

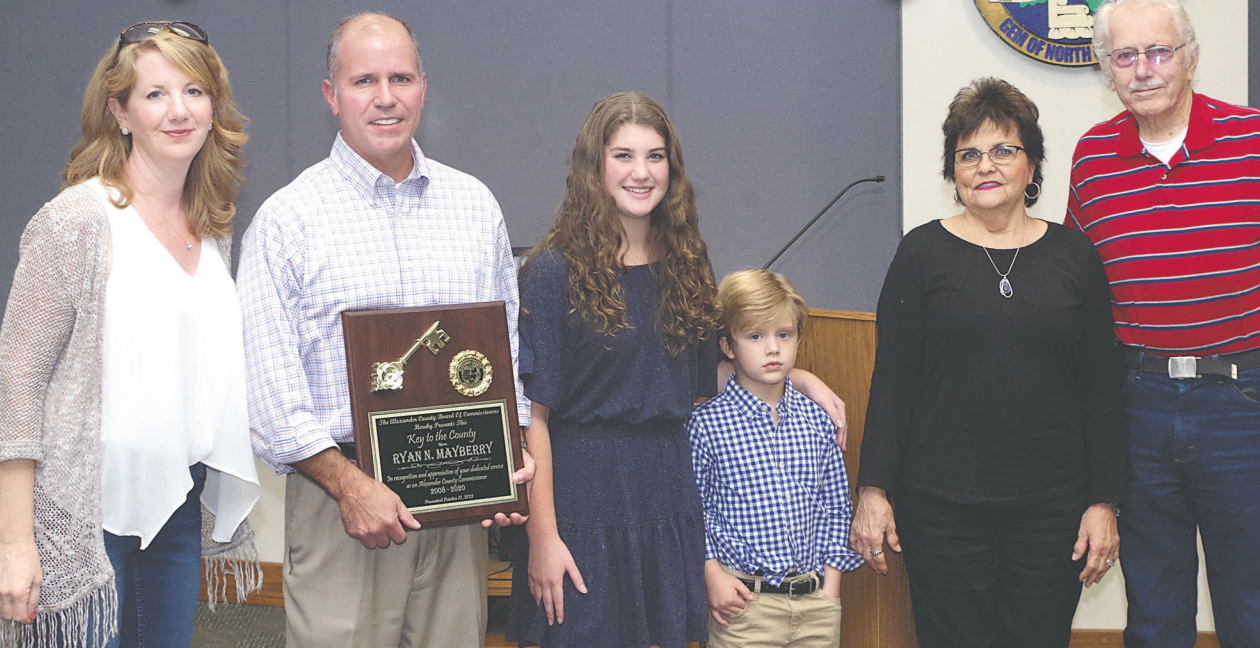
Bulldogs win fifth straight Apple Bowl title



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WEST ALEXANDER MIDDLE TAKES GRIDIRON TROPHY OCTOBER 12 — The West Alexander Middle School Bulldog Football team celebrates after winning the school's fifth straight Apple Bowl over the East Alexander Falcons on Tuesday, October 12, at Alexander Central High School's Cougar Stadium. The winning team is pictured above with Coach Brian Killian and the Apple Bowl trophy. West Alexander's Jayon Connor passed for two scores and ran for a third in the Bulldogs' 20-6 win over their cross county rival. With the win, the Bulldogs finished the season in second place, with a record of 5-2.

Key to the County



MAYBERRY HONORED — Alexander County Commissioners honored former member Ryan Mayberry at their meeting on Monday, October 11. Mayberry was accompanied by his family. Pictured above, left to right: Tracy and Ryan Mayberry, their children Caroline and Connor, and Ryan's parents, Mary Alice and Leo Mayberry.

Mayberry recognized for service as Commissioner

At the October 11, 2021, meeting of the Alexander County Commissioners, former commissioner Ryan Mayberry, of Bethlehem, was presented a "Key to the County" for his 12 years of service on the board. He was first elected in 2008, and re-elected in 2012 and 2016. He served three years as chairman and four years as vice chairman. "Ryan only had one thing in mind during his time as a county commissioner - to make Alexander County a better community," Chairman Larry Yoder stated. Mayberry expressed his appreciation for the recognition from the board. He said, "Being a commissioner is a lot of work. People don't realize how much time it takes to do this job. It's not just meetings, but also many phone calls and emails, and planning for the future. We couldn't do any of it without our county employees. We have accomplished a lot of things. I would like to especially thank the citizens of Alexander County for allowing me to serve."

Bethlehem Fire / Rescue Annual Meeting, Open House is Oct. 28

Bethlehem Fire / Rescue will hold its Annual Meeting on Thursday, October 28, at 7:00 p.m. Bethlehem Community members are invited to attend. Chief Ashley Starnes said the group will review the past year, including the budget, the number of calls run, and new equipment added to better serve the community. "We will also take nominations and vote for available positions on our Board of Directors. Our board is comprised of both community members and fire department members," said Chief Starnes. Following the meeting, members will host an open house, a time for questions and answers, as well as light refreshments.

Bethlehem Star Lighting set Dec. 4

The Bethlehem Ministerial Association and the Bethlehem Star Committee are making tentative plans for the December 4, 2021, Annual Star Lighting Event. The special gathering for August 2021, which was postponed, is now planned in conjunction with the December 4th Bethlehem Star Lighting. It will be held at the outdoor pavilion and stage on the west side of Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church. The Bethlehem Star has continued to shine during the challenges from the Delta variant. The Star, a beacon of hope and comfort, has lit up the dark sky since March 21, 2020. The Star will be turned off the day after Thanksgiving until the December 4 event. This evening will be a time of remembrance and celebration, with our traditional activities as well as an opportunity to give thanks for all those who have sacrificed themselves to combat this pandemic. There will be a time to read the names of those who have lost loved ones to Covid or related conditions. Please send additional names to be added to those already received to Mt. Pisgah 828-495-8251 by November 30th. The Star Committee revealed a plan to continue traditional activities associated with the Star: including reading of the Christmas Story, cookies and hot chocolate provided by the Boy Scouts, numerous bonfires, singing by local artists and of course the song, "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem." The Girl Scouts have tentative plans to host the Christmas craft fair and Santa Claus will make a cameo appearance for the children at the end of the activities. Some type of on-line program is tentatively planned to include components of The Christmas Story. Should any modifications be necessary because of the pandemic,

announcements will be provided to churches and local media. Scheduling a program with a large attendance will require county approval and the availability of law enforcement. We are all praying that all these plans will be able to be safely enjoyed by all.

Two Scouts achieve Eagle Scout Award

Bethlehem BSA Troop 275 held an Eagle Court of Honor on Sunday, September 26, 2021, at Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church. The Court of Honor was led by Scoutmaster Rob Duncan and members of troop 275. The two new Eagle Scouts in Troop 275 include Gavin Roupe and Jackson Reid, both of Bethlehem, NC. Gavin Roupe of Pleasant Gardens Drive in Bethlehem is the son of Fred and Jennifer Roupe and the brother of Tessa Roupe. He is a member of Boy Scout Troop 275, chartered to Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church in Bethlehem. Gavin was pleased to have his father, Fred Roupe, as an assistant scoutmaster of the troop. To earn the rank of Eagle, Roupe completed 21 merit badges and demonstrated leadership and community service by organizing and carrying out an Eagle project. For his project, he chose to construct and install a Little Free Library at Crosspoint Park in Bethlehem and a food pantry box located at Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church. Along with the high honor of Eagle Scout, Gavin is a member of the Order of the Arrow. He expressed his appreciation for the sup-

port of his family and scout leaders. Gavin, a senior at Alexander Early College, is a member and executive officer of the NJROTC and Beta Club member. An employee of Mitchell Gold & Bob Williams, he plans to attend North Carolina State University to pursue an engineering degree. Jackson Reid, son of Tim and Donna Reid of Brook Hollow Lane in Bethlehem, joined Troop 275 sponsored by Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church following membership in Cub Scout Pack 275 sponsored by Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church in Bethlehem. Reid completed his Eagle requirements in May of 2021 after completing 21 merit badges and eagle project of an outdoor worship space at Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church. Of special note was his completion of all 4 religious program awards and serving in various leadership roles within the troop. He presently is a member of the Order of the Arrow. A senior at Alexander Central High School, Jackson hopes to attend Texas A & M University. Jackson expressed his appreciation to his parents and to scout leaders Brian Heath and Rob Duncan for their support during his trail to Eagle. He says the scouting program has given him a better understanding of service to the less fortunate, given him life-long friendships, and feels fortunate to learn many leadership skills for his future undertakings.



TWO NEW EAGLES — Bethlehem Boy Scout Troop 275 can claim two new Eagle Scouts with the recent accomplishments of Scouts Gavin Roupe and Jackson Reid. Pictured above, left to right: Gavin Roupe, Scoutmaster Rob Duncan, and Jackson Reid.

Next Star prints Nov. 18
The next issue of The Bethlehem Star will be printed on Thursday, November 18, 2021. The deadline for advertising and correspondence is Monday, November 15, before 5 p.m.