



RADFORD

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# News Journal

Saturday, May 27, 2023 • USPS 387-780 • radfordnewsjournal.com • \$1.00

## Radford High School graduates celebrated at commencement

RADFORD – Radford High School held its graduation ceremony on Friday, May 26 at Bobcat Stadium.

Principal Tara Grant offers her congratulations to all the graduates and notes the Valedictorian of the Class of 2023 is Cyrus Hartig and Salutatorian is Tommie Bloomer. Hartig, the son of Nadine and Jim Hartig, has a grade point average of 4.35 and will attend East Tennessee State University. Bloomer, the daughter of Elisabeth and Thomas Bloomer, has a grade point average of 4.34 and will attend Rochester Institute of Technology.

The last day of school for Radford City Public Schools is Thursday, June 1, with a two-hour early dismissal.

*Radford News Journal staff report*



Cyrus Hartig



Tommie Bloomer

PHOTOS COURTESY OF RADFORD HIGH SCHOOL

## NRCC holds 2023 nursing graduation and pinning ceremony



PHOTO COURTESY OF NRCC

Radford residents (left to right) Caitlyn Ousley, Carlin Williams, Kayla Gardunio, and Jenna O'Neill are new graduates of the NRCC nursing associates degree program.

DUBLIN - Four Radford residents were among the 46 students in the 2023 associate degree nursing (ADN) class at New River Community College who recently received their NRCC nursing pins and associate degrees at a ceremony at the college.

This is the 20th graduating class of associate degree nurses at NRCC. The graduates are now eligible to take the registered nurse licensing exam.

See NRCC, page 4

## Gearheads for a Cause is paying forward through fundraising for local charities

**Lori Graham**  
*Contributing writer*

Laken and Jay Smith, co-founders of Gearheads for a Cause, are bringing needed financial support and awareness to local charities in the New River Valley and surrounding regions.

A gearhead is someone who has an interest in mechanical things, all things with gears. When the Smiths decided to combine their love of mechanical motors with charitable needs they saw in the community, Gearheads for a Cause

was born.

At the peak of the pandemic in 2020, a lot of local charities

struggled to raise funds for people in need.

See Cause, page 4

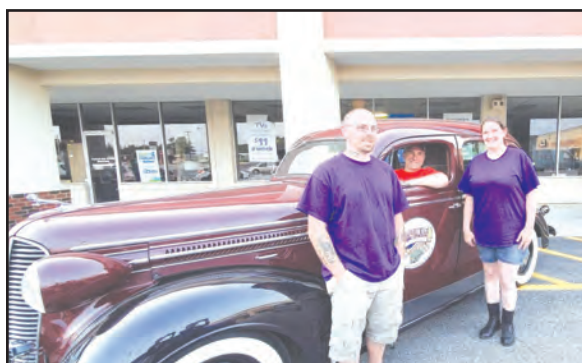
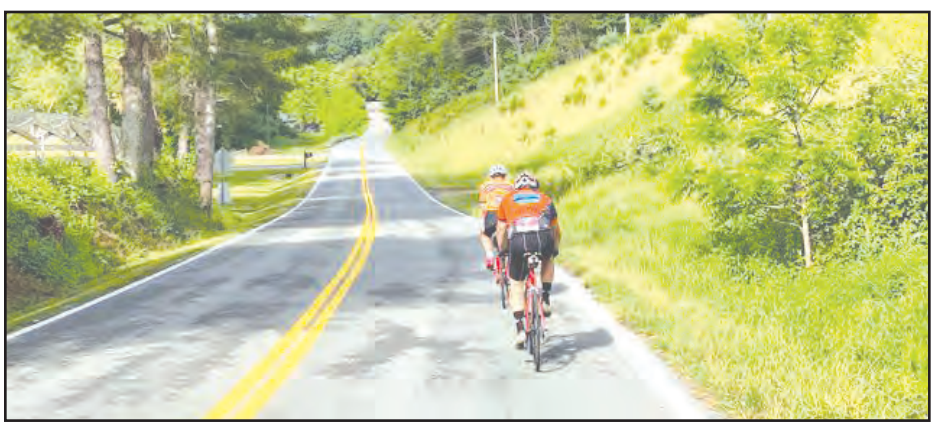


PHOTO COURTESY OF GEARHEADS FOR A CAUSE

Laken and Jay Smith, co-founders of Gearheads for a Cause, bring financial support and awareness to local charities. They are pictured with Bill McCann, founder of Vittles for Vets.



Five routes are available for riders, from 26 miles to 100 miles, known as a century ride.

## 32nd Annual Wilderness Road Ride set for today

The Wilderness Road Ride, a scenic and historical adventure that follows part of Daniel Boone's Wilderness Road, is set for today, Saturday, May 27, beginning in Radford's Bisset Park.

"This is a recreational ride on paved roads for all cycling levels to enjoy, with something for everyone – there are five routes to choose from ranging from a 26-mile relaxed journey for novices, to a century challenge (100 miles) for the fittest cyclist," organizers announced. "This is a great ride for cyclists of all ages and athletic abilities."

The Wilderness Ride is organized by FCA Endurance SW Virginia. Mark Long, Event Director, says it is important "to inform the

community, to make them aware of bicyclists on the road."

The route distances are 26, 35, 55, 76 and 100 miles.

All routes will start and finish at Radford's Bisset Park, shelter #2, right, alongside the New River.

"Non-riders can enjoy beautiful Bisset Park, the New River, and downtown Radford, while their families and friends are out riding," FCA Endurance announced.

Fully supported aid stations will be positioned at regular intervals along the course and the start/finish location. Aid stations will be supplied with Heed Hammer Nutrition fuel, as well as water and plenty of other snacks. SAG vehicles will be on the course for emergencies.

All pre-registered riders are guaranteed a technical t-shirt and other goodies. Detailed maps and cue sheets will be available at the start of the ride.

All proceeds will benefit FCA Endurance ministries and missions projects in southwest Virginia. A portion will be used to scholarship and send the region's student athletes to FCA's Summer Camps.

"By riding in this event you are investing in the lives of coaches and athletes in our area and making an impact in what matters most," said FCA Endurance, which is affiliated with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, a 501c3 non-profit organization.

*Radford News Journal staff report*



PHOTO COURTESY OF FCA ENDURANCE

Riders will head out on the 32nd Annual Wilderness Road Ride today, Saturday May 27 beginning in Bisset Park.



## Remembering Their Service

Please join us in showing appreciation and support for the veterans and troops, past and present, whose service and sacrifice make us proud.

MEMORIAL GARDENS of the NEW RIVER VALLEY

2551 North Main Street, Blacksburg • (540) 552-7800 • www.memorialgardensnrvc.com



# UPCOMING EVENTS

Today, Saturday, May 27:

## Shawsville Ruritans 75th Anniversary Celebration

At the Meadowbrook Library; 1- 4 p.m. Come celebrate the anniversary of one of Virginia's oldest Ruritan Clubs. This event is co-hosted by the Meadowbrook Museum and will include a display of the club's history. This will be an "Ice Cream Social." Bring the whole family.

Monday, May 29:

## Blacksburg Memorial Day Closings

Town administrative offices will be closed. There will be no BT service and BT offices will be closed. Blacksburg Community Center and Aquatic Center will be closed. No trash pickup in the SE quadrant. Pick-up will be Wednesday, May 31. Please have all trash at the curb by 7 a.m.

Thursday, June 1:

## American Legion meeting

The American Legion, Harvey Howe Carper Post 30 will meet on, 6pm at the VFW Post Home on 102 Watts St. in Radford. For further information, please call 540-250-2283 or 540-239-9864.

Saturday, June 3:

## CPR and AED course

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce has partnered with Compass and Shock Foundation to have a CPR and AED refresher course. It will be on June 3, 10- 11 a.m. at the Hampton Inn located on Arbor Dr. in Christiansburg. The class is free. Please visit <https://www.compressandshock.org/classlocator> to register. Look for the Chamber logo to register for the Christiansburg location.

Saturday, June 10:

## Fish Fry

Mount Tabor Ruritan Club will hold its June Fish Fry, 5 to 7 p.m. at Slusser's Chapel Picnic Shelter, 1543 Mount Tabor Rd, Blacksburg. Serving fish, fries and slaw; homemade desserts; and beverages. Adults-\$12, children under 12-\$6, under 3-free, carry-outs-\$12. This month, the Blacksburg Community Band will be playing. Held rain or shine. Call or text 540-449-6178 for further information. On Facebook at MtTaborRuritan.

Monday, June 12:

## Radford City Council meeting

The Radford City Council will hold its regularly

scheduled meeting at 7 p.m. in council chambers at the Radford Municipal Building, 10 Robertson St., Radford. See the agenda at [www.radfordva.gov](http://www.radfordva.gov).

## Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting

Public meetings are the second and fourth Monday of each month at the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St. in Christiansburg. Closed sessions begin at 6 p.m. if needed. Open sessions begin at 7:15 p.m. Citizens are invited to attend and allowed to speak at each meeting. All regular meetings of the Board of Supervisors are rebroadcast on Montgomery County Comcast and Shentel Channels 190 daily.

Tuesday, June 13:

## Blacksburg Town Council meeting

Town Council meets in regular session the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers of the Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 S. Main St. These meetings are open to the public and televised live on WTOB Channel 2.

## Christiansburg Town Council meeting

Regular Town Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Town Hall (100 E. Main Street). The public is welcome and encouraged to attend, with a citizen hearing time reserved at each meeting for residents to bring any matter they desire before the entire council.

Thursday, June 15:

## Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant at 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to attend this meeting. Mr. Chris McCloud, Third Brigade Commander, will be the guest speaker. For further information, please call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

On-going:

## Blacksburg Hydrant Flushing Work

The Town of Blacksburg will be flushing fire hydrants in the northwest section of town during May and June. Hydrant flushing can cause temporary pressure fluctuations and discolored water. These conditions will subside after the flushing is completed. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Town of Blacksburg Engineering Department at (540) 443-1300.

## Glencoe Mansion announces call for art for Mary Draper Ingles Show

Glencoe Mansion is calling for art for its July-August 2023 Gallery Exhibit, "A Journey For All," a multi-artist show themed on the life and times of Mary Draper Ingles. Accepted artwork should reflect the life and times of Ingles (Colonial times). Can include depictions of local landmarks (Ingles Farm, the Cultural and Heritage Park, Ingles Tavern and other connected sites in the region), and Colonial style art. Painting, plein air, illustration, digital media, textiles, mixed media and photography will be considered - up to three works per artist. Applications will be accepted through 5 p.m. on June 13. Open to artists in and around the NRV area. Entry forms at [www.glencoemansion.org](http://www.glencoemansion.org) or by contacting [arts@glencoemansion.org](mailto:arts@glencoemansion.org).

## Blacksburg Farmers Market

Hours now through October: Wednesdays 2 - 6 p.m. and Saturdays 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Located at Market Square Park, on the corner of Roanoke Street and Draper Road in downtown Blacksburg. Features growers of locally grown produce and meats, alongside artisans of baked goods, prepared foods, cheese, handmade crafts, and more.

## Christiansburg Farmers Market

Thursdays; 3 - 7 p.m. Located in the Recreation Center parking lot. Features local farmers and vendors. Seasonal produce, plants, fresh baked goods, crafts, fresh flowers, handmade jewelry and more. Items for purchase vary week-to-week. Check our Facebook page for details about weekly themes, prizes, vendors, and live music.

## Radford Farmers Market

2023 season of the Radford Farmers Market kicked off Saturday, April 22 on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery, located just off West Main Street, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. each Saturday until October 14. Features produce, plants, baked goods, artisans, fresh squeezed lemonade, eggs, meats, cheeses and more.

## Radford Field of Honor

Field of Honor on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery- displayed until the Fourth of July by the Radford Noon Rotary Club. Sponsor flags to honor a veteran, first responder, family member, teacher, associate, etc. Individual flags - \$50. Blue sponsorship - \$500, includes five flags plus signage. White sponsorship - \$1,000, includes 10 flags plus signage. Red sponsorship - \$2,500, includes 10 flags plus premium signage. Money raised benefits scholarships to RHS students attending Radford University, polio eradication, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, Glencoe Mansion, Radford-Fairlawn Daily Bread, Elf Shelf, the Women's Resource Center, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Vittles for Vets, Beans and Rice, the Wheelchair Foundation, Wonder Universe Children's Museum, Shelterbox and Sunset Garden. Contact Tom Alston with Radford Noon Rotary at [rotary.club.of.radford.noon@gmail.com](mailto:rotary.club.of.radford.noon@gmail.com) or register at: <https://registrations.dacdb.com/Register/index.cfm>.

# Area seniors participate in 2023 NRV Senior Olympic Games

A total of 155 senior athletes, aged 50 years and older, participated in 30 events, with medals awarded to all first, second, and third place finishers in each age division at the 2023 New River Valley Senior Olympic Games.

The NRV Senior Olympic Games were held the week of April 24 and organized by the parks and recreation departments in Montgomery County; the Towns of Christiansburg and Wytheville; and Radford City.

From Badminton to Wii Bowling and several events in between, the 155 senior athletes visited several locations throughout the New River Valley for daily competitions throughout the week.

"We had the privilege of hosting

this year's event," said Amanda Terry, Montgomery County's Active Adult/Senior Recreation Program Supervisor. "This is one event we all look forward to annually. It's great to see so many active adults who are young at heart have the opportunity to compete and fellowship together."

All registered participants received an NRV Senior Olympic Games t-shirt, participant packet, and admission to the kick off ceremony and catered lunch on April 24.

To view the 2023 NRV Senior Olympic Games winners, visit [montva.com/parks](http://montva.com/parks).

The 2023 sponsors included Adjust NRV Chiropractic, Logohub, Molina Healthcare, National Wild Turkey



Carlile Price, of Blacksburg, playing bocce ball.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
Wanda Garrison, of Christiansburg, playing softball.

Federation, Spring Oak, and Warm Hearth Village.

The New River Valley Senior Olympic Games have become an important event in the community, and organizers are already planning for next year's event.

"We are excited to see this event continue to grow and provide a fun and competitive environment for seniors in the New River Valley," said Terry.

Submitted by Montgomery County



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF THE RADFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

# RPL Summer Reading Program kicks off next week

The Radford Public Library's Summer Reading Program kicks off on Saturday, June 3 for people of all ages. The theme is "All Together Now" and library staff says "we hope you'll join

in the fun." Pick up your SRP calendars in person and have an in-person look at the raffle baskets that are awaiting their winners. There are many exciting events planned throughout June and July

for your entertainment and delight. To track your reading challenge progress easily, register online through the Beanstack app. Happy reading!

- Radford Public Library



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Send community news and photos to community news @ourvalley.org





PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Radford University Physics students help high schoolers learn how to make AM radios via Zoom recently.

# Physics students teach high schoolers to build AM radios

One late April morning, as the spring semester was winding down and final exams were rapidly approaching, members of the Society of Physics Students at Radford University took to Zoom to demonstrate to a group of high school students the intricacies of building their own working AM radios from parts.

It was one of the many outreach projects Radford's Department of Physics has conducted over the past several years.

The students on the other end of the learning session were enrolled in an AP physics class at Hidden Valley High School in Roanoke, Virginia. Radford alumna Caitlynn Fischer '21, M.Ed. '22, teaches the course. Fischer was the Department of Physics Dean's Scholar in 2021.

"I think the radio outreach was a great experience for both us and the high school students," said Michael Ziegenfus, a rising junior physics major with a concentration in biophysics from Gloucester, Virginia. "For us Radford students, it gives us an opportunity to teach students what we've learned, and I feel that teaching is a way for us to expand our own understanding."

The most important reason for the outreach project, Ziegenfus quickly noted, is the experience it gives the high school students.

"This outreach provided these students with a working example of what they've learned in class," he continued. "Hands-on learning is the most exciting, in my opinion, and by keeping it fun for the students, we can hope to inspire them to continue to expand their knowledge of physics and the other sciences."

In April 2022, a group of Radford physics students spoke about previous AM-radio-building outreach programs to attendees of the Chesapeake Section of the American Association of Physics Teachers. The Radford presenters explained their goal for the outreach was aimed at increasing interest and motivating high schoolers to pursue STEM-related academics and activities.

Chad Osborne for Radford University

# Lured by lower gas prices, Americans want to travel this summer, but remain cautious

More Americans are planning to take a road trip, yet two-thirds have yet to confirm their plans

weekend is projected to be \$1.10 less than it was in 2022, at \$3.53 per gallon on average, though lower gas prices alone may not be enough for many Americans to hit the road this summer.

According to GasBuddy's 2023 Summer Travel Survey, released today, 64% of Americans are planning to take a summer

See Cautious, page 4

## 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-2023-00061

•Appalachian Power Company ("APCo") requests approval of a revenue requirement of \$413.2 million for its T-RAC for the September 2023 through August 2024 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 \$4.15.

•A Hearing Examiner appointed by the State Corporation Commission will hear public witness testimony on the case on June 21, 2023, at 10 a.m., and testimony and evidence of APCo, Commission Staff, and any respondents on June 22, 2023.

•Further information about this case is available on the Commission's website at: [sec.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://sec.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

On May 4, 2023, Appalachian Power Company ("APCo" or "Company") filed an application ("Application") with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") pursuant to § 56-585.1 A 4 of the Code of Virginia for approval to implement factors to recover an increase to its revenue requirement through its transmission rate adjustment clause ("T-RAC").

In its Application, APCo requests permission to recover a proposed total revenue requirement of \$413.2 million through the T-RAC for the September 2023 through August 2024 rate year ("Rate Year"). The Company states that its proposed revenue requirement consists of the following: a forecasted Virginia jurisdictional current-period formula rate (current) revenue requirement of \$379 million for the Rate Year, based on Federal Energy Regulatory Commission-approved PJM rates for transmission service that went into effect on January 1, 2023; a cumulative Virginia jurisdictional actual under-recovery formula rate balance, through March 2023 (true-up) of \$18.5 million; a forecasted Virginia jurisdictional under-recovery amount of \$13.7 million for the period April 2023—August 2023 (update); and a forecasted Virginia jurisdictional revenue requirement of \$2.2 million associated with the Business Park Pilot Program.

APCo states that its proposed revenue requirement is an increase of approximately \$45.1 million from the annual T-RAC revenue requirement approved by the Commission in 2022. The Company indicates that its proposed T-RAC rates would increase the monthly bill for a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours per month by \$4.15.

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 entered an Order for Notice and Hearing that, among other things, scheduled public hearings on APCo's Application. On June 21, 2023, at 10 a.m., a Hearing Examiner appointed by the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses, with no public witness present in the Commission's courtroom. On or before June 14, 2023, 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 [sec.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://sec.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting); (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to [SCCInfo@sec.virginia.gov](mailto:SCCInfo@sec.virginia.gov); or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at [sec.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://sec.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting).

Beginning at 10 a.m. on June 21, 2023, the Hearing Examiner will telephone sequentially each person who has signed up to testify as provided above.

On June 22, 2023, 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, respondents, and the Staff on the Application.

To promote administrative efficiency and timely service of filings upon participants, the Commission has directed the electronic filing of testimony and pleadings, unless they contain confidential information, and require electronic service on parties to this proceeding.

An electronic copy of the public version of the Company's Application may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, James G. Ritter, Esquire, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 1051 East Cary Street, Suite 1100, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or [jritter@aep.com](mailto:jritter@aep.com). Interested persons also may download unofficial copies of the public version of the Application and other documents filed in this case from the Commission's website: [sec.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://sec.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

On or before June 16, 2023, any interested person may submit comments on the Application by following the instructions on the Commission's website: [sec.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments](http://sec.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments). Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments with 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-2023-00061.

On or before June 9, 2023, 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 [sec.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](http://sec.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 above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Company. Pursuant to Rule 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 Rule 5 VAC 5-20-30, Counsel, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2023-00061.

On or before June 9, 2023, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at [sec.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](http://sec.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 simultaneously with its filing. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, 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. PUR-2023-00061.

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

APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY

radfordnewsjournal.com

Marketplace logo with 'ourvalley.org' and various newspaper logos including The Fincastle Herald, Vinton Messenger, The New Castle Record, Salem Times-Register, News Messenger, and Radford News Journal.

Legals - Montgomery County. Order of Publication. Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,20-104. Case No. CA23000012-00. MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073. Commonweal of Virginia, in re CHRISTINE ELIZABETH GIBSON, DANIEL WARD GIBSON v. COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA. The object of this suit is to: IN RE: DESTINEE EVONLYNN HOBACK. It is ORDERED that BETTY IOY THOMPSON appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before JULY 5, 2023. MAY 5, 2023, ROBERT M.D. TURK, JUDGE TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

Legals - Montgomery County. NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING. TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG. PROPOSED OUTSIDE CORPORATE LIMITS WATER, SEWER, GARBAGE/SOLID WASTE FEE INCREASES. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 7 pm at Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 East Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia in Council Chambers for the purpose of discussing the proposed water, sewer, and garbage/sewer fee increases for customers outside of the corporate limits. Effective Date: July 1, 2024 Authority: Code of Virginia §15.2-2119. Water rates outside of corporate limits will increase from 150% to 200% of the inside corporate limits rates. Water rates: First 0 to

Legals - Montgomery County. 1,000 gallons from \$13.50 to \$20; Additional 1,000 gallons from \$16.50 to \$24.00; Over 50,000 gallons from \$12.38 to \$18.00. Sewer rates outside of corporate limits will increase from 150% to 200% of the inside corporate limits rates. Sewer rates: First 1,000 gallons from \$15 to \$20; Additional 1,000 gallons from \$15.38 to \$20.50. Garbage/Solid Waste service rates outside of corporate limits will increase from 150% to 200% of inside corporate limits rates. This proposal may be examined during regular business hours at the office of the Town Manager. 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA between the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. All interested citizens will have the opportunity to give written or oral comments. Randy Wingfield Town Manager

Legals - Montgomery County. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia that the Board of Supervisors hereby schedules a public hearing for Monday, June 12, 2023, at 7:15 p.m. or as soon thereafter, at the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to receive citizen comments on a proposed Ordinance Amending Chapter 2 Entitled Administration of the Code of the County of Montgomery, Virginia by adding Section 2-17 Cost Reimbursement for Emergency Medical Transport, authorizing the County to charge reasonable fees for the use of emergency medical service vehicles, including charging insurers for ambulance services. A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the County Administrator and is available 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday for public inspection

Legals - Montgomery County. BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING AND BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-4314 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Montgomery County Planning Commission hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on June 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. and the Board of Supervisors hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on June 26, 2023 at 7:15 p.m. in the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to hear citizen comment regarding the following written request to

Legals - Montgomery County. withdraw 46.990 acres owned by DW, LLC, from AFD District 7: Request by DW, LLC to withdraw approximately 46.990 acres from Agricultural & Forestal District #7 in order to apply for a Special Use Permit to convert the property to an RV Park for short-term transient vehicles. The property is identified as a portion of Tax Map No. 080-5-1, Parcel ID 033688, located on Brammer Lane, off of Houchins Road, in the Shawsville Magisterial District. Copies of the proposed plans, applications, ordinances or amendments may be examined at the Department of Planning and GIS Services, County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 2A, Christiansburg, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or at <http://www.montgomerycountyva.gov/pendingapplicatio> ns.

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# Cautious

from page 3

road trip this year, up from 58% last year. However, 60% of that group has yet to confirm their plans by booking accommodations, activities or other travel plans.

After a grueling summer at the pump last year, it's clear that Americans are tempted to get back out on the road. In fact, less than half of survey respondents (45%) said high gas prices were affecting their road trip plans this year – in 2022, that number was 70%. While gas prices might be in motorists' favor, the costs of other travel essentials such as hotels

and airfare remain elevated. Nearly 40% of people said inflation and high prices overall have caused them to rethink their travel plans this summer.

"While gas prices are far lower in most areas than they were last year, Americans seem to feel a bit worse about the economy this year on the heels of rising interest rates, the bank crisis, and inflation that has spiked, impacting their ability to take a road trip during the summer driving season," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "While the number of

Americans planning on taking a road trip is higher this year, we're finding that many remain cautious about the direction of the economy and thus have not yet cemented those plans in, with some hinting that price uncertainty is making things challenging."

How to save money on summer road trips:

Shop around for the best gas prices. Drivers can save upwards of 30¢ per gallon just by comparing prices before filling up and choosing a price - not a station - to fill up at.

Beware of crossing state lines. Gas prices often vary drastically between states due to tax changes and summer gasoline requirements. Make sure to check prices before crossing a state line to avoid overpaying.

Change the way you drive. Curbing aggressive habits like speeding, hard braking and fast acceleration and using cruise control on the highway at 65 mph can increase efficiency by 15 to 25% versus going 75 mph.

- Radford News Journal staff report

# Cause

from page 1

The couple wanted to do something outdoors, where people could safely gather, and that would raise funds for the different organizations in the region.

a nonprofit organization and invites car enthusiasts out to socialize and raise money for the cause. Money earned through raffle ticket sales is then given to the charity being supported by the

event.

The season opener event on May 21 raised \$1,011 to support Vittles for Vets, a local nonprofit providing food gift cards to military veterans.

"We had a DJ set up through Aarons in Radford, Mission BBQ donated baskets, and there were rides," Laken Smith said. "We try to bring the motorcycle rides, along with cars, trucks, and jeeps."

Gearheads for a Cause Father's Day Race at Restore will be the organization's next local event happening on June 17, noon to 5 p.m., at Restore on 1675 North Franklin St. in Christiansburg.

"We are inviting everyone to bring out their derby cars for the race, just before Father's Day," Smith said. "We thought it would be a fun event for fathers and



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEARHEADS FOR A CAUSE

Gearheads for a Cause's fundraiser at Aaron's in Fairlawn on May 21 raised money for Vittles for Vets.

their kids."

Participants can expect vendors such as the shaved ice truck with many raffle items costing \$1 each for tickets. Restaurants within walking distance of the event are Sam's Hot Dogs, McDonald's and Casa

Del Rio, so come hungry and bring sunscreen," Laken Smith said.

Another local event Gearheads for a Cause will be hosting is the celebration of the Agape Center of the NRV at Sinkland Farms on July 23. Additional events

will be happening throughout the year and can be found on their Facebook page titled Gearheads for a Cause, on nextthreedays.com, and other media pages like Eventbrite. All events are free admission, and no registration is required.

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# NRCC

from page 1

Helen Wolfe, interim coordinator of nursing programs at NRCC, presided at the event. Nursing students Cassie Craven, Larissa Gilbert, and Jordan McGrady presented remarks via video message on behalf of the 2023 nursing class.

Other nursing faculty participating in the ceremony included Michelle Goodman, Wendy Hay, Lisa Helmick, Caitlin Reed, and Heather Umberger.

Ending the program, Dr. Graham Mitchell, professor of psychology and religion, led a "Blessing of the Hands" ceremony with nursing faculty and students to bring "healing and wholeness" to the nurse's touch.

The 2023 graduating class of

associate degree nurses at NRCC includes Kristy Dawn Albert, Lynette Nicole Carroll, Kalayna Marie Cassady, Taylor Nicole Conley, Ashley Nichole Cox, Cassie Muncy Craven, Sylvia Jeannette Cupp, Amanda Nicole Davis, Rachael Wray Durham, Hannah Elaine Evans, Kendra Brea Franklin, Kayla Megan Gardunio, Morgan Tylor Gee, Larissa Shyanne Gilbert, Madison Hope Hinton, Allison Rose Hosey, Angela Marie Hubler, Rachel Elisabeth Huffman, Valery Anne Jacobson, Nathan Isaiah Jenkins, Abigail Elizabeth Grace Lafon, Jennifer Kaitlyn Lawrence, Kayla Lynn Mabe, Ruth Jean-Maria Martin, Samantha Jane Mathews, Jordan Danielle McGrady,

Kendra Camille Morris, Jenna Rene O'Neill, Caitlyn Deziree Ousley, Adelee Morgan Palmer, Jenna Marie Quesenberry, Alyssa Faith Saunders, Ashlee Nichole Slusher, Ally Kathleen Smith, Madison Autumn Smith, Kealee Nichole Stanford, Ashley Nicole Stewart, Emma Nicole Sutphin, Cohen Gage Taylor, Christopher Lee Thompson-Hudson, Amy Nicole Thornton, Kenna Nicole Tienvieri, Jessica Jake Wheeler, Brittany Nichole Williams, Carlin Paige Williams, and Faith Hazel Williams.

Submitted by NRCC

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13						14					15	
16		17				18				19		
20	21				22			23		24		
25				26				27		28		
29			30					31		32	33	
	34	35						36		37		
38	39							40				
41				42				43				
44			45		46		47			48	49	50
51			52		53		54			55		
56			57		58			59				
60		61		62				63			64	
65		66						67			68	
	69							70				

**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Package

7. Wear away

13. Joins a leaf to a stem

14. Worsen

16. Promotes international cooperation (abbr.)

17. Your folks

19. Publicity

20. Moves up

22. Dept. of Labor

23. Physicist Enrico

25. Whitney and Manning are two

26. Human foot (pl.)

28. Coral is an example

29. Extended error correction

30. Small amount

31. Dash

33. The greatest of all time

34. Middle Eastern country

36. Ravine

38. Cup-like cavity

40. Chemical substances

41. Extremely stupid behavior

43. He built Aranta

44. Beverage beloved by Brits

45. Cereal plant

47. Signal

48. A bar bill

51. Comedienne Faris

53. Preface to a book

55. Stores grain

56. In a way, medicated

58. Small island (British)

59. An Indiana-based hooper

60. Measures width of printed matter

61. Riders use this to transport goods

64. Once more

65. Thin layers

67. Says again

69. Cleans thoroughly

70. Warnings

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Relating to male organ

2. Indicates position

3. Covers with frost

4. Makes a soft murmuring sound

5. Wood

6. Type of fuel

7. Confused

8. Where you go at night

9. Canadian flyers

10. Type of birch tree

11. Beloved Welsh princess

12. Coated

13. Smooth substance of crushed fruit

15. Improves intellectually

18. A sign of assent

21. Island-based Italians

24. Pragmatic

26. Peter's last name

27. A bag-like structure in a plant or animal

30. Mexican city

32. Sir Samuel \_\_\_\_, Brit. statesman

35. Summer Olympics were just here

37. Fiddler crabs

38. Southern military academy

39. Tumors

42. Speaks incessantly

43. Sacred sound in Indian religions

46. Transactions

47. Et\_\_

49. Reminders

50. Doesn't interest

52. Norse gods

54. Canola is one type

55. Beloved sportscaster Craig

57. Irish mother goddess

59. Daddy

62. Press against lightly

63. Sound unit

66. Master of Ceremonies

68. Morning

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# OBITUARIES

## Barton, Glennie “Chuck” Roy

Glennie “Chuck” Roy Barton, Evelyn Barton; daughter, Jennifer Barton; special sister-in-law, Donna Gamble; special friends, R.F. and Diane Pruitt; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.



He was a loving husband and father, and a retired inspector with the Virginia Department of Transportation. Chuck was preceded in death by his parents, Samuel and Martha Barton; three brothers and two sisters.

Survivors include his wife, Minnie in Radford.

Services will be private. The Barton family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory

## Chinault, Willard Leon

Willard Leon Chinault, 74, of brother, Timmy Chinault (Donna); Pulaski, passed away Wednesday, May 17, 2023.



He was preceded in death by his parents Lee and Audrey Chinault. He was a well-known horse farrier.

Survivors include his daughter, Jessica Chinault; granddaughter, Audrey Mitchell; girlfriend, Jackie Vance; sister, Yvonne McConnell (Jeff); Crematory in Radford.

nephew, Adam Cregger (Sonya); nieces, Sherry Nack (Steve), Ashley McCambridge, and Reagan McCambridge; other relatives, and friends.

In keeping with his wishes, there will be no services.

The Chinault family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

See Obituaries, page 6

### ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

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

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

### BAPTIST

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

**First Baptist Church on 3rd Ave.**, 215 Third Ave at the corner with Downey St. We nurture meaningful connections to God and others through worship, spiritual growth, and community ministry. We celebrate the dignity and worth of all persons, created in the image of God. Sunday Bible Study Groups - 9:45, Sunday Worship - 11:00. Website: fbcradford.org 540-639-4419. Worship is in-person and live-streamed on Facebook and on our YouTube channel: First Baptist Church Radford.

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

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

### CHURCH OF GOD

**Childress Church of God**, 4187 Piney Woods Rd., C’burg. 381-3693. Sun. School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m. & Wed. 7 p.m.

**New Hope Church of God**, 1404 Mud Pike Rd., C’burg. Rev. T. Michael Bond, pastor, 731-3178. Sun. School 10 a.m., Worship 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m. Thurs., 7:00 p.m.

**West Radford Church of God**, 1824 West Main Street, Radford, VA 24141, Sunday School – 10:00A.M. Morning Worship – 11:00A.M., Children’s Church 11:00A.M. Sunday Evening – 6:00P.M., Wednesday Night – 7:00P.M., Pastor Danny Newman, Church Office – 540-639-6562 or 804-921-0828

### CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

**Radford Church of God in Christ**, 206 Russell Ave., Radford. Supt. Ronald A. Watson, Sr.; Elder, 639- 5948. Sun. School 9 a.m.; Prayer 11:30 a.m.; Worship 6 p.m.

### (DOC - DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

**Snowville Christian Church**, 5436 Lead Mine Rd., Hiwassee, VA 24347, Pastor: Jerry King, Website: www.SnowvilleChristianChurch.com (and Facebook), Office: 540-633-3761, Email: office@SnowvilleChristianChurch.com, Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m., Sunday School: 10:00 a.m., Thursday Bible Study: 6:00 p.m., We are: “Inspiring hope, helping people grow their faith, and sharing God’s love with others!”

### EPISCOPAL

**Grace Episcopal Church**, 210 4th Street, Radford, 639-3494. A friendly, mission-oriented spiritual community sharing the Word of God. ALL ARE WELCOME. In person and live-streamed services 10:30AM Sundays. Holy Eucharist twice a month. Morning Prayer twice a month. Fellowship and refreshments follow services. Find us on Facebook: Grace Episcopal Church and www.graceradford.org.

### LUTHERAN

**Christ Lutheran Church**, 201 Harvey St. Sunday worship with communion at 10am; fellowship & snacks at 11am. All are welcome. Upcoming events and fellowship opportunities (Senior Brunch, Faith & Film, Rough Draught, etc.) detailed in weekly

# Radford

## WORSHIP DIRECTORY

### TIME TO REST

Read Exodus 30:1 through 32:35

“This project has to be done right, and it has to be done soon. Work all weekend if you have to.” Some work assignments make us wonder if we need to make a few clones to help us get the work done. Life’s responsibilities may seem larger than we can handle, yet we need to learn the importance of rest.

“It will be a sign between me and the Israelites forever, for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day he rested and was refreshed” (Exodus 31:17).

God created the Sabbath for two key purposes. First, people need to set aside a day to worship God and fellowship with His people. Second, we need a day of rest and refreshing. Scientific research bears this out.

Nearly everyone must contend with deadlines and expectations from others. God, however, wants us to set aside time to rest and to seek Him. Obeying His instructions for rest and worship actually helps us gain the energy and renewal we need to be more effective and productive in the responsibilities we carry.

Prayer Suggestion: God, please direct me in ways to better rest in You.

Quicklook: Exodus 31:14-17

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

email and on website: clcradford.org. 540-639-2671.

**Our Saviour Lutheran Church ELCA**, 1845 Cambria St NE, Christiansburg. Worship each Sunday at 10 am, in person and online at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMsB-gbyjmV5ce9mr43dbCw>. Please visit our website at [www.oslc-cburg.org](http://www.oslc-cburg.org) and our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/oslcchristiansburg> to learn more about us. Little Free Pantry and Little Free Library located in our parking lot. Pastor Joshua L. Copeland; church office 540-382-2223.

**St. Michael Lutheran Church, 2308 Merrimac Road**, Blacksburg, VA 24060. Worship service each Sunday at 10 AM, Sunday School 9 AM. We are a community of God’s people where people gather for worship, learning and service. Visitors and new members are always WELCOME! Google comments: “Wonderful, welcoming congregation...A place where all are truly welcome... Nice, friendly, competent staff.” You will like our minister, The Rev. Michelle L. Stramiello. Her previous service was as Family Faith Formation Director at Cross and Crown Lutheran Church, Indianapolis, IN, Pastor of St Matthew Lutheran Church, Paducah, KY, and Hospice Chaplain in Largo, Fl. St. Michael started and administers Micah’s Backpack which has great community impact, Micah’s Soup for Seniors, Micah’s Garden, Closet, and Mini Pantry. Also, partnering with Rainbow Riders and Total Action for Progress, we opened open the first Early Childhood Head Start in our community (6 weeks to age 3), and have numerous other programs including a Justice & Mercy Fund providing assistance for those needing emergency assistance with critical bills. Further St. Michael sponsors an awesome Scouting program of Boy & Girl Scout Troops, Venture Scouts for older youth, and a new Cub Pack for girls & boys kindergarten - 5th grade. Directions: From Price’s Fork Road, turn onto Merrimac Road and St. Michael is 3/10ths of a mile down on the left. For more information about any of our activities: Phone 540 951-8951. Email [hope@stmcl.us](mailto:hope@stmcl.us) or visit our Website [www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org](http://www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org)

### PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

**Merrimac Pentecostal Holiness Church**, Rev. Larry

Christopher (540) 552-7194. [l.christopher695@comcast.net](mailto:l.christopher695@comcast.net). Sunday school at 10 a.m. and morning worship is 11 a.m. Evening service at 6 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

**Compassion Church**, 1820 Second Street, Radford, 639-6287, Our music is passionate, our worship is real, and Pastor Chandler Jones brings relevant messages for everyone at any place on their journey. Sunday Worship Experience at 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Wednesday Family Night at 7 PM, Children Ministry provided for all services. Our vision is to see all Saved. Freed. Restored. Fulfilled. Find us on facebook and Instagram

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

### PRESBYTERIAN

Join us at **The Presbyterian Church of Radford**, 201 4th Street, at the corner of 4th & Randolph, for Sunday School at 10 am and Worship and Children’s Church at 11 am. Our Interim Minister is Steve Willis. Phone 639-2585. Watch the worship services on Facebook, which can be accessed through the church website at [www.pcradford.org](http://www.pcradford.org) or through the Presbyterian church of Radford Facebook page. We are called to share the love of Christ in this community and beyond.

### UNITED METHODIST

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

**Central United Methodist Church**, 803 Wadsworth Street, Radford. 639-3529. 8:30 a.m. Sunday Services: 8:30am (interpreter provided); 9:45am Sunday School (interpreter provided); and 11:00am. Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30pm. Child care is provided. [www.centralmethodistchurch.com](http://www.centralmethodistchurch.com).

**St. Paul United Methodist Church**, 220 W. Main St., C’burg. Rev. Moonsup “Paul” Song (540) 382-2410. Sunday Worship 10am, Sunday School 9am. Live streaming Sunday Service - [www.twitch.tv/stpaulumc](http://www.twitch.tv/stpaulumc).



# Obituaries from page 5

## Duncan, Virginia Lynn Bland

Virginia Lynn Bland Duncan, 76, of Christiansburg, passed away peacefully at her home surrounded by her family on Sunday, May 21, 2023.

She was born in Radford on February 22, 1947, to the late James Edward Bland, Sr., and Doris McGhee Bland. She was also preceded in death by her brother Harry Lee Bland.

Lynn dreamed of following in her mother's footsteps to become an RN. She accomplished this and served many families during their time of need.

She is survived by her husband, Jackson B. Duncan; daughter and son-in-law, Marie and Mike Rorrer; son and daughter-in-law, Eddie and Suzanne Woolwine; grandchildren, Ashley Apjok and husband Scott, Kelsey Woolwine, McKinley Rorrer, Ryan Woolwine and wife Nicole; great-grandchildren, Maggie Apjok and Lucas Apjok; stepdaughter, Kim Wade and husband Steve; step-grandchildren, Jackson Wade and Shannon Wade; sisters, Kaye Bland



Griffith; brother and sister-in-law, Jimmy and Sandy Bland; sister-in-law, Mary Bland; numerous nieces and nephews; and Jenny, her beloved companion who was always by her side.

A special thank you to her caregivers Lena Lytton and Alicia Leonard. Our family was comforted

in knowing that Lynn was being cared for and loved on a daily basis. Thank you to all the nurses and staff at Intrepid USA Hospice Radford during this time.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday, May 25, 2023 in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Sebert Rorrer officiating. Interment followed in Sunset Cemetery in Christiansburg. The family received friends Wednesday, May 24, 2023, at McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Drive SW, Blacksburg. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Intrepid USA Hospice Radford, 101 West Main Street, Radford, VA, 24141.

## Whittaker, Florence Anne

Florence Anne Whittaker, 69, of Parrott, died Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at Lewis Gale Hospital- Montgomery.

She was born in Radford on January 2, 1954, to the late George and Lucille Boswell Page. She was also preceded in death by her daughter, Barbara Ann Bryant, a brother, George Page, Jr., and a nephew, Michael Douglas Page.

She is survived by her husband, John H. Whittaker; son, John H. Whittaker, Jr. (Monica); daughter, Hope Draper; grandchildren, Cherish Thompson, Chasity Woods, Brandon Caldwell, Brian Caldwell,



Cassandra Jarrells, Sarah Bishop, and Ashley Hevener; 14 great-grandchildren; sister, Virginia (Ray) Wilburn; brothers, Gary (Norma) Page, Robert (Melanie) Page, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, May 27, 2023, at 2 p.m. in the Parrott Church of God with Pastor T. Michael Bond and Pastor Kenneth Alley officiating. Interment will follow in the Sifford Cemetery. The family will receive friends 1-2 p.m. Saturday, before the service.

## Lured by lower gas prices, Americans want to travel this summer, but remain cautious

*More Americans are planning to take a road trip, yet two-thirds have yet to confirm their plans*

The national average price of gasoline this Memorial Day weekend is projected to be \$1.10 less than it was in 2022, at \$3.53 per gallon on average, though lower gas prices alone may not be enough for many Americans to hit the road this summer.

According to GasBuddy's 2023 Summer Travel Survey, released today, 64% of Americans are planning to take a summer road trip this year, up from 58% last year. However, 60% of that group has yet to confirm their plans by booking accommodations, activities or other travel plans.

After a grueling summer at the pump last year, it's clear that Americans are tempted to get back out on the road. In fact, less than half of survey respondents (45%) said high gas prices were affecting their road trip plans this year – in

2022, that number was 70%. While gas prices might be in motorists' favor, the costs of other travel essentials such as hotels and airfare remain elevated. Nearly 40% of people said inflation and high prices overall have caused them to rethink their travel plans this summer.

"While gas prices are far lower in most areas than they were last year, Americans seem to feel a bit worse about the economy this year on the heels of rising interest rates, the bank crisis, and inflation that has spiked, impacting their ability to take a road trip during the summer driving season," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "While the number of Americans planning on taking a road trip is higher this year, we're finding that many remain cautious about the direction of the economy and thus have not yet cemented

those plans in, with some hinting that price uncertainty is making things challenging."

How to save money on summer road trips:

Shop around for the best gas prices. Drivers can save upwards of 30¢ per gallon just by comparing prices before filling up and choosing a price – not a station – to fill up at.

Beware of crossing state lines. Gas prices often vary drastically between states due to tax changes and summer gasoline requirements. Make sure to check prices before crossing a state line to avoid overpaying.

Change the way you drive. Curbing aggressive habits like speeding, hard braking and fast acceleration and using cruise control on the highway at 65 mph can increase efficiency by 15 to 25% versus going 75 mph.

## Long, Buford Anthony

Buford Anthony Long, 74, a life-long resident of Blacksburg, went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, May 23, 2023.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Gilbert and Mary Long; his loving son, Brian Long; and two sisters, Martha and Evelyn. Buford leaves behind his loving wife of 55 years, Shirlene Long; son Robbie Long (Amanda); daughter-in-law Michelle Long; grandchildren Whitney Akers (Justin), Dana Long (Brian), Colton Long, Billy Long, and Josie Long; two great-grandsons, Connor, and Sawyer; his three sisters Janice Price, Joyce Garthrune, and Nancy Keys, and countless close friends.

Buford was born on June 9, 1948. He was a hard-working man with many talents. He started out building houses, plumbing, and doing



electrical work. Years later, at age 25, he bought a backhoe from the company he was working for, soon after that he started his own business and never looked back. He did it his way! His son Robbie worked along beside him, and he contracted jobs with his other son Brian as well.

The family would like to thank all the nurses and caregivers who have helped so much in the past several weeks. Visitation will be from 10 - 11 a.m. followed by the funeral service on Tuesday, May 30, 2023, at 11 a.m. at McCoy Funeral Home in Blacksburg. He will be laid to rest on his son's farm at the Long Family Cemetery officiated by Pastor Terry Price. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the American Cancer Society.

## Sherman, Grant Leon

Grant Leon Sherman transitioned on May 22, 2023, at Cozy Home Haven, Radford, at 93 years old.

He was born May 1, 1930, to the late Robert Houston and Juanita Paige Sherman. He was the last of their 14 children. He was also preceded in death by his wife, Ada Ernestine Sherman. He leaves to cherish his memory his son Ronald D. (Beti) Mills; two grandsons, Jason (Ashley) Mills, and Myron (Fajr) Mills; great-grandchildren Myree



Mills and Mycah Mills; special nieces Inest Hurdle, Esther Reed, and Keiona Eaves; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives.

Graveside services will be held Thursday, June 1, 2023, at 11 a.m. at Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery, Dublin, with Rev. Jessie Eaves officiating. The family will receive friends Wednesday, May 31, 2023, from 5 - 7 p.m. at McCoy Funeral Home.

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# Montgomery County Board of Supervisors sets public hearing on proposed fees for EMS transport services

**Lori Graham**  
*Contributing writer*

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors has scheduled a public hearing for Monday, June 12, 2023, at 7:15 p.m. to give citizens an opportunity to comment on the proposed ordinance amendment that would allow the county to charge fees, including those individuals with insurance, for the use of their emergency medical transport services.

These fees would then help to fund the EMS county services, which has seen a reduction in volunteerism in recent years.

In another discussion of the county's fire and rescue services, board member Todd King expressed to other county supervisors that alternative avenues for sharing conflicts and grievances should be made available to fire and rescue personnel. The county employs some paid rescue personnel, but also many volunteers serve the county's communities.

"We are responsible for the safety of the citizens of Montgomery County" King said. "I would like to see us have a committee drawn [sic] up and I would like for it to consist of two board members, two staff from

the paid side, and one member from each department in the county for an advisory board; that way the paid side and the volunteer side will know what's going on."

If established, this would be in addition to the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Commission that advises the Board of Supervisors in their service equipment needs, and the position of Emergency Services Coordinator, currently held by Michael Geary, that works directly with the emergency personnel in providing training and other support.

"It is something that the fire and rescue commission took up, and we formed a committee to look into incentives to reward and thank our volunteers and it was voted down," Supervisor Steve Fijalkowski said. "The basic response was, volunteers don't volunteer to get rewards."

County Administrator Craig Meadows felt that fire and rescue personnel with grievances should communicate with their current representative and coordinator, Michael Geary.

"We have a dedicated staff of some full time, a whole lot of part-time because it takes part-time to cover shifts, and the board has been very

good to support that. I would say, if there's any concerns with how that side of the house is working, Michael Geary has been very cognizant of trying to make sure that group works well with the volunteer base, if there are issues they should be brought to Michael's attention," Meadows said.

Meadows also said any concerns not resolved through the Emergency Services Coordinator's office should then be brought to the board's attention.

The Board of Supervisors also discussed the Commissioner of the Revenue's office's request for the use of cigarette tax revenue funding to pay for the cost of producing cigarette tax stamps. King initially requested the cigarette tax stamp be removed from the items of consent and voted on separately. The board agreed to remove the cigarette tax stamp and placed the item in new business, and unanimously voted to approve all other items of consent. An approval of the cigarette tax was later reached with a vote of 5-2; Supervisors Sherri Blevins and Todd King voted against the tax.

The Retired Senior and Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Montgomery County was recognized at the Board

of Supervisors meeting for their 50th anniversary of service to the region in a video presented during the board's regular Monday night meeting.

Mandy Hayes serves as the Montgomery County RSVP Coordinator, but first started her work with the organization in 2003 as a Program Assistant. Ava Stilwell is the current RSVP Program Assistant, with 23 years of experience supporting senior services, eight of those years with RSVP.

"RSVP serves as a clearinghouse, to match the needs of the community with the skills and knowledge of our volunteers. Our volunteers serve over 60 non-profit organizations and healthcare facilities in our service area," Hayes said.

The Board of Supervisors each took a moment to congratulate and show appreciation to the members of the RSVP organization through comments to the RSVP members present during the meeting.

"The RSVP program is just invaluable, and the fact that these volunteers are paying it forward and showing the community what it means to dedicate time and resources and energy to making our community a better place to live," Meadows said.



# RADFORD SPORTS

## River Ridge announce 2023 all-star teams

**Marty Gordon**  
NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Christiansburg High School's Mason Selfe has been named the River Ridge District's co-player of the year for baseball. He shares the honor with Trey Lundy of Cave Spring.

Selfe was named to the first-team all RRD at both first base and pitcher. His battery mate, Marshall Basham, was named first-team catcher.

The Blue Demons placed four players on the second team including Tanner Evans (pitcher and shortstop), Sam Dudash (second base), Jeremiah Thompson (outfield) and Cam Dunn (utility).

Blacksburg High School's Brice Abbott was named to the second team as a utility player.

Blacksburg's Alec Staneck was named the River Ridge softball coach of the year as four Bruin players were named first team. Blacksburg was represented by: pitcher Lorelei Spradlin, her battery mate in catcher Kasey Mathena, along with outfielder Mia Farley and utility player Emily Dickerson. Christiansburg's Kady Camper was also named first team.

The two school added to more to second teams, which were also announced

on Thursday. Blacksburg's Evelyn Rhoads and Lindsey Mann were joined by Christiansburg's Brailyn Wilburn and Addison Reasor.

Christiansburg and Blacksburg dominated the boys' soccer team also announced on Thursday. Blacksburg coach Shelly Blumenthal was named coach of the year, and he was joined by first-teamers: Edric Zhang, Sean Delorenzo, Kai Feng, Addison Bass, Wyatt Eschenman and goalie D.J. Garza.

Christiansburg's Sami Seife and Luca Pickeral were also first team RRD.

Blacksburg added Charlie Lattimer on the second team along with Christiansburg's Chase Fisher, Caleb Yopp and Isaac Prather.

On the girls' soccer side, Christiansburg and Blacksburg shared the player of year honors with Ava Sanders (Christiansburg) and Mila Santsaver-Jones (Blacksburg)

Blacksburg had first-team honorees in Mila Santsaver-Jones, Erin Bishop, Kallan Malabad, Ava Massjouni, Charlotte Ellis and Kailyn Brawley. Christiansburg added four to the first team in Sanders, Ava Rose, Bridget Miller and Madison Farley.

Second teamers for Blacksburg were Virginia Crawford and Paige Miller.

## OUTDOOR REPORT



PHOTO COURTESY OF VIRGINIA STATE PARKS

Virginia State Parks has announced the winners of its 2022 Volunteer of the Year awards in five categories and three subcategories that includes First Place: Lambda Iota Mu of Virginia Tech.

### Claytor campgrounds re-opening

Claytor Lake State Park has completed its long-awaited renovation of the bathhouse in Campground D, allowing the park to open 40 additional campsites just in time for Memorial Day weekend.

Campground D (PDF) is the park's only campground that offers water and electric hookups for guests and can accommodate RV units up to 40 feet. The campground usually opens in March but remained closed at the start of the season for a complete overhaul of the 1980s bathhouse to address several issues, including limited ADA accessibility, aging fixtures and communal showers.

The renovation added 322 square feet to the bathhouse; highlights include on-demand hot water heaters, a new roof, an ADA-accessible parking space, a wraparound concrete walkway and six new showers – two family and two ADA-accessible.

"This much-needed bathhouse renovation offers a more comfortable camping experience for our guests," said Park Manager Brody Havens. "It provides a new look for a familiar place."

Campground D opened Friday, May 26, 2023. Reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. To make a reservation, go to reserveparks.com or call 800-933-PARK (7275).

Virginia State Parks has announced the winners of its 2022 Volunteer of the Year awards in five categories and three subcategories.

Virginia Tech's Lambda Iota Mu received the group award for their efforts at Hungry Mother State Park. Their signature project is keeping the popular Molly's Knob Trail in good condition for hikers. They also keep the flowerbeds clean, split firewood and assist at festivals as part of their mission to support local ecosystems and educate the public.

Dedicated and hardworking volunteers donated 210,693 hours of time and talent at 41 state parks across the Commonwealth in 2022.

With projects ranging from beekeeping to repairing bikes, these volunteers really went above and beyond their duties to enhance the guests visit to the park. Individuals, groups, couples and even families worked to create new hiking trails, sponsor events, help with environmental education, plant and maintain gardens as well as handle

various repairs. These are just a few of their accomplishments.

The wandering waters of Virginia connect communities and people across landscapes and through time. From mountain streams and lakes to tidal rivers and bays, the waters of Virginia provide an endless source of adventure and fun. Beginners can get into paddle sports at one of our tranquil lakes or go with the flow on a lazy stretch of river. Get on the water and explore at a Virginia State Park. Get prizes just for doing so.

There are 41 total state parks, with 31 offering the Paddle Quest program. You must visit the Know Before You Go section on each park page before visiting and check with the park about operating hours and availability. Park rentals are subject to change due to staffing and water/weather conditions.

Here's how it works: Visit a Virginia State Park and participate in a paddle-based adventure in one of three ways:

Join a Ranger Guided paddle program  
Rent paddle equipment from the park and go on a self-guided tour

Bring your own equipment and design your own paddling experience

After your visit, log into (or make a new account on) the State Park Adventures page.

Select the name of the park you visited, pick "Wandering Waters," and record the date of the visit and method of participation. The "Wandering Waters" option will only be available if the park you select has paddling amenities.

The State Park Adventures system keeps track of your progress and you will receive email confirmation.

Paddles taken at a park prior to the start of the program on May 3, 2023, do not count towards the Wandering Waters program.

Here's what you get when you paddle at participating parks:

Paddle at 5 parks and you get a sticker.

Paddle at 10 parks and you get a patch.

Paddle at 20 parks and you get a mesh gear bag.

Paddle at all 31 parks that offer the program, and you get a cellphone dry bag and a certificate.

Submitted by Virginia State Parks

## Lady Hokies club team wins national title

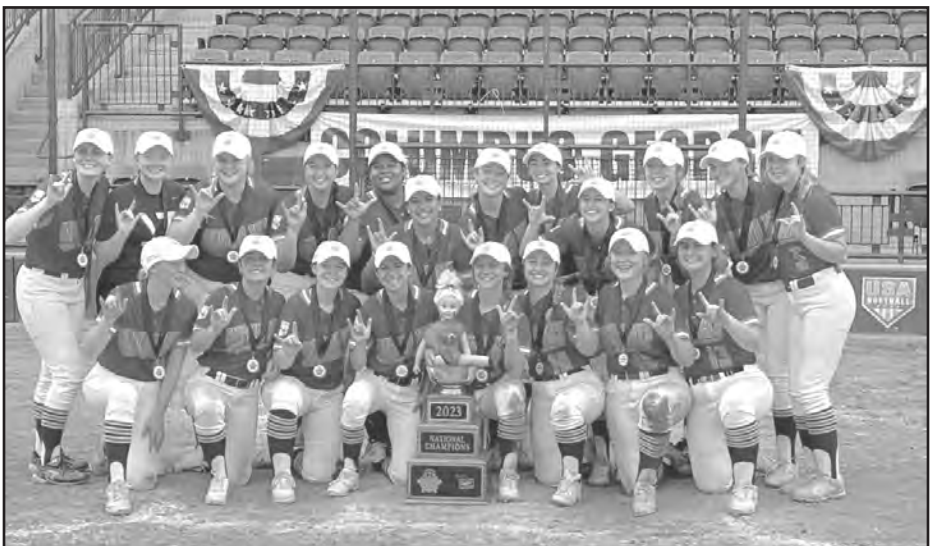


PHOTO COURTESY OF VT CLUB SOFTBALL

For the second time in the past five years, the Virginia Tech Club Softball team are national champs. The Lady Hokies downed Iowa 4-2 this past weekend to bring home the trophy.

## Two hole-in-ones at Auburn Hills



Auburn Hills Golf Course is offering congratulations to George Remsen (top) for making a hole in one on #11 and Rodney Ratliff (lower) for making a hole in one on #3.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF AUBURN HILLS GOLF COURSE

### Want to stay up to date on local sports?

radfordnewsjournal.com

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Send community news and photos to community news @ourvalley.org



# Radford girls Region C champs



In number one singles, Radford's Lydia Pratt hits a forehand return against Glenvar's Isabella Gustafson during the Region 2C team championship match on Wednesday morning at Virginia Tech. Radford took the title with a 5-0 win in the event.



Radford's Madison Graham was matched up against Glenvar's Avery Flynn in number two singles during the Region 2C team championship.



Radford's Sophia Mishoe hits a backhand off a high bounce in the number three singles match against Glenvar's Cara Butler.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

# Blacksburg boys and girls win regional track championship

DANVILLE – The Blacksburg Bruins Girls and Boys Outdoor Track teams swept the Region D Championships at George Washington High School. The track meet was held Tuesday, May 23 at the school, located in Danville.



The Blacksburg Bruins 2023 boys track team



The Blacksburg Bruins 2023 girls track team

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BHS

## Want a backyard beehive? Expert explains benefits and tips for homeowners

Bees serve an important role in pollinating our gardens, helping flowers grow and regrow, helping trees to bear fruit and crops to yield food. However, homeowners looking to venture into beekeeping have a lot to think about long before any potential honey harvest. The checklist includes acquiring the right equipment, access to good sources for food and water, investigating the use of pesticides by neighbors, and many additional considerations.

James M. Wilson, beekeeping expert for Virginia Tech and Virginia Cooperative Extension, has plenty of tips to offer about starting up and tending to a personal beehive.

**Q: How can homeowners know whether beekeeping is right for them?**

“The best way to determine whether to keep bees is to meet with beekeepers at an organizational meeting, not just at the farmer’s market where they are hoping to sell their honey. Local, regional, and state beekeeper associations hold meetings that cover a great deal of topics on bees and bee products. Ask about or listen to the challenges of keeping bees, because when they arise, they can be formidable. It may

be that keeping a native bee house or nest in your yard might be more of what you are looking for in terms of pollination or curiosity.”

**Q: Why might a homeowner want to try beekeeping?**

“If you are interested in serious pollination benefits and a sweet taste of honey as a payoff, honeybees are a great place to get started. Being a beekeeper requires optimism that you and your bees can succeed, stubbornness to work through the challenges, and some realism to know that you will at times need to make some tough decisions about your bees. The rewards often do pay off, but they may not come as soon as you think.”

**Q: Is every yard suitable for beekeeping?**

“When we look at our surroundings like a bee would, we can see just how different, and at times how inhospitable, the designed world of green grass lawns with few flowers can be. Location is one of your top priorities when you are trying to get started keeping bees. Important factors include early morning sun in the spring, windbreaks, good air and water drainage, and nearby forage and water sources. Also, think about



Beekeepers handling a honeycomb.

IMAGE COURTESY OF PEXELS

what having more bees in your area will look like — will you have to redirect them from foraging in a popular public park?”

**Q: What does a homeowner need to get started?**

“In addition to the resources provided by beekeeping associations, bee supply companies sell the basic kits of hive components, personal protective equipment, and some not-so-light reading to get folks started. We want to make sure that we are setting the bees up for success, so having equipment assembled, painted, and a location prepped will help you to install your new package or nucleus colony of bees and let them get right to work. They have a big

job to do to get ready for their first winter, so we do not want to slow them down at all.”

Wilson, apiculturist for the Virginia Cooperative Extension, works with growers, gardeners, naturalists, beekeepers, educators, and Extension Agents throughout the Commonwealth. He also teaches classes on bees and insects at Virginia Tech, maintains the university’s research and teaching beehives, and advises the student Beekeepers club. For even more information, follow the Bee Group at VT on Facebook.

Mike Allen for Virginia Tech

## Annual Click It or Ticket campaign in place to increase Virginia seat belt use rate

*Enforcement and awareness continue to be the focus throughout the holiday weekend*

RICHMOND – The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and AAA Mid-Atlantic joins Virginia’s first responders, local law enforcement and Virginia State Police to focus on saving lives through increased seat belt use by participating in the national Click It or Ticket campaign through June 4, 2023.

This annual campaign takes place during the Memorial Day holiday, one of the year’s busiest and deadliest travel weekends.

AAA is predicting more than 42 million people will be traveling nationwide for the long Memorial Day weekend. That’s just 1% shy of the holiday travel numbers from the pre-pandemic days of 2019. Nearly 90% of all travelers, or about 37 million people, will be on the roads. Here in the Commonwealth, 1.16 million Virginians will be traveling, with more than one million of them predicted to be hitting the roads.

“The roads of Virginia will be very busy this weekend with holiday travelers, and that means there’s a greater potential for crashes,” says Morgan Dean, AAA Mid-Atlantic spokesperson. “We want everyone to be safe. We encourage drivers to limit distractions, obey the speed limit, and make sure they buckle up everyone in the vehicle before they set out on that Great American Road Trip.”

More than 18% of Virginians still don’t wear their seat belt, according to the state’s most recent seat belt survey. In Virginia last year, there were 5,427 unrestrained people involved in crashes, 3,702 unrestrained injuries, and 375 deaths involving unrestrained people.

Last year, approximately one of every two crash fatalities in Virginia involved occupants who did not wear a seat belt. People aged 21-30 made up 68% of unrestrained fatalities and the highest number of unrestrained fatalities happened between midnight and 3 a.m. (70%).

“These numbers mean thousands of Virginians still choose not to make the simple, safe choice of buckling up as their best defense against a reckless, impaired or distracted driver,” says DMV Commissioner Gerald Lackey, the Governor’s Highway Safety Representative. “By participating in Click It or Ticket, we are raising awareness and educating Virginians on the importance of always wearing a seat belt, every time.”

Law enforcement will support DMV’s seat belt awareness messaging by conducting high visibility enforcement along busy roads and highways to prevent avoidable crashes and save lives.

“Buckling up is not merely a legal obligation,” said Colonel Gary T. Settle, Virginia State Police

Superintendent. “Wearing a seat belt is an act of self-preservation. Moreover, the impact of wearing seat belts extends beyond our own lives. It sets an example for others, especially our young people who are observing our behaviors and learning from our actions. Simply click it and avoid the ticket.”

“Speeding is one of top traffic complaints Henrico Police receives, and oftentimes it leads to deadly consequences when our drivers and passengers are not properly restrained,” said Henrico County Chief of Police Eric D. English. “In 2022, the metro-Richmond area saw 55 fatal crashes where occupants were not wearing seat belts. To remedy this trend, it takes not only police enforcement, but an overall community effort.”

“DMV partners with law enforcement agencies, nonprofits and other highway safety advocates to change behaviors and prevent needless tragedies from happening on Virginia’s roadways,” said DMV Highway Safety Office Director John Saunders. “Buckling up is the one lifesaving action you can take to significantly increase your odds of surviving a crash. Your life matters. Please make it click and remind your loved ones to do the same.”

Submitted by the Department of Motor Vehicles