



THE LINK

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM SINKLER SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

Salem School Board member **William Sinkler** grew up dirt poor in the tiny town of Eutawville, South Carolina, so you'll have the pardon the usually eloquent one if he was at a loss for words when the Virginia General Assembly recognized him earlier this year.

"I was deeply touched by this, and it really was a total shock to me," says Mr. Sinkler.

Mr. Sinkler was commended for his lifelong dedication to educating young people in Roanoke, Lynchburg and Salem. Each of the area's five state legislators put their name to House Joint Resolution #25 that was initiated by Roanoke Delegate Onzlee Ware.

"I have known Bill for more than 20 years and he is a

very quiet and humble man who gets things done without raising his voice or show-boating," says Ware. "He just exemplifies the highest marks of honesty integrity."

Mr. Sinkler is one of those rare educators who has the ability to convey both knowledge and compassion to those he comes in contact with on a personal basis. You don't just hear the passion for young people in Bill Sinkler's voice, rather you feel it.

Salem School Division Superintendent Alan Seibert was at an early stage in his teaching career at Salem High School when he first came in contact with Mr. Sinkler. He dropped by the classroom one day to observe as part of his school board duties, and Seibert

remembers being struck by the way he carried himself.



"What I remember most vividly is that he was the epitome of a Southern gentleman," says Seibert. "I have since observed that his former students still revere him and visit him to this day."

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SALEM CITY SCHOOL'S RETIREES FOR 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR

Congratulations goes to the following faculty and staff who are retiring at the end of this year. We wish you a wonderful retirement.

SALEM HIGH SCHOOL

Laura Bolton
Jean Lineberry
Joe Wallace

ANDREW LEWIS

Sheila Harrison
Camellia Thompson

EAST SALEM

Sandra Bradford
Mary Hughes
Elaine Ingram
Kathy Smith

G.W. CARVER

Towana Washington

WEST SALEM

Mary Hollar
Shirley Shuler

TRANSPORTATION

Norma Bales
Betty Gillenwater
Betty Farmer

Mr. Sinkler, continued from page 1

“You have to like people and be willing to share with them and encourage a change in young people, so they can become the best that they can be,” says Mr. Sinkler. “When people feel special they will not disappoint you.”

Mr. Sinkler knows all about handing disappointment. His father died when he was just two years old leaving him in a small home with three sisters, two brothers and a loving, yet no-nonsense mother. “We worked hard and my mother did not tolerate foolishness,” he says. “She shared information with us about what she would like to be done, and we did it.”

Momma kept him straight, but it was another lady, a librarian named Miss Obertha Lisbon who set his illustrious career as an educator in motion. She hand-picked William and five other students and then made them her special projects, requiring them to read a classic literary work every week. They would get their books on a Friday afternoon and have until the following Wednesday to get them read.

“She would purchase lunch for all of us and then we would meet in the library and discuss the good and bad points of the books each Wednesday afternoon,” he says.

But she did so much more than buy a few sandwiches and books for the kids. She also took it upon herself to call a number

of colleges in South Carolina to let them know that she had some mighty dedicated students who sure could use some scholarship money.

Her persistence paid off handsomely when William, his mother and Miss Lisbon were invited to the President’s home at Morris College in Sumter, South Carolina. After making the 50 mile trek from Eutawville, they had barely exchanged greetings when Sinkler was given a scholarship and a job working in the chemistry lab of the private institution.

Four years later, in 1960, he graduated Cum Laude from Morris with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and a minor in chemistry. He later went on to study at Virginia State before earning his Master’s in Education from the University of Virginia.

For 40 years he shaped and molded hundreds of children as either a teacher, assistant principal or principal doing the majority of his work in the Roanoke City school system. He taught during segregation and kept the peace in the halls after integration, all the while doing his best to be a calming inspiration to his students.

“I felt as though I had something to offer young people and I got a lot of satisfaction myself out of working with the students and seeing them become successful,” he says.

At the age of 71, Mr. Sinkler continues help students in Salem where he has been

a vital member of the city’s school board since 1993.

“He is a fantastic member of our School Board team,” says Seibert. ‘He brings a wealth of experience and perspective to the Board from his experience as a teacher and an administrator, and his perspective is always student centered. It’s about what’s best for the children and how to touch their lives, as well as holding them to very high standards of rigor and achievement.”

Mr. Sinkler and his wife Marzetta have been married for 44 years. They have two grown sons, William and Wayne, who live outside of the area. William resides in Fredericksburg while Wayne makes his home in Sweden. Fortunately, for the Salem community, Bill and Marzetta have kept their roots local, electing to serve their church family at Shiloh Baptist and their fellow citizens and neighbors throughout the city.

“The students have said to me on several occasions that they are pleased that I’m on the school board because they feel comfortable talking to me, and that comfort level makes it all worthwhile,” he says.

Miss. Lisbon would be so proud.

**Mike Stevens,
Communication Director**

DID YOU KNOW/.....

Patrick Rowe, son of **Linda Rowe** (SS), graduated from Hampden-Sydney College on Sunday, May 10th with a Bachelors in History.

Owen Marshall, son of **Darlene Marshall** (SS), will graduate from Salem High School and will attend Lynchburg College. Owen served as President of the Senior Class.

Elizabeth Bowles (SS) received her Masters from Hollins University on May 17,

2009. Her thesis project for her Masters was a historical writing that documented the history of South Salem School. The title was “South Salem: Coming Full Circle”

Will Fisher, son of **Judy Fisher** (SS), is graduating from Salem High School. He will attend Roanoke



Congratulations to our graduates!!!

College in the fall.

William Jeffrey Collier, son of **Carol Collier** (SS), graduated from William and Mary on May 17, 2009 with a Bachelors in 2-D Art.

Nathan Cox, son of **Jori Cox** (SS) and **Mike Cox** (ALMS),

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DID YOU KNOW.....Continued

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will graduate from Salem High School on June 10, 2009.

Steve Flickinger, husband of **Missy Flickinger** (SS), received the Archie League Medal of Safety at a special presentation in Las Vegas, Nevada on March 3, 2009. The award is given to Air Traffic Controllers who have been faced with emergency situations and have shown skill, professionalism, determination and experience. The result of Steve's calm efforts on November 30, 2008, averted a potential disaster in the air. Steve and Missy were given a trip to Las Vegas with other recipients of this award. There is only one award for each region in the United States.

Cameron Flickinger, son of **Missy Flickinger** (SS), will graduate from Salem High School.

Zac Secor, son of **Garry Secor** (ALMS) and **Margie Secor** (SHS), graduated summa cum laude from Virginia Tech on May 15, 2009 with a Bachelor of Architecture degree. He has accepted a position with an architecture firm in Zurich, Switzerland.

Will Secor, son of **Garry Secor** (ALMS) and **Margie Secor** (SHS), received an academic scholarship from the Virginia Tech College of Agricultural and Applied Economics this spring.

A. J. Dowell, son of **Denise Dowell** (GWC), has been working as an intern with the NCAA in Indianapolis since June 2008 on the Division I Men's and Women's Basketball Championship Committees. He was part of the staff planning all of the tournaments during March Madness and the Final Four. Rev. Adrian and Denise were able to attend the Final Four along with his Godmother, Susan Tate and Steve Mullins. A. J. will begin graduate school at West Virginia University at the end of the internship in June. He will pursue a dual master's degree in Sport Management and Business Administration. He has been awarded the WVU College of Physical Activity and Sports Sciences, Jerry P. Wilkins Scholar-

ships for Leaders. The award will cover his tuition for the duration of this two year program.

Candace Dowell, daughter of **Denise Dowell** (GWC), has successfully completed her freshman year at Furman University while competing on the Women's Basketball team. Candace and her teammates traveled to Texas over Thanksgiving to play the University of Texas and Rice University. They also traveled to the University of Kentucky to play. Candace worked hard enough to win a starting position by the end of the season while maintaining her studies in Political Science and Pre-Law.

Jenni Guthrie, daughter of **Debbie Guthrie** (GWC), married Shawn Caraher on May 2, 2009.

Jerry Hall (Transportation), and his wife would like to congratulate their daughter, Tracy Dowdy, who graduated on May 15th from Virginia Western Community College. She received her Associates Degree in Social Science with an education concentration. In the fall she will be attending Hollins University to pursue a BS in Biology with a minor in Chemistry and Studio Art. She would like to continue her studies and receive a PhD. She wants to do research for medicine and cures as well as teach at a university. Her husband, Trey, and their three children, Kyle, Kaileigh and Kerrington continued to be very supportive in her endeavors.

Lakin Michelle Humphrey, granddaughter of **Jerry Hall** (Transportation), will be graduating from Staunton River High School on June 13, 2009. She will be attending Virginia Western in the fall to pursue a general studies education. She would like to transfer to Jefferson College of Health Science to pursue her Physician's Assistant degree.

Jenna Forester, wife of **James Forester** (SHS), is graduating from Jefferson College of Health Sciences with a BSN.

Valerie Gibson, daughter of **Mike Gibson** (SHS), is graduated from James Madison University on May 9th with a Bachelors in Health and Sciences. She will be at-

tending graduate school at Jefferson Medical this coming year, she is working towards her Physical Therapy degree.

Hayley Haynes, daughter of **Mike Gibson**, will be reunited with her husband, Army Captain Matt Haynes for two weeks in June. He has been serving in Iraq. Hayley and her daughter have been living with Mike and his wife, Becky.

Jessica Paxton, daughter of **Hilda** and **Jim Paxton** (SHS), recently completed her Masters of Science degree at the University of Alabama-Huntsville in December. She is currently living in Denver, Colorado and working at the National Center of Atmospheric Research in Boulder. Jessica is engaged to be married to Scott Mackaro from Baltimore on August 1, 2009.

Julie Tucker, daughter of **Chris Tucker** (SHS), graduated from the Veterinarian School at Virginia Tech on May 16th.

Jennifer Entsminger, daughter of **Janie Entsminger**, (retiree) graduated with honors on May 15th from Jefferson College of Health Sciences. Jennifer is a candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing and has accepted a position with Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital in the Cardiac Surgery Intensive Care Unit.

Ricky Pinkerman, son of **Sandy Pinkerman** (SHS), married Phuong Tia Tran on April 4, 2009.

Caleb Guard, son of **Charlene Guard** (WS), was awarded a graduate teaching assistantship at Virginia Tech for the 2009-2010 school year. He will be teaching freshman composition classes while pursuing a Masters in English.

Brooks Willet, son of **Connie Ramsey** (WS), and his wife, Clara, will be volunteering on a medical mission trip to Uganda in July.

Jessica Storey, daughter of **Denise Storey** (WS), graduated in May from Virginia Commonwealth University with a

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DID YOU KNOW.....Continued

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Bachelors of Science degree in Health, Physical Education and Exercise.

Bradley Jewell, son of **Brenda Jewell** (WS), graduated from Bridgewater College with a Bachelors of Science in Business Administration.

Brittany Jewell, daughter of **Brenda Jewell** (WS), will be graduating from Salem High School with honors. She will be attending Lynchburg College studying elementary education. She has received academic scholarships from Lynchburg College worth \$58,000 for four years.

Ryan Jarratt, son of **Sharon Jarratt** (SS), has received a Bachelors of Science degree from the University of Oklahoma's College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences. He is now employed by Chesapeake Energy in Oklahoma City, OK.

Alison Cole, daughter of **Lee Cole** (ALMS), will be graduating from Salem High School and will be attending James Madison University in the fall.

Rebekah Corey Gallion, daughter of **Greg Gallion** (ALMS), graduated from Roanoke College on May 2nd with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology. She will be marrying Jonathan Price on August 1, 2009.

Sherri Shupe (ALMS) will visit Cairo and Alexandria, Egypt for two weeks this summer. She and her husband, Bob, will be going with their daughter, Stephanie and her husband, Khaled, to visit Khaled's parents who live in Alexandria.

Lee Hodges (ALMS) and **James Forster** (ALMS), will be traveling to China on a Fulbright-Hays scholarship. They will be leaving June 28th and will be spending time in Beijing, Xian, and Chengdu. This will be an amazing experience that will enhance their knowledge of China and will be able to bring all the information to their students this fall. They will be returning to the states on July 26th.

Kendall Atkins, daughter of **Kathy and Scott Atkins** (ALMS), graduated Magna

Cum Laude from Virginia Tech on May 16th with a degree in Communication.

Kelsey Atkins, daughter of **Kathy and Scott Atkins** (ALMS), will graduate from Salem High School and will attend Virginia Tech this fall.

Christina Budd, daughter of **Sally Budd** (ALMS), traveled to Belgium, France, and Switzerland over spring break. The Trip was chaperoned by Mrs. Danyel Barnes, teacher at Salem High School.

Amy McLaren, daughter of **Lyle McLaren** (ALMS), graduated from the College of Charleston on May 8th. Her degree specialized in Southern American History and European Nationalism. Amy was awarded the Graduate School's Award and presented research at Virginia Tech's Brian Bertoti Graduate Conference this past March. After graduation, Amy will complete an internship with the South Carolina Historical Society and continue research in the publishing field at Corinthian Books, located in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. She is also co-founder and vice president of the Low-country Alpha Phi Alumnae Chapter.

Katie McLaren, daughter of **Lyle McLaren** (ALMS), currently at Emory and Henry College, was inducted into Alpha Phi Omega, a national service fraternity. She was selected for membership into two national honor societies: Pi Gamma Mu (History Honor Fraternity) and Cardinal Key (Leadership and Scholarship Society for Women). Katie was also chosen by the college to represent Emory & Henry in the Who's Who Among American College and University Students.

.....BABY NEWS.....

Congratulations goes to **Bonnie Giarla** (SS) for the birth of her granddaughter, Catherine Mae Giarla McKenzie, born on April 2, 2009.

Congratulations goes to **Jenny Kidd** (SS)

for the birth of her granddaughter, Naomi Evelyn Kidd, born on May 13, 2009.

Congratulations goes to **Regina Norman** (WS) for the birth of her nephew, Owen Randall Sexton, born on February 9, 2009.

Congratulations goes to **Connie Ramsey** (WS) for the birth of her granddaughter, Amelia Grace Riley, born on March 9, 2009.

Congratulations goes to **Marcie Atkins** (WS) for the birth of her son, Ian Odell Atkins, born on April 30, 2009.

Congratulations goes to **Amanda Gibson**, on the birth of her twin daughters, Katherine Anne and Macy Elizabeth Gibson, born on March 8, 2009.

Congratulations goes to **Cammie Smith** (SHS) for the birth of her daughter, Avery McKenna, born on March 31, 2009.

Congratulations goes to **Mark Ingerson** (SHS) for the birth of his son, Levi Owen Abbott Ingerson, born on May 4, 2009.

Congratulations goes to **Susan Price** (SHS) for the birth of her daughter, Parker Delaney, born on May 2, 2009.

Congratulations goes to **Jennifer Shannon** (SHS) for the birth of her son, Tyler Richard, born on April 19, 2009.

Congratulations goes to **Beth Pettrey** (Central) on the birth of her grandson, Nathan Matthew Pettrey, born on March 25, 2009.

Congratulations goes to **Barbara Gresham** (Central) on the birth of her granddaughter, Karlyle Jean Gresham, born on April 23, 2009.

OUR CONDOLENCES

Our sincere sympathy goes to: Debbie Taylor (ALMS) for the loss of her mother; **Jennifer Shannon** (SHS) for the loss of her grandfather.



Arbor Day at East Salem Elementary School



Dr. Seibert, Mike Crew, and David Preston talking with students at the April work session



Career Day at Andrew Lewis Middle School

Salem High School Anatomy teacher and athletic trainer, Chris Tucker competed in this year's Boston Marathon. Chris, who is 53 years old, ran the 26 mile long marathon in a time of 3 hours, 35 minutes and 58 seconds. His personal best time was good enough to automatically qualify him for next year's marathon.



West Salem Student and family member helping Yokohoma plant 2000 seedlings for the "Forever Forest Project on April 4th.



Chris Tucker, Salem High School

**CENTRAL OFFICE
STAFF
WISHES YOU A
SUMMER
FULL OF FUN,
REST, AND
EXCITING
TIMES!!!!**

The Coordinators' Corner

HEALTH & P.E. Sandy Hill

It seems as though Spring has finally arrived. Our PE students welcome this arrival as much as anyone, providing opportunities to get outside and enjoy activities. Field Days are on the way, Fitness Testing is actively occurring, Fishing Rodeos abound and the swimming pools will be open soon. At this time of year, rec sports thrive in Salem and everyone seems to get more exercise.

Looking back at our year we have accomplished a great deal including the completion of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, the Safe Routes to School Travel Plan and the School Health Advisory Board's review of our PE curriculum. Thanks to all involved. Many of us will be off to workshops over the Summer to bring new ideas back for our staff and students.

We would also like to mention what a different year it must have been as we had a few HPE teachers in

students. Learning to work with a different age group can be both fun and challenging. In closing, I would like to thank the school system for creating a budget for Staff Wellness. I believe we are off to a good start and I am looking forward to next year's work in the area of Staff Wellness.



HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCE Terry LaRocco

New SOLs have been developed in Social Studies, therefore, we need to revise our curriculum for 2009-2010. Teachers who wish to work on this project will work with grade level colleagues to revise current curriculum using the new SOL standards. We will begin the process June 22 and complete all work by June 26, 2009.

Those willing to work on this project will earn \$17.00 per hour. There will be opportunities to work both independently and cooperatively. All materials will be provided. We would like to have representatives from each school working on this assignment. Please contact Terry

LaRocco if you are interested in working on this assignment.

Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities

The Tusculum Institute (www.tusculum.sbc.edu) at Sweet Briar College will host a one day workshop for K-12 educators titled Teaching With Historic Places on June 13, 2009. The sessions will feature a hands-on approach to interpreting historic architecture and provide a field methods guide to interpreting historic places in your neighborhood. Guest speakers will include Carol Shull and Beth Boland of the National Park Service and Dr. Charles White of Boston University. Teachers will receive SOL-based lesson plans and a \$75

Teaching and Learning with Digital Primary Sources / June 22-23, 2009

A Conference for Virginia's K-12 Social Studies Educators that will explore and demonstrate how teachers can find and use the Library of Congress and the Library of Virginia's Digitized Primary Sources to enhance social studies instruction thorough interactive presentations and hand-on activities. Educators will learn strategies for finding and using digitized materials to invigorate social studies inquiry in the classroom. Attendees will receive a certificate of completion. The Keynote Speaker will be Dr. Edward L. Ayers, "Making the Past Present: Using Digital Primary Sources in the Classroom. The cost is \$25 per person. Contact Terry LaRocco for

LANGUAGE ARTS John Bolte

Thanks again to everyone for making the Writing Predictor process go smoothly once again this year. We still have important work to do as we will score this valuable diagnostic tool in August. Please visit the Language Arts resource page for more information on the schedule for scoring the writing samples.

The revision of the Language Arts

and you may comment on proposed changes through the Fall. The new standards will be presented to the State Board of Education in January and then development of the curriculum framework and testing blueprint will begin. We can expect more vertical alignment in the research strand and more emphasis on vocabulary.

The Virginia Association of Teacher of English will hold their annual Fall conference in Colonial Williamsburg during Halloween

candle-lit tour and a visit to an archaeological dig. To see the details of Language Arts resources, opportunities, and staff development, please visit the Language Arts resource page, which is now linked to a Moodle page that will allow us to discuss issues of Language Arts pedagogy across the division. We can also use this forum to recommend books and teaching ideas.

Thanks for inviting me into your classroom both as an observer and as a participant. Have a great

MATHEMATICS

Beth Swain

Now that SOL testing is behind us, it's a good time to experiment with new things. I would encourage everyone to try something mathematically engaging, yet out of your routine before the year is over. Do something that you always wanted to try but never had the time — perhaps a group project or problem of the week. You might even try to incorporate other subjects such as art, science, writing, etc. Explore, play, learn but most of all have fun with your students and with math! If I can be of any assistance, please let me know.

With new K-12 mathematics SOLs approved, we will begin looking at

should have a crosswalk document soon outlining the changes and the new curriculum framework will be out in the fall. I would encourage you to begin looking at the new SOLs so that you will be familiar with them when they are implemented in the fall of 2010. If you have questions about the SOL changes or the process of implementation, please contact me.

The K-12 Vertical Math Team has worked hard this year to develop a list of essential skills and vocabulary that are correlated to the new mathematics SOLs. I would like to thank all the members for all their hard work. I think we have a great start on developing a cohesive mathematics curriculum for Salem City Schools.

Mark your calendars for October 5th. The BRCTM Fall Conference will be held at Botetourt High School. Keep an eye on the conference details at <http://salem.k12.va.us/staff/ksimms/webpages/BRCTMhome.htm>. We are always in need of presenters — please consider this opportunity.

Continued thanks for all your support! I have enjoyed the classes I have visited this year and I look forward to being even more involved next year. Have a great end of the



SCIENCE

Margie Secor

Please be sure to check the Science Resources link on the Salem City Schools website for various professional development opportunities available throughout the summer.

Some examples include the Agriculture in the Classroom workshops and volunteering opportunities at the Science Museum. As always, be sure to get prior approval before attending a workshop or conference so as to receive the proper credit and/or reimbursement.

Enjoy the summer break from school. Relax and recharge your batteries!

SPECIAL EDUCATION

**Kristyn Shepherd
Maxine Casey**

On April 23rd, Maxine presented an in-service on the Secondary Transition Process. This in-service was for secondary teachers that are responsible for addressing transition planning for students at Andrew Lewis Middle and Salem High School. The teachers discussed the purpose and importance of goals for preparing students for Post-Secondary transition and how those goals

would need to be addressed in the student's IEP to meet the state performance indicators. Transition is a very important part of the secondary IEP process.

On April 30th, Kristyn and Maxine presented a one hour workshop on Instruction Strategies for Instructional Assistants. The workshop was the result of the co-teaching survey that instructional assistants in special education completed in February. We decided to include all instructional assistances who work

ended up with over 50 participants. The IAs were provided a brief overview of the different co-teaching models, as well as general instructional strategies to help all students. They also worked together in teams to brainstorm strategies for helping the students, based on scenarios provided. The ideas and strategies showcased the knowledge and dedication of our instructional assistants.

