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PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Over 100 entrepreneurs signed up for the ninth annual Gauntlet Business Program and Competition with 45 advancing to the final competition.

Entrepreneurs in 2023 Gauntlet Business Program and Awards Competition take home over \$300,000

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.com

The Gauntlet Business Program and Competition held its ninth annual graduation and awards ceremony at the Vinton War Memorial on May 25. The Gauntlet had its beginnings in Vinton with just a handful of entrepreneurs. This year's Gauntlet class attracted 100+ entrepreneurs from across the Roanoke, Shenandoah, and New River Valleys, Southside, and Southwest Virginia – involving over 50 communities. It has become Virginia's largest business program and competition.

Entrepreneurs signed up for 10 weeks of intensive business classes; 45 businesses (86 individuals) moved on to compete for over \$300,000 in cash, grants, and in-kind prizes and services. Those businesses qualified for the final competition based on their business plan and pitch competition scores, and the specific business

needs they identified. Cash, in-kind, and services awards were provided by local sponsors, including Lead Sponsor State Farm.

The Gauntlet is the brainchild of The Advancement Foundation (TAF) and its founder (in 2007), Annette Patterson.

According to TAF, the Gauntlet has become a catalyst to "attract the region's most talented entrepreneurs, partnering agencies, economic developers, sponsors, donors, grantors, Gauntlet alumni, mentors, and regional innovators."

Before the winners were announced, several Gauntlet alumni were inducted into the inaugural Gauntlet Hall of Fame. They included Jonathan Young (2019 winner) of Advanced Racking; Candace Monaghan (2021) of Beaver Dam Farm Sunflower Festival, Mickey Cowden (2020) of

See Gauntlet page 8

Byrd grads awarded Roanoke Valley Golf Hall of Fame Scholarships

Garrett Sexton wins \$30,000 Don Holliday Memorial Scholarship



PHOTO COURTESY OF STACEY SEXTON

William Byrd High School 2023 graduate Garrett Sexton won the coveted Don Holliday Memorial Scholarship for 2023, which totals \$30,000 over four years. His parents are Stacey and Erik Sexton.

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.com

awards given in the Roanoke Valley.

Garrett Sexton, who graduated from William Byrd High School on May 23 with the Class of 2023, has been named as the recipient of the 37th Don Holliday Memorial Scholarship, one of the most prestigious and lucrative scholarship

Sexton in a ceremony at the Roanoke Country Club on May 25. The name of the recipient remained a secret until it was revealed at the ceremony. Several other

See Scholarship page 2

Boy Scouts and DAR observe Memorial Day with flag plantings



Scouts and leaders from Troop 235 planted flags at Mountain View Cemetery.

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.com

Vinton Boy Scout Troop 235 and members of the local Roanoke Valley Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution continued their traditions of observing Memorial Day by planting American flags.

The Scouts and their leaders planted flags at Mountain View Cemetery on May 27 on the graves of veterans who served in all wars. They traditionally meet early on the Saturday morning before Memorial Day and search the grounds

See Boy Scouts page 5



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Boy Scouts and their leaders from Troop 235 planted flags at Mountain View Cemetery on May 27 in observance of Memorial Day. They searched the grounds for gravestones and markers bearing military emblems in order to place the flags on the graves.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Roanoke Valley Chapter National Daughters of the American Revolution, the Town of Vinton, PFG, and Food Lion held a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 25 to celebrate the installation of six new benches on the greenways in Vinton. The benches were donated by the Trex Corporation as a result of a recycling project headed up by the local chapter of the DAR that meets in Vinton.

Vinton hosts DAR bench dedication on the Greenway

Debbie Adams
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The Town of Vinton hosted a ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony on May 25 for benches donated by the Roanoke Valley Chapter National Daughters of the American Revolution and installed on the local greenways.

The DAR worked in partnership with the town, Food Lion, and the Precision Fabrics Group (PFG) on collecting recyclable plastics in a project sponsored by the

Trex Corporation, which rewards recycling efforts with the donation of high quality composite benches. Three benches have been installed so far, with three left to place once the Glade Creek Greenway Phase 2B is completed and also along Wolf Creek Greenway.

Vinton Economic Development Specialist Marshall Stanley welcomed guests to the ceremony, "celebrating the town/public/private partnership."

Vice Mayor Mike Stovall noted that over 3,000

pounds of recyclable plastics were collected over a six-month time period resulting in six benches for the town.

DAR Regent Cindy Higgins and several members of the DAR Chapter, which meets in Vinton, attended the event. Higgins introduced members Sharon Menzies (chair of the Recycling Committee) and Diane Goode who enthusiastically headed up the recycling project and made it such a success.

"I'm sure everyone here is familiar with the Trex Company and their composite decking and outdoor furniture products," Higgins said. "The Trex Company is the world's largest manufacturer of high-performance wood-alternative decking, railing, and outdoor furniture. Starting in 1992, long before the term 'green' was even on the scene,

See DAR page 8



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Several Vinton area teachers and other school personnel retiring in 2023



COURTESY OF RCPS

William Byrd Middle School Principal Dana Stevens is retiring after 34 years of service. She is pictured with (from left) School Board member Mike Wray, School Board Chair Brent Hudson, and RCPS School Superintendent Dr. Ken Nicely.



COURTESY OF RCPS

Elaine Campbell is retiring from WBMS after 23 years of teaching. She is pictured with (from left) School Board member Mike Wray, School Board Chair Brent Hudson, and RCPS School Superintendent Dr. Ken Nicely.



COURTESY OF RCPS

WBMS Special Education teacher Susan Cockrell (on left) is retiring. She is shown with her former principal at Green Valley Elementary, Ashley McCallum, who says Cockrell is "an amazing teacher who will be missed."



COURTESY OF RCPS

W.E. Cundiff music teacher Ellen Hannan is retiring after 25 years of teaching. She is pictured with (from left) School Board member Mike Wray, School Board Chair Brent Hudson, and RCPS School Superintendent Dr. Ken Nicely.

Several Vinton area teachers and staff members are retiring from Roanoke County Public Schools.

Music teacher Ellen Hannan is retiring from W.E. Cundiff Elementary. She has taught music in Roanoke County for 25 years – 18 of those years at W.E. Cundiff in Vinton, four years as band director at Hidden Valley Middle School, two years as Cave Spring High School band director, and one year at Clearbrook Elementary and Northside Middle School, teaching choir and band.

"I will miss my great "Team Cundiff" faculty and staff and the students but hope to see them all when I return to sub," Hannan said. "I'm looking forward to life with my son and his family (four grandsons) in South Dakota. I'm grateful for 25 years with the wonderful Roanoke County Schools family, especially my music colleagues."

Two staff members are retiring from Bonsack Elementary. Laurie Dedor has been a school nurse in Roanoke County schools for seven years, five of those years at Bonsack and two at Hidden Valley Middle School.

"I've been a nurse for 37 years in a variety of settings," Dedor said. "My favorite job of my nursing career has been the last seven with RCPS."

Instructional Assistant Amy Callaway is also retiring from Bonsack.

Mount Pleasant Elementary is losing teachers Janet Shaffer, Tara Davidson, and Dana Wilmer.

Shaffer has taught in Roanoke County for 23 years, all at Mount Pleasant Elementary. She currently teaches first grade, but has also taught second, fourth, and fifth grades.

"I have been blessed for the past 23 years to work at such an amazing school with the most wonderful, hardworking staff ever!" Shaffer said. "Mount Pleasant will always be family."

Davidson is the Functional Academic, Accessibility, and Career Transition Skills (FAACTS) teacher at Mount Pleasant. She has taught in Roanoke County for 34 years, 30 of those at Mount Pleasant.

"I have been blessed with an extremely rewarding career," Davidson said. "Countless students have touched my heart, and I have worked with some of the best people who have become my forever friends."

Third grade teacher Dana Wilmer is also retiring from Mount Pleasant Elementary.

William Byrd Middle School Principal Dana Stevens is retiring after 34 years of service to the students of Roanoke County. She began her career as a teacher at Clearbrook Elementary in 1989, then spent the next 22 years at Mount Pleasant teaching just about everything. In 2013 she was named assistant principal at W.E. Cundiff Elementary in Vinton. She became assistant principal at William Byrd Middle School in 2017, principal at Mount Pleasant in 2019, and then principal at William Byrd Middle School in 2022.

Other WBMS school personnel retiring include Missy Steele, Elaine Campbell, Susan Cockrell, Sara Boxler,

Amy Drain, and Susan Frey.

Campbell teaches sixth grade math. She has been a teacher for 24 years.

"I will greatly miss my students and colleagues and am looking forward to traveling with my family," Campbell said.

Missy Steele teaches eighth grade English at WBMS. She has been an educator for 30 years, all in Roanoke County. She taught at the Burton Center for Arts and Technology (BCAT), Glenvar Middle and High Schools, and now William Byrd Middle. She also worked as a school counselor at Green Valley Elementary and BCAT.

"I have enjoyed working for Roanoke County Schools for the past 30 years as both a teacher and a school counselor," Steele said. "I have worked with students in kindergarten through high school, and I have been blessed by the students I have taught as well as the most awesome co-workers, administrators, and staff I have worked alongside."

Amy Drain is retiring from William Byrd Middle School after 22 years. She is an instructional assistant and has worked with students from sixth to eighth grades for many years in science classes.

Susan Cockrell is retiring from WBMS. She is a Special Education teacher. Teacher Sara Boxler and instructional assistant Susan Frey are also retiring from William Byrd Middle.

There are no retirees from William Byrd High School or Herman L. Horn Elementary this school year.



COURTESY OF JANET SHAFFER

Janet Shaffer is retiring after 23 years of teaching – all at Mount Pleasant Elementary.



COURTESY OF TARA DAVIDSON

Tara Davidson, the FAACTS teacher at Mount Pleasant Elementary, is retiring after 34 years in the classroom. She is pictured with two of her students.

Scholarship

from page 1

William Byrd students received scholarships as well.

The non-profit Don Holliday Memorial Foundation was formed in 1986 to honor the memory of Holliday, District Sales Manager for Piedmont Airlines, who passed away that year. Golf was his hobby.

The first Don Holliday Memorial Golf Tournament took place in June 1987 with the proceeds going to the Scholarship Fund for the past 36 years. The tournament is a one-day format, where 180 players participate. Thanks to merchants and friends in the Roanoke Valley who donate door prizes along with premier resorts such as Pinehurst Resort, The Homestead, Wintergreen, Myrtle Beach, and Hilton Head attractions, the Don Holliday Tournament has become the most popular charitable fundraising event in Roanoke.

The Don Holliday Memorial Golf Tournament has also grown to one of the top charity events in the state, awarding over \$530,000 in scholarships thus far. The scholarship is administered by the Roanoke Valley Golf Hall of Fame which each

year awards a (4-year \$30,000 scholarship) to a deserving student from Southwest Virginia who also has an interest in golf.

An interest or ability in golf is not the only criteria for being chosen for the scholarship; those also include academics, community involvement, character, and financial need.

Sexton was chosen for the honor by the golf tournament's board of directors. He will attend Virginia Tech beginning in August, where he was accepted into the College of Engineering for Computer Science. He plans to study computer science or mechanical engineering. He says he is interested in a career as a mechanical engineer utilizing CAD software and CAM machinery to design and prototype early models of technology, mechanics, and machinery.

Sexton has worked in an intern engineering position at the engineering firm Froehling & Robertson, Inc. this past semester. In addition to graduating from WBHS with a 3.74 GPA, he also graduated from the Burton Center for Arts and Technology Center for Engineering in May and

from Virginia Western Community College.

He won first place in the Physics and Astronomy Division of the Southwest Virginia Regional Science Fair in 2019 while a student at William Byrd Middle School and was a fourth place medalist in the Virginia State Science Fair that same year. His project was "Mousetraps in Motion: the Effect of Wheel Structure on a Mousetrap Car's Performance." He used graphite powder and tape to investigate how to maximize speed and distance with a Mousetrap Car.

Sexton is WISE (Wireless Industry Service Excellence) and CPR certified.

He has been a member of the William Byrd varsity golf team for four years.

As for community service, Sexton has been a member of the WBHS Leo Club from 2021-2023 and a member of Habitat for Humanity. Outside of school, he has earned his 2nd Degree Black Belt in American Freestyle Karate.

His parents are Stacey and Erik Sexton.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Vinton History Museum invites the community to an ice cream social on June 3. Bricks will also be dedicated in the Memory Pergola to organizations who have generously supported the Vinton History Museum and Vinton Historical Society.

Bricks will be dedicated in the Vinton History Museum Memory Pergola for Rosie's Gaming Emporium, Nite Owl Artz, Vinton Computer, and the Town of Vinton on June 3.

Vinton History Museum to host ice cream social, present Appreciation Bricks in the pergola

Vinton History Museum volunteers will hand out individually wrapped ice cream treats on Saturday, June 3, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. as part of the ice cream social at the museum. The event is free and open to the public. The ice cream social is made possible by the local Wal-Mart Neighborhood Store.

At 10:30 a.m. the Vinton Historical Society will present Appreciation Bricks to be placed at the Memory Pergola. Bricks will be presented to Rosie's Gaming Emporium, Vinton Computer, Nite Owl Artz, and the Town of Vinton for their continuing support of the Vinton History Museum.

Rosie's Gaming Emporium has given substantial donations through the "Rosie's Give Back" program. Vinton Computer provides in-kind

technical computer services and equipment. Nite Owl Artz has provided website design and updates. The Town of Vinton is being recognized for continuing support of the museum.

The public is invited to stop by and enjoy the lovely porch, grounds, pergola, Little Free Library, and historic exhibits and resources in the museum.

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

For more information email info@vintonhistorymuseum.org or (540)342-8634.

Submitted by Mary Beth Layman, Vinton History Museum

Scholarship from page 1

Other William Byrd High School graduates winning 2023 Roanoke Valley Golf Hall of Fame Scholarships include:

- H a l e i g h V a u g h a n , Nunnenkamp Family Scholarship and Craft Family Scholarship (attending Roanoke College)
- E l l a A s h w o r t h , Roanoke Fruit and Produce/Audrey Najjum Scholarship, (Radford University)
- H o l l y M i l l s , Armer Fletcher Memorial Scholarship, (Virginia Tech)
- T a y l o r D a v i s ,

W. P. "Penny" English Memorial Scholarship, (Virginia Tech)

- D u s t i n R i c h a r d s , B o b M c L e l l a n d M e m o r i a l S c h o l a r s h i p , (Emory and Henry)
- H u n t e r R i c h a r d s , F i r s t C i t i z e n s B a n k S c h o l a r s h i p , (Emory and Henry)
- S h a n e H e l d e n b r a n d , S t e v e n G . F o l e y M e m o r i a l S c h o l a r s h i p , (Virginia Tech)
- R i l e y F i r e b a u g h , R o a n o k e V a l l e y H a l l o f F a m e S c h o l a r s h i p , (Emory and Henry)
- R e a g a n

Dillard, Roanoke Valley Hall of Fame Scholarship, (North Carolina A & T)

Past winners of the Don Holliday Memorial Scholarship from William Byrd High School include Ben Firebaugh (2010, Newberry College), Amber Altice (2009, Virginia Tech), Ben Anderson (2007, Virginia), Stephen Soltis (2006, Roanoke College), Whitney Morris (2002, James Madison), Bryce Chalkley (2001, Virginia Tech), and Robbie Craft (1999, Christopher Newport).

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

By Angie Chewning

Dan Bowser, William Byrd High School Class of '84, is retiring from teaching after 33.5 years. He taught PE and health to many students, as well as coached multiple sports. He began his career at Craig County High School, then moved to Botetourt County and eventually taught at Breckinridge Elementary, Eagle Rock Elementary, Cloverdale Elementary, James River High School, and then ended his career at

Central Academy Middle School in Fincastle.

The William Byrd 40-year class reunion is happening in August. The first night is scheduled at Twin Creeks Brewing Company on August 25 beginning at 6 p.m. Admission is free, but you will need to purchase your own beverages and food. Class of 1983 members Barry and Carrie Robertson are part owners of Twin Creeks. Dale Simmons, '83, has his own trivia business - Flamingo Brothers Trivia. Be sure to download the speedquizzing app prior to arriving.

Night 2 will be at Mingle at the Market from 7-10 p.m. at the Vinton Farmers' Market with entertainment by \$5 Shake; Mountain



PHOTO BY ANGIE CHEWNING

Dan Bowser is retiring after 33.5 years of teaching, mainly in Botetourt County.

Grille Food Truck will be there, too. Of course, Blue Ridge Beverage will be there with cold beverages. There is a \$6 entry fee. Everything is planned - all you gotta do is show up!

McCulloch Nursing Scholarship in 30th year

Since 1992, 30 nursing students have been awarded the Carla McCulloch Memorial Scholarship which was established by her family and friends. Carla, a freshman in the Hinds Community College RN Program in Raymond, Miss., lost her life in a 1991 accident in Simpson County, Miss.

The award is made annually to a nursing student who demonstrates the caring and enthusiasm for nursing that Carla embodied.

Her parents, Larry and Carol McCulloch of Vinton, recently took part in this year's presentation (via Zoom) when Jonshuntaya Banks of Canton, Miss., received the \$1,000 scholarship award for the upcoming fall term.

Banks plans to enter the University of Mississippi Nurse Practitioner Program after graduating from Hinds. Carla had also planned to work toward her B.S Degree there upon graduation. Carla's family continues to be proud of the legacy she left which lives on through so many deserving recipients and their accomplishments over the years.

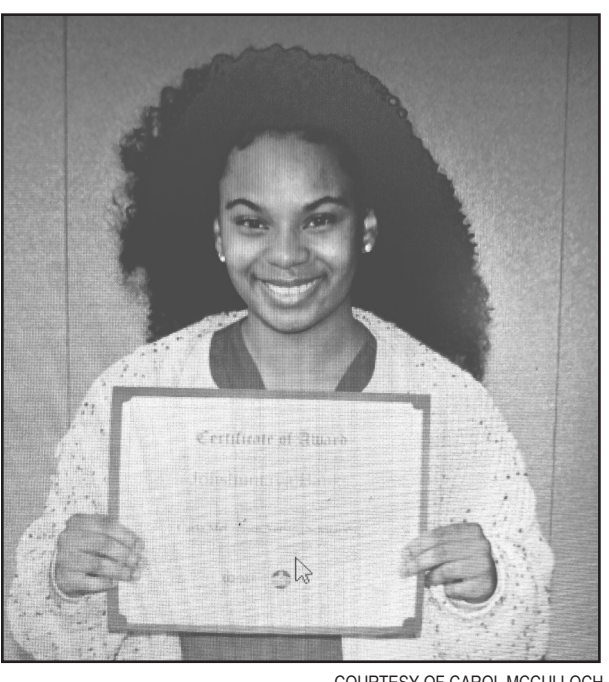
"We are so happy that our oldest daughter still lives on (not only in our hearts) but through the lives of so many healthcare professionals that this scholarship has boosted," said Carol McCulloch.

Carla's sister and brother, Mandy Graybill (also an RN) and Jay McCulloch, live in Vinton as well.

Submitted by Carol McCulloch



Carla McCulloch, benefactor of the Carla McCulloch Memorial Scholarship.



Jonshuntaya Banks, recipient of the 2023 Carla McCulloch Memorial Scholarship.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- Orator's podium
 - UK-Netherlands gas pipeline
 - Partner to "oohs"
 - African antelope
 - Indigenous Thai person
 - Monetary unit of Angola
 - Becomes less intense
 - Insurance mascot
 - Tech hub ___ Alto
 - Actress Tomei
 - Airborne (abbr.)
 - Type of smart watch
 - Natives
 - Incompetent person
 - Rare Hawaiian geese
 - Unspoken relationships
 - Passports and licenses are two
 - Claw
 - Status quo
 - Mimic
 - Fur-lined cloak
 - Ancient foreigner
 - In an angry way
 - Ill-intentioned
 - Monetary unit of Serbia
 - S. American plant
 - One or the other
 - An alias for Thor
 - Gratuity
 - In a painful way
 - French commune
 - Promotional materials
 - Greek city
 - Assistant
 - Confederate general
 - Former NJ governor
- CLUES DOWN**
- Used by gymnasts
 - "Luther" actor Idris
 - Broad volcanic crater
 - Not for
 - Blur
 - Tots
 - Acted leisurely
 - About the Alps
 - Gets out of bed
 - Town in "The Iliad"
 - Welsh given name
 - Remove salt
 - Calvary sword
 - Mental disorder concerning body odor (abbr.)
 - Keeps a house cozy
 - Ballplayer's accessory
 - Southwestern Russian city
 - Pro sports league
 - Congress investigative body (abbr.)
 - Stop standing
 - Utilize
 - Sign language
 - Famed ESPN broadcaster Bob
 - Being of central importance
 - Ruin environment
 - Dessert dish
 - Sea eagles
 - Fertilized
 - Jerry's friend Benes
 - Indian river
 - Pass into a specified state or condition
 - Nocturnal rodent
 - A way to travel
 - Iron-containing compound
 - Ancient Greek City
 - NFL signal caller Matt



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Plan for road closures in Vinton during Ironman Triathlon on June 4

The 2023 Ironman 70.3 Virginia's Blue Ridge race will take place in Roanoke on June 4 and the new bicycle routes have been announced and will affect traffic in Vinton that day.

The bicycle portion is reverting back to the 2021 route in the City of Roanoke and will result in less congestion and fewer backups on Virginia Avenue/Hardy Road in the Town of Vinton than last year.

Here are the roads affected on June 4, beginning around 7:30 a.m. and lasting through approximately 1:30 p.m.:

- The right westbound lane of E. Washington Avenue from the eastern town limits (at the Blue Ridge Parkway) will be closed to vehicles for Ironman bicyclists to use until they reach Bypass Road. Motor vehicles will use the left westbound and must turn left onto Bypass Road.

- Ironman bicyclists will then merge onto the

left southbound lane near Preston Avenue. Vehicles turning onto E. Washington Avenue from Mountain View Road will use the right southbound lane to exit Vinton.

- From E. Washington Avenue, bicyclists will then turn left on S. Pollard Street and immediately right onto W. Lee Avenue.

- Bicyclists will then use the westbound lane of Walnut Avenue until they exit the Town of Vinton to Wise Ave near the low water bridge at the Cargill plant (formerly Southern States.

- Vehicles attempting to travel between Bonsack and points west of Vinton should plan to use I-581 and Rt. 460.

- Vehicles needing to cross Washington Avenue to access Rt. 460 can use the Mountain View Road entrance near William Byrd High School and travel its length to enter Washington Avenue going westbound.

The Town of Vinton

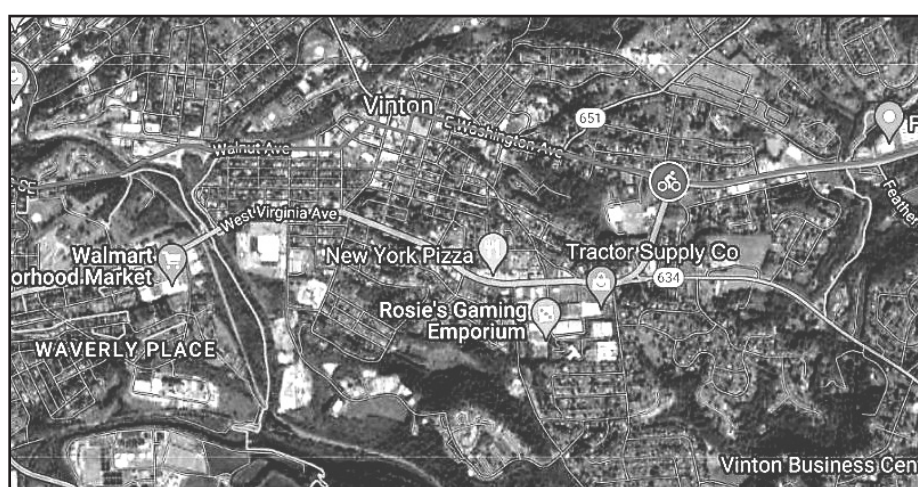
has had electronic signs and highway signage posted around town and at all the entrances to the town for the past two weeks to inform motorists of the route changes and closures.

Participants in the Ironman 70.3 Virginia's Blue Ridge Triathlon will once again swim at Carvins Cove, bicycle on the Blue Ridge Parkway, and run along the Roanoke River Greenway.

The event, which first came to Roanoke in 2021, showcases the area's outdoor recreation and brings millions of dollars in regional tourism to the local economy.

The race begins with a 1.2 mile, one-lap swim in the water at Carvins Cove Reservoir.

The 56-mile bike portion of the race then leaves from Carvins Cove and continues along Route 11 through Roanoke County and Botetourt County, before reaching the historic Town of Buchanan, located along the bank of the James River.



COURTESY OF TOWN OF VINTON

The bicycle segment of the Ironman Triathlon will be following this route through Vinton on Sunday, June 4.

From Buchanan, the bike route takes riders along an epic 5-mile climb up Route 43 to Bearwallow Gap, where they'll access the Blue Ridge Parkway for that 21-mile biking portion of the race.

Participants will exit the Parkway at Route 24 and make their way down Washington Avenue in Vinton and on to downtown

Roanoke enroute to River's Edge Park along the Roanoke River.

The road closures that day in downtown Vinton will be mainly between 7:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Affected roads include Washington Avenue (from Bypass to King Street), Poplar, Maple, and Pollard Streets, Lee, Railroad, Walnut, and Cleveland Avenues, and First

and Second Streets in the downtown area.

The currently published route shows the bike portion of the race exiting the Blue Ridge Parkway onto East Washington Avenue, continuing down Washington to a left turn on South Pollard, a right turn on East Lee, a left turn onto Walnut (which becomes Wise Avenue), and then continuing into Roanoke City.

The running course will follow the Roanoke River Greenway, beginning and ending at River's Edge Park—a 13.1-mile course that will be completed in one loop.

Runners will make their way through several local parks, including River's Edge Park, Smith Park, Wasena Park, and Vic Thomas Park, which will help provide shade.

Several churches in Vinton have announced changes to their morning worship schedules due to the race.

Organizers announced in recent days that following this year's IRONMAN 70.3 Triathlon, the race will be paused while extensive road improvements are made to the Blue Ridge Parkway by the National Park Service. The plan is for the event to return to the Roanoke Valley once improvements are completed.

Information from Ironman 70.3 Virginia's Blue Ridge Triathlon and the Town of Vinton

The Vinton Messenger

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CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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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 Botetourt 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: daleridge-churchofchrist.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,

VINTON

FINDING STRENGTH IN GOD

Read 1 Samuel 27:1 through 31:13

David was greatly distressed because the men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters. But David found strength in the Lord his God (1 Samuel 30:6).

David and his men, just arriving home from battle, discovered that the enemy had kidnapped their families. His men were distraught, and they wanted someone to blame. David, their leader, was the obvious scapegoat, and they discussed taking revenge on him.

David, grieved at his own family's disappearance, now faced betrayals and accusations from his friends. Here, at an extremely low point, David did what always works. He turned to God and found strength in Him.

Exactly how David found strength in God is displayed throughout his psalms. David remembered God's promises, and more so, he reminded himself of who God is: his Rock of refuge; his compassionate, gentle Father; his faithful Provider; his all-wise Teacher, and so much more. As David turned to God, he gained the strength to rally his men on a rescue mission.

Prayer for Today: Father, please help me turn to You for strength in all things.

Quicklook: 1 Samuel 30: 3-8,18-19

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

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

VA 24016. 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 - 2330 Hardy Road, Vinton (corner of Hardy Road and Feather Road), 540-982-3694, www.evangel4sq.com, Pastor Tim Wright. Worship Service Sunday, 10AM. Bible Study Wednesday 11AM-12PM.

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 Wor-

ship 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Wednesday Night Bible Study 7 p.m.

PRESBYTERIAN
CAMPBELL MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1130 Hardy Rd, Vinton, VA, 540-343-1842; cmcp2verizon.net Sunday school 9:45am, Worship 11:00am; Communion 1st Sundays; 2nd Sunday Session; Monday Noon Bible Study; Tuesdays & Thursdays Stretch Class 9:00am; 1st Tuesdays Deacons; Wednesday Choir 7:00pm; Monday Girl Scouts 7:00pm; 3rd Saturday Men's Breakfast 8:00am. Rev. Jonathan Moelker, pastor

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

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



Jen Whitcomb from the Vinton Library kicked off the first Vinton Farmers' Market "Storytime on the Stage" on May 27 with – a story.

Farmers' Market welcomes kids for 'Storytime on the Stage'



Representatives from the Boys and Girls Club of Southwest Virginia helped children at the "Storytime on the Stage" event decorate flowerpots with paint and jewels.

Debbie Adams

dadams@ourvalley.com

The Vinton Farmers' Market hosted a crowd of enthusiastic children for "Storytime on the Stage" on May 27. Jen Whitcomb, the children's librarian at the Vinton Public Library, kicked off the event at 9 a.m. with a story on the market stage and a rousing rendition of the space adventure song and story "Zoom, Zoom, Zoom; We're Going to the Moon!"

There were craft activities with the Boys and Girls Club of Southwest Virginia, including making painted and bejeweled flowerpots. Garden starter plants were available from Jake's Gardens.

Representatives from the Roanoke County Public Library were on hand to distribute prizes and sign children up for the Summer Reading Program, which officially kicks off with a party at the library on Thursday, June 8.

The Kefi, "Greek Food with a Passion," food truck was on site with Baklava, Unicorn Horns (Greek butter cookies), Athena Pita, Pork Souvlaki, and more. Plus the wildly popular Deb's Frozen Lemonade paid a visit.

Vinton Community Programs Coordinator Caroline Loveland, who coordinated the event, kept busy cutting up



Kids' Ambassador for the day, Ahriya, performed.

fruit (watermelon and strawberries) and vegetables and serving them to those who attended.

Kids' Ambassador for the day, Ahriya, performed vocals onstage.

This was just the first "Storytime on the Stage" event planned for the summer. On July 8, the Storytime will feature a patriotic theme and children will be doing a tie-dye activity. On July 15, another children's activity is

scheduled involving "Touch a Cop Car." Community Resource Officer Holland will talk about police work and allow the kids to "look at and push buttons" on the cop car.

According to Loveland, the September 2 Storytime will be dog-themed with stories about puppies and vendors will be dog-related. A hot dog cart will be there and the RCACP will have some "doggos" out for adoption.

Boy Scouts from page 1

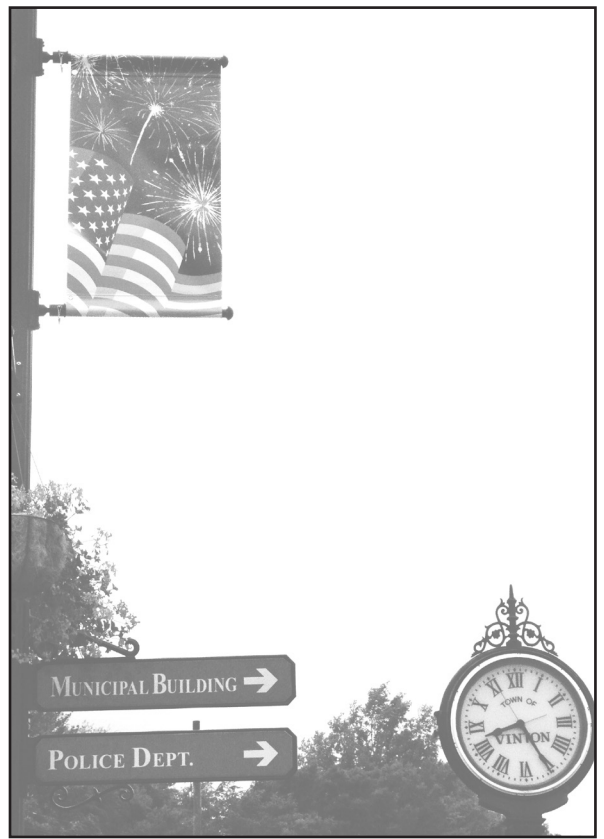


Elaine Muldrew (on left) and Linda Upchurch, members of the local Roanoke Valley Chapters National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, planted American flags in the Vinton Municipal Building gardens.

for gravestones and markers bearing military emblems and then plant a flag in recognition of services rendered for the nation.

The DAR tradition on many patriotic holidays throughout the year is to plant flags in the gardens at the Vinton Municipal Building. Elaine Muldrew and Linda Upchurch placed dozens of flags in the gardens in downtown Vinton for the Memorial Day holiday.

The Town of Vinton, which is home to the Vinton War Memorial and the High Ground Monument, places special emphasis on recognizing veterans. This year's patriotic decorations include red, white, and blue banners flying from the town's lightposts.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Town of Vinton observes patriotic holidays with banners on the light posts in the downtown area.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Vinton Community Programs Coordinator Caroline Loveland sliced and served fruits and vegetables to the hungry crowd. Deb's Frozen Lemonade was also on site.

Celebrating The Town of VINTON!

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

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

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

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

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Marketplace



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Salem Times-Register

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RADFORD News Journal

Yard Sales - Botetourt County

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE

June 2&3 8am-2pm multi-family sale. Riding mowers, Kate Spade purses, porcelain dolls, weed eaters, blowers, furniture, clothes, lots of misc. 1 mile psst Troutville fire dept.

General Information

Piedmont Pentecostal Holiness Church
Sunday morning service 11am. 5007 Jewell Dr. Shawsville Va. Pastor Tim Clyburn. 8 miles from Shawsville rt 460, on Alleghany Spring Rd.

Legals - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 201 CULPEPPER AVE, BUCHANAN, VA 24066.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated January 5, 2011, in the original principal amount of \$92,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 110000138. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090 on July 3, 2023, at 12:00 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: LOCATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, STATE OF VIRGINIA: BEING LOT NO. 4 AND THE WESTERN ONE-HALF OF LOT NO. 5, BLOCK 204, AS SHOWN ON THE MAP OF THE BUCHANAN REALTY COMPANY, INC., RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT BOOK NO. 2, AT PAGE 11. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagor or the Mortgagor's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwvsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWV Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwvsales.com. VA-356503-1.

Legals - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 17 KNOLLWOOD DRIVE, TROUTVILLE, VA 24175.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated August 1, 2003, in the original principal amount of \$111,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia, in Book 0000 at Page 0167 as Instrument No. 0307051. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090 on July 3, 2023, at 12:00 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, STATE OF VIRGINIA, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: LOT 1, BLOCK 1, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OF SECTION 1, KNOLLWOOD, MADE BY T.P. PARKER AND SON, ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS, DATED FEBRUARY 2, 1973, OF RECORD IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 76. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagor or the Mortgagor's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwvsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWV Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwvsales.com. VA-208643-6.

Legals - City of Salem

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
Case No. **CL23000635-00** ROANOKE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT, 305 EAST MAIN ST, SALEM VIRGINIA 24153
Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* OLDSON, HUDSON LEE DAVID v. LOVE, HUDSON LEE DAVID
The object of this suit is to: NAME CHANGE OF MINOR. It is ORDERED that MICHAEL LEE OLDSON appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before JULY 6, 2023 @ 11:00 AM.
MAY 16, 2023
BENJAMIN GUERRANT, DEPUTY CLERK

Legals - City of Salem

ABC NOTICE

VERONICA PERKINS, trading as HAMMER & STAIN ROANOKE LLC., 901 S. COLORADO ST. SALEM VA. 24153

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a MARKETPLACE license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

VERONICA PERKINS 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.

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons

that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on June 14, 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. The request of Joshua Davis, lessee, and Dallas Scaggs, Jr. and Paul Walrond, property owners, for the issuance of a special exception permit to allow for a pawn shop on the property located at 1617 West Main Street (Tax Map # 139 - 3 - 4).
2. The request of Terry Steele, lessee, and Kieu Thi Thuy Do, property owner, for the issuance of a special exception permit to allow for personal service (barber shop) on the property located at 514 West Main Street (Tax Map # 123 - 3 - 5).
3. The request of J S Salem LLC, contract purchaser, and the Trustees Faith Assembly of God, property owner, for rezoning the property of 500 block of White Street (Tax Map # 161 - 4 - 2) from RSF Residential Single-Family District to CBD Community Business 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

ABC NOTICE

SALEM VAPE AND TOBACCO, LLC, trading as SALEM VAPE AND TOBACCO, 29 E. MAIN STREET, Salem VA. 24153.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a CONVENIENCE GROCERY STORE LICENSE: BEER AND WINE OFF PREMISES license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Ayeda Sati, 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 - Montgomery County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF PROPERTY 486 Waterworks Road, Radford, VA 24141

Tax Map No. 020697
In execution of a Deed of Trust dated July 24, 2008, in the principal amount of \$73,280.45, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, of record as Instrument Number 08008179, Woods Rogers PLC, Trustee, will offer for sale at public auction outside the main entrance of the Montgomery County Circuit Court, 55 East Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, on June 13, 2023 at 12:00 noon, the property described in said Deed of Trust lying in Montgomery County, Virginia, and more particularly described as follows: All that certain lot or parcel of land with all improvements thereon situate, lying and being in the Prices Fork Magisterial District of Montgomery County, Virginia, on Water Works Road, containing 2.1417 acres more or less as shown on a plat of same dated October 15, 1992, prepared by W. A. Davis, CE/LS, referred to as "Plat prepared for Bobby Wayne Southern, et al."

LESS AND EXCEPT: All that certain lot or parcel of land with all improvements thereon lying and being in the Price's Fork Magisterial District of Montgomery County, Virginia, and being all of Lot Two (2) containing 1.03 acres, conveyed to Alan K. Southern and Drema J. Southern by deed dated June 1, 1995 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, in Deed Book 876, Page 361 and as shown on plat of survey of record in Deed Book 876, Page 363. TERMS: Cash - Bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sales price by cashier's or certified check may be required. Balance of purchase price shall be due and payable not later than ten (10) days after sale. WOODS ROGERS PLC, Trustee
For Information Contact: Woods Rogers Vandeventer Black PLC, P.O. Box 14125, Roanoke, VA 24038-4125, Telephone: 540-983-7729

ABC NOTICE

SA19 LLC, trading as G2's, 145 COLLEGE AVE BLACKSBURG VA 24060.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for MIXED BEVERAGE RESTAURANT license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

GEORGES ABOUD 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.

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
Case No. **CL23000949-00** MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* MAKALA ANN POFF v. COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
The object of this suit is to: NAME CHANGE OF A MINOR: CAIDEN LEE HAMBRIK It is ORDERED that BRANDON SCOTT appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before JULY 24, 2023.
MAY 25, 2023
K. MIKE FLEENOR, JR., JUDGE
TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

Treasure Hunt Sale

Troutville Assembly of God
118 Conner Lane
June 10, 2023
8 am-2pm
Rain or Shine
Handmade Crafts
Baby & Toddler clothes
Baby Items & Toys
Household Items
Bake Sale
FOOD-
Hot dogs, chilli, Fixings, Chips, Petros & drinks

Employment

Data Scientist, Blacksburg, VA.

Design, develop, & operationalize quantitative solutions that provide actionable insights reqd for institutional decision making. Drive collection of new data & refine, process, integrate existing data sources. Perform data analysis, develop insights, & communicate results to stakeholders. Criminal conviction check reqd. Apply online w/VA Tech at https://jobs.vt.edu/

Help Wanted - General



Director of Fund Development

Responsible for planning and implementing a comprehensive fund development plan for TAP that includes planned giving and individual and corporate donor development.

Develop, lead, and manage a fundraising strategy and program that includes individual and corporate donations, and a planned giving program to ensure that TAP meets or exceeds its fundraising goals. The Board's Generosity Connections Commission, which is the Marketing and Fund Development committee for the board, will participate in the development and approval of the plan.

•Actively identify, cultivate, and close gifts in support of TAP. This includes both financial and in-kind donations.

•Build and manage a portfolio of 75-100 individual and corporate donors and prospects with an annual giving capacity of \$1,000+. Within this list, identify, actively cultivate, and close gifts. This portfolio movement will be reviewed monthly with the President/CEO to ensure it reflects significant prospect movement from identification to cultivation to solicitation to stewardship.

•Work in coordination with the President/CEO to seek out and secure quarterly speaking engagements at civic or community events to promote TAP and its programs and cultivate prospective donors.

•Must have a bachelor's degree in communications, marketing, public relations, or related field

•Must have a minimum of 6 years' experience with demonstrated success in closing gifts of \$1,000+.

•Experience in strategic planning for development, major gifts, capital campaigns, corporate and marketing initiatives.

For a full job description please visit Indeed.com or at our website www.tapintohope.org

Salary: \$60,000-\$75,000/yr. Submit cover letter and resume to: TAP, Human Resources, Job Code DFD-CA, PO Box 2868, 302 2nd St SW Roanoke VA 24011 or fax to 540-345-1944

TTY: 540-345-4096
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Bilinguals encouraged to apply

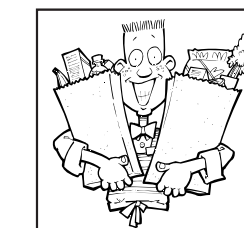
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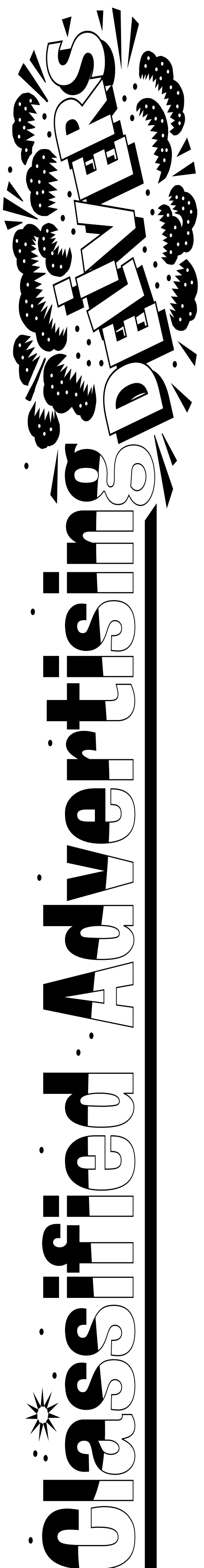
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DAR

from page 1

Trex Company was using recycled plastic film and reclaimed wood to create low-maintenance composite decking, applying the premise that ingenuity can help extract value from what was once seen as waste. The ‘trash to treasure’ mentality led to a new process for plastic film collection and recycling in retail locations across the country.

“One of the largest recyclers of plastic in North America, Trex reclaims and repurposes more than 500 million pounds of plastic film annually through a number of commercial partnerships and community programs. Among its largest sources are grocery stores and other retailers who partner with Trex to responsibly dispose of plastic shopping bags and polyethylene film used to wrap products and pallets.”

In describing the materials that the local partners collected for the project, Higgins noted that, “Trex products are made from more than 95% recycled content. Nearly all of Trex’s plastic film comes from post-consumer sources – ranging from the overwrap on paper towels to dry cleaning bags, sandwich bags, newspaper sleeves, package liners, bubble wrap, shopping bags, and shrink wrap used on pallet boxes and equipment. Additionally, Trex is proud to sponsor local recycling programs in schools, universities, and communities nationwide.

“When a group signs up for the NexTrex program, they set a six-month window to collect the plastic film. Trex provides collection bins and posters to help with the effort. If the group can collect 500 pounds of plastic refuse within the six-month window, Trex will donate a high-performance composite bench to

the school or community. The ladies of the Roanoke Valley Chapter DAR heard about the program and thought it would be a good project for us to take on. I signed us up with the company, ordered the promotional materials, and we got busy collecting plastic!”

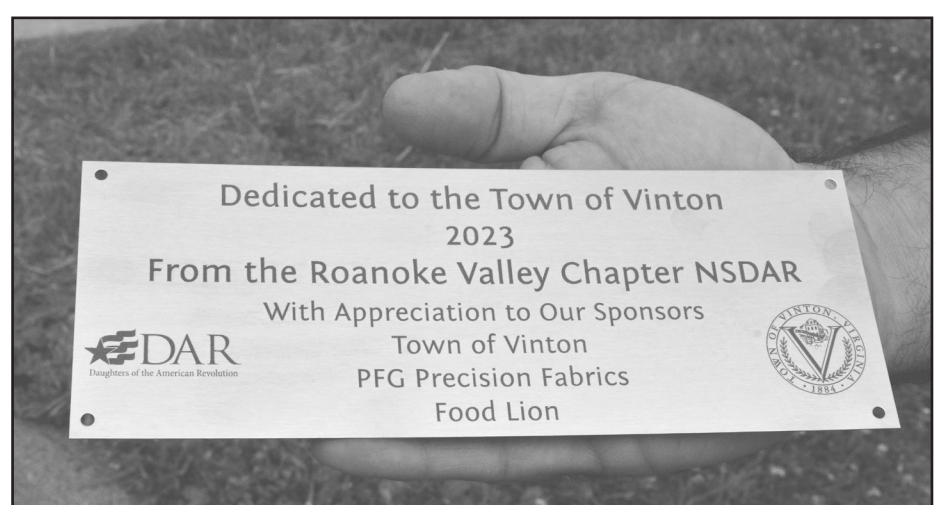
Collection bins were placed at the Vinton Municipal Building and the Charles R. Hill Community Center. DAR members brought “loads of plastic” to their monthly meetings.

“Our totals soared when Sharon Menzies contacted PFG and asked them to donate the wrapping from their pallets,” Higgins said. “After each collection, we would weigh the plastic and take it to the Food Lion stores in Vinton and on Rt. 460 for recycling. In six months, we were able to collect 3,028 pounds of plastic. We have received three benches and have already given them to the Town of Vinton for placement on the Glade Creek Greenway. The fourth bench has been ordered and the last two will be on their way soon.

“The ladies of the Roanoke Valley Chapter DAR would like to acknowledge and thank the folks at PFG and Food Lion for their tremendous support and help in this endeavor,” Higgins said.

She presented certificates to PFG Plant Manager Mike Maust and Dept. Manager Bonnie Fields and to Robert Crush, Food Lion store manager, in appreciation of their efforts. She also presented Vinton Town Manager Pete Peters with plaques to be placed on each bench noting the partners in the project.

Higgins urged citizens to go out and walk the greenways and “enjoy the benches.”



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The DAR presented plaques to Town Manager Pete Peters to be placed on each Trex bench in recognition of the recycling project.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RVTV

Higgins presented a certificate of appreciation to Vinton Food Lion store manager Robert Crush.



DAR Regent Cindy Higgins (on left) presented a certificate of appreciation to PFG Department Manager Bonnie Fields and Plant Manager Mike Maust.

Gauntlet

from page 1



Mandi and Travis Hundley of Martinsville took first place in this year’s Gauntlet competition with a total of \$23,690 in cash and in-kind prizes and services. Their check was presented by TAF President and CEO Annette Patterson (on right).



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Richard Mansell, founder of IVO, was inducted into the Gauntlet Hall of Fame in its inaugural year. He completed the Gauntlet program in 2019, taking second place – a pastor who began his business as a hobby (wireless electronics) housed in a garage and now worth \$10 million. Annette Patterson presents the award.

Cowden Technologies, Kat Pascal and Ashley Overbay (2018) Farmburguesa Restaurants, Richard Mansell (2019) IVO, Linda Bailey (2018 and 2020) Total You Health, and Andy Bishop, Jason Bishop, and Barry Robertson (2016 and 2018) Twin Creeks Brewing.

This year’s first place winner, at the top of the Platinum Level, was “The Wellness Bar: Uptown” which is located in Martinsville, owned by Mandi and Travis Hundley. They “aim to improve the health and wellness of the community focusing on each individual and their unique wellness goals” through their IV hydration and vitamin lounge.

The Hundleys took home \$23,690 (\$8,000 in cash and \$15,690 in in-kind prizes). They are newlyweds and Mandi just completed her Ph.D.

Other Platinum Level winners included:

- Second place: Blue Hills Natural Food Mart health food store; owner Dirk Moore; winnings totaled \$15,540
- Third place: Mountain Mama Maternity Support, a business which assists families in areas that lack resources and options; owner Mikayla Hansen; winnings totaled \$12,190
- Fourth Place: Holy Heaven Cookie Co., a Lynchburg gourmet jumbo stuffed cookie company; owner Melissa Dekerlegend, winnings totaled \$11, 719
- Fifth Place: Whistle Pig Country Store, country store, deli and coffee shop in Ewing, Va.; owners Jan Brown and Melissa Hubbard, total winnings, \$12,190
- Sixth Place: Life Care Coordinators, specialists in aging who coordinate health care services for their clients; owner April Jones, winnings totaled \$8,949
- Seventh Place (tie) Wills on Wheels of Virginia, mobile estate planning for individuals and businesses; owner Sarah Bidwell, Esq., with winnings of \$8,890; and
- and Karnes Confections, Tailgate Baker, baked goods straight from the truck; owner Natalie Karnes, winnings of \$8,819
- Eighth Place: Sugared Edge Confections, egg and nut allergen-

friendly bakery in Forest; owner Lindsay Demshar, winnings of \$7,569

- Ninth Place: Hamilton Roots, plant shop in Clifton Forge; owners Adams and Michelle Kenny, winnings of \$11,200

- Tenth Place: Love & Butter, bakery focused on creating student care packages and catering; owner Jenny Wilen, total winnings of \$7,369

- Eleventh Place: The Burg Box, gift box company featuring goods and products from small local businesses in New River Valley; owner Jennifer Prevet, winnings of \$7,299

Winners (in no particular order) at the Gold Level included:

- RTB Athletics, high quality sports supplement company and aspiring cross fit gym, owners Josh and Lindsay Palmer
- Village Care Collaborative, holistic pediatric therapy clinic and family support center; owners Kaley Sweeney and Ashlyn Fix
- Four Moon Designs, female-owned laser engraving business in Clifton Forge, owners Autumn Morgan and Kristy Morgan
- Aspire Leadership Consulting, full-service boutique leadership consulting firm; owner Jennifer Owen-O’Quill
- PAR Golf Simulator, mobile golf entertainment simulator for many types of events—weddings, corporate events, parties; owner Cody West
- Imagine Fostering, Inc., therapeutic foster care agency, licensed by Dept. of Social Services; owner Saborah Holmes
- The Arts Bus, mobile art studio, providing visual and performing arts lessons to underserved communities; owner Dora Wallace
- EaZup, products making outdoor recreation more accessible for all sizes, ages, abilities; owner Mike Hangar
- The Original Flag Company, patriotic legacy small business builds handcrafted wooden representations of American flag, memorial cases for burial flags, medals, and awards; owner Chris Poff
- Sirens and Salutes, Inc., founded to honor and memorialize veterans and first responders, sponsoring

events such as 9/11 Memorial Walk in Buchanan, Fallen Heroes Tree, flags for veterans’ graves, wreaths at Christmas; owner Cynthia Price

- Empanadas Meraki, LLC, culinary adventure sells delicious food that tells the story of their heritage and journey; owner Karol Bibiana Beltran Rios

- Masterpiece Landscape Contracting, specializing in hardscaping, landscaping, landscape lighting, and water features, owners Ron Shotwell and Dan Shotwell

Silver Award winners (in no particular order) include:

- Wildcrafts Botanicals LLC, herbal produce and education company offering handcrafted wellness products and instruction; owner Sommer Potter
- Fyvie Farms Brewing, small-scale craft beer brewery in Alleghany Highlands; owner Dave Forbes
- PrimeTime Golf, Salem’s mobile golf simulator and club repair experience; Paul LaPradd IV
- 1st Call Mobile Urgent Care, alternative treatments for non-emergent conditions to reduce strain on local Emergency Medical Services and hospitals; owner Jennifer Simmons
- Cloverdale Cleaning Company LLC, household cleaning service in Roanoke and Botetourt; owner Kristy Sprague
- Daisy Mae Laser Engraving, custom laser cutting and engraving business, custom gifts, and home décor; owner Kate Greenway
- Roanoke Wellness Wagon, refurbished school bus traveling Greater Roanoke are to offer AcuDetox treatments; owner Mike Holcomb
- Blessed x2 Creations, online business in Salem, creating timeless custom engraved gifts; owner Renea Guill
- The Crooked Stick, traditional Irish pub serving authentic Irish fare and drink, gold simulators for entertainment; owner Ryan Brannan

Bronze Award winners (in no particular order) include:

- Pink Door House Décor, improving the look and feel of interior space from home decoration to real estate staging to home organization; owner Maria Carreno

- Culture Ethnic Shop LLC, retail boutique selling diverse cultural products created by Minorities, local and worldwide; owner Lenai Clegg

- Absorb Colors, provides bright botanical and fungi-based watercolor paints to artists around the globe; owner Christina Dowdy

- The Lemonade Stand, signature classic and specialty lemonades; owner is 11-year-old Jahnae Valentine

- SMG Cleaning Services, LLC, serves clients in Roanoke City, Salem, Roanoke County, and Botetourt in homes and apartments; owner Deryck Brown

- Hoop Love Academy, groundbreaking organization changing the way youth learn basketball and providing space for community to be active; owner Mackenzie Lewis

- Healthy Minds of Appalachia, provides behavioral health-related services and support to individuals and families in rural and remote areas; owner Adrienne Young

- Hamms Fine Foods LLC, catering for all occasions, custom soup line “Soup is Life”; owner Chris Hamm

- Redlight, Greenlight, GO!, marketing app for consumers and merchants, reincarnation of former K-Mart Bluelight Specials, matches a database customized to help businesses handpick and generate perfect customer for their products/services; owner Zenobia Lewis-Marrow

- Got Trash? LLC, residential trash pick-up, junk or brush removal, small demo; owners Sidrick Wright and Charles Alston III

- From Mine to Yours, subscription-based clothing recycling program for families with children ages 0-16 years; owner Denise Young

- A.R. Decisions (Imperio VVV), sewing and clothing service; owners Anna Arias, Valentina Rivas, Alexis Rivas

Patterson summed up the concept of the Gauntlet program succinctly, “it shows what is possible when we work together to share what we have, whether knowledge, talent, financial resources, or services.”

For more information about the Gauntlet, visit [www. TheAdvancementFoundation.org](http://www.TheAdvancementFoundation.org).



Above left, dust flies as Keller Spraker of William Byrd holds the ball high after tagging a sliding Northside run at third base. Above right, James Purcell rips a hit for the Terriers and, below, Peyton Leftwich loses his cap as he catches a foul pop in the win over the Vikings.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER & BRIAN HOFFMAN

Byrd baseball season ends with loss to Cave Spring in region tournament

The William Byrd baseball team saw their season come to an end with a loss to Cave Spring in the quarterfinal round of the Region 3D baseball tournament last Friday. The Terriers dropped a 12-2 decision at Cave Spring.

The game got late early for the Terriers, as the Knights scored a first inning run, then put nine on the board in the bottom of the second. Byrd lefty Cooper Minnix started and coach Jason Taylor ended up using six pitchers in the game as Connor Jones, Cannin Lutz, Jacob Dickerson, Brenin Witcher and Ethan Powell all saw time on the mound before the game ended by slaughter rule in the fifth inning.

Byrd had four hits in the game, one each by Ian Burnett, Keller Spraker, Kam McKee and James Purcell. Cave Spring had just five hits but benefited from 12 walks and two hit batters by Byrd pitchers.

With the win Cave Spring advanced to the region semifinal while Byrd's season came to an end. The Terriers also played at Northside in an opening round region game last week and the results were better, as the Terriers took an 8-4 win on the Vikings' home field.

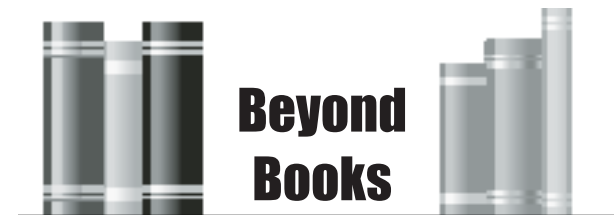
Noah Thompson had a big day at Northside with a four-for-four day at the plate and three runs batted in. Burnett and Evan Mullen had two hits each and Spraker drove in two.

Brogan Dent started on the mound for Byrd and picked up the win, pitching four and a third innings and fanning four. Blake Glover pitched the final two and two-thirds to nail down the win.

The All-Blue Ridge District team was recently announced and three Terriers made the first team, Purcell, Mullen and Spraker. Five more made the second team and all are underclassmen, juniors Thompson, Burnett and Glover and sophomores Dent and McKee. Five seniors graduated last week but only Purcell and Mullen were full-time starters among the five and the Terriers will return most of their lineup and some experienced pitchers next spring.

Byrd finished 13-11 on the season but won 10 of their last 13. At one point they lost five games in a row by one run.

"We knew we had a lot of youth coming in," said coach Jason Taylor. "We'll have our whole infield coming back and some kids with a lot of experience. It will be fun to see what this group can do the next couple years. Next year we're going to turn those one run losses into wins."



Beyond Books June

By Molly Meador, Vinton Library Assistant

Spring always seems so short and sweet and then before you know it Summer is here already. Do you know what that means? We're moving full steam ahead with our Steam Powered Summer Reading Program! Starting June 2 and running through August 5, register for Summer Reading online or in person and read three books to win a completion prize and be entered to win branch and grand prizes as well.

We will have our Summer Reading Kickoff Party on June 8 from 2-4 p.m. Join us for yummy food and many kinds of activities for all ages. From hotdogs with the Vinton Police Department, to giant yard games and a movie on the patio, we're going to have so much fun celebrating the best season and the best activity (Summer and reading, obviously!).

Join us on Saturday, June 17 from 2:30-4:30 for Itsy-Bitsy Art Fun for teens and adults to make your own tiny canvas masterpiece to be displayed in our Itsy-Bitsy Art Exhibit. We will have paints and brushes; bring any embellishments from home to use, if you wish.

Adults can register for Creations and Temptations on June 3 from 3-4 p.m. Join Melinda in making clay flower frogs that can be used to help arrange flowers in a container. On Saturday, June 24 from 2-4:30 p.m. we will have another awesome Puzzle Race. Register online to race against other teams to complete a jigsaw puzzle. Limited to 4 people per team.

Do you have travel plans coming up and need a Passport? Our passport team will be here on Thursday, June 15 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Applications will be processed on a first come first served basis. Try out our VR gaming while you wait.

Also, if you need to register to vote, celebrate Virginia Statehood Day with our Voter Registration Drive on Saturday, June 24 from 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m., hosted by the League of Women Voters.

Want to learn more about the history of Juneteenth? Register online to join us in person or on Zoom for our Discovering Juneteenth program on Thursday, June 15 at 6 p.m. Learn how to use the various databases you have access to with your library card in order to find out more about this important holiday.

Come by on Monday, June 26 from 6-7 p.m. to hear the sweet sounds of the Blue Ridge Dulcimer Ensemble as they practice. The Ensemble meets to play the mountain dulcimer, similar to the parts played by the musicians in an orchestra using this traditional instrument. The Roanoke Valley Dulcimers meet on Saturday, June 17 from 10:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m. with beginners playing from 10:15-11:30 a.m. and the Blue

Ridge Ensemble for advanced players playing until 1:30 p.m.

Don't miss Vinton Community Connection every Friday from 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Come to connect with fellow adults in your community and enjoy some of the fun activities we have planned such as sharing your favorite travel stories and favorite recipes.

Love creative writing and looking for an outlet to share your words and connect with others who love writing as well? Register for the Vinton Writers Group on Thursday, June 22 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

This month the Vinton Book Club will be discussing "Women Talking" by Miriam Toews on Thursday, June 1 at 3 p.m. The As the Page Turns Book Club will discuss "Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Camus on Wednesday, June 14 at 2 p.m.

Open Bridge for experienced players continues every Tuesday from 1-4 p.m.

The DMV will be here Thursday, June 1st from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., closing for lunch from 12:30-1:30 p.m. We will have a Medicare 101 session on Monday, June 5 at 11 a.m.

Join us for Saturday Morning Cartoons every Saturday on the patio, weather permitting, from 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Drop in on Saturday, June 10 from 1-4 p.m. for a Pick-Up Chess match. And be sure to make a Tech Time appointment for all your tech-related questions.

The Mill Mountain Theatre will be here on Thursday, June 22 at 2 p.m. for "Mad Libs Live!" Register the whole family online to attend this immersive, interactive musical performance that changes with each audience. Don't forget to register for Saturday as well on Saturday, June 24 from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

On Monday, June 5 we will have Book Club for Middle Schoolers from 5-6 p.m. as well as Anime Club from 6-7 p.m.

Book Club for High Schoolers will be Monday, June 12 from 5-6 p.m. and you can drop in for Switch Gaming on Monday June 26 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Teens can also register to have fun making Rube Goldberg Machines on Wednesday, June 14 from 4-6 p.m.

On Thursday, June 29 at 11:30 a.m. be sure to register to join us for "Farmer Minor and His Book-Loving Pig." Join Farmer Minor, Daisy the Pig, and the pugs for a fun storytelling experience, a reading of one of Daisy's favorite pig books, an opportunity to participate in the "Daisy Library Reading Pledge", and meet, pet, hug, and get a photo op with the Pig and Pugs. All participants receive a free pig book (ideal for ages 3-5, but all are welcome).

On Friday, June 23 at 1:30 p.m. Kids Square Children's Museum will be here to present an interactive program with various STEM related activities; and Balloon Artist Jefferson Rose will be here as well making one of a kind balloon creations.

Lego Play will be on Wednesday, June 28 from 4-5 p.m. The next story time session runs from June 19-July 21; during that time join us for Jammie Time on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. (ages 3-5) and Family Storytime on Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. (ages 0-5).

Don't forget to register online for programs at www.rocolibrary.org.



PHOTO BY JOHN BERRY

The Vinton Breakfast Lions Club collects used eyeglasses at the Vinton Kroger in the pharmacy. Look for the big yellow box.

Vinton Breakfast Lions accepting eyeglass donations at Vinton Kroger – look for the big yellow box

To satisfy one of the club's major objectives, the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club (VBLC) relies on the donation of used eyeglasses for the recycling effort in the Roanoke Valley.

To facilitate this effort, the VBLC recently placed a refurbished donation box in the Vinton Kroger Pharmacy. Previously, the box was located outside the Kroger facility. Lions Club members collect, sort and transport the donated glasses to the Eyeglass Recycling Center on Elm Avenue in Roanoke. The center is one of eight in the country. There, the glasses are inspected, washed, and checked for prescription using special optical machines. Over 75,000 glasses are processed each year for shipment

within the United States and countries around the world to those without the ability to afford glasses.

In addition to collection of the eyeglasses, the VBLC and their associate LEO Club at William Byrd High School provide several hundred volunteer work hours to the Recycling Center each year.

In addition to the Vinton Kroger, the VBLC has donation sites at Lotz Funeral Home, Jerry's Restaurant, Grand Rental, Kroger (Bonsack), Walmart (Bonsack) and Dr. Neal Jessup's office on Gus Nicks Boulevard. VBLC members accept used glasses from the public at any of the club's regular events during the year.

Submitted by Lion John Berry

SPORTS

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



Above left, Walter Barrows(left in photo) and Brady Reachy run the 100 meter dash in last week's Region 3D track meet at Cave Spring. Above right, Michael Goins(far left in photo) Landon Martin(middle) and DeShawn Austin(far right) run the 110 hurdles. Below, Spencer Peters clears the bar in the pole vault. PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Byrd boys are region track champions

The William Byrd boys are kings of Region 3D after being crowned at the Cave Spring track last Thursday. The Byrd boys won the region track championship and the girls finished third, and this week they'll send a strong delegation to the state Class 3&4 meet at Liberty University in Lynchburg.

The Byrd boys scored 130 points to win the region title, 23 more than second place Abingdon. Christiansburg was far behind in third with 48 points and three of Byrd's Blue Ridge District rivals were next, as Northside was fourth with 47.5, Staunton River was fifth at 43 and Lord Botetourt was sixth with 42.

Byrd had a slew of region champions. Walter Barrows started the day off by winning the long jump at 22'2.25". Barrows also took second in the 100 meters at 11.10, second in the 200 at 22.59 and fourth in the 400.

Wyatte Bailey was the pole

vault champ, clearing 12', and the Terriers took three of the top four spots with Ethan Haston finishing second and Kyle Holdaway fourth. Bailey also won the 400 in 51.68 and ran on the winning 4x400 relay with DeShawn Austin, Alex Dunn and Isaiah Board. They won the event in 3:33.20.

Austin won the 110 meter hurdles in 16 seconds and swept the hurdles when he also won the 300 meters in 40.93. Landon Martin was runner-up in the 110 hurdles and Dunn was third in the 300 meters. Austin also took second in the triple jump at 41'11.5", and DeShannon Reed was fourth in that event.

The Byrd girls finished third as Abingdon High won the meet with 135 points. Christiansburg was second with 112 and the Terriers had 75, which was 30 more than fourth place Northside.

Sydney Blewett got the day off to a good start by winning the girls'

shot put with a heave of 34'5". That was the only region champion for Byrd, but the Terriers had a slew of seconds.

In the girls long jump Emma Kagaels had a second place finish with a big time jump of 16'6.75" and Lily Perez finished third with a jump of 16'3". In the high jump Olivia Bustamante finished second by clearing 5' and Spencer Peters finished second in the pole vault with a height of 7'6".

Grace Onwi took second in the 400 meters when she ran 1:00.55. Grace was also on the third place 4x400 relay team with Emma Matthews, Kagaels and Jayden Niday. They ran a time of 4:23.48.

The top four in each event, and those who prequalified with outstanding times and distances during the regular season, will advance to this weekend's Class 3 state meet. That will be held on Friday and Saturday at Liberty University.



Left, Emily Glass(#9 middle) is congratulated by Claire Glover(#17) and Emma Gordon(#15) after scoring a second half goal against Carroll County last Friday. Above, Addisyn St. Clair dribbles past a Cavalier defender. PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY

Region 3D girls' soccer championship is Friday

The Region 3D girls' soccer tournament championship game is scheduled for Friday and, at press time, the William Byrd girls were hoping to be involved. Byrd was scheduled to play Lord Botetourt on Wednesday night in Daleville with a spot in the final on the line.

The game with LB was originally scheduled for Tuesday, but a late afternoon thunderstorm made the Botetourt field unplayable. The game was moved to Wednesday, when better weather was predicted. Ironically, Botetourt got to host as the number two seed in the tournament and Byrd is the third seed despite a better season record than LB and having a better record head-to-head with the Cavaliers. Had Byrd been the host team the game likely would have been played on Tuesday, as the Terriers have an artificial turf field and Lord Botetourt has natural grass.

The winner of Wednesday's game will play top-seeded Magna Vista on Friday at the Smith River Sports Complex in Ridgeway. The Warriors survived in their region semifinal game when they beat Hidden Valley on penalty kicks after the game was scoreless through regulation and overtime. Magna Vista is now 21-1 and they've won 20 games in a row. Their only loss was to Byrd, 4-0, on March 21 in Vinton.

Wednesday's game with LB was especially important, as the winner is assured a spot in the state tournament and the loser is done for the season. The region winner gets a home quarterfinal game for state play next week while the runner-up has to play a state quarterfinal game on the road. Byrd came into Wednesday's game with a 15-1-3 record and Lord Botetourt was 13-3-3.

Last Friday in Vinton the Terriers opened Region

3D play with a 4-0 win over Carroll County. The Terriers jumped on top early with two goals in the first 10 minutes of play. Addi St. Clair scored the first goal off an assist from Maddy Simmons, then St. Clair assisted Simmons on the second goal and Byrd led 2-0 at the half.

With 18 minutes remaining Emily Glass gave the Terriers some insurance when her shot from just outside the 18 yard box found the net. Then Simmons, the BRD Player of the Year, got her second goal of the night three minutes later off an assist from Logan Andrews.



BEECHER WILL PLAY LAX FOR WASPS

Bethany Beecher, who graduated from William Byrd High School last week, has announced that she'll continue her education and play lacrosse at Emory & Henry College. The Wasps are in the NCAA's Division II and a member of the South Atlantic Conference. Bethany signed her letter of intent at the Byrd season ending banquet last week as family and teammates looked on. Here she's flanked by parents Amy and Grant Beecher, and directly behind her is Byrd coach Dan Eberhardt. Bethany was a captain of this year's team, president of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and a Valedictorian at William Byrd High School.

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