



News Messenger

Serving Montgomery County Since 1869

Blacksburg

Christiansburg

Saturday, March 9, 2024

www.montcova.com

USPS 016-490

\$1.00

Virginia Tech receives Anthem Award for '1872 Forward: A Celebration of Virginia Tech'

Virginia Tech's sesquicentennial event 1872 Forward: A Celebration of Virginia Tech has been awarded a bronze medal in the Education, Art & Culture: Community Engagement category of the Anthem Awards.

This year's Anthem Award winners were selected from a pool of over 2,000 submissions from 44 countries by the International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences.

"I am very proud of the work the Council on Virginia Tech History has done and is continuing to do," said Menah Pratt, vice president of strategic affairs and diversity. "The council was initially established to create projects and events to help celebrate Virginia Tech's sesquicentennial; however, our group always saw that as just the beginning. Many great works came out of this three-day event, and we are excited to continue building upon those outcomes."

1872 Forward: A Celebration of Virginia Tech was held March 22-24, 2022, and brought to life how the past shapes the present and leads the university into the future.

During the weekend, the Council on Virginia Tech History, in conjunction with the More Than a Fraction Foundation, affiliated with the Fraction family descendants of Africans enslaved on the Smithfield and Solitude plantations, provided programming to recognize



PHOTO COURTESY OF VIRGINIA TECH

Victoria Ferguson, member of Monacan Nation and director of Solitude-Fraction site, speaks during a cultural arts program at Moss Arts Center as part of the 1872 Forward: A Celebration of Virginia Tech event.

150 years of Virginia Tech's history.

The events centered on the Native/Indigenous communities who call the land home, descendants of the African people who were once enslaved on the land, descendants of the European Americans who once owned the land, as well as the experiences of the students, faculty,

staff, and alumni who have made Virginia Tech what it is today.

Lasting impact

See Award, page 6



PHOTO BY LORI GRAHAM

Gardner's Grill and Community Pizza Team (left to right) Cindy Tolbert, Deborah Hamm, Randy Hamm and Matthew Tolbert.

Gardner's Grill reopens under new management, new offerings

Lori Graham

Contributing writer

Gardner's Grill has reopened under new management, offering lunch and dinner hours and chef's recipes.

Deborah and Randall "Randy" Hamm are the new co-managers of the Gardner's Grill restaurant business, serving Chef Matthew Tolbert's-inspired recipes and sauces. The Team includes Cindy

Tolbert as well, and the foursome work together to bring customers a new option for lunch and dinner in Christiansburg.

The Hamms are also owners of Authentic Wood Fired Community Pizza food truck, which was the start of their food business. The food truck is parked just outside the entrance of Gardner's Grill and during dinner hours provides this food option that customers can take to-go or

eat inside the restaurant.

Keith and Pamela Gardner maintain ownership of the buildings and operate Gardner's Frozen Treats, which opened in 2007.

According to Gardner's Frozen Treats and Gardner's Grill Facebook website at www.gftandgrill.com, the Gardners said, "We've been out of the ice

See Gardner's, page 6

VDOT invites public input on potential Route 114, Route 11 improvements

SALEM – New River Valley residents have the chance to give input on potential improvements to two well-traveled roadways in the area.

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is seeking feedback on transportation studies assessing potential roadway safety improvements along Route 114 (Peppers Ferry Road) from Shamrock Circle to Route 1286 (Rolling Hills Drive) in Montgomery County and on potential roadway safety, reliability, and multimodal improvements along Roanoke Street (Route 11/Route 460) from Falling Branch Road to Tower Road in the Town of Christiansburg.

"The study is evaluating traffic operations and safety conditions and considering a range of improvements that may be developed into applications for transportation funding," according to VDOT.

"VDOT invites residents and travelers to learn more and take an online survey through March 15 to review improvement alternatives under consideration to address identified transportation needs," VDOT announced. "Community input received through this survey will help the study team and local leaders to refine the recommendations for potential improvements and determine whether to pursue future funding opportunities."

The Route 114 survey, which has a translation tool for other languages, is available at <https://publicinput.com/sa-23-08alternatives>. Comments can also be sent to William.Crawford@VDOT.Virginia.gov or to William Crawford, Virginia Department of Transportation, 731 Harrison Avenue, Salem, VA 24153.

The Route 11 study is available at <https://publicinput.com/sa-23-07alternatives>. Comments can also be sent to Carol.Moneymaker@VDOT.Virginia.gov or to Carol Moneymaker, Virginia Department of Transportation, 731 Harrison Avenue, Salem, VA 24153.

The studies are being conducted as part of the Project Pipeline program, which was created by the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB). Project Pipeline is a performance-based planning program to identify cost-effective solutions to multimodal transportation needs in Virginia. Project Pipeline is led by Virginia's Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI), in collaboration with VDOT and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT).

The Commonwealth is partnering with the Town of Christiansburg, the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization, and Blacksburg Transit to develop targeted improvements for the Roanoke Street (Route 11/Route 460 Business) Project Pipeline Study that minimize community impacts and address priority needs in a cost-effective way. This study is expected to be complete in summer 2024; it does not set construction dates for any improvements. The final plan will provide a multimodal investment strategy that can be used to seek and secure funding through programs including SMART SCALE, revenue sharing, interstate funding, and others.

Virginia Department of Transportation

YMCA at Virginia Tech announces fourth annual Try Y's Pi

The fourth annual YMCA at Virginia Tech Try Y's Pi contest is coming very soon but there's still time to buy your tickets if you don't delay.

Here's how it works: purchase your ticket and pickup details will be sent to you on Mar. 13. On Mar. 14 between 4-6 p.m. you will collect your five-piece pie sampler. Go home and enjoy your pie and on Mar. 15 you will receive a link to vote for your favorite pie. On Mar. 18 we will announce the



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF YMCA AT VT

winning pie. All votes will be entered into a random draw to win gift cards from the participating restaurants. Just like that!

Participating bakeries are Our Daily Bread, Blacksburg Bagels, Next Door Bake Shop, Bull & Bones Christiansburg and

one yet unnamed.

Pi Day is celebrated on March 14th (3/14) around the world. Pi (Greek letter "π") is the symbol used in mathematics to represent a constant — the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter — which is approximately

3.14159. Pi Day is an annual opportunity for math enthusiasts to recite the infinite digits of Pi, talk to their friends about math, and to eat pie.

Celebrate Pi Day with our delicious pie sampler.

See YMCA, page 6

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, March 9:

Mount Tabor Ruritan Biscuit Breakfast

Mount Tabor Ruritan Club will be serving up hot biscuits topped with delicious sausage gravy, or with the latest batch of our "world-famous" apple butter. We will also have scrambled eggs, orange juice and coffee. Breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall of Slusser's Chapel, 1543 Mount Tabor Rd, Blacksburg, 8 – 10 a.m. This is below the Sanctuary, on the lower church parking lot level. This is a fundraiser for our club to help us as we serve our community, and donations will be accepted for the breakfast.

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:

Radford City School Board meeting

Radford City School Board will convene for its regular meeting at 6 p.m. to be held at the School Administration Building. The agenda for the meeting can be viewed at www.rcps.org.

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.

Wednesday, Mar. 13:

Hahn Horticulture Garden talk

How mushrooms can save the world! with Benjamin Harder. The world is spinning out of control but mushrooms are prepared! They eat our waste, clean our water, grow our food and create compounds to treat our diseases. The talk is at the Hahn Horticulture Garden, 200 Garden Lane, Blacksburg, at noon. You do not need to register for these talks, just show up and attend. Parking passes for these educational events will be provided by the HHG thanks to supplementary funding provided by the School of Plant and Environmental Design.

Monday, Mar. 18:

Southwest Virginia Legal Aid Society meeting

The Board of Directors of Southwest Virginia Legal Aid Society will meet by conference call at 6:30 p.m. The public is welcome to participate in the call from the Marion Office of Southwest Virginia Legal Aid Society located at 227 West

Cherry St., Marion, VA 24354. For further information, contact: Joseph R. Carico, Executive Director (276) 783-8300.

Thursday, Mar. 21:

Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Family Italian Restaurant at 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to attend. Member Dana Jackson will speak on the "History of the Confederate Veterans Home in Richmond." If Montgomery or Floyd County Public Schools are closed on Thursday or Friday of this week due to weather, the meeting will be cancelled. For further information, please call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

Saturday, Mar. 30:

Easter Egg Hunt

Come join Pilot Community Center for its first annual Easter Egg Hunt; 2 – 3 p.m.! Kids 10 years old and under are invited to search for candy and prize-filled eggs. There will be refreshments for parents and kids of all ages. So come and join in the fun! This event will be held weather permitting. If there is rain or snow, the event will be cancelled and cannot be rescheduled. For more information: Call Brenda Eanes at 540-382-0857.

On-going:

NRV Virginia Passenger Rail Survey

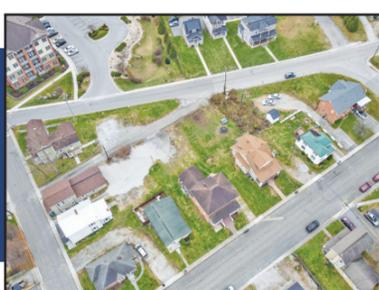
The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority is conducting a survey seeking input on planning, designing, and constructing rail infrastructure improvements to extend passenger rail service to the New River Valley. To participate in the survey, please visit <https://form.jotform.com/240044027996054>. For more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

ONLINE AUCTION

Ends Thursday, April 11th at 3 PM

Income Producing Homes for Sale Near Radford University
Fairfax St., Radford, VA 24141

Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com



- Offering #1 - 1201 Fairfax St., Radford, VA 24141
- Offering #2 - 1205 Fairfax St., Radford, VA 24141
- Offering #3 - 1207 Fairfax St., Radford, VA 24141
- Offering #4 - 1211 Fairfax St., Radford, VA 24141
- Offering #5: 1217 Fairfax St., Radford, VA 24141

Looking to expand your real estate portfolio with high-income properties? We have an unmissable opportunity for you! Presenting 5 homes that are currently used for student housing which are in the vibrant city of Radford, VA. They are just a short walk away from Radford University. These properties are perfectly situated for consistent rental demand and substantial returns on investment. Don't let this chance slip away!

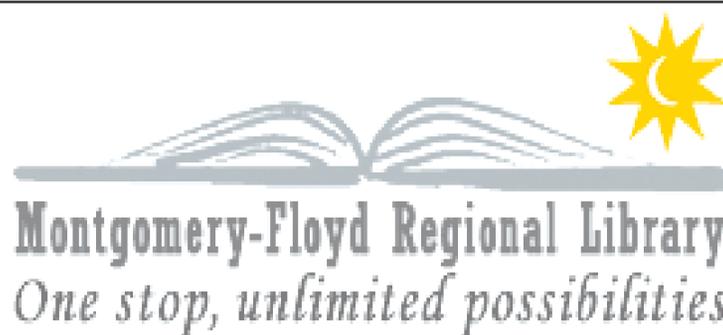
Terms: 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$10,000 per offering is required on day of sale. Close on or before May 28th, 2024. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence before placing a bid. Auction starts ending at 3 PM on April 11th, 2024. Please note that during the last two minutes of bidding, if a new bid is placed, the clock is automatically extended an additional two minutes. Be sure to register to bid early to ensure you receive notifications regarding any changes to the Auction, Bidder Packet and/or Pre-Auction offers received. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract and maps at VAAuctionPro.com.

CONTACT – Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email Gallimore.Matt@gmail.com or Realtor Dari Cupp at 540-250-1839. Auction is in cooperation with Realtor Stephanie Carfagna with Long & Foster; contact Stephanie at 540-230-9357 or email stephanie.carfagna@gmail.com

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



Blue Ridge Land & Auction Co., Inc.



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF MFRL

Meadowbrook Public Library hosts vegetable gardening event

Are you interested in growing your own vegetables but aren't sure where to start?

The Meadowbrook Public Library has an opportunity for gardening enthusiasts and aspiring gardeners alike. On Saturday, Mar. 16 at 1 p.m., the library will host a vegetable gardening workshop led by NRV Master Gardener Coordinator, Wendy Silverman.

Are you eager to cultivate your own vegetables but unsure where to begin? Wendy

Silverman, with her expertise and passion for gardening, will guide attendees through the essential steps of planning, nurturing, and sustaining a thriving vegetable garden. From selecting the perfect plot to caring for your crops year-round, this event promises invaluable insights for gardeners of all ages and skill levels.

This event is open to individuals aged 12 and above. Additionally, participants will have the chance to receive complimentary seeds and

soil testing kits.

Don't miss this chance to dig deep into the world of vegetable gardening and sow the seeds of a bountiful harvest. Join us and let's cultivate a greener tomorrow together.

For more information, please contact Cindy Minnick, Branch Manager, Meadowbrook Public Library, 267 Alleghany Spring Road, Shawsville, VA, 24162 (540) 268-1964, cminnick@mfml.org.

Montgomery Floyd Regional Library

Virginia Mortgage Relief Program announces assistance to homeowners

The Virginia Mortgage Relief Program (VRMP) helps homeowners experiencing pandemic-related financial hardship and need assistance.

Financial hardship can be due to job loss/business closure, reduction in hours or pay, difficulty obtaining new employment, death of a spouse or co-borrower, or increased expenses due to the pandemic. Increased expenses could be due to health care, the need to care for a family member, increased childcare costs due to school closures, or increased costs associated with quarantine.

Homeowners needing assistance, and who meet the program criteria, are encouraged to apply as quickly as

possible as funding is limited. Eligible applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis after VMRP reviews and confirmation of eligibility, with applicants at risk of foreclosure taking priority. Learn more.

Applicants with questions can VMRP Call Center at 833-OUR-VMRP (833-687-8677), Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET. Applications can be submitted online or through the VMRP Call Center.

Virginia Mortgage Relief Program

Study: Sinking land increases risk for thousands of coastal residents by 2050

BLACKSBURG - One in 50 people living in two dozen coastal cities in the United States could experience significant flooding by 2050, according to Virginia Tech-led research.

Published in Nature, the study combines satellite-obtained measurements of sinking land, also known as subsidence, with sea-level rise projections and tide charts to provide a new comprehensive look at the potential for flooding in a combined 32 cities along the Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf coasts. The study projects that in the next three decades as many as 500,000 people could be affected as well as a potential 1 in 35 privately owned properties damaged by flooding. The study also highlights the racial and socioeconomic demographics of those potentially affected.

“One of the challenges we have with communicating the issue of sea-level rise and land subsidence broadly is it often seems like a long-term problem, like something whose impacts will only manifest at the end of the century, which many people may not care about,” said lead author Leonard Ohenhen, a graduate student working with Associate Professor Manoochehr Shirzaei at Virginia Tech’s Earth Observation and Innovation Lab. “What we’ve done here is focused the picture on the short term, just 26 years from now.”

Other increases compared to current estimates include:
Between 500 and 700 more square miles of land flooded
176,000 to 518,000 more people affected
94,000 to 288,000 more properties exposed with an estimated value of \$32 billion to \$109 billion

“The whole purpose of this paper is to provide data to support decisions,” Shirzaei said. “Every city, every county has a flood resiliency plan in place. They are required by law to create that. But it’s likely nobody has received the entire picture until this study, which creates probably the

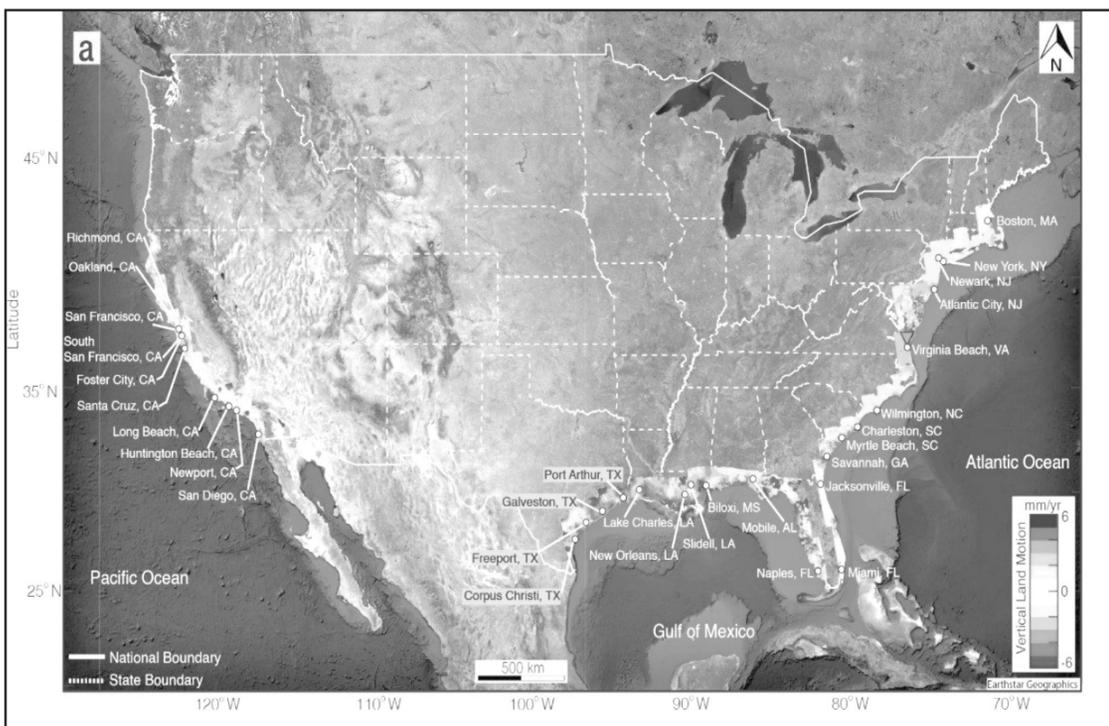


IMAGE COURTESY OF LEONARD OHENHEN

The study provides a new comprehensive look at the flood risks for 32 cities on three coasts by 2050.

first comprehensive picture of what’s happen in the not-too-distant future.”

Collaborators on the study include:
Chandrakanta Ojha of the India Institute of Science Education and Research in Punjab, India
Sonam Sherpa, a former Ph.D. student at Virginia Tech and a postdoctoral scholar at Brown University

Robert J. Nicholls of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research at the University of East Anglia, United Kingdom

“This study demonstrates that we can now measure vertical land motion at a sufficient scale to create a useful climate service that supports planning and management decisions on flooding,” said Nicholls, a professor of climate adaptation. “This approach has the potential to be applied

in any city around the world, really supporting adaptation.”

Using highly accurate data points measured by space-based radar satellites, Shirzaei and his research team have built some of the world’s first high-resolution depictions of the sinking land along the coast of the entire United States. Their work has previously revealed regions of the Atlantic coast to be sinking by as much as 5 millimeters per year.

This study revealed that 24 of the 32 coastal cities are currently sinking more than 2 millimeters per year and half of those cities have areas sinking more than global seas are rising. These numbers might seem small, but when combined with sea-level rise over time, it adds up to quite a significant shift, according to Ohenhen.

See Sinking, page 4

Marketplace

ourvalley.org

THE FINCASTLE HERALD | The Vinton Messenger | THE NEW CASTLE RECORD | SALEM TIMES REGISTER | News Messenger | RADFORD News Journal

Legals - Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG

TOWN COUNCIL

The Town of Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:
A. Rezoning request by Radford Development of Virginia, LLC, Property Owner, and Hy-Tek Collision, LLC, Applicant, to rezone property located on the East side of the intersection of Badger Street NW and Elk Drive NW, identified as Tax Parcel 525-(A)-44A; (Parcel ID 026060), consisting of approximately 2.265 acres, from B-3 General Business District to I-1 Limited Industrial District. The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.
B. Conditional Use Permit request by Radford Development of Virginia, LLC, Property Owner, and Hy-Tek Collision, LLC, Applicant, to allow for automobile and truck or recreation vehicle assembling, painting, upholstering, repairing, rebuilding or reconditioning, body or fender work, including a commercial garage, towing service, or automobile body shop in the I-1 Limited Industrial zoning district on property located on the East side of the intersection of Badger Street NW and Elk Drive NW, identified as Tax Parcel 525-(A)-44A; (Parcel ID 026060), and consisting of approximately 2.265 acres. The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. A copy of the applications, the Town’s Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office,

Legals - Montgomery County

100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Andrew Warren, Assistant Town Manager, at (540) 382-6128, ext. 1130 or by email at awarren@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 & 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Montgomery County Planning Commission hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on March 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to hear citizen comments regarding the Planning Commission intention to act on the following Special Use Permit request:
A request by Sara Jones for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow a dog grooming business as a Home Business. The property is located at the intersection of Shilo Way (State Route 1106) and Mount Tabor Road (State Route 624). The property is further identified as 1723 Mount Tabor Road, Tax Map 028-1 05,46,49 (Parcel ID: 007792), 2.292 acres, zoned Agricultural (A-1) in the Mount Tabor Magisterial District. The property currently lies in an area designated as Residential Transition in the 2025 Comprehensive Plan.
Copies of the proposed plans, applications, ordinances or amendments may be examined at the Department of Planning and GIS Services, County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 2A, Christiansburg, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or at <http://www.montgomerycountyva.gov/pendingapplications>.

Legals - Montgomery County

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of Virginia Code § 15.2-2100, et seq., the Town of Christiansburg proposes to grant a non-exclusive Solar Power Purchase Franchise for a term greater than 5 years. A copy of the template Solar Power Purchase Franchise Agreement, and the proposed Ordinance authorizing the Town to enter into the agreement, may be reviewed by the public in the Town Manager’s Office located at 100 East Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. Notice is hereby given that the Council of the Town of Christiansburg will hold a public hearing on the above matter at its regular meeting to be held on March 26, 2024, commencing at 7 p.m., EST, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers 100 East Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. Further information is available in the Town Manager’s Office, (540) 382-6128 ext. 1114. All parties and interested citizens may appear on the above date and be heard and give comment on the matter. If you are a person who needs accommodations for this hearing, please contact the Town Manager’s Office at (540) 382-6128 ext. 1114 before 12:00 noon on the Thursday before the date of the hearing listed above.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Pursuant to the provisions of Virginia Code § 15.2-2100, et seq., the Town of Christiansburg proposes to adopt an Ordinance to grant a Solar Power Purchase Franchise to a responsible solar photovoltaic (PV) system provider with experience designing, engineering, building, operating, owning, financing, maintaining, and decommissioning turn-key installations of similar rooftop PV systems on publicly owned property. Such franchise shall be for a term greater than 5 years. A copy of the proposed Ordinance and template Solar Power Purchase

Legals - Montgomery County

Franchise Agreement is on file in the Town Manager’s Office and is available for public review.

All responsible solar photovoltaic system providers are invited to bid to enter into such a non-exclusive franchise with the Town of Christiansburg. All Proposals will be submitted by 3:00 p.m. EST, Tuesday, March 19, 2024. Proposals may be submitted via courier, mail, or may be hand delivered. Proposals will be delivered to the attention of the Procurement Officer.
1. To deliver hard-copy proposals to the Town, envelopes should be clearly marked “Proposal for RFP 24-004, Solar Power Purchase Franchise Agreement Proposal”, and addressed to Tara Vance, Procurement Officer.
2. All proposers are responsible for ensuring proposals were received by the Town.
3. Proposals received after the deadline shall not be accepted.
4. No other delivery or distributions of proposals will be required of proposers.
Each Proposer will submit, and sign if requested, one complete proposal to:

Tara Vance
Procurement Officer

Email: tvance@christiansburg.org
Phone: 540-585-7605
Fax: 540-382-3762

Questions regarding this RFP should be sent to Wayne Nelson (wnelson@christiansburg.org), Special Projects Coordinator, (540) 382-6128 ext. 1205.

HAVE SOMETHING TO SELL?



To place your ad, call 389-9355

Legals - Montgomery County

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

March 9, 2024
Town of Christiansburg
100 East Main Street
Christiansburg, Virginia 24073 (540)382-6128 x. 1130
On or about March 20, 2024 the Town of Christiansburg will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the release of Community Development Block Grant funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project known as East Main Street Sidewalk Design Project for the purpose of constructing approximately 580 linear feet of new sidewalk with curb and gutter and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant ramps and features along the east side of East Main Street in the Town of Christiansburg, Virginia. The new sidewalk will be constructed from the East Main Street/Harless Street intersection to just south of the East Main Street/School Lane intersection. The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements and was published in the News Messenger on March 9, 2024. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file in the Town Manager’s Office, Town of Christiansburg, 100 East Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Town of Christiansburg. All comments received by Tuesday, March 19, 2024 will be considered by the Town of Christiansburg prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

Legals - Montgomery County

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Town of Christiansburg certifies to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that Randy Wingfield in his capacity as Town Manager consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Town of Christiansburg to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will accept objections to its release of fund and the Town of Christiansburg certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Town of Christiansburg; (b) the Town of Christiansburg has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be emailed until further notice to HUD, Attention: Mr. Ronnie J. Legette, Sr., Director,

Legals - Montgomery County

Community Planning and Development Division at CPDRROFRIC@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD at (800) 842-2610, Extension 4881, to verify the actual last day of the objection period. Randy Wingfield
Town Manager, Town of Christiansburg

Classified Advertising DELIVERS

Put The Classifieds To Work!

Call 540-389-9355

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Tommie Bloomer of Radford makes Dean's List at RIT

ROCHESTER, NY - Tommie Bloomer of Radford (24141) was named to the Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology for the fall semester of the 2023-2024 academic year. Bloomer is in the biomedical engineering program. Full-time degree-seeking undergraduate students are eligible for Dean's List if their term GPA is greater than or equal to 3.400; they do not have any grades of "Incomplete", "D" or "F"; and they have registered for, and completed, at least 12 credit hours.

Jack Nussbaum named to the dean's list at Tufts University

MEDFORD, Mass. - Jack Nussbaum, Class of 2027, of Blacksburg, was named to the dean's list at Tufts University for the Fall 2023 semester. Dean's list honors at Tufts University require a semester grade point average of 3.4 or greater.

Ogechi Nkeonye of Christiansburg awarded degree from Wilkes University

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. - Ogechi Nkeonye of Christiansburg received the MSN degree in Nursing from Wilkes University. The degree was one of 339 bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees awarded to winter graduates. A commencement ceremony featuring winter and spring graduates will be held in May 2024. More information can be found at www.wilkes.edu/ commencement.

Local Emerson College students earn Dean's List

BOSTON, Mass. - The following students are named

to Emerson College's Dean's List for the Fall 2023 semester. The requirement to make Dean's List is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for that semester. Diego Centeno, of Blacksburg, is majoring in Media Arts Production and is a member of the Class of 2025.

Aryssa Guerrero, of Blacksburg, is majoring in Media Arts Production and is a member of the Class of 2026.

Kaitlyn Jacobs named to President's List at Coastal Carolina University

CONWAY, S.C. - More than 1,300 students were named to the President's List at Coastal Carolina University for the Fall 2023 semester, including Kaitlyn Jacobs from Christiansburg. Students who made the President's List have achieved a 4.0 grade point average during the semester.

Mallory Yancey earns a spot on the Dean's List at Coastal Carolina University

CONWAY, S.C. - More than 3,000 undergraduate students at Coastal Carolina University were named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2023 semester, including Mallory Yancey, from Christiansburg. Students who make the Dean's List have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher (3.25 for freshmen) for the semester.

Eastern Mennonite University Fall 2023 Dean's List

HARRISONBURG, Va. - Eastern Mennonite University congratulates Laney Cline, of Radford, and Nate Lehman, of Blacksburg, on being named a Fall 2023 Dean's List honoree. The Dean's List, compiled at the end of each semester, includes degree-seeking students who achieve a semester GPA of at least 3.75 with no W, I, or F grades for 12 semester hours of standard grades.

Georgia Tech Fall 2023 graduates announced

ATLANTA, Ga. - The Georgia Institute of Technology presented degrees to approximately 6,300 undergraduate and graduate students during the Institute's 265th Commencement exercises Dec. 15 - 16, 2023, at McCamish Pavilion. Among the graduates were Elijah Barrett and sajjad Khodadadian of Blacksburg.

Cameron Earle named to Worcester Polytechnic Institute's Dean's List

WORCESTER, Mass. - Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) has announced that Blacksburg resident Cameron Earle, a member of the class of 2024 majoring in Robotics Engineering, was named to the university's Dean's List for academic excellence for the fall 2023 semester. A total of 2,299 undergraduate students achieved the criteria required for WPI's fall 2023 Dean's List. The criteria for the WPI Dean's List differs from

that of most other universities as WPI does not compute a grade point average (GPA). Instead, WPI defines the Dean's List by the amount of work completed at the A level in courses and projects. "WPI's academic programs are rigorous and require a level of independence beyond what is required in traditional courses. WPI students work on open-ended problems for communities around the world. The problems are important and the impact is real," said Professor Arthur C. Heinricher. "Some of this nation's best and brightest students come to WPI to study engineering and science and business and the humanities. Those named to the Dean's List have excelled in all of their work, and we are exceptionally proud of these outstanding students."

Cole Eastwood of Blacksburg named to fall Deans' List at Nebraska

LINCOLN, Neb. - Cole Eastwood of Blacksburg has been named to the Deans' List at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the fall semester of the 2023-24 academic year. Eastwood, a sophomore majoring in sports media and communication, was named to the Dean's List for the College of Journalism and Mass Communications.

Hollins University announces Dean's List for Fall 2023

ROANOKE, Va. - Hollins University congratulates students who earned Dean's List honors during the fall 2023 semester. To attain this distinction, students must earn at least a 3.5 average on a 4.0 grading scale. Congratulations to these distinguished scholars on earning this academic achievement. Local students include: Ameena Alsmadi and Logan Lynxwiler, of Blacksburg; Emmabeth Caddy, Savannah Campbell, Andrea Gomez Munza and Elizabeth Rowland, of Christiansburg; and Melanie Stout, of Pilot.

Garrett Knobl named to University of Delaware Dean's List

NEWARK, Del. - Garrett Knobl of Blacksburg has been named to the University of Delaware Dean's List for the Fall 2023 semester. To meet eligibility requirements for the Dean's List, a student must be enrolled full-time and earn a GPA of 3.5 or above (on a 4.0 scale) for the semester.

Elijah Seright of Newport named to Harding University Dean's List

SEARCY, Ark. - Elijah Seright, a freshman studying graphic design, is among more than 1,300 Harding University students included on the dean's list for grades achieved during the Fall 2023 semester. The dean's list is published each semester by Dr. Marty Spears, University provost, honoring those who have achieved high scholarship. To be eligible, a student must be carrying 12 or more hours with a 3.65 or higher grade-point average and no incompletes.

Sinking

from page 3

"The analogy I have found that is really helpful in helping people understand this change is to think about a sinking boat," he said. "Imagine you are in that boat with a steady leak, slowly causing the boat to sink. That leak symbolizes sea-level rise or broadly flooding. What would happen if it also starts raining? Even a minor rainfall or drizzle would cause the boat to sink more quickly than you thought it would. That's what land subsidence does — even imperceptible millimeter land subsidence exacerbates existing coastal hazards."

Along with the new flood projections, the study also revealed the 32 cities have a combined 131 flood control structures, such as levees, berms, or dikes, but that 50 percent of those are located on the California coast. Only three of the 11 Atlantic coast cities studied maintain levees or floodwalls.

"When we looked at it across the board, we found that there is a general

unappreciation for flood protection, particularly on the Atlantic coast," Ohenhen said. "And even the levees there often protect less than 10 percent of the city, compared to other cities on the Pacific or Gulf coasts where up to 70 percent is protected."

Another first in the study is the consideration of racial and socioeconomic demographics related to the potentially affected areas.

In some cities examined, particularly those along the Gulf Coast, the potential increased exposure fell disproportionately on racial minorities. In other cities, the properties facing increased exposure were found to generally be of lesser value than the median property value of the area. And in a few cities, New Orleans and Port Arthur, Texas, particularly, these two demographics intersect, showing the areas with greatest potential risk to be disproportionately occupied by people of color who are also at an economic disadvantage when compared to the

city as a whole.

"That was the most surprising part of the study," Ohenhen said. "We found that there is racial and economic inequality in those areas in that there was an overrepresentation of historically marginalized groups potentially impacted as well as properties with significantly lower value than the rest of the cities. It really multiplies the potential impact to those areas and their abilities to recover from significant flooding."

Shirzaei said he believes the study as a whole not only provides the clearest picture of potential flooding to date, but also should serve as a call to action for policymakers of those areas.

"Very often, we hear, 'Oh, we didn't know about land subsidence' or, 'We didn't know about that other factor,' but this study will take away those excuses from everybody," Shirzaei said.

Lon Wagner and Margaret Ashburn for Virginia Tech

News Messenger

Established 1869

(540) 389-9355

P.O. Box 1125 • Salem, VA 24153

USPS 016-490 Online: www.ourvalley.org

Michael Showell, *Publisher*

Heather Bell, *Editor*

hbell@mainstreetnewspapers

Aila Boyd, *Executive Editor*

aboyd@ourvalley.org

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.

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

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- NOHOW
- Record (abbr.)
- Hair detangler
- "1836 siege" of U.S.
- Old name for Tokyo
- Largest continent
- Showed old movie
- Clatter
- Considered one by one
- Chinese cinnamon spice tree
- Frequently
- 3 person 32 card game
- Misaddressed mail (slang)
- Expresses pleasure
- Samba or basket rummy
- Military leader (abbr.)
- A citizen of Iran
- Environmental Protec-

- Agency
- Carbon, radioactive or varve
- Loss of electricity
- Mass. Cape
- Mediator
- 1/1000 of a tala
- Players at 1st, 2nd & 3rd
- Covered Greek portico
- Bring upon oneself
- Leuciscus cephalus
- Cold War foe U__
- Bumpkins or hayseeds
- Fleshy seed cover
- Golf ball prop
- Antipathetic
- Wait or tarry
- Weather map line __bar
- Civilian dress
- Relaxing resorts
- Box (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

- Informant (slang)
- Olive tree genus
- Armed conflicts
- Am. Music Awards
- Dance mix DJ Einhorn
- Oxidation-reduction
- Structure
- Modern
- Roman Conqueror
- Ho. Honshu bay city
- 8th C. BC minor Hebrew prophet
- = to 100 satang
- In active opposition
- 007's Flemming
- 12th century Spanish hero El__
- Macaw genus
- Slave rebellion's Turner
- Cuckoo
- From a time
- Applies with quick strokes
- Fasten with string
- Teller replacement
- Command right
- Sea eagle
- Most closely set
- __ Dhabi, Arabian capital
- Marten furs
- Strike workers
- Thysanopter
- Louise de la Ramee's pen name
- King of Thebes
- __mater, one's school
- Time unit
- Klutzes
- __ Von Bismarck, Iron Chancellor
- Front of the leg



News Messenger

Serving Montgomery County Since 1869

<p>DIGITAL ONLY</p> <p>One Year Digital Subscription \$29.00</p>	<p>DIGITAL & PRINT</p> <p>Yearly Print & Digital Subscription \$72.00</p>	<p>PRINT ONLY</p> <p>Yearly Print Only Subscription \$55.00 \$59.00</p> <p>\$46.00 Montgomery County \$55.00 Virginia • \$59.00 Out of State</p>
--	---	--

Subscribe online at montcova.com or mail to address below

SUBSCRIPTION TO NEWS MESSENGER

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

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

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

OBITUARIES

Jones, Bobby Lynn

Bobby Lynn Jones, 51, passed away at his home in Parrott on Monday, Mar. 4, 2024.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Gary Lynn Jones and Janice Gail Haley.

Bobby loved watching NASCAR, enjoyed fishing on the New River, and could always make people laugh.

Survivors include his wife, Trish Jones; son, Dylan Jones; sister, April Simmons (Darren); and many other relatives and friends.



The family received friends Thursday, Mar. 7, 2024 at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Graveside services were private in Hickman Cemetery in Pulaski County.

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

Thompson, Helen Leighton

Helen Leighton Thompson, 90, of Christiansburg, passed away Monday, Mar. 4, 2024. She was preceded in death by her parents, John Robert and Bertie Clark Leighton; her loving husband, Emmett Garland Thompson; and her brothers, Howard, Robert "Bob" and Wilbur "Bo" Leighton.



Helen is survived by her daughter, Bonnie Thompson Blackburn; son and daughter-in-law, Barry G. Thompson (Linda); grandchildren and their spouses, Tammy Blackburn (Robert Schell), Tracy Ziebell (Matthew), Tanya Blackburn (Andrew Sheppard), Mandy Agnew (Barry), Jason

(Allison) and Joshua Thompson (Sara); great-grandchildren, Gideon Agnew and Ember Thompson; sister-in-law, Joyce Leighton; special friend, Larry Akers; and many other family members and friends.

The family received friends Friday, Mar. 8, 2024, at the Calvary Baptist Church in Radford. Funeral services followed with Pastor Timothy Worles officiating. Interment will follow in Belmont Cemetery in Montgomery County.

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

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

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

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

BAPTIST

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

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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

CHURCH OF GOD

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

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

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Christiansburg Church of the Brethren, 310 South Franklin Street. Pastor: Hal Sonafank, 1-336-583-4822. Morning Worship 11 a.m.; Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Wednesdays. Website: www.christiansburgcob.org. A loving family, fueled by the Holy Spirit, grounded in God's Word, and delivering Jesus forgiveness and love to all people. Come as you are... you are welcomed!

(DOC - DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

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

ECKANKAR

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

EPISCOPAL

Grace Episcopal Church, 210 Fourth Street Radford. Welcoming and accepting, we have been a part of the Radford community for more than 130 years. ALL ARE

Montgomery County WORSHIP DIRECTORY

WALK IN HIS STEPS

Read Deuteronomy 32:1 through 34.12

"What would Jesus do?" Pastor Charles Sheldon of Topeka, Kansas, asked his congregation this question in 1896 when he preached a series of messages on the topic. Sheldon then wrote a book of fiction titled In His Steps. The book asks what Jesus would do when confronted with poverty, racism, pride, and homelessness. In the 1990s the motto was revived and people wore bracelets and T-shirts with the letters WWJD?

Before he died, Moses reminding the Israelites to consider God's truths.

"Take to heart all the words I have solemnly declared to you this day, so that you may command your children to obey carefully all the words of this law. They are not just idle words for you—they are your life" (Deuteronomy 32:46-47).

Teaching the next generation is the responsibility of the present generation. We do this best by leading by examples. When we face tough issues, we can be sure people are watching our reactions. At these times, it is good to ask ourselves, "What would Jesus do?"

Prayer Suggestion: God, with Your help, I will walk as Jesus walked.

Quicklook: Deuteronomy 32:44-47

If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Wendi Craig at 276-340-2445 or email at advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com

WELCOME. Grace offers an 8:00am Contemplative Eucharist and a 10:30am Eucharist with organ music and a choir, with refreshments served afterwards. The 10:30am service is also available on YouTube for those unable to leave their house. Find us on Facebook and www.graceradford.org.

St Thomas Episcopal Church, 103 East Main Street, Christiansburg VA, 24073. Worship and communion at 10:00 a.m., each Sunday, followed by hospitality coffee and Adult Sunday Adult Seminar. Our service is also streamed. Contact for more info: mystthomasoffice@yahoo.com. <http://www.stthomaschristiansburg.dioswva.org>

LUTHERAN

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

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

St. Michael Lutheran Church, 2308 Merrimac Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060. Worship service each Sunday at 10 AM, Sunday School 9 AM. We are a community of God's people where we gather for worship, learning and service. Visitors and new members are

always WELCOME! Google comments: "Wonderful, welcoming congregation." A place where all are truly welcome." You'll love our minister, The Rev. Dr. Wes Jamison, who engages us in God's word. St. Michael started and administers Micah's Caring Initiative which includes Micah's Backpack, Soup for Seniors, Garden, Closet, and Mini Pantry, with tremendous community impact. Partnering with Rainbow Riders and Total Action for Progress, we opened the first Early Childhood Head Start in our community (6 weeks to age 3). We sponsor an awesome Scouting program of Scouts Boy & Girl Troop, Venture Scouts for older youth, and a Cub Pack for girls & boys kindergarten - 5th grade, amongst many other programs. Directions: From Price's Fork Road, turn onto Merrimac Road. St. Michael is ~quarter mile on the left. For more information: Phone 540.951.8951; Email hope@stmclc.us; Website www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org

MULTI-CULTURAL NON-DENOMINATIONAL

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

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

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

Compassion Church, 1820 Second Street, Radford, 639-6287, Our music is passionate, our worship is real, and Pastor Chandler Jones brings relevant messages

for everyone at any place on their journey, Sunday Worship Experience at 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Wednesday Family Night at 7 PM, Children Ministry provided for all services. Our vision is to see all Saved. Freed. Restored. Fulfilled. Find us on facebook and Instagram

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

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

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

UNITED METHODIST

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

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 220 West Main Street, Christiansburg. Rev. Mike Derflinger (540) 382-2410. Sunday Worship at 10a.m. with Children's Church at the same time, Sunday School at 9 a.m. Worship is in-person and Live-streamed on our YouTube Channel: StPaulUMCChristiansburgVA. All are welcome. Website: www.stpaulvaumc.org

WESLEYAN

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

Gardner's from page 1

cream and grill business for six years but along with our team we are excited to be back serving our community.”

Initially, the Gardners were renting a spot to park the pizza truck. Then, from there, they mentioned they were looking for somebody to take over the restaurant. The Gardners are still managing the ice cream shop.

Deborah Hamm is from Sicily, Italy, where she met her husband Randy while he was serving in the Navy. They married and traveled around while Randy Hamm was serving in the military, but after his discharge, returned to his hometown of Radford.

Chef Matt Tolbert also helps prepare food in the pizza truck and cooks for Gardner's Grill. In addition, he works as a private chef and will cook fine dining meals in people's homes.

“I come from a French background, and then I went to culinary school,” said Tolbert. “The quality we are able to bring is the training, research, and trial by error that I've found. A lot of this stuff is not what you would define as a normal burger restaurant, but we like that. We like to separate ourselves.”

One example of the way Gardner's Grill is a stand-out can be found in the Grill's signature burger, the Appalachian Smash. It is a quarter-pound premium Angus smash burger, topped with the Chef's own recipe of pimento cheese and tomato bacon jam, served with fries and their also homemade dipping sauce.

“The sauce is an old family recipe that my grandmother used to use as a salad dressing,” Tolbert said. “I just doctored it up just a little bit, just to give it a little bit of a spicy-sweet flavor, which complements the fries, complements the cheeseburger, complements the chicken - it's just all encompassing.”

The Buffalo Chicken Wrap is another local favorite with chopped grilled chicken coated with buffalo sauce, wrapped in a tortilla shell and seared on the grill. Other toppings are added as well, such as lettuce and tomato.

In addition to the special seasoned fries the Grill offers as an appetizer, customers can order signature wings tossed in the chef's own jerked buffalo sauce or with no sauce, and the Kids Menu has its own version of the smash burger with three ounces of premium Angus beef or a choice of chicken tenders.

Cindy Tolbert, or known by her team as “Momma C,” greets customers at the window, takes their orders, keeps the front end of the restaurant running smoothly, and helps in the preparation of food.

“All of the burgers are hand-patted out by us, quality black Angus ground beef; no preformed patty or anything like that,” Cindy Tolbert said.

“The cheese sauce is homemade; all of the sauces are homemade, the seasoning for the fries, everything. We do fried chicken for the Mountain Man Chicken sandwiches, either grilled or fried. The chicken is marinated in a combination of sweet tea and bourbon spices, then the next day he puts it in buttermilk and dredges it in flour.”

The tomato bacon jam is also something typically not found on a burger but brings out the flavor of the Angus beef in a surprisingly delicious way.

“It is not a traditional deli kind of jam, because we keep it hot,” Matt Tolbert said. “The idea is to make something that is a little sweet and a little spicy and a little salty all at the same time.”

Gardner's Grill is open for lunch Tuesday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Friday through Saturday 5-8 p.m. Gardner's Frozen Treats will reopen for the warmer seasons starting on March 15 and provides additional service at their drive-thru window.

Gardner's Grill, located at 419 Roanoke St. behind Gardner's Frozen Treats in Christiansburg, urges customers to come out for special prices on their Wings Wednesday. Wing seasonings are offered in house dry rub, jerked buffalo, or Japanese barbecue.



PHOTO BY LORI GRAHAM
The Appalachian Smash Burger, fries, homemade dipping sauce, and the Chef-recommended Ale-8 soft drink.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY, FOR APPROVAL TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE A BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM CASE NO. PUR-2024-00001

On January 23, 2024, Appalachian Power Company (“APCo” or “Company”) completed the filing with the State Corporation Commission (“Commission”) of an application (“Application”) pursuant to § 56-580 of the Code of Virginia (“Code”), the Utility Facilities Act, and the Commission’s Filing Requirements in Support of Applications for Authority to Construct and Operate an Electric Generating Facility, for approval to construct and operate a battery energy storage system (“BESS”) project along its Glade-Whitewatch distribution circuit (“Project”).

In support of its Application, the Company states that the Project will be composed of two separate BESS sites connected to the Glade-Whitewatch 34.5 kilovolt distribution circuit in southwestern Virginia, with a total rating of 7.5 megawatts (capacity) and 30 megawatt-hours (energy). The Company states that one site is located in Smyth County, Virginia, and the other in Grayson County, Virginia.

APCo represents that it will use the Project to benefit its customers in two ways. First, the Company states that it will utilize the Project to reduce costs for customers. Specifically, APCo states that the Project will be used to lower the Company’s overall system demand and thus reduce the need for other sources of generation during periods when customer demand is high. Second, the Company states that it will use the Project as a primary source of power for customers served by the Glade-Whitewatch distribution circuit, who have experienced a disproportionately high levels of outages. APCo submits that the Project will therefore both improve reliability for the Company’s customers and reduce the Company’s cost of service.

APCo states that the Project has an estimated total cost of approximately \$57.3 million with approximately \$34.5 million for the procurement and installation of the BESS components. The Company states that it will file for recovery of eligible project costs in a future Virginia Clean Economy Act filing.

Interested persons are encouraged to review the Application and supporting documents for the details of these and other proposals.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing in this proceeding that, among other things, scheduled a public hearing on APCo’s Application. On June 11, 2024, at 10 a.m., the Hearing Examiner assigned will hold the telephonic portion of the hearing for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses. On or before June 5, 2024, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Hearing Examiner to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission’s website at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting; (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov; or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting.

Beginning at 10 a.m. on June 11, 2024, the Hearing Examiner will telephone sequentially each person who has signed up to testify as provided above.

On June 11, 2024, at 10 a.m., or at the conclusion of the public witness portion of the hearing, whichever is later, in the Commission’s second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, the Hearing Examiner will convene a hearing to receive testimony and evidence related to the Application from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission Staff.

To promote administrative efficiency and timely service of filings upon participants, the Commission has directed the electronic filing of testimony and pleadings, unless they contain confidential information, and has required electronic service on parties to this proceeding.

An electronic copy of the public version of the Company’s Application may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company: Noelle J. Coates, Esquire, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 3 James Center, 1051 East Cary Street, Suite 1100, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or njcoates@aep.com. Interested persons also may download unofficial copies from the Commission’s website: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

On or before June 5, 2024, any interested person may submit comments on the Application electronically by following the instructions on the Commission’s website: scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments. Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2024-00001.

On or before April 11, 2024, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation with the Clerk of the Commission at: scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. A copy of the notice of participation as a respondent also must be sent to counsel for the Company. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure (“Rules of Practice”), any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2024-00001.

On or before April 25, 2024, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling, any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Each witness’s testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be sent to Staff, the Company, and all other respondents simultaneous with its filing. In all filings, the respondent shall comply with the Rules of Practice, including 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2024-00001.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission’s Order for Notice and Hearing, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission’s Rules of Practice.

The Commission’s Rules of Practice, the public version of the Company’s Application, the Commission’s Order for Notice and Hearing, and other documents filed in this case may be viewed on the Commission’s website at: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY

YMCA from page 1

Order your ticket to purchase your five-piece pie sampler from four of Blacksburg’s best bakeries. For details and tickets visit <https://vitymca.org/try-ys-pie/> Tickets on sale now through Mar.12 so don't miss out on your piece of the pie.

Pie flavors: Our Daily Bread- Blueberry Lavendar, Blacksburg Bagel- Custard Pie

Next Door Bake Shop- Matcha Banoffee Pie, Bull & Bones Christiansburg- Coconut and Strawberry Curd Pie, with one more to follow- check back on

our website soon.

Past winning pies include an Apple Crumb Pie from Bollo’s in 2021, a Kenafa Pistachio Cream Pie from Halwa in 2022, and a Mango Coconut Key Lime Pie from Next Door Bake Shop in 2023.

Proceeds from our events will support the YMCA at VT local programs including Meals On Main, Senior Connections and so much more.

YMCA at VT

Award from page 1

Throughout the weekend, the council facilitated a free and open dialogue about Virginia Tech as an institution and as a community with an ever-growing knowledge of what it means to be a land-grant university. Participants shared stories and histories about experiences that may not have been widely known or were hidden, denied, or misunderstood as well as the history of the university’s growth since 1872.

The event opened a deepening conversation within the university community and beyond, leading to institutional change and accolades, including the following:

Chief Kenneth Branham of Monacan Nation and Virginia Tech President Tim Sands engaged in conversation about the financial burden of tribal members in relation to higher education, and the university created a new Virginia Tech Tribal Match Scholarship in response.

A documentary was made during the weekend, and it has been accepted and shown at several film festivals, including the Newark International Film Festival and the Richmond International Film Festival.

The work of the council in conjunction with the More Than a Fraction Foundation has opened doors with other universities with similar histories, and the organizations are in the planning stages of how to guide and collaborate with those universities as they look for ways to recognize and honor their marginalized histories.

Many other continuing conversations and works are taking place within the university, the community, and the descendant families.

“The past few years have been poetic really,” said Kerri Moseley-Hobbs, founder and executive director of

More Than A Fraction Foundation. “Time has both flown by and crawled forward. We’re often asked how we feel about what we’ve accomplished so far, and what we plan moving forward as we continue to work with Virginia Tech. It’s a hard question to answer, because we often can’t really grasp the magnitude of accomplishments while those accomplishments are happening, and honestly, that is the brilliance of life. That keeps you humble and keeps you working. So that’s what we’ll do.”

Continuing council programming

The Council on Virginia Tech History is continuing to provide programming to the Virginia Tech community. On March 28, the council will host 1872 Forward: How Our History Can Shape Our Future. The moderated forum will discuss how universities — particularly Virginia Tech — utilize and integrate their histories into managing their present while planning for the future. This discussion will take place at 1:30 p.m. in Brush Mountain A in Squires Student Center.

Featured presenters will be Takiyah Amin, director of diversity, equity, and inclusion for the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design, and Stacey Wilkerson, assistant provost of administration and chief of staff for the Office for Inclusion and Diversity.

Anthem Awards Launched in 2021 by the Webby Awards in partnership with the Ad Council, Born This Way Foundation, Feeding America, GLAAD, Mozilla, NAACP, NRDC, WWF, and XQ, the Anthem Awards honor the purpose and mission-driven work of people, companies, and organizations worldwide across seven core causes.

“The Anthem Awards were born out of the desire to amplify and celebrate the voices that are creating sustainable change and to inspire others to take action,” said Patricia McLoughlin, Anthem Awards general manager. “In a year where so much is at stake, it is incredibly important to recognize impact work and celebrate the progress happening globally. Congratulations to all of this year’s winners.”

Alexandra Pirkle for Virginia Tech

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

www.montcova.com

MONTGOMERY SPORTS

Davis, Thompson to play at Roanoke

Two members of this year's state championship team from Radford High School have announced plans to be part of the first-year program at Roanoke College.

Seniors Charlies Davis and Brandon Thompson helped lead Radford to this year's Class 2 state championship.

Davis (5-10, 201) was named this year's all-county/all-city defensive player of the year with 157 tackles including 62 solos. He was also the state's defensive player of the year and had 18 tackles in the Riverheads title game. Davis is expected to play linebacker in the new Old Dominion Athletic Conference program.

Thompson (6-3, 196), who is also expected to play linebacker at Roanoke, was named to this season's second team All-Region C squad. He had 89 total tackles this season including 36 solos and three sacks.

When choosing a college, Davis said it came down to where he would enjoy playing football as well as college.

"Roanoke checked both of those boxes for me," he said. "The new coaches' energy and dedication that they brought to recruiting made it the deciding factor in my choice of Roanoke College. Also, the fact that I'll be on the first football team at Roanoke College in 80+ years is not only an exciting challenge, but I

feel it is an honor."

Thompson says he chose Roanoke because of the coaching staff.

"Every time, I talked to them they asked how I was doing and how my grades were and how life was in general," said Thompson. "Another reason is because when I stepped on campus it felt like home the coaches made it feel like home, and it was a small campus and it seemed like everyone knew each other and that's the type of environment I like. It's also not too far from home but just far enough to where I can learn to be on my own."

He also said it will be great to play beside his high school teammate in Charlie Davis.

"It's like a dream come true we've both been talking about playing football in college since we were little. Now, we get to do it together," Thompson said.

Roanoke College announced in June it had raised \$1.3 million toward adding a football program and will compete as a club team in 2024 with the goal of becoming a varsity sport in 2025. The team will play at Salem Stadium, which hosted the Division III national championship from 1993-07.

Roanoke will play in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC).

A short time after the announcement, Roanoke hired former Virginia



Charlie Davis was the Class 2 all-state defensive player of the year after helping Radford High School win a state championship.

Tech assistant Bryan Stinespring.

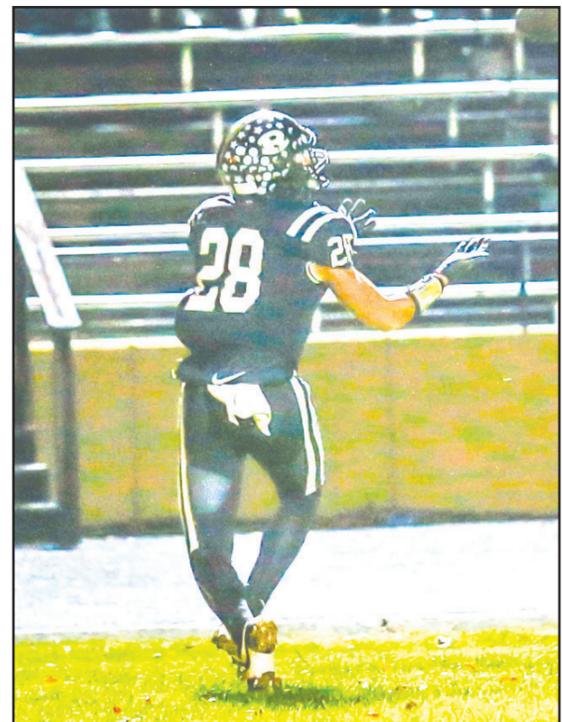
Mike Giancola has been hired as the associate head coach and defensive coordinator for the Maroons.

Roanoke College hasn't had a football team since 1942, when it was forced to disband the program because of the constraints of World War II.

Beginning as a graduate assistant at Tech, Stinespring was hired into his first full-time coaching role under Frank Beamer in 1992, when he became director of sports programs. He went on to spend 26 years on Beamer's coaching staff. He also has coached at the University of Delaware, Old

Dominion University and University of Maryland, and he just wrapped up a stint at Virginia Military Institute.

In Stinespring's time at Virginia Tech, the program won seven conference championships and advanced to 23 consecutive bowl games. The Hokies earned invitations to eight BCS bowl games, including the national championship game in the 1999 season. Stinespring was primarily the team's tight ends coach for his final 10 seasons (2006-15) in Blacksburg. Stinespring spent three years as the recruiting coordinator and tight ends coach after an 11-year role as offensive coordinator



Brandon Thompson added a one-two punch for the Radford Bobcats from his linebacker position. He, along with Charlie Davis, tallied over 150 tackles this past season.

from 2002-12.

Last month, Mitch Ferrick joined the Maroons as the offensive coordinator to begin 2024. He previously served as assistant tight ends coach at the University of Wisconsin for one season. Prior to that he served in the same capacity at the University of North Carolina, where the Tar Heels were crowned ACC Coastal champions.

Ferrick spent three years at Division II, Texas A&M-Commerce and previously served as an offensive coach for multiple positions at Bridgewater College.

The Roanoke plan is to also add varsity cheerleading and marching

band programs. The goal is to recruit 50 football players, 50 band members and 30 competitive cheerleaders as part of the fall 2024 entering class.

Thompson said it feels great to be a part in building a program from the ground up and knowing the players will be part of the history books. "It is an amazing feeling."

"At Roanoke, I hope to accomplish a championship and to build a bond with everyone on the team that will last forever and to have fun with everyone while doing it. I hope we can send a message to

See Roanoke, page 8



Liz Kitley (left) and Georgia Amoore have made a dynamic duo for the past few years at Virginia Tech.

Hokies dynamic duo coming to close

Marty Gordon

NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Virginia Tech's Georgia Amoore recently said on social media that a kid walked by her and said, "You're Kitley's friend."

In certain circles, the Australian point guard is commonly known as that. But that's changing and instead of being the sidekick, Amoore is becoming the "Robin to Kitley's Batman." She had to step from the shadows against UVA as Batman (Kitley) suffered an injury in the third quarter, which knocked her out of the contest.

Amore would score 39 points and will have to become a bigger than life Robin as Kitley's future is in doubt.

Kitley was named the ACC's Player of the Year

for the third consecutive season, the conference office announced Tuesday evening. She becomes the third woman in ACC history to win the award in three consecutive seasons, joining Alana Beard (Duke) and Alyssa Thomas (Maryland).

Amore also earned first team honors for the second consecutive season.

Amore was sixth in the conference in scoring (18.71), second in 3's per game (2.79), second in assist to turnover ratio (2.10) and led the ACC in assists (7.29).

The Australia native owns two 30-point games, 14 20-point games and recorded nine double-doubles, a figure that was fifth in the conference.

She was the only athlete to record more than five 10-assist games in the ACC. Her 39-point performance on the final day of the regular season was the highest scoring single-game output in conference play this season.

Amore still has another year of eligibility if she would like to come back next season.

The ACC Tournament's bracket has been set, as announced by the league office, which includes matchups, seeding, game times and TV network designations. Virginia Tech women's basketball will be the No. 1 seed in the tournament in Greensboro, North Carolina.

The Hokies (23-6, 14-4

See Duo, page 8

Big South all-conference women's basketball

High Point graduate guard Lauren Bevis and head coach Chelsea Banbury have been voted the 2023-24 Big South Conference Women's Basketball Player of the Year and Coach of the Year, respectively, by the league's head coaches, it was announced Tuesday afternoon by the conference office.

The panel voted USC Upstate guard Trinity Johnson as the league's Defensive Player of the Year and Gardner-Webb guard Anaya Harris as Freshman of the Year, while Runnin' Bulldogs guard Ashley Hawkins was selected as Newcomer of the Year and Scholar-Athlete of the Year as voted by the league's Sports Information Directors.

Bevis becomes the sixth Panther to receive Big South Player of the Year honors and the third in the last five years. A three-time Big South Player of the Week honoree this season, she leads the conference with a 16.6 scoring average, 71 3-pointers made and a 90.3 percent free throw percentage, the ninth-best clip in the nation. The Spartanburg, S.C. native leads the league in 3-pointers per game (2.54) and 3-point percentage, and she ranks second in overall field goal percentage (43.1 percent). In 16 Big South contests this season, Bevis paced the conference with 18.1 points per game while shooting 43.6 percent from distance and averaging 2.6 triples per game. She also made 92.1 percent from the charity stripe (70-76) and 48.1 percent from the field (89-185), the first and second-best marks in the league, respectively.

The back-to-back first-team selection tied for the most 20-plus point games in the conference this season with eight, including a league-high 32-point performance on the road at Gardner-Webb on Jan. 6. Bevis received seven first-place votes and 118 total points from the panel, ahead of Radford's Ashlyn Traylor-Walker (103 points).

Banbury earns her second Big South Coach of the Year honor and becomes the second High Point coach in program history to win the award multiple times. The fifth-year head coach led the Panthers to the outright Big South regular-season championship with a 14-2 record, including 10-straight wins to close the conference campaign. Named to the 2024 Kathy Delaney-Smith Mid-Major Coach of the Year Award Watch List before the season,

Banbury improved her coaching record to 91-59 all-time (60.7 percent) at High Point and 71-21 against conference opponents (77.1 percent), the top winning percentage amongst active Big South coaches.

HPU was the top scoring offense in the league this season averaging 63.0 points, while the Panthers also paced the Big South in field goal percentage (40.8 percent), assists/turnover ratio (0.77), turnover margin (+1.03), turnovers per game (15.3) and bench points per game (24.4). Banbury received six first-place votes and 22 points overall, ahead of USC Upstate's Jason Williams (14 points, two first-place votes) and Charleston Southern's Clarisse White (10 points, one first-place vote).

Johnson becomes the first Spartan to earn Defensive Player of the Year honors in program history. The Hopkins, S.C. native ranked second in the Big South in steals with an average of 2.2 per game while adding 3.3 defensive boards and helping USC Upstate post the league's best defensive field goal percentage (37.2 percent) as well as a strong 29.3 percent defensive three-point percentage.

Johnson also finished second in the conference averaging 4.7 assists while climbing to 2.5 steals per tilt in conference games. She earned one Big South Player of the Week award in 2023-24, and also became the third player in Big South history to eclipse 1,000 points, 500 rebounds and 500 assists for her career. Johnson received six first-place votes and 22 points overall, ahead of Longwood's Kiki McIntyre (eight points, one first-place vote).

Harris becomes the second Runnin' Bulldog to earn Freshman of the Year honors, and the second in the last four seasons. The Raleigh, N.C. native won Big South Freshman of the Week accolades three times in her first campaign in Boiling Springs, tied for second-most in the league, including twice in the final four weeks of play. She averaged 7.5 points, 3.8 rebounds and 1.3 steals per game and tallied eight double-digit performances on the year, including three in a row to end the regular season. Harris received six first-place votes and 36 points overall, ahead of Radford's Joi Williams (25 points, two first-place votes) and Terissa

See Women's, page 8

MONTGOMERY SPORTS

Highlanders on Big South Conference team

UNC Asheville's Drew Pember and High Point head coach Alan Huss have been voted the 2023-24 Big South Conference Men's Basketball Player of the Year and Coach of the Year, respectively, by the league's head coaches and media panel, it was announced Tuesday afternoon by the conference office.

The panel voted HPU's Juslin Bodo Bodo the Freshman of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year, while High Point's Duke Miles was selected as the Newcomer of the Year.

Gardner-Webb's Lucas Stieber was voted Scholar-Athlete of the Year by the league's Sports Information Directors.

Pember is the first back-to-back Big South Player of the Year honoree since 2008-09, and just the seventh multiple winner in league history. The Knoxville, Tenn., native leads the Big South with a 20.4 scoring average, is second with 7.9 rebounds per game, and is sixth in assists at 3.4. Pember also ranks among the league leaders in free throws made (second - 210), field goal shooting (fifth - 46.8), free throw percentage (fourth - 84.7), blocked shots (tied for first - 1.9), and defensive rebounds (first - 6.6). In 16 Big South contests this season, Pember paced the conference with 21.9 points per game while grabbing 8.8 boards. He also made 86.6 percent from the charity stripe (116-134), tied for the most 3-pointers made per game (2.3), and snared 7.5 defensive caroms.

The Lou Henson Mid-Season Award Watch List honoree scored 20+ points in a game a league-high 14 times -- including four 30-point efforts, tallied six 20-point, 10-rebound performances, and posted the Big South's lone triple-double of the season with 11 points, 15 rebounds and 10 assists in Asheville's victory over Appalachian State on Dec. 21. Pember received 14 first-place votes and 242 total points from the panel, ahead of Miles (209 points, one first-place vote)

and High Point's Kimani Hamilton (170 points).

Huss becomes just the second High Point head coach to win Big South Coach of the Year honors. The first-year head coach led the Panthers to the outright Big South regular-season championship with a 13-3 record -- the second-most Big South wins by a coach in his first season in the league.

Huss also owns the Big South record for most overall wins by a new head coach in the conference with 24, and was the first new head coach to open 9-0 in Big South games. On Jan. 29, ESPN's Men's Basketball Power Rankings named Huss its Coach of the Week, while Collegeinsider.com named Huss as the recipient of the Joe B. Hall Midseason Award honoree as this year's top first-time head coach in Division I.

High Point, which was predicted seventh in the league's preseason poll, enters the Hercules Tires Big South Men's Basketball Championship as the No. 1 seed, and is the conference leader in scoring (84.6), scoring margin (+10.2), free throw percentage (77.9), rebounds (40.0), defensive rebounds (27.1) and 3-pointers per game (8.5). In the conference season, the Panthers were tops with 83.9 points, +7.9 scoring margin, 79.7 percent from the charity stripe and a +7.0 rebounding margin.

Huss received 13 first-place votes and 43 points overall, ahead of Gardner-Webb's Tim Craft (27 points, two first-place votes) and UNC Asheville's Mike Morrell (13 points).

Bodo Bodo becomes the fourth Panther to earn Freshman of the Year honors, as well as the first freshman to be voted Defensive Player of the Year in the award's history (since 2005-06). Bodo Bodo leads the Big South with 9.1 rebounds per game and 281 overall caroms, as well as 3.7 offensive rebounds per game, is tied for first

with 1.9 blocked shots, and is second with 5.4 defensive boards. His overall rebound total is third-most by a Big South freshman in league history, while his per game average is currently second-best by a frosh all-time in conference annals.

Bodo Bodo averaged 10.7 rebounds in conference games -- the lone player above 10.0, had league-bests of 29 blocked shots and 4.3 offensive rebounds, and was second with 6.4 defensive caroms. He averaged 6.1 points overall and was 79-of-124 from the field (=63.7 percent). Bodo Bodo had four double-doubles and hauled in 10+ rebounds in a game a Big South-best 15 times this season -- including two games with a league season-high 18. He received 14 first-place votes and 79 points overall, ahead of Presbyterian's Kory Mincy (two first-place votes, 56 points) and Longwood's Emanuel Richards (46 points).

In Defensive Player of the Year voting, Bodo Bodo received seven first-place votes and 35 points, just ahead of Pember (six first-place votes and 31 points) and Presbyterian's Marquis Barnett and Winthrop's Chase Claxton, who each finished with one first-place vote and 12 total points.

Miles is the first Big South Men's Basketball Newcomer of the Year, which recognizes the top non-freshman transfer playing in the Big South for the first time. He appeared in 28 games for the Panthers with 25 starts and is second in the Big South with his team-leading 17.8 points per game.

Miles is shooting 53.9 percent from the field, has scored 20+ points in 10 games, and scored a career-high 32 points vs. Hofstra in the final game of the Gulf Coast Showcase. He has dished out 5+ assists in eight different outings and averages 3.6 assists per game overall. Miles has had multiple perfect games from the line and is shooting 80.5% this season (99-of-123).

A two-time Big South Player of the Week honoree this year, Miles was named to the 2023-24 Lou Henson Mid-Season Award Watch List. He contributed 17.1 points in conference games, as well as 1.5 steals. Miles collected 14 first-place

votes and 47 points in Newcomer of the Year voting, followed by Charleston Southern's A'lahn Sumler (two first-place votes and 23 points) and Winthrop's K.J. Doucet and Presbyterian's Samage Teel, who tied with 13 points each.

Stieber is a 4.00 student working on his Master of Sports Management. He is Gardner-Webb's top 3-point shooter at 40.7 percent (46-of-113) and he finished the regular-season with 7.4 points per game (8.2 in conference). Stieber is one of two Runnin' Bulldogs to start all 31 games this season, and he scored a season-high 20 points in Gardner-Webb's victory over Longwood on Feb. 29.

The entire 2023-24 All-Conference team is as follows:

- First-Team All-Conference
 - Drew Pember, UNC Asheville
 - Duke Miles, High Point
 - Kimani Hamilton, High Point
 - Kezza Giffa, High Point
 - Kelton Talford, Winthrop
- Second-Team All-Conference
 - DaQuan Smith, Radford
 - Walyn Napper, Longwood
 - Marquis Barnett, Presbyterian
 - Caleb Robinson, Gardner-Webb
 - Trae Broadnax, USC Upstate
- Honorable Mention All-Conference
 - DQ Nicholas, Gardner-Webb
 - Taje' Kelly, Charleston Southern
 - RJ Johnson, Charleston Southern
 - Josh Banks, UNC Asheville
 - A'lahn Sumler, Charleston Southern
- All-Freshman Team
 - Juslin Bodo Bodo, High Point
 - Kory Mincy, Presbyterian
 - Emanuel Richards, Longwood
 - Titas Sargiunas, High Point
 - Jaiden Thompson, Charleston Southern
- All-Academic Team
 - Taje' Kelly, Charleston Southern
 - Lucas Stieber, Gardner-Webb
 - Jesper Granlund, Longwood
 - Trevon Reddish-Rhone, Presbyterian
 - Chandler Turner, Radford
 - Fletcher Abee, UNC Asheville
 - Justin Bailey, USC Upstate
 - Alex Timmerman, Winthrop

Big South Conference

Women's

from page 1

Lavoile-Brice (23 points).

Hawkins is the first Big South Women's Basketball Newcomer of the Year, which recognizes the top non-freshman transfer playing in the Big South for the first time. She is also the second Runnin' Bulldog to ever earn Scholar-Athlete of the Year and the first since 2011-12. A junior guard from Long Beach, Calif., Hawkins ranked third in scoring in conference games (15.7) and first in total assists (102) and assists per game (6.4).

Her 5.7 assists per game for the full season ranks 17th nationally, while she also led the conference in assist/turnover ratio (1.33) as well as minutes per game (33.6). She was named Big South Player of the Week once this season and was the only player in the conference to post double-digit assists in the same game, doing so on two occasions. She capped off the season with two double-doubles and 24 double-digit scoring performances. Hawkins received seven first-place

votes for Newcomer of the Year (21 points), ahead of Radford's Taniya Hanner (13 points, one first-place vote) and USC Upstate's Isabell West (nine points, one first-place votes).

The entire 2023-24 All-Conference team is as follows:

- 2023-24 Women's Basketball All-Conference First-Team All-Conference
 - Lauren Bevis, High Point
 - Ashlyn Traylor-Walker, Radford
 - Trinity Johnson, USC

- Upstate
 - Kennedi Jackson, Charleston Southern
 - Ashley Hawkins, Gardner-Webb
- Second-Team All-Conference
 - Bryanna Brady, Presbyterian
 - Catherine Alben, Charleston Southern
 - McKinley Brooks-Sumpter, UNC Asheville
 - Tilda Sjökvist, Presbyterian
 - Nakyah Terrell, High Point
- Honorable Mention All-Conference
 - Isabell West, USC

- Upstate
 - Taniya Hanner, Radford
 - Jada Ryce, Winthrop
 - Marissa Gasaway, Winthrop
 - Janay Turner, Longwood
 - All-Freshman Team
 - Anaya Harris, Gardner-Webb
 - Joi Williams, Radford
 - Terissa Lavoile-Brice, Radford
 - Lauren Bailey, Gardner-Webb
 - Otaifo Esenabhalu, Longwood

- All-Academic Team
 - Jordan Berry, Charleston Southern
 - Ashley Hawkins, Gardner-Webb
 - Callie Scheier, High Point
 - Bailey Williams, Longwood
 - Tilda Sjökvist, Presbyterian
 - Olivia Wagner, Radford
 - Millie Brown, UNC Asheville
 - Jeni Levine, USC Upstate
 - Jada Ryce, Winthrop

Big South Conference

Duo

from page 7

ACC), who earned the regular-season ACC title for the first time in program history, will face the winner of the No. 8-seeded North Carolina versus No. 9-seeded Miami game (played Thursday at 1:30 p.m.) on Friday at 1:30 p.m. ET on ACC Network in the quarterfinals. During the regular season, Tech beat the Tar Heels twice (home/away) and Hurricanes once at home.

With the Hokies' first game coming in the quarterfinals, it marks just the second time in program history of earning a double bye.

Tech is 12-18 all-time in the ACC Tournament but is 5-1 its last two seasons in the tournament, including winning the ACC title last year. The Hokies would be the first school to repeat as champs since NC State (2020-21, 2021-22).

With the loss to UVA, the Lady Hokies fell to 11th in the AP Poll. The Hokies ended the regular season 23-6 and are the outright ACC champs after going 14-4 in league play. It's the first regular-season ACC title in program history and the 14

wins tie last season's squad for the most in a single season for the Hokies.

Senior guard Georgia Amore had a monstrous, personal best 39 points in the UVA game and has been named a finalist for the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame Nancy Lieberman Award. She is one five finalists, including Caitlin Clark (Iowa), Hannah Hidalgo (Notre Dame), Te-Hina Paopao (South Carolina) and Jacy Sheldon (Ohio State).

Amore is second nationally at 7.3 assists per game and

owns three games of 14 or more assists. The sixth-leading scorer in the ACC, Amore is averaging a career-high 18.7 points per game. The Aussie has scored 20 or more 14 times on the season and finished the regular season with a historic 39-point effort at Virginia. Her 39 points are the most by a Hokie in an ACC contest and the second-most in a single game ever. She also made eight 3-pointers, tying a program record for an ACC game.

Fans can support their favorite player by participating in Fan Voting, presented by Dell

Technologies, starting Friday, March 8, on hoopshallowards.com. The Fan Vote will count as one committee vote during the finalist selection process.

On a side Hokie note, Virginia Tech will host a free postgame youth lacrosse clinic following the team's game against Syracuse at noon on Saturday, Mar. 9.

Kids of all ages can participate in the clinic with instruction from Virginia Tech players and coaches.

Participants are encouraged to bring their own equipment and gather near the field entrance at the conclusion of Saturday's game.

Roanoke

from page 7

everyone saying that we mean business and we aren't going back down from anyone," Thompson said.

Davis feels a little nervous. "It's going to be a little nerve racking, but

the coaches and the Roanoke College athletic director are dedicated to making this program an elite program, and that's my goal as well."

"I hope to make Roanoke's program

a team that people respect sooner than later. Personally, I plan on putting in the work and make a name for myself as a college player. I hope to get individual accolades, but my main

focus will be the success of the team," Davis added.

Thompson hopes to major in business at Roanoke, while Davis is leaning toward sports therapy.