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Work underway for Hedgerow art installation at Selu Conservancy



Jason Rutledge of Ridgewood Suffolk Farm leads his two Suffolk Punch mares in pulling locust logs at Selu to be used in a large scale art installation.

Heather Bell hbell@ourvalley.org

RADFORD - Two rare Suffolk Punch horses are helping to make an art installation a reality at Selu Conservancy, moving heavy logs artist Charlie Brouwer will use to create a large scale piece at the site.

Monday, Jason Rut-ledge of Ridgewood Suffolk Farm and his two Suffolk Punch mares 'pulled locust tree logs from John Bowles' property at Selu to the site where 'Hedgerow' will be constructed by artist and RU Professor Emer-

itus - Charlie Brouwer," said Dr. Steve Arbury, Radford University Professor of Art History and Director of the RU Art Museum.

"It all went well this Monday and next Monday promises to be another day of excellent sunny weather," he said.

"Hedgerow" is part

of Radford University's "Leaves of the Tree" ex-

"In the autumn of 2020, an ongoing series of tree-related art exhibitions and activities were launched at Radford University Art Museum and Selu Conservancy," reads a description of the exhibit by RU. "These include two simultaneous exhibitions: 'Leaves of the Tree' celebrating the art of Charlie Brouwer and Jennifer Hand; and a juried exhibition, titled 'More Leaves of the Tree' featuring a selection of works by 75 regional artists accomplished in various media."

Brouwer's creation of a "Hedgerow" is part of that effort. According to RU's description, the sculpture "will be made of dead locust trees gathered at Selu and locust lumber cut at local saw-

mills. The hedgerow will be up to 35-feet high by 100-feet long and eightfeet deep. Playing with the idea that all manner of things collect in hedgerows, this one will be filled with cut-out shapes of things associated with Selu such as leaves, animals, flowers, and stars. Over time, vegetation will naturally grow up in "Hedgerow" and fill it until it becomes a line of different types of bushes and small trees growing very close together, especially between fields or along the side of roads in the countryside."



Easter survey:

78 percent of Americans eat chocolate bunnies' ears first; one chocolate bunny sells for \$49,000

In its annual Easter survey, the personal-finance website WalletHub found that 78% of Americans claim they eat the ears off chocolate bunnies first and that the world's most expensive chocolate Easter bunny sells for \$49,000.

Other information garnered from the survey revealed that COVID-19's impact on Easter has waned in that 91 million Easter observers reported their spending plans were affected by the pandemic this year, which is 47% less than the number impacted last year.

WalletHub's survey also revealed that \$21.6 billion or \$180 per person celebrating will be spent on Easter this year, that \$3 illion is projected to be spent on Easter candy this year and that 60 percent of parents plan on sending Easter baskets to their children even after they have moved out.

Other information related to Easter and faith garnered by the website includes the following statistics: 76 million Americans say they would donate part of the upcoming stimulus check to a religious organization. Religion is a

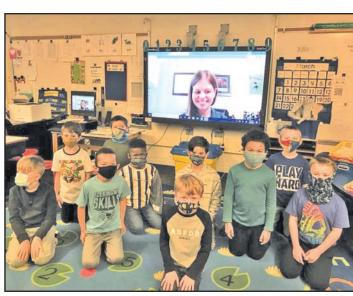
See Survey, page 5



For Christians, simple Easter displays such as this one at St. Paul UMC symbolize a set of complex, seemingly contradictory beliefs. The color of royalty, purple symbolizes Jesus's role as the creator and king of everything that exists. The cross symbolizes Jesus's scandalous death by crucifixion. Jesus's Easter resurrection then transformed the cross into the ultimate symbol of hope. Thus, this display stands as a symbol of Christians' tensional belief in Jesus as both wholly God and wholly man.

first graders virtually





First graders at McHarg Elementary School recently had a virtual visit by NASA Engineer Dr. Tracie Prater from the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center. The visit ended the first graders' two-week study of space with this virtual field trip. First-grader Abe Waff said he learned from the visit, "Animals have been sent to space. Even the moon. Tardigrades are the only animals that can live in space." The first-grade teachers and students look forward to more such virtual field trips in the future.

NASA engineer visits McHarg

Text 911 is now available in Radford

RADFORD - A new service now available in Radford allows people who may not be able to call 911 to text instead.

The service "will allow citizens who are deaf, hard of hearing or those who are unable to speak or that may be in a situation where it is unsafe for them to speak, a way to contact 911 to request emergency services from police, fire or emergency medical services," according to an announcement from the Radford City Police Department.

The most important thing to know is that texting provides very limited location information, so the location and type of emergency needs to be sent in the first text to 911 telecommunicators," the announcement concludes.

Call if You Can, Text if you Can't! Text-to-911 is now available in Radford City If you need help, but can't safely speak or are hearing impaired and do not has access to TTY, use your mobile phone to send a text message to 911.

Despite Easter eggs and Easter bunnies, Easter Sunday is the holiest day of the year for Christians

Easter is a Christian holiday that celebrates the belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In the New Testament of the Bible, the event is said to have occurred three days after Jesus was crucified by the Romans and died in roughly 30 A.D. The holiday concludes the "Passion of Christ," a series of events and holidays that begins with Lent—a 40-day period of fasting, prayer and sacrifice—and ends with Holy Week, which

includes Holy Thursday (the celebration of Jesus' Last Supper with his 12 Apostles, also known as "Maundy Thursday"), Good Friday (on which Iesus' crucifixion is observed) and Easter Sunday. Although a holiday of high religious significance in the Christian faith, many traditions associated with Easter date back to pre-Christian, pagan times.

How is the date for

See **Easter**, page 3

Saturday, April 3:

Caturday Storytime

Montgomery Floyd Regional Library online at 11 a.m. Share in reading to Creature the cat. Creature was adopted from the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center two years ago by one of the staff members and loves to lay around and read. Email shodges@mfrl.org for info on this Go-To Meeting and to sign up.

Teen Dungeons and Dragons

Montgomery Floyd Regional Library online from 2 - 4 p.m. DnD is now virtual on Discord. Library staff suggest downloading Discord for ease of access, but this is not required. To join the Discord server, contact shodges@mfrl.org for more info. Ages 11 years and up.

Thursday, April 8:

Virtual Author Talk with Ron Peterson, Jr.

Join the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library as bestselling author Ron Peterson, Jr. discusses his new novel, "Chasing the Squirrel: The Pursuit of Notorious Drug Smuggler Wally Thrasher."

Ron will be joining MFRL virtually on Thursday, April 8, at 7 p.m. along with Wally Thrasher's son, Montana Thrasher. "Chasing the Squirrel" is the true story of Pulaski native Wally Thrasher, whose investigation led to the biggest drug bust in Mid-Atlantic United States history in 1986.

Monday, April 12:

Radford Public Schools Special Education Advisory Committee meeting

A Radford City Public Schools Special Education Advisory Committee meeting will be held at 5 p.m. The meeting will be a Google meet virtual meeting. The public is invited to attend. To be invited to the meeting, contact Josh Brown, Chairperson, at 267-3083, or Daniel Hill, Director of Special Education, at 267-3223, to be invited with a virtual meeting link.

Tuesday, April 13:

Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart-Horse-Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant at 3204 Riner Road. Jonathan McPeak will give a talk on the "History of the Virginia 45th Infantry Regiment." Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy are invited to attend. For further information, call 320-4315 or 239-9864.

Wednesday, April 14:

Radford Chamber of Commerce Business over Breakfast

The Radford Chamber of Commerce presents "Business over Breakfast" from 8:00 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. at Sweet & Savory Donuts and Bagels, 1026A Clement St., Radford. Guest speaker is Elijah Sharp with the NRV Regional Commission, who will present information about the new E. Main Downtown Plan and how everyone can get involved.

Please bring a face mask to this event to abide by current COVID-19 state regulations.

Wednesday, April 14, April 28, May 12, May 26:

Hahn Horticulture Garden Virtual Road Trip

The second stop of the five-stop Zoom tour of gardens and arboretums at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center with Tanya Zastrow will take place April 14 at 2 p.m. Register online for these talks and a zoom link will be provided: https://virginiatech.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cumxR44Mec96guy.

The third stop will be on April 28 at 3:30 p.m. and will feature the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden with VT alumnus Brian Trader. Then comes a visit on May 12 at 2 p.m. to the Wisconsin Arboretum with VT alumnus David Stevens. The tour ends on May 26 at 2 p.m. at Lotusland with Paul Mills and Rebecca

Anderson.

Through Thursday, April 15:

ARTGAWK Exhibition

"ARTGAWK: Selections from the Radford University Permanent Collection" is an exhibition of 111 works that range widely in media, artistic styles, and historical periods. The hours of the exhibition are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Saturday from noon until 4 p.m.at the Art Museum at the Covington Center.

Through Friday, April 16:

Young Chef Ingredient Challenge

Through Friday, April 16, all day at the Montgomery Floyd Regional Library online. Young chefs have the chance to challenge their creativity by making a meal with carrots, lemon, honey, and potatoes. They can add more ingredients to their recipe(s), but the meal must include all the ingredients listed.

Please submit a photo and recipes by April 16. Email shodges@mfrl.org for further questions and for submission.

Saturday, April 17:

Teen Dungeons and Dragons

Online from the Montgomery Floyd Regional Library from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Thursday Through Saturday April 22, 23, 24:

2021 Spring Plant Sale Pickup Days

The 2021 spring plant sale, a joint fundraising event between the Hahn Horticulture Garden and the VT Horticulture Club, is online this year due to COVID limitations on gatherings. The sale site link is http://springplant-

saleatvt.company.site.

Quantities are limited, so early ordering is suggested.

Tuesday, April 27:

Book Discussion and Meet the Author, Ron Peterson, Jr., at Radford Library

The Radford Public Library hosts Ron Peterson Jr. for a Meet the Author/Book Discussion session via Zoom at 6:30 p.m. He'll be discussing another person of local interest in his new book, "Chasing the Squirrel: The Pursuit of Notorious Drug Smuggler Wally Thrasher." Wally Thrasher, who was recently profiled on "America's Most Wanted" as US Marshals chased leads in his pursuit, grew up in Pulaski County.

Through Saturday, April 24:

"Unbearable Beauty" Exhibit at Moss Arts Center
The exhibit is open each Wednes-

The exhibit is open each Wednesday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. through Saturday, April 24. The exhibit is a demonstration of the devastation human activity has wreaked on the environment. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

Throughout April:

Grab and Go Crafts
All the month of Apr

All the month of April, at the Meadowbrook Public Library. Call the library to request Take and Make Craft Kits. Available for grab-and-go with curbside pickup. The kits are free but supplies are limited.

StoryWalk

All the month of April, at the Christiansburg Library. Exercise your brain and body as you read and walk the trail. Begin at the library at the College Street entrance of Downtown Park. This month's book is "Move!"

Blacksburg spring cleanup begins Monday

The Town of Blacksburg's spring cleanup begins Monday in the town's northwest quadrant.

The cleanup will then continue the week of April 12 in the southwest quadrant, the week of April 19 in the southeast quadrant and the week of April 26 in the northeast quadrant.

The spring cleanup is a curbside collection for debris and brush. The service is provided to Town of Blacksburg recycling and refuse customers and is not intended for the collection of waste from major construction and/or demolition debris.

For the curbside materials to be picked up, they must be separated into distinct piles of brush, metal appliances, tires, and other debris. The brush must be no longer than seven feet and no greater than six inches in diameter. Metal appliances must have any airtignt doors removed. Tires must be removed from the rims and have an inside diameter of 19 inches or less. No more than eight tires per household will be picked up, and no commercial, racing, or farm-use tires will be accepted. Other debris is items such as miscellaneous household

junk and bamboo.

Residents are asked to place items curbside by 7 a.m. on the Monday of their scheduled collection. Brush and yard debris are collected one day, and metal, tires, and other bulky items are picked up on another day during the week. Residents are asked not to place additional items curbside after everything has been collected.

Items intended for cleanup must be accessible from the public right of way. The town will not enter private property, parking lots, or driveways to remove materials. Items placed near mail-

boxes, water meters, fire hydrants, posts, or other obstacles that could be damaged will not be collected. The town is not responsible for damages.

The following items are not acceptable for collection during clean-up:

1. Hazardous waste, household and yard chemicals, and paint. These materials can be taken to events sponsored by the New River Resource Authority that are held several times a year. Latex paint should be dried in its can using kitty litter or sand. Once dry, the entire can should be disposed of in

the trash.

2. Propane tanks. Only small camping types are acceptable, (16.4 oz. net weight or less).

3. Household garbage. Please dispose of household garbage in your trash cart during weekly collection. Additional garbage may be taken to Montgomery County's Consolidated Waste Sites or to the Montgomery Regional are not can sa in with trash. Regional tr

Solid Waste Authority.
4. Tires with an inside diameter of greater than 19 inches. Dispose of larger tires at the Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority.

5. Batteries. Car bat-

teries should be taken to local automotive parts stores for recycling. Alkaline batteries are not hazardous and can safely be thrown in with your household trash. Rechargeable batteries can be recycled at Home Depot and Lowe's

6. Electronics. Residents may recycle electronics free of charge at the YMCA, 1000 North Main St.

7. Fluorescent
Lamps. Home Depot
accepts CFLs for recycling for free.

8. Leaves. Leaves must be bagged for collection during the fall and spring cleanups. Loose leaves are only collected during leaf collection, which begins the end of October.



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NRV MPO SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT FOR BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN PLAN UPDATE

The New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is updating its 2014 Bicycle-Pedestrian Plan as a multimodal



systems plan, which includes transit, bicycle, and pedestrian planning. An overview and an opportunity for public input will be provided. Registration and information about the April 6, 2021 online (virtual) event are found at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nrv-mpo-2021-multimodal-plan-tickets-147016619667. Further information is also on the NRV MPO website: www.montgomerycountyva.gov/mpo

The public can speak or provide written comments during the April 6, 2021 MPO Multimodal (Bicycle and Pedestrian Update) Plan Public Input virtual meeting between 4:00–6:00 PM. Written comments can also be received until 5:00 PM, April 13, 2021.

This public notice and opportunity to comment on the bike/ped plan update meets the program of projects requirements as established by the FTA pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 5307(c).



540-394-2145, TTY/TTD 711.

The NRV MPO ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in

accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Dan Brugh at: brughjd@montgomerycountyva.gov or

Send
community
news and
photos to

community

news@

ourvalley.org

Virginia to implement education program for cardiac arrests

Christiansburg Rescue has become the first agency in Virginia to implement the Resuscitation Quality Improvement (RQI) prehospital healthcare provider program, enrolling 75 providers.

RQI is an innovative resuscitation quality improvement program to advance the prehospital response to cardiac arrest events.

According to the American Heart Association, more than 350,000 outof-hospital cardiac arrests occur in the U.S. annually. About 90% of people who suffer out-of-hospital cardiac arrest

Cardiac arrest victims must receive the highest quality CPR possible, which is known to be the cornerstone for survival. Christiansburg Rescue is taking a significant step to improve outcomes with its implementation of an innovative resuscitation quality improvement program to advance the prehospital response to cardiac arrest events.

RQI is a proven approach for achieving and sustaining verified competence in high-quality CPR. The program is co-developed by the American Heart Association, Laerdal Medical and the Resuscitation Academy Foundation and delivered by RQI Partners.

Christiansburg Rescue is a third-service municipal EMS agency serving the Town of Christiansburg and Montgom-

See Program, page 4

Montgomery recreation sites openings for visitors in Washington and Jefferson National Forests

The George Washington and Jefferson National Forests are opening recreation sites on the Eastern Divide Ranger District in Bland, Botetourt, Craig, Giles, Montgomery, Pulaski, Roanoke, Smyth, Tazewell, and Wythe Counties, and in Virginia and Monroe County, West Virginia, this spring for the 2021 recreation season.

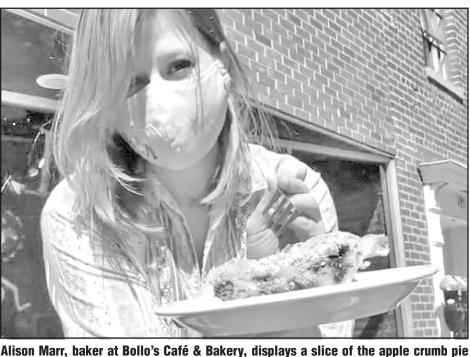
On April 15, the Eastern Divide Ranger District will fully open the following reservable group campgrounds for the 2021 recreation season: Boley Fields, Caldwell Fields, Craig Creek and Steel Bridge. Reservations can be made at recreation.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777.

Then on May 13, the Eastern Divide Ranger District will open The Pines, The White Rocks and the White Cedar campgrounds on a first-come-first-served basis. The White Rocks and White Cedar campgrounds will be opened with reduced services as their water systems are currently not operational. There is the possibility that the water system at the White Cedar campground will be repaired by early summer. The White Rocks Campground's water system will not be available for the 2021 recreation season, and porta-potties will be in place. Note that the Walnut Flats Campground will not be open during the 2021 season due to much-needed construction

Day-use recreation areas across the Eastern Divide Ranger District will be open, though their restrooms will be temporarily closed due to COVID-19 concerns. If local pandemic conditions improve, there is the possibility that restrooms at these day-use areas could open at some point in the 2021

Many recreation areas, including hiking and biking trails, are open year-round. For the most current conditions on the status of recreation sites, contact the Eastern Divide Ranger District at (540)552-4641, visit the district's website www.fs.fed.us/r8/gwj; or follow the district on twitter at https://twitter.com/GWJNF1.

Bollo's apple crumb pie wins YMCA at Virginia Tech's Try Y's Pi



that was taste-tested and judged to be the best in the VT YMCA's Try Pi contest.

Bollo's apple crumb pie was the winning entry in the first annual YMCA at Virginia Tech's Try Y's Pi contest that took place in March in partnership with Our Daily Bread, Next Door Bake Shop, Blacksburg Bagels and Bollo's Cafe & Bakery.

Participants chased tickets for a four-piece pie sampler. Each sampler contained a piece of pie from each of the four bakeries. Blacksburg Bagels provided a S'mores pie, Next Door Bake Shop provided a tomato pie, Our Daily Bread provided a strawberry rhubarb pie, and, of course, Bollo's provided its apple crumb pie.

When the tasting was over, the voting began online through the event site hosted by Eventeny, and Bollo's entry was judged the winner. Everyone who voted was entered into a drawing to win gift cards from the four bakeries.

Proceeds from this event will support the YMCA at VT Meals on Main program feeding children in the New River Valley.

The YMCA at Virginia Tech is currently hosting another new annual event: the Y Spring Expo, which throughcontinues April 25. This vir-

tual event showcases the many and varied programs provided to the community by the YMCA at Virginia Tech and features the childfriendly programs from Virginia Tech, local businesses, and the community.

The Y Spring Expo features themed weeks. April 2 through April 9 is Healthy Life-styles Week. Healthy Kids Week is April 10 through April 17, and Environmental Stewardship Week wraps up the expo from April 18 through April 25.

Shopping with juried artisans in the expo's craft market runs throughout the event.

Easter from page 1

Easter determined? Easter falls on a different date each year.

Easter Sunday and related celebrations, such as Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday, are considered "moveable feasts," although, in western Christianity, which follows the Gregorian calendar, Easter always falls the Christian religions on a Sunday between are built. Hence, Easter March 22 and April 25. is a very significant date Easter typically falls on on the Christian calenthe first Sunday after the dar first full moon occurring on or after the spring equinox.

In Eastern Orthodox Christianity, which adheres to the Julian calendar, Easter falls on a Sunday between April 4 and May 8 each year.

In some denominations of Protestant Christianity, Easter Sunday marks the beginning of Eastertide, or the Easter Season. Eastertide ends on the 50th day after Easter, which is known

as Pentecost Sunday. In Eastern Orthodox branches of Christianity, Easter Sunday serves as the start of the season of Pascha (Greek for "Easter"), which ends 40 days later with the holiday known as the Feast of the he was the living son of Ascension.

able, the sixth-century author of Historia ecclesiastica gentis Anglorum ("Ecclesiastical History of the English People"), maintains that the English word "Easter" comes from Eostre, or Eostrae, the Anglo-Saxon god-dess of spring and fertility. Other historians maintain that "Easter" derives from in albis, a

Latin phrase that's plural for alba, or "dawn," that

became eostarum in Old High German, a precur-

sor to the English lan-

guage of today. Despite its significance as a Christian holy day, many of the traditions and symbols that play a key role in Easter observances actually have roots in pagan cel-

ebrations—particularly

the pagan goddess Eostre-and in the Jewish holiday of Passover.

Religious Tradition of

The resurrection of Jesus, as described in the New Testament of the Bible, is essentially the foundation upon which

According to the New Testament, Jesus was arrested by the Roman authorities, essentially because he claimed to be the "Son of God," although historians question this motive, with some saying that the Romans may have viewed him as a threat to the

empire. He was sentenced to death by Pontius Pilate, the Roman prefect in the province of Judea from 26 to 36 A.D. Jesus' death by crucifixion, marked by the Christian holiday Good Friday (the Friday before Easter), and subsequent resurrection three days later is said, by the authors of the gospels, to prove that God.

In varying ways, all Why Is Easter Called four of the gospels in the New Testament (Mat-St. Bede the Vener- thew, Mark, Luke, and John) state that those who believe in Jesus' death and resurrection are given "the gift of eternal life," meaning that those of faith will

"Kingdom of Heaven" upon their earthly death.

Passover and Easter

Notably, Easter is also associated with the Jewish holiday of Passover, as well as the exodus of the Jews from Egypt, as described in the Old Testament. These links are clearly seen in the Last Supper, which occurred the night before Jesus' arrest and the suff Jesus endured following

his arrest. The Last Supper was essentially a Passover feast. However, the New Testament describes it as being given new significance by Jesus: He identified the matzah (or bread) he shared with his 12 apostles as his "body" and the cup of wine they

drank as his "blood." These rituals would come to symbolize the sacrifice he was about to make in death, and became the basis for the Christian ritual of Holy Communion, which remains a fundamental part of Christian religious services.

As Jesus' arrest and execution were said to have occurred during the Jewish observance of Passover, the Easter holiday is often close to the former celebration on the Judeo-Christian

Easter Eggs

Irrespective of denomination, there are many Easter-time traditions

be welcomed into the with roots that can be traced to non-Christian and even pagan or nonreligious celebrations. Many non-Christians choose to observe these traditions while essentially ignoring the religious aspects of the cel-

ebration. Examples of non-religious Easter traditions include Easter eggs, and related games such as egg rolling and egg dec-It's believed that eggs

represented fertility and birth in certain pagan traditions that pre-date Christianity. Egg decorating may have become part of the Easter celebration in a nod to the religious significance of

Easter, i.e., Jesus' resurrection or rebirth. Many people—mostly children—also participate in Easter egg "hunts," in which deco-

rated eggs are hidden.

Perhaps the most famous

Easter tradition for children is the annual White House Easter Egg Roll, when children roll Easter eggs down Capitol

Easter Bunny

In some households, a character known as the Easter Bunny delivers candy and chocolate eggs to children on Easter Sunday morning. These candies often ar-

The exact origins of the Easter Bunny tradition are unknown, although some historians believe it arrived in America with German immigrants in the 1700s. Rabbits are, in many cultures, known as enthusiastic procreators, so the arrival of baby bunnies in springtime meadows became associated with birth and renewal.

Notably, several Prot-Christian denominations, including Lutherans and Quakers, have opted to formally abandon many Easter traditions, deeming them too pagan. However, many religious observers of Easter also include them in their

celebrations. Easter foods steeped in symbolism. An Easter dinner of lamb also has historical roots, since a lamb was often used as rificial animal in Jewish traditions, and lamb is frequently served during Passover. The phrase "lamb of God" is sometimes used to refer to Jesus and the sacrificial nature of his death.

Today, Easter is a commercial event as well as a religious holiday, marked by high sales for greeting cards, candies (such as Peeps, chocolate eggs and chocolate Easter bunnies) and other

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 TAX LEVIES AND BUDGET

Pursuant to Section 58.1-3007 of the Code of Virginia, notice is hereby given that a public hearing be scheduled for 6:00 P.M. April 8, 2021 on the proposed intention to address the below listed local tax levies for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 upon which matter citizens will have the opportunity to be heard. Said hearing will be held at the Montgomery County Government Center Board Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia.

FURTHER, notice is given of the Board's intention to propose no increases in the following tax levies for Fiscal Year 2021-2022:

Real Property tax levy remains at \$.89 per \$100 of assessed value.

Personal Property tax levy remains at \$2.55 per \$100 of assessed value.

Machinery & Tools tax levy remains at \$1.82 per \$100 of assessed value.

Merchant's Capital tax levy remains at \$3.05 per \$100 of assessed value.

Mobile Homes tax levy remains at \$.89 per \$100 of assessed value.

Notice is also given that the Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County scheduled a public hearing for 6:15 P.M. or as soon thereafter, April 8, 2021 on the Advertised Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget in the amount of \$210,986,555. Said hearing will be held at the Montgomery County Gov-

ernment Center Board Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia.

BY THE ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS F. CRAIG MEADOWS COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR



www.nrvsuperbowl.biz

Governor proposes accelerating marijuana legalization in Virginia

RICHMOND—Governor Ralph Northam Wednesday proposed moving up the legalization of simple possession of marijuana to July 1, 2021, nearly three years sooner than previously planned. The governor also announced

he is proposing changes that advance public health protections, set clear expectations for labor protections in the cannabis industry, and begin to seal criminal records immediately. The changes come in the

form of amendments to Senate Bill 1406, sponsored by Senators Adam Ebbin and Louise Lucas, and House Bill 2312, sponsored by Majority Leader Charniele Herring, which legalize the adult use of marijuana in the common-

Our commonwealth is committed to legalizing marijuana in an equitable way," said the governor. "Virginia will become the 15th state to legalize marijuana, and these changes will ensure we do it with a focus on public safety, public health, and social justice. I am grateful to the advocates and legislators for their dedicated work on this important issue, and I look forward to this legislation passing

A report of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission issued in November 2020 found that black Virginians were more than three times as likely to be arrested for simple possession of marijuana. Data from Virginia courts show that trend has continued since the simple possession of marijuana was "decriminalized," punishable with a \$25 civil fine, on July 1, 2020.

Governor Northam said this fact drove his proposal to advance legalization by three years, and that he remains committed to working with legislators and advocates to repair past harm. The governor proposed the fol-

lowing legislative changes: 1. Public health: Governor

Northam is proposing two budget amendments. The first change immediately funds a public awareness campaign on the health and safety risks of marijuana. The other measure funds training to help law enforcement officers recognize and prevent drugged driving. These amendments also include explicit language directing ongoing support for public health education. 2. Worker protections: Gover-

nor Northam's amendments authorize the new Cannabis Control Authority to revoke a company's business license if it interferes with union organizing efforts, fails to pay prevailing wage as defined by the United States Department of Labor, or classifies more than 10 percent of employees as independent contractors.

3. Ending disproportionate enforcement: The governor's amendments allow adults to legally possess up to one ounce of cannabis, without intent to distribute, beginning July 1, 2021. These amendments would maintain current public safety measures that prohibit smoking while driving, smoking while driving a school bus, and possession on school grounds, for example. Governor Northam noted that these are not "new crimes," but rather the continuation of common-sense policies to protect children, drivers, pedestrians, and others.

4. Speeding up sealing of records and expungements: Governor Northam's amendments allow for expungement and sealing of criminal records on marijuana to begin as soon as state agencies are able to do so and simplify the criteria for when records can

bly passed broader legislation to implement comprehensive expungement reform beginning in 2025. This generational change requires extensive updates to state agency computer systems and processes, which were made possible by funding in the governor's introduced budget. In the coming months, Governor Northam will continue to work hand in hand with legislators to make Virginia's criminal justice system more equitable, including through efforts to resentence individuals previously convicted for marijuana offenses. 5. Home cultivation: The gov-

be sealed. The General Assem-

ernor's changes will allow households to grow up to four plants beginning on July 1, 2021. The amendments would require the plants to be labeled with identification information, out of sight from public view, and out of range of individuals under the age of 21.

Virginia to expand vaccine eligibility to all adults by April 18

Governor Ralph Northam announced Thursday that all individuals in Virginia age 16 and older will be eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine starting on Sunday, April 18, ahead of the May 1 nationwide goal set by President Joe Biden. The governor made

the announcement dur- and those still on the ing a visit to a vaccination pre-registration list will clinic at First Mount Zion receive appointment in-Baptist Church in Prince vitations within the next William County.

This news comes as nearly every Virginian in cine is the light at the end the highest risk groups of the tunnel, and that who has pre-registered light is getting brighter for a vaccination appoint- every day as more and ment has received one, more Virginians get vacci-

two weeks.

nated," said the governor. "We continue to work with diverse providers and community partners across the commonwealth to distribute vaccines in a fair and equitable way and ensure those at the highest risk are vaccinated first. Expanding vaccine eligibility to all adults marks an important milestone in our ongoing efforts to put this pandemic behind us, and I thank all of the public health staff, health care workers, vaccinators, and volunteers

who have helped make

this possible."

"The COVID-19 vac-

With over 3.7 million doses of vaccine administered so far in Virginia, more than one in three adults have received at least one dose and one in five Virginians are fully vaccinated. Virginia is administering vaccine doses as quickly as they are provided by the federal government. Because the commonwealth has followed guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to prioritize those at highest risk and because Virginia is a large and diverse state with many essential workers, many out-of-state commuters, and a high percentage of the population that wants to be vaccinated, it has taken some time to open eligibility to the general

In addition to adopting phased eligibility based on risk, Virginia has focused on equity throughout its vaccination effort by providing targeted resources in multiple languages, scheduling clinics in collaboration with community partners, grassroots performing outreach to drive pre-registration and scheduling, and implementing large, state-run community vaccination centers in areas with vulnerable populations. These efforts will continue when eligibility opens to the general public in Phase 2.

Twenty-one of Virginia's 35 local health districts have already started vaccinating essential workers in Phase 1c after providing appointments to everyone eligible in Phases 1a or 1b on the pre-registration list. Beginning Easter Sunday districts that have invited everyone pre-registered in Phase 1c may invite mem-

bers of the general public who have pre-registered. Based on the supply

projected by the federa government, all local health districts will have enough vaccine to open appointments to the general public by April 18 Those at highest risk wil continue to receive priority in the scheduling process.

Everyone who lives or works in Virginia should pre-register so they can be notified when they are eligible for vaccination and an appointment is available. To pre-register, visit vaccinate.virginia.gov or call 877-VAX-IN-VA (877-829-4682, TTY users call 7-1-1). Assistance is available in English Spanish, and more than 100 other languages. Videoconferencing in American Sign Language is also available at vaccinate.vir-

RADFORD **News Journal** Serving Radford since 1884

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Radford News Journal is a newspaper of, by and for the people of Radford. We encourage letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached for verification. All letters will be verified before publication. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

Radford News Journal (USPS 387-780) is published twice a week for \$44 a year in the City of Radford, \$53 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$54 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Christiansburg, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL 1633 W. Main St., Salem, VA 24153.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To The Montgomery County Judges of the Circuit Court

Dear Sir or Ma'am,

I would like to tell this story about my son Daniel Lee Wright, who recently passed away. Although I

am a grieving mother and my son's unexpected death has devastated our family, I am not sharing his story because I am angry or wish to place blame on anyone. I only wish to reach out to any judge that may perhaps come across this letter to remember their oath as it is written, "I do solemnly swear that I will administer justice without respect to persons and do equal to the poor and to the rich and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me under the constitution and laws of the United States, so help me

My son was on his way to court when his vehicle had gotten stuck in a snowbank, and since he lived three hours away, he was not able to get a ride. When he promptly called the court to explain, he was advised to show up before the judge as soon as possible, which he did. This particular judge jailed my son, and this is what ultimately caused my young, healthy son's untimely death. He was not a threat to society by

any means, and I do not understand given the fact that the jails are overrun with COVID-19 why this decision was made. My son contracted this deadly virus while he was confined in the Montgomery County jail and died a few

weeks later. Again, I write my son's story in hopes that it may save someone's son or daughter in the future.

Linda Cerami (304) 897-7318 2019 Needmore Rd. Baker, WV 26801

0 S S W 32 36 45 52 CLUES DOWN 25. One who overacts 33. Talk noisily 1. Word shortening 28. Facial gesture

CLUES ACROSS 1. Our 10 numerals 7. Horseshoe cleat

11. Ear shell 12. Soprano solo 13. Vestments

14. Heart's singer Wilson 15. Set of type in one style ceremonies 16. Withdraw from work 18. Ancient Hebrew coin 20. Megacycle

21. 26th British letter 22. Colonnaded Greek walks

24. Russian sourgrass soupsomething 26. OK Corral's Wyatt 52. Angry 27. Cheremiss 55. 20th Hebrew letter 28. Schenectady County 56. 3rd largest Colombian Airport

29. Laptop

31. Actress Farrow

32. NYSE for Murphy Oil

2. Tore down (var. sp.) 3. 22nd state (abbr.)

35. New Testament 36. Tax collector 37. Mediation council 4. Tropical constrictor 39. Not in use

57. Gum arabics

60. Dispatcher

59. A song of praise to God

Hostelry 41. Act as master of 6. Examine and expurgate 7. Small restaurants

43. Skin lesions 8. E. Asian anis liquor 44. Stiff bristle 9. Infestation of head louse 45. Equally New Yorker film critic 46. Pool dressing room Pauline

49. Eyebath 11. An orange-red crystalline 46. Hyperbolic cosecant 51. Thick piece of

13. Indicates position 16. Root mean square (abbr.) 17. Electronic counter-coun-

termeasures 19. 12-31 greeting 22. Fastens

23. Himalayan wild goats

30. Absence of aggression 34. China

38. Older Bridges brother 40. Plays 42. Term denoting psychic abilities

43. Oral polio vaccine developer 44. Any habitation at a high altitude

47. Russian mountain range 48. An aromatic salve 50. Venezuelan fashion

designer initials 53. Highest card 54. 5th son of Jacob

58. Music storage device

Program

ery County since 1947 that is comprised of volunteers and full- and part-time staff. "Christiansburg Res-

cue prides itself on providing efficient, highquality healthcare by following evidence-based science and on the progressive stance we take in early adoption of novel medical techniques and resuscitation education and technology," said Deputy Chief Dustin Williams. "The path to RQI was simple. Our providers were not retaining their CPR skills and knowledge through the traditional everyand two-years-model, then COVID-19 struck. We needed a solution that would deliver ongo-

ing instruction, maintain

compliance and keep our staff members safe. RQI is a game changer, affording benefits to our providers, partner agencies and the greater community. To deliver RQI Pre-

hospital Healthcare Provider courses, Christiansburg Rescue is leveraging a new addition to the Association's digital resuscitation portfolio: the RQI-P GO solution. Launched last October, RQI-P GO is a compact, modular and mobile system designed for healthcare facilities and prehospital and public safety organizations that may not have access to a traditional RQI simulation station or operate locations distributed across a city or county,

respectively. RQI-P GO affords the same course instruction and real-time feedback as a traditional RQI simulation station without sacrificing qual-

"We are excited about the far-reaching potential of the RQI-P GO solution," Deputy Chief Williams said. "The mobile attribute will be beneficial in expanding the RQI footprint and providing CPR instruction to our partner agencies, including our police department and the community at-large. Christiansburg Rescue is committed to investing in our staff and the community in which we live and serving to collectively help improve cardiac arrest survival."

UBITUARIES

Shepherd, Carl "Bud" Leslie Taylor, Barbara Ann (Whetsel)

Carl "Bud" Leslie Shepherd, 77, of Christiansburg, died Tuesday, March 30, 2021, at his home. He was born in Vicker, Va., on May 9, 1943, to the late James Hugh and Agnes I. Musselman Shepherd. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Jimmy and Larry Shepherd, and two sisters, Shirley Sheppard and Sheila Shepherd.

He is survived by his wife, Beverly Lee Shepherd, of Christiansburg; a daughter and son-in-law, Angie Shepherd and Jason Alls; sons and daughters-in-law, Kerry and Leatrice Shepherd and Dean and Tracy Shepherd; grandchildren Paige, Laiken, Justin, Issac, Zach, Dylan, Jesse, Lily, Amber, Hayden, and Evann; great-grandchildren Ryleigh and Hayden; sisters and brother-



in-law Deborah Shepherd, and Patsy and Frank Cooper; brothers and sistersin-law Kenneth and Edith Shepherd, Gary and Brenda Shepherd, Jerry and Wanda Shepherd, Michael and Barbara Shepherd, Gus and Von Shepherd, and Roger and Stephanie Shepherd; sister-in-law Bobbie Shepherd; brother-in-law James Lanier; and numerous nieces and

Special thanks to Brooke Priest for her care during Bud's Illness.

Funeral services were conducted Friday, April 2, 2021, in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Jube Burk officiating. Interment followed in Roselawn Memorial Gardens. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

Turner, Ethel Hunter

Ethel Hunter Turner, 91, died peacefully on Sunday, March 28, 2021, at her home in Pulaski.

She was preceded in death by her husband, George Turner, her previous husband, Henry Conner; a son, Johnny Conner; stepsons Alfonso Conner, Nick Conner, James Mc-Clanahan, Willis Conner and Curtis Conner; stepdaughters Annie Montgomery and Viola Francis; and a brother-

in-law, Ira Stith. She leaves to cherish her memories sev-

en daughters: Charlotte Carrington, Jackie

(Douglas) Pompey, Patsy Conner, Deloise Conner, Kathy (Kevin) Millirons, Angela Turner and Melissa Turner; two stepsons, Harry Conner and Thomas (Connie) Conner; a sister, Margie Stith; and a host of grands, great-grands and great-great-grandchildren, and other relatives and

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

The Turner family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. Online condolences may be expressed at www.mullinsfuneralhome.com.

Baker, Alison Marie

Alison Marie Baker passed away on March 28, 2021. She was 45.

Alison was born on Jan. 15, 1976, in Blacksburg, VA, to Eddie and Judi Baker. A graduate of Emory and Henry College, Alison joined the family business at Positive Radio Group. She was Manager of radio stations ESPN Blacksburg and Classic Hits Z101.3.

A gentle soul with a positive spirit, Alison enjoyed nature, hiking, gardening, and also enjoyed video games. She was an energetic person with a radiant personality. Even in the most trying of circumstances, she could inspire anyone to smile.

Alison is survived by her parents, Eddie and Judi Baker of Riner; her sisters Diane Baker and Michelle Hall and husband Seth; and her brother, Alan Baker and his wife, Audrey, of Blacksburg. She is also survived by her grandmothers, Virginia Baker of Blacksburg, and Edith Jones of Virginia Beach, plus many aunts, uncles and cousins from coast to coast.

Visitation was held on Friday, April 2, 2021, from 1 to 2 p.m., at McCoy Funeral Home. A funeral service followed. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance at https://www.ocrahope.

ONLINE ONLY AUCTION

Ends Thursday, April 8th at 4 PM Producing Rental Property for Sale in Christiansburg VA! 104 Evans St. Christiansburg VA 24073



Bid Online Now at VAAuctionPro.com

4-Unit apartment building that has been recently remodeled and updated. The .191 acre property has been well maintained and is beautifully landscaped. There are parking spaces in front of apartments 1 & 2 as well as a large, paved lot behind the building. Each unit has laminate and carpet flooring and laundry hookups along with an electric range, refrigerator and dishwasher. Located in Downtown Christiansburg. Each unit is currently rented. Purchaser shall honor current annual lease until expiration. Contact auction company for rent roll.

Apartment 1 – 2 BR, 1 BA on the upper/street level and has a parking space in front.

Apartment 2 – 2 BR, 1 BA on the upper/street level and has a parking space in front.

Apartment 3 – 2 BR, 1 BA on the lower level.

Apartment 4 – 1 BR, 1 BA on the lower level.

Preview Date - Saturday March 27 @ 2 PM

Terms – 10% Buyer's Premium, \$10,000. Earnest Money Deposit, Closing in 45 Days. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is where is any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Property is being sold by Online Only Auction with a SOFT CLOSE. Please note that during the last two minutes of bidding, if a new bid is placed, the clock is automatically extended an additional two minutes. Auction ends once bidding ends. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete details.

Contact – Broker & Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com; You can also contact Levi Cox Realtor at 540-230-7162 or email levicox87@gmail.com

102 S. Locust Street, Floyd, VA 24091 (540) 745-2005 VaAuctionPro.com Lic# 2907004059



Blue Ridge Land & Auction Co., Inc

Send community news and photos

to communitynews@ourvalley.org

Barbara Ann (Whetsel) Taylor, 73, of Christiansburg, formerly of Dungannon, Va., went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, March 30, 2021.

She was one of nine siblings born to Mable Marion (Lackey) Whetsel and William Calvin Whetsel in Miller Yard, Scott County, Va. They preceded her in death along with her two brothers and sister; Don Whetsel, Robert Whetsel and Wanda

(Jean) Blevins. Barbara was also preceded in death by her loving husband Cecil (Gene) Taylor and by her precious greatgrandchild, Charlee Mayne Sharlow. Barbara was married to her loving hus-

band Cecil (Gene) Taylor for 55 amazing years. Gene and Barbara Taylor spent most of their lives working as owners of the Dairy Queen formerly in Blacksburg. They brightened and touched many lives through employment, friendship and phenomenal customer care for over three decades.

Barbara is survived by three brothers, William (Bill) Whetsel, Jr., Charles Whetsel, and Dale Whetsel; and two sisters, Katheryn (Whetsel) Countiss and Rita (Whetsel) Serra. She is also survived



by her three children and their spouses, Emily Taylor Brooks (Ben); Jason "Brad" Taylor (Kari) and Amy Taylor Rhodes (Lee).

She was an adored Nana to 11 grandchildren: Courtney Johnson, Ethan Rutherford, Brandon and Miranda Taylor, Kaylee and Matthew Rose, Cloe Taylor, Bryan Taylor, Matthieu and Chelsea Sharlow, Ryan and Victoria

Ten great-grandchildren were also blessed to call her Nana: Cecilia Johnson, Avery Bonds, Brysen Taylor, Brooks Taylor, Dakotah Sharlow, Micah, Braxton and Addilyn Sharlow and Elizabeth Dae Barker and Memphys Rhodes.

Sharlow, Cassandra Sharlow, Samuel and

Marianna Rhodes, and Santanna Rhodes.

There are also countless others who called her "Nana"; those were family by

Funeral services will be held Monday, April 5, 2021, at 2 p.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Lee Naff officiating. Burial will follow in Roselawn Memorial Gardens, Christiansburg. The family will receive friends Monday from 1 p.m. until service time at McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

Survey from page 1

source of comfort. 47% of Americans say that religion has helped them get through the pandemic. The pandemic has made us appreciate family and health more. COVID-19 has made Americans most grateful for their family (39%), followed by health (29%) and then freedom (12%). More people might celebrate in person this year. Americans are 23% more likely to celebrate Easter with friends and family compared to last year.

Fifty-five percent of Americans who celebrate Easter will simply stay at

home during the holiday without going out or meeting with other people, according to WalletHub analyst Jill Gonzalez. "Of the people who will leave home to celebrate Easter, the largest share will get together with friends and family, while much smaller shares will attend church in person or have a meal at a restaurant," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez also expects that churches may experience fewer donations than a typical Easter, as around 29 percent of people who celebrate Easter plan to donate less on the holiday this year than they did last

The clothing industry will see the biggest him around Easter, as nearly 46 percent of Easter-celebrating people who usually buy a new outfit say they will forgo one this year, Gonzalez said. According to the WalletHub analyst, "Close to 30 per-cent of Easter celebrants will also pass on buying Easter baskets, Easter candy, Easter food and family portraits. While people's Easter spending plans are less impacted this year than last year, they are still far from normal."

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF RADFORD, VIRGINIA TAX LEVIES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020 AND F.Y. 2021-2022 BUDGET

Pursuant to Section 58.1-3007 of the Code of Virginia, notice is hereby given that a public hearing is scheduled for 7:00 P.M. April 12, 2021 on the proposed Tax Rates for Calendar Year 2021. Interest parties are invited to attend the public hearing and present their views. The hearing will be held in the Council Chambers located at 10 Robertson Street.

FURTHER, notice is given that the Council's intention to propose no increases in the following tax levies for Calendar year 2021:

- 1. Real Property tax levy increases to \$0.84 per one \$100.00 of assessed value.
- 2. Machinery and tools tax levy remains at \$1.76 per \$100.00 of assessed value.
- 3. Tangible personal property as listed and specified in Subsections 3 through 13 of Section 58.1-3503A, Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended, remains at \$2.44 per \$100.00 of assessed value.
- 4. Tangible personal property as listed and specified in Subsections 15 through 19 of Section 58.1-3503A, Code of Virginia 1950 As Amended, remains at \$1.76 per \$100.00 of assessed value.

Notice is also given that the City Council of Radford City scheduled a public hearing for 7:00 P.M. or as soon thereafter, April 12, 2021 on the Advertised Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget in the amount of \$62,057,466. The hearing will be held in the Council Chambers located at 10 Robertson Street.

The following is a synopsis of the 2021-2022 Budgets:

CITY OF RADFORD	Total for City
GENERAL FUND	28,726,722
STREETS MAINTENANCE FUND	2,407,851
TRANSIT	3,492,592
WATER/WASTEWATER FUND	5,024,934
ELECTRIC FUND	20,118,408
SOLID WASTE FUND	1,541,050
*INTERNAL SERVICES	745,909

*Not included in total above as this fund is allocated through all other funds.

Notice is also given that the City Council of Radford City will hear comments on the **Radford City School Board Budget** in the amount of \$33,145,146.

The Summary is as Follows:

•	
RADFORD CITY SCHOOL BOARD	Total for Schools
OPERATING FUND	18,126,228
SCHOOL NUTRITION FUND	705,026
GRANTS FUND	2,625,404
TEXTBOOKS FUND	326,545
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	220,000
HEALTH INSURANCE FUND	2,595,251
MCHARG SCHOOL ADDITION/RENOVATION	ON 8,401,804
REGION 7 VIRTUAL ACADEMY FUND	144,888

A copy of the document is available for review in the City Manager's office, the Radford Public Library, and on the City's website at www.radfordva.gov.

BY THE ORDER OF RADFORD CITY COUNCIL

Deadline for grads to register for VT in-person commencements is April 16

Virginia Tech will host 15 inperson commencement ceremonies in Lane Stadium May 10-16 that will be divided up by college to celebrate graduating Hokies while also adhering to public

Registration for graduating students and their guests is required. The last day to register is April 16. Each graduate may invite up to four guests.

During the week of April 19, all registered students will receive an email to secure up to four guest tickets. In order to comply with the state guidelines, information for each guest must be submitted when signing up for tickets. Entrance without a ticket will not be

The virtual university commencement will be on Friday, May 14, at 6:15 p.m., and degrees will be conferred at this time. This year's commencement keynote speaker will be announced later this month. The Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine and the greater Washington, D.C., metro area will also host in-person ceremonies separately.

Each ceremony is expected to last two hours. Large colleges will have more than one ceremony,

and students will select which time they will attend. If a graduate would traditionally attend a departmental ceremony they should now attend their college ceremony. Graduates that associate with multiple colleges should choose their preferred ceremony.

The schedule for the in-person college ceremonies that will be held at Lane Stadium is as follows:

Monday, May 10: 2 p.m. Graduate School (1 of 2); 6:30 p.m. Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine.

Tuesday, May 11: 4 p.m. Graduate School (2 of 2).

Wednesday, May 12: 6 p.m. College of Engineering (1 of 3).

Thursday, May 13: 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. College of Engineering (2 and 3 of 3); 6 p.m. College of Architecture and Urban Studies. Friday, May 14: 8 a.m. and 1

p.m. College of Science (1 and 2

of 2); 6:15 p.m. University Commencement virtual ceremony. Saturday, May 15: 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (1 and 2 of 2);

Life Sciences. Sunday, May 16: 8 a.m. College of Natural Resources and Environment; 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

6 p.m. College of Agriculture and

Pamplin College of Business (1 and 2 of 2).

The Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine and the greater Washington, D.C., metro area will also have in-person ceremonies, which will take place in Roanoke and Falls Church, respectively. The school of medicine will host its ceremony May 8 and the D.C. area ceremony will be May 18. Details about these ceremonies will be communicated to graduates separately.

The Corps of Cadets will also

host a graduation ceremony. It will be May 3 at 5:30 p.m. on Upper Quad. Details will be available at vtcc.vt.edu/commencement. More than 8,000 Hokies are graduating this spring. Because of that, hosting multiple in-person events, as well as an online ceremony, is necessary to accommodate public health protocols while also making the experience special for graduates and their families.

Ceremonies will include a message from the dean, and graduates will be able to walk across the stage as their name is read. Photos will be taken, and graduates will be able to choose to have their image mailed to them.

Mt. Tabor Ruritan Club has college scholarships available

The Mt. Tabor Ruritan Club has \$500 scholarships available to students planning on attending college in the

The funds are awarded to candidates living in the 24060 zip code who have applied to college, including NRV Community College.

The application form is available on the club's Facebook page. It highlights the characteristics the club is looking for, including, in addition to grades, community volunteer work.

Each year the club awards five or six scholarships and invites the winners to a dinner meeting. The winners then have a chance to share what they are doing in the community.

This attention to community volunteer work sets the Ruritan scholarships apart from typical scholarship programs. The Ruritans know many teens are already contributing to the community by volunteering at food

banks, or giving of their time for activity with children or the elderly. Not all good works count toward consideration for the scholarships. For instance, effort limited to a teen's own family does not

COVID-19 may have disrupted volunteering activities, so club members will be looking at the history of volunteering over a high school

For any questions, con-Wendy Baldwin at 646.352.3936.

The Mt. Tabor Ruritans are hoping that in this year of disrupted schooling, students are still thinking about the excitement of going to college. Someone may have already graduated from high school and are heading to college after a "gap year." That is okay for scholarship consideration.

The club stands ready and willing to help out some with college expenses, which can be burdensome for both students and the family.

ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

St. Philip's Anglican Church, 306 Progress Street, NE, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060, (540) 552-1771, www.stphilipsblacksburg.org. Reverend Fr. Wade Miller, Priest. Eucharist Sunday's at 11am and Wednesday's at 12pm.

St. Thomas Anglican Church- located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit www.sttofc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

BAPTIST

First Baptist Church, 555 West Rock Road, Radford, 639-3873. Rev. Corwin C. Casey, Pastor. Worship with us: 9:45 a.m.; Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.; Praise and Worship: 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service; Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord. 1 Corinthians 15:58.

First Baptist Church on 3rd Ave., 215 Third Ave. at the corner with Downey St. We are committed to personal spiritual growth and to providing leadership in community ministry. We celebrate the dignity and worth of all persons, created in the image of God. day Bible Study Groups - 9:45, Sunday Worship - 11:00. Website: www. fbcradford.org, 540-639-4419. ship is broadcast live on 105.9 FM, 101.3 F, 1430AM.

Trinity Community Church, 1505 N. Franklin Street, C'burg. John Altizer, Lead Pastor, Brian Cockram, Associate Pastor, 382-8121. Worship at 10:45 a.m., Outreach Ministries - 6:00p.m. Wednesday, Growth Groups - 5:00p.m. Sunday, Youth and Children's Ministry - 5:00p.m. Sunday, www.trinitycburg.org.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Blacksburg Church of Christ, 315 Eakin St., 552-1331. Sun. Bible Classes 9:30 a.m., Sun. Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m., Wed. Bible classes, 7 p.m., Outreach Minister Curt Seright, Community Minister Tom Gilliam.

CHURCH OF GOD

Childress Church of God, 4187 Piney Woods Rd., C'Burg. 381-3693. Sun. 7 p.m. New Hope Church of God, 1404 Mud

Pike Rd., C'Burg. Rev. T. Michael Bond, pastor, 731-3178. Sun. School 10 a.m., Worship 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m. Thurs., 7:00

West Radford Church of God, 1824 West Main Street, Radford, VA 24141, Sunday School – 10:00A.M. Morning Worship – 11:00A.M., Children's Church 11:00A.M. Sunday Evening – 6:00P.M., Wednesday Night – 7:00P.M., Pastor Danny Newman, Church Office – 540-

639-6562 or 804-921-0828 CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Russell Ave., Radford. Supt. Ronald A. ford, 201 Fourth Street, at the corner of 4th and

Radford WORSEIP DIRECTORY

Declare the Truth

Read Isaiah 43:1 through 45:25

'You are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me" (Isaiah 43:10).

When the people of Israel persisted in looking to the gods of the nations that surrounded them, the Lord was provoked to address their unfaithfulness. He called Israel to make a thoughtful examination of exactly what the gods of other nations had to offer. He then contrasted these false gods with himself.

These gods of the nations, which were no gods at all, could not choose Israel. But

God, who is the only God, did make a choice. In His choosing, He had a purpose. He wanted Israel to know that He alone is God, to believe in His character, and to understand His love for His chosen.

Then He wanted one more thing. He wanted His people to acknowledge Him before all others and declare His glory. Instead of seeking false gods, Israel should have been declaring: "Only our God is God; no other is like Him."

Thought for Today: God want our love for Him to be evident

Quicklook: Isaiah 43:9-13

If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Randy Thompson at 540-389-9355 or email at advertise@ourvalley.org

Watson, Sr.; Elder, 639-5948. Sun. School 9 a.m.; Prayer 11:30 a.m.; Worship 6 p.m.

LUTHERAN

Christ Lutheran Church, 201 Harvey St. Sunday worship with communion at 10am; fellowship & snacks at 11am. All are welcome. Upcoming events and fellowship opportunities (Senior Brunch, Faith & Film, Rough Draught, etc.) detailed in weekly email and on website: clcradford.org. 540-639-2671.

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

Merrimac Pentecostal Holiness Church, Rev. Larry Christopher (540) 552-7194. 1.christopher695@comcast.net. Sunday school at 10 a.m. and morning worship is 11 a.m. Eve-School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m. & Wed. ning service at 6 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m. Radford Worship Center, 1820 Second Street, Radford, 639-6287, Our music is passionate, our worship is real, and Pastor Hal Adams brings relevant messages for everyone at any place on their journey, Sunday Worship Experience at 9:00 AM & 10:45 AM, Wednesday Family Night at 7 PM, Children Ministry provided for all services, join us as Love, Grow, Serve, find us on facebook and Instagram

Walton Pentecostal Holiness Church, 4003 Morning Glory Rd., off Walton Rd. on Rt. 114. 731-1755. Lee Sarver, pastor. Sun. School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6: p.m., Wed., 7 p.m.

PRESBYTERIAN

Radford Church of God in Christ, 206 Join us at The Presbyterian Church of Rad-

Randolph Streets. Phone 639-2585. Worship at 11 am in the parking lot. In case of rain, the service will be streamed on Facebook. Bible study on Tuesday at noon, also on Facebook. Find us on Facebook (The Presbyterian Church of Radford) and on our Website (www.pcradford.org) The mission of our church is to exhibit our belief in God's love for us by sharing and extending that love to all of our brothers and sisters. Kelsey and Peter Hawisher-Faul, Pastors.

UNITED METHODIST

Asbury United Methodist Church, 500 Stuart Street, Christiansburg. 540-382- 0743. Rev. Ryan Schaeffer. Sunday School, 10:15 a.m., Sunday Worship, 11:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7pm, alternating month's with Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church, Senior Bible Study Thursday, 10:30 a.m. All are

Central United Methodist Church, 803 Wadsworth Street, Radford. 639-3529. 8:30 a.m. Sunday Services: 8:30am (interpreter provided); 9:45am Sunday School (interpreter provided); and 11:00am. Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30pm. Child care is prowww.centralmethodistchurch.com. St. Paul United Methodist Church, 220 W.

Main St., C'Burg. Rev. Moonsup "Paul" Song (540) 382-2410. Sunday Worship 10am, Sunday School 9am. Live streaming Sunday Ser-

vice - www.twitch.tv/stpaulumc.

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News Messenger

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Help Wanted -General

Part Time Newspaper **Production Help**

The Salem TimesRegister has openings for afternoon/evening shift work inserting, labeling and bundling newspapers for delivery. No experience necessary. Hours may vary. Will train. \$7.50 per hour. Contact Lynn Hurst, General Manager, Salem-Times Register (540)389-9355 lhurst@ourvalley.org

Caregiver Needed

Check area, Floyd County Full or Part Time 3pm-11pm daily Personal care and Transferring of MS Patient Some Housework Must be in good physical condition and live within a reasonable driving distance of work. Wages are taxable \$18 an hour to start Phone 540-651-3551 Or 540-267-5779 for interview

Legals -Montgomery County

VIRGINIA: IN THE **CIRCUIT COURT** OF THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY Case No. CL19002363-00

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

N M ORR, ET AL., Respondent(s).

ORDER OF PUBLICATION The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Montgomery, Virginia, for delinguent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Montgomery, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 065-A 82 Account No. 031835

All that certain lot or parcel of land with all improvements and appurtenances thereunto belonging situate, lying and being in the Prices Fork Magisterial District, Montgomery County, Virginia, containing five acres, more or less, lying on the waters of Stroubles Creek, and being more particularly bounded and described as follows, to-wit:

Beginning at a corner, now or formerly owned by, Ira D. L. Boozes, Lizzie Harless, and Clear Air Coal Company; thence northwest, with Clear Air Coal Company Line, across the creek to a corner in a pile of coal dirt; thence northeast, with the Coal Company Line to a big hollow; thence with the big hollow, by a new line, west to the, now or formerly owned by, H. D. Price line, to a corner on a steep hillside to Harless line; thence with the Harless line

And being the same real property conveyed to N. M. Orr from W. H. Bryant and Mollie J. Bryant, married, by Deed dated April 14, 1922 and recorded May 1, 1922 among the records of the Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed

to the beginning.

Legals -Montgomery County

Book 76 at Page 383.

This description is made subject to all easements. conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described including but not limited to those recorded in Deed Book 68 at Page 232 and Deed Book 76 at Page

IT APPEARING that an Affidavit has been made and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served, that the last known addresses for the Respondents herein are as follows: N M Orr aka Nathaniel Marion Orr, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Emma Eberle, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Nellie Orr Wilson, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown: William H. Eberle, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Charles R. Eberle, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown: Thomas A. Wilson Sr., who

is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Thomas A. Wilson Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Bruce P. Wilson, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 2 Hopkins Plaza Suite 801 Baltimore, Maryland 21201; Barbara W. Schweizer, whose last known address is 831 Hillside Road 947. Brooklandville, Maryland 21022; Roger Wilson, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 13 Avon Road, Binghamton, New York 13905; Moya Wilson, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Shelley Wilson, whose last

known address is 111 Endicott Apt A7, Johnson City, New York 13790; Margaret E. Loring, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Kenneth O. Wilson, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Louise Denton Weed Wilson, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Donald O. Wilson, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 928 Flizabeth Babcock Wilson

who is believed to be

and whose last known

York 11215; Charles G.

203, Ashburn, Virginia

who is believed to be

20147: Marion Orr Wilson,

deceased and whose last

believed to be deceased

address is unknown; Joan

and whose last known

Wilson Shields, who is

and whose last known

believed to be deceased

address is 417 Briarcliff

Road, Gadsden, Alabama

35901; Nicholas Shields Jr.,

whose last known address

is 2704 Churchill Drive SE,

Huntsville, Alabama 35801:

Elizabeth Hines, whose last

known address is unknown;

whose last known address

Columbus, Georgia 31909;

Shirley Wilson Keller, who is

Thomas Young Shields,

is 7933 Ballantyne Way,

believed to be deceased

address is P.O. Box 752,

Peter Keller, whose last

752, Bedford, New York

10506; David Wilson.

Bedford, New York 10506;

known address is P.O. Box

whose last known address

is unknown; and that any

officers, heirs, devisees,

and successors in title of

the Respondent named

herein are made parties

Respondent to this action

individually and/or by the

ORDERED that the parties

general description of

Parties Unknown, it is

herein and all Parties

location cannot be

Unknown and/or whose

hereby

and whose last known

known address is unknown;

Alexander D. Wilson, who is

deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Elizabeth Wilson King, who is believed to be deceased address is 862 President Street Apt 1, Brooklyn, New King Jr., whose last known address is 862 President Street Apt 1, Brooklyn, New York 11215; John Wilson, whose last known address is 44589 York Crest Terrace

> Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. Additionally, the meeting will be streamed live on the Town of Christiansburg's YouTube channel at www.christiansburg.org/ youtube and will remain on the Town's YouTube page once the meeting concludes. For information on contactless methods for submitting public comment, please visit www.christiansburg.org/

Copies of the applications are available for review at the following link: www.christiansburg.org/ publichearings. A copy of the applications, the Town's Ordinance, and Future Land

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Legals -Montgomery County

ascertained appear on or before April 26, 2021 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.

Entered on the 22nd day of

Hon. Kenneth M. Fleenor Jr.

I Ask For This: John A. Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805) Jeffrey A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591) Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409) Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372) Paul L. LaBarr, Ésq. (VSB No. 91609) Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158) Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC P.O. Box 31800 Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800 Phone: (804) 545-2500 Facsimile: (804) 545-2378 TACS No.: 496292

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 19, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

1. A request by JBC Properties, LLC, to rezone approximately 4.82 acres of a 5.311 acre parcel from A Agricultural to R-1 Single Family Residential. The subject property is located at 345 John Lemley Lane, S.E. and is identified as Tax Map 502-((17))-23 (Parcel ID 120239). The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

2. A request by New River United Soccer Association for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a club soccer facility within A Agricultural. The subject property is approximately 4.901 acres in size, located at 1200 Buffalo Drive, N.W. and is identified as Tax Map Number 556-((A))-84 (Parcel ID 111028). The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

3. A request by TPBC (Valley Landscaping) for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a contractor storage vard within B-3 General Business. The subject property is approximately 5.057 acres in size, is located at 1175 Cambria Street, N.E. and is identified as Tax Map Number 497-((A))-95 (Parcel ID 070665). The property is designated as Downtown/Mixed Use on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

publichearings.

COUNTY TOTAL

RESOURCES:

General Undesignated Revenue:

Undesignated Consumer Utility Tax

All Other Undesignated Revenue

Law Library Designated Revenue

General Designated Revenue

Debt Service Designated

Law Library Fund Balance

Total Fund Balance

TOTAL RESOURCES

Total Undesignated Revenue

School Operating Designated Revenue

County of Montgomery, Virginia

Other School Designated Resources

Total Designated Revenue

Delinquent/Other Property Tax Revenue

Current Property Taxes (1)

Sales and Use Tax

Motor Vehicle Licenses

Interest on Investments

All Other Local Taxes

REVENUE:

Zoning Map, Zoning 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 Margaret Barden, Planning Director, at (540) 382-6120 ext. 1117 or by email at mbarden@christiansburg. org with any questions or if

Legals -Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Christiansburg Town

Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning lease of 415 Cambria Street, N.W. Tax Map Number 466-((A))-1 (Parcel ID 012952), to Montgomery County Schools and the YMCA Thrift Store. The property is zoned MU-1 Mixed Use Residential Limited Business.

Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. Additionally, the meeting will be streamed live on the Town of Christiansburg's YouTube channel at www.christiansburg.org/

Legals -Montgomery County

youtube and will remain on the Town's YouTube page once the meeting concludes. For information on contactless methods for submitting public comment, please visit www.christiansburg.org/ publichearings.

A copy of the lease may be

viewed in the office of the Town Manager, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Town Manager Randy Wingfield by at (540) 382-6128 ext. 1119 or by email at rwingfield@christiansburg. org with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.



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LEGALNOTICE

County of Montgomery, Virginia Synopsis of Advertised Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022 This budget synopsis is prepared and published pursuant to Section 15.2-2506 of Code of Virginia, for

information and fiscal planning purposes only. A hearing will be held by the Board of Supervisors on April 8, 2021 at 6:15 P.M. at the County Govern-

ment Center Board Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia at which time any citizen of the County shall have the opportunity to attend and state his or her views on the advertised budget. A copy of the Advertised Budget is available for inspection at the County Government Center, in the

County Administrator's Office, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg; the Blacksburg Library, 200 Miller St., Blacksburg; the Christiansburg Library, 125 Sheltman St., Christiansburg; the Meadowbrook Library, 267 Alleghany Springs Road, Shawsville; the Blacksburg Community Center, 725 Patrick Henry Dr., Blacksburg; the Christiansburg Recreation Center, 1600 N. Franklin St., Christiansburg; the Blacksburg Municipal Building, in the Town Manager's Office, 300 S. Main St., Blacksburg; and the Christiansburg Town Hall, in the Town Manager's Office, 100 E. Main St., Christiansburg.

EXPENDITURES:				FY 2022		
		FY 2021		Advertised		Increase
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:		Budget		Budget		(Decrease)
Board of Supervisors	\$	270,632	\$	282,425	\$	11,793
County Administration	\$	1,956,788	\$	2,104,749	\$	147,961
County Attorney	\$	382,368	\$	383,225	\$	857
Financial & Management Services	\$	1,225,460	\$	1,018,450	\$	(207,010)
Insurance	\$	208,195	\$	210,695	\$	2,500
Information Technology	\$	2,015,760	\$	2,135,796	\$	120,036
Commissioner of the Revenue-State	\$	561,856	\$	588,651	\$	26,795
Assessment-100% County	\$	479,677	\$	490,370	\$	10,693
Treasurer-State	\$	482,702	\$	492,165	\$	9,463
Collections-100% County	\$	531,481	\$	506,505	\$	(24,976)
Electoral Board/Director of Elections	\$	485,484	\$	473,570	\$	(11,914)
Commonwealth Attorney	\$	1,249,358	\$	1,282,063	\$	32,705
Courts	\$	262,008	\$	267,247	\$	5,239
Clerk of the Circuit Court	\$	715,542	\$	779,147	\$	63,605
Sheriff-State	\$	8,066,081	\$	8,213,115	\$	147,034
Sheriff-100% County	\$	7,178,602	\$	7,323,178	\$	144,576
Fire Departments and Rescue Squads	\$	1,487,781	\$	1,494,981	\$	7,200
Animal Care and Adoption Center	\$	631,681	\$	652,869	\$	21,188
General Services	\$	6,348,344	\$	6,685,685	\$	337,341
Children's Services Act	\$	1,651,969	\$		\$	337,341
Human Services	\$ \$			1,651,969	\$ \$	14 207
	\$ \$	378,338	\$ \$	392,725	\$ \$	14,387
Public Health Department	\$ \$	604,488		604,488		126.055
Social Services		6,228,024	\$	6,364,979	\$	136,955
Parks & Recreation	\$	1,257,701	\$	1,296,123	\$	38,422
Regional Library	\$	2,246,303	\$	2,347,680	\$	101,377
Planning & GIS	\$	948,750	\$	948,167	\$	(583)
Economic Development	\$	434,156	\$	460,975	\$	26,819
Other Agencies	\$	2,708,739	\$	2,762,426	\$	53,687
Contingencies-General	\$	526,307	\$	536,307	\$	10,000
Contingencies-Special	\$	7,836,404	\$	526,000	\$	(7,310,404)
Revenue Refunds	\$	195,000	\$	195,000	\$	<u> </u>
Subtotal:	\$	59,555,979	\$	53,471,725	\$	(6,084,254)
Law Library	\$	17,600	\$	17,600	\$	-
SCHOOLS:						
School Operating	\$	113,745,153	\$	121,984,741	\$	8,239,588
School Capital	\$	2,146,173	\$	2,195,645	\$	49,472
School Nutrition	\$	5,228,004	\$	4,633,474	\$	(594,530)
Subtotal:	\$	121,119,330	\$	128,813,860	\$	7,694,530
County Capital	\$	3,531,173	\$	3,580,645	\$	49,472
Debt Service	\$	24,722,725	\$	24,722,725	\$	
Economic Development	\$	380,000	\$	380,000	\$	-
•						

209,326,807 \$

	FY 2021 Budget Adve		FY 2022 Ivertised Budget	Increase (Decrease)	
\$	101,562,376	\$	103,807,971	\$ 2,245,595	
\$	2,996,000	\$	2,996,000	\$ -	
\$	10,301,540	\$	10,081,222	\$ (220,318	
\$	1,659,000	\$	1,628,000	\$ (31,000	
\$	800,000	\$	800,000	\$ -	
\$	1,370,000	\$	1,325,000	\$ (45,000	
\$	895,999	\$	113,268	\$ (782,731	
\$	546,384	\$	620,384	\$ 74,000	
\$	120,131,299	\$	121,371,845	\$ 1,240,546	
\$	20,009,464	\$	14,833,608	\$ (5,175,856	
\$	15,000	\$	15,000	\$ -	
\$	62,326,540	\$	68,516,128	\$ 6,189,588	
\$	5,228,004	\$	4,633,474	\$ (594,530	
\$	1,613,900	\$	1,613,900	\$ -	
\$	89,192,908	\$	89,612,110	\$ 419,202	
\$	2,600	\$	2,600	\$ -	
\$ \$ \$	2,600	\$	2,600	\$ -	
\$	209,326,807	\$	210,986,555	\$ 1,659,748	

210,986,555 \$

1,659,748

(1) Real Estate Tax Rate based on \$0.89 per \$100 of Assessed Valuation. Personal Property Tax Rate Based on \$2.55 per \$100 Assessed Valuation. By Order of the Board of Supervisors: F. Craig Meadows, County Administrator

RADFORD SPORTS

Virginia Tech spring training passes midway mark



through the drills in the team's spring training workouts.



PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

The Hokie football team was busy going through drills this week outside at Lane Stadium in preparation for the 2021 fall season.

Virginia Tech head football coach Justin Fuente and the Hokies have wrapped up another week of spring practice, passing the halfway point of their spring workouts during the week.

After COVID-19 and the quarantine stripped Tech of its entire spring schedule in 2020, Fuente is appreciative for every opportunity to get on the field

"We're grateful for every single one of them," the head Hokie said of Tech's allotted 15 practices for the spring. "You look across the country at teams that have had to pause -I think there's three of them in our league - probably nine or 10 across the country that have had to pause. We've been fortunate so far, and we've got our

fingers crossed. We've gotten in good work on fundamentals and special teams."

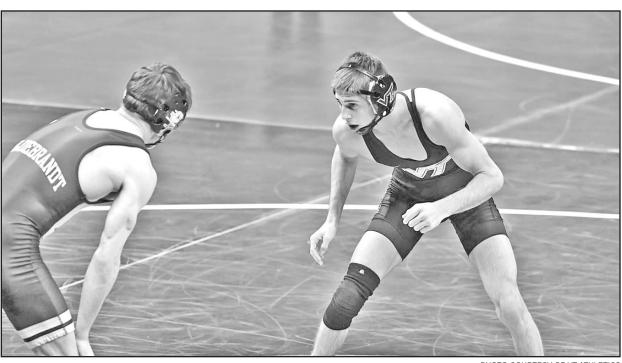
Fuente indicated Tech delved more into situational football this past week. Throughout spring practice, numerous players have pointed to Tech's 33-15 win against Virginia last December as a "complete game" and a sign of the potential of this squad in

Perhaps the most unusual bit of news that was broken this week came on NFL Network's Good Morning Football. Although it was no secret in the Tech locker room, Khalil Herbert revealed that he was born with 12 fingers (six on each hand) and six toes on his left foot. Among more predictable tidbits the Tech

running back dropped was the fact that his favorite NFL running back of all time is LaDainian Tomlinson, who owns a similar physique and running style. Combined with the fact that his birthday is April 21, the No. 21 that Herbert wore in college is also an homage to Tomlinson.

--VT Athletics

ACC names VT's Sam Latona the freshman wrestler of year



Wednesday Sam Latona became the ninth Hokie wrestler to be named the ACC Freshman of the Year.

Following one of the better rookie campaigns by a Hokie in recent memory, the ACC has named Virginia Tech wrestler Sam Latona its Freshman of the Year, as announced by the league office on Wednesday.

Latona becomes the ninth Hokie to receive the honor, the most in the league. NC State is second with four freshmen so honored. Tech has now fielded the Freshman of the Year in three of the last four sea-

An Alabama native, Latona placed sixth in the 125-pound weight class at the NCAA Championships to earn All-America honors in his first season compet-

ing for the Hokies. He finished the season with a 14-3 mark and won the ACC championship at

Latona, one of 43 Virginia Tech All-Americans all-time and one of three this season, posted an 8-0 mark in dual match-

The nine Virginia Tech ACC Freshman of the Year award winners are Jarrod Garrett, 2009; Brain Stephans, 2010; Devin Carter, 2011; Nick Brascetta, 2012; Joey Dance, 2014; David McFadden, 2016; Hunter Bolen, 2018; Mitch Moore, 2019; and Sam Latona, 2021.

--VT Athletics

Tech ramps up fan experience

Virginia Tech plans to continue rolling out new and engaging content for Hokie Nation as spring football practices continue.

Though athletic department personnel are disappointed a traditional spring game weekend is not possible due to current local COVID guidelines, there will be no shortage of coverage of spring football practice in addition to what has already been a look inside the program this off-season. While practice highlights, hype videos, photo galleries, and interviews with coaches and players have long been staples of Tech's football coverage, fans can expect those elements and even more in the coming weeks.

"Hokies Football in Your House" is a new special planned for the conclusion of spring foot-

Head Coach Justin Fuente and assistant coaches will break down top moments from the past season as well as spring practices to give fans an inside look at the state of the program, the returning members of the team, and the newcomers. Hokie Nation will also see exclusive elements from Tech football student-athletes discussing their improvement and aspirations for this fall.

Last spring, the "Hard Hat Series" drew praise from fans as Tech student-athletes and coaches engaged in candid conversations on football and campus life as well as the special talents of the football team off the field. This year, that concept evolves to the next step. In addition to those multi-person roundtable conversations, mic'd up elements from practices are being added to bring fans closer to the action and their favorite student-athletes.

Look for the first episode coming soon featuring offensive line coach Vance Vice and two of his top pupils, Brock Hoffman and Lecitus Smith. Multiple episodes are currently in production with cornerbacks coach Ryan Smith up next along with Jermaine Waller and Dorian Strong. Other position groups will be featured in the weeks to come.

Fans should continue to follow @HokiesFB on Twitter and Instagram for quick-hitting exclusive content. Extended versions of videos and interviews are archived on both HokieSports.com and the Virginia Tech Athletics You-Tube channel. Look for a complete spring wrap-up with Coach Fuente after the conclusion of spring practice has concluded. Fans can register for the Tech

Talking Points to have VT Athletics content delivered directly to their inbox on a regular basis.

Stay tuned as the creative team at 25 Beamer Way continues to find new and exciting ways to bring fans closer to their favorite

--VT Athletics



Radford's Salma Loudili earned Big South Player of the Week honors after a perfect week of competition in which she went 3-0 in singles play and 2-0 in doubles play.

RU's Salma Loudili tabbed tennis Big South Player of the Week

The Big South Conference announced Wednesday afternoon that Radford University women's tennis player Salma Loudili had been named the Big South Player of the Week after her perfect record amongst competition last week.

Loudili was a perfect 3-0 in singles play and 2-0 in doubles play in three close matches last week. Two of those three singles victories came on court two with the last coming on court one in a big clinch against UNC Asheville where the match ended in a 4-3 final score. Teaming up with Melissa Ifidzhen, the duo clinched the doubles point for the Highlanders against Presbyterian, was the lone doubles court

to beat Davidson, and went unfinished with a 4-3 lead against UNC Asheville.

Loudili now owns a fourmatch winning streak in singles, pushing her total singles record to 8-3. Her winning percentage of .727 is fifth best in the Big South, and the eight wins are secondbest. Loudili is an unbeaten 3-0 in conference play.

Outdoor Report: 2021 walleye fishing forecast

Each year in March, fisheries biologists and hatchery production staff collect adult walleye from the New River, Staunton River, and the South Holston Reservoir for the production of fingerling walleye to stock in selected lakes and rivers in Virginia.

Walleye were spawned or hatched at Vic Thomas, Front Royal, King and Queen, and Buller fish cultural stations and were raised in ponds until they were about 1.5 inches long when they were stocked in locations across the state. Additionally, female walleye are crossed with male sauger to produce the hybrid saugeye. Saugeye perform well in some systems and are stocked with or in place of walleye. In 2020, the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources stocked approximately 1,025,283 Walleye fingerlings.

Overall, 2020 was a good production year slightly above the long-term annual production average for the past decade of 890,852 fingerlings statewide.

The following report offers walleye sampling results and fishing forecasts on waters stocked with walleye and saugeye fingerlings. Anglers who want the challenge of catching a walleye or saugeye should fish one of the locations in this forecast.

on the Upper New River from Buck Dam downstream to Allisonia will be consistent with recent years due to annual stocking since 2014. In 2015 and 2017 to 2020, walleye were stocked at multiple sites from Allisonia to Fries. As a result, annual walleye catch rates in fisheries biologists' spring electrofishing sampling increased from the low-catch rates in 2014 and 2015.

Anglers fishing from Buck Dam to Claytor Dam will have to release 19- to 28-inch walleye year round under the new size limit effective January 1, 2021, but they should catch plenty of walleye under 19 inches. In spring 2020 electrofishing samples, 58% of the walleye collected were in the 14-to 19-inch size range. When you fish for wall-

eye on the Upper New River, follow these size and creel limits: 1. From Buck Dam downstream to Claytor Lake Dam: Year-round: All walleye 19 to 28 inches caught must be released unharmed. Anglers may keep two walleye per day less than 19 inches or over 28 inches. This regulation allows anglers to harvest a few smaller male walleyes (typically less than 19 inches) or a trophy female walleye (typically greater than 28 inches)

In 2021, walleye fishing while protecting the best spawning-size walleyes in the population.

2. From Fries Dam downstream to Buck Dam: As of January 1, 2021, the statewide 18-inch minimum length limit, with a five-perday creel limit for walleye is in effect year-round. Biologists tagged walleye in the Upper New River from 2008 to 2012 as part of a statewide walleye research project. A cash reward of 20 dollars will still be offered for the return of these tags with catch information.

Anglers can remove the tag by cutting through the monofilament attachment with scissors or a knife. The fish can then be released or harvested (the length limits listed above apply). Return the tag and catch information to the address printed on the tag. Catch informa-tion includes date, time and general location of catch, and "Was the fish harvested or released? Were you fishing for walleye?" and "Did you catch other walleye on this fishing trip?"

Anglers visiting South Holston Lake in 2021 good should experience Walleye fishing although not as productive as in recent years. Sampling during 2020, including both electrofishing and gillnetting, exhibited a decline in catch, although a mostly desirable size structure remains with most walleye collected during the fall gillnetting larger than 18 inches.

Winter gillnet surveys provide a more complete picture of the walleye population at South Holston Lake in terms of population densities, growth rates, and survival of stocked fingerlings. A reduced stocking in 2016 of 42,640 Walleye fingerlings due to hatchery production issues has resulted in a missing year class, which is now evident in our sampling efforts.

As a result, anglers should still enjoy the current state of the fishery, and more recent stockings at the requested allocation will increase the population that recruits to the fishery over the next few Anglers can expect aver-

age fishing during the spring spawning run on the South Fork Holston River due to a reduced lake population. Anglers congregate near the community of Alvarado from February through April to catch walleye on the

Walleye fishing awaits Virginia anglers along the New River and in places like Hungry Mother Park.

spring spawning run.

During May and June anglers find Walleye feeding along the shorelines of the lake. The post spawn top water bite in the lower lake will yield the best Walleye fishing Virginia has to offer. Walleye growth is outstanding, so anglers should find plenty of fish larger than the minimum size of 18 inches. Most Walleye exceed 10 inches in their first year and measure 15 to 18 inches in their second year. Walleye generally reach 20 inches by their third year.

This 108-acre lake provides anglers with a great opportunity to catch Walleye

in a small lake setting. Located in Hungry Mother State Park, the lake is also a great destination for families.

The Walleye population is stable or slightly increasing. There are good numbers of fish up to 20 inches and just enough larger ones to cause anglers to lose some sleep this summer. Walleye up to 28 inches in length have been landed in recent years. April, May, and June are the three best months with night fishing generally being more productive. Most anglers use artificial lures, but live shad, minnows, and night crawlers are also very effective.

Blue Ridge Junior golf tour to kick off new season in Radford

The Blue Ridge Junior Golf Tour is set to celebrate its 23rd season in 2021 with the announcement of the season's tour schedule.

The Tour offers golfers up to age 18 the opportunity to learn golf rules, etiquette, and skills while playing golf courses in southern West Club, and Fincastle. Virginia and Southwest Virginia.

Tour Executive Director Dewayne Belcher says, "Developing character and sportsmanship through the game of golf has been the motto since the beginning of the tour in 1999. With that foundation, we have seen young players exhibit sportsmanship in inspiring ways."

After navigating the COVID-19 restrictions during the 2020 season, tour officials are hopeful of returning to normal in regard to gatherings for the academies and rules clinics.

"We followed instructions from health authorities last year and altered the plan by putting instruction for the academies and rules clinic online for viewing," Belcher said. "Our tournaments were played with a few special rules provisions to maintain social distance and reduce common touch points. Members and their families did an admirable job and kept the safety of all in mind throughout the season. We are hoping to be free of restrictions by the time events begin in May but are prepared to use the online options and special rules provisions again if necessary."

Action will begin with the first of three golf academies on Saturday, May 22, at the Pete Dye River Course of Virginia Tech in Radford. Instructional academies follow at Draper Valley Golf Club in Draper and Fincastle Golf Course in Bluefield.

The "Golf by the Rules" clinic will also be held at Fincastle. Tournament play begins in early June with stops at the River Course, The Greenbrier, Tazewell County Country Club, Glade Springs Resort, Auburn Hills Golf Club, Blacksburg Country

Interested junior golfers can find all dates, events, and sites at brjgt. com. Registration also can be completed on the website.

The cost to join the tour is \$30, and each tournament is \$20 except for the season-ending tour championship. This is a two-day event and costs \$40. Through the experience, the junior golfer will receive a number of BRJGT gifts including the official 2021 cap. Also, the player will become a better golfer, make many good friends, and create memories that

will last a lifetime. Age groups are divided into the following categories: 17-18, 15-16, 13-14, (all play 18 holes), 10-12 and 9-and-under (both play 9 holes). Also, there is an additional developmental group for ages 13-18 for those who are brand new to golf. The latter includes a coach to accompany the players for nine holes during selected tournaments.

"2021 promises to be another fun season filled with many rewarding experiences," Belcher

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