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Vinton State of the Town Address celebrates successes, shares vision for the future

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.com

The Town of Vinton and the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce hosted their traditional State of the Town Address at the Vinton War Memorial on April 6. Headline speakers were Vinton Mayor Brad Grose and Angie Chewning, Executive Director of the Vinton Area Chamber of

Commerce. The mayor commented that the annual presentation has become “an opportunity to reflect on our progress, while also looking forward to how we can improve our community for businesses, residents, and visitors. “We have not been without challenges, but I cannot imagine working with a better team or working for a better

community,” Grose said. “I consider it an honor to fulfill my part as your mayor and I thank everyone in the room for your role in making our town such a very special place to live and work.” The mayor recognized Angie Chewning and the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce for their partnership with the town and “bringing our business community

together. The town appreciates all that the Chamber does to represent Vinton by providing value-added services, creating awareness for our private sector partners, and hosting events that give us a chance to celebrate.” He thanked fellow Council members— Vice Mayor Mike Stovall, Sabrina McCarty, Laurie Mullins, and Keith Liles—for their “continued vision, leadership, your love for our community, and your dedication to serving our great citizens.”

Grose recognized the town’s Leadership Team: Town Manager Pete Peters, Assistant Town Manager Cody Sexton, Police Chief Fabricio Drummond, Deputy Chief Tim Lawless, Human Resources and Risk Management Director Donna Collins, Planning and Zoning Director Anita McMillan, Assistant Planning and Zoning Director Nathan McClung, Community Programs Director Chasity Barbour, and Public Works Director Bo Herndon. “Thanks to this dedicated team for their tireless efforts in serving the citizens of Vinton!”

He welcomed the newest members to the Leadership Team: Capital Projects Manager Jamie



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Members of Vinton Town Council, town leadership, and the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce gathered on April 6 for the annual State of the Town Address. Pictured front row, left to right, are Director of Community Programs Chasity Barbour, Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Angie Chewning, Mayor Brad Grose, Chamber Executive Assistant Kathryn Sowers, and Councilwoman Sabrina McCarty; back row, Assistant Town Manager Cody Sexton, Vice Mayor Mike Stovall, Town Manager Pete Peters, and Councilwoman Laurie Mullins.

Hurt, Finance Director Andrew Keen, Economic Development Specialist Marshall Stanley, and Administrative Manager Antonia Arias-Magallon. He also recognized recently retired Town Clerk and Executive Assistant to the Town Manager Susan Johnson— “a great public servant.” “To the entire Town of Vinton staff, current and past, thank you for your service to our community,” Grose said. “I especially want to say ‘thank you’ to our public safety and emergency services crew members. Your dedication to protecting our citizens makes Vinton a safe and great place to live. “To our business owners, we say ‘thank you’ for your devotion. Not only do you give our community character and provide much needed products, services, and jobs, but when you look around our town and see freshly paved roads, new sidewalks, and updated traffic signals, just to name a few improvements— these couldn’t happen without your investment into our community. “We have all heard the phrase that it takes a village, I like to say that it takes a valley, and I would like to recognize

our mission partners across the region. Thank you for your partnership to help make Virginia’s Blue Ridge a region full of opportunity and provide a high quality of life for current and future residents.” Grose gave special thanks to Roanoke County, saying, “The coordination with the county has helped the town with many redevelopment and new business projects over the years and we are fortunate to have such a great working relationship. We also say thanks to the Roanoke County school system for educating and supporting our children, the Roanoke County Public Library System for their services accessible, and Roanoke County Fire & EMS for protecting our community.” He thanked Scott Ramsburg and RVTV, saying, “Your team has helped us capture the highlights of Vinton, share important public service messages, and ultimately tell the story of Vinton. “Our local volunteer and non-profit organizations also continue to serve. Thanks to the Vinton Historical Society for

See Vision page 6

Lancerlot partners with WBMS for swimming, ice skating classes

Debbie Adams
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Sixth, seventh, and eighth graders at William Byrd Middle School have been spending class time each week in April at the Lancerlot Sports Complex to learn and/or practice ice skating and swimming.



William Byrd Middle School students enjoy their skating session at the Lancerlot.

This program started out in 2019 when the WBMS physical education teachers contacted the Lot’s Health and Fitness Manager Robin Hartman about physical fitness classes their students might be able to participate in at the Lancerlot. PE teacher Jeremy Baldwin coordinated the program along with Lancerlot Assistant Manager Kathleen Sink in the years since.



WBMS students were able to participate in both swimming and ice skating at the Lancerlot during the April program.

Baldwin says the teachers “enjoy working with the community to give kids experiences that they otherwise might not be able to have.” Their goal is to encourage students to participate not just in school sports but in lifelong physical fitness activities. They settled on ice skating and swimming as the most manageable and the “most fun” activities for large groups of students to enjoy.

See Lancerlot page 5



PHOTO BY SUE VAIL

Vietnam-era Veteran Lapel Pins were presented to several Vietnam veterans at the National Vietnam War Veterans Day commemorative ceremony in Vinton on March 29.


Veterans honored in Vinton on National Vietnam War Veterans Day

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.com

The Vietnam Veterans of America commemorated National Vietnam War Veterans Day at the Charles R. Hill Community Center in Vinton on March 29. The ceremony also recognized the 40th anniversary of Roanoke Valley Chapter 81 of the Vietnam Veterans Association (VVA). The chapter includes Vietnam veterans of all branches of the military – some are retired; others served and were discharged. Some served

in Vietnam, while others served elsewhere. They meet on the last Thursday of most months at VFW Post 1264 in Roanoke. In addition to fellowship, the meetings provide updates on veteran activities, changes in Veterans Affairs and the Medical Center, and discussion of opportunities to help veterans. Their priority as Vietnam veterans is working to ensure that “never again will one generation of veterans abandon another.” Music for the ceremony was provided by the 29th Division Band. Vinton Mayor Brad

Grose and Marine Corps veteran Fred Fralin, President of VVA Chapter 81, welcomed guests to the event. Fralin commented that “as veterans get older, we think about the things that have affected us as a result of our military service— like Agent Orange, PTSD, the contaminated water at Camp Lejeune currently in the news.” He encouraged veterans to make the most of every day they are given, emphasizing his point with mention of a song from the past, “Live Like You Were Dying,” by Tim McGraw. During a wreath-laying ceremony at the nearby High Ground Monument, Fralin also used a song— this one by Billy Ray Cyrus, to note that “Some Gave All.” Fralin was 19 years old when he was sent to Vietnam to serve as a machine-gunner. Many of his fellow soldiers were even younger. For the duration of his year of service in Vietnam, Fralin volunteered as




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See Veterans page 7

68th Vinton Dogwood Festival scheduled for April 28-29



A highlight of the Vinton Dogwood Festival each year in the introduction of the Dogwood Court and crowning of the Dogwood Queen. Here's the 2022 Dogwood Court with Vinton Mayor Brad Grose.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The 68th Vinton Dogwood Festival features a free Kids' Zone with petting zoo, inflatables, and much more.

The 68th Annual Vinton Dogwood Festival on April 28 and 29 celebrates "Hometown Heroes" this year.

The two-day festival features over 100 vendors offering handmade crafts and a Business Showcase, a Friday night concert, festival entertainment stages, an antique car show, a free Kids' Zone, a free Teen Space, oversized games, street entertainment, a Virtual Reality Area, the crowning of the Vinton Dogwood Festival Queen, the presentation of the Dogwood Court, and the Vinton Dogwood Festival Parade.

Rare Form, a modern country and rock band, will present a concert on Friday evening, April 28, at the Vinton Farmers' Market Stage, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The gate, beverage garden and concessions will open at 6 p.m. Admission is \$5. Bring seating and ID.

Saturday, April 29, is a fun day of activities for all ages. Events include a large craft show, business showcase, antique car show, live entertainment on two stages including jazz, big band, top forty, classics and country, gymnastics and cheer, and martial arts.

Juggler David Bear Stuart, Magician Mark Fuller and "The Beat Goes On Line Dancers" will provide street entertainment.

The free Kids' Zone located at the Vinton Farmers' Market will feature large inflatables, a petting zoo, crafts, STEM activities, a fire engine, games, and prizes. The "Teen Space" located on Lee Avenue will feature "Escape Rooms," Corn Hole, and interactive activities.

In keeping with tradition, the crowning of the Vinton Dogwood Festival Queen will take place on the Vinton Municipal Building stage at noon. One William Byrd High School student will receive the coveted crown and the honor of riding along with her court in the 68th Annual Dogwood Parade.

The parade steps off at 2:30 p.m., following a route from the Vinton War Memorial on Washington Avenue through downtown Vinton to Gus Nicks Boulevard.

The Vinton Fire Department will lead the "Hometown Heroes Parade" as Grand Marshals. Their

and dedication on July 2, 2022, saved downtown Vinton from more serious loss.

All ages will enjoy the William Byrd High School Band, the Virginia Highlands Pipe and Drum Band, Island Trio, the Virginia Fire Museum Fire Engines, Miss Kitty's Cosmonaut Stilt Walkers, a variety of floats, walking and novelty units, classic vehicles, costumed characters, clowns, and much more during the parade.

Here's the Vinton Dogwood Festival Schedule of Events for April 28-29

April 28: Festival Concert: Rare Form Band, 6-10 p.m. on the Vinton Farmers' Market Stage, \$5.00 cover, Beverage Garden and Food Truck. ID required for beverage garden. Bring seating. No pets.

April 29: Festival Activities include: a Craft show with over 85 vendors, a business showcase with over 25 vendors; the AACA Antique Car Show; two entertainment stages; free Kids' Zone with inflatables, a petting zoo, STEM activities, games; free "Teen Space" with "Escape Rooms," Corn Hole

and more; oversize games, street entertainment including line dancing, juggling and magic on Pollard Street, and Maple Street.

Vinton Farmers' Market Stage and Parking Lot

- 10:00 a.m. – William Byrd Jazz Band
- 10:30 a.m. – Mish Moves Dance Co.
- 11:00 a.m. – Let's Dance Band (Big Band, Swing, Pop)
- 11:30 a.m. – Hoppie Vaughn
- 12:15 p.m. – Let's Dance Band
- 1:00 p.m. – Defy Gravity Cheer
- 1:15 p.m. – Terry and Raymond Duo
- 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. – Street Performer – Christian "Yeah - Yeah" Thompson, Twirling Ninja
- Food Vendors
- Vinton Baptist Church Parking Lot and Stage – Lee Avenue
- 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Craft Show
- 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Jimmy Wilson and Friends (Americana, covers of Willie Nelson, CCR, Johnny Cash, John Prine)
- Pollard Street
- 12 noon-- Presentation of the Dogwood Festival Court



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS AND ROANOKE COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE

Grand Marshals for this year's Dogwood Festival Parade will be the Vinton Fire Department who fought so gallantly on July 2, 2022, to save the downtown area of Vinton.

and Crowning of Miss Dogwood Festival Queen, music by Floyd Boone, at the Vinton Municipal Building

- 10 a.m.--Street Entertainment, "The Beat Goes On, Line Dancers," Vinton Municipal Building.

Juggler David Bear Stuart and Magician Mark Fuller, various times and locations

Giant Jenga, Giant Four Over, and other large games on the Neely

See Dogwood page 7

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PHOTO COURTESY OF KATHRYN SOWERS

Vinton Woman's Club members who attended the District Birthday Tea and Annual Spring Meeting were (left to right): Judy Banik, Club President; Lois Creasy, Club Treasurer; Camilla Cabaniss, Maggie Angell, 2nd Vice President; Carol Guilliams-Mills, Blue Ridge District President; Vicki Newburn, Kathryn Sowers and Ardy Kidd.

GFWC Vinton Woman's Club wins District awards

The GFWC Vinton Woman's Club members attended the 70th Birthday Tea and Annual Spring Meeting of the General Federation of Women's Clubs Blue Ridge District meeting at the Bent Mountain Community Center Saturday, April 1. This was a special celebration and included a tea party and dressing up in hats and gloves from the '50s.

Vinton Woman's Club members attending included Judy Banik, Club President; Lois Creasy, Club Treasurer; Camilla Cabaniss, Maggie Angell, 2nd Vice President; Carol Guilliams-Mills, Blue Ridge District President; Vicki Newburn, Kathryn Sowers and Ardy Kidd.

The club walked away with first place awards in the small club category

of Education & Libraries, Legislation & Public Policy, Communications & Public Relations, Leadership, GFWC VA Signature Project (Domestic Violence) and GFWC Signature Project (Domestic Violence).

The club received second place awards in Environment, Health & Wellness, Civic Engagement, Fund Raising & Development, Membership and Woman's Resource Center. These awards are judged against the other clubs in the district and by many judges. The entries will be sent to GFWC Virginia to be judged against all other clubs in Virginia.

Submitted by GFWC Vinton Woman's Club

Next Vinton Cruise-In set for April 15 at Farmers' Market

The second Vinton Cruise-In for 2023 is scheduled for Saturday, April 15, from 3-6 p.m. at the Vinton Farmers' Market at 204 West Lee Avenue in downtown Vinton.

The Cruise-Ins are organized by Vinton Community Programs Director Chasity Barbour, along with car owners and enthusiasts Will Thomas and Franklin Ridpath.

Upcoming Cruise-In dates for 2023 are May 20, June 17, July 15, Aug. 19, and Sept. 16.

Cruise-Ins have been a Vinton tradition for many years held at various locations around town, including Valley Hall and



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Vinton Motors. Last year they moved to the Farmers' Market.

Cruise-Ins are informal – a time to socialize, show off your vehicle, and admire those of others. There is no admission charge.

For more information contact Vinton Community Programs Director Chasity Barbour at cbarbour@vintonva.gov.

Submitted by Town of Vinton

VINTON HISTORY: DOUGH BOWL

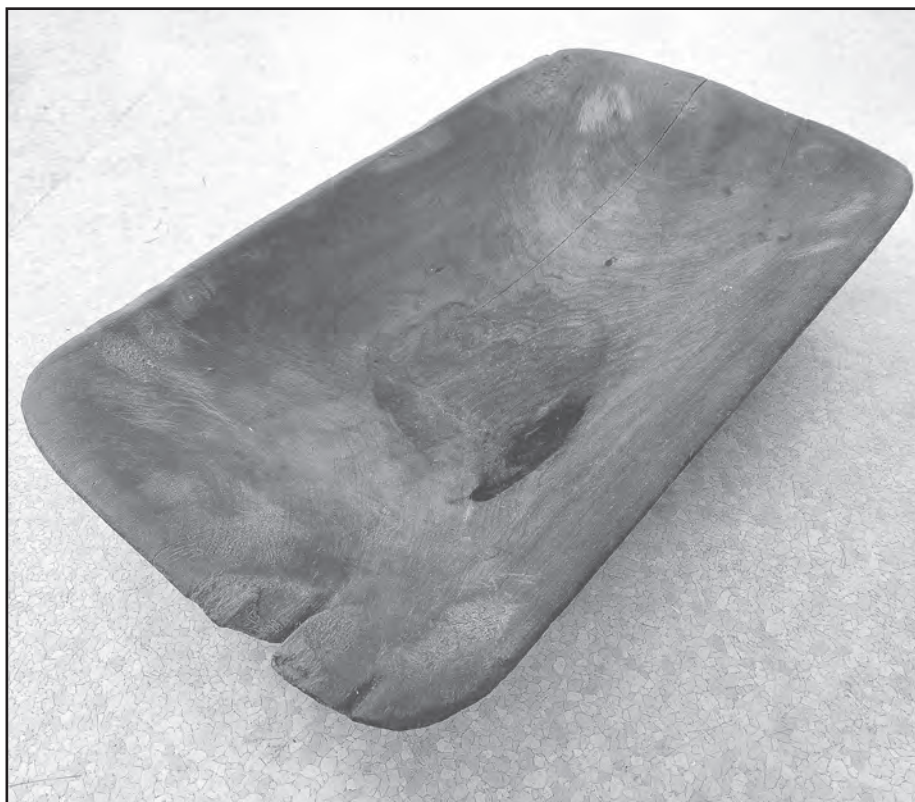


PHOTO BY JUDY CUNNINGHAM

This dough bowl is on display at the Vinton History Museum, donated by Claiborne Wood Vinyard.

Dough bowls were a vital tool in Colonial America, found in every home, and were carved from a large piece of wood. They provided a snug, warm place in which bread could rise prior to baking.

They were often handed down through a family, passing along the memory of Mother and the wealth of experiences that make a kitchen the heart of a home.

Descendants added their own mark to this

history written in wood until they, in turn, bequeathed their dough bowl to their children. But those who pioneered America were not just sentimental: they valued a good dough bowl because they were practical, too.

Wooden bowls have always been the preferred choice for bread-making because the heat generated by the yeast is retained in the wood, giving the dough an even rise.

A hand-hewn dough

bowl tray of the late 19th century that is on display at the Vinton History Museum was donated by Claiborne Wood Vinyard.

The Vinton History Museum is open to the public at no charge on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and every first Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Submitted by Judy Cunningham, Vinton History Museum Executive Director

FROM THE PULPIT

A Beginning

Travis Russell
Sr. Pastor Vinton Baptist Church

1 After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. 4 For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. 5 But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place

where he lay" (Matthew 28:1-6).

Bishop Kenneth H. Carter, Jr. once wrote a sermon entitled, "When An Ending Is Actually A Beginning." The following is an excerpt:

"Mary Magdalene, on the way to the tomb on the first Easter, thought that she was in the midst of an ending. In many of our communities on [Easter Sunday], families gather around grave plots, placing flowers on them. Easter is about memory. The women had gone to the tomb to care for the body of the dead Jesus. It would be a time to remember. It was an ending.

Life is about endings and beginnings. Life is a succession of losses. For

Jesus it was the same: eating at the table with those who would betray and abandon him—ending; facing death, a redemptive death but an unjust death—ending; feeling the strength and life and breath leave his body at the place of the skull, Golgotha—ending.

In our lives there are many Good Fridays. You could probably make a list of the Good Fridays in your own life: days when you have felt forsaken—ending; days when strength and life and breath seem to be leaving your body—ending; days when you were betrayed, and you wrestled with forgiveness—ending.

And yet . . . Easter reminds us . . . what looks like an ending is actually a beginning."

UPCOMING EVENTS

Vinton April 13-19

Charles Hill Community Center:

Tai Chi on Apr. 13 at 9 a.m.; Senior Card Games on Apr. 13 at 10:15 a.m.; line dancing Apr. 18 at 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 6 p.m.; Monday Music Jam on Apr. 17 from 2:30 to 5 p.m.; Big House Dance on Apr. 15 from 6:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Lancerlot Sports Complex (The Lot):

Push & Pull by the Pool Deadlift and Bench competition is scheduled for May 20 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Proceeds go to the Boulder Crest Foundation and the family of Danielle Holloman. Check their Facebook page for more information and to register.

New Freedom Farm:

New Freedom Farm will host their 5th annual FREEDOM FEST on April 22 and 23 opening with a T-6 Texan aircrafts flyover performing the Missing Man formation, the Freedom Farm Color Guard, the VA Highland Pipe and Drums, craft and food vendors, over 150 auction items, live music, and national championship mustang trainer Mary Miller Jordan performing live at liberty with her wild mustangs. The event is a fundraiser for New Freedom Farm and will bring awareness to the farm's mission of "healing heroes through horses." Freedom Fest will take place each day from 11:00 am – 5:00 pm, rain or shine. Daily entry is \$8 (adults and children 17 and under free). Tickets are available in advance at www.newfreedomfarm.org. New Freedom Farm is a nonprofit organization founded by Navy veteran and forensic nurse Lois Dawn Magill in 2016, located on 27 acres in Buchanan, the farm is home to a number of wild mustangs. New Freedom Farm is dedicated to helping those who have served our country and their families.

Roanoke County Parks, Recreation, and Tourism:

Blue Ridge Kite Festival, April 15 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Green Hill Park.

Roanoke County Public Schools:

School Board work meeting on Thursday, Apr.20 at 6 p.m. at the Central Administration offices on Cove Road.

Rosie's Gaming Emporium:

21 Tribes performs at 8 p.m. on Apr. 14; The Bogeys perform on Apr. 15 at 8 p.m. Both are free shows for those 21 and older.

Town of Vinton:

Sign up for the CodeRED alert system and the new All Things Vinton e-Newsletter on the Town of Vinton website at www.vintonva.gov. Second Cruise-In of the spring at the Vinton Farmers' Market on April 15 from 3 to 6 p.m.

Twin Creeks Brewing Company:

Apr. 13 Trivia with DJ Unique at 6:30 p.m.; Neil Dalton acoustic show on Apr. 14 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Mason Creek Bluegrass on Apr. 15 from 6:30 to 9:30 on the Dock; Let's Party Creatively on Apr. 16 from 2-3:30 p.m. (sign up on EventBrite); Apr. 19 at 6:30, Comedy Bingo.

Vinton Public Library:

All Roanoke County Library locations closed from 10 a.m. to noon on April 14 for staff development. Roanoke Valley Dulcimers meet on April 15 from 10:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Open Bridge, April 18 from 1 to 4 p.m.; Teen Book Club meets on Apr. 17 from 5 to 6 p.m.; Wondertime meets on Apr. 13 from 11 a.m. to noon for ages 2-5. Junior Makers will meet on Apr. 19 from 4 to 5 p.m. to explore a new STEM concept; Jammie Time starts on Tuesday, April 18 at 6 p.m. for ages 3-5.

Vinton Town Council:

Next meeting on April 18 in Council Chambers at 6 p.m.

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

Roanoke County School Board receives updates on William Byrd HS renovation



Renovations are substantially complete to the WBHS auditorium.

Debbie Adams

dadams@ourvalley.com

Roanoke County Schools Director of Facilities and Operations Todd Kageals presented School Board members with an update on the renovation project at William Byrd High School at their work session on April 6.

According to Kageals, work is continuing on the renovation project.

"We have hit some significant milestones," Kageals said. "Hopefully by the end of the month (April), the majority of classrooms will be turned over to us as substantially completed" with the exception of the "B Wing."

Materials containing asbestos were found in "B Wing."

"Asbestos abatement

requires an engineered plan which is currently in production," Kageals explained. "We hope to have the plan by the start of next week. Once we have the plan, an abatement contractor will provide a cost estimate. There is a mandatory 30-day waiting period for the plan to be approved and the abatement permit to be issued. Due to the delay created by the asbestos abatement, additional costs will be incurred for the lease of the mobile classrooms. An estimate of the additional costs and an updated construction schedule will be provided once abatement details have been finalized."

Demolition of the gym floor has been completed with the exception of the area under the bleachers, which will remain until

the new floor has been installed. Demolition of the existing duct work should be started soon. Once Avis has completed its work in the main gym, installation of the new gym floor will commence.

The auditorium is substantially completed. Work in the cafeteria has been started. HVAC control systems and unit replacements recently approved by the board are in procurement and should be started soon.

School Superintendent Dr. Ken Nicely commented on the "great progress" that has been made in the renovation project at Byrd and the high level of staff involvement in the project, especially from Principal Tammy Newcomb and Assistant Principal Travis Anderson, as well as the rest of the WBHS staff.



The view from the second floor shows the new front entrance and senior lobby.



Demolition of the main gymnasium floor has been completed at WBHS, except under the bleachers.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF RCPS



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Roanoke County Board of Supervisors has announced a record \$130 million funding proposal for CIP projects, including the renovation of W.E. Cundiff Elementary School in Vinton— an open classroom concept school.

Board of Supervisors announces record funding for Roanoke County Schools capital projects

Debbie Adams

dadams@ourvalley.com

The Roanoke County Board of Supervisors announced on April 7 a proposal that will provide Roanoke County Public Schools (RCPS) \$130 million to fund a new Career and Technical Education (CTE) Center and make improvements to two elementary schools.

This is the largest amount of funding the county has ever provided to RCPS and enables them to complete all three projects sooner than expected. This funding will be available starting in early 2024.

RCPS identified the critical needs for a new CTE Center in Roanoke County, as well as renovations to W.E. Cundiff Elementary School and Glen Cove Elementary School.

The current CTE Center has to turn away students each year due to capacity issues.

"Our business community has shared their desires for well-trained students to enter the workforce immediately," said Board of Supervisors Chair Martha Hooker. "A new CTE facility will expand the programs offered, provide more opportunities for

students, and meet the needs of our business community. Ensuring our children's success and sustaining our local economy is critical."

W.E. Cundiff and Glen Cove Elementary Schools were also identified as schools in need of renovations to help facilitate learning. The Board of Supervisors agreed there are issues at these two schools and improvements of the open-classroom spaces are needed.

The Board of Supervisors and county staff worked for many months to find solutions within current and future funding streams that would also allow them to meet the capital needs across all county programs and remain fiscally responsible with taxpayer dollars. In the last four months, the Board of Supervisors provided two funding proposals to the School Board intended to meet the desired needs.

This new proposal will provide \$80 million to be utilized for the new CTE Center and \$50 million to be utilized for improvements to Glen Cove and W.E. Cundiff Elementary Schools.

Planning has been underway for the three projects, including recommendations from renovation studies for the elementary schools, and the purchase last year of 28 acres of land to build the new CTE facility.

"As a former educator,

I understand the importance of providing an environment that encourages growth and learning, and provides the foundation for our future," added Hooker. "I'm proud that we have been able to secure this record amount of funding for our school system. We've paved the way for them to advance their capital projects and ensure the educational needs of our students are met."

The Board of Supervisors sent a proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the projects to the School Board on Wednesday, April 5.

According to Roanoke County's Public Information Officer Amy Whittaker, the MOU "is still in draft form and a couple of changes will likely be made regarding the date for the \$5 million in cash and updating the language that \$50 million will be utilized for both elementary schools."

The MOU states that its purpose is to "update the policy for the financing of necessary Roanoke County Government (ROCO) and Roanoke County Public Schools (RCPS) capital projects."

Proposed updates to the Combined Debt-Payment Reserve Fund Policy outlined in the MOU include:

See Funding page 5

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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| <p>CLUES ACROSS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Atomic mass unit Criticize mightily Sino-Soviet block (abbr.) Stand in for Everyone has one Brew Rectify Popular Dodge truck model Beef or chicken intestine Satisfy Of a particular people or localized region Movements in quick tempos Able to pay one's debts Fleshy bird beak covering Dueling sword Helps Court is in it Touch lightly | <p>CLUES DOWN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sharp mountain ridge Thin, fibrous cartilages Provides new details Muscular weaknesses Ottoman military title Banes Horse-riding seats Arms of a shirt Narrow path along a road edge Viper Disfigure Variety of Chinese language Portray in a show Wrongful act No (slang) State of agitation Diego One point east of due south 007's creator The NBA's Toppin Midway between north and | <p>CLUES ACROSS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Airborne (abbr.) Of one Baked good Jai ___ sport About aviation Low oval mound Rugged mountain ranges Compel to do something A way to carve Sao ___ city in Brazil Mustachioed actor Elliott American Idol runner-up Clay A way to soak Car mechanics group Born of Time zone Sea eagle Even's opposite | <p>CLUES DOWN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Examples ___ Gould, actor The habitat of wild animals Artful subtlety Infielders Keep under control Herb Distressed A way to go down Type of acid Take by force Collected fallen leaves Shout of welcome or farewell Monetary unit Swiss river |
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5TH ANNUAL

FREEDOM FEST

APRIL 22 & 23, 2023

featuring:
"Missing Man"
Formation Flyover by
WWII T-6 Texans

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Buchanan, VA

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SATURDAY April 22

11 AM - Gates Open
12:22 PM - Opening Ceremonies
- Missing Man Flyover
- New Freedom Farm Color Guard Presentation of Colors
- Mary Miller Jordan Founder of I AM HERD with her own Mustangs Performing at Liberty.
12:30 - 2 PM - Terry and Raymond
2 - 5 PM - Martin and Kelly Band

SUNDAY April 23

11 AM - Gates Open
12:22 PM - Opening Ceremonies
12:30 - 2 PM - Tate Tuck Band
2 - 5 PM - Eric Wayne Band

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Vinton Chamber of Commerce shares the business perspective on the State of the Town

Debbie Adams
dadams@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce joins the Town of Vinton each year in hosting the State of the Town Address at the Vinton War Memorial.

Chamber Executive Director Angie Chewning opened the 2023 meeting with comments on the state of Vinton from the perspective of area businesses.

“As we gather here today, we stand on the cusp of a new chapter in the history of our beloved town,” Chewning said. “Since we met right here in this very room last year, so many things have been happening. The Chamber has witnessed great strides in our community’s growth and development. From the opening of new businesses, to hosting a slew of events, and all things in between, our town has been bustling with energy and excitement.

“We are a small town, but we are doing big things. And that is thanks to the hard work and dedication of our town staff, our businesses, and our citizens, who continue to work tirelessly to make our town a better

place to live, work, and play.

“As we move forward into the future, I am confident that we will continue to build on our successes and achieve even greater heights. Let us work together to make our town a shining example of what can be accomplished when a community comes together with a common purpose.”

Chewning then introduced and thanked the 2023 Chamber Board of Directors and officers: Anthony Conner (The Conner Group), Chris McCarty (Grand Rental Storage), Libby Patterson (The Hemp Mill), Julie Wheeler (HomeTrust Bank), Tim Greenway (Mountain View Real Estate), Tyler Fisher (Fisher Financial Services), Michelle Barklow (Dodge Stores), Chris Wheeler (Twin Creeks), Kat Pascal (Farmburguesa), Joy Rierson (Neely’s Accounting), Paula Robins (Bank of Botetourt), Dr. Richard Turner (JMU/Fritz Sports and Event Enterprises), Chamber President Jason Boothe (Mountain View Real Estate), 1st Vice President Allison Finney (American Efficiency Inns), 2nd Vice President Page Stovall Lovern (Pheasant Ridge), Past President

Justin Davison (MemberOne), and Town of Vinton representatives Mayor Grose, Town Manager Pete Peters, and Director of Community Programs Chasity Barbour.

“From the smallest acts of kindness to the most ambitious projects, many of you have played a role in building a brighter future for our town,” Chewning continued. “Whether you are a longtime resident or a newcomer, or here for a visit, your presence here today is a testament to the strength and resilience of our community.

“So let us take a moment to reflect on all that we have accomplished together, and to look forward to the many great things yet to come. Thank you all for being here, and once again, welcome to our small town, doing big things.”

Prior to the event, the crowd was entertained with videos from the enormously popular “All Things Vinton” series—a combined effort of the town, the Chamber, and RVTV. Chewning and Barbour have become a comedy duo promoting businesses in Vinton and the town online on Facebook and YouTube.

Vision from page 1

operating the History Museum; the Advancement Foundation for hosting the annual Gauntlet Competition; and the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club for the new bus shelters at Lake Drive Plaza and near PFG.”

The mayor then went on to mention accomplishments of specific departments within the town.

“A pillar of a great community is public safety, which is why we are very proud of the Vinton Police Department,” Grose said. “Under the leadership of Chief Drummond, they continue to represent the town positively and attract and retain some of the very best officers to keep our community safe. The relationships our officers have built with our citizens, the community engagement programs, and the emphasis on transparency are just a couple of reasons why this department is an exceptional steward of law enforcement.

“Our Police Department has done a fantastic job in working with external agencies and leveraging grant funding in 2022 to improve and update their operations. Chief Drummond and Deputy Chief Lawless have been able to provide body worn cameras and updated in-car cameras, new firearms, and state-of-the-art technology to handle crime across the spectrum. I have full confidence in their capabilities to continue delivering exceptional public safety in Vinton.

“A great community doesn’t happen by accident, in fact, it requires some smart planning,” he continued. “That’s why our Planning and Zoning Department has an important task in planning for Vinton’s future. Staff oversees the town’s code enforcement, stormwater permitting, and assists construction permitting with Roanoke County. In 2022, staff updated the zoning ordinance and modernized many local regulations. These updates were made to be business and development friendly while maintaining responsible standards.

“Our Planning and Zoning staff also coordinates many transportation and infrastructure projects. Vinton is updating Bike & Pedestrian Improvements along Walnut Ave and is planning for two new signalized crosswalks for Gus Nicks Boulevard and Hardy Road. Planning and Zoning staff also work to maintain and improve our natural assets, such as the Woodland Place Stream Bank Restoration Project which will improve stormwater management and restore a waterway in our town. And of course, Glade Creek Greenway Phase 2B will expand our already impressive greenway system, which will make Vinton even more walkable.

“Another important element in bringing town projects to life is our Capital Projects team. Their work with other town departments, private contractors, and public partners ranges from building system improvements at the Vinton War Memorial and the Farmers Market, to building the new Walnut Avenue parking lot, scheduled to be completed this summer, providing over 80 new spaces for residents and visitors in downtown.

“These transformative projects couldn’t happen without our Finance and Treasurer’s Office and their fantastic management of the town’s finances. They also provide our citizens and businesses assistance with account inquiries, daily payment collection, and handling the Town’s accounts payable and receivables.

“The department was again recognized in 2022 by GFOA for the Financial Audit and the Budget Document, which has become a regular occurrence with this department. I am also very proud to announce that through responsible management of the town’s finances, the Town of Vinton budget is once again balanced and is now debt free. That is something I am very excited to say, and I know this team will continue their exceptional work and service to our citizens and businesses.

“Our mix of local restaurants, unique retail, professional service providers, entertainment venues, and large employers truly gives our town great

character,” Grose said in recognizing business owners who were present. “They help paint the picture of what Vinton has to offer.”

“I would also like to welcome a few new members to our business community— Cory Welch with Pok-E-Joe’s and Johnathan Pate with Pollard 107 South. I don’t think I’m alone when I say this community is beyond excited for you be in Vinton.

“There were also a few businesses with exciting expansion and grand opening announcements this year,” Grose noted. “The Dogwood Restaurant will extend their offerings and add a night-life component in adjacent space, as well as an attractive new outdoor patio for guests to enjoy in the heart of downtown. Vinton Vet added the Specialty Services Center, which offers surgery and dental services for pets. And congratulations to Salon 121 for returning to downtown Vinton by opening their second location.

“Economic development is key to a thriving community, and staff is tasked with creating those opportunities for the future of business growth. The town has been strategic in redevelopment to make the highest and best use of our three square miles, and that mission continues with the Gish Mill Redevelopment Project and the Vinton Hotel Project.

“Gish Mill is slated to begin construction this summer and, once complete, will provide a unique, mixed-use experience with lodging, restaurant, and market opportunities. This will help make Vinton a ‘drive to, not drive through’ town, as my fellow Council member Keith Liles likes to say. This is a good time to be in business in Vinton, and the commercial activity and opportunities will only continue to grow.”

Grose recognized the Community Programs Department for the “great work in placemaking within the town and giving the town flair. Their management of the public facilities, including this very building we’re in, is so important in making our community special. The Vinton War Memorial, Charles R. Hill Community Center, and Farmers’ Market all play a role in providing communal space and events of all kinds. Their work with the Vinton Dogwood Festival, the July 4th celebration, Fall Festival, the Christmas Parade, and the Santa Crawl bring so much joy to our residents.

“Thanks to our Human Resources and Risk Management Director Donna Collins, who continuously keeps operations running smoothly and works very hard in recruiting exceptional employees for the town. She has also taken on a large role in renovating the former HIVE building which will provide much needed space for several town staff.

“Our Public Works team, led by Bo Herndon, continues to improve infrastructure, provide public services, and improve the quality of life for our residents. The Public Works Department had its single largest year in paving in the town in 2022 and we’re slated to have another big year of freshly paved roads in 2023.

“Public Works was also in charge of critical infrastructure projects such as the Garthright Bridge rehabilitation, and re-lamped dozens of streetlights along Hardy Road, Washington Avenue, and Gus Nicks Boulevard with brighter LEDs for improved driver and pedestrian safety. Take a moment to test out the town’s new synchronized signals at all 11 intersections. I’m very proud of this project which has lessened the time drivers are waiting at stoplights and ultimately made traveling through our town more efficient.

“The recent, and seemingly abundant, road construction can cause a little heartburn for our citizens and businesses, but these projects are a sign of progress and a growing community, and they truly will position our town for continued and responsible development.

“In 2022, the town made a major step forward by transferring water and sanitary sewer operations to the Western Virginia Water Authority. This has been a success for a several reasons. One— our



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

One of the two most impactful events in the Town of Vinton this year was the transfer of ownership of the town utility systems to the Western Virginia Water Authority, contributing to the “debt-free” status of the town. Town Council and town staff are shown celebrating the symbolic “turning of the valve” on the day of transfer. (The other event was the tragic fire in downtown Vinton on July 2.)

Public Works staff is now freed up to handle many other construction projects occurring in the town. Two, it allows the Water Authority to deploy their professionals and provide high quality service to our infrastructure. And finally, Vinton residents benefit from a larger customer base which has helped stabilize their rates. We appreciate our partnership with the Water Authority to take this step and we look forward to our continued work together.”

The town is also working with the Water Authority on the East Cleveland Water Line Replacement project, which is improving water line infrastructure along East Cleveland Avenue from Bedford Avenue to South Pollard Street and the town will repave all affected roadways once the project is completed, which is expected this spring.”

The mayor touted another accomplishment in 2022: the Town of Vinton launched the CodeRED system which will directly notify residents and business about public safety, road closures and other important updates. (You can register for this free service at www.vintonva.gov.)

“Though 2022 was filled with accomplishments and exciting news, we also witnessed a devastating loss in our downtown last July Fourth weekend,” Grose remarked. “This was a difficult event which misplaced several of our local businesses, although staff has been working diligently with property and businesses owners, as well as Roanoke County and contractors to initiate demolition while minimizing impacts our downtown.

“We plan to continue growing upward, both figuratively and literally, while we still retain Vinton’s unique community charm. We are in a very favorable financial position, and we will continue to strategically invest in public safety, business attraction, redevelopment, and critical infrastructure projects. I again want to thank our local private industry, as well as our public sector partners for their investment into Vinton!

“We have a lot to celebrate in Vinton and I know we can accomplish great things when we work together.”

The State of the Town event was catered by Bella Events.

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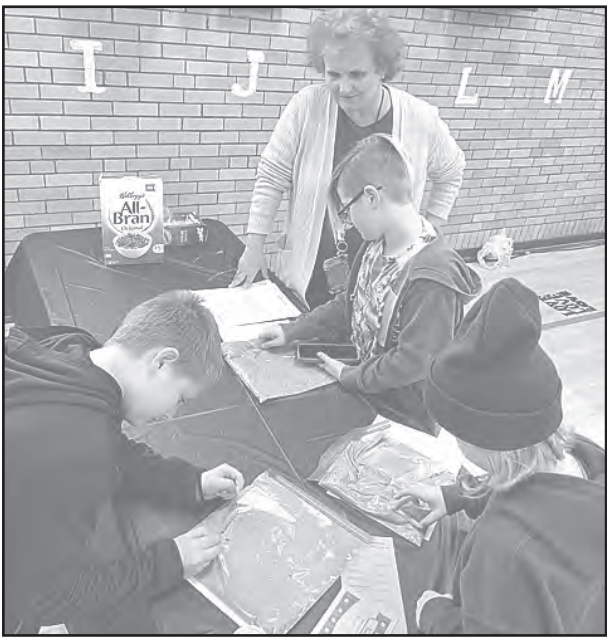
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Students and their families were able to choose from a wide variety of STEM stations at PTA/Title I STEM Night on March 14.



PHOTOS BY LYNEZ HUMPHRIES

A Mount Pleasant student enjoying the Balloon Skewer STEM station.

Mount Pleasant Elementary hosts STEM Night

Mount Pleasant Elementary School hosted a PTA/Title 1 STEM Night on March 14.

The Title 1 program provided dinner for the MPE families from 5:30-6 p.m. and science reading books for the students. Students and their families were able to participate in activities at a variety of STEM stations from 6 to 7 p.m., including:

- Alka Seltzer Rockets
- Cool Colors
- Catching a Bird
- Dancing Raisins
- Journey Through the Bloodstream
- Balloon Skewers
- Its Chemical Balloon Inflate
- Strange Acting Goop
- Coding with Botley Robots

Students were able to rotate through all the stations at their own pace. The Mount Pleasant Elementary PTA provided funds to purchase the materials needed for the stations. The stations were all STEM-related and aligned with the Virginia State Standards. Fifth grade science teacher Krista Lyle organized the event and staff members came back for the night to run the stations.

Submitted by Lynez Humphries, MPE librarian, media specialist, and computer coordinator

Dogwood

from page 1

Accounting Driveway
 • Food Vendors
 Lee Avenue
 • 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Business Showcase Vendors and Festival Food Vendors, Teen Space, Virtual Reality Area
 Maple Street

• Vinton History Museum – Thrasher Quilters and Dogwood Festival History Displays
 • Street Entertainment -Juggler David Bear Stuart and Magician Mark Fuller, various times and locations

Thrasher UMC
 Parking Lot
 • RVR - AACA Antique Car Show, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
 Annual Vinton Dogwood Festival Parade – 2:30 p.m. beginning at the Vinton War Memorial

The Vinton Dogwood Festival Committee is grateful for the generous support of sponsors:

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For more information call (540) 983-0645 ext. 5 or visit www.vintondogwoodfest.com to download a Vinton Dogwood Festival Schedule of Events or check facebook.com/vintondogwoodfestival for frequent updates.

Submitted by Mary Beth Layman, Vinton Dogwood Festival Committee Publicity Chairwoman

Veterans

from page 1

part of the U.S. Marine Corps Combined Action Program, embedded in villages initially controlled by the Viet Cong.

This counter-insurgency program involved in each village, a 13-member Marine rifle squad, augmented by U.S. Navy Corpsmen, backed up by a Vietnamese militia platoon from the Popular Forces— usually older youth and elderly men who were too young, too old, or reluctant to join the Army of the Republic of Vietnam.

The CAP platoon lived in the village 24/7/365 to train the Vietnamese in weapons, tactics, and more. They stayed until the Popular Forces were able to take care of the village and defend it from the Viet Cong, and then the team moved on to another village.

The Combined Action Program is viewed historically as highly successful. Not one village in the program was retaken by the Viet Cong.

Fralin told those attending the ceremony that by volunteering for the CAP program, he felt like he was doing something positive; it was a great and

“invaluable” experience; he got to see the Vietnamese people close-up, living their daily lives, mostly in poverty. He felt like those in the CAP program were truly able to help the Vietnamese and impact their lives.

Fralin said for those serving in the CAP program in Vietnam, it was “pretty hairy at times.”

On one occasion, his company traveled between a village split in half at night, from one half to the other, and were told by other marines they were “crazy” for going in at night. On nights of the new moon, or with no clouds, it was pitch black. But “they went, did their job, and came home.”

Fralin says he and many others have chosen to remember the good things, and not dwell on the bad things, although at times they “creep back into your mind.”

Col. John Miller, United States Army (Ret.), presented congressionally authorized Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pins to a group of Vietnam veterans during the commemorative ceremony, honoring their service to the nation.

They included:

Pegram Johnson (USN), Claude Baker (USAF), Gary Leavens (USA), Ed Ridout (USA), Ronnie Brooks (USA), Ron Geiger (USMC), Ralph Barb (USA), Michael Tamblin (USA), Danny Washburn (USAF), William Albert (USN), Ted Wilhelm (USMC), John Taylor (USMC), David Thurston (USMC), James Sell (USA), Gary Jones (USAF), Franke Hale (USA), and David Wagner (USA). Two surviving spouses also received the pins: Joyce Bryant for her husband William (USN) and Rachel T. Nichols for her husband Alfred (USAF).

The guest speaker for the event was Dan Karnes, LTC, USA (Ret.), a native of Roanoke. He served two tours of duty in the Army in Vietnam, and 33 years altogether in the regular Army, the Army Reserves, and the Virginia National Guard. He retired as a lieutenant colonel in 2003.

Karnes attended Radford University, Virginia Commonwealth University, and Virginia Tech. He worked as a Clinical Social Worker for the Department of Veterans Affairs and



PHOTO BY SUE VAIL

The National Vietnam Veterans Day ceremony included a wreath-laying ceremony at the High Ground Monument.

finished his career as the Director of the Vet Center, a counseling service for veterans. He volunteers and serves on the board of several organizations.

Karnes shared the story of a childhood friend who joined the service the year before he did and was killed in action and how devastating that was for him and for many other soldiers who lost friends in combat in Vietnam. More than 58,000 Americans and over 78 residents of the Roanoke Valley and

surrounding areas were killed during the conflict.

The event closed with the playing of TAPS by the bugler from the 29th Division Band, followed by the annual cake cutting ceremony.

The Vietnam Veterans of America organization represents veterans from across the region. Last year's ceremony was held in Roanoke City; this year in Vinton; next year's will most likely be in Salem.

The VVA received support from several local

businesses, organizations, and individuals for this event. Those who contributed include Bojangles (Peters Creek Road), the Roanoke Valley Veterans Council, New York Pizza-Vinton, American Legion Post 3, the 29th Division Band VANG, Humana, VFW Post 1264, Macado's-Vinton, Chick-Fil-A Bonsack, Mayor Brad Grose, the Rev. Ed Ridout, VFW Post 4522, and Bravo Co 4th CEB, USMC.

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

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

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

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Earnest Cloyd, Sr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Allen E. Cloyd, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Francis Cloyd, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 1485 highway 176 BYP, Pacolet, South Carolina 29372; Margaret Pederson, whose last known address is 1011 Creekwood Place, Greensboro, Georgia 30642; Johnnie L. Cloyd, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Twyla Cloyd, whose last known address is 6418 W. Pershing Avenue, Glendale, Arizona 85304; Samuel Cloyd, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the Respondent named herein are made parties Responder to this action individually and/or by the general description of

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Parties Unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained appear on or before May 15, 2023 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interest in this cause. Entered on the 5th day of April, 2023 K. Mike Fleenor, Jr., Judge I ask for this: John A Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805) Jeffery A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591) Mar K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409) Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372) Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609) Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158) Seth R. Konopasek, Esq. (VSB No.97065) Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC P.O. Box 31800, Henrico Virginia 23294-1800 Phone: (804) 545-2500 Facsimile: (804) 545-2378 TACS No.: 496189



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Terrier Team Challenge track meet at Byrd Saturday

Robert A. Patterson Stadium in Vinton will be the site of the Terrier Team Challenge track meet this Saturday.

The meet is scheduled to begin at 9 am with field events and running events starting at 11:30 am. The meet will run straight through and should go into the late afternoon.

The Terriers warmed up for the big

home meet with a trip to Lynchburg for the Twilight High School Invitational at the University of Lynchburg last Friday night. Byrd had some strong early season performances in the meet.

The 4x100 relay team of Allyson Mavredes, Olaedo Anyanwu, Jazaria West-Brown and Emma Matthews finished 2nd with a time of 55.58, and Matthews also took fifth in the 100.

Grace Owni was third in the 400 and Emma Kageals was fourth in the 100 hurdles and fifth in the 300 hurdles. Samantha Flippen finished 3rd in the discus with a throw of 81'.

For the boys Wyatt Bailey won the pole vault with a state qualifying effort of 13'6". Walter Barrows state qualified in the 200m dash with a time of 22.86 and Lane Shoemaker finished 6th

with a time of 24.02. Donald Mullins state qualified in the 800m with a time of 2:02.02 and DeShawn Austin state qualified with a time of 42.23 in the 300m hurdles

Brady Reachy finished 3rd in the 100m dash with a time of 11.75. In the 400m dash Isaiah Board finished 5th and Landon Martin finished 5th in the 110m hurdles.

Byrd girls tie LB, remain unbeaten

The Lord Botetourt girls have ruled the Blue Ridge District in recent seasons but the William Byrd girls sent them a message Tuesday night. Byrd battled the host Cavaliers to a 2-2 tie in Daleville.

"The second half and overtime were very even and both teams had chances, but our defense held up and we finished with a tying result," said Byrd coach Molly Cox. "I don't know how long it has been since William Byrd got a tie or win over LB in girls varsity soccer, but it hasn't happened since I've been here so that was a huge feat for our team."

The Cavaliers took an early lead Tuesday, scoring in the first 10 minutes. Byrd responded quickly when Maci Glass played a ball for Maddy Simmons, who was able to finish and tie the game at 1-1.

The Byrd girls took the lead with 12 minutes remaining in the first half when Simmons again scored, this time off a pass from Addi St. Clair. Lord Botetourt was able to tie it with five minutes remaining in the first half when they scored off a corner kick and the second half and overtime periods were scoreless, with much of the credit going to Byrd keeper Sophia Chrisley, who finished with 10 saves.

Sophia had a huge game in goal for us," said Cox.

The tie kept the Byrd girls undefeated at 4-0-2 along with a 2-0 shutout win over Cave Spring on Jeff Highfill Field in Vinton last Thursday. Simmons crossed the ball and found Claire Glover for the first goal of the game with 12 minutes remaining in the first half. The score stayed 1-0 through most of the second half until St. Clair



Left, Byrd's Ella Ashworth controls the ball in Tuesday's soccer match at Lord Botetourt. Right, Martina Mihelcic(#18) boxes out a Cavalier defender.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER



was able to play a ball through to Maddy who scored Byrd's second goal of the night. Chrisley had five saves behind a defense that played another strong

game. The girls will be back on the pitch tonight when they host Hidden Valley.



Left, Byrd's Dylan Hughes(dark jersey) goes high to contest a 50-50 ball in Tuesday's soccer game in Vinton. Right, Krenar Sinani(#21) controls the ball on the sideline.



PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY

Byrd soccer boys tie CS, drop close one to Cavs

There's no doubt the William Byrd soccer team is playing exciting games this spring. The Terriers had two more contests go down to the wire in the past week as they tied Cave Spring and lost by one goal to Lord Botetourt.

Last Thursday at Cave Spring the Terriers and Knights battled to a scoreless draw. The Byrdmen had a penalty kick in the first half but weren't able to convert.

"It was tough not to get the win as the kids played well but the tie was a positive bounce back from the Staunton River game(a 3-0 loss)."

On Tuesday the Terriers hosted Lord Botetourt and dropped a 3-2 decision. Byrd fell early, 1-0, off a misplaced ball in the back that LB was able to convert. Dylan Hughes put Byrd level on a put back after the Terrieres had a restart near the box that the LB goal keeper initially saved but did not secure. Then Jorda Bryant was able to play Daniel Britts through to put Byrd ahead on a quick counter, giving the Terriers a 2-1 halftime lead.

The Cavaliers tied the game midway through the second half, then took the lead.

"We did not pressure the ball at the top of the box," said Dishman. "We could not convert a few late chances and ended up losing a close one."

The Terriers will return to the pitch tonight at Hidden Valley's Bruce Mahan Field. Byrd is now 1-4-1.

"It's tough to really work on a lot as our training schedule is basically preparing or recovering each day, but I am confident we will get things squared away," said Dishman.

Terriers boys win lacrosse game at Hidden Valley

The William Byrd lacrosse teams split a doubleheader at Hidden Valley Tuesday night with the girls falling 21-10, followed an 8-7 win for the boys. The win for the boys was their first road win of the season.

"We came in determined to get more shots than we have been getting in previous games and we accomplished that," said Byrd coach Will Satterfield. "I'm proud of our guys for our first road win of the season. Our young group keeps getting better week by week and we are getting really good minutes from some younger guys right now."

Justyn Rozenboom controlled the faceoffs for Byrd all night, keeping the Terriers in the game. Julian Pantoja had 17 saves in the goal and a few very important ones down the stretch. Ben Waid had five goals and an assist. CJ Roberts, Morrison Wright and Beau Brady had one each.

"We've played some really tough teams to start this season," said Satterfield. "Our first five games were against the number four, two, three, five and four seeds from last year's region tournament. Really proud how this team takes care of one another on and off the field."

The girls got four goals from Annika Hylton and three from Sam Martin. Last Wednesday at home the girls dropped a 22-7 game to Cave Spring as Hylton scored four and Martin had two. The girls are now 1-4.

The boys are 2-3, dropping a 12-5 decision to a solid Cave Spring team last week. Both the girls and boys will be back in action tonight with a doubleheader at Blacksburg High.



Left, Byrd's Ian Vest rushes the ball up the field in last week's lacrosse game against Cave Spring at Highfill Field. Right, Justyn Rozenboom(#9) battles for control of the ball on a faceoff.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



SPORTS

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Above, Byrd's Noah Thompson dives back to first in Tuesday's game at Lord Botetourt. Right, Cooper Minnix gave up one run in five innings but the Terriers lost a 1-0 decision to LB.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Terriers look to rev up offense with back-to-back games against Staunton River & Hidden Valley

How do you go two games without scoring and come out 1-1? Just ask anyone from the William Byrd baseball team.

The Terriers went back-to-back games without crossing the plate but still got a win when Salem forfeited a game last week at Walthall Park. On the field the Spartans won 8-0 but when it was discovered Salem pitcher Trace Monroe threw 124 pitches Salem had to forfeit the game. First year Salem coach Jimmy Winterer was under the impression the limit was 120 pitches when the last batter is faced, and the actual number is 110.

"I was keeping track but I was mistaken about the rule," said Winterer. "That won't happen again."

So, all the statistics from that game will not count in the season totals. Byrd's five hits, including a double by James Purcell, are like it never happened

and the Terriers were happy to pick up a win on a day they didn't play well.

On Tuesday, Byrd coach Jason Taylor wasn't so happy. The Terriers were shut out again, this time 1-0 at Lord Botetourt, and this time the loss counted.

"We need to learn how to win," said Taylor. "We only start two seniors and we've been shut out three times now, and Tuesday's game was one we could have won."

Cooper Minnix was the tough luck loser on the mound, allowing just one run over five innings. The Cavaliers scored in the first inning on two walks and two hits and that was the only run of the game. Minnix worked around nine LB hits while the Terriers managed just four hits off Cavalier pitcher Nolan Medley. Ian Burnett, Keller Spraker, Noah Thompson and Purcell all had singles for the Terriers.



Byrd will try and snap a two game scoreless streak on Friday night when the Terriers host Staunton River in a jayvee-varsity doubleheader, with the varsity expected to start around 7 pm. On Saturday the Terriers are at Hidden Valley for another jayvee-varsity doubleheader, with the varsity expected to begin around 2:30 pm. Byrd is 3-4 counting the forfeit win.

"A lot of teams in our region have been losing some games," said Taylor. "Somebody is going to go on a winning streak and I hope it's us."

Softball battles back against LB but comeback falls short

The William Byrd softball team will be looking to snap a five game losing streak when the Terriers play Staunton River in Moneta Friday night. Byrd dropped two games since returning from spring break, falling at Christiansburg last week and at home to Lord Botetourt on Tuesday.

Against Christiansburg the Terriers dropped a 7-4 decision. The game was tied at 4-4 into the bottom of the fifth when the Blue Demons rallied for the win.

Addison Clark pitched for Byrd and went six innings, allowing six hits while fanning four. Brooklyn Peters had a home run for Byrd and Mandolin Draper, Sydney Blewett Makayla Bell, Haleigh Vaughan and Clark all had hits in the loss.

Addison Clark was on the rubber for William Byrd Terriers. Clark lasted six innings, allowing six hits and seven runs while striking out four.

On Tuesday at home the Terriers fell to visiting Lord Botetourt, 8-6. The Cavaliers jumped on top early, scoring seven runs in the first inning and giv-



Left, William Byrd's Sydney Blewett slides home with a run in Tuesday's game with Lord Botetourt. Right, Haleigh Vaughan catches an infield popup for the Terriers.

ing the Byrd girls too high a hill to climb despite a valiant effort. Byrd scored six runs in the failed comeback on a single by Vaughan in the first, a single by Peters in the first, a double by Mandolin Draper in the fifth and a groundout by Peters in the fifth.

Clark was on the rubber again. The freshman allowed 13 hits and eight runs over seven innings, striking out eight. Vaughan had

two hits.

After Friday's jayvee-varsity doubleheader in Moneta the Terriers will get right back on the bus Saturday morning for a doubleheader at Hidden Valley. The jayvees will play at noon with the varsity expected to start around 2 pm.



PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY



Samantha Webster(left) has been a jayvee coach and varsity assistant for Byrd.

PHOTO BY JIM DEVINNEY

Webster is new HV coach

William Byrd will be losing a top basketball assistant but Hidden Valley is gaining a promising young coach as Byrd graduate Samantha Webster has been named head coach of the Titan girls' basketball team.

"I am beyond excited for Sam," said Byrd girls' coach Randy Bush, who had Samantha as an assistant. Webster served as jayvee coach under Randy and former Byrd girls' coach Brad Greenway for six years before becoming a varsity assistant last season.

"I hated it for us but I am truly happy for her," said Bush. "She has put in her work and I know she will do a great job over there. She has the tools to build something. I told her I liken it to when a kid leaves the house. You're gonna miss them but you want to see them do great things so you give them the support they deserve and watch with pride as they spread their wings."

Webster is a 2010 William Byrd graduate, where she was a standout in basketball and volleyball. She played basketball at Concord University.

The Hidden Valley position opened when Doug Henson stepped down last December. He was replaced by interim coach Nick Alterio, another

Byrd graduate.

"My time at Byrd was great," said Webster. "Coming back home and starting my coaching career at my alma mater was more than I could've ever asked for. I had the opportunity to work with and learn from some incredible coaches both in basketball and volleyball. I'm grateful for all the experiences and for the people who have supported me and poured into me over the years there. It's bittersweet for sure to leave a program that has such an influence on me but I'm excited to take what I've learned and use it to make a positive impact over at Hidden Valley."

The Titans have struggled in recent years, but Webster sees a lot of potential at the school.

"Hidden Valley truly is a blank slate after a few rough years," she said. "I believe they have a great group of girls who are ready to buy in and find success. I think the first thing my staff and I will have to do is change the mindset and create a culture of working hard and being 'all in' for one another. I'm excited to start building relationships and work to grow the program and take it back to the standard of success it had in previous years."