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Messenger

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Roanoke County Public Schools cuts ribbon on newly renovated W.E. Cundiff Elementary



Ribbon-cutting celebrating W.E. Cundiff’s renovation project

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Roanoke County Public Schools celebrated the completion of the renovation, modernization, and expansion project at W.E. Cundiff Elementary on Hardy Road in Vinton on September 30 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The entire student body, staff, and many local officials gathered in the school parking lot for the event.

The renovations include a new cafeteria, administrative wing, library, and STEM Lab, along with new classrooms, new furniture and equipment, and a spruced-up gymnasium.

The ground-breaking ceremony for the project took place in August 2024, although the plans for the improvements had been in the works since 2019, slowed by COVID and funding issues.

One of the main reasons that Cundiff made it to the top of the priority list for school remodeling among the 27 schools in the county was its open classroom format—one of only two such schools left in the state. (The other was Glen Cove Elementary on the other side of

See **Cundiff**, page 8



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS
Several descendants of W.E. Cundiff were present for the ceremony. They are pictured with several current school officials (from left): front, Tammy Newcomb (RCPS), former Principal Sherry Bryant (RCPS), Brooklyn Peters, Steve and Billie Sue Musselwhite, Jackie Logan, Spencer Peters, Principal Ashley McCallum (RCPS); second row, Whitney Peters, Bryan Musselwhite, Stacie Brinkley, Maggie Peters, Leighton Walker, Alison Musselwhite, and School Board representative Tim Greenway (RCPS); third row, Spence Peters, Dawson Brinkley, Blaine and Stephanie Mead, and Aiden Brinkley.

Lynn Haven Baptist celebrating 65th Homecoming and new pastor

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Lynn Haven Baptist Church in Vinton will be celebrating their 65th Homecoming on Sunday, October 11. The church had its beginnings when 12 people met in November 1960 to organize a Southern Baptist church in the Lynn Haven area. The church met at first in a rented store building on Washington Avenue. Initially, the Sunday School classes met in the barber shop across the street, in homes of members, and one children’s class met in a car.

The Rev. H.W. Connelly was their first pastor. The first official organizational meeting was in June 1961, with 86 charter members present. Among their first decisions were the purchase of 50 hymn books and an oil tank for the church. By the end of the year, the church had an enrollment of 113 members.

The Roanoke Baptist Missionary and Social Union bought five acres along Route 24 for a building site, which was given to the church, and is where it remains today. Several additions and renovations have been made to the church over the years. Several pastors followed the Rev. Connelly.

In October 1979, Dr. Bob Wayne was called as pastor and remained until 1993. The church grew rapidly under his leadership.

Dr. Wayne is the reason the Rev. John Hackworth, Jr., is now the minister



PHOTO BY DEBBIE ADAMS
The Rev. John Hackworth, Jr., a Vinton native, is now serving as pastor at Lynn Haven Baptist Church.

at Lynn Haven. Hackworth grew up in Lynn Haven Baptist himself in the 1980s, and Dr. Wayne was his beloved pastor. Hackworth preached his first sermon at Lynn Haven on Youth Sunday in 1986. He says he always knew he was meant to live a life in the ministry and Dr. Wayne “was a very important person to me and a very authentic and caring soul.”

Hackworth says his childhood years in Vinton were almost idyllic. He grew up

See **Lynn Haven**, page 8



Downtown Vinton property site ready for development

PHOTO COURTESY OF RVTV

Vinton accepting proposals for downtown fire property

The Town of Vinton is seeking proposals from developers to redevelop a prominent site that was impacted by the devastating fire that occurred in the early morning hours of July 2, 2022.

The fire destroyed the former DR Music building at 101 East Lee Avenue after the building’s roof collapsed. The fire also impacted four adjacent apartments and the building that once housed Edward Jones Investments.

The destruction left a visible scar within one of the most important blocks in the heart of downtown Vinton.

In 2025 and 2026, the town acquired the four parcels with the goal of restoring and revitalizing this key area and enhancing the downtown development district, creating future revenue opportunities for the town, and supporting new employment opportunities for citizens.

“The town seeks development partners to thoughtfully redevelop the site in a manner that maintains the character and supports the continued revitalization of downtown Vinton,” said Town Manager Pete Peters. “The fire that occurred in 2022 was devastating to the former property and business owners and also displaced several residents who lived in second floor apartments. This redevelopment project is

See **Proposals**, page 5



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS
Vinton Town Council honored Rob Lyon for his dedicated service to the community, especially his work on the Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission. From left are Council member Mike Stovall, Vice Mayor Laurie Mullins, Mayor Brad Grose, Rob Lyon, and Council members Sabrina McCarty and Keith Liles.

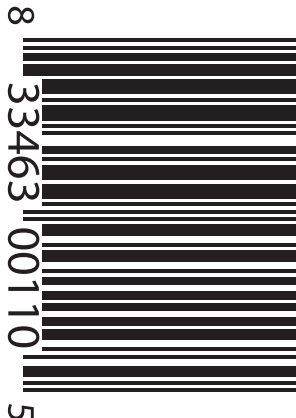
Vinton Town Council honors Rob Lyon

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Vinton Town Council honored citizen Rob Lyon for his dedicated service to the community with a proclamation at its meeting on October 6. He is most well-known for his work with the Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission from February 2018 through June 2026, “contributing his time, knowledge, and perspective to efforts that support the region’s greenway system and quality of life.”

Lyon is a graduate of William Byrd High School and Radford University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree. He retired as editor from the Smith

See **Council**, page 5





Grayson Arthur at the Cub Scout Pack Bike Rodeo

Scouts host Bike Rodeo

Scouting America Troops and Vinton Cub Pack 235 hosted a Bike Rodeo cycling event at Evangel Four Square Church on the afternoon of October 4. Wee Wheel Roanoke set up a challenging cycling course for the children, ages 5 to 13, who first received some instructions in bike and helmet safety, and bike maintenance to receive their “Bike Safety Passport.”

Bike safety instructions from Wee Wheel included being “predictable, visible, and following the rules.” The

children were taught the rules of the road for bikes and how to safely share the road with other vehicles: “ride right, be predictable, signal, obey traffic laws, and be seen.” They were also reminded that Virginia requires lights/reflectors when riding between sunset and sunrise, using a white front light and red rear reflector/light.

Helmet safety instructions included “wear it, fit it, buckle it, and check it,” and wear it every time you ride. The helmet should be worn two fingers above your eyebrows, low and

level. The straps should meet in a “V” below your ears. About one finger should fit between the strap and your chin—snug, not loose. When you look up, look down, turn left, turn right—your helmet should stay in place. Manufacturers recommend replacing helmets after several years of use and always replacing a helmet after a significant impact. It could be damaged even if you don’t see it.

Bike maintenance tips included checking the air in tires, brakes, and

See Scouts, page 8



Riding the obstacle course at the Bike Rodeo set up by Wee Wheel Roanoke



Putting bike skills into practice at the Bike Rodeo

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Spend the day at the Vinton Fall Festival



Vinton Fall Festival 2025 Road Closures - Saturday, October 10, 2026

STREET CLOSED	CLOSED FROM	CLOSED TO	TIME CLOSED
S Maple St	Washington Ave	Jefferson Ave	6:00 AM
S. Pollard St	Washington Ave	Jefferson Ave	6:00 AM
Lee Ave	S Poplar St	Railroad Ave	6:00 AM
Jackson Ave	S Poplar St	Walnut Ave	6:00 AM
Cleveland Ave	S Poplar St	1st St	6:00 AM
Walnut Ave	W. Lee Ave	W. Jackson Ave.	6:00 AM

Road Closures for this Saturday’s Fall Festival

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF TOWN OF VINTON

This Saturday, October 10, Vinton will be celebrating one of its traditional events – Fall Festival. The event begins at 10 a.m. and concludes at 4 p.m. in the downtown area.

There is no charge to attend the festival which offers a full day of live entertainment, over 120 vendors (business, retail,

organizations, and food), food trucks, horseback riding, a Kids Zone, petting zoo, face painting, shopping, and more.

Entertainment includes the Fame All-Stars at the Vinton Farmers’ Market from 10 to 10:30 a.m. followed by Floyd Ward from 11 to noon and the traditional Pet Costume Contest at noon.

DJ Tyrone from Flex LLC will be hosting Karaoke on the Municipal Building Stage from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Food trucks will include Chris’s Coffee and Custard, Christ’s Fellowship, Desertz by Dvyne, Dough Re Mi Bake Shoppe, Flints Concession, Get Glazed, Good Days Farm & Fudge,



Vinton Breakfast Lions Club

Take out or eat in!

Pancake Breakfast!

October 10th 2026
8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

ADULT TICKET \$8.00

ALL YOU CAN EAT!

- ♦ Pancakes
- ♦ Sausage
- ♦ Coffee
- ♦ Orange Juice

Gym Building - Vinton Baptist Church
219 E. Washington Ave., Vinton, Virginia

Vinton Breakfast Lions Pancake Breakfast

FILE GRAPHIC

Hot Bunz, Johnny Rays Food Truck, La Shunca, Life Tabernacle, Middle East FesT, Mrs. Sweet Cakez, Out of the Grey, Pelollie’s Sweet Treats, seventy8 LLC, Sipping Pretty, Soda Street, Split Rail Ice Cream, Star City Sips, Sugar Desserts, Sweet Sips, Sweet Surrender Ice Cream, Local Lemon, and Tinker Mountain Kettle Corn.

Plus, if it’s Vinton Fall Festival Day, it’s also Lions Club Pancake Breakfast

Day. The pancake breakfast runs from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Vinton Baptist Church. Take out orders are available on South Poplar Street. Dine-in will be in the gym building of Vinton Baptist Church. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for children for all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, coffee, and orange juice. Kids 3 and under eat free. Sugar-free syrup will be available.

The Vinton History Museum will be hosting

a holiday and collectibles benefit sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the museum on East Jackson.

Be prepared for road closures in downtown Vinton beginning at 6 a.m. They include portions of South Maple, South Pollard, Lee Avenue, Jackson Avenue, Cleveland Avenue, and Walnut Avenue.

-Vinton Messenger staff report

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WHAT TO DO AT THE VINTON FALL FESTIVAL

KARAOKE

FACE PAINTING

HORSE BACK RIDING

PETTING ZOO

AND MUCH MORE!

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF VINTON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Day Everything Changed

ALS and Swallowing

Debbie Adams
dadams@ourvalley.org

Part 7 of a series on ALS from the perspective of those who have been recently diagnosed and their caregivers.

My husband, Danny Adams, was diagnosed in early June with ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis), also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease. It attacks the motor neurons affecting nerves in your brain and spinal cord. ALS leads to muscle weakness and other symptoms that are progressive; they get worse over time. No cure has been discovered yet.

Different people display very different symptoms with ALS. Danny’s first symptoms were an inability to move and use his hands and arms—first his left arm, which is dominant—and now his right arm is becoming weaker by the day, also. That makes dressing, reaching, lifting, and most basic activities difficult and something you could never imagine experiencing. Abilities you have always taken for granted are suddenly gone.

According to the ALS Association, another one of the most common symptoms is a gradual weakening and loss of control of muscles of the mouth and throat (the bulbar muscles) which lead to difficulty in speaking and swallowing. One of Danny’s first medical procedures soon after being diagnosed was a Barium Swallowing Test.

That is the plague of our lives right now— trying to figure out what he can eat and drink to avoid losing weight and being exhausted. Friends offer to bring meals and we have to say there really isn’t much he can eat and drink right now.

I never realized that what seems like a simple process, swallowing food, involves 26 muscles of the tongue, lips, jaw, and throat. When all of the muscles don’t work together in harmony, swallowing becomes

difficult. Food or liquids can end up “going down the wrong pipe” into the respiratory system, causing choking or breathing difficulties. And there is no rhyme or reason for what foods cause choking. It’s about texture and consistency— most of the time.

There are actually stages of swallowing. In the oral preparatory stage, food is placed in the mouth and chewed. In the oral stage, the muscles of the tongue, cheeks, and upper part of the throat move the food to the back of the mouth. In the pharyngeal stage, the voice box (larynx) is drawn up towards the base of the tongue, and the tongue moves back to meet the larynx. The vocal folds then close to keep food from going into your windpipe. The soft palate lifts to close off the passage to your nose. A muscle at the top of the esophagus relaxes to allow food to enter the esophagus. During this esophageal stage, food is passed down the esophagus to the stomach in a wavelike action of the muscles.

If everything works right, you don’t even notice. If it doesn’t, you are left choking and coughing. If it wasn’t so frightening, it would give you a whole new perspective on the complexity of the human body.

For Danny, the problems in swallowing first manifested as unexplained drooling and have now advanced to more severe coughing episodes when eating and drinking. The mystery has been in determining which foods and beverages will cause a problem and which ones won’t.

For instance, coffee, orange juice, water and Coke seem to cause him to choke, as well as foods he has always loved like watermelon (because it has a mixture of different textures), corn (it’s too solid), chocolate (sticks to the roof of his mouth and his tongue muscles are too weak to remove it), pastas (they get stuck), cake and bread (too many crumbs), etc.

However, he is able to swallow a

thin sausage patty on a Hawaiian roll for breakfast, kiwi, blended soups, sweet potatoes (but not regular baked potatoes), chicken thighs, McDonald’s chicken nuggets, fish—it’s always a puzzle about how his body is going to react with different meals and snacks.

Taking his medications with water makes him cough and choke; taking them with pudding doesn’t.

He is currently working with a speech and swallowing therapist at Carilion outpatient therapy on his swallowing techniques. Her strategies, which are taped on our kitchen table next to his plate, are:

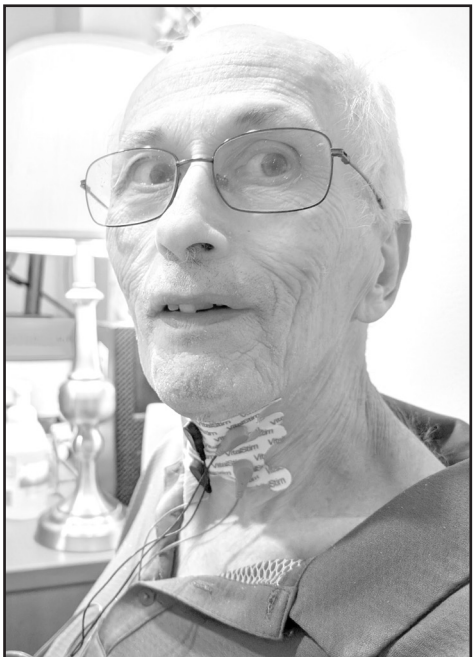
- Sit upright while eating and for 30 minutes afterward
- Use a slow rate with small bites and sips
- Swallow TWICE with solids
- Keep your chin tucked in to your chest with all liquids
- Clear your throat after liquids
- Alternate bites and sips
- End meals with a liquid

Other tips include eating six small meals a day, instead of three larger ones. Eat calorie-dense foods to maintain your weight (a milkshake instead of a glass of milk or soda), add butter, add sour cream— all of those no-no’s.

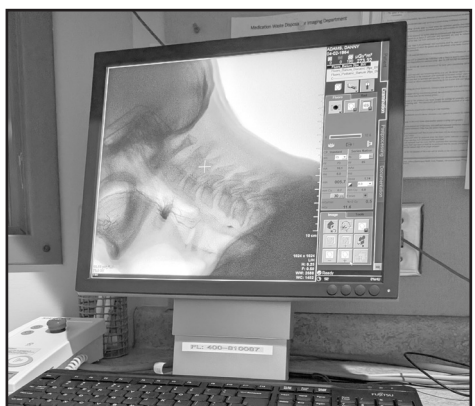
Eventually, if chewing and swallowing solid foods becomes too difficult, and the chance of food getting into your lungs and causing aspiration and an infection increases, a feeding tube can be used to ensure you get the nutrition you need, and you can still eat regular foods. A feeding tube does not change your ability to swallow; it doesn’t make swallowing easier. It’s a way to bypass the chewing and swallowing muscles and get nutrients (or take medications).

Danny, who has always loved to eat, almost dreads mealtimes now because they are so exhausting; with weaker muscles, it takes longer to chew and there’s the frequent fear of coughing and choking.

His therapist recently had him try a technique called pharyngeal



Danny undergoing pharyngeal muscle electrical stimulation to improve swallowing



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Danny during Barium Swallowing Test

muscle electrical stimulation— what she described as the gold standard treatment for swallowing. Electrodes are taped to your clean-shaven neck, and electrical stimulation is applied to the sensory nerves to restore the brain’s control of swallowing. The patient gets a feeling of pulling or tingling. After the session, the therapist concluded that Danny would not benefit from the technique.

So, we are headed back to Carilion Imaging for another Barium Swallow Test this week to find another approach.

Shop the DAR yard sale and support history

The General James Breckinridge Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution is holding a yard sale on Saturday, October 10, at the Scout Building in the parking lot at Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church in Vinton from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The yard sale is a fundraiser for the chapter. Proceeds from the sale will be used to support education, preserve history,

and serve the community.

Quality items for sale include home décor, kitchenware, books, collectibles, and much more.

The General James Breckinridge Chapter was organized in 1956 and will be celebrating its 70th anniversary in December. The chapter has been participating in the naturalization ceremonies through the Western District Courts since 1979.

Members attend and give out American flags, Pledge of Allegiance cards and serve refreshments to the new citizens and friends and family after the ceremony.

Thrasher UMC is located at 707 East Washington Avenue in Vinton.

-Submitted by Judy Thierry

BAPTIST (SOUTHERN)
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Belmont Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 1101 Jamison Ave SE, Roanoke, VA 24013. Growing God’s Kingdom one neighbor at a time. At Belmont Christian Church, we focus on faith, family and community. We invite you to join us this Sunday and share in our worship and fellowship services, Sunday School 9:45am, Worship Service 11:00am. For more information visit www.belmontchristian.net or call 540-343-7502
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FOURSQUARE
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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 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.

VINTON

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

SPREAD THE WORD
Read John 12:1 through 13:38

A large banner on the semitrailer in the church parking lot announced, “Food Giveaway on Saturday.” Sharon saw the banner as she drove by on her way to work. Just five years earlier, as a single mother of two, she had received two bags of groceries from the same church. This gift enabled her to get through a tough time after her husband deserted her. More importantly, it opened her heart to the message of Christ.

Now a growing Christian, Sharon takes time to tell others about the church’s food giveaway and about the greatest gift of all: Jesus.

The crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word (John 12:17).

Those who saw Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead just couldn’t keep quiet. They kept talking about the miracle and generating interest in those who heard. The story of how Jesus has touched one person’s life has the power to touch other people’s lives.

Prayer Suggestion: Jesus, help me to spread the word about You boldly today.

Quicklook: John 12:17–19

If you would like to see your church services listed here in the Vinton Messenger contact Tucker Frye at Cell: (540) 389-9355 tfrye@ourvalley.org

Vinton History Museum to hold holiday/collectibles benefit sale

The Vinton History Museum will hold a holiday and collectibles benefit sale for the museum on Saturday, October 10 from 9 am. to 3 p.m. during Vinton's Fall Festival. The sale will include Christmas and other holiday decorations and a variety of collectibles. In addition, Memory Pergola bricks will be available for purchase. All proceeds will benefit the operational and



FILE PHOTO

maintenance needs of the museum. The Vinton History Museum is located at

210 E. Jackson Avenue in Vinton. For more information, email info@vintonhistorymuseum.org or call 540-342-8634.

~ Vinton History Museum

Mt. Pleasant Fire Department Auxiliary sponsoring annual Craft Show

The Mt. Pleasant Fire Department Auxiliary is sponsoring its annual Craft Show on October 17 at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church. Vendors are local. It runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The church is located at 3000 Pitzer Road, in the Mt. Pleasant area of Roanoke.

There is no charge for admission.

There is still time for vendors to sign up at savvyevents4u@gmail.com, (\$50 for an 8x8 space).

~ Vinton Messenger staff report



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF MT. PLEASANT FIRE DEPT. AUXILIARY

Fall – A busy time for Mount Pleasant Lions



Pack-a-Snack bagging (from left)) Kathy Bennington, Steve Pasternak, Anne Ferguson, Brenda Musselwhite, Pat Musselwhite, and Cody Southers



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MOUNT PLEASANT LIONS

From left, Steve (bagman) Pasternak and Cody Southers loading the truck with recycling materials

October is proving to be a busy month for the Mount Pleasant Lions Club, after co-hosting a car show at Explore Park on September 18 with the Mount Pleasant Fire Department, this month is proving to be jam-packed with Lions activities.

On the second day of the month, several Lions and one guest volunteer met at the Lions Club building where 80 Pack-a-Snack bags for Garden City Elementary School were filled and delivered. Lion Janet West did all the shopping at Sam's Club and hauled the goodies to the clubhouse at 2432 Mayfield Drive SE, where Lions Kathy Bennington, Anne Ferguson, Brenda Musselwhite, Steve Pasternak, Pat Musselwhite, Mike Ferguson and guest Cody Southers, placed 10 items in each bag. All packaging, whether plastic or cardboard, was then recycled.

Once the packing was completed, Club President Steve Pasternak (a/k/a bagman), guest Cody Southers and Lion Pat Musselwhite loaded Steve's pickup with another 217 pounds of

"stretchy" plastic bags for delivery to the Trex Company Inc., drop-off point in Northwest Roanoke.

Having already delivered over 300 pounds, the club is more than halfway to meeting the 1,000-pounds goal set by Club Vice President Lynn Cochran earlier in the year. The deal is that when that mark is reached the club will be eligible for a Trex all-weather bench which can then be donated to an elementary school for use there, as may be deemed appropriate. The additional upside and the real reason for the project is that 1,000 pounds of plastic is removed from the environment. Bagman Steve was heard to say, "strong work!"

On the fifth of the month, eye screenings for 85 Mount Pleasant Elementary kindergarten, first and third grade students were completed, using the new SPOT machine just purchased and received on September 2 by the club, with about 10% of those screened being flagged for further review or exam.

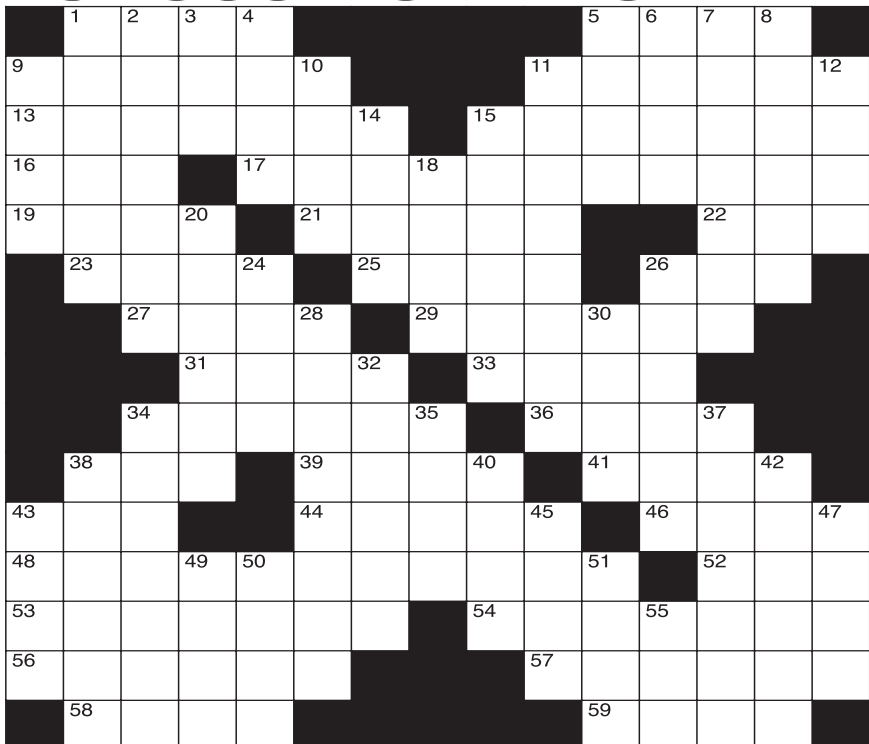
On October 6, 2026-27 Lions District Governor Babs Newman dropped in for her annual visit, leaving accolades and new challenges for the members.

On October 17, members of the William Byrd High School Lions Leo Club and their faculty sponsor, Lisa Stover, will meet at the clubhouse and then go to Sterling Road for the semi-annual cleanup of the roadside. The young people will get a fresh view of just how many slobos drive on the streets and roads.

After last spring's cleanup, VDOT picked up nine bags of the collected trash. Once the refuse is bagged, the Leos will be invited to meet and feed carrots to two miniature donkeys residing on a farm fronting on Sterling Road. Then it's back to the clubhouse for a thorough hand washing and a well-earned pizza and sodas lunch.

~ By Mount Pleasant Lion Mike Ferguson

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS		27. Informal terms for money	57. Ointments	the weather
1. Difficult		29. Awakens	58. Examination	24. A body of traditions
5. Coarsely ground corn		31. Those who favored Prohibition	59. Leaked fluid	26. Students seek one
9. A group of similar things ordered one after another		33. Blabbed	CLUES DOWN	
11. Loved Romeo		34. Looked through	1. Brave	28. Hydrophilic amino acid
13. Something to solve		36. Rhode Island rebellion	2. A state of excitement	30. Nasal mucus
15. Pelvic areas		38. A type of "cast"	3. Jest at	32. Branch of U.S. Congress
16. Informal debt instrument		39. One's duty	4. Sandwich store	34. Swinish
17. Ineffective		41. Where golfers begin	5. Chapter of the Koran	35. Russian assembly
19. A device attached to a workbench		43. Make a mistake	6. Dismounted from a horse	37. Grant an exemption to
21. Related on the mother's side		44. Semitic Sun god	7. Small vehicle	38. Set up in advance
22. "Fresh Prince of ___ Air"		46. Ancient Greek City	8. Irked	40. Satisfy
23. Astronomer Sagan		48. Removed someone's head	9. A disreputable man	42. Felt
25. C. Utah city		52. A place to stay	10. Monetary unit of Samoa	43. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
26. Turkey		53. Unwise	11. A list of woes	45. Witnesses
		54. Most unnatural	12. Weight unit	47. Strong insects
		56. "Dennis" is a notable one	14. Alone, single	49. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
			15. Broadway legend	50. One of an ancient people inhabiting Scotland
			Bernadette	51. Cheerless
			18. Monetary unit of Serbia	55. Unhealthy
			20. Worn by exposure to	

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Council

from page 1

Mountain Eagle and continues to serve the community through his work with Oakey's Funeral Service.

He has also served as a citizen member of the Vinton Police Dept. Employment Committee “contributing his time and civic-minded perspective to the town's safety organization.”

Lyon is a deacon at Vinton Baptist Church and sings in the choir. He also maintains the entrance to the Dillon Woods subdivision. He is “known as a loyal, charitable, and dependable friend who willingly gives his time and talents in service to others.”

His proclamation said, “The Town of Vinton recognizes that strong communities are built by citizens who willingly contribute their time, talents, and energy for the benefit of others; Rob Lyon exemplifies that spirit of community service.”

Next on council’s agenda was the introduction of two newly promoted police sergeants by Vinton Police Chief Fabricio Drumond– Sgt. Andrew Hagy and Sgt. Trey Boyd. Council chambers were full of their families, friends, and fellow officers.

Sgt. Chris Froeschl was also honored by being named as Honorary First Sergeant for his dedicated service to

the town.

Planning and Zoning Director Anita McMillan introduced the town's new Environmental Planner, Rachel E. Lockwood, to council. She will take over the environmental responsibilities and provide the Geographic Information System (GIS) needs of the town, as McMillan prepares for retirement. This is a new position created to assume the town's environmental responsibilities, including the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4), permit requirements, and to provide GIS support for the town. The town does not currently have staff with GIS background.

Lockwood officially began her duties on October 5. Prior to joining the town, she served as GIS Specialist with Roanoke County’s Stormwater Division within the Department of Development Services, beginning in 2025. She previously interned with the Roanoke County Informational Technology Dept. in 2024.

She resides in eastern Roanoke County and enjoys spending time outdoors.

Risk Management/HR Coordinator Brandon Alterio presented information on the 2026 Field of Honor. Due to construction at the Vinton War

Memorial, the Field of Honor flags will be moved to the Municipal Building this year for their fourth year. Flags will be on display November 6-21. The community is invited to sponsor a flag in memory or honor of a fallen hero. More information is available at <https://www.vintonva.gov/545/Town-of-Vinton-Field-of-Honor>.

Cpl. Jesse Dibble presented information on the upcoming Veterans Day Ruck on November 21. This is the third year for the Ruck in Vinton. It will also move to the Municipal Building, next to the Field of Honor. Participants and others are asked to donate non-perishable food items for Feeding Southwest Virginia. More details are available at <https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Vinton/TownOfVintonVeteransRuck>.

Council held two public hearings, the first on proposed budget amendments to

the town’s FY2026-2027 budget in order to appropriate funding for projects that were budgeted and appropriated in the previous fiscal year. The previously funded projects include equipment purchases and repairs, contractual services, and capital projects for the Vinton History Museum, water infrastructure, and stormwater infrastructure in the amount of \$1.4 million.

The second hearing concerned an amendment to appropriate \$2.5 million from the General Obligation Fund and \$1.15 million from the unappropriated fund balance in the Capital Fund to fund the Vinton War Memorial Renovation Project in the total amount of \$3.65 million.

Finance Director Tiffany Stewart presented the staff report on both projects. There were no comments from citizens. Council adopted both resolutions.

Proposals

from page 2



GRAPHIC COURTESY TOWN OF VINTON

The RFP flyer includes concept drawings such as this one.

a great opportunity to restore a highly visible corner and further strengthen our resurgent downtown economy. Vinton Town Council remains committed to investing in projects that strengthen downtown, encourage economic growth, and create vibrant spaces for residents, businesses, and visitors.”

The 0.18-acre site is now shovel-ready with walkable access to all commercial storefronts in Vinton’s Central Business District. The Vinton Public Library, town municipal buildings, Vinton Farmers’ Market, Stone Plaza, and Vinton Special Events Stage are within one block of the property.

The property is zoned CB Central Business, which has no setbacks and permits a maximum building height of 45 feet or four stories, whichever is less. Architectural analyses estimate that 16 residential units or 22 hotel rooms can be accommodated in a three-story development (with commercial on the first floor). On-street and off-street parking spaces are available for future businesses and residential units.

The desired project should include either a higher density boutique hotel, or mixed-use development with first floor commercial and second and third floor residential uses consistent with the town’s 2050 Comprehensive Plan. Desirable options and features may include an outdoor patio/green space, a rooftop experience, and other amenities to appeal to residents and visitors.

Public assistance may include all or a combination of the following incentives, customized to the needs of the proposed project and provided as a grant to the developer. Town participation often meets or exceeds grants provided through a TIF, CDA or Tourism Zone:

- Discounted land acquisition price
- Infrastructure assistance
- Meals tax rebate (if applicable)
- Occupancy tax rebate (if applicable)
- Parking accommodation for tenants
- Creative zoning consideration (if needed)
- Expedited permitting

- New Market Tax Credit qualified site
- Support for and participation in all eligible state grant programs to support the project
- Participation in innovative financing opportunities including the C-PACE program, the Locus Community Capital (CDFI bank and loan fund), etc. as needed

Proposals should include the following:

- A development plan for the property to build a mixed-use commercial (first floor) and residential (second and third floor possibility) including number and type of potential units, amenities and unique development features. Potential for rooftop dining is encouraged.
- Proposed terms including offer amount and timeline for completion. Business Plan and Financial Plan, including project benefits to the town.
- A biographical summary and experience with a description of lead participants. The town reserves the right to reject all proposals without cause.

Evaluations and award of proposals will be made based upon the following criteria:

- Proposed investment and overall development concept
- Value-added benefits to the town
- Proposed compatibility with the Town of Vinton zoning, land use and Comprehensive Plan
- Return on investment, density of development, proposed access points, job creation and revenue generation from the project

Written proposals should be submitted by November 20, 2026, at 3 p.m. to the Town of Vinton RFP #092826, 101 E Lee Avenue, Attention Jill Loope, Special Projects Assistant to the Town Manager, 311 S. Pollard St., Vinton, 24179. (The town reserves the right to extend the deadline for an additional 30 days as needed.)

For more information, contact Jill Loope at 540-283-7061 or jloope@vintonva.gov. Additional information available at <https://www.vintonva.gov/Bids.aspx>.

~ Vinton Messenger staff report



Chris Froeschl was named Honorary First Sergeant by Police Chief Fabricio Drumond. From left are Lt. Scott Hurt, Deputy Chief Tim Lawless, Sgt. Froeschl, Chief Drumond, and Lt. Michael Caldwell.



PHOTOS BY DEBBIE ADAMS

Rachel Lockwood was introduced as Vinton’s new Environmental Planner. Pictured from left are Planning and Zoning Director Anita McMillan, Lockwood, and Asst. Planning and Zoning Director Nathan McClung.

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Public Auction

LEGAL NOTICE

A public auction will be held on Wednesday October 14, 2026 at 10 a.m. at Grand Storage of Vinton 1119 Vinyard Rd, Vinton, VA 24179, to sell personal property in the following units: Ashley Spence Unit D4-B Jeremy Thompson Unit C-20

Legals - Montgomery County

ABC NOTICE

BUCKOS TRIPSTOP INC., trading as TRIPSTOP BUCKOS, 1700 West Main Street, Radford Va 24141.

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

Tejendrakumar Patadia, President

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 or 800-552-3200.

ABC NOTICE

BUCKOS TRIPSTOP INC., trading as TRIPSTOP BUCKOS, 802 Roanoke Street Christiansburg, Montgomery County, VA 24073-3160

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

Tejendrakumar Patadia, President

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 or 800-552-3200.

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL

The Town of Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:
A. Conditional Use Permit request by Kevin T. Carter and Anne M. Carter, Property Owners, and Tow 360 LLC, Applicant, to allow a towing service on approximately 4.396 acres located at 492 Kiwanis Lane SE and further identified as Tax Parcel 528 -(A)- 73 (Parcel ID 014664), in the General Industrial (I-2) zoning district. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.. Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comments in person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the applications, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact the Planning Department, at (540) 382-6128, ext. 1902 or by email at planning@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia that a public hearing is scheduled for Monday, October 26, 2026 at 7:15 p.m. or as soon thereafter at the Montgomery County Government Center, 2nd Floor Multipurpose Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia to receive public comment on a proposed Ordinance Designating a 2025 Ford Econoline Van used as a mobile vet clinic owned by the Humane Society of the New River Valley exempt from Taxation. A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the County Administrator and is available for public inspection or copying.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Angela M. Hill
County Administrator

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia that a public hearing is scheduled for Monday, October 26, 2026 at 7:15 p.m. or as soon thereafter at the Montgomery County Government Center, 2nd Floor Multipurpose Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia to receive public comment on a proposed Ordinance Designating Certain Real Estate Leased by Hacksburg from the Virginia Tech Foundation at the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, 1872 Pratt Drive, Suite 1500 Designated as Tax Map 316-2-8, Parcel ID 250265 in the Town of Blacksburg, Prices Fork Magisterial District in the County of Montgomery Virginia exempt From Taxation.

A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the County Administrator and is available for public inspection or copying.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Angela M. Hill
County Administrator

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 1449 LAKERIDGE CIRCLE, TROUTVILLE, VA 24175.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated January 4, 2006, in the original principal amount of \$175,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 060000421. 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 November 2, 2026, at 2:45 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH ALL THE APPURTENANCES THEREUNTO BELONGING LYING AND BEING THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, STATE OF VIRGINIA, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO WIT: BEING LOT 17, BLOCK 5, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OF RAINBOW FOREST, PROPERTY OF, BOTETOURT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, MADE BY C.B. MALCOLM AND SON, S.C.E.'S, DATED AUGUST 15, 1960 OF RECORD IN TILE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 102. 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.aldridgepite.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. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Virginia Pre-Sale Department of counsel for Equity Trustees, LLC at 301-961-6555, website: www.aldridgepite.com. VA-372477-1.

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,-317,20-104 Case No.CL26001794-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIASNBURG, VA 24073 CARMEL JACINTA CULLOP v. AARON CHANCE LYALL

The object of this suit is to: ANNULMENT It is ORDERED that AARON CHANCE LYALL appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before NOVEMBER 20, 2026 @ 9:00 AM. Entered September 17, 2026 Honorable K. Mike Fleenor, Jr. Judge

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission.

At its regular meeting on October 14, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA: Consider the request of Salem Body Shop, LLC, to amend Chapter 66, Signs, of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA, by adding Section 66-106, Comprehensive Sign Plan, pertaining to the establishment of a permit process for comprehensive signage plans for eligible properties. Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia. At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests. THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY: Christopher J. Dorsey Executive Secretary

Legals - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 1796 ARCHWAY ROAD, BLUE RIDGE, VA 24064.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated March 31, 2011, in the original principal amount of \$75,225.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 110001453. 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 December 11, 2026, at 2:45 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: LAND SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT IN THE STATE OF VA. LOT 13, CONTAINING 2.353 ACRES, ACCORDING TO A PLAT SHOWING MOUNTAIN ESTATES, MADE FOR CLARENCE E. LEONARD BY THOMAS W. GUFFEY, CERTIFIED LAND SURVEYOR, DATED JANUARY 17, 1984, OF RECORD IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT BOOK 10, PAGE 214. 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.aldridgepite.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. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Virginia Pre-Sale Department of counsel for Equity Trustees, LLC at 301-961-6555, website: www.aldridgepite.com. 1190-2348B.

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Scouts

from page 2

chain. Make sure wheels, handlebars, and seat are secure.

Tires should be firm, properly inflated according to PSI instructions on the tire sidewall, with no cracks or cuts. The chain should be where it belongs with pedals turning smoothly and nothing damaged or broken. Keep fingers away from a moving chain.

When you squeeze the brake levers, do they stop the wheels?

Top tip: if something moves that shouldn't— stop

and check it. "When in doubt, don't ride it out."

Wee Wheel offers programs in Roanoke for all ability levels with a cycling league and team for ages 2-12. Their goal is "to teach 1,000,000 kids to ride a bike." Programs include Balance Bikes (fundamental skills such as walking, running, gliding, and achieving balance), Learn to Ride (for those ready to pedal independently), Beginner Pedals (still wobbly), Intermediate Pedals (with challenging obstacles such as ramps, skinnies, rock gardens, and root systems),

and Advanced Pedals (expert handling techniques across all conditions). Check out their Facebook page @weewheelroanoke.

Other sponsors of the Bike Rodeo included Cardinal Bicycle, Roanoke Star Cycling, the Virginia Association of First Responders, the Vinton First Aid Crew, and Evangel Four Square.

For more information on Cub Scout Pack 235, contact gleslie76@comcastnet or call 540-467-2870.

~ Vinton Messenger staff report

Lynn Haven

from page 1

playing sports, hunting, and fishing in the Roanoke River. His father was well-known in the community as the wrestling coach at William Byrd for many years in addition to spending 30 years as the technical drawing and woodworking teacher. His mother was the secretary at William Byrd Intermediate School.

He played tennis at Byrd, well enough to earn a tennis scholarship to Carson-Newman College. He earned his bachelor's degree there in 1991, followed by his Master of Divinity in Christian Education from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He says Vinton

and Lynn Haven Baptist "provided such a good foundation for my life, much of it due to the ministry of this church."

In his 35 years of ministry, he has preached on four continents in 13 different countries. He has served four congregations, two as a youth minister. He has spent the past 21 years as pastor at Robinhood Road Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, N.C. And now he has returned home to Vinton. He says he loved his previous church, but "God seemed to put in his heart the need to come back home." The opportunity arose with the resignation of the former

pastor in January 2026. When he heard of the opportunity, Hackworth called Lynn Haven and told them he wanted to come home and serve. "It was like all things came together at the same time; everything fit together in God's timing."

Hackworth says of Lynn Haven, "I am so grateful they sent me out into the world and so happy they brought me back here. I feel very blessed. God gave me this wonderful gift to go out and experience the world. There is something special about coming back to those who gave me my start."

One of his special joys in his new position is being able to visit the elderly who played a role in his upbringing. He visited one of them lately who asked him to read the Bible. He noticed in her Bible a list of names of those she had prayed for over the years and was amazed to see his name on her list from decades ago as someone she kept in her prayers.

Hackworth says, "They made a difference in my life; now I can make a difference in theirs." He says he isn't the only one who has gone out into the world from Lynn Haven Baptist and served the world well, not the only one God has used in mighty ways, who grew up in the Vinton community.

Hackworth says the theme for Lynn Haven's 65th Homecoming comes from a passage in Jeremiah to be "fruitful in all seasons." He says the church has experienced many seasons over the past 65 years— "some beautiful, some challenging, sometimes a drought, but God has always been in the midst, working in the congregation."

He is focused on helping the church write a new chapter which includes authentic worship by lifting the Lord's

name to where it should be, meaningful missions in both the local community, and the world, and "loving whoever walks through the doors."

"We are focused on becoming God's people and whoever wants to come along with us is welcome."

Lynn Haven Baptist will be celebrating Homecoming with a special service on October 11 at 10:30, recognizing past members and leaders, followed by a potluck luncheon. All are welcome to attend. "Bring a friend; bring a dish; help celebrate 65 years of Christ's faithfulness."

The church traditionally meets for Sunday School at 9:30 with worship and Children's Church at 10:30. Youth meet on Sunday evenings. Awana for children takes place on Wednesday nights. The church has reinstituted an adult prayer meeting on Wednesday evenings.

Senior citizens in the community now have their own special group at Lynn Haven— Walkie-Talkies— that meets on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 10 a.m. for exercise and fellowship. The church is getting back to the basics because many are "hungry for more fellowship and interaction during the week."

Hackworth says Lynn Haven has a good ministry team in place with Director of Family Ministries Amanda Lusk, Worship Leader Carolan Deacon, and Office Manager Tera Lasher.

As for his own family aside from the Lynn Haven congregation, Hackworth and his wife, Karla, have been married for 34 years and have three adult children, one a minister, one a professional nanny, and one an HVAC technician.

Lynn Haven Baptist is located at 1501 E. Washington Avenue in Vinton.



VINTON MESSENGER ARCHIVES

Hackworth's first appearance in The Vinton Messenger was as a young baseball player back in the late 1970s.

Cundiff

from page 1

Roanoke County.) Open classroom schools have few walls between classes leading to distractions, preventing children from concentrating and receiving information.

Cundiff, Glen Cove, and the new Roanoke County Career and Technology Center were funded as basically one massive \$130 million project. The CTE is not a renovation, but a building-from-scratch project replacing the Burton Center for Arts and Technology.

Principal Ashley McCallum opened the ribbon-cutting ceremony. She described completion of the renovations as a "milestone in the school's history," transferring from an outdated open concept school to a modern 21st century learning environment.

McCallum, who was once a student at WEC and has now been principal for 10 years, said she felt like she had "come full circle." She noted that with the open classroom model, on rainy days, one class would be having recess with three more teaching at the same time— not a particularly good learning environment.

She praised students and staff for their flexibility and adaptability in the past two years of construction continually

dealing with changes to classroom routines and even locations.

Roanoke County School Superintendent Dr. Jamie Soltis said he did not attend W.E. Cundiff, but he had siblings who did. He thanked Tim Greenway, Vinton's representative on the School Board, for his untiring efforts to complete the project, "working the dream"— which was not easy.

He thanked the Cundiff teachers and staff for their patience and Branch, Skanska, and the Roanoke County Schools Operations and Facilities staff for their expertise and hard work. He also mentioned the hard work and dedication of former Principal Sherry Bryant, who navigated the open concept school for over 20 years.

Former RCPS Superintendent Dr. Ken Nicely, who put Cundiff at the top of the priority list for renovations, thanked the School Board, Board of Supervisors, and others for "making a plan after seeing a problem and working together to make the project happen."

He told the students gathered that "the school is you," not just a building.

Greenway, also a former W.E. Cundiff student, described Roanoke County as "truly

a community" which worked together to meet the needs of students. He thanked former Board of Supervisors Chair Jason Peters for his role in finding a path forward to fund all three projects.

He recognized two past School Board members, Don Butzer and Jason Moretz, for "focusing on how kids can best be served" and treating all parts of the county equitably. He also thanked School Board members Cheryl Facciani, Brent Hudson, and Shelley Clemons for their leadership.

Greenway praised McCallum for her dedication to the school and RCPS. She has survived four different renovations and can often be found in her office into the night "working for students."

He introduced several descendants of W.E. Cundiff for whom the school was named, including Brooklyn Peters, Steve and Billie Sue Musselwhite, Jackie Logan, Spencer Peters, Whitney Peters, Bryan Musselwhite, Stacie Brinkley, Maggie Peters, Leighton Walker, Alison Musselwhite, Spence Peters, Dawson Brinkley, Blaine and Stephanie Mead, and Aiden Brinkley.

The school (originally named Hardy Road



PHOTO COURTESY OF RVTV

The new W.E. Cundiff Elementary School

Elementary for its location) first opened in August 1972 with 732 students and Frank Stone as principal. Stone was followed by Jackie Glover until 1988, then Sherry Bryant until 2017, when Ashley McCallum was appointed. In fact, Stone was McCallum's principal when she attended the school.

The School Board

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changed the school's name to W.E. Cundiff in 1989 in honor of William

Cundiff, a prominent Vinton businessman.

In conclusion, Greenway thanked

students, staff, and the community for being resilient during the construction/renovation project over two years. Greenway advised students to "always strive to do what is right."



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William Byrd Football

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got a first hand look at the Vikings' 40-21 win at Rustburg as they improved to 4-1 on the season. "They are the most experienced team in our district," said Lutz. "The offensive and defensive lines are big and athletic, their skilled players are very explosive and capable

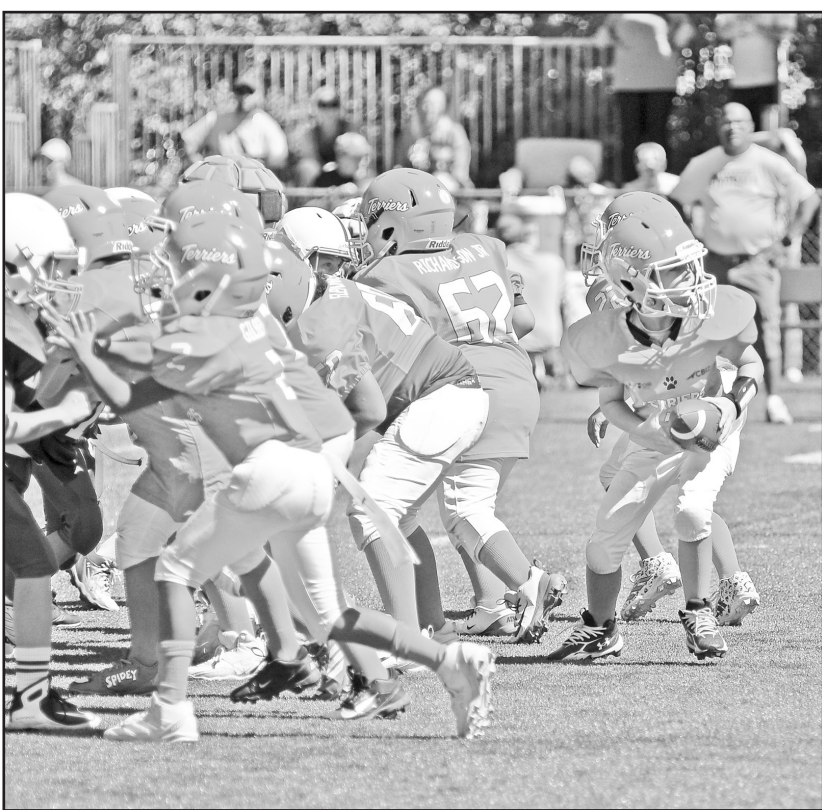
of big plays in all three phases and their team is off to a great start. They're playing with a lot of confidence." Byrd will now play Blue Ridge District opponents for the rest of the regular season. This is also Homecoming, and some coaches aren't fond of preparing for that game with possible distractions during the week. "Our players are students from 8:20 to 3:25," said Lutz. "Our

staff wants them to be a part of Homecoming activities and enjoy that part of being a student, but our team knows that this week is about preparing to play against a very talented Northside team. They are excited about this opportunity, and it is very easy for them to focus on that task alone."



Byrd's Conley Serreno makes the tackle in last week's win at Radford.

PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER



Left, 8U Vinton quarterback Quinn LaPrad looks to hand off with good blocking from the offensive line in a recent game against Salem. Right, Dawson Atrip runs for a good gain for the Terriers.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Sandlot Super Bowl playoffs begin Saturday

Bogle Field, behind Cave Spring Middle School, will be the site for opening round games of the Tri-Counties Sandlot Super Bowl Playoffs this Saturday. The event will include sandlot football teams in three divisions from Roanoke County, Botetourt County, Franklin County and Salem. This Saturday at 9 am the 8U tournament opens with Salem-Kesler against North Roanoke. Three 10U games follow beginning with Vinton against Franklin County at 10:15 am. Salem and Glenvar teams will play at 11:30 am and Botetourt will take on the other Franklin County team at 12:45 pm. The tournament continues on October 17 with 8U games at Bogle Field, 10U games at Franklin County and 12U games at Northside. Semifinals are October 24 and the three Sandlot Super Bowl championship games will be at Salem Stadium on November 7.

Middle School Terriers hammer Read Mountain, wrap up season today

Gabe Griego ran for four touchdowns and Riggins Hill threw for another as the WilliamByrd Middle School football team defeated Read Mountain in Cloverdale last week, 38-14. "Our offensive line turned in their most dominate performance of the season, and I can't say enough good things about that group," said Byrd coach Cody Underwood. "They've worked hard and they are the backbone of this team. We knew we had to have better execution this week, and we accomplished that with a good week of preparation." The Terriers held a high scoring Read Mountain team to just two scores. "Defensively we turned up the physicality and came up huge in key moments," said Underwood. Now 5-1-1, the Terriers will wrap up the season tonight against Staunton River. Kickoff time is 5:30 pm at Highfill Field. "That will be another test for us," said Underwood. "They're well coached and have a good team."



Left, William Byrd Middle School defenders tackle a Read Mountain ballcarrier in last week's win in Cloverdale. Right, Ashby Bernard of the Terriers pick up some yardage against the Stars.



PHOTOS BY JAMIE HILL



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

William Byrd grad Jerrett Shepherd rushed for 166 yards in Roanoke's win over Guilford.

Tigers are big test for unbeaten Maroons, Shepherd runs for 166 yards at Guilford

The Roanoke College football team will get their roganest test of the season to date when the Maroons host Old Dominion Athletic Conference rival Hampden-Sydney this Saturday. Kick-off is set for 4 pm at Salem Stadium. The Maroons are 4-0 after pummeling Guilford in their ODAC opener last weekend. Roanoke sophomore and William Byrd grad Jerrett Shepherd rushed for 166 yards in a 52-24 win at Appenzeller Field in Greensboro, NC. The Maroons have yet to be truly tested this season, but Saturday that will change. Hampden-Sydney is a traditionally strong conference team and the Tigers are off to a 3-1 start, including a 30-14 win over Shenandoah in their ODAC opener in Winchester last week. The Tigers have a solid ground attack. Senior Terry Hicks became only the fourth back in ODAC history to run for over 300 yards in a game when he piled up 317 rushing yards in a win over the University of New England on September 19. The Maroons got a big game from Shepherd against Guilford, as the former Terrier scored three times in the win. The Maroons went up early, scoring on their first drive of the game when reigning ODAC Offensive Player of the Week Linwood

Johnson found KJ Bratton for a 33-yard touchdown. The Quakers countered with a rushing touchdown but didn't convert the extra point. Shepherd put the Maroons up 14-6 with a nine-yard rushing score. A Guilford field goal and touchdown gave the home team a 16-14 lead late in the second quarter before RC's Cole Chizuk caught a 25-yard touchdown pass to put RC back ahead and the Maroons took the 21-16 lead into intermission. Shepherd ran 75 yards to pay dirt on the opening play of the second half, then Ethan Cyr drilled a 45-yard field goal. Johnson completed passes to Grey Deal and Jackson Swanson, and Shepherd ran it in from 18 yards out to complete the scoring as the Maroons scored 31 points in the second half. Shepherd needed just 12 carries for his 166 yards, averaging 13.8 yards per rush. Johnson completed 16-of-26 passes for four touchdowns and Chizuk corralled six passes for 82 yards and one score. The Maroons outgained Guilford 242-50 on the ground. On defense JaePharoah Carpenter made nine tackles and broke up two passes. Landon Altizer and William Byrd grad Brayden Andrews each made nine stops while another former Terrier, Lane Shoemaker, Connor Cox and Briggs Smithson all recorded interceptions.

Hokies fall to Pitt

Right, the sideline makes the call as Virginia Tech's Que'Sean Brown runs for a touchdown in last Friday's game against Pitt at Lane Stadium in Blacksburg. Far right, Jeffrey Overton, Jr. of the Hokies jumps over teammate Ja'Ricous Hairston to pick up yardage. The Hokies lost for the first time in five games when a last second field goal attempt was wide left, resulting in a 35-33 defeat. They'll try to bounce back this week with a 3:30 pm game Saturday at the University of California.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER



SPORTS

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Terriers come from 28-0 down to stun Bobcats

Friday night's game with Northside is Homecoming

Former Washington Redskins coach George Allen used to say, “if you have to get behind, get behind early.” Well, the William Byrd Terriers did just that in their come-from-behind 40-35 win at Radford High’s Norman Lineburg Field last week.

It was an unusual game, beginning with the fact that the game was played on Thursday night due to Virginia Tech being home Friday. Then, the undefeated Terriers fell behind 28-0 the in first quarter on Bobcat TD passes of 48, 17, 62 and 89 yards. The only good thing for Byrd was that they “got behind early.”

“Our players are very invested in William Byrd Football, and that investment makes it very hard to surrender,” said Terrier coach Brad Lutz. “It takes an incredible amount of mental toughness to overcome a four-touchdown deficit, and our coaches, football families, school, and community were extremely proud of how our players handled that circumstance.”

Instead of hanging their heads, the Terriers fought back. Touchdown passes of nine yards from Carter Gray to Stephen Byars and 10 yards from Gray to Davion Wade cut the lead in half, 28-14, by halftime.

“At halftime, our coaches and players went to work and made a few adjustments that paid off,” said Lutz. “Towards the end of the second quarter we started to gain momentum, and that helped us gain the confidence we needed to win the game.”

Standout runningback Gray Matthews put it in another gear in the third quarter, scoring three times on runs of six, six and 49 yards as Byrd battled back to take a 33-28 lead. Gray scored a fourth TD on a two yard run to put the Terriers up two scores in the fourth quarter, 40-28. That was big as Radford ran the kickoff back 70 yards to cut the lead to 40-35 but the Terrier defense held on for a huge win over a previously unbeaten team.

After a slow start Matthews finished with 288 yards rushing on 32 carries with four touchdowns. Gray now has over 1,200 yards rushing at the midpoint of the regular season with 15 rushing TDs.

Carter Gray was 14 for 25 passing against Radford for 128 yards and two scores. Briggs Kotz had four

catches for 29 yards, Matthews had three for 40 and Wade and Byers had two receptions each and both caught a big touchdown pass as Byrd rallied from behind.

On defense Bruce Robinson led the Terriers in tackles with eight. Braedyn Henritze had a big night with seven tackles, including three for losses and two sacks. Mason Hershell had six tackles and a sack, Zane Taylor had two interceptions and Kotz also had a pick.

With the win Byrd improved to 5-0 and completed their non-district season. It was the toughest game so far, and Lutz is hoping it’s a character

builder with the district season starting this Friday at home against Northside.

“We believe that every team has opportunities during the season to build their identity through adversity,” said Lutz. “It is extremely hard to fall behind four touchdowns and win. Our team learned more about themselves in that adverse situation than any other game this season. While that is over and behind us, I do believe that experience has prepared us for another opportunity later in the season.”

Since Byrd played Friday Lutz and his staff was able to scout Northside’s game on Friday night. They

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PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER

William Byrd's Caden McReynolds pressures the Radford quarterback in last Thursday's win.

Girls are 4-1 in Blue Ridge matches, at Northside tonight

The William Byrd girls are playing their best volleyball of the season as they head into the meat of the Blue Ridge District schedule. The Terriers have found some late-season momentum, earning back-to-back victories over Franklin County and Staunton River in the past week.

Last Thursday the Terriers hosted Franklin County for “Cancer Awareness Night” and defeated the Class 5 Eagles in four sets. The team raised \$2,000 from for an organization of the team’s choice with support from a local company matching what was donated.

Heidi Dixon turned in an all-around performance with seven kills, four blocks, six digs and an ace while Emma Olivit added six kills, three blocks, two digs and a pair of aces. Haleigh White contributed four kills, eight digs, two aces and a block and Ellie Ruble helped anchor the back row with 10 digs. Maggie Zimmerman directed the Terrier offense with 20 assists, two aces and a kill.

The Terriers carried that momentum

into Tuesday night and elevated their play even further, sweeping Staunton River in three sets and moving to 4-1 in Blue Ridge District play. William Byrd’s offense was particularly effective in the sweep, led by White’s 12 kills, four digs and three aces. Olivit finished with 11 kills, two digs and a block while Dixon delivered another strong performance with eight kills, nine digs and three aces. Catalina Patterson orchestrated the offense with 26 assists while adding two kills and Ruble once again provided consistency defensively with eight digs.

“These last two matches represent another step forward for our team,” said Byrd coach Kris McCoy. “We have challenged this group all season to compete for every point, respond to adversity and trust the people beside them. Against Franklin County, we had to battle and find a way to finish. Against Staunton River the challenge was different, take the momentum we had created and play with consistency from beginning to end. Although it may not have been our cleanest or best

play so far, I thought we did that.”

The consecutive victories also showcased the increasing balance of a Terrier lineup receiving contributions throughout the rotation.

“We are at our best when it isn’t about one player,” said McCoy. “Regardless of which six are on the floor, our standard and level of play cannot change. Every player who earned a place on this varsity team was chosen for a reason, and every one of them has an opportunity to contribute. Being ‘Six Strong’ means understanding your role, embracing it and being ready to deliver when your number is called.”

For McCoy, the most encouraging development goes beyond two victories in the win column. He’s seeing consistent improvement.

“I’ve told them from the beginning that we aren’t chasing perfection, we’re chasing growth,” he said. “This team has been tested, we’ve had difficult moments, and we’ve learned from them. What matters now is who we are becoming because of those experiences.

Winning two in a row feels good, but our focus is on continuing to become the team we believe we can be when it matters most.”

The two wins lifted the Terriers to 7-8 overall and they’ll try to get to .500 tonight at Northside. Next Tuesday Byrd is at William Fleming and a week from tonight they host Lord Botetourt, the only district team to beat them so far.

The last time Byrd played the Cavaliers, at Lord Botetourt on September 29, the two teams raised over \$10,000 for Botetourt’s “Spike Out Kids Cancer” night. It was a special event for the two schools involved, who both lost fellow students to cancer in the past year. Dalton Close was taken by the disease from his friends at LB and the William Byrd student body suffered a similar fate when Cam Thepsimuong succumbed after a valiant battle. The money raised was donated to LifeRing in the name of Dalton and Cam, and counting Byrd’s cancer night over \$12,000 was raised to fight the deadly disease.



Left, Byrd's Emma Olivit goes up for a spike. Above, Terriers celebrate a hard earned point.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN