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Wednesday, April 17, 2024

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School Board passes resolution requiring schools to notify families of safe gun storage measures

Montgomery County School Board has voted unanimously to pass a resolution

Blacksburg

promoting the safe storage of guns.

During the April 9, 2024 school board meeting, MCPS Superintendent Dr. Bernard Bragen, Jr. said 4.7 million American children live in households with guns. By passing this resolution, MCPS will now take action to notify parents of their responsibility to store firearms safely.

"As educators, our main priority is keeping our children and staff safe," Bragen said. "If there's a way to be proactive and potentially save lives, it's worth looking into. Passing this resolution will help us remind our parents and guardians how important it is to keep firearms away from children."

"I'm proud of our efforts to raise awareness of gun safety and the impact it has on our students," MCPS School Board Chair Linwood Hudson said. "Keeping our students safe is our top priority, and this resolution highlights that keeping kids safe from guns is a responsibility shared throughout our community. I'd like to see more awareness of this issue across the county, but this resolution is a good start. I want to thank Dr. Bragen and his administration for making this a priority. "

With the approval of this resolution, MCPS will communicate with parents to remind them of how to keep firearms safe from children. MCPS is not alone in its mission. The district is committed to working with local and national agencies to increase awareness of gun storage through various communication efforts.

According to Virginia Code 18.2-56.2., "it shall be unlawful for any person to recklessly leave a loaded, unsecured firearm in such a manner as to endanger the life or limb of any child under the age of 14. Any person violating the provisions of this subsection shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor."

Montgomery County Public Schools



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF MCPS



Members of the Blacksburg Town Council include (back row) Liam Watson, Susan Mattingly and Jerry Ford and (front row) Vice Mayor Michael Sutphin, Mayor Leslie Hager-Smith, Susan Anderson and Lauren Colliver.

Blacksburg Town Council reads statement on Gaza events following citizens' calls to action

Lori Graham

Contributing writer

BLACKSBURG Blacksburg Town Council began their April 9 regular meeting with a statement concerning the conflict in the regions of Gaza and Israel.

In recent meetings, many citizens have addressed the council with their ongoing requests for the town to release a statement supporting a permanent ceasefire. Vice Mayor Michael Sutphin read the following statement reflecting the thoughts of the entire town

"The Blacksburg Town Council acknowledges the deep concern expressed by many of our citizens regarding the ongoing conflict and humanitarian crisis in Gaza impassioned calls to take action on this matter. While the Town Council does not typically weigh

in on international affairs, we are not indifferent to such tremendous suffering and loss of life. All human lives are precious regardless of ethnicity, religion, or geography. The devastating violence and dire conditions affecting civilians in the region constitute a tragic crisis on all fronts. As a local governing and Israel. We have heard the body, we recognize that we lack the authority or means to influence

See Gaza, page 2

The YMCA at Virginia Tech sets kids up for a healthy start to the summer at Healthy Kids Day

Free and open to the public, this annual event features a day of fun-filled activities to celebrate kids being kids

BLACKSBURG The YMCA at Virginia Tech is hosting the Y's annual Healthy Kids Day Saturday, April 20, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. at 403 Washington St., Blacksburg.

This free, annual event features a variety of family friendly activities to encourage healthy kids, healthy families and a healthy start to the summer season.

Sponsored nationally by Peanuts, Healthy Kids Day's mission is to turn fun and play into lifelong memories. Some featured activities include a visit from the VT Therapy Dogs and the 501st Legion (www.501st. com/), Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, MRFL Mobile Library, Bio Chemistry Club, VT Jump Rope Club, a one-mile Fun

Benefiting



Run and so much more. Full details can be found on the YMCA website at vtymca.org/healthykids-day/.

"It is so important for kids to stay active over the summer, both physically and mentally," said Laureen Blakemore, Director of Community Engagement. "At the Y,

resources for families to create healthy habits, no matter the time of year. Healthy Kids Day is a fun, free communitywide event that encourages families to advantage of all the great summer activities the NRV community has to

Locally, Healthy Kids

The Moss Arts Center, Virginia Tech student clubs and organizations and local businesses and nonprofit partners.

For more information, contact Laureen Blakemore at engagement@vtymca. org or visit vtymca.org/ healthy-kids-day/.

YMCA at Virginia Tech

Blacksburg Town Council hears FY 2025 budget overview in preparation for April 23 Lori Graham

Contributing writer

BLACKSBURG - A budget overview for FY 2025 was presented during the Blacksburg Town Council meeting on April

The total budget is projected at an amount just over \$105 million and shows an increase of 12.52% with capital and debt service; however, the operating budget increase is 3.92%. This amount is in line with inflation rates without applying the capital and debt service, Town Manager Marc Verniel said.

"The general fund is about a 7 percent increase over last year," Verniel said.

Additional positions are also being proposed as part of the FY 2025 budget. Two additional police positions, department Business Relations Manager for Housing and Community Connections, and Natural Lands Coordinator and Recreation Program Associate for the Parks and Recreation Department, Public Works Technician Maintenance Specialist II in the Public Works Department are the new positions included in the budget.

The property tax rate will remain at \$0.26 per \$100 of assessed value. However, some increases will be seen in sewer and water rates of \$0.23 per 1,000 gallons and \$0.22 per 1,000 gallons, respectively. An average utility bill increase of \$2.70 (2.05%) was also listed in the budget review presented by Verniel presented by Verniel.

The budget will be up for vote by council members on April 23,

In other public hearings during the meeting, the town council voted unanimously to approve Ordinance 2047, Series 2024, authorizing the issuance of the general obligation improvement refunding bonds.

The Council "has determined that it is advisable to issue its general obligation capital improvement bond or bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$16,900,000 (the "New Money Bonds") to finance (a) the costs of constructing acquiring, and equipping capital improvements for which bond proceeds have been appropriated pursuant to the Town's capital improvement program, as it may be amended from time to time hereafter (collectively, the "Projects"), and (b) the costs of the issuance of the Bonds," according to the meeting agenda at www.

blacksburg.gov. The town council voted unanimously in approval of Ordinance 2050, an ordinance to amend FY 2023/2024 operating budget to appropriate \$2.5 million of bond proceeds to the general capital improvement fund. The funds will be appropriated for the potential purchase

of Blacksburg property.
"The subject of that is the purchase of three buildings downtown for future expansion of the existing facility at 414 North Main as well as a potential parking garage in the future and we will have more on that in the future as we actually purchase those buildings and close, said Town Attorney Larry Spencer.

Wildfire causes temporary evacuation Shawsville

SHAWSVILLE A wildfire in the Fishers View Road area in Shawsville caused residents in the area to temporarily evacuate the area, but the fire has since been contained.

The fire began on aturday and was Saturday extinguished on Sunday. The Virginia Department of Forestry worked with local firefighter crews from

Elliston, Christiansburg, Blacksburg, Riner, Floyd and Pulaski on the wildfire, located in the 4300 block of Fishers View Road. The Virginia Department of Forestry also reported the fire had grown to 250 acres before it was contained. No homes or structures were lost in the fire. Staff report

we believe in providing Day is sponsored by **Thursday, APRIL 25** Food available for **Eastern Divide** at venue **Brewing Company** 3175 Commerce Street, Blacksburg

4:30-5:30 P.M. THE VIRGINIA TECH JAZZ COMBO STEVE KESSLER TRIO WITH

AL BROHOLM & LOGAN VALLEROY 6:30-7:30 P.M. **ROOT DOWN QUINTET** 7:30-9:00 P.M.

LENNY MARCUS TRIO

Silent will be donated to Auction CHCNRV and BBC

PCOMING EVENTS

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.

Public feedback session for Virginia Passenger

At the Radford Public Library; 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Provide feedback on the Virginia Passenger Rail! Jenna Friedberg, Government Affairs Manager with Virginia Passenger Railway, is eager to share ideas on the expansion of passenger rail service to the New River Valley and receive your input. This is a public engagement event. Informational boards and handouts will be posted and available.

Radford Photo Club

At the Radford Public Library; 6 -7 p.m. Visit the Photo Club's open monthly meeting for photography tips and a guest speaker.

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:

Spring Kickoff Festival

Come join the party! The Town of Christiansburg is hosting a Spring Kickoff Festival at the Recreation Center from 6-9 p.m. All activities and games are free. PAR Mobile Golf golf simulator, trivia, Target Challenge, giant Jenga, Connect Four, cornhole and more. Live music by Jimothy. Local food, wine and beer trucks also available. Please bring your ID if you plan to purchase beer or wine. Outdoor event. Limited number of tables and chairs available. However, attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs to sit around a bonfire and enjoy the evening. This event is recommended for ages 18 and up.

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.

Arbor Day Celebration

Join Blacksburg Parks and Recreation as a volunteer, 9 a.m.- noon for an Arbor Day Celebration and plant a tree or two! Participants are encouraged to bring a shovel and gloves. This event will be held rain or shine at 615 Patrick Henry Dr., Blacksburg.

"Uninvited: The Spread of Invasive Species"

At the Lyric Theater; 2- 4 p.m. Town of Blacksburg, Fralin Life Sciences Institute Global Change Center at Virginia Tech and the Invasive Species Collaborative (ISC) at Virginia Tech will host a screening of the film "Uninvited: The Spread of Invasive Species" at the Lyric Theater. Film introduces concept of invasive species and explains how strategies can prevent the spread of harmful species. Also, a panel of professionals answer audience questions. Complimentary popcorn and drinks. To register, for questions or more information, contact Town of Blacksburg Sustainability Manager, Carol Davis at 540.443.1617.

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.

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.

Spring Shred-A-Thon

The spring Shred-A-Thon, sponsored by TRIAD and Christiansburg Recreation Department, will be held 3-6 p.m. at Christiansburg Recreation Center. Bring documents in a box or plastic tote (no larger than 22.5x18x11.5 inches). Limit of three totes/boxes per vehicle. Items that cannot be shredded include metal, three-ring binders, composition notebooks, hanging file folders, paint brushes, padlocks, hardback books, keys, eyeglasses, bungee cords, etc. The Shred-A-Thon is a drive-thru event. Please stay in your cars. TRIAD meets the third Tuesday of each month at the Christiansburg Recreation Center at 1:30 p.m. The public is invited to

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: Bronze - \$250; Silver - \$500; Gold - \$1000; and Platinum - \$2500. To register, contact rotary.club.of.radford.noon@gmail.com.

Veterans Resource Fair at NRCC

New River Community College will host a Veterans Resource Fair today, Wednesday, April 17 at NRCC in

The event will be held in the Student Lounge in Martin Hall from 10 a.m. to

NRCC's Veterans Services aim to get helpful information out in person to veterans in the community along with the college's veteran students and military families. Organizations and agencies available at the event will include the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA Veterans Benefits, VA Healthcare, VA

Community Engagement, the Virginia Department of Veterans Services, Disabled American Veterans, Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery, Together with Veterans, Veterans Upward Bound, New River Valley Community Services, Office of Veterans Services at Virginia Tech, healthcare providers, and employment services. For more information about the

Veterans Resource Fair, contact Ryan Adams at radams@nr.edu or (540) 674-

New River Community College

Fatal multi-vehicle crash in Montgomery County

Co. - A Christiansburg man has died as the result of a three-vehicle crash Thursday, April 11.

The crash occurred at 10:25 p.m. on the northbound side of Interstate 81, one tenth of a mile south of Route 177

MONTGOMERY in Montgomery County. 2002 Chevrolet

Silverado was traveling north on Interstate 81 and struck a 2021 Kenworth tractor trailer in the rear. The Chevrolet came to rest against the guardrail on the left side of the roadway. The driver of

the Chevrolet exited the vehicle and was struck by a 2012 Mercedes Benz which was also traveling

The driver of the Chevrolet was identified as Brandon Lee Williston, 30, of Christiansburg. Williston died at the scene.

The Virginia State Police Reconstruction Team assisted with the crash. The crash remains under investigation.

Virginia State Police

${f P}$ 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.

Happy girl Scarlett is ready to meet you and head home! She's a younger pup with a lot of energy. She will gladly sit for a treat and would benefit from additional training. Scarlett has lived with other pets in a previous home. Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center to meet Scarlett.





Raja is a lovable older cat. He enjoys affection and scratches under his chin. He's very sweet and has gotten along with other animals in the past. Raja has also been known to do well with younger children. Raja could be your purrfect match!

Gaza from page

events unfolding half the world away. However, we fervently hope for an end to the violence and for

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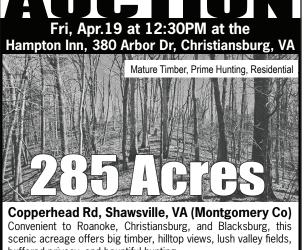
contact: Kenneth.bbraun.com@outlook.com

for more details.

humanitarian aid to reach those in desperate need. Promoting peace, human rights, and human dignity must be our shared goals as we bear witness to this catastrophic loss of life. Blacksburg prides itself on being a welcoming and inclusive community for people of all backgrounds. Understandably this conflict has surfaced strong emotions and divisions locally, just as it has around the world. Whatever one's views, we urge our residents to treat each other with compassion, empathy, and respect during this difficult time. We also call upon all parties involved to pursue every possible diplomatic effort to cease hostilities, facilitate humanitarian relief, and work toward a just and lasting peace in the region. Only through dialogue and negotiation can the cycle of violence be broken. We remain committed to creating a community grounded in unity, understanding, and goodwill toward all people though an ocean apart, our hopes for an end to this terrible conflict are united with people of conscience everywhere," Sutphin said.

The statement has been posted on the Blacksburg website at www.blacksburg.org and on the Blacksburg social media channels, Sutphin said. "We are also sending it to our U.S. congress person

and our U.S. senators, Senator Kaine and Senator Warner, and the President of the United States. So, we are getting our message out," council member Susan Anderson said.



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BITUARIES

Basham, Wanda Jones

Wanda Jones Basham, 73, of Christiansburg, passed away peacefully April 12, 2024, at her home surrounded by her

She was born in Christiansburg Sept. 3, 1950, to the late Calvin Ronnie Jones and Elizabeth Mae Creasy. Wanda graduated from Christiansburg High School and spent 36 years in banking, retiring as a branch manager in 2005. She loved her family deeply, and she was an amazing wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend. She will always be remembered for her love of animals and her unwavering dedication



to her family.

She is survived by her husband, Richard E. Basham; daughter, Amy B. Kyle (Jay); son, Jason R. Basham (Pam); sister, Brenda Jones; grandchildren, Marshall Basham, Hayden Kyle, Kayleigh Kyle, Logan (Emma) and Bosley

Lindsey Bosley, great-grandchildren, Audrey Bosley, and Elena special brother-in-law Gerald Basham, and special nephew Eddie Burlingame (Tracy). Funeral services will

be conducted Thursday, April 18, 2024, at 1 p.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel, with the Pastor Mike Neuse officiating. Interment will follow in the Sunset Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 12 – 1 p.m before the service. The family would like to extend a special thank you to Blue Ridge Cancer Care, Centerwell Home Health, and Carilion Hospice.

Price, Carolyn

Carolyn Price, 84, of Blacksburg, passed away peacefully Sunday, April 7, 2024 at home with her family.

Carolyn was born Nov. 8, 1939 to Jackson Odell and Esther Grubb. She is survived by her loving husband of 65 years, Frank 'Gene' Price; her daughters, Marie Greene, and husband, Joe, Davis Sharon and husband, Steven, son Guy Price; and sister, Lorraine Baker, and husband, Kyle.

She was preceded in death by her father,



Jackson Odell Grubb; mother, Esther Price Grubb; and brother, Ballard Odell Grubb. She had six grandchildren, Crystal Bond (Jerry), Quentin Davis (Samantha), Heather

Price, Mary Price, Patrick Price and Ean Greene (Summer); three great grandchildren, Levi Davis, Rylan Bond and Aubrey Davis; and numerous cous nieces and nephews. cousins,

We would like to thank Good Samaritan Hospice for the care and support they provided during her final days. She will be cremated at McCoy Funeral Home and a Memorial Service will be planned in the near future. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Good Samaritan Hospice.

Poff, Phyllis Jean Caldwell

Phyllis Jean Caldwell Poff, 68, of Radford, went to be with the Lord April 12, 2024.

Jean was preceded in death by her father, Charles Emmett Caldwell, Sr., her mother, Patsy Ann Caldwell, and sister, Carolyn Graves.

She is survived by her daughter, Monica Noble (Tom); son, Sears; sister, Linda Hinkley; brother, Charles Caldwell, Jr; grandchildren, Alicia, Billie, and lames, Timothy; and many nieces and nephews. Jean was born Nov. 5,



1955. After graduating Christiansburg from High School, she began working for the law offices of Gillis, Whitehurst, and Obenchain. worked for She also radio station

Christiansburg. Later, she worked in telecommunications at Radford University. She worked at numerous places before retiring from Wilco in Radford. After retiring, she became an avid online gamer. She had a large following who honored her with several posts from the online gaming community.

A memorial service will be held today, Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 4 p.m. with a visitation from 3-4 p.m. at McCoy Funeral Home.

McCoy, Irene

Irene McCoy was born Feb. 26, 1941, to the late Atlas Burnette "Kack" and Ollie "Kack" and Ollie Comer Scott of Spruce Run, Va. She passed peacefully and entered the kingdom of glory on April 8, 2024. Irene wore many

hats in her lifetime but most will remember her as Miss Irene, the proprietor of Long Shop Grocery. Three were blessed to know her as Mom. Mom was a "giver." If she thought you were in need, whether it was food, support, an ear to listen, a shoulder to cry on, or an extra voice to defend you... she was there!

In addition to her parents, Irene was preceded in death by her husband, Erie Carroll McCoy; sisters: Edith S. Fleeman and Dorothy S. Sexton; and brothers James Scott, Buddy Scott, Billy Scott and J.W. Scott.

Left cherish to memory are Lloyd her children, Richards, Dena Richards and Vicky (Ricky)

grandchildren George (Shannon) Shumate, **Zachary** Shumate, Richards, Chelsie McKinley Noonkester, Stevin (Kahealani) Wilburn, Hope (Brian) Bradbury, Sowers, Tori Ricky Sowers Lynn and Amarynn Sowers; great grandchildren Shumate, Isaac Lucas Shumate, Lena Shumate, Jessie Shumate, Grayson Bradbury, Jackson Bradbury, Libby Rose Bradbury and Brantley Elliott; sister Marie S. Hubbard; and brothers Denny Scott, Bobby Scott and Roy Scott.

Mom, Mawmaw, Iiss Irene, you you broken beautiful and strong look invincible. The impression you made in

this world will forever be felt. We will carry your love, wisdom, and fierce dedication righteousness within us always. You will be missed immensely! We find comfort in knowing your days are pain-free and filled with sunshine now. Take care of our Angel Doll Baby. We Love You Always! A huge thank you to all who cared for our sweet Mama, especially The Good Samaritan Hospice whose comfort was a Godsend.

Visitation will be held Thursday, April 18, 2024, 6 - 8 p.m. at McCoy Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held Friday, April 19, 2024, at 11 a.m. at Community Church, Christian 6030 Centennial Rd. McCoy, Va. Interment follow Centennial Christian Church, Centennial Road, McCoy, Va. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to McCoy Fire and Rescue or the Good Samaritan

Myklebust, Arvid

Arvid Myklebust, father, husband, brother, friend, farmer scholar, of Blacksburg and Craig County, Va., originally from Uskedal, Norway, entered God's eternal glory on the afternoon of April 10, 2024.

Professor Emeritus of Mechanical Engineering and inductee in the first class of Virginia Tech's Entrepreneur Faculty Hall of Fame, Arvid was also the 2018 Outstanding Alumnus in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering from the University of Florida.

Arvid co-founded NASA Institute and three successful technology companies. He published over over technical papers, directed over 50 master's



and Ph.D. students, and was a frequent speaker on computer-aided design.

Arvid, a Son of Norway, a lover of life, and a student of the arts was also a long-time practitioner of Raja Yoga and read Eastern and Western Philosophy and Theology.

Most importantly, Arvid was the husband Ferrari Joan Myklebust, nee Ferrari.

Together they shared five children including Torolf Myklebust, June Myklebust, Michael Lee Johnson, Amy Marie (Bradley) Brittain, and Sandra Claire (Adam) Sowder. Surviving grandchildren are SØlve, Noah, Jack, Brian, Cody, Ean, Samantha, Teddy, and Henry. He is also survived by his sister, Gunn Loyd, and brother, Roy Myklebust.

Family and friends are invited to gather at McCoy Funeral Home on April 14, 2024, at 1 p.m. for visitation and 2 p.m. for a celebration of life officiated by the Rev. Dr. J. Adam Sowder and Minister Dwayne Wente. Interment will follow at Chestnut Grove Church Cemetery in New Castle, Va.

Montgomery Museum hosts live Dungeons and Dragons event

Join the Montgomery Museum for a night mystery, mischief, and miniatures as we "The Heist of host Montgomery Bank" a live play D&D experience that is built with our audience in mind and produced by our Emerging Leaders Advisory Board.

Dungeon & Dragons is a tabletop role-playing game that often includes the use of miniatures to expand the world created by its players. This event looks to expand upon our miniatures exhibit, "Creativity Enclosed: Reusing Historic Deposit Boxes," and incorporate other forms of art in order to make the night a one-of-a-kind experience that can never be recreated.

Enjoy light refreshments and explore our galleries throughout the evening, and you may even find clues that are vital to the cracking of the case for our merry band of adventurers in this one night only experience. With stories to be told, riddles to be solved, and a treasure waiting to be claimed, this is one event you do not want to miss!

The Heist of Montgomery Bank, is one night only, Saturday, April 20, 6- 8 p.m. For more information visit the Montgomery Museum at 4 East Main St., Christiansburg, VA, or contact Courtney Amos at marketing@ montgomerymuseum.

Montgomery Museum



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF THE MONTGOMERY MUSEUM

STATEWIDE ADS

AUCTIONS

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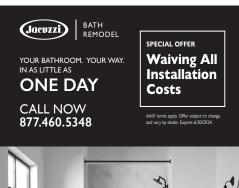
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Compromise budget meets core goals while not raising taxes



Delegate Jason Ballard

Virginia General Assembly

When the General Assembly returns to Richmond on April 17 to consider Governor Glenn Youngkin's amendments and vetoes of legislation from the 2024 legislative session, we will have the opportunity to pass a compromise budget that was recently

unveiled by the Governor. Those who have been following along during the budget process are already aware that the Democrat-controlled General Assembly sent the Governor an expensive spending plan that would make life costlier for Virginians. The compromise revealed

by Governor Youngkin - dubbed the "Common Ground" budget – is a goodfaith effort to fully fund the necessary components of our state government, while not increasing or implementing

See Compromise, page 8

New to investing? Here's what you need to know



Josh Smith, **CRPC**

Ameriprise Financial

Understanding the basics of investing is an essential first step toward building a strong financial foundation, but many people don't know where to get started. Here are five concepts that can be helpful for new investors to grasp:

• If you are young, time is on your side

Building wealth through investing is not about getting rich quickly. Rather, it's about taking advantage of what works best for your circumstances. If you have recently entered the workforce, your biggest advantage is time. Earnings generated in your portfolio, even if modest in the beginning, can compound over time. The more time you give your money to grow, the greater the potential for growth over the long haul.

 Be prepared for market swings Any variable investment you choose

 such as stocks, bonds or real estate is subject to fluctuation. History shows that markets move up and down over time. Be prepared to see your portfolio suffer losses at various points throughout your investing life. Historically, markets have recovered from negative periods (although in some circumstances, individual investments such as a specific stock can suffer losses and never recover). Try to maintain a long-term view with your investments by not reacting to dayto-day events.

• Find your comfort level in the

Markets are unpredictable, so it's important that you're intentional about the level of risk you're willing to accept. If you have a lower risk tolerance, you can choose investments that are less susceptible to fluctuations but be sure to consider the effects of inflation eating into your rate of return. On the other hand, if you have a higher risk tolerance and you can stomach watching your portfolio fluctuate more widely in value, you may want to pursue investments that offer potentially higher returns.

But remember, there are no guarantees. The key is to find a level of risk you can live with over the long-term and invest accordingly. Spread your wealth through asset

allocation

Asset allocation is the process of spreading your investment dollars across several categories of investments. The mix of categories, or asset classes, you own is an important factor in your overall portfolio performance. In other words, how you divide your money between stocks, bonds, cash, cash alternatives, mutual funds, and other asset classes will determine the outcome, and hopefully return, you realize.

As you select your investments, consider dividing your money among asset classes that respond differently to market forces. This investment concept, called diversification, can help you minimize the effect of market swings. If your investments in one class are performing poorly, investments in another class may be performing better. Ideally, gains in one class can help offset losses in another, which can help

minimize the overall impact of volatility on your portfolio.

• Make your long-term financial

security a priority

It can be challenging to focus on the long-term when you have other pressing financial obligations, such as paying off student loans or building an emergency fund. However, if you can allocate a small portion of your budget to your future goals, you may ease your financial burden down the road. Consider investing a percentage of each paycheck into a workplace retirement plan or an individual retirement account (IRA). You'll become accustomed to living within the rest of your paycheck while the amount you have earmarked for retirement is given time to grow. If your company offers a match on those savings, be sure to take advantage of it.

A successful investor maximizes gain and minimizes loss. Though there can be no guarantee that any investment strategy will be effective, and all investing involves risk, these basic principles can help you strategically build your nest egg

Dear Editor,

I would like to take a moment to call attention to a group that sometimes goes unnoticed. The Radford City

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 communitynews@ourvalley.org Aila Boyd, Executive Editor aboyd@ourvalley.org Wendi Craig, Advertising Consultant advertise@ourvalley.org

Give us your view:

editor@ourvalley.org

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

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.

school community is so fortunate to have a dedicated team of healthcare professionals who work relentlessly to ensure the well-being of our students and staff.

Recently, several of our amazing school nurses, Tammy Weston, Kelly Minnick and Jordan Lawson, achieved national board certification in school nursing. Achieving national board certification requires significant investment of time, effort and expertise. By attaining this certification, our school nurses have demonstrated their proficiency in the field of school nursing and their dedication to upholding the highest standards of practice. It is a great accomplishment and certainly highlights their commitment to excellence as well as their dedication to providing the highest quality care and support to our school community.

School nurses play a vital role in promoting the health and wellness of our students. They are often the first responders in medical emergencies, providing critical care, and assistance when needed. Additionally, they collaborate with teachers, administrators and families to create a safe and healthy learning environment for all students. I believe that they deserve recognition for their day-to-day work as well as for their recent certification.

Please join me in expressing our gratitude to our exceptional school nurses.

Sincerely, Mary Smith Radford

Dear Editor,

Each spring, Department of Virginia the Transportation (VDOT) and other state DOTs recognize Work Zone Awareness Week to remind drivers of the importance of avoiding distractions and driving safely through work zones. Join us at VDOT as we promote National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 15-19, with our theme this year, "Work zones are temporary. Actions behind the wheel can last forever.

Whether you work on our roads

or drive them every day, work zone safety is everyone's responsibility. Our employees and contractors put their lives on the line in work zones every day while working to improve travél for motorists in Virginia. This is true in mobile operations like mowing, paving and plowing snow, short-term work zones set up to replace bridges and culverts, as well as in our established work zones for long-term construction

projects. Although signs, cones and safety vests can be effective in warning motorists of a work zone, these tools are no protection against a fast-moving vehicle or an inattentive driver. In fact, most work zone deaths are motorists, not workers, so slowing down, eliminating distractions and paying close attention in work zones can help all of us. All motorists — whether a

seasoned driver or someone new behind the wheel — should follow when driving instructions through a work zone: Work zones are a sign to slow

If you see the orange work zone

warning signs, be alert for changing conditions ahead. Eliminate distractions and stay

aware of your surroundings at all

Follow Virginia's phone down and move over laws.

In addition, to show support for

National Work Zone Awareness

Week, VDOT encourages you to participate in these activities during

Show us your Orange! Wednesday, April 17 is national "Go Orange Day." Everyone is encouraged to wear orange in support of work zone safety across the country. Share your pictures with us on Twitter and Facebook! #GoOrangeVa

Attend the vigil at the VDOT Worker's Memorial on Afton Mountain on Wednesday, April 17 at 4 p.m. Follow us all week long and share

our Facebook VDOT Salem District group page at www.facebook.com/ groups/VDOTSalem and ReTweet with us @VaDOTSalem.

Join our team to keep our roads and work zones safe for everyone. Let's work together so we can all

arrive at home safely each and every Ken King, P.E.

District Engineer VDOT Salem District

CROSSWORD 16 18 21 23 28 29 33 42 43 44 45 50 66 69 70 68 70. Longing CLUES DOWN CLUES ACROSS 39. You can find it in a can 32. Weighed down 1. Product or _ (abbr.) 41. "Land of the free' 34. Held tightly 4. Zodiac sign 42 36 inches 1. Horse mackerels _ route: going there 9. S. China seaport 43. Footwear 2. It can be viral

- 14. Former OSS 16. Aphid genus
- 15. Early English printer 17. General's assistant 18. Aússies 20. Dissuades 22. Make law
- 23. Drench 24. Soak in a liquid 28. Male child 29. It cools your home
- 30. Small constellation 31. To call (archaic) 33. Explores beneath the Earth 37. Commercial

38. W. hemisphere orga-

nization

- 44. Challenges 46. They hold things
- together 49. Of I 50. Partner to flow 51. Not connected by kinship
- 55. Worries 58. Garlic mayonnaise 59. A way to take by force
- 64. Your consciousness of
- 60. Legendary English your own identity 65. Fencing swords 66. Silly

68. Encircles with a belt

69. Mails a message

67. Actor DiCaprio

- 3. Prickly plants
- 4. Consciousness 5. Type of sarcoma 6. Tax collector 7. Sun up in New York One who scorches
- 9. Influential psychotherapist 10. Situated at an apex Communicative
- 12. Forearm nerve 13. Former CIA 19. Folk singer DiFranco 21. Employee stock owner-
- ship plan 24. Large-scale 25. School environment 26. Remove

Male parents

31. Large rodent

- 36. Explains again 40. Exclamation of
- surprise 41. Courteously 45. Lying down
- 47. Judge 48. Forcefully took 52. Loosely compacted sediment 53. High mountain 54. Portable conical
- 56. Cereal grass 57. Dining utensil 59. Thoughtful
- 60. Helps you walk 61. Indicates near 62. Midway between northeast and east

63. Local area network

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THE FINCASTLE HERALD

Vinton Messenger

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

News Messenger SALEM TIMES REGISTER

Legals -

acres, more or less

Commonly Known

as: 1002 West

Main Street,

Radford, Virginia

IN EXECUTION OF A

CERTAIN DEED OF

TRUST OF RECORD IN

THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF

THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

RADFORD CITY,

VIRGINIA, AS

INSTRUMENT NO

201100838, DATED

AUGUST 29, 2011

WHEREAS, BY DEED OF

BARGAIN AND SALE AND

ASSUMPTION DATED

SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

RECORDED IN THE

AFORESAID CLERK'S

OFFICE AS INSTRUMENT

NO: 201600804 THE DEED

OF TRUST WAS

ASSUMED BY MARK

BROOKNER. DEFAULT

HAVING BEEN MADE IN

THE PAYMENT OF THE

DEBT THEREIN SECURED

AND BEING REQUIRED

TO DO SO BY THE

NOTEHOLDER, THE

UNDERSIGNED

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE,

AFTER GIVING

FOURTEEN (14) DAYS

DUE NOTICE TO THE

OWNERS OF THE REAL

ESTATE OF THE DATE,

TIME, PLACE AND TERMS

OF SALE, WILL OFFER

FOR SALE AT PUBLIC

AUCTION, IN FRONT OF

THE RADFORD CITY

COURTHOUSE LOCATED

AT 619 SECOND STREET

RADFORD, VIRGINIA, ON

THE 9th DAY OF MAY

2024, AT 10:00 A.M., THE

REAL ESTATE WITH

IMPROVEMENTS

THEREON KNOWN AND

DESCRIBED AS

FOLLOWS:

All that certain tracts or

parcels of land, with the

improvements thereon and

the appurtenances

thereunto belonging.

situate, lying and being in

the City of Radford, Virginia,

and described as follows:

BEING all of Lots 28 and

29. part of Lots 27, 30, 34,

35, Section 1, Plan C,

Radford Land and

Improvement Company

Lots, containing 0.2479

acres (10,800 sq. ft.), as

designated and described

on a plat of survey entitled

Physical Survey Lots 28, 29

and Part of Lots 27, 30, 34,

35 Section 1, Plan C

Radford Land and

Improvement Co. West

Ward City of Radford,

Virginia for Ronald R.

Sowers", dated August 23,

2011. Job No. 565811. by

James Conrad Groseclose,

II, Land Surveyor, Mathews

and Henegar Inc.

professional engineers and

land surveyors, a copy of

which is attached hereto

and made a part hereof and

reference is hereby made to

said plat of survey for a

more accurate description

of the property herein

conveved

Tax Map Number: 13-(5)-

SEC 1-27A-28-29-30A-

34A+

Account Number:

020000684

Commonly Known As:

1002 West Main Street,

Radford, Virginia

SALE WILL BE MADE

SUBJECT TO ALL

EXISTING EASEMENTS

AND RESTRICTIVE

COVENANTS AS THE

SAME MAY LAWFULLY

AFFECT THE REAL

ESTATE.

TERMS OF SALE: CASH.

SETTLEMENT WITHIN

FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF

SALE. À BIDDERS

DEPOSIT OF TEN

RADFORD News Journal The colty accomplete that you Radicted them

Yard Sales - Craig County

Yard Sale Lots of Items!

Saturday, April 27 8:00 am to 1:00 pm New Castle United Methodist Church

Help Wanted -General

Pianist Wanted

Troutville Baptist church is seeking a pianist to provide accompaniment for services and choir rehearsals. Parttime, salaried, for more information

Troutvillebaptistchurchpc@ gmail.com

Help Wanted -**Health Care**

Catawba Hospital is now hiring floor technicians and housekeepers!

Starting pay is \$15/hr+ depending on experience. Excellent Benefits including affordable health insurance, VRS retirement plan, and 12 days of Paid Time Off!

Please apply on our website. https://dbhds.virginia.gov/fa cilities/catawba/employment -opportunities Contact Austin Grasty for details Ph: (540) 375-4368 Email:

austin.grasty@dbhds.virgini a.gov

Legals - Botetourt County

Order of **Publication** Commonwealth of Virginia

VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,20-104 Case No.CL24-101

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

OF THE COUNTY OF **BOTETOURT** COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA, a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia,

TOWN OF BUCHANAN. VIRGINIA, a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Complainant

J.R. EUBANK A/K/A JORDAN EUBANK, ET AL., Respondent(s).

The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Botetourt, Virginia, for delinguent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Botetourt, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No 65A(1)4 Account No. 22321 All that certain tract or parcel of land, situate in the Town of Buchanan, Botetourt County, Virginia, being Lot No. 4 in Scott's Addition to North Buchanan (formerly Pattonsburg), located at the southeas corner of 4th and Bridge Steets, as shown on the map of said Scott's Addition to North County, Virginia, in 1/2, and being further described as follows: Streets, as shown on the aforementioned map: thence with the south side feet to an angle in said street; thence leaving the street and with the line of Lot No. 5, S 57° E 123.29 feet to a point on said line; thence leaving said line

Deed Book 36, at Page 206 Beginning at the southeast corner of 4th and Bridge of 4th Street, N 81° E 115.8 (being the boundary line between said Lot Nos. 4 and 5) and with the boundary line between Lot Nos. 4 and 3, S 81° W 206.82 feet to a point on the east side of Bridge Street; thence with the same, N 9 W 82.5 feet to the place of beginning, being all of Lot No. 4 in said Scott's Addition to North Buchanan as foresaid. This lot fronts on Bridge Street 82.5 feet and extends back between parallel lines to the rear line of said lot adjoining Lot No. 5: the parallel line along 4th Street is 115.5 feet long and the other parallel line is

206.82 feet long. And being the same property conveyed to J.R. Eubank aka Jordan Eubank and Pauline Eubank, his wife, as joint tenants with the right of survivorship, from Mary M. Booker, divorced, by Deed dated February12, 1944, and recorded March 9, 1944, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt

County, Virginia, in Deed Book 93, at Page 458. This description is made

subject to all easements,

conditions, agreements,

County restrictions, and

Legals - Botetourt

reservations of record which affect the property herein described Tax Map No.

65A(1)3 Account No.

22313

All that certain tract or parcel of land located in Scott's Addition to North Buchanan (formerly Pattonsburg), fronting 50 feet on Bridge Street, in the Town of Buchanan Botetourt County, Virginia, as shown on the map of Scott's Addition to North Buchanan, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, in Deed Book 36, at Page 2061/2, and being further described as follows: Beginning at a point of said Bridge Stret in North Buchanan where the division line between Lot Nos. 3 and 4 in said Scott's

Addition intersects with said Bridge street; thence along the east side of said Bridge Street S 9° 00' E 50 feet to a point and corner of the lot herein described; thence the lot described extends back between parallel lines, 50 feet apart, and each line having a bearing of N 81° 00' east to the rear line of said lot herein described, as the said parallel lines enter and intersect with the rear line of said Lot No. 3. The lot herein described adjoins Lot No. 4 in said Scott's Addition, and one of the outside lines of the lot herein described is the division line between said Lot Nos. 3 and 4 aforesaid. which division line is N 81° 00' E 206.82 feet, and being

Legals - City of Salem

the northern 50 feet of Lot

No. 3, as shown on the

aforementioned map to

description of the land

made for a further

herein described.

which reference is hereby

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

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.

Knotbreak Road.

(Tax Map # 148-1-5)

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

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104 Case No. CL24000383 **ROANOKE COUNTY**

Publication

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

> MARCH 22,2024 Jennifer J. West Deputy Clerk

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

Legals - City of Salem

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

into the YMCA

This is part of the larger

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

5128 (431, 505, 506)

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 Honeysuckle Road. Tax Map # 45-2-1. Section 106-202.3(B)(1) requires the front yard setback to be 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

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).

attached garage

THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM

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

Bundle Bridges Bidding Opportunity! **Archer Western is** seeking subcontractors and

VDOT Bristol

Legals - City of Salem

suppliers for VDOT - Bristol and Salem **Districts Bridge** Bundle

DB this Project bids on May 5th, 2024. The Project includes, among

other things

the Design and Construction of (a)roadway; (b) survey; (c) structure and/or bridge; (d) environmental; (é) geotechnical; (f) hydraulics, drainage, stormwater management,

and erosion and sediment (g) traffic control devices; (h) transportation management plan:

(i) right-of-way; (j) utilities; (k) quality assurance and quality control. Estimating Contact 301-347-4680.

quotes by May 1st COB. awcestimating@walshgro up.com.

Submit questions and

An Equal Opportunity Employer, Disability/Veteran

Legals -**Montgomery County**

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

LOCATED IN: VIRGINIA 24073DATE OF West Ward of the SALE: APRIL 22, 2024 City of Radford. TIME OF SALE: 10:30 AM Virginia Daniel D. Hamrick, PC, Containing 0.2479 Trustee

Legals -**Montgomery County Montgomery County**

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

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

NOTICE OF 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 WILL OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION AT

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

THE ENTRANCE OF THE

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

Road, Pilot, VA 24138 SALE WILL BE MADE SUBJECT TO ALL EXISTING FASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS AS THE SAME MAY LAWFULLY AFFECT THE REAL **ESTATE**

ID: 012692

Address: 167 Penny Royal

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 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

TRUSTEE'S SALE

PARCEL OF LAND Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,20-104 Case No. CL24-228 MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Legals -**Montgomery County**

MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073

COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA, a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Complainant,

FRANK E. LYTTON, ET AL., Respondent(s).

ORDER OF PUBLICATION] The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Montgomery, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Montgomery, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 076-A 74 Account No. 011621 All that certain tract or parcel of land, with the improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate, lying or being in the Riner Magisterial District, Montgomery County, Virginia, which contains one acre, more or less. described as follows:

McGuire and C.R. Thompson and running with said line in a westerly direction to another stake; thence northward to the N & W Railway Line, and east ward with the said N & W line back to about the center of a two-acre tract of land belonging now or formerly to the said Gifford McGuire; thence southward back to the point of BEGINNING. And being the same

by Deed, dated July 2, 1951 and recorded July 2, 1951 in the Montgomery County in Deed Book 172 at Page 59.

conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein

IT APPEARING that a Affidavit has been made and filed stating that due without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served. that the last known addresser for the

Fries, Virginia 24330; Janet Lytton, whose last known address is 3664 Caboose

PERCENT (10%) MAY BE REQUIRED. PLACE OF SALE: FRONT OF RADFORD CITY COURTHOUSE. AT 619 SECOND STREET,

> DATE OF SALE: MAY 9, 2024

RADFORD, VIRGINIA

TIME OF SALE: 10:00 A.M.

Daniel D. Hamrick, PC Substitute Trustee By: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent For Daniel D. Hamrick, PC

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

Publication

Circuit Court, 55 EAST

Order of

BEGINNING at an iron stake in or near the line of (now or formerly) Gifford

property conveyed to Frank E. Lytton and Gladys E. Lytton, husband and wife

Circuit Court Clerk's Office This description is made subject to all easements,

described. diligence has been used,

Respondents herein are as follows: Frank E. Lytton. who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address in unknown. Gladys E. Lytton, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Don Edward Lytton, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known

address is unknown; Donna Lytton, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Glenn Lytton, whose last known address is unknown: Harrison Edward Lytton. Whose last known address is 5391 Ivanhoe Rd, Apt. A,

Rd. Christiansburg, Virginia 24073; Violet Pagen aka Violet Lyons, whose last known address is 3428 Case Knife Rd. Pulaski, Virginia 24301; 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

hereby ORDERED that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained apparat on or before May 15, 2024 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia, and

Parties Unknown, it is

do what may be necessary to protect their interest in this cause Entered on the 4th day of April. 2024. K. Mike Fleenor,

Judge I Ask For This: 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) Seth R. Konopasek, Esq. (VSB No. 97065) Garrett W. Patton, Esq. (VSB No. 98345)

Legals -**Montgomery County**

THE NRV MPO **SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT** FOR THE ROUTE **460 BUSINESS**

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Find out about the study progress and potential safety improvements along Route 460 Business in Blacksburg, Christiansburg, and Montgomery County The meeting will be held at the New River Community College, Christiansburg Site located at 782 New River Road NW Suite 400, Room 149 on Thursday, April 25, 2024, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. In addition to the in-person meeting, public meeting

materials will be posted by

Legals -**Montgomery County**

April 22nd on the New River Valley MPO's website at www.newrivervalleympo.org

They will also be available for review at the offices the New River Valley MPO. Please give your written comments at the meeting or submit them via USPS to the NRV MPO's office, located at 755 Roanoke St. Ste. 2I, Christiansburg, VA 24073. You may also e-mai

your comments to

Please reference "460 Study" PH Comments in the subject line. Comments for this study will be received until 5:00 PM, May 9th, 2024.

This public notice and opportunity to comment on the Route 460 Study meets the program of projects requirements as established by the FTA pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 5307(c). The NRV MPO ensures

Legals -Montgomery County

nondiscrimination and equa employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Dan Brugh at:

> yva.gov or 540-394-2145, TTY/TTD 711.

Order of **Publication**

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,20-104 Case No. CL24000530-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST

MAIN STREET, SUITE 1. CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re ERIC

Montgomery County

RANDALE BRYANT v. CHRISTINA MARIE **BRYANT**

The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that CHRISTINA MARIE BRYANT appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before JUNE 5, 2024. **APRIL 2, 2024**

Legals -**Montgomery County**

ROBERT M.D. TURK, **JUDGE** TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK



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Montgomery Sports

Bobcat uses Spring Game to shine at running back



The Maroon squad's P.J. Prioleau scores one of his two touchdowns during Saturday's Spring game.



Former Radford Bobcat P.J. Prioleau (right) scored on the ground and through the air in Saturday's Virginia Tech Spring game.



Coach Brent Pry led the Hokies on the field Saturday in front of a large crowd at Lane Stadium.



Virginia Tech coaches and players shook a lot of hands Saturday during the pregame walk into the stadium.



Players took time out of their busy day to greet runners as they entered the stadium Saturday during the Run of Remembrance.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

Defense was on display Saturday at Virginia Tech's Spring Game.

Marty Gordon NRV sports@ourvalley.org

Hokies fans were treated to an interesting Spring football game this past Saturday with several players taking advantage of the moment.

One of those was former Radford High School running back P.J. Prioleau, who led the Maroon team in rushing with 62 yards.

His longest of 31-yards, which was a touchdown, gave us glimpses of what all Bobcat fans had learned to expect during his time in the black and gold.

Prioleau also scored a second touchdown on a 22yard receiving touchdown connection from Kyron

The Maroon squad clinched a victory in a closely contested matchup, 21-14 over the Orange unit in front of a large Spring audience.

At halftime, Coach Brent Pry honored the 5-11, 180 Prioleau with the "Frank Beamer Ultimate Teammate Award" for his actions over the spring.

Prioleau played multiple positions at Radford High School, where he was named to the 2018 Three Rivers District First Team and was the 2018 Region 2C Offensive Player of the Year ... the same season he was also named to the Class 2 First Team All-State team as running back.

He tore his ACL his junior year of high school and

missed the entire season.

One of his most prominent years at Radford was as a sophomore when he rushed for 1,725 yards on 231 carries with 20 touchdowns. Prioleau has some familiarity in the Hokie coaching

staff as his father Pierson is an assistant in Blacksburg. The elder Prioleau had coached his son for several years as an assistant at Radford and has plenty of experience for him to learn from. Pierson was a three-year starter

for at Tech before being drafted by the San Francisco 49ers in the 1999 NFL Draft. For the past two years, the former Bobcat has seen

his time only on special teams but that could all be

changing. Two years ago, he blocked a punt 15 yards into Tech's end zone of his collegiate debut. Thus, he became the first Tech player to block a punt since 2018.

Last year, he played in 12 games on special teams. Prioleau's performance could push him up the depth chart with the possibility we might see him more in the spring on the offensive ball.

Pry has called the spring session Phase Two of the much bigger plan in getting his team prepared. After Saturday's game, he was optimistic but a little guarded in his own evaluation.

"Every time I get excited, there's been caution, kind of creeping in. You realize we've got all summer and a ton of things we have to get done. We've had all camp, a lot of the things that we need to get done. I love that we know more about our team, more about more guys, what we're gonna get. That proved true this spring. The guys that finished strong, they had good springs. It's just getting this next group to be ready to play. We're making strides there," he said.

On the Maroon side of the ball, Tight end Ja'Ricous Hairston also got his name up on the board, giving the Maroon team their third touchdown to dominate the Orange team. Drones finished the game with a total of 122 yards, claiming two touchdowns with completing five of eight passes for 44 yards.

an impressive 66-yard connection with running back Malachi Thomas. Quarterback Dylan Wittke also made an appearance, with a significant performance On the Orange team, Quarterbacks William 'Pop' Watson III and Ben Locklear split the time with Watson completing 13 of 21 passes for a substantial 130 total

yards, including a three-yard rushing touchdown while Locklear went seven of 11 for 90 yards, including a 38yard connection with wide receiver Chance Fitzgerald. Running back Jeremiah Coney displayed his athletic prowess, leading the team with 81 rushing yards which

included a 33-yard sprint to keep the Orange squad in the game. Fellow running back Tralon Mitchell put up a second touchdown with a two-yard rush.

On the defensive front, the Maroon team was

anchored by defensive lineman James Jennette, tallying four solo tackles, three tackles for loss totaling eight yards, and securing a sack for a five-yard loss. Meanwhile, cornerback Joshua Clarke contributed with four solo tackles and an interception, returning it for 15 yards. He was joined by teammate defensive lineman Kemari Copeland, who also grabbed an interception, returning it for 13 yards. Veteran defensive lineman Keyshawn Burgos rounded out the defensive effort with an impressive three sacks against Watson for a total loss of 24 yards, in addition to four solo tackles and a pass breakup.

Pry was appreciative of what he saw out of Burgos on Saturday.

"He played like he was mad today. I have to get him mad at me all the time, I guess. He's one of the more improved guys on the team," Pry said. "We only gave out two awards, one offense and one defense in that department today. But he was in that conversation. He's got a great motor, and I think he's been more focused this spring. He's complained less, he just works, he just puts his nose down. He's coachable more so than he's ever been, it's paying off."

As for the Orange Team defense, star Stephon Hicks recorded two sacks, resulting in a loss of nine yards, along with three solo tackles. Linebacker Darius Taylor added another sack for a five-yard loss, while Deric Dandy secured a sack as well, resulting in an eightyard loss. Cornerback Josh Gholston and receiver Ali Jennings contributed with fumble recoveries.

One of the early surprises was the play of freshman Quentin Reddish. Defensive Coordinator Chris Marve is pleased in what he sees is Reddish's growth.

"I think he'll be a contributor, man, he doesn't panic. Long, can run, has good length, is not afraid of contact. He's not afraid of being challenged by an older receiver, tight end or running back and he's not afraid to throw it around. He's got a lot of development to do, between the ears, but also with his body. But he's got some gifts. He is hungry, and we are excited he's a Hokie," Marve said.

Observation from VT Spring Game: Key word is depth



From the Sidelines Marty Gordon

If there was one thing fans and coaches alike could write down on paper after Saturday's Spring football game, the Hokies have plenty of depth.

Areas like running back and wide receiver have plenty of players to choose from. Now, several of those individuals might take this idea of "depth" as a reason to jump into the transfer portal in the next week, but the Hokie still will have plenty to choose from.

To be honest, this was a problem last season as the numbers game played a role in several close games. This year, it will not.

In areas like the secondary and the defensive front, this team is loaded. There is also some depth in both the receiving and running back room.

Coach Brent Fry feels in his third year, the team will have plenty of bodies to work with.

The depth has been helped thanks to the Transfer Portal where Tech was able to grab former Duke defensive lineman Aeneas Peebles, who was named the defensive Most Valuable Player for the Spring.

But he told the media on Saturday,

he feels that he can do so much more. "I feel like I always feel I can do

more and I feel there's still a ceiling I need to reach, you know, I don't feel in any way that I'm tapped out as a player, I still feel that there is more development I could do," said Peebles. "So, it's really an honor to receive that from my teammates and my coaching staff."

If there is a question, it still might be who will be backing up secondyear starting QB Kyrone Drones.

In Saturday's Spring Game, Dylan Wittke completed five of eight passes for 44 yards as Drones backup on the Maroon team, while on the Orange side of the field, William 'Pop' Watson III and Ben Locklear split the time. Watson completed 13 of 21 passes for 130 total yards, including a three-yard rushing touchdown while Locklear finished seven of 11 for 90 yards.

For now, it looks like Watson might be leading oh so slightly.

Drones finished the game with a total of 122 yards, claiming two touchdowns with an impressive 66yard connection to Malachi Thomas. He finished six of 10 before taking the rest of the afternoon off.

The opening game is just around the corner, and there sure is a lot of excitement around what this year's team could produce. Just keep



Radford Bobcats' Kat Price

Weekly roundups: Lady Cats fall in softball

Marty Gordon

NRV sports@ourvalley.org

The Radford High School softball team took it on the chin in a 10-5 loss to Galax.

On Wednesday night the Radford Bobcats traveled to Galax to face the Maroon Tide. Radford took the early lead in the first inning when Kat Price doubled, scoring two runs. The Maroon Tide scored seven runs over the first two innings to take the lead. In the loss, the Bobcats collected 14 hits to include a solo homerun from Kira Rollins. Olivia Radford went three for four from the plate and Rollins, Ella Cox, and Addie Saunders both collected multiple hits on the day. Plant pitched all seven innings in the win for Galax giving up 14 hits and 5 runs.

Blacksburg boys slip by HV

This past week, the Blacksburg High School boys' soccer team kept its record unblemished in a 2-1 contest over Hidden Valley. The Bruins got goals from Tommy Monaghan and Sean DeLorenzo. Nathan Pratt had four saves

Blacksburg is now 7-0, while Hidden Valley fell to 2-5-1.

Blacksburg girls remain unbeaten he Blacksburg HS Girls Soccer team defeated Hidden Valley 2-0 on Friday

night at Bill Brown Stadium. Scoring

for Blacksburg was senior Amalia Moore

and sophomore Addison McSorley. Blacksburg improves to 7-0-2, 3-0-2 and Hidden Valley dropped to 5-4, 1-4. CHS alums shine at Concord

The Concord University baseball team finished off a four-game sweep of West Virginia Wesleyan as it picked up 8-1 and 11-6 wins Sunday afternoon in Mountain East Conference action at Anderson Field.

The Mountain Lions run their win streak to 11 games as they improve to 21-12 overall and 12-6 in the MEC. WVWC falls to 10-22 overall and 5-13 in the league.

Former Christiansburg High School player Dawson Graff continued his hot streak with two hits in the 11-6 win.

His former teammate at CHS, MJ Hunter, has had three hits and picked up his fifth save of the season by tossing the final 2.2 innings, striking out three and giving up a late run.

Kitley's #33 to hang from rafters

Marty Gordon

NRV sports@ourvalley.org

Liz Kitley is probably the most decorated and familiar name in the history of Virginia Tech

Kitley, who played for five seasons, is the program's all-time leader in games started, minutes played, points scored and scoring average. She posted the most double figure scoring games in program history as well as field goals made, FG percentage, 30-point games and blocks. She holds the ACC record for rebounds (1,506) and double-doubles (76).

This past season, she led the Hokies to their first ACC regular-season title in program history, leading the league in scoring and rebounding en route to collecting her third consecutive ACC Player of the Year trophy. In addition, she earned first team All-ACC honors for the fourth time, All-Defensive Team accolades for the third time and was the Kay Yow Scholar Athlete of the Year for a third time.

On Saturday, Athletic Director Whit Babcock announced the university would retire her jersey.

Kitley, the program's most decorated player, concludes her career in Blacksburg with a lasting legacy that includes three ACC Player of the Year crowns, numerous program records and many memorable moments in maroon and orange.

basketball transcends statistics," Babcock said. "Her passion, work ethic and character have left an enduring legacy that is inspiring the next generation. Retiring her jersey is a symbolic gesture of gratitude

for the mark she has left on our women's basketball program and the hearts of Hokie Nation." A formal unveiling of her retired number 33 jersey will take place at Carilion Clinic Court at Cassell

Coliseum at a women's basketball game during the



PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

"Elizabeth's impact on Virginia Tech and women's 2024-25 season when "Liz Kitley Night" is celebrated. Kitley said she is appreciative of the honor.

"Thank you, Hokie Nation, for all of your support over the last five years, it's been quite a journey," Kitley said. "We've made a lot of memories and none of them would have been the same without you guys. We had a lot of success and I'm really proud of what we were able to do in Blacksburg."

The 6-foot-6 center assisted in ushering in a new era of women's basketball in Blacksburg, elevating the Hokies from a challenger program to a championship program. She helped the Hokies win 115 games and she went 66-11 (.857) at home in Cassell Coliseum, suffering just two losses in her last two seasons.

In each of the past three seasons, she has garnered AP All-America attention, culminating with her second team selection in 2024, the first time that a Hokie has earned that distinction twice. She was also a finalist for the Lisa Leslie Award, Wade Trophy and was a Wooden Award All-American.

<u>Compromise</u>

any new taxes. In total, the Governor proposed more than 230 amendments to the budget, and it includes many items that should resonate across the partisan divide.

By way of background, Virginia's revenues continue to rise steadily. Yearly tax collections

in the Commonwealth have risen by 45% over the past five years, which is due mostly to job and economic growth. In fact, our job growth over the past two years bests that of 42 other states. When you combine this news with the \$4.2 billion already in Virginia's

reserve fund and future revenues projected to be above forecasts, it's plain to see that no new taxes need to be raised in order to fund Commonwealth's priorities. The Governor proposed over \$1 billion in tax relief in the initial budget he presented to the General Assembly this past legislative session, while the budget passed by House and Senate Democrats included tax increases that would cost Virginians \$2.6 billion in total. The compromise sent back to the General Assembly is a good faith effort to pass a budget that does not burden Virginians with tax increases, while recognizing that the Democratic-led body is unlikely to go along with tax cuts.

Even with no tax increases, Virginia is well-positioned to invest in several areas of public importance. I'm pleased to report that the Common Ground budget includes a 3% pay raise for teachers and other state employees each year for the next two years. After next year's raise, Virginia's teachers' annual pay will

be raised - on average - nearly \$3,500 higher than the national average for teacher pay. This is a worthy investment in those who do so much to prepare our children for gainful employment, as well as all others who perform important public functions. Other investments in education include \$1 billion in additional higher education funding, and \$196 million in funding for at-risk students.

Additionally, important investments the Common Ground budget include \$70 million to expedite projects in the I-81corridor, making travel safer and more efficient. \$72.5 million will be allotted to community violence intervention, to include proven programs like Operation Ceasefire, Safer Communities, and the Community Violence Program. Intervention \$20 million will go toward additional support for local police departments, and \$3 million toward law enforcement officer wellness programs. The

compromise

includes

million in investments

budget

\$114

biotechnology toward and life science commercialization, and \$30 million to help with broadband expansion. These are but a few

examples of Governor Youngkin's desire to negotiate in faith with General Assembly Democrats on a responsible spending plan. While it does not include everything that either side of the debate wants, it meets the core goal of funding public necessities while not raising taxes on hard working Virginians. We'll soon learn whether these are also priorities of Virginia Democrats. the Delegate

representing the 42nd House District 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.



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