasher Memorial UMC: There will be one combined worship service on New Year's Day at 10 a.m.

Vinton Baptist Church: There will be one combined service at 10:30 a.m. on Jan. 1, New Year's Day.

Vinton Wesleyan Church: One service at 10:30 a.m. on New Year's Day.

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



The DSAR brought along fun games for the children at the Christmas party.



Santa brought out the smiles at the DSAR Christmas party in Vinton.

YOUR LOCAL NEWS
JUST THE WAY
YOU LIKE IT!

VINTON MESSENGER

DIGITAL ONLY

One Year
Digital Subscription
\$29.00

DIGITAL & PRINT

Yearly Print & Digital
Subscription
\$67.00

PRINT ONLY

Yearly Print Only Subscription
\$45.00 In County
\$49.00 Out of County \$53.00 Out of State

SUBSCRIPTION TO THE VINTON MESSENGER

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Check Enclosed _____ or call (304) 647-5724 to pay by credit card

Mail to: Circulation Department, VINTON MESSENGER,
P.O. BOX 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901 or call us at (304) 647-5724.

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

By Angie and Bootie Chewing

I hope everyone had a great Christmas. I know we sure did. We had our annual Christmas Eve fun. Those joining Greg and me in our home were Bootie, Greg Chewing, Drake and Hannah Lewis, Abbie Lewis, Emilee Jones, and her new fiancé Holden (Congrats!), Steve and Tara Jones, Kim Barker, Julie Drew, Aaron Blankenship, Michelle, Brian and Devin Barklow, Jimmy Bell, and Elena Boitnott. The festi-

ties continued Christmas morning for breakfast. Whew--this is one tired cook. Valerie, Chase, Cade and Kyle Hendricks and Lindsey Bell made their way home for Christmas. While iNVinton, they visited Aunt Bootie and Texas Tavern. Valerie met the girls--Lisa Beavers, Lisa Simmons Whitfield, Charlene Nance, Kay Archer Woodson, and Amy Silvers Skaff for brunch, then visited the Mast General Store with the boys. Did you have company for the holidays or go somewhere fun? Please send me your stories and pictures to angie@vinton-chamber.com.



Jimmy Bell, Abbie Lewis, Bootie Chewing, and their pet friends celebrate on Christmas Eve.

The Vinton
Messenger

USPS 660-020
(540) 473-2741
1633 W. Main St.
Salem, VA 24153
ourvalley.org

Submissions: dadams@ourvalley.org
To subscribe: (540) 473-2741

Michael Showell, *Publisher*.....
Lynn Hurst, *General Manager* lhurst@ourvalley.org
Matt de Simone, *Editor*..... fincastle.editor@ourvalley.org
Debbie Adams, *Staff Writer*..... dadams@ourvalley.org
Brian Hoffman, *Sports Editor* bhoffman@ourvalley.org
Betty Jo Barger, *Copy Editor* fincastle@ourvalley.org
James "Tucker" Frye, *Advertising* tfrye@ourvalley.org

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.

The Vinton Messenger (USPS 660-020) is published weekly for \$44 a year in Vinton and Roanoke County, \$48 a year in adjoining counties, \$52 a year out of state and the yearly bundle is \$59 a year by Virginia Media Inc. P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Vinton, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE VINTON MESSENGER, P.O. Box 1125, Salem, Va 24153

A black and white photograph of a group of women sitting around a table. They are all smiling and holding glasses of drinks. There are several glasses on the table, some with straws. The setting appears to be an indoor space, possibly a restaurant or a community center, with ceiling fans visible in the background.

The Brunch Bunch.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANGIE CHEWNING

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 Bote-tourt 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 COV-

Vinton

Worship
Directory

READY OR NOT

Read Revelation 22:1-21

At the turn of the century, the world was in a panic. On the eve of a new millennium, no one was sure what midnight would bring. Experts claimed a programming glitch could cause computers to struggle with the date change. The acronym Y2K became a household phrase connected to the possible collapse of computer-dependent industrialized nations.

Some scoffed, but others prepared. They stockpiled canned goods and bottled water. They outlined a strategy for living without electricity. They took the doomsday warnings seriously and wanted to be ready.

John's Revelation contains a similar foretelling of a future event that will change life on earth.

"Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done" (Revelation 22:12).

Whether or not you prepared for Y2K, the forewarned tragedy did not amount to anything. As believers, however, we all must be ready for Christ's return. The events prophesied in Scripture will come to pass. So, as 2012 comes to a close, ask yourself this question: Am I ready?

Prayer Suggestion: Lord, help me be ready for Your soon return.

Quicklook: Revelation 22:7-17

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; cmpc2verizon.net Sunday school 9:45am, Worship 11:00am; Communion 1st Sundays; 2nd Sunday Session; Monday Noon Bible Study; Tuesdays & Thursdays Stretch Class 9:00am; 1st Tuesdays Deacons; Wednesday Choir 7:00pm; Monday Girl Scouts 7:00pm; 3rd Saturday Men's Breakfast 8:00am. Rev. Jonathan Moelker, pastor

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

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

2022 Review

from page 1

Creations owner Dawn Sullivan has also re-opened a block in the other direction on Poplar Street. Edward Jones Financial Analyst George Lester has found temporary space on Walnut Avenue, still in the downtown area.

However, the most significant event of the year with possibly the most long-term impact on citizens was the transfer of ownership of the town's utility water and wastewater system to the Western Virginia Water Authority over the summer.

That change in ownership of the water and wastewater system not only relieved the town of the onus of antiquated pipes and equipment but led to another big celebration by local government leaders over the elimination of almost all debt owed by the town. Negotiations with the WVWA and Roanoke County were financially advantageous for the Town of Vinton, especially in combination with COVID funding which had brought millions to the town coffers. Town Council and town staff are exultant at the opportunity this provides for taking on substantial capital improvement projects which have long been delayed rather than tediously chipping away at them over time.

Vinton Town Manager Pete Peters agrees that the fire and the transfer of the utility system were the most significant events of 2022 in Vinton; however, he sees the "glass half full" and is "excited about what those two events will provide for the town moving forward."

"While the fire was tragic, it will give the town an opportunity to rebuild a significant section of our downtown with new and modern leasable commercial space and new upstairs residential units," Peters said. "Both owners of the properties effected are working on design and plan to rebuild. The town is participating with the design phase, and we are eager to assist with completing the demolition and seeing the owners move towards construction in 2023."

"The transfer of the utility system is already realizing positive opportunities for the town to make other significant investments within our infrastructure where those resources were previously consumed by the utility operation," Peters said. "Stormwater improvements, traffic signal replacement, and construction of a new public parking area in our downtown are just a few examples of initiatives that are underway as a result of the utility system freeing up staff and funding to provide other important community developments. And the fact that the WVWA is heavily investing in the water and sewer system updates without rate increases is providing a higher quality and more sustainable service and product for our residents and businesses."

"The third item that is not to be overlooked is the filling out of an incredibly talented and professional team," Peters continued. "I am very excited to have been able to hire some extremely talented individuals and in this job market, as not many organizations can say they are either at or even near full employment."

"We've got something special going in Vinton and the positive energy and fresh perspectives are allowing us to move the needle and employees want to be a part of the momentum. From Public Works, to police, to finance, Planning and Zoning, and Community Programs, we have developed a very dynamic and complete team and I couldn't be prouder of how well everyone is pulling together towards making this community as good as it can be on areas we need to improve, while preserving what already makes it so special."

Here's a sampling of what happened in Vinton in 2022:

January 2022: Rosie's Gaming Emporium celebrated the grand opening of its \$28 million expansion, adding 350 new gaming machines, live entertainment each weekend, and a 280-space parking garage. Jason Boothe was installed as the new president of the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce. BoomTown Crossfit opened its new fitness center in Vinton in the Midway community.

February 2022: The eighth annual Gauntlet Business Program and Competition (Virgin-

ia's largest) got underway, based in Vinton, but virtual once again as the program expanded across the region and state from the Roanoke Valley to the Shenandoah Valley and Southside. A record 153 entrepreneurs joined the program. The Woodland Place Restoration Project was approved to rebuild the stream bank. Town Treasurer and Finance Director Anne Cantrell resigned to take a similar position closer to home with the Town of Bedford. Masks became optional once again in Roanoke County schools. Visible work began on the Gish Mill Redevelopment Project with the dismantling of the eastern end of the building destined for patio dining, while repair and stabilization work were taking place within the structure.

Detective Sgt. Valerie Cummings retired after 23 years with the Vinton Police Department, much of that time spent as Accreditation Manager. The police department had a starring role in "Princess Cut 3: Beauty from Ashes" which had its worldwide premiere at the Grandin Theatre.

Ginger Quinn, Work Zone Safety Coordinator for VDOT, received the National Safety Award from the American Traffic Safety Services Association—one of four nationwide. William Byrd basketball player Emilie McCaskill scored her 1000th point.

Renovations were well underway at William Byrd High School on a roughly \$30 million project with plans for completion by the time schools open in the fall of 2023. The project was to entail over 100,000 square feet of renovations and about 13,500 square feet of additions.

March 2022: WBHS student Latriva Pierce came in first place in the Bland Music Scholarship competition hosted by the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club. William Byrd High School was named "Roanoke County Public Schools Science Fair High School of the Year for 2022." WBHS student Grace Saunders received the prestigious honor of being named "DAR Good Citizen of the Year" by the Roanoke Valley Chapter DAR, which meets in Vinton.

Vinton Wesleyan Church held a mortgage-burning celebration. The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce restarted its usually annual Senior Expo after two years of pandemic cancellations. Saturday returned to the Vinton Library after the pandemic, along with the Roanoke Valley Dulcimers group.

Vinton Town Council introduced the Bike/Pedestrian Plan to citizens in a community meeting at the Vinton War Memorial. The Town of Vinton hired Jamie Hurt as Capital Projects Manager. Among his first tasks is the downtown parking lot near the Vinton Farmers' Market.

April 2022: Town Council approved a franchise for Shentel (think Glo-Fiber). Sgt. Silas Chapman was named "Officer of the Year" by his peers in the Vinton Police Department.

Dr. Marshall Green opened Mountain State Oral and Facial Surgery in the former offices of Dr. George Kevorkian.

The Mount Pleasant Lions bestowed their top award, the Melvin Jones Fellowship, on Lion Steve Wilkinson.

May 2022: WBHS senior Madison Tuck was crowned as the 2022 Vinton Dogwood Festival Queen at the 67th annual Dogwood Festival. Emilie McCaskill was named "Best All Around Female" for 2022 at the William Byrd Distinguished Honors Banquet. Emiliano Gonzalez was selected as "Best All Around Male." Another WBHS senior, Emiliano Gonzalez, attained the rank of Eagle Scout. Seniors at WBHS (numbering 264) celebrated their graduation at the Salem Civic Center on May 25.

Bonsack teacher Missy Peroulas received the coveted Red Apple Award from the Roanoke County Public Schools Education Foundation. Tracey Addison received the Green Apple Award for new teachers. Choir Director Matt Bartley received the Red Apple Award for middle school teachers. Three of five teaching awards went to Vinton area teachers. The Roanoke County School Board announced new principals for William Byrd Middle School (Dana Stevens) and Mount Pleasant Elementary (Jill Lane).

Smokey Bear stopped by the Vinton Library on April 29 to help the town celebrate Arbor Day. Vinton has been named as a "Tree City USA" annually since 2003.

William Byrd High School basketball legend James "Hoolie" Childress of Vinton passed away at age 73. Local scout troops planted flags at Mountain View Cemetery in observance of Memorial Day. The 2022 Gauntlet Business Program and Competition distributed \$400,000 in cash and in-kind prizes to winners of the competition in a ceremony at the Vinton War Memorial on May 25.

June 2022: Andrew Keen was hired as Vinton's new Finance Director. The town's water and wastewater system were transferred to the Western Virginia Water Authority when Town Council and the WVWA signed an agreement to that effect. A special council meeting was called for the event and included a symbolic "valve turning" ceremony.

The Town of Vinton adopted a \$17.7 million budget.

June 5 marked the date of the second Carilion Clinic IRON-MAN 70.3 Triathlon cruising down Washington Avenue in Vinton during the bike leg of the race. Bicyclists were greeted individually with bugle salutes from Gary Duerk.

The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce Mingle concerts got underway for the season on June 11 to continue throughout the summer. Vinton Cruise-Ins returned to downtown Vinton. Henritze Dental celebrated a grand reopening after extensive renovations to their Washington Avenue offices.

William Byrd's Hunter Sipes and Remi FiGart were named B'nai Brith winners for 2022.

Pastor B. Failes retired in June after 38 years in the ministry, the last 11 at Thrasher Memorial in Vinton.

The Cundiff family was in the news in June. The town turned out for a surprise parking lot retirement party for beloved pharmacist Sam Cundiff who retired and closed Cundiff Drug Store. The store had been established by Sam's father Wallace in 1959. Sam's brother Bill was also in the news in June for completing his 42nd marathon (in Idaho), this one after undergoing open heart surgery in January 2022.

July 2022: The face of Vinton was forever changed by the catastrophic fire which destroyed D.R. Music and displaced other businesses in downtown Vinton. The community turned out to support the businesses and one another and rebounded to celebrate the Fourth of July two days later, first with the first Four on the 4th Race in Vinton, supporting the Boys and Girls Clubs of Southwest Virginia, and then, that evening, with the most spectacular fireworks extravaganza the town has ever presented.

William Byrd's baseball coach (and athletic director) Jason Taylor was named Blue Ridge District Coach of the Year.

Roanoke County Schools announced the purchase of approximately 28 acres of land off Peters Creek Road to build a new Career and Technical Education Center to replace the antiquated Burton Center for Arts and Technology.

Thrasher Memorial welcomed new Pastor John Hemming and his family.

August 2022: Lighthouse Christian Academy, affiliated with Lighthouse Bible Church on Washington Avenue, opened in August and began accepting students for the 2022-23 school year.

The Vinton Police Department and the Mount Pleasant Lions Club held National Night Out events in their communities giving the police, first responders, and citizens the opportunity to mingle informally.

The Lancerlot held the annual "Dog Days of Summer" with dogs invited to swim in the outdoor pool and frolic on the ice indoors.

Roanoke County students returned to the classroom on August 11. WBHS senior Justin Patrick received the high honor of being named "Top Terrier" at William Byrd High School for 2022-23. Roanoke County Schools introduced a new Navy National Defense Cadet Corps program at William Byrd High School, led by Senior Naval Science Instructor David Perrin. The program accepts students from all five county high schools.

The Thrasher Korean Church celebrated its fifth anniversary.

Several Vinton police officers moved up in rank. Those promoted included Community



Vinton Police Sgt. Silas Chapman was named Officer of the Year and recognized by Town Council at their meeting on April 19, 2022.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS AND JENNIFER EMERSON

One of the highlights of the year for town staff and town residents is the Santa Crawl through the neighborhoods of Vinton. Santa visited young and old alike.



Justin Patrick was named as this year's Top Terrier at William Byrd High School--the highest individual honor a student can receive.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

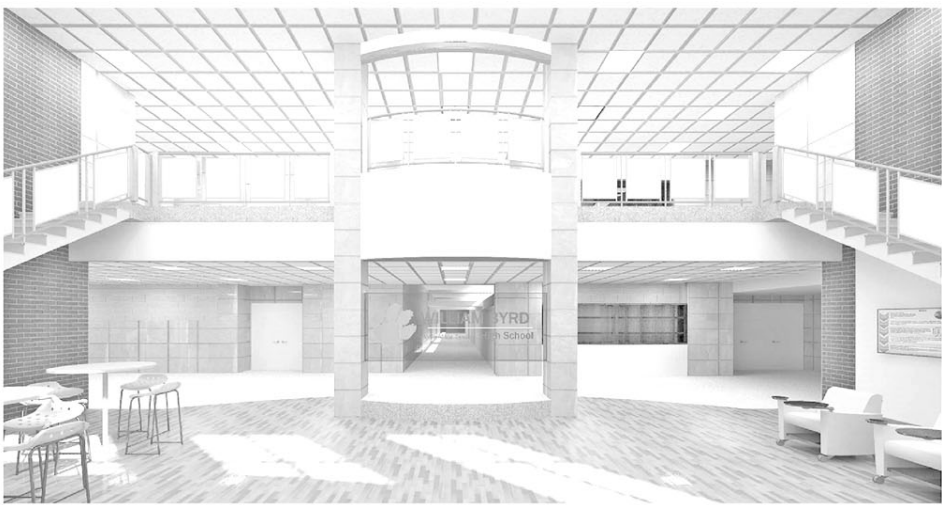
William Byrd's Madison Tuck was crowned as the 2022 Dogwood Queen. She is shown with Mayor Brad Grose.

2022 Review

from page 5



SENIOR ENTRANCE



SENIOR LOBBY



MEDIA CENTER



WRESTLING / CHEER

WILLIAM BYRD HIGH SCHOOL

ADDITIONS & RENOVATIONS



Extensive renovations continue at William Byrd High School. They are expected to be complete for school opening in the fall of 2023.

Resource Officer William Holland, Detective Justin Baker, Detective Corporal Silas Chapman, Corporal Christopher Shively, Sgt. Andrew O'Connor, and Sgt. Jeremy Shrewsbury.

Expect More Home Inspections celebrated its opening with a ribbon cutting hosted by the Chamber of Commerce.

Joe Goodpies Restaurant at Vinyard Station closed unexpectedly. (Fortunately, Cory Welch plans to open Pok-E-Joe's BBQ Vinton early in the new year 2023 and is now accepting applications).

September 2022: Vinton police officers Scott Hurt and Michael Caldwell were promoted to the rank of lieutenant in a ceremony at the Sept. 6 Town Council meeting.

Polychrome Studios digital design business opened in Vinton.

The Vinton Breakfast Lions honored Denny Dickens and Gary Myers with Melvin Jones Fellow Awards— the highest award given by Lions Clubs.

The Vinton War Memorial hosted the first Southwest Virginia Pride Festival on Sept. 17. The non-profit fundraiser plans to become an annual event, serving the needs of the LGBTQAI+ community.

October 2022: The Vinton Police Department earned a perfect score on their re-accreditation from the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission— quite a feat.

Vinton Fall Festival returned for its 20th successful year on Oct. 8.

Olivia Hurd and Justin Patrick were chosen as William Byrd's 2022 Homecoming Queen and King. The playing field in Patterson Stadium at WBHS was named Jefferson W. Highfill Field in honor of Coach Jeff Highfill, head coach at WBHS for 38 years.

Vinton Town Council approved amended performance agreements with Gish Mill Davii, LLC, and the Roanoke County Economic Development Authority which would result in filling a funding gap to speed the project along. Council also approved a construction loan and IRF loan between the town, the county EDA and the developers.

The Town of Vinton hosted another busy and joyful Downtown Trick or Treat event, attracting big crowds to downtown Vinton.

November 2022: Vinton Town Council welcomed five new employees— three police officers and two new staff members. Officers Stephanie Walsh, Daniel Valladarez, and Trinity Otey joined the Vinton Police Department after completing training at Cardinal Criminal Justice Academy. Caroline Loveland joined the Community Programs staff. Carrie Kessler was named as the new Senior Financial Analyst. Marshall Stanley was also welcomed to the town as the new Economic Development Specialist.

Chris McCarty retired after 33 years with Grand True Value Rental.

Sabrina McCarty and Mike Stovall, running unopposed, were re-elected to seats on Vinton Town Council.

Scouts in Vinton planted flags at Mountain View Cemetery in observance of Veterans Day.

Vinton churches united at Vinton Wesleyan Church for the Community Thanksgiving Service on Nov. 20. Vinton Wesleyan also welcomed new Assistant Pastor/Minister of Youth John Ryall.

Rosie's Gaming Emporium in Vinton, owned by Colonial Downs, was sold to Churchill Downs, Inc.,

along with their other locations in Virginia.

December 2022:

The Vinton Christmas Parade opened the holiday season on Dec. 1 with approximately 100 units participating, some of the most spectacular floats to ever appear in Vinton, and large enthusiastic crowds who called the parade "the best ever."

The Town of Vinton began providing the CodeRed Alert System to citizens who register for the service. The system notifies residents of evacuation notices, criminal activities, shelter in place/lockdown alerts, missing child/person alerts, boil water advisories, road closures due to construction, accidents or special events, hazardous road or traffic conditions, natural disasters, weather alerts, and more.

Vinton police officers Grant Shepherd and Brandon Charlton were recognized by Town Council for their exemplary and heroic actions during a call for service for an unresponsive mother in a parked car and her two young children. The police department also welcomed a new employee, Records Manager Ginny Rhodes.

The Vinton First Aid Crew installed officers at the annual banquet and named member Trace Poindexter as "Rookie of the Year," Aaron Albertson as "Officer of the Year," and Logan Klepal as "Member of the Year."

In the midst of the holiday season, local scouts honored veterans with a flag retirement ceremony on Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. The Navy cadets from William Byrd presented a remembrance program that same day at the Virginia Veterans Care Center in Salem.

The Blue Ridge Figure Skating Club and the Lancelot ice skating program teamed up for Theater

on Ice.

One of the most popular events in town history returned this year— the Santa Crawl through the neighborhoods of Vinton. Santa, Mrs. Claus, and several elves delivered gifts to the local children and dogs

who ran to the curb to meet and greet Santa.

What's coming up in 2023? The big stories may be the opening of at least two new downtown restaurants (you may not have to leave Vinton to eat a steak dinner out anymore), the

redevelopment of Gish Mill, and the completion of renovations at William Byrd High School, along with more new events in the works from Vinton's Community Programs and the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce.



Three Vinton-area teachers were recognized at this year's Golden Apple Awards Ceremony. Shown left to right are Roanoke County School Board Chair David Linden, Bonsack Principal Leanne Leftwich, Elementary school Red Apple winner Missy Peroulas from Bonsack, Green Apple winner Tracey Addison from WBMS, Vinton's representative to the School Board Tim Greenway, Middle School Red Apple winner Matt Bartley from WBMS, and former WBMS Principal Todd Kageals.



Bugler Gary Duerk welcomes bicyclists in the IRONMAN Triathlon to Vinton.



The Four on the 4th Race benefiting the Boys and Girls Clubs of Southwest Virginia moved to Vinton this year.



The Gish Mill Redevelopment is expected to get in full swing early in 2023.

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS



From the Pulpit

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain in me a willing spirit (Psalm 51:10-12)."

This time of year, it is easy to get bogged down with all of the gatherings to attend, goodies to bake, cards to write, and last-minute gifts to buy. The joy of the Christmas season can give way to stress and exhaustion.

In the above Psalm, David makes it clear that salvation is

meant to fill our lives with joy. And yet, as he experienced after his unfaithful encounter with Bathsheba, it can be easy for the worries, fears, failures, and pain of this life to extinguish our joy.

The reality of salvation may remain within us, but the joy that reality is intended to create can get buried under mounds of suffering and sorrow, which for David, was the failure of his own sin and betrayal.

Though our reasons may be different, we all know what it is like when the "joy of our salvation" seems faint. Like clouds

blocking the light and warmth of the sun from reaching us on overcast days, the trials and tribulations of life can also prevent the light and warmth of Christ's joy from reaching us on difficult days.

And yet, while "watching their flocks by night," the shepherds were told: "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy for all people. Today, in the City of David, a savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord (Luke 2:10-11)." The good news, of course, was the birth of a savior—one who would bring about salva-

tion to their lives and world.

According to the angel, the natural response to this good news was one of "great joy." Despite the struggles these shepherds faced as nomads without a home with very little resources, the angel promised great joy. Despite the threats of Herod and the persecution of the Roman Empire, they were promised great joy. Despite being looked down upon and misunderstood by the educated and wealthy of their world, God called them to be the first to receive the "good news of great joy for all people"—salva-

tion through the birth of Immanuel, the Messiah.

May we be reminded that the good news of Jesus is meant to create great joy for all people because it is the fulfillment of God's promised salvation. Despite the challenges we may be facing, or the pain and suffering we may have to endure, remembering the birth of Christ on Christmas is intended to "restore the joy of [our] salvation." It is still "good news of great joy for all people."

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

Fred Cramer

from page 1



Fred Cramer created artwork of exquisite detail. He made his living in commercial art with Cramer Graphics, but once his business was established, he was able to indulge his lifelong passion for the outdoors, wildlife, and the fine arts in painting, nature photography, sculpting and carving.

11 years old. His grandfather had purchased property on what is now Feather Road and sold parcels to his sons. At that time, Fred Cramer's father, John, painted buses for the Safety Motor Transit Corporation.

Money was tight and John Cramer decided to buy a concrete block mold and make his own blocks to lay the foundation for his house. The Cramers, father and son, could make about 20 blocks each day and eventually produced the 1,000 blocks they needed.

John Cramer's co-workers liked to keep track of his progress on the house and arranged to drive their out-of-service buses on Feather Road to pass by the Cramers. That route became the established test drive route.

At the time the Cramers completed their home in 1948, they were surrounded by dairy farms, not subdivisions. Vinton was completely rural. The McDonald farm was just down the road.

Fred Cramer graduated from the old William Byrd High School on the hill in 1953. During the summers in high school, he worked as a park ranger at Hungry Mother State Park. He was employed as a commercial artist for Stone Printing for four years and then enlisted in the Air Force in 1957 when he realized that he was about to be drafted. He said his vision was "not good enough to become a fighter pilot," but with his drawing skills, Cramer became a technical illustrator in the Air Force, producing manuals for new equipment and new technology, some classified. Subsequently, he

became a lifelong supporter of veterans and their causes.

When he returned to civilian life after four years, Cramer came back to Roanoke and to commercial art, working for Roanoke Engraving and then Associated Advertising.

In 1971, he opened Cramer Graphics in Roanoke which took off quickly, and over the years gradually taught himself most everything there was to know about the commercial side of art, advertising, and photography. He became well known in the area for fashion, product, and industrial photography, and even aerial photography.

In the beginning his motivation was financial.

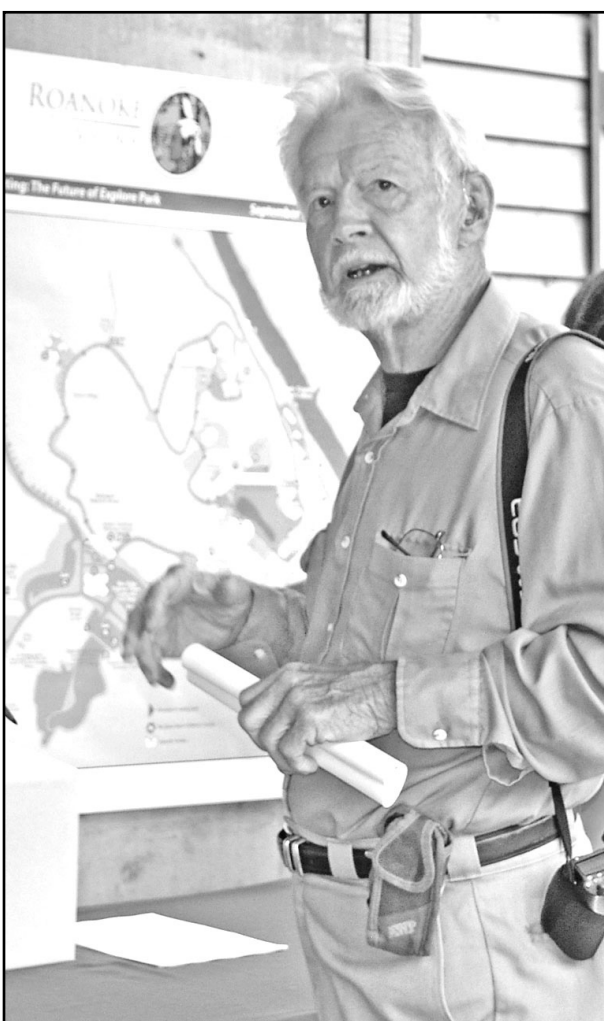
"What can I put on film or paper to pay the bills?" Cramer asked himself.

His enterprises included a custom black and white film processing lab, which became a significant part of his business in the years before color photography became the norm.

Over the years Cramer handled the newspaper advertising and fashion photography for Sidney's women's apparel store. He did industrial photography for Appalachian Power Company for 20 years, producing brochures, annual reports, and inserts to accompany monthly bills and promote new products like heat pumps and central air conditioning.

For nine years, he was in charge of all aspects of advertising for the Peaks of Otter Lodge.

In those days before the digital age, taking photographs was much more challenging. Cramer recalled being



Fred Cramer spent many hours in the wild taking photographs as part of his research to make his carvings and sculptures more realistic and detailed. He succeeded. He is shown here at Explore Park.

called to Richmond for a photo shoot with Governor Linwood Holton in the 1970s. He was to photograph the governor with the Easter Seals poster child of the year. Instead of the lengthy photo session he anticipated, Holton rushed in, rushed out, and Cramer was left to piece together the three photos he managed to take on film into an acceptable Easter Seals campaign portrait.

Cramer made his living doing commercial art; but once his business was established, he was able to indulge his lifelong passion for the outdoors, wildlife, and the fine arts in painting, nature photography, sculpting and carving.

He spent many summers at the beach at Ocracoke, N.C., teaching art and photography classes for the Park Service at the Cape Hatteras National Seashore. An employee ran his Roanoke studio and Cramer would return home occasionally for commercial photo shoots during the summer.

Cramer would take photographs at the beach, and then spend the off-season in Vinton painting and sketching the scenes or producing the photographs that he could take back to the beach the next summer to sell in area gift shops or at the National Park Visitor Center.

He lived on Norbourne Avenue in Vinton at the time with his wife, Kathryn, a school teacher, and two sons, who would spend part of the summer at the beach with him and part back home in Vinton.

Cramer said the commercial art industry began to change in the '90s with advances in

technology, processing, and the use of computers in advertising and photography. When the industry changed its focus to digital photography and color processing, Cramer decided he did not want to make the change with it and chose to retire.

He moved back to his boyhood home on Feather Road and began renovating the house and adding on studios. He took courses necessary to become certified as a Master Naturalist. He joined several bird and nature clubs in the valley—the Roanoke Valley Bird Club in particular, where he participated in the blue bird count each year. While he sculpted a wild range of wildlife, he was primarily focused on birds, creating hundreds of carvings that seemed "ready to fly away." His carvings, created from tupelo and basswood, were usually based on photographs he had made and field observations.

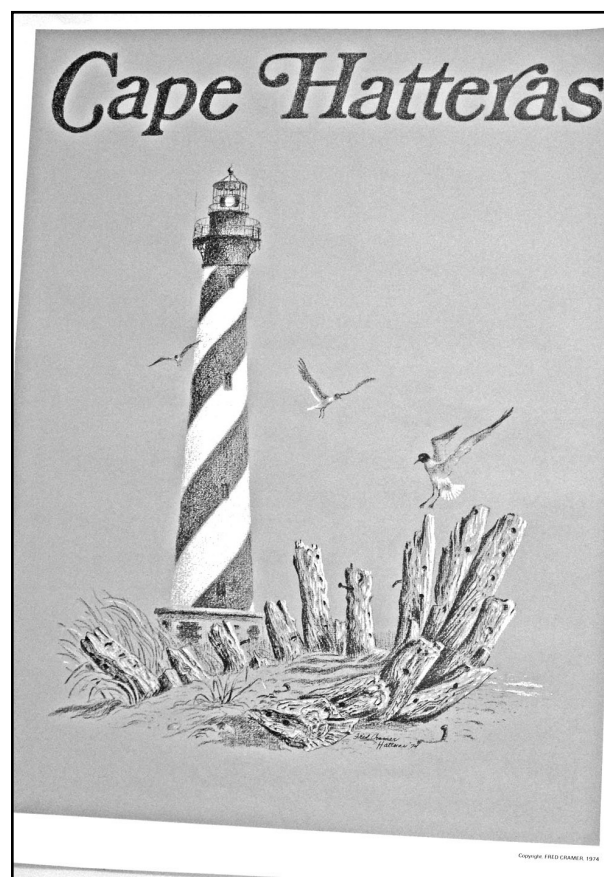
He took time to fish, hunt, and garden.

In 2001, he spent six weeks on the Palmyra Atoll in the Pacific with a group who chopped paths through the jungle with machetes helping to eradicate black rats who had infiltrated the island during World War II and were destroying seabirds and other native species.

"A great adventure and great fishing," was Cramer's comment.

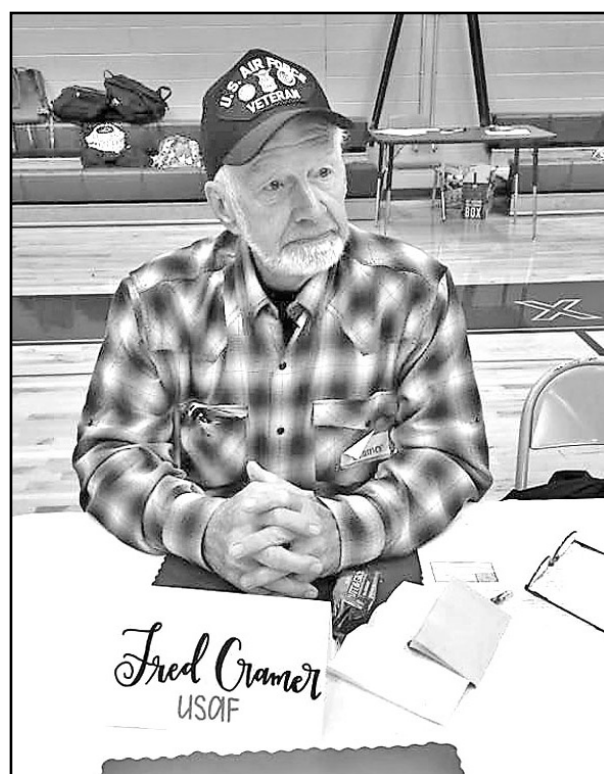
He travelled to Costa Rica for a week with a grandson and photographing volcanoes and the rain forests inhabited by Howler monkeys.

Cramer said his time in nature fueled his art. His home and studios were a feast for the eyes, with a variety of



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Cramer spent many summers at the beach at Ocracoke, N.C., teaching art and photography classes for the Park Service at the Cape Hatteras National Seashore. He would take photographs at the beach, and then spend the off-season in Vinton painting and sketching the scenes or producing the photographs that he could take back to the beach the next summer to sell in area gift shops or at the National Park Visitor Center.



FILE PHOTO

Fred Cramer served in the United States Air Force and always supported veterans and their causes. He is shown at a William Byrd High School Veterans Day event where he shared his experiences with students.

art genres throughout—paintings, photographs, and carvings on display and in the works. He painted scenes on the patio and the foundation walls. Cramer said he had tired of looking at the bare foundation of his home and decided the space "needed something" so, on a whim, he painted a lion.

He began carving wood in 1980, translating his love of wildlife into 3D forms. He noted that he usually started with research, field observation, and photographs of his subject, followed by a clay model to experiment with detail and dimensions, although carving with clay and carving in wood are opposite processes.

"Making models from clay is adding on; carving with wood is taking away," said Cramer. "With carving, you cut

off everything that isn't bird, and you're done."

He would even borrow bird skins from the Virginia Tech ornithology department to research the finer details for his art.

He joined local area art associations and occasionally entered art shows or set up exhibits, "to keep his hat in the ring."

In 2011 he won the Linda Hall Memorial Award from the League of Roanoke Artists for his watercolor painting entitled "Octoberfest," adding to his collection of ribbons and awards.

"It feels good to sell something or to get a pat on the head with an award," he said.

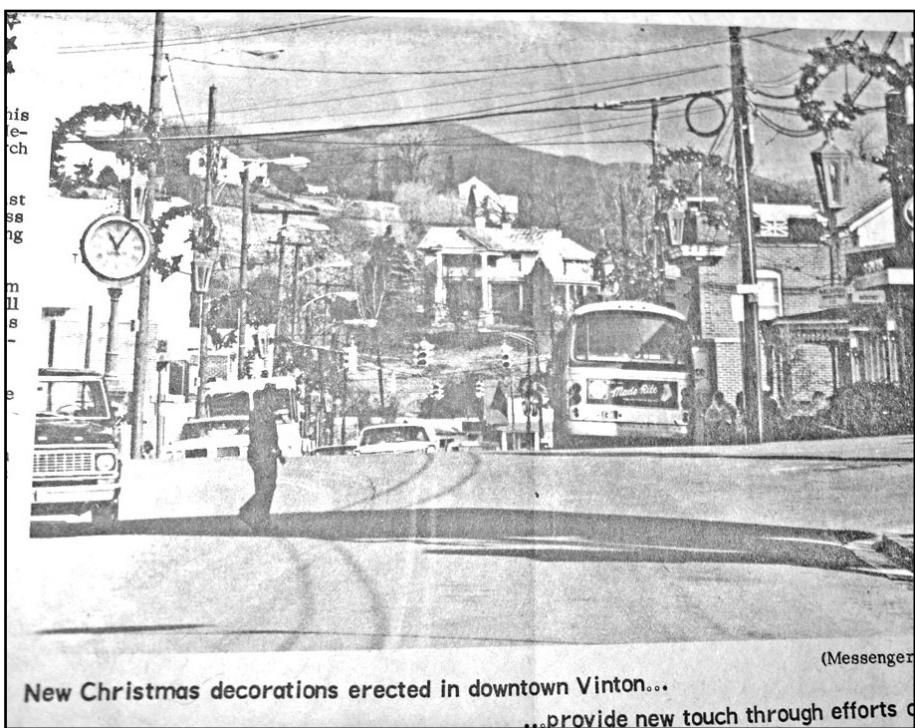
He leaves behind his wife, Kathryn; his two sons, Brian and wife, Margaret, and Eric; and his five grandchildren, Nick, Joe, Annabelle, Lily, and Ben.



Remembering Vinton

Fifty years ago in Dec. 1972

with the Vinton Historical Society



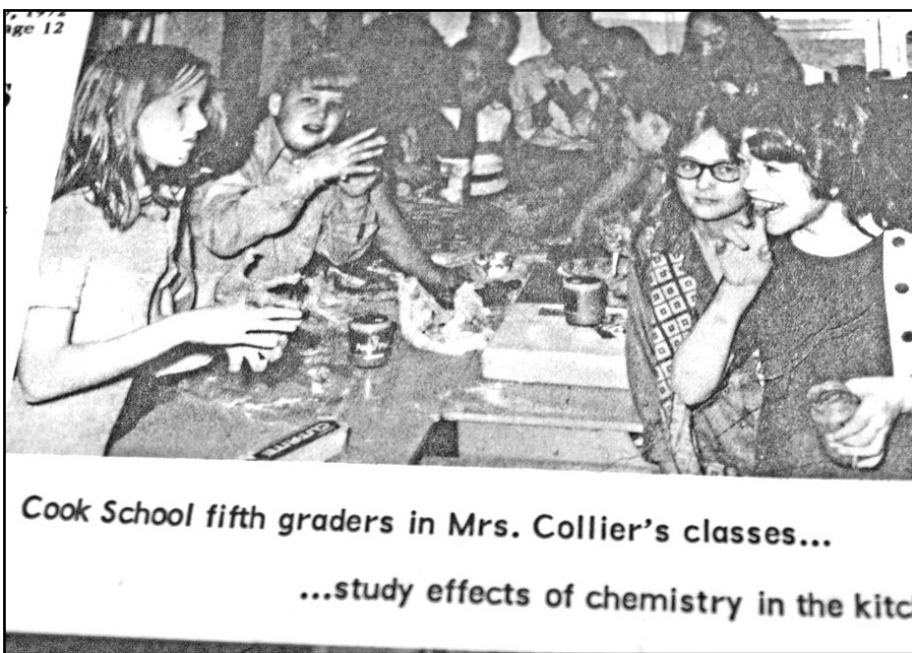
The Vinton Chamber of Commerce bought 36 new Christmas decorations for downtown Vinton.



The Christmas Parade in Vinton was called the "Nativity Parade," emphasizing the religious nature of the holiday.



One of the floats in the Nativity Parade featured the cradle and the cross.



Fifth graders at Roland E. Cook School with a creative teacher made Christmas candy to study chemical compounds and chemical reactions.

Fifty years ago, in December 1972, Roanoke City Manager Julian Hirst was proposing that the city take over Vinton's water system and operate it within the town as an adjunct to the city municipal water system. According to an article in the Vinton Messenger, Hirst implied that rates would be lowered.

Vinton Mayor Gus Nicks responded to the suggestion by saying that he had the feeling "Vinton was being sandbagged by the city" who had raised rates then offered to lower them if Vinton allowed them to take over the water system.

Vinton Town Manager said that such a proposal would depend on arrangements for the city to either purchase or lease all the water lines and the distribution investment the town had made in the water system.

Nicks expressed his

concern that this water proposal was a step by Roanoke City toward the annexation of Vinton.

Town Council was considering applying to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for \$1.5 million in financial aid for developing a municipal water system. The town had applied for funding to finance a \$4.7 million independent water system on a 375-acre tract in Bedford County five miles from the town limits. The town hoped to finance the project through \$2.1 million in federal funds and the remaining \$2.6 million through a bond referendum.

Citizens were up-in-arms about a proposed regional landfill to be located on a 260-acre farm in the Mayflower Hills section of Southeast Roanoke County. A public hearing on the topic was scheduled for Dec. 14, where a

large group of citizens protested vociferously. Residents of Dillon Woods and Montgomery Village were alarmed that the landfill would be visible and "smellable" from their homes. No environmental control agencies had even visited the site for evaluation. Apparently, citizens believed that Roanoke City and County had kept them in dark about the plans. It was rumored that Blue Ridge Parkway officials might get involved to "protect the parkway corridor."

The Vinton Christmas Parade in 1972, designated as a "Nativity Parade," was scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 16 at 10 a.m. The parade began at the Vinton War Memorial and proceeded up Washington Avenue, turned on Hardy Road, and then on to Lake Drive Plaza. The parade included 14 floats and featured the William Byrd Marching Band.

"No commercialism was allowed. The emphasis was on the religious nature of Christmas and the solemnity of the Nativity." There was caroling in the parking at Lake Drive Plaza after the parade. Brand new illuminated Christmas decorations (36 in all) had been installed throughout downtown Vinton, thanks to the Vinton Chamber of Commerce.

Handel's "Messiah" was presented to a "standing room only" crowd at Thrasher Memorial UMC, with 200-300 people turned away. Fifteen Vinton area churches joined together for the production. The program was suggested by Mayor Gus Nicks.

Eleven girls from area high schools competed in the Roanoke Valley Junior Miss Pageant at WBHS on Dec. 9.

Juvenile vandals kept law enforcement officers busy in December 1972

by destroying or stealing outdoor Christmas decorations from homes.

The Civitan Club of Roanoke presented the Football Sportsmanship Trophy to William Byrd High School, based on judging at each game by the Football Officials Association who rated the players, coaches, administrators, cheering section, cheerleaders, and spectators.

Col. Raymond Boyd, whose wife, Geraldine Worley, was from Vinton, was named Commander of the Launch Site Recovery Force for Apollo 17.

The school lunch menu at Roland E. Cook included a Christmas meal of "Santa's turkey with dressing, snowflake potatoes, trim-a-tree peas, snowball rolls, cranberry salad, applesauce cake, and milk."

H & H Supermarket was selling frozen turkeys for 53 cents a pound and hams for 75 cents a

pound. A 5-pound bag of Florida oranges was just 53 cents.

The local boy troop was selling Christmas trees to raise funds so they could attend the National Jam-boree in Pennsylvania in Aug. 2023. Meanwhile, the cub scouts were collecting toys for the Marine Corps "Toys for Tots" drive.

Fifth graders at Roland E. Cook were studying "Chemistry in the Kitchen," studying compounds and chemical changes by making Christmas candy to take home to their families for gifts.

| CROSSWORD ANSWERS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|-------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| SVC | ARIES | MACAO | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CIA | WORDE | APHIS | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ADC | AUSTRALIANS | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DETERS | ENACT | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SOUSE | MARINATED | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SON | AC | LYRA | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CLEPE | CAVER | AD | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OAS | SARDINE | USA | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| YD | SHOES | DARES | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PEGS | ME | EBB | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| UNRELATED | FEARS | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AIOLI | KIDNAP | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LEDZEPELIN | EGO | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| EPEES | INANE | LEO | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| GIRDS | SENDS | YEN | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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.

Are you turning 65? Or new to Medicare?
Call your local licensed Humana sales agent.
Humana.



BRANDI STOVALL
540-355-0894
(TTY: 711)
Monday – Friday
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Bstovall@Humana.com

Y0040_GHHXDFEN21a_BC_C

ADVERTISE!

Call Tucker Frye at 309-9485
or email tfrye@ourvalley.org
to advertise in this space.

Want to keep up with local news,
sports and events?
SUBSCRIBE TODAY
Call (540) 389-9355



Marketplace



ourvalley.org

The Fincastle Herald

The Vinton Messenger

The New Castle Record

Salem Times-Register

News Messenger

Radford News Journal

Positions Wanted

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

For Sale - Misc

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

Help Wanted

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

Wanted to Buy

**BUYING
COLLECTIBLES**
Sports cards, Pokémon,
Magic, video games,
comics, etc. Call or text
(540)5951626

Legals - City of
Radford

**TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF
508 17TH ST,
RADFORD, VA
24141**

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$103,561.00, with an annual interest rate of 6.980000% dated February 9, 2005, recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for the City of Radford as Deed Instrument Number 0500160, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction all that property located in the City of Radford, at the front of the Circuit Court building for the City of Radford located at 619 2nd Street, Radford, Virginia on February 3, 2023 at 2:00 PM, the property with improvements to wit: LOT 1A ROSEMONT SUBDIVISION Tax Map No. 12-111-5 THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price, will be required in cash, certified or cashier's check. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustees may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. Loan type: Conventional. Reference Number 22-289964. PROFESSIONAL FORECLOSURE CORPORATION OF VIRGINIA, Substitute Trustees, C/O LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP, 10021 Balls Ford Road, Suite 200, Manassas, Virginia 20109 (703) 449-5800.

**NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF
RADFORD,
VIRGINIA**

Notice is hereby given, the Radford City Council will hold a public hearing on January 9, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located at 10 Robertson Street, Radford, Virginia. Pursuant to Code of Virginia, Title 15.2, Article 2 Section 15.2-2006 et seq., the purpose of the public hearing is to receive comments regarding a request from K&J Properties to vacate a portion of an unimproved public right of way area identified as a portion of Custis an Second Street located between West Main/Second Street and Custis/Ingles Street. The request contains a total of approximately 3,810sf (0.087 acre). Copies of the application, together with the plat of the property to be vacated, are available for review in the City Manager's Office located at 10 Robertson Street.

ADVERTISE!

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

**Order of
Publication**

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 8.01-316,-317 Roanoke City Circuit Court **Case No. CL22-2363** Lynn Edward Craig V. Patricia Catherine Powers Craig The object of this suit is to: No-fault Divorce Complaint. It is ORDERED that Patricia Catherine Powers Craig appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before February 7th, 2023 Entered on 12/16/2022 By: Brenda S. Hamilton, Clerk

Notice

is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on January 11, 2023, at 7:00 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: 1. Consider the request of the City of Salem, property owner, for rezoning the property of 1900 block of Mill Lane (Tax Map # 179 - 2 - 1.1) from AG Agriculture District to LM Light Manufacturing District. 2. Consider the request of Charles N. Dorsey, property owner, for rezoning the property of 1900 Mill Lane (Tax Map # 179 - 2 - 1) from AG Agriculture District and RSF Residential Single-Family District to RSF Residential Single-Family District.

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 PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY: James E. Taliaferro, II Executive Secretary

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

**TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF
3484 DICKS CREEK
RD, NEW CASTLE,
VA 24127**

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$107,100.00, with an annual interest rate of 4.250000% dated April 30, 2014, recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for the County of Craig as Deed Book 192, Page 584, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction all that property located in the County of Craig, on the courthouse steps at the front of the Circuit Court building for the County of Craig located at 182 Main Street, New Castle, Virginia on February 28, 2023 at 2:00 PM, the property with improvements to wit: LOT 3, BLUE HEALING SPRINGS Tax Map No. 66-1-3 THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price, will be required in cash, certified or cashier's check. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustees may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. Loan type: USDA. Reference Number 21-288873. PROFESSIONAL FORECLOSURE CORPORATION OF VIRGINIA, Substitute Trustees, C/O LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP, 10021 Balls Ford Road, Suite 200, Manassas, Virginia 20109 (703) 449-5800.

**MAKE AN
"A"
IN ADVERTISING!**
To place your ad,
call 389-9355

CEMETERY MAINTENANCE
Highland Memory Gardens is looking for 2 Full Time cemetery ground maintenance people.
Great Benefit package, Health, Dental, Vision, uniforms, and 401-K Retirement program pay commensurate with experience. Must be able to pass a background check and drug test.
For confidential interview, call Paul at 540-674-5231.

Legals -
Montgomery
County

ABC NOTICE

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.

Legals - Town of
Vinton

**LEGAL NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, the Board of Zoning Appeals of the Town of Vinton, Virginia hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia. The Board of Zoning Appeals will also hold a dinner work session prior to the public hearing in the Council Chambers on January 12, 2023, beginning at 5:45 p.m. A request by Christopher Coles, for a variance of Article IV, Division 1, Sec. 4-3, Dimensional Regulations for Residential Districts, of the Vinton Zoning Ordinance. The purpose of the request is to ask for a one thousand, one hundred and fifty-four (1,154) square feet variance from the six thousand (6,000) square feet lot size requirement, and a six (6) foot variance from the fifty (50) foot lot width requirement to allow for the resubdivision of the existing lot. The property is located at 424 E. Lee Avenue, Tax Map Number 60.16-05-23.00-0000, zoned R-2 Residential District. Further information concerning this public hearing may be obtained in the Planning and Zoning Department located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, VA 24179, (540) 983-0605, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Interested persons may be heard at the above public hearings. Given under my hand this 12th day of December, 2022. Nathaniel McClung Assistant Planning Director Secretary, Board of Zoning Appeals NOTICE OF INTENT TO COMPLY WITH DISABILITIES ACT. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide assistance or special arrangements to qualified individuals with disabilities in order to participate in or attend the meeting. Please call (540) 983 0605 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting so that proper arrangements can be made.

STATEWIDE ADS

AUCTIONS
ATTN. AUCTIONEERS: Advertise your upcoming auctions statewide and in other states. Affordable Print and Digital Solutions reaching your target audiences. Call this paper or Landon Clark at Virginia Press Services 804-521-7576, HYPERLINK "mailto:landonc@vpa.net" landonc@vpa.net

HOME IMPROVEMENT

STATEWIDE ADS

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-614-6667

GENERAC Standby Generators provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 1-877-636-0738

The Generac PWRcell, a solar plus battery storage system. SAVE money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. \$0 Down Financing Option. Request a FREE, no obligation, quote today. Call 1-833-688-1378

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material – steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer - \$500 Discount + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-844-902-4611

The bathroom of your dreams for as little as \$149/month! BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Limited Time Offer - FREE virtual in-home consultation now and SAVE 15%! Call Today! 1-844-945-1631

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-877-591-9950

SERVICES

DIVORCE-Uncontested, \$395+\$86 court cost. WILLS-\$295.00. No court appearance. Estimated completion time twenty-one days. Hilton Oliver, Attorney (Facebook). 757-490-0126. Se Habla Espanol. BBB Member. HYPERLINK "https://hiltonoliverattorneyva.com" https://hiltonoliverattorneyva.com.

Up to \$15,000.00 of GUARANTEED Life Insurance! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company-844-509-1697 or visit HYPERLINK "http://www.Life55plus.info/vapress" www.Life55plus.info/vapress

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 888-608-4974

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-888-550-3083 HYPERLINK "http://www.dental50plus.com/virginia#6258" www.dental50plus.com/virginia#6258

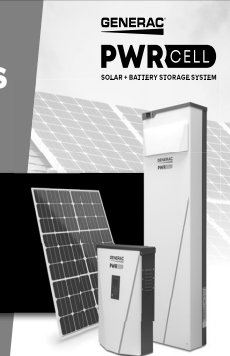
Inflation is at 40 year highs. Interest rates are way up. Credit Cards. Medical Bills. Car Loans. Do you have \$10k or more in debt? Call NATIONAL DEBT RELIEF and find out how to pay off your debt for significantly less than what you owe! FREE quote: Call 1-855-614-7493

STATEWIDE ADS

**Prepare for
Power Outages
& Save Money**

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!
**ACT NOW TO RECEIVE
A \$300 SPECIAL OFFER!**
| (833) 688-1378

*Offer value when purchased at retail. Solar panels sold separately.



**The Bath or Shower You've Always Wanted
IN AS LITTLE AS 1 DAY**



\$1000 OFF* OR **No Payments & No Interest for 18 Months****
Military & Senior Discounts Available
OFFER EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2022

CALL NOW!
BCI BATH & SHOWER (844) 945-1631

*Includes product and labor; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 12/31/2022. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. **Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2022 BCI Acrylic Inc.

GENERAC

Prepare for power outages today

WITH A HOME
STANDBY GENERATOR

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

**REQUEST A
FREE QUOTE**
CALL NOW BEFORE THE
NEXT POWER OUTAGE
(844) 947-1479

FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty*
- A \$695 Value!

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

LeafFilter
GUTTER PROTECTION
**BACKED BY A
YEAR-ROUND
CLOG-FREE
GUARANTEE**

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!
20% OFF + 10% OFF
YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE* SENIORS & MILITARY!
FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!
*Subject to credit approval. Call for details.
USA **Promo Code: 285**
FREE GUTTER ALIGNMENT + FREE GUTTER CLEANING*
CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE 1-877-614-6667
Mon-Thurs 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat 8am-5pm, Sun 2pm-8pm EST
A COMPANY OF

*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. **Offer valid at time of estimate only. 27th leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month customer satisfaction survey in 2020 and recognized LeafFilter as the "1st rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America." Manufactured in Plainfield, Michigan and processed at LMT Mfg. Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. Registration# 036605022 CS18# 238579# Registration# W2 564965# License# C265653# License# RES-1504# Registration# C1723# License# 9594# Sales# INC. License# 52224# License# 21021288# License# 26200022# License# 26200403# License# 21062124# License# MHCC11225# Registration# 17642# License# 42330# Registration# 97518# License# 501-45# License# 42803# Registration# 13474955# Registration# H-10114# License# 21254# Registration# PH09383# License# 41254# License# 7654# CPA# #1078608-500# License# 42330# License# 270214# License# 140749# License# 26200022# License# W05021.

**SAFE STEP
WALK-IN TUB**

**Call today and receive a
FREE SHOWER
PACKAGE
PLUS \$1600 OFF**

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In-Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

1-877-591-9950
FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT



BUSINESS SERVICES DIRECTORY

DR FAME
ALLERGY
ASTHMA

540-404-9598
1002 APPERSON DR • SALEM, VIRGINIA 24153
WWW.DRTOMFAME.COM

SENIOR FOR SENIORS
PAINTING & RESIDENTIAL MAINTENANCE
Cell: 540-293-4271

If you believe in your business and want to build it...

ADVERTISE!

Place your ad here, call 540-389-9355

embrace
homeloans

Robin Jewell
Senior Loan Officer / NMLS# 235597
540.309.5013
rjewell@embracehomeloans.com
www.embracehomeloans.com/robin-jewell
5044 Keagy Road, Suite H100
Roanoke, VA 24018

Embrace Home Loans, Inc. (NMLS ID#2184) is licensed in VA.
(www.nmlsconsumeraccess.com)

FOX RADIO 910
Roanoke and 104.3 FM
CBS SPORTS RADIO

ROANOKE'S #2 NEWS TALK AND SPORTS RADIO STATION
(nielson fall2021book)
www.foxradioroanoke.com
(540) 343-7109

Lisa Martin, REALTOR®
Serving the industry for 30+ years
Roanoke Valley & Blue Ridge Mountains
Premier, REALTORS
(540) 597-0480
Lisa@Lisa2buy.com • www.Lisa2buy.com
1638 Roanoke Road, Suite 101
Daleville, VA 24083

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices
A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC

MHC
Monroe Health Center

Craig County Health Center
226 Market Street - New Castle, VA
Phone: (540) 864-6390 Fax: (540) 864-6356

*Physical Exams *X-ray Services
*Laboratory Services *Acute Care
*Mental Health Services *Well Baby Checks
ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

CARPET RE-STRETCHING!
STEVEN W. DURRANCE FLOORS
Repairs • New Sales • Expert
540-776-9591
Cell: 540-353-7908
Licensed & Insured
carpetroanoke.com

Sunflooring Inc.
STEVE SMITH
With over 40 years of experience

Specializing in Hardwood Floors,
Hardwood Refinishing, Laminate Flooring,
Engineered Floors, Ceramic Tile,
Carpet and Luxury Vinyl Plank

540-556-3100

ADVERTISE!

Place your ad here,
call 540-389-9355

WE BUY COIN COLLECTIONS
Top money paid
FREE estimates

Are you turning 65? Or new to Medicare?
Call your local licensed Humana sales agent.
Humana.

BRANDI STOVALL
540-355-0894
(TTY: 711)
Monday - Friday
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Bstovall@Humana.com

Y0040_GHHHXDFEN21a_BC_C

Southern Trace Roofing

Roof Replacement & Repair
540-966-0688
PO Box 630
Daleville, VA 24083
www.southerntracellc.com

WE BUY COIN COLLECTIONS
Top money paid
FREE estimates

Contact us at
540-988-2420

Want to keep up with local news, sports and events?

SUBSCRIBE TODAY
Call (540) 389-9355

ADVERTISE!

Place your ad here,
call 540-389-9355

THE CLASSIFIEDS-
Where the Deals Are!

The best place to find it, sell it, buy it, and announce it.

BAG
A GREAT DEAL IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

To place your ad, call 389-9355

SHERRY FLESHMAN REALTOR®
Each office is independently owned and operated

CENTURY 21
Wampler Realty
64 Wendover Road
Daleville, Va 24083
Cell: 540-312-7792
Office: 540-992-2500
sfleshmansells@hotmail.com

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
Opportunity is knocking loud and clear.

SITUATIONS WANTED
Find a job in your special field, or find the help you need.

Shopping Starts Here
Newspaper Advertising Works!

To place your ad here, call 540-389-9355

THE CLASSIFIEDS-
Where the Deals Are!

To place a classified ad, call 540-389-9355

If you believe in your business and want to build it...

ADVERTISE!

AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE
Get rid of the old rattletrap while it still runs

HOUSES FOR SALE
House-hunting couldn't be easier.
389-9355

ADVERTISE With us

To place a classified ad, call 540-389-9355

THE CLASSIFIEDS-
Where the Deals Are!

To place a classified ad, call 540-389-9355

SPORTS

Send story ideas & announcements to bhoffman@ourvalley.org, or PO Box 1125, Salem, Va, 24153 • ourvalley.org



Above, William Byrd's Darin Witcher has his Lord Botetourt opponent in distress on his way to one of three 106 pound wins in the Blue Ridge Duals last week. Below, Gage Cockran is on top and in control in his 126 pound match.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER



Big Orange wrestlers are at Heritage this week

Heritage High School will host the "Ring in the New Year" wrestling tournament this week to close out the 2022 portion of the high school mat season. The William Byrd "Big Orange" wrestlers are entered in the individual tournament, which begins today at 10 am and runs through Friday.

Byrd's last outing on the mats was at the Blue Ridge District Duals last week at Northside High School. The event was somewhat tainted as only four of the six schools attended, with William Fleming and Staunton River not participating. Lord Botetourt won dual matches against Byrd, Franklin County and host Northside to claim the BRD season title. The Terriers won their other two duals, downing Franklin and Northside.

"Our team was half sick and full of injured guys but we gave it our all and had a winning record," said coach Thomas Kessler.

Darin Witcher won all three of his matches at 106. Landon Barber picked up a big win against Northside, despite the Vikings bumping their starting 157 to 165 to attempt to take out Barber.

"Landon stepped up big time and beat a talented wrestler from Northside and it ended up giving us the win," said Kessler.

The Big Orange will open the New Year on January 6 & 7 with an invitational at Liberty Christian Academy in Lynchburg.

Box lacrosse team opens Friday

The new "Salem Mayhem" box lacrosse team debuts this Friday night at the Salem Civic Center. The valley's newest professional team will open at 7 pm the Hampton Hammerheads.

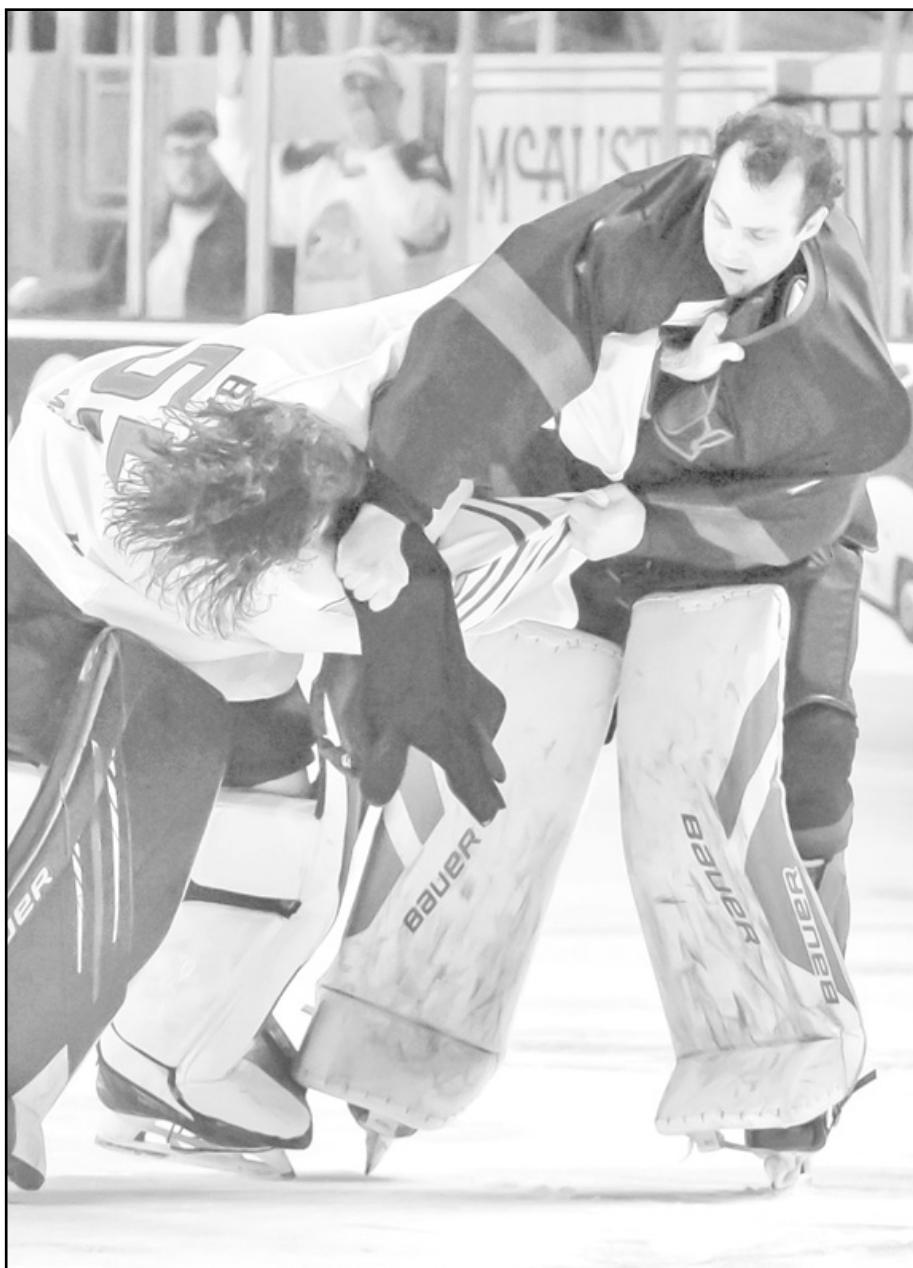
The Mayhem is one of nine teams in the Professional Box Lacrosse Association (PBLA) debut season. Also in the league are three teams located in New York state, the Elmira Renegades, Syracuse Spark and Binghamton Bombers. The Jim Thorpe All-Americans are in Pennsylvania, the Trenton Terror are in New Jersey, Hampton, VA is home to the Hammerheads, Charlotte, NC has the Bootleggers and the New England Chowderheads will split time between Manchester, New Hampshire and Springfield, Massachusetts.

Box Lacrosse is a mix between regular lacrosse and ice hockey. The dimensions of the playing surface

are the same as hockey but the game is played on artificial turf. There are boards surrounding the playing surface, like hockey, and each team will field six players at a time, a goalie with two defensemen and three forwards.

"Every seat is going to be a good seat for this fast-paced action!" said Wendy Delano, Salem's Director of Civic Facilities. "The Indoor lacrosse set-up will be a perfect fit in our facility and it will be exciting to see the Salem Civic Center look somewhat like it did in the old pro hockey days with the dasher boards, protective panels, and fast-paced action."

The Salem Mayhem roster features elite athletes under the guidance of Coach Lindsay Sanderson. He is the former general manager and head coach of the Philadelphia Wings, and he is a member of both the Ontario and Canadian Lacrosse Halls of Fame.



Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs goalie Austyn Roudebush (dark sweater) lands a haymaker in a recent "all Goalie" fight with Trevor Babin of the Knoxville Ice Bears.

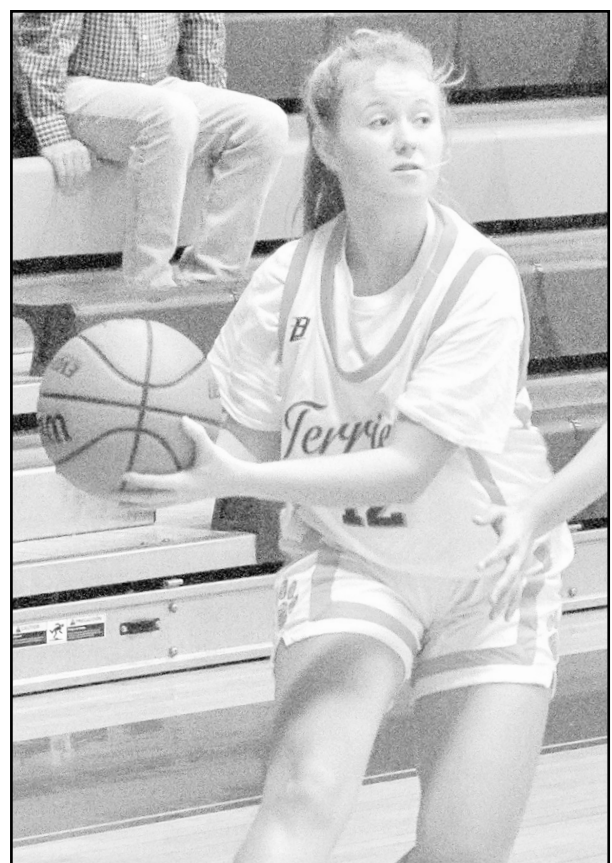
PHOTO BY JOHN WACHER

Dawgs end year with three home games this weekend

The Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs will attempt to begin another streak this week as they close 2022 with three home ice hockey games in as many nights. Roanoke will host the Quad City Storm on Thursday and Friday of this week, then play a New Year's Eve game against the Huntsville Havoc on Saturday. The puck drops at 7:05 pm tonight and Friday with a 6:05 pm start Saturday.

On Tuesday the Rail Yard Dawgs saw their nine game winning streak come to an end with a 5-3 loss to the Fayetteville Marksmen at Crown Coliseum in Fayetteville. Brendan Pepe, Matt O'Dea, and Billy Vizzo tallied goals for Roanoke.

The recent run of success has lifted the Rail Yard Dawgs into a tie for first place with the Peoria Rivermen. Both teams have 30 points, followed closely by the Evansville Thunderbirds with 28.



Byrd's Taylor Davis looks for an open teammate.

PHOTO BY JIM DEVINNEY

Girls open 2023 hoop season at C'burg Wed.

The William Byrd girls' basketball team will open the 2023 portion of their schedule next Wednesday, January 4, when the Terriers travel to Christiansburg. The girls are hoping to turn things around after dropping three games in the Knights' Christmas Classic last week at Cave Spring High School.

The girls opened the three day event on Tuesday of last week. The invitational was supposed to run from Wednesday through Friday but Friday's games were moved to Tuesday with the anticipation of poor weather later in the week. The Terriers were scheduled to play Floyd on Friday, so they drew the Buffaloes on Tuesday instead and dropped a 58-27 decision. Alexis Helton led the team with a dozen points and Sam Martin had six.

On Wednesday Byrd lost to Staunton River in overtime, 60-50. Logan Andrews scored 21 points in the loss while Helton had 12 and Kaylee Makuch scored 11.

On Thursday Byrd was scheduled to play E.C. Glass, but bad weather forced a change in the matchups and the Terriers played Magna Vista instead. The Warriors beat Byrd, 66-31, with Andrews scoring 10 for the Terriers and Martin scoring nine.

The three losses dropped Byrd to 1-7 on the season.

"We are still finding our way and this group, with their work ethic, will continue to get better," said coach Randy Bush. "It was a good three game stretch and I know that the girls are dedicated to getting better."



Action from William Byrd's basketball game at Bassett last week. Top left, Israel Hairston looks to put a move on a Bengal defender. Above, Grayson Webb(#32) defends the paint. Below, Isaiah Board draws the attention of three Bassett defenders on his way to scoring a team-high 22 points.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER



ARE YOU READY?



Beverley won **\$53,011**

1135 VINYARD RD, VINTON, VA 24179 | [ROSIESGAMING.COM](https://rosiesgaming.com)   

Must be 21 or older. Problem Gaming? Call the Virginia Help Line at 1-888-532-3500.



Byrd boys in the NIT this week

The William Byrd boys' basketball team will be competing in the Northside Invitational Tournament this week, an annual event at Northside High School.

The Terriers were scheduled to open the "NIT" on Wednesday against Roanoke Catholic. If they won that game they would play the winner of Glenvar and Liberty Christian Academy at 6 pm today, Thursday. If they lost they would play the loser of the Glenvar-LCA game today at 2:30 pm.

Also in the tournament are Auburn, Abingdon, Hidden Valley and Northside. The championship game is at 7:45 pm on Friday preceded by a seventh place game at 2:30 pm, a fifth place game at 4:15 pm and a third place game at 6 pm.

Wednesday's game with Roanoke Catholic was special for Byrd coach Brad Greenway. The Celtics are coached by former Virginia Tech standout Shawn Good.

"Coach Good gave me my first shot at coaching when I worked with him at Christiansburg," said Greenway. "This will be my first time facing him and I'm looking forward to that. Our guys are looking forward to getting back at it after a week off from games."

Byrd's last game before the NIT was last Thursday at Bassett, where they dropped a 70-65 game to the host Bengals. Byrd led 22-15 after the first quarter as Jaiden Childress scored 11 points in the period. However, the Terriers managed just four points in the second quarter and trailed 32-26 at the half.

"We came up short against their zone in the first half," said Greenway. "We missed way too many shots against their zone. You hate to point to offense on a night where you score 65 points, but we should have been in better position going in to halftime than we were. We just couldn't get the ball to drop against their zone."

The Terriers heated up in the third quarter as Isaiah Board nailed four threes and scored 14 third quarter points. Isaiah ended up with a team high 22 points with six threes.

"Isaiah Board put on a show," said Greenway.

Byrd trailed by just a point, 50-49, heading into the fourth quarter but Bassett's rebounding was a big factor in the game and the Bengals held on to win.

"They outrebounded two to one on the night," said Greenway. "We talked about that going into the game, we felt like whoever won the rebounding battle was going to win the game. They're bigger and stronger than us almost across the board, but we didn't make them earn it, and that was frustrating as far as rebounding goes. We just have to do a better job next time against them and I think we will."

The loss dropped Byrd to 3-3 on the season. The Terriers will open the 2023 portion of their schedule with a trip to Christiansburg next Tuesday, and a week from today, on January 5th, they open Blue Ridge District play at Lord Botetourt.



INSPIRED LEARNING



The **Roanoke Valley Governor's School for Science and Technology** invites prospective students and parents to attend one of the 2023-2024 school year informational sessions listed below to learn about our school and obtain an application. RVGS is a public regional program serving high school students from Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin, Roanoke City, Roanoke County, and Salem.

Thursday, January 5th at Franklin County High School at 6:30

Tuesday, January 10th at The Governor's School at 6:30

Thursday, January 12th at Staunton River High School at 6:30

Tuesday, January 17th at The Governor's School 6:30

Thursday, January 19th at The Governor's School at 6:30

Informational sessions & additional information available at
www.rvgs.k12.va.us