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The highest award a cadet can receive is being named a Distinguished Cadet. From left, LeNorah Garcia (3rd year), Leighann Wood (2nd year), and Shawn Bunce (1st year) received the award in 2025.



Alexis Short received the DAR Medal from members Heather Menzies (center) and Sharon Menzies.

William Byrd Navy Cadets celebrate year with awards and Military Ball

Debbie Adams
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The William Byrd High School Navy National Defense Cadet Corps held its first Military Ball at the Charles R. Hill Community Center on April 17.

The cadets were in charge of the event, which began with a reception, followed by dinner and

an awards ceremony.

Cadet Lt. Commander Leighann Wood, the commander of the William Byrd NNDCC, welcomed guests, including speaker Captain Gary Powers, president of the Military Officers Association of America, Byrd's Interim Naval Science instructor Senior Master Sgt. Paul Richardson, Jason Suhr and Mark Jones from the RCPS

Career and Technical Education program which supervises the NNDCC, WBHS Principal Travis Anderson, future Naval Science instructor Command Senior Chief Shawn Wingle, and Vinton Mayor Brad Grose.

The event included the traditional POW/MIA Ceremony

See Cadets, page 4



Nathaniel Hale (with Capt. Powers) received the Military Officers Association of America Medal.



B.J. Cheatwood (UVA-Wise), Ethan Haston (VMI), Jonathan Rosser (UVA-Wise), Jerrett Shepherd (Roanoke College), and Maurice Burnette (Ferrum), football

Byrd student-athletes commit to next level on National Spring Signing Day

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Thirteen student athletes in football, track and field, wrestling, softball, baseball and soccer from William Byrd High School signed letters of commitment on April 16 to continue their educations and athletic careers at the collegiate level.

They are softball player Sara Lang (Bluefield University), soccer player Ian Sigmon (Randolph College), baseball player Brogan Dent (Concord University), wrestler Stephen Underwood (VMI), football players Ethan Haston (VMI), Maurice Burnette (Ferrum College), B.J. Cheatwood (UVA-Wise), Jonathan Rosser (UVA-Wise), and Jerrett Shepherd (Roanoke College), and track and field athletes DeShawn Austin (Roanoke College), Landon Martin (Lee University), Grace Onwi (Radford University), and Greg Stiltner (Roanoke College).

WBHS Principal Travis Anderson opened the ceremony, telling students that he is “excited for what your future holds.”

Barton introduced Sara Lang who has been playing softball since she was 5 years old and for Byrd since sixth grade, four years on varsity. She threw two “no hitters” this season, a tremendous accomplishment. He described her team spirit and said, “Sara is the sweetest kid I have ever coached. She always has a smile. She works daily year-round on her skills. She works hard and it’s paid off for her. Sara is a relief pitcher (not a glorious job) and works in tough situations.

“What you mean to our team is indescribable,” Barton said. “You are the coach’s ultimate dream. We have been blessed to have you. You do everything I ask you to do and do it well. Thanks for being who you are.”

Soccer coach Kevin Niday described Ian Sigmon as “an all-around player, capable of playing any position on the field, but he prefers defense. Ian excels in ball control, and ball distribution, as well as reading and anticipating the game, which gives him a high soccer IQ. All of these attributes combined is why Ian is a great player.

See Signing Day, page 3



Greg Stiltner (Roanoke), Landon Martin (Lee University), Grace Onwi (Radford), and DeShawn Austin (Roanoke College), track and field

Vinton teachers win prestigious Apple Awards



Roanoke County Apple winners for 2025 (from left) are Middle School Red Apple winner Lauren Burgess from Northside Middle, High School Red Apple winner Barbara McGrath from WBHS, Golden Apple winner Kristen Canipe from Cave Spring High School, Green Apple winner Peyton Hurd from Burlington Elementary, and Red Apple Elementary winner Wendy Niday from Herman L. Horn.

The Roanoke County Golden Apple Teacher of the Year Award, presented in partnership with the Roanoke County Public Schools Education Foundation, is the highest honor that can be presented annually to a teacher in Roanoke County Public Schools.

Winners of this year’s prestigious Apple Awards were announced at a dinner at Hidden Valley Country Club on April 16.

Cave Spring High School Marketing teacher Kristen Canipe was named the Golden Apple Teacher of the Year for 2025.

“How are we going to cultivate character today?” That question is what Canipe says is the heartbeat of her classroom. “Adolescence is a pivotal time, shaping the leaders of tomorrow.” She says she works to model respect, responsibility and safety in everything she does.

As the 2025 Roanoke County Golden Apple Teacher of the Year, Canipe becomes the nominee from Roanoke County Public Schools for the 2027 Virginia Teacher of the Year Award and receives the use of a brand new Subaru for one year, courtesy of Southern Team Auto.

Two Vinton area teachers also won Apple Awards. Barbara McGrath,

See Awards, page 4



Carson Wood accepts a scholarship from the Kip Nininger Scholarship Fund, presented to her by Chris Nininger. She is pictured with her father, Allen Wood (left) and her mother, Stephanie Sharpley.

Carson Wood receives Kip Nininger Scholarship Fund award

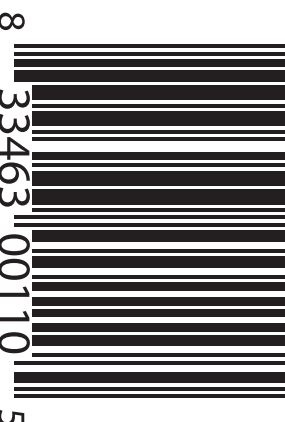
Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Carson Wood is a senior at William Byrd High School and a member of the William Byrd Terriers varsity girls softball team. She has been selected as a 2025 recipient of the Kip Nininger Scholarship Fund

from KNSF.org.

The award was presented between the JV and varsity games against Staunton River at the Terrier softball field on April 22 by the founder of the organization, Chris Nininger.

See Wood, page 4



Vinton Dogwood Festival

Committee prepares to celebrate 70th anniversary this weekend

The 70th Annual Vinton Dogwood Festival will be taking place this weekend – April 25 and 26. The two-day festival features 190 craft and retail vendors, three festival entertainment stages, street entertainment, the traditional antique car show, a free Kids’ Zone, a free Family Activity area, the “Dogwood Stroll – Walking Parade,” crowning of Vinton Dogwood Festival Queen and presentation of the Dogwood Court, and Strongman Demo.

The “Trial By Fire Journey Tribute Band” will perform a concert on Friday evening, April 25, at the Vinton Farmers’ Market Stage. The gate, beverage garden and food trucks open at 6 p.m. Admission is \$5. You will need to bring your own seating and your ID. Also, enjoy a special Grand Illumination Pyrotechnics Show at dusk.

Saturday, April 26, is a fun day of activities for all ages. Events include a large craft show and business showcase, antique car show, live entertainment on three stages including Mason Creek, ON3 Band, Lost in Space Camp Band, Andrew Nicely, Island Trio, Big Daddy Ray Band, the William Byrd High School Jazz Band and musicians from the eighth grade William Byrd Middle School Band. Also, there will be Gurlz with Attitudz Dance Factory, Strong Man Demo, World Tai Chi Day Demo, and street entertainers roaming through the crowd, including a juggler, magician, and balloon artist.

The free Kids’ Zone located at the Vinton Farmers’ Market will feature large inflatables, hands-on activities, games, prizes, and a petting zoo by Spring Valley Farm. Also check out the family-friendly activities inside the Vinton Library and the RCACP Adoption Fair outside.

At 1 p.m., a 70th Anniversary Celebration Float with 1,000 free cupcakes will be provided compliments of the Vinton Kroger and served by the GFWC Woman’s Club of Vinton at the intersection of Pollard Street and Lee Avenue.

The “Dogwood Stroll – Walking Parade” will step off at 2 p.m. on a route

in downtown Vinton beginning at the 200 block of Lee Avenue and following Pollard Street, Cleveland Avenue, Maple Street, then back to Lee. All ages will enjoy the William Byrd High School Band, James River Marching Band, Scottish pipes, Island Trio steel drum band, Miss Kitty’s Cosmonaut Stilt Walkers, Vinton Town Council, Honor Guard, walking and novelty units, costumed characters and more during the parade.

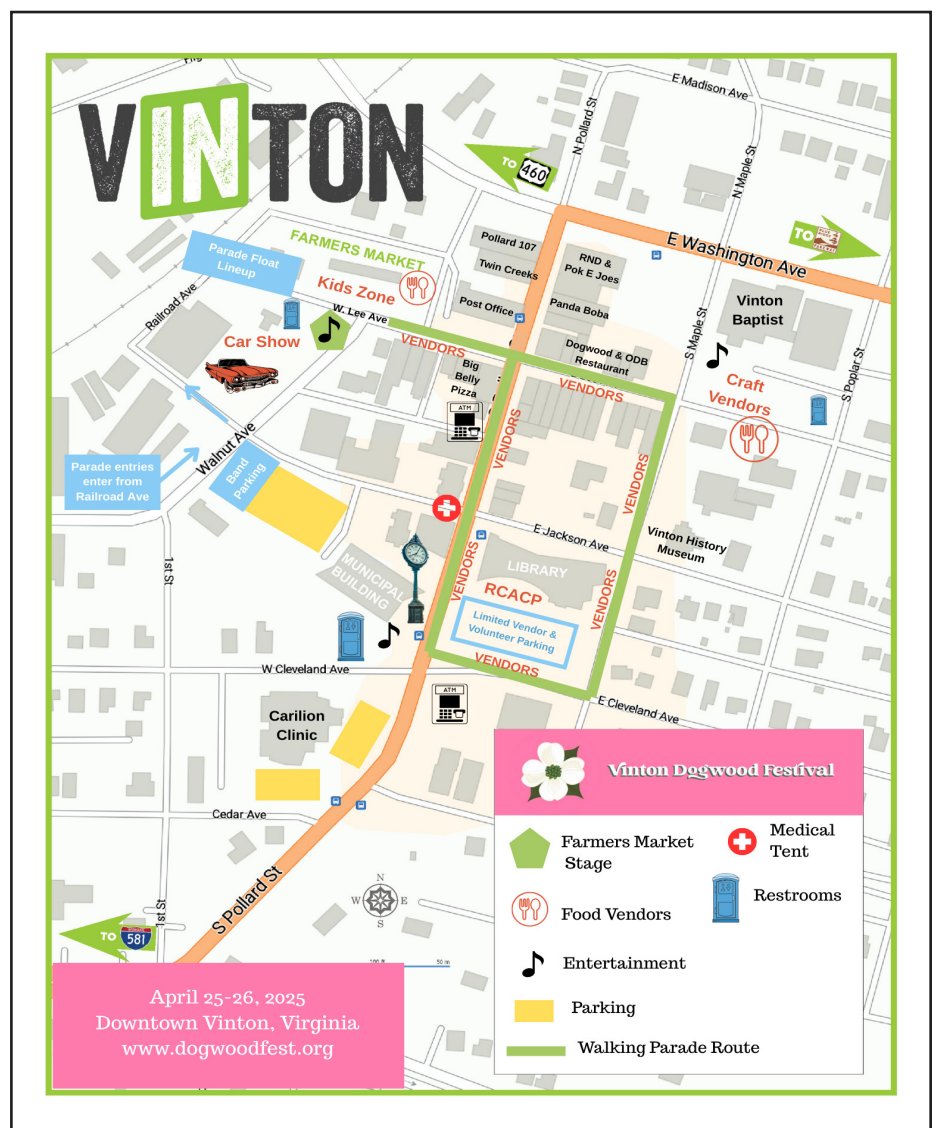
One deserving William Byrd High School student will be crowned Vinton Dogwood Festival Queen. She will receive a scholarship, coveted crown, and a place of honor riding along with her court in a Lexington Carriage Company horsedrawn unit during the Dogwood Stroll.

Friday, April 25, Dogwood Festival activities include:

- Festival Concert: Trial by Fire Journey Tribute Band, gates open at 6 p.m., Vinton Farmers’ Market Stage, \$5 cover, beverage garden and food truck. ID required for beverage garden. Bring seating. No pets.
- Grand Illumination Pyrotechnics Show by Grucci, Inc. at dusk. The concert grounds will be the best place to view the show celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Vinton Dogwood Festival.

Saturday, April 26, Festival Activities include:

- Craft and Retail Vendors – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Pollard Street, Lee Avenue, Maple Street, Cleveland Avenue)
- “Dogwood Stroll” – Walking Parade – 2:00 p.m. (Lee Avenue, Pollard Street, Cleveland Avenue, Maple Street)
- Vinton Farmers’ Market Stage and Parking Lot
 - 10:00 a.m. – William Byrd Jazz Band and musicians from the eighth grade William Byrd Middle School Band
 - 11:00 a.m. – On3 Band
 - 1:00 p.m. – Big Daddy Ray Band
- Vinton Baptist Church Parking Lot and Stage – Lee Avenue
 - 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Craft Vendor Show



GRAPHIC COURTESY TOWN OF VINTON

Dogwood Festival Map for downtown Vinton

- 10:00 a.m. – World Tai Chi Day Demo
- 10:45 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Mason Creek Bluegrass
 - Vinton Municipal Building stage
- 10:00 a.m. – Lost in Space Camp Band
 - 11:00 a.m. – Gurlz with Attitudz Dance Factory
 - 11:15 a.m. – Strong Man Demo and Feats of Strength Audience Participation
- 12:00 p.m. – Andrew Nicely
- 1:15 p.m. – Island Trio
- Kid’s Zone - Vinton Farmer’s Market Canopy and Parking Lot
 - 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Large inflatables, games, crafts, hands-on activities coordinated by Lighthouse Christian Academy and Petting Zoo by Spring Valley Farm and Cabins.
- Vinton Library – Family Activities
 - 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., (Indoors) Yard Games, Prize Wheel.
- RCACP Pet Adoption Fair (Outside)
- Vinton History Museum – Vinton Dogwood Festival History Display and over 4,000 historic artifacts for viewing.
- Parking Lot on 7 Walnut Avenue—
 - 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. RVR-AACA Antique Car Show, over 100 vehicles.
- Festival Food Vendors--Lee Avenue behind Vinton Baptist Church and the Vinton Farmers’ Market
- Dogwood Festival organizers are grateful for the generous support from sponsors:
 - Platinum Sponsors: Town of Vinton
 - Gold Sponsors: Mountain State Oral & Facial Surgery, Pretty Paws
 - Silver Sponsors: Spring Valley Farm and Cabins, Kroger-Vinton, The

Vinton Messenger, Jeff and Susan Teass, HomeTrust Bank, Shepherd Realty Group

- Bronze Sponsors: SFCS, A Cleaner World, Cranwell & Moore Attorneys at Law, Oakey’s
- Other Contributors: Nita Echols, Brad Grose, Vinton Appliance, Len Hale

For more information visit www.vintondogwoodfest.com to download a Vinton Dogwood Festival Schedule of Events, check facebook.com/vintondogwoodfestival for frequent updates, or call (540) 983-0645, Ext. 4.

The Walnut Ave Parking Lot will be closed beginning at 9 a.m. on Friday, April 25 to set up for the grand illumination show and the antique car show. It will remain closed until 6 p.m. Saturday evening. Cars must also be vacated from the Farmers’ Market by 2 p.m. on Friday and may return at 6 p.m. on Saturday.

The Vinton Police Department will put out NO PARKING signs within the festival footprint on Friday. No parking is permitted in the festival footprint between 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. on Saturday.

The Municipal Building parking lot will be accessible by way of Walnut to Jackson Avenue.

Jefferson Avenue will remain open. Plan for longer travel time if you are navigating downtown Vinton on Saturday, April 26, and seek alternative routes.

Road closures and times are subject to change.

- Submitted by Vinton Dogwood Festival Committee

Lawless named executive assistant to town manager

Megan Lawless has accepted the position of executive assistant to the Vinton town manager and will begin her position with the town on Monday, April 28. It is anticipated she will also assume the official duties of town clerk in the near future.

Lawless comes to the town with over 12 years of experience within local government and public service. She has served the last three years as the Police Records supervisor with the Roanoke County Police Department.

She has a B.S. Degree in Criminal Justice from Columbia Southern University, various record management

and communication certifications, and has numerous recognitions for leadership from her previous employers and supervisors. She has served on numerous committees for employee compensation, department strategic planning and special event production.

Lawless is very active in her community as a volunteer and enjoys spending her down time with family, gardening and kayaking. She and husband Tim have been married for nearly 20 years. He serves as the town’s deputy police chief. They have one daughter.

Lawless will be filling



PHOTO COURTESY OF TIM LAWLESS

Megan Lawless

the position vacated by Antonia Arias-Magallon, who has accepted a job with the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation.

- Submitted by Town of Vinton

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2025

BEST OF AWARDS

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New Castle Record
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• *Event Centers • Law firms • Jewelry Stores*
• *Ice Cream Shops • and much more,*
You can cast your votes in each Category

mountainmedianews.com/bestofroanoke/

Our ballot is super simple! Don't know much about the accounting firm in your region? Feel free to skip it and move on. Fill out the entire ballot if you're feeling ambitious, or pick and choose among our categories. Select from our drop down list, or if your favorite coffee shop or spa isn't listed, write in your own winner. And, take your time. Our voting platform saves your votes, so you don't have to feel rushed. That means you can return to the ballot to continue choosing your favorites without worrying about any of your votes being lost.

Winner's will be published in
New Castle Record & Fincastle Herald on July 2nd
& Salem Times Register & Vinton Messenger July 3rd.

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Cam’s night at the Salem Red Sox

By Brooke Keen

William Byrd junior Camden Thepsimuong threw out the first pitch at the Salem Red Sox game against the Lynchburg Hillcats on Saturday evening, April 19.

Cam is battling a form of bone cancer, osteosarcoma, but didn’t let that stop him

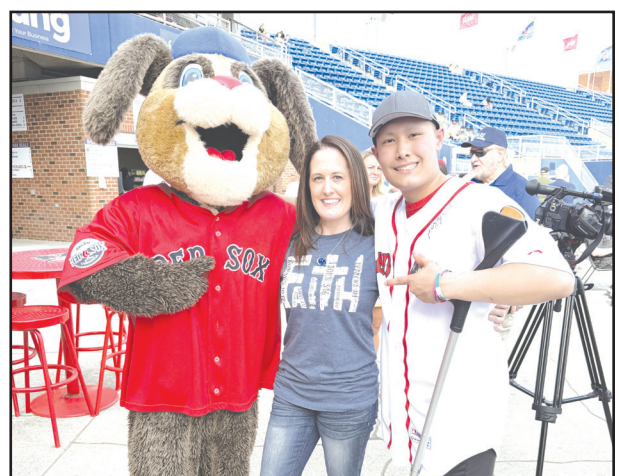


PHOTO COURTESY OF MMHS

Cam Thepsimuong threw the first pitch at the Salem Red Sox game. He is pictured with his mother, Charlene, and the Red Sox mascot, Muggsy.

See Cam’s, page 8

Vinton Boy Scout Troop learns culinary skills



Scouts and leaders present for the cooking demonstration on April 15 included, from left: front row, Thomas Apple, guest, Lachlan Wilson and Avi Saks; back row, Scoutmaster Ryan Apple, Scoutmaster Brian Cook, Oliver Lacy, future chef Royce Apple, Jerry Thomas, Bradley Martin, Earnie Harris, Gabriel Wilson, Scoutmaster Greg Leslie, and Franklin Apple.

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Boy Scout Royce Apple has taken on the assignment of teaching some basic culinary skills to the rest of the boys in Troop 235 which meets in Vinton. Royce, a junior at William Byrd High School, has been involved in scouting from Cub Scouts up until now.

He is also interested in cooking. In fact, he has studied Culinary Arts for two years at the Roanoke County Public Schools Burton Center for Arts and Technology and has just been accepted into the Hotel Roanoke Apprenticeship program.

Recently the scout leadership has dedicated several meetings to Royce demonstrating “some camp worthy cooking,” according to Steve Thrasher. “Last month he made pancakes and for many of our young Scouts, it was their first time to mix the batter and watch the bubbles as the pancakes cooked. Most of the young guys even surprised themselves by successfully turning their pancakes. It was a lot of fun and now they have the confidence to make these on a camping trip.”

Cooking is a big part of camping and a necessary life skill, so much so that a Cooking Merit Badge is required to earn the Eagle Scout rank in Scouting.

On April 15, Royce taught other members of the troop how to prepare quesadillas—another camp-out cooking possibility. He had gathered the necessary ingredients

(tortillas, two different cheeses, pepperoni, ham, banana peppers, salsa, garlic, salt, and pepper) beforehand along with cooking utensils (cast iron skillets and spatulas).

The first step was a thorough handwashing by those participating. Next, Royce placed the tortillas flat in the skillets which had been heating on the stove in the kitchen at their Scout building. He instructed the others to choose their toppings and sprinkle them on the tortillas. He kept an eye on the heat and when the cheese started melting, he—or the other Scout, depending upon age and experience—folded the (now) quesadilla in half and browned it on each side.

Thrasher invited each Scout to use an apple peeler to cut apple coils as a side dish as they waited for their turn to cook.

Royce says he got his interest in cooking from his father and Scoutmaster, Ryan. He has also found cooking is a way to express creativity and “make people happy.”

The Scout troop, which does a lot of camping, has become interested in expanding their camp-out menus. Leaders say they like to keep things simple, easy, and quick to make.

When asked what foods they have prepared on camping trips, the scouts mentioned eggs in a bag, hashbrowns, hot dogs, foil pack dinners, and, of course, S’mores.

Royce says his own personal favorite food to prepare

is anything stir-fried. He has taken the tour of the Hotel Roanoke prior to beginning the 2,000-hour apprenticeship program, which covers everything from dishwashing to learning the skills of a pastry chef. The curriculum includes all aspects of banquets (food safety, knife skills), working in the Regency Room (mornings and evenings with fine dining) Buffet rooms, the Pine Room (with pizzas/heardth and working in an open kitchen), the Bakeshop (basic baking and pastry skills and dessert plating), and Front of the House. It also includes training in purchasing and receiving, stewarding, and most importantly, safety.

This is just one of the many activities the Scout Troop has participated in. In April they have camped, hiked Buzzards Rock, assisted with the Stamp Show at Thrasher, worked on an Eagle Scout project, and played basketball. In May there are plans for an Eagle Scout Court of Honor, more hiking and cooking, GAGA Fun Ball Night, planting flags at Mountain View Cemetery for Memorial Day, and more.

The troop is working on plans for a Cub Pack. All are welcome.

For more information, contact Scoutmaster Brian Cook at 540-529-9157.

Vinton Boy Scout Troop 235 meets in the Scout Building located in the lower parking lot of Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church in downtown Vinton.



Scout Royce Apple (right) supervises quesadilla-making at the Scout building on April 15.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS
The Boy Scouts learned not only how to make quesadillas, but how to use the apple peeler to make apple coils.

Signing Day

from page 1

“It’s fun for me to watch him ‘work’ on the soccer field. Whether it’s taking on an opponent one-on-one on defense and getting past them, or taking on an opponent one-on-one as a defender and stopping an attack by the other team before it can develop, or placing a ball 60 yards down field in the perfect spot for a teammate to receive it. His vision on the field is excellent and so are his leadership abilities.”

Ian has played travel soccer for over 10 years, which has been a huge contribution to his soccer development. In 2024 he was the ECNL-RL VBR Star/Virginia United State Cup winner and made the All-State Regional Team. During high school, Ian made 2nd team All-District as a freshman, 1st team All-District, and 1st team All-Region a sophomore. He was first team All-District, All-Region and All-State in his junior year and made the Boys Soccer All-Timesland Team. He played a key role in the first time Byrd went to the state tournament in 20 years. As a senior, Ian is

See **Athletes**, page 5



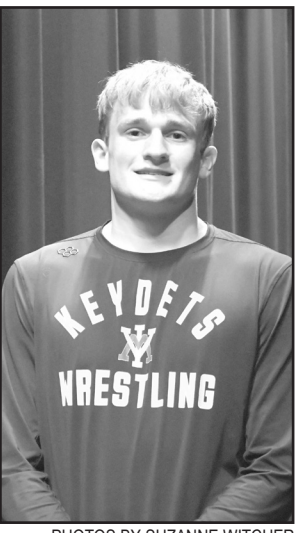
Sara Lang, softball, Bluefield University



Ian Sigmon, soccer, Randolph College



Brogan Dent, baseball, Concord University



PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER
Stephen Underwood, wrestling, VMI

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

By *Angie Chewning*

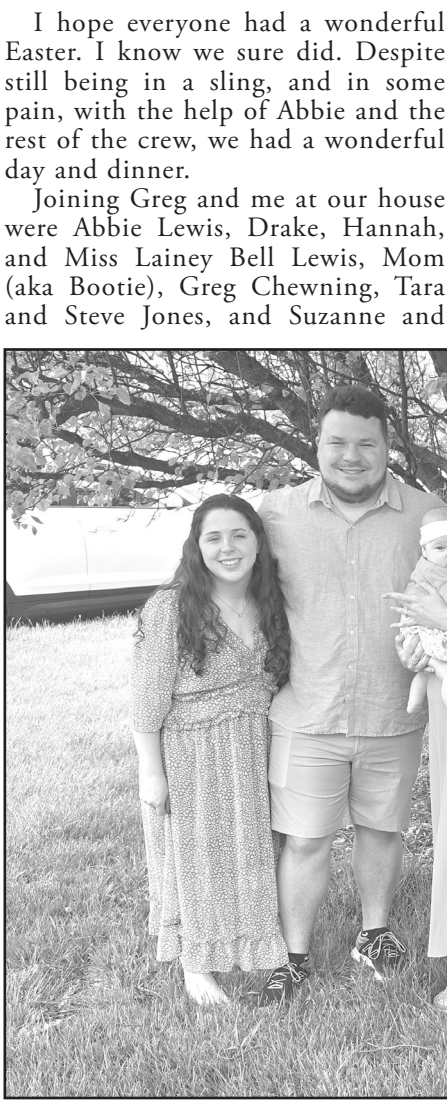


PHOTO COURTESY OF ANGIE CHEWNING
From left are Abbie Lewis, Drake Lewis, Lainey and Hannah Lewis, Angie and Greg Chewning

Jimmy Bell. We even had a Peeps tasting test. Sour Watermelon and Dr. Pepper won first and second place.

Don’t forget the Dogwood Festival this weekend. There’s a lot going on – make sure to catch some of it!

The Vinton Chamber is hosting our Spring Golf Tournament on May 16 at Blue Hills Golf Club. For more information call the Chamber office 540-343-1364 or visit our website, www.vintonchamber.com.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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CLUES ACROSS

1. North American people
6. Chinese surname
10. Fit in at the last minute
14. “Very” in musical terminology
15. Underwater displays
17. Crosby’s bandmates
19. Belong to he
20. Informed about the latest trends (archaic)
21. Sequences of alternating turns
22. Genus of grasses
23. Satisfy
24. Petty quarrel
26. Made level
29. Ruler of Iran
31. Historical region of Syria
32. Food suitable for babies
34. Something to lend
35. Zone of oceanic trenches

37. Philippine island
38. Domesticated animal
39. Plant of the lily family
40. Bluish green
41. __ Tomei, actress
43. Without (French)
45. Lilly and Manning are two
46. Apply pressure to
47. Divide in half
49. Bad deed
50. Don’t know when yet
53. Hollywood’s greatest honor
57. Aiming to exhort
58. Faked
59. A way to pierce
60. Midway between north-east and east
61. Points

CLUES DOWN

1. Chop up
2. __ Spumante (Italian wine)
3. Egyptian goddess
4. Split pulses
5. Afflict
6. Type of area rug
7. Tide
8. Affirmative
9. Sudden change
10. One picked
11. Debauched man
12. Stiff bristles
13. Famous arena
16. Established rules and methods
18. Injection
22. Father
23. Protein-rich liquids
24. He delivers gifts
25. Advanced degree
27. Fencing swords
28. Chinese mountain range
29. Shaft horsepower (abbr.)

30. Precursor to hemoglobin
31. Much __ about nothing
33. Compound fabric (abbr.)
35. A way to act slowly on
36. Ottoman military commanders
37. Popular kids’ network
39. Hard compound
42. Sympathize with
43. Northeast college
44. Blood group
46. Frosted
47. Turn away
48. Benefit
49. Dry or withered
50. Bangladeshi monetary unit
51. Reproduced
52. Contributes
53. Thrust horse power (abbr.)
54. Wear
55. Promotes retention of water (abbr.)
56. Very small

Cadets

from page 1



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

1st Platoon Leader, Cadet Josten Pimlott received the VFW JROTC Medal

Wood

from page 1

“Kip had a big heart, and his passion was giving to others,” Nininger said. “He tragically lost his life almost four years ago in May 2021.”

To keep his legacy of giving alive, the Kip Nininger Scholarship Fund (KNSF) was created. In the last four years since losing Kip, the fund has given scholarships to 168 high school seniors and college students, totaling over \$238,000.

Carson’s scholarship is #169. She plans to attend Virginia Tech in the fall to study in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

Carson Wood has a special meaning to Kip’s family. Her mom attended school with Kip’s uncle and Kip’s grandmother was her mom’s school bus driver. Carson herself has played softball with Kip’s cousin.

Kip Nininger was an avid

outdoorsman. He played football, hockey, and baseball and was a two-time state champion wrestler.

Off the field, he is remembered as a hard worker with a desire to help others. He volunteered as a youth wrestling coach and at the Roanoke Rescue Mission. He never met a stranger and is remembered as outgoing, kind, and forgiving.

Applicants for this scholarship must be seniors in high school with a 3.0 GPA or higher. The funds are intended to benefit student athletes in the community preparing for college.

WBHS softball coach Greg Barton says to receive the prestigious award, students must be an athlete, and of good character.

“Carson is a great kid; she works hard,” said Barton.

She has started for the team for three years and plays right field. Carson was the manager for Byrd’s state championship team in 2019.

Carson’s mother is Stephanie Sharpley (stepfather is Walter Sharpley); her father is Allen Wood (stepmother is Alisha Wood).

See **JROTC**, page 8

Awards

from page 1

a science teacher at William Byrd High School, won the Red Apple Award for the high school level, and Wendy Niday, a kindergarten teacher at Herman L. Horn Elementary, won the Red Apple Award at the elementary school level. McGrath also won an Apple Award in 2016.

Lauren Burgess, an English teacher at Northside Middle School, won the Red Apple at the middle school level.

Foundation also recognize the outstanding teacher with three years or less experience with the Green Apple Award. The 2025 Green Apple Award Winner is Peyton Hurd from Burlington Elementary School.

Other finalists from the Vinton area include Traci Wren from William Byrd Middle School and Allison Thornton from William Byrd High School.

Thanks to a sponsorship from Southern Team Auto, the Roanoke County

Golden Apple Teacher of the Year receives a check for \$1,000 and the use of a new Subaru Ascent for one year.

The Red Apple winners received a check for \$700 each; the Green Apple winner received a check for \$500. Every finalist (16 in all) received a check for \$75.

“More than 130 teachers were nominated, and we ultimately narrowed the nominees down to 16 finalists,” said Joseph Higginbotham, president of the RCPS Education Foundation, who assisted RCPS School Superintendent Dr. Ken Nicely, in presenting the awards.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RCPS

Golden Apple finalist Traci Wren from WBMS accepts her check for \$75 from Dr. Ken Nicely and Joseph Higginbotham.

He went on to say, “Teaching is not just a job, it’s a calling. These finalists have inspired students to reach their full potential. They care about what they teach, but also who they teach.”

Tim Greenway, who represents the Vinton District, said, “I wish we had Golden Apples for every teacher in RCPS. They are our heroes.”

The Roanoke County Education Foundation was created in 1991 as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization to help young people in Roanoke County Public Schools meet some of their educational and personal goals. Their mission is to promote the advancement and further the aims and goals of Roanoke County Public Schools through the development and application of donated financial resources. They provide student scholarships for graduating seniors, classroom grants for innovative teaching ideas, and assist with financial

support for educational initiatives.

The Education Foundation Golden Apple Teacher of the Year program was created to recognize and honor teachers who have made an impact on their students, either academically or personally. Each year, teachers from across Roanoke County Public Schools are nominated by students, parents, co-workers and administrators to receive the Golden Apple Teacher of the Year Award, the highest award presented to a teacher by the Education Foundation.

The award is given to a teacher who has demonstrated accomplishments in the classroom and/or with individual student performance. Criteria is based on, but not limited to, effectiveness as a role model; making learning fun and exciting; mentoring students; and making an impact on students’ lives.

Since 2004, several Vinton teachers have won

the Golden Apple Award: Cheryl Brenton from W.E. Cundiff in 2006, Suzanne Witcher from Bonsack Elementary (2007), Kathy Barber from W.E. Cundiff (2009), Katie Sandlin from William Byrd Middle (2010), Melissa Carr from WBHS (2013), Dana Hoos from Mt. Pleasant Elementary (2014), Betsey Miles from Herman L. Horn (2015), Barbara McGrath from WBHS (2016), Tracey Broughman, Mt. Pleasant Elementary (2017), Ashley Williams from WBMS (2019), and Marianne Nester from Bonsack Elementary (2020).

Support for the RCPS Education Foundation programs comes from corporate and private contributions. To make a donation, go online to <http://www.supportroanokecountyper.org> or call Chuck Lionberger at 540-562-3900, Ext. 10262.

-RCPS, Vinton Messenger staff report

The Vinton Messenger

USPS 660-020

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

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

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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Athletes

from page 3

captain of the team with “plenty more recognitions and awards to come.”

WBHS Athletic Director and baseball coach Jason Taylor opened his remarks by congratulating all the athletes going to the next level to play.

“It shows the dedication and desire to be successful. I challenge them to not be just happy with their commitment today, but to push themselves at the next level.”

Taylor also thanked all the William Byrd coaches for “their hard work and countless hours to help these athletes accomplish their goals.”

Taylor introduced **Brogan Dent**. He noted that when he first met Brogan, he told Coach Taylor that he wanted “to be the best player that he could be to represent the William Byrd baseball program and that he would like to play college baseball.” Brogan has been All-District and All-Region.

“I know Coach Bailey at Concord University, and he demands a lot from his players on and off the field. It is not just playing baseball for him. It is about being a good person and doing all the little things – being a good student, teammate, and community person. As I have had the opportunity to watch Brogan grow into a young man, he already has these qualities to make him successful. He is a great fit for Concord. He has been a leader for our program and our school the past four years. I appreciate what you have done for the baseball program at Byrd.”

Wrestling coach Thomas Kessler introduced **Stephen Underwood**, who has been in the Byrd program for six years in middle and high school.

“Ever since he was in middle school/early high school, he has had the goal of wrestling at VMI, and I am happy to say that I got to help him to reach his goal. He has gone to their wrestling camps multiple times and it has always been his goal to get there. Stephen will be majoring in economics and finance. VMI’s core values are listed as honor, excellence, self-discipline, courage, and selfless service. I have gotten the privilege to watch Stephen grow in all of these core values during his time with us. He has wrestled for our program for six years starting in seventh grade. During that time, Stephen has physically and mentally transformed himself. Wrestling can teach you a lot about self-discipline and courage. Stephen has embraced these things and grown tremendously during his time here. He has often helped out with our younger kids in practice and stayed after practice to help with our youth program. His selfless service has helped our program grow and he has reached a lot of kids. His on-mat excellence will be missed as he accumulated the following stats with us: 96 career wins, three-time Region placer (5th, 4th, and 2nd), two-time State qualifier, Big Orange Champ, Blue Ridge District Champ, Regional Runner-Up, and State placer (5th). I know he will do big things over the next few years.”

Football head coach Brad Lutz congratulated all of the student athletes and noted that only a small percentage (6%) of high school athletes go on to play at the next level.

As for his football players, “On the field and in the classroom, this has been a special group to the school. Prior to their arrival, William Byrd had only four play-off wins in 98 years. They are leaving with six play-off wins and the school’s first two regional championships.”

Lutz introduced each football player signing their letter of commitment.

“VMI is first class and so are you,” he told **Ethan Haston**.

Haston is a four-year starter with 117 total tackles, 14 pass break-ups, and four interceptions on defense; 21 receptions for 351 yards and four touchdowns on offense. He was 1st Team All-Blue Ridge District as a senior playing defensive back, 2nd Team All-Blue Ridge District as a senior as a receiver, and 1st Team All-Region playing defensive back. He was just one vote away from All-State.

Maurice Burnette will be playing at Ferrum College where the team is transitioning to Division 2. He will be a member of the first Scholarship Class with a great mentor in Ferrum Coach Sherman.

Burnette has a total of 168 total tackles, 29 TFLs (tackle for loss), 12 sacks, 76 QB pressures, one interception, and one touchdown in two seasons. In his senior year, he has been named 1st Team All-Blue Ridge District as a defensive lineman, 1st Team All-Region 3D as a defensive tackle, and Region 3D Co-Defensive Player of the Year. As a senior he has also been named to TEAM VHSL /AAA All-State as defensive lineman. In his junior year, he made 2nd Team All-Region 3D as defensive tackle.

B.J. Cheatwood will be attending UVA-Wise. He has been a four-year starter with 5,499 rushing yards/72 TDs; 3652 passing yards/40 TD’s on offense. He blocked for three All-District and All-Region rushers and two All-State quarterbacks. He is the most decorated offensive lineman in school history. In his junior year, he was named 1st Team All-Blue Ridge District offensive lineman, 1st Team All-Region 3D offensive lineman, and 1st Team VHSL AAA All-State offensive lineman. As a senior, Burnette was named to 1st Team All-Blue Ridge District as offensive lineman, 1st Team All-Region 3D as offensive lineman, and 1st Team VHSL AAA All-State as offensive lineman. Coincidentally, Coach Lutz signed with UVA-Wise in 1995 to play offensive lineman.

Jonathan Rosser will be attending UVA-Wise. He had a “massive senior year.” On defense he has a total of 125 total tackles, 28 TFL, 10 sacks, six FF (forced fumbles), 2 FR (fumble recoveries), eight pressures, 5 PBU (Pass break-ups), and 1 BK (blocked kick). On offense he had 10 receptions for 81 yards. In his senior year, he has been named to 1st Team All-Blue

Ridge District as a linebacker, 1st Team All-Region 3D linebacker/Region 3D Co-Defensive Player of the Year, and 1st Team VHSL AAA All-State defensive lineman.

Jerrett Shepherd will be attending Roanoke College where it is building a new program. Lutz says Shepherd “can do it all. Roanoke College called and said they had to have him.” Shepherd has 112 carries for 805 yards on offense, 10 TDs, 33 receptions for 450 yards and 5 TDs. On defense he has 92 total tackles, 3 TFL, 2FE, 2 FR, and 10 PBU. In his senior year, Shepherd was named 2nd Team All-Region 3D all purpose, and 1st Team All-Blue Ridge District all purpose and punter (36 avg.). In the Bassett game, he had five receptions for 120 yards, and 2 TDs.

Coach Jay Pannell introduced the final group of athletes who are moving on to college level track and field.

DeShawn Austin will be enrolling at Roanoke College. He holds the school record at Byrd for the 300m hurdles. Pannell describes him as an “incredible athlete, who can do it all. He has always hurdled. He sets goals to be the best and works hard. He helps me at middle school meets. He led the team in so many things. He does it all and for the team. He has multiple All-Blue Ridge District and Regional Athletes of the Meet. He has fought through injuries. He is going to make an immediate impact at Roanoke College and in the ODAC.”

Landon Martin signed with Lee University in Tennessee. He and Pannell met at a JV football game where the coach discovered he ran hurdles. “He has never stopped working. He recently qualified for states for the 110-meter hurdles. He is a talented and hard-working young man who understands he can change the world with his ministry.”

Grace Onwi will be attending Radford University. She is a school record holder in the 400-meter dash, 4x400 relay, 300-meter dash, and 500-meter dash. “When she sets her mind to something, she definitely goes out and tries to achieve it. Coach Shelly Sayers is extremely excited to have Grace at Radford next year.”

Greg Stiltner signed with Roanoke College. “He is one of the top seven throwers in the discus and shot put at WBHS. He works hard and always has throughout the years whether it’s been on the football field or during track season. He helps at middle school meets and doesn’t mind sharing information with younger athletes. At the beginning of the year, he planned to enter the workforce after graduation, but then on April 1, he announced he was attending Roanoke College to throw for Coach Workman. He is a true role model in his household and at this high school and middle school track and field program.”

The signing concluded with “this is more than a ceremony. It’s a tribute to your hard work, teammates who believe in you and became family. Go chase your dreams; make your mark, and make WBHS proud.”

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.

ECKANKAR
Eckankar, The Path of Spiritual Freedom, is a simple teaching that focuses on the Light and Sound of God to help people find more love in their life. We offer a Spiritual Event on the 2nd. Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. The program may be a Light and Sound Service, a Spiritual video and discussion, or other topics and techniques to help Raise Your Spiritual IQ. The Roanoke ECK Center is located at 1420 3rd. St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. For more

VINTON

GOD’S COVENANT

Read Genesis 9:1 through 11:32

A covenant is a promise or contract between two parties. However, a biblical covenant involved much more. It was a permanent arrangement designed to promote friendship and understanding between God and man. After the flood, God made a covenant with Noah and every living thing.

I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth (Genesis 9:13).

This covenant had three parts. Never again would a flood devastate the earth. Season would follow season as long as the earth remained. Then God gave the rainbow to show that He could be trusted to keep His part of the covenant.

The rainbow speaks of God’s grace and mercy. But His grace didn’t stop with the rainbow. God wanted to have a relationship with us in spite of our unworthiness, so He sent us a Mediator—Jesus—who, by His death, opened up a new and better covenant, one that removed our sin and cleansed our conscience (Luke 22:20).

Prayer for Today: Lord, with Your help I will keep my part of the covenant—to love and honor You. Amen

Quicklook: Genesis 9:8-17

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

If you would like to see your church services listed here in the Vinton Messenger contact **Alixandria Wall** at Cell: (276) 732-6083
awall@mountainmedianews.com

information visit www.eck-va.org or call 540- 353-5365. People of all faiths are welcome.

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

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 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.

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

Help Wanted

Help Wanted Part-Time
REMAX Real Estate One
Secretary/Receptionist
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answer phone, do light
computer work, and filing
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Legals - City of Salem

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, May 12, 2025, 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:

1. Consider the request of Gwynn Properties, LLC, contract purchaser, to rezone the property located at 220 Brand Avenue (T/M# 74-2-8) from HBD Highway Business District with conditions to HBD Highway Business District. Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia. At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY:

H. Robert Light
Clerk of Council

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission,
at its regular meeting on May 14, 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 Danny R. and Sonja S. Kane, property owners, to rezone the property located at 151 St. John Road (Tax Map #155-2-3) from HM Heavy Manufacturing to HBD Highway Business District.
2. Consider adopting resolution of recommendation regarding "Comprehensive Plan 2045" for the City of Salem. The plan addresses housing, redevelopment, open space, city government, transportation & infrastructure, land use, and other information used to outline the City's long-term vision and goals for development and growth.

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



BAG A GREAT DEAL IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

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Legals - Bedford County

ABC NOTICE

MAHANT 9 LLC., trading as LAKERS COUNTRY STORE, 10999 MONETA ROAD, MONETA, BEDFORD CO. VA 24121.

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

Hardik C. Patel,
OWNER.

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

Legals - Botetourt County

Trustee's Sale 344 LLOYD TOLLEY RD, NATURAL BRIDGE ST, VA 24579
Parcel ID: 113E100A00000030

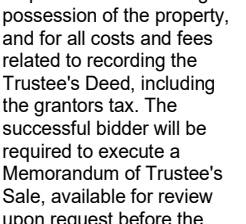
Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated 4/29/2008, in the original principal amount of \$101,042.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the Rockbridge County, Virginia on 4/30/2008, as Instrument No. 080001623, Loan Modification recorded on 12/20/2017 as Instrument No. 170003480, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on 6/30/2025 at 1:30 PM, Rockbridge County Circuit Court, 20 S Randolph St, Lexington, VA 24450, the property designated as 344 LLOYD TOLLEY RD, NATURAL BRIDGE ST, VA 24579. All that certain lot or parcel of land, with any and all improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, lying, being and situated in:

Being that certain real estate, together with the buildings and improvements thereon, and the rights and appurtenances thereunto, belonging, situate in the Natural Bridge Magisterial District of Rockbridge County, Virginia, containing 0.42 acre, more or less, and being more particularly described on a survey of B.S. Clark, Jr., dated February 6, 1968, said plat being attached to a deed to Raymond V. Shanks from Helen Chiles Mason and husband recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Rockbridge County, Virginia, in Deed Book 301 at Page 574.

TERMS: CASH. A deposit of \$10,104.20 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than \$9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review upon request before the sale, outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector. Vylla Solutions - Virginia, LLC, 283 Constitution Drive, Suite 102, Office B, Virginia Beach, VA 23462, File No. 25-33255, Tel: 888-313-1969

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



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Legals - Botetourt County

Trustee's Sale 133 RIDGEVIEW CIRCL, ROANOKE, VA 24019
(Parcel ID: 13766/107E(1)BK5-9)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated 7/18/2009, in the original principal amount of \$155,652.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the Botetourt County, Virginia on 8/7/2009, as Instrument No. 090004397, Loan modification recorded on 4/3/2024 as Instrument No. 240000818, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on 7/10/2025 at 1:00 PM, Botetourt County Circuit Court, 1 W Main St, Fincastle, VA 24090, the property designated as 133 RIDGEVIEW CIRCL, ROANOKE, VA 24019. All that certain lot or parcel of land, with any and all improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, lying, being and situated in:

The Land situated in the County of Botetourt in the State of VA Lot 9, Block 5, according to the Revised Map of Section 4, Botetourt East, which map is recorded in Plat Book 8, page 74, in the Clerk's Office of the County of Botetourt, Virginia.

Being the same property conveyed to STEVIE W. SHIRES and BARBARA T. SHIRES, husband and wife as tenants by the entirety, by deed dated March 20, 1991 of record in Deed Book 385, Page 730, in the Botetourt County Clerk's Office. Group Number: N/A Commonly known as: 133 Ridgeview Circl Roanoke, VA 24019

TERMS: CASH. A deposit of \$15,565.20 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than \$9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review upon request before the sale, outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector. Vylla Solutions - Virginia, LLC, 283 Constitution Drive, Suite 102, Office B, Virginia Beach, VA 23462, File No. 25-34358, Tel: 888-313-1969

Legals - Town of Vinton

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Planning Commission of Town of Vinton, Virginia, hereby gives notice of a work session to be held on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 5:15 p.m., or shortly thereafter.

The purpose of the work session is to discuss Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) and the Vinton 2050 Comprehensive Plan Update. The work session will be held in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia. Further information concerning this notice may be obtained by calling (540) 983-0605.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO COMPLY WITH DISABILITIES ACT. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide assistance or special arrangements to qualified individuals with disabilities in order to participate in or attend the meetings. Please call (540) 983-0605 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting so that proper arrangements may be made.

Legals - City of Radford

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 486 Waterworks Rd., Radford, Montgomery County Virginia,

Tax Map #064-A-68 (Montgomery County, Virginia)
In execution of a deed of trust, from Bobby Ray Southern, dated July 24, 2008, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the County of Montgomery, Virginia, as Instrument No. 08008179, (Craig P. Tiller, Esq., PLLC, having been appointed Substitute Trustee under instrument of record as Instrument No.025000961, in said Clerk's Office) due to default in payment of the debt secured, the undersigned Trustee will offer for sale at public auction that certain tract of real estate known as 486 Waterworks Road, Radford, Virginia 24141, Montgomery County, Virginia, on the front steps of the Courthouse for the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia on the 12th day of May, 2025, at 2:00 o'clock p.m., the following described real estate situate in the Prices Fork Magisterial District of Montgomery County, Virginia:

All certain lot or parcel of land with all improvements thereon, situate, lying and bin in the Prices Fork Magisterial District of Montgomery County, Virginia, on Water Works Road, containing 2.1417 acres, more or less, as shown on a plat of same dated October 15, 1992, prepared by W.A. Davis, CE/LS, referred to as "Plat prepared for Bobby Wayne Southern, et al".

Less and Except all that certain lot or parcel of land with all improvements thereon lying and being in the Prices Fork Magisterial District of Montgomery County, Virginia, and being all of Lot Two (2) containing 1.03 acres, conveyed to Allan K. Southern and Dreama J. Southern by Deed dated June 1, 1995 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, in Deed Book 876, Page 361, and as shown on plat of survey of record in Deed Book 876, Page 363.

Included is a 2007 Manufactured Home: Make: Clayton VIN #HHC017033NCAB.

Sale subject to all conditions, restrictions, reservations and easements, if any of record and now applicable thereto.

Terms: Cash in full due on day of sale.
Trustee
Craig P. Tiller, Esq., PLLC FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Craig P. Tiller, Esq., PLLC 15421 Forest Road, Suite D Forest, Virginia 24551 Telephone: 434-525-3335 Facsimile: 434-525-3302

Legals - Montgomery County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316;-317,20-104 Case No.CL25000550-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073

Kayla Dawn Comer, Stanley Hunter Early v. Commonwealth of Virginia,

The object of this suit is to: Name change of a minor It is ORDERED that Anthony Paul Early appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before May 26th, 2025 @ 9:00 AM. Entered March 17, 2025 Honorable Robert M.D. Turk Judge

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316;-317,20-104 Case No.CL25000555-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073

Megan Alyssa Sawyers v. Elden Raul Gonzalez

Legals - Montgomery County

The object of this suit is to: Divorce It is ORDERED that Elden Raul Gonzalez appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before May 27, 2025 @ 9:00 AM. Entered March 25, 2025 Honorable Robert M.D. Turk Judge

TOWN OF BLACKSBURG - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS BLACKSBURG TOWN COUNCIL will hold public hearings on Tuesday, May 13, 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 2069: An Ordinance to Amend Town Code Sections 18-109 and 24-306 and Add New Town Code Sections 18-109.1 and 24-306.1 Pertaining to Waiving Utility Availability Fees for Affordable Housing Developments. Ordinance 2069 will amend sections of the Town Code to permit the waiver of utility availability fees for certain affordable housing developments.

Ordinance 2076: An Ordinance Adopting the Budget for the Town of Blacksburg, Virginia for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2025 and Ending June 30, 2026; Adopting the Real Estate Tax Rate; and Appropriating Funds for the Fiscal Year. The proposed ordinance authorizes the Town's 2025/2026 operating budget and maintains the existing tax rate. This is described in more detail in the stand-alone advertisement published in the Montgomery News Messenger on April 23, 2025.

Ordinance 2077: An Ordinance Amending Blacksburg Town Code Sections 18-400, 20-206, and 24-602 to Increase Fees for Water and Sewer Services and Solid Waste and Recycling Fees. The ordinance will increase the amounts of the referenced fees; the increases are described in more detail in stand-alone advertisements published in the Montgomery News Messenger April 23, 2025 and April 30, 2025.

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/public hearings 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).

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 295 NEWTOWN ROAD, SHAWSVILLE, VA 24162.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated October 2, 2007, in the original principal amount of \$139,200.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Virginia as Instrument No. 2007013212. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Montgomery County, 55 East Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on May 19, 2025, at 1:30

Legals - Montgomery County

PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON AND THE APPURTENANCES THEREUNTO BELONGING, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING ON THE SOUTHWESTERLY SIDE OF NEWTOWN ROAD IN THE VILLAGE OF SHAWSVILLE, SHAWSVILLE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, . VIRGINIA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: ALL OF NEW PARCEL 2, CONTAINING 0.374 ACRES AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF C.B. SISSON AND R.D. SISSON BOUNDARY LINE REVISION AND LOT LINE VACATIONS, PREPARED BY C.S. CORRELL, L.S. PLAN #P-1095, DATED APRIL 2, 1999 A COPY OF WHICH IS RECORDED HEREWITH IN PLAT BOOK 19, PAGE 74, AND TO WHICH MAP REFERENCE IS MADE FOR A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY HEREBY CONVEYED. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwwsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation.

Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwwsales.com. VA-375117-1.

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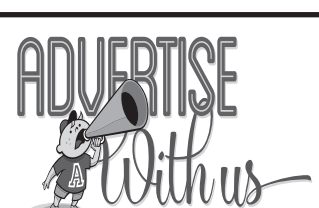


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Cam’s from page 2

from delivering a pitch right to the strike zone from the mound Saturday night.

He granted himself a little slack before the pitch, stating, “I think I’m going to at least throw it on target, that’s my goal for today....Not a strike, but on target.”

Cam conquered his nerves and looked like a natural on the mound, “I had no idea I was ever going to do this in life ever before. If you said I’d be here two years ago, I’d be like, ‘you’re crazy’..... I don’t do baseball. I don’t throw pitches.”

While excelling in both football and tennis, baseball falls outside Cam’s comfort zone; but you could have fooled the nearly packed house in Salem Saturday night.

Saturday night’s game was very much in support of Cam’s

continued fight against cancer. It was a wonderful evening and was jointly supported by the Salem Red Sox, Mainstream Mental Health Services, and the AWARE foundation.

Mainstream Mental Health Services employs Cam’s mom Charlene (COO), who has been described by the company’s owner, Mike Morris, as “a pillar of my business.”

Mainstream has been instrumental in supporting Cam’s fight against cancer and has sponsored numerous other events for his family’s benefit. Mainstream Mental Health offers vital services across the Roanoke Valley, New River Valley, Lynchburg area and Southside Virginia to include a variety of mental health supports and substance abuse services.

The AWARE Foundation

was also proud to support Cam Saturday night. AWARE “works tirelessly for the silent voices of the missing, endangered, and murdered.” It is a national 501C3 organization and supports those in need by providing education, connection to support services, and creating search and rescue teams when pertinent.

AWARE is a tremendous supporter of public safety and distributed nearly 600 tickets to Saturday night’s baseball game to police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel.

Cam recently finished a round of chemo and saw some positive results but will likely need to pursue treatment in some fashion further, as there was minimal growth in two of his cancer cells among the many others that had died due to his recent treatment.

“We just had a previous scan

not too long ago; some of the cells say that they’re dead and calcified, which is really good.... Some of them are stable, which is also good; and then two, which have increased in size by two millimeters each,” Cam shared.

Cam and his family remain positive but given these recent findings, surgery and additional chemo are likely.

“Cam is truly an inspiration,” said Brooke Keen, Marketing and Operations manager for Mainstream. “He is humble, incredibly intelligent, and someone to look to, even at such a young age. When times get tough, the tough get going. Cam is a testament to that statement, and Charlene is a huge reflection of that. We could not imagine not having her at the helm of Mainstream Mental Health Services. She and her drive, and

what she carries, is fuel to us all, to be the absolute best we can be, for our community, our own families, and the clients we serve.”

Mainstream Mental Health Services will next be hosting a free, confidential HIV and Hep-C testing event open to the public at their downtown office (located at 707 5th Street NE) on May 12 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. to both raise awareness and provide support to the local community. MMHS works with all walks of life and wants to ensure, regardless of someone’s status, that they have the opportunity for testing, resources, and support.

They are working in collaboration with the Drop-In Center in Roanoke. Call 540-966-5808 for more information or visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/mmhservices>.

JROTC from page 4



Senior cadets received special medals to wear on their graduation robes. From left are Senior Chief Wingle, Cadets Noah Nicely, Savannah Powell, Mason Truslow, Devin Clark, and LeNorah Garcia, and Capt. Powers.

He served in numerous assignments as a Navy intelligence analyst serving throughout Europe as well as South America, the Caribbean and Japan. This led to his selection as commanding officer of a Joint Reserve Intelligence Systems unit in Norfolk. He next served on the deputy chief of staff to the commander of Naval Reserve Intelligence Command in Texas. Assignments that followed included commanding officer, European Command, Joint Analysis Center and as director of Joint Operations, Joint Reserve Intelligence Support Element and area commander, Mid-Atlantic Region, Navy Reserve Command.

In 2010, he volunteered for active duty and was selected as deputy commander, Joint Analysis Center, RAF Molesworth, United Kingdom and served until he retired from the United States Navy in June 2013 after 35 years of service.

Capt. Powers resides in Roanoke with his wife Nancy and remains active in numerous service organizations.

In his remarks, Capt. Powers talked not only about his time in military intelligence work, but about the core values of the US Navy – honor, courage, and commitment.

During the ceremony which followed, SMSgt. Richardson, assisted by Capt. Powers and Senior Chief Wingle, presented awards to the cadets.

Cadets Devin Clark, LeNorah Garcia, Noah Nicely, Savannah Powell, and Mason Truslow were honored with a special medal to wear on their robes at graduation.

“The goal of any JROTC program is to build better citizens,” Richardson said. “One of the key measurements of this goal is providing community service.” Cadets who provided 10 or more hours of community service received the Community Service Ribbon, including Franklin Apple, Devin Clark, LeNorah Garcia, Nathan Hale, Nancy McFalls, Mia Mohammed, Aldyr Phillips-Gibson, Savannah Powell, Nathaniel Reed, Brittanya Torres, Mason Truslow, Emma Williams, and Leighann Woods.

Ten cadets earned their Orienteering Ribbon for a Sports Challenge against Air Force teams across the southwest Virginia region: Leighann Wood, LeNorah Garcia, Shawn Bunce, Franklin Apple, Alexis Short, Landen Martin, Nathan Hale, Devin Clark, Eli Barton, and Josten Pimlott.

Cadets Andrew Bartley, Josten Pimlott, and Leighann Wood were

awarded Physical Fitness Ribbons based on age and sex in completing curl-ups, push-ups, and the mile run.

Each year, Outstanding Cadets are named in each year group based on citizenship, academic performance, personal appearance, and conduct.

- Naval Science 1 winners were Shawn Bunce, Mia Mohammed, Bailey Overstreet, and Emma Williams.
- Naval Science 2 winners were Nathaniel Hale, Landen Martin, Josten Pimlott, Savannah Powell, Nathaniel Reed, Alexis Short, Brittanya Torres, Leighann Wood, Emma Williams, and Andrew Bartley.
- Naval Science 3 winners were LeNorah Garcia and Mason Truslow.

The highest award a cadet can receive is being named a Distinguished Cadet, given to only one cadet in each year group with the highest combined average for overall scholastic standing, aptitude in NJROTC, unit activities, physical fitness, community service, and drill.

- First Year winner: Shawn Bunce
- Second Year group winner: Leighann Wood
- Third Year group winner: LeNorah Garcia

SMSgt. Richardson bestows his own award each year, the Special Bulldog Award. This year’s recipient was Brady Maxey, “for always giving his best and never failing to show up with a positive attitude. You just feel better being around him. He’s a champion.”

Different civic organizations in the area also presented awards. The Order of Daedalians was presented to Senior Chief Andrew Bartley. The order is a fraternity of commissioned military pilots from all military services, organized by World War I commissioned military pilots who sought to perpetuate the spirit of patriotism, love of country, and high ideals of self-sacrifice, placing service to the nation above personal safety and position. This award is offered to encourage these traits in JROTC cadets and to interest them in a military career.

The Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction Award, goes to the cadet who has contributed the most to encourage and demonstrate Americanism during participation in extracurricular activities or community projects. They must demonstrate academic excellence by being in the top 25% of their academic class. This award for 2025 went to Corps Commander Leighann Wood.

Emma Williams was this year’s AMVETS winner for demonstrating a positive attitude toward NJROTC and exhibiting great uniform wear,



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS
SMSgt. Paul Richardson presented the Bulldog Award to Brady Maxey.

grooming, and posture. Winners must demonstrate officer potential and maintain an “A” in NJROTC.

AMVETS sponsors an essay contest for NJROTC graduating seniors. This year’s topic was “What does flag protection mean to me?” Cadet Savannah Powell won \$1,000 for being one of four essay winners in southwest Virginia.

Alexis Short won the Daughters of the American Revolution Medal for 2025, presented by Sharon and Lt. Col. Heather Menzies of the local DAR. Sharon is past regent; Heather is a DAR member and an Air Force retiree. The recipient of the DAR Medal must have demonstrated loyalty and patriotism while earning a record of military and scholastic achievement during their participation in the JROTC program. They must be in the upper 25% of their JROTC classes and all academic classes.

The VFW JROTC Medal was presented to Josten Pimlott. This award goes to a cadet who shows outstanding achievement in the cadet program and provides excellent leadership.

Chaelyn Bandy, administrative officer, received the Military Order of World Wars Medal for being a cadet who displays abilities and attitudes that lead to individual and team success, demonstrating exemplary leadership, military skills, and service to the community.

Captain Powers presented the Military Officers Association of American (MOAA) Medal to Nathaniel Hale. The winner of this award must demonstrate a high degree of loyalty to the unit, school, and country, be in good academic standing and of high moral character and demonstrate exceptional potential for military leadership.

SMSgt. Richardson said that his nominee for this award is “the type of individual who is always there when you need him. There is no task he is not willing to take on and quietly gets the job done.”

LeNorah Garcia, Operations and Special Team officer, won the MAJ James Milton Archer, Jr., USA Award for 2024 from the Southwest Virginia Chapter of MOAA which recognizes a distinguished cadet who has demonstrated superior military leadership in the program and a high order of loyalty to their unit and country. The award includes a plaque, certificate, and \$50 check.

Leighann Wood was recognized as the winner of the AMVETS Medal in 2024.

After the ceremony came the fun – the Military Ball.



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Boys lax team wins twice to go 4-2



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Ben Waid hurries the ball up the field for Byrd.

The William Byrd boys' lacrosse team won two games in the past week to improve to 4-2 on the season. Byrd won 8-5 at home against Blacksburg and 9-7 at Bogle Field over Cave Spring.

Last Thursday at Patterson Stadium the Terriers battled to a 1-1 tie against Blacksburg in the first half. Byrd then pulled away with seven second half goals as Justyn Rozenboom finished with three goals and an assist. Dawson Brinkley added two goals.

On Monday the Terriers were on the road against Cave Spring and came up big again in a very physical game. Rozenboom had three goals and two assists and Ben Waid had two goals and two assists.

"I'd like to give a lot of credit to our defense, they really stepped up the last couple of games led by our freshman goalie Talon Gibson," said Byrd coach Kaden West. "We're just one possession away from being 5-1."

The Terriers were scheduled to host Franklin County on Wednesday but results were too late for publication. Next Monday, April 28, they play at Rockbridge County.

Girls drop softball slugfests

The William Byrd softball team will be looking to pick up their first Blue Ridge District win this week when they play road games at William Fleming and Northside. The Terriers were scheduled to play at Fleming Wednesday and they'll go to Northside on Friday.

Byrd fell to 0-3 in the district and 3-8 overall when the Terriers dropped an 11-8 game to visiting Staunton River in Vinton

Tuesday. The Eagles had two home runs and 12 hits over the first five innings to put 10 runs on the board.

The Terriers also had a good day at the plate but came up short on the scoreboard. Addison Clark led Byrd with two hits while Mallory Peroulas, Olivia Bustamante and Heidi Dixon each drove in two runs.

The Terriers played errorless ball behind the pitching of Clark, who took the loss in the circle. Byrd turned a doubleplay in the game and Haydn Grubb was perfect on 11 chances in the field.

On Monday night the girls played a non-district game at Pulaski County and lost 10-6. Again, Byrd fell behind early as the Cougars scored six in the first inning highlighted by a three-run homer.

Byrd rallied back to tie the game at 6-6 fueled by Olivia Bustamante's home run in the top of the fourth. However, the Cougars answered with two in the bottom of the inning and went on to win.

Grubb pitched for Byrd and took the loss as the Cougars touched her for 14 hits over six innings. Bustamante led the Byrd offense with two hits and Grubb and Carson Wood had RBIs.



PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Above, Byrd's Mallory Peroulas is ready for action at third base. Below, Shelby Ensor slides in safely in a cloud of dust in Tuesday's game against Staunton River.



Austin wins 400 at Heritage meet

William Byrd Middle School team will host 11 school track meet in Vinton Saturday

The William Byrd track team competed in the Rufus Knight Invitational in Lynchburg last Saturday, hosted by Heritage High School.

Highlights for the Byrd girls included a third place finish in the triple jump by Lily Perez and a third in the discus by McKinley Figart. Byrd's 4x800 relay team was second and the 4x100 team was third.

For the boys, DeShawn Austin won the 400 with a time of 48.53. Ethan Haston won the triple jump at 43'3.5" and was also third in the 100 and fourth in the 200 meters. Landon Martin was fourth in the 110 hurdles. The Byrd 4x100 relay was second and the 4x800 was third.

This week the Terriers are scheduled to run at Staunton River on Wednesday and at a big invitational at Science Hill High in Tennessee on Friday.

The William Byrd Middle School team will host a meet at Patterson Stadium this Saturday. There are 11 schools signed up to compete with field events starting at 9 am and running at 11:30 am.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Byrd's Thomas Purcell(right) runs in the recent Terrier Team Classic in Vinton.



PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Goalie Barb Hernandez makes one of her 19 saves against Blacksburg.

Lacrosse girls top Cave Spring

The William Byrd girls bounced back from a tough loss to Blacksburg with a win over Cave Spring Monday. The Terriers are now 4-2 after downing the Knights at Patterson Stadium, 15-7.

Annika Hylton had five goals and an assist to lead the Terriers over the Knights. Sam Martin chipped in with four goals and two assists also won seven draws.

Barb Hernandez had a good night in the crease with five saves. Katelyn Franks had three ground balls and two forced turnovers while also contributing to the offense with two goals.

Last Wednesday at Blacksburg the girls lost at Blacksburg, 15-4. Martin and Franks had two goals each and Hernandez had a busy night in goal with 19 saves.

The girls were looking to make it two in a row Wednesday at Franklin County but results were too late for publication. Then they host Rockbridge next Tuesday, April 29.



PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

William Byrd's Katelynn Franks spins free to score against Blacksburg

Tennis teams play Northside

The William Byrd tennis teams will be back in action Friday for Blue Ridge District matches. The girls will travel to Northside for a match and the boys will host the Vikings in Vinton.

On Tuesday the girls dropped a home match to Staunton River, 7-2. Byrd's two points both came in singles as Ainsley Bolen won, 8-4, and Peyton

Wright won 8-6.

The boys had a night off, as Staunton River does not have a boys' tennis team.

Both Byrd teams are back on the court Monday against Cave Spring. The girls are home to the Knights and the boys are at Cave Spring for 4:30 pm matches.



PHOTO BY JIM DEVINNEY

Ainsley Bolen hits a return for Byrd.



FREDERICKSBURG NATIONALS VS SALEM RED SOX

APRIL 29th6:35 PM

Bark in the Park

APRIL 30th6:35 PM

Wings Wednesday

MAY 1st6:35 PM

Mental Health Awareness Night

MAY 2nd6:35 PM

Teacher Appreciation Night

MAY 3rd6:35 PM

Metallica Night

MAY 4th1:05 PM

SPORTS

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PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Connor Jones pitched a five inning two-hit shutout against Staunton River.

Terriers shut out Staunton River to snap six game losing streak

The William Byrd baseball team snapped a six game losing streak with a slaughter rule win over Staunton River in Moneta Tuesday. The Terriers will now try to start a win streak with home games against Brookville and Northside on Wednesday and Friday.

Connor Jones took the ball against Staunton River and pitched two-hit baseball over five innings to get the win. He struck out nine.

Offensively, Byrd's offense got back on track with a dozen hits. Jerrett Shepherd had three and JW Vaughan had two runs batted in. Cannin Lutz, Kyland Spence and Jones had two hits each and Hayden Eads and Jake Courtemanche also had hits for Byrd as the Terriers scored eight runs in the top of the fifth to put the game away.

"We had no errors and did not walk a batter," said Byrd coach Jason Taylor. "A couple of missed signs and poor baserunning cost us a couple of runs. When we clean that up and play to our ability, we can be a very good baseball team."

Byrd played Auburn, a Class 1 state contender, in Riner last week and lost 9-4. Lutz pitched well but Byrd couldn't get the big hits when needed.

"We had 10 total walks and six runs scored," said Taylor. "We had two runners picked off and a couple signs missed. Auburn is well coached and has a coaching staff that has time to get out and scout other teams. They did the little things that are big in the end."

The Terriers are now 3-7 overall and looking to have a big second half of the season.

"We needed a win," said Taylor. "I'm happy for the players. They're working hard and believing in each other, which is a great thing to see right now."

Byrd boys kick Staunton River

The William Byrd boys improved to 5-3 on the season and 2-1 in the Blue Ridge District with a shutout win over Staunton River Tuesday night. The Byrdmen took a 4-0 victory on Vinton's Highfill Field.

Byrd scored two goals in each half. Ian Sigmon got the Terriers on the board when he headed in a corner kick from Ethan Sutton. Then Sigmon got the assist on the second goal. Ian took a free kick from behind midfield and Shaun Gower ran onto the ball past the defense and placed the ball past the keeper to the far post. That put Byrd up 2-0 at the half.

Sergio Leon made it 3-0 when he stole the ball from Staunton River's defense and dribbled in and shot from about 15 yards out. The Eagle keeper blocked it, but Sergio was able to follow the shot and tapped it in.

Finally, Tyson Brady joined the parade when he one-timed a volley across the goal to the far post off a Sutton corner kick, giving Ethan two assists on the night.

Byrd will be back in action Friday night at Northside for a 7 pm game on Jim Hickam Field.



PHOTO BY REGINA DEVINNEY

Left, Byrd's Tyson Brady(#2) handles the ball in last week's win over Lord Botetourt and, right, Markis Coric dribbles by a Staunton River defender in Tuesday's shutout win in Vinton.



PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Wm. Byrd soccer girls host Northside Friday

The William Byrd girls soccer team lost their first Blue Ridge District game of the season Tuesday when they dropped a 3-1 decision to Staunton River in Moneta. Byrd is now 1-1-1 in district matches and 4-3-1 overall.

The Eagles got off to a quick start Tuesday, scoring two goals in the first 10 minutes of played and that proved to be enough despite a rally by the Terriers. The Byrd girls got on the board when Kendall Ranson played a cross that Mia Martin finished with 22 minutes remaining in the half.

"We had several chances, and it felt like we had the momentum, but we were unable to find the back of the net," said Byrd coach Molly Cox.

The score remained 2-1 at intermission and the second half was more of the same before Staunton River scored an insurance goal with 22 minutes remaining to put it out of reach. Bella Trumble had five saves for Byrd.

The girls will be back home Friday to host Northside. Next week they have back-to-back games on Monday and Tuesday with a home game against Cave Spring followed by a trip to William Fleming on Tuesday.



Byrd's Mia Vest settles the ball. PHOTO BY REGINA DEVINNEY



PLAY BALL!

It was opening day for the local baseball and softball youth teams last Saturday as they gathered at Vineyard Park in Vinton for Opening Day ceremonies. Above, the Marlins are introduced as they take the field and, below, Coach Ricky Carr has a meeting with the 2025 edition of his Vinton Cardinals.



PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER