



## Eleven West supports Marilyn Alley Memorial Scholarship fund



(Left to right) John Giesen, owner of Eleven West, a custom apparel and promotional products company, presents a check to Radford High School head soccer coach Nikki Greco and RHS Principal Tara Grant for proceeds from a T-shirt fundraiser for the Marilyn Alley Memorial Scholarship fund.

The Radford High School girls soccer team recently partnered with Eleven West, a custom apparel and promotional products company, to raise money for the Marilyn Alley Memorial Scholarship through the sale of T-shirts featuring Alley's name and soccer number with wings attached.

In February, Alley, a senior captain on the Lady Bobcats soccer team, was killed in a car accident. Head Coach Nikki Greco said John Giesen and Eleven West were a big part of the successful fundraiser.

"When we approached Mr. Giesen about getting T-shirts for the team to warm up in and potentially to sell to the public, he immediately said, 'Let's make it a fundraiser,' and Eleven West set up everything with an online campaign," said Greco. "We are so grateful to John and the Eleven West staff for all of their hard work in getting this off the ground."

On Wednesday, Giesen presented Radford High School with a \$1,000 check to be used for the Marilyn Alley Memorial Scholarship.

Heather Bell



RTW Management will assume the management of Radford Transit effective July 1.

## New contractor to take over Radford Transit operations

Heather Bell  
hbell@ourvalley.org

RADFORD – A new service provider will be managing the operations of the city's bus system as of July 1.

The City of Radford announced Thursday that RTW Management, a transit operator that has been in business for 20 years with operations in six states, will be the city's new contractor for Radford Transit.

In operation since 2011, Radford Transit's areas of service include the City of Radford, the Radford University campus, Fairlawn, downtown Christiansburg, the Aquatic Center, NRV Mall, First/Main, and the Squires Student Center in Blacksburg. It is funded by a combination of federal, state, local, and Radford University funds.

New River Valley Community Services (NRVCS) has operated Radford Transit for the City of Radford since service began on Aug. 12, 2011.

In a statement, the City of Radford said it "is happy to announce that starting July 1, 2022, RTW Management will be Radford Transit's new contractor."

"RTW is committed to safe, efficient transportation by serving the community with quality and value," the city's

statement said. "RTW will continue to provide the same ridership experience that our community currently is accustomed to. Riders should expect a smooth transition in service with no noticeable changes from the riders' perspective. We welcome RTW to Radford and look forward to working with them as they take on the role of Radford Transit's new service provider."

"During the past 10+ years we are proud of what our team has accomplished with this system in partnership with the City of Radford and Radford University," said NRVCS in a statement. "We are thankful to all of our staff who have contributed to our success. Because of the commitment and diligence of our staff, we have never canceled or missed service beyond normal vehicle issues or weather-related shutdowns."

"On July 1, RTW Management will be starting a new contract for Radford Transit," the statement says. "We have worked together to make this a smooth transition for our riders by keeping the phone number, the website address, and the app the same. We want to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve our community in this role over the last 10+ years and wish Radford Transit all the success moving forward."

## VT political science expert warns of pushback on Biden's gas tax holiday

President Biden's call on Congress to suspend the collection of the federal gas tax for three months will provide drivers short-term relief amidst soaring prices, but Virginia Tech political science expert Karen Hult says there could be some pushback from some legislators.

"Many see such a temporary suspension of the gas tax as a way of curbing inflation, reducing the risk of recession, and providing drivers short-term relief amidst soaring gasoline prices," Hult said. "However, the brief suspension does little to address the problems underlying the price hikes: growing demand, insufficient U.S. refinery capacity, and the war in Ukraine."

Hult notes that some Senate Democrats in contested states have been calling for such a holiday for several months, as such has been reported since at least February.

"Many House Democrats seem likely to join them, particularly those running for newly redistricted seats and facing the headwinds of a poor economy and an unpopular president," said Hult. "At the same time, other Democrats may be concerned both that the holiday is inconsistent with moving toward cleaner energy and that money from the Highway Trust Fund also supports mass transit projects."

"Meanwhile, at least some Republicans may be reluctant to support a President whom Republican voters oppose," said Hult. "Many others may be concerned about possible effects on inflation after the holiday ends."

"Some Republicans have joined others who view such steps as empty symbolism with few concrete benefits," said Hult. "Congressional Republicans also might be ex-



PHOTO CREDIT: PIXABAY

pected to argue the call is driven by Democratic fears of losing the House and Senate in the November midterm elections."

Hult says another challenge will be responding to Biden's call that Congress offset the loss of funds to the Highway Trust Fund (approximately \$10 billion). To be deficit neutral that would mean cutting or postponing funding

elsewhere; otherwise, it would involve additional short-term spending.

About Karen Hult  
Virginia Tech political science professor Karen Hult teaches political science at Virginia Tech and its Center for Public Administration & Policy with expertise in the U.S. Presidency, U.S. state politics, policy, and governance, and organizational and institutional theory.

## Study: Seismic waves from earthquakes reveal changes in the Earth's outer core

In May 1997, a large earthquake shook the Kermadec Islands region in the South Pacific Ocean. A little over 20 years later, in September 2018, a second big earthquake hit the same location, its waves of seismic energy emanating from the same region.

Though the earthquakes occurred two decades apart, because they occurred in the same region, they'd be expected to send seismic waves through the Earth's layers at the same speed, said Ying Zhou, a geoscientist with the Department of Geoscienc-

See **Seismic Waves**, page 2

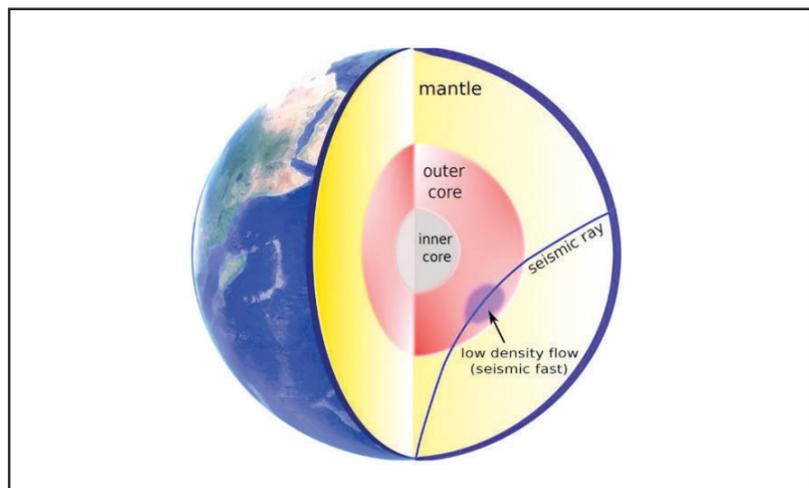


IMAGE COURTESY OF YING ZHOU.

The blue path illustrates a core-penetrating seismic wave moving through a region in the outer core, where the seismic speed has increased because a low-density flow has moved into the region.

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Wednesday, June 29:

**Beach Party**  
At the Blacksburg Library at 3 p.m. Come check out the beach, right at the library. Dig through the sand and make some ocean slime. Some supplies are limited.

## Monday, July 4:

**Radford's Spirit of America Celebration**  
The City of Radford's Independence Day celebration will be held at Bisset Park from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. Live music, food and craft vendors, children's games and fireworks will all be a part of the fun.

## Tuesday, July 5:

**Summer backpack program**  
At the Meadowbrook Public Library at 3:30 p.m. The summer backpack program is intended to help families with children and teens stretch their grocery budget. The bags are filled with nutritious food with one bag per child per week. This is a drop-in program with crafts for the kids each week in addition to the bags of food. The program is drive-thru only at the curb side of the library. Open to residents of Eastern Montgomery County only. For more information, call the Meadowbrook Library at 540-268-1964.

## Thursday, July 7:

**American Legion meeting**  
American Legion Harvey-Howe-Carper 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.

## Saturday, July 9:

**Mt. Tabor Ruritan fish fry**  
The Mount Tabor Ruritan Club will hold its July fish fry from 5 to 7 p.m. at Slusser's Chapel Picnic Shelter, 1543 Mount Tabor Rd, Blacksburg. The club will be serving up fish; fries and slaw; homemade desserts; and beverages. The cost is \$12 for adults, \$6 for children under 12; free for children un-

der three. Carry-outs are \$12. This month, the Blacksburg Community Band will be playing. The fish fry will be held rain or shine. Call or text 540-449-6178 for further information. On Facebook at MtTaborRuritan.

## Tuesday, July 12:

**Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting**  
The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant at 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are invited to attend. For further information, call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

## Thursday, July 14:

**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., Radford. All skill levels of quilters are welcome. For more information, call Anna Handy, 540-320-7791.

## Ongoing:

**United Way Emergency Food Pantry in need**  
The United Way NRV Emergency Food Pantry supply is critically low. Anyone able to donate any pantry items can drop them off at the Christiansburg office at 111 West Main St.

# Food Lion grant to benefit Warm Hearth Village

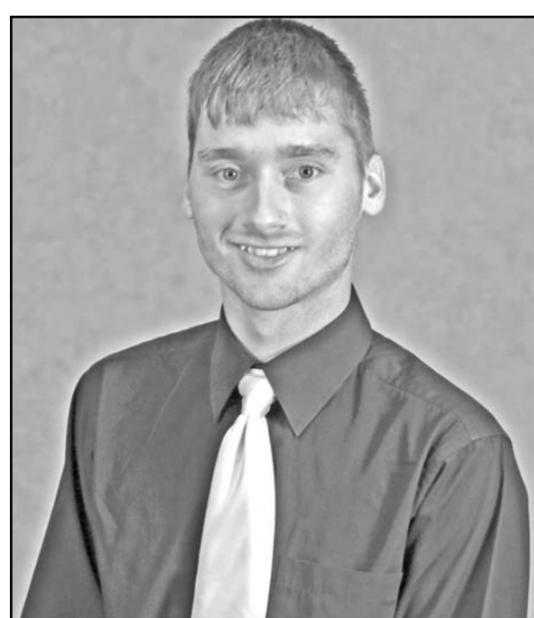
BLACKSBURG – The Food Lion Feeds Charitable Foundation recently awarded a \$500 grant to the Warm Hearth Foundation to support Micah's Pantry. Located on the Warm Hearth Village campus, Micah's Pantry opened this May and operates as a storefront to help fight food insecurity by providing food and meals to village seniors

who meet federal low-income guidelines. The Micah's Pantry program at Warm Hearth Village includes a variety of opportunities like fresh produce, prepared meals, gardens on campus to grow and tend, shelf-stable groceries, pet food, and personal care items. "We are so grateful for this gift and for being able to work alongside

others in our local community who share our passion for making a difference," said Karen Nelson, Associate Director of Development for Warm Hearth Village. Warm Hearth Village is a nonprofit senior living community in Blacksburg that provides a full continuum of living options on its campus and in the home.



Taking part in Food Lion's recent grant to Warm Hearth Village were (left to right) Food Lion Customer Service Manager Paige Dripps, Warm Hearth Village Associate Director of Development Karen Nelson, and Food Lion Store Manager Chris Simpkins.



New River Community College student Nathan Shupe is the college's first electronics technology student to receive his Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) certification as a remote pilot.

# NRCC student Nathan Shupe receives FAA certification as remote pilot

New River Community College student, Nathan Shupe, recently received his Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) certification as a remote pilot after completing a course as part of the electronics technology program at the college. He is the first electronics technology student at NRCC to complete this certification in conjunction with the course.

The program at NRCC is a two-year associate degree that includes courses about drones, which Shupe took this spring.

The course, UMS 107-Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) Remote Pilot Ground School, taught by Adjunct Instructor Steve Taylor, covers regulations applicable to sUAS operations, loading and performance, emergency procedures, crew resource management, determining the performance of the sUAS, and maintenance/inspection procedures. It helps students prepare for the FAA written test required to receive the remote pilot certificate.

While attending NRCC,

Shupe also works at the New River Valley Airport in Dublin. He believes his work at the airport assisted him when taking the test. Shupe says that with his certification he hopes to do some photography freelance work with a drone. He says he is happy to have the certification "under his belt" for whatever job he pursues in the future. He is also working on an associate degree in instrumentation and control automation technology at the college and is interested in transferring to Old Dominion University.

# Seismic Waves

from page 1

es in the Virginia Tech College of Science. But in data recorded at four of more than 150

Global Seismographic Network stations that log seismic vibrations in real time, Zhou found

an anomaly among the twin events: During the 2018 earthquake, a set of seismic waves known

as SKS waves traveled about one second faster than their counterparts had in 1997.

According to Zhou, whose findings were recently published in Nature Communications Earth & Environment, that one-second discrepancy in SKS wave travel time gives us an important and unprecedented glimpse of what's happening deeper in the Earth's interior, in its outer core.

The outer core is sandwiched between the mantle, the thick layer of rock underneath the Earth's crust, and the inner core, the planet's deepest interior layer. It's composed mainly of liquid iron that undergoes convection, or fluid flow, as the Earth cools. This resulting

swirling of liquid metal produces electrical currents responsible for generating the Earth's magnetic field, which protects the planet and all life on it from harmful radiation and solar winds.

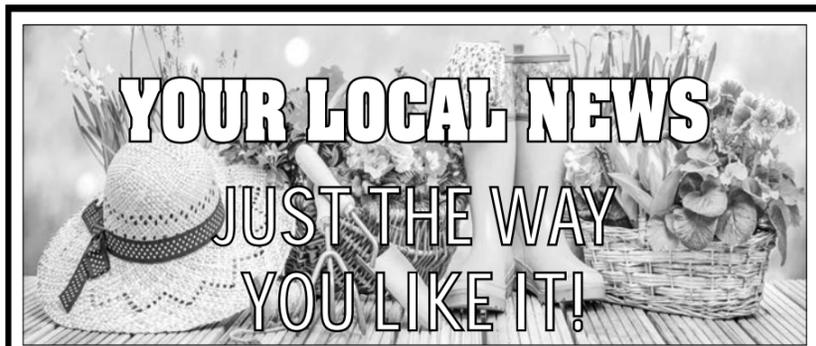
Without its magnetic field, the Earth could not sustain life, and without the moving flows of liquid metal in the outer core, the magnetic field wouldn't work. But scientific understanding of this dynamic is based on simulations, said Zhou, an associate professor. "We only know that in theory, if you have convection in the outer core, you'll be able to generate the magnetic field," she said.

Scientists also have only been able to spec-

ulate about the source of gradual changes in strength and direction of the magnetic field that have been observed, which likely involves changing flows in the outer core.

"If you look at the north geomagnetic pole, it's currently moving at a speed of about 50 kilometers [31 miles] per year," Zhou said. "It's moving away from Canada and toward Siberia. The magnetic field is not the same every day. It's changing. Since it's changing, we also speculate that convection in the outer core is changing with time, but there's no direct evidence. We've never seen it."

By Suzanne Irby



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# Fourth-generation grad adds to Ecuadorian family's Hokie legacy

If you're a firstborn son in the Andrade family, you likely go by two titles: Carlos and Virginia Tech graduate.

Carlos Andrade Coello proved the latter true by accepting his degree in industrial systems engineering this May in front of his father, Carlos Andrade Moscoso '94, and grandfather, Carlos Andrade González '72.

"It's kind of like in the Olympics, when runners pass the torch," said Carlos Andrade Coello, who spent most of his life in Guayaquil, Ecuador. "This tradition's big in my family, and now it's my time to go out and make a name for myself."

At commencement, he became the fourth generation of the Ecuadorian family to graduate from Virginia Tech, a streak that dates back to his great-grandfather Carlos Andrade Ribas's earning a chemistry degree in 1944.

"It feels amazing," his father, Carlos Andrade Mos-

coso, said. "Dude, when he got into the engineering program, we were jumping up and down back at the house. It was great. So this is a very proud moment."

According to the family, Carlos Andrade Ribas, who died in 2002, was drawn to Virginia Tech, then named Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College and Polytechnic Institute, by the strength of the university's chemistry program.

"My grandfather's father always wanted his kids to study in the states," said Carlos Andrade Moscoso, who traveled from Ecuador for graduation. "He was the vice president of the Rotary Club worldwide [Rotary International] and was living in New York. So when it came time for my grandfather to go to school, he said he wanted to study chemistry because that's what the family business was. They did some research and found out Virginia Tech had a really good chemistry department."



(From left) Glenn Spring '94, Carlos Andrade Moscoso '94, Carlos Andrade '22, Carlos Andrade González '72, and James Archer '72 celebrate Carlos Andrade Coello's graduation. Photo courtesy of the Andrade family.

With a degree in hand, Carlos Andrade Ribas returned to Ecuador to work in the family's pharmaceutical business. When it came time for his son, Carlos Andrade González, to attend a university, the father's

good experience with Virginia Tech was influential.

"He mentioned it and I saw the albums [yearbooks] he had," Carlos Andrade González said. "I had good references [for the university], not

only from family, but I also inquired a little bit about it, I read about it, so it was a good choice."

Though not a U.S. citizen, Carlos Andrade González joined the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets when he came to

campus, which he very much enjoyed.

"I made good friends, and I really liked it. Even though the pace was hectic, I didn't mind it," he said.

By Travis Williams

## PETS OF THE WEEK



This is Mischief. He's a sweet young pup who can't wait to go home. He can be a little shy but once he's found his person, he becomes a cuddly lap dog who loves affection, including being hugged and carried.



If you're looking for a smaller pet, Marble may be the furry friend for you. She is a guinea pig who has been a short-time resident at the Animal Care and Adoption Center. Marble is a nice girl who comes with her own portable home.

## OBITUARY

### Alls, Thomas Kevin

Thomas Kevin Alls, 52, of Blacksburg, died Sunday, June 26, 2022, at Roanoke Memorial Hospital.

He was born in Radford on Oct. 31, 1969, to the late Thomas Leroy and Judy Hunter Alls.

He is survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Jason and Angie Alls; niece and nephews, Hayden, Evann, Justin Buckner and wife Brook, Isaac Buckner and wife Hannah; his fiancé, Vera Caldwell and

daughter Kasey Caldwell; special friends John Sewell and Jeff Caldwell; and numerous other friends.

Memorial services will be conducted today, Wednesday, June 29, 2022, at 7 p.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel. The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m., Wednesday evening at the McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Dr. S.W., Blacksburg, and at other times, 1755 Mt. Tabor Road, Blacksburg.

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

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# VDOT from page 4

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

Nighttime left lane closures for both the northbound and southbound directions of Route 11 are possible between the intersections referenced above.

**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.

**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 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.

**SURFACE TREATMENT OPERATIONS** – Weather permitting, crews will begin surface treatment operations on various routes. Lane closures may be in place and flaggers may control traffic at times during daylight hours. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays. The road surface may be rough for several weeks after surface treatment is applied. Once it packs down, the road surface will be brushed and return to a more smooth surface.

Left or right lane closures may be in place on I-581 northbound from Orange Avenue to Valley View Boulevard from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Left or right lane closures may be in place on I-581 from Valley View Boulevard to Orange Avenue from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Flagging operations may be in place on Liberty Road NW from Lukens Street NE to Hunt Avenue NW from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**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 6 a.m. Drivers should watch for moving vehicles and equipment. Expect possible delays.

Milling and paving operations on I-77 southbound lanes are underway. Right lane closure will be in place from mile marker 9 to 7. Ramp restrictions possible.

Latex application on I-77 northbound 2 lanes near mile marker 11 are underway. Ramp closures are possible. Message boards will alert drivers.

**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.

**I-77 MOWING, BRUSH REMOVAL & SHOULDER WORK** – Weather permitting, crews will remove and clear brush and work on shoulders and slopes along I-77 northbound and southbound from mile marker 17 to 14 during nighttime hours, 7

p.m. to 7 a.m. the following morning. A left lane closure will be in place.

**ROANOKE CITY 13th STREET SE IMPROVEMENTS WITH DETOUR**

– A project to improve a portion of 13th Street SE in Roanoke is underway. Located in a residential neighborhood just east of downtown Roanoke, this project will improve traffic flow and connectivity along 13th Street SE from Tazewell Avenue to Norfolk Avenue. The project entails reconstructing about 0.2-mile of 13th Street as an improved, two-lane roadway with 10.5-foot-wide travel lane and a raised median. A new roadway will extend 13th Street to Norfolk Avenue and the intersection at 13th Street and Wise Avenue will be reconfigured to include a roundabout. Bike lanes, sidewalks, crosswalks and curb and gutter will also be added. Southbound 13th Street traffic has a detour in place using Norfolk Avenue onto 12th Street to Tazewell Avenue. This detour will be in place throughout the duration of this project. Signs will be posted to designate the detour route. Northbound 13th Street will remain open to traffic. Flaggers may be possible and the speed limit through the work zone is 25 mph. The project is expected to be completed in summer 2023.

**SURFACE TREATMENT OPERATIONS** – Weather permitting, crews will begin surface treatment operations on various routes. Lane closures may be in place and flaggers may control traffic at times during daylight hours. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays. The road surface may be rough for several weeks after surface treatment is applied. Once it packs down, the road surface will be brushed and return to a more smooth surface.

**ROANOKE COUNTY ROUTE 311 AND ROUTE 419 ROUNDABOUT AT HANGING ROCK**

– A road project to replace the signalized intersection of Route 311 and Route 419 in Roanoke County at Hanging Rock with a roundabout is set to begin. During construction, lane closures and a road closure with a detour will be in place through August. Drivers should expect the following:

**Closure & Detour:** A portion of the Route 419 and Route 311 intersection is closed and a detour is in place for approximately four to six weeks. It is scheduled to reopen in August or September. Motorists should be aware of the following impacts:

- Traffic will not be able to turn left from Thompson Memorial Drive (Route 311) onto Catawba Valley Drive (Route 311)

- Thompson Memorial Drive traffic will not be able to drive straight through the intersection onto Route 419.

- Route 419 traffic will not be able to continue straight at the intersection onto Thompson Memorial Drive.

During the partial intersection closure, drivers will need to use alternate routes and can detour using Interstate 81 exit 140 onto Thompson Memorial Drive and exit 141 onto Route 419. Using Main Street in Salem to reroute onto Route 419 or Thompson Memorial Drive around the partial intersection closure is another option.

The new roundabout is expected to be open to traffic in August or September. Drivers should still expect nighttime lane closures with flaggers between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday around the roundabout for final paving, pavement marking and sign installation.

**ROUTE 628 CUL-**

**VERT REPLACEMENT** – Route 628 (Greenridge Road) is undergoing a culvert replacement located .25 miles east of the road's entrance from Route 780 (Cove Road). Lane closures on Route 628 utilizing temporary traffic signals will be in place through August 2022. Expected completion is October 2022.

**ROUTE 760 (DIUGUIDS LANE) BRIDGE REPLACEMENT & DETOUR** – A project to replace the Route 760 (Diuguids Lane) bridge over the Roanoke River is underway with preliminary work. The bridge is located at the Salem city limits near Route 760's intersection with Route 639 (West Riverside Drive). The 45-day detour is now expected to go in place July 5. Signs will be posted two weeks in advance of the road closure. Drivers will use Mill Lane or West Riverside Drive to detour and return to Diuguids Lane. Typical work hours are expected to be Monday through Saturday during daytime hours with occasional work on Sunday. Flagging operations may be in place periodically and occasional night work is possible. Drivers can expect short-term lane closures with flaggers controlling traffic on West Riverside Drive periodically. Access to Green Hill Park, private entrances and businesses will be maintained at all times. Completion is expected in the winter of 2022.

Flagging operations are in place, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., on southbound Diuguids lane as well as the intersection of Harborwood Road/W Riverside Drive. A right lane closure northbound may also be in place, Monday through Friday.

**BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY CLOSURE** – The Blue Ridge Parkway is repairing slope failures. Detour signs to detour traffic around the Bent Mountain section of the Parkway will be in place. Traffic will be rerouted to Route 220 south to Route 419 north to Route 221 south. Traffic traveling north on the Parkway would be reversed.

**PAVING OPERATIONS** – Weather permitting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement on various routes. Lane closures may be in place and flaggers may control traffic at times during daylight hours. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

- Crack seal operations will be performed on Route 419 South near Route 1699 and Salem City Limits.

- Milling and paving operations, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. with single lane flagging, in Roanoke County include:

- o Route 605 (Shadwell Drive / Old Mountain Road) from Roanoke City Limit to Route 627.

- o Route 601 Hollins Road from Route 115 to Route 627

**SURFACE TREATMENT OPERATIONS** – Weather permitting, crews will begin surface treatment operations on various routes. Lane closures may be in place and flaggers may control traffic at times during daylight hours. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays. The road surface may be rough for several weeks after surface treatment is applied. Once it packs down, the road surface will be brushed and return to a more smooth surface.

**BEDFORD COUNTY ROUTE 460 S-CURVE REALIGNMENT**

– Work is coming to a close to realign 1.4 miles of the eastbound lanes of Route 460 in Bedford County near Montvale, about eight miles west of Bedford and approximately 2.3 miles east of Montvale. All lanes are now open. Speed limit has returned to 55mph. Drivers may see residual work continue and traffic impacts such as lane closures may be

possible. Message boards will be posted to alert drivers. Completion is expected in Summer 2022.

**ROUTE 757 PIPE REPLACEMENT CLOSURE** - Effective July 11, 2022 at 8 a.m., a section of Route 757 (Joppa Mill Road) and Route 691 (Shepherds Store Road) will be closed for a pipe replacement. This closure will be located 0.10 of a mile from Route 691 (Shepherds Store Road) and 0.75 mile from Route 807 (Scenic View Road) and 1.36 miles from Route 745 (Mount Olivet Road). There will be signage for a detour that follows Route 24 (Stewartsville Road) and Route 122 (Moneta Road). The road is scheduled to be completed on Aug. 8 at 5 p.m.

**ROUTE 807 CLOSURE** - Effective July 5 at 8 a.m., a section of Route 807 (Scenic View Road) will be closed to install a concrete slab span on a structure over a branch of Goose Creek. This closure will be located 0.70 mile from Route 747 (Joppa Mill Road) and 1.30 miles from Route 24 (Stewartsville Road). The road is scheduled to be completed on July 14 at 4 p.m.

**ROUTE 221 INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS** – A project to improve safety and operations at three signalized intersections is underway. Two intersections are on Route 221 in Bedford County in the Salem District and one is at Route 460 Business (Timberlake Road) and Route 622 (Waterlick Road) in Campbell County in the Lynchburg District. In Bedford County, this project will improve two adjacent signalized intersections in the Forest area on Route 221 at Route 1425 (Graves Mill Road) and at Route 1426 (Gristmill Drive). Most work will be performed during nighttime hours, Monday through Friday, 6 p.m. – 7 a.m. the next morning. Drivers may see shoulder and lane closures during daytime hours on the weekends. The project is expected to be completed in spring 2023.

**ROUTE 655 INTERSECTION AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS** – Construction to improve the intersection and shoulders began on Route 655 and various locations from 0.91 mile north of the Route 653 and 655 (Goodview Road and Route 616 (Horseshoe Bend Road) to 0.038 mile north of the Route 655 (Good View Road) and Route 616 (Horseshoe Bend Road) is in progress. Flagging operations at the intersection of Goodview Road and Horseshoe Bend will be in place during the week and work hours of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The expected completion date is the end of September 2022.

**ROUTE 691 PIPELINE REPLACEMENT** - A section of Route 691 (Quarles Road) will be closed due to a pipe failure. The closure is located .40 mile from Route 726 (Quarterwood Road) and 1.30 mile from Route 619 (Pendleton Road). The road will be closed until further notice.

**ROUTE 623 CULVERT REPLACEMENT** - A section of Route 623 (Turkey Foot Road) in

Campbell County on the Bedford County line is closed to replace a culvert which carries Buffalo Creek. This structure is located .18 mile north of US 460 and 0.68 mile south of the Bedford/Campbell County line. There will be signage for a detour. The road is scheduled to be completed on July 29 at 5 p.m.

**ROUTE 619 CULVERT REPLACEMENT** – A project to replace a culvert on Route 619 is underway. Route 619 will be reduced to one lane with a temporary signal controlling traffic from Route 1460 to Route 839 and will continue to stay closed until late June 2022. The expected completion of the project is the end of September 2022.

**ROUTE 715 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT** – A bridge replacement project over Norfolk Southern Railroad has closed Route 715 (Lowry Road). The bridge is located 0.085 mile south of Norfolk Southern Railroad on Route 715. Message boards will alert drivers. This replacement will change the current single lane steel and wooden bridge to a two-lane concrete bridge. A detour will be in place. Travelers will use Route 671 (Timber Ridge Road) to Route 221 (Forrest Road). The detour will remain in place until project completion which is scheduled for Fall 2022.

**SURFACE TREATMENT OPERATIONS** – Weather permitting, crews will begin surface treatment operations on various routes. Lane closures may be in place and flaggers may control traffic at times during daylight hours. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays. The road surface may be rough for several weeks after surface treatment is applied. Once it packs down, the road surface will be brushed and return to a more smooth surface.

Surface treatment is scheduled for Routes 839, 700, 616, 791, 749, 608, 731 and 735, weather permitting. Drivers may expect flagging operations on any of the routes listed above.

**ROUTE 619 CULVERT REPLACEMENT** – Crews are replacing a culvert on Route 619 with a road closure in place. The closure is being operated by temporary signals through August 26, not to exceed 90 days. A flagging operation will be used as needed on Route 619 from Route 1460 to Route 839 during the hours of 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Expected completion is the end of September 2022.

**B O T E T O U R T COUNTY**

**ROUTE 674 CULVERT REPLACEMENT** – A culvert replacement on Route 674 (Tinker Mill Road) is underway. Temporary signals are in place to control traffic through a single lane at the culvert during construction. Expected completion is early July 2022.

**ROUTE 817 (OLD RAIL ROAD) BRIDGE WORK** – Old Rail Road in Oriskany is closed for repairs to the bridge over Craig's Creek, the historic McCallister Truss Bridge.

The bridge is located 0.60 miles from Route 704 (Branchwater Road) and 0.20 miles from Route 770 (Edlo Lane). The bridge will be closed during daytime hours, 8 a.m. through 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday, when the water level is low. Work on this bridge is restricted when water in the creek is high. All traffic between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. will use the Edlo Ford. Signs have been posted to alert drivers. Estimated time for completion Fall 2022.

**PAVING OPERATIONS** – Weather permitting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement on various routes. Lane closures may be in place and flaggers may control traffic at times during daylight hours. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

**CARROLL COUNTY ROUTE 645 CULVERT REPLACEMENT**

– Partial removal and demolition of the existing culvert on Route 645 (Stone Mountain Road) is underway. The road will be closed for removal of existing culvert and installation of a new box culvert. A detour will be in place at the intersections of Route 645 and Route 618 and Route 645 and Route 638. Estimated completion is April 2023.

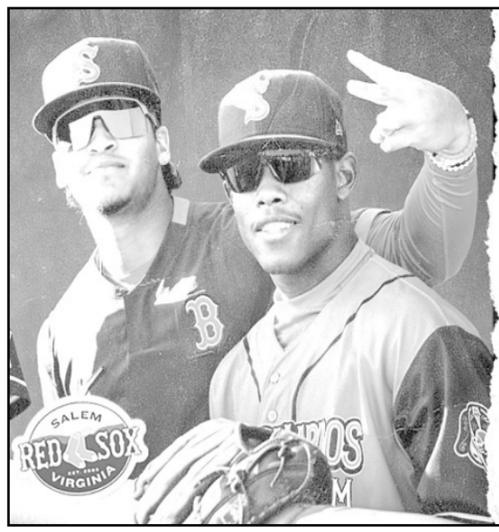
**ROUTE 608 CLOSURE FOR CULVERT REPLACEMENT** – Route 608 (Coal Creek Road) is closed for a culvert replacement located in the vicinity of Route 815. Message boards will alert drivers. Drivers will need to seek alternate routes. The road will reopen on Friday, July 8.

**ROUTE 58 WESTBOUND BRIDGE REPLACEMENT** - Work is underway to replace the bridge on Route 58 westbound over Crooked Creek near the Woodlawn area. The bridge is located between the intersections with Route 822 (Fieldview Road) and Route 887 (Glendale Road). Initially, the project will focus on constructing crossovers between the above-mentioned intersections with intermittent and temporary single lane closures in place. These crossovers are temporary during the bridge replacement with single lanes in each direction until the end of the project. Once the crossovers are complete, Route 58 westbound will be temporarily detoured through the left lane of Route 58 eastbound, limiting travel in each direction to a single lane. A right lane closure will be in place traveling westbound and a left lane closure traveling eastbound. The project is scheduled to be completed in December 2022.

**TRAFFIC SHIFT** – A traffic shift is in place reducing both directions to one lane near Glendale Drive. It will be in place for approximately 12 months or until fall 2022. All eastbound traffic will use the existing right eastbound lane. All westbound traffic will be shifted to the existing left eastbound lane.

Right lane closures may be in place on Route 58 eastbound between Route 822 (Fieldview Road) and Route 887 (Glendale

See VDOT, page 10



**KANNAPOLIS VS. SALEM**

**JULY 12 7:05**  
SERIES OPENER - GATES OPEN 6:00 PM

**JULY 13 1:05**  
GAME TWO - GATES OPEN 12:00 PM

**JULY 14 7:05**  
BARK IN THE PARK & THIRSTY THURSDAY - GATES OPEN 6:00 PM

**JULY 15 7:05**  
MARVEL VILLAIN NIGHT & FIREWORKS - GATES OPEN 6:00 PM

**JULY 16 6:05**  
CHRISTMAS IN JULY - GATES OPEN 5:00 PM

**JULY 17 5:05**  
KIDS RUN THE BASES - GATES OPEN 4:00 PM

# Virginia Tech hosts national steel bridge competition

Virginia Tech recently welcomed hundreds of engineering students from across North America to its Blacksburg campus for the National Student Steel Bridge Competition.

Virginia Tech's hosting duties were announced at the 2019 Student Steel Bridge Competition at Southern Illinois University. Because of COVID-19, the event was canceled in 2020 and 2021.

The main competition and awards banquet took place in the Beamer-Lawson Indoor Practice Facility. Turf that normally is covered with footballs and cleats was transformed to hold steel beams and hard hats, and the aesthetics judging area of the competition was located in the concourse of Lane Stadium. During the two-day event, participants had the opportunity to socialize, explore campus, and take in the famous Hokie Stone architecture.

The Student Steel Bridge Competition is sponsored by the American Institute of

Steel Construction, which works with host schools to plan the regional events and national finals. Top teams made up of undergraduate and graduate students from over 20 regional events qualified to compete at the national finals in Blacksburg.

The competition challenges student teams to develop a scale-model steel bridge. This build starts ahead of the competition in the design and fabrication of a team's bridge and includes a thorough plan for efficient assembly under timed construction at the competition. Once it is built during the competition, the bridges are load tested and weighed. The competing teams are judged in seven categories: construction speed, lightness, aesthetics, stiffness, cost estimate, economy, and efficiency.

"The steel bridge competition is a unique growing experience for students because it presents them with an uncomfortable problem to solve, one which their



Virginia Tech's Steel Bridge team members before the national competition. Photo by Peter Means for Virginia Tech.

professor does not have the answer to," said Zachary Coleman, a graduate student in the Charles E. Via, Jr. Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) who helped organize the event.

Coleman competed in the steel bridge competition as an undergraduate student a few years ago and said the experience was an opportunity for significant personal growth. "For many students, this com-

petition is the first time they must leverage their engineering judgment, research skills, and ingenuity to work toward a solution as a team," he said.

For this year's event, Coleman was one of three

graduate students from CEE who led the planning and organization. Ten other graduate students and multiple staff members also pitched in.

By Courtney Sakry



At the VCU Massey Cancer Center, Robert Winn is the director of one of only 71 cancer centers designated by the National Cancer Institute to lead its research and training. Photo courtesy of VCU Massey Cancer Center.

## Nationally renowned cancer center director to speak on importance of health for black men

As a pulmonologist with a focus on lung cancer, Robert Winn has reached the pinnacle of his profession, becoming the director of one of only 71 cancer centers designated by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to lead its research and training. At the VCU Massey Cancer Center, he is focused on eliminating health disparities and building a model for promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion within the oncology workforce.

Winn, however, believes that the health and well-being of a community begins at home.

"One in two men will be diagnosed with cancer, and the fact of the matter is that it could be prevented in many of them," said

Winn. "Proper screening is the first step toward reversing these numbers and increasing overall health. Men matter! Having a dialogue about cancer prevention is not a suggestion; it is critical to the well-being of every man and to the foundation of every community."

Winn, the first Black director at an NCI-designated cancer center, is visiting the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine for a talk called "Generational Health: An Intimate Conversation on Black Men and Health Disparities." Hosted by the Black Father Family Initiative, a partnership with the United Way of Roanoke Valley, the event will be held at 7:30 p.m. July 14.

William Lee, the founding chairman of New Horizons Healthcare and the former pastor of Roanoke's Loudon Avenue Christian Church, will join Winn for the discussion. It is open to the public and free of charge with a suggested donation to Black Father Family, but registration is required.

In addition to the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, sponsors of the talk include Black Father Family, United Way of Roanoke Valley, New Horizons Healthcare, and Alpha Kappa Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

By Josh Meyer

## New app helps farmers manage row crop pests

Using modern technology ensures farmers can produce more efficient, maximum crop yields, and now there's a new tool of the trade: a smartphone app that helps growers keep damaging pests at bay.

The new MyIPM Row Crop app helps farmers identify crop pests and diseases and provides pest management information like labeled pesticides and application rates. It includes photos and descriptions of insects and diseases, as well as life cycle information and non-chemical control methods.

"The goal is to reach as many producers as possible to help them mini-

mimize costs and crop losses from insects, diseases and weeds," explained Sally Taylor, an associate professor of row crop entomology at Virginia Tech, who contributed to the app's development.

The app was created by Clemson University with the support of the Southern Region Integrated Pest Management Center and other university researchers in mid-Atlantic and Southeastern states. Free in Apple and Google app stores, the easy-to-use, interactive app allows farmers to select pest management information for corn, cotton, peanuts, sorghum and soybeans.

After the initial download, the app can be used regardless of a phone's data connection, a helpful feature for growers in rural areas where connectivity is limited. When a data connection is available, users will receive updates with new or revised information.

"Pesticides and pest complexes are continually changing, and this app will allow us to communicate those changes in real time as opposed to relying on annual print publications," Taylor noted.

Robert Mills, a farmer in Pittsylvania County, said row crop farmers like himself have needed an

app like this for a while.

"It is really good for identifying certain pests," said Mills, a Virginia Farm Bureau Federation board member. "It takes out one of those steps where we have to call somebody or take a picture of it and send it to an extension agent or crop specialist."

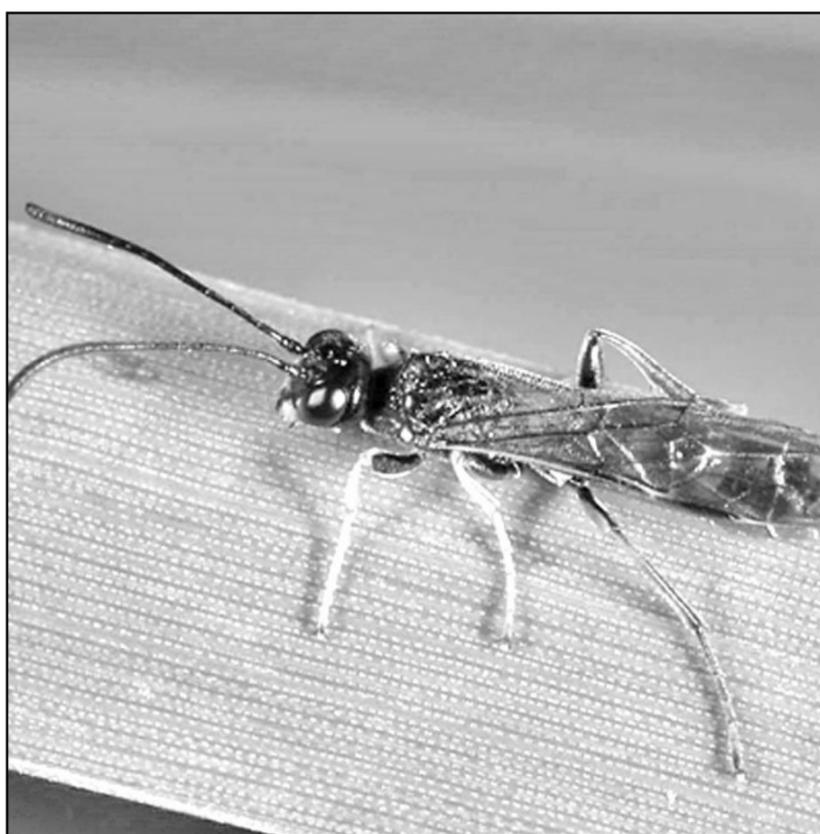
The app also benefits farmers because "every-

thing is about speed and getting things done in a timely manner.

"I think it speeds the process up. Whether it's a disease or an insect, it matters how quickly you find them and how quickly you deal with them," Mills explained. "This is the direction we're going. We're going to be doing self-diagnostics on pests we're combating at the

time, and we're going to want to find out what we need and then take care of it."

Taylor said they're continuing to add new data and enhance the smartphone app's features, creating a comprehensive platform with more disease, pest and weed management information for crops and other small grains.



Send community news and photos to [communitynews@ourvalley.org](mailto:communitynews@ourvalley.org)

In honor of  
4th of July

**OUR NEWSPAPER  
offices will be closed on  
Monday, July 4th, 2022  
And will reopen on  
Tues., July 5th  
@ 8:30 a.m.**

All ads for July 6th  
and July 7th papers  
need to be in our  
office by  
**Friday, July 1st  
at 12:00 Noon.**

# Marketplace

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**Legals - Botetourt County**

**Order of Publication**  
 Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104  
**Case No. CL21000744-00**  
 Botetourt County Circuit Court 1 West Main Street/ P.O. Box 219, Fincastle, VA 24090  
 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re **Jimmie Lois Williams**  
 The object of this suit is to: Appoint guardian and conservator for Jimmie Lois Williams. It is ordered that unknown relatives of Jimmie Lois Williams and Samuel Jones appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before **July 13, 2022**  
 Signed by: Judge Joel R. Branscom June 6, 2022

**Order of Publication**  
 Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104  
**Case No. CW21000078-00**  
 Botetourt One West Main St, Suite 120, Fincastle, VA 24090  
 Commonwealth of Virginia in re **MICHAEL DEWEY MYERS, DECEASED**. The object of this suit is to **LOCATE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MICHAEL DEWEY MYERS, DECEASED**. It is **ORDERED** that **ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS** appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interest on or before **JULY 29, 2022**. Dated **JUNE 17, 2022**. Tommy L. Moore, Clerk.

**Legals - City of Salem**

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**  
 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION COUNTY OF AVERY  
**FILE NO. 22-CVD-105**  
**TINA MARIE JACKSON, Plaintiff,**  
 vs-  
**CHARLES MARTIN JACKSON, Defendant.**  
 TAKE NOTICE that a Complaint seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled proceeding. The nature of the relief sought is: **JUDGMENT OF ABSOLUTE DIVORCE**. You are required to Answer this Complaint not later than July 27, 2022, that being 40 days from the date of the first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the Plaintiff herein will seek the relief sought by the action. This, the 16th day of June, 2022.  
 Thomas G. McMurray, Esq. Attorney for the Plaintiff  
 756 West King St.  
 Boone, NC 28607  
 (828) 386-1116

**Order of Publication**  
 Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104  
**Case No. CL20000259-00**  
 CITY OF SALEM 2 East Calhoun Street, Salem VA 24153. **RICHARD HARDY V. MIA WALK-HARDY**. The object of this suit is to: **TO OBTAIN A DIVORCE**. It is **ORDERED** that **MIA WALK-HARDY** appear in the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before **AUGUST 5, 2022**. Dated **JUNE 7, 2022** Stacy L. Owen, D.C., Clerk

**Legals - Montgomery County**

**VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY**  
 COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Case No. CL22-447  
 Complainant, v. **ARCHIE E. CROMER, JR., ET AL.**, Respondent(s).  
**ORDER OF PUBLICATION**  
 The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Montgomery, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Montgomery, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 091-A35 Account No. 004387.  
 All that certain lot, piece or parcel of land with all improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto, lying and being in the Riner District, Montgomery County, Virginia, lying on the waters of Plum Creek, located south of (now or formerly) Lee Highway, about five miles west of the Town of Christiansburg, to-wit: **BEGINNING** at an iron in a line of (now or formerly) Charlton's land; thence with a line of said Charlton land and with the line of the land of Ruth C. and Archie E. Cromer, Jr. (now or formerly) S 55 degrees 45 minutes E (passing said Cromer's corner at 79 feet) 1000 feet to a chestnut snag at a corner in said Cromer's lines; thence with another line of the land of said Ruth C. and Archie E. Cromer, Jr., S 35 degrees 10 minutes W 400 feet to an iron; thence running two new lines with P.H. and Beulah Mae Wright as follows: N 55 degrees 45 W 1000 feet to an iron and thence N 35 degrees 10 minutes E 400 to the **BEGINNING**, containing an area of 9.1815 acres, according to a survey and plat, dated June 14, 1955, made by John W. McNair, Jr., Certified Land Surveyor, plat of which was recorded in the Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk's Office on July 8, 1955 in Deed Book 194 at Page 160B, but which reference is hereby made for a more particular description.  
 And being the same

**Legals - Montgomery County**

property conveyed to Archie E. Cromer and Ruth Charlton Cromer, husband and wife, as tenants by the entirety with the right of survivorship, from P.H. Wright and Beulah Mae Wright, husband and wife, by Deed, dated July 1, 1955 and recorded July 8, 1955 in the Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 194 at page 160.  
 This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described including but not limited to those recorded in Deed Book 194 at Page 160B, Deed Book 566 at Page 810, Deed Book 861 at Page 269, Deed Book 458 at Page 232.  
**IT APPEARING** that an Affidavit has been made and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identities and location of certain parties to be served, that the last known address for the Respondents herein are as follows: Archie E. Cromer, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Ruth Charlton Cromer, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Archie E. Cromer, III, whose last known address is 2809 Plum Creek Rd, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073; Charlton Cromer, whose last known address is 1725 Gate Rd #6, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the Respondent named herein are made parties Respondent to this action individually and/or by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained appear on or before July 7, 2022 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.  
 Entered on the 8th day of June, 2022.  
 Erica W. Conner, Clerk  
 I Ask For This: John A. Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805)  
 Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC  
 P.O. Box 31800  
 Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800  
 Phone: (804)545-2500  
 Facsimile: (804)545-2378  
 TACS No.: 647066

**NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**  
 June 28, 2022  
 Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Housing and Community Development 600 East Main Street, Suite 300 Richmond, Virginia 23219  
 Chloe Rote (804) 840-1909  
 Chloe.Rote@dhcd.virginia.gov  
 These notices shall satisfy procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS  
 On or about July 15, 2022 the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) will submit a request to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Richmond Office (HUD) for the release of HOME funds under Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, Title II, 1990, as amended, to undertake one project known as Leggett Building Apartments. The project is proposed for rehabilitation using DHCD State HOME funds in the amount of \$700,000. Taylor Hollow Construction will be converting the former Leggett Building in downtown Radford into 11 mixed-income rental units. The units will be a mix of one and two bedrooms and will have elevator access, making them accessible to handicapped or senior residents. Five of the units will be affordable to households earning at or

**Legals - Montgomery County**

below 60% of the area median income; two units will be affordable to a household earning at or below 50% of the area median income. The vacant commercial building is located at 1129 East Main Street in Radford. The estimated total cost of construction is \$2,952,000. **FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**  
 DHCD has determined that the project in all phases on the contiguous site will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR). The ERR will be made available to the public for review either electronically or by U.S. mail. Please submit your request by U.S. mail to Chloe Rote (DHCD) 600 East Main Street, Suite #300, Richmond, VA 23219 or by email to Chloe.Rote@dhcd.virginia.gov.  
**PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
 Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to DHCD, 600 E. Main St, Richmond, VA 23219. All comments received by 4:30pm July 14, 2022: will be considered by DHCD prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which notice they are addressing. **ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION**  
 DHCD certifies to HUD that Bryan Todd in his capacity as Director consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these

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**Legals - Montgomery County**

responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the DHCD to use Program funds. **OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**  
 HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and DHCD certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of DHCD; (b) the State has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted via email or phone in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to the HUD Richmond CPD Office at the following address: CPD\_Covid-19environmentalobjections.RIC@hud.gov, or by phone at (804) 842-2610  
 Potential objectors should contact the HUD Richmond CPD Office via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.  
 Bryan Horn  
 Director, DHCD

**STATEWIDE ADS**

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# MONTGOMERY SPORTS

## Southwest Virginia Swim League competition at Shawnee Swim Club



Blacksburg Aquatic Center's Mindolay Fike dives in at the start of the 50-yard freestyle at the Shawnee Swim Club for a third week of Southwest Virginia Swim League competition.



7-year-old Lucas Clark surveys the competition at the start of the 25-meter breaststroke as the Shawnee Sharks hosted a swim meet this past Thursday.



Abraham Du placed first in the 9-10-year-old 50-meter breaststroke with a time of 48.84.



Nathan Chen swims the 11-12-year-old 50-meter breaststroke for the Blacksburg Aquatic Center Orcas.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING



PHOTO COURTESY OF REBECCA MINNICK

## Local woman flying high in sport of disc golf

**Marty Gordon**  
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

After she finished in the top 20 of the World Amateurs disc golf competition this past weekend, Virginia Tech PhD student Rebecca Minnick now ranks among the best players on the circuit.

Disc golf is a flying disc sport in which players throw a disc at a target. It is played using rules similar to golf. The latest estimates say more than a million people regularly compete in disc golf.

Jim Conrad, last year's world professional champion, is a Blacksburg native and is encouraging others to follow in his footsteps.

"It's an amazing sport that is very cheap, is extremely accessible and is becoming more and more so with the addition of new courses. You can easily play it by yourself or in a group," Minnick said during a recent interview.

She started playing disc golf only a year and half ago but now runs a large Ultimate Frisbee group in Blacksburg.

The two sports are similar in that they both use a plastic disc commonly known as a frisbee. Ultimate Frisbee is a non-contact, self-refereed team sport. Two teams of seven players compete on a playing field about the same length as a football field, but narrower, with an end zone on each end of the playing field. Each team defends an end zone.

Disc golf is a game that is very similar to golf. Instead of using golf balls and golf clubs, players throw a disc into a basket or at a target. The score is kept in the same manner as golf with the lowest score winning.

Minnick is looking to turn her love of disc golf into a professional career and recently launched a GoFundMe effort to help with this endeavor.

"It's simple. I fell in love with this sport a little over a year ago," she said. "This year, I decided I wanted to make a career out of disc golf. I have never felt so sure about a direction in my entire life. This journey has been an amazing dream."

Her GoFundMe is to help cover tournament fees, traveling costs, and lodging expenses.

Her competitive schedule for the year includes more than 30 tournaments.

"I spent a lot of time researching which tournaments I wanted to compete in," she said. "I was interested in several things: 1) I wanted the tournaments to have a large playing field in my division (for more competition); 2) I wanted as many A-Tier tournaments as possible and B-Tier if they were good tournaments; 3) Most of the tournaments needed to be less than eight hours away; 4) I wanted tournaments that I believed would give me the opportunity to prepare for playing open and going on tour."

"I have used all of my tournaments to work on my mental game a lot," she said. "I have focused on working on my mental game/preparation more so than my disc golf game because I believe it to be more important."

Minnick is originally from West Virginia and has lived in Blacksburg since 2012. Her tournament travels have led her to 14 states and Canada. So far, she has been successful on the tour including representing Virginia Tech as a member of the Disc Golf Club.

"I am competing at a very high level for only having been in disc golf for just one and half years," she said. "I will likely be a PDGA 900 rated player by the end of the year, which is definitely pro level. For most of the year I was ranked #1 in the nation for collegiate disc golf women and my team, which consisted only of me, was ranked #2 in the nation," she said.

Earlier this year, she tied for first place at the Collegiate Disc Golf National Championships against 31 other women, going into a sudden death playoff and eventually placing second.

So far this year, she has finished in first place in 18 tournaments.

She has also won three A-Tiers this year in FA1 (Advanced), which is the highest division before going to FPO (Open/Pro).

She is also becoming pretty popular on social media, specifically Instagram with her handle: Ace-

Babiece. Minnick gained that name after hitting two aces in two consecutive tournaments.

Her ultimate goal is to become a touring pro.

"I plan on making disc golf the main part of my life and see where that takes me," she said. "It's very exciting. I am loving life and what I have been given the opportunity to do, and I have never felt more sure about anything in my life."

"I have not followed James Conrad's career in detail, but I have seen him play on coverage a significant amount," Minnick said. "I am still very new to disc golf, so I don't know a lot about many of the pro's careers in detail, but I am learning more and more as I have time. I'm honestly too busy playing disc golf myself, working on my PhD, playing ultimate frisbee, and just living life to have time to keep up with any one pro."

For those wanting to get into the sport, Minnick encourages them to buy a putter and maybe a midrange disc and go play a short nine-hole course, google it, and/or connect with the local disc golf community, and ask them what discs are good beginner-friendly discs.

"There are also usually people that are happy to give form advice and help people to have something to aim towards or work on, if that's what they're wanting," Minnick said. "The main thing is to have fun and enjoy it and there are so many ways to do that."

The Montgomery County Parks and Recreation Department has a 37-hole Disc Golf course at 390 Cinnabar Road. This unique course consists of wooded fairways with a variety of elevation gains. Out of 4,300 national public courses listed in the disc golf course database, Golden Hills is one of only 19 in the United States with 37 holes.

### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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# Radford High girls' head basketball coach steps down

**Marty Gordon**  
Contributing writer

Radford High School is advertising for a new girls' head basketball coach after Timothy Worles stepped down late last week.

A full-time minister at Calvary Baptist Church, Worles had served as an assistant before taking the head coach's role this past year. He said he made the decision to step down for his family and ministry.

"When you say yes to one thing, you always say no to another. It was getting to where I was saying no too much to my family and ministry," Worles said in an email.

"It was the hardest decision I've had to make," he said. "I love the girls in our program and the direction we were heading. I envy the next coach and hope he can stay long-term. The girls deserve it."

Worles's wife, Hannah-Kait, served as an assistant coach but recently had the couple's first child.

Worles played for Rick Cormany's 2011 state championship team while his wife won the championship the same year as a member of the Lady Bobcats.

This past season, the Lady Cats were 15-7 losing in the second round of the state playoffs to Gate City.

# Pulaski quarterback to suit up for CHS Blue Demons this fall

Pulaski County quarterback Cam Cooper will wear the blue and gold this fall as a Christiansburg High School Blue Demon.

This past week Cooper participated in 7-on-7 summer drills with CHS.

After showing promise early on last season for Pulaski, Cooper suffered a broken collar bone and was unable to finish the season.

Cooper's addition could allow rising CHS junior Tanner Evans to remain in the defensive lineup

where he was almost as important last season as he was on the offensive side of the ball. Cooper was recently named the top signal caller at two at-large football camps.

The Virginia High School League has released its "master fall schedule" for the upcoming fall with few surprises.

Blacksburg will face Giles and Lord Botetourt to open the season before an open week to prepare for River Ridge District play.

Christiansburg will open with Floyd, Abingdon, and William Byrd before a breather going into River Ridge action.

Radford will tangle with George Wythe, Gate City, Ft. Chiswell, and Christiansburg.

Auburn faces Narrows, Craig, Floyd, and Eastern Montgomery in its out-of-district schedule.

Eastern Montgomery will see familiar foes in Holston, Rural Retreat, North Cross, and Auburn.

# Marcus Moore cards hole in one at Auburn Hills



PHOTO COURTESY OF AUBURN HILLS GOLF CLUB

Marcus Moore recently carded his first-ever hole in one on hole number 7 on the Auburn Hills Golf Club's Riner course.

## VDOT from page 5

Road).

**CRAIG COUNTY**  
**ROUTE 311 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT OVER MEADOW CREEK** - Temporary signals to control traffic across the bridge will be in place throughout the project. Construction has begun on the northbound side of the bridge, and once completed, work will switch to the southbound side. In addition, a section of Route 646 (Allen Street) between Route 650 and Route 311 will be closed during construction and a signed detour will be in place. All traffic will be detoured to Marshall Street and Kanawha Street to access either 311 or the homes located off Allen Street. Speed limit will be reduced to 35 mph in the work zone with a width restriction of 9 feet. Drivers should expect delays and allow extra travel time through the work zone. Weather permitting, the bridge is expected to be open to traffic by the end of 2022.

**FLOYD COUNTY**  
**FLOYD 4th OF JULY CELEBRATION** - Route T1009 between Floyd Elementary School and Floyd County High School will be closed on July 4, 2022 from 4 p.m. to midnight for the 4th of July celebration of 2022.

**PAVING OPERATIONS** - Weather permitting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement on various routes. Lane closures may be in place and flaggers may control traffic at times during daylight hours. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

Route 221 northbound, milling and filling operations from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m.

**FRANKLIN COUNTY**  
**ROUTE 726 CLOSURE** - Effective July 5 at 8 a.m., a section of Route 726 (Wads Gap Road) will be closed for a low water structure replacement. This structure is located one mile South of Route 613 (Naff Road) and .2 mile north of Route 664 (Hicks Hollow Road). The road is scheduled to be completed on Aug. 3 at 5 p.m.

**ROUTE 619 CLOSURE** - Effective August 3 at 8:30 a.m., a section of Route 619 (Pleasant Hill Road) will be closed for one day for a pipe replacement. This closure will be located 0.3 mile south of Route 40 (Franklin Street) and 0.4 mile north of Route 939 (Menefee Road). The road is scheduled to be completed on August 3 at 7 p.m.

**ROUTE 834 AND 670 ROUNDABOUT PROJECT** - The roundabout project at Route 834 (Brooks Mill Road) and Route 670 (Burnt Chimney Road) is underway. Flaggers will be controlling traffic around the intersection of Route 670 (Burnt Chimney Road) and Route 834 (Brooks Mill Road) on weekdays during the spring and summer months. The speed limit will be reduced to 35 mph in the work zone. Drivers should expect traffic shifts and new traffic patterns throughout the duration of the project as turn lanes and portions of the new roundabout are being constructed. The new roundabout with lighting is anticipated to open to traffic in fall 2022. Overall project is expected to be completed in early 2023.

ers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

**ROUTE 220:** Crack sealing operations are in place on northbound Route 220 near Route 618 and Route 718 during nighttime hours. Drivers can expect alternating lane closures with flagging operations.

**SURFACE TREATMENT OPERATIONS** - Weather permitting, crews will begin surface treatment operations on various routes. Lane closures may be in place and flaggers may control traffic at times during daylight hours. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays. The road surface may be rough for several weeks after surface treatment is applied. Once it packs down, the road surface will be brushed and return to a more smooth surface.

**GILES COUNTY**  
**ROUTE 673 ROAD WIDENING AND RESURFACING** - The widening, stabilizing, and resurfacing of Route 673 (Penvir Road) is underway. Work begins at the intersection with Route 61 (Wolf Creek Highway) through 1.2 miles south of the intersection. Drivers can expect intermittent single lane closures controlled by flagging operations. Expected completion is September 2022.

**VILLAGE OF NEWPORT 4th OF JULY PARADE** - A parade will be held in the Village of Newport on July 4 beginning at 11 a.m. The parade will begin at the Newport Christian Church at 115 Rose Circle and will travel on Route 42 East for approximately 1.25 miles to the Newport Ball Park. Parade expected to last 45-60 minutes. Drivers should expect closures and delays.

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