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Meet the 2024 Vinton Chamber of Commerce Officers and Board of Directors



Jason Boothe



Allison Finney



Page Stovall Lovern



Justin Davison



Donald Childress



Anthony Conner



Libby Patterson Criss



Tim Greenway



Chris McCarty



Kat Pascal



Joy Rierson



Paula Robins

PHOTOS COURTESY OF VINTON CHAMBER

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce installed officers and the Board of Directors for 2024 on January 25 at a ceremony at the Vinton War Memorial. They were sworn in by Vinton Mayor Brad Grose.

The officers and board are not just business owners and leaders in the area—they are a vital part of the life of the Town of Vinton and vigorously promote the community. They are familiar faces among the volunteers who staff the special events in the town from the Mingle Concert series to the Christmas Parade and more.

Chamber officers for 2024 are:

- President: Jason Boothe
- 1st Vice President: Allison Finney
- 2nd Vice President: Page Stovall Lovern
- Past President: Justin Davison

Chamber President **Jason Boothe** is a Realtor at Mountain View Real Estate in Vinton, now in his fifth year in the real estate business. He is very active in the Vinton community where he has served as a board member and coach for the Vinton Booster Club, and Vice President and President of the William Byrd Baseball Booster Club from 2017-2020. Along with his board positions, Boothe has also coached in the Vinton community for over 15 years. His “love for the kids and parents” has made him lifelong friendships. He is an active member at Lynn Haven Baptist Church.

Boothe has been married to his wife

Nicole for 26 years. She has worked at William Byrd High School in the guidance department for 17 years. They have two children. His daughter Taylor and son-in-law Collin reside in Kansas where Collin serves in the Army. His son Bryce lives in Vinton and is part owner in a home renovations company.

“I am the very proud Pappi to my 2-year-old granddaughter, Rylan, who lives with Mommy and Daddy in Kansas,” Boothe says.

“I can’t express how excited I am to be able to work with such an amazing group of people who truly care about the town,” said Boothe. “I am happy with where the Chamber is today and the leadership we have in place. I look forward to serving the members of this great Chamber, and we will do everything we possibly can to make Vinton the place to bring your business.”

Allison Finney will continue serving as First Vice President of the Chamber. She is a graduate of William Byrd High School and Virginia Tech where she majored in Housing, Interior Design and Resource Management with an option in Residential Management. She manages several residential properties (apartments and single-family homes) in Roanoke, Salem, and Vinton. Finney also manages American Efficiency Inns, an extended stay motel located in downtown Vinton, as well as two other commercial properties.

She has been involved with many organizations over the years. She is a founding member of the Square Society, serving on their board for many years and eventually becoming president. While

serving as president, she also served on the Center in the Square Board of Directors. She has been on the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for 12 years and on the Executive Board for going on 10 years.

Page Stovall Lovern will continue to serve as the Second Vice President of the Chamber. She is a 2007 graduate of William Byrd High School and a 2012 graduate of Radford University, where she received her Bachelor’s in Science. Lovern is the Business Office Manager at Pheasant Ridge Nursing and Rehab Center in Roanoke.

She continues to have a passion for the geriatric population and has worked in the long-term care setting for almost 11 years. She enjoys engaging with the Roanoke Valley through multiple networks allowing her to show what Vinton truly has to offer. She is grateful to be a part of the evolving things happening in Vinton.

Outside of the long-term care setting, Lovern enjoys spending time with her husband, Brian, family, and friends. She enjoys traveling, concerts, and being a bonus mom to Brian’s daughter Kayla.

Justin Davison serves as Past President for the Chamber. He was first elected as President in 2017 and has volunteered with the Chamber since 2014. Davison was born in New Jersey but has called Vinton home since 2008. He is the Market Manager at the MemberOne Federal Credit Union in Vinton. He was selected for the Roanoker Magazine’s “40 Under 40” in 2022 for career achievements and community involvement. He recently

became a Certified Credit Union Financial Counselor. He serves on the board at the Roanoke Valley Speech & Hearing Center and enjoys helping the Chamber, Junior Achievement, Center in the Square, and Big Lick Entertainment with the great things they do in the community. He also enjoys spending time with family and friends. He has a servant’s heart and is always looking for ways to make an impact on the community and help those in need.

Members of the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for 2024 include Donald Childress, Libby Criss, Anthony Conner, Tim Greenway, Chris McCarty, Kat Pascal, Joy Rierson, Paula Robins, Chrissy Sensabaugh, Dr. Richard Turner, Cory Welch, Christopher Wheeler, and Julie Wheeler.

Donald Childress is a life-long resident of the Town of Vinton. He attended William Byrd High School where he played basketball and baseball, graduating in 1994. He graduated from Emory and Henry College with a BS degree in Business Management.

After college, Childress began his career in the insurance industry. He has spent over 20 years helping his clients make decisions with Medicare benefit plans, Final Expense plans and Annuity Planning. He decided to start his own business in 2009, Coastal Insurance Planning of Va. His growing office is in the Town of Vinton behind the Farmers’ Market.

He is the proud father of one adult son, Damon, and grandson, Wraith. He also

See Chamber, page 5

Vinton Town Council honors William Byrd championship football team, recognizes town Employees of the Year



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The 2023 William Byrd High School football team was celebrated with a proclamation by Town Council at its meeting on Feb. 6. Several seniors and coaches represented the Terriers at the meeting. Coach Brad Lutz accepts the Proclamation from Mayor Brad Grose.

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

At the council meeting on February 6, Vinton Town Council presented a Proclamation to the William Byrd High School Terriers football team celebrating their outstanding 2023 football season.

The Terriers finished their season as AAA State Semi-finalists with an outstanding record of 12 wins and 2 losses; they won the Blue Ridge District Championship, and the first regional championship in school history—the 2023 Region 3D Championship. Head

football coach Brad Lutz, who has been at Byrd for five years, was named Region 3D Coach of the Year. He was also selected by the NFL Washington Commanders as High School Coach of the Week and then nominated for NFL High School Coach of the Year representing the Commanders.

The Proclamation congratulated each member of the team, the coaching staff, and the school. Each player is to receive a copy of the Proclamation.

Student-athletes on the team include: Dexter Gaines, B.J. Cheatwood, John Kiker, Doniven

Davis, Israel Hairston, Brayden Andrews, Dominic Dulak, Bricen Lancaster, Walter Barrows, Maurice Burnette, Jahdai English, Jerett Shepherd, Cyrus Adams, Jonathan Rosser, Ethan Haston, Lane Shoemaker, Brady Reachy, Cooper Minnix, Elliott Gaines, Blake Anderson, Braedon Young, Landon Martin, Aiden Kelly, Jalen Toler, Cannin Lutz, Ian Vest, Tate Kotz, Jamez Toler, Justyn Rozenboom, Thomas Purcell, Nick Bustamante, Camden West, George Slusser, Greg Stiltner, Julian

See Council, page 4

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Remembering Vinton

Remembering Tompkins Hardware

with the Vinton Historical Society

Debbie Adams
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Tompkins Hardware in Vinton was built in the late 1940's as part of the post-World War II building boom. Herbert Maxey was the contractor who built the building. It was Turpin's Hardware before it was bought by the Tompkins family.

The story goes that when Ben Turpin bought the vacant lot at the corner of Pollard Street and Jackson Avenue, Town Council would not allow him to build his proposed hardware on the site because they thought a dump had been located there in past years and the ground would not be stable. They would not issue a building permit right away for the construction, so Turpin waited awhile and

then just started building his hardware without a permit.

The Town Manager reportedly eventually said, "I guess we should give Ben a building permit."

Ben's son Riley said that was in the day of Town Manager Guy Gearhart when "everything was done with just a handshake." In fact, Turpin says that the Town later recommended that his father add a second floor with four apartments to the store to accommodate soldiers returning from war.

According to Deal Tompkins, his father, Joseph B. Tompkins, Sr., and Tyree Dowdy bought the hardware in 1953 and changed the name to Dixie Hardware Company, Inc.

Dowdy sold his interest in the business to Tompkins in the early 1960's and



PHOTO COURTESY OF VINTON HISTORY MUSEUM

Tompkins remained the sole owner of the store until his son, Deal Tompkins took over the family business in 1974, and changed the name to Tompkins Hardware Company, Inc.

The Tompkins sold the hardware business in 1979, but it continued to operate as Tompkins Hardware until it relocated to the former

Chewing's Appliance building on Virginia Avenue in 1982 and was renamed Dixie Hardware.

Deal Tompkins recalled "downtown Vinton as a vibrant and thriving business center in the 1950's and into the 1970's.

~ First published in the Vinton Messenger in 2013

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF WBHS

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Brownie Pie

Brownie Pie is a combination of two great desserts – pie and brownies.

Ingredients:

- 1 pie crust, unbaked
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, melted
- 1 cup sugar
- 3 large eggs
- 2 tsp. vanilla
- 1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips, divided

Instructions: Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line pie pan with pie crust. Whisk together melted butter, sugar, eggs, and vanilla. Add the cocoa powder and flour and whisk until just combined. Stir in 3/4 cup of the chocolate chips. Pour batter into pie crust. Sprinkle remaining chocolate chips over the batter. Bake for 40-45 minutes (tent with aluminum foil if pie crust is browning too quickly).

Sprinkle remaining chocolate chips over the batter.

OR you can make it simple and bake a:

- Brownie Pie with Brownie Mix
- 1 pie crust
- 1 box brownie mix (about 23 oz.)
- 1/2 cup water
- 1 egg

Heat oven to 350 degrees and line pie pan with crust. Mix brownie mix, water, and egg. Pour into pie pan. Bake for 35-40 minutes.

For either pie, you can top with more chocolate chips: extra chocolate never hurts, and this makes your pie really pretty. You can even use several varieties of chips.



How simple can it get – brownie mix in a crust?

PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

From the Pulpit By Lead Pastor Bryan Crouch, Lynn Haven Baptist Church

A Study of Ephesians – ‘Every Spiritual Blessing’

Our focus at Lynn Haven Baptist Church for 2024 is on discipleship. Discipleship is the process of becoming more like Christ tomorrow than you were today. It is becoming more spiritually mature daily. Sounds simple enough, right?

The Book of Ephesians is a great place to start when talking about discipleship. The term that comes

to mind when studying the Book of Ephesians is “Spiritual Confidence.” Paul spends the first three chapters of Ephesians explaining the “why” behind his Spiritual Confidence. He encourages the reader to have the same confidence in their faith.

He begins the letter by saying every believer in Jesus Christ “has been blessed in the heavenly realms

with every spiritual blessing.” Every spiritual blessing available in heaven is promised to us because we have been “sealed by the Holy Spirit” (v.13-14).

Just think about this for one minute. EVERY blessing that God has at His disposal is promised to all who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Every single one. Although blessings can involve material gain (money), material gain is not generally what God is

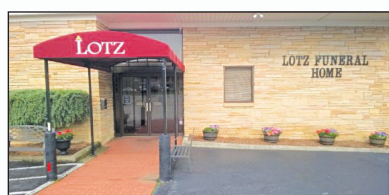
concerned with in our lives. Galatians 5:22-23 gives us a much more detailed list of the spiritual blessings we ought to be seeking. Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control are spiritual blessings worth more than all the material gain we could possibly hope for in our lives. Spiritual maturity is about being heavenly-minded rather than earthly-minded.

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PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

By Angie Chewing

Ann Marie Soltis, daughter of Richard and Leigh Soltis, is a Vinton native and William Byrd alumni. She began performing locally at the age of 6. She graduated from Virginia Tech with a B.A. in Performance.

She is currently performing stand up comedy all across Los Angeles. She has performed with Dean Delray and Sheng Wang. You can find her upcoming shows and highlights of her set on social media platforms. If you're ever in the Los Angeles area, definitely catch a show!

Happy 7th birthday to Ethan Dailey! He is the grandson of Debbie and Danny Adams, and Dianna Dailey, and great-grandson of Doris Martin, all of Vinton.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SOLTIS FAMILY

Comedian Ann Marie Soltis



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEBBIE ADAMS

VINTON HISTORY: Candlesticks

Candlesticks are sometimes called “candleholders” and have been used for centuries as a source of light and decoration. They may range in size and complexity from the medieval block of wood to the huge bronze altar candlesticks of the Italian Renaissance. In the most restricted sense, a candlestick is a utensil for holding one candle. Little is known of domestic candlesticks before the Middle Ages, but a number of references to ecclesiastical candlesticks are to be found in the Old Testament.

Today, candlesticks are used as decorative items and are available in various sizes and designs. Before electricity, candles were carried between rooms using a chamberstick, a short candlestick with a pan to catch dripping wax. Although electric lighting has phased out candles in much of the world, candlesticks are still used in homes as decorative elements or to add atmosphere on special occasions.

Candleholders decorate the mantles at the Vinton History Museum, 210 East Jackson Avenue in



PHOTO COURTESY OF JUDY CUNNINGHAM

Candlesticks on display at the Vinton History Museum

Downtown Vinton – open Monday, Wednesday, Friday and every first Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Submitted by Judy Cunningham, Vinton History Museum Executive Director

OBITUARY

Tompkins, Edward Deal

Edward Deal Tompkins, known to his friends and family as “Deal,” was born in Roanoke on August 12, 1946. He passed away at his home in Ashland, Va., on January 22, 2024, of natural causes.



Deal was predeceased by his parents, Joseph Buford Tompkins and Rebecca Johnston Tompkins, and his younger brother, Joseph Buford (“J.B.”) Tompkins, Jr.

He is survived by his older brother, Curtis Johnston Tompkins (Kathy); nephews, Robert (Elena), Joseph (Kelly), Graves (Colleen), and Forbes (Caity); niece, Rebecca Philips (Chris); grandnephews, Jack, Brooks, Walker, Teddy and Bryce; grandnieces, Katie, Penelope and Haylee. Deal was devoted to his family and cherished the time they spent together. He particularly cherished his grandnieces and grandnephews, and they adored him.

Deal grew up in Vinton, along with his brothers, Curtis and J.B. He graduated from William Byrd High School in 1964, where he played trumpet in the band and was president of the student body his senior year. He also worshiped and sang at Thrasher Memorial Methodist Church. Deal graduated from Randolph-Macon College in 1968 and subsequently taught science courses and coached the tennis team at Glenvar High School in Salem. He was hired by Randolph-Macon College to visit high schools to recruit prospective students, and he attended the University of Virginia’s graduate program in landscape architecture.

Deal grew up working in his father’s hardware store in Vinton and he eventually purchased the business from his father, renaming

it “Tompkins Hardware.” He was elected to the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors and was a real estate agent in Roanoke for several years.

Deal found his calling as a college development officer, which he practiced for more than three decades. He became an expert in planned giving and worked for several colleges,

including Randolph-Macon, Mary Washington, Southern Seminary, Sweet Briar, Washington College and Emory & Henry. He also advised several churches on their fundraising programs. Prior to retiring, Deal served as president of the Virginia United Methodist Foundation in Richmond.

Throughout his adult life, Deal stayed enthusiastically involved with Randolph-Macon College and he chose to spend his retirement years close to campus. He attended most of the home games of the Randolph-Macon sports teams and benefited from using the college’s recreational center daily. In honor of the impact that Randolph-Macon College had throughout Deal’s life, his family has established the Edward Deal Tompkins Memorial Scholarship Fund at Randolph-Macon.

Deal’s ashes will be placed alongside his brother J.B.’s in the columbarium at Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Alexandria this spring. His family suggests that contributions be made in Deal’s honor and memory to the Edward Deal Tompkins Memorial Scholarship Fund at Randolph-Macon College, P.O. Box 5505, Ashland, 23005-5505; phone: (804) 752-3605). Arrangements were entrusted to Nelsen Funeral Home-Ashland.

Bank of Botetourt records profitable 2023; Board votes to increase common dividend

Buchanan-based Bank of Botetourt has released its unaudited financial results for the three and 12 months-ended December 31, 2023.

The bank produced net income amounting to \$1,800,000 or \$0.86 per basic share in the fourth quarter. This amount compares to a net income of \$2,191,000 or \$1.13 per share, for the same period last year. For the 12 months-ended December 31, 2023 the bank produced net income amounting to \$8,173,000 or \$3.95 per basic share. This amount compares to net income of \$7,805,000 or \$4.04 per share, for the same period last year.

At December 31, 2023, select financial information and key highlights include:

- Return on average assets of 1.10%
- Return on average equity of 11.64%
- Book value of \$36.26
- Total deposit growth of 7.10%
- Total asset growth of 10.55%
- Total loan growth of 22.87%
- Community Bank Leverage Ratio of 10.36%

As a result of the solid financial performance, the Board of Directors voted to pay the 7.00% preferred dividend, which calculates to \$0.49 per

share on February 9, 2024 to preferred shareholders of record February 2, 2024. The board voted to increase the quarterly common dividend from \$0.1925 to \$0.20 per share, or \$0.80 per share annualized. The dividend increase of 3.9% per share annualized is payable on February 16, 2024 to common shareholders of record February 12, 2024. CEO & Vice-Chairman G. Lyn Hayth III said, “While navigating a dynamic economic landscape, we are gratified by the financial performance of our bank during 2023. Our strong financial performance, marked by impressive loan growth, underscores our commitment to increasing shareholder value and driving sustained success.”

Results of Operations
Net income for the three months ended December 31, 2023 was \$1,800,000 compared to \$2,191,000 for the same period last year, representing an increase of \$391,000 or 17.84%. Basic and diluted earnings per share decreased \$0.27 from \$1.13 at December 31, 2022 to \$0.86 at December 31, 2023. The decrease in net income is primarily due to \$2,150,000 increase in deposit interest expense, \$233,000 increase in

interest expense on other borrowings, partially offset by \$2,217,000 more interest and fees on loans and \$281,000 less provision for credit losses.

Financial Condition
At December 31, 2023 total consolidated assets amounted to \$789,024,000, an increase of 10.55% above total assets at December 31, 2022 of \$713,718,000, an increase of \$75,306,000. Total net loans increased \$111,095,000 or 23.04% from \$482,162,000 at December 31, 2022 to \$593,257,000 at December 31, 2023. Total deposits at December 31, 2022 amounted to \$643,923,000, compared to \$689,592,000 at December 31, 2023, an increase of 7.10% or \$45,669,000. The increase in deposits is attributable to organic growth and the addition of two brokered deposits totaling \$11,012,000.

As of December 31, 2023 Bank of Botetourt reported its CBLR ratio at 10.36% which meets the required regulatory minimum ratio. This compares to a CBLR ratio of 10.32% at December 31, 2022.

- Bank of Botetourt

WBHS Baseball Booster Club sponsoring Casino Night

The William Byrd High School Baseball Booster Club is sponsoring a Casino Night on Saturday, Feb. 10 from 6 to 10 p.m. This fundraiser will be held at the Vinton Moose Lodge located at 2127 East Washington Avenue in Vinton.

You must be age 21 or older to attend.

Casino Night includes a raffle, black jack, craps, poker, prizes, and more

games. It will be catered by Pok-E-Joe’s BBQ.

Tickets are \$60 per person. For tickets contact Joan at 321-292-1907 or Joan.F.Beavers@gmail.com or Stephanie at 540-892-0317 or baseball4lifewilliamson@gmail.com.

Submitted by Suzanne Witcher, WBHS Baseball Booster Club

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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| CLUES ACROSS | 24. Pitching statistic | CLUES DOWN | 20. Anger |
| 1. One point south of due east | 25. Human being | 1. A way to board | 23. Sang merrily |
| 4. Coagulated blood | 26. Malaysian isthmus | 2. Get down | 24. Sea eagle |
| 8. Fortifying ditch | 27. The “Blonde Bombshell” | 3. Highly seasoned sausage | 25. Military men |
| 10. Devotee of Hinduism | 34. A gland | 4. First day of month | 26. Kilo yard (abbr.) |
| 11. Trunk of a tree | 35. Bluish greens | 5. Eurasian shrubs | 27. Found in the sea |
| 12. Bank note | 36. Endangered | 6. The organ that bears the ovules of a flower | 28. Protects from weather |
| 13. Capital of Guam | 37. Three-dimensional | 7. Small lake | 29. Type of medicine |
| 15. Study again | 38. In a way, precipitated | 9. Belief | 30. City along the Rhine |
| 16. Covered with hoarfrost | 39. God associated with dissolution | 10. Sunrooms | 31. Animal disease |
| 17. Opening | 40. Blemished | 12. Metric weight unit | 32. Martini ingredients |
| 18. Legendary Rolling Stone | 41. Flow or leak slowly | 14. Vasopressin | 33. Get away |
| 21. Stray | 42. Disco legends The Bee | 15. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo! | 34. Lack of disunity |
| 22. Computer storing system | 43. Midway between south and southeast | 17. One-time family room staple | 36. One-time European Commission officer |
| 23. Signal | | 19. Got back together | |

See Crossword Answers, page 6

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Council from page 1



Vinton resident Jeff Ramsey (on left) visited the Town Council meeting to thank members of the Vinton Police Department for their kindness in assisting with an American flag his family received years ago when his father perished in the Vietnam War. He is pictured with Lt. Michael Caldwell, who participated in the flag folding ceremony.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Vinton's Employees of the Year were introduced to Town Council. Pictured left to right are Tobbie Russeau, Tiffany Stewart, Banks Bradford, Mayor Brad Grose, Sgt. Brandon Alterio, and Lt. Scott Hurt. (P.C. Crimmins is not pictured.)

Pantoja, Hayden Lish, Jhaquin Johnson, Graylen Castleberry, Gabe Dixon, Ben Waid, Evan Tabor, Carson Bivens, Jackson McCoy, Titus Beatty, Tyler Harris, Lee Doss, Connor Whitehead, Camden Thepsimuong, Josh Stores, and Jesse Smith, student managers Luke Richardson and Dyllan Shepherd, and the coaches and the school.

Vinton Mayor Brad Grose commended the team and noted that not only are they champions on the

field, and as good students, but, led by the coaching staff, they have contributed to the community. At each Mingle at the Market concert, the players and coaches set up for the event and cleaned up afterwards. They have joined with the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club on projects maintaining the Glade Town Cemetery and the Glade Town Trail.

"You make our community proud," said Vice Mayor Mike Stovall.

Coach Lutz, who has coached for 25 years, commented on the close-knit Vinton and surrounding community and their support of the sports teams at William Byrd. He said that at one of the championship games, he glanced at the packed stands and thought that the entire Town of Vinton had driven a distance to support the team and cheer them on.

Next on the agenda, Human Resources/Risk Management Director Donna Collins recognized the 2023 Employees of the Year. Awards were divided into three categories: Public Works, the Vinton Police Department, and all other departments. Staff voted only on the co-workers in their own department. After the votes were tallied, the results were:

- Employee of the Year in Public Works, P.C. Crimmins, "who has worked for the town since 2023 and has quickly proven himself to be a dependable and dedicated employee. He is an integral member of the Grounds Crew and keeps Vinton looking beautiful."

- Public Works Runner-Up for Employee of the Year, Banks Bradford, Sr., who "has been an equipment operator with the town for seven years. He single-handedly keeps the town spotless everyday as he drives the streetsweeper through town."

- Employee of the Year for the Police Department, Sgt. Brandon Alterio, "who has been a member of the police department since 2019. He came to Vinton as a patrol officer and has quickly risen through the ranks to his current rank of sergeant. He is an Air Force veteran, and he serves on the town's Veterans Committee."

- Runner-Up for Police Dept. Employee of the Year is Lt. Scott Hurt, who "has been an officer with the town since 2008. Lt. Hurt exhibits his dedication to the town daily by serving the citizens, leading

his officers, and maintaining a high standard of excellence."

- Employee of the Year for all other administrative departments is Tobbie Russeau, "who has been with the town since September 2021 and works in our Capital Projects/Building Maintenance Department. He serves as our Facility Maintenance Supervisor. He supports multiple departments, serves on the Safety Committee, and is a key player in keeping the town facilities running."

- Runner-up for this award is Tiffany Stewart, who "has been with our Finance Department since June 2021. She is the most senior finance employee and has been the cornerstone through the major transitions that the Finance Department has been through over the past several years. She was recently promoted to Assistant Finance Director."

"All the individuals recognized this evening are exceptional in their work, contributions, and behaviors," said Collins.

Jeff Ramsey made a special presentation to members of the Vinton Police Department. His father, U.S. Army Cpl. Calvin Wetzel Ramsey, died in service to his country in Vietnam on Aug. 8, 1970, just before Jeff was born. Cpl. Ramsey received a Purple Heart for his sacrifice.

Jeff Ramsey's mother received the traditional American flag received under these circumstances and kept it stored in a container until she gave it to him about five years ago. He wanted to display the flag in a case but discovered that the flag was improperly folded. Police Chief Fabricio Drumond and Lt. Michael Caldwell organized a ceremony in January to refold the flag correctly and read Ramsey's obituary to family members and police officers present.

Ramsey came to council to thank the police officers for their kindness. Lt. Caldwell commented that it was an honor to be part of the ceremony.

Dr. Jefferson Teass, president of the Vinton Dogwood Festival, presented an update to council on this year's Dogwood Festival coming up on April 26 and 27. The main change will be a new

See Town Council, page 6

The Vinton Messenger

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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: AWA-NA 6:30 PM, Bible Study 7:00 PM

VINTON BAPTIST CHURCH - 200 Washington Avenue, Vinton. Dr. William Booth, 343-7685. Sunday Services: Sunday School 9:15, Morning Worship 10:30 AM, Wednesday Services: Worship, Bible Study and Children's Choirs at 6:15 PM. Youth Ministry at 6:00 PM.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
DALE RIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST - 7165 Cloverdale Rd., NW Roanoke, 24019; office: 992-4385. Sunday Bible Study, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study, 6 p.m. Ladies class - Thursdays 10:00 a.m. Visit our new web page: daleridgechurchofchrist.net, it's updated each week from local, national and international sources with news of interest to Christians. Take a video tour of our facilities. Read articles taken from the word of God that apply to our lives today. View a new sermon each week. Dale Ridge is reaching out to the Roanoke/Botetourt area with the good news of Jesus Christ. Come join our plea to return to the Bible. We believe in the inspired Word of God which is as relevant today as it was when it was written. We believe in the Holy Spirit is a gift, given to every Christian when we respond to the Gospel as taught in the context of Acts 2 and emphasized in verse 38. We believe Jesus is the only means of our salvation. (Acts 4:12) Is this your time to make a choice? (John 16:13) Have you been looking for a church family that's led by the Holy Spirit into all truth? (John 13:35) You will know we are His disciples by our love for one another. Follow the advice of Philip when he told Nathanael about Jesus in (John 1:46) "Come and See."

CHURCH OF CHRIST VINTON - 2107 Feather Road, Vinton. Terry Hodge, Minister, 540-890-1170. Sunday Bible Study 9:45 a.m., Sunday Morning Service 10:45 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 10 a.m.

ECKANKAR
ECKANKAR, THE PATH OF SPIRITUAL FREEDOM, is a simple teaching that focuses on the Light and Sound of God to help people find more love in their life. The Roanoke Eckankar Center is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. 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

VINTON

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

WORDS OF RELIEF
Read Job 15:1 through 22:30

Justin sat in Caleb's apartment, hoping his big brother could provide some words of encouragement. An official letter from his college had arrived, announcing that Justin was on academic probation. Justin never realized those two words would cause his parents so much pain, anger, and disappointment.

Caleb was frustrated. He knew the sacrifices his parents made so that Justin could attend college. College loans, scholarships, and money did not come easy. His parents worked hard at obtaining all the financial aid they could gather. His dad picked up extra shifts at work to cover the cost of books. Now, to hear that Justin "blew it" was more than Caleb could bear. He wanted to explode, but the Holy Spirit urged him to listen. After several moments, Caleb sat down beside Justin and placed his arm around him. Caleb whispered, "Mind if I pray for you?"

Justin grinned, "Thanks, man. I sure could use it!"

But my mouth would encourage you; comfort from my lips would bring you relief (Job 16:5).

Do your words bring comfort or condemnation?

Challenge for Today: Provide comfort and encouragement to someone close to you.

Quicklook: Job 16:4-6

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

best for you. It is appreciated that by attending you are taking responsibility for your own health. Visit www.eckva.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 Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Wednesday

Night Bible Study 7 p.m.

PRESBYTERIAN

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

UNITED METHODIST

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

WESLEYAN

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

Chamber from page 1

has one granddaughter, Aleaya.

Anthony Conner is a financial services professional with The Conner Group, a locally owned financial practice. Anthony works with a wide variety of clients including business owners and pre-retirees. Prior to his start in the financial services industry, Anthony earned his B.S. Degree from Carson-Newman University in 1982.

Anthony is proud to be a member of the Million Dollar Roundtable (MDRT) for the last 18 years. He also is a member of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA). When he is not working, Anthony enjoys serving the community on the Chamber, traveling, playing golf, and spending time with his family. He has three children and three grandchildren.

Libby Patterson Criss is a young and upcoming professional with a zest for life and a drive to make a difference. She has recently taken on the role of the Director of New Business at The Conner Group, a prominent business in Vinton. Being raised in this charming town, Libby's strong sense of community fuels her desire to give back and make a lasting impact.

Tim Greenway is the owner and broker of Mountain View Real Estate, LLC in Vinton. He is a lifelong resident of the town and a William Byrd High School graduate, Class of 1982. He continues to be a huge supporter of his alma mater and can be seen at many of the sporting events cheering on the Terriers.

Greenway graduated from Radford University in 1986 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting. The degree led him to work as the controller for Cycle Systems, a local recycling firm, for over 16 years.

Then another dream and another path in life presented itself in building houses, which he has engaged in for the past 30 years. He received his real estate license in 2002, his broker's license in 2017 and then opened Mountain View Real Estate LLC.

Greenway has been married for 40 years to Paula Greenway; they have three children – Maia, Brad and Chelsea. He is a fixture in Vinton as he attends Vinton Baptist Church where he has served as a deacon, and on the finance, property, and HR committees at various times. He proudly represents Vinton on the Roanoke County School Board.

In his briefdowntimes, Greenway enjoys most sports, hunting, golf and, of course, "spending time with those grandkids." He is a supporter of many charities, but his favorite involvement is when he can help children.

Chris McCarty graduated from Radford University in 1989 with a BS in Business Management. He was the Manager of Grand Rental Station from 1990 until 2023 and Grand Storage of Vinton from 1998 until the present. He is married to Vinton Town Council member Sabrina McCarty.

Chris enjoys being involved in various other community organizations in Vinton, including the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club and Vinton First Aid Crew. He enjoys spending time at Smith Mountain Lake with family and friends and attending sporting events. The McCartys have two children and two grandchildren.

Kat Pascal is a dynamic entrepreneur and leader. As co-founder of Sporeless America and key figure in Farmburguesa restaurants, she's known for her innovation and drive. Founder of Latinas Network, Pascal is committed to empowering professionals. She has passion for volunteering, community and a focus on family. She serves The Virginia Travel, Restaurant and Lodge Association, The Grandin Theatre Foundation and the Vinton Chamber of Commerce.

Joy Rierson joined Neely's Accounting Services, Vinton, in September 2021 as the Office Manager and Staff Accountant. She received a Bachelor of Science in Management with a minor in Accounting from Saint Mary's College of California. She is a QuickBooks® Pro Advisor and brings over 20 years of accounting experience in business accounting, payroll, taxes, and audit prep. Originally from California, Rierson loves spending time on the lake with family enjoying water sports and making memories.

Paula Robins started at Bank of Botetourt in August 2001. She has been in banking a total of 40 years. She is now AVP/ Branch Manager at Bank of Botetourt's Vinton location. She is married to Reggie Robins and has two children and four grandchildren.

"I love working in Vinton," Robins says. "I get to walk daily in downtown Vinton at lunch."

Chrissy Sensabaugh grew up in Vinton and graduated from William Byrd High School in 2002 (where she played softball). She has over 20 years of experience in the restaurant industry, working with some of Roanoke's most well-known establishments. In 2023 she teamed up with restaurateurs Todd Lancaster and Jonathan Pate to help open Pollard 107 South where she oversees marketing and operations for all three of their local restaurants with one more opening soon. She is passionate about the restaurants, the people they employ, and making Vinton a great place to eat, drink and spend time with friends and family. Chrissy is getting married in April of this year to fiancé Josh Walton.

Dr. Richard Turner has served as the Roanoke Area Site Coordinator for James Madison University's Educational

Leadership Program at the Roanoke Higher Education Center since 2016. He supervises student teachers and teaches graduate classes for JMU. He is currently the Chief Marketing Officer for Fritz Sports and Event Enterprises, which specializes in NASCAR sponsorship opportunities. He works for NASCAR and worked previously for BK Racing from 2013-2017.

Turner graduated from Northside High School in 1978, completed his undergraduate work at Virginia Tech in 1982, then earned his Master's Degree at Virginia Tech in 1987, and his Doctorate from Nova/Southeastern University in 1994. He served as Assistant Principal at William Byrd High School (92-99) and as Principal from 1999 until 2016. He also served Roanoke County Schools as a Marketing Specialist and developed the current Apprenticeship Program in 2016-17.

Cory Welch is the owner of Pok-E-Joe's BBQ restaurant, which opened in March 2023 at Vinyard Station in downtown Vinton. He grew up in Vinton and graduated from William Byrd High School in 1992. His wife Sarah and daughter Kaitlin work in the restaurant with him. His son, Mason, is studying business and marketing at Radford University and plans to return to the business when he completes his degree. Welch is a familiar sight at almost every event in Vinton, supporting the Chamber and the community.

Christopher Wheeler has been working full-time for Wells Fargo Bank for 25 years. He grew up in Bedford County but has lived in Vinton for the past 23 years.

"I became friends with the owners of Twin Creeks Brewing Company when they were still brewing in Barry Robertson's garage," Wheeler says. "Once they decided to start a business, I was there from the beginning helping with construction, painting and, of course, taste testing. Once the brewery was up and running, I was there so often they offered me a job to make a little extra money on the side."

He has now worked part-time at the brewery for seven years.

"For the past three years I've been running the social media and booking the music for the brewery," said Wheeler. "My goal was to showcase what the brewery has to offer and to partner with other local businesses to cross promote and grow the Vinton community as a whole. I hope being part of the Chamber gives me those connections and opportunities."

He is a single dad with two boys who have grown up around the brewery and who love to play bingo, trivia, and listen to the music there.

"My sons are both musicians, and each has his own band. They get to hang out and talk to the musicians we have in, which encourages them to pursue their dreams. We enjoy the outdoors, fishing, kayaking, and going to concerts. They are at the center of everything I do and I hope being on the Chamber board helps us be more connected with our community."

Julie Wheeler works at the Vinton HomeTrust Bank and has eight years of banking experience. She grew up in Fredericksburg, but has been a Vinton resident since 2008. She is an Army veteran who served six years and has been stationed all over the country, including Hawaii. She is passionate about volunteering, blood donation and supporting local businesses. She is also the Vice President of the Showtimers community theatre in Roanoke. She enjoys spending time with her 19- and 17-year-old children, as well as traveling and going to see live music, theatre and sporting events.

Town of Vinton representatives to the Chamber Board include Mayor Brad Grose and Town Manager Pete Peters.

Brad Grose is the Owner/President of Dominion Electronics, Inc., and has been a communications contractor for 47 years. He is an active member at Parkway Wesleyan Church, serving on the Church Board and as a Greeter. Mayor Grose is a United States Army veteran. He attended Marshall University and Virginia Western Community College.

He is a past member of the Vinton Planning Commission (for nine years) and a State Certified Planning Commissioner. He has served on the Roanoke Valley Greenways Commission, and on the Roanoke Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization. He has been a member of Vinton Town Council from 2000-2004, before being elected Mayor. He was re-elected for his fifth consecutive term in 2020.

Grose has served on the Executive Board of the Roanoke Valley Allegheny Regional Commission, now as Past President after serving as president for seven years. He served two terms as President of the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce and on their Board of Directors for several terms.

He is a member of the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club, the Vinton First Aid Crew, and the American Legion Post 8. He has also served as a board member on the Roanoke Valley Economic Development Partnership and as a Vinton Vision committee member for the Vinton-Roanoke County Veterans Monument.

He is the recipient of the Virginia Municipal League "Certified Local Government Official Gold Award," and received a Commendation from the Commonwealth of Virginia General Assembly for Public Service.

Grose is a Charter graduate of the Vinton Citizen Police Academy and Advanced Citizen Police Academy. He

traditionally serves as Santa in the annual Vinton Christmas Parade. He can often be seen at Classic Car shows, one of his hobbies.

He and his wife Debby have been married for 45 years. He has two children, Melissa Barnard (husband, Randy) and Amanda Fullen (husband, Marcus); two grandchildren, Jacob Barnard and Justin Barnard, two great-grandchildren, Lynnleigh and Zoey, and several pets.

Pete Peters has served as Vinton Town Manager since January 2021. He served as Assistant Town Manager and Economic Development Director for the Town of Vinton for almost five years prior to that. He spent 10 years as Director of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism for Botetourt County, two years as Athletic Director at Roanoke Catholic School, and seven years with the City of Roanoke Department of Parks and Recreation as Athletic Programmer.

Peters graduated from William Byrd High School in 1993. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Recreation Administration from Ferrum College, and earned his Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management from Virginia Tech.

He and his wife Cameron have been married for 23 years and have two children, Cadence (a student at Appalachian State) and Falan (a student at Virginia Tech). His hobbies include mountain biking, kayaking, tent camping, and home remodeling.

The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce has two employees, Executive Director Angie Chewning and Executive Assistant/ Financial Coordinator Kathryn Sowers.

Angie Chewning became Executive Director of the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce in the fall of 2010. Her passion for the community leads her to take an active role in promoting business, industry, and tourism in the area. She believes that growth starts with people who are willing to share their ideas and ask questions.

Chewning has three children, Cydney, Drake, and Abbie, a stepdaughter, Elena, and one grandchild, Kellen.

She serves on the Roanoke Regional Partnership Board, Vinton Moose 1121

Lodge Board of Directors Lodge (Treasurer) and is newly appointed to the Ronald McDonald House Board of Directors. She is very active in activities at the Vinton Moose lodge and helps coordinate events which include food drives at Thanksgiving and Christmas, blood drives, and many other community events. She served as chair of the Vinton Relay for Life from 2012-2016. She has served as a member of the Town of Vinton Revitalization Committee, the Preventive Council Committee, and the Urban Development Advisory Committee.

She loves promoting all things Vinton and is always encouraging folks to "Shop Local." She loves volunteering for events and organizations that help people and make the community a better place to live, work, shop and play.

Chewning enjoys being part of the Chamber of Commerce and getting to know fellow business owners and supporting their efforts as they support hers. She feels that it is important to give back.

Kathryn Sowers works part-time for the Vinton Chamber of Commerce as Executive Assistant and Financial Coordinator. She is a native of Vinton. She has one son, Todd, and three grandchildren, Christiaan, Austin, and Hannah.

Volunteering is an important part of her life. Sowers is the Secretary/Treasurer of the Vinton-Roanoke County "High Ground" Veterans Monument on the grounds of the Vinton War Memorial. She is the Treasurer of the Arnold R. Burton Scholarship Fund who award two scholarships each year to William Byrd High School students. She serves on the Board of Directors for General Federation of Women's Club International, serving as the Chairman working with the 20 international clubs of GFWC, Southeastern Region, state of Virginia, Blue Ridge District, and GFWC Woman's Club of Vinton.

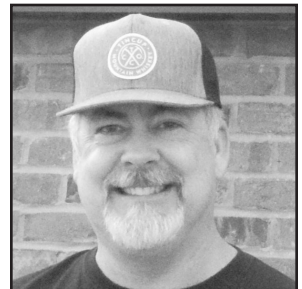
Sowers is the Vinton-appointed representative on the Roanoke County/Salem Social Services Board. She is also very involved in her church, Vinton Baptist, and the Roanoke Valley Baptist Association, the Roanoke Valley Baptist Association WMU, and the Baptist General Association of Virginia.



Chrissy Sensabaugh



Dr. Richard Turner



Cory Welch



Christopher Wheeler



Julie Wheeler



Brad Grose



Pete Peters



Angie Chewning



Kathryn Sowers

PHOTOS COURTESY OF VINTON CHAMBER



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WILLIAM BYRD HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLLS

William Byrd High School has announced the names of students who excelled to make the A and A/B Honor Rolls for the second nine weeks of the 2023-24 school year.

A HONOR ROLL

12th grade: Benjamin Abbott, Luke Abbott, Dakota Adams, Sarah Addo, Olaedo Anyanwu, Wyattte Bailey, Sylvia Bautista, Ashley Begasse, Jaslyn Bibby, Sydney Blewett, Eva Brown, Devan Brunk, Abigail Bush, Tyler Ciafardini, Jordan Crowell, Elizabeth Dixon, Aiden Dogan, Lee Doss, Mandolin Draper, Carter Dullaghan, Phoenix Eanes, Seth Emore, Isaac Fedor, Kadence Fernatt, Noah Franks, Lance Freedle, Dexter Gaines, Elliott Gaines, Claire Glover, Joshua Hardy, Britton Harnish, Donald Hodges, Taryn Hodges, Makenna Jacobsen, Zachary James, Emma Kageals, Andrew Kiker, Gretchen Kinney, Thaddeus Lilley, Christian Lovern, Katelyn Lucas, Payton Martin, Steven Matar, Allyson Mavredes, Sean Minnix, Jair Morales, Donald Mullins, Jr., Tracy Nguyen, Kallie Niday, Hannah O'Brien, Ryan Quarles, Kimberly Saunders, Braedon Scruggs, Emily Sowers, Samantha Start, Finley Stephens, Karli Stephenson, Emily Tuck, Jovie Underwood, Chloe Varney, Trenton West, Meghan White, Ashley Woods, and Griffin Yakob

11th Grade: Kassius Ayres, Jissele Beckner, Hunter Butterworth, Graylen Castleberry, Erika Coon, Nevaeh Davila, Hayden Davis, Abigail Day, Graysen Divers, Caleb Dogan, Camryn Dullaghan, McKinley FiGart, Skylar Fitzgerald, Carson Gill, Emily Glass, Ethan Haston, Luke Hemming, Hannah Janney, Jada Johnson, Lillian Johnson, Sara Lang, Kendall Lecas, Kaylee Makuch, Ryan Markham, Emma Matthews, Zachary McAllister, Peyton Miller, Grace Onwi, Eliza Otey, Ellawyn Pagan, Genevieve Paul, Madelyn Pittman, Marcayla Poindexter, Ethan Powell, Meera Raichura, Elyse Rider, Cesar Rodriguez Muniz, Gino Ruks, Emma Rupe, Vanessa Sattah, Nathan Short, Gregory Stiltner, Kayleigh Taylor, William Thompson and Virginia Yonce

10th Grade: Kyndall Agee, Joshua Allen, Andrew Bartley, Ainsley

Bolen, Braedon Booth, Jacob Bray, Sophia Brown, Caleb Brunk, Kaylin Bumgarner, Olivia Bustamante, Addison Clark, Asher Claybrook, Ashton Dillon, Paul Ferrebee, Elizabeth Gheen, Sofia Gonzalez, Macabe James, Brooke Justus, Tatianna Kubik, Carleigh Leonard, Kenady Leonard, Jayden Niday, Lillian Perez, Bethany Pittenger, Gabrielle Romeo, Kyle Saccocci, Napiray Sierra Prin, Ethan Sutton, Annabelle Teague, Aliyah Ware, Lucy Whitenack, Noah Williams, Lennon Wright, and Peyton Wright

9th Grade: Alyssa Abdelhadi, Lauren Baringer, Erica Barton, Janelle Bibby, Aubrey Blewett, Nate Buck, Matthew Cadd, Victoria Chang Leon, Addison Collins, Chase Daugherty, Carina Dibenedetto, Heidi Dixon, David Foster, Aaron Hemming, Britton Jordan, Vincent Liu, Olivia Long, Olivia Lorek, Bradley Martin, Emma Milliron, Tyler Minnix, Elena Mullen, Sarah Nguyen, Carly Norton, Kendall Norton, Sebastian Perdomo, Allison Phillips, Jamya Rosborough, Abigail Saritelli, Aubrey Sink, Ramsay Stephens, Gavin Thornton, McKayla Tingle, Sydney Tuck, Kalen Watkins, Owen Webb, Heidi Wienke, and Maggie Zimmerman

A-B HONOR ROLL

12th Grade: Erin Adkins, Brayden Andrews, Noah Austin, A'Mari Banks, A'Mont Banks, Jayla Barger, Lillian Betterton, Caitlin Bishop, Kaylee Blackwell, Titus Blalock, Natalie Blevins, Jocelyn Brigdon, Xachary Brogan, Terran Brown, Jordan Bryant, Sydney Bunce, Cody Burkett, Dylan Burkett, Ian Burnett, Landon Caldwell, Dylan Callahan, Logan Carpenter, Nathan Carter, Alexandra Chaney, Devin Colgan, Emily Cook, William Cox, Carter Dillon, Sali Doura, Dallas Dowdy, Dominic Dulak, Landon Dyess, Avery Fay, Samantha Flippen, Marlee Francisco, David Gaspar Cabrera, Savannah Gibson, James Glover, Israel Hairston, Reid Hanson, Adam Harris, Kaliyah Harris, Teea Hash, Autumn Hicks, Jack Hinkle, John Kiker, Matthew Klugas, Alexis LaBarbera, Bricen Lancaster, Kyra Lane, Camden LaPrad,

Brandon Leftwich, Alexia Loughlin, Andrew Maxell, Gracie Mick, Emma Miller, Kaylee Mitchell, Abigail Moats, Madison Montgomery, Aiden Moore, Tyler Morrison, Jenny Nguyen, Brycen Nielsen, Julian Pantoja, Nicole Posadas, Justin Rickard, Hunter Roberts, Sandy Scott, Noah Shelor, Lane Shoemaker, Benjamin Sink, Dominic nasir Smith, Jesse Smith, Melinda Smith, Parker Spradlin, Keller Spraker, Addisyn St.Clair, Johnathan Teague, Kenny Trang, Ainsley Trogdon, Alexis Ware, Tyler Webster, Madison White, Demarion Williams, Brooke Wimmer, Thomas Wood, Grayson Workman, and Elizabeth Young

11th Grade: Cyrus Adams, Natalie Altice, Ava Ashworth, Christian Barrette, Logan Beavers, Thomas Bibby, III, Carson Bivens, Isaiah Board, Wyatt Bowles, Carson Bramble, Brooke Brant, Dawson Brinkley, Nicholas Bustamante, Barry Cheatwood, Evan Copening, Emma Craddock, Maileigh Culver, Alejandro Dooley, Kaitlyn Duncan, Emily Fisher, Jude Foster, Lacie Gibson, William Glover, Kendall Gordon, Payton Hall, Aidan Hardy, Abigail Haroulakis, Jocelyn Hartman, Nathan Hiemstra, Megan Higgins, Sophie Holcomb, Annika Hylton, Allie Jamison, Mallory Johnson, Kristin Kochendarfer, Hayley Lackey, Raelyn Lancaster, Max Livingston, Nathaniel Lynn, Hailey Mandakis, Zoey Mann, Landon Martin, Aldahir Martinez Garcia, William Obenchain, Sean Overbay, Christian Parker, Ethan Pekala, Isabella Posadas, Isabella Posadas, Becca Radford, Elizabeth Reid, Blake Richardson, Sean Rickman, Curtis Roberts, Nathan Rogers, Jonathan Rosser, Jr., Nathan Rowland, Johnathan Rozenboom, Jr., Reid Ruble, Landon Sarver, Benjamin Singh, Josephine Taylor, Chloe Underwood-Agee, Camden West, Grace Woodcock, Dakota Woznik, Mary Wray, and Braeden Young

10th Grade: Jeremy Abbott, Joshua Abbott, Ashley Arven, Blake Austin, Zachary Bailey, Olivia Basham, Kelsey Bell, Zachary Bailey, Olivia Basham, Kelsey Bell, Sawyer Bolen, Aubrey Booze, Tyson Brady, Abigail Brigdon, Kendra Brunk, Lily Carrell, Tyler Chambers, Markis Coric, Bladimir Cortes' Martinez, Matilyn Cox,

Bianca DeMelo, Evelyn Dickason, Kendall Dodson, Isabella Dudley, Nevaeh Edwards, Jaelyn English, Kaden Falu, Katelynn Franks, Hailie Garst, Benjamin Grimm, Ryleigh Grubb, Rileigh Hackett, Keegan Harnish, Keegan Harold, Tyler Harris, Alexander Hastings, Luke Helton, Gavin Hilliker, Kaleigh Hobbs, Jaden Holmes, Owen Humphreys, Taylor Jacobsen, Cary Jones, Shelby Krawczyk, Carter Leonard, Kayla Lovern, Elizabeth Martinez, Ryan McIntyre, Collin Mills, Miley Moses, Lindsay Murtaugh, Emily Ngo, Olivia Nichols, Morgan Odum, Mallory Peroulas, Makiya Price, Meisha Robinson, Justyn Rozenboom, Makenzie Scott, Ava Sexton, Mitchell Sigafos, James Smith, Jr., Taylor Spangler, Kyland Spence, Kaeleigh Swan, Camden Thepsimuong, Zane Vasser, Emma Williams, Skylar Williams, Darin Witcher, Aaron Wood, and Morrison Wright

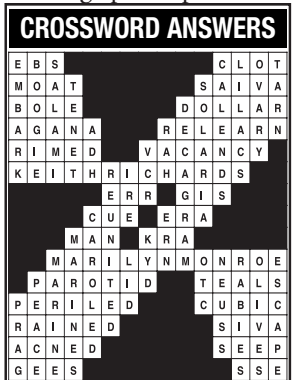
9th Grade: Grayson Adams, Eleanor Ball, Kyle Bell, Ava Betterton, Christopher Blackwell, Alanah Bonnell, Raegan Bowman, Tanner Bromfield, Madelyn Brown, Lane Brunk, Ashlyn Cain, Madalynn Cale, Bridget Carlisle, Andrew Carter, Casey Carter, Ryeli Catalan, Fallon Davis, Colter Dean, Emmalee Dodson, Brooklyn Dooley, Colton Edwards, Lanaiya Hardy, Caiden Harnish, Jeremiah Harper, Emmalee Harris, Sophie Hoagland, Christopher Hurd, II, Lilly Jarels, Daniel Jimenez Vargas, Lukas Johnson, Owen Johnson, Cole Johnston, Evelyn Jones, Joel Kinney, Arianna Krista, Austin Kroner, Isabella Lane, John Lasecki, Elena Lopez, Joseph Madonna, Reece Magill, Layla Matz, Jackson McCoy, Kaden Mitchell, Sydney Nichols, Giovanni Pandolfini, Brody Parrish, Jeremy Paul, Maggie Peters, Thomas Purcell, Michael Ramos, Luke Richardson, Colin Rodgers, Nathaniel Rucker, Jonah Schofield, Colton Sheppard, Riley Slusher, Colton Sotherden, Riley Spradlin, Hayden Sutphin, Zane Telsch, Anna Teruel, Lauren Toney, Nicholas Toney, Izabella Trumble, William Turman, Breanna Wallace, Colton West, and Aiden Wright

Submitted by WBHS Assistant Principal Travis Anderson

Town Council

from page 4

parade route confined to downtown Vinton rather than proceeding down Washington Avenue from the War Memorial. The parade will be a walking parade, featuring horse-drawn carriages with the Dogwood Queen and Court. Teass noted the increasing difficulty in drawing participants for



parades, especially bands. Other than the modified parade, the Dogwood Festival will remain the same, with entertainment on three stages downtown, numerous vendors, and activities for children.

For more information on the Dogwood Festival, visit <https://vintondogwoodfest.com/> or the Facebook page.

At the request of a citizen, Town Manager Pete Peters updated council members on the Speedway service station across from PFG which was purchased by a national conglomerate and demolished in recent months. The town is not involved and had no knowledge of the

action beforehand but has contacted the realtor in Richmond who is in charge of the sale of the property.

Assistant Town Manager Cody Sexton presented a report from the most recent Public Works Committee meeting. He discussed the new street sign project which will eventually replace all the street signs in Vinton. The sign work has begun in the Midway community with poles readjusted or replaced and new signs installed.

He noted that paving on Clearview Drive and Niagara Road will be completed "when the asphalt plants reopen" as part of the 2023 paving

program. Eighth Street will also be paved to the town line. Planning for paving in Fall 2024 is underway at an estimated cost of \$1 million. A sinkhole at First and Cleveland is under repair—a stormwater project.

A new refuse truck has been under discussion for several months: whether to purchase the same type of truck currently in use in Vinton—a flipper truck—or to buy a fully automated "one-armed bandit" vehicle. Sexton explained to council that due to costs, the committee recommends continuing with the flipper truck model when purchasing the new equipment.

In a side note, Sexton reported that the Western Virginia Water Authority has begun the Lindenwood Replacement Project in East County, which will replace approximately 22,000 feet of cast iron water lines with new 8- and 12-inch water lines in the subdivision.

Sexton also presented a report from the Finance Committee, stating that the financial statements from October and November 2023 are "mostly dead on," with revenue and expenditures matching expectations. Council approved statements for both months.

Deputy Police Chief Tim Lawless presented the comprehensive January-

December 2023 Police Department Annual Report. His most exciting news was that the VPD is now 100% fully staffed with 25 sworn officers and two civilian staff. He credited the officers on the force for their efforts in building a culture in the VPD that has made the department attractive to recruits.

Lawless also reported that the VPD has received \$194,466.10 in grants to be used for purchasing bulletproof vests, Criminal Investigations equipment, and Eagle 3 Radar units, and for paying officer overtime. (Look for full details of his report in the Feb. 15 Vinton Messenger.)

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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Help Wanted - General

WANTED
Models needed for life drawing class, male and female, \$65 for 3 hour session. Call David (Do not text) 540-473-3713

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to present stories for a documentary film. This is paid work. Last film released in December of 2023 is in worldwide distribution. Qualities needed: photogenic and articulate.

Send resume and photo to: Virginia Film Company, POB 3352

Roanoke, Virginia 24015

General Information

WASHINGTON STREET ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW DATE CHANGE

The date for the juried Washington Street Arts and Crafts Show has changed to April 6, 2024. The show will now coincide with the Cherry Blossom Festival sponsored by the Town of Buchanan. The show is sponsored by the United Women in Faith at Trinity United Methodist Church in Buchanan, VA. We would love to have you join us and applications are being accepted and may be requested by contacting the United Women in Faith at: WashingtonStreetArtShow@gmail.com

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Legals - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE SALE OF

105 Shade Hollow Street, Blue Ridge, VA 24064

In execution of the Deed of Trust dated October 3, 2016, in the original principal amount of \$135,681.00, recorded as Inst. 160003659, subsequently assigned to Virginia Housing Development Authority, and modified to the amount of \$127,131.58 as Inst. 210001144, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County of Botetourt, Virginia, default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured and at the request of the holder of the note, the undersigned, as Substitute Trustees, either of whom may act, will sell at public auction at the front entrance of the Circuit Court for the County of Botetourt on March 27, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., the property located at the above address and described as 1.00 acre, more or less, beginning at a common corner with W.L. Harris on a 30 foot Roadway leading to Va. State Secondary Route 652, corner marked by an iron pin; thence with said W.L. Harris line, N. 89 degrees 31' W. 223.86 feet to an iron pin corner in said Harris line; thence a new line through property owned jointly by Timothy N. Gilbert and Linda D. Gilbert and Herbert O. Ransom and Mary V. Ransom, N. 11 degrees 18' W. 200 feet to an iron on above said property; thence a new line through same property, S. 89 degrees 31' E. 223.86 feet to an iron in west edge of said 30 foot Roadway; thence with the said Roadway westerly line, S. 11 degrees 18' W. 200 feet to the point of Beginning, subject to a Road Maintenance Agreement recorded in Deed Book 494, Pages 811-817, and together with a perpetual easement 30 feet wide located near Hickory Street for ingress and egress to Va. Secondary Route 652, a portion of this right of way is 14 feet wide as shown in Deed Book 579, page 44 and final order recorded as Inst. 030004788, County of

Legals - Botetourt County

Botetourt. TERMS: CASH. PROPERTY SOLD AS IS WITH SPECIAL WARRANTY OF TITLE. A deposit of \$12,000.00 or 10% of the successful bid amount (whichever is lower) will be required immediately of the successful bidder, in cashier's check or certified funds only payable to or signed over to "DOLANREID PLLC, TRUSTEE", balance due within 15 days from date of sale. No personal checks accepted. Sale is subject to post sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower filed for and obtained bankruptcy protection, entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, or if trustee is unable to complete the sale, or if it is set aside or not fully completed for any reason except purchaser's default, the sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Upon purchaser's default, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property resold at the risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, reservations and conditions, if any, of record, as well as inchoate liens and any other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises. Real estate taxes will be adjusted to the date of sale. All costs of conveyance, deed, examination of title, recording charges, grantor's tax and possession will be at the expense of the purchaser. All risks of casualty immediately pass to the successful bidder. Time is of the essence. Winning bidder must sign a memorandum of sale immediately upon completion of sale. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. Trustee's affidavit and a copy of the notice of sale available at the foreclosure sale. The opening bid is not announced until the sale. Current sale status available at dolanreid.com/foreclosure-sales. THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Legals - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE SALE OF

105 Shade Hollow Street, Blue Ridge, VA 24064

In execution of the Deed of Trust dated October 3, 2016, in the original principal amount of \$135,681.00, recorded as Inst. 160003659, subsequently assigned to Virginia Housing Development Authority, and modified to the amount of \$127,131.58 as Inst. 210001144, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County of Botetourt, Virginia, default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured and at the request of the holder of the note, the undersigned, as Substitute Trustees, either of whom may act, will sell at public auction at the front entrance of the Circuit Court for the County of Botetourt on March 27, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., the property located at the above address and described as 1.00 acre, more or less, beginning at a common corner with W.L. Harris on a 30 foot Roadway leading to Va. State Secondary Route 652, corner marked by an iron pin; thence with said W.L. Harris line, N. 89 degrees 31' W. 223.86 feet to an iron pin corner in said Harris line; thence a new line through property owned jointly by Timothy N. Gilbert and Linda D. Gilbert and Herbert O. Ransom and Mary V. Ransom, N. 11 degrees 18' W. 200 feet to an iron on above said property; thence a new line through same property, S. 89 degrees 31' E. 223.86 feet to an iron in west edge of said 30 foot Roadway; thence with the said Roadway westerly line, S. 11 degrees 18' W. 200 feet to the point of Beginning, subject to a Road Maintenance Agreement recorded in Deed Book 494, Pages 811-817, and together with a perpetual easement 30 feet wide located near Hickory Street for ingress and egress to Va. Secondary Route 652, a portion of this right of way is 14 feet wide as shown in Deed Book 579, page 44 and final order recorded as Inst. 030004788, County of

ABC NOTICE

DPC Living LLC., trading as Sycamore Place General Store, 19758 Main St., Buchanan, Botetourt County, VA. 24066-0000.

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

Debra Conner, 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 - City of Radford

ABC NOTICE

CSKS LLC, trading as 101 Corner, 1123 Fairfax St., Radford, VA 24141-5342

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Retail Wine and Beer, OFF Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Hardikkumar Patel, Owner
Chirayu Patel, Owner

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from

Legals - City of Radford

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 OF PUBLIC HEARING-

The Radford City Council and Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing on Monday, February 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10 Robertson Street, to consider public comments regarding the following: Proposed amendment to Radford City Zoning Ordinance, Sec. 120.1-228 - Non-Conforming Signs. The proposed amendment will allow for the Consolidation; reconstruction of existing nonconforming off-premise sign structures. Additional information is available at www.radfordva.gov or the Community Development Dept. at (540)267-3188, 10 Robertson Street. Interested citizens are invited to attend this hearing and present their comments.

ABC NOTICE

Tienda Y Taqueria Genesis LLC., trading as Tienda Latina Genesis, 7345 Peppers Ferry Blvd Suite A, Fairlawn, Pulaski County, VA. 24141-8857.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Retail Beer and Wine, OFF Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Josue Vazquez Quintanilla, 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 - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, January 22, 2024,

at 6:30 p.m., in the Community Room, Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard, in the City of Salem, Virginia, voted to continue the public hearing of the following item.

Consider the request of Virginia Baptist Children's Home (dba HopeTree Family Services), property owner, for rezoning the properties located at 1000 block Red Lane and a portion of 860 Mount Vernon Lane (Tax Map #s 41-1-1, 41-1-2, 41-1-3, 41-1-4, 41-1-5, 41-1-6, and a portion of 44-3-10) from RSF Residential Single Family to PUD Planned Unit District.

This item was continued until the March 11, 2024, meeting of the Council of the City of Salem. This meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street.

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

TOWN OF BLACKSBURG - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

BLACKSBURG TOWN COUNCIL

will hold public hearings on Tuesday, February 13, 2024 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers of the Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 South Main Street, Blacksburg, regarding the following items: Ordinance 2038: An Ordinance to Amend Town Code Sections 14-200, 14-201 and 14-202 Establishing a Civil Penalty for Certain Trash Violations. The proposed ordinance will amend the Town Code to create a process to address loose trash or garbage in a timely manner. Ordinance 2040: An Ordinance to Amend Town Code to Establish a New Section 17-315 to Prohibit Overcrowding in Buildings. This proposed ordinance will incorporate the provisions of § 1001.3 of the Virginia Statewide Prevention Code regarding overcrowding into the Town Code. Violations will be a Class 1 misdemeanor. Resolution authorizing Deed of Dedication for Meadowbrook Greenway Trail

The proposed resolution will authorize the Mayor to sign a Deed of Dedication which will designate a portion of the Meadowbrook Greenway Trail as permanent open space. All persons affected by or interested in the proposed items above may appear and present their views. After each public hearing, Town Council will consider action on the item. Copies of materials related to the above items are on file and can be obtained in the Office of the Town Clerk, 300 South Main Street, Blacksburg, weekdays between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. For land use matters, copies of applications and all related items may also be found online at www.blacksburg.gov/public-hearings or reviewed in person at the Blacksburg Planning and Building Department, 400 South Main Street, Blacksburg, Virginia. Individuals with disabilities who require special assistance to attend and participate in this meeting should contact Lorraine Spaulding, Town Clerk at (540) 443-1025 or 443-1000 (voice or TDD).

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
Case No. CL23002018-00
MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re MELISSA JANE MCPHERSON v. JACOB ANDRE MCPHERSON A/K/A KOBI MAZUR The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED

Legals - Montgomery County

that JACOB ANDRE MCPHERSON A/K/A KOBI MAZUR appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MARCH 8, 2024. JANUARY 5, 2024 K. MIKE FLEENOR, JR. JUDGE TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

Legals - Town of Vinton

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF VINTON, VIRGINIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that the Vinton Town Council will hold a public hearing at its meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia, concerning the action to officially list the Vinton Historic District on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places.

The Vinton Downtown Historic District appears to be eligible for a National Register listing at the local level of significance. The purpose of this meeting is to provide information to affected property owners and local officials about the meaning of a National Register designation. Any additional information on this public meeting is available in the Town Manager's Office, located in the Vinton Municipal Building, (540) 983-0607. Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate in this public meeting should contact the Town Manager's office at (540) 983-0607.

Antonia Arias-Magallon Administrative Manager

The VA Dept of Historic Resources will conduct a public information hearing of the

Town of Vinton, VA on Tuesday, February 20, 2024. The meeting begins at 6:00 pm and will be held at Vinton Town Hall at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, VA 24179. Public comment regarding the proposal will be taken at the time of the hearing or can be sent to Director Julie Langan, Dept of Historic Resources, 2801 Kensington Ave, Richmond, VA 23221.

This proposal has been recommended eligible for the Virginia Landmarks and National Registers. This proposal will be presented to the State Review Board and the Board of Historic Resources on March 14, 2024. For additional information, contact Amanda Terrell at Amanda.Terrell@dhv.virginia.gov or 804-482-8092.

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Brown v. Board of Education SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS THROUGH APRIL 12, 2024
The Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Program was established by the General Assembly to provide educational opportunities for persons who were denied an education in Virginia between 1954 and 1964 due to the closing of the public schools during Massive Resistance. Beginning in 2024, the scholarship program is extended to their descendants. The program is now open to eligible applicants for the 2024-2025 school year. For applications and information on eligibility, visit: BROWNSCHOLARSHIP.VIRGINIA.GOV



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William Byrd boys are runnerup in Region 3D swim meet

Lindsay Murtaugh is region champion in girls' 500 free

The Christiansburg Aquatic Center was the site of the Region 3D swimming championships Tuesday and the William Byrd boys were runnerup. The girls took fifth among 11 teams on a big day in the pool for the Terriers.

"Our boys brought home a trophy for the school," said an excited Byrd coach Krista Martin. "We have 11 swimmers advancing to the state level and four of them will make their state debut."

The 2024 state team from Byrd includes Evan Copening, Bruno De Melo, Michael Hoyos, Chris Hurd, Cole Kovacevic, Brody Parrish, Blake Richardson, Addison Collins, Cary Jones, Lindsay Murtaugh and Gabby Romeo. The state meet will be in Richmond on Saturday, February 17.

Tuesday in Christiansburg the Byrd boys scored 91 points to finish second to Hidden Valley, who won the region championship with 99. Carroll County was third with 81 points, Cave Spring had 74 and host Christiansburg was fifth with 71 points.

The top finish for the boys was a second in the 200 freestyle relay with the team of Cole Kovacevic, Michael Hoyos, Blake Richardson and Evan Copening. Two other relays took fourth, the 200 medley team of Chris Hurd, Brody Parrish, Jay Rozenboom and Bruno De Melo and the 400 free foursome of Kovacevic, Hoyos, Richardson and Copening.

Individually, Parrish took third in both the 200 and 500 free and Richardson was third in the 100 fly. Copening was third in the 100 breast and fourth in the 200 IM and Kovacevic was third in the 100 back and fourth in the 100 free. Hoyos swam to a fourth in the 200 free.

In the girls' meet Cave Spring dominated with 176 points. Christiansburg was runnerup with 89, followed by Hidden Valley with 83, Lord Botetourt with 77 and Byrd with 50 points.

Byrd's Lindsay Murtaugh won the 500 free race with a time of 5:15.31. That was almost 10 seconds better than the second place girl from Christiansburg, Anna Sanford.

Murtaugh also took second in the 200 free in 1:55.12, less than three seconds behind winner Layne



PHOTO COURTESY OF WIM. BYRD SWIMMING

The William Byrd boys celebrate their second place finish in the Region 3D swim meet Tuesday with the runnerup trophy. Back row, left to right, are Chris Hurd, Owen Humphreys, Michael Hoyos, Keith Schult and Connor Wheeler. Front row, left to right; Brody Parrish, Sydney Nichols, Jay Rozenboom, Evan Copening, Blake Richardson, Bruno De Melo and Cole Kovacevic. Below left, Lindsay Murtaugh swims in the 200 yard freestyle event and, right, Copening competes in the individual medley event.



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Jones of Lord Botetourt. In the relays Murtaugh swam on the third place 200 medley team with Cary Jones, Gabby Romeo and Addison Collins and on the fourth place 200 free relay with the same three teammates.

Region 3D wrestling is Saturday at Abingdon

Witcher is BRD champ at 106

A trip to Salem is on the line when the Big Orange wrestlers compete in the Region 3D wrestling tournament at Abingdon High School this Saturday. Salem isn't far away, but the Byrd wrestlers have been on this journey across the Roanoke Valley since last spring.

The top four wrestlers in each of the 14 weight classes will earn a trip to the Class 3 state tournament at the Salem Civic Center on February 16 and 17. It's a dream of every Byrd wrestler to compete in the "Big Dance" in front of a big crowd in Salem.

"The goal is for everyone to extend their season another week and place themselves in a position to place at the state tournament," said Byrd coach Thomas Kessler. "Darin Witcher is a returning region champ and looks to defend his title. Seniors Bricen Lancaster and Gage Cockran look to get back to the state championships again and end their careers on the podium."

Northside played host to the Blue Ridge District wrestling tournament last week and the Big Orange was third. Staunton River won the tourney with 232 points, followed by Lord Botetourt with 166.5 and Byrd with 155.5. Host Northside was fourth with 129.5, Franklin County had 71 points and William Fleming brought up the rear with 37.

The Terriers put six wrestlers in the BRD finals but only had one champion, and that was the first match of the championship round. Witcher pinned Lila Jean Knight of Staunton River in just 25 seconds as he improved his record to 25-2 on the season.

Taking seconds for the Terriers were Jonah Schofield at 120, Zane Taylor at 126, Cockran at 138, Graylen Castleberry at 175 and Aidan Lucas at 190. Taylor is 23-10, Cockran is 29-7 and Lucas is 25-12.

Winning consolation bracket finals to finish third were Bruce Robinson at 132, Lancaster at 157 and Stephen Underwood at 165. Lancaster is 26-7 and Underwood is 28-8.

Two Terriers placed fourth, Kyle Kalinke at 113 and Brandon Hurley at 150.



PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Left, William Byrd's Darin Witcher is on his way to a district wrestling championship at Northside last week. Right, Jonah Schofield(right in photo) was second at 120.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Left, William Byrd's Alexia Donahue is up and over the bar in the pole vault competition at Roanoke College Saturday. Right, McKinley Figart competes in the shot put.

Good times for Terriers in East Coast Elite meet

Roanoke College was the site of the East Coast Elite Meet #3 for high school and middle school indoor track teams last Saturday and William Byrd had some good times and distances in the meet. This was the last regular season meet for the Terrier indoor team.

The best finish for the Byrd boys was a second in the 4x800 meter relay. The team of Donald Mullins, Reid Hanson, Shaun Gower and Reagan Lilley was runnerup in a strong field with a time of 8:48.74. The 4x200 team took ninth in 1:41.32 with the foursome of Jerret Shepherd, Thomas Purcell, James Smith and Brayden Serfass.

Individually, Wyatt Bailey finished 10th in the 300m dash with a time of 1:11.70 and Mullins was 13th in 1:12.46. Kyle Holdaway finished sixth in the pole vault with a height of 9'.

In the high school girls' meet Emma Kageals was third in the long jump with a state qualifying jump of 16' ¼" while Lily Perez was eighth and Olivia Bustamante was 12th. Kageals also took 14th in the 300 meters and Bustamante was fourth in the high jump, clearing 4'11".

Perez took fourth in the 55 meter hurdles with a time of 9.66 while teammates Emily Fisher and Virginia Yonce were 16th and 19th. Fisher also took 16th in the triple jump.

Byrd middle school also had some competitors in the meet at RC. Isaiah Thompson was third in the shot put and fourth in the 55 meter dash and Jacey Weddle was 23rd in the girls' 55 dash and 27th in the 300 meters.

The Blue Ridge District meet was held at the VMI indoor facility in Lexington on Tuesday of this week but results were too late for publication. The Region 3D meet will be back at the Kerr-Cregger Indoor Fieldhouse at Roanoke College on Saturday, February 17.

SPORTS

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PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY

Left to right, Byrd's Israel Hairston shoots a jumper in last Friday's game with Staunton River, Jonathan Rosser floats one to the hoop and Drew Lindsay is on the move.

BRD hoop tournaments open Friday in Vinton with girls-boys doubleheader

The William Byrd girls and boys basketball teams played host to Staunton River last Friday, and it proved to be so successful they're going to do it again this Friday.

Actually, the lineup is the same but not for the above reason. This week the games are first round action for the Blue Ridge District tournament. As it turns out, the Terrier girls and boys both drew home games with Staunton River to open the three day BRD tourney, with semifinals next Monday and championship games on Wednesday, February 14.

This Friday's girls' game will tip off at 5:30 pm. The girls are the fourth seed for the district tournament and, if they win, they would play at top-seeded Lord Botetourt on Monday. LB and second seeded William Fleming drew first round byes and Fleming will host the winner of a first round game between Franklin County and Northside on Monday.

The boys' are also the fourth seed and if they win on Friday they'll travel to top-seeded Northside on Monday for a semifinal game. Northside and Fleming get byes on Friday and the Colonels will host the winner of a Friday game between third seeded Lord Botetourt and Franklin County in the boys' semifinal.

Last Friday in Vinton the doubleheader yielded mixed results, with the Byrd girls beating Staunton River, 42-29, but the boys losing to the Golden Eagles in a nail-biter, 65-61.

The girls were led by Mia Martin, who scored 12 points in a balanced attack. Kaylee Makuch had eight, Sam Martin had seven, Maggie Zimmerman six, Heidi Dixon five and Logan Andrews scored four points.

"We competed well," said Byrd coach Randy Bush. "I'm very proud of the girls in all aspects of the game. They responded to each run and did not panic."

On Tuesday at Northside the girls closed out the district regular season with a 56-51 win over the Vikings. Sam Martin had 17, Mia Martin had 14, Andrews had eight points and Elena Mullen scored seven. With the win the girls improved to 10-11 and they can get back to .500 tonight when the wrap up the regular season with a non-district game at Craig County.

The boys are 11-10 on the season. Last Friday against Staunton River they trailed by a point after one quarter, 17-16, a point at the half, 37-36, but got 10 points by Isaiah Board in the third period to grab a 52-46 lead after three quarters. However, the Eagles rallied down the stretch and took the 65-61 win. Board led the Terriers with 21 points.

"We could have done a lot of things better, but give credit to Staunton River," said Byrd coach Brad Greenway. "Staunton River played really well."

The Terriers wrapped up the district regular season with a home game against defending state champion Northside on Tuesday and it got late early. The Vikings led 29-11 after the first quarter and went on to a 101-62 win. Drew Lindsay hit four threes and led Byrd with 13 points. Hayden Eads and Jaden Holmes had 11 each.

The Terriers were scheduled to wrap up the regular season with a non-district game at Glenvar on Wednesday.



PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY

Above, William Byrd coach Randy Bush and the Terrier bench shows their approval in last week's win over Staunton River. Below left, Elena Mullen directs traffic and, right, Heidi Dixon gets off a shot despite extra attention from the Staunton River defense.



The Region 3D tournament will open on Friday, February 16. The top 10 teams in the 13 school region make the tournament with the top six getting first round byes. Both the Byrd boys and girls will make the tournament

but their seeding was yet to be determined at press time.

"We're seven right now and that would give us a home play-in game next Friday, but that could change," said Greenway.



Class of '24

Former big league relief pitching great Billy Wagner was the keynote speaker when the Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame inducted the Class of '24 at the Salem Civic Center Sunday night. Left to right are inductees Larry Bowles II and Tommy Bayrer, Wagner, inductee Mikey O'Brien and Wayne LaPierre, Sr. Service Award winner Mike Ruth. Paul Siple was inducted posthumously.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN