

# 2022 WAS ONE OF THE GREATEST YEARS IN FAUQUIER COUNTY SPORTS HISTORY!

The *Fauquier Times* names the top 25 sports stories of 2022 – plus one

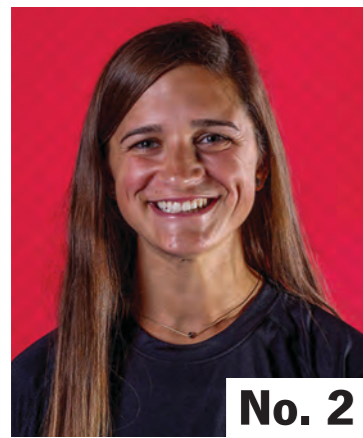
2022 presented connoisseurs of Fauquier County sports an unprecedented number of success stories, including many on a national level. In a departure from past years, and to acknowledge so many worthy accomplishments, the *Fauquier Times* sports department has expanded its rundown to a Top 25 Sports Stories of 2022, plus one.

We hope the list brings back fond memories.

-FRED HODGE AND PETER BREWINGTON, *Fauquier Times* Writers



**No. 1** **KETTLE RUN FOOTBALL** became the most successful football program in county history by becoming the only county team to advance to a championship game. They finished 14-1 after a 65-20 loss to Dinwiddie County and set records galore.



**No. 2** At 23, Fauquier High graduate **MADDIE MARTIN** became the youngest NCAA Division I women's lacrosse head coach, taking over at Gardner-Webb (N.C.) University, where she starred as a player. Fellow alum **KATIE CROFFORD** also joined the collegiate coaching ranks as an assistant volleyball coach at Christopher Newport.



**No. 3** **SAM FISHER**, a 2020 Fauquier High graduate and Virginia Tech wrestler, dominated the 182-pound class to win the Pan-American Games U20 freestyle wrestling tournament in Oaxtepec, Mexico. It was Fisher's second major championship in 70 days. He earlier won the U.S. Marine Corps U20 Open event May 1 with a 6-0 record to earn his first age-group national team berth.



**No. 4** Fauquier County native **BLAKE CORUM** recorded a monster sophomore season for the University of Michigan football team. He rushed for 1,463 yards and had 18 rushing touchdowns despite missing most of two games to injury. He gained first-team All-America and all-Big 10 honors status, was team MVP award and was nominated for the Doak Walker Award as the nation's top running back.



**No. 5** **PRO CYCLIST JOE DOMBROWSKI**, 31, competed in the iconic Tour de France for the first time. The 2009 Fauquier High grad was one of seven Americans in the race.



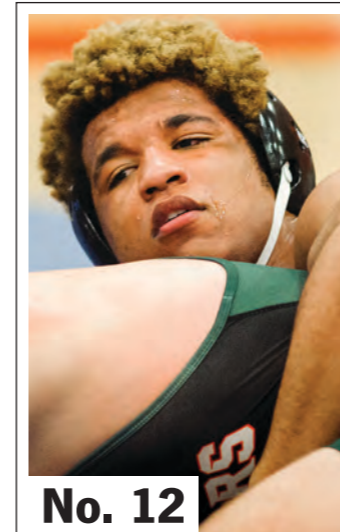
**No. 6** Bridgewater College sprinter **ADALIA COLEMAN** won the NCAA Division III indoor 60-meters in 7.61 seconds. The former Kettle Run star was fourth in the 100 meters at the D-III outdoor championships.



**No. 8** Fauquier High sophomore **CASSIDY SCOTT** was a two-time gold medalist in the 800 and 1,600 meters at the Class 4 state outdoor track championships and ran a leg on two all-state relay foursomes. She added the state cross country silver medal in the fall.



**No. 10** The **HIGHLAND SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM** won its first state championship to complete a dominant 29-2 year. The Hawks took down Greenbriar Christian 10-7 in the VISAA D-2 title game.



**No. 12** Fauquier High junior wrestler **KINGSLEY MENIFEE** won the 182-pound Class 4 state championship to complete a near perfect year. He will continue his career at NCAA power Cornell University.



**No. 7** Former Liberty High runner **SAM RODMAN** of Princeton University was first-team all-American as a freshman after taking seventh place in the 800 meters at the NCAA Division I championships. The Ivy League champion then placed second in the U.S. U20 championships to qualify for the world U20 meet in Columbia.



**No. 9** **NATALIE CARMICHAEL**, a fifth-year senior, was the starting shortstop for Christopher Newport University's NCAA Division III softball champions. The Kettle Run grad posted career-highs with .387 batting average, 41 hits, 31 runs and five doubles, earning first-team all-region honors.



**No. 11** The **HIGHLAND SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER TEAM** won their fourth state title in a row, edging Christchurch School 3-2 on penalty kicks after both teams went scoreless for 100 minutes. The Hawks (15-2-1) also prevailed in 2021, 2019 and 2018. 2020 wasn't played due to the pandemic.



**No. 13** Kettle Run senior **COLLEEN SCHANER** cleared a school-record 12 feet, four inches to win the Class 4 state outdoor pole vault title after claiming the district and regional competitions. The Arizona State signee was fourth in the indoor state meet, also taking the indoor district and regional gold medals.



**No. 14** The **FAUQUIER HIGH BOYS LACROSSE TEAM** made the Class 4 state tournament for the second year in a row, went 18-1 and lost to Dominion 16-15 in sudden death overtime in the state quarterfinals.

**No. 15** **VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE RECLASSIFICATION** will see Fauquier and Kettle Run move to smaller Class 3 beginning July 1, 2023. Liberty will remain in Class 4.



**No. 16** After 16 years as Liberty High wrestling coach, **WES HAWKINS** departed. He guided Liberty's first state wrestling crown in 2021. Liberty also had multiple top-five team finishes and built a robust youth feeder system under Hawkins' watch.



**No. 17 (Tie)** The **FAUQUIER GIRLS INDOOR TRACK TEAM** captured both the Northwestern District and Region 4C gold medals, recording a 60-point margin at the district level and 32 at the regional competition. The Falcon boys earned second in each meet.

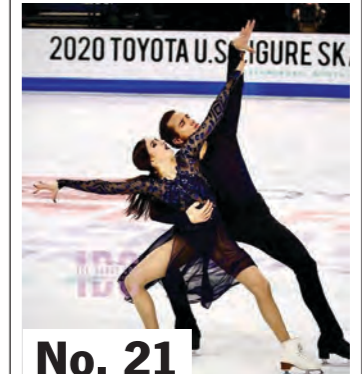


**No. 17 (Tie)** The **KETTLE RUN BOYS SWIMMING TEAM** won the Northwestern District and Region 4C crowns, while the Cougar girls took second in both meets. The Cougar boys won districts by 25 points and 60 at regionals.

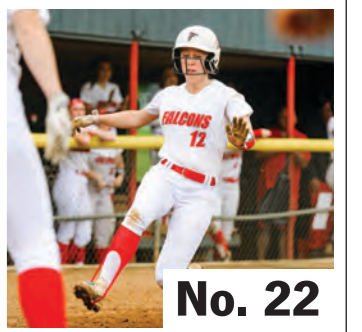


**No. 19** The **FAUQUIER FIELD HOCKEY TEAM** earned its first state tournament berth since 2016. The Falcons won the Northwestern District with a 10-0 record and finished 14-5, tying for the second-most wins in a season.

**No. 20** The Colorado Rockies elevated former Kettle Run baseball star **BRENTON DOYLE** to its 40-man Major League roster in November. After a slow start at Class AA Hartford, the Rockies promoted him to AAA Albuquerque late last summer where he hit .389 in nine games.



**No. 21** **WARRENTON ICE DANCERS MOLLIE CESANEK AND YEHOR YEHOROV** competed in five events, taking fifth at the CS Ice Challenge in Graz, Austria.



**No. 22** The **FAUQUIER HIGH SOFTBALL TEAM** finished 14-5 after winning the Northwestern District's regular-season crown and advancing to the region 4C semifinals before falling one win shy of a state Class 4 berth.



**No. 23** The **LIBERTY HIGH COMPETITION CHEER TEAM** finished third at the Class 4 state tournament.



**No. 24** The **KETTLE RUN HIGH BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM** upset top-seeded Millbrook 50-48 in the Northwestern District semifinals and made the Cass 4 Region C semifinals.



**No. 25** Fauquier County hiker **BRIAN DAVIDSON**, 30, of Orlean, completed the 2,194-mile Appalachian Trail and **DOUG HARPOLE**, 61, of Amissville, hiked 1,090 miles of the 2,653-mile Pacific Crest Trail.

**No. 26** Fauquier High grad **BLAZE O'SABEN** batted .378 for the Georgia Gwinnett College baseball team that went 46-16 and made the NAIA World Series. The senior center fielder was first-team all-Continental Conference and made the World Series all-tournament team.

**COLGAN HOOP STAR NATE AMENT TRANSFERS TO HIGHLAND**

Nate Ament, a 6-foot-7 all-purpose guard at Colgan High, has transferred to Highland School in Warrenton. Ament is rated as the No. 1 junior in Virginia by one scouting service and has offers from Virginia, Maryland, LSU, Illinois and more. He averaged 18.2 points a game last season and was a first team all-Cardinal District and all-region selection.

**SPORTS**

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**Odlum enjoys his Gatorade shower**

Liberty wins 20th straight Bird Bowl for new coach, downing Fauquier 38-6

By Matthew Proctor  
and Peter Brewington

FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITERS

If at first you don't succeed at dousing your victorious coach, try, try again.

In the final seconds of visiting Liberty's 38-6 Bird Bowl victory over Fauquier on Friday, a group of gleeful Eagles' players snuck up on Kevin Odlum, attempting to ambush him with the traditional Gatorade bath.

They missed, then soaked the first-year coach with "a direct hit," as he called it, on the second attempt, drenching the back of his white polo shirt.

Even on the 80-degree night, a smiling Odlum said he got chills. "Cold. It felt cold," said the 53-year-old.

Odlum's first win as Eagles' coach felt like a repeat of last year's 49-0 Bird Bowl in then-coach Travis Buzzo's final game. Both were fueled by the passing wizardry of junior quarterback Austin Mawyer, who completed 16 of 27 passes for 307 yards with four touchdowns passing and one rushing.

Mawyer was Bird Bowl MVP last year with seven TD passes and guided Liberty to a 24-20 Bird Bowl win in 2021, making him 3-for-3 in this important rivalry game.

"I thought he played excellent. Kept his composure, really worked with his teammates to understand where they were supposed to be," said Odlum. "He was the admiral that was on the field making those things happen."

"Feels great. I wouldn't have been able to do it without the team, the team helps a lot," said Mawyer, who completed passes to seven different receivers.

The Falcons tried some different tactics, including less blitzing against Mawyer, who opened 0-for-4 before clicking.

"He reads and he's got very good vision," said FHS coach Karl Buckwalter. "He doesn't stay on one guy, so he sees the field really well, and he has escapability, so he's going to keep the play alive."

Despite the season-opening energy and pageantry at Falcon Field, Fauquier lost its 20th straight Bird Bowl to Liberty and has now lost 16 consecutive games overall since 2021. LHS now leads the Bird Bowl series 26-4.

"It was an opportunity lost," said Buckwalter, whose Falcons have a winnable clash at Culpeper (0-2) on Friday. "We had a shot to move some momentum and we obviously didn't. I don't think it's necessarily what they did, but I think it's what we didn't do."



PHOTOS BY DOUG STROUD

After missing a season-opening loss to Kettle Run with a foot injury, senior receiver Andrew Ryman (left) scored twice on two catches for 82 yards in Liberty's 38-6 Bird Bowl victory. It was the Eagles' 20th straight Bird Bowl win. They lead the Bird Bowl series 26-4.



Fauquier fans showed up in numbers on a balmy night at Falcon Field. At right, record-setting junior quarterback Austin Mawyer was Liberty's Bird Bowl MVP for the second year in a row. Below, Mason Hamilton scored the Falcons' lone TD and was FHS Bird Bowl MVP.

**THIS WEEK'S GAMES**

James Monroe (2-0) at **LIBERTY (1-1)**, Friday, 7 p.m.  
**FAUQUIER (0-1)** at Culpeper (0-2), Friday, 7 p.m.  
**KETTLE RUN (1-0)** at Handley (1-1), Saturday, 1 p.m.

"We were clicking tonight and that made it easier, or better for us," said Odlum. "But I'll tell you, I wouldn't sleep on Fauquier. They're a good team."

Mawyer's 64-yard strike to Andrew Ryman on a deep slant route gave the Eagles a 6-0 lead late in the first quarter.

See **BIRD BOWL**, page 15



# Goals from Maldonado and Settle help Fauquier field hockey edge Kettle Run 2-0

By Matthew Proctor

FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITER

As the calendar turns to September, Fauquier field hockey coach Brooke Settle is elated.

Three weeks into the season the Falcons are a perfect 5-0.

They've shut out three opponents, including acing a key test with a 2-0 victory over rival Kettle Run on Aug. 29 behind goals from Brooklyn Maldonado and Kirsten Settle. A 4-1 win over Orange County on Aug. 31 pushed the Falcons to 5-0 and 2-0 in Northwestern District play.

"They're doing really well. They have progressed each game and we are constantly shifting and making changes and they are really learning and listening," coach Settle said. "They're very coachable, which I think is a part of why they're so successful. They're able to adapt and make quick changes."

While the loss was Kettle Run's third straight to open the season, the Cougars currently sit at 1-3 and 0-2 after a 5-0 win over Osbourn Park on Aug. 31.

With Kettle Run losing 6-0 in each of their first two games, coach Julie Kuhlberg said the Cougars' performance against Fauquier was a step in the right direction.

"I think it was the best game they've played this season," coach Kuhlberg said.

The Falcons got on the board 10 minutes into the first quarter as senior Brooklyn Maldonado scored on a penalty corner to put Fauquier ahead 1-0. Lily Retana-Rodriguez



PHOTO BY COY FERRELL

Fauquier's Brooklyn Maldonado (left) scored the Falcons' first goal in their 2-0 victory over Kettle Run on Aug. 29.

played the corner to McKenna Locke, who relayed it Maldonado in the middle of the field where she navigated through traffic to the 10-yard line and beat Kettle Run goalkeeper Kendall Abner for the score.

"She did exactly the play I asked for. Saw the open spot, looked nicely and sent the ball in. She's a strong player and she's very coachable, so she ran it and executed exactly as

asked," said Settle.

In Abner's first full game in goal for the Cougars, Kuhlberg was impressed by the first-year varsity netminder.

"She did really well," Kuhlberg said, adding the defensive played well in front of her. "I'm very pleased. (Abner) was guiding the defense, and they supported each other, they were back there watching the goal. It was great."

Giving up just two goals and recording eight saves, Abner shut down frequent Fauquier threats and kept the Cougars in it until the end.

Kettle Run nearly answered Maldonado's goal at the end of the first quarter as Maggie Crossland and Ada Linebaugh each had close shots on goal that were saved by Fauquier goalie Ashley Heflin. Heflin played the first and third

See **FIELD HOCKEY**, page 15

## Dominant Kettle Run golf squad clinches district title

By Peter Brewington

FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITER

Six weeks into their season, the Kettle Run golf team is zipping along like a Ferrari in eighth gear.

With four golfers shooting in the 70s every match, Kettle Run has already qualified for the region tournament as they bid to make the state tournament for the first time.

The Cougars have won all three Northwestern District matches to clinch the regular season title. They've dominated second place Brentsville by a solid margin, with Meridian, Fauquier and Skyline next.

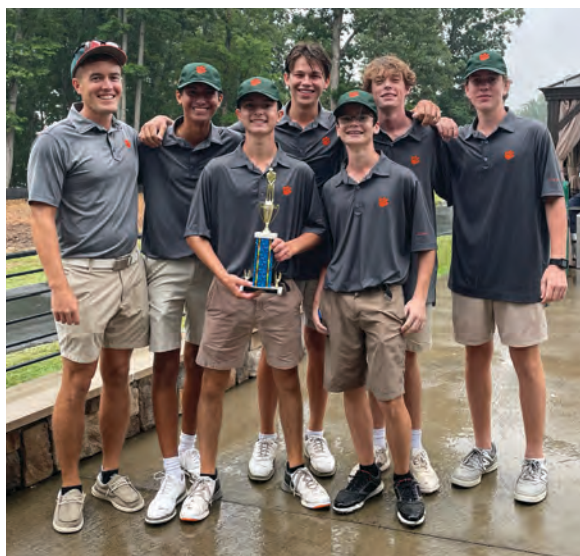
Kettle Run has competed seven times since the season opened July 31 and thrown in a win in a three-school match against local Class 6 programs Battlefield and Patriot.

"Oh yeah, I'm feeling good with all their games and where they're at," said coach Chris Ferrell of his high-performing veteran lineup. "We've won every tournament so far except the Curly Lickider, which had 33 teams."

Jack Wargo, Brian Slaughter, Case Roeber, Jaxson Ramage and Wyatt Carver lead the Cougars' potent lineup with Nic Atkins and Nate Fortune alternating at No. 6.

The team's No. 1 golfer is Wargo with a 74.4 scoring average, followed closely by Slaughter at 76.2. "They are 1A and 1B" says Ferrell of the pair.

There's no denying Wargo, who is a junior, has been sharp, breaking 80 in all five 18-hole match-



COURTESY PHOTO

Kettle Run's red hot golf team includes in back row from left coach Chris Ferrell, Brian Slaughter, Wyatt Carver, Jaxson Ramage and Case Roeber. In the front are Jack Wargo (left) and Luke Wargo.

es he's played this year. He's shot rounds of 75, 75, 77, 73, 72 and 39 and 36 in the nine-hole events.

Slaughter, a senior, has been nearly identical, carding rounds of 74, 83, 73, 76, 75, with 40 and 38 in the nine-hole events. "Jack and Brian are tit for tat. Jack is a good iron player. That separates him from the rest," said Ferrell.

Not far behind is Roeber, a junior, with rounds

of 74, 77, 80, 78, 84, with 39 and 37 in the nine-hole matches. Ramage, a senior, has rounds of 77, 76, 81, 79, 89, with 39 and 37 in the nine-hole matches. Carver, a junior, has scores of 79, 85, 82, 74, 84, with 45 and 38 in the nine-hole matches.

Kettle Run has a long history of golf success. Since the school's opening in 2008, Kettle Run has won 12 of 14 district regular season and tournament titles, including six in a row.

Reclassified to Class 3 this year, Kettle Run will face different opponents than it had in past years at the region meet, which could enhance their bid to make states.

"We're deeper this year. I knew we'd be deep but not this deep," said Ferrell.

With most of their district matches over with and the region meet not until Sept. 26, the Cougars now shift to the cruise control part of their schedule.

"I'm pleased. The main challenge I always feel at this time is keeping them focused. They're used to playing all the time, but now that school has started, they have school and homework and other things they are juggling," Ferrell said.

"We start ramping up a week or two before regionals. It's a little lull time," said Ferrell of his elite squad which plays Wednesday against James Wood and Sept. 11 in another district meet at Fauquier Springs Country Club.

The district meet is Sept. 20 at Bowling Green and region meet Sept. 26 at Shenandoah Valley Golf Club.

# Tested Fauquier volleyball squad surges out of the gates

By Matthew Proctor

FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITER



PHOTO BY COY FERRELL

Fauquier's Leah Kelso (left) and Audrey Hall (center) engage Kettle Run's Brooke DeAtley in last week's five-set Falcon victory.

The early season is a time to experiment with the lineup. Fauquier volleyball coach Kiki Scott has found some formations that are clicking.

Playing several different combinations in the first four games, the Falcons look like early Northwestern District contenders as they sit tied at the top at 3-1 overall and 2-0 in district play.

"The first couple of games are always tricky trying to set your rotations. And right now, we're trying to work on a 6-2 and a 4-2 rotation to be able to allow, for a 6-2, for all our hitters to play, and then a 4-2, if need be, to be able to move those setters to the front row to effectively run our offense," Scott said.

Among the hitters that have carried the Falcons to open the season are seniors Leah Kelso and Caroline Towle on the outside and Audrey Hall and junior Neema Kamunya in the middle. Scott said senior setters Marcela Lawhorn and Stephanie Clark have impressed as well.

"We've been working a lot on making sure our offense is faster, quicker, getting ready to get to the ball on time and being able to put the ball down consistently, which we've been doing," Scott added.

Fauquier opened by splitting non-district home games against Class 4 Handley on Aug. 21 and James Wood on Aug. 23. The Falcons swept Handley 25-22, 25-15, 25-19, then fell to defending Class 4 state champion James Wood 19-25, 17-25, 13-25.

"We definitely started with the 6-2 and we introduced the 4-2 in the James Wood game just to see what it would look like, since it's not technically a district match," Scott said.

"We're still just playing around with that, but the key takeaway from the Handley game was we were faster than them and it was working, so we just stuck with it," she added. "For James Wood, I wanted to see what we could do with the pace of that game since they are a faster paced team and they were coming off the state championship. We were just very slow that day, we were not ourselves."

The Falcons rebounded with a tough 20-25, 25-13, 25-23, 20-15, 15-12 five-set win at Kettle Run on Aug. 28. Scott said the performance of Lawhorn at setter was key to outlasting the Cougars as she "ran that court."

"She really stepped up and moved the ball around very consistently. That's one of the key things we were trying to do, move the ball around and not always set to the outside or the middle, to not be as predictable."

Fauquier scored their second three-set sweep at Manassas Park on Aug. 31 with a 25-14, 25-8, 25-12 thumping. The highlight of the match came during the second set where Kelso went on a 14-point service run.

The Falcons face district opponents in their next four matches. They hosted Skyline on Tuesday (Sept. 5), visit Meridian on Thursday (Sept. 7), followed by home matches vs. Brentsville Sept. 12 and Warren County Sept. 14.

"I think that the girls are prepared and they're ready to work hard. And for my seniors, they've had some not so successful seasons in the past, and I think they want to go out strong," said Scott.

"We all have the same goal in mind, and we're building from that. They really have been putting in the work, and I think they are really excited to continue the season."

## Falcons open 5-0

FIELD HOCKEY, from page 14

quarters in goal for the Falcons with Maria Camarca handling the second and fourth.

In the second quarter, Fauquier came close to doubling the lead several times but couldn't get one past Abner as her diving save kept a Retana-Rodriguez shot out of the net and ended a lengthy Falcon rally four minutes in.

Over the final seven minutes of the half, Kettle Run controlled the possession and earned two penalty corners but couldn't put a shot on goal.

In an action-packed third quarter, both teams had multiple fast breaks and penalty corners and put several shots on net, but Abner and Heflin



Kirsten Settle and the Falcons are 5-0 after beating Kettle Run and Orange County last week.

PHOTO BY COY FERRELL

kept everything in front of them until the final seconds.

With six seconds remaining in the third, Addie Gorg dribbled from the midfield to the right corner where she fired a pass across the goal to

sophomore Kirsten Settle for a tap-in to give Fauquier a 2-0 lead and a little breathing room.

"(Gorg) came down her sideline, sent a beautiful cross, and (Kirsten) just picked up the touch. And we've

been talking about not swinging so hard and just picking up the loose ball that's coming across. And as long as you just get a stick on, you can get a good touch," Settle said.

Fauquier played conservatively in the fourth quarter to protect their two-goal lead, allowing just two Kettle Run shots with only one on target for a Camarca save.

Despite being shut out for the third time in three games, Kuhlberg believes the Cougar offense is close to a breakthrough.

"They're definitely improving. We're still working on shot angles and getting closer into goal instead of shooting so wide, so that's something that we've been working on at practice," she said. "We are getting more scoring chances, which is better than the last couple of games that we had."

## Mawyer helps Eagles win again

BIRD BOWL, from page 13

"He threw a perfect ball. Just doing my assignment, scored on it. It was a good play," Ryman said.

"I saw the safety come down. (Ryman) was going over the top, and I put it right over the safety's head, and he caught it right in stride and took off," said Mawyer.

Two possessions later, Mawyer found receiver Chris Cox for a 14-yard gain to the Fauquier 15 on a fourth-and-six, then a wide-open Dre Booth up the seam on the next play to extend the lead to 12-0 with 8:36 remaining in the first half.

Mawyer converted another fourth down on the next drive, hitting tight end Brandon Mock on a fourth-and-11 for a 29-yard gain to the 3-yard line. On the next play, Mawyer rolled out to the right then scrambled to the pylon to give



PHOTO BY DOUG STROUD

Liberty first year coach Kevin Odum accepts congrats from Fauquier counterpart Karl Buckwalter.

the Eagles an 18-0 lead in the final two minutes of the half.

After a Fauquier fumble to open the third quarter, Ryman scored his second touchdown from 18 yards out on the same exact play as his first, this time with more separation from the corner. Liberty led 25-0 after Aden Peters' extra point.

Said Ryman, "After I scored the first touchdown, they started doubling me over the top, and I didn't see him there, so that's why I did that."

Mawyer's fourth TD pass went to Caleb Owens over the middle for five yards as Liberty led 32-0 halfway through the third.

Fauquier's best drive of the day came at the start of the fourth as senior Mason Hamilton scored on a three-yard run to put the Falcons on the board at 32-6. Rushing for 49 yards on 10 carries, Hamilton was Fauquier's Bird Bowl MVP.

With Liberty looking to run out the clock, Landon Hirmer reached the endzone on a two-yard carry for a 38-6 lead on the final score of the night.



# Falcons make state semis for first time since 2003

PHOTOS BY COY FERRELL

Caroline Towle (left), Jacqueline Janecek and the Falcons eliminated New Kent to move on to meet Grafton in Tuesday's Class 3 semifinals.

## By Matthew Proctor

FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITER

Fauquier High volleyball coach Kiki Scott has one of her top players, Leah Kelso, in the business and marketing class she teaches at FHS.

With three days to prepare and a lot on the line for Saturday's Class 3 state quarterfinal against New Kent, Kelso couldn't resist gameplanning about the match during class, Scott said.

"She's been scouting all week. I have her in class, so we were strategizing in class. Everybody was doing their part with scouting, and she really was researching spots that were open. We really worked on blocking, and her blocking was great," Scott said.

Playing at home with vocal support from "The Zoo" fan section, the Falcons downed New Kent 22-25, 25-13, 25-15, 25-23 to make the state



Audrey Hall and the Falcons are two wins from the state title.

semifinals for the first time since 2003. They also made it in 1999.

The Falcons traveled to Grafton

(23-4) for Tuesday's Class 3 semis with the championship game Saturday at the Salem Civic Center. Grafton beat visiting Kettle Run 25-13, 25-14, 25-12 Saturday in their quarterfinal.

Hidden Valley (31-1) hosts Christiansburg (22-5) in the other state semi.

"As you can see from our record over the years, we haven't been to this stage since 2003, which is a humbling moment for (the team) because I know they've worked really hard," Scott said. "They fought till the very end and they proved that they deserved to be here and that all the work they put in over the year has led to this moment."

Fauquier, who beat Kettle Run 25-27, 25-16, 25-27, 25-18, 15-9 in the Region B final on Nov. 7 to earn a home quarterfinal game, has won nine straight matches since falling to Warren County on Oct. 11.

The Falcons committed 10 errors and struggled to clear New Kent's blockers to open the match as the first set slipped away, but they dominated the Trojans over the next two sets.

"We went in a little overconfident in the first set," said Scott. "Defensively, (New Kent) came out really strong and they were picking up all our balls. When we watched film, we had strategized to be able to hit around them. They were getting blocks up when we weren't expecting them to, so the girls had to adjust."

The Falcons built a 13-3 lead in the second set following an eight-point run, later winning the set 25-13 on a Caroline Towle kill. Towle and Audrey Hall tallied 10 kills each, with Leah Kelso leading the Falcons with 13 kills and three blocks.

See **VOLLEYBALL**, page 18

## Kettle Run falls to Grafton in state quarters

### By Peter Brewington

FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Kettle Run volleyball team traveled to Yorktown Saturday where they fell to Grafton 25-13, 25-14, 25-12 in the Class 3 state quarterfinals.

The Cougars (16-8) could get no traction against the Region A champion Clippers (23-4), who dominated the net led by senior outside hitter Alexis Keeter.

"That Keeter girl was phenomenal. She played back row, front row. She's 6-foot and you don't see that type of talent very often," said Kettle Run coach Rod Crooks. "She was a one-man wrecking crew."

The Cougars struggled to find offense with Keeter always in the way. "We tried to hit it anywhere she wasn't. She's a great blocker also. We tried to find out where she was and go someplace else," said Crooks.

The Cougars briefly led 5-1 in the second set.



PHOTO BY COY FERRELL

By making states, Kettle Run had its best finish since 2014.

It was tied at 11-11 before Grafton moved in front 15-13, then went on 10-1 run to win it 25-14.

Kettle Run fell behind 5-1 in the third set and never made a move, losing 25-12. Tori Chamberlain led the way with 16 digs.

After the match, Crooks praised his team, reminding them how young they were and how promising the future looks if they keep developing. It was Kettle Run's second state tournament appearance in the school's 16-year history. They lost to Cave Spring in the Class 3 semifinals in 2014.

"The future is bright. We had nine players that were on JV last year so this whole season was new to them," Crooks said.

"Making states was a goal we had. We didn't know if it was possible or not. There are 57 schools in Class 3 and we were in the top eight at the end. That's not too bad," the second-year coach said.



PHOTOS BY COY FERRELL

**Above:** An eerie fog set in before Friday's region quarterfinal between host Kettle Run and Skyline. **Upper right:** Junior Haydynn Bell scored five touchdowns in the Cougars' 47-7 win. **Bottom right:** Quarterback Jake Mulhern played well, completing 9-of-17 passes for 136 yards and two TDs

# Hey, Haydynn, you're starting

## Bell scores school record 5 rushing TDs in 47-7 playoff rout of Skyline

By Matthew Proctor  
FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITER

Haydynn Bell knew he'd get called on when Colton Quaker tore a knee ligament in the regular season finale against Brentsville.

The Kettle Run running back responded with a school record five rushing touchdowns in the Cougars' 47-7 victory over visiting Skyline in the Class 3 Region B quarterfinals Friday night.

"I've been dreaming about this my entire high school career. It just feels good to know that all the work I put in led somewhere," Bell said after rushing for 158 yards on 20 carries. He scored on TDs of 65, 10, 12, 1 and 10 yards.

"He's been itching for this opportunity to show what he could do," said coach Charlie Porterfield, whose No. 3-seeded squad visits No. 2 Brentsville (10-1) in Friday's region semifinals.

The 6-foot, 197-pound junior, who came into the game with just five TDs on the year, dashed 65 yards for a TD on the first play to put the Cougars ahead 7-0 just 13 seconds in.

"I told him, 'It's going to be a big day for you, you got to make it big.' And the first play of the game, he wanted it all, so he went all the way," quarterback Jake Mulhern said.

**KETTLE RUN'S NEXT GAME:** Friday at Brentsville (10-1) in Class 3 Region B semifinals.

Bell, who runs like Quaker with a tall and upright running form, said he's learned a lot from his fellow junior, who ran for 1,377 yards this season before his knee injury.

"(Quaker's) a great mentor. He's a great model, and he taught me a lot that I would have never learned. And I just want to, since he's out, just step up and fill his spot, which is very hard to do," said Bell.

Kettle Run was missing star receiver and starting defensive back Sam Rodgers (shoulder injury), starting center and defensive end Jonathan Valdez and cornerback Jack Pechin (knee injury), so the Cougars were without three starting defensive backs.

Sophomore Zach Roth and freshman Breylen Jenkins started at cornerback with sophomore Jonathan Taylor filling in at safety while junior Aiden Pickett excelled at linebacker in place of sophomore Noah Frye, who moved to defensive end.

Offensively, sophomore Noah Richards started at center with Roth, senior Colin Fay and freshman Dakota Smith carrying the load at receiver. "They probably performed above our expecta-

tions, I couldn't be more proud," Porterfield said.

Roth hauled in five passes for 100 yards and two TDs. "I knew Zach could step up big. I knew he had it in him. He just had to believe in himself," said Mulhern.

Bell scored on Kettle Run's first three drives to give the Cougars a 19-0 lead less than halfway through the first quarter. Bell took the handoff on the opening play up the middle, juiced out a pair of defenders in the hole and showed off his speed in outracing a Skyline defensive back.

"I just remember getting the ball and seeing (a hole) open like the Red Sea," Bell said. "I saw someone out of the corner of my eye, I did not want to get caught. All my track speed just kicked in."

Following a blocked punt, Bell hit a spin move to get past a defender and into the end zone on a 10-yard rush for his second TD. His third came on a 12-yard rush with 6:41 left in the first.

The Cougars extended the lead to 25-7 halfway through the second quarter as Mulhern hit Roth on a drag route for a 24-yard TD. Before being pulled in the third quarter, Mulhern finished 9-of-17 for 136 yards and two TDs to go along with 40 rushing yards.

See FOOTBALL, page 22

# Eagles' season ends three hours from home in 55-7 loss

By Peter Brewington  
FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITER

Salem High running back Peyton Lewis is the No. 4 senior in Virginia by Rivals.com and headed to the University of Tennessee.

Liberty couldn't stop the 6-foot-1, 195-pound superstar in last Friday's 55-7 loss in the Class 4 Region D quarterfinals. Lewis ran wild with 169 yards and four touchdowns as the No. 1-seeded Spartans (10-1) ended the No. 8-seeded Eagles' season at 5-6 and moved on to host Handley in the region semifinals.

"He's just a Power 5 (Conference) running back," said Liberty coach Kevin Odlum of Lewis. "We bottled



him up a few times but he's just so strong and fast."

him up a few times but he's just so strong and fast."

Making their first playoff appearance since 2019, the Eagles had a chance to score on an early pass play but missed a connection. Liberty's TD came on a 3-yard pass from

PHOTO BY JOHN SCOTT HUGGINS

Austin Mawyer to Dom Coles in the fourth quarter.

"We had our opportunities. We missed a few. It took our offense a while to get our mojo," said Odlum. He said Mawyer threw for 124 yards and ran for over 65.

"We have 21 seniors and those guys fought to the bitter end. That's what I want to see," said Odlum about things he's preaching going forward.

The Eagles made the three-hour trip in style with activities director Otis Jones arranging a chartered bus. On the way down, the team stopped at Southern Virginia University in Buena Vista for a walk-through (non-contact practice) and ate some

sandwiches. They got home after 1:30 a.m. "We knew it was going to be a late night," said Odlum.

In looking back, Liberty's year was a roller coaster with losses to six playoff teams in Kettle Run, Brentsville, Sherando, Millbrook, Handley and Salem. Liberty's inability to stop the run and create a steady running game on offense held the team back.

But the Eagles came through in the end with a season-defining overtime win over James Wood that got them in the playoffs, and they won their 20th straight Bird Bowl over Fauquier. Odlum believes the program is on the way up. "Culture is everything," he said.

# Falcons win first region title since 2003

By Matthew Proctor

FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITER

Winning a region volleyball title doesn't happen very often.

Five years ago, Fauquier came close, as a strong Falcons' team featuring current first year coach Kiki Scott and assistant coach Megan Constantino as key seniors fell to Loudoun County.

Another chance came last week and this time the Falcons (16-7) celebrated a joyful ending as they overcame county rival Kettle Run 25-27, 25-16, 25-27, 25-18, 15-9 to take the Class 3 Region B crown on Nov. 7.

In a thrilling and grueling five-set match lasting well over two hours, the visiting Falcons took the final two sets to win the second region championship in school history. They beat Loudoun Valley in 2003.

"The last time we were in the running was when I was here my senior year, so (it's come) full circle," coach Scott said. "This is even better now that I get to hold (the trophy) as the coach. And the girls laid it all out

there. I'm proud."

"It's amazing, especially beating our rivals for the third time this season. It just feels so good to do this with my team," senior Audrey Hall said.

"I just think we want it so much more than they do," said senior Marcela Lawhorn. "Whenever we play them, we always get fired up the day before and we always just come together as a team more."

Playing every single point, an inspired Caroline Towle was the Falcons' go-to offensive weapon with 23 kills. Senior Leah Kelso had one of her top performances of the season, tallying 16 kills, with Hall (11 kills) and junior Sydney West (10 kills) also contributing crucial points.

After splitting the first two sets, Fauquier built a 15-8 lead in the third and looked poised to take the set and control of the match, but the Cougars leveled the score at 19-19 following a timeout. The Falcons reached set point up 24-20 but the Cougars ripped off five straight points with Gracie Chumley serving to lead 25-24.

Towle kept the Falcons alive with



FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF PHOTO/MATTHEW PROCTOR

"It's amazing," said Fauquier's Audrey Hall of the Falcons' region-winning effort.

a kill to draw even at 25-25, but consecutive errors gave Kettle Run the pivotal third set, 27-25.

Entering the fourth set with their backs against the wall, the Falcons knew they had to step it up. "It was now or never," senior Jacqueline Janecek said.

Building a similar 14-8 lead in the fourth, the Cougars again clawed back to make it 17-17, but this time the Falcons slammed the door. With three Towle kills and a West ace, Fau-

quier ended the set on a five-point run to send the match to a fifth set.

In the fifth and final set, the Falcons soared to a 9-1 lead as Hall, Kelso, Towle and West each recorded at least one kill. A few points later, Kelso ended the match with a spike over the net.

"Our hitters really came out swinging. We were getting a bunch of touches on the blocks, that helped us defensively, and we were serving more aggressively," Scott said of the Falcons' turnaround.

# Scott takes 5th at state cross country meet

By Matthew Proctor

FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITER

Few runners in Fauquier County have put together a resume as decorated as Fauquier's Cassidy Scott.

A state champion in indoor and outdoor track, Scott has accomplished nearly everything there is to accomplish in high school running, needing just a state championship in cross country to complete the list.

Taking fifth at the Class 3 state meet at Green Hill Park in Salem on Saturday, the senior finished agonizingly short of completing the "triple crown" but will still be remembered in the Falcons' record books forever.

Finishing inside the top-15 at the state meet for the fourth time, Scott becomes school's first four-time all-state cross country runner.

"Cassidy might be one of the most decorated cross country runners of Fauquier County. Really proud of her and all her accomplishments," Fauquier coach Quentin Jones said.

Scott ran her final 5K as a Falcon in 18:32 to take fifth, with Alleghany's Kiera Lowman taking first in 17:39.

While Scott was the only Falcon in the girls race, Kettle Run sent their

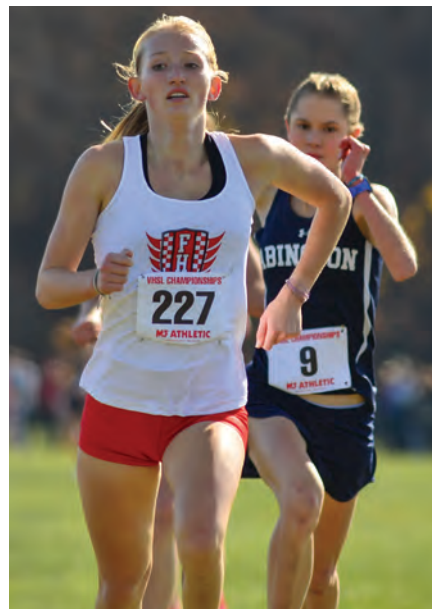


PHOTO BY TAVAN SMITH

Taking fifth at the Class 3 state cross country meet in Salem, Cassidy Scott became the first four-time all-state cross country runner in Fauquier history.

entire team for the first time ever, finishing an impressive sixth out of 12 teams. Western Albemarle scored 58 points to win the girls championship, narrowly edging Spotswood in second with 66 points.

The Cougars' boys, who were

also running in the state meet for the first time, were eighth. Maggie Walker (56 points) ran away with the boys championship, finishing miles ahead of Monticello (101) in second.

"We are very pleased with how they all ran. It was a fast course and a well-run event. We had several who had been battling illness leading up to this meet, and yet they still showed up and gave their best effort," Cougars' coach Kristie Hebler said.

The Fauquier boys team also ran in Salem, taking 11th.

"The boys ran hard. They ran as fast as I think they could, and we had a lot of improvements," said Jones.

In the girls race, senior Maria Gaytan led the Cougars in 33rd place with her time of 20:00, ahead of Abigail Garner (20:11), Isabella Suddarth (20:41), Sarah Martin (21:12), Chloe Thiroit (21:17), Emily Dever (21:22) and Sophia Brooks (24:54).

All seven Cougars dropped time from the Class 3 Region B meet, with Suddarth, Martin, Thiroit and Dever producing their fastest marks of the season.

"Bella Suddarth and Emily Dever both came to race and threw down an incredible time, each crushing their previous personal record by

over a minute," Hebler said. "Honestly, we were very impressed with how well they all ran."

Junior Owen Mullins took 25th in 16:31 with sophomore Brady Leitenberger in 30th at 16:41 to lead the Kettle Run boys. Also running were Tyler Young (17:01), Owen Keathley (17:32), Keisler Fechner (17:49), Aidan Zagorski (17:57) and Gavin Settle (18:09); Young and Keathley's times were fast enough for personal records.

Said Hebler, "The boys all performed well. As coaches the only thing we can ask is to give the best effort they have on the day of the race. They all did!"

For the Fauquier boys, senior Nick Warren topped the charts with a 46th place finish of 16:57, with Reese Brown (17:09), Eli Savoie (17:16), C.J. Foreman (17:27), George Adamec (17:44), Joel Williams (17:49) and Andrew Mossman (17:53) following him home.

Warren, Savoie, Foreman, Adamec and Williams all ran their fastest race of the season.

"That's ultimately what you want to do in the last race of the year. You want it to be the best. And those kids, they just kept coming around, coming around, coming around," Jones said.

## Falcons oust New Kent

VOLLEYBALL, from page 16

Ahead 16-12 in the third set, Fauquier closed on a nine-point run to win 25-12 with Marcela Lawhorn serving.

Scott praised Lawhorn for helping the Falcons settle in after drop-

ping the opening set. "The first and fourth set they were running a little rampant and running all over the court, but I think she did a really good job of commanding those passes to be there, and her serve receive was really good and she was able to run her offense," the coach said.

"The first set, we were on our

heels, and on the second and third set, I think they were really more proactive instead of reactive. They were able to run through those balls and get those touches up. And we had almost a perfect service game," Scott added.

The Falcons appeared to be in firm control of the fourth set, building an early 7-1 advantage and lat-

er leading 23-18, but five straight Trojan points drew New Kent even. Following a Fauquier timeout, Kelso put the Falcons at match point with a block at the net.

With Kelso then serving, a New Kent error gave Fauquier the set 25-23 and the match, sending the Falcons to the state semifinals for just the third time in school history.

# Falcons fall to state champs in quarterfinals

By Matthew Proctor  
FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITER

For the second year in a row, a tremendous Fauquier field hockey season has come to an end in the state quarterfinals.

On Nov. 7, the Falcons fell to host Tabb 6-0 in the Class 3 state quarterfinals, finishing the season 13-7.

“The girls were very pleased with their season. They held their heads high and I just told them it was outstanding to just even be in that position,” coach Brooke Settle said, knowing the Falcons were facing a near impossible task.

Outscoring opponents 108-2 throughout the entire season, Tabb (22-0) went on to beat Meridian 6-0 in the state final on Nov. 11 to win their third consecutive Class 3 title.

“At first I think it was real hard for the girls... once we saw the state championship game and saw that Tabb won 6-0, I think they were a little bit more relieved,” Settle said.

“I knew what to expect going in.



PHOTO BY COY FERRELL  
Junior forward McKenna Locke was one of six Falcons to earn all-region honors.

Tabb is in a different bracket as far as their ability,” she added. “They were executing some major plays. I’m going to be honest with you, I think some D3 college teams would have trouble playing them. They’re solid, they’re real solid.”

Despite being mercy ruled, Settle was proud of the fight the Falcons put up. After falling behind 4-0 early in the first quarter, the Falcons

only allowed one goal in the second and third while starting to generate scoring opportunities of their own.

To get matched up with Tabb in the quarterfinals, the Falcons suffered a heartbreaking 5-4 overtime loss to Maggie Walker in the Class 3 Region B consolation game.

With the Falcons ahead 3-1 at halftime behind goals from Fanny Bodart, Addie Gorg and Cara Rooke, Maggie Walker scored three straight in the second half to take the lead, but Bodart’s second goal on a penalty corner in the final minute of regulation sent the game to overtime at 4-4.

With no time remaining on the clock in overtime, Maggie Walker scored the game winner on a penalty corner to send the Falcons to Yorktown to face Tabb.

“That was a tough pill to swallow for everybody. But when I got down to the end, I just told the girls when you’re all really close and you all have strong teams, that’s when it could really be anybody’s game any night,” said Settle.

But coming off their second state

tournament appearance in a row, Settle is elated with what Fauquier is building.

The Falcons are losing several impactful seniors, including all-Class 3 Region B first team forward Fanny Bodart and defender Brooklyn Maldonado, but are returning even more building blocks.

All-region first team midfielder Kirsten Settle is only a sophomore, and second team forwards McKenna Locke and Addie Gorge and defender Georgia Grady are juniors. Sophomore goalie Maria Camarca also made big strides, and Settle is happy to have her back next year.

“We’ve already looked at how we’re going to align things next year, and to be honest with you I think that the team has a really good chance to make it back again,” Settle said, noting the Falcons are returning eight starters. “The people coming in have picked it up quite quickly... so I think that it will be an even better year for us.”

## Cougars next face Tigers

FOOTBALL, from page 17

Bell scored his fourth TD on a 1-yard rush on the Cougars next possession, then converted a 2-point attempt to give Kettle Run a 33-7 tilt.

On their final possession of the

half, the Cougars marched 64 yards in nine plays with Roth scoring on a 3-yard reception with 4 seconds remaining for a 40-7 halftime lead.

Bell’s record breaking fifth TD came from 10 yards out on Kettle Run’s first drive of the second half. With the Cougars ahead 47-7, the

remainder of the second half was played with a running clock, which quickly expired.

### Rematch with Brentsville

Kettle Run (10-1) now faces Brentsville (10-1), who beat Meridian 49-20, in the regional semifinals. The Tigers were impressive in downing

the Cougars 31-13 on Nov. 3.

“Tonight was important because we gave our guys some confidence,” Porterfield said. “We got to be able to kind of fix some mistakes that we made (against them), but I’m excited about the opportunity to get to play them again.”

# LEWIS & CLARK, LLC REALTY

LEWIS & CLARK LLC REALTY, 6625 Electric Avenue, Warrenton, VA 20187

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These property transfers, filed November 1-5, 2023 were provided by Clerk of the Court of Fauquier County. (Please note that to conserve space, only the first person named as the grantor or grantee is listed. The kind of instrument is a deed unless stated otherwise.)

### Top dollar sale: \$2,200,000 in Marshall District

#### Cedar Run District

Stephanie Ann Stanga to Bogdan Neskorojev, 7329 Atlee Road near Warrenton. **\$370,000**

Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. Tr. to Colton Enterprise LLC, 5 acres at 12316 Roselawn Lane near Midland. **\$265,000**

Graham Clark to Thomas Armel, 2.2899 acres at 5086 Weston Road, Casanova. **\$606,000**

Green Matters Construction to Devin B. Bouthillet, 2 acres at 4043 Ensor’s Shop Road, Midland. **\$665,000**

#### Lee District

Gary Mark Weeden to Frank L. McClure Jr., 11169 Ashlee Brooke Drive, Bealeton. **\$480,000**

#### Center District

Renee Anne Molony to Khoa Do, 0.0260 acre at 16 Kingsbridge Court, Warrenton. **\$242,000**

Tracyjo Lyon Davis to Allison T. Wagner, 5,006 sq. ft. at 145 Gerber Lane, Warrenton. **\$345,000**

#### Scott District

Enzo Biasillo to Jason E. Dearing, 6848 Tulip Hill Drive near Warrenton. **\$965,000**

Robert Lee Sinclair to Main Street Heritage LLC, 1.5466 acres at 4183 Grant Lane, The Plains. **\$270,000**

James H. Tolson Tr. to Lukas Reynolds, 4057 Cray Drive near Warrenton. **\$775,000**

#### Marshall District

Houston H. Beatty Jr. to Mark Pierre Nobile Tr., interest in 1 acre off Stillhouse Hollow

Road, Delaplane. **\$25,000**

Susan M. Wyatt Tr. to Cory Graves, 26.3890 acres in Marshall District. **\$815,000**

Paul Edward Buchanan Jr. Tr. to Drew R. Wisniewski, 50.2655 acres at 12147 Moss Hollow Road, Markham. **\$1,555,000**

Samantha A. Mogul to Jose L. Zepeda, 0.191 acre at 4247 Warren Street, Marshall. **\$380,000**

Dakota Springs LLC to Cindee Berar, 1.84028 acres at 5120 Dakota Springs Court near Warrenton. **\$2,200,000**

To see more property sales, scan the QR code or visit [fauquier.com/news/land\\_transfer/](http://fauquier.com/news/land_transfer/)

