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Expiration Date: March 31, 2024

Thursday, March 7, 2024 · Dogwood Capital of Virginia · Covering Vinton, Bonsack & Stewartsville

(USPS-660-020)

OurValley.org · \$1.00

WBMS building connections through clubs

<u>Debbie Adams</u> dadams@ourvalley.org

At the beginning of the 2023-24 school year, Principal Evan Noell wanted to discover a way to create relationships between sixth, seventh, and eighth graders at William Byrd Middle School, along with faculty and staff.

"It is our goal to give every student the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular activities at William Byrd Middle School; we feel that this is a key piece to developing the culture that we are seeking to establish," said Noell. "Club participation, during school hours, allows each student to participate in an activity of their choosing. Additionally, participation in extracurricular activities has been shown to promote higher levels of social and emotional intelligence. We are proud that students from all three grade levels can focus on a common goal, and that our students are building positive relationships with adults they may not typically work with."

"We first brought the idea to our staff to determine their interest in a club program," Noell explained. "Our staff was excited and willing to assist in any



The Community Outreach Club at WBMS

way. I am thankful for Gloria Harris, our Counseling Department Administrative Assistant, for her diligent work at organizing and planning this program. Most importantly, we could not have succeeded with this initiative without the support of our students' parents and the Vinton community. We received a tremendous amount of donations; the willingness of the community to assist was inspiring."

Staff members were asked to select an activity or two or three they were interested in and would be willing to serve as an advisor for. Harris says the response was "tremendous" and they ended up with an unbelievable variety of choices for students.

The goal was to kick off the club activities during the second semester. Harris prepared a PowerPoint for teachers to use with their students, explaining the



The Yearbook Club at WBMS

purpose of the clubs and describing what each one involved. Students were then asked to pick three clubs that caught their interest. Some clubs were limited in space, so everyone wasn't able to get their first choice. Eighth graders were given priority.

The WBMS Clubs meet once each month, usually on a Wednesday, at the end of the day, for an hour. All students participate, along with all faculty and staff except two administrators and the cafeteria workers.

The 40-some available clubs include: American Sign Language (learn the alphabet, how to count and some basic words), Basketball, Board Games, Book Club, Breakdancing, Byrd Buddies, Card games, Chess, Cat Lovers (watch cat videos, talk about

See Clubs, page 7



Members of the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club and students from the Leo Club and girls soccer team at William Byrd High School celebrated Read Across America Day at Herman L. Horn Elementary. From left are: front, Zach McCarty, Sydney Blewett, Addisyn St. Clair, Eva Brown, Claire Glover, Peggy Stovall, and Jeff Mason; back row, Chris McCarty, John Berry, Hal Mabe, Tim Greenway, Mayor Brad Grose, and Jeff Stovall.

Lions, Leos, and Terrier student athletes celebrate Read Across America Day at HLH

Debbie Adams

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Members of the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club, the William Byrd High School Leo Club (sponsored by the Breakfast Lions), and the WBHS Terriers girls soccer team celebrated Read Across America Day at Herman L. Horn Elementary School on March 1. Another group of students was scheduled to read to students at Bonsack Elementary on March 6.

Read Across America Day was launched in 1998 by the National Education Association and remains the nation's largest celebration of reading, with millions participating each year. The program focuses on motivating children and teens to read through events, partnerships, and reading resources that are about everyone, for everyone. Read Across America Day calls upon everyone to read and

engage with children to make reading a more fun and interactive experience.

nationwide celebration that takes place annually near the March 2 birthday of children's author and cartoonist Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known by his pen name, Dr. Seuss. The day encourages children to experience the joys of reading.

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go," Geisel said in one of his books.

March was also chosen for the observance because March is traditionally designated as National Reading Month.

Members of the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club who read to students at Herman L. Horn Elementary included John Berry, Jeff Stovall, Peggy Stovall, Chris McCarty, Jeff Mason, Zach McCarty, Tim Greenway, Hal Mabe,

and Brad Grose.

The Breakfast Lions were joined by student athletes and Leo Club members from the William Byrd High School including Eva Brown, Sydney Blewett, Claire Glover, Addisyn St. Clair, Jenny Nguyen, and Kadence Fernatt.

The readers either brought their selections with them or picked from books made available at the school, including many Dr. Seuss books.

The guests read to Pre-K through fifth grade students for about 15 minutes each and willingly answered questions the students had about their books or about themselves. For instance, kindergartners gathered around a rocking chair to hear Sydney Blewett and learned that she is not only an athlete at William Byrd but a graduating senior planning to study nursing – although she was

See **Lions**, page 6

Celebrating Decades of Dogwood Queens

Debbie Adams dadams@ourvalley.org

The 2024 Vinton Dogwood Festival is scheduled for April 26 and 27. Over the next several weeks, The Vinton Messenger will be looking back on past Dogwood Queens leading up to this year's festival and the crowning of a new queen. Miss Vinton Dogwood Festival 1982, Martha Newton,

is featured this week. The Dogwood Festival originated in 1955 through the joint efforts of businessman Ott Goode, School Superintendent Dr. Herman L. Horn, and the William Byrd High School Band Boosters. The boosters wanted to establish a festival close to

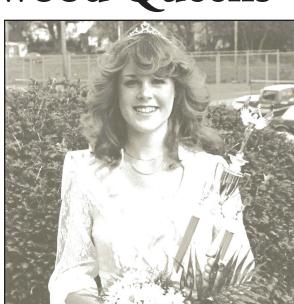


PHOTO COURTESY OF MARTHA NEWTON SPENCER Martha Newton was crowned Vinton Dogwood Queen

in 1981. home so their children wouldn't have to travel so far to participate in

other competitions. Vinton was known as one of the best "band towns" of the time and the only band in the state west of Lynchburg have uniforms.

See Queens, page 5

William Byrd High School recognizes Terriers of the Month for February

Debbie Adams

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William Byrd High School has announced its Terriers of the Month for February. Eight students and four teachers were selected, nominated by students and staff. WBHS is partnering with ALCOVA Mortgage and Branch

Manager Matt Crizer this year to recognize students and staff who "are doing great things in and out of the

classroom." All Byrd students and staff are encouraged to nominate individuals who they believe exhibit the "Terrier

See **Terriers**, page 5



Students and faculty named as Terriers of the Month for February included (from left) Kaylee Makuch, Emma Kageals, Hannah Janney, teacher Grace Johnson, Elizabet Maldonado, Nic Toney, Dakota Adams, and Thomas Purcell. (Not pictured, teachers Sherri Mays, Aaron Book, and Will Satterwhite.)



Biden, Trump appear to win March Presidential Primary in Virginia

Unofficial results as of 12:33 a.m. on March 6 indicate that Joseph R. Biden, Jr., and Donald John Trump won the Presidential Primaries in the Commonwealth of Virginia and in Roanoke County.

Biden won 88.69% (306,478 votes) of those voting in the Democratic Primary in Virginia, while Trump won 63.3% (434,940 votes) of the Republican Primary vote in the state. Trump's opponent, Nikki Haley, won 34.64% of the Republican vote (238,049 votes) statewide.

The results were similar in Roanoke County with Biden 88.57% (2426 winning votes) of those who voted the Democratic ballot, with Trump

winning 68.37% (7456 votes) and Haley winning 29.53% (3221 votes) of those voting Republican.

In the Vinton Magisterial District precincts, received 19 votes in Bonsack, 25 in North Lindenwood, 35 in North Vinton, 22 in South Vinton, 17 in South Lindenwood, and 20 in Mount Pleasant.

Also in the Vinton Magisterial District precincts, Trump received 158 votes in Bonsack, 221 votes in North Lindenwood, 227 in North Vinton, 178 in South Vinton, 182 in South Lindenwood, and 329 in Mount Pleasant.

In the Vinton district precincts, Haley received 47

votes in Bonsack, 70 votes in North Lindenwood, 63 votes in North Vinton, 47 votes in South Vinton, 53 votes in South Lindenwood, and 71 votes in

Mount Pleasant. For updates on election results, visit https://www.

-Vinton Messenger staff report

elections.virginia.gov/.

Thrasher names Pedigo new Director of Music Ministry

Doug Pedigo has been named the new Director of Music Ministry at Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church in Vinton. He has over 30 years of experience serving churches in Virginia, Tennessee, and North Carolina.

Pedigo is a native of Vinton and Roanoke. He has relocated back to the Vinton area to be closer to his family. His parents are Bob and Loretta Pedigo of

He earned his Bachelor of Music Degree from Carson-Newman University in Tennessee in May 1981 and his Master of Church Music Degree from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., in 1990. He was ordinated at Vinton Baptist in June 1990.

He served as Associate Pastor/Music and Senior Adults for Cumberland Baptist in Knoxville from 1998-2008; as Minister of Music and Spiritual Formation at Aversboro Baptist in Garner, N.C., from 2008-2019; and as Contemporary Worship Pastor/Tech Manager, Pianist/Organist at Holland's Methodist Church in Raleigh.

Prior to 1998 he served churches full-time in Virginia and North Carolina. During seminary and prior to his calling into full-time vocational ministry, Pedigo served churches bi-vocationally for 13 years as organist, handbell director, and associate minister of music. He has also served as an interim pastor.

"My goal is to fulfill God's calling on my life by serving as worship pastor in a growing church that is progressive and creative in its approach to worship and ministry," Pedigo says. "My ministry objectives include, among other things, a strong calling to assist lay people in achieving growth in their own personal call to ministry. I believe Ephesians 4 calls me to use my spiritual gifts to 'prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.' It is my obligation, therefore, to illuminate, motivate,



Thrasher Memorial UMC Director of Music Ministry **Doug Pedigo**

facilitate, and activate God's people to fulfill their calling with music as the vehicle.'

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS



Skylour Barbour receives her certificate for completing the 2024 FBI Citizens Academy held in Roanoke.

By Angie Chewning

I am so proud of Skylour Stultz, who was nominated by members of the community for the 2024 FBI Citizens Academy. There were 100 applications and only 30 selected for the program which was held at the Roanoke County Academy on Tuesdays from Feb. 6 to

Feb. 27. Each week different special agents came to speak about the role federal law enforcement has in our community. The topics discussed were violent crime, cyber-crime, white collar crime, public corruption, weapons of mass destruction, counterintelligence, and counterterrorism.

One session was held on a Saturday at the Roanoke County Police Department range. The evidence response team, bomb technicians, and

FBI SWAT made a and Ken Dodd; the presentation to the class. The students were also given the opportunity to work with FBI instructors on gun safety and Josh Dodd and and firearms at the shooting range.

studies and hands on activities participants were able to learn what a vital role federal law enforcement plays in our community. Skylour said, "Being allowed a glimpse behind the mysterious curtain that the FBI is will be the greatest opportunity I Skylour is was given." the daughter of Chasity Barbour and Damon Stultz. This adopted mommy is so proud of you! I know they are,

Our thoughts and prayers are with part of our extended family, Connie Dodd, known as "Gaga" to many; mother to Tara (Steve) Jones, Rick (Debbie) Dodd

grandmother of Drake's wife Hannah. She is also grandmother to Emilee Jones, Sarah Dodd, Jake Dodd (deceased) and great-grandmother Through local case to Madison, Khloe, Brantley, and Dallas.

> Our hearts and prayers go out to the family of Jimmy Saunders. Jimmy is survived by his wife of 25 years, Anita Saunders. He is also survived by his children, Meredyth Carlisle (Todd) and Madison Saunders (Gavin Clark), and grandchildren, Riley, Lucas, Reece and Sutton. Also surviving are his mother-in-law, Shirley Hall, and brothers, Bobby Saunders (Wendy) and T.L. Hall, nephews, River and Zane, a niece, Zoe (A.J.), his "ex-wifey" Keys, Nikki "husband-in-ĺaw" Hollingsworth, as well as many other special family and friends.

Registration now open for RCPS Education Foundation Backpack Run including programs

Registration is now open online for the 11th annual Roanoke County Public Schools (RCPS) Education Foundation Backpack Run scheduled for March 16 at Green

The RCPS Education Foundation, a 501©3 non-profit organization, provides financial support for education grants for teachers and scholarships for students.

-Vinton Messenger staff report

The 5K and 10K races begin at 9 a.m., with virtual options available

On-site registration is available prior to the start of the 5K with a \$15 late registration fee, payable only by cash or check made out to the RCPS

Education Foundation.

You can take the Backpack Challenge and participate in both the 5K and 10K races to earn not only the two individual finisher medals, but a third exclusive Backpack Challenge medal.

Virtual events can be completed at your own

See **Backpack**, page 4

Town of Vinton sponsoring Arbor Day art contest for kids

The Town of Vinton invites children ages 5-12 to participate in the 2024 Arbor Day Drawing Competition. This year's contest spotlights the life cycle of

Participants may use any art medium (paint, crayons, etc.) to express their creativity. The artwork must be 8.5x11 inches, either on paper or an alternative material. No 3D entries are accepted.

Entries must be original artwork by the child - no copyrighted images or AI-generated work will be accepted.

The deadline for submission is April 3 by 4 p.m. Drop off is in the Planning and Zoning Dept. at the Vinton Municipal Building at 311 South Pollard Street or by mail (must arrive by April 3).

Include a signed registration form with the drawing submission. Write the child's name on the back of the drawing. One entry per child.

Drawings will be displayed at the

Municipal Building and on the town's social media platforms.

The public will be voting on the drawings online and at the Municipal Building from 9 a.m. on April 8 through 4 p.m. on April 19.

The winner will be invited to the Vinton Arbor Day Celebration on April 25 at 10:30 a.m. at the Vinton Library and featured in The Vinton Messenger and on RVTV. Other entrants and parents can attend the Arbor Day Celebration by registration only (space

is limited). For inquiries, contact the Planning and Zoning Dept. at 540-983-0605 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday

through Friday. Prize details will be announced before the competition deadline.

Submitted by Town of Vinton Planning and Zoning Dept.

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The Better Choice

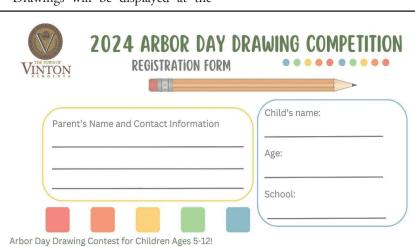
"Unmatched Service Excellence"





Vinton, VA 24179 540-343-4986 Betty Cundiff, Managing Partner

Lotz will match or beat any direct competitors price, guaranteed



Celebrate Arbor Day with the Town of Vinton by unleashing your artistic flair! We're calling all kids aged 5-12 to participate in our drawing contest spotlighting the life cycle of Evergreen trees.

Contest Guidelines

• Paper size: 8.5 x 11 inches (alternative materials are accepted, maintaining the size) • Write the child's name on the back of the drawing. One entry per child.

Use any art medium (paint, crayons, etc.) to express creativity. No 3D entries accepted.

• Submission deadline: April 3, 2024, by 4:00 p.m. Drop off at Vinton Municipal Building, Planning and Zoning Department (311 S Pollard St.) or mail (arrival by April 3rd).

• Entries must be original artwork by the child, no copyrighted images or AI-generated work. Drawings will be displayed at the Municipal Building and on our social media platforms

Voting period: April 8th, 9:00 am, to April 19th, 4:00 p.m. Online and at the Municipal Building.

Include a signed registration form with the drawing submission. The winner will be invited to the Arbor Day Celebration on April 25th, 10:30 am at the Vinton Public

Library, featured in the Vinton Messenger and RVTV. Other entrants and parents can attend Arbor Day Celebrations by registration only (space limited). • For inquiries, contact the Planning and Zoning Department at 540-983-0605, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

· Prize details will be announced before the competition deadline.

Let your imagination flourish and join us in the Arbor Day festivities!

By submitting my child's drawing, I grant permission for entry into the competition, as well as consent for photographs and videos, including images of my child participation in the event, to be released. Parent's Printed Name and Signature:



From the Pulpit

A Study of Ephesians – The Power Within Us"

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. The Book of Ephesians is a great place to start learning more about who we are in

Christ, spiritual maturity, and living a life worthy of the calling placed on every believer in Jesus Christ.

Chapter one ends with some encouraging words about our inheritance and the power of Jesus Christ. Paul's prayer for his readers is that their spiritual wisdom would increase so that they would understand the hope they have to share, the riches of God's glory and His power that lives within each of them (v.18-19).

By Pastor Bryan Crouch,

Lynn Haven Baptist Church

Paul explains very clearly that it is the same power living in us that raised Jesus Christ from the dead and seated Him at the right hand of God (v.19-20). It is Paul's desire that his readers begin to understand the vast power they possess as a child of God. Romans 8 sums up this attitude quite nicely when it says, "If God is for us, who can be against us?" (v.31) and "In all things we are more than conquerors

through him who loved us" (v.37).

Everything is under the authority of Jesus Christ and will eventually answer to Him. Do you live your life with this type of spiritual confidence? Are you drawing others closer to Jesus with your daily

LOA reports another 'soupendous' success for Soup for Seniors campaign

weighing donations to this year's Local Office on Aging Soup for Seniors food drive, LOA reported that the community donated a grand total of 49,271 pounds of shelf-stable food for over 2,800 seniors in need.

This surpassed the goal by more than 4,000 pounds, which allowed LOA to serve 132 more seniors this year.

you "Thank everyone who held their own canned food drives to donate to Soup for Seniors – including the local churches, schools, and businesses - and all who donated food, time, or dollars to help," said LOA President & CEO Ron Boyd.

extremely This

successful Soup for

Seniors would not have been possible without the dozens of volunteers who inspected and packed thousands of cans. Volunteers packed and delivered 2,882 bags full of nutritious soups and other foods to seniors in need. Many are Meals on Wheels recipients, Diner's Club participants, older adults receiving LOA's transportation, case management, and in-home care services; as well as residents of lowincome, independent

senior housing. Special thanks to LOA partner AARP Virginia, which supplies a large contingent of volunteers each year, media sponsor WFJX 910 AM and 104.3 FM, the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul for hosting the main

collection site for many weeks, Sam's Club, for lending shopping carts to help process donations, and Security Scale, for donating a scale to weigh all that soup. The Roanoke County

Sheriff's Office was also a big help this year, picking up loads of soup from county schools, and making deliveries. Additionally, LOA could not have accomplished without support of drop-off site locations: First Bank, Vistar Eye Center, Black Dog Salvage, APRIA Healthcare, Evergreen Burial Park, Mountain View Cemetery, Salem Public Library, South County Library, and Vinton Library.

Though Soup for Seniors is over for this

GRAPHIC COURTESY LOA

year, the need continues throughout the year. Shelfstable food donations to LOA's Emergency Food Pantry are always welcome. Items can be dropped off Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at LOA's main office, located at 4932 Frontage Road NW, Roanoke.

LOA staff members will help unload donations, and donors can reach them when they arrive at (540) 345-0451.

Submitted by LOA

FREE

SEPTIC SYSTEM PUMP-OUTS SEE IF YOU QUALIFY

oanoke County and the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (RVARC) have partnered using grant funds from the Virginia Environmental Endowment to provide a no-cost septic tank pump-out program for qualified Roanoke County residents.

WHO IS QUALIFIED TO APPLY?

Households with an annual income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Line are eligible to apply for this program.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A FREE PUMP-OUT?

Attend an educational workshop. You can apply for a pump-out there!

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

Roanoke County 540-772-2036 RVARC 540-343-4417 (x308)

https://www.roanokecountyva.gov/Septic

TO LEARN MORE

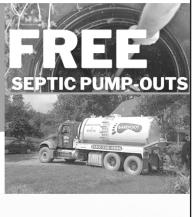
Attend the Next Workshop

WHEN:

March 9, 2024 Vinton Library 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.







GRAPHIC COURTESY OF ROANOKE COUNTY

Roanoke County/RVARC offer no-cost septic tank pump-out for those who qualify

Roanoke County and the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (RVARC) have partnered using grant funds from the Virginia Environmental Endowment to provide a no-cost septic tank pump-out program for qualified Roanoke County residents.

The public is invited to attend a

workshop on the free program at the

Vinton Library (300 South Pollard

Street) on March 9 from 11 a.m. to 1

p.m. You can apply for a pump-out at the workshop.

Households with an annual income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Line are eligible to apply for this program.

Contact Roanoke County at 540-772-2036 or the RVARC 540-343-4417 (x308) for more information, or visit https://www.roanokecountyva.gov/

Submitted by Roanoke County

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Corned Beef Sandwiches

In the food world, March 17 is National Corned Beef and Cabbage Day. If that's not one of your favorites, there are other delicious corned beef options available – like "Deli Corned Beef" for sandwiches.

Ingredients: A 3-4 pound corned beef brisket

1 medium onion, quartered

2 ribs celery and tops 1 bay leaf

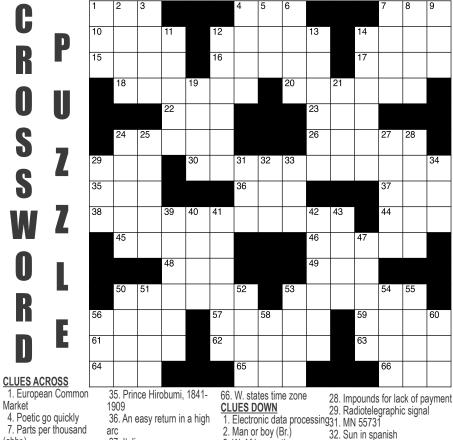
1 tsp. seasoning salt

4 whole cloves 3-4 cloves of garlic

1 tsp. brown sugar

1 tsp. cracked pepper

Cover meat with cold water and seasonings in large pot. Bring to boil, reduce heat, simmer 3 hours until meat is tender. Remove corned beef from water. Place meat on a rack in a baking pan or casserole dish. Sprinkle with dry mustard. Coat with brown sugar. Place fat side up and bake 30 minutes at 350°. Remove from oven. Let stand 15-30 minutes. Slice on the slant for sandwiches - plain or you can make Reubens.



7. Parts per thousand

10. Pigeon pea

12. Sao ___, city in Brazil

14. Longest division of geological time

Alto, California city 16. Small terrestrial viper 17. Coming after all others

18. Penetrate with a sharp 20. Still-hunt

22. Chinese frying pan

23. Cave-dwelling salamander

24. Any thick messy

substance 26. About the moon 29. AKA Tao

30. Jet cabin requirement dawn

37. Italian commune 38. L. Comfort's illuminator 44. Foot digit

46. Green regions of desert 48. Direct a weapon _ de Janeiro

50. Equestrian animals 53. Acress Tomei 56. Head of the RCC

57. Twines 59. Scientific workplace 61. Minerals 62. Hypothetical original

substances
63. Hit with the open hand
64. Political action committee
65. Winged goddess of the
24. Egyptian mythological figure associated with floods
25. Washing sponge
27. Old name for nitrogen

Man or boy (Br.) 3 W. African nation 4. Fault's incline from vertical34. Cease living

Method of birth control 45. Minute tunicate genus 6. City founded by Xenophanes

7. Legumes 8. Beckham's spice girl Explosive

11. 1936 Nobel winner Otto 12. Greenbay teammate

50. Israeli dance 13. Brass that looks like gold 52. A particular instance of selling 14. School graduates 19. Lively, merry play 21. Make indistinct

51. Oil cartel 53. Microelectromechanical

54. Var. of 45 across 56. Soda

33. Helps little firms

40. Egyptian sacred bull

43. Bring two objects together

39. Flames up

41. To wit

42. Mire

47. Filths

55. Goat & camel hair fabrics

58. A firm's operational head 60. Seaport (abbr.)

INTON HISTORY: Vintage Sled



Vintage sled on display at the Vinton History Museum



USPS 660-020 (540) 473-2741 1633 W. Main St.

Salem, VA 24153

ourvalley.org

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

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of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication. All letters will be verified by telephone before publication. The Messenger reserves the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length content and style.

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Most of us today associate sleds with winter fun, but sleds were originally used to carry out work. A sled slides across a surface, usually of ice or snow. It is built with either a smooth underside or a separate body supported by two or more smooth, relatively narrow, longitudinal runners similar in principle to skis. This reduces the amount of friction, which helps to carry heavy loads. Some designs are used to

transport passengers or cargo across relatively level ground. Others are designed to go downhill for recreation, particularly for children, or for competition.

In colder regions around the world, children excitedly wait for the next snow day so they can go out sledding with their friends. Sleds remain a popular gift around the holidays and come in all shapes and sizes. Pictured is a vintage sled

on display along with thousands of other artifacts at the Vinton History Museum, 210 East Jackson Avenue in Downtown Vinton, open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and every first Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Submitted by Vinton History Museum Executive Director Judy Cunningham

Backpack from page 1



March 16 9 a.m.

Green Hill Park

Details and registration at www.rcps.us/backpackrun

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF RCPS

pace and any kind of exercise counts—running, treadmill, bike, walking, ellipticalanything! Best of all, you can do this at your pace - you can do a mile or two at a time and combine those miles over time to meet the requirement for each event or the Backpack Challenge. Mileage is on the honor system.

Registration for the 5K is \$25 (student) and \$35 (adult), \$35 (student) to \$55 (adult) for the 10K, and \$75 (student) to \$85 (adult) for the Backpack Challenge.

The course for the 2024 Backpack

Run 5K and 10K is unchanged from recent years. Runners will begin near the front parking area, curving around the south side of the Green Hill property. They will cross the creek and use a short trail to connect to the south side of the baseball field access road. Runners will then pass along the baseball parking lot and connect to the greenway, passing the water station, then follow the greenway back to the greenway parking lot near the entrance of Green Hill Park. At this point, runners will turn around and follow the same

course in reverse. 5K runners will complete one lap of this out-back course. 10K runners will complete two laps of the out-back course.

Presenting Pponsor for this year's Backpack Run is Johnson Orthodontics. MemberOne is the Elite Sponsor. Championship Sponsors are Guynn Waddell and Lionberger Construction.

https://www.rcps.us/ backpackrun to register.

Submitted by RCPS

See more online at www.vintonmessenger.com

BAPTIST (SOUTHERN) MINERAL SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH & CHRISTIAN SCHOOL - 1030 Bible Lane, Vinton, Va. 24179. Church Phone 890-4465.

Rev. Jason Gault. Sunday Services: Traditional Service, 8:45 AM, Sunday School, 10:00 AM, Contemporary Service, 11:00 AM, Evening Worship 6:00 PM, Wednesday Services: AWA-NA 6:30 PM, Bible Study 7:00 PM

BAPTIST (COOPERATIVE)

VINTON BAPTIST CHURCH - 219 Washington Avenue, Vinton. Rev. Dr. Travis Russell, 343-7685. Sunday Services: Sunday School 9:15AM, Morning Worship 10:30 AM, Wednesday Services: Worship, Bible Study, Children's Choirs and Youth Ministry at 6:15 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 353-5365 for other Eckankar programs and for more inforfor one another. Follow the advice of Philip mation about how the teachings of Eckankar can lead you when he told Nathanael about Jesus in (John to spiritual freedom.

day Bible Study 10 a.m.

1:46) "Come and See."

ECKANKAR

people find more love in their life. The Roanoke 11:00am, sttimothy1201@verizon.net. Eckankar Center is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. SE, Roanoke, Virginia. 342-4003. Sunday Morning Wor-Since contracting COVID-19 may still be pos- ship 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Wednesday

WALK IN HIS STEPS

Read Deuteronomy 32:1 through 34.12

"What would Jesus do?" Pastor Charles Sheldon of Topeka, Kansas, asked his congregation this question in 1896 when he preached a series of messages on the topic. Sheldon then wrote a book of fiction titled In His Steps. The book asks what Jesus would do when confronted with poverty, racism, pride, and homelessness. In the 1990s the motto was revived and people wore bracelets and T-shirts with the letters WWJD?

Before he died, Moses reminding the Israelites to consider God's

"Take to heart all the words I have solemnly declared to you this day, so that you may command your children to obey carefully all the words of this law. They are not just idle words for you—they are your life" (Deuteronomy 32:46-47).

Teaching the next generation is the responsibility of the present generation. We do this best by leading by examples. When we face tough issues, we can be sure

people are watching our reactions. At these times, it is good to ask ourselves, "What would Jesus do?"

Prayer Suggestion: God, with Your help, I will walk as Jesus walked.

Quicklook: Deuteronomy 32:44-47

tfrye@ourvalley.org sible, please take the health steps that are best for you. It is Night Bible Study 7 p.m. **PRESBYTERIAN** appreciated that by attending you are taking responsibility **MEMORIAL** for your own health. Visit www.eck-va.org, www.meetup. **CAMPBELL** com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences * Group* or call 540-

FOURSQUARE

CHURCH OF CHRIST VINTON - 2107 EVANGEL CHURCH - 2330 Hardy Road, Vinton (corner Feather Road, Vinton. Terry Hodge, Minister, of Hardy Road and Feather Road), 540-982-3694, www. 540-890-1170. Sunday Bible Study 9:45 a.m., evangel4sq.com, Pastor Tim Wright. Worship Service Sun-Sunday Morning Service 10:45 a.m., Wednes- day, 10AM. Bible Study Wednesday 11AM-12PM.

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UAL FREEDOM, is a simple teaching that dy Rd, Vinton VA 24179, Pastor, Rev. Dr. James B. Dafocuses on the Light and Sound of God to help vis (540) 342- 1715, Sunday School 10:00am, Worship

NAZARENE Roanoke, VA 24016. A spiritual event is held FIRST CHURCH OF NAZARENE, 728 Highland Ave.,

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1130 Hardy Rd, Vinton, VA, 540-343-1842; cmpc2verizon.net Sunday school 9:45am, Worship 11:00am; Communion 1st Su.ndays; 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

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Breakfast 8:00am. Rev. Jonathan Moelker, pastor **UNITED METHODIST** THREE OAKS FELLOWSHIP UNITED METHOD-IST 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



In 1982, Martha Newton was the "Reigning Dogwood Queen" for the 27th annual festival and rode on a float in the Dogwood Parade created by the Vinton Woman's

Unfortunately, the uniforms of the 50 members were not in good condition, so Goode, Horn, and the Band Boosters came up with the idea of holding a band festival to raise funds to "dress up the band" with new ones. They added "Dogwood" to the name of the event for the many flowering dogwoods in the area.

Some 69 years later, the festival remains one of the town's most treasured traditions.

The inaugural Dogwood Festival included a parade with a grand marshal- a celebrity, a dignitary, or local talent- numerous marching bands, floats, and the Dogwood Queen and Court. It was estimated that 10,000 spectators lined the streets of Vinton to watch that first parade.

In the early years of the festival, each participating band was asked to select a princess. The princesses were judged by a panel prior to the parade with one-on-one chats at the Vinton War Memorial, and then a queen was selected and crowned after the Dogwood Parade. The first Dogwood Queen was Janet

Bowman from Jefferson High School. According to an article in The Vinton Messenger, "Beauty alone is not the factor on which a queen is chosen. At the Dogwood Court luncheon at the War Memorial, each princess is observed to see how much aplomb she exhibits at a public gathering. The poise she shows in the parade and throughout all the festivities is also taken into consideration. Personality is another factor. Is the 'Miss' charming? Does she have anything to say? The judges are looking for a typical, wholesome genuine girl who typifies the American high school girl. All the princesses fall into this category, but there is always one who has just a soupcon more."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MARTHA NEWTON SPENCER

Reigning Dogwood Queen in 1982, Martha Newton, was 16 years old and a sophomore at Patrick Henry High School.

When Martha Newton (now Spencer) was crowned the Vinton Dogwood Queen in 1981, she was chosen to represent her school by students in the band and orchestra at James Madison Junior High School in Roanoke that she attended.

The Vinton Messenger 1981 Dogwood edition noted that her loves were music and golf. She was a cheerleader, an SCA member, and a member of the Modern Foreign Language Club. She played violin in the church orchestra and was a member of the Roanoke Youth Symphony.

She was 15 years old and a freshman when she was crowned. She remembers that on the day of the 26th Dogwood Festival the weather was sunny and warm—"a beautiful day."

Having never been in a parade, she remembers "vividly the large crowds of people lining the parade route." She rode in a convertible with members of her family—as a princess, before she was crowned queen for 1982.

The night before she had been introduced on stage at the traditional Lions Club minstrel show at William Byrd High School. On Dogwood Festival Day she remembers being interviewed by the judges, including Vicki Damico from WDBJ7. (Spencer later taught Damico's daughter in Roanoke City.) She remembers one question from the interviews about the "racial make-up of schools," which she says she had never thought about before, "having been raised in a Christian home, where my parents modeled dignity and respect for

The other judges that year were Roanoke County Commissioner of the Revenue Wayne Compton and Ted Rogers from WFIR Radio.

See **Dogwood**, page 6

Way" (being safe, respectful, and responsible and embodying the best of WBHS). Each Terrier of the Month receives a T-shirt from ALCOVA Mortgage, designed by the Graphic Design classes at the high

Student Terriers of the Month for February include: Emma Kageals and Kaylee Makuch. Emma is a senior and member of the cheerleading and track and field teams and Kaylee is a junior and member of the girls varsity basketball team. These two students were nominated for their teamwork and dedication in Calculus BC. The staff member who nominated these two students said, "Emma and Kaylee have formed a study group and have told others how working together has improved their understanding of calculus. Thank you for being such great role models for others!" Emma's parents are Todd and Amy Kageals; Kaylee's parents are Jamie Hawse and Byan Makuch.

Dakota Adams is a senior and member of the boys baseball and girls basketball teams. Dakota was nominated for his growth, maturity, and for taking initiative in his educational and career goals. The staff member who nominated Dakota commented on the growth and maturity that they have seen over his time at WBHS. They are proud and impressed with his willingness to grow and improve. Dakota's parents are Michele and Edward Adams.

Nic Toney is a freshman who was nominated for the kindness and respect that he shows towards others, as well as for his participation in class. The teacher who nominated Nic said, "Nic is always nice to everyone in class and works well with his peers. He also always has a smile on his face. I enjoy having him in class!" Nic's parents are Martha Gish Toney and Sam Toney.

Katie Lucas is a senior and dedicated member of

the athletic training team who was nominated for her perseverance and strong work ethic. The teacher who nominated Katie said, "She has shown perseverance during some challenging times this year and has not given up on her dreams. She is personable and kind to those around her. I'm proud of the hard work she has put in the past few months!" Katie's parents are Chelsey and Danny Lucas.

Hannah Janney is a junior and member of the varsity girls volleyball and basketball teams, serving as a captain on the basketball team. Hannah was nominated for her positivity and charming personality. The teacher who nominated Hannah said, "She is truly a delight to teach. She is receptive to constructive feedback and always uses it to improve her performance in class. She is the type of student that reminds me of why I love teaching." Hannah's parents are Tina and Chris Janney.

Elizabet Maldonado is a junior who was nominated for her kindness and willingness to help others. The staff member who nominated Elizabet said, "She is always willing to help and go out of her way to be supportive of others, oftentimes without even being asked. Elizabet is kind to both her peers and staff members, and always has a smile on her face!" Wilmer Maldonado is her father.

Thomas Purcell is a freshman and member of the football and wrestling teams who was nominated for his leadership skills. The teacher who nominated Thomas said, "He is a great leader in the freshman class. He always does what he is supposed to do in class and leads by example. He comes in everyday with a positive attitude towards learning and helps others." His parents are David and Angie Purcell.

Teachers selected as Terriers of the Month for February include:

Grace Johnson teaches World History I and is a William Byrd High School alumnus. The students who nominated her highlighted her ability to make class fun and engaging. As one student said, "Miss Johnson makes learning fun and entertaining. Her class always gets me in a good mood." Or as another student said, "Miss Johnson is wonderful and loves helping students. She takes her own personal time to make sure her students have a great learning experience."

Will Satterfield teaches World History II and coaches varsity football and varsity boys lacrosse. The students who nominated him highlighted his passion, kindness, and ability to make class fun. As one student said, "Mr. Satterfield is super funny and so energetic! I always look forward to his class." Another student said, "He is a really great history teacher. He makes history fun and knows how to bring light out of the bad times."

Sherri Mays is a Geometry and Calculus AB and BC teacher. The students who nominated her highlighted her kindness, humor, and dedication to her profession. One student said, "She cares about her students and puts in a lot of effort to help them succeed. She always has a positive attitude and I look forward to going to her class." Another student said, "She teaches an incredibly hard subject but still tries her absolute best to make her classes fun.'

Aaron Book teaches AP and General Government. The students who nominated him highlighted the love and care that he puts into his students and profession. One student said, "His classroom is very welcoming and every day that we come into class, he is smiling and excited to teach us." Another student simply said, "He cares a lot about the well-being of his students."

Submitted by WBHS Asst. Principal Phillip Martin

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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Dogwood from page 5



Parade in 1981.

soldiers who lost their lives attempting to rescue the American hostages held by Iran. Dozens of dogwood trees were planted in their honor and memory.

While Spencer was crowned in 1981, she was the reigning Dogwood Queen presiding over the festival in 1982, when she was 16 and a sophomore at Patrick Henry High School. Of that day, she mainly recollects the luncheon, a second parade, this time riding on a float past 25,000 spectators. She says that while it has always

been an honor to look back on her days as Dogwood Queen, she didn't really appreciate the significance at the time.

"It's a lovely tradition that I appreciate more as I get older- and neat to look back on," she says.

Spencer graduated from Patrick Henry in 1984 and attended the College of William and Mary, majoring in elementary education. She then earned her master's degree, also in elementary education, from UVA. She taught for one year in



Martha Newton (third from left) was introduced at the Lions Club show at William Byrd High School on the night before she was crowned.

Hanover County and then returned home to the Roanoke area where she has been teaching for 30 years in public, private, and virtual classrooms. Her husband, Kevin, is a teacher as well, in Roanoke City. They have two sons, Edward, a businessman, and John, a youth pastor.

The Spencers lived in Roanoke City for 27 years but have now moved to Vinton.

In 1983, the method for selecting the Dogwood Queen changed. According to Susan Teass, who has been Dogwood Queen's Court Coordinator for many years, "A group of Vinton's leaders wanted our young ladies to be a part of the official Miss Virginia competition, held in Roanoke each year."

"Ruth Thomas, Nita Echols, William Cundiff, and several others furnished the operating funds, created the corporation, and joined the Miss Virginia organization, an affiliate of the Miss America organization, with all of its rules and procedures. Our franchise was an "open pageant," meaning that those who competed were allowed to come from any city or town in the state. Also, the contestant could be attending any college or university in the state. This led to great diversity and opportunity for friendships in our group of contestants.

"As their organization grew, the Miss America Pageant became encumbered in lots of fees and layers of rules, documents to be certified, papers to be notarized, lawyer's fees, etc.," Teass explained.
"Many of the tiny pageants, ours being one of them, could no longer afford the personnel or funding required, and town support dwindled to the point that in our final year, our director had spent over \$5,000 in personal funds to keep

The procedure for selecting a Vinton Dogwood Queen changed once again at that point, and the queen and her court were thereafter selected from senior girls at William Byrd High School, nominated by the faculty and chosen by the panel of judges. It remains the same today.

Next week's featured Dogwood Queen is Miss Vinton Dogwood Festival 1992, Anne Norman Young.

Lions from page 1

so personable that "teacher" could easily be another career

Lion Tim Greenway, who

Read Across America at HLH was coordinated by Reading Specialist Dorr Booan.

on the Roanoke County School Board, was able to read to not just one, but three of his grandsons who attend

Herman L. Horn.

After the luncheon, hosted by

Mayor Charles R. Hill, came the

parade and then, late in the afternoon,

the presentation of the band and float

competition awards and the crowning

"I was stunned when I was chosen

as Dogwood Queen," Spencer says. "I

couldn't believe it. I never expected

to be crowned. My mom saw it as a

big honor. It was a special time in our lives that we shared."

Newton, a cardiologist who practiced

in the Roanoke Valley for about 60

years, and Jane Newton, a "stay-at-

home mom" who raised four children,

volunteered with many organizations,

and "kept the books" for her husband's

The grand marshals for the 1981

parade were Millie Taggart from the CBS daytime show "Search for

Tomorrow" and Bill Royer, a former

hostage recently released from Iran.

Mayor Charles Hill declared it

"Freedom Day" in Vinton in honor

of the hostages freed and the eight

Her parents were Dr. Richard

of the queen.



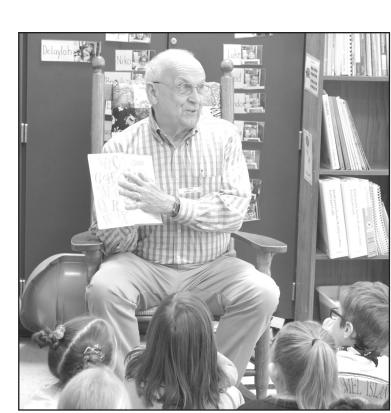
Nguyen, Sydney Blewett, Claire Glover, Eva Brown, Addisyn St. Clair, and Kadence Fernatt.



Lion Tim Greenway was able to read to grandson Avery on Read Across America Day



Sydney Blewett reads to kindergarten students at HLH.



Vinton Mayor Brad Grose reads a Dr. Seuss book to students at HLH.

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Clubs from page 1

cats, look at cat pictures, and make cat toys), CIA (Character in Action) (assisting with special events like Red Ribbon Week, and Community Store Christmas Drive), Coloring, Cookbook (collecting recipes and creating a Terrier Cookbook), Crafting, Creative Writing (ending up the year with the first edition of Terrier Tales), Community Outreach (performing acts of service out in the community), Dungeons and Dragons, Dog Lovers (making dog treats and assisting local animal shelters), Drama, Football, Gardening, Girls on the Run, Girls Who Code, golf, Happy Soles, HAM amateur radio, International/Geography (learn about other cultures and languages), Karaoke, Line Dancing, Makerspace Madness (artsy projects including robotics, AI, video-making, 3D printing, and more), Mediate and Create, Meteorology, Music/Performance Technology (hands on experience with sound and light), Outdoor Fun (surviving in the Great Outdoors), Outdoor Games, Pokemon, Puzzles, the SCA, Walking, Woodworking, the Yearbook, Yoga, and YOVASO (Youth of Virginia Speak Out to keep our roads safer).

There are also some before and after school clubs offered including the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Beekeeping, Flags, and Girls Lacrosse.

For staff member Samantha Hurt coming up with a club to advise was easy, given her obsession with cats, as well as for students—Cat Lovers Club was in the top ten for student requests. On the Feb. 28 club day, Hurt asked students to send her photos of their cats and they spent time guessing which cat belonged to who. At their first meeting, the club watched cat videos. They plan to partner with the Dog Lovers Club to make toys for the SPCA and to donate

Eighth grader Paxton Brown signed up for the Yearbook Club because he enjoys photography, especially taking photos in different environments. He and other club members will be contributing to the yearbook, and he plans to take Yearbook as an elective class at William Byrd as a freshman.

Yearbook Club was also "first choice" for Zoe Sowers, an eighth grader. She says she loves to take photos and just enjoys talking to people.

Staff member Stephanie Hiemstra volunteered as the advisor for the Crossstitching Club.

"I love counted cross stitch and have made several large pictures. I am teaching students how to do crossstitching. For me, it is relaxing and therapeutic at the same time, as it is a stress reliver. For what I am trying to teach the students, I actually could use more than one hour. I have 26 students who have never cross-stitched before, so I am unable to get to all students in an hour to help them. It is nice that everyone in the club has a common interest, and it is a hobby that hopefully they will do for years to come.

Ben Watts and Chris Roakes are advisors for the Outdoor Games group.

"These include cornhole, ladder golf, can jam and others," Watts said. "These are fun activities that can be played in various settings from tailgating to the beach to cookouts. It is fun seeing the students in a more relaxed atmosphere doing something they enjoy doing.

Katie Hart is an advisor for the Byrd Buddies Club.

"Byrd Buddies is a club that includes students in the FAACTS (Functional Academics, Accessibility, and Career Transition Skills) Program classroom and students in the general education population," Hart explains. "The students in the FAACTS classroom have various intellectual and physical abilities. This club is copied from the high school Byrd Buddies.

When I was with the high school FAACTS class, we had a Byrd Buddies Club. Students in the general education population would come to participate in various activities with students in the FAACTS class. It would meet after school and would include activities like bowling, holiday parties (crafts, food they made etc.), and paint-nights. It was a way for the students in the special education class to be included and for general education students to learn more about our kiddos. This way, they can all be less intimidated of one

'When Mr. Noell said he wanted to start club day at the middle school, this was the first one that came to mind. So far, we have made edible Valentine's snacks and played Valentine's Day bingo. We recently went on a scavenger hunt to find the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

Michelle Yamatani is a key leader in this club. She has been coming up with the activities so far. I just assist wherever needed and help out with adapting activities for my students' various levels. There was a pretty good size list of students who wanted to be a part of this club. Staff members were asked about the students to help select the ones that would be the best influence for my

Teachers Bill Pratt and Scott Whitehead are the advisors for the Woodworking Club.

"Bill and I are sponsoring the woodworking club because it is an interest of ours and we enjoy it," Whitehead said. "It is an opportunity for us to work with these kids on some things they might take with them and use one day for fun or to save a little money. It is a great opportunity to be involved with them in something that they enjoy and picked to be a part of. Bill and I own a small business together and the concepts fit right in with the

"We are in the process of building planter boxes for the Gardening Club to use for their club; we also are in the process of building tic-tac-toe boards that will be used as activities in Physical Education classes at Byrd. The last project that we are hoping to get to is a walkway in the back parking lot. We have small projects donated to us by Lowes Home Improvement that we are also utilizing as individual activities as

Whitehead says the students and staff members seem to be excited about club day and choosing the clubs they are participating in.

"It is an opportunity for us to interact with kids on something that everyone is interested in," he remarked. "We are excited about the opportunity to interact with the kids during this time. We appreciate administration making it a priority to influence our school in a positive way."

Kayla Mitchell-McCroskey, who is advising the Yoga Club said, "I've always enjoyed doing yoga. I am not an



Puzzles Club at WBMS



Members of the WBMS Chess Club



The Line Dance Club at WBMS

instructor, nor am I flexible enough to do all of the moves myself, but I enjoy trying new things. I chose to create a yoga club because everyone in the building can get stressed and yoga is a great stress release. It's very calming and peaceful."

"Each club day we do a yoga session from YouTube. We have used 'Yoga with Adriene' who has her own channel. I think next club day we will venture out to someone new just to see what it's like. Meditating comes with the breathing exercises we do in the video. My students are mainly female, but I do have a football player. When asked why he joined, he simply said they do not do enough stretching in football. The girls joined because they wanted to try something simple and new. We've had great sessions so far; I'm excited to finish out the year trying new instructors and new moves!"

Amanda Rupe and Beth Williams advise the Puzzles Club.

"We have a variety of puzzles that were donated by the parents and teachers of WBMS," Rupe noted. "We have anywhere from 200-piece to 1000-piece. Most of the students are choosing to work on the 550 and under puzzles. We also have students who enjoy crossword puzzles and word searches.

"The parents also donated puzzle boards. That's been a huge help for students who want to work on the larger puzzles as they don't finish in one hour.

"We have about half girls and half boys in the club. They are a great group of kids! About half of them chose the club because they enjoy puzzles. The others just said they were curious. We typically listen to some fun, upbeat music and have a great time!"

Hutchison--somewhat Ryan surprisingly since he is a technology education teacher--is the advisor for the Drama Club.

"It starts with Mr. Noell," Hutchson says. "Mr. Noell has provided the environment that allows the staff to share their creativity with the student body. Mrs. Addison and I have teamed up for several years competing in the school's annual Halloween costume contest. From that affiliation, we decided to co-sponsor a Drama club.'

"As a technology education teacher, I foster a well-rounded education that goes beyond just technical skills. Sponsoring the drama club allows me to support students in developing important skills such as creativity, collaboration, communication, and problem-solving - skills that are valuable in any career, including in the field of technology. We hope that from this club the students develop the following core skills: Creativity: Drama encourages

students to think creatively as they imagine and bring to life characters, scenes, and stories. This creativity can translate directly into their approach to problem-solving in technology projects, where thinking outside the box is often

necessary to innovate and find solutions. Collaboration: In drama club, students work together as a team to produce a play or performance. They learn how to communicate effectively, delegate tasks, and support each other all essential skills in technology projects

where teamwork is often required to tackle complex problems. Communication: Acting involves not only verbal communication but also nonverbal cues such as body language and facial expressions. By participating in drama, students improve

their communication skills, which are

crucial for presenting ideas, explaining concepts, and working with others in



Members of the Woodworking Club at WBMS with sponsors Bill Pratt and **Scott Whitehead**



The Gardening Club at WBMS



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS/COURTESY OF AMANDA RUPE The Byrd Buddies Club at WBMS

the technology field.

Problem-solving: Putting on a performance involves overcoming various challenges, from memorizing lines to designing dialogues to resolving conflicts among cast members. These problem-solving experiences can help students develop resilience and adaptability, skills that are invaluable when faced with technical challenges or

Confidence: Drama provides a platform for students to express themselves creatively and develop confidence in their abilities. This confidence can transfer to other areas of their lives, including their approach to learning and tackling new technology concepts and projects.

"Overall, sponsoring the drama club aligns with my belief in providing students with a well-rounded education that nurtures not only their technical skills but also their personal and interpersonal development. By supporting the drama club, I aim to create a supportive and inclusive environment where students can explore their passions, develop important life skills, and ultimately become wellrounded individuals prepared for success in any field, including technology."

Lindsay Divers and Whitney Peters are the advisors for the Line Dancing

"We are both former cheerleaders of William Byrd High School. We have always enjoyed dancing and being active. When we were both in middle school we participated in a ballroom dancing club. We were trying to think of a similar club that would be relevant to today's youth. We have various levels of experience in our club, but they are all willing to try and learn new dances. We are fortunate that we have a parent of one of our club members, who is a line dancing instructor who has volunteered her time to help with the club. It has been a great learning

experience for all involved!" Robert Cronauer is the Chess Club

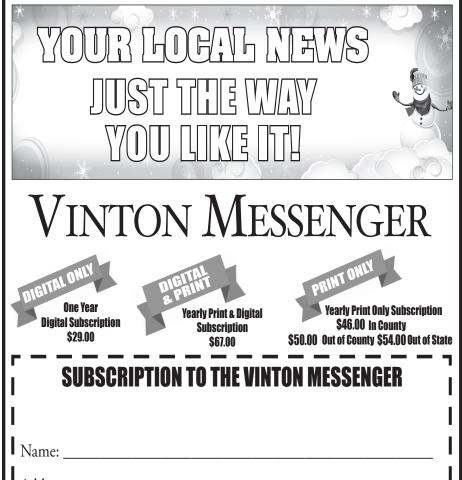
advisor.

"All the teachers submitted ideas for clubs that they would be interested in running at the beginning of the year," Cronauer said. "I put chess on my list because I enjoyed playing it as a kid. I was very pleased when they assigned

"I am certainly not a chess expert. I love the competitive and strategic nature of the game. I learned to play from my grandfather as a kid. Where I went to school, they used to have chess boards in the lunchroom, and I would play against my friends while we ate. I played in a few school-sponsored scholastic tournaments when I was in middle and high school. Since then, I haven't really had anyone to play against, so it's been fun to be around a group of kids who are enthusiastic about it."

"The school purchased a lot of the chess boards for the club. However, many of the students wanted to bring in their own boards. I also have several boards that were given to me as gifts from other countries that I have been bringing in. We have a solid mix of ability levels in the club. I've been impressed with the experience of several of the kids and their willingness to help some of the students who are still learning to play. Everyone has been really enthusiastic and encouraging (with a little friendly

trash talk added in, of course!). "The kids (and teachers) love club day! I get asked throughout the month when the next club day will be. It was a great idea!"



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directing the activities of a planning department. Must have a minimum of seven years successful grant writing and supervisory experience. Thorough knowledge of state and federal anti-poverty programs; ability to understand and interpret RFPs, regulations and guidelines. Preferred knowledge of Human Service, Economic Development, Community Development programs at the local, Commonwealth, and federal levels. Performs complex professional and administrative work in directing the activities of the planning department, providing strategic planning resource development and program development for the antipoverty programs, economic development, community development and partnership activities of the agency. Assists in gathering and collating pertinent data and program outcomes: identifies and qualifies resources; writes clear and compelling narratives, effective and accurate budgets; and prepares grant applications in response to request for proposals. Leads and trains a team of planners who support the agency's programs. Directs the

Disseminates information to program components, CEO, Board of Directors, and other management staff on issues affecting the work of agency.

communications and

marketing efforts of the

agency.

Recruits, trains, supervises. and evaluates planning staff, marketing & communications staff, and Whole Family Intake staff; organizes department responsibilities and workflow

Coordinates the preparation of grant applications and proposal writing for all new and renewing agency program initiatives. Responsible for quality and effectiveness of all proposals.

Writes proposals for funding of specific projects as assigned.

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economic development planning For a full job description

please visit Indeed.com or at our website

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TRUSTEES SALE

PARCEL OF LAND **LOCATED IN: West** Ward of the City of Radford, Virginia Containing 0.2479 acres, more or less

Commonly Known as: 1002 West Main Street, Radford,

IN EXECUTION OF A CERTAIN DEED OF TRUST OF RECORD IN THE CLERKS OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF RADFORD CITY, VIRGINIA, AS INSTRUMENT NO. 201100838, DATED AUGUST 29 2011 WHEREAS, BY DEED OF BARGAIN AND SALE AND ASSUMPTION DATED SEPTEMBER 1, 2016, RECORDED IN THE AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE AS INSTRUMENT NO: 201600804 THE DEED OF TRUST WAS ASSUMED BY MARK BROOKNER. DEFAULT HAVING BEEN MADE IN THE PAYMENT OF THE **DEBT THEREIN SECURED** AND BEING REQUIRED TO DO SO BY THE NOTEHOLDER, THE UNDERSIGNED SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, AFTER GIVING FOURTEEN (14) DAYS DUE NOTICE TO THE OWNERS OF THE REAL ESTATE OF THE DATE, TIME, PLACE AND TERMS OF SALE. WILL OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION. IN FRONT OF THE RADFORD CITY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 619 SECOND STREET, RADFORD, VIRGINIA, ON THE 29 th DAY OF MARCH, 2024, AT 10:00 A.M., THE REAL ESTATE WITH IMPROVEMENTS THEREON KNOWN AND

DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: All that certain tracts or parcels of land, with the

improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate, lying and being in the City of Radford, Virginia, and described as follows: BEING all of Lots 28 and

29, part of Lots 27, 30, 34, 35, Section 1, Plan C, Radford Land and Improvement Company Lots, containing 0.2479 acres (10,800 sq. ft.), as designated and described on a plat of survey entitled, Physical Survey Lots 28, 29 and Part of Lots 27, 30, 34, 35 Section 1, Plan C Radford Land

and Improvement Co. West Ward City of Radford. Virginia for Ronald R. Sowers", dated August 23, 2011, Job No. 565811, by James Conrad Groseclose II, Land Surveyor, Mathews and Henegar Inc.,

professional engineers and land surveyors, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof and reference is hereby made to said plat of survey for a more accurate description of the property

Tax Map Number: 13-(5)-SEC 1-27A-28-29-30A-34A+

Account Number: 020000684

herein conveyed.

Commonly Known As: 1002 West Main Street, Radford,

SALE WILL BE MADE SUBJECT TO ALL **EXISTING EASEMENTS** AND RESTRICTIVE **COVENANTS AS THE** SAME MAY LAWFULLY AFFECT THE REAL **ESTATE** TERMS OF SALE: CASH, SETTLEMENT WITHIN

FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF SALE. A BIDDERS DEPOSIT OF TEN PERCENT (10%) MAY BE REQUIRED.

PLACE OF SALE: FRONT OF RADFORD CITY COURTHOUSE. AT 619 SECOND STREET, RADFORD, VIRGINIA

DATE OF SALE: MARCH 29, 2024 TIME OF SALE: 10:00 A.M.

Daniel D. Hamrick, PC Substitute Trustee By: Daniel D. Hamrick,

For Daniel D. Hamrick, PC

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent Daniel D. Hamrick, P.C. 104 South Franklin Street Christiansburg, VA 24073 (540) 382-0131

Legals - City of Radford

NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARING

The Radford City Council

and Planning Commission

March 11, 2024 at 7:00pm

will hold a joint public

in the City of Radford

hearing on Monday,

Council Chambers, 10 Robertson Street, Radford VA 24141. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning: Jones Builder, LLC seeking approval of a rezoning for .43 acres 402 West Rock Rd, Radford VA 24141 Portion of Tax Map # 12-(2) SEC 2-8 and all of Tax Map # 12-(2)-SEC 2-9,10,11 & 12. The request is to rezone from (B-1) Limited Business to R-3, Single-Family Residential District (R-3) to allow the property owner to redevelop existing building into duplex and (1) Single Family Resident. The general usage and density range of the proposed amendment is low-medium residential development. The general usage and density range of the property as set forth in the City's comprehensive plan is commercial corridor Comments may be presented at the meeting and by phone or in writing prior to the meeting.

NOTICE OF

Additional information on

obtained in the Community

Department, 10 Robertson

Street, Radford VA 24141,

540.267.3188 or by email at

Melissa.Skelton@radfordva.

this request may be

Development

PUBLIC HEARING-The Radford City Council and Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing to receive comments regarding a request from the Jones Builder, LLC, for a Special Use Permit to develop an existing building into a duplex, 402 West Rock Rd, Radford VA 24141, Tax Map #'s 12-(2)-SEC 2-10,11 & 12. The general usage and density range of the proposed amendment is low-medium residential development. The general usage and density range of the property as set forth in the City's comprehensive plan is commercial corridor. . The hearing will be held on Monday, March 11, 2024 beginning at 7:00 P.M. E.S.T, at 10 Robertson Street, Radford, VA. invited to attend the public hearing and present their views on the proposed Special Use Permit. Written comments may be sent to 10 Robertson Street, Radford 24141: please allow adequate mailing time: Melissa Skelton, Community Development

Legals - City of Salem

Director.

Notice is hereby given

to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on March 13, 2024,

at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Room, Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard, 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 E3MAG LLC, property

owner, for rezoning the property located at 744 Electric Road (Tax Map # 155 - 2 - 2.2) from HBD Highway

Business District to HM Heavy Manufacturing District. 2. Consider the request of Pinkesh R. Patel and Sonal P. Patel, property

owners, for rezoning the property located at 1200 block Thompson Memorial Drive (Tax Map # 20 - 2 - 4) from RSF Residential Single-Family District to HBD

Highway Business District. Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community

Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia. At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall

Legals - City of Salem

have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY:

Christopher J. Dorsey Executive Secretary

PUBLIC HEARING The City of Salem School Board will hold a public hearing for comment on the FY 2024-2025 budget on

Tuesday, March 12, 2024.

The hearing will begin at 7:00 PM at the School Administrative Office, 510 South College Avenue, Salem.

Any citizen of Salem who wishes to address the Board should contact Susan E. Young. Clerk of the Board, at 540-389-0130 by Monday, March 11, 2024 in order to be placed on the agenda. Individuals who plan to address the Board are requested to bring a copy of their remarks for the record.

In accordance with Board Policy KD, Public Participation in Board Meetings, individuals who plan to address the Board are requested to: □ provide their name and

address, □ address their remarks to the Board,

□ be brief, $\hfill \square$ provide a copy of their remarks for the record, and □ be prepared to answer

questions from the Board, □ In unusual cases or cases of emergency, the Board, by consensus, may allow an individual or organization to speak if not on the agenda.

Legals - Craig County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,20-104 Case No.JJ002260-06-00 CRAIG COMBINED **COURT-JUVENILE** Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court District

Commonwealth of Virginia, in re MANNING, EMILEE

ROSE The object of this suit is to: terminate the residual parental rights of the parents, including the right of visitation, right to consent to adoption, the responsibility of support and all other rights and

responsibilities remaining with the natural parents of the aforesaid child and to obtain the right to place said child for adoption.

And, based on an affidavit filed herein, the court finds that there exists sufficient grounds for causing service of process by publication.

It is ORDERED that the unknown father and any or all others who may be related to Emily Rose Manning, whose actual whereabouts are unknown, appear at the above-named Court on or before the 5th day of April, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. to do whatever is necessary to protect their interests

We ask for this CRAIG COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL **SERVICES** 177 Court Street, New Castle, Virginia 24127

February 8, 2024, Patty Taylor, CLERK

Legals -**Montgomery County**

Trustee's Sale 1990 Reesedale

Road, Elliston, Virginia 24087

(Parcel ID: 022175;

Tax Map No.: 057-2 6) Default having been made

in the terms of a certain

Deed of Trust dated December 29, 2015, in the original principal amount of \$106,837.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia in Instrument No. 150009429, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public

auction on March 22, 2024,

Legals -Montgomery County

at 3:00 pm in front of the building housing the Montgomery County Circuit Court, 55 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, the property designated as Lot 6, as shown on plat entitled "survey for Richard L. and Leilani F. Kaulback' showing Subdivision of 45.86 acre tract, Mt. Tabor

District, Montgomery County, Virginia, which plat is dated June 18, 1979 and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in plat book 9, page 197. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions, if any, of record, or other matters which would be disclosed by an

accurate survey or inspection of the premises. TERMS: CASH A deposit of \$11,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and

must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than \$9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 calendar days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to

recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review on the Foreclosure Sales page of www.glasserlaw.com, outlining additional terms of

sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector, Glasser and

Glasser, P.L.C. on behalf of Atlantic Trustee Services, L.L.C., and/or M. Brennan Hutt d/b/a H&H Abstracting, and/or NFPDS-VA LLC, Substitute Trustees. Crown Center Building, Suite 600 580 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510, File No. 233457-01, Tel: (757) 321-

Order of

6465, between 10:00 a.m. &

12:00 noon only.

Publication Commonwealth of Virginia

VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104 Case No. CL23000237-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA, a political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Complainant, v. SHANE ANTHONY SMITH, ET AL.,

Respondent(s). The object of this suit is to: enforce the lien of the complainant, County of Montgomery, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Montgomery, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 497-A 202 Account No. 020009

All those two certain lots or parcels of land lying about one-fourth of a mile east of the passenger station at Cambria, Montgomery County, Virginia: Lot No.1: Being all that certain lot or parcel of land conveved to the said J.W. Britt by M. A. Helm and others by deed dated November 1, 1913, and recorded in Montgomery County Clerk's Office in Deed Book 63, Page 586; being described as lot 66 X 135 feet, be the same more or less, and to which deed

reference is hereby made

for a further description of

the same.

Lot No. 2: Being all that certain lot or parcel of land conveyed to the said J. W. Britt by M. A. Helm and wife by deed dated January 19, 1914, and recorded in Montgomery County Clerk's Office as Deed Book 63. Page 583 and is described as being 61 X 135 feet, be the same more or less, and to which deed reference is hereby made for a further description of the same, both of said lots adjoining each other, being on the south side of the road leading from the station via Happy Hollow, and on the

west side of the Happy

Hollow Road, and runs back

to the lot, now or formerly

Legals -Montgomery County

ourvalley.org

owned by Charles Lynch, and is bounded on the west by the lot, now or formerly owned by Mary Russel. together with the buildings improvements thereon, and the appurtenances thereunto belonging.

And being the same real property conveyed to Alice May Vaughan Brammer, Fannie Vaughan Carr, Sam Will Vaughan, Jr. John Blair Vaughan, Colonel Jabe Taft Vaughan, and James Curtis Douglas Vaughan from S. W. Vaughan and Ada L. Vaughan by deed dated and recorded on February 5, 1943 in the Montgomery County Clerk's Office as Deed Book 128, Page 389. And further being the same

property conveyed to Shane Anthony Smith from John B. Vaughan, as sole heir of John Blair Vaughan, deceased, by Quitclaim Deed dated December 18, 2013 and recorded December 23, 2013 in the Montgomery County Clerk's Office as Instrument Number 13011845 This description is made

subject to all easements. conditions, agreements. restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described. IT APPEARING that an

Affidavit has been made and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served, that the last known addresses for the

Respondents herein are as follows: David W. Smith, whose last known address is 5352 Graysontown Road Radford, Virginia 24141; Ling Zhong, whose last known address is 1005 Robin Rd., Blacksburg, Virginia 24060, S. W. Vaughan aka Sam Willie Vaughan, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Ada L. Vaughan, who is believed to deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Alice May Vaughan, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Fannie Vaughan Carr, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Sam Will Vaughan, Jr., who is believed to be deceased

address is unknown; John Biair vaugnan, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Colonel Jabe Taft Vaughan, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; James Curtis Douglas Vaughan, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; James Henry Brammer aka James Randolph Robinson, who is believed to be deceased

and whose last known

address is unknown; Virginia Elizabeth Brammer. who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Gloria Jean Carr Butts Hicks, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; John Thomas Carr, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Meta Hudgens Carr, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known

and whose last known

address is unknown; Denise Carr, Whose last known address is unknown; Ada Mae Carr Nizer, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Melva James Nizer McNeill, whose last known address is 630

Colhoun St. NE, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073; Ludell Albert Nizer, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown: Emma Christine Carr Samuel, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; London Samuel, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Vivian Palmer Vaughan, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; last known address is

Lorenza Vaughan, whose unknown; Bertha Mae McDaniel Vaughan, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Barbara H. Vaughan, whose last address is unknown: Virginia N. Vaughan, whose last address is unknown; Michael O. Vaughan, whose

last address is unknown;

James Douglas Vaughan,

Legals -Montgomery County who is believed to be

deceased and whose last known address is unknown: James Douglas Vaughan, Jr., whose last known address is 8626 Croaker Rd., Williamsburg, Virginia 23188; Colonel Jabe Taft Vaughan, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; John Willie Junius Vaughan, Sr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; John W.J. Vaughan, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Dorothy Elizabeth Lacy Vaughan, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Tax Map No. 497-4202, Account No, 020009, whose last known address is unknown; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of Respondent named herein are made parties Respondent to this action individually and/or by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby **ORDERED** that parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained appear on or before March 29, 2024 in the Clerk's Office of the

Entered on the 22nd day of February, 2024.

Circuit Court of The County

of Montgomery, Virginia.

and do what may be

necessary to protect their

interests in this cause.

Mike Fleenor, Jr., Judge I Ask for This: John A Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805) Jeffery A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591) Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409) Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372) Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609) Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158) Seth R. Konopasek, Esq. (VSB No. 97065) Garrett W. Patton, Esq. (VSB No. 98345) Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC

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Legals - City of Salem

ABC NOTICE

MAA VEDAI 8 LLC, trading 4956 SUGAR GROVE HWY. SUGAR GROVE,

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

HARESH KUMAR CHAUDHARI OWNER

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SPORTS

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Byrd spring sports open next week

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, and a day later is the official opening of high school spring sports in Virginia. Teams in the Roanoke Valley have been practicing and scrimmaging for the past three weeks to get ready for what promises to be another exciting spring of high school sports.

William Byrd will have four teams opening Monday as both boys' and girls' soccer and boys' and girls' tennis make their season debuts. The girls' soccer team will be home to host Bassett with the jayvees kicking off at 5:30 pm and the varsity to follow at approximately 7 pm on Highfill Field.

"We'll be young this season but still hope to compete well in our district and region play," said Terrier coach Molly Cox. "We lost 11 seniors after last season but the freshman class is very talented and many will make a big impact on our season this spring. We have four seniors and all will be great leaders for us. We're excited to get our season underway."

The boys will be at Bassett Monday, same times.

"We're coming into the season with some excitement," said coach Russell Dishman. "We return a solid core of guys and have some new faces that should be in some key positions for us.

"We have some solid leadership this year and we basically have the spine of the starting 11 returning. We look to play a similar style from last year but with some difference to fit the crew we have. Our first scrimmage was against PH Monday and I was pleased to see their composure and ability to maintain their shape and work together. With the good performance, expectations are high but I feel the boys are up to the challenge."

The Byrd tennis teams will also play Bassett Monday with the boys at home and the girls at Bassett. Randy Bush takes over as girls' coach. "I'm very excited to coach these young ladies," said Bush.

"They're easy to coach, and they're absorbing everything that Coach Trent is teaching them."

The soccer and tennis teams will be in action on back-to-

back days as all four play again Tuesday against Hidden Valley opponents. This time the boys' soccer and tennis will be home and the girls' soccer and tennis will be at Hidden Valley.

Next Wednesday, March 13, will be the debut of the girls'

softball team with a game at Christiansburg. Sophomore Addison Clark returns as Byrd's ace pitcher and her battery mate will be fellow sophomore Ryleigh Grubb. Slugging Sydney Blewett, a senior, will be a big stick in the middle of the order.

"She has power and we have speed from top to bottom," said softball coach Greg Barton. "We'll be doing a lot of running this year."

The Byrd lacrosse teams will open a week from today, on

March 14, against Blacksburg. The girls will be home and the boys will be at Blacksburg.

"I anticipate this season to be better than last year," said Byrd girls' coach Dan Eberhardt. "The team last year was very young with most of the players in their freshman and sophomore years. This season the team will benefit from an additional year of work as individuals and as a team."

The boys look to continue to improve. They finished last season with a 5-10 record and that was three more wins than in 2022. Byrd also made the region tournament for just the second time in school history with a young team, so the future appears to be bright for Will Satterfield's team.

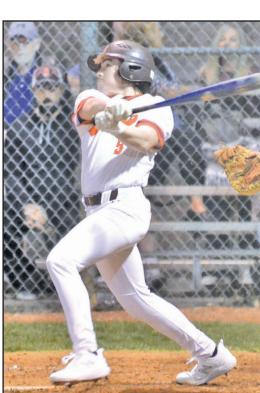
The Byrd baseball team won't open until Friday, March 15, when the Terriers host Cave Spring. A game originally scheduled for March 13 with Craig County was cancelled. Look for a preview of the baseball team in next week's Vinton Messenger sports section.





Above left, Byrd keeper Bricen Lancaster knocks the ball out of harm's way, and right Noah Lowe battles a Patriot for a 50-50 ball in Monday's scrimmage against Patrick Henry in Vinton. Below left, Brenin Witcher pitches in Tuesday's baseball scrimmage against Bassett at Walthall Park. Below right, Keller Spraker connects for the Terriers.





PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER



Brian Hoffman

Pistol with a Ponytail

I never thought I'd see the day when women's basketball would sell out big arenas, but that day is here.

Give much of the credit to Iowa University senior star Caitlin Clark, who has sold out venues everywhere she goes. She broke the NCAA women's all-time scoring record on a long three-point shot, then last Sunday she passed one of my all-time favorites as the all-time leading NCAA scorer, regardless of gender. That person she passed would be "Pistol" Pete Maravich.

It's not so much that Clark scores a lot, but "how" she plays the game that makes her stand out. She shoots three pointers with Stephen Curry accuracy and passes the ball like John Stockton with a pony tail. She's fun to watch.

I must admit, I don't watch a lot of women's basketball. I've never watched a WNBA game from start to finish. I go to most of the Roanoke College women's home games and I watch a whole lot of high school girls' games, but if there's a choice between the women and an NBA game or a good men's college game on TV I'll watch the men.

That might be changing. When Caitlin Clark fin-

men's college game on TV I'll watch the men.

That might be changing. When Caitlin Clark finishes her career, however far the Hawkeyes go this year, I'm anxious to see how she does in the WNBA. I might just watch an entire game if she's in it.

And then you have Virginia Tech. I never thought I'd see the day when the Virginia Tech women were selling out Cassell Coliseum. . .getting bigger crowds than the men! I can remember 20 or so years ago when a woman I covered in high school was on the Tech team. I'd go to the game and people were showing up five minutes before tip-off and easing down to seats by the court. Those days are gone, at least for now

down to seats by the court. Those days are gone, at least for now.

Unfortunately the Hokies have hit a slide at the most inopportune time. Their star player, Elizabeth

Kitley, suffered a knee injury in a loss at UVA

Sunday in front of the largest crowd ever to watch a women's basketball game in the state of Virginia. As I write this column her status going forward is unknown, but the old saying "adding insult to injury" was never more appropriate as the heavily favored Hokies lost the game to the underdog Wahoowomen. Stay tuned for updates.

Getting back to Caitlin Clark, I was fascinated that she was the one to outscore Pete Maravich after all these years. . .54 to be exact. As I mentioned I like watching Clark play. I LOVED watching Pete Maravich play.

I was in high school when Maravich played for LSU. One of my best friend's growing up, Gus, had an older brother who was a really good football player at our high school, Souderton High School in Pennsylvania. He got a scholarship to play football at LSU, so right then and there Gus became a big LSU fan and I joined the club. On a clear night we could get LSU basketball games on the radio and we'd sit on his front porch and listen to Pete Maravich light it up.

Thing is, if you just listened to Pete play you

missed a whole lot. He was all entertainment. He had those floppy gray socks and he played like his hair was on fire, and boy did he have some hair! Those late '60s were

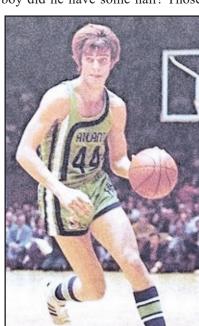
the time when long hair was the norm and Pete's mop top went every which direction as he dribbled down the floor.

Everything

he did was exciting. haven't seen anyone before or since handle the ball like he did. It was said he carried a ball where he went growing up, bouncing it in the aisle of the movie the-

atre and drib-

bling on the



way to and from school. When he dribbled it was like the ball was part of him, and I know you can say that about a lot of players but it was never more

obvious than it was with Pete.

He could pass the ball like no one I've seen since. The closest I've seen was a couple times when Ricky Rubio would throw one of those full court bounce passes that found the mark, but Pete would do that with regularity. Our high school coaches frowned on behind-the-back passes, but Pete did it so well it was a weapon. And remember that fake behind-the-back that Rajon Rondo would do? Pete was a master of it.

And boy could he shoot. He would pull up from Damion Lillard land and swish 'em with regularity. Only thing is, he only got two points for that shot back in the day. You had to guard him out there, but he could also go by you and wiggle through traffic on his way to the hoop. If they had called fouls in the NBA back then as closely as they do now no one could have ever stopped him.

Going back to the long shots, you have to remember that Pete didn't play college ball with the three point shot. He also played just three years, because when he was at LSU freshmen weren't eligible. If he had played four years with the three point shot no one would touch his scoring records. That's not taking anything away from Caitlin Clark, it's just a fact. She broke the record fair and square with today's rules.

One more thing about Pete. His last year at LSU was my last year in high school. He was drafted by the Atlanta Hawks about the same time I decided to attend Roanoke College. I had just arrived in Salem, not knowing anyone in the entire state and not having a car, when I saw that the Hawks were going to play an NBA exhibition game at the Salem Civic Center.

Civic Center.

This was in October of 1970, and I didn't even know where the Salem Civic Center was. I got vague directions and walked to the game from Roanoke College to see Pete play live for the first, and as it turned out only, time in my life. It was exciting to see him play in those old lime green Hawks uniforms with the stripes running across the

chest and down the side, floppy gray socks and all.

Unfortunately Pete died of a heart attack at just 40 years of age, playing pickup basketball, but he'll always be remembered as one of the most exciting players ever. And Caitlin Clark can truly be called the "Pistol Pete" of women's basketball and no one should question it.