



## 100+ Women Who Care donates large sum to NRV CARES

**Angelica Ramos**  
*Contributing writer*

MONTGOMERY COUNTY- Local organization 100+ Women who Care donated \$11,100 this weekend to NRV CARES, a non-profit organization who centers on protecting children and caring for families.

Every quarter, 100+ Women Who Care donates to an organization of their choice. The organization can use it for whatever they need to continue to thrive and support their community. 100+ Women Who Care NRV is located out of Blacksburg and is an organization of women in the community who care a great deal about supporting and

uplifting their community. These women strive to have an impact on the good and the care they see in their community. They chose NRV CARES this quarter. NRV CARES stands for New River Valley Child Advocacy, Resources, Education, and Services. NRV CARES is based in Christiansburg and is a private non-profit who supports families by providing education, support and parenting classes. NRV CARES also is dedicated to protecting children as they are an affiliate of Prevent Child Abuse Virginia and the National CASA Association. They also provide education for the community on the existence of child abuse, the effects of trauma and how to help support families and children in need through

difficult times as a community. They do this in multiple ways like offering Stewards of Children Training, which is a workshop on child sexual abuse, and by working with other community organizations like Christiansburg fire Department on Pinwheels for Prevention which residents can see blue pinwheels all around town during the month of April to bring awareness toward child abuse.

NRV CARES supports all of Montgomery County by providing these resources as well as workshops for families and children. For NRV CARES, this donation means a great deal to them as it helps ensure they can continue to provide education and support for their community.



PHOTO BY ANGELICA RAMOS

**Pictured (left to right) Melissa Almond (Vice President of Board of Directors for NRV CARES), Jennifer Polanco (NRV CARES), Debbie Sherman-Lee (100+ Women who Care), Beth Paterson (100+ Women Who Care), Michael Czar (President of Board of Directors for NRV CARES), Lynn Brammer (100+ Women Who Care), Nancy Schuessler (Board Member for NRV CARES), Mike and Janet Sakraida (Donors and Volunteers for NRV CARES), Andi Golusky (NRV CARES Executive Director) and Leah Wechtaluk McFarren (NRV CARES Program Coordinator).**

**Montgomery Museum**  
OF ART & HISTORY

**HERITAGE DAY**

Saturday, August 24, 2024, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
4 E. Main St., & 300 S. Pepper St.,  
Downtown Christiansburg

Over 40 Vendors, Live Music, Food Trucks, Children's Activities, Silent Auction, Cast Iron Presentation, Author Talk, Historical Demonstrators, & More!

**Outdoor Garden Presentation**

- 10:00 AM - Storytime with Joelle!

**Indoor Museum Presentations**

- 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM: *Vintage Kitchen Cast Iron* w/ Dr. Katie Hoffman
- 1:00 - 2:00 PM: Author Talk w/ Diane Flynt - *Wild, Tamed, Lost, Revived*

**Live Performances By:**

- Virginia Hollow
- American Roots - The Grandin Village Strings - Leroy @ The New River Valley Boys - Montgomery Junior Appalachian Musicians (MJAM) Teachers and Students

**Food Trucks**

- Bubba's Barn
- Community Pizza
- Scoops Arcade

**Sponsored By:**

**All participants are encouraged to dress in 1800s period clothing!**

www.montgomerymuseum.org/heritage-day

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF MMAH

## Board of Supervisors approves new telecommunications tower

**Angelica Ramos**  
*Contributing writer*

MONTGOMERY COUNTY- The Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance for a new telecommunications tower to be built off of Childress Road and Piney Woods Road.

A special use permit was requested by Jonathan Yates, from Arcola Towers, for special use of a part of Reginald L. Duncan's land to build a 197-foot monopole telecommunications tower. Duncan's land is currently zoned for agricultural use. A monopole for telecommunications purposes is a singular, most commonly metal, tower or pole that is anchored to the

ground that typically has triangular shaped satellites on the top for telecommunications reception. According to multiple telecommunications sources, monopoles tend to be some of the easier telecommunications towers to erect and take up less space than others. The tower will also include a two-foot lightning rod for protection. The tower is proposed to be used by Verizon and at least three other service providers, according Yates.

"This tower," Yates said, "FAA has approved it. I think we're about 13.4 nautical miles from Virginia Tech and Montgomery Executive

See Tower, page 4

## Rotary Club of Blacksburg hosts annual fundraiser yard sale



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BLACKSBURG

**The Annual August Yard Sale of the Rotary Club of Blacksburg is set for this Saturday, Aug. 24.**

BLACKSBURG - It's that time of the year again!

The Annual August Yard Sale of the Rotary Club of Blacksburg will be held Saturday, Aug. 24 from 7 - 11 a.m. The event will be held at the YMCA on North Main Street.

The Rotary Yard Sale has been held since 1988. It will feature a wide range of items including kitchen appliances, monitors, household items, tools, furniture, bikes, toys, books, and so much more. Come by the YMCA on August 24 and see if you can find a treasure.

All proceeds go to local Rotary projects, events, and scholarships for students. Last year, ten scholarships were awarded to high school seniors. In addition, donations were made to the Women's Resource Center, Montgomery County Christmas

Store, Community Health Center of NRV, Interfaith Food Pantry, Micha's Backpack, Literacy Grant, Citizen of the Year, and First Responder of the Year.

The motto of Rotary is Service Above Self. The Annual Yard Sale is just one of the many projects of the Rotary Club of Blacksburg that enables Rotarians to reach out to the community to serve others.

"The yard sale has been a fantastic event for our club and the community for over 35 years," said Chris Belluzzo, Chair of the Yard Sale Committee. "In addition to raising funds for scholarships and local community initiatives and activities, the sale gives new life to items that may have otherwise found their way into our landfills."

Terri Lynn Howard  
Blacksburg Rotary Club

## Montgomery Museum of Art & History to host Heritage Day 2024

CHRISTIANSBURG - Celebrate the region's history and culture by taking a journey back in time at Heritage Day 2024, hosted by the Montgomery Museum of Art & History, this Saturday, Aug. 24, 2024, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., in downtown Christiansburg.

The event will be held at 4 E. Main St. and 300 S. Pepper St. and includes 50 vendors, historical demonstrators, and

costumed interpreters in Main St. downtown and along Pepper St.

Visitors can also enjoy local food trucks, including Bubba's Barn, Community Pizza, and Scoops Arcade Ice Cream. Enjoy the delightful tunes of live music and dance throughout the day, with performances by Virginia Hollow, Leroy @ The New River Valley Boys, The Grandin Village Strings, American Roots, and the

Montgomery Junior Appalachian Musicians including both students and teachers.

History enthusiasts can also look forward to several indoor museum presentations throughout the day. From 11a.m. - noon join us for Vintage Kitchen Cast Iron featuring Dr. Katie Hoffman to learn about the care of cast iron. From 1- 2

See Heritage, page 3

## Blacksburg releases Toms Creek Basin Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity Study

The Town of Blacksburg recently completed a connectivity study to identify ways to expand non-vehicular transportation infrastructure in the Toms Creek Basin, such as trails, sidewalks, and bike lanes.

As part of this study, an online survey was conducted to gather input on preferred activities, transportation modes, and priority areas to address.

The study looked at current site conditions, existing bike and

pedestrian factors, future traffic projections, and more. It identified high-priority areas for infrastructure improvements and outlined specific projects to address these areas over the next five years. Additionally, the study further identified additional sites within the study area to be slated for future infrastructure improvements within five - 20 years, and beyond 20 years.

These findings are being integrated into the larger Toms Creek Basin Planning Study, and

priority projects will be considered as part of the Town's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) process.

To learn more about this project, and for the full study report, please visit: <https://letstalkblacksburg.org/toms-creek-basin-connectivity-study>.

Please contact Energy and Environmental Specialist, Will Lattea, [wlattea@blacksburg.gov](mailto:wlattea@blacksburg.gov), 540.443.1618 with questions.

Town of Blacksburg

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Wednesday, Aug. 21-

## Friday, Aug. 23:

### CAC annual maintenance

The Christiansburg Aquatic Center will be closed for annual maintenance to complete work that cannot be completed while the center is open.

## Wednesday, Aug. 21:

### 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>.

### Market Square Jam

Blacksburg's Market Square Jam is an official Crooked Road affiliated venue that provides fun and entertainment on Wednesday evenings, June through September. The Jam takes place at Market Square Park from 7-9 p.m. For more information and a list of hosts, please visit [blacksburg.gov/marketsquarejam](http://blacksburg.gov/marketsquarejam).

## Thursday, Aug. 22:

### Menagerie, exhibit at Fine Arts Center for the NRV

Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley presents Menagerie, celebrating the diverse talents of artists residing in the NRV. Opening reception is Thursday, Aug. 22, 5 to 7 p.m. at the Fine Arts Center in Pulaski at 21 West Main St., Pulaski, through Oct. 5, 2024. Open to the public, features light refreshments and a cash bar serving wine and beer. Some artwork contains mature content and may not be suitable for children.

## Friday, Aug. 23 –

## Sunday, Aug. 25:

### Theater production

Proclamation Theatre and New River Stage present “A Deadly Sunrise: The Tragedy of Lewis & McHenry,” a story about the infamous Lewis & McHenry duel, the people, the 1808 time period and the lasting impact on our region and state. This is a new work

by local playwright Mark ‘Hiram’ Curtis. Go to [proclamationtheatre.com](http://proclamationtheatre.com) for advance tickets and best seats. The performance location is Proclamation Theatre at Knights of Columbus Hall in Christiansburg. Showtimes listed on website.

## Saturday, Aug. 24:

### Radford Community Fest 2024

East Main Street, Radford, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. Solacoustix will start the music off from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Music Road Co Trio will perform 1:30 - 3 p.m., followed by The Floorboards 3:30 - 5 p.m. and then Florencia & The Feeling 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Fluidity Performance Troupe will also be present with a variety of street performers and an aerialist show at the end of the evening. Numerous vendors, food trucks, a beer garden (hosted by Radford brewery Long Way Brewing) and a Kid's Zone, which will include arts and crafts, bounce houses, and games.

### Heritage Day

Sponsored by the Montgomery Museum of Art & History. Immerse yourself in the rich history of Christiansburg, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., in downtown Christiansburg, 4 E Main St. and 300 South Pepper St. Step into the past with over 40 vendors showcasing crafts, artifacts, and more. Indulge your taste buds with a variety of delectable treats from food trucks while enjoying the delightful tunes of live music and dance throughout the day. Keep the little ones entertained with a hayride and specially curated activities just for them.

### Rotary Club of Blacksburg yard sale

The Annual August Yard Sale will be held 7 – 11 a.m. at the Blacksburg YMCA parking lot on North Main Street. Featured will be a wide range of items including household items, kitchen appliances, monitors, furniture, tools, bikes, and much more. Proceeds go to local projects as well as local scholarships for high school students offered each year by the Rotary Club.

### 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, Aug. 25:

### 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, Aug. 26:

### Radford City Council meeting

The Radford City Council will hold its regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m. in council chambers at the Radford Municipal Building, 10 Robertson St., Radford. Citizens are invited to attend and allowed to speak at each meeting. See the agenda at [www.radfordva.gov](http://www.radfordva.gov).

### 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, Aug. 27:

### 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.

# Cube Fest 2024 presents immersive indigenous experiences

Virginia Tech's premier immersive music festival, Cube Fest, presents the latest innovations in sound and musical composition in one of the world's leading spatial audio environments — the Moss Arts Center Cube.

Cube Fest 2024: Immersive Indigenous Experiences is a series of concerts featuring Indigenous artists forging new creative paths with technology and tradition. Impossible to re-create at home on a stereo system or with headphones, soundscapes delivered through the Cube's world-leading audio system, complete with over 140 loudspeakers, are unforgettable.

The festival runs from Friday, Aug. 23, through Sunday, Aug. 25 with events taking place in the Cube and Perform Studio, both in the Moss Arts Center. Many of the events are free for the public, and all events are free for Virginia Tech students.

Cube Fest 2024 is sponsored by the Moss Arts Center; the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology; the Virginia Tech Student Engineers' Council; and the Center for Humanities.

### Cube Fest 2024 schedule:

#### “Listening Lounge”

Christopher Poovey, Zouning Lao, and Steve Ashby

Friday, Aug. 23; Saturday, Aug. 24; and Sunday, Aug. 25, 3 p.m.

#### Perform Studio

#### Free

Christopher Poovey is a composer, media artist, and creative coder who creates music and software that produce rich and colorful sound and encourage interactive structures. His work, “Inside a Mirage of Vertu,” uses automated processes for spatialization, like ambisonic granulation, which generate 3D gestures and soundscapes.

Born in Guangdong, China, Zouning Liao's music draws inspiration from her fascination with nature and technology. Her recording captures the sounds of late summer, featuring a rich cricket orchestra and the songs of birds indigenous to Bloomington, Indiana.

A musician, composer, and sound artist, Steve Ashby's work focuses on sound found in the natural and digital worlds to discover places of intersection. His “A not so distant past” captures the sonic unfolding of time represented in the visual, while simultaneously giving voice to the visual stimulus.

#### “Echoes of the Ancestors”

#### Bill Crouse

Friday, Aug. 23, 5 and 7 p.m.

#### Cube

\$10, free for Virginia Tech students

“Echoes of the Ancestors” combines audio and live traditional dancing by Allegany River Seneca dancers, sharing oral traditions of the Seneca people through movement, sound, music, and light. The piece will move from creation through seasons and a traditional women's dance. Bill Crouse is a self-taught painter and sculptor who specializes in Native art forms.

#### “Sounds in Motion”

DA Mekonnen, Shawn Greenlee, Arvcuken Noqisi, and Aline R S S de Souza Friday, Aug. 23, 9 p.m.

#### Cube

\$10, free for Virginia Tech students

DA Mekonnen's new experimental jazz project, dragonchild, brings the performance of “BLACK: Constellation X” in this immersive, multimedia spatial sound performance. Conceived and transmitted by Mekonnen, four one-sided LPs will be played simultaneously to create an immersive swarm. Mekonnen was the cofounder and long-time director of Debo Band and spent nine years with Silkroad Ensemble, under the direction of both Yo-Yo Ma and Rhiannon Giddens.

Shawn Greenlee is a composer, sound artist, and professor at Rhode Island School of Design, where he leads the Studio for Research in Sound and Technology. In this work, two 20-voice, erratic synthesizers operate as a roving “chorus” under the player's direction. As audio flows, the guiding action is like closing/opening gates in a lock on a waterway. The results are timbral and spatial churns, swells, floods and drains, motion in repetition, expansion, and contraction.

In “Enhake Konawv,” a performance of technology in tradition, Arvcuken Noqisi uses seed beads and handmade beadwork as instrumentation in combination with a granular synthesis Max patch as well as a microscope camera with Isadora to examine the beads. The work examines the relationship between a non-Indigenous audience and the artist. A citizen of the Muscogee Nation, Noqisi is currently an undergraduate student at the Ohio State University.

A student in Virginia Tech's interdisciplinary ASPECT Ph.D. program and an instructor in the Department of Religion and Culture, Aline R S S de Souza's work refers to the artist-scholar's experience living in Brazil and her specific story of migration from family, which includes facing a variety of forms of violence.

#### “LIQUID / REAL”

Amelia Winger-Bearskin

Saturday, Aug. 24, 7 p.m.

#### Cube

\$10, free for Virginia Tech students

“LIQUID / REAL” merges the ethereal realms of sound and the essential element of water to create a meditative, immersive art experience. Together with video projections summoning images of water, the piece intricately weaves live vocals, guitar harmonies, and transformative effects to transport audiences into vivid aquatic landscapes and speculative sonic worlds. The piece is conceived and performed by Winger-Bearskin, a multifaceted artist who is also a singer, AI researcher, and opera performer, and features live accompaniment by Eamon O'Connor, electric guitar.

#### “Sounds in Space”

Angela McArthur, Weilu Ge, Matias Vilaplana Stark, and Eric Lyon

Saturday, Aug. 24, 9 p.m.

#### Cube



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMELIA WINGER-BEARSKIN.

**Amelia Winger-Bearskin presents her work “LIQUID / REAL” at Cube Fest 2024. The work merges the ethereal realms of sound and the essential element of water to create a meditative, immersive art experience. Together with video projections summoning images of water, the piece intricately weaves live vocals, guitar harmonies, and transformative effects to transport audiences into vivid aquatic landscapes and speculative sonic worlds.**

\$10, free for Virginia Tech students

An artist and academic at University College London, Angela McArthur's work explores the practice and theorization of aesthetics in spatial sound and ocean environments. “Pankopat” is a sound work focused on a community of elderly Nepalese women in Woolwich, southeast London.

Weilu Ge is a composer and media artist based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, who works with various media forms, from concert music and installation to video and innovative technology. “Tell” is a spatial soundscape composition that explores stories and music expressions of the Qiang people, an Indigenous group since ancient times living in the mountains in Central China. The original field recording part was collected during a field trip visiting a historical Qiang village in Sichuan, China.

A Chilean music technologist, composer, and improviser, Matias Vilaplana Stark is a current Ph.D. candidate in the composition and computer technologies program at the University of Virginia. “Funeral for a Whale” developed from a curiosity about the funeral practices of whales and other marine mammals, some of whom carry their deceased relative's body for days as a manifestation of their mourning.

A composer and audio researcher, Eric Lyon is a professor of practice in the School of Performing Arts at Virginia Tech and is a faculty fellow at the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology. “A Sudden Light” was commissioned by Annie Stevens, Virginia Tech associate professor of percussion, as part of her project, “The Memory Palace,” a concert of music and dance created for the Cube in 2024. This composition pursues the idea of music as a “memory palace,” working with performed percussion sounds that reappear in transfigured forms.

“home: gokq”

Casey Koyczan and Andy Rudolph

Sunday, Aug. 25, 7 p.m.

#### Cube

\$10, free for Virginia Tech students

“home: gokq” is an immersive audio and video performance demonstrating the artist's culture and its continued advancement through technology and experimentation, revealing a sense of life in Canada's Arctic. Casey Koyczan is a Dene interdisciplinary artist who uses various mediums to communicate how culture and technology can grow together to develop a better understanding of people, including where they come from and what they will be. Andy Rudolph is a freelance sound designer whose work spans nearly all facets of audio creation.

Indigenous Social: A Spatialized Mixtape Sunday, Aug. 25, 9 p.m.

#### Cube

\$10, free for Virginia Tech students

The Indigenous Social is an hour of cuts by popular Indigenous recording artists, hand-picked by Alicia Aldaz, Melissa Faircloth, Victoria Ferguson, and Eddie Polanco, and spatialized to a fully surround experience by Eric Lyon.

Ticketed performances are \$10 for general admission and free for Virginia Tech students. Tickets can be purchased online; at the Moss Arts Center's box office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday; or by calling 540-231-5300 during box office hours.

The performances will be held in the Moss Arts Center, located within the Cube at 190 Alumni Mall. Convenient parking is available in the North End Parking Garage on Turner Street and in downtown Blacksburg. Find more parking details online.

*Katie Gehrt for Virginia Tech*

# OBITUARIES

## Harrell, Debra Ann

Debra Ann Harrell, affectionately known as Debbi, passed away in her home with her family by her side Aug. 17, 2024, in Dublin.

Debbi loved sunflowers. In their simple yet striking presence they remind us of the importance of turning towards the light, much like our souls are called to turn towards the light of God's love. The Lord plucked the most beautiful sunflower and took it home to His mighty garden.

Debbi devoted her life to love and helping others in her community because she knew what it was like to struggle. As a single parent going to college and working multiple jobs to make ends meet, she understood that everyone needed a helping hand. After being the first in her family to graduate from college she was determined to make a difference with her human services degree. She turned her internship into a full-time career that lasted over a decade as a Case Manager for at-risk youth and adult offenders in Pulaski County. After which she became the Director of Pulaski Daily Bread feeding those in



need of nourishment for over 20 years. She was passionate about helping her community and felt it was a calling, not a job. She adored working with the program volunteers she called her 'heroes,' and making so many lasting friendships along the way. The Southwest Times Civic Honors Award was presented to Debbi for her unremitting commitment to volunteerism with the Pulaski Daily Bread in 2012.

Debbi cannot be remembered without mentioning how much of an amazing mother she was. She was a selfless, strong, and adoring mother. She and Nicole were the best of friends and inseparable. Enjoying coffee, watching HGTV, cooking recipes from Food Network, and taking

vacations to the beach any chance they could. Debbi loved helping in planning Nicole and Angel's recent wedding in 2022 and was thrilled to introduce people to her son Angel, whom she loved so much.

Debra was preceded in death by her father, Everett Harrell; mother, Lois Harrell; and brother, Ricky Harrell. She is survived by her loving daughter, Nicole Medina Renteria (Harrell); son-in-law, Angel Medina Renteria; brother, Gary Harrell; sister-in-law, Patty Simmons Harrell; nephews, best friends and sisters by choice, Tamie Hall and Becky May; many cousins and so many friends who will never forget the love she brought to their lives.

The family would like to thank Medi Home Health and Hospice for the care they gave Debbi and her family.

Donations can be sent to GoFundMe <https://gofund.me/1aad101> in honor of the memory of Debbi and to provide support to the family with final expenses.

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

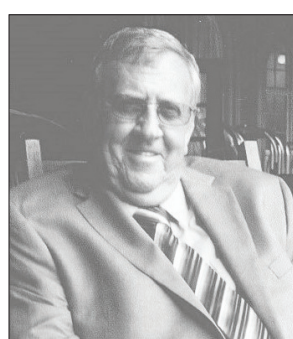
## Phillips, Ivan Gerald

Ivan Gerald Phillips, 78, born and raised in Indian Valley, entered his Heavenly home Friday, Aug. 16, 2024, surrounded by his family.

He and Mary were members of the Snowville Baptist Church. He earned a college degree in Accounting at Danville Technical College. He proudly served on the Virginia National Guard for 6 years and retired from Kollmorgen with over 30 years of service. His true passion in life was traveling with his beloved wife, hunting at the family cabin on Max Mountain, golfing, fishing in Lake Erie with close friends and spending time with his grandchildren. Ivan was a godly man who embodied the very best of qualities: unconditional love, unending generosity and the strongest heart of gold.

He was preceded in death by his parents Gerald and Lora Phillips, and a special uncle Olen Phillips.

Survivors include his



loving wife of 45 years, Mary Phillips; son and daughter-in-law, Ronnie and (Debbie) Akers of Christiansburg; four daughters and sons-in-law, Suzette (Nelson) Tart of Raleigh, N.C., Crystal (David) Musick of Snowville, Stacy (Scott) Ham of Newport, N.C., and Rachael (Tim) Quesenberry of Riner; ten grandchildren, Brandon (Alyssa) Musick, Brittany Akers, Cody (Stefanee) Quesenberry, Dylan (Kate) Sumner, Brooke (Derek) Scott, Keri (Neil) Sheppard, Morgan (Thomas) Strain, Adam (Taylor) Quesenberry, Tyler Ham and Kyle Ham; seven great-

grandchildren, Brayden, Mason, TJ, Josie, Mae, Sadie and Hazel; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Duane and Charlotte Phillips and Kevin and Melinda Phillips; and many other special aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 20, 2024, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford with Rev. Neil Wood officiating with burial services to follow at Sunset Cemetery in Christiansburg. The family will receive friends prior to the service beginning at 11 a.m.

Special thanks to the doctors and nurses at Carilion Roanoke and New River Valley Hospitals and the Medi Hospice staff who took great care of Ivan and the family. Flowers will be accepted, or donations can be made to the American Heart Association.

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

# Gas prices take a dip

Average gasoline prices in Virginia have fallen 6.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.27/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia. Prices in Virginia are 15.3 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 38.9 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has declined 2.6 cents in the last week and stands at \$3.69 per gallon- the lowest level in 940 days.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$2.90/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$4.19/g, a difference of \$1.29/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.90/g while the highest was \$4.19/g, a difference of \$1.29/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 4.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.37/g today. The national average is down 11.4 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 47.8 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

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

- Aug. 19, 2023: \$3.66/g (U.S. Average: \$3.84/g)
- Aug. 19, 2022: \$3.69/g (U.S. Average: \$3.89/g)
- Aug. 19, 2021: \$2.99/g (U.S. Average: \$3.16/g)
- Aug. 19, 2020: \$2.02/g (U.S. Average: \$2.17/g)
- Aug. 19, 2019: \$2.39/g (U.S. Average: \$2.60/g)

- Aug. 19, 2018: \$2.62/g (U.S. Average: \$2.82/g)
- Aug. 19, 2017: \$2.16/g (U.S. Average: \$2.32/g)
- Aug. 19, 2016: \$1.93/g (U.S. Average: \$2.15/g)
- Aug. 19, 2015: \$2.34/g (U.S. Average: \$2.66/g)
- Aug. 19, 2014: \$3.22/g (U.S. Average: \$3.44/g)

Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:

Roanoke- \$3.22/g, down 6.5 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.29/g.

Richmond- \$3.29/g, down 7.9 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.37/g.

West Virginia- \$3.32/g, down 7.2 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.39/g.

"Gasoline and diesel prices continue to trail off across much of the country as summer demand fades away. Lower demand in other oil-consuming nations is also helping to lead the downward pressure on pump prices as we approach Labor Day," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "With little new action in the Middle East to rile up prices and Hurricane Ernesto remaining far out at sea, it looks like the downward trend could continue into the week ahead. As more schools begin to resume, gasoline demand will likely continue to ease. With the transition to winter gasoline less than a month away for the majority of the nation, gas prices will soon begin their seasonal cooling off— just as temperatures soon will as well."

GasBuddy

## New study views wildlife through the lens of diversity

Summer is a popular season to get a pair of binoculars and go out looking for the birds, bears, and bobcats, a pastime that is significantly on the rise for members of Black, Indigenous, and people of color communities.

A study published in the journal *People and Nature* provides new insight on the variables that encourage and foster participation.

"A lot of research prior to ours focuses on a deficit-based framework," said Kelsey Jennings, the paper's lead author and a graduate student in Virginia Tech's College of Natural Resources and Environment. "We wanted to take more of an encouragement focus, understanding what is helping people participate and how we can build those strengths out to programs and agencies across the country."

Utilizing a national survey of some 17,000 wildlife viewers across a range of ethnic and racial groups, the study discovered:

Many ethnoracial groups were less likely to identify as wildlife viewers but more likely to say wildlife viewing is more important to their lives.

Wildlife viewers from ethnoracial groups received more support in pursuing wildlife viewing from community members – including friends, family, peers, and mentors – than white respondents.

Participant self-identification as a wildlife viewer was another indicator of greater participation in wildlife viewing.

Jennings, who conducted this research as part of her master's degree in the Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation, said the paper's findings reveal a need for further research that considers participation and access through lens of intersecting experiences of marginalization. The paper's finding contributes to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goal to Reduce Inequality by empowering inclusion in communities.

"Coming into this work, we knew that we wanted to look at communities of color and see if there are varying trends in how they engage with natural environments," said Jennings. "This study makes important first steps toward exploring overlapping systems of marginalization, which can create unique challenges and barriers that make it harder for the outdoors to be accessible to everyone."

Assistant Professor Willandia Chaves echoed that an assets-based perspective is critical to understanding and supporting the participation of wildlife enthusiasts.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KELSEY JENNINGS

**Kelsey Jennings, the lead author on the paper, worked as an urban outreach specialist for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources before coming to Virginia Tech.**

"By moving from a focus on reducing barriers to also looking into what assets people rely on to participate, we can create more effective programs and increase equitable participation in outdoor recreation," said Chaves, an affiliate faculty member of the Global Change Center and the Center for Emerging, Zoonotic, and Arthropod-borne Pathogens.

Jennings came to Virginia Tech after working as an urban outreach specialist for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, where she developed access pathways to better reach urban communities in the state.

"Minnesota has a lot of state-owned public land, and there's a strong culture around getting outside and enjoying the outdoors," said Jennings. "But there is still that discrepancy between who is getting outdoors and who is not."

Jennings will continue her education and research at Virginia Tech, starting work on a Ph.D. this year that will explore bird-friendly maple syrup production under the supervision of Associate Professor Ashley Dayer, another author on this paper and an affiliated faculty member of the Global Change Center and the Center for Coastal Studies, both in the Fralin Life Sciences Institute.

"I'm very interested in work that marries ecological science with human dimensions, and Dr. Dayer and Dr. Chaves are both incredible leaders in that space," said Jennings.

Zeke Barlow for Virginia Tech

## Heritage

from page 1

p.m., join us for a talk with Diane Flynt, author of *Wild, Tamed, Lost, Revived: The Surprising Story of Apples in the South*.

Catch a history-themed children's storytime with Storytime with Joelle! at 10 a.m. at the Montgomery Museum Garden (300 S. Pepper St.). Families can look forward to a day filled with fun activities for all ages. Keep the little ones entertained with a hayride to the Museum Garden and over 20 specially curated children's activities across both festival locations. Explore art and history exhibits that delve into the stories of the county's fascinating past. Don't miss the chance to bid on unique items at our silent auction.

Additionally, visitors can explore the Montgomery Museum Garden at 300 S. Pepper St. for a native

plant sale and learn about gardening with native plants. Embrace the spirit of the 1800s by dressing up in period garb, highly encouraged for all participants. Whether you're a history enthusiast or simply looking for a day of family fun, Heritage Day 2024 promises an unforgettable experience for everyone. Thank you to our generous sponsors for the event, CMG Leasing, Gates Flowers & Gifts, Floored, Carter Bank & Trust, State Farm Agent Nick Javins, Foresight Design Services, Summit Community Bank, and Moog, Inc. For more event information, visit <https://montgomerymuseum.org/events/heritage-day>.

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# OPINION

## Delegate highlights General Assembly's support for education

This week and last have been "back to school" weeks for students in the 42nd House District, and I know teachers, parents, and students alike are excited for what this new school year will bring. We are working hard in the Virginia General Assembly each year to help improve educational outcomes, increase teacher pay, and ensure that our students are prepared for whatever life brings after their K-12 experience.

As mentioned in a past article, the General Assembly's budget actions in the 2024 legislative session will ensure that our teachers and support staff will be paid nearly \$3,500 per year more than the national average. That's due to our insistence on a 3% salary increase over the next biennium, across the board. This investment is a necessary investment in those who help prepare our children for the future, and it should help teacher and support staff retention efforts now and into the future. \$250 million has been set aside to fund loans for local school construction, and an additional \$528 million will be spent over the biennium for early childhood education and childcare to help fund programs that will soon lose federal support. Also of consequence is \$196 million in additional funding for at-risk students to ensure that all students receive the same excellent



**Delegate Jason Ballard**

Virginia General Assembly

educational experience that they deserve. In addition to spending on priority educational programs, Governor Youngkin announced via Executive Order 33 that Virginia will now lead the way in providing a cell phone-free education to our students. While a great tool to ensure our kids can always reach their parents, cell phones have become a huge distraction in our classrooms and markedly inhibit learning. This new policy will help prevent our teachers from having to be the "cell phone police" and will ensure our students are doing what they go to school to do: learn.

On a separate note, I had the great pleasure of sitting down with Mr. George Conley this past week to discuss his candidacy for re-election to the Narrows Town Council. George has been an effective advocate for the

citizens of Narrows, and I can always count on him to keep me in the loop on the needs of Narrows residents. Since first being elected in 2020, he has put the needs of Narrows above his own. In fact, he has not accepted any payment for his service on town council, instead putting that money toward the Narrows Christmas light initiative. George has been active in town personnel decisions, as well spearheading important infrastructure upgrades for Narrows residents. He is a public servant who is forward-facing to future needs, while also being responsive to the issues currently in front of him. It is for these reasons that I wholeheartedly endorse George Conley for re-election to Narrows Town Council this November 5th, and I look forward to continuing our work together on behalf of Narrows residents.

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

## Strategies to protect your goals from consistent inflation

If you're like most investors, you've noticed the impact of higher inflation in recent years – whether at the gas pump or the grocery store. American investors are experiencing the effects of prolonged inflation for the first time since the early 1980s. As a result, many are concerned about how inflation levels will impact their ability to reach their long-term financial goals. While it may not be possible to avoid the effects of inflation altogether, there are several strategies investors can utilize to mitigate the impact of inflation on their financial plan. Here are three investment considerations that may help address inflation concerns and better prepare your goals for long-term success.

### 1 – Keep your money invested

When the inflation rate soared in 2022, stock and bond markets declined. Some investors responded by pulling money out of the market. This can be



**Josh Smith, CRPC**

Financial Advisor, Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC

counterproductive as investors too often miss much of a market's recovery gain before they put their money back to work. For example, the U.S. stock market (as measured by the Standard & Poor's 500 stock index, an unmanaged index of stocks often used as a benchmark of market performance), declined 25% between January and October 2022. But by the end of 2023, the S&P 500 regained nearly all of the ground lost in the bear market.<sup>1</sup> It is normal for markets to go through ups and downs. Investors that stay the course and keep their money invested commonly see their investments make up gains that were lost in a sudden downturn. While it may be tempting to remove yourself from the market during volatile periods, it could be helpful to stay invested at a level that reflects your risk tolerance.

### 2 – If time is on your side, take advantage of stocks

Over time, stocks have historically outpaced inflation, an important consideration as you try to build wealth

to achieve your ultimate financial goals with more confidence. This doesn't mean that year-in, year-out, stocks will keep you ahead of inflation. 2022 is a good example of a year when stocks declined as inflation rose. But if you have time to let your money work for you, stocks have historically outpaced the rise in living costs. According to data collected since 1871, stocks have grown faster than inflation for holding periods of 20 years or more.<sup>2</sup> Investors who can ride the highs and lows of markets are often better suited to keep up, if not pass, the rate of inflation.

### 3 – For short-term money, seek higher yields

You may have money set aside for short-term needs, such as your emergency fund or to cover upcoming expenses. In these times of elevated inflation, you'll want to find ways to earn more competitive yields on your short-term savings. Search out options such as money market funds, CDs, short-term U.S. Treasury securities and other savings vehicles that offer yields that may keep pace with inflation. Utilizing these tools may allow you to stay more liquid with your investments while hedging against the impacts of inflation.

Whether an economic cycle brings conventional or elevated inflation it should be considered as a factor of your long-term financial plan. A financial advisor can help develop a comprehensive strategy that addresses the inflation environment today and over the long term.

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## AARP Virginia fraud alert: Gold bar scams

Olympic athletes aren't the only ones after gold this summer. Criminal scammers are increasingly trying to steal your savings through gold bar schemes.

Criminals may impersonate representatives from the government to convince you that your bank account is compromised. They'll instruct

you to withdraw your money and convert it into gold, before sending a "courier" to collect the bars for safe storage. However, once your gold is picked up, they'll cut off contact and disappear. Thankfully, there are some warning signs of gold bar schemes.

No legitimate entity is going to ask you to buy gold. In addition,

you should always be very wary if someone suggests that you must move your money to make it safe. While the involvement of couriers in gold bar scams may make it appear more legitimate, it's another red flag.

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

*AARP Virginia*

## Tower from page 1

Airport, so we're fine with the FAA. They met another important finding; we don't have to put lights on it, so at the end of the day, we'll have a facility that provides voice, broadband, access to 911 first responders, fire, police, EMS, access to citizen alerts when you

want to warn folks that somethings coming. But, we will not produce any noise, odor, light, fumes, or glare. We're adding infrastructure and for folks out that way, it's about time."

Construction on the site will begin around October or

November of this year once permits and everything are approved. The tower would potentially have EMS equipment located on it to help provide service in this area which is more rural. The Board of Supervisors approved this during their Aug. 12, 2024 meeting.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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68						69					70		

**CLUES ACROSS**

1. One point north of due west
4. Indigenous peoples of northern Scandinavia
9. Popular California/Nevada lake
14. Go quickly
15. Fatty acid in soaps
16. Brand of fuel stations
17. State of fuss
18. Romance novelist
20. Members of a household
22. Asserts to be the case
23. Type of infection
24. With metal inlays
28. Chinese philosophic principle
29. Early multimedia
30. Employee stock ownership plan
31. He investigated Clinton administration
33. Shells
37. Six

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Hits
2. Bathroom accessory
3. Young
4. Beef cattles
5. It's often in soap
6. For each
7. Innermost membrane enveloping the brain
8. A way to leave
9. Emaciation
10. Punish with a fine
11. Steeds
12. Having eight
13. Greek goddess of the dawn
19. Mature reproductive cells
21. Armadillo species
24. Ancient country in what is now Romania
25. Extreme greed
26. Stars
27. Poems
31. Places to sit

**CLUES ACROSS**

32. One from the Lone Star State
34. Small rails
35. One quintillion bytes (abbr.)
36. Where coaches work
40. Indicates position
41. Mammals
45. Resembling a wing
47. Beliefs
48. Hindu male religious teachers
52. Mischievously
53. Where athletes want to end up (abbr.)
54. Large, deep-bodied fish
56. Horned squash bug genus
57. Excessively sentimental
59. Shared verbally
60. You can put it on toast
61. Data mining methodology (abbr.)
62. Resinlike substance secreted by certain insects
63. Mauna \_\_, Hawaiian volcano

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**Yard Sale - City of Salem**

**MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE**  
Friday, August 23-Saturday, August 24  
8:00am - 2:00pm  
17 Valleydale Avenue, Salem, VA 24153  
Items include: Clothes, Furniture, Tools, Home Decor, Toys, Games & Miscellaneous

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Woodmere Court Salem  
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Continuing: Every Tuesday and Thursday through August 29th from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.  
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**Legals - Craig County**

**Order of Publication**  
Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104  
Case No. CL24-183  
VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CRAIG COUNTY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF CRAIG, VIRGINIA, Petitioner,

case No. CL24-183 OSCAR R. MARTIN V. MRS. R.R. WEST VIRGINIA OLIVIER V. UNKNOWN HEIRS OF FERDINAND RORER, DOE, HOUSTON, LOUIS A. SCHOLZ, HENRY SCHOLZ, M.M. ROGERS, HENRY SCHOLZ, JR., WILLIAM SCHOLZ, SUSIE S. WEAVER, LOUS A. SCHOLZ 11, WALTER A. SCHOLZ, JR., MARGARET SCHOLZ, JENNIFER SCHOLZ, JOHN SCHOLZ, BRENDA SCHOLZ, ET AL.;

**Legals - Craig County**

JAMES MCPHERSON V. BESSIE DOSS; STEWART E. BOWE V. CRAIG CITY IMPROVEMENT COMPANY; WITHROW MARTIN LEE, ET AL. V. N.E. CALDWELL, ET AL.; STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER V. MAGGIE S. RENOLDS, ET AL.; HARRY W. KESSLER, JR. V. CLYDE M. ROACH, HENRY ROACH, JR., RONNIE NEWMAN, SHERRY PLASTERS, DEBBIE STUTLER, DANIEL NEWMAN, MERLE WOODS, NANCY CECIL, CHARLOTTE WOOD GORDON, ROBERT MURRAY, RUSSELL SMITH, IDA LEE SMITH, AND UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ROBERT J. REYNOLDS; GROVER T. HUFFMAN, ADMINISTRATOR FOR B.W. CARPER, DECEASED V. VIOLET CLAPSADDLE, ET AL.; MARY B. LITTLE, ET AL. V. WILBUR STAKES, ET AL.; JAMES L. PAITSELL, SR. AND SARAH B. GRAHAM, CO-EXECUTORS OF ELOISE G. CRAFT ESTATE V. D.F. HOUSTON; IN RE: ESTATE OF W.E. MILLS; EDITH HALL V. JOHN DEMPSEY ROACH, ET AL.; LESLIE ALBERT; CLARA ALFORD; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF GEORGE BRITT M BROWN, ET AL.; J.E. BRYAN; FLORA BUGG; GEORGE BUGG; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF LAW G. CARPER; CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; VIOLET CROWDER; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF J. DUDDING; EPPERLY V. LOONEY; EVELYN GOODWIN; ETHEL JENNINGS; ALBERTA JOHNSON; ERNEST JOHNSON; MARY MAE PEYTON; ESTATE OF MINERVA REYNOLDS; ROBERT SARVER; SUE STRINGFELLOW; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ADAM TAYLOR; D.B. TROUTT; VIRGINIA HIGHWAY V. SIXEAS; PAMALA YOUNG, and PARTIES UNKNOWN, Defendants.

**ORDER OF PUBLICATION**  
The object of this suit is to disburse funds held by the General Receiver of the Circuit Court, which funds have been held by the General Receiver for more than one year and remain unclaimed. An Affidavit having been filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the location of the named Defendant(s), that the Defendant(s) may be nonresidents of Virginia and maintain no domicile within the borders of the Commonwealth, or are deceased, or that there may be parties who hold an interest in the funds but are unknown, including the unknown heirs, successors and assigns of the individuals named herein and their predecessors in title, who have been made parties and given notice by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that the named Defendant(s) and all Parties Unknown appear on or before October 7, 2024, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.  
Entered: 8/1/2024  
Sharon P. Oliver, Circuit Court Clerk, County of Craig, Virginia

I Ask For This: Sands Anderson PC P.O. Box 2009 Christiansburg, Virginia 24068-2009 (540) 260-9011 (540) 260-0022 (facsimile)

**Legals - Botetourt County**

**Order of Publication**  
Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104  
Case No. CL24-270  
VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT

COUNTY OF BOTEOTURT, VIRGINIA, A Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Complainant, v. CORA LANGHORNE, ET AL., Respondent(s). The object of this suit is to: enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Botetourt, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of

**Legals - Botetourt County**

Botetourt Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 106(3)5 Account No. 12734 All that certain lot, or parcel of real property, lying and being situate in Botetourt County, Virginia, being located on or near Reservoir Road and being 18.25 acres, more or less, known as Tax Map Number 106(3)5. And being the real property conveyed to Percy Langhorne and Cora Langhorne, heirs at law of Houston Langhorne, from Sallie Johnson, Et Al by Deed dated April 18, 1956 and recorded on March 21, 1958 among the records of the Botetourt County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 132 at Page 288. This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described.

**IT APPEARING** that an Affidavit has been made and filed stating the due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served, That the last known address for the Respondents herein are as follows; Cora Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown: Percy Langhorne, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the Respondent named herein are made parties Respondent to this action individually and/or by the general description of parties unknown, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the parties herein and all Parties unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained appear on or before September 20, 2024 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the county of Botetourt, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.  
Entered on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2024.  
Tommy Moore, Clerk

I Ask For This: Seth R. Konopasek, Esq. (VSB No. 97065) John A. Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805) Jeffery A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No.30591) Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No.27409) Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372) Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609) Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158) Garrett w. Patton, Esq. (VSB No. 98345) Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC P.O. 31800 Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800 Phone: (804)864-0080 Facsimile: (804) 545-2378 TACS No: 924089

**Order of Publication**  
Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104  
Case No. W220000278BOTETOURT COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT 5 W. MAIN STREET, FINCASTLE, VA 24090 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* ESTAE OF JOSEPH LARRY HENDERSON, DEC v. The object of this suit is to: show cause against payment and delivery of the estate to parties entitled. It is ORDERED that the creditors of, and all others interested in the Estate of Josph Larry Henderson appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before September 4, 2024 at 2:00 pm. August 6, 2024 Leslieanne Smith, Deputy Clerk

**Order to Show Cause**

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT IN RE: ESTATE OF JOSEPH LARRY HENDERSON ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE AGAINST DISTRIBUTION Will File#220000278

It appearing that a report of the accounts of James A. McClure, *administrator* of the Estate of Joseph Larry Henderson, deceased, and the debts and demands against the estate have been filed in the Clerk's Office and that six months have elapsed since the qualification, on motion of the personal representative, it is ORDERED that the creditors of, and all others interested in, the Estate of

**Legals - Botetourt County**

Joseph Larry Henderson show case, If any they can, on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., before this Court at it's Courthouse at 205 North Roanoke Street, Fincastle, Virginia, against the payment and delivery of the estate to the parties entitled thereto under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia without requiring refunding bonds. It is further ORDERED that the foregoing portion of this Order be published once a week for two successive weeks in The Fincastle Herald, a newspaper having general circulation in the County of Botetourt, Virginia.  
Enter August 6, 2024 Hon. Joel R. Branscom, Judge

I ask for the entry of this Order: Lenden A. Eakin (VSSB#23885) Ferris and Eakin, P.C. 22 Luck Avenue, SW Roanoke, VA 24011 Phone: 540-345-1000 Fax: 540-344-6608 Email: lenden@rvalaw.com

**Legals - City of Salem**

**Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission,** at its regular meeting on September 11, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1. Consider amending Chapter 106 - Zoning, Article IV – Development Standards, Section 106-406.25 of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA pertaining to storage containers.
2. Consider amending Chapter 106 – Zoning, Article II - District Regulations, Section 106-214 – Highway Business District, Section 106-214.2(B)(5) – permitted uses; Article III - Use and Design Standards, Section 106-310 – Commercial Uses, Section 106-310.25; Article VI - Definitions and Use Types, Section 106-600 – Definitions, Section 106-602.9 - Commercial Use Types, of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA, pertaining to retail sales, smoke shops.

Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia.

At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY: Christopher J. Dorsey Executive Secretary

**Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem,** at its regular meeting on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114. N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

Hold public hearing to consider the request of Salem Montessori School, Inc., property owner, to amend the existing special exception permit to allow for a second elementary educational facility on the property located at 101 Corporate Boulevard (Tax Map # 117-2-1). Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia.  
Applications received by 7:00 PM on Wednesday October 2, 2024 may be eligible for a bonus payment. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements.  
Questions can be directed to the Salem Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday – Friday. Phone: 540-387-5497. Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov EEO/AA Employer

**Legals - City of Salem**

At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests. THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY: H. Robert Light Clerk of Council

**SEALED BID SALE OF REAL ESTATE BENT MOUNTAIN ROAD (ROUTE 221) ROANOKE, VIRGINIA PMI 1001183**

Sealed bids will be accepted by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) in the office of the Salem District Right of Way and Utilities Division located at 731 Harrison Avenue, Salem, Virginia 24153, until, but no later than 12:00 PM (noon), on September 10, 2024, for the following property:

A lot that consists of 3.18 acres, more or less, land, zoned Low Density Residential, and identified as Tax Map # 086.19-02-01.01-0000. This parcel is rectangular in shape with a topography that is sloping to steep with vegetation of trees and grass over most of the parcel and bordered by residentially zoned parcels on three sides and Bent Mountain Road (Rote 221) to the East. The value placed on this parcel is \$ 47,700.00

Employees of VDOT, their immediate families or any person employed with the valuation and/or acquisition of this property are ineligible to bid. The property is being sold "as is" with conveyance by deed without warranty. For further information and proposals, contact VDOT at the above address or call Amanda Newhouse at 540-387-5572 or email amanda.newhouse@vdot.virginia.gov.

Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at <https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov>.

**VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP**

The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Salem Residency which includes the counties of Roanoke, Botetourt and Craig during the winter of 2024-2025. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a bonus payment and a minimum guaranteed payment for the season.

Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at <https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov>.

All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (<https://eva.virginia.gov>).

Applications received by 7:00 PM on Wednesday October 2, 2024 may be eligible for a bonus payment. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements. Questions can be directed to the Salem Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday – Friday. Phone: 540-387-5497. Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov EEO/AA Employer

**Legals - Montgomery County**

**ABC NOTICE**  
SUNSHINE EATS, LLC trading as ADDY KATZ, 3165 N. Franklin Street, Christiansburg, VA. 24073.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Wine and Beer, mixed beverages license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

RONALD J FRANK JR. OWNER

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

**ABC NOTICE**

DIVYA19 LLC., trading as SANDSTONE MARKET, 2930 RADFORD RD, CHRISTIANSBURG, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, 24073.

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

SHREYA RANA, OWNER.

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

**Order of Publication**

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104  
Case No. CL24001203-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* AMBER LEE, KANE GALLIMORE v. COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

The object of this suit is to: NAME CHANGE OF A MINOR. It is ORDERED that KALEB WARREN GALLIMORE appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before OCTOBER 11, 2024.  
JULY 30, 2024, K. MIKE FLEENOR, JR. JUDGE

**Order of Publication**

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104  
Case No. CL24001130-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073  
Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* CRAIG COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES v. CARMEN COLLINI

The object of this suit is to: APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIANSHIP. It is ORDERED that BROOKE COLLINI, SHADE COLLINI, CAYENNE COLLINI, TONI COLLINI, CHIRSTOPHER CUMBEE appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before AUGUST 21, 2024 @ 10:00AM.  
JULY 22, 2024 TIFFANY COUCH, CLERK

**Legals - City of Radford**

**Order of Publication**  
Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104  
Case No. CL24007300-00 RADFORD CIRCUIT COURT, 619 SECOND STREET, RADFORD, VA 24141  
Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* THE CITY OF RADFORD v. HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF HOWARD WALKER, ET AL  
The object of this suit is to: NON PAYMENT OF REAL ESTAE TAXES.  
It is ORDERED that HEIRS AND DEVISEES ET AL appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before OCTOBER 5, 2024.  
AUGUST 5, 2024 Angel Turpin CDC Clerk

Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at <https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov>.

**Legals - City of Radford**

**Order of Publication**  
Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104  
**Case No. JJ004782-06-00**  
RADFORD CITY J&DR- JUVENILE DIVISION  
619 2<sup>nd</sup> street, Radford, Virginia 24141.  
Commonwealth of Virginia, in re: MALDONADO, KERON J.  
The object of this suit is to: Approve a Foster Care Plan submitted by the Radford City Department of Social Services regarding the above-named child. And it appearing that diligence has been used to attempt to locate the putative father of the child, Antonio Maddox, but despite that diligence, Antonio Maddox's whereabouts remain unknown to the Department; and it also appearing that the whereabouts and identity if any alternative birth father are otherwise unknown, It is ORDERED that the defendant AUSTIN BLAKE HIXON and/or the UNKNOWN FATHER of LAWSON GEORGE DENNIS, a child whose birth mother is Ashley Dennis, appear at the above-named court and protect his interests on or before Sept. 3, 2024 at 9:00 am.

August 5, 2024  
RUBY STUMP,  
CLERK

**Order of Publication**  
Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104  
**Case No. JJ004805-10-00**  
RADFORD CITY J&DR -

**Legals - City of Radford**

JUVENILE DIVISION  
619 2<sup>nd</sup> street, Radford, Virginia 24141.  
Commonwealth of Virginia, in re DENNIS, LAWSON. The object of this suit is to: approve a Foster Care Service Plan submitted by the Radford City Department of Social Services regarding the child, Lawson George Dennis. And it appearing that diligence has been used to attempt to locate the putative father of the child, Austin Blake Hixon, but despite that diligence, Austin Blakes Hixon's whereabouts remain unknown to the Department; and it also appearing that the whereabouts and identity if any alternative birth father are otherwise unknown, It is ORDERED that the defendant AUSTIN BLAKE HIXON and/or the UNKNOWN FATHER of LAWSON GEORGE DENNIS, a child whose birth mother is Ashley Dennis, appear at the above-named court and protect his interests on or before Sept. 3, 2024 at 9:00 am.

AUGUST 5, 2024  
RUBY STUMP,  
CLERK

**Legals - Town of Vinton**

**LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, the Town of Vinton, Virginia, hereby gives notice of the following:

**Legals - Town of Vinton**

Joint Planning Commission and Town Council public hearings to be held on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia. The Planning Commission and Town Council will also hold a joint work session on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 5:15 p.m., prior to the public hearing. The purpose of the public hearings is to receive comments concerning:

An ordinance amending Appendix B, Zoning, Article IV, District Regulations, Division 2, Multiple Purpose Districts, Section 4-5; Division 4, Planned Unit Development Districts, Section 4-11, and Division 5, Mixed-Use Development (MUD) District, Sec. 4-18 of the Vinton Town Code. The proposed amendment would require medical and dental clinic uses to obtain a special use permit in the R-B Residential-Business District, GB General Business District, CB Central Business District, M-1 Limited Industrial District, M-2 General Industrial District, PD Planned Unit Development District, and MUD Mixed-Use Development District, and it would require hospitals to obtain a special use permit in the GB General Business, M-1 Limited Industrial District, and M-2 General Industrial District.

Copies of the proposed ordinance amendment may

**Legals - Town of Vinton**

be examined in the Planning and Zoning Department located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia 24179. Further information concerning this issue may be obtained from the Planning and Zoning Department located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia 24179, (540) 983-0605. Interested persons may be present their views on this proposed amendment at the above public hearing.

Given under my hand this 6th day of August, 2024.  
Anita J. McMillan  
Planning and Zoning Director

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO COMPLY WITH DISABILITIES ACT.**  
Reasonable efforts will be made to provide assistance or special arrangements to qualified individuals with disabilities in order to participate in or attend the meetings. Please call (540) 983-0605 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting so that proper arrangements may be made

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# MONTGOMERY SPORTS

## Former Highlander chasing Olympic dream

**Marty Gordon**  
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Nick Mayhugh graduated from Radford University after a stellar career on the soccer field including time spent on the U.S. National Paralympic Soccer team that played on the international stage.

After soccer was cancelled in the Tokyo Olympic games in Tokyo, he turned to the track in hopes of making his Olympic dream come true.

In Tokyo, he won the 100m T37 and 200m T37, setting world record times in both. He also won gold in the 4x100m medley.

Mayhugh, of Charlotte, North Carolina, had an incredibly successful showing at the Paralympic Trials four years ago setting a new world record for the 100-meter event, a new American record for the 200 meter event, becoming a national champion in both events as well as being ranked first in the world for both events.

"I have always wanted to represent my country on the Olympic stage and Team USA gave me an opportunity to do that in track," Mayhugh said. "After soccer was cut from the games, Team USA recruited me to run track and I have dedicated everything mentally, physically, and emotionally to track and field. I wanted to challenge myself and see how far I can go. To see if I really can do it, and here I am, proving myself right and a lot of people wrong."

He calls it an overwhelming feeling, a sigh of relief in a sense.

"To know that I'm that much closer to what I've worked for every day for the last two years. It feels good to see all the hard work me and my team have put in, pay off, but the jobs not done."

For Mayhugh, soccer was a lifesaver. He had always noticed something with the left side of his body, thus he worked even harder to use just his right side especially on the soccer field.

"I never wanted to be looked at different or treated different because my norm was different. I remember being in my room and spending hours trying to teach myself how to tie my shoes with both hands, teaching myself to walk without a limp and even getting dressed without falling over. Going into middle school, I made a decision to not tell anybody and to keep it to myself," Mayhugh said.

He initially had told his parents and medical personnel, but no one really believed something was wrong because

he was so active.

The problem made him work even harder.

"I used to leave practices crying because I couldn't use my left foot as well as I could my right, I couldn't really feel it," he said. "I think my self-awareness played a huge part of why I am in the position I am in today. I spent countless hours after practice working extra, or at home with my brother working on my left foot and doing cone drills to make myself better technically."

He continued to work hard at the game he loved, and nothing was going to stop him from playing at a higher level. But in 2010 as a ninth grader, he suffered a grand mal seizure.

"I'll never forget the first words my doctor spoke, I interrupted her and asked when I could play soccer again and she said she didn't think I would ever be able to play soccer again. She initially thought I had a brain tumor. I remember seeing the life get sucked out of my mom when she heard those words, but I knew that couldn't be true. It had to of been something else," Mayhugh said.

The family got a second opinion, but it still wasn't the message they wanted to hear.

Mayhugh was told he a very unique situation that medical personnel had not seen before. An MRI showed a grey circle on the right side of his brain called a "dead spot."

Doctors said it was the result of a stroke in utero (before birth) or shortly after birth. Then all the dots sort of started to connect.

"The dead spot was just an inactive part of my brain and it made sense as to why I couldn't really feel my left side, my arm, fingers, my leg and my foot, everything, all the nerves and pathways were inactive. I had finally had an answer for everything, and my parents finally believed me and understood why I complained and said everything I did growing up. It was like a huge weight was lifted off my shoulders, a big sigh of relief because they finally believed me," he said.

Doctors told him he would never play soccer ever again, but he was determined to continue the game he loved. He took the field on a youth team of the D.C United Soccer Academy, and soccer seemed to be the only way he could prove to the world he was not different. After some coaxing of the coaching staff at Radford University, he walked on the men's team.

"The game itself taught me structure,"



FILE PHOTO

**Former Radford University soccer player Nick Mayhugh is set to participate in this week's Paralympic Olympics in Paris.**

Mayhugh said. "If I didn't play soccer, I really don't know what I would be doing today. It's what I was meant to do, I thoroughly believe that, and I will continue to play for as long as my body will let me."

Because of his medical condition, he was invited to the U.S. Paralympic team camp for players with neurological conditions.

Representing his country, according to Mayhugh, in international play was an indescribable feeling.

"I think it's something every kid growing up playing their respected sport dreams of. To be given the opportunity to actually fulfill my dream of wearing the crest and play the sport I love is something few athletes get the chance to do, I will never take it for granted," he said.

Unfortunately, soccer was taken out of the Tokyo Summer Games in 2020.

The success at the global level just keeps coming for Mayhugh as he also collected many accolades while playing for the U.S. Paralympic soccer team. In 25 national team games played he scored 34 goals and notched 31 assists while playing in 1,384 minutes. In 2019, he was named the U.S. Soccer Player of the

Year with a Disability. He led the charge on offense for the fourth ranked national team, its highest-ever world ranking, the midfielder netted 19 goals in 11 games at the IFPCF World Cup and the 2019 Para Pan American Games.

Mayhugh continues to overcome many obstacles.

"My mentality. I've never let my diagnosis, or my disability define me. I've always had the mentality that no matter what I do, I will be successful. I am very picky of who I allow to be around me, and my family and support system are a crucial part to my career, without them I wouldn't be here. My mom, dad and especially my brother have been my biggest fans throughout my entire life and they're the reason I do what I do, they're my motivation to do everything I set out to do. Aside from them it's a personal vendetta I have with myself, I want to push myself to be the best athlete and person I can be. And until I do that, I will strive for what's next, what else can I do, how far can I really go? And no matter what it is, I know I'll be successful. It's just the way I'm wired."

Now he runs for the United States, Radford University and himself.

## Christiansburg faces Liberty Christian in preseason high school action



**Christiansburg's Matt Annis (L) tackles Clemson University commit Gideon Davidson who is a key player for Liberty Christian. The two schools met Friday night in a scrimmage on the Christiansburg turf.**



PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

**QB Izaiah Cotto looks for his wide receiver as he is trailed by a Liberty Christian player during the scrimmage. Cotto will be the full-time quarterback for Christiansburg this fall.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF KYLE BAILEY

**Kyle Bailey (at right), here with wife, Camille, hosts his own afternoon radio show in Charlotte and also hosts the pregame shows for the NFL's Carolina Panthers and NBA's Charlotte Hornets,**

## Christiansburg native plants his flag in a growing sport

Virginia Tech alumnus Kyle Bailey has built a successful career as the host of a radio sports show in Charlotte and recently broadcast USA Football's top international event for flag football – a low-contact sport rapidly gaining in popularity and set to debut in the Olympics in 2028.

It may come as a surprise to many that the host of Charlotte's top-rated afternoon sports radio show actually got his master's degree in geography and geographic information science.

But Bailey '09, '14, M.S. '15 knew better than to leave anything to chance given the uncertainty in the world of sports journalism.

"That was my backup plan," Bailey said of his degree in geography. "If this whole broadcasting thing didn't work out, I wanted to have something a little bit more solid to fall back on."

This three-time Virginia Tech graduate and Christiansburg native certainly has mapped out a successful career for himself thus far. He not only hosts his own sports radio show in the Queen City – "The Kyle Bailey Show" airs weekdays from 3-6 p.m. – but he also hosts the pregame shows for the NFL's Carolina Panthers and NBA's Charlotte Hornets and various other

# Sport from page 7

specialty programming, such as NFL Draft and PGA Tour specials.

More recently, Bailey dove into the streaming realm, broadcasting a sport rapidly gaining worldwide popularity and attention.

Bailey was chosen to be the play-by-play voice for USA Football's top international flag football event. Working for HomeTeam Live, a company that specializes in broadcast-quality streaming of amateur sports, the Christiansburg native spent a week in Los Angeles in mid-July broadcasting USA Football's "Week at The One," a series of elite flag football competitions held at Dignity Health Sports Park, home of the five-time Major League Soccer Cup winners LA Galaxy.

Bailey had connections with USA Football, and organizers reached out to him to gauge his interest in helping them revamp the broadcasting of the event. A few months ago, they offered him a contract.

"I said, 'Yeah, absolutely.' It all happened quickly," Bailey said. "I've been primarily a radio host, a talk show host, for the last several years, but I'd done enough play-by-play that I had some stuff to pass along. It's really where my passion is, and so they heard it, and they said, 'Oh yeah, that sounds great. Let's do it.'"

Wes Bryant, a former football player at Wake Forest, served as the color analyst. The event featured the Junior International Cup in which boys and girls ages 15 and under and ages 17 and under competed against teams from Canada, Japan, Mexico, and Panama. It also featured the Select Bowl in which various select teams composed of athletes trying to make the U.S. National Team competed. The week then concluded with The One Flag Championship in which invited club teams consisting of both youth and adults from across more than 10 divisions competed for a national championship.

"I loved every bit of it. It was awesome," Bailey said. "I could never live in Southern California, but that was a wonderful event. It was first class, top to bottom."

"We [he and Bryant] went into it thinking,

'OK, these kids are playing for something significant. Let's give them a significant sounding broadcast.' And that's what we did, and the parents were thrilled with it. The CEO came up to us on the second day and was raving about how much everybody seemed to love what we were doing. So we were proud of the work we did, for sure."

The opportunity offered Bailey a chance to promote a sport gaining in popularity. According to the International Federation of American Football, which governs the sport globally, 20 million people are playing flag football across more than 100 countries. Last fall, the International Olympic Committee approved the addition of flag football as an Olympic sport starting with the 2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

In addition, according to USA Football, the number of boys and girls ages 6-17 playing the sport increased 38 percent from 2014-23, reaching a peak of more than 1.6 million this past year.

Much of that growth is being driven by women. Eleven U.S. states sanction high school girls' varsity flag football with several others exploring the possibility through pilot programs. Also, 25 colleges at the NAIA level sponsor women's flag football.

Of note, Jada Vick, the daughter of former Virginia Tech football and NFL superstar Michael Vick, received a scholarship to play flag football at Reinhardt University, 60 miles north of Atlanta. She will be a sophomore this fall.

"For boys, flag's still big for them, but they're always going to treat flag football like a summer sport, and that's OK," Bailey said. "But for the women, there's no tackle football infrastructure for women, and honestly a lot of women don't want to play tackle football. Some do, but a lot of them don't, so flag football offers them an incredible opportunity."

"The U.S. national team is incredible. I've got two daughters and a son, and I would love for my girls to participate in this. I think it would be amazing."

Bailey hopes to be asked to broadcast The Flag Football World Championships held in Lahti, Finland, in late August, though it again would mean being away from his three children — all under the age of 4 — and wife, Camille '16, a Virginia Tech alumna whom Bailey met in 2014 during his second year of graduate school while giving her and her father a campus tour.

But the event would be

another achievement in a career that kicked off at Clear Channel — now iHeart — in Richmond after graduation before he returned to the New River Valley and launched an afternoon radio sports show that became popular in Southwest Virginia. While doing that, he finished a second undergraduate degree in geospatial and environmental analysis from the College of Natural Resources and Environment to go with his communications degree from the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, and he earned his master's degree in geography.

Bailey left Blacksburg in 2016 to host a morning sports show in Charleston, South Carolina, and do play-by-play for The Citadel men's basketball games — a job that led to a move to Charlotte, one of the fastest-growing cities in the nation and one with a growing sports scene.

"Kyle is an example of a broadcaster from Virginia Tech who has worked hard to refine his craft and make a name for himself in a big market," said Bill Roth, the radio play-by-play voice for Virginia Tech football and someone who oversees the sports media and analytics program within the School of Communication at the university. "It's exciting to drive along Interstate 77, turn on WFNZ and say, 'Hey, that's a Hokie hosting one of Charlotte's top sports radio shows.'"

With a long-term contract and a thriving sports show in a city looking to be one of the best sports destinations in the Southeast, Bailey won't need his backup plan any time soon.

"I can accomplish everything that I want to accomplish in radio right here in Charlotte," he said. "I don't need to go anywhere."

"This is one of the few cities where the cranes never get put away. There are always new high rises, new buildings, new apartments. All the banks are here, and businesses are moving here. This city, even though the NFL and the NBA teams are bad, has committed to being a sports city. I think it's only a matter of time before we get a Major League Baseball team in Charlotte, and they just tried to steal the Western and Southern Open [a prominent tennis tournament] from Cincinnati."

"They're doubling and tripling down on getting as many sporting events here in Charlotte as possible, so I've got no reason to go anywhere else."

Jimmy Robertson, Virginia Tech

# Hokies position preview: Strong returning receiver unit

As the 2024 football season rapidly approaches, the Hokies will undoubtedly have lots of eyes on one of their most intriguing positions: wide receiver.

Highlighted by the return of familiar faces like Ali Jennings, Jaylin Lane, Stephen Gosnell and Da'Quan Felton, Tech's wide receiver room has its sights set on success. Every week of Fall Camp, the position preview series, presented by Farm Bureau Insurance, will break down the Virginia Tech football roster. In this position preview, let's look at the Hokies' wide receiver room that aims to capitalize with returning production under assistant head coach and wide receivers coach Fontel Mines.

One of the more intriguing storylines from the "Bad Boyz" is the return of Ali Jennings. Jennings, who suffered a season-ending ankle injury against Purdue last season, looks to return to the Hokies offense with a sharpness and speed that has given him success in the past. The Hokies saw exactly what the Richmond, Virginia native could give to the offense in the home opener against Old Dominion, as Jennings corralled five passes for two touchdowns and 72 yards en route to a 36-17 victory.

Jennings boasts a skillset that has tons of potential for the upcoming season. Tech is looking for production akin to his two years spent at Old Dominion, where the receiver earned All-Sun Belt First Team recognition with 54 receptions for 959 yards and nine touchdowns in 2022. The 6-foot-2, 205-pound wideout registered 1,066 yards the season prior, the third most in program history. If Jennings can mirror his 17.2 yards per catch achieved in 2023, his presence will be a mainstay on offense.

Workhorses such as Da'Quan Felton and Jaylin Lane also look to make their impact felt once again this season alongside Stephen Gosnell and the rest of the corps. Felton, Lane and Gosnell all return as graduate students for the 2024 season, allowing the trio's veteran presence to shine through on offense.

A Portsmouth, Virginia native, Felton found his home on the long ball last season. The 6-foot-5, 216-pound receiver caught passes of 70, 62, and 54 yards against Boston College, Syracuse and Pittsburgh respectively in 2023, showcasing his ability to stretch the field vertically. The wideout's massive size and strength recently earned him recognition on Bruce Feldman's "Freaks List," which recognizes athletes for their physical qualities. Felton's 667 receiving yards ranked first amongst the offense, with his most impressive performance being a two-touchdown and 133-yard affair against Virginia. In second was Lane, a Clover, South Carolina native who amassed six touchdowns over 12 games last season. The 5-foot-10 Lane posted a 102-yard game against conference foe Wake Forest last year, his strongest performance among his 538 receiving yards on the season. With the absence of Jennings last season, Lane stepped into a more involved role and will likely play a similar role in 2024. Gosnell tallied 22 catches for 348 yards and three scores

in 2023. His work ethic and consistency have drawn praise from the coaching staff throughout the summer.

Another receiver to watch is sophomore Ayden Greene. Greene, a Knoxville, Tennessee native, played in 12 games during the 2023 season and found his season high in receiving against Rutgers. The three-star recruit was recently named a Spring Practice Standout by 247Sports, and he's continued his strong performance in preseason camp. However, Greene will have to compete with other receivers in the room for a larger role.

The wide receiver room has generated plenty of preseason buzz, not only for its potential this season but also for those who Mines and staff have brought to the program. In a strong recruiting effort, Tech added freshmen Keylen "Brodie" Adams and Chanz Wiggins, playmakers that look to contribute to an already explosive air game this fall.

Adams is a massive signing for Mines and the Hokies. The 6-foot-2, 180-pound receiver amassed 4,400 receiving yards and 66 touchdowns over a four-year career at Green Run High School, setting a new school and Virginia state record. The Virginia Beach, Virginia native was a three-time VHSL All-State Receiver and was an integral part in Green Run's 31 game win streak over Beach District teams. His impressive output in high school landed him as the third-best overall Virginia recruit by On3 and Rivals and fourth-best by ESPN. Adams picked Virginia Tech over names like Michigan, Ohio State and Alabama, and has star potential with his speed and agility.

Wiggins brings a special combination of size and speed to the offense. The 6-foot-3 receiver recorded 47 receptions for 815 yards along with 15 touchdowns in his senior season at King George High School. Wiggins flew through Virginia-Class 4 football, earning him VHSL All-Battlefield District First Team recognition at both wide receiver and defensive back. Named Most Valuable Team Player at King George in 2023, he helped lead the Foxes to their 35-3 record from 2021 to 2023. Wiggins' four-star ranking from ESPN landed him as the fifth overall recruit from Virginia by Rivals.

Redshirt sophomore Xayvion Turner-Bradshaw, redshirt freshmen Takey Heath who have both quietly put on impressive camp performances should provide plenty of depth along with redshirt freshman Chance Fitzgerald. Bradshaw gained experience in 10 games last season, while Heath appeared in three, following an impressive high school career. The 5-foot-10 Heath recorded 42 receptions for 912 yards and ten touchdowns his senior year, garnering VHSL Class 5 All-State honors and a Highland Springs team MVP. 247Sports placed Heath as a three-star recruit and the #27 highest-ranked recruit coming out of Virginia.

A combination of veteran experience and youthful presence looks to propel this year's wide receiver core to a season of dominance.

Virginia Tech Athletics

## 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.

*In a previous life, Cloud may have been a purr-fessional model and social influencer! With her striking looks and playful personality, she's sure to steal your heart. This affectionate cuddle bug is ready to be the center of your universe! Come to the Animal Care and Adoption Center to meet Cloud.*



*Burt is an older dog with a lot of pep in his step. He's smaller in stature but not in personality. He enjoys attention, belly rubs, and plush toys. Burt is friendly with humans but would need a home where he is the only pet.*

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