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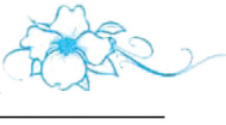
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The Vinton
 

Messenger

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF TOWN OF VINTON

Vinton Town Council members and town staff accepted the Virginia Award Plan of the Year for localities with a population under 100,000. From left are: front, Councilman Keith Liles, Director of Finance Tiffany Stewart, Mayor Brad Grose, Planning and Zoning Director Anita McMillan, Town Clerk Megan Lawless, Asst. Planning and Zoning Director Nathan McClung, Council member Sabina McCarty, and Planning and Zoning Coordinator Julie Tucei; back row, Capital Projects Manager Jamie Hurt, Vice Mayor Laurie Mullins, Deputy Town Manager Cody Sexton, and Town Manager Pete Peters.

Vinton’s 2050 Comprehensive Plan wins Virginia Award Plan of the Year

The Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA Virginia) named the Town of Vinton as the recipient of the 2026 Virginia Award for a locality with a population under 100,000 for its Vinton 2050 Comprehensive Plan.

The chapter’s awards program recognizes exceptional planning initiatives, individuals, and communities dedicated to building environments of lasting value.

The Plan of the Year Award specifically celebrates the Commonwealth’s premier planning documents, recognizing outstanding planning processes, vision, implementation strategies, and innovative approaches.

This prestigious accolade recognizes Vinton’s commitment

to self-reliance and strategic foresight. As a largely built-out community, the Town of Vinton must maximize its existing footprint through smart infill development and intentional revitalization to move forward.

While Vinton faces several pressing community needs, including expanding affordable starter housing, supporting seniors aging in place, increasing family-friendly activities, and driving economic growth— it lacks the abundant undeveloped land typically required for traditional expansion.

The Vinton 2050 Comprehensive Plan provides a strategic framework to address these priorities by encouraging redevelopment, adaptive reuse, and investment in existing assets.

“We are honored to recognize the Town of Vinton with the 2026 Virginia Award,” said Julie Chop, vice president of External Affairs for APA Virginia. “Vinton 2050 distinguishes itself through its innovative, vision-driven framework, its bold reimagining of aging commercial corridors, and its commitment to clear, accessible planning. Its emphasis on implementation, mixed-use revitalization, and community-centered engagement sets a standard that other Virginia localities can readily learn from.”

The Vinton 2050 Comprehensive Plan represents a paradigm shift in community planning, moving away from static municipal frameworks toward an agile, equity-driven, and implementation-focused

strategy. Recognized for its innovative approach, the plan successfully balances long-term vision with immediate community needs.

The planning awards were presented at the chapter’s annual conference on Tuesday, July 28, at Caesars in Danville.

According to Planning and Zoning Director Anita McMillan and Assistant Director Nathan McClung, Vinton must make the best of what it has and support redevelopment and repurposing of aging buildings.

The 2050 Vinton Comprehensive Plan focuses on protecting what residents value while addressing the key issues with significant reform. For example, Vinton, like many communities, has many acres locked up in commercial

zoning along aging commercial corridors that no longer have the same economic value as they did in the pre-e-commerce era. The plan imagines a different future for these corridors and recommends the zoning, transportation, and housing reforms necessary to achieve that goal.

The plan is already moving into implementation less than eight months after its adoption. The town is already working to update its zoning code. Moreover, town staff is working with property owners on a number of redevelopment projects in the downtown area that will implement vision themes for more housing, walkability and economic

See Award, page 7

Vinton’s Phoenix Wood 16U Fastpitch softball team wins One True National Championship

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

The Vinton Phoenix Wood 16U fastpitch softball team won the USA Softball One True Champion National Tournament last weekend in Johnson City, Tenn. The team is based out of Vinton with Allen Wood as head coach.

“The Phoenix team demonstrated from Game 1 that they were there on a mission, averaging 10 runs per game and came away

from the event undefeated to claim the title of 16U One True National Champion,” according to event organizer Tim Doby.

They scored 16 home runs in six games, with 67 runs and 76 hits, and allowed only nine runs. The team batting average was an excellent .490. They scored five home runs in one game and six in another.

“The One True National Championship just completed in Johnson City was the

See Phoenix Wood, page 7



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALLEN WOOD

The Vinton Phoenix Wood 16U Fastpitch Softball National Champion team members are (from left): front row, Tinley Humphries, Gianna Pitzer, Reagan Smith, Tenley Gilliam, and Taylor Tyree; back row, Coach Ashley McCallum, Olivia Pierce, Madison McDaniel, Jocelyn Weddle, Heidi Dixon, Lilly Gillispie, Mati Gouldthorpe, Alexis Meadows, and Coach Allen Wood. (Not pictured are Morgan Smith, Madelynn Ray, and coaches Kassie Sutphin and Carson Wood.)



PHOTO COURTESY OF RCPS

New RCPS School Superintendent Dr. Jamie Soltis (second row, third from left) hosted a “meet and greet” at WBHS on July 27.

RCPS Superintendent Soltis hosts ‘meet and greet’ with Vinton community

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

New Roanoke County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Jamie Soltis met with students, staff, parents, and members of the community at William Byrd High School on July 27 to “talk about the future of Roanoke

County Public Schools.”

“We already have exceptional schools and staff. Now we’re looking to get even better, and I want to hear from those we serve as to how we can best do so. We want to get feedback on what’s going well and what needs to improve.”

Soltis has assumed the position formerly held

by Dr. Ken Nicely who retired at the end of the current school year.

Soltis graduated from Glenvar High School, holds a bachelor’s degree from Longwood University, a Master’s Degree in Administration and Supervision from the University of Virginia,

See Soltis, page 7

Bluebell Award
 Virginia’s Equity & Inclusion Advocate of the Year



Anita McMillan



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOWN OF VINTON

Vinton Planning and Zoning Director Anita McMillan (third from left) received the Bluebell Award at the Virginia APA ceremony on July 28.

Vinton Planning and Zoning Director Anita McMillan wins Bluebell Award

Vinton’s Planning and Zoning Director Anita McMillan has been awarded the prestigious 2026 Bluebell Award that recognizes Virginia’s Equity and Inclusion Advocate of the Year. The award is presented annually by the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA Virginia).

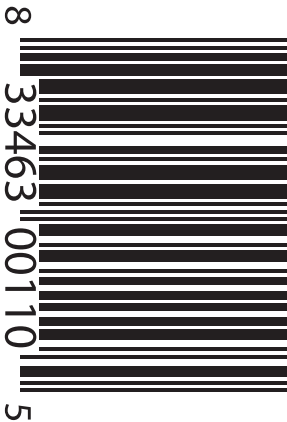
The Bluebell Award recognizes an individual who exemplifies community-driven, inclusive, and equitable planning practices

that strengthen opportunity and quality of life across the Commonwealth.

For more than three decades, McMillan has demonstrated that equitable planning is achieved through sustained commitment, intentional investment, and a focus on the needs of residents who have historically faced barriers to opportunity.

When she began her tenure, the Town of Vinton was a post-industrial community grappling

See McMillan, page 7



The Day everything changed

What happens at an ALS Clinic?

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Part 3 of a series on ALS from the perspective of those who have been recently diagnosed and their caregivers.

ALS (also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease) is a disease of the nervous system that begins in the brain and spinal cord and affects nerve cells called motor neurons. These motor neurons provide a line of communication between the brain and muscles, which produce movements like walking, chewing, breathing, and talking.

ALS is rare. Statistics indicate that about 5,000 cases are diagnosed in the United States annually. About 30,000 Americans have ALS at any one time. ALS is progressive. Right now there is no cure—there is just learning to manage and, hopefully, reduce the symptoms.

Initially symptoms vary from person to person with ALS. It often begins in just one limb, then spreads and affects muscles throughout the body. Weakness in a muscle but without any pain is a common early indication.

That's why it is important to connect with a multidisciplinary ALS Clinic, such as the one at Carilion in Roanoke.

In addition to improving quality of life, studies have shown that attending a clinic on a regular basis can extend

your life. Attending the clinic gives you a team of specialists who coordinate your care, help manage symptoms, make individualized recommendations, recommend medical equipment and assistive devices, educate you about ALS drugs and clinical trials, and provide ongoing guidance, on the day of the visit and between visits (generally through My Chart).

My husband, Danny, was diagnosed with ALS on June 9, 2026, by neurologist Dr. Lydia Sharp, Medical Director of the ALS Clinic at Carilion. During our first meeting with her, she recommended signing up for the clinic. Danny's first appointment there was this past Monday, July 27.

It was an exhausting afternoon—about four hours in total, a marathon of meeting individually with a neurologist, a dietician, a physical/occupational therapist, a mobility specialist, a representative from the local ALS Association, a mobility specialist, and a speech and swallowing therapist. The patient remains in one examination room while the specialists rotate in and out during the course of the afternoon.

Patients are encouraged to bring caregivers, family members, or friends along to help ask questions and take notes.

After the visit, patients receive a report with

recommendations via My Chart or another method of communication.

The first session that afternoon— with the neurologist— involved an examination, testing strength and reflexes at one point using a small hammer. Vitals were good including blood pressure and heart rate. The doctor ordered lab work to test for liver damage from the ALS medication Danny is taking— riluzole. He suggested a feeding tube as a way to gain weight when chewing and swallowing food is a struggle. He mentioned seeing a lung doctor potentially for a device to assist with breathing at night.

Next in the rotation was the dietician who also discussed the need to maintain or hopefully even gain weight. She discussed eating more slowly, taking more time for meals and possibly eating six small meals a day instead of three larger ones. She suggested drinking high protein drinks, such as Ensure or Boost, and tons of water.

She is one of the few medical personnel who encourage patients to “eat more fats. Smear on butter and sour cream to increase calories.” She also encouraged a feeding tube sooner rather than later.

Then we saw the respiratory therapist who conducted several tests involving nose clips and forcefully blowing out air to measure his rate of respiration.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Danny Adams worked with an occupational therapist on daily living skills; here using a rocker knife to cut food (putty).

A physical therapist talked about modifications to bathrooms, furniture, and even the entire house to aid in mobility— raising chairs and couches on risers, adding ramps where there are stairs, sitting on cushions on sofas to make it easier to stand up, and installing shower hooks to make showerheads easier to reach. With very limited use of his arms, Danny was interested in the shower hook suggestion.

A mobility specialist discussed medical equipment which might become necessary— motorized wheelchairs among them.

Karen Miller, Coordinator of Care Services for the local ALS Association, explained the services the non-profit organization provides. She had questions about the progression of the disease Danny is experiencing and his early symptoms. She had answers to one of the questions we arrived

with— how to share the ALS diagnosis with young family members and how the disease might impact the body over time. Books and videos exist which aid in understanding. She said children understand more about what is going on than we might think.

Danny described the feeling of a numb tongue to the speech and swallowing therapist; she works on both problems. His voice has become softer, more slurred, less precise over recent months, but not to the point that he is frustrated or hesitant to repeat his words for someone he is talking with.

She had many suggestions for new technology to improve quality of life from phone apps to computers if speech becomes more difficult or impossible. She, too, explained the advantages of a feeding tube in preventing pneumonia from

aspiring food.

She also talked about eating strategies that conserve energy— smaller, more frequent meals, eating more slowly, eating softer foods, adding nutritional shakes, adding fat, not talking while eating, and coughing until it is over with— don't add more food until the coughing is under control. Straws are our friends and be sure to tuck in your chin when you swallow.

The amount of information we were offered was staggering, but helpful in developing a plan for living and adjusting our lives as the disease progresses.

Jim Cunningham of Vinton is also an ALS patient. He and his family also attended the clinic on Monday— not their first appointment since he was diagnosed in April. One of them said, “We're taking things day by day.” The response from one of the specialists was, “It can also be minute by minute.”



Tuesday, August 4
★ 6:00PM - 8:00PM ★
VINTON FARMERS' MARKET • 204 W. LEE AVE
CARICATURE DRAWING • INFLATABLE OBSTACLE COURSE • YARD GAMES • MUSIC BY DJ LEFTWICH
HOT DOGS • DEB'S LEMONADE



FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF VPD

Vinton Police hosting National Night Out on Aug. 4

The Vinton Police Department and the Town of Vinton will host their annual National Night Out celebration at the Vinton Farmers' Market on Tuesday, Aug. 4, from 6-8 p.m.

The event has been moved from its usual venue at the Vinton War Memorial due to renovations underway there.

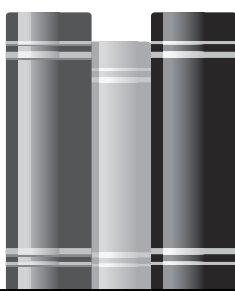
National Night Out (NNO) has been celebrated across the nation on the first Tuesday in August since 1984. The event is designed to build partnerships and bridge the gap between citizens, communities, and law enforcement, as a way to make communities safer. Vinton Town Council usually cancels its first council meeting of

the month in order to attend and meet face to face with constituents in an informal setting.

The first NNO involved 2.5 million neighbors across 400 communities in 23 states. After 43 years, the event now includes 38 million neighbors in 17,000 communities with 149 of those being in Virginia.

There will be free hot dogs and Deb's Lemonade, along with music by DJ Leftwich, yard games, caricature drawings by Kyle Edgell, and an inflatable obstacle course.

~ Vinton Messenger staff report



Beyond Books



By Vinton Library Assistant Molly Meador

A big thanks to all our patrons who supported our Summer Reading Program this year by participating in our reading challenge and attending our programming throughout the season. Summer may be ending soon but awesome programs at the library are forever; here's a look at what we've got coming up for August.

Adult Programs:

- What happens to your digital life when you're gone? With a few tips you can organize your digital information and plan ahead. Come learn about Digital Legacy Planning* on Thursday, August 20 from 2-3 p.m. and get a practical introduction to organizing your digital life now—so loved ones aren't left guessing later.
- All Abilities Club* will meet on Friday, August 14 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. This month we'll be making a special craft! Alternate activities are also provided based on needs. (For group registrations of three or more, please call us at 540-857-5043.)
- Creations and Temptations* will be on Saturday, August 29 from 3-4 p.m. This month we will turn an ordinary book into a sparkling masterpiece with Book Bedazzling! Bring in a favorite book (preferably paperback) and decorate the text and/or graphics with iridescent rhinestones.
- This month the Vinton Book Club* will discuss “The House on Mango Street” on Thursday, August 6 from 3-4 p.m. The As the

Page Turns Book Club* will discuss “The Dream Hotel” by Laila Lalami on Wednesday, August 12 from 2-3 p.m.

Be sure to check out our awesome ongoing adult programs:

- Open Bridge meets every Tuesday from 1-4 p.m.
- The Roanoke Valley Dulcimers meet Saturday, August 15 from 10:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- The Vinton Writers Group* meets on Thursday, August 27 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Youth Programs

- On Monday, August 17, from 6-7:30 p.m., we'll have “Paint Pouring for Teens!” Learn about several different paint pouring techniques and then pick your favorite method to create your own one-of-

See **Books**, page 4

DESIGNER CLOTHING

Clearance Sale

August 14–16

FRIDAY, 8/14 | 10AM - 5PM
SATURDAY, 8/15 | 10AM - 5PM
SUNDAY, 8/16 | 10AM - 3PM

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- NO RETURNS OR EXCHANGES
- By purchasing, you acknowledge and accept the condition of the merchandise.

SENIOR SCENE

By Judy Gruber

My goodness, it is hot outside! I was told when I was a child that these are the Dog Days of summer. I'm not sure about dogs, but I do know I pant from the heat as I move from one air-conditioned space to another. So, if you are like me and looking for an activity that keeps you occupied in the cool air, the Downsizers Club has the answer. The next two meetings will be dedicated to going through all those old photographs, mementos, and collectables that you have in the back of your closet.

Beth Powell will go over helpful hints and tricks to help you cull through those difficult decisions and give you a list of resources. The Downsizers Club meets on the first Wednesday of the month, (August 5 this month) from 10 to 11 a.m. Come in and check it out; the temperature at the Charles Hill Community Center/ Senior Center is nice and cool.

The next Happy Hearts Dance is Saturday, August 8 from 7 to 10 p.m. Chase Band will be playing and concessions are available. Admission is \$10 per person at the door at the Charles R. Hill Community Center/ Senior Center.

Our weekly activities are as follows:

- Music Jam meets from 2 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. every Monday. If you play an instrument or want to sing along or just like to listen to live music, this informal get-together is just what you are looking for.
- Defensive Cane and Tai Chi meet from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. every Monday during spring and through the fall. Steve Garay is presently teaching the 24 Tai Chi Form, one of the most popular forms in the world. He also reviews all previously taught forms including Cane Defense principles and routine.
- The Senior Center has Line Dancing Classes for Beginners from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. and Advanced Beginners Class from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. on Tuesdays. Advanced Line Dancing classes will be on hold until further notice.
- Hand and Foot Canasta meets on Tuesdays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.
- Mexican Train Dominoes meets on Mondays from 9:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.
- Senior Tai Chi meets every Thursday from 9 to 9:45 a.m. In this ongoing class you will learn the gentlest form of tai chi that is structured for improving balance and appropriate for arthritis. For those who have difficulty standing, we offer a seated version of the routine.

All Vinton Senior Programs listed take place at the Charles R. Hill Community Center/ Senior Center located at 820 E. Washington Avenue in Vinton and are at no charge unless a fee is stated in the description. If you have questions regarding senior programs, contact Amanda through e-mail at apayne@vintonva.gov or call 540-983-0645. You can also follow the Vinton Charles R. Hill Community Center on Facebook for the most updated news on new programs, program cancellations, and special events.

VINTON HISTORY

Stokes Doll

The students of today's Vinton can't imagine getting out of the high school and being able to walk around downtown, like students did for so many years. Often times, the realization that the beautiful brick building overlooking the town once served as the school, fascinates students, and they start to wonder, "What was it like?" This is why remnants of the old William Byrd High School are so valuable to our local history, because what once was the center for education is now a mystery to many.

One relic the Vinton History Museum maintains is the newly acquired Stokes Doll, a beautiful handmade doll that was made by one such student in the '30s. According to oral account, this companion was once seen as the school's mascot, although that may be a fact lost to time.

The doll survived in the family and was passed down to the maker's granddaughter, Mrs. Barrett McLaughlin, who possessed it for her 2004 graduation. Although much of the old school's history lies within yearbooks and typed accounts, this doll represents a wonderful window into the creative and characteristic lives of Vinton students that continue to this day.

More relics from Vinton's past can be found at the Vinton Museum, which is currently offering limited service due to impending construction.

Vinton History Museum looking for yard sale donations, volunteers

The Vinton History Museum will

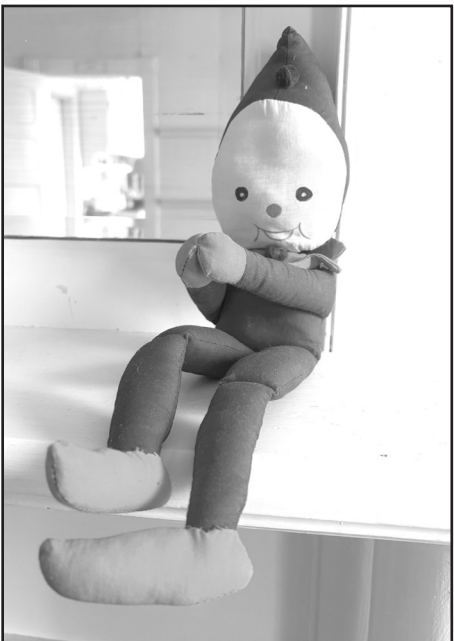


PHOTO COURTESY OF LEVI WHITCOMB
Recent donation to Vinton History Museum – Stokes Doll

be holding its fall yard sale on Saturday, Sept. 12, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Donations are currently being accepted and may be left on the front porch of the museum. They will accept household items, seasonal décor and decorations, small appliances, kitchen items, pet supplies, tools, and toys. They do not accept clothing, shoes, weapons, or offensive items.

Volunteers are needed during August to organize and price the items. Volunteers are also needed for setup on Friday, Sept. 11, and during the sale on Saturday, Sept. 12. Please consider assisting with this major fundraiser for maintenance and operation of the Vinton History Museum.

The museum is located at 210 East Jackson Avenue in downtown Vinton. For more information call 540-342-8634 or email info@vintonhistorymuseum.org.

- By Levi Whitcomb & Vinton History Museum

Student-athlete earns ODAC honors

Student-athlete Cooper Minnix of Vinton was selected to the 2025-26 Old Dominion Athletic Conference's All-Academic list announced by the league on July 17.

To qualify for ODAC All-Academic honors, student-athletes must earn a cumulative 3.25 GPA or higher during the academic year. Minnix was selected from Shenandoah University in Winchester.



FILE GRAPHIC

- Vinton Messenger staff report

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

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

FOURSQUARE
EVANGEL CHURCH - 2360 Hardy Road, Vinton (corner of Hardy Road and Feather Road), 540-982-3694, www.evangel4sq.com, Pastor Tim Wright. Contemporary Worship Service Sunday, 10AM. Bible Study Wednesday 11AM-12PM. "Building People to Change Our World"

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

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

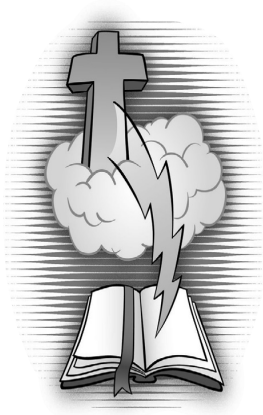
VINTON

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

DILIGENCE

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (KJV)



Shy away from scripture because it makes you aware of your faults? While it does do that, it also identifies what we can do to set things right. Along with reproof and correction, the Bible teaches us in the way of the righteous and the forgiveness of Christ.

If you would like to see your church services listed here in the Vinton Messenger contact Tucker Frye at Cell: (540) 389-9355 tfrye@ourvalley.org

It's time for annual Load the Bus campaign

Roanoke County Public Schools (RCPS) reopen on August 13. That means it's time for the annual "Load the Bus" campaign to collect school supplies for those in need. RCPS and other local school systems (Roanoke City, Salem City, and Craig County) will be partnering with WSLS

10, the Blue Eagle Credit Union, Q99, and Walmart to collect those supplies, and also monetary donations. The campaign begins on July 31. School buses will be on site at Roanoke area Walmart stores on:

- Friday, July 31: 3 p.m.-7 p.m.
- Saturday, August

1: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

- Sunday, August 2: Noon-5 p.m.

To contribute, drop off supplies with school staff who are working, or place items in the donation box at the store entrance. Out of town or unable to attend? Donate online using the Walmart wish list, and supplies will be

shipped directly to RCPS. Items particularly needed include: 1-inch, 3-ring binders, washable markers, composition notebooks, folders, and scissors for younger students. Other items on the wish list include backpacks, crayons, glue sticks, colored pencils, spiral bound 1-subject notebooks, black or blue pens, pencils, notebook paper/filler paper, highlighters, tissues, and hand sanitizer.

-RCPS

The Vinton Messenger

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USPS 660-020

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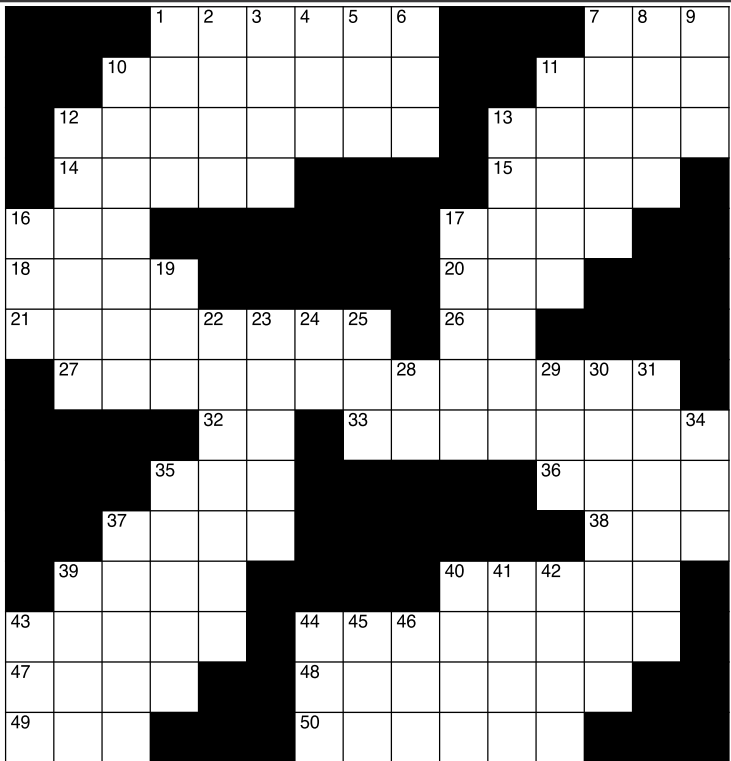
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To subscribe: (540) 473-2741

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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 publication before publication. The Messenger reserves the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length content and style.

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CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

1. Disco light
7. London radio station
10. Aerospace Co. Morton
11. Capital of Puglia, Italy
12. A phantom or apparition
13. Packed wine
14. The ocean below 6000 meters
15. 1st dynasty: AKA Xia
16. Every
17. Six (Spanish)
18. His ark
20. Segment or a circle
21. Pres. Johnson or Obama
26. 12th Greek letter
27. The First Lady

32. A blood group
33. Takes to task
35. Prints money
36. Airbus manufacturer
37. A instance of selling
38. 12th month (abbr.)
39. Baseball's Ruth
40. 1959 Nobel biochemist Severo
43. Weights deducted to obtain net
44. To lie scattered over
47. 6th Jewish month
48. Physical maltreators
49. Founder Franklin
50. Published

CLUES DOWN

1. Fish of the genus Alosa
2. Rock singer Turner
3. Muslim weight from 1 to 5 pounds
4. Turkish unit of weight
5. Bovine genus
6. Popular shade tree
7. The principal foundation of
8. La ___ Tar Pits
9. Spanish hero soldier
10. Brains egg-shaped grey matter
11. Fundamental
12. Bast
13. Small angels
16. Not or
17. S Pacific island group
19. Ad ___: impromptu
22. Gen. ___ DeGaulle
23. Hasidic spiritual leader
24. Aluminum
25. Considerate and solicitous care
28. Popular Canadian phrase
29. Consumed food
30. Hayfields
31. About Andes
34. Secondary School Certificate
35. Pen maker Castell
37. Brand of clear wrap
39. Past tense of bid
40. Resort city on Lake Biwa
41. Big Bear was chief
42. A group of cattle
43. The bill in a restaurant
44. People of the Dali region of Yunnan
45. One point S of due E
46. Pig genus



FILE GRAPHIC

Books

from page 2

a-kind piece to take home.

- Kids can come learn basic color-coding skills through a variety of coding toys at "Kinder Coding*" (ages 3-5) on Thursday, August 6 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Don't forget about our ongoing and recurring youth programs:
- Teen Volunteer Group will be on Thursday, August 6 and Tuesday, August 18 from 5-6 p.m.
- Teen Writers Group* meets Tuesday, August 4 from 5:30-6:30

p.m.

- Caturday* is on Saturday, August 8 with 15-minute slots from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 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.
- *All programs denoted with an asterisk require prior registration to reserve a spot. Please call or visit the library or check out the events on our website to register.

OBITUARY

Greenway, James Morgan

3/24/1940 – 7/14/2026

James "Jim" Morgan Greenway, 86, of Vinton, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, July 14, 2026. He was born on March 24, 1940, in Roanoke to the late Anna Pauline Hypes Greenway and Verlie Roscoe Greenway.

Jim proudly spent 10 years in law enforcement, followed by another 10 years as a private investigator and civil process server. Throughout his career, he also owned several local businesses, including Briz's Restaurant in New Castle.

Jim loved spending time in his garden, hunting and fishing, and was an exceptional cook who especially enjoyed preparing meals for family and friends. He had a wonderful sense of humor and was a gifted storyteller whose stories, laughter, and quick wit brought smiles to others.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Eugene Greenway; sister, Linda Burroughs; and half-siblings, Ruth, Harold, and Russell.

Jim is survived by his son, Tim Greenway and wife, Paula; his daughter,

Kim Riley; his beloved grandchildren, Maia, Brad, Chelsea, their spouses, and Caleb; numerous great-grandchildren; and many cherished nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends.



A special thank you to his granddaughter, Chelsea Bartlett, for her guidance and support in helping our family navigate his medical care. We are also deeply grateful to Sonia Larrey at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital for her compassion and kindness, and to the ICU and 7th-floor nursing staff for the exceptional care and comfort they provided.

A celebration of Jim's life was held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, at Oakey's Vinton Chapel. The service was officiated by Pastor Travis Russel of Vinton Baptist Church. Visitation was held prior to the service from 12 until 2 p.m. at the funeral home. The service was also live streamed on Oakey's website. Condolences may be expressed to his family by visiting www.Oakeys.com. Arrangements were by Vinton Chapel, 540-982-2221.

SALEM RIDGEYAKS VS FAYETTEVILLE WOODPECKERS



AUGUST 4th 6:35 PM
2 for 1 Tuesday

AUGUST 5th 6:35 PM
Bark in the Park

AUGUST 6th 6:35 PM

AUGUST 7th 6:35 PM Toy Story Night

AUGUST 8th 6:35 PM Outdoors Night

AUGUST 9th 4:05 PM

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Help Wanted

Fincastle United Methodist Church is seeking a part-time Adult Choir Director

to join our worship team, lead our adult choir effectively and joyfully, and improve and encourage the musical capabilities of our musicians. Responsibilities include selecting music for the choir, leading weekly choir rehearsal (September – June), conducting the choir and congregation for Sunday morning and special services, planning and coordinating special music for summer services, and serving as coordinator/advisor for related musical groups. Qualifications:
• Experience directing church choirs.
• Formal education and background in music or music education.
• Ability to collaborate with, teach, and inspire volunteer musicians in an affirming manner.
Compensation:
• Choir Director: \$11,000 - \$13,000
Please reply to office@fincastleumc.org or call (540) 473-3001

Fincastle United Methodist Church is seeking a part-time Piano and/or Organist

Accompanist to join our worship team and help lead our congregation in meaningful, spirit-filled worship. Responsibilities include playing music for Sunday morning and special services, practicing with and accompanying the choir and other musicians, selecting music, and maintaining our instruments in good working order. Qualifications:
• Proficiency with piano and/or organ
• Ability to sight-read music
• Ability to work collaboratively with clergy, choir, and other musicians
• Strong sense of musicality and sensitivity to worship flow
Compensation:
• Pianist: \$5,000 - \$7,000
• Organist: \$12,000 - \$16,000
Please reply to office@fincastleumc.org or call (540) 473-3001

BUSINESS STRATEGIST

Torc Robotics, Inc. seeks Business Strategist based out of U.S. headquarters in Blacksburg, VA. However, purely telecommuting/WFH position - EE may reside anywhere within U.S. Position requires up to 25% dom. & int'l travel/yr. Offered Salary: \$113,797/yr. Job duties: Support design, development, construction, testing operations, and eventual commercialization of the Autonomous Truck Hubs and their network; and lead design, development, and implementation of Class 8 terminals designed to enable and optimize the use of Torc's self-driving trucks. To apply, email resume to careers@torc.ai with subject REQ#810.

STAFF SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Torc Robotics, Inc. seeks Staff Software Engineer based out of U.S. headquarters in Blacksburg, VA. However, purely telecommuting/WFH position - EE may reside anywhere within U.S. Position requires up to 20% dom. & int'l travel/yr. Offered Salary: \$207,870/yr. Job duties: Execute full software development life-cycle activities using modern C++; analyze and improve current ego-motion estimation and localization algorithms; define software requirements, design software architecture, and develop robust verification strategies, among other duties. To apply, email resume to careers@torc.ai with subject REQ#809.

SENIOR SYSTEMS ENGINEER

Torc Robotics, Inc. seeks Senior Systems Engineer based out of U.S.

Help Wanted

headquarters in Blacksburg, VA. However, purely telecommuting/WFH position - EE may reside anywhere within U.S. Position requires up to 20% dom. & int'l travel/yr. Offered Salary: \$184,500/yr. Job duties: Evaluate full system performance, understanding the contributions of relevant sub-systems, providing feedback to development teams; derive product requirements; support integration of new and existing self-driving software onto vehicles and test benches, among other duties. To apply, email resume to careers@torc.ai with subject REQ#808.

Process Engineer sought by Virginia Transformer Corp. (VTCR) (Roanoke, VA)

to develop and improve manufacturing processes, perform process analysis and engineering changes, and support tooling and documentation. Apply Lean Manufacturing, Six Sigma, and root cause analysis. Email resumes to: Kyle_vorst@vatransformer.com

Public Auction

SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION TO SATISFY MECHANIC'S LIEN PROPERTY TO BE SOLD IN C/O EXCEL EQUIPMENT, LLC

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that pursuant to Virginia Code § 43-34, Excel Equipment, LLC, will offer for sale at public auction, outside the main entrance of the Botetourt County Circuit Courthouse, 205 North Roanoke St., Fincastle, VA, 24090, on August 12, 2026 , at 12:00 p.m., a New Holland L228 Loader (Serial No.: NGM418546) ("Loader"). For reference, a picture of the Loader is included below:



In accordance with Virginia Code § 43-34, Excel Equipment, LLC, is advertising the aforementioned public auction in this newspaper of general circulation in Botetourt County, Virginia. Likewise, notice of the aforementioned sale has been provided to the present owner of the Loader by certified or registered mail at least ten (10) days prior to the sale and notice has been provided to any secured party who has filed a financing statement against the Loader. TERMS: Cash- Bidder's deposit of one-hundred (100%) of the sales price at the time of sale. For Information Regarding the Sale, Contact: Woods Rogers Vandeverter Black, PLC. 10 S. Jefferson St. Suite 1800, Roanoke, VA 24011. (540) 983-7560. For Information Regarding the Loader, Contact: Dustin Cole, Vice-president, Excel Equipment, LLC. (540)-580-6747. The Loader is currently located at 1020 Lee Highway, Roanoke, VA 24019.

Legals - Botetourt County

Commissioner's Sale

Pursuant to the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. Chapter 38A and the Secretary's Foreclosure Commissioner designation, a COMMISSIONER'S SALE of 360 Maple Ridge Lane, Fincastle, VA 24090 (Short Legal Description: TAX ID 27569) will occur at public auction outside the main entrance to the building of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County Circuit Court, VA located at 1 W Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090 on August 21, 2026 at 1:00 PM, pursuant to a default of a note secured by a deed of trust executed by Cary W. Obenshain and Patricia Y. Obenshain recorded 4/24/2012, in the Circuit Court for Botetourt County Circuit Court, VA, Instrument Number 1200011707, and the Assignment in favor of

Legals - Botetourt County

the Secretary of HUD recorded 10/31/2019, in the Circuit Court for Botetourt County Circuit Court, VA Instrument Number 190004095. THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. TERMS OF SALE can be reviewed by the recorded notice of default on file with the Botetourt County Circuit Court Circuit Court, for which all terms are incorporated herein into this notice. A 10% deposit payable to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development is immediately required for winning bidder in certified funds. Third party certified checks will not be accepted. Full Terms of Sale and opening bids are listed at <http://www.virginalawoffice.com/hud>. Anderson Law, 2492 N. Landing Rd, #104, Va Beach, VA 23456.

ABC NOTICE

THE GLEBE INC. trading as THE GLEBE INC., 200 The Glebe BLVD, Daleville, Botetourt County, VA 24083.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Retail Restaurant or Caterer-Privilege / Classification Change-Restaurant, Wine, Beer, Mixed Beverages, Consumed On and Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

ELLEN D'ARDENNE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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

Legals - City of Salem

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316;-317,20-104 Case No. 26-1292 VIRGINIA: IN THE COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ROANOKE

COUNTY OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA,

Complainant,

Vs.

PURCELL BARRETT, et al,

Respondents.

TO: THE RESPONDENTS: The object of this suit is to enforce the lien for taxes assessed by the County of Roanoke, Virginia against certain real property designated as Tax Map Parcel No. 026.19-01-27.00-0000. An affidavit having been made and filed that diligence has been used without effect to ascertain the location of Clyde B. Barrett and that there are or may be persons with an interest in the subject property, including heirs, devisees, and successors in title of Clyde B. Barrett and that there are or may be persons with an interest in the subject property, including heirs, devisees, and successors in title of Clyde B. Barrett, who may be deceased, whose names and addresses are unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that each of the parties appear on or before the August 12, 2026, and do whatever is necessary to protect their interests in said land.

It is further ORDERED, pursuant of Va. Code Ann.§8.01-321, that this Order of Publication be published once a week for four (4) successive weeks in the Salem Times, a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Roanoke, and that a copy be posted at the front door of the Courthouse in County of Roanoke, Virginia. Entered this 7th day of July 2026.

Hon. Charles N. Dorsey, Judge

I ask for this:
Amy H. Geddes, Esquire
VSB#38650
OPN Law
3140 Chaparral Drive,
Suite 200-C
Roanoke Va 24018
Ph: (540) 725-8181
FX:(540)772-0126
Email:
ageddes@opnlaw.com
www.opnlaw.com
Counsel for Complainant

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 August 10, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., in Council Chambers of the City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing and consider the establishment of a Stormwater Utility and associated fees. Questions concerning the proposed Stormwater Utility may be addressed to the City of Salem Community Development Department, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia, at 540-375-3032. At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said request.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA
H. Robert Light
Clerk of Salem City Council

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, August 10, 2026, 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 Community Church Inc, property owner and Cornerstone Classical Academy, lessee, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow for an Educational Facility, Primary/Secondary, on the property located at 1923 East Main Street (Tax Map #78-1-14).
2. Consider the request of Robertson Family Revocable Trust, property owner and Amer Alsayadi, lessee, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow a retail sales, smoke shop on the property located at 501 West 4th Street (Tax Map #143-3-14).
3. Consider the request of The Preston Place Preservation Foundation Inc., property owner, for a Special Exception Permit to allow an assembly hall, nonresidential uses in an accessory structure, and nonresidential uses out of doors, and a Use Not Provided for Permit for outdoor gatherings of less than 500 people on the property located at 1936 West Main Street (Tax Map #138-2-7).

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 August 12, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold public hearings, 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 Terry Properties of VA Inc., property owner, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow a two-family dwelling on the property located at 432 Chestnut Street, (Tax Map # 161-3-1).
- 2.Consider amending

Legals - City of Salem

Chapter 66, Signs, Article I In General, Section 66-11.1 Minor signs during voting, of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA, pertaining to minor signs during voting.

Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia.

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

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA

BY:
Christopher J. Dorsey
Executive Secretary

Legals - Montgomery County

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

that the Board of Supervisors hereby schedules a public hearing on August 10, 2026, at 7:15 p.m. or as soon thereafter at the Montgomery County Government Center, 2nd Floor Board Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, to hear citizen comments on the proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 2 entitled Administration, of the Code of the County of Montgomery, Virginia by amending Section 2-36 Return Check Fee, to include electronic payment of taxes or any other sum due, which is subsequently returned without payment by the receiving bank, depository institution or other recipient of the order. No fee shall be imposed under this section as the result of an electronic payment order that is not honored as the result of the nonexistence of any account matching the account information provided by the taxpayer, provided that the taxpayer has not tendered any other electronic payment order that was not honored during the 12 months preceding the tender of the payment order in question. This fee shall be in addition to any other fee or penalty provided by law. A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the County Administrator and is available for public inspection or copying. BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Angela M. Hill
County Administrator

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL

The Town of Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

A. Conditional Use Permit request by Jeffrey T. and Jamie M. Zoellner, Applicants, and Ray D. Craget Trust, c/o Anna C. Rogers, Trustee, Property Owner, to allow a Planned Housing Development consisting of one Two-Family Dwelling in the General Business (B-3) zoning district on property located at 185 New Street NW, identified as Tax Parcel 526 - ((A)) - 238; (Parcel ID 004144), and consisting of approximately 0.465 acres. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

B. Conditional Use Permit request by Samuel Bishop, Property Owner and Applicant, to allow residential use in the General Business (B-3) zoning district on property located at 465 Stuart Street NE, identified as Tax Parcel 527-(3))-50A and 527-(3))-49B; (Parcel ID 001756 and 001755), and consisting of

Legals - Montgomery County

approximately 0.18 acres. The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comments in person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the applications, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact the Planning Department, at (540) 382-6128, ext. 1902 or by email at planning@christiansburg.org g, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION

The Town of Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, August 17, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

A. Code Amendment request by Town of Christiansburg, Applicant, to amend the Christiansburg Town Code, Chapter 42, Sec. 42-397 – Permitted uses. Data centers are currently allowed by right in the General Industrial (I-2) Zoning District, and the request is to require a conditional use permit for data centers in the General Industrial (I-2) Zoning District. Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the application, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact the Planning Department, at (540) 382-6128, Ext. 1902 or by email at planning@christiansburg.org or g, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEES' SALE OF COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

7120 Roanoke Road, Shawsville, Virginia (a/k/a Shawnee Mini Mart)

9311 Roanoke Road, Elliston, Virginia (a/k/a Elliston Food Mart)

Pursuant to the terms of a Deed of Trust (the "Deed of Trust") dated as of July 22, 2016, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia (the "Clerk's Office") as Instrument Number 160005662, and an Appointment of Substitute Trustee dated November 19, 2018, recorded in the Clerk's Office as Instrument No. 2018008463, the property briefly described below (the "Property") will be offered for sale at public auction on August 14, 2026, at noon, at the Shawnee Mini Mart, 7120 Roanoke Road, Shawsville, VA 24162.

Shawnee Mini Mart - 7120 Roanoke Road, Shawsville, VA 24162:

All that certain lot or parcel of land situate in the County of Montgomery, Commonwealth of Virginia, and being more particularly described as follows:

PARCEL 1: Tax Map Nos. 083-C1 3 13, 083-C2 5 14A, 083-C2 5 17

BEING all of Lots 13, 14A, and 17 as shown on a plat of survey entitled, "Plat Showing Boundary Survey of Lot 13 and Lot 17, Boundary Line Vacation on Lot 14, Lot 15, and Lot 16, and Vacation of Drainage

Easement on Lot 14 and Lot 15 'Map of Shawsville Subdivision' located in Shawsville Magisterial District, Montgomery County, Virginia", prepared by Marvi D. Stine, LS, dated November 15, 2007, designated as Plan No. S-83269, a copy of which is recorded in the Clerk's Office of Montgomery County, Virginia, as Instrument Number 2008001140.

BEING the same property conveyed to 7 Hills, Inc., a Virginia corporation, by deed from Gary D. Creed and Linda M. Creed, dated November 17, 2006, and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office as Instrument Number 06013235.

Elliston Food Mart - 9311 Roanoke Road, Elliston, VA 24087:

All that certain lot or parcel of land situate in the County of Montgomery, Commonwealth of Virginia, and being more particularly described as follows:

PARCEL II: Tax Map Number 059-A A 109

BEGINNING at a point on marked by a monument found, being the point of intersection of Route 754 and U.S. Route 11 & 460 (Roanoke Road); thence N. 29 deg. 59' 21" E. 174.84 feet (shown as 175.00 feet in Deed Book 1037, page 659), to a point marked by an iron pin set; thence S. 58 deg. 41' 04" E. 136.47 feet to a point marked by an iron pin set; thence S. 28 deg. 11' 16" W. 75.63 feet to a point marked by an iron pin set; thence N. 58 deg. 59' 50" W. 55.00 feet to a point marked by an iron pin set; thence S. 27 deg. 32' 15" W. 97.80 feet to a point marked by an iron pin set; thence N. 59 deg. 35' 06" W. 88.00 feet to a point marked by an iron pin set, THE POINT AND PLACE OF BEGINNING, containing 0.433 acres as shown on that certain plat of survey entitled "Physical Improvement Survey for P.P. Raj, Inc.", dated January 24, 2002, prepared by John R. McAden of Balzer and Associates, Inc., and recorded as Instrument Number 2012006665. Said property further shown and described on Plat of Survey prepared by Anderson & Associates, Inc., dated January 14, 1986, and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia in Deed Book 572, Page 679.

BEING the same property conveyed unto 7 Hills, Inc., a Virginia corporation, by Deed from P.P. Raj, Inc., dated August 7, 2012, and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office as Instrument Number 12006665.

Terms: A deposit in the form of cash or certified funds in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the successful bid will be required at the time of sale. Closing within thirty (30) days of sale. Time is of the essence. The Property is being sold "AS IS" without representation or warranty of any sort or nature concerning its condition. Obtaining possession of the Property shall not be the responsibility of the Trustee or the holder of the note secured by the Deed of Trust, but shall be at the sole cost, risk, and expense of the successful bidder. The successful bidder shall pay for all recording charges, examination of title, settlement fees, and all costs of conveying, which shall be by Special Warranty Deed. The Trustees reserve the right to reject any bid(s), withdraw the Property from the sale at any time before the termination of the bidding, keep the bidding open for any length of time, postpone the sale, review the qualifications of all bidders, and amend and/or supplement the terms of sale by verbal and written announcements prior to and/or during the sale. For more information visit Linkous Auction Group at www.linkousauction.com.

The Substitute Trustee may be able to respond to inquiries concerning the sale:
N. Reid Broughton, Substitute Trustee
Sands Anderson PC
P.O. Box 2009
Christiansburg, Virginia 24068-2009
540-260-9011
540-260-0022 (facsimile)
rbroughton@sandsandersn.com

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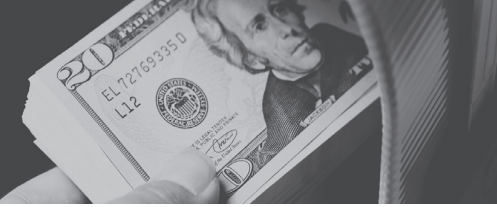
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McMillan

from page 1

with aging infrastructure, recurring flooding, limited economic growth, and the lingering impacts of segregation—particularly in historically Black neighborhoods, such as Glade Town and Midway.

McMillan approached these challenges with a steadfast equity-first mindset and spent the next 30 years quietly transforming the town’s trajectory. Her work has delivered targeted stormwater solutions that reduced long-standing flooding, expanded greenways and public spaces that reconnected neighborhoods, and supported downtown revitalization efforts that strengthened economic opportunity.

Projects including Walnut Avenue Bike/Pedestrian Improvements, Wolf Creek and Glade Creek Greenway expansions, and multiple crosswalk and intersection enhancements reflect her consistent commitment to mobility equity, particularly for residents who rely on walking or bicycling.

Her leadership also advanced environmental justice through the Midway Community Flood Mitigation Project, Woodland Place Stream Restoration, and brownfields assessments that made reinvestment possible in historically underserved areas.

Soltis

from page 1

and a Doctorate in Education from Radford University.

He shared his background in education with the audience at William Byrd, where he began his 28-year RCPS career, teaching science and coaching, in 1999.

In 2007, he was named assistant principal at Glenvar High School, then became principal of Glenvar Middle School in 2012. In 2017, he returned to Glenvar High School as the school principal.

In 2018, Soltis transitioned to the RCPS central office as director of secondary instruction. He joined Salem City Schools as a director in 2019 and was promoted to assistant superintendent in 2021 before returning to RCPS as deputy superintendent in 2024.

His goal as an educator has always been to make a difference in children’s lives. “It is amazing what education can do for our kids.”

McMillan’s work demonstrates how equity can be advanced in small communities through the strategic use of grant funding, phased implementation, and cross-sector partnerships. Her efforts have produced safer streets, improved environmental conditions, and expanded access to recreation and transportation.

Today, residents can walk along corridors that once lacked sidewalks, cross busy streets safely, and travel through Vinton’s neighborhoods with dignity and confidence. Her work has elevated Vinton as a regional planning partner and contributed to the early development of the Roanoke Valley Greenway system.

Guided by a belief that planning should reflect the needs of those most affected, McMillan has consistently directed investments toward improving safety, accessibility, and quality of life for all residents. Her work has strengthened neighborhood connections, expanded recreational opportunities, and created a more accessible and inclusive community.

Beyond physical improvements, McMillan has built public trust through collaborative leadership, regional engagement, and mentorship. By turning long-range community goals into tangible results, she has demonstrated the value of

planning while inspiring future professionals and fostering a culture of inclusion within the planning field.

“Anita McMillan’s career shows how equity is advanced through consistent, thoughtful action,” said Julie Chop, APA Virginia Vice President of External Affairs. “Her work demonstrates the power of planning to uplift communities, expand opportunity, and ensure every resident is considered in the decisions that shape their future.”

The planning awards were presented at the chapter’s annual conference on Tuesday, July 28, at the Caesar’s hotel in Danville.

The mission of the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association is to make great communities happen in Virginia by offering continuing professional development and other valuable services to planners that will enable them to excel in their practice. They are committed to raising awareness about the many benefits that planning offers as a foundation for effectively addressing the physical, economic, and social changes that take place in Virginia, and to providing effective leadership in planning advocacy reflective of a diverse geography and population.

-Submitted by APA Virginia

Phoenix Wood

from page 1



Home run hitters for the Virginia Phoenix Wood 16U team in last week’s championship games



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALLEN WOOD
Virginia Phoenix Wood 16U team celebrating their One True National Championship.

inaugural one for our new ‘A’ level national. The top teams from around the country had to compete and qualify from their local association to be entered in this event, which brought together teams from 15 states, as well as umpires from 13 states and five regions. The umpire also had to qualify to be there.

“USA Softball, founded in 1933, is the national governing body of softball in the United States. It oversees many national championships plus our national teams program. We are excited to be hosting the 2028 Olympic Games at Devon Park in Oklahoma City.”

USA Softball now includes over 120,000 teams and a million members.

The Virginia Phoenix was organized six years ago, made up of female athletes from this area and Southwest Virginia.

Players include Taylor Tyree (Liberty Christian Academy, Class of 2027, SS/UT), Lilly

Gillispie (Floyd County High School, Class of 2027), Tinley Humphries (Lord Botetourt Class of 2029, 2B/OF)), Averil Fuller (Richlands High School, Class of 2027, Pitcher/OF), Heidi Dixon (William Byrd, Class of 2027, 1B/SS), Jocelyn Weddle (Cave Spring, Class of 2029, Catcher/IF), Reagan Smith (Christiansburg, Class of 2027, catcher/1B & OF), Morgan Smith (Magna Vista, Class of 2028, Pitcher/OF), Madelynn Ray (William Byrd, Class of 2029, Pitcher/3B & 1B)), Olivia Pierce (Lord Botetourt, Class of 2028, Pitcher/1B), Tenley Gilliam (Appomattox, Class of 2029, Pitcher/OF), Gianna Pitzer (Lord Botetourt, Class of 2029, Catcher/OF), Alexis Meadows (Buckingham County, Class of 2028, SS & 3B), Madison McDaniel (Cave Spring, Class of 2029, OF), and Matilyn “Mati” Gouldthorpe (Jefferson Forest, Class of 2027, OF).

In addition to Wood, other coaches include assistant coach Kassie Sutphin, Ashley McCallum, and Carson Wood (all William Byrd alums).

Players try out for the team and practice around the area. Their travel season began in early June and extends through August 21.

Wood says winning the championship and being named No. 1 in the country is a “huge accomplishment.” He is most proud of them being a truly local and regional team.

One of Coach Wood’s former softball players, Allison Snow, who is majoring in sports journalism at Virginia Tech, recently wrote an article about her coach, entitled “The Bigger Picture.”

“Coach Wood is the vice president of Wood Service Center in Vinton.

“When he isn’t driving a tow truck or fixing cars, Wood is coaching softball. He started

assistant coaching a Stealerz fastpitch team based in Roanoke in 2016 and then helped coach a different travel team in 2018, the Starz Gold. He has been the hitting coach for William Byrd High School’s varsity softball team since 2018. In 2021, he announced that he was creating his own travel softball organization, starting with a 14 and under team called the Virginia Phoenix.”

The response was overwhelming.

“I wanted the organization to be all about player development and athletes truly having fun, finding a love for the game, finding the love for their teammates, and just developing a love for all the game has to offer,” Wood said.

He was on the hunt “to create a team that could feel like a family, a place where players could enjoy themselves while also improving their skills to a highly competitive level.”

In 2021, “Wood created the team in January, developed a roster by February, and took the field in March. Being a new organization competing against notable multi-team organizations is like being shark bait; they’re expecting to destroy the newcomer. The tide started turning, as well as some heads, when Wood and his underdog team started winning. The Virginia Phoenix won their first travel tournament just seven months later in July 2021.”

Snow went on to say, “Allen Wood is his players’ biggest fan.” Only about seven percent of athletes that play softball in high school have the opportunity to play in college. The Virginia Phoenix have now had almost 30 girls commit to play at the collegiate level.”

“Making a difference in athletes’ lives, a positive impact, is what motivates Wood to keep persevering.”

Award

from page 1

development.

The Vinton plan elevated the public understanding of planning. Early on, town staff and the consulting team (Mike Callahan of 3TP Ventures, Inc. and Vlad Gavrilov from New Paradigm Planning) developed materials to explain what the plan is, and what it is not. The process included a broad-based advisory committee and focus groups of people and groups with deep understanding of Vinton’s needs. This included representatives of neighboring jurisdictions,

such as the City of Roanoke and Roanoke County.

The focus groups included representatives of affiliated professions including engineering, parks and recreation management, economic development, and social services. This process widened the lens for Vinton’s comprehensive plan, and ensured that regional issues, such as affordable housing and caring for the region’s homeless population, were not overlooked.

The town and consultants set up

engagement opportunities to coincide with popular community events, such as the Dogwood Festival in April of 2024 and 2025. As a result, Vinton heard new voices. Many of their insights were surprising and useful, such as widespread support for a new roundabout on Hardy Road that had been subject to some complaints and concern during the standard design hearing process. By going to the people, the town got a plan that reflects desires and hopes for 2050.

The town also

provided online forums for engagement, such as a community survey that attained a significant response rate for a town of Vinton’s size.

Due to the extensive engagement, the town included in the plan many policies and projects requested by, and to the benefit of, under-represented communities including access improvements to a park in one of the town’s historically African-American neighborhoods, a call for investing town and non-profit partner funds

into home improvements for low-income and older residents, greater protection from flooding through stormwater improvements, safer walking conditions within the town’s core neighborhoods, and more parks and green spaces for all residents to enjoy. Implementation of this plan will have demonstrable positive impacts on neighborhoods that may have been underrepresented in the past.

The Vinton Comprehensive Plan can be found at <https://www.vintonva.gov/537/Comprehensive-Plan---Vinton-2050>.

-Submitted by Town of Vinton

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Sports

Send story ideas & announcements to bhoffman@ourvalley.org, or PO Box 1125, Salem, Va, 24153 • ourvalley.org



Football Camp

The future of William Byrd High School football gathered at Patterson Stadium this week for the Terrier Youth Football Camp. Above, left to right, kids learn fundamentals and go through drills at Monday's session. Below, Byrd assistant coach Avery Close instructs some young players. Bottom left, Byrd head football coach Brad Lutz presents a camper with a William Byrd football jersey, and bottom right varsity standout Mason Hershel holds the blocking pad as his younger brother supplies the hit.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER



William Byrd football team opens preseason practice today

William Byrd football coach Brad Lutz, along with his staff and players, conducted a free youth football camp for youth players this week. The camp ran from Monday through Wednesday at Patterson Stadium in Vinton.

Today the big boys take over, as the high school Terriers begin official practice for the 2026 season. Byrd will practice from 3 pm to 6:45 pm today, July 30, and 3 pm to 7:45 pm on Friday. After taking the weekend off the Terriers will practice from 3-6 pm all next week.

Byrd's first scrimmage will be on Friday, August 14, at 5 pm against Glenvar at Highlander Stadium in West Roanoke County. The Terriers will host Alleghany in their second scrimmage, on Friday, August 21, on Highfill Field at 7 pm.

The Terriers will open the season with two road games this year, both at Bogle Stadium behind Cave Spring Middle School. Byrd will play Cave Spring High in the opener on August 28, then travel back to Bogle to play Hidden Valley on Friday, September 4. Byrd's home opener is September 11 against Christiansburg.



Szefc wins Bellamy Award

Blacksburg High junior Sam Szefc was presented the Ray Bellamy Award by the Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame prior to the Salem RidgeYaks Carolina League game against the Augusta GreenJackets at Salem Memorial Ballpark Saturday evening.

The Bellamy award is given annually to the high school baseball Player of the Year in the area served by the Hall of Fame, which includes the counties of Alleghany, Roanoke, Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Floyd, Franklin and Montgomery and the independent cities located within the boundaries of those counties.

Szefc had an outstanding spring season with the Bruins, both pitching and playing shortstop. At the plate Sam bat-

ted .625 with 40 hits, of which 21 went for extra bases. He hit five home runs and drove in 42 runs. He was named first team All-State in Class 4 at shortstop.

On the mound, the Virginia Tech commit had a 5-2 record with a 1.93 earned run average and 85 strikeouts in 51 innings. He was named to the All-Region 4D first team as both a pitcher and a shortstop.

In addition to Szefc finalists included Tristan Lange of North Cross, Brody Hensel and Matthew Altizer of Auburn, Zach Bocock of Salem, Alex Crowl of Franklin County, T.J. McLaughlin of Jefferson Forest, Kai Rowland of Alleghany and Wynn Womeldorf of Hidden Valley.



Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame board member Art Price presents Sam Szefc with the Ray Bellamy Award at Salem Memorial Ballpark Saturday night prior to the RidgeYaks game with Augusta.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN