

Blacksburg Town Council candidate forum reveals top priorities

Lori Graham
Contributing writer

Four candidates for three open seats in the Blacksburg Town Council responded to questions about housing options, citizens engagement in council processes, and other top issues for the Town of Blacksburg.

The candidate forum occurred Thursday, Oct. 5 and was hosted by the League of Women Voters and the NAACP.

The incumbent candidates running for re-election are Jerry Ford and Michael Sutphin. Two write-ins, Rick Johnson and Liam Watson, are also running for election.

Watson, a native of Blacksburg, has previously worked in the Planning Commission office and has received the endorsements of Ford and Sutphin. At the age of 24 years old, he his age sets him apart from the other candidates.

"My experience combined with a youthful outlook positions me to bridge generational gaps and work towards solutions that benefit all residents, from students and young professionals to families and seniors," Watson said.

Good governance is a focus that Ford wishes to see improved within the Blacksburg Town Council.

"One thing I've experienced over these past few years is that when people are not happy with the decision we make, sometimes they are not happy with the decision, but other times they are not happy with the process," Ford said. "I believe that when we have public hearings that involve, and spark more interest and engagement from our community, we should hold the public hearing, take the comment, and we should wait two weeks before we vote on it."

Affordable housing was a top priority for Rick Johnson. He wishes to tackle this problem through community involvement and feedback. Rebuilding

the trust of town council is also a top focus for the candidate, running as an Independent.

"Development is great, it's overdevelopment..." Johnson said. "We don't need another story on top of a hotel when we don't have infrastructure to support that."

Ford addressed the housing issues, specifically for single-family homes, in Blacksburg, recommending an update to the ordinances and a new comprehensive plan for subdivision development.

"We all know that traditional model was living in a suburban neighborhood, home ownership, that was always the American dream, but we don't have enough space in town to accommodate everyone at that level. I think what we are starting to work on now, and I hope to continue that work, is to have a new ordinance that allows still single-family homes, but on smaller lots," Ford said.

Johnson pointed out that it is incorrect to think that town residents do not want affordable housing. Housing, according to Ford and his constituents, should be less densely populated on a small parcel of land.

"The Glade Springs deal was terrible," Johnson said. "The developer got 185 homes on 44 acres, and we got 10 affordable homes. Not a great deal; we can do better."

Sutphin agreed that growth and development issues are a top priority for Blacksburg. With continued increases in enrollment at Virginia Tech, a need for housing has also increased. One way that has been accomplished in the past, according to Sutphin, is adding on to existing infrastructure to create more housing for students. Developments like Terrace View and Sturbridge have been increased in density on their existing lots to accommodate for more single

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PHOTO COURTESY OF SHIRLEY AKERS

Dr. Thomas M. Sherman is this year's winner of the Nannie B. Hairston Community Service Award. He is presented the award by 2021 winner Dr. Wornie Reed and NAACP President Deborah H. Travis.

NAACP hosts 47th Freedom Fund Banquet

RADFORD - The Montgomery County-Radford City-Floyd County Branch of the NAACP held its 47th Freedom Fund Banquet on September 23 in the ballroom of the Highlander Hotel and Conference Center at Radford University.

The theme of the banquet was "Moving Forward," with 175 members and supporters attending and 14 sponsors.

The welcome was given by the Mistress of Ceremonies, Dr. Crasha V. Townsend, Assistant Provost for Diversity and Inclusion at Virginia Tech. Mr. Oliver Lewis led the gathering in singing "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing," traditionally called the Negro National Anthem.

NAACP President Deborah H. Travis reminded those gathered of some of the branch's work in the past year, including voter education and health education. She then introduced the other officers: Dr. Michael Herndon, Vice President; Mrs. Shirley Akers, Secretary; Ms. Shirley Brown, Assistant Secretary; Dr. Jill Stewart, Treasurer; and Mary North,

Assistant Treasurer.

Rev. Linda Dickerson of Northside Presbyterian Church offered a memorial tribute to members of the branch who had passed away since the last banquet: Nancy Parrish; Alvin Humes, Past President; Rita Holmes Irvin, Past President; and Kathleen Spencer. Rev. Dickerson then blessed the food as it was served.

After dinner the branch Political Action Chair, Karen Jones, reminded attendees of the multiple voter education opportunities the branch was co-sponsoring with the League of Women Voters for the November elections. She also emphasized the importance of getting out the vote for the many off-year elections held in Virginia.

Melvin Palmer, President of the local NAACP Youth Council played a medley of tunes on the saxophone. Then Youth Council member Kameron Riley recited the Langston Hughes poem "I, Too, Sing America." Other Youth Council officers are: Rai Johnson, Vice President; Sathara

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CHS crowns Homecoming royalty



PHOTO BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Christiansburg High School crowned their 2023 Homecoming King and Queen Friday night at halftime after presenting the full court. Spencer Connor was crowned king, and Mabry Keister was crowned queen.

Apple butter season underway in Mount Tabor



PHOTO COURTESY OF MT. TABOR RURITAN CLUB

A volunteer prepares apple butter for sale by the Mt. Tabor Ruritan Club.

A delayed apple harvest postponed the start of Mount Tabor Ruritan Club's apple butter making, but it is now underway.

The club cooked a big batch on Oct. 6, and two more are scheduled for Oct. 13 and 27 at the cannery in Wytheville. Each of these Friday events begins

around 7 a.m. with cooking the cut apples to make apple sauce, which is then run through strainers to remove the skins and seeds. The sauce is returned to the cookers and sugar is added. The mix is cooked through the early afternoon until

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PHOTO COURTESY OF VIRGINIA TECH

Hokies enjoy the Homecoming Tailgate at the Holtzman Alumni Center.

Hokie Nation celebrating Homecoming this week

Virginia Tech is hosting a week of events to celebrate Homecoming now through Oct. 14 with a schedule of activities for alumni, students, community members, and friends.

The festivities culminate in Saturday's alumni tailgate and matchup against Wake Forest.

Students began the fun Monday, Oct. 9, with a Homecoming Kickoff on Prairie Quad featuring food, music, interactive games, and special guests, including the

Homecoming Court candidates. The first 500 students received free ice cream from Homestead Creamery.

Additional student-focused activities happen all week, including Tuesday's Virginia Tech Union Laugh Riot featuring comedian Nore Davis, Wednesday's Homecoming Showcase, and a Homecoming Concert with Young Nudy, sponsored by the Black

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, Oct. 11:

CommUNITY Yoga for Self-Care for Adults

At the Radford Public Library; 5:45- 6:45 p.m. Join Kelly McCoy of The Whole You for an all-level yoga class for adults. Learn poses to help strengthen and lengthen your muscles as well as some breathing and meditation techniques to help calm the nervous system. This class is free to the public and is funded by grant money through the Virginia Department of Health.

Thursday, Oct. 12:

Anne Frank House: A Virtual Tour

At the Radford Public Library; 11 a.m. – noon. Take a self-guided tour of the Anne Frank House using a Virtual Reality headset. We also have downloaded for this month only an immersive documentary that puts you in the middle of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. If you'd prefer a 30-minute demo another day, email duncan.hall@radfordva.gov.

Community Quilting Bee

At the Blacksburg Library; 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Join us for our weekly quilting and sewing group. Bring your supplies and join us for conversation.

Community D&D: A Spooky One-Shot Adventure

At the Blacksburg Library; 5:30- 7:30 p.m. Join us for an adventure through spooky-town during this two hour D&D session. Session is ideal for ages 10 and up.

Friday, Oct. 13:

Basic Computer Skills: Navigating the Web

At the Radford Public Library; 10:30 a.m. – noon. This course is part of an eight-week adult education opportunity for beginners looking to learn how to safely incorporate the internet into their daily lives. Teaching is provided by Literacy NRV. Please call 540 382-7262 to register. Lunch is provided after each class.

Tim Burton's Spooky Movie Marathon

At the Christiansburg Library; noon – 4:30 p.m. Enjoy treats, crafts, and movies during this movie marathon for all ages! Catch some of Tim Burton's most popular and spookiest films starting with: Frankenweenie at noon; The Corpse Bride at 1:30 p.m., and The Nightmare Before Christmas at 3 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 14:

Radford Highlanders Festival

On the campus of Radford University, Moffett Quad; 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Live music, food and craft vendors, heavy Scottish games and much more.

Christiansburg Rockin' Main Street concert

East Main Street, Downtown Christiansburg; 5 - 9 p.m. Hosted by the Town of Christiansburg and Downtown Christiansburg, Inc. Ryan Pace performs at 5 p.m. and Travis Reigh performs at 7 p.m. Food trucks and beer, wine and cider.

Radford University eclipse event

At the RU Center for the Sciences (the building with the RU Planetarium); 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. A day of free science activities centered on the partial annular eclipse. The event will be held rain or shine. Eclipse-themed planetarium shows on the hour, and tours of neighboring Museum of the Earth Sciences, along with multiple departments in the Artis College of Science and Technology.

Tuesday, Oct. 17:

Central Business Committee Meeting

The Christiansburg Central Business District Committee will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Administrative Conference Room of Christiansburg Town Hall.

Thursday, Oct. 19:

Blood Drive

The New River Health District will be hosting a blood drive on in the Community Room at the Montgomery Co. Health Department from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. We have set a goal of having 20 donors for the day and need your assistance. Donors of all blood types are urgently needed now to ensure patients at hospitals across the country continue to receive critical medical care. Each donor for this drive will receive a \$15 Amazon gift card as a thank you for your donation. Register at www.redcrossblood.org.

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, 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to this meeting. For further information, please call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

Monday, Oct. 23:

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, Oct. 24:

Blacksburg Town Council meeting

The 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.

On-going:

Call for participants: 2023 Blacksburg Annual Holiday Parade

Citizens are invited to participate in Blacksburg's annual Holiday Parade, organized by Blacksburg Park and Recreation. This year's theme is "Miracle on Main Street". Parade entries may be floats, bicycles, wagons, marchers, walkers, antique/classic cars, Jeeps, trucks, scout groups, bands, sports teams and more.

The parade will be held on Friday, Dec. 1 at 7 p.m. In the event of inclement weather, the parade will be rescheduled to Saturday, Dec. 2. For more information on how to get involved, contact David Goodman, Community Programs Supervisor at degoodman@blacksburg.gov or 540.443.1106.

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.

Free GED classes

New River Community College is offering free GED at the Meadowbrook Library every Monday and Tuesday through Tuesday, Dec. 12. For more information or to sign up please call the Library at 540-268-1964.

NRV Master Gardener Assoc. accepting grant applications for 2024

NRV Master Gardener Assoc. accepting grant applications for 2024 gardening projects. Organizations in counties of Floyd, Giles, Pulaski and Montgomery (and towns within), and the City of Radford, are eligible. Applications must be emailed or postmarked (if mailed) by Oct. 15. Extra pages may be used for plan images/ illustrations. For more information and to submit your project application, contact Carol Trutt: nrvmastergardenerassoc@gmail.com email is preferred or mail to Carol Trutt: 95 N Surry Circle, Christiansburg, VA 24073.

Apple Butter from page 1



Hundreds of jars of apple butter will be available for sale this year, supporting Mt. Tabor Ruritan Club's scholarships and community service projects.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MT. TABOR RURITAN CLUB
Approximately 90 bushels of apples are used to make each year's batch of apple butter.

it is deemed to be the correct consistency. Before it is poured into pint and quart jars, spices are stirred in. The greatest demand is for cinnamon, but about a quarter of the jars are flavored with both cinnamon and clove. The cannery is cleaned, and a bunch of tired volunteers leave for Blacksburg by around 4 p.m.

After the third making is completed, about 90 bushels of apples will have been converted into a little over 300 gallons of delicious apple butter.

The jars may be bought from club members and will also be available at Blacksburg TrueValue Hardware in First and Main, and Easy Way Packaging Center on North Main Street. Club members plan to sell outside the Gables Kroger on Oct. 21 and will have tasting samples there.

This is a wonderful opportunity for community members to volunteer and help the Ruritan club fund its scholarships and many other community-service projects. Extra help is appreciated when the apples are cut and washed at the fish fry picnic shelter. This begins when the apples arrive from the orchard at around 1 p.m. on the Thursdays preceding the Friday events (Oct. 12 and 26) and takes around two hours. Help at the cannery is most needed in the early morning and the early afternoon. The club provides a breakfast sandwich and lunch. For more information on volunteering, either drop by one of the Thursday cutting sessions, or email Curtis Cox at crc1872@yahoo.com.

Submitted by the Mt. Tabor Ruritan Club

PETS OF THE WEEK

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

Maggie is an older dog who is ready to head home. She is friendly and fairly low key. She may prefer a couch to a day of activity. Maggie will gladly sit for a treat. Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center to meet this girl.



Blueberry is a sweet and funny gal. She has a silly personality that is sure to make her future human(s) smile. She is energetic, playful, and loves to do zoomies from time to time. Blueberry also knows some tricks like "playing dead."

Kiwanis Club of Christiansburg's officers installed at annual meeting

At the Kiwanis Club of Christiansburg's annual meeting, Steve Simmons, a member of the Christiansburg Club and Lt. Governor for the 16th Division of the Capital District, installed the 2023/2024 fiscal year's officers and directors.

The officers are as follows: President, Dan Fite; Vice President, Bill Kennan; Secretary, Teddy McCracken; Assistant Secretary, Bruce Board; Treasurer, Mark Cox; Assistant Treasurer, Steve Simmons, and Immediate Past President, Gary Morris.

Directors installed who will serve through 2025 are Carlton Sutphin, John Lilly, Rusty Davidson, and George Kuhn. Other Directors remaining on the Board through 2024 are Jim Vanhoozier, George Silber, Christina Waddell, and Leo Scaggs.

Alicia Glynn was selected



New officers installed for the Kiwanis Club of Christiansburg include (left to right): Bill Kennan, Vice President; Dan Fite, President; Gary Morris, Immediate Past President; Mark Cox, Treasurer and Steve Simmons, Capital Division 16 Lieutenant Governor.

as the Kiwanian of the year. This award is granted to the Club member who demonstrates outstanding service during the year.

The club meets each Thursday evening at 6:30 at the Holiday Inn in Christiansburg.

Kiwanis is a global



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE KIWANIS CLUB OF CHRISTIANBURG

Alicia Glynn (left) is the Kiwanian of the Year recipient. She is pictured with Gary Morris, Immediate Past President.

organization of members, clubs, and partners who are dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time. The Kiwanis Club of Christiansburg has provided service in our local community since the charter was granted in 1949.

Submitted by the Kiwanis Club of Christiansburg

Hokie Nation

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Student Alliance, in Burruss Hall on Thursday evening.

Throughout the week, attendees can celebrate Homecoming from near and far by supporting the student Homecoming Court candidate partners and platforms.

Homecoming Weekend will kick off on Friday with a Pass in Review at 3:30 p.m. in honor of the Class of 1973. There will be additional programming for Cornerstone Alumni throughout the weekend.

Young alumni can make plans to meet up at Hokie House for happy hour. Virginia Tech's inclusive alumni organizations will host student and alumni socials and open houses in all five of the cultural and community centers Friday before dinner with prime seating to watch the Homecoming Parade.

The parade, a beloved tradition, will begin at 7 p.m. and make its way down Main Street from Washington Street to Alumni Mall. This year's event will include floats and feature short performances. Friday night will wrap up with a spirit rally on the Drillfield with fireworks.

Saturday all Hokies are invited to attend the Homecoming Tailgate at 11:30 a.m. The family-friendly event will feature food and drinks, plus lawn games, music, a petting zoo,

inflatables, and more.

Colleges and groups from across campus will host activities and exhibits. The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences will feature a game day broadcasting experience, the College of Engineering will showcase student design teams, the College of Architecture, Art and Design will share new music from the L2Ork laptop orchestra, and guests can explore several other demonstrations and hands-on activities. Plus, participants can meet with deans and other Virginia Tech special guests and learn more about inclusive alumni organizations.

Following the tailgate, the Hokies face Wake Forest in a Maroon Effect game in Lane Stadium at 3:30 p.m.

The game is sold out. If you plan to attend, be sure to review the fan guide for clear bag policies, cashless concession information, and other important details.

Events are open to the community. Registration is required for some events, including the Homecoming Tailgate. To learn more and see a full Homecoming schedule, visit vt.edu/homecoming.

Annie McCallum for Virginia Tech

Council

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and multi-residential housing.

"We've improved a lot of additional bedrooms for student housing in the town of Blacksburg. In 2019, the town of Blacksburg passed a resolution saying that we were essentially finished with the large student housing development projects that we've seen all around town," Sutphin said.

Candidates responded to questions presented by moderator, Peggy Layne, who read both prepared questions and those submitted by audience members. Improving the relationship between Blacksburg and Virginia Tech University was also proposed to the candidates.

A common theme amongst the candidates for improving a working relationship between Blacksburg and the Virginia Tech University was open communication and interest projects that would provide benefits to both entities.

"I know that the mayor also meets regularly with President Sands, so there are these open lines of communication between Virginia Tech and town of Blacksburg. I don't want citizens to think that those don't already exist," Sutphin said. "With that said, there are often going to be issues in a college town or in any community between different entities where there's different priorities."

Watson pointed out that Virginia Tech, as a state institution, does not have to pay property tax in the town of Blacksburg or Montgomery County.

"The largest landholder inside of Blacksburg does not pay property tax," Watson said. "Now, I'm not crazy about living in a world where Peggy has to pay property tax, but Tim Sands does not."

Watson is suggesting a program where a payment will be made to the town in lieu of property taxes to provide additional funding to the community that supports the university.

Other issues discussed by the candidates were climate change and sustainability practices. Ideas brought forth by the candidates, as they relate to environmental protection, include water quality, stormwater waste management, transportation, and single-use plastic. Additionally, candidates responded to citizens' concerns with a need for increased affordable child-care options, town and county taxes, senior housing, and creating a more accepting environment for those who identify as LGBTQ+ community members.

The full recorded video of the live event can be viewed in its entirety at the Blacksburg Town Council website at www.blacksburg.gov.

In the next candidate forum in the series, Christiansburg Town Council candidates will have an opportunity to speak to community members. The event will happen Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. at the Christiansburg Town Hall.

NAACP

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Kane, Secretary; Leila Haley, Assistant Secretary; Addison Clarke, Treasurer; and Meya Haley and Christina Clarke, Historians.

The branch annually awards up to five Samuel H. Clark Scholarships of \$2000 to local youth connected with the NAACP who are pursuing post-secondary education. This year's scholarships went to: Tyler Graves from Blacksburg High School to attend New River Community College; Richard McCrae from Christiansburg High School to attend New River Community College; and Robert McCrae from Christiansburg High School to attend Virginia Tech.

Sponsors of the banquet were then introduced. Silver sponsors were: Asbury United Methodist Church; Blacksburg Jewish Community Center; Carilion Clinic; MOOG, Inc.; the Town of Blacksburg; and Virginia Tech, Office of the President. Bronze sponsors were: Dr. James Klagge and Rev. Kathy Carpenter; Dr. and Mrs. William Hendricks; the Democratic Committee of Montgomery County; Habitat for Humanity of the New River Valley & the Blacksburg Museum; the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County; New River Community College- Office of the President; the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the New River Valley; and the United Auto Workers Local 2069.

Each year at the last 28 banquets the branch has awarded the Nannie B. Hairston Community Service Award to a branch member who has contributed significantly to social justice and civil rights in the New River Valley. The award was presented by Travis, with assistance from the 2021 winner, Dr. Wornie Reed.

This year the award went to Dr. Thomas M. Sherman. Sherman has been a member of the local community since 1971, when he joined the faculty at Virginia Tech. In the School of Education he made significant contributions in the design and development of learning environments, and sound assessment models and strategies. He also provided effective leadership as President of the VT Faculty Senate and as President of the Faculty Senate of Virginia, where he worked to strengthen ties to the Virginia General Assembly and the Virginia Business Council of Higher Education.

For many years Sherman has championed the cause for justice, inclusion, and fairness throughout the community as an individual, but also as a public servant. Sherman served on the Blacksburg Town Council from 2002-2010, where he was instrumental in the preservation of St. Luke and Odd Fellows Hall, built in 1905, a centerpiece of the historical Black New Town community. Through his persistence and help of others the Hall is listed under the National Register of Historic Places. He has also been an advocate for the underserved

and minority communities through op-ed pieces in the newspaper and volunteer work in the region.

Sherman, a long-time member of the NAACP, and also winner of the branch's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Service Award in 2006, is married to Janice Sherman and they reside in Blacksburg.

The banquet keynote speaker was Dr. Takiyah Nur Amin, Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for the Virginia Tech College of Architecture, Arts and Design. In 2014, Amin launched her own company, Black Girl Brilliance, offering consulting for academic professionals and support to institutions committed to transformational change in curriculum policy, and practice. Additionally, she has worked at the intersection of faith and justice-making, as content director and member of the Organizing Collective Board for Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism.

Amin spoke on the topic, "Moving Forward." The accomplishments of the twentieth century are now under attack and this is no time to be on the sidelines. Her faith leads her to believe in love and the eternal possibility of redemption. While the teaching of racial issues has become controversial, she noted that when she was growing up in Buffalo her family never left it to the schools to teach her all of history. Her parents added their own curriculum: "African consciousness curriculum on Saturdays at the library." This helped her and her friends to "scheme for, dream for and plan for" their future. She reminded those gathered that "we can't just be with people who look like us. We have to be concerned with the marginalized as well. We thrive together or not at all. The only place we are going is together." Every day we see things that cause us despair and things that bring us hope. We have to choose what to focus on. No one's coming to fix this for us. We are the ones we've been waiting for."

She closed by modifying the famous line from Martin Luther King: "The arc of the universe may bend towards justice, but only because we push it that way!"

The banquet closed with Travis urging those gathered to continue to work together to build a strong community for all.

The branch usually holds its general body meetings on the fourth Sunday of each month at 3:30 p.m. at the Old Hill School Community Center, 570 High Street in Christiansburg. All are welcome. Follow us on line: www.mrfnaacp.org; on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/mrfnaacp.org; on Twitter: @mrf_naacp; or contact us by e-mail: info@mrfnaacp.org.

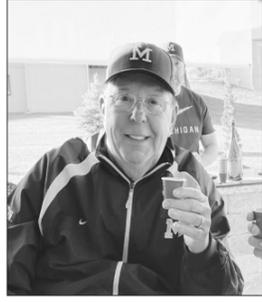
Submitted by the Montgomery County-Radford City-Floyd County Branch of the NAACP

OBITUARIES

Brownrigg, Michael Howard

Michael Howard Brownrigg "Big Brown," 77, of Radford, passed away Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2023.

Michael started his career at General Motors (Fisher Body #1 Plant) in Flint, Michigan. He worked his way up through the ranks in the Automobile Industry in Georgia, Texas, Tennessee, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and retired from Volvo Trucks in Virginia. He was a U. S. Army veteran, serving from 1965-1968. Throughout his life he was a very proud American, who loved his country greatly. He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph Leonard and Grace Mae Brownrigg; brothers, Ronald and Douglas Brownrigg; and his sisters,



Barbara Clark and Helen Green.

Survivors include his wife, Martha James Brownrigg, of Radford; children and their spouses, Robert Michael Brownrigg and Rhonda of Chesnee, S.C., Christina Marie Rustin and Dean, Tampa, Fla., and Paul David Brownrigg and Jennifer of Tampa, Fla.; grandchildren, Olivia, Madison, Chandler, Alexis,

Mallory, Faith, Joseph, Aubree and Ethan; brothers and their spouses, Joseph Brownrigg, David Brownrigg and Kim, Patricia Fearon, and Evelyn Rubel; brother-in-law, Jim Clark; and many other family members and special friends.

Michael was an avid Michigan Wolverine fan, who enjoyed going to, or watching the games with his boys. He also enjoyed cruising the Blue Ridge Parkway in his Corvette, Scarlett, with the love of his life, Ms. Marty. Early this year, he was inducted into the Flushing High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

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

Thompson, Barbara Sue Chumbley

Barbara Sue Chumbley Thompson (Tink), 75, born on Nov. 22, 1947, in Elk Creek, Grayson County, passed on Oct. 4, 2023, in Radford peacefully with family by her side.

She was a hard worker all her life and retired from Volvo Truck Manufacturing with 30 years of service. She was a longtime humanitarian and animal caregiver. She looked fondly upon her community and loved giving to, feeding, and caring for others, always willing to help. She loved spending time with her friends, traveling, going the beach and being on the river.

She was preceded in death by her father,



James E. Chumbley; mother, Sarah M. Crigger; brothers, Billy E. and Sammy "Bo" Chumbley.

Survivors include her daughter, Tonya M. Carroll; sister, Regina Kesling (Jimmy); nephew, William Ford, Jr.; cousin, Vicky Smith (Elmer); special friends, Steve, Pat, Mike, Paula, Judy, Ellen, Maria, Sabrina, Roger, Mark,

Matt, Charlie and Teresa; and many other relatives and friends.

The family received friends Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2023, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services followed with Pastor Eddie Dalton and Charlie Barbettini officiating. Interment followed in Sunrise Burial Park in Radford.

In lieu of flowers please consider donations to the Angels of Assisi, 415 Campbell Avenue, SW, Roanoke, VA 24016 or Taking to the Street Ministries, PO Box 30, Pulaski, Virginia 24301.

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

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

Want to thank your pastor for all of the wonderful work they do?

Reserve your paid acknowledgment in the News Messenger with a Special Tribute to honor Clergy in the Montgomery County Area.

News Messenger

Contact Wendi Craig: (cell) 276-340-2445 or email: advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com



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OPINION

AARP Virginia fraud alert: The rise of smishing

If you have a cell phone, you've probably noticed an increase in text messages from people you don't know.

This is particularly concerning, given how effective smishing is as a scam tactic. The Federal Trade Commission reported \$330 million in losses last year to fraudulent texts. We know this is just a fraction of losses, given vast underreporting by fraud victims. With smishing scams on the rise, here's what you need to know.

Do not engage with texts from unknown people. Rather than clicking on text links, type the web address you know to be legitimate into your browser. Alternatively, call the alleged sender

at a number you know to be legitimate. Also, you can filter out junk texts by updating your phone's messaging app settings, using call-blocking services through your wireless carrier, or installing call-blocking apps.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

The AARP Fraud Watch Network is a free resource for all. Learn how to proactively spot scams or get guidance if you've been targeted. Visit www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork or call our dedicated helpline to speak to a fraud specialist at 1-877-908-3360.

Submitted by AARP Virginia

Virginia gas prices fall nearly six cents in last week

Average gasoline prices in Virginia have fallen 5.9 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.45/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia. Prices in Virginia are 10.3 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 3.8 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 4.0 cents in the last week and stands at \$4.48 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$3.01/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$4.49/g, a difference of \$1.48/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$3.01/g while the highest was \$4.49/g, a difference of \$1.48/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 10.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.67/g today. The national average is down 13.8 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 25.0 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

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

- October 9, 2022: \$3.49/g (U.S. Average: \$3.92/g)
- October 9, 2021: \$3.12/g (U.S. Average: \$3.26/g)
- October 9, 2020: \$2.11/g (U.S. Average: \$2.18/g)
- October 9, 2019: \$2.35/g (U.S. Average: \$2.65/g)
- October 9, 2018: \$2.70/g (U.S. Average: \$2.91/g)
- October 9, 2017: \$2.35/g (U.S. Average: \$2.47/g)
- October 9, 2016: \$2.11/g (U.S. Average: \$2.25/g)
- October 9, 2015: \$2.06/g (U.S. Average: \$2.32/g)

October 9, 2014: \$3.06/g (U.S. Average: \$3.24/g)
 October 9, 2013: \$3.13/g (U.S. Average: \$3.34/g)
 Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:
 Roanoke- \$3.42/g, down 7.6 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.49/g,
 Richmond- \$3.42/g, down 5.3 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.47/g,
 West Virginia- \$3.51/g, down 5.7 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.56/g.

"At long last, the decline in gas prices that we've been waiting to see has arrived, and the locomotive of falling prices has only recently started on downhill, gaining momentum. However, some new caution signs have emerged with the recent attacks on Israel, potentially destabilizing a sensitive region. I'm hopeful the violence won't spread, limiting the impact to these falling gas prices. Even with oil prices rising as a reaction to the attacks, I remain optimistic the national average could decline another 25-45 cents by late November, with prices falling potentially nearly triple that in California," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "Even the price of diesel has seen downward pressure with oil prices plummeting last week on fears that the Fed will be forced to continue raising rates, eating into demand growth, leading a barrel of crude to drop into the mid-\$80s, but we remain concerned about a potentially destabilized Middle East and the potential impact to oil prices should the region see violence escalate."

Submitted by GasBuddy

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Hate harms kids.

In the 1960s, Virginia laws against mixed-race marriages prohibited my parents' marriage. Discrimination prevented my mother from being

married in the church of her choice, and my father from employment in Virginia. People called race-mixing an abomination. They created fear and hostility that did nothing to improve our society. I am not an abomination, and neither are our children who are different.

Misinformation and fear of trans youth should not be the primary campaign platform of any candidate for public office. All of us want children to be safe and treated with respect. No one wants assaults to occur in locker rooms or bathrooms. But demonizing one group of kids does not protect another group. We need our policies to focus on behaviors. If cis-gender (meaning non trans-gender) boys are assaulting each other in the locker room, is that okay? If girls are taking pictures of other girls' bodies and sharing them with other students, or threatening to post on social media, is that okay? Of course not. The behaviors of harassment, assault, or invasion of privacy are not okay, and the gender, sex, or sexual orientation of the perpetrators is irrelevant.

Here in Montgomery County, I appreciate our current school board's focus on treating all students with care and targeting problem behaviors, not groups of students. Our schools should encourage a culture where students know how to stand up to bullies, and that others in the room will support them when they do speak up. Claims that allowing trans students to use facilities that align with their gender identity would put cis students at risk are not supported by evidence and are discriminatory. It's important to note that the NY Times article of August 5, 2023 clarified that the widely discussed assaults in Loudoun County were committed by a cis boy, not a trans student. Inappropriate and illegal behavior should not be condoned in schools, regardless of the student's sex or gender identity. All students deserve privacy and safety when using restrooms and locker rooms and I applaud the school board for ensuring that well-designed facilities are included in the CHS renovations.

Accusing all trans students of being rapists is just as ridiculous as accusing all students of a particular race or national origin of being rapists. We wouldn't make a certain ethnic category of students use a separate locker room or bathroom just because a politician claims that people of that ethnicity or national origin are all rapists. If cis boys are committing sexual assaults, the school needs to address that behavior. Trans girls should not

be punished for the behavior of cis boys, or forced to use the same facilities as their assailants.

In the same way, removing books from school libraries because politicians don't like the type of people represented won't help our children learn. Allowing books in school libraries or classrooms that represent perspectives of people from different religious, racial, or ethnic backgrounds or that include families with divorced parents, or families where kids are raised by grandparents, or gay or lesbian parents, is not "grooming children" or forcing beliefs about family structure on children, but providing kids who come from different types of families with representation, so they can see that they are not the only kid being raised by a single father, or two moms, or their grandparents. And it helps other students better understand their friends' families. Our school system has a policy in place that allows parents to opt their children out of particular assignments or reading particular books, so parents' interests are protected at MCPS.

Two school board candidates in Montgomery County are running on platforms attacking vulnerable youth: Mark Mear in District B and Lindsay Rich in District E. Neither of them have lived in their district for more than a year or two. Their campaigns are aligned with or endorsed by well-funded national organizations that are opposed to teaching honest history and that advocate banning books and threatening teachers and trans students.

Fortunately, we have two candidates running campaigns based on sincere interest in serving the community and who have been engaged with public schools in their districts for years. I encourage residents of District B to vote for Penny Franklin, an alum of Christiansburg schools, a founding member of Dialogue on Race, and an outstanding advocate for our families, youth, and staff in MCPS as a School Board member for more than 20 years. And I encourage residents of District E to vote for Derek Rountree, a parent of children attending schools in his district, a volunteer with Girl Scouts, a religious education teacher in his church, and an active PTA member.

Carola Haas Riner

News Messenger

Established 1869

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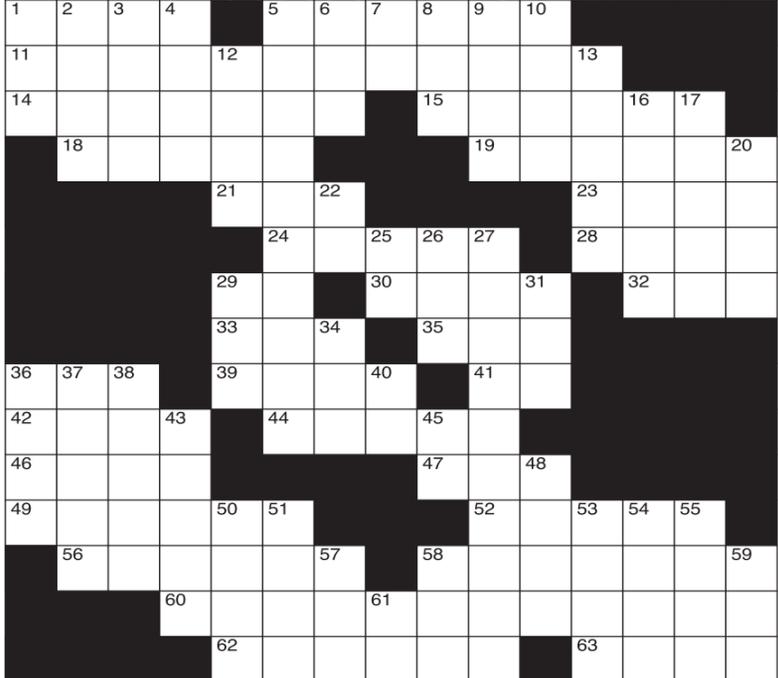
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The News Messenger is a newspaper of, by and for the people of Montgomery County. We encourage letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached for verification. All letters will be verified before publication. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Flat-topped hill
 - 5. Move upward
 - 11. Admiration
 - 14. It's useful for serving food
 - 15. Kidnap
 - 18. One of the Greek Muses
 - 19. A type of media
 - 21. Sunscreen rating
 - 23. Former Michigan coach Brady
 - 24. German town devastated in WW2
 - 28. Gasteyer and Ortiz are two
 - 29. Leave
 - 30. Forearm bone
 - 32. Very fast airplane
 - 33. Helps little firms
 - 35. Defunct economic organization
 - 36. Science-based students organization (abbr.)
 - 39. Feels ill
 - 41. Indicates position
 - 42. Beverage containers
 - 44. Assists
 - 46. Science accreditation organization (abbr.)
 - 47. Purpose
 - 49. Group of elected officials
 - 52. Hebrew prophet
 - 56. They help you drink
 - 58. Lawmaker
 - 60. Charitable
 - 62. Doctrines
 - 63. Footwear
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Where wrestlers work
 - 2. Dueling sword
 - 3. Practice fight
 - 4. Genus of clams
 - 5. Fear of heights
 - 6. What some tell their dog
 - 7. The Golden State
 - 8. When you expect to get there
 - 9. Pointed ends
 - 10. Extinct flightless bird
 - 12. Feeds
 - 13. Nape of neck
 - 16. Descendant
 - 17. Small boats found in Turkey
 - 20. To avoid the risk of
 - 22. Athlete with no contract (abbr.)
 - 25. 13th letter of the Greek alphabet
 - 26. Brew
 - 27. Feeling of anxiety
 - 29. Young girls group
 - 31. Perform on stage
 - 34. White clerical vestment
 - 36. Popular musical awards show
 - 37. Bumpkins
 - 38. One who acts on another's behalf
 - 40. Direction
 - 43. Look at with fixed eyes
 - 45. One who helps professors (abbr.)
 - 48. A large number of
 - 50. Type of powder
 - 51. Large jug
 - 53. ___ Christian Anderson, children's author
 - 54. American state
 - 55. Muslim inhabitant of the Philippines
 - 57. Witness
 - 58. Landscapers lay it
 - 59. Type of bread
 - 61. Of I

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Preview Wednesday, October 11th from 3-6pm

Pick-up Friday, October 13th from 2-6pm

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VA AF# 2908001046

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Cody Manspile, Auctioneer, VAL# 2907004430



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Preview will be Tuesday, October 24th from 12-6 pm or By Appointment by Contacting Cody Manspile, Auctioneer at 540-784-9254

Pick-up will be Thursday, October 26th from 12-6 pm by Appointment

VA AF#2908001046

Help Wanted - General

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Assistant Dir., Strategic Analysis, Blacksburg, VA.

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Legals - Botetourt County

ABC NOTICE

Family Dollar Stores of Virginia LLC, trading as Family Dollar #27282, 19026 Main Street, Buchanan, VA 24066.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Convenience Grocery Store License: Beer and Wine OFF Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

FAMILY DOLLAR STORES OF VIRGINIA, LLC

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given

to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, October 23, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA: 1. Consider the request of Bruce Maxey, property owner, for the issuance of a Special Exception permit to allow a 1,200 square foot detached garage on the property located at 1862 Murrell Avenue (Tax Map # 128-1-4). 2. Consider the request of Crystal Lowery, property owner, for rezoning the property located at 1000 Blk Ohio Ave (Tax Map # 197-1-15) from HM Heavy Manufacturing District to RSF Residential Single Family District.

If approved, Salem City Council intends to adopt the ordinance(s) associated with the above item(s) on first reading, with a second reading of those ordinance(s) at a subsequent meeting. Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia. At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

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

Legals - Montgomery County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
Case No. **CL23000992-00** MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* NANNIE FAY LONG, THOMAS LONG AND EDWARD LONG v. NONE
It is ORDERED that CATHY HUGHES appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before **OCTOBER 20, 2023 @ 8:30 AM.** **SEPTEMBER 19, 2023** ROBERT M.D. TURK, JUDGE
TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

Legals - Montgomery County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
Case No. **121CL22300149600** MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* WAYMON RODNEY PACK v. GAIL WILLIAMS, et al.

The object of the complaint in the above styled case is to quiet the title via adverse possession to that certain parcel identified as 4792 Piney Woods Rd., Riner, VA 24149 (Montgomery County Tax Map #'s 127-A-72), Located in Montgomery County, Virginia. It is ORDERED that any of the following persons shall appear at the above named Court and take such action as he/she deem necessary to protect his/her interests on or before November 17, 2023.

- Gail Williams
- LaShavio Diggs
- Robert Beale, Jr.
- Raymond Beale
- Barbara Ann Beale
- Freddie Hart, Jr.
- Any Descendant of Alvia Ellen Pack Jones, deceased

Any person desiring a copy of the Complaint, Survey, or any additional information should contact Ryan L. Pry, counsel for plaintiffs, at P.O. Box 3785, Radford, VA 24143, or at 540-838-2233 prior to the above date. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this ORDER OF PUBLICATION be published once a week for four successive weeks in the Christiansburg News Messenger, a newspaper of general circulation in Montgomery County, Virginia. Entered this 2nd day of October, 2023. By K. Mike Fleenor, Jr. Judge
I ask for this Ryan L. Pry (VSB#74181) RYAN L> PRY PC P.O. Box 3785 RADFORD VA 24143 (540)838-2233 Ryan@PryLawOffice.com Counsel for plaintiff

Updated Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain and Wetlands

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals
This is to give notice that the New River Valley Regional Commission (NRVRC) under 24 CFR part 58 has determined that the following proposed action under the Appalachian Regional Commission POWER grant program and the Department of Housing and Community Development Project (22-PW-02A) is located in the 100-year floodplain and a riverine, and the NRVRC will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain/wetland and the potential impacts on the floodplain/wetland from the proposed action, as required by both Executive Order 11988 and 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands. The proposed project area includes the development of an enhanced concrete boat launch on the bank of the New River in Montgomery County. The project area is approximately 1.7 acres, located entirely within the 100-year Floodplain and partially within a riverine. The project provides enhanced motorized and non-motorized boat access to the New River at the most utilized boat launch in Montgomery County, thus expanding the recreational opportunities and access for Montgomery County residents and tourists. This project will benefit the livability of our region and the burgeoning outdoor recreation economy. The Montgomery County boat launch at Whitethorne is one of four new/enhanced boat launches that will extend the existing 37 miles of the New River Water Trail (Giles County) to the rest of the region, totaling 61 miles upon completion. The project includes several related components: enhancements/expansion of current boat launch with

Legals - Montgomery County

an accessible path to connect extended parking, suitable for vehicles with trailers, potential adjacent parking on a secondary site north of the boat launch, and a potential surface revetment. The proposed project is located at 5277 Whitethorne Rd Blacksburg, VA 24060. There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains/wetlands and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain/wetlands, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains/wetlands can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains and/or wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk. Written comments must be received by the NRVRC at the following address on or before October 26, 2023: New River Valley Regional Commission, 6580 Valley Center Drive Suite 124 Radford, VA 24141 Attention: Kathleen Armstrong, Regional Planner I/ Community Designer. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 9am to 5pm at the above address and electronically by request. Comments may also be submitted via email at karmstrong@nrvc.org. Date: October 11, 2023

Employees, directors and officers of Farm Credit of the Virginias, ACA, and their immediate family and companies in which they have an interest are not eligible under federal regulations to purchase this property at foreclosure.

Bryson J. Hunter, Peter M. Pearl, and Brian H. Richardson, Substitute Trustees
For Information Contact: Bryson J. Hunter bhunter@spilmanlaw.com Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC P.O. Box 90 Roanoke, Virginia 24002 540-512-1800 Telephone

Legals - Craig County

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE 13978 Potts Creek Road, Paint Bank, Virginia 24131

Tax Map/Parcel Identification Nos. 20 A 10, 20 A 11, 20 A 11B, 20 A 12 CRAIG COUNTY, VA

In execution of a credit line deed of trust dated September 14, 2017 (the "Deed of Trust"), recorded in the Office of the Circuit Court of Craig County, Virginia, as Instrument No. 170000518 (Book 206, Page 101), the undersigned substitute Trustees, any or all of whom may act, will offer for sale in front of the Craig County Courthouse, 182 Main Street, New Castle, Virginia, on November 4, 2023, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., property located at or near 13978 Potts Creek Road, Paint Bank, Craig County, Virginia, which property is more particularly described as follows:

All three (3) certain tracts or parcels of real property, situate in Craig County, Virginia, containing 164.314 acres, more or less, and being comprised of Parcel A, containing 67.836 acres, more or less, Parcel B, 21.25 acres, more or less, and Parcel C, 75.328 acres, more or less, as more particularly shown upon that certain J. Brad Smith, LS, survey of said Tracts, dated May-June 2015 and of record in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Craig County, Virginia, in Deed Book 198, at pages 478 and 479, and further being Parcels I, II, and III conveyed unto Judith Smith Bessy by Karen Smith Denny, et ux., by Deed dated December 15, 2015, and of record in Craig County Deed Book 198, at page 482.

Parcel C subsequently was subdivided into Tax Map Nos. 20 A 11 and 20 A 11B. These two tracts will be sold as one (1) parcel. This sale is subject to all liens, easements, restrictions, conditions, and reservations of record affecting the title to the property hereinabove described, to the extent any

Legals - Craig County

of them have priority over the lien of the Deed of Trust.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE:

1. AUCTION: Substitute Trustee has employed The Counts Realty & Auction Group ("Auction Company"). The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale outlining additional terms of sale and settlement that will be available for review prior to the announcement of sale. Settlement within thirty (30) days of sale.
2. DEPOSIT: A bidder's deposit of \$15,000.00 per tract in certified funds (cash, cashier's or certified check made payable to Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC) required.
3. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Announcements made on day of sale take precedence over all prior communications, both verbal and written, concerning the sale or the property.
4. BUYER'S PREMIUM: A 10% buyer's premium will be in effect on day of sale that is added to the high bid amount to determine the contract sales price.
5. "AS-IS", "WHERE-IS": The property is being sold "AS-IS", "WHERE-IS". Potential buyers must perform such independent investigations with respect to the property as they deem necessary.
6. ADVERTISEMENTS: All information provided by Auction Company and Substitute Trustee is deemed reliable but is not warranted. Information contained in the brochure and any advertisements by Auction Company are subject to verification by all parties relying on it. No liability for its accuracy, error or omission is assumed by Auction Company or Substitute Trustee.
7. REPRESENTATION: Auction Company and its representatives represent the party foreclosing on the property.
8. BID INCREMENTS: Auction Company reserves the right to set bid increments and to establish the bid sequences for the order of the sale and/or to change both. Lienholders reserve the right to bid at the sale.
9. LINES ON PHOTOGRAPHS: Any property lines drawn on the photographs in the marketing materials are not exact. Refer to the title documents found in the land records for the actual property lines.

Legals - City of Salem

information, contact the Office of the Zoning Administrator, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia (Phone 3753032).

THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM

BY: Mary Ellen H. Wines, CZA, CFM
Planning & Zoning Administrator

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MONTGOMERY SPORTS

Radford remains unbeaten on gridiron, Christiansburg rolls in win over Blacksburg

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Landen Clark scored five touchdowns in Radford's 55-0 rout of James River to move to 7-0 on the season. Clark completed nine of 12 passes for 183 yards Friday night and three touchdowns, and the Radford defense held James River to minus-7 yards of total offense.

Christiansburg put up 71 points, the most ever scored by a Blue Demon team, downing Blacksburg 71-7 on Friday night. Blacksburg was limited to 59 yards rushing and 31 through the air.

Tanner Evans rushed for 85 yards on 10 carries as he topped the 1,000 mark for the season. He now has 1,031 yards rushing. Evans scored two touchdowns and threw for two more, completing five passes for 133 yards.

Izaiah Cotto added to two scores of 47 yards each, on five carries for 136 yards. Matt Annis also had a touchdown for Christiansburg. Cotto also caught a pass for another score. Christiansburg is now 6-1 on the season.

The Virginia High School League has released its

point standings, and Radford tops Region 2C with 23.6667 points. Glenvar, who Radford beat two weeks ago, is second with 19.6.

Christiansburg is second in the Region 3D list at 22.6667, slightly behind Magna Vista at 24.4 points. Lord Botetourt is third at 22.4 and William Byrd 20.6. Abingdon is sixth and Pulaski eighth.

Player of week: Max Kanipe caught five passes for 142 yards and three touchdowns in Radford's win over James River. For the effort on Friday night, he is this week's honoree. Kanipe broke a regular season record for receiving yardage and now has 898 yards for the season.

Area Top Five: 1) Christiansburg, 2) Salem, 3) Radford, 4) Narrows, 5) Glenvar.

Games this week:

Christiansburg at Hidden Valley

Hidden Valley remained winless after a 44-7 loss to Cave Spring.

Prediction: Christiansburg 48, Hidden Valley 14

Bath County at Eastern Montgomery

Bath is probably western Virginia's less known 6-0 team. Friday night, QB Wyatt Campbell threw three touchdowns and rushed for another in a 47-0 win over

Auburn. Campbell also rushed for 204 yards on five carries.

Eastern Montgomery picked up its second win of the season in 44-24 night against Craig County.

Bath 34, Eastern Montgomery 10

Pulaski at Blacksburg

Both teams were on the losing end this past Friday.

Pulaski met a buzz saw in the form of Salem in a 49-13 loss, while Blacksburg could not get anything going in a 71-7 loss to Christiansburg.

Prediction: Blacksburg 24, Pulaski 21.

Radford at Patrick County

Patrick County met a Glenvar squad looking to get back in the win column. Glenvar rolled to the 41-21 win.

Prediction: Radford 48, Patrick County 7

Ft. Chiswell at Auburn

Ft. Chiswell is 3-3 after a 25-7 loss to Grayson County. Mitchell Melton rushed for 100 yards on 18 carries in the loss.

Auburn (2-4) fell 47-0 to Bath County after committing four turnovers.

Prediction: Auburn 24, Ft. Chiswell 21.

Christiansburg takes Battle of Burgs



Christiansburg's JT Thompson (right) challenges Logan Pannell (left) in the air for possession of the ball intended for Pannell.



Izaiah Cotto enters the end zone for another Blue Demon TD and finished with five carries for 136 yards.



Javier Waldron takes off for Blacksburg after receiving a kickoff.



PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Donovan Richardson (left) squares off against Blacksburg's Isaiah Lewis (right) stopping his progress. Lewis scored on a three-yard run late in the fourth quarter on a 16 carries for 33 yards night.

Hokies men optimistic about new season

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

The Virginia Tech men's basketball team finished last season at 19-15 and had trouble down the stretch after winning the ACC tournament the year previously.

This past week, Coach Mike Young and five student-athletes address media ahead of the 2023-24 season. The year coach was joined as by guards Hunter Cattoor, MJ Collins, Sean Pedulla and forwards Robbie Beran and Mylyjael Poteat.

Young is optimistic this year's team is ready to rise to the top of the cream, but he is still holds his cards close to this chest.

Defense is one area the Hokies are working to improve. Young said it better be.

"We've spent a great deal of time on it. Through the summer and through our first six practices, the defense will be [improved]. And, you know, so far so good," he said.

Young is also happy with the team's first set of practices, calling them good in this preseason.

"You know, I think we're all saying this is year 22 for me. We've got a long way to go, but they're playing really hard and a great group to coach. You know, we had a little bit of a springboard into the year with the trip this summer."

Young took his team on a short tour of Italy and Europe this past summer, catching some hotspots while playing against foreign competition.

Cattoor enters his fifth season at Tech fifth all-time in career 3-pointers made in program history with 251. A.D. Vassallo (2005-09) holds the record of 267, playing 133 games. Cattoor has only played 119 career games.

MJ Collins is now sophomore who saw a lot of playing time last season and is using the experience he gained as a steppingstone for this year.

"I feel like it'll really help me a lot. You know, since as a freshman, I got most minutes that I would say most freshmen didn't get. So, I feel like I have a step ahead this year. I've seen a lot more plays last year. So, this year I feel like it'll just be more second nature to me when we're going over stuff. You know, when games start, seeing different plays, I feel like I'll be adapted to it much quicker than I was last year."

He played in all 34 games, drawing 16 starts and played more minutes than any other freshman on the roster.

The 6-4 guard gives the Hokies some size that can be moved to the forward position when the team goes small.

The Edmond, Okla., native Pedulla nearly tripled his scoring production

Everyone gunning for Lady Hokies

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Coach Kenny Brooks is still trying to grasp the idea of being the hunted versus a basketball team hunting others.

The Virginia Tech women rolled into last year's Final Four, and they are heavy favorites in the Atlantic Coast Conference this coming season.

Several preseason polls have the Lady Hokies as high as number nine, the highest for any ACC team. This comes after a 2022-2023 run that ended in the Final Four.

Head Coach Kenny Brooks as well as graduate students Elizabeth Kitley and Cayla King addressed local media last week detailing the 2023-24 roster, team expectations and recapping the first week of official practices.

The head coach is excited about the next chapter in his team's novel.

"You know, before anybody wants to talk about the expectations, the expectations are no higher than what we put on ourselves and we expect to come out and win. I'm sure the kids have already talked about getting a taste of winning and how it feels. You want to continue to do whatever you can to continue that, get back to that point, and even go a little bit further. So, excited about this year, a new group starting over. But we're really excited about any prospects that we're going to be able to endure."

Looking back, Brooks called this past season a tremendous year.

"It helped in so many ways as far as recruiting," according to Brookes. We went to the transfer portal and we were able to get the kids that we got because of our success. And then recruiting, you know, in the future, we're talking to kids now that we're rubbing elbows with the best of the best. The kid will leave us and then they're going to UConn or going to Tennessee to visit and those are things that never would have happened, you know, five, six, seven years ago. So, it definitely changed our program for the better and we really enjoyed every minute of it."

The ACC schedule is no slouch and is something which could test the Hokies. The "pod" includes games with Virginia, Duke, North Carolina and N.C. State.

"I know that (Virginia Tech's) pod, in my opinion, is the strongest in the ACC. We know what we're going to have to go up against. It's not only that you're playing somebody in your pod. Like Virginia is a rival. You know, Carolina has become a rival. NC State is a rival, and then Duke is becoming a rival, because of the amount of times that you play them. So, we knew that was going to be a challenge for us and last year, I think we went 7-1 in that pod. To be 7-1, you know, during the regular

Hokies Men from page 7

from his freshman season to sophomore campaign. Pedulla, who predominantly plays point guard, was Tech's second leading scorer in 2022-23 at 15 points per game. He is a three level scorer who will be greatly aided by the Hokies' increased depth in the backcourt this season.

He expects this year's team to be more consistent.

"Yeah, obviously, having a lineup that's consistently out there on the court is a big deal, but I think this year we've definitely homed in on the defensive end and becoming elite there. I think we all know we can score the ball and shoot the ball. But whenever those shots aren't falling, it's hard to win games consistently whenever the defense isn't really getting a lot of stops. So that's what we're trying to improve on now."

Pedulla was a double-figure scorer in 31 games last season, reaching double-figure scoring in each of his first 18 games of the season, becoming the first Hokie to do that since Erick Green scored double figures in all 32 games of the 2012-13 season.

Forward Robbie Beran is one of those transfer guys Young hopes to fill into the starting lineup and brings a lot of experience to the squad as a fifth-year guy.

"That veteran presence and that leadership, obviously, kind of something that I bring. Going to the tournament last year and having that experience, learning over the course of my career, how to win and close out games, something that I can bring to this team. And then obviously, you know, kind of my ability to just kind of stretch the floor, kind of in that pick

and pop situation. And then guarding, one through five. Kind of guard mentality if I need to switch on, you know, for possession, or if I get caught. So, I feel like that's kind of what I feel like I bring."

The 6-9 Beran will play his fifth year for the Hokies after four seasons at Northwestern. The Richmond native started 100 of his 120 career games with the Wildcats, while racking up 744 career points and 454 career rebounds.

Coming off a 15-16 record in 2021-22, Beran spurred Northwestern to an impressive turnaround last season, going 22-12 and advancing to the second round of the NCAA tournament. As a senior, Beran averaged 7.5 points and 4.5 rebounds per game.

Beran is a 41.2% shooter from the floor in his career, including a 36.1% clip from beyond the arc. Nearly 50% of his career field goal attempts are from long range.

The 6-9 Mylyjael Poteat is also a common presence as a returner. He has been working this off season to expand his range. "You want to expand some jump shots up, mid ranges, scoring different ways around the post. So, definitely want to expand that range or some mid-range shots this year. Like you said just try to play on that efficiency and keep scoring around the basket at a high clip."

He only averaged 3.4 points last season but played in all 34 games, averaging 8.7 minutes per game.

Men's basketball is scheduled to start its season on Monday, Nov. 6 at 8 p.m. at Carilion Clinic Court at Cassell Coliseum following the women's basketball season opener.

Hole-in-one at Auburn Hills



PHOTO COURTESY OF AUBURN HILLS

Charles McClure made a hole-in-one on hole #3 this past week at the Auburn Hills Golf Club.

Lady Hokies from page 7

season with that schedule, that's pretty impressive for our group," he said.

Brooks received good news that center Elizabeth Kitley and roommate/point guard Georgia Amooore announced they would return for another season. The Lady Hokies also added 6-2 Minnesota transfer Alanna Micheaux.

Kitley said it was 50-50 about this time last year. Then just as the season progressed, she started thinking about pros and cons.

"I think the stability here and the relationships I have here are just unmatched. Obviously, that's not guaranteed anywhere else, especially at the next level. So that's mainly what contributed to it. I think now looking back, that's like 110% the best decision for me," she said.

Kitley repeated as ACC Player of the Year after another dominant season where she was one of three athletes in the nation to average 18 points and 10.5 rebounds. She recorded 23 double-doubles and scored 20+ 18 times throughout the season, with her season-high of 29 coming in the final regular season game vs. Georgia Tech. During her senior season she

became Tech's all-time leader in points, field goals, blocks and double-doubles while also eclipsing 1,000 rebounds and 2,000 career points.

She is the only VT athlete to be named First Team All-ACC three times, All-Defensive twice and earn AP All-American recognition twice.

Top 3-point shooter Kayla King also announced plans to return for one more season. She admits a lot of onlookers have high expectations for this year's squad.

"In some ways, I think people are trying to see if we can just keep it up and keep doing it. We know we have a lot of talent this year, and we have a lot of potential that we're going to hopefully reach this year. So, we have the pieces to do it, so we just have to almost prove ourselves right, though, not really trying to show other people," she said.

Last year, King posted the fifth-best season in program history in made 3's with 80. Began the year with a program record nine in the Mount St. Mary's game. King posted 12 games in double figures and made five or more 3's five times. The Greensboro, N.C. native started all 36 games and averaged 8.3 points per game and helped the program lift the first ACC title ever in her hometown in Final Four contention.

Micheaux, with her 13.8 PPG and 7.9 RPG, helps replace the interior production of Taylor Soule.

Thus, the Lady Hokies are in the new season's Final Four discussion.

Earlier this year, the

university and Brooks agreed to an extension that keeps him in Blacksburg through March of 2029.

Highlights of the contract include a six-year deal totaling \$6.4 million, as well as other enhancements made to support staff salaries, assistant coach salary pool, postseason bonuses and operating budget.

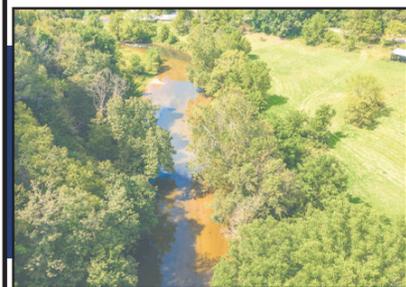
Brooks, who enters his eighth season at Virginia Tech in 2023-24, owns a 155-74 record with the Hokies, including a 62-56 mark in ACC play. He has led the Hokies to the postseason each season that one was contested, including each of the last three NCAA Tournaments.

In 2022-23, Brooks' Hokies went 31-5, won the program's first ACC title, earned a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament and reached the Final Four after a 15-game winning streak that began in January. His seventh season was one full of milestones and program bests as the Hokies went 14-4 in ACC play to earn a coveted double bye in the ACC Tournament. Tech went 16-1 at home with the lone loss coming to a top five team, and the Hokies defeated eight ranked teams – a program record in a single season.

Under Brooks, the Hokies have had unprecedented success in ACC play with his 62 league wins, which includes a sensational 27-9 record in the last two seasons.

The Hokies are scheduled to open their season on Monday, Nov. 6 at 5 p.m. ET at Carilion Clinic Court at Cassell Coliseum.

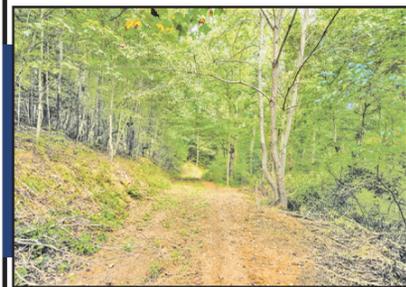
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