



Preserving Botetourt County History

John W. Rader, Jr., President of the Botetourt Historical Society & Museum

Matt de Simone

mattdesimone@mainstreetnewspapers.org

The Botetourt Historical Society and Museum (BCHM) provides visitors a chance to revisit some of Botetourt County's history through education, exhibits, and activities. The museum's 57-year history saw a couple of massive changes last year. One of those changes stemmed off of the county courthouse renovation project, causing the museum to successfully find a new home.

Over the next several weeks, the Fincastle Herald will feature interviews with some of the individuals who help make the Botetourt County History Museum a must-see destination.

The museum opened its new location at the old Hagan law offices at 26 East Main Street last year. Since then, the museum's executive board, the board of directors, and volunteers have worked diligently to prepare their new home for visitors and in continuing to present Botetourt history.

As the county prepares to move the old Breckinridge law offices and hotel that formerly housed the old museum, BCHM President John Rader is excited about what's next for the current museum's activities, the new museum, and the county seat.

Rader grew up in the Brugh's Mill area of Botetourt County. His family has lived in the area since the late 1700s. Rader is a graduate of Lord Botetourt High School and of the University of Virginia.

Since he was young, Rader's has always been enamored with history due to his family's interest. Rader's father attended an annual board meeting in Williamsburg, which first piqued Rader's eye for history at a young age. Over time, Rader explained that time spent in the historic districts of Williamsburg and Charlottesville while also growing up in old houses attributed to his early interests. Rader's proud of his family's history dating back to one of his ancestors who arrived in Botetourt hundreds of

years ago. "My family started out as farmers of German heritage," Rader explained in a recent interview. "They moved down the valley like a lot of people did back then. The house where my father grew up was built by my ancestors and the person who lived there the longest was on the first Board of Trustees of Roanoke College. In fact, I like to laugh—he was responsible for helping move Roanoke College from, I think, Augusta County. When I say he helped, he actually took the wagons and helpers to move the furniture from up there, down here. It's not like he just gave them money."

Rader's knowledge of his family's and Botetourt County history led him to meeting with Emily Honts, who was then Executive Director and President of BCHM. Honts asked Rader to take over as president and "just run the meetings" while she focused on being the executive director.

Almost 30 years later, Rader continues to just run the meetings.

"I've been president for way too long and every organization should not let that happen," Rader joked. "They won't let me resign."

Rader says that his job is to monitor the meetings and "keep people happy" while the numerous individuals at the museum work hard to make their location inviting for visitors. According to Rader, the new location is working out "very well."

"We were really lucky," Rader stated. "The county is very supportive of us. I think they thought we would just put stuff in storage for a couple of years while things shook out. We determined that we couldn't do that and felt like we couldn't close the museum."

Former Fincastle-based attorney Rob Hagan, who was planning to close his law offices before becoming a judge, contacted the museum.

See Rader, page 8



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

Back Row: Dylan Setliff, Merritt Taylor, Frank Schermer, Ethan Wright, Brendan Kiser, Matt Kavanaugh, Kirk Taylor, Ben Campbell, Dustin Ware. Front Row: Wayne Cunningham, Matthew Webster, Jennifer Firebaugh, Ginnie Thomas, Leeanne Wood.

Town Council recognizes FVFD record-setting training numbers

Matt de Simone

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During the Fincastle Town Council's January meeting last Thursday, members of the Fincastle Volunteer Fire Department (FVFD) were recognized for their recent accomplishments. Namely, the department posted 6,700 training hours completed by its members over various courses, which is the most training accomplished in the

department's 75-year history.

"We're really proud of what we have going on," Deputy Chief Ben Campbell said during the award ceremony. "I appreciate [Council's] support. We're really driving in the right direction."

Department Chief Dustin Ware and Deputy Chief Ben Campbell awarded the members with certificates of recognition and introduced them to the board. The recognized members of the department included: Ethan

Wright, Merritt Taylor, Dylan Setliff, Brendan Kiser, Leeanne Wood, Wayne Cunningham, Matthew Webster, Jennifer Firebaugh, Ginnie Thomas, Kirk Taylor, Matt Taylor, and Matt Kavanaugh.

Mayor Mary Bess Smith shared words of appreciation for the department's commitment and for all of their assistance during the holidays.

More from the Jan. town council meeting on page 3 of this issue.

Fincastle Winter Market on Jan. 21

Fincastle Winter Market
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Matt de Simone

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The Town of Fincastle will present a winter market on Saturday, Jan. 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Fincastle Volunteer Fire Department's training room consisting of around 20 tables featuring vendors and artisans selling food products, micro greens, soaps, and other products. The town also purchased 300 reusable canvas bags to hand out to shoppers that feature educational information about recycling and conservation.

The town is currently looking for volunteers to help vendors unload their wares from 9-10 a.m. the morning of Jan. 21. Proceeds from vendor booth purchasing goes to the Fincastle Volunteer Fire Dept.

According to Town Manager David Tickner, the purpose of the winter market is to give local vendors an opportunity to sell their wares during the winter time in a controlled environment. One of the goals of this market is to look at the feasibility a summer market on a weeknight somewhere in the town of Fincastle to give local vendors an additional opportunity to sell their wares.

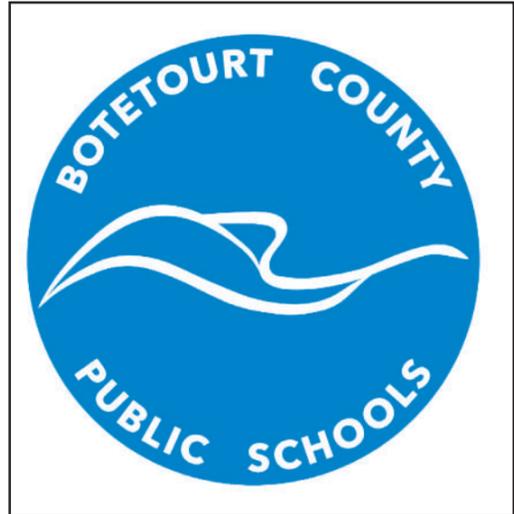


PHOTO COURTESY OF BCPS

BCPS announces opportunity for sixth graders to compete in middle school spring athletics

Botetourt County Public Schools (BCPS) Superintendent Dr. Jonathan Russ announced last week that county sixth graders "may now try out for some of the athletic programs available" at middle schools for spring sports.

In a press release posted on BCPS's Facebook page, Russ went on to explain that current facility capacity allows BCPS to offer soccer and track at Central Academy Middle School and baseball, soccer, and

See Athletics, page 8

Chamber hosting State of the County on Feb. 2—register to attend

The Botetourt Chamber of Commerce will host the Fourth Annual State of the County Address on Feb. 2. County and state representatives will update the community on the county's accomplishments and plans for the future.

This year's speakers will be County Administrator Gary Larrowe, Superintendent of Botetourt County Public

Schools Dr. Jonathan Russ, President at Verge and Executive Director of Roanoke-Blacksburg Technology Council Erin Burcham, Associate Director of RBTC Taylor Spellman, a representative from Virginia's Blue Ridge, and more.

Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in networking at 7:15

See Register, page 8



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

Last July, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at the museum's new location at 26 East Main Street in Fincastle.

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Botetourt County History



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BOTETOURT HISTORY MUSEUM

This cross-stitch sampler was embroidered on linen by 8-year-old Susan Graybill. Her name is spelled "Sussan Krebil" and can be clearly seen along with the date of 1798. She lived from 1790 to 1850 and was married to Daniel Arnold (1773-1843). They are buried in Old Graybill Cemetery on the Jonas Graybill farm near Gravel Hill. Her father John Graybill was married to Hannah Borndecker. Her sampler was given to the Botetourt History Museum by her great-grandchildren P.A., Betty and Clara Firebaugh in 1979. By the 1700s, samplers depicting alphabets and numerals were worked by young women to practice various embroidery stitches and motifs. These basic needlework skills were needed to operate the family household. They were not made as a hobby or as a way to pass leisure time.

- Botetourt County History Museum

Lions Club donates socks to Buchanan students

The Buchanan Lions Club recently donated 320 pairs of new Bombas socks to students at Buchanan Elementary School. Pictured left to right are Lion Tim Heinlein, Buchanan Elementary School Principal Debbie Garrett, and Lion Pat Jasper, president of the Buchanan Lions Club and former teacher at the elementary school.

One part of the global mission of the Lions International is to donate eye care supplies, help with appointments, and to collect used eyeglasses that are to be recycled and spread locally and globally. If you need assistance with eye care, call the Buchanan Lions Club for more information, 540-450-6716.

- Submitted by Buchanan Lions Club



PHOTO COURTESY OF BUCHANAN LIONS CLUB

ARRESTS

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests January 12-15:

- Rhonda L. Hinkley, 50, of Troutville, malicious wounding, use of a firearm in the commission of a felony, January 12
- Nils I. Thomas, 61, of Eagle Rock, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, January 13
- Michael N. Foster, 31, of New Castle, petit larceny, possession a certificate or title of another, January 15

Club donates snacks to Sheriff's Department



PHOTO COURTESY OF TUESDAY MORNING CLUB

The Tuesday Morning Club met at Troutville Church Brethren on January 10 with 10 members. Cheryl Wood called the meeting to order. Linda Harris was hostess and had devotions. Cheryl Wood won the hostess gift. Nancy Waddell read the minutes. Faye Kessler gave the treasurer's report. The January project was snacks to the Sheriff's Department in appreciation

of all they do to protect citizens in the county. The February project will be prizes for bingo games at Brian Center. Priscilla Hedrick and Dot Hillard won game prizes. The next meeting will be February 14 at the church. All are welcome.

- Submitted by Nancy Waddell

JRHS grad is an award-winning author; book presented to county libraries



Members of the James River High School Class of 1971 recently donated a copy of fellow classmate E.O. (Mackie) Shiflett's novel "UNDERCOVER-A Tale of Caution" to the Buchanan and Eagle Rock libraries. Shiflett's first book has won a People's Choice Award for fiction; he is currently working a sequel to his book.

Pictured are class reunion committee members Sharon Britt, Cathy Booze and Danny Fainter presenting a copy of Shiflett's book to Buchanan librarian Cheryl Wagner and Eagle Rock librarian Chelsea Wood.

- Submitted by Danny Fainter



PHOTOS BY DANNY FAINTER

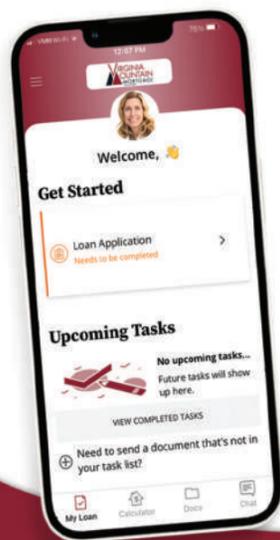


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Fincastle Town Council holds January meeting

Matt de Simone

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The Fincastle Town Council held the January meeting at the Fincastle Volunteer Fire Department's training room last Thursday night.

Town Manager David Tickner updated council on the Community Development Block Grant. The town conducted their first project management team meeting via Zoom on Dec. 22. Next step is to conduct a second meeting on Jan. 17. They will "fine tune" request for proposals (RFPs) for submission to the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), and then proceed to take it before the committee.

Council member Richard Flora noted that the RFPs had to go through the hands of DHCD and a number of people added comments that were considered in the retooling of the RFP. "We've gotten good feedback from the state regarding the grant and we hope to get that thing moving in the next couple of months."

Community Development Block Grant program supports community development activities to build stronger and more resilient communities. To support community development, activities are identified

through an ongoing process. Activities may address needs such as infrastructure, economic development projects, public facilities installation, community centers, housing rehabilitation, public services, clearance/acquisition, microenterprise assistance, code enforcement, homeowner assistance, etc.

The town has nearly completed the preliminary work on Big Spring Park prior to the actual construction. There is another "simple writeup" required that includes an erosion and sediment control waiver from the county in which Assistant County Administrator Jon Lanford continues working with the town to complete. Tickner anticipated the writeup's completion in the days following last Thursday's meeting.

Members of the town's planning committee met with Shawn Jadniecek, an agriculture and natural resources extension agent with the Virginia Cooperative Extension, about the prime location of the orchard garden and the wildflower area/pollinator garden locations. Tickner expressed appreciation for the committee's assistance in the process. The town

currently seeks assistance for a gravel trail. Prior to that, tree stumps and brush still need clearing.

Tickner stated when asked about the ongoing project that, as far of the Virginia Department of Forestry grant the town received at the park, they have a certain amount of that funding that must go to this part of the project. The remainder of the funding is for some interpretive signage and an outdoor classroom. The other funding received through the Department of Conservation and Recreation is for the construction of a walking trail up to the walking track at Breckinridge from the park itself.

The town recently received estimates from EAL Concrete about a block of Main Street between Monroe Street and Hancock Street (\$25,000) and also the sidewalk on Blacksburg Road near the retaining wall (\$40,000). An EAL contractor proposed to put down wire and bracing along the wall so it doesn't fall back during the project.

Later in the evening, Town Council decided to hold off on the section of sidewalk at the corner of South Roanoke and Main Street (\$4,500) until they had a better idea of what the contractor was proposing. According to Mayor Mary Bess



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

Council members Edward Bordett (left) and Paige Ware (center) are sworn in by County Clerk of the Court Tommy Moore. Bordett and Ware, along with council member Pamela Binns were all elected to retain their seats in the 2022 election. Richard Flora and Mayor Mary Bess Smith were also sworn at the start of the town council meeting.

Smith, this is one of the most historic sections of sidewalk in the town. Some of the sidewalk stone that was buried underneath the asphalt was preserved. Pieces of the old historic sidewalk will be incorporated into the new curb.

The town's infrastructure committee met earlier last week and plans to figure out how to fund these "significant" repairs. EAL Concrete is the company that has produced concrete work for the town over the last several years.

Councilmember John Thomas added that he spoke with the Virginia Municipal League and learned there is a group of contractors through the league that monitors contract requests for utilities and concrete work. He suggested looking into utilizing that

group for assistance.

Tickner presented a resolution for the Springwood Road extension that "mysteriously" came off of the town's six-year comprehensive plan. An updated resolution was presented to council. Mayor Smith noted the elements of safety included in the resolution and wanted to go on record with the county Board of Supervisors before the other construction begins in town.

In July of 2021, the town adopted its new comprehensive plan featuring a brand-new section in the plan called "sustainability." This sustainability section of the plan is geared towards going "green"—conserving resources, encouraging buying local, and keeping an eye out for the planet. It set

forth the establishment of a sustainability committee, comprised of Chairperson Bess Madonna of the Planning Commission, Breckinridge Elementary School teacher Amanda Schultz, County Planner Jonathan McCoy, Diane Kees of Micro Harmonics, Tara Williamson of Williamson Farms in Troutville, and Fincastle Librarian Sarah Rodgers.

Town Council met with Executive Director of the Botetourt County Chamber of Commerce Khari Ryder about finding a vendor to "revamp" the town's website. Mayor Smith mentioned that "this is something that can't happen soon enough." Currently, the town isn't sure if they need to set an RFP, but will continue to do more diligent research.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT CO. SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Rhonda Larue Hinkley

Suspect identified in Westview shooting

The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office is investigating a shooting. The incident occurred on Jan. 12 in Troutville.

The victim has been identified as Walter Thomas Hinkley, 49, of Troutville.

The suspect has been identified as Rhonda Larue Hinkley, 50, of Troutville.

On Jan. 12 at 1:21 p.m. the Botetourt County Emergency Communications Center (911) received a call from a female reporting she had shot her husband.

Botetourt County deputies along with the Virginia Police responded to a residence on Westview Road in Troutville to find an adult female standing in the driveway with her hands in the air and an adult male with a single gunshot wound lying in the gravel.

Botetourt Fire and EMS responded to the scene to administer medical aid and transported the victim to Lewis-Gale Hospital with life-threatening injuries.

The female suspect was taken

into custody and transported to the Botetourt-Craig Regional Jail where she is being held without bond. She has been charged with malicious wounding and use of a firearm in the commission of a felony.

The preliminary investigation has determined that the shooting was an isolated incident involving domestic violence between a husband and wife and the firearm was recovered at the scene.

- Fincastle Herald staff report

Buchanan Lions Club holding Bland Music competition

The Buchanan Lions Club is holding a Bland Music Talent Show and Scholarship Contest this year. This is the first year that the Buchanan Lions Club will participate in this competition.

The first step of the contest is a competition to be held on February 25 at 3 p.m. at Solomon's Mission, 592 Lowe Street in Buchanan.

Elementary, middle and high school age youth are eligible to enter. Each vocalist or musician will have up to eight minutes to perform. The Lions will provide a small stage, microphone, piano and a public address system.

All finalists from the preliminary competition will move on to compete at the regional competition at

CommUnity Church, 1923 E. Main Street, Salem on Sunday, March 19, at 2 p.m.

Entry forms for talent have been provided to Botetourt County principals and music teachers.

If you are interested in participating in the local competition as talent or as a judge, fill out an entry form or

judge application. If you have any questions, contact Lion Tim Heinlein at 540-450-66716 or tim.heinlein@gmail.com.

- Submitted by Buchanan Lions Club

"I first started working for a funeral home when I was in high school and I watched how the directors helped families and saw how they made families' grief easier and helped them get through the things they were going through and decided that's what I wanted to do. I wanted to help folks."

Duffy Ferguson | Manager, North Chapel

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Library BUZZ

Upcoming Library Events

Fincastle Courthouse: A Discussion & History

Sat, Jan 28, 11am-12pm, Fincastle Library
 Jon Lanford (Assistant County Administrator) will lead a discussion on what's involved in the construction of a new courthouse, including an overview and timeline of the project and the history and significance of the courthouse to the community.

Mill Mountain Theatre: "Where the Wild Things Are"

Sat, Jan 28, 10:30-11:30am, Blue Ridge Library
 Sat, Jan 28, 1-2pm, Buchanan Library
 Sat, Feb 4, 10:30am-11:30am, Eagle Rock Library
 Sat, Feb 4, 1-2pm, Fincastle Library
 Be an actor for a day! Enjoy activities and dramatic play, followed by an interactive reading of Sendak's "Where the Wild Things Are." Recommended for ages 6-12. Space is limited, call 540-928-2900 to register.

American Revolution: Featuring American Girl Felicity Merriman

Wed, Jan 18, 4-6pm, Blue Ridge Library
 Thu, Feb 2, 4-6pm, Fincastle Library
 Wed, Feb 8, 2:30-4:30pm, Eagle Rock Library
 Fri, Feb 17, 2:30-4:30pm, Buchanan Library
 What was it like to be a kid during the American Revolution? Find out with hands-on activities and games! Recommended for grade school children.

Blue Ridge Friends of the Library Winter Sale

January 17-21 during normal library hours
 Find gently-used DVDs and puzzles for those cold winter nights!

Strong Men & Women Traveling Exhibition

January 16-20: Eagle Rock Library
 January 23-27: Fincastle Library

Virginia's Constitutions Traveling Exhibition

January 17-24: Blue Ridge Library
 January 25 - February 3: Fincastle Library
 February 6-15: Eagle Rock Library
 February 16-24: Buchanan Library

Yoga for Beginners

Eagle Rock - Tuesdays 10:00am
 Stretch your brain and body with yoga poses. Adaptable for all ages, abilities, and body types. Instruction provided by the Botetourt Family YMCA.

Puzzle Club

Blue Ridge - Wednesdays 10:30am
 Buchanan & Fincastle - Mondays 10:30am
 Eagle Rock - Fridays 10:30am
 Meet new friends and challenge your brain with jigsaw puzzles! Great way to socialize on cold winter days.

See **Library events**, page 8

Botetourt Fire & EMS application deadline Feb. 1



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT CO. FIRE & EMS

The Roanoke Regional Hiring Process is now open. If individuals are interested in a career in Fire and EMS throughout the Roanoke Valley, the cities of Roanoke and Salem, and the counties of Botetourt and Roanoke are all currently accepting applications. The application deadline for all localities is Wednesday, Feb. 1st. Interested persons must submit a separate application for each department. No applicant will be considered by a

locality that doesn't have an application on file by the advertised deadline. This hiring process is to seat recruits for the Roanoke Valley Regional Fire & EMS Training Center Academy starting July 2023. Applicants interested in joining the team may visit botetourtfireems.org for more information.

- Botetourt County Dept. of Fire & EMS/Fincastle Herald staff report

Update from the House By Del. Terry Austin



To the Constituents of the 19th House District:

This past Wednesday, January 11, marked the beginning of the 2023 Session of the Virginia General Assembly. During this 45-day "short session," Republicans will continue to focus on making Virginia a more affordable place to live, work and raise a family. I look forward to joining my Republican colleagues in the House of Delegates as we build on the momentum of last year's \$4 billion in tax cuts and position our economy for success during this period of economic uncertainty.

The makeup of the House remains a 52-48 Republican majority. A special election for a state senate seat in Virginia Beach increased the Democrat majority in the Senate by one and it is now 22-18. The divided General Assembly means that Republican priorities will be contested as legislation passes over from the House to the Senate.

Committee assignments remain largely unchanged. I remain Vice Chairman of Appropriations, Chairman of Transportation, and a

member of the Rules Committee. Within Appropriations I serve on the subcommittees of Government and Capital Outlay, Higher Education, and am Chairman of Transportation and Public Safety. Due to the slim margin in the House, I serve as ex-officio for all four subcommittees in Transportation. My priorities remain advancing our region's interests in transportation and economic development.

Last year, House Republicans successfully worked with Governor Youngkin to deliver much-needed tax relief to Virginians. This year, we are renewing our commitment to provide further relief by cutting income taxes to ensure more of your hard-earned money stays in your pocket. Last year, we cut taxes on military retiree pay for those over 55. This year, we are expanding on this progress and will fight to make all military retiree pay exempt from state taxes. We remain committed to taking care of those who sacrificed to protect our freedoms. Rampant inflation continues to increase the

cost of living. While the General Assembly cannot control the rate of inflation, House Republicans have developed initiatives to alleviate its effects by lowering costs. This includes proposed legislation that seeks to lower monthly electric bills. We are also committed to disconnecting from the costly emissions standards of California. The Virginia General Assembly, not other state legislatures, should be writing our laws. As many Virginians struggle to pay for the high costs of prescription drugs, we are pushing legislation that passes the savings from prescription rebates directly to consumers at the pharmacy counter. This will lower healthcare costs without adding any bureaucratic red tape or taxpayer expense.

In addition to cutting taxes and reducing the cost of living, Republicans are focused on creating an environment that fosters job creation. Attracting and supporting businesses coming to Virginia is a critical component of this effort. Our goal is to create jobs, spur competition and innovation, and grow Virginia's economy. That is why Republicans support Governor Youngkin's initiative to invest in business-ready sites to ensure we have the infrastructure to welcome new businesses to Virginia.

These initiatives are just the start. The Republican legislative agenda also includes improving our schools, making our

See **House**, page 8

League for Animal Protection's Waif of the Week



Meet Coral

Coral is a white/cream Lab mix. She came to the shelter in December. She is about 55 pounds, heartworm negative, chipped and spayed.

The shelter is open from 8-11 and 3-5; 540-473-3853. Send donations to LAP, P.O. Box 561, Fincastle, 24090.

Buchanan Theatre
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 www.buchanantheatre.com
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Puss in Boots
The Last Wish
 Thursday, Jan. 19
 7:30 p.m.

Avatar
The Way of Water
 (2022) Jake Sully lives with his new-found family formed on the extra-solar moon Pandora. Once a familiar threat returns to finish what was previously started, Jake must work with Neytiri and the army of the Na'vi race to protect their home.

Friday, Jan. 20
 Saturday, Jan. 21
 7:30 p.m.
 Sunday, Jan. 22
 3 p.m.
 Thursday, Jan. 26
 7:30 p.m.
 Beginning January 27, all evening movies will start at 7 p.m.

Submit all Letters to the Editor to
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Brian Center – Fincastle employee receives Kissito Healthcare CEO Award

Allison Hasson truly went far above and behind to make the life of one of the residents at the Brian Center-Fincastle truly special. For this extreme act of kindness, Hasson was presented with the Kissito Healthcare CEO Award in December.

The award is given annually to the employee at a Kissito center that exemplifies the qualities and values of the organization – Integrity, Passion, Excellence, and Respect (IPER).

“The lengths Allison went to for this resident truly exemplifies our core values,” said Kissito Healthcare CEO Robert McClintic. “We are proud to have her a part of our team and is more than deserving of this award.”

The Fincastle center focuses on the ventilator and trach population and the complexity of care for those residents. Hasson describes how one of her residents was talking about his mother and how much he missed her. The mother lived in North Carolina and was not able to make the three-hour drive to see the resident.

The pair made multiple attempts over several months that all ended in disappointment and plans falling through. The resident and his mother were very close before the accident that left him needing the specialized trach and ventilator care Fincastle provides. It was evident to Hasson by listening to the resident that they both missed each other very much.

“I put myself in their shoes that day and told them I was going to make it happen, even if I had to go get her,” Hasson said. “So that is what I did.”

Hasson set out on the three-hour drive from Fincastle to the home in North Carolina. Her sister, sister-in-law, and mother were in Charlotte and rode back with Hasson and the resident’s mother. Hasson’s sister also has a giving nature having spent time as a missionary in Haiti.

Upon arriving in Fincastle, Hasson paid for a hotel room and purchased food for her because she knew the resident’s mother had to take days off of work to make the trip.

“I would pick his mom up from the hotel in the mornings during her stay and then come back to the facility in the evening and take her back to her hotel,” Hasson said.

The resident is not able to get up out of bed, but the one thing they both looked forward to the most was the resident’s mom bringing some of her homemade food to him and they shared many meals together. That was one thing the resident said he missed the most.

“There is nothing like a mother’s comforting love and sometimes that needs to be in tangible form. Being able to see the first interaction the two had after so long from being apart was an amazing moment and an unforgettable memory,” Hasson said.

She said that being able to be a part of moments like this reassures her that “God always leads you where you need to go, but also where you are needed to be in helping others in ways you may not understand at the beginning of a journey.”

“Allison goes above and beyond on a daily basis. Her compassion for the residents is heartwarming,” said Fincastle Chief Administration Officer Chuck Flynn. “She is someone that everyone can rely on and sets an example on how to be a great leader. She is one of a kind.”

“My purpose and my passion as an employee of Kissito Healthcare is to show light in a world that can be so dark at times,” Hasson said. “Our residents have all been through something that brought them to us and during that time they become part of our family.”

Hasson has been employed with Kissito Healthcare since 2013, when she began her journey in the Respiratory Department. She earned a bachelor’s degree in Healthcare Administration in 2015 from Ashford University, followed by her nursing degree in 2021. When she is away from work, she loves spending time with family and friends, horseback riding, and coaching her daughter’s basketball team.

“One characteristic I’ve always had was the gift of



Allison Hasson

PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIAN CENTER

giving. I truly enjoy being able show others love through acts of service, especially those who are in unfortunate circumstances,” Hasson said.

She plans to continue in the health care profession and eventually become a long-term care administrator.

- Fincastle Herald staff report



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Botetourt Worship Directory

ANGLICAN

Orchard Hills Church - 6032 Cloverdale Rd. next to Read Mountain Fire Station. Worship at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays. Home group Bible studies available throughout the week. Pastor Scott McLucas, 977-6800. To find out more about Orchard Hills Church go to the website at www.orchardhillschurch.org.

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

New Beginnings Assembly of God, 1317 Narrow Passage Rd., 43 North. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday night Worship 6 p.m., Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study, 6:00 p.m., Pastor Wanda Scaggs, 704-310-6946; Jack Scaggs, 540-314-4243. Everyone welcome.

Troutville Assembly of God, 118 Conner Lane, P.O. Box 728, Troutville, VA 24175. Pastor Dennis Carroll, 540-960-1224, Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church 11:00 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Everyone welcome.

CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY

Botetourt Church of God of Prophecy - (formerly Flatwoods COGOP & Fincastle COGOP), Roanoke & Academics Streets, Fincastle, Va 24090, Sunday School 10:00 AM, Worship 11:00 AM, Sun. Evening 6:30 PM, Wed. Evening 7:00 PM, Pastor Peggy Brown, 540-992-3696.

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST

Colonial Baptist Church - 221 Hillcrest St., Blue Ridge, VA 24064. Phone 540-977-5683. Senior Pastor Joel A. Wegner; Sunday: 9:30 a.m., Sunday School & Adult Bible Fellowships; 10:30 a.m. Worship (Nursery, Tots' & Children's Church) - broadcast on Facebook Live; One Sunday evening worship per month at 6 p.m. Wednesday schedule during the school year: 11 a.m. & 7 p.m. Adult Prayer & Bible Studies; 6:45 p.m. WOL Teens, 7 p.m. WOL Gopher Buddies & Olympians (Age 3-Grade 6), 7 p.m. MERGE (College Age). E-mail: office@cbcblueridge.org; website: www.cbcblueridge.org; On Facebook, Instagram, YouTube

Crossroads Baptist Church - 1128 Wheatland Rd., Buchanan, Pastor Elmer Clemons, 761-5074 Home, Sunday School 10:00 A.M., Morning Worship, 11:00 A.M., Sunday Evening 6:00 P.M., Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 6:00 P.M.

Faith Baptist Church- 4258 Botetourt Rd., 4 miles N. of Fincastle; Dr. John W. Reynolds, pastor- teacher, 473-2325, jwr56fbc@yahoo.com. Sunday School, 10 AM; Worship, 11 AM. Wed. Bible study, 7 PM. fincastlefaith.com.

Lapsleys Run Baptist Church- Rev. David W. Halsey, Sr., Pastor. 608 Zion Hill Road, Fincastle. 540-556-3504. Worship: 2nd & 4th Sundays at 11:00a.m.

New Hope Baptist Church- 2315 Blue Ridge Blvd. (US 460), 977-6610, Pastor David McNeill; Sunday School, 9:45AM; Worship, 10:45AM, 7PM; Wed., Bible Study 7PM; Kings Kids, 7PM; Daycare and Preschool, Mon-Fri. 6:30AM-6PM.

Valley View Baptist Church- 17471 Main St., Buchanan; Rev. Daniel Boone, 254-2760 (church), 254-2570 (H). Sunday School, 10 AM; worship, 11 AM, Sunday Evening, 6:30 PM; Wednesday: Prayer and Youth Ministries, 7 PM, Word Of Life youth ministry for 4 year olds-12th grade Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST

Bonsack Baptist Church - 4845 Cloverdale Rd. (Alt. 220) Dr. Chris Cadenhead, 977-5701, Sunday School, 8:30a.m. and 11a.m.; Worship 9:45a.m.; Wed. Bible study, 6 p.m.

Buchanan Baptist Church -

19730 Main Street, Buchanan, Sunday Bible Study for all ages 9:45 a.m.; Worship at 11 a.m. Wednesday Fellowship Meal at 6 p.m. followed by Bible Study and activities for all ages. Facebook - Buchanan Baptist Church; Web Site - buchananbaptist.com; Phone - 254-2253, Pastor - Darrell Naff; Minister of Music - Stephen Harris

Cave Rock Baptist Church - 2233 Stoney Battery Road, Troutville. Pastor Mark Childers, 540-765-8855. Sunday School 10 a.m., Worship Service 11 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Daleville Baptist Church-

Corner of Valley Rd. and Orchard Dr., 992-1570; Senior Pastor Wes Belcher; Sunday School 9:00 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday: Youth 6:30 p.m., Children (age 4-5th grade) 6:45 p.m., Bible study & prayer 7:00 p.m.

Fincastle Baptist Church-

Located at 7330 Roanoke Rd., Fincastle, Rt. 220, 1 mile south of Fincastle, 540-473-2861; www.fincastlebaptist.org; Sr. Pastor Kevin B. Cummings. Sunday Mornings, we offer a dual Bible Study/Worship Service at both 9:00 am and 10:45 am. On Wednesday evenings, we offer events for the entire family: Kids Club (3 years-5th grade) 6:15-7:30 pm; Middle School Ignite (Grades 6-8) 6:15-7:15 pm; Adult Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm; Ignite High School Group (Grades 9-12) 7:45-8:45 pm; and childcare (birth-36 months).

Forest Grove Baptist Church-

693 Mt. Moriah Rd. (Rt. 681), Eagle Rock, Rev. Jerry Marsh, Pastor. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:35 a.m., Wed., Bible Study 7 p.m.

Glade Creek Baptist Church

- 3148 Webster Rd., Blue Ridge; 977-1686 or 309-1908, Rev. Steve McChesney. Worship, 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Wednesday, Bible study starting with supper at 6 p.m.

Mill Creek Baptist Church

-11475 Lee Hwy., Fincastle, 992-3474. Danny Quirin, Pastor. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday night activities begin at 6pm: Bible study, children and youth activities, choir and handbell rehearsals follow. office@millcreekbc.com

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church

- 4930 Country Club Road (corner of Country Club & Haymakertown Roads), 540-992-5556. Pastor Danny Barham. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. Worship can also be viewed online at the PHBC Facebook page or on Youtube (PHBCtube). Other activities and schedules can be found at www.phbcweb.com.

Springwood Baptist Church

- 88 Capps Hill Rd., Buchanan; Rev. Mike Anderson, 540-819-4616, Email pmike09@outlook.com. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.: worship 11 a.m.: Wednesday night bible study will be held every first and third Wednesday of the month from 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Troutville Baptist Church

-P.O. Box 309, Troutville, VA 24175; 992-1026, Pastor Dr. Jeff Ritchey. Sunday School 9:45 AM; Worship 11 AM. Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study, 6:30PM; Youth & Children Activities 6:30PM.

Zion Hill Baptist Church-

Intersection of Zion Hill Road and Old Fincastle Road. Pastor Donald Goforth (540) 884-2285. Sunday School -10 AM. Worship 11AM. Youth Activities (grades 6-12) and Kingdom Kids (preschool-grade 5) Wednesdays at 5:30 PM.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Cloverdune Church of the Brethren- 4708 Read Mtn. Rd., 992-1060; Sunday School, 9:15 a.m., worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wed. (Sept.-May), Family Din-

THE NIGHT SEASON

Read Psalms 62:1 through 68:35

George A. Young, a bivocational preacher in the nineteenth century, ministered mainly to rural churches while he supplemented his income as a carpenter. After many years of struggle he was able to build a home for his family with his own hands. While away from home in ministry, some who disagreed with his preaching burned his house to the ground. Shortly thereafter he wrote the hymn, "God Leads Us Along."

Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me. I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue (Psalm 66:16-17).

The Psalmist's words speak to us when we are going through life's challenges. And Pastor Young speaks to us of praising God in the night seasons of life: "Some through great sorrow, but God gives a song, in the night season and all the day long."

Like Pastor Young, we can pray and we sing in the night. Prayer plus praise equals power. Focus on God's presence and power and don't let sin cut the lines of communication.

Prayer Suggestion: Lord, we are thankful that through the challenges, we can still sing praises to You.

Quicklook: Psalm 66:13-20

ner, 6 p.m., Bible study, 6:45 p.m. Preschool, after-school care & summer day camp for preschool and elementary age children. Patrick Starkey, Pastor; Shawna Burkhart, preschool director.

Mt. Bethel Church of the Brethren-

10603 Narrow Passage Rd. (Rt. 43), Eagle Rock. PO Box. 183 Eagle Rock, VA 24085. Pastor Zach Hatcher. 884-2292 (church), 815-9224 (cell). Sunday School, 10 AM; worship, 11 AM; Ladies' Aid meets 2nd Thurs. monthly. Please contact church for additional bible studies schedule.

Mt. Joy Church of the Brethren-

2565 Buffalo Rd., 10 miles N of Buchanan, 254-2298. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m. Pastor Michael Tabor, (540) 309-7595.

Pleasant Dale Church of the Brethren,

3732 Breckinridge Mill Road, Fincastle Virginia 24090, Pastor Dr. David A. Tozar, Worship service 11:00am every Sunday, Potluck Luncheon every 3rd Sunday of the month.

Troutville Church of the Brethren -

5133 Lee Hwy., 992-1571; Terry R. Johnson, Pastor; Don Obenshain, Choir Director. Sunday Morning Services: Sunday School, 10 am; Worship Service, 11 am. Sunday Night Meetings: Rainbows, 5:30 pm; Christ Seekers, 6:00 pm. Wednesday Night Meetings: Bible Study, 6:30 pm, Choir practice, 7:00 pm. Family Fellowship Time will be held each 3rd Sunday of the month. Handicap Accessible. Our email address is: Troutvillecob@hotmail.com.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Dale Ridge Church of Christ - 7165 Cloverdale Rd., Roanoke, 24019; beside the Botetourt Athletic Club. Leave message 992-4385. Sunday Bible Study, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study, 6 p.m. Please come visit us in person or get to know about us first by visiting our web page: daleridgechurchofchrist.net. Updated each week with a new sermon by Mike Mazzalongo, four minutes of video showing our nearly six acres of land and

our beautiful, functional inside facilities, articles, events, news from Christian sources around the world and here locally plus much, much more. See how many ways Dale Ridge is "Reaching Out There" to the Roanoke Valley with the "Good News of Jesus. By clicking on "visit us virtually" real time access to our Worship services is available via your computer, a tablet or smartphone: Just follow the instructions. We believe in the inspired Word of God which is as relevant today as it was when it was written. We believe the Holy Spirit is a gift to every Christian upon their response to the Gospel as demonstrated by the 3000 obedient souls in (Acts 2:38). We believe Jesus is the only author of our salvation. (Acts 4:12) Have you been looking for a church family that is progressive, outside the box thinkers, led by the Holy Spirit into all truth. (John 16:13). You will know we are His disciples by our love for one another. (John 13:35) Real time contact thru our website via email.

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. The Roanoke Eckankar Center is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. The Center was closed during the COVID crisis but is now open. A spiritual event is held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. Since contracting COVID-19 may still be possible, please take the health steps that are best for you. It is appreciated that by attending you are taking responsibility for your own health. Visit www.eck-va.org, www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences Group or call 540-353-5365 for other Eckankar programs and for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar can lead you to spiritual freedom.

EPISCOPAL

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

-111 S. Roanoke St., Fincastle. P.O. Box 277 Fincastle, VA 24090.

The Rev. G. Willis Logan, Rector. 473-2370. Worship in the sanctuary and by Zoom on Sunday mornings at 10:00am, with Adult Education on Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 9:50am. Evening Prayer is Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm by Zoom. Brown Bag Bible Study on Thursdays at 12 noon in the Ministry Center and by Zoom. Links for Zoom can be found on our website, www.stmarksfincastle.org.

LUTHERAN

Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS) - 4535 Bonsack Road, Roanoke, VA; Paul Workentine, Pastor; Worship Sunday at 10:00 AM. Sunday School at 11:30 AM. Info and calendar at osroanoke.com. Phone: 540-977-4888. Mailing address PO Box 916, Blue Ridge, VA 24064.

Wheatland Evangelical Lutheran Church- 1560 Wheatland Road, Buchanan, 24066; 540-254-1605. Sunday worship service, 10:30 a.m. (in person or parking lot, tune car radio to 88.9 FM). The Rev. Chuck Miller, 540-589-7553. Facebook, <http://www.wheatlandlutheran.org>; teemwheatland@gmail.com

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Grace Bible Church of Botetourt - 148 Amsterdam Rd. (beside the south lane of 220 in Amsterdam, 1.5 miles north of LBHS). Sunday Worship, 10 a.m. Pastor Jay Robinette - 855-4620.

Mt. Carmel Church, 6 miles south of Eagle Rock at intersection of Rt. 43 and 688; pastor, Richard Ronk; phone # (540) 884-3653; Sunday School at 10:00 A.M., Worship at 11:00 A.M., Wed. Prayer Meeting

at 7:00 P.M., 4th Sunday Evenings at 7:00 P.M.

Woodland Church-A Place Where You Can Grow - 45 Woodland Rd. Troutville, VA. Corner of Blacksburg/Country Club Rds., 3.5 miles W of Fincastle; 992-1008. Sunday School, 10AM; Worship 11AM, Wed. Prayer Meeting 7PM (Call for more information).

PRESBYTERIAN

Buchanan Presbyterian Church - 19559 Main St. Buchanan. 540-254-1390. Interim Pastor Skip Hastings. Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. with background checked approved teachers, Choir practice at 10:15 a.m. Worship at 11 a.m. with children's nursery with background checked approved staff. Videotaped services can be viewed on YouTube. The Food Pantry is open from 9-11 a.m. on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. AA meetings are held on Thursdays at 7 p.m. Handicap accessible. Facebook page or website: www.buchananpresbyterian.org. Contact www.admin@buchananpresbyterian.org

Fincastle Presbyterian Church -

108 E. Back Street, Fincastle, VA 24090. The Reverend David Dickerson is the minister with the Worship Service held from 10:30 - 11:30 Sunday mornings. Services are now being held in the sanctuary with no restrictions...unvaccinated individuals are still requested to wear their masks. The service will also be live-streamed via Facebook at (<https://www.facebook.com/fincastlepresbyterianchurch>). New members are welcome to join our hand bell and vocal choirs. (No musical experience is required...just a desire to worship the Lord and to have fun!) The church is handicapped accessible. For more information: fincastlepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com or (540)473-2042.

Galatia Evangelical Presbyterian Church -

78 Gala Loop Road, Eagle Rock, VA 24085. Rev. Emily B. Hook, pastor, 804-516-6552. Sunday School at 10 a.m. each Sunday. Morning Worship & Praise at 11a.m. each Sunday. Communion once each quarter.

Virginia Presbyterian Church -

918 Pico Road, Buchanan, 24066. Worship 9:30 a.m. (nursery provided), Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Church of the Transfiguration-

7624 Roanoke Rd., Fincastle, VA 24090; Fr. Stephen McNally, 473-2656. Saturday Mass at 4:30pm & Sunday at 8:30am; Christian formation after Mass on Sunday.

UNITED METHODIST

Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church-

3936 Beaver Dam Road, just off Springwood Road, Springwood. Rev. Morris A. Bennett. Sunday School, 9:15 a.m. followed by Worship, 10 a.m.

Eagle Rock United Methodist Church -

14565 Church St. Eagle Rock 10:15 AM; Glen Wilton UMC, Main St. Glen Wilton, 9:00 AM; Shiloh UMC, Shiloh Rd, Eagle Rock, 11:15 AM. Pastor Ray Sandifer (540) 525-0258.

Fincastle United Methodist Church -

Sunday School at 9 a.m. in the Family Life Center. In person services Sunday, 10 a.m. in the sanctuary, 136 S. Church St., Fincastle. Pastor Rev. Kwang Shin, office, 473-3001. E-mail: office@fincastleumc.org.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church -

19 Cedar Ridge Drive, Daleville, Rev. Terry Clark, 992-3030. Sunday School 10am; Traditional Worship 8:30am & 11am.

Trinity United Methodist Church -

19637 Main St., Buchanan; Rev. Doug Mitchell, 254-2475 (O). Sunday School, 9:45AM, worship 10:30 AM.

OBITUARIES

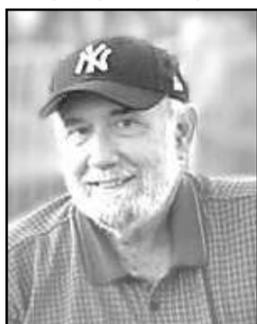
Di Palma, Joseph Vito

Joseph "Joe" Vito Di Palma, 72, of Buchanan, went to be with his Lord on Sunday, January 15, 2023.

Joe was a Christmas baby and a gift to all who knew him. Born to Vincent and Nell Di Palma of Port Chester, N.Y., he grew up as the second of six boys. A graduate of Syracuse University, Joe was gifted in accounting and information technology, and worked for Anchor Glass and then Roanoke Cement. For the last five years, he has been a solid presence at The Best Place Antiques in Buchanan, and has traveled this beautiful world with his "Princess Bride," Diane.

For all of his life he was an avid Yankees fan, a lover of lasagna, and a master of the one-liner. Most of all, Joe lived for his Lord, his wife, his children, and his grandchildren. He was a beloved son, brother, husband, father, and Papaw.

He was preceded in death by his father Vincent. He left behind



Diane, his loving wife of 40 years, and daughters Bethany (Alex) and Tali (Jon); sons, Devin, Joshua (Brigid), and Jordan (Kara); granddaughters, Emma, Lia, and Kinley Di Palma. He is also survived by his mother, Nell Di Palma; brothers Vin (Linda), John (Jean), Harry (Priscilla), Tom (Steph), and Paul (Helene); and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Joe was our calm in the storm, our rock, a godly husband and father. He leaves a huge hole in our lives. Love you forever Joe, Dad, Papaw.

A memorial service will be held Sunday, January 22 at 2 p.m. at the Buchanan Chapel of Botetourt Funeral Home, 14920 Lee Highway, Buchanan. The family will receive friends before the service from 1-2 p.m. Online condolences may be made at www.botetourtfuneralhome.com or 540-254-3000.

Kessinger, Temple Lyman, Jr.

Temple Lyman Kessinger Jr., 77, of Covington, went to be with Jesus Friday, January 6, 2023 at the Woodlands Health and Rehab Center, Clifton Forge. A celebration of his life was held at Good News Church on Main, Covington,

with Pastor Steve Noel officiating on Saturday, January 14, 2023. The family received friends at 12 noon followed by the service and fellowship. Arrangements were handled by Loving Funeral Home, Covington.

Long, William Henry

William Henry "Billy" Long Jr., 64, of Fincastle, passed away Thursday, January 12, 2023 at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital, Roanoke. A memorial service will be held on Thursday,

January 19, at 6 p.m. in the Chapel of Nicely Funeral Home, Clifton Forge, with the Rev. Gene Ayers officiating. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until time of service at Nicely Funeral Home.

Forest Service anticipates successful 2023 Lake Moomaw recreation season

The USDA Forest Service is providing a renewed recreation season at Lake Moomaw this summer.

Bolar Mountain Campgrounds 1, 2 and 3 in Bath County will open to the public on May 24. Reservations are required and are available six months in advance on <https://www.recreation.gov/>

The Bolar Mountain day use area, including the swim beach, will also open on May 24.

The Bolar Flats day use area, including the boat launch, is open year-round. However, the dock at the Bolar Flats marina, damaged during a high wind event storm last year, remains closed to for public safety.

The Bolar Flats marina store remains closed. A prospectus was recently distributed for a special use permit to operate the Bolar Flats marina area, including the marina store, dry storage, wet storage, day use and picnic facilities. However, no bids were received and the dock and store will remain closed this season.

McClintic Point Campground, on the north side of Lake Moomaw, will open on March 29 to visitors on a first-come, first-served basis. Camping fees are \$12 a night

and made on site via fee envelope. Both cash and checks accepted. There is no water available at the site and campers will need to pack in all their water needs. A vault toilet is provided. Group sites are closed.

Blowing Springs Campground opens March 8, available as first-come, first-served. Cash fee or check is \$12/night.

Hidden Valley Campground opens March 8, available as first come, first served. Cash fee or check is \$15/night.

Morris Hill Campground near the Coles Point recreation area on the south side of Lake Moomaw (Alleghany County) will also open May 24. Reservations for Morris Hill Campground are currently available six months in advance on [recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov/).

Sugar Ridge Campground, within the Bolar Mountain recreation area, is closed for maintenance and repair.

Needed repairs and maintenance on the wastewater treatment plant interrupted last summer's recreation season. Repairs to the wastewater treatment plant were completed earlier this month. Operational testing, as required by the

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, will be conducted throughout the 2023 summer recreation season to ensure public health and safety.

Recreation sites at Bolar Mountain at Lake Moomaw will remain open as long as the wastewater treatment plant continues to operate without issue.

Plans to completely decommission and replace the plant, which is over 40 years old, are underway in part to funding from the Great American Outdoors Act.

Annual Day Use passes are available for \$30 by phone or mail from the James River and Warm Springs Ranger District at 540-839-2521.

- USDA Forest Service

Church news to share? Share it with us! Fincastle@mainstreetnewspapers.com

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NOTICE

The next regular meeting of the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors will be held on **Tuesday, January 24**, beginning at 2:00 P.M. at the Botetourt County Administration Center at 57 South Center Drive in Daleville, Virginia.

For information regarding this meeting, please see www.botetourtva.gov or contact the County Administrator's Office at 540-928-2006.

CHURCH NEWS

Springwood Food Pantry open Jan. 21

The Springwood Baptist Food Pantry will be open on Saturday, Jan. 21 from 9-10:30 a.m. The pantry is located at 88 Copps Hill Road, Buchanan. This pantry is a drive through pantry, so clients may remain in their cars and volunteers will load the food for them.

The pantry is open each month on the third Saturday from 9-10:30 a.m. It is a partner with Feeding America Southwest Virginia and anyone in need of food is invited.

Free movie at PleasantDale

January 28 is Movie Night at PleasantDale Church of the Brethren. The movie will be "Miracles from Heaven."

Free hot dogs, chips, and drinks will be available downstairs beginning 4 p.m. The free movie, along with free popcorn, begins at 5 p.m.

Inclement weather date is the following Saturday, Feb. 4.

Upcoming trips with Joyful Journey Club

The Joyful Journey Travel Club of St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Daleville, invites you to join them on their trips for 2023. This is an outreach ministry geared for older adults but any age is welcome. Grandparents sometimes bring their grandchildren along and parents sometimes bring their children along. For more information and reservations contact Julia Greer, Joyful Journey Travel, St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 19 Cedar Ridge Dr., Daleville, Va. 24083-540-330-7933

PENNSYLVANIA AMISHLANDS

featuring "MOSES" April 26-28 (3 days – 2 nights) \$505 per person (double occupancy), \$654 for a single. The package includes: 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners including a Smorgasbord Dinner, performance of "MOSES" at Sight & Sound Theater, "Jacob's Choice" film, Amish Home & Tour, Kitchen Kettle Village, Turkey Hill Experience & Ice Cream Taste Lab, luggage handling, taxes and meal gratuities, motorcoach transportation and driver's tip. MARCH 6 deadline for payment in full.

PITTSBURG EXPRESS

June 20-22 (3 days – 2 nights) \$515 per person (double occupancy), \$664 for a single

The package includes: 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 2 Dinners including a dinner at the Grand Concourse, Duquesne Incline, guided tour of Pittsburg including the University of Pittsburg Cathedral of Learning Nationality Rooms, Heinz Memorial Chapel, Tour of Phipps Conservatory & Botanical Gardens, Frank Lloyd Wright's "Falling Water", Flight 93 Memorial & Tower of Voices Chimes, luggage handling, taxes & meal gratuities, motorcoach transportation & driver's tip. MAY 1 deadline for payment in full.

GASLIGHT & GINGERBREAD

December 4-6 (3 days – two nights) \$565 (double occupancy), \$734 for a single Christmas Time in Cape May, NJ

The package includes: 2 nights lodging at the Grand Hotel, 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners, tour of 1879 Physick Estate, trolley tour of historic district, Holly Trolley lights tour of Cape May, free time on Washington St. Mall, visit to Towne of Historic Smithfield, luggage handling, all taxes and meal gratuities, motorcoach transportation & driver's tip. October 13 deadline for payment in full.

Registration for kindergarten students on February 13

Kindergarten registration for the 2023-2024 school term is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 13, from 12- 6 p.m. at each elementary school. Contact your child's school directly and schedule a time to come into the building and complete the appropriate paperwork.

All parent forms may be found on the BCPS division website, under the parents tab: https://www.bcps.k12.va.us/parents/registration_forms.

Virginia school law states that children are of school age if they have reached their fifth birthday on or before September 30.

Information requested at the time of registration will include: Birth certificate and Documentation of Proof of Residency (mortgage/ lease/real estate

tax statement – or you may provide a current utility bill and a current bank statement or check stub issued by an employer).

A physical examination and a record of immunization will also be required prior to the first day of school

If you have questions or need additional information, contact the school at the following numbers:

- Breckinridge Elementary: 473-8386
- Buchanan Elementary: 254-2084
- Cloverdale Elementary: 992-1086
- Colonial Elementary: 977-6773
- Eagle Rock Elementary: 884-2421
- Greenfield Elementary: 992-4416
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The Fincastle Herald

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House

from page 4

communities safer, and developing a diversified, all-in approach to energy. I look forward to updating you as we advance our priorities over the following weeks.

While in Richmond, it is always a pleasure seeing familiar faces from back home. This week, we welcomed to the Capitol the Virginia Federation of Republican Women, members of the Agribusiness Council, and bankers from across Virginia. Though the compressed nature of a short session means time is limited, these visits are important

and informative, and I thank you for taking the time to make your voices heard in person.

It is an honor to serve you in the Virginia House of Delegates. If I can be of assistance to you, or you would like to share your position on any of my legislative priorities, please do not hesitate to contact me at DelTAustin@House.Virginia.gov or 804-698-1019.

- Del. Terry Austin

Library events

from page 4

Scrabble Club
Blue Ridge & Eagle Rock - Mondays 10:30am
Buchanan & Fincastle - Wednesdays 10:30
Improve your vocabulary and meet new friends!

Card Games
Blue Ridge & Eagle Rock - Fridays 10:30am
Join new and old friends in the card game of your choice.

Athletics

from page 1

softball at Read Mountain Middle School. "It is important to note that we will not be creating sixth grade teams," Russ said in the release. "The

decision will simply allow sixth grade students to try out for a middle school team."

More information about sixth grade participation in fall and winter sports will be shared at the end of the school year.

All students must have a physical on file prior to trying out for middle school athletic teams. Additionally,

students and parent/guardians must also watch a video presentation on current athletic policies. Athletic directors will share more detail about the requirements.

- Fincastle Herald staff report

Register

from page 1



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Register now at botetourtchamber.com for the State of the County on Feb. 2

a.m. prior to the program that starts at 8 a.m. Light refreshments will be available.

Registration is required for in-person attendance. The chamber will also be offering a remote webinar session.

Information is now available on the Botetourt Chamber of Commerce website.

- Fincastle Herald staff report

**LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE BOTETOURT COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors hereby gives notice of public hearing to be held on January 24, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., in the Botetourt County Administration Center located at 57 South Center Drive, Daleville, Virginia, to consider the request listed below. Information may be reviewed at the Community Development Office at 57 South Center Drive, Daleville, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Amsterdam District: Greenfield Partners LLC requests a Commission Permit in accordance with §15.2-2232 of the Code of Virginia for the construction of public road(s) and utilities, and also requests a rezoning of a 53.448 portion of a 78.948-acre parcel from the Agricultural (A-1) Use District to the Residential (R-1) Use District, with possible proffered conditions, in accordance with Section 25-581. - Zoning Map Amendment—Owner Initiated, and Chapter 25 Zoning, Article II – District Regulations Generally, Division 4.- Low Density Residential District R-1 of the Botetourt County Code, for the purpose of creating a single-family residential development. The property is located on Greenfield Street (Route 673), Daleville, VA, and access to the development is proposed via Greenfield Street at the O'Hara Drive (Route 1155) intersection, approximately 0.5 miles northeast of the Roanoke Road (US Route 220)/Greenfield Street intersection and also to a driveway located across from the entrance to 925 Greenfield Street. It is identified on the Real Property Identification Maps of Botetourt County as Section 88, Parcel 94.

Persons wishing to make comments may attend the hearing, mail their comments to the Botetourt County Administrator's Office, 57 South Center Drive, Daleville, VA 24083, e mail their comments to lbess@botetourtva.gov, or submit comments through the on-line form on our website at www.botetourtva.gov. Comments by postal mail must be received by January 19, 2023.

**Gary Larrowe
Botetourt County Administrator**

Rader

from page 1

Rader and the board looked at the numbers and felt that the building would be a good location for the new museum.

Rader is excited about the new "Fincastle Museum" included in the appropriations made by Del. Terry Austin last year. He hopes to see the old museum physically moved and preserved, maintain operations of the new location of the BCHM, and utilize the new museum as a special events center.

"I think [the move of the old building] is going to be great and I just hope it stays together when they move it,"

Rader said. "History-wise, [the county] knew they should at least try to move [the old museum]. They couldn't just tear it down."

When asked about the history of Botetourt, Rader said that there are two facts about Botetourt that he's always found fascinating. The first being that Botetourt County once stretched as far as the Mississippi River for a short period of time. A lot of county records are still researched by westerners, who sometimes have to travel back to the Botetourt County Courthouse to find information.

The other fact Rader noted was that Fincastle was the most western town in the state upon its founding.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BCHM

John W. Rader, President of The Botetourt County Historical Society & Museum

"Coming over the mountain was a big deal for people from the eastern part of the state," Rader mentioned. "In the 1750s, '60s, and maybe early '70s, there were still indigenous people living here— that's the big thing that sticks out to me about Botetourt. It was a pretty affluent town at the time on the western frontier and then, of course, things came along like the Civil War that set things back

but Fincastle stayed the same [for years]."

Rader's appreciative of all of the individuals who have put in so many voluntary hours to helping move the museum to its new location last year and continue to work in the museum every week.

"I don't want to leave anybody out," Rader said. "A lot of people have helped, but the Botetourt Women's Club has put in so many hours. Some of the supervisors like Steve Clinton, again, I know there's probably somebody else, but he put in personal time. We couldn't do it without them, to be honest.

"[The museum has] always kind of been the unofficial welcome center for Botetourt and Fincastle because a lot of people visit on weekends and nothing's open but the museum. We serve a very important function in that area too. The museum's focus is the [county's history], but Fincastle is the county seat and hopefully always will be."

To learn more about the Botetourt County Historical Society & Museum, please visit bothistsoc.wordpress.com/. The museum is located at 26 East Main Street in Fincastle and is open to the public Monday thru Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on Sundays from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.

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CIRCUIT COURT**

Botetourt County Circuit Court Clerk's Office will have a full-time position for Deputy Clerk, beginning February 1, 2023. General knowledge of Circuit Court system, ability to operate computers, computerized cash register, other office equipment and information system equipment; ability to communicate effectively and tactfully with the public; ability to read and understand legal documents; and ability to maintain confidentiality of information handled are all requirements of the job. High school diploma required plus additional education preferred. Apply at Clerk's Office of Circuit Court, Fincastle, Virginia, by January 25, 2023. Salary within the Deputy Clerk scale. Applications are available at Botetourt County Circuit Court Clerk's Office and on the Botetourt County Virginia Human Resource page.

Stockyard Report

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500-599: \$163.00-175.50
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Graded Feeder Heifers
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500-599: \$142.00-149.75
600-699: \$142.50-148.00
700-799: \$122.00-137.00

Cows: \$ 40.00-82.00
Bulls: \$ 83.00-94.00

**VACANCY
BOTETOURT COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION
AMSTERDAM DISTRICT**

Botetourt County has a vacancy from the Amsterdam District on the Planning Commission to fulfill an unexpired term, expiring January 1, 2025. Planning Commission members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The Planning Commission hears land-use related requests such as Rezoning, Special Exceptions Permits, Subdivision Exceptions, Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance text amendments, Comprehensive Plan updates, and holds work sessions on planning-related topics, as needed. The Commission normally meets on the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Botetourt County Administration Building located at 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville. The successful candidate will also be encouraged to complete the Virginia Certified Planning Commissioner's Program within the first year of his/her appointment.

Any interested resident of the Amsterdam District is asked to submit a letter of interest, including relevant background information to the Botetourt County Administrator's Office, 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville, Virginia 24083, or lbess@botetourtva.gov. The vacancy will remain open until filled. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Nicole Pendleton, Director of Community Development, at 540-928.2080 or npendleton@botetourtva.gov, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Botetourt County Historical Properties Commission will meet on January 26, at 11:00 a.m. The meeting will be available for attendees in person and virtually. To attend virtually, please call 1-804-215-1775 and enter Conference ID 529 422 803#.

The meeting will be held in Room 229 of the County Administration building at 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville.

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BOTETOURT
Sports

www.fincastleherald.com



Brian Hoffman

Sports Editor

Cavaliers' Nicely is first team All-Class 3 in football

The Virginia High School League Class 3 All-State football team was announced last week and Lord Botetourt had several selections, including one first team choice.

LB junior Jakari Nicely was named first team at "All-Purpose." Jakari served as LB's quarterback but also led the Cavaliers in rushing.

Second team all-state went to LB junior DJ Toliver on the offensive line, senior Titus Hopkins on the defensive line, senior Drew Gilbert at linebacker, junior Kendal Howard at defensive end and junior Cade Lang at defensive back.

Nicely was recently named the Region 3D Offensive Player of the Year and first team All Purpose for the region. Other LB all-region first team selections were Toliver on offense and Hopkins, Howard, Gilbert and Lang on defense. Second team All-Region 3D Cavaliers included sophomore Jackson Harless at center, junior Kesean Anderson on the defensive line, Dalton Oxley at linebacker, Tucker Brookman at defensive all-purpose and Nicely at defensive back.

Botetourt dominated the All-Blue Ridge District team, with Nicely being named Most Valuable

Offensive Back and Offensive Player of the Year, Toliver taking Most Valuable Offensive Line honors, Hopkins receiving the Most Valuable Defensive Lineman award and Lang named as both Most Valuable Defensive Back and Defensive Player of the Year.

First team all-district selections included Nicely at quarterback, Harless at center and both Toliver and Hopkins on the o-line. On the first team defense were Hopkins and Anderson on the line, Howard at end, Gilbert at linebacker, Lang and Nicely in the secondary and Brookman at all-purpose.

Second team all-district from LB included Anderson on the o-line, Tristan Overbay at running back and Lang at both receiver and kick returner. Oxley was second team on defense.

James River did not have any all-state or all-region players this season but the Knights had several make All-Three Rivers District. Conner Church was second team at running back and Maddox Potter was the second team kicker. On defense second team all-Three Rivers selections from River were John Austin on the line, Colin Cook and Gabe Staton at linebacker and Jake Benson at defensive back.



PHOTO BY JIM DEVINNEY

Jakari Nicely of LB is first team All-Region 3 in football.

LB girls drop close basketball game at William Fleming



LB's Abby Kingery scores under the hoop.



Madilyn Winterton of the Cavaliers drives against Fleming.

PHOTOS BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY

The Lord Botetourt girls traveled to Roanoke Friday to play William Fleming for first place in the Blue Ridge District and came up just short. The host Colonels took a 50-44 win to remain unbeaten in BRD play while LB lost a district game for the first time.

Fleming jumped on top early in this one, scoring the first 12 points of the game and racing to a 28-8 halftime lead. However, it was a different looking Cavalier team that came out for the second half and the visitors made it a ballgame.

"We were really struggling on the offensive end to not only take care of the ball but hit anything and went three for 24 from the floor in the first half," said LB coach Renee Favaro. "At the half I told them we were better than that and that they had two choices, roll over or make a run back at them. They showed a lot of grit and heart to make a run."

LB cut the lead to two at one point in the third quarter, but rebounding hurt the Cavs. LB gave up 16 offensive rebounds which led to 11 second

chance points and Fleming getting 14 more shot attempts than the Cavaliers.

"We told them they showed us what they are capable of and we expect to see that kind of effort daily," said Favaro. "Assistant coach Kate Spradlin Failla said to them, 'Once you show it, you own it,' so we are hoping they own it every day now."

Madilyn Winterton led LB with 17 points, nine deflections and four steals despite some foul trouble in the first half. Taylor Orange added 13 points, all in the third quarter, while Gracie Huffard grabbed 12 rebounds along with six points and five blocks.

The loss was one of three games the Cavaliers played last week, and they won the other two. They opened the week with a 78-47 win over Northside in Daleville. The girls shot 51 percent from the floor, had 20 assists and forced 34 turnovers, 20 of which came in the second half.

"I was not real happy with our defense in the first half and let the girls know that," said Favaro.

"It took some motivating to get us to play to our standard on that end. We are capable of defending better than we have been at times."

Winterton led the way with 20 points, six steals and five assists. Orange added 18 points and six assists and Huffard chipped in 12 points and eight boards.

A night later the Cavs played at Salem and took a 56-36 win. Botetourt's defense held the Spartans to 22 percent shooting and forced 28 turnovers.

"This game I did not think we played that well offensively but were still able to win every quarter and control the game start to finish with our defense," said Favaro.

Orange led the way with 23 points. Ainsley Anderson added 11 points, six assists and four steals.

The girls come into the week with a 10-4 overall record and a 2-1 mark in the district. They were scheduled to play at home against Franklin County, who was also 2-1 in the BRD, on Tuesday, then host Staunton River on Friday.



River's Keira Crawford handles the ball.



Sydnee Breeding of James River brings the ball up the floor.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

River girls fall to Alleghany in hoops

The James River girls opened the week with a basketball loss to Alleghany Monday. The visiting Mountaineers took a 53-47 win over River in Springwood on Martin Luther King Day.

River led by a dozen points in the third quarter but let it slip away. Alleghany outscored the Knights 17-8 in the fourth quarter to leave with a 53-47 district win.

"Heartbreaker!!" said River coach Ryan Firebaugh. "We let one get away from us. The girls played so hard and everything was going our way early. We could not have played better, everything was clicking early and when adversity hit us throughout the game the girls would answer it right back."

Sydnee Breeding led the Knights with 15 points, hitting three three-pointers. Caitlin Canada had 11 points, four rebounds and five assists while Kelsi Maydian had five points and five boards.

"Alleghany is a tough team," said Firebaugh. "We shut down two of their best players for most of the game and they had to have someone step up for them and that person did."

With the loss the Knights dropped to 9-5 overall and 1-4 in the Three Rivers District. Last week River split two

district games, losing to Carroll County but bouncing back to top Radford.

Carroll is the defending Class 3 state champion and one of the top teams in the state once again, and they showed why as they came to Springwood and blew out the host Knights, 60-12. Canada led River with seven points.

On Friday the girls were at Radford where they took a 42-26 win over the host Bobcats. Lexi McCullough led River with a near triple double, scoring 13 points, grabbing 11 rebounds and getting seven steals. Honesty Liming returned from an early season and had eight points and Audrey Benson scored seven and had seven rebounds. Canada had just four points but had 11 boards and 10 steals.

"We had quite a few girls step up for us, which was huge," said Firebaugh. "Audrey and Lexi stepped up for us offensively. When you have multiple girls step up and play well you know it's going to be a good night overall. The girls played hard and got it done. It's always good to go on the road and win a district game."

River is back in action Thursday with a home game against Floyd. It's the first game of a girls-boys doubleheader and is scheduled for 6 p.m. Next Tuesday they host Glenvar.

River boys will host Floyd County Thursday night

The James River boys will host Floyd County in the second basketball game of a girls-boys doubleheader on Thursday night in Springwood. The girls will start at 6 p.m. with the boys to follow.

The game will mark the beginning of the second time through the Three Rivers District for the Knights. River was 3-1 in district games prior to a Tuesday trip to Alleghany and 10-5 overall. The Knights dropped a district game for the first time last Thursday, falling 59-44 at home against Radford.

"We learned a lot about ourselves against Radford," said coach Ethan Humphries. "They are the standard in terms of toughness and I thought our guys exhibited that quality, which is what matters most come playoff time. Radford hit some tough shots down the stretch to change the game. As we learned last year versus them sometimes it's just a matter of who hits more tough shots."

Ryan Steger scored his 1,000th career point during the game.

"Ryan sets a tremendous example of what we want from a James River basketball player," said Humphries. "We're going to miss him when he's gone next year and he's off doing bigger things on a different court. For me personally, to coach a guy 'cut from the same cloth' in terms of living and breathing basketball is extra special and makes showing up every



PHOTO BY JIM & REGINA DEVINNEY

Sam Bell goes to the hoop in last week's James River game with Radford.

day very enjoyable knowing he's in the trenches with you."

The Knights also hosted Carroll County last week and took a 58-48 win. Steger had 27 points in this one while Bell had 20 points and eight rebounds.

"We loved the way our guys competed against a good Carroll team," said Humphries. "They were coming in with a 9-2 record and had beaten the Pulaski team we just lost to three times this year. There sure are no nights off in our district."

Elijah Rose qualifies for state



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

The Lord Botetourt indoor track team competed in a high school invitational sponsored by Roanoke College at the Cregger Center in Salem last week. Elijah Rose, above, placed first in the high jump and also state qualified while Jillian Harris came in third overall in the girls 55 hurdles.

LB boys have four straight games on the road starting this week

The Lord Botetourt boys will be on the bus four times in eight days as they look to make up some ground in Blue Ridge District basketball.

The Cavaliers opened the stretch with a game at Franklin County on Tuesday of this week. On Friday they play at Staunton River, and Monday is the first day of a back-to-back as they go to Alleghany for a non-district game. Next Tuesday it's back to the BRD wars with a trip to Vinton to play William Byrd.

The Cavs come into the week with an 8-5 record but just 1-2 in the district after falling to William Fleming in Daleville last Friday. The Colonels jumped to a 16-5 first quarter lead and LB never was able to catch up despite the heroics of Jackson Crawford, who scored 31 of LB's 49 points in a 75-49 loss. Botetourt got as close as two points down, but was never able to draw even.

"William Fleming came



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Jackson Crawford scores and is fouled for the Cavaliers last Friday.

to play in this game," said LB coach Andrew Hart. "Hats off to them for playing really well and playing hard. I need to do a better job getting our guys ready to play against tough competition."

Crawford hit 10 of 18 shots from the floor, including four of five three-pointers, and seven of 10 from the line. Tyler Meade was next high with six points.

"We weren't ready for this battle and it showed,"

said Hart. "Hopefully we will respond well. We have a key four-game stretch of away games over the next two weeks and I know our guys are up for the challenge."

The loss followed a 68-61 loss to Northside last Tuesday in one of the closer games the Vikings have played all season. Northside is 13-0 and the consensus top team in the greater Roanoke Valley area.

Red Sox Kelly is a local celebrity

Zack Kelly, a Lord Botetourt graduate and current relief pitcher for the Boston Red Sox, drops the puck at the Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs game against the Huntsville Havoc on New Year's Eve. Dawgs captain Mac Jansen is on the right. The Rail Yard Dawgs lost this game but are currently in first place in the 11-team



PHOTO BY JOHN WACHER

SPHL. Roanoke is home for games with the Birmingham Bulls on January 20 and 21. Kelly will soon be heading to spring training to prepare for the 2023 season with Boston.

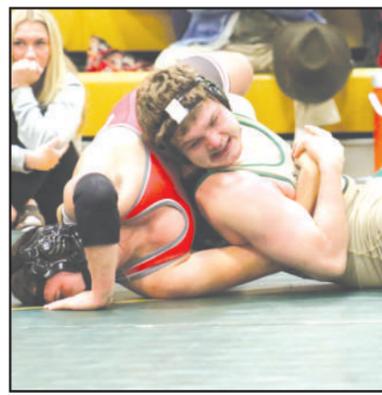


PHOTO BY SHEY CLINE

LB's Andrew Gilbert wrestles against Glenvar last week.

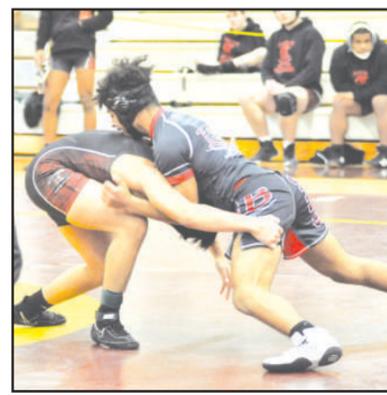


PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Preston Carter of Lord Botetourt (right) battles at Brookville.

Cavaliers win the Brookville Duals

The Lord Botetourt wrestlers added another notch to their belts with a championship in the Brookville Duals at Brookville High School last weekend. The Cavaliers won all five of their dual matches.

LB opened by defeating Chatham, 59-20, and E.C. Glass, 70-10, in the preliminary round. In the championship pool they defeated LCA, 52 - 24, Chatham, 72 - 12, and Northside 52 - 30.

"Winning duals and dual meet tournaments comes down to match ups and bonus points," said LB coach Chuck Burton. "We did a good job of limiting bonus points we gave up and picking up bonus points in our wins."

Joseph Bierece, Hunter Miller, Gray Arnold, and Dalton Oxley all went 5-0

on the day to help pace the Cavaliers. Declan Sullivan, Trey Saunders, Camden Saunders, TJ Piluso and Andrew Gilbert went 4-1 on the day.

"The kids wrestled well and are starting to hit their stride," said Burton.

Botetourt also wrestled at Glenvar in a dual match last week and lost 43-35 to a strong Highlander team. Both teams had full lineups and a couple swing matches went Glenvar's way.

"That's what wrestling was intended to be back in the day," said Burton. "Two teams, full lineups, one on one on a weeknight. These were two evenly matched teams and it was a great dual."

The Cavs were scheduled to wrestle at Cave Spring on Tuesday, then they're off until January 25 for Senior Night at LB in a dual against Patrick Henry.

Knights will host wrestling quad on Saturday morning

The James River wrestlers will be in Springwood Saturday to host a quad-match with Bath County, Stuarts Draft and Alleghany High School. The first action starts at 10 a.m. with two mats going in the James River High gym and it will be "Senior Day" for the Knights.

River is coming off a two-win, one-loss showing in a quad at Riverheads last week, defeating two teams before falling to the host Gladiators. River, a Class 2 school, opened with a 37-33 win over

Class 6 Franklin County, then took a 51-30 win over Parry McCluer. That set up a match with Riverheads and the Knights fell 60-21 against a strong host team.

"We have a very young team and we wrestled a very skilled team in Riverheads," said River coach Bobby Stewart. "We can see the difference in experience. It was a good experience for our team. The kids get to see what effort, time, and dedication can do for a wrestler in this sport."

Last weekend the Knights took a select

roster to Bristol to enter the Ed Cressel Classic at Virginia High School. Xaiden Wynn, Xander Carlough, Brayden Forbes, Nate Stewart, Jayden Alston, and Elias Echavarria took the trip to the southwest rumble. Wynn finished second while Forbes and Stewart both took fourth against top notch competition.

"This tournament is a good experience for our guys," said Stewart. "We get to see some of our state competition that would not otherwise be seen until the end of the season."

LB swim team is home tonight

The Lord Botetourt swim team will host a meet at the Botetourt YMCA tonight as William Byrd, Franklin County and Christiansburg join the Cavaliers for a 7:30 p.m. start.

The Cavaliers competed in the All-Timesland Invitational last Saturday and had some good performances. The meet, at the Roanoke Gator Center, is one of the biggest of the winter swim season.

LB's Hannah Mizuba had a big day, winning the 100 Free and taking second in the 50 Free. She made the state cut in both events. Also, Sarah Frederickson took 11th in both the 100 Free and 100 Back.

James River did not attend the Timesland meet but swam in a meet at the Christiansburg Aquatic Center last week. Walker Wilson won the 100 Butterfly and took second in the 50 Freestyle. Drew Wilson was second in the 100 Free and third in the 100 Breaststroke, and MacKenzie Alford was third in the 100 Free.

The Knights were scheduled to swim at the Bedford Y on Tuesday of this week.



James River's Drew Whitson placed second in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 1:07.92 at the Christiansburg Aquatic Center.



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

MacKenzie Alford of James River placed 7th in the 100-yard backstroke (1:32.13).

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