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PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Petting Zoo was a popular attraction at Vinton Fall Festival 2023.

Vinton Fall Festival 2023 draws record crowd

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.com

This year's 2023 Vinton Fall Festival on October 7 drew a huge crowd to downtown Vinton on a beautiful, sunny, perfect fall day – just a little breezy.

“What a great way to end an event season!” said Chamber Executive Director Angie Chewning. “Fall Festival continues to amaze us. The vendors are top notch, the customers are always so friendly, and our downtown businesses are always happy to have new folks come in and check them out. Mingle at the Market concerts were great this year. We thank everyone for supporting our events.”

The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Vinton worked long hours setting up for the event after months of planning. The Vinton Public Works and Police Departments were on hand to make sure things ran smoothly from 10

a.m. to 4 p.m.

The day started off at the crack of dawn at the VFW with the Vinton Breakfast Lions All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast fundraiser. The Lions were assisted by William Byrd High School Leo Club members and their club advisor Lisa Stover. The Lions Club sponsors the Leo Club, whose members have become very active in supporting community events.

More than 100 craft and food vendors, plus businesses, organizations, and churches lined the streets, under tents. Shoppers were snapping up apple butter and apple pie filling from Ann's Apple Butter and/or loaves of banana nut, carrot, zucchini, cranberry orange, or other bread delights from Nona's Friendship Bread. With any luck, your nose led you to the caramelized onions on the hot dogs at Christ's Fellowship Church.

See Fall Festival, page 8

Eagle Scout Tree ID project – the prequel

Debbie Adams
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Several weeks ago, The Vinton Messenger shared the story of Alex Coffey's Eagle Scout project that involved creating and placing tree identification plaques along the Wolf Creek Greenway behind William Byrd, and also at Explore Park and Oak Grove Park in Roanoke County.

Turns out there is more to the story. Coffey's project updated and expanded upon another Eagle Scout project from 2001 by Eagle Scout Matt Jones.

To attain the rank of Eagle Scout, Scouts are required to complete an extensive project, which involves designing and obtaining approval for the concept from the national scouting



PHOTO COURTESY OF BONNIE JONES

Matt Jones reached the rank of Eagle Scout in 2001 by completing a tree identification project along Wolf Creek Greenway. His work was recently updated and expanded by Eagle Scout Alex Coffey as his Eagle Scout project.

organization and the beneficiary, fundraising, documentation, and teamwork from fellow Scouts, family, and friends to complete. According to Matt's father, Dave Jones,

See Eagle Scout, page 4



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVE JONES

Matt Jones works on his Eagle Scout project back in 2001 with his father, Dave.

WBHS graduate Hernandez addresses the United Nations

Debbie Adams
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Grecia Hernandez of Vinton recently had the opportunity to give a presentation to the United Nations Human Rights Committee in Geneva, Switzerland, on “the school-to-prison pipeline.”

She is a graduate of William Byrd High School in the Class of 2020 and is now a senior at Princeton University.

She has accumulated a long list of exemplary achievements, beginning at William Byrd Middle School where she served as SCA president in the eighth grade. In high school, she participated in marching band, played lacrosse, and was very active in her church—Thrasher Memorial United Methodist. She went on youth mission trips like the Appalachian Service Project focused on rebuilding communities by repairing homes to

make them “warmer, safer, and drier.” In the summer before her senior year, she was selected for the Sorenson Institute's High School Leadership Program where she helped draft state-level legislation.

As a valedictorian and Distinguished Honors graduate at WBHS, she was able to choose among several universities and selected Princeton.

“It's been recognized as the best university in the country for well over a decade now, which certainly simplified my decision,” Hernandez says.

“Princeton's generous financial aid program and undergraduate focus made it an obvious choice.”

She is currently finishing her degree requirements in the School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA) undergraduate program.

“I chose this major because of its

commitment to give undergraduate students a hands-on education in policymaking and advocacy. While every undergraduate at Princeton gets to carry out independent research, for me, the chance to also write policy and interact with incredible leaders made SPIA a very compelling choice.”

Her years at Princeton have been just as busy as her high school years.

“I'm involved in several organizations at Princeton. My faith is a very important part of my life, so I am very well known in the Office of Religious Life (ORL) and the organizations it houses. I am the president of the Princeton University Chapel Choir, a group leader with the Princeton Presbyterians, and a board member of the Westminster Foundation (an organization dedicated to the cause of expanding undergraduate campus ministry at

Princeton and other schools in New Jersey). I served as the long-time student intern for the Wesley Foundation (the university's Methodist ministry), a Student Fellow for the Office of Religious Life's Faith Based Internship Program, and a member of the Religious Life Council.

“Outside of the ORL, I am also involved with a few different service and advocacy organizations. Through the Pace Center, Princeton's center for service and civic engagement, I am a Nancy Weiss Malkiel Fellow and a peer mentor with the Princeton University Mentorship Program (PUMP), where I mentor freshman of color at Princeton.

“I have many good things to say about Princeton; however, the first year is a big adjustment for many students and is even more difficult for some.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GRECIA HERNANDEZ

Grecia Hernandez, a graduate of William Byrd High School and a senior at Princeton University, recently addressed the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, on human rights, specifically the school-to-prison pipeline.

This is where PUMP mentors come in. We are an additional resource for freshmen to go to during this transitional period.

“I was also part of the first cohort of a new

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program in SPIA called the Policy Advocacy Clinic, an academic program that brings students into the real world of advocacy. I focused on the school-to-prison pipeline and the unfortunate phenomenon of excessive use of force by law enforcement.”

She has served as an advising fellow for the national organization Matriculate which is dedicated to expanding access to higher education for high-achieving, first-generation, lower-income

See Hernandez, page 5

Three Oaks Fellowship launches Nannie's Closet ministry

Debbie Adams
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Three Oaks Fellowship United Methodist Church has launched a new ministry, "Nannie's Closet," which provides gently used baby clothes, along with baby supplies – diapers, wipes, formula, and more – for parents who "can use some help with infant needs."

According to member Connie Houff, the church was looking for a new ministry and to identify a need not met by other churches or organizations in the community and came up with the idea of free baby supplies, a ministry for both babies (infants to age 3) and parents.

"Nannie's Closet" is named in honor and memory of Houff's mother, Nannie Guynn, who passed away in June, and truly loved babies.

The family noted in her obituary, that Nannie's "soul was fed by a needle and thread/ yarn. She could not keep her hands still. She rarely kept things she made because she loved sharing them with friends and family most. She quilted, crocheted, and knitted. She had a knack for being creative, including making her grandchildren's Halloween costumes when they were young, dolls, angels, and clothes (including her daughter's prom dress). She had a great passion for making turbans for cancer patients and pillows for breast cancer patients, as she herself was a breast cancer survivor. She also had a green thumb



PHOTO BY CALLIE WEBB

Three Oaks Fellowship United Methodist Church has opened a new ministry, Nannie's Closet, supplying clothes and supplies for babies and toddlers.

and loved her plants, both inside and outside. You could often see her planting flowers, tomatoes and pulling weeds– even at age 89! Lastly, she loved feeding the birds and enjoyed watching them outside or at her window."

Nannie's Closet is located at the church at 1026 Gravel Hill Road, which is about a five-minute drive down Hardy Road from Vinton.

It will be open on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 4 to 6 p.m. to distribute clothing and supplies, until supplies run out. No appointment is necessary. There is no charge. You do not need to be a church member to participate.

Nannie's Closet will next be open on Tuesday, October 24.

The church welcomes donations of gently used infant and toddler clothing, blankets, formula, diapers, and wipes. It will also accept

monetary donations. It has already received help from Parrish Chapel UMC and Thrasher Memorial UMC in stocking the closet.

You may contact Connie Houff at 540-312-3487 or email nanniesclosetof@gmail.com for more information.

Three Oaks Fellowship UMC is named for the three large oak trees in front of the church. Rob Colwell is the pastor. The church was completed in 2005. It is a community of faith "seeking to know God and make God known."

Three Oaks Fellowship has some family events coming up in October to which the community is invited.

- On Oct. 21, members will be hosting a Fall Festival from 1 to 3 p.m. with music, games, food, and a pumpkin patch.

- On Oct. 29, a Halloween Trunk-or-Treat event is scheduled from 5 to 7 p.m.

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

By Angie Chewning

What a great day! Fall Festival day started out early and rainy--and ended sunny and a bit windy, but Fall was in the air. Our downtown streets were lined with amazing vendors and lots of shoppers.

Thank you to all our sponsors, vendors, entertainment, volunteers, downtown restaurants and shops. We hope this day was good for you all. We love bringing folks to our town and showing off. Mom (Bootie) Fugate and wife Tonda made a special guest appearance, and many folks stopped by the Chamber tent to say hello.



Jason Peters, Vinton's representative on the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors, also stopped by to visit Bootie.

Avid Reader Ronnie Fugate and wife Tonda made a special trip up the street from Pollard 107 South for a quick hug. Jason Peters stopped by, too.

The Mingle at the Market season closer didn't disappoint either. We are thankful for all the continued support. Already looking ahead to next year!



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANGIE CHEWNING

Tonda and Ronnie Fugate and Leigh Ann Newman Odenwelder stopped by the Chamber of Commerce tent at Fall Festival to say hello to Bootie.

WBMS honors Staff Member of the Week – Bill Pratt

Each week this fall, the William Byrd Middle School football team is honoring a staff member selected and voted on by the players. During the week of October 2-6, they recognized physical education teacher Bill Pratt.

The Staff Member of the Week takes possession of the #88 jersey for

that week, paying homage to 1988, when WBMS was built.

Thank you, Mr. Pratt, for being a supportive and hard-working teacher!

Submitted by William Byrd Middle School Head Football Coach Ryan Hutchison



WBMS PE teacher Bill Pratt (center).

PHOTO COURTESY OF RYAN HUTCHISON

October is

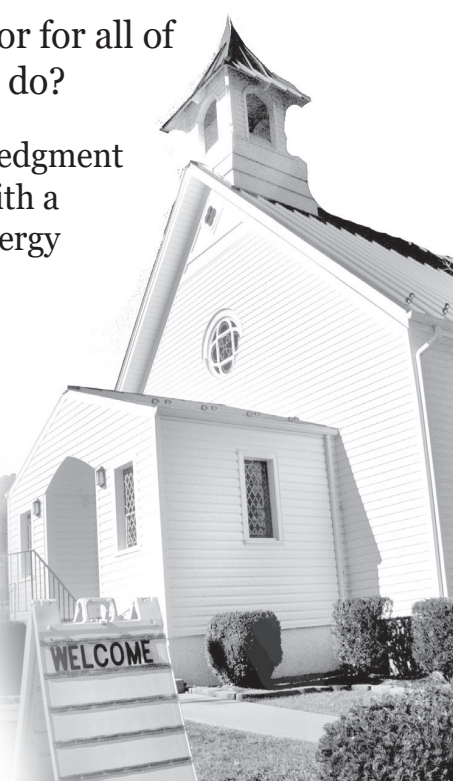
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VINTON HISTORY: Last Trail Bookends



PHOTO BY JUDY CUNNINGHAM

These "Last Trail" bookends were donated to the Vinton History Museum by the estate of Melva Jones.

The pictured "Last Trail" bookends are vintage sand-cast iron bookends that display a classic, well-known image by famous American born sculptor James Earle Fraser (1876-1953). They capture the resignation and defeat of Native Americans at the turn of the century. The pieces are stamped on their backs with the title of the image "The Last Trail," which is also known as

"The End of the Trail." This sculpture, which depicts an American Indian on horseback, has become one of the most recognizable images in the United States. These pieces have a bronzed finish and the soft details that characterize the sand-cast technique.

The bookends at the Vinton History Museum were donated from the estate of Melva Jones, a

well-known Vintonite and piano/organ teacher. See the bookends, along with thousands of other artifacts, at the museum at 210 East Jackson Avenue in downtown Vinton, open Monday, Wednesday, Friday and first Saturdays, 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Submitted by Judy Cunningham, Executive Director, Vinton History Museum

Downtown Vinton Trick-or-Treating scheduled for October 26

The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Vinton, along with local businesses and organizations, will be hosting the annual Downtown Halloween Trick-or-Treat on Thursday, October 26 from 3 to 5 p.m. This is a free event. All are welcome to attend and join in the fun.

Downtown Trick-or-Treating is a tradition that spans the decades in Vinton.

Once again, there will be awards for "Best Storefront" and best individual costume.

There will be some road closures from 2:30 to 5:30 on October 26 due to trick-or-treating: Pollard Street from

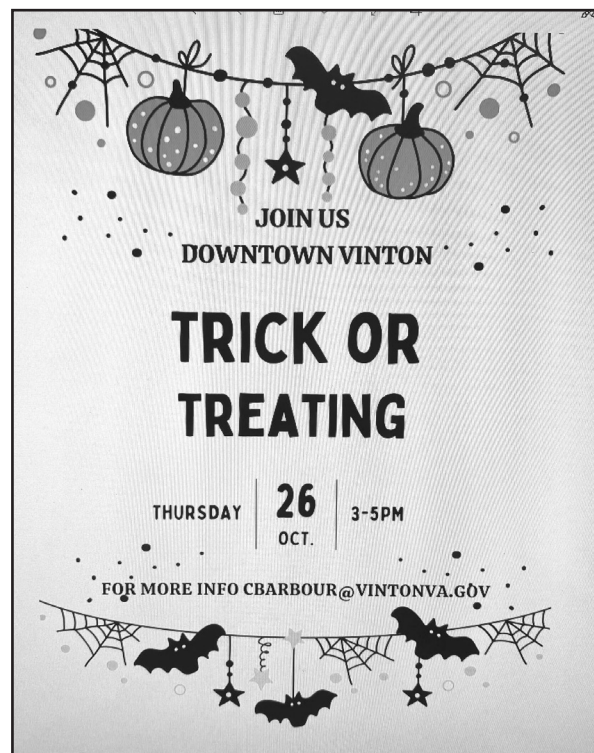


PHOTO COURTESY OF VINTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Washington Avenue to Jefferson Street, Lee Avenue from Maple Street to Jackson, and Cleveland Avenue from 1st Street to Maple Street.

-Vinton Messenger Staff Report

Jason Mraz competes on Dancing with the Stars



Jason Mraz and Daniella Karagach on Dancing with the Stars.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JASON MRAZ

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.com

Grammy award-winning singer/songwriter/guitarist Jason Mraz is competing on ABC TV's Dancing with the Stars this season. He is originally from Mechanicsville, in eastern Virginia, but he has a Vinton connection. His aunt, Carol Mraz Simmons, is a long-time resident of the town and Jason's biggest supporter.

So far, Mraz and his dance partner, professional Daniella Karagach, have

been wowing the judges and the audiences with their performances. In fact, their Rumba on October 3 put them at the top of the judges' leader board.

In an interview with the "Richmond Dispatch," Mraz said he is somewhat surprised to find himself in a dance competition, as about 20 years ago, when studying musical theater, he dropped out of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York because of the challenging (and intimidating) dancing component requirement of his studies.

Then how did he end up in this year's competition? Mraz recent released a new album, "Mystical Magical Rhythmic Radical Ride," which includes the tune "I Feel Like Dancing." After the album came out, he got a call from the Dancing with the Stars producer asking him to participate.

In past years, couples in the competition have danced to some of his songs. In this year's season opener, he and Karagach danced to his own "I Feel Like Dancing."

Simmons doesn't share his aversion

to dancing. She has been a member of the line dance class at the Vinton Community Center for several years. Her instructor, Lori Spickard, at one time taught a line dance to Mraz's song "Lucky," and now is using "I Feel Like Dancing" for a new dance routine.

So, Carol Mraz Simmons would appreciate your vote for her nephew in the competition. Simply go to [dwtstv.com](https://www.dwtstv.com) or vote via SMS/text. To keep up with the competition, go to <https://www.facebook.com/dancingwiththestars/> or tune in on Tuesday nights.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Flat-topped hill

5. Move upward

11. Admiration

14. It's useful for serving food

15. Kidnap

18. One of the Greek Muses

19. A type of media

21. Sunscreen rating

23. Former Michigan coach Brady

24. German town devastated in WW2

28. Gasteyer and Ortiz are two

29. Leave

30. Forearm bone

32. Very fast airplane

33. Helps little firms

35. Defunct economic organization

36. Science-based students organization (abbr.)

39. Feels ill

41. Indicates position

42. Beverage containers

44. Assists

46. Science accreditation organization (abbr.)

47. Purpose

49. Group of elected officials

52. Hebrew prophet

58. Lawmaker

60. Charitable

62. Doctrines

63. Footwear

CLUES DOWN

1. Where wrestlers work

2. Dueling sword

3. Practice fight

4. Genus of clams

5. Fear of heights

6. What some tell their dog

7. The Golden State

8. When you expect to get there

9. Pointed ends

10. Extinct flightless bird

12. Feeds

13. Nape of neck

16. Descendant

17. Small boats found in Turkey

20. To avoid the risk of

22. Athlete with no contract (abbr.)

25. 13th letter of the Greek alphabet

26. Brew

27. Feeling of anxiety

29. Young girls group

31. Perform on stage

34. White clerical vestment

36. Popular musical awards show

37. Bumpkins

38. One who acts on another's behalf

40. Direction

43. Look at with fixed eyes

45. One who helps professors (abbr.)

48. A large number of

50. Type of powder

51. Large jug

53. ___ Christian Anderson, children's author

54. American state

55. Muslim inhabitant of the Philippines

57. Witness

58. Landscapers lay it

59. Type of bread

61. Of I

RECIPES OF THE WEEK - Apple Time



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

It's officially fall and that makes it apple time. Here is a quick recipe for a Southern staple:
Southern Fried Apples
 Ingredients:
 2 large Granny Smith apples
 4 Tbsp. real butter
 Juice of 1/2 lemon
 2 Tbsp. white sugar
 2 Tbsp. brown sugar
 1 tsp. cinnamon
 Peel, core, and cut apples into fairly even slices. Melt butter in skillet over

medium heat. Add apples and drizzle them with lemon juice. Let apples simmer until most of the butter is absorbed and apples are tender. Don't overcook. Apples should be firm to the touch, yet tender with a little give to the bite.
 Stir together sugars and sprinkle them over the apples. Toss to combine. Lower heat if needed. Let apples cook until sugars are completely dissolved and syrupy. Remove from heat and sprinkle with cinnamon. Toss to distribute cinnamon. Serve piping hot.

Eagle Scouts

from page 1

Scout leaders “push the Scouts to do something long-term” when choosing their Eagle Scout projects, something that will last and that they can drive by 5, 10, or 20 years later, point out, and say “That is my Eagle project.”

Alex Coffey is a member of Troop 584 based in Bonsack, a 2023 graduate of William Byrd High School, and currently a student in Environmental Science at Virginia Western Community College. He plans to continue his education at a four-year college and study environmental design.

Matt Jones was a member of Troop 3, graduated from William Byrd with the Class of 2002, and earned degrees in Outdoor Education and Christian Education from Montreat College in North Carolina.

Coffey says his recent Eagle Scout project “was inspired by my years of walking along Wolf Creek; especially during quarantine, as a route to get home after school. I always walked past the old identification posts thinking, ‘I really wish someone would do something about that.’ It especially struck me as important because of William Byrd’s life science classes using the trail for tree identification and some ecology labs.”

The original project by Matt Jones in 2001 was suggested to him by William Byrd Middle School science teacher Iva Daniels. Her classes traditionally studied tree identification in the fall, including doing research by walking the greenway. She thought it would be beneficial to permanently label the trees so that those hiking the trail could more easily identify the trees they were seeing.

For his project, Jones identified 24 trees native to Virginia by their common and scientific names and planted 24 wooden posts with tree-marking plaques on them adjacent to each tree. Jones, troop members, family, and friends put in nearly 140 hours on the project, completing it in August 2001.

His plaques were made of plastic, relatively fragile, and were not durable over time. They also did not have drawings of the tree leaves to help hikers and students distinguish them from the surrounding trees. The names of the trees on his plaques were created with an old-fashioned engraver.

When Coffey began his project, the posts were still there, but the plaques were gone.

Coffey, an engineering student at the Burton Center for Arts and

Technology (BCAT), was able to create the plaques, including leaf drawings, by applying a process called sublimation printing, at the suggestion of his instructor. This process essentially involves a special kind of ink heat-pressed into a material.

By the end of his project, Coffey had fabricated around 70 plaques with the names and a graphic of individual trees.

At Wolf Creek, his team dug up old posts and installed 11 new wooden posts, opting for metal stake posts for other sites so that the addition of new posts would be easier in the future.

Dave and Bonnie Jones graciously shared their son’s Eagle Scout Ceremony scrapbook, which detailed his Eagle Scout project, and also the process he followed to complete it – and it’s evident that completing such projects is not for the idle or disorganized.

Jones joined the Boy Scouts in May 1991 and advanced through the ranks of Scouting – Bobcat, Wolf, Bear, Webelo, Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, and Life – through the years until he completed his Eagle Scout project in 2001.

On his way to becoming an Eagle Scout, he earned 27 merit badges in camping, citizenship, communications, emergency-preparedness, environmental science, first aid, swimming, personal fitness and management, family life, fingerprinting, metal work, model design, safety, basketry, fire safety, geology, wilderness survival, and forestry. He served as Senior Patrol Leader in his troop.

The scrapbook contains letters of congratulations on his accomplishments from Vice President Dick Cheney, President Gerald Ford, a Supreme Court Justice, a Secretary of State, Senators Mark and John Warner, Governor George Allen, Roanoke Mayor Ralph Smith, and many Boy Scout officers and executives.

Jones returned to Vinton after college and served as Youth Director at Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church for three years, then moved to Syracuse while his wife, Jaime, earned her Master’s degree. He worked at a church in Syracuse doing video production and now lives in Blacksburg, working for Virginia Tech as a media specialist.

Jones and Coffey together have left a lasting legacy for the community to enjoy.

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Read 1 Samuel 1:1 through 3:21

Nancy attempted to read her toddler’s favorite bedtime story while Davy snuggled close, but her tears kept blurring the pages as she read about the childhood of Samuel the prophet. She couldn’t imagine doing what Samuel’s mother, Hannah, had done—leaving her young son at the temple to serve God. What extraordinary gratitude for the gift of a child.

“I prayed for this child, and the Lord has granted me what I asked of him. So now I give him to the Lord” (1 Samuel 1:27–28).

Nancy and her husband couldn’t imagine ever letting go of their only child. So it came as a shock when Davy began sensing a call from God to become an Air Force pilot. A military career was the last thing his parents would have chosen. Yet, when they sought the Lord’s guidance, He confirmed the call. By faith, they released Davy to God’s will out of gratitude for His gift of a child.

Davy went on to become an honored officer whose glowing faith is winning souls to Christ.

Thought for Today: By releasing our children to Jesus’ care, we free them to shine for Him.

Quicklook: 1 Samuel 1:17–28

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.

Vinton History Museum announces special events through December

October 14: The William Byrd High School Class of 1973 will be visiting the Vinton History Museum as part of the class reunion weekend.

Oct. 26: The museum will be providing goodies during the town's Halloween Trick-or-Treat event from 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Nov. 4: Stop by the museum for "First Saturday" and the new "Miniatures Exhibit." The museum has been fortunate to receive a large collection of miniatures. Volunteer Jan Dickens has worked for weeks sorting the boxes and making some great displays using the miniatures. They will be featured beginning on November 4. More displays will be added in the near future. There are some miniatures that the museum could not use that will be on display for sale.

Nov. 10: Veteran's Day Observance. The Vinton History Museum will be open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Hotel Roanoke has donated

flags to be used for this patriotic holiday. We plan to fill the museum lawn with them on Thursday, Nov. 9.

Nov. 19 and 20. Volunteers from the history museum will be busy decorating their tree at the Hotel Roanoke for "Fashions for Evergreens." The tree will be decked out with the beautiful ornaments of doilies and jewelry that volunteers have worked on for months. The trees will be on display Thanksgiving Day through December 31. Be sure to visit the Hotel Roanoke to see all the trees and vote for the Vinton History Museum tree.

Dec. 2: "First Saturday" and Annual Holiday Open House. The Vinton History Museum will be open 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. with vintage decor, holiday displays and tours. Unique gifts will be for sale including Department 56 and Dickens Christmas items.

-Vinton Messenger Staff Report



Vinton History Museum

PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS



PHOTO COURTESY TOWN OF VINTON, VPD

Celebrate Veterans Day with the Ruck March in Vinton

The Town of Vinton and the Vinton Police Department will be celebrating Veterans Day on November 11 with a Ruck March through the town, organized by Queen City Rucking 22 (QCR22). A rally will begin at the Vinton War Memorial at 8 a.m., followed by the five-mile Ruck March at 9 a.m.

Proceeds will go to Boulder Crest Foundation (BCF). Boulder Crest is the home of Post-Traumatic Growth (PTG). It offers life-changing programs free of charge to members of the military, veterans, and first responder communities and their families.

Rucking is a form of exercise with roots in military training. It's walking a set distance while carrying a weight in a backpack. Rucking comes from the word "ruck sack," which is a durable backpack meant for carrying equipment.

This will be the first Ruck March in Vinton – a fun fitness team-building event.

In a regular Ruck March, there are weight standards: if you are under 150 pounds, you carry a 10-lb. weight; if you are over 150 lbs., you carry 20 lbs. Each participant will have a 10-lb. or 20 lb. Ruck Plate (or equivalent in non-consumable weight) in their rucksack at the start point.

Since this is the first Ruck March

in Vinton, the weight standard is not mandatory if you haven't rucked before. Organizers would like you to carry a ruck with your water and light snacks just to get a feel of what rucking is like.

Carrying weight in your ruck/backpack during the mission represents the weight many service members carry in the battle against combat stress.

No method of transportation is authorized for this event other than rucking. You are asked to obey all traffic laws while participating.

QCR22 is a 501(c)(3) Charity Ruck-March (Hiking) mission event, with a purpose by and for active heroes and patriots. It is a coordinated fundraising event for a veteran and/or first responder 501(c)(3) charity organization.

Rosie's Gaming Emporium is a sponsor for the event and a proud supporter of veteran and first responder communities.

The Ruck March welcomes, encourages and challenges all vets, first responders, family, friends, local supporters, endurance athletes...in fact, everyone to participate on Veterans Day "to show personal super heroes they matter, we love them, we care about them and we support them."

Register at <https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Vinton/VintonRuck>.

-Submitted by Town of Vinton, Vinton Police Department

Hernandez from page 1

students of color by providing mentors from member universities, such as Princeton, Yale, and Johns Hopkins.

"I cultivated relationships with my High School Fellows and helped give them advice throughout the college application process. This is a very complicated process for anyone and is especially so for students whose parents never went through the process. I loved serving as an advising fellow—it was one of the highlights of my Princeton career. One of my High School Fellows was accepted into Princeton and is now part of the freshman class."

As for how her trip to the UN came about, in the spring of her sophomore year, she applied to and was accepted into a brand new program in SPIA called the Policy Advocacy Clinic (PAC).

"In this program, my classmates and I were put into teams of about four that worked on independent research and advocacy at different levels of government. I was part of the UN group; the other two groups worked on either the federal or the state level.

"My group was tasked with familiarizing ourselves with a treaty the United States ratified in 1992 called the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). This treaty, unlike many others, is considered U.S. law just like any other passed at the federal level (with some caveats).

"I was asked to research the ways that the U.S.'s school-to-prison pipeline causes our country to fall short of compliance with this international law. This was especially relevant this year because the U.S. is currently

being reviewed by the United Nations Human Rights Committee for compliance with the document.

"My groupmates and I each did research for an entire semester which became a 160-page document that my professor gave to the national ACLU as evidence of U.S. non-compliance with the treaty.

"The ACLU liked our document enough that they recommended we go to the UN Human Rights Committee during their meetings with the non-governmental advocacy organizations who work in defense of human rights—and give a presentation on some of the issues we researched. I presented on the school-to-prison pipeline because it is an issue that has not been addressed in past reviews.

"The school-to-prison pipeline is a well-documented phenomenon where primarily Black students and students with disabilities are funneled into the criminal justice system instead of towards resources such as counselors and mental health professionals. This punishment-focused approach has led to students as young as 6 years old being arrested for having temper tantrums at school.

"Other advocates for this issue and I believe that a compassionate response to these outbreaks and other negative behaviors at school would make our students and society safer.

"The research I worked on further strengthens my belief that our current response to unwanted behavior in schools is harming students more than helping them. I presented evidence to the UN Human Rights

Committee of the ways that the school to prison pipeline also causes the U.S. to fall short of compliance with the ICCPR.

"The reason we went to Geneva instead of New York is because the UN Human Rights Committee (UNHRC) is located in Geneva, whereas the General Assembly and other bodies are in New York.

"Princeton University and the ACLU were excited to have myself and my three classmates present our findings and advocate for the UNHRC to bring up these issues in the review happening in mid-October. They arranged our flights and lodging, as well as invited Jamil Dakwar, the ACLU's national Director for Human Rights, to accompany and work with us.

"My professor, Udi Ofer, served as the Executive Director of the ACLU of New Jersey for several years after his tenure as the Director of Criminal Justice at the National ACLU in New

York. He is now a visiting professor at Princeton who is primarily tasked with running the Policy Advocacy Clinic that he founded."

As a Nancy Weiss Malkiel Fellow, Hernandez worked on a project designed to help facilitate better access to higher education for marginalized groups. The process of doing this began in her junior year at Princeton when she completed two independent research projects.

"The one in the fall semester was an inquiry into what kinds of resources might be lacking in communities with relatively low educational outcomes. I focused primarily on the Mexican American community because that is the one that I am most familiar with. In the spring, I worked on the research that was ultimately submitted to the UN Human Rights Committee."

She also produced a proposal and template for a series of booklets

that might help fill in some knowledge gaps about various parts of the American educational system after consulting with mentors at Princeton who suggested she try to find an avenue to create the booklets.

"I applied for, and was awarded, a Nancy Weiss Malkiel Fellowship to get funding to make the project happen. This is a Fellowship in its second year of existence awarded by the Pace Center, Princeton's center for service and civic engagement. It is so new that I am one of five total people who have been awarded this fellowship. It is a very generous grant to carry out a project that increases access to higher education in underrepresented communities and was endowed by the family of one of the first female professors at Princeton, Nancy Weiss Makiel."

Hernandez says her future plans include law school.

"When I was in fourth grade, I decided that I would be a lawyer who helped people. I will likely take a year or two to work in the real world before I ultimately go to law school. My hope is that, wherever I work in that time, I can continue working towards expanding access to education, advocating for human rights, and putting my faith into action.

"My Christian faith remains an important motivation in my decision making. I am very fortunate that Thrasher was such a gracious and loving community throughout my high school years and remains so now. In acknowledgement of my involvement in different faith organizations on and off campus, one of the Deans of the ORL asked me to attend the Audacity of Peace conference held in Berlin, Germany by the Community of Sant' Egidio at the start of September. I hope to always keep my faith at the center of my life."

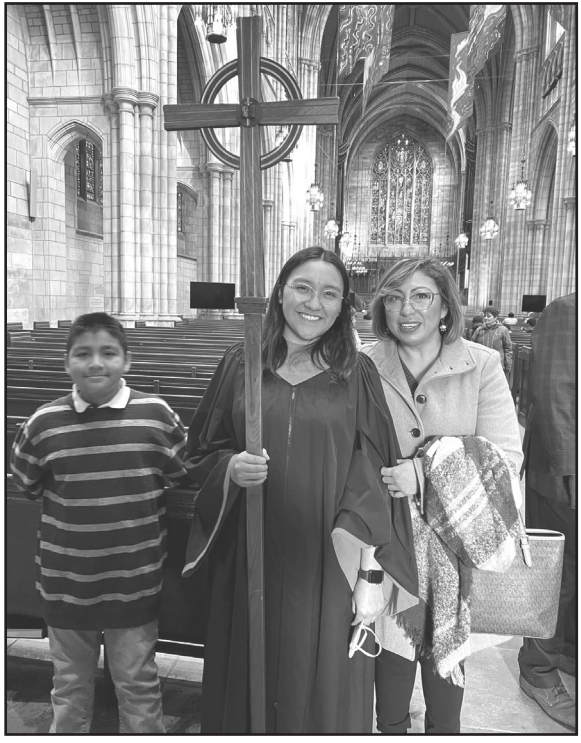


PHOTO COURTESY OF GRECIA HERNANDEZ

One of Hernandez's many activities at Princeton has been serving as president of the Chapel Choir.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Hernandez has shown promise from an early age, pictured here as SCA president at William Byrd Middle School.



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Preview will be Tuesday, October 24 th from 12-6 pm or By Appointment by Contacting Cody Manspile, Auctioneer at 540-784-9254

Pick-up will be Thursday, October 26 th from 12-6 pm by Appointment

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Legals - Botetourt County

ABC NOTICE

Family Dollar Stores of Virginia LLC, trading as Family Dollar #27282, 19026 Main Street, Buchanan, VA 24066.

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.

FAMILY DOLLAR STORES OF VIRGINIA, LLC

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 - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given

to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, October 23, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA: 1. Consider the request of Bruce Maxey, property owner, for the issuance of a Special Exception permit to allow a 1,200 square foot detached garage on the property located at 1862 Murrell Avenue (Tax Map # 128-14).

If approved, Salem City Council intends to adopt the ordinance(s) associated with the above item(s) on first reading, with a second reading of those ordinance(s) at a subsequent meeting. Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia. At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

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

Legals - Montgomery County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104 Case No. CL23000992-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re NANNIE FAY LONG, THOMAS LONG AND EDWARD LONG v. NONE It is ORDERED that CATHY HUGHES appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before OCTOBER 20, 2023 @8:30 AM. SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 ROBERT M.D. TURK, JUDGE TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

Legals - Montgomery County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104 Case No.121CL22300149600 MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re WAYMON RODNEY PACK v. GAIL WILLIAMS, et al.

The object of the complaint in the above styled case is to quiet the title via adverse possession to that certain parcel identified as 4792 Piney Woods Rd., Riner, VA 24149 (Montgomery County Tax Map #s 127-A-72). Located in Montgomery County, Virginia. It is ORDERED that any of the following persons shall appear at the above named Court and take such action as he/she deem necessary to protect his/her interests on or before November 17, 2023.

- Gail Williams -LaShavio Diggs -Robert Beale, Jr. -Raymond Beale -Barbara Ann Beale -Freddie Hart, Jr. -Any Descendant of Alvia Ellen Pack Jones, deceased

Any person desiring a copy of the Complaint, Survey, or any additional information should contact Ryan L. Pry, counsel for plaintiffs, at P.O. Box 3785, Radford, VA 24143, or at 540-838-2233 prior to the above date. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this OREDER OF PUBLICATION be published once a week for four successive weeks in the Christiansburg News Messenger, a newspaper of general circulation in Montgomery County, Virginia. Entered this 2nd day of October, 2023. By K. Mike Fleenor, Jr. Judge I ask for this Ryan L. Pry (VSB#74181) RYAN L > PRY PC P.O. Box 3785 RADFORD VA 24143 (540)838-2233 Ryan@PryLawOffice.com Counsel for plaintiff

Updated Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain and Wetlands

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals This is to give notice that the New River Valley Regional Commission (NRVRC) under 24 CFR part 58 has determined that the following proposed action under the Appalachian Regional Commission POWER grant program and the Department of Housing and Community Development Project (22-PW-02A) is located in the 100-year floodplain and a riverine, and the NRVRC will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain/wetland and the potential impacts on the floodplain/wetland from the proposed action, as required by both Executive Order 11988 and 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands. The proposed project area includes the development of an enhanced concrete boat launch on the bank of the New River in Montgomery County. The project area is approximately 1.7 acres, located entirely within the 100-year Floodplain and partially within a riverine. The project provides enhanced motorized and non-motorized boat access to the New River at the most utilized boat launch in Montgomery County, thus expanding the recreational opportunities and access for Montgomery County residents and tourists. This project will benefit the livability of our region and the burgeoning outdoor recreation economy. The Montgomery County boat launch at Whitethorne is one of four new/enhanced boat launches that will extend the existing 37 miles of the New River Water Trail (Giles County) to the rest of the region, totaling 61 miles upon completion. The project includes several related components: enhancements/expansion of current boat launch with

Legals - Montgomery County

an accessible path to connect extended parking, suitable for vehicles with trailers, potential adjacent parking on a secondary site north of the boat launch, and a potential surface revetment. The proposed project is located at 5277 Whitethorne Rd Blacksburg, VA 24060. There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains/wetlands and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain/wetlands, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts.

Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains/wetlands can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains and/or wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the NRVRC at the following address on or before October 26, 2023: New River Valley Regional Commission, 6580 Valley Center Drive Suite 124 Radford, VA 24141 Attention: Kathleen Armstrong, Regional Planner III/ Community Designer. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 9am to 5pm at the above address and electronically by request. Comments may also be submitted via email at karmstrong@nrvc.org. Date: October 11, 2023

Legals - Craig County

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE 13978 Potts Creek Road, Paint Bank, Virginia 24131

Tax Map/Parcel Identification Nos. 20 A 10, 20 A 11, 20 A 11B, 20 A 12 CRAIG COUNTY, VA In execution of a credit line deed of trust dated September 14, 2017 (the "Deed of Trust"), recorded in the Office of the Circuit Court of Craig County, Virginia, as Instrument No. 170000518 (Book 206, Page 101), the undersigned substitute Trustees, any or all of whom may act, will offer for sale in front of the Craig County Courthouse, 182 Main Street, New Castle, Virginia, on November 4, 2023, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., property located at or near 13978 Potts Creek Road, Paint Bank, Craig County, Virginia, which property is more particularly described as follows: All those three (3) certain tracts or parcels of real property, situate in Craig County, Virginia, containing 164.314 acres, more or less, and being comprised of Parcel A, containing 67.836 acres, more or less, Parcel B, 21.25 acres, more or less, and Parcel C, 75.328 acres, more or less, as more particularly shown upon that certain J. Brad Smith, LS, survey of said Tracts, dated May-June 2015 and of record in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Craig County, Virginia, in Deed Book 198, at pages 478 and 479, and further being Parcels I, II, and III conveyed unto Judith Smith Bessy, et ux., by Deed dated December 15, 2015, and of record in Craig County Deed Book 198, at page 482.

Parcel C subsequently was subdivided into Tax Map Nos. 20 A 11 and 20 A 11B. These two tracts will be sold as one (1) parcel. This sale is subject to all liens, easements, restrictions, conditions, and reservations of record affecting the title to the property hereinabove described, to the extent any

Legals - Craig County

of them have priority over the lien of the Deed of Trust.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE:

- 1. AUCTION: Substitute Trustee has employed The Counts Realty & Auction Group ("Auction Company"). The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale outlining additional terms of sale and settlement that will be available for review prior to the announcement of sale. Settlement within thirty (30) days of sale. 2. DEPOSIT: A bidder's deposit of \$15,000.00 per tract in certified funds (cash, cashier's or certified check made payable to Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC) required. 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Announcements made on day of sale take precedence over all prior communications, both verbal and written, concerning the sale or the property. 4. BUYER'S PREMIUM: A 10% buyer's premium will be in effect on day of sale that is added to the high bid amount to determine the contract sales price. 5. "AS-IS", "WHERE-IS": The property is being sold "AS-IS", "WHERE-IS". Potential buyers must perform such independent investigations with respect to the property as they deem necessary. 6. ADVERTISEMENTS: All information provided by Auction Company and Substitute Trustee is deemed reliable but is not warranted. Information contained in the brochure and any advertisements by Auction Company are subject to verification by all parties relying on it. No liability for its accuracy, error or omission is assumed by Auction Company or Substitute Trustee. 7. REPRESENTATION: Auction Company and its representatives represent the party foreclosing on the property. 8. BID INCREMENTS: Auction Company reserves the right to set bid increments and to establish the bid sequences for the order of the sale and/or to change both. Lienholders reserve the right to bid at the sale. 9. LINES ON PHOTOGRAPHS: Any property lines drawn on the photographs in the marketing materials are not exact. Refer to the title documents found in the land records for the actual property lines. Employees, directors and officers of Farm Credit of the Virginias, ACA, and their immediate family and companies in which they have an interest are not eligible under federal regulations to purchase this property at foreclosure. Bryson J. Hunter, Peter M. Pearl, and Brian H. Richardson, Substitute Trustees For Information Contact: Bryson J. Hunter bhunter@spilmanlaw.com Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC P.O. Box 90 Roanoke, Virginia 24002 540-512-1800 Telephone

Legals - City of Salem

information, contact the Office of the Zoning Administrator, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia (Phone 3753032).

THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM

BY: Mary Ellen H. Wines, CZA, CFM Planning & Zoning Administrator

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McClure promoted to Senior Risk Administration Officer at Bank of Botetourt

Bank of Botetourt has promoted Shannon McClure of Vinton to the position of Senior Risk Administration Officer. McClure is based at the bank's Care Center and has been a member of the team since February 2022, bringing 14 years of experience in the financial industry. She recently graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in History from Liberty University. Currently, McClure and her husband, Darren, along with their three dogs and three cats, reside in Vinton.

In her free time, McClure enjoys traveling, attending concerts and sporting events, and spending time with her family and friends. She is

stepmother to three children, Lizzy, Austin, and Branden, who reside in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Barbara Anderson, SVP-Chief Risk & Compliance Officer, expressed her enthusiasm, saying, "Shannon's strong work ethic and unwavering dedication to the bank will contribute to her success in her new role. I look forward to seeing her advance in her career and working closely with her to maintain the bank's success by managing risk and compliance."

Bank of Botetourt was chartered in 1899 and operates 13 retail offices in Botetourt, Rockbridge, Roanoke, and Franklin counties, and the City of Salem, and



PHOTO BY BANK OF BOTETOURT
Shannon McClure

the Town of Vinton. Bank of Botetourt also operates a mortgage division, Virginia Mountain Mortgage, and a financial services division, Botetourt Wealth Management.

Submitted by Bank of Botetourt



IMAGE COURTESY OF VINTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Calvary's Hill gospel quartet will perform at Vinton Baptist Church on November 12.

Vinton Baptist to host Calvary's Hill gospel quartet

This year, Calvary's Hill Quartet is celebrating 22 years on the road. The group normally sings 300+ concerts per year.

Calvary's Hill will be coming to Vinton Baptist Church on Sunday, November 12, at 6:30 p.m. The concert admission is free; a love offering will be received.

Calvary's Hill Quartet has been on the road singing since 2001. The singers describe themselves as a group of men saved by God's grace who are spreading the word of the gospel through music and testimonies.

"Between us, we probably have over 100 years of experience singing for our Lord from coast to coast. We have

sung in churches, arenas, at NASCAR racetracks, tractor pulls, chicken houses, county fairs, and anywhere else we can draw a crowd. We consider ourselves to be a ministry, not merely an entertainment group. At each and every event, we very simply explain God's wonderful plan of salvation from His scriptures."

The quartet members are Scott Simpson (lead), Scott Baker (tenor), Mike Wright (baritone), and James Simpson (bass).

They have a number of recordings, with their latest being a wonderful Christmas offering. Hear some of their music here: <https://calvaryhill.org/album/2086703/a-christmas-celebration>.

Fall Festival

from page 1

Republican Party candidates turned out in full force campaigning for next month's election – Jason Peters, David Suetterlein, Michael Galliher, and Sheriff Eric Orange.

There were bouncy houses and a petting zoo for the children. Vinton Police Det. Sgt Bailey and his family drew a crowd with their dog Rocco (a large 4-year-old Mastiff/Sheep Dog mix). The Roanoke County Sheriff's Department was there as well.

There was live entertainment on the Vinton Farmers' Market HomeTrust Stage, beginning with the FAME All-Stars, then followed by street performer Christian "Yeah-Yeah" Thompson, Ninja fire twirler.

Mish Moves Dance featured some very talented and agile performers, including their Adaptive Class, the "Butterflies."

Floyd Ward performers danced on the mobile street stage, both soloists and groups.

The grand finale of the afternoon was the annual Doggie Costume Contest, sponsored by the Pawsh Salon for Dogs, which is located on Lee Avenue in downtown Vinton. Their owners and groomers were the judges, and in the end, declared everyone a winner – Luna, Marley, Gracie, Charlie, and Bramble.

Fall Festival festivities continued into the night with the final Mingle at the Market concert of the season, with bands Gypsy Nix and Shattered Glass.

"This event has grown so much over the last two years, it makes waking up at 4:45 a.m. worth it," said Chamber President Jason Boothe. "I heard so many positive comments about the festival from local business owners about how well they do in sales on this day; one business extends their hours because they do so well. That's why we do what we do! I am proud to be a small part of Vinton – I love my hometown!"



The FAME All-Stars dancers performed at Fall Festival again this year.



Dancers from Floyd Ward performed on the Market Stage at this year's Fall Festival.



The Vinton History Museum held a Collectibles and Quilt Sale at the Fall Festival.



Everyone was a winner in the annual Doggie Costume Contest. Pictured left to right are Luna, Marley, Gracie, Charlie, and Bramble with their owners.



More members of the William Byrd High School Leo Club volunteered at the Vinton Lions Club Pancake Breakfast during Fall Festival. Pictured are front row (l-r): Lisa Stover (club sponsor), Sarah Nguyen, Emily Fisher; and back row, Zac Claybrook, Kaylee Mitchell, Kaylin Bumgarner, Sage Brown, Meera Raichura, and Payton Hall.



Mish Moves Dance featured the "Butterflies" adaptive class performing on the Farmers' Market Stage.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Members of the William Byrd High School Leo Club volunteered at the Vinton Lions Club Pancake Breakfast during Fall Festival. Pictured front row, left to right, Lance Hollins, Kendall Lecas, Lisa Stover (club sponsor), Fallon Davis, Layla Matz; back row Emma Rupe, Kaylee Makuch, Makayla Price, Sydney Blewett, and Makenna Jacobsen.



Above, the boys are off and running at the Greenfield course in Daleville last Saturday, which will be home to the Blue Ridge District meet on October 25. Below left and right, Donald Mullins and Heidi Wienke were the first Terriers to cross the line in the Blue Ridge Invitational.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Terrier runners preview course for district race

The Louisa County boys and Christiansburg girls came out on top in the varsity races when Lord Botetourt played host to the annual Blue Ridge Invitational cross country meet last Saturday. William Byrd runners also competed among over 30 schools who sent runners to the meet at the course that will host the Blue Ridge District meet on October 25.

“Saturday ended up being a great day to race,” said LB coach Elizabeth Wilson, who hosted the event. “Our course is not easy. It is filled with many challenging hills, but makes for a great course.”

Louisa won the boys’ varsity race with 67 points, followed by Christiansburg with 73 and North Cross with 85. William Byrd was eighth among 15 teams and Ethan Thorne of Clover Hill was the individual winner at 16:12.

Donald Mullins led Byrd with a 12th place finish in 18:15, followed by Reagan Lilley in 25th at 18:48. Also scoring for the Terriers were Reid Hanson in 41st, Colton Sotherden in 82nd and Riley Slusher in 83rd place.

“Our runners were able to successfully complete the hilly course,” said Byrd coach Kayland Bond. “Our focus of the day was to run through the hills, not just getting to the top and thinking the work is over. Certain parts of the course were mentally challenging because it ventures away from spectators. They did a great job with working hard even when no one was looking.”

In the girls’ varsity race Christiansburg won with 41 points and Louisa was second with 56. Glenvar took third with 83 and Byrd was fourth among nine varsity teams despite missing two of the top seven. Kerrigan Chaney of North Cross won the race in 18:39, two minutes and one second faster than runner Lillian Liles of Louisa.



Heidi Wienke led Byrd with a 13th place finish in 22:57. Also scoring for the Terriers were Alex Bonilla in 37th, Elizabeth Dixon in 44th and Elena Mullen in 57th place.

“We had a great weekend previewing the Blue Ridge District course,” said Bond.

This was the last race for the middle school runners



before the Southwest Middle School Championship, which was scheduled for Wednesday of this week at Hidden Valley. Middle schooler Carston DiBenedetto placed fourth in the boys’ race in Daleville.

The Byrd high school runners will now prepare for the annual Metro Cross Country Meet, which will be held in Blacksburg on Wednesday, October 18.



Left, Ke’arion Burch of the Byrd middle school team runs for a long touchdown in last week’s win over Hidden Valley. Right, Mason Hershel(#9) makes a tackle as Josh Hale(#22) pressures the quarterback.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Middle School routs Hidden Valley to end football season 7-1

The William Byrd Middle School football team finished their season in style last week with a 50-6 win over Hidden Valley at Patterson Stadium. With the win the Terriers finished the season with a 7-1 record.

The Terriers scored 222 points this season and allowed but 40. The defense had five shutouts.

“I told the team at the start of the season that there are three things we cannot have,” said coach Ryan Hutchison. “We cannot have contentment, we cannot have egotism, and we cannot lose our culpability.”

“Our record exhibited our team’s response to that. At the middle school level and the high school level, Terrier football is about team responsibility. It’s all about being present. It’s about our players holding their teammates accountable to essential standards. That’s why we are successful.”

WILLIAM BYRD FOOTBALL

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point kick made it 7-7 at the half.

“Both teams traded momentum numerous times and our team was playing well in all three phases,” said Lutz. “But scoring on an explosive play helped us take the momentum into the half, which we felt was very important.”

Byrd came out fired up for the second half and took the game to the Colonels, but had to battle to put points on the board. The Terriers drove to the red zone but on fourth-and-goal at the three Hairston completed a pass to Dominic Dulak who was tackled at the one to stop the threat.

The Colonels took over at the one and Byrd’s defense came up big, holding Fleming to a three-and-out. Then a botched punt by Fleming gave the Terriers the ball on the Fleming 11. Byrd moved to the three, where Hairston took it in himself on fourth down for a 14-7 lead.

“Israel is a leader and a competitor,” said Lutz. “Like his teammates, he has a lot of confidence in big moments, so our coaches trust him and his teammates in those situations. Going into the game, our coaches felt like Israel was going to need to create some big plays for our offense, and he did a great job Friday.”

Leading 14-7, Hairston scored again on a short run with just under 10 minutes remaining and Byrd appeared to be in good shape. However, on the ensuing series Fleming cut the lead to 21-14 on a 21 yards

pass play, then held Byrd again. With 4:26 still to go Fleming quarterback Kyah Jordan found Omarza Gray uncovered behind the defense and the play went for a 66 yard touchdown to tie the game at 21-21 with 4:26 still remaining in regulation.

“It was a miscommunication in the secondary,” said Lutz.

By this time the rain was falling as Byrd attempted a final drive to win the game. They were forced to punt but Fleming fumbled the ball back to Byrd with 47 seconds on the clock. A Brayden Andrews run and an untimely unsportsmanlike conduct penalty by Fleming set up a field goal attempt by Lancaster to win the game, but the kick was wide and overtime ensued. Byrd won the overtime coin flip and elected to put the defense on the field first.

“Our defense is playing with a lot of confidence, and we wanted them on the field first in overtime,” said Lutz. “That also allowed us to know exactly what our offense needed to do to win, when we got our overtime possession.”

As it turned out all Byrd would need was any kind of points, as Kiker again forced a fumble and Donnie Davis recovered to end the threat. Byrd’s offense then moved to the three where Barrows found a hole and scored the winning touchdown; final score 27-21.

Byrd had some good offensive statistics. Barrows had 126 yards rushing on 17 carries and one reception for 67 yards, scoring once by land and once by

air. Andrews had 44 yards rushing and Hairston had 83 yards rushing and was eight for 12 passing for 122 yards. He had two rushing scores and a touchdown pass.

Cooper Minnix had two receptions for 19 yards, including a fourth down catch that kept a drive going. Dulak had two catches and Jarrett Shepherd and Andrews had one reception each.

On defense Shepherd had four tackles while Kiker had three and two key forced fumbles, one in the red zone and one in overtime. Jonathan Rosser also had two forced fumbles and Jahdai English had two solos and seven assists.

The win was Byrd’s third in a row and gives the Terriers great momentum heading into this week’s game with LB. It’s also Homecoming so what was expected to be a big crowd should be even bigger. It’s a big game.

“Our schedule includes eight playoff teams from last season, so each game is important,” said Lutz. “We are excited for our team to play in a game of this magnitude, and we are looking forward to being in front of our home crowd for this particular game. The support we have received from the community has been very important to our players and coaches, and we are thankful for that.”

Byrd’s jayvee team also beat Fleming last week, 28-12, in a game between two previously unbeaten teams. The jayvees will be at Lord Botetourt tonight at 6 pm.

SPORTS

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Terriers beat Fleming in OT, host Lord Botetourt for Homecoming

If last week's William Byrd football game with William Fleming isn't the biggest of the season thus far, this week's game with Lord Botetourt may be. The Terriers will host the Cavaliers Friday night at Patterson Stadium in a showdown between Blue Ridge District arch-rivals and teams battling for position in the Virginia High School League Region 3D rankings.

Byrd picked up some important points last week with a 27-21 overtime win over Fleming in Roanoke. It was one of the most exciting games in the area this season, and by winning the Terriers picked up points for beating a Class 5 team and also earned some rider points for the three games the Colonels have already won.

With the win Byrd remained in fourth place in the Region 3D rankings but picked up some ground on third place Lord Botetourt. The Terriers' rating is now an even 23.0 while Botetourt

comes in at 23.16. Both teams are 5-1 and trail undefeated Magna Vista and 6-1 Christiansburg in the standings. If Byrd can beat LB Friday the Terriers would move ahead of the Cavaliers and Christiansburg still has to go to Salem this month.

The Terriers will have their hands full this week with LB, who has won the last six meetings between the two. However, this is a much improved Byrd team and the Terriers are undefeated at home with great support from the Vinton community.

"Lord Botetourt has a very talented roster that includes size and speed," said Byrd coach Brad Lutz. "This is another week that our team will be the underdog. Our players have embraced that all season."

Byrd was certainly the underdog going to Fleming last week but the Terriers came for a dog fight and ended up on top. They fell behind early on a

five yard Fleming run but avoided going down two scores when John Kiker stripped the ball inside the Byrd five and the Terriers recovered with six seconds left in the first quarter.

It appeared the first half would end with Fleming up a score, but the Terriers were able to tie the game just before intermission. Walter Barrows took a short pass from Israel Hairston and wove through the Fleming defense for a 67 yard score, and Bricen Lancaster's extra

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Above, Byrd's John Kiker(#9) grabs for the ball as a Fleming ballcarrier bulls his way inside the Terrier five yard line. Below, Kiker rips the ball loose and the Terriers recovered in a key first half defensive stand.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



Walter Barrows scores the game winning touchdown in overtime as Byrd downs Fleming, 27-21.

PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER



Girls beat Staunton River on the court, host Eagles tonight

The William Byrd volleyball team improved their Blue Ridge District record to 4-3 with a win over Staunton River in Vinton Tuesday. The girls will try to keep the momentum going when Franklin County comes to town tonight for a district match.

Byrd beat Staunton River in three sets, 25-18, 25-22 and 25-20. It was Senior Night and the girls were hitting on all cylinders in front of an enthusiastic pro-Terrier crowd.

"We battled for five sets the last time when we

traveled to Staunton River and the girls came in determined to get things done early," said Byrd coach Allison Thornton. "We were without senior setter Kate Bryant due to injury but Madelyn Ward and Maggie Zimmerman stepped in and had a great performance leading the offense."

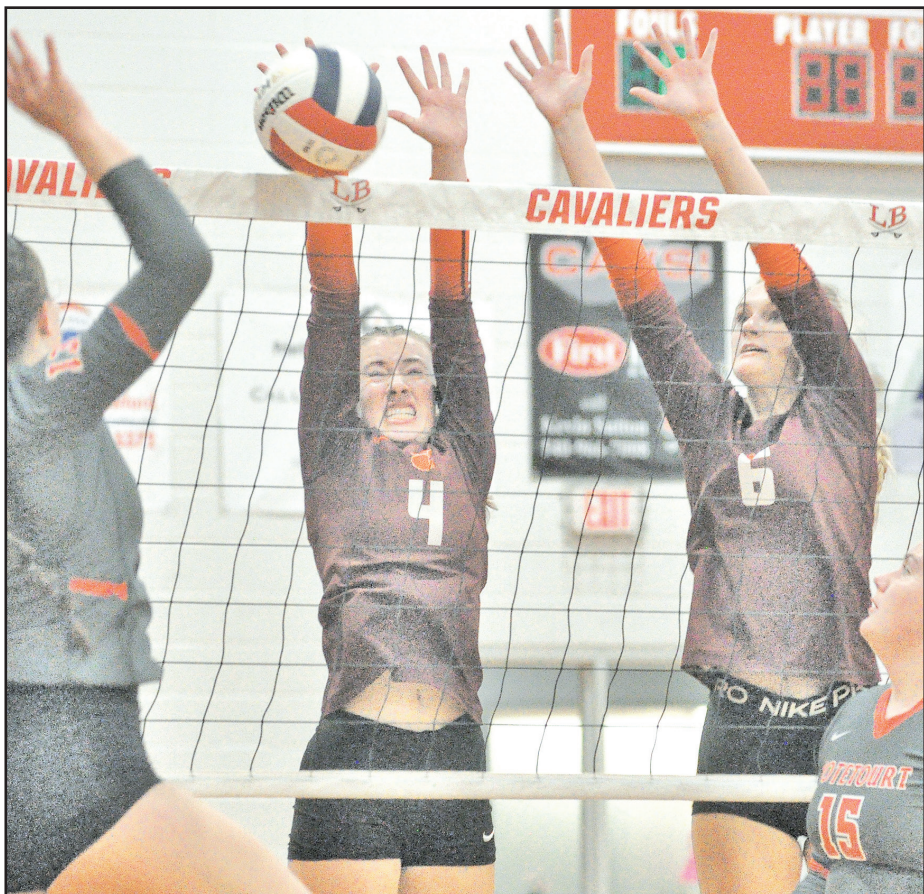
Terran Brown led Byrd with six kills and also contributed three aces and seven digs. Maddie Pittman had five kills and Zimmerman dished out nine assists along with four serving aces.

With the win Byrd improved to 7-9 overall. Last Wednesday the girls traveled to Daleville and dropped a three set match to the district leader, Lord Botetourt. The Cavaliers are undefeated in BRD matches and downed a scrappy team of Terriers, 25-18, 25-22 and 25-20.

"I was proud of the effort the girls gave on the floor," said Thornton. "They never give up and attitude is not something you can teach. The want to win and improve is strong with this group. I love the fight in this group."

Brown led the offense with four kills while Bella Dudley had three blocks. Emily Tuck had 11 digs in the back row and served 100 percent.

The girls now have four regular season matches remaining before the Blue Ridge District tournament. When Franklin County visits tonight the Terriers will recognize the "Tiny Terrier Campers" who participated in the volleyball camp this summer. Next week Byrd has three matches to end the regular season beginning with a non-district match against Cave Spring at home on Monday, a trip to Northside on Tuesday and a home match with William Fleming a week from today to wrap up the regular season.



Left, Byrd's Eva Brown(#4) and Bella Dudley(#6) put up a double block in last week's volleyball match at Lord Botetourt. Right, Maddie Pittman (#5) tips one over an LB opponent.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

GO TERRIERS!

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