



Citizens speak in opposition to proposed multi-family apartments behind Christiansburg Recreation Center

Lori Graham
Contributing writer

CHRISTIANSBURG -Two public hearings concerning requests for conditional use permits for the purpose of constructing residential areas in locations that are now zoned as B3 General Business occurred during the Christiansburg Town Council meeting on Feb. 13, 2024.

One of the two public hearings was conducted to discuss a CUP for multi-family apartments in Christiansburg.

"The applicant is seeking approval for a Conditional

Use Permit (CUP) to allow residential use, specifically multi-family apartments, within the B-3 General Business zoning," the Council's agenda stated. "The proposed development will adhere to the R-3 Multi-Family Residential development standards and the B-3 residential density standards, with an assumed 96 units at 20 units per acre. No plans have been submitted with the application, and there is no additional information regarding the designs of the proposed development. On Jan. 16, 2024, the Planning Commission voted 4 to 0 to not recommend approval of the request."

Rebecca Hubble of Forelmont Street was the first of four citizens to address the Christiansburg Council

during the public hearing listed second on the agenda.

"My family is opposed to this; it would back up to my property. A couple concerns that we have is of course traffic at the light at the Rec Center. I go that way every morning to go to work," Hubble said. "Our property value with apartments right behind us, privacy, I'm sure they would go up, people would be looking down in my yard, noise at night or anytime during the day and also safety. My children do walk to high school and back, just concern for their safety."

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Researchers to present Lafayette Area Household Survey results

Event also offers music, free food, door prizes, and kids' activities



PHOTO BY IRENE LEECH

Community researchers and undergraduate VT students plan the household survey. Pictured (left to right) Crystal Mello, Ivy Young, Teresa Peters, Logan Flanagan, Aran Garnett-Deakin, Seferina Olivo.

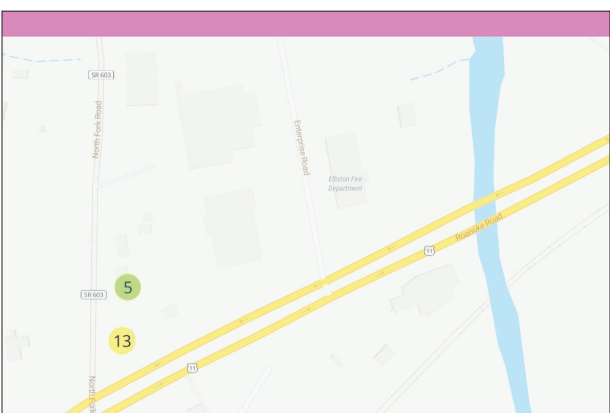
Lori Graham
Contributing writer

EASTERN MONTGOMERY – On Feb. 25, the results of the Lafayette Area Household Survey will be presented to community members at the Elliston Fire Station at 2 p.m.

The event also welcomes individuals and families to relax and enjoy fellowship with old time music, free food, kids' activities, and door prizes.

The survey focused on the monitoring of health conditions and well-being in the community and was motivated by the community members living in the eastern Montgomery region.

"Our goal was to canvas every other house within one mile of the Elliston/Lafayette border," Virginia Tech Professor and Director of Appalachian Studies Dr. Emily



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF EMILY SATTERWHITE

The Purple Air Map shows the locations of two air monitors that have been part of the study beginning in 2022 and is ongoing.

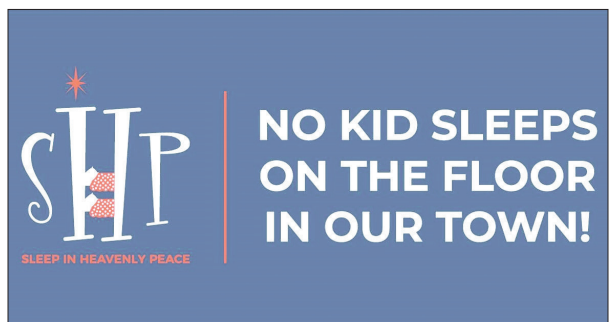
Satterwhite said.

Community researchers Crystal Mello, Christina Gray and Teresa Peters canvassed with undergraduate students, along with Irene Leech, Tina Badger and Amy Shea, who helped design the survey, and graduate student Aran Garnett-Deakin who worked diligently on the project as a researcher.

Part of the motivation of the study was to anticipate potential future developments that might have and continue to contribute pollution to an already industrialized area. The researcher say it is possible there is pollution from I-81, Route 460, and the railroad, truck traffic to the landfill, Mountain Valley Pipeline, and the Gate station. A recent approval

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Sleep in Heavenly Peace works to make sure "no kids sleep on the floor in our town"



New River Valley Chapter Sleep in Heavenly Peace is one of approximately 350 chapters nationally.

Lori Graham
Contributing writer

The NRV Chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace works with community members, groups, and organizations to build beds for children in the region that are sleeping on the floor without beds of their own.

Currently, there are around 350 chapters nationally, with the majority within the United States. The New River Valley Chapter, who serves Montgomery County, Radford and Pulaski County was formed August of 2019 and is a 501C3, non-profit group. The team delivered their first bed on Aug. 3, 2020, and have delivered 912 beds overall to children between the ages of 3 and 17. Each child receives a twin bed, all new bedding, new mattress, and a pillow. The delivery and setup is also done by the NRV chapter.

On bed-build days, the chapter members will set everything up and provide training to the designated local organizations or individual volunteers that are interested in helping out. President of the New River Valley Chapter Paul Mele brings in all the tools, equipment, and materials and they set up an assembly line. Once all 40 beds are completed and an assembly has been selected for each individual child per their age and preference of design, the beds are loaded up and stored in three places throughout the New River Valley area. One place that provides storage for the organization is the Dublin United Methodist Church.

Delivery volunteers coordinate the delivery and setup of the beds per the availability of the recipients. This happens on a weekly basis all year and has been so needed in the community that the organization is always in need of replenishments of materials and bedding.

The Blacksburg Police Department is hoping to participate in a bed-build in March. The cost of a bed is \$250, and the teams come together to build 40 beds at a



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

A completed bed includes the built bedframe, hardware, new mattress, bedding, and pillows.

time, typically on a Saturday. The total cost to build 40 beds is \$10,000 which covers all the wood, hardware, bedding, and mattress. Community Outreach Coordinator and Officer Anthony Jones is asking anyone in the community who would like to give money in support of their cause to contact him at 540-443-1439 or email him at ajones@blacksburg.gov. Additional information can also be found at the Blacksburg Police Department Facebook page.

How can you help?

Monetary donations are always needed, and individuals can go directly to the NRV Chapter's Facebook page where there is a "donate here" button. Some organizations have held bedding drives. The bedding in a bag has been found to be the best choice for donations as it contains matching sheets, pillowcases, and comforter, Mele said. If someone has a large donation, Mele said to contact them, and they

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PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRISTOPHER DUGGAN

Dancers with Mark Morris Dance Group perform "Look of Love."

Visionary choreographer Mark Morris pays tribute to Burt Bacharach in 'Look of Love'

The deep musicality of Mark Morris' innovative choreography finds its perfect partner in Burt Bacharach's timeless and sophisticated melodies. The internationally celebrated Mark Morris Dance Group makes its Southwest Virginia debut with "The Look of Love," an homage to the legendary late hitmaker Bacharach, on Saturday, Feb. 24, at 7:30 p.m. at the Moss Arts Center.

A towering figure of popular music, Bacharach is known for soaring melodies influenced by jazz, rock, and Brazilian music — his longtime lyricist Hal David providing unsentimental, poignant lyrics. Favorites such as "Walk on By" propel Morris' deceptively simple, yet glorious movement.

Co-commissioned by the Moss Arts Center, this evening-length work features original choreography by Morris and new musical arrangements by Ethan Iverson, performed by an ensemble of piano, trumpet, bass, and drums, with singer, actress, and Broadway star Marcy Harriell on lead vocals. Famed American fashion designer Isaac Mizrahi created the glowingly hued costumes for the production.

"For many years, I've wanted to see my music reimagined in some kind of theatrical production — not just a jukebox musical formula of songs, but an original work with its own story and appeal," Bacharach said. "I've found an ideal collaborator in Mark Morris, whose brilliant choreography and deep musicality give songs new meaning and dimension through movement. Like a great melody, his dances evoke an atmosphere and inspire feelings, and I think that's just what the world needs now. I'm excited to see how Morris and his creative team bring my songs to the stage in 'The Look of Love.'"

The production features many of Bacharach's chart-toppers, including "What the World Needs Now," "Don't Make Me Over," "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head," "I Say a Little Prayer," "Do You Know the Way to San Jose," and "Always Something There to Remind Me."

Morris formed the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1980 and has since created over 150 works for the company. Much in demand as a ballet choreographer, Morris has created 22 ballets since 1986, and his work has been performed by companies worldwide. Noted for his musicality, he began conducting performances for the Mark Morris Dance Group in 2006 and has since conducted at Tanglewood Music Center, Lincoln Center, and BAM (Brooklyn Academy of Music). He was named a fellow of the MacArthur Foundation in 1991 and has received 11 honorary doctorates to date.

This performance is supported in part by gifts from Ms. Ann Goette and Joseph A. Hopkins and Linda W. Hopkins.

Tickets for the performance are \$25-\$65 for general audience and \$10 for students and youth 18 and under. Tickets can be purchased online; at the Moss Arts Center's box office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday; or by calling 540-231-5300 during box office hours.

Virginia Tech

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, Feb. 22:

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.

Friday, Feb. 23:

English for Life

At the Blacksburg Library; 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. A leveled English class. Each class begins with a whole group activity and then students break out into small groups based on their level of English proficiency. In partnership with Literacy Volunteers of the New River Valley.

Paint & Pass

At the Christiansburg Library; 3- 4 p.m. Join us for a not-so-ordinary afternoon of painting! Each person will have a few minutes to paint on a canvas before they pass their canvas to the next person. Everyone will get to take a home a unique art piece. Registration is required.

Saturday, February 24:

Grownup Board Game Club

At the Radford Public Library; 2 – 4:30 p.m. Bring a friend, bring a game, or just bring yourself! Come play board games with us at the library. You can pick a game from our collection or bring something from home and teach us how to play!

Living Legacy of the Blues

At the Blacksburg Library; 1 – 5 p.m. Join us for an unforgettable experience! Dive into the heart of blues music with a jam session featuring talents from the New River Blues Society and Christiansburg Institute. Receive a complimentary harmonica and immerse yourself in the rich history of blues in rural Appalachia. Our dynamic presentation explores the origins and development of blues in the United States, fostering a vibrant dialogue through interactive music sessions. Get ready for a unique blend of education and entertainment that encourages questions and collaboration. Don't miss this chance to be a part of the living legacy of blues!

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. Tickets

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offer free pick up or smaller donations can be made at their Christiansburg location. Mele can be contacted about donations or volunteering at paul.mele@shpbeds.org

Another way to donate is via their Amazon Wish List. A QR code is provided along with this article for easy access or on the Chapter's Facebook page as well.

Like the upcoming Blacksburg Police Department, a group can sponsor a bed-build by raising \$10,000 or join with other groups to raise money together. Once enough money has been raised to build 40 beds, organizations can work with the chapter to pick a day to build. As many as seven different sponsors have joined together in the past to meet the 40-bed quota, Mele said.

The Sleep in Heavenly Peace NRV Chapter has many pictures on their Facebook page showing the completed beds along with the joyful faces of the children that have a bed to call their own.

A time-lapsed video of a recent four-hour build-day sped up to just 34 seconds shows the incredible work that individuals can do when they come together. There are 120 volunteers in the video.

Many other groups are planning their build-days including Auburn Middle and Christiansburg Middle Schools who will be teaming up together on March 15, Church on Main on March 16, and the Blacksburg Police Department on a

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Tonia Winn, of Forelmont Street in Christiansburg, also spoke in opposition to the request.

"I'm concerned regarding the density; it's 4.8 acres of land and you can probably put around 96 units. I'm concerned about the number of cars and the size of the lot. I'm concerned about aesthetically what that's going to look like butting up to our neighborhood where it's, which is a single family residential, how it will obstruct our views, it will change the character of our neighborhood. I'm concerned with the traffic, the trash, the runoff, the safety concerns," Winn said.

Winn also shared that the current vacant lot has had issues in the past with a lack of maintenance such as mowing and upkeep. According to Winn, when she had previously called the property owner about concerns, he responded with inappropriate language and hung up on her.

The council was urged by Ryan Hubble to forego waiting until the next Council meeting to decide on the CUP and vote during the Feb. 13 meeting. Council members rejected this request and will, therefore, vote on the CUP in two weeks.

Another conditional use permit requested to allow the construction of two single-family dwellings.

According to Christiansburg Town Council's posted agenda at www.christiansburg.org, "The applicant is

\$37 per person and available at the SLOFH Soul Food Sampling Page.

County Comcast and Shentel Channels 190 daily.

Sunday, Feb 25:

2022 Lafayette Area Household Study

Remember when we knocked on your door with a survey about health conditions and well-being in the community? We're ready to share the results! Community members and Virginia Tech researchers will give a presentation and provide updates about ongoing air pollution monitoring. Come hear about the results at the Elliston Fire Station, 5001 Enterprise Dr. Free food, kids' activities, door prizes and old time music by Tim Thornton. We hope you'll join us!

Black History Month speakers

Asbury United Methodist Church, 500 Stuart St., Christiansburg, will observe Black History Month each Sunday in February starting at 11 a.m. during church services. The theme "Community - Bringing Hope to a Weary World" will be shared by guest speakers: Feb. 18, 2024- Dr. Frederick Douglass Dixon; Feb. 25, 2024- Ms. Demiah Smith. Asbury UMC regular services are each Sunday at 11 a.m. Rev. Lance Presley, Pastor. Please join us! For additional information, please call 540-382-0743.

NAACP meeting

Please join us for a regular scheduled meeting in person at the Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church next to the Old Hill School Community Center, 570 Hill Street, Christiansburg, at 3:30 p.m. Our Credo speaker will be Dr. Ellington Graves, Virginia Tech Assistant Provost for Diversity and Inclusion and Director of Africana Studies Program in the Department of Sociology. He will be speaking on "Diversity and Free Speech Issues on College Campuses." Please join us. All are welcome! If you have not yet become a member of our local NAACP branch, we welcome you and invite you to seek membership. Dues are \$30 a year. Join us in the continuous work to fight discrimination and provide equity for all!

Monday, Feb. 26:

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

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of a Love's truck stop adds to a potentially already disproportionately overexposed community.

The study has two parts: the community survey and the application and observation of Purple air monitors. The survey was conducted throughout 2022, and the team is now able to present the analyzed results to the community that was so instrumental in its progress. The air monitoring is ongoing with two purple monitors that have been placed in the focus area of the study. The weather station map, viewable at https://www.wunderground.com/wundermap, is also helping to understand the direction potential pollution could travel.

Initially there was one monitor, but a second monitor was added and will soon move to a new location, Satterwhite said. The current location of the air monitors can be viewed at www.purpleair.com.

"We will be trying to calibrate the two monitors, now at North Fork Road and a little bit north on 460," Satterwhite said. "As soon as I can get lasers replaced, I will move the other one."

There is a sense from residents in this part of Montgomery County that their health considerations are not always considered in the placement of industrial businesses. The survey aims to provide some support and reassurance to citizens that their wellbeing is a priority but more importantly to allow members of the public to take a lead in the process.

The community-driven project has given a platform for Virginia Tech students to also

learn more about the area they are living in while getting to know the people inhabiting the region.

"We are very fortunate to have had Big Spring Baptist Church and Reverend Ken Gray help in connecting me to some of the parishioners and in talking to neighbors," Satterwhite said.

Local people were instrumental in developing the survey and knowing what to ask of their friends and neighbors. Community Researcher Crystal Mellow had neighbors who are Spanish speaking and wanted to make sure language barriers were addressed in the survey. Other questions that were important in the survey considered community members' medical vulnerabilities that may be impacted by air pollution, but also asked people to reflect on what they love about living here and what they would they like to see changed.

"The goal was not just to collect data but listen to people; the good and the wishes [for change]," Satterwhite said.

The event welcomes all community members and is a family-friendly event with free food, door prizes, music, and activities for the kids. The event will be held this Saturday, Feb. 25 at 2 p.m. at the Elliston Fire Department, 5001 Enterprise Drive, Elliston. A snow date has been set for March 3.

Additional questions about the Lafayette Area Community Survey, IRB#22-052, or the presentation event can be directed to Dr. Emily Satterwhite (540) 553-5430, or email at satterwhite@vt.edu.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Individuals wishing to make a difference in a child's life may donate through the Chapter's Amazon Wish List using the QR code or purchase bedding and drop it off at the storage location.

date TBD in March. The Virginia Tech Honor's College has also scheduled a build-day for April 6.

Unfortunately, the demand has outweighed the ability of the chapter and community to keep beds in stock, Mele said. This past December hit the chapter particularly hard with the new year continuing to receive requests for beds.

"I need more churches, businesses, community groups to get involved," Mele said. "I don't want to keep running out in December."

Mele also said that volunteers with trucks are always a big help. Most importantly, do what you can in a small or big way, anything helps to reach the needs of the community's children.

seeking approval for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to allow residential use within the B-3 zoning district. The proposed development includes the construction of two single-family housing units, conforming to the R-3 Multi-Family Residential development standards. On January 16, 2024, the Planning Commission voted 4 to 0 recommending approval of the request."

Kevin Connor of Shah Development, LLC, addressed the Council and present audience concerning the CUP request.

"Liberty Street is a residential street, just happens to be zoned B3 so we're here. We're going to build two single family homes, two lots. One home will be a one-bedroom, 800 square foot home and the second will be a two-bedroom, 1000 square foot home," Conner said. "I think it will complement the neighborhood and the rest of the development on Liberty Street and I would request under, I think it's Section 8, discussion by Mayor and Council, if possible, I know it's protocol that you wait until the next meeting to make your vote, but I would request if you could consider voting tonight. We are ready to pull permits."

The request to vote at the Feb. 13 meeting did not receive a second motion and was denied by Council members.

Citizens were invited to speak on this request, but

none came forward.

In other town council meeting business, New River Valley Regional Commission Executive Director Kevin Byrd provided an update on the collaborative New River Valley pandemic response timeline, including the Task Force After Action Report.

"Dr. Bissell and retired Police Chief Anthony Wilson were co-leaders of this and that really helped a tremendous amount in guiding the day-by-day, hour-by-hour decisions," Byrd said.

According to the report, the New River Valley Public Health Task Force was the first to have drive through testing, the first general Covid-19 Call Center, they had the first Regional Vaccine Call Center, and the first to move through vaccine groups.

Additionally, joint collaboration with local universities, county groups, and town organizations happened through active and consistent communication, media release, equipment, de-escalation locations, and a myriad of other pooled resources that made the New River Valley's response time to citizens' needs premier in the state of Virginia.

The full presentation of the New River Valley Regional Commission's pandemic response report can be viewed as part of the Christiansburg Town Council's recorded meeting on You Tube.

OBITUARIES

Burleson, Travis Marvin

Travis Marvin Burleson, 54, departed this life on Sunday, Feb. 18, 2024, at his home in Christiansburg. Travis loved working with his hands and making old things new again. He was skilled at many tasks such as plumbing, roofing, flooring and concrete work. He was also in his element when fishing.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Josie Burleson; and father, Ronald Burleson.



Travis leaves behind his loved children, Trevor Wayne Burleson, Ronnie Tré Burleson, and

Ember Rain Burleson; his parents, Darlene and Jesse Wilkerson; brothers, Ronald Lee Burleson and Dallas Jeffrey Burleson; several aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

The family will receive friends 4 until 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, 2024, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Interment will be private. The Burleson family is in the care of the Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

Linkous, Shirley Ann

Shirley Ann Linkous, 82, died Saturday, Feb. 17, 2024, at home surrounded by her family.

She was born in Montgomery County June 7, 1941, to the late Carl Hawks and Lena Hawks. She was preceded in death by her late husband, Ross J. Linkous, of 62 years, and her late daughter, Vicky Lynn Linkous. She is survived by her children, Ross Linkous Jr. and wife Connie, Sue Eanes and husband Richard, Carl Linkous, Rodney Linkous, and wife Deana; 14 grandchildren, 38 great-grandchildren, eight great-great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

The true embodiment of the Proverbs 31 woman. The most kind and meek soul, beautiful wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, and sister. She loved with all her heart and gave all. She loved cooking for



her family and spending time with her loved ones any chance she could. She served the Lord faithfully for 62 years. She was a Sunday School teacher for many years and gave her grandchildren many memories of what a godly woman is to be. She was trustworthy, industrious, organized, and loving. Yet amazingly she was able to order the priorities of her world. Her husband totally trusted her; her grown children voluntarily praised her, and her home was a model of efficiency. She still found time to reach out

to her community, to help the poor, and increase her family's resources through wise investments and productive management of all placed in her care. She exemplifies the truth spoken by Jesus Christ "Seek ye Kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all things shall be added to you."

A special thank you to Stacy D., her granddaughter who gave love and so much care and a special thank you to Intrepid Hospice for caring for her as she fought a good battle to be finally reunited to God, our father, her one and only loving husband, and her daughter.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024 in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel, with the Pastor Dennis Hutchison officiating. Interment followed in the Roselawn Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

Tuck, Jr., Nathaniel

Nathaniel "Ray" Tuck, Jr., 52, of Blacksburg, passed away at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Hospital in Winston Salem, N.C. Feb. 11, 2024 after battling cancer for two-and-a-half years.

He was born in Roanoke on April 30, 1971 to Nathaniel Ray and Barbara Z. Tuck. He is preceded in death by his father Nathaniel R Tuck and all four of his grandparents, Bill and Margaret Zint and Bill and Dorothy Tuck.

Ray is survived by his wife, Bonnie, of 29 years; his daughter Abi Dolgos, husband Dakota Dolgos and grandson Gatlin Dolgos; and son, Nathaniel R Tuck, III and longtime girlfriend Abby E Markham. Also surviving is his mother Barbara Z. Tuck, his sister Amelia Martin and husband Buddy Martin, and his brother Ben M Tuck and wife Priyam Chipper.

Ray was a 1994 graduate of Radford University and achieved his doctorate of Chiropractic from National University of Health Sciences in 1997. Upon graduating from chiropractic school, he began practicing at Tuck Chiropractic Clinic with his father, also a chiropractor, in Southwest Virginia seeing patients primarily in Blacksburg and Christiansburg.

Over the years he came to have multiple clinics



throughout Southwest Virginia and was very passionate about the role of chiropractic as a conservative option for care and its accessibility in this region of Virginia. Ray and his father have provided chiropractic services to Southwest Virginia communities for a combined 45 years. Ray's son, Nathaniel R Tuck, III is currently in chiropractic school and together they dreamed of continuing that legacy for many years to come.

Ray held countless leadership roles in the Chiropractic community including past President of the Virginia Chiropractic Association, past Chairman of the Board and then later President of the American Chiropractic Association, and was appointed by the Governor of Virginia to serve as the lone Chiropractor on the Virginia Board of Medicine just to name a few.

He was a "change agent" who sought to use his leadership skills for

the advancement of the chiropractic profession and people everywhere desiring conservative care options. As an extension to his conservative healthcare roots, Ray had an ardent holistic philosophy of wellness. He devoted himself to incorporating local food sourcing, organic gardening, various forms of exercise and other wellness initiatives into his own lifestyle and took every opportunity to educate others about the same. He had big dreams of creating a wellness farm to support these efforts and was an avid "foodie" at heart.

By nature, Ray had a gift of bringing people together. Using this gift he made considerable impacts on his profession and community, built a vast network of friends and sadly left behind a beautiful family who will forever treasure the memories they built together. A friend described him as "too big for this world."

The family will have a private funeral service for Ray to say goodbye and lay his remains to rest. A public Celebration of Life service will be held Saturday April 6 at 2 p.m. at the Inn at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg to pay tribute to all that he was. His family welcomes anyone who wishes to attend. In lieu of donations or flowers, please hug those you love.

Durrill, Lorraine Constantine

Lorraine Constantine Durrill, 76, of Blacksburg, passed away Feb. 17, 2024.

Lorraine was born on May 26, 1947 to Silvio and Katherine Constantine of Scarsdale, New York. She attended Radford University where she earned a bachelor's and master's degree in education. Lorraine spent 16 years as a dedicated math and science teacher at Radford City and Montgomery County Public Schools. After leaving the public school system she became the director of the Teaching Resource Center at Radford University. She worked tirelessly to create a place where teachers could find various resources they needed to assist them in the classroom.

She is preceded in



death by her beloved husband of 55 years, Dr. Preston Durrill. She is survived by three children: Steven Durrill (Gwen), Beth Graham (Jim) and Linda Durrill; and eight grandchildren: Katie, Preston, Ben, Mackenzie, Zoe, Ayla, Leo, and Penelope. Lorraine is also survived by her sister, Gail Foy, her brother, Gary Constantine (Cheryl), and her sister-in-law, BJ Durrill.

Lorraine had a passion for sewing,

quilting, and knitting. Her talents have blessed her family with many quilts, blankets, and other projects that will always serve as a fond remembrance of a loving mother and grandmother. She loved spending time with her husband, glass of wine in hand, on the patio overlooking their beautiful yard full of flowers and plants that he nurtured.

Lorraine's family would like to express their deep appreciation to caregiver Mary Ruben for the love and devotion she provided Lorraine over the past couple of years. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that any donations you wish to make are made to the Alzheimer's Association or the charity of your choice. A private funeral service will be held for the immediate family.

Sherry Wyatt promoted to Assistant Director and Museum Curator

I am pleased to announce that effective immediately, Sherry Wyatt will assume the roles and responsibilities as the Assistant Director and Museum Curator at the Montgomery Museum. This promotion is in alignment of our strategic goals as Sherry will take on additional responsibilities associated with museum operations. She will continue to oversee all museum art and history exhibits. Sherry has over 14 years of experience and institutional knowledge as the museum curator and I know she will thrive in her new role. Please join me in celebrating Sherry's promotion and please do not hesitate to reach out to her at collections@montgomerymuseum.org



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MONTGOMERY MUSEUM Wyatt

- Casey Jenkins; Executive Director

Business REVIEW

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OPINION

A trip to Christiansburg is a trip down memory lane

Last summer I was driving to the beach for vacation and decided to detour through Christiansburg. My companion had not seen the place I was raised and I decided this was a good chance to “show off” my hometown to her.

I did the obligatory tour of the street off West Main where I lived the first 18 years of my life, and then went through downtown, pointing out where the main merchants of my era had their stores and shops, mainly gone now, replaced by government buildings in large part. I showed her where I had gone to church and to the doctor and where my mom had bought my clothes and our groceries, and where my dad’s office had been in the old courthouse on the square.

I made it then to the “Park”, taking the fork to

Evans “Buddy” King

Columnist

the right, where East Main and Park Street connect. The drive through that part of town always takes me back in time. Within about a one mile radius is the house (still standing) where my dad and his seven siblings were raised, the house where my aunt

and my grandmother lived for many years, the tiny apartment where my mom and dad lived after he returned from World War II, the school buildings (also still standing, barely) where I went to grades one through four, the duplex where my cousins Joe and Bobby lived with their mother when I was very young. Lots of family history in a very small space.


I had to conclude my tour by taking my friend Jo by the old high school, abandoned by CHS in 1974 I think, the school I had graduated from and where my dad had taught and been principal, the school where pretty much everyone I knew until I went away to college had attended.

See Christiansburg, page 8

Proposed bill downgrading drug charges will be bad for Virginia

Last week was Crossover, the deadline at which House bills needed to successfully “cross over” to the Senate to receive further consideration in the 2024 legislative session (and vice versa). This means that the typical daily hustle and bustle of committee meetings was temporarily paused while we spent long hours on the House floor, considering and debating the hundreds of bills that reported from their committees of origin in time to meet this deadline. As the minority party, Republicans needed to gain bipartisan support in order to have any chance at our legislation passing. Six of my bills passed from the House out of the 20 bills I submitted – a success rate that I’m proud of in this politically polarized legislature. I encourage you to visit lis.virginia.gov to view all the legislation I filed this session.

As the saying goes, elections have consequences, and some legislation passed by the Democratic majority will have lasting consequences should they become law. This includes HB 455, which would downgrade from a class five felony to a class one misdemeanor for possession of one gram of a controlled substance. This means that an individual can be apprehended with enough fentanyl to kill 500 people, and they would be charged under the same penalty structure as someone who is caught driving



Delegate Jason Ballard

Virginia General Assembly

with a suspended license. This is an ill-advised attempt by the Democrats at criminal justice reform to say the least, and it will do absolutely nothing to aid our ongoing battle against opiates in Virginia. Perhaps less dramatic – albeit still a bad idea – is HB 617, which would allow high school students to cash in on “Name, Image, and Likeness” (NIL) contracts that are currently limited to college students. I’m all for students being able to make money, but extending the NIL scheme to high schoolers under the age of 18 could erode the educational experience for hundreds (if not more) students. School – especially in K-12 – should be about education first and foremost. If our students lose focus on that, learning will suffer, and educational outcomes will deteriorate.

Perhaps most troubling of all was House Democrats’

refusal to provide a hearing for critical legislation dealing with the fentanyl crisis and child safety. HB 450, patroned by my colleague in the district next door, Delegate Chris Obenshain, would have raised the penalties for those who attempt to distribute fentanyl in our communities to anywhere between five to 40 years in prison. This bill never received a hearing in the Democratic-led House. Equally troubling, HB 1026, patroned by Delegate Tony Wilt, would have banned anyone convicted of offenses involving children, including kidnapping, trafficking, sex crimes, and commercial sex crimes from working or volunteering at schools. Inexplicably, this bill also failed to receive a hearing from the Democrats. It makes you wonder, why are House Democrats afraid to give these bills the hearings they deserve?

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.

News Messenger

Established 1869

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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.

Financial checklist for the New Year

The changing calendar presents an opportunity to reflect, adjust and begin again in the direction of your goals. Consider completing this checklist to ensure your financial outlook is as bright as it can be in the New Year.

Review income and expenses. Has your income changed over the past year? Did you experience any unexpected expenses? Inflation has made an impact on most households; look back to identify where your bank balance was most affected. If your spending has strayed from past financial goals, the New Year is a good time to reset and start fresh. Tally subscriptions and end non-essential or low priority services. Isolate problem areas and set realistic targets going forward.

Review your investments. Market conditions from the past year may have affected your investment portfolio. Are you still satisfied with the amount and diversity of your holdings? Schedule an annual review with your financial advisor to gain personalized recommendations on your investment strategy. This meeting is also an appropriate time to discuss other areas of your financial life and determine if your risk tolerance, time horizon or goals have changed.

Confirm beneficiary designations. It



Josh Smith, CRPC

Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC

is important to ensure all your beneficiary designations are correct. When you die, assets without designations are placed into probate, which means the court determines the recipient according to inheritance laws. The process can be slow and costly. A life event such as marriage, divorce, adoption, or birth of a child can affect your beneficiary designations. If any notable events happened in the last year, now can be a great time to confirm your beneficiaries are still accurate.

Evaluate insurance coverage. Insurance can help protect the financial security of your family when things don’t go as planned. Home, life, medical, auto, disability—all of these coverages can help restore the financial impact of an unexpected event. Conversely, the lack of these coverages can leave you financially vulnerable. Talk to your financial advisor about insurance plans that allow you to build resources for the future.

Prepare for tax time. Gather documents you’ll need to complete

your taxes. Account for all earnings, including realized capital gains. Itemize deductions, if applicable. If you expect a tax refund, the sooner you file, the better, as it allows you to invest your return if you wish. If you anticipate a tax bill, plan now for the disbursement.

Evaluate short-term and long-term financial goals. Vacations, weddings, welcoming a child, home improvements, a new car, retirement—many of the things that enrich our lives also come with a price tag. Be sure you’re on track with plans that require financial commitment.

This checklist is a great place to start to ensure your financial priorities are set for the upcoming year. Working with a seasoned financial advisor can help you determine if your financial goals have changed over the last year and develop a plan to ensure you feel confident for the new year to come.

Josh Smith, CRPC® is a Financial Advisor with Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. in Radford, VA. To contact him, visit <https://www.ameripriseadvisors.com/joshua.l.smith/>, call 540-639-5153 or visit 202 Third Ave., Radford. He specializes in fee-based financial planning and asset management strategies and has been in practice for three years.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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62										64	

CLUES ACROSS

1. Golf scores
5. Shock therapy
8. Ballplayer’s tool
11. Quench one’s thirst
13. Female relatives of American war vets (abbr.)
14. Every one of two or more things
15. Member of Muslim people
16. Play
17. Type of cheese
18. Type of lounge chair
20. ___ King Cole, musician
21. Fellows
22. North, Central and South
25. In an early way
30. Foes
31. Georgia rockers

CLUES DOWN

1. Pacific Standard Time
2. Protruding ridge on nematodes
3. Indian king
4. Type of milk
5. One who brings home the bacon
6. More comprehensible
7. Connected with sense of touch
8. Red mineral
9. Breezed through
10. Therefore
12. Supplement with difficulty
14. Early kingdom of Syria
19. Satisfy
23. They confuse doctors (abbr.)
24. Brass instrument
25. Domesticated animal
26. Ribonucleic acid

CLUES DOWN

27. Snakelike fish
28. Woman (French)
29. Economically-minded aircraft
34. When you hope to get somewhere
35. Tease
36. Actress Gretchen
37. Midway between northeast and east
39. Inoffensive
40. Yellowish cotton cloth
41. Consume
42. Does not tell the truth
44. Improved something
45. Spiritual leader
46. Abba __, Israeli politician
47. Fix
48. Evergreen tree genus
51. Swiss river
52. Prejudice
53. Major C. European river
54. Long, narrow strap
58. Male parent

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Contact Cody Manspile, Auctioneer @ (540) 784-9254 with any questions! VA AF#2908001046

PUBLIC NOTICE
The contents of the listed unit will be sold at Public Auction

February 23, 2024 at 11am at

1st Security Self Storage 5 Midway Plaza Dr. Christiansburg, VA. D020 D025
1st Security reserves the right to refuse any bid. Terms: CASH OR CREDIT CARD AT SALE.

Help Wanted - General



Vice President for Planning & Resource Development

Nonprofit seeks an individual with experience in directing the activities of a planning department. Must have a minimum of seven years successful grant writing and supervisory experience. Thorough knowledge of state and federal anti-poverty programs; ability to understand and interpret RFPs, regulations and guidelines. Preferred knowledge of Human Service, Economic Development, Community Development programs at the local, Commonwealth, and federal levels. Performs complex professional and administrative work in directing the activities of the planning department, providing strategic planning, resource development and program development for the antipoverty programs, economic development, community development and partnership activities of the agency. Assists in gathering and collating pertinent data and program outcomes; identifies and qualifies resources; writes clear and compelling narratives, effective and accurate budgets; and prepares grant applications in response to request for proposals. Leads and trains a team of planners who support the agency's programs. Directs the communications and marketing efforts of the agency.

Disseminates information to program components, CEO, Board of Directors, and other management staff on issues affecting the work of agency.

Recruits, trains, supervises, and evaluates planning staff, marketing & communications staff, and Whole Family Intake staff; organizes department responsibilities and workflow.

Coordinates the preparation of grant applications and proposal writing for all new and renewing agency

Help Wanted - General

program initiatives. Responsible for quality and effectiveness of all proposals.

Writes proposals for funding of specific projects as assigned.

Training, education and experience: Any combination of education and experience equivalent to graduation from an accredited college or university with major work in planning, public administration, journalism or a related field and extensive experience in community, economic development planning.

For a full job description please visit Indeed.com or at our website www.tapintohope.org

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Legals - Botetourt County

BWW# VA-208643-6 TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 17 KNOLLWOOD DRIVE, TROUTVILLE, VA 24175.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated August 1, 2003, in the original principal amount of \$111,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia, in Book 0000 at Page 0167 as Instrument No. 0307051. 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 March 29, 2024, at 2:15 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, STATE OF VIRGINIA, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: LOT 1, BLOCK 1, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OF SECTION 1, KNOLLWOOD, MADE BY T.P. PARKER AND SON, ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS, DATED FEBRUARY 2, 1973, OF RECORD IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 76.

TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale.

The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser

Legals - Botetourt County

may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwvsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation.

Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWWLaw Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwvsales.com. VA-208643-6.

Legals - City of Radford

Trustee's Sale

133 Monroe Street, Radford, Virginia 24141

(Parcel ID: 6-(9)-50)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated April 13, 2016, in the original principal amount of \$126,678.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the City of Radford, Virginia in Instrument No. 201600345, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction on March 11, 2024 at 1:45pm in front of the building housing the City of Radford Circuit Court, 619 Second Street, Radford, VA 24141, the property designated as Lot 50 in Monroe Terrace Subdivision, as shown on a plat of Monroe Terrace Subdivision, which plat is of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 40, Page 1. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions, if any, of record, or other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises. TERMS: CASH. A deposit of \$13,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than \$9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 calendar days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review on the Foreclosure Sales page of www.glasserlaw.com, outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector, Glasser and Glasser, P.L.C. on behalf of Atlantic Trustee Services, L.L.C., and/or M. Brennan Hutt d/b/a H&H Abstracting, and/or NFPDS-VA LLC, Substitute Trustees, Crown Center Building, Suite 600, 580 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510, File No. 233421-01, Tel: (757) 321-6465, between 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon only.

Public Notice is hereby given that pursuant to VA State Code 15.2-1719 Radford City Police

Legals - City of Radford

Department

is advertising a list of found and unclaimed property which is currently being stored in our evidence room. If you have lost property and it matches the descriptions below, please call (540)731-3624 to identify and claim your property.

Bicycles, Wallets, Backpacks, U.S. Currency, Cell Phones, Computers, Firearms, Flashlights, Chainsaws, Medical Equipment, Baby Strollers and Carriers, Tobacco Products, Hygienic products, Documents and Paperwork, Machetes, Knives, Personal Defense Devices, Keys, Purses, Jewelry, Coins, Cameras, Clothes, Radios, Electronics, Fishing Equipment, Construction Materials/ Equipment. You must show proof of ownership or provide a detailed description of your property. All unclaimed property will be disposed of after March 16th, 2024.

Legals - Craig County

Trustee's Sale

530 Ellett Road, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073

(Parcel ID: 005695; Tax Map No.: 467-A 42)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated December 4, 2008, in the original principal amount of \$135,327.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia in Instrument No. 2008012070, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction on March 29, 2024, at 01:00 PM in front of the building housing the Montgomery County Circuit Court, 55 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, the property designated as Lot 4 of the Brown Ridinger & Gilliam Subdivision, more particularly described as follows: BEGINNING at the southeast corner at a stake in line with Forest Avenue and running with said Avenue, S. 83 deg. W 90 feet to the corner of now or formerly S.E. Basham's lot; thence N. 8 deg. W 160 feet with the Basham line to the line of now or formerly Frank Ridinger, thence with Ridinger line N. 83 deg. E. 90 feet to a stake; thence a new line running with the land of now or formerly Maud D. Ridinger, S. 8 deg. E 160 feet to the point of beginning. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions, if any, of record, or other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises. TERMS: CASH. A deposit of \$13,500.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than \$9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 calendar days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review on the Foreclosure Sales page of www.glasserlaw.com, outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector, Glasser and Glasser, P.L.C. on behalf of Atlantic Trustee Services, L.L.C., Auction.com-VA, LLC, Substitute Trustees, Crown Center Building, Suite 600, 580 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510, File No. 233142-02, Tel: (757) 321-6465, between 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon only.

Legals - Craig County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
Case No. J002260-06-00
CRAIG COMBINED COURT-JUVENILE Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court District Court

Commonwealth of Virginia, in re MANNING, EMILEE ROSE
The object of this suit is to: terminate the residual parental rights of the parents, including the right of visitation, right to consent to adoption, the responsibility of support and all other rights and responsibilities remaining with the natural parents of the aforesaid child and to obtain the right to place said child for adoption. And, based on an affidavit filed herein, the court finds that there exists sufficient grounds for causing service of process by publication.

It is ORDERED that the unknown father and any or all others who may be related to Emily Rose Manning, whose actual whereabouts are unknown, appear at the above-named Court on or before the 5th day of April, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. to do whatever is necessary to protect their interests.

We ask for this CRAIG COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES 177 Court Street, New Castle, Virginia 24127

February 8, 2024, Patty Taylor, CLERK

Legals - Montgomery County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
Case No. CL23002018-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY 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 above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MARCH 8, 2024. JANUARY 5, 2024 K. MIKE FLEENOR, JR. JUDGE TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

TRUSTEES SALE

PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN:

The Riner Magisterial District of Montgomery County, Virginia Containing 1.586 acres, more or less Commonly Known as: 3395 Radford Road, Christiansburg, Virginia IN EXECUTION OF A CERTAIN DEED OF TRUST OF RECORD IN THE CLERKS OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AS INSTRUMENT NO. 200800295, DATED FEBRUARY 1, 2008, SAID DEED OF TRUST WAS MODIFIED BY MODIFICATION OF DEED OF TRUST DATED FEBRUARY 6, 2020, RECORDED IN THE AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE AS INSTRUMENT NO: 2020002980, AND BY SUBSTITUTION OF COLLATERAL AND RELEASE DATED MARCH 10, 2020, RECORDED IN THE AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE AS INSTRUMENT NO: 2020002979. DEFAULT HAVING BEEN MADE IN THE PAYMENT OF THE DEBT THEREIN SECURED AND BEING REQUIRED TO DO SO BY THE NOTEHOLDER, THE UNDERSIGNED SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, AFTER GIVING FOURTEEN (14) DAYS DUE NOTICE TO THE OWNERS OF THE REAL ESTATE OF THE DATE, TIME, PLACE AND TERMS OF SALE, WILL OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION, IN FRONT OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 55 EAST

Legals - Montgomery County

MAIN STREET, CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA, ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2024, AT 10:00 A.M., THE REAL ESTATE WITH IMPROVEMENTS THEREON KNOWN AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: All that certain tracts or parcels of land, with the improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate, lying and being in the Riner Magisterial District of Montgomery County, Virginia, and described as follows: All of the 1.586 acres as shown on plat of survey entitled: Plat of Boundary Line Adjustment Between Tax Parcels 90-(A)-34A & 90-(A)-34E situated along Radford Road, U.S. Route 11 Near Plum Creek Riner Magisterial District Montgomery County, Virginia; dated June 28, 2016 prepared by Ralph O. Clements, L.S. for Gay and Neel, Inc. recorded in the Circuit Court Clerks Office of Montgomery County, Virginia as Instrument Number 2016004742.

Tax Map No: 090-A 34A; Parcel No: 024574

More commonly known as: 3395 Radford Road, Christiansburg, VA 24073

SALE WILL BE MADE SUBJECT TO ALL EXISTING EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS AS THE SAME MAY LAWFULLY AFFECT THE REAL ESTATE. TERMS OF SALE: CASH, SETTLEMENT WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF SALE. A BIDDERS DEPOSIT OF TEN PERCENT (10%) MAY BE REQUIRED. PLACE OF SALE: FRONT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE, AT 55 EAST MAIN STREET, CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA DATE OF SALE: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2024 TIME OF SALE: 10:00 A.M.

Daniel D. Hamrick, PC Substitute Trustee

By: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel D. Hamrick, P.C. 104 South Franklin Street Christiansburg, VA 24073 (540) 382-0131

ABC NOTICE

W P RISING INC., trading as Spicity, 210 Prices Fork Rd STE E, Montgomery County, Blacksburg, VA 24060-3300.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Restaurant, Wine, Beer, and Mixed Beverages On and Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Shu Yuan Lin President/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.

Legals - Roanoke County

ABC NOTICE

SAV ON SHOP LLC., trading as CATAWBA GROCERY, 5944 Catawba Valley Dr., Roanoke County, Catawba, VA 24070-2214.

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

Pabitra Dahal, Member 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.



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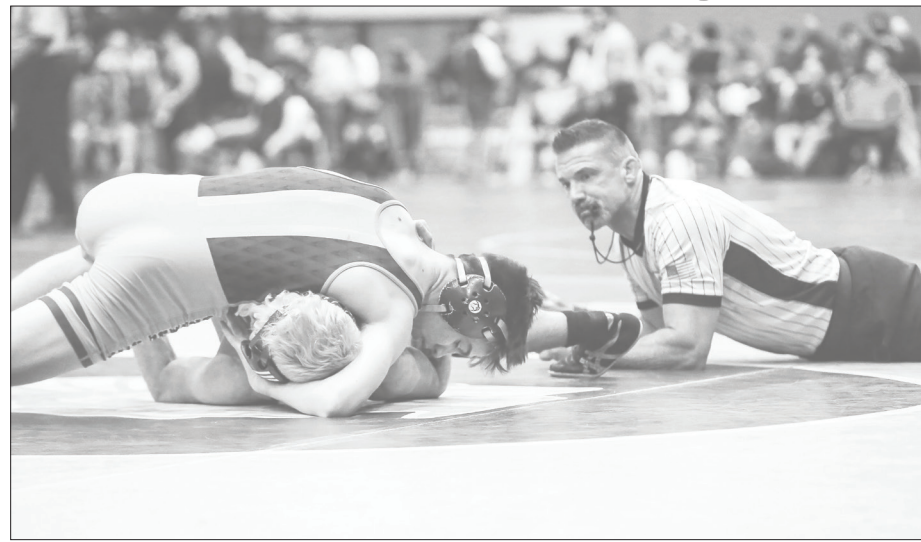
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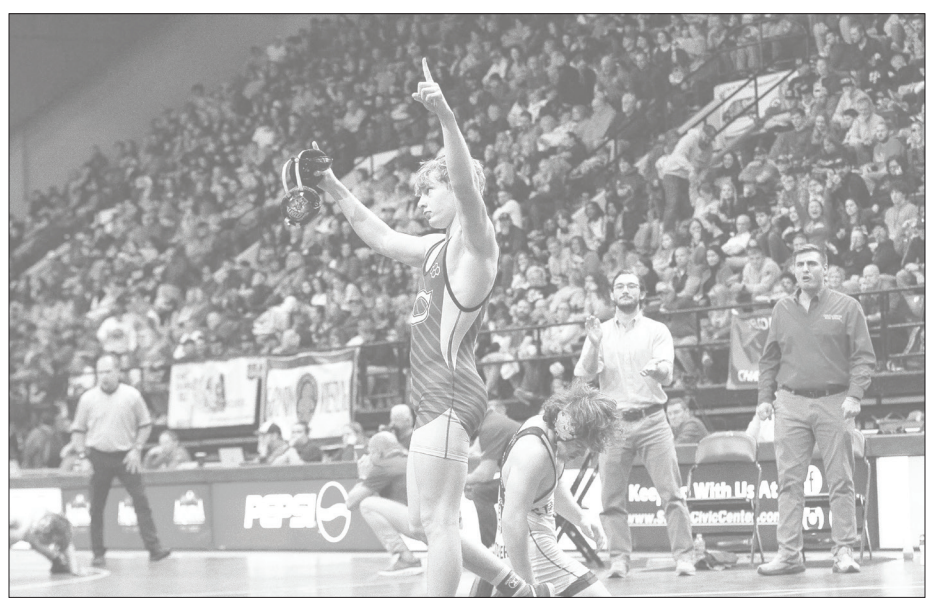
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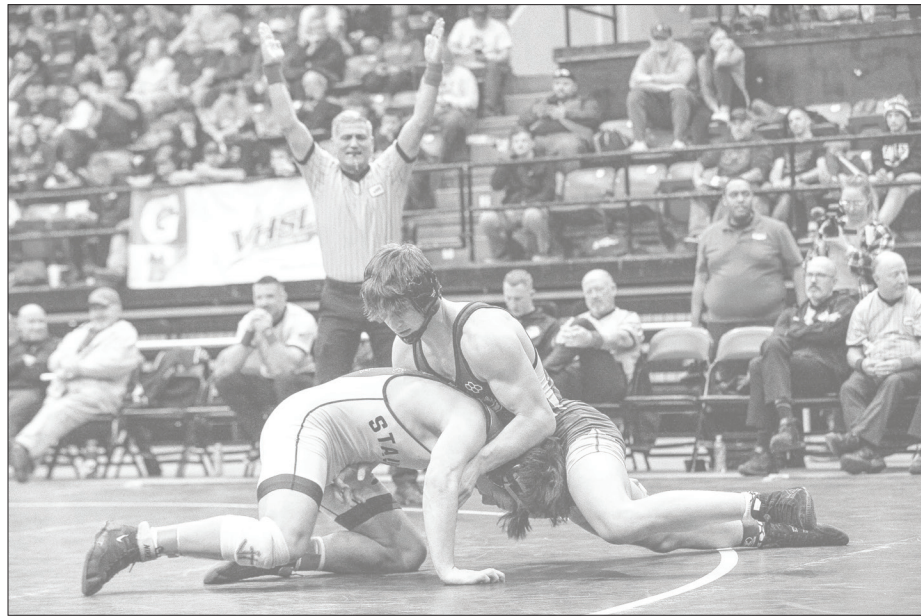
Christiansburg's Hand state champion



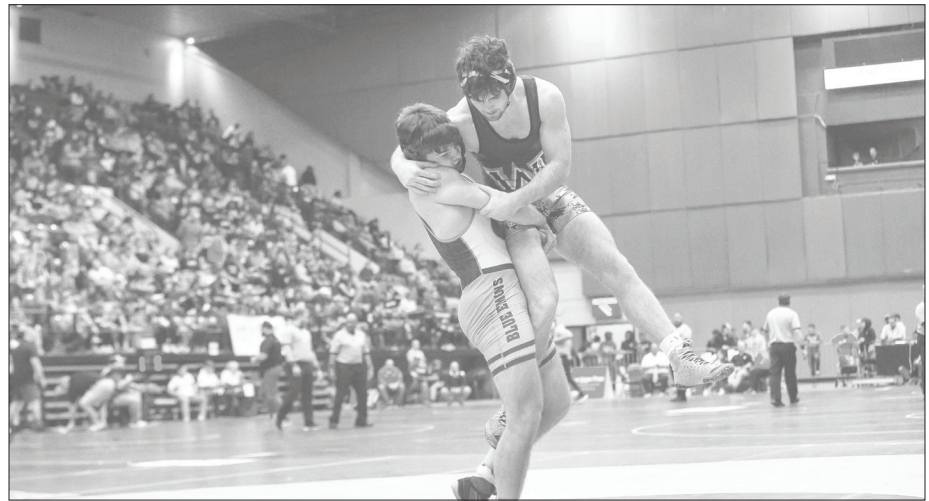
Evan Mefford of Christiansburg took fourth Place in the Class 3 Weight 144. He is pictured wrestling Noah Bentley of New Kent in a Semi-final whom he pinned.



Brady Hand is declared winner of the Class 3 Weight 138 during Saturday's Class 3 finals at the Salem Civic Center.



Christiansburg's Jake Robie (right) took second place in the Class 3 Weight 165 losing to Macon Ayers of Staunton River on a 3-1 decision.



PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Christiansburg's Brandon Bevins took Fifth Place in the 190 weight of Class 3. He is pictured wrestling Alexander Jordan of Wilson Memorial HS, picking him up for a take down.

Successful weekend for area individuals, teams

Marty Gordon

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At least three area high schools have state wrestling champions from weekend competition. In addition, Blacksburg claimed a team title in boys' Class 4 swimming. The girls' swim finished third.

Brady Hand was Christiansburg's lone Class 3 state champ in wrestling at the 138-pound weight class. Mat-mate Jacob Robie would bring a runner up medal home at 144 pounds.

Staunton River would take the Class 3 team title with 230 points. New Kent was second.

Radford would finish fourth in the team race of Class 1 with Strasburg first and Grayson County second.

Radford's Taven Williams brings home a state championship medal at 157 pounds, and Dawson finished second.

Over in the Class 4 wrestling event in Norfolk, Braden Henderson gave Blacksburg a state championship.

In the pool, the Blacksburg boys finished with 284 points, slipping by second place Jefferson Forest by nine points.

Blacksburg's lone state champion was Theo Villanueva who took the 1-meter title. Sam Rielly would finish with three second places, and Soren Anderson also brought home a runner up spot.

On the girls' side of the pool, Blacksburg would finish with 299 points behind first place Monacan and Jamestown.

Peyton Sigtryggsson would win the 1-meter diving event.



Blacksburg divers (left to right) Peyton Sigtryggsson, State Champion; Iris Fritsch; Lindsay Santos, State Runner Up; Theo Villanueva, State Champion; Soren Anderson, State Runner Up; and Leighton McGee, sixth.

Both boys and girls team from Radford would finish in second place of the Class 1/2 swimming event. Radford tallied 161 points with Glenvar taking the team title with 238 points. While the Lady Bobcats rallied for 299 points to finish in second place behind state champ Bruton.

Elsewhere, the Auburn Eagles track and field teams

made a clean sweep winning both the Girls and Boys Regional 2C Championships.

The Auburn boys' basketball team is headed back to the state quarterfinals after winning the Mt. Empire District regular season and tournament title. This past weekend, they added the second straight Region C championship.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KATHY REILLY

Blacksburg High School boys' swim won the Class 4 state championship this past weekend. Pictured are (from left) Santi Angulo, Michael Anderson, Cameron Roy, Sam Reilly, Bode Thompson, Brandon Hu, Ryan Zhao, Gael Manzon and Mason Fenn.

Changes coming to ACC basketball tourney

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Effective next year, only the top 15 teams in the Atlantic Coast Conference's (ACC) regular season will make both the men's and women's basketball tournament.

In addition to the decision on ACC Tournament play, the men's basketball regular season will continue with a 20-game conference slate while the women will continue to play an 18-game campaign. In addition to the decision on ACC Tournament play, the men's basketball regular season will continue with a 20-game conference slate while the women will continue to play an 18-game campaign.

If the tournament was played this year, it would mean the following teams made the tournament. Due note: SMU and Stanford's regular season records were included. Thus, the bottom dwellers would not make the tourney.

In the men's scenario, Louisville, Notre Dame and Ga. Tech would be out the tournament.

UNC, Duke, UVA and Wake would be the top seeds. Clemson, Pitt, N.C. State, FSU and Stanford would all be tied for sixth. SMU would slide in at number five. The new twosome is Syracuse and Virginia Tech locked in the tenth spot. Miami, SMU and Boston College would round out the field.

On the women's side, Stanford would top Virginia Tech for the top seed with a 11-2, 22-3 mark. The Hokies would be second, followed by N.C. State, Louisville, Notre Dame, Duke, FSU, UNC, Miami, SMU, Ga. Tech, Clemson, UVA and Cal. Pitt, Boston

College and Wake Forest would not make the tourney.

If all of the schools were eligible to play in the tournaments, then an extra day (six days) would've been added to the tournament schedule.

Still in play is how the conference will put together a 20-game conference schedule on the men's side and an 18-game one on the women's side. Again, this will begin next year with the addition of the three new schools.

The ACC already limits the fields for championships in baseball, softball and women's soccer.

In addition to the basketball tourney, ACC football teams will now have complete access to in-game technology.

Pending approval by the NCAA Rules Committee, the ACC will now allow access to in-game video, which will allow teams to make in-game adjustments.

The measure was unanimously supported by ACC head football coaches.

In addition, all ACC teams will be provided with access to coach-to-player (helmet headset) communication devices that will allow for one-way communication between the sideline and player(s) on the field.

Both programs will be administered via the Conference office to ensure competitive equity with the implementation of the new initiatives and the ACC is working collaboratively with the NCAA Football Rules Committee to fully develop the final rule and associated policies. The use of either piece of technology will be permissive and at each institution's discretion.



FILE PHOTO

Former Radford High School standout Marcell Baylor is no longer with the Virginia Tech football team. No reason has been given for his absence.

Radford's Baylor MIA on Hokie roster

Marty Gordon

NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Virginia Tech has released its updated football roster, and a local player is not on the list.

Former Radford High wide receiver Marcell Baylor is not among the group.

The 6-1, 185 pounder played in only one game this past year as a freshman as he dealt with numerous injuries.

While at Radford, he helped the school to three regional playoff

appearances. As a senior, he registered 45 catches for 972 yards and 17 touchdowns and was named to the Class 2 all-state team as a receiver.

Baylor was rated a 3-star recruit by 247Sports and ESPN and was ranked as the #26 recruit in Virginia. He had gone through early workouts last month with the Hokies, but he did not attend the Military Bowl with the team.

See Radford, page 8

Former Blacksburg standout now member of Hokie roster

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Local football fans will know at least one member of the recently released Virginia Tech roster. Josh Gholston (6-1, 170), a Blacksburg High School graduate, is listed as cornerback on the recent released roster.

In 2023, he came back to his hometown after spending two seasons at Valparaiso but did not see any action in the Burgundy and Orange.

In 2021, he earned Valparaiso's "Scout Defensive Player of the Year

Award. The Valparaiso Crusaders football program competes in the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision and are members of the Pioneer Football League.

Gholston was a four-year varsity letter winner at Blacksburg. He played four years of basketball and ran track for three seasons. He was a team captain on both the hardwood and gridiron as a senior. His football accolades include first team all-district, second team all-region and all-county/all-city first team.

Gholston's team totaled a 41-13 record during his high school career.



FILE PHOTO
Josh Gholston was a first-team All-River Ridge District and second team all-region D football player in 2020.

Christiansburg from page 4

I drove around the circle in front of the school and shared a few of my memories. Then I decided to drive behind the beautiful old building. In some ways I wish I hadn't - the old football field was just a barren lot - no bleachers, no scoreboard, no goalposts. Nothing to remind folks of the several generations of Christiansburg kids who played games and cheered for classmates and marched and twirled and tumbled and sang. To me, hallowed ground. Like battlefields give off eerie vibes from what happened on them many years before, I feel this ground gives off positive energy and joy. I need to think that anyway.

I didn't get out and walk out on the old field. I had done that when my cousins Joe and Bobby (now both sadly gone too) and I had returned to town for a nostalgia tour in the early 2000's and walked across the field one last time, each of us having our own memories and emotions.

Perhaps even sadder was looking at the old gymnasium at the back of the school, an add-on to the building in the early 50's I think. My great friend Greg had warned me that the wonderful space where CHS students had for many years played basketball and volleyball against other New River Valley schools and attended phys. ed classes and pep rallies and sock hops and graduations was now the county school bus garage. A garage!

I had no desire to see what the conversion looked like. In my mind's eye, the beautiful, gleaming hardwood floor with the fierce looking demon at center court is now oil-stained concrete, the old wooden bleachers that we pushed up against the wall to make more room ripped out and replaced by hoses and tools. I chose to remember it the way it was. I chose to think of dodgeball games and sock hops and not carburetor repairs.

And my memories of "the way it was" are vivid. It was the only basketball floor in town for most of us - varsity, jayvee, eighth grade, sandlot - it was the only court around, with the exception of Scattergood Hall, built at Christiansburg Industrial Institute in 1953, 13 years before CII was closed for good during

desegregation. Sadly, I don't know much about the history of Scattergood other than I did discover that the Tigers won a district championship there in the 50's. And Scattergood is still standing on the old campus.

Being the only court in town, the CHS gym got lots of use during basketball season. The school officials, my dad for awhile I assume, had to coordinate and orchestrate the use of the precious floor from the first of November through the middle of February by the three high school teams and the sandlot program (six teams of fifth, sixth and seventh graders run by the Kiwanis Club). Sadly, girls basketball was not played in CHS's classification at the time, although the smaller schools in the county did have it. Our girls had volleyball in the fall, when the gym was more available.

The varsity and jayvee boys teams played Tuesday and Friday nights, for nine straight weeks starting in December, and the Kiwanis teams (I played three years, coached by the wonderful Clyde Collins and his son Tim, who was in the process of being an All American golfer at Tech at the time and then later had a stint on the PGA Tour) played Wednesday nights and Saturday mornings. Practices and eighth grade games were squeezed in as space and time allowed.

My basketball career ended after 8th grade due to my inability to throw a basketball in one of those laundry baskets on wheels we threw dirty towels in, much less a 10-foot goal. My main personal athletic memories in the gym are of pep rallies before Friday night lights and stretching out on the floor in our uniforms to rest and "get serious" before we went out under those lights.

Two great stories from that era of the "only basketball court in town." The first involves a classmate, later to move to California with his mother, who played in the sandlot league. I believe it was our fifth grade year, the first time we could play in the Kiwanis league. I vaguely recall that the varsity coach at CHS in those days, Don Merriman, probably one of the most successful basketball coaches in school

history, ran the program, volunteering his "spare time" and acumen to the kids of Christiansburg.

Coach Merriman was not one to trifle with, his disposition generally resembling that of Bobby Knight, who was probably still in college at the time.

Well, my friend's mother did not like the fact that the Kiwanis teams played on Wednesday nights, when she thought that she and her son should be in church. I was a witness (I think it was before the games started one Wednesday night) when my classmate's mother decided to confront Coach Merriman about the scheduling.

Mrs. Jones came into the gym and proceeded to walk out to center court, in high heels that would do a Kardashians proud, where Coach was watching warmups, whistle around his neck as I always remember him.

Keep in mind that this was in an era where a kid would be banned from the gym for life if he stepped on a tiny corner of the court in street shoes. I don't know what exactly was said between the two, but I do remember that I have never seen a redder face than Coach Merriman's. Or a faster retreat in heels than Mrs. Jones made. My dad told the story for years.

One final story about what the old gym meant to my generation of Christiansburgers. My friend Greg recently reminded me of how he and his friend Rod and some of their other pals from the Park would go up to the gym in the summer and on weekends and check to see if the outside doors on Shelton Street happened to be unlocked so they could get in for games. This was still a time when security and vandalism were not the issues they have become, so occasionally one of the coaches would leave one of the doors unlocked. Intentionally. I remember that occasionally I would walk from my home, dribbling my basketball, and test one of the doors myself. Special times.

So, the old gym is gone. Hopefully, it has the friendly ghosts of basketball players and cheerleaders and sock hoppers and dodgeballers hanging out, competing, having fun.

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HIGH DEFINITION HEARING

Radford from page 7

In other roster news, there is not much experience behind QB1 Kyron Drones. Three redshirt Freshmen sit behind Drones.

William "Pop" Watson III was named the Gatorade Massachusetts Player of the Year in 2022 and graduated as Springfield Central's all-time passing leader, having completed 459-of-691 career passes for 7,847 career passing yards (66.4 percent) and 81 career touchdowns, while also having 190 career carries totaling 2,120 career rushing yards and 40 career rushing touchdowns. He was rated a 3-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN, On3 and Rivals and ranked as the No. 20 overall quarterback by ESPN, No. 30 by On3 and No. 42 by Rivals, ranked as the No. 6 Massachusetts prospect by On3, No. 8 by 247Sports and Rivals, and No. 10 by ESPN.

Dylan Witike won three state championships in high school in Buford, Georgia, compiling a 50-4 record as a starter and came to Blacksburg with high hopes as the overall #39 QB in his class.

Walk-on Jackson Sigler did not see action this past season after coming to Blacksburg from Mt. View High School in Northern Virginia. He held a starting record of 23-4 leading his team to back-to-back district championships and regional championship, throwing for 4,684 pass yards and 62 passing touchdowns along with five rushing scores.

The running back room currently has six watching film. Bhayshui Tuten and Malachi Thomas are heads above the group with former Radford High's PJ Prioleau and incoming Freshman Tyler Mason from Mt. Airy, North Carolina in the mix.

In other Virginia Tech news, many fans were scratching their heads during the recent men's basketball game against Florida State, who came out of the locker room in light blue uniforms.

The team was showing support for the Seminole Indian tribe they are associated with. They are also selling jerseys with the monies go to support FSU's Native American Center as well as public education and youth sports within the Seminole tribe.

Charlie Thomas, a guard on Virginia Tech's 1973 National Invitational Tournament championship team, has passed away. He once coached the men's basketball program at now-defunct Bristol College.

Thomas played at Harrisonburg High School and prior to Bristol College, he was an assistant at Emory & Henry College.

On Monday, Feb. 19, Smithfield, sponsor of the Commonwealth Clash, is

challenging all basketball game attendees to bring in nonperishable food items for donation to the Market of Virginia Tech. And for every pound of food collected, Smithfield will donate \$1 to the food pantry for up to \$5,000.

Since the 2014-2015 academic year, the brand has partnered with Virginia Tech and the University of Virginia in the rivalry between the schools across all school-sponsored sports — becoming the presenting sponsor of the Smithfield Commonwealth Clash in the 2021-2022 season. But for Smithfield, this sponsorship means more than just promoting athletics.

Throughout the year, the company looks to support the communities surrounding UVA and Virginia Tech, including each school's food pantry.

The Market of Virginia Tech, an initiative of Student Affairs, was developed to provide support to students currently experiencing food insecurity. Program participants receive a variety of produce, proteins, dairy and nondairy products and shelf stable items on a weekly basis.

Supported by a \$1.5 million donation from alumni couple Hema and Mehul Sanghani, the program launched in 2020 to provide up to 115 students at a time with weekly grocery shopping and last semester The Market served 350 additional students through other initiatives including Open Market hours and Pop-Up pantries. The Market's top preferred foods are rice, peanut butter, canned protein, canned soup and canned beans or vegetables.

The Atlantic Coast Conference has issued a public reprimand of Louisville women's basketball coach Jeff Walz for violating the ACC Sportsmanship Policy following Louisville's game against Syracuse on February 11.

In addition, the league announced that an institutional fine has been issued to Louisville (\$20,000) as a result of the violation. The funds from the imposed institutional fine will be placed into the Weaver-James-Corrigan-Swofford Postgraduate Scholarship account.

Walz's postgame comments regarding the officials were in direct violation of the ACC Sportsmanship Policy that states: "Public criticism of officials or public comments evaluating the officiating of particular contests is not in the best interest of intercollegiate athletics. Individuals associated with the athletics program are prohibited, therefore, from commenting while acting in an official capacity on officiating other than directly to the Conference office."