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Terriers Football Team 2



Galaxy Soccer Team

William Byrd hosts Youth Rec Night

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

William Byrd High School recognized fall teams from the Mount Pleasant and Vinton Rec Clubs prior to the football game on September 18. This included

soccer, football (tackle and flag), and cheerleaders. Teams paraded along the track, waving to the crowd, as their names were announced.

Teams and coaches recognized at the 2026 Youth Rec Night included:

Soccer:

Vinton U8 Co-ed team, coached by Ashley Fox, and Matt Blankenship: Haley Blankenship, Isla Cranwell, Emma Fox, Wyatt Jennelle, and Russel Keith

Mt. Pleasant U10 Strikers (boys), coached by Robert Mauck and Brady Buck: Cooper Buck, Brady Crowley,

Grayson Larry, Kaiden Larry, Asher

Martin, Walker Mauck, and James Sparks

Vinton U10 Falcons (boys), coached

by Giancarlo Rossello, Josh Bailey, and

Ray Faddis: Loxley Alterio, Carson

See Rec Night, page 8



Rams Flag Football Team



Vinton Cheer Team 1

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Vinton Hotel nears completion

The ESA Premiere Suites hotel construction at the intersection of Pollard Street and Virginia Avenue in Vinton is nearing competition with approximately 95% of the project complete.

Jill Loope, Special Projects assistant to the Vinton town manager, says exterior site work and interior finishing touches are being wrapped up over the next month. Curb, gutter, paving, and

landscaping will be underway over the next few weeks.

Construction on the hotel began in September 2025. The grand opening is expected to occur this November following completion of all final inspections and the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy.

~Submitted by Town of Vinton



Drone photograph of Vinton Hotel

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MATTERN AND CRAIG

Ta-da! It's the final Mingle of the season

The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce wraps up another phenomenally successful Mingle at the Market concert series on Saturday night, September 26. The gates at the Vinton Farmers' Market open at 6 p.m. to close out the season with performances by Chris Keaton and the Millenials, and headliner Solacoustix.

Chris Keaton is a Vinton native, son of its first optometrist, Herbert Keaton. His mother, Jeanean, is remembered for her 50-plus years as church organist, many at Thrasher Memorial.

He learned to play saxophone at William Byrd High School (Class of 1973). His first ever performance (at age 11) was on the lawn of the Vinton War Memorial during the Dogwood Festival. He was invited to be grand marshal for the parade in 2017.

Keaton spent about 30 years working in Nashville as an award-winning music publisher, artist management consultant, and entertainment industry executive before returning home to Vinton. He's also a philanthropist – awarding scholarships each year to WBHS graduates in memory of his parents.

Keaton is the lead vocalist and saxophone artist for the Millenials. The



Chris Keaton

FILE PHOTO

band also includes Travis Schmitt on drums, Ronald Robinson II on bass, and Rob Stevens on guitar.

Featured band Solacoustix performs everything from blues to R&B, country to rock. Jojo Stockton is the band leader, joined by Stuart Brown, Chris Eural, and Adam Hill.

Food trucks this Saturday night will be Soda Street, Local Lemon, and Star City Graveyard Grille.

Admission is \$7; ages 12 and under are free.

Sponsors for the Mingles have included

See Mingle, page 5

William Byrd Marching Terriers band in full swing



PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER

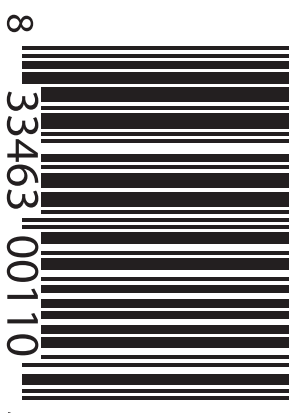
Byrd's Marching Terriers performing "The Power of One."

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

"Our Marching Terriers are in full swing this year with an exciting show for this season!" says WBHS Band Director Dan Plybon.

The program is entitled "The Power of One" with musical selections including "One" by Harry Nilsson and Three Dog Night; "All by Myself," by Eric Carmen; "Piano Concerto No. 2, mvt. 2," by Sergei Rachmaninov; and "Butterflies and Hurricanes" by Muse.

See Band, page 8



The Day Everything Changed: *Talking to children about ALS*

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Part 6 of a series on ALS from the perspective of those who have been recently diagnosed and their caregivers.

Patients and caregivers are not the only ones affected by ALS and other severe illnesses – so are their children and grandchildren who, according to the ALS Association, “are often voiceless, despite experiencing much of the same shock, sadness, caregiving, and grief as their adult counterparts.”

When my husband, Danny, was first diagnosed with ALS in June 2026, that was one of the first questions we had – how do we explain this to our 0-year-old grandson? What does he need to know about the disease, its treatment, its progress, and how things are going to change?

We didn’t want to scare Ethan or make him afraid to be around his grandfather. We didn’t know whether to ignore it completely and pretend the diagnosis didn’t exist. We discovered he had already figured out for himself that something was seriously wrong. We aren’t sure why he suddenly knew the meaning of a “motor neuron disease” or what a motor neuron even was, when we hadn’t brought it up. Apparently, he had overheard a family conversation.

We still haven’t used the terms “ALS” or “Lou Gehrig’s Disease” around him because as a fourth grader, he knows how to use Google quite well and we are afraid of what he might

read, find out, and conclude on his own.

I recall a conversation soon after Danny was diagnosed when school was ending for summer vacation and Ethan wanted to complete a project with Grandpa of building a tree house. One of my husband’s main issues with ALS has been the almost total loss of strength in his hands and arms – a man who had worked as an electrician for over 40 years and could build or repair virtually anything around the house.

My grandson’s reaction when he realized how much difficulty Grandpa was having using a drill and hammer was, “You mean he’s never going to be able to build things or play sports again?” He had thought this was a temporary situation, and Grandpa would heal up as good as new.

They have always been close. When he was just a toddler, Ethan would stand outside in the driveway waiting for Grandpa to get home from work so they could play. Today, he has the idea that ALS will just go away. Much as I believe this is a bad dream that I will wake up from.

The ALS Association recommends finding a way to discuss the basics early in the diagnosis – if the child wants to talk about it. Let them come to you. “The way children deal with the illness is directly related to how well the parent or grandparent is coping with or dealing with the illness. Be willing to discuss the difficult

issues. Answer honestly. Don’t be afraid to say you don’t have the answers, but ‘we will find out as we go along.’”

Many children don’t bring up ALS because they don’t want to upset the one who has been diagnosed. Parents and grandparents want to shield the child, but most children who have reached a certain age are perceptive and have figured out, at least partially, what is happening.

In explaining ALS to children, you can tell them:

- The disease causes the brain to decrease or stop communicating with muscles, making them weaker. Weaker muscles may not move properly, making it harder to walk, talk, eat, and breathe.
- ALS affects people differently. It’s hard to know what will happen exactly to a person with ALS, or how quickly, or what muscle groups will be affected, but over time, they will need more help to do things.
- Scientists aren’t sure what causes ALS, but it’s not anyone’s fault.
- ALS isn’t contagious like a cold. It’s rare and not many people get it.
- There is no cure for ALS, but treatments can slow it down and make the person with ALS more comfortable.
- Families experience changes as they support the person with ALS and the way they spend time together may change.
- No matter what, you

are loved. It’s okay to feel sad, worried, or angry, and we can talk about it.

- We need to take care of ourselves, too, so we can stay strong and support each other.
- Though ALS may change a person physically and affect their ability to walk or talk, they’ll always be same person inside.

The Association recommends learning “to live with ALS, not in spite of it.” With ALS, family routines are certainly going to change, while children mainly want to keep things normal.

- Explain to children that ALS patients may need special foods or tools to help them eat.
 - They might use machines to help them breathe.
 - They might get tired easily and need more rest.
 - They could have trouble speaking and might use a special device to communicate.
 - They might need help eating or getting dressed.
 - They might laugh or cry at unexpected times or seem sad or frustrated.
 - They may have trouble walking or standing and might use a walker or wheelchair.
- My husband is experiencing problems with speaking, so that it is sometimes difficult to understand him. Our grandson doesn’t understand why that is. The speech/swallowing therapist said to speak loudly, enunciate and even over-pronounce. Ethan thinks that should be easy for Grandpa to do.

The ALS Association advises not overwhelming children with too many details. Keep it simple. Answer what they ask, but don’t burden them with too many details. “Not telling children anything about ALS can feel as though you are protecting them and keeping them ‘normal’ and away from the pain and stress of what is happening; however, ‘protecting’ can create secrecy and fear in children.”

Keep the conversation ongoing – not constantly, but let children know they can ask you most anything and get a straight answer. Always let them come to you. Don’t force the conversation.

The complexity of the discussions should change by the age of the child. Twelve-year-olds can absorb more complex concepts and details than a younger child.

While we mostly think of caregivers as adults, many children want to be part of that caregiving – keeping the ALS patient company, opening bottles for them, etc. Our grandson likes to remind Grandpa to speak clearly, to keep his head up when he walks, to bring him things he needs, to carry what is too heavy, to reach things he can’t.

Maybe if your child can’t talk to you about their feelings, they might be willing to discuss it with someone else – like their school counselor.

If you would like to learn more about ALS, visit <https://www.als.org/>.

William Byrd’s annual ‘Battle at Byrd’ to benefit Special Olympics

Each fall William Byrd High School hosts the “Battle at Byrd” cheerleading competition. The school traditionally partners with a local charity to help raise awareness and funds for the charity’s cause. It’s a chance to give back to the community.

This year the WBHS cheerleaders and Cheer Booster Club will be partnering with Special Olympics Area 8. The competition is scheduled for Saturday, September 26, at 10 a.m. in the school’s main gym.

Area 8 is one of 32 Special Olympics Area programs across Virginia. Area 8 is made up of athletes and volunteers from Botetourt, Craig, Franklin, and Roanoke

counties, as well as the cities of Roanoke and Salem.

With over 100 athletes, Area 8 offers year-round sports training and athletic competitions in basketball, bowling, soccer, softball, swimming, track and field, volleyball, and cheerleading for people with intellectual disabilities.

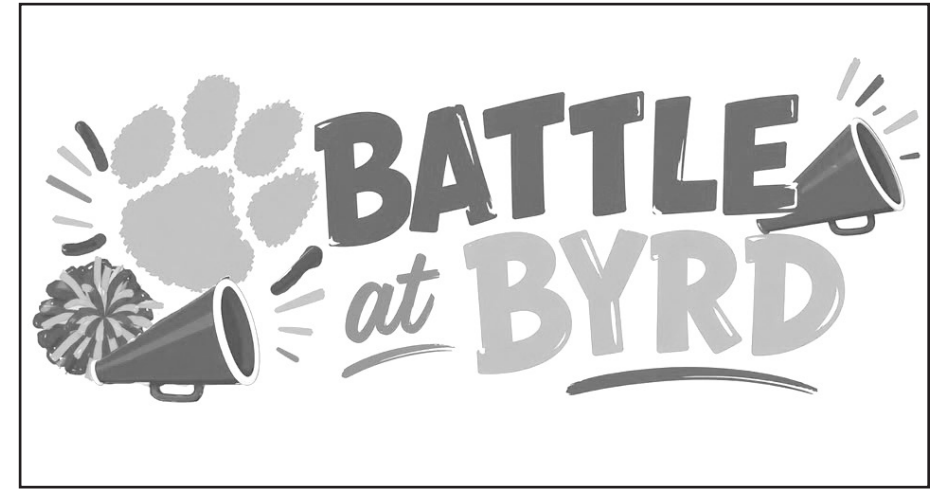
A portion of the proceeds from Battle at Byrd will be donated to support the Special Olympics athletes and their continued participation in cheerleading and other sports around the region.

“We are incredibly excited to use our event to support such an amazing group and help promote the spirit of inclusion and

opportunity that Special Olympics represents,” said WBHS Head Cheerleading Coach and Co-Director Morgan Edberg.

The first Battle at Byrd cheerleading competition at William Byrd High School was held in 2008. The purpose of the original event was to honor breast cancer victims. Last year’s competition honored Byrd senior Cam Thepsimuong, who was battling a rare form of bone cancer.

Battle at Byrd is a VHSL-sanctioned event. Divisions are determined by school enrollments. Cheer teams are judged on tumbling, motions, jumps, stunts, and dance by VHSL-certified Cheer Officials.



GRAPHIC COURTESY WBHS CHEER

The “Battle at Byrd” cheerleading competition is scheduled for Saturday, September 26, at 10 a.m. in the school’s main gym.

The cost of admission for spectators is \$10 per ticket, available online or at the door. Children 5 and under are free. Spectator doors open at 9 a.m.

More information is

available on the event and Special Olympics visit battleatbyrd.com/donate.

Sponsors for 2026 include Pok-E-Joe’s, Elmwood Wealth Partners of Janney Montgomery Scott, LLC, Dooley LLC,

Alcova Mortgage, Ripple FX, Dr. Zachary Law, DMD, Balleyhack, New Life Christian Fellowship, and Bellacino’s.

-Vinton Messenger staff report

OBITUARY

Schneider, Michael W.

Michael W. “Mike” Schneider, 75, passed away peacefully on the morning of September 13, 2026, while in hospice care at the Salem VA Medical Center, surrounded by the gratitude and love of his family.

Born in Atlanta, Ga., on December 21, 1950, Mike grew up in Georgetown, S.C. He proudly answered the call to serve his country in the United States Air Force from 1969 to 1980. Stationed initially at Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter, S.C., he met the love of his life, Jean. Marrying Jean at the age of 21, Mike immediately stepped into the role of a devoted father to her two young children, building a family grounded in love, loyalty, and commitment.

Shortly after their marriage, Mike deployed during the Vietnam War to Udorn Royal Thai Air Base, serving as a Photographic Interpreter providing crucial intelligence support in an extremely active Forward Operating Base, before returning to complete his service at Shaw AFB.

Sumter remained their home for many years until 1984, when the family relocated to Roanoke for Mike to serve as the Corporate Human Resources Director for Advance Auto Parts.

Mike possessed a naturally creative spirit and a lifelong passion for working with his hands. He later channeled that craftsmanship into a second career, eventually retiring as a skilled CNC machinist in Roanoke. Outside of work, Mike lived life

with enthusiasm – he loved riding motorcycles, spending cherished time with his family, and sharing laughter and good times with his many friends.

Above all, central to Mike’s life was his profound faith and love of God. Raised in the Jewish faith, Mike experienced a transformative spiritual rebirth in 2001 when he accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior. His walk with Christ shaped his heart, filled him with enduring hope, and gave him deep peace.

He was preceded in death by his beloved parents, Cecil and Anne Schneider, and his cherished wife, Jean B. Schneider. Mike’s legacy lives on through his family: his sister, Deb Smith, and brother-in-law, Alan Sherlock; his children, Jennie S. Rush and her husband, Michael Rush Sr., and Samuel M. Schneider and his wife, Susan R. Schneider; his grandchildren, Michael Rush, Laura Schneider, Adam Schneider, and Natalie Schneider; and his great-grandchildren, River Rush and Mazie Rush.

A memorial service celebrating Mike’s life and faith will be held at First Baptist Church Faith Chapel in Roanoke on Thursday, October 1, 2026, at 10 a.m. Military honors and interment alongside his wife will take place at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin, Va. at 2 p.m.

The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to the hospice team at the Salem VA Medical Center for their compassionate care and dignity provided to Mike in his final days.



October is

Pastor Appreciation Month

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The Vinton Messenger

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Beyond Books

Can you feel it? It's getting cooler... and spookier outside. Time to break out the tricks, treats, and embrace the sweater weather at the Vinton Library. Here's a sneak peek at all we've got planned for October.

Adult Programing:

- All Abilities Club* will meet on Friday, Oct. 9 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. This month we'll be watching the movie "Casper." Alternate activities are also provided based on needs. (For group registrations of three or more, please call 540-857-5043.)
 - Creations and Temptations* will be on Saturday, Oct. 24 from 3-4 p.m. This month we'll make cute and spooky Boo Blocks to decorate with this Halloween season.
 - Interested in hearing some iPhone Tips You'll Actually Use*? We've got some tips and tricks we're eager to share to help make using your iPhone a little easier on Thursday, Oct. 8 from 2-3 p.m.
 - This month the Vinton Book Club* will discuss "The Berry Pickers" by Amanda Peters on Thursday, Oct. 1 from 3-4 p.m. The As the Page Turns Book Club* will discuss "The First Ladies" by Marie Benedict on Wednesday, Oct. 14 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, Oct. 17 from 10:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
 - The Vinton Writers Group* meets on Thursday, Oct. 22 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Youth Programming:
- Calling all teen (middle and high school) creatives! Join your fellow Art Explorers* on Monday, Oct. 19 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. This month we'll learn about the history of fresco paintings and the artists who created them; then try your hand at making your own fresco painting. No experience needed.
 - Come by on Thursday, Oct. 15 from 4-5 p.m. to hear some classic Spooky Stories* (ages 7-11) and try out your own spooky storytelling.

Snacks provided.

- We will have our Preschool Halloween Party* (ages 2-5) on Thursday, Oct. 22 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Put on your favorite costume (or come as you are) for Halloween stories, songs, games, and crafts.
- Don't forget to stop by the library for a treat (or trick?!) during the Town of Vinton Trick-or-Treating event on Tuesday, Oct. 27 from 3-6 p.m.
- Discovery Time* (ages 2-5) will be on Thursday, Oct. 8 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. This month, we'll learn about sound and rhythm through musical instrument play and make an instrument to take home.
- Junior Makers* (ages 5-10) will be on Wednesday, Oct. 21 from 4-5 p.m. This month, learn basic mechanical engineering and physics concepts by designing, building, and testing your own marble roller coaster.
- Art Aficionados* (ages 6-11) will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 28 from 4-5 p.m. to learn all about Anna Atkins and make their own art project using the artist as inspiration.
- Our fall story time session continues through Wednesday, Oct. 7. We will have Baby Storytime* (up to 18 months) on Tuesdays from 11-11:30 a.m., Toddler Storytime* (18-36 months) on Wednesdays from 10:30-11 a.m., and Preschool Storytime* (ages 3-5) on Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m.-12 p.m.
- Don't forget about our ongoing and recurring youth programs:
- Teen Volunteer Group will be on Thursday, Oct. 1 and Tuesday, Oct. 20 from 5-6 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 17 from 3-4 p.m.
- Teen Writers Group* meets Tuesday, Oct. 6 from 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Caturday* is on Saturday, Oct. 3 with 15-minute slots from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- Music & Movement* (ages 2-5) is on Wednesday, Oct. 14 from 10:30-11:30 a.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 the website to register. *

SENIOR CENTER SCENE

October brings forth to my mind the enjoyment of crisp air, beautiful Autumn colors, and the surprise of finding the flavor of pumpkin in unexpected food items. I read recently that October is a great time for making a final push to make your dream real before the end of the year.

So, consider the programs at Charles R. Hill Community Center/ Senior Center if you are thinking about future life decisions, getting out and socializing, working on your balance, learning a few dance steps, or new game, or maybe listening or participating in a music jam. Put some spice in that pumpkin life!

The Downsizers Club meets on the first Wednesday of the month. That is Oct. 7 starting at 10 and ending at noon. The subject will be family conversations. Beth will guide us through how to open conversations with adult children or other relatives about belongings or future plans, without producing conflict. If interested in the Downsizers Club, please RSVP to Beth Powell 540-209-1255 or e-mail beth@homewithheartva.com. This allows her to have materials ready for you.

The next Happy Hearts Dance is Saturday, Oct. 10 from 7-10 p.m. Midnight Special will be playing and concessions are available. Admission

is \$10 per person at the door at Charles R. Hill Community Center/Senior Center.

New at the Senior Center is a Puzzle Exchange –take a puzzle or bring a puzzle and exchange it for a different one.

Also, at the Senior Center on Friday, Oct. 23, Beth Preston will conduct a workshop called the Keepsake Project where you can record a 10-minute family story with the option of featuring a meaningful heirloom, photo, or keepsake. There is a fee of \$75 to cover the cost of the photographer. For RSVP or questions, contact Beth Powell 540-209-1255 or e-mail beth@homewithheartva.com.

Our weekly activities are as follows:

- Mexican Train Dominos meets on Mondays from 9:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.
- Music Jam meets from 2-5:30 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 5:30-6:30 p.m. every Monday 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 routines.

- On Tuesday the Senior Center has Line Dancing Classes for Beginners from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and Advanced Beginners Class from 10-11 a.m. Advanced Line Dancing will be on hold until further notice.
- Hand and Foot Canasta meets on Tuesdays from 1-5 p.m. and on Thursdays from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.
- Senior Tai Chi meets every Thursday from 9-9:45 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 mentioned take place at the Charles R. Hill Community Center/ Senior Center at 820 E. Washington Avenue, 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.

- Submitted by Judy Gruber

VintonMessenger.com

VINTON

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

Love Your Enemies

Read 1 Samuel 21:1 through 24:22

He [David] said to his men, "The Lord forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the Lord's anointed, or lay my hand on him; for he is the anointed of the Lord" (1 Samuel 24:6)

King Saul mercilessly pursued David intending to murder him, although David had done nothing against the king. Yet David would not retaliate despite the insistence of his men. Even when God permitted him to catch Saul at a vulnerable time, David refused to take the life of the Lord's anointed.

Why would he do that? Because David revered God.

Instead of slaying the man who was out to murder him, David put his trust in the Lord, seeking God's protection and justice.

While the worldly pummel each other with everything from words to bombs, an honorable faith like David's is the hallmark of those who walk in step with Christ. Jesus said to "love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:44-45).

Challenge for Today: Trust God to handle your enemies while you choose love over revenge

Quicklook: 1 Samuel 24:1–12

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

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 Wednes-
day 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; cmpc2verizon.net Sunday school 9:45am, Worship 11:00am; Communion 1st Sundays; 2nd Sunday Session; Monday Noon Bible Study; Tuesdays & Thursdays Stretch Class 9:00am; 1st Tuesdays Deacons; Wednesday Choir 7:00pm; Monday Girl Scouts 7:00pm; 3rd Saturday Men's Breakfast 8:00am. Rev. Jonathan Moelker, pastor

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

PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS

By Angie Chewning

Another golf tournament in the books! Our fall golf tournament took place on Friday, September 18, at Blue Hills Golf Club. We had 31 teams and a lot of fun. We did things a little differently this time by having a raffle at the end. There were some awesome prize packages donated by so many great businesses and golf courses – Roanoke Country Club, Hunting Hills Country Club, Auburn Hills, Copper Cover, Great Oaks, Botetourt Golf & Swim

Club, Ashley Plantation, along with donations from First Citizens Bank, Hotel Roanoke, Billy’s Restaurant, Dr. Pepper Park, Seek First Fishing Guide, Liberty Trust Hotel, Martin’s, The Haven, Sun Solutions, Lowe’s, Moneta Heating & Air, Macado’s, Railyard Dawgs, Vinton Café, C&F Farms, Brady’s Distillery, The Exchange, Brambleton Deli, Star City Golf, Fork in the Market, Pancho’s-Vinton, La Casa Del Burrito, Pok-E-Joes, Lickidy Split Ice Cream, 525 Shawarma, Famous Anthony’s,

Unwined, Pollard 107 South, Crooked Shoreline, Renee’s Restaurant, Gerdau, Roanoke College, Golfin’ Frog, MOI Inc., Spring Tree Health & Rehab, and Coke. Other participating businesses were Renewal By Anderson and Bison Cigars. Sponsors included Winters Storage, Pesto Pizza, Davis H. Elliott, Star City Pest Control, ECS, Upward Financial, Town of Vinton, Roanoke County, Lamar, Lee Enterprises, Rosie’s Gaming, McDonald’s, The Vinton Messenger, Deb’s Lemonade, Mike Stovall, Keith Liles, Grand Storage Rentals, ServPro, Vinton Moose Lodge, Oakey’s Funeral Homes, Craft Collision, and the Virginia Credit Union. “Thank you” to all the teams that came out to support us. The Chamber’s season finale Mingle at the Market is this Saturday, September 26 from 6-10 p.m. We have two great bands – Chris Keaton and the Millennials and Solacoustix. We will have Soda Street, The Local Lemon and Star City Graveyard Grill to

FALL FESTIVAL

VINTON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10TH

10 AM - 4 PM

DOWNTOWN VINTON

VENDOR SPOTS SOLD OUT

TWO STAGES OF ENTERTAINMENT

KID ZONE

OVER 120+ VENDORS

FOOD TRUCKS

AND MORE!

FREE TO ATTEND!

PRESENTED BY

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF VACC

serve up some yummy food and drinks. This is going to be a big night; I hope to see you there. Don’t forget to mark your calendar for the Vinton Fall Festival on October 10 from 10-4. This year’s festival has over 150 food and craft vendors, a petting zoo, Kidz Zone, and entertainment on two stages. Another big day IN Vinton.

Pro Cyclocross racers from across the country descending on Roanoke for GO Cross weekend

Virginia’s Blue Ridge GO Cross Cyclocross Race presented by New Belgium Brewing returns to Fallon Park on September 26 and 27 for a weekend of mud, sweat, and gears. Spectators are invited to bring the noise and cheer on professional racers traveling from as far as Alaska to compete in Roanoke. Often described as a high-speed blend of road cycling, mountain biking, and steeplechase, cyclocross is a thrilling, spectator-friendly racing discipline. Competitors navigate a short, multi-surface off-road circuit filled with mud, sand, and obstacles that frequently force them to dismount and carry their bikes up steep grades. The sport is famous for its energetic, festival-like atmosphere, where fans line the course with cowbells to cheer – and playfully heckle – the gritty, all-out action. Beyond the racing, the weekend features food trucks, a New Belgium Brewing Beer Garden, and high-energy community events:

- The New Belgium Brewing “Grateful” Beer Mile relay race presented by RunAbout Sports this Saturday evening combines four parts running, four parts hobbycross, and four parts New Belgium beer. This year’s costume theme is “Grateful Dead” – costumes are highly encouraged for cheering and heckling the pros earlier in the day.
- In the Lil’ Belgians Kids’ Race hosted by WeeWheel Roanoke, kids 8 and under can tackle a free, bite-sized cyclocross course right in the middle of the action.

The race schedule:

- Pro Races: 2:55 p.m. and 4:05 p.m. (both days)
- Amateur and Junior Races: Begin at 7:45 a.m. and continue until the Pro Races (both days)
- Lil’ Belgians Kids’ Race: 12:15 p.m. (both days). Check-in opens at 11:45

a.m. at the WeeWheel Tent.

- The New Belgium Brewing “Grateful” Beer Mile: Saturday, Sept. 26 at 5:15 p.m. (On-site registration open at the ID check/beer tent until 4:30 p.m.)

The GO Cross Cyclocross Race takes place at Fallon Park, 2116 Dale Avenue in Southeast Roanoke (just next door to Vinton). Free spectator parking is available off Dale Avenue as you enter the park; follow signs and staff instructions. Attending GO Cross is free for spectators, with food trucks and New Belgium beer available on-site.

- Kids’ Race: BYO bike and helmet. Strider and pedal bikes will race in separate heats. Closed-toed shoes with heel straps are required.
- Beer Mile: Registration is \$36 per team (2-4 people) in advance or \$40 on-site. Prizes will be awarded to the fastest team and the best costumes.

For more information, the full race schedule, and registration links, please visit gocrossrace.com.

-Submitted by Roanoke Outside Foundation



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROANOKE OUTSIDE
GO Cross racers coming to Fallon Park

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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CLUES ACROSS

1. A place for worship
7. Referee declaration
10. Torsos
12. Used to introduce something
13. Healing method
14. Takes to the sea
15. Make law
16. French coastal city
17. Hawaiian dish
18. Young of domestic cattle
19. Women's undergarments
21. 60-minute intervals (abbr.)
22. One after another
27. It's a hot topic these days
28. Folk band frontman

33. They precede C
34. Heavenly
36. Fiddler crabs
37. Major Hindu deity
38. Hebrew given name
39. Cost per mile
40. ___ Romeo, car
41. Rural municipality in Manitoba
44. Narratives
45. "A tragedy had ___ him"
48. Iranian city
49. Praises publicly
50. Founding Father Franklin
51. Herbal tea

CLUES DOWN

1. Indian unit of mass
2. "Tears in Heaven" singer Clapton
3. Part of a sailing vessel
4. Part of (abbr.)
5. Polynesian garland of flowers
6. Keyboard key
7. One who steals
8. Large oven
9. Former CIA
10. Idea
11. Solomon Islands capital
12. Afrikaans
14. Remove thatch
17. Television network
18. Jalen Brunson is one
20. Title of respect
23. Flowering trees

24. Occurring in a tube
25. Exists
26. Woman (French)
29. Expression of doubt
30. NHL legend Bobby
31. Accomplished
32. Makes slightly wet
35. National Assn. of Manufacturers
36. Not sated
38. Poe's middle name
40. Swiss river
41. Rhythmic pattern in Indian music
42. "Shane" actor Ladd
43. Popular whodunit board game
44. Bar bill
45. Ballplayer's tool
46. Indicates near
47. Feet per second

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FII F PHOTOS

~ Vinton Messenger staff
report

~ Vinton Messenger staff
port

Divide soup among bowls. Top with crema and assorted toppings.

from page 1

~ Vinton Messenger staff report

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**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, October 6, 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 \$1,429,915 in the General Fund and the Capital Fund. These previously funded projects include equipment purchases and repairs, contractual services, and capital projects for the Vinton 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. 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

**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, October 6, 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.

**Legals -
Town of Vinton**

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. 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

**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 Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 7:15 p.m. or as soon thereafter at the Montgomery County Government Center, 2 nd Floor Board Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, to hear citizen comments on the proposed ordinance entitled "Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, Division 5, Section 2-107 of the Code of the County of Montgomery, Virginia Entitled Tax Exemption and Deferrals for Elderly and Disabled by Increasing the Net Combined Financial Worth and the Income Limits to be Eligible for Tax Relief". 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

**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
(

**Public Notice –
Environmental
Permit**

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on the proposed modification of a permit that allows the land application of potable water treatment plant residuals in Pulaski County.
PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: September 23, 2026 – October 23, 2026.
PERMIT NAME AND NUMBER: Virginia Pollution Abatement VPA02069 – Radford City Water Treatment Plant issued by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) pursuant to applicable water laws and regulations.
APPLICANT NAME AND ADDRESS: City of Radford; 20 Forest Avenue; Radford, VA 24141.
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The City of Radford has applied for the modification of a permit that would authorize land application of water treatment plant residuals as a fertilizer on a total of 220.61 acres of agricultural land in Pulaski County. Additional land totaling 129.02 acres are proposed to be added to the

permit, with some minor modification to existing fields. The permit will limit the application of nutrients and metals contained in these materials to amounts that protect water quality and human health. For site-specific information about these applications and additional information about the DEQ permitting program for industrial residuals visit the following website:
<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/VPA/Notices>
TENTATIVE AND FINAL PERMIT DECISION
PROCEDURES: DEQ's tentative decision is to issue the permit. Based on comments received on the draft permit, DEQ may make a final decision on the permit, or hold a public hearing on the draft permit before making a final permit decision.
HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by hand-delivery, e-mail, or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the permit number, and name, postal mailing or email address of the commenter/requester. A request for a public hearing must also include 1) Name and permit number for which the hearing is requested. 2) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 3) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 4) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial disputed issues relevant to the permit.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Brad Morrison, DEQ Central Office, 1111 E Main St, Richmond, VA 23219, Phone: (804) 659-1545; E-mail: bradley.s.morrison@deq.virginia.gov. The public may review the draft permit and associated documents at the DEQ office named above by appointment or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed above.

**TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF 1449
LAKERIDGE
CIRCLE,
TROUTVILLE, VA
24175.**

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated January 4, 2006, in the original principal amount of \$175,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 060000421. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on November 2, 2026, at 2:45 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH ALL THE APPURTENANCES THEREUNTO BELONGING LYING AND BEING THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, STATE OF VIRGINIA, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO WIT: BEING LOT 17, BLOCK 5, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OF RAINBOW FOREST, PROPERTY OF, BOTETOURT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, MADE BY C.B. MALCOLM AND SON, S.C.E.'S, DATED AUGUST 15, 1960 OF RECORD IN TILE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 102. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten

percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgageor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.alldridgepite.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Virginia Pre-Sale Department of counsel for Equity Trustees, LLC at 301-961-6555, website: www.alldridgepite.com. VA-372477-1.

**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, October 13, 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 g, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

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**Legals -
Botetourt County**

**Order of
Publication**

Commonwealth of Virginia
VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104
Case No. CL26-485
VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT
In re: Surplus Funds
Derived from the Foreclosure Sale of Property Located at 4427 Lee Highway, Troutville, Virginia 24175
PETER M. PEARL, BRYSON J. HUNTER and TIMOTHY J. LOVETT, Trustees *Petitioners*, v. UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JIMMY W. HUFFMAN and JIMMY WAYNE HUFFMAN, JR.
Respondents.

The object of this suit is to Interplead surplus funds remaining following the foreclosure sale of certain real property commonly known as 4427 Lee Highway, Troutville, Virginia 24175. It appearing the Respondents' identity and present whereabouts are unknown, and that diligence has been used by or on behalf of the Petitioners without effect to ascertain the identity and location of any unknown heirs, it is ORDERED that any potential heirs appear on or before October 5, 2026, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the Botetourt County, Virginia and do what may be necessary to protect their interest in this suit.

IIT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order be posted at the front door of the Courthouse, on the Court Website, AND a copy mailed to each party at their addresses below.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order be published once per week for four successive weeks in the Fincastle Herald. The Clerk of this Court shall post this Order at the front door of the Courthouse and Shall mail a copy of this Order to the parties at their last known and provided addresses, if any, herein.
Entered 8/27/26
Joel R. Branscom, Circuit Court Judge
I ask for this:
Timothy J. Lovett (VSB No. 97438)
Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC
P.O. Box 90
Roanoke, VA 24002-0090
540-512-1800
540-342-4480 (facsimile)
tlovett@spilmanlaw.com

Last Known addresses for Respondents
Unknown Heirs of Jimmy W. Huffman
4427 Lee Highway, Troutville Va 24175

Jimmy Wayne Huffman, Jr.
172 Trading Ford Way
Lexington, NC 27292

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SERVICES

DIVORCE-Uncontested
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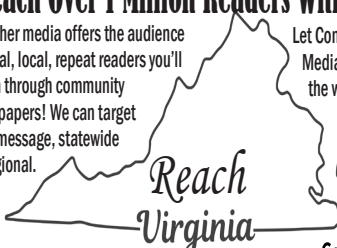
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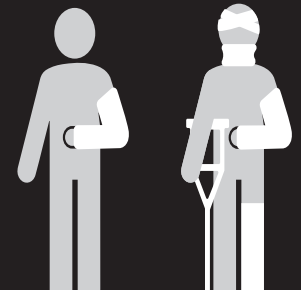
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Band from page 1



The Senior Class of Marching Terriers at Away Camp this summer

The theme is that one person has the power to change the world – one action, one idea, one thought, one moment makes a difference.

The Marching Terriers, with nearly 100 members, are led this year by Corps Commander Ramsay Stephens and Drum Majors Zane Telsch and Kyleigh Ginger.

Horn Line Captains are Blair Godlesky (brass) and Erica Barton (woodwinds). Percussion Captain is Noah Wheeler. Color Guard Captain is Kendall Perkins.

The Instrumental soloists performing in “The Power of One” are Blair Godleskey, Levi Whitcomb, Draven English, Erica Barton, Sophie Hoagland, Jeremy Paul, and Sydney Nichols.

Color Guard soloists are Emily Clinebell, Lexi Short, Adriana Barahona and Mariah Garrett.

The marching band staff in addition to Plybon includes assistant director Jordan Alvos, Color Guard instructor Jenny Swortzel, and Percussion instructor Isaac Baldwin.

The Band Boosters president for 2026-2027 is Amanda Biggs.

In addition to Corps Commander Ramsay Stephens (senior) and Drum Majors Zane Telsch (senior) and Kyleigh Ginger, members of this year’s Marching Terriers include:

Flute: Aaron Hemming (senior), Aubree Overfelt, Camden Ingram, Emma Whitcomb, Erica Barton (senior), Jayden Ferris, Katie Linkenhoker, Kai Altamarino, Kayden Creel, and Naleigh Lewis

Clarinet: Brihanna Harris (senior), Cale Meador,

Carsyn Yates (senior) Josiah Wright, Landon Dolan, Sabrina Wray, and Sophie Hoagland (senior)

Bass Clarinet: Mason Moses and Sophia Nester

Alto Saxophone: Brenton Bailey, Drayven English, Landon Hollins, Levi Whitcomb, Luis Garcia, Norah Buck, Olivia Morrison, Owen Seth, and Sammara Weaver (senior)

Tenor Saxophone: Jasper Hunter and Nyah Rutherford

Trumpet: Annabelle McIntyre, Blair Godlesky, Brooke Lomax, Christopher Flemming, Fallon Davis (senior), Isaac Mason, Isla Baldwin, Josh Landsford, Kailen Rice (senior), Kennedy Moseley, Paylin Waldron, and Sam Leftwich

Mellophone: Jace Meador, Julissa Garcia, and Sydney Nichols (senior)

Trombone: Cashton Nute, Cooper Butrym, Eli Copening, Jeremy Paul (senior), Jordan Stanley, Josh Williams, Josiah Buck, and Katelynn Howell

Tuba: Ashton Royall, Grant Muddiman, Grayson Ferguson, and Nathaniel Hale (senior)

Front Ensemble: Aiden Beasley, Carson Kirby, Elayne Sorenson, Elizabeth Ball, Ethan Hastings, Gabryle Weden, Jaxon Smith, and Olivia Strassburg

Drum Line: Ayden Morrison (senior), Brayden Sink, Dakota Downs, Hayden Biggs, Holden White, Hudson Cain (senior), Jaxon Eline, Lasen Elkins, Matthew Yang, Noah Wheeler, and Ramsay Stephens (senior)

Color Guard: Adriana Barahona (senior), Anna Perkoski, Bailey Overstreet, Ben Hoyos, Emily Clinebell



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WBHS BAND

Art teacher Allyson Goin prepares props for the band program.

(senior), Haleigh Saucedo, Kaylee Johnson, Kendall Perkins, Lexi Short (senior), Makayla Vaughn (senior), Max Harth, Mariah Garrett (senior), Mimi Guyer, Peyton Burks, and Serenity Cassell.

The Marching Terriers first performed their program at home at the ball game on September 18. Their first competition was on the next day at Salem in the “Fall Music Games.” Next up is the Star City Classic on September 26 at Franklin County High School.

The final competition of the marching band season, the “Blue Ridge Festival of Bands,” is on October 24, hosted by William Byrd High School. This is the festival’s 30th anniversary.



PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Byrd Band performing their program at the ball game on Sept. 18.

Rec night from page 1

Bolton, Kolby Dance, Garrett Falls, Benjamin Gibson, and Mikah Toney

Vinton U10 Storm (boys), coached by Trey Pendleton and Matt Cox: Joseph Ashwell, Conner Biczko, Brody Cox, Ethan Craighead, Julian English, Caysen Gill, Sawyer Henry, Andrew Kroner, Owen Parr, Grant Pendleton, Arson Severs, Grayson Smith, and Logan Witt

Vinton U10 Gladiators (boys), coached by Megan Coulston, Cole Coulston, and Luis Cordero: Hendrix Bandy, Casen Breeden, Mayson Cordero, Lawrence Coulston IV, Tyler Dogan, Zachary Eggleston, Beckham Hagwood, Colin LaChance, Noah Oxendine, Easton Smith, Bennett Weeks, Luca Wesner, and Chance West

Mt. Pleasant U12 Venom (boys): Luke Schoonover, Noah Marchese, Isaac Nunley, and Jacob Sparks

Vinton U12 Chaos (boys), coached by Daryl Doyle, James Campbell, and Tuyen Nguyen: Charlie Ralph, Ethan Nguyen, and Easton Shamblin

Vinton U14 Panthers (girls), coached by Stephen Henderson and Douglas Wamble: Tabitha Apple, Makenzie Barton, Adrianna Bucci, Riley Clark, Madison Eubank, Riley Hall, Olivia Heaps, Emelia Hebert,

Gia Henderson, Janilla Henderson, Abigail King, Kloeey Lavergne, Ella Pierce, Kinsley Ring, and Skylor Ward

Vinton U14 Galaxy (boys), coached by Ryan Brannan and Trysh Brannan: Angel Alatorre, Nick Alatorre, Larry Aremia, Oliver Brannan, Michael Ensminger, Henry Nolan, Aiden Snead, Miles Tatum, and Grayson Woodford

Cheer:
Vinton 8U Cheer, coached by Jackie Taylor, Christine Ugron, Ashley Huff: Maggie Bailey, Tynsleigh Barton, Harper Bobbitt-Herndon, Caiah Chambers, Kiwana Cunningham-Paxton, Annalynne Donaho, Charlotte Fowler, Addisyn Grubb, Taylor Hedrick, Gwenevere Johnson, Oakley Larson, Corrine Lipes, Zuri Nash, Elliott Ragland, Emma Scott, Charlotte Taylor, Lyrik Tipton-Baker, and Gabriella Ugron

Vinton 10U Cheer, coached by Ginger Stewart, Haylee Cochran, AshleyArven,andAngelica Vassar: Sienna Aldrich, Payton Chewing, Chevelle Cundiff, Serenity Henritze, Royalty Johnson, Raegan Landes, Reagan Moore, Jordyn Myers, Journey Myers, Morgan Savignac, Ainslee Smith, and Emmalynn Valladarez

Vinton 10U Cheer, coached by Candice

Tinley, Gwen Walls, and Erin Moseley: Emerson Barber, Mila Blanco, Andi Bourgeois, Eleanor Burke, Isabella Crosswhite, Ryan Dennis, Everleigh Duncan, Taylor Duncan, Anna Frye, Teagan Hall, Adeline Jenkins, Willow Moseley, Sadie Pickeral, Norah Tatum, and Shiloh Tinsley

Vinton 12U Cheer, coached by Ashley Bannister, Leandra Lafoon, and Tiffany Elliott: Jennie Aremia, Emberly Bannister, Lylah Campbell, Madelynn Carico, Journi Chambers, Heaven Hall, Gracie Havens, Carsynn Hazlewood, Kayleigh McCallister, Charlotte Milam, Raelynn Parker, Kylie Patrick, Kinlee Patterson, Kyleigh Ratliff, Natalie Turck, and Piper Turner

Flag Football:
Vinton 7U Bengals, coached by Robert Mullins and Tyler Shell: Elijah Foxx, Mason Hawkins, Samuel Kingery, Theodore Mullins, Colt Rutherford, Ethan Shell, Rydan Thompson, Riley White, and Patrick Zavas
Vinton 7U Commanders, coached by Derick McClure and Christopher Sigmon: James Browe, Samuel Keene, Paxton Lake, Owen McClure, Isaac Sarver, Carter Sigmon, Noah St. Clair, Bennett Walker, and Kannon Williams

Vinton 9U Rams, coached by Matt Partsch, Ryan Hidalgo, and Shane Spradlin: Brock Edwards, Jaxon Hidalgo, Frederick Mack III, Clint Pannell, Neil Partsch, Sadie Phelan, Memphis Smith, and Maddox Spradlin.

Vinton 11U Dolphins, coached by Rachael Haddon and Marcus Thompson: Mason Bartley, Huntar Barton, Adrien Burke, Colby Campbell, Oliver Haddon, Ryhana Haddon, Oliver Mullins, Isaiah Thompson, and Marley Twine

Vinton 11U 49ers, coached by Chris Berry and Erin Berry: Miles Berry, Austin Collins, Tucker Lafferty, Foster Landes, James Ostergaard, Alex Regnier, James Regnier, and Riley Stuart

Vinton 11U Eagles, coached by Lincoln Miller and Jason Collins: Emmett Allen, Jude Collins, Colton Gordon, Brodie McDaniel, Levrett Miller, Riyaan Patel, Griffin Quesenberry, and Tristan Wesner

Vinton 13U Chargers, coached by Cory Bonham, Justin Johnson, Lincoln Miller, and Coy Carter: Drew Bonaham, Tyler Carter, Joshua Johnson, John Madonna, Landry Miller, Espen Parton, Trey Simpson, and Addison Stewart

Vinton 13U Eagles, coached by Seth Reynolds and Jason Childress:

Peyton Barton, Jackson Childress, Major Critzer, Emmett Erickson, Brantley Falls, Asher Hippisley, Jackson Kendrick, and Callen Reynolds

Tackle Football
Vinton 8U Orange Team, coached by Tyson Saunders, assisted by Justin LaPrad, Devin Poff, Chris Fleming, and Sean Milam: Dawson Artrip, Marshall Bray, Bryce Campbell, Levi Cox, Julian Flemming, Savaughn Gilbert, Colter Gills, Stetson Gusler, Quinn LaPrad, Abel Maxwell, Asher Maxwell, Nicholas Milam, Dawson Poff, Stuart Richardson, Jr., Ayden Sink, and Rexton Wilkerson

Vinton 8U Maroon Team, coached by Justin Havens, assisted by Matthew Bernard, Michael Terrell, and Jeremy Nicely: Wrigley Bernard, Noah Dellinger, Sawyer Dooley, Zane Epperly, Landon Fochtman, Harlan Frye, David Gaylor IV, Aiden Havens, Grayson Hurt, Colton Kinkead, Brandon Lorek, Brooks Martin, Holden Nicely, Weston Reynolds, Alexander Stanley, Briggs Terrell, and Jackson Tice

Vinton 10U Terriers, coached by Chris Smith, assisted by Kristopher Stump, Tommy Aldrich, James Cox, Taylor Denton, Mike Robertson, and

Cameron King: Isaiah Aldrich, Marshall Ayers, Maveryck Barton, Cason Campbell, Ryne Crowder, Chase Gill, Gabriel Hoffert, Brody Holdren, Colton Holdren, Zytaevius Levesy-Flack, Rex Milam, Oliver Milovich, Walker Moore, Micah Palmer, Myles Price, Remington Robertson, Levi Smith, Kaden Stump, Oliver Widner, Ryder Workman, and Leeland Workman

Vinton 12U Terriers, (coached by Cory Wendell, assisted by Ronnie Thompson, Shane Clinebell, David Dangerfield, and Justin Havens: Colton Artrip, Shane Clinebell, Riley Compton, Jace Dangerfield, Tyler Donathan, Malaki Dunbar, Aiden Greer, Andrew Hatfield, Hunter Havens, Michael McGann, Bentley Perdue, Isaac Ray, Grant Savignac, Alexander Shepherd, Tyler Terry, Ryan Tickle, Lucas Wendell, and Liam Yeatts

CROSSWORD ANSWERS												
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Byrd's Connor Whitehead hits out of the rough and onto the green in a recent match.

PHOTO BY JOHN WACHER

BRD golf tournament rained out, sub-region at Draper Monday

The Blue Ridge District golf tournament was rained out on Monday and won't be made as the high school golfers now look to the post-season. William Byrd will prepare for the Region 3D tournament next Monday, September 28, at the Draper Golf Course hosted by Abingdon.

The final totals for the regular season are now in the books and Lord Botetourt won the regular season with a six round total of 1,404, nine strokes better than Northside at 1,413. Northside led the standings by seven strokes going into the last round at Blue Hills but the Cavaliers finished strong to pass them and take the season title. Byrd and Franklin County tied for third at 1,461 and Staunton River finished at 1,621.

Individually, Ryland Stump of Northside was the individual champion with 134 points. Lord Botetourt's Alisa Davidova, who didn't play every round, still finished second with 120 and Byrd's David Foster was third with 115. Other Byrd golfers high on the list included Ethan Sink in sixth place, Andrew Carter in 10th and Reid Divers in 20th place.



SANDLOT Above, Vinton 8U Terriers lineup on offense in a recent game on Highfill Field, and below girls cheer on their team.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



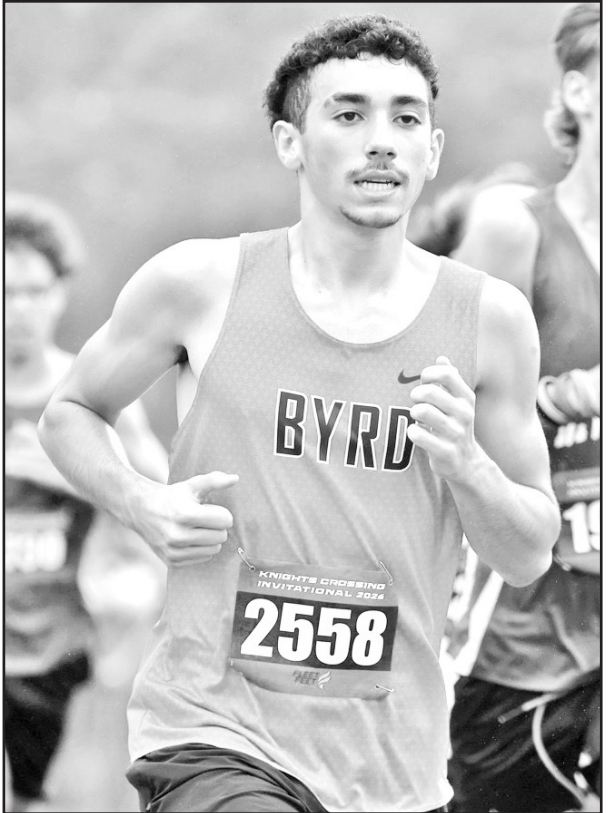
Byrd boys run 2nd at HV

The William Byrd boys finished second among eight schools in the "Clash with the Titans" cross country meet at Hidden Valley High School last Saturday.

Glenvar High ran away with the boys' division with 39 points. Byrd was second with 75 points, one point better than host Hidden Valley.

Hidden Valley's Enzo Coniglione was the individual winner with a time of 17:03.19. Byrd's top finish was a sixth place by Carston Dibenedetto in 18:01.48. Also scoring for the Terriers were Colton Sotherden in 10th place, Maxwell Reeves in 13th, Grant Bartley in 20th and Giovanni Pandolfini in 27th. There were 65 runners in the race.

Radford High was the team winner in the girls' race. Byrd did not have a full team but Jadyn St. Clair led the Terriers with a 12th place finish in 23:50. Emma Thierry was 29th Keeli Emery was 34th and Bindi Whitenack was 35th. Radford's Abigail Castleberry won the race I



Byrd's Carston Dibenedetto was sixth overall at the Clash with the Titans.

PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

20:16.02

"Despite the hilly course, our returners ran on average over a minute faster than their times last year," said Byrd

coach Kayland Bond.

This Saturday the Terriers will run in the Alleghany Invitational at the Smith River Complex near Covington.



Liam Krista of William Byrd Middle School bulls his way over the goal line for a touchdown against Covington last week.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Middle School football team with host Cave Spring tonite

The William Byrd Middle School football team will host Cave Spring tonight in what promises to be an exciting game. Both Roanoke County schools come in at 4-1 after Byrd defeated Covington in Vinton last week, 38-14.

"Gabe Griego and Jared Hunt both had big games at running back for the Terriers against Covington, running behind another strong performance from the offensive line.

"Our O-Line continues to perform, and that's a strong testament to Coach Mullins' offseason program," said Byrd coach Cody Underwood. "We're excited to add Ashby Bernard back into the running back rotation this week as he's been out with an injury, and he gives us another threat."

Terrier quarterback Riggins Hill turned in a good game against Covington, accounting for four touchdowns. Hill threw for two scores, ran for one and also added a "pick six" on defense. Tyler Jennelle had two receiving touchdowns and the Byrd defense turned in another strong performance."

RC football in DC Sat.

The Roanoke College football team will put their undefeated record on the line Saturday when they play Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C. Kickoff is scheduled for 1 pm at Hotchkiss Field.

The Bison come into the game at 0-3 and have given up 44 points or more in all three losses. They opened in Reading, PA with a 44-7 loss to Albright College, then dropped a 49-28 decision to Anderson in Indiana. Last Saturday they played in Danville and lost to Averett University, 55-19.

This season the Bison begin their first year as an affiliate member of the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC). Gallaudet, which competed in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) last season, will participate in the SCAC Football Championship Weekend on Nov. 14 in Little Rock, Ark. The Maroons defeated Gallaudet last season, 38-14, for their first ever ODAC win when the Bison were competing in the conference.

The Maroons come into Saturday's game at 2-0 on the season with wins over Virginia University of Lynchburg and Greensboro College. Roanoke's ODAC opener is Saturday, October 3, at Guilford College and the next home game is Saturday, October 10, when Hampden-Sydney College comes to Salem Stadium for a 4 pm start.

SPORTS

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Terriers shut out Bassett to remain undefeated

Byrd has bye this week

The William Byrd football team is still unbeaten as they head into their bye week. The Terriers are 4-0 after a dominating 43-0 win over Bassett at Patterson Stadium last Friday.

The question is, do the Terriers want a week off this early in the season? They're healthy and on a roll, having scored over 40 points in their last three games while giving up a total of just 16. Logic says you want to stay on the field in that scenario.

"There are advantages and disadvantages to having an open week," said Byrd coach Brad Lutz. "There are plenty of fundamentals that we need to improve on, so we will focus on getting better and use the extra prep for Radford. They are the best team we have played thus far, and having a few extra days to prepare will be beneficial for us."

Byrd will play at Radford on Thursday, October 1, because Virginia Tech will be hosting Pitt in the New River Valley on Friday night. That will be one day less to prepare next week, so the bye probably comes at a good time. And Lutz and his staff will be at Radford's game at James River this Friday to scout.

"Radford is a very talented team, and we will take full advantage of the extra week of prep," said Lutz. "We plan on going and scouting them. They are playing James River, and our staff is also excited to go see Logan Baker (William Byrd Football alum) coach for James River."

Last Friday the Terriers were hitting on all cylinders against visiting Bassett. After Byrd graduated some key seniors from a team that lost to Bassett last year some may not have seen this coming, especially shutting out the Bengals.

"Our players understand the importance of the team, and this was our best execution of team defense," said Lutz. "Our players had a great week of practice and prep. Every player that helped us on defense did a great job of playing disciplined, unselfish football."

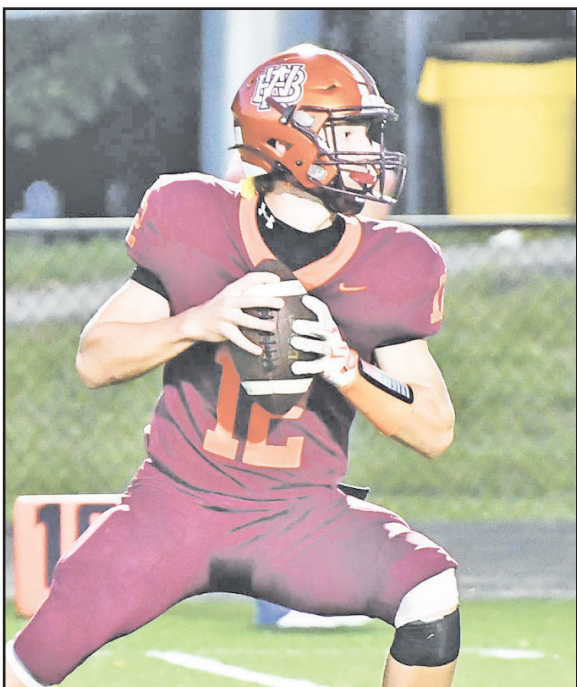
Offensively, Gray Matthews continued to run wild behind another solid effort from the Byrd offensive line. Gray had 249 rushing yards on 15 carries and scored four touchdowns, including a 33 yard TD reception from Carter Gray to open the scoring in the first period. Gray scored on a two yard run in the second quarter and had touchdown runs of 39 and 86 yards in the third quarter before finding a spot on the bench with the game in hand.

Carter Gray had a good night passing, completing seven of 13 attempts for 145 yards and three scores. In addition to the strike to Matthews he pitched an 83 yard TD pass to Thomas Purcell and a 12 yarder to Stephen Byars, both in the second quarter as Byrd opened a 29-0 halftime lead. He also passed to Purcell for a two-point conversion and Briggs Kotz had two receptions.



Above, Byrd's Zane Taylor returns a kick for good yardage. Below left, quarterback Carter Gray looks for a receiver and, below right, Caleb Wrye(#78) blocks a Bassett defender.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER



On defense, Mason Hershel led the team with eight total tackles, including three for losses. Purcell and Jayden Omiyo had six tackles each and Jayden had a sack and three tackles for losses. Braedyn Henritz had five tackles and Lukas Johnson had four, with two for losses, two sacks and two quarterback hur-

ries. The jayvees also beat Bassett, 20-6, and they're also off this week. They'll return to action a day before the varsity on Wednesday, September 30, at home against Radford.

Girls will play in fundraiser to fight Kids Cancer at LB

When William Byrd visits Lord Botetourt for a Blue Ridge District volleyball game next Tuesday it will be for more than a district win. It will be a fundraiser for a very important cause as the event is a fundraiser to "Spike Out Kids Cancer."

It's appropriate that these two teams play in this game, as both schools lost beloved classmates to cancer in the past year, Dalton Close at LB and Cam Thepsimuong at William Byrd. Dalton's mother will be speaking at the event.

"Last year we raised over eight thousand dollars for the event and things will be very similar as last year with the silent auction, raffle, serving contest and bake sale," said LB coach Samantha Wilkins. "One hundred percent of the proceeds will benefit the local Life Ring organization to help children with cancer and rare blood disorders in our area to have quality care here at home without having to travel such long distances for treatments."

Some terrific items have been donated for the auction. For Virginia Tech fans, there will be a football autographed by Tech coach James Franklin, a VT lunch pail signed by former defensive coordinator Bud Foster, a basketball signed by Tech women's



Byrd girls cheer a point in a recent match.

PHOTO BY REGINA DEVINNEY

coach Megan Duffy and a Hokie Wall Plaque and four piece glass set. Other items include tickets to the Rail Yard Dawgs hockey games, a one year membership to the Taubman Museum, golf at three different area courses and much, much more.

The jayvee game will begin at 5:30 p.m. with the varsity to tip off at 7 p.m. T-Shirts commemorating the event will be on sale for \$20 and there's also a 50-50 raffle. It will be a big night for a great cause and a large turnout is anticipated to watch two good high school volleyball rivals go at it.

The Terriers will host William Fleming tonight coming off a big win over Northside in Vinton Tuesday. The girls snapped a four game losing streak with a three-set win over the Vikings in their Blue Ridge District opener and they're now 4-7 overall.

"We navigated a demanding stretch of the schedule over the past week, battling through three difficult losses before responding with a dominant 3-0 victory over Northside," said Byrd coach Kris McCoy.

Catalina Patterson orchestrated the offense against Northside with

32 assists while contributing four kills, a block, two aces and eight digs. Emma Olivit finished with seven kills, three aces and a dig, while Haleigh White recorded six kills, two aces and two digs. Ellie Ruble added six kills and five digs, Caroline Johnson contributed four kills, three blocks and three digs, and Maggie Zimmerman provided three aces and six digs as the Terriers controlled the match from start to finish on their way to the straight-set victory.

"I was incredibly proud of the way our kids responded," McCoy said. "To come through that stretch, play on back-to-back nights and then put together one of our most complete performances to open district play says a lot about this group. They competed with energy, played for one another and, most importantly, looked forward instead of backward."

The win followed a four set loss to Alleghany on Monday in Vinton. Heidi Dixon had nine kills and three blocks against the Mountaineers. White had eight kills and a dozen digs, Caroline Johnson had four kills and two digs and Ruble had 15 digs.

Last Thursday the Terriers

dropped a three setter at Blacksburg. The Bruins have lost just once this season and they proved to be a challenge for the Byrd girls.

"This past week tested us, and that is exactly what a difficult schedule is supposed to do," said McCoy. "We struggled against a very good Blacksburg team, came home and battled Alleghany in a tough four-set match, and then had to turn around the very next night and open district play. There wasn't much time to dwell on anything. Our players had to make a decision about how they were going to counter the recent adversity and respond."

The victory over Northside gives William Byrd a 1-0 start in Blue Ridge District play as the Terriers turn their attention toward the next stage of their season, beginning tonight with Fleming.

"We know district play brings a different level of importance and intensity," McCoy said. "Starting 1-0 is something we are proud of, but it is only a start. There is a lot of volleyball still ahead of us, and I believe this group still has another level it can reach."



Ellie Ruble controls the ball.

PHOTO BY REGINA DEVINNEY