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Thursday, August 29, 2024 · Dogwood Capital of Virginia · Covering Vinton, Bonsack & Stewartsville (USPS-660-020) OurValley.org · \$1.00

Pups cool off at the Lancerlot during annual Dog Days of Summer

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

The Lancerlot Sports Complex saw a huge turnout on August 24 for the fifth annual Dog Days of Summer event which welcomes dogs from all over the valley to the Lot's ice rink and outdoor pool for an afternoon of fun. The "coolest" dog event of the summer was sponsored this year by Oakey's Pet Funeral Home and Crematory, along with the Town of Vinton, Pretty Paws Dog & Cat Grooming, and Noah's Ark Animal Complex. The first Dog Days celebration at the

Lancerlot was in 2019 to help dogs, and their owners, beat the summer heat with cool activities. The event has returned each summer since (except for 2020 due to the pandemic). Dog Days is the Lot's gift to the local community – an afternoon of pure joy for pets and their owners alike, at no charge. "Dog Days" always includes a Dog Adopt-a-Thon event if you haven't met your fur-ever friend yet. In 2024, the Franklin County Humane Society, Angels of Assisi, and the Regional Center for Animal Care were there to assist those interested in

adopting a pet. There were numerous pet vendors and information booths on site, including Oakey's, Pretty Paws, the Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs (with an appearance by Diesel), Off Leash Canine, Let's Aroo, Well-Trained Dog & Pet Care, Pawsome Pet Sitting, Bedford K-9 units, Pawdicure, High Hopes Dog Training, The Dog Mom, Field of Dreams, the Roanoke SPCA, Therapeutic Elements, Intelligence Canine Training, Pawtree Pet Health and Wellness, and the Dog Aging

See Pups, page 8



Dog Days of Summer brought diving canines to the Lancerlot pool.



Four French Bulldogs were on parade in the Lancerlot ice rink.



The Rail Yard Dawgs paid their annual visit to Dog Days at the Lancerlot.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

New faculty and staff members at William Byrd Middle School for the 2024-2025 school year include (from left): front row, Kristi Vernon, Jennifer Page, Emma Blair, Kayla Buchanan, and Ashley Roop; second row, Laura Green, Juliette Onwi, Savannah Ream, Julia Ormandy, and Megan Perdue; third row, Haley Nichols, Jordan Richards, Becky Christley, Christa Blanchard, and Michele Bostic; and back row, Jeffrey John, Hunter Richards, John Ryall, Andrew Long, and Rhyann Lish. (Alicia Spangler and Melissa Sladin are not pictured.)

William Byrd Middle School introduces its new faculty/staff for 2024-2025

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

William Byrd Middle School has welcomed several new teachers and staff members for the 2024-2025 school year. Emma Blair is a one-on-one instructional assistant working with seventh grade. This is her first year working in education. She is originally from Toledo, Ohio. Michele Bostic is teaching sixth grade math. She is originally from Butler, Pa., and graduated from Slippery Rock High School in Slippery Rock, Pa. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Gannon University in Erie, Pa., and did post graduate work and received her Special Education endorsement from Edinboro University. She has been working in the field of education for 19 years. "I worked in a rehabilitation hospital with individuals who endured traumatic brain injuries, and a former patient of mine, who was a teenager, inspired me to become a teacher," Bostic explains. "I chose the Special Education route, then transitioned to teaching math. I took two years off from teaching to enjoy family and life and to see what other career opportunities were available. I continued to substitute with various

school systems and realized I missed being in the classroom and decided it was time to head back to class. "I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, working with my husband on our farm and going hunting." Kayla Buchanan is teaching sixth grade U.S. History I at WBMS. She is originally from Culpeper, and is a graduate of Culpeper County High School. "I recently graduated from Radford University, earning a Social Science degree with a minor in history along with my teaching licensure," Buchanan says. "This will be my first year teaching. I did my student teaching through Radford at Pulaski High School last semester. "I picked Social Studies because I enjoy it. I think that Social Studies is important because it allows us to look at the past and learn from it and teaches us where we came from. Additionally, I think it's important in Social Studies to learn about civil discourse, especially." She enjoys reading and playing any kind of board game and has one dog named Hudson. Becky Christley is the new Special Education Coordinator for William Byrd. She was born in Illinois but has

See WBMS, page 7

Family-owned DownHome Pharmacy opens in Vinton



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Family-owned DownHome Pharmacy in Vinton celebrated its grand opening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on August 24. Pictured are (front, from left): Vinton Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Angie Chewning, Vinton Mayor Brad Grose, Kendall Lucas, Allison Lucas, Dr. Kayla Lucas, Tim Lucas, and Kylee Lucas.

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Vinton once again has an independent, family-run pharmacy with the opening of DownHome Pharmacy at River Park Shopping Center on Bypass Road. The business is owned

by pharmacists Tim and Allison Lucas and their daughter, Dr. Kayla Lucas, also a pharmacist. The business held a grand opening/ribbon-cutting ceremony on August 24 with the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce and Vinton Mayor Brad Grose. The

Rev. Chris Cadenhead of Bonsack Baptist Church led a prayer for the new business, the family working together for the community, and the healing of patients who need their services. This is the second

See DownHome, page 8



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

New officers were installed at the Lions Award Dinner. Pictured, left to right, are Past President Jeff Mason, 2nd Vice President Ryan Mason, Secretary Gary Myers, President Zach McCarty, Treasurer Bob Benninger, and 1st Vice President Justin Fix.

Vinton Breakfast Lions hold annual Awards Dinner, install new officers

The Vinton Breakfast Lions Club hosted their annual Awards Dinner and installed new officers for 2024-2025 at the Vinton Moose Lodge banquet hall on August 27. The officers, installed by Past District Governor Eric Mills, are President Zach

McCarty, 1st Vice President Justin Fix, 2nd Vice President Ryan Mason, Secretary Gary Myers, Treasurer Bob Benninger, Tail Twister Chris McCarty, Lion Tamer Keith Lafferty, Lions Club

See Lions, page 8

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The Three Oaks Fellowship UMC congregation gathered to dedicate its new playground on August 25, one of its outreach ministries to the community. The Rev. Rob Colwell is the church pastor (center, kneeling).

Three Oaks Fellowship UMC dedicates new community playground

Debbie Adams
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Three Oaks Fellowship United Methodist Church celebrated a new community outreach ministry on August 25 with the dedication of the new playground, which members hope will be well-used by not just the children at their church, but by all the children of the community.

Much of the funding for the project came from memorial donations to the church from members, friends, and the community when Vinton Volunteer firefighter Benny Powell passed away in March. Powell had been a devoted member of the fire department since he was a student at William Byrd High School, first as the mascot and then as a member since 1965. He served as chief from 1995 to 2011 and remained an active honorary member until his death. He loved all things outdoors.

The members and guests gathered in the outdoor pavilion for worship before the playground dedication. Their pastor,

the Rev. Rob Colwell, spoke about “being a backyard to the surrounding community” with the new playground, and other projects such as back-to-school events, Easter egg hunts, trunk or treat, fall festivals, and more.

He delivered a moving sermon on how people are all connected, using the illustration of a spider web. A huge ball of yarn was tossed from person to person as each one spoke of the mentor in their life who had had the most impact on their spiritual development, forming a “web of reflection.”

Colwell reminded those in attendance of the childhood story book, “Charlotte’s Web” and its theme of the power of connections, commenting that “we are all connected and part of God’s purpose in this world.”

The service continued on the playground as the pastor blessed the structure as the congregation gathered in a circle around the slides, climbing walls, and Noah’s Ark, saying, “God wants us to pray and to play.”

The celebration concluded with an ice cream social on the church grounds.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The new playground and community outreach project at Three Oaks Fellowship UMC.

Three Oaks Fellowship is located just outside of Vinton on Gravel Hill Road (off of Hardy Road), headed toward Smith Mountain Lake.

The church has been located on that spot for about 20 years. Towards the end of 2000, what was Belmont United Methodist Church made the decision to close their

church and purchase land (about 21 acres) from the Patsell family. After the church closed, the congregation was able to hold services in the old Hardy Post Office building and worshipped there for the next four years while they made plans to build

See **Playground**, page 8



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Artist Matilda Wentzel's classes combine watercolors with mindfulness

Debbie Adams
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Matilda Wentzel believes she has always been an artist, but she also believes “everyone is in some way; we all have a creative side; some use it one way and some another. The key is to cultivate it. One idea gives birth to 10 more when we act on our inspirations!

“I’ve always been encouraged to draw and paint; I remember getting really serious about it as a teenager and pouring all my free time into it. My grandmother brought me to art class with the late Mrs. Martha Rhodes who lived in Roanoke and was an amazing teacher, I was probably about 10 years old when I began, and I remember telling her I didn’t like to paint, only to draw. But Mrs. Rhodes encouraged me to try something new, and surprisingly she was right! Now I devote my life to painting.”

Her current style and techniques are self-taught through many years of experimentation with lots of different mediums.

On August 14, Wentzel shared her talents at the Charles R. Hill Community Center in Vinton in an art class for adults and teens that combined watercolors, candle wax, and “mindfulness.” On September 4 she will begin a new four-week session in the same location.

“That was actually the first one-time class I ever taught,” said Wentzel. “I usually I like to have more consistency with people and let the classes build upon the last. I figured since these classes are new to the area, a one-time class was a good way to get people interested. The best part about the four-week class is the community aspect; people get familiar with each other and open up quite a lot.

“I’ve had students say, ‘Thank you for creating a space for us to talk about our well being; there’s no other place where I’ve been able to have conversations like this.’

“The other differences are the specific projects; people gain confidence as they keep going and

they get a chance to ‘try again’ if they want to refine their specific goals – as well as letting the art and mindfulness techniques build in more depth as the weeks go on.”

For those who attended the first class in Vinton, creating the art was inspiring, but the mindfulness/meditation aspect through her quiet, soothing voice was extremely calming and peaceful, almost magical.

That is one of her intentions.

“Many people never slow down, but one of art’s greatest gifts is ‘time.’ Creating takes time and when we set aside time for ourselves it sends a message that we value our own well being. I have high expectations for my students to gain pivotal experiences in class that affect their long term and not only for the few hours we are together. Mindfulness is a practice; it takes consistency and an experiential understanding to get it to stick.”

Wentzel says she has not always connected mindfulness and meditation with art, “but it has always been there even if I didn’t realize it. Creativity is very spiritual. In my early 20s when I began painting all day every day (instead of just every once in a while). I quickly became aware of pieces of myself I was neglecting. All the extra time to contemplate led me on a journey within my heart that ultimately led me to healing.”

Her method is to guide artists to “wander inside of ourselves, inspiring the stories of our own imagination to come to life.”

As for why she teaches abstract art, Wentzel says, “I find abstract is an easy starting place for people, but I always like to have different projects. The one people always love is learning how to make Mandalas, so much so that I always make it a part of my four-week sessions! I teach the fundamentals of art, too, such as the color wheel, color schemes, composition, and creating value.

“Although I usually stick with watercolor painting for the adults, I mix it up a lot when I teach kids. Currently I don’t have any kids’ classes



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Artist Matilda Wentzel (right) will be teaching a four-class session at the Charles R. Hill Community Center in Vinton on Wednesdays, beginning on September 4.

going, but I’ve had people express interest so that may be coming in the near future. I’ve taught kids acrylic painting, pencil drawing, pen and ink, landscapes, cartoons and so much more! I started teaching kids in my Roanoke community when I was 14 years old.”

Wentzel is not only an artist, but an author. If you visit her website, you will notice her new book of 54 poems and their illustrations, “Treasures of Wisdom” which she spent three years formatting and self-published.

Vinton is fortunate that she has begun her classes in the area here. “I live nearby in Salem and when I recently moved back to my hometown from Montana, I asked the community Facebook group if there were good spaces to teach. The Vinton Community Center reached out to me

and since I believe in going about life with a sense of ease, I just let it fall naturally into place. It is a really calm, private, and well-lit space, I’m very grateful they welcomed me in!”

Wentzel has a private studio within her home and sells her art “to people of all ages and backgrounds, usually those who enjoy my subject matter of nature and spiritual concepts. So far, the most consistent thing I hear from my buyers is that they like ‘me’ and have a connection with me that makes them want to continue getting to know me. I want to get to know my buyers better, too, so I make a point to do so.”

That leads to why she wants to teach art, rather than just “do” art.

“The main reason is that I get a lot

See Artist, page 8

Great crowd, great band, great weather show up for latest Mingle at the Market

The summer is winding down, but the 2024 Mingle at the Market concerts are still going strong in downtown Vinton. The Five Shades of Gray band played to a packed venue on August 24 with tunes from a variety of genres that had to please everyone in attendance at some point.

The Mingles are family-friendly events so there were children playing in the Kids Zone, as well as joining the adults dancing to the music in the streets.

There was a steady line at the Let’s Get Glazed and Hangcry food trucks, and at the beverage booth.

The Mingle at the Market concerts are sponsored by the Vinton Chamber of Commerce, who welcomes volunteers from local businesses and organizations to help facilitate each event. Defy Gravity helped with the August 24 concert, along with the Terriers football team who always assists with set up and teardown.

Pets are usually not allowed at Mingles, but an exception was made at this concert for mascot puppy Appa who was there with Vinton town employees to help folks register for the upcoming Pink Warrior Walk benefitting the Virginia

Breast Cancer Foundation on September 7 at 5 p.m. To register to participate in the walk, visit:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Vinton/VintonsPinkWarriorWalk>. Another party at the Market follows the Warrior Walk.

Sponsors for this year’s Mingle at the Market concerts include Mountain View Real Estate, Rosie’s Gaming Emporium, Jamie McCadden with Edward Jones, HomeTrust Bank, MemberOne, Goosehead Insurance, RVTV3, the Vinton McDonald’s, Bank of Botetourt, ALCOVA Mortgage, Blue Ridge Beverage, the Town of Vinton, Roanoke County, Coastal Insurance Planning, Neely’s Accounting, Magnets USA, Oakey’s, Fox 910 Radio, the Boothe Bell Real Estate Team, ServPro, Vertex Signs, and The Vinton Messenger.

Only two more Mingle concerts are left this year: Gasoline Alley and Filthy Souls on September 14 and the Big Daddy Ray Band, along with Andy Nicely and Friends on September 28.

~Vinton Messenger staff report



Town of Vinton employees and puppy Appa were on hand at the latest Mingle to register members of the community for the first annual Pink Warrior Walk on September 7 to benefit the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation.



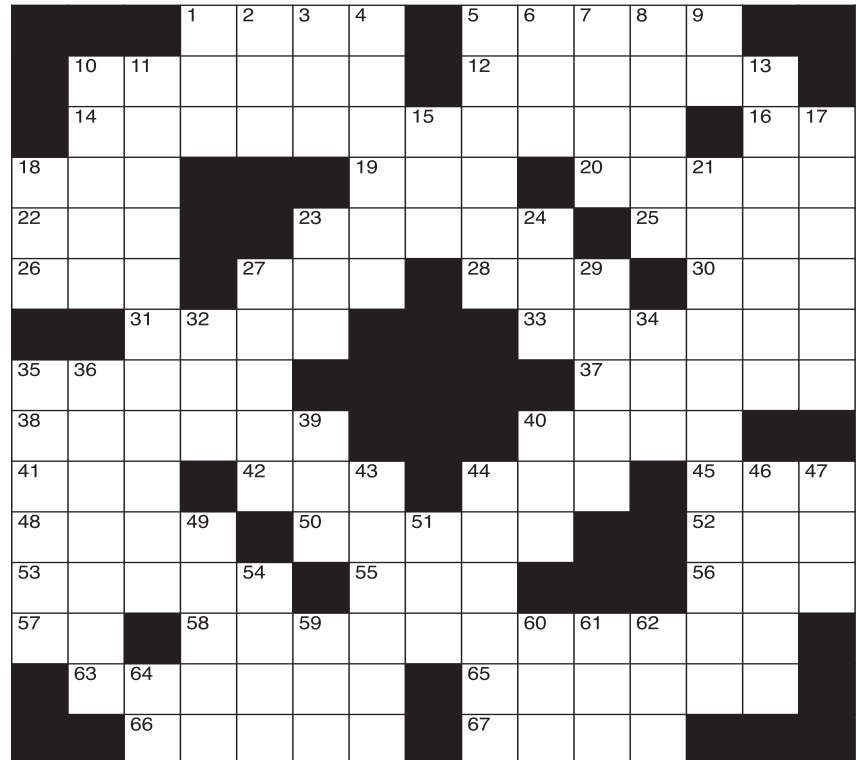
Five Shades of Gray kept the crowd on its feet at the August 24 Mingle concert.



Mingle at the Market concerts – a great opportunity for dancing in the streets.

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- | | | | |
|---|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. CURRENCY ACROSS | 30. Indicates near | 65. National capital of Zambia | 24. Snitch |
| 5. Avert something bad | 31. Spiritual leader | 66. Tantalizes | 27. Trimmed |
| 10. Sounds | 33. Soup dish | 67. Dark brown or black | 29. Greek god of desire |
| 12. Immediate dangers | 35. Philippine island | CLUES DOWN | 32. Take to the limit |
| 14. Legendary Tar Heels coach | 37. No longer fashionable | 1. Not naturally outgoing | 34. Cool! |
| 16. Californium | 38. Peaks | 2. Exclamation of pain | 35. Sound mental health |
| 18. Work standards government dept. (abbr.) | 40. Alabama football team | 3. Polynesian garland of flowers | 36. Native American group |
| 19. Coastal Scottish town | 41. ___ King Cole | 4. Surrounded by water | 39. Test for high schoolers |
| 20. Triangular lower back bones | 42. Digital audiotape | 5. Church towers | 40. Rocky peak |
| 22. Trouble | 44. Open trough | 6. Hot beverage | 43. Preferences |
| 23. A way to smile | 45. The woman | 7. Body parts | 44. Bother |
| 25. Something that is not what it seems | 48. Cools down | 8. Travel documents | 46. Call attention to (slang) |
| 26. Of she | 50. Turkic language | 9. Railway | 47. Snake-like fish |
| 27. Temporary living quarters | 52. Body part | 10. Gradually wear away | 49. Bulgarian capital |
| 28. Bag-like structure in a plant or animal | 53. Pulse steadily | 11. Measuring instrument | 51. Don't know when yet |
| | 55. Embedded computer hardware company | 13. Minor dust-ups | 54. Italian Seaport |
| | 56. Indicates shape | 15. Strongly alkaline solution | 59. Brooklyn hoopster |
| | 57. Thou (plural) | 17. Extreme scarcity of food | 60. Where to bathe |
| | 58. Odd and remarkable | 18. Dash | 61. Equal, prefix |
| | 63. An evening party | 21. Philly culinary specialty | 62. Beverage container |
| | | 23. Popular lager ___ Adams | 64. Denotes openness |

Vinton Farmers' Market hosting Dog Day Celebration to 'make a difference' for pets in need

Dog Day at the Vinton Farmers Market!

Date: Saturday, August 31
Time: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Location: Vinton Farmers Market

Join us for a tail-wagging good time at our Dog Day event! Bring your furry friends and enjoy a day packed with fun activities:

- Storytime with Roanoke Co Public Library
- Starts at 10:00 AM
- Gather 'round for a special storytime session featuring dog-themed tales that will delight children and pups alike!



PHOTO COURTESY TOWN OF VINTON

The hot and humid days of July and August are often referred to as the "dog days of summer." Folk tales claim the phrase comes from a belief that the summer heat could drive dogs mad, or at least cause them to laze around.

In fact, the "dog days of summer" have nothing to do with dogs. The term was inspired by the sky and the appearance of the Dog Star, Sirius – the brightest star in the sky – during the sultriest part of summer.

The Lancerlot Sports Complex celebrated Dog Days on August 24, giving dogs and their owners the opportunity to cool off in the pool and ice rink.

The Town of Vinton is hosting its own Dog Day Celebration on August 31 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Vinton

Farmers' Market. The community is invited to come by with their dog(s) for a "tail-wagging good time."

The RCACP will be on hand to accept donations to help "furry friends in need" with pet supplies, such as canned and dry dog and cat food, rabbit food, cat and dog toys, treats for "all critters" and blankets.

There will be Storytime for kids with the Roanoke County Public Library at 10 a.m. and many dog-themed crafts. "That Guy Will" will perform from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Craft and food vendors and fresh produce from Rueda Plants and Produce will be on-site.

- Vinton Messenger staff report

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

By Angie Chewing



Allison Echols and Swim Club. Call the Chamber office for more information at 540-343-1364.

Allison James Echols, a student at Radford University, started her fall semester studying Fashion Design at the American Institute of Foreign Studios in London, England.

Allison is the daughter of Sarah and Frank Spetich of Fincastle and Jim and Sonya Echols of Glen Allen, Va., and the granddaughter of Jim and Nita Echols of Vinton and Louise Wolfe of Salem.

Congratulations to Myra Williamson on winning second place in needlepoint at the West Virginia State Fair.

Everyone was glad to see Bootie out and "mingling" at Saturday's Mingle at the Market concert.

The Vinton Chamber is accepting vendor applications for the Vinton Fall Festival, Christmas Parade, and golf team for our golf tournament on September 20 at Botetourt Golf

Beyond Books

By Vinton Library Assistant Molly Meador

School is back in session, but that doesn't mean the end of library programming fun (that never ends!). Summer Reading may be over, but we've still got tons planned for everyone of all ages to keep busy learning and having a blast.

Before smartphones, there were computer games to pass the time. Try out some Retro Games on Wednesdays, September 4, 11, and 18 from 6-7 p.m. On September 4 we'll be back in the '90s with Oregon Trail and MSPaint. On September 11 we're exploring typing twists with Mario Teaches Typing and Spacebar Invaders. On September 18 we'll be figuring things out with The Incredible Machine and Lemming. Register online for one or all. We've got even more tech information for you on Thursday, September 19 at 2:30 p.m., when we'll learn about Libby for iOS. If you want to read eBooks or listen to audiobooks on your iPhone or iPad, register now to learn how to add the Libby app to download books and much more.

Do you want to learn how to crochet?

Register to come to our Introduction to Crochet program on Saturday, September 14, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. and learn the basics of this fun fiber craft. If that's not enough, stick around for Creations and Temptations from 3-4 p.m. the same day. Register to make a DIY Tiny Walnut Forest Scene with an adorable little hedgehog. If you have them, please bring your own tweezers with you.

We are also having Yard Games again this month on Saturday, September 28 from 2-4 p.m. Drop on by, weather permitting, to play all kinds of fun yard games with your friends and family. We'll have cornhole, giant Connect Four, giant Jenga and more. Fun for all ages.

The Vinton Community Connection continues this month every Friday from 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. with the following awesome mini programs:

- September 6- learn about folk speech
- September 13- have coffee with a cop
- September 20- time for some art fun

See **Beyond Books**, page 5

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 - Will you "come back to the Bible", learn more and follow Him? If you live locally in this beautiful Roanoke Valley or Botetourt County area, there is a Church, you will know it's the ONE when you see the name on the end of the building that reads Church of Christ. 7165 Cloverdale Rd., NW, Roanoke, VA 24019. We offer a free 3 lesson, OPEN Bible course entitled "Back to the Bible." Only available in home or where our Church meets: Sign up now on our website, daleridgechurchofchrist.net or email us at comeback2thebible@gmail.com and request to be scheduled for lesson #1 of 3 entitled "who has the Authority In Religion today". You will be contacted promptly. All studies are conducted by 2 individuals, never alone. May God Bless you in choosing this "open book Bible study."

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.

FOURSQUARE EVANGEL CHURCH - 2330 Hardy Road, (corner of Hardy Road and Feather Road), 540-982-3694, www.evangel4sq.com

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God Repays

Read Ezekiel 24:1 through 27:36

Why do people sometimes seem to get away with sinning? Does God look away when these evils come against His children?

"Your wealth, merchandise and wares, your mariners, sailors and shipwrights, your merchants and all your soldiers, and everyone else on board will sink into the heart of the sea on the day of your shipwreck" (Ezekiel 27:27).

When Israel turned away from the Lord, the people became prey for the enemies of God. The nations that attacked Israel assumed God would not judge their sin, but they were mistaken. God watched and recorded every evil deed. A day of accounting was decreed.

In time, Israel's enemies lost wealth, status, and strength. Some even disappeared from the world altogether.

When trials come, Christians should not presume that God is unconcerned with their struggles. He sometimes uses difficulties to discipline and train them for righteousness. As His people wait upon Him, their faith grows.

One day you will be lifted above your trials, and retribution will be given to those who would plunder you.

Prayer Suggestion: Lord, I trust You even now.

Quicklook: Ezekiel 27:26-31

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

com, Pastor Tim Wright. Worship Service Sunday, 10AM. Bible Study Wednesday 11AM-12PM.

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

NAZARENE FIRST CHURCH OF NAZARENE, 728 Highland Ave., SE, Roanoke, Virginia. 342-4003. Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Wednesday Night Bible Study 7 p.m.

PRESBYTERIAN CAMPBELL MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1130 Hardy Rd, Vinton, VA, 540-343-1842; cmcp2verizon.net Sunday school 9:45am, Worship 11:00am; Communion 1st Sundays; 2nd Sun-

day Session; Monday Noon Bible Study; Tuesdays & Thursdays Stretch Class 9:00am; 1st Tuesdays Deacons; Wednesday Choir 7:00pm; Monday Girl Scouts 7:00pm; 3rd Saturday Men's Breakfast 8:00am. Rev. Jonathan Moelker, pastor

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

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

Vinton WorldTrekking plan future adventures – you're invited!

This past July, a group of about 50 Vinton WorldTrekking (students, teachers, parents, and others) visited Japan. They had such a wonderful time that they are anxious to get busy planning and/or finalizing plans for future adventures.

The group is spearheaded by Cherrybell Damasco-Farrington, Dionne Nichols, and Ashley Satterfield, teachers at William Byrd High School. They say they are organizing “multiple exciting trips for students, offering them valuable educational and experiential opportunities.”

Their purpose of the Vinton WorldTrekking is to “allow travelers to experience a culture different from their own.”

They will be holding informational meetings in the next few weeks to discuss the variety of experiences available. At the meetings, the itinerary, activities, dates, academic opportunities, and cost will be covered. There are limited spots on these trips, so they “would love to see you at one of these meetings to learn more. Please note these are non-school sponsored trips.”

It is mandatory to register for the meeting you plan to attend so the teachers hosting the meetings can plan accordingly. Find the details of these trips below, and register for the experience you would like to learn more about.

TRIP 1: Paris, Strasbourg, Lyon 2025

- Group Leader: Marsha Taylor (French)
- Meeting Date: Aug 29, 6 p.m.
- Meeting Location: Glenvar Library
- RSVP here: <https://bit.ly/4foeaWL>
- TRIPS 2 AND 3: Austria, Germany & Switzerland 2025 and Stories of Scotland 2026
- Group Leaders: Ashley Satterfield 2025 (English), Dionne Nichols 2026 (English)
- Meeting Date: Sept 4, 6 p.m.
- Meeting Location: Vinton Library
- RSVP here: <https://bit.ly/4cTNdlz>
- TRIPS 4 & 5: Discover Belize 2025 and Capitals of Scandinavia 2026
- Group Leader: Melissa Carr (Science)
- Meeting Date: Sept 5, 6 p.m.
- Meeting Location: Vinton Library
- RSVP here: <https://bit.ly/4bZB9Ey>
- TRIP 6: Rome & Athens 2025
- Group Leader: Laura Ward (Latin)
- Meeting Date: Sept 12, 6:30 p.m.
- Meeting Location: Vinton Library
- RSVP here: <https://bit.ly/3XbOju5>
- TRIP 7: Discover South Korea 2027
- Group Leader: Cherry Bell Farrington (ITRT, Language Club Sponsor)
- Meeting Date: Sept 25, 6 p.m.
- Meeting Location: Vinton Library



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF VINTON WORLDTREKKING

RSVP here: <https://bit.ly/4d5afMu>
 For more information contact Vinton WorldTrekking at vintonworldtrekkers@gmail.com and/or follow their social media accounts at <https://linktr.ee/vintonworldtrekkers>.

-Submitted by Vinton WorldTrekking

Bonsack UMC celebrating 150th anniversary



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BONSAACK UMC

In September, Bonsack United Methodist Church will celebrate its 150th anniversary. All are welcome to the special services, beginning at 10:30 a.m. each week throughout September.

- Sept. 8: Guest preacher, the Rev. Tim Craft; dedication of new playground (bring a lawn chair if you are able); light lunch provided
- Sept. 15: Guest preacher, the Rev. Tim Tate, brunch provided
- Sept. 22: Guest preacher, the Rev. Doug Forrester, Valley Ridge District Superintendent; special music; lunch provided by Pastor Rob
- Sept. 29: The Rev. Rob Lough will preach at the final 150th anniversary celebration service; appetizers served after worship

-Submitted by Bonsack UMC



From the Pulpit

By Pastor Bryan Crouch,
Lynn Haven Baptist Church

Practical Faith

We are studying the Book of James at Lynn Haven Baptist Church. In James 1:2-4 we find a life changing passage in Scripture. Life is full of challenges, but did you know these trials are always meant to make us stronger, more mature and faithful Christians?

When tough times come, it's easy to feel frustrated or sad. But there's another way to look at it. Imagine you are training for a race. At first, running is hard, and your muscles hurt. But the more you train, the stronger you get.

In our spiritual lives, difficulties are like that training. They test our faith, build our patience and lead us to spiritual maturity. When we face problems, we learn to trust God more. We might not understand why things are hard, but God will use these moments to make us better Ambassadors.

Next time you face a problem, try to remember that it's an opportunity. It's a chance to grow closer to God and to become stronger in your faith. Talk to God about your struggles and ask Him for strength. Remember, each challenge can help you become more complete and mature in your walk with God. So, keep going and trust that God is working in you through every trial.

Safe Streets and Roads for All community meeting set for September 10

The Town of Vinton will be holding the second community meeting on the Federal Highway Administration's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program on September 10 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Vinton War Memorial. This is an open house-style meeting where participants may come and go as they please.

The purpose of the SS4A program is to prevent deaths and serious injuries for all roadway users including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, commercial vehicle operators, transit riders,

and micromobility users.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) established the SS4A discretionary program with \$5 billion in appropriated funds over five years, 2022-2026. The funding helps communities address the preventable crisis of deaths on roads, streets, and highways through safer people, roads, and vehicles; appropriate vehicle speeds; and improved post-crash care. Over \$3 billion is still available for future funding rounds.

Over 400 surveys to comment on high crash areas were completed

through the first round of community meetings in April. The second round of community meetings will focus on proposed projects in each locality to reduce deaths and serious injuries on the roadways. Surveys will be available to provide feedback on the proposed projects through Monday, September 30.

For more information, contact Deputy Town Manager Cody Sexton through email at csexton@vintonva.gov, or by phone at 540-983-0607.

-Town of Vinton

Beyond Books

from page 4

- September 27- learn about The Norman Conquest
- This month the Vinton Book Club will discuss "Trust" by Hernan Diaz on Thursday, September 5 at 3 p.m. and the As the Page Turns Book Club will discuss "My Dark Vanessa" by Kate Elizabeth Russell on Wednesday, September 11 at 2 p.m.
- Be sure to check out our awesome ongoing programs:
- Open Bridge meets every Tuesday from 1-4 p.m.
- Saturday Morning Cartoons are every Saturday from 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., weather permitting
- The DMV will be here Thursday, September 12 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., closing from 12:30-1:30 p.m. for lunch
- The Roanoke Valley Dulcimers

meet Saturday, September 21, from 10:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

- The Blue Ridge Dulcimer Ensemble will play Monday, September 30 from 6-7 p.m.

It's time for Teens Make Zines. Register to come on Tuesday, September 3 from 6-7 p.m. in the Teen Center to get your self-expression on and share your passions; make zines and trade them with others if you so wish. All materials provided.

Looking to volunteer? Join us for Teen Volunteer Group (TVG), a fun way to earn volunteer hours at the library. Come by on Thursday, September 5, and Tuesday, September 17, from 5-6 p.m. to brainstorm ideas for the library, help out with library support and outreach, get creative with teen displays, talk about the

books in our collection, and make suggestions. We are so excited you want to join in and help the library.

We've got some art fun planned for the kids, too. For ages 6-11, come to Art Aficionados on Wednesday, September 25 from 4-5 p.m. Journey through art history (and present) with us to become an Art Aficionado. We'll look at a famous artist's work each month, discover how they make art, then do a project emulating their style and process. This month we'll learn about Michelangelo.

This month's Discovery Time will be on Thursday, September 12, from 11 a.m.-12 p.m.; the theme for the month will be the alphabet. Junior Makers will be on Wednesday, September 18 from 4-5 p.m. with an autumnal/engineering theme.

This month's storytime theme is "Fall." Storytime will be on Wednesdays, September 11, 18, and 25, with Toddler Storytime from 10:30-11a.m. followed by Preschool Storytime from 11:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Don't forget about our awesome ongoing children's and teen programs:

- Saturday is Saturday, September 7, from 11:30-12:30, register online for your 15-minute slot
- Anime Club for teens is on Monday, September 9, from 6-7 p.m.
- Teen Book Chat for middle and high schoolers is on Monday, September 16, from 5-6 p.m.

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.

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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Remembering Vinton

Hodges family tragedy of 1994

with the Vinton Historical Society

Thirty years ago, on August 29, 1994, Vinton emergency personnel responded to the scene of a quadruple homicide on Virginia Avenue. The Hodges family of four (Blaine and Teresa Hodges and their daughters Winter, age 11, and Anah, age 3) had been brutally murdered and burned in their own home. August 29 happened to be the first day of school that year. It would have been Winter's first day in sixth grade.

There was a prolonged investigation. Family friend Earl Bramblett emerged as the primary focus. He became a suspect almost immediately, but it took 23 months to complete the investigation.

In 1996, Bramblett was arrested in South Carolina for the crimes; his case finally went to trial in Roanoke County Circuit Court in October 1997.

He was eventually convicted by a jury of one count of capital murder, three counts of first degree murder, three counts of use of a firearm in commission of a felony, and one count of arson. The jury recommended the death sentence for the capital conviction, three life sentences, and \$300,000 in fines on the first degree murder convictions, 13 years on the firearms convictions, and a life sentence and \$100,000 fine on the arson conviction.

According to then Vinton Police Chief Rick Foutz, 25 police officers from various agencies worked out of the Vinton office, putting in 16- to 18-hour days for weeks investigating the crime. During the course of the entire investigation, over 100 police officers from across the country were involved.

A Roanoke Times series on the crimes described Bramblett as a drifter who claimed he was framed by the police for the Hodges' murders.

Bramblett's family moved from place to place in his childhood; he attended 15 different schools. He attended three colleges, but did not receive a diploma, and held a variety of jobs.

He apparently came to Roanoke around 1969 to help his father with a silk-screening business in Southwest Roanoke. In 1970, he volunteered as an assistant track coach at Jefferson High School where he met Blaine Hodges, who was on the team. Bramblett and the Hodges became friends. Around 1973 Bramblett married. He and his wife had two sons.

In 1980, Bramblett was questioned in the disappearance of two 14-year-olds, Tammy Akers and Angela Rader, but no charges were placed. The girls were never found.

Bramblett left his father's business in 1984. In November of that year, he was acquitted of molesting a girl who worked at the silk-screening business.

On August 26, 1994, Blaine and Teresa Hodges attended an Amway meeting in Charlottesville and then drove back home to Vinton. The following day an Amway leader spoke with them twice to discuss the Amway meeting they were planning at their own home on August 28.

However, on August 28, Teresa Hodges and Anah did not show up for services at Cornerstone Church, which was unusual because they were faithful members. Their neighbors described them as "good, quiet people."

When friends stopped by the house for the Amway meeting, they found a note tacked to the door saying that the Hodges family would return home on Sunday or Monday because of an emergency.

On Monday, Aug. 29, one of the Hodges'

neighbors returned home about 3 a.m. and noticed lights on in the Hodges' kitchen. An hour later, their dogs began barking wildly. At 5 a.m., a motorist noticed smoke, finding the Hodges' house on fire.

Emergency personnel found the bodies of the Hodges family. Teresa had been strangled in the living room and an accelerant poured around and on her body; Blaine and their daughters were found upstairs, shot in the head. An autopsy indicated Blaine had been shot first, sometime between August 27 and 29. Fire destroyed much of the evidence.

On August 31, police questioned Bramblett at a motel where he was staying. He refused to allow police into the room but told them he had seen Teresa and her daughters the day before the slayings.

According to a U.S. Forest Service police officer, Bramblett seems to have taken Teresa and the girls fishing on August 28 in Botetourt County. The officer spoke to Teresa, who gave no indication of anything wrong. Authorities believe Blaine had already been killed and that Bramblett killed the rest of the family when they returned home.

On September 1, police obtained a warrant to search his hotel room. They found a .22 caliber revolver. Within the next week, police found audio tapes and notes by Bramblett in a trash container at the business where he had worked part-time. The tapes revealed Bramblett expressing feelings of hostility towards Blaine Hodges, and a drawing of four stick figures, three with lines pointed to their heads. Later they searched Bramblett's storage unit at a Vinton business and found more cassette tapes and a .22 caliber magnum cartridge.

In October 1994, Bramblett sent a letter to The Roanoke Times maintaining his innocence. He accused Vinton police of lying about their interviews with him and said that his attorneys had advised him to get out of Virginia. He insisted he did not kill the Hodges family and didn't know who did.

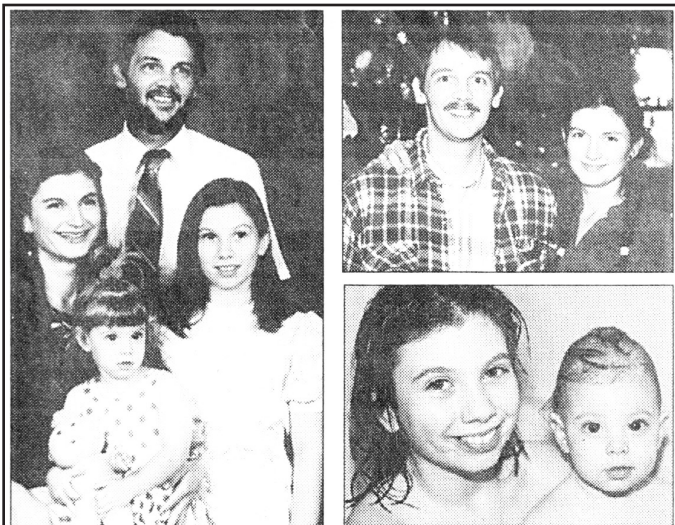
In October 1996, Bramblett was arrested in Spartanburg, S.C. and charged with murder, arson, and use of a firearm. The evidence appeared to be circumstantial with no confession, no eyewitness, and no murder weapon.

In May 1997, his lawyers argued that he was delusional, distrusted them, and was not able to help them prepare a case. Roanoke County Circuit Court Judge Roy Willett disagreed and ruled that Bramblett was competent to stand trial.

His lawyers filed an affidavit in September 1997, exploring the possibility that the murders were a drug hit linked to Teresa Hodges' half-brother, a long-time criminal and drug informant for law enforcement agencies. It was suggested that the half-brother might have had enemies seeking revenge.

The prosecution team included Roanoke County Commonwealth's Attorney Skip Burkart, Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Randy Leach, and State Police Investigator Barry Keese. During the course of the trial, they would call more than 100 witnesses and present nearly 300 pieces of evidence. They painted a portrait of Bramblett for the jury as a "sexually depraved and paranoid man."

Defense attorneys Mac Doubles and Terry Grimes represented Bramblett. Their premise was that the police had zeroed in on Bramblett from the beginning of the investigation and ignored other leads. Friends, family, and neighbors apparently called Bramblett to the attention of investigators. His family and his defense



A family remembered: The Hodges family (Blaine, Teresa, Winter and Anah Hodges),

FILE PHOTO

The Hodges family of Vinton were found in their home on August 29, 1994, victims of foul play and fire.

team maintained that Bramblett's arrest was based on "rumors, assumptions, and innuendos, not hard facts."

Police first thought Blaine Hodges, who was set to go to jail for six months for embezzling money from the Vinton Post Office, might have killed his family and then committed suicide, until investigators learned that Blaine Hodges had been killed some 12 to 24 hours before his wife and daughters. The fire had been put out before all the evidence was destroyed and the victim's bodies provided medical proof (related to the state of Blaine Hodges' body) that Hodges couldn't have killed his family.

Phone lines in the house had also been cut. Investigators believe Blaine was shot Sunday morning or afternoon and Teresa and the girls early Monday morning.

In the early days of the trial, prosecutors said they believed the gun found near Blaine Hodges' body had been the murder weapon. The gun's barrel had been removed, but it could still be fired. The revolver held five spent shells and one live round in the cylinder; there was also a live round on the stairs. The strike marks on the empty shell casings were similar to the markings on an empty casing found in Bramblett's pick-up truck hours after the murders were discovered. The live rounds were identical in chemical composition to the spent rounds used to kill the girls and two live rounds were left in the gun and on the stairway. The prosecutors also suggested that Bramblett had a preoccupation with Winter Hodges.

Two days after the murders, at the suggestion of then Officer Mike Stovall, police set up a roadblock on Virginia Avenue hoping to find people who regularly traveled the road (a main thoroughfare) in the early morning hours and might have seen something suspicious.

One motorist stated that she had seen a pinkish pick-up truck pulling out behind her when she passed the Hodges' home (ostensibly Bramblett's white truck illuminated by halogen lights). Defense attorneys questioned her vision and the lighting in the area.

The defense team emphasized their contention that others could have murdered the Hodges family and that the evidence was circumstantial or that it was a drug hit. Bramblett later claimed that Hodges was working as an undercover informant for the government.

Bramblett insisted Blaine Hodges had plotted with the police to frame him in an elaborate hoax. Another theory emerged that Bramblett believed his friends, the Hodges, were plotting against him and spent a year or more planning their deaths.

The jury found Bramblett guilty on all counts after two and a half hours of deliberation. Bramblett never took the stand during the trial or during sentencing. An execution date was set for April 16, 1998. Bramblett and his attorneys exhausted state and federal appeals. Bramblett chose electrocution and eventually was put to death on April 9, 2003.

The site of the Hodges house is now a vacant lot.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

RECIPES OF THE WEEK

Herbed Garlic Pork Roast

Several local grocery stores have featured pork roasts on sale in the past couple of weeks.

Here's a great recipe for cooking a pork roast – simple to fix, will last for more than one meal, and won't be dry.

- Ingredients:
- One 2- to 4-pound pork roast
 - 2 tsp. olive oil
 - Salt, or seasoning salt, and black pepper
 - 2 tsp. dried rosemary leaves
 - 3 cloves garlic
 - White wine (or chicken stock or water)

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Rub the roast all over with olive oil. Peel garlic, slice into slivers, rinse, and then roll in

the rosemary. Cut small slashes in the roast on both sides in several locations. Insert garlic in the holes. Sprinkle with seasoning salt or salt and black pepper to taste.

Place the roast in a casserole dish or roasting pan. Pour wine (or chicken stock or water) into pan to a depth of about a half-inch. Cover with aluminum foil – tenting so it doesn't rest on the top of the roast. Bake for one hour. Remove foil and continue baking another hour or so. Baste the roast now and then and add more liquid as it cooks away, until a thermometer inserted in the roast registers 160-165 degrees. Let roast stand about 10 minutes before slicing.

AARP Fraud Alert:

AARP Victim Support Group Promotion

Have you been affected by a scam? Know that you are not alone.

AARP Fraud Watch Network offers free emotional support sessions for people affected by fraud. Trained peer facilitators conduct hour-long small group online sessions. You can join by computer, tablet, or smartphone. Discussions are confidential. You are

welcome to attend one session or several – it's your choice.

Experiencing a scam can be devastating, but it doesn't have to define you. Sign up for a session at aarp.org/fraudsupport and take an important step toward emotional recovery.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

AARP Fraud Watch Network is a free resource for all. Learn how to proactively spot scams or get guidance if you've been targeted. Visit aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork or call the dedicated helpline to speak to a fraud specialist at 877-908-3360.

- AARP

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VintonMessenger.com

WBMS

from page 1

spent most of her life in Virginia, which she calls home. She graduated from James River High School in Buchanan.

She received a Bachelor's Degree in Human Services from Bluefield College and a Master's Degree in Special Education from Liberty University. This is her seventh year in education for Roanoke County Public Schools.

As for how she came to be at WBMS, "I was looking at a couple of different schools that had openings in my current position. I chose William Byrd Middle School because of all the wonderful things I heard about the administration, staff, and students. I have a niece and a nephew who have graduated from William Byrd High School, with two more currently attending William Byrd Middle and High School.

As for her outside interests, "I am a wife and mother of three boys and am blessed to live around a large, local extended family. I love to fish and spend time with my family."

Laura Green is teaching Latin at WBMS. She has been teaching in Roanoke County since 2005. Her home school is Northside High School where she teaches Latin and a World Language interest block, but she has taught in middle and high schools throughout the county. She has worked at William Byrd High School fairly recently as a traveling teacher.

Jeffrey John is teaching Pre-Algebra 7 and Math 7 at William Byrd Middle School. He grew up in Roanoke and was a homeschooled. He earned his Associate's Degree in Mathematics from Virginia Western Community College and his Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Virginia Tech. This is his first year in teaching. When he applied to Roanoke County, WBMS reached out to him.

"I enjoy math and helping people learn and grow in their knowledge, understanding and excitement – especially kids."

In his spare time, he enjoys numerous different sports and physical activities.

Rhyan Lish is an instructional assistant at WBMS. He is originally from Idaho, where he graduated from Soda Springs High School in Soda Springs. He graduated from the University of Arkansas Grantham Little Rock, with a Master's Degree in Human Performance Improvement. This is his first year in education.

Lish moved here while he was in the military – "all my children are Terriers."

His loves to spend time with family outdoors, and loves to support the schools that his children attend.

Andrew Long is an instructional assistant to six different teachers in sixth and seventh grade History and Life Science classes. He graduated from Salem High School and Virginia Tech, where he studied Political Science. This is his first year in education.

"I will be extremely pleased if I am able to help my teachers be successful in their critical task of creating learning, understanding, and growth in each of the students," Long says. "After a 30-year career in banking, my wife, who is a high school teacher, encouraged me to try something new – as there was a need for help and it is always fulfilling to serve in a direct capacity to the community."

His hobbies are "handyman" activities, reading, aviation, and exercising at the gym.

Haley Nichols is an instructional assistant at WBMS. She graduated from William Byrd, along with her two older sons. Her youngest son is a sophomore at Byrd this year.

"I enjoy outdoor adventures such as camping, going to the lake, ATV, and I absolutely love the snow. I'm looking forward to a wonderful year."

Juliette Onwi is teaching sixth grade English at William Byrd. She grew up in New Hampshire but has lived in Virginia for over 18 years. She says she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Special Education "years ago" and recently finished her Master's Degree in Education from Liberty University.

"I have been teaching for as long as I can remember – at church, in preschool settings, and substitute teaching," Onwi says.

"My love for reading and writing has fueled my passion for teaching literacy to young children and has been the driving force behind my career in education. Over the years, I've seen firsthand how building confidence in reading and writing can unlock a student's potential. Now, as I transition to teaching sixth grade English, I'm excited to help older students develop more advanced literacy skills."

As for how she came to teach at WBMS, "When my middle school daughter asked me to substitute at her school, I was skeptical at first. I had previously really enjoyed younger children and was comfortable in the elementary setting. However, after much prompting, I decided to try teaching at the secondary level. I quickly found that I absolutely loved middle school and spent the remainder of the school year subbing at WBMS. I immediately felt at home and could not wait to take it to the next level and teach in my own middle school classroom!"

Julia Ormandy is the 504 Coordinator at WBMS. She was born and raised in Vinton, attended W.E. Cundiff and WBMS, and graduated from WBHS with the Class of 2008. She earned her BA in Psychology from Concord University and her M.Ed. in School Counseling from Liberty University. This is her ninth year in education.

"I was previously the Director of School Counseling at Roanoke Catholic School and wanted a change to be able to spend more time with my family."

Jennifer Page is the new attendance clerk at WBMS. She is originally from the Richmond area (Henrico County) and a graduate of Mills E. Godwin High School. She moved to Roanoke after she graduated from James Madison University in 2009 with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and a Minor in Coaching Education.

She previously worked at the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine for seven years (2013-2020) as an Educational Domain manager but did not teach. She stepped away when Covid hit to become a stay-at-home mom.

"Both my mom and older sister were elementary school teachers (my mom just retired this past year after 37 years of teaching), so I have grown up in this type of setting. The 'educational' environment is one that is very familiar to me, and I have always

loved working with teachers and students!

"After leaving VTCSOM in 2020, I made the decision to prioritize my family and became a stay-at-home mom when the Covid-19 pandemic shifted schooling to remote learning. Now that both of my children are enrolled in school (a 9-year-old daughter in fourth grade and a 6-year-old son in first grade at Penn Forest Elementary), I was eager to re-enter the workforce and contribute my skills and expertise to an organization that aligned with my values. The attendance clerk position at William Byrd Middle School not only offers me the opportunity to do so, but it also provides a schedule that allows me to be present for my young children during these pivotal years in their lives.

"My favorite thing to do is to spend quality time with my husband (C.J.) and two kids (Madison and Marshall). I love staying active and enjoy anything sports-related, particularly basketball (Go UNC!)."

Megan Perdue is the new FAACTS teacher at WBMS. This is her fourth year at the middle school, but her first year teaching. Prior to this year, she was an instructional assistant. She is from Franklin County and graduated from Franklin County High School in 2017. She earned her Associate's Degree in Social Sciences from Virginia Western Community College in 2019 and then graduated from Mary Baldwin University this past May with her Bachelor in Psychology with a Minor in ABA Therapy.

"Prior to working at WBMS, I worked as a psychiatric technician for Roanoke Memorial Hospital," Perdue says. "I applied and was hired as an instructional assistant for WBMS in 2021. My reason behind applying for a job within the school system was to have a better, consistent schedule for my son. During my time as an IA, I have made many friends. I enjoy my students and the people I work with. My first two years as an IA, I worked in sixth grade science/history. Last year I was an IA in the FAACTS classroom. I absolutely fell in love with my students! I am so excited to start this journey as a first-year teacher, while learning and growing with my students!"

"I have been married to my husband, Brendan, for almost five years. We have a 3-year-old son named Justin. As a family we enjoy visiting new places and riding on the parkway."

Savannah Ream is working in eighth grade, assisting the teacher with students who have IEPs or who need extra help with class work. She is originally from "the great citrus state of Florida." She graduated from high school in Florida – Sarasota Military Academy.

"This will be my first year of working in a school, but I have done lots of teaching for kids with equine and 4-H clubs," said Ream.

"While working at William Byrd Middle School, I will have the opportunity to work in different classes with different students and teachers.

"The reason I chose science and civics is because throughout my education with school, I loved learning about historical places and items. When it comes to science, I was always fascinated by how science is all around us and how it affects our everyday life."

As for how she came to Roanoke County and WBMS, "One of my family members works in the school district as well, which is how I came across this amazing opportunity. She let me know – especially knowing I love working with kids – that this job was available, and I immediately jumped for the opportunity! I have family and friends all over the Vinton community.

"I am a big wildlife advocate; I love to hunt and fish and teach about both as well. I am a big hiker and love to travel. I am very family-oriented and love to line dance every week. Since moving to Virginia, my significant other and his family, as well as my own, have been my rock while moving to a whole new state for the first time. Without them I would not be where I am today. My appreciation is never-ending."

Hunter Richards is an instructional assistant at WBMS. He is from Vinton and a graduate of William Byrd High School. He attended Emory and Henry College. This is his first year in education.

"I enjoy helping students learn and be successful," Richards says. "I attended WBMS and graduated from WBHS and wanted to return to the schools I attended. I am also coaching at WBMS. I grew up in Vinton and still live here with my family."

"I enjoy hunting, fishing and being outdoors and picked up golf while I was in college."

He will also be an assistant coach for football and wrestling.

Jordan Richards is teaching English 6 at WBMS. "I was born and raised in the Vinton area," Richards says. "My family lives in Vinton and probably always will. I attended Cundiff, then Byrd Middle and High School. I played softball for WBHS. I took football and wrestling pictures for The Vinton Messenger.

She earned her Associate's Degree in Social Sciences from Virginia Western and her Bachelor's from Hollins University in May 2021. This is her fourth year in teaching.

"I am in education because I have always worked well with children," Richards says. "I want to be there for all of my students regardless of background. I have been lucky to have been taught by some amazing teachers. They influenced me to become a teacher."

"I took a leap of faith this past year in hopes of moving to the middle school level after teaching elementary for three years with Roanoke City."

In her spare time, "I enjoy spending time with my family. We have always been really close through thick and thin and still are today. I wouldn't be able to do what I do without their support and encouragement. I have amazing parents, two brothers that would do anything for me (even if we don't see eye to eye) and my loving son who is the light in my life. We always take a family trip together and it is always fantastic. We like to go fishing together and have a good time.

"I have a soft spot for Rottweilers, and I am a music and history nerd. My love for music came from many mornings listening to music with my dad. We made a game of it. He would play a song and challenge me to name the song and artist before the artist started singing. My interest in photography started when I was 10 and was mainly

nature pictures, but turned into sports photography when I started taking pictures of my brothers Hunter and Dustin at football games and wrestling matches. This turned into taking pictures of other athletes (with permission) as well.

Ashley Roop is teaching ESL in sixth through eighth grades at WBMS. She is originally from Roanoke, attended WBMS, and graduated from William Byrd High School. She earned degrees in Spanish Education, Art Education, and Education Studies from Roanoke College. This is her first year in teaching.

"I love learning about other languages and cultures," said Roop. "Language learning can be challenging but it is rewarding. I want to provide support for students who speak other languages. I chose to work in education because of my love of learning. I hope to help my students by encouraging their love of learning."

"I enjoy spending time with family, friends, and my two Yorkie puppies. I love drawing, painting, crocheting, and anything to do with art. I also do live caricatures for events and art commissions."

John Ryall is teaching Special Education at WBMS. He is originally from Harrington, Del., and graduated from Southern Wesleyan University. He is currently pursuing his Master's Degree in Special Education from Radford University. This is his third year in education, but his first as a teacher.

As for why he chose a career in education, "Honestly, this profession picked me, I was working as an instructional assistant for a year when I realized my passion for education, and especially working with those who may struggle in certain areas, and helping them work through it."

"After I realized my passion for education and started the process to get my degree and license, I knew I wanted to stay at William Byrd, because I already had the connections due to working at the high school. So once a position opened up at the middle school, I was truly excited to stay in the William Byrd family."

"I am pretty new to the Vinton area, moving here two years ago. I moved here for another job opportunity to serve as a youth pastor in the area and am now working as a teacher in the community. During my time here, I have built several strong friendships with people who grew up in this community and it truly feels like I have been here my whole life."

"I enjoy spending time in nature whether it's going hiking, or even just going for walks in the area. I also really enjoy going to local coffee shops and doing work while enjoying a nice coffee. Some special interests I have include collecting vinyl records and looking at local record stores to see what I can add to my collection."

Melissa Sladin is the school psychologist at William Byrd Middle School and Bonsack Elementary, for grades K-8. She is originally from Chicago, but moved to Roanoke this summer from Colorado, where she had been for the last 20 years.

She earned her BA in Psychology from the University of Massachusetts Lowell, her MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Naropa University, and her Educational Specialist Degree in School Psychology from Emoria State University. She has worked for 10 years in the mental health field and three years in schools.

"I love helping kids find their best selves and get all the tools and supports they need! I want every student to have a joyful and supportive school experience."

"My husband is a teacher at Community School, and we have two kids, ages 9 and 13. I love hiking, paddleboarding, rock climbing, and working on our old home!"

Alicia Spangler is new this year to WBMS, teaching one block of crafts and Art 8 at the middle school each semester, but she has taught at William Byrd High School for 11 years. She is originally from Roanoke and a graduate of Patrick Henry High School in 2006.

"I received my bachelor's from Longwood University and my master's from Lynchburg College. This will be my fourth year teaching art, and prior to that, I was a Special Education teacher. My favorite class to teach is graphic design, but I'm looking forward to teaching eighth graders at William Byrd Middle. In my free time, I like to start projects that will never be completed and take road trips to new places."

Kristi Vernon is teaching eighth grade chorus at WBMS. She is from Salem and a graduate of Salem High School. She earned her Bachelor's of Music Education from James Madison University, and her Master of Music Education from Shenandoah University. She has spent over 30 years teaching choral music.

"I grew up in a musical family performing in a trio with my two sisters and eventually with my parents' variety band, the 'Friends and Lovers,' in high school and college, so I naturally wanted to pursue a profession in music."

Due to the growth of the choral program at the middle and high schools, "Matt Bartley (choral director at WBMS and WBHS) invited me to consider coming out of early retirement from Salem City Schools to return to Roanoke County Schools where I began my career at Fort Lewis Elementary, Glenvar Middle and High School," Vernon says.

As for her other interests and noteworthy moments, "On a trip to Nashville, I heard my parents' country songs from their albums on the radio, but our old station wagon broke down and that ended their path to becoming country music stars. I did get to open for Johnny Paycheck on 'Take This Job and Shove It' fame in college. When I taught at Glenvar Middle/High School, I grew the program from 13 to 150 students."

"After transitioning to Salem, my vocal jazz ensemble, 'Salem Singers,' was chosen to perform at the Virginia Music Educators state conference as a model for vocal jazz instruction."

"Personally, I enjoy spending time with family and friends, leading worship, teaching private voice and piano, kayaking, camping, weight training, playing with my dog Pongo, and singing jazz on the side or attending a great concert."

Crista Blanchard is a new instructional assistant at WBMS.

Evan Noell continues as principal of William Byrd Middle School this year, with Assistant Principals Katherine Hutchison and Abby Barnes.

Pups from page 1



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Lancerlot General Manager Joe Miller brought along his dog, Rocky, and his daughter, Mckenna, for the fifth annual Dog Days of Summer.

Project. Food vendors included Chick-fil-A, Deb's Lemonade, Cuba's Cups and Treats (for dogs), the Lemonade Girls, and more.

One adoption agency noted, "Even if they don't get adopted today, it is good for them to get out and get socialization and exposure to the community. Even if someone doesn't decide to take them home today, there's always a chance they might swing by the clinic and pick them up another day; at least they're getting that socialization. We don't know how likely it is they'll go home, but we're

crossing our fingers and hoping."

"It's been outstanding hosting and watching this wonderful event grow over the years," said Lancerlot Sports Complex General Manager Joe Miller, who brought along his dog, Rocky. "It's really such a fun and cool event for the dogs and their owners to attend. We hope that many dogs find a loving family and a new home during the Adopt-a-Thon. Our goal for this event is to offer something different and unique for all dogs and owners alike across Virginia's Blue Ridge."

DownHome from page 1

DownHome Pharmacy location in the Roanoke area. Their original business, established in 2001, is in Botetourt County. Between both stores, they have about 10 employees.

Their motto is "Not just any ordinary pharmacy; it's our family helping yours." Their stated mission is "to provide patients with high-quality healthcare in a friendly, family-oriented, and patient-centered business that focuses on superior service and total patient care."

DownHome Pharmacy offers specialized services such as compounded medications, vaccinations, medication synchronization, medical equipment, and home delivery. Compounded prescriptions are custom-made products

which give patients options on the delivery systems of medication; for instance, those who have difficulty swallowing capsules might be better served by topical or liquid or suppository formulations.

Tim is from Charlottesville; Allison is from Botetourt County and a 1988 graduate of Lord Botetourt High School. They met in pharmacy school at Virginia Commonwealth University in 1990 (when it was the Medical College of Virginia). After graduation, Tim worked at a "big box" pharmacy, with the goal of eventually owning their own business.

They have four children—daughters Kayla, Kendall and Kylee, and son, Keaton. The young women are all

Artist from page 3

of satisfaction and fulfillment from it, feeling like I'm giving back and doing my good work in the world," Wentzel says. "However, I also 'do' art. Painting is a daily practice for me, and I have sold many pieces for thousands of dollars, all the way up to \$5,000 each. Teaching has certainly helped keep the finances rolling in, as you simply never know when a painting is going to sell. Relying solely on original sales to keep myself afloat creates a certain amount of pressure and planning ahead.

"I like the option of teaching as it's more predictable and gets me out of my own head. I also love teaching because it's in my nature. One of my favorite things is watching my students' reactions to their work! When they are satisfied, it's like a whole new world of possibilities has opened up inside of their mind!"

Wentzel has been a full-time artist on and off through the years.

"Teaching certainly gives me more financial security, but I supplement my income through wholesale products as well, (selling to shops for a bulk discount). My website AnArtisticAdventure.com has lots of fun artistic products individuals can purchase like stickers, pins, clothing, prints, notebooks and pillows." She also has a podcast and a YouTube channel.

"In the end, original art sales are the best money-maker, and they are also so much more valuable and in depth than a reproduction, so whether it's with me or another artist you know, I encourage you to support the arts and keep the business of emotionally relating alive in our culture!"

Wentzel's four-week art session at the Vinton Community Center begins on September 4 and continues on September 11, 18, and 25. Register online at <https://anartisticadventure.com/>. (Click on "More"). All skill levels are welcome.

Playground from page 1

a new church on the land.

In June 2005 they were able to move into their new church building and selected the name Three Oaks Fellowship after the three large oak trees in front.

Three Oaks is one of the few congregations that actually increased in number during

the Covid pandemic – mainly due to their determined decision to worship outdoors.

Another one of their outreach ministries is Nannie's Closet, which distributes babies' clothing and supplies to parents "who can use some help with infant needs." Nannie's Closet is open

on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 4 to 6 p.m. or until supplies run out. They also welcome donations of gently used clothes, blankets, along with formula, diapers, and wipes. For more information, email nanniesclosetof@gmail.com or drop off items off on Sundays at 11 a.m.

Lions from page 1



The Vinton Breakfast Lions Club gathered for their annual Awards Dinner on August 27 at the Vinton Moose Lodge. The Lions are well-known throughout the area for their dedicated service to the community, carrying out their motto, "We Serve."

International Federation (LCIF) Club Coordinator Gary Myers, and Past President Jeff Mason. (The Lion Tamer is in charge of setting up meetings and greeting members and guests. The Tail Twister is charged with setting a mood of harmony, fellowship, fun, and enthusiasm in the club and assisting with fundraising.)

It was noted that the Lions Club will be continuing into the next generation with the president and vice presidents – Zach McCarty, Justin Fix, and Ryan Mason – all being relatively young, and enthusiastically accepting positions of service.

Board members were installed as well, including Dave Jones, Anthony Conner, Keith Lafferty, Steve Haldren, John Dyer, Chris McCarty, Jordan Karnes, Jeff Stovall, Richard Goad, Sam Cundiff, Joel Lytton, Eric Mills, and John Berry.

Perfect attendance pins were presented to about 25 members with 100% attendance at Lions Club meetings in the past year.

Zach McCarty presented a Past President's Plaque to Jeff Mason who has served as president for the past year, thanking him for his hard work and dedication to the Lions Club and its activities.

Mason was also honored by his fellow Lions who voted him "Lion of the Year" for his commitment to the Lions and their goals as evidenced by his "awesome" work on events and fundraisers and fulfilling the Lions Motto – "We Serve."

The Breakfast Lions also presented special awards to two individuals who are not Lions.

Terri Cundiff received the Life Saving Award for her actions which saved a human life on May 25, 2024. The plaque presented to her stated that "Through your CPR and life-saving training, and willingness to get involved, you changed the course of another person's life. We

thank you and recognize you for your valiant efforts."

The award was presented by Lion Gary Myers who explained that on May 25 of this year, he, Cundiff, and Lion Keith Lafferty had been biking the long Wilderness Road Ride (about 34 miles), when, on the last climb of the ride, they came upon a woman lying on the road with her bike nearby. She was not breathing and was unresponsive as the result of a medical emergency.

Cundiff, who is the Director of Ambulatory Procedures at Carilion Clinic Cardiology, put her training to work without hesitation and heroically administered CPR for 25 minutes as they waited for emergency personnel to arrive. Upon accepting the award, Cundiff described the experience as a "God moment" when God had placed her where she needed to be. She urged everyone at the dinner to take a CPR class.

Debbie Adams, from The Vinton Messenger, was surprised with a plaque "in honor of your dedication and hard work in serving the Vinton Community through your tireless coverage of business and community non-profits. Your hard work is appreciated and noticed." She thanked the Lions for always giving her so much to write about with their many outstanding service activities.

The Vinton Breakfast Lions Club was founded in 1985. The members well-known in the community for putting their "We Serve" motto into action continually for individuals and groups in Vinton, the county, the state, the nation, and internationally – especially the most vulnerable.

They fund eye exams, eye surgery, and eyeglasses for needy area children and adults. This year they provided four \$1,000 scholarships to William Byrd High School seniors, two \$1,000 Ryan Chambers Scholarships to



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

The Vinton Lions presented a well-deserved "Life Saving Award" to Terri Cundiff for her heroic actions in saving a woman's life using CPR.

Staunton River High School seniors, and a \$1,500 Leo Club Scholarship to a graduating senior at WBHS.

Each year during the holidays, they sponsor a Christmas shopping trip for 18-20 needy children in the Vinton area, purchasing over \$120 per child in clothing and toys. They have completed special needs projects, such as ramps, for families in the Vinton area.

The Lions have financed two bus stops for the Vinton area (at Kroger and PFG) and a picnic shelter at Herman L. Horn Elementary School. They are currently partnering with the Town of Vinton in the building of a multigenerational park at the Vinton War Memorial.

Through State and Lions International, they support Diabetes Awareness, Disaster Relief, the Lions International Peace Poster Contest, and the Bland Music Scholarship Program for area students each spring.

The Lions also stock the local elementary schools with extra clothing, school supplies, snacks and refreshments, and materials for school projects. They sponsor the very active Leo Club at William Byrd High School, whose members join them at many events for many projects.

They hold three major fundraisers each year – their annual Drawdown, the Pancake Breakfast on Fall Festival Day, and the Spaghetti Dinner on the evening of the Vinton Christmas Parade with proceeds going mainly to Vinton area residents.

Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization with 1.4 members and 46,000 clubs in 210 countries.

~ Vinton Messenger staff report



Marketplace



THE FINCASTLE HERALD

The Vinton Messenger

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

SALEM TIMES REGISTER

News Messenger

RADFORD News Journal

Public Auction

PUBLIC NOTICE
 The contents of the listed unit will be sold at Public Auction August 30, 2024 at 11am at 1st Security Self Storage 5 Midway Plaza Dr. Christiansburg, VA. **D042**
 1st Security reserves the right to refuse any bid. Terms: CASH OR CREDIT CARD AT SALE.

For Sale

FOR SALE
 Two burial plots for sale at Roseland Memorial Gardens \$1700 each 540.392.5059

Legals - Craig County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
 Case No. **CL24-183**
 VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CRAIG COUNTY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF CRAIG, VIRGINIA, Petitioner,
 case No. CL24-183
 OSCAR R. MARTIN V. MRS. R.R. WEST VIRGINIA OLIVIER V. UNKNOWN HEIRS OF FERDINAND RORER, DOE, HOUSTON, LOUIS A. SCHOLZ, HENRY SCHOLZ, M.M. ROGERS, HENRY SCHOLZ, JR., WILLIAM SCHOLZ, SUSIE S. WEAVER, LOUIS A. SCHOLZ 11, WALTER A. SCHOLZ, JR., MARGARET SCHOLZ, JENNIFER SCHOLZ, JOHN SCHOLZ, BRENDA SCHOLZ, AND MARY SCHOLZ, ET AL.; JAMES MCPHERSON V. BESSIE DOSS; STEWART E. BOWE V. CRAIG CITY IMPROVEMENT COMPANY; WITHROW MARTIN LEE, ET AL. V. N.E. CALDWELL, ET AL.; STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER V. MAGGIE S. RENOLDS, ET AL.; HARRY W. KESSLER, JR. V. CLYDE M. ROACH, HENRY ROACH, JR., RONNIE NEWMAN, SHERRY PLASTERS, DEBBIE STUTLER, DANIEL NEWMAN, MERLE WOODS, NANCY CECIL, CHARLOTTE WOOD GORDON, ROBERT MURRAY, RUSSELL SMITH, IDA LEE SMITH, AND UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ROBERT J. REYNOLDS; GROVER T. HUFFMAN, ADMINISTRATOR FOR B.W. CARPER, DECEASED V. VIOLET CLAPSADDLE, ET AL.; MARY B. LITTLE, ET AL V. WILBUR STAKES, ET AL.; JAMES L. PAITSEL, SR. AND SARAH B. GRAHAM, CO-EXECUTORS OF ELOISE G. CRAFT ESTATE V. D.F. HOUSTON; IN RE: ESTATE OF W.E. MILLS; EDITH HALL V. JOHN DEMPSEY ROACH, ET AL.; LESLIE ALBERT; CLARA ALFORD; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF GEORGE BRITT M BROWN, ET AL.; J.E. BRYAN; FLORA BUGG; GEORGE BUGG; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF LAW G. CARPER; CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; VIOLET CROWDER; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF J. DUDDING; EPPERLY V. LOONEY; EVELYN GOODWIN; ETHEL JENNINGS; ALBERTA JOHNSON; ERNEST JOHNSON; MARY MAE PEYTON; ESTATE OF MINERVA REYNOLDS; ROBERT SARVER; SUE STRINGFELLOW; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ADAM TAYLOR; D.B. TROUTT; VIRGINIA HIGHWAY V. SIXEAS; PAMALA YOUNG, and PARTIES UNKNOWN, Defendants.

Legals - Craig County

nonresidents of Virginia and maintain no domicile within the borders of the Commonwealth, or are deceased, or that there may be parties who hold an interest in the funds but are unknown, including the unknown heirs, successors and assigns of the individuals named herein and their predecessors in title, who have been made parties and given notice by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that the named Defendant(s) and all Parties Unknown appear on or before October 7, 2024, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.
 Entered: 8/1/2024 Sharon P. Oliver, Circuit Court Clerk, County of Craig, Virginia

Legals - Craig County

I Ask For This: Sands Anderson PC P.O. Box 2009 Christiansburg, Virginia 24068-2009 (540) 260-9011 (540) 260-0022 (facsimile)

Legals - Botetourt County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
 Case No. **CL24-231**
 VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOTETOURT COUNTY

SPECIALIZED LOAN SERVICING LLC Plaintiff(s), V.

ESTATE OF WANDA P. MCKINNEY and UNKNOWN HEIRS OF WANDA P. MCKINNEY Defendant(s).

Case No.: CL24-231
 ORDER OF PUBLICATION
 Petitioner, Commonwealth Trustees, LLC ("Commonwealth"), by counsel, and upon its Affidavit of Order of Publication requesting an Order of Publication, and IT APPEARING that the object of this suit is quiet title to the property located at 222 Cove Mountain Road, Buchanan, Virginia 24066 ("Subject Property"); and IT APPEARING that Wanda P. McKinney, the record owner of the Property, is deceased and no estate has been opened or List of Heirs or Real Estate Affidavit filed in the land records of this Court; and IT APPEARING that due diligence has been used to locate Defendants Estate of Wanda P. McKinney or the Unknown Heirs of Wanda P. McKinney ("McKinney Parties Unknown"); and IT APPEARING that the last known address for Wanda P. McKinney is 222 Cove Mountain Road, Buchanan, Virginia 24066; and IT APPEARING that it is timely and appropriate that this Court enter an Order allowing for service upon the Defendants be completed pursuant to Virginia Code §8.01-316 by Order of Publication in a newspaper with general circulation in and published in and approved by the Circuit Court for Botetourt, Virginia, and it is therefore,

ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED that an ORDER OF PUBLICATION, be and hereby is to be published in *The Fincastle Herald* once a week for four successive weeks in order to perfect service upon Defendants Estate of Wanda P. McKinney and the Unknown Heirs of Wanda P. McKinney; and it is further ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED that all Defendants be placed on notice that a Petition is pending in the Circuit Court of Botetourt, Virginia, namely *Specialized Loan Servicing UC v. Estate of Wanda P. McKinney, et al.*, to quiet title to the property located at 222 Cove Mountain Road, Buchanan, Virginia 24066; and it is further ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED, that McKinney Parties Unknown must on or before the 18th day of October, 2024, make known to this Court any objection they may have to the Complaint, and claim any defenses to the pending action otherwise an order will be entered in favor of Plaintiff, and it is further

ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED that the Clerk of this Court send notice of this service to Defendants Estate of

Legals - Botetourt County

Wanda P. McKinney and Unknown Heirs of Wanda P. McKinney at the last known address of Wanda P. McKinney, 222 Cove Mountain Road, Buchanan, Virginia 24066; and it is further ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED that *The Fincastle Herald* shall file an affidavit of publication with the Clerk of this Court attesting to the dates of publication, attesting that the notice was published at least once a week for four successive weeks.
 Dated this 8th day of August, 2024.
 Joel R Branscom, Judge of the Botetourt County Circuit Court

We ask for this: SPECIALIZED LOAN SERVICING LLC Thomas Hodge, VSB #42862

Sara Tusse , VSB #79826 Jeff Fox, VSB #50986 ROSENBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC 4340 East West Highway, Suite 600 Bethesda, MD 20814 Telephone: 301.907.8000 Facsimile: 301.907.8101 Sara.Tussey@rosenberg-assoc.com Thomas.Hodge@rosenberg-assoc.com
Counsel for Plaintiff

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF PROPERTY

8415 Flag Lane, Roanoke, VA 24019

Tax Map No. 106-191, Parcel ID 30488

In execution of a Deed of Trust dated November 13, 2020, in the principal amount of \$115,548.92, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, of record as Instrument Number 200005614, Woods Rogers Vandeventer Black PLC, Substitute Trustee, will offer for sale at public auction outside the main entrance of the Botetourt County Circuit Court, 1 W. Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090, on September 12, 2024 at 12:00 noon, the property described in said Deed of Trust lying in Botetourt County, Virginia, and more particularly described as follows:→

Beginning at the intersection of the extreme southern corner of Tax Parcel No. 106-193, of the western corner of Tax Parcel No. 106-194, and the extreme northern corner of the property herein conveyed thence proceeding S. 47 degs. 15' 00" E. 234.50 feet to a point; thence S. 36 degs. 54' 23" W. 105.89 feet to a point; thence N. 47 degs. 15' 00" W. 245.21 feet to a point; thence N. 42 degs. 42' 42" E. 105.34 feet to the place of BEGINNING and containing 0.5801 acres, as more fully shown on "Resurvey for Anthony W. Smith Showing Tax No. 106-191 located along Flag Lane", dated November 3, 2019, a copy of which is recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, with the Deed in Instrument No. 200003069, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference hereto. TOGETHER WITH a fifteen (15) foot non-exclusive, appurtenant, right of way over Flag Lane as more fully shown on the aforesaid plat of survey.

TERMS: Cash - Bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sales price by cashier's or certified check may be required. Balance of purchase price shall be due and payable no later than ten (10) days after sale.

WOODS ROGERS VANDEVENTER BLACK PLC, Substitute Trustee

For Information Contact: Woods Rogers Vandeventer Black PLC, P.O. Box 14125, Roanoke, VA 24038-4125, Telephone: 540-983-7729

Legals - City of Salem

ABC NOTICE

THE DAMON COMPANY OF SALEM, INC., trading as SHREWD OUTDOORS, 201 E. MAIN ST, Salem VA. 24153.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Retail Restaurant or Caterer Application -Restaurant, Wine, Beer, consumed On

Legals - City of Salem

and Off Premises Wine and Beer, license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

LAVEN NEWSOM, VICE PRESIDENT

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.

VDOT ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP

The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE

REMOVAL purposes in Salem Residency which includes the counties of Roanoke, Botetourt and Craig during the winter of 2024-2025. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a bonus payment and a minimum guaranteed payment for the season.

Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at

<https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov>.

All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (<https://eva.virginia.gov>).

Applications received by 7:00 PM on Wednesday October 2, 2024 may be eligible for a bonus payment. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements.

Questions can be directed to the Salem Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday – Friday. Phone: 540-387-5497. Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov

EEO/AA Employer

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem,

at its regular meeting on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114. N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

Hold public hearing to consider the request of Salem Montessori School, Inc., property owner, to amend the existing special exception permit to allow for a second elementary educational facility on the property located at 101 Corporate Boulevard (Tax Map # 117-2-1). Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia.

At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY:

H. Robert Light Clerk of Council

Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission,

at its regular meeting on September 11, 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.Consider amending Chapter 106 - Zoning, Article IV – Development Standards, Section 106-406.25 of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA pertaining to storage containers.

2.Consider amending Chapter 106 – Zoning, Article II - District Regulations, Section 106-214 – Highway Business District, Section 106-214.2(B)(5) - permitted uses; Article III - Use and Design Standards, Section 106-310 – Commercial Uses, Section 106-310.25; Article VI - Definitions and Use Types, Section 106-600 – Definitions, Section 106-602.9 - Commercial Use Types, of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA, pertaining to retail sales, smoke shops.

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

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
 Case No. **CL24001203-00**
 MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* AMBER LEE, KANE GALLIMORE v. COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

The object of this suit is to: NAME CHANGE OF A MINOR. It is ORDERED that KALEB WARREN GALLIMORE appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before OCTOBER 11, 2024.

JULY 30, 2024, K. MIKE FLEENOR, JR. JUDGE

EEO/AA Employer

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem,

at its regular meeting on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114. N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE

REMOVAL purposes in Christiansburg Residency which includes the counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski during the winter of 2024-2025. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a bonus

payment and a minimum guaranteed payment for the season.

Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at

<https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov>.

All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (<https://eva.virginia.gov>).

Legals - Montgomery County

payment and a minimum guaranteed payment for the season.

Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at <https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov>.

All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (<https://eva.virginia.gov>).

Applications received by 7:00 PM on Wednesday October 2, 2024 may be eligible for a bonus payment. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements.

Questions can be directed to the Christiansburg Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday – Friday. Phone: 540-381-7201 Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov

EEO/AA Employer

Legals - City of Radford

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
 Case No. **JJ004782-06-00**
 RADFORD CITY J&DR- JUVENILE DIVISION 619 2nd street, Radford, Virginia 24141.

Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* MALDONADO, KERON J.

The object of this suit is to: Approve a Foster Care Plan submitted by the Radford City Department of Social Services regarding the child, Lawson George Dennis. And it appearing that diligence has been used to attempt to locate the putative father of the child, Antonio Maddox, but despite that diligence, Antonio Maddox's whereabouts remain unknown to the Department; and it also appearing that the whereabouts and identify if any alternative birth father are otherwise unknown, It is ORDERED that the defendant AUSTIN BLAKE HIXON and/or the UNKNOWN FATHER of LAWSON GEORGE DENNIS, a child whose birth mother is Ashley Dennis, appear at the above-named court and protect his interests on or before SEPT. 10, 2024 at 8:30 am.

AUGUST 5, 2024 RUBY STUMP, CLERK

August 5, 2024 RUBY STUMP, CLERK

Order of Publication

Case No. 24-JA-79 and 24-JA-80 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF NICHOLAS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

In the Matter of: Case Number: 24-JA-79 and 24-JA-80

S. L., and E. L., Nathan Lovern, father of S. L., and E. L. and Ashleigh Powell, mother of said infants, (The object of this action is to notify the adult respondent parents of an Adjudicatory /Disposition / Termination of Parental Rights Hearing scheduled herein so that said adult respondents may appear to protect their interests.) ORDER OF PUBLICATION AND NOTICE OF HEARING(S)
 TO: Nathan Lovern, Father of S. L., and E. L., You are hereby notified that abuse and/or neglect and/or abandonment petitions have been filed with the Circuit Court of Nicholas County, West Virginia, and assigned case numbers 24-JA-79 and 24-JA-80, where the mother of the infants is S. L. and E. L., is Ashleigh Powell and the father of the infants is S. L. and E. L., is Nathan Lovern. A Preliminary Hearing/Adjudicatory Hearing/Termination Hearing will be held in this matter on the 26th day of September 2024 at 1:45 p.m., in the courtroom of the Nicholas County Courthouse at 700 Main Street, Summersville, West Virginia, 26651. You and each of you are hereby notified that you have the right to have counsel present at all stages of these proceedings and ALL SUCH PROCEEDINGS

Open Interviews! When: Starting Thursday, August 8th, from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Continuing: Every Tuesday and Thursday through August 29th from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

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Legals - City of Radford

CAN RESULT IN THE PERMANENT TERMINATION OF CUSTODIAL AND PARENTAL RIGHTS TO SAID INFANT CHILDREN. Accordingly, you and each of you who may have an interest in these proceedings must attend and may make such defense as you shall deem advisable on or before the date and time aforesaid, or termination of your custodial and parental rights may be ordered by the Court.

A copy of said petition can be obtained from the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Nicholas County, West Virginia, at the Nicholas County Courthouse, Summersville, West Virginia.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA AND WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES, CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DIVISION BY:

/s/ JASMINE R. H. MORTON ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY FOR NICHOLAS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA STATE BAR ID NO.: 11348

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
 Case No. **JJ004805-10-00**
 RADFORD CITY J&DR – JUVENILE DIVISION 619 2nd street, Radford, Virginia 24141.

Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* DENNIS, LAWSON. The object of this suit is to: approve a Foster Care Service Plan submitted by the Radford City Department of Social Services regarding the child, Lawson George Dennis. And it appearing that diligence has been used to attempt to locate the putative father of the child, Austin Blake Hixon, but despite that diligence, Austin Blakes Hixon's whereabouts remain unknown to the Department; and it also appearing that the whereabouts and identify if any alternative birth father are otherwise unknown, It is ORDERED that the defendant AUSTIN BLAKE HIXON and/or the UNKNOWN FATHER of LAWSON GEORGE DENNIS, a child whose birth mother is Ashley Dennis, appear at the above-named court and protect his interests on or before Sept. 3, 2024 at 9:00 am.

AUGUST 5, 2024 RUBY STUMP, CLERK

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
 Case No. **JJ004805-10-00**
 RADFORD CITY J&DR – JUVENILE DIVISION 619 2nd street, Radford, Virginia 24141.

Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* DENNIS, LAWSON. The object of this suit is to: approve a Foster Care Service Plan submitted by the Radford City Department of Social Services regarding the child, Lawson George Dennis. And it appearing that diligence has been used to attempt to locate the putative father of the child, Austin Blake Hixon, but despite that diligence, Austin Blakes Hixon's whereabouts remain unknown to the Department; and it also appearing that the whereabouts and identify if any alternative birth father are otherwise unknown, It is ORDERED that the defendant AUSTIN BLAKE HIXON and/or the UNKNOWN FATHER of LAWSON GEORGE DENNIS, a child whose birth mother is Ashley Dennis, appear at the above-named court and protect his interests on or before Sept. 3, 2024 at 9:00 am.

AUGUST 5, 2024 RUBY STUMP, CLERK

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AUGUST 5, 2024 RUBY STUMP, CLERK

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Byrd's Hayden Eads tees off at Hanging Rock Tuesday.

PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Golfers are third at "The Rock"

The Lord Botetourt golfers increased their season lead and the William Byrd players solidified their hold on third when the Blue Ridge District tour of "mini-matches" played at the Hanging Rock Golf Club in Roanoke County Tuesday.

Lord Botetourt won the round with a team score of 149 over nine holes. The Cavaliers have won all three rounds to date and now have a 47 hole total of 742. That puts them 59 strokes ahead of second place Franklin County's 801 and Byrd is third at 826. Northside is fourth with 847 and Staunton River brings up the rear at 895.

Byrd's four-player score at Hanging Rock was 162, six strokes behind Franklin County and six better than Northside's 168. Staunton River shot 179.

Individually, Alisa Davidova of Lord Botetourt had the low score for the third straight time, carding a four-under 31 in the par 35 nine hole event. Nick Messenger and Jackson Spence, both of Franklin County, tied for second at 36.

Brogan Dent had Byrd's low score with a 39, followed by Hayden Eads at 40. Also scoring were Landon Haithcock with 41 and Andrew Carter at 42 while David Foster and Tyler Chambers both came in at 43.

"We came in third this week, which give us some room for improvement but isn't disappointing," said Byrd coach Paul Thompson. "The bright spot was that we had some of our lower seeded kids step up and score well when our higher seeds struggled."

Last week the Terriers played in a match at Beavers Creek in Martinsville and shot a 36 hole team score of 323 to finish second to Christiansburg. Foster shot a 77 to lead the team followed by Eads at 80, Dent at 82 and Haithcock and Chambers both came in at 84.

The Terriers will play on their home course of Blue Hills for the next two matches, on Tuesday, September 3rd, and Monday, September 9th. Both are scheduled to tee off at 1 pm.

"We're looking forward to two home matches in a row in the next two weeks," said Thompson.

Volleyball drops opener, will host tri-match Sat.

The high school volleyball season officially opened this week and the William Byrd girls are plenty busy out of the gate. Byrd opened on Tuesday at Cave Spring, will play at Glenvar tonight, then host a tri-match in Vinton Saturday.

The Terriers got off to a great start Tuesday at Cave Spring, winning the first set 25-22. However, the host Knights rallied to take the next three, and the match, 25-20, 25-17 and 25-18.

"The girls played hard and battled back from some big deficits in the third and fourth sets," said coach Allison Thornton. "We still need to work on communication and confidence."

Bella Dudley led Byrd in kills with 13 and she also had four blocks. Maggie Zimmerman had 23 assists and three aces while Ava Ashworth had 17 digs and a pair of aces.

The Terriers will be at Glenvar tonight to take on their second Roanoke County rival of the week. The Highlanders opened with a three-set win over Northside on Tuesday.

On Saturday Byrd will host a tri-match with Salem and Magna Vista, and the jayvees will also be included. The varsity schedule has Byrd against Magna Vista at 10 am, Salem against Magna Vista at 11:45 am and Byrd and Salem at 1:30 pm. All varsity matches are in the main gym and times are approximate depending on length of matches.

The jayvees will play in the annex gym with Magna Vista and Salem at 10 am, Byrd and Salem at 11:45 am and Magna Vista and Byrd at 1:30 pm.

Next week the girls will continue battling county rivals with a home match against Hidden Valley on Tuesday. A week from today Cave Spring will return the trip to Vinton.

Cross Country opens today with big race in Martinsville

The William Byrd cross country team will hit the trails for real for the first time today when the Terriers travel to Martinsville for the annual "Bengal Clash." The big meet is hosted by Bassett and is held at the Smith River Sports Complex.

Former Byrd standout Kayland Bond returns for her second season as head coach of the Terriers. She had an excellent turnout and is looking forward to a good season.

"We've had a great turnout for this year's team," said Bond. "We have about 37 runners on the team this year, including middle school and high school. Our team is growing with young talent."

Returnees for the girls' team include Gracie Woodcock, Megan Higgins, Skylar Fitzgerald, Lucy Whitenack, Elena Mullen, Heidi

Wienke, Alanna Fitzgerald, Enna Schofield, Jenna Petersen, Claire Draper, Vanessa Mullen, Brinkley Gonzales and Lauren Phillips. For the boys, returning runners are Chase Gonzales, Drew Bartley, William Regal, Beckham Draper, Cole Johnston, Colton Southerden, Riley Slusher, Vincent Liu, Jonah Schofield, Jack Petersen, Carston DiBenedetto, Michael Dixon, Wes Wilson and Grant Bartley.

The Terriers have some big meets to open the season. Most of the teams in the Roanoke Valley are headed to Martinsville today and next weekend Cave Spring will host the annual "Knights Crossing" event at Green Hill Park in west Roanoke County. That's scheduled to begin at 9:30 am and will run for most of the day with teams coming from all over Virginia and out of state.

TERRIER FOOTBALL

continued from page 12

year's success, when the Terriers had three shutouts in the regular season and allowed an average of 9.2 points per game. They have three All-Blue Ridge District defenders returning with English at linebacker, Shepherd at defensive back and Burnette on the defensive line.

Joining Maurice on the D-Line will be senior Greg Stiltner and junior Titus Beatty. Also in the rotation are Carson Bivens, Dominic Myers George Slusser and Bustamante. Will Satterfield coaches the defensive line.

"Coach Satterfield has built a strong returning defensive line," said Lutz. "We graduated first team all-state Donnie Davis, but we are excited about the group that we have returning."

Returning All-BRD English leads the linebackers with Anderson, Rosser and Rozenboom also slated to start and Purcell will see time. Brad's brother, Adam, coaches the linebackers.

"We graduated first team all-state John Kiker, but Coach Lutz has two returning starters back and is also very excited about sophomore Thomas Purcell," said Brad.

Shepherd returns in the secondary along with senior Haston, giving Byrd speed and experience. Young and Kotz will also start and backups are Reynolds, Jamez Toler, McKee and Martin. Former Byrd standout Reece Watson coaches the corners and Andrew Close has the safeties.

"Coach Watson and Coach Close have three returning starters back in the secondary," said Lutz. "All three returning starters have college offers, including Ethan Haston, who has scholarship offers from VMI and UVA-Wise."

Byrd graduated all-region placekicker Bricen Lancaster, who is now playing at Catawba College, but the Terriers have a capable replacement in sophomore Connor Whitehead. Versatile Shepherd will handle the punting chores, and he gives Byrd an added weapon as he's a threat to take off if he sees open space.

Lutz has expanded the coaching staff in his six years and has brought in some quality minds. Brad is the offensive co-ordinator and offensive line coach and the following are also on the staff: Andrew Mitchell-JV HC - JV OC/Receivers and Slots; Adam Lutz-Varsity DC/Inside Linebackers; Will Satterfield-Special Teams Co-Coordinator/Defensive Line; Andrew Close-Special Teams Co-Coordinator/Running Backs and Safeties; Josh Camden-JV DC/JV Offensive Line and JV Outside Linebackers; Avery Close-Strength Coordinator/Tight Ends and Outside Linebackers; Ron Hicks-Quarterbacks; Reece Watson-Corners; Charlie Lutz-Operations; Kim Colls-JV Receivers/JV Defensive Backs/JV Special Teams. Byrd also has two new members of the staff, Dajon Cardwell-JV Defensive Line and Sam Cosnotti-JV Offensive Line.

The Terriers have looked good in two preseason scrimmages. They went against Glenvar and Pulaski at Glenvar two weeks ago and last Friday they traveled to Radford to take on the Class 2 defending state champion Bobcats in a benefit game.

"Our coaches were very pleased with the benefit game against a quality opponent like Radford," said Lutz. "After the Glenvar-Pulaski scrimmage our varsity and jayvee team had a lot to work on. We had a great week of practice and our players made huge strides on both sides of the ball. We benefitted by being challenged by a really good passing team, and facing an odd front defense that used a lot of blitz pressure against us."

The Terriers will open tomorrow in Bedford against Liberty. Byrd beat the Minutemen in last year's opening game, 72-0, and Liberty went on to a winless season. However, Lutz is taking nothing for granted as his team showed how things can turn around in one season.

"Coach (Daryl) Robertson and his staff are working extremely hard to grow a program at Liberty," said Lutz. "They play in one of the toughest districts in the state, so they are battle tested each season. From what we have seen on fil, they are much improved since last year, and we will have to improve this week to prepare for them. It's our third week on the road, so that will add to the toughness of this week's game."

Byrd plays the same teams as last year. This season the William Fleming game has been moved from the end of the season to the sixth game and the other four district games are pushed back a week, with the regular season ending at home against Northside. Byrd's first home game isn't until week three when Christiansburg comes here. It's a challenging schedule but Byrd looks to be one of the contenders in the Blue Ridge again with playoff aspirations.

"In football, every team in our district is a playoff contender," said Lutz. "Two of the six district teams played in their regional championship game. It's a tough district that forces you to play really well to find success."



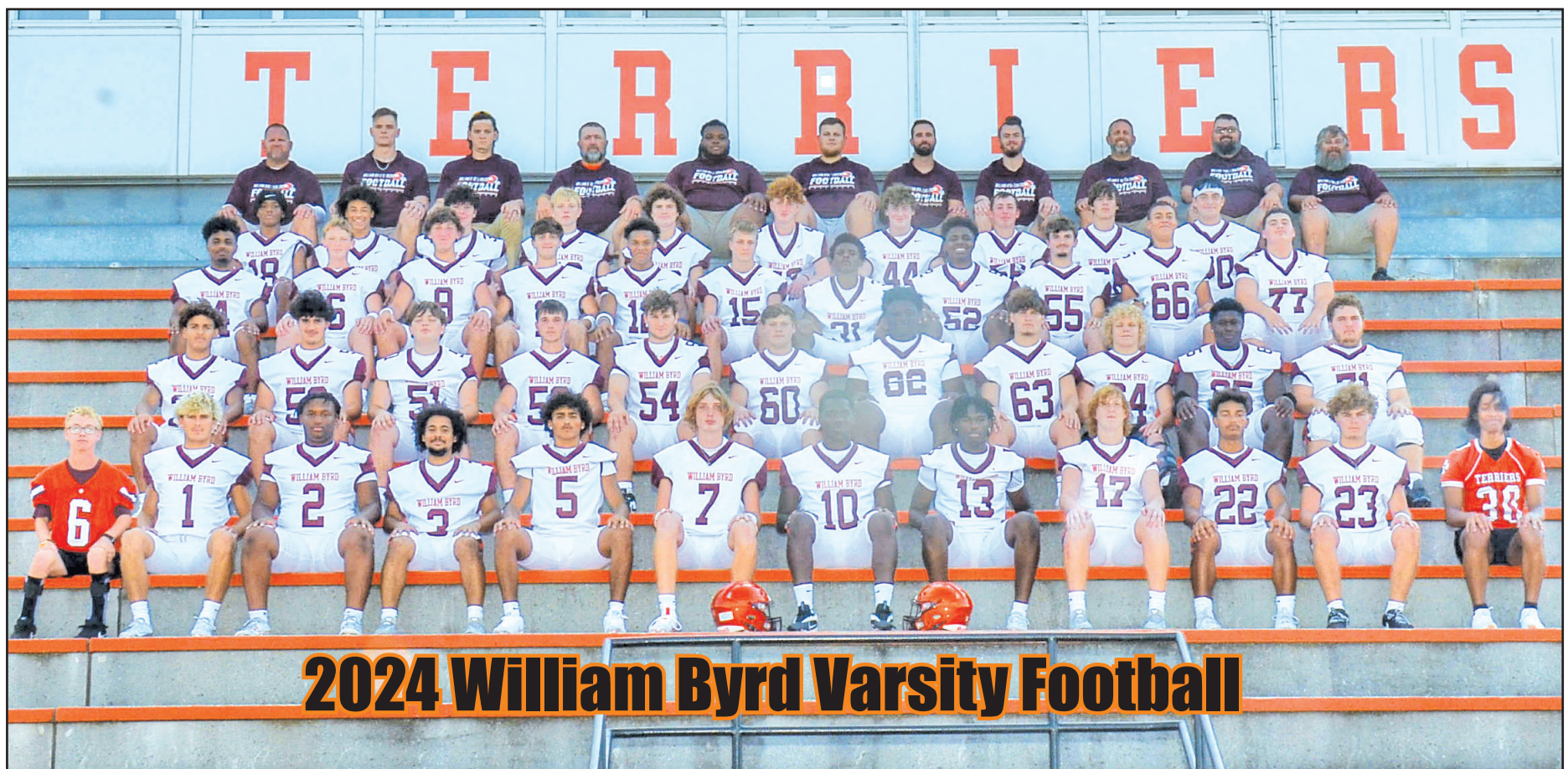
PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Above, Jahdai English makes the tackle in last week's benefit game in Radford. Below, Titas Beatty (left) and Maurice Burnette converge on a Bobcat runner.



SPORTS

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2024 William Byrd Varsity Football

PHOTO COURTESY OF LIFETOUCH

Terriers look to keep the ball rollin' after 12-2, state semifinal '23 season



What a difference a year makes? Last year at this time the William Byrd football team was hoping to improve off a 3-7 2022 season. They not only did, but they won the Blue Ridge District, finished 12-2 and made it to the Class 3 state championship semifinal game, a turnaround of epic proportions.

This year, obviously, there isn't as much room for improvement. However, coach Brad Lutz hopes to feed off last year's success to keep the ball rollin' in 2024.

"Our program has worked extremely hard the last five years and, prior to last season, the only thing our program was missing was confidence," said Lutz. "The success our program earned last season gave our players a ton of confidence, and it pushed our program to work even harder. Our players also benefited from the extra month of practice, which will carry over to this season."

The Terriers had a solid group of seniors who grew up in the program under Lutz, who is entering his sixth season as head coach and coming off a season in which he was named Region 3D Coach of the Year. Byrd graduated three all-state seniors from last year's team and seven all-region players, including two Terriers who shared the Defensive Player of the Year Award, John Kiker and Doniven Davis, and Region 3D Offensive Player of the Year Israel Hairston.

Hairston, who is now at Virginia Tech, started for three years and saw some time his freshman year behind center as well. He'll be hard to replace, but Lutz didn't have to look far. His son Cannin, a junior, will be Byrd's starting quarterback.

Before you cry nepotism, trust that Cannin is the obvious choice and ready for the job. He was a standout in middle school and on the jayvee team and he has a strong arm, good size and football savvy. If not for Hairston he would have been a solid varsity player last year.

Senior Jerrett Shepherd is the backup and freshman Ke'arion Burch has a bright future in the program.

"Coach (Ron) Hicks is really excited about the group of quarterbacks we have returning,"



PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Jamez Toler picks up yards against Radford.

said coach Lutz.

In the backfield Byrd will start junior Jamez Toler at tailback with Shepherd and senior Jalen Toler also seeing time. Sophomore Thomas Purcell and freshman Gray Mathews are also in the mix.

"Coach (Andrew) Close did an outstanding job building depth at the running back position, which helped our offense tremendously," said Lutz. "All of our running backs will get game reps, which will help those players be even more competitive."

Cannin Lutz will have some talented targets to throw to with a mix of seniors Ethan Haston, Landon Martin and Kam McKee and junior Tate Kotz. Also in the rotation are seniors Shepherd and Braeden Young and juniors Justyn Rozenboom and Kevin Green. Byrd has depth with senior Izayah Brown and juniors Andrew Reynolds and Ki Anthony Blake.

"Graduation took most of our receivers from last season, but Coach (Andrew) Mitchell used the off-season to develop our upcoming receivers," said Lutz. "We're very excited about this group."

On the offensive line Byrd returns senior BJ Cheatwood at left tackle. He'll be protecting Cannin's "blind side" and he's one of the best in the state. BJ was first team All-State and All-Region on the offensive line last year as well as the district Offensive Lineman of the Year.

Cyrus Adams, an All-BRD Honorable Mention lineman last year, returns at center. Senior Nick Bustamante was second team All-BRD last year and he'll be the right tackle. Seniors Hayden Lish and Graylen Castleberry will be the starting guards, with Lish on the left and Castleberry on the right. All five starting linemen from last year return on the very important offensive line, and reserves include George Slusser, Greg Stiltner, Dominic Myers, Carson Bivens and Maurice Burnette.

"In 26 years of coaching offensive line, I have never returned an entire unit," said Lutz. "Our offensive line includes two tackles that have started for four seasons. They are a very competitive group who works as hard as any group I have coached."

Senior Aidan Kelly will start at tight end. Other tight ends and h-backs are Jonathan Rosser, who was all-district at "all-purpose" last year, Jahdai English, Blake Anderson and Purcell.

Avery Close coaches the tight ends. He was a standout tight end for Salem High who went on to play at the University of Richmond.

"Coach Close has developed a lot of depth at this position," said Lutz. "When I arrived at Byrd we had one tight end in the school, and now we have four really dependable players at that position. The depth we have at tight end has allowed us to add to our offense, which has paid off."

On defense Lutz is hoping to repeat last

WILLIAM BYRD TERRIERS VARSITY FOOTBALL 2024

#	Varsity Player Name:	Class:	Position:
1	Kam McKee	SR	WR/DB
2	Jahdai English	SR	TE/LB
3	Jalen Toler	SR	RB/DB
4	Jamez Toler	JR	RB/DB
5	Ethan Haston	SR	WR/DB
6	Justyn Rozenboom	JR	H/OLB
7	Landon Martin	SR	WR/DB
9	Cannin Lutz	JR	QB/OLB
10	Izayah Brown	SR	WR/OLB
11	Tate Kotz	JR	SL/RB/DB
12	Kevin Green	JR	WR/DB
13	Jonathan Rosser	SR	TE/OL/OLB
15	Andrew Reynolds	JR	WR/DB
17	Aidan Kelly	SR	TE/OLB
18	Ke'arion Burch	FR	QB/DB
22	Jerrett Shepherd	SR	RB/WR/DB
23	Blake Anderson	SR	WR/LB
25	Braeden Young	SR	WR/DB
30	Dominic Hayslett	JR	TE/OLB
31	Ki Anthony Blake	JR	WR/DB
32	Zane Taylor	SOPH	RB/QB/LB
34	Maurice Burnette	SR	OL/DL
35	Connor Whitehead	SOPH	K/P
40	Stephen Byars	FR	RB/H/DB
42	Gray Mathews	FR	RB/WR/DB
43	Mason Herschel	FR	TE/OLB
44	Thomas Purcell	SOPH	H/RB/LB
50	Nick Bustamante	SR	OL/DL
51	George Slusser	SR	OL/DL
52	Titus Beatty	JR	OL/DL
53	Greg Stiltner	SR	OL/LB
54	Cyrus Adams	SR	OL/DL
55	Evan Tabor	JR	OL/DL
56	Nicholas Toney	SOPH	OL/DL
60	Hayden Lish	SR	OL/DL
61	Jackson McCoy	SOPH	OL/DL
62	Maurice Burnette	SR	OL/DL
63	Graylen Castleberry	SR	OL/LB
64	Gabe Dixon	SR	OL/DL
65	BJ Cheatwood	SR	OL/DL
66	Keegan Harold	JR	OL/DL
70	Caden McReynolds	SOPH	OL/DL
71	Carson Bivens	SR	OL/DL
73	Ryan Carroll	FR	OL/DL
77	Dominic Myers	JR	OL/DL
78	Caleb Wrye	FR	OL/DL



PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Cannin Lutz looks for a receiver in last week's benefit game at Radford.



PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Jerrett Shepherd can play several positions on both sides of the ball and he also punts.