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# The Vinton Messenger

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## Chief Drumond announces Vinton Police Department 2023 awards



Vinton Police Officer of the Year Daniel Valladarez (left), who also won a Life Saving Award, with Chief Drumond.

**Debbie Adams**  
dadams@ourvalley.org

Vinton Police Chief Fabricio Drumond announced the winners of the Vinton Police Department 2023 awards at the Town Council meeting on June 18, "highlighting exceptional employees." The awards are based on 2023 statistics, activities, and peer nominations. "We are proud and thankful for all of our officers each and every day,"

Drumond said. Officer Daniel Valladarez was chosen by his peers as Officer of the Year for 2023. This award is a recognition of "exemplary work," and indicative an officer's sacrifice and passion "to create a safe place for all to live and a pattern of community service."

Officer Valladarez also received the Life Saving Award for his quick response when an individual became unresponsive inside a local business after tripping



PHOTOS BY MANDIE BAKER

Officer Andrew Hagy (right) received a Life Saving Award from Chief Drumond for his heroic efforts in saving a citizen's life.

and falling. As the first to respond, Valladarez determined that the man was unconscious and had no pulse and began administering CPR. He continued until medical personnel arrived.

"His quick response, reliance on his training, and his will to succeed, gave a person another chance at life," Drumond said.

Officer Andrew Hagy also received the Life Saving Award. He responded to a service call on May 5, 2023, involving

a well-being check on an individual making suicidal threats. He found the man sitting on a dimly lit front porch holding a gun. Hagy unholstered his gun and took cover behind a parked SUV. The back-up officer used a spotlight to illuminate the scene. Officer Hagy began negotiating techniques and eventually convinced the subject to place his firearm on the floor. The individual

See **Police**, page 6

**Four=4th**  
Boys and Girls Club  
Four on the 4<sup>th</sup> Race  
July 4, 2024

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF TOWN OF VINTON

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest Virginia Four on the 4th racecourse through Vinton

## Vinton prepares for another spectacular Fourth of July Celebration

The Town of Vinton is making plans to celebrate the Fourth of July 2024 all day and most of the night.

Events will begin with the 13th annual Four on the 4th Race, which traditionally attracts hundreds of runners from across the valley. The four-mile run kicks off from the Vinton War Memorial at 8 a.m. The racecourse features a downhill start, less than 150 feet of elevation gain, and a run through picturesque downtown Vinton, including the Vinton Farmer's Market, newly developed Vinyard Station, and one of the locations of the Boys & Girls Club at Vinton Baptist Church. The race ends back at the War Memorial.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest Virginia (BGCSWVA)

and the Town of Vinton are partnering once again for the race presented by Fleet Feet. The event benefits the BGCSWVA which currently serves students ages 5-18 at 10 locations in all-day summer camps at little or no cost to families. The organization has locations in Montgomery County, Franklin County, Roanoke County, Salem City, and Roanoke City. The race raises over \$30,000 each year to support summer programs including field trips, academic support and mentoring, and summer meals for kids.

Registration is open to all ages. The four-mile race at 8 a.m. is followed by a Kids Fun Run at 9 a.m. Registration is open now and will remain open until 7:30 a.m. on July 4. Community members can learn more and register by

visiting <https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Vinton/Fouronthe4th>.

There will be a gospel sing that afternoon at the Vinton Farmers' Market from 2 to 4 p.m.

On the afternoon and evening of July 4, Pok-E-Joe's BBQ and Pollard 107 South will be hosting a block party from 5 to 10 p.m. to celebrate the holiday. (Keep an eye on their Facebook pages for more details.)

Then that night, the Town of Vinton is excited to host the annual Fourth of July Celebration at the Vinton War Memorial.

This free event is open to the public and includes fun for the entire family. The festivities begin at 6:30 p.m. with a short patriotic program beginning at 7 p.m. Music

See **Fourth**, page 6

## Shepherd wins tight race in Republican Primary for Vinton District seat on Board of Supervisors

Voters in the Vinton Magisterial District have chosen Tammy Entsminger Shepherd to represent the Republican Party on the ballot in the General Election in November for a seat on the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors. Shepherd won by a narrow margin of 20 votes, defeating fellow Republican Tim Greenway.

When the official results were released, Shepherd received 1,074 votes (50.47%); Greenway, 1,054 votes (49.53%).

"I am truly humbled and grateful for the trust you have placed in me," Shepherd said. "Thank you to all the voters of the Vinton District for your support and for believing in our vision for a stronger, more prosperous Roanoke County. Thank you to all who have supported me and helped through this campaign. As your supervisor, I promise to work tirelessly to keep our taxes low, support our first responders, and ensure our schools focus on education above all. Thank you once again for this incredible honor."

Shepherd has served on the Board of Supervisors since January 2024, appointed by the Board of Supervisors to complete the term of Jason Peters, who was elected as Roanoke County Commissioner of the Revenue in last November's election. She will be running unopposed in the General Election as there is no Democratic candidate on the ballot.

Greenway has served on the Roanoke County School Board since 2015. His current term expires in 2025.

"I am proud of the campaign I ran; I'm proud of all the Vinton District people who supported me; and I'm especially proud of the Vinton business community that supported me," Greenway said.

Shepherd won the South Lindenwood (50.68% of votes cast) and Mount



PHOTO COURTESY ROANOKE COUNTY  
**Tammy Shepherd**

Pleasant (62%) precincts. Greenway won in Bonsack (53.05%), North Lindenwood (50.36%), North Vinton (58.03%), and South Vinton (50.78%) precincts.

The tight race made for some interesting statistics. A large number of voters voted early (967 total votes) with more early voters choosing Greenway (543) than Shepherd (424).

More Election Day voters (1,049 total votes) chose Shepherd (593 votes) than Greenway (456 votes). Mailed-in absentee ballots were about equally divided with 52 for Greenway and 51 for Shepherd.

Shepherd won by 88 votes in the Mount Pleasant precinct, while Greenway won by 57 in North Vinton. The other precincts were relatively close in the number of votes cast for each candidate.

The Vinton Magisterial District has approximately 14,195 registered voters with 2,128 turning out to vote in the Republican Primary— that's about 15%.

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# Vinton Town Council faces hot button issue

**Debbie Adams**  
dadams@ourvalley.org

The agenda for the June 18 Vinton Town Council meeting listed some rather mundane topics— amending the current year's budget; approving an agreement for operations with the Vinton History Museum; executing a contract with the Roanoke County Commonwealth's Attorney; closing the Utility Fund. The highlight was expected to be Chief of Police Fabricio Drumond announcing the Vinton Police Department award winners for the past year.

However, a hot button issue popped up in the town just days before the meeting when a woman's health clinic, Summit Medical Center of Roanoke, LLC, known for providing abortion services, applied for a zoning permit on 3rd Street in the former Dynamic Medical building. That issue brought several citizens to the council meeting to express their views on the clinic and its services.

Vinton Mayor Brad Grose opened the Citizens' Comments and Petitions segment of the meeting with a prepared statement addressing the issue:

"I suspect that you are here to discuss a recent property acquisition on 3rd Street that has listed its business as women's healthcare. It has been rumored that abortions will be performed at this location. The Town of Vinton did not recruit this business and we were not aware of the possible intention to perform abortions at this site until very recently.

"Personally, I oppose abortion. However, I am not aware of anything that can be done by this council to stop this business from proceeding with its plans at this proposed location. Offices and medical clinics are permitted as a 'matter of right' in this zoning district. Given the recent United States Supreme Court ruling, abortion has become an issue of state law and abortion remains legal in Virginia.

"Some of our neighboring states have taken steps to restrict abortion which has made locations in Virginia very attractive to facilities such as this."

Citizen Katy Notebaert addressed her concerns to council about small towns like Vinton being targeted by human traffickers for these types of medical facilities. She noted that I-81 has been identified by law enforcement as a huge human trafficking corridor, and that there is an enormous "stream of fentanyl coming into Roanoke" which exacerbates the problem. She urged council to do everything possible to "leave Vinton as beautiful as it is now."

Ann Russell, president and CEO of the Blue Ridge Women's Center, told council that Roanoke has become a destination city for abortions from surrounding states and those farther south, who have banned abortions. While she said her organization "does not sit in judgment," they want to present options to those considering abortion.

Phil Buchy from the Love Life organization identified himself as a sidewalk counselor who stands in front of abortion clinics to discourage the procedures and offer alternatives. In his opinion, abortion has become "big business."

Two other pro-life speakers urged Town Council members to find a legal means of discouraging the clinic from coming to Vinton.

Councilman Keith Liles told the speakers that with the location being zoned for medical use, the business has no legal requirement to tell the town "what they are doing" and "the town can't ask."

Speakers and council members all displayed decorum; the discussion was courteous and calm. Council promised to continue its investigation into the intentions of the new business and how other localities are dealing with similar challenges.

Town Manager Pete Peters says he has spoken by phone with over 30 individuals, answering questions about the issue. He noted that localities with "business friendly zoning" are increasingly being targeted by such enterprises.

Council next held a public hearing on a proposed amendment to the FY2023-2024 town budget to appropriate various operational expenditures, including additional paving, personnel expenditures, maintenance projects, contractual services, and materials and supplies, totaling \$1.5 million in the General Fund.

Deputy Town Manager Cody Sexton briefed council on the specifics of the proposed amendment, sharing the "good news" that "a number of major revenue streams are running surpluses at the end of the fiscal year." These surpluses represent additions to the budget. Town staff has proposed a series of budget transfers and appropriations to align the new anticipated revenues with expenditures of immediate impact on the community to enhance service delivery and improve infrastructure.

Staff recommends (with the concurrence of council members) that half of the \$1.5 million go towards additional paving, \$360,000 for "truing up" personnel salaries and wages, and \$400,000 for one-time projects.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BO HERNDON

**The FDR (Full Depth Reclamation) Project on Mountain View Road is well underway. Paving is set for mid-week.**

Council adopted a resolution allowing the town manager to execute a Collaboration Agreement with the Vinton Historical Society to operate the Vinton History Museum. The town's annual appropriation provides \$5,000 per year for building maintenance and utilities. The town also provides funding to support a part-time employee to help staff the facility.

Council also adopted a resolution authorizing the town manager to execute a Contract for Professional Legal Services between the town and the Roanoke County Commonwealth's attorney (currently Brian Holohan), which expires on June 30.

The Commonwealth's Attorney will prosecute all violations of town ordinances, whether those ordinances are codified or not, and no matter which court has jurisdiction over the prosecutions. The Commonwealth's Attorney's prosecutorial services under this contract will include, but not be limited to, code enforcement, traffic infractions, Class 1, 2, 3, and 4 misdemeanors, substantial risk orders under Chapter 9 of Title 19.2, custody orders, and similar proceedings as well as any appeals before the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court for which he was the prosecuting attorney. The Commonwealth's Attorney also will provide, on an as-needed basis, advice to members of the Vinton Police Department on matters of criminal law and criminal procedure in the course of their official duties.

Council approved a resolution authorizing the treasurer/finance director to permanently close the town's Utility Fund and have the outstanding amounts removed from the active records and placed in a permanent file where, if the opportunity arises, the accounts may be collected.

Peters updated council on the most recent Community Development Committee meeting including the possibility of loan forgiveness and a performance agreement with Twin Creeks Brewing Company, a Collaboration Agreement with the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce which is under negotiation, Vinton War Memorial renovations, and the initial stages of the Vinton 2050 Comprehensive Plan.

He noted that EPA Brownfields funding will be used in the design of elements of stabilization for the Gish Mill project (building a temporary internal structure). Discussion is continuing for the West Lee Avenue Redevelopment project (the downtown area damaged by fire in July 2022). Council will discuss the SMART SCALE application for the \$22 million state-funded Washington Avenue/Bypass Road roundabout (a potential project in 2031) at a July council meeting.

The town solicited proposals from qualified architectural and professional engineering firms (A&E) to provide professional services on an "on-call" basis and received over 20 RFPs for the project.

The Glade Creek Greenway Phase 2B project will be finished by the end of the summer now that the water line has been lowered. Equipment for the Community Playground to be located at the Vinton War Memorial complex will be installed next spring. The Gus Nicks Crosswalk Project is almost complete. The Hardy Road Crosswalk at W. E. Cundiff Elementary is underway with plans for completion in early August.

The Mountain View Road Full Depth Reclamation project is also well underway. Two sinkholes on Niagara Road— one the result of a sewer line failure, and another on Niagara Road near Wyndham which resulted in road closures— may be completed this week.

# Miss Virginia contestants bring sparkle and charm to pageant week



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

**Roanoke is hosting the 71st Miss Virginia Pageant this week, beginning with a "Meet the Crowns" reception at the Hotel Roanoke on June 25. Pictured left to right are Miss Virginia advisory board member Carolyn Hodges Campbell, Miss Virginia 2023 Katie Rose, and Miss Virginia Teen Addison Rhudy.**

**Debbie Adams**  
dadams@ourvalley.org

It's Miss Virginia Pageant competition week in Roanoke.

The first Miss Virginia Pageant was held at the Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach in 1926 as a business outreach event. In 1953, the program was officially established in Roanoke after Elizabeth Bowles, a member of the Valley Junior Woman's Club, went to Atlantic City and requested a franchise for the Miss Virginia Pageant for the club. In 1963, a non-profit group, Miss Virginia Competition, Inc., was formed and granted a franchise from the Miss America Pageant.

The first Miss Virginia Pageant in Roanoke was held in the ballroom of the Hotel Roanoke (the host hotel through the present day). It later moved to the American Theatre until the opening of the Roanoke Civic Center Auditorium (now the Berglund Center).

Four Miss Virginias have gone on to be crowned as Miss America— Kylene Barker, Nicole Johnson, Caressa Cameron, and Camille Schrier.

Miss Virginia is foremost a scholarship organization which last year awarded over \$75,000 in scholarships to Miss and Teen candidates. Miss Virginia was awarded over \$22,500. The Miss American Pageant is the largest scholastic benefactor to women in the world, making available more than \$4 million in cash and in-kind scholarships annually nationwide.

Competition Week (June 24-29) is packed with activities, beginning with the "Meet the Crowns Reception" in the Shenandoah Room at the hotel on June 25.

Miss Virginia 2023 Katie Rose, along with Miss Virginia Teen 2023 Addison Rhudy were at the doorway to greet the public, pageant judges, sponsors, and local officials.

The room was filled with sparkling evening gowns and crowns, and

charming young women— 25 Miss Virginia contestants, along with over 20 Miss Virginia Teens from across the Commonwealth. They came with conversation starters— shoes they had decorated to represent their local areas. They'll be displaying those shoes again on Saturday, June 29, as they ride in the "Show Us Your Shoes" parade through downtown Roanoke, celebrating the Miss Virginia heritage in the "Star City."

The contestants have also decorated purses and baskets for a "Purse-a-nality and Basket Auction" to benefit the Miss Virginia Opportunity organization. They will be showcasing red dresses for the American Heart Association "Go Red" initiative at a style show and luncheon on Saturday.

All week long, there will be special guests, preliminary competitions, receptions, luncheons, and parties, leading up to the final competition on June 29, when Miss Virginia 2024 will be crowned at the Berglund Center.

Preliminary competitions for the Miss and Teen candidates will take place on Thursday and Friday, June 27 and 28. Contestants will compete in talent, individual Community Service Initiatives, fitness, evening wear, an interview with the judges, and an on-stage question at the final competition.

Miss America 2024 Madison Marsh will be attending several of the events throughout the week, sharing her experience of representing Miss America Opportunity, while serving in the U.S. Air Force.

At the "Meet the Crowns" reception, the contestants were personable, prepared, and articulate. Miss Roanoke Valley Grace Phleger is from Roanoke, just graduated from Radford University with a Master's in Music Therapy, and plans to become an opera singer. She decorated a pair of boots with sparkling stars, representing

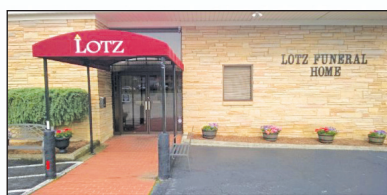
See Miss Virginia, page 5

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## Expect delays (July 4):

Due to the July 4 holiday, next week's edition of the Vinton Messenger will be available at newsstands and mailed out to subscribers on July 5. Thank you for your patience. - Vinton Messenger staff



# PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

By Angie & Bootie Chewning

Hot is the word that comes to mind when thinking about this weekend! Actually, HOT might be an understatement. This weekend's Mingle at the Market was HOT. The weather was scorching HOT. The band "That 80's Show" was incredibly HOT! The food vendors— Mountain Grille and Get Glazed Donuts— were deliciously HOT! The volunteers were greatly appreciated—HOT! And, of course, the crowd was HOT! Thank you for traveling back in time with us; we had an absolute blast!

Thank you to our amazing community— Town of Vinton government, media sponsors, Tim Greenway and Mountain View Real Estate, ALCOVA Mortgage-Vinton and Member One Federal Credit Union for your continued support.

Thanks to HomeTrust Bank for returning as our Stage, cup and Koozie Sponsor (we couldn't be happier); Rosie's Gaming and Colonial Downs for being our Wristband Sponsor and Supporting Partner; our Kid Zone Sponsor Boothe Bell Real Estate Team; SERVPRO of Roanoke who powered our Flexphotobooth; Goosehead Insurance for your Entrance Sponsorship, and The Conner Group and Bank of Botetourt for lighting up the night with Glow Sticks and LED Wands.

Thank you to all our Platinum, Silver, and Gold Sponsors who support us year around; William Byrd Terrier Football;

the Defy Gravity Training Center— your volunteer efforts make an enormous difference every Mingle; Ashley Brooke Wickstrom for your Water Sponsorship; and Pok-E-Joe's BBQ-Vinton and Pollard 107 South for taking care of our guests before and after every Mingle.

We can't wait to see everyone on July 13 for our next Mingle at the Market!

Best Surprise for a Couple of Friends! (written by Ralph Hargis):

"I was visiting with my dad, John Hargis, for Father's Day and to spend a few days together. We joined for a prayer breakfast at IHOP near Rt. 220S. After the prayer breakfast, I was paying our bill and turned around to see Bootie Chewning and her sister-in-law, Suzanne Bell. What a pleasure for my dad and me to see them. We talked a while— a little chance to catch up on the many years since we had seen each other last. However, we have been friends on Facebook since 2019. That was the year my mom, Barbara Hargis, passed away.

"Mom and Bootie shared the same name, Barbara, until Bootie got her nickname. They were friends since they were young and shared many activities throughout the years. Bootie has not only been an active supporter of many clubs, but she has also provided guidance to many individuals. My mom was a supporter in scouting during my youth, a member of the Vinton First Aid Auxiliary, and the WBHS Booster Club.

"Mom was a descendant of the Upson



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOOTIE CHEWNING

Ralph Hargis visiting with Bootie Chewning (center) and Suzanne Bell.

family including Eunice, who donated her home to the Vinton Historical Society to house the Vinton History Museum. Madeline Forbes (Maddie) and Mom shared the office of president and other leadership positions in the Historical Society until her bout with dementia took her ability to serve.

"These were only a portion of the many highlights Bootie and Suzanne shared at IHOP. I look forward to the next visit to

Vinton and am most thankful to them for sharing the time with me. Of course, I had to visit Judy Cunningham at the museum while in town as well. Just in case no one is aware, there is a current fundraiser happening for the installation of an elevator to allow easier access to the beautiful displays on the second floor of the museum."

Thank you, Ralph— it is awesome to grow up in a small town!

## Beyond Books

By Vinton Library Assistant Molly Meador

It's getting pretty hot out there— why don't you come cool off with a chill summer program at the Vinton Library? Whether you want to jump into our summer reading program and start (or finish) logging your books now, or have some fun with one of our programs, we've got you covered. And we've got AC.

This month's Database Detective will focus on The Roanoke Times. On Thursday, July 25 at 2:30 p.m., come join us to learn how to read The Roanoke Times for free on the RCPL website.

This month for Creations and Temptations we will be having some rock painting fun! Register online to paint your own strawberry rock on Saturday, July 20 from 3-4 p.m.

Be sure to check out what we've planned each week for the Vinton Community Connection, every Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.:

- July 5- Mini Writers Workshop
- July 12- Adult Storytime
- July 19- Jumbo bubble fun outside
- July 26- The Roanoke Times online

This month the As the Page Turns Book Club will discuss "Crow Mary" by Kathleen Grison on Wednesday, July 10 at 2 p.m. The Vinton Book Club will meet on the second Thursday this month, July 11 at 3 p.m. to have a read-and-recommend session.

Be sure to check out our awesome ongoing programs as well:

- Open Bridge meets every Tuesday from 1-4 p.m.
- Saturday Morning Cartoons are every Saturday from 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.
- The DMV will be here Wednesday, July 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 a.m., closing from 12:30-1:30 p.m. for lunch
- The Roanoke Valley Dulcimers meet Saturday, July 20 from 10:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- The Blue Ridge Dulcimer Ensemble will play Monday, July 29 from 6-7 p.m.

Register online for Teens Make Zines! Zines are an awesome way to express your creativity and share your passions with others. Come to the Teen Center on Monday, July 22 from 3-4 p.m. to learn how to make your own zines. All materials will be provided.

Don't miss the next meeting of The Wild Robot Book Club on Tuesday, July 9 from 3-4 p.m. The adventure continues for Roz the Robot this month as we discuss The Wild Robot Escapes by Peter Brown. This fun book club for kids will feature activities and a craft.

On Friday, July 12 from 10:30-11:30 a.m., we'll have STEM-related activities presented by local children's museum, Kids Square!

On Wednesday, July 17 from 4-5 p.m., we'll have Jolly Reader Adventures! This is an interactive treasure hunt challenge. Will you escape the island with "yer" treasure in tow, or find yourself fishy food? Recommended for ages 6-11.

On Wednesday, July 24 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. the Mill Mountain Theatre will present The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley. Stanley Lambchop is a typical 10-year-old longing for a break from his mundane life. His wish comes true when an unexpected accident leaves him as flat as a pancake. In this whirlwind musical odyssey, Stanley, the ultimate global explorer, embarks on a thrilling journey from Hollywood to Paris and Honolulu, seeking a way to regain his three-dimensional form. Along the way, he foils a museum heist in Paris and rides the waves in Hawaii, inching closer to his dream of becoming a three-dimensional boy once more!

Be sure to register online for all of these awesome programs coming at you in July!

Drop by on Thursday, July 18 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. for the Little Critters traveling petting zoo! Come pet llamas, bunnies, and more!

Also, be sure to stop by our WoW! Bookmobile at the Vinton Farmers Market on Saturday, July 13 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

See Books, page 4

## OBITUARY

### Thrasher, Richard

Richard passed away Thursday, June 20, 2024 after a lengthy battle with numerous health issues. He was 76 years old.

He was born in Vinton to Roy Wade Thrasher and Frances Wood Thrasher. He was predeceased by both parents and a brother, David Thrasher. He is survived by brother and sister-in-law, Steve and Becky Thrasher; sister, Donna Thrasher Jacobs; several nieces and nephews, Tom (Tima) Thrasher, Kate Thrasher (Mike Flannigan), Win Hartranft, Sherri Dooley-Griffith (Mayne), Jimmy (Nuria) Dooley, Cassiopea Jacobs; nine dear great-nieces and -nephews; also, dear friend, Susan Connor.

He was married for over 20 years to the former Vickie Thomas and thoroughly enjoyed being part of a family including her two children, Mary Beth Penick Goode and Byron Penick.

He was a 1966 graduate of William Byrd High School where he enjoyed playing on the basketball team. He graduated from Virginia Tech in 1970 and went to work for Roanoke County Public Schools, first at A.R. Burton in 1970 then at his alma mater William Byrd High, retiring in 2004. He taught Government, History, Social Studies and Personal Law.

His passion was coaching. He coached track and cross country

for many years. He also coached JV boys basketball but is probably best remembered as the head girls basketball coach for 15 years. His teams held a record of 301-91. They also played in the state tournament numerous years (eight times in the Group AA final four) and won the Group AA state title in 1997 with the team being recognized on Wheaties cereal boxes.

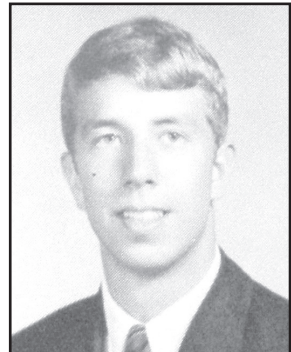
He was named the State Group AA Coach of the Year by VHS three times. Although he had many achievements, he considered his greatest achievements as the success of his student athletes and assistant coaches. He took great pride in following the careers of all his athletes.

He was a cancer survivor. In the early 1970s, he survived Hodgkins Lymphoma and during the 1990s he survived colon cancer. He was a fighter and his coaching career helped him fight through his many health issues. He put up a good fight right up to the end.

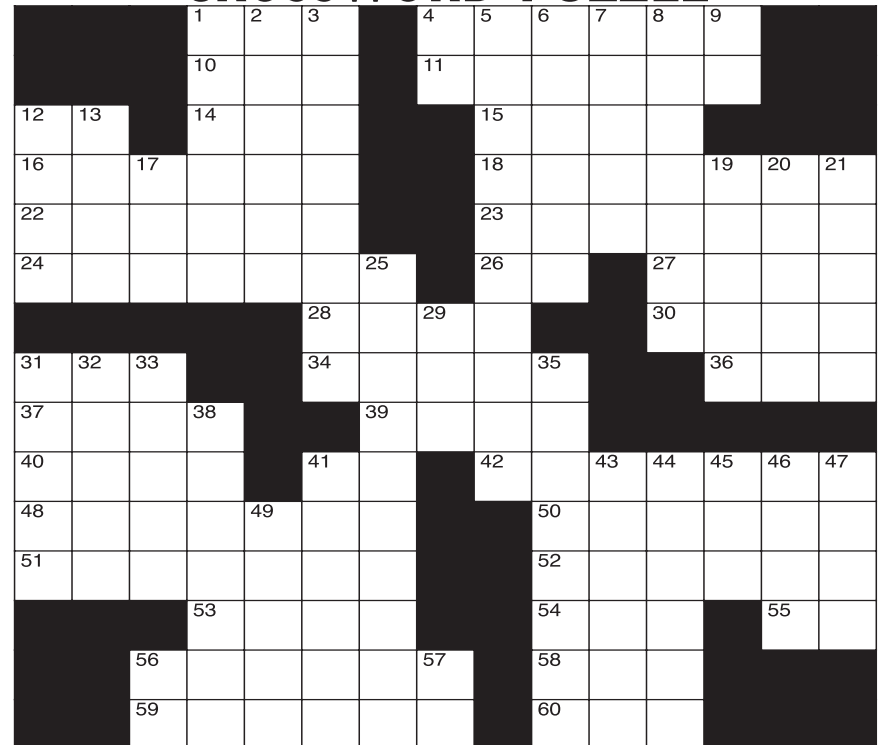
If they have a basketball court in heaven, he will be there!

A visitation and memorial will be conducted at Oakey's Vinton Chapel on Saturday, July 13, 2024. Visitation will be held at 12:30 followed by a service at 2 p.m.

Memorial donations in lieu of flowers can be made to the William Byrd High School Athletic Booster Club.



## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p><b>CLUES ACROSS</b></p> <p>1. Basics</p> <p>4. In a new way</p> <p>10. ___ Paulo, city</p> <p>11. Jailhouse</p> <p>12. Expresses surprise</p> <p>14. Trigraph</p> <p>15. A small stream</p> <p>16. Dissimilar</p> <p>18. Promote</p> <p>22. Gives a boost</p> <p>23. Lawmaker</p> <p>24. Orthodox Jews</p> <p>26. Actor Harris</p> <p>27. Wild cherry</p> <p>28. Participate in democracy</p> <p>30. Opposite of begins</p> <p>31. A Brit's mother</p> <p>34. Set of moral principles</p> | <p>36. Very fast airplane</p> <p>37. Czech river</p> <p>39. Private school in New York</p> <p>40. Israeli dance</p> <p>41. Electron volt</p> <p>42. Adjusting</p> <p>48. Duct by the bladder</p> <p>50. Small burger</p> <p>51. Begin again</p> <p>52. Unstuck</p> <p>53. Jai ___, sport</p> <p>54. Get free of</p> <p>55. For instance</p> <p>56. Hotel chain</p> <p>58. A team's best pitcher</p> <p>59. Extracts from various sources</p> <p>60. Indefinite period of time</p> | <p><b>CLUES DOWN</b></p> <p>1. St. Francis of ___</p> <p>2. Supported</p> <p>3. United in working</p> <p>4. It cools your home</p> <p>5. Predicting</p> <p>6. Irritated</p> <p>7. Popular talk show host</p> <p>8. Fabric edge</p> <p>9. A resource for employees</p> <p>12. Broadway's Jackman</p> <p>13. Small water buffalo</p> <p>17. City of Angels: ___ Angeles</p> <p>19. Asteroids</p> <p>20. Tailless amphibians</p> <p>21. German expressionist painter</p> | <p>25. What drives you</p> <p>29. N. Vietnamese ethnic group</p> <p>31. Gold coin used in British India</p> <p>32. Have deep affection for</p> <p>33. Ponds</p> <p>35. Breaks between words</p> <p>38. Hairstyle</p> <p>41. Print errors</p> <p>43. Family of iron alloys</p> <p>44. Sidelined in bed</p> <p>45. Many couples say it</p> <p>46. Brazilian hoopster</p> <p>47. Allman Brothers late frontman</p> <p>49. German city</p> <p>56. One hundred grams (abbr.)</p> <p>57. One billionth of a second (abbr.)</p> |
|--|---|---|--|

# Business REVIEW

**Time to Brag About YOUR Business!**

YOUR story - YOUR employees - YOUR message in our Business Review Edition on July 24 & 25 Write your own story & advertisement with pictures of your staff and/or business - Deadline July 17th

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tfrye@ourvalley.org



# What's happening at the Mt. Pleasant Library in July?

The staff at Mt. Pleasant Library has many fun and educational events planned for the month of July.

Drop in for a fun Saturday Craft on July 6, July 13, July 20, and July 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., (while supplies last).

Join library staff for Game Day on July 6; all ages are welcome to play board games from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

STEM Storytime is scheduled for July 11 from 6-6:30 p.m.; wear your PJs for a special STEM storytime.

Stay and Play follows on July 11 from 6:30 to 7 p.m. Join us for playtime at the library with a fun variety of toys, activities, and crafts.

Stop by for Teen Water Games on July 12 from 1 to 2 p.m. Compete with other teens in water challenges for fun and prizes! Please register.

Adults are welcome to join the staff for "Book Chat:

Read and Recommend" on July 13 from 11 a.m. to noon. Please pre-register.

Teen Book Chat is scheduled for July 16 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Adventure into new things this summer! Explore your themed Teen Takeout Bags, chat about what you're reading, and hang out with other teens. Please pre-register.

A Stuffed Animal Sleepover is planned for July 18 from 6 to 7 p.m. Please bring a favorite stuffed animal to a special evening story time. Afterwards, create a name tag for your animal and tuck them in for an overnight stay at the library. Come back to pick up your animal the next day, along with fun photos of their nighttime library adventures! Register online.

The Southwest Virginia Wildlife Center will be visiting on July 20 from 11 a.m. to noon. Meet three

special wildlife ambassadors, learn about conservation, and hear the ambassadors' stories, including their ecology and biology. Please pre-register online.

Pokemon Club for families and school-age children is planned for July 22 from 3 to 4 p.m. Please pre-register.

Kids Square will be visiting on July 26 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Enjoy STEM related activities presented by the local children's museum, Kids Square!

Register online for programs at [www.rocolibrary.org](http://www.rocolibrary.org).

Mt. Pleasant Library is located at 2918 Jae Valley Road, just across from the fire station. The usual hours are Monday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Tuesday: 2-8 p.m.; Wednesday: 2-6 p.m.; Thursday: 2-8 p.m.; Friday: 1-5 p.m.; and Saturday: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

-Vinton Messenger staff report

## Under the Bridge Ministries hosting gospel sing on July 4

The Vinton Messenger

USPS 660-020  
(540) 473-2741  
1633 W. Main St.  
Salem, VA 24153  
[ourvalley.org](http://ourvalley.org)

Submissions: [dadams@ourvalley.org](mailto:dadams@ourvalley.org)  
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James "Tucker" Frye, *Advertising*.....

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.

The Vinton Messenger (USPS 660-020) is published weekly for \$46 a year in Vinton and Roanoke County, \$50 a year in adjoining counties, \$54 a year out of state and the yearly bundle is \$59 a year by Virginia Media Inc. P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Vinton, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE VINTON MESSENGER, P.O. Box 1125, Salem, Va 24153

Under the Bridge Ministries will host a gospel sing on July 4 at the Vinton Farmers' Market from 2 to 4 p.m.

Pastor Frank Broughman says the event will bring together five churches and several gospel groups for an afternoon of entertainment.

Broughman founded Under the Bridge Ministries in 2012 as a non-denominational outreach program sharing the gospel with the area's homeless and disabled.

Admission is free.  
Submitted by Under the Bridge Ministries



## Virginia SUN Bucks program begins July 1; families could receive \$120 per child for groceries

Beginning July 1, families can apply for the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) Virginia SUN Bucks program. Virginia SUN Bucks is a new, federal food benefit program created to reduce childhood hunger by providing eligible children with a one-time \$120 food benefit on a SUN Bucks card to purchase groceries.

Children already enrolled in SNAP, TANE, an income-based medical assistance program, or who applied for free or reduced-price meals through

the National School Lunch Program for the 2023-2024 school year will automatically be enrolled in Virginia SUN Bucks without any need to submit a separate application. Benefits will be distributed beginning in August on a rolling basis, and will be loaded onto your current SNAP EBT card, or a Virginia SUN Bucks card will be mailed to the address on file with your school.

See SUN, page 5

## Books from page 3

We will have Storytimes this month on July 3, July 10, and July 17. Toddler Storytime is from 10:30-11a.m. and Preschool Storytime is from 11:30 a.m.-12 p.m. This month's theme is Places for Adventure!

Don't forget about our awesome

ongoing children's and teen programs:

- D&D for teens (and adults!) is on Monday, July 1 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Anime Club for teens is on Monday, July 8 from 6-7 p.m.
- Teen Book Chat for middle and high schoolers is on Monday,

July 15 from 5-6 p.m.

- Saturday is Saturday, July 27 from 11:30-12:30; register online for your 15-minute slot

As always, be sure to register for and check out all the programs RCPL has to offer across the county online at [www.rocolibrary.org](http://www.rocolibrary.org).

**BAPTIST (SOUTHERN)**  
**MINERAL SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH & CHRISTIAN SCHOOL** - 1030 Bible Lane, Vinton, Va. 24179. Church Phone 890-4465. Rev. Jason Gault. Sunday Services: Traditional Service, 8:45 AM, Sunday School, 10:00 AM, Contemporary Service, 11:00 AM, Evening Worship 6:00 PM, Wednesday Services: AWANA 6:30 PM, Bible Study 7:00 PM

**BAPTIST (COOPERATIVE)**  
**VINTON BAPTIST CHURCH** - 219 Washington Avenue, Vinton. Rev. Dr. Travis Russell, 343-7685. Sunday Services (year-round): Sunday School 9:15 AM, Morning Worship 10:30 AM; Wednesday Services (during the school year): Worship, Bible Study, Children's Choirs & Youth Ministry 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: [daleridge-churchofchrist.net](http://daleridge-churchofchrist.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.,

# VINTON

## WORSHIP DIRECTORY

**Avoid the Mistakes**  
Read Judges 7:1 through 8:35

Does the following scenario point to any common details in people's lives?

Do people often pray hard and study Scripture in order to seek God's provision when struggling financially? Do these same people attend church weekly and ask other believers to pray for their needs. As their accounts increase to a comfortable amount, do they begin getting an early start on their workdays to put in more hours at the office. Do they cut back on prayer and Bible study.

Gideon made the gold into an ephod, which he placed in Ophrah, his town. All Israel prostituted themselves by worshiping it there, and it became a snare to Gideon and his family (Judges 8:27).

Gideon, as a young and inexperienced warrior, was called by God to engage a vast invading army. Gideon's life had been tough, and his circumstances forced him to draw close to God. But, with the enemy's defeat and the rich spoils of the battle, Gideon misused his blessing.

Prayer Suggestion: When you enjoy a season of success, pray even harder that God will keep you in a deep relationship with himself.

Quicklook: Judges 8:22-27

**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)**

Wednesday Bible Study 10 a.m.

### 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](mailto:cmpc2verizon.net) Sunday school 9:45am, Worship 11:00am; Communion 1st Sundays; 2nd Sunday Session; Monday Noon Bible Study; Tuesdays & Thursdays Stretch Class 9:00am; 1st Tuesdays Deacons; Wednesday Choir 7:00pm; Monday Girl Scouts 7:00pm; 3rd Saturday Men's Breakfast 8:00am. Rev. Jonathan Moelker, pastor

### UNITED METHODIST

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

### WESLEYAN

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

All your Vinton news is right here!

VintonMessenger.com



# Vinton History Museum hosting watermelon social, patriotic display, open house

On Saturday, July 6, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Vinton History Museum will be hosting a free watermelon social and open house.

Exhibits include a special Patriotic Display, a Vintage Wedding Attire Display and items in the regular museum collection.

Vinton Memories and History

Facebook page members are especially welcome on this day.

The Vinton Historical Society will also receive donations and pledges from anyone wishing to donate to the Cargo/Accessibility Lift Fund-raising Campaign currently being conducted. Volunteers will be available to answer questions about the project.

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 Ave., in Vinton.

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

In addition, visit the Vinton History

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

*Submitted by Mary Beth Layman*



## From the Pulpit

By Pastor Bryan Crouch, Lynn Haven Baptist Church

### A Study of Ephesians – ‘The Christian Household’

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.

Ephesians 5:21-6:4 is a passage from the Bible that gives advice on how families should treat each other. It starts by telling everyone to respect each other. This means thinking about what others need and treating them kindly.

For wives, the passage says to respect their husbands. This means supporting them and working together as a team. For husbands, it says to love their wives just like Jesus loves everyone. This means being kind, caring, and putting their wives first.

The passage also talks about parents and children. It tells children to obey their parents because it's the right thing to do. This makes God happy and helps children live well. It reminds children to honor their father and mother, which is a commandment that comes with a promise of a good life. For parents, especially fathers, the passage advises not to make their children angry by being too harsh. Instead, they should raise their children with love and guidance, teaching them about God and how to live well.

These are all good reminders of how we ought to treat each other, not only in a family setting but mankind in general.

## Miss Virginia from page 2

the “Star City” and talked about what it takes to become a star.

At the table with her was Lexie Hovey, Miss Teen Roanoke Valley, who is not from Roanoke. She is a high school student in Williamsburg. She earned her title by entering the first Teen competition of the year, which was held in Roanoke. Her shoes were blue ballet shoes embellished with rhinestones, representing both her passion for dance and support for her brother's Type I diabetes.

Miss Virginia Dogwood Johanna Pearson (not to be confused with Miss Vinton Dogwood Festival, although Pearson has stopped by the Vinton festival) and Miss Virginia Dogwood's Teen, Montana Cochran,



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS  
**Carolyn Hodges Campbell (left) and Bootie Chewning have been involved with the Miss Virginia Pageant for years, along with many other volunteers from Vinton.**

decorated their shoes with dogwood blossoms in a variety of colors, paying tribute to Virginia's state flower.

The Town of Vinton has many connections to the Miss Virginia program. For several years in the early 1980s and '90s, the

Miss Vinton Dogwood Festival Pageant became a preliminary to the Miss Virginia and Miss America competitions. The Vinton franchise was an “open pageant” meaning that those who competed in the Miss Dogwood pageant could come from,

## SUN from page 4

Families with children who attend Burlington Elementary, Herman L. Horn Elementary, Masons Cove Elementary, Mount Pleasant Elementary, Mountain View Elementary, Northside High, Northside Middle or W.E. Cundiff Elementary must submit a separate

application.

Apply by visiting VirginiaSunBucks.com starting July 1 to print and mail the application to Virginia SUN Bucks, c/o VDSS, 5600 Cox Road, Glen Allen, VA, 23060. Families wishing to apply over the phone can do so later in July. More

information about a call-in application process will be available on the Virginia SUN Bucks website after July 1.

This is a statewide program and is not administered by Roanoke County Public Schools. The school system is required to share this information with families.

For questions, contact the Virginia Department of Social Services.

*Submitted by Roanoke County Public Schools*

## VINTON HISTORY: Cast iron paper weights



Black horse paper weight, belonged to grandparents of Donors Katherine and Julia Wood

PHOTO COURTESY OF JUDY CUNNINGHAM

### Cast iron paper weight on display at the Vinton History Museum

Cast iron is a class of iron-carbon alloy, with a carbon content of more than 2%, having a relatively low melting temperature. Iron alloys with lower carbon content are known as steel. Cast iron is an engineering material used in pipes, machines, and automotive industry parts. It is resistant to damage by oxidation but is notoriously difficult to weld.

The earliest cast-iron artifacts date to the fifth century B.C. in China and were used for warfare, agriculture, and architecture.

The amounts of cast iron used for cannons required large-scale production. The first cast iron bridge was built during the 1770s by Abraham Darby

III, and is known as The Iron Bridge in Shropshire, England. Cast iron was also used in the construction of buildings.

The black cast iron horse paper weight at the Vinton History Museum belonged to the grandparents of Katherine and Julia Wood (circa 1800s). This is another artifact among thousands at the Vinton History Museum, at 210 East Jackson Avenue in Downtown Vinton – and open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and every first Saturday, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

*Submitted by Vinton History Museum Executive Director Judy Cunningham*

or attend college in, any city or town in the state.

Vinton's Bootie Chewning is a member of the board of directors. She has served on the board of the Miss Virginia Pageant for over 25 years— three years as president. (That's in addition to 30 years

with the Junior Miss Pageant and 50 years with the Little Sisters program.) One year, Executive Director Steve Musselwhite of Vinton was short a judge for the Miss Virginia Pageant and asked Chewning to fill in— that's when her relationship with

Miss Virginia began. She has served in many capacities with the competition, “a jack of all trades.” For many years she was in charge of production for the entire show, laying out the pageant, “getting

See Pageant, page 6

# 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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# Page 6



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

**Miss Roanoke Valley Teen Lexie Hovey (left) and Miss Roanoke Valley Grace Pfleger pose with their starry decorated footwear for the "Shoe Me Your Shoes Parade" coming up in downtown Roanoke on Saturday.**

everyone on stage," and working with all of the contestants, many of whom she still keeps in touch with.

Chewing invited Carolyn Hodges Campbell, well known in Vinton as a volunteer for the Relay for Life organization, to do the publicity for Miss Virginia. Currently, Campbell is an advisory member of the board of directors for publicity and tickets.

Steve and Billie Sue Musselwhite of Vinton worked with the Miss Virginia Pageant for 40 years. Nita Echols, Ruth

Wood, William Cundiff and several others were instrumental in creating the franchise to join the Miss Virginia organization. Susan Teass, who has served on the Vinton Dogwood Festival Committee for many years, most notably as the Dogwood Queen's Court Coordinator, has worked backstage at the Miss Virginia Pageant for about 12 years, most recently as the backstage dresser for the outgoing Miss Virginia.

Chewing and Campbell both say that working with the Miss Virginia Pageant has

been very rewarding. They have met many special young women in the process, often working with families who have had more than one daughter to compete. Campbell says that in talking with the contestants who have gone on to win the competitions, "it becomes obvious why the judges selected them— they are so kind, so sweet, and more than the crown."

Tickets for the Miss Virginia evening competitions are available at <https://www.missvirginia.org/>.

# 70th annual Buchanan Carnival begins today



FILE PHOTO

**The 70th Buchanan Carnival starts today at Buchanan Town Park located at 550 Lowe Street.**

The 70th annual Buchanan Carnival begins today at the town's fairgrounds. This year, the carnival will feature seven musical acts starting tonight through July 6. The bands performing at this year's highly anticipated carnival include:

- June 27 – Glen Shelton Band
- June 28 – Phleggar Hill
- June 29 – Odd Fellows
- July 1 – Blue Connection
- July 2 – Thunder Ridge
- July 3 – Midnite Blue
- July 4 & 5 – Cimmaron
- July 6 – American Honey

The carnival will have wristband specials Thursday-Saturday, June 27-29; Monday-Tuesday, July 1-2; and Wednesday-Saturday, July 3-6 all from 6:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. The carnival will be closed Sunday, June 30. Tickets are now available online at <https://colerides.com/tickets>.

Also returning will be the Buchanan July 4th Parade taking place at 5 p.m. on July 4 with the parade lineup beginning at 4 p.m.

- Vinton Messenger staff report

# Fourth

from page 1



FILE PHOTO

will be provided by DJ FLEX. The crowd favorite "foam pit" will once again be part of the festivities this year. The fireworks show will begin at 9:30 p.m.

Food vendors will include Deb's Lemonade, The Coffee Bus, Tinker Mountain Kettle Corn, Tinker Mountain Shaved Ice, Munsey's Smoke Shack, Kefi Greek, The Local Lemon, DG Ice, and Duck Donuts.

Please bring blankets or chairs for seating on the lawn. Please leave all pets, alcohol, and firecrackers or other similar

items at home.

Several roads will be closed at various times on July 4 to accommodate the Boys & Girls Club of Southwest Virginia Four on the 4th Run and the Fourth of July Celebration at the Vinton War Memorial. Please visit [www.vintonva.gov](http://www.vintonva.gov) for more information and for a complete list of road closures.

The Vinton War Memorial is located at 814 E. Washington Avenue in Vinton.

-Vinton Messenger staff report and Town of Vinton

# Police

from page 1



**Chief Drummond presented Sgt. Brandon Alterio (left) the 2023 Leadership Award.**



PHOTOS BY MANDIE BAKER

**Sgt. Jeremy Shrewsbury (left) was recognized by Chief Drummond with the 2023 DUI Enforcement Award**

refused to surrender and at one point picked up the firearm again and pointed it toward officers. He finally put down the firearm and entered the residence. Hagy retrieved the unsecured firearm, de-escalating the situation, and took the subject into custody. There was a struggle, but eventually the subject was secured and transported

for treatment. "Officer Hagy's actions were beyond exemplary," said Drummond. "He displayed the remarkable traits of a compassionate officer presented with life-changing circumstances both for himself and the individual. He displayed both decisiveness and empathy toward a person on the brink of ending their own life— a truly

remarkable resolution to a deadly situation."

Sgt. Brandon Alterio won the Leadership Award for the second consecutive year, nominated by his peers.

Sgt. Jeremy Shrewsbury was presented with the DUI Enforcement Award for 2023. Drummond noted that approximately 40 people die each day in the United States as a result of drunk-driving crashes. Statistics indicate that drivers impaired by drugs or alcohol generally drive 80 times before their first arrest.

In concluding the awards ceremony, Drummond thanked the families of those recognized for the sacrifices they make to support the police officers.

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THE FINCASTLE HERALD    The Vinton Messenger    THE NEW CASTLE RECORD    SALEM TIMES REGISTER    News Messenger    RADFORD News Journal

**Yard Sales - Salem**

**Huge Yard Sale**  
 First Christian Church  
 Salem  
 712 Front Ave  
 Friday 6/28  
 & Saturday 6/29  
 8am to 2 pm Both days

Lunch on Friday  
 - Hot dogs & Barbecue

Breakfast on Saturday-  
 Biscuits & Gravy,  
 Sausage Biscuits,

Lunch on Saturday-  
 Hot dogs, & Barbecue

**Yard Sales - Fincastle**

**Huge Yard & Garage Sale,**

4626 Blue Ridge Turnpike,  
 Fincastle,  
 June 28 & 29,  
 7 a.m.-5 p.m.  
 Engine hoist, ladders, tools,  
 power tools and sooo much  
 more!

**Auction**

**Notice of Public Auction**

The contents of the following storage unit(s) will be sold at Public Auction to enforce our owner's lien:  
 Unit #507  
 Sale will be conducted at B&B Storage,  
 At 915 Peppers Ferry Road,  
 Christiansburg VA  
 on Friday, June 28, 2024,  
 at 10:00 A.M.  
 All sales are final  
 & CASH only

**Help Wanted - Engineer**

**Process Automation - L2 sought by TMEIC INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION in Roanoke, VA,**  
 to customize & test project-specific control & automation s/ware for PC, PLC, & drive-based industrial systems meeting project schedules. Availability to travel, domestically & internationally, approximately 15%, w/ limited notice, for site assignments up to approximately 2 months in duration. Min Req: Bach's deg in Comp Engg, or rtd field or foreign equiv deg. 24 months of exp dsngng &/or maintaining process automation s/ware in heavy industry, such as steelmaking, aluminum, or other process industries. 2 yrs of C++ & object-oriented prgmg exp using the Microsoft dvlpmt environment; & Proficiency in MS Office. Send resume to recruitment@tmeic.com. Ref#8018.

**Wanted to Rent or Lease**

**WANTED TO RENT OR LEASE**  
 Looking for fenced pasture land to rent or lease.  
 Call 276-233-5863

**Legals - Botetourt County**

**Order of Publication**  
 Commonwealth of Virginia  
 VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104  
 Case No. **023CL24000234-00**  
 BOTETOURT COUNTY  
 Circuit Court,  
 COURTHOUSE, P.O.BOX  
 219, FINCASTLE, VA  
 24090  
 Commonwealth of Virginia,  
*in re* CARMEN OLIVIA  
 GRACE JARVIS v. BRIAN  
 IONA, JR.  
 The object of this suit is to:  
 DIVORCE. It is ORDERED  
 that BRIAN IONA, JR.  
 appear at the above-named  
 court and protect his/her  
 interests on or before JULY  
 31,2024.  
 JUNE 13, 2024  
 Joel R. Branscom,  
 Judge  
 Tommy L. Moore, Clerk

**Trustee's Sale 112 Sunnydale Court, Troutville, VA 24175 (Parcel ID: 15342)**

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated May 12, 2003, in the original principal amount of \$110,000.00 and recorded

**Legals - Botetourt County**

in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Botetourt, Virginia on May 16, 2003, in Deed Book 0000, at page 0086, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on July 31, 2024 at 2:00 PM, in front of the building housing the County of Botetourt Circuit Court, 1 W. Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090, the property designated as Lot 6, Block 19, according to Map No.3, Rainbow Forest, property of Botetourt Development Corp., Botetourt, Virginia made by C.B Malcolm & Son, SCE, June 28, 1962 of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Plat Book 4, page 143.

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 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 upon request before the sale, 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. Tromberg, Morris & Poulin, PLLC on behalf of Southeast Equity Trustees, LLC and/or NFPDS-VA LLC, Substitute Trustee(s), 5310 Markel Road, Suite 201, Richmond, VA 23230, File No. 24-000332, Tel: 804-525-1570.

**Legals - Craig County**

**ABC NOTICE**  
 RCLC LLC.,  
 trading as CARPERS,  
 5178 CRAIG VALLEY  
 DRIVE, NEW CASTLE,  
 VA 24127

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

ROBERT CARPER,  
 OWNER

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

**Legals - City of Radford**

**City of Radford Radford, Virginia Main Street Resurfacing**

Sealed Bids for the construction of the Main Street Resurfacing will be received by the City of Radford, at 10 Robertson Street, Radford, VA 24141, until 3 PM local time on August 6, 2024, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Project consists of Resurfacing of 1.25 miles of East Main Street East of Tyler Avenue (Displays included in Bidding Documents).

Resurfacing will include 2" of surface milling and overlay with VDOT Std. SM-9.5D asphalt, restriping per existing conditions, and ADA compliant curb ramp

**Legals - City of Radford**

upgrades, and associated appurtenances. Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a unit price basis as indicated in the Bid Form. The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is Hurt & Proffitt, Inc., 1861 Pratt Drive, Suite 1100, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060, Attn J. Michael Johnson, PE (mjohanson@handp.com), 540-552-5592.

Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below.

Bidding Documents also may be examined at: DODGE Data, 3315 Central Avenue, Hot Springs, AR 71913 Valley Construction News Plan Room, 426 Campbell Avenue, Roanoke, VA 24016 Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the Issuing Office upon nonrefundable payment of \$50 for each set, or downloaded free of charge at <https://www.handp.com/bid-info/>

A pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 AM local time on Monday July 15, 2024 at the City offices, 10 Robertson Street, Radford, VA. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is highly encouraged. Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. The procedure for withdrawal of bids shall be in accordance with procedure set out in Section 2.2-4330(B)(1) of the Code of Virginia

The successful bidder must comply with the Presidents Executive Order #11246, prohibiting discrimination in employment regarding race, creed, sex, or national origin; Executive Orders #12138 and 11625 regarding utilization of MBE/WBE subcontractors in the performance of this contract; provide certification that they do not or will not maintain or provide for their employees facilities that are segregated on the basis of race, color, creed, or national origin; comply with the provisions of Civil Rights Act of 1964; and comply with the Davis-Bacon Act. Consistent with Executive Order 13858, "Strengthening Buy-American Preferences for Infrastructure Projects," the Contractor is encouraged to use, to the greatest extent practicable, iron and aluminum as well as steel, cement, and other manufactured products produced in the United States in every contract, subcontract, purchase order, or subaward that is chargeable under this Award.

Jenni Webb  
 Director of Communications  
 City Clerk  
 540-267-3145  
 Jenni.Webb@radfordva.gov

**Legals - City of Salem**

**ABC NOTICE**

GUSTO PIZZA LLC,  
 trading as GUSTO PIZZA,  
 311 E. 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET,  
 Salem VA. 24153.

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

DANIEL PERKINS,  
 MANAGING MEMBER.

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.



**Legals - City of Salem**

**Order of Publication**  
 CU-23-00275

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN BENITO

TONY MOULES, AS TRUSTEE OF THE ANTONIO AND SUSANA MOULES 2021 TRUST DATED FEBRUARY 4, 2021 Plaintiff,  
 v.  
 DONALD DAVID HENNAGAN, JR., DECEASED; TIFFANY MARIE HENNAGAN; CYNTHIA ANN MARIE HENNAGAN; DESTENY NICOLE HENNAGAN; AND DOES 1-100, INCLUSIVE, Defendants.

On reading the filings and evidence consisting of plaintiff's application and declaration for this order, and it satisfactorily appearing to me therefrom that defendant Desteny Nicole Hennagan, hereinafter referred to as ("Defendant"), cannot with reasonable diligence be served in any other manner specified in Sections 415.10 through 415.40 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and that the Defendant is a necessary party to this action.

IT IS ORDERED that the summons be served by publication in the Salem Times Register, a newspaper of general circulation published in Salem County, Virginia, hereby designated as the newspaper most likely to give Defendant actual notice of the action, and that the publication be made once a week for four successive weeks.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of the summons, a copy of the complaint, and a copy of this order be forthwith mailed to Defendant if his/her address is ascertained before expiration of the time herein prescribed for publication of summons.  
 Dated 5/24/24  
 J. Omar Rodriguez  
 JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

I ask for this:  
 MAKAYLA A. WHITNEY,  
 CA STATE BAR NO. 327687  
 BERLINER COHEN, LLP  
 1601 I STREET, SUITE 150  
 MODESTO, CALIFORNIA 95354-1128  
 TELEPHONE: (209) 576-0111  
 FACSIMILE: (209) 576-1076  
 benjamin.johnson@berliner.com  
 makayla.whitney@berliner.com  
 ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF,  
 TRUSTEE TONY MOULES

**SUMMONS NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:**

**DONALD DAVID HENNAGAN, JR., DECEASED; TIFFANY MARIE HENNAGAN; CYNTHIA ANN MARIE HENNAGAN; DESTENY NICOLE HENNAGAN; AND DOES 1-100, INCLUSIVE YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: TONY MOULES, AS TRUSTEE OF THE ANTONIO AND SUSANA MOULES 2021 TRUST DATED FEBRUARY 4,2021**

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library,

or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.

NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. The name and address of the court is:  
 Main Courthouse  
 450 Fourth Street  
 Hollister CA 95023  
 Hollister CA 95023  
 CASE NUMBER: CU-23-00275

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiffs' attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:  
 Makayla A. Whitney,  
 Berliner Cohen, LLP, 1601 I Street, Suite 150, Modesto, CA 95354  
 Tel: (209) 576-0111  
 Date: 12/15/2023

**Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on July 10, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia,**

will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1. Hold public hearing to consider the request of Sherwood Memorial Park, Inc., property owner, for a Special Exception Permit to allow for the expansion of the cemetery into the adjacent property located at 1221 Lynchburg Turnpike (Tax Map # 117-1-8).
2. Hold public hearing to consider the request of Seaside Heights, LLC, property owner, to rezone the property located at 1590 West Main Street (Tax Map # 140-1-3) from LM Light Manufacturing 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 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

**Legals - Montgomery County**

**VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY IN RE: HELEN V. ST CLAIR, TREASURER OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA RULE FOR SHOW CAUSE THIS CAUSE CAME TO BE HEARD UPON THE Petition**

**Legals - Montgomery County**

**of Helen V. St. Clair, that she be released and fully discharged from liability as Treasurer of Montgomery County, Virginia, pursuant to §58.1-345 et seq. of the Virginia Code.**

That in the aforesaid Petition, the Petitioner, Helen V. St. Clair, states that she has filed a certificate showing the final settlements of her accounts, that she has turned over to her successor in office, Mary M. Weaver, all books and papers in her possession as treasurer and that she is requesting that she be discharged of her liability as Treasurer of Montgomery County, Virginia.

It appearing proper in all respects to do so, it is accordingly ADJUDGED, ORDERED and DECREED that this rule be served upon Sharon H. Lawrence, Acting Comptroller of the Commonwealth of Virginia, upon Mary W. Biggs, Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County and upon Dr. Bernard F. Bragen, Jr., Superintendent of Montgomery County Public Schools and shall be published once a week for four successive weeks in the News Messenger and by posting at the front door of the Courthouse.

That a hearing upon he Petition requesting that she be released of Liability and granted her final discharge as Treasurer, shall be held the 26th day of June, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. Date: 5-9-24 I ask for this:  
 By: Martin M. McMahon,  
 County Attorney  
 755 Roanoke Street,  
 Suite 2F  
 Christiansburg, VA 24073  
 Bar Number:29642  
 (540) 382-5730

**Order of Publication**

Commonwealth of Virginia  
 VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104  
 Case No. **CL24000869-00**  
 VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 DONALD BROOKS SAVILLE, JR., et al Plaintiffs, v. RICHARD BARNETT, ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE ESTATE OF EDITH CORDER BARNETT, et al. Defendants.

**ORDER OF PUBLICATION**

Upon consideration of the Affidavit for Entry of Order of Publication filed by the Plaintiffs, the reason for this cause is to obtain the whereabouts of any person who may have an interest in the property located at 3114 Emerson Lane, Blacksburg, VA 24060, and/or 3137 Emerson Lane, Blacksburg, VA 24060, and if such parties cannot be located, the secondary purpose of this cause is to quiet Plaintiff's title to the Property.

An Affidavit has been made and filed showing that the Defendant **John Does 1-100 All Persons Unknown or Parties Claiming a Title, Lien, Easement, or Other Interest in the Lands Known as 3114 Emerson Lane, Blacksburg, VA 24060; John Does 1-100 All Persons Unknown or Parties Claiming a Title, Lien, Easement, or Other Interest in the Lands Known as 3137 Emerson Lane, Blacksburg, VA 24060; and John Does 1-100 All Persons Unknown or Parties Claiming an Inherited Interest from Avery May, a/k/a Lee Evans May, Brandyne May a/k/a Brandyne May Moorefield** (collectively "John Does 1-100"), address unknown the general description of "parties unknown," who by reason of true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate or otherwise of defendants JOHN DOES 1-100 are unknown to Plaintiff, and may have a beneficial interest in the Property. UPON CONSIDERATION whereof, this Order of Publication as to all the parties above is GRANTED, and it is ORDERED that any interested person(s) shall appear here on or before July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 9 am, which date is no sooner than fifty (50) days after

**Legals - Montgomery County**

entry of this Order of Publication. And it is further Ordered that this Order of Publication be published once a week for four (4) successive weeks in The News Messenger, a newspaper of general circulation in the Montgomery County, Virginia. ENTERED the 11 day June, 2024  
 K. Mike Fleenor, Jr.  
 Judge

WE PRAY FOR THIS: FIDELITY NATIONAL LAW GROUP, the Law Division of Fidelity National Financial By: Lisa M. Ernst, Esq. (VSB#72718) 8484 Westpark Drive, Suite 310 McLean, Virginia 22102 (T) 703-245-0298 (F) 703-821-1618 Lisa.Ernst@fnf.com Counsel for Plaintiffs

**Legals - Town of Vinton**

**LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, the Town Council of the Town of Vinton, Virginia, hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia.

The purpose of the public hearing is to receive comments concerning:

1. Petition of the Advancement Foundation, for a Special Use Permit (SUP) for a proposed flea market use, located at 301 South Pollard Street, Suite A, Vinton, Virginia, tax map number 060.15-07-41.00-0000, zoned CB Central Business District.
2. Proposed amendments to the Vinton Zoning Ordinance. The proposed amendments would: require for an alternative financial institution use to obtain a special use permit in the GB General Business District, and allow for a personal service business use to be permitted by-right in the R-B Residential-Business District in Article IV (District Regulations); amend the standards for vehicle storage or impound lots in Article V (Supplemental Regulations); amend the yard and screening requirements for swimming pools, tennis, or pickleball courts, amend the standards and permitted modifications of the landscaping ordinance section, and remove the maximum motor vehicle parking requirements in Article VI (Development Standards); and amend the definition of flea market in Article XI (Definitions).

Further information concerning this public hearing may be obtained in the Planning and Zoning Department located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, VA 24179, during business hours, or via phone: (540) 983-0605. Interested persons may be heard at the above public hearing.

Given under my hand this 31st day of May, 2024.

Richard W. Peters, Jr.  
 Town Manager

**Legals - Wythe County**

**ABC NOTICE**

RAPID CENTER LLC., trading as RAPID TRAVEL CENTER, 5740 E LEE HWY, MAX MEADOWS, WYTHE COUNTY, VA 24360.

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

RAJWINDER KAVR,  
 OWNER.

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.



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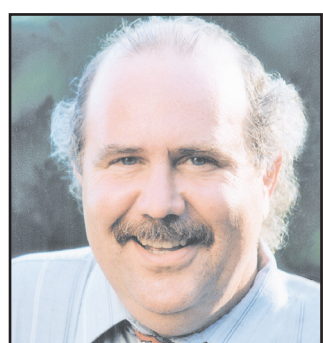
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Brian Hoffman

## Remembering Willie Mays

A celebration to honor Willie Mays turned into a wake last week when one of baseball's all-time greats died two days before the big event. Mays passed on Tuesday, June 18th, with his Giants set to play the Cardinals at historic Rickwood Field in Birmingham, Alabama on Thursday.

As most of you know by now, Mays grew up near the ballpark built in 1910. It was home of the Negro League Birmingham Black Barons, a team Mays played for before signing with the New York Giants. Last week's game between the Giants and Cardinals was set for a day after Juneteenth and, while all Negro League players were remembered for the occasion, this one was special for Willie Mays.

He was one of my favorites. Willie was still in his prime when I was a little kid developing a love for baseball. I was seven years old when I started collecting baseball cards in 1960 and I recall showing my cards to a friend of my dads who was visiting. He pulled out a couple cards to look at more closely and made sure I knew Willie Mays was the best player of the bunch.

My dad wasn't a big baseball fan, but he was a big church guy and every summer our church took a bus to see a Phillies game at old Connie Mack Stadium. My dad always made sure we had a seat on that bus and I was 10 years old when trip organizer Jim Church (yes, that was his real name) informed the congregation we'd be going to see the Phillies play the Giants this summer.

I was thrilled. I would get to see Willie Mays play in person. It's 61 years later but I still recall watching his every move in warmups, all in brilliant color. We didn't have high-def games on big TVs in 1963, everything was black & white but beautiful none the less to a 10 year old fan.

I'll tell you what I remember most. The Giants had runners on second and third and Mays was due up, but Phillies manager Gene Mauch ordered an intentional walk to load the bases, setting up a force at every bag. The move backfired when Orlando Cepeda drilled a grand slam home run off the auto dealer billboard atop the leftfield pavilion roof. If I close my eyes I can still see it now.

Mays was always my favorite "non-Phillie" player. In the intro to the Game of the Week they would show him making that catch in rightcenter where he climbed the chain link fence at Candlestick Park and soared over Bobby Bonds to make the most incred-

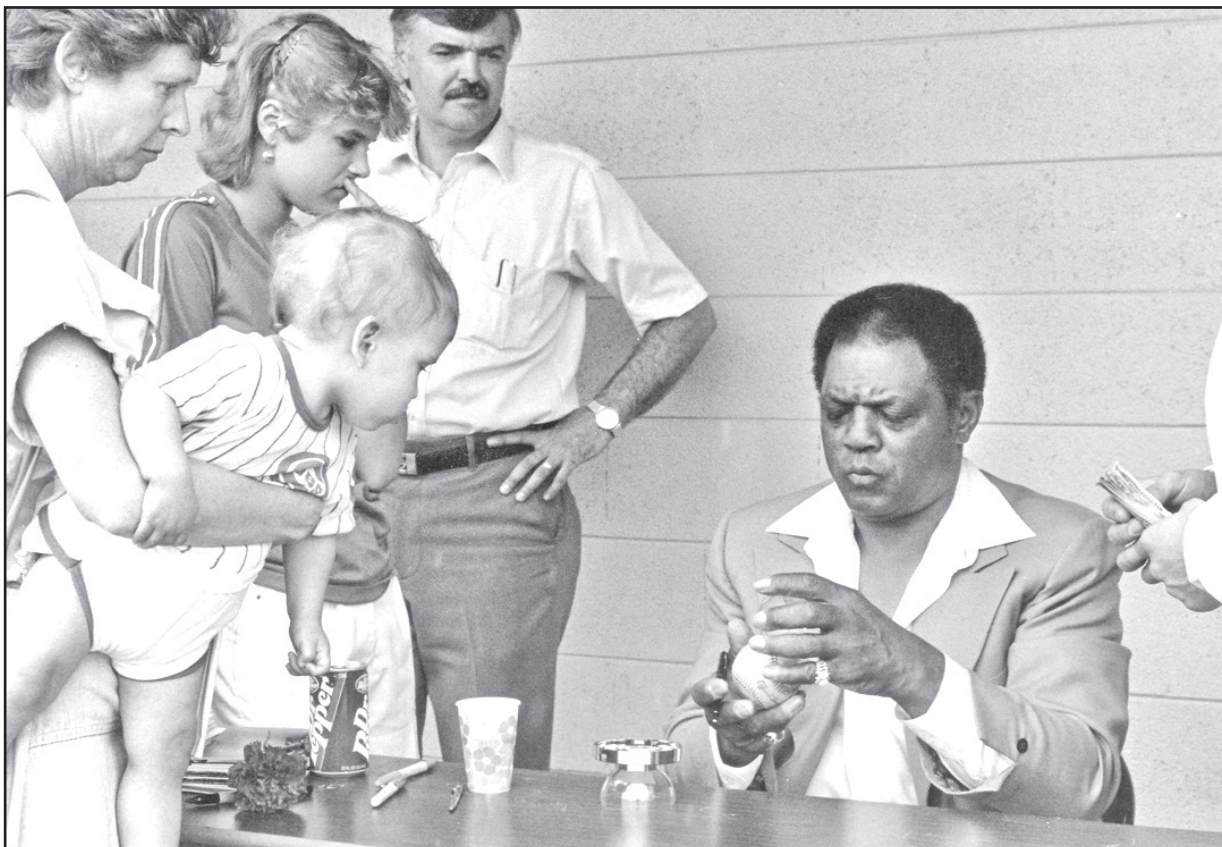


PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Willie Mays signs autographs and chats with fans prior to the Salem Redbirds Carolina League game on "Willie Mays Day" in 1985.

ible catch of a baseball I have ever seen.

I actually got to meet the man in 1985. That year the owners of our local Carolina League team, the Salem Redbirds, were two guys from New York who grew up idolizing Mays when he played for the New York Giants. They brought him to Salem for "Willie Mays Day" and had a Redbirds' jersey number 24 to present him, which I'm certain he was thrilled to receive.

That afternoon, prior to the game, Willie toured the Veterans Hospital in Salem and visited with patients. The late Jon Kaufman, who was a good friend of mine and assistant GM for the Redbirds, was assigned to accompany Mays to the VA. It was funny to hear Jon tell the story about how Mays kept hurrying him along and ordering him what to do. Then, just as Jon was getting totally agitated with our famous guest, Willie took off his watch and gave it to one of the patients.

That night Willie came early and signed autographs in front of the clubhouse at what is now Kiwanis Park in Salem, then home to the Redbirds. A long line of folks waited to meet the all-time great and he pleasantly chatted and signed until rain started to fall. Willie was to throw out the first ball but the game was rain-delayed and he started to get annoyed because he was supposed to catch a flight that evening. Finally the rain stopped, Willie threw out the ball and left the ballpark before the game even started.

And it was a probably a good thing he did. We were a Texas Rangers farm team at the time and one of their top pitching prospects, Mitch Williams, was Salem's starting pitcher. Williams, who had a good career in the big leagues, was known to be wild and

he didn't get out of the first inning. I don't remember who the Redbirds were playing but he walked a few and hit a few more and Salem was down five or six runs before Willie even got to the airport. That season in Salem Williams, who would later be tagged with the nickname "Wild Thing," pitched 99 innings and struck out 138 but walked 117.

It was sad to see Willie pass last week. Although most of us aren't going to make it to 93, he was a player I admired in my youth and when you lose someone like that your own mortality really hits you. Losing Jerry West and Willie Mays in the same month! Where has the time gone?

And so, Thursday's game was not so much a celebration for Mays, but of Mays. You saw all the highlights over and over, catching that ball over his head in the World Series against the Indians, running the bases with his hat flying off, hitting tape measure home runs and strutting around the bases like the King of Baseball that he was.

Yeah I may be getting older, but I saw the "Say Hey Kid" play live and in person and that's a memory I'll always cherish. He was, indeed, a Giant.

We lost another giant last week two days after Willie Mays passed, at least to the folks in the Vinton area. Former William Byrd coach and teacher Richard Thrasher passed away last Thursday at 76 years old.

## Thrasher was Byrd great

Thrasher coached track, cross country and girls' basketball for the Terriers for many years and was regarded as an outstanding coach. He won 301 games in 15 years as girls' basketball coach, took the Terriers to the state tournament eight times and won it in 1997. I won't dwell on his accomplishments as they can be found in his obituary in this week's paper. Please read it on page 3.

I really enjoyed covering teams that Richard coached. He was always very nice to me and he had good teams, which makes it a lot easier to write stories for the paper. What's more he was a Vinton guy through and through, having graduated from William Byrd High School. He really cared about the kids and took great pride in seeing them go on to have success not only on the basketball floor, cross country course or track, but in life.

Unfortunately he didn't have the best of luck in regards to health. He had cancer at an early age and survived, but was plagued with health issues for most of his adult life. You'd never know it by talking to him, as he didn't want your sympathy and fought his ills with the same passion he displayed in sports. He was a winner.

Those who crossed his path were fortunate to have known him, and I count myself among that crowd. He was a good coach and an even better person.



Richard Thrasher talks to the girls during a timeout in a late '90s basketball game.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



PHOTOS BY JENKING & HEATHER MINNIX

## ALL-STARS

William Byrd graduate Cooper Minnix (left) pitched for the West team in the 2nd annual Virginia Baseball Coaches Association Senior All-Star game last week, held at "The Diamond" in Richmond. Cooper was one of six local players who participated in the game. Below, left to right, are Jessie Brown (#7) of Staunton River, Ean Anderson (#12) of Franklin County, Minnix (#6), Nolan Medley (#9) of Lord Botetourt, Caleb Fumage (#21) of Salem and Tanner Evans (#4) of Christiansburg. The East team edged the West in the game, 9-8.



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# SPORTS

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## Vinton teams play in RAYBA tournaments at Green Hill Park

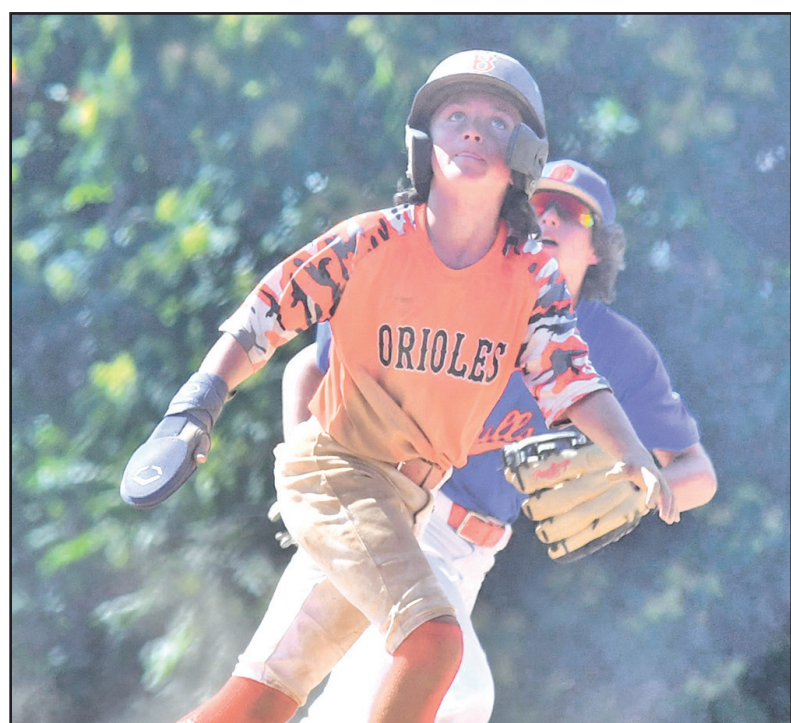
It was a big time for Glenvar youth baseball teams at Green Hill Park last weekend as Glenvar took championships in three of four classes of the Roanoke Area Youth Baseball Association (RAYBA). Vinton had teams in all four tournaments.

The Glenvar Gold team won the 8U championship while the Glenvar 10U team, coached by William Byrd High School all-time hits leader Matt McGuire, prevailed in the 10U bracket. Salem and

Glenvar had split two games and played for the 10U championship Monday with Glenvar jumping on top early and taking a 21-5 win.

In the 12U tournament Vinton made it to Monday's championship game before falling to Glenvar, 12-7. Glenvar also won the 8U tournament.

In the 15U tournament the Vinton Orioles finished second to Franklin County.



In action from the RAYBA 8U tournament, above left to right; Coach Kirk Dooley assists as son Maddox slides into third base, first base coach Brad Greenway congratulates son Brantley on a hit and, above, Remy Chewning is on the base and ready to run. Far left, Orioles catcher Noah Spradlin checks a runner in the 15U tournament and, left, Ethan Sink of the Orioles hurries back to second with Austin Croner of the Vinton Bulls lurking behind.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER



Above left, catcher Mason Pelletier chases a foul pop for the Vinton 10U team, and above right Micah Palmer of the 10U runs down a fly ball in center. Right, Jacoby Weddle of the Vinton 12U team checks the runner at first. Below left, Angel Alatorre rips a hit for the 12U Vinton Stars and, below right, Levi Amos checks in with a run.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

