

News Messenger

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Blacksburg

Christiansburg

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

www.ourvalley.org

USPS 016-490

\$1.00



Ground-breaking ceremony held for mixed-use development

Clifton Town Center coming to Christiansburg

CHRISTIANSBURG - Stateson Homes held an official groundbreaking Thursday, June 6 for Clifton Town Center, a mixed-use development located at the intersection of Peppers Ferry Road and Quinn W. Stuart Boulevard in Christiansburg.

unique blend of locally owned, boutique-style shops and restaurants, office spaces, a boutique hotel, and an event venue. This innovative development will offer exciting new ways to live, eat, play, and stay, fostering the spirit of the New River Valley one block at a time.

Todd Robertson, President of Stateson Homes, said the project's focus is to "create a cohesive community where diverse groups can thrive together, addressing a significant gap in the local housing market."

"This is the first community to very directly consider and provide housing and social opportunities for

See Ceremony, page 2



PHOTO COURTESY OF STATESON HOMES

Groundbreaking ceremony participants (from left to right): Retta Jackson (Town of Christiansburg Planning Director), Andrew Warren (Christiansburg Assistant Town Manager), Randy Wingfield (Christiansburg Town Manager), Mike Barber (Mayor, Town of Christiansburg), Todd Robertson (President, Stateson Homes), Travis Folden (Director of Development, Stateson Homes), Steve Semones (Balzer and Associates), Adam Nott (Balzer and Associates), James Taylor (Balzer and Associates), Jeff Buchinsky (JWB Contractors) and Preston Hendricks (JWB Contractors).



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Radford University President Bret Danilowicz shakes hands with Board of Visitors member Tyler Lester, who chairs the Business Affairs and Audit Committee.

Radford University announces tuition rebate for undergraduate in-state students

RADFORD - In a decision approved by the Radford University Board of Visitors, the university has announced a tuition rebate for undergraduate in-state students for the 2024-2025 academic year, effectively reversing the 1.5% tuition increase approved earlier

this year. "Maintaining affordable access to a best-in-class education and high-quality Radford experience is our top priority," said Tyler Lester, a Board of Visitors member and chair of the Business Affairs and Audit Committee. "This

vote was made possible through a combination of strategic budgeting by the university and significant investments in state support approved by the Governor and General Assembly.

See Tuition, page 2

Volunteer Montgomery honors volunteers for years of service

Volunteer Montgomery held its annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon on Thursday, May 30, 2024 at the Christiansburg Recreation Center with approximately 75 attending.

"A New Beginning with Volunteer Montgomery" was this year's theme. Human Services Director Alex Strickler gave a presentation about the positive changes of Volunteer Montgomery, and County Administrator Angie Hill was in attendance to help recognize volunteers.

A big thank you goes out to the Christiansburg Recreation Center for hosting our event, Dynamic Sounds with Diane Thompson for providing entertainment, and the event was catered by Hethwood Market. Volunteer Montgomery would also like to thank the 2024 Recognition Planning Committee to



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH ROSENFELD, MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

(Left to right) 10 Years of Service Awards: Coordinator Mandy Hayes, Administrative Assistant Karen Anders, Administrative Assistant Hannah Cox, Montgomery County Administrator Angie Hill, Human Services Director Alex Strickler, Sandra Johnston, Rosemary Jones, Shirley Mullins, Mary Lou Kellough, Susan Miller, Phillip Pappas, Jolene Rawlings, Rich Rawlings

include Sherri Blevins, Rosemary Jones, Alex Strickler, Amanda Terry and Carol Trutt.

Years of Service Awards: We are pleased to have 30 volunteers who have reached these milestone years.

20 Years: Shirley Linkous, Margot Thompson

15 Years: Kathy Brown, Ron Brown, Margaret "Peggy" Brugger, Elaine Clark, Bonnie Hawks, Linda Powers, Joe Powers, Arlene Walls, Sharon Zinn

10 Years: Sandra Johnston, Rosemary Jones, Mary Lou Kellough, Joan Manross, Susan Miller, Shirley Mullins, Phillip Pappas,

Jolene Rawlings, Richard Rawlings, Marilyn Rio, Helen Whitaker, David Wynn

Five Years: Annette Calhoun, Carol Cornish, Nanette Dial, Carol Kauffman, Walter Pirie, Carol Trutt, Barbara Wilson

Volunteer Montgomery

NRCC celebrates ACCE 10-year anniversary with PBS documentary

New River Community College's Access to Community College Education (ACCE) program is celebrating 10 years of providing high school graduates in the New River Valley with a debt-free college education.

ACCE, and economic development public/private partnership, makes college available debt-free to high school and home-schooled graduates by funding NRCC tuition for two years.

In celebration of the 10-year anniversary, the NRCC Education Foundation hosted an evening to celebrate the future with the partners who have helped ensure the program's success on Wednesday, May 29 on NRCC's campus in Dublin.

The event included the premiere of the new Blue Ridge PBS documentary on ACCE created by Buzz4good. Attendees heard from students, administrators, stakeholders and community members about their role in ACCE and what makes it successful.

After viewing the documentary, Bruce Bryan with 5Points Creative facilitated a panel of ACCE supporters including Thomas Coffey, former ACCE student (NRCC Class of 2019) and current VCOM student; Bud Foster, ACCE

Investor through Lunch Pail Defense Foundation; Dr. Pat Huber, NRCC President; and Chris McKlarney, Giles County Administrator.

"ACCE is more than an educational program; it's a reflection of who we truly are in the New River Valley. Our ACCE program is an incredible example of community partnership and vision. Each locality, through both public and private investment, has committed through both donations and public support to the success of our next generation," said Angie Covey, NRCC Education Foundation Executive Director.

"Since the inception of ACCE, more 1,600 students have received tuition assistance at NRCC. In exchange, those students have given back 175,000 hours of service to nonprofit organizations in the New River Valley. With ACCE, everyone wins—our students, their families, and our communities."

Buzz4good produces weekly episodes featuring a nonprofit in order to learn about the good the organization does in the community it serves. The entire ACCE documentary is available to view online at https://buzz4good.com/portfolio/nrcc/.

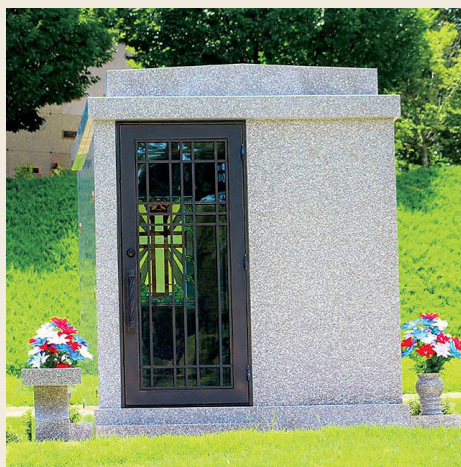
New River Community College



PHOTO COURTESY OF NRCC

(L to R): Dr. Pat Huber, NRCC President; Thomas Coffey, NRCC ACCE alumnus; Chris McKlarney, Giles County Administrator; Bud Foster, Lunch Pail Defense Foundation.

Coming Soon! MEMORIAL GARDENS of the NEW RIVER VALLEY invites you to our beautiful cemetery. We will soon be offering Companion Private Walk-in Mausoleums to our cemetery. These can be designed to meet each family's needs. Give us a call today for more information. You have so many options now when deciding on your final resting place, come let us show you the local, family-owned difference! It's not just what your legacy will be, it's where. aburnette@memorialgardensnrvc.com 2551 North Main Street, Blacksburg • (540) 552-7800 • www.memorialgardensnrvc.com



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Wednesday, June 12:

### 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 13:

### Virtual Author Talk with Frieda McFadden

On-line event hosted by the Radford Public Library; 8 p.m. Get your popcorn and take a seat as we chat with the queen of twists herself, Frieda McFadden! McFadden will join us to chat about writing psychological thrillers and her mega-bestselling hit *The Housemaid* series, in particular her forthcoming (June 11, 2024) third installment, *The Housemaid Is Watching*. Register at: <https://library.org/radfordlibrary>.

## Friday, June 14:

### Blacksburg Friday night outdoor concert

Featuring: The Domino Band (R&B). The summer of 2024 lineup of outdoor concerts offers six bands throughout June and July. Live music will take place Friday evenings on Henderson Lawn at the corner of Main Street and College Avenue, from 6 -7:30 p.m. In case of inclement weather, the event will be canceled.

## Saturday, June 15:

### Summer Solstice Festival

Downtown Blacksburg; 1- 11 p.m. Live music/entertainment, food trucks, beer/wine/cocktails, children's activities, family fun zone, yoga, arts/ craft vendors and more. Go to [downtownblacksburg.com](http://downtownblacksburg.com) for more information.

### Radford Summer Concert Series

The Drifters (soul/ doowop) will perform. Held on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion, at 600 Unruh Dr. in Radford, the gates open at 6 p.m. with music starting at 7 p.m. Admission is \$5 a person and children 12 and under are free. Alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase through the Radford Chamber of Commerce. Food trucks will also be available to grab some dinner. Bring a chair and get ready for a party.

### 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](mailto:ali5jn@aol.com).

### 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.

### The Tempest: A Kid-Friendly Shakespeare Show

At the Radford Public Library; 11 a.m. A fast and fun romp through the love, magic, and forgiveness of Shakespeare's adventure on the mystical Isle of Sycorax. One performer, a trunk full of surprises, and a lot of audience interaction make this an experience you don't want to miss. It's Shakespeare like you've never seen it before!

## Sunday, June 16:

### 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/](http://blacksburgfarmersmarket.com/vintage-market/).

## Monday, June 24:

### Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting

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.

## Tuesday, June 25:

### 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.

## Thursday, June 27:

### Radford Photo Club meeting

Joe Pack of Fairlawn will present a program at the Radford Photo Club meeting about famous photographer Carol Highsmith, then will present his own work taken in the Highsmith style. The meeting will be at the Radford Public Library at 6 p.m. The photo challenge for June is People. The Radford Photo Club is made up of professional and amateur photographers from throughout the New River Valley. Meetings, events, and outings are open to the public. If you have questions about the club, email Lucy Gilmore at [lucyg.gilmore@gmail.com](mailto:lucyg.gilmore@gmail.com) or Joyce Crowder at [joycecrowder2@icloud.com](mailto:joycecrowder2@icloud.com).

## On-going:

### Participants sought for Blacksburg Fourth of July Parade

Participants are needed for Blacksburg's Fourth of July parade, organized by the Mount Tabor Ruritan Club. The "A Child's Fourth of July" parade starts at 2 p.m. on Eheart Street, runs through downtown on Main Street, and ends on Alumni Mall. Entries can be floats, bicycles, wagons, marchers, walkers, antique/classic cars, Jeeps, trucks, fire engines, scouts, bands, sports teams, etc. Information is available on the Mount Tabor Ruritan Club's Facebook page, by texting 540-449-6178, or at the Blacksburg Parks and Recreation office. The Town of Blacksburg will have music and fireworks at the Municipal Park, near the Rec. Center: Live music 6-9:30 p.m. and fireworks at 9:30 p.m. (even if raining).

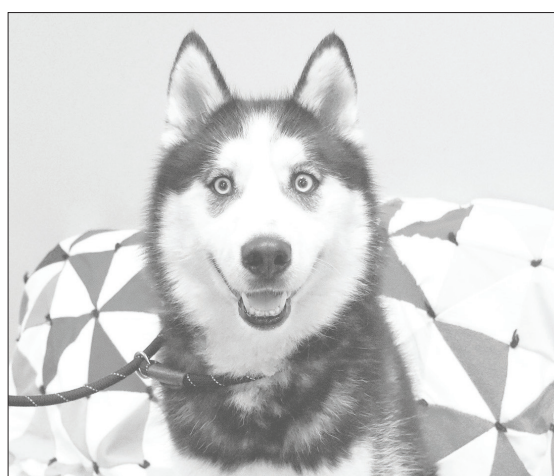
### Applications open for healthcare workshop for people with disabilities

Individuals with disabilities who live in Radford City and Floyd County can now apply for a program presented by the New River Valley Disability Resource Center. "Improving Health Literacy Through Technology" is a six-week program designed to empower people with disabilities to gain better access to healthcare. Participants will receive a free iPad after completing six weekly, one-hour workshops exploring how to use technology to take better control of their health and social support needs. Workshops will run Aug. 1 through Sept. 5. Applications available at [www.nrvdc.org](http://www.nrvdc.org) or by calling 540-266-1435 or email at [outreach@nrvdc.org](mailto:outreach@nrvdc.org). Applications are also available at the Radford and Floyd libraries. The application deadline is Fri., July 12.

# PETS OF THE WEEK

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

*Harriet is a smarty pants and can't wait to show you! She knows a number of commands, including "sit" and "down." She's a sweet gal but other canines are not her cup of tea. Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center to meet this pawsome dog.*



*Nanook is a playful, silly boy. He does well with other dogs and loves interacting with humans. If his future home has children, kids over 12 years old would be best for him.*



## Ceremony

from page 1

young professionals, families, and retirees," said Robertson. "We see professionals and retirees seek the same kinds of neighborhoods," says Robertson. "This very much caters to these groups in a way that doesn't exist in the New River Valley today."

The groundbreaking ceremony included remarks from Christiansburg Mayor D. Michael Barber and other city officials, as well as development partners Balzer & Associates, Poole & Poole Architecture, JWB Excavator, and Civic By Design.

Steve Semones, Executive Vice President at Balzer & Associates, praised the project for its strategic

location and community-oriented design. Responsible for the project's land use design, engineering, and surveying, Semones also acknowledged the support of the town of Christiansburg.

"The town of Christiansburg has been a great support throughout this process and wanting to see this be a successful project – they have played a huge role in getting things approved," said Semones. "This project is going to be very unique to this area."

The development is planned to include "luxury apartments and upscale townhomes surrounding a community pool and sundeck," according to Stateson Homes.

Radford University

"It's about creating a more urban experience in the New River Valley that allows people to live, work, and play in the same community," said Robertson. "It's very pedestrian-oriented, where you can get to know your neighbor, kids can play while the parents are socializing, and walk safely home."

"I think it's a very interesting concept for the town of Christiansburg and it's coming at a great time," said Barber. "Personally, I will be proud of it because it will be a true showcase for our town with so many opportunities for a diverse group of residents to enjoy."

Staff report

## Tuition

from page 1

The tuition rebate is another example of Radford University leading the way and demonstrates our commitment to putting students and families first while being efficient and effective stewards of our resources."

This rebate underscores Radford University's dedication to ensuring education remains accessible to everyone. It aligns with the university's mission to support current and future students amidst economic challenges and reflects a collaborative effort with Virginia lawmakers to invest in higher education.

"This rebate shows how we're continuing to keep Radford one of the most affordable universities in Virginia while still providing top-notch academic programs and student experiences," said President Bret Danilowicz. "The strong support we receive from the Commonwealth helps us balance these priorities and stay financially sound for the future."

On March 22, 2024, the Radford University Board of Visitors initially voted to increase tuition for the 2024-25 academic year by 1.5% for all undergraduate traditional programs, with a commitment to reevaluate the university's financial outlook after Virginia's state budget was finalized. Following this evaluation and recognizing the additional investment from the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Business Affairs and Audit Committee recommended the rebate.

The rebate is applicable to undergraduate in-state students enrolled in the traditional undergraduate program, excluding differential programs. Undergraduate students

qualifying for the rebate will receive it as a financial aid award posted to their account for the spring 2025 semester. For students who are scheduled to graduate in fall 2024, the payment will be applied to their account this September. Other tuition increases for differential or graduate programs remain as announced in March.

In the 2023-24 academic year, Radford University offered the fourth-most affordable four-year undergraduate total costs for in-state students among Virginia public institutions, averaging \$23,850. This figure includes tuition, room and board, and mandatory fees.

Over the past year, Radford has significantly enhanced its commitment to providing affordable education to Virginians with the introduction of the Radford Tuition Promise, effective for current and prospective students in 2024-25. The Radford Tuition Promise guarantees full coverage of tuition costs for in-state undergraduate students enrolled in in-person programs whose Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) is \$100,000 and who have a Student Aid Index (SAI) of less than \$15,000, as determined by the FAFSA.

Additionally, Radford University automatically considers both new freshmen and transfer students for merit-based scholarships such as the Highlander Distinction Program and the Transfer Excellence Scholarship. Along with direct institutional support, the Radford University Foundation awards over 600 unique scholarships totaling over \$3 million annually.

**All Positions Available, SALE REP, ACCOUNTANT and MANY MORE**

**Bookkeeper • Cashier • Payroll • Customer Service • Account Coordinator • Finance • Business • Marketing • Admissions Representative • Office Clerk • Help Desk Assistant**

As part of our expansion program, our company is looking for part time Work from home Account Manager and sales representatives, it pays \$1700 monthly plus benefits and takes only little of your time. Please contact us for more details. Requirements - Should be computer literate. 2-3 hours access to the internet weekly. Must be over 24yrs of age. Must be Efficient and Dedicated. If you are interested and need more information, contact: [Kenneth.bbraun.com@outlook.com](mailto:Kenneth.bbraun.com@outlook.com) for more details.

# LAND TRANSFERS

## Radford City 2024 Land Transfers

### Zero Dollar Considerations:

Pauline Caldwell to Pauline Caldwell Life Estate, Lot 6 Revised Map Baldwin Land Co

KMO Holdings LLC to RFS LLC, Lots 13 and 14 Section 12 Plan B RLICO

Patrick A Turman to TT&B LLC, Plan A RWELCO Lot 5 Section 17 19-(7)-SEC17-5

Jeffrey Caldwell to Anna R Caldwell, 020003108

### Monetary Considerations:

JMDOTO Investment Properties LLC to Emery Land Ng, Lot 5 PT 5 Heth Map, \$310,400

Michael Lee to Jordan Evan Mabe, 9-5-SEC-7-24, \$267,800

Valente Perez to Sheila Phipps, 3 Parcels 010000355, \$300,000

Craig Chrisman Administrator to TWCC LLC, Lot 9 and Part of Lot 10 Section 3 Plan F, \$160,000

Kelly Ryan Underwood to Theresa Raynell Rivera, Lot 13 Block 5, \$270,000

Golden Triangle Development LLC to Ralph Roe, 20-(3)-20, \$339,000

Thomas Zuckerwar to Weston Harrison, Lots 12-15 Plat Lewis Gardens Subdivision, \$392,500

Michael R Bell to Taylor Swan, 30(7)-BLKG-13, \$218,000

Atlantic Trustee Services LLC to Ashley D Stockner, 6-(9)-50, \$176,100

Zachary Allen Asbury to Cameron Mitchell Hall, Lot 22 Wilson Heights Subdivision, \$212,500

## March 2024 Montgomery County Land Transfers

### Zero Dollar Considerations:

Judy P Mann-Dawson to Judy P Mann-Dawson Trust, 2.228 Acres Lot 2 Hillcrest at Union Valley Riner Magisterial District

Patricia N Wilson Trust to Roger R Neel Jr., 6.6 Acres Metes and Bounds Parcel 1 and Lots 6-8 Metes and Bounds Parcel 2

Thoi Tan Vo to Thoi Tan Vo, 225-013 1

Shelley Tarbuton to Buffalo Princess Chocolates LLC, 19.429 Acres Riner Magisterial District

Ursula Gerson to Tina Gerson, Lot 7 Phase 1 Twin Oak Townhomes Town of Christiansburg

Ursula Gerson to Tina Gerson, Family Unit 65E Building B Piedmont at Blacksburg Phase 2 Town of Blacksburg

Michael Travis Devore to Edna Mae Keith, 1.01 Acres

A Wayne Donald to Christopher Ross Donald, Unit 3 Vista Pointe Town of Blacksburg

Marie D Love Craighead to Donna Polly, 4.08 Acres Metes and Bounds Riner Metes and Bounds

Naomi L Huffman to Midway 3340 LLC, 0.156 Acre Metes and Bounds

Naomi L Huffman to Paula Huffman Hill, 0.5 Acre Metes and Bounds Riner Magisterial District

Paula Huffman Hill to Midway 3350 LLC, 0.5 Acres Metes and Bounds Riner Magisterial District

Barbara Anne Swartz to Barbara Ann Swartz Trust, 0.802 Acre Lot 48 Phase 3 Sterling Manor Prices Fork Magisterial District

Norman V Woods to Matthew P Osborne, 2023005270 012555

TPBC LLC to 1191 & 1195 Jennelle LLC, 2022003064 041900

Kipps Farms LLC to Westhill Subdivision Homeowners Association, Nineteen Parcels Prices Fork Magisterial District

Robert G Oberosler to First Base LLC, Lot 1 Block 3 Town of Blacksburg

Nathan B Wells to Hannah E Wells, 3.955 Acres Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Michael Stivala to Charles D Angel Jr., 2023007030 033858

Vernon Lee Whitlow to Whitlow

Family Trust, 0.243 Acre Shawsville Magisterial District

Richard P Gordon to Linda B Gordon Revocable Trust, 5.22 Acres Metes and Bounds

Isabell D Pendleton to Debbie P Cox, Hodge Land

Juel Albert Jr. to Tiffany Albert Brown, 0.6 Acre Metes and Bounds Prices Fork Magisterial District

Thomas Green to 2090 Giles LLC, 0.115 Acre Lot 32 Regans Pointe

Allan M Bookout to Bookout Living Trust, Lot 10 Pepper Street Townhomes Shawsville Magisterial District

Clarence Walter Thompson to Helen Myers, 2.5114 Acres Lot 3 Pleasant Acres Subdivision Riner Magisterial District

Susan P Hall to Susan P Hall Trust, 53.0103 Acres Parcel 1 and 1.5107 Acres Parcel 2 Shawsville Magisterial District

Paul W Rakes to Paul W Rakes, Lot 8 Phase 3 Hamilton Place Townhomes Town of Christiansburg

Michael K Kirschner to Michael Kevin Kirschner Trust, Lots 40A and 41A Deercroft Phase 3 Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Aloysis A Beex to Robert James Flanagan, 11.697 Acres Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Mary W West to Keith B Askew, Lot 31 Town of Christiansburg

Frank P Dawry to Frank P Dawry Trust, 0.094 Acre Lot 7 Caldwell Manor Town of Christiansburg

William L King to Danny Bruce Rakes Trust, See Legal Shawsville Magisterial District

Jason Chadwic Welch to Jason C Welch Trust, Lot 37 Brush Mountain West Phase 6 Prices Fork Magisterial District

R Fralin Homes LLC to R Fralin Construction Inc., 0.341 Acre Lot 20 Phase 2 The Villas on North Main Town of Blacksburg

Lisa L Smith to Paul Parker Patno Jr., 3.747 Acres Prices Fork Magisterial District

Lauren K Sullivan to Lauren K Sullivan, 0.23 Acre Lot A Town of Blacksburg

Evgeniya Ermolaeva to Evgeniya Ermolaeva, 0.83 Acre Riner Magisterial District

Robert F Smith to Smith Living Trust, 1.95 Acres Yellow Sulphur Springs Shawsville

Arnold Travis Poole Jr. to Arnold Travis Poole Jr. Trust, 2015003010 035153

Djordje M Minic to Esther Minic-Rosenthal, 0.239 Acre Lot 11 Phase 1 Nicholas Manor Estates Town of Blacksburg

Rajchekhar Gaji to Vijaymahantesh Yallappa Gaji, Lot 141 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District

Ryan Plummer to Ryan Plummer, 0.5 Acre See DB 406 PG 512 Shawsville Magisterial District

Judy A Hurst to Judy A Hurst, Lot 34 Henley Place Phase 3 Town of Christiansburg

Sharon Branch to Sharon Branch, 1.9349 See DB PG 208 Riner Magisterial District

David R McPherson to James T McPherson, 19(A)19C

John Deighan to John Deighan, 3.858 Acres Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Stephanie Lea Bryson to John Gregory Bryson, 1.5558 Acres New Lot Parcel 1 and 11.392 Acres Parcel 2 Prices Fork Magisterial District

Amanda Jean Nunley to Amanda Jean Nunley, 1.121 Acres Shawsville Magisterial District

Jarred W Goad to Lisa R Barber, Lot 9 Auburn Acres Phase 1 Riner Magisterial District

Juan Castillo to Juan Castillo, NRL Co. Lots 17-20 Block Misty Hills Circle

PPB LLC to 703 Graves Ave LLC, 2.629 Acres Lot 1 Town of Blacksburg

SAS Construction LLC to Sands Construction LLC, Lot 10 Hubbard Haven Subdivision Section 2 Town of Blacksburg

Walter Ronald Pirie to Brendan Walter Pirie, 1.2076 Acres Unnumbered Lot Town of Blacksburg

Walter Ronald Pirie to Kirsten Diane Miles, 13.373 Acres Town of Blacksburg

Candice T Hypes to Andrew Yoho, Lots 57-61 Victory Heights Extension Town of Christiansburg

David R Widder to David Roland Widder Trust, 2.965 Acres Together with Perpetual Easement Prices Fork Magisterial District

Robyn K Quaid Trust to Robyn K Quaid, 1.572 Acres and 40' Easement Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Robyn K Quaid to Cathy Songer, 1.572 Acres New Parcel A Town of Blacksburg

Heidi L Christopher to Heidi L Christopher Trust, Lot 84 Fiddlers Green Town of Blacksburg

Emily Virginia Tucker to Emily Virginia Gribbin, Lot 52 Shenandoah Phase 1 Town of Blacksburg

Ashley Chamberlain to Melissa Lawrence, 1.153 Acres Lot 6 Dry Valley Subdivision Riner Magisterial District

Justin David Sobczak to Christy Dodd, 2,515 Square Feet Lot 21 Shawsville Magisterial District

RWW48 LLC to Brian Derkay, New Lot 27 Riner Magisterial District

Bret W Hrbek to Bret W Hrbek Trust, 2.0044 Acres Parcel A Prices Fork Magisterial District

Jon Robert Hilton to Joseph Travis Hilton, Metes and Bounds See Legal Town of Christiansburg

### Monetary Considerations:

Peggy B Long to Collin Alexander Lipscomb, Lot 1 Town & Country Estates Section 1 Town of Christiansburg, \$313,000

John C Bouldin Jr. to Jodie Marie Teaters, 0.230 Acre Lot 37 Phase 1 Vistavia Town of Christiansburg, \$308,000

Nancy W Beard Executor to Pamela Greig Gordon, 5.23 Acres New Lot 1, \$424,900

Patrick S Collins to Suzanne M Gooding, Lot 6 Rainbow Ridge Subdivision Section 2 Town of Blacksburg, \$575,000

Darrell L Goetz Executor to Savshree Realty LLC, Unit Number F Building 2 Berryfield Condos Town of Blacksburg, \$260,000

Jennifer Anne White to Carol A Reynolds Trust, Lot 171 Oak Tree Townhomes Phase 2 Town of Christiansburg, \$355,000

Jean S Simmons to Xuejian Qiu, Lot 5 Section 1 Woodbine PDR Subdivision Town of Blacksburg, \$378,000

ANB Investments LLC to Katarena Rose Hall, Lot 3 Riner Magisterial District, \$210,000

Michael Urban III to Avery D Dolinger, 1.1193 Acres Riner Magisterial District, \$623,900

Phyllis I Draughn to Boxwood Ventures LLC, Lots 53-58 Apple Acres Subdivision Town of Christiansburg, \$500,000

Can Dogan to John Paul Oshea, Lot 21 Glen Subdivision Town of Blacksburg, %02,000

Zhenyu Kong to Can Dogan, Lot 58 Maple Ridge Village 4 Brittany Meadows Town of Blacksburg, \$688,500

Joseph Keaton to Woodford West, Lot 78 Senneca Springs Subdivision Phase 3 Town of Christiansburg, \$380,000

Michael E Boyer to SPA Properties LLC, 3.334 Acres Lot 32-A Arbor View Plantation Phase 12 Town of Christiansburg, \$1,300,000

John David Mills to Katie L Caldwell, 0.414 Acre Riner Magisterial District, \$210,000

Aljo Properties LLC to William R Bebout Jr., Lot 2A Town of Christiansburg, \$180,000

Bunny Trail Lane LLC to Barbara Miserentino, 2.395 Acres Parcel 1 and 1.05 Acres Parcel 2, \$502,000

Aljo Properties LLC to William R Bebout Jr., Lot 2B Town of Christiansburg, \$175,000

Kipps Farms LLC to Stateson Homes LLC, Lots 251-255 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$471,115

Iskandar Group LLC to Aaron Properties LLC, Condo Unit D Applewood Commons Condominium Town of Christiansburg, \$250,000

Wilmington Trust Succession Trust to Ami Kabay, 0.553 of an Acre See Legal, \$162,400

Margaret L Lazor to Right Way Properties LLC, 1 Acre Metes and Bounds Riner Magisterial District, \$50,000

Honeysuckle Property Management to Wyatt Farms Holdings LLC, 317-154103, \$210,000

Twin Creeks Mobile Home Estates to Twin Creeks Mobile Home Park LLC, 26.475 Acres Riner Magisterial District, \$5,800,000

Douglas Hardymon to Twin Creeks Mobile Home Park LLC, 17.83 Acres Parcel B, \$200,000

Darrin Taylor to Jeremy M Kenley, 4.979 Acres Lot B Riner Magisterial District, \$125,000

Igloo Series III REO LLC to CBW Properties LLC, 2 Parcels Metes and Bounds See Legal, \$159,000

Bear Den Properties LLC to Daniel Robert Diaz Rios, Lot 6 Rigby Street Circle Town of Christiansburg, \$230,000

William C Martin to Jackie D Rollins, Lot 16 Oak Tree Townhomes Phase 10 Town of Christiansburg, \$306,000

Jana C Bundy to John Stephen Adie Revocable Trust, 0.254 Acre Lot 1 Town of Christiansburg, \$333,500

Shah Development LLC to Eagle Construction of VA LLC, 290018, \$1,294,250

Dolores Ann Spencer-White to Elite Estate Solutions LLC, 0.321 Acre to be combined with that 1.428 Acres to Create 1.749 Acres New Parcel A Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$133,100

Mark R Montgomery to Billy J Campbell, 3.392 Acres Tract Riner Magisterial District, \$20,000

See Land Transfers, page 6



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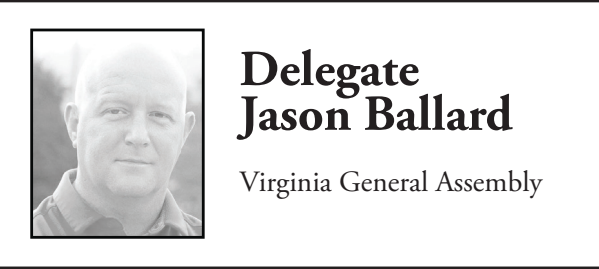


# OPINION

## General Assembly to return to Richmond for Va. Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program

The Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program (VMSDEP) continues to receive attention, and the General Assembly will now return to Richmond on June 28 in order to fix it. This program, which provides college tuition waivers to dependents of those killed in the line of duty or are 90% disabled due to military service to our country, was substantially changed by House and Senate Democrats from a "first dollar" resource to a "last dollar" resource. Other changes to the program make it more burdensome to navigate and harder for Veterans' families to obtain the full benefit that they were promised. The bottom line is this: Republicans are listening to Gold Star families and believe that the recent changes made to VMSDEP need to be undone immediately.

A presentation given by the House Appropriations Committee last week focused on how much the program had grown and the subsequent cost to colleges and universities, instead of laying out a way to restore the program to its previous status. Although VMSDEP is the most expensive waiver program in Virginia – with total costs on average of \$10,600 per student – Virginia's colleges and universities receive billions of dollars each year from the Commonwealth. Each of the three most impacted schools; George Mason, Old Dominion, and VCU, each receive well over \$1 billion from the state over the biennium. The argument that universities cannot absorb some \$16 million in foregone tuition



**Delegate Jason Ballard**  
Virginia General Assembly

each year for the families of those who have given their all for our country and Commonwealth is not one that I agree with in the slightest. Special Session I has not yet adjourned, meaning that the General Assembly can return to Richmond to complete this work before the new fiscal year begins. I look forward to working with my colleagues to restore this vitally important program for our veterans and their families.

Also of note this past week is the Youngkin administration's announcement that Virginia is not bound by law to follow California's electric vehicle mandate, and that the current Virginia mandate will expire at the end of this year. By way of background, Virginia Democrats passed a law in 2021 requiring Virginia to follow California's Clean Cars legislation, known at the time as the "Advanced Clean Cars" program. Not long after, the California Air Resources Board adopted "Advanced Clean Cars II," which would have effectively banned the sale of new internal

combustion engine cars in Virginia as of 2035. Under ACC II, some 35% of all new car sales in Virginia were to be electric vehicles by this model year. The current sales percentage of EV's is 9%, and Attorney General Jason Miyares issued an official opinion on June 4 confirming that state law does not require Virginia to follow ACC II.

Under ACC II, if an auto dealer sells a standard automobile out of compliance with California's mandate, they may be required to pay upwards of \$20,000 in fees per vehicle sold. Given that EV's only amounted to 9% of vehicles sold in Virginia in 2023, this could have cost dealers hundreds of millions in penalties. This is in addition to the increased cost to consumers who would have been forced to buy technology that they don't want or doesn't work for their lifestyle. This announcement by the administration reflects the reality that Republicans are focused on pragmatic ideas that make life more affordable for Virginia families and businesses.

As the Delegate representing the 42nd House District in the Virginia General Assembly, your concerns are my greatest priority. If ever I may be of assistance to you and your family, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at DelBallard@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.

## AARP Virginia Fraud Alert: World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

Each year, the US draws attention to the pernicious crime of elder abuse in our country. Elder financial exploitation – generally involving a known person who is deceiving and manipulating an older adult to steal from them, is a multi-billion dollar, and often unreported, crime. To connect into World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15, it's good to

remember that there are things we can do to identify and stop elder financial exploitation.

Encourage your loved one to designate someone they trust to help them with financial decisions. The federal government's Eldercare Locator can help you find free or low-cost legal assistance. Suggest they add a trusted contact for their financial

institutions if they are unreachable or if questionable activity is detected. A trusted contact is not able to make transactions, but the financial institution can disclose some account information to them.

Also, watch out for someone — even someone you thought you or your loved one could trust — who discourages contact with family and friends, exerts

pressure on financial decisions or asks for large sums of money.

Most importantly, financial exploitation is a crime and should be reported to your local police or Sheriff or to 911 if the target is in danger.

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

AARP Virginia

### 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*  
aboyn@ourvalley.org  
Wendi Craig, *Advertising Consultant*  
advertise@ourvalley.org

**Give us your view:**  
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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.

## Is it safe to buy from a farmers market? Experts say yes and explain why

Shopping at a neighborhood farmer's market boosts the local economy, helps protect the environment, and provides healthy, fresh foods to consumers, says Virginia Tech experts.

Sarah Sharpe, a Virginia Cooperative Extension agent, and Laura Strawn, an associate professor in the Department of Food Science and Technology, talk about the benefits, how producers are ensuring their food is safe to consume, and share tips to make sure buyers get the freshest meat and produce.

Financial support to farmers: "When you purchase food from the grocery store, often the money you spend is split and divided many times, with the farmer receiving just a small percentage of that purchase price," Sharpe said. "When you purchase directly from that farm at the farmers market, you are having a direct impact on that farm with 100% of the money that you spend able to go back into it."

Help the environment: "Food grown locally has a much lower impact on the climate, with the decrease in the miles traveled from the field to your table," Sharpe said.

Get fresher food: "The eggs may have been laid that week, the fruits and vegetables may have been picked that morning or the afternoon before, and the meat may have just been picked up from the processor," Sharpe said.

What do food businesses do to produce food safely? In most states, including Virginia, food available for sale is regulated. Strawn says how our food producers



PHOTO COURTESY OF PEXELS VIA VIRGINIA TECH

**Farmers markets provide healthy local food for consumers.**

are regulated depends on, among other things, what they sell, where they produce it, how they sell it, and how much of it they sell.

"Food businesses are expected to keep extensive records that can be used to document they are compliant with the relevant regulations and following safe food handling best practices," says Strawn. In most cases, they are also required to complete specific food safety training in order to receive their permit and/or have their application approved. "Some of our food

See **Market**, page 5

### CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Formed by burning tobacco  
4. Luxury automaker  
7. Religious residences  
12. Crusaders  
14. Puzzled  
15. In a curt way  
18. Selling tool  
19. Solid material  
20. Gold  
21. Thick piece of something  
24. Pouch  
27. "Wonder Years" actor Fred  
30. Strong and healthy  
31. Waste matter  
33. Apply lightly  
34. Type of squad  
35. Secret political faction

37. Mock  
39. Immoral act  
41. Early Syrian kingdom  
42. Neutralizes alkalis  
44. Loud, confused noise  
47. Sweet potato  
48. Yemen's largest city  
49. Farm state  
50. Bird's beak  
52. Measures distance  
53. Pacify  
56. Spanish noble  
61. Lodging supplied for public convenience  
63. Womanized  
64. Not divisible by two  
65. Monetary unit

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Used in perfumery  
2. Arabic man's name  
3. Assess  
4. Prickly plants  
5. Falsely assess  
6. "\_\_\_ the whistle"  
7. Mama  
8. Rocker \_\_\_ Vicious  
9. Toward  
10. Prefix meaning within  
11. Midway between south and southeast  
12. Cause to be embarrassed  
13. Pandemonium  
16. Fall behind  
17. Cantonese  
22. Shad  
23. A way to make dark  
24. Specialized systems consultant  
25. Wings  
26. Taxi driver  
28. Linear units  
29. Large Philippine plant  
32. Celebration  
36. Fugitives are on this  
38. Chinese tree  
40. Not sour  
43. "Bourne" actor Matt  
44. Former OSS  
45. Runners run this  
46. Offered again  
51. Sanctuary  
54. Food suitable for babies  
55. Caused by a reflection of sound  
56. Mortar trough  
57. Days in mid-month  
58. Exhibit the courage to do  
59. Disk of the sun in Egyptian mythology  
60. Protects from weather  
62. Manganese

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# OBITUARIES

## Carico, Jacqueline Ann Harrison

Jacqueline “Jackie” Ann Harrison Carico of Christiansburg went to be with our Heavenly Father June 8, 2024.

She was born in Radford Sept. 6, 1954 to Kirby James Harrison and Gertude Cline Harrison. She is preceded in death by both parents; her husband, Billy Gene Carico; her brother, Delbert Harrison; and sister, Valery “Kay” Tolley.

She is survived by her daughters, Crystal Jones (Billy) of Dublin; and Tracy Mathis (Hank) of Christiansburg; grandchildren, Kristopher Smith, Darian Jones, and Logan Mathis; great grandchildren, Akxel Charles, Luna “Rainy” Gravelly; and Laiken Smith; sisters, Donna Harris of Roanoke, Josie Hollins (Mike) of Christiansburg, and her identical twin, Mackie



Underwood of Beaver, W.Va.; a special niece, Melissa Haynes, and many caring nieces and nephews; her step children, Shanon, Pam, Jo, Billy, and Albert Carico; a special friend, Phil Conner; her dog, Pepper, a special friend she and Mackie shared, Kim Evans of W.Va.

She was a mother, a sister, a friend, a prankster, a grandma, g-ma, and a shake-shake. She will be remembered and missed for her sense of humor,

her jokes and pranks. She loved to make candy, to cook, to care for senior citizens and help people in need. She was trained in gourmet cooking and was in dietary management for many years. She once stated her whole purpose in life was to make people smile.

Jackie organized and hosted the Christmas party for St. Albans Hospital for 27 consecutive years.

She has a great love for her family and friends and will truly be missed by all.

The family would like to thank multiple organizations for their mother’s care, Dr. James Randall Smith (Tammy), multiple doctors and nurses affiliated with Carilion, Intrepid Hospice, and Warm Hearth at Home.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

## Clements, Don Keith

Don Keith Clements, 85, of Blacksburg, died Wednesday, June 5, 2024.

He was born in Detroit, Mich. Aug. 28, 1938, to the late Russell and Julia Mench Clements. He was also preceded in death by his wife, Esther A. Clements.

Don served 22 years in the Navy, 12 years enlisted with two tours of Vietnam and rising to the rank of Chief Petty Officer. He re-entered the Navy as a Chaplain after receiving a Master of Divinity from Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis, Mo. He also received a Doctor



of Ministry in Adult Education from Gordan Conwell Theological Seminary. He retired from the Navy in 1985 and went on to serve as Pastor at churches in Blacksburg and Narrows. In 2003 he

started working full-time with small churches on revitalization and officer training.

He is survived by his daughters, Stephanie Clements, Susannah Clements, and Sarah Clements; and granddaughters, Nora Hein and Alexandra Hein. Graveside services were conducted Monday, June 10, 2024 in the Draper Valley Presbyterian Church Cemetery, with the Rev. Taylor Rollo officiating. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to PCA Ministerial Relief Fund, at <https://genevabenefits.org/>.

## Compton, Mary McGuire

Mary McGuire Compton, 84, of Christiansburg, passed away June 7, 2024.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Clifford Jefferson “Jeff” Compton; parents, Frank and Mamie McGuire and Frank and Maggie Jones; and siblings, Julia Allen, Manual Jones, Leoma Jones, and Wanda Terry.

She was a 1959 graduate of Dublin High School. After high school, she graduated from the Hollywood School of Beauty, then went on to become a hairdresser. She later retired from the Radford Army Ammunition Plant. Her hobbies included bowling, making wedding cakes, doll cakes and cooking big meals. She loved her family and especially loved spoiling her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mary is survived by her sons and daughters-in-law, Jeff and Debbie



Compton, Kenny and Connie Compton, Marty Compton and (Angela); daughters and sons-in-law, Susan and Joseph White, Ruby and Matthew Stump; grandchildren, Tim and Erin Woolwine, Jessica Compton, Cheri and Dusty McGee, Kendra and Okey Morris, Tiffany Compton, Katlin and Taylor Quinn, Matthew Compton, Dustin Compton (Stephanie), Kealee and Roy Stanford, Alex Compton, Camey Compton, Selena Compton;

great-grandchildren, Eli Woolwine, Noah Woolwine, Bailey Morris, McKayla Morris, Jaden McGee, Amelia Quinn, Meredith Morris, Bentley McGee, Connor Quinn, Roy Campbell Stanford, V, Lainlee Stanford; sisters, Josephine Compton; brother, Marcus Jones; best friend, Joyce Epperly; fur babies, Maverick and Zoey Stump; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank the staff at Richfield Living and Honeysuckle Cottage, who provided excellent care to our mother over the last three and a half years.

Funeral services were held Monday, June 10, 2024 in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Mr. Beaver Terry officiating. Interment followed at North Fork Baptist Church Cemetery.

## Scott, Tommy Bernard

Tommy Bernard Scott, 74, of Christiansburg, died Tuesday, June 4, 2024, with his family by his side.

He was born in Asheboro, N.C. Aug. 14, 1949, to the late Henry and Mary Scott. He was preceded in death by three siblings. Tommy was a member of Open Door Baptist Church. He loved his family dearly and never met a stranger.

He is survived by his wife, Judy; daughter, Connie Musselman (Jimbo); son, Tommy Scott (Becky); son, Henry Scott; daughter,



Michelle Lemuz (Juan); grandchildren, Brooke Musselman, Zack Scott (Haley), Dylan Scott (Lindsey) and Daniel Musselman (Miranda); step grandchildren, Shana Wright, Michael Diehm and Jon Diehm;

great-grandchildren, Trevor Wright, Jack and Annabelle Diehm, and special great-grandson, Bentley Musselman. He is also survived by seven siblings, numerous nieces, and nephews.

A special thank you to Roanoke Memorial ICU Mountain 9 trauma nurses and staff.

Family received friends Sunday, June 9, 2024, followed by funeral services at McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Mike Johnson officiating. Interment followed in Sunset Cemetery.

## Williams, Jack C.

Jack C. Williams, a local high school teacher and coach from Giles High School and Christiansburg, entered fully into the presence of the Lord just two days after his 91st birthday June 4, 2024.

Jack was a Christian, a husband, a father, a grandfather, a great grandfather, and a friend. Jack positively impacted many young lives in his years as a teacher and a coach. During his 40-plus year tenure in various school districts around southwest Virginia, he introduced thousands of students to the practice of how to build structures and the proper use of tools. His passion was making connections and reaching students, showing them how to carve out a niche for themselves and their future.

Born in Bluefield, West Virginia, he went on to serve in the US Air Force and earned a teaching degree from the University of Alabama. Roll Tide! Jack taught for 15 years at Giles High School in Pearisburg while raising a family of five children and coaching girls’ and boys’ basketball, football and tennis. He married the love of



his life, Hazel, in 1981 and was instrumental in the lives of her four sons. Jack finished his teaching career coaching and mentoring at Christiansburg and East Montgomery high schools.

He was an avid sports fan and had a specific passion for Alabama football. He was a talented wood worker, and he took great pleasure in hand crafting crosses that touched many people throughout the world, as well as gifts for others. He loved to share the stories of his life, engaging others in laughter and tears. He truly was a “Jack of all trades” and could do almost anything. He had a tender heart. He loved to listen to music. He loved well and was well loved. He will be missed by many.

An outstanding coach, teacher, and mentor, he is survived by his wife, Hazel, of Blacksburg; his sister, Ann Boyd (Ralph) Newman of Pinehurst, N.C.; daughter, Debbi (Reese) Evans of Spot, N.C.; daughter Jacki (Mike) Mitchell of Blacksburg; daughter, Theresa (Gerry) Scarborough of Spot, N.C.; daughter, Cindy (Kenny) McGuire of White Gate, Va.; stepson Tim (Karen) Ligon of Blacksburg; stepson Jeff (Carrie) Ligon of Blacksburg; stepson Scott (Mary) Ligon of York, Pa.; and stepson Todd (Klarissa) Ligon of Venice, Fla.; as well as 17 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death are his two sons, Mark Steven and William Pasco; mother Ruth Elizabeth; father Oaka Hare; brother Oaka (Sonny) and two sisters Barbara Kennett and Betty Jeanne Moore.

There will be a celebration of Jack’s life for family and friends held at a later date, no service is scheduled at this time. In lieu of flowers please make a donation to your charity of choice in Jack’s name.

## Merrill, Dereck Kirk

Dereck Kirk Merrill, 38, of Rocky Mount, Va., entered eternal life in heaven peacefully at home with his family by his side on June 4, 2024.

Welcoming him into heaven alongside our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ were his beloved grandmother Mary Rebecca Merrill (Mawmaw), great-grandmother L.D. Merrill, Aunt Dorian M. Keen (Aunt DeeDee), and Uncle Bud Merrill.

Dereck was born June 3, 1986. Raised in Montgomery County, Dereck was a student of Christiansburg High School. In 2012 Dereck had an accidental drug overdose that resulted in an anoxic brain injury. After seven months of hospitalizations and intensive rehabilitative therapy, Dereck was discharged home to continue his recovery as a quadriplegic. Raising awareness of the dangers of drug use and risk of overdose became Dereck’s life mission. He stated that sharing his story at local schools, recovery groups, and churches “gave me



purpose in life.”

Left to cherish his memory are his angels on earth, his mother, Kimberly Muncy, and stepfather, Doug Muncy, of Rocky Mount, Va.; his sister, best friend, and motivator, Deanna Farley and fiancé Stephen Grissom of Pembroke Va.; and special niece Wrenleigh Grissom who adored her “Uncle Bubbie” and being involved in his care; step-sister Bridget Wray and husband Zach Wray of Woodstock, Ga.; half-sister Stacey Duncan White of Christiansburg; step brother Adam Muncy of Richmond; maternal grandfather Bruce Merrill (Paw Paw) and wife Becky Merrill of Riverview, Fla.; maternal step grandmother Shirley

Muncy (MiMi); niece Leia Wray; nephew Luke Wray and Mateo Muncy; special cousin, Liz Catron and husband Rocky Catron and sons Benjamin and Alexander of Ocala, Fla.; uncles Bryce, Bryden, Brandon, and Brett Merrill; and extended family of Florida, Massachusetts, and Idaho.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to those who cared for Dereck over the past 12 years. A special thank you to Raleigh Court Health and Rehab nursing staff and therapy team; Amedisys Home Care; Dr. Ann Austin and staff of Carilion Clinic; Heartland Hospice with Luz Carr NP, Colby Byrd RN, and Mary Heath RN; and special in-home caregivers when Dereck returned home, Susan Coccia and Shirley Walker.

The family received friends Saturday, June 8, 2024. Funeral service followed with Pastor Sam Caldwell officiating. Dereck’s final resting place will be in Westview Cemetery in Blacksburg.

## Market

from page 4

businesses are exempt from inspection but are still expected to meet training and record-keeping requirements in addition to following all relevant best practices.”

Sharpe encourages customers to talk with local farm vendors about their farm practices. “Look for a food safety training certificate at their booth or ask them if they have one they can show you. If they answer their questions to your satisfaction, then please do buy from them. If they don’t, then make the best decision you can at the time. More so than anything, be an informed consumer.”

It’s also important to avoid touching all the food, she said. “We don’t wash our hands nearly enough and so when you take your hands and touch everything you may be a source of contaminating that product with something that can make someone else sick.”

Assuming the food has been prepared/processed following best practices, there are also some steps that you should take as a consumer to maintain the safety of that food from the market to your meal. “We encourage all consumers to follow

these core-four practices: clean, separate, cook, and chill.” More information can be found here.

Some additional things to consider for the foods you can buy at the farmers market include:

Fresh fruits and vegetables  
Wash your produce with fresh water before you use it.

For cut produce (cut melon, tomatoes, etc.), have a cooler bag with to keep that produce cold until you can get it into your refrigerator.

Dairy, eggs, meat, poultry, seafood  
Expect to see these products frozen or refrigerated in a cooler. Have a cooler bag with you to keep those items cold.

Value-added foods (jams/jellies/pickles/etc.)

Some vendors, depending on their products and how much they sell in a year, may be able to prepare some of their products at home without state inspection. These products must bear a label telling you that food is “Not For resale – Processed and prepared without state inspection.”

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# Land Transfers

from page 3

BCP Development LLC to Kenande Rentals LLC, 0.46 Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$269,500

James R Bohland to Jonathan O Necci, Lot 717 Blacksburg Country Club Estates Section 3 Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$648,000

Michael A Mirabella to Sidney Hollandsworth, Lot 47 Oak Tree Townhomes Phase 7 Town of Christiansburg, \$200,000

Rachel W Wallace to PMD Properties Inc., Lot 4 Walnut Grove Section 2, \$157,900

Howard L Scarboro to Gary W Derby, Condo Unit 412 Kent Square Town of Blacksburg, \$235,000

Lisa Ann Sarver Newman to Gallimore LLC, Lot 10 Section 1 Town & Country Estates Town of Christiansburg, \$182,000

Eagle Construction of VA LLC to Andrew Donald Rathmann, New Lot 54 The Reserve at Round Meadows Town of Christiansburg, \$640,218

JBC Properties LLC to Johnny C Martin Jr., 9.406 Acres Town of Christiansburg, \$100,000

Curtis M Woods to Norman Wimmer, 3.667 Acres Lot 25 Phase 4 The Ridges, \$65,000

Eagle Construction of VA LLC to Grant Duncan, New Lot 53 The Reserve at Round Meadows Town of Christiansburg, \$600,150

Michael A Cash Trust to Susan E Bobes, Lot 72 Belmont Farms Unit 3 Town of Christiansburg, \$310,000

GWCD LLC to Golden Financial LLC; 0.1989 Acre Parcel 1, 0.3427 Acre Parcel 2, and 0.183 Acre Parcel 3 Town of Christiansburg; \$263,000

Andrew Zwald to Elliott Mills, Lot 36 Suburban Hills, \$217,000

William L King to Richard O McNeil, 30.147 Acres Shawsville Magisterial District, \$60,000

David H Rhudy to Vaughn Properties LLC, 0.502 Acre Town of Christiansburg, \$190,000

Morris Holdings LLC to Randal Cole Stanley, 2.23 Acres Tract B Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$239,900

Johnny C Martin Jr. to Mary Lou Miles, Multiple Parcels Town of Christiansburg See Legal, \$1,600,000

F David Sale Jr. to Carl N McNeil Jr. Trust, 5.711 Acres Riner Magisterial District, \$165,000

Terry W Stike to Kyra Jennifer Webb, Lot 17B Section 2 Falling Branch Estates Town of Christiansburg, \$244,000

R Fralin Construction Inc. to Rodrigo Da Silva Marques, 0.341 Acre Lot 20 Phase 2 The Villas on North Main Town of Blacksburg, \$509,950

Thomas M Flinchum to Richard N Cumbee, 1.99 Acres Parcel B Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$39,202

Kathy Dawn Colley to Season Childress, Lot 25 Echo Hills Subdivision Town of Christiansburg, \$230,000

Stations Homes LLC to Robert Lyman, Lot 246 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$486,064

Albert J Raboteau III to Natasha L Bell, 287-A 17, \$485,000

Kimberly Smith to Jesse B Balance, 1.0661 Acres Riner Magisterial District, \$255,000

Carolyn Marie Montroy AIF to Zachary Douglas Brown, 0.65 Acre Lot 3 Town of Blacksburg, \$550,000

Michael A Hoyle to Loretta Rowland Kitley, Lot 30 Phase 3 White Oak Townhouse, \$240,000

Freeda W Mills to Austin Bradshaw, Lots 13 and 14 and Portions of Lots 47 and 48 Town of Christiansburg, \$209,000

Bryan A Rice to Monica Powers, 0.370 Acre Town of Christiansburg, \$180,000

Karin K Gravley Executor to Evan Douglas Sparks, 0.92 Acre Metes and Bounds Lot 1 and 0.88 Acre Metes and Bounds Lot 2 Riner Magisterial District, \$243,322

Jewish Family Service of Tidewater to Anne Noe Dubner, Lot 26 Atkinson Acres Town of Christiansburg, \$299,900

Peter J Hughes to Kathleen C School, Lot 20 Phase 4 Section 1 Ramble Ridge Subdivision, \$300,000

Angela Dowdy Zawadski to Hongyu Wang, Lot 29 Oak Tree Townhomes Phase 10, \$312,000

Rocket Rental Company LLC to Brittany and Joes Property LLC, 0.7909 Acre Less and Except See Legal Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$200,000

Billy Joe Ratcliff II to Robert Earl Haas III, 7.707 Acre Parcel 2 Riner Magisterial District, \$66,500

Highlander Estates LLC to Jeffrey S Meredith, 5 Acres Parcel A Riner Magisterial District, \$25,000

Stations Homes LLC to Joyce Hill, Lot 127 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$520,214

Eagle Construction of VA LLC to Thomas W Reef, Lot 424 The Preserve at Walnut Springs Section 1 Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$674,790

Darren M Simpkins to David W Goodman, Two Parcels See Legal, \$360,000

Eagle Construction of VA LLC to Steel Home Improvement LLC, Lot 115 The Preserve at Walnut Springs Section 3 Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$316,021

Allen N Butterfield to Seth P Wills, 0.19 Acre Oakwood Subdivision Parcel 1 and 0.664 Acre Parcel 2 Town of Christiansburg, \$420,000

Beth Ann Stephens to Rhonda Baker, Lot 8B Slate Creek Commons Town of Christiansburg, \$325,000

Elise Yates Epperly to Macie Elisabeth Snelson, 0.588 Acre Lot 8 Metes and Bounds Twin Boulders Shawsville Magisterial District, \$240,000

Richard Stanley Baker to Monte Thomas, 3.46 Acres Metes and Bounds Shawsville Magisterial District, \$22,500

Stations Homes LLC to Stephen Harrell, Lot 20 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$693,064

JWC2 LLC to CCC Ranch LLC, 2 Tracts See Legal Riner Magisterial District, \$340,000

Lisa S Osborne to Terry C Long, 4.1 Acres Parcel 1 Riner Magisterial District, \$16,000

Emmett Jay Long to Terry C Long, 1.499 Acres Parcel 2 Riner Magisterial District, \$35,492

Dale and Freda Teel Family Limited Trust to Stephen T Rhodes, 0.25 Acre to be Added to Parcel \$030411 Town of Christiansburg, \$10,000

Cary Woods Hopper to Mad Real Estates Holding LLC, 0.618 Acre Town of Christiansburg, \$275,000

ITA Blacksburg LLC to Sarah L Tavenner, Condo Unit 307 Brownstone Condominium Town of Blacksburg, \$799,900

Jeffrey S Bird to Melisa D Loving, 0.26 Acre Lot 124 New River Village Phase 6 Town of Christiansburg, \$339,000

David J Roberts to Peter Z Reciorius, 1.693 Acres Phase 1 Lot 17 Deerfield PDR Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$730,000

Herbert Nixon Roberts to Kevin Monteith, Fronting 5 Feet on Alleghany Street Metes and Bounds Parcel 1 and Lot 7 and 2/3 of Lot 8 Block B Parcel 2 Town of Christiansburg, \$289,000

Dale W Moses to Bret D Kelly, 6 Acres More or Less Metes and Bounds Christiansburg Magisterial District, \$25,000

DBS Land LLC to James Lionel St Gelais, 1.2962 Acres Shawsville Magisterial District, \$259,000

Scott J Schumacher to Zhiyuan Du, Lot 802 Phase 7 University Place Condos Town of Blacksburg, \$248,900

Kimberly Taylor Reed to Shah Development LLC, 3 Parcels See Legal Town of Blacksburg, \$190,000

Robert M Jones to Robert M Jones, 0.230 Acre Lot 14 Peppers Crossing Town of Christiansburg, \$10

Robert M Jones to Robert M Jones, 0.230 Acre Lot 13 Peppers Crossing Town of Christiansburg, \$10

Amanda E Shimp to Fengbin Huang, Lot 77 Windsor Estates Phase 4, \$461,000

William S Robertson to William P Puschmann, Lot 27 A Parcel 1 and Lot 26 Parcel 2 Windmill Hills Town of Christiansburg, \$480,000

William B Saville to Thomas Brandon

Asbury, Lots 1 and 2 Grand View Estates Riner Magisterial District, \$437,000

Anne Snider Falls to Lukas Patrik Spindel, Parcels 13 and 14 Less and Except Town of Blacksburg, \$585,000

Tyris Homes Inc. to Jeffrey S Bird, 0.398 Acre Lot 1 Shawsville Magisterial District, \$459,900

Stations Homes LLC to Cynara Taggart, Lot 183 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$359,900

Thomas Brandon Asbury to Charles Ethridge Thornton III, Lot 2 PH I Forelmont Estates Town of Christiansburg, \$355,000

Michael Epperly to Westhill Holdings LLC, Lot 197 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$445,000

Diane R Naff to Edward W Kaska Jr, Lot 83 Fiddlers Green Town of Blacksburg, \$629,000

Randy E Semones to Katherine L Huffman, Lot 2 Oak Tree Townhomes Phase 3 Town of Christiansburg, \$240,000

Mark Elliott Henderson to Zachary M Easton, 322.106 Acres Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$850,000

Bruce A Tomlinson LLC to Kathy Diane R Naff, Unit 37-2 Phase 19 Section 2 Town of Christiansburg, \$475,000

MVFRAJ Hospitality LLC to Ultimate Hospitality LLC, 1.097 Acres Lot 2 Less and Except Franklin Street Shopping Center Town of Christiansburg, \$6,000,000

Howard M Thornton to PCKK Partners LLC, 2.4094 Acres Metes and Bounds, \$400,000

Emily Virginia Gribbin to Shane A Meredith, Lot 52 Shenandoah Phase 1 Town of Blacksburg, \$270,000

Brabara Alice Wilson to Levi L Akers, Lots 16 and 17 Section 1 Johnston Heights Town of Christiansburg, \$192,750

Wirt Henry Wills III to George V Wills, Metes and Bounds See Legal, \$136,667

Linda D Craft to Sonora H Pauley, Western Portion of Lot 3 Garland Dowdy Lots Town of Cambria, \$14,000

LBA2020 Properties LLC to Marsha T Jobst Trust, Condominium Unit 872 University Place Condominium Phase 5 Town of Blacksburg, \$245,000

Christy Dodd to Eladio Ferreira Concha, 2,515 Square Feet Lot 21 Town of Christiansburg, \$235,000

Paul Dimaio to George Michael Jobst Trust, Lot 14 Tremont Estates Town of

Blacksburg, \$364,900

Stations Homes LLC to Alice Jang, Lot 9 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$618,014

LH and MH MGMT LLC to Jessica Hotter, Metes and Bounds See Legal Town of Blacksburg, \$225,000

Thomas M Myers to Christal McKinley, Lot 6 Radford Heights Subdivision, \$179,900

Michael F Schmolitz to Michael F Schmolitz, 4 Acres New Lot A Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$114,150

Peter M Tienvieri to Francis Symanoskie Trust, 0.404 Acre Lot 112 Windmill Hills Subdivision Section 12 Town of Christiansburg, \$689,900

Laura Garrett Henry to Priscilla Morris Trust, Lot 55 Cambria Crossing Phase 1 Town of Christiansburg, \$350,000

Christine K Lancaster Administrated Trust to Samara Rae Moore, Part of Tract 11 Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$148,400

Eagle Construction of VA LLC to Alexandre Stumpf, Lot 114 The Preserve at Walnut Springs Section 3 Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$351,999

Eagle Construction of VA LLC to Hokie Heaven LLC, Lot 116 The Preserve at Walnut Springs Section 3 Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$368,338

DALMPK LLC to The Flinchum Family LLC, 0.715 Acre More or Less Riner Magisterial District, \$57,500

Tyris Homes Inc. to Joseph Swistock, 0.27 Acre Lot 3 Shawsville Magisterial District, \$449,900

DALMPK LLC to Auburn Hills Golf Course Inc., 0.5 Acre More or Less Riner Magisterial District, \$57,500

Roland M Spence to GSquared LLC, Lot 7 Town of Christiansburg, \$65,000

Henry B Henderson Jr. to Thomas Twyman, Unit J Building 2 Town of Blacksburg, \$276,000

Victoria A Green to Hiten Chadha, Lot 152 Section 3 Town of Blacksburg, \$320,100

CDP Rentals LLC to Wallace L Andrus Sr., 4.264 Acres Lot A Riner Magisterial District, \$192,000

S Richard Turner Trust to George Henry Ellis, Lot 3 Trillium Place Phase 1 Town of Blacksburg, \$690,000

Andrew C Budwin to Donald E Seymour Jr., 34.336 Acres Tract 2, \$96,000

Nancy Graham to Blevins and Blevins Enterprises LLC, 0.325 Acre Town of Christiansburg, \$55,000

## Virginia gas prices down from last week

Average gasoline prices in Virginia have fallen 8.3 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.33/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia. Prices in Virginia are 11.6 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 4.6 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 6.7 cents in the last week and stands at \$3.75 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$2.89/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$3.99/g, a difference of \$1.10/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.89/g while the highest was \$3.99/g, a difference of \$1.10/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 10.0 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.40/g today. The national average is down 23.0 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 18.2 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

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

Date	Price (U.S. per gallon)
June 10, 2023	\$3.29/g (U.S. Average: \$3.58/g)
June 10, 2022	\$4.84/g (U.S. Average: \$5.01/g)
June 10, 2021	\$2.93/g (U.S. Average: \$3.08/g)
June 10, 2020	\$1.88/g (U.S. Average: \$2.08/g)
June 10, 2019	\$2.50/g (U.S. Average: \$2.73/g)
June 10, 2018	\$2.70/g (U.S. Average: \$2.91/g)
June 10, 2017	\$2.14/g (U.S. Average: \$2.33/g)

Date	Price (U.S. per gallon)
June 10, 2016	\$2.19/g (U.S. Average: \$2.38/g)
June 10, 2015	\$2.53/g (U.S. Average: \$2.75/g)
June 10, 2014	\$3.45/g (U.S. Average: \$3.65/g)

Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:  
 Roanoke- \$3.24/g, down 7.3 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.32/g.  
 Richmond- \$3.35/g, down 11.0 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.46/g.  
 West Virginia- \$3.37/g, down 6.0 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.43/g.

"We've seen one of the larger weekly drops in the national average price of gasoline in some time, and what incredible timing that it comes at the beginning of the summer driving season," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "Not only have gasoline prices plummeted in nearly every state in the last week, but nearly every state has also seen prices drop compared to a month ago. With the declines, Americans will spend roughly \$425 million less per week on gasoline than a year ago. In addition, the price of diesel has fallen alongside gasoline to its lowest level since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in early 2022. This price decline party is ramping up, and I expect additional declines ahead of July 4 for both gasoline and diesel prices. Six states now have average prices below \$3 per gallon, and more will join soon, with the number of U.S. stations at \$2.99 or lower already nearing 25,000. It's a great start to summer for those hitting the road."

GasBuddy



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# MONTGOMERY SPORTS

## Christiansburg softball, Auburn soccer bring home state championships

**Marty Gordon**  
*NRVsports@ourvalley.org*

Christiansburg and Auburn high schools are celebrating this morning after both brought home state championships this past Saturday.

Christiansburg won the Class 3 state softball title, their first in the history of the school, while Auburn returned the Class 1 girls' soccer trophy to Riner. It took extra innings for Christiansburg, but they got the job done 6-3 against a 23-3 Turner Ashby squad. Kaden

Camper struck out 15 batters, but it was time at the plate late that provided the spark to end a 3-3 tie and what was once a 2-1 deficit. Camper hit a go-ahead double in the eighth inning, which brought the trophy back to the New River Valley.

This was the first year on the sidelines for Sean Gaynor. He called the win and the entire season awesome.

"To see the ladies put in work all season long and to see this day finally come and how it came about was just awesome," he said. "It is hard to describe

with words, and I can't be more proud of those ladies for their perseverance."

"We have instilled this mindset in our ladies to apply to the game and to life. Play every play like you have something there to play for. Have the faith that it can and will happen. Play your best ball and the results will follow. We have had adversity many times throughout the season and this last game was the final exam, and the ladies aced it."

Christiansburg finished off their season with their best record ever, 24-3, and Camper finished with 277

strikeouts. The ladies also set a VHSL record of 41 home runs on the season, the very best in Virginia state softball.

Meanwhile, Auburn also had to break open a close game before rolling to a 6-2 win over Northumberland in the Class 1 soccer finals. Stacy Lewis provided the lead with 15 minutes remaining in the contest. Auburn would finish the season 19-4-0.

The Radford High School boys' soccer team would be the runner-ups in Class 2 as they fell 1-0 to Three Rivers District rival Glenvar.

## Christiansburg girls have rich history in softball

Eight years ago, a group of 9-10-year-old little girls took the field in the Christiansburg Recreation Department's Babe Ruth softball league. They would have an outstanding season even claiming the district championship and took a trip to the state tournament.

Over the years, the group continued playing together in the recreation league and even a few travel teams.

Saturday, they claimed the Class 3 state championship at Christiansburg High School.

I personally got to umpire many of their recreation games, learning each one by first name. This weekend, they put all that together to win Christiansburg's first ever state softball title.

I will continue to support them and remind everyone what the early beginnings really meant. There were plenty of coaches and parents that attended long practices for those youngsters. Way to go! All of you should feel some congrats in the bigger picture.

I was recently reminded by one of those parents that



*Marty Gordon*  
**FROM THE SIDELINES**

the early encouragement when they were nine and 10 years old kept them playing. They all should receive a big Congrats. They were honored at the downtown Christiansburg summer concert when they rolled back into town on Saturday evening.

The win is important to these kids, their parents, the school and the community.

I also hope people remember how important those early years were to this group.

I am reminded of a comment from my past that was given to me.

"Participation in sports helps young people learn about discipline and dedication as well as personal responsibility and self-control. It helps in the development of like skills, such as goal setting, time management and leadership."

The Centers for Disease Control points out youth athletics is important in so many ways.

In 2020 (the last year the statistics were reported), 54.1% of children aged 6-17 years participated in sports.

And according to the National Council of Youth Sports, there are around 60 million registered youth sports participants across the country. With an estimate of around 74 million children in the United States, a large portion have participated in youth sports recently.

While the idea of every one of them winning a championship is definitely out in right field, it does get them involved, and in most cases active and maybe in better health.



The group of 9-10-year-old kids from eight years ago took the local district softball title.



This weekend, the same group took the state championship as members of the Christiansburg High School softball team.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DAVID LINKOUS

## Auburn girls win state soccer title



Stacy Lewis gets hugs from teammates after her kick puts the Eagles finally ahead 3-2. Auburn would go on to win the Class 1 state championship 6-2 over Northumberland Saturday at Roanoke College.



Auburn, who finishes 19-4 on the season, rushes to the trophy presentation after the final gun.



Auburn is the 2024 Class 1 girls' soccer champion.

PHOTOS BY ASHLEY AKERS



Kristy Ruestow Morrill (right) was one of over 200 participants to attend this past week's Women's Football Clinic at Virginia Tech and took the opportunity to snap a photo with Head Coach Brent Pry.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KRISTIE RUESTOW MORRILL

## Ladies treated to football camp at Tech

**Marty Gordon**  
*NRVsports@ourvalley.org*

Kristy Rueston Morrill is a longtime Hokie football fan, but she has always been curious what goes on behind the scenes before the team takes the field on Saturday afternoons.

She joined several other ladies this past week at Virginia Tech's first annual Women's Clinic.

"I typically just sit there and watch the game, never knowing what is really going on," Morrill said.

Now, that has all changed.

"I didn't realize all that they do until the clinic," she said. "It's amazing what they have to do in a less than a minute."

The clinic was designed to give women an inside look at the Virginia Tech football program. Morrill said that was one of most intriguing parts of the clinic.

"We got the opportunity to hear from position coaches and lots of players. We received a lot of insight into

the games and its preparations."

She once played collegiate soccer and has been a Hokies fan since the early 90s. She now works at Virginia Tech as the student recruiter for the College of Liberal Arts and Human Science.

Attendees enjoyed a full itinerary, which included learning basic fundamentals and terminology, a facility tour, dinner, an Enter Sandman experience and individual photos with head coach Brent Pry.

Pry said the day was perfect to give back to the community and the football team's fans.

"The Virginia Tech community has embraced us, and the women's clinic provided a way to connect our staff with those ladies who are so passionate about football and love the Hokies," he said. "We were so excited to bring it back."

More than 200 ladies attended. The clinic was designed to give women an

# Hokie trio among On3's Top 100 Players



PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

The countdown to the 2024 season has officially begun, with less than 100 days remaining until kickoff.

The Hokies ended the previous season on a high note, sporting a 7-6 record and capping it off with a dominant 41-20 victory over Tulane to secure the Military Bowl title. Looking ahead, On3's Clark Brooks has highlighted three Hokies in his breakdown of the top 100 players in college football for the 2024 season. With anticipation building, let's take a closer look at the standout Hokies expected to make a significant impact in the upcoming campaign.

**45. CB Dorian Strong**  
Cornerback Dorian Strong earned the 45th spot in Brooks' rankings, adding to an impressive list of accolades from the 2023 campaign. These include being named a 2023 Action Network Second Team All-American, making the 2023 All-ACC Third Team and being recognized as one of the top 10

returning cornerbacks by Pro Football Focus (PFF).

In his fourth year, Strong played and started in all 13 games at cornerback. He achieved career highs in total tackles, passes defended, interceptions and interception yards. The cornerback finished the season with 25 total tackles and eight pass breakups on 11 passes defended. His 32-yard interception return against Old Dominion in the season opener was the longest of his career. Strong also snagged two interceptions against Boston College, including one on the game's opening play. This performance earned him the ACC Defensive Back of the Week honor and a spot on PFF's Weekly College Football Team.

Witness Strong's performance this fall, and ensure you never miss a moment of Tech football in the electrifying atmosphere of Lane Stadium by purchasing season tickets.

**72. DL Antwaun Powell-Ryland**

Ranked 72nd, defensive lineman Antwaun Powell-Ryland made a significant impact in his first season at Virginia Tech, earning a spot on the 2023 All-ACC Second Team and receiving an Honorable Mention on the 2023 Phil Steele All-American list.

Powell-Ryland's performance was outstanding, tallying 9.5 sacks, ranking second in the ACC and tied for 14th nationally. He recorded 40 total tackles, 23 of which were solo, and 14.5 tackles for loss (TFL), placing him 24th in the country and fifth in the ACC. The edge rusher's dominant game against Wake Forest, where he finished with four sacks, made him the fourth Virginia Tech defensive player to record four or more sacks in a single game.

The Portsmouth, Virginia native also forced three fumbles and recovered two, one of which was against Wake Forest, earning him the ACC Defensive Lineman of the Week honor. APR's impressive statistics and accolades

highlight his crucial role in the Hokies' defense and his potential for the months ahead.

**88. DL Aeneas Peebles**  
Newly transferred defensive lineman Aeneas Peebles landed at 88th after an impressive tenure at Duke, where he was named to the 2023 Pro Football Focus All-ACC First Team and the 2023 All-ACC Third Team as a defensive tackle. At Duke, Peebles cooled the team in tackles for loss (8.5) and ranked second in sacks (4). The fifth-year player recorded 40 tackles and added four quarterback hurries, two pass breakups, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery.

Peebles demonstrated his consistency with four or more tackles in six games. As he joins the Hokies, there is great anticipation for his contribution to the defense, especially alongside his fellow top 100 ranked players.

Virginia Tech Athletics

## Auburn from page 9



PHOTO BY ASHLEY AKERS

Auburn's Logan Mundy sends a pass to a teammate during Saturday's finals. Mundy would later score a goal to tie the score at two. Auburn would then control the rest of the contest and score four more times.

## Football from page 9

inside look at the Virginia Tech football program. Morrill said it was a memory she will have for the rest of her life, running through the tunnel onto the field.

"It was like a wow factor," she said. Of course, there was the opportunity to take a one-on-one photo with Pry. They also received the opportunity to put on the shoulder pads, jerseys and helmets.

Morrill wants to know more and plans

to attend it again in the near future. "I appreciate what they (the coaches) do. I did not know what to expect, and it was amazing to find out what players give up to play. It definitely opened up my eyes," she said.

Following the full day of activities, participants took home a Virginia Tech football necklace from Ed & Ethel's Fine Jewelry and a complimentary ticket to the season home opener in Lane Stadium against Marshall on Sept. 7.

## New officers chosen at LewisGale Montgomery

LewisGale Hospital Montgomery in Blacksburg, Va., part of Nashville, Tenn.-based HCA Healthcare, has selected a new chief nursing officer, COO and CFO.

Sarah Tavenner was selected as COO. Tavenner previously spent more than six years as vice president of operations for HCA Florida South Shore Hospital in Sun City Center.

Rachael Stanton was selected as CFO. Stanton previously spent three years as the assistant CFO of HCA Healthcare's Doctors Hospital of Augusta (Ga.).

Devin LaPuasa, MSN, RN, was selected as chief nursing officer. LaPuasa previously served as director of emergency services at LewisGale

Hospital Montgomery and as the assistant director of the emergency department at Salem, Va.-based LewisGale Medical Center.

"Our executive team has hit the ground running and is working on numerous advancements for our facility, including our new freestanding emergency room, Christiansburg ER," Lauren Dudley, CEO of LewisGale Hospital Montgomery, said in the release.

LewisGale Hospital Montgomery, a 146-bed, general acute-care facility, is part of the HCA Virginia Health System.

HCA Healthcare

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

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