

# 2024 Vinton Dogwood Festival April 26-27

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## The Vinton Messenger

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### Dogwood Queen to be crowned on April 27; 10 Byrd seniors vying for title

**Debbie Adams**  
dadams@ourvalley.org

The 2024 Vinton Dogwood Queen will be crowned at the Vinton Municipal Building by Mayor Brad Grose at noon on April 27.

The Dogwood Court is traditionally made up of 10 seniors from William Byrd High School who are nominated by the faculty. They are interviewed the morning of the Dogwood Festival by a panel of judges, who then selects the queen. The new queen receives a \$750 scholarship from the Dogwood Festival Committee. After she is crowned, the new queen and her court will ride through the streets of Vinton in horse-drawn carriages.

The young women vying for this year's title of Dogwood Queen are Olaedo Anyanwu, Jaslyn Bibby, Sydney Blewett, Kathryn Bryant, Elizabeth Dixon, Claire Glover, Makenna Jacobsen, Emma Kageals, Addisyn St. Clair, and Emily Tuck.

**Olaedo Anyanwu** is a captain of the Varsity Cheer Sideline squad and this year's Top Terrier (the highest individual honor a William Byrd student can receive). Her other high school activities include participation in Speech and Debate, Student Voices, and the William Byrd Choir. Her recognitions include being chosen for All-State Choir and being named to the second team All-State Cheerleading.

Olaedo represents WBHS on the Roanoke County Student Advisory Council. She is a member of the Prom Committee and president of the Chick-Fil-A Leadership Academy. She participates in Track and Field and Competition Cheer.

Her hobbies include singing, playing piano, running, and volunteering for Feeding America, Habitat for Humanity, and the Carilion Clinic Memorial Hospital.

Her future plans are to attend a four-year university to major in chemistry and minor in computer science. Her parents are Drs. Chinckwu Anyanwu and Benjamin Anyanwu.

**Jaslyn Bibby** is a member of the Leo Club, Habitat for Humanity, the International Club, and Young Life. Her hobbies are hiking and exercising, reading, shopping, and listening to music. She enjoys hanging out with her friends, and loves "finding new and creative activities for my family and me to enjoy. I love organizing and decorating."

She plans to attend a four-year college and major in Biological Sciences with a Human Biology intent. After college, she plans to attend PA school and become a Physicians' Assistant. Her parents are Deanna Bibby and Thomas Bibby, Jr.

**Sydney Blewett** participates in varsity softball and indoor track. She was named All-State in Indoor and Outdoor Track. She is an officer with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, a member of the Leo Club, Student Council, Student Voices, the International Club, and the Forensics and Debate team, and on the Homecoming Planning Committee.

Her hobbies are baking, running, scrapbooking, and crocheting. Sydney is an active member of her church youth group. She is taking her Bilingual Test in Spanish this spring.

She says, "Family is the most important part of my life, second to my faith." Her parents are Jeremy and Jennifer Blewett.

Her future plans are to attend Virginia Western Community College for a year, and then transfer to Freed-Hardeman University to study nursing.

Kathryn Bryant is captain of the Varsity Volleyball team and vice president of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She is leader of the Dog Pound and a member of Young Life, the Reindeer Club, DECA, and Teachers for Tomorrow.

Her hobbies are "hanging out with friends," babysitting, and volunteering. She tutors in third grade at Greenfield Elementary. This year Kathryn and her friends started a Girls Bible Study.

Her future plans are to attend Virginia Tech to pursue a degree in Elementary Education. Her parents are Matt and Kelly Bryant.

**Elizabeth Dixon** participates in cross country and indoor and outdoor track at William Byrd. She is a member of the Leo Club, SCA, BETA Club, Outdoor Club, the Chick-Fil-A Leadership Club, and a Senior Class representative.

Her hobbies are running, reading, hiking, traveling, Crossfit, and spending time with friends and family. She is a member of Vinton Baptist Church and the youth group there.

She plans to attend Virginia Tech in the fall and major in engineering. Her parents are Christopher and Lori Dixon.

**Claire Glover** has been a member of the William Byrd cross country and girls soccer teams for four years. She is a member of the Leo Club, BETA Club, William Byrd Young Life, the Reindeer Club, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, serving as president this year.

Her hobbies are running, reading, hiking, and doing watercolors.

She is a preschool teacher at Second Presbyterian Preschool, a Carilion Hospital volunteer, a Roanoke Rescue Mission volunteer, and helps lead an all-girls Bible study.

She plans to attend a four-year university to obtain her Bachelor's Degree in Kinesiology with a concentration in nutrition and dietetics.

Her parents are Karenna and Eddie Glover.

**Makenna Jacobsen** is a member of the SCA, Varsity girls tennis team, Leo Club, International Club, Habitat for Humanity, Outdoor Club, Beta Club, Reindeer Club, Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Byrd Buddies, and the William Byrd Choir. She is president of both the SCA and FBLA and has completed over 20 hours of community service. She graduated from the Governor's World Language Academy last summer and is certified as bilingual in Spanish and English.

Her hobbies include tennis, singing, hiking, baking, and reading. She has worked at Pok-E-Joe's since last August and plans to continue to work there through this summer as well.

Makenna plans to attend the University of Virginia to major in business, with a possible minor in real estate. She would like to one day own her own business. Her parents are Shannon Jacobsen and Landon Jacobsen.

**Emma Kageals** is currently vice president of the Leo Club, a captain of the Sideline Cheer team (member of four years), a member of the SCA, captain of the Competition Cheering team (member for four years), a member of the Outdoor Varsity Track and Field and Varsity Indoor Track and Field teams.

Her hobbies include scuba diving, and traveling. She volunteers with Carilion's Children's Hospital, and Jill's Buddy Camp.

She plans to major in chemistry on the pre-med track at Virginia Tech.



Olaedo Anyanwu



Jaslyn Bibby



Sydney Blewett



Kathryn Bryant



Elizabeth Dixon



Claire Glover



Makenna Jacobsen



Emma Kageals



Addisyn St. Clair



Emily Tuck

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DOGWOOD QUEEN CANDIDATES

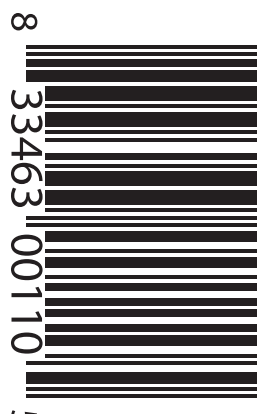
See Dogwood, page 6

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# Vinton Town Council honors High Ground Monument Committee, welcomes new employees, receives updates on numerous projects



The public is encouraged to vote for their favorite drawing in the Arbor Day Drawing Contest. Winners will be announced at the Arbor Day Celebration.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Vinton Town Council honored members of the Vinton/Roanoke County Veterans Monument Committee (known as the High Ground Monument) at their meeting on April 16. Pictured (front row, left to right) are Mayor Brad Grose, Kathryn Sowers, Committee Chair Bootie Chewning, Betty Kelly, Candye Peters, JoAnn Lonker, Audrey Thrasher, and Mary Beth Layman; and back row, Vice Mayor Mike Stovall, Council members Laurie Mullins, Keith Liles, and Sabrina McCarty, and Jason Peters.

**Debbie Adams**  
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Vinton Town Council recognized members of the Vinton/Roanoke County Veteran's Monument Committee at its meeting on April 16 with a proclamation thanking them for their service to the town. The committee was established in 2006 to raise funds for and build a monument on the Vinton War Memorial campus to honor veterans and current members of the armed forces. The results of their hard work and dedication to the community and to veterans is the much-acclaimed, frequently visited, and often photographed High Ground Monument in Vinton.

The monument holds the names of veterans from Vinton and Roanoke County who were killed in action during the Korean War, World War II, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, and Afghanistan.

Bootie Chewning served as chair of the committee, along with Vice Chair Audrey Thrasher, Secretary-Treasurer Kathryn Sowers, Directors Mary Beth Layman, Brad Grose, and Jason Peters, Assistant Director Candye Peters, and committee members Sam Cundiff, Norm Jasper, Betty Kelly, JoAnn Lonker, Steve Lonker, Bob Patterson, Doug and Mattie Forbes, and Henry Howell.

After nearly 20 years, the committee has decided to dissolve and the town has elected to create a designated account to hold the remaining monies, as well as future donations and grant proceeds, for the "ongoing maintenance, enhancement and promotion" of the iconic structure.

Town Council welcomed two new employees—Mandy Adkins and Rachel Nunley. Adkins has been named Cultural Placemaking and Events Director; she

will be responsible for planning and facilitating events and festivals in the town, working with the Chamber of Commerce, and overseeing the Vinton War Memorial, Vinton Farmers' Market, and Vinton History Museum. Nunley is the Community Programs Supervisor of Marketing and Events.

Adkins comes to Vinton from Botetourt County where she served as Director of Parks and Recreation. Nunley served as Sales & Marketing Project Manager for Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge and previously worked as an intern with the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce.

Town Manager Pete Peters noted that the Community Programs Department is now fully staffed. Adkins and Nunley join Amanda Payne, Caroline Loveland, and Shay Hicks.

Vinton Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Angie Chewning and Executive Assistant/Financial Coordinator Kathryn Sowers updated council members on Chamber activities and events in 2024.

Associate Planner Fayula Gordon discussed the 2024 Arbor Day celebration coming up at the Vinton Library on April 25 at 10:30 a.m. She noted that the town has been designated as a Tree City USA for over 20 years. To retain that designation, the town is required to hold an Arbor Day Celebration each year, along with tree plantings and tree education outreach. Staff is responsible for securing Virginia Department of Forestry grant funding and partners with the Roanoke Valley Urban Forestry Council and Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (RVARC) in submitting the grant request, with the town providing the required matching funds.

These funds have enabled the town to plant trees on public properties, including the elementary schools in Vinton, Wolf Creek Greenway, M.A. Banks Park,

on the grounds of Vinton Public Works, Vinton War Memorial, Vinton Municipal Building, Craig Avenue Recreation Center, and Glade Creek Greenway. This year 10 trees will be planted along Glade Creek Greenway to complete a natural screening fence.

The children's outreach program this year includes an Arbor Day Drawing Competition around the theme "The Life Cycle of Evergreen Trees." Citizens are encouraged to vote online at [https://pollunit.com/polls/arbor\\_day\\_drawings\\_2024](https://pollunit.com/polls/arbor_day_drawings_2024) or in-person at the Municipal Building for their favorite drawing.

The Arbor Day Celebration will include remarks from Assistant Planning and Zoning Director Nathan McClung and Mayor Grose, a poetry reading by Gordon, announcement of the winners of the Art Contest, a visit from Senior Area Forester Denny McCarthy and Smokey Bear, and story time with the library staff. If your child would like to attend, RSVP to Gordon at [fgordon@vintonva.gov](mailto:fgordon@vintonva.gov) or call 540-283-7007.

Council enthusiastically took action to approve the 2024-2025 operating budget for the Roanoke Valley Regional Cable Television Committee after a presentation by RVTV Director Scott Ramsburg. Vinton's contribution to the RVTV budget is just \$25,614—and quite a bargain, considering the number of high-quality programs its five-person team produces for the town. Council member Laurie Mullins described the committee as "a small but mighty team doing exceptional work."

Roanoke Valley Television (RVTV) has been serving the City of Roanoke, Roanoke County, the Town of Vinton, and their respective school systems since 1993.

See Council, page 6

## Vinton History Museum celebrating 35th anniversary, kicks off 'Rising to New Heights' fundraising campaign

The Vinton History Museum will celebrate its 35th anniversary on Monday, April 22, from noon to 6 p.m. That day will also mark the kick-off of the fundraising campaign for the "Rising to New Heights Cargo/Accessibility Lift." The installation of the lift will improve accessibility to the second floor of the museum for visitors and volunteers.

The 1906 Upson home that houses the museum boasts over 4,000 artifacts and resources available for viewing. The stately two-story home was donated to the Town of Vinton by the Upson family.

The cargo/personnel lift fundraising campaign is the largest project the museum has undertaken since its opening in 1989. Over the past 20 years, \$60,000 has been raised for the installation of the lift. The museum expects to receive another \$4,000 in grant funding but will need to raise an additional \$60,000 to make this project a reality.

If you would like to help the Vinton History Museum "rise to new heights,"

visit the website to make a donation or stop by the museum on April 22 or during their business hours.

Museum staff will be "Churning It Up" by receiving dollars and donations in an antique rocking butter church for the Cargo/Accessibility Lift project. There will also be more information available about the project at the anniversary open house.

Light refreshments will be served throughout the afternoon. Door prizes will include drawings each hour for free Vinton Historical Society Annual Memberships, a Vinton Historical Landmark Throw, Vintage Dogwood Festival plates, and more.

Historic artifacts may be viewed throughout the day.

The Vinton History Museum is open for tours and research every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 210 E. Jackson Avenue in Vinton. For more information email [info@vintonhistorymuseum.org](mailto:info@vintonhistorymuseum.org) or call (540) 342-8634.

You may also visit the Vinton



PHOTO COURTESY OF COURTESY VINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Vinton History Museum celebrates its 35th anniversary on April 22 and kicks off a new fundraising campaign to add a cargo/personnel lift to the building.

History Museum Facebook Page and the Vinton Memories and History Facebook Page for frequent updates and interesting history information.

Submitted by Mary Beth Layman, Vinton Historical Society

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Vinton Public Works employees participating in the Public Works Regional Equipment Rodeo included (front row, left to right) Heather Welch, Garrett Chappell, Banks Bradford, Jill Acker, and Jimmy Brown; and back row, Jason Davison, Andrew Critcher, Jon Hess, Chris Smith, Pete Peters, Kenny Sledd, Keith Childress, Chris Lawhorn, Steven Newman, Charles Barber, Billy Robb, and Cody Sexton.

# Vinton Public Works employees compete in annual Equipment Rodeo

**Debbie Adams**  
dadams@ourvalley.org

Several Vinton Public Works employees competed in the Southwest Virginia Public Works Academy Equipment Rodeo at the Berglund Center on April 10.

The rodeo began originally as a Roanoke City event and grew through the years to include workers from surrounding areas including the Town of Vinton, Salem, Roanoke County, Blacksburg, Christiansburg, the Western Virginia Water Authority, and others.

Individual competitions require specific skills, accuracy, and/or speed with various pieces of equipment—the knuckleboom truck, backhoe, bucket truck, mini-excavator, zero turn mower, and front-end loader.

Vinton employees who placed in the annual rodeo were:

- Andrew Critcher, 1st place Knuckleboom, 3rd place Bucket Truck
- Jason Davison, 1st place Bucket Truck and 3rd place Knuckleboom
- Chris Lawhorn, 1st place Zero Turn Mower
- Billy Robb, 2nd place Bucket Truck, 3rd place Zero Turn Mower

- Pete Peters, Executive Competition Zero Turn Mower, 1st place
- Critcher also competed in zero turn mower and mini-excavator. Davison competed in mini-excavator and backhoe. Robb competed in mini-excavator, the CDL Skills Course, front-end loader, and backhoe.

Other participants from Vinton included:

- Charles Barber: Zero Turn Mower and Bucket Truck competitions
- Garrett Chappell: Knuckleboom, Bucket Truck, CDL Skills Course, and Snow Plow
- Keith Childress: Bucket Truck, CDL Skills Course, and Front End Loader
- Jon Hess: Zero Turn Mower, Bucket Truck, CDL Skills Course, and Front End Loader
- Steven Newman: Zero Turn Mower, CDL Skills Course
- Kenny Sledd: Backhoe
- Chris Smith: Zero Turn Mower, CDL Skills Course

Town Manager Pete Peters and Deputy Town Manager Cody Sexton competed in the Executive Challenge Competition in Zero Turn Mower.

On the job, a knuckleboom operator



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Vinton Public Works employee Andrew Critcher takes first place in the Knuckleboom competition at last week's regional Equipment Rodeo.

uses a hydraulically operated arm to pick up brush, appliances, and other large bulk items. In the competition, the operator is required to use the arm and its claw to pick up a small brick, swing it around the vehicle, and lower it onto a bulls-eye target. Mini-excavator operators must pick up a toy ball and dump it into a bucket on the ground.

The bucket truck competition requires the operator to replace a traffic signal light on a pole between 18 and 35 feet in the air, dressed in full safety harness and using all safety precautions. The zero turn mower competition is a tight course with many obstacles to avoid in a timed competition.

Participants sign up for the events

they wish to compete in. Events are scored on the actual time taken to complete the task and any penalties acquired.

Vinton Public Works employees Jill Acker, Banks Bradford, Jimmy Brown, Bo Herndon, and Heather Welch contributed to set up, registration, and support of the event. The Town of Vinton sponsored the zero turn mower competition.

SWVA Public Works Academy sponsored the equipment rodeo. Boone Tractor supplied the zero turn mower; Lawrence Equipment supplied the backhoe.

Visit [VintonMessenger.com](http://VintonMessenger.com) and Facebook page for more photos from the rodeo.

# Community salutes future soldiers



Future soldiers in the U.S. Army from the area were sworn in at a ceremony at the Vinton War Memorial on April 12.

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The Association of the United States Army (AUSA) Allegheny-Blue Ridge Chapter hosted their "Community Salutes Our Future Soldiers" event, including a swearing-in ceremony, on April 12 at the Vinton War Memorial.

Col. John Miller (R), president of the local AUSA Chapter, served as master of ceremonies. Tammy Shepherd, who represents the Vinton Magisterial District on the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors, welcomed guests, including the new recruits and their families.

She noted that her grandfather served in World War II. She commended the military personnel in the ballroom who are currently serving or were about to be sworn in, for their dedication and sacrifice. She also thanked their families for their support.

Col. Miller introduced the guest speaker, LTC Bowe Averill, Battalion Commander of the

U.S. Army Recruiting Command (USAREC) in Richmond. He enlisted in the Army in 1996 and has since been deployed in Afghanistan several times as a platoon leader, an advisor, and a Battalion Executive Officer. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star and the Meritorious Service Medal.

He focused his remarks on statistics and the increasing enlistments in the Army—although more are needed—and the accommodations the Army is making to attract more recruits. He addressed the new recruits, telling them that they will encounter challenges that may seem insurmountable, but "you have what it takes to succeed."

Averill then conducted the swearing in of the new recruits.

Two of the future soldiers sworn in at the War Memorial are from the Roanoke area. Elliott George will be departing for duty on July 9. He attends Cave Spring High School and will



Col. John Miller (left), Tammy Shepherd, and LTC Bowe Averill served as the event's speakers.

be serving as a cyber-operations specialist. His parents are George and Marie George.

Curtis Anderson is also a student at Cave Spring High School. He will depart for duty on August 20, assigned as a combat engineer. His parents are Christy and John Anderson.

The Vinton Veterans Outreach Committee (VOC) helped to organize and facilitate the "Salute to Future Soldiers" event.

According to Vinton Director of Human Resources Donna Collins, "The VOC was created to focus on making Vinton a place a veteran and their family would want to work, live, or start a business venture. The committee was formed in January 2024, and we have several projects in the developmental stage. These projects are to create new opportunities to bring awareness to issues facing veterans, fundraising opportunities, new resources to local veterans, and spotlighting local veterans who live and serve our community.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Elliott George (on left) and Curtis Anderson have enlisted in the U.S. Army. Both attend Cave Spring High School.

The committee is including our veterans, Brandon Alterio, James Chief Fabricio Drumond, Brown, and Officer Officer Jesse Dibble, Sgt. Douglas Aune, Jr."

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- Product or \_\_\_ (abbr.)
  - Zodiac sign
  - S. China seaport
  - Former OSS
  - Early English printer
  - Aphid genus
  - General's assistant (abbr.)
  - Aussies
  - Dissuades
  - Make law
  - Drench
  - Soak in a liquid
  - Male child
  - It cools your home
  - Small constellation
  - To call (archaic)
  - Explores beneath the Earth
  - Commercial
  - W. hemisphere organization
  - You can find it in a can
  - "Land of the free"
  - 36 inches
  - Footwear
  - Challenges
  - They hold things together
  - Of I
  - Partner to flow
  - Not connected by kinship
  - Worries
  - Garlic mayonnaise
  - A way to take by force
  - Legendary English rockers
  - Your consciousness of your own identity
  - Fencing swords
  - Silly
  - Actor DiCaprio
  - Encircles with a belt
  - Mails a message
  - Longing
  - CLUES DOWN**
  - Horse mackerel
  - It can be viral
  - Prickly plants
  - Consciousness
  - Type of sarcoma
  - Tax collector
  - Sun up in New York
  - One who scorches
  - Influential psychotherapist
  - Situated at an apex
  - Communicative
  - Forearm nerve
  - Former CIA
  - Folk singer DiFranco
  - Employee stock ownership plan
  - Large-scale
  - School environment
  - Remove
  - Male parents
  - Large rodent
  - Weighed down
  - Held tightly
  - \_\_\_ route: going there
  - Explains again
  - Exclamation of surprise
  - Courteously
  - Lying down
  - Judge
  - Forcefully took
  - Loosely compacted sediment
  - High mountain
  - Portable conical tents
  - Cereal grass
  - Dining utensil
  - Thoughtful
  - Helps you walk
  - Indicates near
  - Midway between northeast and east
  - Local area network

# W.E. Cundiff to celebrate its 50th anniversary

W. E. Cundiff Elementary School will celebrate its 50th anniversary with an open house on Sunday, April 21, from 2 to 4 p.m. The school (originally named Hardy Road Elementary) first opened in August 1972. Ashley McCallum is the principal.

Former staff and students are invited to “Rediscover the Past, Embrace the Present, and Discover the Future” with a tour of the school before extensive renovations begin in June 2024. The school is located at 1200 Hardy Road in Vinton.

There will be a photo booth, refreshments, and memorabilia, along with the tour and a preview of the renovation plans.

- Vinton Messenger staff report

W.E. Cundiff/Hardy Road Elementary  
Alumni - Former Staff & Students

Please Join Us At:

**TEAM CUNDIFF'S  
OPEN HOUSE**

50th Anniversary Celebration  
Come tour the school before  
renovations begin in June 2024

April 21, 2024  
2:00-4:00 p.m.

W.E. Cundiff Elementary  
1200 Hardy Road Vinton, VA 24179

\*photo booth \*refreshments \*memorabilia  
\*tour the building \*see renovation plans

\*Rediscover the Past, Embrace the Present, and Discover the Future.\* Join us for the OPEN HOUSE and take a trip down memory lane at WECE! Your presence completes the story. Don't miss out! We look forward to seeing you there!

#TEAMCUNDIFF

Educating Vinton's students since 1972

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF W.E. CUNDIFF

## PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS



**Melissa Blankenship, Paul LaPradd and Harper, and Betty and Garland Ballengee (married 67 years in August).**

By Angie Chewing and Bootie Chewing

Angie: What a special day to honor someone beyond deserving of recognition— Betty Ballengee!

Betty goes above and beyond for so many and has served her church in so many ways, including making sure its history and memories last forever. Betty has been a member of Belmont Christian Church for 65 years. They honored her service by naming The Betty Ballengee Belmont Memorabilia Room in her honor.

Betty is the mom of one of my longest life friends, Melissa Ballengee Blankenship, and her brother Greg (Karen), Grandma “Gigi” to Paul (Elizabeth) LaPradd, and Great-Grandma to Harper.

Congratulations Betty!

Bootie: Last Friday, I had a wonderful surprise. It was a visit with Jeff Howell. Jeff worked for me at Bootie’s Hallmark and Gifts while he was in WBHS. He was also in the Vinton Players with us and we were in shows together, like “Good Man, Charlie Brown.” He played Linus and I was Lucy. He stood in the wings and helped me with my songs. LOL. We all rode together in my

van to do Showtimers plays— “Music Man” and “Lil’ Abner.”

Jeff went on to Boston College after graduating. He came by the house, with his car packed, and said he was on his way to Hollywood. While there, he got a job casting extras in movies and commercials. So, one day after my husband Bob passed, Jeff called me and wanted to know if I wanted to be in the movies?

So, Gloria Blankenship Jennings and I headed out to Hollywood and were in Baja, Oklahoma, and Cagney and Lacey, etc. What a great time we had!

Through the years, on my trips to LA, I stayed with Jeff or met up with him for dinner and on my trip to Debbie’s [Fisher] memorial with Deborah Alvord from Cary, N.C. Jeff now has been in LA for 32 years and owns his own company called Howell Production, hiring and teaching voiceovers and travels all over holding seminars for voiceovers. While here visiting with his siblings, he did two classes on voiceovers at Mill Mountain Theatre.

On Monday, he dropped by again with sister Linda who now lives in Seattle, Wash. Always a pleasure to see him!



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANGIE CHEWNING

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The Vinton Messenger encourages letters from our readers on topics 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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**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](http://daleridgechurchofchrist.net), it’s updated each week from local, national and international sources with news of interest to Christians. Take a video tour of our facilities. Read articles taken from the word of God that apply to our lives today. View a new sermon each week. Dale Ridge is reaching out to the Roanoke/Botetourt area with the good news of Jesus Christ. Come join our plea to return to the Bible. We believe in the inspired Word of God which is as relevant today as it was when it was written. We believe in the Holy Spirit is a gift, given to every Christian when we respond to the Gospel as taught in the context of Acts 2 and emphasized in verse 38. We believe Jesus is the only means of our salvation. (Acts 4:12) Is this your time to make a choice? (John 16:13) Have you been looking for a church family that’s led by the Holy Spirit into all truth? (John 13:35) You will know we are His disciples by our love for one another. Follow the advice of Philip when he told Nathanael about Jesus in (John 1:46) “Come and See.”

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

**ECKANKAR**  
**ECKANKAR, THE PATH OF SPIRITUAL FREEDOM**, is a simple teaching that focuses on the Light and Sound of God to help people find more love in their life. The Roanoke Eckankar Center is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. A spiritual event is held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. Since contracting COVID-19 may still be pos-

# VINTON

## WORSHIP DIRECTORY

**DEPRESSED SAINTS**

Read 1 Kings 19:1 through 20:43

Sometimes Christians get depressed. The cause might be a chemical imbalance, sin, an attack from Satan, or the stress of life, but depression can happen to all of us. Prayer is in order, and in some cases medications might also be needed. Depression is a serious problem, especially for those diagnosed with clinical depression. However, we can always count on the Holy Spirit to gently lead us through the dark days, if we let Him.

The angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, “Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you” (1 Kings 19:7).

Godly Elijah, who had just won an incredible victory for the Lord, was hit so hard by depression that he wanted to die. God did not scold him or beat him when he was down. Instead, God sent His angel to gently remind Elijah to eat the food He provided. We, too, must daily eat the Word of God, the Bread of Life, for the “journey is too much” for us to travel in our own might.

Prayer for Today: Lord, encourage the depressed ones today. Draw them to Your Word, where they can find food for the journey.

Quicklook: 1 Kings 19:1-9

**If you would like to see your church services listed here in the Vinton Messenger contact Tucker Frye at 540-473-2741 or email [tfrye@ourvalley.org](mailto:tfrye@ourvalley.org)**

sible, please take the health steps that are best for you. It is appreciated that by attending you are taking responsibility for your own health. Visit [www.eck-va.org](http://www.eck-va.org), [www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences](http://www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences) \* Group\* or call 540-353-5365 for other Eckankar programs and for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar can lead you to spiritual freedom.

**FOURSQUARE**  
**EVANGEL CHURCH** - 2330 Hardy Road, Vinton (corner of Hardy Road and Feather Road), 540-982-3694, [www.evangel4sq.com](http://www.evangel4sq.com), Pastor Tim Wright. Worship Service Sunday, 10AM. Bible Study Wednesday 11AM-12PM.

**LUTHERAN**  
**ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**, “The Church Under The Cross”, 1201 Hardy Rd, Vinton VA 24179, Pastor, Rev. Dr. James B. Davis (540) 342- 1715, Sunday School 10:00am, Worship 11:00am, [sttimothy1201@verizon.net](mailto:sttimothy1201@verizon.net).

**NAZARENE**  
**FIRST CHURCH OF NAZARENE**, 728 Highland Ave., SE, Roanoke, Virginia. 342-4003. Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Wednesday

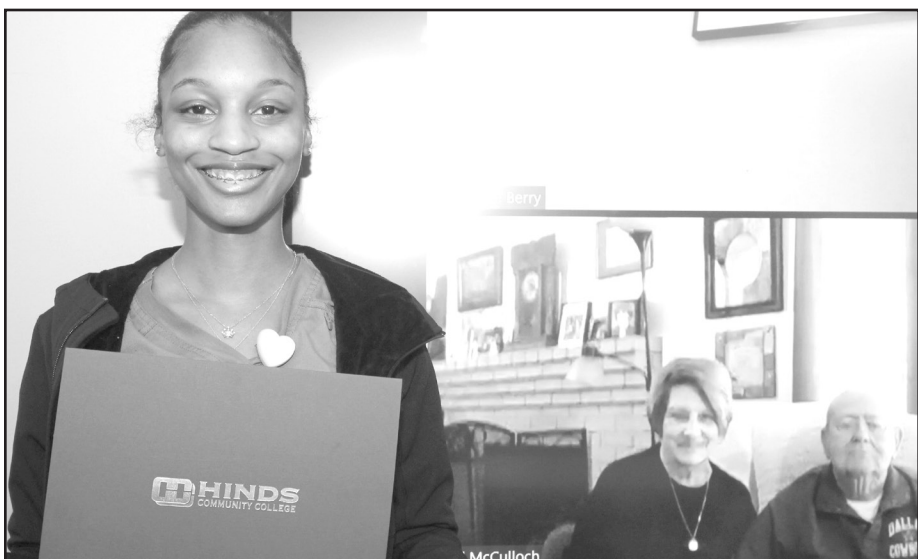
Night Bible Study 7 p.m.

**PRESBYTERIAN**  
**CAMPBELL MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**, 1130 Hardy Rd, Vinton, VA, 540-343-1842; [cmpc2verizon.net](http://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 Breakfast 8:00am. Rev. Jonathan Moelker, pastor

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

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

# McCulloch Memorial Nursing Scholarship winner announced



**Emmani Williams, the 2024 recipient of the Carla McCulloch Memorial Scholarship, with Carol and Larry McCulloch in the background**

Emmani Williams of Byram, Miss., was named this year's recipient of the Carla McCulloch Memorial Nursing Scholarship by the nursing staff/instructors at Hinds Community College in Raymond, Miss.

After her accidental death in 1991, Carla McCulloch's family and friends started the memorial to honor her legacy and enhance the lives of aspiring nurses. Her parents, Larry and Carol, are Vinton residents, as are her sister Mandy and her husband Matt Graybill, brother Jay and wife Shannon McCulloch, and their families.

The \$1,000 award is given to a second semester student annually, and along

with academic requirements, attributes of Carla McCulloch are always an integral part of the selection process.

This year's presentation was via Zoom due to Mr. McCulloch's health issues.

Williams, the 33rd recipient of the scholarship, is a dedicated and compassionate young woman who plans to become a pediatric nurse upon graduation.

"Our hearts are always touched when a new deserving student is named," said Carla's mom. "Carla's chosen profession, or calling, lives on through each and every one of them!"

*Submitted by Carol McCulloch*

PHOTO COURTESY OF CAROL MCCULLOCH

**Always a Terrier**

## Laxing for Leanne

Please join us in celebration of Leanne Fisher and her love and support for WBMS Girls Lacrosse!

In her memory, we are asking everyone to bring a can of pet food to be donated in her memory to the SPCA.

**April 20th** | WBMS Girls LAX Club  
**10:30am** | Patterson Stadium  
 @WBMS

PHOTO COURTESY GLORIA HARRIS, WBMS

## William Byrd Middle School lacrosse team celebrates life of Leanne Fisher

The William Byrd lacrosse family lost one of its biggest supporters in November 2023, Leanne Fisher, a teacher at Fort Lewis Elementary School. She supported not just lacrosse, but "everything Byrd." Her daughter, Ryleigh, is one of the captains at William Byrd Middle School and was on the volleyball team; her son, Russell, is on the football and track teams, and her oldest daughter, Emily is at the

high school. They are a very involved family in the Vinton and Bonsack communities as well. Emily dances with Studio 45, where Leanne was also a vital contributor. The Byrd lacrosse family wants to show this family how much they are supported and loved.

This Saturday, April 20, the lacrosse team will be playing a memorial game, "Laxing for Leanne," making it a day for the Fishers to

remember the good this year and not just the tragedy.

The team will be collecting pet food and selling concessions, all to benefit the SPCA in Leanne's name. There will be a short ceremony at 10:30 a.m. with a game to follow at Patterson Stadium at WBHS.

*Submitted by Gloria Harris, William Byrd Middle School*

## DAR Chapters visit Poplar Forest



PHOTO COURTESY OF CINDY HIGGINS

The Roanoke Valley Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), which meets in Vinton, joined the DAR Chapters from Botetourt and Craig Counties to tour Poplar Forest on April 13. Poplar Forest, located in Bedford County, is the historic home of founding father Thomas Jefferson and a National Historic Landmark. The DAR is a women's service organization whose members can trace their lineage to an individual who contributed to securing American independence during the Revolutionary War. DAR chapters participate in projects to promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism. The Roanoke Valley Chapter also focuses on veterans and those currently serving in the armed forces. It meets at Campbell Memorial Presbyterian Church in Vinton on the second Saturdays of most months.

*- Roanoke Valley Chapter of DAR*

## Mt. Pleasant Volunteer Fire Dept. to host annual spaghetti dinner

The Mt. Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department will hold its annual spaghetti dinner on May 4 from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., or until the food is gone. The cost is \$10 per dinner with children 6 and under eating free.

This will be a drive-through event. The menu will include spaghetti, salad, bread, drink, and dessert.

The fire department will be

assisted by the Auxiliary members. This is a major fundraiser for the department to help the members continue to be able to serve the community.

The address for the fire department is 2909 Jae Valley Road, Roanoke.

*- Mt. Pleasant VFD*

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

## A Study of Ephesians: 'Made for Good Works'

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.

Halfway through Ephesians 2 (v.11), we find the word "therefore." It is always beneficial to find out what it is "there for." Verses 1-10 explain to us that we had an "old life" before salvation and a "new life" since. Who we were versus who we are now.

"Therefore" (v.11) tells us that we are formerly Gentiles by birth, "but now" (v.13) in Christ Jesus have been brought near (heir to the Kingdom of Heaven) through the blood He shed on the cross. It was God's predestined plan all along that Jew and Gentile both become "one new humanity" (v.15) resulting in peace between the two groups. Furthermore, it is through the same Spirit we all have access to God the Father (v.18).

Consequently (v.19), the Gentile nation are fellow citizens with God's people. Fellow members of His heavenly household with Jesus Christ as the chief cornerstone. We are being built up as a holy temple in the Lord (v.21). A dwelling place for God through the Holy Spirit (v.22). The Gentile believer can and should have confidence in the fact that we have been given a seat at the heavenly table. A table at which we were considered foreigners before Christ's sacrifice. Let us all live a life worthy of our great position!

## Council from page 2



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Town of Vinton Community Programs Department is now fully staffed with the addition of Mandy Adkins and Rachel Nunley. Pictured left to right are staff members Amanda Payne, Caroline Loveland, Mandy Adkins, Rachel Nunley, and Shay Hicks.

Council members adopted a resolution accepting the Roanoke Outside Foundation Project Outside Grant Fund in the amount of \$4500 (no match required). The funds will be used to facilitate the update and repair of the Wolf Creek Greenway parking lot and the Tinker Creek Canoe Launch Rack and perimeter fencing. The town manager noted that proceeds from Go Fest fund the grant projects. Work will begin in May.

and ongoing projects:

- Replacement of street signs and other signage throughout the town is moving apace, beginning in the Midway area. Old signs are being retained for citizens who might want them as a memento.
- Last fall's paving program is now complete with repaving of roads in the Briar Cliff subdivision behind Kroger, and on Walnut and Cleveland Avenues.
- Several parking lots/areas have been resealed (more economical than paving) and striped, including the Vinton Farmers' Market lot, the Municipal Building lot, street parking around the library, and on Pollard and Cleveland. A new pad has been poured at the Farmers' Market.
- The new refuse truck has been ordered and is expected to be delivered in July.

- Signal lights are being upgraded at Pollard and Virginia Avenue, with parts ordered.
- A pre-construction meeting on the rebuilding of Mountain View Road is scheduled for this week. Construction is set to begin in early June after school closes.
- The 1st Street waterline project in conjunction with the WVWA should be finished this week—upgrading to a new eight-inch water line downtown.
- Demolition of the West Cedar Mobile Home Village by Public Works will begin shortly.

Town Council also adopted a resolution supporting a grant application for funds to add permanent restroom facilities on the Wolf Creek Greenway near the Hardy Road trail head parking lot.

Deputy Town Manager Cody Sexton presented a report from the Public Works Committee, a "jam-packed agenda" covering several completed

next week (due June 5). Assistant Planning and Zoning Director Nathan McClung presented the Community Development Committee report highlights:

- The Vinton Planning and Zoning Department has launched an updated website to provide timely reports on transportation projects.
- The Glade Creek Greenway Phase 2B project has been delayed due to the unexpected necessity of replacing a water line. September is the new target date.
- The new Tacorita restaurant will be opening downtown in late May.
- Work continues on the Cleveland Mart project, which has become

## OBITUARY

### Irby, Peggy Jaynes

Peggy Jaynes Irby, 91, of started traveling throughout Roanoke, went to be with the the United States, visiting Lord on Friday, April 5, 2024. She was born in Erwin, Tenn. on August 25, 1932.



approximately 49 states, including Hawaii and a cruise to Alaska. They loved meeting new friends and sharing fun and exciting experiences along the way. Their annual pilgrimage to the New Orleans Jazz Festival was something they especially enjoyed.

Peggy was preceded in death by her husband of 43 years, Gordon Irby; and her siblings, Arthur Kenneth Jaynes Jr., Harold E. Jaynes, Betty Lou Jaynes, and Claudyne Jaynes Judy.

Peggy is survived by her nephew, Joey Judy, his wife Bambi, and their daughter, Gabrielle; her niece, Kathy Spencer, her husband Jamie and their son, Logan; all of Roanoke; and her nephew, Hal Jaynes and his daughter, Samantha Harris of Atlanta, Ga.

Peggy was fortunate to have many close friends in her life. A special thanks to Helen Hall, who has been friends with her for 67 years and visited Peggy often, sitting and sharing stories of their past.

After graduating from East Tennessee State University, Peggy began her teaching career at Marion High School. She then came to Roanoke where she taught Business Education at William Byrd High School and was the head sponsor of the senior class for many years. Peggy loved running into her former students around town.

The family would like to thank First Baptist Church of Roanoke Homebound Ministries, the nurses and staff of Cardinal Senior Living of Roanoke for loving and caring for Peggy for the past 13-1/2 years, and to Medi Home Health & Hospice for their care during her final months.

She was a member of First Baptist Church of Roanoke, the Red Hat Society, and was a longtime member of Delta Kappa Gamma. She retired after 33 years of teaching and set out on her next adventure. Peggy and her husband

Services were held on April 12, 2024. Contributions can be made to the Alzheimer's Association or to the American Cancer Society. Condolences may be expressed at www.Oakeys.com.

"The song is ended, but the melody lingers on" – Irving Berlin Arrangements were by Oakey's South Chapel, Roanoke, (540) 989-3131.

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## Dogwood from page 1

Her parents are Amy Kageals and Todd Kageals. Addisyn St. Clair has played varsity soccer for four years and is a member

of Beta Club, the Leo Club, the International Club, and HOSA, as well as a Senior Class representative. She was named second team All-District in soccer in her sophomore year and first team All-District and first team All-Region in her junior year.

Her favorite pastime is spending time with her family on the beach finding shark teeth. Her future plans are to attend a four-year college to earn her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and then become a "NICU" nurse. Her parents are Paul and Casey St. Clair.

and Young Life. Her hobbies are playing volleyball, pickleball, and baking. She and her friends lead a girls Bible study. She works at Honey Tree 460 and volunteers in the nursery at Bonsack Baptist Church. She plans to attend Virginia Tech and major in elementary education with hopes to return to Vinton and teach at her old elementary school—Herman L. Horn. Her parents are Melissa and Kevin Tuck.

### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Marina Auction. 5.29 AC - Deepwater Access - Income Producing. Online Auction April 25th @ 2:00 PM. 107 Dockside Dr, Deltaville, VA 23043. DudleyResources.com for info

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### SERVICES

**DIVORCE**-Uncontested, \$475+\$86 court cost. **WILLS**-\$295.00. No court appearance. Estimated completion time twenty-one days. Hilton Oliver, Attorney (Facebook), 757-490-0126. Se Habla Espanol. BBB Member. https://hiltonoliverattorneyva.com.

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**THE NRV MPO SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT FOR THE ROUTE 460 BUSINESS CORRIDOR BICYCLE, PEDESTRIAN, AND TRANSIT STUDY**

Find out about the study progress and potential safety improvements along Route 460 Business in Blacksburg, Christiansburg, and Montgomery County. The meeting will be held at the New River Community College, Christiansburg Site located at 782 New River Road NW Suite 400, Room 149 on Thursday, April 25, 2024, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. In addition to the in-person meeting, public meeting materials will be posted by

**Legals - Montgomery County**

April 22nd on the New River Valley MPO's website at [www.newrivervalleympo.org](http://www.newrivervalleympo.org)

They will also be available for review at the offices of the New River Valley MPO. Please give your written comments at the meeting or submit them via USPS to the NRV MPO's office, located at 755 Roanoke St. Ste. 21, Christiansburg, VA 24073. You may also e-mail your comments to [460study@rkk.com](mailto:460study@rkk.com). Please reference "460 Study" PH Comments in the subject line. Comments for this study will be received until 5:00 PM, May 9th, 2024.

This public notice and opportunity to comment on the Route 460 Study meets the program of projects requirements as established by the FTA pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 5307(c). The NRV MPO ensures

**Legals - Montgomery County**

nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Dan Brugh at: [brughjd@montgomerycountva.gov](mailto:brughjd@montgomerycountva.gov) or 540-394-2145, TTY/TTD 711.

**Order of Publication**  
Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104  
Case No. **CL24000530-00**  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* ERIC

**Legals - Montgomery County**

RANDALE BRYANT v. CHRISTINA MARIE BRYANT

The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that CHRISTINA MARIE BRYANT appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before JUNE 5, 2024. APRIL 2, 2024

**Legals - Montgomery County**

ROBERT M.D. TURK, JUDGE  
TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK



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PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

William Byrd's Thomas Bibby(#5), Dexter Gaines(#4 heading ball), Hunter Burgess(#16) and keeper Bricen Lancaster(#0) guard the cage against Lord Botetourt.

# Byrd boys shut out Franklin County on the pitch, 1-0

The William Byrd boys' soccer team played two games that were decided by one goal in the past week, including a 1-0 shutout win over Franklin County in Vinton Tuesday.

Byrd got on the board early Tuesday when, in the second minute, Sergio Leon was able to steal the ball from one of the Eagles backs as Franklin was trying to play out and Leon was able to score to put Byrd up 1-0. That proved to be the only goal of the game.

"We created chances but just could not finish those chances," said Byrd coach Russell Dishman. "We did well to defend and prevent their chances. It was good

to get back in the win column." The Terriers lost a heartbreaker to Lord Botetourt in Daleville last Friday when the Cavaliers scored at the end of the second overtime for a 3-2 win.

"Coming in we knew it was going to be a tight match," said Dishman. "We started off well but lacked speed in our build up. We made an error trying to play out of our half and they were able to intercept, counter and score to go up 1-0 early. It was tough, but the guys kept their composure and we did better to then secure the ball."

LB led 1-0 at the half but Byrd was able to tie the

game when Shawn Gower headed one in off a Leon assist. LB regained the lead with 10 minutes to go but Byrd drew level again when Daniel Britts scored on a free kick with two minutes remaining in regulation.

The overtimes went back and forth, but right in the literal last seconds LB was able to get forward and find a ball across that they were able to tap in.

"It was a tough one to take but there were a lot of positives to take from the match," said Dishman.

Byrd is now 5-3-2 overall. The Terriers are at Staunton River on Friday, then at Cave Spring next Monday.

## Terrier boys win three in BRD tennis

The William Byrd tennis teams will take on Staunton River in Blue Ridge District matches Friday. The boys will be at home and the girls will play in Moneta.

Byrd's boys are on a roll, improving to 4-0 in district matches with three wins in the past week. Byrd defeated Lord Botetourt in Vinton last Friday, 5-4, then won back-to-back matches on Monday and Tuesday against William Fleming and Franklin County, both by 7-2 scores.

Winners against Fleming in singles were Ryan Carista, Camden Thepsimuong, Maddox Wolfe, Dillon Colgan, Patrick Hodges and Keith Schult. Luke Hemming and Cody Gardner won in doubles.

Against Franklin County Thepsimuong, Wolfe, Hodges and Schult won singles matches. Byrd then swept the doubles with the teams of Carista and Wolfe, Thepsimuong and Hodges



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Byrd's Ashley Begasse hits a return against LB.

and Hemming and Gardner. The girls had their match with Franklin County postponed on Tuesday. Last Thursday they played Lord Botetourt at the Hollins University courts and lost 8-1 to a strong Cavalier team. Ashley Begasse had Byrd's point with a win at number two singles.

## Eagles edge Byrd girls, 2-1

Franklin County played host to the William Byrd girls' soccer team on Tuesday in Rocky Mount and pulled out a 2-1 win in a Blue Ridge District game.

Byrd fell behind early when the Eagles scored on a cross in the box just three minutes into the game. Franklin then upped the margin to 2-0 before the half and the Terriers regrouped at intermission.

"We finally settled into the game and made it to half time only trailing by two goals," said Byrd coach Molly Cox. "We continued to improve throughout the second half but didn't find our first goal until there were only three minutes left in the game and we did not have enough time to complete the comeback."

With the loss the girls fell to 4-5 overall but it was just their first Blue Ridge District loss in four games. The girls were rained out of a game with Lord Botetourt last Thursday.

The Terriers will be back on the pitch Friday



PHOTO BY REGINA DEVINNEY

Emma Milliron chases down a loose ball.

with a home game against Staunton River. Byrd is home again next Monday to host Cave Spring.



Left, Byrd's Nick Bustamante covers a Salem attackman in Monday night's game in Salem. Right, Jada Johnson of the Terrier girls' team gathers a ground ball in Vinton.

## Lacrosse teams lose to Salem, girls defeat Jefferson Forest

Salem High was one of the first schools in the area to offer varsity lacrosse and the William Byrd boys and girls are still trying to catch up. On Monday Salem took decisive wins over the Terriers, downing the girls 18-7 in Vinton and the boys, 18-2, in Salem.

Byrd's girls fell behind early before the Terriers rallied for seven goals. Samantha Martin led the offense with three goals and Annika Hylton had two. Barb Hernandez was peppered in the cage but made eight saves, many

at point blank range. Meanwhile, in Salem, the boys had trouble keeping the Spartans out of the Terriers' defensive end. Julian Pantoja did his best in the goal, making 24 saves to keep the score from totally getting out of hand.

"Julian had another great game," said Byrd coach Will Satterfield. "Playing on Mondays with a younger team is always going to be tough and Salem is an excellent team. Defensively, we made too many mistakes and didn't help ourselves on the

offensive end either." Last Wednesday, April 10, both teams played Jefferson Forest with the girls in Forest and the boys at home. The girls got a signature win when they defeated a solid Cavalier team, 10-4.

Martin had five goals in this one and also had an assist. Hylton scored twice and added an assist and Hernandez was solid in the goal with seven saves. Emma Rupp had two ground balls and forced two turnovers for the Terriers.

The boys played a strong game as

well but fell 7-5 to Jefferson Forest at Vinton's Patterson Stadium. Pantoja had 23 saves to keep the Terriers in the game.

"I thought our guys played really hard against a very good Jefferson Forest team," said Satterfield. "We battled for all four quarters and gave ourselves a chance to win a crucial game in our region."

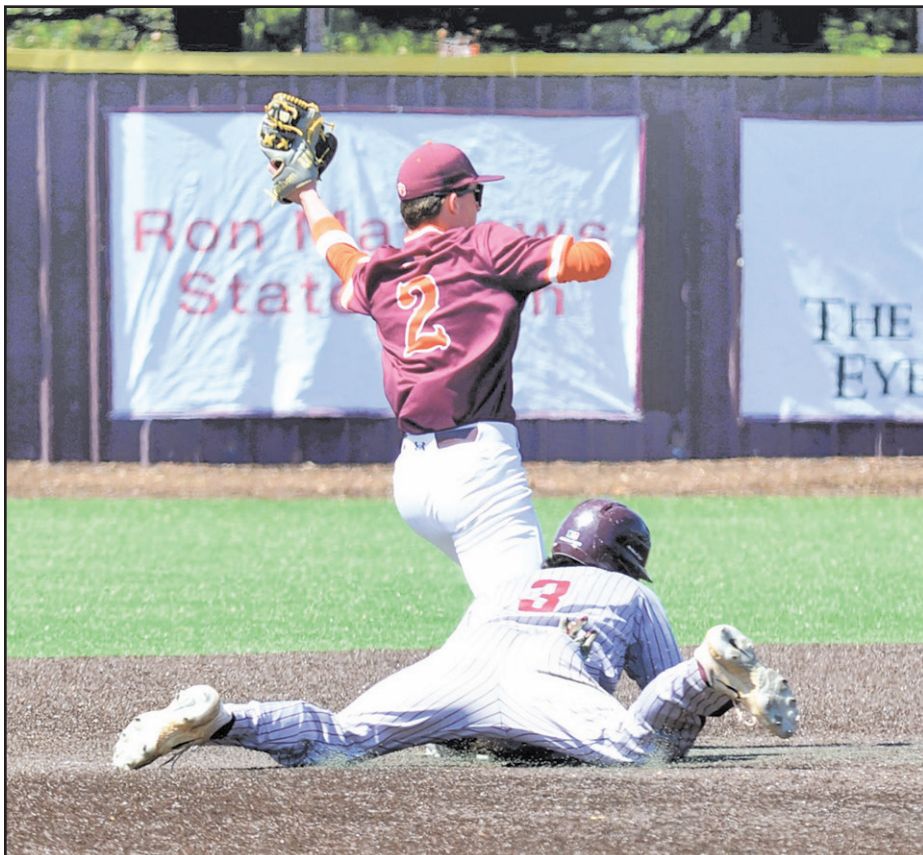
The boys are now 3-4 and the girls are 2-5. Both are scheduled to play Patrick Henry tonight with the girls at home and the boys at PH.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

# SPORTS

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Left, Byrd's Ian Burnett takes the throw at second in the Terriers' game with Dobyns-Bennett last Saturday. Right, Brogan Dent connects.

PHOTOS BY KEVIN WITCHER

## Terriers play three games in 15 hours in Tennessee, go 1-2

The William Byrd baseball team took a trip across the border last weekend to play three teams in the Tribe Classic in Bristol. The Terriers split two games on Friday and dropped an extra innings game on Saturday.

"The Tennessee trip was a whirl wind," said Byrd coach Jason Taylor. "We played 3 games in less than 15 hours. Played two on Friday, then checked in the hotel 12:15 am Saturday morning and played again at 10 am.

"I was extremely proud of the kids. They had a lot of energy. It was great to get away and play teams you know nothing about and they know nothing about you."

Byrd opened with a 5-3 win over Tennessee High of Bristol. Blake Glover started on the mound and pitched four innings, allowing three earned runs. Cooper Minnix came on in relief to pick up the win, allowing one hit and no runs over three innings. Israel Hairston had three hits for Byrd and Brogan Dent had two.

Next up was Elder High of Ohio in a game played mostly in the rain. Byrd gave up six runs in the second inning and that was the difference.

Connor Jones started on the mound and took the loss but only one run against him was earned. He was relieved by Brenin Witcher with two outs in the second and Brenin went the rest of the way, giving up three earned runs. Ian Burnett, Hayden Eads and Logan Beavers had two hits each.

On Saturday morning the Terriers got up early to take on Dobyns-Bennett and they dropped an 8-7 game in eight innings. Byrd put five runs on the board in the third inning and led 7-0 before Dobyns-Bennett rallied to tie the game, then win it in the eighth. With the win Dobyns-Bennett improved to 18-3 on the season.

"This could have been major points for our regional standings," said Taylor. "We came out hot but faded as the game went on."

Dent, Cannin Lutz, Keller Spraker and Kyland Spence all pitched for Byrd with Spence taking the loss in the eighth when a runner reached on an error and scored on a walk-off double. Noah Thompson and Eads had two hits each for Byrd and Hairston drove in two runs.

The Terriers were back in the Blue Ridge District on Tuesday and were shut out by Franklin County

in Rocky Mount, 5-0. Byrd had just two hits against Eagles' ace Lawson Pasley, who took a no-hitter into the fifth inning before JW Vaughan broke it up. Ian Burnett had Byrd's other hit, a double in the sixth.

"We seem to get everyone's number one pitcher," said Taylor. "It will make us stronger as the season goes. Pasley pitched well and to contact and they caught the ball. I'm happy that we only had three strikeouts but we only found the barrel of the bat a few times."

Franklin County scored five runs in the second off Glover, who took the loss despite allowing just two earned run. Minnix pitched two scoreless innings of relief.

"Overall, a string of 4 quality of opponents," said Taylor. "We still are our biggest enemy. If we clean up the mistakes and take away the big inning, we will be okay. We have made improvements and this is a good baseball team. It will be an interesting finish."

Byrd is now 7-6 overall and 2-2 in the district. The Terriers will host Staunton River Friday at 5:30 pm at Walthall Park, then travel to Cave Spring Monday for a non-district game.

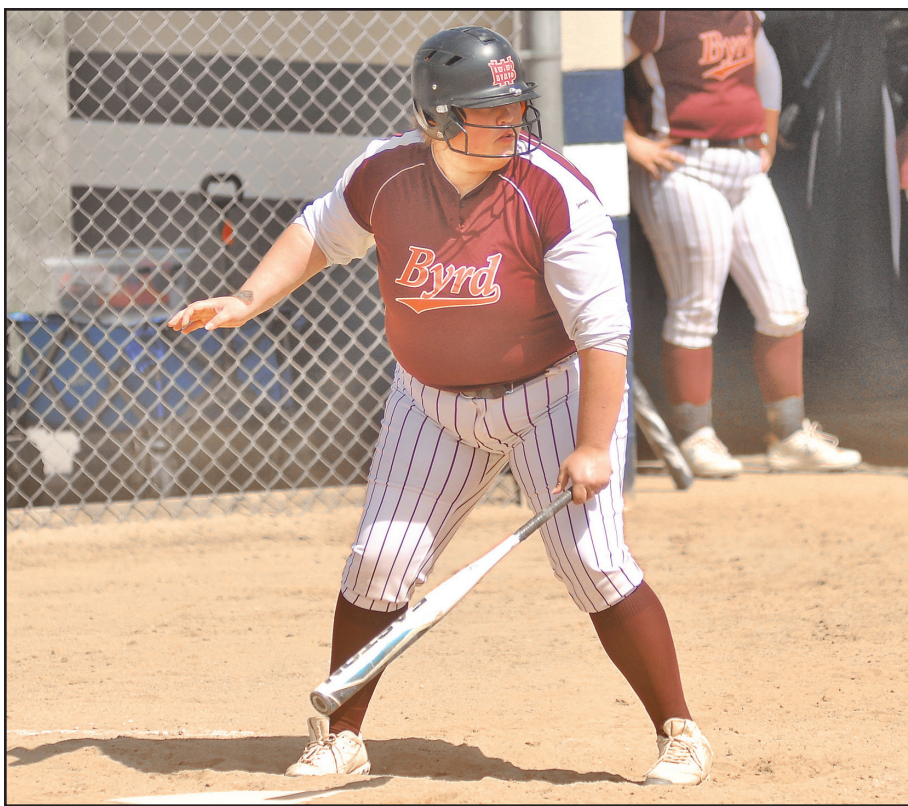


PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Mary Wray had a three-run homer against Franklin County Tuesday.

## Eagles win slugfest

The women Byrd softball team is 7-5 after dropping a slugfest against Franklin County Tuesday in Vinton. The visiting Eagles took an 18-7 win over the Terriers.

Heidi Dixon hit a solo home run to right field in the bottom of the second for Byrd, and the Terriers pulled to within 11-7 in the bottom of the fifth when Sydney Blewett doubled, scoring one run, and Mary Wray homered to center, scoring three more. Byrd had 10 hits, including three by Blewett, but the Terriers couldn't keep Franklin down and Addison Clark took the loss on the mound. Mandolin Draper and Carson Wood had two hits each for Byrd.

Last Wednesday in Dublin the Terriers took a 7-4 win over Pulaski County in a non-district game that went nine innings before it was decided. Blewett hit two home runs and drove in five.

Byrd rallied for the victory despite trailing 4-0 in the third inning. The Terriers scored three runs in the top of the sixth on a home run to center by Blewett on an 0-2 count. Sydney then singled in the top of the seventh to tie the game at 4-4.

Byrd took the lead in the top of the ninth inning after Sydney Tuck and Draper hit sacrifice flies and Blewett drilled a solo home run to left.

Clark earned the win for the Terriers, yielding seven hits and four runs over nine innings, striking out nine and walking two. The Terriers stole four bases in the game and had no errors in the field.

The Terriers will be back in action Thursday at Northside and Friday at Staunton River. They have home games next week against Cave Spring Monday and Christiansburg Wednesday.

## Byrd girls take second, boys are 8th in Blacksburg Invitational track meet

Blacksburg High hosted the "Blacksburg Invitational" on the Bruins' track last Saturday with 17 girls' teams and 19 boys' teams competing. The William Byrd girls finished second overall and the boys were eighth as host Blacksburg swept the team titles.

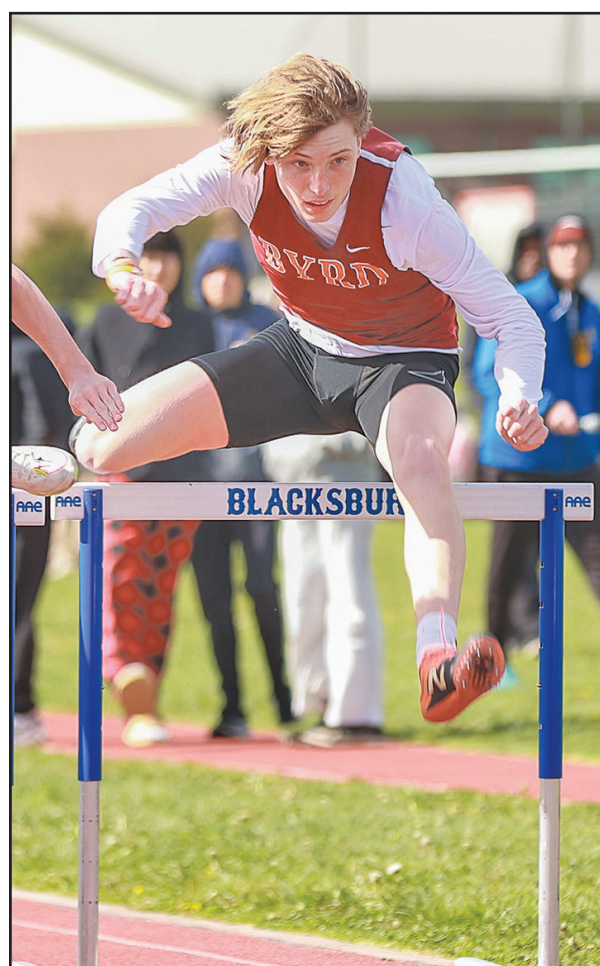
Byrd's Grace Onwi won the 400m dash competition with a time of 59.28. Emma Kageals finished third in the 300m hurdles with a school record time of 49.10 and Lily Perez was eighth in 52.15. Perez was fourth in the 100m hurdles.

Lucy Whitenack finished 10th in the 800m run with a time of 2:42.35. The Byrd 4x400m relay of Kageals, Perez, Emma Matthews and Onwi finished second with a time of 4:16.61 and the 4x100m relay of Matthews, Allyson Mavredes, Olivia Bustamante and Alexia Donahue was 6th.

In the field events Perez won the girls triple jump with a school record jump of 35'5.25 and finished 5th in the long jump with a distance of 16'6.5". Sydney Blewett won the girls shot put competition with a throw of 35'3 and Skye Williams finished 4th in the discus with a throw of 87'4. Bustamante was 4th in the high jump clearing a height of 4'7".

For the boys Landon Martin finished 2nd in the 110m hurdles with a time of 16.20 and Micheal Goins finished 4th in the 110m hurdles and 6th in the 300m hurdles. Wyatt Bailey was 5th in the 200m dash with a state qualifying time of 23.06.

Brady Reachy finished 7th in the 100m dash with a time of 11.75 and Donald Mullins was 7th in the mile at 4:40.29. Titus Beatty took 6th in the shot put with a throw of 41'6".



PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

William Byrd's Landon Martin, left, is on his way to a second place finish in the 110 hurdles in Blacksburg last Saturday. Right, Grace Onwi won the girls' 400 meter race.