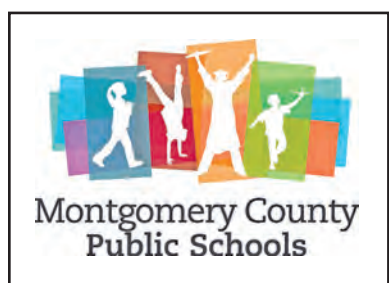




MCPS schools to begin new year on Thursday, Aug. 12



Montgomery County Public Schools will begin sessions for the 2021-22 school year on Thursday, Aug. 12.

The elementary school hours are 9:15 a.m. until 3:45 p.m. School hours for the middle and high

schools are from 8:05 a.m. until 2:50 p.m.

The officially adopted school calendar for the year is as follows: Aug. 12: first day of school; Aug. 31: early dismissal.

Sept. 3: early dismissal; Sept. 6: closed holiday; Sept. 30: early dismissal.

Oct. 25-29: early dismissal.

Nov. 1: fall break for students and staff; Nov. 2: teacher workday; Nov. 23: early dismissal; Nov. 24-26: Thanksgiving break.

Dec. 21: early dismissal; Dec. 22-31: winter break; Dec. 22, 28-30: unassigned workdays.

Jan. 3: closed for winter break;

Jan. 4-5, teacher workdays; Jan. 17: closed holiday; Jan. 31: early dismissal.

Feb. 21: closed holiday; Feb. 28: early dismissal.

March 28-April 1: parent-teacher conference; March 31: early dismissal.

April 14: unassigned workday; April 14-18: spring break; April 29: early dismissal.

May 20: last day of school (if no inclement weather days); May 21-22: graduation weekend; May 23: teacher workday; May 24: teacher flex day; May 30: closed holiday; May 31: unassigned workday.

June 20: closed holiday.

Virginia Tech teams with ClubCorp to open venue for college fans

Virginia Tech and ClubCorp, a company considered to be one of the world leaders in private clubs, are partnering to build a new, premier venue within Lane Stadium that is designed to revolutionize the game-day experience and bring an already engaged fan base even closer to the university.

The two partners have agreed on plans to develop the University Club of Virginia Tech, a year-round private club inside the President's Suite at the Hokies' football home. Scheduled to be open this fall, the University Club of Virginia Tech will offer dining, event, and meeting spaces, as well as a robust lineup of engaging programming and game-day events.

ClubCorp's dynamic, rapidly growing stadium division — CampusLife 360 — will manage this state-of-the art club, which represents the seventh stadium property in the division. CampusLife 360 helps universities harness the demand for connection and community, creating venues for members and guests to come together to celebrate the excitement of not only "game day," but also every day.

"We are thrilled to be partnering with Virginia Tech to bring this one-of-a-kind facility to their campus," said David Pillsbury, CEO of ClubCorp. "Lane Stadium is one of



college football's most electrifying arenas, and we look forward to leveraging that excitement year-round at the new University Club of Virginia Tech."

"We're excited to open the doors to a completely reimagined fan experience for Hokies with the University Club of Virginia Tech," said Dwayne Pinkney, senior vice president and chief business officer at Virginia Tech. "ClubCorp is a proven leader in not just building and managing private clubs, but in building community among its members and creating incredible experiences for them."

The University Club of Virginia Tech will reflect the excitement and

rich traditions of Virginia Tech's game-day experience. ClubCorp named Ali Halatayi as the general manager of the club, which will serve as a place for members and guests to host, connect, work, play, and celebrate.

Features of the University Club include a welcoming lounge and meeting space, premier dining at the club's restaurant, modern private event spaces and meeting rooms, best-in-class productivity spaces for working and collaborating, game-day events that bring the excitement on the field to the club and its members, and enriching year-round educational, cultural, and social programs.

Summer interns explore New River Valley during 2021 NRV Experience

Interns participating in Onward New River Valley's second annual NRV Experience program spent the summer exploring the New River Valley and learning the benefits of living and working in the region.

The NRV Experience is a seven-week long summer curriculum designed to support employer in-

ternship programs by helping their interns grow professionally while also experiencing the full benefits of living and working in the New River Valley.

Through the program, interns are shown just a few of the amenities available to them if they choose to make the NRV home after they graduate. Onward NRV's goal for the

program is to attract and retain talent in the region by promoting the New River Valley as a desirable place to live, work, and do business.

The program expanded from 17 enrolled interns in the inaugural 2020 cohort to 45 enrolled interns

See Interns, page 3



News Brief: Probation extended for Christiansburg woman

Stephanie D. Bermudez of Christiansburg was convicted in 2009 of robbing a Fairlawn bank and given three years in prison and 10 years of probation when released. This past week, a Pulaski County Circuit Court extended

that probation for another year because Bermudez has not paid restitution and court costs that were part of her conviction.

According to court records, she was initially ordered to pay \$4,353 in restitution. As of this past week,

she still owed as much as \$3,141 with court costs still being owed in the amount of \$1,599.

Judge Bradley Finch granted a probation officer's request to add more time to the probation until Bermudez pays the amount due.

Montgomery Relay for Life returns Friday, Aug. 13



Relay for Life Montgomery County is returning to its traditional in-person relay format for 2021 Friday, Aug. 13, from 6 p.m. to midnight at Christiansburg Middle School.

The theme this year is Rock for Relay. The event will feature live music from each decade beginning with the 1950's.

During the event, those who have lost their battle to cancer will be honored, and cancer survivors and caregivers will be celebrated. Dr. Gordon Klatt, who created Relay for Life in the mid-1980s will be celebrated. Dr. Klatt expressed an interest in raising funds for his local American Cancer society and circled the track for more than 83 miles in a 24-hour period. Friends and family donated \$25 to run or walk certain distances with him.

While he ran and walked the track, Klatt began making plans on how the event could be even bigger in future years. Dr. Klatt's goal was accomplished, and although he passed away from stomach cancer in 2014, his legacy lives on.

Over the decades, Dr. Klatt's Relay for Life idea has turned into more than 5,200 events across the United States that have raised nearly 5 billion dollars for the American Cancer Society. Funds raised through Relay For Life directly support break-

through research, 24/7 support for cancer patients, access to lifesaving screenings, and much more.

"We are so excited to be able to host an in-person event this year," said Donna Christian, event leader for the Montgomery County Relay. "We have partnered with some great bands and food vendors to help us raise additional funds for The American Cancer Society."

"The year of "2020" affected our fundraising tremendously," Christian said. "Unfortunately, less funding results in less research for cancer treatment and care. I want to be a part of the cure." Christian's mom died of cancer in 1995.

"We have so many great things planned for the event such as children activities, food trucks, vendors, ceremonies and so many talented singers and bands," said Linda Howell, Relay for Life team leader. "The entire community is invited to join us for a night of music, joy, celebration, and remembrance. The personal stories we hear throughout our community from cancer survivors remind us that every dollar we raise counts and that we are making a positive impact in our fight against cancer."

The event site will be filled with luminaria bags personalized with the names of cancer survivors and the names of those who lost their battle. Personalized bags to honor loved ones can be purchased for \$5 through a local relay team, or they can be purchased the night of the event.

NC man pleads guilty to illegal prescription distribution in Christiansburg area

A Dobson, N.C., man pled guilty Thursday to conspiring to distribute medically illegitimate prescriptions for Schedule II opioids and Suboxone, as well as conspiring to use, in the course of the distribution of controlled substances, the DEA registration number of another person.

According to court documents, Charles Wilson Adams Jr., 50, worked for "Company L," as it was referred to in court, that operated medical clinics in the Western District of Virginia, including the Galax, Lynchburg, and Christiansburg areas. The clinic focused on pain management and opioid addiction treatment. So far, the name of the clinic has not been made public.

Adams worked as a counselor for the company though he had not applied to the Virginia Board of Counseling to become a Certified Substance Abuse Counselor. He was referred to inside Company L as "Dr.," but has never been a medical practitioner or possessed authority to prescribe controlled substances.

Adams admitted that he and other non-medical professionals exerted influence or control over medical decisions and the treatment of patients, including the prescribing of Schedule II pain medications and Suboxone, a Schedule III drug used to treat opioid addiction.

As part of his plea, Adams also acknowledged that Company L employees pre-signed blank prescriptions for distribution to patients without office visits. Further, at the direction of Company L's owner and others, employees used the DEA registration numbers of medical providers to prescribe Suboxone to patients even when those providers were in other cities or states and did not see the patients. Adams was aware of Company L's practices and their illegitimacy yet took part in them anyway.

"Adams chose to use his position to assist in the illegal distribution of powerful opioids rather than their use for legitimate medical purposes, thus causing additional

See Guilty, page 3

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, Aug. 4 - Friday, Aug. 6:

Blacksburg Community Center closed

Due to facility reservations, the Blacksburg Community Center will be closed with the exception of the fitness center to all programs through Friday, Aug. 6. The fitness center hours will be from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. The community center will resume normal hours on Saturday, Aug. 7. For more information, call 540-443-1140.

Thursday, Aug. 5:

American Legion meeting

American Legion Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will meet at 7 p.m. at the VFW Post 776 building in Radford. For further information, call 250-2283 or 239-9864.

Friday, Aug. 6 - Sunday, Aug. 8:

Radford Public Library Book Sale

The Radford Public Library's primary fundraiser, sponsored by the Lamp-lighters, volunteers who raise money for the library, is the book sale, Friday, Aug. 6 and Saturday, Aug. 7 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 8, from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Masks and gloves will be provided at the library entrance. Some tables will be set up inside

the library to increase the shopping space.

Hardbacks are \$1.00 and paperbacks are \$.50. Children's books are half that.

Tuesday, Aug. 10:

Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Family Italian Restaurant on 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are invited to attend. Guest speaker Charlotte Conner will give a talk on "First Battle of Manassas: Unwarranted Deaths of Savable Soldiers." For further information, call 320-4315 or 239-9864.

Wednesday, Aug. 11:

Brown Bag Book Club

The Brown Bag Book Club meets at the Radford Public Library on the second Wednesday of each month from noon until 1 p.m. for a book discussion. Bring a lunch if you like. This month the group is discussing "The Grapes of Wrath" by John Steinbeck.

Saturday, Aug. 14:

Fourth Annual Swing for Scholarships Golf Tournament

At the Pete Dye River Course to benefit the "Carilion Cares for Children" program providing tuition

discounts at the Radford Early Learning Center for families with financial need at Radford Child Development, Inc. Shotgun start at 2 p.m. The fee for a captain's choice foursome paid online by Aug. 13 is \$300. At the door, the fee is \$400, based on availability. The cost of a hole sponsorship is \$100 per hole if paid online by Aug. 6. The day will feature a \$100,000 hole-in-one contest for 10 participants chosen by purchased raffle ticket. Prizes will also include a 2021 Vehicle from Harvey's in Radford for a hole-in-one. Prizes will also be rewarded for first-through-fourth-place teams and closest to the pin. The day will also include an awards dinner, gift bags, refreshments, raffle prizes, and muligans. Register at www.radfordchilddevelopment.org/golf.

Mt. Tabor Ruritan Club Fish Fry

The Mount Tabor Ruritan Club will hold its August fish fry from 5 to 7 p.m. at Slusser's Chapel Picnic Shelter, 1543 Mount Tabor Rd, Blacksburg. The meal will feature single servings of fish, fries and slaw; homemade desserts; and beverages. The cost is \$8 for adults and carry-outs and \$5 for children under 12. Children under 3 will eat free. Simple Gifts of the Blue Ridge will be playing some folk music. The fish

fry will be held rain or shine. Call or text 540-449-6178 for further information.

Monday, Aug. 16:

Intellectual Disabilities Agency Golf Tournament

"Swing Fore Persons with Intellectual Disabilities," the 24th Annual Golf Classic at Blacksburg Country Club, will tee off at 1 p.m. following lunch. For more information and to sign up, contact the IDA at 381-0310 or email sheila@idanrv.org.

Sat. Aug. 21:

Eastmont Tomato Festival

This free outdoor festival features contests for tomato art and tomato recipes, as well as competitions for biggest, ugliest, and best-tasting tomatoes. Participants can also don their best tomato-themed outfits to compete in the ever-popular tomato pageant and belly up to become the tomato-eating champion. Enjoy great food (including fried green tomatoes, BLTs, pizzas, tomato sandwiches, and tomato biscuits), live music, games, music, arts and crafts, and much more.

The festival will take place at the Meadowbrook Community Center courtyard, 267 Alleghany Spring Road, Shawsville; from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. More information is available at eastmontcf.com, facebook, or eastmonttomatofestival@gmail.com

gmail.com

Sat., Aug. 28:

Dialogue on Race 2021 Summer Summit

From 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Montgomery County Moose Lodge No. 1470, 115 Fairview Rd. NE, Christiansburg. The theme is Student Voices: Reflections on Race and Racism in our Schools. Register at https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventR eg?oeidk=a07eib8sml7c5ba cc8a&oseq=&c=&ch=.

Triwizard Tri-Mile Trail Race

At Bisset Park at 9:30 a.m. This is a fundraiser for Literacy Volunteers of the New River Valley. Register for the Triwizard Tri-Mile Trail Race at www.lvnrv.org/potterinthepark. For more information, call (540) 382-7262 or send an "owl" to info@lvnrv.org. Follow https://www.facebook.com/LVNRV/ for race updates.

Ongoing

Through Aug. 29:

Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery exhibit "Mountain Rail Trails"

Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery is presenting its latest art exhibit, "Mountain Rail Trails," featuring photography by Dale R. Carlson of Bluemoonistic Images.

The exhibit dovetails nicely with the train observatory platform and exhibit found at the edge of the grounds of Glencoe. Everyone is welcome to visit the museum with no admission charge. Glencoe is located at 600 Unruh Dr. in Radford.

Through September:

Blacksburg's Market Square Jam 2021

Blacksburg's Market Square Jam 2021 continues each Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. through September at Market Square Park.

Simply Elemental Art Exhibit

The Simply Elemental art display in the Hahn Horticultural Garden (on the Virginia Tech campus) will be on display through Sept. 30.

Through October:

Radford Farmers Market

The Radford Farmers Market is each Saturday through October 30 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the New River Valley Community Service parking lot (the old Wade's parking lot) on West Main Street.

Christiansburg Farmers Market

The Christiansburg Farmers Market is every Thursday through October at the Christiansburg Recreation Center parking lot from 3 to 7 p.m.

At VT, governor announces \$111 million to make college more affordable

BLACKSBURG—Virginia Governor Ralph Northam Thursday visited Virginia Tech where he announced that Virginia plans to use \$111 million in American Rescue Plan funding to increase access to financial aid for low- and moderate-income undergraduate students.

The proposal designates \$100 million for public higher education institutions through the State Council for Higher Education in Virginia and \$11 million for private institutions eligible for the Virginia Tuition Assistance Grant program.

"The economic uncer-

tainty of this pandemic has led many to question whether a college degree was still an affordable reality," said the governor. "Our administration has worked hard to make higher education accessible to every Virginian, and this targeted investment represents a significant stride towards that goal. Increasing access to financial aid will help create more equitable pathways to opportunity and put a world-class education within reach of even more students."

This proposed investment supplements more than \$833 million that will be made available to Vir-

ginia colleges and universities through the American Rescue Plan Act's Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III. These funds will be received directly by institutions of higher education and must be used for financial assistance for students as well as for qualifying institutional purposes.

The governor's proposal also commits \$10 million to enhance the Online Virginia Network, which facilitates online coursework and degrees from George Mason University, Old Dominion University, James Madison University, and community colleges.

"Higher education faced numerous challenges over the past 16 months and it was an especially difficult time for our students," said Virginia Tech President Tim Sands. "For many who were already facing financial strain, the impact of COVID-19 threatened to push their higher education dream out of reach. We are grateful to the governor and the general assembly for these additional funds to support financial aid at this critical time, and for their continued investment in the future of our students and the commonwealth."

In advance of the Au-

gust special session of the general assembly, the governor and legislative leaders highlighted proposals for allocating these funds and announced \$250 million for school modernization and air quality improvements in school buildings, \$411.5 million to reduce water pollution and increase access to clean water, \$935.6 million to replenish the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund and accelerate critical upgrades to the Virginia Employment Commission, and \$485 million to strengthen Virginia's behavioral health system.

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NRCC offering medical coding programs this fall

New River Community College is offering medical coding foundations career studies certificate programs with classes beginning this fall.

Medical Coding Foundations I and Medical Coding Foundations II prepare

students for a high-salary career in the in-demand field of medical coding. Medical Coding Foundations I provides foundational knowledge in medical terminology and medical coding that prepares students to take the Certified Coding Associate (CCA) exam offered by the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA).

As a short-term program, Medical Coding Foundations I can be completed fully online in two semesters, less than one year. This program leads to entry-level jobs

while Medical Coding II, also a two-semester program, leads to technician-level employment in medical facilities and provides advanced knowledge in anatomy and physiology for administrative health professionals.

Upon completion of the career studies certificate, students are employable as entry-level medical billing, coding, data entry employees, medical coders, medical office managers, and medical records managers.

Students who enroll in these programs may be eligible for free tuition through the Virginia Com-

munity College's new G3 assistance program. The G3 Program is a tuition assistance program for any Virginia resident who qualifies for in-state tuition and whose family income falls below an identified threshold. Eligible students may enroll in designated programs leading to jobs in high-demand fields. For more information on G3 eligibility, visit www.nr.edu/g3.

For more information about medical coding programs, visit www.nr.edu/ast/aa_cert.php or email instructor Sharon Edwards at sedwards@nr.edu.

PETS-OF-THE-WEEK

Each week the paper features pets from the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center (480 Cinnabar Road, Christiansburg). Those interested in adopting a pet can call 382-5795 or visit www.montgomerycountyva.gov/acac. Hours are 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Walk-ins are welcome.

When first meeting Mittens, she may be a little timid, but once comfortable, a few chin scratches will earn her trust. She likes attention and affection. This kitty prefers indoor competitions and earned her gold medals in lounging and getting along with dogs and cats. (Be sure to ask for Mittens 2, if you stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center to meet her, since there is another resident named Mittens.)

Carey hopes to secure the number-one spot in her human's heart. She is a sweet gal who consistently goes for the gold in the "wannabe lapdog" event. Carey excels at individual sports and may do best in a home without other dogs. She could also use some coaching on basic commands.

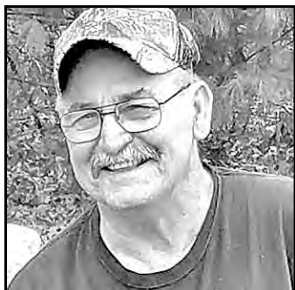
OBITUARIES

Carroll, Donnie Edison

Donnie Edison Carroll, 72, of Dublin, passed away Friday, July 30, 2021.

Born on Dec. 20, 1948, he was the son of the late Wesley Edison and Violet Doss Carroll.

Survivors include his son and daughter-in-law, Dean and Laci Carroll; daughters and son-in-law, Shendale and Terry Underwood and Jessica Carroll; four



granddaughters; two great-grandsons and many other relatives and friends.

A celebration of life was held on Tuesday, Aug. 3, 2021, at Mullins Funeral Home in Radford with Pastor Don Shelor officiating.

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

Dove, Darlene Nora Poff

On July 26, 2021, Darlene Nora Poff Dove, 72, passed away ever so peacefully.

She leaves behind her loving husband and best friend, Calvin Dove, of 52 ½ years and her fur baby, Jada. Darlene and Calvin did everything together, even working side by side for 44 years at Kopy Korner.

Darlene was a good Christian woman who loved with all her heart. She was always helping family and friends in need. She was good at selling doughnuts (years ago) and cooking; but most of all, to her family and friends, she was famous for making the best cakes ever.

Darlene loved flowers and she loved giving them away, too. Her flower beds and containers of flowers were always filled with different types and colors that were a sight to see. She also loved her blueberries, which she was always fighting the birds over. She was an avid prize-winning hand quilter too. Every hand stitch was made with love and care for the person she was giving the quilt to.

Their cabin at the river was her getaway from the hustle and bustle of life. She could sit



on her porch and listen to the river roll by, work in her flower gardens, mow, or just relax with the good Lord above and nature. Darlene loved having family and friends over at the river for get-togethers, cook-outs, or just to visit.

Darlene also leaves behind her mother, Pauline Pratt Poff; two sisters, Lois Ann Akers and Melinda Shaver (Melvin); three sisters-in-law, Eva Jo Dove, Diane Dove, and Janice Hodge; numerous nephews, nieces, cousins, and special friends, all of whom she loved dearly.

She was preceded in death by her father, Martin Flemon Poff; sisters Imogene Ruth Poff and Catherine Louise Poff; and a brother, Edsil McCoy Poff.

The family received friends and family on Thursday, July 29, at McCoy Funeral Home in Blacksburg. Service followed visitation with Pastor Dwayne Martin officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of Darlene to the American Cancer Society, at 2050 Langhorne Rd., Suite 201, Lynchburg, VA 24501.

Light, Jr., Dewey “Sonny” Allen

Dewey “Sonny” Allen Light, Jr., of Christiansburg, passed away on July 27, 2021, in his home.

Sonny was born in Christiansburg on Sept. 12, 1945. He graduated from Christiansburg High School and went on to attend James Madison University and eventually own his own business refinishing furniture until his retirement.

Sonny proudly served his country in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War. He was preceded in death by his mother and father, Dewey Allen Light, Sr., and Beatrice Dove Light, as well as his brother, Steve Light.

Surviving are his siblings and their spouses,

es, Rose and Jim Stone, Judy Lafon, Connie Vanhoozier, and Michael and Karen Light as well as his sister-in-law, Colleen Light. He is also survived by numerous beloved nieces and nephews and several dear friends.

The family received friends from 3 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 1, 2021 at the McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Dr. SW, Blacksburg, Va. A graveside service was held at the Committal Shelter of the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery, 5550 Bagging Plant Rd., Dublin, Va. on Mon., Aug. 2, 2021 at 10 a.m.

Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

McGreevy, Kevin Michael

Kevin Michael McGreevy, 69, passed away at his home in Radford on Saturday, July 24, 2021.

He was the son of Edgar “Ned” and Martha Anne McGreevy. He was preceded in death by his brothers, Gregg and Brian.

He is survived by three nephews and

many friends.

Graveside services will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 5, 2021, at the Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin.

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

Phillips, Sandra Lou Weaver

Sandra Lou Weaver Phillips, 79, of Christiansburg, passed away Thursday, July 29, 2021.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Louise Weaver, and her husband, Arnold Davis Phillips, Sr.

Survivors include her sons and daughters-in-law, Bobby and Tanya Phillips of Christiansburg, Greg and Melissa Phillips of Riner, and Arnold Phillips, Jr., of Floyd; daughters Sherry Phillips of Christiansburg

and Sandy Phillips of Roanoke; 10 grandchildren, April, David, Kim, Stevie, Amber, Molly, Robbie, Ashley, and Bradi and John Davis; a brother, John Weaver of Radford, and many other relatives and friends.

A graveside service was held on Sunday, Aug. 1, 2021, in the Haley Cemetery in Pulaski with Minister John Croft and Rudy Shelburne officiating.

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

Sheppard, Shirley D.

Shirley D. Sheppard, 84, of Radford, died Saturday, July 31, 2021, at her home.

She was born in Montgomery County on April 13, 1937.

She was preceded in death by her son, Frankie Price; a sister, Reda Hixon; and her brothers, James Graves and Curtis Graves.

Shirley was a very loving and caring wife, mother, aunt, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She was a cook for the children at Carousel Daycare for 30-plus years.

She is survived her husband, Lewis Sheppard; her children, James Price (Allen), Ken-



dall Price, Danny Price, and Scott Sheppard; grandchildren Breanna Price, April Price, Travis Price, and Tiffany Price; great-grandchildren Isabella Johnson, Calista Price, Chyanne Byrd, Elsie Byrd, Lily Price, Mad-dy Price, Declan Price, Reid Price, and Rayeden Price; and a sister, Ruth Davis.

Funeral services will be conducted today, Wednesday, Aug. 4, 2021, at 1 p.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Tim Spencer officiating.

Interment will follow in the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin.

Tolley, Elmer Wade

The family of Elmer Wade Tolley (Pete) has decided to cancel their upcoming service due to the new COVID outbreak.

Condolences should be sent in care of The Tolley Family, to 7011 Owens Rd., Radford, VA 24141.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to your favorite charity or church.

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

Vires, Edith Altizer

Edith Altizer Vires, 79, of Riner, passed away Friday, July 16, 2021.

She was retired from the Radford Army Ammunitions Plant.

Edith was preceded in death by her parents, Oakley Lonnie and Edna Teel Altizer; her husband, Eddie Wayne Vires; and her sons, Eddie Dewayne Vires and Michael Wayne Vires.

Survivors include her daughters and sons-in-law, Melinda and Eddie Azbell and



Kathy and Delane Carico; grandchildren Tonya (Jessie) Hinkley, April Azbell, Kevin Azbell, Travis Vires, Carrie Vires, Audrey Vires, and Justin Carico; and many other relatives and friends.

The family received friends on Thursday, July 29, 2021, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford, followed by memorial services with the Rev. Gregory Harrell.

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

Guilty

from page 1

harm to the community,” Acting United States Attorney Daniel P. Bubar said. “We are grateful for the extensive investigation conducted by federal, state, and local law enforcement located in three states, whose hard work is holding the defendant accountable for his crimes.”

“This individual put the health of patients and his community in jeopardy by participating in the prescribing of dangerous drugs and other medical treatments indiscriminately when he was not qualified to do so,” said Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring. “The opioid crisis continues to devastate communities and families across Virginia, and we will not tolerate healthcare providers who do not handle or prescribe highly addictive drugs appropriately and safely. I want to thank our local, state, and federal partners for their help on this important case as well as my award-winning Medicaid Control Fraud Unit for their continued hard work and dedication.”

“Prescription drugs are to be prescribed for legitimate medical reasons by appropriately licensed medical professionals,” said Special Agent in Charge Maureen Dixon of the Office of the Inspector General for the Department of Health and Human Services. “HHS-OIG will continue to work with our federal, state, and local law enforcement partners to keep our communities safe from illegal prescription drugs.”

“Our investigation into Adams’s illegal distribution of highly addictive pain

medication at the height of an overdose epidemic emphasizes his criminal indifference for human life,” said Jared Forget, Special Agent in Charge of the DEA’s Washington Field Office. “The guilty plea emphasizes our commitment to the tireless work of investigating and prosecuting those responsible for fueling opioid addiction and deadly overdoses in our area.”

Adams pled guilty to one count of conspiring to use, in the course of the distribution of controlled substances, the DEA registration number of another, one count of conspiring to distribute Suboxone, and one count of conspiring to distribute oxycodone, hydrocodone, morphine, methadone, and fentanyl. He is scheduled to be sentenced on October 29, 2021. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

The Drug Enforcement Administration, including offices in Southwest Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina: the Virginia Medicaid Fraud Control Unit; and the Department of Health and Human Service are investigating the case with the assistance of the Carroll County (Va.) Sheriff’s Office, the Mt. Pleasant (S.C.) Police Department, the Christiansburg Police Department, the Mt. Airy (N.C.) Police Department, the Amherst County (Va.) Sheriff’s Office, and the U.S. Attorney Offices of the Middle District of North Carolina and the District of South Carolina.

Interns

from page 1

for 2021. Students from nine universities across the country participated in the 2021 NRV Experience. More than three-fourths (77%) of the participants attend Virginia Tech, and seven percent attend Radford University.

Other universities represented in this year’s cohort were Georgia Tech, Liberty University, the University of Houston, New York University, the University of Connecticut, Texas A&M, and Louisiana State University.

The 2021 NRV Experience began with a kick-off event at Sinkland Farms on June 3, 2021, and continued through July. At the kick-off event, Onward NRV Director of Marketing Katie Boswell and former Director of Business Engagement James Cabler presented the details of the program to the interns and discussed what to expect during the summer. Interns then received professional development training and practiced networking with the help of Amy Baldwin, Vice President of Partnerships at ExelARATION.

Throughout the months of June and July, the interns explored the region by participating in five excursions. Each excursion was designed to highlight one of the five communities in the New River Valley. Onward NRV partnered with the local tourism directors from Floyd County, Giles County, Montgomery County, Pulaski County, and the City of Radford to organize and run the excursions for the interns. During each excursion, the local tourism director spoke to the group about the exciting and unique amenities available in their community.

In addition to experiencing each community during every excursion, the team at ExelARATION provided professional development training for the interns. Training was designed to assist participants with their summer internships as well as give them skills needed in their future careers. Prior to each excursion, the interns viewed a professional development video. They then participated in a discussion of the video during the excursion with Baldwin. The videos covered topics that included emotional intelligence, communication skills, problem solving with a team, leadership skills, and an introduction to Agile.

“The NRV Experience 2021 was a great success,” said Boswell. “The interns participating in our

program had a fun-filled summer exploring the New River Valley and experiencing the full benefits of living and working in our region. We hope that this summer’s participants will consider making the NRV home after they graduate.”

The NRV Experience 2021 culminated on Friday, July 30, with a wrap-up event at the Eastern Divide Brewing Company from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. A ceremony celebrated the interns, and every intern who graduated from the program received a certificate of completion.

Interns from 15 local companies graduated from the program: the 1901 Group, Automation Creations Inc., Ameriprise Financial, Celanese, Gay & Neel, InMotion, Inorganic Ventures, Kollmorgen, Manufacturing Service Solutions, MELD Manufacturing, Moog, Ozmo, Radford University, TECHLAB, and Wolverine.

After the ceremony, interns had the opportunity to network with their employers, representatives from local alumni groups and young professional organizations.

SENIOR LEAGUE FALL SCHEDULE

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02345-1

OPINION

Governor to direct \$114 million to promote public safety and to prevent and reduce crime

Virginia Governor Ralph Northam last week announced that Virginia plans to direct more than \$114 million in federal and state funding to support public safety initiatives across the Commonwealth.

The governor's proposal includes \$62 million in hazard pay and compensation for public safety officials, \$35 million to address COVID-19 in correctional facilities, and \$17 million for crime reduction and prevention programs and services for victims of crime.

"We are grateful for Virginia's public safety officials who have worked overtime throughout the COVID-19 pandemic," said the governor. "This critical investment will give us more resources to recruit and retain law enforcement and correctional officers, bolster our efforts to reduce gun violence, and help ensure the safety of families and communities across the commonwealth."

The proposed investment includes state funding as well as federal dollars from the American Rescue Plan (ARP).

The governor's plan includes \$20 million for Virginia State Police, \$10 million for the Department of Corrections, and \$11 million to address critical staffing shortages at local and regional jails and sheriff's departments.

This also includes compensation for medical contractors, cafeteria and janitorial workers, and other support staff. The two-year budget that the governor will submit in December will include an additional \$20 million to address pay scale compression for the Virginia State Police.

"The last year and a half have been tough on everyone, and this investment in public safety will provide much needed relief to local and state law enforcement agencies and help localities to continue supporting victims of domestic and gun violence," said Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security Brian Moran. "This funding is in recognition of the critical jobs they perform."

"Recruitment and pay compression issues have led to an

increasing number of vacancies at state police over the past several years," said Wayne Huggins, Executive Director of the Virginia State Police Association (VSPA). "These issues were only magnified by the COVID-19 pandemic. VSPA is encouraged that this issue is being addressed in an ongoing and comprehensive manner. We appreciate the governor's support and commitment."

This investment also includes \$35 million to address COVID-19 within facilities operated by the Department of Corrections and Department of Juvenile Justice. Funding will allow for rate increases for medical contractors and staff positions to support COVID-19 management. It will also provide testing supplies, personal protective equipment, ventilation modifications in correctional facilities, quarantine spaces, and tents to enable outdoor visitation.

"Today's announcement shows that we are dedicated to protecting Virginian's families and keeping our communities

safe," said House Speaker Eileen Filler-Corn. "I am proud of our strong investment in crime prevention measures and the commitment to supporting survivors of domestic violence."

"This has been a difficult year and it is crucial we use the available ARPA funds to support Virginia's COVID-19 recovery," said Senate Majority Leader Richard Saslaw. "Law enforcement compensation has been a longstanding issue, and I am pleased we are able to address it now."

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the demand for domestic violence and sexual assault programming and support services for crime victims in the commonwealth. Since 2019, the number of individuals seeking shelter and contacts to the Virginia Statewide Hotline has risen significantly. The funding proposal includes \$12.2 million in new resources for victims of crime and survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, elder abuse, and child abuse. An additional \$1 million will be dedicated to

the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund, which will provide funding for prosecution and victim support.

The funding proposal designates \$2.5 million for gun violence reduction initiatives within the Office of the Attorney General and more than \$500,000 for the Department of Forensic Science to increase capacity to analyze firearms evidence. An additional \$800,000 for the Department of Criminal Justice Services, which will administer a one-time grant to the City of Hampton to support an employment program for court-involved youth and adults facing barriers to employment, expands services for those participating in or at risk of participating in gun violence, and provides counseling or mental health services for those exposed to violence. These programs will work in conjunction with the governor's proposal to invest ARP funds in community-based services and substance abuse treatment.

Submit letters to the editor to editor@ourvalley.org

News Messenger

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(540) 389-9355
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The News Messenger is a newspaper of, by and for the people of Montgomery County. We encourage letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached for verification. All letters will be verified before publication. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

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WalletHub: Virginia 16th best state for health care

The personal finance website WalletHub reports that the average American spends more than \$11,000 per year on personal health care, according to the most recent estimates from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. That's a daunting statistic considering that many Americans are still out of work or making less money than usual this year.

Additionally, conditions aren't uniform across the U.S. To determine where Americans receive the best and worst health care, WalletHub compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia across 44 measures of cost, accessibility and outcome. The website's survey ranked Virginia the 16th best state in the country for health care.

WalletHub noted that higher medical costs don't necessarily translate to better results. According to a study by the Kaiser Family Foundation, the U.S. lags behind several other wealthy nations on several

measures, such as health coverage, life expectancy and disease burden, which measures longevity and quality of life. However, the U.S. has improved in giving more healthcare access for people in worse health, and healthcare cost growth has slowed.

To determine the best and worst states for health care, WalletHub compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia across three key dimensions: 1) cost, 2) access and 3) outcomes.

The company then evaluated those dimensions using a number of relevant metrics.

The metrics used in the cost dimension were the cost of a medical visit, the average hospital expenses per inpatient day at community hospitals, the cost of a dental visit, the average monthly insurance premium, the share of high out-of-pocket medical spending, and the share of adults with no doctor's visits due to cost.

Among the metrics used in the access dimension were the percentage of residents age 12+ initiating vaccination, the COVID-19 death rate in the past week per capita, the COVID-19 positive tests in the past week per capita, the quality of the public hospital system, the hospital beds per capita, the average response time from EMS notification to EMS arrival, the average emergency-room wait time, the time before admission, the physicians per capita, the geriatricians per population aged 65 and older, the nurse practitioners per capita, and the physician assistants per capita.

Among the metrics used by WalletHub in the outcomes dimension were the infant mortality rate, the child mortality rate, the maternal mortality rate, the share of patients readmitted to the hospital, the share of hospitalized patients discharged without instructions for home recovery, the share of hospital

patients who did not receive patient-centered care, life expectancy, the cancer incidence rate, the smoke and heart disease rate, the share of adults with Type 2 diabetes, and the share of at-risk adults with no routine doctor's visit in the past two years.

Determined by WalletHub worthy of ranking ahead of Virginia as having better health care were (1) Massachusetts (2) Rhode Island (3) Minnesota (4) Hawaii (5) Maryland (6) Vermont (7) Colorado (8) Iowa (9) Connecticut (10) South Dakota (11) New Hampshire (12) Pennsylvania (13) the District of Columbia (14) New Jersey and (15) Maine.

Determined by WalletHub worthy of rankings as having the worst health care in the country (42 through 51) were (42) Missouri (43) Nevada (44) West Virginia (45) Wyoming (46) Oklahoma (47) North Carolina (48) Mississippi (49) Arkansas (50) Louisiana and (51) Alabama.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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66					67				68				

CLUES ACROSS

1. Ponds
6. "Unbelievable" musicians
9. Invests in little enterprises
13. Longtime Utah Jazz coach
14. Small sailboat
15. "Luther" actor
16. Round Dutch cheese
17. Detects underwater objects
18. Harsh, grating noise
19. Steward
21. Fencing sword
22. Painful places on the body
23. "Sleepless in Seattle" actress Ryan
24. Sodium
25. Engineering degree (abbr.)
28. Small lump
29. African antelope
31. Electronic point of sale
33. Carefully chooses
36. Ringworm

CLUES DOWN

1. Millisecond
2. Spanish city
3. Sudden, very loud sound
4. Type of chair
5. Tin
6. Sea eagles
7. Broad volcanic crater
8. Some animals have it
9. Ottoman palaces
10. Divulge a secret
11. "A Doll's House" playwright
12. "It's a Wonderful Life" director
14. Poisonous perennial
17. Gulf in the Aegean
20. Clothes
21. Chairs
23. Family of regulator genes
25. NY ballplayer
26. Impressive in size or scope
27. Jacques ___, Fr. biologist
29. Manhattanite
30. Genus of lemurs

CLUES DOWN

32. Sings to
34. River in southern Italy
35. Supplemented with difficulty
37. Farewell
40. Senior officer
42. Utah resident
43. Begets
47. Boy
49. Violently break
50. Brief appearance
52. Expressed pleasure
53. A light informal meal
55. Fabric with smooth finish
56. One billionth of a second (abbr.)
57. Ancient Greek City
58. Close tightly
59. Commit
61. A way to communicate (abbr.)
65. Heavy metal

WalletHub: Virginia's unemployment claims recovery rate is still slow

As the personal finance website WalletHub has reported, the U.S. is making significant progress in the fight against COVID-19 with the distribution of the vaccine, and this has been reflected in the job market as new unemployment claims decreased week-over-week recently.

To identify which states' workforces are experiencing the quickest recovery from COVID-19, WalletHub compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia based on changes in unemployment claims for several key benchmark weeks. The rankings showed Virginia is still among the slowest states in terms of the pace of its recovery, ranking 42nd.

Only six states had unemployment claims last week that were lower than before the pandemic: Iowa, Arizona, South Carolina, West Virginia, Arkansas, and Vermont.

The good news is that every state had unemployment claims last week that were better than the same week last year.

According to WalletHub, 9.5 million Americans are currently unemployed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There were 400,000 new unemployment claims nationwide last week, which is a lot fewer than the 6.1 million during the peak of the pan-

demic (a 93% reduction).

The key metrics the website used to determine its rankings, which ultimately were based on data obtained from the U.S. Department of Labor were the change in the number of initial unemployment insurance claims in the latest week compared to the same week in 2019, the change in the number of initial unemployment insurance claims in the latest week compared to the start of the COVID-19 crisis compared to the same period in 2021.

The ten states WalletHub determined to be recovering the quickest from their unemployment claims were (1) South Carolina (2) Arkansas (3) Iowa (4) Arizona (5) Vermont (6) South Dakota (7) West Virginia (8) Washington (9) Kansas (10) New Hampshire.

Determined by WalletHub to be recovering the slowest from its unemployment claims (42 through 51) were (42) Virginia (43) Colorado (44) Texas (45) Indiana (46) Nevada (47) Tennessee (48) Rhode Island (49) Michigan (50) New Mexico (51) the District of Columbia.



















Auctions

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

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TAP (Total Action for Progress) is the second largest community action agency in Virginia, employing more than 300 employees. We encourage people to think creatively, grow professionally, and make a positive impact within the agency and in the communities in which we serve.

The following position is open with TAP:

Crew Technician 2-ECHR

Help Wanted - General

This person will perform task on dwellings to enhance the fuel conservation and reduce heating cost in accordance with the DHCD Weatherization Installation Standards

- Must be knowledgeable in Heating and Cooling Systems, Construction and Carpentry
- Must have experience using various tools and diagnostic equipment, read a tape measure, have basic mathematical skills
- Must possess the ability to understand and follow directions
- Must be able to read and speak English
- High school graduate or equivalent required
- Must have completed all Crew Technician classes and have a minimum of 6 months Field Experience

Must be able to adjust work schedule as needed. Complete background check required. FT, w/competitive benefits. Salary: \$15.00- \$17.00 per hour. Submit cover letter and resume to: TAP, Human Resources, Job Code: CT2-ECHR Box 2868, 302 2nd St., Roanoke, VA 24001-2868 or fax to 540-345-1944

Applicant email address is required for response concerning this job. For more information about this job and to apply online: See our website: www.tapintohope.org TTY: 540-345-4096 AA/EOE/Drug Free Workplace Bilinguals encouraged to apply.

TAP (Total Action for Progress) is the second largest community action agency in Virginia, employing more than 300 employees. We encourage people to think creatively, grow professionally, and make a positive impact within the agency and in the communities in which we serve.

The following position is open with TAP:

Enrollment Specialist

The Enrollment Specialist shall assist the ERSEA Supervisor and Enrollment Coordinator implementation of ERSEA (Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment and Attendance) Area. Implements and follows all Head Start Performance Standards, Policies and Procedures shall be followed in accordance with the Department of Health and Human Services and TAP.

- ☐ Demonstrate ability to communicate both orally and in writing with staff, parents, and the community
- ☐ Demonstrates ability to develop trusting professional relationships with families.
- ☐ AS or AA degree in Social Work, Psychology or Health Science or related fields preferred.
- ☐ 2 years' experience in a social services agency.
- ☐ Experience working with families.
- ☐ Knowledge of ERSEA (Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment and Attendance)
- ☐ Gain/Obtain an ERSEA accredited within a year of hire.

For a full job description please visit Indeed.com or at our website www.tapintohope.org

Must be able to adjust work schedule as needed. Complete background check required. FT, w/competitive benefits. Salary: \$11.00- \$15.86 per hour. Submit cover letter and resume to: TAP, Human Resources, Job Code: ES-EHS/HS, PO Box 2868, 302 2nd St., Roanoke, VA 24001-2868 or fax to 540-345-1944

Help Wanted - General

Applicant email address is required for response concerning this job. For more information about this job and to apply online: See our website: www.tapintohope.org TTY: 540-345-4096 AA/EOE/Drug Free Workplace Bilinguals encouraged to apply.

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Legals - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF PROPERTY
400 Quail Ridge Road, Fincastle, VA 24090
Tax Map No. 72(8)28, Parcel No. 23467

In execution of an Amended and Restated Credit Line Deed of Trust dated October 6, 2014, in the principal amount of \$1,086,105.42, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, of record as Instrument Number 140003493, Woods Rogers PLC, Substitute Trustee, will offer for sale at public auction outside the main entrance of the Botetourt County Circuit Court,

Legals - Botetourt County

Courthouse, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090, on August 24, 2021 at 11:00 a.m., the property described in said Deed of Trust lying in the County of Botetourt, Virginia, and more particularly described as follows:

All that certain tract or parcel of land designated as TM #72(8)28 and containing 17.614 acres, more or less, all as shown on that certain "Boundary Line Adjustment & Family Subdivision, Plat of the Property of Kendall W. & Ann P. Austin", dated August 11, 2011, prepared by McMurry Surveyors, Inc., of record in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, in Plat Book 52, page 44.

TERMS: Cash - Bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sales price by cashier's or certified check may be required. Balance of purchase price shall be due and payable not later than ten (10) days after sale.

WOODS ROGERS PLC, Substitute Trustee

For Information Contact: Woods Rogers PLC, P.O. Box 14125, Roanoke, VA 24038-4125 Telephone: 540-983-7729

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VIRGINIA REDISTRICTING

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

PUBLIC HEARINGS

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A total of eight public hearings will be held in July and August. Hearings are scheduled regionally both in person and virtually. Hearings will be livestreamed and archived online

For more information on dates and registration:
<https://www.virginiaredistrioting.org>
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Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to
all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on August 11, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1. Hold public hearing to consider the request of Layman Candy Company, Inc., contract purchaser, and Lewis-Gale Medical Center, LLC, property owner, for rezoning a portion of the property located at 2105 Apperson Drive (Tax Map # 281-1-2) from BCD Business Commerce District to LM Light Manufacturing District.

2. Hold public hearing to consider the request of Roanoke College Trustees, property owner, for rezoning a portion of the property located at 232 North Broad Street (Tax Map # 87-7-7), from CUD College and University District to RSF Residential Single-Family District.

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

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

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

STATEWIDE ADS

Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to
all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, August 23, 2021, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1. Hold public hearing to consider the request of Layman Candy Company, Inc., contract purchaser, and Lewis-Gale Medical Center, LLC, property owner, for rezoning a portion of the property located at 2105 Apperson Drive (Tax Map # 281-1-2) from BCD Business Commerce District to LM Light Manufacturing District.

2. Hold public hearing to consider the request of Roanoke College Trustees, property owner, for rezoning a portion of the property located at 232 North Broad Street (Tax Map # 87-7-7), from CUD College and University District to RSF Residential Single-Family District.

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

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

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA
BY
H. Robert Light
Clerk of Council

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MONTGOMERY SPORTS

Guns and Hoses competes for Special Olympics



SUBMITTED PHOTO

First responders from throughout the New River Valley joined together at the Harkrader Sports Complex in Christiansburg for a softball game Saturday to help raise funds for Special Olympics. Firefighters and EMS made up the Hoses while police officers were on the Guns team. When the dust cleared, the Hoses, pictured above, pulled out the win in extra innings.

Volleyball Commonwealth Games champions



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Mattox Adams of Radford (left) and Abby Neel of Christiansburg took gold this past week in the 14-and-under beach volleyball competition in Lynchburg at the 2021 Commonwealth Games. The two were in a pool of nine teams and dropped only one set all day on their way to the championship.

Stephen Howard named new cross-country coach at BHS

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Blacksburg High School has appointed former Bruin runner Stephen Howard as its new cross-country head coach. Howard replaces Brandon Bear, who stepped down at the end of the spring track season.

Howard is a Blacksburg native and a former manager of the local RunAbout Sports store, which is owned by his former BHS coach James DeMarco.

While pursuing a degree at Virginia Tech, Howard gained coaching experience as one of DeMarco's BHS assistants. For the past few years, he has coached at Christiansburg Middle School where he also teaches science.

Howard calls the new opportu-

nity a dream come true. In 2006, he graduated from Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and then added a Master's in science curriculum and instruction.

After graduating from Tech, Howard moved to Korea where he taught English to students K-6. When he returned to the states, he served as a zookeeper at the Virginia Aquarium in Virginia Beach.

He spent four years at Christiansburg Middle School and was named the school's teacher of the year this past year.

Howard does not expect any major changes in the routine at BHS and says his coaching style mirrors that of his former coach, who had a lot of success at the school.

The new coach will have some big shoes to fill.

Bear coached seven state championship teams and 43 individual and relay state champions. Two athletes broke Virginia state records across all classifications in the 2000m steeplechase (2017, Ben Fleming) and the one-mile race walk (2019, Oscar Coddington).

Two BHS athletes currently hold 4A state Records in the indoor 3200m (Kaitlynn Wolfe) and the indoor 55m (Cole Beck). The girls' cross-country team qualified for the Nike Cross National Championships in Portland, Ore., every year Bear was head coach except for the most recent one in 2019.

Howard and his team will host the Blacksburg Relays on Aug. 28 and the Metro Championships on Oct. 20.

Hokie lineman Luke Tenuta donating NIL proceeds to Micah's Backpack



VT lineman Luke Tenuta has signed an NIL deal and will donate his proceeds to Micah's Backpack, a program at St. Michael Lutheran Church that provides assistance to students and families who qualify for free lunches.

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Virginia Tech redshirt junior offensive lineman Luke Tenuta is the latest college athlete to take advantage of the chance

to make money off his name, image, and likeness.

Tenuta, however, is donating all the proceeds from his NIL deal to Micah's Backpack, a program at St. Michael Lutheran Church in Blacksburg that addresses children's hunger issues by partnering with local schools to provide assistance to students and families who qualify for the free lunch program. Each week during the school year, students receive a backpack with enough food for the weekend.

The backpacks include two dinners, two lunches, and two breakfasts.

Each week nearly 70 volunteers from various academic, civic, and religious groups work together packing the meals. Partner schools then distribute the meals to the students.

The latest numbers show that more than 300 students at 10 Blacksburg schools receive the backpacks.

The 6-9, 325-pound Tenuta said no child should go hungry. He started nine games last season at right tackle and was named to the third-team All-ACC offense. He was part of an offensive unit that helped produce a conference-best 240 yards-per-game rushing average.

Tenuta was a 2017 Class 3A all-state pick at Western Albermarle High School and was recognized as all-conference, all-district, and all-region. His father, Jon, recently joined the Virginia Tech coaching staff as a senior defensive analyst with over 40 years of coaching experience.

CAMEO is a popular video service that lets

fans pay to have their favorite athlete, musician, actor, or other entertainer record a short, personalized message. Iconic athletes such as Drew Brees, Mia Hamm, and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar are all available for booking on CAMEO.

Designed to connect famous people with their fans, the CAMEO app is one of the first avenues

that is attracting college athletes like Tenuta who are now eligible to capitalize financially on their name, image, and likeness (NIL).

CAMEO has over 30,000 celebs ranging from A- to D-list stars who charge anywhere from \$5 to over \$1,000 per video. The company claims CAMEO makes the absolute best present

and fan experience available. It is easy to use, the company says, and a large variety of celebrities and influencers are available to choose from.

Tenuta started his cameo requests at \$20.

To donate to Micah's Backpack, check out www.micahsbackpack.org.

Tenuta can be found at cameo.com/luketenuta.

Former rec youth supervisor Muncy named CHS golf coach

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Former Christiansburg Recreation Youth Supervisor Chuck Muncy has found something to do in his retirement. He has been appointed golf coach at Christiansburg High School.

Muncy retired this past month after over 30 years in recreation.

In 2015, Muncy was honored with the Wayne LaPierre Sr. Baseball Community Service Award, which recognized his work with youth baseball and softball programs. The service award was presented by the

Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame that was founded in 1991 and includes the counties of Alleghany, Roanoke, Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, and Montgomery.

Over the past 15 years, Muncy has served as the youth supervisor for the Christiansburg Recreation Department. He has also coached youth football, basketball, baseball, and softball.

He also helped jumpstart the Christiansburg Middle School baseball program and coached the team for several years.

During his tenure, he also served as the super-

visor for the Harkrader Sports Complex.

This past year, Christiansburg notched a 349 for fifth place in River Ridge District play. Returning junior Seth Walker shot an 81 for the Blue Demons.

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Hokies picked third in ACC's Coastal Division

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

A preseason poll of 147 media voters picked the Hokies to finish third in the ACC's Coastal Division. Clemson is the media's overwhelming preseason favorite to claim its seventh consecutive Atlantic Coast Conference football title. The Tigers, who posted a 10-2 record last season while earning a postseason playoff berth for the sixth consecutive year, were also chosen as likely Atlantic Division winners. North Carolina was picked to finish atop the Coastal Division following an eight-win 2020 season that culminated with the program's first-ever berth in the Orange Bowl.

In the Coastal Division forecast, North Carolina received 109 first-place votes and amassed 979 total points. Miami (28 first-place votes) was next with 881 points, followed by Virginia Tech (three-first place votes, 582 points) and Pitt (one first-place vote, 576 points). Virginia (two first-place votes, 540 points), Georgia Tech (four first-place votes, 340 points) and Duke (218 points) closed out the voting. Clemson was selected as the likely ACC champion in the media preseason poll for the fourth consecutive season and the seventh time in the last nine years. North Carolina was projected as the preseason Coastal Division champion for the second time and

the first time since 2016. The Tar Heels' lone Coastal Division championship came in 2015. Each of the Coastal's seven teams won the division from 2013 through 2019. Due to the 2020 pandemic, the ACC played a non-divisional format last season. The key for Virginia Tech will be the home opener against North Carolina, which returns almost everyone on both sides of the ball. The winner of that game, I believe, will be the real Coastal Division champ. The Atlantic and Coastal Division winners will meet in the 2021 ACC Football Championship Game on Saturday, Dec. 4, at Charlotte's Bank of America Stadium. North Carolina junior quarterback Sam Howell was chosen the

ACC Preseason Player of the Year. Howell has thrown 68 career touchdown passes, the most through a sophomore season in ACC history and tied for the UNC school record. The Indian Trail, N.C., native led the ACC and ranked sixth nationally with 30 touchdown passes in 2020 while also topping the league with 3,586 passing yards, the fourth most in the nation. Howell received 118 votes at the quarterback position to lead all offensive players in the Preseason All-ACC Team balloting. He is joined in the preseason All-ACC backfield by running backs Zonovan Knight of NC State and Mataeo Durant of Duke. Clemson's Justyn Ross, Boston College's Zay Flowers, and Wake Forest's Jaquarii Rob-

erson form a potent wideout trio, and Virginia Tech tight end James Mitchell completes the receiving corps. Georgia Tech's Jahmyr Gibbs was chosen as the all-purpose back. On the defensive side of the ball, Virginia Tech's DE Amaré Barno earned first-team preseason honors. Barno (6-6, 235) enjoyed a breakout campaign in 2020 after making the move from linebacker to defensive end. He recorded 43 total tackles on the season, including 28 solo stops. The Blythewood, S.C., native led the ACC and all Power Five players with 16 tackles for loss and tied with Tech defensive end Justus Reed for sixth in the league with 6.5 sacks. He earned All-ACC honorable mention honors last season.

Pulaski's Calfee Park honored as best of best

Pulaski's Motor Mile Field at Calfee Park has won the 2021 MLB Summer Collegiate Best of the Best award for the second year in a row. The bracketed 16-ballpark competition, held through July, saw the Appalachian League park receive 55 percent of the final-round vote over Pioneer Park, home of the Greenville Flyboys, in the finals. Overall,

more than 500,000 fans voted in the annual fan competition. Before the 2021 MiLB reorganization when it was still the home of the Appalachian League's Pulaski Yankees, Motor Mile Field at Calfee Park was a winner in the MLB Rookie-level facilities category. "Repeating as a Best of the Ballpark winner is extremely difficult," said Ballpark Digest publisher

Kevin Reichard. "The fact that Pulaski managed to do so even after an offseason of major change is a major accomplishment and shows the community's commitment to the team." "We are ecstatic to once again receive this honor," said River Turtles General Manager J.W. Martin. "It's a testament to our local baseball community. Our fans make

Calfee Park what it is, one of the best ballparks in the country." Other fan favorites in the 2021 Best of the Ballparks fan vote were Publix Field at Joker Marchant Stadium, Detroit Tigers (Grapefruit League); Salt River Fields at Talking Stick, Arizona Diamondbacks/Colorado Rockies (Cactus League); O'Brate Stadium, Oklahoma State University (college baseball); PNC

Park, Pittsburgh Pirates (Major League Baseball); Las Vegas Ballpark, Las Vegas Aviators (Triple-A); Dunkin' Donuts Park, Hartford Yard Goats (Double-A); Clipper Magazine Stadium, Lancaster Barnstormers (MLB Partner Leagues); Maimonides Park, Brooklyn Cyclones (High-A); and Atrium Health Ballpark, Kannapolis Cannon Ballers (Low-A).

Radford's Graham named Scholar-Athlete for Emory & Henry tennis

Logan Graham of Radford is one of three players from the Emory & Henry College men's tennis team to be named a Scholar-Athlete by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA).

In addition, six E&H women's tennis players achieved the academic designation. ITA Scholar-Athletes must be varsity letter winners who carry at least a 3.50 grade-point-average (on a 4.00 scale) for

the current academic year. Additionally, the student-athletes must have been enrolled at their present school for at least two semesters. The athlete's cumulative team grade-point-average must exceed 3.20 for the current

academic year. The ITA is the governing body of college tennis and oversees men's and women's varsity tennis at NCAA divisions I, II and III, NAIA and Junior/Community College divisions. The ITA

administers a comprehensive awards and rankings program for men's and women's varsity players, coaches and teams in all divisions, providing recognition for their accomplishments on and off the court.

Blacksburg golfer wins age group of Blue Ridge Junior Tour Championship

The Blue Ridge Junior Golf Tour completed its 2021 season at Fincastle in Bluefield Tuesday with the tour championship, and Blacksburg golfer J.J. Robertson shot a 40, giving him a two-day total of 85 and the 9-and-under age-group victory. The winner's circle is familiar territory for young Robertson as he won the age group for the fourth time this season. Marco Beato of Blacks-

burg and Anderson Lilly of Oak Hill, W.Va., tied for second in the age group with scores of 97. Here is a summary of the results from the tour championship: 17-18 Age Group Par 70 6579 Yards Tanner Walls of Mathena, W.Va., started the day with a six-shot lead, fired a closing round 75 and won the age group by nine strokes with a two-day total of 148. Walls made 12 pars for the

second day in a row, which didn't allow any competitor to encroach on his position at the top. The victory also propelled Walls to the Player of the Year honor in the age group. Logan Douthat of Pearisburg shot 77 on the second day to capture second place in the tournament with a two-day total of 157. Seth Walker of Christiansburg posted a score of 80 to finish third with a 36-hole total of 163. Joining Walls on the

season's All-Star Team were Douthat, Dalton Minnick of Abingdon, Jack Davis of Radford, and Ezra Drumheller of Prosperity, W.Va. 15-16 Age Group Par 70 6168 Yards Chase Coley of Chilhowie shot 73 and finished with a 36-hole score of 145 to win the age group. Coley entered the day with a four-shot lead, and like Walls in the older age group made plenty of pars to fend off challengers. Coley tallied 13 pars during the trek around the 18 holes and added a lone birdie to secure the victory. Major Ewing of Blacksburg played a solid round and shot 74 to finish with a two-day total of 150, good for second place. Ryne Bond of Floyd secured third place with a 36-hole score of

158. Ewing was awarded the Player of the Year honor based on his play throughout the season. Joining him on the All-Star Team were Bond, Coley, Walker Gillespie of Pearisburg, and Corey Powers of Check. 13-14 Age Group Par 70 5365 Yards Grayden Laird of Galax posted a score of 75 on the second day to finish with a 36-hole total of 145 and win the age group. After posting the low round of the day on Monday, Laird was able to hold off challengers with consistent play. The victory helped him earn the Player of the Year honors in the age group. Ryan Highfield of Blacksburg shot 76 for the second consecutive day, yield-

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A Women's Health Nurse Practitioner graduate of Frontier Nursing University in Hyden, Kentucky, Melissa has more than 15 years of experience working in Western Virginia. Her diverse background in women's health includes working in labor/delivery, well-woman exams, postpartum, and episodic visits. Melissa has experience in both large hospital settings and midwifery practices.

Melissa Dalton, NP

In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her husband and three children. Her hobbies include camping, reading, and cooking.

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