



Wednesday, May 4, 2022 • USPS 387-780 • ourvalley.org • \$1.00

Christiansburg Institute digital archive awarded \$251,052 grant

CHRISTIANSBURG – The Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) has awarded Christiansburg Institute, Inc., in partnership with Virginia Tech Libraries, a grant of \$251,052. The successful grant proposal, titled “Changing the Narrative: Modeling Equitable Stewardship of African Storytelling & History” was awarded as part of the Council’s Digitizing Hidden Collections: Amplifying Unheard Voices grant program. “Christiansburg Institute is extraordinarily honored to receive, in good partnership with our friends at Virginia Tech University Libraries, a successful grant award from The Council on Library and Information Resources,” said Christiansburg Institute executive director Chris Sanchez. “This generous

award will significantly empower Christiansburg Institute with the technological resources and digital infrastructure to continue the critically important work of documenting, interpreting, preserving, and sharing the expansive material culture of the historic Christiansburg Industrial Institute.” Partners at Virginia Tech Libraries Nathan Hall and Alex Kinnaman said, “We are excited to have the opportunity to partner with the Christiansburg Institute on this grant award and are honored to support the access to resources and culture at the Christiansburg Institute. Christiansburg Industrial Institute’s history is emblematic of the triumphs and struggles generations of African Americans faced in the Appalachian South during Recon-

struction and Jim Crow. Thousands of students passed through its halls during its century of life, leaving behind records from their time at the school.” The grant will support the digitization of 52,245 manuscript pages, photographs, student newspapers, costumes, and other objects of material culture that speak to the 100-year story of Christiansburg Industrial Institute (1866-1966). Digital images will be hosted on the Christiansburg Institute Digital Archive and on Virginia Tech’s Southwest Virginia Digital Archive, creating online access to previously inaccessible materials. The databases will be created with alumni input and will be freely accessible to the Christiansburg Institute community, educators, and scholars.

State Board of Education recognizes Radford Public Schools as innovative division

RICHMOND — The state Board of Education last week officially recognized Radford Public Schools as a “School Division of Innovation” for designing and implementing alternatives to traditional instructional and school management practices to improve student learning and promote college and career readiness and good citizenship. According to the Virginia Department of Education, Radford’s innovation involves the integration of STEM — science, technology, engineering, and mathematics — content and computational thinking throughout the K-12 curriculum to create well-defined career pathways for students and to produce “life-ready” graduates. “The Board of Education’s regulations and standards allow for innovation and flexibility,” said state board of education vice president Vice President Tammy Mann. “The board applauds Radford Public Schools for the thoughtfulness of its plan, and we look forward to following the division’s progress through implementation.” Mann presided over the board’s April 20 business meeting in Richmond. The plan as approved by the state board includes the waiver of elementary and

middle school history and social science Standards of Learning assessments. Instead, students in grades 3-8 will demonstrate acquisition of required content through performance assessments and integrated exhibitions. In addition, all high school seniors will be required to complete a capstone project before graduating. Radford University, Virginia Tech, and New River Community College are supporting the school division by providing relevant resources and experiences for students and teachers. “The School Division of Innovation designation program is an opportunity for Virginia’s 132 school divisions to become laboratories of innovation and exchange creative and promising strategies to promote learning and improve student outcomes,” Superintendent of Public Instruction Jillian Balow said. To earn the School Division of Innovation designation, a local school board must submit a plan meeting criteria set forth in the Board of Education regulations governing the recognition program. Radford is the 21st division recognized as a School Division of Innovation since the program was authorized by the 2017 General Assembly.

Radford Photo Club April winner announced



Turin by Night



The Power Of The Ocean PHOTOS BY MICHELE BORGARELLI

RADFORD - Michele Borgarelli of Blacksburg won both the theme and the open categories in the Radford Photo Club’s April Challenge. The theme was night photography, and Borgarelli said that his photo, “Turin by night,” is a view of downtown Turin, Italy. “The photo was taken after dusk and shows the Alps in the background,” he said. “The tall building is named Mole Antonelliana and was originally a synagogue. It is now the National Museum of the Cinema.” The image was taken using a tripod and long exposure.

The winner in April’s open category was “The power of the Ocean,” taken at Queens Bath on Kauai Island, Hawaii. “That day there were very powerful waves crashing on the coast, making the area hazardous,” said Borgarelli. “I was there early for observing the pattern of the waves before starting to take photographs to minimize all risks.” Borgarelli’s photos will be among those on display at Long Way Brewing during May, National Photography Month. Sale of the photos will benefit Lamp-lighters, which supports Radford

Public Library’s programs. The next meeting of the Radford Photo Club will be May 19 at 6 p.m. at the Radford Public Library. Charles Lynch of Radford will discuss black and white photography. Interested photographers may come at 5:15 to receive feedback and get answers to questions about night photography from Adi Ben-Senior of Radford. The May photo challenge is Kindness. For more information about the photo club, search for “Radford Photo Club” on Facebook or email trulovesusan@gmail.com.

Glencoe Mansion issues call for art for Mary Draper Ingles exhibit

RADFORD - Glencoe Mansion is calling for art for its upcoming Gallery Exhibit, “Follow Her Journey,” a multi-artist show themed around Mary Draper Ingles. Artwork for consideration should reflect

or be based on the life and times of Mary Draper Ingles. This includes, but is not limited to depictions of local landmarks (for example, Ingles Farm, the Cultural Heritage Park, Ingles Tavern and ferry site), and Colo-

See Ingles Exhibit, page 3

Bobcat Theatre Company presents

ROALD DAHL'S

# Matilda JR.

THE MUSICAL

Radford High School Auditorium

May 19 - 7pm  
May 20 - 7pm  
May 21 - 2pm & 7pm

Tickets :  
\$8 - Students  
\$10 - Adults

Tickets available at door or scan QR code

Radford HS Visual & Performing Arts

bobcattheatrecompany

RHS, Dalton Intermediate students to present Matilda Jr. at Radford High School

The Bobcat Theatre Company of Radford High School and Dalton Intermediate will present their spring musical, Roald Dahl’s Matilda Jr., Thursday, May 19 through Saturday, May 21. A cast and crew of 50 students in grades 7-12 will bring to the stage the story of Matilda, Miss Honey, and students of Crunchem Academy as they deal with the need to be a little bit naughty. This classic junior musical runs just over an hour and will leave the audience feeling like it is okay to stand up to the bullies of the world. Matilda Jr. will be held at the Radford High School Auditorium, 50 Dalton Drive, with the following performance schedule: Thursday, May 19, 7 p.m.; Friday, May 20, 7 p.m.; Saturday, May 21, 2 p.m.; Saturday, May 21, 7 p.m. The play’s director is Casey Worley; the music director is Darren Goad; the choreographer is Emily Gruver. Rebellion is nigh in this gleefully witty ode to the

anarchy of childhood and the power of imagination. Matilda, Jr. is the story of a girl who dreams of a better life and the children she inspires. Audiences will find themselves rooting for the “revolting children” who are out to teach the grown-ups a lesson. Matilda has astonishing wit, intelligence, and special powers. She is unloved by her cruel parents but impresses her schoolteacher, the highly loveable Miss Honey. Matilda’s school life isn’t completely smooth sailing, however. The school’s mean headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, hates children and just loves thinking up new punishments for those who don’t abide by her rules. But Matilda has courage and cleverness in equal amounts and could be the school pupils’ saving grace. The ticket price for the play is \$8 for students and \$10 for adults with limited seating available. Tickets will be available at the door or at www.showtix4u.com/event-details/64159.





# PETS OF THE WEEK



The Fur-ce is strong with these two. Smokey (left) and Sonny (right) are far from the dark side. Smokey is a curious, friendly cat, and Sonny is much sweeter than his Darth Vader alter ego may convey. He loves people and affection. These boys share a space at the Animal Care and Adoption Center, but they do not have to be adopted together.



Trudy is a rookie Wookiee who may need some guidance from a Jedi master when it comes to training and doggie manners. May the Fur-ce be with her! Also, Trudy is a little slim and will need to add a few pounds to get her into top shape. She would do best in a home where she is the only pet.

## New outdoor equine arena at vet teaching hospital allows year-round evaluations

A newly constructed outdoor equine arena will dramatically help provide diagnostic information on the horses brought to the Veterinary Teaching Hospital for lameness or performance issues. It also will allow for greater collaboration between veterinarians for equine surgery, sports medicine, and the farrier shop.

Nearly every day at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine's outdoor arena, horses go through their paces, and this state-of-the-art arena has already proven invaluable during its first few months of operation.

Its open space and all-weather surface create a model setting for clinicians to conduct comprehensive assessments of horses for medical and performance issues, most commonly lame-

ness.

"A safe, reliable surface is incredibly important for a lameness or performance exam. This new arena offers us the opportunity to evaluate the horse at all gaits, and it was thoughtfully designed and the footing carefully chosen to withstand all sorts of weather conditions so that we can evaluate horses year-round," said Lauren Trager, clinical assistant professor of equine sports medicine in the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences.

Examining horses while moving leads to more precise and effective diagnosis and subsequent treatment. Typically, the arena is used for lameness or gait evaluations, and it's large enough that horses can be ridden under saddle.

"Evaluation under saddle is often an impor-

tant part of the exam, particularly for those horses who present for poor performance or who are displaying issues that are only apparent with weight on their back. It's helpful to have the ability to ask the rider to get on and demonstrate what they've been feeling. And that's only feasible if you have an arena that is a suitable size for riding and has proper footing," said Trager.

The arena was also deliberately placed next door to the podiatry barn, where Travis Burns, associate professor of practice and chief of Farrier Services, unites the skills and experience of farriers with the college's veterinarian specialists to provide therapeutic foot care for horses.

For owner and trainer Katherine Abrams, who runs the Harmony Hills Equestrian Center, hav-

ing the new arena in Blacksburg and the veterinary team together is a winning combination. Her horse Reina, a 13-year-old Oldenburg, was the winner of the USA Dressage Final for Intermediate Open Freestyle in 2021.

"It's fantastic to have this so near to our stables, and I know many others that must travel so far to find similar services and facilities," Abrams said. "The combination of Travis, Dr. Trager, and the arena really helps keep my horses sound. My horses work so much it's essential to me to have this support."

"Good, level footing for evaluations is essential and a dedicated space to perform the exam is wonderful," Trager said. "Ultimately, all of these things enables us to best serve the horse, which is our main priority."



Reina, a 13-year-old Oldenburg, is evaluated at the new outdoor equine arena at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

## Ingles Exhibit

from page 1

nial style art.

All fine arts and fine craft media including painting, plein-air, illustration, digital media, textiles, mixed media, and photography will be considered. Artists may submit up to three artworks for consideration.

Applications will be accepted through 5 p.m. on June 3. Participation, which is subject to acceptance, is open to artists in and around the NRV area, ages 16 and up. Individuals under the age of 18 must have approval of the application from a legal guardian. Artists will be notified via email no later than June 15.

Featured artists will be listed on the Glencoe Mansion website and social media and any Mary Draper Ingles Festival programming put out by Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery. The work may be photographed in the gallery setting for social media and press release promotions, with all efforts made to credit artists.

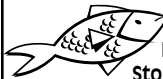
The museum will not duplicate, use, or recreate any trademarked or original digital files or images without the artist's permission. Artists must be available to drop off their artwork

between the dates of June 28 and July 3 and pick up their work between the dates of Aug. 29 and Sept. 3. Artists must have their work ready to hang using gallery wire.

The exhibit will be displayed throughout July and August with an opening reception during the Mary Draper Ingles Festival of July 29-31. More details of this event will be sent out to artists closer to dates of the event.

For more information about the show and gallery policies or to submit the application, visit the Glencoe Mansion website at [GlencoeMansion.org](http://GlencoeMansion.org) or write the gallery coordinator at [art@glen-coemansion.org](mailto:art@glen-coemansion.org).

### FISH DAY



**DELIVERY WILL BE: Thursday, May 19th**

Christiansburg 1:30-2:15

@Southern States

Wytheville 3:15-4:00

@Farmers Milling & Supply

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# To be released in late 2022, early 2023, enhanced map will show broadband coverage in Virginia

When the world shut down at the start of the pandemic, how did everyone stay connected with family and friends? On the job? Go to school? Obtain medical care? Mostly likely, it was online.

Now imagine trying to do all these things without reliable home internet service.

Virginia Tech's Center for Geospatial Information Technology (CGIT), working in tandem with the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development's Office of Broadband, has developed and launched an enhanced mapping tool to narrow the digital divide across the commonwealth.

The Commonwealth Connection mapping tool, which provides more timely and accurate information on where high-speed internet service is available in Virginia, will allow state officials as well as consumers to determine where reliable broadband access exists and where it is lacking.

Additionally, the new tool will give local governments key data needed to request funds, deploy broadband infrastructure, and reach the more than 50,000 underserved homes, businesses, and community anchor institutions that are without a funded solution for connectivity.

CGIT, which is housed in Virginia Tech's College of Natural Resources and Environment, developed the first and subsequent iterations of a broadband coverage map in Virginia for the Office of Broadband. The third version of the map, released in 2017, was based on data collected by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

In March 2020, federal legislation was signed into law that paved the way for new mapping efforts, establishing a framework to map address-level data that would achieve a greater

level of detail around broadband availability. The resulting new federal maps are expected to be released in late 2022 or early 2023.

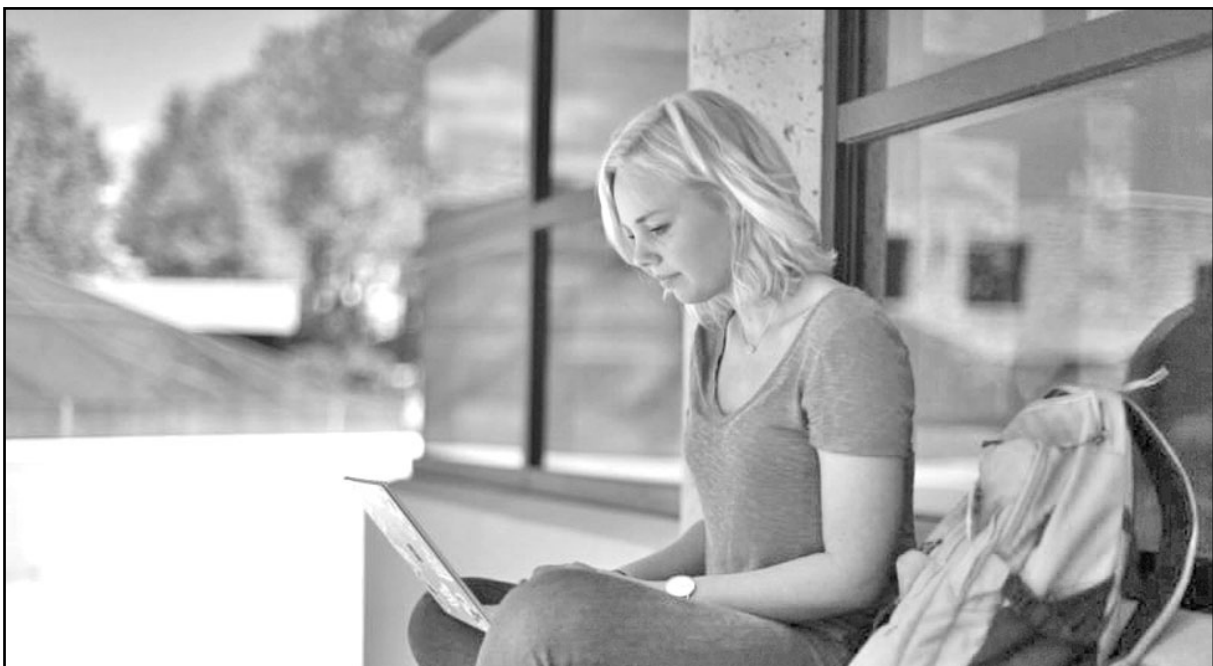
Recognizing the need for greater detail in broadband mapping, both the Virginia General Assembly and the previous administration approved funding in April 2021 for Virginia to develop its own map, modeled after the federal standards but available months before the federal maps.

Once the General Assembly passed a budget that allowed the state's data collection efforts to begin, Tamarah Holmes, director of the Office of Broadband, sat down with CGIT Director Brandon Herndon to talk about how they could collaborate on the state's new responsibility to update the map.

"It was a match made in heaven for the state and Virginia Tech to work together," she said. "They [CGIT] had built and maintained the original map and had a lot of great ideas on how to improve it. When we received the funding to build a brand new map, we decided to continue that partnership with Virginia Tech because of the expertise and great research that they do."

CGIT began work on the project in July 2021, creating guidelines for the submission of data and building a secure portal for broadband service providers in Virginia to submit data. The center then began work on the new broadband availability map, which was released in April to the public.

The new map will provide coverage information on 92 percent, or 3.5 million out of 3.8 million addresses in Virginia. About 84 percent of the broadband service providers (51 out of 57) submitted data. Data will continue to be collected annually, providing a more accurate picture of



**A Virginia Tech student works on a laptop on the Blacksburg campus. Virginia Tech's Center for Geospatial Information Technology (CGIT) hopes to narrow the state's digital divide through improved tools for data collection and visualization. Photo by Peter Means for Virginia Tech.**

coverage and eliminating the 14- to 18-month lag from federal collection to state access that existed previously.

"The takeaway for many Virginians is they will have access to better data that is timelier," said Herndon. "And starting next year, Virginians will be able to participate in a challenge process where providers say broadband coverage is available. Citizens will be able to crowdsource where cov-

erage exists and doesn't — regardless of what broadband service providers claim."

When data were collected at the federal level, there was no process for an individual to challenge the FCC maps.

"With our map, Virginia Tech is providing a portal and people can challenge the service area," Herndon said. "If there is a cluster of complaints, we can go back to the provider and tell

them they are overstating their coverage on a yearly basis."

Another advantage to the new mapping tool is that it collects data for the state at the street-address level instead of by census block, the method previously used by the federal government. The result is greater accuracy and precision for the new high-resolution maps.

Gathering data at the street address level has never been done in the

commonwealth. In the past, broadband service providers could tell the FCC that an area was covered if the location could be served in a reasonable amount of time.

"So if there is a cable next to a house and the provider says they can run a line to that house, that location is counted as served," Herndon said. "That leads to a gross overstatement of where coverage is claimed."

## Legal Notice

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY  
APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY,  
FOR APPROVAL OF A RATE ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE  
PURSUANT TO VA. CODE § 56-585.1 A 4  
CASE NO. PUR-2022-00014

- Appalachian Power Company ("APCo") has applied to update its Rider T-RAC by which it recovers certain transmission and demand response program costs.
- APCo requests approval of a revenue requirement of \$368.1 million for its T-RAC for the August 2022 through July 2023 rate year. According to APCo, if approved, this would increase the monthly bill of a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours per month by approximately \$2.88.
- A Hearing Examiner appointed by the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing in this case on June 8, 2022, at 10 a.m., for the receipt of public witness testimony.
- An evidentiary hearing will be held on June 9, 2022, at 10 a.m., in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond 23219, to receive the testimony and evidence of the Company, any respondents, and the Staff.
- Further information about this case is available on the SCC website at: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

On April 11, 2022, Appalachian Power Company ("APCo" or "Company") completed the filing of an application ("Application") with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") pursuant to § 56-585.1 A 4 ("Subsection A 4") of the Code of Virginia ("Code") for approval to implement factors to recover its actual and forecast transmission-related costs through its transmission rate adjustment clause ("T-RAC"). Specifically, APCo requests permission to recover a proposed total revenue requirement of \$368.1 million through the T-RAC for the August 2022 through July 2023 rate year ("Rate Year"). Pursuant to Code § 56-585.1 A 7, the Commission must issue a final order in this matter not more than three months after the date of filing.

In its Application, APCo states that the transmission costs sought by the Company fall within the definition of costs deemed reasonable and prudent by Subsection A 4. APCo requests a total annual transmission revenue requirement of approximately \$368.1 million, which the Company indicates consists of: (a) a forecast Virginia jurisdictional current-period formula rate revenue requirement of \$338 million for the Rate Year, based on Federal Energy Regulatory Commission-approved PJM rates for transmission service that went into effect on January 1, 2022; (b) a cumulative Virginia jurisdictional actual under-recovery, or true-up, of \$19.5 million as of February 28, 2022; (c) a forecast Virginia jurisdictional under-recovery amount of \$7.4 million for the period March 2022 - July 2022; and (d) a forecast Virginia jurisdictional revenue requirement of \$3.2 million associated with a pilot program established pursuant to the Code § 56-585.1:10 specific to the Berry Hill and Commonwealth Crossing Industrial Parks. APCo states that its proposed revenue requirement is an increase of approximately \$31 million from the annual T-RAC revenue requirement approved by the Commission in 2021. APCo states that its proposed T-RAC rates would increase the monthly bill for a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours per month by \$2.88.

Interested persons are encouraged to review the Application and supporting documents for the details of these and other proposals.

TAKE NOTICE that the Commission may apportion revenues among customer classes and/or design rates in a manner differing from that shown in the Application and supporting documents and thus may adopt rates that differ from those appearing in the Company's Application and supporting documents.

The Commission has taken judicial notice of the ongoing public health issues related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19. In accordance therewith, all pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter shall be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by 5 VAC 5-20-150; *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"). Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive Information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. Any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.

Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission has directed that service on parties and the Commission's Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Please refer to the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing for further instructions concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing that, among other things, scheduled public hearings on APCo's Application. On June 8, 2022, at 10 a.m., a Hearing Examiner appointed by the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing, with no witness present in the Commission's courtroom, for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses. On or before June 1, 2022, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting); (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to [SCCinfo@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:SCCinfo@scc.virginia.gov); or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting).

On June 9, 2022, at 10 a.m., in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, a Hearing Examiner appointed by the Commission will convene a hearing to receive testimony and evidence offered by the Company, any respondents, and the Commission's Staff on the Application.

Electronic copies of the Application and other supporting documents may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, Noelle J. Coates, Esquire, 3 James Center, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 1051 East Cary Street, Suite 1100, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or [njcoates@aep.com](mailto:njcoates@aep.com).

On or before June 1, 2022, any interested person may submit comments on the Application electronically by following the instructions on the Commission's website: [scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments](http://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments). Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00014.

On or before May 20, 2022, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation with the Clerk of the Commission at: [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling). Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. A copy of the notice of participation as a respondent also must be sent to counsel for the Company. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00014.

On or before May 20, 2022, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling), any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above.

Each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be served on the Staff, the Company, and all other respondents simultaneous with its filing. In all filings, the respondent shall comply with the Rules of Practice, including 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. Case No. PUR-2022-00014.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

The Commission's Rules of Practice, APCo's Application, the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, and other documents filed in this case may be viewed on the Commission's website at: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY

## Phi Kappa Phi honor society inducts RU students

The following students at Radford University were recently initiated into Phi Kappa Phi honor society, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines.

Everette Beaver of Radford, Sierra Coakley of Radford, Lucias Cordial of Radford, Abigail Fulop of Radford, Julia Hartlage of Radford, Michelle Hazleton of Radford, Avery Howell of Radford, Ethan Humphrey of Radford, Brynn Miller of Radford, William Nape II of Radford, Haley Nicely of Radford, Carolyn Palmer of Radford, Julie Posey of Radford, Jalen Revell of Radford, Sivonna Stringham of Radford, Kaley

Weatherman of Radford, Kierstin West of Radford, Thomas Wilson of Radford, and Taylor Gibbs of Radford.

They are among approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership.

Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

# Send community news and photos to [communitynews@ourvalley.org](mailto:communitynews@ourvalley.org)

# Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library calendar of events for May 2022

The Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library is closed on Monday, May 30 for Memorial Day. All branches are closed on Sundays from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

Through May and June Miss Jessie's Gallery at the Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

The library will present artists Angie Dribben and Rachel Belcher for May and June. Dribben "shares the complexities of an autistic mind through assemblage and mixed media, layering material on medium honoring each element's original conception while elevating the whole as a united story." Her intricate work will be featured in the front desk area. Rachel Belcher has worked at the library behind the desk and now her art will be displayed in Miss Jessie's Gallery. Belcher's "pieces are all works of passion. She sketches and paints what inspires her and always incorporates her emotions into her work."

All the month of May Exhibit: Eli Tuchler Jewelry.

Exhibit: Art from the Friends of the Library Garden Tour.

All May at Meadowbrook Public Library

Grab & Go Meals

Meadowbrook will be offering free grab-and-go lunch and snack meals. Children and youth 18 and younger can come and get a weeks' worth of lunches and snacks every week. Sponsored by Feeding Southwest Virginia.

Through May 15 by appointment at Meadowbrook

Free prom dress

Meadowbrook Library has prom dresses of all sizes available for free to anyone in Montgomery County, Floyd County, and

Chess club

Sunday, May 08, 3:00 p.m. Blacksburg Library

Sunday, May 15, 3:00 p.m. Blacksburg Library

Sunday, May 22, 3:00 p.m. Blacksburg Library

Ages 8 and up are welcome to come sharpen their chess skills. Supplies will be provided. All skill levels are welcome.

Study space

Thursday, May 05, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Blacksburg Library

Friday, May 06, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Blacksburg Library

This is a chance to find a quiet place to study to get ready for finals. To be offered is quiet and some coffee..

Floyd moves it!

Thursday, May 05,

11:00 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Monday, May 09, 11:00 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Thursday, May 12, 11:00 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Monday, May 16, 11:00 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Thursday, May 19, 11:00 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Monday, May 23, 11:00 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Come take part in an American Heart Association walking workout.

Tot storytime

Monday, May 09, 10:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library

Monday, May 16, 10:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library

Monday, May 23, 10:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library

Share stories, rhymes, music and movement while developing early literacy skills and encouraging a love of reading. For ages 0 to 2.

Toddler storytime

Wednesday, May 04, 10:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Tuesday, May 10, 10:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Wednesday, May 11, 10:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Tuesday, May 17, 10:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Wednesday, May 18, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Tuesday, May 24, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Tuesday, May 31, 10:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Share stories, rhymes, music and movement while developing early literacy skills and encouraging a love of reading. For ages 2 to 3..

Tot storytime

Tuesday, May 10, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Tuesday, May 17, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Tuesday, May 24, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Tuesday, May 31, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Share stories, rhymes, music and movement while developing early literacy skills and encouraging a love of reading. For ages 0 to 2..

Yoga for everyone

Tuesday, May 10, 3:00 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Tuesday, May 17, 3:00 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Tuesday, May 24, 3:00 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Tuesday, May 31, 3:00 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

This will be an hour of yoga focusing on the participants, who will follow a video from Yoga with Adrienne that will work with all fitness and yoga levels. This will be a fun and inviting yoga session where participants can leave their worries at the door. Participants should bring their yoga mats and their sense of wonder and joy and strike a pose. Registration is required. Each session will be limited to 12 people.

All ages storytime

Wednesday, May 04, 10:30 a.m. Blacksburg Library

Saturday May 07, 11:00 a.m. Blacksburg Library

Saturday May 14, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Share stories, rhymes, music and movement, and a craft as a family. Develop early literacy skills and encourage a love of reading.

Pre-K storytime

Wednesday, May 04, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Wednesday, May 11, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Wednesday, May 18, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Library

Wednesday, May 25, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

Share stories, rhymes, music and movement, and a craft as a family. Develop early literacy skills and encourage a love of reading. For ages 3 to 5.

Talking about Books: "All the Little Hopes"

Wednesday, May 04, 11:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library

To be discussed this month is "All the Little Hopes" by Leah Weiss, in-person and virtually.

Loops Group

Wednesday, May 04, 2:00 p.m., Blacksburg Library

Wednesday, May 11, 2:00 p.m., Blacksburg Library

Wednesday, May 18, 2:00 p.m., Blacksburg Library

Wednesday, May 25, 2:00 p.m., Blacksburg Library

Participants can bring their projects and join the loops group for community and conversation. Everyone is welcome.

Talking about Books: "The Bluest Eye"

Wednesday, May 4, 6:00 p.m., Meadowbrook Public Library

Discussed this month is "The Bluest Eye" by Toni Morrison. Call (540) 268-1964 for more information or to reserve a copy.

Author talk with Matthew Vollmer and Carmen Giménez Smith

Wednesday, May 04, 6:30 p.m., Blacksburg Library

Poets and professors Carmen Giménez Smith and Matthew Vollmer will read from their forthcoming and newly published books of poetry.

Toddler storytime

Thursday, May 05, 10:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library

Thursday, May 12, 10:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library

Share stories, rhymes, music and movement while developing early literacy skills and encouraging a love of reading. For ages 2 to 3.

All ages storytime

Thursday, May 05, 10:30 a.m., Meadowbrook Public Library

Thursday, May 12, 10:30 a.m., Meadowbrook Public Library

Thursday, May 19, 10:30 a.m., Meadowbrook Public Library

Thursday, May 26, 10:30 a.m., Meadowbrook Public Library

Share stories, rhymes, music and movement, and a craft as a family while developing early literacy skills and encouraging a love of reading.

Floyd Scrabble Club

Thursday, May 05, 1:30 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Thursday, May 12, 1:30 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Thursday, May 19, 1:30 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Thursday, May 26, 1:30 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Enjoy a challenging and fun game of Scrabble with other word enthusiasts.

All ages storytime

Friday, May 06, 11:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library

Share stories, rhymes, music and movement, and a craft as a family while developing early literacy skills and encouraging a love of reading.

Mother's Day gift

Saturday May 07, 11:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library

Make a special Mother's Day gift and give it to someone special. Fill a fancy teacup with tea and

treats and then gift-wrap it. Supplies are limited. Contact [spahl@mfrl.org](mailto:spahl@mfrl.org) for more information.

PAWS to Read with Derek

Saturday May 07, noon, Blacksburg Library

Sign up for a 1- minute time slot to read with a therapy dog. Call the library at 540-552-8246.

Caturday

Saturday May 7, noon, Meadowbrook Public Library

Sign up for a 15 minute slot to read to a cat from the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center to practice reading and socialize shelter cats. For all ages.

\*\*\*Due to limited availability of our guest cat(s), please call ahead at (540) 268-1964 before coming to verify that Caturday has not been canceled.

Teen DND

Saturday May 07, 2:00 p.m., Blacksburg Library

Saturday May 21, 2:00 p.m., Blacksburg Library

DND for teens.

STEM Club

Monday, May 09, 1:00 p.m., Christiansburg Library

Join the homeschool STEM club to explore science, technology, engineering, or math. Ages 8 and up.

Talking about Books: "The Good Neighbor"

Tuesday, May 10, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library

To be discussed is "The Good Neighbor: The Life and Work of Fred Rogers" by Maxwell King. Call (540) 552-8246 to reserve a copy.

Homeschool Creative Writing Club

Tuesday, May 10, 1:00 p.m. Blacksburg Library

Homeschoolers can join for a time of creative writing. An opportunity for homeschoolers to workshop their pieces, bounce ideas off each other, and learn about different writing techniques.

All ages storytime

Wednesday, May 11, 10:30 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Wednesday, May 18, 10:30 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Wednesday, May 25, 10:30 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Share stories, rhymes, music and movement, and a craft as a family while developing early literacy skills and encouraging a love of reading.

Bingo!

Wednesday, May 11, 2:00 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Wednesday, May 25, 2:00 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

A few games of bingo with prizes are offered every second and fourth Wednesday of the month.

Evening book talk: "Klara and the Sun"

Wednesday, May 11, 6:30 p.m., Christiansburg Library

To be discussed is "Klara and the Sun" by Kazuo Ishiguro, in-person and virtually.

Wildflower seed bombs

Thursday, May 12, 4:30 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library

Thursday, May 19, 4:30 p.m., Christiansburg Library

Kids and teens of all ages are invited to make their own DIY wildflower seed bombs at the library.

Turn a favorite book into jewelry

Thursday, May 12, 6:30 p.m., Blacksburg Library

Participants can create a mini-version of their favorite books and turn them into keychains. Email a specific title to [dmoore@mfrl.org](mailto:dmoore@mfrl.org) by May 10.

## Legal Notice

APPLICATION OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION,  
FOR APPROVAL OF A SMARTCHOICE CARBON OFFSET  
RIDER PURSUANT TO § 56-236 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA  
CASE NO. PUR-2022-00047

On March 25, 2022, Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos" or "Company") filed an application ("Application") with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") pursuant to § 56-236 of the Code of Virginia, requesting approval for a new proposed SmartChoice Carbon Offset Rider ("SCCO Rider" or "SmartChoice Program"). The Company states that the SmartChoice Program is designed to give certain residential and large-volume customers the voluntary option to offset some or all of the carbon emissions associated with their natural gas usage through the Company's purchase of carbon offsets.

The Application states that through the SmartChoice Program, qualifying, participating customers will directly fund the Company's purchase of carbon credits, which once purchased will be retired collectively on behalf of the customers participating under the proposed SCCO Rider. The Application further states participation in the program is voluntary and is designed to give participating customers a mechanism for offsetting natural gas usage emissions with carbon credits procured by Atmos.

According to the Application, customers who elect to participate in the SmartChoice Program will contract for the Company's purchase of carbon credits each month. Atmos states that the average monthly usage for residential customers in Virginia is approximately 49.6 hundred cubic feet ("ccf"). As proposed, the SmartChoice Program will allow residential customers to offset either 25%, 50%, or 100% of this average monthly usage for a fixed monthly contribution. For non residential customer classes, the SmartChoice Program will offer volumetric options based directly on a customer's ccf contribution due to varying gas requirements among these customer classes. The Application states that for a fixed volumetric fee, these non-residential customers can target an offset percentage of either 25%, 50%, or 100% of their monthly gas usage.

The Application states that, following approval by the Commission of this proposed SmartChoice Program, the Company tentatively anticipates implementation around November 2022, but a precise start date for customer participation under the program has not yet been determined. Atmos represents that all administrative costs incurred by the Company as part of the SmartChoice Program will be tracked separately through a deferred account and will be recovered from participating customers only, and that customers who are not enrolled members of SmartChoice will not bear any additional costs.

To assist with the Commission's oversight of the SmartChoice Program, the Company proposes to file a Purchase Carbon Offset Adjustment ("PCOA") filing, similar to the Company's purchased gas adjustment filing, reviewing the balance of revenues and costs under SmartChoice at least once every twelve months. Atmos states that the PCOA may propose to adjust rates prospectively under SmartChoice based on the actual and anticipated costs of purchasing carbon credits and administering the program.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Comment that, among other things, ordered the Company to provide notice of its Application and provided interested persons an opportunity to comment and/or request a hearing on the Company's Application.

The Commission has taken judicial notice of the ongoing public health issues related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19. In accordance therewith, all pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter should be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice. Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive Information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. Any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.

Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, of the Rules of Practice, the Commission has directed that service on parties and the Commission's Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Please refer to the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment for further instructions concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information.

Electronic copies of the Application may be obtained, at no charge, by submitting a written request to the Company's counsel, Timothy E. Biller, Esquire, and James G. Ritter, Esquire, Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, Riverfront Plaza, East Tower, 951 E. Byrd Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, [tbiller@huntonak.com](mailto:tbiller@huntonak.com), [ritterj@huntonak.com](mailto:ritterj@huntonak.com). A copy of the Application and related documents may be downloaded from the Commission's website: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

On or before May 31, 2022, any interested person or entity may submit comments on the Application with the Clerk of the Commission by following the instructions on the Commission's website: [scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit Public Comments](http://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments). Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All such comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00047.

On or before May 31, 2022, any interested person or entity may file a request for a hearing on the Application with the Clerk of the Commission at [scc.virginia.gov/clerk/efiling](http://scc.virginia.gov/clerk/efiling). Those unable, as a practical matter, to file electronically may file a request for hearing by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such request for hearing shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. A copy of the request for hearing also must be sent to counsel for the Company. Requests for a hearing shall include: (i) a precise statement of the filing party's interest in the proceeding; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; (iii) a statement of the legal basis for such action; and (iv) a precise statement why a hearing should be conducted in this matter. All requests for a hearing shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00047.

On or before May 31, 2022, any interested person or entity may participate as a respondent in this proceeding by filing a notice of participation with the Clerk of the Commission at: [scc.virginia.gov/clerk/efiling/](http://scc.virginia.gov/clerk/efiling/). Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. A copy of the notice of participation must also be sent to counsel for the Company. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00047.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Rules of Practice. The Company's Application, the Commission's Rules of Practice, and the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment may be viewed at: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION





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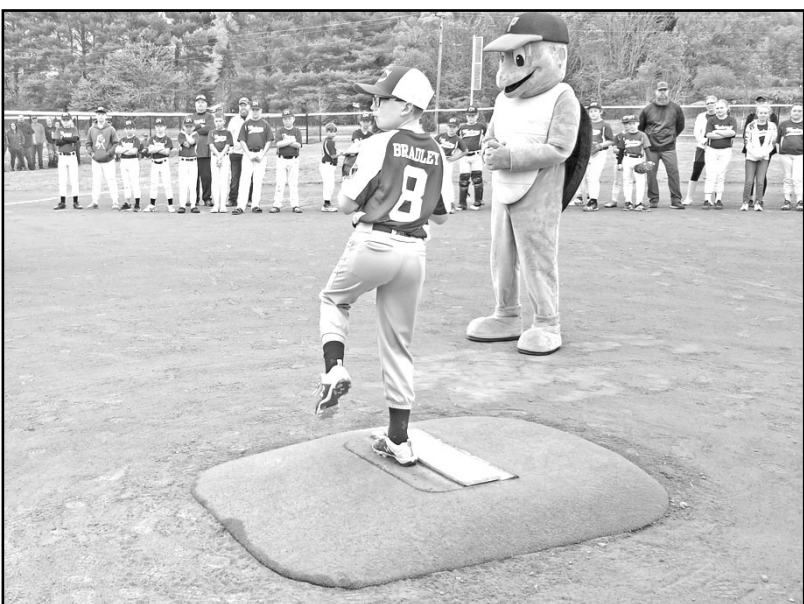


# RADFORD SPORTS

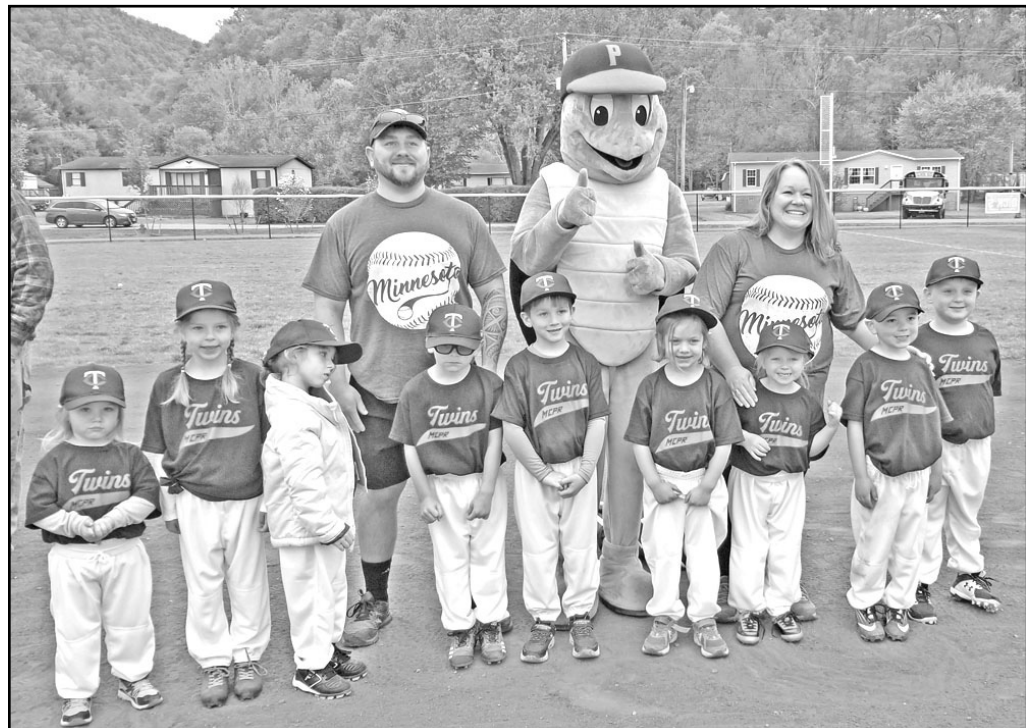
## County dedicates Creed Fields with Saturday opening



Montgomery County Administrator Craig Meadows (center) and Supervisor April DeMotts presented the family of the late Gary Creed with a special plaque at Saturday’s opening of a new athletic complex in Elliston which bears Gary’s name. The mini shovel on which the plaque is attached was used by Gary during the initial groundbreaking.



The ceremonial first pitch was thrown out Saturday by Jaxson Creed Bradley, the 9-year-old great-grandson of former supervisor Gary Creed at Montgomery County’s new athletic fields.



A parade of baseball and softball players from Eastern Montgomery County was held Saturday during the opening of Creed Fields along with a special appearance by the Pulaski River Turtles’ mascot, Slider.



The new Creed Sports Complex in Elliston includes an elaborate playground adjacent to the playing fields.

**Marty Gordon**  
*NRVsports@ourvalley.org*

Montgomery County officials opened the Creed Athletic Complex in Elliston Saturday and remembered the former government official it was named for.

The park, which includes four fields for football, lacrosse, soccer, baseball, softball, coach pitch and t-ball; bathrooms; a playground; a shelter; and a walking path, was named in honor of Gary Creed, the late Board of Supervisors member who represented Eastern Montgomery from 2002-2017. Construction began in 2019, and \$2.7 million was appropriated for the project.

April DeMotts currently represents the Shawsville and Elliston area on the Board of Supervisors. She followed Gary Creed after his retirement and spoke on Saturday.

“We all know how proud Gary would be of what we are seeing today,” DeMotts said. “No doubt, he would be out here playing ball with you. He had a passion for youth sports and a passion for this community.

“His legacy of being fully committed to and supportive of Montgomery County, but especially of those in the Shawsville and Elliston areas, is embodied here today.”

Creed helped break ground on the project before passing away earlier this year.

His nine-year-old great grandson, Jaxson Creed Bradley, threw out a ceremonial pitch before softball, baseball and T-ball teams from Eastern Montgomery took the field.

Creed’s family also attended the event.

## Radford Bobcat golfer Jack Davis signs with Hampden-Sydney

**Marty Gordon**  
*NRVsports@ourvalley.org*

Radford High School golfer Jack Davis is headed to Hampden-Sydney College to continue his playing career. Davis signed his letter of intent in the school’s gymnasium in front of family, teammates and coaches.

The Bobcat said Hampden-Sydney feels like home. His father, his uncle, and his grandfather all attended the school.

“But, for me they never really had a part in my decision because I chose the place that made me comfortable both in class size and the golf team atmosphere,” Davis said. “I saw golf as a bonus, and it’s nice when your bonus is one of the top teams in the ODAC (Old Dominion Athletic Conference),” he said.

Hampden-Sydney College is a private men’s liberal arts college in Hampden Sydney, Virginia, that was founded in 1775 and is the oldest privately chartered college in the southern United States.

The college currently has an undergraduate enrollment of 993 students.

The college is a member of the Division III level of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), competing in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference since the 1976-77 academic year.

The golf team won the 2022 Old Dominion Athletic Conference men’s championship with a three-day, 54-hole score of 282-281-283—846, and reached a national ranking of No. 18.

Chad Eisele is in his fifth year as the Director of Athletics at Hampden-Sydney College during 2021-22. This is his fourth season as the head golf coach.

“One of the biggest reasons I chose H-SC’s golf team was that they were very experienced and many of them could play division I,” Davis said. “Knowing that, I personally am not at that level yet, I wanted to develop my game through the coaching and the upper class men and grow as a player.”

Davis was a three-time all-Three Rivers District performer and was on the regional champion team his freshman year. He also was a member of the 2019 Class 2 state championship team as a sophomore when he shot an 82.

He also participated in the Blue Ridge Junior Golf Tour, which he calls a big part of his career. “I appreciate everything they’ve done for me,” Davis said.

He was the 2019 junior golf tour’s player of the year and was a three times tour all-star.

Davis plans to major in business and economics at Hampden-Sydney.



Jack Davis has been a standout golfer at Radford High School and now he plans to take his game to Hampden-Sydney College. He signed a letter of intent on Wednesday.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Send community news and photos  
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# Auburn Eagles baseball downs Grayson County 3-1



Auburn's Talan Mower bears down on the chest high pitch to drive in the first run of the game. The Eagles defeated the visitors from Grayson County 3-1.

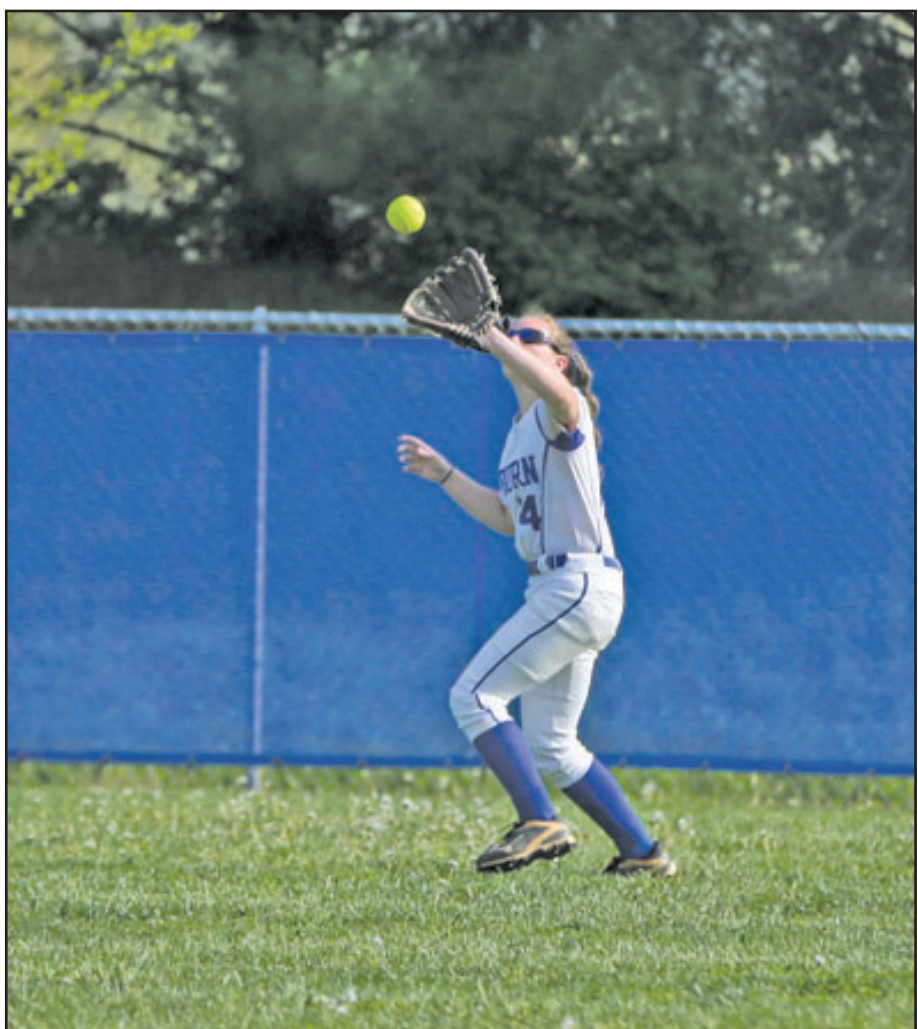


PHOTOS BY JAMES PERKINS  
Auburn's Tyler Sparrer dives back to the bag at first safely during the defeat of Graycon County.

# Auburn softball falls to Grayson County



Briel Underwood picked up an important hit in Friday's contest, but it would not be enough as Grayson County defeated Auburn 5-3.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEY AKERS  
Auburn's Kendra Scaggs pulls in the fly ball in center field as with the loss to Grayson County, Auburn fell to 3-2 for the season in Mt. Empire District play.



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