



Christiansburg Institute digital archive awarded \$251,052 grant

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

award will significantly empower Christiansburg Institute with the technological resources and digital infrastructure to continue the critically important work of documenting, interpreting, preserving, and sharing the expansive material culture of the historic Christiansburg Industrial Institute.”

Partners at Virginia Tech Libraries Nathan Hall and Alex Kinnaman said, “We are excited to have the opportunity to partner with the Christiansburg Institute on this grant award and are honored to support the access to resources and culture at the Christiansburg Institute.”

Christiansburg Industrial Institute’s history is emblematic of the triumphs and struggles generations of African Americans faced in the Appalachian South during Recon-

struction and Jim Crow. Thousands of students passed through its halls during its century of life, leaving behind records from their time at the school.”

The grant will support the digitization of 52,245 manuscript pages, photographs, student newspapers, costumes, and other objects of material culture that speak to the 100-year story of Christiansburg Industrial Institute (1866-1966).

Digital images will be hosted on the Christiansburg Institute Digital Archive and on Virginia Tech’s Southwest Virginia Digital Archive, creating online access to previously inaccessible materials. The databases will be created with alumni input and will be freely accessible to the Christiansburg Institute community, educators, and scholars.



Chamber to hold Eggs & Issues breakfast Thursday, May 5

The Montgomery Chamber of Commerce will hold its 2022 Eggs & Issues breakfast Tuesday, May 5 from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. at Warm Hearth Village, 2387 Warm Hearth Drive in Blacksburg.

The theme for the morning is “Breakfast with your chiefs and sheriff.”

Admission is \$25 for chamber members and \$35 for non-members.

Moderator for the morning is John Tuttle, the business development coordinator for ServPro of Montgomery and Pulaski counties, which is sponsoring the program. Tuttle has served as a moderator for several years when

law enforcement agencies have presented their Leadership New River Valley class.

Invited speakers for the breakfast are Hank Partin, Montgomery County Sheriff; Mark Sisson, Christiansburg Police Department Chief; Brian Roe, Christiansburg Police Department Captain; and William “Mac” Babb III, Virginia Tech Police Department Chief.

Space is limited and reservations are required.

Register and pay online at <https://montgomerychamber.chambermaster.com/eventregistration/register/7987> or contact programs@montgomerycc.org.

Proposed Student Life Village project would offer a new take on campus living at Virginia Tech



An illustrative site concept of the Student Life Village. Illustration courtesy of Sasaki.

It’s an entirely new way of imagining student life on the Blacksburg campus a decade from now. At its recent quarterly meeting,

the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors received a high-level presentation for a proposed Student Life Village. The university is currently devel-

oping a Student Life Village master plan that proposes residential, well-

See **Village Project**, page 3

Glencoe Mansion issues call for art for Mary Draper Ingles exhibit

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

Artwork for consideration should reflect or be based on the life and

times of Mary Draper Ingles. This includes, but is not limited to depictions of local landmarks (for example, Ingles Farm, the Cultural Heritage Park, Ingles Tavern and ferry site), and Colonial style art.

All fine arts and fine

See **Ingles Exhibit**, page 3

Bobcat Theatre Company presents

ROALD DAHL'S

Matilda

THE MUSICAL JR.

Radford High School Auditorium

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

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

Tickets available at door or scan QR code

Radford HS Visual & Performing Arts

bobcattheatrecompany

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

The Bobcat Theatre Company of Radford High School and Dalton Intermediate will present their spring musical, Roald Dahl’s Matilda Jr., Thursday, May 19 through Saturday, May 21.

A cast and crew of 50 students in grades 7-12 will bring to the stage the story of Matilda, Miss Honey, and students of Crunchem Academy as they deal with the need to be a little bit naughty. This classic junior musical runs just over an hour and will leave the audience feeling like it is okay to stand up to the bullies of the world.

Matilda Jr. will be held at the Radford High School Auditorium, 50 Dalton Drive, with the following performance schedule: Thursday, May 19, 7 p.m.; Friday, May 20, 7 p.m.; Saturday, May 21, 2 p.m.; Saturday, May 21, 7 p.m.

The play’s director is Casey Worley; the music director is Darren Goad; the choreographer is Emily Gruver.

Rebellion is nigh in this gleefully witty ode to the anarchy of child-

hood and the power of imagination. Matilda, Jr. is the story of a girl who dreams of a better life and the children she inspires. Audiences will find themselves rooting for the “revolting children” who are out to teach the grown-ups a lesson.

Matilda has astonishing wit, intelligence, and special powers. She is unloved by her cruel parents but impresses her schoolteacher, the highly loveable Miss Honey. Matilda’s school life isn’t completely smooth sailing, however. The school’s mean headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, hates children and just loves thinking up new punishments for those who don’t abide by her rules. But Matilda has courage and cleverness in equal amounts and could be the school pupils’ saving grace.

The ticket price for the play is \$8 for students and \$10 for adults with limited seating available.

Tickets will be available at the door or at www.showtix4u.com/event-details/64159.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, May 5

Virginia Tech Forest Landowner Extravaganza

The Virginia Tech College of Natural Resources and Environment and the university's Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation will host this event from 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. The event begins with a catered lunch with speakers. After lunch, participants can choose from five opportunities; transportation to off-campus sites will be provided. They are: 1) Preparing for Generation NEXT Legacy Planning (workshop); 2) Tree Identification and Forest Ecology at Pandapas Pond (walking tour); 3) Agroforestry Options at Catawba Sustainability Center (walking tour); 4) Tour of Virginia Tech's Urban Forest (walking tour); or 5) Ongoing Research and Innovations in Forest Products (workshop). The event takes place concurrently with the Virginia Forestry Summit at Virginia Tech May 3-5. Cost: is \$10 for summit attendees, \$15 for others. Register at www.vt.edu. Questions? Contact Jennifer Gagnon at 540-231-6391 or jgagnon@vt.edu.

American Legion Meeting

American Legion Harvey-Howe-Carpenter Post 30 will meet at 7 p.m. at the VFW Post Home on 102 Watts St. in Radford. For further information, please call 540-250-2283 or 540-239-9864.

Friday, May 6:

Fine Arts Center for the NRV concert
The Fine Arts Center will sponsor the NRV's First Friday Listening Room concert series at Max on Main in Historic Downtown Pulaski. Series features local musicians performing a range of musical styles. On May 6, Georgia Randall and her acoustic guitar will bring her unique song stylings to the Listening Room. A resident of Wytheville, she has released four albums and has several awards for her blues, rock, and indie music. The First Friday Listening Room is a free concert series sponsored by the Fine Arts Center and is hosted by Max on Main. Max's will open at 5 p.m. with an abbreviated menu and coffee and tea drinks. Concerts are from 6 to 8 p.m. Reservations are required and can be obtained online at Eventbrite.com, or visit FACNRV.org for a direct link.

Saturday, May 7:

Mother's Day gift

At the Christiansburg Library; 11 a.m. Drop in to make a special Mother's Day gift and give it to someone special. Fill a fancy teacup with tea and treats and then gift-wrap it. Supplies are limited. Contact spahl@mfri.org for more information.

PAWS to Read with Derek

At the Blacksburg Library; noon. Sign

up for a 10-minute time slot to read with a therapy dog. Call the library at 540-552-8246.

Caturday

At the Meadowbrook Public Library; noon. Sign up at the Meadowbrook Public Library for a 15-minute slot to read to a cat from the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center to practice reading and socialize shelter cats. For all ages. *Due to limited availability of guest cat(s), call the library at (540) 268-1964 before coming to verify that Caturday has not been canceled.

Teen DND

At the Blacksburg Library; 2 p.m. DND for teens.

Monday, May 9:

RCPS Special Education meeting

A Radford City Public Schools Special Education Advisory Committee meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m. at the School Board Office, 1612 Wadsworth St., Radford. The public is invited to attend. The meeting will also be available virtually using Google Meet. To be invited using Google Meet, contact Josh Brown, Chairperson, at 731-3649, or Daniel Hill, Director of Special Education, at 267-3223, to obtain a virtual meeting link.

STEM Club

At the Christiansburg Library; 1 p.m. Join the library's homeschool STEM club to explore science, technology, engineering, or math. Ages 8 and up.

Tuesday, May 10:

Homeschool science at the RPL

At the Radford Public Library; 11 a.m. Virginia Tech School of Plant and Environmental Sciences professor Dr. Meredith Steele and advisor Karen Drake-Whitney will teach interested students about the science found in the dirt with a special focus on understanding cities and their effects on water quality, ecosystem services and biogeochemical cycles. This program is part of the library's programming series geared toward serving homeschooling families, teaching how science can be used in a variety of careers. Contact Morgan Esterhuizen at morgan.esterhuizen@radfordva.gov with questions about the program or to offer a future Homeschool Science program.

Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant on 3204 Riner Road. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are invited to attend. Camp member James Evans will give a talk on the "CSS Hunley." For further information, call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

Thursday, May 12:

River City Quilt Guild

The River City Quilt Guild meets the second Thursday of each month at 9:30 a.m. at Grove United Methodist Church, 1020 Tyler Ave. in Radford. All skill levels of quilters are welcome. For more information, call Anna Handy, 540 320 7791.

Friday, May 13 and Saturday, May 14:

Radford Public Library Book Sale

A book sale will be held at the Radford Public Library from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Friday, May 13, and Saturday, May 14. Money raised will help with programs and other needs at the library. Hardbacks are \$1.00 and paperbacks \$.50. Children's books are half that. Come and support the Radford Public Library.

Saturday, May 14:

Mount Tabor Ruritan Club Fish Fry

The Mount Tabor Ruritan Club will hold its May Fish Fry from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Slusser's Chapel Picnic Shelter, 1543 Mount Tabor Rd, Blacksburg. A single serving of fish, fries and slaw; homemade desserts; and beverages is \$12 for adults, and \$6 for children under 12. Children under 3 eat free. Carry-outs are also \$12. The fish fry will be held rain or shine. Call or text 540-449-6178 for further information. On Facebook at Mt-TaborRuritan.

Tuesday, May 17:

PATH Committee meeting

The New River Health District's PATH (Partnership for Access to Healthcare) Committee will convene from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at the Cross Point Foursquare Conference Center at 900 Life Dr. in Christiansburg for a discussion of PATH's future. The meeting will be in person with remote access available. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

Monday, May 23:

Radford Chamber of Commerce golf tournament

Virginia Tech River Course will host the annual golf tournament sponsored by the Radford Chamber of Commerce. Shotgun start at 1 p.m. Radford Chamber Executive Director Dan McKinney said, "The traveling trophy is back at the chamber office ready to be presented to this year's winning team. We are truly appreciative of the businesses that support this fundraiser for us. We are looking forward to a full field again this year; we have several spots for teams still available and have sponsorships available.

"A special part of this year's tournament will be a Closest to the Pin on the

new golf simulator that the River Course recently acquired," McKinney said. "A portion of the money for this contest will go to our scholarship fund, and we have a great winning prize. We are inviting both the players and others to compete in this contest. Visit <https://radfordchamber.com/annual-golf-tournament> for more information."

Thursday, May 26:

Scrabble Tournament for Literacy

The 14th Annual Scrabble Tournament for Literacy will raise funds for the Literacy Volunteers of the New River Valley (LVNRV) to help local adults learn to read. At the German Club Manor on Virginia Tech's Blacksburg campus from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Radford City Mayor David Horton will serve as emcee. Local food offerings will be available. Teams of three will play two games of Scrabble against two different teams with the scores from both games added together to determine the winner. Awards to be given include top scorer, longest word, highest scoring word, and most creative team name. Register as a team for \$100 or sign up as an individual for \$35, and the organization will match a player with a team. To register, go to www.lvnrv.org, email info@lvnrv.org, or call 540-382-7262.

Monday, May 30:

MFRL closure

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

Ongoing:

Radford-Fairlawn Daily Bread seeks volunteers' names

Radford Fairlawn Daily Bread (RFDB), and its sister program Meals on Wheels are searching for the names of everyone who has volunteered with either service. Anyone who knows of past volunteers, especially those over the programs' first two decades, should contact feherzog66@gmail.com or by mail, addressed to Herzog, at RFDB, P. O. Box 3323, Radford 24143.

Free GED classes with NRCC

At the Radford Public Library; 9 a.m. to noon. Free GED prep classes offered by New River Community College in the library's community room. Call (540) 674-3682 for additional information.

Grab-and-go meals

At the Meadowbrook Public Library. Free grab-and-go lunch and snack meals. Children and youth 18 and younger can come and get a week's worth of lunches and snacks every week. Sponsored by Feeding Southwest Virginia.

Study: Christiansburg 35th in Virginia for number of booze-related social media posts during pandemic

National rehab directory Rehabs.com commissioned a study in towns and cities in Virginia which the 100 largest

their number of alcohol-related Instagram posts over the course of the pandemic.

The researchers analyzed 5,000 Instagram posts starting from March 2020, the unofficial start of lockdowns for most states, to identify how many were related to alcohol or being drunk. The results reveal which town/cities posted about it the most, which could possibly indicate a problematic relationship with alcohol.

Christiansburg ranked in 35th place with 34 Instagram posts related to alcohol or being drunk. This represents 4.68% of all posts of its 22,482 residents.

Coming mid-table was Radford with 188 alcohol/drunken-related posts representing 3.76% of all posts during that time.

As Rehab.com points out, almost exactly two years ago, Virginians in towns and cities across the state hunkered down, unaware that a global pandemic would render them largely homebound for such a long period of time. Like so many other Americans, Virginians were affected

by anxiety, worry about the coronavirus itself, the economic repercussions and what the future may look like in a post-pandemic world. As is the case in more normal times, when people feel stressed or depressed, they reach for the bottle in what they perceive to be a short-term solution.

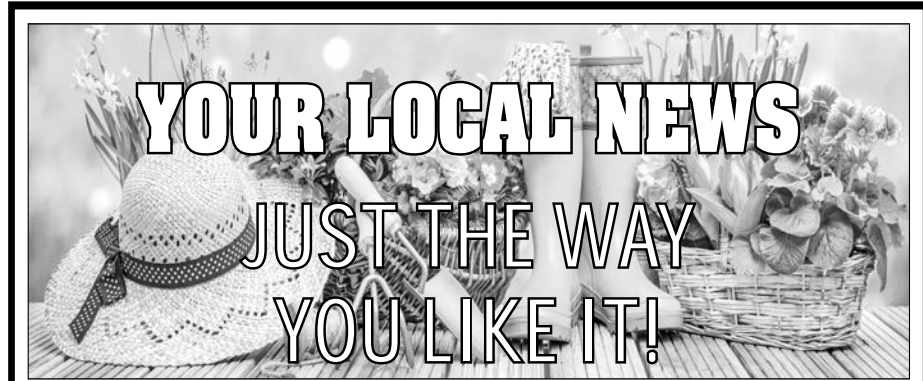
As the pandemic well and truly set in, two things happened: people began to consume more alcohol, and they spent more time on social media, their primary channel with the outside world. In 2020, state officials introduced a crowd-pleasing salve: a temporary legalization of to-go alcoholic drinks from bars and restaurants. As the months progressed, the term 'Quarantini' entered the mainstream lexicon, becoming a catch-all term for any cocktail made during lockdown, and soon social media was flooded with alcohol-related content. In one study, Virginia's favorite homemade cocktail during the pandemic was found to be a Mojito.

Rehabs.com made some interesting discov-

eries: the first being that Culpeper, which has a population of 18,633, came in the number one spot with 351 alcohol-related Instagram posts (per 5,000 posts) during the pandemic. This represents 7.02% of all Instagram posts in that city during that period.

This might not be all that surprising when you consider that Culpeper is in Culpeper County, which has among the highest number of excessive drinkers in the state at 20%, according to County Health Rankings. This places it in the top 15th percentile of the whole country and is higher than the average excessive drinking rate in Virginia of 18 percent.

Positively saintly in last place was the city of Buckhall, which has a population of 18,116. It clocked up just 15 alcohol/drunken-related posts equalling a minimal figure of just 0.30 percent. Buckhall is located in Prince William County which, according to the County Health Rankings, has an excessive drinking rate of 17 percent, just below the state average.



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PETS OF THE WEEK



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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Evaluation under saddle is often an important part of the exam,

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

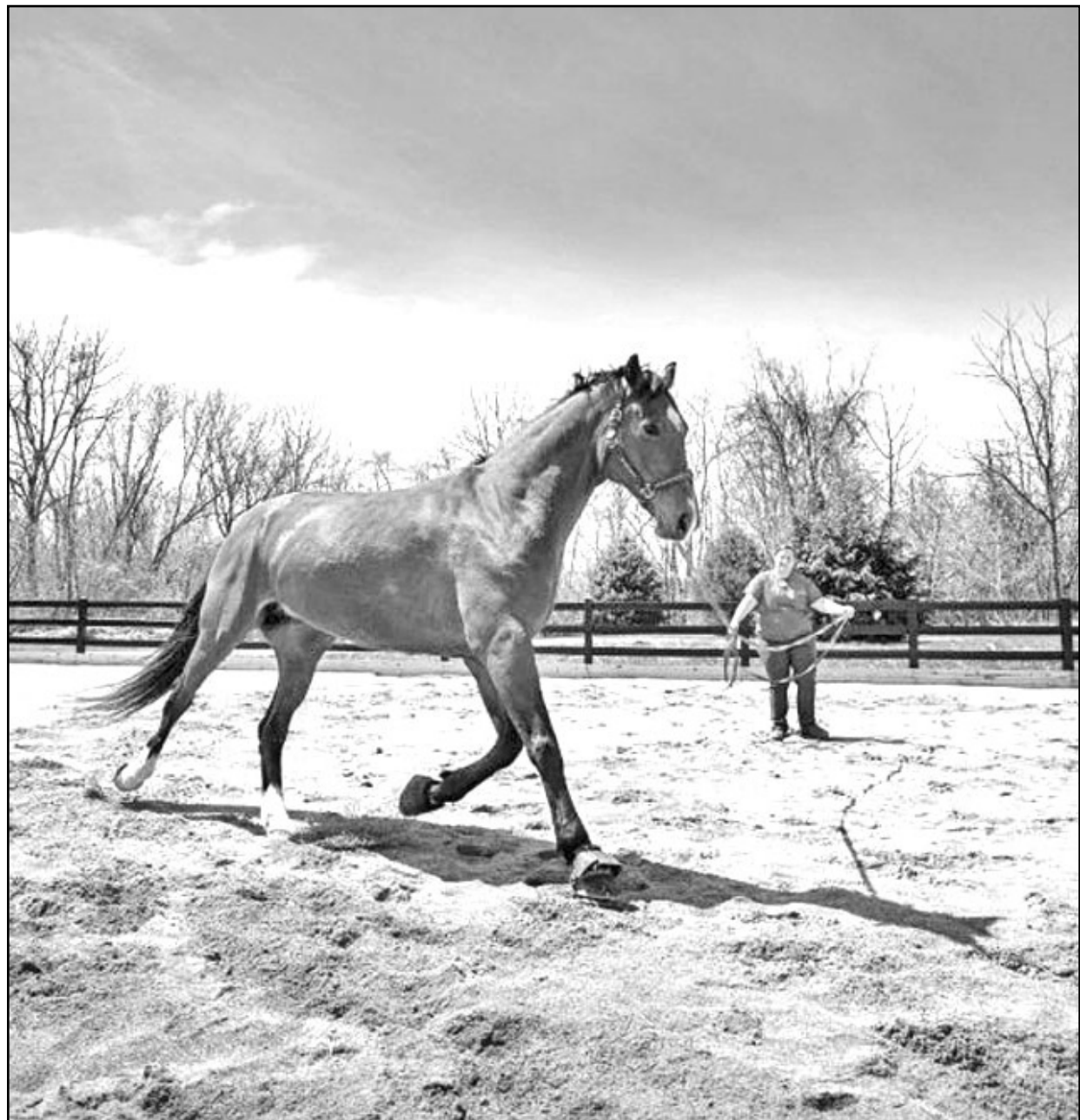
The arena was also deliberately placed next door to the podiatry barn, where Travis Burns, associate professor of practice and chief of Farrier Services, unites the skills and experience of farriers with the college's veterinarian specialists to provide therapeutic foot care for horses.

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

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

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

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



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

Village Project from page 1

being, recreation, dining, and enrichment spaces for up to 5,000 students on campus. The plan will focus on integrated, high-quality student-life offerings as well as living-learning programs, amenities, and public spaces to serve both on- and off-campus students.

Potentially located on the northwest side of campus, the Student Life Village study area includes the phased usage of the land bank formed by the special-purpose housing at Oak Lane and the golf course.

The plan for the Student Life Village would supplement Beyond Boundaries 2047: The Campus Plan which the board adopted in 2018. The campus master plan, which has gained national recognition, is a flexible, adaptable, and evolutionary document that will help achieve Virginia Tech's strategic vision and serve as a road map for the future.

"The Student Life Village is a new take on campus living," said Frank Shushok, vice president for student affairs. "We want to create better connectivity to the curricular, extracurricular, and social activities of the campus beyond a student's first year. The Student Life Village concept would provide affordable and developmentally appropriate on-campus housing to upper-division students. We also want to make the Student Life Village a place where off-campus students, faculty, and staff feel welcome."

"It will be a distinct district with new opportunities to innovate in well-being, living-learning experiences, building technology, and sustainability," said Liza Morris, assistant vice president for planning and university architect. "The village master plan intentionally leverages topography and place-making strategies to embody Hokie Spirit in a new context while embracing Virginia Tech's values and land-grant heritage. This affords us the option to utilize place-appropriate forms and materials."

It is conceived as both a living-learning environment for the students who reside there and a destination to visit for the rest of the university. The Student Life Village would enhance the Virginia Tech student experience with living, study, dining, exercise, activity, and contemplation spaces, including a proposed interfaith chapel and technology-free zone. Key to the concept is enrichment programming with a focus on a diverse range of well-being practices.

"Envisioned as a new model for living and learning, well-being is embraced by the proposed spatial design of the village," said Shushok. "The Student Life Village would provide the variety of spaces needed to practice holistic well-being with the flexibility to adjust to changing preferences."

By Sandy Broughton

Ingles Exhibit from page 1

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

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

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

ists. The museum will not duplicate, use, or recreate any trademarked or original digital files or images without the artist's permission. Artists must be available to drop off their artwork between the dates of June 28 and July 3 and pick up their work between the dates of Aug. 29 and Sept. 3. Artists must have their work ready to hang using gallery wire.

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

For more information about the show and gallery policies or to submit the application, visit the Glencoe Mansion website at GlencoeMansion.org or write the gallery coordinator at art@glencoeMansion.org.

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

FISH DAY

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OPINION

Diesel prices reach new all-time high

Diesel prices Friday reached a new average all-time high of \$5.16 per gallon, surpassing the previous record of \$5.15 per gallon set on March 10, according to GasBuddy, the leading fuel savings platform providing North American drivers with the most ways to save money on gas.

In addition, a second record has been set: Diesel prices are now \$1 per gallon higher than gasoline prices, surpassing the previous record 98 cent difference set in November, 2008.

“While gasoline prices get much of the attention,

diesel, which broadly is the fuel that moves the economy, has quietly surpassed its recent record high as distillate inventories, which include diesel and jet fuel, have plummeted to their lowest level in years,” said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

“Should distillate inventories fall another five million barrels, which is less than five percent, they will be at their lowest level in nearly 20 years, compounding the problem,” said De Haan.

“There’s no quick solution as the economy has seen a robust turn-

around, made worse by Russia’s war on Ukraine as the West fences off Russia’s oil.”

Both diesel and gasoline prices spiked to record levels in early to mid-March, largely due to Russia’s war on Ukraine and the response via sanctions on Russian energy. The recent resurgence in diesel prices can be attributed to continued escalations in the situation and plunging inventories of oil and refined products, like diesel, along with recovering demand as goods move across the country, much of which is powered by diesel fuel

in semi-trucks, trains, and ships.

Diesel prices in the Northeast are likely to rise above any other region due to the loss of refining capacity from both COVID-induced shutdowns and a 2019 fire at the Philadelphia Energy Solutions refinery. Combined, these issues have caused the loss of nearly half a million barrels in refining capacity. Diesel prices are likely to remain at a substantial premium to gasoline as imbalances persist, however, refiners are likely adjusting yields to produce as much diesel and jet fuel

as possible. Economics favor production of these refined products as refiners chase the higher market value of these fuels.

About GasBuddy
GasBuddy is the leading fuel savings platform providing North American drivers with the most ways to save money on gas. GasBuddy has delivered more than \$3 billion in cumulative savings to its users through providing real-time gas price information at 150,000+ stations, offering cash back rewards on purchases with brand partners, and through the Pay with GasBuddyTM

payments card that offers cents-off per gallon at virtually all gas stations across the US.

As one of the most highly-rated apps in the history of the App Store, GasBuddy has been downloaded over 100 million times. Acquired by PDI Software in 2021, GasBuddy’s publishing and software businesses enable the world’s leading fuel, convenience, QSR and CPG companies to shorten the distance between the fueling public and their brands. For more information, visit www.gasbuddy.com.

Home Country: A standing ovation for a cowboy camp cook

“Before we begin our regular commencement tonight,” said combined elementary/high school principal Jim Albertson, “we have a special award

to present. Will Windy Wilson please come up here on the stage with us?”

Windy looked up at the stage in the gymna-

sium and all he saw were black choir robes and smiles. He looked at his fellow spectators, and all he saw were grins and people sitting down.

“Windy?” said Jim. Windy walked up to the stage and shook hands with the principal. “Put this on.”

Windy draped a black robe around himself and put the mortarboard on his head.

Albertson pulled a piece of paper from his

shirt pocket.

“Alphonse Wilson, it is the judgment of your community and friends that no one has ever worked harder for an honorary doctor’s degree. Am I right on that?”

The young graduates clapped and hooted, and so did the audience. Windy looked at the floor and blushed right through his grey beard.

“We can’t give you an honorary doctorate here because we don’t have

one. But your neighbors discovered that you only lacked one class to graduate from high school, and we can do something about that.”

“Alphonse Wilson ... known to all as Windy ... this school ... these young graduates ... and all your friends and neighbors are proud to bestow upon you an honorary high school diploma.”

Jim placed a ribbon with a medal hanging from it around Windy’s

neck and handed him a rolled-up certificate.

Not too many aging cowboy camp cooks and philosophers receive standing ovations, but then, there’s nothing very ordinary about Windy Wilson and we all know that.

By Slim Randles

Brought to you by Saddle Up: A Cowboy’s Guide to Writing, by Slim Randles, now available at Amazon.com.

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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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Christiansburg Aquatic Center May aquatic fitness schedule

Aqua Yoga (Monday/Wednesday); 8 to 9 a.m.; Through May 25; \$58 for residents, \$68 for non-residents.

Aqua Yoga utilizes the principles of hatha yoga and adapts them to the water. The yoga poses practiced in this class will help participants develop strength and static balance and increase their range of motion. Beginners are welcome. The instructor is Thea Vincenti with a maximum enrollment of 10.

Morning Fit (Monday/Wednesday) through May 19; 9:15-10:15 a.m.; May 23 & 25 8:15 -9:15 a.m. \$40 for residents, \$50 for non-residents.

This shallow water

workout combines calisthenics style movements with variations of upper and lower body resistance exercises. Participants will jog, kick, march and jump through the water to improve their cardiovascular fitness, muscular endurance, and flexibility. Danielle Bland is the instructor in the slide side of the leisure pool, deep water area. Maximum enrollment is 18.

Warm Water Workout (Monday/Wednesday); through May18; 10:30-11:30 a.m.; May 23 & 25 9:30-10:30 a.m.; \$56 for residents; \$66 for non-residents.

This warm water exercise program is designed for individuals with arthritic and mobility limitations. This class is for those whose goals include increasing strength, flexibility, and range of motion in a relaxing and low impact atmosphere. Danielle Bland is the instructor in the therapy pool with a maximum enrollment of 10.

Due to limited spacing and class popularity, the center is limiting this class to one session per person per month.

for those whose goals include increasing strength, flexibility, and range of motion in a relaxing and low impact atmosphere. The instructor is Danielle Bland in the therapy pool with a maximum enrollment of 10.

Due to limited spacing and class popularity, the center is limiting this class to one session per person per month.

Through May19; 10:30-11:30 a.m.; May 24 & 26 9:30-10:30 a.m.; \$56 for residents; \$66 for non-residents.

This warm water exercise program is designed for individuals with arthritic and mobility limitations. This class is for those whose goals include increasing strength, flexibility, and range of motion in a relaxing and low impact atmosphere. Danielle Bland is the instructor in the therapy pool with a maximum enrollment of 10.

Due to limited spacing and class popularity, the center is limiting the class to one session per person per month.

on the slide side of the leisure pool. Maximum enrollment is 10.

Mission SWimpossible... (Wednesday); 8:15-9 a.m.; May 4-18; \$15 for residents, \$20 for non-residents.

Participants can start this new year off right by incorporating new exercises into their water routine. This workout will consist of dry-land workouts and water workouts, lap swimming, treading, and core work on the walls. The class offers modifications for all fitness levels and is guaranteed to hit all the right muscles and have participants ready to conquer the rest of 2022. Participants are asked to please bring their own mat or extra towel for the deck exercise portion if wanted. Jilliann Kowalcik is the instructor in the competition pool with a maximum enrollment of 10 and two participants per lane.

Aqua Fit & Fun (Friday); 9:15-10:15 a.m.; May 6-20; \$15 for residents; \$20 for non-residents.

This class offers an assortment of cardio-based aquatic exercise formats with progressions and modifications suitable for all fitness levels. Participants will increase their fitness as they challenge themselves to be the best they can be in 2022. Ana McRoberts is the instructor in the leisure pool with a maximum enrollment of 12.

H2O Functional Fitness (Friday); 10:30-11:30 a.m.; May 6-20; \$15 for residents; \$20 for non-residents.

Motion is lotion for participants’ joints. Participants will increase their functional movement for everyday life. This warm water workout targets strength, flexibility, and balance with gentle movement. Ana McRoberts is the instructor in the therapy pool with a maximum enrollment of 10.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

1. Hot meal
5. Razor clams
10. Blood-sucking African fly
12. Chauvinists
14. Windy City football player
16. An alternative
18. Federal Housing Administration
19. Styles hair
20. Arabic female name
22. Paddle
23. Area once separated from Germany
25. Marketplace
26. Gode Airport
27. Upset
28. Where wrestlers sweat
30. Garland
31. Robert __, poet

CLUES DOWN

1. Type of whale
2. Type of medication
3. Land of the free
4. Formed an opinion of
5. Logo
6. No (Scottish)
7. Leaves tissue
8. Sacred state to Muslims
9. Thus
10. African nation
11. Someone who has a stake in
13. Parties
15. Subsystem producers
17. Large, flightless birds
18. Compromises visibility
21. A ballet enthusiast
23. More (Spanish)

CLUES ACROSS

33. An iPad is one
35. Fruit of the oak tree
37. Della __, singer
38. Women’s clothing retailer
40. Mailed
41. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
42. Pouch
44. Radioactivity unit
45. Month
48. Nanosecond
50. Domestic
52. What a boy becomes
53. Breezes (anc. Greek)
55. Jogged
56. At the stern
57. Lawrencium
58. Destructive to both sides
63. Arterias
65. Removes

CLUES DOWN

12. Tropical Asian plant
27. Hands (Span.)
29. Weighed
32. Businessman
34. Famous clock Big __
35. Unkeyed
36. Break between words
39. Ink (slang)
40. Disappointed
43. Stroke
44. Curdled milk
46. Restaurants
47. Explosive
49. Type of terrier
51. Disfigure
54. Innermost cell layers
59. Bar bill
60. Distinct period of history
61. Mode of transportation
62. Equal (prefix)
64. Operating system

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The resulting new federal maps are expected to be released in late 2022 or early

2023.

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

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

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

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

The new map will provide coverage information on 92 percent, or 3.5 million out of 3.8 million addresses in Virginia. About 84 percent of the broadband service providers (51 out of 57) submitted data. Data will continue to be collected annually, providing a more accurate picture of coverage and eliminating the 14- to 18-month lag from federal collection to state access that existed previously.

"The takeaway for many Virginians is they will have access to better data that is timelier," said Herndon. "And starting next year,



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

Virginians will be able to participate in a challenge process where providers say broadband coverage is available. Citizens will be able to crowdsource where coverage exists and doesn't — regardless of what broadband service providers claim."

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

"With our map, Virginia Tech is providing a portal and people can challenge the service area," Herndon said. "If there is a cluster of complaints, we can go back to the provider and tell them they are overstating their coverage on a yearly basis."

Another advantage to the new mapping tool is that it collects data for the state at the street-address

level instead of by census block, the method previously used by the federal government. The result is greater accuracy and precision for the new high-resolution maps.

Gathering data at the street address level has

never been done in the commonwealth. In the past, broadband service providers could tell the FCC that an area was covered if the location could be served in a reasonable amount of time.

"So if there is a cable

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

MYRTLE BEACH VS. SALEM	
MAY 3	11:05 EDUCATION DAY - GATES OPEN 10:00 AM
MAY 4	7:05 BARK IN THE PARK - GATES OPEN 6:00 PM
MAY 5	7:05 THIRSTY THURSDAY - GATES OPEN 6:00 PM
MAY 6	7:05 STEAM NIGHT & FIREWORKS - GATES OPEN 6:00 PM
MAY 7	6:05 T-SHIRT GIVEAWAY - GATES OPEN 5:00 PM
MAY 8	5:05 MOTHER'S DAY & BARK IN THE PARK - GATES OPEN 4:00 PM

Legal Notice

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

•Appalachian Power Company ("APCo") has applied to update its Rider T-RAC by which it recovers certain transmission and demand response program costs.

•APCo requests approval of a revenue requirement of \$368.1 million for its T-RAC for the August 2022 through July 2023 rate year. According to APCo, if approved, this would increase the monthly bill of a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours per month by approximately \$2.88.

•A Hearing Examiner appointed by the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing in this case on June 8, 2022, at 10 a.m., for the receipt of public witness testimony.

•An evidentiary hearing will be held on June 9, 2022, at 10 a.m., in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond 23219, to receive the testimony and evidence of the Company, any respondents, and the Staff.

•Further information about this case is available on the SCC website at: sec.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY

Phi Kappa Phi honor society inducts RU students

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

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

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

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

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

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

Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library calendar of events for May 2022

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

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

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

sketches and paints what inspires her and always incorporates her emotions into her work."

All the month of May Exhibit: Eli Tuchler Jewelry.

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

All May at Meadowbrook Public Library Grab & Go Meals Meadowbrook will be offering free grab-and-go lunch and snack meals. Children and youth 18 and younger can come and get a weeks' worth of lunches and snacks every week. Sponsored by Feeding Southwest Virginia.

Through May 15 by appointment at Meadowbrook

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

throughout the New River Valley. Call (540)268-1964 to make an appointment to try on and choose a free Prom dress.

Chess club Sunday, May 08, 3:00 p.m. Blacksburg Library Sunday, May 15, 3:00 p.m. Blacksburg Library Sunday, May 22, 3:00 p.m. Blacksburg Library Ages 8 and up are welcome to come sharpen their chess skills. Supplies will be provided. All skill levels are welcome.

Study space Thursday, May 05, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Blacksburg Library Friday, May 06, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Blacksburg Library This is a chance to find a quiet place to study to get ready for finals. To be offered is quiet and some coffee..

Floyd moves it! Thursday, May 05,

11:00 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Monday, May 09, 11:00 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Thursday, May 12, 11:00 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Monday, May 16, 11:00 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Thursday, May 19, 11:00 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Monday, May 23, 11:00 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Come take part in an American Heart Association walking workout.

Tot storytime Monday, May 09, 10:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library Monday, May 16, 10:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library Monday, May 23, 10:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library Share stories, rhymes, music and movement while developing early literacy skills and encouraging a love of reading. For ages 0 to 2.

Toddler storytime Wednesday, May 04, 10:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library Tuesday, May 10, 10:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library Wednesday, May 11, 10:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library Tuesday, May 17, 10:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library Wednesday, May 18, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library Tuesday, May 24, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library Tuesday, May 31, 10:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library Share stories, rhymes, music and movement while developing early literacy skills and encouraging a love of reading. For ages 2 to 3..

Tot storytime Tuesday, May 10, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library Tuesday, May 17, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library Tuesday, May 24, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library Tuesday, May 31, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library Share stories, rhymes, music and movement while developing early literacy skills and encouraging a love of reading. For ages 0 to 2..

Yoga for everyone Tuesday, May 10, 3:00 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Tuesday, May 17, 3:00 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Tuesday, May 24, 3:00 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Tuesday, May 31, 3:00 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library This will be an hour of yoga focusing on the participants, who will follow a video from Yoga with Adrienne that will work with all fitness and yoga levels. This will be a fun and inviting yoga session where participants can leave their worries at the door. Participants should bring their yoga mats and their sense of wonder and joy and strike a pose. Registration is required. Each session will be limited to 12 people.

All ages storytime Wednesday, May 04, 10:30 a.m. Blacksburg Library Saturday May 07, 11:00 a.m. Blacksburg Library Saturday May 14, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library Share stories, rhymes, music and movement, and a craft as a family. Develop early literacy skills and encourage a love of reading.

Pre-K storytime Wednesday, May 04, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library Wednesday, May 11, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library Wednesday, May 18, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg

Library Wednesday, May 25, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library Share stories, rhymes, music and movement, and a craft as a family. Develop early literacy skills and encourage a love of reading. For ages 3 to 5.

Talking about Books: "All the Little Hopes" Wednesday, May 04, 11:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library To be discussed this month is "All the Little Hopes" by Leah Weiss, in-person and virtually.

Loops Group Wednesday, May 04, 2:00 p.m., Blacksburg Library Wednesday, May 11, 2:00 p.m., Blacksburg Library Wednesday, May 18, 2:00 p.m., Blacksburg Library Wednesday, May 25, 2:00 p.m., Blacksburg Library Participants can bring their projects and join the loops group for community and conversation. Everyone is welcome.

Talking about Books: "The Bluest Eye" Wednesday, May 4, 6:00 p.m., Meadowbrook Public Library Discussed this month is "The Bluest Eye" by Toni Morrison. Call (540) 268-1964 for more information or to reserve a copy.

Author talk with Matthew Vollmer and Carmen Giménez Smith Wednesday, May 04, 6:30 p.m., Blacksburg Library Poets and professors Carmen Giménez Smith and Matthew Vollmer will read from their forthcoming and newly published books of poetry.

Toddler storytime Thursday, May 05, 10:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library Thursday, May 12, 10:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library Share stories, rhymes, music and movement while developing early literacy skills and encouraging a love of reading. For ages 2 to 3.

All ages storytime Thursday, May 05, 10:30 a.m., Meadowbrook Public Library Thursday, May 12, 10:30 a.m., Meadowbrook Public Library Thursday, May 19, 10:30 a.m., Meadowbrook Public Library Thursday, May 26, 10:30 a.m., Meadowbrook Public Library Share stories, rhymes, music and movement, and a craft as a family while developing early literacy skills and encouraging a love of reading.

Floyd Scrabble Club Thursday, May 05, 1:30 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Thursday, May 12, 1:30 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Thursday, May 19, 1:30 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Thursday, May 26, 1:30 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Enjoy a challenging and fun game of Scrabble with other word enthusiasts.

All ages storytime Friday, May 06, 11:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library Share stories, rhymes, music and movement, and a craft as a family while developing early literacy skills and encouraging a love of reading.

Mother's Day gift Saturday May 07, 11:00 a.m., Christiansburg Library Make a special Mother's Day gift and give it to someone special. Fill a fancy teacup with tea and

treats and then gift-wrap it. Supplies are limited. Contact spahl@mfrl.org for more information.

PAWS to Read with Derek Saturday May 07, noon, Blacksburg Library Sign up for a 1- minute time slot to read with a therapy dog. Call the library at 540-552-8246.

Caturday Saturday May 7, noon, Meadowbrook Public Library Sign up for a 15 minute slot to read to a cat from the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center to practice reading and socialize shelter cats. For all ages. ***Due to limited availability of our guest cat(s), please call ahead at (540) 268-1964 before coming to verify that Caturday has not been canceled.

Teen DND Saturday May 07, 2:00 p.m., Blacksburg Library Saturday May 21, 2:00 p.m., Blacksburg Library DND for teens.

STEM Club Monday, May 09, 1:00 p.m., Christiansburg Library Join the homeschool STEM club to explore science, technology, engineering, or math. Ages 8 and up.

Talking about Books: "The Good Neighbor" Tuesday, May 10, 11:00 a.m., Blacksburg Library To be discussed is "The Good Neighbor: The Life and Work of Fred Rogers" by Maxwell King. Call (540) 552-8246 to reserve a copy.

Homeschool Creative Writing Club Tuesday, May 10, 1:00 p.m. Blacksburg Library Homeschoolers can join for a time of creative writing. An opportunity for homeschoolers to workshop their pieces, bounce ideas off each other, and learn about different writing techniques.

All ages storytime Wednesday, May 11, 10:30 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Wednesday, May 18, 10:30 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Wednesday, May 25, 10:30 a.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Share stories, rhymes, music and movement, and a craft as a family while developing early literacy skills and encouraging a love of reading.

Bingo! Wednesday, May 11, 2:00 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Wednesday, May 25, 2:00 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library A few games of bingo with prizes are offered every second and fourth Wednesday of the month.

Evening book talk: "Klara and the Sun" Wednesday, May 11, 6:30 p.m., Christiansburg Library To be discussed is "Klara and the Sun" by Kazuo Ishiguro, in-person and virtually.

Wildflower seed bombs Thursday, May 12, 4:30 p.m., Jessie Peterman Memorial Library Thursday, May 19, 4:30 p.m., Christiansburg Library Kids and teens of all ages are invited to make their own DIY wildflower seed bombs at the library.

Turn a favorite book into jewelry Thursday, May 12, 6:30 p.m., Blacksburg Library Participants can create a mini-version of their favorite books and turn them into keychains. Email a specific title to dmoore@mfrl.org for May 10.

Legal Notice

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION



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Saturday, May 7th
7 a.m. until 2 p.m.
Both entrances, Heron's Landing Drive and River Course, Fairlawn
Rain date is May 15th.

Auction Notice

Affordable Mini Storage, LLC.
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Legals - Botetourt County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOTETOURT COUNTY

IN RE: ESTATE OF CLAYTON EDWARD MARR, JR. DECEASED

NOTICE

Having been requested to do so by Rhodes, Butler & Dellinger, attorney for the Co-Executors of the estate of Clayton Marr, Deceased, and in accordance with Section 64.2-550 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, all creditors of Clayton Edward Marr, Jr. and all persons in any way interested in his estate are hereby notified that I have fixed the 8th day of June, 2022 at 9 o'clock a.m., at my office at 13 South Roanoke Street, Fincastle, Virginia as the time and place for determining an account of the debts and demands against said Clayton Edward Marr, Jr. or his estate, the priorities among them, and the names of the persons to whom they are due.

All creditors of Clayton Edward Marr, Jr., deceased, and persons interested in his estate should appear at the time and place named, or any other time or place to which the proceedings may be adjourned, and protect their interest.

Given under my hand this 28th day of April, 2022.
Malcolm McL. Doubles
Commissioner of Accounts

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104
Case No. CL22000143-00
BOTETOURT COUNTY
1 WEST MAIN STREET,
P.O. BOX 219,
FINCASTLE, VA 24090

FLORIARES DE LA CRUZ ANTIVOLA v. LINDY MICHAEL SANTOS MONTANA, JR
The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that LINDY MICHAEL SANTOS MONTANA, JR appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MAY 16, 2022.

APRIL 15, 2022
Tommy L. Moore
Clerk

Legals - Town of Vinton

Notice Of Public Sale

Notice is hereby given that Storage King USA, 1914 East 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 sell will take place at the website StorageTreasures.com on 4/26/2022 at 9:00 am. The sale will be conducted on Storage Treasures.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. G75 - Brandy Ramsey - Household Items, G13 - Melissa Wilson - Household Items

Legals - City of Roanoke

Notice of Public Sale

Notice is hereby given that Storage King USA 201 Berkley Rd.NE. Roanoke VA 24012 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 sell will take place at the website Storage Treasures.com on 05/17/2022 at 9:00 am. The sale will be conducted on Storage Treasures.com, under the guidance of Christopher Rosa (2907004316) on the behalf of the facility's management. Units will be available for viewing prior to the sale on Storage Treasures.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. 295- Travis Davidson-household goods: 225 Marcus Harrison-household goods.

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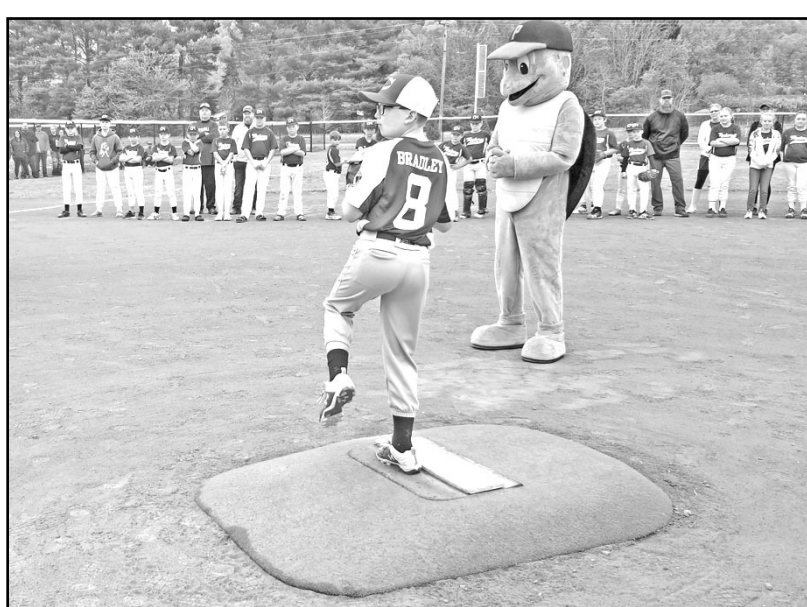
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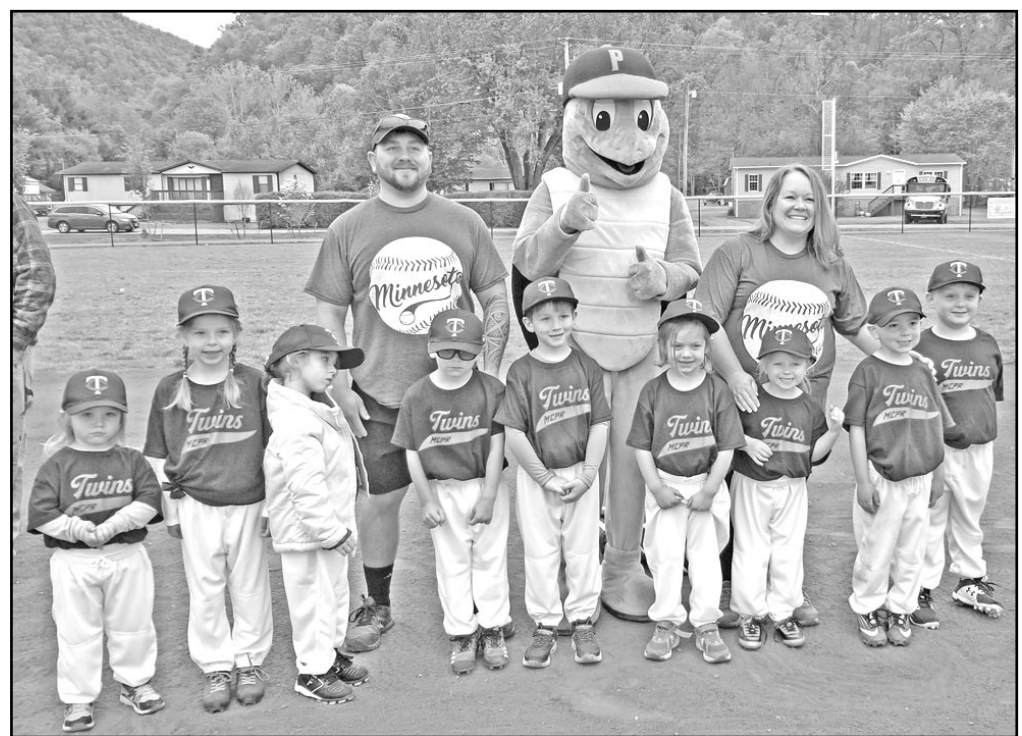
County dedicates Creed Fields with Saturday opening



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



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



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



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

Marty Gordon

NRVsports@ourvalley.org

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

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

April DeMotts currently represents the Shawsville and Elliston area on the Board of Supervisors. She followed Gary Creed after his retirement and spoke on Saturday. "We all know how proud Gary would be of what we are seeing today," DeMotts said. "No doubt, he would be out

here playing ball with you. He had a passion for youth sports and a passion for this community. "His legacy of being fully committed to and supportive of Montgomery County, but especially of those in the Shawsville and Elliston areas, is embodied here today." Creed helped break ground

on the project before passing away earlier this year. His nine-year-old great grandson, Jaxson Creed Bradley, threw out a ceremonial pitch before softball, baseball and T-ball teams from Eastern Montgomery took the field. Creed's family also attended the event.

Radford Bobcat golfer Jack Davis signs with Hampden-Sydney

Marty Gordon

NRVsports@ourvalley.org

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

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

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

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

The college currently has an undergraduate enrollment of 993 students.

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

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

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

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

player." Davis was a three-time all-Three Rivers District performer and was on the regional champion team his freshman year. He

also was a member of the 2019 Class 2 state championship team as a sophomore when he shot an 82.

He also participated in the Blue Ridge Junior

Golf Tour, which he calls a big part of his career. "I appreciate everything they've done for me," Davis said.

He was the 2019 junior

golf tour's player of the year and was a three times tour all-star.

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



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

SUBMITTED PHOTO

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Auburn Eagles baseball downs Grayson County 3-1



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

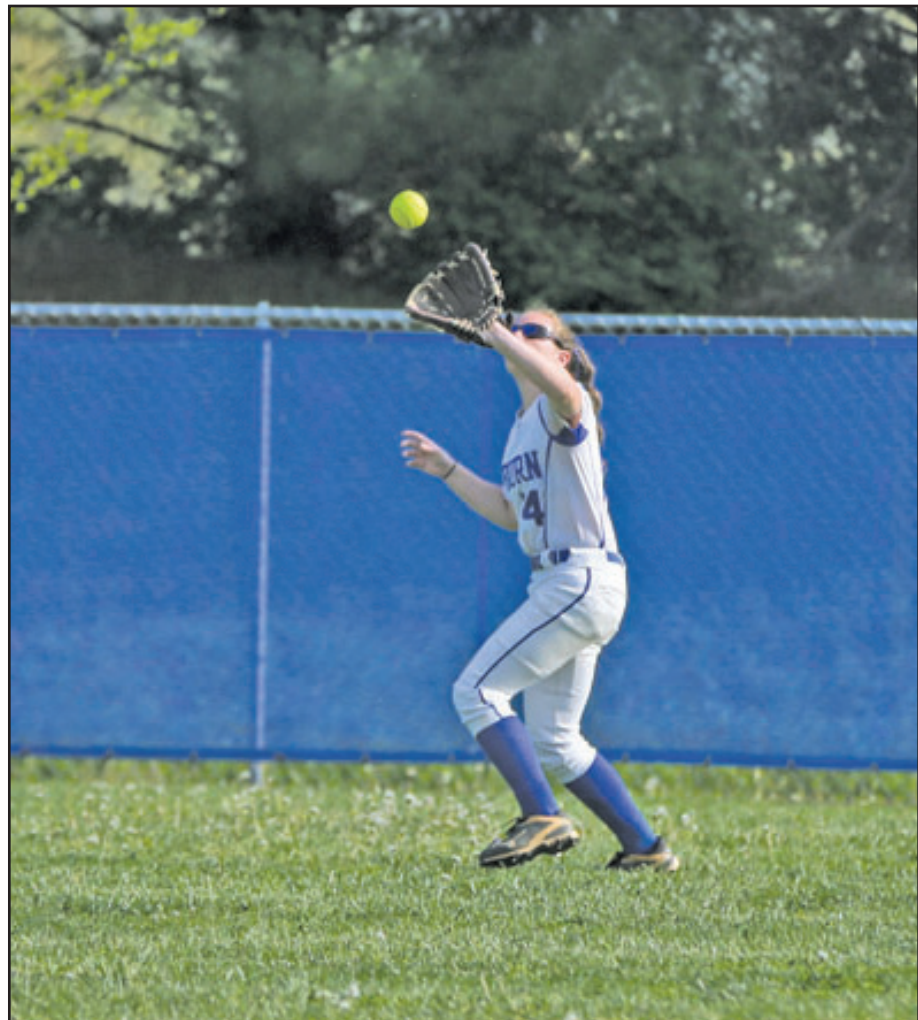


Auburn's Tyler Sparrer dives back to the bag at first safely during the defeat of Grayson County. PHOTOS BY JAMES PERKINS

Auburn softball falls to Grayson County



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



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



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