



News Messenger

Serving Montgomery County Since 1869

Blacksburg

Christiansburg

Saturday, July 1, 2023

www.montcova.com

USPS 016-490

\$1.00

Good Tuesday, July 4th & Wednesday, July 5th
July 4th & July 5th 8AM - 7PM
ALL LOCATIONS
ANY SINGLE ITEM UP TO \$50 WITH THIS COUPON!

50% OFF

Not Valid with any other offer. Excludes Sale Items, Gift Cards, Yeti Drinkware, Propane, Propane Tanks and Ammunition. No Rainchecks. Items over \$50 receive \$25 OFF.

YOU CHOOSE THE ITEM!

NORTH WEST ACE

Measure Twice. Shop Once.

CLIFTON FORGE • SALEM • WINTON • ROADBINE • HOLLINS • BRAMBLETON
ROSEBINE • PULASKI • CHRISTIANSBURG • WINTON SALEM
BLACKSTONE • ROSSGARTH • ROCKY

northwesthardware.com
rental.northwesthardware.com

Board of Supervisors' majority supports plan for Christiansburg to pay for SROs in FY 2023-24

Lori Graham
Contributing writer

Montgomery County Board of Supervisors continued discussion of the placement of three additional security resource officers in response to Christiansburg Town Council's urgency for the county to pay for the SROs.

The supervisors were led by Supervisor Mary Biggs in the absence of Chair Sherri Blevins during the evening's meeting on Monday, June 26.

According to Craig Meadows, County Administrator, the

Montgomery County FY 2023-24 budget includes three additional SROs. The Board of Supervisors maintains a majority stance that it is not the county's responsibility to provide officers for all the county's public schools.

Supervisor Todd King disagreed, stating that this is something that could be done for one year while the county works to train additional officers.

"I said upfront, I think it is our responsibility," Supervisor Todd King said. "My main concern is right now, keeping them three that's in there in the Christiansburg

schools already. They already know the students, they know the staff, they are comfortable with them. I just think, several on this board have sit here and said, safety is our priority, safety for our citizens."

King went on to say that he thinks the county should give Christiansburg the \$203,000 to pay for the Christiansburg school resource officers that have already been in place.

Biggs asked for further discussion from other supervisors on their thoughts.

See SROs, page 4



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRISTIANSBURG POLICE DEPT. School Resource Officers continue to be a point of discussion for Christiansburg Town Council and for the Montgomery Board of Supervisors.

Christiansburg Town Council tables SRO discussion until July 6 work session

Lori Graham
Contributing writer

Christiansburg Town Council members will continue discussion of school resource officer (SRO) placement and funding to the town's public schools located in town on July 6 during a work session meeting.

This is following the drafting of a contract, requested by the mayor, between the Sheriff Hank Partin and the Town of Christiansburg.

The mayor reopened the discussion of the placement of security resource officers in the Christiansburg town schools during Tuesday night's regular meeting. This comes after the town council members had made the decision to no longer provide the financial support of the town's school resource officers, beginning on July 1. Christiansburg Town Council has previously asserted the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors should pay for the town's police officers that are currently in those positions in the schools.

"I think for the safety of our children, if the Board of Supervisors doesn't want to help, we're not going to let the safety and well-being, or I'm not willing to let the

safety and well-being of our children, that attend these Christiansburg schools to be jeopardized," Christiansburg Mayor Mike Barber said.

The council has maintained a position that they wished to keep the current town school resource officers in their current schools, with the county paying the \$203,000 necessary to employ them.

"We asked them to fund our officers, not replace them, not take them out. It was just merely to fund these officers," Council member Tim Wilson said.

Council member Henry Showalter emphasized that they are still hoping the supervisors will change their mind, but that the positions are not being defunded by the town of Christiansburg.

"We still have time for the supervisors to change their mind. In reference to the contract, I was surprised to get something like that," Showalter said. "I'm curious to see who wrote it up. Chief [Mark Sisson] on that worked with Hank on that but it's to me very one-sided and it only has the sheriff's signature."

Showalter went on to say that the sheriff does not control the funding and that the contract would need to be reviewed with the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors and

See Council, page 3



PHOTO COURTESY OF VIRGINIA TECH

Food safety is important, especially during warm weather months with backyard cookouts and the like.

Food safety at cookouts and potlucks during the holiday weekend

As we prepare for Independence Day celebrations, Virginia Tech food safety specialist Melissa Wright has advice for those hosting or attending backyard cookouts and potlucks.

To protect yourself, your family, and friends from foodborne illness during warm-weather months, safe food handling when eating outdoors is critical. Consider these four guidelines: clean, separate, cook, control.

CLEAN: Food safety begins with clean hands and surfaces, even in an outdoor setting. Before beginning your food prep, practice good hand-washing hygiene. If you do not have access to running water, simply use a water jug, some soap and

paper towels. Proper hand cleaning is as much about the scrubbing action as it is about the soap. Make sure your eating surface is clean before setting out your dishes. If the surface is not cleanable, consider using disposable tablecloths.

SEPARATE: If you are transporting raw and ready-to-eat (RTE) foods, do so in separate coolers. Consider using coolers with white lids, since they will reflect light and heat rather than absorbing them.

Raw meats, poultry and seafood – Be sure to keep these items securely wrapped and separated from

See Food, page 3

Christiansburg Town Council approves budget, increase in real estate tax

Lori Graham
Contributing writer

A resolution to adopt the budget for fiscal year July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, was approved with a 5-1 vote by the town council, with Councilman Henry Showalter voting against approval.

Council member Johana Hicks asked if there would be further discussion to provide funds to the Montgomery Museum and the Wonder Universe Childrens Museum, as a result of the citizens requests. The mayor determined that these requests can be added back to the agenda as new business in the future following the adoption of the budget as currently proposed.

A real estate tax rate of \$0.14 per \$100 of assessed value was also approved by council in a 5-1 vote for calendar year 2023, with Henry Showalter voting against the tax increase. According to the town meeting agenda, this is an effective tax increase of \$0.009197. Personal property tax will remain unchanged for the calendar year 2023, at \$0.45 cents per \$100 with a vote of 6-0 from council members.

Water and sewer rates will change as a result of a 5-1 vote, with Hicks voting against the proposed rates. The agenda

set by town council states that the new rate changes are as follows:

The water rates will be set for inside town limits at \$10 for the first 1,000 gallons; \$12 for each 1,000 gallons up to 49,999 and \$9.00 for each 1,000 increments of 50,000 or more. Outside water rates will be set at 200% of inside rates.

The sewer rates for inside town limits are set at \$10 for the first 1,000 gallons; \$10.25 for each 1,000 gallons thereafter, no change from previous year. Outside sewer rates will be set at 200% of inside rates.

Garbage and recycling rates will be set at \$23 per month per set of carts (one garbage, one recycle can). In the case of outside Town limits, the rate will be 200% of the inside rate.

In other actions by council members, a unanimous vote approved an agreement between the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the town of Christiansburg for traffic signal coordination between the two parties.

According to the council's meeting agenda, the memorandum of agreement (MOA) is a result of the I-81 Corridor Improvement Program which includes

See Budget, page 4

NRV Recovery Ecosystem Project awarded \$2.1 million to address opioid addiction

Virginia's Opioid Abatement Authority finalizes awards totaling \$23 million in grants to 76 cities and counties

Heather Bell
hbelle@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority (OAA) has voted to award more than \$23 million in grants to 76 Virginia cities and counties for opioid abatement and remediation efforts.

In the City of Radford, Montgomery County, and surrounding area, the funds will be administered by the New River Valley Regional Commission.

"The New River Valley Regional Commission will be coordinating a collaborative regional opioidabatementprogram with Montgomery County serving as the fiscal agent for NRV Recovery Ecosystem project. Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski counties and the City of Radford in the New River Valley partnered

in the development of the proposal," the NRVRC announced. "Each locality provided substantial matching funds from their Opioid Abatement Authority (OAA) direct allocation equating to \$1.2M of local funds for a program total of \$3.3million when combined with the grant funds."

Senator Todd Pillion, Chairman of the OAA, called the vote "historic," noting that all regions of the state will receive portions of the grant awards.

"We were pleased to see that communities across the Commonwealth have committed to use opioid settlement funds to truly fight the opioid epidemic, both with new programs and in expansion of existing programs that have proven records of success," he said.

"Virginia is using its opioid settlement funds to turn the tide against this epidemic, and the projects we funded in this award package will save lives."

Dr. Sarah Thomason, a clinical pharmacist who chairs the OAA's Grants Committee, said the OAA sought to provide a balance in the types of awards made.

"The programs we funded in this round address gaps across the board, ranging from prevention and education, to treatment, to long-term recovery," she said.

The proposed awards include grants to 13 individual cities or counties and 26 grants to partnerships in which multiple cities and/or counties committed to a regional approach,

See Opioid, page 6

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, July 1:

Community Center yard sale
The Pilot Community Center is having a yard sale; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tuesday, July 4:

Christiansburg Fourth of July celebration

Held on Main Street; 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. (and fireworks at 9:15 p.m.) Come to downtown Christiansburg for the annual Fourth of July Celebration. The family-friendly event features live music, an array of food trucks, arts and crafts vendors, a kids' zone, and more. Fireworks will start around 9:15 p.m. near the new Christiansburg Huckleberry Park. They can be viewed from the Uptown Mall or Walmart parking lots. If the event is rained out, fireworks will be on July 5, with no downtown event.

Radford Fourth of July festival

Held in Bisset Park; 1 - 11 p.m. Features live music, food and craft vendors, children's games and inflatables. Fireworks, sponsored by Third Securities.

Blacksburg Fourth of July festivities

This year's parade theme is "Thanking Medical Personnel & First Responders." Parade Route: Main Street will be closed from Eheart Street to Alumni Mall, 2 p.m. to approximately 3 p.m. The Municipal Park live music schedule is: 6 p.m. - The Blacksburg Community Band - patriotic music, 7 p.m.- Blue Ridge Vocal - singing group, 8 p.m. - Dirtroad Breakdown - classic rock, and 9:30 p.m. - Fireworks (even if raining).

Shawsville Fourth of July festivities

Shawsville Ruritan parade begins at 4 p.m., Tara Lane concert at Old Town Fields 5:30 - 9 p.m. and fireworks at 9:15 p.m.

Virginia ABC stores to close at 6 p.m.

All Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority (ABC) stores will open at their normal hours and close at 6 p.m. on Independence Day, Tuesday, July 4. Customers can visit Virginia ABC's website at <http://www.abc.virginia.gov> to search for stores, determine the availability of products at any retail location and order spirits online for in-store or curbside pickup, or home delivery in

select areas. Virginia ABC encourages customers to make mindful choices about alcohol during all of life's celebrations. Resources are available at <https://www.abc.virginia.gov/sip-responsibly>.

City Independence Day closures

City Administrative Offices will be closed on Tuesday, July 4 and Wednesday, July 5 for Independence Day. Radford Public Library also will be closed.

The solid waste collection schedule is: Tuesday, July 4: Collected on Monday, July 3. Wednesday, July 5: Collected on Thursday, July 6. Please have garbage ready for collection by 7:30 a.m. Drop Center Hours: closed Tuesday, July 4 and Wednesday, July 5 and open: Thursday, July 6 at 7:30 a.m.

Blacksburg Independence Day closings

The Town of Blacksburg will operate on the following schedule on Tuesday, July 4: Town administrative offices will be closed. There will be no Blacksburg Transit service and BT offices will be closed. The Blacksburg Community Center will be closed. The Blacksburg Aquatic Center will be closed. There will be no Trash and Recycling pickup in the NW Quadrant. Makeup service will be Wednesday, July 5. Please have all material at the curb by 7 a.m.

Wednesday, July 5:

Mingle at the Market

Join the Blacksburg Farmer's Market for Mingle at the Market, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., at Market Square Park. This event will feature live music, locally brewed beverages, local food and more.

Thursday, July 6:

American Legion meeting

The American Legion, Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will meet at 6 p.m. at the VFW Post Home on 102 Watts St. in Radford. For further information, please call 540-250-2283 or 540-239-9864.

Wildwood Park Nature Lecture Series

The Wildwood Park Nature Lecture Series takes place in the heart of Wildwood Park at the Outdoor Classroom (pavilion). To get to the site, attendees can park at the Sundell Drive

parking lot for Wildwood Park and take the walkway into the center of the park. All of the talks start at 7:30 p.m. and are held rain or shine unless there are thunderstorms. July 6: Millipedes (Jackson Means, Virginia Tech).

Saturday, July 8:

Fish Fry

Mount Tabor Ruritan Club will hold its July Fish Fry on Saturday, July 8 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Slusser's Chapel Picnic Shelter, 1543 Mount Tabor Rd, Blacksburg. Serving fish, fries and slaw; homemade desserts; and beverages. Adults-\$12, children under 12-\$6, (under 3)-free, carry-outs-\$12. This month we will be entertained by ex-Marching Virginians baton twirler, Meredith Smith, and bluegrass band, Ronnie Toney and Friends. The fish fry is a fundraiser for the Ruritan Club's community service projects and scholarships. Held rain or shine. Call or text 540-449-6178 for further information. On Facebook at MtTaborRuritan.

Monday, July 10:

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, July 11:

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 the 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.

Thursday, July 13:

River City Quilt Guild

The River City Quilt Guild meets the 2nd 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.

Saturday, July 15:

Rotary Club blood screening

The Rotary Club of Christiansburg-Blacksburg and LewisGale Hospital Montgomery biannual blood screening; 6:30 -10 a.m. in the hospital's lobby. The fasting blood test screens over 25 different markers including cholesterol and red blood indices at a significantly reduced cost. New this year, the test will include Hemoglobin A1C. Cost is \$50. Results are sent to participants and their physician of choice. A portion of the proceeds is used to fund a service project in the community.

Pre-register for the blood screening at <https://www.rotary7570.org/blood> or call 540-951-8988. Walk-in registration is available the day of the blood screening.

Thursday, July 20:

Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Family Italian Restaurant on 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to this meeting. Mr. Sam Winkler, aka "President Jefferson Davis" will be the guest speaker. For further information, please call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-

See Events, page 6

ONLINE AUCTION

Ends Thursday, July 27th at 3 PM

Commercial Property for Sale in Christiansburg VA!
Radford Rd (Route 11), Christiansburg, VA 24073

Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com



Check out these 3 remarkable commercial investment opportunities in the heart of Christiansburg, Virginia! We present these 3 parcels that are zoned B3, and are located along Route 11. With frontage on both Radford Rd (Route 11) and Silver Lake Rd, these properties have excellent accessibility and offer an ideal canvas for small business development. The B3 Zoning provides investors with countless development avenues. Whether you aspire to open a convenience store, establish a thriving bank branch, launch a vibrant retail store, or establish a dynamic office space, the possibilities are endless. These parcels are connected to the town water and sewer systems. Properties have an undeveloped road along the backside. Do not miss your opportunity to own and develop this commercial property in the heart of Christiansburg VA.

Property is offered in 3 Tracts described below. Download Bidder Pack for Online Bidder's Agreement, Maps, Sample Contracts, and Property Information at VAAuctionPro.com

Offering #1: +/- .93 Acres

This parcel is wooded and has 126' of road frontage on Radford Rd and 126' of road frontage on the undeveloped street.

Offering #2: +/- 1.10 Acres

This parcel is wooded and has 165' of road frontage on Radford Rd and 134' of road frontage on the undeveloped street. This parcel also has 2 buildings on the property.

Offering #3: +/- 1.00 Acres

This parcel is wooded and has 175' of road frontage on Radford Rd, 336' of road frontage on Silver Lake Rd, and 99' of road frontage on the undeveloped street.

Terms - 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$20,000 per tract required on day of sale. Close on or before September 11th, 2023. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Tracts are being offered individually and if bidder wishes to purchase multiple tracts, bidder will need to be the high/winning bidder on both offerings. Please note that during the last two minutes of bidding, if a new bid is placed, the clock is automatically extended an additional two minutes. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract and maps at VAAuctionPro.com

CONTACT- Broker & Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com

102 S. Locust Street,
Floyd, VA 24091
(540) 745-2005
VAAuctionPro.com
Lic# 2907004059



Blue Ridge Land & Auction Co., Inc.

ONLINE AUCTION

Ends Wednesday, July 19th at 4 PM

Townhouse for Sale at Auction in Christiansburg VA
1043 Elk Drive, Christiansburg, VA 24073

Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com



Check out this charming townhome in Christiansburg VA. This immaculate townhome features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths on 2 levels. The main level boasts a spacious living room with gas logs, which create a cozy ambiance during the cooler months. The kitchen is equipped with a range, microwave, refrigerator, dishwasher, and disposal, making meal preparation and cleanup a breeze. Main level also features ceiling fans and recessed lighting. The kitchen and baths have durable linoleum flooring. Home also has front load washer and dryer that convey. Storage should never be an issue with the easily accessible attic! Home is equipped with central air conditioning allowing for year-round comfort.

In addition to the interior amenities, the townhome provides a 9x12 patio providing a private outdoor space for relaxation and entertaining guests. There is an attached 1 car garage, which also gives you ample space for storage.

The home is well-appointed and offers comfortable living in a convenient location. It's within a few miles of all the restaurants, shopping centers, and family attractions that Christiansburg VA has to offer. Also located less than 10 miles from Virginia Tech. Don't miss out on your opportunity to make this townhouse your own!

Preview Date - Friday, July 14th at 4 PM

Terms - 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to the final high bid to arrive at the contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$5,000 is required by 5 pm on July 20th, 2023. Close on or before September 4th, 2023. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold "as is, where is, with any and all faults." Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. If confirmed Buyer will be expected to sign a Real Estate Purchase Agreement. Please note that during the last two minutes of bidding, if a new bid is placed, the clock is automatically extended an additional two minutes. Be sure to register to bid early to ensure you receive notifications regarding any changes to the Auction, Bidder Packet, and/or Pre-Auction offers received. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract, and maps at VAAuctionPro.com

CONTACT- Broker & Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com. You can also contact Realtor Don Barker at 540-392-4918 or email barkerdon@rocketmail.com

102 S. Locust Street,
Floyd, VA 24091
(540) 745-2005
VAAuctionPro.com
Lic# 2907004059



Blue Ridge Land & Auction Co., Inc.

NAACP youth give Juneteenth history lesson

The Montgomery-Floyd-Regional Branch of the NAACP participated in Juneteenth celebrations in both Floyd and Christiansburg. Visitors from many locations stopped to obtain NAACP membership at both booths. In Christiansburg, the Youth Council shared why they celebrate Juneteenth and provided the historical background of Juneteenth: The last slaves in the United States to learn they were freed were in Texas. On June 19, 1865, two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation by Abraham Lincoln, Texas slaves finally learned of their freedom. Long celebrated

in Texas as a holiday, Juneteenth became a national holiday in 2021. Since 2001 our branch has celebrated Juneteenth at the Rosa Peters Playground in Christiansburg. This year we were pleased to join Floyd Cares in Floyd and Christiansburg Institute, the Hill School and the Alumni Association for the Juneteenth celebration at the historic grounds of the Edgar A. Long Building located on the campus of the former Christiansburg Industrial Institute.

Melissa N. Matusевич



PHOTO COURTESY OF NAACP

The Youth Council of the Montgomery-Floyd-Regional Branch of the NAACP shares the history of Juneteenth at the recent Juneteenth celebration on the historic grounds of the Christiansburg Institute.

Food

from page 1

other foods. This keeps their juices from contaminating prepared/cooked foods or foods that will be eaten raw. All raw meat should be kept in a cooler at 40°F or below until time for grilling. Packing these items while still frozen can ensure they stay colder longer.

Raw fruits and vegetables – Rinse fresh fruits and vegetables under running tap water before packing them in the cooler, including those with skins and rinds that are not eaten. Rub firm-skinned fruits and vegetables under running tap water or scrub with a clean vegetable brush while rinsing with running tap water. Dry fruits and vegetables with a clean cloth towel or paper towel before packing.

Prepared cold dishes – Foods like pasta salad, deviled eggs, cut produce and many desserts require cold holding to maintain their safety. Transport them in a cooler

with ice or frozen gel packs to maintain a temperature of less than 40°F. Remove them immediately before time to serve.

Prepared hot dishes – Hot food should be kept hot, at or above 140°F. Wrap it well and place it in an insulated container until serving.

Beverages and condiments – Consider packing a separate cooler for these items so that the repeated opening of the cooler will not expose temperature-controlled foods to warm outdoor air temperatures. Maintaining beverages and most purchased condiments (even mayonnaise!) at cool temperatures is for quality, not safety.

COOK: Grilling and picnicking often go hand-in-hand. Just like cooking indoors, there are important guidelines that should be followed to ensure that your grilled food reaches the table safely.

Marinate safely – Marinate

foods under refrigeration - never on the kitchen counter or outdoors. In addition, if you plan to use some of the marinade as a sauce on the cooked food, reserve a portion separately before adding the raw meat, poultry, or seafood. Don't reuse marinade that has touched raw meat or poultry. Cook food thoroughly – When it's time to cook the food, have your food thermometer ready. Always use it to be sure your food is cooked thoroughly by measuring the internal temperature at the thickest part of the food.

Whole steaks, roasts, pork and fish: 145°F

Ground meat: 160°F

Poultry (ground or whole): 165°F

Don't cross-contaminate – Don't reuse platters or utensils that held raw meat, poultry or seafood for serving unless they have been washed first in hot, soapy water. Using the same platter or utensils

that previously held raw meat, poultry, or seafood allows bacteria from the raw food's juices to spread to the cooked food. Instead, have a clean platter and utensils ready at grill-side to serve your food.

CONTROL (THE TEMPERATURE): Keeping food at proper temperatures - indoor and out - is critical in preventing the growth of foodborne bacteria. The key is to never let your picnic food remain in the "Danger Zone" - between 40°F and 140°F - for more than 2 hours (or 1 hour if outdoor temperatures are above 90°F.) This is when bacteria in food can multiply rapidly, and lead to foodborne illness.

Keep cold food cold – Cold foods in individual serving dishes can be placed directly on ice on your picnic table or in a shallow container set in a deep pan filled with ice. Drain off water as ice melts and replace ice frequently. Once you've served these dishes,

they should not sit out for longer than 2 hours (or 1 hour if the outdoor temperature is above 90°F.) If food is left out longer, throw it away to be safe.

Keep hot food hot – Grilled food can be kept hot until served by moving it to the side of the grill rack, just away from the coals. This keeps it hot but prevents overcooking. Hot dishes like casseroles can be held in insulated carrying cases on the picnic table to keep them warm. Just as with cold food, these foods should not sit out for more than 2 hours (or 1 hour in temperatures above 90°F.) If food is left out longer, throw it away to be safe.

Melissa Wright is director of the Food Producer Technical Assistance Network in the department of Food Science and Technology at Virginia Tech.

Shannon Andrea for Virginia Tech

Council

from page 1

the Montgomery County Public School Board.

Council member Samuel Bishop had previously voted no to removing town SROs from the schools but expressed during the meeting that new information

has now put him on the fence.

In reference to the proposed contract, Bishop said, "I guess if we put security officers in the schools this is how the agreement works?"

Mayor Michael Barber confirmed that

he had instructed the chief to consider the contract as an "in case we do" need something for starting a back-and-forth conversation. The contract is not an agreement that they are putting resource officers back in those schools.

Following discussion, the council members voted in approval to table a decision to place SROs in the schools with the result of a 4-2 vote, with council members Tim Wilson and Casey Jenkins voting no.

Legals - City of Radford

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the City of Radford Electric Utilities (VMRC #23-1338) are requesting a permit from the Virginia Marine Resources Commission to replace an existing electrical transmission circuit over the New River adjacent to the US 11 Hwy Bridge between the City of Radford and Pulaski County.

You may provide comments on this application (VMRC #2023-1338) at

<https://webapps.mrc.virginia.gov/public/habitat/comment/> We will accept comments by the USPS provided they are received within 15 days of this notice to: Marine Resources Commission, Habitat Management Division, 380 Fenwick Road, Bldg. 96, Hampton, VA 23651.

Legals - Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANBURG TOWN COUNCIL

The Town of Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on, Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning: A. Conditional Use Permit request by Burch Properties LLC, Property Owner, and Kevin Lagos, Lessee, to allow a Public Billiard Parlor and Poolroom on the property located at 1635 North Franklin Street, Tax Parcel 466-(A)-20C, Parcel ID 013214; zoned General Business District B-3. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the application, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and

Legals - Montgomery County

Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Andrew Warren, Assistant Town Manager, at (540) 382-6128, Ext. 1130 or by email at awarren@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANBURG TOWN COUNCIL

The Town of Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on, Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning: A. Rezoning request by Summit Community Bank, Inc., Property Owner, to rezone the property located at 100 Akers Farm Road, Tax Parcel 466-(22)-1; Parcel ID 100283, from Limited Business District B-1 to General Business District B-3. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the application, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Andrew Warren, Assistant Town Manager, at (540) 382-6128 ext. 1130 or by email at awarren@christiansburg.org with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

Legals - Montgomery County

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 & 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Montgomery County Planning Commission hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on JULY 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to hear citizen comments regarding the Planning Commission's intention to act on the following Special Use Permit request: A request by the Thomas Benjamin Sears for a Special Use Permit (SUP) on property to allow a Short-Term Tourist Rental within an existing structure allowing the dwelling to be rented for compensation to short term transient guests. The property is located at 1950 Oilwell Road, Blacksburg (St. Rt. 824), and is located approximately 1.7 miles West of Merrimac Road (St. Rt. 657). The property is further identified as Tax Map 066-9 2 (Parcel ID: 036193), 2.162 acres, zoned Residential (R-1) in the Prices Fork Magisterial District. The property currently lies in an area designated as Residential Transition in the 2025 Comprehensive Plan. Copies of the proposed plans, applications, ordinances or amendments may be examined at the Department of Planning and GIS Services, County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 2A, Christiansburg, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or at <http://www.montgomerycountyva.gov/pendingapplication> ns.



Legals - Montgomery County

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 & 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Montgomery County Planning Commission hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on July 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to hear citizen comments regarding the Planning Commission's intention to act on the following Ordinances: A request by James K Tannahill (Agent: Peed and Bortz, LLC) for a special use permit to allow a 115,000 Cubic Yards of rubble landfill for the disposal of inert debris, on approximately 4.5 acres of a 20 acre parcel. The proposed use is identified as Rubble, landfill under the Zoning Ordinance which is permitted in A-1 Agricultural District only by a special use permit. The property is located 0.3 miles southeast of Rosemary Road (Rte 676) approximately 0.2 miles from the end of state maintenance. The property is identified as Tax Map 108-A 45C (Parcel ID: 110882) in the Shawsville Magisterial District. The property currently lies in an area designated as Rural in the 2025 Montgomery County Comprehensive Plan.

Copies of the proposed plans, applications, ordinances or amendments may be examined at the Department of Planning and GIS Services, County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 2A, Christiansburg, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or at <http://www.montgomerycountyva.gov/pendingapplication> ns.

Legals - Montgomery County

Notice of Public Hearing Town of Blacksburg Planning Commission

Thursday, July 6, 2023. Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Town of Blacksburg will conduct a public hearing on Thursday, July 6, 2023 during its meeting beginning at 6:30 PM in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Council Chamber, 300 South Main St, Blacksburg, VA on the following item: CUP 23-0003-Conditional Use Permit Request for hotel use and for additional height in the Downtown Commercial DC zoning district at 501 South Main Street (Tax Map No. 257-A 94C) by Midtown Redevelopment Partners, LLC. A conditional use permit request for hotel use and increased height above 60 feet in the Midtown Development at 501 South Main Street. The request is for a 155-room hotel in the Downtown Commercial (DC) zoning district on the parcel known as Midtown DC Parcel 2 fronting on Main Street. This parcel is governed by the Midtown rezoning in Ordinance #1968. The height of the building is proposed to be a maximum of 75 feet, which is greater than the maximum 60 feet permitted in the DC zoning district and Midtown Development Planning Book unless a Conditional Use Permit is requested per Section 3141 (c) of the Blacksburg Zoning Ordinance. The Future Land Use (FLU) is Downtown Commercial. The proposed use is consistent with the FLU designation. Persons affected by or interested in the conditional use permit request may appear and present their views. After the hearing, the Planning Commission will take action. Copies of the request and all related items may be found online at www.blacksburg.gov/publichearings or reviewed in person at the Blacksburg Planning and

Legals - Montgomery County

Building Department, 400 South Main Street, Blacksburg, Virginia. You may also call the office at (540) 443-1300 for more information. Individuals with disabilities who require special assistance to attend and participate in the public hearing on the above should contact the Planning & Building Department at (540) 443-1300, or (540)-443-1000-TDD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia

that the Board of Supervisors hereby schedules a public hearing for Monday, July 10, 2023 at 7:15 pm or as soon thereafter, at the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to receive citizen comments on the Board of Supervisors intent to adopt a resolution amending the FY 2023-2024 budget by more than one percent of the total expenditures shown in the currently adopted budget by adding carryover funding appropriated in FY 23 for various county projects/purchase orders/capital funds and various school operating and capital funds that were not completed at year end, not to exceed \$165 million.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
F. Craig Meadows
County Administrator

MAKE AN "A" IN ADVERTISING!
To place your ad, call 389-9355

Legals - Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANBURG PLANNING COMMISSION

The Town of Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, July 17, 2023, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning: A. Conditional Use Permit request by DAJ Ventures LLC, Property Owner, to allow 21 townhouses on approximately 2.149 acres located at the western end of Montgomery St NE, and between the south side of Church St NE and the north side of Lucas St NE, identified as Tax Parcels 496-(3)-2 and 496-(3)-3; Parcel IDs 260024 and 260025; zoned General Business District B-3. The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the application, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Andrew Warren, Assistant Town Manager, at (540) 382-6128, Ext. 1130 or by email at awarren@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.



Budget

from page 1

Arterial Route Improvements. It addresses detour routes and procedures to respond to highway events. The MOA covers roles and responsibilities between the parties. VDOT has a project to upgrade signal equipment at specific locations within Town to implement this program.

Christiansburg's Engineering Director, Mike Kelley, presented to council on the proposed agreement.

"The purpose of this agreement with VDOT is to as part of the I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan...if there is an incident on I-81, the agreement allows VDOT and the town to respond to highway incidents. It will strategically identify detour routes during events. It will improve operation of routes by modifying traffic signal timing as needed. It will put in place infrastructure to monitor conditions and make adjustments as necessary and requires upgrading town owned equipment and systems" Kelley said.

Kelley said the upgrades would be at no

cost to the town of Christiansburg, with VDOT covering all expenses.

During the citizen comments session of the meeting, Charles Robins spoke to the town council with concern about what they are doing to bring in more affordable housing. Robins had previously reached out to the council and had spoken to the mayor about this need in the community. "There's a lot of companies in this country that can come to here that we can set up meetings with," Robins said.

Robins made note of a new housing development that was recently approved by the town council. He stated that this housing would be affordable for those citizens in the retired age bracket and not for lower income individuals.

In another item on the agenda, Town council member Casey Jenkins made a motion for Christiansburg to continue their involvement with the Montgomery County Blacksburg Christiansburg Tourism Office. To be transparent in

his involvement, Jenkins stated that his personal interest in the outcome had been cleared with the removal of the Montgomery Museum of Art and History from their Pepper Street location as of July 1. Jenkins would plan to put this in writing as well the following day.

Council member Johana Hicks felt that the money could be best used in other ways to invest in their own town.

"Over \$170,000 a year, it's a lot of money," Hicks said.

Jenkins agreed with the level of accountability that the council wishes to hold the tourism office up to, but also asked the council to consider the new passenger rail system coming soon to Christiansburg.

"I cannot see a reality where passenger rail comes to Christiansburg and Christiansburg is not part of the regional agreement and authority for tourism," Jenkins said.

The council members voted 3-3 on the motion to stay with the tourism office.

The mayor broke the tie with his vote of approval to remain a part of the local regional tourism department.

Finally, the council voted unanimously to approve the Housing and Urban Community Development Block Grant 2023 annual action plan.

According to the agenda, the 2023 Annual Action Plan serves as the Town's grant application to HUD for approximately \$130,404 and sets the goals and budgets for the use of funds.

In announcements, Town Manager Randy Wingfield requested to set a public hearing for August 8, 2023. The public hearing would be for 21 proposed townhomes on 2.148 acres on Montgomery Street, between Church Street and Lucas Street.

Wingfield also mentioned Fourth of July festivities will be held downtown in Christiansburg on July 4 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and fireworks will begin at 9:15 p.m. at the park area.

SROs

from page 1

"I just think if you do that, you are opening up a can of worms," Supervisor Darrell Sheppard said. "Because you know who else is going to want money, and it will

cost more than \$200,000. We don't make decisions for Christiansburg."

Supervisors all supported the same notion that it is best for all schools to have an officer and they are planning to move towards that as a goal for the county.

"I think it would be ideal if we had SROs in every school," Supervisor Sara Bohn said.

Supervisor April DeMotts felt that Christiansburg's decision to not pay for SROs in the coming fiscal year has made the town citizens upset, resulting in a shift of responsibility to the county.

"If the town decides to move forward with their decision to remove them, then we have a plan to replace them," DeMotts said. "We can't replace them immediately. They're probably fully aware of that."

DeMotts went on to say that if the county is paying for them then they should be sheriff's deputies.

Supervisor Steve Fijalkowski also agreed with DeMotts and expressed that their goal was to make sure that schools outside of the county were being supported, since town schools are supported by Christiansburg police officers.

"If they want to get paid, they are talking to the wrong board," Fijalkowski said. "They are trying to make it sound like the schools belong to the county."

Fijalkowski continues to hold the position that they do not support the income of the town's police officers.

In other actions during the meeting, the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors met with unanimous approval for a withdrawal request by DW, LLC. As previously advertised, the request was addressed during public hearing to withdraw approximately 46.990 acres from Agricultural and Forestal District (AFD) #7 with the purpose of applying for a special use permit to convert the property to a recreational vehicle (RV) park for short-term transient vehicles.

Brea Hopkins, Director of Planning and GIS Services, presented to the supervisors about the property located on Brammer Lane off Houchins Road, in the Shawsville magisterial district. According to Hopkins, the property will agree with the required criteria in meeting with the agricultural zoning of the property, is in line with the comprehensive plan, will provide for minor negative impact on the natural environment, and increase economic growth for the county. The full criteria that the request must adhere to can be found on the agenda, or in the live recorded video, at www.montva.com.

"The AFD committee met on Thursday, June 1st. They voted to recommend approval of the withdrawal request," Hopkins said. "Following that, the Planning Commission held a public hearing. They also recommended approval of the request and that was on a 7-2 vote. We had two absent from that meeting. There

were no speakers at the public hearing."

Hopkins also shared that two citizens have inquired about the property's development. One was a concern about the impact on streams located on the property and the other was concerning fencing to deter trespassers. Hopkins explained that the citizens will receive further notice, and additional comments can be made at a public hearing, if a special use permit is granted in the future.

Gary Duncan of Duncan Imports and Classics in Christiansburg was the only citizen to address the supervisors during the public hearing session of the meeting concerning the withdrawal request.

"If you don't know, we have a collector warehouse, we have people that come from all over the country, and we have ballgames. This land came available. Of course, I grew up in Montgomery County; in Christiansburg and Blacksburg, and I just appreciate the opportunity to let us do this," Duncan said.

One speaker addressed the supervisors during the citizens comment portion of the meeting. Bruce Board, of Riner, spoke to the supervisors concerning the Auburn Park practice fields. Board had previously expressed unease about the lack of a practice field for the Boys 13-18 age group.

"I went to the Planning Commission meeting, and two of the planning commission people and one of the board people all said that there was a field that would work for those boys," Board said. "I went to the planning commission and now they realize, no, there isn't one."

Other actions taken by supervisors during the new business session of the meeting included a 6-0 vote in approval of a total increase in the FY 23 budget due to the appropriations of \$300,000 for the school nutrition program.

Additionally, as advertised by the county in the agenda, The General Assembly has established the American Resolution 250 Commission to serve as an advisory commission to plan the commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution, the American Revolution War and the independence of the United States. Localities are encouraged to establish a Local VA250 Commission to join in the planning for this large-scale commemoration at the state and local level.

Montgomery County, Virginia, and the United States, will be celebrating 250 years in 2026. Planning committees will be under consideration in the near future and citizens are encouraged to become involved in preparations for the events if they so desire.

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved this resolution.

News Messenger

Established 1869

(540) 389-9355

P.O. Box 1125 • Salem, VA 24153

USPS 016-490 Online: www.ourvalley.org

Michael Showell, *Publisher*

Heather Bell, *Editor*

hbell@mainstreetnewspapers

Aila Boyd, *Executive Editor*

aboyd@ourvalley.org

Randy Thompson, *Advertising Consultant*

advertise@ourvalley.org

Give us your view:

editor@ourvalley.org

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 \$44 a year in Montgomery County, \$53 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$54 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.

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	
11					12				13			14
15					16				17		18	
	19			20					21			
			22				23			24		
25	26	27		28				29	30			
31				32	33	34	35					
36			37		38				39	40	41	42
			43	44	45			46		47		
	48	49						50	51	52		
53			54		55		56		57			
58			59			60				61	62	
63					64					65		66
67						68				69		
	70					71				72		

- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Applies paint lightly
 - 5. House mice genus
 - 8. Bible's Chronicles (abbr.)
 - 11. Old World buffalo
 - 12. Expression of contempt
 - 13. Levi jeans competitor
 - 15. A small-wooded hollow
 - 16. Donkeys
 - 18. River in Florence
 - 19. L. Rukeyser's TV show
 - 22. The abominable snowman
 - 23. Deerfield, IL, Trojans school
 - 24. Be obliged to repay
 - 25. Woman (French)
 - 28. Delaware
 - 29. Fools around (Br. slang)
 - 31. Affirmative (slang)
 - 32. With three uneven sides
 - 36. Tel __, Israel city
 - 38. "As American as apple __"
 - 39. Aha __ Honeymoon
 - 43. Fictive
 - 47. Press against lightly
 - 48. Elderdown filled
 - 50. In the year of Our Lord
 - 52. Obstruct or block
 - 53. A companion animal
 - 54. Political action committee
 - 56. Big man on campus
 - 58. "Frankly my dear, __"
 - 63. American Indian group
 - 64. Lots of
 - 65. Life stories
 - 67. Sour taste
 - 68. The Phantom's first name
 - 69. Leading European space Co.
 - 70. Native of Thailand
 - 71. Drive into hard
 - 72. NY state flower
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Male parent
 - 2. Afresh
 - 3. South American weapon
 - 4. Set out
 - 5. Volcano aka Wawa Putina
 - 6. Soviet Union
 - 7. A single piece of paper
 - 8. A bird's foot
 - 9. Of this
 - 10. Restores
 - 12. Paper adhesives
 - 14. Lordship's jurisdiction
 - 17. River in Paris
 - 20. Headed up
 - 21. Sir in Malay
 - 25. Soft-shell clam genus
 - 26. Mega-electron volt
 - 27. Indicates near
 - 30. The central bank of the US
 - 33. Central processing unit
 - 34. Direct toward a target
 - 35. Side sheltered from the wind
 - 37. 6th letter of Hebrew alphabet
 - 40. Form a sum
 - 41. The cry made by sheep
 - 42. Defensive nuclear weapon
 - 44. Clan division
 - 45. Adult male deer
 - 46. Patterned table linen fabric
 - 48. Subtract
 - 49. An imaginary ideal place
 - 51. Chuck Hagel is the new head
 - 53. Round flat Middle Eastern bread
 - 55. Chickpea plant
 - 56. Make obscure
 - 57. Pole (Scottish)
 - 59. Cavities where spores develop
 - 60. Vintage Auto Racing Assoc.
 - 61. Hmong language __; Yao
 - 62. Small head gestures
 - 66. Point midway between S and SE

YOUR LOCAL NEWS

JUST THE WAY YOU LIKE IT!

News Messenger

Serving Montgomery County Since 1869

DIGITAL ONLY

One Year Digital Subscription (recurring) \$29.00

DIGITAL & PRINT

Yearly Print & Digital Subscription \$72.00

PRINT ONLY

Yearly Print Only Subscription \$46.00 Montgomery County \$55.00 Virginia \$59.00 Out of State

Subscribe online at montcova.com or mail to address below

SUBSCRIPTION TO NEWS MESSENGER

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Check Enclosed _____ or call (304) 647-5724 to pay by credit card

Mail to: Circulation Department, NEWS MESSENGER,
P.O. BOX 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901 or call us at (304) 647-5724.

OBITUARIES

Cruise, Lucille

Lucille Cruise passed away peacefully many tailgate parties before Virginia Tech football games and attending many Hokie men's and women's basketball games. Most of all, Lucille and Bob reveled in spending time with their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Fond memories include family trips to Myrtle Beach, and an epic cross-country journey from New Jersey to California in the summer of 1973 – just in time to hit the country's mandatory gas rationing program which necessitated some creative driving to get back home.



Lucille was born on April 6, 1934, in Fancy Gap, Va. to Troy and Kate Branscomb Allen. Lucille attended the Brookmore School in Fancy Gap. The family moved from the Allen farm first to Hillsville and then to Radford just before Lucille entered Radford High School. She graduated in 1952 and attended Radford College where she earned her bachelor's degree in Business Education.

While she was in college, she met her future husband Bob, who was enrolled in the Corps of Cadets at Virginia Tech. They married in 1954 at First Baptist Church in Radford and together they raised their four children in Radford, and later in Roxbury Township, N.J. Following Bob's retirement from Hercules in 1992, Lucille and Bob moved back to Virginia and enjoyed traveling, meeting with friends, hosting

Elizabeth Howlett of Tyler, Texas; daughter, Jill Carolan (Paul) of Fort Worth, Texas; son, Mark Cruise (Kelly) of Jonesborough, Tenn.; son, Scott Cruise (Martine) of Fairfax, Va.; and daughter, Jan McKee (Gene) of New Port Richey, Fla.; 12 grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. She was predeceased by

See Obituaries, page 6

Gosnell, Barbara Turner

Barbara Turner Gosnell, 82, of Richmond; grandchildren, Jeremy and Jenna Marcus, and Anthony, Caleb and Brody Gosnell; sisters, JoAnne Chappell of Easley, S.C., Melissa Corvin of Walkertown, N.C., and Alene Gray of Pulaski; brother, Arnold Anderson of Pulaski; and many other relatives and friends.



Barbara Turner Gosnell, 82, of Richmond; grandchildren, Jeremy and Jenna Marcus, and Anthony, Caleb and Brody Gosnell; sisters, JoAnne Chappell of Easley, S.C., Melissa Corvin of Walkertown, N.C., and Alene Gray of Pulaski; brother, Arnold Anderson of Pulaski; and many other relatives and friends.

Survivors include her children, Amy and Jeff Marcus of Dublin, and George and Leah Gosnell of

The family received friends Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at Dublin United Methodist Church in Dublin. Memorial services followed with Rev. Don Shelor officiating.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to Dublin United Methodist Church.

The Gosnell family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

St. Peter the Apostle Anglican Church, 230 W. First St., Christiansburg, VA. Fr Peter Geromel OHI Th.M., Vicar. Fr. Alex Darby, "Associate", 540-382-0432/540-270-9166. Sundays: 8:00 am & 10:00 am Holy Eucharist followed by Christian Education and refreshments. Holy Communion most Thursdays at 12Noon, other Holy Days as announced. Traditional services use the 1928 Book of Common Prayer and 1940 Hymnal. Handicapped accessible. All are welcome. Come worship with us! Website: www.stpetersacc.org. Follow us on Facebook

St. Philip's Anglican Church, 306 Progress Street, NE, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060. (540) 552-1771, www.stphilipsblacksburg.org. Reverend Fr. Wade Miller, Priest. Eucharist Sundays at 11am and Wednesday's at 12pm.

St. Thomas Anglican Church - located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit www.sttofc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

BAPTIST

First Baptist Church on 3rd Ave., 215 Third Ave at the corner with Downey St. We nurture meaningful connections to God and others through worship, spiritual growth, and community ministry. We celebrate the dignity and worth of all persons, created in the image of God. Sunday Bible Study Groups - 9:45, Sunday Worship - 11:00. Website: fbcradford.org 540-639-4419. Worship is in-person and live-streamed on Facebook and on our YouTube channel: First Baptist Church Radford.

Trinity Community Church, 1505 N. Franklin Street, C'burg. John Altizer, Lead Pastor, Brian Cockram, Associate Pastor, 382-8121. Worship at 10:45 a.m., Outreach Ministries - 6:00p.m. Wednesday, Growth Groups - 5:00p.m. Sunday, Youth and Children's Ministry - 5:00p.m. Sunday, www.trinitycburg.org

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Blacksburg Church of Christ, 315 Eakin St., 552-1331. Sun. Bible Classes 9:30 a.m., Sun. Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m., Wed. Bible classes, 7 p.m., Outreach Minister Curt Seright, Community Minister Tom Gilliam, Dean Meadows, Campus Minister.

Faith Christian Church of Christ, 305 3rd Street, Christiansburg, David Rhudy, Minister, 382-4628, Sunday School 10 am; Worship 11 am; Evening Worship 6:30 pm; Wednesday night Bible Study for Women and Men 6:30 pm. We welcome you to any and all of our services.

CHURCH OF GOD

New Hope Church of God, 1404 Mud Pike Rd., C'burg. Rev. T. Michael Bond, pastor, 731-3178. Sun. School 10 a.m., Worship 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m. Thurs., 7:00 p.m.

West Radford Church of God, 1824 West Main Street, Radford, VA 24141, Sunday School-10:00A.M. Morning Worship- 11:00A.M., Children's Church 11:00A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00P.M., Wednesday Night - 7:00P.M., Pastor Danny Newman, Church Office - 540-639-6562 or 804- 921-0828.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Christiansburg Church of the Brethren, 310 South Franklin Street. Pastor: Hal Sonafrank, 1-336-583-4822. Sunday School 10 a.m.; Morning Worship 11 a.m.; Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Website: www.christiansburgcob.org. A loving family, fueled by the Holy Spirit, grounded in God's Word, and delivering Jesus forgiveness and love to all people. Come as you are... you are welcomed!

(DOC - DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

Snowville Christian Church, 5436 Lead Mine Rd., Hiwassee, VA 24347, Pastor: Jerry King, Website: www.snowvillechristianchurch.com (and Facebook), Office: 540-633-3761, Email: office@snowvillechristianchurch.com, Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m., Sunday School: 10:00 a.m., Thursday Bible Study: 6:00 p.m., We are: "Inspiring hope, helping people grow their faith, and sharing God's love with others!"

ECKANKAR

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

EPISCOPAL

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

Montgomery County WORSHIP DIRECTORY

Avoid the Mistakes

Read Judges 7:1 through 8:35

Does the following scenario point to any common details in people's lives?

Do people often pray hard and study Scripture in order to seek God's provision when struggling financially? Do these same people attend church weekly and ask other believers to pray for their needs. As their accounts increase to a comfortable amount, do they begin getting an early start on their workdays to put in more hours at the office. Do they cut back on prayer and Bible study.

Gideon made the gold into an ephod, which he placed in Ophrah, his town. All Israel prostituted themselves by worshiping it there, and it became a snare to Gideon and his family (Judges 8:27).

Gideon, as a young and inexperienced warrior, was called by God to engage a vast invading army. Gideon's life had been tough, and his circumstances forced him to draw close to God. But, with the enemy's defeat and the rich spoils of the battle, Gideon misused his blessing.

Prayer Suggestion: When you enjoy a season of success, pray even harder that God will keep you in a deep relationship with himself.

Quicklook: Judges 8:22-27

If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Randy Thompson at 540-389-9355 or email at advertise@ourvalley.org

Facebook: Grace Episcopal Church and www.graceradford.org.

LUTHERAN

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church ELCA, 600 Prices Fork Rd, Blacksburg. Weekly Online Worship at www.lmlc.org. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation that welcomes and affirms all people just as they are. For information on Bible studies and Wednesday Vespers, email luthermemorialblacksburg@gmail.com, or contact the church office, (540) 951-1000. Rev. Monica Weber, pastor.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church ELCA, 1845 Cambria St NE, Christiansburg. Worship each Sunday at 10 am, in person and online at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMsB-gbyjmV5ce9mr43dbCw>. Please visit our website at www.oslc-cburg.org and our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/oslcchristiansburg> to learn more about us. Little Free Pantry and Little Free Library located in our parking lot. Pastor Joshua L. Copeland; church office 540-382-2223.

St. Michael Lutheran Church, 2308 Merrimac Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060. Worship service each Sunday at 10 AM, Sunday School 9 AM. We are a community of God's people where people gather for worship, learning and service. Visitors and new members are always WELCOME! Google comments: "Wonderful, welcoming congregation...A place where all are truly welcome... Nice, friendly, competent staff." You will like our minister, The Rev. Michelle L. Stramiello. Her previous service was as Family Faith Formation Director at Cross and Crown Lutheran Church, Indianapolis, IN, Pastor of St Matthew Lutheran Church, Paducah, KY, and Hospice Chaplain in Largo, FL. St. Michael started and administers Micah's Backpack which has great community im-

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

MULTI-CULTURAL
NON-DENOMINATIONAL

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

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

Compassion Church, 1820 Second Street, Radford, 639-6287, Our music is passionate, our worship is real, and Pastor Chandler Jones brings relevant messages for everyone at any place on their journey, Sunday Worship Experience at 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Wednesday Family Night at 7 PM, Children Ministry provided for all services. Our vision is to see all Saved. Freed. Restored. Fulfilled. Find us on facebook and Instagram

Merrimac Pentecostal Holiness Church, Rev. Richard Hall (540) 552-7194. pastorhall29@gmail.com. Sunday School at 10 a.m. and morning worship is 11 a.m. Evening service at 6 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Piedmont Pentecostal Holiness Church, 5007 Jewell Dr., Shawsville Va. Sunday morning service 11am. Pastor Tim Clyburn. 8 miles from Shawsville Rt 460, on Alleghany Spring Rd.

Walton Pentecostal Holiness Church, 4003 Morning Glory Rd., off Walton Rd. on Rt. 114. 731-1755. Lee Sarver, pastor. Sun. School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6: p.m., Wed., 7 p.m.

UNITED METHODIST

Asbury United Methodist Church, 500 Stuart Street, Christiansburg. 540-382-0743. Rev. G. Lance Presley. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m. All are welcome.

Central Church, 803 Wadsworth Street, Radford. 639-3529. 8:30 a.m. Sunday Services: 8:30am; 9:45am Sunday School; and 11:00a.m. Child care is provided. www.centralmethodistchurch.com.

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 220 W. Main St., C'burg. Rev. Mike Derflinger (540) 382-2410. Sunday Worship 10 a.m., Sunday School 9 a.m. Live streaming Sunday Service - www.twitch.tv/stpaulumc
Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church, 350 Stafford Drive, Christiansburg, VA 24073, Sunday School 10am, Sunday Worship Service 11am.

WESLEYAN

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

Virginia DWR announces Operation Dry Water and 4th of July boating safety

RICHMOND—The Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) and the National Association of Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) are reminding all boaters to stay safe and sober this summer, and always wear a life jacket while on the water.

A good day on the water can turn tragic in seconds. No matter where you boat—from large lakes and rivers to small farm ponds—wearing a life jacket and staying sober are essential for safety.

Operation Dry Water weekend, July 1-3, is the national weekend dedicated to amplified recreational boater outreach, education, and coordinated enforcement surrounding boating under the influence. Alcohol use continues to be the leading known contributing factor in recreational boater deaths and a leading contributor in boating incidents.[1] DWR encourages all boaters to enjoy this boating season and help keep everyone safe by choosing

to boat sober all year long. Use of both legal and illegal drugs also impairs judgment and reaction time and creates dangerous circumstances while on the water.

While getting ready for the boating season, boaters should make sure they have U.S. Coast Guard approved life jackets in good condition that fit every occupant of the boat, including children.

To learn more about boating laws in Virginia and information on boating, boating education and water safety, please visit: dwr.virginia.gov/boating. Remember, everyone wants to have a safe, enjoyable day on the water. Do your part by wearing your life jacket and taking a boating safety education course.

Always be responsible, be safe and have fun!

Submitted by the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources

Boys State participants help stock RFDB

Heather Bell
hbell@mainstreetnewspapers.com

RADFORD – More than 400 high school juniors spent the week on the campus of Radford University last week to participate in the American Legion's Boys State program, which teaches kids about their state government and how to be a good citizen.

Part of that effort has been a yearly food drive to support Radford-Fairlawn Daily Bread (RFDB), a non-profit organization that provides a hot lunchtime meal Monday through Friday for anyone who wants or needs one, as well as providing the Meals on Wheels program for homebound seniors in Radford and Fairlawn. Boys State participants and their families carted boxes and bags of non-perishable food to the RFDB tent during check-in for the Boys State program on Father's Day, Sunday, June 18, near Peters Hall.

"It was an awesome day for Radford-Fairlawn Daily Bread as we collected so many cans of food, and other food items, and lots of paper products as well from the 400 boys attending Boy's State held at Radford University," said Board member Peggy Taylor. "Thanks to all the amazing boys and to our volunteers and board members and families who worked hard on campus and at RFDB and helped make it so successful again! Our pantry is looking good."

The boys contributed 1,116 cans of food, plus hundreds of boxes of pasta, sauces, rice, and more for the RFDB program.

According to American Legion, Virginia Boys State is a "leadership action program, designed to develop a working knowledge of the structure of government and to impress upon the citizen the fact that our government is just what we make it. Along the way they will have the opportunity to learn the political process.



PHOTO BY ETHAN BELL

Radford Fairlawn Daily Bread Board Member Peggy Taylor and volunteer Eli Blackwell organize some of the food donations at the recent Boys State food drive.

Each level of government will be run by those delegates who are elected to serve. Instruction will be presented on the law and court system, parliamentary procedure and Virginia political history."

Radford-Fairlawn Daily Bread has been providing free meals to hungry people for decades. The organization began serving a lunchtime meal in its dining room in 1992.

"Anyone can come in and be our guest for lunch, no questions asked," the website reads. RFDB took over the Meals on Wheels program "in 2006 when it was at risk of closure and continue to deliver meals each weekday to homebound individuals in Radford and Fairlawn."

"We make a significant impact in the lives of disadvantaged individuals by reducing the impact of food insecurity while also providing a sense of social support," the website continues. "Many of our guests do not have the resources, facilities, or ability to prepare a similar home-style meal. Our Meals on Wheels recipients report that the delivered meals enable them to stay in their own homes longer."

The dining room is located at 501 Second St., Radford, on the lower level of the stone building at the corner of Berkley and Second Street in Radford, which is also the home of Long Way Brewing.

Obituaries

from page 5

her husband of 66 years, Bob Cruise, and her sister, Annita Havemann.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, September 2, 2023, at First Baptist Church in Radford, Va. In lieu of flowers, the family welcomes donations to First Baptist Church of Radford (www.fbcradford.org/give) or to HPH Hospice Care Center of New Port Richey, Florida (www.chaptershealth.org/foundation/hph-hospice-donation/).

The Cruise family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

Wade, Ovella Maude

Ovella Maude Wade, 88, passed away Sunday, June 25, 2023, at her home in Radford.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Hiley Joe and Auzula Wade; sisters, Eula Simpkins and Erma Wade; and brothers, Frank, Clarence and Herschel Wade.

Ovella is survived by her sister, Helen Marie Wade; and many nieces and nephews.

Ovella was a longtime member of Grove United Methodist Church. She loved to travel, gardening and flowers.

The family would like to give

special thanks to Intrepid Hospice.



The family received friends on Friday, June 30, 2023, at Grove United Methodist Church in Radford. Funeral services will begin at 11 a.m. with Rev. Dr. Jan C. Nicholson Angle officiating. Interment will follow in Big Sand Cemetery in Indian Valley.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to Radford Fire and Rescue or to Grove UM Church.

The Wade family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

Events

from page 2

9864.

Sunday, July 25:

Central Business Committee meeting
The Christiansburg Central Business Committee will meet at noon in the Administrative Conference Room at Christiansburg Town Hall.

On-going:

Entries sought for July 4th Parade
Participants are needed for Blacksburg's July 4th parade, which is organized by the Mount Tabor Ruritan Club. The parade starts at 2 p.m. from Eheart Street, runs through downtown on Main Street, and ends at Alumni Mall. Entries can be floats, bicycles, wagons, marchers, walkers, antique/classic cars,

Jeeps, trucks, fire engines, scouts, bands, sports teams, etc. Information is available on the Mount Tabor Ruritan Club's Facebook page, or by texting 540-449-6178.

Market Square Jam
Held Wednesdays, June through September, in Blacksburg on the corner of Draper Road and Roanoke Street; 7 – 9 p.m. Catering to traditional Old-Time music, Blacksburg's Market Square Jam brings musicians together to pick a tune, enjoy fun times with friends and family, and take in all that downtown Blacksburg has to offer. Blacksburg's Market Square Jam is an official Crooked Road affiliated venue that provides fun and entertainment.

Blacksburg Farmers Market
Hours now through October: Wednesdays 2 – 6 p.m. and Saturdays

8 a.m. – 2 p.m. Located at Market Square Park, on the corner of Roanoke Street and Draper Road in downtown Blacksburg. Features growers of locally grown produce and meats, alongside artisans of baked goods, prepared foods, cheese, handmade crafts, and more.

Christiansburg Farmers Market
Thursdays; 3 – 7 p.m. Located in the Recreation Center parking lot. Features local farmers and vendors. Seasonal produce, plants, fresh baked goods, crafts, fresh flowers, handmade jewelry and more. Items for purchase vary week-to-week. Check our Facebook page for details about weekly themes, prizes, vendors, and live music.

Radford Farmers Market
Held on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Galley, located just off West Main Street, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

each Saturday until October 14. Features produce, plants, baked goods, artisans, fresh squeezed lemonade, eggs, meats, cheeses and more.

Registration open for Potter in the Park race

Calling all wizards of Gryffindor, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw, and Slytherin! Have you signed up for the TriWizard TriMile Potter in the Park Race yet? It's time to venture out from the cupboard under the stairs, get your wizard robes ready, and join us for this annual family-fun event on Saturday, August 26th at 8:30 a.m. Register at www.lnrv.org. Also, if you know a local business or individual who would like to be a sponsor, please send them our way! From door prizes to sponsorships, we rely on our supporters to make this a truly impactful and entertaining event.

Opioid

from page 1

like the NRV Recovery Ecosystem project.

"Projects vary based on the identified needs of each community and range from expansion of medication for opioid use disorder treatment programs, to recovery housing, to in-patient services," the OAA announced.

The decision by the Board marks the first major allocation of OAA grants within Virginia since the Commonwealth received its first set of national settlement payments from manufacturers and distributors of prescription opioids in 2022. The payments from the various settling

companies are expected to continue for at least 16 more years and will exceed \$1 billion in total funding. In 2022 Attorney General Jason Miyares announced the first round of finalized settlements worth more than \$500 million for the Commonwealth spread over the course of eighteen years, and predicted the total will increase to more than \$1 billion as additional settlements are finalized. The OAA was established by the General Assembly in 2021 to oversee the distribution of 55% of Virginia's total settlement funds. Of the remainder, 30% is distributed directly to

cities and counties, and the remaining 15% to the commonwealth. The use of funds is restricted by court orders and state statute, with the restrictions aiming for the funds to be used for opioid abatement efforts.

According to the NRVRC, a "unique aspect of the New River Valley Recovery Ecosystem program is the oversight and integration across prevention, treatment, recovery and harm reduction measures intentionally coordinated with an approach to develop structural changes to root out the disease and support wellness across the region. The NRV Regional Commission's executive director, Kevin Byrd, says this will create opportunities for the region.

"As we did during the pandemic response, our agency will deliver

administrative support to the regional team assembled for this unique program that will help ensure residents and employers in the New River Valley have the greatest opportunity to thrive in a globally competitive economy," said Byrd.

Sherri Blevins, Chair of the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors, said the county welcomes the opportunity to serve as the fiscal agent for the regional effort.

"Just as we did in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Montgomery County welcomes the opportunity to once again serve our citizens and regional partners as the grant recipient on behalf of this significant project," said Blevins. "We are looking forward to collaborating with our neighboring local governments and regional agencies as we come together to address this challenge in our communities."

"Not every element of this proposal is new, but its integration of local government, service providers, criminal justice institutions, and program evaluation has been well-honed in the New River Valley," the NRVRC stated.

Giles County Administrator Chris McKlarney says he sees the OAA funding as "an important resource to continue work addressing opioid addiction through our FOCUS programs and specifically the highly successful and unique drug court recovery fitness program.

"Integrating this resource to support our citizens toward successful recovery is key to improving life for them and their families," he continued. "The development of this proposal is deeply rooted in a long-held collaborative framework between local government and service providers in the region. Local governments committed their direct opioid abatement allocations as match to this program and several service providers are delivering in-kind staffing support."

Jason Ballard, Virginia House of Delegates member who serves on the OAA Board says he looks forward to the region putting the funding to good use. "As a legislator who represents a large portion of the New River Valley, and as an appointed member of the Opioid Abatement Authority, I

have seen first-hand the impact that opioid misuse and addiction have had on our communities," said Ballard. "I remain very supportive of the collaborative county application and appreciative of the funding that has been awarded. I look forward to seeing our region put this investment to good use in changing the lives of citizens within the New River Valley and beyond."

"The work ahead, like the proposal development itself, will be implemented by many organizations and individuals and is intended to support and connect our community to strengthen well-being and address the impacts of addictions and the underlying factors that create addiction risks to individuals and communities," he continued.

The New River Valley Regional Commission is one of 21 planning districts in Virginia chartered under Virginia law. The purpose of the Planning District Commission is to promote regional cooperation, to coordinate the activities and policies of member local governments, and to provide planning assistance to local governments.

game time
AT THE SUPERBOWL

This Spring & Summer ...
KIDS BOWL FREE!

Registered Kids Receive 2 FREE GAMES of Bowling Each Day of the KBF Program All Spring & Summer Long!

To register, go to
www.kidsworldfree.com/center
575 Arbor Drive, Christiansburg
540-382-5525 • www.nrvsuperbowl.biz

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

D	A	B	S	M	U	S	C	H	R				
A	N	O	A	P	I	S	H	L	E	E			
D	E	L	L	A	S	S	E	S	A	R	N	O	
W	A	L	L	S	T	R	E	E	T	W	E	E	K
Y	E	T	I	T	I	U	O	W	E				
M	M	E	D	E	N	A	F	F	S				
Y	E	P	S	C	A	L	E	N	E				
A	V	I	V	P	I	E	D	A	B	A			
A	U	S	S	U	M	E	D	D	A	B			
D	U	V	E	T	A	D	D	A	M				
P	E	T	P	A	C	B	M	O	C				
I	D	O	N	T	G	I	V	E	A	D	A	M	N
T	U	P	I	S	C	A	D	S	B	I	O	S	
A	C	I	D	E	R	I	K	E	A	D	S		
T	A	I	R	A	M	R	O	S	E				

MONTGOMERY SPORTS

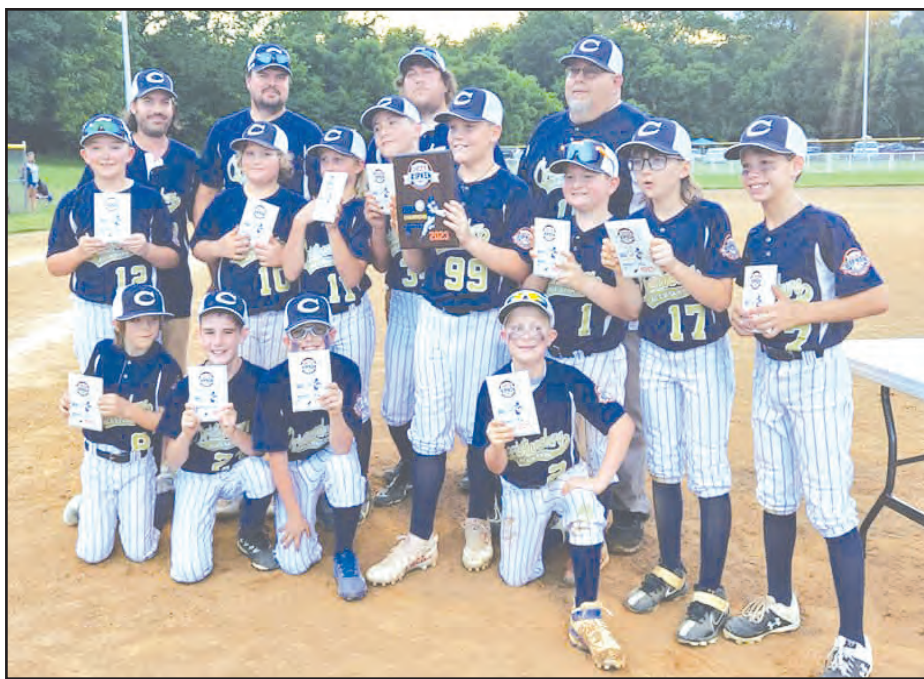
Cal Ripken District 10 tourney held in Radford



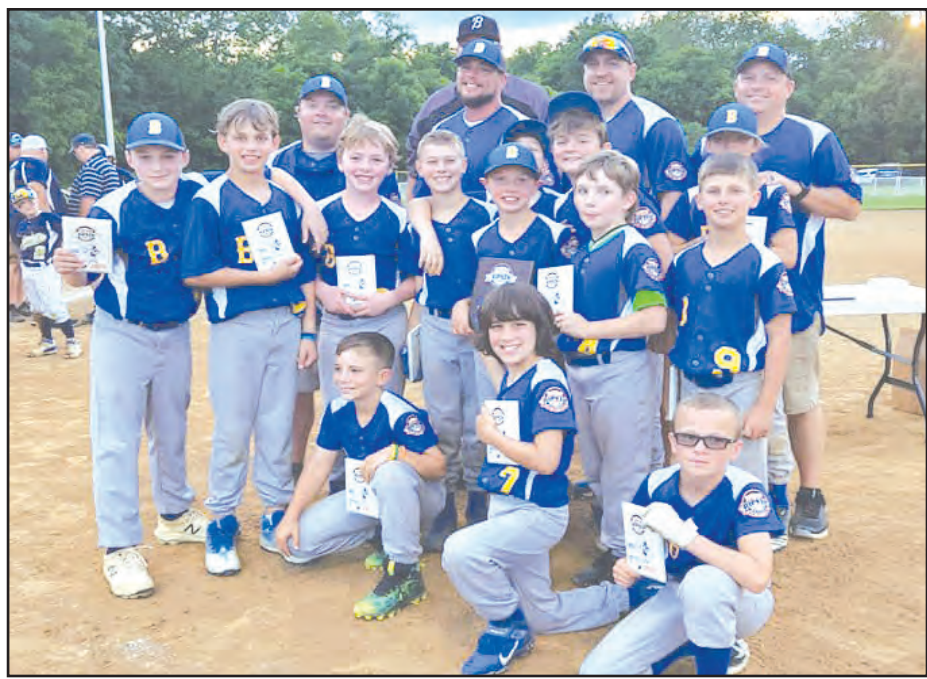
The Blacksburg Department of Parks and Recreation's 12U baseball team won this past week's tournament held at Veteran's Field in Radford. The Sportsmanship award was given to the team from the Montgomery County Parks and Recreation Department.



The Radford Recreation Department's 12U Cal Ripken baseball team were the runner ups in this past week's District 10 tournament held at Veteran's Field in Radford.



The Christiansburg 10U baseball team brought the championship home during this week's Cal Ripken District 10 tournament, held in Radford.



Blacksburg's 10U Cal Ripken baseball team finished as the runner up in this past week's tournament held at Veteran's Field in Radford. The Sportsmanship award was given to the team from Pulaski County.

PHOTOS BY MARTY GORDON

Blue Ridge Junior Golf Tour at Fincastle

In the summer of 1999, Fincastle Country Club had a number of young aspiring golfers and the idea of a small regional junior golf tour was launched under the direction of then head professional Vic Sorrell and several club members.

Surrounding golf courses were invited to join the effort and thus, the Blue Ridge Junior Golf Tour began its quest to promote the game of golf to young players throughout the two Virginias.

For 25 summers, the Tour has provided competitive opportunities at venues throughout the area including a return to Fincastle on Monday June 26 for the East River Anesthesiology and Orthopaedic Center of the Virginias Junior Classic. Now owned by the town of Bluefield, the course is still a fantastic host for junior golf.

Windy conditions made play quite challenging for the 60 young players. Here is a recap of the age group results:

17-18 Age Group Par 70 6579 Yards

Walker Gillespie of Pearisburg posted a score of 5 over par 75 and won the age group. Gillespie, a member of the Giles High School golf team made five birdies to help secure the win. Brody Shull of Radford was five back with a score of 80 to finish second, and Bobcat teammate Lucas Beeler finished third with a score of 81.

15-16 Age Group Par 70 6168 Yards

Harris Camp of Roanoke shot 3 over par 73 to win the age group. Harris made four birdies during

the round including a pair on the final two holes to post the low finish allowed Harris to separate himself from Peyton Mason of Willis, who was second in the age group with a score of 79. Rocky Frye of Bramwell, WV was a shot back at 80 and finished third.

13-14 Age Group Par 70 5365 Yards

Tyler Stover of Beckley, WV overcame a rough start on the inward nine, making three much needed pars on the final three holes to shoot 83 and edge Brody Thomas of Glade Springs, VA by a single shot. Thomas had a narrow one shot lead after 17, but Stover's par made the difference as Thomas stumbled home with an unfortunate double bogey. Evan Singleton of Pulaski

shot 88 and finished third.

10-12 Age Group Par 35 2421 Yards

JJ Robertson of Blacksburg shot 38 and won the competitive age group. Robertson tallied two birdies, including one on the final hole. Liam Smith of Elliston was second with an impressive score of 40. Josiah Underwood of Floyd was third a shot back at 41.

9 and Under Age Group Par 35 1997 Yards

Silas Edmonds of Wytheville shot 51 and won the age group. Benjamin Schendel of Christiansburg was second with a score of 55. Connor Kitts of Bluefield was third with a score of 58.

Report courtesy of Blue Ridge Junior Golf

Enjoy a Beautiful Gift from

BORGHESE
A Tradition of Beauty
The Source for Spa

With every Borghese purchase.

(540) 951-8102
860 University City Blvd, Blacksburg
Mon-Sat 11:00am-5:00pm Closed Sunday

BRINGING OUR BEST TO

Blacksburg

When you bring your best to something, amazing things can happen. Skyline National Bank is bringing our best to Blacksburg. We're excited to get to work for you and show you all the ways we can make your finances brighter, your business stronger, and your dreams achievable. Stop in our new branch and say hi.

1206 South Main Street in Blacksburg



SkylineNationalBank.com

Member FDIC

New additions to football staff at Virginia Tech

Virginia Tech football coach Brent Pry announced several football support staff changes and additions.

The talented group brings years of experience from Power Five programs, including Wisconsin, Clemson, West Virginia and Penn State.

Jan Johnson moves from his role as a defensive analyst to a graduate assistant position while Rob Branch assumes a new role as a graduate assistant, after serving in player personnel. In addition, Pry has added Rachid Ibrahim as a graduate assistant and Brandon McCombs as a special teams analyst.

“Jan and Rob are extremely bright individuals who have been in our program and understand our culture and vision,” Virginia Tech head coach Brent Pry said. “It’s exciting to see their passion for the game and I can’t wait to watch them grow as they take the next step in their coaching journey.”

Pry continued, “We are thrilled to welcome Rachid and Brandon to Blacksburg. They are both highly motivated and pay great attention to detail. With their depth of experience at highly successful Power Five programs, they will be great assets to our team’s preparation, providing us with a competitive edge.”

Johnson (Mohnton, Pa., Governor Mifflin) spent the 2022 season as a defensive analyst at Tech. He played linebacker for Pry at Penn State from 2015-19 where he was a member of the 2016 Big Ten Championship team. Johnson played in two New Year’s Six bowl games, the Rose Bowl following the 2016 season as well as the 2019 Cotton Bowl. A team captain as a senior in 2019, he started all 13 games, earning honorable mention All-America honors from Pro Football Focus and honorable mention All-Big Ten honors from the coaches and media. In addition, Johnson served as a heavyweight on Penn State’s national championship-winning wrestling squad in 2015. He was a member of the Tennessee Titans practice squad in 2021 after originally entering the NFL as a free agent with the Houston Texans in 2020.

Johnson graduated from Penn State with a bachelor’s degree in psychology and a master’s degree in management and organizational leadership.

Branch (Baltimore, Md., Gilman) spent last season as a player personnel assistant for the Hokies. He joined Pry’s staff after spending four years at West Virginia State where

he was the safeties and corners coach, managing his position rooms and developing all-conference athletes in addition to assisting on special teams. Branch also served as the head recruiter for athletics in the admissions department.

He won a national championship playing for James Madison in 2016 where he played safety for two seasons. Branch concluded his playing career at West Virginia State where he was a team captain and earned the program’s MVP award.

Ibrahim (Rockville, Md., Avalon) was a standout running back at both Pittsburgh and Wisconsin, playing in 42 career games. As a senior with the Badgers in 2017, he served as the primary third-down back, registering 28 carries for 130 rushing yards, capping the season with a New Year’s Six bowl appearance in the Orange Bowl. Ibrahim rushed for 399 yards on 60 carries in two seasons of action at Pittsburgh. He spent the 2022 season as an offensive assistant at Wisconsin.

A Rockville, Maryland native, Ibrahim earned a bachelor’s degree in communications at Pittsburgh before earning a master’s degree in educational leadership and policy analysis from Wisconsin in 2019.

Johnson and Ibrahim join Austin Fields, who remains as a graduate assistant working with the offensive line and line coach Ron Crook.

McCombs (Easley, S.C., Easley) spent 13 seasons in a full-time capacity at Clemson, including the last 10 as an assistant for special teams analysis. Clemson won at least 10 games in every year of McCombs’ tenure assisting Clemson’s coaching staff on special teams, including seven ACC titles, six CFP berths and two national championships. During that time, Clemson finished in the top half of the ACC in kickoff coverage seven times, including leading the conference and finishing 13th in the country with 17.56 yards allowed per return in 2019.

McCombs began his career working as a student assistant at Clemson in 2005 and was a player development coach in the strength training room from 2010-12. He earned a bachelor’s degree in sport management from Clemson in 2009.

Virginia Tech football coach Brent Pry announced three new hires to the program’s support staff, Caleb Selk in the position of director of football operations, Kelsey Vinson in the role of director of sports science and Camden Gresham as a recruiting assistant.

“I am thrilled to add Caleb, Kelsey and Camden to our staff,” said Virginia Tech Head Coach Brent Pry. “They are high caliber individuals who bring unique skill sets and diverse experiences to our program with an ability to greatly impact Virginia Tech football on and off the field.”

Selk (Manteno, Ill., Manteno) brings more than six years of experience in the NFL along with another six years in college athletics. He served in operations and marketing roles with the NFL’s Chicago Bears (2017-19) after previously working as an equipment intern in the organization. During his time in Chicago, Selk oversaw operations for the Bears Training Camp in 2017 and 2018, including lodging, transportation, meals, credentials, facilities, team itineraries and vendor logistics.

He arrives in Blacksburg after spending the last year as the director of football operations and player development at Eastern Illinois University. In that capacity, Selk played a key role in all day-to-day operations of the Panthers football program. In addition to assisting with all team travel logistics, he coordinated the team’s community service efforts and served as a liaison with compliance, fundraising and facility management. His duties involved assisting with player personnel, recruiting strategy and managing the team’s budget.

Selk spent last summer in technology operations as a minor league video coordinator for the Milwaukee Brewers double-A team in Biloxi, Mississippi, following college baseball coaching stints at Greenville University (2020-21) and McKendree University (2021-22).

A Manteno, Illinois native, Selk is a 2019 graduate of Wheaton College where he earned a bachelor’s degree in business and economics while playing baseball and serving as a team captain.

Vinson (Laurens, S.C., Laurens District 55) will work collaboratively with Pry, as well as director of football strength and conditioning Dwight Galt IV, Tech’s sports medicine and athletic training team and the rest of the football staff. She will strive to reduce the risk of non-contact injury, improve athletic qualities conducive to sport success and promote game day readiness. Through the use of wearable devices, Vinson will examine volumes, intensity, explosive efforts, change of directions and speed, while also tracking sleep patterns, recovery and heart rate. Sports science data will serve as an investment for the health and success of Tech student-athletes.

Vinson joins the Hokies after serving for the past year as a sports scientist and data analyst with Bear Cognition, a data intelligence firm in Charleston, South Carolina focused on simplifying the world of data and analytics for businesses. She worked with coaches and athletes from various backgrounds in the ACC, SEC, Big 12, Sun Belt, Mountain West and American conferences. Along with collegiate programs, she worked with the US Olympic and Paralympic Committees, guiding decision-making to optimize sports performance. She utilized analytics and statistical models to highlight key performance indicators and help maximize competitive advantages.

Vinson previously established and developed a Sports Science program at Auburn, compiling performance metrics for 17 teams and more than 400 student-athletes. She worked as an applied sports scientist with the University of Virginia football team in 2021, following a year as a data analyst and recovery assistant with the Clemson Applied Science Lab.

Vinson completed her bachelor’s degree in health science from Clemson University in 2019 and received her master’s in applied health research and evaluation from the school in 2020.

Gresham (Greensboro, N.C., Northwest Guilford) joins the player personnel department in the role of recruiting assistant as Pry continues to strengthen Tech’s recruiting efforts. A 2022 graduate of Virginia Tech’s Pamplin School of Business, she worked as a student assistant during her time as an undergraduate before earning a post-graduate recruiting internship with the Hokies.

Gresham’s duties include prepping mailing materials for prospects, entering data into the recruiting database and interacting with prospects and their families during recruiting events. She plays an essential role in planning and executing all prospect visits to campus, camps and game day visits. Gresham’s new role will allow her to expand the depth of her involvement in the program’s day-to-day recruiting operations while helping assemble and develop the Hokies’ recruiting classes.

Gresham is a native of Greensboro, N.C.

Virginia Tech Athletics

Thompson & Litton, Inc. Announces Vice President Over Company’s New Client Service Department



Thompson & Litton (T&L) is proud to announce that Rick Chitwood has been promoted to fulfill the role of Vice President as of July 1 over the company’s new Client Service department; Rick will also serve as a member on T&L’s Board of Directors.

With nearly 40 years of experience in the management and construction of engineering and architectural projects, Rick has served as one of T&L’s most respected Senior Project Managers and Associates. Since first joining T&L in 1984, Rick has played a critical role in the development, planning, funding and design of various water, wastewater, site and infrastructure development projects for numerous clients throughout southwest Virginia.

Over the decades, Rick has maintained customer service as a top priority. Rick expressed that, “... the addition of a department focused on client service will be very beneficial to T&L.” During Rick’s extensive career he has also determined that, “If done correctly, clients remember the service

above any costs associated with the job.”

Overseeing T&L’s new Client Service Department will be conducted with the idea as quoted by former President Ronald Reagan that, “The greatest leader is not necessarily the one who does the greatest things. He is the one that gets the people to do the greatest things.” This is a very personal quote to Rick that he recalls daily as he performs his duties and works with clients.

With the promotion of Rick to Client Service, he assures all that there will be good, qualified people working with him and his existing clients to make sure nothing is missed.

T&L is a full-service engineering, architectural and land surveying firm that provides comprehensive services in the areas of Architecture, Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing and Structural Engineering, Construction Contract Administration, Project Management, and Land Surveying for both public and private sector clientele. Established in 1956, T&L currently operates offices in Radford, Tazewell,



Chilhowie, Virginia; Mosheim, Bristol, Johnson City, Tennessee; and Princeton, West Virginia with a home office located in Wise, Virginia. Every project T&L works on is handled with integrity, insight, and innovation through a team of over 150 professionals and support personnel.

Thompson & Litton Names New Associates



Thompson & Litton, Inc. (T&L) is pleased to announce that Keith Almoney, PE, Barry Collier, AIA, PMP, Stacy Fowler, PE, Elliott Lambert, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP, Jennifer Moore, PE, Keli Ratcliffe, CPSM and Erica Sunshine, AIA, LEED AP have recently been named Associates of the firm. T&L President, Greg Hurst, stated, “These seven individuals have consistently revealed outstanding character and abilities and deserve to be set aside and recognized. Their skills and dedication have been vital to the growth and success of our firm.”

Keith A. Almoney, PE, joined T&L in 2016 and has acquired 25 years of experience in structural engineering. He has maintained his Professional Engineer status in Virginia since 2003 and currently holds the position of Lead Structural Engineer within the firm. Keith is a 1996 graduate of Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering. Keith has extensive experience in structural design incorporating a multitude of various materials including steel, concrete, masonry, and timber.



Barry Collier, AIA, PMP, joined T&L in 2019. He is a 2007 graduate of Virginia Tech receiving a Bachelor of Architecture Degree. Barry has over 16 years of experience in the design, construction, and management of architectural and engineering projects. As a Project Manager Barry is responsible for the overall project coordination and is the main point of contact between the Client and the Project Team. He consistently ensures that the necessary services are provided, and projects are completed on time and within budget. He is an integral part of the T&L team.



Stacy Fowler, PE, joined T&L in 2019 and has amassed over 27 years of experience in his field. He is a graduate of Bluefield State College, receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering Technology, and a postgraduate of the University of Central Florida, receiving a Master of Science Degree in Civil Engineering. He has experience in the design and management of engineering projects and as a Project Manager, Stacy is responsible for project coordination and is the main point of contact between the client and the T&L Project Team. He will see that the necessary services are provided and that the project is completed on time and within budget.



Elliott Lambert, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP, joined T&L in 2006 and has amassed 24 years of experience in architecture. Elliott is a 2000 graduate of Bluefield State College receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree in Architectural Engineering Technology and Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering Technology with experience in the design and construction of architectural projects. Since joining T&L and currently as Lead Architect for the Bristol, Tennessee Office, he has played a key role in the preliminary and final design of new construction and renovation/adaptive reuse projects throughout the T&L service area.



Jennifer J. Moore, PE, has 23 years of experience in the field of civil engineering. Since joining T&L in 2001, she has strived to see projects through and continuously enhances her skills. Jennifer recently represented the company at the highly respected Virginia Department of Transportation’s Transportation Project Management Institute (TPMI) Program where she was a member of the winning project team. Jennifer is a 2000 graduate of Virginia Tech receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering. Jennifer has played a key role in in the design of various transportation projects for T&L.



Keli Ratcliffe, CPSM, has extensive experience in marketing and business development and creating and implementing strategic communication programs. Keli is a graduate of Virginia Tech and joined T&L in 2018. With 20 years of experience in her field, she possesses a thorough knowledge of public and stakeholder activities supporting local government projects. Keli’s strengths are relationship management and connecting people. She facilitates meetings with T&L clients, staff, funding agencies and project stakeholders. She works closely with T&L technical staff to provide creative engineering and planning solutions that address client goals in an efficient and proactive manner. As of July 1, Keli will continue to utilize her career skills even further as she has been promoted to serve as a manager in T&L’s new Client Service Department.



Erica Sunshine, AIA, LEED AP, brought 30 years of experience to T&L when she joined the firm in 2018. Since then, Erica has worked diligently and earned her current position as Director of Architecture for Virginia and West Virginia. Erica oversees the planning and development of design concepts and alternatives and provides direct supervision of design architects and technicians. Erica is a graduate of Virginia Tech, NCARB certified, and is a LEED Accredited Professional. She has a comprehensive understanding of green building design practices, principles, and the LEED Rating System as well as experience in the design and construction of architectural projects. Erica has played a key role in the preliminary and final design of new construction and renovation/adaptive reuse projects. Erica is licensed to practice architecture in Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina.



T&L is a full-service engineering, architectural and land surveying firm that provides comprehensive services in the areas of Architecture, Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing and Structural Engineering, Construction Contract Administration, Project Management, and Land Surveying for both public and private sector clientele. Established in 1956, T&L currently operates offices in Radford, Tazewell, Chilhowie, Virginia; Mosheim, Bristol, Johnson City, Tennessee; and Princeton, West Virginia with a home office located in Wise, Virginia. Every project T&L works on is handled with integrity, insight, and innovation through a team of over 150 professionals and support personnel.