



PHOTO BY ED MCMINN  
The Christiansburg Town Council Monday night passed a resolution honoring Marshall Curtis Whitt for his service to the community. Pictured left to right are Councilman Henry Showalter, Councilman Casey Jenkins, Mayor Mike Barber, Deputy Fire Marshall Curtis Whitt, Christiansburg Fire Chief Billy Hanks, Councilwoman Tanya Hockett, Vice-Mayor Samuel Bishop, Councilman Tim Wilson, and Councilwoman Johana Hicks.

## Proposed FY 2023-24 county budget to total \$239.9 million

Ed McMinn  
editor@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Montgomery County administrator F. Craig Meadows presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2023-24 Montgomery County budget Monday evening at the regular meeting of the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors.

The proposed budget outlines the county's fiscal plan of operation for the year and was developed by the county's leadership team to meet the county's current and future needs. The proposed budget for all funds is \$239.9 million, an increase of 19.1 million or 8.7 percent over the current fiscal year. As proposed, the budget consists of \$102 million provided from federal, state, and other designated funds with the remaining funds of \$137.9 million representing county dollars that are not designated for a specific purpose.

The budget as presented by county administrator Meadows included \$136.1 million in the operating fund for Montgomery County Public Schools, an increase of eight percent from the current year's budget of \$9.7 million. The school system requested \$6.1 million in additional county funds to address shortfalls in their proposed budget. As the county administrator pointed out, \$1.3 million of the requested \$6.1 million resulted from a calculation error by the State Department of Education.

"Removing this calculation error, MCPS' request would be \$4.8 million, and my recommendation of \$4 million would address 83% of the schools' request," Meadows said.

The budget proposal also includes a 5% salary increase for teachers that is included in the governor's proposed budget. Meadows noted that the Virginia House of Delegates and the Virginia Senate have proposed an additional two percent salary increase for a total increase of seven percent.

The breakdown of the sources for the budget's \$239.9 million includes 42.5 percent from designated dollars, 35.7 percent from real estate, 8.5 percent from personal property, 5.4 percent from sales tax, and 3.1 percent from other.

The breakdown of where the money goes includes 59.9 percent for school funds, 8.6 percent for schools' debt service, 2.1 percent for county debt service, and 27.6 percent for the general fund.

Meadows recommended that set-asides for future capital for the county (currently 1.5 cents for fire and rescue, 1 cent for capital property, and 2.5 cents for the school system) be reduced by a half-penny to

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## Christiansburg Council passes resolution honoring Deputy Fire Marshall Curtis Whitt

Ed McMinn  
editor@mainstreetnewspapers.com

At its regular meeting Tuesday evening, the Christiansburg Town Council passed a resolution recognizing Deputy Fire Marshall Curtis Whitt for his "outstanding professional and personal commitment to the community."

The resolution reads, "Whereas Deputy Fire Marshall Curtis Whitt has served the Town of Christiansburg, Virginia, and the surrounding New River Valley through outstanding professional and personal commitment to the community; and,

Whereas, during the recent COVID -19 pandemic Mr. Whitt was assigned to the New River Valley Task Force to represent the Town of Christiansburg; and,

Whereas, Mr. Whitt has developed operational and response plans, procured equipment, coordinated with regional counties, as well as the Town of Blacksburg, Town of Christiansburg, and the City of Radford; and

Whereas, Mr. Whitt assisted with high school graduations and presented response guidelines to the public school systems; and

Whereas, Mr. Whitt was a valuable source of knowledge and

teamwork for the NRV Public Health Task Force; and

Whereas, Mr. Whitt's attention to detail, and knowledge of Emergency Management and the ICS system were valuable to the task force and the community; and,

Whereas, Deputy Fire Marshall Whitt's example will continue to have a lasting impact on the community for years to come;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Christiansburg Town Council meeting in regular session February 24, 2023, adopts this resolution in recognition and appreciation of Curtis Whitt for his service to the community.

## Miller off Main Street Galleries to present 'Exchanges' Apr. 28

Miller off Main Street Galleries, 211 Wilson Ave. in Blacksburg, presents "Exchanges," an exhibition of the paintings of Susan Lockwood and Terri Hoover.

Exhibited side by side, Hoover's paintings see the natural world in colorful layers of paint as details disappear the closer one gets to the painting.

Lockwood's paintings capture essential elements of a subject or place, creating an image that evokes strong emotions.

The exhibit runs through April 28 with a reception for the artists on March 31 from 5 to 7 p.m.

- News Messenger staff report

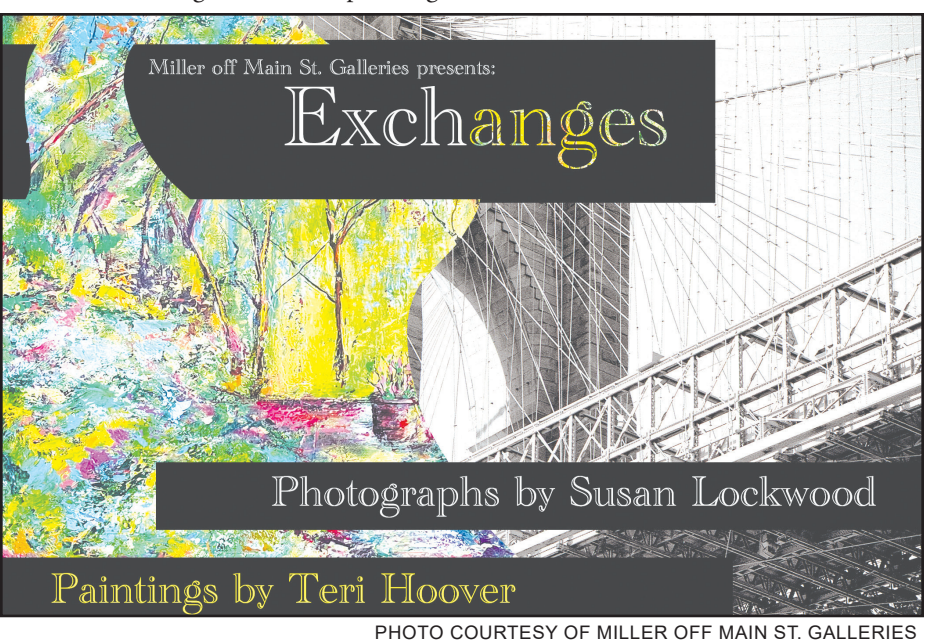


PHOTO COURTESY OF MILLER OFF MAIN ST. GALLERIES



Tent camping at Fairy Stone State Park.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY KIM WELLS

## Virginia State Parks campgrounds are now open

Virginia State Parks campgrounds opened on Friday, March 3, 2023.

Full-service campgrounds with bathhouses are open from the first Friday in March through the first Monday in December with the exception of Douthat, Hungry Mother, Pocahontas, and Shenandoah River state parks, which

have full-service campgrounds open year-round.

Due to a campground renovation project, camping at Claytor Lake State Park will not open until April 1.

The camping options at Virginia state parks are plentiful and vary from cabins and bunkhouses to yurts and primitive camping with each park offering different scenic

camping options.

Visit the camping web page for more details about reservations, cancellations, and severe weather procedures. Campers traveling with horses should be sure to visit the equestrian camping page for all the policies dealing with horses while camping.

Reservations can be

See Parks, page 4

## Three Montgomery County officials to retire in 2023

Three of Montgomery County's top elected officials have announced plans to step down: Clerk of Circuit Court Erica Conner was the first to retire this past month with her deputy assistant being appointed to fill her remaining term for the rest of the year.

The clerk of court position will be one of several up for election this November.

On Monday, revenue commissioner Helen Royal said she will not seek another term. She was first elected to the post in 2011 and has spent more than 37 years in the office.

Brenda Winkle, a long-time employee of the office, has said she will seek to replace her boss.

Then on Tuesday, county treasurer Helen St. Clair announced her retirement effective December 31 after more than 39 years of service.

St. Clair began working in the Montgomery County Treasurer's Office on Nov. 1, 1984, as a tax technician. After six months, she moved to bookkeeping, and from there she worked in many areas of the office before being promoted to Chief Deputy in 2004.

After being appointed as treasurer in February 2019, St. Clair ran a successful campaign and was elected to

the office in November 2019.

"With a staff of eleven employees, we have worked together to continue offering exceptional customer service and to use the technology available to streamline our processes," she said.

All three positions are elected by the residents of Montgomery County.

- News Messenger staff report

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Monday, March 6:

**Carilion Clinic free chronic disease screening**  
 At the Meadowbrook Library; 1 to 3 p.m. Health professionals will assess participants' current health risk by receiving free preventive health services including blood pressure screening, diabetes risk assessment, and stroke risk assessment. No registration is required.

**Radford Electoral Board meeting**  
 At the Radford City Courthouse, Elections/Voter Registration Office, 619 Second St. Room 143, Radford; 3:30 p.m.

## Tuesday, March 7:

**I-Spy DIY**  
 At the Christiansburg Library; 4-5 p.m. Make your own I-Spy box scene filled with all the tiny things! Have your friends and family try to find all of the items you have hidden. Ideal for ages 8-plus.

**English Conversation for Adults**  
 At the Blacksburg Library; 7 to 9 p.m. Carole and Bob Dellinger will lead this class. Call the library at 540-552-8246 for more information. No childcare will be available.

## Thursday, March 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, 540 320 7791.

**Women's leadership conference**  
 At the Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center.

**Community quilting bee**  
 At the Blacksburg Library; 10 a.m. to noon. Participants can bring their supplies and join this weekly quilting and sewing group.

**Talking about Books: "Raising Lazarus"**  
 At Meadowbrook Library; 11 a.m. to noon. To be discussed is "Raising Lazarus" by Beth Macy. Call (540) 268-1964 for more information or to reserve a copy.

## Friday, March 10:

**Luther Memorial Lutheran Church hosts Mr. Jefferson's Bones Trombone Quintet**  
 Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, 600 Prices Fork Rd., Blacksburg, will host a concert by Mr. Jefferson's Bones, a professional trombone quintet at 4 p.m. The New River Valley community is invited to attend.

## Saturday, March 11:

**Kitchen supply swap**  
 At Meadowbrook Library, 1 to 3 p.m. Space is provided to meet up, to give away unwanted items, and to find items that need a new home all while participating in sustainable living. This event is free and is open to anyone in the community. Participants can bring any kitchen items, utensils, gadgets, and thingamabobs that are in good condition, clean, and usable to swap for other items. Participants can also bring recipes to share. Any items left over will be donated to the Eastmont Thrift Store, a part of the Eastmont Community Foundation.

**Craft supply swap**  
 At the Blacksburg Library; 2 to 3 p.m. Participants can bring items in to swap with other crafters. The event is free and is open to everyone. All items left over will go to benefit library craft programs and the Creative Reuse Center.

## Monday, March 13:

**Radford Community Garden sign-ups**  
 Radford Community Garden will begin sign-up for the 2023 season on March 13, 2023, in the City Administration Building. Previous gardeners will have priority for a plot. Plots cost \$20 for a 20' x 20'-foot plot and \$10 for a 10' x 20' plot.

**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.

**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 to voice their concerns. All regular meetings of the Board of Supervisors are rebroadcast on Montgomery County Comcast and Shentel Channels 190 daily.

## Tuesday, March 14:

**Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting**  
 The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant, 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy are invited to this meeting. If Montgomery County Public Schools are closed on Tuesday or Wednesday of this week due to weather, the meeting will be canceled. For further information, call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

**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**  
 The Christiansburg Town Council will meet in regular session beginning 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 matter they desire before the entire council.

**New Tuesday night zumba class**  
 Blacksburg Parks and Recreation is now offering a Tuesday night Zumba class with Jui-Ling. Classes will begin March 14 and will continue through April 25 from 6 to 7 p.m. Passes can be purchased at the Blacksburg Community Center and cost \$35 for residents and \$45 for non-residents. Passes are good for 13 visits and are interchangeable with morning and evening classes (excluding Yoga Flow). For more

information, call 540-443-1142.

## Wednesday, March 22:

**Parks and Recreation/Warm Hearth spring luncheon and bingo**  
 Blacksburg Parks and Recreation and Warm Hearth Village will co-sponsor an annual spring luncheon and bingo from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Blacksburg Community Center. The day will include food, fun, and great company. The cost is \$7 per person, and the fee includes a meal of glazed spiral ham, green beans, macaroni and cheese, rolls, and dessert and beverages. Participants should bring \$1 in quarters for bingo prizes to enjoy the expert bingo calling skills of Joy Herbert, Bingo PhD. To register, call 540-443-1100.

## Saturday, March 25:

**Spring children's consignment sale**  
 Blacksburg United Methodist Church will hold its spring children's consignment sale from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Whisner Building at the Church Street campus, accessed through the rear entrance at Lee and Penn Streets. Families will be able to get great deals on seasonal kids' clothes and shoes, toys, books, baby gear, sports equipment, maternity clothing, and more. Many items are like-new (some even brand-new). Some items will be half-price between 12:30 and 1:30 p.m. Cash or checks only. No card or electronic payments.

## Ongoing:

**Lifeguard training**  
 The Christiansburg Aquatic Center is hiring high school students aged 16 and above for the summer season. A lifeguard training course is mandatory and will be held March 17-19. If students are hired, the training class is free. Enroll at www.cacpool.com.

**Free prom dresses for NRV students**  
 Meadowbrook Public Library in Shawsville, a branch of the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library system, is offering free prom

See Events, page 4

### Legals - Montgomery County

**LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION**  
 The Town of Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, March 20, 2023, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning: A. Rezoning request by Jones Real Estate Investment & Recycling Company, Inc., Property Owner, to rezone an approximately 1.1 acre portion of a 2.002 acre parcel located between the south side of Scott Street NE and the north side of Roanoke Street, and identified as Tax Parcel 499 - (A) - 10, Parcel ID 008134; and approximately 1.21 acres located at 1413 Scott St. NE, identified as Tax Parcel 529-(7)-A, Parcel ID 008135; and approximately 0.26 acres located adjacent to the east side of 1413 Scott St. NE, identified as Tax Parcel 529-7-76, Parcel ID 008136; from General Business District B-3 to Multiple-Family Residential District R-3. The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the application, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning

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Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Benjamin Tripp, Planning Director, at (540) 382-6128 ext. 1120 or by email at btripp@christiansburg.org with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

**LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION**  
 The Town of Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, March 20, 2023, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning: A. Conditional Use Permit request by Jones Real Estate Investment & Recycling Company, Inc., Property Owner, to allow a Planned Housing Development for 49 single-family attached townhouses on the property located at 1413 Scott St. NE, further identified as Tax Parcels 499 - ((A)) - 10; 529 - (7) - A; 529 - (7) - 76; 499 - (17) - 48 through 56; 529 - (7) - 44 through 47; and 529 - (7) - 75; Parcel IDs 008134, 008135, 008136, and 210197, zoned Multiple-Family Residential District R-3. The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. Town Hall will be open and available to receive public

### Legals - Montgomery County

comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the application, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Benjamin Tripp, Planning Director, at (540) 382-6128, Ext. 1120 or by email at btripp@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR INVITATION FOR BIDS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
 Before the Council of the Town of Christiansburg for Execution of a Naming, Advertising, and Sponsorship Agreement with the Town of Christiansburg for Naming, Advertising, and Sponsorship at the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park Facility

Pursuant to the requirements of §§ 15.2-2100, 15.2-2101, 15.2-2102, et seq., Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, the Town of Christiansburg, Virginia (Town) hereby gives notice that the Town is inviting bids from qualified bidders to enter into a Naming, Advertising, and Sponsorship Agreement (Naming Rights Agreement) with the Town. Under the Naming Rights Agreement, the successful bidder will have the right to have its name on the facilities at the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park complex located at Booker T. Washington

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Parkway, N.W., adjoining Peppers Ferry Road, N.W., Christiansburg, Virginia (a portion of Montgomery County Tax Map No. 435 - ((A)) - 3A; Parcel ID 270079), subject to certain terms and conditions of such Naming Rights Agreement. The term of the Naming Rights Agreement shall be ten (10) years, starting on July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2033. The term of the Naming Rights Agreement is also subject to termination as set forth in the Naming Rights Agreement or in accordance with the law. The Naming Rights Agreement will also allow the successful bidder to have certain advertising rights at the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park Facility. Any such agreement, use, and advertising being subject to approval of the Town. If the Town elects to award a Naming Rights Agreement, Town Council will be requested to adopt an ordinance granting such an award, which ordinance will provide in substance for a Naming Rights Agreement as set forth above. A copy of the full text of the proposed Ordinance and a draft of the Naming Rights Agreement are on file and may be reviewed in the Office of the Town Manager, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. Any interested entity is invited to submit a written bid, including a completed bid form, for a Naming Rights Agreement as set forth above. Each bidder shall submit at a minimum the following information:

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Number issued to it by the Virginia State Corporation Commission.

- The aggregate amount of the annual payments for the naming right to be made to the Town of Christiansburg for such Naming Rights Agreement. The minimum acceptable amount is \$500,000.00.
- The amount of the payments for each year of the term of the Naming Rights Agreement. The minimum acceptable amount for the first year of the term of the Naming Rights Agreement is \$100,000.00.
- The agreement of the bidder to make payments during each year in accordance with the schedule of payments set forth in the Naming Rights Agreement.
- The identification of the bidder's primary business which will constitute the bidder's Product Category for all purposes in the Naming Rights Agreement. The term "primary business" is defined in the Naming Rights Agreement.
- The name proposed by the bidder for the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park facility.
- The financial ability of the bidder to make the payments that will be due during the first year of the term of the Naming Rights Agreement.
- Information that (i) demonstrates the character, judgment, integrity, experience, and reputation of the bidder in the conduct of its business and performance of its contracts and agreements, and (ii) demonstrates the bidder's ability and commitment to collaborate with the Town in the promotion of the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park facility.
- The agreement of the bidder to execute the Naming Rights Agreement

### Legals - Montgomery County

- The bidder acknowledges that this process is subject to § 15.2-2100, et seq., Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, the bidder agrees, if its bid is accepted, to post a bond with surety in favor of the Town pursuant to § 15.2-2104, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.
- Other information as the bidder deems appropriate. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope or container to the Town Manager at the address noted herein on or before 7:00 p.m., local time, Tuesday, April 25, 2023. The outside of the bid envelope should be marked as follows: "Bid for Naming Rights Agreement with Town of Christiansburg for Naming, Advertising, and Sponsorship at the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park Facility, Not to Be Opened Until the Bid Opening at 7:00 p.m. on April 25, 2023." The bid should be addressed to the Office of the Town Manager, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, 24073. All bids received will be held by the Town Manager, unopened, until 7:00 p.m., local time, on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at which time they will be opened in the Council Chambers, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, 24073, and thereafter be publicly opened and read aloud in accordance with § 15.2-2102, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended. The Town reserves the right to cancel this Invitation for Bids and/or to reject any and all bids, to waive any informality or irregularity in the bids received, and to accept the bid which is deemed to be in the best interest of

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the Town. The necessary bid form, a copy of the proposed Naming Rights Agreement, and the proposed Ordinance may be obtained from the Town Manager's Office at the above address after Tuesday, April 25, 2023. Pursuant to the requirements of §§ 15.2-2100, et seq., Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, notice is hereby given that the Council of the Town of Christiansburg will hold a public hearing on the above matter at its regular meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., local time, or as soon thereafter as Council is available, in the Council Chamber, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, 24073. The Bids received will be announced and any additional bids may be received at this time. All parties and interested persons may appear on the above date and time and be heard on the matter. For further information on this matter, you may contact the Office of the Town Manager at (540) 382-6128. If you are a person who needs accommodations for this hearing, please contact the Town Manager's Office at (540) 382-6128 before 12:00 noon on the Thursday before the date of the hearing listed above.



# Marketplace

ourvalley.org

The Fincastle Herald

Vinton Messenger

The New Castle Record

Salem Times-Register

News Messenger

Radford News Journal

### Employment

#### Wanted: Caregiver for adult male with special needs in Christiansburg.

Adult male is non-verbal and must have assistance with all aspects of daily living. We are looking for a long term person with a good employment record who has experience with a non-verbal adult. Safety is a priority. Candidates must be reliable; have kindness and patience; and show creativity (Music ability a plus). Hours will vary according to the needs of the gentlemen and his family. Pay is through a Medicaid waiver and CDCN. Candidates must pass a criminal background check and must have recent references (at least 3.). No cellphone use while working except for emergencies. If interested, please call 540(838-5037) for an interview.

### Legals - Montgomery County

TOGETHER WITH A ONE-HALF INTEREST IN THE WATER LINE AS APPURTENANT TO SAID REAL ESTATE, LEADING FROM SAID HOUSE AND LOT SOUTH ABOUT 560 FEET TO THE SPRING AS SAID PIPE LINE IS NOW LOCATED, TOGETHER WITH NECESSARY EASEMENT FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF SAID WATER LINE FROM THE SAID HOUSE AND LOT TO THE SAID SPRING, WITH THE RIGHT OF INGRESS AND EGRESS UPON THE LANDS OF D.V. AND EFFIE M. JEWELL AS SET FORTH IN DEED FROM JEWELL TO LEWEY OF RECORD IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA IN DEED BOOK 107, PAGE 437, AND ALSO RIGHT TO TAKE WATER FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES FROM THE SPRING AS SET FORTH IN DEED FROM EFFIE JEWELL SISSON AND HUSBAND TO JAMES L. SISSON, DATED FEBRUARY 5, 1958, AND OF RECORD IN SAID CLERK'S OFFICE IN DEED BOOK 208, PAGE 52. THIS IS EXCEPTED FROM THIS CONVEYANCE THAT PART OR THE LAND CONTAINED IN VIRGINIA SECONDARY ROUTE NO. 637, AS CONVEYED TO COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA IN DEED BOOK 171, PAGE 304, IN THE AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE. THIS CONVEYANCE IS MADE SUBJECT TO 12 FT. ROAD RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT ALONG THE WESTERLY SIDE OF CAPTION PROPERTY LEADING FROM VIRGINIA SECONDARY ROUTE NO. 637 TO ADJOINING PROPERTY; 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

BWWW# VA-325893-2 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 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. 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. VA-325893-2.

### Legals - Montgomery County

#### LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL

The Town of Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on, Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning: A. Conditional Use Permit request by SHAH Development, LLC, Property Owner, to allow a Contractor's Equipment Storage Yard on the property located at 1130 Cambria Street NE; Tax Parcels 497-(2)-A and 497-(2)-B; Parcel IDs 018651 and 120350; zoned General Business District B-3. The property is designated as Downtown/Mixed Use and Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the application, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Benjamin Tripp, Planning Director, at (540) 382-6128 Ext. 1120 or by email at btripp@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 & 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on March 13, 2023 at 7:15 p.m. in the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to hear citizen comments regarding the Board of Supervisors' intention to act on the following Ordinance: A request by Lisa W. Pendleton and Tina M. Wells (Agent: CESO, Inc.) to rezone 32.963 total acres from Agricultural (A1) to General Business (GB) to allow the property owner to request a Special Use Permit (SUP) to construct a travel center on 32.963 acres. The property is located at 5241 North Fork Road, Elliston, at the intersection of North Fork Road (State Route 603) and Pedlar Road (State Route 635). The property is further identified as Tax Maps 046-A 10 (Parcel ID: 015768), 1.8 acres, and 046-A 11 (Parcel ID: 015769), 31.163 acres, both zoned A-1 Agricultural in the Shawsville Magisterial District. The property currently lies in an area designated as Village Expansion in the 2025 Montgomery County Comprehensive Plan, and is further designed as Mixed Use in the Elliston-Lafayette Village Plan. AND A request by Lisa W. Pendleton and Tina M. Wells (Agent: CESO, Inc.) for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow for the construction of a travel center on 32.963 total acres. The use is defined as "travel center" in the Zoning Ordinance, and is permitted in the General Business (GB) Zoning District only by Special Use Permit. The property is further identified as Tax Maps 046-A 10 (Parcel ID: 015768), 1.8 acres, and 046-A 11 (Parcel ID: 015769), 31.163 acres, both zoned A-1 Agricultural in the Shawsville Magisterial District. The property currently lies in an area designated as Village Expansion in the 2025

### Legals - Montgomery County

Montgomery County Comprehensive Plan, and is further designed as Mixed Use in the Elliston-Lafayette Village Plan. AND A request by Lisa W. Pendleton and Tina M. Wells (Agent: CESO, Inc.) for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow a comprehensive sign plan pursuant to Section 10-45(a)(3)e of the County Zoning Ordinance for a travel center that exceeds the maximum number of allowed signs, maximum allowed height of signs, and maximum allowed square footage for total signage on the subject property. The comprehensive sign package proposed by the applicant requests the placement of three (3) freestanding signs on the property, exceeding the maximum of two (2) freestanding signs allowed on the subject property. The requested free-standing signs consist of the following: a high-rise sign with a proposed height of one hundred ninety (190) feet, exceeding the maximum allowed height of forty

(40) feet; a street sign with a proposed height of twenty-five (25) feet, exceeding the maximum allowed height of twelve (12) feet; and an additional freestanding sign with a proposed height of twenty (20) feet, exceeding the maximum allowed height of twelve (12) feet. The comprehensive sign package proposed by the applicant would also exceed the maximum allowed square footage for total signage on the subject property. The applicant proposes a high-rise sign consisting of a total of 1167.88 square feet of signage, comprised of 5 individual signs, exceeding the maximum allowed square footage of five-hundred (500) square feet and four (4) individual signs permitted by the Zoning Ordinance. The comprehensive sign package also proposes a total of 1401.23 square feet of signage, consisting of wall, canopy, and other signage, exceeding the maximum allowed square footage of one hundred-eighty (180) square feet on the subject parcel. The property is further identified as Tax Maps 046-A 10 (Parcel ID: 015768), 1.8 acres, and 046-A 11 (Parcel ID: 015769), 31.163 acres, both zoned A-1 Agricultural in the Shawsville Magisterial District. The property currently lies in an area designated as Village Expansion in the 2025 Montgomery County Comprehensive Plan, and is further designed as Mixed Use in the Elliston-Lafayette Village Plan. Copies of the proposed plans, applications, ordinances or amendments may be examined at the Department of Planning and GIS Services, County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 2A, Christiansburg, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or at <http://www.montgomerycountyva.gov/pendingapplications>.

### Legals - Montgomery County

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 & 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on March 13, 2023 at 7:15 p.m. in the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to hear citizen comments regarding the Board of Supervisors' intention to act on the following Ordinance: A request by Eagle Construction of Virginia (Agent: Foresight Design Services) to rezone property identified as Tax Map 52-A-31 (Parcel ID: 017484), totaling 1.35 acres in the Price's Fork Magisterial District. The applicant requests a rezoning with proffered conditions of 1.35 acres from Agricultural (A-1) to Residential (R3) to support the subdivision of the property into two (2) lots for the construction of single-family dwellings. The subject property is addressed as 3940 Price's Fork Road, and is located approximately 0.27 miles west of the intersection of Price's Fork Road (State Route 685) and Stafford View Drive (State Route 1145) and 0.45 miles east of the intersection of Price's Fork Road and Brookfield Road (State Route 654). The property lies in an area designated as Village Expansion in the 2025 Montgomery County Comprehensive Plan and is further designated as Low Density Residential in the Price's Fork Village Plan. Copies of the proposed plans, applications, ordinances or amendments may be examined at the Department of Planning and GIS Services, County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 2A, Christiansburg, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or at <http://www.montgomerycountyva.gov/pendingapplications>.

### Legals - Montgomery County

#### TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 2680 MADISON AVE, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073. In execution of a

certain Deed of Trust dated May 5, 2014, in the original principal amount of \$273,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Virginia as Instrument No 2014002921

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 May 1, 2023, at 3:45 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL OF LOT NO. 4, AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF FOX HOLLOW SUBDIVISION, PHASE I, PREPARED BY MARKS & ASSOC., LTD., DATED 19 AUGUST 1988, WHICH MAP IS OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT BOOK 15, PAGE 22, AND TO WHICH MAP REFERENCE IS MADE FOR A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY HEREBY CONVEYED. 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 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-362147-1.

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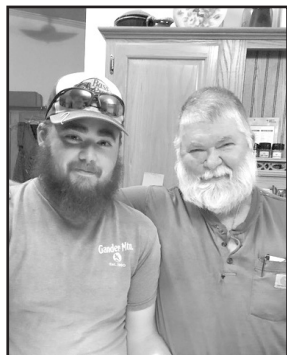
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# OBITUARIES

## Cole, David Eli

David Eli Cole, 65, of Floyd, and CJ; one sister, Edwina Martin; two uncles Robert Cole and Cecil Sutphin (Margie); his mother-in-law Annie Lawson; and several nieces and nephews.



graduated to meet Jesus on Feb. 27, 2023, after battling Plasma Cell Leukemia for nearly a year. He was born in Christiansburg on Aug. 15, 1957, to the late Edwin and Carrie Cole.

He was a machinist at Damon company of Salem for over 20 years. He was an outdoorsman who loved spending time with his children.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife of 38 years, Diane Linkous Cole; his children, Megan (Chase) Vaughn and Jason Cole; his grandchildren Luna

and became a pilot. Their military journey included living in Corpus Christi, Texas, Chula Vista, Calif. and Pensacola, Fla. In each state they welcomed a daughter: Tracey, Laurie, and Mitzi.

After retiring from the Navy, the family returned to Radford where Violet pursued her passion for nursing. She became the head adolescent nurse at St. Albans Psychiatric Hospital in Radford.

Violet was predeceased by her mother, Allene, and her father, Frederick Dalton.

She is survived by her three children, Tracey Lynn Hartwell Harris, Laurie Anne Hartwell, and Mitzi Suzanne Hartwell; three grandchildren: Jordan Leigh Courtner, Taylor Michelle Courtner, and Zachary Ryan Hartwell; as well as her best friend for over 45 years, Susan H Cox.

## Hartwell, Violet Anne Dalton

With much love and great sadness in our hearts, our family announces the passing of our beloved mother.



Violet Anne Dalton Hartwell, 87, of Roanoke, passed away peacefully on Feb. 22, 2023.

Violet "Vi" was born on April 20, 1935, in Fries, Va., the only child of Allene Rosemond Sexton Dalton and Frederick Murel Dalton.

The family soon moved to Radford where Violet excelled in countless activities. She was a head cheerleader, a pageant queen, and an excellent student.

She met her high school sweetheart, HR "Snapper" Hartwell at Radford High School. They dated throughout high school and college and eventually married in Charlottesville on Aug. 14, 1956. At that time, Snapper was a student at the University of Virginia while Vi was pursuing her dream of becoming a nurse. She graduated from Lynchburg University in 1956 with a degree as a registered nurse.

Snapper soon joined the Navy and became a pilot. Their military journey included living in Corpus Christi, Texas, Chula Vista, Calif. and Pensacola, Fla. In each state they welcomed a daughter: Tracey, Laurie, and Mitzi.

After retiring from the Navy, the family returned to Radford where Violet pursued her passion for nursing. She became the head adolescent nurse at St. Albans Psychiatric Hospital in Radford.

Violet was predeceased by her mother, Allene, and her father, Frederick Dalton.

She is survived by her three children, Tracey Lynn Hartwell Harris, Laurie Anne Hartwell, and Mitzi Suzanne Hartwell; three grandchildren: Jordan Leigh Courtner, Taylor Michelle Courtner, and Zachary Ryan Hartwell; as well as her best friend for over 45 years, Susan H Cox.

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

See Obituaries, page 6

### 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 Sonafrank, 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. 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](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. Fellowship and refreshments follow services. Find us on

# Montgomery County WORSHIP DIRECTORY

## WHAT WE NEED

Read Judges 17:1 through 21:25

Cities are racked by chaos. Innocents are cruelly victimized. People of all stripes—leaders and followers alike—lie and steal, thinking nothing of it. Rage, destruction, and brutality are the stuff of daily headlines. When did things get so bad?

This world is no stranger to dark times, including the period of the Israelite judges. Today's reading is full of horrific violence and inhumanity. After the miracles that brought the Israelites into the Promised Land, how did everything fall apart? Was it because they had no ruler to keep them in line? After all, it was repeatedly emphasized that "Israel had no king." But there's more to it than that.

In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit (Judges 21:25).

Our world is what it is because fit. God's every action demonstrates that He desires peace, compassion, and community—things sorely missing from this world. Until we have the mind of Christ, politics will never offer hope. Our world doesn't need a king. It needs God.

Prayer Suggestion: Father, remake my will from the inside out, so that I will desire what You desire.

Quicklook: Judges 21:15–25

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)

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@stmlc.us](mailto:hope@stmlc.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 every-

one 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.centralmethodist-church.com](http://www.centralmethodist-church.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)

# Radford's Highlander Hotel announces senior leadership team including executive chef

The Highlander Hotel Radford, Southwest Virginia's newest hotel, opening in spring 2023, has announced its senior leadership team, including fine dining veteran Executive Chef James Kirby.

The hotel's new leadership team is made up of a mix of local and incoming executive talent. Rachel Pegues has relocated to the area from Charlotte to serve as the property's General Manager, local Ginger Clark has been appointed Director of Sales and Marketing after leading several other successful area properties, and Tidewater native John O'Conner will serve as Director of Food and Beverage.

Kirby is an alumnus of the prestigious Johnson and Wales Culinary Program and the three-Michelin-star northern Virginia restaurant, The Inn at Little Washington, where he worked for five years and rose to sous-chef during his tenure.

Kirby has also worked at other notable D.C. restaurants including the Blue Duck Tavern, the Watergate Hotel, and L'Ardente. He spent the better part of the last two decades developing his culinary skills across Virginia and has helped train the next generation of chefs by teaching culinary arts at Stratford University. For several years Kirby also ran an organic farm in the Shenandoah mountains catering to Washington D.C. restaurants. He brings a passion for local and seasonal cuisine to The Highlander Hotel Radford.

"I plan to use seasonal ingredients to highlight the special, regional cuisine we will offer at our new restaurant, Bee & Butter," Kirby said. "We're planning to work with local food producers in as many creative ways as possible, bringing an exciting but relaxed, new culinary experience to the

area, one that is worthy of this new rooftop facility with its jaw-droppingly beautiful view but appropriate for both everyday dining and special family events."

Kirby will work closely with John O'Conner, who joins the team with extensive experience in fine dining, resorts, and wineries across the state. O'Conner first developed his passion for the hospitality industry after staying at the Williamsburg Inn during the holiday season as a child. That's where he first realized he could play a part in giving people lifelong memories.

His career now includes work at impressive establishments such as Colonial Williamsburg Resorts, the Williamsburg Inn, and Shield's Tavern. O'Conner also served as a manager of the Williamsburg Winery and led operations for the Kabana Rooftop and Lounge as well as the Belle & James restaurant in Richmond.

"No matter the venue, my passion has always remained the same: to give people a unique experience they will never forget," O'Conner said. "We're working with several celebrated local producers to put together an exciting food and beverage program that will include excellent locally produced wines and spirits to complement our menus and atmosphere and, of course, everything is inspired by this region's Highlander roots."

Director of Sales and Marketing Ginger Clark will oversee the opening of the new hotel and its meeting and group sales operations. Clark brings more than 20 years of sales and marketing experience to the new hotel. Prior to joining Aimbridge Hospitality last August, Clark spent the last seven years leading sales with Hilton properties in the Roanoke, Blacksburg, and Radford markets.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HIGHLANDER HOTEL

Set to open this spring, the Highlander Hotel Radford has announced its senior leadership team, which includes veteran executive chef James Kirby.

"I love the hospitality industry and have worked with hotels since I was in college," said Clark. "Everyone is so enthusiastic about this new property, me included, and we couldn't be more excited to launch with a clear focus on bringing the best of the entire region to each guest who walks through our doors. This team is amazing, and I expect this property will quickly be renowned for its incredible hospitality and impeccable experience design."

General Manager Rachel Pegues is responsible for overarching hotel operations, including staff management and guest satisfaction. Pegues has worked with the hotel management firm Aimbridge Hospitality for more than three years. She started her career on her family farm, moved into restaurant management after college, and has since rapidly excelled in hotel management having served successfully in general manager positions with

Marriott, Hilton, and Hyatt properties.

"We're all looking forward to bringing the Highlander Hotel Radford to life as a distinguished new hotel and event space for the region," Pegues said. "As someone new to the area, it is especially exciting to get to work closely with so many new friends in the community on creative collaborations. Watch this team closely over the coming months. We are going to have a lot of new announcements to make."

The announcement of staff comes after the hotel's late 2022 announcement that they are accepting reservations for spring of 2023. Reservations for the hotel can be made at [highlanderradford.com/](http://highlanderradford.com/).

- News Messenger staff report

## Obituaries from page 5

Our family will honor her wishes and will assemble privately to celebrate her life.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Violet's name

toward Project Linus <https://www.projectlinus.org/donations/>.

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

### Roop, Dustin "Dusty" Wayne

Dustin "Dusty" Wayne Roop, 39, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2023, at his home in Radford.

Dusty was a dedicated employee of Little Caesars Pizza and a true computer enthusiast. He was a lifelong learner and was proud of completing his degree certificate in Database and Program Development at Virginia Western Community College. When he was not working, he enjoyed pursuing his passions of computer programming, gaming, and building computers.

Survivors include his parents, Larry



and Sharon Roop; a sister, Ayesha Roop (Brian Shook); a special friend, Roxie Dishon; uncles Jim Roop, and Ricky, Shane, Jimmy, Timmy and Joey Simpkins; aunts Karen Wills, Gloria Minnick, and Patsy Bishop; and many other relatives and friends.

Graveside services were held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1, 2023, in Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Christiansburg.

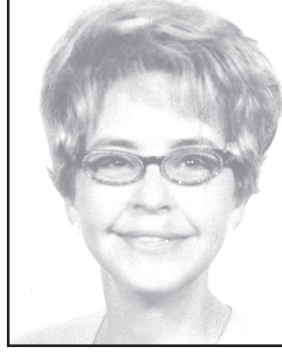
The Roop family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home and Crematory in Radford.

### Whitson, Alma Omega Adkins

Alma Omega Adkins Whitson, 89, passed away Friday, Feb. 24, 2023, at her home in Pulaski. She was a member of Aldergates United Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jessie and Imogene Adkins; her husband, Paul Edward Whitson; and a brother, Scotty Adkins.

Survivors include her daughter,



Annjel W. (Louie) Amadore of Chicago; her son, Jerome V. Whitson of Pulaski; a grandson, Paul B. Hinic; a brother, Jack Adkins of Radford; a sister, Lillie Hamblin of Radford; and many friends.

All services will be private.

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

## Meadowbrook Library offering free prom dresses

As of Wednesday, March 1, Meadowbrook Public Library in Shawsville, a branch of the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library System, is offering free prom dresses to area high school students.

High school students in the New River Valley are invited to make an appointment by calling (540) 268-1964 to browse the library's collection of donated prom dresses. The dresses are now available in a

variety of sizes, styles, and colors to suit every student's individual taste. Each student is eligible to choose one dress from the collection for free.

Meadowbrook Public Library understands that the cost of attending prom can be a significant financial cost for families. Thus, the library believes in supporting the community in any way it can, such as offering free prom dresses to alleviate some of the financial strain and thus allow

students to enjoy their prom.

The library asks that students who are interested in selecting a prom dress make an appointment in advance. It is open to any current high school student who needs a dress for prom.

All dresses are absolutely free.

- Cindy Minnick, Branch Manager, Meadowbrook Public Library

## NRCC Library hosting book talk with local author

New River Community College will host a book talk with Radford University English professor Dr. Rick Van Noy on Tuesday, March 14, at 6 p.m. in 225A Martin Hall inside the NRCC Library on campus.

Van Noy will discuss his most recent book, "Sudden Spring: Stories of Adaptation in a Climate-Changed South." The book is based on stories from his travels in the

American South, as well as from conversations with government, geological, and conservation experts.

"Sudden Spring" is a portrait of what climate change looks like in specific Southern places to specific people." Van Noy is an author and professor of English at Radford University.

Van Noy said he wanted to write the book because "the short answer is that I wanted to move it out of abstraction, to bring it down to a local level in ways that real people experience it. Downscaling is a term climate change experts use to bring global forecasts down to community impacts.

"All of my books look at particular places but

with a different kind of mapping," Van Noy said. "Using techniques of creative nonfiction—including narrative, scene, humor, and dialogue—I try to zoom in on large-scale processes happening at the local level, offering personalized depictions happening both on the ground and beneath the surface."

The event will include light refreshments and a few copies of the book to give away.

For more information about the event, contact Sandy Smith in the NRCC Library at [ssmith@nr.edu](mailto:ssmith@nr.edu) or (540)674-3600, ext. 4345.

- New River Community College



PHOTO COURTESY OF NRCC

Rick Van Noy will discuss his recent book, "Sudden Spring" on Tuesday, March 14, at 6 p.m. at Martin Hall at New River Community College.

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# MONTGOMERY SPORTS

## RU reinstates Nichols

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

Radford University has announced that Darris Nichols will resume his full duties as head men's basketball coach on Monday, March 6. His brother and assistant coach, Shane Nichols, has been serving as the acting coach following Darris's arrest for DUI two weeks ago.

Shane will direct the Highlanders during their run through the Big South Championships, which will be held at Bojangles Coliseum in Charlotte this weekend, March 3-5.

The third-seeded Highlanders began postseason play on Friday, March 3, with an 8 p.m. tip against the sixth-seeded Winthrop Eagles. A potential semifinal contest would take place at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 4, followed by the Big South championship game at 1 p.m. on Sunday, March 5.

Darris's Feb. 19 incident was the result of Radford police finding him sitting in his car. He refused a sobriety test, but later his blood alcohol level was two-times the legal limit.

Within three days, Darris pled guilty and moved the charge along quickly. His license was suspended for 12 months, and he paid a \$2,500 fine. He will also have to use an ignition interlock device on his car and was further sentenced to 180 days in jail with all but two of them suspended.

Darris issued an apology following the legal decision. "There is no excuse

for driving under the influence, and I accept full responsibility for my actions," he wrote Friday morning in an email to The Roanoke Times. "I am thankful to those who took the steps to ensure my safety and appreciate the professionalism exhibited by our law enforcement.

"I apologize to the entire Radford community," Darris said, "a community that has supported me and my family for decades. I am deeply troubled by the pain my actions have caused my family, Radford University, its administrators, students, and alumni; I pray that the community and those affiliated with Radford University will accept my apology.

"There is no justification for my actions," Darris said, "but I pledge that my actions that evening will not define me going forward."

The Radford native was hired two years ago after serving as an assistant at the University of Florida. During a press conference at his hiring, RU Athletic Director Robert Lineburg praised him back home. Lineburg is also a Radford High School graduate.

Darris played basketball at West Virginia University and climbed the ranks as an assistant coach all the way to the University of Florida position in the SEC.

Darris helped lead Radford High School to four appearances in the state Group A playoffs, averaging in double-figures every season. He

coached seven seasons at Florida, helping lead the Gators to a 108-65 record that included four straight 20-win seasons and three consecutive NCAA Tournament bids.

Darris garnered a spot in ESPN.com's 40 Under 40 list in the summer of 2020, rated #17 on the national list that included both head coaches and assistant coaches. He was also rated the #2 assistant coach in the SEC in a Stadium poll of coaches around the league.

A four-year letter-winner at West Virginia under Bob Huggins and John Beilein, Nichols helped the Mountaineers to a 26-11 record and a trip to the 2008 NCAA Sweet 16 his senior season.

At WVU, Darris shined as a player in the Big East. He scored 993 career points and handed out 399 assists while shooting at a .375 clip from 3-point range. He averaged 10.7 points per game and 3.2 assists per game as a senior on the way to WVU's Sweet 16 run. He was also a member of the 2007 NIT Championship team, and the 2006 Sweet 16 and 2005 Elite Eight teams.

He finished his collegiate career among the top five players in WVU history with the most wins. After graduation, Darris played professionally overseas in the Hungarian League.

His coaching stops have included assistant positions at Louisiana Tech, Northern Kentucky, and Wofford, where he coached for current Virginia Tech's head coach Mike Young.

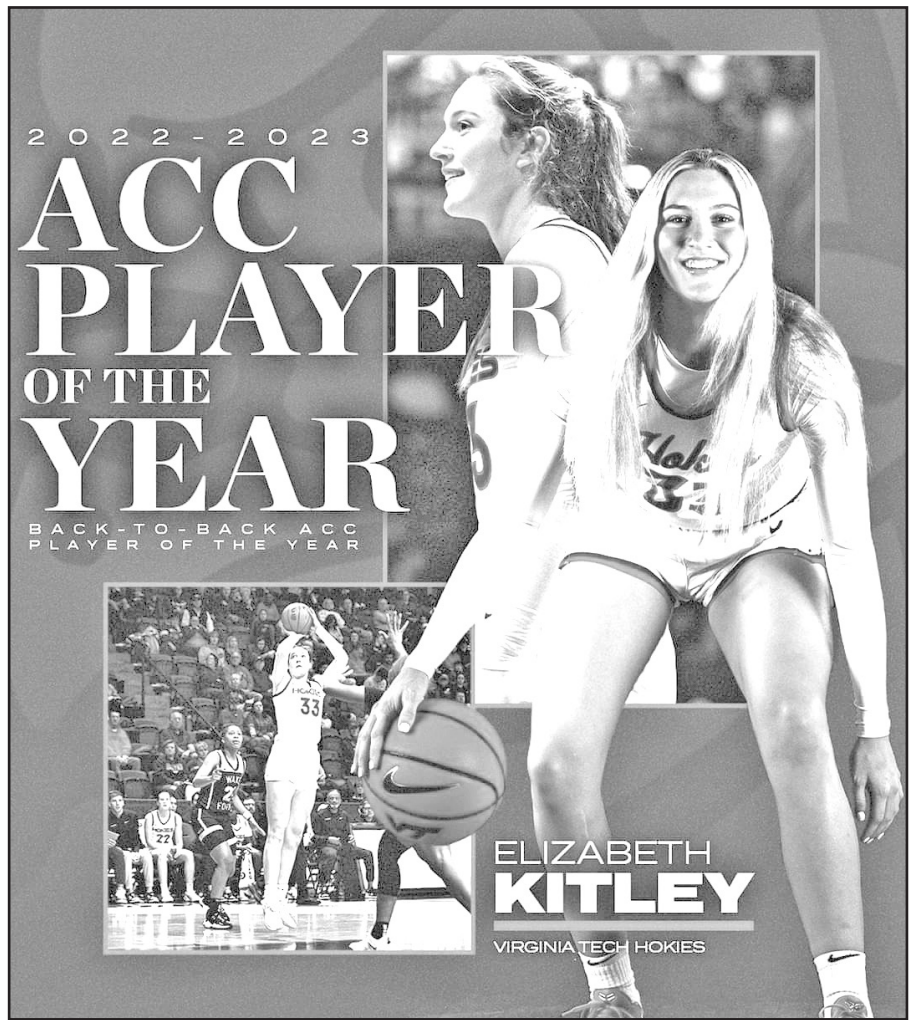


PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

## Elizabeth Kitley named ACC Player of the Year for a second time

Senior VT center Elizabeth Kitley was named the ACC's Player of the Year for the second consecutive season, the league office announced Tuesday evening. She thus became the tenth woman in ACC history to win the award in consecutive seasons.

The Summerfield, N.C., native ranks fourth in the conference in scoring (18.78), second in field goal percentage (56.9%), first in rebounds per game (10.74), first in blocks per game (2.3), and first in double-doubles per game (18). She is the only athlete in the conference to record a 20-rebound game.

She has won ACC Player of the Week four times, the most of any athlete, including each of the last two weeks as she has recorded four consecutive 20-point double-doubles while shooting 60.2% from the field.

With her Player of the Year Award comes a third First-Team All-ACC nod, the most in program history. Kitley was also recognized as an All-Defensive Team member for the second consecutive season. She leads the conference in rebounding, defensive rebounds, and blocks per game this season.

Kitley is the 20th woman in league history to be named First Team All-ACC three times.

Hokie point guard Georgia Amooore also earned First-Team honors after averaging 14.6 points and 5.39 assists per game this season.

She averaged 16 points per game during conference play and had seven 20-point games. Amooore earned ACC Player of the Week on February 13 after a 52-point week helped the Hokies to wins over two ranked squads. She also eclipsed 1,000 career points during that stretch.

The Australia native also led the conference in 3-point shooting, hitting 80 this season or 2.86 per game. She has climbed to fourth in program history in that category.

Hokie forward Taylor Soule has earned Second Team All-ACC honors, the fourth All-ACC accolade of her career. The West Lebanon, New Hampshire, native has averaged 11.4 points and 5.7 rebounds per game this season and shoots at a 51.7% clip from the field.

This season she has recorded two double-doubles and scored at least 20 points twice, scoring 24 points against both High Point and Louisville.

She is on the Cheryl Miller Small Forward of the Year Award midseason top 10 list.

The Hokies, who won a program-record eight straight ACC games, went 14-4 in the league for the first time and earned the three seed in this week's ACC Women's Basketball Tournament in Greensboro, N.C.

--VT Athletics

## Auburn volleyball's Madeline Lavergne commits to King Univ.



FILE PHOTO

Madeline Lavergne helped lead Auburn High School to yet another state volleyball championship this past fall.

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

Auburn High School volleyball player Madeline Lavergne has announced her intentions to continue her playing career at King University near Bristol, Tenn., this fall.

She is the latest senior to move on the next level after Auburn won back-to-back state championships.

Lavergne said she fell in love with King during a recent visit. "The campus is small, which is what I was looking for in a college, and it is a small Christian community," she said. "I met some members of both the men's and women's volleyball teams and got to talk with them. My coach (Ryan Booher), coaches both teams, and the volleyball community is amazing," she said.

"All the players from both teams are close friends and are always looking out for each other," Lavergne said. "The small campus atmosphere feels like a family, and I could definitely see myself fitting in as a member of the team. King feels like home and I could feel God telling me that that is where I belong."

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Lavergne missed over half of her senior season after pulling an abdominal muscle. She played only 56 out of 106 sets but managed to have the highest ace percentage on

See Lavergne, page 8

## RU March Madness begins with Big South Tourney

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

Radford University began March Madness with a trip to the Big South Conference tournament Friday, March 3, at 8 p.m. against Winthrop after the team finished 18-13 this season, including a 12-6 record in Big South play.

The RU men's basketball program has gone 31-33 in 64

all-time games in the Big South Tournament dating back to the beginning of the league. The Highlanders have appeared in eight championship games and won three of them:

1998, 2009, and 2018. Their last appearance in the title bout came in 2019 when Gardner-Webb came to the Dedmon Center and escaped with their NCAA Tournament ticket punched. Radford

See Big South, page 8

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# Radford boys win the Region C championship



The Radford Bobcats hold the Region C championship trophy they won Monday by defeating Floyd 57-46.

PHOTO BY BRYANT ALTIZER

## Blacksburg boys win Class 4 indoor track championship

**Marty Gordon**  
NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Blacksburg High School boys' basketball team won the Class 4 indoor 2023 champion.

The Bruins took the 4X400 relay and finished with 64 total points. Deep Creek was second with 44.5 points, and Salem was third with 40 points.

Connor Rutherford gave Blacksburg first place in the 1,600 meter event with a time of 4:14.9. He recently was named the state's Gatorade boys

cross-country runner of the year.

Western Albemarle took the girls' title with 73 points while Blacksburg finished second with 69 points. Blacksburg's Katja Kehlenbeck won the high jump event at 5-2.

In Class 3, Christiansburg's Madelyn Moles brought home another state title with a 12-04 leap in the pole vault.

The Christiansburg girls finished eighth as Heritage and Abingdon were 1-2. The Christiansburg boys' team was a distant 12th as Heritage and Tabb took first and second places.

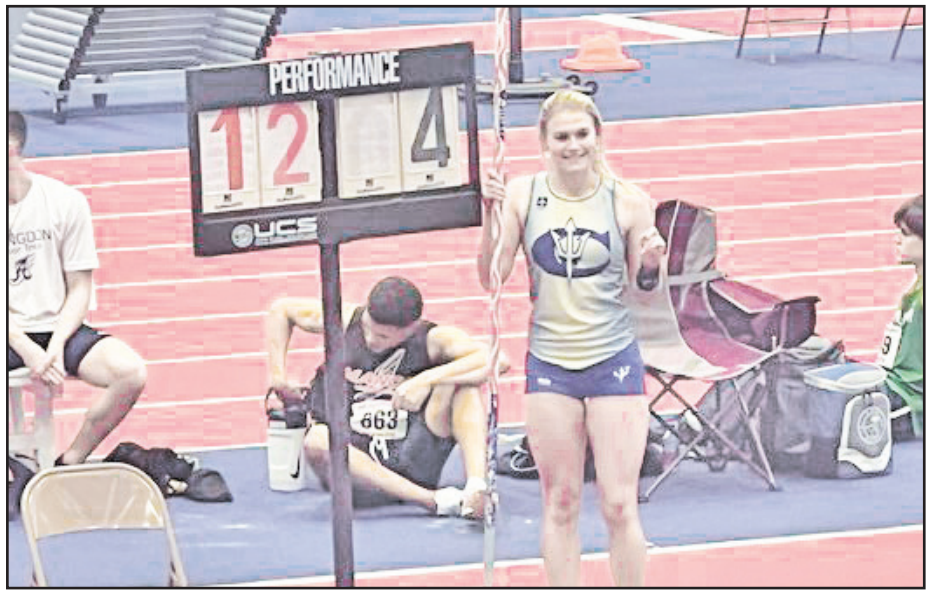


PHOTO COURTESY OF CHS

Pole vaulter Madelyn Moles of Christiansburg brought home another state indoor title this past week with a 12-04 mark, her second straight championship. Moles is headed for James Madison University.

www.montcova.com

## Big South from page 7

played just one game at Bojangles Coliseum last season, falling to No. 9 N.C. A&T, 78-71, in overtime.

The Highlanders racked up four Big South postseason awards for the 2022-23 campaign. DaQuan Smith headlined the honors with a Second-Team All-Big South selection while Bryan Antoine earned an honorable mention nod, Kenyon Giles made the Big South All-Freshman Team, and Shaquan Jules took his place on the Big South All-Academic Team for the second straight year.

Meanwhile, the Radford women are also poised for tournament time. The team has earned the fourth seed in the Big South Tournament and began play in the Quarterfinals on Thursday, March 2, at the Bojangles Coliseum in Charlotte. Should the Highlanders advance, the semifinals will tip at 6 p.m. today, March 4, and the championship game will be at 6 p.m. on March 5.

Radford's visit to Charlotte will mark the 34th time

in program history the team has competed in the Big South Tournament. Over that span Radford has played in 67 tournament games with an overall record of 42-25, the most tournament wins of any woman's team in the big South. This year's seeding marks Radford's first-ever appearance in that slot in the Big South Tournament. During the McGuire decade, Radford has posted seven wins including two championship appearances and a tournament win in 2019.

Two Highlanders earned postseason Big South awards this year. Ashlyn Traylor became only the fourth player in RU women's basketball history to be named the Big South Freshman of the Year. Traylor was also named to the conference's second-team and all-freshman team. Vanessa Blake was named to the conference's all-academic team.

Freshman Traylor was also the team's leading scorer at 12.7 points per game. She led the team in scoring 15 times in individual games this season. Traylor also reached the 20-point scoring mark four times this season, another team-best mark.

Senior Rachel LaLonde isn't far behind, averaging 9.3 points per game with 13 different 10+ point

performances this season. Sophomores Vanessa Blake and Carmen Williams each averaged more than eight points per game.

Defensively, LaLonde has been Radford's best rebounder all year averaging 8.9 boards per game. Blake averaged 5.4 rebounds per game and led the team with a whopping 80 offensive rebounds. Traylor also led the squad in steals this season, nabbing 60 thefts while Wagner, Williams and LaLonde all have more than 35 steals. As a team, Radford ranks fourth in the Big South, averaging 8.55 steals per game.

The Highlanders currently own top-five marks in the conference for multiple stat categories. Radford ranks fourth in scoring (62.8 ppg) and third in points allowed (61.0 ppg), good for a fourth-best ranking in average scoring margin (1.8). The women are shooting 42% overall from the floor and 31% from beyond the three-point arc, also good for a fourth-place ranking in the Big South. The team is also in the league's top four spots in per-game totals for blocks (3.17), steals (8.55), assists (12.97), defensive rebounds (27.9), and free throw percentage (69.9%).

## Lavergne from page 7

the team, averaging 3.4 kills per set.

She was named first-team All District, first-

team All Region and first-team All State and was a

captain in both her junior and senior years. She had a career-high number of kills (23) in the team's state championship game against Rappahannock.

King has a current enrollment of 1,360 students, is a member of the Conference Carolinas, and finished 15-16 this past season.

Lavergne has several goals for the court. "My goals are to always try my best in everything whether that includes practice, games, scrimmages, etc. I always strive to be the best player I can be and show good sportsmanship to my teammates and opponents."

At King, Lavergne hopes to major in exercise science and minor in coaching.

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