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Blacksburg

Christiansburg

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

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**USPS 016-490** 

\$1.00

### Experts offer advice for protecting privacy and security when filing taxes

April is here which means tax filing is upon us. While taxes can be stressful, there is also a concern about the information you share and the impact on your privacy.

Virginia Tech information privacy and cybersecurity experts and cofounders of Voices of Privacy, France Bélanger and Donna Wertalik, explain more about privacy when it comes to filing your taxes.

Privacy and security challenges

"A major privacy concern is tax scams," says Bélanger. "The goal is to steal your sensitive information, like your Social Security number, name, address, and employer details." Using this information, cyber criminals can file a false return in your name with the goal of receiving refunds to their own accounts.

Sign of scams can include:

Receiving requests from the IRS via text, phone, email, and even sometimes physical letters. The IRS will not text you or call you for information.

Receiving W-2 forms from unknown employers.

Receiving unexpected notices by

text and email.

"A key point to remember and understand is that electronic filing is more secure than mailing a tax says Wertalik. because they are encrypted, meaning it is not possible to read the information as it is being transmitted from your personal device to the tax authorities.

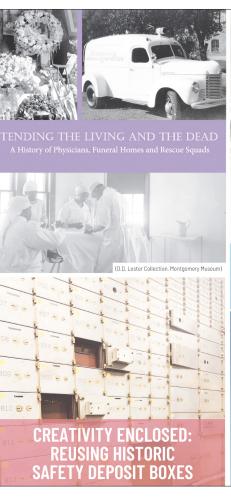
Tips for managing privacy and security when filing taxes

Request a Personal Identification

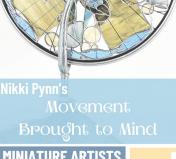
See **Taxes**, page 2

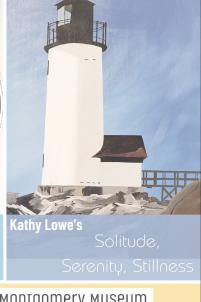


PHOTO COURTESY OF PEXELS VIA VIRGINIA TECH











ontgomery Museum

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF MONTGOMERY MUSEUM OF ART & HISTORY

### Montgomery Museum of Art & History to host multiexhibit reception tomorrow, Thursday April 11

Event features local artists Nikki Pynn and Kathy Lowe, a new history exhibit entitled "Tending the Living and the Dead," and "Creativity Enclosed: Reusing Historic Safe Deposit Boxes," exhibit featuring nationally known and award-winning miniatures artists

Tomorrow, Thursday, April 11, 4- 7 p.m., the Montgomery Museum of Art & History will play host to a grand reception the much-anticipated exhibit

showcasing the diverse talents of local artists Nikki Pynn and Kathy Lowe.

The event will also feature

"Tending the Living and the Dead: a history of physicians, funeral homes, and rescue

See Reception, page 2

### Over 100 vendors greet shoppers at Annual Spring Craft Show in Riner

Lori Graham

Contributing writer

RINER - The Sixth Annual Spring Craft Show showcased over 100 vendors, filling two gymnasiums and the cafeteria at Auburn High School in Riner.

A variety of handcrafted items included jewelry, crocheted items, wreaths, home décor, flowers, woodworking, handbags, books, boutique shops, and so much more was available to purchase at this event, sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Riner Fire Department. Food was also available for purchase



PHOTO BY LORI GRAHAM

Lauren Mills (right) is artist and business owner of Peacock Perch Creations, seen with her number one supporter Mills' mother Vanessa Smith.

See Craft Show, page 2

### Christiansburg Town Council holds public hearing for two proposed solar projects

Lori Graham

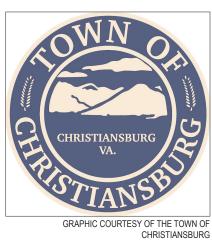
Contributing writer

**CHRISTIANSBURG** Solar Franchise Power Purchase Agreement presentation during a public hearing at Christiansburg Town Council's Mar. 26 meeting was conducted by Wayne Nelson, Director of Engineering for the Town of Christiansburg.

The proposed solar project is suggested to save money and provide electricity, according to Nelson's presentation. The solar panels are to be positioned on the roofs of the Christiansburg Recreation Center and the Christiansburg Aquatic

According to the Request for Proposal (RFP) RFP Number: 24-004 Solar Power Purchase Franchise Agreement Addendum 3, "A structural analysis by a Virginia licensed structural engineer, needed to verify the carrying capacity of the Recreation Center roof and the Aquatic Center roof has not been performed.'

See Council, page 3



### Brunswick stew fundraiser sells out again, thanks to community members

Lori Graham

Contributing writer

BLACKSBURG - The Brunswick Stew Fundraiser had another great year thanks to the many community members that participated, through their volunteerism and the many customers that came out to buy the delicious dish.

The Kiwanis Club of Montgomery County sold out early Saturday morning, which has been a trend for the past three years.

This year's event sold 739 quarts and had over \$100 in additional donations, Kiwanis Club Member Linda Felts said.

"Thank you especially to Marsha and Sandy Smith for their hard work, and to all of the volunteers. We had several teachers from PFES, and two CKI members, so a true community effort. It was a good day," Felts said.

Kiwanis Club of Montgomery County-Blacksburg sponsors VT Circle K, a campus service club. The organization also sponsors the Key Club at Blacksburg High School, with Christiansburg Kiwanis Club sponsoring the Christiansburg High School Key Club.

"Kiwanis Club of Montgomery Co-Blacksburg began making Brunswick stew 17 years ago with John Drew Clary and his crew, now operating out of Radford and not Brunswick County VA. Signature projects are recurring, have significant impact on youth, and involve many volunteers. Brunswick stew is a joint effort with Price's Fork Elementary school teachers, staff, and parents and most Kiwanis Club members and spouses and youth organizations sponsored by Kiwanis. We make over 725 quarts of stew and have sold out early Saturday morning the last three years," Jerry Jones, the Long-Range Planning Committee Chairperson for Montgomery County's

Kiwanis Club said. The organization's next signature event will be held at Auburn Hills Golf Course in Riner on June 1. Additional information about the upcoming event can be found at https://www.



(left to right) Katherine Stockwell (VT Circle K member), Jerry Jones, and Amber Henry (VT Circle K



**Volunteers (left to right) Posey Jones and Jean** Hanigan work to prepare bowls of the delicious **Brunswick Stew for customers.** 

Thursday, APRIL 25 **Eastern Divide Brewing Company** 3175 Commerce Street, Blacksburg

Benefiting







## UPCOMING EVENTS

## **Saturday, April 13:**

#### Mount Tabor Ruritan Biscuit Breakfast

Mount Tabor Ruritan Club serving up hot biscuits topped with sausage gravy, or with "world-famous" apple butter, with scrambled eggs, orange juice and coffee; 8 to 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of Slusser's Chapel, 1543 Mount Tabor Rd, Blacksburg. Club fundraiser to help serve community, and donations will be accepted for the breakfast. There will be signup information available for club's newest community initiative - Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. This is the last breakfast until October.

Skipper cannon firing

Skipper, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets cannon,

twice on the Upper Quad of Virginia Tech's campus between 2 – 4 p.m. as Virginia Tech cadets return from the spring Caldwell March. The actual timing of the cannon's firing will depend on the length of the march, subject to weather and road conditions.

### **Sunday, April 14:**

Skipper cannon firing

Skipper, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets cannon, will be fired once between 11:55 a.m. and 12:05 p.m. new the Tech Softball Park as part of the opening celebration for Virginia Tech Softball's Military Appreciation game.

### Thursday, April 18:

Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant, 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to attend. For further information, please call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

### Friday, April 19:

Skipper cannon firing

Skipper, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets cannon, will be fired once between 5 - 5:30 p.m. on the Drillfield during the opening ceremony for Relay for Life; Skipper will fire at the end of the national anthem. Relay For Life at Virginia Tech is a student-run yearlong fundraising initiative for the American Cancer Society focused on raising funds for critical research as well as lifesaving patient support programs.

### **Saturday, April 20:**

NAACP Young Adults Meet and Greet

At the Christiansburg Library; 6 – 7 p.m. Geared toward 25- 50 years olds. Learn about the NAACP, meet people and learn about professional development and social opportunities. Giveaways and appetizers. For more information crashatownsend@gmail.com.

### **Monday, April 22:**

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. Citizens are invited to attend and allowed to speak at each meeting. See the agenda at www. radfordva.gov.

### Montgomery County Board of Supervisors

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, April 23:**

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.

### **Saturday, April 27:**

Children's Consignment Sale

The spring children's consignment sale will be held 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Blacksburg Presbyterian Church, 701 Church St SE. (note different location). Families can get great deals on seasonal kids' clothes and shoes, toys, books, baby gear, sports equipment, maternity clothing and more. Many items are like-new (some even brand-new). Some items will be half-price between 12:30 and 1:30 p.m. but you will want to shop early for the best selection! Cash or checks only. No card or electronic payments. There is space for new consignors. For more information, email bumckidsale@aol.com.

### On-going:

Radford Noon Rotary Club's Field of Honor

Field of Honor will be installed on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion prior to Memorial Day until the Fourth of July. Radford Noon Rotary Club is looking for people to sponsor flags. Individual flags are \$50. Corporate Sponsorship is: Bronze - \$250; Silver - \$500; Gold - \$1000; and Platinum - \$2500. To register, contact rotary.club.of.radford.noon@gmail.com.



crocheted items to the show, which gives her a little additional money and an opportunity to see people in her home community.

from food trucks Purple Moon Café and Hillbilly Hodges BBQ Wagon.

Artist and creator of Peacock Perch Creations, Lauren Mills is a local Christiansburg business doing metal laser engraving and wood designs for home and personal decorations. Mills also does custom work for weddings and other special occasions. During Saturday's craft show, Mills created small, personalized laser etching on select merchandise for her customers by using her portable machine.

Becky Saylors, President of the RFD Ladies Áuxiliary Becky and an organizer for the event said she had several other great members and volunteers to team together with in bringing the event together for its sixth year. Vice President Debbie Compton, Secretary Teresa Thompson, and Treasurer Holly Coalson contributed a lot of time and

work to make the event successful. "I started working on this really New Year's Eve, started getting everything together...we started with the returning vendors, came up with flyers and kind of opened it up to the general public," Saylors said. "We have learned a lot over the years and each time you do it you learn something new...after tonight we will have an awards banquet and I will be stepping down as president and we



PHOTOS BY LORI GRAHAM owner

Coal Hollow Gems' Pennington showcases a large selection of gems and minerals for customers to

will have a new president."

RFD Ladies Auxiliary bylaws were created to bring in a new president every two years, Saylors said.

The event provides 120 spaces for vendors, with over 100 vendors signing up this year. There were a few unexpected emergencies preventing some individuals from coming this year; however, the turnover was incredible with many visitors thrilled with the positioning of vendors and the supportive volunteers available to provide assistance to those taking in the event.

"Everyone was so nice and helpful during the event. It was a great turnout and there was so much variety of vendors. The Ladies did a wonderful job," Floyd resident and event-goer John Dankowski said.

The annual craft event occurs the first weekend in April every year. Additional events that preceded the craft event were the Riner Fire Department Oyster

Supper on Mar. 23, and the Ladies Auxiliary of the RFD sponsored Easter Egg hunt on Mar. 30 at the Auburn High School football field.
To find out more about the Ladies

Auxiliary to the Riner Volunteer Fire Department, visit their website at https://rinerladiesauxiliary.com.

### Taxes from page 1

Number (PIN) from the IRS. No one can file a return with your SSN without it.

Never share your PIN or password to anyone, except the person or tool that helps you with filing your taxes.

File your taxes early to avoid any scams or invasion of privacy. If you are filing before scammers, they won't get through. Remember that revenue agencies will never reach out asking for private

If asked extra information by the tool you use to file taxes, do not share more information than necessary with that

information via call, text, or email.

Watch for signs of fraud like being unable to e-file tax returns because of a duplicate Social Security number, receiving an IRS notice that an online account has been created by your name, or, receiving an IRS notice that your existing online account has been accessed or disabled when you took no action.

Save your tax files in secure locations. Do not store those files in the cloud. Shred any documents no longer

When in doubt, call the IRS at 800-

829-1040 or go to www.irs.gov. "It is easy to look past your data privacy

and security, especially when it comes to dealing with an already irritating task,

taxes," says Wertalik. "By following these

tips and remembering the importance of data privacy, you will be able to keep your private information safe and protected."

Bélanger holds the titles of University Distinguished Professor, R. B. Pamplin Professor, and Tom & Daisy Byrd Senior Faculty Fellow in the Accounting and Information Systems Department within the Pamplin College of Business at Virginia Tech. An author, researcher, educator, consultant, and advocate for information privacy, she has studied issues surrounding the topic for two decades and written about the subject for the majority of her 200 published

Wertalik currently serves as director of marketing strategy and analytics and is a professor of practice in marketing in the Pamplin College of Business at Virginia Tech. Her role encompasses branding, marketing and metrics for the business school, as well as leading the strategic efforts of Pamplin's Virtual Identity through Virginia Tech's Social Media Organization, Prism. She has diverse corporate and academic experience in the identification of marketing opportunities, brand management, social media engagement and measurement,

Margaret Ashburn for Virginia Tech

and overall product development.

#### Reception from page 1 offering

poignant exploration of life and death in area. Additionally, visitors will be enchanted by "Creativity Enclosed: Reusing Historic Safe Deposit Boxes," a unique miniature presentation taking place in the vault of the Museum's historic bank building. This multifaceted affair promises to be a celebration of creativity, heritage, and community. Artist Nikki Pynn has worked in

stained glass since graduating from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1980 with a Bachelor in Fine Arts, Painting and Printmaking. Her exhibit at the Montgomery Museum is titled, "Movement Brought to Mind." She was influenced by the negative space of various objects, particularly broken bike wheels, and began filling in the spaces between the spokes on wheels, and holes of sprockets discarded by local bike shops. Pynn was recently accepted the Southern Highland Craft Guild and has spent many years perfecting her stained-glass technique and experimenting with the layout and complications that come from integrating her choices of materials and moving parts.

Additionally, for works in this exhibit, she has reached back to previous work to create drawings that are, in her words, "representative of accepting my chaotic mind and being comfortable with it." Other drawings in the show offer the artist's experiments in expression through body language and facial

expressions.

In her exhibit, "Solitude, Serenity, and Stillness," oil painter Kathy Lowe's use of contrast between light and dark and color are worth studying. Some of the landscape paintings exhibit almost photographic realism except that the colors are beyond what nature can do. Another of Lowe's favorite subjects is lighthouses. The rounded contours of these buildings make them seem three dimensional. "Creativity and the art of painting

according to the artist, serve as a singular act of existence in making statements about the emotional connection to life and the many subjects that influence us all." Lowe, a Petersburg native, has a background in science that culminated in a career at the Virginia Tech Veterinary College electron microscope lab. The art of electron microscopy contributed to her artistic talent.

The history exhibit "Tending the Living and the Dead: a history of physicians, funeral homes and rescue squads" will

also be on display. Those who assist in times of sickness, emergency, and death form a critical part of any community. What is surprising, is how the histories of physicians, funeral homes, and rescue squads are closely intertwined. Ambulance service was a lesser-known part of early funeral businesses. Initially, there was little in the way of first aid provided by the ambulance

attendants, but the idea of trained

attendants traveling with the patient was championed by local funeral home staff who knew the need firsthand. Medical, funeral, and rescue artifacts from Kenneth McCoy and others will illustrate the evolution of these institutions in Montgomery County, Virginia. Exploring how our community tended its living and dead is an important way to understand its people and values. As part of the exhibit, visitors will be invited share personal stories and recollections of these traditions at 6:30 p.m.

Also opening on April 11 is "Creativity Enclosed: Reusing Historic Safe Deposit Boxes." The

Montgomery

Museum of Art and History is located in the former Bank of Christiansburg building, which was completed in 1964. The building retains many original features including the steel safe deposit boxes in the main vault. Reusing these tiny historic spaces is the focus of this exhibit. The museum invited artists, hobby miniaturists, and all creative souls to contribute small works for this show. The call sparked interest from artists across the mid-Atlantic and as far away as California.

This art exhibit also features nationally-known from work miniature artists, Amanda Kelly "Panda Miniatures" and Blake Gore. Amanda Kelly is pursuing her Master of Fine Arts in Sculpture at Radford University where she also teaches. Kelly's award-winning artwork has been exhibited in various art galleries and museums including The Museum of Museums in Seattle, Wash., the Var Gallery in Milwaukee, Wisc., and the Olin Galleries in Salem, Va. Her commercial work includes miniature sets and content for clients such as Coca-Cola, Disney, XBOX, and General Mills. In 2020, she was a finalist on the HGTV miniature competition show Biggest Little Christmas Showdown. Originally from New York, Amanda lives in Virginia with her wife and three cats.

Blake Gore, a New River Valley resident, creates miniature art using a .15mm pen nib and minimalist canvases. Öften drawing in a space of only an inch or two, he is inspired by the challenge of creating more with less. Gore's miniature works have shown from Middle America to Manhattan and have found their way into private collections around the globe. He has partnered with brands such as Jo-Ann Stores, Monopoly/ Hasbro, BLICK Art Materials, America, Sakura of Canson, Strathmore, and General Pencil.

This is a free community reception. Enjoy refreshments and food while listening to these artists, storytellers, and historians and enjoy this large exhibit opening featuring the smallest art mediums on display.

Montgomery Museum of Art &

### Madrigal-Ramos, Juan Manuel

Juan Manuel Madrigal-Ramos, 47, of Dublin, passed away Thursday, April 4, 2024. Born April 29, 1976, he attended St. Mary's Catholic Church in Blacksburg and owned and operated Happy Cinco de Mayo Restaurant in Ft. Chiswell. He was a dedicated husband and

Survivors include his wife, Minerva Mendoza; parents, Isidro Madrigaland Gudelia Ramos Malgoza; sons, and Francisco Madrigal-Mendoza; daughters, Diana and



Madrigal-Mendoza; grandchildren, Santi, Camilla, Luisa, and Diego; brothers, Jose and Isidro Madrigal-Ramos; sister, Yolanda Madrigalrelatives and friends.

The family will receive friends Wednesday, April 10, 2024, 12 - 2 p.m. at Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services will follow. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, April 11, 2024, at St. Mary's Church in Blacksburg. Interment will follow in Highland Gardens Memory Dublin.

The family is in the care of the Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Mattox, Judith Amy

Judith Amy Mattox, of Blacksburg, passed away Wednesday, April 03,

Judy was born October 25, 1943, to the late William H. Quarterman, Jr. and Naomi A. Shaver. Judy retired in 2004 from the law offices of Frith and Pierce and David T. Mullins after 42 years as a legal secretary. Judy loved her family, friends, the Virginia Tech Hokies, NASCAR racing, and last but not least her beloved

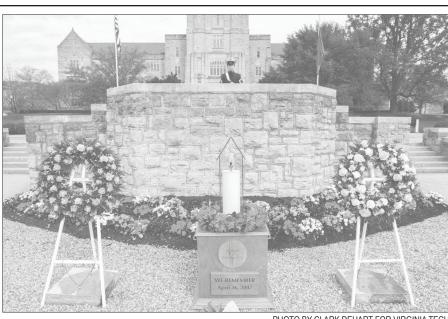
Survivors include her son, William Shane



Mattox; brother-in-law Patricia and Jeff Raines; brothers and sisters-in-law William 'Butch' Quarterman, Richard "Buddy"

Peggy Quarterman, David and Cheryl Shaver, Lester and Lourie Shaver; and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be held Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 2 p.m. at McCoy Funeral Home Chapel, 150 Country Club Drive SW, Blacksburg. A visitation will be held from 1 - 2 p.m. prior to the service at McCoy Funeral Home. The family would like to thank the staff at Heritage Hall and Good Samaritan Hospice for their love and



The ceremonial candle burns in front of the April 16 Memorial during the 2023

### Virginia Tech to observe 2024 Day of Remembrance BLACKSBURG - Virginia Tech will

observe the 2024 Day of Remembrance to honor the students and faculty members who lost their lives on April 16, 2007.

At 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 13, the 3.2-Mile Run in Remembrance, an annual event that attracts thousands of walkers and runners to the Blacksburg campus, will begin — rain or shine — at 9 a.m. with a moment of silence.

The run's 3.2-mile course will begin in front of Patton Hall, near Burrus Hall, and pass by landmarks such the Grove, Lane Stadium, and the Virginia Tech Pylons, ending at the April 16 Memorial. Advance registration for this event is encouraged.

Virtual participation opportunities are available in addition to the in-person event. Virtual participants are encouraged to move in a way that is meaningful to them and to share photos using the hashtag #VT32Run on social media.

On Tuesday, April 16, the lighting of the ceremonial candle will be held at 12:01 a.m. at the April 16 Memorial, located in front of Burruss Hall on Drillfield Drive. The candle will be lit by representatives of the student body, and the names of the 32 Hokies lost on April 16, 2007, will

be read. Members of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets will stand in watch for the 24 hours that the candle is lit.

At 9:43 a.m., a brief wreath-laying ceremony and moment of silence will be held at the April 16 Memorial. Student members of the Virginia Tech Rescue Squad will carry wreaths to the memorial, which will then be placed by Virginia Tech President Tim Sands and Laura Sands and Executive Vice President and Provost Cyril Clarke.

At 11:59 p.m., the ceremonial candle will be extinguished and the light will be carried back into Burruss Hall, representing the university's commitment to never forget.

There are also more than 20 alumni chapter events planned. Details are available on the We Remember website.

other university events, including Spring Family Weekend, and the football Spring Game will be held over the April 13-14 weekend. Parking and transportation information is posted online to help those attending events that

Mark Owczarski for Virginia Tech

### Blacksburg seeks public comment on HOME and Community Development Block Grant programs

In accordance with guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the New River Valley HOME Consortium and the Town of Blacksburg seek public comment on the proposed draft of the 2024 Annual Action Plan for the New River Valley's HOME Program and the Town of Blacksburg's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

The Annual Action Plan provides a yearly accounting of HOME, CDBG, and other funds allocated towards the implementation of objectives outlined in the Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan, completed every 5 years, identifies community needs and proposed solutions in the areas of Housing, Special Needs, Economic Development and Non-Housing Community Development. HOME and CDBG activities benefit low and moderate-income people by making improvements throughout the New River Valley, taking into consideration the public input received. Funding for the 2024 fiscal year, based on last year's allocation, is expected to be \$554,576 for the CDBG program and \$634,440 for the HOME program.

The proposed Housing and Community Development goals for 2024

Support affordable housing. Prevent and end homelessness.

Support non-homeless special needs.

All proposed activities' budgets will be proportionally increased or decreased from estimated funding levels to match actual annual allocation amounts.

Proposed use of 2024 CDBG funds (contingent on funding):

Housing Resiliency Grant Program -

New River Community Action -

Women's Resource Center of the NRV

Live, Work, Eat, Grow - Blacksburg

Community Gardens - \$14,421 Valley İnterfaith Childcare Center

Affordable Housing Initiatives \$316,240 Program Administration - \$110,915

CDBG TOTAL - \$554,576 Proposed use of 2024 HOME funds

(contingent on funding): HOME Administration -\$63,440

Community Housing Development Organization Operational Support -

Community Housing Development Organization Projects - \$95,166

Affordable Homeownership Projects

Affordable Rental Projects - \$ 22,750 HOME Total - \$634,440 The 2024 Annual Action Plan draft

can be reviewed online. Hard copies are available at the Blacksburg Public Library lobby, or by contacting the Housing and Community Connections Office at 540-443-1615. Public comments and questions

regarding the Annual Plan may be received in one of the following ways. Please call (540) 443-1615 to request accommodations for disabilities and translation assistance.

In-person, at the Housing and Community Connections office, located at 303 Wilson Avenue. This in-person public comment period will occur on Monday, April 22 from 4-5 p.m.

Virtually via Zoom, on Monday, April 22 from 5-6 p.m. Those interested in this virtual option should contact 540-443-1615 for access to the Zoom link.

Via email: housing@blacksburg.gov, by phone: 540-443-1615, or by mail: Housing and Community Connections, P.O. Box 90003, Blacksburg, VA 24062.

Comments must be received by 5 p.m. n Monday, May 6.

Town of Blacksburg

### Council

"I have been in touch with the architect...we have a wealth information at our fingertips to help with this project," Nelson said.

from page 1

Bishop also requested confirmation from Nelson that the project will be of no cost to the Town of Christiansburg.

Council member Johana Hicks asked a question concerning insurance and who

would be covering the policy. "They will have their own insurance policy on file with us and we have been in touch with our own insurance company as well," Nelson said.

Additionally, consent agenda items were approved in a 6-0 vote including a contract award of approximately \$4.4 million for construction of the Hickok Street Drainage Improvements project, a resolution recognizing April as Autism Awareness Month, a resolution recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month, and a resolution

recognizing April 1-7, 2024, as National Public Health Week. Council member Tonya Hockett made the first motion to approve the consent agenda with Councilman Casey Jenkins seconding the motion.

Also, Dr. Sharon Scott was reappointed to the Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority Board of Directors for a four-year term beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2028, in a 6-0 vote. The council also unanimously

approved a conditional use permit to allow an auto body shop, detailing shop, and towing service rezoning from B-3 to I-1, a proffered statement with conditions that must be met was part of the permit.

The town council will also begin holding work sessions as previously discussed, with a proposed time limit set at 90 minutes, but with the potential to extend time as needed and agreed upon by council members.

TRFA LAUCTIONS

### Pupuseria Mari celebrates two-year anniversary





**★ PREMIER LAND★** 

Fri, Apr.19 at 12:30PM at the

Hampton Inn, 380 Arbor Dr, Christiansburg, VA

**PREVIEWS:** Tue 4/2 4-6pm | Sun 4/7 1-3pm | Sun 4/14 1-3pm

DIR: From Christiansburg, US-11N/US-460E 7mi to L on Friendship Rd (636). 1.1mi to L on Copperhead Rd. 0.3mi on left.

TERMS: 10% deposit. 5% buyer's premium. Close on or about 30 days. Full terms online.

Thu 4/18 3-6pm | Self-guided tours ok anytime

434.847.7741 | TRFAuctions.com

Mari, which authentic Salvadorean and Mexican 31 with free food, music

Pupuseria serves food, celebrated its twoyear anniversary Mar. and a great celebration. Sundays.

TRFAuctions.com





# Delegate lauds Youngkin's propensity for vetoes

Since last week's column, Governor Glenn Youngkin has continued vetoing legislation passed by the Democratic majority in the Virginia General Assembly. At this point, Governor Youngkin has surpassed all former Virginia governors in vetoes during his term - issuing 128 of them as of the writing of this article. Perhaps that should be of no surprise, considering the raft of far-left legislation that has been sent to him. This past week, many of Governor Youngkin's vetoes were focused on legislation seeking to restrict lawful firearm ownership.

Rather than focusing on pragmatic and fact-based solutions to Virginia's most prevalent form of firearm violence, Democrats preferred to advance legislation that attacked the rights of law-abiding gun owners. A ban on modern sporting rifles, an end-run around the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, unconstitutional waiting periods, and age limits all made their way to the Governor's desk, where they were vetoed. Group violence intervention programs like Project Ceasefire and "Safe, Alive, and Free" produce positive results, time and time again. But Democrats actually cut funds for those programs in their budget. It proves that they are only interested in advancing emotion-based policies that fly in the face of common



#### Delegate Jason Ballard

Virginia General Assembly

It's disappointing to see the Democratic Senate Majority Leader vocally stand against tax cuts and economic development in favor of items on the farleft's wish list. When the General Assembly returns to Richmond on April 17 to consider pending action from the 2024 session, I look forward to sustaining Governor Youngkin's legislative vetoes and, hopefully, passing a responsible budget that works for all Virginians.

On a separate note, I think it's worth mentioning that while General Assembly Democrats focused on restricting your Second Amendment rights and making energy more expensive, among other things, they continued their inaction on the scourge of fentanyl in Virginia. On average, five Virginians die each day

from a fentanyl overdose. Yet, Democrats have refused to enact common-sense measures that would help save lives. HB 674 would have charged anyone who gives someone more than two milligrams (a lethal dose) of fentanyl with attempted murder. This bill didn't even get a hearing! In fact, Republicans had to fight tooth and nail to get a hearing on a bill that will protect our kids from fake prescription pills laced with this poison. House Democrats even passed a bill that would have made possession of 500 lethal doses of fentanyl a misdemeanor - a bill so extreme that not even Senate Democrats would go along with it. This shouldn't be political. Fentanyl kills, and we need to do much more to protect our communities from this drug. Unfortunately, that doesn't appear to be a priority for Virginia Democrats.

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

on your behalf.

# Virginia gas prices still on the rise

Average gasoline prices in Virginia have risen \$4.49/g, a difference of \$1.50/g. 2.8 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.46/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia. Prices in Virginia are 21.5 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 1.6 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has increased 3.1 cents in the last week and stands at \$4.02 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$2.99/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$4.49/g, a difference of \$1.50/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.99/g while the highest was

The national average price of gasoline has risen 6.5 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.57/g today. The national average is up 17.1 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 0.8 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

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

April 8, 2023: \$3.44/g (U.S. Average: \$3.58/g) April 8, 2022: \$4.01/g (U.S. Average: \$4.12/g) April 8, 2021: \$2.73/g (U.S. Average: \$2.86/g) April 8, 2020: \$1.79/g (U.S. Average: \$1.88/g) April 8, 2019: \$2.53/g (U.S. Average: \$2.75/g) April 8, 2018: \$2.48/g (U.S. Average: \$2.65/g) April 8, 2017: \$2.19/g (U.S. Average: \$2.39/g) April 8, 2016: \$1.89/g (U.S. Average: \$2.04/g) April 8, 2015: \$2.19/g (U.S. Average: \$2.39/g) April 8, 2014: \$3.44/g (U.S. Average: \$3.58/g) Neighboring areas and their current gas prices: Roanoke- \$3.38/g, up 0.4 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.38/g.

Richmond- \$3.47/g, unchanged from last

West Virginia- \$3.41/g, up 1.9 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.39/g.

"After a brief break, gas prices have leapt back

up, driven by extensive refinery maintenance on the West Coast, where prices have increased notably; only a handful of states have seen prices decline over the last week," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "With oil prices rising to nearly \$87 per barrel last week, their highest since October, we are not only facing the seasonal factors that push prices up—refinery maintenance, the switch to summer gasoline, and rising demand—but also escalating crude oil prices as OPEC's production cuts continue to cause declining global oil inventories, with escalations between Iran and Israel adding to concerns of further destabilization. The West Coast is likely to see gas prices continue to jump, and in a week or so, will be joined by the mid-Atlantic and Northeast states as they wrap up the transition to summer gasoline."

GasBuddy

#### News Messenger Established 1869

(540) 389-9355

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

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

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

13. Rectify

19. Satisfy

tempos

27. Helps 30. Court is in it

localized region

26. Dueling sword

34. Touch lightly

model

15. Popular Dodge truck

16. Beef or chicken intestine

21. Of a particular people or

23. Movements in quick

24. Able to pay one's debts

25. Fleshy bird beak covering

ranges

thing

Elliott

54. Compel to do some-

56. Sao \_\_, city in Brazil 57. Mustachioed actor

59. American Idol runner-up 20. Wrongful act

55. A way to carve

60. A way to soak

62. Born of 63. Time zone

64. Sea eagle

65. Even's opposite

61. Car mechanics group

### **AARP Virginia Fraud Alert: IRS Scams** Tax season isn't just about However,

filing returns; it's also prime time for IRS impostor scams. According to the Federal Trade Commission, consumers reported theft of \$5.8 million via these scams in 2023 alone. Here is what you need to know about IRS impostors so you can stay one step ahead of these

IRS impostor scams often begin with a robocall, instructing you to press a number on your keypad to talk with a live agent or call back using the number provided. Victims often trust these contacts because the phone numbers seem legitimate.

42. Keep under control

47. A way to go down

51. Collected fallen leaves

52. Shout of welcome or

48. Type of acid

49. Take by force

53. Monetary unit

58. Swiss river

43. Herb

farewell

manipulate caller ID to appear as though the call is coming from the IRS.

Once they have you on the phone, they may demand payment for back taxes under the threat of arrest. The payment of choice in these scams tends to be via wire transfer, gift cards, or cryptocurrency. If you get this type of request, it is 100% certainly a scam.

Sometimes these impostors will claim the IRS owes you unexpected refund in an attempt to steal sensitive information like your Social Security number or bank account details.

Even if a caller has personally identifiable information of yours to "prove" who they are, don't believe it. Disengage, and if you're concerned, contact the entity via a trusted number (a paper statement or by finding a number on that entity's

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

Report scams to local law enforcement. For help from AARP, call 1-877-908-3360 or visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/ fraudwatchnetwork.

AARP Virginia

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11. Everyone has one 12. Brew				46. About aviation 47. Low oval mound 50. Rugged mountain			5. Ottoman military title 6. Banes				2	40. Artful subtlety 41. Infielders			

7. Horse-riding seats

18. Portray in a show

27. State of agitation

32. The NBA's Toppin

\_\_ Diego

31. 007's creator

17. Variety of Chinese language

29. One point east of due south

33. Midway between north and

9. Narrow path along a road edge 44. Distressed

8. Arms of a shirt

13. Viper

14. Disfigure

22. No (slang)

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News Messenger

### RADFORD News Journal The early savegar day you had one than

#### For Sale - Musical

#### **FOR SALE**

Gibson 5-string Earl Scruggs Banjo, Model 49 Classic, sold for \$5,000 in 2014. Price, \$4,500. 540-797-6647

#### Legals - Botetourt County

#### **ABC NOTICE**

HEATHER BURNETTE trading as Mrs. B's Restaurant and Bar, 19857 Main Street, Buchanan, Botetourt County, VA. 24066.

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

Heather Burnette

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

#### Order of **Publication** Commonwealth of Virginia

VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,20-104 Case No. CL24-69 VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT

**COUNTY OF** BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA, a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia Complainant, V. WILLIAM H. SMITH, ET AL., Respondent(s)

The object of this suit is to: Enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Botetourt, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Botetourt, Virginia described as follows: Tax Map No. 102(2)4 Account No. 11709

All that certain tract or parcel of land, lying and being the Blue Ridge Magisterial District, Botetourt County, Virginia, and more particularly described as follows, to-wit: All that certain tract or parcel of land containing 6.9 acres, more or less, designated as Lot No. 4, as shown on plat entitled "Plat of the john A. Orange Tract", dated August 1941, made by S.S. Lynn, S.C.S., of record in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, in Plat Book 2, at Page 82 Together with a perpetual right of way and easement for the purpose of ingress and egress from the land herein described to the

public road. And being the same property conveyed to . William H. Smith from Hubert J. Orange and Mary Frances Orange, his wife by deed dated January 10, 1978, and recorded February 2, 1978, in the

Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, in Deed Book 241 at Page 257.

This description is made subject to all easements. conditions, agreements, restrictions, and

reservations of record which affect the property herein described including but not limited to those recorded in Deed Book 186, at Page 355 and Deed Book 242, at Page 30.

IT APPEARING that an affidavit has been made and filed stating that the due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served.

that the last known addresses for the Respondents herein are as

follows: William H. Smith, who is believed to be deceased

and whose last address is unknown; Emily M. Smith, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the Respondent named herein are made parties Respondent to this action individually and/or by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is

hereby ORDERED that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained appear on or before May 6, 2024 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of

#### Legals - Botetourt County

Botetourt, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause

Entered on the 21st day of March, 2024 T. Moore Clerk

I ask for this: Seth Konopasek, Esq. (VSB No. 97065) John A. Rife, Esq. (VSB No 45805 Jeffery A. Scharf, Esq.(VSB No.30591) Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No.27409) Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372) Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609) Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158) Garrett w. Patton, Esq. (VSB No. 98345) Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC P.O. 31800

#### Legals - City of Radford

Henrico, Virginia 23294-

1800

Phone: (804)864-0080 TACS No.: 924110

#### Order of **Publication**

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,20-104 Civil Case No. CL24-7298 VIRGINIA: IN THE **CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE** 

CITY OF RADFORD THE CITY OF RADFORD, VIRGINIA, Plaintiff vs. the heirs and devisees of ORA FAYE CUNNIGHAM, deceased

The heirs and devisees of ANNA MAYE D. BANNERMAN, deceased HARRY M. BANNERMAN, JR. DAVID HUGGINS

Defendants

ORDER OF PUBLICATION The object of this suit is to: ENFORCE THE LIEN OF THE Plaintiff for delinquent taxes against certain real estate described as follows: All that certain tract of land in the City of Radford, Virginia, being Lot No. 10, Block G Baldwin Land Company, and designated as Tax Map Number 3-(7)-BLKG-10

Standing in the name of Ora Faye Cunningham, pursuant to Section 58.1-3965 et seq. of the Code of Virginia.

And an affidavit having been filed that due diligence has been used to ascertain the names and location of all of the heirs, devisees and successors in title of Ora Faye Cunnigham, Phyllis Davis, and Anna Maye D. Bannerman; that there are or may be other persons having an interest in the real estate forming the subject matter of this suit whose names and last post office addresses are unknown, namely, the unknown heirs, devisees and successors in title of Ora Faye Cunnigham, Phyllis Davis, and Anna

Mave D. Bannerman: that Harry M. Bannerman, Jr. is a nonresident of the state of Virginia, whose last known post office address is 2010

NW 106<sup>th</sup> Avenue Pembroke Pines. FL 33026: that David Huggins is a nonresident of the state of Virginia, whose last known post office address is 3 Center Street, Glen Cove, NY 11542

It is ORDERED that this order be published once a week for two successive weeks in the Radford News Journal and that the parties named herein appear on or before May 27, 2024, at 9:30 am in the clerk's office of the Circuit Court for the City of Radford, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interest in this suit.

Enter: this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024 Angel Turpin DC Clerk I ask for this: James W. Elliot p.q. Attorney at Law P.O. Box 1410 Yorktown,

#### VA 23692 (757) 898-7000 City of Radford 2024

#### Annual Action Plan Community

#### **Development Block Grant Programs** Notice of Public **Comment Period**

guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the City of Radford seek public comment on the proposed draft of the 2024 Annual Action Plan for the City of Radford's

In accordance with

#### Legals - City of Radford

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

The Annual Action Plan provides a yearly accounting of CDBG, and other funds allocated towards the implementation of objectives outlined in the Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan identifies community needs and proposed solutions in the areas of Housing, Special Needs, Economic Development and Non-Housing Community Development. CDBG activities benefit

the City, taking into consideration the public input received Funding for the 2024 fiscal vear is estimated at \$231,683 for the CDBG program. That of which \$27,000 has been rolled from prior year

low and moderate- income

persons by making

improvements throughout

The proposed Housing and Community Development goals for 2024 are: 1) Support affordable housing 2) Prevent and end

allocations

homelessness 3) Support non-homeless special needs Proposed use of 2024 CDBG funds: Emergency Home Repair -

\$40,000

Beautification - \$23,300 Façade Program - \$10,000 Public Facility Water/Sewer imp - \$100,532 New River Community Action - \$7,900 Women's Resource Center of the NRV - \$7,900

Radford-Fairlawn Daily Bread - \$7.900 Bobcat Back Pack Program - \$4,000 August Kids - \$3,000 Program Administration -\$27,151

CDBG TOTAL - \$231,683

The draft 2024 Annual Action Plan can be reviewed on the City's website at https://www.radfordva.gov/ Radford City Community Development office is soliciting comments on the City's housing and community development needs during a thirty (30) day comment period beginning April 13, 2024, and ending May 13,

A public comment meeting will be held on Monday. April 22, 2024 at 7:00pm in the City Council Chamber's, at 10 Robertson Street, Radford, VA. Comments may also be given via e-mail to: Melissa.Skelton@radfordva. gov, by phone at (540) 267-3188 or by mail to Community Development, 10 Robertson Street. Radford, VA 24141. Comments must be

2024.

received by 5:00pm May 13, 2024. Accommodations for persons with disabilities and non-English speaking residents will be provided upon request. For additional information please call (540) 267-3188.

#### Legals - City of Salem

#### Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem,

at its regular meeting on Monday, April 22, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM. VIRGINIA:

1. Consider the request of PHC of Virginia, LLC/Acadia Healthcare, Mt Regis Center, property owner, for the amendment of the Use Not Provided For permit to allow additions to the outpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment center on the property located at 125 Knotbreak Road, (Tax Map # 148-1-5).

If approved, Salem City Council intends to adopt the ordinance(s) associated with the above item(s) on first reading, with a second reading of those ordinance(s) at a subsequent meeting.

Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development,

#### Legals - City of Salem

21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia. At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY:

H. Robert Light Clerk of Council

#### Order of **Publication**

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,20-104 Case No. CL24000383

ROANOKE COUNTY Circuit Court, 305 EAST MAIN STREET, SALEM, VA 24153 in re LILLIAN MAY **RICHARDSON** 

The object of this suit is to:

NAME CHANGE FOR MINOR. It is ORDERED that AMBER MARIE RICHARDSON AND WILLIAM JOSEPH RICHARDSON appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on

MAY 9, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.

MARCH 22,2024 Jennifer J. West Deputy Clerk

#### **LEGAL NOTICE** Willingness to Hold a Public Hearing **Elizabeth Campus** Greenway

The City of Salem is proposing to construct a new 10' wide multi-use greenway trail through the Elizabeth Campus of Roanoke College. The proposed trail would begin at the brick pathway located at 324 Idaho Street, travel in a northerly direction along Idaho Street, radius around onto Lynchburg Turnpike and continue in an easterly direction to Kime Lane, where it would dead end

This is part of the larger regional Roanoke River and Mason Creek Greenway Trail system. This project is funded through the Virginia

into the YMCA.

Department of Transportation (VDOT) Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and being developed through the Locally Administered Projects (LAP) Program.

To view plans for the project, visit the web at https://www.salemva.gov/76 7/Projects or go by the City of Salem's Community Development Office, located at 21 S. Bruffey Street. Please call (540) 375-3032 or email Will Simpson (wsimpson@salemva.gov) or Josh Pratt (jpratt@salemva.gov) to

schedule a time to

view the plans or if you

have any additional questions If your questions or concerns cannot be addressed through discussions with staff, the City is willing to hold a public hearing. You can request that a public hearing be held by sending a written request to: William L. Simpson, Jr., PE

City Engineer P.O. Box 869 Salem. VA 24153 Requests for a public hearing must be received on or prior to April 26, 2024. If any requests for a public hearing are received prior to this date, a notice will be posted on the City's website detailing the date,

time, and location of the public hearing. Project Number: UPC 113566; FHWA # RSTP-5128 (431, 505, 506)

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Salem, Virginia will hold a public hearing, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2309 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, on April 24, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, to consider the following applications.

The request of Donna L. Musgrave, property owner, for a variance from Section 106-202.3(B)(1) of the City of Salem Zoning Ordinance pertaining to site development regulations, for the property located at 805 Honevsuckle Road. Tax Map # 45-2-1. Section 106-202.3(B)(1) requires the front yard setback to be

#### Legals - City of Salem

twenty-five (25) feet. The petitioner is therefore requesting a variance of sixteen (16) feet of front yard setback to allow the construction of an attached garage.

At this hearing, all parties in interest will be given an opportunity to be heard. present evidence, and show cause why such requests should or should not be granted. For additional information, contact the Office of the Zoning Administrator, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia (Phone 3753032).

THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM

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

#### Legals - Craig County **{TRUSTEE'S SALE**

#### 78 The Lane, New Castle, VA 24127

Tax Map No: 58-1-14 In execution of a Credit Line Deed of Trust dated January 26, 2012, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for Craig County, Virginia, as Instrument No. 120000054, the

Substitute Trustee will offer the above-described property for sale to the highest bidder at public auction on the date and time referenced below.

Lot No. 14 of Aps Knob

Subdivision as laid down in a plat prepared by Draper-Aden Associations, Inc. of Blacksburg, Virginia, said plat being of record in the Clerk's Office of Craig County, New Castle Virginia, in Deed Book 43, page 45, reference is hereby made to the abovementioned plat for a more particular description

The hereinabove described property is subject to restrictions and reservation recorded in Deed Book 96, page 642 in the aforesaid Clerk's Office. Date of Sale: April 17, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the

Craig County Circuit Court, 182 Main Street, Suite 4 New Castle, VA 24127.

Terms: CASH: a deposit in the form of certified funds in the amount of \$10,000 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower. Settlement within thirty (30) days of date of sale. Time is of the essence.

#### OPTIONS: 1. All costs of conveyance, examination of title, recording charges, etc. will be at cost of purchaser with the exception of the grantor's tax. Neither the Substitute Trustee nor any other party guarantees or covenants to deliver or in any way to obtain possession of the premises for any third party

purchaser.

2. The Substitute Trustee reserves the right to reject all bids, extend the time to receive bids or withdraw the property from sale at any time. In addition. should the Substitute Trustee be unable, for any reason, in its sole discretion, to convey title the successful bidder's sole remedy in law or equity shall be the return of his deposit. Upon refund of the deposit, the sale shall be void and of no effect.

Additional terms may be announced at the time of the sale. The Substitute Trustee will convey the above-described property to the purchaser(s) by Special Warranty deed at settlement and makes no additional representations or warranties of any kind regarding the title to said property John K. Prillaman, Esq. Substitute Trustee For Information Contact:

#### Legals -**Montgomery County**

John K. Prillaman, Esq.

OPN LAW

3140 Chaparral Drive

Roanoke, Virginia 24018

(540) 725-8194

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED **REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT: 4916** Pilot Road, Pilot,

### **Montgomery County**

#### VA 24134 **COUNTY OF** MONTGOMERY

Parcel ID: 012435/Tax Map# 131-A-90 IN EXECUTION OF A DEED OF TRUST IN THE ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$93,000.00 DATED THE 22nd DAY OF APRIL, 2021, RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT **COURT OF** MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AS INSTRUMENT NO. 2021-4295, DATED APRIL 22, 2021, DEFAULT HAVING OCCURRED IN

THE PAYMENT OF THE NOTE SECURED THEREBY, AND AT THE REQUEST OF THE HOLDER OF THE NOTE THE UNDERSIGNED SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE WILL OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, LOCATED AT: 55 EAST MAIN STREET, CHRISTIANSBURG VIRGINIA 24073, ON 22ND

DAY OF APRIL, 2024 AT 10:30 A.M., THE REAL **ESTATE WITH IMPROVEMENTS** THEREON, LYING AND BEING SITUATE IN THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY STATE OF VIRGINIA AND MORE PARTICULARLY

**DESCRIBED AS** FOLLOWS: BEING Tract No. 1, containing 1.0957 acre, as shown on plat entitled, "Carl N. McNeil and Jeanne H. Stosser 2.1373 acre (total) located on Rte. 615 Shawsville Mag. Dist. Montgomery County, Virginia" dated August 16,

1978, prepared by L.J. Quesenberry, land surveyor, designated Job No. 190, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, in Deed Book 404, Page 625. Tax Map# 131-A-90 / Parcel ID: 012435 Address: 4916 Pilot Road, Pilot, VA

SALE WILL BE MADE SUBJECT TO ALL **EXISTING FASEMENTS** AND RESTRICTIVE **COVENANTS** AS THE SAME MAY LAWFULLY AFFECT THE **REAL ESTATE** TERMS OF SALE:

CERTIFIED FUNDS OR CASHIER'S CHECK A BIDDER'S DEPOSIT OF TEN PERCENT (10%) OI THE SALES PRICE, WITH **FULL SETTLEMENT TO** BE MADE WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS FROM DATE OF SALE ADDITIONAL TERMS MAY

BE ANNOUNCED AT THE TIME OF SALE THIS NOTICE IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLACE OF SALE: FRONT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 55 EAST

MAIN STREET CHRISTIANSBURG VIRGINIA 24073DATE OF SALE: APRIL 22, 2024 TIME OF SALE: 10:30 AM Daniel D. Hamrick, PC, Trustee

By: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent for Daniel D. Hamrick, P.C.,

Trustee

**NOTICE OF** 

104 South Franklin Street Christiansburg, VA 24073 (540) 382-0131

#### TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL ESTATE **LOCATED AT: 167** Penny Royal Road, Pilot, VA 24134 COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY Parcel ID: 012692/Tax Map# 131-A-26

IN EXECUTION OF A DEED OF TRUST IN THE ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$39,920.00, DATED THE 25th DAY OF JUNE, 2021, RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AS INSTRUMENT NO. 2021-6796, DATED JUNE 25, 2021, DEFAULT HAVING OCCURRED IN THE PAYMENT OF THE NOTE SECURED THEREBY, AND AT THE REQUEST OF THE HOLDER OF THE NOTE, THE **UNDERSIGNED** SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE,

#### Legals -Montgomery County WILL OFFER FOR SALE

AT PUBLIC AUCTION AT

THE ENTRANCE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY LOCATED AT: 55 EAST MAIN STREET, **CHRISTIANSBURG** VIRGINIA 24073, ON 22ND DAY OF APRIL, 2024 AT 10:00 A.M., THE REAL ESTATE WITH **IMPROVEMENTS** THEREON, LYING AND BEING SITUATE IN THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, STATE OF VIRGINIA AND MORE **PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS** FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING at an iron

stake on the south side of private roadway and a corner to the Sutphin place (now Cole): thence with said roadway in the line with the party of the first part 481 feet in a westerly direction to an iron stake: corner to the yard fence of the party of the first part; thence along a line with the yard fence 205 feet to a southerly direction to an iron stake, corner to G.W. Miller: thence with the line of G.W Miller in an easterly direction 526 feet to a point of BEGINNING, the said trace of land containing 2-1/4 acres of land, more or

Tax Map# 131-A-26 / Parcel ID: 012692 Address: 167 Penny Royal Road, Pilot, VA 24138

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SUBJECT TO ALL

less

EXISTING EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS AS THE SAME MAY LAWFULLY AFFECT THE REAL ESTATE. TERMS OF SALE: CERTIFIED FUNDS OR

CASHIER'S CHECK. A

BIDDER'S DEPOSIT OF

TEN PERCENT (10%) OF

THE SALES PRICE, WITH **FULL SETTLEMENT TO** BE MADE WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS FROM DATE OF SALE. ADDITIONAL TERMS MAY BE ANNOUNCED AT THE

TIME OF SALE.

THIS NOTICE IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

PLACE OF SALE: FRONT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 55 EAST MAIN STREET **CHRISTIANSBURG** VIRGINIA 24073 DATE OF SALE: APRIL 22, 2024 TIME OF SALE:10:00 AM Daniel D. Hamrick, PC Substitute Trustee

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

#### Order of **Publication** Commonwealth of Virginia

VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104 Case No. CL23001822-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia. in re BRENDA MARIE BRIDGES v. SCOTT THOMAS **BRIDGES** The object of this suit is to:

DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that SCOTT THOMAS BRIDGES appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MAY 8TH, 2024.

March 5, 2024 Robert M.D. Turk, Judge

Signed

#### Order of Publication Commonwealth of Virginia

VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-

316 20-104 Case No. CL24000402-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re JOHANNA RENEE PHILLIPS v. MICHAEL DWAYNE PHILLIPS. The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that MICHAEL DWAYNE PHILLIPS appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MAY 15, 2024. MARCH 13, 2024 Robert M.D. Turk, Judge

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# Montgomery Sports



The Hokies welcome back multiple starters on the defensive side of the ball, especially in the secondary while retooling along the interior.

### Hokie football preview: What might the defense hold? Editor's note: It is less than a week until

this year's Virginia Tech Spring football game. So today, we continue a look at what the team could look like.

Having already previewed what Virginia Tech looks like on the offensive side of the ball, the reason for momentum doesn't stop there.

The Hokies bring back some key contributors on the defensive end, with plenty of newcomers coming in as well. Let's take a quick glance at what Tech could look like on that side of the ball.

#### **Defensive Line**

Defensive line coach J.C. Price is set to possess a collection of talent up front this upcoming year. The Hokies return the likes of Antwaun Powell-Ryland, Cole Nelson, C.J. McCray and Keyshawn Burgos at the defensive end spot, while also welcoming back the veteran duo of Josh Fuga and Wilfried Pene at the defensive tackle position.

Powell-Ryland is coming off an impressive first season suiting up in maroon and orange. The Florida transfer registered 14.5 tackles for loss in 2023, sacking the quarterback a team-best 9.5 times over the course of the year.

Nelson, on the other hand, had a strong campaign as well. The Johns Creek, Georgia, product racked up 27 total tackles a season ago, securing 4.5 sacks of his own and serving as a key piece on the defensive front.

That's not without mentioning the impact of McCray, Burgos, Fuga and Pene, too. McCray posted 21 total tackles a year ago, while Burgos (17), Fuga (13) and Pene (10) all played an important

role in Tech's success in 2023. You can't forget about the transfer additions either. Tech brought in the trio of Aeneas Peebles (Duke), Kelvin Gilliam Jr. (Oklahoma) and Kemari Copeland (Iowa Western Community College) this

past offseason to help retool. Peebles was a member of the 2023 All-ACC Third Team this past season suiting up for the Blue Devils, while Gilliam, a Richmond, Virginia, native, and Copeland, a Virginia Beach, Virginia, product, all eye a big year returning to the Commonwealth in the next step of their college careers.

#### Linebackers/Stars

Gone is sixth-year man Alan Tisdale, who helped steer the ship at the linebacker spot, but nearly everyone else returns, including Keli Lawson, Keonta Jenkins, Jayden McDonald, Jaden Keller, Caleb Woodson and Will Johnson, who all made an impact in 2023.

Lawson's forced to miss the entirety of spring ball after offseason surgery, but

is poised to make a big impact following his return. The 6-foot-4, 220-pounder finished the year with a team-high 80 total tackles (39 solo), showcasing his skills and athleticism at the highest of levels in his time on the field.

Jenkins and McDonald both were crucial throughout the year as well. Jenkins recorded 50 total tackles, with 30 solo stops, over the course of the campaign, while McDonald had 30 total wrap-ups and 11 solo in his redshirt sophomore season.

Keller (23 total tackles), Woodson (22) and Johnson (9) each contributed, too, while redshirt freshman Aycen Stevens and freshman Gabe Williams all seek to slide in and make their college debuts.

That's also all without mentioning e addition of Middle Tennessee transfer Sam Brumfield. The redshirt senior linebacker was named to the All-Conference USA Second Team a season ago, completing the year with a teamhigh 81 tackles and 6.5 tackles for loss. With Brumfield's abilities, he's set to play a pivotal role in 2024, and could be a big add if all goes well this upcoming year.

#### **Defensive Backs**

Filled with promise and prize heading into phase two, there's much to like about what Tech's set to trot out onto the field in the defensive backs room in 2024.

The Hokies welcome back a laundry list of accolades at the cornerback position with both Dorian Strong and Mansoor Delane returning to the fold, while Jalen Stroman, Jaylen Jones and Mose Phillips III are set to suit up at safety after seeing time last year.

Strong was awarded Third Team All-ACC after putting up 25 total tackles (18 solo) and three interceptions a season ago, while also being named one of Pro Football Focus' top-10 returning cornerbacks in 2024.

On the flip side, Delane tallied 54 total wrap-ups and 31 solo stops in 2023 and is poised for another big season this upcoming year.

Stroman also had himself a solid campaign. The Bristow, Virginia, native finished third on the team with 55 total tackles, while Jones (34) and Phillips (27) each adjusted nicely to both their first seasons manning the position at the collegiate ranks.

Let's not forget about Dante Lovett and Braylon Johnson also returning to the mix, while redshirt freshmen Krystian Williams, Jonathan Pennix, Thomas Williams, Antonio Cotman Jr. and Cameren Fleming all aim to earn a

Virginia Tech Athletics

### Women's basketball gaining in popularity this year



From the Sidelines

Marty Gordon

The increase in popularity for women's college basketball can be seen in our own

Cassell Coliseum was sold out not just for one game but as many as six this season. The "queens of the Cassell" did not disappoint. Their winning ways led to a lot attention on a sport that has been waiting for its due.

Women's basketball received the increase in attention thanks to players like Caitlyn Clark (University of Iowa) and Angel Reese (LSU). At Tech, Liz Kitley and Georgia Amoore should also be congratulated for helping the sport. The Hokies brought the sport up to elite status, and we have to hope this is not a passing trend.

Clark turned not only the women's game upside down but the college one in general. Those accolades included:

Named preseason Big Ten Player of the

Unanimous AP preseason All-America selection

Became Iowa's all-time leading scorer Achieved most 30-point games by any man or woman in Division I in the past 25

Shared The Sporting News Athlete of the Year honors with Angel Reese of LSU Became Big Ten's all-time leader in assists

Became Iowa's all-time leader in assists Broke Big Ten Player of the Week

conference record Broke Big Ten all-time scoring record Became Division I women's career scoring

Broke Iowa's single-game scoring record Became all-time leader in points among

major women's college basketball playersSet Big Ten career record for 3-pointers Set NCAA single-season record for 3-pointers

Became all-time NCAA Division I men's and women's scoring leader Unanimous Big Ten Player of the Year

Named first-team All-Big Ten

Achieved most three-pointers in a single season by any male or female Division I player Became the first Division I women's player

to score at least 1,000 points in two different Became career leading scorer in the Big

Ten tournament Named Most Outstanding Player in Big

Ten tournament Achieved most points in single season in

Division I women's history

Passed Temeka Johnson for the most career assists in NCAA tournament history Passed Diana Taurasi for the most career

3-pt FG in NCAA tournament history Tied Courtney Moses for the most threes

in a game in NCAA tournament history Became first player in NCAA tournament

history with 3 career 40-point games Passed Taylor Robertson for most career

3-pt FG in Division I history Named Albany 2 Regional Most Outstanding Player

Won Naismith Player of the Year for the

second year in a row Won AP Player of the Year for the second

Achieved the most points in a single

quarter of an NCAA championship game` Passed Chamique Holdsclaw for the most

career NCAA tournament points Clark will remembered as one the best to

ever play the game. Hopefully, her popularity will encourage young girls everywhere to take It was the attention to her game that brought not basketball fans to the table or

should we say to the coffee table to watch games this season and it showed in Iowa's last two this past week. The women's championship game last year between Iowa and LSU reached 9.9 million

viewers - the best rating ever for a women's game at the time, and an increase of 103% from 2022 (4.85 million viewers). Iowa's 94-87 victory over LSU this past week averaged 12.3 million viewers on ESPN, according to

The Iowa-LSU game's record unseated the 1983 National Championship game that previously held the record with 11.86 million

The game had more viewers than any of the five World Series games from last year. Women's college basketball has come a

long way baby and should only continue this climb. Who will be the next Caitlyn Clark or in our neck of the woods, Liz Kitley or Georgia Amoore? We see you.

### Sports notes: Former Highlander coach takes over in Miami

**Marty Gordon** 

NRV sports@ourvalley.org

The University of Miami has hired Tricia Cullop as head women's basketball coach, Vice President/Director of Athletics Dan Radakovich announced Friday.

Cullop comes to Coral Gables after spending the past 16 seasons as the head coach at the University of Toledo, where she compiled a record of 353-169. The six-time Mid-American Conference Coach of the Year led the Rockets to five MAC regular season championships and 11 postseason berths, including two trips to the NCAA Tournament. Prior to Toledo, Cullop spent eight seasons as the head coach at the University of Evansville.

Cullop is the eighth head women's basketball coach in Miami history. Her introductory press conference will take place this week at a date and time to be announced.

Miami's new coach is familiar to many people in the New River Valley as a former assistant t Radford University during a time when the Highlanders were a regular in the Big South championship game.

Cullop was an assistant women's basketball coach at Radford, Long Beach State, and Xavier, before taking over as head coach of Evansville in 2000.

Dominy running at Milligan

It was a successful trip to the Tennessee Invite as the Milligan University men's and women's track & field teams collected three top times in the NAIA, nine top-10 finishes, and 12 personal bests. One of the top runners on the women's side of things was Auburn High School alum Caitlyn

She scored the ninth-fastest time in the 1500 with a time of 4:35.20 as she finished ninth in the event. She followed that with the 14th-fastest time in the NAIA in the 800, logging a personal best time of 2:17.69.

This comes on the heels of Dominy being named the Appalachian Athletic Conference (AAC) Women's Outdoor Track Athlete of the Week.

Worley, UK advance

Seven-seed Kentucky gymnastics has advanced to the NCAA Regional Final at Bud Walton Arena in Fayetteville, Ark. following a 197.100 semifinal meet on Thursday.

Fifth-year senior Raena Worley from Christiansburg earned her 30th career allaround title and 27th floor individual win.

UK Coach Heather McAtee has been named WCGA Central Region Administrator of the Year while Worley was named WCGA Central Regional Athlete of the Year, the Women's Collegiate Gymnastics Association announced this week.

## Tech football takes part in Saturday's Big Event



Several Hokie football players took part in Virginia Tech's The Big Event this past Saturday.

nearly 1,200 community service projects throughout Blacksburg, Christiansburg and the New River Valley with the purpose of saying Thank You.

Head coach Brent Pry spoke during the opening ceremony at the Drillfield, highlighting the importance of giving back to the community.

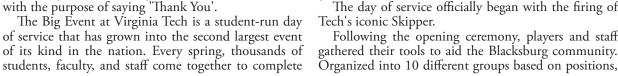
The fact that you're giving back to the community that fills the stadium, that supports you," Pry stated during a team meeting Saturday morning. "It's really a great event for us."

The day of service officially began with the firing of Tech's iconic Skipper. Following the opening ceremony, players and staff players engaged in diverse acts of service, including mulching and weeding, planting fruit trees, painting and repairing sheds, cleaning at a local church and refurbishing furniture for residents.

"That's what it's called being a Hokie," defensive lineman Elijah Klock reflected while conducting yard work. "Blue collar.'

The Hokies' hard-working blue-collar mentality will continue with the upcoming spring game, presented by PMSI, set for Saturday, April 13, at 3 p.m. ET. In collaboration with Triumph NIL and The Hokie Way, fans are encouraged to participate in the NIL initiative of their choosing.

Virginia Tech Athletics



The Virginia Tech Football team took a great

The Big Event at Virginia Tech is a student-run day

of service that has grown into the second-largest event

of its kind in the nation. Every spring, thousands of

students, faculty, and staff come together to complete

nearly 1,200 community service projects throughout

Blacksburg, Christiansburg and the New River Valley,

opportunity this past Saturday to give back to the local

community by participating in The Big Event across the

Football coach Brent Pry motivates the crowd during opening ceremonies of the Big Event.

### Outdoor report: Spring turkey hunting on public land



Wild turkeys are undoubtedly one of the most challenging game species.

They're wary and heedful, making it difficult for

"Knowing where the turkeys are located is more

a hunter to remain veiled. Hunting a spring gobbler

doesn't wholly depend on the equipment used to

important than having the best turkey call in your

pocket," said Gary Norman, Virginia Department

of Wildlife Resources (DWR) wildlife biologist and

It's important to scout an area right before the

'Second is being patient with turkey hunting.

season starts. Scouting can set you up to being

successful, especially during the early part of the

Hunters are often anxious and move to another

location if a gobbler isn't responding," says Norman,

who encourages hunters to arrive to their hunting

destination early (before other hunters), to have a higher chance of being successful on public land.

It's important to scout an area before the season

Norman says one of the best times to hunt the

Virginia spring turkey season is the last week in

April, which is the peak of hen incubation. When

hens aren't available to the gobblers, the gobblers

Is it truly possible to bag a bird on public land?

Despite the negative reputation that public

forest game bird project leader.

strutting this spring.

great turkey in the state. With public lands, you just need to do your homework - it's a gold mine for us! That's the part people overlook," says Hank Tassitano, an avid public land user.

hour before sunrise to sunset.

Tassitano has been hunting public land in Virginia for nearly 20 years, tagging out on spring turkeys. He says that national forest opportunities are a treasure, but only with persistence.

patterns of the game. You must do all these things when the woods are an open book. Get out and do Tassitano emphasizes that scouting and becoming familiar with the area that the birds are traveling

prior to the season is vital for success. But, he says,

trail cameras are valuable if time doesn't permit.

"As soon as deer season ends, I'm in the woods.

Looking for what I missed, turkey sign, or change in

"As a hunter, step back, look at what other hunters are doing and avoid them, because there's plenty of room. Go way back up in there," says Tassitano, who encourages hunters to go off-the-beaten-path in pursuit of gobblers. "There's access points on public lands that are untouched. You'd be surprised.'

Old logging roads are among the primary areas that a gobbler will be found strutting.

On national forest, hunting hillsides, old logging roads, ridge points, or benches off a mountain side are the primary areas that a gobbler will be found strutting. The open range allows them to be seen by the hen while also protecting them from predators.

Tassitano says that his success rate for bagging a bird increased by nearly 75% when he began hunting from a pop-up blind on a hillside. Though tactics

Virginia's spring turkey season runs April 13–28, statewide one half hour before sunrise

until 12 noon each day. A second time period funs April 29 through May 18, One half-

differ for every hunter, the blind is an advantage

when it's tough to flip around locations in steep

terrain of public forest, or in light foliage (during the early part of the season). Safety on Public Land

Safety is the most important component when hunting on public land. Hunting is relatively safe when looking at it statistically, but the consequences are severe when someone is injured. David Dodson, Hunter Education Program Manager at DWR, explains how to minimize hunting-related accidents

"One of the most important things is to sit and call the turkey to you instead of stalking the turkey,"

Hunting tactics are constantly dynamic, and new

hunting techniques in pursuit of a bird should be performed with caution. "Using turkey decoys of any kind, especially gobbler decoys, a hunter needs to be extremely

careful and ensure you're not in the line-of-fire to anyone shooting at the decoy," says Dodson. Dodson says if you see another hunter while hunting, remain still and call out, so the hunter

doesn't mistake you for a turkey. "Make sure of your target and what's behind it before shooting - that's the number one rule for

turkey season," says Dodson. Remember, if you are hunting spring turkey season in Virginia, a hunter must use #2 fine shot or smaller.

Emily George, Virginia DWR

hunting land often receives, success on public land does exist if you are committed. "We have so much land and opportunity with **CROSSWORD ANSWERS** 

respond to calls.

# Hokie Club has record-breaking year

to announce that the 2024 Drive Year, spanning from previous high of \$21.02 million in 2016. March 2, 2023 to March 1, 2024, concluded a recordbreaking fundraising period, supporting all Hokie Hokie Nation is always amazing and student-athletes in Blacksburg.

After a final tally, Virginia Tech saw 25,775 Hokie Club members give this drive year, surpassing twentyfive thousand donors for the third consecutive drive year. Hokie Club members provided more than \$22.2 million

Virginia Tech Athletics and the Hokie Club are excited in total annual support, surpassing our

"The outpouring of support from this year delivered incredible results yet again," said Whit Babcock, VT Director of Athletics. "Every year our fans prove how bought in they are to the idea of building the best future for our studentathletes in Blacksburg. We could not be more proud of the 25,775 Hokies who made an impact on the lives of our student-athletes this year.'

Hokie Scholarship Fund

The 2024 Drive Year was, by far, the most successful year of fundraising for the Hokie Scholarship Fund. Designed to cover the growing cost of studentathlete scholarships in Blacksburg, the Hokie Scholarship Fund accumulated \$19.4 million in the 2024 Drive Year. This breaks the previous record of \$17.1 million for the Hokie Scholarship Fund set in 2022. To go along with the recordbreaking fundraising total for the Hokie Scholarship Fund, the Hokie Club also saw a 92% renewal rate from its top 5,000 donors, proving once again the loyalty of Hokies.

We are excited about and humbled by the support shown by all donors to the Hokie Club," said Brad Wurthman, Executive Associate AD/External Affairs and Advancement. "A tremendous effort by all involved produced a tremendous result and we are so thankful for everyone who participated in this achievement. We

do not need one person to do everything. We need everyone to do something and Hokie Nation responded once again.'

Drive for 25

The Hokie Club surpassed 25,000 donors for the third consecutive year, once again surpassing the goal originally set in 2016. This number puts Virginia Tech near the top of the ACC in total donors. The Hokie Club was comprised of approximately 9,000 donors when the Drive for 25 was announced back in 2016, a testament to what can be achieved when all work together.

**Sport-Specific Giving** Fundraising for sport-specific budgets

also finished at record-highs at the conclusion of the 2024 Drive Year. Hokie Club donors supplied over \$2.2 million in sport-specific gifts which directly supports programmatic needs of all varsity sports in Blacksburg. This number was greatly assisted by Hokie Nation's participation in Triumph Together and the university's Giving Day in August 2023 and February 2024, respectively.

Reach for Excellence

The Reach for Excellence campaign progressed even further towards its overall \$400 million goal in Drive Year 2024. The campaign has surged well past its halfway mark since its inception in April 2021. Reach for Excellence runs as part of the university's \$1.5 billion Boundless Impact campaign.

Virginia Tech Athletics



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

Adelaide is ready to head to a home with humans who can give her time to adjust and grow her confidence. She tends to be a little unsure of new sights and sounds, but when she starts feeling comfortable, her tail gets wagging and she shows off her sweet personality.



Culchie would like to be a lap dog. Depending on the size of the lap, his dreams could come true! He's a friendly boy who could use some basic doggie training. Culchie appears to enjoy affection over treats. Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center to meet him.