

Radford detective completes Virginia Forensic Science Academy

To view Virginia's RN program rankings, visit <https://www.registerednursing.org/rn-to-bsn/virginia/#top>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

<p>Thursday, April 8:</p> <p><i>Virtual Author Talk with Ron Peterson, Jr.</i> - Join in virtually with the Montgomery Floyd Regional Library as best-selling author Ron Peterson, Jr., discusses his new novel, “Chasing the Squirrel: The Pursuit of Notorious Drug Smuggler Wally Thrasher” at 7 p.m. Joining him will be his son, Montana Thrasher. “Chasing the Squirrel” is the true story of Wally Thrasher, whose investigation led in 1986 to the biggest drug bust in mid-Atlantic United States history.</p>	<p>Tuesday, April 13</p> <p><i>Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting</i> - The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart-Horse-Artillery Camp 1784, will meet at 7 p.m. at Ally’s Italian Family Restaurant at 3204 Riner Road. Jonathan McPeak will talk on the History of Virginia’s 45th Infantry Regiment. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy are invited to attend. For further information, call 320-4315 or 239-9864.</p>	<p>Wednesday, April 14, April 28, May 12, May 26:</p> <p><i>Hahn Horticulture Garden Virtual Road Trip</i> - The second stop of the five-stop Zoom tour of gardens and arboretums at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflowers 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/jfc/form/SV_cumxRA-4Mec96guy. 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.</p>	<p>ation 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.</p>	<p>Regional Library from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.</p>	<p>to the public.</p>
<p>Monday, April 12</p> <p><i>Radford Public Schools Special Education Advisory Committee meeting</i> - The Google meet virtual meeting of this committee will be held at 5 p.m. The public is invited to attend. To be invited to the meeting with a virtual meeting link, contact Josh Brown, chairperson, at 267-3083 or Daniel Hill, director of special education at 267-3323.</p>	<p>Wednesday, April 14</p> <p><i>Radford Chamber of Commerce Business over Breakfast</i> - The chamber presents ‘Business over Breakfast’ from 8:00 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. at Sweet & Savory Donuts and Bagels, 1026A Clement St., Radford. The guest speaker is Elijah Sharp with the NRV Regional Commission. He will present information about the new East Main Downtown Plan and how everyone can get involved. Please wear a face mask to this event.</p>	<p>Through Thursday, April 15:</p> <p><i>ARTGAWK Exhibition</i> - “ARTGAWK: Selections from the Radford University Collection” is an exhibit</p>	<p>Through Friday, April 16:</p> <p><i>Young Chef Ingredient Challenge</i> - 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. The chefs can add more ingredients to their recipe(s), but the meal must include all the ingredients listed. Submit a photo and recipes by April 16. Email shodges@mfrl.org for further questions and for submission.</p>	<p>Thursday through Saturday, April 22, 23, 24:</p> <p><i>2021 Spring Plant Sale pickup days</i> - 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 https://springplantsaleatvt.company.site. Quantities are limited, so early ordering is suggested.</p>	<p>Tuesday, April 27:</p> <p><i>Book discussion and Meet the Author at Radford Public Library</i> - The RPL hosts Ron Peterson, Jr., for a Meet the Author/book discussion session via Zoom at 6:30 p.m. The author will be discussing another person of local interest in his new book “Chasing the Squirrel: The Pursuit of Notorious Drug Smuggler Wally Thrasher.”</p>
	<p>Through Saturday, April 24:</p> <p><i>“Unbearable Beauty” Exhibit at Moss Arts Center</i> - 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 is open</p>	<p>Through Saturday, April 24:</p> <p><i>Teen Dungeons and Dragons</i> - Online from the Montgomery Floyd</p>			<p>Throughout April:</p> <p><i>Grab-and-Go Crafts</i> - 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.</p> <p><i>StoryWalk</i> - All the month of April at the Christiansburg Library. Exercise your brain as you read and walk the trail. The walk begins at the library at the College Street entrance of Downtown Park. This month’s book is “Move!”</p>

VT Mohawk student shares her love for lacrosse and her heritage

Once, during a high school lacrosse game, a group of fans from an opposing high school called Jacelyn Lazore and her teammates – many of whom were Native Americans – derogatory names associated with indigenous peoples.

That incident, which Lazore vividly recalls, happened more than five years ago, and stereotypes unfortunately still exist in today’s world. But the young woman, who now plays attack on the Virginia Tech lacrosse team and is a member of the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation on the Canadian border, refuses to shun her heritage and culture. On the contrary, she embraces her background, choosing to educate and encourage when the situations allow for it.

“It’s definitely defeating, but it makes room for the opportunity to

change the perception in the way that others see us,” Lazore said.

Lazore knows about fighting for visibility, awareness, and engagement, both within her own tribe and outside of it. Tribal rules prevented girls from playing lacrosse, but several years ago, Lazore and her teammates won over the clan mother of the tribe, who got other tribal leaders to change their bylaws and later helped with fundraising efforts to keep the girls’ program afloat when budget cuts originally forced her high school to eliminate the team.

In Blacksburg, Lazore, a sophomore, became involved with Native at VT where she found a group of people with like interests and backgrounds and with whom she could relate outside the sport of lacrosse.

“I started to feel more of a sense of home when I met the Native at VT



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVE KNACHEL, VIRGINIA TECH ATHLETICS

Though a starter on the Virginia Tech lacrosse team, as a member of the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation on the Canadian border, Jacelyn Lazore finds time to participate in Native at VT events on campus and enjoys learning about other indigenous cultures.

group,” Lazore said. “They’re a very small group, but they’re very big in the sense of family. Even though I’ve had a limited amount of time to be with them — because the majority of time, I’m with my team lifting, I’m traveling, or I’m practicing – but the time I’ve had with them, it’s been

very, very, comforting.

“I found that sense of community just through this small group of individuals. We come from different backgrounds, but we do share the same intentions to have indigenous excellence represented everywhere.”

Currently, Native Americans comprise less

than 1 percent of the student population at Virginia Tech, but according to Melissa Faircloth, a graduate student pursuing a doctoral degree in sociology with a focus on the experiences of Native students on college campuses who is the full-time director of the AIICC, the number

of applications rose in the past year and efforts to let Native American high school students know that Virginia Tech welcomes diversity are taking effect.

“We’ve had in recent years a more concerted effort from admissions to reach out to this population,” Faircloth said.

VT’s virtual black alumni reunion will be April 12-18

For the first time, Virginia Tech’s Black Alumni Reunion will be hosted virtually.

The event is set for April 12-18. Registration is now open. The reunion will have opportunities to network, connect with students, and celebrate with fellow Hokies.

Virginia Tech’s Black Alumni Reunion is held biennially for alumni to come together to celebrate milestones, connect with one another, and have fun. The event was sched-

uled for spring 2020 and was rescheduled to 2021 as a virtual event because of public health guidelines.

The week will feature online activities with collaborative events supported by campus partners, including the Office for Inclusion and Diversity and Career and Professional Development.

Registration is \$25, and a portion (\$5) is a gift to the Inclusive VT Excellence Scholarship Fund. Participants get access to online events,

plus a gift set that includes a T-shirt, glassware, and a tote bag. Students can register for free.

The theme of this year’s event is “Reflecting, Reconnecting, Rising.”

Even though Hokies cannot gather in person, the reunion’s hallmark events will still happen online, including the Influential Black Alumni Awards ceremony, student and alumni networking, and a Friday night celebration.

Here is this year’s schedule:

Monday, April 12: Welcome from the Office for Inclusion and Diversity; Tuesday, April 13: Gathering of women and men lunches; Wednesday, April 14: Online networking with Career and Professional Development; Thursday, April 15: Influential Black Alumni Awards ceremony; Friday, April 16: NOIR Decade{n} Musical Battle of the Decades; Saturday, April 17: 3.2 Virtual Run in Remembrance.

Alumni are also asked to share their photos of past BAR celebrations and meaningful milestones for possible inclusion in the reunion.

To learn more and to register, visit: alumni.vt.edu/bar.

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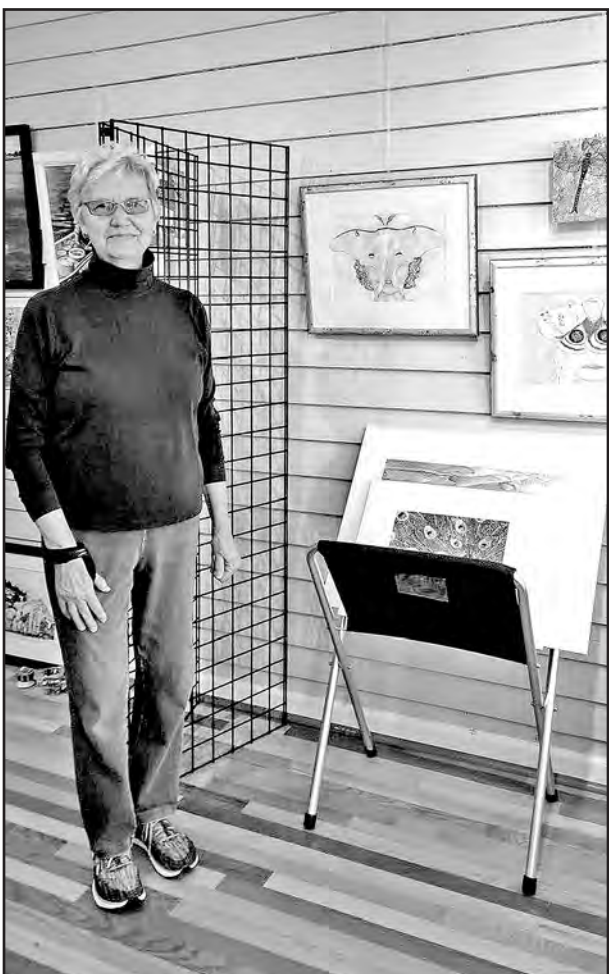
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Blacksburg art association to open co-op shop



The Blacksburg Regional Art Association (BRAA) is opening a co-op art shop this Friday and Saturday, April 10 and 11, from noon to 4 p.m. Co-manager Mary Ratliff shows a few of the artworks that will be available for sale.

On Friday, April 10, and Saturday, April 11, from noon to 4 p.m., the Blacksburg Regional Art Association (BRAA) will open The Art Space@The Artful Lawyer at 318 N. Main St. in downtown Blacksburg.

BRAA has been affiliated with The Artful Lawyer for a number of years and, like many businesses and associations, has experienced challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic. The art receptions formerly held in this space by the owner, James Creekmore, have been cancelled for months and the building has been closed to the public.

But now a portion of this stately old house will offer a new weekend attraction. Six spaces in the house will be rented by BRAA member artists on a quarterly basis beginning in April and continuing through June.

Sue Hossack and Mary Ratliff are co-managers of this new BRAA venture. Hossack describes the purpose of the shop as a way for BRAA artists to get their work seen by the public and for

residents of Montgomery County and beyond to have a chance to buy directly from artists.

"It will be a gallery of artists run by artists," said Hossack.

Located in the left wing of The Artful Place, the BRAA shop will offer patrons the chance not only to buy local art, but to meet and talk with the artists as well with several artists present each weekend. Artists will be in residence in the space for a period of three months at a time, weekends only. Each quarter, new artists will be featured.

For this first quarter, the artists will be Mary Ratliff, Sue Hossack, Diamond Gabriel, and Trenia Bell. They will offer a variety of works from original paintings in various media to notecards, photography and jewelry. Visitors may have the chance to watch art demonstrations.

The second quarter, July through September, will feature Ruth Lefko, Aileen Fletcher, Joy Rosenthal, Susan Lockwood, Lois Stephens, and Joe Scarpaci with paintings, photography and handmade oak coffee tables.



Sue Hossack (right) and Diamond Gabriel, both members of the Blacksburg Regional Art Association (BRAA), pause from loading The Art Place@The Artful Lawyer in preparation for the April 10 opening of the new weekends-only shop, the first of its kind for the organization. All artists to be featured in the shop are local and are members of the 71-year-old local art association.

Customers will be able to purchase with credit card, cash, or check.

The organizing committee for this new venture includes artists Sue Hossack, Linda Correll, Ava Howard and Charlotte Chan.

Normal hours will be Saturdays and Sundays noon to 4 p.m.

"If things go well," said BRAA President Charlotte Chan, "we will consider opening more hours. Look for the sandwich board in front of the building as a reminder that we are open and are ready to welcome art lovers and, hopefully, buyers. We invite the residents of this area to put our shop on their list of places to bring their out-of-town visitors in to see more of what Blacksburg is all about."

All social distancing requirements will be met, so please wear masks, the "artsy-er the better." A maximum of 10 visitors at a time will be allowed in the space.

Go to www.blacksburgart.org for more information.

-Gerri Young

Christiansburg Rescue is first in 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 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests occur in the U.S. annually. About 90% of people who suffer out-of-hospital cardiac arrest die.

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 Montgomery County since 1947 that is comprised of volunteers and full- and part-time staff.

"Christiansburg Rescue prides itself on providing efficient, high-quality healthcare by following evidence-based science and on the progressive stance we take in early adoption of novel medical tech-

niques 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 every-two-years-model, and then COVID-19 struck. We needed a solution that would deliver ongoing 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 Prehospital 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 quality.

"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."

VT campus COVID-19 cases trending down

Positive COVID-19 cases on Virginia Tech's Blacksburg campus are declining rapidly, a welcome sign for the university community as it aims for a strong spring semester finish in the midst of the pandemic.

Coronavirus case numbers have plateaued in recent days, reflecting a similar pattern at the same point during the fall 2020 semester when case counts dwindled, said Mike Mulhare, assistant vice president for emergency management at Virginia Tech.

Wide adherence to public health guidelines across the

university community has been key to the declining trends, he said.

Still, health officials encourage people to balance freedom with vigilance when it comes to protection against the coronavirus for themselves and others.

"Virginia Tech students on the whole have stayed the course with sacrifice, humility, patience, and hope," said Frank Shushok, vice president for student affairs. "The results show in case numbers, and more importantly, in our collective positive spirit. I

couldn't be more grateful."

With May commencement approaching, Virginia Tech is planning for some in-person ceremonies. The university announced this week that it will hold 15 in-person commencement ceremonies outdoors at Lane Stadium from May 10-16, while adhering to public health guidelines.

There is other good news among the Hokie nation. Increasingly, members of the university community are receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. The New River Health District administered about

1,500 vaccine doses this past week to Virginia Tech employees, and more will be offered as supply allows.

Virginia Tech students are encouraged to register to receive a vaccine through the Virginia Department of Health.

Even so, despite positive strides, the campus community should continue to practice caution. People should continue to follow public health guidelines, such as wearing a mask in public, avoiding crowded spaces, and washing hands, said Noelle

Bissell, health director of the New River Health District, while speaking with the media this week. COVID-19 still is spreading in parts of the district.

"Our vaccines are the light at the end of the tunnel, but we're still in the tunnel," Bissell said. "We encourage people not to let their guard down until we get closer to herd immunity [when a majority of a population is vaccinated]."

-Written by
Jenny Kincaid Boone

Virginia high school students may apply for forestry department's natural resources academy

Virginia high school students currently in grades 9-12 who are interested in natural resources may apply to attend the Virginia Academy of Natural Resources, a new virtual camp sponsored by Virginia Department of Forestry and the Virginia Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts.

Students have until April 30 to apply for the academy, which will take place July 12-16, 2021. Each morning will feature live virtual presentations from natural resource professionals with daily themes of aquatics, forestry, soils, or wildlife. Each afternoon, participants will complete field explorations on their own

as well as further exploring topics through videos and reading material.

"Since both Camp Woods & Wildlife and Youth Conservation Camp were cancelled due to COVID-19, we wanted to offer an alternative way for teens to explore natural resource topics and careers," said Bonnie Mahl of the soil and water conservation districts.

"This camp has several unique twists you won't find in most virtual camps," said Ellen Powell of the Virginia Department of Forestry. The daily self-directed field studies complete with instructions and materials for campers to use and keep will connect campers

with nature in their own backyards, local parks, or woods. In addition, small groups of campers will work together to showcase the natural resources of their region of the state, culminating in group presentations on Friday.

The week will culminate with a natural resources competition modeled after the Virginia Dominion Energy Envirothon program.

Students may apply for the Virginia Academy of Natural Resources at <https://forms.gle/9mRUtyoaPrvFQY2N9>. Once students are notified of their acceptance, campers will receive a schedule, Zoom link, and materials for

completing their daily field studies.

The cost for the week-long academy is \$25 to

cover materials, and financial aid is available as academy coordinators want all students to experience the

academy. Students may contact Ellen Powell at ellen.powell@dof.virginia.gov to discuss options.

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OPINION

Evans King: The Cobblestone Defense League

A couple of weeks ago I encountered one of those moments that every homeowner has at some point unless maybe your house sits on a 6-acre lot in a cloistered community. I stepped out on my back deck to go to my garage to head to work. And what did I see?

Approximately 20 folks in neon green vests wearing white hard hats milling around in the street beside my house. They were surrounded by at least 10 white trucks lined up and down the street plus a black and orange piece of machinery that to me resembled a rocket launcher.

I thought that perhaps we had declared war on Bridgeport, as this thing seemed like it might have the range to drop missiles into that town about five miles away. In fact, I thought maybe we were engaging Fairmont, about 20 miles away.

Being both curious and convivial, I wandered over to inquire, and then I saw the signs of the devil that had been painted on my neighborhood's sidewalks and in the street. Those telltale spray-painted markers that mean destruction is imminent. Or at least being contemplated.

Being the clever fellow that I am, I walked up to this group, all 20 or so of whom were staring at a manhole cover in the intersection of my alleyway and the street that I use for ingress and egress (as those lawyers say) and asked, "Gonna do some work?" As if they were possibly there for a social gathering.

I was politely told (as I had feared) that they were with the "gas company" and they were replacing "lines that had been laid in the 20's." I knew they didn't mean the 2020's since my house is 100 years old, so this was probably a necessary and inevitable step.

This work and the accompanying dust and destruction and noise would be inconvenient at best. But in my neighborhood it could also be tragic in a sense. You see, I live in one of only two sections of our fine city that still have brick streets, beautiful, nostalgic, yellow brick streets.

My thoughts immediately turned to my late neighbor, Capt. Mike Kozakewich, USMC (Ret.).

Mike was my neighbor, friend, and law partner for about 25 years. He lived half a block down the street from the house that Joyce and I bought in the late 90's. Mike was a "Marine's Marine." He began in the Corps as an enlisted man and left as a captain. His father had been a Marine in the South Pacific in World War II, and Mike had followed in his dad's footsteps. He enlisted out of high school and then volunteered for Vietnam in 1968 where he served as a sergeant in the First Recon Company, First Marine Division.

While I was not in the military and am not a Vietnam War historian, I know this duty was not exactly the same as sitting in a college classroom in the states during that period. It was dangerous to the tenth power.

Mike became a career guy and earned his undergraduate and master's degrees while in the Corps. Among his various "billets" (he liked the term) after returning from Southeast Asia, he served as a drill sergeant at Parris Island where he met his future wife, Cindy, also a Marine. (Fittingly, they were married on Parris Island).

Perhaps the high point of Mike's post-Vietnam service was his assignment as a counterintelligence officer in the Presidential Helicopter Squadron at Quantico during the Reagan administration.

After retiring from the Corps in 1986, Mike entered law school at the University of Virginia on what he referred to in his obituary as "an ill-considered lark." Upon graduation, Mike joined our firm and became an outstanding lawyer and superb community citizen, following the small-town lifestyle he had hoped for.

Capt. K passed away in 2012, way too young, another victim of Agent Orange, like so many of his fellow Vietnam vets (including my cousin Joe).

So, what is the connection between the recent onslaught of the gas company and Mike you say? Well, over the years when the city or any of the utilities that serviced our neighborhood appeared to be involved in hostile activities that might result in replacing our brick streets, Mike would slip into fatigues and casually come out of his house and walk over and "suggest" that we liked our brick streets.

Sometimes I would accompany him, and in a friendly way let them know that Mike was a decorated Marine who had seen real combat. Real bad combat. We called ourselves the CDL: the Cobblestone Defense League. Suffice it to say that our street is still brick, at least for now.

When Mike died, a few of us at our office sat down and wrote the "Kozakewich Charge." It sums him up perfectly: a tough Marine but a caring husband and father, community leader and Re-

naissance man.

"Go forth..."

"Love God, your country, and your family.

"Challenge your mind and body to the fullest,

"Always do your best but never take yourself too seriously...no one else does.

"Work hard, play hard, laugh even harder.

"Enjoy your friends, be loyal to them.

"Enjoy your toys.

"Enjoy your guns but they are NOT toys.

"Enjoy the drive with the top down.

"Appreciate the meal before you, even the MRE's and C rations.

"Give of yourself generously and unconditionally. Duty calls.

"Be a leader, if not by choice by example.

"Don't let the fear of failure keep you from reaching your goals.

"Enjoy your life and leave the world better than you found it."

Evans "Buddy" King is a proud native of Christiansburg, CHS Class of 1971. He resides in Clarksburg, W.Va., where he has practiced law with the firm of Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC, since 1980. He can be reached at evans.king@steptoe-johnson.com.

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Auburn Middle School taking part in 2021 campaign to reduce crashes by teen drivers

Auburn Middle School is among the 26 high schools and four middle schools statewide to register for the 2021 Arrive Alive Campaign, which focuses on the increased risks teen drivers face during the spring and summer months.

Statistics show that more of Virginia's teen drivers will be involved in traffic crashes from May through August than at any other time of the year. To help save lives and prevent crashes during the high-risk warm weather months, Virginia schools and youth groups are this week kicking off a statewide teen safety campaign, Arrive Alive, to establish safe driving and passenger

The campaign is sponsored by Youth of Virginia Speak Out about Traffic Safety (YOVASO) and focuses on the increased risk of teen-driver crashes during the spring and summer months. Throughout the campaign, high school students will lead peer-to-peer programs on speed prevention and seat belt use while middle school students will focus their messaging on being a safe passenger and always buckling up.

According to the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, 63% of young driver-related fatal crashes in 2020 were speed-related and 63% of the teens (ages 15-20) killed in crashes in 2020 were unrestrained.

"Although young driver-related crashes were down in 2020 in Virginia, we had an alarming 12% increase in fatalities among young drivers with risky behaviors such as speeding and not wearing a seat belt" said Mary King, YOVASO program manager. "If we are going to save lives, we need our youth to use their positive influence to change these high-risk behaviors and attitudes."

King said all teens are encouraged to get involved in Arrive Alive by asking friends and peers to buckle up and by leading efforts in schools and communities to make speeding and other dangerous driving behaviors unacceptable.

To address the seriousness of speeding among teens and buckling up among young drivers and passengers, YOVASO's Arrive Alive Campaign offers several opportunities for students, schools, and youth groups to take action.

The Creative Entry Competition is the highlight of this year's campaign, providing an option for student groups to participate once again in a behavior changing project for a chance to win cash prizes. High- and middle-school student groups will compete separately.

All creative entry messaging must be related to the Arrive Alive Campaign theme by addressing speed prevention at the high school level and seat belt use at the middle school level. All entries will be judged on content, creativity, and student involvement with prizes funded by State Farm Insurance being awarded as follows: first place \$300, second place \$200 and third place \$100. Entries are due May 12, 2021, by 5:00 p.m., and the winners will be announced on May 24, 2021. For guidelines and the entry form, visit YOVASO's website.

Youth ages 11-20 may also participate in the campaign by registering for the free #ArriveAlive21 Kit that includes driver and passenger safety resources, activity ideas, summer recipes, and other fun items like sunglasses and stickers. Students who register for a kit will be entered to win a \$10 Amazon Gift Card. Winners will be randomly selected every two weeks starting April 16, 2021, and continuing throughout the month of August.

In partnership with State Farm, YOVASO will also be giving away \$50 to three schools or youth groups that continue activities and/or promotion throughout the summer months. These winners will be randomly selected at the ends of June, July, and August.

Survey: Virginia's economy is eighth hardest hit by COVID-19

As the personal finance website WalletHub points out, coronavirus isn't just a danger to Americans' health. It's also a menace to our wallets. To determine which states' economies were hardest hit by the pandemic, WalletHub compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia across 13 metrics. The results showed that Virginia's economy has been the eighth hardest hit by the pandemic.

WalletHub says that the U.S. is still struggling to recover from the unemployment caused by business closures. While the federal government has helped mitigate some of this damage through multiple rounds of business loans, direct stimulus payments to individuals and increased unemployment benefits, it will take a long time for state economies to fully recover.

The 13 metrics WalletHub used that landed the commonwealth in the No.-8 position among hardest hit economies were 1) GDP generated by highly affected industries as a share of the total state GDP 2) the share of employment from highly affected industries (Virginia was ranked 26th in the country in this category.) 3) WalletHub's "States Whose Unemployment Claims Are Recovering the Quickest" score (Virginia was ranked #1 in this as the state with the slowest recovery rate in the country.) 4) the share of employment from small businesses 5) the percent change in number of small businesses open 6) the percent change in all consumer spending 7) percent change in GDP (2020 vs 2019) 8) the states prepared for digital economy ranking 9) the share of workers working from home 10) the work from home infrastructure 11) the share of workers with access to paid sick leave (Virginia ranked first in this category with the lower rankings being the least desirable.) 12) the state's rainy day funds as a share of state expenditures.

CROSSWORD

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Auricles
5. Sharpening strap
10. Supplemented with difficulty
14. Jaguarundi
15. "7 Year Itch" Tom
16. European defense organization
17. Camber
18. Kittiwake genus
19. 3rd largest French city
20. Used for instant long locks
23. Harangue
24. Grabs
25. Formally withdraw membership
28. Magnitude relations
32. El Dorado High School

CLUES DOWN

33. Porzana carolina
34. Earl Grey or green
35. Dog's tail action
36. Friends (French)
38. Lessen the force of
39. Dermaptera
42. Views
44. From a distance
46. Bleats
47. London Games 2012
53. Let the body fall heavily
54. Collect a large group
55. Aba ____ Honeymoon
57. Give over
58. Glue & plaster painting prep
59. Middle East chieftain
60. Removed ruthlessly
61. AKA bromelain
62. A dissenting clique

CLUES DOWN

27. Backed seat for one
29. From farm state
30. Speak
31. Gurus
37. Deluged
38. In addition to
40. Oldest Yoruba town
41. A place to shelter cars
42. ____ and Delilah
43. Toothpaste tube cover
45. ____ and Juliet
46. Mussel beards
47. Prevents harm to creatures
48. Gorse genus
49. A method of doing
50. Young Scottish woman
51. Latticework lead bar
52. Invests in little enterprises
56. The products of human creativity

Submit letters to the editor to editor@ourvalley.org

OBITUARIES

Barta, Michael Joseph

Michael Joseph Barta, 58, died unexpectedly at his home in Franklin, N.C. on March 31, 2021.

He was born March 27, 1963, in Morgantown, W.Va., and was a 1981 graduate of Radford High School where he played football and basketball and ran track.

He was a 1985 graduate of Princeton University where he graduated summa cum laude and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and a 1988 graduate of Harvard Law School where he graduated cum laude. He clerked for The Honorable Jerome Farris of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

He began his legal career at Miller, Cassidy, Larroca & Lewin, a renowned litigation boutique firm in Washington, D.C., and was the youngest attorney ever to be elected as a fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers.

During his career, he served as Chair of the White Collar Crime and Corporate Investigations Groups at Baker Botts LLP before moving his practice to Dechert LLP. He served as the lead counsel in high profile litigation involving an array of clients, including the Estate of Richard Nixon, the Republic of Venezuela, Samsung Electronics, NASCAR, Tomas Berdych, and Halliburton. He also taught trial advocacy at the Georgetown University Law Center.

Perhaps his proudest professional accomplishment was one of the first cases on which he worked out of law school. He



represented an Oklahoma man on death row for the Geronimo Bank murders and won a new trial and an overturned death sentence for his client. He combined his brilliance with an unparalleled work ethic for over 30 years.

Michael was witty, generous, tenacious and determined and was a great storyteller. He was an avid basketball fan, played in a lawyers' league in D.C., and loved rooting for Duke basketball. He also loved the Shenandoah Valley and spent happy times as a young man with friends and family at his farm in Edinburg, Va. He was a proud father and recently retired to the mountains of North Carolina to spend more time with his teenage children, Jack and Katie, whom he adored.

He is survived by his children, John Joseph Barta (Jack) and Katherine Elizabeth Barta (Katie), both of Franklin, N.C.; his parents, Dr. Joseph A. and Sue Blair Barta of Radford; his siblings, Mark Barta (Amy) of Galena, Ohio; Amy Wall (Jimmy) of Winston-Salem, N.C. and Laura Barta of Arlington, Va.; thirteen nieces and nephews, and a great-niece and great-nephew.

Services were held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 3, 2021, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Interment followed in the West View Cemetery in Radford.

The Barta family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com.

Dowdy, Robert Mitchell

Robert Mitchell Dowdy, 86, of Merrimac died, Sunday, April 4, 2021, at Roanoke Memorial Hospital. He was born in Montgomery County on Oct. 10, 1934, to the late Cecil and Minnie Cooper Dowdy. He was also preceded in death by his son, Robert Dowdy; a granddaughter-in-law, Bonnie Dowdy; and a brother, Billy Dowdy.

He was a member of Merrimac Pentecostal Church. Mitchell loved farming and worked with horses and cattle. He also loved putting around in his gardens.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Ruth Dowdy; a daughter and son-in-law, Fay and Maynard Quesenberry; grand-



children Mitch Dowdy, and Angela Griffith (Eric), great-grandchildren Lauren Hughes, Austin Dowdy, and Briana Griffith; and great-great-grandchildren Addilyn Rose and Owen.

Funeral services will be conducted today, Wednesday, April 7, 2021, at 2:30 p.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Richard Hall and Pastor Reggie Britts officiating. Entombment will follow in Roselawn Memorial Gardens, Christiansburg.

The family will receive friends from 1-2:30 p.m. this afternoon prior to the service. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

Palmer, Lula Belle Thornton

Lula Belle Thornton Palmer, 71, of Christiansburg, died Friday, April 2, 2021, at Carrington Place, Wytheville.

She was born in Lindside, W.Va., on April 16, 1949 to the late Calvin and Archie Clark Thornton.

She was preceded in death by two sons, Roger Dale Palmer, Jr., and Gregory Justin Palmer.

She is survived by her son and



daughter-in-law, Mike and Brandy Palmer; grandchildren Kurry and Sage Palmer; brothers and sisters-in-law Scotty and Linda Thornton, Charles and Cindy Thornton, Richard and Betty Thornton, and John Thornton; a sister and brother-in-law, Sandra and Tony Martin.

A private service will be held by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

Price, Lynn Carol Parsons

Lynn Carol Parsons Price, of Blacksburg, passed away hand-in-hand with her son, Tad, at her side at 6:26 p.m. on Friday April 2, 2021, at Roanoke Memorial Hospital.

All who met Lynn truly knew her; she was honestly genuine; she was Lynn - PERIOD. To describe her in one word would be "classy."

More importantly, she was an adored mother, a dutiful dog momma, the sincerest of friends, an amazing aunt, an attentive sister, a super secret-keeper, and a best friend to anyone she met.

She is survived by her beloved son, Tad (James Gideon Price Jr), her longtime companion, Earl Brown, and her



sisters, Joan Pempcil, Lois Birdwell, and Geraldine Wilson; as well as family Camie Warren and Amy Lynn Lively ("The Girls"), and many other friends and family who will miss her dearly. She will forever be in our hearts, and the memories she made will exceed our lifetime.

'540-951-4410' will never be the same again.

The cute little giggle when she heard your voice and discovered who was calling because heaven forbid she get caller ID will be missed by all. Until we meet again, give Uncle Jimmy (James Gideon Price) and Granny (Anna Catherine Parsons) a big hug for all of us.

Snider, Robert Leonard

Robert was born in Ashboro, N.C., on Oct. 17, 1946, to Howard William Snider and Josephine Plagg Snider.

He was raised in Denton, N.C., where his father's family had lived for generations. Robert passed away at Roanoke Memorial Hospital on March 22, 2021.

Robert graduated from Denton High School in 1965 and from Virginia Tech in 1968 with honors in mathematics. He earned his Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Miami in 1971. His area of research was algebraic ring theory.

He was awarded a post-doctoral position from 1971 through 1974 at Northwestern University where he worked with colleagues from Northwestern as well as the University of Chicago.

In 1974, Robert took a permanent position with the mathematics department at Virginia Tech where he was hired as an associate professor with tenure. Within a few years, he was promoted to the rank of full professor.

In 1977 he was invited to take a year-long sabbatical at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem where he worked with world class mathematicians and proved an important theorem in his area. In 1981, he was invited to take another year-long sabbatical,



this time at Cambridge University in England. He really enjoyed the opportunities provided by both of these sabbaticals. Robert retired from Virginia Tech in 2010 and was awarded emeritus status by the university.

Robert had many interests throughout his life. He enjoyed bird watching from an early age as well as fishing, hunting, gardening, and horticulture. He enjoyed researching grafting on fruit trees and cross-pollination of plants. He was always interested in finding old varieties of apple trees throughout the area.

Robert is survived by his wife, Suzanne E. Verdu. They enjoyed many trips in both the United States and around the world. He is also survived by his daughters and sons-in-law, Anna and David Lord, Laura Snider and John Steinbauer, and Tracy and Bret Wallace, as well as six grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister and brother-in-law, Mary and Charles Sawyer, and his niece Amanda Sawyer Holliday and her family.

To remember Robert, please consider a donation to NPR, PBS, or the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

The Snider family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com.

Stone, Tyler William

Tyler William Stone, 29, was born July 8, 1991, and passed away on March 26, 2021.

He was preceded in death by his beloved papaw, Norman Simmons; his granny, Macel Stone; and an aunt, Sharon Shomaker.

He leaves behind his son, Tipton Stone; his father, Willy Stone; his mother, Dreama Simmons; his papaw, Marshall Stone; his grandmother, Darlene Simmons; and



several aunts, uncles, cousins and great-cousins.

We will forever miss you.

Memorial services will be private.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to the New Life Recovery Center, 7193 Warden Court, Radford, VA 24141. The Stone family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

Virginia Tech graduate programs among nation's top in latest U.S. News & World Report survey

Graduate programs throughout Virginia Tech are among the best in the country, according to a survey of the nation's top graduate schools by U.S. News & World Report.

The College of Engineering is the top performer of the university's graduate programs, ranking 31 among 212 nationwide. As for specialty engineering programs, three at Virginia Tech ranked in the top 10. They are environmental at six, industrial at eight, and civil at nine.

Other Virginia Tech specialty engineering programs that made the top 20 are aerospace at 15, electrical at 16, nuclear at 17, mechanical at 17, and computer engineering at 20.

"We are excited to see that many of our engineering programs continue to perform well in these rankings," said Pamela VandeVord, associate dean of research and graduate studies for Virginia Tech's College of Engineering.

Last fall, Virginia Tech launched a new master of engineering in computer science, which is the inaugural academic program for the Innovation Campus based in Northern

Virginia. The goal of the program is to prepare students to advance their careers in the field.

Virginia Tech's part-time MBA program, offered by the Pamplin College of Business, ranked 28 among 279 institutions. This is the seventh year that the program has landed in the top 30, said Dana Hansson, director of MBA programs at Virginia Tech.

This summer, Virginia Tech will begin offering a new online MBA program.

"Accommodating students with virtual learning over the last year across all of our MBA formats allowed us to explore fully online delivery as a permanent option through the recently announced online MBA," Hansson said. "We're already excited by the level of interest and strength of the applications we've received."

The online program also gives Virginia Tech new avenues for growth, said Parviz Ghandforoush, associate dean for graduate programs at Pamplin.

For the second year, the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine in Roanoke made the U.S. News rankings in the re-

search category of medical programs, ranking 83 among 133 schools. Since last year, the school continues to rank highest among the 30 new U.S. medical schools accredited since 2002. There are approximately 155 accredited medical schools in the country.

"We are very pleased to continue leading the cohort of newer medical schools while outranking some of the public and private medical schools that were established long ago," said Lee Learman, dean of the VTC School of Medicine. "We expect our reputation to increase in the years ahead as we grow our class size and graduate more outstanding physicians to practice across the U.S. and here in Virginia."

Several other Virginia Tech graduate programs made the U.S. News ranking in their respective areas. They include public affairs at 48, economics at 63, sociology at 64, English at 82, and education at 125.

The U.S. News & World Report annual graduate school rankings are based on two types of data: expert opinions about program excellence

and statistical indicators that measure the quality of a school's faculty, re-

search, and students. Specialty program rankings are based on nominations

from school officials.

-by Jenny Kincaid Boone

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

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

I-581 BRIDGE DECK REPAIRS – Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 581. Right, center and left lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

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The Fincastle Herald

The Vinton Messenger

The New Castle Record

Salem Times-Register

News Messenger

RADFORD News Journal

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Help Wanted - General

Part Time Newspaper Production Help

The Salem Times-Register 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 or email lhurst@ourvalley.org

WANTED

Models needed for life drawing class, male and female, \$60 for 3 hour session. Call David 540-473-3713

Food Service Associate/Dining Service Lead

Positions Available
Carilion Clinic New River Valley Medical Center
We're looking for individuals who will provide excellent customer service to patients.
Duties include: assisting patients with meal selections, deliver meal trays, Basic stocking and cleaning for assigned areas.
You will receive education on diet needs and allergy restrictions.
Scheduled shifts between 7am-6:30pm and every other weekends.
Shift differential for weekends and selected holidays.
Full benefit package including paid-time-off, competitive pay
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Join our team of food service professionals today! Visit www.carilionclinic.org/careers to view our current openings and for more details of the positions. Submit your online application today!
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Carilion Clinic is a drug-free workplace.



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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

Wanted - To Buy

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540-988-2420

Legals - City of Radford

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Commonwealth of Virginia VA. CODE § 8.01-316
Case No. JJ003895-07-03
RADFORD J&DR - JUVENILE DIVISION
Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* CHRISLEY, KAYLEIGH MARIE
The object of this suit is to: TO LOCATE MOTHER KHASI CHRISLEY IN RE: MOTION TO AMEND CUSTODY
It is ORDERED that KHASI CHRISLEY appear at the above-named Court and protect his or her interests on or before 05/28/2021 11:00 AM

03/29/2021
Sally Davis
Clerk

Legals - City of Salem

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Salem, Virginia will hold a public hearing, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2309 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, on April 22, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard, in the City of Salem, Virginia, to consider the following applications.

The request of Aquarius Pools, Inc., contractor, and James and Kathryn Long, property owners, for a variance from Section 106-202.3(B)(2) pertaining to site development regulations, for the property located at 825 Pendleton Drive, Tax Map # 67-6-1. The petitioners are requesting to construct an in-ground pool encroaching into the side yard.

At this hearing, all parties in interest will be given an opportunity to be heard, present evidence, and show cause why such requests should or should not be granted. For additional information, contact the Office of the Zoning Administrator, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia (Phone 375 3032).

THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM

BY: Mary Ellen H. Wines, CZA, CFM
Zoning Administrator

Notice is hereby given to

all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on April 14, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Room at the Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1) Hold public hearing to consider amending Chapter 66, Article I In General, Section 66-9, Article III Construction Location, Division 1 Generally, Section 66-73, Article IV Permitted Signs by Use and District, Section 66-107, and Article V Definitions, Section 66-151, of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA pertaining to signs.

2) Hold public hearing to consider amending Chapter 106, Zoning, Article II District Regulations, Sections 106-204.3(B)1, 106-208.3(B)1, 106-213.3(B)1 pertaining to single-family dwellings; Article III Use & Design Standards, Section 106-304.5(B)(D) pertaining to home occupations, Article IV Development Standards, Section 106-404.11(A)(E) pertaining to parking, Article V Administration, Sections 106-504(A), 106-514, 106-518 pertaining to zoning permits, enforcement, and civil penalties of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA.

Legals - City of Salem

Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be obtained from the Office of the City Planner, Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia.

At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA
BY
James E. Taliaferro, II
Executive Secretary



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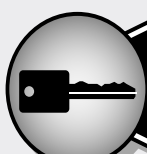
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LEGAL NOTICE

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 Government 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 Shelton 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 2021 Budget	FY 2022 Advertised Budget	Increase (Decrease)
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:			
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	\$ 1,651,969	\$ -
Human Services	\$ 378,338	\$ 392,725	\$ 14,387
Public Health Department	\$ 604,488	\$ 604,488	\$ -
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	\$ -
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
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Debt Service

	\$ 24,722,725	\$ 24,722,725	\$ -
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Economic Development

	\$ 380,000	\$ 380,000	\$ -
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COUNTY TOTAL

	\$ 209,326,807	\$ 210,986,555	\$ 1,659,748
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RESOURCES:

	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2022 Advertised Budget	Increase (Decrease)
REVENUE:			
General Undesignated Revenue:			
Current Property Taxes (1)	\$ 101,562,376	\$ 103,807,971	\$ 2,245,595
Delinquent/Other Property Tax Revenue	\$ 2,996,000	\$ 2,996,000	\$ -
Sales and Use Tax	\$ 10,301,540	\$ 10,081,222	\$ (220,318)
Undesignated Consumer Utility Tax	\$ 1,659,000	\$ 1,628,000	\$ (31,000)
Motor Vehicle Licenses	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ -
All Other Local Taxes	\$ 1,370,000	\$ 1,325,000	\$ (45,000)
Interest on Investments	\$ 895,999	\$ 113,268	\$ (782,731)
All Other Undesignated Revenue	\$ 546,384	\$ 620,384	\$ 74,000
Total Undesignated Revenue	\$ 120,131,299	\$ 121,371,845	\$ 1,240,546
General Designated Revenue	\$ 20,009,464	\$ 14,833,608	\$ (5,175,856)
Law Library Designated Revenue	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -
School Operating Designated Revenue	\$ 62,326,540	\$ 68,516,128	\$ 6,189,588
Other School Designated Resources	\$ 5,228,004	\$ 4,633,474	\$ (594,530)
Debt Service Designated	\$ 1,613,900	\$ 1,613,900	\$ -
Total Designated Revenue	\$ 89,192,908	\$ 89,612,110	\$ 419,202
Law Library Fund Balance	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,600	\$ -
Total Fund Balance	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,600	\$ -
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$ 209,326,807	\$ 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
County of Montgomery, Virginia

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RADFORD SPORTS

Radford, Christiansburg advance to state football playoffs

Marty Gordon

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The Radford High Bobcats and the Christiansburg Blue Demons used the last weekend of the regular season to claim wins that advanced them into fourth place in their respective districts, which also let them advance to the football state playoffs.

Radford blew out Richlands 42-0 in an add-on game after Carroll County opted out of the final regular season game while Christiansburg used a 57-0 win over Blacksburg to jump past Northside into the final 3D region spot. Bassett lost its final game of the year to finish .22 points behind the Blue Demons.

Radford gained the final 2C regional spot when Ft. Chiswell fell to Galax.

But both teams will have to go through the top team

in their respective regions to advance to the second round. Radford travels to 6-0 Appomattox, and Christiansburg will face Lord Botetourt (6-0) Saturday at 1 p.m.

The Region 3D title will go through Botetourt, which has dominated opponents with a 52-15 record since 2013. This year, Botetourt had wins of 70-6 over G.W. Danville, 49-6 over William Fleming, 55-13 over William Byrd, 49-6 over Staunton River and 57-7 over Franklin County.

Christiansburg scrimmaged Franklin County early in the season and won by three touchdowns, the only opponent the Blue Demons share with Botetourt.

The top-ranked regional team ranks third overall in the latest state poll of all classifications and has won 19 of its last 20 games with its lone loss coming in the state cham-

pionship game two years ago against Hopewell. They finished 14-1.

The team received a week off last week when Northside forfeited its contest.

Botetourt has 18 players over 200 pounds and 10 over 250 lbs. including highly recruited Gunner Givens (6-6, 275, #26 overall recruit in state of Virginia), Colston Powers (6-4, 285, first-team all-state Class 3 last year) and Troy Everett (6-3, 280, the #51 recruit nationally).

Running back Hunter is the workhorse for the team, having rushed 14 times for 173 yards and five touchdowns in the team's last contest against Franklin County.

Botetourt returned nine starters on both sides of the ball and has dominated the line of scrimmage.

Rice had 1,751 yards rushing with 18 touchdowns last

season.

In the Franklin County game, Botetourt quarterback Sam Peery was 6-for-7 passing for 221 yards. Receiver Kyle Arnholt had four catches for 117 yards.

Christiansburg is coming off a 57-0 win over Blacksburg in which Kenyon Johnson-Buchannon rushed 11 times for 97 yards with three touchdowns. Quarterback Casey Graham was 4-of-6 passing for 104 yards with a touchdown. MJ Hunter returned the second-half kickoff 97 yards for a touchdown.

The Blue Demon defense limited their cross-county rivals to 95 yards on the ground and six yards through the air.

Meanwhile Radford will face an opponent similar to Botetourt. Appomattox has dominated the Class 2 ranks for a long time. They finished the shortened spring season

with a 6-0 mark. Wins included 53-0 over William Campbell, 83-6 over Nelson and 42-6 over Altavista.

The only other time Radford and Appomattox have faced each other was in 2018 when Radford pulled off a 28-25 win.

Radford's season had been left in limbo after a COVID-19 contact tracing incident. The Bobcats had a no-contest with Floyd during that time and looked to have its final game against Carroll County also eliminated. But another game was added when Carroll said it would not play last week.

So, enter Richlands which also had an open spot after an opponent bowed out because of a COVID-19 issue. Radford rolled to the 42-0 win and with a Ft. Chiswell loss to Galax, moved into the final playoff spot in Region 2C.

Christiansburg takes Battle of the Burgs, claims final playoff spot



PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Christiansburg's Kenyon Johnson-Buchannon scores one of his three touchdowns Friday against Blacksburg in the Blue Demons' 52-0 romp.



Blacksburg running back Miles Ritenhour evades Christiansburg lineman Aidan LaComa in Friday's game on the turf at Bill Brown Stadium.



In a true Battle of the Burgs moment with Michael Bowen (bottom) hanging onto his shirt, Christiansburg quarterback Casey Graham faces off against the Bruins' Alex Lafon at midfield.



Keyon Johnson-Buchannon stretches for extra yardage in Friday's contest against Blacksburg. He finished with 97 yards rushing as Christiansburg moved to 3-3 on the season and grabbed the final playoff spot in Region 3D.

Football season draws to a close

It's hard to imagine it has been 497 days since high school football teams played a postseason game. But it begins this week with Radford and Christiansburg taking center stage in their respective regions and classifications.

I have to admit this season has seen its ups and downs thanks to COVID-19. We didn't even know if we would play this season after the Virginia High School League killed everything in the fall and moved football to this spring for six games.

Radford had to shut down its program for two weeks after a positive case, but that

was the only situation that affected area teams.

I congratulate players, coaches, schools, family and fans for enduring it all, making it to this weekend.

Yes, we were limited to a maximum of 250 fans, mainly the families of the players. Radford and Montgomery County schools stepped up to the plate and added the National Federation of High School sports' in-game cameras, thus allowing many fans to watch games from the comfort of their homes.

I know I enjoyed watching games from outside the area and even an occasional junior



From the Sidelines

Marty Gordon

varsity contest.

The same was true earlier for basketball, and almost no fans were allowed into the building.

Nothing has been normal, but at least the student-athletes were given an opportunity to get back on the court or field.

We never realized how im-

portant high school sports were until they were taken away from us.

Everyone should let that set in.

Sports are a backbone of the school experience for every youngster from kindergarten to high school.

The COVID-19 pandemic has taken its toll on all of us, but in so many ways, I worry about our young people. They had their world turned upside down from no in-person school to no sports.

I guess the video world has gained a new large "cult" following. There were probably some strained thumbs and an occasional sore butt from

sitting so long. That's what youngsters turned to.

It's so nice to finally get outside and run, jump and play.

Kids need interaction with other kids. They need exercise, and sports provides both.

We should savor what we lost temporarily and get back on a whole different way.

I have been telling youngsters to hang in there, that changes are coming. For now, we have a temporary norm we must deal with.

The state championships for football will be held in three weeks, and we should remember this year for what it's worth.

State football playoff region semifinal games set

The pairings have been set for the first round of the state football playoffs.

Region C's first-round games will all be played Friday, April 9, at 7 p.m.

Region D's first-round games will be played on both Friday and Saturday nights, April 9 and 10, at either 7 p.m. or 1 p.m.

Radford and Christiansburg both pulled out wins to end the season and jump into the final playoff spot in their respective regions.

As the #4 seed in Region 2C, Radford (4-1) will play at

#1 Appomattox (6-0) at 7 p.m. Friday. In the other 2C semifinal game, #2 Dan River (4-0) will host #3 Glenvar (4-2), also at 7 p.m. on Friday. As the #4 seed in Region 3D, Christiansburg (3-3) will play at #1 Lord Botetourt (6-0) at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 10. The other

Region 3D semifinal game will pit #2 Abingdon (5-0) against #3 Carroll Co. (4-1) at a time and date to be determined.

In other contests of local interest, in Region 1C, top-seed Galax (6-0) will host #4 George Wythe (3-2), and #2 Narrows (6-0) will host

#3 Parry McCluer (4-2) with both games played Friday, April 9, at 7 p.m. In Region 4D, #1 Salem (6-0) will host #4 Amherst Co. (3-3) at 7 p.m. Friday, and #2 George Washington (5-1) will host #3 Pulaski Co. (4-2), also at 7 p.m. Friday.

Outdoor Report: Spring turkey season officially gets underway this week

For the Old Dominion's spring gobbler hunters, the turkey season officially gets underway this weekend on Saturday, April 10. The season runs through Saturday, May 15.

Katie Martin, the deer, bear, and turkey biologist for the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR), offers some insights for this year's season,

First, one of the most

important indicators of how good a spring season will be is the poults per hen (PPH) figure. Every July and August, DWR staff record their observations of young bird flocks. Since in any given season, 2-year-old toms are typically the ones that make up the majority of the harvest, the 2019 PPH is the one most relevant to this spring. The news here is not good.

Martin reports that

statewide the number of turkeys seen per 1,000 miles driven in 2019 (nine turkeys/1,000 miles) was below the 2018 ratio (12 turkeys/1,000 miles) and continued a decline that began in 2014. In 2019, statewide the PPH ratio was 2.5, which is close to the long-term survey average (2.6). Although the 2019 ratio was much better than the 2018 one of 1.6, this bit of good

news is tempered by the fact that the 2018 figure was the lowest ever recorded for the survey.

Martin says that the North Mountain region, where several counties have some of the lowest turkey densities in the state, offers encouraging news. That region had the highest PPH ratio (3.6) in Virginia in 2019. Martin says that good reproduction was also seen in the Tide-

water (2.9), South Piedmont (2.6), and Southwest Mountain (2.5) regions where P/H ratios met or exceeded the state average (2.5).

The North Piedmont, though, recorded a ratio of only 1.6 PPH. Although this was a slight uptick from 2018, this continues a declining trend of both turkeys seen and PPH in this region. This spring, North Piedmont hunters may find 2- and 3-year-old toms in short supply.

Martin says that although statewide the annual growth rate has been 1.6 percent over the past decade, turkey populations in the Old Dominion have basically stabilized. As would be expected given its rich soil and farm country habitat, the Tidewater Region boasts the highest turkey density in the state. Hunters with access to private land here have a good reason to be optimistic.

Public land turkey hunting is always a challenge, says Martin, but hunters utilizing the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests in the North Mountain region may have a particularly tough year due to

low population densities and long-term habitat decline in this area. Hunters should hone in on areas with recent management activities such as timber harvests or prescribed burns that provide better habitat diversity for turkeys and many other wildlife species.

Finally, all-day hunting is permitted only during the last two weeks of the spring season. The season bag limit is three birds; no more than two birds can be taken in the fall season. If two birds were taken in the fall, only one bearded bird can be taken in the spring. If one bird was harvested in the fall, two may be taken in the spring.

Do remember the following:

Bag Limit

One per day, bearded turkeys only. Hunters may take one, two, or three bearded turkeys depending on how many turkeys were taken in the fall season.

Season Dates

April 10 through May 2 statewide. One-half hour before sunrise until 12 noon each day.

May 3 through May 15, statewide. One-half hour before sunrise to sunset.



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