Business Review Inside This Issue!



Blacksburg

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

www.ourvalley.org

Christiansburg **USPS 016-490**

\$1.00

On-line threats originating in Roanoke affect NRV schools

Heather Bell Editor

Two people are in custody in Roanoke following on-line threats to schools via a Snapchat group used by students at Patrick Henry High School, which caused public schools in Roanoke to close last week.

The 're-sharing" of those threats had ramifications for schools in the New River Valley, with increased police presence and an investigation in Christiansburg. Students in Radford were put into a brief lockdown Friday as well, but Radford's superintendent said Monday that was unrelated to the Roanoke on-line threat.

'Christiansburg Police are aware of a threat being re-shared throughout our school community through social media," the Town of Christiansburg announced Friday. "Investigators have determined that this social media post originated from a different school district in another jurisdiction and does not reference any schools or buses in the Montgomery County School System. Our investigation has found no credible threat to any school in Christiansburg."

An on-line threat led to a brief lockdown at Radford High and John. Dalton Intermediate schools Friday afternoon.

"Earlier this afternoon, school and law enforcement were made aware of an online threat made to Radford High School," the school division sent in a phone and email message to parents on Friday at about 1:45 p.m. "Radford City Police and Radford City schools investigated this threat. Out of an abundance of caution, Radford High

See Threats, page 2



COURTESY IMAGE



(left to right) Lt. Aaron Meadows, Deputy Greg Branson, Josh, Sheriff Hank Partin, Deputy Marty Hauschildt, and Deputy George Lee share in Josh's celebration.

"The best is yet to come" for county **Behavioral Health Treatment Court grad**

Delegates Ballard and Obenshain comment on House budget proposal

Budget includes funds to support labor and delivery services at hospitals

RICHMOND – Delegates Jason Ballard and Chris Obenshain, the New River Valley's representation in the state House of Delegates, have released a statement on the passing of the House Appropriations Committee's budget proposal, which includes funding to support obstetric-gynecological services at hospitals impacted by workforce challenges. "We were both disappointed to learn of Montgomery Regional Hospital's recent decision to temporarily cease obstetrics services for patients in the New River Valley. Access to healthcare services is already a challenge for many families in Southwest Virginia. Once we learned of the workforce challenges that led to this unfortunate decision, we immediately went to work on trying to find potential solutions. After speaking with leaders at Montgomery Regional, we requested funds for additional graduate residency positions in obstetrics in the biennial budget. Our hope is that these additional residency slots will help facilitate the reopening of obstetric services at Montgomery Regional in the near future." "Those of us who live in rural areas know that maternal healthcare options in our communities have been in rapid decline," said Ballard. "This is why I found it imperative to take immediate action through the Commonwealth's budget to incentivize the recruitment of these essential healthcare providers. My request of one million dollars in the state budget to fund 10 new OB/GYN graduate medical residency slots is a direct response to our region's declining maternal healthcare options, and its inclusion into the final budget agreement is vital to ensure our region's mothers are not endangered by lack of local access to OB/GYN's.' "While I am disappointed that the Senate did not include Senator Hackworth's budget amendment for this same purpose in their proposed budget, we will continue working to ensure this critical funding is included in the final version of the budget," said Obenshain. "I am grateful to Delegate Ballard for his partnership in working on this important issue facing families in Montgomery County and beyond. Access to care, particularly for women's health and obstetric services, is vital to the workforce and quality of life in Southwest Virginia."

Lori Graham

Contributing writer

MONTGOMERY COUNTY - "The best is yet to come," the graduation ceremony announcement for the Montgomery County Behavioral Health Treatment Court read, and for one recent graduate, he is on his way to making that happen.

On Feb. 22, family, friends, and a lot of community

supporters through the Montgomery County Judicial System gathered in support of a well-deserved ceremony held for Josh*, a recent graduate from the program.

Judge Gino W. Williams opened the ceremony with a few brief words and then introduced the graduate. Josh was then presented with his completion certificate and a signed card of congratulations from program

See Grad, page 2

PHOTO BY THOR HANES

Local teen blues player and band travel to Memphis for International Blues Challenge



Drummer Nyo Allen on stage in Floyd.

Lori Graham

Contributing writer

A New River Valley band called Bunco recently had the unique opportunity to experience the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, Tenn. and record an album in the historical Sun Studios.

Performing with the band as drummer and percussionist is Nyo Allen, 15 years young with an intense passion for music.

The band made the trip to Memphis, during the week of Jan. 18, not as one of the approximately 160 competitors at the international event, but to experience the grandness of the sheer talent and environment of the incredible musicians appearing. What they did not expect was the snowstorm that blanketed the city, shutting almost everything down and delaying their recording session.

Harmonica player and Bunco member Thor Hanes said that due to the recording schedule change, "we gathered in the Airbnb and did what any music group would do in a snowstorm."

They played music. Unfortunately, Allen had planned to use the studio drums and did not travel with his own set.

Allen's Mom Lucy Lamana said they started grabbing whatever they could find to put together a percussion set for him.

"Using chopsticks, setting him up with upside down trash cans, and whatever else we could find to drum on," Lamana said.

Hanes said the terrible winter

storm and the single digit temperatures in an area that typically does not see weather like this, did

(obscured), Travis Holland, and Nyo Allen.

put some kinks in their plans. "They did not plow the streets," Hanes said. "The whole city was closed except for Beale Street, because 160 bands came from around the world, some as far as Australia. It's thousands of dollars to get there from Australia. The Blues Foundation that puts on the event doesn't want that trip to be made in vain. It was packed, despite the fact that the city was closed. I have been six times and I love it. They keep things rockin'."

Once in the studio, the experience of being in a place where music greats such as Elvis Presley, B.B.

See **Blues**, page 6

Delegates Jason Ballard and Chris Obenshain



UPCOMING EVENTS Wednesday, Feb. 28:

Virtual Author Talk with Kim Scott

Hosted by the Radford Public Library; 2 -3 p.m. Why is feedback so difficult, and how can we make it easier? The idea is simple: You don't have to choose between being a pushover and a jerk. Kim Scott, New York Times bestselling author of Radical Candor: Be a Kick-Ass Boss Without Losing Your Humanity, will explain the Radical Candor feedback framework and how you can practice it today. Register now to start your practice! https://libraryc.org/radfordlibrary.

Central Business District Meeting

The Central Business District Committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Administrative Conference Room at Town Hall.

Thursday, Feb. 29:

Free Health Screening with Carilion

At the Radford Public Library; 11 a.m. -2 p.m. February is American Heart Month! It's the perfect time to get these FREE preventative health services: Blood pressure check; Diabetes risk assessment; Stroke risk assessment. No registration required! For more information, contact Sarah Frazier, Community Health Educator, at sefrazier@carilionclinic.org or (540) 633-9361.

Saturday, Mar. 2:

Free Income Tax Prep with VITA

At the Christiansburg Library; 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program is returning with free income tax preparation. Walk-ins only. Income limits apply. Contact NRCA for more information at 540-320-3217 or https://www.facebook.com/ VITAatNRCA.

Monday, March 4:

Author Talk with David Craig: A Good Shadow

At Christiansburg Library; 6 -7 p.m. Join author David Craig as he talks about his book A Good Shadow: The Real Story of the Mine Wars: Guns, Lies & Spies. Books will be available for sale via cash, check, Venmo, or Paypal. Paperbacks will be \$17.00 and the hardbacks will be \$25.00.

Tuesday, March 5:

Medicaid and Personal Care lecture

"Steps To Take When Applying for Medicaid and Personal Care" Lecture Program at 2 p.m. at the Blacksburg Community Center for an informative program led by Chris Conner and her team from Medi Home Health & Hospice to learn the important steps that should be taken when applying for Medicaid and personal care. This program is free, but registration is required. To learn more, call 540-443-1142.

Monday, Mar. 11:

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, Mar. 12:

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.

On-going:

NRV Virginia Passenger Rail Survey

The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority is conducting a survey seeking input on planning, designing, and constructing rail infrastructure improvements to extend passenger rail service to the New River Valley. To participate in the survey, please visit https://form. jotform.com/240044027996054. For more information on the New River Valley passenger rail expansion, please visit the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority's website at https://vapassengerrailauthority.org/nrvproject/.

Grad from page 1 coordinators, Behavioral Health Docket

(BHD) Case Manager Adam Cox and Molly Everett, BHD Coordinator through New River Valley Community Services.

"We started the docket in April of 2021, and this is our second graduation, so he is our fifth graduate from the program," Everett said. "I think it is really powerful to participants here right now who are about to graduate all the way to just beginning the program. It is really powerful for them to watch stuff like this, where they see the community really does support you and wants to see you heal as badly as we say they do. It's really good to have this social time to celebrate the hard work they've put in, in the past year."

Everett said it is great also for Josh to share in the hard work he has done to get here.

"The work he has put in on himself, the time and effort to make some real scary life changes," Everett said. "Just so admirable, really incredible. He is wonderful and we hope he will consider a future career in helping people, he has the skills."

According to information shared by Montgomery County's media advisory team, "The goal of the BHD is to connect participants with community resources to help address their mental health needs. Participants are encouraged to reach out to their support system when they experience a crisis. Our community benefits due to a reduction in emergency service calls, emergency room visits and criminal charges. The program is voluntary. The program is offered as an alternative to a conviction for a misdemeanor criminal charge or for a suspension or reduction of active jail time. Participants are on probation, subject to drug screens, and required to appear in court twice a month. Participation is for a minimum of 12 months; however, it is frequently longer than that. Graduations are scheduled as needed."

The BHD is a specialty docket authorized by the Code of Virginia. https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/ title18.2/chapter7/section18.2-254.3/. Currently, only a small number of courts, less than 10, are doing this program.

"We meet here twice a month and there are other things that they have to do to keep their appointments and things with providers out in the community," Williams said. "We keep track of all of them and I'm real proud of them."

Josh shared a few thoughts with the group on his journey to the completion of the program, then picked up his guitar and started playing. His first song was "Man in Black" by Johnny Cash. His music has been a great therapy to him while circumventing the program.

"I'm really glad that they offer this program to people because I think it will really help a lot of folks," Josh said. "When I realized a lot of people care about me, it feels good." When asked what he would say to others thinking about entering the program Josh said, "Just keep their hope up and keep working towards their dreams."



Graduate Josh plays his guitar and sings Johnny Cash songs to the audience in attendance.



Threats from page 1

School and John Dalton Intermediate School were placed in a secure status. McHarg and Belle Heth went into a hold status as a cautionary measure. At this time, we believe it is safe for students and staff at all schools to resume their regular school day."

"The safety of our students and staff remains our top priority," the announcement continued. "We take all threats seriously and as always, appreciate the assistance of the Radford City Police. If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's school principal."

"Our incident from Friday appears to be specific to Radford High School and does not give the impression of being connected to the other occurrences," said RCPS Superintendent Dr. Adam Joyce on Monday. "A social media threat was brought to the attention of staff and investigated. Our administrators, working shoulder to shoulder with our SRO's and the Radford City Police Department, acted swiftly and professionally to end the episode almost immediately."

Stephen Karl Johnson, 35, was arrested Thursday after an investigation by the City of Roanoke Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). According to the U.S. Department of Justice, Johnson was federally charged with one count of communicating in interstate commerce a threat to injure another person. A juvenile connected to Johnson has also been arrested in the investigation.

"This defendant caused fear and emotional distress to the parents and students of the Roanoke City Public *Josh's last name has been withheld intentionally from this article to protect his privacy.

School system and for those actions he

has been justly charged," United States

Attorney Christopher R. Kavanaugh

said. "If anyone communicates a threat

to our schools, our public servants, or

our public institutions in the Western

District of Virginia, we will seek to hold them accountable under federal

law. I am grateful to Chief Booth, the

Roanoke City Police Department, and

the FBI for their diligence in bringing a

and bring to justice those individuals

who threaten to do harm to our communities," said Stanley M. Meador,

Special Agent in Charge of the FBI's

Richmond Division. "We will continue

working with our local law enforcement

partners to keep our communities safe." The Dept. of Justice release said "according to court documents, on

the evening of Feb. 21, 2024, several threatening messages were posted to a

Snapchat group used by Patrick Henry

High School students. Those messages

pulling up to school with a ak and any

kid I see that's in my sight I shooting fr."

facilities on Thursday, Feb. 22, 2024.

In reaction to these messages, Roanoke City Public Schools closed all

In order to join the Snapchat group

reserved for Patrick Henry High School

students, users must register with a

Gmail addresses. Investigators were able to trace the threatening messages to a

Gmail address used by the defendant."

Police Department are investigating the

case.

The FBI and the City of Roanoke

'Im done bro fr on some real sh** I'm

included but were not limited to:

"The FBI will vigorously investigate

peaceful end to this situation."

PHOTOS OF LORI GRAHAM

Josh and the Honorable Gino W. Williams, Judge, gives a brief welcome before the graduate receives recognition for his hard work.

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.

Billy is a younger, energetic dog who is full of personality. He enjoys treats and will patiently wait for goodies while sitting in place. He is friendly and likes attention. Stop by to meet Billy!





The name's Catstanza. (George) Catstanza but you might also know him by a couple of aliases: Art Van Delay, Koko, and Gammy. Catstanza is a very sweet, docile boy—but please, don't ask him to celebrate Festivus. He enjoys affection and lets you know he's happy when he starts making biscuits... or a marble rye. Jerry, you've found your purrfect match!

LAND TRANSFERS

Dec 2023 Radford City Land \$169, Transfers

Zero Dollar Considerations: Eric L Grayson to Diana L Grayson, Lot 1 and Part of Lot 2 Plan F Map: 10-(6)-SEC 14-1-2A

J Mark Jones to Walter B Jennings Jr Trustee, Heth Map Lot 43-45 Map: 6-(8)-43-45

Joyce W Smith to Christopher S Smith, Plan H RL&I CO. Map: 18-(6)-SEC 6-9-10-11

Plans to Elizabeth Hirschman

David Alton McDaniel to 1012 West Main Street, Map: 13-(5)-SEC 1-19

Melissa Taylor Twine to Melissa Taylor Twine Trustee, Plan F RL&I CO. Map: 20-(2)-3

Joshua McKeal Hale-Cole to Joshua McKeal Ross-Hale

Glenda Buckner to Lance Buckner, Portion of Lot 2 HW Huff Plat B Map: 33-(2)-BLK B-2E-2F

Plans to Samuel Harrison Williams, Boundary Plat of Tax Parcel 25-(4)-2

Elizabeth Elaine Williams-Price to Elizabeth Elaine Williams

Mohamed V Elhady to Mustafa Rafat Mohamed, Plan C RL&I Co Section 16 Map: 14-7-16-1-2

Eugene K Ayers to Eugene K Ayers, Lot 2 Map: 020001360/11-(2)-2

Rachel Elizabeth Herr to Christian Craig Herr, Map: 02-2069

Abigail Shirel Weed to Finnigan Maddox Weed

Cynthia Marie Munn to Cynthia Marie Hatchell

Nicole M Ward to Sarah Katherine Ward, Lot 20 Part of Lot 19 Miss Pickett Subdivision Map: 0000248/7-(5)-17-20

Michael Leo Jones to Matthew Creighton Jones, 020003494/20-(3)-16

Kenneth W Farmer to PMD Properties LLC, 2 Parcels Map: 010001007 & 01-1009

Monetary Considerations:

Golden Triangle Development LLC to Julia A Kane-Hamlin, Map: 20-(3)-13, \$295,000

Vincent J Adkins to Cameron L Merchant, Lots 12-16 Section 14 Plan H RLICO Map: 14-8-SEC 14-12TR16, \$375,000 \$169,900

December 2023 Montgomery County Land Transfers

Zero Dollar Considerations:

Robert Pearce to Michael W Sowers Sr., 2 Acres Town of Christiansburg

Shelby Jean Quesenberry to Chen-Chi Shing, 1.333 Acres New Lot Area Riner Magisterial District

Lee Ann Fults to Jason Everett Davis, Condo Unit 94 Building H Cascades Pointe Condos Town of Blacksburg

Carol F Hoge, 2017002248

Donald L Sinclair II to Debra D Sinclair, Lot 42 Montgomery Farms Section V Prices Fork Magisterial District

Ccandb Development LLC to SAS Eagle Givens LLC, 0.177 Acre Lot 75 Northside Park Section XII Town of Blacksburg

Connie O Ridout to Rusted Barn Properties LLC, 1.005 Acre Metes and Bounds Mount Tabor Magisterial District, 1.005 Acre Metes and Bounds Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Eduardo Molina Montoya to Molina Montoya Solano Lopez, Lot 21 The Villas on North Main Street PH II

Gertrud Rath-Montgomery to Samuel Rath Montgomery, Lot 26 Crestwood Gardens Subdivision Section II

Victoria Lael to NRHT LLC, 1.0246 Acres Lot 1 Prices Fork Magisterial District

Mary V Sammons Rordam to Ronnie Fredrick Rordam Trust, 234.537 Acres

William R Ryan to Charles F Henry, 0.1650 Acre Shawsville Magisterial District See Attached Plat

Gregory J Gorzycki to Betty D Whitworth, 0.275 Acre Parcel 1 Town of Christiansburg

Timothy Wayne Clark to Timothy Wayne Clark, 0.784 Acre Parcel I and 0.430 Acre Parcel II and 1.3098 Acres Metes and Bounds Parcel III

Stephen W Tibbs to 502 Prospect LLC, Lot 28A-B Fiddlers Green Town of Blacksburg

Pearlie Foster to Marsha G Simpson, Lot 11 Oak Tree Townhomes PH IV Town of Christiansburg

Mark M Harris to Mark M Harris Trust, Condo Unit 507 Sundance Ridge Condominium of Blacksburg PH II Town of Blacksburg

FANDB Land LP to R Fralin Construction Inc., 0.161 Acre Lot 42 Kensington PH X Riner Magisterial District

Fransisco Azevedo to Francisco Souza Azevedo and Isabel Osorio Trust, Lot 27 PH I Haymarket Square Townhouses Section II Town of Blacksburg

Fransisco Azevedo to Francisco Souza Azevedo and Isabel Osorio Trust, Condo Unit 830 PH VI University Place

Fransisco Azevedo to Francisco Souza Azevedo and Isabel Osorio Trust, Condo Unit 103 Clay Court Town of Blacksburg

Ted W Graham to DW LLC, 0.163 Acre Metes and Bounds Town of Christiansburg

DW LLC to Teddy W Graham, 0.213 Acre Metes and Bounds Shawsville Magisterial District

RGS Title LLC Trust to 2023007185, 2022002398

James J McKenna to James McKenna Jr., Lot 6 Windmill Hills PH IV Riner Magisterial District

Judy S Wurzburger to Ashley Nicole Wurzburger, 1.44 Acres Riner Magisterial District

Double V LLC to Double V Blacksburg LLC, 2.0753 Acres Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Double V LLC to Double V Christiansburg LLC, Lot 97 Clifton PH II Town of Christiansburg

Double V LLC to Double V Christiansburg LLC, Lot 175 New River Village PH VII

Double V LLC to Double V Christiansburg LLC, Lot 2 Cambria Crossing PH IV Town Of Christiansburg

Nantakrit Yodpijit to Double V Blacksburg LLC, Lot 24 The Orchards PH I Woods Edge

Double V LLC to Double V Blacksburg LLC, Lot 8 The Villas on North Main PH I

Double V LLC to Double V Christiansburg LLC, Lot 76 Cambria Crossing PH II Town of Christiansburg

Kathleen Curtis Wilson to Kathleen C Wilson Trust, Lot 40 PH III Block B Cedar Orchards Subdivision Mount Tabor Magisterial District

National Bank of Blacksburg Trust to Bettye Ackerman Administrator, 1.123 Acres Lot 3 Town of Christiansburg

Georgia Anne Hawkins Faris to Georgia Anne Hawkins Faris, Lot 4 Knob Hill Subdivision Unit 1 Town of Blacksburg FANDB Land LP to R Fralin Construction Inc., 0.133 Acre Lot 47 Kensington PH X Riner Magisterial District

FANDB Land LP to R Fralin Construction Inc., 0.133 Acre Lot 46 Kensington PH X Riner Magisterial District

Diversified Interests OVLK LLC to Overlook Apartments LLC, 2023005181

Robert W Weikle to Robert W Weikle, 8.89 Acres Shawsville Magisterial District

CCANDB Development LLC to SAS Eagle Givens LLC, 0.184 Acre Lot 118 Northside Park Section XII, Town of Blacksburg

Joan P Jones to Erin McCann, 2018003187 and 2006002738

J Darin Greear Trust to J Darin Greear, 8.8188 Acres Riner Magisterial District

J Darin Greear to Rustic Ridge Road 1571 LLC, 8.8188 Acres Riner Magisterial District

Betsy R Hayes to Betsy R Hayes Trust, 40.8610 Acres Lot 5 Riner Magisterial District

Thomas F Hannifan to Thomas F Hannifan, 2023002985

Michael Evans Smith to Brian Evans Smith, 1.048 Acres Lot 3 Riner Magisterial District

Garry Wayne Estes to Victoria Elizabeth Crawford, 0.69 Acre Shawsville Magisterial District Monetary Considerations:

Joseph R Chambers to James A Doss, Lot 46 Huff Acres Town of Christiansburg, \$325,000

Monika M Aylward to Clare E Aylward, Lot 37 Oakwood Subdivision Number 1 Parcel 1 and Lot 35 Oakwood Subdivision Number 1 Parcel 2 Town of Christiansburg, \$295,000

John Skelton to Seeds Properties II; Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Georgetown Square Townhouses Town of Blacksburg; 1,500,000

William D Turner Trust to Zack Bracket LLC, Lot 1 Section 2 Kyle Montague Addition Town of Christiansburg, \$245,000

David A Angle to Fouronetwo LLC, Part of Lot 9 and Part of Lot 10 Section 2 South Side Land Company Town of Blacksburg, \$600,000

Janet K Poley to Ann Benton Ruple, Lot 3 Westover Hills Section III Town of Blacksburg, \$460,000

+0/2/00

Justin D Miller to Eddie Travis Maynard, Lot 16 Section 7 Plan G Map: 14-(5)-SEC 7-16, \$312,000

Connie Hudson Smith to Joseph O Sutliff, Map: 25-(3)-28, \$450,000

Kara Deanna Meadows to John N Hayes, Portion Lots 10-12 Containing 0.4236 Acre Map: 15-(3)-10, \$180,000

Judy H Williamson to Tre Rea, Part of Lots 12-14 Section 2 Plan 1 Map: 6-(3)-SEC 2-12A-138*, \$179,900

Larry W Long Jr. to Anna M Montague Trust, Lots 18 and 19, 0.5795 Acre Section 1 Summit Map 6-(3)-SEC 1-18, \$60,181

Bryan Carter Ingram to Samuel H Williams, Lot 2 Quail Ridge Subdivision, \$475,000

Sandra Lynn Buettiker to Mccown Southwest LLC, Map: 020001143/25-(4)-2, \$250,000

Christopher D Roope to Zuzanna Fernandez, Map: 020000339/18-(4)-1, \$165,000

Golden Triangle Development LLC to David B Booth, Lot 29 Containing 0.142 Acre PH 2 Gloria Villas, \$339,000

Highlander Apartments I LLC to Tyler Ave Townhouse LLC, 6-(6)-SEC 54-3, \$1,300,000

Nancy A Burnside to Matthew N Sowers, 020000696, \$270,000

Highlander Apartments I LLC to Joseph E Jackson, Map: 6-(6)-SEC 54-2A, \$360,000

Mario R Wong Sanchez to Graeme Boyd, Map: 6-(9)-21, \$235,000

Golden Triangle Development LLC to Juan Ferrel, Lot 30 Gloria Villas Phase 2, \$339,000

Elizabeth Keith Montgomery to Jasmine Ruth Phillips, 020001238,

Bobby Woodson Phillips to Andrew Woodson Phillips, Lot 28 Pleasant Acres Riner Magisterial District

RWW48 LLC to St Johns on Depot, Metes and Bounds See Legal Town of Christiansburg

Earl H Dickerson Jr. to Dickerson Family Trust, Condo Unit 1210-J PH VII University Terrace Condominium

Cory Shawn Quesenberry to Cory Shawn Quesenberry, 0.2945 Acre Lot 1 Highland Park Subdivision Section II Town of Christiansburg

George W Chatfield to Isaac M Chatfield, Lot 16 Woodland Hills Estates Subdivision PH I

Jennifer Ann Johnson to Seth Catlin Johnson, Tract 32 PH 2 Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Sandy E Weber to Dorsa and Weber Living Trust, Lot 24 Highland Park 2 Town of Blacksburg

Thomas C Howard to Thomas C Howard, Lot 5B Section I Kessler Park Town of Blacksburg

Davina Irvin to Davina Irvin, 0.305 Acre Parcel B Town of Christiansburg

Michael S Eggleston to 145/135 Thelma Lane LLC, Lots 2 and 3 Ellett Road Subdivision Town of Christiansburg

Michael S Eggleston to 145/135 Thelma Lane LLC, Lot 43 Town of Blacksburg

Michael S Eggleston to 145912 Draper Road LLC, Lot 1 and 25 Feet of Lot 2 Adjoining Lot 1 Section 7 Miller Addition Less and Except Town of Blacksburg

Michael S Eggleston to 103 Evergreen Way LLC, Lot 2 Evergreen Cluster Development Town of Blacksburg

Rene O Fonseca to Edwin Antonio Gomez, Lot 21 Riner Magisterial District Rhea Martin Wills to Celia Emily Wills, Three Parcels See Legal Town of Blacksburg

Reba A Palmer to Robert H Olinger, Alleghany Mountain See Legal

Scott Kroll to Scott Kroll Living Trust, Lot 51A The Ridges PH 7 Mount Tabor Magisterial District

S and S Construction LLC to Diversified Interests OVLK LLC, Lot 10 and 11 Regan Heights Town of Christiansburg

FANDB Land LP to R Fralin Construction Inc., 0.141 Acre Lot 39 Kensington PH X Riner Magisterial District Richard Christopher Briele to Ramon Aguayo Arellano, 3.543 Acres Lot 4 Riner Magisterial District, \$83,500

Andrew J Sanderson to Donald Sharr Millard Jr., 2.4355 Acres Lot 78 Brush Mountain West PH 8 Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$560,000

RYT LLC to Helm Building Enterprises LTD, 2.7579 Acres Town of Christiansburg, \$1,400,000

Equity Trustees LLC Trust to Secretary of Veterans Affairs, 2013010149, \$118,076

Lisa Hall Lipsey to Matthew Neal Powers, \$740,000

See Land Transfers, page 5



<u>OPINION</u>

Delegate says lawmakers should address counterfeit pill presses before loud mufflers

Now that the Virginia General Assembly is past the "Crossover" deadline, much of our focus has turned to the Commonwealth's budget. Both legislative bodies will now consider their competing visions of the budget this week before differences between the two are worked out in a conference committee.

I'm pleased to report that several budget amendments I submitted have been included in the House Appropriations Committee's recommendation to the full House of Delegates. This includes giving Radford University - as well as other institutions of higher education - authority to reduce non-resident tuition rates to improve the Commonwealth's talent pipeline. Language for another budget amendment of mine, which would create a new Opioid Data Tracking System for the Commonwealth, has also been included. And of local significance, my amendment to the budget which allocates one million dollars over the next two years to fund 10 new OB/GYN graduate medical residency slots has also been included in the House's recommendation. This request is a direct response to our region's declining maternal healthcare options, and its addition to the budget is vital to ensure our region's mothers are not endangered by lack of local access to OB/GYN's.

While the inclusion of my amendments to the House Budget is certainly a positive, Democratic priorities



elsewhere in the budget are problematic. As the saying goes, "money talks," and the General Assembly speaks to its priorities in the budget. Governor Youngkin's proposed budget contained tax cuts while making significant investments in education and other areas of focus. House Democrats have put forth different priorities, including placing the enforcement of rules against loud mufflers ahead of protecting kids from counterfeit pills. SB 469, patroned by Senator Mark Obenshain (R-Harrisonburg), would have made it illegal to own a pill press with the intent to manufacture counterfeit pills laced with fentanyl. Although SB 469 passed the Senate on a 38-2 vote, House Democrats refused to give this bill a hearing, citing the "high fiscal impact" of the bill. What is the cost, you might ask? The estimate is \$50,000 over two years. Although Democrats couldn't find money in the budget for this important public safety measure, they were able to direct \$150,000 towards a Democratic lawmaker's proposal to address vehicles with loud mufflers.

Counterfeit pills have been a major problem as of late. As I've written about in the past, Loudoun County reported eight overdoses at one high school in the span of just one week, late last year. Had teachers not intervened, some of these students may have died from taking these pills. In 2022, there were 2,490 drug overdose deaths; 80 percent of which involved fentanyl or its analogs. Compare that figure with 553 homicides with firearms, also in 2022. Instead of focusing on things like vehicle noise and restricting the lawful ownership of firearms, perhaps Democrats should instead channel their energy on the pressing problem facing Virginia: the scourge of opiate addiction and overdoses.

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.

Gas prices lower in the last week

Average gasoline prices in Virginia have fallen 4.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.19/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia. Prices in Virginia are 18.6 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 6.7 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 2.6 cents in the last week and stands at \$4.06 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$2.79/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$3.99/g, a difference of \$1.20/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.79/g while the highest was \$3.99/g, a difference of \$1.20/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 1.9 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.24/g



P.O. Box 1125 • Salem, VA 24153

USPS 016-490 Online: www.ourvalley.org

Michael Showell, *Publisher* Heather Bell, *Editor* communitynews@ourvalley.org Aila Boyd, *Executive Editor* aboyd@ourvalley.org Wendi Craig, *Advertising Consultant* advertise@ourvalley.org

Give us your view:

editor@ourvalley.org

The News Messenger is a newspaper of, by and for the people of Montgomery County. We encourage letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached for verification. All letters will be verified before publication. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style. today. The national average is up 13.3 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 9.2 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:

February 26, 2023: \$3.12/g (U.S. Average: \$3.33/g) February 26, 2022: \$3.43/g (U.S. Average: \$3.59/g) February 26, 2021: \$2.61/g (U.S. Average: \$2.71/g) February 26, 2020: \$2.27/g (U.S. Average: \$2.45/g) February 26, 2019: \$2.20/g (U.S. Average: \$2.41/g) February 26, 2019: \$2.36/g (U.S. Average: \$2.51/g) February 26, 2017: \$2.10/g (U.S. Average: \$2.28/g) February 26, 2016: \$1.53/g (U.S. Average: \$1.73/g) February 26, 2015: \$2.21/g (U.S. Average: \$1.73/g) February 26, 2015: \$2.21/g (U.S. Average: \$1.73/g) February 26, 2014: \$3.24/g (U.S. Average: \$3.43/g) Neighboring areas and their current gas prices: Roanoke- \$3.13/g, down 6.3 cents per gallon from

last week's \$3.19/g. Richmond- \$3.23/g, down 4.6 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.28/g.

West Virginia- \$3.22/g, down 4.6 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.26/g.

"Motorists have finally seen a bit of a break in the recent rise in the national average, with more states seeing drops than increases in the last week. While the pause has certainly been nice, this is more like a rain delay than it is a seventh inning stretch," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "It's likely only a matter of time before we see the rise reengage and prices start to head higher, but we'll take any break that we can. Oil prices have shown some signs of struggling last week after coming within arm's reach of \$80 per barrel before falling closer to \$76, but all eyes are on refiners as utilization remained seasonally weak, around 80% of capacity, meaning there's less gasoline and diesel being produced. That's why it's just a matter of time before prices collide with rising demand and start to accelerate again."

GasBuddy

AARP Virginia fraud alert: Getting help after the scam

If there is one thing everyone should understand, it is that "scammers" are career criminals skilled at the art of manipulation, and no one is immune. These crooks target people of any age; in fact, 41% of those who reported a fraud loss to the Federal Trade Commission in 2023 were under the age of 30. So, what can a person do if they experience fraud?

One resource is the AARP

Fraud Watch Network Helpline. Every weekday, trained AARP volunteer fraud fighters are helping victims and their families understand what happened, report the crime, and start to put their lives back together. That number is 1-977-908-3360. We also offer an online small group victim support program to help address the emotional fraud victimization harm causes. Learn more at aarp.org/

fraudsupport.

If you or someone you know has been the victim of fraud, make sure to file a report with local police; among other things, you will have this as evidence in the event restitution becomes possible down the line.

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

- AARP

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.

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org



www.ourvalley.org

Land Transfers from page 3

Barry R Ashburn to Macey Anne McFee, Lot 28 Walnut Grove Section 3 Town of Christiansburg, \$255,000

Rachel Renee Reed to Lukas Patrik Spendel, 16.128 Acres Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$135,000

Alexis Thompson to Deborah Linkous Echols, Lot 10 Karr Heights Section 1 Town of Blacksburg, \$165,000

Charles Kirk Johnson to Joshua Webb, Lot 17 Lusters Mill PH II Town of Blacksburg, \$687,000

Rohini Patel to John Dickey Brennan, Lot 56 Senneca Springs Subdivision PH III Town of Christiansburg, \$430,000

Donald J Hanson to S and Z Estate LLC, Lot 2 Oak Tree Townhomes PH VII Town of Christiansburg, \$269,900

FANDB Land LP to Value Housing Partners LLC, Lots 1-8 and 25-32 Kensington PH X Town of Christiansburg, \$560,000

Leila J Toubia to Bonnie Gilbert, 1.038 Acres Lot 1 A Town of Christiansburg, \$160,000

Kipps Farms LLC to Stateson Homes LLC, Lots 193-196 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$279,298

Lydia Ann Wilkinson to Jason Louis Scherer, 1.3791 Acres Lot 35 Brush Mountain Estates Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$495,000

NRHT LLC to Stephen Gropp, 0.082 Acres Lot 1B Dickerson Acres Town of Blacksburg, \$155,000

Alison Sibol to ANB Investments LLC, All of Lot 4 Metes and Bounds Brookwood Town of Christiansburg, \$160,000

Johnny L Bishop to Grant S Watson, 0.703 Acre Riner Magisterial District, \$370,000

Kari Ann Evans to Alan J Shelton, 3.989 Acres Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$277,500

Joe S Simpkins to Seth Ryan McGhee, 58 Acres Metes and Bounds Less and Except 9.1774 Acres Riner Magisterial District, \$320,000

Darrel D Linkous to Alyssa Smith, Lot 22 Kirk Heights PH II Shawsville Magisterial District, \$45,000

Jacqueline N Firtz to Dennis F Sleighter II, 1.773 Acres Lot 10 Hogans Retreat Riner Magisterial District, \$425,000

Nancy R McGrady to Johnny C Martin Jr., 5 Parcels See Legal Town of Christiansburg, \$200,000 PH V White Oaks Townhouse Town of Christiansburg, \$255,000

Terry Lynn Phoenix to Chloe Shay Krafft, 3.714 Acres Parcel A Shawsville Magisterial District, \$260,925

Michael Stivala to Charles D Angel Jr., Lot 71 Section 3 PH 3 Pheasant Run Crossing Town of Blacksburg, \$315,000

Vickie S Irby AIF to Jonathan Edward Sabin, Lot 4 PH I New River Village Town of Christiansburg, \$290,999

Blacksburg Enterprises Inc. to 112 Turner LLC, 14703 Square Feet Parcel 1 Metes and Bounds Town of Blacksburg, \$2,500,000

Walter E Lacy SUC Trust to Jon Karl Noll, 2 Parcels See Legal, \$450,000

Jennifer West to Andrew J Stratz, 1.58 Acres Lot 5C Riner Magisterial District, \$875,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Cody D Brewer, Lot 201 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$411,580

Barbara A Byron to James R Bohland, Unit 36-4 PH XVIII Section 2 Villas at Peppers Ferry Town of Christiansburg, \$395,000

Legacy Builders NRV Inc. to Zachary Jaris Gillespie, Lot 811 PH VIII Preston Forest Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$761,225

Roderick B Andrews Dehart to Gregory Alexander Carter, Lot 71 Montgomery Farms Section VI Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$369,000

Alicia D Epperson to Benjamin John Huber, Lot 2 Huff Acres Metes and Bounds Town of Christiansburg, \$270,000

Shah Development LLC, Eagle Construction of VA LLC, 3 Parcels See Legal Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$1,770,950

Calvin Whitaker to John Curtis Pauley, 5.011 Acres Lot 3 PH I Kingston Branch Estates Riner Magisterial District, \$409,900

Peter M Pearl Sub Trust to JTCI Electric LLC, 2009001337, \$404,250

Dass Holdings LLC to S and S Construction LLC, 1.016 Acres Lot 77 Heritage Place PH IV-A Riner Magisterial District, \$89,000

Equity Trustees LLC Sub Trust to US Bank Trust NA Trust, 2007004900, \$119,793

Harry Walter Hall to David A Bower, 5.13 Acres Town of Christiansburg, \$103,000 Stephen P Davis to Jeremy Scott Perfater, 48.665 New Parcel A Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$175,000

Dandg Holdings LLC to Hesham Ahmed Rakha, Condo Unit 312 Building 3 The Cascades Condos, \$173,500

Stateson Homes LLC to Elaine P Tan, Lot 128 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$447,439

BKC Properties LLC to J and D Mandell LLC, 0.388 Acre Lot 3, \$190,000

Betty M Segar to Seventeen Estates LLC, Lot 18 Shenandoah PH II Town of Blacksburg, \$231,000

United Asset Management LLC to William Philip Scott Caldwell, 0.16 Acre Metes and Bounds, \$27,500

Ronald W Kenyon to Julia Cisneros, 0.362 Acre Lot 2C Town of Blacksburg, \$435,000

Samuel I White PC Sub Trust to Rocket Rental Company LLC; 2005011248, 2006007755, 2021007987; \$167,000

Robert R Harkrader III Trust to Shah Development LLC, 5.130 Acres Riner Magisterial District, \$89,100

Dirt Investments LLC to Rick James Lanahan Jr. 10 Acres Metes and Bounds See Legal, \$249,975

Professional Foreclosure Corporation to Rocket Rental Company LLC, 2008011507, \$244,000

The Homeplace Inc. to Victoria Dowdy, 1.014 Acres Riner Magisterial District, \$225,000

Stacey U Wilkerson to Edward J St Martin Trust, Unit 7-4 PH IV Villas at Peppers Ferry Town of Christiansburg, \$325,000

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

Kipps Farms LLC to Stateson Homes LLC, Lot 13 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$137,458

Jerry L Shepherd to Rob-N-Son LLC, Metes and Bounds See Legal Town of Christiansburg, \$400,000

Morgan L Shrader to Kyle Lansing, 2.588 Acres Lot 2 Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$549,900

Al Serene Homes LLC to Kristin B Cuthriell, Lot 9 Section 2 Hubbard Haven Subdivision Town of Blacksburg, \$449,000

Robert F Woody Jr. to Brandon P

Wanda Marie Earles Furrow Executor to Courtney Breann Lester, 0.71 Acre Metes and Bounds, \$175,000

James Parker Real Estate LLC to Timothy Andrew Friend-Kisamore; 61.5 Acres Metes and Bounds Parcel 1, 0.03 Acre Metes and Bounds Parcel 2, 0.38 Acre Metes and Bounds Less and Except Parcel 3 Riner Magisterial District; \$171,800

201 Marlington LLC to WGI 201 Marlington LLC, Lots 286 and 287 Crismond Addition Town of Blacksburg, \$75,000

1600 Grissom LLC to Jayln M White, 0.472 Acre Metes and Bounds Parcel 1 Town of Blacksburg, \$425,000

Anthony R Robie to Gregory Scott Rowland, Lot 11 Diamond Hill South Section IV Town of Christiansburg, \$535,000

Lisa Lynn Kaplan to Darryl Wooten, Lot 122 Block 4A5 PH III Pheasant Run Townhomes Town of Blacksburg, \$325,000

Britani Paige Albert to Christopher T Dempsey, 3.7238 Acres Lot A Riner Magisterial District, \$345,000

Douglas A Bradley to Anthony Robie, Lot 13 Apperson Park Section 4 Town of Blacksburg, \$750,000

Nancy B Denney to Trent Christopher Stone, 17.614 Acres Lot 4 Riner Magisterial District, \$138,600

Nancy B Denney to Christopher Laurence Conway, 17.727 Acres Lot 3 Riner Magisterial District, \$144,100

Stateson Homes LLC to Sanya Fabrizi, Lot 6 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$794,039

Dale Wade Moricle to Evelyn Jones, See Deb 643 Page 575 Town of Christiansburg, \$225,000

Michael Enright to Timothy Stern, 2 Parcels See Legal Town of Christiansburg, \$265,000

Erin McCann to Dewey Spangler, Lot 65 Section II Town of Blacksburg, \$699,000

Eagle Construction of VA LLC to Bradley P Martens, Lot 16 Town of Christiansburg, \$556,915

Mount Tabor Investments LLC to Hokie House Investments LLC, Unit 1908-A and 1908-B Building 5 Mount Tabor Village Condo, \$466,000

Extreme Tree Farm LLC to Lerma Francisco, Lots 17-19 Metes and Bounds, \$224,000

Brian S Potts to Juan G Santiago, Part of Lot 39 and a Portion of Lot 40 Town of Christiansburg, \$75,650

NRHT LLC to James L Dunivan, 1.0246 Acres Lot 1 Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$168,000

VA Bulldogs LLC to Gasser Ahmed, Lot 24 Oak Tree Townhomes PH IX Town of Christiansburg, \$285,000

The Lester Group Inc. to James A Burger, Lot 7 Berry Court Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$325,000

Thomas J Ciappina to Matthew Ryan Fisher, 3.97 Acres Riner Magisterial District See Attached Plat, \$15,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Stephanie McCarthy, Lot 140 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$541,254

Akshay Sharma to Benjamin Pennell, Lot 11 Forest Hill Section A Town of Blacksburg, \$165,000

Luisa M Havens Gerardo to Govinda R Baral, Lot 113 PH V New River Village Town of Christiansburg, \$330,000

Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham to Snyder-Hunt Company LLP, 0.8327 Acre Town of Blacksburg, \$617,000

Lenox Title Trustee Services LLC to LB Ranch Properties V LLC, 2004006017, \$85,009

Stateson Homes LLC to SB Wag LLC, Lot 203 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$392,060

Stateson Homes LLC to SB Wag LLC, Lot 181 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$411,290

Stateson Homes LLC to SB Wag LLC, Lot 182 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$404,850

Gaye Linkous to Joshua Davis, Lot 16

Steven Michael Johnson to Miguel Angel Rodrigo Policarpo, Lot 13 Huff Acres Section 2 Shawsville Magisterial District, \$250,000

SAS Eagle Midtown LLC to Mark J Seelig Trust, Unit 106 Building B PH 2 Midtown Condos Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$1,736,081

Dawn A Fitzsimmons to Stuart Marshall Van Metre, 0.632 Acre Tract B Shawsville Magisterial District, \$158,000

Mark Robin J to Joshua R Taft, 1.036 Acres Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$150,000

Chad S Curtis to Heidi Bucher, Lot 19 Oak Tree Townhomes PH X Town of Christiansburg, \$310,000

Morgan R Jackson to Nathan C Gilbarte, Lot 9 White Pine Subdivision Shawsville Magisterial District, \$210,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Douglas A Nixon, Lot 161 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$444,940

Jonathan A Underwood Executor to Hannah M Walker, 5.783 Acres Honey Road, \$145,000

Rene Fonseca to Zayra Mendez Lopez, Lot 6 PH I Ridgeview Subdivision Riner Magisterial District, \$100,000

Stateson Homes LLC to David H Jones, Lot 184 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$422,030

R Fralin Construction Inc. to Eduardo Jose Diaz Carruido, 0.161 Acre Lot 42 Kensington PH X Riner Magisterial District, \$386,137

Steven Lee Vest Trust to Jose Luis Mercado, 0.905 Acre Town of Blacksburg, \$378,000 Taylor, Lot 15 Craig Mountain Section 1 Town of Christiansburg, \$259,000

Kristi A Jones to Kenneth Richard Davis Jr., Lot 3 PH I Hamilton Place Townhouses Town of Christiansburg, \$210,000

Timothy E Powers to Kyle Joseph Flanagan, Lot 11 Section VIII PH III Falling Branch Subdivision, \$300,000

Atlantic Trustee Services LLC to Rocket Mortgage LLC, 022002914, \$172,000

Xuange Liu to Cameron Ralph Davis Condo Unit 7304 Building 7 Knollwood Condos PH I Town of Blacksburg, \$275,000

NANDC Partnership LLC to Ascent Church of Blacksburg, Lot 1 Shenandoah Plaza Town of Blacksburg, \$2,400,000

Aldawood and Sons LLC to BLDT Development Properties LLC, 0.327 Acre Lot 6 and Part of Lot 5 Section 5 Town of Blacksburg, \$650,000

R Fralin Construction Inc. to Kevin Lee Beail, 0.133 Acre Lot 47 Kensington PH X Riner Magisterial District, \$347,950

R Fralin Construction Inc. to Laura A Andrews to 0.133 Acre Lot 46 Kensington Ph X Riner Magisterial District, \$397,950

R Fralin Construction Inc. to Barbara A Byron, 0.141 Acre Lot 39 Kensington PH X Riner Magisterial District, \$375,950

Richard L Mayo III to Sarah Castle, Lot 25 Cambria Crossing PH I Town of Christiansburg, \$350,000

Milestone Development LLC to JMA Hospitality 2 LLC, 1.7826 Acres New Lot 27A-2, \$7,620,000

Ronald Mummert to David James Witt, 0.67 Acre Metes and Bounds, \$170,000 Stateson Homes LLC to Irene M Kang, Lot 162 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$457,500

JCY Properties LLC to Sang W Lee, Unit 1205-B PH I University Terrace Condo Town of Blacksburg, \$275,000

Cameron M Sellers to Tom Marcy, Lot 3 PH I Haymarket Square Townhouses Section I Town of Blacksburg, \$332,000

Secretary of Veterans Affairs to Jonathan L Character, 10.0843 Acres Riner Magisterial District, \$300,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Cameron Sellers, Lot 12 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$637,084

J Patrick Bixler to 4 Z LLC, 1.4144 Acres Town of Blacksburg, \$575,000

Eagle Construction of Virginia LLC to Devon S Stosser, Lot 108 Section 3 The Preserve at Walnut Spring Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$358,341

Stateson Homes LLC to Amy Sebring, Lot 16 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$867,519

Kimberly Messner to John Christopher Evans to Lot 18 Sturgill Estates Town of Christiansburg, \$465,000

Wilmington Savings Fund Society to Monte Thomas, 2.072 Acres Metes and Bounds, \$40,000

Joe W Fowler to Tyler Q Emery, 27.056 Acres, \$100,000

Sarah Heredia to Brandon Scott Lewis, 0.25 Acre Lot 123 PH VI New River Village Town of Christiansburg, \$328,500

Jennifer Swain Cencich to Charles Mathew Swain, 0.413 Acre Lot 21 Riner Magisterial District, \$169,000

Sean D Fessenden to Clinton Wattenberg, 0.202 Acre Lot 104, \$723,000

BITUARIES

Hill, Sandra Lynn

Sandra Lynn Hill, 56, of Pulaski, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024, at UVA Medical Center.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Howard Dietz Burnett and Deanna Mallery.

include Survivors her husband, Patrick Shannon Hill; stepfather, Gary Mallery; sister, Vicki Hawkins (Jerry); special stepsister, Melinda Reeder (Rich); stepsisters, Missy Hill, and Lori Caudill (Ronnie); motherin-law, Ann Hill Jameson; brother-in-law, Roger Hill (Cindy); sister-in-



law, Courtney Dunavant (Chuck); her special feline companions, Billy Boy, Ann and Potsy; special sisters of the LRBC; and many other relatives and friends.

Special thanks to Frances Davis, Leslie Martin and the sisters of LRBC.

A celebration of her life will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Mar. 9, 2024, at The River Company at the Pete Dye River Course.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the UVA Hospitality House, your local ASPCA/pet rescue, or the National Kidney Foundation.

The Hill family is in the Radford.

Belinda C. Hypes, 69, of Rich Creek, went to be with the Lord Feb. 17, 2024, at the Forsyth Medical

Lord rev. the Forsyth Medical Winston-Salem, N.C. She was born at Panama City, Panama Jan. 22, 1955. Belinda was a graduate

care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in

Hypes, Belinda C.



Debbie sister-in-law Cruise.

She is survived by her companion/forever friend James (Jug) Donathan; daughter, Oceanna Cruise Matney;

son-in-law, Geoff Matney; sister, Pamela C. Young; brother-in-law, Thomas E. Young; nieces Mary Dennis, Whitney Young: nephews, John Young, Shawn Cruise; great nephews Aubrey Ford, Joey Culverhouse, Westyn Ware; great niece, Casandra Cruise; great great great-great nephew, Zaylen McGraw; and three special fur babies, Smokey, Bandit, and Rambo.

Visitation was held Sunday, Feb. 25 at McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg. The funeral immediately followed.

Nash, Sr., Robert Howard

Robert Howard Nash, Sr., 77, passed away Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024, at his home in Dublin.

He retired from Lowe's and was a member of First United Methodist Church in Pulaski. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Mary Virginia Nash; and a brother, Johnny Nash, Jr

Bobby was survived by his wife, Karen "Penny" Nash; children, Robert H. Rob" Nash, Jr. of Pulaski, Lesley Nash McCarthy (Pat), and Chad Nash (Tonya); brother, James "Bill Nash (Tammy);



sister-in-law, Violet Nash; grandchildren, Declan and Nash McCarthy, Megan, Brett, Emma, Etta, Issac, Silas and Lettie Nash; many special nieces and nephews; and

other relatives and friends. The family will receive friends 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Memorial services will begin at 12 p.m. with Pastors Danny and Pat Collins officiating.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the Pulaski Presbyterian Church Choir or to First United Methodist Church Choir in Pulaski.

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

Spence, Sr., Richard Dale

Richard Dale Spence, Sr., 64, of Blacksburg, passed away peacefully Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024, at a nursing home in Roanoke.

Richard was born July 24, 1959. He was the son of Paul and Barbara Spence. He retired as a construction worker for CL Draughn. He enjoyed spending time outdoors, collecting and watching Nascar and love for antique cars.

He is survived by his children Richard Spence Jr., Chrissy Agnew and husband Chris, Elisha



Spence and fiancé Scott grandchildren Goad; Riley Spence, Arabella Spence, Carter Agnew and Cole Agnew; brother Michael Spence; a very

Sabrina husband special Wesel niece and Mike McCoy; nephews Jonathan, Alex and Mikey Spence; uncle Ronnie Snider; aunts, uncles and cousins in Mt. Tabor; and great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents Paul and Barbara Spence; sister Sandra Duncan.

Memorial service will be conducted Saturday, Mar. 2, 2024, at 2 p.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel. The family will receive friends from 1 -2 p.m. before the service.

Phillips, Richard Keith

Richard "Rick" Keith Phillips, 75, of Radford, formerly of Williamsburg, passed away Sunday, Feb. 18, 2024.

of Christiansburg High School and New River

She was the daughter of

the late Aubrey and Mary

Frances Cruise. She was

also preceded in death

by her sister, Rodonna

Sutphin; brother-in-law,

Allen Sutphin; brother, David L. Cruise; and

College.

Community

Born in Oakland, Calif. where his father was stationed in the Navy, Rick spent most of his childhood with his four siblings in Indiana and graduated from Princeton High School in 1966. Rick was a U. S. Navy veteran and served in the Vietnam War. After his time in the service, he settled in Williamsburg where he raised his family and was a successful businessman and entrepreneur. Rick was

known throughout Williamsburg for his hospitality skills. He was a member and past president of the Williamsburg Hotel and Motel Association. Most notably, he founded and operated the Sportsman's Grille. "Mr. Rick" was one of the best "saloon keepers" around and had many customers who became friends. He was a hard worker who loved his family, dogs, fishing, hunting, and putting up his light tree on the deck every year at Christmas.

An enthusiast of unique and poorly functioning vehicles and boats, you may have seen



him driving around in his red truck, early 90's-era limousine, or one of his many Volkswagen vans. You could also find him You could also find nim working on his boat, the "Jolly Bateau" at the Kingsmill marina. Or perhaps you saw him stuck in the middle of Kingsmill Pond in a plugless John boat with a dead

trolling motor. Rick spent most of his adult life in the Tidewater area, but eventually relocated to Radford to be close to his daughter's family. He loved his grand dog "Pippa" and looked forward to her visits.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Margaret "Peg" Phillips; sisters, Susie Harrod and Anne "Pooh" Spear, as well as

her husband Ron. Survivors include his daughter, Lisa Carter (John) of Christiansburg;

son, Alex Phillips (Jessica) of Santa Barbara, Calif.; grandchildren, Maxton 'Max" Carter and Lou Phillips; brothers, Chris (Sharon) Phillips of Williamsburg, and Jim Phillips (Connie) of Ocala, Fla.; brother-in-law, Byron Harrod of Williamsburg; and many cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

The family would like to thank his special caregiver, longtime Cynthia Black, as well as the staff at Radford Rehab and Carilion NRV Medical Center who provided exceptional care to Rick in his final days.

In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions to the National M.S. Society at national miso coeff, or Guiding Eyes for the Blind at guidingeyes.org.

celebration Rick's life will be held in Williamsburg later this year with details to follow.

The family intends to compile a record of memories, photos, and stories from Rick's life ahead of the event. Please email any contributions to memoriesofrickphillips@ gmail.com by May 31.

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

Blues from page 1

King, and Johnny Cash once sat, they were met with the music engineers and an array of audio and sound equipment. This was an incredible

Co's Facebook page.

Along with other events, Music Road Co will be playing at Floyd Fest 2024, at their new location this summer in Check, Va.

Radford University establishes Southwest Virginia Teacher Apprenticeship Consortium

experience for Allen. "They had a tape machine that they had running, I didn't think they used it for anything, just for show, but it was just for this echo sound," Allen said. "It was the perfect Blues sound "There were also a lot of pictures of Elvis. Once you walk out of the studio, there is a whole merch area and a bar, there is like an '80s milkshake parlor too."

Bunco's recorded album is planned to come out in the spring with all original music, with Allen utilizing his passion and experience in mixing the album for the band. He is interested in learning to master music as well.

"He has fantastic music production ability," Hanes said.

Allen is a part of the Blues Initiative, supported by the New River Blues Society and Christiansburg Institute to encourage the growth of the next generation of blues musicians and enthusiasts. The Initiative offers youth in the area the chance to join in on free music lessons and opportunities to learn how to play individually or with a band. Hanes frequently has provided group introductory harmonica lessons at a variety of locations in the New River Valley, with each participant receiving a free harmonica. Harmonica is only one of the instruments that youth can receive musical instruction in through the program. The International Blues Challenge event is also a benefit that young musicians can be a part of through the encouragement of the Initiative. This was Allen's first year traveling to the International Blues Challenge.

Blues is one of the many styles of music Allen enjoys and actually plays with five different musical groups. In addition to Bunco, he is a member of the popular local band Music Road Co, along with his father Janiah Allen, a founding member of the group. Janiah Allen, a vocalist, bassist, and drummer, has been a great influence on his son and encouraged him in his musical gifts from a young age. Janiah Allen started out as a drummer and now plays bass for Music Road Co.

Their music is, "a smooth blend of funk, rock, reggae and afrobeat to get you groovin' and your hip bones movin'," according to Music Road

Solazo, а traditional Latin American band, is another group Nyo Allen drums for, adding to his range of musical talent and experience.

The Ambassador and the Chosen Few, a reggae, soul, and rock band, provided an opportunity for young Allen to perform on stage with the group at Floyd Fest 2022. He continues to play with this group as well.

Last but not least, father and son, Nyo and Janiah Allen, are members of a group they started called Father Sun. The group performs reggae and island music.

Hanes expressed how Allen's passion and dedication as well as talent can be seen in other instruments that he has learned to play, and he has even been writing some music.

New River Blues Society member Holly Hunnicutt made the first connection between Nyo Allen and the Blues Initiative. Honnicutt, along with NR Blues Society, were seeking youth musicians or those interested in learning to play the Blues, and that is when they discovered Allen.

"Allen is capable of playing what he wants to play on most instruments," Bunco member, Hanes said. "He went to the first practice and had a blast."

"He is thoroughly convinced this is his calling in life," Lamana said.

"I am really grateful to the Blues Society for all the support they've given me, I feel the love and it feels great," Allen said. "Music is my therapy."

Looking to the future, Allen isn't sure yet what direction he wants to go in, and certainly has time to figure this out, but he knows that music will be a big part of it.

"I know I want to do music for the rest of my life but where that is placed is still unknown,'

The Blues Initiative continues to seek youth in the community that would like to either learn to play an instrument or grow their already budding musical talents with Blues music. Any parents or youth interested in finding out more information about the Blues Initiative can visit the New River Blues Society's Facebook page or their website at newriverbluessociety. com.

RADFORD - Radford University is partnering with local school divisions, including Radford City Public Schools, to help resolve the growing teacher shortage by establishing the Southwest Virginia Teacher Apprenticeship Consortium (SWVTAC).

With grant funding awarded from the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) and contributions from Radford University and area school divisions, the SWVTAC partners have developed a regional registered teacher apprenticeship program to provide aspiring teachers with a cost-effective, job-embedded pathway into the teaching profession. Upon successful completion of the program, apprentices will be offered a teaching contract with employment beginning in fall 2025.

School divisions in regions 6 (Western Virginia) and 7 (Southwest), including Bland County, Carroll County, Galax City, Giles County, Pulaski County, Radford City, Wythe County and Roanoke City, have joined with Radford University to establish the consortium.

With the increasing number of teacher vacancies in our region, it is imperative that all stakeholders work together to proactively respond to the growing shortage of qualified teachers," said Tamara Wallace, dean of the College of Education and Human Development. "Our college is deeply committed to our partnership with the SWVTAC and our innovative teacher preparation model that not only provides school divisions the opportunity to 'grow their own' teachers but also helps them retain talent within Southwest Virginia."

The teacher shortage in Virginia has required schools to meet their needs in non-traditional ways. The benefits of teacher apprentices include a focus on cultivating talent from the communities the program serves, and in expanding the teacher pipeline to people who want to become teachers but who also need to work full-time. By removing this obstacle and providing an opportunity for aspiring teachers to earn while they learn, schools can ensure that they are hiring highquality teachers.

"The Southwest Virginia Teacher Apprenticeship Consortium is a wonderful example of how Radford University embraces the responsibility to serve our communities," President Bret Danilowicz said. "With the launch of SWVTAC

and our recent announcement of the Provisional to Professional Pathway project, Radford is committed to creative solutions that will help solve Virginia's teacher shortage. This apprenticeship program has the dual benefit of opening new and affordable pathways to rewarding careers for working adults and improving classroom experiences for young learners throughout Southwest Virginia."

Beginning this spring, teacher apprentices will be employed in school divisions within the SWVTAC and work under the direct supervision of a classroom teacher while completing requirements for a bachelor's degree and full teacher licensure with teaching endorsements in both elementary education (Pre-K-6) and special education: general curriculum (K-6). Seven teacher apprentices have been hired for the inaugural cohort and are expected to complete the apprenticeship program in May 2025.

The structure of teacher training has changed very little in the past 50 years,' said Amanda Bozack, director of the School of Teacher Education and Leadership. "Virginia's registered apprenticeship program is an exciting opportunity for our program to work closely with school division partners and to design learning experiences that match the needs of our on-the-job learners. We are thrilled to be a partner in this work."

"Given the current trend of fewer people becomingeducators, this program will allow Roanoke City Public Schools to provide an additional pipeline for our students who are enrolled in programs such as Teachers for Tomorrow or who show an interest in the education field and employees who currently work as paraprofessionals within the school division," said Archie Freeman, chief academic officer for Roanoke City Public Schools. "Ensuring we have passionate, high-quality educators to teach our children in the future will benefit our city, our region, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and our nation for generations to come. We are excited to partner with Radford University and our neighboring school divisions on this exciting program.'

Those interested in participating in the apprenticeship can contact Radford's School of Teacher Education and Leadership at stel@radford.edu.

Patrick Reed for Radford University

www.ourvalley.org



and evaluates planning staff. marketing & communications staff, and Whole Family Intake staff the contract of sale collector and any

Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute electronically. This is a communication from a debt

12. The request is to rezone from (B-1) Limited Business to R-3, Single-

ABC NOTICE

MAA VEDAI 8 LLC, trading

SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS 24 SP 58 For the Adoption of: EMALEIGH ANN JONES, A

minor child,

Vs. JOHN DOE,

Respondent.

TO: John Doe (unknown

father of the adoptee)

Take notice that a Petition

for Adoption was filed by

JEREMY NATHAN JONÉS

on the 7th day of February

2024, with the Clerk of

Superior Court for Davidson

County, Lexington, NC, in

the above entitled special

proceeding. The Petition

relates to a female child

born on 29th day of

October, 2013 at LewisGale

Medical Center, Salem,

Virginia. The birth mother's

name is Shana Marie

(Parcel ID: 022175;

organizes department responsibilities and workflow.

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

Salary: \$60,000-\$75,000/yr. Submit cover letter and resume to: TAP, Human Resources, Job Code VPPRD-PL, PO Box 2868, 302 2nd St SW Roanoke VA 24011 or fax to 540-345-1944TTY: 540-345-4096 AA/EOE/Drug Free Workplace Bilingual ability is a plus

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

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.bwwsales.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 Trustees 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

Family Residential District (R-3) to allow the property owner to redevelop existing building into duplex and (1) Single Family Resident. The

general usage and density range of the proposed amendment is low-medium residential development. The general usage and density range of the property as set forth in the City's comprehensive plan is commercial corridor. Comments may be presented at the meeting and by phone or in writing prior to the meeting. Additional information on this request may be obtained in the Community Development Department, 10 Robertson Street, Radford VA 24141, 540.267.3188 or by email at

Melissa.Skelton@radfordva.

NOTICE OF **PUBLIC HEARING-**

gov

The Radford City Council and Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing to receive comments regarding a request from the Jones Builder, LLC, for a Special Use Permit to develop an existing building into a duplex, 402 West Rock Rd, Radford VA 24141, Tax Map #'s 12-(2)-SEC 2-10,11 & 12. The general usage and density range of the proposed amendment is low-medium residential development. The general usage and density range of the property as set forth in the City's comprehensive plan is commercial corridor The hearing will be held on Monday, March 11, 2024 beginning at 7:00 P.M. E.S.T, at 10 Robertson Street, Radford, VA. Interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing and present their views on the proposed Special Use Permit. Written comments may be sent to 10 Robertson Street, Radford 24141; please allow adequate mailing time: Melissa Skelton, **Community Development** Director.

4956 SUGAR GROVE HWY, SUGAR GROVE, VIRGINIA 24375.

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

HARESH KUMAR **CHAUDHARI** 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.

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

Goodwin and the minor child was conceived in Roanoke County, Virginia on or around February 3, 2013. TAKE NOTICE that you are required to make defense to such pleading no later than forty (40) days after the date of first publication of this notice, exclusive of such

date. Upon your failure to do so, the Petitioners will apply to the Court for relief sought in the Petition. Any parental rights that you may have will be terminated upon the entry of the Decree of Adoption. This the 29 day of February, 2024

STATEWIDE ADS



Tax Map No.: 057-2 6)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated December 29, 2015, in the original principal amount of \$106,837.00 and recorded

Substitute Trustees, Crow Center Building, Suite 600, 580 East Main Street Norfolk, VA 23510, File No. 233457-01, Tel: (757) 321-6465, between 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon only.

Hutt d/b/a H&H Abstracting,

and/or NFPDS-VA LLC,

STATEWIDE ADS



lt's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Receive a free 7-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$735.

Call 844-947-1479 to schedule your free quote!

GENERAC



www.ourvalley.org



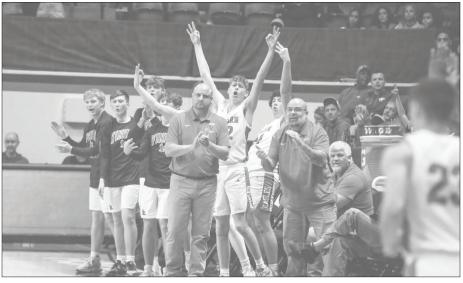
brindleybeach.com Safe Step. North America's #1

642-3224

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount

Montgomery Sports

Auburn claims third-straight regional championship



Auburn head coach Terry Millirons looks on after his team hits a three pointer in Saturday's contest at Virginia Tech's Cassell Coliseum in a double overtime win against George Wythe.



Auburn High School players hold up the regional championship trophy.

Marty Gordon

NRV sports@ourvalley.org

Auburn and George Wythe high schools are very familiar with each other's boys' basketball programs. Matter of fact, they have met four times this season including Saturday's Region C Class 1 championship at Cassell Coliseum on the Virginia Tech campus. All four times, Auburn has claimed the victory.

Saturday's contest took a little longer, going to four overtimes before Auburn took the 54-52 win.

Auburn's Nick Millirons hit the jumper from the elbow for the win with three seconds left in the extra click.

Auburn head coach Terry Millirons said it takes a lot of work by everyone involved to be able to get back there and win another regional championship. "These guys have put in the work and have really come together as a tight knit team," he said.

"We just have to stay focused on the next game in front of us. I feel like the tournament this year is wide open."



Nick Millirons hits the winning three-pointer in Saturdays' regional championship contest.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEY AKERS

This is Auburn's fourth win this season over George Wythe (MED tournament and two regular season games), and they will continue their story this week in the state quarterfinals at home.

> This is Auburn's third straight regional championship and fourth in six years. Millirons, the player, finished with 30 points including four 3-pointers.

> Who knows? Auburn and George Wythe could meet a fifth time as both make the state tournament quarter finals.

> Auburn is now 20-8 overall on the season including a 14-0 regional mark. They were scheduled to host an opening state playoff game against Chilhowie last night (Tuesday). George Wythe was set to play Honaker with the two possibly meeting again.



Sports notes: Lady Hokies claim indoor title

Marty Gordon

NRV sports@ourvalley.org

For the first time in program history the Virginia Tech women's track and field team claimed its third consecutive ACC Indoor Championship on Saturday in Boston, Mass. The women's team secured three first place finishes on the final day of competition along with seven additional athletes scoring in the top eight earning the team 67 points five events. With a combined 92 points, Virginia Tech heads home to Blacksburg with its third straight title. The women's team has won four of the last five indoor conference championships. Clemson placed second with 80.5 points, followed by Notre Dame in third with 70 points. Senior Victory Gorlova was awarded ACC Women's Field MVP for the third time in her career tallying 18 points in two events. Gorlova finished first in the long jump (6.39m) on Friday and second in triple jump (44' 2.50" (13.47m)) on Saturday. Cierra Pyles finished seventh in triple jump with a mark of 41' 4.25" (12.60m). Freshman Chiara Sistermann won her first conference title in the women's pole vault clearing a personal-best height of 14' 2.25" (4.33m). Sistermann ranked first in the conference prior to the meet clearing a height of 14' 0" (4.27m) at the Virginia Tech Challenge one week ago. Journey Gurley and Kennedy Drish cleared 13' 6.50" (4.13m) finishing fourth and sixth, respectively. Tech has won the women's indoor pole vault title seven straight years since Lisa Gunnarsson first claimed the title in 2018. Junior Barbora Malikova added 10-points to the team's score running a personal-best 52.56 in the 400m final winning her first conference title. Lindsey Butler and Star Price sprinted their way to finish line place first and second with a difference of .03 seconds between them. Butler edged out Price to claim her third indoor 800m ACC title with a time of 2:03.86. Price crossed the line second with a time of 2:03.89. Brzyszkowska and Katrin Katie Seyfang secured the win for the team finishing second and sixth in shot put. Brzyszkowska finished second with a collegiate personalbest 55' 6.25" (16.92m), Seyfang placed sixth at 51' 5.75" (15.69m).

third, walking away with a school record.

The team was made up of Jordan Jackson, Elyssia Fisher, Jaslyne Robinson and Cornelius. The record holders earned this title with a time of 3:52.23, beating their previous time and having the second best time in school history Wellings ran to victory at 9:33.72 to earn gold in the 3000m. Sophie Magson came in fourth place in this event at 9:52.30 with MegAnne Gilmore right behind her to land in fifth place. Abby Seigel earned a personal best in the 3000m to beat out her previous time in Radford's record book. To round out the Highlanders in this event, Mackenzie Brownrigg came in 12th place. Gilmore's time of 4:58.43 in the mile put her in second place with Magson not too far behind landing in fourth place at 5:00.25, adding five points to the Highlanders. Kate McLearen came in ninth place for the Highlanders. Cornelius also earned second place in the 400m, running 56.74, a new personal best. Former Bruin tops in RBIs Emily Dickerson is currently ranked in the nation for RBI's in D3 college softball. She is a freshman softball player at Pfieffer College.



PHOTO COURTESY OF VIRGINIA TECH ATHLETICS

The Virginia Tech fan base said goodbye to female basketball players, Liz Kitley (left) and Georgia Amoore, on Senior Day. Amoore does have another year of eligibility. Kitley does not as this was her second Senior year.

Amoore still pondering return

Marty Gordon

NRV sports@ourvalley.org

Liz Kitley and Georgia Amoore are probably the top duo this year in women's college basketball.

Kitley is a fifth year senior and walked onto the court as part of Sunday's Senior Day one last time, but the question is whether Amoore will have a second senior year and come back for another one in Blacksburg. She is eligible for another run but told onlookers and media on Sunday she had not made up her mind.

For the second time this season, No. 8 Virginia Tech women's basketball took down the Tar Heels, 74-62, marking the 10th straight win for the Hokies as they wrapped up regular-season play undefeated in the Cassell. Coincidentally, it was in front of another sold-out crowd.

With the win, the Hokies have the No. 1 seed in the ACC tournament for the first time in team history.

The dynamic duo of Kitley and Amoore took what might be their last regular season bow at home, but it is expected there would be a home contest in the NCAA tournament next month.

Kitleytookcenterstageandrackedup34 points and six rebounds. Amoore added a double-double with 19 points and 11 assists and Matilda Ekh chipped in as well with 11 points.

The Hokies' defense held North Carolina to only 39 percent shooting from the field, including 29.4 percent from beyond the arc. The Tar Heels did not have much luck cleaning up their misses on the offensive glass either, as they finished with six offensive rebounds and managed seven second chance points while Virginia Tech cleared 32 defensive rebounds.

In other notes from Sunday, Amoore became the program's all-time leader in assists in the game.

Tech won its 25th consecutive home game, tying the program record. The 15-0 record in the regular season is the third time in program history that the Hokies have gone unblemished at home. Amoore notched a double-double for

the Hokies with 19 points and 11 assists. The Hokies never trailed after taking

a 21-5 first quarter lead. Virginia Tech tallied 16 total assists in the game.

Kitley, Amoore and Ekh ombined to account for 86 percent of the Hokies points.

Amoore racked up 11 assists for Virginia Tech.

Virginia Tech had a 36-27 edge on the boards in the win.

Virginia Tech got a game-high 14 rebounds from Olivia Summiel.

"College Game Day" made its way to Blacksburg on Sunday morning shortly before the UNC contest.

Kitley and Coach Kenny Brooks made appearances on the show.

Brooks told the broadcasters that the situation at Virginia Tech was a "healthy culture", and he described the team as "chicken salad".

"And you gotta have the chicken to make the salad, and that is Georgia (Amoore)," he said.

At the end of the show, the four female announcers took jello shots and thanked the crowd for coming out early in the morning.

Brooks has gone international with several of his incoming recruits. This past week, Amelia Hassett, a 6-foot-3 native of Australia announced on social she has verbally committed to Virginia Tech. Amoore is also Australian.

Hassett, from New South Wales, is averaging 20 points, 13 rebounds and two blocks in 24 minutes this season. She is shooting 55.9% from the field. She made 48 3-pointers in 26 games.

See Amoore, page 10

Big South indoors in Blacksburg

The Radford University women concluded the Big South Indoor Track & Field Championships Saturday with lots of medals, personal records and a third-place finish as a team. Chloe Wellings took first place in the 3000m, MegAnne Gilmore came in second in the mile, Raichelle Cornelius earned silver in the 400m and the 4x400 relay team took

RU baseball commit

Eli Baker, a standout junior player from Eddyville, Kentucky, has made his collegiate intentions clear. Baker took to social media last week to announce his commitment to Radford University, where he will continue his baseball career with the Highlanders.

During his sophomore campaign in 2023, Baker showcased his prowess on the mound, boasting an impressive 7-1 record with an outstanding 0.98 ERA. Throughout the season, he accumulated 57 strikeouts over 50 innings pitched.

SEC honors Worley

Fifth-year University of Kentucky senior Raena Worley has been named Southeastern Conference Gymnast of the Week. The Christiansburg native wins the conference honor for the second time this season following her first 10.0 on the uneven bars and 26 career all-around title.

In the most recent matchup against No. 24 BYU, Worley was nothing short of a standout on all four events. On vault, she recorded a 9.900 for her giant Yurchenko one and a half to kick off the evening in Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center.

On bars, Worley recorded her first ever perfect score on the apparatus to secure the 13th individual win of her career. Her stellar anchor routine proved why she is No. 1 in the national rankings, tied with Oklahoma's Jordan Bowers who also scored a 10.0 on the event this week.

Amoore from page 9



PHOTO COURTESY OF VIRGINIA TECH ATHLETICS

Virginia Tech honored its senior women basketball players on Sunday before its game with UNC. Coach Kenny Brooks is pictured with (from left) Kayla King, Olivia Summiel, Georgia Amoore and Liz Kitley.

Beamer recognized with legacy award

The Quarterbacking Children's Health Foundation has recognized Coach Frank Beamer as a recipient of the 2024 Nick Saban Legacy Award at Red Mountain Theatre Company in Birmingham.

Beamer served as head coach for the Virginia Tech Hokies from 1987-2015, whom he put on the map by leading them to a national championship appearance in 2000, three Big East championships, and four ACC titles. He was inducted into the College Football Hall of

Fame three years after his retirement in 2018.As

The Nick Saban Legacy Award

d *Staff report*

was created in 2022, honoring the achievements of college coaches and their contributions to the game of football. Two coaches were presented with the NSLA on Monday, Coach Frank Beamer and the late Coach Bobby Bowden, who is known as one of the greatest coaches in college football, leading Florida State to two national titles.

Previous NSLA recipients include the late Vince Dooley and Bill Snyder in 2023 and Steve Spurrier and the late Eddie Robinson in the inaugural year.

Tech softball hoping to make some noise

Marty Gordon

NRV sports@ourvalley.org

Softball season is officially underway on the collegiate diamond, and Virginia Tech is ranked in the top 25 and hoping to make some noise this season.

Tech is 7-2-1 after an unusual start that includes an out-of-the-ordinary a tie with Auburn University.

February 23-25, the Hokies will participate in the Georgia Classic hosted by the University of Georgia. The weekend slate includes two matchups with NRV neighbors Radford University, Dartmouth, and two contests against No. 3 Georgia,

Tech will face UGA after the Bulldogs eliminated the Hokies last May in the Athens Regional, defeating Tech 12-3.

Coincidentally, this year's Virginia Tech's roster includes a transfer from Radford University. Cori McMilan is a junior infielder that should lots of action this season.

In all 10 games so far this season, seniors Emma Ritter, Addy Greene, and Cameron Fagan have occupied the 1-2-3 spots in some fashion. The trio has a combined 38 hits, .418 batting average, and .714 slugging percentage.

Greene and Fagan lead the team with five doubles, and Greene and Ritter lead the team with 13 hits each. In seven games, all three batters have produced at least one hit. At least one of them has recorded a hit in nine games and at least two of them have recorded multiple hits in six games.

Sophomore Lyndsey Grein leads the Tech pitching staff with 27 strikeouts and ranked 3rd in the ACC. She recorded 10 strikeouts in the 2-1 win against BYU, where she gave up only 3 hits, 1 walk, and 1 run. In 10.2 innings pitched last weekend she gave up only 7 hits, and 3 walks. Grein recorded a career-high 12 strikeouts in the win against No. 20 Auburn on February 9.

Freshman Michelle Chatfield made a significant impact in the lineup last weekend, producing a .333 batting average. Chatfield hit a timely RBI in the 2-1 win against BYU to tie the game in the fifth inning, She also smacked two home runs against Grand Canyon and Illinois State.

Chatfield ranks second on the team in home runs with four and RBI with eight, behind Rachel Castine. Additionally, she is ranked fourth in the ACC with a .955 slugging percentage.

The Hokies will match up against 10 schools that reached the 2023 NCAA Tournament, including two Super Regional participants and one Women's College World Series participant.

The slate features 21 home games at Tech Softball Park, including four ACC series in Blacksburg.

The Hokies' roster is split evenly with 12 returners and 12 newcomers. Key returners include Emma Lemley, Emma Ritter, Bre Peck, and Cameron Fagan who received All-ACC honors last season.

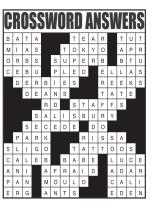
Other returners include: outfielders Addy Greene and Trinity Martin, infielders Maija Louko, Rachel Castine, and Teagan Thrunk, catcher Kylie Aldridge, pitchers Molly Jacobson and Lyndsey Grein.

The Hokies lost three starters: outfielder Kelsey Brown, infielder Kelsey Bennett and infielder Jayme Bailey (who returns this year as a student assistant).

ESPN's, RU alum Smith headlines Red and White Gala

Radford University Athletics and the Highlander Club will host the 2024 Red and White Gala on Friday, April 26 inside the Dedmon Center.

The evening will feature



பு

University a silent auction that can Highlander be attended in person or 2024 Red virtually, as well as a live auction, dinner, music, and an open bar. Attendees are encouraged to wear their vill feature Radford red however they can, whether it be a dress, a tie, or a pair of shoes.

Radford University alumnus, Giles County native, and beloved ESPN personality Marty Smith will serve as the evening's guest of honor.

Smith is one of ESPN's most popular and recognized reporters and hosts who currently covers a variety of sports including college football, basketball, both the NFL and NBA, NASCAR and others. Smith's features and reporting are often seen on ESPN platforms including SportsCenter and ESPN. com. Smith, who joined ESPN in 2006, launched his own show Marty Smith's America in August 2017 on ESPN2.

Some of sport's biggest names including Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo, Major Golf champion Rory McIlroy and Oklahoma City's Paul George have sat down with Smith for his show in addition to stars outside of sports including music artist Sam Hunt. Smith has also traveled the world for various features including his trip to Rome with Coach Jim Harbaugh and the University of Michigan football team where he spent a week following the team as they saw the sites of Italy.

In addition to hosting Marty Smith's America, Smith co-hosts the popular radio show Marty and McGee on SEC Network and ESPN Radio. Smith also guest-hosted SEC Network's traveling college football show, SEC Nation, during Fall 2019.

Prior to joining ESPN, Smith covered sports for daily newspapers in Roanoke and Lynchburg, Va., before joining NASCAR.com. As a Radford student, he worked in the Sports Information office throughout the midto-late 90's for notable SID's such as Rick Rogers, Mike Ashley and Chris King.

All proceeds from the event will go towards the Highlander Club Annual Fund, providing Radford Athletics with the necessary resources and flexibility to compete for championships and provide the best collegiate experience on-andoff the playing field.

Individual tickets will cost \$175 per person while a pair can be purchased for \$300. More details to come soon regarding a block of rooms that have been reserved at the new Highlander Hotel and will be available to Gala attendees for a discounted rate.

For more information visit TheHighlanderClub. com or contact Cory Durand, Deputy Athletics Director, at cdurand@ radford.edu. Those interested in becoming a sponsor of the event can reach out to Assistant Athletic Director for Business Development Matt Harman at charman2@radford.edu.

> Radford University Athletics



Outdoor report: NRV deer harvest up from 2022

DON'T WAIT ANOTHER DAY

to get your smile back!

FREE X-RAY & CONSULT FOR NEW DENTURE PATIENTS Ask about our Best Price Guarantee*

FINANCING AVAILABLE

Scan the QR Code or call (833) 612-7335 to schedule a new smile consultation



AFFORDABLE DENTURES & IMPLANTS - CHRISTIANSBURG

ROGER D. CAMPBELL, DMD | VICTOR O. FALAIYE, DMD GENERAL DENTISTS

175 CONSTON AVE, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073



AFFORDABLEDENTURES.COM

02345-1

*Bring in a treatment plan from any competitor and we will beat the total treatment plan for comparable services. Treatment plan must come from a licensed dentist within the past six months for comparable services and is subject to verification. Some plans are excluded. Full details of the Best Price Guarantee are available from our web site or at this practice. [Valid until December 31, 2024] **Free X-ray & consult offer has a minimum value of \$75 and covers a traditional 2-D X-Ray & consult at initial visit. Free X-ray & consult offer may not be combined with any other coupons, discounts, insurance program, or prior order. Offer may change or end without notice.

During the 2023–24 deer hunting season, hunters reported harvesting 206,586 deer in Virginia, up approximately 12% from the 184,968 deer taken during the same time frame the previous season. This year's total included 105,201 antlered bucks, 982 bucks that had shed their antlers, 12,567 button bucks, and 87,836 does (42.5%).

The youth and apprentice deer hunting weekend resulted in a harvest of 2,890 deer. Archery hunters took 14% of the total deer harvest, while muzzleloading deer hunters and firearms hunters took 26% and 60% of the total harvest, respectively. In counties where dogs could be used to hunt deer, 50% of deer were harvested with the aid of dogs during the general firearms season.

Montgomery County saw a major increase from 2,498 in 2022 to 2,777 in 2023. This includes 1,449 antlered males. Floyd rose from 2,344 to 2,689, and Giles rose to 2,159 from 1,819.

Overall, 2023-24 deer harvest was up 5% from the previous 10-year average of 196,862. This season's harvest represented a rebound from the 2022-23 season, when harvests were down due to a bumper crop of acorns. The dip in harvest last season likely created a "stockpile" of deer for hunters this season. Additionally, deer experienced a mild winter, entering 2023 on a higher nutritional plane and enabling the herd to be more productive. White oak mast was scarce during the fall of 2023, which could have made deer move more in search of this preferred food item, increasing their visibility to hunters. Additionally, a number of new deer hunting regulations designed to increase harvest opportunities went into effect, which also may have contributed to the increased harvest.

Data presented in this summary are preliminary and do not include deer taken during the late urban archery or special late antlerless-only deer seasons, on out-of-season deer kill permits, or deer hit and killed by vehicles.

While the deer harvest showed an increase in numbers, turkeys were down through the Commonwealth.

A total of 1,443 wild turkeys were harvested in Virginia during the 2023–2024 fall turkey hunting season, an 11% decrease over the 2022–2023 harvest of 1,621.

While Virginia's turkey population appears to remain robust, fall turkey harvests have been declining for over two decades. A recent DWR survey of turkey hunters indicated that many turkey hunters are choosing to save their turkey tags for the more popular spring turkey season, choosing to pursue other game during the fall.

Reproductive success is another variable that can alter fall hunting success. Inclement weather in May and June can lead to nest losses or death of the young turkey poults. In 2023, the productivity estimate (1.8 poults/hen) was below the long-term average (2.6 poults/hen) on a statewide basis for the second year in a row, marking one of the lowest recruitment index measures over the last 15 years. Since juvenile birds account for 40-60% of the fall harvest, reproductive success greatly influences turkey population size and subsequently fall harvest.

As in the last several years, the archery harvest remained relatively high, making up approximately 22% of the overall harvest. Thanksgiving Day and the Wednesday before Thanksgiving continue to be popular fall turkey hunting days. This year a total of 383 birds were harvested during that two-day timeframe, accounting for nearly 27% of the total fall harvest. Thanksgiving Day accounted for the single highest day of harvest with 232 birds, or 17% of the total fall harvest.

Declines in this year's harvest were most apparent east of the Blue Ridge with a decrease of 17% as opposed to a 4% decrease west of the Blue Ridge. The greatest declines were noted in the Tidewater (27%) and Northern Piedmont (22%) regions. The harvests in the Southwest Mountains and Southern Piedmont were similar to last year's.

The decline in fall turkey hunting participation has been an ongoing issue for Virginia and many other eastern states. One of the goals of the DWR Wild Turkey Management Plan, which is under revision, is to reverse the general decline in fall turkey hunting interest. The October youth and apprentice fall turkey hunting weekend and the late January season were designed to encourage interest in fall turkey hunting. Unfortunately, it appears the declining trend is continuing despite these efforts.

But the New River Valley continued to balk at the trend.

Floyd County was even with 18 recorded for each of the last two years. Giles rose from 23 to 31 and Montgomery was also up from 18 to 25 birds.

Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources