

News Journal

Saturday, September 21, 2024 • USPS 387-780 • radfordnewsjournal.com • \$1.00

Metallica to perform next year at Lane Stadium

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

The rumor has been circulating on social media for months. Thursday, Virginia Tech made it official. The musical group, Metallica, is coming to Blacksburg's Lane Stadium on May 7, 2025. The band's announcement said, "In a new twist, M72 2025 will also include several single shows with the full production, including the in-the-round stage and Snake Pit. Among them

are two college football stadiums: JMA Wireless Dome in Syracuse, New York, and our first-ever visit to Blacksburg, Virginia, home of the Virginia Tech Hokies. The show at Lane Stadium will mark the culmination of 20-plus years of 'Enter Sandman' playing as the Hokies take the field." Lane Stadium will be one of six stadium concerts slated for 2025. One of those will be in Charlotte, N.C. Each stadium show will a variety

See METALLICA, Page 6



PHOTO COURTESY OF METALLICA

The Metallica snake pit put fans close to the concert action.

New River Valley Home Builders Association hosts Build Her Dreams Bed Build



PHOTO COURTESY OF ASPIRE MARKETING AGENCY

A large group of children and adult volunteers participate in the "Build Her Dreams Bed Build."

The New River Valley Home Builders Association's Women in Building Committee proudly launched an impactful community service event Saturday, Sept. 14, "Build Her Dreams Bed Build," to celebrate Professional Women in Building Week. This event combined career awareness and community service, offering girls in the NRV community a unique opportunity to learn about construction careers while making a tangible difference. The "Build Her Dreams Bed Build"

event, in partnership with Sleep in Heavenly Peace - NRV and supported by local groups such as the Blacksburg High School Lacrosse Team, DanceTech, local Girl Scout troops, and more, exemplified the power of community and the importance of introducing young girls to the construction industry. With the help of over 125 volunteers and sponsors, over 40 beds were built and donated to children in need. More than 70 girls from local organizations gained hands-on experience using power tools,

guided by women from the construction industry who shared their expertise and inspired the girls with their career stories. This collective effort not only provided essential resources to those in need but also empowered the next generation of women in the home building industry, highlighting the vital role of community

engagement in fostering future talent in the construction industry. "It was a successful event, and we were really happy with the turnout," said Gretchen Merix, Civil Engineer with Balzer & Associates and member

See DREAMS, Page 6

Selections from Radford University's Permanent Collection currently on display

RADFORD - The exhibit features some the most intriguing art works from Radford University's

expansive collection. Exhibitions are free and open to the public. The show is now open and runs through Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2024 in the Covington Gallery. Fall and spring hours: Monday - Friday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday: noon to 4 p.m.; and Sunday: closed.

The RU Art Museum galleries in the Covington Center and at 214 Tyler Avenue are closed whenever the university is closed. These galleries are also closed during fall break, winter break, and spring break, and on regular holidays such as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Easter, Memorial Day, and July 4th. During the summer after graduation, the gallery in Covington is open by appointment only. Please call 540-831-5754 to confirm opening hours before you visit.

Radford University



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Work by Francisco Goya

Chicago State University dean to join Radford as an ACE Fellow



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Nayshon Mosley-Milford, Ed.D.

RADFORD - Nayshon Mosley-Milford, Ed.D., dean of student success at Chicago State University, is joining Radford University as an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow for the 2024-25 academic year. Beginning this month, Mosley-Milford will make four two-week visits to the university to engage in a year-long mentorship program with President Bret Danilowicz and senior university leaders. "I'm truly excited to be mentored by President Danilowicz during my ACE Fellowship," Mosley-Milford said. "His leadership and focus on innovation in higher education inspires me, and I'm eager to learn from his expertise in driving student success and institutional

change. Radford's welcoming and close-knit community makes this opportunity even more special, and I look forward to being a part of it throughout this academic year." "We are delighted that Dr. Mosley-Milford chose Radford University for her ACE Fellowship, and we hope to gain as much from her expertise and perspectives as she will learn from us," Danilowicz said. "Dr. Mosley-Milford has interest in our strategic priorities related to enrollment stabilization and economic development, and as a first-generation student herself, wants to learn more about our strong tradition of positioning

See DEAN, Page 6

Radford holds successful ReNew the New event



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID HORTON

Approximately 120 volunteers showed up for the recent ReNew the New event in Radford, helping to haul thousands of pounds of trash and debris from the New River in events in Radford Giles County, Blacksburg and more. The yearly clean-up effort is held every August.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, Sept. 21:

Blacksburg Farmers Market

At Market Square Park, 100 Draper Rd SW, Blacksburg; 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. The Blacksburg Farmers Market is a local, family-friendly gathering place in downtown Blacksburg featuring farmers of locally grown produce and meats, alongside artisans of baked goods and handmade crafts. For more information, visit <http://blacksburgfarmersmarket.com>.

Radford Farmer's Market

Every Saturday through October; 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion, 600 Unruh Dr. Visit weekly for an ever-changing supply of homemade goodies, crafts, plants, meats, produce, and more.

Sunday, Sept. 22:

Vintage Market

At Market Square Park, 100 Draper Rd SW, Blacksburg; 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. The market is made up of a carefully chosen group of vendors selling a wide selection of quality vintage items, upcycled crafts, and occasional antiques. For more information, visit blacksburgfarmersmarket.com/vintage-market/.

Monday, Sept. 23:

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. Citizens are invited to attend and allowed to speak at each meeting. See the agenda at www.radfordva.gov.

Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting

Public meetings are normally held 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.

Free GED Prep Classes with NRCC

At the Radford Public Library, 9 a.m. - noon. Join NRCC in the community room for free GED prep classes! For more info call 540-674-3682.

RCPS Special Ed Advisory Committee

A Radford City Public Schools Special Education Advisory Committee meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m. at McHarg Elementary School, 700 Twelfth Street, Radford. The public is invited to attend. The meeting will also be available virtually using Google Meet. To be invited using Google Meet, contact Anne Goodman, Chair, at 540-267-7144, or Kate Leeper, Vice Chair, at 540-267-7223, to obtain a virtual meeting link. We hope to see you there!

Tuesday, Sept. 24:

Blacksburg Town Council meeting

The 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 St.). 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.

Identity theft scams with Better Business Bureau

At the Radford Public Library, noon - 1 p.m. Scammers will do whatever it takes to get their hands on your personal information. Once they have it, they can effectively become you, using your identity to open accounts, file taxes, or obtain medical coverage. Sloan Champney, Public Relations and Communications Specialist of Better Business Bureau, will cover how to spot these scams and protect yourself from thieves wanting to steal your identity. Pizza provided. Handouts and small giveaways available from BBB.

Wednesday, Sept. 25:

Blacksburg Farmers Market

At Market Square Park, 100 Draper Rd SW, Blacksburg; 2 - 6 p.m. The market is a local, family-friendly gathering place in downtown Blacksburg featuring farmers of locally grown produce and meats, alongside artisans of baked goods and handmade crafts. For more information, visit <http://blacksburgfarmersmarket.com>.

Market Square Jam

Blacksburg's Market Square Jam is an official Crooked Road affiliated venue that provides fun and entertainment on Wednesday evenings, June through September. The jam takes place at Market Square Park from 7-9 p.m. For more information and a list of hosts, please visit blacksburg.gov/marketsquarejam.

Free GED Prep Classes with NRCC

At the Radford Public Library, 9 a.m. - noon. Join NRCC in the community room for free GED prep classes! For more info call 540-674-3682.

Thursday, Sept. 26:

Christmas Store fundraiser at Eastern Divide

The Montgomery County Christmas Store will kick off its fundraising campaign at Eastern Divide from 3 to 9 p.m. For each pint, flight, or soda sold, Eastern Divide will donate \$1. Featured will be a silent auction with many great items (<https://auctria.com/auction/MCCSFallFundraiser>). Bring a package of children's socks or underwear and be entered to win a door prize. Come out to raise money for the Christmas Store to help neighbors in need.

Montgomery Museum Aviation Art + History reception

Above: A History of Montgomery County Aviation," sponsored by Wing Aviation. Exhibit explores and celebrates the county's rich legacy in aviation, featuring historic artifacts and stories highlighting the community's impact on the skies above us. Historic photographs, uniforms, and World War II aviator gloves provide tangible links to the important local contributions to the war effort during the 1940s. Two modern commercial delivery drones and other artifacts will showcase the culmination of the work, research, and innovation produced by the Virginia Tech Mid

Atlantic Aviation Partnership. Complementing the historical exhibit is a special art showcase celebrating 'Flight,' featuring works by local artists. The exhibit opening and reception will take place Thursday, Sept. 26, from 5 - 7 p.m. at the Montgomery Museum of Art & History, located at 4 East Main St., Christiansburg. Guests will enjoy free hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar during the event.

International Paddling Film Festival at The Lyric

Blacksburg Parks and Recreation will host the 19th annual Paddling Film Festival at the Lyric Theatre at 6:30 p.m. The Paddling Film Festival is an international adventure film tour presenting the world's best paddling films of the year - whitewater, sea kayaking, canoeing, SUP, action, and lifestyle - in more than 120 cities and towns across Canada, the United States, and around the world. With 29 inspiring paddling films shortlisted for the World Tour, including the 11 festival category winners, audiences will see hairy whitewater action, sea kayakers exploring remote coastlines, northern river canoe expeditions, international river travel films, motivating environmental documentaries and grueling kayak fishing battles. The Paddling Film Festival World Tour is produced by Rapid Media. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets are on sale now: <https://www.thelyric.com/event/2024-paddling-film-festival/>.

Saturday, Sept. 28:

Pilot Community Center Celebration

The Pilot Community Center (former Pilot School) was recently added to the State and National Registers of Historic Places. Celebrate these designations and also honor former teachers and students of the Pilot School, 1 p.m. Pilot Community Center, 4449 Brush Creek Road, Pilot. Unveiling of historical designation plaques, live music, refreshments, prizes, and lots of good memories. This event is free to the public.

Annual Blues, Brews & BBQ

Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Foundation's 9th Annual Blues, Brews & BBQ, noon - 5 p.m., at St. Luke and Odd Fellows Hall. Admission is free, though a \$10 donation is suggested. Seating is limited. Attendees are encouraged to bring chairs. Performance schedule: 12:30-1:30 p.m. The JoJo Stockton Project, 2-3 p.m. McFadden and Friends. 3:30-4:30 p.m. Lady D and Mi\$\$ion. Beer and wine, barbeque, and sweet treats for purchase from Blue Ridge Beverage, Kirk's Famous BBQ, and Next Door Bake Shop. NAACP and The League of Women Voters will provide voter registration information. Free parking at the Gilbert Street Parking Garage. Proceeds go toward the continued preservation of St. Luke and Odd Fellows Hall, which will be open to guests during the event. For more information, visit: <https://blacksburgmuseum.org/>.

Ongoing:

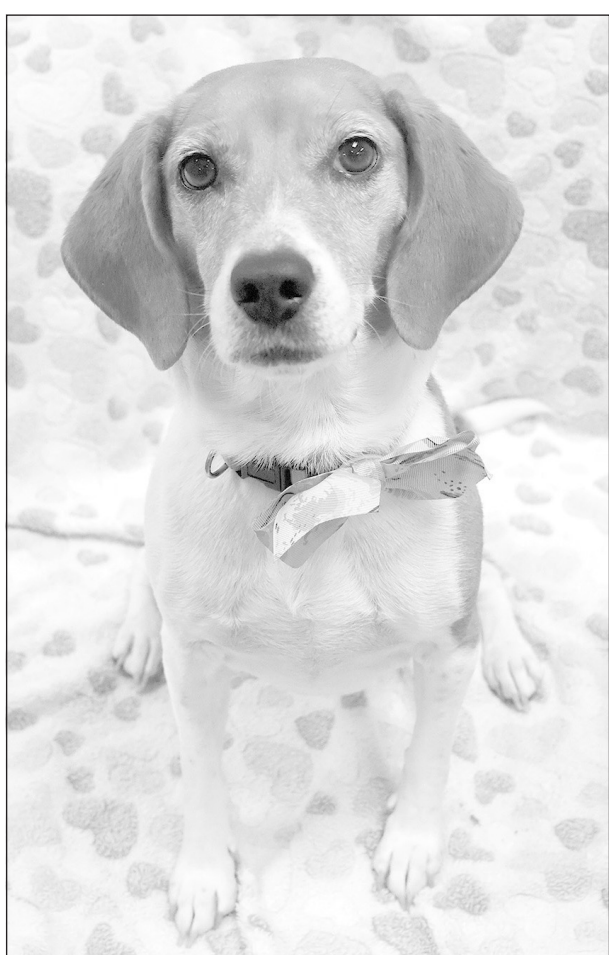
Menagerie, exhibit at Fine Arts Center for the NRV

Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley presents Menagerie, celebrating the diverse talents of artists residing in the NRV. At the Fine Arts Center in Pulaski at 21 West Main St., Pulaski, through Oct. 5, 2024. Some artwork contains mature content and may not be suitable for children.

Glencoe Mansion art exhibit by Sidra Kaluszka

Glencoe Mansion, Museum & Gallery will host "Do You Dream In Color," an art exhibition by artist Sidra Kaluszka for September and October at Glencoe Mansion, located at 600 Unruh Dr. in Radford. The exhibition will be on display from now until Oct. 27.

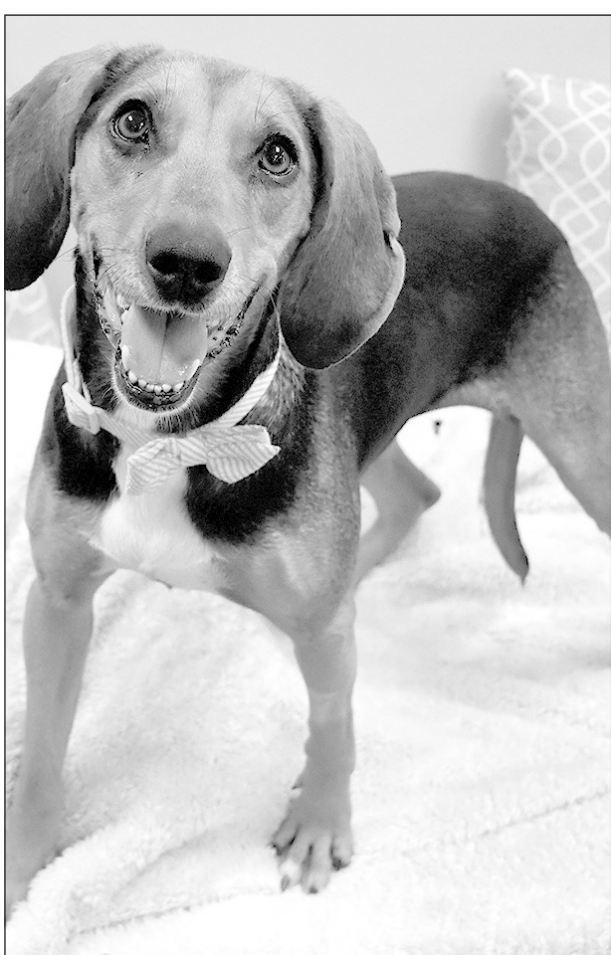
PETS OF THE WEEK



Scrappy

Eddie is a sweet girl ready to sniff out a loving human to bring her out of her shell. She can be a little shy meeting new people but has a friendly attitude. Once comfortable, Eddie enjoys attention and being pet.

Scrappy is a happy pup who is ready to head home! She likes being with people and will gladly sit for treats.



Eddie

Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center to meet this pawsome dog.

These pets and many others are available for adoption at the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center, 480 Cinnabar Rd., Christiansburg. Phone: (540) 382-5795.

Radford City Council to meet Monday, Sept. 23

The Radford City Council will meet this Monday, Sept. 23. The regular 7 p.m. meeting will be preceded by a 5:30 p.m. closed session.

The agenda is as follows:

5:30 Closed Session: Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assessment of appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments, under Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1).

Citizen comments on public matters: (Please state your name for the record - Please limit comments to three minutes or less)

Proclamations:

- Public Power Week
- Fire Prevention Week
- Arts and Humanities Month

Old business:

1. Appointments to Boards and Commissions
 - a. New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Development Board
 - b. Tourism Commission

New business:

1. Resolution: Radford High School Foundation Lease Extension
2. CDBG Consolidated Annual Performance Report
3. Vacation of Right of Way-Alleyway between Ninth Avenue and Prospect Street
 - a. Schedule a Public Hearing
 4. Appropriation Ordinance 1802.12: \$172,251- P.Y. 24-CDBG Allocation
 5. Appropriation Ordinance 1802.13: \$2,500- TRIAD Funding



Music for the reception will be provided by Two Scales.

Blue Ridge PBS presents Artistic Encounters – Meet the Artist

ROANOKE – Blue Ridge PBS announces David Ferrell and Ruth Lefko as its featured artists for Artistic Encounters – Meet the Artist.

The series highlights artists and invites the community to meet the individuals while seeing their works with an opportunity to acquire pieces during a reception and following exhibit held at Blue Ridge PBS. The art will remain on display for several weeks.

Ferrell is an avid watercolorist and photographer gaining inspiration from his family farm situated in the picturesque Fairlawn area. As an avid perennial gardener, his constant access to plenty of subject matter has helped shape his style which he explains varies from abstract to whimsical and everything in between.

Since Lefko's retirement from elementary education,

she has been exploring her lifelong interest in art. She is a signature member of the Virginia Watercolor Society and has received awards in regional juried shows including the Virginia Watercolor Society and the Central Virginia Watercolor Guild.

Music for the reception is provided by Two Scales. Chloe and Stewart Scales play a variety of styles, but folk and bluegrass are favorite genres of the couple. Each show usually includes Stewart's guitar and banjo, and Chloe's cello, harp, and mountain dulcimer. Both reception and exhibit are completely free of charge. However, as a non-profit, donations are highly appreciated. Donation proceeds go to funding the local station operations and make it possible for Blue Ridge PBS to continue to provide the community with entertaining, educational, and inspirational content.

Blue Ridge PBS is located behind Virginia Western Community College at the end of McNeil Drive. The reception will take place Thursday, September 26 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm and the pieces will remain on display weekdays, September 30 – October 11 from 1-4 pm. Visit BlueRidgePBS.org for details.

Blue Ridge PBS

Why we tip, and why impact of eliminating taxes on tips would be minimal

Eliminating taxes on tips — an idea supported by both major party 2024 presidential candidates — could benefit some service workers but the overall impact may not be that dramatic, says a Virginia Tech expert.

There are roughly four million workers for whom tips make up a significant portion of their income. However, more than a third of those workers don't earn enough to end up owing federal taxes.

"While the idea of tax-free tips sounds appealing, the actual economic benefit for many might be less significant than supporters suggest," said Virginia Tech economist Jadrian Wooten.

Wooten says that while eliminating taxes on tips would certainly benefit some service workers, the impact would be fairly concentrated, impacting certain states more than others...particularly the important swing state of Nevada. Earning the support of the culinary union and its workers could prove vital. "For politicians, winning over this organized and vocal constituency

can provide a significant electoral edge," said Wooten.

The practice of tipping originated in the United Kingdom, but it's an intrinsic aspect of American consumer culture. While some service jobs have been connected to tipping for generations, our cultural expectations around who we tip and how much has changed dramatically in recent years, especially during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sheryl Ball, who studies behavioral economics in the College of Science at Virginia Tech, says the psychology behind tipping is complicated.

"In behavioral economics, we like to think of this as reciprocity," she said. "Someone does a good job of taking care of you when you go to a restaurant or ride in a taxicab, so you want to reward them for their good work."

Ball explained that we may also tip well in the hopes of better future service — both for ourselves, as well as the broader community, effectively training people to continue to deliver good service.

"People also tip because it makes them feel good," said Ball. Historically, she says, tipping came from the upper classes. That allowed them to feel good about their actions but also served as a statement of social status.

There's also a new motivation for tipping that has come about in the past few years, driven by technology. Many establishments are now using iPads with suggested tip amounts, which are called nudges. "These sorts of nudges, which we know from behavioral economics often can affect people's behavior," said Ball. "They may be encouraging more tipping behavior and tips at a higher level than we've seen before."

Now that tipping is more widespread, that feel-good motivation comes down more to understanding that many workers need them to live. "Giving people tips because you know that their actual wage is low is another motivation," said Ball.

Virginia Tech



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Marketplace



The Fincastle Herald
The Vinton Messenger
The New Castle Record
Salem Times-Register
News Messenger
Radford News Journal

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY ELECTION INFORMATION
November 5, 2024
General Election
 Registration Deadline: Tuesday, October 15, 2024
 In-Person Early Voting at the following:
 MONTGOMERY COUNTY OFFICE OF ELECTIONS
 1546 North Franklin Street, Christiansburg, VA
 September 20 – November 1, 2024 from 9am – 5pm
 Blacksburg Community Center
 725 Patrick Henry Dr., Blacksburg, VA
 October 21 – November 1, 2024 from 9am – 5pm
 The office will be closed for the Holiday on October 14, 2024.

IN ADDITION, BOTH SITES WILL BE OPEN FROM 9AM TO 5PM
 SATURDAY, October 26, 2024 and SATURDAY, November 2, 2024
 Note: The last day qualified voters can apply for an absentee ballot by mail:
 Friday, October 25, 2024 by 5:00 PM

A Ballot Drop Box will be available at both locations during the dates and times specified above.

A Ballot Drop Box will also be available at each precinct on Election Day.

The Constitution of Virginia requires that in order to be qualified to vote in the General & Primary Election you must be a citizen of the United States, be eighteen years of age on or before the next General Election, have domicile and a place of abode in Montgomery County and that you be registered in the precinct in which you reside.

An acceptable ID will be required when you vote. A

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voter may show either voter registration confirmation documents, valid Virginia Driver's License, valid United States Passport, or any other identification issued by the Commonwealth, one of its political subdivisions, or the United States; any valid student identification card issued by any institution of higher education located in the Commonwealth or any private school located in the Commonwealth; any valid employer identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the name and address of the voter.
 Contact the Montgomery County Office of Elections if you have any questions at 540-382-5741 or the

Department of Elections at elections.virginia.gov.
 Connie Viar
 Director of Elections/General Registrar

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:
 A street vacation request by Derrick R Lancaster for the vacation of 2 existing strips of land dedicated as a public street right-of-way and located on Radford Street, identified as Tax Parcels 525-(A)-31A, 525-(A)-46; Parcel IDs

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033305, 031506. Information on the preceding ordinance, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073-3029 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
 Contact Retta Jackson, Planning Director/Subdivision Agent by phone at (540) 382-6120 ext. 1120 or by email at rjackson@christiansburg.org with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations. Written comments may be sent to the preceding address; please allow adequate mailing time.

Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that would allow impacts to stream channel in Montgomery County, Virginia
 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: September 23, 2024 to October 22, 2024
 PERMIT NAME: Virginia Water Protection Permit issued by DEQ pursuant to applicable water laws and regulations
 APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: Indigo Road Investments, LLC; 840 Auburn Avenue, Radford, VA 24141; VWPP Application No. 23-2223
 PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant has applied for a new permit for the New River Recycling Inert Fill Site - Phase 2 project. The project is located off of Walton Road in Montgomery County, Virginia. The proposed

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activity is to create an inert fill site. The proposed activity would affect 1,695 linear feet of stream channel. The proposed activity would affect an unnamed tributary to Plum Creek in the New River watershed. To compensate for the surface waters affected, the applicant would purchase 949 USM stream mitigation credits. DEQ's tentative decision is to issue the permit.
 HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts written comments and requests for public hearing by hand-delivery, e-mail, or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses or email addresses of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requestor, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.
 CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: SHAWN CRIST, Blue Ridge Regional Office, 901

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Russell Drive, Salem, Virginia 24153; Phone: 434-316-4031; E-mail: shawn.crist@deq.virginia.gov. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed above.

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL

The Town of Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:
 A. Rezoning request by Robert P. Fralin, Registered Agent for F & B Land, L.P., Applicant and Property Owner, to rezone property located on the west side of Moose Dr. NW at the College St. NW, intersection, identified as Tax Parcel 556-(A)-9; (Parcel ID 008095), and consisting of approximately 16.330 acres, from Agricultural District (A) and General Business District (B-3) to Multi-Family Residential District (R-3). The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.
 B. Conditional Use Permit request by Robert P. Fralin, Registered Agent for F & B Land, L.P., Applicant and Property Owner, to allow a planned housing development for a multi-family project of a maximum of 162 apartments in the

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proposed Multi-Family Residential District (R-3) zoning district on property located on the west side of Moose Dr. NW at the College St. NW, intersection, identified as Tax Parcel 556-(A)-9; (Parcel ID 008095), and consisting of approximately 16.330 acres. The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

C. Rezoning request by Roger Woody, Registered Agent for RWW 34 LLC, Applicant and Property Owner, to rezone property located on the southeast corner of Sherwood Dr. NE and Maid Marian Ln., and adjacent to the US Rt. 460 Bypass, identified as approximately 2.31 acres of a 10.227 acre parcel; identified as Tax Parcel 499-(A)-12; (Parcel ID 018085), from Single-Family Residential District (R-1) to General Business District (B-3). The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

D. Conditional Use Permit request by Roger Woody, Registered Agent for RWW 34 LLC, Applicant and Property Owner, to allow a 90-unit Townhome Residential Development in the General Business District (B-3) zoning district on property located on the southeast corner of Sherwood Dr. NE and Maid Marian Ln., and adjacent to the US Rt. 460 Bypass, identified as Tax Parcel 499-(A)-12; (Parcel ID 018085), and consisting of approximately 10.227 acres. The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

A copy of the applications, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
 Contact
 Retta Jackson, Planning Director, at (540) 382-6128, ext. 1120 or by email at rjackson@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

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Virginia Tech celebrates a fruitful 100-year partnership with Virginia's fruit and wine industries

A changing climate. Earlier flowering and frost dates. Bacterial and fungal infection. Insect infestation. Chemical resistance and restrictions.

These are just a few of the existential threats that face Virginia's orchards and vineyards, which contribute more than \$2 billion a year to the state's economy – and billions more in economic activity from wineries and agrotourism.

They are also the problems that scientists at Virginia Tech's Alson H. Smith Jr. Agricultural Research and Extension Center (AREC) in Winchester have dedicated their careers to solving.

What started in 1921 as a lab with a single entomologist today boasts 25 full-time employees and 13 graduate students and postdoctoral researchers, all united to ensure a fruitful future for Virginia – and the nation's – tree fruit and wine grape industries. Located on 124 acres of rolling hills, orchards, and vineyards, the Alson H. Smith Jr. AREC is a scientific test bed that brings discoveries and practices refined in the lab to test plots in the nearby fields – and from there to farms across the commonwealth.

Virginia ranks sixth in wine grape production in the U.S. and is the 10th largest apple producing state. The Alson H. Smith Jr. AREC partners with growers, as well as the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Virginia Agribusiness Council, the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and universities from other fruit-growing regions, to ensure the industry continues to thrive.

"Over the past century, our researchers have worked on hundreds of projects that have produced new knowledge, influenced grower decisions, increased economic output, and delivered sustainable food," said entomologist Kevin Rice, director of the Alson H. Smith Jr. AREC. "We carry on this tradition proudly, working directly with our agricultural producers and industry stakeholders to ensure a sustainable future."

A celebration 100 years in the making



Sherif Sherif, associate professor at Virginia Tech's Alson H. Smith Jr. Agricultural Research and Extension Center, leads an orchard tour during the center's 100th anniversary celebration and field day.

In August, more than 60 people attended the AREC's 100th anniversary celebration and field day – delayed three years by COVID-19 – to learn about the center's history and current research and to tour its labs and facilities. Several growers testified to the impact of the AREC's research on their operations.

Diane Kerns, a commercial apple grower and president of Frederick County-based Fruit Hill Orchard Inc., told the crowd, "This AREC is an invaluable resource for us in the tree fruit industry. Having access to the researchers, not only through the informational meetings, knowledge, and exchange of information, but also through blogs and emails ... and the personal relationships – to be able to email, call them up, talk to them, ask a question – is massive. I really think that gives us an advantage in our industry over folks that don't have this right in

their backyard."

Bill Tompkins, vineyard manager for Veritas Vineyard and Winery in Charlottesville, praised the role of the AREC and its former director and viticulturist Tony Wolf in driving the growth of Virginia's wine industry from just a handful of wineries to around 350 today.

"I joined Veritas 14 years ago as their vineyard manager," Tompkins said. "The fact that I knew nothing about viticulture, farming, or agriculture – I was a British army officer and spent 36 years in the British Army – is no obstacle to allowing you to grow grapes when you have people like Tony Wolf and the folks here to give you sound advice on what to do."

Keith Yoder, professor emeritus of plant pathology, highlighted several of the AREC's historical achievements, which include the following:

Discovery of the effectiveness of the first plant growth regulator to be registered for fire blight shoot blight management, prohexadione-calcium, commercially known as Apogee (Tree Fruit Pathologist Keith Yoder and Horticulturist Ross Byers).

Developing the Pollen Tube Growth Model, which guides farmers bloom thinning their apple trees to improve yearly crop yields (Initiated by Ross Byers; completed by Keith Yoder and Horticulturists Rongcai Yuan, Greg Peck, Sherif Sherif, and Leon Combs).

Driving the growth of Virginia's wine industry from six wineries to over 300, through site selection, production methods, grape evaluation, and economic and budget predictors (Viticulturist Tony Wolf).

Adapting the Alternate Row Middle method of spray application to reduce pesticide use, improve integrated pest management, and save growers money (Tree Fruit Pathologist Ken Hickey with Fred Lewis, Penn State University).

Introducing the Tree Row Volume method of spray rate calculation in orchards, along with a slide rule

calculator to help growers estimate rate of chemical required per acre based on tree height, tree width, and row width. (R.E. Byers with K. D. Hickey and Entomologist Clarence H. Hill).

Studying photosynthetic inhibitors to help other horticulturists and farmers understand the interactions between cloudy weather, fruit set, and timing of thinning applications to optimize crop loads (Ross Byers).

Ensuring a flourishing future

Researchers at the Alson H. Smith Jr. AREC are currently working to address many of the most pressing issues confronting the fruit industry, including bacterial and fungal diseases, fungicide and pesticide resistance, invasive insects, and changing temperatures and weather patterns while also continuing to improve the industry's social, environmental, and economic sustainability.

Rice said the AREC hoped to obtain funding to build a biosafety level 2 greenhouse and controlled environmental agriculture facility. The new facility would be one of the first specifically for tree fruit in the nation and would enable researchers to test and formulate solutions to pathogens, invasive species, and changing temperatures in a controlled setting – before they arrive.

"We would be able to adjust the temperatures in the greenhouse to the predicted models for future temperatures," Rice said. "Then we could proactively inform growers of which varieties will do best under future conditions."

The Alson H. Smith Jr. AREC is one of Virginia Tech's 11 Agricultural Research and Extension Centers spread throughout the commonwealth to bring the expertise of Virginia Tech researchers directly into the communities they serve. Researchers partner with farmers, government agencies, and industry leaders to tackle problems in the lab and on the field – and deliver research-based solutions through Virginia Cooperative Extension agents to help Virginia agriculture thrive.

Tom Soladay for Virginia Tech

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Radford News Journal (USPS 387-780) is published twice a week for \$46 a year in the City of Radford, \$55 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$59 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Christiansburg, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL 1633 W. Main St., Salem, VA 24153.

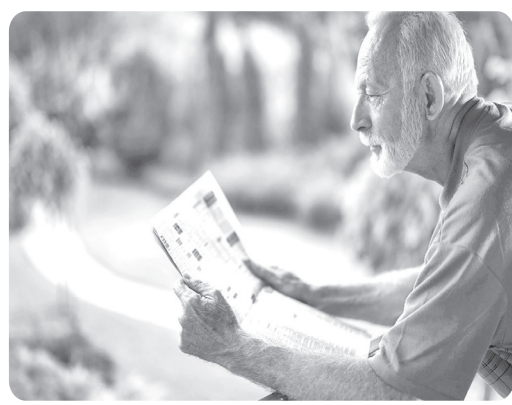
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OBITUARIES

Deeds, Janet Montgomery

Janet Montgomery Deeds, 85, of Radford, passed away Saturday, Sept. 14, 2024. She was preceded in death by her parents, Elmer and Retta Turpin Montgomery; her loving husband, Gene Richard Deeds, Sr.; son, Gene Richard Deeds, Jr.; and her brother, Dennis Montgomery.

Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Aimee Flora (Barry); son and daughter-in-law, Devin Deeds (Robbin); grandchildren, Derek Flora, Dakota Flora, Konner Deeds (Dawson), and



Ema Deeds (Chelsey); sister, Libby Goad; brother, Bobby Montgomery; and several other relatives and special friends.

The family received friends Friday, Sept. 20, 2024, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Services followed with Rev. Darlene Marshall officiating. Interment followed in Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin.

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

Osborne, Douglas Bruce

Douglas Bruce Osborne, 85, of Radford, passed away Sept. 16, 2024, surrounded by family.

“Bruce” was born July 1, 1939 in a town called Drill, Virginia. He attended and graduated from Honaker High School, attended Bluefield Business College, and later served in the United States Air Force. He then moved to the Radford area and retired from the Radford Army Ammunition Plant. He lived for over 50 years at his home in Radford. Bruce was very proud of his country and of being a veteran. He was known as someone who could make or build anything. Bruce enjoyed woodworking in his own shop, where he built hundreds of items for people, his specialty being clocks. Lovingly called “Brutch” by his five siblings, he loved his family dearly. Bruce loved the Lord with all his heart, attending church all his life, becoming a deacon, and teaching bible school.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Paul and Edna Osborne; sister, Mary Charlotte Rowe; niece, Rebecca Rowe-Alom; nephew, Dr. Michael James Fowler; and sister-in-law, Carol Josephine Osborne.



Douglas is survived by his son, Terry Douglas Osborne and wife, Tina; daughter, Carla Osborne Vaden; grandchildren, Vincent Paul Osborne and fiancée Callie Williams, Michael James Osborne and fiancée Emma Chaffin, Cassandra “Casey” Vaden Stokke and husband Bryan, Thomas Jay “T.J.” Vaden, and Trinity Paige Vaden; siblings, Ronald Mike Osborne, Paul Thomas

Osborne and wife Brenda, Roger Wayne Osborne and wife Debbie, Carol Joan Bellamy and husband Gary; as well as several nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank the nurses at Skyline Nursing and Rehabilitation Center for treating Bruce and everyone like family and taking such good care of him for the past few months.

The family will receive friends Monday, Sept. 23, 2024 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Horne Funeral Home. Graveside services will follow at 2 p.m. at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery, Dublin, with Pastor Hebron Quesenberry officiating.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Gideons International.

Send community news and photos to
communitynews@ourvalley.org

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. 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, 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 Fourth Street Radford. Welcoming and accepting, we have been a part of the Radford community for more than 130 years. ALL ARE WELCOME. Grace offers an 8:00am Contemplative Eucharist and a 10:30am Eucharist with organ music and a choir, with refreshments served afterwards. The 10:30am service is also available on YouTube for those unable to leave their house. Find us on Facebook 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

Radford

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

Sincere Remorse

Read Hosea 8:1 through 14:9

“Though they offer sacrifices as gifts to me, and though they eat the meat, the Lord is not pleased with them. Now he will remember their wickedness and punish their sins: They will return to Egypt” (Hosea 8:13).

Hosea declared the futility of Israel offering insincere sacrifices. The Lord was not pleased with rituals performed without remorse for wrongdoing. Instead of receiving forgiveness from heartfelt confession, the nation suffered punishment for their accumulated sins.

Hebrews 9:22 teaches that “without the shedding of blood there is no forgive-

ness.” The blood from animal sacrifice pointed to the time when Christ’s blood would secure forgiveness for all who receive Him. His death paid the penalty for sin once and for all.

Israel had treated the Lord as one of many gods, sacrificing only to gain favor. Doing good things to gain God’s favor will not cover our sin. Nothing can substitute for the blood Christ shed. God sees each heart. He knows if there is true remorse that brings about change.

Prayer Suggestion: Lord Jesus, my forgiveness is only possible through You. I owe You everything.

Quicklook: Hosea 8:11-13

If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Wendi Craig at 276-340-2445 or email at advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com

& Film, Rough Draught, etc.) detailed in weekly email and on website: clcradford.org. 540-639-2671.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church ELCA, 1845 Cambria St NE, Christiansburg. Celebrate Word and Sacrament as we worship with varied liturgy, hymns and music. Join our inclusive community in person or online Sundays at 10:00 am (youtube.com/@OSLCcburg), followed by refreshments and fellowship. Ministries include Bible study, choir, food ministry, and crafters. Little Free Pantry and Library available 24-7 by the parking lot. Parent’s Morning Out offers faith-based activities and play for children 16 month - 5 years select weekdays. Wheelchair accessible. Learn how you may contribute to our ministries at www.oslc-cburg.org. 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 we 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.” You’ll love our minister, The Rev. Dr. Wes Jamison, who engages us in God’s word. St. Michael started and administers Micah’s Caring Initiative which includes Micah’s Backpack, Soup for Seniors, Garden, Closet, and Mini Pantry, with tremendous community impact. Partnering with Rainbow Riders and Total Action for Progress, we opened the first Early Childhood Head Start in our community (6 weeks to age 3). We sponsor an awesome Scouting program of Scouts Boy & Girl Troop, Venture Scouts for older youth, and a Cub Pack for girls & boys kindergarten - 5th grade, amongst many other programs. Directions: From Price’s Fork Road, turn onto Merrimac Road. St. Michael is ~quarter mile on the left. For more information: Phone 540.951.8951; Email hope@stmlc.us; Website www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Central Church, 803 Wadsworth Street, Radford. 639-3529. Sunday Services 10:30am Sunday School 9:00am. Child care is provided. www.centralchurchradford.org.

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

Merrimac Pentecostal Holiness Church, Rev. Larry Christopher (540) 552-7194. lchristopher695@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 and Randolph. Sunday School for adults and children will be at 10 am and Worship will be at 11 am through Memorial Day. Pastor Morgan Whitfield, Jr. will lead worship. Phone 540-639-2585. Email pcofradford@gmail.com. Website www.pcradford.org. 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.

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 220 West Main Street, Christiansburg. Rev. Mike Derflinger (540) 382-2410. Sunday Worship at 10a.m. with Children’s Church at the same time, Sunday School at 9 a.m. Worship is in-person and Live-streamed on our YouTube Channel: StPaulUMCChristiansburgVA. All are welcome. Website: www.stpaulvaumc.org

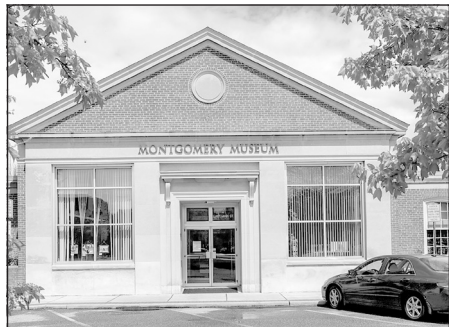
Montgomery Museum receives Katherine Glaize Rockwood Community Preservation Award

CHRISTIANSBURG - The Montgomery Museum of Art & History was selected as a recipient of a Community Preservation Award from Preservation Virginia, a large Richmond-based nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering, supporting, and sustaining Virginia's historic places through leadership in advocacy, education, revitalization, and stewardship.

According to Preservation Virginia, studies show that communities and quality of life are enhanced when individuals, organizations and local governments adapt, restore and highlight historic places and stories unique to Virginia. To highlight this work, each year since 1971, Preservation Virginia recognizes exemplary historic preservation projects and historical research in the Commonwealth.

The Montgomery Museum was selected as a recipient of this prestigious award for successful efforts to revitalize a former, empty bank building in downtown Christiansburg. The building transformation is a great example of adaptive reuse to promote economic vitality while providing an educational community gathering space for the County and the New River Valley. Since moving its operations to downtown Christiansburg in mid-2022, the museum has reimagined the 15,000 square foot building with a guiding vision to be a premiere, regional cultural center that offers creative, inspirational, and enriching programming for the entire community of Montgomery County and the New River Valley.

A contributing structure to the downtown historic district, the



PHOTOCOURTESY OF THE MONTGOMERY MUSEUM
The Montgomery Museum of Art & History has received a Community Preservation Award from Preservation Virginia for its revitalization of an empty bank building into the museum.

museum now operates as a large community gathering space and includes administrative offices, business incubator space, galleries and an exhibit hall, a research library and archives, an education and digitization lab, and conference facilities for meetings and receptions.

"We are honored to be recognized by Preservation Virginia," said Casey Jenkins, Executive Director of the Montgomery Museum. "This award represents the hard work and dedication by museum staff and board over the past three years as we continue to make transformative improvements to museum spaces."

Museum staff will travel to Richmond, Virginia on Sept. 27 to accept the award and celebrate this achievement. For more information on Preservation Virginia and other awardees, visit <https://preservationvirginia.org/>.

Montgomery Museum of Art and History

Dean from page 1

first-gen students for success. We support her aspirations to affect systemic change around affordability and access to higher education."

Mosley-Milford is in her 18th year at Chicago State, the oldest public university in the Chicago metropolitan area and the only Predominantly Black four-year institution in Illinois. Throughout her career at CSU, she has served in leadership roles that advance student access and retention. In 2022, Mosley-Milford became the university's inaugural dean of student success, leading initiatives designed to enhance student retention and graduation rates.

Mosley-Milford earned her Ed.D. in educational leadership from CSU, a Master of Arts degree in inner city studies from Northeastern Illinois University and Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from Lewis University.

Established in 1965, the ACE Fellows Program is designed to strengthen institutional and leadership capacity in American higher education by identifying and preparing faculty and staff for senior positions in college and university administration. The 2024-25 class represents the diversity of the country's

higher education institutions by gender, race/ethnicity, institution type and disciplinary background. The class also reflects a wide array of geographies and institutional missions, including several Fellows with international backgrounds. Seventy percent of the cohort are from public institutions and 30% are from private institutions.

Over 2,000 higher education leaders have participated in the ACE Fellows Program over the past five decades, with more than 80% of Fellows serving as senior leaders of colleges and universities.

The ACE Fellows Program combines retreats, interactive learning opportunities, campus visits, and placement at another higher education institution to condense years of on-the-job experience and skills development into a single academic year. The Fellows are included in the highest level of decision-making while participating in administrative activities at their host institutions. Time is also spent investigating a specified issue of benefit to their nominating institutions for implementation upon the Fellows' return to campus at the conclusion of the Fellowship placement.

Patrick Reed for Radford University

Metallica from page 1

of Enhanced Experiences, ranging from access to a meet and greet, production and stage tour, food and beverage in the "Black Box" lounge to early entry into the venue and the aforementioned Snake Pit.

The famed snake pit will be located in the center of the stage on this tour. Being in the snake pit makes you a part of the show and is the closest place to the stage to see the band.

For the last three decades, Metallica has included a "snake pit" section at every show they play. The snake pit in a standing-room only section literally in the middle of the stage, giving fans a 360-degree view of the band as they play.

Tickets will be available starting Monday, Sept. 23 through a series of special presale windows. A limited number of tickets are available within each pre-sale so fans are encouraged to participate at their earliest eligible opportunity. Tickets are expected to sell out fast.

There will be a four-ticket limit per person. Virginia Tech students have a two-ticket limit per person. The price of tickets has not been announced, but on the current tour, tickets are running \$64 to \$450.

Of course, fans should expect the band to play the song, which has become the entrance of the Virginia Tech football team, "Enter Sandman."

Players begin filing into the narrow tunnel. Anticipation is building among the thousands of excited fans packed in the stands. Cheerleaders hold up "LET'S GO" and "HOKIES" signs as the crowd chants.

Then, the first note of heavy metal band Metallica's 'Enter Sandman' plays, and the crowd erupts with excitement as the entire stadium jumps in unison. The Hokies' head coach takes a deep breath, reaches up to touch the legendary Hokie Stone above the tunnel's exit, and finally - it's time.

The team bursts out of the tunnel and onto the field while fireworks and pyrotechnics ignite, electrifying the crowd and sending waves of exhilaration

Dreams from page 1

of the NRVHBA Women in Building Committee. "It was rewarding to see so many young girls excited to learn about tools and construction, all while helping other children within the community. It was also a great opportunity for the adults to make new connections with other women in the building industry."

Support for this event came from the National Housing Endowment, the Home Builders Association of Virginia Education Foundation, Sleep in Heavenly Peace - New River Valley, and many local businesses.

New River Valley Home Builders Association



PHOTO COURTESY OF ASPIRE MARKETING AGENCY

A child stains her bed during the bed-making event hosted by the NRVHBA's Women in Building Committee.



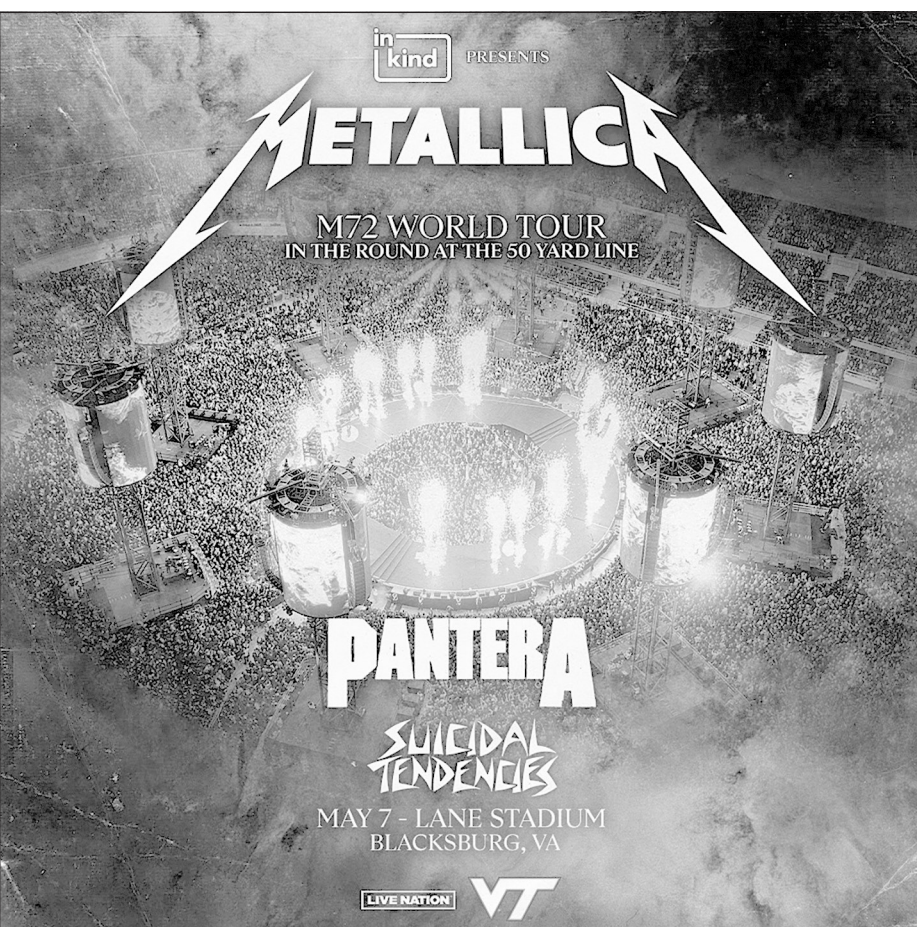
PHOTO COURTESY OF ASPIRE MARKETING AGENCY

Dozens of girls, including this young lady, got the chance to build their dream bed.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ASPIRE MARKETING AGENCY

One of the bed builders brands her bed under the watchful eye of an adult volunteer.



Graphic courtesy of Virginia Tech

and goosebumps through every person in the stadium.

"It's just a different type of feeling," wide receiver Ali Jennings explained when describing the experience. "I get chills every time I think about it - the stadium actually shakes."

This past month, the university announced a major merchandise agreement with the band, hinting something else was in the works.

The initial lineup of merchandise co-branded with Metallica features designs inspired by the band's logo and original sketches by Virginia Tech doodle artist Steven White.

"This partnership makes a dream of nearly 24 years come true," said Heather Ducote, senior director of marketing and

brand management. "We're excited to formalize our partnership with Metallica, since one of their most popular hits is already embraced at Virginia Tech athletics events as a beloved Hokie tradition. And it's a partnership that mobilized many university departments; the Virginia Tech Athletics Department, the marketing team, the Office of Licensing and Trademarks, and artist and doodle expert Steven White are all involved in formalizing the partnership and creating the merchandise. I can't wait to see what else this partnership can achieve."

The T-shirts made an appearance on Aug. 12 during the "Today" show's birthday celebration for co-anchor Hoda Kotb '86, when the HokieBird

and other Hokies visited the set and presented Kotb with the co-branded T-shirts and other Virginia Tech goodies.

Renee Alarid, director of the Office of Licensing and Trademarks at Virginia Tech, said collaboration with partner and brand management organization College Licensing Company (CLC), Virginia Tech's agent, facilitated the partnership.

"It was a very effective collaboration," Alarid said at the time of the merchandise agreement. "It was quite an effort, taking about a year to hammer out and finalize, and we had to keep it top secret."

"It took a community and the right team," she said. "Without CLC, the Original Retro Brand, athletics, and the trust of our local retailers, Licensing and Trademarks would not have been able to make this dream a reality. Thank you everyone who helped us in the process."

Regarded as college football's greatest entrance, 'Enter Sandman' dates back to Aug. 27, 2000, when Virginia Tech installed the first videoboard in Lane Stadium. A new videoboard means a new walkout song, and 'Enter Sandman' won out over 'Welcome to the Jungle' by Guns N' Roses and 'Sirius' by The Alan Parsons Project.

However, the first time the team actually used it in a game was against Georgia Tech, and the game itself was delayed then canceled due to thunderstorms. In fact, ESPN analyst Lee Corso's rental car was struck by lightning as the announcer was preparing for the game.

'Enter Sandman' eventually carried over to both the men's and women's Virginia Tech basketball teams, and even some graduations. The excitement behind the movement took a turn when the Hokies hosted the first round of the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament at Cassell Coliseum in 2023.

The concert, which is part of Metallica's M72 World Tour, will include the sale of alcohol and will feature special guests, Pantera and Suicidal Tendencies.

Merchandise is on sale now at the Hokie Shop, the Hokie Sports Shop, and the Metallica website.

RADFORD SPORTS

Christiansburg promotes JV basketball coach

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Christiansburg High School has a new girls' basketball coach. On Wednesday, the school announced the promotion of the program's junior varsity coach, K.C. Shrader.

In the release, the school said he "brings structure, passion and strong commitment to fostering excellence both on and

off the court. His experience, organization and drive to help out student athletes be the best versions of themselves aligns perfectly with our school's core values."

Schrader said in a social media post that he is ready for the next big step in his coaching career.

"I've finally made my dream of becoming a head varsity

basketball coach come true. I'm very blessed that I get to work with this great group," he said.

Schrader has also served as the cross country and track and field coach at Eastern Montgomery High School.

Schrader replaces Jacob Underwood who left Christiansburg after two years for Ft. Chiswell High School. Underwood took over at

Christiansburg in 2022 and had compiled a 25-21 record, leading the team to the regional playoffs this past year.

The new coach also helped with the Xtreme basketball program in Roanoke that included several of the Christiansburg players.

The Blue Demons return the nucleus of last year's squad including four starters.



PHOTO COURTESY OF K.C. SHRADER
K.C. Shrader

Salem downs Blacksburg in volleyball



PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Blackburg's Bailey Capwell receives a well-placed Salem serve during a Tuesday night home match. Salem visited Blacksburg and came away with a 3-0 win (25-18, 25-22, 25-23).



PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Blackburg's Keely Semtner goes up for a spike against Salem.



PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Blackburg's Josie Rhoads (center) celebrates a kill with her teammates against Salem.



PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Blackburg's Sullivan Shealor scores for the Bruins against Salem.

Olympic gold medalist calls Blacksburg home



PHOTO COURTESY OF USA TRACK

The Blacksburg running community gave Cole Hocker a proper send off shortly before the start of this summer's Olympics. A large group gathered at the South Main Runabout sports store.

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Southwest Virginia has an Olympic Gold Medalist. This summer, Cole Hocker shocked the world and won the 1,500-meter final (3:27.65) in the

Paris games, setting a new record in the event.

Hocker, who is originally from Indianapolis, Indiana, now calls the New River Valley home. The 20-year-old was the youngest athlete to represent the United States in the 1,500-meter

race since Marty Liquori (19-years-old) in 1968.

Hocker called the feeling of winning the gold surreal.

"It felt like a dream, and it felt like I was experiencing everything I have ever wanted to experience out of the Olympics," he said.

Going into that Olympic finals, Hocker was very positive.

"I knew I was in the best shape of my life and that I just had the best race of my life at the Olympic trials and so the goal was just to get to the starting line because I knew I was due for something that I've never done before. I knew I was in contention for a medal, but I knew a gold medal was going to take an almost perfect race. I also reminded myself that I'm usually able to perform when it matters most and that's what now gives me a lot of confidence in big races,"



PHOTO COURTESY OF USA TRACK

Cole Hocker celebrates his 1,500-meter gold medal win at this year's summer Olympics in Paris, France.

he said.

Of course, Hocker has a familiar face in Blacksburg as his former coach, Ben Thomas, returns to Virginia Tech after serving as an associate head coach at the University of Oregon and head coach of the Oregon Track Club for the past five years. Prior to Oregon, Thomas spent 17 years with the Hokies.

It was during that time in Oregon Hocker and Thomas teamed up. In 2021, Hocker, a 20-year-old University of Oregon sophomore, upset Matthew Centrowitz for the win in the U.S. Olympic Trials, followed by a sixth-place finish in the Tokyo Olympic Games.

Thomas is a three-time USTFCCCA National Assistant Coach of the Year, having most recently won back-to-back indoor honors for the Ducks' incredible success

during the 2020 and 2021 seasons. He earned his first national award during his time at Virginia Tech following the 2017 season, becoming the first ACC assistant to ever win the award. Thomas is also a 10-time USTFCCCA Regional Assistant Coach of the Year, including four selections at Oregon.

Named the 2018 USTFCCCA Southeast Region Men's Assistant Coach of the Year for both indoor and outdoor, Thomas led the Virginia Tech distance medley team to the national indoor title while also coaching three men to the final of the mile.

Recently, Thomas said he couldn't have been happier that Cole and some of the world's best athletes trusted him and chose Blacksburg for their training.

"It's always been home to me, and Virginia Tech, along with the entire

community, creates such a supportive environment for athletes," he said.

In August 2023, a coaching change at Oregon brought him back to his alma mater to take over as head track and field coach. In November, Hocker made the bold decision to pack up and move to Blacksburg to reunite with Thomas, who has been a key fixture in Hocker's life and success, so continuing to train with him seemed a no-brainer.

See OLYMPIC, Page 7

CROSSWORD ANSWERS									
DARD	SRO	SBA							
ACRID	EEC	AHAB							
DENSE	ETA	NARA							
DACES	KIR	SEES							
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	IDP	MACADAM							
	BARACK	OBAMA							
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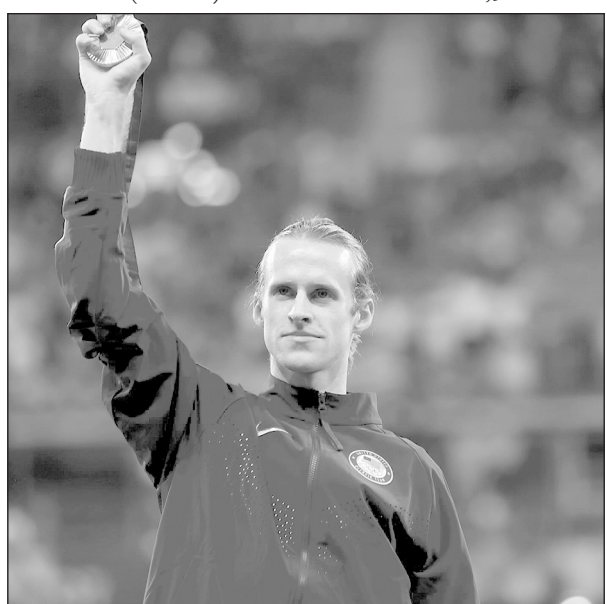


PHOTO COURTESY OF USA TRACK

On the podium, Cole Hocker holds up his 1,500-meter gold medal after the playing of the National Anthem.

RADFORD SPORTS

Appy League honors River Turtles GM

The Appalachian League announced Pulaski River Turtles general manager J.W. Martin as the 2024 Executive of the Year.

This award is presented to the executive who has made the most valuable contributions to their club and the league.

Under Martin, the River Turtles welcomed 35,550 fans to Calfee Park in Pulaski, Va., in 2024 – a 26 percent increase over the team's '23 attendance – averaging more than 1,360 per home

game. The River Turtles also set new records in concessions revenue and merchandise sales, representing the highest total since the organization's inaugural season in 2021.

"This honor reflects our entire team, from the front office to our concessions and clubhouse managers, grounds crew and our gameday staff," Martin said. "No single person is responsible for our organization's success; it takes everyone to make Calfee Park the exceptional entertainment destination that it is."

The River Turtles held four in-season special events this year, including a pre-season charity exhibition game and three specialty jersey nights, which set a new River Turtles-era record for charity auction funds raised. One of the season's highlights was David "The Bullet" Smith's Human Cannonball performance, which drew the largest Wednesday night crowd since the reformation of the Appalachian League from a rookie-level affiliated league to an MLB-partnered summer collegiate league in 2021.

Martin, who began his career in 2007 at Motor Mile Speedway & Dragway in Fairlawn, Va., has amassed 18 years of experience in sports venue operations. He joined the Pulaski River Turtles in 2020 and has continued to raise the bar in every aspect of the organization.

"It's a privilege to work alongside such an outstanding group of hardworking people," Martin said, "and I want to take this opportunity to thank all of them for everything they do for Calfee Park, our organization and our fans."

Appalachian League

Outdoor report: 2024 deer forecast for Commonwealth

During the past deer season (including the early September antlerless seasons), 206,586 deer were reported harvested by deer hunters in Virginia.

This total included 105,201 antlered bucks, 982 shed bucks, 12,567 button bucks, and 87,836 does (42.5% females). Archery (including crossbows) accounted for 14% of the deer kill; muzzleloaders, 26%; and firearms, 60%.

The youth and apprentice weekend resulted in the harvest of 2,890 deer. When and where deer hunting with dogs is legal, deer taken with the use of dogs made up 50% of the total harvest. The numbers above do not include deer taken on out-of-season deer kill permits or those deer hit and killed by vehicles.

Deer hunters who would like to know the annual deer kill totals by county dating back to 1947, including the county 2023 totals, can find them on the Department's website.

The 2023-2024 deer harvest was up 5% from the last 10-year average of 196,862. Harvest during the 2022-23 season was down 3% from the previous season, likely due to a bumper crop of acorns. This dip in harvest likely created a "stockpile" of deer for hunters in the 23-24 season. Additionally, deer experienced a mild winter at the end of 2022, entered 2023 on a higher nutritional plane, and were more productive.

A number of new deer hunting regulations went into effect, which also may have resulted in increased harvest.

The special late seasons

contributed an additional 1,945 antlerless deer to the harvest total, bringing our final tally to 208,531 and 42.8% females harvested.

The 2023-24 deer season was a busy one for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in Virginia. We had the most positives this past year than any other year since our surveillance began. This past year, we sampled just under 8,000 deer and detected 71 positives, 40 of which came from Frederick County alone.

DMA3 (Carroll, Floyd, Franklin, Montgomery, Patrick, Pulaski, Roanoke, and Wythe counties)

DMA3 will now include the counties of Franklin, Roanoke and Wythe due to the locations of positives detected in Carroll, Floyd, and Montgomery. During the 2023 season a total of 1,449 samples were taken within DMA3. This sampling effort yielded positive detections in Floyd (four), Montgomery (two), and the first detection in Carroll (one).

In fall 2023, 2,647 deer were tested statewide, predominantly via cooperating taxidermists, with several samples coming from clinical suspects and voluntary hunter submissions at regional drop-off sites.

New For Fall 2024

Deer regulations in Virginia are evaluated and amended on a biennial basis. Last year was a "reg year" with many new changes. This coming season will largely follow last year's regulations, but a few changes will be in place with the establishment of DMA4.

DMA4 will consist

of Bland, Smyth, and Tazewell Counties. Carcass transport restrictions will be in place here for the 2024 deer season. High-risk carcass parts (head, brain, and spinal cord) may not leave DMA4 except to enter DMA3.

Per State Administrative Code 4VAC15-40-285, a year-round deer feeding ban is now in effect for Bedford, Botetourt, Henry, Russell, Smyth, and Washington Counties (see Figure 3 for a current map of all VA counties with a year-round deer feeding ban)

Mandatory CWD Sampling Day will be on November 16, 2024 in Carroll, Franklin, Patrick, Pulaski, Shenandoah, Tazewell, and Wythe Counties.

Deer management in western Virginia has been about the same for the past few decades and remains two very different deer management situations.

First, deer herds on private lands over most of western Virginia have been fairly stable over the past two-plus decades (with the exception of Alleghany, Bath, and Highland counties). Relatively stable deer herds are expected on private lands west of the Blue Ridge. If there is a change, hopefully it will be a slight decline.

Second, with the obvious exception of CWD in the northern Shenandoah Valley and the New River Valley areas, the biggest challenge in deer management in western Virginia over the past 20 to 30 years has been, and continues to be, the public land deer management situation.

Over the past 25 plus years there has been an approximately 40% decline in the number of deer hunters on western public lands (primarily National Forest) and a corresponding 66% decline in the deer kill. To address this decline, the number of either-sex deer hunting days on western public lands has been reduced significantly over the past decade or more.

These changes have been successful in reducing the female deer kill. While we've reduced female harvest on public lands, the western public land deer population has not and is not expected to recover to past deer population levels unless there is a significant change/major improvement in deer habitat conditions. HD does not traditionally play a major role in deer management west of the Blue Ridge, but recent summers suggest that could change with an increasingly warmer, drier climate.

So what is the forecast for the fall 2024 deer season? Unless there is a significant HD event, deer populations and the deer kill across most of the state should be stable to increasing. A major increase or decrease in the statewide deer kill total is not expected. Over the past 30 years, the statewide annual deer kill has been relatively stable and ranged from about 179,000 to 259,000 and averaged about 212,000.

We've had two mild winters in a row, so we ought to see plenty of healthy and productive animals this coming

season, especially in those areas with above-average acorn production. Deer should be on a higher nutritional plane heading into the growing season, where bucks can really pack on body mass and grow antlers and does can pump out plenty of highly nutritious milk for their fawns. Fawns that start their lives on a higher nutritional plane tend to be more productive later in life than those who start out in poorer shape. We likely had one heck of a cohort of buck fawns from last summer after the big mast crop of fall 2022, so we might see an uptick in yearling six- and eight-pointers this fall.

Past experience indicates that the ups and downs in annual deer kill totals are in part attributable to mast (acorns, mostly) conditions and/or HD outbreaks. In years of poor mast crops, the deer kill typically goes up. In years of good mast crops, the deer kill typically goes down. The 2022 season had a big acorn crop and a dip in deer harvest. Last year's mast crop wasn't as great, and the harvest went up. I can't forecast the acorn crop, so make sure you get out there and get your scouting done this summer.

Justin Folks, DWR deer project leader

RHS's Adams hits milestone

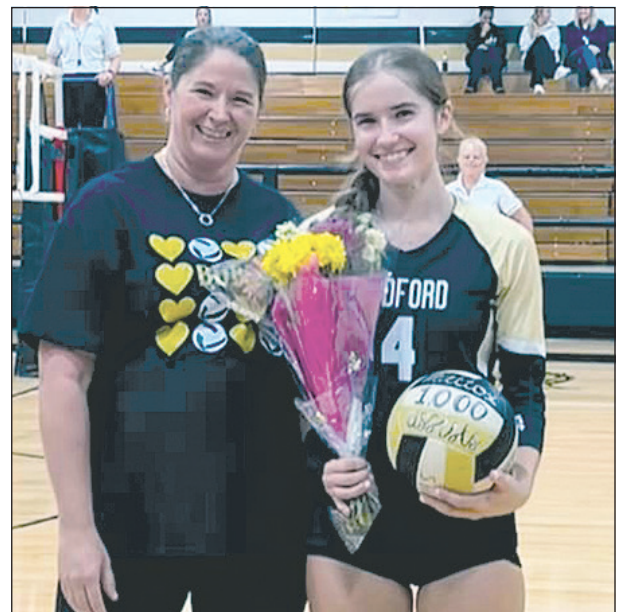


PHOTO COURTESY OF RHS
Radford High School volleyball player Mattox Adams (right) was honored this past week for reaching 1,000 assists for her career.

Olympic from page 7

"The decision to move to Blacksburg was to optimize this Olympic year. My coach at Oregon, Ben Thomas got the job here at Virginia Tech, so me and a few other teammates decided to make this decision to follow him here. My idea was to eliminate as many variables as I could this year, and keeping my coaching and training the same was probably the biggest variable that I can control," Hocker said.

After settling into his new home, Hocker's confidence was boosted by several big races. He won the U.S. 1500-meter indoor title in Albuquerque in February, ran his first sub-13-minute outdoor 5,000-meter race and then dominated in the U.S. Olympic trials in the 1500, winning his preliminary race and semifinal before blasting the final in a meet-record 3:30.59.

"It's very important to have all of the facilities that are needed to be an Olympic athlete. So, a university is usually the best place for that. Just having the ability to train somewhere and having the coach in the same place is step one on performing your best," Hocker said.

Hocker is relishing the gold medal but is excited to continue his career with it always in his back pocket. When asked if the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles is in his future, he admitted it seems like a long way away.

"But I know it will sneak up and I 100% look forward to defending my title there."

The Olympic gold medalist says it has been amazing since the gold medal win.

"As soon as I crossed the line, I knew things were going to change. I had three races after the Olympics, which were a new battle. I was now the Olympic champion and had the target the biggest on my back. I'm excited to embrace this new challenge because it's everything I've dreamed of. As far as outside of the sport goes, life has gotten pretty busy but, again, it's all good things," he said.

At the Lausanne Diamond League last month, Hocker finished second to Jakob Ingebrigsten, the same top runner he beat in the Olympics.

To destress on his time away from the track, Hocker plays both the piano and guitar.

Join Hocker and his coach, Ben Thomas, at this weekend's Sinkland Farms Wine Festival. They will be taking and signing photos after 12 noon on Saturday.

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(IRB Protocol #22-624)



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