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## Elf on a Shelf visits W.E. Cundiff Elementary

There was a sighting of the Elf on the Shelf at W.E. Cundiff Elementary School on Hardy Road in Vinton before the sun was even up on December 20, the day schools dismissed for the winter holidays.

Oh, wait... that wasn't the Elf. It was Principal Ashley McCallum perched atop the recently replaced W.E. Cundiff digital sign, celebrating the holidays, her students, their families, and the generous community who contributed funds for the new sign.

It was a frigid morning (at about 7 a.m.) for McCallum, dressed in an elf suit, equipped with some handwarmers, sitting on a blanket up in air on the makeshift "shelf," which she reached via ladder with the assistance of the building maintenance crew. She took along a stereo system that blared out Christmas songs as she

waved as parents and buses delivered children to school and motorists passed by on Hardy Road.

McCallum is known for her hard work and dedication to the school and the Vinton community. She has served as principal at WEC for the past eight years.

According to employee Heather Wray, "This is just one more example of her creativity and dedication to the school and community."

McCallum attended Cundiff (then Hardy Road Elementary) herself as a child. Since becoming principal, she has been known to recognize special events by unique activities like being duct-taped to a wall or turned into a human ice cream sundae – syrup and all – to the delight of students and staff.

See **Elf**, page 9



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

**Elf on a Shelf Principal Ashley McCallum perched on the shelf at W.E. Cundiff.**

## Bonsack Elementary students delight audiences with ‘A Night of Music and Dancing’



**Fifth graders performing ballroom dances at the Bonsack “A Night of Music and Dancing.”**

**Debbie Adams**  
[dadams@ourvalley.org](mailto:dadams@ourvalley.org)

The fourth and fifth graders at Bonsack Elementary School delighted audiences with their performances in Bonsack's traditional "Night of Music and Dancing" on December 19. Fifth graders danced; fourth graders played their instrument

of choice – glow-in-the-dark bucket drums.

Music teacher Katie Saunders began this ballroom dancing tradition back in 2016, inspired by now-retired Roanoke County Public Schools music teacher Gloria Howell, who Saunders worked with when she was teaching at Oak Grove Elementary. The program was

interrupted by the COVID years but has now returned to its full glory.

"A Night of Music and Dancing" was presented twice this year – in the afternoon for students in grade K-3 and at night for the families of the fourth and fifth graders. Fifth grade students dressed up for the evening performance, girls

in dresses or skirts, and boys in suits or dress pants and shirts. Fourth graders wore holiday attire.

The program opened with the fifth grade dancing the Fox Trot to Michael Bublé's rendition of "White Christmas." The students had different partners for each of their dances, based on height and

whom they danced best with for each particular song.

"This group of students started out pretty awkwardly when dancing with the opposite sex," said Saunders. "As we continued the lessons, they blossomed into young ladies and gentlemen. This is my favorite

See **Bonsack**, page 9



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

**Fifth graders dancing at Bonsack.**

## Local muralist Jon Murrill collaborates on international mural in Brazil

**Debbie Adams**  
[dadams@ourvalley.org](mailto:dadams@ourvalley.org)

Local artist and full-time muralist Jon Murrill, who created the Lady Appalachia mural on Pollard Street in downtown Vinton, has just returned from a trip to Brazil, where he collaborated with Brazilian muralist Thiago Valdi to paint a mural in the city of Florianopolis. This was the result of the Sister Cities exchange program Roanoke City has with Florianopolis, established in 1995.

"This December, I was invited to paint my first international mural in Florianopolis, Brazil," Murrill said. "The opportunity became a reality through the efforts of Roanoke's Sister Cities program and the efforts of my good friend and



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JON MURRILL AND ROANOKE COLLEGE  
**Local muralist Jon Murrill recently traveled to Brazil to collaborate with international muralist Thiago Valdi on a mural as part of the Sister Cities program.**

international painter, Thiago Valdi. Thiago and I had collaborated in 2023, and this was a great chance to bring my style and vision

to his city of Florianopolis. "Our collaboration this year celebrates the energy

See **Murrill**, page 6

### Year in Review 2024

*Vinton continues to thrive in 2024. Take a look back at some stories within the Vinton community.*

Town leaders remain extremely optimistic about the future of the Town of Vinton.

"The Town of Vinton enjoyed a year of excitement, growth and celebration in 2024," said Vinton Mayor Brad Grose. "We have truly been blessed throughout the entire year. Several projects have been completed which raised the quality of life for our residents, improved our community, and prepared us for further growth in the future.

"In 2024, the Town of Vinton continued to attract new businesses while our existing business community experienced stable growth and continued support from our citizens. A unique characteristic of our growth is that although we have new businesses and new people in our town, we have maintained a small-town atmosphere. People who visit Vinton for business or entertainment have an experience that is somewhat rare in modern society.

"Our visitors often report that they receive excellent service from genuine



FILE PHOTO

**2024 Dogwood Queen Emily Tuck**

people who care about their customers. I refer to those values as the 'Vinton Experience.'

"This year (2024) the number of staff positions in the Town of Vinton remained low while training and professionalism continued to expand. Our staff is committed to providing the very best of service to our citizens and our visitors.

See **2024**, page 5



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# William Byrd cadets assist with Marines Toys for Tots campaign



Cadets from the William Byrd High School Navy National Defense Cadet Corps assisted in the distribution of Toys for Tots on December 21. Pictured (from left) are Cadets Chase Gonzales, Mason Truslow, Blake Reed, Nathan Hale, Franklin Apple, and Aldyr Phillips-Gibson, and Corps Commander at Byrd Leighann Wood.

Several cadets from the William Byrd High School Navy National Defense Cadet Corps assisted in Roanoke's Toys for Tots distribution on Saturday, December 21 in downtown Roanoke.

Cadets Chase Gonzalez, Mason Truslow, Blake Reed, Nathan Hale, Franklin Apple, and Aldyr Phillips-Gibson, and Leighann Wood (Corps Commander) spent the day, beginning at 8 a.m., in a warehouse filled with toys, gathering items for economically disadvantaged children and distributing them to families. The warehouse is loaned to Toys for Tots for the winter by First Baptist Church.

Marine Staff Sgt. Marco Garcia, who coordinates the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots event in this region and was on site on December 21, said, "The mission of the program

is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children within the community.

"We do so with the assistance of local community support organizations, local donor organizations, local volunteers, and good old-fashioned Marine Corps ingenuity. Most of all, we will be looking forward to the kind spirit of the people in our local communities.

"It has been rumored there may not be a 'real' Santa Claus, but the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation is doing its part to ensure the spirit of Santa Claus lives on. We are his relief. Truly, we believe Santa would be thoroughly impressed with our efforts."

The local Toys for Tots program serves the cities of Roanoke and Salem, along with

Alleghany, Bath, Botetourt, Craig and Roanoke Counties. Last year, 17,109 toys were distributed locally and 4,834 children supported by the program.

In 2024, initially there were over 15,000 toys collected locally along with \$15,000 in cash donations.

The 2024 campaign officially began on October 1 and runs for three months, but months of planning went into the event beforehand. That time was spent supporting special fundraising events, providing boxes for top drop-off sites, and working with local sponsors and charities for distribution of toys. Dozens of organizations, schools, and businesses in the area collect toys in those drop-off boxes, including William Byrd High School. In addition to collecting new

toys, the program raises funds to supplement the collection of local Toys for Tots chapters and works with corporations who donate toys to the campaign.

Three businesses, in particular, made sure there were plenty of bikes and tricycles for distribution this year – the Roanoke Regional Home Builders Association, the Napoli Cowboy restaurant in Wirtz, and the Roanoke Grinch. Napoli provided 65 bikes and 686 toys through its fundraising event.

The non-profit Marine Toys for Tots foundation was created in 1991 at the request of the Marine Corps. Families complete applications to receive toys for their children, usually up to age 12. In some communities, that extends to ages 14-16. They pick up the toys from the warehouse just before Christmas Day. The job of the cadets and other

volunteers on December 21 was to take order forms from the families with sizes and ages, and fill them by gathering toys, stocking stuffers, a book, and a large ticket item (such as a bike), place them in bags, and then help load them in vehicles.

In addition to the WBHS cadets, there were also volunteers from the NJROTC program at Patrick Henry High School and from the youth Sea Cadet program. Individuals from the community also volunteered their time, along with VDOT and CNN Equipment employees.

Other sponsors of the Toys for Tots program include WROV, First Team Nissan, the Berglund Center, the Jefferson Center, Hog Wild, K92, and Two Men and a Truck.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Volunteers for the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program distributed toys, books, stocking stuffers, and big-ticket items, like bikes, to local economically disadvantaged children just in time for Christmas.



Several members of the Herman L. Horn LEGO Robotics Team were recognized at the School Board meeting on December 19. They are pictured with Vinton's School Board representative Tim Greenway (far left), Principal Julie Sandzimier, and coach James Kabath, right.

## Herman L. Horn wins Robotics Team Awards

Debbie Adams  
dadams@ourvalley.org

The Herman L. Horn Elementary School LEGO Robotics Team members – the HLH Bees – were recognized by the School Board on December 19 for two awards they received at the Regional LEGO League Challenge Qualifying Tournament on November 16 in Blacksburg. They placed first in Division 1 in Robot Design and first in Robot Performance.

Roanoke County Executive Director

of Elementary Education Kim Bradshaw noted that "their performance was outstanding" and they came in as second place winners overall in Division 1.

About 12 students were on the team, both boys and girls.

According to Principal Julie Sandzimier, "Their task was to work collaboratively to create and design a robot (named BeeBot) and work through a series of challenges of coding and having the robot move through the different

See Robotics, page 4



PHOTO COURTESY OF RCPS AND HLH

The HLH LEGO Robotics team members and their coaches James Kabath (left) and Joe Carnes, at the tournament.

## PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANGIE CHEWNING

By Angie Chewning

Many thanks to Anthony Conne for opening up his home to our Vinton Chamber Staff and Board Members. It was a fun, relaxing night. Joining

us were Allison Finney and Randal Walters, Julie Wheeler, Robbie Craft, Richar and Tina Turnes, Sabrina and Chris McCarty, Jason Boothe, Kathryn Sowers and myself.

Last week my baby girl

Abbie Lewis turned the big 25! We celebrated the day with Olive Garden with Nana Bootie.

Merry Christmas everyone! We hope you, your families, and friends have a safe and wonderful holiday!

## Mayor's Report for November/December provides updates

Town Manager Pete Peters updated Town Council on several projects, current and future, in his November/December 2024 Mayor's Report.

Town staff is planning a work session on February 4 to discuss Safe Streets for All (SS4A) and the latest draft of the 2050 Comp Plan.

The Vinton Police Department has deployed four additional speed limit devices (flashing lights with traffic counters) which were grant-funded.

Two police recruits will be entering the Police Academy in January.

The Thrasher Stormwater Project is going well and is approximately one-quarter complete.

The PFG traffic signal is scheduled to be installed soon. This will be done during the day and require partial and periodic lane closures.

Niagara Road is expected to re-open this week. When final paving occurs (weather dependent) in January,

a temporary closure will again be necessary.

A new updated traffic camera has been installed at Clearview Drive and Hardy Road. Wait time seems to have improved.

"No Parking" signs have been installed along Ruddell Road.

Gus Nicks' traffic counts were completed from December 9-12. A traffic calming demonstration (cones) is being planned for mid-January.

Town Council approved a resolution to oppose skill games, which was sent to state elected officials.

Agreements have been approved by EDA KARA Hotel and West Lee Avenue. Early January site meetings are anticipated, and construction is targeted for early spring for each.

Geotechnical work is being conducted on the downtown fire properties as a

See Mayor's Report, page 4

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From the Pulpit

# Practical Faith – James 3:1-12

We are studying the Book of James at Lynn Haven Baptist Church. In James 3:1-12, we read about the topic of taming our tongues. Our words are powerful. James reminds us how even though the tongue is small, it can cause great damage. Just like a small spark can

set a forest on fire, a careless word can hurt others deeply. Words can bring life, but they can also tear someone down.

Proverbs 18:21 says, “The tongue has the power of life and death.” We need to be careful with how we speak. It’s easy to lash out when we’re angry or

By Pastor Bryan Crouch, Lynn Haven Baptist Church

frustrated, but those moments can lead to words we regret. Once spoken, we can’t take them back.

James warns us to control our tongues because the same mouth that praises God should not also speak hurtful words to others. Our speech should reflect the love and kindness of Christ.

Think about the words you say to

family, friends, and even strangers. Are they words that build up or tear down? Today, ask God to help you speak in a way that honors Him and shows love to those around you. Let’s strive to use our words for good, to encourage, and to speak life into the hearts of others. Just as our faith should lead to action, our words should reflect the transformation God is working within us.



Remembering Vinton

## Fifty years ago in December 1974

Just like December 2024, Vintonites were busy preparing for and celebrating the holidays 50 years ago in December 1974.

The Vinton Choral Society, with 112 singers and 13 instrumentalists, presented two performances of “The Messiah” at Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church in early December. One of the soloists was Mayor Gus Nicks’ daughter, Nancy.

Hardy Road Elementary School (now W.E. Cundiff) won a national reading award for its “Listen-Look-Learn” reading program – the first award of its kind ever presented. School Superintendent Arnold Burton said it indicated that Hardy Road had the most outstanding reading program in the country.

The Vinton Department of Parks and Recreation arranged for Santa to speak by phone to children in grades PreK through second in Vinton through the “Hotline from Santa Land Program.” Santa would be dialing up the children from 5:30 to 9 p.m. on two December nights to let children share their wish lists personally.

Speaking of Parks and Rec, the Vinton center was organizing classes that would start in

January 1975 to include crocheting, knitting, quilting, needlepoint, crewel embroidery, bridge, slimnastics, square, belly and ballroom dancing, typing, general art, various crafts, interior design, cake decorating, and ceramics.

The Dogwood Festival Committee was already meeting to prepare for the annual festival in April 1975. Jim Musselwhite was president of the committee with Fred Anderson as first vice-president. Steve Musselwhite, who had been an Indian in the parade when he was 6 years old, was to serve as fourth vice president.

Kroger stores in the area agreed to freeze prices on 1,100 items for 60 days as part of a nationwide anti-inflation program, “Whip Inflation Now,” proposed by President Gerald Ford.

William Byrd High School’s Distributive Education Department and the Vinton Chamber of Commerce were sponsoring the second annual “Shop in Vinton Day” on Saturday, Dec. 7, to encourage people to support local merchants.

Appalachian Power filed for a \$36 million rate jump.

New and colorful signage had been installed by Public Works at all four entrances to Vinton welcoming motorists to

“The Dogwood Capital.” The signs were obtained by the Chamber of Commerce.

Green Thumb Florists had installed a giant six-foot wreath at the Vinton War Memorial between the columns on the front portico.

The Vinton Senior Citizens Program was looking forward to a trip, via train, to Orlando, to visit Disney World, Sea World, the Kennedy Space Center, and Cypress Gardens.

Vinton Boy Scout Troop 235 was reporting one of its best years in scouting with 46 registered Scouts and 16 leaders. Seven Scouts had reached the rank of Eagle Scout, Greg Leslie, Robert Simpson, Michael Wood, James Williams, William Kight, Robert Burton, and Randy Barbour.

Wood’s 76 Service Station on Washington Avenue was recognized by the Union Oil Company for its “success story.” Bob Wood opened for business in September 1957 and remained in the same location in 1974. The first month he was open, he pumped 6,000 gallons of gas. In 1974, that total was 30,000 gallons per month. His sons, Barry and Tommy, were both active in the growing business.

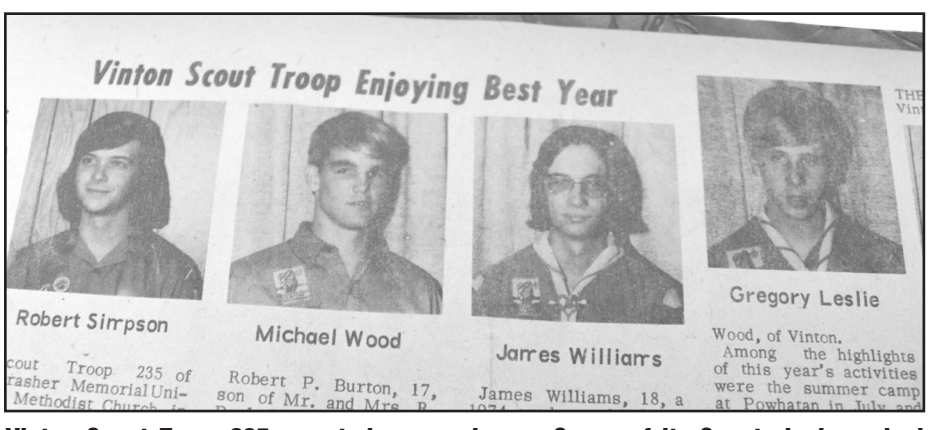
with the Vinton Historical Societv



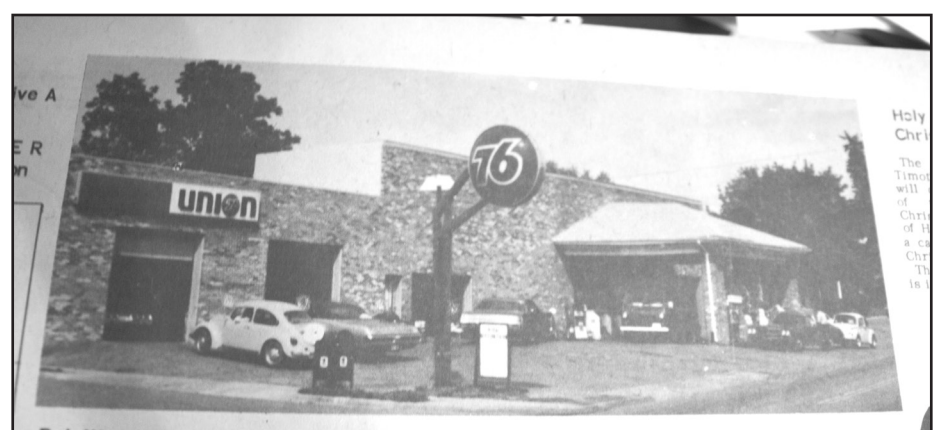
The Chamber of Commerce and the town installed new signage at each of four entrances to Vinton in December 1974.



Hardy Road Elementary School received a National Reading Award – the first of its kind.



Vinton Scout Troop 235 reported a record year. Seven of its Scouts had reached the rank of Eagle Scout. One was Greg Leslie (far right), then age 16, who is now a Scoutmaster with the troop.



PHOTOS FROM THE VINTON MESSENGER ARCHIVES AT THE VINTON HISTORY MUSEUM  
Wood's Service Center on Washington Avenue received national recognition.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Product or \_\_\_\_ (abbr.)  
4. Zodiac sign  
9. S. China seaport  
14. Former OSS  
15. Early English printer  
16. Aphid genus  
17. General's assistant (abbr.)  
18. Aussies  
20. Dissuades  
22. Make law  
23. Drench  
24. Soak in a liquid  
28. Male child  
29. It cools your home  
30. Small constellation  
31. To call (archaic)  
33. Explores beneath the Earth  
37. Commercial  
38. W. hemisphere organization

39. You can find it in a can  
41. "Land of the free"  
42 36 inches  
43. Footwear  
44. Challenges  
46. They hold things together  
49. Of I  
50. Partner to flow  
51. Not connected by kinship  
55. Worries  
58. Garlic mayonnaise  
59. A way to take by force  
60. Legendary English rockers  
64. Your consciousness of your own identity  
65. Fencing swords  
66. Silly  
67. Actor DiCaprio  
68. Encircles with a belt  
69. Mails a message

70. Longing  
CLUES DOWN  
1. Horse mackerels  
2. It can be viral  
3. Prickly plants  
4. Consciousness  
5. Type of sarcoma  
6. Tax collector  
7. Sun up in New York  
8. One who scorches  
9. Influential psychotherapist  
10. Situated at an apex  
11. Communicative  
12. Forearm nerve  
13. Former CIA  
19. Folk singer DiFranco  
21. Employee stock ownership plan  
24. Large-scale  
25. School environment  
26. Remove  
27. Male parents  
31. Large rodent

32. Weighed down  
34. Held tightly  
35. \_\_\_\_ route: going there  
36. Explains again  
40. Exclamation of surprise  
41. Courteously  
45. Lying down  
47. Judge  
48. Forcefully took  
52. Loosely compacted sediment  
53. High mountain  
54. Portable conical tents  
56. Cereal grass  
57. Dining utensil  
59. Thoughtful  
60. Helps you walk  
61. Indicates near  
62. Midway between northeast and east  
63. Local area network



By Vinton Library Assistant Molly Meador

As the holiday season and the year of 2024 draw to a close, the Vinton Library is here to wish you all the best in 2025. This year we are offering ever more reasons to get out of the house or get out of the cold. Whether you're hibernating this winter or hitting the ground running in the new year, be sure to check out all of the programming the library has coming up this month.

We're starting the year off right with another Puzzle Race on Saturday, January 11 from 2-4:30 p.m. Register yourself or a team of up to four people online to prove that you can solve a jigsaw puzzle faster than anyone.

Remember to sign up for this month's Creations and Temptations as well. On Saturday, January 18 from 3-4 p.m. we'll be making a winter scene shadow box with a cardinal inside.

On Thursday, January 16 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. we'll have an Introduction to Arduino. Register for a beginner-level class on Arduino, an open-source

platform used worldwide for creating interactive electronics projects. In this hands-on course you'll learn the basics of programming and circuitry through fun and engaging projects.

In this month's Database Detective session, we will show you how to use Gale LegalForms on Thursday, January 9 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Register to join us and learn how our Virtual Library can help you create basic legal forms from leases to wills and much more, and all legal in Virginia. No legal advice will be available.

The new year is a great time to branch out and meet new people and learn new things. Check out the Vinton Community Connection every Friday from 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. to enjoy free coffee with friends and neighbors as well as a fun activity or presentation each week.

Here's a peek at what we've got planned for January.

- January 3- Make Vision Boards for the New Year
- January 10- Learn about Superstitions
- January 17- Learn about Ancient Africa

## Mayor's Report

from page 2

new step to rebuilding. An EPA grant is covering the expense. Regrading and seeding the site and removing fencing is underway.

An amendment to the lease agreement is underway for 7 Walnut Avenue (the McClung building) to lease the building and then sublet it to three potential tenants.

Vinton Town Calendars for 2025 have been mailed and should be received by New Year's.

The Glade Creek Greenway Phase

2B has been paved and is open to the public. That section of the greenway now extends from PFG to the Billy Byrd Apartments. A ribbon-cutting will be held (TBD).

The Glade Creek Phase 3 Engineering Study is underway to establish a trail from Gus Nicks/South Pollard to Vinyard Park.

Staff has ordered the pre-fab restroom for the Wolf Creek Greenway. A similar version will be purchased for the Community Park.

- January 24- Play Musical Bingo from the 1960s

- January 31- Learn about Alice in Wonderland in Art

This month the Vinton Book Club will discuss "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt on Thursday, January 2 from 3-4 p.m. The As the Page Turns Book Club will discuss "The Bookwoman's Daughter" by Kim Michele Richardson on Wednesday, January 8 from 2-3 p.m.

Also check out ongoing programs:

- Open Bridge meets every Tuesday from 1-4 p.m.

- The DMV will be here Thursday, January 9 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., closing from 12:30-1:30 p.m. for lunch.

- The Roanoke Valley Dulcimers meet Saturday, January 18 from 10:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

- The Blue Ridge Dulcimer Ensemble will play Monday, January 27 from 6-7 p.m.

Register for Teens Make Zines! on Tuesday, January 7 from 6-7 p.m. to come to the Teen Center and express your creativity and share your passions by making your own zines and trading them with others. All materials will be provided.

We will have the Sip and Read Teen Book Club on Monday, January 27 from 5-6 p.m.

The Teen Volunteer Group will meet on Thursday, January 2 and Tuesday, January 21 from 5-6 p.m. For more information about volunteering, visit the website at [www.rocolibrary.org](http://www.rocolibrary.org).

org.

Calling all adventurers ages 6-11! Are you ready to embark on a quest to solve the mystery and become a hero? Join us for a kid-friendly version of Dungeons and Dragons to inspire imaginations and build communication skills. Space is limited, so register your adventurers for the Hero Kids Tabletop Roleplaying Adventure on Thursday, January 9 from 4-5:30 p.m.

This month's Art Aficionados will meet on Wednesday, January 22 from 4-5 p.m. and we will be learning about Julie Mehretu. Register online to learn about and do an art project in her style!

Discovery Time will be on Thursday, January 9 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. This month engage in temperature fun with stories, snow and ice activities and sensory stations for ages 2-5.

Jr. Makers will meet on Wednesday, January 15 from 4-5 p.m. for ages 5-10. This month we'll perform a polar bear blubber experiment and make ice cream in a bag!

The Storytime theme for January is "Winter" and will be on Wednesdays in January on the 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th. Toddler Storytime will meet from 10:30-11 a.m. for ages 18-36 months, babies also welcome. Preschool Storytime for ages 3-5 will be from 11:30 a.m.-12 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](http://www.rocolibrary.org).

## Robotics

from page 2

challenges. They completed a variety of missions with the robot they built. We are very proud of them."

In addition, the team received "Accomplished" for "Gracious Professionalism" in every one of their matches. They also did a great job presenting their Innovation Project and Robot Design. Every student

spoke and contributed to the presentation.

Sandzimier credited Assistant Principal Theresa Kabath with the existence and success of the program. She wrote three Virginia Department of Education grants (of \$10,000 each) which enabled the school to fund the program.

Kabath's husband, James, an engineer at Valcom, Inc., was one of the coaches for the team; his employer allowed him time off to work with the students. Art teacher Joe Carnes also coached the team.

The next scrimmage for the HLH team will be in March.

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

**BAPTIST (COOPERATIVE)**  
**VINTON BAPTIST CHURCH** - 219 Washington Avenue, Vinton. Rev. Dr. Travis Russell, 343-7685. Sunday Services (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](http://daleridgechurchofchrist.net) or email us at [comeback2thebible@gmail.com](mailto: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, Vinton (corner of Hardy Road and

# VINTON

## ONLY ONE WAY

"I am the way, the truth and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6

In our culture, almost anything goes. The overwhelming idea is: whatever works for you. It's okay to believe in God, but it's not acceptable to suggest there is only one way to know Him. The problem is that if you believe in Christ, you must also believe His words. He did not say, "I am a way." He said, "I am THE way." Think about it. If anything would work, why suffer? If anything else could save us, why would God send His son? Read Isaiah 43:10-11. First, understand that God does want us to know Him. It's why He sent His son in the first place. Second, recognize that there is only one Savior and put your trust in Him. Perhaps you have long since accepted that only Christ can save you, but have you really accepted that only He can save somebody else? Knowing how much others need Christ motivates us to tell them about Him. After all, "how, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard?" (Romans 10:14) Tell someone about the Savior today!

Worship: Today, thank God for sending the Savior. Pray for those who do not know Him, those who live and work right around you as well as those in foreign lands. Read Romans 10:14-15. Pray that God will send His people to preach good news and ask Him to give you opportunities today to share His love with someone.

## WORSHIP DIRECTORY

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

Feather Road), 540-982-3694, [www.evangel4sq.com](http://www.evangel4sq.com), Pastor Tim Wright. Worship Service Sunday, 10AM. Bible Study Wednesday 11AM-12PM.

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

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

**PRESBYTERIAN**  
**CAMPBELL MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**, 1130 Hardy Rd, Vinton, VA, 540-343-1842; [cmpe2verizon.net](http://cmpe2verizon.net) Sunday school 9:45am,

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

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

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

“An extremely important part of any discussion of this year, and the past several years, is the support that the residents of Vinton have demonstrated for the entire town. Our citizens have continued to support our local businesses and the efforts of the town to grow and prosper. Part of the ‘Vinton Experience’ is growth, maintaining our values, and supporting change. Although 2024 was an impressive year, I am convinced that the Town of Vinton will continue to flourish for years to come.”

Vinton Town Manager Pete Peters agrees with the mayor, that’s it’s been another great year in the town. From his perspective the most significant events in 2024 were:

1. The beginning of construction and rehabilitation of the Gish Mill Property. It’s been nine years since the town purchased the structure and a year since Town Council achieved their goal to formally secure a developer to rehabilitate and repurpose the property into a mixed-use development (restaurant, and short-term stay hospitality).

2. Downtown received a State and National Historic District Designation. Not only is this an important tool for downtown commercial property owners for potential Historic Tax Credit Funding, but this also provides a path forward to relocating the historic Cundiff Drug Store sign back to its original location on South Pollard.

3. There have been continued walkability improvements. Construction has closed the last remaining gap of the Glade Creek Greenway under the railroad trestle and through Gearhart Park. The two pedestrian crosswalks on Hardy Road and Gus Nicks Boulevard have also been completed, establishing great pedestrian connections to two growing commercial areas and extending our goal of becoming a more walkable community. VDOT has also moved forward with the design for Phase 3 of Walnut Avenue, which will complete an important gateway connection between the various greenways and downtown.

4. The town began work on “Vinton 2050,” the town’s 20-Year Comprehensive Plan Update and is making substantial progress. This will assist with future land use, public utility needs, recreation, and future redevelopment of Vinton and establish priorities for future budgets.

5. Our downtown continues to grow. The town opened a 90-space public parking area at 7 Walnut to support events and commercial redevelopment on the west end of downtown. The town completed a Performance Agreement with TCBC for additional rear patio enhancements, and with the Wilkinson Group to encourage the redevelopment of 121 and 123 West Lee Avenue with two public courtyards, rear-alley improvements, and public utility upgrades, that will in return support new leasable spaces for new jobs and businesses.

6. The town secured KARA Hospitality to construct a 92-room, \$12 million hotel on the corner of S. Pollard, Cedar and Virginia Avenue. The hotel is anticipated to start construction in early 2025 and is expected to be open in early 2026.

7. The town completed the demolition of the former municipal swimming pool and has moved forward with a multi-generational park that will include a playground, pickleball courts, a public restroom, picnic shelter and a small skatepark skills area. The park is expected to open in the spring of 2025. The town also made a \$50,000 donation to the City of Roanoke’s Regional Skate initiative which is being constructed at Wasena Park and will be open in late

2025.

8. The rebuilding of Mountain View Road using the Full Depth Reclamation process was completed in 2024.

Here are some highlights, month-by-month, from the year 2024 in Vinton.

**January 2024:** Tammy Shepherd was appointed by the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors to represent the Vinton Magisterial District on the board. She replaced Jason Peters who had been elected as Roanoke County Commissioner of the Revenue in the November 2023 general election.

Scout Christian Shank earned the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Vinton History Museum (fourth place, People’s Choice Award) and Creative Occasions Events, Flowers, and Gifts (first place, overall) were recognized for their entries in the prestigious Hotel Roanoke Fashions for Evergreens competition.

Work began on the multi-generational park which will be located on the hillside behind the Vinton War Memorial.

Aubrey Vaughan passed away at age 93 after a lifetime dedicated to the community through the Vinton First Aid Crew.

**February 2024:** The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce installed new officers – President Jason Boothe, 1st Vice President Allison Finney, and 2nd Vice President Page Lovern.

The Elite Therapy and Performance Clinic opened at Lake Drive Plaza, owned by Dr. Brett Hall and Sean Rahall.

Extensive renovations began at the Cleveland Mart. Chris Dowdy and Dominic Bastile are redeveloping the building into a mixed use commercial and residential property. Those renovations are nearly complete.

The William Byrd High School boys’ swim team won the Blue Ridge District Championship.

Town Council recognized Employees of the Year for 2023: P.C. Crimmins in Public Works, runner-up Banks Bradford, Sr.; Police, Sgt. Brandon Alterio, runner-up Lt. Scott Hurt; and Tobbie Russeau for all other administrative departments, runner-up Assistant Finance Director Tiffany Stewart.

Winners in the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club Bland Music Scholarship Competition were Paul Sealey, first place vocals; Ryleigh Woolwine, second place vocals; Lyla Young, third place vocals; Pam Kampanya, first place instrumentals; Kayleigh Taylor, second place instrumentals; and Lucy Sealey and Lilla Clark, third place instrumentals. Sealey went on to win the regional competition.

Three Byrd students placed first in the Roanoke Valley Governor’s School Project Forum: Griffin Yakob, Meera Raichura, and Gabrielle Romeo.

Also in February 2024, Vinton decided to seek Historic District Designation for its downtown area, initially to enable the town to move the historic Cundiff Drug Store sign back to its original location on Pollard Street. But a national designation would also allow property owners to receive historic tax credits to assist with future rehabilitation projects like Roland E. Cook, Billy Byrd, and Gish Mill.

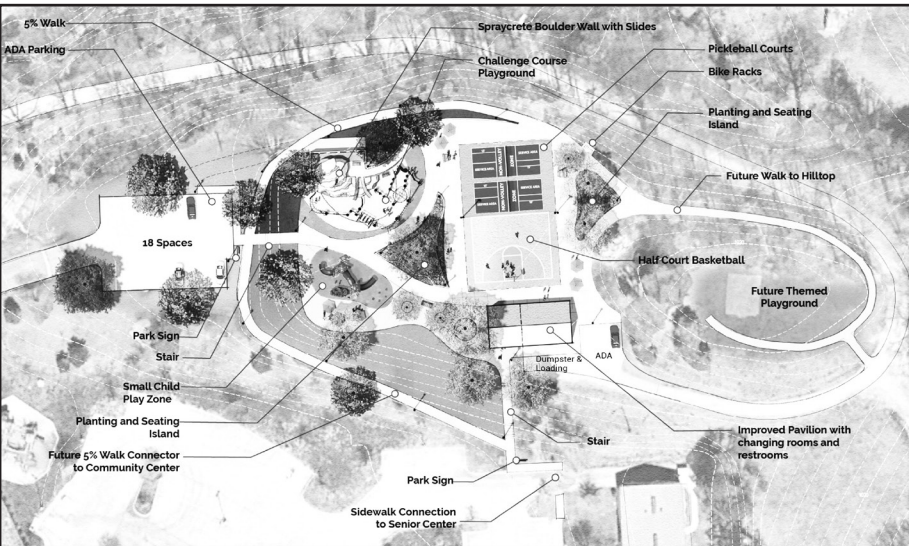
William Byrd’s Lindsay Murtaugh won two state medals at the Class 3 state swim meet. Darin Witcher won the state Class 3 wrestling championship. William Byrd boys finished third in the state track meet.

William Byrd High School Principal Tammy Newcomb was appointed to Executive Director of Administration for Roanoke County Schools for the 2024-

See **Year in Review**, page 6



**William Byrd senior Israel Hairston (center front with family) won a host of awards, athletic and academic, during 2024.**



**Progress continues on Vinton’s Multi-Generational Park. Demolition of the old Vinton Pool was the first step.**



**W.E. Cundiff past and present administrators, faculty, staff, students, and families attended the celebration of the school's 50th anniversary on April 21. Shown standing left to right are Roanoke County Schools Superintendent Dr. Ken Nicely, former teacher Amy Shank, former Principal Sherry Bryant, former teacher, Assistant Principal and School Superintendent Lorraine Lange, current Principal Ashley McCallum, and former teacher, Assistant Principal, and Superintendent Deanna Gordon. Seated is Frank Stone, Cundiff's first principal.**



FILE PHOTOS

**Muralist Jon Murrill changed the face of downtown Vinton with his “Lady Appalachia” mural. Pictured left to right are Council members Keith Liles and Sabrina McCarty, Mayor Brad Grose, Council member Laurie Mullins, and artist Jon Murrill.**

# 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.

## ADVERTISE!

Call Tucker Frye at 309-9485  
or email [tfrye@ourvalley.org](mailto:tfrye@ourvalley.org)  
to advertise in this space.

*Want to keep up with local news,  
sports and events?*

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

Call (540) 389-9355

from page 1

from page 1

CROSSWORD ANSWERS																	
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**Vinton Police Officer Daniel Valladarez (left) was named by his peers as Officer of the Year.**

**William Byrd High School celebrated the completion of the \$30 million renovation program.**

**The Mingle at the Market** concerts sponsored by the Vinton Chamber of Commerce had a hugely successful season.

**Tammy Shepherd won the Republican Primary for the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors seat representing the Vinton Magisterial District**

FILE PHOTOS  
**New William Byrd High School Principal  
Travis Anderson**

Vinton Town Council recognized Vinton Police Officers at a June meeting. Officer Daniel Valladarez was named Officer of the Year for 2023, chosen by his peers. He and Officer Andrew Hagy also received Life Saving Awards for saving the lives of particular citizens in the community. Sgt. Brandon Alterio received the Leadership

*Year in Review 2024 continues next week with Part 2, July through December.*

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JON MURRILL AND ROANOKE COLLEGE

**Thiago Valdi (right) and Murrill worked together on the mural “Nightingale” in Roanoke as part of the Sister Cities program when Valdi was an artist-in-residence here.**



THE FINCASTLE HERALD

The Vinton Messenger

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

News Messenger

RADFORD News Journal

Help Wanted

Application Engineer - Variable Speed Drives sought by TMEIC International Corporation in Roanoke, VA,

to define project system reqmts & dvlp system specs for Variable Speed Drive applic to Industrial Systems projects. Availability to travel, domestically & int'lly, approx 15%, occasionally w/ limited notice. Telecommuting is allowed. Min Req: Bachelor's deg in Electrical Engg, or rtd field or foreign equiv deg, 24 mos of rtd work exp in specifying, dsngn, commissioning, &/or maintaining low &/or medium voltage, variable frequency drives. Proficiency in MS Outlook, Word, Excel, Access, & Visio. Send resume to recruitment@tmeic.com. Ref#8019.

Storage Auction

Bert's Self Storage Auction Sale 12/31/23 2656 W. Main Street Salem, VA 10:00AM (540)389-1382

Legals - Montgomery County

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia

hereby schedules a public hearing on Monday, January 13, 2025 at 7:15 p.m. or as soon thereafter in the Board Room in the Montgomery County Government Center located at 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, in order to hear citizens comments on a proposed ordinance approving the 2025 Organizational Cooperative Agreement Between Montgomery County and the Towns of Blacksburg and Christiansburg for the Creation and Implementation of the Joint Tourism Program.

A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the County Administrator and is available 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday for public inspection or copying.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Angela M. Hill County Administrator

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 & 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on January 13, 2025 at 7:15 p.m. in the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to hear citizen comments regarding the Board of Supervisor's intention to act on the following Special Use Permit request:

A request by Andrew and Katie Wells for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow a Short-Term Tourist Rental within an existing residential structure on property located at 2671 Luster's Gate Road, approximately 0.08 miles southeast of the intersection of Harding Road (State Route 785) and Luster's Gate Road (State Route 723). The property is further identified as Tax Parcel 042-A 1 77A (Parcel ID: 000020), 3.483 acres, zoned Residential (R-2) in the Mount Tabler Magisterial District. The property currently lies in an area designated as Residential Transition in the 2025 Comprehensive Plan.

Copies of the proposed plans, applications, ordinances or amendments may be examined at the Department of Planning and GIS Services, County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 2A, Christiansburg, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or at <http://www.montgomerycountyva.gov/pendingapplications>

Legals - Montgomery County

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 & 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Montgomery County Planning Commission hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on January 8, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to hear citizen comments regarding the Planning Commission's intention to act on the following Special Use Permit request: A request by Network Towers, LLC for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow a 199-foot monopole wireless telecommunications tower, freestanding. The property is owned by S. R. Goff Hauling, Inc. and is located at 6000 North Fork Road, Elliston, northeast of Roanoke Road (State Route 11). The property is further identified as Tax Map 047-3 1A (Parcel ID: 026253), 3.914 acres, zoned Manufacturing (M1) in the Shawsville Magisterial District. The property currently lies in an area designated as Village Expansion in the 2025 Comprehensive Plan, and is further designated as Mixed Use in the Elliston-Lafayette Village Expansion Area. Copies of the proposed plans, applications, ordinances or amendments may be examined at the Department of Planning and GIS Services, County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 2A, Christiansburg, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or at <http://www.montgomerycountyva.gov/pendingapplications>.

TOWN OF BLACKSBURG - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

BLACKSBURG TOWN COUNCIL will hold public hearings on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers of the Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 South Main Street, Blacksburg, regarding the following items:

Ordinance 2068: An Ordinance Rezoning 1.59 ± Acres of Land at 402 Clay Street from R-5 Transitional Residential to Planned Residential Zoning. The proposed ordinance would rezone the property at 402 Clay Street from Transitional Residential (R-5) to Planned Residential (PR), which would permit the construction of two 3-story multifamily buildings with up to a maximum of 72 bedrooms. Twenty percent (20%) of the units will be income restricted to households earning less than 80% of Area Median Income (AMI).

Recommended Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2025/2026 to 2029/2030: A summary of the proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is being published as a stand-alone advertisement in the December 25, 2024 edition of this newspaper.

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

Legals - Montgomery County

Notice of Public Hearing Town of Blacksburg Planning Commission Tuesday, January 7, 2025

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Town of Blacksburg will conduct the following public hearing on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 during its meeting beginning at 6:30 PM in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Council Chamber, 300 South Main St, Blacksburg, VA on the following item:

801 North Main Street Planned Residential Development with associated Conditional Use Permit request (CUP-24-3) and Right-of-Way vacation request (ROW-24-2) at 801 North Main Street with additional locations on Kabrich Street, Winston Avenue and Progress Street for LV Hokie GP, LLC (contract purchaser). This project consists of three (3) requests, which include (a) RZN-24-2 to rezone the subject properties from (i) GC General Commercial and R-5 Transitional Residential to (ii) PR Planned Residential, which will permit the construction of an 8-story multifamily buildings with commercial space on the ground floor and three (3) townhome-style multifamily buildings, resulting in a total of up to 759 bedrooms (270 bedrooms/acre; (b) ROW-24-2 companion request to vacate a town-owned alley right-of-way of approximately 2,000 square feet extending southeast from Winston Avenue; and (c) CUP-24-3 to use an alley extending northeast from Winston Avenue for access to twenty-two (22) townhome-style multifamily units.

Persons affected by or interested in the rezoning, conditional use permit or right-of-way requests may appear and present their views. After the hearing, the Planning Commission may take action. Copies of the applications, staff report and all related items may be found online at [www.blacksburg.gov/publichearings](http://www.blacksburg.gov/publichearings) or reviewed in person at the Blacksburg Planning and Building Department, 400 South Main Street, Blacksburg, Virginia. You may also call the office at (540) 443-1300 for more information. Individuals with disabilities who require special assistance to attend and participate in the public hearing on the above should contact the Planning & Building Department at (540) 443-1300, or (540)-443-1000-TDD.

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104 Case No. **CL24001556-00** VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA, a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia,

TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA a Municipal Locality of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Complainant, v. FRANCES K DICKASON, Respondent(s).

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Montgomery, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Montgomery, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 497-29 9 Account No. 004978 All that certain tract or parcel of land situate in the Shawsville Magisterial District, Town of Christiansburg, Montgomery County, Virginia, and more particularly designated and described as follows, to-wit: BEGINNING at a point on the Northerly side of Sunnyside Lane, N.E., at the Southeast corner of (now or formerly) Mary Elizabeth Karr's lot; thence running N 0° 31' 00" E 99.94 feet to a point; thence N 81° 00' 30" E 97.50 to a point; thence S 8° 05' 50" E 94.09 feet to a point; thence S 78° 43' 10" W 112.63 feet, parallel to the Northerly side of Sunnyside Lane, N.E.;

Legals - Montgomery County

and being all of Lot No. 9, Sunnyside, Section III, as shown on a plat recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia in Plat Book 8, Page 127. And being the same real property conveyed to Frances K. Dickason from Poff Construction, Inc., a Virginia corporation, by deed, dated October 7, 1 976 and recorded October 29, 1976 in the Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 377 at Page 57.

This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described including but not limited to those recorded in Plat Book 8 at Page 127.

**IT APPEARING** that an Affidavit has been made and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served, that the last known addresses for the Respondents herein are as follows: Frances K. Dickason aka Kathleen Dickason Spencer, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Larry Ingram, whose last known address is 525 Sunnyside Ln, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the Respondent named herein are made parties Respondent to this action individually and/or by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained appear on or before January 20, 2025 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause. Entered on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2024 Honorable Judge K. Mike Fleenor, Jr.

I ask for this: John A. Rife sq. (VSB No. 45805) Jeffrey A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591) Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409) Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372) Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609) Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158) Seth R. Konopasek, Esq. (VSB No. 97065) Garrett W. Patton, Esq. (VSB No. 98345) Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC P.O. Box 31800 Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800 Phone: (804) 545-2500 Facsimile: (804) 545-2378 TACS No.: 779364

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104 Case No. **CL24001914-00** MONTGOMERY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073

Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* BRITTNEY FAYE TILSON v. WILLIAM MATTHEW TILSON

The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that WILLIAM MATTHEW TILSON appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before February 6, 2025 @9:00 am December 4/2024 November 6, 2024 Robert M.D. Turk, Judge

PUBLIC NOTICE PROPOSAL TO CLEANUP AN UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) SITE

There has been a release of petroleum from a former underground storage tank system at: Shell VA0063 2655 Roanoke Street Christiansburg, Virginia 24073

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is requiring a Corrective Action Plan to address cleanup of petroleum at the site. If you have any questions regarding the cleanup, please contact: Evan R. Bishop, P.G. EarthNet 2314 Ridgefield Street Roanoke, Virginia 24012 (540) 362-5636

Legals - Montgomery County

The Corrective Action Plan will be submitted to the Blue Ridge Regional Office of the DEQ by December 23, 2024. If you would like to review or discuss the proposed Corrective Action Plan with the staff of the DEQ, please feel free to contact David K. Kirby at (540) 598-1502 after the date of the Corrective Action Plan submittal. The DEQ Blue Ridge Regional Office will consider written comments regarding the proposed Corrective Action Plan until February 23, 2024 and may decide to hold a public meeting if there is significant public interest. Written comments should be sent to the DEQ at the address listed below. The DEQ requests that all written comments reference the tracking number for this case; PC #2023-2218 Department of Environmental Quality Blue Ridge Regional Office Storage Tank Program 901 Russell Drive Salem, Virginia 24153

Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on January 15, 2025, 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 the request of Heather Pollard, contract purchaser, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow a personal service, beauty salon, on the property located at 707 South Colorado Street, Tax Map 160-7-3.

2. Consider the request of Patrick and Jamie Snead to amend Chapter 106 Zoning, Article III Use and Design Standards, Section 106-304.17(B)(6) Townhouse, of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA pertaining to setbacks for townhouses.

3. Consider amending Chapter 66 Signs, Article IV Permitted Signs by Use and District, Section 66-105 Permitted Signs, of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA pertaining to wall signs.

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

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104 Case No. **CL24-463** VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA, a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Complainant, MILDRED HAMBRICK JOHNSON, ET AL., Respondent(s).

ORDER OF PUBLICATION The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Botetourt, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Botetourt, Virginia, described as follows:

Tax Map No. 27-55 Account No. 18062

Legals - City of Salem

All that certain tract or parcel of land, lying and being situate on the south side of the James River in Eagle Rock, Fincastle Magisterial District, Botetourt County, Virginia, containing 1.15 acres, more or less.

And being a portion of the same property conveyed to E.W. Hambrick aka Emory W. Hambrick from George E. Robinson and Louella Robinson, his wife, by Deed dated November 1, 1927, and recorded November 22, 1927, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, in Deed Book S, at Page 425.

The said E.W. Hambrick aka Emory W. Hambrick died March 12, 1965, and pursuant to his Last Will and Testament dated November 19, 1959, and recorded March 16, 1965, in the aforementioned Clerk's Office in Will Book 16, at Page 55, E.W. Hambrick aka Emory W. Hambrick devised the above-described property to his wife, Gladys V. Hambrick, for her life, with the remainder passing to his children, namely L.H. Hambrick aka Leslie Harold Hambrick, C.R. Hambrick aka Clayton Rudolph Hambrick, R.L. Hambrick aka Robert Lewis Hambrick, W.R. Hambrick aka William Russell Hambrick, H.M. Hambrick aka Hollis Milton Hambrick, E.C. Hambrick aka Eugene Carl Hambrick, and Mildred Hambrick Johnson. The said Gladys V. Hambrick died September 26, 1994, thus extinguishing her life interest in the above-described property. This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described.

**IT APPEARING** that an Affidavit has been made and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served, that the last known addresses for the Respondents herein are as follows: Mildred Hambrick Johnson, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 378 Shady Oak Lane, Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901; Susan J. Ross, whose last known address is 209 Highland Circle, Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901; Karen J. Anderson, whose last known address is 378 Shady Oak Lane, Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901; L.H. Hambrick aka Leslie Harold Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Leslie H. Hambrick, whose last known address is P.O. Box 16, Buchanan, Virginia 24066; Gladys L. Painter, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 7064 Linn Cove Court, Roanoke, Virginia 24018; James W. Painter, whose last known address is 5241 N Spring Drive, Roanoke, Virginia 24019; Edith M. Parsons, whose last known address is 2151 Broadway Avenue SW, Apt. 2, Roanoke, Virginia 24014; Carl Hambrick, whose last known address is 1025 1st Street S W, Apt. 5, Roanoke, Virginia 24016; C.R. Hambrick aka Clayton Rudolph Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Isobel K. Hambrick aka Isobel K. Clark, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 800 W Ridgeway Street, Apt. 215, Clifton Forge, Virginia 24422; Clayton R. Hambrick, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 35 Edgewood Drive, Lenox, Massachusetts 01240; Larry W. Hambrick, whose last known address is 1 176 Old Grandview Road, Beaver, West Virginia 25813; Melinda H. King, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 802 W Ridgeway Street, Apt. 205, Clifton Forge, Virginia 24422; Tiffany K. Snedegar, whose last known address is 807 Kanawha Trail, Covington, Virginia 24426; Christian M. King, whose last known address is P.O. Box 355, Buchanan, Virginia 24066; R.L. Hambrick aka Robert Lewis Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 6704 Old Fincastle Road, Fincastle,

Virginia 24090; Judy A. Cahoon, whose last known address is 7093 Old Fincastle Road, Fincastle, Virginia 24090; Jean E. Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Edrodean F. Roberson, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 6903 Old Fincastle Road, Fincastle, Virginia 24090; W.R. Hambrick aka William Russell Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 224 E 5th Avenue, Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428; Goldie M. Hambrick, whose last known address is 1725 Johnson Road, Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania 19462; H.M. Hambrick aka Hollis Milton Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Betty C. Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 3455 Pitzer Road, Roanoke, Virginia 24014; Dale M. Hambrick, whose last known address is 4393 Ponderosa Road, Milton, Florida 32583; Alan M. Hambrick, whose last known address is 2115 Courtland Road NE, Roanoke, Virginia 24012; Mark E. Hambrick, whose last known address is 1004 W Center Street, Bald Knob, Arkansas 72010; E.C. Hambrick aka Eugene Carl Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 565 N Hills Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia 23320; Rita J. Hambrick, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 505 N Hills Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia 23320; Eugene C. Hambrick, Jr., whose last known address is 4512 Blackwater Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23457; Donna L. Underhill, whose last known address is 23 14 Hatton Street, Apt. B, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451; David G. Hambrick, whose last known address is 3313 Woodbaugh Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia 23321; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the Respondent named herein are made parties Respondent to this action individually and/or by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby

**ORDERED** that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained appear on or before January 29, 2025 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Botetourt, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause. Entered on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2024 Hon. Joel R. Branscom, Judge

I Ask For This: John A. Rife sq. (VSB No. 45805) Jeffrey A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591) Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409) Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372) Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609) Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158) Seth R. Konopasek, Esq. (VSB No. 97065) W. Patton, Esq. (VSB No. 98345) Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC P.O. Box 31800 Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800 Phone: (804) 864-0080 Facsimile: (804) 545-2378 TACS No.: 924073

Legals - Town of Vinton ABC NOTICE

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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](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

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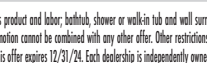
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# Byrd basketball teams will play Salem Friday

The William Byrd basketball teams will be back on the floor Friday night to play the second game of home-and-homes with Salem. This time the girls will host the Spartans in Vinton and the boys will play in Salem.

The boys are coming off a busy week, with three games in six days before taking a few days off to enjoy Christmas. The Terriers are 3-3 overall after defeating Jefferson Forest and Christiansburg after a loss to Glenvar, all on the road.

Last Wednesday at Glenvar the Terriers led 34-31 at the half but saw that lead slip away after intermission as the host Highlanders took a 77-68 win.

“We competed against a really solid team in Glenvar,” said Byrd coach Brad Greenway. “Played hard, played well in stretches, but we had a few stretches in there where we just sort of took our eye off the ball and relaxed on defense too much.”

Glenvar forward Brody Dawyot, who also plays quarterback on the football team and was named the Class 2 Offensive Player of the Year this week, lit up the Terriers for 34 points. He had 21 in the second half at the Highlanders pulled away.

“We didn’t have an answer for Dawyot,” said Greenway. “34 points to one player is just too much. We can do better than that and we will next time.”

Isaiah Board had 21 for the Terriers, including five threes. Hayden Eads had 17, Jaden Holmes had nine points and Ryan Hurley had eight.

On Friday night the Terriers bounced back with a 41-39 win over Class 4 Jefferson Forest in Forest. Byrd got off to a slow start, trailing 31-16 at the half before outscoring the Cavaliers 17-4 in the third quarter to take a 28-25 lead.

“Had a really hard time finding an offensive rhythm in this one,” said Greenway. “We scrapped from start to finish and that kept us within arm’s reach until we finally opened up our offensive game in the second half. JF played us very physical and they are an athletic group. They made it tough on us.”

Board led Byrd with 14 points in a low scoring game. Eads had 11 and David Foster had seven points.

On Monday the Terriers were back on the bus for a trip to Christiansburg and the Terriers made sure it would be a good Christmas with a 68-55 win. Board had 15 points in the third quarter as the Terriers outscored the Blue Demons, 21-10, to take a 49-36 lead into the fourth period.

“We had a slow start offensively, dug ourselves into a 10 point hole in the first quarter,” said Greenway. “We mixed up our lineups a little bit and changed how we were doing some things and we were able to get it together and take the lead by half-time. As the game went on we started to move the ball really well and found Board in some great spots.

Isaiah had 15 points in the third quarter and 25 overall with five threes despite not going to the free throw line once. Eads had 12 points and hit five of six free throws down the stretch. Jesus Leon had 12 points and Moses Leon had eight.

“We had several other guys that stepped up,” said

Greenway. “Felt fortunate that we were able to get it going after a rough start. That’s something we will be working on moving forward very aggressively.”

The Terriers will be back on the court next Tuesday for a New Year’s Eve game with Cave Spring. That was rescheduled from December 4 due

to Byrd’s post-season football success and the varsity is scheduled for a 1:30 pm start.

The Byrd girls took a 4-4 record into Friday’s home game with Salem. They haven’t played since December 18 when they swept their season series with Glenvar, this time winning 53-22 in Vinton.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

**Above, Isaiah Board of William Byrd drives to the hoop in last week's game at Glenvar and, right, Hayden Eads shoots a three. Below, Hannah Janney of the Terriers works the post in the girls' win over Glenvar in Vinton.**



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER

## Bonsack from page 1



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

**Fourth graders playing their glow-in-the-dark bucket drums during the nighttime performance for families.**

## Elf from page 1

Her shelf, the new digital sign, is “a symbol of the generosity of the Vinton community,” McCallum said. Money was collected from various fundraisers last school year to replace the sign, but it was able to be fully funded due to generous donations from the surrounding community.

Students and staff also joined in the fun by wearing pajamas and joining in various holiday festivities in each classroom on December 20.

“McCallum’s playful appearance served as a heartwarming reminder of the joy and magic of the holiday season,” Wray said.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

*-Submitted by WEC and Vinton Messenger staff*  
**W.E. Cundiff Principal Ashley McCallum celebrates the holidays and the community.**

thing about the ballroom dancing lessons!”

Next, fourth graders played bucket drums to “Carol of the Drum,” in an arrangement of “The Little Drummer Boy.” They chose their instruments (recorders were played in the early years of the program), decorated their drums (with assistance from art teacher Joe Carnes), and chose the songs they wanted to play.

“Fourth grade was all student centric!” Saunders said. “They picked the songs, decided on the rhythms (with a little help from Saunders) and painted the buckets. They also were the ones who asked if they could use black lights to make them glow in the dark. (They remembered this from a few years ago when Carnes did a glow-in-the-dark art show with them).

“We used black lights and special paint, so the drums and drumsticks

glowed in the dark,” said Saunders. “This was new this year.”

Fifth graders did the Merengue (to the song “Mene”), their favorite of all the dances; they asked to do it every time they had a lesson. Saunders had learned the dance on a mission trip to the Dominican Republic several years ago working with local schools and churches there.

Next, fourth grade played bucket drums for “March of the Nutcracker,” followed by the fifth grade and the Cha Cha, dancing to “Tea for Two.”

The fourth graders finished up their part of the program with “We Wish You a Merry Christmas.”

In the grand finale, the fifth graders danced “The Swing” to “A Cool Yule” by Bette Midler. Saunders says the Swing was the most challenging dance to learn – and yet,

“the students learned this dance in a week!”

Saunders and PE teacher Dustin King team-teach the dance lessons each year; he also assists backstage at performances. Librarian Rose McCarthy helped with set-up and practices. Art teacher Carnes assisted with the black lights and painting the buckets and mallets.

Fourth grade teachers Kim Riley, Nikki Hall, and Hayley Burnett helped backstage, along with fifth grade teachers Laura Muncey and Morgan Buzzo.

Saunders thanked Principal Leanne Leftwich and Assistant Principal Stephanie Burris for “supporting the arts program here at Bonsack. We appreciate you for your encouragement and constant support.

“Mr. King and I are so proud of the work these students did to prepare for this program.”

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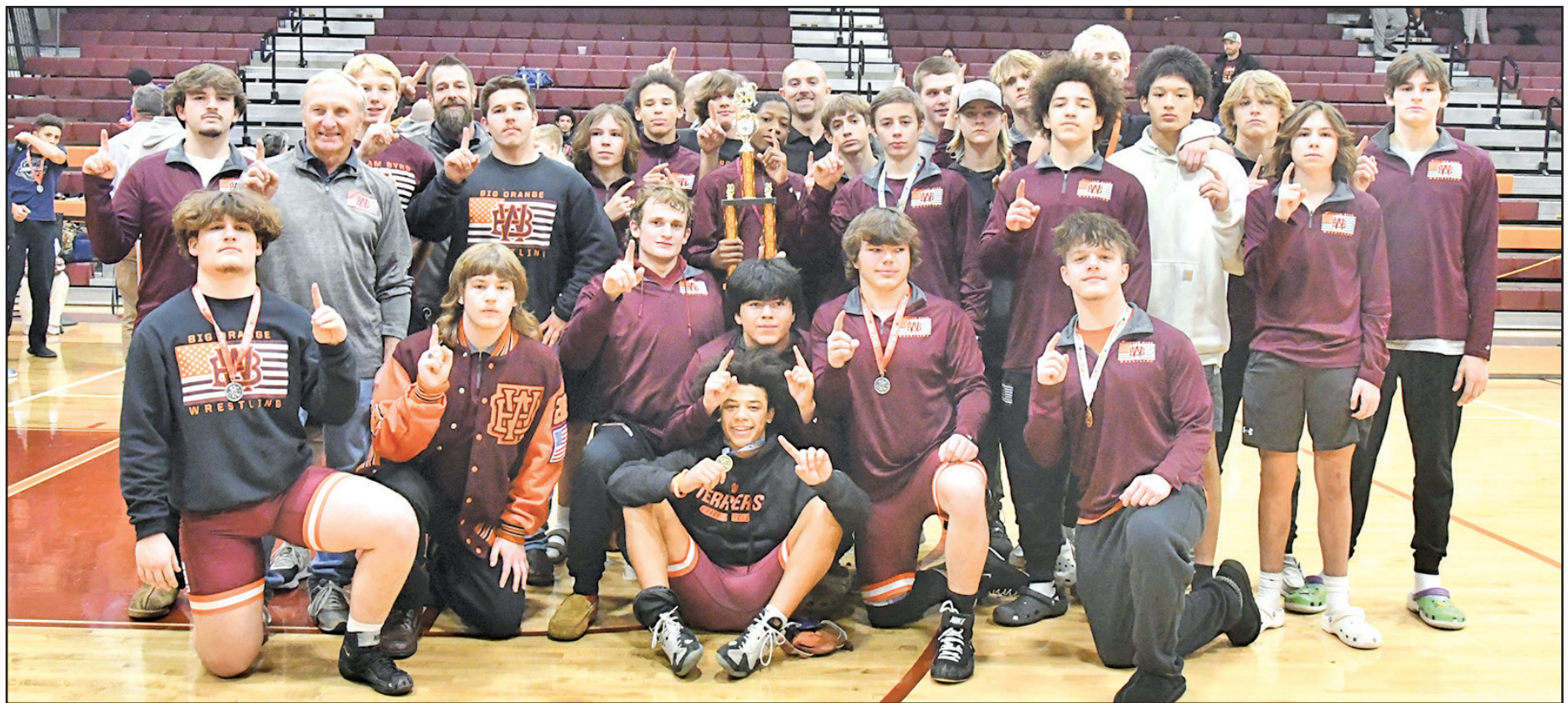
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William Byrd wrestlers pose for a group shot with the trophy after winning the Big Orange Classic tournament in Vinton Saturday.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER

## William Byrd wrestlers win the Big Orange

The William Byrd wrestlers didn't bring home a first place trophy last Saturday. They were already there.

The Byrd wrestlers finished first among 15 teams and won four individual championships in last Saturday's annual Big Orange Classic tournament in Vinton. The host Terriers scored 264 points to win the title by 44 points over second place Salem, who had 220. Rockbridge County was third with 209.5, Riverheads was fourth with 204.5 and Northside took fifth with 174.

Byrd had seven wrestlers in the final in winning their first Big Orange since 2018. Darin Witcher, Zane Taylor, Myles Preston and Stephen Underwood all won their weight classes under dim lights in the William Byrd High School gym.

Witcher, a returning state champion, had pins of 27

seconds and 1:28 to reach the final, where he pinned Devin Rice of Hidden Valley in 1:34. At 144 Zane Taylor had two pins and a major decision. He won the final over Caden Trigg of Liberty in 5:29.

At 150 Myles Preston reached the final with a 26 second pin and two Technical Falls. He won the final with a 13-0 major decision over Tyrique Nicholson of Blacksburg.

Finally, at 175, Stephen Underwood won his final by Technical Fall over Tolin Saul of Salem, 16-0.

Byrd had three second places, Davion Wade at 126, Cameron King at 190 and Graylen Castleberry at 215. Winning consolation finals for third place were Lane Brunk at 106 and Sawyer Bolen at 157. Also scoring points for the Terriers were TJ Duncan with a fourth at 132, Raymond Johnson with a fifth at 113, Jesse Underwood with a sixth at 150 and three

eighth place finishers, Gabe Campbell at 113, Jonah Schofield at 138 and Nelson Escobar at 215.

"Really happy with our performance at the Big Orange," said Byrd coach Thomas Kessler. "As a team we are progressing on the mat and it showed this past weekend. Our youth program, middle school program and high school program have been working together for the last three years and we are starting to see results from that.

"I am very happy with the direction of our program. A lot of hard work goes into putting on a tournament so I am glad our wrestlers, parents, and administration team all showed up and produced a very solid tournament."

The Terriers will look to keep the momentum going with a tournament at Heritage High School this Friday and Saturday.



Above left, William Byrd's Darin Witcher is on top and in charge in his 120 pound finals match against Devin Rice of Hidden Valley. Top right, Myles Preston has a hold on Blacksburg's Tyrique Nicholson on his way to the 150 pound Big Orange title. Below left, Zane Taylor has Liberty's Caden Trigg in a tough spot in the 144 pound final and, below right, Stephen Underwood (on top) piles up the points against Salem's Tolin Saul in the 175 pound final.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER



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Byrd's McKinley Figart competes in the shot put at RC.

## WB indoor team competes at RC

### DeShawn Austin wins the long jump, state qualifies in two events

The Roanoke College Kerr-Cregger Indoor Fieldhouse was the site of the East Coast Elite Christmas meet last Thursday, as the William Byrd indoor track team competed against teams from all over the state and beyond.

Byrd's DeShawn Austin continued to excel with a winning effort in the long jump. DeShawn won the event with a leap of 21'11" and also took a third in the triple jump at 44'4", qualifying for the state Class 3 meet in both events.

Michael Goins finished eighth in the 55m hurdles with a time of 8.87. Parker Minnix had a 9th place finish in the pole vault, clearing 9'6".

In the boys' relay events the 4x400 team of Collin Mills, Gio Pandolfini, James Smith and Shaun Gower finished 6th with a time of 3:53.71 and the 4x200m relay of Smith, Mitchell Sigafos, Jamari Toler, and Payton Steahly ran a time of 1:43.41.

On the women's side, Lily Perez finished 3rd in the 55m hurdles with a state qualifying time of 9.12 and she also had a state qualifying jump in the triple jump at 35'3", taking second.

Senior Emma Matthews had a 7th place finish in the 300m dash. Senior Grace Onwi finished the 1000m run with an 8th place finish and Lucy Whitenack took 10th. Kendall Ranson finished 10th in the 55m hurdles.

The 4x200m relay of Matthews, Perez, Ellie Ruble and Olivia Bustamante finished second with a time of 1:53.75 and the 4x400m relay with Onwi, Keeli Emery, Mallory Michalski and Jadyn St. Clair finished 3rd with a time of 4:43.42.

The Terriers' next meet will be back at Roanoke College on January 11.