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Town Council holds public hearing on revised Town Charter

Vinton Town Council held what is possibly the shortest meeting in its history – 12 minutes – on September 1.

The main agenda item was a public hearing regarding a resolution requesting the General Assembly to amend the Charter of the Town of Vinton to remove and/or resolve inconsistent, outdated, and/or unnecessary language, to clarify language regarding the town manager’s authority, and to incorporate other language requested by Town Council members.

Council had previously been briefed by Town Attorney Jeremy Carroll at a work session on August 18 on suggested changes to be made to better align the town charter with state code.

The public hearing was held at the September 1 meeting, but action was delayed until a later meeting (most likely September 15), as there was still some discussion of additional clarification on some topics and some slight edits to be used in the resolution.

At the meeting, Mayor Brad Grose congratulated Town Manager Pete Peters for his appointment by Virginia Governor Abigail Spanberger to the Virginia Recreation Facilities Authority (VRFA).



FILE GRAPHIC

The new Disc Golf Course on the Wolf Creek Greenway is almost complete. A grand opening and ribbon cutting will be planned for October.

Mention was also made of Logan Sherill’s visit to the Vinton Café for WDBJ 7’s Hometown Eats. The restaurant on Lee Avenue downtown is owned by Keriann Campbell and about to celebrate their first anniversary. Campbell brought up Mayor Grose’s name in the interview, calling him one of her best customers.

Meeting adjourned.

- Vinton Messenger staff report



Steve Garay will be teaching classes in Native American style flute in Vinton in November.

Learn to play the Native American style flute, classes begin in November

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

If you think the music of the Native American flute is one of the most beautiful sounds on earth and you would love to learn to play it yourself, it’s your lucky day.

Steve “Cheveyo” Garay is teaching a class in Native American style flute playing all five Mondays in November at the Vinton Community Center. Classes run

from 6 to 7 p.m. on November 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. The cost is \$125, which includes a flute, a workbook, five classes with a great teacher, visits from local flute players, and the camaraderie of taking the class with those who share your enthusiasm for the music. The class is limited to 25 members. Registration is due by October 1, along with a deposit of half the tuition

See **Garay**, page 8



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Garay collects flutes made from a variety of materials including wood, epoxy, PVC pipe, and one from a 3D printer.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Lion of the Year Ryan Mason (left) with Past President Zach McCarty

Vinton Breakfast Lions hold annual Awards Dinner

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

The Vinton Breakfast Lions Club held their annual Awards Dinner on August 27 at the Vinton Moose Lodge. New officers were sworn in, new members were recognized, and several prestigious awards were presented.

This year marks the club’s 41st year of service to the Vinton community. It was founded in 1985.

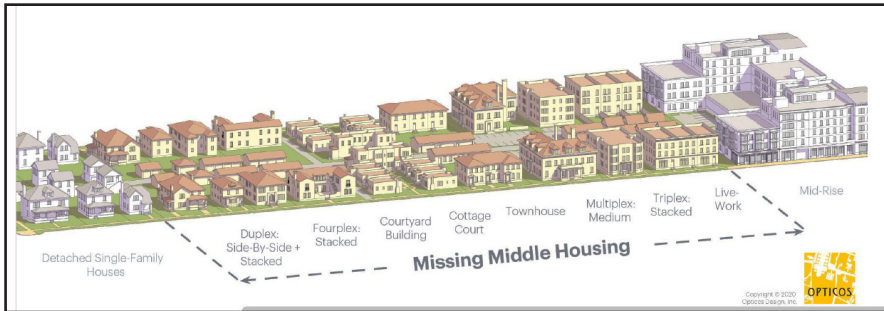
The meeting opened with the “passing of the gavel” from Past President Justin Fix to new President Ryan Mason.

Other officers installed during the

meeting included 1st Vice President Sabrina McCarty, Secretary and LCIF Coordinator Gary Myers, Treasurer Bob Benninger, Club Administrator Joel Lytton, Club Marketing Officer John Berry, Tail Twister Chris McCarty, Lion Tamer

See **Dinner**, page 8

Vinton Town Council, Planning Commission hold joint work session on zoning ordinances



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF TOWN OF VINTON

Missing Middle Housing was a main topic of conversation at the zoning ordinance work session.

Vinton Town Council and the Vinton Planning Commission met in a joint work session on September 1 to review and discuss proposed amendments to the town’s zoning ordinance designed to reduce barriers to housing development and redevelopment, expand housing opportunities, support economic growth, and encourage reinvestment in strategic areas of the community.

Town Council members are Mayor Brad Grose, Vice Mayor Laurie Mullins, Sabrina McCarty, Keith Liles, and Mike Stovall. Planning Commission members are Chair Jonathan McCoy, Dave Jones, Keith Liles, Bob Benninger, and Josh Mullen.

The public is invited to become involved in the process through a Community Open House at the library on Sept. 24.

The zoning ordinance update project also involves the town’s Planning and Zoning Department, Economic Development, and Administration staff, along with consultant team 3TP Ventures

and subconsultant New Paradigm who led development of the town’s new Comprehensive Plan 2050.

The Zoning Ordinance Updates project will recommend amendments to the town’s zoning ordinance as called for in the town’s Comprehensive Plan which was adopted in July 2025.

The zoning update process began in March 2026 with a review of existing zoning ordinances in relation to the adopted Comprehensive Plan, engagement with key users of the town’s zoning code, coordinated by town staff to identify desired improvements and amendments to the code.

During the work session, consultant Mike Callahan from 3TP and Vlad Gavrilovic from Paradigm presented the outcomes of the initial discussions and findings in order to help inform the development of specific zoning recommendations. Town Council and the Planning Commission provided feedback and direction for the

consultant team.

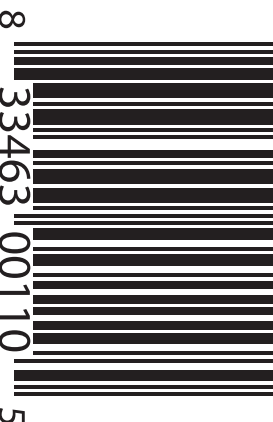
The proposed goals for this effort are:

- Better alignment between the comprehensive plan and zoning ordinances
- Modernize standards
- Seek and incorporate community input
- Greater flexibility in permitted housing types.
- Facilitate a more active downtown through infill mixed use development
- Promote revitalized commercial corridors
- Promote walkability

Goals relevant to the 2050 Comprehensive Plan include:

- Increase the number

See **Zoning**, page 5



Board Chair Shepherd to host community meeting in Vinton

Roanoke County Board of Supervisors Chair Tammy Shepherd, who represents the Vinton Magisterial District, will host a community meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 29, to highlight recent accomplishments, the county budget, future transportation initiatives, and provide economic development updates in the Vinton District and throughout Roanoke County.

The meeting will be held at the Charles R. Hill Community Center at 820 E. Washington Avenue in Vinton. The presentation will begin at 6 p.m.

Residents are encouraged to attend and learn more about projects and initiatives affecting the Vinton District and Roanoke County.



PHOTO COURTESY ROANOKE COUNTY
Tammy Shepherd

-Submitted by Roanoke County

The Day Everything Changed

ALS and Caregiving

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Part 5 of a series on ALS from the perspective of those who have been recently diagnosed and their caregivers.

A caregiver is an individual who provides assistance to someone who is unable to fully care for themselves due to age, illness, disability, or other limitations. This crucial role can encompass a wide range of responsibilities, including personal care, medical support, and companionship.

Caregivers are typically family members or friends. They can significantly impact the quality of life for those they assist, often improving their overall well being.

ALS patients are certainly not the only ones who will eventually need caregivers. That's just the particular type of caregiving, I am learning about since my husband Danny was diagnosed with ALS in June and, prior to that, our friend Jim Cunningham, was diagnosed in April.

ALS is a disease of the nervous system that begins in the brain and spinal cord and affects nerve cells called motor neurons which provide a line of communication between the brain and muscles, producing movements like walking, chewing, breathing, and talking. ALS is rare; it is progressive. It is difficult to diagnose. Right now, there is no cure – there is just learning to

manage and, hopefully, reduce the symptoms.

I have become my husband's primary caregiver. I help him dress, comb his hair, open bottles and jars, reach things on shelves, schedule appointments, complete medical, insurance, and disability paperwork, communicate with medical personnel online, fill out checks which he signs, talk for him on the phone when something official is being discussed, prepare meals always searching for foods that won't make him choke, drive him to therapy sessions and doctor's appointments. Right now, those are small things that he needs. As the disease progresses, the list may grow.

There are days for

caregivers when it's like you get on the train or merry-go-round and there is no way off. Caregiving can be rewarding, but also stressful.

We have support from his family and neighbors with the heavy jobs – yard work, tree work, using tools, building, and repairs. We have support from friends and our church members at Thrasher United Methodist who are eager to do anything they can to help. Our daughter assists with appointments. Even our 9-year-old grandson does what he can to assist – reminding Grandpa to walk with his head up and make his speech less difficult to understand by "speaking slowly and enunciating."

See **Caregiving**, page 5

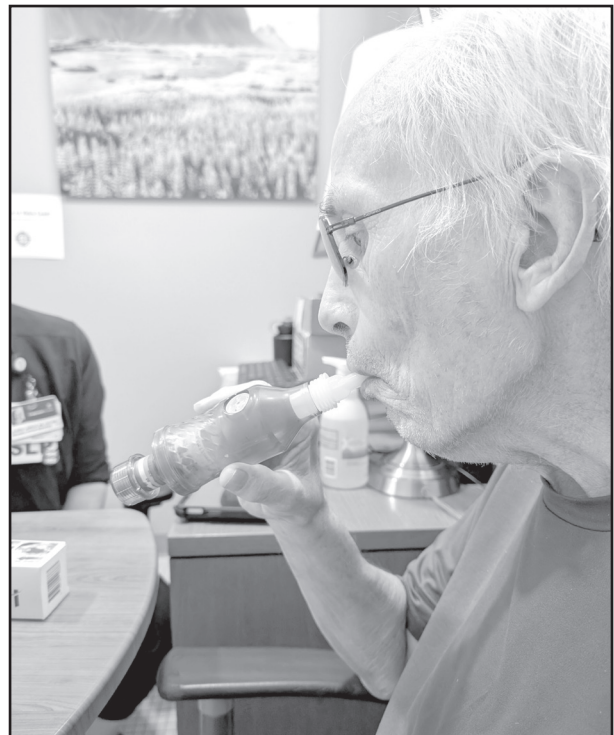


PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS
Danny practices with a breathing device during speech/swallowing therapy.

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FILE PHOTO

Vinton to hold open house on zoning ordinance updates

The Town of Vinton with assistance from a planning consultant is updating its zoning ordinance and wants to hear from residents. This important update will help shape how Vinton's neighborhoods, business districts, housing, and development grow and change in the coming years.

- When: Thursday, Sept, 24 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.; drop in anytime
- Where: Downtown Vinton Library, 300 S. Pollard Street
- What to Expect: Move through the room at your own pace and visit interactive information stations:
 - See the Proposed Concepts: View the proposed zoning concepts and how they compare with current zoning
 - Neighborhood & Property Questions: Talk one-on-one with planning staff and consultants about how the proposed changes may affect your property or neighborhood
 - Business & Growth: Learn how the proposed zoning updates may support local business, housing opportunities, redevelopment, and future growth
 - Share Your Voice: Provide comments and suggestions through a

quick comment card. Your feedback will help inform the zoning update.

Why your attendance matters: Zoning regulations help determine what can be built, where businesses can locate, what types of housing are allowed, and how development occurs throughout Vinton. Whether you are a homeowner, business owner, renter, property owner, or simply care about Vinton's future, your input matters.

Short on time? A 15-minute visit is plenty of time to look at the displays and talk with staff.

Coming straight from work? Stop by, grab a snack, and share your thoughts. Bringing the family? This is a casual, family-friendly event. Light refreshments and snacks will be provided.

Stay involved. Can't make it to the meeting, but want to stay informed? Information about the proposed zoning changes and opportunities to provide comments will also be available online through the Town of Vinton Planning & Zoning Department webpage at: www.vintonva.gov/ZOupdate.

-Submitted by Town of Vinton

Vinton History Museum holding benefit yard sale

The Vinton History Museum will hold a benefit yard sale on Saturday, Sept. 12, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The sale includes fantastic prices for a selection of housewares, decorating items, furniture, small appliances, vintage items, toys, linens, cookware, prints, books, and more.

All proceeds benefit the operation of the museum. No early sales will take place.

The Vinton History Museum is located at 210 E. Jackson Avenue in Vinton. For more information email info@vintonhistorymuseum.org or call 540-342-8634. In addition, visit the

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

-Submitted by Vinton History Museum



FILE PHOTO

VintonMessenger.com

RCPS hosting series of Partners for Safe Teen Driving for students and parents

Roanoke County Public Schools will host a series of Partners for Safe Teen Driving presentations this fall for students enrolled in Driver Education through Health and Physical Education 10 and their parents or guardians. Student attendance at one of the presentations is required by Virginia law, while parent attendance is strongly encouraged. The programs are designed to bring together students, parents, schools, law enforcement and community resources to promote safe and responsible driving. Research shows that parents have a significant influence on teen driving behaviors. The Partners for Safe Teen Driving program provides families with information and resources to help teens develop safe driving habits and understand the responsibilities that come with earning a driver's license. Each approximately 90-minute

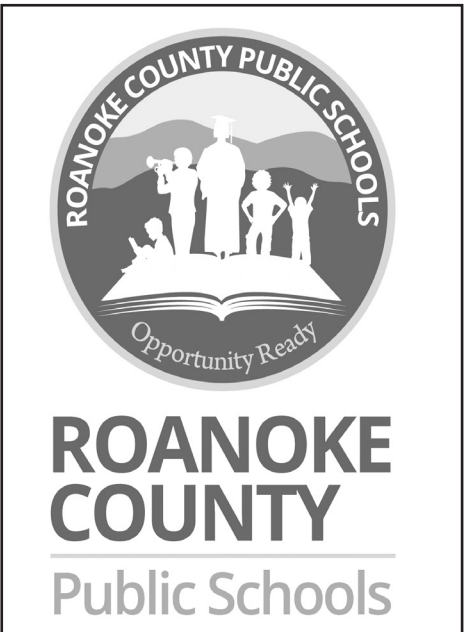
presentation will address:

- The unique characteristics and risks of teen drivers
- The important role parents play in the teen driving experience
- An overview of the Driver Education program
- Virginia teen traffic laws and graduated licensing restrictions
- Insurance considerations for teen drivers
- A parent's perspective following a teen crash

All presentations begin at 7 p.m. and will be held at the following locations:

School	• Sept. 28 – Hidden Valley High School
•	• Oct. 7 – Northside High School
•	• Oct. 14 – William Byrd High School
School	• Oct. 21 – Glenvar High School
•	• Oct. 27 – Cave Spring High School

Students may attend any one of the five presentations. Families are encouraged to attend the presentation at their child's school when possible, but students may attend at another high school if necessary. Under Virginia law (Code of Virginia § 22.1-205), students must attend a Partners for Safe Teen Driving presentation as part of the driver education requirements. Students who do not attend will not be eligible to receive a DEC-1 card or participate in behind-the-wheel training, which is required for eligibility to obtain a driver's license. The Partners for Safe Teen Driving presentations are open to the public, with a particular focus on parents and students participating in Driver Education during the 2026-27 school year. ~Submitted by RCPS



FILE GRAPHIC



From the Pulpit

By Pastor Bryan Crouch

Trust God's Promises

Trials are rarely welcome, but they often become life's greatest teachers. When everything is going well, it is easy to rely on our own abilities. Difficult seasons, however, remind us how much we need God. Rather than seeing every hardship as a sign that God has abandoned us, Scripture encourages us to view trials as opportunities for spiritual growth. Challenges stretch our faith, deepen our dependence on the Lord, and shape our character in ways comfort never could. James 1:2-3 (NIV) says, "Consider it pure

joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance." While no one enjoys difficult circumstances, God can use them to accomplish His greater purpose in our lives. Faith is much like a muscle – it grows stronger through resistance. Every obstacle becomes an opportunity to trust God's promises instead of our own understanding. Looking back, many believers can point to seasons of loss, disappointment, or

uncertainty as the very moments when their relationship with Christ became strongest. Those experiences taught them that God's grace is sufficient and His plans are always good, even when they are difficult to understand. If you are facing a trial today, remember that God is not wasting your pain. He is using it to develop perseverance, strengthen your faith, and prepare you for what lies ahead. The struggles you face today may become tomorrow's testimony of God's transforming power and unfailing love.

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS



Angie and Greg at the beach

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANGIE CHEWNING

By Angie Chewning

A beach getaway is always good for the soul. Greg and I had a wonderful trip back to my old stomping ground, Myrtle Beach. The sand, the sun and the surf is my happy place. Now it's back to

the grindstone. Last 2 Mingles coming up in September, Chamber Golf Tournament and, of course, gearing up for the Fall Festival on October 10. If you are a vendor, please get signed up. The deadline is October 1 to register.

VintonMessenger.com

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

God Meant It

Read Ezekiel 5:1 through 7:27

"Emma! Liam! Have you even started your homework?" Sheryl had given strict instructions to her children to complete their homework or they wouldn't be going skating later. "Looks like we won't be going skating tonight. You'll be doing homework instead."

The children exclaimed, "Please, Mom, let us go. That's not fair!"

"And they will know that I am the Lord; I did not threaten in vain to bring this calamity on them" (Ezekiel 6:10).

Like Sheryl, God had a purpose in His instructions to Judah.

He gave them wonderful promises. Peace and safety would be theirs if they followed Him. He also gave stern warnings. If they ignored Him, destruction would come.

The people acted in disobedience and did what was evil. As a result, God sent them into exile. Even today God does not speak in vain. If we listen to Him, we will receive blessings. If we run to rebellion, we will fall into judgment. Live in such a way as to receive His blessings.

Prayer Suggestion: Dear Lord, I will believe what You have said.

Quicklook: Ezekiel 6:9-11

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

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Attic Productions continues ‘Puffs’

Attic Productions is bringing a different perspective to the world of wizardry with its latest production, “Puffs (or: Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic),” Thursday at the D. Geraldine Lawson Performing Arts Center in Fincastle.

Written by Matt Cox and directed by Kalee Weimann, “Puffs” follows a group of students who attend a certain famous school of magic during the same seven years as a certain famous boy wizard, only this story focuses on the students

who were never destined to save the world.

The fast-paced comedy offers a humorous look at the magical school experience through the eyes of the Puffs, a group known for being loyal, hardworking and perhaps a little less celebrated than some of the school’s more famous students.

The show continues through Sept. 6. Performances are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, with 2:30 p.m. matinees on Saturdays and Sundays.



FILE PHOTO

For more information, visit Attic Productions’ website or contact the theater at 540-473-1001.

- Vinton Messenger staff report

Check out Tai Chi classes in Vinton to help prevent falls

The Vinton Messenger

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September is Fall Prevention Month and September 21-25 is Falls Prevention Awareness Week across the country.

This nationwide observance aims to improve awareness, reduce falls, and help older adults feel safe and confident in their daily lives. It’s time to explore falls data, evidence-based falls prevention programs and available resources. One of those programs is available at the Vinton Community Center – Tai Chi. Many studies have shown Tai Chi to be one of the most effective exercises for preventing falls. You can improve muscular strength, flexibility, balance, stamina, and more.

Falls are the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries among adults aged 65 and older in the United States. With over 36 million fall incidents annually, about \$80 billion is spent on medical costs related to non-fatal fall injuries and this burden is expected to increase as the older adult

population grows.

Falls result in emergency room visits, hospitalizations, and long-term care admissions. As part of the commitment to improving the quality of life of older adults, data from the National Council on Aging (NCOA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) were collected to support VAFPC members in informing and educating people about preventing falls.

- In the United States, over 14 million, or one in four, adults ages 65 and older report falling each year.
- One out of 10 falls results in an injury that causes the older adult to restrict their activities for a day or more or to seek attention from the healthcare system.
- Each year, there are about 3 million emergency department visits due to older people falls and about 1 million fall-related hospitalizations among older adults.
- In 2019, 83% percent of hip fracture deaths and 88% of emergency department visits and hospitalizations for hip fractures were caused by falls.
- Each year, nearly 319,000 older people are hospitalized for hip fractures.
- Falls are the most common cause of traumatic brain injuries.



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF VDH

The VDH uses the CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) for state falls data. In 2023, it showed:

- 24.4 percent of Virginians aged 45 and older reported falling one or more times in the past year.
- 40.4 percent reported a fall that caused an injury that limited regular activities for at least a day or caused a doctor’s visit.
- People with arthritis had a higher prevalence of falls with 32.2 percent reporting a fall in the past year.
- The prevalence of falls was higher for females at 28.9% than males (19.2%).
- Falls increased with age.

Falls among older adults continue to be a national public health concern. Falls Prevention Awareness Week is a nationwide observance with state coalitions and partners to raise awareness on preventing falls, reducing the risk of falls, and helping older adults live without fear of falling.

There are steps you can take on your own to make your home safer and prevent falls.

- Secure some support: Buy a shower seat, grab bar, and adjustable-height handheld shower head to make bathing easier and safer.
 - Light it up: Replace burnt-out bulbs with bright, non-glare lightbulbs.
 - Have a seat: Place a sturdy chair in your bedroom so you can sit while getting dressed.
 - Clear the way: Keep items off the stairs and fix simple, but serious, hazards such as clutter and throw rugs.
 - Store for success: Keep frequently used items between your waist and shoulder height.
- Tai Chi classes are offered at the Vinton Community Center at 820 E. Washington Avenue in Vinton at no charge. For more information, contact Amanda at apayne@vintonva.gov or call 540-983-0645, or visit the Facebook page at Vinton Charles R. Hill Community Center.

-Submitted by Vinton Community Center

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	
14						15					16				
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53								54				55	56		
57												58			
59						60						61			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Manila hemp plant
6. Turkish river
10. Something to read
14. In a way, initiated
15. Popular Apple TV series
17. King Charles is part of it
19. Earlier
20. Foot (Latin)
21. Zodiac sign
22. A browning of the skin
23. Remain as is
24. Turfs
26. It’s used to slaughter animals
29. Volcanic crater
31. The mother of Jesus
32. One-Os life story
34. One-time Liverpool coach Slot
35. Counterparts
37. Jacob __, American journalist
38. Digital audiotape

39. River in South Africa
40. Kimono sashes
41. Rooting somewhere
43. American spy Aldrich
45. A way to call for
46. Taxi
47. Pancakes made of buckwheat flour
49. Swiss river
50. Popular type of video game (abbr.)
53. Have surgery
57. Formal withdrawal from a union
58. Performs spoken improv
59. Greek war god
60. 2,000 lbs.
61. Helps to evade capture

CLUES DOWN

1. Swedish rock group
2. Ofriiday Night LightsO director Peter
3. Currency exchange fee
4. Feline
5. Folk singer DiFranco
6. Ghostly pale from distress
7. Rapid eye movements
8. Monetary unit of Macao
9. Lawmakers
10. Colorless mineral
11. At some prior time
12. American protest singer
13. Opener
16. Seldom
18. Relaxing places
22. Touchdown
23. From end to end
24. Kids love him
25. Metal-bearing solid
27. Skin care product manufacturer
28. Thirteen
29. Angry
30. Member of a Semitic people
31. One-thousandth of an inch
33. Former CIA
35. Most lemony
36. Engage in
37. Mass of fish eggs
39. Food supplies
42. Backbones
43. American real estate investment firm
44. Megabyte
46. ÖThree Coins in the FountainO songwriter
47. Dutch colonist
48. Full-grown pike fish
49. Emergency prep expert Edwards
50. Flute
51. Dismissive sound
52. Slang term for marijuana
53. Young women’s association
54. Cosmopolitan city
55. Narrow isthmus in Thailand
56. Pointed end of a pen

VINTON HISTORY: Markham’s Mill

In the early 1930s the Walter Markham family built a sawmill in Stewartsville named Markham’s Mill. In 1939 the family added a flour and feed mill. In 1948 a canning factory was added. The mill was then run as a farm store until it ceased operation in 1990.

The mill sold flour and feed to various stores in Floyd, Bedford, Campbell, Franklin and Roanoke Counties. It usually had eight employees.

The guarantee was that “Every bag of the flour is guaranteed to give absolute satisfaction, or your dealer will refund the purchase price.”

Markham’s Best Flour made at Markham’s Mill was the most popular flour in the Vinton area made from selected Valley of Virginia wheat. The citizens were very supportive of a locally produced product. A flour bag showing the logo and product information is on display at the Vinton History Museum at 210 East Jackson



PHOTO BY JUDY CUNNINGHAM

Avenue in downtown Vinton, where they are “Preserving the Past for the Future.”

Submitted by Vinton History Museum Executive Director Judy Cunningham

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORY

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from page 2

Sarah accompanies her mom to appointments, because “multiple sets of ears are helpful” and the ALS diagnosis has led to “lots of learning in a short amount of time.” With ALS being so rare, not much research exists and there aren’t that many resources available.

One obstacle they are currently facing is Jim's desire to attend upcoming reunions and what that involves for a petite woman like Judy to load the car with a wheelchair, an oxygen supply, and Jim, to get there.

In the United States there are approximately 53 million people in our situation. The

employed, talk to your employer about how to navigate time challenges. Employees covered under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act may be able

Pastor Steve Garay says pride is one thing that leads caregivers to decline assistance. He also says to let people help – it's good for their souls and blesses them.

from page 1

- Update R-2 to be a true medium density residential district

The assessment yielded the following concerns with the central business (CB), general business (GB), residential-business (RB), and mixed-

They identified significant obstacles to housing development in Vinton as land use restrictions, development standards (such as setbacks, parking, height lot size), stormwater requirements, and financial returns. Incentives which could be most effective for boosting housing development in Vinton included density bonuses, flexible setbacks,

more active downtown with mixed use. They propose allowing residential-only buildings (no ground floor commercial)

Callahan described Vinton as “a town which makes progress.”

-Vinton Messenger staff report

SALEM RIDGEYAKS VS HILL CITY HOWLERS



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SALARY \$90,000-\$115,000/YEAR
The Director of Finance functions in an administrative role to oversee and be responsible for the operations of the Finance Department within the organization.
□ Carries out the plans and the activities of the Finance component of TAP;
□ Manages the preparation and administration of TAP's budget and advises other TAP officials regarding the same;
□ Manages the submission of reports and timely draw-downs of accounts receivable;
□ Manages other components with the development and implementation of financial systems;
□ Comprehensive knowledge of fiscal controls, laws and regulations governing receipt, custody and expenditures of federal moneys under agency contract;
□ Comprehensive knowledge of Accounting principles and practices;
□ Ability to evaluate financial systems and efficiently formulate and install applicable methods, procedures, forms and records;
□ BS in Accounting or Finance from an accredited college or university with major work in accounting, finance or business administration. This is to be supplemented with graduate level courses and/or extensive experience in finance, administration, budgeting, federal funding practices and regulations, purchasing and property management.
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Help Wanted

Finance performs complex professional and difficult administrative work directing the activities of the Finance component of TAP.
□ Assists in carrying out the plans and the activities of the Finance component of TAP;
□ Assists in the preparation and administration of TAP's budget and advises other TAP officials regarding the same;
□ Assists in the submission of reports and timely drawdowns of accounts receivable;
□ Assists other components with the development of implementation of financial systems;
□ Comprehensive knowledge of fiscal controls, laws and regulations governing receipt, custody and expenditures of federal money under agency contracts;
□ Comprehensive knowledge of principles and practices;
□ Ability to evaluate financial systems and efficiently formulate and install accounting methods, procedures, forms and records;
□ Bachelor's degree in accounting and/or finance.
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Bilingual ability is a plus

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, September 14, 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 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 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 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 September 16, 2026 at 6:30 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 Roanoke College Trustees,

Legals - City of Salem

property owner, to rezone the property located at 102 North Market Street (Tax Map # 106-6-1) from RB Residential Business District to CUD College and University District with proffered conditions.

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

VDOT
ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP

The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Salem Residency which includes the counties of Roanoke, Botetourt and Craig during the winter of 2026-2027. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a bonus payment and a minimum guaranteed payment for the season. Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov. All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (https://eva.virginia.gov). Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 18, 2026 may be eligible for a bonus payment. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements. Questions can be directed to the Salem Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday – Friday. Phone: 540-387-5497. Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov
EEO/AA Employee

Legals - Botetourt County

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOTETOURT COUNTY IN RE: ESTATE OF CHARLES ELLIS ALFORD, DECEASED NOTICE
Having been requested to do so by Michael Deneka, Esq., executor of the estate of Charles Ellis Alford, Deceased, and in accordance with Section 64.2-550 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, all creditors of Charles Ellis Alford, and all persons in any way interested in his estate, are hereby notified that I have fixed the 30th day of September, 2026 at 10 o'clock a.m., at my office at 13 South Roanoke Street, Fincastle, Virginia as the time and place for determining an account of the debts and demands against said Charles Ellis Alford or his estate, the priorities among them, and the names of the persons to whom they are due. All creditors of Charles Ellis Alford, deceased, and persons interested in his estate should appear at the time and place named, or any other time or place to

which the proceedings may be adjourned, and protect their interest.
Given under my hand this the 31st day of August, 2026.
Malcolm McL. Doubles
Commissioner of Accounts

Legals - Montgomery County

ABC NOTICE
SUNSHINE EATS LLC, trading as ADDY KATZ, 3165 N. Franklin St., Christiansburg, Montgomery County, Virginia, 24073-4025

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.
Ronald J. Frank Jr. 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.

ABC NOTICE

VD RETAIL LLC., trading as GOOSE CREEK MARKET, 2370 Roanoke St, Montgomery County, Christiansburg, VA 24073

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

Deep 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.

VDOT
ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP

The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Christiansburg Residency which includes the counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski during the winter of 2026-2027. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a bonus payment and a minimum guaranteed payment for the season. Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov. All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (https://eva.virginia.gov). Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 18, 2026 may be eligible for a bonus payment. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements. Questions can be directed to the Christiansburg Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday –Friday. Phone: 540-381-7201 Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov
EEO/AA Employer

Legals - Montgomery County

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, September 22, 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. Conditional Use Permit request by The Economic Development Authority of Montgomery County, Virginia, Property Owner and Applicant, to allow a structure greater than 70 feet in height, specifically a manufacturing area with a footprint of 8,500 square feet and a height of 105 feet, in the General Industrial (I-2) zoning district on property located at 2040 Parkway Drive SE, identified as Tax Parcel 558-(A)-24A (Parcel ID 300149), consisting of approximately 38.102 total acres. The property is designated as Mixed Use w/ Buffer (Industrial) 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, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

Order of Publication
Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,-317,20-104
Case No. CL26-1624
MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073
VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY ALISON JUSTUS, Plaintiff, v. UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MELVIN E. SCOTT, INDIVIDUALLY, AND AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE SCOTT LIVING TRUST DATED JUNE 16, 1999,

UNKNOWN HEIRS OF NAOMI W. SCOTT, INDIVIDUALLY, AND AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE SCOTT LIVING TRUST DATED JUNE 16, 1999,

UNKNOWN SUCCESSORS IN TRUST UNDER THE SCOTT LIVING TUST DATED JUNE 16, 1999, and

UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES UNDER THE SCOTT LIVING TRUST DATED JUNE 16, 1999, Defendant(s).

The object of this suit is to reform the Deed dated August 21, 2003, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, as Instrument No. 2003014538, and confirm title in Alison Justus. An Affidavit having been filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the location of the named Defendant(s), that the Defendant(s) may be non-residents of Virginia and maintain no domicile with ion the borders of the Commonwealth, or are deceased, or that there may be parties who have an interest in the property but are unknown, namely, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the named Defendant(s), made Defendant(s) by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that he named Defendant(s) and all Parties Unknown appear on or before October 14, 2026, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause. Entered 8/17/26
Honorable Robert M.D. Turk Judge
I Ask For This: N. Reid Broughton (VSB No. 38899)
Katie M. Decoster (VSB No.

Legals - Montgomery County

82696)
Sands Anderson PC
P.O. Box 2009
Christiansburg, VA 24068-2009
(540)260-9011
(540) 260-0022 fax

Order of Publication
Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,-317,20-104
Case No. CL26001226-00
MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073
LUZ MARIA LOPEZ v. ILIAK LOPEZ

The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE
It is ORDERED that ILIAK LOPEZ appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before October 23, 2026 @ 9:00 AM.
Entered August 24, 2026
Honorable Circuit Court Clerk, Tiffany M. Couch

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, September 14, 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. An ordinance of the Town of Christiansburg amending the 2013 Comprehensive Plan by adopting a revised Comprehensive Plan consisting of the following elements:
Government, Environment, Economic Development, Recreation and Destination, Infrastructure, Transportation, Public Safety, Housing, and Future Land Use, including the Future Land Use Map. Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comments in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the proposed revised Comprehensive Plan 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, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

Legals - Town of Vinton

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF VINTON, VIRGINIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that the Vinton Town Council will hold a public hearing at its meeting on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia, concerning the proposed amendments, transfers, and additional appropriations to the Town of Vinton's FY 2026-2027 budget to appropriate funding for projects and activities that were budgeted and appropriated in the previous fiscal year in the total amount of \$1,160,000 in the General Fund and the Capital Fund. These previously funded projects include equipment purchases and repairs, contractual services, and capital projects for the History Museum, water infrastructure, and stormwater infrastructure. State law requires a public hearing to be held whenever a proposed budget amendment exceeds 1% of the locality's total budget. Any additional information on this public meeting is available in the Town Manager's Office, located in the Vinton Municipal Building, (540) 983-0607. Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate in this public meeting should contact the Town Manager's

Legals - Town of Vinton

office at (540) 983-0607.
Megan Lawless
Town Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF VINTON, VIRGINIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that the Vinton Town Council will hold a public hearing at its meeting on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia, concerning the proposed amendment and additional appropriation to the Town of Vinton's FY 2026-2027 budget. The proposed budget amendment would appropriate \$2,500,000 received from a General Obligation Bond and \$1,150,000 from unappropriated fund balance in the Capital Fund for the funding of the Vinton War Memorial Renovation Project in the total amount of \$3,650,000. State law requires a public hearing to be held whenever a proposed budget amendment exceeds one percent (1%) of the total expenditures shown in the currently adopted budget. The Town Council intends to consider and may adopt the proposed budget amendment following the public hearing, in accordance with § 15.2-2507 of the Code of Virginia. Any additional information on this public meeting is available in the Town Manager's Office, located in the Vinton Municipal Building, (540) 983-0607. Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate in this public meeting should contact the Town Manager's Office at (540) 983-0607. Megan Lawless
Town Clerk

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Golfers 4th at Copper Cove

The William Byrd golfers were hot Tuesday when they shot a team score of 339 in a Blue Ridge District golf match. Lord Botetourt won the round at Copper Cove on a very hot day in Hardy with a 312.

“Copper Cove was a long, hot day,” said Byrd coach Scott Whitehead. “It was a struggle for many of the golfers in the district.”

David Foster and Ethan Sink shot 82 each to lead the Highlanders. Also scoring were Andrew Carter with an 86 and Jayden Beasley at 89. Reid Divers shot 92 and Chase Madonna carded a 97.

Alisa Davidova of Lord Botetourt

was the medalist with a 67, five strokes lower than second place Ryland Stump of Northside. LB was the low team on the day with Northside and Franklin County tying for second with 320 each. Byrd was next and Staunton River shot 361.

Next up for the BRD golfers is a match at Hanging Rock next Tuesday, September 8. Byrd’s home match at Blue Hills is on September 15.

“We are excited about next week at Hanging Rock and will have a battle for the open spots again,” said Whitehead. “We continue to gain much needed match experience in every round we compete.”



Byrd’s Jayden Beasley tees off.

PHOTO BY JOHN WACHER

Garay

from page 1

to reserve your spot.

The Native American flute is considered one of the easier instruments to learn, as it produces beautiful sounds even for beginners. The sound has been described as peaceful, soulful, enchanting, meditative, and calming. Some say those sounds can be relaxing and stress-relieving, as well, and even improve your health.

The Native American style flute is made simply with five or six holes generally and played vertically, not to the side like band flutes. The fingerings are not complex. All ages can learn to play the instrument. Garay says anyone of any age, even with no musical aptitude, can derive instant pleasure from picking up a Native American style flute and playing.

Garay is well-known in the Vinton area and at the Community Center where he also teaches Tai Chi and Tai Chi Cane Defense. He is celebrating 25 years as the pastor at Oakview Church of God. He is now retired from Keltech, which has given him time to explore his many other interests – one of which is making and playing the Native American style flute. He also is, or has been, a storyteller, a columnist, and co-director (with this wife Audrey) of the Roanoke Valley Christian Writers group. She has written and published two books. Together they published a Christian anthology last year.

In addition, he is a leather craftsman and founder of Cheveyo LeatherWorks and spends many weekends at craft shows, fairs, and festivals selling his creations. He draws the crowd in by playing his flute, which tends to resonate and echo through the venue and sends them searching for the source.

He has played his flutes in many different locations for delighted, and even mesmerized audiences, including at the Bristol Caverns (you can hear him on Facebook). Garay loves the music so much himself that he plays

virtually anywhere on demand, any place people are gathered. He carries a small flute with him most of the time. He especially enjoys just sitting on his porch playing his favorite tunes, “Amazing Grace” and “Heartsong.”

He has a busy September planned, appearing at the Draper Mercantile, the Floyd County Fair, the Bedford Center Fair, and the Honey Festival. He was invited to a festival in Ohio which he had to decline because he was already booked. He has set up shop at the Peaks of Otter Artisans Gallery and the Floyd Living Traditions Festival.

Hearing the oral history of his Native American ancestry throughout his childhood, Garay was able to confirm it through DNA documentation. Both his maternal and paternal ancestors were Native Americans. In a tribal naming ceremony, Garay was given the name of “Cheveyo,” the Hopi word for “Spirit Warrior.” He plays the Native American style flute to honor his roots.

He is accumulating a collection of flutes including those made from wood, epoxy, PVC pipe, bamboo, and 3D printer-created drone flutes. For Christmas, his requested gift from his wife was a Walking Staff flute, 55 inches in length.

The next venture he has in mind – after numerous requests – is producing CDs of his flute music.

He also dreams of establishing a flute circle in Vinton.

Garay has added a new craft to his sales tables. After a lifelong interest in pyrography, he is now creating wood-burnings (on wood and linen paper) of local iconic sights, including covered bridges, old barns, an antique truck, and various animals and scenes from nature. He was riding on a motorcycle one day and stopped to take a photo of an old barn and turned it into a woodburning, much in demand.

To register for the class, visit <https://cheveyoleatherworks.net/events>, call Garay at 540-797-1256 or email him at steve_garay@yahoo.com.



Garay received a Walking Stick flute from his wife for Christmas

PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE GARAY

Dinner

from page 1



Vinton Breakfast Lions Club members at the annual Awards Dinner



New Lions Club officers and board members (from left): Board member Jeff Mason, President Ryan Mason, Past President Justin Fix, 1st Vice President Sabrina McCarty, Tail Twister Chris McCarty, Lion Tamer Keith Lafferty, Secretary and LCIF Coordinator Gary Myers, Board members Sam Cundiff and Dennis Dickens, Treasurer Bob Benninger, and Board members Jeff Stovall and Dave Jones

Keith Lafferty, Club Membership Justin Fix, Alternate Treasurer Hal Mabe, and Alternate Secretary Joel Lytton.

Board members were also recognized: Jeff Mason, Sam Cundiff, Jeff Stovall, Dave Jones, Dennis Dickens, and Steve Haldren.

Ryan Mason was named “Lion of the Year.” He was described as “very deserving of the award” and a member who “demonstrates what it truly means to be a Lion and the best of what the club stands for – being a Lion isn’t about one person – it requires a team.”

The prestigious Melvin Jones Award was given to Jeff Mason for his service to the club as president in 2023-2024 and his participation in numerous service

activities involving the local Lions.

Sam Cundiff received the Progressive Melvin Jones Award – the first presented by the club. He was a founding member of the Breakfast Lions and has served in most offices over the years. He was also recognized as the “Pancake Flipper” for the annual Lions Pancake Breakfast held during the Vinton Fall Festival (coming up in October).

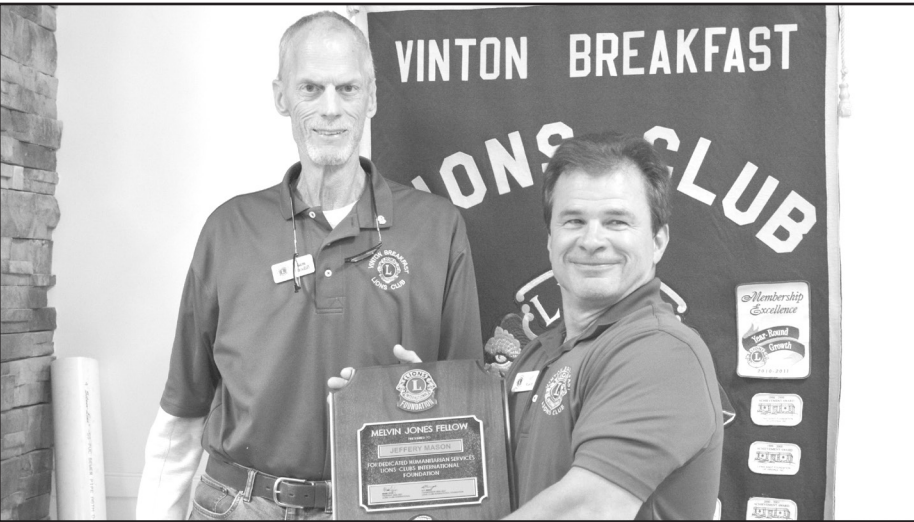
Pins were awarded for 100% attendance during the year. Special presentations were made to Northwest Ace Hardware and the Vinton Moose Lodge for their contributions to the Vinton Lions projects and their mission. Northwest Hardware allows the Lions to sell their signature brooms

there. The Moose Lodge allows the Lions to meet in their building and host many of their events there.

Mason presented the Past President’s Plaque to Justin Fix for his service to the club and community.

Lion Eric Mills recognized new members and their sponsors: Eddie Glover, inducted by Steve Newcomb; Matt Townley, inducted by Gary Myers; Jeff Thomas, inducted by Chris McCarty; Chen Yang, inducted by Ryan Mason; Karenn Glover, inducted by Eddie Glover; and Tim Robers, inducted by Lisa Stover.

Mills noted that Lions Club International has 1.38 million members in 50,000 clubs in 300 nations, all “dedicated to making a difference”



Melvin Jones Award winners Sam Cundiff (left) and Jeff Mason



New Lions Club members with their sponsors

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

in their communities and the world. The Vinton Breakfast Lions Club currently has 57 members. Last year those members donated a total of 1,135.5 volunteer hours across 124 activities, categorized as follows:

- Vision Programs (42 activities): Eyeglass collection/recycling, White Cane initiatives, mand school vision testing
- Hunger (42 activities): Food collection, Meals on Wheels program
- Environmental (17 activities): Glade Town cemetery and trail maintenance
- Humanitarian Aid (12 activities): Fundraising efforts such as the Dogwood Festival, Bingo, Senior Expo, and holiday gift programs
- Youth (8

activities): Hearing screenings, Bland Music Competition, Reading Across America, HLH school orientation for new students, school supply donations

- Diabetes (2 activities): Annual Type 1 Diabetes walk, Camp 2 Sweet for youth
- Childhood Cancer (1 activity): Assistance in purchasing equipment for the new Pediatric Cancer Center at Carilion.

The Lions also made a significant contribution by partnering with the Town of Vinton to support the new multi-generational Vinton Memorial Park.

In addition, their eyeglass processing facility on Elm Avenue continues to receive significant contributions from local partners. This year, the Breakfast Lions collected

1,857 eyeglasses from Bonsack (Kroger, Walmart, and Magnolia Eye Center) and 995 eyeglasses from Vinton (Kroger, Pinnacle Bank, Northwest Ace Hardware, Moose Lodge, Lotz Funeral Home, Blink Optometry, National Optical, and Oakey’s).

The Lions Club motto is “We Serve” and the Vinton Club is dedicated to carrying out that mission, and doing it well.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS														
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William Byrd boys(#88-84) are in the middle of the pack as the horn sounds to start last week’s Blue Ridge Invitational varsity cross country race at Greenfield. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Terriers off to fast start in cross country opener at Greenfield

Lord Botetourt and James River High Schools combined to host the Blue Ridge Invitational as the 2026 cross country season took the horn at the Greenfield Recreation Complex in Daleville last Wednesday. William Byrd was among over 20 high school and middle school teams racing on the Botetourt County course for varsity, jayvee and middle school races for both boys and girls.

“I want to give a huge thank you to James River High School and their coaching staff for doing so much behind the scenes to make this event a success,” said Lord Botetourt coach Noel Preece. “We had over 450 middle and high school athletes compete between five races. Greenfield is a fan-

tastic race course for our kids to get to compete on a more traditional-style course, and the hardest course of the season for many of these teams.”

The Christiansburg boys and girls swept the varsity races. William Byrd’s boys finished third as a team.

“The Blue Ridge Invitational was a great season opener for us,” said Byrd coach Kayland Bond. “I’m very pleased with where this team is at this point in the season. I’m looking forward to seeing their hard work and preparation pay off as the season progresses.”

Byrd senior Vincent Liu had an outstanding race, running a minute and 41 seconds faster than

his previous 5K personal best from his freshman year.

“Vincent has been an important part of our program over the past three years and is a great example of what hard work and dedication can accomplish,” said Bond. “He put in a lot of work over the summer and came into this season ready to see that work pay off.”

The next race for the Terriers will be on Saturday, September 12, when Cave Spring High hosts the Knights Crossing event at Green Hill Park in west Roanoke County. The Knights Crossing is one of the biggest meets of the entire season, drawing schools from up and down the east coast.



Left, Byrd’s Max Reeves(#85) and Vincent Liu(#90) race in last week’s Blue Ridge Invitational in Daleville. Right, Bindi Whitenack(#168) and Keeli Emery(#166) come down the hill to sprint down the home stretch in the girls’ varsity race. PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

WILLIAM BYRD VOLLEYBALL

continued from page 10

establish a new standard while honoring the players and teams that have represented the Terriers throughout the years.

“It’s difficult to fully put into words what a win like this means for our program,” said McCoy. “It has been well over 20 years since William Byrd has defeated Hidden Valley in volleyball, and when you understand the tradition and success that program has had you understand the significance of what our kids accomplished.

“I am incredibly proud of this group. Not simply because they won, but because of how they competed and how they continue to grow. We’ve talked from the beginning about believing in one another, staying composed when the moment gets big, and

learning how to win together. Tonight, they demonstrated all of those things.”

Heidi Dixon led the Terrier attack with 15 kills while also making a significant impact defensively at the net with seven blocks and adding five digs. Emma Olivit contributed an impressive all-around performance with nine kills, two service aces, three blocks and four digs.

Defensively, Josephine Mullen anchored the backcourt with 12 digs, helping the Terriers extend rallies and create transition opportunities throughout the match. Running the offense, Catalina Patterson distributed 45 assists, consistently creating opportunities for the Terrier attackers and helping guide the offense throughout the victory.

“This one belongs to our players,” said McCoy. “They’re the ones who have committed themselves to changing expectations and building something special. It also belongs, in part, to every former Terrier volleyball player, coach and family who has invested in this program along the way. We respect the history of William Byrd volleyball, and we want to continue building upon it, but we also understand that one win does not define a season or a program. We can celebrate this moment and we absolutely should; but tomorrow we get back to work. The challenge now is to take the confidence and lessons from a night like this and continue becoming the team we believe we can be.”

With the win the Terriers upped their record to 2-3 on the season. Last Thursday at Glenvar they dropped a four set match to the Roanoke County rival Highlanders, 25-23, 25-16 and

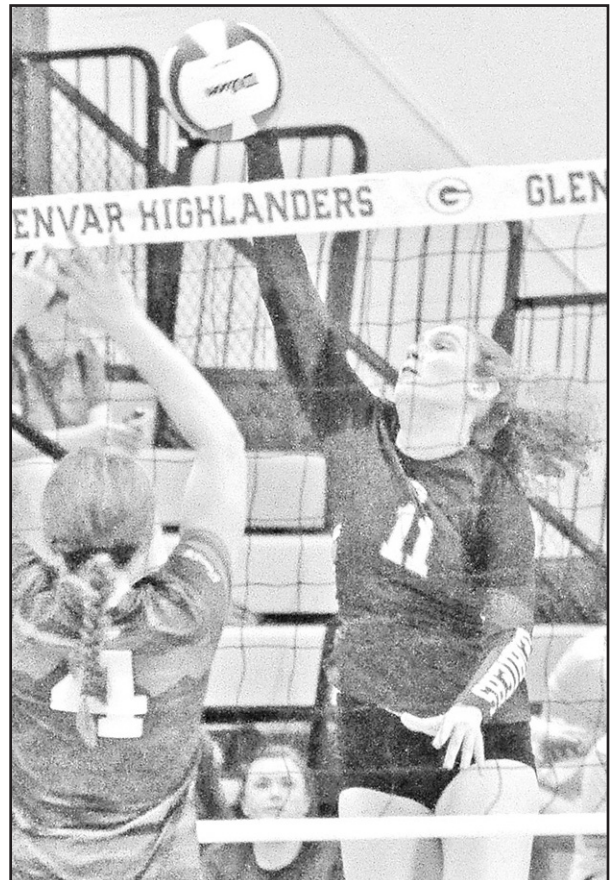
25-23. Last Saturday morning they traveled to Covington for a non-district match with Alleghany and lost 25-19, 25-19, 19-25 and 25-18.

The Terriers play one of the toughest schedules you’ll find in Class 3. They’re now off until September 3 when they host Cave Spring, and a week from tonight they return the trip to Hidden Valley. You can bet the Titans will be anxious for revenge and McCoy will make sure the girls take nothing for granted after Tuesday’s big win, but for now they’ll just enjoy it.

“They earned the right to enjoy this one,” he said. “What makes me most excited is that I still don’t believe we have come close to reaching our ceiling. These kids are learning what they are capable of, individually and collectively. I’m grateful and incredibly humbled to be their coach, and I’m proud of what they accomplished.”



Left, Byrd’s Heidi Dixon(#4) and Haleigh White go up for a block in last week’s match at Glenvar. Right, Emma Olivit(#11) puts down a spike for the Terriers. PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



SPORTS

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Terriers rally for opening night win over Cave Spring

The William Byrd football team opened the season with a win for the fifth straight year last Friday. Byrd came from behind to score two fourth period touchdowns and defeat Cave Spring, 20-14, at Bogle Stadium.

“Our staff was pleased with the resiliency our players showed throughout the game,” said Byrd coach Brad Lutz. “Seven players made their first varsity start on Friday, and we started five sophomores between offense and defense. We lost the field position phase, the penalty phase and the special teams phase, but our players were resilient and were successful against a senior dominated team. The win was a great start to the season because we gained valuable experience in the game.”

The Terriers drew first blood when sophomore quarterback Carter Gray found Thomas Purcell for a 17 yard TD pass. Byrd failed on a two point try, and when Cave Spring scored on a 50 yard pass play the Knights also didn’t convert a two point attempt and it was 6-6 after the first quarter.

Neither team scored in the second quarter as the game was tied at the half. The Knights took their first lead of the game in the third quarter on a 15 TD pass, and converted a two point try for a 14-6 lead. That’s the way it stood after the third quarter.

The Terriers tied it up again when Davion Wade pulled in a tipped pass from Gray from 10 yards out. Byrd tried for two again in an attempt to tie the game but it failed again and the Knights held on to a slim 14-12 lead with 11 minutes to go.

Byrd won the game in dramatic fashion. With about six minutes to go Gray Matthews broke loose off the right side for a 96 yard touchdown run. This time Byrd converted the two-point try and the Terrier defense held on for a 20-14 opening night win.

Matthews finished with 240 yards rushing on 19 carries to lead the Terriers. Gray had six carries for 27 yards and was five for 10 passing for 63 yards and a pair of scores. Wade had two catches for 18 yards while

Purcell, Matthews and Austin Kroner had one reception each.

On defense Wade led the Terriers with eight total tackles. Zach Taylor had six total tackles and a fumble recovery while Lukas Johnson, Bruce Robinson, Briggs Kotz and Purcell had five tackles each. Johnson also had a sack, a tackle for a loss and two quarterback pressures.

Josh Hale also had a sack and forced two fumbles. Hale and Jayden Omiyo had four tackles each and Caden McReynolds had three.

While the Byrd coaches were pleased with the win, they still have some work to do.

“We always have things to work on,” said Lutz. “Friday night we made a lot of mistakes that were costly at times. We have a great group of young men that like to work, and they understand the importance of getting better this week.”

This week the Terriers are back at Bogle Field, behind Cave Spring Middle School, to take on another Roanoke County rival. This time Hidden Valley will host Byrd after dropping their opener at Staunton River last week, 35-12.

To say the Titans have struggled of late would be a gross understatement. Hidden Valley comes into Friday’s meeting on a 23 game losing streak, and since 2022 they have four wins and 38 losses. Although Byrd has beaten the Titans 65-0 and 65-3 over the past two years Lutz is taking nothing for granted.

“They are a much-improved team from last year,” he said. “Coach Bud Tolliver is rebuilding that program, and they are very invested. They have talented players in all three phases of the game, and they are capable of making big plays.

“Every year I remind our players that we were 0-9 five years ago. This game will humble you quickly if you take teams for granted. We are in the first phase of our season and all of our focus is on us and what we need to do to be a successful football team.”

This is Byrd’s second of five non-



Byrd’s Gray Matthews is off and running for a 96 yard game winning touchdown in last Friday’s game with Cave Spring at Bogle Stadium.

PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER

district games to open the season. It’s a good start, especially the way the team rallied be beat a team coached by former Terrier standout Hunter Shepherd.

“Every win is important, but winning under those circumstances was more important than the win itself,” said Lutz. “This team is writing its own story and the experience we

gained from that game will help us down the road later in the season.”

The Byrd jayvee team lost to Cave Spring last week. The middle school and jayvees will host a doubleheader tonight, Thursday, at Patterson Stadium with the middle school taking on Northside at 5:30 pm and the jayvees going against Hidden Valley at 7 pm.



Left, William Byrd’s Jayden Omiyo makes a tackle in the backfield in Friday’s game with Cave Spring. Right, Zane Taylor(#2) and Thomas Purcell combine for the stop.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER



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Byrd volleyball beats Hidden Valley

1st time in over 20 years

Before Tuesday, the last time William Byrd beat Hidden Valley in volleyball the girls on this year’s Terrier team weren’t even born. That domination ended Tuesday in Vinton when the Terriers upended the Titans in five sets.

It was the first time in over 20 years Byrd has beaten Hidden Valley, one of Virginia’s most consistently successful volleyball programs. For first year Byrd head coach Kris McCoy, the victory represents far more than another mark in the win column. It is a milestone for a Byrd program working to

Catalina Patterson sets one up.

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PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN