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## Terriers honor fallen heroes on Soldier Tribute Night

**Debbie Adams**  
[dadams@ourvalley.org](mailto:dadams@ourvalley.org)

William Byrd High School honored fallen military heroes at the final home football game on November 4 with Soldier Tribute Night. Head Coach Brad Lutz began this tradition of honoring service members when he came to Byrd. Honoring those that paid the ultimate sacrifice is something close to his heart and is a value he has shared with William Byrd athletes and the community. Every week the team has played in honor of a different man or woman who gave their life for our country. On November 4, the

Terriers played in honor of Army Lt. Terry Plunk, who graduated in 1984 from William Byrd and in 1988 from VMI with the highest honors from both schools. He was the son of Doris and Joe Plunk of Vinton, brother to Teresa and Julie. A tribute to Plunk states, "Some people are born to lead. Terry Plunk from Vinton was one of these few. He shined in both academics and athletics. While attending William Byrd High School, Terry excelled in football, soccer and wrestling, as well as being the vice president of the Senior Class, prom king,

and involved in Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He graduated in 1984 as valedictorian with a 4.0 grade point average." Plunk won the B'nai B'rith Award for outstanding accomplishments in academics, athletics and citizenship. His high school principal, the late Bob Patterson, said of him, "In 26 years here as principal at William Byrd, I've never had a better student. He was the tops." When he graduated from VMI, Lt. Plunk received the Society of the Cincinnati Medal, which is awarded by the faculty to the member



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS  
**Cadets in the William Byrd High School Navy National Defense Corps presented the Colors on Soldier Tribute Night. Shown left to right are Cadet Trevor Robinson, Cadet William Sloane, Cadet Katelin Patrick, Cadet Zackery Charles, and Cadet Holly Morehead**

See **Soldier Tribute Night**, page 3



**Boy Scouts from Troop 235, which meets at Thrasher Memorial UMC in Vinton, continued their traditional planting of flags on the graves of members of the United States armed forces in observance of Veterans Day 2022. Shown left to right are Scouts Franklin Apple, Gabriel Wilson, and Royce Apple.**

### Vinton Scouts plant flags for veterans at Mountain View Cemetery

**Debbie Adams**  
[dadams@ourvalley.org](mailto:dadams@ourvalley.org)

Local Scouts in Vinton have a tradition of honoring our nation's veterans and military personnel by planting flags at Mountain View Cemetery for Veterans Day and Memorial Day each year. They bring a box containing hundreds of flags and then spread out across the cemetery searching for the graves of veterans in all branches of the Armed services. This year, Scouts from BSA Troop 235 and Girl Scout Troop 94 spent a rainy morning on November 5 placing the flags. In some cases, the graves of veterans are fairly easy to locate since newer markers usually indicate rank, branch of service and era, in addition to the name. Older graves often are not identified as belonging to a soldier and are harder to find.

Scout leaders and Scout parents say this flag planting activity provides a lesson in citizenship and patriotism for the Scouts. Patriotism, citizenship, and community service are core elements of the Scout experience. Scout leaders present included Assistant District Commissioner for the BSA Great Valley District, Blue Ridge Mountains Council Richard Cohen, Troop 235 Scoutmaster Brian Cook, Troop 235 Committee Chair Greg Leslie, Committee member Sean Teague, and Allie Rourke, leader of Girl Scout Troop 94. After the meeting, the BSA Troop met at the Scout Building at Thrasher Memorial UMC to pull flags for the upcoming Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Vinton War Memorial scheduled for Friday, November 11, at 5:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend the ceremony.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS  
**On November 5, Girl Scouts from Troop 94, which also meets at Thrasher Memorial, planted flags on graves of those who served in the military in commemoration of Veterans Day. Shown left to right are Scout leaders Allie Rourke and Jenn Moses with Girl Scout Megan Rountt.**

### McCarty, Stovall re-elected to Vinton Town Council; change in election dates impacts vote totals

**Debbie Adams**  
[dadams@ourvalley.org](mailto:dadams@ourvalley.org)

Sabrina McCarty and Mike Stovall will be retaining their seats on Vinton Town Council. They ran unopposed as they did in the last election in 2018. McCarty will be serving her third four-year term; Stovall, his second. Town Council elections were moved from May to November in 2022 by the General Assembly. That change impacted the number of votes on the local level, as expected. In the May 2018 election with Town Council the only race on the ballot, McCarty received 14,391, and 106 votes (44 in the North Vinton precinct, 62 in South

Vinton). Stovall received 77 votes (36 from North Vinton and 41 from South Vinton). In the November 2022 election, the unofficial count at 7 a.m. on November 9, totaled 1,251 for McCarty and 1,397 for Stovall, with 77 write-in votes. Their new terms begin on January 1, 2023. Republican Ben Cline was the big winner in the Vinton area precincts and in Roanoke County as a whole over Democrat Jennifer Lewis in the 6th District Congressional House of Representatives race. The unofficial totals in the county were Cline 14,391, and Lewis, 6,703, as of 7 a.m. on November 9.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS  
**The South Vinton precinct polling location moved from the Charles Hill Community Center to W.E. Cundiff Elementary School for this year's election on November 8. Election officer Mary Hypes hands a ballot to a voter on Tuesday. Voting was steady throughout the day with about 420 in-person votes by noon.**



COURTESY OF MIKE STOVALL AND SABRINA MCCARTY  
**Sabrina McCarty and Mike Stovall have been re-elected to Vinton Town Council.**

### Vinton Business of the Week – Rustic Creations



**Dawn Sullivan opened Rustic Creations in Vinton in 2019. She has now reopened her gift shop just up the street at 116 South Poplar Street, Suite 1A, after being displaced by the devastating July 2 fire in downtown Vinton.**

**Debbie Adams**  
[dadams@ourvalley.org](mailto:dadams@ourvalley.org)

Dawn Sullivan has reopened her Rustic Creations gift shop at 116 South Poplar Street in Suite 1A. She describes her business as "a little bit of country in the city." She sells all new rustic and primitive home décor, including wreaths and garlands, Amish furniture (pie safes, hutches, and tables), curtains, valances, tobacco frame paintings, tins, florals, door mats, barn stars, rustic signs, garden flags, and so much more. Crossroads Candles are a customer favorite. Currently the shop is filled with Thanksgiving and Christmas "knick-knacks." She also creates custom, handmade, personalized ornaments for various occasions, and wreaths. Three of her most popular wreaths feature firemen, policemen, and military personnel.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS  
**Rustic Creations remains as beautiful as ever, in a location with the benefit of ample parking.**

Sullivan opened Rustic Creations in Garden City in 2017 and then moved to downtown Vinton in 2019. She was driving through Vinton and happened to notice Olde Town Jewelers on Lee Avenue was closing and available to lease. Decision made. She and her family did extensive work renovating the Lee Avenue shop before opening. Her move in October to Poplar Street was the result of the catastrophic fire in downtown Vinton on July 2 which displaced her shop. Although her inventory did not suffer

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# Vinton hires new Economic Development Specialist

Submitted by the Town of Vinton

The Town of Vinton has announced the selection of Marshall Stanley as the new Economic Development Specialist. The selection is the culmination of a comprehensive search to fill the new position that will assist with the town's economic development efforts.

In his position, Stanley will work closely with the business community to bolster economic growth, assist in technical small business development, and provide external communication on various services and projects of the town.

"Vinton has gained exceptional momentum in the past few years and has produced impressive outcomes through strategic public initiatives and private sector investment," said Stanley. "I am excited to be a part of the energetic team that is leading the charge in creating new opportunities for businesses and a high quality of life for current and future residents."

Prior to coming to Vinton, Stanley served as the Economic Development Specialist in Roanoke County. In his two years

with Roanoke County, he delivered various forms of small businesses development assistance, led marketing and engagement campaigns that increased business visibility, nurtured partnerships between public and private stakeholders, and found creative solutions to assist the business community across industries, sizes, and needs.

Before coming to Roanoke County, Stanley worked as an administrative associate with the City of Lynchburg's Office of Economic Development & Tourism as well as a program liaison for the Greater Roanoke Workforce Development Board.

"The town was very pleased to have attracted the likes of Mr. Stanley, who competed against an impressive pool of candidates with interest in the position," said Town Manager Pete Peters. "Mr. Stanley emerged as the top candidate after a thorough interview process that involved key members of the town's Administration and Leadership Team."

"Marshall's understanding of small businesses development initiative, his ex-

perience with managing well-rounded communications strategies, and his passion for public service were key factors in him being selected, and we are very excited to have him join our team," Peters said.

In addition to his local government experience, Stanley is a graduate of Leadership Roanoke Valley and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Basic Economic Development Course. He also has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Lynchburg, where he served in the Office of Community Involvement. He will seek further education in local government and economic development upon beginning with the town.

"Great communities don't happen by accident," said Stanley. "I take great pride in public service and working with local business owners, residents, and municipal staff to continually improve the conditions of my locality."

Stanley will begin his role as the Economic Development Specialist on November 14.



PHOTO COURTESY TOWN OF VINTON

Marshall Stanley

# School Board considers adjusting attendance zones

Debbie Adams  
dadams@ourvalley.org

At a work session on November 1, the Roanoke County School Board discussed adjusting attendance zones in the future for some students at Bonsack, Herman L. Horn, and W.E. Cundiff Elementary schools and several other county schools.

Roanoke County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Ken Nicely opened the discussion with a reminder of Roanoke County's unique geography. The county is basically a large circle surrounding Roanoke City—a "doughnut"—with areas of the county separated by mountains, some isolated areas, and several concentrated areas of population. These geographical constraints, in some areas, present challenges in balancing school enrollment among its 27 schools.

Nicely said that despite those geographic challenges, the goals of the Roanoke County schools remain the same:

- To provide learning environments that support learning for all RCPS students
- To achieve balance to the extent practicable
- To avoid splitting feeder patterns to the extent practicable
- To allow students to remain in their current school to the extent practicable
- To allocate resources to align with en-

rollments

He and Dr. Rhonda Stegall, Assistant Superintendent of Administration, presented some options to School Board members for their consideration in potentially adjusting attendance zones:

Shift some elementary students from W.E. Cundiff to Herman L. Horn and a similar number from HLH to Bonsack Elementary to alleviate higher enrollment at Cundiff.

Shift some students from Glen Cove/Northside to Masons Cove/Glenvar due to smaller population at Masons Cove and future higher enrollment at Glen Cove.

Shift approximately 100 students from Cave Spring to Hidden Valley to correct an imbalance.

The board heard several options for adjustments being considered in the Vinton area elementary schools with a goal of alleviating higher enrollment at W.E. Cundiff (an open classroom school). They included:

Shifting approximately 49 students in the Spring Grove area from Cundiff to Herman L. Horn or shifting approximately 40 students in the Stonebridge area from Cundiff to Horn.

Shifting approximately 53 students from Herman L. Horn to Bonsack from the Midway area near 8th Street in Vinton.

Current enrollment at Bonsack Elementary is 320 students with a capacity for 428 in a building of 69,212 square feet.

Current enrollment at Herman L. Horn is 399 students with a capacity of 501 students in a building consisting of 47,142 square feet.

Current enrollment at W.E. Cundiff is 489 students with a capacity for 585 in a building of 61,759 square feet.

With the attendance zone adjustment options listed for future consideration, long-term projections are that Bonsack would then house 373 students, HLH 395-435 students, and WEC, 400-440 students.

The next steps in the process could involve mailings sent to all homes impacted in designated areas, community meetings, and surveys for families potentially affected.

Vinton's representative to the School Board, Tim Greenway, says that with the delay of new construction and/or renovations at W.E. Cundiff (due to lack of funding), "we need to shift some students from Cundiff to Horn to lower the numbers at Cundiff. Horn would grow by approximately 30 students, while moving some kids to Bonsack."

Greenway noted that Bonsack has its lowest enrollment in several years with some classrooms sitting vacant.

"It's a fairly new school with wonderful

staff and administration, so this is a win/win until we can address the renovations at W.E. Cundiff," he said.

The open classroom concept building design at W.E. Cundiff is considered to be antiquated. Greenway has pushed for the school, along with Glen Cove Elementary, to be rebuilt or renovated to meet student needs.

Other attendance zone adjustments discussed at the work session included Cave Spring and Hidden Valley middle and high schools.

Currently, Cave Spring Middle School has 765 students while Hidden Valley Middle has 576. Cave Spring High School has 1047 students, while Hidden Valley High School has 828. Long-term enrollment projections with attendance zone adjustments would be 683 students at CSMS compared to 658 at HVMS, and 939 students at CSHS with 936 at HVHS.

In May 2010, the School Board approved a plan to redistrict South County secondary schools to balance enrollment and alleviate overcrowding at Cave Spring High School and Cave Spring Middle School. The plan took effect in the 2012-2013 school year.

The current board and administration emphasized that any changes to attendance zones would involve much community input and consideration over a period of time.

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# Vinton adds a parade – a Parade of Trees

The Town of Vinton is adding another special event to the Christmas holiday list this year – a Vinton Parade of Christmas Trees.

Eight trees will be on display on the front lawn of the Vinton War Memorial from November 24 through January 2.

Each of the trees was decorated and donated by a local business, including Creative Occasions Flowers, Gifts, and Events, Pinnacle Financial Partners, The Hemp Mill, the Vinton Woman's Club, the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce, Pretty Paws Dog and Cat Grooming, LLC, Bank of Botetourt, and the Vinton Breakfast Lions Club.

Community Programs Director Chasity Barbour says that initially (pre-pandemic) the town planned to stage the Parade of Trees inside the War Memorial, but they made the decision this year to try it outside on the beautiful front lawn.

Not only will there be trees to view, but Santa will be visiting on several dates:  
December 6 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

December 10 from 9 to 11 a.m.  
December 17 from 9 to 11 a.m.  
December 22 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

He will bring along candy canes and smores kits (while supplies last) sponsored by Pinnacle Bank and will be glad to pose for photos.

There will be awards, People's Choice, Best Decorating, and Best Theme.

"The staff at the Vinton War Memorial are very excited to offer the first ever Parade of Trees!" said Barbour. "We look forward to all the families on our front lawn taking pictures. Trees will be up all of December. We hope this event grows into many more years to come. Please, tag the Vinton War Memorial when you post your pictures, so we are able to see them all!"

For more information, email cbarbour@vintonva.gov or Dana Boyd db@vintonva.gov.

Submitted by Chasity Barbour, Town of Vinton Community Programs Director

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12/22 - 5:30 - 7 pm

MORE INFO EMAIL DBOYD@VINTONVA.GOV OR CBARBOUR@VINTONVA.GOV

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Friday, Nov. 11

**Veterans Day:** The Blue Ridge Mountains Council Boy Scouts of America will be commemorating Veterans Day on Friday, November 11, with a Flag Retirement at the Vinton War Memorial High Ground Monument at 5:30 p.m.

Twin Creeks Brewing Company will be celebrating their sixth anniversary Nov. 11-13, with entertainment "Live on the Dock" Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, food trucks, and new beer releases.

**Vinton History Museum:** The museum is open for tours and browsing on Veterans Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Rosie's Gaming Emporium:** Low, Low Chariot performs a free concert beginning at 8 p.m., ages 21 and up.

## Saturday, Nov. 12

**Vinton Public Library:** Saturday Morning Cartoons, weather permitting, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Pre-register for "Caturday" which takes place in 15-minute slots from 11:30 to 12:30. Local author Valerie Archual will be at the library with her rescue cat Oscar.

**Rosie's Gaming Emporium:** "That 80's Show" performs at 8 p.m., free show for ages 21 and up

**Lancerlot/Virginia Tech Hockey:** The Virginia Tech Hockey team will be playing UNC at the Lancerlot on November 12 at 7:30 p.m.

## Monday, Nov. 14

**Vinton Library:** The Medicare 101 session at 11 a.m. will teach you to tailor your Medicare plans to your needs.

**Charles R. Hill Community Center:** Music Jam, 3 to 5:30 p.m. All are welcome to participate or just watch and listen.

## Tuesday, Nov. 15

Town of Vinton: Vinton Town Council meets in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building on Pollard Street at 6 p.m.

Charles R. Hill Community Center: Line dancing classes: 10 a.m. Beginner's Plus class, 11:30 a.m. Beginner's Class, 6 p.m. Advanced line dancing.

**Vinton Library:** Open Bridge 1 to 4 p.m. Teen Anime Club meets from 6 to 7 p.m. Register to watch and discuss your favorite shows and manga.

Future Events in Vinton and the surrounding areas:

**Vinton History Museum:** "Holiday Open House" is scheduled for December 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Museum closed for Thanksgiving Nov. 21-25 and for the winter holidays from Dec. 23-Jan. 3. During the holidays, you can view the Vinton History Museum Dogwood Tree at the Hotel Roanoke in "Fashions for Evergreens."

**Town of Vinton:** Annual leaf collection in the Town of Vinton continues through Dec. 16. Garthright Bridge over the Norfolk Southern tracks on Gus Nicks Boulevard will be undergoing maintenance for several weeks beginning on Nov. 7. There may be lane closures.

New Freedom Farm will be hosting their annual Veteran's Day Breakfast on November 11 from 5 a.m. to 10 a.m., rain or shine, at New Freedom Farm. The meal is free for all veterans. December 3 will be Christmas Craft Day in the Barn from 1 to 4 p.m. with hot cocoa, snacks, and a candy cane hunt with the horses, along with crafts for sale. On December 16, at 6 p.m. New Freedom Farm will be hosting their annual Christmas Caroling via hay wagon with hot cocoa and a treat to follow.

**Annual Veterans Day Parade:** November 12, downtown Roanoke. The William Byrd Marching Terriers and the Roanoke Valley Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution which meets in Vinton will be participating, along with local BSA Scouts.

Please submit Upcoming Community News announcements to dadams@mainstreetnewspapers.com.

# VINTON HISTORY

In the early 20th century, the cast iron cornbread pan that made five sticks of cornbread in a corn on the cob pattern was a popular way to make and serve cornbread. The corn shapes of the pan gave cornbread a unique and creative touch to serve at meals.

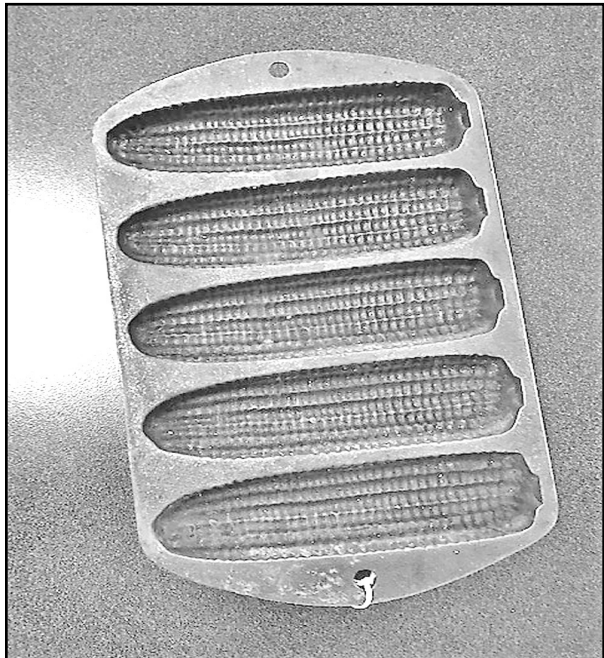


PHOTO COURTESY OF VINTON HISTORY MUSEUM

**This cornbread pan is one of the thousands of items on display at the Vinton History Museum. Judy Kelley donated it.**

Each little corn mold has so much detail resulting in textured cornbread loaves. The pictured pan at the Vinton History Museum has no markings on the back so the manufacturer is unknown.

This cornbread recipe is from the "Magic Chef Cookbook" by American Stove Company, copyright 1936, which is on display at the Vinton History Museum along with other archival cookbooks.

**Corn Bread Recipe:**  
**Ingredients:**  
 2 eggs  
 4 Tbsp. sugar  
 1 cup flour  
 2 tsp. baking powder  
 1/2 tsp. soda  
 3/4 tsp. salt  
 2/3 cup yellow corn meal  
 1 cup buttermilk  
 1/4 cup butter, melted  
 Beat the eggs. Add the

sugar. Sift the dry ingredients and add alternately with the buttermilk to the egg mixture. Add the butter. Bake in pan at 400° for 25 minutes.

The cornbread pan on display at the museum was donated by Judy Kelley, a volunteer at the Vinton History Museum and member of the Vinton Historical Society Board of Directors.

Submitted by Judy Cunningham, Vinton History Museum Executive Director

# CHURCH NEWS

**Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church hosting Medicare information session**

On November 16 at 1:30 p.m., Shannon Abell, AARP Community Ambassador, will be presenting new information on Medicare changes for 2023. He will be speaking in the sanctuary at Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church at 707 East Washington Avenue in Vinton. This is an information session presented by Abell annually. No products are offered or sold at this event.

**Vinton Wesleyan to host Community Thanksgiving Service**

Vinton Wesleyan Church will be hosting this year's Community Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 20, joined by other Vinton area churches. Details are to be announced.

Vinton Wesleyan is located at 246 Jefferson Avenue in downtown Vinton. The community is invited to attend.

**Vinton Baptist sponsoring Christmas Craft & Vendor Fair**

On Sunday, December 4, from 1 until 4 p.m., Vinton Baptist Church will host a craft and vendor fair in the gym to raise funds for summer camps. Over 27 vendors, many offering unique, one-of-a-kind items have signed up, along with several local representatives of nationally recognized brands. The proceeds of concessions and gift-wrapping service will offset expenses for summer camp for youth and preteens.

Please submit announcements for Church News to dadams@mainstreetnewspapers.com or call.

# Soldier Tribute Night

from page 1

of the graduating class who has most distinguished himself by efficiency of service and excellence of character throughout his cadetship.

Just a few years into his military career, Plunk was deployed to Iraq to support his fellow soldiers during the outbreak of the Persian Gulf War. He had risen to the rank of first lieutenant with Company A of the 27th Engineer Battalion, 20th Engineer Brigade as a Combat Engineer. On February 26, 1991, while clearing the Al-Salman Airfield of mines, one of the mines detonated, killing Plunk and six other soldiers instantly.

At the time of Lt. Plunk's death, Col. Donald K. Jamison, head of the VMI civil engineering department, said, "He epitomized what VMI calls the 'citizen-soldier'—there was no question about that. His academic record was exemplary."

The Terriers also recognized Army Specialist Brian "Bucky" Anderson, who was killed in Afghanistan in 2010 when insurgents attacked his vehicle using an IED.

Spectators were invited to stand and applaud for Plunk and Anderson and their heroism.

On Soldier Tribute Night, the Terrier football team was escorted to the field by members of the Virginia State Police, the Christian Motorcycle Association, and the Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club.

Terrier players dressed in new tribute game uniforms to pay special honor to the U. S. Army's 1st Cavalry Division. The team entered the field during the playing of "Scotland the Brave," a bagpipe melody played to honor brave warriors.

Students in William Byrd's Navy National Defense Cadet Corps Color Guard presented the colors beneath an enormous American flag suspended from a crane provided by Nate Serreno of U.S. Crane & Rigging.

November 4 was also celebrated as 8th Grade Band Night, as eighth grade band students from William Byrd Middle School joined the Marching Terriers in performing the national anthem, led by band director Dan Plybon. The 8th grade band students were also invited to sit with the band in the stands and perform during the game.

Eighth graders performing included: Elizabeth Abrams, Erica Barton, Raegan Bowman, Hudson Cain, Ryeli Catalan, Fallon Davis, Jaxon Fowler, Clarissa Gill, Nathaniel Hale, Andrew Hamilton, Brihanna Harris, Khloe Hart, Aaron Hemming, Sophie Hoagland, Austin Hornady, Stella Jones, Fayette Livingston, Charley Lord, Layla Matz, Penley Moore, Ayden Morrison, Sydney Nichols, Jeremy Paul, Kailen Rice, Makayla Ring, Colin Rodgers, Nathaniel Rucker, Ramsay Stephens, Zane Telsch, Sammara Weaver, Owen Webb, and Carsyn Yates.



SUBMITTED BY COACH BRAD LUTZ

**The William Byrd Terriers football team played the game on November 4 on Soldier Tribute Night in honor of 1st Lt. Terry Plunk (left) and Army Sp. Brian "Bucky" Anderson who lost their lives while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.**



PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER

**The Terriers dressed in new Soldier Tribute uniforms to honor fallen heroes on Soldier Tribute Night.**



PHOTO BY JACK DANIELS

**Eighth grade band student Sydney Nichols (right) performs with the Marching Terriers on Eighth Grade Band Night at the football game on November 4.**

# Vinton Veterans Day Flags will line the streets on Saturday

Due to inclement weather forecasted for Veterans Day on Friday, Nov. 11, flags will be displayed in downtown Vinton on Saturday, Nov. 12, between

7 a.m. and 5 p.m., to honor veterans, rather than on Friday as planned.

Submitted by Julie Tucei, Vinton Planning and Zoning

Submit your community

news and photos to

vintonmessenger@ourvalley.org.



**Rustic Creations** from page 1



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

**Sullivan reminds shoppers that it is only two weeks until Thanksgiving and six weeks until Christmas-time to shop.**

smoke or water damage, the structure of the building may be compromised.

Sullivan wanted to stay in the downtown Vinton area; employee Heather Looney noticed the “for rent” sign at the Poplar Street suite, just up the street from their previous location. Some painting was all that was needed; they moved in and reopened for business on October 8, Vinton Fall Festival Day in downtown Vinton.

She says the new shop is just a little smaller than the one on Lee Avenue and has the distinct advantage of a parking lot right outside the door.

Rustic Creations is currently open Tuesday through Friday from 10

a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The shop is closed on Sundays and Mondays.

Sullivan is a graduate of Lord Botetourt High School. She studied nursing at ECPI, and did hair for a time, but decided to open a business which featured her first love—crafts. She says she has loved crafting her entire life.

You can keep up with new merchandise and hours of operation at Rustic Creations on their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Rusticcreations>. You can also call 540-566-3824 for more information.

Rustic Creations reminds you that Christmas is only six weeks away!

**PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS**



**Baby Elizabeth Belcher**

Congratulations to the family of Eleanor May Belcher, who was born Monday, Oct. 24. She weighed in at 8 lbs., 2oz and 19.5 inches long. Her proud parents are Autumn and Ben Belcher of Hardy. Maternal grandparents are Lisa and Mike Gilley. Paternal grandparents are Pam and David Belcher. Welcome to the world, beautiful girl.

A great time was had last Friday at the Vinton War Memorial with family and friends there to celebrate a wonderful couple's 50th wedding anniversary. That awesome couple are Cindy and Keith Duncan. What a milestone



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANGIE CHEWNING

**Keith and Cindy Duncan celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at the Vinton War Memorial.**

*Angie & Bootie Chewning*

for them.

Sons Chris and Brian gave a heartwarming tribute to Mom and Dad. Their dance was amazing—like Fred and Ginger—the younger folks won't know who they are. Grandson Jack had a blast serving everyone and was so cute in doing so. The photo booth was a big hit; so was the

food from Carrabba's. I really loved the beach and oldies by the DJ, and even had a little twirl in my wheelchair. Here's to 50 more; love you. Now back to work at Vinton and Brambleton Computer.

Thanks to Dana Boyd at the Vinton War Memorial and all who put together this memorable evening.

Reminder: The Vinton Chamber is taking applications for the Vinton Christmas Parade on December 1. Contact the Chamber office at 540-343-1364 or email [info@vintonchamber.com](mailto:info@vintonchamber.com).

**CROSSWORD**

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63					64				65		

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- 1. Army legal branch
  - 4. Dekagram
  - 7. Underwater ship
  - 10. 6th Jewish month
  - 12. \_\_\_ lang syne, good old days
  - 14. European money
  - 15. Remover of an apple's center
  - 17. The content of cognition
  - 18. Bleats
  - 19. "1836 siege" of U.S.
  - 20. Inquiries
  - 22. Bottled gas
  - 23. Dutch painter Gerrit
  - 25. An invasion or hostile attack
  - 28. Misbeliever
  - 31. South American Indiana
  - 32. Bone cavities
  - 33. Hound sounds
  - 34. Turtle carapace
  - 39. Wash or flow against
  - 40. Cross a threshold
  - 41. Pitch symbol
  - 42. About lizards
  - 45. Treat with contempt
  - 48. Million barrels per day (abbr.)
  - 49. Place to sleep
  - 51. Harsh criticism or disapproval
  - 54. Wipe out recorded information
  - 56. Pesetas
  - 58. Pitcher Hershiser
  - 59. Pronouncements
  - 60. Dodge truck model
  - 61. A coniferous tree
  - 62. Ludicrously false statment
  - 63. Lyric poem
  - 64. Determine the sum
  - 65. Fixed in one's purpose
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Mexican wattle & daub hut
  - 2. \_\_\_ Green: playwright
  - 3. Building for autos
  - 4. Rum and lime or lemon juice
  - 5. Two spiral-horned African antelopes
  - 6. Jubilant delight
  - 7. Cyclic
  - 8. Fiddler crabs
  - 9. Vehicle carrying many passengers
  - 11. Dream sleep
  - 13. Afghan Persian language
  - 16. Gnawing small mammal
  - 18. B1 deficiency disease
  - 21. Not out
  - 24. Chancellor Von Bismarck
  - 26. RCO group of atoms
  - 27. Cony
  - 29. Makes a gas less dense
  - 30. Instances of disease
  - 34. A story
  - 35. Surmounted
  - 36. Cloisonned
  - 37. Counterfoil
  - 38. Kept cattle together
  - 39. Computer screen material
  - 43. Ancient calculator
  - 44. Cuddle
  - 46. District nurse
  - 47. Employee stock ownership plan
  - 50. Distributed game cards
  - 52. Murres genus
  - 53. Tear apart violently
  - 55. Umbrella support
  - 56. Athlete who plays for pay
  - 57. Small amount

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Above, a group of children from Herman L. Horn Elementary School in Vinton sang the Star Spangled Banner at the Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs ice hockey game against Fayetteville at the Berglund Center in Roanoke Friday night. Despite a rousing rendition of the National Anthem the Dawgs were defeated by Fayetteville, 4-2, in the game. Right, Travis Broughman scores the Dawgs second goal. Roanoke is back home this Friday to play host to the Macon Mayhem.

PHOTOS BY JOHN WACHER



OLIVIA HURD

### Hurd qualifies for state race at Green Hill Saturday

William Byrd senior Olivia Hurd ran a time of 19:56 to finish fourth overall in the Region 3D cross country meet at the Smith River Sports Complex in Martinsville last week. That finish qualified Olivia to run in the state Class 3 race at Green Hill Park in west Roanoke County this Saturday.

Green Hill will host the Class 1, 2 and 3 races. Olivia will run in the first race of the day with the Class 3 girls' meet starting at 10:30 am, followed by the Class 3 boys at 11:15 am. The Class 2 girls are next at 11:45 am with the boys at 12:30 pm. The day wraps up with the Class 1 girls and boys at 1 and 1:45 pm, and the awards ceremony will follow.

The top three teams in the regional qualified to run in the state as a team, and Abingdon, Christiansburg and Cave Spring went one-two-three in both the boys' and girls' meets. Byrd's girls were fifth and the boys finished seventh in the region.

Abingdon took the first two spots in the girls' race, with Makaleigh Jessee winning the race in 18:45 over teammate Josie Jackson, who had a time of 19:43. Sadie Wagner was next at 19:50, six seconds ahead of Hurd. Olivia's time of 19:56 was her best of the season.

"Olivia ran a great race," said Byrd coach Eric Royal.

"She was in the top three for most of the race until a late surge by Josie Jackson of Abingdon."

Byrd's second runner was Claire Glover, who finished 21st with a season's best time of 22:53. Grace Woodcock ran a personal best by almost two minutes to finish 27th in 23:50 and also scoring for Byrd were Alex Bonilla in 36th and Lucy Whitenack in 40th place among 66 competitors. Riley Roth and Liz Dixon completed Byrd's team.

Abingdon also took the first two spots in the boys' race with Jack Bundy winning in 15:56. Byrd's top runner was DeShawn Austin, who was 29th in 18:37. Teammate Shaun Gower was one spot and one second behind Austin with a 30th place finish in 18:38. Austin is a sophomore and Gower is a freshman.

"DeShawn and Shaun battled the entire race to be the top finisher," said Royal.

Also scoring for Byrd were sophomore Stephen Underwood in 35th, junior Reagan Lilley in 54th and junior Brayden McCulloch in 57th as all five scorers for the Byrd boys are underclassmen. Freshman Drew Bartley ran a personal best for 66th and Dakota Bell, Byrd's only senior, was 71st.



### Super Bowl Action

Above left, Vinton's Zachery Taylor breaks away from a Cave Spring defender. Above right, the Terrier defense gangs up on the ballcarrier. Below left, the Vinton line opens a big hole for Con Serreno. Below right, Ke'Arion Burch carries the ball.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



# SPORTS

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## Late Fleming touchdown ends Terriers' football season

William Fleming scored with under a minute to go to disappoint a "Soldier Tribute Game" crowd at William Byrd's Robert A. Patterson Stadium last Friday. The visiting Colonels took a 14-7 win on Jefferson Highfill Field, ending any hope the host Terriers had of making the Region 3D playoffs.

Byrd came into the game with hopes of passing Hidden Valley for the eighth and final spot in the playoffs, which begin this week. Fleming scored a first quarter TD on a four yard run and that lead held up until the fourth quarter, when Byrd's DeShannon Reed went over on a one yard run and Bricen Lancaster kicked the extra point to tie the game.

Lancaster got off another big kick-off and the Colonels started on their own 20, then marched 80 yards and scored on a three yard run by Devin Johnson with less than a minute to go. Byrd was able to cross mid-field on their ensuing possession but ran of time in the game, and on the season.

Byrd junior Israel Hairston led the offense with 12 carries for 53 yards, and he completed six of 10 passes for 100 yards. Reed, a freshman, had 49 yards rushing on 49 carries while junior Brayden Andrews had two catches for 76 yards and Cooper Minnix, another junior, had two catches for 16 yards.

Byrd wore special green uniforms for the annual Soldier Tribute Game. It's become a special weekend for the Terrier nation since Brad Lutz took over as coach four seasons ago.

"Our Soldier Tribute Game is a valuable opportunity to honor great Americans, who paid the ultimate sacrifice," said Lutz. "It also teaches our players what sacrifice looks like. So many people view sacrifice differently, but I want our players to view it through the eyes of Gold Star families. Honoring our fallen heroes teach our players the true meaning of selfless service.



Front row, left to right, are William Byrd football seniors Alex Reamey(#43), Jacob Dickerson(#22), Dillion Anderson(#13), Davian Hopkins(#2), Caleb Thompson(#52), Luis Hernandez(#61), Nate Williamson(#60) and Dustin Richards(#44). Back row are Terrier coaches Will Satterfield, Andrew Mitchell, Brad Lutz, Ron Hicks, Andrew Close, Adam Lutz and Josh Camden.

PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER

"Friday, we honored the 7,015 brave men and women who unselfishly gave their lives to protect our freedoms while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. We also paid a special tribute to William Byrd's own Army 1LT Terry Plunk. In addition, we honored Army SPC. Brian Anderson, whose death in 2010 inspired our first tribute game."

With the loss Byrd finished the season at 3-7. That was the same record as Hidden Valley but the Titans edged Byrd in the Virginia High School League rating system, 18.40 to 18.00, to grab the last spot in the eight team playoffs. Hidden Valley will go to top seeded Lord Botetourt to open the playoffs tonight.

The three wins was a big improvement over last year's 0-9 season and things are trending up for the Terriers. Three losses were by a touchdown or less and Byrd had a lot of underclassmen on the team.

"I am proud of our growth as a program," said Lutz. "After pulling up 10 sophomores and two freshmen to varsity, our jayvee program had a great year and finished 5-4. A lot of young players got valuable playing time and got better each week.

"After a winless season, our varsity team rebounded with a much improved season. Outside of the Christiansburg game, we were playing until the last down with a chance to win games against a very tough schedule. We are getting closer to having a breakout season, and I am very proud of the growth within the program."

This year's senior class is the first to have been with Lutz for all four of their high school seasons. The Terriers will graduate eight seniors.

"They are a loyal group of kids, and they will always be family to us," said Lutz. "I appreciate their commit to our program, and look forward to seeing

them succeed outside the lines of the football field. I am also very grateful for our football coaching staff. I am blessed to have a great group of assistant coaches that work hard and invest in our players."

Now, it's on to next year. In this day and age of high school football it's a year round commitment.

"The off-season will be a huge piece of the puzzle for the future of our football team," said Lutz. "For the first year that I have been here, we will have an older team with experience. Those things are extremely important, but the weight room is the difference between average teams and championship teams. If our players commit to getting bigger stronger and faster, I am confident in the direction we are going. The countless unseen hours are the difference and that question will be answered in the coming months."



Left, Israel Hairston hands off to DeShannon Reed, who scores a touchdown on this play. Right, John Kiker makes a tackle as teammates swarm the ball.



PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER

## Terriers win the Super Bowl

The Vinton Terriers 12-and-under football team completed an undefeated season with an 8-0 win over Cave Spring in last Saturday's Sandlot Super Bowl at Salem Stadium.

The Terriers scored on a one yard run by Con Serreno in the second quarter and Briggs Kotz kicked the two point conversion. The Terriers made that score hold up as Vinton's defense was stout again, concluding a season in which the team didn't allow a touchdown all year. That included when the opponent got the ball on the Vinton 10 yard line after the Terriers built a big lead.

With Saturday's win Vinton finished the season with an 11-0 record. This group finished 20-1 over the past two years under coach Gary Wheeler and assistants Nate Serreno, Mitch Kotz, Mike Carroll, Brian Ratliff and William Holmes.

"This is a special group that will make some noise in middle and high school football," said Wheeler.

Vinton's game was the third of three Super Bowl championships at Salem Stadium last Saturday. In the opener Salem beat Franklin County in the 8U final and the Salem Maroon team beat the Salem White team in the 10U championship.



The Vinton Terrier football team and cheerleaders are on the stage at Salem Stadium after winning the 12U Sandlot Super Bowl Saturday. Vinton beat Cave Spring 8-0 for a fitting ending to an undefeated season. More photos on page 9.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN