

Serving Montgomery County Since 1869

Blacksburg

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

www.ourvalley.org

Christiansburg **USPS 016-490** \$1.00

Christiansburg Town Council brings council salary, museum funding back to agenda

Lori Graham Contributing writer

During Christiansburg Town Council's regular Tuesday night meeting Jan. 23, Council member Tim Wilson made a motion to put a budget amendment back on the agenda for appropriation of funds to the Montgomery Museum of Art and History, followed by Tanya Hockett's motion to readdress salary increases for Council.

During the previous Jan. 9 regular Council meeting, Wilson, along with Johana Hicks, had voted to not approve funds to the Montgomery Museum, and with council member Casey Jenkins abstaining from the vote, the action was left tied. In the case of a tie, Mayor Michael Barber must vote, and he then approved funds in the amount of \$10,000.

However, Wilson stated his conflict arose when the vote was brought to the council for appropriating funds to the previously approved budget amendment for the Montgomery Museum.

"I don't support the funding of community support grant items; however, almost immediately leaving after I voted no to both the two different museums, the Childrens Museum and the Montgomery County Museum, I voted no to appropriate something

that was approved by council," Wilson said. "And that, I keep telling you that, because that's the part that conflicted me was that the council had already previously approved it."

Council member Tanya Hockett also requested that the previous budget amendment to increase council members' salaries be added back to the agenda for a future Council meeting.

"Council, in December, approved raises and I was consistent in voting no," Hockett said. "My reasoning isn't because I don't think that our time and

See **Council**, page 2



COURTESY PHOTO

Volunteer Montgomery delivers supplies to homebound seniors and veterans in the NRV

Lori Graham

Contributing writer

A year of collecting donations and fundraising culminated in producing approximately 230 bags of necessary supplies to local homebound seniors and

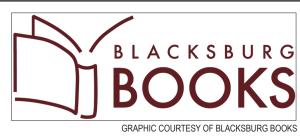
veterans, thanks to volunteers and local agencies. Local organizations like the NRV Agency on Aging, Virginia Department of Veterans Services, and Radford-Fairlawn Daily Bread helped identify those who might need some additional supplies this winter, Alex Strickler, Director of Human Services in Montgomery County said.

The number of volunteers for this year's Seniors Bagging Day was overwhelming with 36 volunteers making themselves available to assist with the project that is in its 16th year.

"One of our biggest projects," Strickler said. "We plan it for every January, trying to hit that time right after Christmas when money might be short and people are running low on supplies.

The program also partners with the local police departments who help to deliver the supplies to local seniors and veterans. According to Strickler, Montgomery County and Radford are divided into smaller regions and the bags are delivered over a span proximately a week.





Book Fair to benefit VT **Prison Book Project**

BLACKSBURG - Rotary Club of Blacksburg is holding a book fair to support the Virginia Tech Prison Book Project at Blacksburg Books, 401 S. Main St., Blacksburg; 4 – 7 p.m. Enjoy a wine and cheese selection as you browse

books. Blacksburg Books will have a pre-selected section of approved books for purchase for the Prison Project.

The purpose of the event is to increase public awareness of the VT Prison Book Project, which is associated with the Appalachian Prison Book Project, and to increase the book inventory for the program.

The program provides requested paperback books to incarcerated individuals in Virginia and nearby Appalachian states. Books provide a positive use of time and often increase literacy skills for those incarcerated. Frequently incarcerated individuals request books to build skills, such as plumbing or wiring, that may lead

The organization's new branding has enabled them to extend their opportunities to help more people in the region as well as organize willing volunteers to help in their efforts.

Volunteer Montgomery's mission, "serves to strengthen our community by empowering volunteers to utilize their time and skills," according to their website at https://montva.com/humanservices.

Interested in volunteering? Visit their website to learn more about the opportunities they can provide to meet the needs in the New River Valley.

"We are a volunteer hub," Strickler said. "Anyone

PHOTO COURTESY OF VOLUNTEER MONTGOMERY

Volunteer Montgomery has undergone rebranding to bring even better outreach and services to the community.

can come out and help with volunteering."

The link to an online application is available on Volunteer Montgomery's Facebook page or a paper copy can be provided for interested individuals.

See Volunteer, page 2



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BLACKSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Approximately 30 senior citizens take part in the Blacksburg Police Department's first senior citizen breakfast, held Friday, Jan. 26.

Blacksburg Police host first senior citizens breakfast

BLACKSBURG - The Blacksburg Police Department hosted its first annual senior citizens breakfast Friday, Jan. 26 with over 30 people attending.

The residents spoke to officers about scam prevention, fraud detection, and local concerns. Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk Tiffany Couch also attended to speak about property deed fraud and jury duty scams.

The Blacksburg Police Department wants to remind everyone that no law enforcement agency will ever ask for gift cards or money transfers as a way to settle fines. If you ever receive a call and someone is asking for money always speak to your family or law enforcement before sending money.

Blacksburg Police Department

to employment following their release.

Those attending the event at Blacksburg Books will be able to purchase a book to donate to the VT Prison Book Program. Appropriate books will be on hand for purchase, or they may be ordered from a list available that evening.

Appalachian Prison Book Project sends free books to people imprisoned in six Appalachian states (West Virginia, Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, and Maryland), hosts book clubs inside prisons in the region, and is leading an effort to bring for-credit college courses into prison.

Rotary Club of Blacksburg

Expert shares advice for parents navigating pediatric influenza, COVID-19, RSV this winter

Coping with the challenges of parenting can be particularly stressful for those concerned about the flu, COVID-19, or RSV.

With an increase in cases this season, parents are seeking effective preventive measures and safety guidelines for their kids. Dr. Christopher Pierce, the interim chair of pediatrics at the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, offers insights on managing these three illnesses.

"This year, doctors are currently seeing high numbers of flu and this started a bit earlier than historically," says Pierce. "Yearly flu vaccines are needed to give our immune systems a "reminder" of how to fight the flu, there is some added immunity that repeat exposure plays as well."

The prevalence of influenza among children has decreased early pandemic but increased over the past two years, which Pierce attributes to the heightened exposure to COVID-19 during that period.

"There was minimal influenza activity from spring 2020 through early summer 2022, which was a direct result of masking and social distancing.²

He also says RSV is still prominent but has

PCOMING EVENTS Thursday, Feb. 1:

American Legion meeting

The American Legion, Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will meet at 6 p.m. at the VFW Post Home, 102 Watts St., Radford. If Radford City Public Schools are closed on Thursday or Friday of this week due to weather, the meeting will be cancelled. For further information, please call 540-250-2283 or 540-239-9864.

Book Fair

Rotary Club of Blacksburg presents a book fair to support the Virginia Tech

Prison Book Project at Blacksburg Books, 401 S. Main St., Blacksburg; 4 - 7 p.m.

Enjoy a wine and cheese selection as you browse books. Blacksburg Books will

have a pre-selected section of approved books for purchase for the Prison Project.

Friday, Feb. 2:

Noise Notification: Engine and Rig Testing

There will be rig testing at the Advanced Propulsion and Power Lab located at 1670 Innovation Dr., Blacksburg; 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Rig will be run multiple times during the indicated time period for a duration of around 10 minutes for each run. For more information, contact Jason Doby at doby2017@vt.edu.

Saturday, Feb. 3:

Book Sale

There will be a book sale at the Radford Public Library 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Lots of selections and low prices. Come and support the Radford Library.

Southwest Virginia High School Art Show

The art of high school students from throughout Southwest Virginia will be on display at The Art Museum on Tyler (214 Tyler Ave., Radford) Feb. 3 -Feb. 17 Opening reception: Saturday, Feb. 3 at 1 p.m. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 12- 4 p.m. Saturdays.

Saturday, Feb. 10:

Mount Tabor Ruritan Biscuit Breakfast Mount Tabor Ruritan Club will be serving up hot

Council from page 1

effort is valuable. There are a lot of things that we're required to do. I simply wanted us to post that amount and I wanted to share that with the community."

In the council meeting's presentations, Director of Human Resources, Alicia Dials, shared the annual report with Christiansburg Town Council on resource programs and initiatives. Additional Human Resources team members also consist of Danette Poole, Senior HR Generalist, and HR Coordinator Wendy Lilly.

As part of the Human Resource mission statement, Dials said, "our biscuits topped with delicious sausage gravy, or with the latest batch of our "world-famous" apple butter. We will also have scrambled eggs, orange juice and coffee. Breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall of Slusser's Chapel, 1543 Mount Tabor Rd, Blacksburg; 8 - 10 a.m. This is below the sanctuary, on the lower church parking lot level. This is a fundraiser for our club to help us as we serve our community, and donations will be accepted for the breakfast. More information at https://fb.com/MtTaborRuritan

Monday, Feb.12:

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, Feb. 13:

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 St.). 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, Feb. 15:

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 attend. Member Will Reed will speak on "Animals of the War Between the States". If Montgomery and/or Floyd County Public Schools are closed on Thursday or Friday of this week due to weather, the meeting will be cancelled. For further information, please call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

Saturday, Feb. 17:

Community Garden planning session

At the Meadowbrook Library; 1 - 3 p.m. First meeting for people interested in a community garden in the Shawsville/ Ellison area.

Monday, Feb. 19:

The Dinos are coming!

Looking for a fun, family-friendly activity to enjoy together? Join us 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Blacksburg Community Center for Dino Squad! Explore fossils, cast replicas and museum models of dinosaurs during this interactive, educational program. \$3/child, \$2/ additional child. Adults free when accompanying a child. Register in advance online, or in-person at the door. Keyword search "Dino Squad", activity number: 201014. For more information, call 540.443.1100.

Saturday, February 24:

Soul food tasting event

Celebrate Black History Month and take a step back in time at the 7th annual Soul Food Sampling at historic St. Luke and Odd Fellows Hall (SLOFH), where generations met to enjoy delicious food, music, and fellowship. In this spirit, you will receive generous portions of traditional soul foods at dinner table settings, learn about the history of soul food, and enjoy discussions with former New Town residents. There are three time slots for the event, each capped at 18 people: 12 - 1:45 p.m., 2 - 3:45 p.m., and 4 - 5:45 p.m. Discounted tickets for Blacksburg Museum & Cultural Foundation members open until Feb. 3. Tickets will then be released at \$37 per person and available at the SLOFH Soul Food Sampling Page.

begun a decline.

Advice from page 1

RSV is more difficult to track as it is not reportable as are flu and COVID, which means there is not a good way to keep track of these numbers."

Pierce says it is important to look for key indicators to assess the severity of your child's illness. Parents should look for rapid breathing, using accessory muscles such as "tummy breathing" or "head bobbing," and if older children are complaining of not breathing well, would warrant an emergent evaluation." He says to also watch their level of alertness and fluid intake. Nonetheless, he stresses that reaching out to the primary care provider is the safest way to evaluate a child's level of illness and get the best care.

three, Pierce recommends getting tested. Influenza, COVID-19, and RSV can mimic one another, so knowing which symptoms align with which illness can help parents. "Overall, COVID-19 symptoms tend to be milder in children and the flu is more of the fever/ aches/malaise. RSV is different for premature and younger infants as it can trigger lower respiratory symptoms known as bronchiolitis (not bronchitis) which can lead to respiratory distress which requires

employees are our greatest resources!

In addition to the many roles that Human Resources play in the Town with recruitment and hiring processes, compensation, benefits, and professional development, the team has also been working on the implementation of a new software called Tyler Munis for the past year and half, Dials said.

"We finally went live with payroll, the HR payroll implementation on December the 18th. So, we have now run two payrolls successfully through the Tyler Munis software and we're very excited everyone got paid," Dials said. "We haven't seen too many hiccups, but along with that we implemented the employee's self-service portal. This is through Tyler Munis as well.

The goal of the platform, Dials said, is to have all employee information in one place for ease of access. The new program allows employees to conduct personal employee business like make changes to emergency contact information, see personal information, and view pay and adjust tax withholding without having to visit the HR office. The ability to enroll and make changes to benefits on the portal is also a priority, Dials said, and they plan to have this available sometime in April.

The Town of Christiansburg currently has several employment opportunities open and has been working to fill these positions strategically and cost effectively. Open positions can be found at www. christiansburg.org, through LinkedIn, Work Rocket, and social media locations such as Facebook. The Town also has a Twitter account, @CburgVaGov.

"I am happy to report that our vacancies are down to 21, this is as of yesterday," Dials said.

The TOC Wellness Program, which began on July 1, 2023, has 60 employees participating now and provides up to two hours of fitness time away from work each week. Employees may also take two free classes through the Recreation Center or the Aquatic Center in Christiansburg. Employees interested in this program can utilize the website, a downloadable application, or a paper form that they may submit, according to Dials.

During citizen comment, Ellie Travis represented Downtown Christiansburg, Inc. and expressed appreciation to the town.

o during frigid temperatures. Robins to said that 24-hour businesses, for example the convenience store Sheetz, are often a place that homeless people will go to warm themselves during the peak cold hours.

"As you might know, over the past

18 months, Downtown Christiansburg updated our mission statement to focus

on partnerships with the town business

owners in our community," Travis said.

"And, over the past six months or so,

we've really seen an increase in our

partnerships, and we really feel like we're

working together for the promotion of

is currently living in the Christiansburg

area without a home, addressed Council

concerning the number of homeless people

coming into the area without anywhere

Charles Robins, an individual who

our downtown.'

"If you're like me and outside when it's a 9-degrees, like it was the previous night, thankfully its warm this week, it's also coming with rain and more ice afterwards, I'm kind of wondering why there isn't a single warming center here in town," Robins said. "My best knowledge, the last 10 years, I've never seen one."

Robins said that Valley Hope Church opened their doors at 5 p.m. during the frigid weather but expressed that they were not in the town limits, and it is also a distance from the nearest known homeless camp. Valley Hope Church had three people come to their warming center and hope to continue offering this service and offer rides to their church facility. However, it can be difficult for homeless people to call or contact someone for assistance.

A conditional use permit was approved that would "allow the use of machinery and equipment sales, service and storage, and for a contractor equipment storage yard, and for rental of equipment commonly used by contractors in the General Business (B-3) District," according to the agenda posted on the www.christiansburg.org website.

The CUP does have conditions that must be met that can be read in their entirety on the agenda and minutes Board Doc.

Council member Kim Bowman stated that a provisional should be put into place that would satisfy the applicant and surrounding business and homeowners.

"The B3 zoning intent does restrict large trucks and nuisance noises and by the very nature of this business, these are both a concern for the adjacent businesses and property owners," Bowman said.

The Council passed the CUP with a 5-1 approval. Council member Johana Hicks voted nay and Kim Bowman was non-responsive.

The Council also had a 6-0 approval on a conditional use permit to establish a planned housing development of 114 apartments at the terminus of Sunset Drive in Christiansburg in a (B-3) General Business zoning area, with an associated vacated right-of-way request.

To differentiate between the

VOLUNTEER

MONTGOMERY

Volunteer from page 1

February 3, 2024, 2-4 pm

Come Grow With Us!

We invite volunteers of all ages to join us. We empower you to use your time and skills to strengthen our great community! Stop by our open house to meet some of our community partners. Enjoy some sweet treats as well as a crafts area for kids.



PHOTO COURTESY OF VOLUNTEER MONTGOMERY

Montgomery

Additional

Animal

providing a foster home

Participating Partners

Montgomery Co. Fire & EMS

General, Commonwealth of

· Poverty & Later Life in Rural

Adoptable pets from the ACAC

House will be held Feb.

3 from 2-4 p.m., at 210

S. Pepper St., Suite D

in Christiansburg. The

Adoption Center will be

at the event with some

adoptable animals as

well as opportunities to

volunteer with the center.

expected to be at the

event are NRV Cares,

Care

County

agencies

and

Appalachia Research

Animal Care & Adoption C

will visit! If you're no

you can learn about

in a position to adopt,

· Office of the Attorney

NRV CARES

Virginia

Volunteer Montgomery welcomes everyone to their open house to enjoy crafts, treats, a photo booth and to meet some of the local community agencies.

Each volunteer has opportunity an to talk about their skills, interests, and availability during an orientation held by the organization. Any age is welcomed and encouraged to volunteer. Interested participants under the age of 18 years old must have guardian consent.

The Volunteer Montgomery Open hospitalization to manage.

His biggest piece of advice - get the flu vaccine. "It is the safest and most effective way to prevent the risk of hospitalization and death from influenza."

Sarah Hern for Virginia Tech

County Montgomery Fire and EMS, the Office of the Attorney General, and Poverty and Later Life in Rural Appalachian Research.

On Friday, Feb. 9 Volunteer Montgomery will hold their Valentines for Vets project at their Pepper Street location. The community is invited to come on out and make Valentines cards and notes for veterans. All supplies will be provided by the organization.

Fundraising and donations play a big part in helping the organization with their outreach efforts and various programs. Volunteer Montgomery provides scholarship opportunities as well for local high school students.

An announcement for Volunteer Montgomery's Bingo fundraising event, happening in February, will be coming soon. The event will be held at Iron Tree Brewing Company in Christiansburg where participants can have a chance to win gift cards, enjoy craft brews, and purchase food from the Cabo Fish Taco food truck that will be available in front of the brewery.

AND TRANSFERS

November 2023 Radford City Land LLC, Map 020002204, \$90,000 Transfers

Zero Dollar Considerations:

Jeffrey Martin Doto to Jeffrey Martin Doto Trustee, 1901 Fletcher Avenue

Alverta Jearlean Cornell

Sandra Price Beasley

NRV Mechanical LLC to Central Depot LLC, 4786 Shelburne Road

Plans to JW Radford Contracting LLC

Mary Jones Cook to Walter B Jennings Jr. Trustee, Lot 43-45 1400 Lawrence Street

Bethany Linda Vigil to Bethany Linda Cox

City of Radford to Westside 106 LLC, 0.029 Acre Parcel Map: 9-(1)-20A

City of Radford to Tall Oaks 51 LLC, 0.034 Acre Parcel Map: 9-(1)-6

Keith Lytton to Ashley Lytton, Lot 13, 14, & 15 Map 18-(3)-SEC1-12A

William McDaniel

Morgana Alayne Baker to Morgana Alayne Burdette

Enriqueta Cuevas to Enriqueta Cuevas

Central Depot LLC to Robert Wofford, Comm Suite Central Depot Condominium

Monetary Considerations:

Taylor C Chrisman to Tanya Michelle Grayson, Map: 15-1-33A, \$270,000

Michael L Gallimore to Jorge Barocio 19-(7)-SEC17-18, Alcaraz, Map: \$100,000

Michael A Zimmerman to Teeth of the Dog LLC, Map: 020000864, \$260,000

Shree Price Lowe Executor to Shah Development LLC, Map: 12-(1)-6A, \$38,000

Central Depot LLC to Central Hair Company LLC, Revised Tax Map 9-(6)-SEC1-U101, \$157,000

Benjamin C Roop to Jennifer Lynn Nehrt, Map: 020001541, \$229,500

Dolanreid PLLC to Secretary of HUD, Lot 8 Section 13 Plan D, \$105,049.67

Morefield Holdings LLC to Seaton Properties LLC, 0.2175 Acre Portion of Section 6, \$249,000

James Clinton Munsey to Dogwood Creek Properties LLC, Map: 6-(8)-58, \$47,000

Golden Triangle Development LLC to Michael Leo Jones, Lot 31 Containing 0.158 Acre PH 2 Gloria Villas, \$295,000

2023 Montgomery November **County Land Transfers**

Zero Dollar Considerations:

Julia Barbara Hoffman to Gregg M Hoffman, Lot 8 Section A of Airport Acres Town of Blacksburg

Gregg M Hoffman to Gregg M Hoffman Trust, Unit 823 University Place II Town of Blacksburg

Joan E Sexton to Roman Ilewicz Family Trust, 2023006321

Gregg M Hoffman to Gregg M Hoffman Trust, Lot 8 Section A Airport Acres Town of Blacksburg

Gary V Radford to Gary V Radford Trust, 1.466 Acres

Jeffrey T Zoellner to Fourzs LLC, 5.066 Acres 1E Prices Fork Magisterial District

Todd B Smith to Todd B Smith Trust, Lot 42 A The Villas at Fiddlers Green Town of Blacksburg

Derwin Sutphin Trust to Russel Shepherd, 4.31 Acres Metes and Bounds Town of Christiansburg

Kenneth Dawson to Kathy Smith, 5.11 Acres Tract 2 Shawsville Magisterial District

Anne H Giles to Margaret Giles Galecki, Lot 5 Section D Airport Acres Subdivision Town of Blacksburg

Jeffrey M Kurtz to Zakari A Kurtz, 6.170 Acres Lot 1 Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Patricia F Cooper to Kari S Taylor, Lot 9 Town of Christiansburg

Richard Zimmermann to Richard Zimmermann, Lot 55 Mission Hill III Town of Blacksburg

Dottie M Kershner to Dottie M Kershner, Unit 33-3 PH 17 Section 2 Villas Pepper's Ferry Town of Christiansburg

Elizabeth Matthews to Elizabeth Matthews, Lot 5 Warren Heights Subdivision Town of Christiansburg

Howard L Walton Trust to Howard L Walton Trust, Lot 23 Carriage Hill Townhouse Town of Blacksburg

Donald W Jones to Donald W Jones, 2.60 Acres Metes and Bounds Riner Magisterial District

Juanita Ann Carroll to Andrea Lynn Howell, 2023004299

Juanita Ann Carroll to Warren Owen Wells II, 2023004300

Juanita Ann Carroll to Warren Owen Wells II, 2023004536

Gregory Thomas Zielske Sr. to 4 Z LLČ, 0.25 Acre Metes and Bounds Prices Fork Magisterial District

Judy Beth McNabb to Christopher Lane McNabb, Lot 36 Oak Tree Townhomes PH IV Town of Christiansburg

Jennifer O Feghali to Feghali Family Joint Declaration, Lot 40 PH 1 Mount Tabor Meadows Subdivision Town of Blacksburg

Pinar Gurdal to Erin Billur Gurdal, Lot 5 Northside Park Section III Town of Blacksburg

Edward Thomas Ewing to Edward Thomas Ewing Trust, Lot 60 Highland Park Number 2 Parcel I and 2,000 Square Fete Metes and Bounds Parcel II Town of Blacksburg

John G Kuykendall to Kuykendall Living Trust, Lot 70 PH II-A Tom's Creek Town of Blacksburg

Ronald T Bonofiglio to Diana P Bonofiglio Living Trust, 0.875 Acre Allegheny Mountain Parcel 1; 0.865 Acre Deercroft PH V Parcel 2 Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Brian Britt to Britt and Meltsner Living Trust, Lot 11 and half of Lot 12 Section 4 Town of Blacksburg

Robert B Moore III to Moore Living Trust, Lot 25 Preston Forest PH 1 Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Amy E Morimer to AEM Properties LLC, 0.604 Acre Parcel 1 and Lot 1 PH I Section II Parcel II Haymarket Square and Lot 14A Ridinger Acres PH I Parcel III

Arthur G Hamrick Jr. to Arthur G Hamrick III, 1.70 Acres Parcel 1 0.521 Acre Parcel II Town of Christiansburg

Randall Keith Smith to David Leo Smith, 0.4025 Acre Prices Fork Magisterial District

McGhee Landscaping LLC to Seth McGhee, Metes and Bounds See Legal Town of Christiansburg

Monetary Considerations:

Robert J Gearheart to Denis I Roshioru, Lot 13 PH III Section I Ramble Ridge Subdivision Section I, \$269,000

See Properties LLC to Christian Sonnenburg, Lot 9 Forest Hills Subdivision Section C Town of Blacksburg, \$514,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Naveen Sangadala, Lot 185 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$426,814

Joan E Sexton to Roman Ilewicz Family Trust, Lot 34 Reagan's Pointe Town of Christiansburg, \$330,000

Frazier Lee Mcnew to Mark Andrew Mcnew, 3.00 Acres Shawsville Magisterial District, \$193,000

The Bellman and Concierge LLC to PAC Properties LLC, 1.2079 Acres More of Less Town of Christiansburg, \$1,010,000

Shirley B Trimble to Ronald David Ballard, 1.435 Acres Lot 1 Shawsville Magisterial District, \$76,000

Joseph C Carley to Paul A Gellerstedt, Lot 6 Preston Forest PH 1 Town of Blacksburg, \$628,000

Charles A Davis to Alejandro Arellano, Lots 12, 13 and 14 Sturgill Estates Town of Christiansburg, \$607,900

NRHT LLC to Kathryn Chamberlin Johnson, Lot 9 Cedar Top Subdivision Town of Blacksburg, \$195,800

Stateson Homes LLC to Evergreen Real Properties LLC, Lot 186 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$384,020

Megan R Tresnak to Tristan Zeiger, Lot 8 Suburban Hills Town of Christiansburg, \$260,000

Russell Shepherd to David Prevette Trust, 4.31 Acres Metes and Bounds Town of Christiansburg, \$386,000

CC Rider LLC to CC Star LLC, Lot 2 Rainbow Ridge Subdivision Section 1 Town of Blacksburg, \$198,647

Milan Barnett Tolley Trust to Ronald R Rakes, 6.331 Acres Metes and Bounds Shawsville Magisterial District, \$170,500

Brenda D Eanes to Stephan L Bishop, 49.25 Acres Metes and Bounds Shawsville Magisterial District, \$150,000

Robert A Jones Jr. to Renaissance Development One Inc., 5.48 Acres Plat Recorded as Instrument Number 202300878, \$320,000

Walter C Simmerman to Dennis Wayne Martin, Lot 5 PT Lots 4 & 6 Section 3 Map of Fairgrounds, \$280,000

Donovan Pitstick to Jerry R Holdaway, Lot 6 Containing 0.5679 Acre College Park Section 4, \$429,000

Mohamed E Mahmoud to West Main Radford LLC, Plan C RL & I CO Section 3 Lot 9-10-11-12-13-19-20, \$53,000

City of Radford to Westside 106 LLC, 0.029 Acre Parcel Map: 9-(5)-Sec2-19, \$8,068.95

City of Radford to Westside 431 LLC, 0.034 Acre Parcel Map: 9-(1)-20A, \$8,910

City of Radford to Tall Oaks 51 LLC, 0.034 Acre Parcel Map: 9-(1)-6, \$7,514

Bette Wampler to Sarah L Minnick, Map: 10-(6)-SEC3-10A-11, \$274,950

Keith Albert Marretta to Jorge Barocio Alcaraz, Lot 22 Section 17 Plan A RWELCO, \$17,500

Donald Lynn Bugg to Kimberly K Conner, Lots 18 & 19 Section 14 Plan A, \$137,000

TR 2 Holdings LLC to Daven Tung Kang Lu, New Parcel 2 Containing 0.0875 Acre, \$135,000

New River Valley Community Services to West Street Properties LLC, Map: 10-(4)-SEC14-1A-2A-3-4, \$100,000

Mary Ann Jones Cox Trustee to Walter B Jennings Jr. Trustee, Lots 43-45 Heth Map, \$7,600

Emily S McGrail to Jones Builders 020002204/12-(12), LLC, Map \$20,000

Emily S McGrail to Jones Builders

Christi Ladawn Dobbins Matte to Kevin W Butler, 2017004463

Zheng Xiang to Xiaoshi Xiang, 0.522 Acre Lot 6 Cedar Orchard PH IV-B Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Michael L Meadows to Stacy Renee Meadows, Lot 46 PH I Windmill Hills

Amit Yaffe to Henry Yaffe, Lot 24 PH I Oak Tree Townhomes Town of Christiansburg

David E Weaver to Sarah Margaret Weaver, Lot 4 Section I Woodbine PDR Subdivision Town of Blacksburg

F&B Land LP to R Fralin Construction Inc., 0.143 Acre Lot 40 Kensington PH X Riner Magisterial District

Ari Baqaie to Wahid Baqaie, Lot 416 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District

Sandra Leigh Reed to Sandra Leigh Reed Trust, Lot 31 Edgemont of Diamond Hill Section II Town of Christiansburg

Janice F Leraaen to Leraaen Trust, Unit 10-3 PH VI Villas at Peppers Ferry Town of Christiansburg

Diana L Barnes to Katlyn Elizabeth Wilson, Lot 124 Heritage Place PH IV-B Riner Magisterial District

Shleigh Shaw-Fitzhugh Utzinger to Utzinger Living Trust, 2.656 Acres Lot E Mount Tabor Magisterial District

George L Boggs IV to Country Roots LLC, Lot 3 Section 2 Shelor Heights Riner Magisterial District

Michael V Avitabile to Nestburg LLC, 0.37 Acre Lot 41 and Lot 41 Kipps Farm Subdivision Town of Blacksburg

Eric Wayne Akers to Cheryl Denise Akers Altis, 6.246 Acres Metes and Bounds Riner Magisterial District

Jeffrey Puuri to Jeffrey Purri Trust, Lot 69 and 70 Blacksburg Heights Town of Blacksburg

Russell M Collins to April P Collins, 173, 174, 175 and 176 Beverly Hills Subdivision Town of Christiansburg

Traveling Manns LLC to Jerry H Carter, 2.096 Acres Northern Portion of Tax Parcel 38-(A)-163 Prices Fork Magisterial District

Kermith Vernard Harrington Trust to Robert Wesley Cranwell, 2023005194

Juanita D Nystrom to Ethan T Margherio, 0.003 Acre 27-2-40

Andrew Martinson to Andrew L Martinson Trust, 0,314 Acre Parcel 1 and 0.217 Acre Parcel 2

Michelle N Beale to John Edward Forbes, 2.658 Acres Lot 33 Riner Magisterial District, \$661,000

Sandy Bottom Solutions LLC to CM Suites LLC, Unit 8 2727 South Condos Parcel I And Unit 9 2727 South Condos Town of Blacksburg, \$900,000

Equity Trustees LLC Sub Trust to BKC Properties Inc., 2018007744, \$106,433

Hokie Land Holdings LLC to Sandz Estate LLC, Lot 131 Section 1 Pheasant Run Townhomes PH IV Town of Blacksburg, \$314,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Yin W Cheng, Lot 187 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$433,685

See Land Transfers, page 5



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PINION

Positive change in language regarding Drug Treatment Courts moves closer to becoming law

Del. Jason Ballard Virginia General Assembly

As the 2024 General Assembly session continues forward at a rapid pace, more of my legislation has received subcommittee and committee hearings. Some of my bills have been defeated early in the legislative process, which is something Republicans are coming to terms with as being in the minority in legislature controlled by Democrats. However, I was particularly surprised at the defeat of House Bill 302, which was a commonsense measure supported by firearm enthusiasts and firearms skeptics alike.

HB 302 would have simply extended a popular tax credit on gun safes that is currently only available if you buy a gun safe from a Federal Firearms Licensed (FFL) dealer. My bill would have extended that same tax credit to purchases made at non-FFL business establishments, such as Tractor Supply Company. Pro-Second Amendment organizations such as the Virginia Citizens Defense League supported this bill due to it saving gun enthusiasts money when purchasing a new gun safe. Perhaps unsurprisingly, anti-Second Amendment activists also supported HB 302, because it would have provided a financial incentive for folks to keep their firearms safely secured. Without explanation, the Democrats of Subcommittee #1 in the House Committee on Finance voted to table the bill, which means it is effectively dead and will not become law. Democrats

speak often about the need for commonsense firearms safety legislation, and it doesn't get much more commonsense than HB 302.

In better news, I'm very happy to report that my House Bill 292 received a unanimous "yes" vote in the Criminal Subcommittee of the House Committee for Courts of Justice. It will now advance to the full Courts of Justice Committee, where I expect it will receive continued favorable attention. HB 292 simply changes the name of "Drug Treatment Courts" to "Recovery Courts," but the outcome of such a change goes much farther than this simplicity implies. Joining me to testify in favor of this bill were

See Change, page 10

UVA scientists, community organizations join to reduce cancer disparities

By Michelle Brauns, MS, APR, and Wendy Cohn, MEd, PhD

Few of us will make it through life without being impacted in some way by cancer, and many are familiar with key factors that contribute to cancer risk both within and beyond our control like tobacco use and a family history of cancer. Fewer realize how factors such as race, gender and even where they live can place them at higher risk of dying from the disease.

In our region, health disparities are evident across the 87 counties in Virginia and West Virginia served by the University of Virginia Cancer Center, one of only 54 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers. Lung cancer is diagnosed more frequently than the national average, and Black residents face higher rates of diagnosis and death for breast and colorectal cancer than their white neighbors. The most significant difference is seen in the disproportionate impact of prostate cancer, which is nearly twice as common in Black men, while those diagnosed face more than double the death rate of whites.

Community health organizations play a crucial role in reducing disparities, ranging from public education about the risks associated with tobacco use and screening guidelines for various cancers, to facilitating screening and even transportation to wellness visits. The UVA Cancer Center partners with these organizations to address

disparities and advance discoveries to improve cancer prevention, detection and treatment,.

The UVA Cancer Center addresses disparities through its Office of Community Outreach and Engagement, directly engaging communities most impacted by cancer. Together, community members and organizations provide health education, navigation and opportunities for community-based

See **Cancer**, page 5

TE EDI

Dear Editor,

Another hunting season is over and landowners throughout southwest Virginia have dealt with another year of frustration. Starting as early as August, hunters chase bears with hounds, creating a host of issues for law enforcement and landowners alike. Dogs run across private property at will and their owners do nothing to stop it. In fact, they often encourage it by releasing their dogs along public roads or on small tracts, knowing their animals will cross land where they aren't welcome. These

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> 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.

hounds disrupt still-hunters, harass pets and livestock and create chaos for everyone. Hunters walk through private property at will, thanks to Virginia's "right-toretrieve" law. All of these activities are entirely legal.

Despite growing calls for an end to trespassing bear hounds and the actions of hunters who use them, the Department of Wildlife Resources and state legislature have so far failed to provide any relief to landowners. The hound community has offered no solutions, either. Why would they? Under the current laws, they have free reign of every parcel of private land in the state.

The DWR and the hound hunting lobby can continue to sweep this under the rug, but it isn't going away. In fact, it will continue to get worse as Virginia's population grows. An estimated 10.2 million people will live here in 2040, up from the current population of 8.7 million. Many of these new residents are moving to rural Virginia only to learn their private property becomes the domain of houndsmen and have no means of stopping them. When confronted, these hunters often say the same thing: "Go back to where you came from." In reality, it makes no difference where these new residents

come from. They are here and they aren't going away. And it's their property. That's all that matters.

What's more, Virginia's land base continues to change. Large, unbroken farms used to be liberally scattered throughout Virginia, offering ideal places to run hounds without disturbing neighbors. Many of those farms have been divided and divided again, leaving small tracts that are not conducive to this type of hunting anymore.

Members of the Virginia Property Rights Alliance, along with countless landowners throughout Virginia, are working to end this abuse of private property. Let me be clear: Our organization doesn't want to abolish hunting with hounds. We simply want to end it on property where it is not welcome. We can't do it alone, though. Landowners fed up with this abuse of private property must speak up. Write, call and email the DWR board, state delegates and local representatives and tell them this assault on private property must end.

Abram "Judge" Charlton President, Virginia Property Rights Alliance

Average gas prices higher than last week

Average gasoline prices in Virginia have risen 6.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.02/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia. Prices

in Virginia are 2.9 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 39.4 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 0.5 cents in the

last week and stands at \$3.87 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price

See Gas page 6

AARP Virginia Fraud Alert: When that hot ticket is a fake

Getting tickets to must-see concerts is becoming harder than could take you to a copycat site. er. From presale signup to waiting hours online and still missing

on social media and online

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.

out on the tickets you want, criminals have a solution - and it's costing consumers a lot of money in fraudulent ticket purchases. With most concert venues switching to digital tickets only, it is easier than ever to produce counterfeit tickets. And with many of the top shows selling out instantly the market for resale tickets is larger than ever. Here are three tips to avoid buying a worthless ticket.

First, stick to known ticket sales sites or visit the National Association of Ticket Brokers (natb.org) to ensure that you are dealing with a verified reseller. Always type the web address of the site you want to visit into your browser vs. clicking a link that

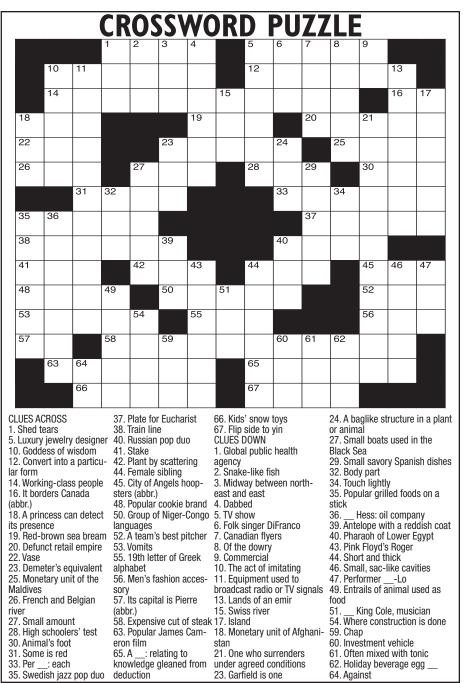
marketplaces where this scam flourishes.

Third, never pay with a peer-to-peer payment app unless you are getting tickets from someone you know. You don't have the same consumer protections with these methods that you have with a credit card.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam. Report scams to local law enforcement. For help from AARP, call 1-877-908-3360 or visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at

AARP Virginia

www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork.





www.ourvalley.org

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Land Transfers from page 3

Shah Development LLC to Jackson M Newton, 16,538 Square Feet Lot 5 Craig Mountain Section 2 Town of Christiansburg, \$369,900

Kristine E Simpkins to Victor M Silva, Lot 6 Warren Heights Subdivision Town of Christiansburg, \$270,000

Zach Milton to Oldtown Chapel LLC, 0.958 Acre Metes and Bounds Shawsville Magisterial District, \$55,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Brett Westerfield, Lot 160 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$502,150

Marie D Bland to Centennial Christian Church, 9 Acres Metes and Bounds Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$160,000

Michael Cameron Weaver to Mark Edward Weaver, Lot 4 Section I Town of Blacksburg, \$116,160

Roger D Campbell to Suzanne Williamson, Lot 94 Brush Mountain West PH 9 Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$105,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Harlos R Larrowe, Lot 188 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$426,900

NRGT LLC to Megan Lynn Ihlefeld, 0.3474 Acres Metes and Bounds Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$260,000

R Fralin Construction Inc to Jay D Haynes, 0.143 Acre Lot 40 Kensington PH X Riner Magisterial District, \$354,950

Tammie Oxley LLC to Airtree LLC, Lots 52-58 Oak Tree PH XII Town of Christiansburg, \$1,650,000

J Carmen Salinas Trejo to BCP Development LLC, \$110,000

Hugh W Rimmer to Nicola Griebe, Lot 22 Section 3 Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$385,000

Normand E Pilotte to Keith Cooper, 2.6427 Acres Lot 3 Riner Magisterial District, \$260,000

DALMPK LLC to Skyler Brie Dehart, 0.5 Acre Lot A Riner Magisterial District, \$65,000

RSMWTD LLC to Leo Walton LLC, 0.821 Acre Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$320,000

David A Whaley Trust to WCI Holdings LLC, 130.549 Acres Lot 8A Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$425,000

Harold K Kubecki to Christian T Worley, Lot 48 PH I Block 5A1 Pheasant Run Townhomes Town of Blacksburg, \$310,000 David P Winyall to Steven Baltimore, 0.275 Acre Lot 33 Town of Christiansburg, \$277,000

Sherman E Davis to Donna S Lee, 0.410 Acre Lot 16 Shawsville Magisterial District, \$9,000

Samantha Clark Underwood to Kiefer M Yates, Lot 10 Radford Heights Subdivision, \$215,000

Amazonite LLC to Elizabeth Ann Haydu Travis, 5.709 Acres Lot 9 Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$55,000

Lawrence J Kyle to KPMS LLC, 2.116 Acres Lot 4 Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$139,000

LJCJ LLC to KPMS LLC, 0.172 Acre Cedar Orchard PH IV-B Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$20,000

Jerald L Feinstein to Alan Thomas Asbeck, Condo Unit H Building 507 Sundance Ridge Condos Town of Blacksburg, \$228,000

Barabara B Bostic to Lawrence J Kyle, Unit 5-4 PH III Villas at Peppers Ferry Section II Town of Christiansburg, \$376,000

Shah Development LLC to Eagle Construction of VA LLC; 0.262 Acre Lot 25m 0.573 Acre Lot 27, 0.775 Acre Lot 28, 0.250 Acre Lot 31, 0.250 Acre Lot37 Reserve at Round Meadows Town of Christiansburg; \$560,000

John Michael Sanborn to Chandler M Wilburn, Lot 8 Crozier Court Shawsville Magisterial District, \$308,300

Joseph S Straub to Team Claren LLC, Lot 23 Newcomb Heights Town of Christiansburg, \$60,000

Richard M Barnett to S & D Real Estate LLC; 1.609 Acres Metes and Bounds Parcel I, 0.08 Acre Lot F Parcel II, 0.107 Acre Lot E Parcel III Shawsville Magisterial District; \$297,000

Troy A Scaptura to JLRSM Investment Company, Lot 73 Clifton PH I Town of Christiansburg, \$357,500

Roy C Allen Jr. to Quinn Duffy, Lot 9 Longview Estates Section 1 Town of Blacksburg, \$345,000

Danylle R Kunkel to Jenny Sutphin, Lot 26 Forest Hill Section B, \$660,000

Stephen Wells to Huafeng Zhao, Lot 1 Cedar Run Subdivision Town of Blacksburg, \$140,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Xin Luo, Lot 49 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$549,499

Bradley M McCrady to Debra Ann Sonnenburg,

Catherine A Stephens to Dalia Allencherry, Lot 18 Section 1 PH III Franklin Park Townhouses Town of Christiansburg, \$190,000

Eagle Construction of VA LLC to Jenna Marie Conrad, Revised Lot 45 Reserve at Round Meadows Town of Christiansburg, \$514,337

Bernier Properties LLC to Keith Evan Eagle, Condo Unit 78F Building A Piedmont at Blacksburg II Town of Blacksburg, \$266,000

Eagle Construction of VA LLC to Ronald W Kenyon, Lot 14 The Reserve at Round Meadows Town of Christiansburg, \$717,524

Jamie Moran Bond to Winston Lloyd Bond, Little Less than ½ Acre Metes and Bounds Town of Christiansburg, \$151,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Danylle Ranae Kunkel, Lot 164 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$582,705

Emily L Saunders to Christine M Jaworski, Condo Unit P Building 505 Sundance Ridge Condominium of Blacksburg Town of Blacksburg, \$174,000

REO 2023-NRI LLC to Douglas W Sink, Metes and Bounds Shawsville Magisterial District, \$90,500

Joshua Bowman to Christiana L Ridgeway, 1.0359 Acres New Tract B Shawsville Magisterial District, \$290,000

James Edgar Tate to Sofia Issel, Lot 69 McBryde Village, \$460,000

Justin Grimes to Denise Sprumont, Lot 1 Blake Forest Section 1 Town of Christiansburg, \$369,000

Jennifer Mills Cater to Gary P Fore, Tract 20 Section 1 Laurel Ridge Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$33,000

Hobert Minton III to Sinjaroen LLC, Lot 20 Lions Gate Planned Community, \$375,000

Erin Lorann Nuckols to Troy B Jones, 0.58 Acre Parcel 1 0.8 Acre Parcel 2 Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$207,500

Mark N Courtney to Alex Lopes Galvao, Part of Lot 22 and Lot 23 Town of Blacksburg, \$505,000

Shah Development LLC to Courtney Tanner, 1.392 Acres Lot 5 Riner Magisterial District, \$417,500

Matthew Joseph Belay to Christian Sonnenburg, 3.9 Acres Forest Hill Subdivision Section 3, \$55,000 Park Subdivision Town of Blacksburg, \$499,000

Kenneth Leslie Charles to Karlie L Shurina, Lot 6 Walnut Creek PH I Shawsville Magisterial District, \$357,500

The Blacksburg Fire Safety Foundation to Habitat for Humanity of the New River Valley, Metes and Bounds See Legal Town of Blacksburg, \$475,000

Anise M Keen to BPH Homes LLC, 1.46 Acres Metes and Bounds Shawsville Magisterial District, \$85,000

Rebecca W McClure to Jordan Lee Wade Sr., Lot 27 Springview Subdivision PH II Riner Magisterial District, \$201,000

Nathan A Harrison to Daniel L Meaney, Lot 15 Falling Branch Subdivision PH I Town of Christiansburg, \$289,000

Juanita D Nystrom to Steven M Parker, 2.749 Acres Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$25,000

Lori Leigh Lambert to Pitchayaporn Tantihkarnchana, Lot 20 Oak Tree Townhomes PH VII Town of Christiansburg, \$297,500

Kipps Farms LLC to Stateson Homes LLC, Lot 9 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$137,458

Kipps Farms LLC to Stateson Homes LLC, Lot 126 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$120,535

Stateson Homes LLC to Bobby Ray Childress Jr., Lot 204 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$400,870

SAS Eagle Givens LLC to Paul Neal, 0.184 Acre Lot 116 Town of Blacksburg, \$679,772

Sandra Walters Smith to JJB Properties LLC, 0.495 Acre Metes and Bounds, \$332,000

Charles E Nelson Trust to MKBC Properties LLC, 180,004 Square Feet Metes and Bounds Town of Blacksburg, \$737,500

Stateson Homes LLC to William F Deese, Lot 137 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$560,029

Karen Neighbors Worrell to Ronald Alls, Lot 39 Miniature Farms Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$25,000

Scott Kiser to Joseph A Fauldale Jr., Unit 1213-G PH VIII University Terrace Condos, \$277,000

Jeanette Neighbors Wiggert Executor to Timothy J Morgan Trust, Lot 38 Miniature Farms Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$255,000

BLDT Development Properties LLC to Sylvia Briceno, Lot 84 Clover Valley Estates Town of Blacksburg, \$265,000

Victoria D Cox to Mohammed Shah Alam, 0.250 Acre Lot 13 PH I New River Village Subdivision Town of Christiansburg, \$355,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Alicia Adams, Lot 11 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$669,274

Michael Ray Carden to John H Cease, Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 53, 54 Brumfield Acres Shawsville Magisterial District, \$236,000

Cancer from page 4

research offering a more individualized approach to addressing the impact of cancer in communities across Virginia and West Virginia.

For the first time this fall, UVA Cancer Center convened researchers and community partners from across the region for a two-day Cancer Health Disparities Symposium. In more than 30 presentations, UVA faculty heard directly from the community on efforts to address cancer in their communities, while those community members learned about the latest research in progress.

Addressing rural disparities was a major theme of the symposium. Representing Jonesboro's Stone Mountain Health, Inc., Director of Nursing Sabrina Mitchell, MSN, DNPS, APRN, BC, and Patient Navigator Jessica Clark, RN, shared an analysis of thousands of cases in which their rural patients refused recommended cancer screenings. To get to the root of this, they identified many barriers to care, such as lack of transportation. Their findings and resulting interventions led to a 10% increase in cancer screenings in 2023.

Hanneman, Lot 1 Cambria Crossing PH I Town of Christiansburg, \$400,000

Seeds Properties II LLC to Taylor C Chrisman, 2.43 Acres Lot 1 Town of Christiansburg, \$399,900

Peter J Barrett Trust to Harold E Downing, Unit 1909-A Building 14 Lot 14 Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$75,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Lauren Pollard, Lot 10 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$711,324

Eric S Sallee to Alyssa Ann Pierson, 0.759 Acre Parcel B Town of Blacksburg, \$396,000

Melvin Wayne Meredith to Tien Duong, 0.741 Acre Metes and Bounds Less and Except a Strip of Land Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$311,000

Faculty presenters included UVA

School of Medicine's Jamie Zoellner,

PhD, RD, who discussed ongoing

evaluation of Kids SIPsmartER, a

UVA-designed school curriculum in

Appalachia that has shown effectiveness

in reducing consumption of sugary

drinks, which are known to elevate

pronounced cancer disparities, we are

well-positioned to reduce disparities

thanks to the dedication, commitment

and leadership of partners from the

communities across the area. With our

innovative research, additional resources

and continued collaboration, we can reduce the burden of cancer across our

Michelle Brauns is CEO of the

Community Health Center of the New

River Valley and a member of the UVA Cancer Center Community Advisory

Council. Wendy Cohn is a Professor of

Public Health Science at the UVA School

of Medicine and the Cancer Center's

Associate Director for Community

our

region and beyond – together.

Outreach and Engagement.

region

confronts

cancer risk.

While

Lawrence C Tabor to Ashley Jo Nicholson, Lot 27 and 28 Mockingbird Hill Subdivision Town of Christiansburg, \$270,000

Susan Edmonds Carver to SAS Construction LLC, Lot 10 Hubbard Haven Subdivision Section 2 Town of Blacksburg, \$100,000

Emily L Saunders to Jose Adrian Torrico Moreno, Condo Unit Q Building 501 Sundance Ridge Condominium of Blacksburg PH I Town of Blacksburg, \$179,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Anton Suvorov, Lot 202 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$408,240

David C Reusch to Augustus Wilhelm Huynh, Lot 10 Woodland Julie Hamlin to Bishoy Abdelsayed, Lot 58 PH II Hans Meadow Subdivision Town of Christiansburg, \$268,000

Jerry L Saul to Pamela D Conner, 1.201 Acres Riner Magisterial District, \$27,500

Disabled American Veterans Department to Robert Pearce, 2 Acres Town of Christiansburg, \$170,000

Eagle Construction of VA LLC to Joseph Wood, New Lot 55 The Reserve at Round Meadows Town of Christiansburg, \$570,400

Jennifer T Niemiera to Vincent S Fiorda, 1.455 Acres Lot B Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$65,000

Yao Huang to Tian Jiang, Condo Unit B-1 of Brightwood Manor Condos, \$150,000



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BITUARIES Hedge, Dolly Jean Smart

Dolly Jean Smart Hedge, 85, passed away Friday, Jan. 26, 2024, at her home in Radford.

She retired from AT&T. Dolly was preceded in death by her Joseph Henry parents, and Ethel Mae Smart; husband, Jerry L. Hedge; brothers, Elwood, Joseph, Jr., and Robert Smart; and sisters, Dorleen Roop, Lucille Wilson, Melida Boyd, Dorothy McCoy, Frances Strader, and June Dobbins.

Survivors include her son, Gregory

Sylvia Seavey, 72, of Christiansburg, away Tuesday, passed Jan. 2024 at LewisGale 23, Medical Center in Salem.

Sylvia was a daughter of the late Edward E. Nuckols, Sr. and Hollie Mae Lucas Nuckols. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Daniel L. Seavey; daughter, Jennifer M. Collins; and brother, Edward E. Nuckols, Jr.



Hedge (Kim); daughter, Debbie Lilly (Rodger); (Rodger); grandchildren, Joshua Hedge, Saul, Corey Heather and

Schrantz (Evan); great grandchildren, Hannah and Natalie Saul, and another great grandson on the way; sister, Shirley (PeeWee); Crabtree and many other nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, in the West View Cemetery in Radford.

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

Seavey, Sylvia

Sylvia was a graduate of Christiansburg High School and New River Community College. She was an employee of Virginia Tech, retiring in 2017 after thirty-six years of service.

Left to cherish her memory are brother and sister-in-law, Roger and Diane Nuckols of Christiansburg; sisters brothers-in-law, and

Patty and Billy Dove of Christiansburg, Carolyn and Roger Ratcliffe of Pilot; and nieces, Erika Harrison and Bethany Nuckols.

In honor of her wishes, there will be no public A private visitation. graveside service was held Monday, Jan. 29, 2024 in Sunset Cemetery, Christiansburg.

Gas from page 4

reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$2.57/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$3.99/g, a difference of \$1.42/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.57/g while the highest was \$3.99/g, a difference of \$1.42/g.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 4.5 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.07/g today. The national average is down 4.1 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 41.2 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:

January	29,	2023:	\$3.41/g	(U.S.
Average: \$3.49/g)				
January	29,	2022:	\$3.20/g	(U.S.
Average: \$3.36/g)				
January	29,	2021:	\$2.32/g	(U.S.
Average: \$2.42/g)				
			\$2.32/g	(U.S.
Average: \$2.48/g)				
January	29,	2019:	\$2.09/g	(U.S.
Average: \$2.27/g)				
January	29,	2018:	\$2.44/g	(U.S.
Average: \$2.58/g)				
			\$2.14/g	(U.S.
Average: \$2.26/g)				
January	29,	2016:	\$1.66/g	(U.S.
Average: \$1.81/g)				

January 29, 2015: \$1.95/g (U.S. Average: \$2.04/g)

January 29, 2014: \$3.16/g (U.S. Average: \$3.27/g)

Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:

Roanoke- \$2.92/g, up 1 cent per gallon from last week's \$2.91/g.

Richmond- \$3.03/g, up 8.5 cents per gallon from last week's \$2.95/g.

West Virginia- \$2.89/g, down 2.4 cents per gallon from last week's \$2.92/g.

"We've seen the national average price of gasoline bounce back up after cold weather-related refinery shutdowns pushed up the wholesale price of gasoline. Plus, recent GDP data and new attacks in the Red Sea have pushed oil prices to their highest level since November," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "While prices have inched up and may continue to slowly rise, I believe the larger increases will be witnessed in a few weeks as we enter mid-February, lasting through April or May, during which the national average could rise 35 to 85 cents per gallon. Other issues and tensions could complicate how quickly prices rise or how high they go, so while the rise is not completely charted, it could deviate from our expectations."

GasBuddy

Christiansburg woman earns White Coat at Annual Ceremony at Emory & Henry College

EMORY, VA - Cadence Spaulding of Christiansburg pledged a commitment to ethical and compassionate care during a White Coat Ceremony on Jan. 11, 2024, at the McGlothlin Center for the Arts in the presence of college leadership, esteemed faculty, supportive friends, and proud family members.

Since the inception of graduate programs at the School of Health Sciences in Marion in 2014 and the new School of Nursing in 2021, Emory & Henry has consistently stood out as a trailblazer in healthcare education and training within the region. A substantial number of graduates choose to contribute to the region's healthcare sector, particularly focusing on rural healthcare in the United States. Rooted in the liberal arts and sciences, the education provided to students within the program equips them with a robust foundation to address the evolving and intricate healthcare needs of the region and beyond.

Dr. Laurie Anne Ferguson, the founding dean of the School of Nursing, expressed confidence in the impact these future nurses will make, stating, "We know our future nurses will help fill the demand that our region so desperately needs.'

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program at Emory & Henry College stands as a testament to the institution's commitment to providing a baccalaureate degree that prepares graduates to excel in the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for entry into practice as registered nurses.

"Our goal is to prepare nurses who provide high-quality care, can demonstrate critical thinking skills, and can assist patients in navigating an increasingly complex healthcare system, with increased focus on health promotion," added Ferguson.

The Baccalaureate Degree program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education and has received initial approval from the Virginia Board of Nursing. For more information, please visit www.ehc. edu/nursing. Emory & Henry College remains dedicated to shaping the future of healthcare in the region through excellence in education.

Emory & Henry College



(Top row, left to right): Cadence Spaulding, Keenan Glago, Marek Moomey, Emma Santoro, (Bottom row, left to right): Nikita Caudill, Lisa R. Boye, and Hermella Legesse.

Virginia Tech graduate student awarded \$101,000 National Institute of Health grant

allure of discovery, Sedovy thought she'd be a doctor.

Her father is a surgeon, and her mother is a nurse. She spent hours hanging around the hospital, even observing surgeries back home in Rockbridge County, Virginia, so she came by the desire to help and heal honestly.

But when she was an undergraduate at cells, without which Virginia Tech, a different idea intruded. We need doctors, a professor said in a speech, but there's also opportunity for cellular-level discoveries, human health further upstream, developing the drugs, methods, and technologies that doctors use in the clinic.

Now doctoral а candidate in Virginia Translational Tech's Biology, Medicine, and Health Graduate Sedovy is Program, very path.

She recently was awarded a three-year, \$101,000 Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral Individual National



Before she felt the Research Service Award scientific from the National Meghan Institutes of Health (NIH) to explore wound healing in arteries after surgery. heart Her research is based on a discovery she made in the Johnstone Lab at Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC - that arteries used in heart bypass surgeries are often stripped of a crucial layer of endothelial a surgery's chances of long-term success can be significantly impaired.

"I just want to make powerful impact on to really understand what's happening in disease and why it's happening," Sedovy said. She's partly motivated by growing up in a rural setting. "Cardiovascular disease is the most-deadly disease there is, but it does disproportionately affect rural communities. The desire to help moving fast along that my community is an inspiration for wanting to be able to correct these problems and keep people from dying from preventable diseases."

Sedovy's mentor, Scott Johnstone, believes she will make a difference.

"The success that she's had is not accidental," said Johnstone, assistant professor at the Fralin Research Biomedical Institute and Virginia Tech's Department of Biological Sciences. "Meghan came to the lab with very clear goal in mind, to do translational research. She is the

example of what you want for a graduate student. She works hard. She takes initiative. She cooperates well with others, she trains people. She's got a great attitude and she's got a clear vision for what she wants."

Sedovy was previously awarded an American Heart Association predoctoral fellowship, but relinquished it in order to be able to accept the NIH grant, which is based on her discovery of the absence of endothelial cells in the blood vessel samples.

Johnstone's lab studies blood vessels, how they are put together, and what happens to them in health and disease.

As part of that, the lab obtains sections of blood vessels left over after heart bypass surgeries at Carilion Clinic's Roanoke Memorial Hospital. Sedovy drives to the hospital, waits outside the operating room, and collects the vessels herself.

The lab's research had focused on smooth muscle cells in the arteries - which make up artery walls and give them shape and structure as well as regulate the flow of blood and pressure in the vessels through dynamic changes in their tone. But vessels also contain endothelial cells - a onecell thick layer that lines the vessel interior and prevents leakage.

When Sedovy went to see what that layer of cells looked like in the hospital samples, she found it



PHOTO BY CLAYTON METZ FOR VIRGINIA TECH

Meghan Sedovy, a doctoral candidate in Virginia Tech's Translational Biology, Medicine, and Health Graduate Program, was awarded a three-year, \$101,000 Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award from the National Institutes of Health to explore wound healing in arteries after heart surgery.

was missing, apparently destroyed in the process of removing and storing the vessels from patients' legs for use in the heart. The researchers went back to the hospital for samples that were preserved immediately after surgery and found the endothelial layer was still badly damaged.

With that cell layer gone, the transplanted vessel could produce clots as it tries to heal, which could stop blood flow to the heart with sometimes fatal results.

With the NIH grant, Sedovy is studying how to promote healing in these cases. Her research focuses on a protein called Connexin 43, which is more abundant in smaller arteries that

have been injured. Sedovy and Johnstone believe the protein facilitates healing. Sedovy's research aims to learn how with plans to use that information to create a new therapy to aid heart surgery patients.

Sedovy's long-term goal includes creating start-up companies to deliver such innovations to doctors and patients, and she believes she's in the right place to get started.

Along with her Sedovy has research, completed the Fralin Health Sciences and Technology Commercialization Fellowship Program, which trains budding scientists in the

methods and language of commercialization of discoveries including pitching their ideas to potential investors.

She's grateful for the support of Johnstone, who works closely with her both in the lab and on presentations and proposals as well as the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute and the Translational Biology, Medicine, and Health Graduate Program.

"They've created this environment that lets you go out and try things, to try to be exceptional and they're there to support you," she said. "They really give off this impression that your success is their success."

Virginia Tech

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Legals - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 5716 LEE HIGHWAY, TROUTVILLE, VA 24175

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated February 28, 2022, in the original principal amount of \$173,232.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 220000838. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on February 26, 2024, at 12:30 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: BEGINNING AT AN IRON STAKE IN THE EAST LINE OF U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 11 CORNET TO **BROWN (FORMERLY** MRS. STEVENS), THENCE WITH BROWNS S. 56° 21 45" E. 303.84 FEET TO AN **IRON PIPE; THENCE** LEAVING BROWN AND WITH THE CLERK TRACT S. 35° 36` 00" W. 79.90 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE N. 59° 36` 00" W 293.05 FEET TO A POINT ON THE EASTERLY SIDE OF ROUTE 11; THENCE WITH ROUTE 11 ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT WITH A RADIUS OF 3500.00 FEET TO A CHORD OF N. 28° 35` 24" E. 96.78 FEET AND AN ARC DISTANCE OF 96.78 FFET TO AN IRON STAKE AT THE PLACE OF **BEGINNING AND** CONTAINING 0.604 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AS SET FORTH IN THAT PLAT OF SURVEY BY CHARLES R. MCMURRY. CERTIFIED LAND SURVEYOR, DATED AUGUST 16, 1990. TOGETHER WITH THE

105 Shade Hollow Street, Blue Ridge, VA 24064

In execution of the Deed of

Trust dated October 3, 2016, in the original principal amount of \$135,681.00, recorded as Inst. 160003659, subsequently assigned to Virginia Housing Development Authority, and modified to the amount of \$127,131.58 as Inst. 210001144, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County of Botetourt, Virginia, default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured and at the request of the holder of the note, the undersigned, as Substitute Trustees, either of whom may act, will sell at public auction at the front entrance of the Circuit Court for the County of Botetourt on March 27, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., the property located at the above address and described as 1.00 acre, more or less, beginning at a common corner with W.L. Harris on a 30 foot Roadway leading to Va. State Secondary Route 652, corner marked by an iron pin; thence with said W.L. Harris line, N. 89 degrees 31' W. 223.86 feet to an iron pin corner in said Harris line; thence a new line through property owned jointly by Timothy N. Gilbert and Linda D. Gilbert and Herbert O. Ransom and Mary V. Ransom, N. 11 degrees 18' W. 200 feet to an iron on above said property; thence a new line through same property, S. 89 degrees 31' E. 223.86 feet to an iron in west edge of said 30 foot Roadway; thence with the said Roadway westerly line, S. 11 degrees 18' W. 200 feet to the point of Beginning, subject to a Road Maintenance Agreement recorded in Deed Book 494, Pages 811-817, and together with a perpetual easement 30 feet wide located near Hickory Street for ingress and egress to Va. Secondary Route 652, a portion of this right of way is

dolanreid.com/foreclosuresales. THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

not announced until the

sale. Current sale status

For Information Contact: DolanReid PLLC and G. Benny Moore, Substitute Trustee(s) 12610 Patrick Henry Dr. Ste. D, Newport News, VA 23602; (757) 320-0255

ABC NOTICE

DPC Living LLC., trading as Sycamore Place General Store. 19758 Main St., Buchanan, Botetourt County, VA. 24066-0000. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Gift Shop license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Debra Conner, Owner

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.

Hardikkumar Patel, Owner Chirayu Patel, Owner

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.

NOTICE OF **PUBLIC HEARING-**

The Radford City Council and Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing on Monday, February 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.in the City Council Chambers, 10 Robertson Street, to consider public comments regarding the following: Proposed amendment to Radford City Zoning Ordinance, Sec. 120.1-228 – Non-Conforming Signs. The proposed amendment will allow for the Consolidation: reconstruction of existing nonconforming off-premise sign structures Additional information is available at www.radfordva.gov or the Community Development Dept. at (540)267-3188, 10 Robertson Street. Interested citizens are invited to attend this hearing and present their comments.

VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,20-104 Case No.CL23002018-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Commonwealth of Virginia

Publication

Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re MELISSA JANE MCPHERSON v. JACOB ANDRE **MCPHERSON** A/K/A KOBI MAZUR The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that JACOB ANDRE **MCPHERSON** A/K/A KOBI MAZUR appear at the abovenamedcourt and protect his/her interests on or before MARCH 8, 2024. JANUARY 5, 2024 K. MIKE FLEENOR, JR. JUDGE TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

TOWN OF **BLACKSBURG** -NOTICE OF **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

BLACKSBURG TOWN COUNCIL

will hold public hearings on Tuesday, February 13, 2024 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers of the Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 South Main Street, Blacksburg, regarding the following items:





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Montgomery Sports

Sports notes: Spring game April 13, ACC tourney tickets go on sale

Virginia Tech football's 2024 spring game, presented by PMSI, will take place on Saturday, April 13. Kickoff is set for 3 p.m. ET in Lane Stadium.

More specifics about that day's events will be released when finalized.

Ticket books for the 2024 ACC Men's Basketball Tournament, scheduled for March 12-16 at Capital One Arena in Washington, D.C., are on sale now.

All-session ticket books, which include tickets for all 14 games of the five-day tournament, start at \$198 and are available for purchase at Ticketmaster.com.

Washington, D.C., will host the ACC Men's Basketball Tournament for the third time, as the ACC returns to the nation's capital for the first time since 2016.

The ACC's current 15 member schools have captured three of the last eight NCAA Men's Basketball Championships, with 99 NCAA Tournament wins in that eight-year span. Current ACC schools have won eight NCAA titles in the last 22 years and own 17 national championships overall. Current ACC member schools have combined for 67 Men's Final Four appearances and a national-best 664 NCAA Tournament wins.

All 15 league members own 1,000 or more all-time wins in men's basketball, including eight schools with 1,500 or more victories. Four of the top eight and six of the top 30 winningest programs in NCAA Division I basketball history currently reside in the ACC.

2024 ACC Men's Basketball Tournament

Capital One Arena, Washington, D.C. (March 12-16)

Tuesday, March 12 (First Round)

Game 1 – No. 13 seed vs No. 12 seed, 2 p.m., ACCN

Game 2 – No. 15 seed vs No. 10 seed, 4:30 p.m., ACCN

Game 3 – No. 14 seed vs No. 11 seed, 7 p.m., ACCN Wednesday, March 13 (Second Round)

Game 4 – No. 9 seed vs No. 8 seed, Noon, ESPN/2

Game 5 – Winner Game 1 vs No. 5 seed, 2:30 p.m., ESPN

Game 6 – Winner Game 2 vs No. 7 seed, 7 p.m., ESPN2

Game 7 – Winner Game 3 vs No. 6 seed, 9:30 p.m., ESPN2/U

Thursday, March 14 (Quarterfinals)

Game 8 – Winner Game 4 vs No. 1 seed, Noon, ESPN/2

Game 9 – Winner Game 5 vs No. 4 seed, 2:30 p.m., ESPN/2

Game 10 – Winner Game 6 vs No. 2 seed, 7 p.m., ESPN/2

Game 11 – Winner Game 7 vs No. 3 seed, 9:30 p.m., ESPN/2

Friday, March 15 (Semifinals)

Game 12 – Winners Games 9 vs 8, 7 p.m., ESPN/2 Game 13 – Winners Games 11 vs 10, 9:30 p.m., ESPN/2

Saturday, March 16 (Championship)

Game 14 – Winners Games 12 vs 13, 8:30 p.m., ESPN

Big South moved to ESPN2

The Big South Conference announced today that the 2024 Hercules Tires Women's Basketball Championship game on Sunday, March 10 will now be broadcast on ESPN2 at 6:00pm. The title contest was originally scheduled to be televised on ESPNU at the same time.

The women's final will be carried live on a national linear network for the third consecutive year in 2024, as ESPNU aired the 2022 and 2023 championship games. The 2024 women's tournament is part of the combined Hercules Tires Big South Basketball Championships March 6-10 at the Qubein Center on the campus of High Point University. Tickets are on sale and available online at www.BigSouthSports.com/ Tickets.

"ESPN continues to be an invaluable partner of the Big South Conference," said Big South Commissioner Sherika A. Montgomery. "Because of this partnership, we have an opportunity to broadcast one of our marquee events on ESPN2. I am truly elated for our women's basketball student–athletes and programs. I'd like to extend my immense gratitude to ESPN for their continued partnership and commitment to elevating the student–athlete experience."

The women's tournament features eight games across four game days (March 6-7 & 9-10), and begins Wednesday, March 6 at 6:00pm with the No. 8 seed vs. No. 9 seed in a first round matchup. The quarterfinals will be held Thursday, March 7, followed by the semifinals on Saturday, March 9. Each of the preliminary rounds will be broadcast on ESPN+.

Amoore on watch list

The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame and the Women's Basketball Coaches Association announced the Top 10 candidates for the 2024 Nancy Lieberman Award and Virginia Tech point guard Georgia Amoore made the list.

Staff Report

Narrows boys down Eastern Montgomery





Cyrus Underwood steals a possession in air from Narrows.



Eastern Montgomery's Hunter Howard (right) snags a rebound in Friday's contest against Narrows, who took the 60-29 win.

Cyrus Underwood (center) successfully shoots a three-pointer under double coverage from Narrows.

PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Talan Bruce (back) gets up two points for the Mustangs in a low scoring game.



Blacksburg's Charlotte Ellis battles Floyd County's Karleigh Wade underneath the basket during a Thursday nigth game. In a close game with several lead changes, the Buffaloes would come away with a 46-41 win over the Bruins.

Bruins boys, girls split contests



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Blacksburg's Brynn Ferguson shoots against the Floyd County defense, scoring 10 points on the night.

See Bruins, page 10

Worley records perfect 10 score

No.7 Kentucky gymnastics (4-2, 2-1 SEC) celebrated its 50th anniversary with a program record 197.950-195.650 victory over No. 18 Georgia (1-3, 0-3 SEC) for Excite Night in Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center.

Junior Makenzie Wilson and fifth-year senior Raena Worley of Christiansburg recorded their first career 10.000's, the first since Jenny Hansen competed for the Cats 1993-1996. The perfect marks were the first ever recorded in Rupp Arena.

Joined by over 100 Kentucky gymnastics alumni and 10,302 members of Big Blue Nation, the Wildcats showed off and showed out for the 40th Excite Night. Competing in Olympic order, Kentucky began the night with a bang tying its program best on vault, 49.550. Followed by a 49.325 on the uneven bars, the combined 98.875 was the highest ever two-event score in the month of January.

At the conclusion of the third rotation, the balance beam, Kentucky tallied 148.300. The combined score was the highest ever in a home meet. The floor exercise was not an exception as the Cats tied its program best on the event, which was set in 2014, with a 49.650 resulting in an overall new record to kick off the 2024 homestand.

On vault, Wilson executed perfection with a front handspring pike half twist which she drilled into the mat to stick her landing. The 10.000 set a new career and season best for the Tennessee native who previously held a personal best of 9.975 proving why she is the anchor on the event.

Senior Isabella Magnelli posted the second highest score on the first apparatus with a 9.925 while Worley recorded a 9.900. Arianna Patterson earned a 9.875 from the judges with the event rounded ouT by Cecily Rizo's 9.850 and Delaynee Rodriguez's 9.725.

Junior Jillian Procasky held the top mark on the uneven bars for the night with a 9.900. Senior Bailey Bunn was not far behind with a 9.875-worthy routine. Three Kentucky gymnasts tallied an 9.850 (Rodriguez, Annie Riegert and Worley) while Rizo scored a 9.775.

Next, it was time for the Beam Queens to shine in the third rotation. Magnelli held the top score of Excite Night with a beautiful routine earning her a 9.925. Freshman leadoff, Rodriguez, recorded a 9.800, but after a judges' inquiry, the score was elevated to a 9.900. Bunn stayed balanced with a 9.900 of her own. Freshman Creslyn Brose made her beam debut with a 9.850. The same mark was earned by Worley while Patterson saw a 9.825 flashed from the judges' table.

To finish out the historic evening, the Wildcats headed to the floor exercise where Worley earned a longawaited perfect score – the first of her five-season career at UK. Set up for perfection in the anchor position by her teammates, the Virginia native ended the first home meet of the season in the best way possible. The 10.000 topped her previous career and season best 9.975 on the event.

Worley was not the only one to bring the house down on the floor exercise as Brose set a new career and season best of her own with a 9.975. Hailey Davis rocked out with a 9.900 while Patterson was in her Renaissance Era with a Beyonce-inspired routine that earned her a 9.925. Both Magnelli and Rodriguez scored 9.850.

University of Kentucky Athletics

Bruins from page 9





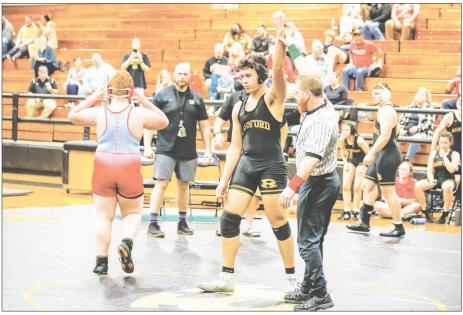
In boys' basketball, Blacksburg senior Trey Saville gets free for a layup against Giles in a 62-41 win on Friday night.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Blacksburg's Paul Xavier Bland hits a half-court shot right at the first-quarter buzzer to extend the Bruins early lead over Giles during a Friday night win.

RHS wrestling match marks 100th win for Martin

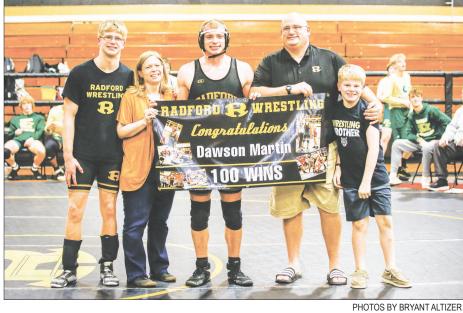




Radford's Ricky Bailey shoots in for a double leg takedown against his opponent from Floyd County and went on to win by fall.



Radford senior Jacob Lewis controls his Giles opponent early in the first period.



RHS senior Dawson Martin is presented with a banner after winning his 100th match in fashion with a pin of his Patrick County opponent.

Radford girls fall to Patrick County



Angel Thompson goes up for a layup in the Bobcats' loss to Patrick County.



Senior Claire Fender drives to the basket against Patrick County. Patrick County would gain the 61-49 win.



Radford's Abby Hodock drives to the left to break the Cougars press defense.



Kearson Carter drives in for a left-handed scoop and score as Radford would fall to Patrick County.

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.

Thor is ready to meet some pawsome humans to build his confidence and show him the ways of the world. At times, he's a little unsure of new sights and sounds but he has a very sweet personality. Thor may know some basic commands and is good on a leash.



Dellie is a sweet older

kitten. She's friendly and affectionate. Dellie can't wait

to find her purrfect match. In the meantime, she will be busy

making biscuits at the Animal Care and Adoption Center.



Change from page 4

several graduates of one of our region's Drug Treatment Courts, who through their own internal discussions about the stigma of drug abuse, came up with the idea to rename these specialty dockets. It was plain to see that focusing on the word "recovery" had a profound impact on their successful graduation and sustained sobriety, and I was moved by their testimony. As our region - and the Commonwealth at large - continues to deal with the effects of the opioid epidemic, we must continue to support any tool or method that can break the chain of addiction. I'm proud to see this effort move forward, and I thank Giles County Administrator Chris McKlarney and his team for making the four-hour trip to Richmond to support this initiative.

Stay tuned for next week's update,

where I'll have more to say on my legislation as well as Virginia Democrat's attempts to pass antibusiness and anti-Second Amendment bills. As always, please feel free to share your opinions on any upcoming legislation of interest to you with my office!

As the Delegate representing the 42nd House District in the Virginia General Assembly, your concerns are my greatest priority. If ever I may be of assistance to you and your family, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at DelJBallard@House.Virginia. Gov. You can also follow me on Twitter @JasonBallardVA or like my Facebook page, Jason Ballard for Delegate, to keep up to date with what I am doing in Richmond and in our community on your behalf.