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The Vinton First Aid Crew held its annual Christmas Party on December 12 to install new officers, present awards, and greet Santa. Pictured left to right are Megan Sayre, Santa (Jimmy Poindexter), Taylor Ralph, Katie Lucas, Trace Poindexter, David Jones, Brandan Arthur, Cameron Maxey, Chris Sayre, Orlando Martinez, Jason Peters, Mayor Brad Grose, Chris McCarty, Mitch Vaughan, and Tom Philpott.

# Vinton First Aid Crew installs officers, presents awards, welcomes Ben Cline and Santa

Debbie Adams  
 dadams@ourvalley.org

The Vinton First Aid Crew held its annual Christmas Party at the Vinton War Memorial on December 12 which included a banquet, visits from Santa and Ben Cline, installation of new officers and board members for 2025, recognition of members for their years of service, and three special awards for Rookie of the Year, Officer of the Year, and Member of the Year.

VFAC President Jason Peters and VFAC Chief Chris Sayre emceed the event, noting that 2024 marks the 85th installation of officers by the VFAC.

In 1939, 17 men with a strong desire to help their friends and neighbors in need met in the basement of Vinton Baptist Church and officially established the Vinton First Aid Crew. It was one of the first 10 volunteer first aid organizations in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Their stated goals were “to save life, administer first aid, and teach safety,” which they have continued to accomplish throughout the years. As of November, the VFAC had responded to 1,069 calls in 2024.

There was one surprise guest at this year’s banquet – Congressman Ben Cline stopped by to “celebrate one of the cornerstones of the community” by presenting a plaque to the VFAC displaying a speech he had read on the floor of the United States House of Representatives which was subsequently added to the Congressional Record for September 19, 2024.

In his remarks, he congratulated the Vinton First Aid Junior Crew on its 50th anniversary and said, “Back in 1973, nine students from William Byrd

See **Vinton First Aid**, page 3



**Congressman Ben Cline (right) stopped by the Vinton First Aid Crew Christmas Party to pay tribute to the VFAC Junior Crew, celebrating its 50th anniversary.**



**Cameron Maxey (center) was chosen by the crew as Rookie of the Year. He is pictured with Sayre (left) and Peters.**



**Brandan Arthur (center) was chosen by the entire crew as Officer of the Year. His plaque was presented by Chief Chris Sayre on left and Jason Peters. He also received his Life Membership – not an easy task to accomplish.**



**Orlando Barrios Martinez was chosen by his fellow crew members as Member of the Year. He is pictured with Sayre (left) and Peters.**

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

# Police Department hosts ‘Movie Night with a Cop’

Santa and Mrs. Claus took a break from their busy December schedule for “Movie Night with a Cop” at the Vinton War Memorial on December 14. Of course, “The Polar Express” was the featured film; pajamas were the attire.

This first-time event was sponsored by the Vinton Police Department, assisted by the Vinton War Memorial staff, and held in the Grand Ballroom at the memorial.

There were holiday-themed activities provided by the Boys and Girls Clubs of Southwest Virginia (Vinton Baptist program) before and during the movie, including facepainting, ornament-making, and more.

What’s a movie without popcorn, especially from

Heathens Kettle Corn (in Blue Ridge), along with candy canes, hot cocoa, and more.

Special thanks to Vinton Police Officer Will Holland, Amanda Payne of the Vinton War Memorial, and Daphne Sargent of the Boys and Girls Club, for facilitating the fun event.

~Vinton Messenger staff report



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

**Members of the Vinton Police Department and Vinton War Memorial staff invited Santa and his wife for popcorn and a movie.**

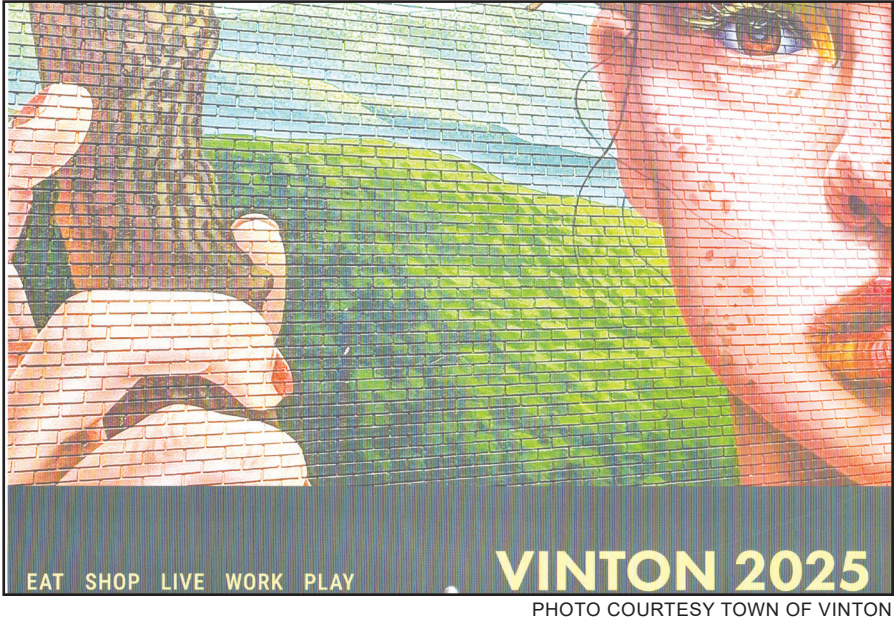


PHOTO COURTESY TOWN OF VINTON

## Vinton Town Calendar 2025 – A work of art

Debbie Adams  
 dadams@ourvalley.org

This year’s Vinton Town Calendar is truly a work of art. The front cover and some inside pages showcase the much-acclaimed Lady Appalachia mural painted by local artist Jon Murrill on the town’s Annex Building on Pollard Street.

Mandy Adkins, Director of Cultural Placemaking and Events, who facilitates production of the calendars, says that the calendars should have been in the mail to Vinton residents by December 18. Hopefully, that means they will be delivered to homes and businesses in the town by January 1.

About 5,000 copies have been printed again this year with the majority being delivered directly by the U.S. Postal Service. Non-residents may also pick up a copy at the Finance Office in the Vinton Municipal Building or from several local businesses.

The calendars are very popular; citizens begin asking when they will be available in early December. Many keep the calendars hanging on refrigerators or near their desks as a source of information on the town, its events, its services, and its emergency phone numbers – a summary of life in Vinton in brief. The most used

See **Calendar**, page 6



**Bank of Botetourt**

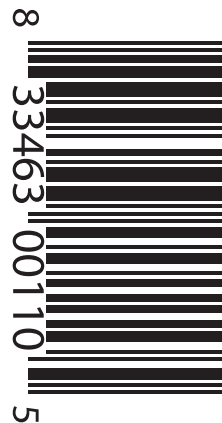
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# Givens combines musical heritage and history of the Blue Ridge in first novel

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

Long-time Vinton resident Peter Givens recently published his first novel, “An Enduring Voice – A Musical Journey from Italy’s ‘Singing Woods’ to the Great Valley of Virginia.” The book “traces the musical heritage of the Scots-Irish that was brought to America prior to the Revolutionary War.”

While he no longer lives in Vinton, Givens spent many years here working for the National Park Service on the Blue Ridge Parkway. His sons, Mark and Kent, attended Hardy Road Elementary (now W.E. Cundiff), and William Byrd Middle and High Schools.

“An Enduring Voice” tells the story of the fictional builder and the subsequent owners of an early 17th century violin, beginning in a region of the Italian Alps known for having the best spruce trees to build the instruments, “The Singing Woods.”

A synopsis of the novel says, “From his workshop in an Italian village outside of Cremona, Luigi Caruso crafts his finest violin. A half century later, his masterpiece lands in the hands of Molly McCourtney from Letterkenny in Northern Ireland. Mesmerized by the ballads of the British Isles learned from her Scottish grandmother and intrigued by the scant few details she knows about the origins of her fiddle, Molly and her family join the great Ulster Scot migration to America.”

“After a month-long voyage, the Letterkenny immigrants spend a year in Philadelphia, working and pooling resources for their journey down the Great Wagon Road into Virginia where they create the community of Linville Creek near the western slope of Massanutten Mountain.

“From her new home, Molly’s Irish heritage and musical traditions now intertwine with those of other immigrants along the Wagon Road, including freed slaves who introduce

her to the instruments and the musical rhythms of Africa. She realizes now that her treasured fiddle was crafted for one kind of music, but its voice is an enduring one that crosses time and culture.”

Givens introduces his novel by saying it is “unusual for a book to be written about an object, but this one is.” That object is the violin, or “fiddle” as it came to be called by the characters, and the mysterious label inside containing only minimal details of its origin and maker.

“Much of the material in this book seems to have been swirling around in my head and heart for more than half of my life,” he says.

Givens has been well-known in the Vinton community through his almost 40-year career with the National Park Service. He worked in the Vinton office and represented the Blue Ridge Parkway in many public settings, speaking at schools, civic clubs, and similar functions. He was often interviewed by area radio and television stations and for seven years did a short “Blue Ridge Parkway Update” program live on WFIR on Friday mornings.

Givens produced park publications and played a significant role in the process of designing exhibits in multiple visitor centers in both North Carolina and Virginia, including the development of Explore Park and the Parkway’s Blue Ridge Music Center where the stories and exhibits are closely related to the plot of his novel.

A native North Carolinian, Givens graduated from Lenoir Rhyne University and earned an M.A. in American History from Western Carolina University, where he wrote a thesis on the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, which then led him to work for the Park Service.

In addition to more than 25 years as Interpretive Specialist on the Blue Ridge Parkway, Givens worked at Lincoln Home National Historic Site in Illinois, Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky, Carlsbad Caverns



**First-time author Peter Givens, formerly of Vinton, has recently published his first novel.**

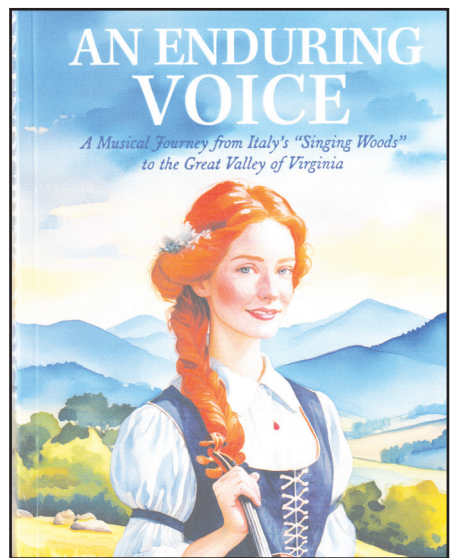
National Park in New Mexico, Cowpens National Battlefield in South Carolina, and the nearby Booker T. Washington National Monument.

He also designed and taught an Appalachian History course at Virginia Western Community College for 12 years, which covered folklore, history, literature, music, environmental issues and the “stereotypes that have dogged mountain folks for generations.”

Givens says, “The genesis of ‘An Enduring Voice’ is two-fold – my love for the music and the Scots-Irish heritage of the region along with my work on the development of the Parkway’s Blue Ridge Music Center near Galax.

“Secondly, in a creative writing class at the Vinton Library, I wrote a one-page story with the basic outline of the book. I knew then that there was the potential for something longer, and it took me quite a few years to begin (and finish) the book.”

Givens notes, “Since childhood, I have attempted to play many stringed instruments (banjo, guitar, mandolin, fiddle... none very well) and I really do love the fiddle, the history of the instrument, and its place in the



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PETER GIVENS

American music story. My Givens ancestors are Scots-Irish, traveled the Great Wagon Road, and settled in the Craig and Giles County area.”

One reviewer has commented, “The characters are rich, and the story is filled with snippets of lyrics from the ancient ballads that become part of the conversation among the principal characters. This is a story that all readers will enjoy, portraying the rich origins of our Blue Ridge history.”

Another said, “Givens takes the well-documented story of the musical heritage carried to the Blue Ridge by Ulster Scots in the decades prior to the American Revolution and creates an exciting and compelling narrative of music, heritage, faith, and family.”

Givens is planning future book readings and signings in the Vinton and Roanoke area.

Givens and his wife, Carole, now live in Henrico County, but they have maintained many friendships in the Roanoke Valley, and still have family ties and work associates in the region.

“An Enduring Voice” is currently available from <https://store.bookbaby.com/book/an-enduring-voice> and most online retailers, such as [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).



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**Herman L. Horn Elementary celebrated “I Love Math Day” on December 12 with exciting math challenges.**



**PE classes at Herman L. Horn used math mats and a hockey stick and puck to practice their counting skills.**



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SUZANNE WITCHER  
**Roanoke County Mathematics Specialist Suzanne Witcher (left), HLH Principal Julie Sandzimier, and the teachers and staff facilitated “I Love Math Day” at HLH.**

## Herman L. Horn Elementary celebrates ‘I Love Math Day’

Herman L. Horn Elementary School held an “I Love Math Day” all day long on December 12. Principal Julie Sandzimier chose the date specifically because of its relationship to math (12/12/24). She encouraged teachers to plan math activities and incorporate other subjects as much as possible. Many activities also made connections to the holiday season as well.

Kindergarteners played an exciting “Gingerbread Challenge” activity.

First grade competed in a math-facts snowball fight, solved fraction puzzles, played math fact games, and even more.

Second graders rotated between all four of their classrooms for Math Bingo, a Place Value race, Math Wordle, and Lego builds.


Third graders created “Geometrees” out of polygons, completed math puzzles, and sang “The Ten Days of Polygons” (written by HLH’s third grade math teacher Laurie Aylor) set to the tune of “The Twelve Days of Christmas.”

Social Studies teacher Kristen Witt challenged fourth graders to determine which path was the fastest for the settlers of Jamestown coming from England in 1607, figuring out how many miles and days it took following different routes.


Fifth grade math teacher Kori Webb had students compete in a “Race to 99” tournament, play multiplication hopscotch, and create pictures by plotting points.

The PE teacher used math mats to have students practice hitting the hockey puck and then skip counting or counting by odd numbers as they jumped on the math mats.

*- Vinton Messenger staff report*



## INSPIRED LEARNING



**The Roanoke Valley Governor’s School for Science and Technology** invites prospective students and parents to attend one of the 2025-2026 school year informational sessions listed below to learn about our school and obtain an application. RVGS is a public regional program serving high school students from Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin, Floyd, Roanoke City, Roanoke County, and Salem.

Tuesday, January 7, 6:30 p.m.	Application info meeting at RVGS
Thursday, January 9, 6:30 p.m.	Application info meeting at Franklin County High School
Tuesday, January 14, 6:30 p.m.	Application info meeting at RVGS
Thursday, January 16, 6:30 p.m.	Application info meeting at Staunton River High School
Tuesday, January 21, 6:30 p.m.	Application info meeting RVGS

**Informational sessions & additional information available at [www.rvgs.k12.va.us](http://www.rvgs.k12.va.us)**



# Town of Vinton recognizes employees for years of service

The Town of Vinton held the annual Employees Holiday Breakfast on the morning of December 11. During the event, several employees were recognized for their years of service to the Town of Vinton and its residents.

- Police Sgt. Brandon Alterio was recognized for five years of service
- Police Detective Cpl. Justin Baker, five years
- Public Works employee Garrett Chappell, five years
- Public Works employee Keith Childress, five years
- Human Resources and Risk Management Director, Donna Collins, 10 years
- Police Chief Fabricio Drumond, 15 years
- Public Works employee Charles Barber, 20 years



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS

**Town of Vinton employees recognized for years of service by Mayor Brad Grose (far left) included (from left) Human Resources/Risk Management Director Donna Collins, Detective Cpl. Justin Baker, Garrett Chappell, Keith Childress, Police Chief Fabricio Drumond, and Charles Barber; not pictured, Gary Houff.**

Gary Houff is also being recognized for his years on staff with the Vinton Community Center, beginning officially in 2013. However, he has a long history with the town – he was a lifeguard at the Vinton pool as a teenager, became a fireman with Vinton when he was 20 years old, and even worked moving buses with the Vinton Christmas Parade. Houff served as a Roanoke County firefighter from 1984 to 2013, retiring as

Battalion Chief of Operations.

Deputy Town Manager Cody West noted that public servants “do their best work when they are noticed the least,” but the town’s leadership “notices and appreciates you.”

~ Vinton Messenger staff report

# William Byrd announces Teacher/Staff Terriers of the Month for November

William Byrd High School has announced its Teacher/Staff Terriers of the Month for November. They include Mitchel Burkhart (English, E-sports coach), Sharon Foster (IT), Grace Johnson (history),

Katie Hetherington (world history, psychology, sociology), Ashton Eubank (science), Jason Oldaker (robotics, electronics, CAD, architecture, woodshop), Allison Thornton (health/PE, drivers’ ed teacher, head

volleyball coach), Dan Plybon (band), Travis Welty (Algebra 1 and geometry), Caitlin Lilley (history), and James Barth (geometry, Algebra, functions, data analysis).

Terrier Students of the Month

for November were announced earlier.

All WBHS students and staff may nominate individuals who they believe exhibit the “Terrier Way” (being safe, respectful, responsible, and embodying the

best of WBHS).

In the summer prior to the 2023-24 school year, ALCOVA Mortgage in Vinton and its branch manager Matt Crizer (a

See Terriers, page 4

# Vinton First Aid

from page 1



**Mitch Vaughan was honored for his 50 years of service to the Vinton First Aid Crew and the community.**

High School showed interest in the Vinton First Aid Crew. After attending initial training to become CPR and American Red Cross Advanced First Aid certified, the Vinton First Aid Junior Crew was officially formed in 1974.

“The original charter members, Kenneth Drewery, Gary Honaker, Perry Spangler, Terry Fuqua, Mike Huddleston, Chris Stull, Ralph Hargis, Ray Sloan, and Danny Wood, showed us what it means to serve.

“These dedicated individuals were honored at the 2023 installation and Christmas banquet by the VFAC and the Town of Vinton.

“While their paths may have diverged over the years, with many pursuing profound careers in public service, they remain bonded by that shared commitment from their youth. Two members, Chris Stull and Danny Wood, achieved life-member status with the Vinton First Aid Crew.

“I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing this incredible milestone. Their dedication to service over 50 years set a standard that continues to inspire today.”

Peters and Sayre next presented awards for years of service to several members of the crew:

- Mitch Vaughan, 50 years of service
- Brandon Arthur, presented with the prestigious Life Membership



**Megan Sayre receives her certificate for 15 years of service.**

- Anna Arthur, 15 years of service and Life Membership
- Megan Sayre, 15 years of service
- Margo Karkenny, five years of service
- Sarah Garza, five years of service
- Katie Lucas, one year of service
- Kinsey Johnson, one year of service
- Cameron Maxey, one year of service

Special awards were presented to three crew members (recipients are chosen by a vote of the entire crew):

- Rookie of the Year, Cameron Maxey
- Officer of the Year, Brandon Arthur
- Member of the Year, Orlando Barrios Martinez

Next up was the installation of officers for 2025 by Vinton Mayor Brad Grose:

- Chief, Chris Sayre
- Asst. Chief, Brandon Arthur
- Captain, David Jones
- 1st Lieutenant, Orlando Barrios Martinez
- 2nd Lieutenant, Trace Poindexter
- 1st Sgt. (new position this year), Katie Lucas
- 2nd Sgt. (new position this year), Cameron Maxey

- Secretary, Megan Sayre
  - Chaplain, Cameron Maxey
  - Public Information Officer, Taylor Ralph
- Board of Directors officers include:



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

**Anna Arthur receives her certificate for 15 years of service.**

- President, Jason Peters
- Vice President, Steve Thrasher
- Treasurer, Mitch Vaughan
- Asst. Treasurer and Registered Agent, Tom Philpott

After installing the officers, Mayor Grose said, “Thanks for your contribution to the town for 85 years. You are really special pillars of the community. On behalf of the entire Town Council, thank you for your commitment to the town. Keep up the good work.”

At the end of the evening, Santa came bearing gifts for the sons and daughters of Vinton First Aid Crew members.

The Christmas dinner was catered, as is tradition, by Country Kitchen of Christiansburg.

The Vinton First Aid Crew is a non-profit organization which operates on tax-deductible donations from the community which provide funding for equipment, training, and medical supplies. This is the time of year for their annual fund drive.

Donations can be mailed to Vinton First Aid Crew, P.O. Box 314, Vinton 24179 or dropped off at the VFAC building at 120 West Jackson Avenue in Vinton. You may also link your Kroger Plus card to donate at <https://kroger.com/account/communityrewards>.

For more information on the VFAC, visit [www.vintonems.com](http://www.vintonems.com).

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Baseball stat  
4. Blaze  
8. Sea eagles  
10. Tails in Italian  
11. Monocot genus  
12. Mother or father  
13. The Jungian inner self  
15. Covered with gold  
16. Residual oil  
17. Signs up for school  
18. Furniture for daily meals  
21. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand  
22. Lower limb  
23. Guy (slang)

CLUES DOWN

1. A brief comment  
2. Sultanate of NW Borneo  
3. Importune  
4. Forelimb  
5. Models of ethical behavior  
6. Harangues  
7. This (Spanish)  
9. Springfield Area Mobile  
10. Sang at Christmas door to door  
12. Partly or nearly blind  
14. Posterior pituitary gland hormone  
15. American Nurses Association (abbr.)  
17. The 7th Greek letter  
19. Strives to equal  
20. Toff  
23. Coleoptera insects  
24. The color of blood  
25. Slipped by  
26. Of she  
27. A short musical passage  
28. CNN's founder Turner  
29. Radioactivity unit  
30. Exculation defense  
31. Walking back and forth  
32. Come forth from  
33. Oxalis  
34. A soft twilled fabric of silk  
36. The two large chest muscles



## PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANGIE CHEUNING  
**The Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce celebrated the season with the annual Holiday Open House on December 12. Pictured are some of those who attended (from left): front row, Patsy Stovall, Kathryn Sowers, Allison Finney, and Angie Cheuning; back row, Mike Stovall, Keith Liles, Jason Boothe, and Tim Greenway.**

*By Bootie Cheuning*

Thank you for a wonderful Chamber of Commerce Holiday Open House! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us at our annual Holiday Open House at the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce office. We loved sharing this special time of fellowship with you all during the holiday season and are so grateful for your support throughout the

year.

A special shout out to everyone who contributed to the VACC Angel Tree Program – your generosity helped make Christmas dreams come true for so many families in Vinton and the surrounding areas. Your kindness truly embodies the holiday spirit.

We can't wait to see what 2025 has in store for our amazing community. Here's to a bright and prosperous new year!

## Terriers

from page 3



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS  
**Teacher/Staff Terriers of the Month for November include (from left) Mitchel Burkhardt, Sharon Foster, Grace Johnson, Katie Hetherington, Ashton Eubank, Jason Oldaker, and Allison Thornton. Not pictured are Dan Plybon, Travis Welty, Caitlin Lilley, and James Barth.**

WBHS graduate) reached out to Byrd, looking for a way “to honor students and teachers who are doing great things in and out of the classroom.” They came up with an

enhanced Terrier of the Month program. This year the program has been expanded to include more Terriers selected each month.

The program is

facilitated by Assistant Principal Kevin Richardson and Life Counselor Lauren Pomeroy.

*—Vinton Messenger staff report*

## VINTON HISTORY: Museum Santa

Santa Claus has a long history steeped in Christmas traditions. Today, he is thought of mainly as the jolly man in red who brings toys to good girls and boys on Christmas Eve, but his story stretches all the way back to the third century, when Saint Nicholas walked the earth and became the patron saint of children.

The story of Santa Claus can be traced back hundreds of years to a monk named St. Nicholas and has become the subject of many legends. It is said that he gave away all his inherited wealth and traveled to the countryside helping the poor and sick.

The pictured Santa loves to wave to the visitors at the Vinton History Museum during much of the holiday season and he is currently greeting the visitors at the Hotel Roanoke at the Vinton History Museum tree display during the “Fashions for Evergreens” competition.

Stop by the Hotel Roanoke to see the many trees in the competition and vote for your favorite



PHOTO COURTESY OF JUDY CUNNINGHAM  
**Santa visiting the Hotel Roanoke Fashions for Evergreens Competition**

(The Vinton History Museum is Tree No. 21). The display continues through New Year's Day. The votes (donations) benefit United Way of the Roanoke Valley.

While there, also vote for the beautiful Creative Occasions Events, Flowers & Gifts tree designed by Mark Frye of Vinton.

The Vinton History Museum will be closed

for the holidays from December 23 until January 3 when it will reopen on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and every first Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. “Preserving the Past for the Future.”

*Submitted by Vinton History Museum Executive Director Judy Cunningham*

## Mount Pleasant Lions host 20th Breakfast with Santa

The Mount Pleasant Lions Club's meeting hall was the scene of the club's free community Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 7. This is believed to be the 20th year for the event.

The meeting hall, known as the Lion's Den, was decorated with a brightly lit Christmas tree, wreaths in distinctive places and colorful tablecloths.

Santa and Mrs. Claus (Sam Murdock and Bev Faville) were seated by the tree and as children, and their parents and grandparents came in, they gravitated



PHOTO COURTESY OF MPLC  
**The Mount Pleasant Lions hosted Santa for the 20th annual community Breakfast with Santa.**

See Lions, page 6

**BAPTIST (SOUTHERN)**  
**MINERAL SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH & CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**  
- 1030 Bible Lane, Vinton, Va. 24179. Church Phone 890-4465. Rev. Jason Gault. Sunday Services: Traditional Service, 8:45 AM, Sunday School, 10:00 AM, Contemporary Service, 11:00 AM, Evening Worship 6:00 PM, Wednesday Services: AWA-NA 6:30 PM, Bible Study 7:00 PM

**BAPTIST (COOPERATIVE)**  
**VINTON BAPTIST CHURCH** - 219 Washington Avenue, Vinton. Rev. Dr. Travis Russell, 343-7685. Sunday Services (year-round): Sunday School 9:15 AM, Morning Worship 10:30 AM; Wednesday Services (during the school year): Worship, Bible Study, Children's Choirs & Youth Ministry 6:15 PM.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**DALE RIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
- Will you “come back to the Bible”, learn more and follow Him? If you live locally in this beautiful Roanoke Valley or Botetourt County area, there is a Church, you will know it's the ONE when you see the name on the end of the building that reads Church of Christ. 7165 Cloverdale Rd., NW, Roanoke, VA 24019. We offer a free 3 lesson, OPEN Bible course entitled “Back to the Bible.” Only available in home or where our Church meets: Sign up now on our website, daleridgechurchofchrist.net or email us at comeback2thebible@gmail.com and request to be scheduled for lesson #1 of 3 entitled “who has the Authority In Religion today”. You will be contacted promptly. All studies are conducted by 2 individuals, never alone. May God Bless you in choosing this “open book Bible study.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST VINTON** - 2107 Feather Road, Vinton. Terry Hodge, Minister, 540-890-1170. Sunday Bible Study 9:45 a.m., Sunday Morning Service 10:45 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 10 a.m.

**FOURSQUARE**  
**EVANGEL CHURCH** - 2330 Hardy Road, Vinton (corner of Hardy Road and

# VINTON

## WORSHIP DIRECTORY

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“I am the way, the truth and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through Me.” John 14:6

In our culture, almost anything goes. The overwhelming idea is: whatever works for you. It's okay to believe in God, but it's not acceptable to suggest there is only one way to know Him. The problem is that if you believe in Christ, you must also believe His words. He did not say, “I am a way.” He said, “I am THE way.” Think about it. If anything would work, why suffer? If anything else could save us, why would God send His son? Read Isaiah 43:10-11. First, understand that God does want us to know Him. It's why He sent His son in the first place. Second, recognize that there is only one Savior and put your trust in Him. Perhaps you have long since accepted that only Christ can save you, but have you really accepted that only He can save somebody else? Knowing how much others need Christ motivates us to tell them about Him. After all, “how, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard?” (Romans 10:14) Tell someone about the Savior today!

Worship: Today, thank God for sending the Savior. Pray for those who do not know Him, those who live and work right around you as well as those in foreign lands. Read Romans 10:14-15. Pray that God will send His people to preach good news and ask Him to give you opportunities today to share His love with someone.

If you would like to see your church services listed here in the Vinton Messenger contact Tucker Frye at 540-473-2741 or email [tfrye@ourvalley.org](mailto:tfrye@ourvalley.org)

Feather Road), 540-982-3694, [www.evangel4sq.com](http://www.evangel4sq.com), Pastor Tim Wright. Worship Service Sunday, 10AM. Bible Study Wednesday 11AM-12PM.

**LUTHERAN**  
**ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**, “The Church Under The Cross”, 1201 Hardy Rd, Vinton VA 24179, Pastor, Rev. Dr. James B. Davis (540) 342- 1715, Worship 11:00am, sttimothy1201@verizon.net.

**NAZARENE**  
**FIRST CHURCH OF NAZARENE**, 728 Highland Ave., SE, Roanoke, Virginia. 342-4003. Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Wednesday Night Bible Study 7 p.m.

**PRESBYTERIAN**  
**CAMPBELL MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**, 1130 Hardy Rd, Vinton, VA, 540-343-1842; [cmpc2verizon.net](http://cmpc2verizon.net) Sunday school 9:45am,

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

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

**WESLEYAN**  
**VINTON WESLEYAN CHURCH** - 246 E. Jefferson Ave., Pastor Ricardo Rodriguez, 345-3385; Sunday Worship Service 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM. Sunday School for all ages, 10:00 AM, Wednesday Night Life Ministries - Children - Awana; G-5 Youth Ministry; Adult Bible Study 6:30 PM.



# Vinton churches invite community to Christmas services

Several local churches have planned special events for Christmas.

The Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Children's Choir will perform a Christmas cantata on December 22 at 10 a.m., followed that evening by a performance of "Pipes, Bells, and Keys" at 6 p.m.

Thrasher's Christmas Eve services are scheduled at 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Thrasher Memorial is located at 707 East Washington Avenue in downtown Vinton.

The Vinton Wesleyan Church Choir's cantata will be on Sunday, December 22 at 10:30 a.m.

A candlelight service will be held on Christmas Eve at 5 p.m. The public is invited to both services. Vinton Wesleyan is located at 246 Jefferson Avenue in downtown Vinton.

Vinton Baptist Church will be hosting Christmas Eve services at 5 p.m. Vinton Baptist is located at 219 Washington Avenue in downtown Vinton.

- Vinton Messenger staff report



## From the Pulpit

### Practical Faith – James 2:14-26

We are studying the Book of James at Lynn Haven Baptist Church. In James 2:14-26, we read about the topic of faith, works and deeds. Faith is more than just what we believe; it's about what we do with that belief. James challenges us to think about how our actions reflect our faith. It's easy to say we believe in God, but if our faith doesn't change how we live or how we treat others, is it really alive?

Imagine seeing someone in need – hungry or cold – and simply telling

By Pastor Bryan Crouch, Lynn Haven Baptist Church

them, "I hope things get better for you," but not actually helping. Words alone won't fill an empty stomach or provide warmth.

True faith moves us to act. Our deeds don't save us, but they show the world – and ourselves – that our faith is real. When we put our faith into action, we are living out God's love. It can be as simple as offering a kind word, helping a neighbor, or giving to those in need. These acts show that we truly believe in the goodness and mercy of God. Let's not just talk about our faith but live it in a way that makes a difference. Faith that produces good works is a faith that grows and shines. Let's look for ways to put our faith into action and let others see God through what we do.

## RECIPES OF THE WEEK

Each Wednesday night when school is in session, the Wednesday Night Dinner Crew at Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church prepares and distributes meals for the food insecure in the community.

During this holiday season, members have shared some of the favorite recipes passed down in their families.

*Carrie Pence shares her mother's much-acclaimed Southern Pecan Pie recipe:*

**1 cup sugar**  
**1/2 cup corn syrup**  
**1/4 cup melted butter**  
**3 eggs, well-beaten**  
**1 cup pecans**  
Combine sugar, syrup, and melted butter. Add beaten eggs and pecans to syrup mixture, mixing thoroughly. Pour filling into pie shell. Bake in 375° oven for 40-45 minutes.

*Bonnie Jones shared Mom's Cranberries recipe:*

**1 lb. cranberries**  
**2 oranges**  
**2 apples**  
**1 cup walnuts**  
**1 cup sugar**  
Coarsely chop cranberries in food processor. Remove to large bowl. Peel oranges and coarsely chop apples, oranges, and walnuts. Add to cranberries with 1 cup sugar. Stir to blend well. Mom used a grinder, but I like my food processor. Make a few days ahead of time to allow flavors to blend.

*Winkie Adams shared Pat Fitchett's Grape Broccoli Salad:*

**Salad:** 1 bunch broccoli, cup up fine, 1 cup sliced celery, 1/2 cup green onions, including tops, sliced, 1/2 lb. bacon, fried crisp and crumbled (optional), 1 cup slivered almonds (toasted or not), 1 cup red grapes, and 1 cup green grapes  
**Dressing:** 1/2 cup mayonnaise, 3 Tbsp. vinegar, 3 Tbsp. sugar  
Mix all salad ingredients together. Mix dressing ingredients and toss with salad 1 hour before serving. Makes a very large salad.

*Donna Brogan shared her sister-in-law's, Sue's Cranberry Casserole recipe that has become a favorite.*

**3 to 4 tart apples, peeled and sliced**  
**2 cups raw cranberries**  
**3/4 to 1 cup sugar**  
Preheat oven to 350°. Mix fruit with sugar. Place in casserole dish.

**Topping:** 3/4 cup uncooked oatmeal, 1/4 cup flour, 1/2 cup brown sugar, 1/2 cup pecans, 1 stick butter, melted.

Mix dry ingredients, add butter, Sprinkle over fruit. Bake for 45 minutes.

*From Mary Ann St. Clair, two recipes from her mother-in-law from over 50 years ago, Lizzie's Corn Pudding and Lizzie's 7-Up Salad.*

**Lizzie's Corn Pudding**  
**Ingredients:** 1 pkg. frozen corn or clean three large ears of corn, 1/2 tsp. salt, 2 beaten eggs, 1/4 cup sugar, enough milk to make soupy. Mix all— put pats of butter on top. Bake at 400° for one hour.

**Lizzie's Seven Up Salad**  
**Ingredients:** one large pkg. cream cheese, 1 tsp. sugar, 1 tsp. vanilla, 1/2 cup chopped pecans, 1 cup boiling water, 1 small can crushed pineapple, 1 pkg. lemon gelatin, 1 bottle Seven Up (10 oz.) and a few drops of green food coloring.

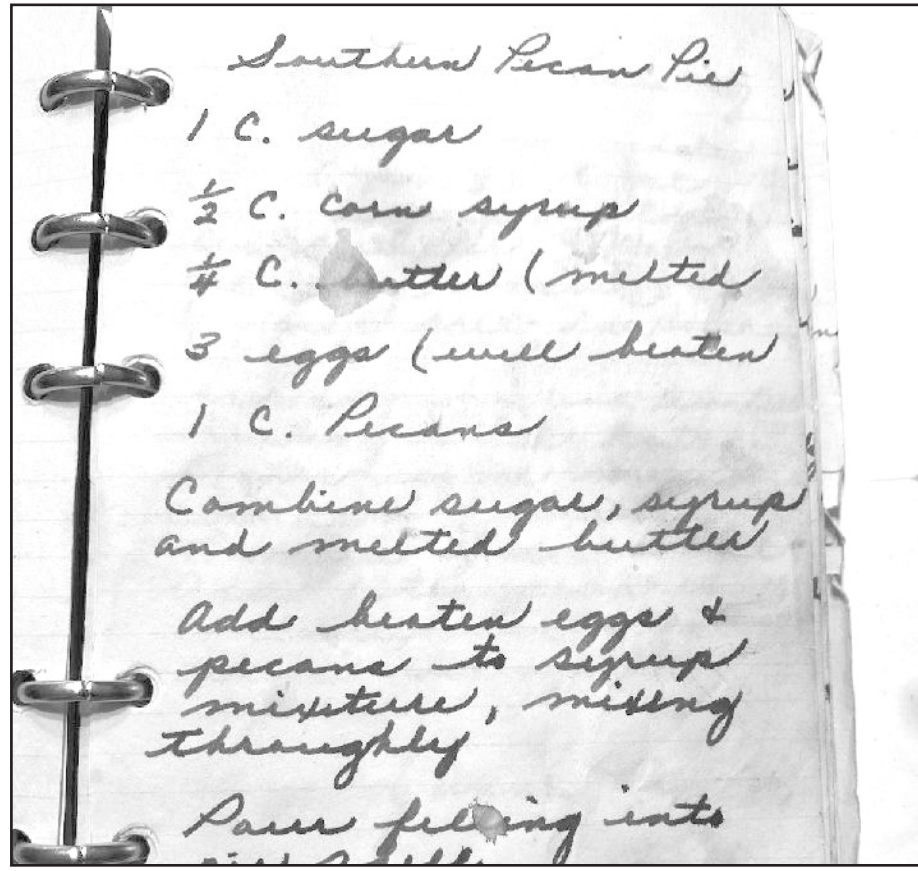
Dissolve gelatin in boiling water. Cream into cheese and beat until smooth. Stir in pineapple, sugar, vanilla, food coloring, and nuts. Stir in Seven Up. Pour into mold and chill; sprinkle nuts on top.

*Karen Hemming's Cathedral Window Candy Recipe, which their family calls "Church Windows."*

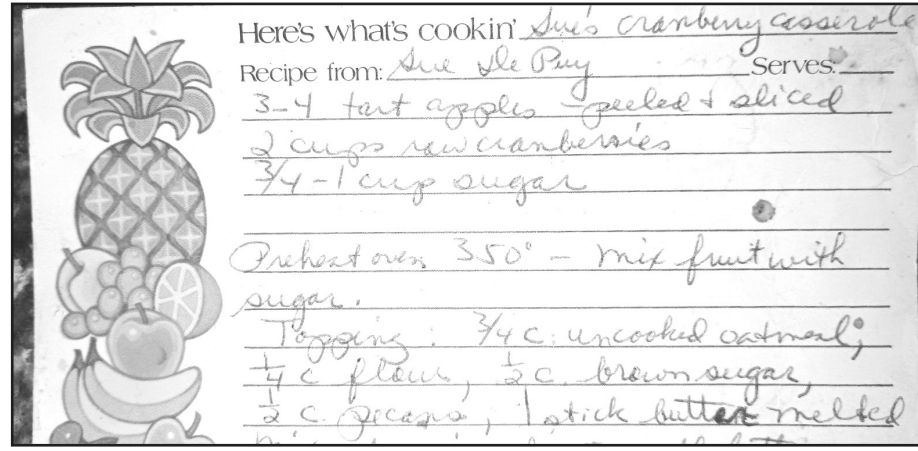
**10 ounces colored mini-marshmallows**  
**1/2 cup butter**  
**2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips**  
**1 cup powdered sugar**  
In medium saucepan, melt butter over medium low heat. When almost melted, stir in chocolate chips and continue stirring until melted and combined with butter. Remove from heat and immediately add to marshmallows. Stir to combine. Set aside to cool slightly.

Meanwhile, on a sheet of aluminum foil about a foot long, evenly sprinkle 1/4 cup of powdered sugar down center of foil lengthwise. Drop half of chocolate marshmallow mixture along length of powdered sugar on foil. Roll into a log (does not need to be perfectly round). Sprinkle 1/4 cup of powdered sugar along chocolate marshmallow mixture. Seal up foil and roll into a more cylindrical log. Repeat with remaining powdered sugar and chocolate marshmallow mixture.

Place logs in freezer or refrigerator (either will work) until hardened. To serve, unwrap log from foil and slice



The original Southern Pecan Pie recipe from Carrie Pence's mother



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THRASHER WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER CREW

**Sue's Cranberry Casserole recipe**

Here's what's cookin' *Sue's cranberry casserole*  
Recipe from: *Sue Ole Bay* Serves: \_\_\_\_\_  
*3-4 tart apples peeled & sliced*  
*2 cups raw cranberries*  
*3/4-1 cup sugar*  
*Preheat oven 350° - mix fruit with sugar.*  
*Topping: 3/4 c. uncooked oatmeal;*  
*1/4 c flour, 1/2 c. brown sugar,*  
*1/2 c. pecans, 1 stick butter melted*

into pieces about 1/4-inch thick. Serve immediately on a platter. (It's ok if they do not stay cool as they will maintain their shape but if it's warm where you are, you don't want them sitting out too long).

*Marie Hoback shares a family favorite— Betty Hoback's Hot Virginia Dip*

**2 tsp butter**  
**1 cup pecans, chopped**  
**16 oz. cream cheese, room temp.**  
**4 Tbsp. milk**

**4 tsp onion, finely chopped**  
**5 oz dried beef, chopped**  
**1 cup sour cream**  
**1 tsp garlic salt**  
Lightly toast pecans with butter in small skillet and set aside. Mix all remaining ingredients until well incorporated. Place in round, lightly greased casserole dish. Top with pecans. Bake uncovered for 30 minutes at 350°. Serve hot with a variety of crackers.

- Vinton Messenger and Thrasher cooks

# Celebrating The Town of VINTON!

The Town of Vinton, a community nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains, welcomes you to our community. Vinton, a town rich with history, has over the years found itself to be one of a few communities that continue to relish the past by offering an environment of a comfortable lifestyle with the feeling of being a part of a large community family. The town, with its proximity to the Blue Ridge Parkway and Smith Mountain Lake, provides many opportunities for those who wish to stop and shop at our local farmers market or one of our unique specialty shops.

If festivals are your interest, the Vinton area hosts several festivals throughout the year from the Vinton Dogwood Festival to the Vinton

Fall Festival. Each festival offers its own unique atmosphere. When you are away from home it's always nice to feel as if you never left.

The Town of Vinton provides small town character with urban services and amenities located nearby. The small town atmosphere is characterized by a low crime rate; small, locally, and regionally owned businesses; and moderately priced homes. Views of the mountains and Blue Ridge Parkway abound.

Vinton represents the ideal type of community, small enough to provide a feeling of belonging, yet progressive enough to provide the facilities, services, and conveniences that are necessary to make a community feel like home to its citizens.

## ADVERTISE!

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# Autonomous vehicle course lays groundwork for new program at Virginia Western

Autonomous vehicle technology embodies a forward-thinking mindset. Teaching that technology requires buckling a seatbelt to keep up with the rapid rate of change in the emerging field.

Virginia Western Community College students now get to come along for the ride, as the college offers a new Career Study Certificate in Autonomous Vehicle Technology.

A small cohort of them took the first leg of the journey this spring by enrolling in a new course, UMS 140: Survey of Autonomous Technologies.

“We were the test dummies!” said Briana Wood, who graduated in May.

(An Autonomous Vehicle is broadly defined as one equipped with technology that senses the conditions around it, including traffic, pedestrians, and physical hazards and can adjust its course and speed without a human at the controls.)

“Not a lot of people have set the stage for this,” said Dr. David Berry, who steers the new program. Berry serves as associate professor and Mechatronics Program head. The technology is changing so fast, he said, that a reference from 2015 was outdated, and resources from 2020 are headed in that direction.

Key to the course would be hands-on learning and field experiences to supplement lectures. But another issue loomed when designing the course and ultimately, the new certificate program: Autonomous vehicles are large and too costly. Or are they?

Enter “Minerva,” a mobile industrial robot. Known formally as the MiR 2000, “it’s made to use in an industrial setting, to move parts around in a factory floor,” Berry said. “So you can program it to know where things are, and if something’s in its way, it’s got enough safety stuff all around it to know to stop and go a different route, and think again. And it’s web-based,” allowing the class to log into an interface to create maps and program missions.

Autonomous vehicles, or AVs, use combinations of technologies and sensors to detect a roadway, other vehicles and objects, according to the University of Michigan. AVs are classified into one of six levels

based on each AV’s amount of human intervention.

Before 2024, Virginia Western did not have classes that could prepare students for a career involving AVs. “The classes are either all automotive, which gets rid of the physics of the sensors, or they’re all electronics, which gets rid of all the automotive,” said Berry.

“Virginia Tech has a lab in industrial engineering, and they have similar items to ours. But they also have that model of mobile industrial robot,” Berry said.

As Virginia Western was designing the new AV course, Berry’s colleagues at Virginia Tech were telling him about the mobile industrial robot’s capabilities. “So, I was like, we can collaborate. And the grad students said that they could help us. So, it all overlapped and came together.” One of Virginia Western’s vendors helped the college locate a used MiR 2000 model.

UMS 140 participants took over control of Minerva, getting to know “her” features and quirks throughout the semester. The design looks like a box on wheels, but contains sensors such as LIDAR, which operates like radar but with the use of lasers. A strip of light around the base emits colors that follow a code, such as blue for a clear path; red if it senses an obstacle; purple when it’s calibrating; a purple/yellow combination for an error; and green when a mission is complete. Features also include programmable sounds, such as a foghorn.

In March, the students took Minerva out for a spin in a hallway in Virginia Western’s STEM Building.

After mapping the classroom and the hall, they merged the maps to help Minerva navigate the hall and re-enter the classroom to complete a mission to a certain part of the room. The robot showed off a full array of color signals as Wood merged maps to overcome the robot’s pauses and errors.

By May, Minerva took laps around the lab as the class notated its web-based program for students who take UMS 140 and another new course, UMS 162: Applications of Autonomous Systems, in spring 2025.

UMS 162, considered a corequisite of



PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIC HOLBROOK, VIRGINIA TECH TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

**Members of the VWCC Autonomous Technologies course took a field trip to the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute in April. Pictured with VTTI’s “Smart Road” are (from left) Briana Wood, Dr. David Berry, Ashley Stanley, Adam O’Neal and Nat Stuart.**

140, will be “a little bit more intensive, a little bit more hands-on,” said Berry. Both courses have a prerequisite of ETR 113: DC and AC Fundamentals.

With the inaugural version of UMS 140, “what we did the first half of the semester was sensors – the physics of our sensors and what sensors are on the vehicles,” Berry said. This was a good introduction to the MiR, “because it’s got all the same sensors that we talked about, like proximity sensors,” Berry said.

“The first half set the stage for the AV, and the second half was talking about communication, really all the communication that’s internal to a vehicle.”

While lectures and labwork gave a solid introduction to AVs, two field trips gave students a real-world context that informed their lessons. Given that Virginia Western’s partnerships helped fuel the program, it was only fitting that partners would provide this important lens. Separate visits to Torc Robotics and the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, both in Blacksburg, pushed boundaries in students’ minds.

Dr. Al Wicks of VTTI was a driving force to help Virginia Western design the AV Technology Program. In April, Wicks gave the first AV students insight into research taking place in the field.

“The Torc visit was very enlightening with respect to what the current state of the industry is in a particular niche, freight transport. Seeing the applied versions of

what we had on our Mobile Industrial Robot in large scale, and seeing workers actually building and testing trucks was fascinating and educational,” said Adam O’Neal, associate dean of STEM and one of five students in the class. “The VTTI visit was more diverse in the sense that there is a lot of research in many different aspects of AV, some of which had never occurred to me.”

Seeing the potential of autonomous vehicles throughout the course gave students a long view in career planning.

What’s next for AV at Western? Registration is open for spring semester, when UMS 140 and 162 will be offered together for the first time. The Career Study Certificate in Autonomous Vehicle Technology, which consists of seven courses, will be conferred for the first time in summer 2025.

“This is the first Autonomous Vehicle Technology Program available in the Virginia Community College System,” said Amy White, Dean of STEM and Workforce Solutions. “This is a tremendous opportunity for folks to gain entry to this emerging field and participate in a growing workforce. We are so grateful for our partners who helped guide us as we launched this program, and we hope to attract potential students who would like become part of transportation’s future.”

*Submitted by Jamie Snead, VWCC*

# Lions

from page 4



**Mount Pleasant volunteer firefighters brought their fire engine for the children to enjoy who were dining with Santa.**

to the jolly, bearded man in the bright red suit. Some youngsters had to be encouraged to approach, or even sit on Santa’s lap, while others rushed to him with arms wide for a hug. All of them, some with prompting by accompanying adults, got to tell what they wanted most. After their private conversation with Santa, each child received

a small stocking with a candy cane or other treat.

Once the time with Santa was over the kids and their adults headed to the chow line where Lions Club members, and some volunteers from the community, loaded them up with “hot off the griddle” pancakes, sausage patties, and fresh, made-on-site biscuits and gravy.

The breakfast food was washed down with Sunny D orange drink for the youngsters and coffee for the adults.

After eating breakfast, the kids headed outside to climb into the neon green fire truck which was driven over from the Mount Pleasant Fire Station by Chief Eric Stump. The wide-eyed future potential firefighters

climbed and crawled all over the truck, as parents took pictures and Fireman Stump reassured them the kids would not damage the truck.

Roanoke County Police Officer Lori Campbell pulled the county police pickup truck right behind the pumper fire engine and several of the Santa Breakfast participants, both

young and old, gave it the once over.

So, while the weather was chilly and “ice melt” had to be spread over water that had leaked from the fire truck and froze, everyone who attended declared the affair to have been a good and successful morning.

*Submitted by Lion Mike Ferguson*



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MPLC

**Mount Pleasant Fire Department Chief Eric Stump (front left) enjoyed breakfast with Santa and his guests.**

# Calendar

from page 1

element of the calendar may be the all-important recycling schedule.

For many years, calendars were delivered

to the doorsteps of homes and businesses by the Town of Vinton Public Works staff, but that process became

cumbersome, and the task took over two weeks to complete, so now they come in the mail.

The 2025 calendars

were designed by Johnny Kunda of Delivery Design Company, with input from the town’s leadership team. Once again, they were printed by Bison Printing in Bedford.

Each year’s calendar includes holidays, special event and festival dates sponsored by the town and the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce, some of the featured activities at the Vinton Library, the Vinton History Museum, the Vinton Farmers’ Market, and classes at the Charles R. Hill Community Center, along with the basics of when the seasons change and when Daylight Saving Time

begins and ends.

The calendar contains the sometimes hard-to-remember regular refuse/bulk refuse/recycling schedules by the week, month, and year (including modified holiday schedules), due dates for real estate and personal property taxes, Town Council meeting dates, and dates when the town offices are closed.

There are phone numbers for all town departments, emergency numbers for police, fire, and rescue, the Regional Center for Animal Care and Protection, the Post Office, and many frequently used Roanoke County numbers and the Western Virginia Water

Authority. The calendar is one of the perks of living in the Town of Vinton.

The idea for the Town Calendar originated several years ago. The town had previously been distributing magnets displaying the recycling schedule in packets with brochures from several different departments of the town. The calendar format was adopted to include all the information that might be needed by residents in one compact package. The town distributes the calendars to new residents and businesses when they contact the Town of Vinton with questions.

Wishing You & Yours

# Happy Holidays

EST. 1866

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Happy Holidays!

Thank you for reading!

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Marketplace

ourvalley.org

The Fincastle Herald

The Vinton Messenger

The New Castle Record

Salem Times-Register

News Messenger

RADFORD News Journal

Legals - Botetourt County

NOTICE OF UNSAFE STRUCTURE

Deeded Owner: HOUSMAN LINDA S  
Owner Address: 1735 LUGAR LN, FINCASTLE, VA 24090  
Subject Property Address: 3770 BLUE RIDGE TPKE, FINCASTLE, VA 24090  
Tax Map Number: 75(1)2&3  
Case: CE-24-00067

This advertisement shall serve as notice as required by Section 6-43(b)(1)b. of the Botetourt County Code that the structure listed as 3770 Blue Ridge Turnpike on the subject property has been deemed unsafe by the Botetourt County Building Official. It is the intent of Botetourt County, for the health, safety, and welfare of the community, to have the structure demolished.

The Botetourt County Development Services Department received a complaint concerning the conditions of the property identified as 3770 Blue Ridge Turnpike, Fincastle, Virginia. Our office investigated the complaint on August 2, 2024, and observed an existing unsafe structure. The exterior and interior of the then inhabited, white-colored house were examined and as the structure was identified as unsafe it was immediately placarded as such. The placards were attached to the exterior on all four sides of the structure, at entrances as safe access allowed. The specific issues observed that caused the structure to be unsafe were, without limitation:

Damaged: 1. structural members, 2. foundation and supporting exterior walls, 3. access and egress components, both interior and exterior, as handrails, guards, walking surfaces, railings, ramps, decks, stairs, windows, doors, window frames, and door frames, 4. overhangs, soffits, gutters, downspouts, roofing, and other roof rainwater management components causing water damage to the structure, 5. electrical components 6. Leaking plumbing, either fresh water supply or sanitary drainage, with discharge through the lowest floor exterior into the yard.

Failure to: 1. provide clear egress due to structural damage, inappropriate locking mechanisms (including hasps), and failure to maintain the functionality of openable windows and doors, 2. operate and maintain the woodstove and the venting system of combustion products from the stove, 3. provide sanitary conditions leading to pest infestation of the structure 4. maintain fire protection systems.

Demolition will occur following the timeline outlined in the Botetourt County Code.

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 362 LOWE STREET, BUCHANAN, VA 24066.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated March 12, 2018, in the original principal amount of \$88,065.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 180000875. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on January 17, 2025, at 1:45 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows:  
LOCATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA: TWO-THIRDS OF LOT NO. EIGHTEEN (18), FRONTING 88.92 FEET ON WATER STREET, AND RUNNING BACK BETWEEN PARALLEL LINES 167.77 FEET TO THE REAR LINE OF SAID LOT NO. 18; THE WEST ONE-THIRD OF SAID LOT ADJOINS AN ALLEY KNOWN AS SECOND ALLEY, AND BEING THE SAME LAND THAT WAS CONVEYED TO H.S.

Legals - Botetourt County

HODGES BY J.E. HODGES AND M.F. HODGES, HIS WIFE, BY DEED DATED JUNE 18, 1934, AND RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN DEED BOOK "X" AT PAGE 34. LESS AND EXCEPTING THAT PORTION OF THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED LOT SECURING 44 FEET ON WATER STREET AND RUNNING BACK BETWEEN PARALLEL LINES 167.77 FEET, THAT WAS CONVEYED TO H. J. SMITH AND EDRA SMITH, HIS WIFE, BY THE SAID HARRY S. HODGES AND LENA S. HODGES, HIS WIFE, BY DEED DATED NOVEMBER 6, 1948, AND RECORDED IN THE AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE IN DEED BOOK 100, PAGE 282, TO WHICH SAID DEED REFERENCE IS HERE AND NOW MADE. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at [www.bwwsales.com](http://www.bwwsales.com). Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229.

For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: [www.bwwsales.com](http://www.bwwsales.com). VA-370006-1.

Legals - Montgomery County

Notice of Public Hearing Town of Blacksburg Planning Commission Tuesday, January 7, 2025

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Town of Blacksburg will conduct the following public hearing on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 during its meeting beginning at 6:30 PM in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Council Chamber, 300 South Main St, Blacksburg, VA on the following item:

801 North Main Street Planned Residential Development with associated Conditional Use Permit request (CUP-24-3) and Right-of-Way vacation request (ROW-24-2) at 801 North Main Street with additional locations on Kabrich Street, Winston Avenue and Progress Street for LV Hokie GP, LLC (contract purchaser). This project consists of three (3) requests, which include (a) RZN-24-2 to rezone the subject properties from (i) GC General Commercial and R-5 Transitional Residential to (ii) PR Planned Residential, which will permit the construction of an 8-story multifamily buildings with commercial space on the ground floor and three (3) townhome-style multifamily buildings, resulting in a total of up to 759 bedrooms (270 bedrooms/acre; (b) ROW-24-2 companion request to

Legals - Botetourt County

vacate a town-owned alley right-of-way of approximately 2,000 square feet extending southeast from Winston Avenue; and (c) CUP-24-3 to use an alley extending northeast from Winston Avenue for access to twenty-two (22) townhome-style multifamily units.

Persons affected by or interested in the rezoning, conditional use permit or right-of-way requests may appear and present their views. After the hearing, the Planning Commission may take action. Copies of the applications, staff report and all related items may be found online at [www.blacksburg.gov/public](http://www.blacksburg.gov/public) hearings or reviewed in person at the Blacksburg Planning and Building Department, 400 South Main Street, Blacksburg, Virginia. You may also call the office at (540) 443-1300 for more information. Individuals with disabilities who require special assistance to attend and participate in the public hearing on the above should contact the Planning & Building Department at (540) 443-1300, or (540)-443-1000-TDD.

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY NOTICE OF TAKING PROOF OFDEBTS AND DEMANDS

At the request of the Executor for the Estate of Thomas Daniel Bowles, deceased, as provided by §64.2-550 of the Code of Virginia, I hereby designate 9:15 a.m., on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2025, as the time, and my office located at 104 South Franklin Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, as the place for receiving proof of debts and demands against the estate. Given under my hand this 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2024.

Daniel Hamrick  
Commissioner of Accounts  
For Montgomery County  
104 S. Franklin Street  
Christiansburg, VA 24073  
(540) 382-0131

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY NOTICE OF TAKING PROOF OFDEBTS AND DEMANDS

At the request of the Executor for the Estate of James P. Wightman, deceased, as provided by §64.2-550 of the Code of Virginia, I hereby designate 9:00 a.m., on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2025, as the time, and my office located at 104 South Franklin Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, as the place for receiving proof of debts and demands against the estate. Given under my hand this 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2024.

Daniel Hamrick  
Commissioner of Accounts  
For Montgomery County  
104 S. Franklin Street  
Christiansburg, VA 24073  
(540) 382-0131

Order of Publication Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,20-104 Case No. CL24001556-00 VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA, a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia,

TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA a Municipal Locality of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Complainant, v. FRANCES K DICKASON, Respondent(s).

**ORDER OF PUBLICATION**  
The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Montgomery, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Montgomery, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 497-29 9 Account No. 004978 All that certain tract or parcel of land situate in the Shawsville Magisterial District, Town of Christiansburg, Montgomery County, Virginia, and more particularly designated and

described as follows, to-wit: BEGINNING at a point on the Northerly side of Sunnyside Lane, N.E., at the Southeast corner of (now or formerly) Mary Elizabeth Karr's lot; thence running N 0° 31 ' 00" E 99.94 feet to a point; thence N 81° 00' 30" E 97.50 to a point; thence S 8° 05' 50" E 94.09 feet to a point; thence S 78° 43' 10" W 112.63 feet, parallel to the Northerly side of Sunnyside Lane, N.E.; and being all of Lot No. 9, Sunnyside, Section III, as shown on a plat recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County. Virginia in Plat Book 8, Page 127. And being the same real property conveyed to Frances K. Dickason from Poff Construction, Inc., a Virginia corporation, by deed, dated October 7, 1 976 and recorded October 29, 1976 in the Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 377 at Page 57. This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described including but not limited to those recorded in Plat Book 8 at Page 127.

**IT APPEARING** that an Affidavit has been made and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served, that the last known addresses for the Respondents herein are as follows: Frances K. Dickason aka Kathleen Dickason Spencer, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Larry Ingram, whose last known address is 525 Sunnyside Ln, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the Respondent named herein are made parties Respondent to this action individually and/or by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained appear on or before January 20, 2025 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause. Entered on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2024  
Honorable Judge K. Mike Fleenor, Jr.

I ask for this:  
John A. Rife sq. (VSB No. 45805)  
Jeffrey A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591)  
Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409)  
Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372)  
Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609)  
Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158)  
Seth R. Konopasek, Esq. (VSB No. 97065)  
Garrett W. Patton, Esq. (VSB No. 98345)  
Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC P.O. Box 31800 Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800  
Phone: (804) 545-2500  
Facsimile: (804) 545-2378  
TACS No.: 779364

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,20-104  
Case No. **CL24001914-00**  
MONTGOMERY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073

Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* BRITTNEY FAYE TILSON v. WILLIAM MATTHEW TILSON  
The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that WILLIAM MATTHEW TILSON appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before February 6,2025 @9:00 am  
December 4/2024  
November 6, 2024  
Robert M.D. Turk, Judge

Legals - City of Salem

LEGAL NOTICE Willingness to Hold a Public Hearing Mason Creek Greenway – Phase 3 (419 Multimodal Improvements)

The City of Salem is proposing to construct a new sidewalk system around Lakeside Plaza. The proposed sidewalk would begin at the trailhead of the Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail, located at 1386 East Main Street. The sidewalk would parallel East Main Street and continue to Electric Road. The sidewalk would continue on the western side of Electric Road (Lakeside Plaza side) to Springfield Avenue. A new pedestrian crossing with ADA accessibility and pedestrian crossing signal will be installed at this intersection. The sidewalk will continue south on Electric Road with sidewalk being installed on both east and west sides of Electric Road. The eastern portion of sidewalk will terminate at McCauley Avenue, while the western portion will terminate at Northern Drive. The City will also install two new Valley Metro Bus Shelters on East Main Street; one on the north side in front of Goodwill and the other on the southern side near the Kroger Fuel Center. This is part of the larger regional Roanoke River and Mason Creek Greenway Trail system. This project is funded through the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) SmartScale Program and being developed through the Locally Administered Projects (LAP) Program. To view plans for the project, visit the web at <https://www.salemva.gov/767/Projects> or go by the City of Salem's Community Development Office, located at 21 S. Bruffey Street. Please call (540) 375-3032 or email Will Simpson ([wsimpson@salemva.gov](mailto:wsimpson@salemva.gov)) or Josh Pratt ([jpratt@salemva.gov](mailto:jpratt@salemva.gov)) to schedule a time to view the plans or if you have any additional questions. If your questions or concerns cannot be addressed through discussions with staff, the City is willing to hold a public hearing. You can request that a public hearing be held by sending a written request to: William L. Simpson, Jr., PE City Engineer P.O. Box 869 Salem, VA 24153

Requests for a public hearing must be received on or prior to December 27, 2024. If any requests for a public hearing are received prior to this date, a notice will be posted on the City's website detailing the date, time, and location of the public hearing.

Project Number: UPC 111367; FHWA # EN20-154-251

Legals - Town of Vinton

ABC NOTICE

LND VA STORES LLC., trading as EZ STOP 13, 3348 ORANGE AVE NE, ROANOKE VA 24012-6334

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Retail Convenience Grocery Store, Wine, Beer, Consumed Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

JAY PATEL, MEMBER.

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

Help Wanted

Marketing Analyst needed

w/Master of Business Administration deg or foreign equiv in Mktg or Content Mktg & 1 yr exp as Mktg Analyst or Mktg Assistant performing following job duties: Prep mktg campaigns, produce content & create new prgm launches, social media, email & other advtg campaigns. Create compelling content incl reporting & writing, photography & photo editing, videography & video editing & graphic campaigns. Dsgn & set-up CRM platform for outreach to existing vendors to maintain engagement. Generate reports on various internal & external mktg campaigns. Coord mktg & community events, incl overseeing logistics, managing registrations, coor'g w/ vendors, creating event prgms & dsngn mktg collaterals. Managed content for websites &amp; social media. Coord w/ internal depts to create & edit mktg materials using Photoshop, InDesign & Premiere Pro. Benefits: PTO, Health Insurance & 401K. Email Resumes to: [cavernsmarket@gmail.com](mailto:cavernsmarket@gmail.com) Or mail resumes to: Caverns Petro Inc., d/b/a Caverns Market 5721 Fallbrooke Dr, Salem, VA 24153. Job Locations: Salem, VA.

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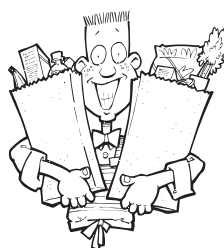
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