

News Messenger

Serving Montgomery County Since 1869



Blacksburg

Christiansburg

Wednesday, April 12, 2023

www.ourvalley.org

USPS 016-490

\$1.00

New River Valley receives FY2023 state housing funds

Governor Glenn Youngkin recently announced more than \$12 million in Virginia Housing Trust Fund Homeless Reduction Grants for 68 projects across the Commonwealth, including two in the New River Valley.

The funding will advance targeted efforts to reduce homelessness for 2,669 individuals and families through 25 permanent supportive housing, 34 rapid rehousing and nine underserved populations innovation projects.

Community Housing Partners in Christiansburg will receive \$1.7 million for the Stroubles Ridge Phase I project, and New River Community Action Housing Trust Fund will be given \$132,850 for a Rapid Rehousing project for FY2023. The Trust Fund includes the following areas: the city of Radford and the counties of Montgomery, Giles, Floyd and Pulaski, along with the towns of Blacksburg and Christiansburg.

"A critical element of our

pursuit of new businesses in the Commonwealth is the housing needed to support these economic development efforts," said Youngkin. "This funding will help us protect our most vulnerable populations, address Virginia's housing supply problem and ensure that homelessness in the Commonwealth is rare, brief and nonrecurring."

The Virginia Housing Trust Fund is provided by the General Assembly and the grants announced today represent 20 percent of this fiscal year's fund investment. The remaining funds support the production of new or rehabilitated housing units through the Affordable and Special Needs Housing Program.

"Housing is foundational for building vibrant communities and strong local economies across the Commonwealth," said Secretary of Commerce and Trade Caren Merrick. "With this round of funding, we are focusing on strategies that have proven successful in

reducing homelessness, such as rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing, ensuring that no vulnerable Virginians are left behind."

The goal of the Virginia Housing Trust Fund Homeless Reduction Grant Program is to reduce homelessness throughout Virginia. The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) supports Balance of State (BoS) Continuum of Care (CoC) local planning group strategies and homeless service projects that are a part of an effective emergency crisis response system in communities. The Homeless Reduction Grant program must be coordinated with other community-based activities. These grantees use a local centralized or coordinated assessment/entry system, which is the best practice for a housing-focused approach for helping households experiencing homelessness quickly regain stability in permanent housing.

-News Messenger staff report

Blue Ridge Fudge Lady finds a home in downtown Christiansburg

Lori Graham
Contributing writer

Robin Burdette, owner of The Blue Ridge Fudge Lady and a Shawsville native, had always dreamed of owning a business in downtown Christiansburg and now she has found a place she and her café can call home.

Her fudge and chocolate business first began its journey in Radford, selling at the downtown farmers market where her fudge and chocolates gained attention, along with her zest for life and happiness.

She then had a storefront in downtown Radford called the Doghouse Gifts and Chocolates. The idea was for people to buy chocolates and fudge to "get out of the doghouse," a funny spin on the phrase. Her friend joked with her that the name might attract a different kind of customer, dogs and their owners looking for dog treats. So, when the first customer came in with a dog, she thought it was hilarious.

Her next move brought her to the town of Pulaski, where she changed the name of the business and rebranded with a new logo, becoming The Blue Ridge Fudge Lady. While in this location, she found a positive response and continued to grow a community interest in her business. One of the business's hosted events drew quite a crowd with the signing of Ron Peterson's book, *Under the Trestle*. Unfortunately, as with



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BLUE RIDGE FUDGE LADY
Blue Ridge Fudge Lady owner Robin Burdette (left) and employee Abigail Selty spend some time at the shop.

many businesses, the arrival of the pandemic greatly impacted her in-person sales.

"Online sales were really good but retail sales had decreased over the previous couple of years," Burdette expressed. "I didn't know where I would go and felt a little homeless."

The Blue Ridge Fudge Lady was not ready to be defeated though. She was hosted for a while by Draper Mercantile and also rented a space for a time in Fairlawn near Wal-Mart.

"I really wanted to move to Christiansburg and for a year I couldn't find anything" she said. "It is the best downtown area and just so cute."

That is when Donna Speaks called her. A business owner and close friend, Speaks was leaving her

downtown Christiansburg space and even had equipment for sale.

"I had dreamt of being in this spot," Burdette beamed.

The Blue Ridge Fudge Lady Café is now open for breakfast and lunch, with their grand opening on April 10, 2023, and are located on 4 West Main Street #110 in Christiansburg. Customers will find the fudge varieties that Burdette has become known for but also lots of other food choices from sausage and egg biscuits, toast or burritos, to soup and sandwiches, additional snacks and a la carte items.

Burdette hopes that when people come to the café, they will be joyful and happy about being there.

"We try to have a fun environment. We have

See Fudge, page 4



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

The 2021 regional juried show included artwork from many regional artists.

Fine arts show at Radford University invites local artists

RADFORD - This summer, Radford University Art Museum will host the Radford Fine Arts Show, a juried exhibition of artwork from around Southwest Virginia.

The show offers awards and cash prizes and is open to all regional artists over 18 working in any media.

The submission deadline is May 1 for the show, which will run from June 5 through August 5 in Radford University Art Museum's Tyler Gallery, at 214 Tyler Avenue. The exhibit, reception, and award announcements will be held in the Tyler Gallery on June 9, 2023, from 5-7 p.m.

Museum Registrar

Theresa Rykaczewski says the event has been widely successful in the past, thanks to support from the City of Radford as part of a collaborative partnership with Radford University.

"Events like this have the power to bring the everyone together," Rykaczewski said, "helping us share a sense of pride to be artists, residents, business owners, and students who make up the fabric of our community."

She added she would ideally like to see entries from each of the eligible counties, which range from Rockbridge in the north all the way down to Lee County in the far southwest of the state. The juror is Travis Head,

Associate Professor of Drawing at Virginia Tech's School of Visual Art.

Head said artists can focus on the creative process to the point that it's easy to forget the importance of sharing their creations.

"It's important for artists to get their work out of the studio," said Head. "Shows like this give artists an opportunity to learn a little more about what they are up to if they remain open and receptive. It's nice to be surprised by your own work when you see it from someone else's perspective."

More information and a prospectus on the show can be found at the Radford University Art Museum's webpage.

Virginia Tech Board of Visitors to vote on 2023-24 tuition, fees at April virtual meeting

The Virginia Tech Board of Visitors will hold a virtual meeting on Friday, April 21, 2023, at 10 a.m. to discuss and vote on 2023-24 tuition and fees.

When the board met on March 20, they delayed the vote on tuition and fees. However, the ranges published in preparation for that meeting remain unchanged, and there will be no additional public comment.

For the 2023-24 fiscal year and consistent with

the university's six-year plan approved by the Board of Visitors in November, the board will consider tuition and Educational and General (E&G) fee increases between no increase and 4.9 percent for Virginia resident undergraduates, non-resident undergraduates, and on-campus graduate students.

The board will also consider increases between no increase and 8.8 percent for mandatory non-E&G

fees to support mandated cost increases including employee compensation and benefits, sustaining and enhancing student services enhancements including the transit system and student health/counseling services.

The April 21 meeting will be held in open session and will be livestreamed. There will be no public comment at this meeting. Please visit <https://bov.vt.edu/> for more information about the livestream.



COURTESY PHOTO

APRIL 20, 2023

Eastern Divide Brewing Company

3175 Commerce Street, Blacksburg

Benefiting Blacksburg Battles Cancer Community Health Center

FREE ADMISSION

Food available for purchase at venue

\$1 per beverage will be donated to CHCNV and BBC

Silent Auction

MISSION JAZZ 2.0

4:00-5:00 P.M. DOORS OPEN THE HIGHLANDS JAZZ TRIO

5:00-6:00 P.M. JARED GIBBS TRIO

6:00-7:00 P.M. VINCE LEWIS TRIO

7:00-8:00 P.M. LENNY MARCUS GROUP

8:00-9:00 P.M. VIRGINIA TECH JAZZ ENSEMBLE

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, April 12:

Coping Techniques for Caregivers

Commonwealth Senior Living at Christiansburg will be hosting seminar titled "Coping Techniques for Caregivers." The seminar will discuss ways to care for a senior loved one while also caring for yourself.

Thursday, April 13:

River City Quilt Guild

The River City Quilt Guild meets the second Thursday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in Grove United Methodist Church, 1020 Tyler Ave., Radford. If you are willing to share your knowledge and learn from others, this guild is for you. We welcome all skill levels of quilters. For more information call Anna Handy, 540 320 7791.

New River Valley Chapter of Virginia Master Naturalists

At the Radford Public Library; 6-7:30 p.m. Learn about what it takes to become a Virginia Master Naturalist! This volunteer organization is sponsored by the Virginia Cooperative Extension and several other state agencies. Virginia Master Naturalists are volunteer educators, citizen scientists and environmental stewards helping Virginia conserve and manage natural resources and natural areas in their communities. While attending you might meet Henry the Python and/or Firefly, an Eastern Box Turtle. This informative session will provide you with details about upcoming classes and instruction in the basic training program that begins August 10. Formal class size is limited and an online application will be available on May 10 via the chapter website - <http://tinyurl.com/NRVnaturalists> All are welcome at this information session at RPL.

Lunch & Learn with Better Business Bureau: Employment Scams

At the Radford Public Library; noon – 1 p.m. Job search and employment scams are the second highest scams. Learn about safe job opportunities from the BBB including learning tips and advice for searching for in-person and remote work. Lunch is provided for those who register by emailing elizabeth.sensabaugh@radfordva.gov.

Saturday, April 15:

Ollie Aboard the Reading Train

At the Radford Public Library; 11 a.m. – noon. By reservation only! Register your child for a 10-minute reading session with Oliver, the Saint Francis Facility Dog. Children can practice reading aloud to a furry friend. Please email elizabeth.sensabaugh@radfordva.gov to reserve a reading session. Bring your book or pick one while you're at the library. Oliver will be happy to hear your story.

Free Tax Assistance with NRCA

At the Christiansburg Library; 1 – 4 p.m. Come in for free tax prep assistance through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program and NRCA. Income limits may apply. Walk-In Only! For more information visit <https://newrivercommunityaction.org/vita> or call 540-320-3217.

Monday, April 17:

Electric Vehicles Show and Tell

At the Blacksburg Library; 2 – 3:30 p.m. Join us for a community electric vehicle (EV) showing event! The Hokie Electric Vehicle Team (HEVT) will discuss the

environmental and economic advantages of EV's, as well as the importance of how we impact our community. Whether you're an EV enthusiast or just interested in learning more about sustainable transportation options, this event is not to be missed!

Wednesday, April 19:

Business Women's meeting

American Business Women's Association NRV Express Network April luncheon meeting; 11:30 a.m.-1p.m., Holiday Inn Christiansburg-Blacksburg, 99 Bradley Drive, Christiansburg. Join us for networking fun at our April meeting. We will engage in interactive ice breakers to get to know each other better. We have lots of new members in recent months and would love to become better acquainted with each and everyone. Paige Godwin is the Speaker Sponsor for this meeting. RSVP by April 17. Cost is \$16. Contact: Terri Welch at christiansburg@wineanddesign.com or Paige Godwin at godwinpaige@gmail.com.

Radford Army Ammunition Plant community meeting

The Radford Army Ammunition Plant (RFAAP) will hold the next Commander's Community Meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Christiansburg Library, 125 Sheltman Street, Christiansburg. It also will be broadcast on Facebook Live (facebook.com/RadfordArmyAmmunitionPlant/). Meetings are open to the public.

Saturday, April 22:

Montgomery County/ Blacksburg Kiwanis Club Brunswick Stew fundraiser

At Prices Fork Elementary School (PFES), 4021 Prices Fork Rd., Blacksburg; noon – 2 p.m. Fundraiser benefits programming at PFES and local youth charities supported by Kiwanis. Pre-orders are encouraged by calling (540) 951-5834 or emailing pfesstew@gmail.com. Payment accepted by cash or check upon pickup. Kindly make checks payable to PFES. Drive-thru service will be available the day of pickup. Price is \$10/quart or \$9 /quart for five quarts.

Monday, April 24:

Radford City Council meeting

The Radford City Council will hold its regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m. in council chambers at the Radford Municipal Building, 10 Robertson St., Radford. See the agenda at www.radfordva.gov.

Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting

Public meetings are the second and fourth Monday of each month 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 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.

Tuesday, April 25:

Blacksburg Town Council meeting

Town Council meets in regular session the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month 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 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.

Saturday, April 29:

Library of Virginia on-the-go

At the Meadowbrook Library; 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The Library of Virginia is bringing their state-of-the-art equipment and offering their expertise. Join us to explore research resources, discuss regional and family history, enjoy children's activities and much more. Door prizes, Genealogy 101 and help with your questions, tours of the Meadowbrook Museum and the MFRL Mobile Library, special guest Daniel Thorp, and Precious Valley Farms Petting Zoo. All events are free and open to the community.

Sunday, April 30:

Christiansburg Presbyterian Church Spring Concert

Christiansburg Presbyterian Church will offer its annual Spring Concert at 4 p.m. This year's guest artist will be classical guitarist Justin Craig. Justin is a graduate of Radford University with a Master of Music degree in classical guitar performance. He is a busy regional guitarist, jazz performer, recording artist, and teacher. He performs often as a soloist and leads a variety of groups including a modern jazz and Brazilian group. This concert is free and open to the public.

On-going:

Registration open for annual Scrabble tournament for literacy

Registration is now open for the Literacy Volunteers of the New River Valley 15th Annual LVNRV Scrabble Tournament, which will be held Thursday, April 27, 2023 at Sinkland Farms in Christiansburg. All proceeds from the fun evening support free tutoring for adults to provide them with the skills they need for personal independence and family self-sufficiency. Programs include one-on-one tutoring, Skill Up NRV and Family READS programs, GED and U.S. Citizenship preparation classes, and Bridge to Digital Learning initiative. Register at www.lvnrv.org or call 540-382-7262.

Cap and Gown Drive

The Town of Blacksburg Sustainability Office is partnering with Blacksburg High School and Sustainable Blacksburg to encourage re-use of previous years' graduate gear for the 2023 senior class. Gowns (blue only - from 2018 and later), caps, stoles, and cords are accepted. Donations can be made between 8:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m., Monday-Friday at the Main Entrance of Blacksburg High School. It is appreciated if materials are dry-cleaned, but not required. For more information, contact the Town of Blacksburg Sustainability Office at 540-443-1617 or sustainability@blacksburg.gov.

Free GED Classes

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

School of Performing Arts' performance of 'Once Upon a Mattress' opens April 13

BLACKSBURG - A collaboration between the theatre and music programs will result in a concert-style production of the family-friendly musical comedy "Once Upon A Mattress" April 13-16 at the Moss Arts Center, presented by the School of Performing Arts.

The plot is based on the classic fairytale "The Princess and the Pea." As Concord Theatrical described it: "Many moons ago in a far-off place, Queen Aggravain decreed no couples could marry until her son, Prince Dauntless, found a bride. Princesses came from far and wide to win the hand of the prince, but none could pass the impossible tests given to them by the queen. That is, until the 'shy' swamp princess, Winnifred the Woebegone, showed up. Would she be able to pass the Sensitivity Test, marry her prince, and help Lady Larkin and Sir Harry to the altar? Carried on a wave of wonderful songs, by turns hilarious and raucous, romantic and melodic, this rollicking spin on the classic tale 'The Princess and the Pea' provides some side-splitting shenanigans. For after all, a princess is a delicate thing."

Performances will be at 7:30 p.m. April 13-15 and at 2 p.m. April 16 in the Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre, within Moss Arts Center's Street and Davis Performance Hall at 190 Alumni Mall in Blacksburg.

The production will be "truly a joint venture between theatre and music, supported by the School of Performing Arts," said Cara Rawlings, associate professor of theatre who is co-directing the show with Ariana Wyatt, associate professor of voice. Brian Thorsett, associate professor of voice, serves as the vocal director, and Mathias Elmer, director of orchestral activities and assistant professor of music, is music director. Elmer will conduct the 35-member Virginia Tech Philharmonic, which will play on stage alongside the actors.

This joint directing venture is collaborative, Rawlings said. "This is not the standard top-down approach to directing a show. Everyone — the musicians in the orchestra and maestro, the actors, technical and design staff, and stage management — has an active role in creating this show. Our fundamental goal is to respect the agency of each individual artist and their contributions to the production."

Of the philharmonic's role, Elmer said, "This is a very unique opportunity for us to be involved with the musical. I am very thankful that our students will get the experience of performing/accompanying in a setting that is nontraditional for us. This will definitely help push us onto a new level, musically and artistically."

The title role of Princess Winnifred was originated by the famous comedic actress Carol Burnett, who won the 1960 Tony Award for Best Performance by a Leading Actress in a Musical. Maya Jaffe, a double major in theatre in the School of Performing Arts in the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design and psychology in the College of Science, will take on the brashly lovable character in this production.

"Once Upon A Mattress" is "a story about being yourself and never shying away from a challenge," Jaffe said. She said she is looking forward to performing on the Anne and Ellen Fife stage at the Moss Arts Center, a unique opportunity for an undergraduate actor.

There are several challenges in presenting a show at the Moss Arts Center rather than at Squires Studio Theatre, where School of Performing Arts productions are usually held. "The shift from our rehearsal room to the Moss will be significant for the actors — they will be challenged with filling the space with their vocal and physical presence. Allen Sanders, instructor of sound design, and Gabrielle Henry, a graduate student studying lighting design, are ready to support that shift with both sound and lighting."

Another member of the production team who is not shying away from a challenge is stage manager and graduate student, Rachel Kilgore. "It's relatively new to me to run tech and dress rehearsals with a full orchestra, which is behind the cast on stage and not in the pit. That will add another layer of challenge on such a huge stage as the Anne and Ellen Fife stage at the Moss. I'm here to learn, and I'm down for the challenge," said Kilgore.

The last time a musical was performed by the School of Performing Arts was in 2018, when the school presented "Fun Home." The musical "Pippin" was just beginning rehearsals in 2020 when the pandemic closed the production permanently. "If the pandemic taught us anything, it was to find joy in the moments we have together creating and telling



Theatre major Maya Jaffe plays Princess Winnifred in "Once Upon A Mattress."



PHOTOS BY LIZ GRAY FOR VIRGINIA TECH Mathias Elmer conducts the Virginia Tech Philharmonic during a music rehearsal.

stories, working hard, and making each other laugh," Rawlings said.

Tickets are \$15 general and \$12 for seniors/students and may be purchased through the Moss Arts Center ticket office in person or may be purchased online. Tickets will also be available at the door beginning one hour prior to the performance.

-Liz Gray for Virginia Tech



PHOTO COURTESY OF NRCC

Country band Little Texas is coming to New River Community College Friday, April 28.

Tickets on sale for Little Texas concert at NRCC

Country band Little Texas will perform Friday, April 28 at 7:30 p.m. at New River Community College in Dublin.

The event is part of the NRCC 2022-2023 Concert Series.

Tickets for the show are on sale now. Reserved seating tickets are \$35 in advance and available for purchase online only at www.nr.edu/concerts. General seating tickets are \$25 in advance and available online or in-person at the NRCC Business Office, 23 Godbey Hall, Dublin and Pulaski County Visitor Center (cash and checks only for in-person sales). General seating tickets will be \$30, and reserved seating tickets will be \$40 when purchased at the door.

In the early '90s, as a new brand of country music was commanding the airwaves, there was a First Time for Everything. With its debut album, Little Texas burst onto the scene with songs written, recorded, and performed exclusively by the members themselves, quickly becoming one of the top vocal bands of the decade. Thousands of shows and eight albums later (with over 7 million units sold) and celebrating the 30th year of its debut appearance on the country music charts, it's easy to understand why the group earned the moniker "Hardest Working Band in Country Music." During its heyday, Little Texas racked up 12 Top 20 singles (with seven Top 10s and three consecutive No. 1s in a 12-month period) and received multiple Grammy, CMA and ACM nominations, winning the ACM for Top Vocal Group of 1993. To date, band members have continued to write or co-write, record, and play every note on every single they've released. Since that time, Little Texas has continued to tour constantly and released an independent studio album in 2015, Young for a Long Time. The group currently consists of original band members Porter Howell (lead guitar and lead vocals), Dwayne O'Brien (rhythm guitar and vocals), Duane Propes (bass and vocals), and drummer Del Gray.

NRCC is a Crooked Road, Virginia's Heritage Music Trail, affiliated venue. Doors will open for the show at 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.nr.edu/concerts. Questions may be directed to Tim Jones at 540-674-3625.

-Submitted by New River Community College

Be sure to 'Like' the News Messenger on Facebook.

Mission Jazz 2.0 strikes a chord for healthcare in the New River Valley



IMAGE COURTESY OF THE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER OF THE NRV

BLACKSBURG - Music meets medicine as Mission Jazz 2.0 comes to the Eastern Divide Brewing Company in Blacksburg on April 20, 2023.

It's a full evening of smooth jazz for a cause.

Admission to Mission Jazz 2.0 is free, and Eastern Divide Brewing will contribute \$1 for each drink (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) purchase to Blacksburg Battles Cancer and the Community Health Center of the New River Valley. The Eastern Divide will have their kitchen menu available.

The event starts at 4 p.m. with music from the Highlands Jazz Trio opening. The Jared Gibbs Trio follows at 5 p.m., with the Vince Lewis Trio taking the stage at 6 p.m. The popular Lenny Marcus Trio plays at 7 p.m., and the Virginia Tech Jazz Ensemble will close out the evening at 8 p.m. The flagship ensemble of the Virginia Tech jazz studies program, the group performs big band classics of all eras and contributions from emerging artists and student arrangers.

Mission Jazz is supported by Blue Ridge Cancer Care; Dr. Cathy Callahan and Dr. Jerry Goldschmidt; Carilion Clinic - New River Valley; Invision-Christiansburg; "Miles to Go," New River Valley Magazine; Tom and Mary Ollendick; Mary Osgood and The Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine. For sponsorship information, call Jim Bohland at 703-717-1439.

-Submitted by the Community Health Center of the NRV

Researching ways to increase driver attention



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY JACOB LEVIN FOR VIRGINIA TECH

Driver attention is critical to the safety of everyone in the vehicle.

Programmed technology pauses in vehicles could help drivers remain aware of their surroundings.

Researchers from the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) in collaboration with Google's Android Auto team have found that mechanisms that encourage drivers to take long glances back at the road during extended interaction with a touchscreen infotainment system may be a key aspect of mitigating driver distraction. The findings come after multiple years of investigating if adding temporary pauses on a vehicle's infotainment screen, or dashboard display, would promote driver attention to the driving task.

The research was published in the MDPI journal, Safety by VTTI researchers Jason Meyer and Eddy Llaneras with Greg Fitch of Android Auto.

"We wanted to see how situation awareness would change when a driver was forced to pause from interacting with an infotainment system," said Meyer, research associate at VTTI. "The capabilities of the Virginia Smart Roads allowed for us to test a wide range of scenarios to see how the driver interacted with road hazards and the system."

To conduct this research, the highway portion of the Virginia Smart Roads was used to simulate highway driving conditions and provide a closed course for a surprise event.

"We partnered with VTTI because of their domain expertise, ability to execute test track research on driver response maneuvers, and practical approach to research," said Fitch, head of safety research for Android Auto at

Google.

The Virginia Smart Roads Highway, operated by VTTI in Blacksburg, is one of the institute's four test beds that allow for state-of-the-art transportation research. The highway is a 2.2-mile-long closed testing facility that meets the Virginia Department of Transportation roadway standards and provides a location for tests that would be otherwise dangerous on public roads or difficult to replicate in a simulated environment.

During the experiment, volunteers were assigned tasks that included navigating through the infotainment system for a specific music playlist. One group of participants was prompted to look at the road for six seconds during the task, serving as a replacement for a pause built into the program. The other group was asked to conduct the same task without the six-second break.

While participants performed the assigned tasks on the vehicle's infotainment system, a lead research vehicle activated its hazard lights and replicated a common real-world scenario that would require drivers to react.

The research team found that drivers who paused their interactions were more aware of the lead research vehicle's hazard lights, less surprised by the incident, and executed more controlled maneuvers. These findings suggest that drivers' situational awareness is greater when task interactions are broken up with pauses, allowing for longer monitoring of the environment.

-Lindsey Haugh for Virginia Tech

5TH ANNUAL FREEDOM FEST

APRIL 22 & 23, 2023

featuring:
"Missing Man"
Formation Flyover by
WWII T-6 Texans

New Freedom Farm
Buchanan, VA

LIVE MUSIC BY: ERIC WAYNE BAND, TATE TUCK BAND, MARTIN KELLY, TERRY & RAYMOND

Silent Auction • 50/50 • Food • Vendors • Fun!

Tickets: \$8.00 includes raffle ticket for a \$500 Visa gift card.
Rain, sleet, snow, or shine just like our troops serve.
Children 17 and under free.

SATURDAY April 22
11 AM - Gates Open
12:22 PM - Opening Ceremonies
- Missing Man Flyover
- New Freedom Farm Color Guard Presentation of Colors
- Mary Miller Jordan Founder of I AM HERD with her own Mustangs Performing at Liberty.
12:30 - 2 PM - Terry and Raymond
2 - 5 PM - Martin and Kelly Band

SUNDAY April 23
11 AM - Gates Open
12:22 PM - Opening Ceremonies
12:30 - 2 PM - Tate Tuck Band
2 - 5 PM - Eric Wayne Band

WFXR FOX, TOO MANY, 212

For more information or to buy tickets, visit us online at:
www.NewFreedomFarm.org

PETS OF THE WEEK



Walter



Rosco

Regal Beagle Rosco wants to be the king of your heart! He's a timid boy who would benefit from patient humans who can share new experiences with him that will help grow his confidence.

Walter came to the Animal Care and Adoption Center a very short time ago. He is a sweet, friendly boy who is in search of a cozy indoor home. Walter has previously lived with a dog but does not get along with his fellow felines. Stop by to meet this purrecious cat!

These pets and many others are available for adoption at the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center, 480 Cinnabar Rd., Christiansburg. Phone: (540) 382-5795.

game time AT THE SUPERBOWL

NRV SuperBowl Summer Leagues Beginning Soon

Register for the night or day Leagues

Night Leagues
Monday, Tuesday
Wednesday, Friday
& Sunday

Daytime Leagues
Tuesday morning Coffee League or Thursday Morning Senior Crazy 8's

Sign up now for a summer of fun and competition
(Register in person or online at www.superbowl.net)

575 Arbor Drive, Christiansburg
540-382-5525 • www.nrvsuperbowl.biz

visit
www.ourvalley.org

Fudge from page 1

drive-by fudge handouts on Saturdays, sometimes we will even dress up in costume to enjoy a laugh,” Burdette jokes.

Not only is Burdette a business woman, providing fudge and other delicacies to the New River Valley for several years now, she also works for the Department of Defense 40-60 hours a week. Previously a cryptologist for the Navy, she found this work was a natural fit for her and continues to work in the field of cyber security as a contracted civilian.

Veterans Day is a big day for The Blue Ridge Fudge

Lady as well. She has been giving away boxes of fudge for several years to veterans to thank them for their service. Last year, she unfortunately had to miss out on this tradition because she was prepping the store for opening. This year the giveaway will be coming back big and strong. Burdette has employed the help of police officers previously, with areas from Galax to Botetourt participating. Police officers volunteer to deliver the goodies in their own communities resulting in over 400 boxes brought to the hands of

veterans.

The Blue Ridge Fudge Lady is open Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., along with online purchasing options available as well. The café in Christiansburg also offers a space for meetings, receptions, and other events. Their Blue Room meeting space is located upstairs in the shop comfortably catering up to 50 people. Check out The Blue Ridge Fudge Lady on Facebook or at their website at www.fudgelady.com.

Financial Focus: CDs can be part of your investment strategy

In the financial world, stocks and stock-based mutual funds often get a lot of attention. And deservedly so, because they often form the core of a portfolio. But to help achieve your goals, you may also want to consider a broader array of investments — one of which may be a certificate of deposit (CD).

As you may know, a CD earns interest on a lump sum for a designated period. You can purchase CDs whose maturities range from a few months to 10 or more years. Generally, the longer-term the CD, the higher the interest rate, although this isn't always the case.

In recent years, CD rates have been pretty low, reflecting the overall interest-rate environment. But now, as the Federal Reserve has repeatedly raised interest rates to combat inflation, CD rates are rising, too. In fact, one-year CDs can currently be found paying in the 5% range — a rate that hasn't been seen in more than 15 years. Later in 2023, though, if the Fed eases up on rate hikes, or perhaps even starts reversing them, CD rates could fall again.

You can purchase a CD from a bank or buy a “brokered” CD from a financial services provider. The income you receive from a CD may be its main attraction, especially if the rates remain elevated for a while. But there's another key advantage to owning CDs: They can help diversify a portfolio of stocks and stock mutual funds that are generally more susceptible to movements in the financial markets. A portfolio that contains CDs, as well as bonds and government securities, can help reduce the effects of market volatility. Keep in mind, though, that diversification can't guarantee profits or prevent losses in a declining market.

While adding individual CDs can be valuable, you might get a greater benefit from a more strategic approach known as laddering. You can build a CD ladder by buying a series of CDs that mature at different dates in the future — perhaps one month, three months, six months, nine months and 12 months out, or an even longer-term ladder of one to five years. In either case, as one CD matures, you can use the money if you need it or reinvest it to another “rung”

on your ladder. If interest rates are up, the reinvestment option might be appealing, but if the available CD rates are lower than your maturing CDs, you could find better uses for your money. And you'd still have your longer-term CDs, possibly paying higher rates, working for you. You must evaluate whether a CD ladder and the securities held within it are consistent with your investment objectives, risk tolerance and financial circumstances.

The amount of space occupied by CDs in your portfolio should depend somewhat on your stage of life. If you're a long way from retirement, you may want to own a larger percentage of growth-oriented investments. But once you're retired and getting more income from your portfolio becomes more important, you might find a greater need for CDs.

In any case, CDs may prove useful to your overall financial strategy — so give them some thought.

-This article was written by Edward, Member SIPC and submitted by local Edward Jones financial advisor Meghan Kuczmarzki (540)552-1241.

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Virginia gas prices on the rise

Average gasoline prices in Virginia have risen 4.0 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.44/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia. Prices in Virginia are 20.6 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 54.0 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 1.6 cents in the last week and stands at \$4.15 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$2.93/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$3.99/g, a difference of \$1.06/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.93/g while the highest was \$3.99/g, a difference of \$1.06/g.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 8.8 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.57/g today. The national average is up 13.0 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 52.6 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Historical gasoline prices in Virginia and the national average going back ten years:

- April 10, 2022: \$3.98/g (U.S. Average: \$4.10/g)
- April 10, 2021: \$2.72/g (U.S. Average: \$2.85/g)
- April 10, 2020: \$1.77/g (U.S. Average: \$1.84/g)
- April 10, 2019: \$2.55/g (U.S. Average: \$2.79/g)
- April 10, 2018: \$2.48/g (U.S. Average: \$2.66/g)

April 10, 2017: \$2.20/g (U.S. Average: \$2.39/g)
April 10, 2016: \$1.89/g (U.S. Average: \$2.04/g)
April 10, 2015: \$2.20/g (U.S. Average: \$2.40/g)
April 10, 2014: \$3.45/g (U.S. Average: \$3.61/g)
April 10, 2013: \$3.49/g (U.S. Average: \$3.57/g)
Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:
Roanoke- \$3.32/g, up 6.5 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.25/g.

Richmond- \$3.46/g, up 3.2 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.43/g.

West Virginia- \$3.57/g, up 15.9 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.41/g.

“The national average price of gasoline has continued its relatively slow climb, with 44 states seeing average gasoline prices climb over the last week. Prices are being pulled up not only due to continued increases in demand as temperatures warm, but also pressure from oil prices, which have risen over 20% in the last month, primarily driven by OPEC's surprise decision a week ago to cut oil production,” said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. “Expect the upward trend to continue through much of the rest of spring, but once the transition to summer gasoline and refinery maintenance are behind us, April and May jumps could bring June slumps. However, for diesel, the news continues to be good, with the national average price of diesel continuing to drop, now at its narrowest difference to gasoline in over 13 months.”

-Submitted by Gas Buddy

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.

The News Messenger (USPS 016-490) is published twice a week for \$46 a year in Montgomery County, \$55 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$59 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Christiansburg, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEWS MESSENGER 1633 W. Main St., Salem, VA 24153.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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60					61		62	
63					64		65	

CLUES ACROSS

1. Atomic mass unit
4. Criticize mightily
7. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
10. Stand in for
11. Everyone has one
12. Brew
13. Rectify
15. Popular Dodge truck model
16. Beef or chicken intestine
19. Satisfy
21. Of a particular people or localized region
23. Movements in quick tempos
24. Able to pay one's debts
25. Fleshy bird beak covering
26. Dueling sword
27. Helps
30. Court is in it
34. Touch lightly

CLUES DOWN

1. Sharp mountain ridge
2. Thin, fibrous cartilages
3. Provides new details
4. Muscular weaknesses
5. Ottoman military title
6. Banes
7. Horse-riding seats
8. Arms of a shirt
9. Narrow path along a road edge
13. Viper
14. Disfigure
17. Variety of Chinese language
18. Portray in a show
20. Wrongful act
22. No (slang)
27. State of agitation
28. _ Diego
29. One point east of due south
31. 007's creator
32. The NBA's Toppin
33. Midway between north and

CLUES ACROSS

35. Airborne (abbr.)
36. Of one
41. Baked good
45. Jai __ sport
46. About aviation
47. Low oval mound
50. Rugged mountain ranges
54. Compel to do something
55. A way to carve
56. Sao __ city in Brazil
57. Mustachioed actor
59. American Idol runner-up
60. A way to soak
61. Car mechanics group
62. Born of
63. Time zone
64. Sea eagle
65. Even's opposite

CLUES DOWN

37. Examples
38. __ Gould, actor
39. The habitat of wild animals
40. Artful subtlety
41. Infielders
42. Keep under control
43. Herb
44. Distressed
47. A way to go down
48. Type of acid
49. Take by force
51. Collected fallen leaves
52. Shout of welcome or farewell
53. Monetary unit
58. Swiss river

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OBITUARIES

Gilbert, Danny Leroy

Danny Leroy Gilbert passed in Radford on April 2, 2023, after a short illness.

Dan was born on November 7, 1948, in Winnsboro, Texas, to Leroy and Carrie Lee (Rhoades) Gilbert. During his younger years, his family moved around from Texas to Colorado to Kansas to Mississippi, as Dan's father worked in the growing aerospace industry. They finally settled in Picayune, Miss., where he graduated high school.

After high school, he attended and graduated from Pearl River Junior College and the University of Southern Mississippi. After school he worked in broadcasting in New Orleans and WRJW in Picayune, where he met and interviewed many different people, some famous, some infamous, and some ordinary, treating them all alike. After a successful career in broadcasting, he changed careers and attended law school at Tulane University, where he was a member of the Law Review and from where he received his Juris Doctorate degree. He practiced law in New Orleans and later worked for the Orleans Parish as Deputy Director of EMS.

Hestayed at his post in New Orleans during the worst of Hurricane Katrina. After the storm, he was influential in petitioning the federal government to provide funds to rebuild the Orleans Parish EMS building. While living in New Orleans, he was also active in the Alliance for



Good Government.

Although he lived with the aftereffects of polio, he didn't let it slow him down. He was active in school, Boy Scouts, band, his church, and numerous civic activities, including excelling in all his academic pursuits.

Dan worked in broadcasting, the legal profession, auctioneering, office management, emergency services, tax preparation, and teaching. Teaching was one of his passions and he last taught

at Radford University as well as substitute teaching in schools.

He enjoyed card and board games, model trains, war history, and lively discussions. He could argue with a fence post and convince it that it was a tree. In later years, while living in Picayune he was a member of First Baptist Church and taught the Seniors Sunday school class. One of his defining characteristics was his voice. Low, rumbling, and always articulate, you often knew he was present before you ever saw him.

We will miss hearing his rich voice telling his latest joke, political opinion, and giving a warm sincere greeting. We look forward to seeing him again.

Survivors include his brothers and sisters-in-law, Les Gilbert and Eleanor, and Larry Gilbert and Katrina; sisters and brother-in-law, Karen Hennes and Mark, and Sharon Gilbert; numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

The family received friends on Monday, April 10, 2023, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford.

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

Davis, Florence K.

Florence K. Davis (Kandy), 95, passed away on April 3, 2023 at Showalter, Warm Hearth Village. She was born June 24, 1927 in Newark, N.J. to Isabelle and Oscar Kreitler.

Kandy grew up in Millburn, N.J. and attended Bucknell University, where she met her husband of 66 years, Walter M. Davis.

Walter and Kandy lived in Stuyvesant Town, N.Y., Glen Cove, N.Y. and Blacksburg.

After raising her four children, Kandy worked as an accountant at Long Island Lutheran High School in Brookville, N.Y. When she retired from LuHi, she became a travel agent. During this time, she and Walter enjoyed traveling all over the world.

Kandy loved being with and meeting new people. She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church,

when she lived in Glen Cove, and Blacksburg Christian Fellowship when in Blacksburg. Kandy was involved with various social groups through the



years and was part of the Blacksburg Newcomers, well after she was no longer a "newcomer".

A devoted wife and mother, Kandy is survived by her children, John (Jay) Davis, Bruce and Lee Davis, Wendy and Joe Kelley, and Nancy and Richard Palmer; her grandchildren, Travis

Carey, Rachel Carey, Marlow Davis, Matt Davis, Melissa and Jaymes Monson, Kristi and Nathan Hoch; and great-grandchild, Logan Carey.

Kandy will be missed by her family and many friends.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 29 at 2 p.m. at Blacksburg Christian Fellowship, 2300 North Main St. in Blacksburg.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in memory of Florence (Kandy) Davis to the Ministerial Scholarship Fund, BCF, P.O. Box 813, Blacksburg, VA 24063, to Long Island Lutheran High School, Isabel and Oscar Kreitler Scholarship Fund, 131 Brookville Road, Brookville, New York 11545 or to a charity of your choice.

Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

Tinley, Doris Farmer

Doris Farmer Tinley, 71, of Radford, died Friday, April 7, 2023.

She was born in Radford on January 25, 1952, to the late James and Gracie Farmer. She was preceded in death by her sister, Jean Ratcliff; brother, C. B. Farmer; brother-in-law, James Ahmann; and family dog, Rebma.

Survivors include her husband of 52 years, Robert L. Tinley; daughters, Crystal Ewell and Scottie, Brandy and David Grimm, and Amber and Cody Dowdy; grandchildren, Tanner Ewell, Gavin Grimm, and Alaya, Branson, Kaibryn and Shayleigh Dowdy; sisters and brother-in-law, Maggie Ahmann, and Eva and Ray Rash; brother and sister-in-law, Manuel and Pat Farmer; brother-in-law, James Ratcliffe; and special friends, Helen Stump, Afnan Ziara, Jordyn Sader, and

Herman Noble.

Robert would not have made it without the kind hearts and loving souls of her hospice team, Donna, Brittey, Kim, Robbie,



and Julie, for being there with Robert when Doris finished her journey. Bless you all, many thanks.

Doris loved working outside, planting flowers, and watching and feeding her birds. She and Robert loved sitting in the swing,

Doris loved keeping the grandkids. She was a member of the Radford Worship Center and helped at the Clothing Bank. Doris went back to school and received her degree from American Academy of Professional Coders. She retired from the medical profession. Doris was a dedicated wife, mom, and nana with a smile all the time.

Funeral services will be held at the family home (1108 Stump St., Radford) today, Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 5 p.m. with Pastor Robbie officiating. Family and friends are welcome. The family will spread Doris's ashes in the flower bed she loved.

Doris would say "There's no place like Home".

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

Board, Rev. Layne

Rev. Layne Board, 95, of Christiansburg, died Saturday, April 8, 2023, surrounded by his family.

He was born in Floyd County on June 17, 1927, to the late Dewey and Vivian Boone Board. He was also preceded in death by his wife, Mildred Thompson Board; a son, Freddie Lee Board; daughter, Patricia Board Aker; brother, James Board; and twin brother, Wayne Board.

He was drafted into the US Navy and served on the USS Destroyer FECHLER. He married Mildred Thompson Board, his college sweetheart, in June 1949, and was married to her for 68 years until her death in November 2017. He was employed at Burlington Industries for 37 years. Layne evangelized in

ministry from 1958 to 1963. He became ordained in 1966. He pastored from 1963 to 1993 at Sunnyside Pentecostal Holiness Church and



was known as Preacher Board throughout the community. He also did chaplaincy work for over 41 years at the area nursing homes.

He is survived by his,

son, Rev. Stephen Board; son and daughter-in-law, Donnie and Cindy Board; daughter, Rebecca Board Underwood; daughter and son-in-law, Donna and Kevin McGrady; son-in-law, Randall Aker, 11 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral Services will be conducted Thursday, April 13, 2023, at 7 p.m. in the Harbor of Hope Church, with the Rev. Craig Reed, Rev. Richard Kingrea, Rev. Wayne Poston, and Rev. Steve Board officiating. The family will receive friends from 3- 7 p.m. before the service. Graveside service will be held, Friday, April 14, 2023, at 11 a.m. with Rev. Preston Mathena and Rev. Larry Meadors at the Appalachian Conference Cemetery, Dublin.

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Employment

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Town of Fincastle is looking for an Administrative Assistant. The position is responsible for essential bookkeeping, secretarial and clerical duties for the Town Manager and Mayor. Applicants should be proficient in Excel, Word, PowerPoint, and QuickBooks, and should be well-organized and have strong communication skills. A portion of the work performed is of confidential nature. The incumbent must be eligible to be bonded. This is a part-time position, typically 9 am to 2 pm Monday through Thursday. Salary is commensurate with experience.

Please submit resume and cover letter to David Tickner, Town Manager, Town of Fincastle, P.O. Box 250 Fincastle, Virginia 24090, or by emailing daviddtickner@townoffincastle.org

The Town of Fincastle is committed to providing jobs for all types and sizes, without discrimination based on race/color, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, or veteran status.

Help Wanted - Construction

DD Kerns Construction Co., Inc.

is currently accepting applications for welder/fabricators, fabrication foreman, diesel/heavy equipment mechanic, skilled carpenters, carpentry foreman, skilled laborers, experienced dry wall workers, experienced industrial concrete workers, and block-layers. All work is local, year round, and paid weekly. Benefits include: health, vision, dental, life insurance, short-term/long-term disability insurance, paid vacation and retirement IRA. Pay is based on experience. Candidates must have a valid driver's license and be able to pass a drug screening. We are accepting applications Monday-Thursday 8:00am to 5:00pm at 505 S. Lexington Ave. Covington, VA 24426. 540-962-4994

Help Wanted - General

Process Automation Engineer - Models sought in Roanoke, VA, by TMEIC INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

to dvlp, verify, & implmt algorithms & transfer functions that define the electro-mechanical operation of industrial machinery, primarily metal rolling mills. Min. Req: Bach's of Science Deg in physics, material science, mechanical engg, electrical engg or foreign equiv deg. 2 yrs' exp in dsngng &/or commissioning process automation/models s/ware in heavy industry, such as steelmaking, aluminum, or other process industries. 2 yrs' exp w/ High-Level Prngmg Language, such as C++ & objectoriented prngmg exp using the Microsoft dvlpmnt environment. Must travel domestically & internationally, up to approximately 15% of the time, w/ limited notice. Telecommuting is allowed. Send resume to recruitment@tmeic.com. Ref# 8005

Project Manager sought by TMEIC INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

in Roanoke, VA. Lead & manage matrix team to complete execution of projects w/ typical project cycles exceeding 1 yr. Min Req: Bach's in Mechanical, or Metallurgical Engg or related field or foreign equiv & 24 months of exp specifying, dsngng, or commissioning electrical & automation systems for the renewable energy, oil & gas; mining, power generation, metals, material handling, or paper industries. Proficiency in MS Project & MS Word, Excel, Outlook, &

Help Wanted - General

PowerPoint. Availability to travel domestically & internationally 25% of the time, sometimes w/ limited notice. Send resume to recruitment@tmeic.com. Ref# 8010.

Positions Wanted

Quality Inn Hiring Full/Part Time Housekeeping and Front Desk. Apply in Person. Ph-540-639-3000

Meetings

VIRGINIA GENTLEMEN ACAPELLA CHORUS

Is having a guest night on MAY, 1, 2023 From 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm at GRACE CHURCH, 2731 EDGEWOOD ST. SW, ROANOKE, VA 24015

We are looking for male acapella singers. Join us and enjoy singing music in the Roanoke Valley.

Light Refreshments will be served

RSVP BY APRIL 21, 2023 Call: LARRY SHEPHERD 540-525-0709

Legals - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 170 CAMBRIDGE DR, DALEVILLE, VA 24083

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated July 19, 2021, in the original principal amount of \$299,475.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 210003873. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090 on May 15, 2023, at 12:45 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL OF THE FOLLOWING LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, STATE OF VIRGINIA, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: LOT 2 (BLOCK 7), ACCORDING TO PLAT OF SECTION NO. 4, CAMBRIDGE RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 11, PAGE 56, IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA. 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 Mortgagee, 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.bwmsales.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.bwmsales.com. VA-360977-1.

Legals - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 4260 Read Mountain Rd., Cloverdale, VA 24077

Tax Map No. 107(4)30 In execution of a Deed of Trust dated October 3, 2007, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County of Botetourt, Virginia, as Instrument No. 070005965, the Substitute Trustee will offer the above-described property for sale to the highest bidder at public auction on the date and time referenced below. All that certain tract or parcel of land being 1.007 acres, more or less, as shown on a plat of survey prepared by McMurry Surveyors, Inc., dated March 12, 2003, a copy of which is recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County of Botetourt, Virginia, in Plat Book 28, page 58. Date of Sale: April 19, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Location: outside the Botetourt County Circuit Court, Courthouse, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090. Terms: CASH; a deposit in the form of certified funds in the amount of \$10,000 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower. Settlement within thirty (30) days of date of sale. Time is of the essence. OPTIONS:

- All costs of conveyance, examination of title, recording charges, etc. will be at cost of purchaser with the exception of the grantor's tax. Neither the Substitute Trustee nor any other party guarantees or covenants to deliver or in any way to obtain possession of the premises for any third party purchaser.
- The Substitute Trustee reserves the right to reject all bids, extend the time to receive bids or withdraw the property from sale at any time. In addition, should the Substitute Trustee be unable, for any reason, in its sole discretion, to convey title, the successful bidder's sole remedy in law or equity shall be the return of his deposit. Upon refund of the deposit, the sale shall be void and of no effect. Additional terms may be announced at the time of the sale. The Substitute Trustee will convey the above-described property to the purchaser(s) by Special Warranty deed at settlement and makes no additional representations or warranties of any kind regarding the title to said property. John K. Prillaman, Esq. Substitute Trustee For Information Contact: John K. Prillaman, Esq. OPN LAW 3140 Chaparral Drive Roanoke, Virginia 24018 (540) 725-8194

Legals - City of Salem

Notice

is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, April 24, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA: 1. Consider the requests of Patane, LLP and Walter S. Kearns, Jr. and Laurel P. Kearns, property owners, for rezoning the properties located at 1640 Roanoke Boulevard (Tax Map # 222-2-6) and 1630 Roanoke Boulevard (Tax Map # 222-2-5) from RB Residential Business District to LM Light Manufacturing District.

Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia. At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY: H. Robert Light Clerk of Council

Legals - Craig County

Mowing Bid The Craig County Fairgrounds Association

is accepting sealed bids for mowing and weed eating for the 2023 mowing season. Regular mowing services will be May 2023 thru November 2023.

Bid forms can be picked up in the Treasurer's office located in the Craig County Courthouse at 182 Main Street in New Castle, VA. Sealed bids need to be returned to the Treasurer's office by April 19th, 2023.

Notice to Craig New Castle PSA customers who are on the sewer system.

To reduce sewage flow into our system, the Authority has had a policy that sump pumps tied into the sewer system are not allowed. The authority will conduct inspections at the beginning of this spring to search for such connections. When found, the customers will be notified in writing to remove such connections from the Authority's System. The customer will have ninety days from such notification to correct this situation or receive a surcharge of \$ 20.00 per month added to their sewage payment until the problem is resolved.

Legals - Montgomery County

RADFORD CITY RENTAL ASSISTANCE OFFICE AND VIRGINIA HOUSING OPENING WAITING LIST TO ACCEPT HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER APPLICATIONS

The Radford City Rental Assistance Office and Virginia Housing will open the Housing Choice Voucher Waiting List on Wednesday, April 26, 2023.

Applicants can apply starting at 8:30 am until 4:30 pm. The program will take applications online only. The website to apply is virginiahousing.apply4housing.com. The Radford City waiting list area covers Radford City. Two hundred applicants who apply will be chosen randomly by lottery to be added to the waiting list. Not everyone who applies will be added to the waiting list. Applicants will receive a confirmation number once their application is submitted indicating the application was received. Receiving a confirmation number does not guarantee you will be added to the waiting list. You may apply using a laptop or desktop computer or mobile device. Anyone can apply on behalf of another applicant. You may check to see if you were chosen in the lottery on April 28, 2023, after 12 pm by going to the following website:

virginiahousing.apply4housing.com/status. You will not be able to check your status if you have previously applied to a Virginia Housing waiting list. Applications will not be taken by phone, mail or in person. If the applicant is a person with a disability and they require an accommodation in order to apply, please contact the Radford City Rental Assistance Office staff for assistance to apply during the opening time period. For more information about the application process, please contact the Radford office at 540-731-3663 or visit www.virginiahousing.com.

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. 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: An unbuilt right-of-way vacation request by Clayco LLC for an ordinance vacating unbuilt rights-of-way on Angle Drive SW from First Street SW to West Main Street for a length of approximately 400 linear feet, on First Street

Legals - Montgomery County

SW from Angle Drive SW to Chrisman Street for a length of approximately 365 linear feet, and a remnant piece of right-of-way located off the unbuilt portion of First Street SW for a length of approximately 88 linear feet between Tax Parcel No. 526-18-15, 16 and Tax Parcel No. 526-18-2A.

Information on the preceding ordinance, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073-3029 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Contact Andrew Warren, Assistant Town Manager by phone at (540) 382-6120 ext. 1130 or by email at awarren@christiansburg.org with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations. Written comments may be sent to the preceding address; please allow adequate mailing time.

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia,

Complainant, MRS. M K LANGHORNE REPS, ET AL., respondent(s). Case No. CL22-1408

ORDER OF PUBLICATION The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Montgomery, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Montgomery, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 084-A 48 Account NO. 031018

All those certain lots, pieces or parcels of land, with the appurtenances thereunto, situate, lying and being in the Shawsville Magisterial District of Montgomery County, Virginia, containing 112 acres of land, more or less, described as Tax Map Number 084-A 48, S F R, Booth Rd.

And being the same real property conveyed to Margaret K. Langhorne from Robert T. Ellett, clerk of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, by Deed dated June 1, 1889 and recorded in the Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 29 at Page 91 on July 30, 1889.

This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described.

IT APPEARING that an affidavit has been made and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served, that the last known addresses for the Respondents herein are as follows: Margaret L.K. Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; James Henry Langhorne who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Elizabeth Allen Payne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Jacob Kent Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Maurice Daniel Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; John William Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Margaret K. Langhorne Ellis, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Mary B. Langhorne Cloyd, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Archer Langhorne Payne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Anne Ambrose Jernigan, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; John Archer Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Ethel Langhorne Ambrose, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Edmond Gray Ambrose, Jr., whose last known address is 750 Clyde River Rd, Unit 209, Oxnard, California 93036; Anne Ambrose Jernigan, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; John Archer Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; William L. Ambrose, whose last known address is 1835 Duke of Norfolk Quay,

Legals - Montgomery County

who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Ellen Eskridge Sanders, who is believed to be deceased and last known address is unknown; Mary Spotswood Sanders, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Elizabeth Sanders Milner, whose last known address is 821 Holly Lane, Purcellville, Virginia 20132; Elizabeth Ambler, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Margaret Payne Gettling, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Norborne P. Gatling, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Helen Gatling, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Melissa Gatling, whose last known address is unknown; David Allen Payne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Mary Payne Millner, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Mary Millner Thomson, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Bruce Crowell Hodges, whose last known address is P.O. Box 63, Saluda, Virginia 23149; Elizabeth Payne Hodges, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Nelson W. Carter, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 29432 N. Rosewood Drive, San Tan Valley, Arizona 85143; John Miller Payne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 1527 Parkland Drive, Lynchburg, Virginia 24503; Joseph P.L. Payne, whose last known address is 501 VES Rd. Apt C711, Lynchburg, Virginia 24503; Mary Margaret Little, whose last known address is 1411 Oakwood Ct., Lynchburg, Virginia 24503; Lucy Harrison Payne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Robert Spotswood Payne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; David Gray Langhorne, Sr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Edmund A. Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Emily Langhorne Garlock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Emily Addison Langhorne, III, whose last known address is 1736 Green Hill Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454; David Gray Langhorne, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Clara Chrisman Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Maurice Daniel Langhorne, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Maurice Daniel Langhorne, III., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; David Cloyd Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; James Kent Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Thomas Hardy Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Alice Langhorne Bayto, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Genevieve Bayto Knowles, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Jane Parker, whose last known address is 224 Shadywood Drive, Newport News, Virginia 23602; Dorothy Bayto Bristow, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 1602 Linden Avenue, Chesapeake, Virginia 23325; Janet Bristow Hogwood, whose last known address is 1425 Willow Avenue, Chesapeake Virginia 23325; David Cloyd Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Margaret Anne Knakkergaard, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Nannie Kent Ellis, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Elvira Ellis Rachal, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; William M. E. Rachal, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 1550 Westminster Canterbury Way, Richmond, Virginia 23227; Adolphe S. Rachal, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is u unknown; Laura Rachal, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Maria Fraser Rachal, whose last known address is 1550 Westminster Canterbury Way, Richmond, Virginia 23227; Adolphe S. Rachal, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 14307 Fox Hurst Place, Midlothian, Virginia 23113; Ruth Rachal Wilhelm, whose last known address is 8306 Eden Street, Richmond, Virginia 23228; Margaret Rachal

Legals - Montgomery County

Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454; Susan Ambrose Campbell, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Lisa Page Stafford, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Mary Ambrose Perry, whose last known address is 1405 Sherman Street SE, Albany, Oregon 97321; John Archer Langhorne, II., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; John Archer Langhorne, III., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Terry W. Langhorne, whose last known address is 1717Hammerstone Ct. Virginia Beach, Virginia 23453; Robert Langhorne, Sr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Judith Miller Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Robert K. Langhorne, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Joan Langhorne, whose last known address is 1969 Haywards Heath, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456; Alfred R. Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Margaret A. Langhorne, whose last known address is 1317 Quail Creek Hollow, Apt B, Chesapeake, Virginia 23320; Judith I. Dempsey, whose last known address is 1935 Shooting Creek Road SE, Floyd, Virginia 24091; Edith Ray Horton, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Phyllis H. Hannon, whose last known address is 724 Bartell Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia 23322; Sandra H. Sweat, whose last known address is 151 Thrasher Road, Chesapeake, Virginia 23320; Leonard R. Horton, whose last known address is 489 Beauregard Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia 23322; Daniel Allen Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Maurice D. Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; James Kent Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Thomas Hardy Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Alice Langhorne Bayto, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Genevieve Bayto Knowles, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Jane Parker, whose last known address is 224 Shadywood Drive, Newport News, Virginia 23602; Dorothy Bayto Bristow, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 1602 Linden Avenue, Chesapeake, Virginia 23325; Janet Bristow Hogwood, whose last known address is 1425 Willow Avenue, Chesapeake Virginia 23325; David Cloyd Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Margaret Anne Knakkergaard, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Nannie Kent Ellis, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Elvira Ellis Rachal, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; William M. E. Rachal, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 1550 Westminster Canterbury Way, Richmond, Virginia 23227; Adolphe S. Rachal, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is u unknown; Laura Rachal, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Maria Fraser Rachal, whose last known address is 1550 Westminster Canterbury Way, Richmond, Virginia 23227; Adolphe S. Rachal, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 14307 Fox Hurst Place, Midlothian, Virginia 23113; Ruth Rachal Wilhelm, whose last known address is 8306 Eden Street, Richmond, Virginia 23228; Margaret Rachal

Virginia Tech Rescue Squad's student officers design new ambulance

BLACKSBURG — The Virginia Tech Rescue Squad officers brought a specially designed ambulance home to the Blacksburg campus that was put into service on Feb. 6.

The Ford E 350 looks like the three other ambulances, but this ambulance — code name 15-7 — has been designed by the student officers of the rescue squad.

"Having four ambulances will help us run more efficiently, answer calls quicker, and when we have to do patient care, we can do what's best for the patient," said Catherine Carter, the 2021 vehicle lieutenant.

The squad responds to an average of 1,200 calls a year, but its officers are preparing to handle a larger campus population in the future, said Carter, a senior majoring in clinical neuroscience.

Virginia Tech's all-student squad is the oldest volunteer collegiate rescue squad in the country and was first in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The squad provides emergency medical services at major university and athletics events and administers first aid courses for the campus community.

Last year's officers, Chief Sarah Guida, a 2022 graduate with a degree in public health, and Carter led the ambulance design committee and started the project in the spring of 2021. They were joined by the 2022-23 officers: Chief Connor Duda, a senior majoring in biological sciences, and his twin brother Nathan Duda, the vehicle lieutenant and a senior majoring in environmental science.

The design process took two years to complete. The team first looked at the other ambulances to find what qualities were beneficial and what qualities were a detriment to patient care.

"One thing we focused on was the space: How could we maximize our space to the best of our capacity? In our previous ambulances, we noticed some issues with cabinets being too small or space being wasted while we were cramped in the back of it treating patients," said Connor Duda.

The students combined what used to be two small trauma cabinets to create a larger and more accessible trauma cabinet, and they added more storage by removing an unnecessary vent under the back seat. They also created a mount for the monitor previously secured by a seat belt.

In 2022, they submitted the final blueprints to Steven Meador at Atlantic Emergency Solutions, a company that makes ambulances for units across the country. By November, the ambulance was built and ready for pickup. The \$200,000 vehicle was paid for through the department's operating budget.

The Duda twins spent their birthday weekend in Florida inspecting the new ambulance. "One of the big things the twins wanted was the Star of Life frosted on the back window, which wasn't originally there," said Carter.

"Meador took them on a tour of the plant. They had an entire line devoted to FDNY [the New York City Fire Department], and FDNY have those on the back of their trucks. So, they asked Steven if we could put it on the back of ours. He said we could do it. Now it looks fantastic," said Carter.

The Star of Life is a six-pointed star with a serpent and a staff in the middle symbolizing Asclepius, a Greek physician. The Star of Life has become a symbol of emergency medical



PHOTO BY CAROLINE REED FOR VIRGINIA TECH
Virginia Tech Rescue Squad officers Nathan Duda (at left) and Connor Duda with the new ambulance they helped design.

care all around the world. The squad is growing rapidly. This year's squad has 44 full members — up from 35 last year — and 15 probationary members going through the training process. The officers in charge are finding new ways to accommodate the expected growth of the squad as well as the university.

-Linda Hazelwood for Virginia Tech

Researchers work to combat cyberbullying by looking for patterns

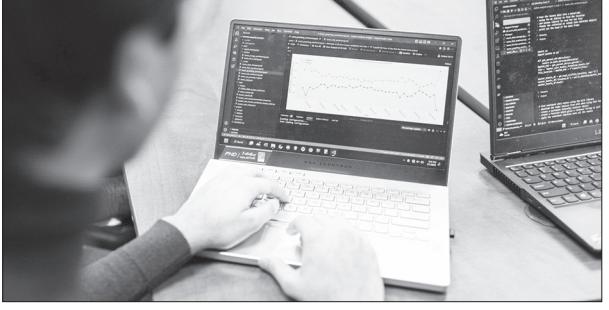


PHOTO BY CHASE PARKER FOR VIRGINIA TECH.
A small team of researchers within University Libraries at Virginia Tech is looking into possible ways to combat the harmful social media trend of cyberbullying.

Not every tweet is sweet. According to recent studies, 75 percent of adults claimed to have witnessed cyberbullying, while another 40 percent said they've had to experience it firsthand. Furthermore, online harassment can have a devastating impact on children, as many report suffering from mental illness and depression as a result of it.

A small team of researchers within University Libraries at Virginia Tech is looking into possible ways to combat this harmful social media trend.

Chreston Miller, data and informatics consultant at University Libraries, along with computer science major Deep Datta and computational modeling and data analytics major Ishana Garuda are conducting research to find out if there are any patterns that can indicate when cyberbullying surfaces the

most on Twitter. "Nowadays, cyberbullying is an issue, and it's so easy to do because people hide behind a screen so no one can see them face-to-face. People feel more freedom to say what they want. If we want to help combat cyberbullying, we need to conduct research that can help us predict when it's going to happen," Miller said.

The team has strict criteria in place to ensure that the accounts that it analyzes will provide valuable samples. In order for a Twitter account to qualify for the data pool, it has to have tweeted a minimum of 1,000 times, been active for at least one year, and have 100 followers or more.

"We have to be very careful about how we choose the tweets, because we want to make sure that these are people that tweet often enough that we could get a good profile over time," Miller said.

After gathering the sample pool, the research team files the tweets into programs that have intelligent software capable of classifying them into three categories: negative, positive, or neutral.

From there, the researchers dive deeper into the tweets to seek behavioral patterns.

"We want to see if circadian rhythm sleep affects what we call civility levels in a person and see if that can considerably affect how a person thinks and acts, and if that becomes a factor with how we can identify cyberbullying within social media platforms such as Twitter," Datta said.

The researchers believe that if they can identify indicators that predict when online harassment is most likely to occur, then the findings have the potential to make a positive impact

on social media outlets such as Twitter. "A big impact from this research could be gaining a better understanding of how people are talking on these platforms and seeing how much of this information being consumed is toxic, civil, uncivil, and bullying. If we find that a significant portion of this cyberspace is uncivil, we can conclude that there's a problem going on, and then solutions can be made once the problem is identified," Miller said.

This research project was designed to expand over the course of two semesters, fall 2022 and spring 2023. Once the research is complete, the team will have analyzed millions of tweets to ensure that the data set was large enough to reach a conclusion.

The impact of this project stretches beyond the scope of social media. Datta and Garuda both have goals of entering a profession involving data analysis and research. This experiential learning aspect of the project has given them a glimpse into what their futures may look like.

"Getting real-life research experience, especially as an undergraduate, is very important," said Datta. "Doing this research allows me to gain certain skills necessary to increase my critical thinking, and maybe in the future use it to conduct my own research and pursue even more projects that can potentially have a positive impact on the problems that we face in this world."

"Since I am a data scientist and all of my classes are focused around that subject, this project helps apply all that I am learning in class and is helping me get ahead of the curve," said Garuda. "This experience is helping to improve my soft and hard technical skills."

-Ann Brown for Virginia Tech

Legals - Town of Vinton

Order of Publication
Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104 Case No. **CL23000348-00**
ROANOKE COUNTY Circuit Court, 305 EAST MAIN STREET, SALEM, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re MAILEIGH MCKENNA REDMOND v. MAILEIGH MCKENNA CULVER
The object of this suit is to: NAME CHANGE OF MINOR IT IS ORDERED that RANDOLPH ALLEN REDMOND JR appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before April 27, 2023 @ 11:00 AM.
MARCH 15, 2023 Benjamin Guerrant, DEPUTY CLERK

Legals - Town of Vinton

INVITATION FOR BIDS
Town of Vinton Virginia
"Resurface Various Streets"

The Town of Vinton Virginia is seeking Competitive Sealed Bids for Solicitation No. TOV-2023-001-PW, Resurface Various Streets in the Town of Vinton, VA. The work includes pavement planing (milling) and asphalt pavement overlay. Intent is to award a contract based upon Estimated Quantities and Unit Prices. Public Bid Opening scheduled for Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 10:00 AM at the Town of Vinton Public Works Department, 804 3rd Street, Vinton VA. For information and copies of the solicitation documents, contact Vinton Public Works Department by phone at (540) 983-0646 or in person at 804 3rd Street, Vinton, VA 24179 between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday or visit the Town of Vinton's Website at www.vintonva.gov. Contract Documents will also be available at Valley Construction News, 426 Campbell Ave., Roanoke VA.

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Order of Publication
Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code Ann. §§ 8.01-316, -317 Case No. **CL23-344**
ROANOKE COUNTY Circuit Court, Commonwealth of Virginia, in re Elizabeth Paige Lyles v. Cody Chandler Lyles
The object of this suit is to: obtain a decree of divorce pursuant to Virginia Code Sec. 20-91(9)(A). It is ORDERED that Cody Chandler Lyles appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MAY 9, 2023.
March 15, 2023 Jennifer Vest, Deputy Clerk

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AUCTION

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MONTGOMERY SPORTS

Familiar face to head to the Big South

The Big South Conference has named Sherika A. Montgomery as its new Commissioner following a national search.

Montgomery, a former women's basketball student-athlete and Big South staff member from 2010-17, becomes just the fourth commissioner in the history of the Big South, and will officially begin her duties on May 15. She replaces Kyle Kallander, currently the second-longest tenured NCAA Division I multisport conference commissioner, who is retiring at the conclusion of the 2022-23 season after 27 years leading the conference. He will be inducted into the Big South Conference Hall of Fame on June 1.

Montgomery comes to the Big South from the Missouri Valley Conference (MVC), where she was appointed Deputy Commissioner this past year. She joined the MVC staff in the summer of 2021 as Associate Commissioner and Senior Woman Administrator. During her time at the Valley, Montgomery has been responsible for the organizational leadership of Conference operations, including administrative oversight of the Conference's governance structure, facilitation of constituency communication, execution of future strategic initiatives and the primary sport administrator for basketball.

In her current role, she serves as liaison to the Conference's Chief Executive Officers and Directors of Athletics, with additional areas of leadership responsibilities within NCAA national matters, student-athlete experience enhancements, and Conference diversity, equity and inclusion efforts.

"Announcing the Big South's next commissioner is something that hasn't happened in nearly 30 years, yet here we are," said Dondi Costin, Big South Conference President and President of Charleston Southern University. "Kyle Kallander has captained the ship with a remarkably steady hand during the most turbulent waters in the history of college athletics. No one could have led this conference better than Kyle, so finding his successor was always going to seem like mission impossible. But we found the perfect candidate in Sherika Montgomery, whose meteoric rise from Big South student-athlete to Big South Commissioner offers the clearest possible evidence that the Big South Conference is in fact 'Where Winners Are Made.'"

"I would like to extend my immense gratitude to the Big South

Conference Chief Executive Officers and Search Committee for entrusting me with this tremendous opportunity," said Montgomery. "I am absolutely honored and humbled to have been chosen to lead the next generation of Big South leaders. As a former Big South student-athlete, I was fortunate to be led by consummate administrators, championed by supreme coaches - on and off the court - and surrounded by fellow fervent student-athletes committed to excellence. In reacquainting myself with the mission of the Conference, I am yet again reminded of the immense opportunity to serve and ensure the Big South continues to be 'Where Winners Are Made' for years to come. I am especially grateful for Commissioner Kallander, his visionary leadership and invaluable mentorship. I look forward to returning to the Big South and joining industry leaders in creating meaningful intercollegiate athletics opportunities focused on optimal student-athlete experiences personally, academically and athletically."

Montgomery brings extensive experience that spans a dozen years. Prior to arriving at the Missouri Valley Conference, Montgomery served as Assistant Director of Enforcement (Investigations and Processing) at the NCAA. In her role at the national office, she was responsible for thoroughly and timely investigating and processing potential violations of NCAA legislation involving all three NCAA divisions and all sports. This included compiling and evaluating evidence of infractions, drafting necessary submissions, and presenting information and evidence to the NCAA Committee on Infractions. In addition to her enforcement responsibilities, Montgomery served as liaison to the inaugural NCAA Women's Basketball Student-Athlete Engagement Group, which provided an amplifying voice for the sport of women's basketball on key initiatives, legislation and various issues. Montgomery also served as chair of the NCAA People of Color Employee Engagement Group and was a member of the Women's Employee Engagement Group's Leadership Council.

"Sherika Montgomery is an outstanding choice to be the next leader of the Big South Conference," added Missouri Valley Commissioner Jeff Jackson. "Her professionalism, knowledge and experiences as an administrator and student-athlete in the Big South will only lead to a bright future for the membership of this storied conference."

"What a great day for the Big South!" commented Kallander. "Sherika Montgomery is an amazing talent and will be outstanding in leading the Conference into the future. She has tremendous people skills, wonderful insight and integrity, and has the intangibles that are often overlooked in great leaders. She just gets it. Plus, to have an alum of the Big South return to take the reins is truly special. On a personal note, I am so proud of Sherika. We could tell when we initially hired her to join the Conference staff that she was a shooting star and would rapidly rise to the top. It is no surprise to me that she is now the fourth Commissioner of the Big South Conference!"

Montgomery was at the Summit League from 2018-19, serving as Associate Commissioner for Governance and Compliance. She also served as Associate Athletic Director for Student Success at Big South member institution Winthrop University from 2017-18. Prior to her stint at Winthrop, Montgomery spent seven years as a member of the Big South Conference staff. She started in 2010 as a compliance and administrative assistant before being promoted to Assistant Director of Compliance in 2011.

Montgomery was elevated to Director of Compliance & Administration in 2013 and spent her final three years as Assistant Commissioner for Compliance and Senior Woman Administrator.

While at the Big South, Montgomery served as a two-time chair (2016-2018) of the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics during her service from 2014-2018 and was also a member of the inaugural NCAA Board of Governors Ad Hoc Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity. She was named to the Top 25 Women in Higher Education and Beyond list by Diverse Education in 2016.

Montgomery is currently a cohort member of the 2022-23 NCAA Pathway Program, a yearlong initiative designed to prepare senior-level athletics administrators for the next career step as directors of athletics or conference commissioners.

A former women's basketball student-athlete at Big South member Gardner-Webb University, Montgomery earned her master's degree in Sports Science and Pedagogy in May of 2011, and her Bachelor of Science degree in Sports Management from the institution in 2009.

-Submitted by the Big South Conference

Worley, UK headed to nationals

No. 9 Kentucky gymnastics punched its ticket to the 2023 NCAA National Championships, advancing out of the Norman, Okla. Regional on Saturday evening.

The 197.850 scored by the Cats did the trick to send the program to its second ever nationals appearance after first seeing the big stage in 2018. Kentucky finished sixth overall that year.

Kentucky's overall meet score Saturday was the second highest in program history and highest ever in regional competition. In addition to the overall meet score, the Cats set a new record on the balance beam with 49.575. UK found top-10 marks in every apparatus except the floor exercise.

Beginning the Road to Nationals on the balance beam, the Wildcats stayed calm and collected. The program record break was no easy feat as the fight began. Senior Raena Worley held the top score for UK on the event with a 9.950. Her near-perfect tally tied her for second for the meet overall. Juniors Bailey Bunn and Isabella Magnelli placed in the top-five overall scoring 9.925 each. Bunn's 9.925 tied her personal career and season bests while sophomore Jillian Procasky did the same with her score of 9.900. Rounding out the rotation, Arianna Patterson earned a 9.875 with leadoff Shealyn Luksik scoring a 9.825.

The floor exercise, the second rotation of the night, was Kentucky's weakest event. However, it was still enough to continue the momentum for the Cats as they neared the halfway point of the meet. In a seven-way tie for first place overall, Worley found herself among the top performers with a 9.950. Just shy of her career and season best, the senior delivered as anchor on the event where she has scored a 9.900 or better in every meet this season. Junior Hailey Davis rocked her routine with an electric 9.925 for the fifth time this season.

To close out the meet, the Wildcats had one more rotation to battle through to determine its fate. Tying its 10th best program score on the uneven bars, the Cats rallied to a 49.450. Procasky and senior Kaitlin DeGuzman led the team earning 9.925 each from the judges. Both gymnasts performed huge routines executing their dismounts with sticky feet. The two



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY ATHLETICS

Senior Raena Worley of Christiansburg is leading her University of Kentucky gymnastics team to the top of the mountain.

Wildcats scored within the top five for the meet overall on the apparatus. Bunn and Worley each were awarded 9.900 to continue the push to nationals for UK. Preceding Worley, the anchor, were Davis (9.800) and Luksik (9.600).

In the all-around, Worley was tied second overall with Oklahoma's Audrey David as the pair held a combined total of 39.650. The Christiansburg native has tallied a 39.600 or

higher six times this season.

Kentucky competed against host No. 1 Oklahoma, Southeastern Conference opponent No. 8 Alabama and Ohio State in Saturday's regional final. The Sooners and Wildcats were the top two teams of the meet, advancing the programs to the national championships. The punched tickets secured a spot in the next round of competition which will be held at Dickies Arena in Fort Worth, Texas, April 13-14.

Worley and junior Isabella Magnelli have been named 2023 Women's Collegiate Gymnastics Association (WCGA) All-Americans, the association announced on Thursday. Worley received a first team honor for the floor exercise and second team nod for all-around while Magnelli received second team honors for the balance beam.

Student-athletes with the top eight National Qualifying Scores (NQS) for the regular season (with ties), for each event plus the all-around earned All-America honors. Second team All-America honors are earned by student-athletes ranked Nos. 9-16 (with ties) in the NQS.

Worley was named to the First Team Floor and Second Team All-Around.

With her two 2023 All-America nods, Worley is now a five-time WCGA All-American. Receiving first team recognition for her performance on the floor exercise, the senior holds a 9.95 NQS on the apparatus. This season alone, Worley has scored a 9.900 or higher in every meet including the SEC Championships. Her highest mark so far in 2023 on the event was a 9.975 which she earned at Illinois tying her career best. She has tallied the near-perfect mark four times in her career placing first individually on the apparatus 15 times. Five of those top finishes have been accomplished this season.

The Christiansburg native was also recognized as a second team all-around honoree. Throughout her collegiate gymnastics career, the senior has recorded 19 all-around wins with six individual victories this season. Her career-high all-around tally was earned at Illinois where Worley recorded a combined 39.775. Worley's individual all-around NQS for the season sits at a 39.625.

-University of Kentucky Athletics

Sports notes: Tech vs. South Carolina, RU vs WVU in basketball

Marty Gordon

NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Jon Rothstein of CBS Sports has reported the Virginia Tech men basketball will play South Carolina in Charlotte, N.C. in the 2023-24 season.

As part of a doubleheader with Virginia and Florida, the Hokies and Gamecocks will meet on Friday, Nov. 10, 2023 in the Spectrum Center. The Veterans Day matchup will be the 32nd all-time between VT and USC, the first since Dec. 5, 1997 in the Pepsi/Harris Teeter Challenge in Charlotte. USC won that game by one, 74-73.

WVU men's hoops will reportedly host Radford University and Toledo for holiday showdowns at the WVU Coliseum on Dec. 20 and Dec. 23.

Radford will enter the WVU Coliseum on Wednesday, Dec. 20. Former WVU guard and current head coach of the Highlanders, Darris Nichols, will face the Mountaineers for the second time since 2021. WVU took the first meeting back in 2021 by a final score of 67-51.

Virginia Tech has announced details on themed football weeks.

Virginia Tech Athletics announced on Tuesday that the Virginia Tech-Pitt matchup on Saturday, Sept. 30 at Lane Stadium will be a White Effect game, marking Tech's first conference outing of the season.

As Virginia Tech football prepares to welcome the first Big Ten opponent to Lane Stadium since 2015, Virginia Tech Athletics announced on Monday that the Virginia Tech-Purdue matchup on Saturday, Sept. 9 at Lane Stadium will be an Orange Effect game.

As part of homecoming week, Virginia Tech Athletics announced on Wednesday that the Virginia Tech-Wake Forest matchup on Saturday, Oct. 14 at Lane Stadium will be a Maroon Effect game.

Hokie Effect is a program through the Undergraduate Student Senate (USS) that designs and sells spirit shirts for football and basketball games at Virginia Tech. The Hokie Effect games encourage fans to wear a certain color in order to show school spirit and create a blanketed color effect through the venue.

Rules could be changing again for this year's college football season.

College football executives are reviewing four options that would cut into the length of games, according to Sports Illustrated's Ross Dellenger.

The lengthers are "meant to reduce plays for both safety and game length reasons," according to the report.

College Football Rule Change Proposals

1. Outlawing consecutive timeouts. This rule would prevent one timeout from being called right after another, which often happens as teams try to ice kickers.

2. Not extending quarters. This rule could make it so that a first or third quarter would not be extended for an un-timed down if the quarter ends on a defensive penalty. In that case, the down would be clocked in the next quarter.3. Running clock. According to this rule, the clock will continue to run after an offense gains a first down except inside two minutes in a half.

4. Another running clock rule. This measure, considered the most controversial, will have the clock continue to run after an incomplete pass once the ball has been spotted for play.

The three proposed rule-changes:

The game clock will not stop after a first down

Teams can't call consecutive timeouts

Penalties at the end of the first and third quarters would transfer to the opening of the next quarter.

These rules changes are "intended to continue the effort to control the flow of the game and encourage more consistent game management," the NCAA wrote in a news release on March 3.

Now, according to a piece by on3.com's Ivan Maisel, NCAA Rules Committee Secretary Steve Shaw argues that the changes will be so small that fans "may not even notice" them.

The four rule changes include two minor changes and two major changes to the current way college football's game clock is operated. The changes are expected to trim at least seven plays off of each game for the sake of "player safety."

The first proposed change would eliminate back-to-back timeouts. This would not change much about the game except limit kicker icing. Shaw would be correct that fans likely wouldn't notice much if this rule were adopted.

The second proposal would change the rule surrounding defensive penalties at the end of quarters. Currently, any defensive penalty at the end of a quarter results in an untimed down for the offense if the penalty is accepted. The rule change proposal seeks to eliminate this untimed down at the end of the 1st and 3rd quarters and award the untimed down only at the end of halves. Again, Shaw's assertion is fine with this rule. Most fans would never notice this one.

The third rule change is significantly bigger. The NFL and NCAA have had different rules over the years regarding the clock after first downs. The rule has changed over the years, but this new rule proposal would make it so that the clock would keep running after first downs. The clock would only stop after a first down during the last two minutes of the half.

Radford boys win Battle of the Bridge



PHOTOS BY VICKIE GOFF

Evan Rupe scored four goals for Radford in this past week's 7-0 win over Pulaski. Other goals were scored by: Eli Goff, Enzo Pugliese, and TJ Aursby.

Thomas Grant recorded four big stops in goals for the Bobcats. Charlie Davis also had two saves in the win over Pulaski.

Outdoor report: Spring turkey timing explained

So often we get the call: "Why can't I hunt turkeys in March? My friend in such-and-such state starts hunting them in March, so why do we have to wait until April?" It is a good question to address. To boil it down to the simplest explanation, our spring turkey season timing is a compromise between biology and hunter desires.

To understand the season structure, we need to start with a basic turkey reproduction biology lesson. In early spring, gobblers will begin to display (strut) and gobble to assert their dominance within the social structure of the turkey population/flock. There will be a lot of shuffling around and fighting amongst all the gobblers until a specific social hierarchy is determined. This will go on for weeks before the hens are ready to breed with the toms. Much of the gobbling and strutting hunters report seeing during the early spring is related to this behavior. At this stage, the hens are not ready to breed yet, but the males are getting primed and ready to go.

Hens will respond to changes in day length (photoperiod) in early April and start to become receptive to being bred. This receptivity usually closely coincides with the peak of gobbling activity. Hens are very selective in this process, usually only allowing the most dominant birds to breed with her. If a dominant bird isn't available, she will hold off breeding until he becomes available, often forgoing breeding for a few days. Hens have a fairly long window in which they are biologically able to breed, so by delaying breeding she can give her eggs the opportunity for the best genetics within that given population. If the dominant gobbler in the area is removed, she will often delay breeding

until a new social hierarchy has been determined.

Once the hen has been bred, she will begin laying eggs. This next phase of turkey reproduction is known as the nest initiation phase. In the early stages of egg production, she may lay an egg every two to three days, but by peak egg laying she will be laying an egg per day over 10 to 14 days. During this time, she will continue to breed to make sure she has the best genetics from the dominant gobblers going to egg production. After she has laid her clutch of eggs, she will begin incubating the eggs, entering the third phase of reproduction—the incubation phase. This phase will last about 28 days until the eggs begin to hatch. She will remain sitting on the eggs day and night through this entire period, only taking short recesses to feed through the day.

Setting Seasons

With these phases of reproduction in mind, there are three main strategies that biologists can use to set season structure for spring turkey seasons, each with advantages and disadvantages. The first option would be to set season timing to encompass all breeding behaviors, typically starting at some point in March. Several states, mostly in the Southeast, use this strategy, and it can work well in areas with robust populations or light hunting pressure. This season structure is often favored by many hunters as the turkeys are actively gobbling and can be susceptible to calling during this period. However, the disadvantage to this system is that you are often removing the most dominant birds from the system prior to breeding, which can result in delaying breeding behaviors. Especially in heavily

hunted areas, this early harvest can reduce the number of males to the point that reproduction may be limited or impaired. As you can imagine, over time this would lead to decreases in populations by having fewer females breeding, often laying clutches of unfertilized eggs, and spreading out the nesting over a longer period, allowing predators to have a greater impact on nest survival.

The other main problem is the potential for illegal hen harvest. As hens are out moving around and searching for nesting habitat, they are more susceptible to illegal harvest. Even with our more conservative season, we have observed illegal hen harvest of up to 9% here in Virginia; moving the season earlier may increase that illegal harvest.

The second option would be to set hunting season to coincide with the peak of incubation. From a strict population biology standpoint, this is the most preferred season. By this point, most hens would be bred, so we would see limited impact of removing males from the population at this time. The hens would be fully engaged in nesting behaviors, so there would be a significantly reduced risk of illegal hen harvest. The negative to this system is that it places the hunting season opening even later. Here in Virginia, our peak of incubation is around May 5.

If we set the season at this point, our season would come in three weeks later than our current structure, and the season would probably have to be shortened by a week or two. We might produce more turkeys, but the hunting conditions would be more difficult and would occur well past the peak of gobbling activity. According to our survey data, our hunters very much value hearing and calling in turkeys. If our season was this late, much of the gobbling would be over and hunter dissatisfaction would likely increase.

The third option is a compromise of these two systems, and the way that Virginia has managed turkey hunting for decades. Our season is timed to coincide around the peak of nest initiation. This provides for higher hunter satisfaction because we are closer to the peak of gobbling activity. By this point, a good portion of the hens have already bred, so removing the males has less effect than removing them prior to peak of breeding. There is some risk to this system, as we will remove some males during this breeding period, but we typically still see high amounts of reproductive success. In general, this season structure has some of the positives and some of the negatives with either the early or late options. Overall, this tends to be the Goldilocks season timing for most Virginia hunters and managers. We have good hunting and are still conservative enough to maintain robust populations.

As you start hearing those first gobbles of the year and start yearning to chase the longbeards, just remember that by waiting just a bit you are helping to build a stronger population. The old adage that good things come to those who wait may very well be true for Virginia's turkey hunters.

-Mike Dye is the upland gamebird biologist – turkey and grouse for the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources



PHOTO BY MIKE ROBERTS

DWR biologists try to balance hunter experience with the turkey breeding seasons and when hens are nesting when setting spring turkey season dates.

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF A PETITION BY APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF MIDDLE-MILE BROADBAND CAPACITY PROJECTS PURSUANT TO § 56-585.1:9 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA CASE NO. PUR-2023-00028

•Appalachian Power Company has applied for approval of two (2) new projects to provide broadband capacity to Internet Service Providers in areas of Virginia that are unserved by broadband.

•The Hearing Examiner appointed to this case will hold a telephonic hearing on June 27, 2023, to receive public witness testimony on this Petition.

•The Hearing Examiner will hold an evidentiary hearing in this case on June 28, 2023.

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

On March 2, 2023, Appalachian Power Company ("APCo" or "Company") filed a petition ("Petition") with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to § 56-585.1:9 of the Code of Virginia ("Code"), seeking approval of two new projects to provide broadband capacity to Internet Service Providers ("ISPs") in areas of Virginia that are unserved by broadband. Specifically, APCo requests approval of: (1) a project to provide middle-mile broadband Internet capacity in unserved areas of Patrick, Henry, and Franklin Counties, Virginia (the "PHF Project"); and (2) a project to provide middle-mile broadband Internet capacity in unserved areas of Giles County, Virginia (the "GC Project") (collectively, the "Projects"). Pursuant to Code § 56-585.1:9, the Commission must issue a final order on the Petition within six months of the date of filing.

According to the Petition, with the proposed Projects, APCo seeks to expand middle-mile broadband capacity in the unserved areas of Patrick, Henry, Franklin and Giles Counties. The Company states that the areas targeted by the Projects are "unserved by broadband" pursuant to Code § 56-585.1:9 D. The Company states that, for the PHF Project, the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative of the Department of Housing and Community Development ("DHCD") has issued a grant or loan to construct a broadband service project within the last 18 months, and the grant or loan recipient is the ISP to which the utility proposes to lease capacity. The Company further states that, for the GC Project, the DHCD has certified within the last 18 months that the designated area is unserved.

The Company states that the PHF Project entails the installation of approximately 380 miles of 288-strand fiber optic cable on the Company's distribution system, and the GC Project entails the installation of approximately 100 miles of 144-strand fiber optic cable. The Company states that these installations will also provide a communications platform for APCo's own distribution grid network backhaul requirements.

The Company states that it will lease a portion of the middle-mile broadband infrastructure to RiverStreet Networks of Virginia, the ISP selected by the counties to provide service to unserved areas in Patrick, Henry, and Franklin Counties, and a separate lease to GigaBeam Networks, LLC, as the ISP selected to provide service to unserved areas in Giles County. APCo states that the estimated capital investment for the PHF Project is approximately \$56.9 million, and the estimated investment for the GC Project is approximately \$12 million. APCo is not requesting cost recovery through a rate adjustment clause at this time, but expects to do so in a future filing.

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

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing in this proceeding that, among other things, scheduled public hearings on APCo's Petition. On June 27, 2023, at 10 a.m., the Hearing Examiner assigned to this case will hold a telephonic hearing, with no witness present in the Commission's courtroom, for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses. On or before June 22, 2023 any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at sec.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting; (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to SCCInfo@sec.virginia.gov; or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at sec.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting.

On June 28, 2023, at 10 a.m., in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, the Hearing Examiner will convene a hearing to receive testimony and evidence related to the Petition from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission's Staff ("Staff").

To promote administrative efficiency and timely service of filings upon participants, all pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter shall be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"). Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. Any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.

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

An electronic copy of the Company's Petition may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company: James R. Bacha, Esquire, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 1 Riverside Plaza, Columbus, OH 43215, jrbacha@aep.com; or James G. Ritter, Esquire, Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, Riverfront Plaza, East Tower, 951 East Byrd Street, Richmond, VA 23219, ritterj@huntonak.com.

On or before June 21, 2023, any interested person may file comments on the Petition by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: sec.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments. Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments with the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2023-00028.

On or before April 28, 2023, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation at sec.virginia.gov/clk/efiling. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail with the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Company. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by Rule 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2023-00028.

On or before May 11, 2023, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at sec.virginia.gov/clk/efiling, any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail with the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be served on the Staff, the Company, and all other respondents simultaneously with its filing. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, including 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*; and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2023-00028.

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

The public version of the Company's Petition, the Commission's Rules of Practice and the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing may be viewed on the Commission's website at: sec.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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