

## News Messenger

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Blacksburg

Christiansburg

Saturday, January 21, 2023

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USPS 016-490

\$1.00

Montgomery Museum  
OF ART & HISTORY  
4 E. Main St, Christiansburg, 540-382-5644

**Tranquility**  
Works by David Petersen

An exhibit of local and distant tranquil places  
both oil paintings and photography,  
in color and in black and white

**Reception and Meet-the-Artist**  
The museum lobby, February 2nd 5pm-7pm  
Wine and light refreshments will be provided

For more information: <https://montgomerymuseum.org/exhibits/petersen/>

David Petersen's exhibit, "Tranquility," features local and distant tranquil places, both oil paintings and photography and both in color and in black and white.

Montgomery Museum  
OF ART & HISTORY  
4 E. Main St, Christiansburg, 540-382-5644

**From Earth to Stone**  
Works by Tom Jossen

His creations are ceramic, thrown pieces to which are added  
glazes, melted glass, painted imagery, and found items  
to offer the viewer a sense of wonder

**Reception and Meet-the-Artist**  
The museum lobby, February 2nd 5pm-7pm  
Wine and light refreshments will be provided

For more information: <https://montgomerymuseum.org/exhibits/jossen/>

Tom Jossen's "From Earth to Stone" features ceramic pieces to which are added glazes, melted glass, painted imagery, and found items.

## Montgomery Museum presents two new art exhibits on Feb. 2

The Montgomery Museum of Art and History, 4 East Main St. in Christiansburg, has two new art exhibits of pottery and oil and photography now on display. A reception and open house (meet-and-greet with the artists) will take place at the museum on Feb. 2, from 5 to 7 p.m.

"From Earth to Stone" is an art exhibit by Tom Jossen that features ceramic pieces to which are

added glazes, melted glass, painted imagery, and found items to offer a sense of wonder. His work will be on display at the museum through the end of March.

"Tranquility," is an exhibit by David Petersen that features local and distant tranquil places both oil paintings and photography, in color and in black and white.

Most of Petersen's tranquil places can be found within a 50-mile radius

of Montgomery County. Petersen's work may show a place like Mabry Mill, McAfee Knob, the Smokies, or the Outer Banks in a different light or covered with snow or even the feathery hoar frost, which forms only under special cold conditions, usually at high elevations.

The exhibit features both oil paintings and photography in equal

See Exhibits, page 4

## One of Virginia's "Most Endangered Artifacts" now on display at Black House

BLACKSBURG - Now on display at the Alexander Black House and Cultural Center second floor is what has officially been declared to be

See Artifacts, page 4



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BLACKSBURG MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER  
This St. Luke and Odd Fellows Hall ceremonial collar was selected by the Virginia Association of Museums as part of their "Virginia's Top 10 Endangered Artifacts program." It is now on display at the Alexander Black House and Cultural Center in Blacksburg.

## Two-car crash sends four juveniles to local hospitals

According to the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, shortly before 4:00 p.m. Monday, Jan. 16, a two-vehicle crash on Roanoke Road at the intersection of North Fork Road in Montgomery County resulted in the hospitalization of four juveniles in one of the vehicles.

A 60-year-old female who was in the second vehicle was uninjured.

Multiple fire and rescue units from Montgomery County and surrounding jurisdictions responded along with the sheriff's office.

The injuries sustained by the four juveniles were deemed to be "serious," and they were transported to local hospitals. The cause of the crash remains under investigation by the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Crash Team.

~ Montgomery Co. Sheriff's Office

## Blacksburg man hopes to help feed homeless with \$100,000 lottery winnings

Nicolas Houssini likes to help people. The Blacksburg man drives for Uber and says he enjoys assisting people in their everyday lives.

On January 1, he became one of seven \$100,000 winners in Virginia's New Year's Millionaire Raffle. As he claimed his prize, he told lottery officials he hopes to use at least part of his prize to help feed homeless people.

"I love Blacksburg, and I love people!" he said. "I want to give back!"

He bought ticket #580519 at the 7-Eleven at 1350 North Main Street in Blacksburg. The other six \$100,000 winning tickets were bought in Chantilly, Fredericksburg, Gloucester, Midlothian, Portsmouth and Woodstock.

Five \$1 million winning tickets were bought in Burke, Danville, Henrico, Midlothian, and Woodbridge.

~ News Messenger staff report



PHOTO COURTESY OF VIRGINIA LOTTERY PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS DEPT  
Nicolas Houssini

## Machine de Cirque brings poetry, humor, and dizzying feats in innovative circus show

Infusing poetry, intelligence, and humor into an innovative circus show, Machine de Cirque's ode to creativity, "La Galerie," comes to the Moss Arts Center on Friday, Jan. 27, at 7:30 p.m.

Seven acrobats and an eccentric musician take in a monochrome art exhibit and, with a creative spark, set off an explosion of color. In mocking defiance of convention, these wacky and endearing characters eagerly

explore an exhibition from the inside out.

Spectators are taken on a trip to the outer boundaries of art by means of a totally out-of-this-world exhibit, where movements from white to color and shifting sets create the most unexpected scenes. Dizzying feats, astonishing discoveries, poetic liberties, and a serious dose of some silly good fun come together in "La Galerie."

The performance will be held in the center's Anne and Ellen Fife Theater, located within the Street and Davis Performance Hall at 190 Alumni Mall.

Boasting performers from Cirque du Soleil, Cirque Eloize, and Les Sept Doigts, Québec City-based Machine de Cirque creates ingenious and deeply human performances that skillfully blend the highest levels of contemporary circus with music and theater. Driven by this unifying vision,

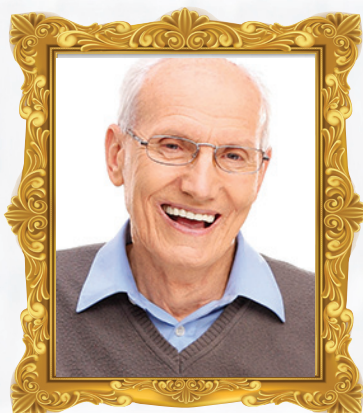
Machine de Cirque's unique approach to the circus arts produces shows that dazzle the mind, touch the heart, and move the spirit.

Founded in 2013 under the initiative of Vincent Dubé, Raphaël Dubé, Yohann Trépanier, Ugo Dario, Maxim Laurin, and Frédéric Lebrasseur, Machine de Cirque launched its first production — the

See Cirque, page 4

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### Saturday, Jan. 21:

## Sunday, Jan. 22:

**Community quilting bee**  
At the Blacksburg Library at 1p.m. Participants can learn a new quilt-making skill or simply enjoy each other's quilty company. Supplies will be provided for a year-long table runner project.

## Monday, Jan. 23:

**Radford City Council meeting**  
The Radford City Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the council chambers at the Radford Municipal Building, 10 Robertson St., Radford. See the agenda at [www.radfordva.gov](http://www.radfordva.gov).

**Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting**  
The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors will meet at the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St. in Christiansburg. Closed sessions begin at 6 p.m. if needed. Open sessions begin at 7:15 p.m. Citizens are invited to attend and will be allowed to speak at each meeting. All regular meetings of the Board of Supervisors are rebroadcast on Montgomery County Comcast and Shentel Channels 190 daily.

**Crafting Like It's 2023: Winter wonderland terrarium**

At the Radford Public Library at 1 p.m. Participants can bring their project(s) and create their own winter terrarium or work on something new. Bring a globe, a box or a jar of their choosing and use provided supplies to create a small winter wonderland. Some containers will be provided.

**Tuesday, Jan. 24 and ongoing:**

**NRV Cares Parent Education: Parenting young children**  
At the Radford Public Library; 5 to 7 p.m. A free eight-week parenting class presented by NRV Cares. A FREE dinner will be provided from 5-5:30 p.m., and free childcare will be included for the duration of the class. Register by email at [Keli@nrvcare.org](mailto:Keli@nrvcare.org) or by text to Julie at (540) 494-0806

**Christiansburg Town Council meeting**  
The Christiansburg Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the council chambers of Town Hall (100 E. Main Street). The public is welcome and is encouraged to attend with a citizen hearing time reserved at each meeting for residents to bring any matters they desire before the entire council.

**Chess club for teens and tweens**  
At the Radford Public Library from 6 to 7 p.m. Teens (ages 9-17) are invited to practice chess skills with each other or with Dave. No experience is necessary, just interest.

### Free GED Classes

New River Community College is offering free GED classes at the Meadowbrook Library every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 5 to 8 p.m. The classes began on Tuesday, Jan. 17 and end on Thursday, May 11. For more information or to sign up, call the Meadowbrook Library at 540-268-1964.

### Wednesday, Jan. 25:

**Sustainable Blacksburg Lunch and Learn:  
Listening session**

At the Blacksburg Library from noon to 1 p.m. This is an annual listening session in which participants tell what they want to learn about in the year ahead, and attempts will be made to meet those needs. Everyone is welcome, and an opportunity to participate virtually will be provided.

### Saturday, Jan. 28:

**2023 Winter Summit Dialogue on Race**  
At Christiansburg Middle School, 1205 Buffalo Dr., Christiansburg from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Coffee with Cops opens the day at 9 a.m., and the main program will begin at 10 a.m. The summit's theme is Reflecting on our past. Facing the future. The program will include a presentation of "10 years of Accomplishments," issue group progress reports, a high school student panel, and an adult community panel. Register through Constant Contact.

**Family movie matinee: “Turning Red”**  
At the Radford Public Library at 11 a.m. Disney and Pixar present the story of a young girl with this funny and inconvenient problem: She turns into a giant red panda every time she gets excited. The movie is rated PG with a run time of 100 minutes.

**Quilting marathon**  
At the Meadowbrook Library from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The public is invited to come see the Meadowbrook Quilters do their thing. The group will be working on individual projects. This is a great opportunity to see their handiwork. Spectators may bring their quilting projects or questions for assistance. This program is open to all ages.

## Monday, Jan. 30:

**Crafting Like It's 2023: Painted terracotta pots**  
At the Radford Public Library at 1 p.m.  
Participants can bring their own project or work on something new such as painting a small terracotta

pot and filling it with whatever they want to. Pots and paint will be provided while supplies last.

## Tuesday, Jan. 31:

**English Conversation for Adults**  
At the Blacksburg Library from 7 to 9 p.m. This class will be ed by Carole and Bob Dellinger. Call the library at 540-552-8246 for more information. No childcare will be provided.

**Friday, Feb. 3, and Saturday, Feb. 4:**

**Book sale**  
The Radford Public Library will hold a book sale from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. As always, a large selection of free books is available.

## Thursday, Feb. 9:

**River City Quilt Guild**  
The River City Quilt Guild will meet at 9:30 a.m. at Grove United Methodist Church, 1020 Tyler Ave., Radford. The guild welcomes all skill levels of quilters. For more information, call Anna Handy at 540 320 7791.

**Free GED Classes**  
New River Community College is offering free GED classes at the Meadowbrook Library every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 5 to 8 p.m. The classes began on Tuesday, Jan. 17 and end on Thursday, May 11. For more information or to sign up, call the Meadowbrook Library at 540-268-1964.

## Monday, Feb. 13:

**Radford City Council meeting**  
The Radford City Council will hold its regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m. in the council chambers at the Radford Municipal Building, 10 Robertson St., Radford. See the agenda at [www.radfordva.gov](http://www.radfordva.gov).

**Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting**  
The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors will meet at the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St. in Christiansburg. Closed sessions begin at 6 p.m. if needed. Open sessions begin at 7:15 p.m. Citizens are invited to attend and will be allowed to speak at each meeting. All regular meetings of the Board of Supervisors are rebroadcast on Montgomery County Comcast and Shenel Channels 190 daily.

## Tuesday, Feb. 14:

**Blacksburg Town Council meeting**  
The Blacksburg Town Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers of the Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 S. Main St. These meetings are open to the public and are televised live on WTOB Channel 2.

**Christiansburg Town Council meeting**  
Regular Town Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers of Town Hall (100 E. Main Street). The public is welcome and encouraged to attend with a citizen hearing time reserved at each meeting for residents to bring any matter they desire before the entire council.



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### Legals - Montgomery County

**Order of Publication**  
Commonwealth of Virginia  
VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104 Case No. CL22002082-00  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re MARCELA VAZQUEZ HOWARD v. EDGAR ALLEN HOWARD  
The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that EDGAR ALLEN HOWARD appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MARCH 13, 2023. JANUARY 11, 2023 ERICA W. CONNER, CLERK

### Legals - Montgomery County

**TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 1524 WALTON RD, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073.**  
  
In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated April 26, 2007, in the original principal amount of \$107,950.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Virginia as Instrument No. 2007004900. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Montgomery County, 55 East Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia on February 27, 2023, at 4:15 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH ALL IMPROVEMENTS THEREON AND APPURTENANCES THEREUNTO BELONGING, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE RINER MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS

### Legals - Montgomery County

FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A ROD IN THE NORTHEAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF VIRGINIA STATE SECONDARY ROUTE NUMBER 663, CORNER TO NOW OR FORMERLY ROY D. BURTON; THENCE FROM SAID BEGINNING POINT WITH THE LINE OF ROY D. BURTON, THE FOLLOWING LINES: N 81 DEG. 28' E 241.14 FEET TO A POST; THENCE N 17 DEG. 00' E 29.06 FEET TO A POST; THENCE N 44 DEG. 15' E 20.87 FEET TO A DEAD LOCUST; THENCE N 54 DEG. 07' E 54.23 FEET TO A POST; THENCE N 50 DEG. 11' E 119.67 FEET TO A LYNN TREE ON BANK OF BRANCH; THENCE N 41 DEG. 35' E 25 FEET TO A STAKE; THENCE LEAVING THE LINE OF ROY D. BURTON, A NEW LINE, IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION 100 FEET TO A STAKE; THENCE S 54 DEG. 07' W 250.0 FEET TO A STAKE; THENCE IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION 241.14 FEET TO A STAKE IN THE NORTHEAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF VIRGINIA STATE SECONDARY ROUTE NUMBER 663; THENCE WITH THE NORTHEAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF VIRGINIA STATE SECONDARY

### Legals - Montgomery County

ROUTE NUMBER 663, N 24 DEG. 29' W 36.85 FEET TO A ROD; THENCE STILL WITH THE NORTHEAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF VIRGINIA STATE SECONDARY ROUTE NUMBER 663, N 27 DEG. 30' W 73.15 FEET TO A ROD IN THE LINE OF ROY D. BURTON, THE POINT OF BEGINNING. TOGETHER WITH THAT DEED OF EASEMENT DATED 11/25/2003 AND RECORDED 12/8/2003 AS INSTRUMENT NUMBER 2003020733. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the

### Legals - Montgomery County

Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at [www.bwwsales.com](http://www.bwwsales.com). Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: [www.bwwsales.com](http://www.bwwsales.com). VA-360092-1.

## ADVERTISE!

### CEMETERY MAINTENANCE THE DIGNITY GROUP

Highland Memory Gardens is looking for a Full Time cemetery ground maintenance person. A Great Place to Work. Chance for advancement. Great Benefit package, Health, Dental, Vision, uniforms, and 401-K. Retirement program pay commensurate with experience. Must be able to pass a background check and drug test. **For confidential interview call Paul at 540-674-5231.**

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To place your ad, call 389-9355

# Seven charged in Southwest Virginia heroin, meth trafficking conspiracy

ABINGDON, Va. – A federal grand jury in Abingdon, Virginia, has indicted seven individuals as part of a large-scale heroin and methamphetamine trafficking conspiracy that brought the drugs from Michigan into Southwest Virginia and Eastern Tennessee for redistribution.

The four-count indictment, returned under seal last week and unsealed on Wednesday, Jan. 18, following multiple arrests, charges Robert Earl Warr, 32, of Detroit, David Edward Farmer, 56, of Strawberry Plains, Tenn., John Joel Foster, 50, of Lee County, Va., Robert Lee Jenkins, 25, of Detroit, Ray Anthony McSwain, 28, of Detroit, Garrett Lee Teffeteller, 42, of Townsend, Tenn., and Darin Ken Thomas, 38, of Kodak, Tenn., as follows:

Warr, Jenkins, Farmer, Foster, and Teffeteller are charged with conspiring to distribute more than 50 grams of methamphetamine.

Warr, Jenkins, McSwain, Farmer, and Thomas are charged with one count of conspiring to distribute more than 100 grams of heroin.

Farmer and Thomas are each charged with one count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

According to court documents, the co-conspirators operated in Southwest Virginia and Eastern Tennessee from September 2021 through September of 2022. During that time, Warr, Jenkins, and McSwain traveled from Michigan to Tennessee to secure large quantities of heroin and crystal methamphetamine for local suppliers to sell throughout Southwest Virginia and Eastern Tennessee.

United States Attorney Christopher R. Kavanaugh and ATF Washington Field Division Acting Special Agent in Charge Christopher Amon announced the arrests.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; the Lee County Sheriff's Office; the Wise County Sheriff's Office; the Southwest Virginia Drug Task Force; the Knoxville, Tenn., Police Department; the Knox County, Tenn., Sheriff's Office; the Sevier County, Tenn., Sheriff's Office; and the Lee County Commonwealth Attorney's Office are investigating the case.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Lena L. Busscher is prosecuting the case for the United States.

An indictment is merely an allegation, and all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

- Dept. of Justice

# ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

## Blacksburg's Emma Bosman named to dean's list at Belmont

Emma Bosman of Blacksburg was among the students from Belmont University named to the dean's list for the Fall 2022 semester.

Belmont Provost Dr. David Gregory said, "The dean's list achievement among Belmont's student body exemplifies the campus commitment to exemplary education and the successful matriculation of the students. It is a privilege to recognize the accomplishments of the university's students in the academic space, and Belmont looks forward to the continued support, education, and growth of those who have entrusted the university to equip them with the necessary tools to thrive at the local, national, and global level."

Dean's list eligibility is based on a minimum course load of 12 hours and a quality grade-point-average of 3.5 with no grade below a C.

Located two miles from downtown Nashville, Belmont University matriculates nearly 9,000 students from every state and 33 countries. Nationally ranked and consistently recognized by U.S. News & World Report for innovation in higher education, the university offers more than 115 areas of undergraduate study, 41 master's programs and five doctoral degrees.

Achieving President's List honors from Blacksburg were Hosea Gamble, Megan Valentini, and Leah Clemens. Achieving the honor from Christiansburg were Alexandra Kienzle and Patrick Holtzman,

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit institution with a 90-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 170,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH.

## Blacksburg's Spencer Amacher earns fall dean's list recognition at Ohio Wesleyan

Spencer Amacher of Blacksburg has been named to the 2022 fall semester dean's list at Ohio Wesleyan University.

To earn dean's list recognition, Ohio Wesleyan students must achieve a grade-point-average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale in all applicable classes.

Founded in 1842, Ohio Wesleyan University is one of the nation's premier liberal arts universities. Located in Delaware, Ohio, the private university offers more than 70 undergraduate majors and competes in 24 NCAA Division III varsity sports. Through its signature program, The OWU Connection, Ohio Wesleyan teaches students to integrate knowledge across disciplines, build a diverse and global perspective, and apply knowledge in real-world settings. Ohio Wesleyan is featured in the book "Colleges That Change Lives" and is included on the U.S. News & World Report and Princeton Review "Best Colleges" lists.

**Christiansburg's Leah May Greiner makes fall dean's list at Iowa State**

Leah May Greiner is among the students who made the fall semester 2022 dean's list at Iowa

State University in Ames, Iowa. Students named to the dean's list must have earned a grade-point-average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded course work.

A senior, Greiner is majoring in animal science.

## Christiansburg's Colby Hinckley named to Harding University dean's list

Colby Hinckley, a senior from Christiansburg studying psychology, has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2022 semester at Harding University.

The dean's list is published each semester by university provost Dr. Marty Spears, honoring those who have achieved high scholarship. To be eligible, a student must carry 12 or more hours with a 3.65 or higher grade-point average with no incompletes.

Harding University is a private Christian university located in Searcy, Ark. Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, it is the largest private university in the state. Harding's student body is made up of students representing 49 states and 55 nations and territories.

The university offers more than 100 undergraduate majors, graduate and professional degrees at the masters, specialist and doctoral level as well as numerous international study offerings with locations in Australia, Latin America, England, France, Greece, Italy and Zambia.

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

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY ARREST LOG

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests from Jan. 7-13:		Felony probation violation (4 counts)
DON FOUST COMMIT DATE 1-7-2023 OFFENSE Driving while intoxicated (first offense)	C O M M I T	ETHAN CLEMMER COMMIT DATE 1-10-2023 OFFENSES Failure to appear in court for misdemeanor offense; felony probation violation
ALISHA RICHARDS COMMIT DATE 1-7-2023 OFFENSES Conspiracy to distribute narcotics; selling drugs to be resold by others; narcotics possession		ZACHARY GRIMM COMMIT DATE 1-10-2023 OFFENSES Protective order violation (2 counts)
JOSHUA MEADOR COMMIT DATE 1-7-2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession		SUDIP BASHYAL COMMIT DATE 1-11-2023 OFFENSE DUI with child
WYJI BROWN DATE 1-7-2023 OFFENSES Failure to appear; good behavior misdemeanor suspended sentence violation	C O M M I T	JACOB BREWER COMMIT DATE 1-11-2023 OFFENSE Felony probation violation
DAVID DALRYMPLE DATE 1-7-2023 OFFENSE Driving while intoxicated (first offense)	C O M M I T	KAREN HENDERSON DATE 1-11-2023 OFFENSES Resisting arrest; obstructing justice without threats of force; assault; simple assault
JESSICA OURY COMMIT DATE 1-7-2023 OFFENSE Driving while under the influence of drugs; second offense within 5-10 years		TIMOTHY DARNELL DATE 1-11-2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession
IAN WHITED DATE 1-7-23 OFFENSES Obscenity; drunk in public; obscene language	C O M M I T	CIERRA EMMERT COMMIT DATE 1-11-2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession
DEREK WEBB COMMIT DATE 1-8-23 OFFENSES Felony probation violation (three counts)		JEREMY CAHILL COMMIT DATE 1-11-2023 OFFENSE Felony probation violation
SHAILESHKUMA PATEL COMMIT DATE 1-8-2023 OFFENSE Driving while intoxicated (first offense)		DYLAN NELSON COMMIT DATE 1-12-2023 OFFENSES Kidnapping abduction by force without justification; assault; simple assault against family member
PAUL VENTH DATE 1-8-2023 OFFENSE Selling narcotics for profit	C O M M I T	ASHLEE GRIGGS COMMIT DATE 1-12-2023 OFFENSES Conspiracy to commit larceny of \$200 or more not from person; larceny \$200 or more not from person
TIMOTHY CHILDRESS COMMIT DATE 1-8-2023 OFFENSES Obscenity; drunk in public; profane language		ADAM MILLER COMMIT DATE 1-12-2023 OFFENSE Good behavior/misdemeanor suspended sentence violation
BRITTANY CUSTER COMMIT DATE 1-9-2023 OFFENSE Contempt of Court General without a jury		CHRISTOPHER JONES COMMIT DATE 1-12-2023 OFFENSES Possession of narcotics with intent to sell/distribute, subsequent conviction; narcotics possession; possession of controlled paraphernalia
FAITH STANGER COMMIT DATE 1-9-2023 OFFENSES Schedule IV narcotics possession; narcotics possession; DWI Drugs (second offense)		CYNTHIA CRAWFORD COMMIT DATE 1-12-2023 OFFENSES Felony probation violation (2 counts)
JAMES NUCKLES COMMIT DATE 1-9-2023 OFFENSE Felony probation violation		ANGEL COX COMMIT DATE 1-12-2023 OFFENSE Vandalism to property/vehicle/ aircraft or boat
INDIA BRAXTON COMMIT DATE 1-9-2023 OFFENSES Assault; simple assault against family member (third conviction)		BRITTANY CUSTER DATE 1-13-2023 OFFENSES Larceny; auto theft/grand larceny
TRISTA SMITH COMMIT DATE 1-9-2023 OFFENSE Failure to appear to felony/misdemeanor summons		KIMBERLY WORRELL COMMIT DATE 1-13-2023 OFFENSE DUI, Second offense in less than five years
CASSANDRA CALDWELL COMMIT DATE 1-10-2023 OFFENSE Felony probation violation		MARK BRUMFIELD DATE 1-13-2023 OFFENSES Weapon possession by convicted felon (non-violent); Possession/ Transporting firearm
JASON BRAMMER COMMIT DATE 1-10-2023 OFFENSES		

2023

TEACHER RECRUITING JOB FAIR

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Positions Available

- Teachers - all grades
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JANUARY 28, 2023

Salem Civic Center  
Salem, Virginia  
9 am - 1 pm

Contact Us:

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Job Fair is free

Registration link at wvpec.org

# Cirque

from page 1

company's namesake show — in May 2015 to rave reviews. This maiden production, including its cabaret version, has been performed more than 700 times in Europe, Asia, and North America with more than 300,000 attendees.

“La Galerie” runs 75 minutes and is recommended for ages 10 and up.

This performance is supported in part by gifts from Mr. Bruce Prichard and Mrs. Nancy Beville Prichard and Dr. Charles Y. Davis and Mrs. Carole C. Davis.

**Related events**

As part of the Moss Arts Center's school-day performance series, which is free for area students

and educators, Machine de Cirque will perform “La Galerie” for public, private, and homeschool families in grades five through eight from Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Floyd, and Riner.

Tickets for the performance are \$25-\$55 for general public and \$10 for students and youth 18 and under. Tickets can be purchased online; at the Moss Arts Center's box office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday; or by calling 540-231-5300 during box office hours.

~ News Messenger staff report



PHOTO COURTESY OF LOUP-WILLIAM THÉBERGE

**A Machine de Cirque artist prepares to perform in “La Galerie.”**

## News Messenger

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Michael Showell, *Publisher*  
Ed McMinn, *Editor*  
[editor@ourvalley.org](mailto:editor@ourvalley.org)

Heather Bell, *Community News Editor*  
[communitynews@ourvalley.org](mailto:communitynews@ourvalley.org)

Lynn Hurst, *General Manager*  
[lhurst@ourvalley.org](mailto:lhurst@ourvalley.org)

Randy Thompson, *Advertising Consultant*  
[advertise@ourvalley.org](mailto:advertise@ourvalley.org)

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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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## Artifacts

from page 1

one of Virginia's "Most Endangered Artifacts.”

The St. Luke and Odd Fellows Hall ceremonial collar was selected by the Virginia Association of Museums as part of their "Virginia's Top 10 Endangered Artifacts program" to receive a \$750 award for conservation efforts.

Conservator Colleen Callahan, a specialist

in costume and textile history, was selected to perform the necessary conservation work on the collar. Callahan finished her work on the collar this past June.

The ceremonial collar (ca. early 1900s) was used by members of the Tadmor Light Lodge 6184 of the Grand United Order of the Odd Fellows and the Saint Francis

Council of the Right and Worthy Grand Council of the Independent Order of Saint Luke, located at 203 Gilbert St. in Blacksburg.

St. Luke and Odd Fellows Hall was built in 1907 in the center of New Town, an African American Community in Blacksburg that emerged after the Civil War. New Town consisted of Gilbert Street and a small lane,

home to about 20 families until the neighborhood began losing residents due to desegregation in the late 1960s and commercial development in the 1970s.

St. Luke & Odd Fellows Hall is the only remaining neighborhood structure.

~ News Messenger staff report

## Exhibits

from page 1

numbers, and half of the photographs are in black and white. Petersen has been compared to Ansel Adams, although the techniques used are different, as digital photography has changed the way artists work. Petersen's photographs are often printed on stretch canvas.

Petersen took art and technical drawing classes at Andrew Lewis High School and private painting lessons from Heinz Huber. He attended Virginia Western Community College and Madison College (now James Madison University), where he stayed on for a master's degree, not in painting or photography, but in ceramics.

He taught high school art for twenty years and was an assistant principal in Blacksburg. At first he used photography only to capture subjects for his paintings, but Mike Kaylor at Blacksburg High School, who taught photography, inspired him to think of photography as an

art form in itself. Half of Petersen's studio is devoted to photography and the other half to painting.

After retiring from the Biology Department at Virginia Tech in 2007, Tom Jenssen returned to an undergraduate interest in ceramics. His creations are thrown pieces to which are added glazes, melted glass, painted imagery, and “appropriated” objects. An early example is “Good Dog” in which a jar totes a family salt shaker on its lid. This won first prize at the Radford City Fine Arts Show in 2018, validating the direction Jenssen was taking.

The animals depicted in the current exhibit range from the aquatic to the amphibious to the terrestrial. Examples include a great white shark, a sea turtle, a rhinoceros, and a giraffe.

To produce the images required a slurry of iron oxides, a very fine paint brush, and a whole lot of patience.

Jenssen had mentors along the way, like John Goodman (University of Redlands), Charles Carpenter (Oklahoma University), and Ernest Williams (Harvard). With their guidance and example, Jenssen developed a consuming interest in evolutionary biology, herpetology, and, in particular, the behavior of lizards. The latter took him to tropical habitats in Mexico, Panama, Hawaii, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic.

Recently, the topics for Jenssen's ceramics have turned increasingly toward literal expression as he explores a mixture of the traditional and the unexpected.

Tom Jenssen's ceramic pieces will be on display at the Montgomery Museum until the end of March. A public reception will be held on Feb. 2 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

~ News Messenger staff report

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Point one point E of due S

4. Slithered

8. The brain and spinal cord (abbr.)

11. Direct the steering of a ship

13. Chops with irregular blows

15. Plural of hilum

16. Incline from vertical (geo.)

17. Simple word forms

18. Paddles

19. Roman garment

21. Meat skewers

23. Ethiopia (abbr.)

25. The cry made by sheep

26. Beatty-Bening movie

30. Concealed

33. Political action committee

34. High rock piles (Old English)

35. Scottish County (abbr.)

36. Goat and camel hair fabric

37. A very large body of water

38. Fabric stain

39. Israeli city \_\_\_\_ Aviv

40. Shoe's underside

42. Military legal corps

43. Patti Hearst's captors

44. Undecided

48. '\_\_\_\_ death do us part

49. Supervises flying

50. Many headed monsters

54. Literary language of Pakistan

57. Halo

58. Hawaiian hello

63. Lubricants

65. Mild exclamation

66. Greek fresh-water nymph

67. Nickname for grandmother

68. A restaurant bill

69. Automaker Ransom E.

70. A young man

CLUES DOWN

1. Schenectady County Airport

2. Small water craft

3. Opposite of ecto

4. The woman

5. Skeletal muscle

6. Devoid of warmth and cordiality

7. Decimeter

8. Italian goodbye

9. Mediation council

10. Impudence

12. A desert in S Israel

14. Japanese seaport

15. Nob or goblin

20. Ingested

22. Swiss river

24. Protects head from weather

25. Lava rock

26. Designer identifier

27. 34470 FL

28. Petrified ancient animal

29. Gas used in refrigeration

30. Journeys to Mecca

31. Eighth month, Jewish calendar

32. Small indefinite quantity

33. Taps

41. Extremely high frequency

44. Iguanidae genus

45. From the Leaning Tower's city

46. Cologne

47. Moses' elder brother (Bible)

50. A minute amount (Scott)

51. Hindu name for 4 epochs

52. Faded and dull

53. Radioactivity unit

55. The face of a clock

56. The inner forearm bone

59. Tai language of the Mekong region

60. Embrocate

61. Possessed

62. Public promotions

64. Sorrowful

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# LAND TRANSFERS

The following land transfers were recorded in the Montgomery County Courthouse in December. The names of only one seller and one buyer are listed; others may be involved in the transaction.

- Lucas TCR LLC to Lucas Construction and Development 40.65 ac., lot 4, metes and bounds, Prices Fork Magisterial District
- William F. McAllister, Jr., to Troy McAllister, 0.2364 ac., parcel 1 and parcel 2, Riner Magisterial District \$20,000
- Craig A. Gelbert to Alan Joshua cook, Lot 16, Riverwood Estates, Ph. 1, Riner Magisterial District, \$436,000
- Dana R. Garnand to Christina Noel Byard, Lot 43, Cambria Crossing, Ph 1, Christiansburg, \$281,000
- Stateson Homes LLC to SB Addison LLC, Lot 413, Westhill Subdv., Prices fork Magisterial District, \$496,460
- VAC Construction, Inc., to JDJ LLC, Lot 14, Brush Mtn. West 2 Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$28,000
- Robert R. Beach, Jr., to Jennifer Lynn Wiley, 0.3358 ac., lot 36, Ph. III, Shenandoah Subdv., Blacksburg, \$387,500
- Sean Matthew Joyce Trust to Abram Ross Jackson, Lot 33, Slushers Farm Subdv., Blacksburg, \$700,000
- Keith William Gardner to Keith William Gardner, 1.120 ac., lot 1 and 0.340 ac., lot 2, Christiansburg
- Pennymac Loan Services LLC to Secretary of Housing and urban Development, 6.082 ac., tract C, Wilson Run Subdv., \$115,080
- FCHB, Inc., to Michael Wood, 536 Walton Road, Radford, 2 certain unnumbered parcels, 397 ac., Riner Magisterial District, \$80,940
- Arthur B. Willson to Duane E. Mink, Unit 37-1, Ph XIX, Christiansburg, \$345,000
- Karen Sue Shelton Cox to Marcie Koblos Shattuck, 0.313 ac., erroneously stated as 0.315 ac., lot 1, Christiansburg, \$235,000
- Daniel DiMarco to Daniel DiMarco, Lot 8, Highland Park, metes and bounds, Blacksburg
- Shawn Patrick Ireland to Michael Todd King, Sr., metes and bounds, see legal, Riner Magisterial District, \$19,000
- Jack M. Lewis to Lewis Revocable Trust, 4492 Preston Forest Dr., Blacksburg; Lot 11, Ph 1, Preston Forest Ph 1, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District
- Kathleen M. Calvert to Jonathan Crowe, Lot 14, Windmill Hills, Ph II, Christiansburg, \$329,000
- Shah Development LLC to Eagle Construction of Va LLC, Lots 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 412, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, and 565 Preserve at Walnut Springs, Sec. 1, Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$2,956,800
- Surety Trustees LLC to levon l. Shepherd, Jr., 2021006458, \$105,236
- April Danielle Thacker to McCown Southwest LLC, Lot 1, Lester Place, Christiansburg, \$119,000
- Stephen Donathan to Jennifer H. Lalli, two tracts, 0.175 ac and 1.104 ac., \$275,000
- Ronald A. Watson to Tony Watson, Jr., Lot 39, Atkinson Acres, Riner Magisterial District
- Catina Sue East Estate to Jacob A L Yelton, 0.259 ac., Christiansburg, \$175,000
- Briarwood Development LLC to Kathleen M. Calvert, Lot 14A, Slate Creek Commons, Christiansburg, \$335,000
- Nancy Anne Scagel to Reginald Roakes, 2019000539; 2021011954
- Tony Watson Trust to Sabrina M. Snider, Lot 39, Atkinson Acres, Riner Magisterial District, \$315,000
- Stateson Homes LLC to Rachel M. Eckard, Lot 414, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$473,560
- Last Resort Inc., to Jared Jones, 3.103 ac., Parcel I, Christiansburg, \$12,000
- Lei Zuo to Aiguo Han, Lot 35, Maple Ridge Village 4, Blacksburg, \$661,000
- Thomas Anthony Walton to Slate Ridge Investments LLC, 1402E University City Blvd., Blacksburg; Condo unit D, Bldg 105, Sundance Ridge Condos, Blacksburg
- Keith Edward Weeks to Danjo LLC, 2406 Wells St., Lots 15 and 16, Elliston 24087, \$32,000
- Addie Martin to Danjo LLC, 1880 Rustic Ridge Rd., Riner 24149, 2 lots, 1 ac., metes and bounds, Auburn Magisterial District, \$60,000
- Nancy Anne Scagel to Reginald Roakes, 2020012453, 2019000539, 2021011954, 2022008844
- Reginald Roakes to Emma Beaver, 0.331 ac., Christiansburg, \$260,000
- Joshua M. Dove to John M. Cannon, 2022005272
- Sachiel Mondesir to Mitchell Semones, Lot 20, Hunters Ridge, Ph III, Christiansburg, \$202,100
- CC and DB Development LLC to SAS Eagle Givens LLC, 0.253 ac., lot 94 and 0.195 ac., lot 121, Northside Park, Sec XII, Blacksburg
- Milagros Lopez to Mandt Development LLC, 0.996 ac., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$280,000
- Progress Street Builders, Inc., to Derinkumar P. Gandhi, 2022006475
- F and DB Land LP to R Fralin Construction Inc., Lot 35, Kensington, Ph X, Christiansburg, \$60,000
- Stateson Homes LLC to Amanda J. Swift, Lot 403, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$455,490
- Stateson Homes LLC to Deborah Carter, Lot 399, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$449,025
- Eugene W and Karen S. Carson to Edward Knoeckel, Lot 17, Ph 1, Cedar Orchard Subdv., \$533,500
- Jeremy V. Ernst to Seth Edward Hambrick, 3.108 ac., Lot A, Country Meadow Estates, Riner Magisterial District, \$430,000
- Stateson Homes LLC to Elizabeth F. Klinger, Lot 402, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$426,260
- Cole Companies LLC to traveling Manns LLC, 6.284 ac., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$200,000
- Robert Cole Harden to Jebb Roland Brumback Trust, 0.230 ac., Lot D, Blacksburg, \$260,100
- Kipps Farms LLC to Stateson Homes LLC, Lots 197, 198, 199 and 200, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$268,400
- Kipps Farms LLC to Stateson Homes LLC, lots 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$448,250
- John S. Husser III to Joseph A. Musselman, Condo Unit 805, Ph 1, University Place Condos, \$245,000
- Carolyn C. Stafford to Stafford Living Trust, Lot 16, Ridgeway Farms Estates, Riner Magisterial District
- Brent M. Lanier to Patricia M. Bodell, 2022007328
- Cuneyt Gorur to Alicia Marshall, 0.336 ac., Christiansburg
- Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance to Benjamin G. Tate, 1.695 ac., Lot 1, \$181,000
- Community Housing Partners Company to Dean R. Underwood, Jr., 0.821 ac., Prices Fork Magisterial District
- Jerry S. Wilson to Connie Jo Bland, Lot 2, Crozier Court Subdv., Shawsville Magisterial District
- Fands Land LP to Value Housing Partners LLC, Lots 9-24 Christiansburg, \$560,000
- Kipps Farms LLC to Stateson Homes LLC, Lots 185, 186, 187, 188, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$268,400
- Mark S. Helms to Hannah W. Cole, Lot 1, Canterbury Subdv., Ph 1, Christiansburg, \$210,000
- David T. Poole to Amber N. Shepherd, 0.612 ac., Lot A, Christiansburg
- Michael Craig Taylor to RWW40 LLC, \$200,000
- Stateson Homes LLC to Tameka S. Clarke Douglas, Lot 401 Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$405,820
- Kipps Farms LLC to Stateson Homes LLC, Los 181, 182, 183, 184, Westhill Subv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$268,400
- Kipps Farms LLC to Stateson Homes LLC, Lots 189, 190, 191, 192, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$268,400
- Kipps Farms LLC to Stateson Homes LLC, Lots 201, 202, 203, 204, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$268,400
- Kipps Farms LLC to Stateson Homes LLC, Lots 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$335,500
- Cindy Lee Epard to David M. Arthur, 0.770 ac., Lot 26, Riner Magisterial District
- David M. Arthur to Jack D. Richmond, 0.770 ac., Lot 26, Riner Magisterial District, \$80,000
- Jacqueline Lee Blevins to Glen R. Mowry, Lot 27, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph X, Christiansburg, \$305,000
- Monte Thomas to Caleb Hart, 3.779 ac., Shawsville Magisterial District, \$255,800
- James W. Christian to James W. Christian, Lot 14, Falling Branch Estates, ph II, Christiansburg
- Kristin Cuthriell to Q3L Properties LLC, Unit 27 Vistas
- Kristin Cuthriell to Q3L Properties LLC, Condo unit 405 Kent Square Condos
- James D. Bradley to Kaylee Lauryn Staneck, Lot 80, Viewland Subdv., Sec III, Riner Magisterial District, \$259,000
- Trong Nghia Duong to Trong Nghia Duong, Lot 9, Sec 1, Northside Park, Blacksburg
- Stateson Homes LLC to Katherine Fogelberg, 0.261 ac., Lot 21, Kinloch Subdv., Blacksburg, \$499,900
- Dale J. Echols to Oriental Real Estate LLC, 1301, 1302, 1303, 1305, 1307, 1309, 1311 Giles Rd., Blacksburg, 1.507 ac., Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$1,950,000
- Patricia T. Saunders, administrator to Logan Phillip Donnelly, Lot 4, Riner Magisterial District, \$181,000
- Mark A. Short to Timothy G. Stankevicz, Lot 7, Sec VI, Blue Ridge Court, Christiansburg, \$257,000
- Helen b. Roop to Helen B. Roop Trust, 1911 Rustic Ridge Rd, Riner, 4.027 ac., Mill Creek
- Hazel Rhea Williams to Rheagene Bond, 955 Elk Dr., Christiansburg, 0.168 ac., lot 52, Surface Wade Farm
- Qiu Peng to Qiu Peng, Lot 20, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph VI
- Miao Song to Miao Song, Lot 54, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph III, Christiansburg
- Reginald Paul Skurupey to Qiu Peng, 0.515 ac., metes and bounds, Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$317,500
- Antoinette A. Flory Trust to John C. Ackerman, Unit #105, Bldg #A, Sundance Village Condos, Blacksburg, \$95,000
- Juliet B. Bevan to Matthew Clarke Nowinski Trust, Lot 1, Westover Hills, Sec IV, Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$487,200
- Michael Klapproth to Yiqi Wang, Lot 56, Clifton, Ph 1, Christiansburg, \$418,000
- Trey Christensen to Niknaz Hoy, 1 ac., metes and bounds, See legal, Blacksburg, \$583,000
- Amazonite LLC to 601 McBryde Drive LLC, lot 14 and one-half lot 15, McBryde Village, Blacksburg, \$425,000
- Natalie Marie Siegel to William G. Reinhard, Jr., Trust, Unit 18-1, Ph IX, Villas at Peppers Ferry, Ph IX, Christiansburg, \$399,900
- Sundown Electric Inc., to Richard A. Francis, Lot 1, Riner Magisterial District, \$50,000
- Ursa Major to Ursa Major LLC, metes and bounds, see legal, Blacksburg
- Outpost Seven LLC to Juan Manuel Huante Aranda, Lot 5, Wm. Park Subdv., Blacksburg, \$307,000
- M. Dewayne Linkous to M. Dewayne Linkous, three parcels, See legal, Prices Fork Magisterial District
- Frankie W. Barker, Sr., to Frankie W. Barker, Jr., unnumbered lot, see legal, mt. Tabor Magisterial District
- R. Fralin Construction Inc., to Matthew G. Herron, Lot 35, Kensington Ph IX, Christiansburg, \$380,000
- Eugene H. Flinchum, Sr., to Eugene H. Flinchum, Jr., 10.800 acres, metes and bounds, Riner Magisterial District
- Hash Investments LLC to Indigo Road Investments LLC, 1.982 ac., Christiansburg, \$1,600,000
- Indigo Road Investments LLC to Shah Development LLC, 65.6 ac., Christiansburg, \$600,000
- Rhonda Michele Priestter to Robert Lee Fox, 0.2253 ac., lot 14 and the eastern 20 of lot 15, Christiansburg
- Ritchie W. Epperly Estate to Phillip M. Epperly, metes and bounds, see legal, Riner Magisterial District
- Barry C. Compton Inc. to 3712 Sunflower Va LLC, 2022008180
- Daniel C. Honerbrink to Songtao Liu, Unit A-2 of Brightwood Manor Condos, Blacksburg, \$220,000
- Randi S. Lemmon to Paul Fitzgerald, Lot 34, Ph II, Preston Forest, Ph II, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$397,500
- Shah Development LLC to Eagle Construction of Va LLC, 1.342 ac., Parcel B, Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$250,000
- Michael S. Martin to Jacob Tosh Linkous, 0.289 ac., metes and bounds, Christiansburg, \$227,000
- Jason Lee Jordan to Jason Lee Jordan, 1.0282 ac., Christiansburg
- John L. Tibbs to John L. Tibbs, Lot 6, Christiansburg
- Luis Fernando Nunez Magana to Martin S. Markham, Lots 90, 91, and unnamed lot that is 0.344 ac., \$290,000
- Betty W. Linkous to Leonard M. Adkins, 1.000 ac., lot 1, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$281,000
- James H. Collier III to Kevin J. Marley, Lot 2, Kessler Park, Sec II, Blacksburg, \$486,000
- Finemark National Bank & Trust to Ekta Jagdish Patel, 0.202 ac., lot 97, Northside Park, Sex XII, Blacksburg, \$730,000
- Annette S. Perkins to Kelsey Frazier, Lot 55, Highland Park, Sec II, Blacksburg, \$295,000
- Patty I. Carver to Martin Irvine, Jr., Lot 11, Vista Pointe Subdv., Sec 2, Blacksburg, \$382,500
- West Main Street Investment Co., to Town of Christiansburg, 0.876 ac., Christiansburg, \$185,000
- William B. Grubb to William Travis Grubb, 4-5 ac. Metes and bounds, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$225,000
- Patrick E. Devens to Patrick E. Devens Trust, Lot 7, Blk B, Airport Acres, metes and bounds, Blacksburg
- Stateson Homes LLC to Diana Baqaie, 208 Addison Ct., Blacksburg, Lot 415, Westhill Subdv., Pries Fork Magisterial District \$460,443
- Stateson Homes LLC to Diana Baqaie, 206 Addison Ct., Blacksburg, Lot 416 Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$462, 243
- Sean Daniel Zahn Phillips to Chris Tedder, Lot 17, Walnut Grove, Sec. 2, Christiansburg, \$284,000
- Melisa A. Lehto to Tiffany Lynne Ingalls, Lot 1, Sherwood Forest, Sec. D, Christiansburg, \$300,000

See **Land transfers**, page 6



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# Dalton student wins Outstanding Middle School Artist of the Year award

RADFORD – A Dalton Intermediate School student has earned an award and scholarship for her artwork from the Fine Arts Center of the New River Valley (FACNRV).

Olivia Close was presented the Outstanding Middle School Artist of the Year by the Fine Arts Center of the NRV. She will receive a \$250 scholarship from the organization. Close’s artwork was submitted through the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards program.

This is the 100th year of the Scholastic Awards. The Alliance for Young Artists and Writers sponsors the awards for young artists ages 13 and up in grades 7-12.

“Student artists receive an opportunity to exhibit locally at the Fine Arts Center with gold medal winners moving to the national competition,” according to the FACNRV website. “At the national level students compete for more than \$37,000 in scholarships along with awards and the opportunity to exhibit in New York and other regional exhibits. For the first year,

the Fine Arts Center is offering scholarship awards to the American Visions nominees from Southwest Virginia along with one outstanding middle school artist [Close].”

The students’ work is being displayed at the Fine Arts Center of the NRV from Thursday, Feb. 16 through Sunday, Mar. 26.

The Alliance for Young Artists and Writers is a nonprofit organization “whose mission is to identify students with exceptional artistic and literary talent and present their remarkable work to the world through the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards” according to the organization’s website. “The Awards give students opportunities for recognition, exhibition, publication, and scholarships. In 2022, students across the United States and Canada entered more than 260,000 original works in 28 different categories of art and writing.”

~ News Messenger staff report



PHOTO COURTESY OF DALTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

**Olivia Close’s artwork will be on display at the Fine Arts Center of the New River Valley from Feb. 16 through March 26.**

## Survey: Most of Virginia families polled would relocate to Florida, France in 2023

FamilyDestinationGuide.com, a kid-friendly vacation ideas site, surveyed 3,000 families to find out where they would move to if they could hypothetically make a clean break, pack up, and leave the commonwealth.

Florida proved to be the state of choice for Virginians. Internationally, the country of choice was France.

In the wake of another challenging year with high food and gas prices and a summer of travel chaos, fourteen percent of the families surveyed said they have seriously thought about moving permanently. That they picked Florida as their destination was no surprise considering the state’s warm weather and beautiful beaches, its lack of state income tax, its

diverse population, its reputation for delicious food, and its many attractions. Each day, the Sunshine State welcomes hundreds of newcomers into its borders.

The poll did reveal some surprises, however. Californians, for example, are apparently quite happy to turn their backs on permanent sunshine and heat and move to the chilly east coast to New York. However, New York State does offer advantages that California cannot match including better public transportation, four distinct seasons, and more favorable time zones for employees who liaise with European-based colleagues.

Across the country, the majority of families surveyed chose the United Kingdom as their international first

country of choice perhaps because of the lack of a language barrier and the country’s history.

Virginians, however, opted for France, which offers American families a high quality of life, a strong economy, beautiful scenery, proximity to other European countries, and the opportunity for cultural immersion. Moving to France can be a rewarding and enriching experience for families looking for a change of pace and a new cultural experience.

~ FamilyDestinationGuide.com

## Land transfers

from page 5

- Chelsea H. Hoback to Quinlan Samuel Byrd, Lot 12A, Kamran Dr., Subdv., Christiansburg, \$229,000
- Robey D. Caldwell to Aaron thomas Brummer, 0.276 ac., Christiansburg, \$175,000
- Aldawood and Sons LLC to Stephen W. Tibbs, Lot 28 A-B, Fiddlers Green, Blacksburg, \$425,000
- Donna Silber to Gershon Silber Irrevocable Trust, 1441 Craigs Mtn Rd, Christiansburg, 6.62 ac., Parcel A, Shawsville Magisterial District
- Donna Silber to Donna Silber Irrevocable Trust, 1441 Craigs Mtn. Rd., Christiansburg, 6.62 ac. Parcel A, Shawsville Magisterial District
- Angela Thurman Wade to Ali Zomorrodian, Lot 13, Kensington, Ph II, \$395,000
- Jaime Tisnado to Osaze Y Shears, Lot 53, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph 1, Christiansburg, \$210,000
- Progress Street Builders Inc., to Adrianna Marie Hempelmann, Lot 17, Auburn Hills Fairway Homes, Riner Magisterial District, \$653,470
- Stephen Ross O’Neil to John Mullins, Lot 607, Blacksburg Country Club Estates, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$762,500
- Rafael A. Sierra to Sierra Family Revocable Trust, 1008 Chateau Ct., Blacksburg, Lot 32, the Vistas, Blacksburg
- Kelli M. Linkous to Matthew Lee Shepherd, 1564 Peppers Ferry Rd NW, Christiansburg, 0.600 ac., Parcel A, Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$153,000
- Randolph Development Group LLC to Halle Properties LLC, 1.057 ac., Lot 2, Christiansburg, \$1,050,000
- Paul David Graham to Paul David Graham, 5.111 ac., Prices Fork Magisterial District
- William M. Drummond Trust to Walter L. Hearn, Lot 11, Bldg 6, The Orchards, Ph 1, Woods Edge, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$410,000
- Susan Margaret Williams to Susan M. Williams Trust, metes and bounds, see legal, Blacksburg Magisterial District
- Jonathan M. Allen to Jonathan M. Allen Trust, Lot 34, Windmill Hills, Sec 10, Ph 1, Christiansburg
- Jonathan Parsons to Jine Yang, 0.495 ac., Parcel 1, Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$75,000
- John e. Kilduff, Jr., to Harun Yetkin, Lot 26, Ph III, Haymarket Square Townhouses, Sec 1, Blacksburg, \$260,000
- Brenda Artrip Crawford to Jason L. Nipper, Lot 1, White Oaks townhomes, Ph 1, Christiansburg, \$230,000
- Tara Elizabeth Hankins to Bryan Kearney, Lot 16, Henley Place, Ph III, Christiansburg, \$235,000
- Lisa L. Carlson to Janice F. Leraaen, Unit 10-3, Ph VI, Villas at Peppers Ferry, Ph VI, Christiansburg
- Stateson Homes LLC to James E. Torgersen, Lot 395, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$379,900
- Jordan Rex Head to the Partners III LLC, 1.00 ac., Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$120,000
- Mary Alzire S. Papadopolous to 705 Harding LLC, Lot 23, Dundas Heights, Blacksburg, \$345,000
- Tony Wayne Linkous to 2 Oaks LLC, three parcels, See legal, Riner Magisterial District
- Tony Wayne Linkous to 2 Oaks LLC, Lots 10-17 and the 20’ wide undedicated roadway, Christiansburg
- Tony Wayne Linkous to 2 Oaks LLC, metes and bounds, see legal, Prices Fork Magisterial District
- Tony Wayne Linkous to 2 Oaks LLC, three parcels, see legal, Riner Magisterial District
- Charles Sisson to Lynn C. Sisson, 7.797 ac., Shawsville Magisterial District, \$46,750
- Susan Stevens-Mauldon to Matthew Mauldon, Tract 24, Ph 2, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District
- Steven Maurice Smith to Collin Mitchell Smith, Shawsville, Va.
- Hugh Smith Miles III to Mary Helen Beydler, metes and bounds, see legal, Blacksburg, \$390,000
- Jeremy M. Wachob to Katherine G. Gibson, Lot 5A, Kamran Dr. Subdv., Christiansburg, \$200,000
- Frances S. Bowyer to Gregory S. Hylton, Lot 91, Windmill Hills, Sec 11, Christiansburg, \$389,900
- Michele thomasina D Blasi to New Beginnings Rentals LLC, Lot 76, Blk 5B4, Pheasant Run Townhomes, Ph II
- Ronnie S. Hollins to Ronnie Spanger Hollins, Lot 61, Blk 5B2, Pheasant Run Townhomes, Blacksburg
- Ronnie S. Hollins to Ronnie Spanger Hollins, Lot 6, Wilman Park Subdv., Blacksburg
- Stateson Homes LLC to Nancy Cartwright, Lot 397, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$407,630
- Kelly Van Dyke to Carson Golden Bell, Lot 6, Diamond Pointe, Ph III, Sec. A, Christiansburg, \$499,000
- Stateson Homes LLC to Dwrena Allen, Lot 396, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$387,190

- W R Winfrey Trust to William Randolph Winfrey Trust, 3220 Laurel Dr., Blacksburg, Lot 72, Sec II, Laurel Ridge Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$387,190
- John W. Mantague, Jr., to Peter V. Martin Trust, 2020009872
- Marilyn L. Duncan to Adam D. Crawford, 2.560 ac., metes and bounds, Riner Magisterial District, \$465,000
- Robert j. Rusnak, Jr., to Hiep Minh Le, 1.375 ac., lot 24A-1 and 1.724 ac., lot 23-A-1, Riner Magisterial District, \$505,000
- Golden Triangle Development LLC to Timothy Charles Stephens, 2.795 ac., new parcel A, Riner Magisterial District, \$50,000
- Benson Cariyadil to Erin R. Suiter, 4195 Piney Woods Rd., Christiansburg, two parcels, 2.647 ac., lot 9, parcel 1, and 5.664 ac., lot 19, parcel II, Riner Magisterial District, \$460,000
- Gary L. Allen to Jessie W. Allen, 12 7/16 metes and bounds, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District
- Jessie W. Alln to Jessie Wayne Allen, Jr., 1008 Falls Ridge Road, Christiansburg, 12 7/16 ac., metes and bounds, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District
- Justin Gilbarte to Seeds Properties LLC, Lot 20, Blue Ridge Ct., Sec V, Christiansburg, \$230,000
- Amelia Rhiannon Luci to Amelia Rhiannon Luci, lot 98, Lonesome Dove Subdv., Riner Magisterial District
- Stateson Homes LLC to J&F Investments LLC, Lot 404, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$375,183
- Stateson Homes LLC to J&F Investments LLC, Lot 405 Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$358,460
- Stateson Homes LLC to J&F Investments LLC, Lot 406 Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$350,619
- Stateson Homes LLC to J&F Investments LLC, Lot 407 Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$374,472
- Carrie Albert to Larry R. Cook 2022008755
- Stateson Homes LLC to J&F Investments LLC, Lot 48, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$375,183
- Carolyn B. Moses to Michael W. Scaggs, 1.902 ac., lot 2, Riner Magisterial District
- Franklin A. West to Tyler Eugene Ruger, 0.348 ac., lot 28, Ph IV, Preserve at Walnut Creek, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$330,000
- Daniel Wensley to Donna Lee McMillen, 8.593 ac., lot 1, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$62,500
- Michael E. Boyer to MB High Street LLC, metes and bounds, see legal, Shawsville Magisterial District
- Capital Property Acquisitions LLC to Genevive Drews, Lot 50, Lynwood Terrace, Christiansburg, \$175,000
- Jeremy M. Hoard to Joseph Brian Mey, metes and bounds, see legal, Christiansburg, \$175,000
- Stateson Homes LLC to Tamara Begoon, Lot 398, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$431,870
- Timothy B. Thompson to Heather m. Seeley, 1.018 ac., Blacksburg
- Christopher J. Warren Trust to Billy G. Massie Sr., 2.6868 ac., Riner Magisterial District, \$425,000
- Kimberly M. Moore to 1201 Tory Springs LLC, 0.4925 ac., Prices Fork Magisterial District
- David R. Amos to Carlos Armengol, Jr., Lot 11, Karr Heights, Sec 1, Blacksburg, \$378,000
- Stateson Homes LLC to Premier Investments & Properties, Lot 394, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$412, 046
- Jarels Church, Jennifer Scott executors to Ronald E. Bowman, Lot 2, metes and bounds, Highview Terrace, Sec II, Blacksburg, \$260,000
- T and Q Rentals LLC to 745 Warren Court LLC, 0.243 ac., lot 19, Warren Heights, Christiansburg, \$214,100
- T & Q Rentals LLC to 635 Warren Court LLC, 0.216 ac., lot 24, Warren Heights, Christiansburg, \$213,900
- T & Q Rentals LLC to 680 Warren Court LLC, 0.204 ac., lot 8, Warren Heights, Christiansburg, \$214,100
- Shah Development LLC to Midway Estates Homeowners Association, 1.686 ac., 0.348 ac., and 0.623 ac., Shawsville Magisterial District
- LHOM LLC to JSJ LLC, 2012001561, \$1,375,000
- Jonathan Derek reed to Joseph Lee Clanton, 11.35 ac., new parcel A, Riner Magisterial District, \$60,000
- University Mall LLC to UMPF Development LLC, Blacksburg, 0.589 ac., Blacksburg

### DEEDS TRANSFER UPON DEATH

- Carolyn C. Stafford to Stafford Living Trust, Lot 16, Ridgeway Farm Estates, Riner Magisterial District
- Susan Stevens-Mauldon to Matthew Mauldon, Tract 24, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, Blacksburg
- Steven Maurice Smith to Collin Mitchell Smith, 3.5739 ac., Shawsville, Va.
- Timothy B. Thompson to Heather M. Seeley, 1.018 ac., Blacksburg



# OBITUARIES

## Faller, Kathryn Irene

Kathryn Irene Faller, 67, passed away on Sunday, Jan. 15, 2023.

She was preceded in death by her mother, June Irene Reifsnyder Kerns.

Survivors include her husband of 46 years, Earl John Faller; a son and daughter-in-law, Kevin and Lauren Faller; a daughter and son-in-law, Kimmy and Trey Dawson; grandchildren Aven, Lane, Lorelei, Zelda, Doug, Dax, and Matilda; her father, William Walter Kerns, a brother and sister-in-law, William and Lisa Kerns; nieces Leslie, Natalie, Kristin, and Laura; and many other relatives, and friends.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2023, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Memorial services will begin at 6 p.m.

The Faller family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home in Radford.



## McGuigan, Michael “Mickey” Scott

Michael “Mickey” Scott McGuigan, 67, of Blacksburg, passed away suddenly after a battle with cancer on Friday, Jan. 13, 2023.

He was born on Monday, May 23, 1955, to the late Virginia Hunt McGuigan and John Thomas McGuigan.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Lois Zopf, and his brother, Steve McGuigan.

He is survived by his wife, Jane McGuigan; daughters Emily Lippard and Katy McGuigan; a son, Scott McGuigan; an honorary daughter, Yolanda Ervin-Bronston; a brother, Dave McGuigan and his wife, Lee; nephews Matt, Ryan, Colin, and Macson McGuigan, Wesley Zopf; and a niece, Wendy Lynch.

Mickey dedicated his life to teaching, coaching, and loving those around him. He taught in Montgomery County Public Schools for 40 years, specializing in math and science. In 2022, he was inducted into the Blacksburg High School Athletic Hall of Fame to honor an extraordinary 28 years of coaching that included winning three girls’ basketball state championship titles.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27, 2023, at the McCoy Funeral Home at 150 Country Club Dr. SW, Blacksburg. Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, Jan. 28, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Michael’s Lutheran Church with Pastor Michelle



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

See **Obituaries**, page 8

**ANGLICAN CATHOLIC**  
**St. Peter the Apostle Anglican Church**, 230 W. First St., Christiansburg, VA. Fr Peter Geromel OHI Th.M., Vicar, Fr. Alex Darby, “Associate”, 540-382-0432/540-270-9166. Sundays: 8:00 am & 10:00 am Holy Eucharist followed by Christian Education and refreshments. Holy Communion most Thursdays at 12Noon, other Holy Days as announced. Traditional services use the 1928 Book of Common Prayer and 1940 Hymnal. Handicapped accessible. All are welcome. Come worship with us! Website: [www.stpetersacc.org](http://www.stpetersacc.org). Follow us on Facebook  
**St. Philip’s Anglican Church**, 306 Progress Street, NE, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060, (540) 552-1771, [www.stphilipsblacksburg.org](http://www.stphilipsblacksburg.org). Reverend Fr. Wade Miller, Priest. Eucharist Sundays at 11am and Wednesday’s at 12pm.  
**St. Thomas Anglican Church** - located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit [www.sttofc.org](http://www.sttofc.org) for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

**BAPTIST**  
**First Baptist Church on 3rd Ave.**, 215 Third Ave at the corner with Downey St. We nurture meaningful connections to God and others through worship, spiritual growth, and community ministry. We celebrate the dignity and worth of all persons, created in the image of God. Sunday Bible Study Groups - 9:45, Sunday Worship - 11:00. Website: [fbcradford.org](http://fbcradford.org) 540-639-4419. Worship is in-person and live-streamed on Facebook and on our YouTube channel: First Baptist Church Radford.  
**Trinity Community Church**, 1505 N. Franklin Street, C’burg. John Altizer, Lead Pastor, Brian Cockram, Associate Pastor, 382-8121. Worship at 10:45 a.m., Outreach Ministries - 6:00p.m. Wednesday, Growth Groups - 5:00p.m. Sunday, Youth and Children’s Ministry - 5:00p.m. Sunday, [www.trinitycburg.org](http://www.trinitycburg.org)

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**Blacksburg Church of Christ**, 315 Eakin St., 552-1331. Sun. Bible Classes 9:30 a.m., Sun. Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m., Wed. Bible classes, 7 p.m., Outreach Minister Curt Seright, Community Minister Tom Gilliam, Dean Meadows, Campus Minister.  
**Faith Christian Church of Christ**, 305 3rd Street, Christiansburg, David Rhudy, Minister, 382-4628, Sunday School 10 am; Worship 11 am; Evening Worship 6:30 pm; Wednesday night Bible Study for Women and Men 6:30 pm. We welcome you to any and all of our services.

**CHURCH OF GOD**  
**New Hope Church of God**, 1404 Mud Pike Rd., C’Burg. Rev. T. Michael Bond, pastor, 731-3178. Sun. School 10 a.m., Worship 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m. Thurs., 7:00 p.m.  
**West Radford Church of God**, 1824 West Main Street, Radford, VA 24141, Sunday School– 10:00A.M. Morning Worship– 11:00A.M., Children’s Church 11:00A.M. Sunday Evening – 6:00P.M., Wednesday Night – 7:00P.M., Pastor Danny Newman, Church Office – 540-639-6562 or 804- 921-0828.

**CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**  
**Christiansburg Church of the Brethren**, 310 South Franklin Street. Pastor: Hal Sonaf Frank, 1-336-583-4822. Sunday School 10 a.m.; Morning Worship 11 a.m.; Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Website: [www.christiansburgcob.org](http://www.christiansburgcob.org). A loving family, fueled by the Holy Spirit, grounded in God’s Word, and delivering Jesus forgiveness and love to all people. Come as you are... you are welcomed!

**(DOC - DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**  
**Snowville Christian Church**, 5436 Lead Mine Rd., Hiwassee, VA 24347, Pastor: Jerry King, Website: [www.SnowvilleChristianChurch.com](http://www.SnowvilleChristianChurch.com) (and Facebook), Office: 540-633-3761, Email: [office@SnowvilleChristianChurch.com](mailto:office@SnowvilleChristianChurch.com), Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m., Sunday School: 10:00 a.m., Thursday Bible Study: 6:00 p.m., We are: “Inspiring hope, helping people grow their faith, and sharing God’s love with others!”

**ECKANKAR**  
**Eckankar, the Path of Spiritual Freedom**, is a simple teaching that focuses on the Light and Sound of God to help people find more love in their life. The Roanoke Eckankar Center is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. The Center was closed during the COVID crisis but is now open. A spiritual event is held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. Since contracting COVID-19 may still be possible, please take the health steps that are best for you. It is appreciated that by attending you are taking responsibility for your own health. Visit [www.eck-va.org](http://www.eck-va.org), [www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group](http://www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group) or call 540-353-5365 for other Eckankar programs and for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar can lead you to spiritual freedom.

**EPISCOPAL**  
**Grace Episcopal Church**, 210 4th Street, Radford, 639-3494. A friendly, mission-oriented spiritual community sharing the Word of God. ALL ARE WELCOME. In person and live-streamed services 10:30AM Sundays. Holy Eucharist twice a month. Morning Prayer twice a month.

# Montgomery County

# WORSHIP DIRECTORY

### THE NIGHT SEASON

Read Psalms 62:1 through 68:35

George A. Young, a bivocational preacher in the nineteenth century, ministered mainly to rural churches while he supplemented his income as a carpenter. After many years of struggle he was able to build a home for his family with his own hands. While away from home in ministry, some who disagreed with his preaching burned his house to the ground. Shortly thereafter he wrote the hymn, “God Leads Us Along.”

Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me. I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue (Psalm 66:16–17).

The Psalmist’s words speak to us when we are going through life’s challenges. And Pastor Young speaks to us of praising God in the night seasons of life: “Some through great sorrow, but God gives a song, in the night season and all the day long.”

Like Pastor Young, we can pray and we sing in the night. Prayer plus praise equals power. Focus on God’s presence and power and don’t let sin cut the lines of communication.

Prayer Suggestion: Lord, we are thankful that through the challenges, we can still sing praises to You.

Quicklook: Psalm 66:13–20

**If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Randy Thompson at 540-389-9355 or email at [advertise@ourvalley.org](mailto:advertise@ourvalley.org)**

Fellowship and refreshments follow services. Find us on Facebook: Grace Episcopal Church and [www.graceradford.org](http://www.graceradford.org).

**LUTHERAN**  
**Luther Memorial Lutheran Church ELCA**, 600 Prices Fork Rd, Blacksburg. Weekly Online Worship at [www.lmlc.org](http://www.lmlc.org). We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation that welcomes and affirms all people just as they are. For information on Bible studies and Wednesday Vespers, email [luthermemorialblacksburg@gmail.com](mailto:luthermemorialblacksburg@gmail.com), or contact the church office, (540) 951-1000. Rev. Monica Weber, pastor.  
**Our Saviour Lutheran Church ELCA**, 1845 Cambria St NE, Christiansburg. Worship each Sunday at 10 am, in person and online at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMsB-gbyjmV5ce9mr43dbCw>. Please visit our website at [www.oslc-cburg.org](http://www.oslc-cburg.org) and our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/oslcchristiansburg> to learn more about us. Little Free Pantry and Little Free Library located in our parking lot. Pastor Joshua L. Copeland; church office 540-382-2223.  
**St. Michael Lutheran Church, 2308 Merrimac Road**, Blacksburg, VA 24060. Worship service each Sunday at 10 AM, Sunday School 9 AM. We are a community of God’s people where people gather for worship, learning and service. Visitors and new members are always WELCOME! Google comments: “Wonderful, welcoming congregation...A place where all are truly welcome... Nice, friendly, competent staff.” You will like our minister, The Rev. Michelle L. Stramiello. Her previous service was as Family Faith Formation Director at Cross and Crown Lutheran Church, Indianapolis, IN, Pastor of St Matthew Lutheran Church, Paducah, KY, and Hospice Chaplain in Largo, Fl. St. Michael started

and administers Micah’s Backpack which has great community impact, Micah’s Soup for Seniors, Micah’s Garden, Closet, and Mini Pantry. Also, partnering with Rainbow Riders and Total Action for Progress, we opened open the first Early Childhood Head Start in our community (6 weeks to age 3), and have numerous other programs including a Justice & Mercy Fund providing assistance for those needing emergency assistance with critical bills. Further St. Michael sponsors an awesome Scouting program of Boy & Girl Scout Troops, Venture Scouts for older youth, and a new Cub Pack for girls & boys kindergarten - 5th grade. Directions: From Price’s Fork Road, turn onto Merrimac Road and St. Michael is 3/10ths of a mile down on the left. For more information about any of our activities: Phone 540 951-8951. Email [hope@stmclc.us](mailto:hope@stmclc.us) or visit our Website [www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org](http://www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org)

**MULTI-CULTURAL NON-DENOMINATIONAL**  
**Christian Growth Center**, 1850 Electric Way, Christiansburg, VA 24073 (beside Hubbell Lighting). Sunday Worship: 9:30am Prayer, 10:00am Service \*Nursery Available. Lead Pastor: Todd Hallinan. Founding Pastor: Rob Sowell. Mission: Sow, Grow, & Go Sow Faith! Grow in Righteousness! Go into all the world in the authority of the believer! 540-382-2908.

**PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS**  
**Merrimac Pentecostal Holiness Church**, Rev. Richard Hall (540) 552-7194. [pastorhall29@gmail.com](mailto:pastorhall29@gmail.com). Sunday School at 10 a.m. and morning worship is 11 a.m. Evening service at 6 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.  
**Compassion Church**, 1820 Second Street, Radford, 639-6287, Our music is passionate, our worship is real, and Pastor Chandler

Jones brings relevant messages for everyone at any place on their journey, Sunday Worship Experience at 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Wednesday Family Night at 7 PM, Children Ministry provided for all services. Our vision is to see all Saved. Freed. Restored. Fulfilled. Find us on facebook and Instagram  
**Walton Pentecostal Holiness Church**, 4003 Morning Glory Rd., off Walton Rd. on Rt. 114. 731-1755. Lee Sarver, pastor. Sun. School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6: p.m., Wed., 7 p.m.

**UNITED METHODIST**  
**Asbury United Methodist Church**, 500 Stuart Street, Christiansburg. 540-382-0743. Rev. Dr. Patricia Jones. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m. All are welcome.  
**Central United Methodist Church**, 803 Wadsworth Street, Radford. 639-3529. 8:30 a.m. Sunday Services: 8:30am (interpreter provided); 9:45am Sunday School (interpreter provided); and 11:00a.m. Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30p.m. Child care is provided. [www.centralmethodistchurch.com](http://www.centralmethodistchurch.com).  
**St. Paul United Methodist Church**, 220 W. Main St., C’Burg. Rev. Mike Derflinger (540) 382-2410. Sunday Worship 10 a.m., Sunday School 9 a.m. Live streaming Sunday Service - [www.twitch.tv/stpaulumc](http://www.twitch.tv/stpaulumc)  
**Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church**, 350 Stafford Drive, Christiansburg, VA 24073, Sunday School 10am, Sunday Worship Service 11am.

**WESLEYAN**  
**Christ Wesleyan Church**, 525 Harkrader Street, Christiansburg. Public Worship service at 11:00 AM. Sunday School for adults - 10:00 AM. Pastor: Gale Janofski 540-510-0952. The building is totally handicapped accessible. Website: [christwesleyanchurch.org](http://christwesleyanchurch.org)

# VDOT ROAD WATCH

The following is a list of forecasted highway projects that may impact traffic traveling in the 12-county Salem Transportation District this week. Work schedules and construction project timelines are always subject to change and weather dependent. The Salem District covers Bedford, Botetourt, Carroll, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, Giles, Henry, Montgomery, Patrick, Pulaski and Roanoke counties.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY**  
I-81 NORTHBOUND  
AT EXIT 105 NEW RIVER  
BRIDGE REPLACEMENT IN  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY –  
Traffic on northbound I-81 has been

switched onto the newly constructed bridge over the New River at the Montgomery/Pulaski County line. The old bridge is being demolished. Lane and shoulder closures may be in place near exit 105. Lane closure may be in effect during the week from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. Shoulder closures may be in effect at any time during the week. Slow rolls may be performed on I-81 in the north and southbound lanes from mile marker 98 to 109. Speed limit is reduced to 60 miles per hour in the work zone. Shoulder closures will remain in place though the duration of the project. Project completion is estimated by summer 2023.

## Radford School board votes to change grading scale mid-year

**Heather Bell**  
[communitynews@ourvalley.org](mailto:communitynews@ourvalley.org)

RADFORD – Against the recommendation of the superintendent, the Radford City School Board voted in favor of making a change to the school system's grading scale for the start of the second semester.

At the school board's Jan. 10 meeting, Vice-Chair Dr. Jody Ray made a motion to change the school division's current grading scale – which makes a 40 percent the lowest grade a student can receive for an assignment even if the student does not complete the assignment at all – and return the low end of the scale to a zero. The change from a zero to 100 scale to a modified scale was made during the time schools were closed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Board Member Jane Swing was the sole no-vote among the five board members and said she agreed with going back to a zero-100 scale, just not in the middle of

the school year.

"I can see going back to zero," she said. "My concern is doing it in the middle of the year."

"When you change the rules in the middle of the game, that's unfair," Swing said later in the discussion.

Radford City Schools Superintendent Robert Graham agreed.

"I would like the minutes to reflect that I did not recommend this," he said. "This is like being in the middle of the basketball game and moving the three-point line back."

Graham said the change could affect graduation rates and could have other unintended negative consequences.

Board member Chris Calfee, who said at the meeting he campaigned and was elected on a platform of this change being made, said he had "absolute faith in our teachers to do the right thing" to help students

achieve under the return to the zero – 100 scale. He said Radford's teachers are exemplary educators who can help students succeed with the change.

Dr. Matt Hurt, executive director of the Comprehensive Instructional Program, was available to the board via Zoom at the meeting and said he recommends making such changes in a new school year, rather than mid-year.

Board Member Gloria Boyd, a retired teacher, said she believes teachers should make every effort to work with students to help them get their work done.

"I don't oppose extensions on deadlines or asking to take a test again," she said. "But the credit for zero effort is a sticking point for me."

Ray, Boyd, Calfee and Chair Jenny Riffe voted in favor of the return to the zero – 100 grade scale.

The school board's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 6 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF VIRGINIA TECH

**The first group of Presidential Postdoctoral Fellows are (top row from left) Daniel Smith, Blake Caldwell, Olalla Prado-Nóvoa (bottom row, from left) Xue Zhao, Harsimran Kaur, and Abdelkafar Alkishe.**

## First of Virginia Tech Presidential Postdoctoral Fellows are selected

*By Lindsey Haugh*

Six postdoctoral fellows have been selected as part of the inaugural class of Virginia Tech's Presidential Postdoctoral Fellowship program.

The highly competitive program selected postdoc researchers who are working with Virginia Tech faculty mentors on projects ranging from rapid detection for foodborne pathogens to 5G to human energetics and obesity investigations.

"We are thrilled to attract high-caliber talent as the first cohort of Presidential Postdoctoral Fellows that will further enhance and diversify the Virginia Tech postdoc community," said Dan Sui, senior vice president for research and innovation. "I look forward to following their progression as they develop their innovative research projects, immerse themselves in the university postdoc community, and learn from our faculty mentors how to prepare for successful careers in academia, industry, and service."

Additional fellows will be announced in the coming months. The first members of the 2022-23 Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow class are:

**Abdelkafar Alkishe**

Research Frontiers track: Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation, College of Natural Resources and Environment

Faculty mentor: Luis Escobar, assistant professor of disease ecology

**Blake Caldwell**

Research Frontiers track ; Department of Biological Sciences, College of Science

Faculty mentor: Liwu Li, professor of inflammation biology and immunology

**Harsimran Kaur**

Research Frontiers track: Department of Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering

Faculty mentor: Amrinder Nain, associate professor of mechanical engineering

**Olalla Prado-Nóvoa**

Research Frontiers track: Department of Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Faculty mentor: Kevin Davy, professor of human nutrition, foods, and exercise

**Daniel Smith**

Research Frontiers track: School of Plant and Environmental Sciences, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Faculty mentor: Brian Badgley, associate professor of environmental microbiology

**Xue Zhao**

Research Frontiers track: Department of Biological Systems Engineering, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Faculty mentor: Juhong Chen, assistant professor of biological systems engineering

## Obituaries

from page 7

Stramiello officiating.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to one of the following: The American Cancer Society, The American Red Cross, or to support the family's funeral services, along with hospital

and healthcare costs via GoFundMe: <https://gofund.me/7bd573c5>.

Additionally, out of respect for everyone attending the visitation and the service, please be COVID conscious.

## Shields, Jr., Walter Dunnington

Walter Dunnington Shields, Jr. ("Watt"), 75, of Christiansburg, passed away on Jan. 12, 2023, after a valiant fight for life following a stem cell transplant in 2019 to conquer Acute Myeloid Leukemia.

Watt was born on July 18, 1947, to Walter Dunnington Shields, Sr., and Ann Kingdon Shields in Bluefield, W.Va. After graduating from Christchurch School, he attended and graduated from Marshall University.

A lifelong lover of science, Watt achieved his Doctor of Dental Science at the Medical College of Virginia in 1974. He was commissioned as a captain in the United States Army and retired as a colonel in 1994. He completed a master's degree at George Washington University and completed his residency in periodontology in 1981.

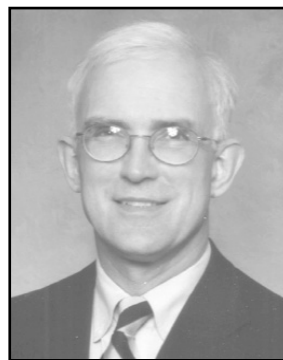
During his military service, he was awarded the Legion of Merit, the Order of Military Medical Merit, the Surgeon General's Specialty Designator, and three Meritorious Service Medals. He loved teaching and served as an instructor in the U.S. Army dental residency programs.

Watt established his periodontology practice in Blacksburg in 1994. Even in private practice, he thrived on learning and continuously sought to master the latest innovations in his field, even completing advanced training in Sweden. He led the New River Valley study club for area dentists for 14 years to discuss the latest in dental research from around the world. He also led an informal cabal of local dentists at one of his favorite restaurants, The Cellar, where topics could include anything except dentistry.

He was a former President of the Virginia Society of Periodontists. One of his proudest achievements was serving as a mentor in the Virginia Tech Pre-Dental Society where he helped launch the careers of numerous future dentists.

Watt's academic papers were published in the Journal of Periodontology, the Journal of the American Dental Association, and the Journal of the U.S. Army Medical Department. A meticulous scientific data collector and researcher to the end, Watt was actively collaborating up until the time of his death with colleagues at the Medical University of the South Carolina College of Dental Medicine on a paper based on more than 20 years of his clinical findings.

Watt met his future wife, Tandy Tully Shields, at Marshall University



Shields, in 1969. They moved to Richmond in 1970 where Tandy launched her career in communications and supported Watt as he completed dental school. They married on Aug. 14, 1971, and after Watt was commissioned, they traveled around the world to eight different military assignments with their three children. Watt's

favorite assignments were their six years in Germany where he particularly enjoyed "Volksmarches," 10- to 20-kilometer organized hikes through the countryside with leisurely stops for beer and bratwursts and an oompah band at the end.

Watt retired in 2018 and enjoyed hiking and biking around the New River Valley, especially on the Huckleberry Trail where he sponsored a bench. He loved escorting Tandy to the latest showings at the Lyric and was proud to sponsor a seat at the theater. A lifelong cinephile, Watt and his son, John, had weekly boys nights out, and they never missed a new movie. He enjoyed visiting his daughters in Northern Virginia and seeing his five grandchildren. Watt loved hosting his extended family at Flat Top Lake in West Virginia and captaining them on his pontoon boat. He loved traveling, and some of his favorite recent trips included a tour of Prague with his three children to celebrate his 70th birthday and visiting the Grand Canyon last year where he rode a burro around the rim.

Predeceased by his parents, Watt is survived by his wife of 51 years, Tandy, and his three children, Maurine Tully Shields Fanguy, Elizabeth Dunnington Shields Murphy (Robert), and John Kingdon Shields. He also leaves behind five grandchildren, Julia Fanguy, John "Jack" Fanguy, James "Emmett" Murphy, Maeve Murphy, and Kathleen "Kate" Murphy. He is also survived by his sister, Ann Shields Stone (Jerry), and his brother, Edward Southard Shields.

Services will be held at McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Drive in Blacksburg today, Saturday, Jan. 21, 2023. Visitation is at 1 p.m. and the funeral service is at 2 p.m. with the Rev. Douglas Kanney officiating. A reception will be held after the service at The Village Center, 2387 Warm Hearth Drive in Blacksburg. Later this year, he will be laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests blood or platelet donations through the Red Cross or contributions to a local Habitat for Humanity chapter.

## Sowers, Dorothy Eller

Dorothy Eller Sowers, 86, passed away peacefully on Jan. 12, 2023, at her home in Dublin.

She was born in Purlair, N.C. on Jan. 29, 1936, to the late Gilbert Clayton and Fannie Elizabeth Eller.

Dorothy retired from American University in Washington, D.C. After retiring, Dot traveled, especially to her late daughter's home in Florida, and she also loved going to watch her great nephews' basketball games up and down the East Coast. She enjoyed going to visit her friends, going out to eat, and, at times, shopping.

Dot was a volunteer at Highland Ridge Rehab Center for over 25 years. She said she loved to make others smile, and she would spend several hours daily playing bingo, talking to the residents, and bringing them lots of magazines, costume jewelry, and whatever they asked her for.

Through the years, Dot stayed in touch with the 54 classmates of her Dublin High School graduating class.

Dot loved her Dublin High School class of '54 classmates, and they all stayed in touch through the years.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents, Gilbert and Fannie



Eller; her husband, Paul Sowers; her daughter, Sherry E. Showalter; sisters Billie McNeil, Joan Rickey, Betty Hix, and Linda McDonald; her brothers, Doyle, Frank, Bud, and JT Eller; and her nephew, Todd Gilbert Loy.

Dorothy is survived by her niece, Angela D. Loy, who had been her caregiver for the last few years; her daughter-in-law, Dorothy Brown; nephews Tony and Jerry Rickey; nieces Cindy Lou Murphy and Brenda O'Neal; great-nephews D'Vante Todd and Kamryn Elijah Edwards; her great-great-nephew, Kullen Todd Edwards, numerous cousins, and a very special friend, Inez Tracy. Angela thanks Intrepid Hospice and Care Advantage for providing exceptional care to her aunt.

Per Dot's request, her body was donated to the Anatomical Division of the Virginia Department of Health for scientific study, teaching, research, or other purposes.

A celebration of life will be held in the summer.

The Sowers family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home and Crematory in Radford.

## Yopp, Vanessa Lorraine Albert

Vanessa Lorraine Albert Yopp, 65, passed away at her home in Radford on Monday, Jan. 16, 2023.

She was preceded in death by her father, Kenneth Eugene Albert, Sr.

Survivors include her daughter, Crystal Miller; her mother, Sylvia Caldwell Spradlin; granddaughters Vanessa Jane Branscome and Nellie Sue Miller; one great-grandson; brothers and sisters-in-law, Kenneth E. Albert, Jr., and Deborah and Dexter

Albert and Rhonda; and many other relatives and friends.

The family received friends Friday, Jan. 20, 2023, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. A graveside service followed in Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin with the Rev. Dr. Paul Lane officiating.

The Yopp family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home and Crematory in Radford.



# MONTGOMERY SPORTS

## Christiansburg’s Thompson named first-team all-state

**Marty Gordon**  
*NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com*

Several serious bumps and bruises this season forced many new faces into action for the Christiansburg High School football team. One of those was Jeremiah “J.T.” Thompson, who moved into a starting linebacker role in week four when Thaxton Henley suffered a season-ending injury. Thompson thus became an important part of the team’s run to the state’s Class 3 semi-finals. He finished the season with 72 tackles, 49 of them solos, second on the team.

Thompson also had two interceptions, a sack, and returned an interception for a touchdown. For his effort, he was honored on the Region D first-team and was named the defensive specialist of the year on the All-County/All-City team. Monday, he added the all-state Class 3 honor to his list of honors, being named the classification’s defensive specialist of the year.

The junior transferred to

Christiansburg from Auburn in the tenth grade. This past year, he put on 10 to 15 pounds and grew to a height of six feet.

Despite Christiansburg’s loss to Heritage in the state semis, Thompson felt the season was a successful one that built on the previous year’s accomplishments. “It (losing in the semis) showed us we gotta take everyone seriously. We underestimated our opponent,” he said.

Thompson also played quarterback for a number of snaps when Tanner Evans was injured. He also lined up some as a tailback.

“I like being on the field. I wanna play,” he said.

This winter, he is running indoor track and will turn to baseball in the spring, but football is slowly becoming his number-one sport.

“I think we can build off this season. We have a younger group of good players (this year’s junior varsity team finished undefeated) coming up, so I expect we will be tough again next year. I’m looking



NEWS MESSENGER FILE PHOTO

**Jeremiah Thompson made 72 tackles this past season for Christiansburg High School.**

forward to my senior season,” Thompson said.

He would like to play football at the next level and is open to playing quarterback or running back during the 2023 season. “I will do whatever needs to be done to help the team,” he said.

The Blue Demons also had several players named to the second-team all-

state list. Tanner Evans was a second-team selection for both defensive back and running back while Curtis Altizer was honored as a second-team linebacker. Ayden Conley was named to the second team as both an offensive and a defensive lineman. Jayron Thompson was selected as a second-team receiver.



PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

**New and returning Hokie players hit the weight room as spring workouts began this week.**

## Hokies begin spring workouts

**Marty Gordon**  
*NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com*

Year one is down in the Brent Pry era at Virginia Tech, and Tuesday returning players joined several early admission players for workouts at the university’s indoor facility.

Staffers divided players into two groups with Senior Director of Strength and Conditioning Dwight Galt IV leading the workouts. Doing a multitude of exercises, the returning players welcomed the new mid-year enrollees, who moved in just this past weekend.

From utilizing the weight room to the Beamer-Lawson Indoor Practice Facility, the Hokies did circuit training and more as they head into Hunger Drills – their early morning winter conditioning workouts – later this month.

At least six early enrollees were among the group, getting a head start on their careers in Blacksburg.

Tech took a hit when Temple transfer Darian Varner flipped his commitment from the Hokies to Wisconsin. He had earned first-team All-American Athletic Conference this past season with 35

tackles with 12.5 tackles for loss and 7.5 sacks. He ranked tied for 17th nationally in sacks per game and tied for 20th in tackles for loss per game.

On the other hand, an outstanding player flipped from Boston College to Tech as running back Bhayshul Tuten is now in Blacksburg. This past season, the North Carolina A&T sophomore rushed 208 times for 1,363 yards and had 13 rushing touchdowns and another four receiving.

His 2021 stats led the Big South conference in all-purpose yards per game (155), yards per carry (6.55), rushing touchdowns (13), rushing yards, rushing yards per game (123.9), scoring (9.3), and total touchdowns.

He ranked in the top 10 nationally in total touchdowns, scoring, rushing yards per game, rushing yards, rushing touchdowns, and all-purpose yards.

Tech had previously landed a trio of outstanding names through the transfer portal: wide receiver Ali Jennings (Old Dominion) quarterback Kyron Drones (Baylor), and wide receiver Quan Felton (Norfolk State).

## Poll watch: Hokie baseball ranked in preseason polls

Precisely one month from the start of the 2023 campaign, the Virginia Tech baseball team is already gathering a wealth of potential for another high-achieving season on the diamond as the Hokies have been ranked in three national preseason polls from respected outlets.

D1BASEBALL – No. 14

For the first time since the outlet’s rankings debut in 2015, Virginia Tech has earned a spot in D1Baseball’s preseason top 25 poll, landing at No. 14, the third highest ranking among ACC programs. Last season, the Hokies entered D1Baseball’s top 25 on April 11 and remained ranked for eight consecutive weeks, including seven straight weeks ranked inside the top 10.

Tech peaked at No. 2 in D1Baseball’s rankings on May 23 and entered the 2022 NCAA Division I Baseball Championship ranked No. 4 nationally. After finishing one win shy of advancing to the 2022 Men’s College World Series in Omaha, the Hokies placed No. 11 overall in the poll’s year-end rankings, marking the program’s highest such finish all-time.

As it stands, four of Tech’s 2023 ACC opponents appear in D1Baseball’s preseason top 25. The Hokies will host No. 19 Virginia (March 31 – April 2) and No. 12 North Carolina

(April 28-30) while making trips to No. 22 Miami (March 17-19) and No. 6 Wake Forest (May 18-20).

PERFECT GAME – No. 15

Down one line from D1Baseball’s No. 14 ranking, Perfect Game ranked Virginia Tech No. 15 in its season-opening top 25 poll, signifying another program-first appearance for the Hokies (since at least 2013).

While D1Baseball favored Tech in its ACC comparisons against Louisville and Miami – as well as its consideration against TCU and UCLA – Perfect Game disagreed, presenting the Hokies as the fifth strongest ACC program out of the gates. Within the ACC, Perfect Game has Tech clocked behind No. 5 Wake Forest, No. 7 Louisville, No. 9 Miami, and No. 13 North Carolina while leading No. 19 Virginia and No. 21 NC State.

On the flip side, Perfect Game backed Tech in its outlooks against three teams that were ranked higher than the Hokies by D1Baseball: Oklahoma State (No. 18), Maryland (No. 22), and East Carolina (unranked).

Virginia Tech finished the 2022 season ranked No. 10 in Perfect Game’s year-end poll release.

COLLEGIATE BASEBALL NEWSPAPER – No. 28

Known as college baseball’s oldest poll dating back to 1959, Collegiate Baseball

Newspaper ranked Virginia Tech No. 28 in its annual “Fabulous 50” preseason selections.

Of the 10 ACC programs appearing in the poll’s top 50, Tech drew the seventh most points behind No. 6 Louisville, No. 8 Miami, No. 10 Wake Forest, No. 11 North Carolina, No. 16 Virginia, and No. 23 Georgia Tech. The Hokies were late bloomers in last season’s CBN polls, cracking the outlet’s top 30 for the first time on April 25 (No. 26) before peaking on May 23 at No. 2.

This season, Tech is scheduled to face seven ACC programs within CBN’s preseason top 50, including matchups at No. 32 Florida State and against No. 42 Clemson.

As of Jan. 17, three of the remaining six nationally respected college baseball polls – Baseball America, NCBWA and USA TODAY Sports (coaches poll) – have yet to release their preseason rankings.

Virginia Tech will open its 2023 regular season schedule on Friday, Feb. 17, at College of Charleston in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. The Cougars (37-20 overall) won the 2022 Colonial Athletic Association’s regular season championship courtesy of their 19-5 league record.

*- Virginia Tech Athletics*

## Men’s soccer adds Burnett in volunteer assistant role

BLACKSBURG – Virginia Tech men’s soccer head coach Mike Brizendine announced the addition of Owen Burnett to the program’s staff on Wednesday, Jan. 18. Burnett will serve in a volunteer assistant role for the Hokies.

“We’re pumped to bring Owen onto our

staff,” Brizendine said of Burnett’s hiring. “He’s a guy that I’ve known for a while now and I admire his willingness to help out in whatever way he can.

It’s an exciting time in our program and we’re glad to have Owen here with us.”

Burnett joins Virginia

See **Soccer**, page 10

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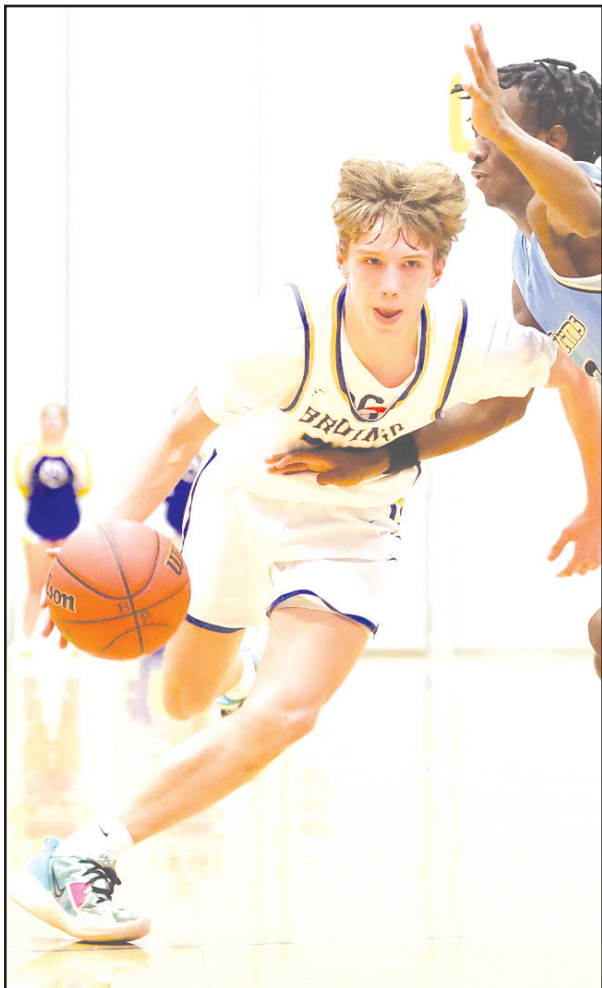
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# Hidden Valley rallies to down Blacksburg



Blacksburg's Donald Saville attempts to drive past Hidden Valley defender Tyus Johnson during second-half Tuesday night action. Hidden Valley rallied in the fourth quarter for a 68-59 win.



Blacksburg's Wade Bland elevates and shoots over Hidden Valley's defense. Bland led the Bruin offense with 26 points in the loss to the Titans.



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING  
Xavier Bland scores while getting fouled by Hidden Valley's Jackson Getz during a second-half Blacksburg rally. Bland scored 10 points for the Bruins.

## Trevor Cone teeing it up against the best on PGA Tour



PHOTO COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES  
Trevor Cone, a Virginia Tech alumnus, former ACC champion, and All-American in men's golf, is now playing on golf's biggest stage and looking to establish himself among the sport's greats.

Only moments after securing his PGA Tour card, Trevor Cone took a shower.

The suds flowed over his head, across his shoulders, and down his back. He further soaked in their glory by consuming several healthy gulps and ultimately came to an undeniable conclusion that beer showers are the best.

Cone earned the right to partake in this celebratory venture after he obtained his PGA Tour card by finishing in the top 25 of the Korn Ferry Tour points standings at the conclusion of that tour's season this past August. His 34th place finish at the Pinnacle Bank Championship held in Omaha, Nebraska, enabled him to finish 22nd on the regular season eligibility points list of the tour that serves as a precursor to professional golf's biggest stage.

Cone, who graduated in 2015 with a degree in marketing from the Pamplin College of Business, made

his PGA Tour debut Sept. 15 at the Fortinet Championship held in Napa, California. He became just the fourth Virginia Tech player ever to play on the PGA Tour, joining Johnson Wagner, Brendon de Jonge, and Tim Collins Jr.

Not surprisingly, Cone found himself battling a severe case of anxiety while on the tee box to hit his first PGA shot.

"It just seemed like everything was moving 1,000 miles an hour when usually it's just another day out there," Cone said via telephone from his home in Charlotte a few days before Christmas. "You always get first tee jitters no matter what. It doesn't really matter, but usually you can get past them, and I don't know. It was interesting. I just couldn't slow anything down, and something so natural to me just kind of felt foreign. And then, that lasted for a while.

"I hit a pretty good shot and ended up making birdie on that hole, so that was cool. And surprisingly, usually when something like that happens, you think you would calm down, but somehow the adrenaline, that was the most adrenaline I probably ever had."

Cone, a native of Concord, North Carolina, who was an

All-American at Virginia Tech in 2014 and the 2015 ACC champion, played in four PGA events this fall and shot under par in three of them, making the cut twice. His best finish came at the Sanderson Farms Championships in Jackson, Mississippi, where he shot 6-under-par for the tournament and finished tied for 45th.

The PGA Tour oddly starts its season in the fall and crosses into a new calendar year toward an August conclusion. But for a lot of fans, January serves as the "real" launching of a new golf season.

Most PGA stars eschew the fall tournaments, waiting until the new year to tee off – names like Jordan Spieth, Xander Schauffele, and Justin Thomas. All 2022 winners and those who finished in the top 30 of the FedEx Cup opened the new year at the Sentry Tournament of Champions in Maui, Hawaii, on Jan. 5-8 before hopping over to Honolulu to play in the Sony Open the following weekend.

Cone joined the contingent after receiving the invitation to play at the Sony Open over in America's island paradise – an event coincidentally won by Wagner in 2012.

"The fall tournaments are still PGA Tour tournaments, but a lot of the biggest players in the world aren't playing every week," Cone said. "They're not the biggest events, but coming up in the spring, I'm sure it'll be a little bit different. But I wouldn't say it's too much different than the Korn Ferry Tour talentwise. Everyone out there can play, but obviously, the top of the PGA Tour is filled with incredible talent."

Cone missed the cut at the Sony Open by a stroke despite shooting rounds of 70 and 69. Yet in a sense, the appearance at the Sony Open validated the time and effort that Cone spent on his golf career. He twice fell short of earning his PGA card at the PGA's Qualifying School after graduating from Virginia Tech. He then spent two years competing on PGA Tour Canada (2016-17) while waiting for an opportunity to compete on the Korn Ferry Tour.

In 2018, while playing on the Korn Ferry Tour under conditional status, he won at the Ellie Mae Classic held TPC Stonebrae in Hayward, California. But from 2019-21, he missed 39 cuts in 60 starts and registered just one top-10 finish.

"I wasn't playing horrible golf, but if you're not playing really good golf, it's tough even to make cuts on the Korn Ferry Tour," Cone said in an article on PGATOUR.com in

December.

Cone has been working with John Scott Rattan, the director of instruction at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Maryland. This past May, that work paid off when he won the AdventHealth Championship held at Blue Hills Country Club in Kansas City for his second victory on the Korn Ferry Tour.

The confidence propelled him throughout the 2022 season. With his parents and girlfriend in attendance at the Korn Ferry Tour's final regular-season event, his season ended with a luxurious beer bath.

"I think Trevor can be as good as he wants to be," Rattan said. "It's up to Trevor. I'm saying that almost to challenge him. Trevor can be as good as he wants to be, and if that means he wants to play on Ryder Cup teams and have a 20-year career on the PGA Tour, Trevor can do that. But like anyone in the position that he's in, he's got to go out and earn it every day. You've got to pay your rent every week on the PGA Tour."

Not long after earning his card, Cone called Wagner, who also lives in Charlotte. Wagner, a three-time winner on the PGA Tour, serves as a mentor to Cone, and Cone gleaned some information on what to expect on the tour.

Cone also has spent the past several weeks working on his game, specifically his putting – an area where he wants to improve. But he shot three rounds in the 60s at The RSM Classic in St. Simons Island, Georgia in mid-November to conclude the fall portion of the PGA slate, so he has the game to compete with the best.

Now, the 29-year-old wants to show it consistently.

"My expectations are pretty high," Cone said. "I would like to win because I think I have the game to do it. It's just putting it all together."

"Obviously, the main goal is to just play well enough to keep my card as a rookie. I think that's a tough task for most guys in their first year, but the biggest goal is just having a good mindset and good attitude out there, just enjoying it. I think over the years after you turn pro, professional golf, it becomes more of a job. Not that it's a bad thing. It motivates you, but I think any golfer would tell you that whenever they're having the most fun and being carefree and laid back out there is when they're playing their best golf, so that's the biggest goal in my opinion."

~ Jimmy Robertson, VT Athletics

## Soccer

from page 9

Tech after graduating from Christopher Newport University last December with a degree in business management. While at Christopher Newport, Burnett played four

seasons for the Captains.

A native of Pennington, N.J., Burnett appeared in 42 games for the Captains as a forward. He scored five career goals, including three

in the 2021 campaign in which he made a career high four starts.

~ Virginia Tech Athletics



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