



News Messenger

Serving Montgomery County Since 1869

Blacksburg

Christiansburg

Saturday, May 25, 2024

www.montcova.com

USPS 016-490

\$1.00

Montgomery County Public School Board approves operating budget

Angelica Ramos
Contributing Writer

MONTGOMERY COUNTY- The Montgomery County School Board met on May 21, 2024 to celebrate student success and approve the operating budget for FY 2024-2025.

At the top of the meeting, the school board opened up the meeting to personnel and teachers to highlight students' success in CTE. Four young ladies from Auburn High School made history by winning two state championships. Until these four ladies, no one had previously won both competitions in the same year with the same students. Those wins were in Horse Judging and Hippology. These history-making young ladies then went

on to nationals where they earned a silver rating. Blacksburg High School teacher, Jay Mathis, acknowledged his two students who won their first state championship for Skills USA in Cybersecurity. This competition was 72 hours long and students Tyler Racek and Gabriel Mendoza, brought Blacksburg High School their first win in this competition. Blacksburg High School students also won state championships in Prepared Speech, won by Maisha Hudait, and Advertising and Design, won by Kallan Malabad. The BHS Drone team placed first in state as well. Ten teams brought success back home to Montgomery County from FBLA.

"Thank you," Mark Husband, Director of CTE and Virtual Learning, said to the

board, "for providing us another opportunity to recognize outstanding MCPS students."



The \$146,610,639 operating budget the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors approved for Montgomery County Public Schools reduced the original proposed budget by roughly \$900,000, so the school board had to find ways to reduce the budget. The school board did not cut anyone's salaries or cut funding that was

already planned for, they simply reallocated where funds were being placed. Board members said they did not want to adjust or hit any personnel issues such as staff pay and health insurance, but did review and revise the funds of the budget that were going towards items like school buses. Currently MCPS has four electric buses that are being replaced by diesel buses as the electric buses could not hold long enough charges and were struggling on certain bus routes. MCPS will be receiving four new buses additional to the four being replaced. During budget discussion, board members were concerned that funds were going toward positions they felt to be unnecessary and that they needed an updated version of the budget that better displays

relocations and revisions to the budget due to the funds approved by the Board of Supervisors. The school board voted to approve the budget with an addendum that asks for an updated version that shows said revisions.

"I'm just really pleased that we're moving toward better equity," Board Member Laura Purcell said, "for all of our positions and I really appreciate the ongoing advocacy of the veteran sitting board."

Board Chair Linwood Hudson agreed with Purcell, saying he believes the board is taking positive steps in the right direction with their votes and that the board will continue to make improvements for the future of Montgomery County Public Schools.

Christiansburg Red Lobster will remain open following Chapter 11 filing

CHRISTIANSBURG - The Christiansburg location of Red Lobster will remain open after the corporation closed several locations and filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection earlier this week.

"Christiansburg Red Lobster is open and excited to continue serving the New River Valley and all who travel here," said General Manager Chris Bell via Facebook on Tuesday.

Red Lobster released a statement about the Chapter 11 filing, also on Tuesday. The following is the statement in its entirety:

Dear Guests,
You may be aware that Red Lobster Filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. We'd like to take a moment to explain what this means for our company, and for you, our valued guests.

For more than five decades Red Lobster has been a part of your family's life. We've been there for your celebrations, big and small. We may



FILE PHOTO
The Christiansburg location of Red Lobster will remain open following the corporation's Chapter 11 filing.

be the place that you first discovered your love of seafood. Or where you met the love of your life on a first date. Birthdays, graduations, anniversaries and yes, weddings. We've been here for them all. And Red Lobster is determined to be there for these moments for generations to come. And that's why we filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.

Bankruptcy is a word that is often misunderstood. Filing for bankruptcy does not mean we are going out of business. In fact, it means just the

See RED LOBSTER, Page 4

New principal named at Margaret Beeks

BLACKSBURG - The Montgomery County School Board has approved Megan Hawley as the next principal at Margaret Beeks Elementary School.

Hawley is a graduate of MCPS and has held positions within the district including teacher and assistant principal. Since 2019, Hawley has served as the assistant principal at Auburn Elementary School.

"It's such a pleasure when we're able to promote home-grown talent into leadership positions," said MCPS Superintendent Bernard Bragen Jr. "She's flourished in every position she's had with MCPS and I'm confident she'll do the same as the principal at MBES."

Prior to joining the AES administrative team, Hawley taught in elementary classrooms for 11 years, including at MBES.

"While I am sad to leave the Auburn community, I will cherish the relationships and experiences I have gained from my time at AES," Hawley said. "I am so excited to return to the Margaret Beeks community, and I am honored to serve as their new principal. I



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCPS
Megan Hawley

look forward to meeting the students and collaborating with staff, families and the community. I am ready for an exciting journey with the Beeks Bears!"

Hawley's educational background includes an undergraduate and master's degree from Radford University. She's currently pursuing her doctoral degree from Radford University with a focus on Increasing Administrative Support to Reduce Teacher Burnout.

Hawley will begin leading MBES on July 1, 2024. She will replace Dr. Beth Poff who is retiring at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

MCPS

Warm Hearth Village celebrates 50-year anniversary

Angelica Ramos
Contributing Writer

BLACKSBURG- Warm Hearth Village in Blacksburg, founded by Wybe and Marietje Kroonje, is celebrating its 50th anniversary in the community.

Warm Hearth Village was founded in 1974 with the mission to create a community that respects people as they age and mature. The Kroonjes were Dutch immigrants who came to the United States after enduring the oppression of the second World War. Wybe Kroonje wanted to create a place for people to age and continue life gracefully, to feel honored, attract diversity, and cultivate a community.

Warm Hearth Village is nestled in 220 acres of woodlands in the heart of Blacksburg and is divided into several living options for residents. The acreage

also includes a multitude of trails, a clinic, a food pantry, and community gardens for residents to enjoy. Warm Hearth Village also hosts events that are open to anyone in the community, not just residents.

"In serving residents we strive for high quality and excellence," Warm Hearth's mission statement reads. "We are committed to providing an affordable, safe, comfortable, and attractive living environment - an environment where residents' later years can be enjoyable, relaxing, active and fruitful. The dignity and independence of our residents are of utmost importance and priority."

Warm Hearth Village is a nonprofit community and for 50 years has been dedicated to strategic growth and development, not only in their own

See ANNIVERSARY, Page 4



PHOTO BY ANGELICA RAMOS
Newspaper articles featuring Mr. Kroonje and promoting Warm Hearth displayed in honor of 50th anniversary.

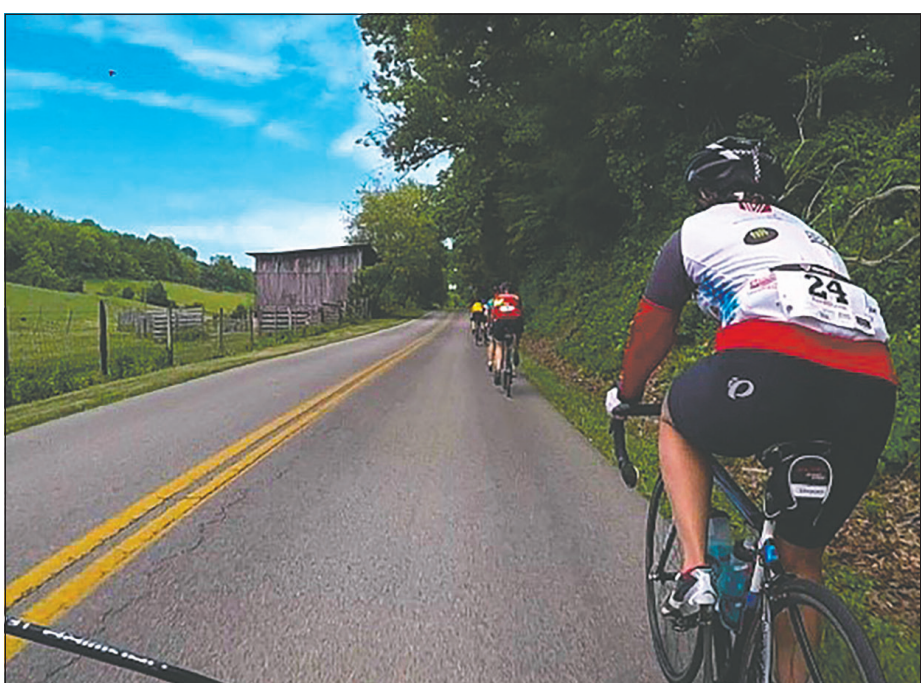


PHOTO COURTESY OF FCA ENDURANCE

The Wilderness Road Ride will bring hundreds of cyclists to the area today.

Wilderness Road Ride set to begin Saturday in Radford

Heather Bell
editor@ourvalley.org

The 33rd Annual Wilderness Road Ride is set for today, Saturday, May 25.

The ride starts and finishes in Radford's Bisset Park, with five routes to choose from, ranging from a "26-mile relaxed journey for novices and e-bikes, to a century challenge for the fittest cyclist," explained Fellowship of Christian Athletes Endurance Director of Operations Mark Long.

FCA Endurance worked out an arrangement with the New River Bicycle Association to take over the ride 14 years

ago. "The Wilderness Road Ride is a scenic and historical adventure that follows part of Daniel Boone's Wilderness Road," said Long. "Spring cycling in the New River Valley is absolutely spectacular."

"This is a recreational ride on paved roads for all cycling levels to enjoy, with something for everyone, and is a great ride for cyclists of all ages and athletic abilities. Rest stops are fully stocked to fuel the riders," reads a description of the event. "All routes will start and finish at Radford's Bisset Park, shelter #2, right, alongside the New River. Non-riders

See ROAD RIDE, Page 4

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, May 25:

Wilderness Road Ride

The 33rd Annual Wilderness Road Ride starts and finishes in Radford's Bisset Park. The Wilderness Road Ride is a scenic and historical adventure that follows part of Daniel Boone's Wilderness Road. This is a recreational ride on paved roads for all cycling levels to enjoy, with something for everyone - five routes to choose from ranging from a 26-mile relaxed journey for novices and e-bikes, to a century challenge for the fittest cyclist. This is a great ride for cyclists of all ages and athletic abilities. Rest stops are fully stocked to fuel the riders. For times and registration information, log onto wildernessroadride.org.

Blacksburg Farmers Market

At Market Square Park, 100 Draper Rd SW, Blacksburg; 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. The Blacksburg Farmers Market is a local, family-friendly gathering place in downtown Blacksburg featuring farmers of locally grown produce and meats, alongside artisans of baked goods and handmade crafts. For more information, visit <http://blacksburgfarmersmarket.com>.

Radford Farmer's Market

Every Saturday through October; 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion, 600 Unruh Dr. Visit weekly for an ever-changing supply of homemade goodies, crafts, plants, meats, produce, and more.

Sunday, May 26:

Vintage Market

At Market Square Park, 100 Draper Rd SW, Blacksburg; 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. The market is made up of a carefully chosen group of vendors selling a wide selection of quality vintage items, upcycled crafts, and occasional antiques. For more information, visit blacksburgfarmersmarket.com/vintage-market/

Monday, May 27:

No Radford City Council meeting

Due to Memorial Day, the Radford City Council will NOT hold its regularly scheduled meeting. The

next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 10.

Va. Dept. of Veterans Services Memorial Day ceremony

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS) will again host four Memorial Day Ceremonies on Monday, May 27, 2024, including at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin. The ceremony will begin at 11 a.m. The keynote speaker will be Vice Admiral Evan M. Chanik, (U.S. Navy, Retired). The cemetery address is 5550 Bagging Plant Road, Dublin, Va. 24084. Admission is free. The public is invited and encouraged to attend and participate.

Blacksburg Memorial Day Closings

Town administrative offices will be closed. There will be no BT service and BT offices will be closed. Blacksburg Community Center and Aquatic Center. No trash pickup in the SE quadrant. Pick-up will be Wed., May 29. Please have all trash at the curb by 7 a.m.

Tuesday, May 28:

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.

Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting

Due to the Memorial Day holiday, the BOS will

meet Tuesday, May 28. Public meetings are normally held 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.

Wednesday, May 29:

Blacksburg Farmers Market

At Market Square Park, 100 Draper Rd SW, Blacksburg; 2 - 6 p.m. The Blacksburg Farmers Market is a local, family-friendly gathering place in downtown Blacksburg featuring farmers of locally grown produce and meats, alongside artisans of baked goods and handmade crafts. For more information, visit <http://blacksburgfarmersmarket.com>.

Thursday, June 6:

American Legion meeting

The American Legion, Harvey Howe Carper Post 30 will meet at 6 p.m. at the VFW Post Home, 102 Watts St., Radford. For further information, please call 540-250-2283 or 540-239-9864.

Saturday, June 8:

Red Cross blood drive

At St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 103 E. Main St., Christiansburg; 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Appointments: <https://www.redcrossblood.org>.

Saturday, June 15:

Pilot Community yard sale

At the Pilot Community Center, 4449 Brush Creek Rd., Pilot, Va.; 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Event is free and open to the public. Renting a space is \$10. Bring your own tables and canopy. To reserve your space: 540-257-3336 or ali5jn@aol.com.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CARILION CLINIC

(Left to right) Martha Camper, Karrie Moses, Wendi Jobe, Dr. Christopher Pierce, Linda Hodges, Amy Kageals and Michelle Franklin celebrate the opening of a new dedicated pediatric specialty clinic at Carilion New River Valley Medical Center.

Carilion expands pediatric specialty services in the New River Valley

RADFORD - A new, dedicated pediatric clinic is open at Carilion New River Valley Medical Center

Carilion Children's celebrated a newly renovated, dedicated pediatric specialty clinic at Carilion New River Valley Medical Center (2900 Lamb Circle, Suite 210). The Carilion Children's New River Valley Multispecialty Clinic houses relocated pediatric services under one roof while also introducing several new services to the valley.

"We are thrilled to officially celebrate this amazing space," said Dr. Christopher Pierce, interim chair of Carilion Children's. "Our department's mission is to

improve the health of all kids. Bringing these crucial services closer to home for our New River Valley families allows us to do just that, improving access to specialty care and building on our commitment to the region."

Pierce joined care teams in a ribbon cutting this morning followed by tours of the space.

Existing Pediatric Cardiology, Endocrinology and Gastroenterology clinics all relocated to the new space in April. The clinic also houses two new specialties to the New River Valley: Child Development and Pediatric Neurology Services.

The renovated space includes four exam rooms, a procedure room and a pediatric-only waiting room to enhance the care experience for patients and their families.

To access this suite, patients should park in the front parking lot and use the main entrance. Complimentary valet parking and shuttles are also available should patients need them.

Patients can be referred to these specialty clinics by their child's primary care doctor. They may also call 540-731-2611 with any questions.

Carilion Clinic

Rescheduled Spring Garden Day set for June 1

Spring Garden Day has been rescheduled to Saturday, June 1 from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Montgomery Museum Garden located at 300 South Pepper St., Christiansburg.

This exciting event will feature the "Flower Art in the Garden" Theme Show, showcasing the creativity of local artists. Participants were tasked with decorating "flat flower" templates, thoughtfully crafted by students at Blacksburg High School, which will be placed throughout the site. Participants were encouraged to incorporate native southwest Virginia plants into their art work, resulting in a vibrant display that celebrates the region's natural beauty and artistic talent.

In addition to the art exhibit, Spring Garden Day offers a wonderful

opportunity for attendees to explore the Museum Garden with gardeners on-site to answer any questions. Visitors will also have the chance to engage with the Virginia Native Plant Society, Virginia Master Naturalists, and Virginia Master Gardeners, as several booths will be set up to provide information and insights into the rich botanical heritage of Southwest Virginia.

This event promises to be a delightful celebration of art, nature, and community. Everyone is invited to join us for an afternoon of inspiration and exploration in the Montgomery Museum Garden. This event is generously sponsored by Back to Nature Landscaping and Construction.

Montgomery Museum of Art and History

Looking for Some Good News?

Your Newspaper Subscription Includes Puzzles, Local Stories, Events & More

Great Ways to Start Your Day!



Subscribe Today for Print & Digital Access.

Local News Is Just the Beginning
Subscribe • Support • Advertise
(540) 389-9355

News Messenger



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CFNRV

Above: 2024 scholarship recipients gather at a celebratory luncheon, held this year May 5 at the Floyd Eco Village.

Community Foundation of the NRV awards scholarships to 92 students

BLACKSBURG - This spring, the Community Foundation of the New River Valley (CFNRV) awarded more than \$152,000 in scholarships to 92 students either from the New River Valley (NRV) or studying here.

This outstanding group of students includes 60 high school seniors, 31 college students, and one future veterinarian and 20 of these students are the first in their families to attend college or university. In early May, the CFNRV celebrated at a luncheon with the recipients and their families, along with the donors that make the scholarships possible.

“Ever since we awarded our first \$500 scholarship in 2002, we have had the privilege of supporting students during their educational journeys,” said Jessica Wirgau, the CFNRV’s Chief Executive Officer. “In the more than 20 years since, thanks to the generosity of many donors, we have supported more than 1,200 students. We are incredibly proud of these students and the impact they have gone on to have in their communities.”

This year’s 92 recipients are funded by 53 different endowed scholarship funds set up by families, individuals, and businesses. Each of these funds has a unique purpose and set of criteria for the type of student the donor(s) would like to support. These criteria can include things like wanting to support students pursuing specific majors or career paths, students from specific regions, schools, or economic backgrounds, and much more.

Many of these scholarships are renewable, allowing students to re-apply each year to get support throughout their time in school. One such fund is the Blue Collar Scholarship Fund. The family and friends of Kent Quesenberry set up this fund in honor of Kent, a Master Plumber and Class B contractor, after he passed away suddenly in 2021.

“When we began the Blue Collar Scholarship, I hoped it would not be long before we could grant our first scholarship,” said Joni Quesenberry of Riner, Kent’s wife. “I wish Kent could be the one to hand the student a scholarship, but my daughters and I are thrilled to do it for him. We are glad to have a way to honor Kent’s memory and help students of blue collar families continue their education.”

Each year, the scholarship awards that students receive depend on the size of each endowed scholarship fund. Once the scholarship fund reaches a minimum endowment of \$15,000, the money in the fund is invested and the earnings generated become that year’s scholarship awards. The goal of each fund is to exist forever, awarding money to students for generations to come. This year, the CFNRV awarded its first-ever full scholarship (which includes tuition, room, and board not covered by other financial aid sources) to a high school

senior, Caiden Delp of Galax.

Delp, who plans to attend Virginia Tech in the fall, received this award from the Morrow-Stevens Foundation Fund. Delp shared her gratitude, saying, “I am at a loss for words at the benefit this will have on my future.” Delp, along with this year’s 91 other scholarship recipients, all have bright futures ahead of them. The CFNRV is honored to play a role in their education.

The CFNRV’s scholarship application opens online each October at cfnrv.org/scholarships. High school seniors, current students, and older adults returning to school are encouraged to apply. Scholarships are available for those attending or planning to attend colleges or universities trade or technical schools. Additionally, one fund gives out an annual scholarship to a student attending the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine. Those interested in setting up a scholarship fund can reach out to the CFNRV team at cfnrv@cfnrv.org or 540-381-8999.

The list of the CFNRV’s 2024 scholarship recipients, organized in alphabetical order by school, includes:

Auburn High School:

Rylee Lyons received \$1,950 from the Juanita Shelor Hall Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Kailin Phillips received \$1,950 from the Juanita Shelor Hall Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Kasey Rosenbaum received \$750 from the Teel Family Scholarship Fund.

Blacksburg High School:

Audrey Deck received \$1,000 from the Diana Love Legacy Instrumental Music Scholarship Fund.

Matteo Hirel received \$1,740 from the Jim Gwazdauskas Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Henry Holt received \$1,130 from the Wings Scholarship Fund.

Kyle Klemba received \$1,000 from the Allan Mandelstamm Scholarship Fund.

Kallan Malabad received \$2,100 from the June Liang Wang Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Allison McDonald received \$1,500 from the Chris Dudley Scholarship Fund.

Evan McGrory received \$2,000 from the Blacksburg Volunteer Rescue Squad Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Isabella Prevette received \$1,000 from the BHS National Honor Society Legacy Scholarship Fund.

Tyler Racek received \$1,000 from the Highlands Fund.

Evelyn Rhoads received \$1,000 from the Highlands Fund.

Ekaterina Saveleva received \$1,800 from the Auxiliary of Radford Community Hospital/CNRVMC Scholarship Fund.

Bang Truong received \$5,000 from the Jane Ann Wells Scholarship Fund.

Ryan Zhao received \$2,100 from the June Liang Wang Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Christiansburg High School:

Chase Allen received \$1,000 from the Doris Huff Elliott Business Excellence Scholarship Fund.

Spencer Conner received \$1,320 from the Marcus Allen Ford Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Alaysia Graves received \$5,000 from the Jane Ann Wells Scholarship Fund.

Griffin Hatcher received \$1,130 from the Wings Scholarship Fund.

Rylie Horning received \$1,000 from the Highlands Fund.

Alaina Meadows received \$1,420 from the Eric E. Sutphin Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Eastern Montgomery High School:

Bethany Abbott received \$1,800 from the Auxiliary of Radford Community/CNRVMC Scholarship Fund.

Ryan Epperly received \$1,470 from the Ray E. and Mary B. Epperly Family Fund (Ryan Epperly is not related to Ray and Mary Epperly).

Wyatt Jones received \$1,200 from the Marie Mandelstamm Scholarship Fund.

Kelly Mills received \$1,470 from the Ray E. and Mary B. Epperly Family Fund.

Riley Ollis received \$1,335 from the Adrienne Marie Rhudy Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Floyd County High School:

Lathom Barbieri received \$740 from the Casey Jones Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Ford Bowman received \$1,784 from the James E. and Kate H. Board Scholarship Fund.

Lorelei Cox received \$1,335 from the Adrienne Marie Rhudy Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Matthew Cox received \$1,000 from the Citizens Scholarship Fund.

Ruby Dowd received \$2,000 from the Amber D. Lutz Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Clare Ellis received \$1,784 from the James E. and Kate H. Board Scholarship Fund.

Gladys Garcia received \$3,000 from the RBN Inc. Appreciation Scholarship Fund.

Grace Marrone received \$1,000 from the Simón-Flora-Grohs Scholarship Fund.

Silas Ocampo received \$1,000 from the Williamsburg Consort Symphonic Band Scholarship Fund.

Sophie Perdue received \$1,784 from the James E. and Kate H. Board Scholarship Fund.

Gael Perez-Delgado received \$1,000 from the Simón-Flora-Grohs Scholarship Fund.

Mackenzie Thompson received \$780 from the Mary Ann King Peters Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Garrett Weaver received \$1,784 from the James E. and Kate H. Board Scholarship Fund.

Rosalind Weeks received \$2,000 from the Earl Vest and Mamie Phillips Vest Scholarship Fund.

Nicholas White received \$1,000 from the Larry Turman Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Jack Wilder received \$1,784 from the James E. and Kate H. Board Scholarship Fund.

Natasha Yuvanavattana received \$1,120 from the Woodrow and Elma Turman Scholarship Fund.

Galax High School:

Caiden Delp received a full scholarship (tuition, room, and board) from the Morrow-Stevens Foundation Fund.

Emily Edwards received \$1,000 from the Highlands Fund.

Erik Soto received \$1,000 from the Laura J. Pynn Scholarship Fund.

Giles County High School:

Olivia Burton received \$1,000 from the Domermuth Scholarship Fund.

Kylie Douthat received \$2,500 from the Raymond M. and Edith H. Ingram Scholarship Fund.

Jordan Lucas received \$2,500 from the Raymond M. and Edith H. Ingram Scholarship Fund.

Aaron Miller received \$1,335 from the Adrienne Marie Rhudy Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Brogan Pennington received \$500 from the Virginia Whitaker Memorial/Eggleston Community Scholarship Fund.

Hannah Sarver received \$2,500 from the Raymond M. and Edith H. Ingram Scholarship Fund.

Kaitlyn Steele received \$1,800 from the Auxiliary of Radford Community Hospital/CNRVMC Scholarship Fund.

Grayson County High School:

Evelyn Moxley received \$2,000 from the Plummer Family Scholarship Fund.

Pulaski County High School:

Laken Barnette received \$2,000 from the Jo Ann Slate Smith Scholarship Fund.

Jadyn McAlexander received \$2,000 from the Jo Ann Slate Smith Scholarship Fund.

Radford High School:

Dawson Martin received \$1,018 from the Warren Lloyd Holtzman Freedom Scholarship Fund.

Addie Saunders received \$1,335 from the Adrienne Marie Rhudy Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Springhouse:

Spencer Nelson received \$1,000 from the T. Scott Eaton Scholarship Fund

College students and veterinary student:

Ferris College:

Jaycee Chaffin received \$1,500 from the Earl Vest and Mamie Phillips Vest Scholarship Fund.

See **SCHOLARSHIPS**, Page 6

Marketplace ourvalley.org

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

Legal - Town of Christiansburg
LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANBURG PLANNING COMMISSION
The Town of Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 3, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, pursuant to 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

Legal - Town of Christiansburg
Amendment to the Christiansburg Town Code, Chapter 40, Section 40-2 Definitions and Section 40-3 - Administrator, to allow for additional administrative and planning commission reviews. Proposed revisions to Section 40-2 change the definition of "plat" and "preliminary plat subdivision" for consistency with the Virginia State Code definitions. Proposed revisions to Section 40-3 include: (1) allowance to the agent or the planning commission to approve lot line revisions, lot line vacations, accept on behalf of the town publicly dedicated easements including, but not limited to,

Legal - Town of Christiansburg
utility, access, and drainage easements, and review for tentative approval preliminary subdivision plats that contain 11 or more lots, but less than 50 lots; and (2) allowance of tentative approval to the planning commission for the acceptance of the dedication of public rights-of-way on behalf of the town and for preliminary subdivision plats that contain 50 or more lots.
A copy of the proposed ordinance amendment and the Town's Zoning Ordinance may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, during normal office hours

Legal - Town of Christiansburg
of 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Retta Jackson, Planning Director, at (540) 382-6120, ext. 1120 or by email at rjackson@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.
MAKE AN "A" IN ADVERTISING! Call 389-9355

BOUGHT. SOLD. SAVED.
THE CLASSIFIEDS DELIVER!
It's easy to sell your stuff! To place your ad, call 389-9355

NIH award funds Virginia Tech scientist's study of link between diet, diabetes, and heart disease

The relationship between a high-fat diet and increased risk of Type 2 diabetes and heart disease is well-known. But what is the connection and how does it work?

Jessica Pflieger, assistant professor at the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC, was recently awarded a grant from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health to investigate the role of a certain protein in the connection between high fat diet and heart disease in Type 2 diabetes. Photo by Clayton Metz for Virginia Tech. In Type 2 diabetes, the most common form of the disease globally, cells become insensitive to the hormone insulin — including those in the heart. That insensitivity impairs heart cells' ability to function, leading to diabetic heart disease and a doubling of the risk for heart failure and death. Heart disease is the most common cause of death from diabetes.

"But we don't understand how it happens," said Jessica Pflieger, assistant professor at the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC and its Center for Vascular and Heart Research. "How do heart cells become insulin insensitive and how does that lead to the heart disease? In my lab, we're trying to see how high-fat diet impacts the cardiomyocytes — the muscles that make the heart contract — to be insulin resistant and ultimately damaged."

Pflieger and her lab will study that connection with funding from a new, five-year, \$2.5 million grant from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health.

Pflieger, also assistant professor in the Department



Photo by Clayton Metz for Virginia Tech.

Jessica Pflieger, assistant professor at the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC.

of Biological Sciences in Virginia Tech's College of Science, believes the key is a protein called REDD1, the role of which has not been investigated in the heart. She suspects high-fat diets keep the protein from doing its part to help heart cells remain insulin-sensitive.

Typically, the pancreas produces insulin, which is

crucial to cells being able to take up blood sugar, or glucose, and convert it to energy.

In Type 2 diabetes, the body develops insulin resistance, which hinders cells' ability to make needed energy. Unused glucose builds in the blood and weakens cells. In heart cells, that lack of energy can affect the heart, sometimes fatally.

Doctors treat this kind of diabetes by managing blood sugar and giving insulin, which targets the downstream symptoms of the disease — with limited effectiveness and without addressing the disease's root causes.

"We try to control the blood sugar and other downstream effects, but it's hard to do that because we don't really understand the full extent of what's happening in insulin resistance," Pflieger said. She aims to identify causes of insulin resistance, and she believes the connection between high-fat diet and the REDD1 protein's performance is key.

"We predict that restoring the function of this protein will restore insulin sensitivity and prevent cardiac dysfunction," Pflieger said. "Investigating these connections could be key to developing new treatments for Type 2 diabetes and diabetic heart disease."

Parallel to this study, Pflieger and her lab are investigating additional ways to restore insulin sensitivity in Type 2 diabetes. That research is funded by a grant from the Seale Innovation Fund of the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute.

Leigh Anne Kelley for Virginia Tech

Road Ride

from page 1

can enjoy beautiful Bisset Park, the New River, and downtown Radford, while their families and friends are out riding. Fully supported aid stations will be positioned at regular intervals along the course and the start/finish location. Aid stations will be supplied with Heed Hammer Nutrition fuel, as well as water and plenty of other snacks. SAG vehicles will be on the course for emergencies."

Long said he hopes motorists will stay alert to the hundreds of cyclists on the roads on Saturday.

"The WRR attracts about 250 cyclists, both local and out of state and region, so remember to share the road and keep a watchful eye for cyclists riding this Memorial Day weekend," he said. "FCA Endurance is a 5013c non-profit, so all proceeds go back into our community, primarily sending youth to FCA Summer Sports Camps."

Red Lobster

from page 1

opposite. It is a legal process that allows us to make changes to our business and our cost structure so that Red Lobster can continue as a stronger company going forward. As many of you know, we recently made the tough decision to close a number of our restaurants.

The truth is, some of the world's most beloved brands like Delta and Hertz have used this same process to protect their futures and their customers stood with them and rooted them on. And because of that, they emerged stronger.

Together, we have a lot worth rooting for. We've

made delicious, high-quality seafood accessible for generations. Many of you tried lobster for the first time at our restaurant. We've brought you Lobsterfest and Crabfest over the years. And, of course, no meal is complete without Cheddar Bay Biscuits.

We are here and ready to continue making memories with you.

Join us. Dine with us. Root for us. Together, we can write a new chapter.

Staff report

Anniversary

from page 1

facilities, but in the Town of Blacksburg overall. The Warmth Hearth Foundation raises funds that provide financial support to seniors who cannot afford the cost of their health care or housing as well as providing scholarships and emergency assistance for employees to aid in achieving their health and educational goals. The Warm Hearth Foundation provides roughly \$600,000 in funds per year.

Warm Hearth Village, in the spirit and legacy of the Kroonje's, works with the neighboring colleges (Virginia Tech, Radford, New River Community College, etc.) to offer internships to the student body as well as provide volunteer opportunities to students and Montgomery County community members. In doing this, they honor the 100-year plan Wybe and Marietje Kroonje

had outlined for this development. The employees and residents of Warm Hearth Village work hard to keep that legacy alive. They currently have Virginia Tech students working with residents to record their life stories and histories.

Many members of the leadership at Warm Hearth have been with the facilities for 20 years now like: William Lester, president and chief executive officer, Tamba Dixon, director of marketing and development, and Robbie Hickerson, director of housing and resident services.

Residents, leadership and Montgomery County community members alike are ecstatic to welcome in this golden anniversary for such a predominant and essential organization and facility.

News Messenger

Established 1869

(540) 389-9355
P.O. Box 1125 • Salem, VA 24153

USPS 016-490 Online: www.ourvalley.org

Michael Showell, *Publisher*

Heather Bell, *Editor*

hbell@mainstreetnewspapers

Aila Boyd, *Executive Editor*

aboyd@ourvalley.org

Wendi Craig, *Advertising Consultant*

advertise@ourvalley.org

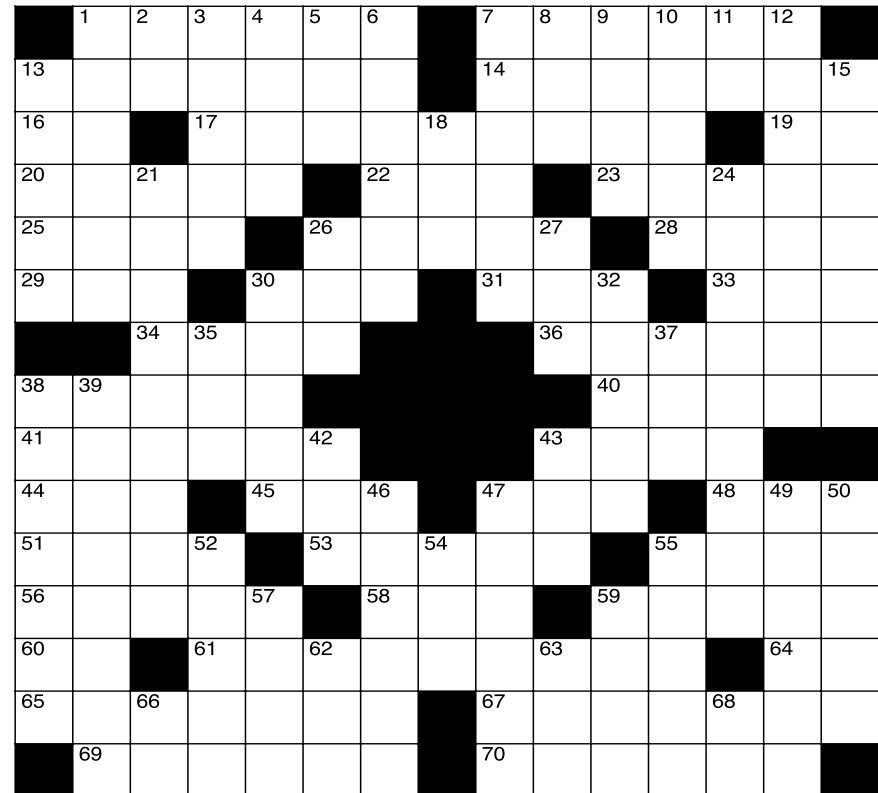
Give us your view:

editor@ourvalley.org

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

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- CLUES ACROSS**
- Package
 - Wear away
 - Joins a leaf to a stem
 - Worsen
 - Promotes international cooperation (abbr.)
 - Your folks
 - Publicity
 - Moves up
 - Dept. of Labor
 - Physicist Enrico
 - Whitney and Manning are two
 - Human foot (pl.)
 - Coral is an example
 - Extended error correction
 - Small amount
 - Dash
 - The greatest of all time
 - Middle Eastern country
 - Ravine
 - Cup-like cavity
 - Chemical substances
 - Extremely stupid behavior
 - He built Arantea
 - Beverage beloved by Brits
 - Cereal plant
 - Signal
 - A bar bill
 - Comedienne Paris
 - Preface to a book
 - Stores grain
 - In a way, medicated
 - Small island (British)
 - An Indiana-based hoopster
 - Measures width of printed matter
 - Riders use this to transport goods
 - Once more
 - Thin layers
 - Says again
 - Cleans thoroughly
 - Warnings
- CLUES DOWN**
- Relating to male organ
 - Indicates position
 - Covers with frost
 - Makes a soft murmuring sound
 - Wood
 - Type of fuel
 - Confused
 - Where you go at night
 - Canadian flyers
 - Type of birch tree
 - Beloved Welsh princess
 - Coated
 - Smooth substance of crushed fruit
 - Improves intellectually
 - A sign of assent
 - Island-based Italians
 - Pragmatic
 - Peter's last name
 - A bag-like structure in a plant or animal
 - Mexican city
 - Sir Samuel ____, Brit. statesman
 - Summer Olympics were just here
 - Fiddler crabs
 - Southern military academy
 - Tumors
 - Speaks incessantly
 - Sacred sound in Indian religions
 - Transactions
 - Et-__
 - Reminders
 - Doesn't interest
 - Norse gods
 - Canola is one type
 - Beloved sportscaster Craig
 - Irish mother goddess
 - Daddy
 - Press against lightly
 - Sound unit
 - Master of Ceremonies
 - Morning

YOUR LOCAL NEWS



JUST THE WAY YOU LIKE IT!

News Messenger

Serving Montgomery County Since 1869

DIGITAL ONLY
One Year Digital Subscription \$29.00

DIGITAL & PRINT
Yearly Print & Digital Subscription \$72.00

PRINT ONLY
Yearly Print Only Subscription \$46.00 Radford \$55.00 Virginia \$59.00 Out of State

Subscribe online at montcova.com or mail to address below

SUBSCRIPTION TO NEWS MESSENGER

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

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

Mail to: Circulation Department, NEWS MESSENGER,

P.O. BOX 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901 or call us at (304) 647-5724.

OBITUARIES

Connor, Marion (Gail)

Marion (Gail) Connor, 91, of Blacksburg, passed away peacefully at her home May 18, 2024 after a long battle with cancer.

Gail was born in Tichnor, Ark. to Lee Crafton and Erah Kate Connor on Oct. 3, 1932. She was the 13th of 17 children. Gail moved to Blacksburg after high school where she met and married her husband John Jennelle, with whom she raised her two loving daughters, Rita Kay and Sharon Denise Jennelle.

Gail was preceded in death by her parents; her former husband, John; 15 siblings; her daughter Rita; and her great grandson, Tully Jennelle. She is survived by her sister Nina Ruth Selig; daughter Sharon Jennelle Snyder and her husband Craig; three grandchildren, Tavish Jennelle, Zachary and Natalie Snyder; and one great grandchild, Silas Jennelle.

Gail was a dedicated employee of Moog



Industries (previously PolyScientific) for 55 years, a loyal Virginia Tech Hokies and Golden State Warriors fan, and a loving mother and grandmother. Gail was a sharp dresser and modeled for local boutiques. She also loved to travel, dance and was an avid bird watcher. She also loved eating and talking with her friends at the restaurant 622 North.

A gathering for friends and family will be held at Gail's home, located at 788 Davis Street in Blacksburg, June 8, 3- 6 p.m. Donations to Intrepid Healthcare and Hospice to support the amazing work of Stacy, Sarah, Miriam, Courtney, Ruth, Jason, and Candice; or to the Heritage House Assisted Living to support the wonderful work of her neighbor and friend Hugh would be greatly appreciated. Thanks to her loving friend Dora for her never ending love and support.

Dawson, June

June Dawson, 73, of Manhattan, New York passed away unexpectedly May 15, 2024 in that city.

She was born in Galveston, Texas, the daughter of Wilfred Thomas Dawson and Nita Logan Dawson, but lived in five separate states as she grew up while her father's career with CBS involved a number of transfers. She was a graduate of Green Mountain College in Vermont. Her adult years were spent as a Confidential Secretary for The Metropolitan Transit Authority of New York, from which she was recently retired.

She is survived by her mother, her sister Diane Dawson Hearn and husband Walter, all of Blacksburg; niece Leana Beth Hearn Fischer and husband Dan of Christiansburg; niece Melanie June Hearn Hay and husband John of Kingston, New York; and numerous cousins.



June enjoyed the simple things in life: walks on familiar city streets, gatherings with friends to celebrate holidays, birthdays or various outings, and dining at her favorite neighborhood restaurants where all the wait staff knew her. Most of all she cherished her visits to Blacksburg to visit her beloved family and enjoy the beauty of the

natural surroundings. Hers was a gentle and compassionate nature, quick to smile or offer a kind word. To all who knew her she was charm itself and a gift of life.

Graveside services will be held at Memorial Gardens in Blacksburg Tuesday, May 28 at 11 a.m. with Father Wade Miller officiating. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to a favorite charity and please give a hug to your loved ones in memory of June.

ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

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

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

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

BAPTIST

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

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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

CHURCH OF GOD

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

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

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

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

(DOC - DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

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

ECKANKAR

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

EPISCOPAL

Grace Episcopal Church, 210 Fourth Street Radford. Welcoming and accepting, we have been a part of the Radford community for more than 130 years. ALL ARE WELCOME. Grace offers an 8:00am Contemplative

Montgomery County WORSHIP DIRECTORY

TIME TO REST

Read Exodus 30:1 through 32:35

"This project has to be done right, and it has to be done soon. Work all weekend if you have to." Some work assignments make us wonder if we need to make a few clones to help us get the work done. Life's responsibilities may seem larger than we can handle, yet we need to learn the importance of rest.

"It will be a sign between me and the Israelites forever, for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day he rested and was refreshed" (Exodus 31:17).

God created the Sabbath for two key purposes. First, people need to set aside a day to worship God and fellowship with His people. Second, we need a day of rest and refreshing. Scientific research bears this out.

Nearly everyone must contend with deadlines and expectations from others. God, however, wants us to set aside time to rest and to seek Him. Obeying His instructions for rest and worship actually helps us gain the energy and renewal we need to be more effective and productive in the responsibilities we carry.

Prayer Suggestion: God, please direct me in ways to better rest in You.

Quicklook: Exodus 31:14-17

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

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

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

LUTHERAN

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

Our Saviour Lutheran Church ELCA, 1845 Cambria St NE, Christiansburg. Celebrate Word and Sacrament as we worship with varied liturgy, hymns and music. Join our inclusive community in person or online Sundays at 10:00 am (youtube.com/@OSLCCburg), followed by refreshments and fellowship. Ministries include Bible study, choir, food ministry, and crafters. Little Free Pantry and Library available 24-7 by the parking lot. Parent's Morning Out offers faith-based activities and play for children 16 month - 5 years select weekdays. Wheelchair accessible. Learn how you may contribute to our ministries at www.oslc-cburg.org. 540-382-2223.

St. Michael Lutheran Church, 2308 Merrimac Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060. Worship service each Sunday at 10 AM, Sunday School 9 AM. We are a community of God's people where

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

MULTI-CULTURAL NON-DENOMINATIONAL

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

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

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

Compassion Church, 1820 Second Street, Radford, 639-6287, Our music is passionate, our worship is real, and Pastor

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

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

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

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

UNITED METHODIST

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

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

WESLEYAN

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

Little, Charleen

Charleen Little, 74, of Blacksburg, died Sunday, May 19, 2024.

She was born in Soddy-Daisy, Tenn. on November 19, 1949, to the late Mr. and Mrs. Emma Jernigan. She was also preceded in death by her sister, Jeannette Broom.

She enjoyed her vocation as a tax accountant and her many years at Altice Tax. She was also a longtime volunteer at Floyd County Public Schools and an avid member of the PTA.



She is survived by her husband, John Little; daughter, Katherine Barkley (Jeff Caldwell); grandchildren, James Barkley, Daniel Barkley, Chelesa Barkley, and Christan Caldwell; and many other nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held Friday, May 24, 2024 in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Minister J.B. Beane officiating. The family received friends prior to the service.

Reece, Casey James

Casey James Reece, of Blacksburg, died unexpectedly Monday, May 13, 2024. He was 37.

Casey attended Giles High School and grew up in Newport, Va. Upon graduation, he went to Nashville Auto Diesel College to complete his welding degree. While he enjoyed welding, he later obtained his Master's Plumbing license. Casey was a man of many talents and always willing to help a friend.

In his youth, friends would come over to find Casey outfitted completely in a ghillie suit, pretending to be in the marines. When playing outside, he often found the closest creek and would spend hours happily overturning rocks to find the creatures hidden beneath. His bedroom contained aquariums filled with some of those creatures, from snakes to frogs to turtles and more. As he grew up, Casey's love for the outdoors grew too, and he spent many days kayaking the New River and finding treasures of lost river belongings. When not on the river, he loved using his hands to fix things and create art with metal. He adored riding through the mountains, spending the day at Potts Creek, and then equally enjoyed fixing what he had broken on his four-wheeling adventures. He always brought a smile with him into every room, and it was usually accompanied by a short, sweet laugh. His enjoyment of the simple things in life, like animals and the outdoors, made him incredibly easy to spend the day with.

While Casey held many titles, he was proud to be a father to two boys and one little girl who had him wrapped around



her finger. He was the dad that started a nerf gun war just prior to bedtime. Being a giant kid himself, he got out every Lego piece to build a plane, skyscraper or whatever his boys dreamed of making. He'd even stay up until 2 a.m. just to have it done for them when they awoke in the morning. The Christmas tree never got a proper topper because he was insistent the GI Joe's in ghillie suits be camouflaged throughout the tree. Many

didn't know, but he was an expert at floral arrangements and would often pick bouquets for his wife.

Casey leaves behind many family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Kelly, and their children, Mark, Cameron and Lily, of Blacksburg; by his parents Mark and Kim Reece of Newport, and Glenda Wesley of Gretna; by his brother Drake and sister Angela; and his grandfather Barry Reece; and many loving friends, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

It is impossible to find words for how much we are going to miss him.

A celebration of life for close family and friends will be held in June. In keeping with the kind of man Casey was, dress will be casual. In lieu of flowers, please consider either donating to a higher education fund for Casey's children or by donating to the New River Conservancy.

Virginia 529 (higher education) Account: Gift ID LYOF0VD (Cameron R.) or email 529 gift card to knuechte@gmail.com

New River Conservancy: (https://newriverconservancy.org/donate/memory-gift/).

Wood, Donald Lee

Donald Lee Wood, 86, of Christiansburg, passed away peacefully from this world to his heavenly home Sunday, May 19, 2024, surrounded by his family.

Don worked at Lynchburg Foundry for 35 years and retired and worked at Plymouth, Inc. for five years.

He was a faithful man of God and loved his Lord. He lived for him seven days a week, 24 hours a day. He was also a loving devoted husband and dad.

He is survived by his loving wife, Rachel T. Wood; children, JoAnn Wood Lytton (Dennis), Rodney Wood (Maura) and Susan Flinchum Wood (Eugene);



grandchildren, Nicholas Wood, Jeremiah Flinchum, Nicole Howell Lytton and Keith Lytton; great-grandchildren, Christian Brightwell, Hunter Brightwell, Brooklyn Howell and Caleb Lytton; and great-great-grandchild, Kal-El Brightwell.

A funeral service was held Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 2 p.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home chapel with Brother Don Leonard officiating. Interment followed at Roselawn Memorial Gardens, Christiansburg. The family received friends prior to the service at McCoy Funeral Home.

Click It or Ticket enforcement underway

RICHMOND – With the Memorial Day holiday on the way and summer just around the corner, Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) joins Virginia's local law enforcement and State Police to remind motorists to buckle up. The national Click It or Ticket enforcement campaign runs now through June 2, 2024 in an effort to keep Virginians safe on the roads. DMV partnered with Virginia State Police, Chesterfield County Police Department, Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU and AAA Mid-Atlantic at AAA's Chesterfield office for a news conference to kick off the Click It or Ticket campaign.

"Buckling up when you get in the car is the easiest way to protect yourself in the event of a crash, and it only takes seconds," said DMV Commissioner Gerald Lackey, the Governor's Highway Safety Representative.

"Last year, 335 unrestrained people died in crashes and there were over 1,400 serious injuries. These numbers show us that we need to continue spreading awareness about the importance of seat belts."

According to the most recent statewide seat belt survey, 26.8% of Virginians were still not wearing a seat belt. Last year 54% of people killed in traffic crashes were unrestrained in a vehicle that had safety restraints – sobering statistics ahead of the upcoming holiday weekend's expected rush.

According to AAA, the roads are expected to be some of the busiest ever for the Memorial Day holiday. Nationally, 38.4 million are expected to travel by car for the holiday, the most ever since AAA began forecasting holiday travel back in 2000. In Virginia, just over a million Virginians are expected to take a road trip over the long holiday

weekend. That's 4% higher than last year and less than 2% shy of the Memorial Day travel record set 19 years ago in 2005.

"Travelers could see busy roads and traffic in a lot of areas this holiday weekend which increases the risk of a crash," said Morgan Dean, Manager for Public and Government Affairs for AAA Mid-Atlantic. "That's why it's so important for drivers to buckle up, everyone, every trip, before they pull out of the driveway or parking space."

"Protect yourself and others by following the law and wearing your seatbelt," said Colonel Gary T. Settle, Superintendent of the Virginia State Police. "We want you to reach your destination safely and without injury. Virginia's state troopers take occupant safety very seriously because we know seatbelts save lives. Simply put, click it or receive a ticket."

DMV and their partners urge parents to ensure they are correctly buckling their children and themselves.

"At the Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU we see the tragedy that follows a crash if a child is not properly secured. It's heartbreaking knowing many of these injuries could have been prevented if the child had been in the right safety seat and properly secured," said Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU Pediatric Injury Prevention Outreach and Education Coordinator Corri Miller-Hobbs. "Please, no matter how short the distance make sure your child is properly fastened in a seat that is right for them."

"Click It or Ticket is aimed at changing people's behavior in a way that could save their life. We want to remind folks to make safety the norm by buckling

up every time you get in your vehicle," said Chesterfield County Police Acting Chief of Police Lieutenant Colonel Brad Badgerow. "Parents, you are setting an example. Help your child build a life-saving habit by ensuring that you and your child are properly buckled every time you get in your vehicle."

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, buckling your seat belt can reduce your risk of death in a crash by 45%. DMV reminds you not to stay silent when it comes to seat belt safety.

"Talk to your loved ones, don't just assume they buckle up," said John Saunders, DMV Highway Safety Office Director of Outreach. "If you get in the car with someone and you see they aren't buckled, speak up and remind them that their life and yours could depend on it."

Scholarships

from page 3

Kenzie Chaffin received \$1,500 from the Earl Vest and Mamie Phillips Vest Scholarship Fund.

New River Community College:

Sydney Farley received \$2,000 from the Josephine D. Shotts Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Caroline Hale received \$600 from the Evelyn Rutrough Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Radford University:

Hollie Fletcher received \$1,000 from the Muffo Family Scholarship Fund.

Taylor Rasmussen received \$2,000 from the Josephine D. Shotts Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Owen Saunders received \$1,018 from the Warren Lloyd Holtzman Freedom Scholarship Fund.

Aubrey Shanks received \$540 from the Living4Bri Scholarship Fund.

Virginia Tech:

Shelby Bellows received \$2,666 from the Virginia Tech Women's Club Scholarship Fund.

Madison Blake received \$2,666 from the Virginia Tech Women's Club Scholarship Fund.

Ainsley Brewer received \$2,666 from the Virginia Tech Women's Club Scholarship Fund.

Krista Carlton received \$2,666 from the Virginia Tech Women's Club Scholarship Fund.

Sai Ashraya Chegu received \$2,666 from the Virginia Tech Women's Club Scholarship Fund.

Ainsley Duff received \$2,666 from the Virginia Tech Women's Club Scholarship Fund.

Austin Elliott received a total of \$1,500 from two funds: the Blue Collar Scholarship Fund (\$1,000) and the Lambda Horizon Scholarship Fund (\$500).

Elizabeth Eroshenko received \$2,666 from the Virginia Tech Women's Club Scholarship Fund.

Ella Fitzgerald received \$2,666 from the Virginia Tech Women's Club Scholarship Fund.

Grayson Haskins received \$1,000 from the Highlands Fund.

Caleb Johnston received \$1,200 from the Marie Mandelstamm Scholarship Fund.

Gage Kelly received \$3,940 from the Lineweaver Family Scholarship Fund.

Suin Kim received \$2,666 from the Virginia Tech Women's Club Scholarship Fund.

Hayden Kyle received \$1,000 from the VFW Post 5311 Legacy Scholarship Fund.

Lacey Ngo received \$2,666 from the Virginia Tech Women's Club Scholarship Fund.

Megan Phan received \$2,666 from the Virginia Tech Women's Club Scholarship Fund.

Harbalbeen Rai received \$2,666 from the Virginia Tech Women's Club Scholarship Fund.

Ty Robertson received \$540 from the A. Phillip Meadows Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Plus, one student from each of the following schools: Sydney Fritz, who attends Brown University, received \$1,000 from the Terry Helms Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Katherine Widner, who attends James Madison University, received \$1,080 from the W.F. Teel Scholarship Fund.

Carson Gilmore, who attends Rice University, received \$900 from the Dana R. and Marilyn Spencer Scholarship Fund.

Sophia Craig, who attends Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine (VMCVM), received \$1,000 from the VMCVM of 1990 Shelter Veterinarian Scholarship Fund.

Hampton Wohlford, who attends Virginia Military Institute, received \$1,000 from the Allan Mandelstamm Scholarship Fund.

Andrea Leng, who attends Washington University in St. Louis, received \$2,000 Benjamin Eiss Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Community Foundation of the NRVA

2024 Real Estate Taxes Due: June 5, 2024



Send community news and photos to community news @ourvalley.org

Town of Blacksburg Real Estate Tax invoices for the first installment of 2024 have been mailed and are due by Wednesday, June 5, 2024. If you have not yet received a tax statement, call the Department of Financial Services at 540.961.1105.

Payment may be mailed, made in person or placed in the drop box at 300 South Main Street, Blacksburg, paid by phone with a credit card or paid online at www.Blacksburg.gov/payments. Visa, MasterCard and Discover are accepted.

A 10% penalty will be charged if not paid by June 5, 2024. Interest will be charged at the rate of 10% per year beginning July 1, 2024.

News Messenger

(540) 389-9355 | www.montcova.com

MONTGOMERY SPORTS

Christiansburg's Camper POY in River Ridge

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

The Christiansburg High School softball team has been riding the pitching of Kady Camper all season.

This past week, she led the team to victory over Blacksburg to snag this year's River Ridge District crown. Tuesday, she was named the district's 2024 player of the year.

Camper, who is committed to Purdue in the fall, now has 200 strikeouts on the season and improved her record to 14-2 with an earned run average of .984. At the plate, she is hitting .553 with eight homeruns and 33 RBIs.

Christiansburg coach Sean Gaynor was recognized as the River Ridge's coach of the year. He has guided the Blue Demons to the regular season title and the Region C playoffs in just his first year on the sidelines. Currently, the team sits at 18-2 on the season.

Joining Camper on the first team

was teammate Addison Reasor (third base). The junior has committed to the University of Virginia.

Blacksburg pitcher Lorelei Spradlin was also named to the first team along with teammates Katey Mathena (catcher) and Lindsey Polan (first base).

Christiansburg's Kyrstin Lowe (shortstop) and Sophie Russell (outfield) garnered second team honors along with Blacksburg's Evelyn Rhoads.

On the other side of the diamond, Blacksburg's Dave Dunstin was named boys' baseball coach of the year in the River Ridge. Blacksburg's Brice Abbott (pitcher), Avan Morris (second base) and Reese Tysor (outfield) were first team All-River Ridge. Blacksburg's Sam Szerfc (DH) and Mayor Marshall (catcher) were named to the second team along with Christiansburg's Mason Cullop (pitcher) and Gavin Dow (third base).

Blacksburg would place four players, Sean DeLorenzo, Craig Huxtable, Charlie



PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Christiansburg's Kady Camper slides safely into second base for a double against Blacksburg earlier this week.

Lattimer and Addison, on the first-team boys' soccer squad. Christiansburg's Sami Seife and Luca Pickeral were also named to the first team.

Salem's Logan Lavinder was named player of year, while Salem Coach Dave Atkins was coach of the year.

Christiansburg placed four, Brye Smith, Brady Rasor, Hayden Yopp and Nick Litos, on the second team. Blacksburg's Tommy Monaghan and Esteban Carvajai were also second teamers.

On the girls' side of the field, Blacksburg interim coach Travis Bishop was named coach of the year after leading

the Bruins to the district title and an undefeated season. Blacksburg's Kailan Malabad was named player of the year in the River Ridge.

Blacksburg would have four first team honorees in Erin Bishop, Kailyn Brawley, Charlotte Ellis and Malabad. Christiansburg's Lyla Turman and Ava Landers were also named first-teamers.

Four more players from Blacksburg were named to the second-team all-River Ridge District. They included Paige Miller, Tea Bissell, Ginny Crawford and Calir Langlinais. Christiansburg second teamers included Ava Rose and Abbey Sanders.

Five Highlanders named All-Big South

The Big South Conference announced Wednesday morning the 2024 conference award winners featuring five Highlanders taking home end-of-season awards.

Kicking off the awards is leadoff hitter Cameron Pittman. The Suffolk, Va. native would be named to second-team all-conference for the first time in his career. Pittman would finish the season starting in all 48 games he played and in 185 at bats he would record a .357 batting average, the fifth highest in the Big South. He would also go on to tally 66 hits, the eighth most in the conference. He recorded eight triples to lead the conference in the category and have the fourth most in the NCAA. Pittman would also notch eight doubles, two home runs, 24 RBI, 96 total bases, 25 walks, 14 stolen bases, two sacrifice flies, a .519 slugging percentage and an on base percentage of .437.

Zack Whitacre would bring in two more awards for the Highlanders, garnering second-team all-conference and all-academic honors to close out his season. He started in three different positions in his 50 starts for the Highlanders recording the eighth best batting average in the conference at .346. He would also have a 0.435 on base percentage, a .539 slugging percentage and the tenth-best OPS in the conference at .974. With his 191 at bats, he would record 66 hits which tied for the sixth-most in the conference, 36 runs, 12 doubles, two triples, seven home runs, 31 RBI, and 29 walks. He would also tally 103 total bases and finished top ten in the Big South for most stolen bases with 15. He won Big South Player of the Week on March 4 and May 20 and would finish his time as a Highlander with an undergraduate GPA of 3.41 and graduate GPA of 3.75.

Drew Stanley would be tabbed to second-team all-conference honors. He would appear in 18 games and pitched in 38.1 innings in relief, recording a 3.52 ERA. He would allow an opposing batting average of .240 and allow 28 runs with only 15 of them earned. In his time on the mound, he would garner 52 strikeouts, one win and three saves which tied for the sixth most in the Big South conference.

Conner Butler would plate the fifth award for the Highlanders being named to honorable mention all-conference. Butler has started in all 45 games that he has played this season and would slash .253/.333/.475. For his 162 at bats, he would accumulate 41 hits with 11 doubles, two triples, seven home runs, 19 walks, 40 RBI, and 77 total bases. He would also record three sacrifice flies, four sacrifice bunts, and nine stolen bases on the season.

Wrapping up the final and sixth award for the Highlanders is freshman Breckin Nace being named to the all-freshman team.

As a pitcher, Nace appeared in 14 games with one start at the mound pitching in 11.1 innings with a 3.18 ERA. Nace would allow a .282 opposing batting average, seven runs with four earned and 11 strikeouts. As a hitter he appeared in 37 games with 16 starts to his name. He would record the sixth best batting average in the conference at .356, the fourth best on base percentage at .467, a .525 slugging percentage, and the ninth best OPS at .992. In his 59 at bats, Nace would also have 12 runs, 21 hits, five doubles, one triple, one homer, eight RBI, nine walks, and 31 total bases. Nace would also receive his first Big South Freshman of the Week award on May 20.

Radford University Athletics

Two RHS wrestlers head to national competition

RADFORD - Two members of Radford High School's wrestling team will represent Virginia at the 2024 USA Wrestling National Championships in Fargo, North Dakota in July.

Maggie Page and Taven Williams have earned spots on the Virginia National Team.

Williams was the 2024 2A state champion for Radford High School at 157-pounds. He finished his 2023-24 high school season with a record of 37-1 and has a high school career record of 94-12. Williams has been competing in multiple tournaments since February and has earned a place on the National Duals team at 165-pounds for Virginia. He has also qualified into the individual tournament.

Page was a trailblazer when she joined the Radford High School wrestling team two years ago. Page finished third place in the 2024 VHSL



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RADFORD HIGH SCHOOL

Maggie Page (left) and Taven Williams will represent Virginia at the 2024 USA Wrestling National Championships.

women's championship. She had a 2023-24 high school season record of 22-2 and an overall career record of 29-8. Page has also been competing in tournaments since February and qualified to compete in the junior girls national individual tournament.

Head RHS Wrestling Coach Dwayne Martin said the two wrestlers put

effort in year-round to get where they are.

"Maggie and Taven are fierce competitors and strive their very best in every match," said Martin. "They put in a huge amount of effort year-round. We are so proud of their accomplishments not only here locally but as representatives for Virginia."

Radford High School

Hokies baseball snubbed by ACC voters

Florida State's James Tibbs III was tabbed the ACC Player of the Year while Wake Forest's Chase Burns earned ACC Pitcher of the Year honors.

North Carolina's Vance Honeycutt was named the ACC Defensive Player of the Year, while the Tar Heels' Scott Forbes garnered ACC Coach of the Year honors. In addition, Georgia Tech's Drew Burress was tabbed the ACC Freshman of the Year.

The ACC league office released the list Tuesday, which included no Virginia Tech baseball player on the first-team, and only one on the second and third selections.

ACC season honors were determined by a vote of the league's 14 head coaches.

Tibbs III becomes the first Seminole to win Player of the Year since Mat Nelson in 2021 and the ninth player in Florida State history to win the award.

Tibbs helped lead the Seminoles to the last undefeated record in the country, beginning the season 19-0. The outfielder hit .385 in his 53 starts this season, tallying 77 hits, 17 doubles, 24 home runs and 78 runs batted in, adding seven stolen bases in the process. In addition to leading the ACC in home runs and runs batted in, Tibbs' .840 slugging percentage

and 168 total bases also lead the league.

Burns becomes the third straight Demon Deacon to earn ACC Pitcher of the Year honors after Rhett Lowder won back-to-back awards in 2022 and 2023. Burns has tallied 196 strikeouts on the season, fifth-most in ACC single-season history. The Wake Forest right-hander boasts a 10-1 record on the season, posting double-digit strikeouts in 11 of his 14 starts on the season.

While leading the country in strikeouts, Burns has the second-lowest earned run average in the ACC at 2.63. Opposing hitters are batting just .163 against the Hendersonville, Tennessee, native and have mastered just 51 base hits against him all season. Earlier on Monday, Burns matched the ACC record with his sixth Pitcher of the Week award of the season.

Burress becomes the first Yellow Jacket since Matt Wierters in 2005 to win Freshman of the Year. Burress joins a grouping of Jason Varitek, Nomar Garciaparra, Mark Teixeira, Micah Owings and Wierters as the only players in Georgia Tech history to win the award.

Burress hit .379 during his freshman campaign with 22 home runs, 14 doubles, two triples and 51 runs batted in. On February 27, Burress went

4-for-4 with four home runs and six runs batted in during a midweek contest against Georgia State.

Honeycutt repeats as the Defensive Player of the Year after winning the award in 2023. The Tar Heels' outfielder posted a .987 fielding percentage on the season with dozens of dazzling grabs. Honeycutt added four outfield assists throughout the season while tallying 148 putouts.

Forbes earned ACC Coach of the Year honors as he becomes the third Tar Heel head coach to win the award, joining Mike Fox in 2018 and Mike Roberts in 1989. Forbes led the Tar Heels to their first Coastal Division championship since 2018. North Carolina is one of just 13 teams nationally with 40 or more wins on the season.

North Carolina leads all schools with eight total selections on the ACC first, second or third teams, followed by seven from Virginia and six from Duke.

A total of 13 the conference's 14 baseball schools had at least one player voted to the All-ACC and/or ACC All-Freshman Teams.

Player of the Year: James Tibbs III, OF, Florida State

Pitcher of the Year: Chase Burns, SP, Wake Forest

Freshman of the Year: Drew Burress, OF,

Georgia Tech

Defensive Player of the Year: Vance Honeycutt, OF, North Carolina

Coach of the Year: Scott Forbes, North Carolina All-ACC Teams

First Team Aidan Knaak, SP, Clemson*

Charlie Beilenson, RP, Duke Ben Miller, 3B, Duke Zac Morris, 2B, Duke Jonathan Santucci, SP, Duke

Jamie Arnold, SP, Florida State James Tibbs III, OF, Florida State

Drew Burress, OF, Georgia Tech Gage Ziehl, SP, Miami*

Casey Cook, OF, North Carolina* Vance Honeycutt, OF, North Carolina

Jacob Cozart, C, NC State Ethan Anderson, DH/UT, Virginia

Griff O'Ferrall, SS, Virginia Chase Burns, SP, Wake Forest

Nick Kurtz, 1B, Wake Forest

Second Team Blake Wright, 2B, Clemson

Alex Stone, C, Duke* Cam Smith, 3B, Florida State

Matthew Ellis, DH/UT, Georgia Tech Payton Green, SS, Georgia Tech

Jason DeCaro, SP, North Carolina

Parks Harber, 1B, North Carolina Shea Sprague, SP, North Carolina

Alex Makarewicz, 3B, NC State* Phil Fox, RP, Pittsburgh

Harrison Didawick, OF, Virginia Jacob Ference, C, Virginia

Casey Saucke, OF, Virginia Ben Watson, OF, Virginia Tech

Third Team John West, SP, Boston College*

Cam Cannarella, OF, Clemson AJ Gracia, OF, Duke

Marco Dinges, DH/UT, Florida State Jaime Ferrer, OF, Florida State

Gavin Kilen, SS, Louisville Matthew Matthijs, RP, North Carolina*

Dalton Pence, RP, North Carolina Luke Stevenson, C, North Carolina

Sam Highfill, SP, NC State

Garrett Pennington, 1B, NC State

Evan Blanco, SP, Virginia Henry Godbout, 2B, Virginia

Chris Cannizzaro, OF, Virginia Tech

*Designates At-Large Selection

% 17 players on the Third Team due to a tie in the voting

All-ACC Freshman Team Aidan Knaak, SP, Clemson

AJ Gracia, OF, Duke Kyle Johnson, OF/SP, Duke

Drew Burress, OF, Georgia Tech Zion Rose, C, Louisville

Daniel Cuvet, 3B, Miami

Jason DeCaro, SP, North Carolina

Gavin Gallaher, 3B, North Carolina Luke Stevenson, C, North Carolina

Jacob Dudan, RP, NC State

Eric Becker, INF, Virginia

Henry Ford, 1B, Virginia

Brett Renfrow, SP, Virginia Tech

Atlantic Coast Conference

Crossword Answers

Table with crossword answers: PARCEL, ABRABE, PETIOLE, DECLINE, UNMOMANDDAD, RISSES, DOLF, FERMI, ELIS, PEDES, REEF, EEC, TAD, DAH, ALI, IRAN, COULEE, CALIX, ACIDS, IDIOCY, ARAS, ANNA, OAT, CUE, TAB, TEA, PROEM, SILO, DOSED, AIT, PACER, EM, SADDLE, BAG, RE, LAMINAE, REPEATS, SCRUBS, ALARMS

MONTGOMERY SPORTS



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD HIGH SCHOOL

The Radford Boys and Girls tennis teams are both region champions.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHS

Christiansburg High School is the 2024 River Ridge District regular season and tournament champs in softball.

Weekly reports: Christiansburg takes district title

Another "Battle of the 'Burgs" took place this past Monday as Christiansburg varsity softball took on Blacksburg for the district tournament championship.

Christiansburg won the season just edging Blacksburg out so the 1-seed Christiansburg took the 2-seed to the turf to settle things once and for all. The game would go scoreless until the fifth inning where Aubrey Davis started things off with a walk and the bats heated up from there.

Christiansburg went on to have more than half a dozen hits to score nine runs, Kady Camper almost ending things with a line drive to the fence that was several inches from going over.

In the bottom of the sixth, Tyleigh Dillard took a walk and then stole a base to get into scoring position. With two outs, Brooklyn Manieri hit the walk-off

RBI double to end the matchup 10-0 in favor of Christiansburg.

Camper had three hits on the night. Manieri, Reasor, Dillard and Lowe all had a pair and Sophia and Hughes each had pivotal hits. Camper pitched 72 total pitches striking out 11 making that 200 strikeouts on the season.

This is Christiansburg softball's first ever regular season and tournament title.

Blacksburg advances in regions

The Blacksburg boys' and girls' soccer teams both advanced Wednesday in Region 4D Quarterfinal action.

The boys downed E.C. Glass 3-1 to move to 16-1-1 on the season.

The lone first half goal by Craig Huxtable with an assist from Aiden Hardwick for a 1-0 Blacksburg halftime lead.

Early second half EC Glass goal by

Cooper Napior to draw even. Sean DeLorenzo put Blacksburg ahead with 15 minutes remaining on an assist from Huxtable. Charlie Lattimer scored the third goal for Blacksburg on a free kick from 25 yards out with 7 minutes remaining.

Simon Pratt had two saves for Blacksburg and Charlie Hageman had seven saves for EC Glass.

Girls roll in similar fashion

Blacksburg High School girls' soccer team defeated EC Glass 6-0 on Wednesday night in the regional quarterfinals. Erin Bishop scored three goals to lead Blacksburg to the win. Also scoring was Claire Langlinais, Tea Bissell, and Abby Whaley. Kallan Malabad contributed two assists.

Blacksburg improves to 16-0-2 on the

season and EC Glass ended their season 11-5.

Blacksburg moves on in softball

The Blacksburg softball team also advanced in region play this week. Blacksburg beats Mecklenburg in a 4-3 win. Evelyn Rhoads, Molly Lyon and Natalie Green had multiple hits on the evening. Lindsey Polan hit a big HR which helped propel the Bruins to victory.

Lorelei Spradlin pitched five innings striking out six. Rhoads pitched two innings striking out five.

Radford boys, girls tennis win region

The Radford Boys and Girls tennis teams are both 2024 Region 2 C Champions. The boys beat Glenvar 5-2 and the girls beat Floyd 5-0 to win the region.

Staff report

Sports notes: Hokies excel in classroom

As the 2023-24 academic year has ended, Virginia Tech student-athletes once again excelled in the classroom.

The spring of 2024 matched multiple record-setting benchmarks from the first half of the academic year, including Athletics Department semester GPA, Athletics Department cumulative GPA and number of teams with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

These benchmarks were made possible through the tremendous work by Tech student-athletes and the commitment from Tech's Student-Athlete Academic Support Services (SAASS).

About 71% (410) of Virginia Tech's 577 student-athletes during the spring of 2024 finished with a GPA of 3.0 or higher to earn Athletic Director Honor Roll distinction. In total, Tech's 577 student-athletes combined for a 3.25 semester GPA.

Blacksburg alum honored

For the second straight year, the Johns Hopkins men's soccer team placed six student-athletes on the College Sports Communicators (CSC) Academic All-District Team.

Graduate students Aidan Dunphy, Max Edelstein, Ben Goodman and Griffin Meyer,

senior Logan Falzarano and junior Diego Elias earned the honor. Johns Hopkins has now produced 63 Academic All-District selections since 1995. Elias is a Blacksburg High School graduate.

Hopkins went 13-5-4 and won its 10th Centennial Conference championship this season.

Tech to face Penn State

Position Sports, in association with the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame, announced Tuesday that Virginia Tech and Penn State will square off as part of the 2024 Hall of Fame Series Baltimore at CFG Bank

Arena on Friday, November 15. The event marks the first time the Hall of Fame will visit the Charm City.

In addition to Tech and Penn State, the Baltimore doubleheader will also feature Virginia vs. Villanova. Details surrounding game time, broadcast information, and credentials will be announced at a later date.

The Hall of Fame Series, owned and operated by Position Sports, is a collection of multi-game, singular events that showcase several of the top collegiate basketball teams in exciting non-conference matchups played both

domestically and abroad. The inaugural Hall of Fame Series was held in 2023 in Las Vegas, Charlotte, San Antonio, Toronto and Phoenix.

Despite Penn State winning three of the last four meetings, Tech still holds a 7-4 advantage in the all-time series. The Hokies came out on top in the last matchup in the semifinals of the Charleston Classic on November 18, 2022, with a 61-59 win. The schools first played each other on February 12, 1921, in State College, Pa., with Tech posting a 29-23 victory.

Staff report



Improving health every day

Sentara is making healthcare more simple, affordable, and personal, with high-quality care and exceptional health plans for all the patients, members, and communities we serve.

It's what we do. So you can do what you love to do.

sentara.com/ImprovingHealth

