News Messenger

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Blacksburg

Wednesday, September 4, 2024

www.ourvalley.org

BOS votes on budget amendment for Blacksburg satellite voting office

Angelica Ramos

Contributing writer

MONTGOMERY COUNTY- The Board of Supervisors voted Aug. 28, 2024 in favor of a budget amendment for the new Blacksburg satellite voting office, but the vote was not unanimous.

Discussion concerning the office has been passionate, as some board members see it as not fair and others see it as helping their constituents. Currently, the budget amendment states that the total cost of the satellite office will be \$17,118, with \$9,003 of that going toward staffing and seasonal requirements. \$8,115 of that total are a VA DOE Equipment Grant to help with equipment costs for this polling office. With the 2024 election incoming, many are worried about getting to the polls in time as well as the congestion at the polls. Some believe, residents and board members alike, that this satellite office will be helpful, whereas others believe that if there's one in Blacksburg, there needs to be satellite offices in other parts of Montgomery County.

"If we were going to do this," Supervisor Todd King said, We should have done this for everybody. Everybody. We have never done this before. I think some of you would be as upset as me at the last election if I sat up here and said, 'one district is going to vote early and the rest of you will have to wait. So, we're going to let District D vote, nobody else gets any.' You can't tell me that you wouldn't be upset at me because you would. I don't think it's fair."

"I can't speak for everybody," Supervisor Sara Bohn said, "but I know that wherever early voting is, I would go vote. I always early vote, so if it was in another district, I would have voted. I'm for early voting and I would have liked to have at least two other voting centers, but that's not happening. I'm okay with that. I don't live in Blacksburg, but I might just as well go vote."

\$1.00

Bohn, in one of the earlier discussing this meetings satellite location, made a motion to add others, but that motion was overturned.

The Board of Supervisors voted on the budget amendment to pass, with four approved and three against.



Renée Elise Goldsberry performs.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CAMERON BERTUZZI

'Hamilton' star Renée Elise Goldsberry opens Moss Arts Center season

Renée Elise Goldsberry, a Tony award-winning Grammy and actress and singer who has delivered unforgettable performances on both the stage and screen, opens the Moss Arts Čenter 2024-25 season on Friday, Sept. 13, at 7:30 p.m.

Joined by a band and background vocalists, Goldsberry presents an evening of Broadway hits and American songbook classics.

nomination for Disney+'s filmed version of the musical. She currently stars in Tina Fey's Netflix sitcom, "Girls5Eva," receiving Critics Choice and Television Critics Association award nominations for her performance as Wickie Roy.

A Broadway veteran, her memorable stage work includes seminal musicals such as "Rent," "The Color Purple," "The Lion Life of Henrietta Lacks" starring Oprah Winfrey, CBS's "The Good Wife," the independent feature "Waves," and two Daytime Emmy nominations for work on "One Life to Live."

'Satisfied," a documentary about her life executive produced by Steven Spielberg for Amblin Entertainment, premiered in June at the 2024 Tribeca Film Festival. Still to come in 2024, Goldsberry will release an album of new music that showcases her talents as both a songwriter and recording artist.

NRVRC addresses **Board of Supervi**sors about new office building

Christiansburg

USPS 016-490

Angelica Ramos Contributing writer

MONTGOMERY COUNTY- Kevin Byrd, Executive Director of New River Valley Regional and other Uptown Commission, addressed the Montgomery County Board of said, Supervisors on the NRVRC's need for a larger office space at the BOS Aug. 26 meeting.

Byrd, in his presentation, explained that the New River Regional Commission has existed for about 55 years (since 1969) and for the first 30 years, was based out of Radford. In the past 25 years, Byrd explained, they have expanded their space multiple times but now needs a larger space and a space that is accessible after hours for public meetings. Byrd said the NRVRC has 22 employees currently and in their current space, many of them share offices, even explaining that one office is 383 square shared feet and between three employees. This new building would not only locate NRVRC within Montgomery County, but with also, some construction, provide organization the with the space and offices needed to

building's this location central as ideal because it also faces Franklin Street and is close to Uptown Mall Christiansburg amenities.

"This is," Byrd "ideally centrally located for the organization and right in the middle of what happens in the New River Valley in that main intersection there. It's also accessible through public transit which is not the case where we are currently."

The purpose of Byrd's presentation was to gain a consensus from the Board of Supervisors before reaching out to the other localities the NRVRC serves and explain the proposed changes to the building when it is purchased. Byrd also showed a breakdown of the financial cost with the building currently priced at two million dollars to purchase before any construction is done. The estimated total project cost with the purchase of the building and construction is 3.5 million dollars. "This is important asset," Angela Hill, County Administrator, said, "for the county, and I think for our region. I think that Montgomery County is in a good position, a critical position, to help the Regional Commission to move forward at this point." Hill explained that at the next board meeting, it would be best that the Board of Supervisors sign a support agreement to help the NRVRC in terms of helping them with banking and funding. This would be the next step so that the NRVRC could begin to entertain

Goldsberry won a Tony and Grammy for originating the role of Angelica Schuyler in groundbreaking Broadway the "Hamilton" phenomenon and a Primetime Emmy earned

King," "Dreamgirls," and the play "Good People" opposite Frances McDormand, among countless others.

Her screen credits include the title role in "The Immortal

See Goldsberry, page 3

Radford University sees significant growth in local enrollment through targeted recruitment efforts



Students head to class on the first day of classes for Radford's fall semester.

RADFORD Radford University's strategic focus on local recruitment efforts has yielded impressive results, with a substantial increase in enrollment from high schools and community colleges within a 100-mile radius of the campus.

The growth is evident across both freshmen and transfer student categories, marking a significant, and historic, milestone for the university.

Over the past year, Radford University has amplified its outreach to local high schools and community colleges, leading to remarkable enrollment gains from various counties and cities in the region. The top 10 high schools contributing to this growth include:

Patrick Henry High School, Roanoke: 157% increase

William Fleming High School, Roanoke: 212% increase

Floyd County High School,

Floyd: 128% increase

Cave Spring High School, Roanoke: 23% increase School, Giles County High

Pearisburg: 233% increase Franklin County High School,

Rocky Mount: 46% increase Radford County High School,

Radford: 166% increase Pulaski County High School,

See Enrollment, page 2

for their staff. The NRVRC is currently planning on purchasing the old American National Bank Building off of Market Street Christiansburg. in With this location, Byrd explained, they would build out the drive-through area and enclose that to create a large conference room that would have after hours access for their public meetings where they need space. This would also allow them to lock down the rest of the building. Byrd also addressed financing options.

comfortably provide

PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, Sept. 4 – Sunday, Sept. 8:

Blacksburg Aquatic Center closed

The Blacksburg Aquatic Center will be closed for annual maintenance through Sunday, Sept. 8, and will reopen on Monday, Sept. 9.

Wednesday, Sept. 4:

Blacksburg Farmers Market

At Market Square Park, 100 Draper Rd SW, Blacksburg; 2 - 6 p.m. The market is a local, familyfriendly 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.

Thursday, Sept. 5:

Route 460 Business Corridor Bicycle, Pedestrian and Transit Study public meeting

Public input meeting for the Route 460 Business Corridor Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Transit Study, 4 – 6 p.m. in the Joseph W. Meredith Training & Event Center at the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center. Find out about the study's progress and potential safety improvements along Route 460 Business in Blacksburg, Christiansburg, and Montgomery County. Questions or not able to attend? Public meeting materials will be posted by Sept. 3 on the NRV MPO website and will be available for comment until Sept. 21 at 5 p.m. Citizens may submit written comments online, at the meeting, or via email to 460study@RKK.com.

Brush Mountain Park community feedback meeting

Community feedback meeting, 5:30 – 7 p.m. at the Town Annex, (the old Blacksburg Police Station, adjacent to the Blacksburg Library) to collect community feedback on the Brush Mountain Trail Park and Trail system, including the types of users, frequency of trail use, and user priorities, concerns, and questions. Feedback collected will help guide decisionmaking for the continued development of the trail network and ongoing management of the park. For more information on the Brush Mountain Trail System, please visit letstalkblacksburg.org.

Disinformation in the Digital Age

"Disinformation in the Digital Age," a free nonpartisan public information program, will be held 7:30-8:30 p.m. at the Lyric Theatre, 135 College Ave. in Blacksburg. The program's focus will include social media, generative AI, fact-checking, finding reliable sources and how all of this may impact elections. The program will conclude with a Q&A, and with tips for responding to disinformation.

Maintaining brain health throughout aging

Friday, Sept. 6:

The Glencoe Sessions

A FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge and Glencoe Mansion partnership with rising bluegrass star Addie Levy, held the first Friday of each month Sept. to Dec. in Glencoe Mansion, 6 - 7:30 p.m. Sept. 6: Jim Lloyd–Musical eclectic, singer, old-time banjo great, public radio host, music teacher, bluegrass rhythm guitarist, storyteller, banjo museum curator, barber of Rural Retreat and a towering figure in Appalachian music. Tickets \$15 per person per session, or \$50 for all four sessions. To purchase tickets please visit blueridgejamboree.com or blueridgefriends.org. There will be beverages available for purchase.

Saturday, Sept. 7:

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, Sept. 8:

Vintage Market

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

Monday, Sept. 9:

Radford City Council meeting

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

Montgomery County Board of Supervisors 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.

Blacksburg smoke testing sewer lines

The Town of Blacksburg and CHA Consulting, Inc., will perform smoke testing in the upper Harding Sewershed during the week of Sept. 9 and Sept. 16. The process blows smoke into the sewer system, which then escapes through leaks found in the lines. Leaks allow rainwater, creek water, and other stormwater runoff to enter the system. The area within the Harding Sewershed that will be impacted by this work includes the Apperson Park development and Windsor Hills. During this work, citizens may see smoke coming out of the ground, and occasionally, when household plumbing is not in conformance with code, smoke may enter residences. For this reason, CHA will place informational door hangers at residences that may be affected several days in advance of the testing. For questions and more information: Contact Shawn Veltman, Town Engineer at 540.443.1352, sveltman@ blacksburg.gov.

The Radford City School Board will convene for its regular meeting at 6 p.m., to be held at the School Administration Building, 1612 Wadsworth St. The agenda for the meeting can be viewed at www.rcps.org.

Blacksburg Town Council meeting

The council meets in regular session the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers of the Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 S. Main St. These meetings are open to the public and televised live on WTOB Channel 2.

Christiansburg Town Council meeting

Regular town council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Town Hall (100 E. Main St.). The public is welcome and encouraged to attend, with a citizen hearing time reserved at each meeting for residents to bring any matter they desire before the entire council.

Saturday, Sept. 14:

Fish Fry

Mount Tabor Ruritan Club will hold its September Fish Fry 5 to 7 p.m. at Slusser's Chapel Picnic Shelter, 1543 Mount Tabor Rd, Blacksburg. Serving fish, fries and slaw; homemade desserts; and beverages. Adults-\$12, children under 12-\$6, (under three free), carry-outs-\$12. This month, we welcome the Blue Ridge Vocal Connection to our music tent. Held rain or shine. This is the last fry in 2024. Call or text 540-449-6178 for further information. On Facebook at MtTaborRuritan.

Shred-A-Thon

The Town of Blacksburg will host a Shred-A-Thon 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Blacksburg Community Center. This free event is a great opportunity to recycle unneeded household documents, records, etc. Please plan to bring documents in a box, tote, or paper bag and observe the limit of five containers per vehicle. Items that cannot be shredded include metal, three-ring binders, composition notebooks, hardback books, and non-paper materials. This is a drive-thru event only. Please remain in your vehicle during drop-off. For more information, contact the Town of Blacksburg Recycling office at 540.443.1212.

Thursday, Sept. 19:

Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

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

Saturday, Sept. 28:

Annual Blues, Brews & BBQ

Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Foundation's 9th Annual Blues, Brews & BBQ, noon - 5:00pm, at St. Luke and Odd Fellows Hall. Admission is free, though a \$10 donation is suggested. Seating is limited. Attendees are encouraged to bring chairs. Performance schedule: 12:30-1:30 p.m. The JoJo Stockton Project, 2-3 p.m. McFadden and Friends. 3:30-4:30 p.m. Lady D and Mi\$\$ion. Beer and wine, barbeque, and sweet treats available for purchase from Blue Ridge Beverage, Kirk's Famous BBQ, and Next Door Bake Shop. Local chapters of the NAACP and The League of Women Voters will provide voter registration information. Free parking at the Gilbert Street Parking Garage across the street from the hall. Proceeds go toward the continued preservation of St. Luke and Odd Fellows Hall, which will be open to guests during the event. For more information, visit: https://blacksburgmuseum.org/.

Everyday lifestyle choices that make a difference

At Warm Hearth Village Center, Tall Oaks Hall, 2387 Warm Hearth Dr., Blacksburg, 2 p.m. Speaker: Ben Katz, an Associate Professor of Human Development and Family Science at Virginia Tech and a Faculty Affiliate of the Center for Gerontology. His research focuses on the neural underpinnings of executive function development throughout the lifespan, and how it might be modulated through experience and intervention, including lifestyle behaviors. Prior to his career in academia, he worked as a game designer in Austin and San Francisco.

American Legion meeting

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

Enrollment from page 1

Dublin: 32% increase

Northside High School, Roanoke: 357% increase

Christiansburg High School, Christiansburg: 54% increase

The university also experienced a 41% increase in transfer students from the New River Valley and Roanoke areas, with 279 new students joining from these regions.

"This year's enrollment figures reflect the success of our targeted local recruitment strategy and our strong commitment to serving the educational needs of our community," said Dannette Gomez Beane, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Strategic Communications. "By focusing on strengthening relationships with local high schools and community colleges, we have been able to attract a diverse group of students who are eager to invest in their futures by continuing their education at Radford University."

"Radford University has done a phenomenal job partnering with local school divisions in visiting and presenting information about their new initiatives with the Tuition Promise," said Tara Grant, Pulaski County Public Schools Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction. "President Bret Danilowicz helped Dr. Danette Beane in an informational session

for seniors and their families. They brought current Radford students that graduated from Pulaski High School to talk about their experience. Radford University has invited students in high school and elementary schools for field trips to give students the opportunities to visit campus and think about those next steps. Their athletics department has an Education Day where elementary schools can bring their whole school or specific grade levels of students to watch a division one athletic event. Students and teachers enjoy this event! We partner with Radford University with interns from the education program. That's a great way for us to recruit teachers for the next year and we really spend a lot of time getting to know them. Radford University does a great job with reaching out to alumni and creating alumni ambassadors at schools, especially high schools to promote their university. I have three graduates from Radford University and I'm so proud to be a part of the Highlander family."

This encouraging trend underscores Radford University's role as a vital educational institution within the region and commonwealth, providing accessible, high-quality education to students close to home.

Radford University

Tuesday, Sept. 10:

Radford School Board meeting

Ongoing:

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. At the Fine Arts Center in Pulaski at 21 West Main St., Pulaski, through Oct. 5, 2024. Some artwork contains mature content and may not be suitable for children.

$\mathbf{P}_{\text{ETS OF THE WEEK}}$

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

Bloom is a happy girl who is ready to blossom in a furever home! She is friendly and playful. In particular, she loves playing with rubber balls. Bloom is a younger dog who enjoys interacting with other pups, too.



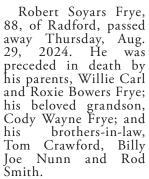


Rosebud is a spunky gal. She's friendly and has a fun personality. She is treatmotivated and will gladly sit in place when something yummy is the reward! Rosebud also does well walking on a leash. Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center to meet this pawsome dog.

BITUARIES **Burch, David Riley**

David Riley Burch, 79, passed Thursday, Aug 29, 2024, at LewisGale Medical Center in Salem. Born Aug. 27, 1945, he was a member of the Church of God of Prophecy and a carpet installer for The

Carpet Shop. He was preceded in death by his parents, Nevel and Bertie Burch; his wife, Marguerite Estelle Burch; and two



Survivors include his loving wife, Anna Belle Comer Frye; sons and daughters-in-law, Mark (Debbie) Frye and Wayne Frye (Angie); grandchildren and spouses, their Jared Frve (Jennie), Ćasey Hamblin (Scott), Joanna Morris and (Andrew); great-

Pattie

friends.



David Darnell sons, and Mark Allen Burch. Survivors include his son, Chad Burch of Dublin; sister, Joyce Hurst of Newbern; and many other relatives and friends.

There will be no services per his request. The Burch family is

in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

Frye, Robert Soyars

The family received friends Monday, Sept. 2024, at Mullins Home Funeral in Radford. A brief service followed the visitation. A graveside service was held Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2024, at Mount Rose Cemetery in Glade Spring.

Though would be flowers graciously accepted, donations are also welcome to the Wesley Foundation, 1022 Downey St, Radford, VA 24141, or to a charity of your

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

Allen Lee Lawson, 92 of Christiansburg, passed away Thursday, Aug. 29, 2024, at Radford Health & Rehab.

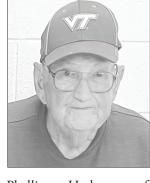
retired He from Lynchburg Foundry and a member of First Church of God – Christiansburg. He was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas G. and Alice Sarah Lawson; wives, Lucy and Edna Lawson; son, Dennis Lawson; and two brothers and two sisters.

Survivors include daughter, Carolyn (Roscoe) of Furrow Christiansburg and

Lyons, Sr., Glenn Irven

Glenn Irven Lyons, Sr., 85, of Dublin, passed away Wednesday, Aug. 28, 2024. He was born May 10, 1939, in Newbern, to the late William and Pearl Holderfield Lyons.

Along with parents, Glenn was preceded in death by his sons, Glenn Lyons Jr., and Wesley Lyons; brothers, Lawrence, brothers, Lawrence, Gene, Raymond, Joe and John Lyons; and his sisters, Ruby Grost, Helen Freeman, Edna Underwood and Darlene Lvons.



Lawson, Allen Lee

Phyllis Hudson of Dublin; daughter-in-law, Rose Lawson of Radford; numerous grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.



family received Tuesday, Sept.

3, 2024, at the Mullins

The

friends

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

William Lyons (Terrie); grandchildren, Donna Dowdy, Glenn Lyons, III, Sean and Jason Southern, Amber Dalton, Justin Presgraves and Tiffany Lyons; a number of grandchildren; sister, Margaret Freeman; and many other family members and special friends.

Per his request, no services will be held at this time.

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



and numerous other

relatives and special

PHOTO BY LUKE HAYES FOR VIRGINIA TECH

Safety experts say distracted mobility is a public health issue

He is survived by his

daughters and son-in-law,

Greta Dowdy (Donald), and Wanda Southern;

son and daughter-in-law,

RICHMOND—Advertising in the 1950s promoted doctor recommendations for cigarette brands. But sentiments changed. Now smoking is at an all-time low, linked to numerous negative health outcomes.

Distracted driving activities, like using a smartphone behind the wheel, should be talked about and treated as an addictive behavior—just like smoking, said Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles Commissioner Gerald F. Lackey.

"We're starting to realize we're having a major epidemic with distracted driving, and it's killing people," he said.

Traffic safety leaders discussed strategies for changing motorist behavior at Drive Smart Virginia's 11th Annual Distracted Driving Summit. Virginia Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co. is a summit sponsor.

Reframing public attitudes toward motorist and pedestrian distraction is a first step.

Facts. Sixty-one fatalities and 7,200 injuries resulted from 21,528 distracted driving crashes in 2023.

Lackey quoted University of Utah research that says motorists who talk on hand-held cell phones are as impaired as drivers with a .08 blood-alcohol content, which is the minimum level that defines drunk driving in most U.S. states.

"We create diversion programs with other addictive behaviors," he continued. "But I have not seen one that does it with distracted drivingengaging it as an addiction and taking you through a process to understand that and put you back in control."

Virginia State Police Superintendent Col. Gary T. Settle shared a new tactic to promote highway safety called Operation DISS-rupt. First implemented in 2023, it focuses on the four key causes of fatal and serious injury crashes in problem areas across Virginia's interstate system. Operation DISS-rupt stands for Distracted Driving, Impaired Driving, Speed Compliance and Seat belt Safety. "The operation's goal is to achieve zero fatal crashes during designated enforcement periods and to reduce the total number of crashes on our interstates for the calendar year by 10%," Settle continued. "I'm proud to say since initiating our first operation last winter on Interstate 81, we had zero deaths and saw decreases in overall crashes during those enforcement periods."

grandchildren, Cora Hamblin, Emery Frye, Hattie Frye and Talon Hamblin; sisters, Crawford, Freda Nunn and Leota choice. Smith; special sister-in-law, Marie Griffin;

Food safety is important to consider during tailgating.

Don't let foodborne illness spoil your tailgate

Another school year has begun, and for Hokie sports fans that means the start of a new football season and a lot of tailgating. But tailgating brings unique food safety challenges that you don't necessarily have to worry about when eating at home.

Virginia Tech food safety specialist Melissa Wright is here with a few tips you can follow to make sure your tailgate fun isn't spoiled by foodborne illness.

"One of the biggest food safety issues people run into at tailgates is related to transporting and handling food," Wright said. "The danger zone is between 40 degrees and 140 degrees Fahrenheit, and allowing hot or cold food to be in that zone for longer than two hours can allow bacteria to multiply rapidly, leading to foodborne illness.

When the outdoor temperature is above 90 degrees, that window closes to one hour, Wright said.

"The same guidance extends to serving food as well as transporting it," Wright said. "You want to keep hot foods hot and cold foods like coleslaw and potato salad cold, so keep the crockpot on while serving meatballs and sausages and keep dips and cold spreads on ice."

Because access to electricity might be limited, Wright said wrapping cooked foods and their containers in aluminum foil or towels can help keep their temperature up.

Cross-contamination between raw meat and other foods is another common way foodborne bacteria can spread.

"It's a good idea to use separate coolers for raw meats and readyto-eat foods that won't be cooked," Wright said. "Make sure raw proteins, including seafood, are packaged in sealed containers and kept in an insulated cooler below 40 degrees prior to cooking."

There are plenty of opportunities for contamination during the cooking process as well, so never use the same cutting board or preparation surface for raw meats and other foods and use a clean pair of tongs that haven't come into contact with raw foods when removing cooked foods from the grill.

"You never want raw meat to come into contact with cooked meat," Wright said.

"Ground beef needs to reach an internal temperature of 160 degrees and all poultry needs to reach an internal temperature of 165 degrees to be safe, so bring your food thermometer as well."

Some other helpful tips, Wright said, include:

Food safety begins with clean hands and surfaces, even in an outdoor setting. Practice good hand hygiene, which might be as simple as a water jug, some soap, and paper towels. If the surfaces you have access to are not cleanable, consider using disposable tablecloths.

Consider using a dedicated cooler for beverages because that cooler tends to be opened frequently as guests grab drinks throughout the tailgate, which likely won't keep any food inside cold enough.

Marinate meats under refrigeration (less than 40 degrees) and discard the excess. "A marinade should never be brushed onto a cooked item. They often contain raw ingredients and are meant to be cooked with the food, so throw out any leftover marinade you have left after putting food on the grill.'

Wright said many people don't think of these things at an event like a tailgate, but with over 3,000 deaths and 128,000 hospitalizations due to foodborne illness in the U.S. each year, they're worth keeping in mind.

Alex Hood for Virginia Tech

"Think about the progress we made with seat belt usage," said Rick Birt, director of the Washington, D.C. Highway Safety Office. "We started out with no seat belts. Now, over 90% of individuals changed their behavior, and are buckling up."

Birt said Americans should start thinking about distracted driving as a public health crisis that requires an all-hands-on-deck response. "What are the values of our community around distracted mobility?" he asked.

Distracted driving accounts for about 17% of all traffic crashes in the state, according to Virginia Crash

Virginia Farm Bureau

Goldsberry from page 1

This performance is supported in part by gifts from Catherine Karp Breske and Dr. James M. Shuler and and Ms. Margaret F. Shuler.

Related event

Inspired audience members can unleash their inner Broadway star "Karaoke with in the Cube' immediately following performance. the Sing along to the biggest hits from Broadway favorites "Wicked," such as "Hamilton," and "Les Misérables." Seasoned performers, casual singers, and curious spectators are welcome. The event will be held in the Moss Arts Center's Cube from 9-11 p.m. Drinks will be available for purchase. "Karaoke in the Cube" is free, but registration is required. Tickets

Tickets for the \$40performance are \$85 for general audience and \$10 for students youth 18 and under. 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.

Virginia Tech

JBR VINEYARDS & Winery Hand tended vines. Hand Crafted Wines PRESENTS The 5th. Annual **PAW PAW FESTIVAL** Way Down Yonder In The Paw Patch. Sat., Sept. 28, '24. Sun., Sept. 29, '24 Bobby Parker Fisher Peak Timber Rattlers. Noon to Five O'clock 1360 Springdale Road, Pearisburg, Va. 24134 No Admission Fee. Child and dog friendly. 540-250-7291 - jbrvineyards@gmail.com facebook.com/jbrwine - www.jbrvineyards.com



OPINION **Delegate honored to take part in remembrance of local veterans**

This past week was a big one in the 42nd House District as it relates to the remembrance of local heroes - our veterans and their families who have sacrificed so much to ensure our freedoms. It was an honor and a privilege to attend two events that highlight our area's strong commitment to our servicemen and women; the naming of the Ronald David (Ronnie) Sparks Bridge, and the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery Operational Excellence Award ceremony.

Ronnie Sparks grew up in Narrows and was part of a big family – one of eight siblings. He graduated from Narrows High School in 1966, and as some of the readers of this publication may remember, he was an outstanding high school athlete. He excelled at baseball, basketball, track and field, and earned all-state accolades as a football player. After choosing to study at William & Mary, Ronnie was sent to fight in the Vietnam War. In April of 1968, Ronnie was with three of his brothers in arms when he gave his life in service to this country in Vietnam. If it wasn't for people like Ronnie Sparks, we would not be able to enjoy the freedoms that we have today. The bridge named in his honor – on Route 61 over Wolf Creek in Giles County – will now be a monument to the bravery, sacrifice, and spirit



of Ronnie, who by all accounts was a genuinely kindhearted person who was easy to be around and made fast friends. Thank you to the Giles County Board of Supervisors and the Commonwealth Transportation Board for your part in ensuring that Ronnie will be memorialized in the community that he loved.

Also of note last week was the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery's acceptance of the National Cemetery Administration's (NCA) Operational Excellence Award. The NCA's Operational Excellence Award is presented to selected state Veterans cemeteries in recognition of outstanding compliance during their triennial review. This rigorous review process examines nearly 100 standards, including interment operations, grounds maintenance, and headstone alignment, among many others. The Operational Excellence Award places the SWVA Veterans Cemetery among the best of the best in Virginia. This was the first NCA review for the SWVA Veterans Cemetery using the new standards, and the fact that it earned this award on its first review truly shows the care and dedication that cemetery staff feel for our deceased veterans and their families.

These events make us think of the broader significance of our duty to our veterans. They are reminder for all of us to ensure that our veterans and their families receive the support and care they have earned through their service. Virginia is the best state in the nation for veterans' services, and I am so proud to see that tradition being carried out in the 42nd House District of the Virginia General Assembly.

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.

Closing ceremony for Field of Honor to celebrate military, first responder heroes

Radford Noon Rotary and Glencoe Mansion will host a closing ceremony of the "Field of Honor" at Glencoe Mansion on Wednesday, Sept. 11 at 5 p.m.

The theme of the ceremony is, "Making the City Come Alive: Honoring Our Heroes," and will recognize both the military and first responders. The event will mark the end of the second year of the "Field of Honor" that has been on display since May.

The evening will begin at 5 p.m. with an opening of bagpipe music provided by musician Andrew Meeks. The official ceremony follows at 5:30 p.m. and will include remarks from multiple members of the community, including Radford Mayor David Horton, City Council Member Jessie Foster, Rev. Dr. Gina Rhea of Unity Christian Church, as well as remarks from the leadership of the Radford Noon Rotary and Glencoe Mansion. The ceremony will be followed by a reception on the museum grounds until 7 pm.

The Radford Noon Rotary is a volunteer organization dedicated to advancing Radford through good deeds. The Field of Honor is comprised of 174 flags sponsored by individuals and businesses of the community, and the proceeds benefit multiple organizations. Some of the organizations include: Radford University Scholarships for Students from Radford High School, Vittles for Vets, Elf Shelf, the Women's Resource Center, Beans and Rice, Radford-Fairlawn Daily Bread, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, and Glencoe Mansion.

"The Field of Honor has been a great success and has grown since its first year," said Radford Noon Rotary President Tom Alston. "We're looking forward to increasing the number of flags honoring heroes, by expanding recognition to those who serve and have served in the military and as well as first responders."

The closing date of Sept. 11 was chosen for its significance as the anniversary of the 2001 attacks on the United States and when the country came together to overcome tragedy.

The ceremony and reception are open to the public, and there is no admission charge. The Radford Noon Rotary and Glencoe Mansion invite all flag sponsors, those who have served in the military or as first responders, and those whose lives have been affected by these heroes to attend this special event.

Glencoe Mansion



verified before publication. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

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



The Field of Honor, on display at Glencoe Mansion, will be taken down for the season following a closing ceremony set for Sept. 11.









The News Messenger is not simply a newspaper. It can be a useful device to help get household pests under control. Sure we keep you informed of news in your area, but we do more! Your copy of The News Messenger is one heck of a way to swat a fly or nail a mosquito ... simply roll it up and give it a try (after you have finished reading, of course). And best of all, we'll send you a new fly swatter every week for a year with your subscription!

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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 that due diligence has been used. without effect, to ascertain the identity and certain parties to be served, that the last known addresses for the Respondents herein are as follows: Janis Dee Harlow aka Janis D. Hale, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 3719 Southway

timely and appropriate that this Court enter an Order allowing for service upon

the Defendants be completed pursuant to Virginia Code §8.01-316 by Order of Publication in a newspaper with general circulation in and published in and approved by the Circuit Court for Botetourt, Virginia, and it is therefore.

more fully shown on "Resurvey for Anthony W.

Smith Showing Tax No. 106-191 located along Flag Lane", dated November 3, 2019, a copy of which is recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of

Botetourt County, Virginia, with the Deed at Instrument No. 200003069, a copy of which is incorporated herein

Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or



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 Christiansburg Residency which includes the counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski 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

SIGNUP

Virginia, in re BREANNA VIVIAN ALLEN v LAWRENCE THOR SEVY The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE It is ORDERED that LAWRENCE THOR SEVY appear at the abovenamed court and protect his/her interests on or before OCTOBER 30,2024 AUGUST 23, 2024 HONORABLE K. MIKF

be obtained from the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Nicholas County, West Virginia, at the Nicholas County Courthouse. Summersville, West Virginia.

your custodial and parental

rights may be ordered by

the Court.

A copy of said petition can

Drive SW, Apt. 69, Roanoke, Virginia 24014 John Hale, whose last known address is 6844 Conner Road NE, Copper

Hill, Virginia 24079; Kathleen A. Harlow, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is 7908 Botetourt Road, Fincastle, Virginia 24090; Jazzmine F. Harlow, Minor, whose last known address is 7908 Botetourt Road, Fincastle, Virginia 24090: Noah S. Landram. Minor, whose last known address is 7908 Botetourt Road, Fincastle, Virginia 24090; Rebecca L. Harlow whose last known address is 7908 Botetourt Road Fincastle, Virginia 24090; Nathan L. Harlow, whose last known address is 388 Mountain Road, Eagle Rock, Virginia 24085; 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

ORDERED that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained appear on or before October 21, 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 99/4this cause

hereby

Entered on the 26th day of August, 2024. Tommy Moore Clerk

I Ask For This: John A. Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805) Jeffrey A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591) Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409) Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372) Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609) Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158) Seth

ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED that an ORDER OF PUBLICATION, be and hereby is to be

published in The Fincastle Herald once a week for four successive weeks in order to perfect service upon Defendants Estate of Wanda P. McKinney and the Unknown Heirs of Wanda P. McKinney; and it

is further ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED that all Defendants be placed on notice that a Petition is pending in the Circuit Court of Botetourt, Virginia, namely Specialized Loan Servicing UC v. Estate of Wanda P. McKinney, et al. to quiet title to the property located at 222 Cove Mountain Road,

Buchannan, Virginia 24066; and it is further ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED, that McKinney Parties Unknown must on or before the18th day of October, 2024, make known to this Court any objection they may have to the Complaint, and claim any defenses to the pending

action otherwise an order will be entered in favor of Plaintiff, and it is further ADJUDGED, ORDERED

AND DECREED that the Clerk of this Court send notice of this service to Defendants Estate of Wanda P. McKinney and Unknown Heirs of Wanda P. McKinnev at the last known of address of Wanda P. McKinney, 222 Cove Mountain Road, Buchannan, Virginia 24066; and it is further ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED that The Fincastle Herald shall file an affidavit of publication with the Clerk of this Court attesting to the dates of publication, attesting that the notice was published at least once a week for four successive weeks Dated this 8th day of August, 2024. Joel R Branscom, Judge of the Botetourt County Circuit Court We ask for this:

SPECIALIZED LOAN SERVICING LLC Thomas Hodge, VSB

reference hereto TOGETHER WITH a fifteen (15) foot non-exclusive, appurtenant, right of way over Flag Lane as more fully shown on the aforesaid

plat of survey. TERMS: Cash - Bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sales price by cashier's or certified check may be required. Balance of purchase price shall be due and payable not later than ten (10) days after sale.

WOODS ROGERS VANDEVENTER BLACK PLC. Substitute Trustee

For Information Contact: Woods Rogers Vandeventer Black PLC, P.O. Box 14125, Roanoke, VA 24038-4125 Telephone: 540-983-7729

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 3314 Blue Ridge Blvd, Blue Ridge, VA 24064

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$332,323.00 dated October 1, 2021 recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for Botetourt County on October 1, 2021 as Instrument Number: 210005222, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction, at the Main entrance of the courthouse for the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, 1 W Main St, Fincastle, VA 24090 on October 7, 2024 at 12:30 PM the property described in said deed of trust. located at the above address and briefly described as: Located in Botetourt County, State of Virginia All that certain tract or parcel of land designated as Lot C, containing 1.916

acres, more or less, as more fully shown on that certain "Plat of the Property of C & O, LLC", dated July 30, 2008, prepared by Christopher N. McMurry L.S., a copy of which is recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for Botetourt County Virginia, in Plat Book 45,

EQUIPMEN 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

Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site https://plow4va.vdot.virginia. gov All new and returning

season.

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

guaranteed payment for the season. Contractors must submit their application on the

electronic M7B bidding site at https://plow4va.vdot.virginia. dov 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 Christiansburg Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday - Friday Phone: 540-381-7201 Email: SalemDistrictSnow @vdot.virginia.gov

EEO/AA Employer

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

FLEENOR.JR. JUDGE TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

Legals -**City of Radford** NOTICE OF

INVITATION TO COMMENT AND PUBLIC MEETING CONSOLIDATE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION **REPORT (CAPER)** PROGRAM YEAR 2023

The City of Radford is preparing its Consolidate Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the period of July 1. 2023 - June 30, 2024 (PY 23). The report outlines the performance of the city on the administration of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded activities for the PY23/FY24. The final report must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) within 90 days following the end of the program year, on Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024

A citizen comment period will run from September 4, 2024 through September 25, 2024. At 7:00pm on Monday, September 23, 2024, City Council will hold a public meeting to obtain comments and answer questions regarding the CAPER

A copy of the CAPER may be found on the City's website or in the City Manager's office. Questions or comments should be directed to Melissa Skelton, Dir. Community Development at melissa.skelton@radfordva gov or in person at City Council meeting on September 23, 2024 at 7pm, located at 10 Robertson St., Radford Order of Publication

Case No. 24-JA-79 and 24-JA-80 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF NICHOLAS

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA AND WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES. CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DIVISION ΒY /s/ JASMINE R. H. MORTON ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY FOR NICHOLAS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA STATE BAR ID NO .: 11348

> Legals - Town of Vinton

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF VINTON, VIRGINIA NOTICE OF **PUBLIC HEARING**

Please be advised that the Vinton Town Council will hold a public hearing at its meeting on Tuesday, September 17, 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, located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia, concerning the proposed amendment to the Town of Vinton's FY 2024-2025 budget to appropriate funding for various operational and capital expenditures. including police equipment, Wolf Creek Greenway bathroom facilities, and the Town's planned multigenerational park in the total amount of \$462,000.00 in the General Fund, Grant Fund, and Capital Fund. State law requires a public hearing to be held whenever a proposed budget amendment exceeds 1% of the locality's total budget

Any additional information on this public meeting is available in the Town Manager's Office, located in the Vinton Municipal Building, (540) 983-0607 Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate at this public meeting should contact the Town Manager's office at (540) 983-0607.

Antonia Arias-Magallon Town Clerk/Administrative Manager

PAGE 6 · WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2024 · NEWS MESSENGER



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www.ourvalley.org

Montgomery Sports

Gridiron shakeup: Blacksburg, Christiansburg win in week one

Marty Gordon

NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Christiansburg held off a pesky Floyd squad, and Blacksburg rolled in a win over Giles in Week one.

Eastern Montgomery and Radford started the season off on a down note with two separate losses.

The player of week is Blacksburg QB Sam Szefc, who threw for three touchdowns and 203 yards on a seven of 10 for a 32-12 win over Giles.

This week's matchups:

Abingdon at Christiansburg (1-0)

Last week, Abingdon beat John Battle 42-6. Abingdon finished 6-5 a year ago including a 45-7 regular season and regional playoff 26-7 losses to Christiansburg.

The Falcons return 20 seniors and 16 starters, but maybe none more promising than quarterback Isaac Brooks and running back Owen Barr.

Giles (0-1) at Radford (0-1)

Radford sophomore Luke Gaither threw for 205 yards including a 64yard score in his debut, but George Wythe took the 28-7 win. Giles fell to Blacksburg.

Eastern Montgomery (0-1) at Rural Retreat (1-0)

Eastern Montgomery will face an Indian squad that rolled in a 52-7 win over Ft. Chiswell. Seven different players scored in that contest. Chaz Penwright led Rural Retreat with 59 yards on five carries, while their defense held its opponent to 96 total yards of offense. Blacksburg (1-0) at Lord Botetourt (0-1)

Botetourt is coming off a 11-8 overtime loss to E.C. Glass. Blacksburg will be able to move the ball, especially through the air but can they outscore an opponent trying to break out of the barn.

Blacksburg had two 100-yard rushers last week with Jared Bradley tallying 108 yards on six carries and Jaxon Keys for 101 yards on 15 carries.

This week's predictions:

Radford 32, Giles 14

Rural Retreat 32, Eastern Montgomery 12

Lord Botetourt 34, Blacksburg

21

Christiansburg 32, Abingdon 30.

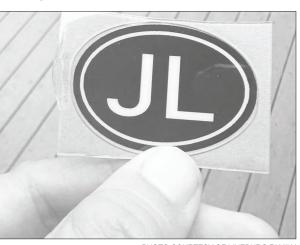


PHOTO COURTESY OF LINEBURG FAMILY

The wife of retired Radford High School coach Norm Lineburg, Joanne Lineburg, passed away two weeks ago. Now, the school's football team is honoring her with a helmet sticker for the remainder of the season.

Blacksburg wins season opener over Giles



Blacksburg senior Logan Pannell leads the Bruins out for their season opening game against Giles on Friday night.





Blacksburg defender Mitchel Lowe and the Bruin defense slow down Giles' running game on the way to a 32-12 win.



PHOTOS JON FLEMING

Blacksburg defensive back Keefer Caldwell snags a late game interception to help seal the win over Giles.

Blacksburg's Mitchell Linkous catches a third quarter touchdown pass from QB Sam Szefc to extend the Bruins lead against Giles.



PHOTO COURTESY OF COLLEGE LICENSING COMPANY

One of the new Metallica and Virginia Tech co-branded T-shirts.

Exit light, enter night - and new relationship with Metallica

Marty Gordon

NRV sports@ourvalley.org

The music group, Metallica, and Virginia Tech are taking their relationship to the next level with the announcement of a major merchandise agreement that will push out t-shirts promoting both the band and the Hokie football program.

"This co-branding makes a dream of nearly 24 years come true," said Heather Ducote, senior director of marketing and brand management. "We're excited to formalize our collaboration with Metallica, since one of their most popular hits is already embraced at Virginia Tech athletics events as a beloved Hokie tradition. And it's a collaboration that mobilized many university departments; the Virginia Tech Athletics Department, the marketing team, the Office of Licensing and Trademarks, and artist and doodle expert Steven White are all involved in formalizing the co-branding and creating the merchandise. I can't

See Metallica, page 8

Christiansburg slips by Floyd

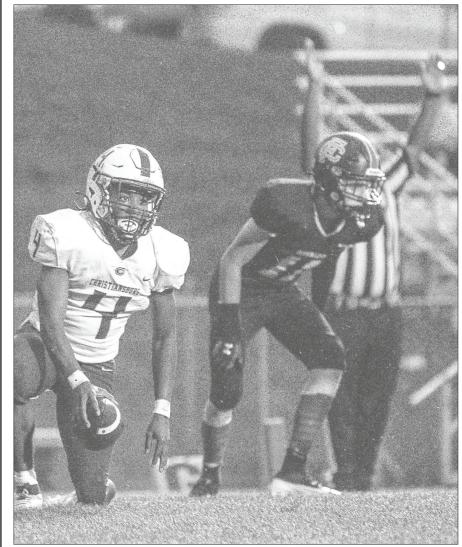


PHOTO BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Xavier Joplin rises from the ground after sliding into the endzone for a Blue Demon TD at Friday's game, held in Floyd.

RU coaching staff

The Radford University baseball announced Friday program afternoon that Tanner Montgomery will be joining the coaching staff as an assistant coach for the upcoming season.

Montgomery comes to Radford after serving the past season at James Madison as the Director of Baseball Operations where he helped lead the Dukes to receive a bid to the Raleigh Regional in the NCAA tournament, competing towards the third appearance in a regional final in JMU program history. He coordinated all travel logistics throughout the season while assisting with other point of contact needs for the program.

"I'm excited to be joining the Highlander family," said Montgomery "I want to thank Coach Alex Guerra for giving me this opportunity. Radford is a historical program with top-notch facilities and I'm optimistic about our success in the near future."

"I have had the opportunity to watch Tanner from afar over the last couple of years and he has always been an impressive person to interact with" added head coach Alex Guerra. 'When the opportunity came to hire him, it was a no-brainer. He is young,

passionate, knowledgeable and has a great future ahead of him."

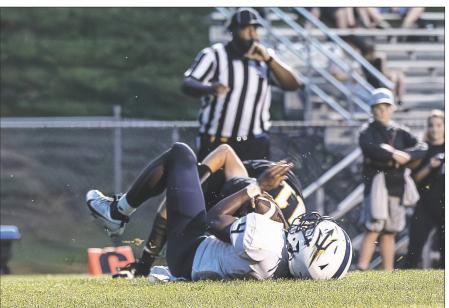
Prior to his time at JMU, Montgomery served as a volunteer assistant coach at Bridgewater College. While at Bridgewater, he assisted in recruiting during the summer and assisted with scouting reports while also serving as the primary coach working with the catchers. In addition, he assisted working with the hitters.

Before taking on the volunteer assistant coach role at Bridgewater, Montgomery had played the previous three seasons for the Eagles as a catcher. In his time as an Eagle, he earned ODAC All-Academic Team honors after the 2020 season and was on the baseball program's leadership council during his tenure. Prior to Bridgewater, the Akron, Ohio native began his collegiate career at Youngstown State where he played from 2017-19.

He holds an undergraduate and graduate degree from Bridgewater, earning his bachelor's in health and exercise science in 2021 and earned his master's in human resource management the following year.

Radford University Athletics

Christiansburg from page 7



Xavier Joplin slides into the endzone for a Blue Demons touchdown against Floyd County.



Montgomery joins | Hokies try to rebound after Vandy loss

Marty Gordon

NRV sports@ourvalley.org

Virginia Tech returns home from Nashville, where they were shellshocked in its first football game of the year by Vanderbilt.

Coach Brent Pry and the Hokies were burned by a Southeastern Conference (SEC) team. Now they will turn their attention to Marshall, who is coming off a 45-3 win over Stoney Brook.

The game served as the first action for Marshall in the new Air Raid offense, although the rushing attack proved just as effective throughout the matchup. The Herd amassed 549 yards of total offense with 259 yards on the ground and 290 through the air with three quarterbacks combining to complete 65 percent of their passes with five touchdowns and no turnovers.

A.J. Turner led the way for the Herd on the ground with 119 yards on eight carries

Fans will remember a 2023 Marshall team that beat (24-17) the Hokies in a 3-10 season.

Under Pry, Tech last year won four of its final six regular season games to clinch bowl eligibility. The Hokies advanced to the 2023 Military Bowl presented by GoBowling.com, where they defeated No. 23 Tulane, 41-20. Now, they turn their attention Marshall in the first home game of the 2024 season.

Virginia Tech achieved a 5-3 ACC record during Pry's sophomore head coaching season, finishing in a tie for fourth place in the year-end standings.

The Hokies averaged 41.8 points during their five ACC victories and sported a +126 scoring margin, including November road romps at Boston College (48-22) and at Virginia (55-17).

Virginia Tech ranked fourth among NCAĂ FBS programs and led the ACČ in fewest passing yards allowed (168.8 per game), trailing only Ohio State (145.9), Michigan (157.0) and Notre Dame (157.3).

Defensively, the Hokies tied for the nation's 10th most sacks per game (3.00) and the 10th most total sacks (39), ranking second among ACC programs both categories. Individually, in defensive end Antwaun Powell Ryland tied for the 14th most sacks per game (0.73) and the 16th most total sacks

Metallica from page 7

wait to see what else this collaboration can achieve."

Metallica first introduced "Enter Sandman" in 1991 as the a tradition that dates to titled album. It hit No. 16 Virginia Tech installed its

(9.5), also ranking second among ACC players in both categories.

Tech ranked 13th nationally in team TFLs per game (7.2) and 14th in total team TFLs (94), ranking second and third, respectively, among ACC sides.

Virginia Tech boasted the country's 20th best team defense, holding opponents on average to 316.8 yards per game.

Virginia Tech retains 42 letterwinners from its 2023 roster.

In February 2024, ESPN staff writer Bill Connelly ranked Virginia Tech as the No. 1 FBS program in terms of returning production, clocked at 86 percent. Connelly also ranked the Hokies as the No. 1 FBS program in returning offensive production, assessed at 95 percent.

The Hokies return 19 of their 22 offensive and defensive starters from their 2023 Military Bowl victory against No. 23 Tulane, including all 11 starters on the offensive side of the ball.

The incoming freshman class includes 15 scholarship players who had impressive high school careers. The group includes 13 players who served as team captains and five state championships as a class.

Pry and his staff continue to focus on the Hokies' recruiting footprint, inking five in-state signees, all ranked within the top 25 in the Commonwealth per 247 Sports. Six of the 15 signees are from within a 325-mile radius of Blacksburg, including defensive lineman Deric Dandy and running back Tyler Mason, both from Mount Airy, North Carolina, along with defensive back Quentin Reddish from Charlotte, North Carolina.

The class represents seven states. In addition to Virginia, three signees hail from North Carolina, with two each from Maryland and Ohio and one each from Georgia, Florida and New Jersey.

During preseason camp, Coach Brent Pry announced the seven 2024 team captains following a program-wide vote. This year's captains are redshirt junior QB Kyron Drones, senior OL Kaden Moore, redshirt senior LB Sam Brumfield, graduate WR Da'Quan Felton, graduate CB Dorian Strong, senior DL Cole Nelson and senior P Peter Moore. Kaden Moore is a repeat captain from 2023 while Peter Moore is a captain for the third straight year.

Virginia excited to work alongside Virginia Tech to expand collaboration

this amazing tradition to a customized merchandise with lead single from their self- Aug. 27, 2000, when Metallica," said Nicole CLC's Armentrout, senior vice president of marketing. "Our goal is to help bring unique experiences and traditions like this one into the marketplace so that passionate Hokie fans can relive and showcase the great moments well beyond game day." Virginia Tech Licensing and Trademarks, Downtown Blacksburg Inc., the Town of Blacksburg, the Blacksburg Partnership, and several Blacksburg businesses will host a block party downtown ----Kickoff on College Avenue – on Sept. 6. "We're delighted to work with Virginia Tech to showcase this exciting collaboration with Metallica at the Kickoff on College Avenue event,' said Ann Cassell, president Blacksburg of the Partnership. "Virginia Tech and Blacksburg are so closely linked and this will only add to the energy and excitement in town as students return and a new football season begins. It's been a busy summer of infrastructure improvements Blacksburg, and we look forward to welcoming students, alumni, and visiting fans back home this fall." Everyone is invited to share in the excitement at the Kickoff on College Avenue from 5 to 9 p.m. Sept. 6, the eve of Virginia Tech's first home football game of the seasons. The block party is open to the public as well as students, faculty, and staff at Virginia Tech and their families and friends to celebrate the greater Blacksburg community.

PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Donovan Richardson takes down the Floyd QB with a flying tackle behind the line of scrimmage near the end of the third quarter. Christiansburg won the game 27-24.



on the Billboard Hot 100 that same year and later earned platinum status. The "Enter Sandman" music video was only the second music video from Metallica and premiered on July 30, 1991.

The rhythmic jumping "Enter Sandman" to started a few years after its debut as the football team's walkout song, when a Marching Virginian began to hop around to warm up during a cold snap. That spontaneous act evolved into the legendary electrifying entrance that now invigorates home games. Accompanied by fireworks and pyrotechnics, "Enter Sandman's" noise and fanfare even cause the stadium to shake occasionally setting off seismographs.

"Enter Sandman" carried over to both the men's and women's Virginia Tech basketball teams, and even some graduations feature the iconic production.

Regarded by many as college football's most powerful entrance, "Enter Sandman" is a beloved tradition for Hokies.

According to a release, the initial lineup of merchandise co-branded with Metallica features designs inspired by the band's logo and original

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first video scoreboard in Lane Stadium and needed a new walkout song.

Tech doodle artist Steven

"Enter Sandman" is

sketches by

White.

Merchandise is on sale now at merchants that include the Hokie Shop and the Hokie Sports Shop.

Managers at both retail locations say the items are flying off the shelves.

The T-shirts made an appearance on Aug. 12 during the "Today" show's birthday celebration for co-anchor Hoda Kotb '86, when the HokieBird and other Hokies visited the set and presented Kotb with the co-branded T-shirts and other Virginia Tech goodies.

Renee Alarid, director of the Office of Licensing and Trademarks, said collaboration with partner and brand management Čollege organization Licensing Company (CLC), Virginia Tech's agent, facilitated the cobranding.

"It was a very effective collaboration," Alarid said. "It was quite an effort, taking about a year to hammer out and finalize, and we had to keep it top secret.

"It took a community and the right team," she said. "Without CLC, the Original Retro Brand, athletics, and the trust of our local retailers, Licensing and Trademarks would not have been able to make this dream a reality. Thank you everyone who helped us in the process." "Enter

Sandman' and the unmatched fan intensity at Lane Stadium is one of the great experiences in college sports, and we're