



Christiansburg reinstates disconnection of water service for delinquent accounts



The Town of Christiansburg has reinstated its practice of disconnecting water service for customers delinquent on their utility bills and payment plans.

The change in policy was effective Monday, Sept. 13.

Nearly 600 customers are currently

behind on payments for their utility bills and/or payment plans. Customers have been notified monthly with their bills of their past due payments. Their most recent bills state that payments are due by Sept. 13 at 7:30 a.m., otherwise customers are subject to disconnect and a \$25 restoration fee. Customers unsure whether they have past due payments may contact the Finance Department at 540-382-9519 or visit the department at town hall (100 E. Main St.) weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Town of Christiansburg offers its customers payment plans for their utility bills. To set up a payment plan with the town, visit town hall (100 E. Main St.) weekdays between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5

p.m. For any questions regarding utility bills, call the Finance Department at (540) 382-9519.

Limited CARES Act Utility Relief Funds are available to assist customers with payments and will be given to eligible customers on a first-come, first-served basis. If additional assistance is needed, the Finance Department will provide customers with a list of community resources they may contact.

Public works crews are being dispatched to disconnect water service for accounts delinquent as of Sept. 13 at 7:30 a.m. An account is delinquent if it has past-due payments on the utility bills or is past due on a payment plan. If the service is disconnected, a \$25 restoration fee will be applied to the account.

Game of cornhole leads Radford pair to engagement



Duncan Sandoz, RU Class of 20, and Leah Stepp, RU Class of 21, met while playing cornhole, and Sandoz later recreated the cornhole scene on the RU campus as the stage for his marriage proposal.

If love is blind, as the saying goes, it probably doesn't care much about romantic settings. Moonlit gardens on enchanted evenings may be nice, but you're just as likely to find true love over a game of cornhole. Just ask Duncan Sandoz '20 and Leah Stepp '21.

"Duncan and I met at the Junior Twilight on April 10, 2019," Stepp said. "Duncan was playing cornhole with his

friend, and I wanted to play with my friends. Duncan and his friend asked if we wanted to play. After playing cornhole, we spent hours talking as a group even after the event was over. Before heading back to the dorms/apartments, we all exchanged Snapchats."

Their happy relationship continued through

See **Cornhole**, page 4

State Fair of Virginia returns Sept. 24 through Oct. 3

After missing a year because of COVID, the State Fair of Virginia returns this year and will run from Sept. 24 through Oct. 3.

The fair is held each fall at its permanent home at The Meadow Event Park in Caroline County and will open each day at 10 a.m. Amusement rides open at 11.

The event celebrates the best of Virginia's past, present and future through scholarship initiatives, creative programming and a focus on the commonwealth's agriculture and natural resources industries. Virginia Farm Bureau Holding Corp. operates the fair and is a subsidiary of the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation.

"Visiting the State Fair is a long-standing tradition for so many families," said Marlene Jolliffe, the fair's executive director. "We're excited to return after last year's hiatus and offer the classic State Fair experience that Virginians know and love. Planning ahead can help fairgoers save money and have a more enjoyable visit."

This year's fair footprint will be adjusted as needed regarding CO-

VID-19 precautions.

Tickets

Buy tickets in advance to cash in on savings. Advance tickets are on sale through Sept. 23 at StateFairVa.org at \$11.50 for 5 years of age and older. They can be used any day during the fair. Children 4 and younger will be admitted free with a paid adult admission. Season passes can be purchased online through Sept. 17 for \$67

and can be used throughout the fair's 10-day run.

Rides are not included in fair admission. Unlimited ride wristbands are \$25 when purchased in advance, and \$30 online or \$32 on-site once the fair opens. Ride tickets and single-day unlimited ride wristbands will be available for purchase at ride ticket booths

See **State Fair**, page 5



The fair is back at The Meadow Event Park in Doswell in Caroline County.

World wakeboarding champion Joy Manning, VT facilities' director of renovations, to compete for ninth world title

Virginia Tech's Division of Campus Planning, Infrastructure, and Facilities' Director of Renovations Joy Manning, eight times a world champion, will be competing among the world's best professional and amateur wakeboarders at the World Wake Association Wakeboard World Championships on Sept. 16 at Callaway Gardens in Pine Mountain, Ga.

During the three-day event, Manning will perform top-notch tricks in the wakes left behind by boats. And while this will be Manning's 11th appearance in the wakeboard world championships, it doesn't mean the sport is getting easier, but she hopes to capture her ninth world title.

"Every three to four years, the boats change and their wakes get

bigger. The tricks become more difficult," Manning said. "As the sport develops, the younger generation of wakeboarders takes it to the next level. For example, in the Men's Pro Division a double flip was very rare a few years ago. Today, everyone is doing them including some of the Pro Women."

Manning's championship ride will commemorate two significant figures in her life who passed away during the COVID-19 pandemic: Gary Wetterberg, retired International Forestry Support Program manager of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's U.S. Forest Service, and Russell Hitt, chairman emeritus of Hitt Contracting Inc. Their names will be printed on Manning's board so that every time she rides she

knows they will be cheering her on and bringing out the best in her performances.

"Gary and Russell passed away when it was challenging to hold memorials without knowing how to properly help mitigate the airborne transmission of COVID-19," Manning said. "Because of this, they weren't properly honored. Adding their names to my wakeboard is my way to reflect on their impact on my life."

Wetterberg was her husband's stepfather. He supported Manning in her first wakeboard world championship, traveling with her to Indianapolis to cheer her on. Manning was once afraid of the water and all that lurked below its surface. After trying out the sport, she conquered her fears to become the worldwide reigning champion for her division. And Wetterberg was there to see it all begin.

Prior to joining Virginia Tech, Manning worked with Russell Hitt at Hitt Contracting Inc. for nearly 14 years. Manning shared many fond memories of competing with Hitt on who could get into the office first to start the day.

"Russell came from an old school construction background. He and everyone on the team worked hard and took pride in what we produced," said Manning.

See **Manning**, page 5



Guest artist Brandon Lee performs with the VT Jazz Ensemble on Sept. 24 at the Lyric Theatre.

After a year of virtual performances, the Virginia Tech School of Performing Arts plans to hold in-person events for its upcoming season. Performances by students, faculty members, and guest artists, as well as cinema screenings, begin on Sept. 18. Many of the events are free.

Music The Virginia Tech Trumpet Festival kicks off the season on Sept. 18 with guest trumpeter Ryan Gardner, who will conduct masterclasses and perform, along with others, in an evening benefit concert.

Music on Mondays and Faculty/Guest Artist Series recitals, which allow audiences an intimate music experience in the Squires Recital Salon, are scheduled throughout the semester. This fall's lineup includes:

Sept. 20 — "In the company of Benny Goodman — The King of Swing" with Hsiang Tu and Yevgeny Dokshansky

Sept. 27 — "All about Maurice: Complete Piano Solo Works by Maurice Ravel Recital I" with Hsiang Tu

Oct. 7 — Dino Mulic, piano

Oct. 11 — Music of Hilary Tann and Edgar

Girtain

Oct. 13 — Music of Hilary Tann

Oct. 25 — Guy Yehuda, clarinet

Nov. 4 — Esther Park, piano

Nov. 8 — Gaelynn Lea Tressler, violinist/singer-songwriter

Nov. 14 — String Faculty Chamber Music

Nov. 15 — Katherine Whyte, soprano with pianist Richard Masters

Ensemble concerts and music lab recitals showcase the wide variety of student talent. A first-time addition to the season, the New Music + Technology Festival, will feature performances of new works by faculty and students, the L2Ork Linux Laptop Orchestra, Creativity + Innovation, the Virginia Tech New Music Ensemble, and guest artists.

Fall music ensemble concerts include:

Sept. 24 — VT Jazz Ensembles featuring trumpeter Brandon Lee

Oct. 15 — VT Wind Ensemble and Symphony Band

Oct. 19 - VT Philharmonic

Nov. 7 — VT Choirs Fall Concert

Nov. 9 — VT Percus-

See **Fall**, page 8



Joy Manning performs wakeboarding tricks. Photo provided by Joy Manning.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, Sept. 15:

Virginia Tech Women's Club Annual Welcome Reception

The Virginia Tech Women's Club (VTWC) will host its annual welcome reception at The Holtzman Alumni Center from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Please wear a mask. Honorary president Dr. Laura Sands and club president Dr. Debra Call will host the event, which includes refreshments.

The reception is free and is open to the public. All women who are interested in supporting women at VT by awarding scholarships, serving the community, enjoying a multitude of interest groups, traveling to local sights, and listening to engaging community speakers are invited to attend.

Loops Group with New River Art & Fiber

At the Blacksburg Library at 2 p.m. New River Art & Fiber is joining the Blacksburg Library in hosting a weekly loops group. Participants are invited to bring their fiber arts project and join in to spend some relaxing time with fellow fiber artists while making progress on their projects. The group will meet every Wednesday.

Friday, Sept. 17:

All Ages Storytime

At the Christiansburg Library at 11 a.m. Share stories, rhymes, music and movement, and a craft as a family while developing early literacy skills and encouraging a love of reading.

Saturday, Sept. 18:

Dungeons & Dragons: Level 5 (Virtual)

All levels are welcome at the Radford Public Library's D&D One-shots. The shadowy city of Radishford has been plagued by mysterious birds, but it's all reaching a pinnacle with level 5: The Carrion King! Email duncan.hall@radfordva.gov to join either the in-person or the virtual session (via Discord) at 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 19, Sunday, Sept. 26

Fall Forum: Building Economic Justice in Our Community

Everyone is invited to learn about economic justice issues facing members of the local community during a two-part series sponsored by Blacksburg United Methodist Church's Church & Society Committee.

On Sept. 19, join a

panel discussion with representatives from local organizations about the underlying issues that cause people in the community to need economic assistance. Participating organizations include the Community Health Center, Habitat for Humanity, the Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program, and Montgomery County Public Schools.

On Sept. 26, the discussion will focus on ways to take action.

Participants will gather in person in the Whisner Building at the Church Street campus at BUMC (masks and social distancing required), 111 Church St. Blacksburg, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. each evening. A Zoom option is available by request.

Wednesday, Sept. 22:

Radford Ammunition Plant community meeting

The Radford Army Ammunition Plant (RFAAP) will hold its next community meeting at 6 p.m. at the Christiansburg Library. The event will be broadcast on Facebook Live from the Radford Army Ammunition Plant Facebook page. These meetings are open to the public and are an opportunity to learn about RFAAP modernization and environmental projects.

Interested persons may reach out to RFAAP with questions or to conduct research on their own through the following resources: Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RadfordArmyAmmunitionPlant/>; Homepage: <http://www.jmc.army.mil/Radford/RadfordDefault.aspx>; and Email: usarmy.radford.peo-eis.list.rfaap-public-affairs@mail.mil.

Thursday, Sept. 23:

What Isn't Remembered

At the Radford Public Library from 7 to 8 p.m. Kristina Gorcheva-Newberry, winner of the 2021 Raz/Shumaker Prairie Schooner Book Prize in Fiction, is a Russian-Armenian emigre who moved to the U.S. in 1995 after witnessing perestroika and the collapse of the Soviet Empire. She graduated from both Radford and Hollins Universities. She has published over 50 stories and has received eight Pushcart nominations.

Dungeons & Dragons: Level 5 (In-person)

The shadowy city of Radishford has been plagued by mysterious birds, but it's all reaching a pinnacle with level

5: The Carrion King Email duncan.hall@radfordva.gov to join either the in-person or virtual session (via Discord) at 4:30 p.m.

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.

Take & Make Crafts

At the Blacksburg Library. Craft kits are available all month long. Each week the library will have a new craft for kids to take home.

Interactive Movie Kits

All month at the Christiansburg Library and the Meadowbrook Public Library.

The kits contain popcorn and props for four individuals to make movie night interactive. The movie is not included and supplies are limited.

Crafts to Go

All month at the Meadowbrook Public Library

Drop by the Meadowbrook Public Library for Take & Make Craft Kits. They are available at the library or with curbside pickup. They are free but supplies are limited.

Through October:

Radford Farmers Market

The Radford Farmers Market continues each Saturday through Oct. 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 held every Thursday through October at the Christiansburg Recreation Center parking lot from 3 to 7 p.m.

Ongoing:

Get your passport at the Radford Public Library

Radford Public Library is a Passport Acceptance Office. Call (540) 731-3621 to set up an appointment time. Persons planning overseas travel should get their passports as early as possible because it can currently take up to 18 weeks to receive a passport.

Twenty years later Brian Welch remembers 9/11

Sept. 11, 2021, marked the 20-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks on New York City's World Trade Center that killed more than 3,000 people, and a nation honored those who paid the ultimate price that day. Americans also felt for the families of those who lost loved ones.

Most can't begin to imagine the pain of those families, but at least one person knows exactly how those who lost mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, relatives and friends that day felt. He knows because he experienced the exact same feelings more than 25 years ago.

Brian Welch, a former linebacker at Tech from 1997-2001, lost his father, Kenneth – a Warant Officer in the U.S. Army – on Sept. 20, 1984, when terrorists from the group Hezbollah drove a van full of explosives into an American embassy annex in Beirut, Lebanon. More than 20 people died in the attack.

"It's really interesting for me," Welch said. "Sept. 11 is such a huge

milestone, and a day that so many people can rally around. But as devastating as that tragedy was, for me, it's not a reminder of what can happen.

"For me, that's a daily thing, and I'm sure it's the same for those who lost family or friends [on Sept. 11]. More people can relate to what I went through, and that's not a good thing. I don't want people to have to relate to that."

Welch was a 6-year-old boy at the time of his father's death. He and his older brother were living in Beijing, China, with their mother, Linda, who worked for the CIA. Kenneth's and Linda's jobs took their family all over the world. Following the tragedy, they returned to the United States, and Kenneth's remains were buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

"He's the greatest man I never knew," Welch said.

Following the Sept. 11 attacks, Welch and the Hokies played at Rutgers, and the game marked the first major college sporting event in

the New York City area after the attacks, thus carrying with it a significant amount of importance as the nation attempted to return to some semblance of normalcy.

Before kickoff, John Ballein, Tech's associate AD for football operations, had an American flag that he wanted a Tech player to carry as the Hokies ran out onto the field. Not surprisingly and certainly fittingly, Welch went up to Ballein and volunteered to carry out the flag. He also carried it to midfield for a special pregame ceremony.

Tech won the game 50-0, but what transpired overshadowed the outcome. On the second play of the game, Welch intercepted the pass of Rutgers quarterback Ryan Cubit at the Rutgers 28. He returned it 27 yards and expected to score, but Rutgers receiver Sean Carty knocked him down at the 1.

"The universe is funny," Welch said. "To have my first career interception and be taken down at the 1 by some



PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

Defensive back Armani Chatman leads the Hokies onto the field Saturday afternoon against Middle Tennessee. Players, coaches, and fans remembered 9/11 shortly before the game.

unknown receiver. It almost makes me laugh. But that's a microcosm of life. Something can come out of nowhere and take you down. It may be unfair, but that's life.

"But I do think about that day a lot. The moment wouldn't have been so special if it hadn't been for Sept. 11. I'll carry that day with me for the rest of my life. If not for that

tragedy, I wouldn't have had the opportunity to feel the pride in carrying the flag that day."

Despite the horrible tragedy of Sept. 11, some good came out of that day. Security in this country got better. Intelligence agencies started sharing more information. People became cognizant of their surroundings.

More importantly, a nation of diverse back-

grounds came together.

"To see the outward displays of patriotism, it's just great," Welch said. "I wish we'd see more of it. It's great to see people rally around Sept. 11 regardless of your background and beliefs."

"That day was devastating – and, in many ways, miraculous, too."

--Jimmy Robertson, VT Athletics

Radford Thompson & Litton office to celebrate 25 years of service

The City of Radford offices of Thompson & Litton, Inc., (T&L) will celebrate its 25 years of service to the community on Sept. 30, 2021.

Thompson & Litton is a full-service engineering, architectural and land surveying firm that provides comprehensive services in the areas of architecture, civil, electrical, mechanical, plumbing and structural engineering, construction

contract administration, project management, and land surveying for both public and private sector clientele.

The company is also celebrating a second milestone, its 65th anniversary. Sixty-five years ago, on June 21, 1956, William A. Thompson, Jr., and John W. Litton established the company with

See 25 years, page 3



The Radford office of Thompson & Litton, located at 726 Auburn Ave., will celebrate its 25th anniversary on Sept. 30. Over the years, the office has been responsible for projects such as the Montgomery County Government Center, the Montgomery County Courthouse, and the New River Valley Regional Jail.



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Indigenous artists celebrate Native people with 'Welcome to Indian Country'



"Welcome to Indian Country" features (first row, left to right) Rena Priest, Mali Obomsawin, and Julia Keefe; (second row, left to right) Delbert Anderson, Nokosee Fields, and Nick Lucero.

Indigenous artists celebrate Native peoples and culture through historic music, poetry, and storytelling for the East Coast premiere performances of "Welcome to Indian Country" on Wednesday, Sept. 22, and Thursday, Sept. 23, at 7 p.m.

Commissioned in part by the Moss Arts Center, these work-in-progress performances will be

held in the center's Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre, located within the Street and Davis Performance Hall at 190 Alumni Mall.

In accordance with current university policy for indoor events, all faculty, staff, students, and visitors to the Moss Arts Center are required to wear a mask regardless of vaccination status.

Representing the

Diné (Navajo), Osage, Nez Perce, Lhaq'temish (Lummi), and Abenaki, as well as South American Indigenous descent, the diverse Native American performers of "Welcome to Indian Country" share songs and stories to honor the ancestors and elders and to celebrate life, love, connecting to culture, survival, and resilience.

The evening performances feature Rena Priest, storyteller and Washington state poet laureate; Delbert Anderson, trumpet and theremin; Nick Lucero, percussion; Mali Obomsawin, vocals, bass, and guitar; Nokosee Fields, bass and fiddle; and Julia Keefe, vocals, piano, and guitar.

Together, they exemplify the vibrant life of modern Native people and honor their ancestors, including the Indigenous musicians who left an indelible mark on the world and the many art forms considered American music. "Welcome to Indian Country" captures the joy the artists feel being part of a Native community while sharing their expressions with the world.

These performances of "Welcome to Indian Country" are presented in partnership with the American Indian and Indigenous Community Center and supported in part by a gift from Clem and Georgia Carter.

"Welcome to Indian

Country" is a National Performance Network (NPN) Creation and Development Fund Project co-commissioned by the Moss Arts Center, Virginia Tech, the Hopkins Center for the Arts, Dartmouth College, the Washington Center for the Performing Arts, the Native American Community Development Institute, and NPN.

Related events

In addition to developing the work while at the Moss, the artists will engage with multiple Virginia Tech classes and student groups. Area musicians are invited to make music with "Welcome to Indian Country" fiddler Nokosee Fields during an informal old-time jam session on Tuesday, Sept. 21, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. This event is free and open to the public, but registration is required. Recommended for intermediate to advanced musicians.

Join the musicians and storytellers of "Welcome to Indian Country" for a post-performance question-and-answer session

immediately following the Wednesday, Sept. 22 performance.

Ticket information

Tickets for "Welcome to Indian Country" performances are \$25 for general admission and \$10 for Virginia Tech students. Tickets can be purchased online, at the Moss Arts Center's box office from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, or by calling 540-231-5300 during box-office hours.

Parking is available in the North End Parking Garage on Turner Street for \$5. Payment must be made in cash at the time of entry. Virginia Tech faculty and staff possessing a valid Virginia Tech parking permit can enter and exit the garage free of charge. Virginia Tech has also partnered with ParkMobile to provide a convenient, contactless electronic payment option for parking, which may be used at any parking meter, campus parking space, or lot with standard F/S, C/G, or R parking.

Local college students earn awards, degrees

Riner student earns E&H doctorate, Radford students named to dean's list

Thirty-one students at Emory & Henry's Health Sciences Campus graduated with a Doctorate of Physical Therapy at the Lincoln Theatre in Marion, Va. in August.

Among those graduates was Olivia Rutledge of Riner.

Three students from Radford were named to the Spring 2021 dean's list at Emory & Henry. To be named to the dean's list students must be full time and must receive a 3.6 GPA for the semester.

Making the dean's list were Logan Graham, Sophie Graham, and Zackie Pendergrass, all of Radford.

"Class of 2021, we salute you," Emory & Henry Provost Dr. Michael J. Puglisi told the graduates. "You've persevered during these unprecedented times, demonstrating great resilience and unwavering commitment to your goal of earning your degree. You have made many sacrifices and put in many long hours of studying while also providing high qual-

ity health care to your patients during this global pandemic. We have no doubt that you will be true leaders in your chosen healthcare profession."

Emory & Henry College's Health Sciences campus was launched in 2014 with the goal of preparing compassionate, patient-centered, highly-skilled health care professionals who not only provide quality health-care to their patients but also actively engage in leadership and service opportunities within their professional organizations and communities.

Blacksburg, Radford students earn University of South Dean's List honors

Connor Cheynet and Christian Shushok, both of Blacksburg, and Lexi Rader of Radford were named to the dean's list at the University of the South (Sewanee) for the Spring 2021 term.

Cheyne is the son of Sandee C. Cheynet and George H. Cheynet.

Shushok is the son of Kelly and Frank X. Shushok.

Rader is the daughter of Sara

and Michael E. Rader

To earn a place on Sewanee Dean's List, a student must earn a minimum grade point average of 3.625 on a 4.0 scale.

The University of the South, familiarly known as Sewanee, is an independent liberal arts college located on 13,000 acres atop Tennessee's Cumberland Plateau between Nashville and Chattanooga. It has been consistently ranked among the top tier of national liberal arts colleges.

Blacksburg's Kennet Manley graduates from Berea College

Kennet Manley of Blacksburg recently received a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture and natural resources from Berea College.

The first interracial and coeducational college in the South, Berea College focuses on learning, labor, and service. The college admits only academically promising students with limited financial resources primarily from Kentucky and Appalachia but welcomes students from 41 states and 76 countries. Every Berea student receives a Tuition Promise Scholarship, which

means no Berea student pays tuition. Berea is one of nine federally recognized Work Colleges, so students work 10 hours or more weekly to earn money for books, housing, and meals. The college's motto, "God has made of one blood all peoples of the earth," speaks to its inclusive Christian character.

Blacksburg's Ethan McDowell named to Emerson College dean's list

Blacksburg's Ethan McDowell was named to Emerson College's Dean's List for the Spring 2021 semester. McDowell is majoring in journalism and is a member of the Class of 2022. The requirement to make Emerson's Dean's List is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher.

Based in Boston, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The college has 3,700 undergraduates and 1,400 grad-

uate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups.

Three from Blacksburg make Hollins University dean's list

Three students from Blacksburg were among those earning dean's list honors at Hollins University for the spring of 2021. To attain this distinction, students must earn at least a 3.5 average on a 4.0 grading scale.

Earning the distinction were Anna Sallee, Shuchi Sanyal, and Courtney Wilson.

Hollins is an independent liberal arts university offering undergraduate education to women, selected graduate programs for men and women, and community outreach initiatives. Founded in 1842 as Virginia's first chartered women's college, its distinctions include a nationally ranked creative writing program, one of the oldest study abroad programs in the country, and extensive internship opportunities.

25 years

from page 1

an original staff of seven in Wise, Va., which still serves as the company headquarters.

That number has now flourished to more than 140 employees through seven additional offices located in Radford, Tazewell, and Chilhowie, Va.; and Bristol, Mosheim, and Johnson City, Tenn; and Princeton, W.Va.

"As we celebrate this important milestone, I can't help but to reflect on our tagline: integrity, insight, and innovation," said Ron Helton, the company's senior vice-president and chairman of the board of directors. Helton began his career at the firm in 1979 and served as T&L President for over 21 years.

T&L Senior Vice President and Radford Office Branch Manager Jack Murphy, said about the Radford office's milestone, "It's hard to believe how quickly 25 years have passed. I'm extremely proud of this milestone occasion celebrating the establishment of the Radford office."

"During this journey, we have grown to become one of T&L's largest offices, but more importantly, we have become vested members within the community in which we serve. We are extraordinarily fortunate to be able to live, work, and raise our families in this part of Virginia, where we can contribute to the development and growth of

the region while working alongside so many other great community members who share the same vision."

Over the past 25 years, the T&L Radford office has been responsible for the design of several significant projects in the New River Valley including the New River Valley Regional Jail, the Montgomery County Government Center, the New River Valley Regional Sewer Study, the renovation to Virginia Tech's Burruss Hall, multiple Giles County

water and sewer projects, the Radford Public Safety Building, the Montgomery County Courthouse and Parking Garage, multiple landfill construction projects and facility buildings for the New River Resource Authority, the Pulaski County Sheriff's Department; renovations and additions to McHarg Elementary School and Radford University's baseball and softball stadiums and playing fields, and the Collaboration and Career Development Center for Floyd County Schools.

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OPINION

Virginia DMV to offer appointments, walk-in service on alternating days

RICHMOND — Beginning Oct. 5, 2021, Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) customers may choose to schedule an appointment for service or opt for walk-in service on alternating days at all 75 customer service centers (CSCs). Appointments for service will be offered only on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and walk-in service will be offered only on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Hours vary by office location.

“We are pleased to continue offering appointments in addition to walk-in service since our customers greatly appreciate the convenience and efficiency appointments afford,” said DMV Commissioner Richard D. Holcomb. “Those who can plan ahead should

schedule an appointment for service, but if in-person assistance is needed urgently, walk-in service will now be available two and a half days per week.”

In accordance with Executive Directive Seven (as amended) to address the pandemic, DMV began operating by appointment only as it reopened offices in May 2020 after a temporary closure due to the rapid spread of COVID-19. Operating by appointment has proven to be overwhelmingly popular with customers, 77% of whom said in a survey that they wished to see appointments continue.

During the pandemic, customers shifted the way they do business with DMV in that more customers are taking advantage of online and mail-based services. DMV is

conducting over 10% more transactions per week cumulatively through all service channels than before the pandemic. For the week ending Sept. 4, 2021, customers completed 359,452 transactions across all service channels as compared to the pre-pandemic weekly average of 309,111 total transactions.

At the direction of the General Assembly, DMV will be integrating walk-in service back into its operations in addition to appointments. DMV researched other state motor vehicle agencies’ best practices through the pandemic and found that those offering walk-in and appointment service simultaneously were met with long lines and confused and dissatisfied customers. Based on research, surveys, experience,

and the ongoing pandemic, DMV developed a hybrid service model on alternating days that will offer flexibility for customers and the agency.

Customers who have scheduled an appointment and instead decide to walk in for service should cancel that appointment to make it available for other customers. Walk-in service will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis based on the type of transaction. Customers should anticipate wait times. For the health and safety of customers and employees, lobby chairs will be spaced, and all customers are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings.

Preparation is key to a successful in-person visit to a CSC whether it is scheduled or not. Resources for preparation can

be found at [dmvNOW.com](https://dmvnow.com).

DMV also continues to offer many service alternatives outside of the CSC. More than 50 transactions are available at [dmvNOW.com](https://dmvnow.com), and many can be conducted by mail. Customers may obtain vehicle-related services at a DMV Select partner offices, most of which are operating by appointment only.

Appointments can be scheduled for nearly every DMV service with the agency’s mobile DMV Connect teams. Customers needing a title after purchasing a vehicle from an individual (not a dealer) may drop off their applications and supporting documents at CSCs. Staff will process the work and contact customers to pick up the title within five days.

WalletHub: Virginia still struggling with unemployment claims

Virginia continues to struggle in its efforts to recover from new unemployment claims with last week’s claims higher than at the start of 2020, according to the updated rankings from the personal finance website, WalletHub.

WalletHub’s rankings of which states are recovering the quickest from new unemployment claims has Virginia sitting in the No. 49 spot among the states and the District of Columbia. Only Louisiana and New Mexico are recovering at

a slower rate.

According to the company’s website, the nation saw 310,000 new unemployment claims last week, which is a lot fewer than the 6.1 million during the peak of the pandemic (a 95% reduction).

Five states had unemployment claims last week that were lower than before the pandemic: Arkansas, Arizona,

South Carolina, Delaware, and Pennsylvania.

Surprisingly, New Mexico had unemployment claims last week that were worse than the same week last year.

WalletHub used the unemployment claims for several key benchmark weeks to establish its rankings.

Among the key stats contributing to Virginia’s slow recovery rate are

that weekly unemployment claims in Virginia increased by 398.18% compared to the same week in 2019, the third-biggest increase in the U.S.; weekly unemployment claims in Virginia increased by 235.04% compared to the start of 2020, also the third-biggest increase in the U.S.; and weekly unemployment claims in Virginia decreased by

4.08% compared to the same week last year, the second-smallest decrease in the U.S.

According to WalletHub, the ten states recovering the quickest from unemployment claims are 1. Arkansas 2. South Carolina 3. Arizona 4. Idaho 5. Delaware 6. Kentucky 7. Washington 8. New Jersey 9. Kansas 10. New Hampshire.

News Messenger

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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 is 10th-most vaccinated state

As the personal finance website WalletHub points out, vaccinations are some of the most valuable contributions to modern medicine. They have drastically reduced the prevalence of certain diseases, including polio, tetanus, measles, and chicken pox. One disease, smallpox, has even been eradicated completely, with no natural cases since 1977. Most recently, we’ve developed a vaccine for COVID-19, which has drastically cut down cases and allowed the country to reopen. There are still a lot of people hesitant to get the vaccine, the web-

site says, and recent polls have found that most adults who are still unvaccinated don’t plan to ever get the shot.

Some states are better than others when it comes to vaccinating. In order to see where people are most responsible about getting vaccines, WalletHub examined the 50 states and the District of Columbia across 17 key metrics and three dimensions and then ranked the states from most vaccinated to least vaccinated.

The three dimensions the website used to help determine its rankings were 1) children and teenagers immunization rates, 2) adults and elderly vaccination rates, and 3) immunization

uptake disparities and influencing factors.

Virginia landed as the 10th-most vaccinated state, according to WalletHub.

Among the metrics that contributed to the commonwealth’s high ranking when they were considered in combination were influenza vaccination rate in children aged six months to 17 years old: ninth; the share of teenagers aged 13-17 with up-to-date HPV vaccination: 25th; the flu vaccination coverage rate among adults: fifth; the share of adults with tetanus vaccination: 18th; the share of adults aged 60 and older with zoster vaccination: 20th; the share of civilian noninstitutionalized population

without health insurance coverage: 30th; and the share of children under six years old participating in an immunization information system: 15th.

The nine states with higher vaccination rates than the commonwealth were 1. Massachusetts 2. Vermont 3. Rhode Island 4. New Hampshire 5. North Dakota 6. Maryland 7. Nebraska 8. Connecticut and 9. Washington.

The ten states with the lowest vaccination rates as determined by WalletHub (with an allowance for the District of Columbia) were 42. South Carolina 43. Wyoming 44. New Jersey 45. Idaho 46. Alabama 47. Nevada 48. Arizona 49. Texas 50. Georgia 51. Mississippi.

Cornhole from page 1

the rest of their time at Radford. Sandoz logged hours studying in McConnell Library and working out at the gym; Stepp concentrated on building her teaching career and squeezing in tennis and extracurriculars between her classes and school placement. After graduation, Sandoz took a job in risk management in Roanoke, his hometown. Stepp prepared to pursue her master’s degree in special education K-12 while working part time at a Blacksburg child-care center.

When the time came for them to take the next step in their lives together, Sandoz thought there was only one perfect way to pop the question. And one perfect place: the Radford campus.

“We met playing cornhole, so I wanted to recreate the night we met,” Sandoz said.

“It took about three months to put all the pieces together,” he said. “Starting with contacting the five friends that were there the night we first met, two of whom lived in different states. When it was time to buy the ring, I found out that it had to be custom-made to what I wanted. Then, I had to custom-make the cornhole boards. Within these three months, we would walk around campus secretly preparing her for the big day.”

That was nothing, he said, compared to the hardest part: “facing her father and asking for his permission.”

In the end, the top-secret mission went without a hitch. With the friends rounded up, the cornhole games assembled and Stepp’s dad on board, it was time for the big moment.

“I was genuinely surprised about the proposal,” Stepp said. “Everyone kept it a secret from me for so long. I was so blown away I cried before he even got down on one knee.” While she wondered why they were walking around campus in nice clothes, “We would always take walks around the campus in the afternoon, so I really didn’t put too much thought to it. He said earlier in the week we were going on a fancy date night.”

Sandoz and Stepp, who both enjoy the summer months, are tentatively planning their wedding for July 2022, with a beach honeymoon to follow. There’s a lot to look forward to and many memories to cherish. And they owe it all, strangely enough, to a rousing game of cornhole.

“When meeting that night, we had no idea what would become of it,” Stepp and Sandoz said. “We love that Radford created an opportunity for us to meet.”

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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53				54			55					56		
57				58			59				60	61	62	
	63	64							65					
									67					

CLUES ACROSS

1. Religion native to some in China
5. Nursemaids
10. Coats a porous surface
12. Garment of long cloth
14. Containing a broader message
16. University of Dayton
18. Patti Hearst’s captors
19. Insane
20. Bristlelike structures in invertebrates
22. Taxi
23. Trainee
25. Comedian Carvey
26. Some couples say it
27. Belong to he
28. High schoolers’ test
30. Young goat
31. You drive on one
33. Denotes a time long ago
35. Space between two surfaces

CLUES DOWN

1. Split pulses
2. Brew
3. Ask humbly
4. Distinctive smells
5. Digressions
6. Partner to cheese
7. Father of Araethyrea
8. Made a cavity
9. Tin
10. Appetizer
11. Presenting in detail
13. Compound in guano and fish scales
15. Cool!
17. “___ than a doornail”
18. Popular literary form ___ fi
21. Be the most remarkable
23. “Final Fantasy” universe character
24. Buffer solution
27. Muslim physician using traditional remedies

29. Fantastical planet
32. S. American plant
34. Domesticated animal
35. The tops of mountains
36. Expression of disapproval
39. Skeletal muscle
40. Game show host Sajak
43. One’s interests
44. Identify the existence of
46. Partner to “ooohed”
47. Does not accept medical help (abbr.)
49. Hammerin’ Hank
51. Lowest point of a ridge between two peaks
54. Elaborately draped garment
59. Check
60. Car mechanics group
61. One point east (clockwise) of due north
62. Austrian river
64. A command to list files

Submit letters to the editor to editor@ourvalley.org

OBITUARIES

Bishop, Stephen Lee

Stephen “Steve” Lee Bishop, 71, of Radford, passed away Friday, Sept. 10, 2021.

Steve grew up in Christiansburg. After graduation from Christiansburg High School, he attended Virginia Western Community College and then graduated from Virginia Tech. Then he taught for several years at Virginia High School in Bristol.

In 1989 he moved his family back to Radford to be closer to family and to grow in his sales career. He was a long-time active member of Auburn Baptist Church and loved teaching Sunday school for many years. He was preceded in death by his parents, Vasco and Mary Bishop, and his sister, Martha Covey.

Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Janet Marshall Bishop; daughters and their husbands, Kimberly and Scott Keith of Lovettsville, Va., and



Kristen and Scott Lucas of Charleston, S.C.; five special grandchildren, 2ndLt. Jacob Keith, USMC; Daniel Keith and Kora Keith, Liam Lucas and Mallory Lucas; brother-in-law Ronnie Covey; brother and sister-in-law Danny and Sherry Vaughn; nephew and his wife, Justin and Emily Vaughn and their five children; and many

other special relatives and friends.

The family received friends from 10 to 11 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 13, 2021, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services began at 11 a.m. with Pastor Mark Miller and Paul Haynes officiating. Interment followed in the Sunset Cemetery in Christiansburg.

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

Graves, Jack Eugene

Jack Eugene Graves, 80, passed away on Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021, at his home in Christiansburg.

He was a member of Faith Baptist Church and was a U.S. Army veteran. He was preceded in death by his parents, Henry W. Graves and Margie Mae Poe; his first wife, Linda Nancey Graves; two grandchildren; a brother, Ronnie Graves; and a son-in-law, Roy Martin.

Survivors include his wife, Linda Bain Graves; daughters and sons-in-law Tina and Barry Albert and Teresa Martin; sons and daughters-in-law, Darrell Graves, Dennis and Missy Graves, Ricky and Elizabeth Graves, Dicky Graves, and Donnie and Kristen Graves; 17 grandchildren and many



great-grandchildren; a brother, Frank Graves; and many other relatives and friends.

The family will receive friends from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 17, 2021, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services will begin at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Sebert Rorrer and Chris Sellers officiating. Interment

with full military honors will follow in the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the American Diabetes Association.

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

www.mullinsfuneralhome.com.

Porterfield, Lois Linkous

Lois Linkous Porterfield, 83, of Blacksburg, moved to her heavenly home on Friday, Sept. 10, 2021. She was born on June 5, 1938, to the late Jessie Black and Millie Brown Duncan Linkous. She was a faithful member of Blacksburg Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

She is survived by her



husband of 62 years, John Porterfield, and a son, Greg Porterfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to Blacksburg Christian Church, 204 Watson Ave., Blacksburg, Va. Services will be held privately.

Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

Shelton, Barbara Caldwell

Barbara Caldwell Shelton, 67, of Riner, died Thursday, Sept. 9, 2021, at New River Valley Medical Center.

She was born on Aug. 3, 1954, to the late William Davis and Clara Elizabeth Quisenberry Caldwell. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Ronnie Ray Shelton.

She is survived by her sons, Randy Wayne Shelton, Steven Ray Shelton, and Christopher Burman Shelton;

five grandchildren; one great-grandchild; sisters Connie Lovern and Vicky Caldwell; and brothers, Russell Caldwell and Jeff Caldwell.

A funeral service will be held today, Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2021, at 6 p.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel. The family will receive friends from 5 to 6 p.m. prior to the service at McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF A TEMPORARY WAIVER OF TARIFF PROVISIONS BY ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION CASE NO. PUR-2020-00057

On August 13, 2021, Atmos Energy Corporation (“Atmos Energy” or “Company”) filed a Motion with the State Corporation Commission (“Commission”) for a temporary waiver of the requirement in the Company’s Tariff that states that “no Customer shall receive two estimated bills in succession.” Atmos Energy requested a waiver of this requirement until the end of the calendar year so that it can follow social distancing guidelines and reduce the community spread of the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, and protect the health and safety of its employees and customers. Additionally, granting the waiver until the end of the calendar year should allow Atmos Energy to complete its transition to wireless meter reading devices (which enable the Company to obtain meter readings wirelessly without being physically present at a customer’s premises) in the Company’s service territory. The Commission previously granted a similar temporary waiver of this tariff requirement on April 3, 2020.

On September 1, 2021, the Commission issued an Order Granting Waiver in which it granted Atmos Energy’s request for a temporary waiver. The Order Granting Waiver states that the temporary waiver “is granted until the end of calendar year 2021.”

Copies of Atmos Energy’s Petition and the Commission’s Order Granting Waiver may be obtained by submitting a written request by mail or e-mail to counsel for the Company, James G. Ritter, Esquire, Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, 951 East Byrd Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, ritterj@HuntonAK.com. The Company may provide the documents by electronic means. Interested persons may also download unofficial copies of the Petition and other documents filed in this case from the Commission’s website: <http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case>. Further, copies of the Commission’s Order Granting Waiver may be obtained at the Company’s website: <https://www.atmosenergy.com/utility-operationsrates/tariffs-virginia/virginia>.

ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

State Fair

from page 1

in the Midway and Kidway areas. Fairgoers also can purchase tickets at area Publix Super Markets stores for the online price through Sept. 23.

General admission includes access to all concerts, performances, competitions, exhibits, and demonstrations.

Military admission is \$13 at the gate. That’s a \$3 savings off the \$16 regular gate admission. The military discount is for active-duty service members, National Guard, Reserve, and retirees with a current military ID or a Virginia DMV veteran’s credential license or ID card. The discount applies to the service member plus one guest. It does not extend to any other members of their party. It is available at the gate only.

Parking

General parking at The Meadow is free. Premium parking is available at Gate 2 behind the Farm Bureau Center at a cost of \$22.50 per day and must be purchased in advance online. Parking lot trams can help visitors get to and from their vehicles in parking Lots A and C. Look for “Tram Stops” designated with small tents and flags. Fair officials advise fairgoers to note the numbered sign nearest their vehicles so they can find them easily.

Getting there

The Meadow is located at 13191 Dawn Blvd. in Doswell. From I-95, take exit 98, and travel 1½ miles east on state Route 30.

During peak times, consider using alternate routes: U.S. Route 301 to state Route 30 and travel about 3 miles west on Route 30 or take U.S. Route 1 to state Route 30 and travel about 2 miles east on Route 30.

The State Fair of Virginia is partnering with DRIVE SMART Virginia to remind everyone to buckle up to make it home to your loved ones, not just as you head to the state fair, but always.

Hours, rides and amenities

Ticket Plaza and building/exhibit hours will be 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Rides will operate for at least one hour after the Ticket Plaza closes at 9 p.m.

Requirements for rides and some attractions include height, weight, and whether a child must be accompanied by an adult. Those requirements will be displayed at each ride, at the Midway customer service booth, and online at StateFairVa.org.

Handwashing stations will be strategically located throughout the property. State fair staff recommend washing hands after leaving an animal or midway area and before eating or drinking.

A private area for nursing mothers is available in the Farm Bureau Center and in the Virginia 529 Kidway. “We want to be inclusive of our guests and accommodate their needs, so everyone can have an opportunity to have a full fair experience,” Joliffe said.

Guests can rent wheelchairs, motorized scooters, and single and double strollers outside the Ticket Plaza on a first-come, first-served basis. Chair rentals and a personal chair check station will be available near the concert stage.

Special events

Craft beer aficionados can enjoy some local brews at the Blue Ribbon Craft Beer Fest from 2 to 7 p.m. on Oct. 2 and 3. Attendees will receive a souvenir tasting glass to enjoy unlimited 4-ounce tastings from more than 20 Virginia breweries.

Tickets are \$44, which includes fair admission and food provided by Publix, and can be purchased online at StateFairVa.org under the Attractions and Events tab.

Class is in session Friday nights at Meadow Hall for a four-course Farm to Table Dinner demonstration hosted by Publix Aprons® Cooking School. This unique dining experience will feature agricultural products grown and fermented by Virginia farmers and vintners.

Cooking school will run from 7 to 9 p.m. on Sept. 24 and Oct. 1. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased online at StateFairVa.org under the Attractions and Events tab.

Manning

from page 1

Hitt was immensely proud of Manning’s out-of-office wakeboarding activities. He introduced her as a world champion to office visitors and would always inquire on how her training and competitions were going.

Hitt Hall, whose construction is anticipated to mobilize in November 2021, is named in recognition of a multimillion dollar gift from the Hitt Family Foundation Inc., of which Russell Hitt was a member.

This week, viewers of the wakeboard world championships can expect to view only a final run. The competitors will have an opportunity to perform about seven to eight tricks in a run. If they fall twice, their run is finished. In a typical competition unaffected by the COVID-19 pandemic, a semifinal run would also be included.

The competitors will have no prior practice on the boat they are wakeboarding with, and every boat is different and has different wakes.

The World Wake Association Wakeboard World Championships can be viewed live on the Rideline

smartphone app. Manning’s final run will be aired on Thursday, Sept. 16.

Men account for a large percentage of the wakeboarding community. Whether advocating for women in construction industry careers or supporting women interested in trying out wakeboarding, Manning encourages women of all ages to go beyond their comfort level to try something new.

“Wakeboarding is a great source of stress relief and exercise,” Manning said. “I look forward to doing it every weekend in the summer. Everyone should give it a shot.”

Local opportunities to explore wakeboarding in Southwest Virginia include lessons at Smith Mountain Wake Company. Interested wakeboarders can reach out to Manning for tips and guidance to get started or to improve their riding. Manning has hosted annual Girls Ride Weekend for nearly a decade. She has hosted women from across the country to learn about the sport and boating safety.

By Meghan Marsh

Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 500-year Floodplain

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

This is to give notice that the Town of Christiansburg has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded under the Appalachian Regional Commission under VA-20106. The proposed project is located on a portion of Hickok Street between College Street and W Main Street in downtown Christiansburg and will construct a permanent farmers market structure and gathering place. The steel and timber arcade will be approximately 154 feet in length. The proposed project is located on Hickok Street, adjacent to 53 W Main Street in the Town of Christiansburg, Montgomery County. The project area is approximately .53 acres.

The Town of Christiansburg has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values: beginning in late 2021, a Virginia Department of Transportation Revenue-Sharing project will construct a major storm drainage system to reroute a branch of Crab Creek and eliminate future flooding hazards to the project area. Upon completion of this work, the project will be in compliance with both state and local floodplain protection procedures.

Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of Executive Order 11988 are available for public inspection, review and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the last paragraph of this notice for receipt of comments.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the Town of Christiansburg at the following address on or before September 22, 2021: Town of Christiansburg, 100 E Main Street and 540-382-6128, Attention: Randy Wingfield, Town Manager. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8:00am to 5:00pm at the address above and online at www.christiansburg.org. Comments may also be submitted via email at rwingfield@christiansburg.org.

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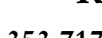
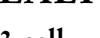
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A black and white portrait of Steve Smith, a man with a beard and mustache, smiling. He is wearing a dark baseball cap with sunglasses perched on top. The background is slightly blurred, showing some foliage.



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Yard Sales - Botetourt County

Fall/Winter Bizarre
Troutville Assembly of God Church
September 18th
8am-2pm
118 Conner Lane
Troutville
Lots of misc., Christmas items, and baked goods
Rain or Shine

Yard Sales - Salem

Yard Sale
September 18th
8-2
Central United Methodist Church
428 South College Ave
Salem
Hotdog lunch
Tools, household goods, and too much to mention.

Yard Sale
Saturday, September 18th
8am-1pm
Lots of misc items
917 Glenmore Dr
Salem

Auctions

PUBLIC NOTICE
The contents of the listed unit will be sold at Public Auction September 17, 2021 at 11am at 1st Security Self Storage 5 Midway Plaza Dr. Christiansburg, VA. D61, D68, E71, F18, F41 1st Security reserves the right to refuse any bid. Terms: CASH OR CREDIT CARD AT SALE.

For Rent - Apartments

2, 3, 4 BR Townhouse Style
accepting applications. Short waiting list, HUD subsidized, W/D hookups, private patio, water & trash incl. Fairfax Village Apts. 332 Fairfax St., Radford Cambridge Square 1805 Whipple Dr. NW Blacksburg 540-731-1786 EHO TDD #800-828-1120



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For Sale - Misc

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Unprinted end rolls of newsprint. Great for packing & shipping, moving & storage and for art projects. Various sizes available. Stop by the Salem Times-Register 1633 West Main St. or call (540)389-9355 for details.

Help Wanted - General

Part Time Newspaper Production Help
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

JOB OPPORTUNITIES MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM SPECIALIST

Local Office on Aging, Inc. (LOA) seeks a flexible, dependable person to assist the LOA Nutrition Department with covering Meals-on-Wheels Sites, Senior Food Box Program, Special Events, Data Entry and General support for the LOA Nutrition Programs. \$26,754 per year. This position is a combination of desk work and "on the go" work such as delivering Meals-on-Wheels. Some lifting is required. 40 hours per week (Monday-Friday), 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The job is located at the LOA Main Office on 4932 Frontage Rd, Roanoke. Travel during the work day is required in the Roanoke Valley area. Must provide own transportation (.47 mileage reimbursement). Benefits include employer paid health, vision and long term disability insurance, sick and annual leave & 14 paid holidays. An Associate's Degree in administration, human services or related field is recommended with a minimum of 3 years of experience. Must be sensitive to the needs of the elderly. Older workers are encouraged to apply. For an application or further information contact the LOA Central office at 540-345-0451 or online at www.loaa.org. Completed applications must be received by Wednesday, September 22, 2021.

EOE/AA/H

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, September 27, 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 Salem Building Supply, Inc., contract purchaser, and PHC of Virginia, Inc., property owner, for rezoning the property located at 405 Kimball Avenue (Tax Map # 235-1-2) from RMF Residential Multi-Family District with proffered condition to RMF Residential Multi-Family District without conditions.

2. Hold public hearing to consider the request of Salem Ministers Conference Community Food Pantry, contract purchaser, and Trustees God's Church of Deliverance and Power, property owner, for the issuance of a Use Not Provided For Permit to allow the relocation of the Salem Food Pantry to the property located at 829 Indiana Street (Tax Map # 186-1-5).

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

Legals - Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 20, 2021 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. Amendments to the Planned Commercial Development in the B-3, General Business zoning district at 2705 Market Street NE by NRV Marketplace LLC to allow multi-family residential uses, increased building height, reduced onsite greenspace, and reduced residential parking requirement on Tax Parcel 436 – (5) – 1. The original public hearing on August 30, 2021 was postponed due to further amendments to the items listed above. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

A copy of the application, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning

Legals - Montgomery County

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 Andrew Warren, Assistant Town Manager, at (540) 382-6128 ext. 1130 or by email at awarren@christiansburg.org with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 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. Major Home Occupation Conditional Use Permit for a single-chair salon in the Agricultural zoning district at 725 Stafford Drive on Tax Parcel 405 – ((A)) – 8. The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

B. Rezoning from R-3, Multi-Family Residential and B-3, General Business to B-3, General Business by the Montgomery Museum & Lewis Miller Regional Art Center (Montgomery Museum of Art and History) at 300 Pepper Street SE on Tax Parcel 527 – ((A)) – 235. The property is designated as Parks/Open Space.

Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. Additionally, the meeting will be streamed live on the Town of Christiansburg's YouTube channel at www.christiansburg.org/youtu and will remain on the Town's YouTube page once the meeting concludes. For information on contactless methods for submitting public comment, please visit www.christiansburg.org/publichearings.

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 Andrew Warren, Assistant Town Manager, at (540) 382-6128 ext. 1130 or by email at awarren@christiansburg.org with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

Legals - Town of Vinton

TOWN OF VINTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 15.2-1800 (B) et seq., of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, the

Legals - Town of Vinton

Town Council of the Town of Vinton, Virginia, hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., or immediately thereafter, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia.

The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning the proposed granting of a lease to VINDOS LLC. for a certain lot lying to the rear of the former Vinton Branch Library on the southeast side of Meadows Street and below the storm water detention basin for the Vinton War Memorial identified as 060.16-06-33.00-000, all of which is located in the Town of Vinton, Virginia, said lease to be for a ten-month period with no more than four additional one-year renewal terms.

A complete copy of the proposed Lease and additional information concerning this public meeting is available in the Town Manager's Office, located in the Vinton Municipal Building, (540) 983-0607. Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate at this public meeting should contact the Town Manager's office at (540) 983-0607.

Susan N. Johnson
Town Clerk

Notice of Public Sale

Notice is hereby given that Storage King USA, 1914 E. Washington Ave. Vinton, VA 24179 will sell the contents of the storage units listed below at a public auction to satisfy a lien placed on the contents (Virginia Statute 55). The sale will take place at the website StorageTreasures.com on September 21, 2021 at 9:00 am. The sale will be conducted on StorageTreasures.com, under the guidance of Christopher Rosa (2907004316) on behalf of the facility's management.

Units will be available for viewing prior to the sale on StorageTreasures.com. Contents will be sold for cash only to the highest bidder. A 15% buyer's premium will be charged as well as a \$100 cleaning deposit per unit. All sales are final. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale or to refuse any bids. The property to be sold is described as "general household items" unless otherwise noted.

Unit # D15 – Michael A Turpin – Household Goods:
Unit # E26 - Sherry L Blackwell – Household Goods:
Unit # E15 – Misty Chapman – Household Goods:
Unit # H69 – Granville P McCreath – Household Goods:
Unit # H33 – Mark Ames – Household Goods:
Unit # 105 – Jamey Morehead – Household

Legals - Town of Vinton

Goods:
Unit # 102 – Linda Peery – Household Goods:
Unit # 122 – Heather M Blankenship – Household Goods:
Unit # J45 – Christoper Proctor – Household Goods:
Unit # J42 – Darryl Tomlin – Household Goods:
Unit # G20 – Edward A Woolridge – Household Goods:
Unit # E10 – Elden Bowling –Household Goods:
Unit # G75 – Vanessa Dillon – Household Goods:
Unit # H16 – Rodrigo Contreras- Household Goods:
Unit # H31 – April D Hicks – Household Goods:
Unit # G35 – Pamela C Campbell –Household Goods:
Unit # G36 – Ramona Underwood – Household Goods:
Unit # C03 – Sherry L Blackwell –Household Goods:
Unit # G52 – Jeremy Clark – Household Goods:
Unit # J44 – Sue A

Legals - Town of Vinton

Robertson – Household Goods:
Unit #J27 – Jeremy Meador – Household Goods:
Unit # G61 – Michael Holman – Household Goods:
Unit # H58 – Kevin D Morris – Household Goods:
Unit # G46 – Lois Peters – Household Goods:
Unit # G43 –Yvette Edwards – Household Goods:
Unit # H27 – Natascha Howard – Household Goods:
Unit # A15 –Darryl Tomlin – Household Goods:
Unit # D10 – Richard Morgan – Household Goods:
Unit # G26 – Susan Johnson – Household Goods:
Unit # 07 – Nathan C Durham – Vehicle:

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VDOT
Virginia Department of Transportation

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP

The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Christiansburg Residency which includes the counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski during the winter of 2021-2022. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a mobilization payment.

Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at <https://www.plow4va.com/>. All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (<https://eva.virginia.gov>).

Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 24, 2021 may be eligible for a mobilization bonus. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements.

Questions can be directed to the Christiansburg Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday – Friday. Phone: 540-381-7201
Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov

EEO/AA Employer

VDOT
Virginia Department of Transportation

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP

The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Salem Residency which includes the counties of Roanoke, Botetourt and Craig during the winter of 2021-2022. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a mobilization payment.

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Questions can be directed to the Salem Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday – Friday. Phone: 540-387-5497.
Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov

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Virginia Department of Transportation road watch

The following is a list of forecasted highway projects that may impact traffic traveling in the I-2-county Salem Transportation District this week. Work schedules and construction project timelines are always subject to change and weather dependent. The Salem District covers Bedford, Botetourt, Carroll, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, Giles, Henry, Montgomery, Patrick, Pulaski and Roanoke counties.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

I-81 NORTHBOUND AT EXIT 105 NEW RIVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY – Lane and shoulder closures may be in place near exit 105. Lane closure may be in effect during the week from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. Shoulder closures may be in effect at any time during the week. Slow rolls may be performed on I-81 in the north and southbound lanes from mile marker 104 to 106 from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. Speed limit is reduced to 60 miles per hour in the work zone. Shoulder closures will remain in place though the duration of the project. Project completion is estimated by June 2022.

LANE CLOSURES: Through Friday, Sept. 10, alternating lane closures will be in place on I-81 northbound between mile markers 104-106 during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. the following morning.

SLOW ROLLS: Slow rolls may be utilized periodically on both the northbound and southbound lanes from mile marker 98-109 for structural steel deliveries and setting beams.

I-81 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AT EXIT 114 IN MONTGOMERY

COUNTY – The bridge replacement of the two Interstate 81 bridges over Route 8, northbound and southbound, is underway. Drivers can expect alternating lane and shoulder closures, northbound and southbound, from mile marker 114 to 115. Exit 114 ramp shoulder closures will be ongoing from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Speed limit is reduced to 60 mph in the work zone. Route 8 will have alternating northbound and southbound shoulder and lane closures, day or night, as needed between the I-81 on and off ramps. A temporary traffic signal will direct traffic on Route 8 throughout the duration of the project. Access to all properties will be maintained during construction. Estimated completion is summer 2021.

DMV Notice: The bridge on I-81 northbound at mile marker 114 currently has a restricted width for wide loads of 26 feet or larger.

ROUTE 643 PAVING PROJECT – Beginning soon, exact date to be determined, a project is being scheduled to resurface an unpaved portion of Route 643 (Yellow Sulfur Road). The work area begins .7 mile south of the intersection with Route 642 (Jennelle Road) and ends 1.7 miles north of the bridge over Route 460. Traffic impacts will include intermittent flagging operations between these intersections. This project has an estimated completion date of May 2022.

LANE CLOSURES: Intermittent single lane closures utilizing flagging operations will be in place between the intersection of Teaberry Road and Jennelle Road.

ROUTE 11 BRIDGE DECK REPLACEMENT – Work is underway on Route 11 southbound to replace the bridge deck over

the Norfolk Southern Railroad. The bridge is located .4 miles north of the intersection with Route 748 (Big Spring Drive) and .4 mile south of the intersection with Route 603 (North Fork Road). The left lane of both Route 11 north and south is closed with a detour in place until the completion of the project. Once in place, the detour will re-route Route 11 south traffic through the left lane of Route 11 north, limiting each direction to a single lane. The expected completion date is November 2021.

TRAFFIC SWITCH: A new traffic pattern is in place detouring Route 11 southbound traffic through the left lane of Route 11 northbound between the intersections above, limiting each direction to a single lane.

ROUTE 636 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AT SENECA HOLLOW – Work has begun replacing the bridge on Route 636 over the Roanoke River at Seneca Hollow. A road closure is in place from Echo Hills Road to .36 mile south of Route 460. A detour is also in place. The detour will restrict access to Route 460 at Seneca Hollow and will require travelers to enter/exit Route 460 at Friendship Road near Wheeling Hollow. The project is expected to be completed in fall 2021.

UTILITY WORK ON ROUTE 460 – MMI will be installing fiber optic along Route 460 from the Giles County line to the Floyd County line. This work will be ongoing. Motorists should expect shoulders and/or lane closures for travel in both directions.

VARIOUS ROADS FOR UTILITY WORK – Utility crews will be working on overhead lines along a general corridor align-

ment following Route 114 (Peppers Ferry), Route 460 Business (Franklin Street) and Route 11/460 (Roanoke Road). The work zone will span from the Pulaski/Montgomery county line to the Montgomery/Roanoke county line. In addition, various side roads will be impacted by intermittent closures for crossings. Motorists should expect shoulder closures and lane closures for travel in both directions. Intermittent full closures of the roads will be required for periods lasting no longer than 15 minutes. Work hours are scheduled for 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily. Advance warning for weekend work involving closures of primary highways on weekend mornings from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. will be provided via message boards once scheduled. Work is scheduled to last until fall 2021.

INTERSTATE 81 INTERSTATE 81 LANE WIDENING CONSTRUCTION EXIT 141 TO EXIT 143 – A project to widen the lanes on I-81 in Roanoke in both northbound and southbound directions between Exit 141 to Exit 143 has begun. Work will continue to be conducted within the median and shoulder within the barrier walls. Sound wall installation is underway. Weekday and weekend lane and shoulder closures may be in place. Estimated completion date of the project is summer 2022.

Drivers should expect delays. A left lane closure will be in place on I-81 northbound or southbound during nighttime hours from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. while equipment and materials are brought into and out of the median. Message boards will alert drivers.

I-81 PAVING OPERATIONS – Weather permitting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement on various routes. Lane closures may be in place during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

Botetourt County: Alternating lane closures will be in place between mile marker

167 and 169 on northbound I-81 between the hours of 7 p.m. and 6 a.m. the following morning, Sunday night to Friday morning.

I-81 BRIDGE DECK REPAIRS – Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 81. Between mile markers 141 and 143, right and left lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

I-81 POTHOLE PATCHING OPERATIONS – Weather permitting, crews will patch potholes along southbound and northbound Interstate 81. Mobile right and left lane closures will be in place and moving along northbound and southbound lanes during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for moving vehicles and equipment. Expect possible delays.

INTERSTATE 581 I-581/220 EXPRESSWAY PAVING OPERATIONS – Weather permitting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement on various routes. Lane closures may be in place during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

ROUTE 581 BRIDGE WORK OVER WILLIAMSON ROAD – Work is underway to rehab the bridge on I-581 that crosses over Route 11 (Williamson Road) in Downtown Roanoke. On Route 11 (Williamson Road) drivers can expect intermittent and alternating lane closures between the intersections with Rutherford Avenue and Wells Avenue. Any impacts to I-581 will be minimal. The project is expected to be complete at the end of 2021.

A right lane closure may be in place on Route 11 northbound between the intersections of Rutherford Avenue and Wells Avenue periodically.

I-581/220 LANE & RAMP CLOSURES FOR PAVING AND MAINTENANCE

OPERATIONS IN ROANOKE COUNTY– Weather permitting, crews will be milling and paving along Interstate 81. Right and left lane closures will be in place along northbound and southbound lanes during nighttime hours. Drivers should expect possible delays.

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

INTERSTATE 77 (CARROLL COUNTY)

I-77 PAVING OPERATIONS – Weather permitting, crews will be performing paving operations along Interstate 77 between mile marker 24 and 0. Right and left lane closures may be in place along northbound and southbound lanes during nighttime hours, 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. Drivers should watch for moving vehicles and equipment. Expect possible delays.

Milling and paving in both the right and left hand lanes of I-77 will require nightly lane closures southbound between mile marker 16 and 19 from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m., Sunday night to Friday mornings.

I-77 BRIDGE DECK REPAIRS – Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 77. Right and left lane closures may be in place northbound or southbound during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

I-77 LANE & RAMP CLOSURES FOR MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS IN CARROLL COUNTY– Weather permitting, crews will be milling, paving and performing maintenance along Interstate 77. Right and left lane closures will be in place along northbound and southbound lanes during nighttime hours. Drivers should expect possible delays.

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Fall from page 1

sion Ensemble
Nov. 16 — VT Jazz Ensembles
Nov. 17 — VT Wind Ensembles and Symphony Band present "Visible Nature"
Dec. 1 — Piano Studio Recital
Dec. 2 — VT Philharmonic
Dec. 5 — Opera Workshop
Dec. 6-8 — New Music + Technology Festival

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

D	A	B	A	A	M	A	H	S						
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Dec. 6 — Music Lab Recital
Dec. 7 — Virginia Tech String Project recital
Dec. 7 — Low Brass Ensemble
Theatre
Four performances of "Wondrous Strange," a collection of short plays by four female playwrights — Martyna Majok, Meg Miroshnik, Jiehae Park, and Jen Silverman — will be presented in the Squires Studio Theatre on Sept. 27 through Sept. 30. Set in Kentucky, each story is written with a supernatural edge and revolves around ghosts, loss, and memory.
Lynn Nottage's "SWEAT" will be presented Nov. 9-12 and 14-16 in the Squires Studio Theatre. Filled with warm humor and heart, "SWEAT" tells the story of a group

of friends who have spent their lives sharing drinks, secrets, and laughs while working together on the factory floor. When layoffs and picket lines begin to chip away at their trust, the friends find themselves pitted against each other in a heart-wrenching fight to stay afloat in this Pulitzer Prize-winner for drama.
Cinema
Each year, audiences look forward to the student-led Progeny Short Film Festival, which showcases local and regional talent. Held at the Moss Arts Center on Oct. 2, this year's film categories include animation, documentary, experimental, Hokie Short, international, narrative, and pandemic/home video.

By Susan Sanders

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MONTGOMERY SPORTS

Knights Crossing cross-country meet



Senior Katelyn Lafon led the Auburn girls' team, placing 65th in the Knights Crossing Red race. The Eagles placed 18th out of 30 teams in the top race at Green Hill Park.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING



Blacksburg's Conner Rutherford leads teammate Jonathan Goerlich early in the boys' Red race at Knights Crossing. The teammates placed 8th and 10th, as the Bruin boys' team performed well and placed second in the team competition. The Bruin girls' team also finished second in the team competition behind Jefferson Forest.



Lawson Mecom placed 21st in the Knights Crossing Red race to lead Christiansburg to an eighth-place finish in a field of 40 teams.



Eastern Montgomery freshman Aija McHone runs in the Knights Crossing Black race and would finish 24th for the Mustangs.

No. 19 Virginia Tech beats Middle Tennessee 35-14

Raheem Blackshear rushed for two touchdowns to lead No. 19 Virginia Tech to a 35-14 victory over Middle Tennessee Saturday.

The Hokies (2-0) scored on their first three possessions of the second half, including back-to-back touchdowns by Blackshear in a game they led 14-7 at halftime.

Virginia Tech broke open the game when Jalen Holston scored on a 29-yard, third-quarter run to take a 21-7 lead. Blackshear, who rushed for 58 yards, then scored on runs of 6 yards and 1 yard on ensuing possessions to help the Hokies build a 35-7 cushion.

Braxton Burmeister threw for 142 yards and a score for Virginia Tech, which finished with 375 total yards.

Bailey Hockman threw for 207 yards and a score to lead the Blue Raiders (1-1),

who had 349 total yards.

THE TAKEAWAY

The Hokies avoided a letdown after a big upset of then-No. 10 North Carolina in their season opener, using a balanced attack and good defense in a methodical win over the Blue Raiders. Tech will receive a much stiffer test next Saturday with a road game at rival West Virginia, the Hokies' first road test of the season. The Hokies and Mountaineers have faced each other just once in the past 16 seasons.

Individual game tickets for Tech's remaining home games are available starting at \$45.

GAME STATS

Total Yards: MT 349 VT 383
Passing Yards: MT 283 VT 159
Rushing Yards: MT 66 VT 224

Penalty Yards: MT 6-52

VT 3-26

First Downs: MT 20

VT 24

Third Downs: MT 7-16

VT 7-12

Fourth Downs: MT 2-3

VT 1-1

Possession Time: MT 31:33 VT 28:27

HOW THEY SCORED FIRST QUARTER

Virginia Tech: 00:19, Tayvion Robinson, 6-yard pass from Braxton Burmeister; John Parker Romo kick; 15 plays, 92 yards, time of possession 07:36. 7-0.

SECOND QUARTER

Virginia Tech: 08:55, Connor Blumrick, 2-yard run; John Parker Romo kick; nine plays, 35 yards, time of possession 4:04. 14-0.

Middle Tennessee: 05:17, C.J. Windham, 5-yard pass from Bailey Hockman; Zeke Ranklin kick; 11 plays, 75



Running back Raheem Blackshear scored two touchdowns in Tech's 35-14 win over Middle Tennessee State Saturday.

yards, time of possession 3:38. 14-7.

THIRD QUARTER

Virginia Tech: 07:51, Jalen Holston, 29-yard run, John Parker Romo, kick; six plays, 93 yards; time of possession 2:54. 21-7.

Virginia Tech: 03:16, Ra-

heem Blackshear, six-yard run, John Parker Romo, kick; five plays, 31 yards. Time of possession 2:09. 28-7.

FOURTH QUARTER

Virginia Tech: 11:27, Raheem Blackshear, 1-yard run, John Parker Romo,

kick; seven plays, 70 yards, time of possession 1:46. 35-7.

Middle Tennessee: 0:27, Marquel Tinsley, six-yard pass from Chase Cunningham; Zeke Rankin, kick; 13 plays, 86 yards, time of possession 4:40. 35-14.

Hokies move up to No. 15 in AP poll



Following their 35-14 defeat of the Middle Tennessee State Blue Raiders Saturday, the Hokies moved up four spots to No. 15 in the Associated Press college football poll.

After a stunning upset of third-ranked Ohio State on the Buckeyes' home turf, the Oregon Ducks made the biggest jump of the week, moving from No. 12 to No. 4.

The poll rankings were 1 Alabama 2. Georgia 3. Oklahoma 4. Oregon 5. Iowa 6. Clemson 7. Texas A&M 8. Cincinnati 9. Ohio State 10. Penn State 11. Florida (2-0) 12. Notre

Dame 13. UCLA 14. Iowa State 15. Virginia Tech 16. Coastal Carolina 17. Ole Miss 18. Wisconsin 19. Arizona State 20. Arkansas 21. North Carolina 22. Auburn 23. Brigham Young 24. Miami (Fla.) 25. Michigan.

Others receiving votes:

UCF 111, TCU 103, Liberty 52, Michigan State 44, USC 39, Indiana 34, LSU 31, Kansas State 30, Nevada 28, Oklahoma State 27, Texas 23, Maryland 14, Pittsburgh 13, Kentucky 13, Stanford 10, Utah 9, Boston College 8, Toledo 2, Arizona 2, Fresno State 2, Texas Tech 2, Army 1.

Former RU players sign pro contracts

Two former Radford University women's basketball players, Khiana Johnson (2016-20) and Lydia Rivers (2015-19), have signed professional contracts in Europe.

Johnson signed her first professional contract with the Phoenix Constanta in Romania while Rivers signed with Spirou Charleroi in Belgium, which will be her second season playing professionally.

"We are really excited to see Lydia and Khiana have the opportunities to play professionally overseas," commented women's basketball head coach Mike McGuire. "Both are very deserving, and we cannot wait to follow their progress this season."

Johnson recently wrapped up an impressive four-year career as a Highlander. She ranked in the top-ten in program history for games played (128), three-pointers attempted (383), three-pointers made (111), assists (358), field goals made (459), and points (1,256). Johnson was a part of the 2019 Big South tournament championship team as well as the 2016-17 and 2018-19 Big South regular season champion teams.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RU ATHLETICS

Former Highlanders Khiana Johnson (left) and Lydia Rivers have signed professional contracts, Johnson with Romania's Phoenix Constants and Rivers with Belgium's Spirou Charleroi.

"Khiana has waited patiently for an opportunity to play overseas," said McGuire. "I know the pandemic had an impact on her having an opportunity before this, but Khiana is ready. She loves basketball and loves to compete. She will be ready for this opportunity in Romania."

Rivers was a staple in Radford's offense and defense between the 2015 and 2019 seasons. Her 849 rebounds rank fifth in program his-

tory, and she is one of just 23 players to record over 500 rebounds in her career. Rivers was also a part of the 2019 Big South tournament championship team as well as the 2016-17 and 2018-19 Big South regular season champion teams.

"It's awesome to see Lydia continue her playing career," said McGuire. "Not only is she an exceptional athlete, she is a great person. She will bring much value and impact to her new team."

For RU's Hannah Moran, the journey to Radford was a journey back home

It didn't take long for Hannah Moran to ink her name in the Radford record books. 14 minutes and 11 seconds after the gun went off for her first race in a Highlander uniform, to be exact.

But it took much longer for Moran to complete her journey to that starting line. For Moran, to come to Radford was to come back home.

Moran grew up in Salem, and her large, tight-knit family still lives throughout the region. She grew up going to birthday parties at Bisset Park and visiting her grandparents in Christiansburg. Radford as a hometown may be new to Moran, but life in the area is far from it.

After high school, Moran made the trip to the University of Virginia. She was attracted by academics and became a terrific run-

ner for the Cavaliers, but she admits that moving even that far from home was a challenge.

"My parents left me in Charlottesville a bawling mess," Moran said.

After finishing her four years of undergraduate school, Moran knew she wanted to come closer to home. She has family ties to the university, including her father, who earned a graduate degree at Radford in the '90s.

In terms of location and familiarity, Radford checked all the boxes. The only question left to be answered was whether or not the team -- her family away from home -- would be the right fit. Moran credits the vision of head cross-country coach Sam Bradley with convincing her it would be.

"Her desire for a fresh start and supportive envi-

ronment was something that we were able to offer Hannah, and in addition to being closer to her family and roots, it has provided an atmosphere in which Hannah can thrive and build upon the success she has already encountered in the sport," said Bradley.

Moran talks about the rest of the season in a way that wouldn't make you think she had just knocked 16 seconds off of a school record. Instead, she talks about the cohesiveness of the team and the goals they share together, led by coaches who have them believing in the good things to come. That sort of team-first attitude shows in the fact that the team is ranked in the Southeast Region for the first time in school history.

"Obviously we have our eye on the end of the season and the conference



PHOTO COURTESY OF RU ATHLETICS

In her Radford uniform, Hannah Moran runs to victory at the recent Virginia Tech Invitational cross-country meet.

meet," Moran said, "but as Coach Bradley says, it takes a lot of small victories to put it all together."

Her coaches echo Moran's sentiments about building towards something larger as a team.

Said Bradley, "Hannah immediately bought into the goals and targets of our program and will play a role in elevating the success of the women's cross-country and track and field programs."

Moving from UVA to Radford wasn't necessarily expected, but for Hannah Moran the decision was never a difficult one. Her family means much to her, so coming home to Radford made sense.

Justin Fuente named Dodd Trophy Coach of the Week

Virginia Tech head football coach Justin Fuente was selected last week as the Dodd Trophy Coach of the Week presented by PNC Bank, the Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year

Foundation and Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl.

The Dodd Trophy Coach of the Week award honors a football coach who led his team to a significant victory during the

previous week, while also embodying the award's three pillars of scholarship, leadership, and integrity.

Fuente and the Hokies secured a top-10 win on Sept. 3, defeating No. 10 North Carolina 17-10 in the season opener. The VT defense had six sacks, forced three interceptions, and limited the Tar Heels to only 10 points. Defensive back Chamarri Conner was named the ACC Defensive Back of the Week after leading Tech with eight tackles and producing the game-clinching interception. Quarterback Braxton Burmeister threw for a touchdown and contributed one on the ground to lead the Hokies on offense.

"This was a marquee victory to open the sea-

son and conference play for Coach Fuente and the Hokies," said Jim Terry, chairman of the Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year Foundation.

"Coach Dodd would have admired such a dominating defensive performance against one of the nation's premier quarterbacks."

Fuente is now in his sixth season with the Hokies after being named the head coach at Virginia Tech in 2016. In his first year in Blacksburg, he led the Hokies to an ACC Coastal Division title and was named ACC Coach of the Year. Since Fuente arrived in Blacksburg, the only ACC schools with more wins over that span are Clemson (65) and Miami (40). His win over North Carolina marked

his sixth victory against a top-25 opponent as head coach of the Hokies and improved his record against the Tar Heels to 5-1.

Off the football field, Fuente has led the Hokies to an impressive Academic Progress Rate of 958 in the classroom. He also had six players named to the All-ACC Football Academic team last season. Center Brock Hoffman has been nominated by Tech for the Allstate AFCA Good Works Team, recognizing his exemplary track record of community service. Hoffman is also on the watch list for the Wuerffel Trophy, an award that honors a student-athlete's commitment to serving his community.

"Coach Fuente has been

a great leader during his time in Blacksburg, both on and off the field," said Gary Stokan, CEO and president of Peach Bowl, Inc. "His commitment to his players' academic excellence, along with his community involvement and the community service of his players, speaks volumes to the type of role model he truly is."

A panel consisting of all previous winners, national media, a member of the Dodd family, and a College Football Hall of Fame member will identify the final list of potential recipients at the conclusion of the 2021 season. The winner of the 2021 Dodd Trophy will be announced in Atlanta during the week of this year's Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl.



In the wake of the Hokies' upset of No.-10 North Carolina on Sept. 3, VT head coach Justin Fuente was named the Dodd Trophy Coach of the Week. The award honors a coach who led his team to a significant victory the previous week and embodies scholarship, leadership, and integrity.

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+/- 137.81 acres of land for sale, being offered in 3 tracts. The properties consist of wooded acreage, farmland, fenced pastures, Little River frontage, a spring branch, small ponds, a singlewide mobile home, and another home. Enjoy the convenient location in Riner between Floyd and Christiansburg. All three offerings will be offered individually with online bidding. Bidders wanting to purchase more than one offering will need to be the high bidder on all offerings desired. Each offering will remain open and displayed until bidding is complete on all 3 offerings. For example, if a bid is made on offering # 1, all offerings will be extended. Refer to information in bidder pack.

Preview Date – Saturday September 18th @ 10 AM

Offering # 1 – This property features +/- 19.23 Acres along with a +/- 2,120 sq. ft. home with 3 BR and 1 BA. Home has as shingle roof, vinyl siding, heat pump, and basement. Home was built in 1933. There is also a single wide mobile located on property. Home is located at 4643 Webbs Mill Road, Riner VA 24149. Back (eastern) boundary adjoins Offering # 2 and # 3. Refer to bidder pack for property maps. Earnest money deposit for offering # 1 is \$5,000.

Offering # 2 – +/- 19.02 Acres located on Grace Lane. The property has fencing and good building sites. Property would be good for farming or a country home with acreage with a short commute to Floyd, Christiansburg, I-81, Radford, and Blacksburg VA. There are a couple of small sheds and small pond on property. The single wide located at 233 Grace Lane, Riner VA is not for sale. Address could be helpful to locate this property because it is located on Offering # 2 and Offering # 3 border. Refer to maps for illustration. Offering # 2 western border adjoins Offering # 1 eastern border. Offering # 2 also adjoins Offering # 3. Earnest Money Deposit for Offering # 2 is \$10,000.

Offering # 3 – +/- 99.56 Acres located on Grace Lane. The property is mostly open has fencing and joins Little River. Access road is a shared road to single wide mobile home located at 233 Grace Lane, Riner VA not included in this sale. Single wide mobile has right of way access along western boundary of this tract. This land is mostly open, has a couple of sheds, small pond, and just under 1,800 feet of Little River Frontage. Property has been used for grazing and is great land for farming, and livestock. There are good building sites for anyone wanting a country home with farmland near Floyd VA, Christiansburg, Radford, Riner, Radford, and I-81. Offering # 3 western border adjoins Offering # 1 eastern border. Offering # 3 also adjoins offering # 2. Earnest Money Deposit for Offering # 3 is \$10,000.

Offering # 1 is a different owner from **Offering # 2** and **# 3**. In the event a bidder is purchasing multiple offerings, a separate contract will be required for Offering # 1.

Terms – 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Winning and confirmed bidder will be expected to pay Earnest Money Deposit and sign the real estate purchase contract on the day of sale. Close on or before November 15th 2021. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence and have the responsibility to review the contract prior to bidding. Download Bidder Information Pack at VaAuctionPro.com

Contact Matt Gallimore, Broker/Auctioneer at 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com ; Or contact Dale Moran, Realtor/Auctioneer at 540-392-9900

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