



Virginia Tech sixth among all U.S. public schools in new ranking

BLACKSBURG - Virginia Tech ranked sixth among all U.S. public schools and first among all Virginia schools in the 2025 Wall Street Journal/College Pulse ranking of the U.S. Colleges released Thursday.

Overall, Virginia Tech landed at No. 19 among all 500 universities included in the ranking that focuses on two key metrics: how much a school improves students' chances of graduating and their future earnings and the overall student experience, according to the Wall Street Journal.

on engaged and diverse learning experiences that provide our graduates with a competitive advantage in their fields is reflected in this ranking among the nation's top public universities," said Executive Vice President and Provost Cyril Clarke. "The opportunity for our graduates to be highly recruited and compensated by top companies around the world is clearly enhanced by the value of their Virginia Tech degree."

Real-world experiences – such as internships, study abroad, and undergraduate research opportunities –

are a hallmark of a Virginia Tech education across all its colleges, readying students for their careers and building the critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills they'll need. Opportunities to connect and learn from a vast network of Hokie alumni around the globe support both students and graduates along the way.

Key support now comes from Virginia Tech Advantage, the university's commitment to remove barriers for students' success and ensure that they have access to those real-world experiences.

"This recognition is a

testament to the lifelong value of a Virginia Tech education," said Senior Vice President for Advancement Charlie Phlegar. "By equipping students with the tools to succeed both academically and professionally, we are not only enhancing their career potential but also fostering a vibrant alumni community that remains deeply connected to and supportive of the university."

Virginia Tech is among 25 new schools listed among the top 50 this year after the Wall Street Journal and its research partners College Pulse



PHOTO BY RAY MEESE FOR VIRGINIA TECH

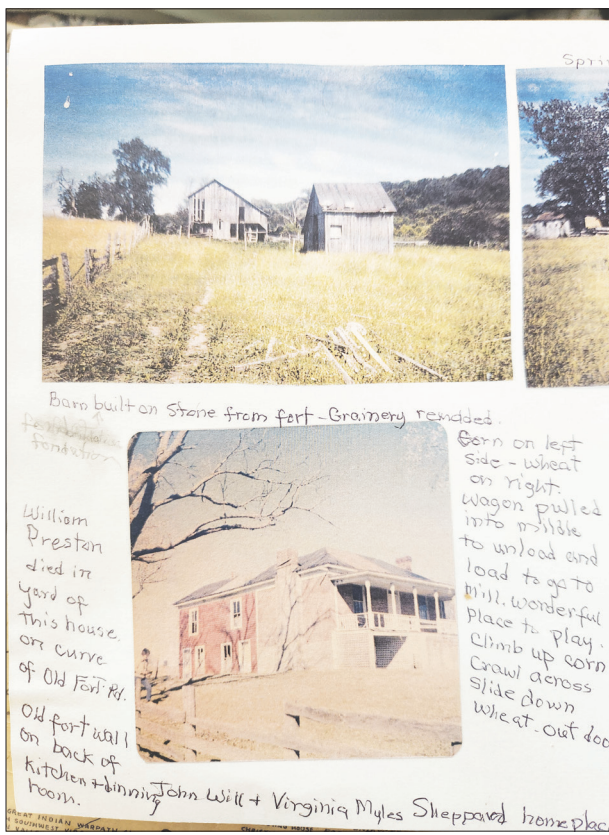
Students make their way past Torgersen Bridge during the first day of the fall semester.

and Statista fine-tuned its calculations related to future financial success, according to the Wall Street Journal.

Mark Owczarski for Virginia Tech



Barbara Surface's photograph, taken by one of Surface's ancestors, depicting the original entrance to the Price home with turkeys.



Barbara Surface's photograph of the original price home.

Blacksburg resident shares family connection to Montgomery County history

Angelica Ramos
Contributing writer

BLACKSBURG- Life-long Blacksburg resident, Barbara Surface, 92, recently shared her family's connection to Montgomery County History in Price's Fork.

Surface's grandparents lived in Michael Price's historic home when she was a young girl. On a map published in the Roanoke Times in 1970, Surface marked

where the house was on Michael Price's land close to Walls Branch Road. The land, Surface explained, was given to Michael Price and his siblings by King George. Price Mountain was included in the land given to them.

Surface remembers, in the original part of the house, there was an opening to go down underground into the original kitchen space and her grandparents explaining that that was where

captured British soldiers were held. She remembers a big heavy door under the brick portion of the house with a slot where it was believed they'd pass food to the captured soldiers. In front of that large opening, Surface said, was where William Preston, original owner of Historic Smithfield, died, in front of Michael Price's home, where she grew up.

See History, page 4

AARP Blacksburg Health and Wellness Fair coming to Christiansburg



A variety of services will be available at the AARP Blacksburg Health and Wellness Fair.



The health fair will be held at the Christiansburg Recreation Center.

A Health and Wellness Fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18 at the Christiansburg Recreational Center, 1600 N. Franklin St., in Christiansburg.

This local fair is free to the general public and co-sponsored by AARP Blacksburg, the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM), and the Christiansburg Recreation Center. It has been referred to as the "state fair of health fairs."

More than 80 exhibitors from across the New River Valley and beyond will be offering free services (e.g., blood pressure, body mass, bone density, skin cancer, vision, and hearing screenings, immunizations)

and information. Exhibitors also include professionals sharing nutrition, exercise, in-home health services, and home renovation – a full range of services that promote "Good Health – Good Life!" We will be having a blood drive at the fair, along with the Veterans' Center mobile unit. A major attraction will be our keynote speaker, Dr. Michael Friedlander of the Virginia Tech-Carilion Research Institute, who will be speaking between 11:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. on the up-to-date research on aging and Q&A to help us all lead more informed and happier lives.

Funds raised from the Health and Wellness Fair goes are donated to various community

projects in the area the New River Valley Agency on Aging and the Community Foundation of the New River Valley. Proceeds from the Fair also provide scholarships for medical students who will go into the geriatric field of study at VCOM.

For more information on the AARP Blacksburg Health and Wellness Fair, visit <https://www.blacksburgaarp.org/2024-health-and-wellness-fair> or contact Sue Magliaro at sumags@vt.edu. To donate blood and avoid waiting, go to https://donate.thebloodconnection.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/267451.

AARP Blacksburg

Kiwanis Wilderness Trail Festival coming to downtown Christiansburg

The 51st annual Kiwanis Wilderness Trail Festival will take place in downtown Christiansburg Saturday, Sept. 21, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Vendors will extend on Main Street from town hall to Burger King. A record number of vendors have registered this year. The event, with title sponsor Atlantic Union Bank, will include the local arts and crafts vendors, craft demonstrations, an enhanced children's area, two stages, an emergency services location, great food all day, raffles, a silent auction, and more.

The children's area, located in front of Atlantic Union Bank and sponsored by ATMOS Energy, will include inflatables, face painting, Chuckles the Clown, and first responder vehicles located just across Main Street on South Franklin Street.

In the heritage and skills area, live crafters will be located on West Main Street in front of the Dollar General Store. This area will include two blacksmiths; a millstone preservationist; two leather handcrafters; a basket maker; a knitting demonstrator; a broom maker and the NRV Beekeeper Association.

Two stages will provide entertainment during the day. The community stage, sponsored by Shentel, will be in the medical parking lot at the intersection of West Main Street and South

Hickok Street. The town stage sponsored by SAS and CMG will be located at the junction of East Main and Pepper Street. Both stage performances begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m.

There will be 12 food vendors preparing and cooking fresh food. The food court will be located at the intersection of North Franklin and Main streets and in front of the museum.

In past years, the arts and crafts festival has drawn from 8,000 to 10,000 attendees from all over Virginia and neighboring states. All proceeds from the event benefit youth-focused programs of the Kiwanis Club of Christiansburg. The Kiwanis Club assumed operation of the festival from the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce in 2009.

Admission to the event and parking are free.

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world, one child and one community at a time. The Kiwanis Club of Christiansburg has provided service to our local community since the charter was granted in 1949.

For more information, call 540-230-7803 or visit www.wildernesstrailfestival.com.

Kiwanis Club of Christiansburg



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE KIWANIS CLUB

The annual Wilderness Trail Festival always brings a big crowd to downtown Christiansburg.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, Sept. 11:

Closing ceremony for Field of Honor

Radford Noon Rotary and Glencoe Mansion will host a closing ceremony of the "Field of Honor" at Glencoe Mansion at 5 p.m. with an opening of bagpipe music provided by musician Andrew Meeks. Official ceremony at 5:30 p.m. including remarks from Radford Mayor David Horton, City Council Member Jessie Foster, Rev. Dr. Gina Rhea of Unity Christian Church, and 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 p.m.

Blacksburg Farmers Market

At Market Square Park, 100 Draper Rd SW, Blacksburg; 2 – 6 p.m. The 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.

Friday, Sept. 13:

Glencoe Mansion art exhibit by Sidra Kaluszka

Glencoe Mansion, Museum & Gallery will host "Do You Dream In Color," an art exhibition by artist Sidra Kaluszka for September and October. The public is invited to the opening reception Friday, Sept. 13, 5:30 – 7 p.m. at Glencoe Mansion, located at 600 Unruh Dr. in Radford, to view the works on display and meet the artist. The reception is free to attend and open to all; the exhibition will be on display from now until Oct. 27.

Saturday, Sept. 14:

Better Together: Rockin' Food Truck Rodeo

The Town of Christiansburg and Downtown Christiansburg, Inc. are teaming up for a new and exciting event. Better Together: Rockin' Food Truck Rodeo combines two major Town events: Rockin' Main Street Concert and the Food Truck Rodeo. Because of this partnership, there will be more delicious food truck options and more live music to enjoy! An area will also be designated for craft beer and wine purchases. From 3-9 p.m. in Downtown Christiansburg.

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.

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. 15:

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/.

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.

Monday, Sept. 23:

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.

Tuesday, Sept. 24:

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. 28:

Pilot Community Center Celebration

The Pilot Community Center (former Pilot School) was recently added to the State and National Registers of Historic Places. Celebrate these designations and also honor former teachers and students of the Pilot School, 1 p.m. Pilot Community Center, 4449 Brush Creek Road, Pilot. Unveiling of historical designation plaques, live music, refreshments, prizes, and lots of good memories. This event is free to the public.

Annual Blues, Brews & BBQ

Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Foundation's 9th Annual Blues, Brews & BBQ, noon – 5 p.m., 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 for purchase from Blue Ridge Beverage, Kirk's Famous BBQ, and Next Door Bake Shop. NAACP and The League of Women Voters will provide voter registration information. Free parking at the Gilbert Street Parking Garage. 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/>.

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.

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.org.

Virginia gas prices continue to drop

Average gasoline prices in Virginia have fallen 7.0 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.12/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia. Prices in Virginia are 23.4 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 43.7 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has declined 4.5 cents in the last week and stands at \$3.62 per gallon- the lowest since early 2022.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$2.66/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$3.99/g, a difference of \$1.33/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.66/g while the highest was \$3.99/g, a difference of \$1.33/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 7.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.22/g today. The national average is down 22.5 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 58.8 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:

September 9, 2023: \$3.55/g (U.S. Average: \$3.80/g)
September 9, 2022: \$3.48/g (U.S. Average: \$3.71/g)
September 9, 2021: \$2.99/g (U.S. Average: \$3.17/g)
September 9, 2020: \$2.11/g (U.S. Average: \$2.19/g)
September 9, 2019: \$2.31/g (U.S.

Average: \$2.56/g)
September 9, 2018: \$2.62/g (U.S. Average: \$2.84/g)
September 9, 2017: \$2.56/g (U.S. Average: \$2.66/g)
September 9, 2016: \$1.99/g (U.S. Average: \$2.18/g)
September 9, 2015: \$2.12/g (U.S. Average: \$2.38/g)
September 9, 2014: \$3.18/g (U.S. Average: \$3.43/g)

Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:

Roanoke- \$3.00/g, down 13.0 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.13/g.

Richmond- \$3.15/g, down 7.2 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.22/g.

West Virginia- \$3.15/g, down 7.4 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.22/g.

"Impressively, for the sixth straight week, gas prices have dropped to their lowest since winter. GasBuddy now counts 11 states and over 45,000 stations with gas prices below \$3 per gallon," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "We fully expect gas prices will continue to drop as Americans drive less with the onset of fall. With oil prices falling below \$70 per barrel, their lowest since 2021, there's solid room for gas prices and diesel to continue falling for some time. We expect the national average could fall below \$3 per gallon as early as October for the first time since 2021, which would be music to the ears of motorists and certainly to politicians who are angling to be elected this fall."

GasBuddy

Focus on stressed-out parents warranted, important

A recent surgeon general's advisory outlining an urgent need to support increasingly stressed-out parents highlights an important and growing issue, says a Virginia Tech expert.

Rosanna Breaux, a psychologist at Virginia Tech who directs the Child Study Center, said how well parents manage their emotions is crucial for the health of both themselves and their children.

"Parents not only need to stay calm themselves, but they also need to help their children, especially younger ones, manage their emotions," she said.

Breaux said managing parental stress and decreasing emotion dysregulation is an issue that deserves attention and more research.

She noted that programs aimed at helping parents and children are often done separately, with different therapists treating the parent and child. These therapists often don't communicate much with each other due to ethical and practical reasons.

As a mom, Breaux said she understands parental stress firsthand.

"Navigating postpartum depression, the strong emotions that result from hormonal changes,

and the feelings of uncertainty and helplessness that come with being a new parent, I was certainly overwhelmed at times; especially in trying to find a new work-life balance," she said.

Breaux says there has been growing recognition over the past decade of the need for better interventions that simultaneously consider parent and child mental health, with interventions specifically targeting parent mental health (e.g., depression, anxiety, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder [ADHD]) and emotion dysregulation through therapy or pharmacological treatment. "This is critical, particularly for disorders with high heritability such as ADHD and autism, especially since many parents of children with these neurodevelopmental conditions display both emotion dysregulation and increased risk for a range of psychological disorders."

Breaux explains that this is also important for families of adolescents with personality disorder traits such as borderline personality disorder, which has modest heritability and is often characterized by emotional regulation and challenges in the parent-child relationship.

Virginia Tech



News Messenger

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OBITUARIES

Carden, Helen Quesenberry

Helen Quesenberry Carden, 80, of Dublin, passed away Friday, Sept. 6, 2024.

She was a member of Jubilee Christian Church and a former para-aide with Pulaski County Schools. She was preceded in death by her parents, Ralph W. and Mary E. Quesenberry; her husband, Carroll Kenneth Carden; brothers, Jack and Timmy Quesenberry; and sisters, JoAnn Saunders and Penny Hagee.

Survivors include her son, Patrick Carden (Amy); grandchildren, Kameron



Carden and Kaci Ann Carden; brother, Tommy Quesenberry (alice); brother-in-law, Mike Saunders; sister-in-law, Shirl Quesenberry; special friends, Betty Creasy and

Mae Simpson; many nieces and nephews; and many other relatives and friends.

The family will receive friends from 12 - 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2024, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services will begin at 2 p.m. with Rev. Gary Hash officiating. Interment will follow in Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin.

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

Leach, Nancy Phillips

Nancy Phillips Leach, 93, of Blacksburg, died Friday, Aug. 30 while in hospice care at Kroontje Center, Warm Hearth Village in Blacksburg.

She was born Sept. 19, 1930 in Washington, DC, the only child of Albert Jefferson Phillips and Ruth Hamby Phillips.

Nancy grew up in the Maryland and Washington, DC areas and went to the Washington, DC Quaker school for six years, graduating first in her class. She attended Converse College in Spartanburg, S.C., graduating with a Bachelor of Arts as a sociology major. She worked in her father's insurance business prior to her marriage. After her marriage to Hugh Underwood "Woody" Leach on March 28, 1953, the couple lived in Germany where he was stationed in the US Army until 1955. They arrived in Blacksburg in 1958 after Woody completed divinity school at Union Theological Seminary in Richmond. Nancy worked as a secretary for Woody for five years prior to childrearing. In later years, she enjoyed



working in clothing sales and volunteering in the Blacksburg Presbyterian Church preschool, the American Red Cross blood bank and visiting and supporting friends with illnesses. She was a member of Blacksburg Presbyterian Church.

She was preceded in death by her adult son, Christopher "Chris" Underwood Leach of California, her granddaughter, Ashley Dowdy, and grandson, Joshua Michael Dowdy, both of Christiansburg, and her husband, Woody, of 64 years. She was also preceded by her brother-in-law, Neil Calvin Leach of Greensboro, N.C., and sister-in-law, Martha O'Neal Leach.

She is survived by two daughters: Sherill Leach Dowdy of Christiansburg

and Susan Phillips Borenstein of North Chesterfield, Va.; three grandchildren: Zachary, Elyse and Leah Borenstein; three great grandchildren: Mason, Max and Maddox Price; and one brother-in-law: Dan Blanchard Leach and wife, Genevieve, of Greensboro, N.C.

A graveside service with inurnment of cremains was held at Memorial Gardens of the New River Valley, 2551 N. Main St., Blacksburg Tuesday, Sept. 10 with the Rev. Steve Darr and the Rev. Dr. Sarah Wiles of Blacksburg Presbyterian Church officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: Blacksburg Presbyterian Church 701 Church Street SE, Blacksburg, VA 24060; UKirk Ministry at Virginia Tech (formerly called "Cooper House") 305 Washington Street SW, Blacksburg, VA 24060; and Doctors Without Borders, www.doctorswithoutborders.org.

Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Drive SW, Blacksburg, VA 24060, 540-552-3211.

Hawks, Sandra Long

Sandra Long Hawks, 72, of Dublin, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2024.

She was preceded in death by her son, Martin Jay Hawks; parents Albert Thomas and Mary Blake Long; her loving husband, Phillip Jay Hawks; and her brother-in-law, Dillard Wayne Akers.

Left to cherish her memory include her sons, Richard Andrew Hawks of Lilly Dell, Va., and David Wayne Hawks of Oak Ridge, N.C.; daughter and son-in-law, Tammy Hawks Windle and Tim of Salisbury, N.C.; grandchildren, Christopher Chase Sarver of Ohio, Zoey Elizabeth



Hawks of Winston-Salem, N.C., DeAnna Leigh Hawks of Lilly Dell, Va., Alexander James Hawks, and Nicholas George Hawks (Kathryn "Kassie"), both of Calif.; great-granddaughter, Ruth Lanore Windle; sisters, Sharon Akers and

Janice Lodge (Mike); special friend, Shawn "Sparkie" Fisher; and many other nieces, nephews, relatives and an abundance of friends.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2024, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford with Ronald Smith officiating. Entombment followed at Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Christiansburg.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Joy Ranch, 813 Joy Ranch Rd, Woodlawn, VA 24381.

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

New Mount Olive Church hosts fish fry to support Christiansburg Institute



PHOTO COURTESY OF NEW MOUNT OLIVE CHURCH

Church member William Wolford makes fried fish for customers at a previous fish fry.

RADFORD - New Mount Olive United Methodist Church is hosting its next fish fry this Saturday, Sept. 14 and proceeds will benefit Christiansburg Institute.

The New Mount Olive Methodist Church Men's will be cooking all the food from scratch. The fish fry is being sponsored by the Christiansburg Institute Alumni Association. The fry is set for 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the church, located at 309 Russell Ave. in Radford.

The menu and prices are: Dinners: \$13, includes two pieces of deep-fried fish, baked beans, coleslaw rolls and dessert. Fish sandwiches: \$6, includes one piece of fish on a bun with coleslaw. Extra piece of fish: \$3.50.

For call -in orders call

the church at (540)-639-6425. Delivery is also available, only in the Radford area.

Staff report

JBR VINEYARDS & Winery
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PRESENTS

The 5th. Annual

PAW PAW FESTIVAL

Way Down Yonder In The Paw Patch.

Sat., Sept. 28, '24. Sun., Sept. 29, '24

Fisher Peak Timber Rattlers. Bobby Parker

Noon to Five O'clock

1360 Springdale Road, Pearisburg, Va. 24134

No Admission Fee. Child and dog friendly.

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facebook.com/jbrwine - www.jbrvineyards.com



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Campus leaders and lawmakers along with Pat and Nancy Artis officially cut the ribbon to the new Artis Center.

Radford cuts ribbon on Artis Center for Adaptive Innovation and Creativity

RADFORD - Radford University celebrated the opening of its new Artis Center for Adaptive Innovation and Creativity with a ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony on Sept. 5, 2024.

The new center, which opened to students at the beginning of the 2024 fall semester, is a state-of-the-art complex that fuses the arts, health sciences and technology in modern teaching environments tailored to stimulate creativity and innovation.

"Students will experience classroom settings that are tailored to their needs, designed for maximum learning and exchange and where they can still find that out-of-the-way nook for a late-night study or a group practice session," Radford University President Bret Danilowicz, Ph.D., said at the Thursday afternoon ceremony. "We are only just beginning to understand the Artis Center's full potential, but the possibilities are endless."

The 178,000 square-foot Artis Center is the largest academic building on Radford's campus, as well as the largest capital construction project in the history of the university. The Artis Center is home to the university's College of Visual and Performing Arts and benefits students in the Waldron College of Health and Human Services and the College of Nursing. Additionally, the Artis Center is a destination for regional K-12 school groups and community members.

The Artis Center houses a 500-

seat proscenium theatre, 200-seat studio theatre, a performance hub with learning stairs and a courtyard with an amphitheater.

Educational spaces include a group clinic space with six clinic spaces and observation rooms, a large active-learning classroom for nursing, recording studio, photography and ceramics labs, Maker Space, fashion and interior design studios, active-learning classrooms, dance studios, theatre studios and shops, drawing and painting studios, and music education and music therapy classrooms.

The Artis Center is named for Pat and Nancy Artis, the latter a 1973 Radford University graduate and the recipient of an honorary doctorate in 2021. Pat Artis serves as an educator in Virginia Tech's Department of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering.

Pat and Nancy Artis "have been extraordinary supporters of Radford University in all ways volunteering together on the TOGETHER Campaign Steering Committee, serving as role models to inspire others to both give back and pay it forward, and providing philanthropic funds in support of facilities, student scholarships and more," President Danilowicz said.

"Pat and Nancy," the president continued, "thank you for all you do for Radford University. You are creating a legacy at this institution that will live in perpetuity."

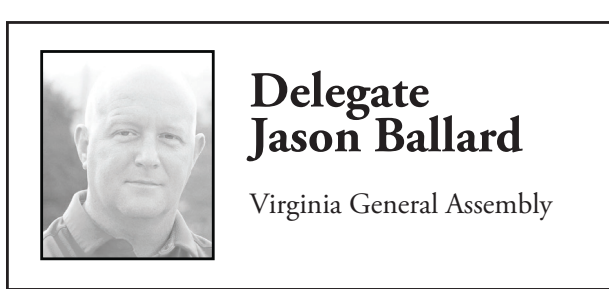
Radford University

OPINION

Delegate laments speed of federal broadband funds to Virginia

In early August, I wrote about the exciting announcement regarding Virginia's expansion of broadband infrastructure in the form of a \$4.2 million grant to Giles County. While the Commonwealth continues to lead the way in how it handles broadband deployment in comparison to peer states, so far, the federal government has not held up to its end of the bargain. This is the troubling news that was recently reported in a Politico article titled "Biden and Harris promised billions for broadband. Here's why states are still waiting."

The issue at hand is the Biden-Harris administration's handling of the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD), which is slated to provide nearly \$1.5 billion to Virginia in order to complete universal broadband infrastructure buildout. To this point, Virginia has not received any of this funding from the federal government, even though the Commonwealth was the first state in the nation to apply for it almost a year ago. As a refresher, the BEAD program was part of the Biden-Harris administration's infrastructure package that was passed into law several years ago. As part of its passage, states accepting the grant funding have to follow vague rules, such as providers having to "plan for climate change" and



Delegate Jason Ballard
Virginia General Assembly

"require reasonable prices," although the administration didn't clearly lay out what these rules actually entailed. Herein lies the heart of the issue; something that other states across the nation have experienced as well.

There are electoral ramifications to the ongoing struggle of the federal government to disburse these desperately needed funds. The Youngkin administration, which has made it a focal point to expand our broadband infrastructure through the Virginia Telecommunications Initiative, is doing its part to bridge the gap until the federal funds arrive. The Biden-Harris administration is making it very easy for Virginia Republicans to make the case that – even in the face of federal government ambivalence – we still find a way to get things done.

It's no secret that Virginia is a national leader in telecommunications, and the United States relies upon our connectivity. We host important defense agencies and the many contractors that support them, as well as corporations with worldwide reach. We are also home to many people, often in rural communities like ours, who are prevented from taking part in the broader economy due to lack of consistent internet access. The lack of access can affect other things closer to home, like property values and educational opportunities. The Biden-Harris administration's failure to deliver this critical funding to the Commonwealth in a timely fashion is beginning to appear like an "over-promise, under-deliver" situation, and in the meantime, over 100,000 Virginia residents and businesses continue to suffer slow connection speeds. They must do better.

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.

The following is a statement released by Senators Warner and Kaine on July 26, 2024 regarding federal broadband funding:

Warner and Kaine announce Virginia cleared a major hurdle to expand broadband

Approval of Virginia's initial proposal means \$1.5 billion is headed to Virginia soon

WASHINGTON — U.S. Sens. Mark R. Warner and Tim Kaine (both D-VA) have announced a huge step towards the deployment of \$1,481,489,527.87 in federal funding to expand access to high-speed internet in Virginia.

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) approved Volume 2 of Virginia's Initial Proposal under the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program, an important step that demonstrates Virginia has a strong plan to expand broadband and is on track to receive its funding allocation.

"Today's announcement brings us one step closer to accessing our historic \$1.5 billion award and expanding

high-speed internet access to more families and businesses across Virginia," said Sen. Warner. "Virginia has a strong plan to get us closer to universal coverage, and this funding will help make that plan a reality. I'm proud to have authored and negotiated the law that made this possible, and I'm ready to work to make sure it's implemented as quickly and efficiently as possible so more Virginians have access to high-speed internet."

"Broadband is a necessity for Virginians to access telehealth, online education programs, job opportunities, and so much more. Boosting access to broadband is key to building on our economic progress, which is why I'm happy that the National Telecommunications and Information Administration has approved the next step in Virginia's BEAD program plan," said Sen. Kaine. "I'm glad to have helped pass the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that made this investment possible."

Following the approval, Virginia has one year to submit a final proposal that will detail how the Commonwealth will ensure service to all unserved locations. Once the final proposal is approved, funds will be deployed and implementation can begin.

In June 2023, Sens. Warner and Kaine announced the \$1.5 billion allocation, which was made possible by the BEAD Program in the bipartisan infrastructure law – landmark legislation authored and negotiated by Sen. Warner and

Sen. Kaine. The BEAD Program seeks to expand high-speed internet access by funding planning, infrastructure deployment and adoption programs. Specifically, the funding will be utilized by the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) to get Virginians high-speed internet, defined as 100 Megabits/second (Mbps) for downloads and 20 Mbps for uploads. VATI will first prioritize 134,000 unserved locations (those lacking internet service speeds of 25 Mbps for downloads and 3 Mbps for uploads) and then 28,000 underserved locations (those lacking 100 Mbps/20 Mbps upload/download speeds).

Also, through the bipartisan infrastructure law, Sens. Warner and Kaine secured \$65 billion in funding to help deploy broadband and decrease costs associated with connecting to the internet. As part of that funding, Virginia received \$5 million to help make a strategic plan to deploy coverage.

Sens. Warner and Kaine have long fought to expand access to broadband in Virginia, including by advocating for the accurate reporting of Virginia's connectivity status. In 2022, Sen. Warner called on Virginians to contact the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regarding internet coverage in their communities. Following the FCC's reporting deadline, Sen. Warner called attention to a significant number of locations in Virginia that were incorrectly reported on the FCC broadband coverage map

News Messenger

Established 1869

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USPS 016-490 Online: www.ourvalley.org

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

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

History from page 1

Through pictures from her grandparents and ancestors, Surface has documentation stating that entrance under the original portion of the house is where William Preston died. The photo she has reads, "WM Preston died in yard" with the number 795. William Preston did die near Price's Fork due to what is suspected to either have been heat stroke or a heart attack in 1783.

Surface explained that the Price home that her paternal grandparents lived in, was a farm where they milled grain, and raised hogs for meat. She reminisced about playing with her siblings in the old granary by climbing up one side and sliding down the other.

When the home was owned by her family, Surface explained that local community members would come to her grandfather, John Will Shepherd, for cornmeal and flour that they milled as well as meat from the pigs they farmed, to last them through the hard times. Surface explained that the brick portion of the home was built by the enslaved people and the walls were about a foot thick. The brick portion did not have rooms downstairs, but two large rooms upstairs as it was an addition to the original part of the Price home.

"You had to go down in the ground," Surface explained, "to get to the old kitchen part. It had a little window, from about two-by-

two-foot wide, under it was a slot that my dad said his dad told him that that's where they could shoot out at 'Indians'."

Surface remembers when they plowed, they'd turn up arrowheads and flint stones. She remembers her siblings playing with flint stones and creating sparks as children. One of the porches, Surface explained, was not enclosed and the children of her family were not allowed on that porch growing up.

Surface's family has since stayed in the area, but Surface does not live on the property her grandparents once owned. She lives in a home that she and her husband built for 'eighty dollars worth of materials' in 1962.

CROSSWORD

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<p>CLUES ACROSS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undergarments for women 5. Periods of time 9. Dramatist Henrik 14. Any thick messy substance 15. Examination 16. Japanese city 17. Daze with a blow 18. With fireplace residue 19. Synthetic acrylic fabric fiber 20. Pittsburgh University 23. Scorched 24. Potato state (abbr.) 25. Anger 26. Suitable for use as food 31. To wipe out, obliterate 35. Used of unskilled work, esp. domestic 36. Loose earth, soil 37. Petrol container 	<p>CLUES DOWN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pear variety 2. The Sator-___ Square 3. Light purplish-blue 4. Plants of the genus Cassia 5. Shelf unit for ornaments 6. Live in 7. Arthur ___, Wimbledon champion 8. A thwarting and distressing obstruction 9. Cut off from others 10. Tree trunk outgrowth 11. Tower used for storing silage 12. Br. public boys school 13. ___ Ling mountain range 21. ___ Clapton, musician 22. Mild yellow Dutch cheese 27. Peruvian province 28. Diagonal cut of cloth 29. A narrow path or road 	<p>CLUES ACROSS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 30. Fraternal Order of ___ 31. The boundary of a surface 32. Granular old snow 33. Rt. angle cleaving tool 34. Irreducible material 39. Oldest man-made rayon fiber 40. Affirmative! (slang) 41. Burial cloths 42. Surface layer of grass & roots 44. Not shaky 45. Kidney-shaped nut 48. Nursemaids in India 49. Alkali bee genus 50. Warble 51. A citizen of Denmark 52. Approves food 53. Golf ball supports 54. Pearl Harbor actress Rue 55. Coarse curly-leaved greens 56. Cancer detecting smear
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Yard Sales - Fincastle

Neighborhood Yard Sale
Saturday, September 14th
8am to Noon

Diamond Crest Hills subdivision is located just off Route 11 in the Mill Creek Area of Botetourt County and includes Marquise Drive, Regent Street, and Briquette Court.

All those participating will sell from their own homes. Wedding Items, Tools, Longaberger, Lawn Equipment, Clothes, Kitchen and Household items and other great treasures await you!

Help Wanted

TORC Robotics, Inc.: Software Engineer 2:
 Position located in Blacksburg, VA but eligible to work from anywhere in the U.S. Implement & maintain in cloud-based data management solutions at petabyte scale. Resp. for working closely w/Autonomy engineers to drive technical road map of AWS-native ETL & storage solutions that power data driven analytics, simulation & training. MS or forgn equiv CE, CS or related. Alternatively, a BS or forgn equiv CE, CS or rtd. w/5 yrs software exp. For full skills: <https://torc.ai/careers/>. Send resume to: careers@torc.ai

Legals - Botetourt County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
 Case No. **CL24-231**
 VIRGINIA:
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOTETOURT COUNTY

SPECIALIZED LOAN SERVICING LLC Plaintiff(s),
 V.
 ESTATE OF WANDA P. MCKINNEY and UNKNOWN HEIRS OF WANDA P. MCKINNEY Defendant(s).

Case No.: CL24-231
ORDER OF PUBLICATION
 Petitioner, Commonwealth Trustees, LLC ("Commonwealth"), by counsel, and upon its Affidavit of Order of Publication requesting an Order of Publication, and IT APPEARING that the object of this suit is quiet title to the property located at 222 Cove Mountain Road, Buchanan, Virginia 24066 ("Subject Property"); and
 IT APPEARING that Wanda P. McKinney, the record owner of the Property, is deceased and no estate has been opened or List of Heirs or Real Estate Affidavit filed in the land records of this Court; and
 IT APPEARING that due diligence has been used to locate Defendants Estate of Wanda P. McKinney or the Unknown Heirs of Wanda P. McKinney ("McKinney Parties Unknown"); and
 IT APPEARING that the last known address for Wanda P. McKinney is 222 Cove Mountain Road, Buchanan, Virginia 24066; and
 IT APPEARING that it is 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,

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, Buchanan, Virginia 24066; and it is further
 ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED, that

Legals - Botetourt County

McKinney Parties Unknown must on or before the 18th 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. McKinney at the last known address of Wanda P. McKinney, 222 Cove Mountain Road, Buchanan, 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 #42862
 Sara Tusse, VSB #79826
 Jeff Fox, VSB#50986 ROSENBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC 4340 East West Highway, Suite 600 Bethesda, MD 20814 Telephone: 301.907.8000 Facsimile: 301.907.8101 Sara.Tussey@rosenberg-assoc.com Thomas.Hodge@rosenberg-assoc.com
Counsel for Plaintiff

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, page 17. Tax ID: 109-95B/31076.
TERMS OF SALE: A bidder's deposit of \$12,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required in the form of a certified or cashier's check. Cash will not be accepted as a deposit. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustee may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale.
 This is a communication from a debt collector. This notice is an attempt to collect on a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. (Trustee # 24-006071)
 Substitute Trustee: ALG Trustee, LLC C/O Orleans PC PO Box 2548, Leesburg, VA 20177 (703) 777-7101 website: www.Orleans.com The Vendor auction.com will be used in conjunction with this sale. Potential Bidders: For sale information, please visit www.Auction.com or call (800) 280-2832.

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, Buchanan, Virginia 24066; and it is further
 ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED, that

Legals - Town of New Castle

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
 Case No. **CL17000170-01**
 VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CRAIG COUNTY

Legals - Town of New Castle

IN RE: MICHAEL L. CRAWFORD
4356 Craig Valley Drive
New Castle, Virginia
24127
Respondent.
CASE NO.: CL17000170-01
ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this suit is to appoint a guardian and conservator to care for the person and estate of the Respondent. And, based on an affidavit filed herein, the Court finds that there exists sufficient grounds for causing service of process by publication.

It is ORDERED that any and all unknown relatives who have any interest in this matter to appear at the above-named Court on or before the 12th day of November, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. to do whatever is necessary to protect their interests.

It is further ORDERED that this Order of Publication be published once a week for four consecutive weeks in The New Castle Record, Salem, Virginia, and that a copy hereof be posted on the front door of the Courthouse.

Certificate of Publication should be sent to this Court and billed to Mark C. Popovich, Esq., Counsel for Craig County Department of Social Services, whose mailing address is Guynn Waddell, P.C., 415 S. College Avenue, Salem, Virginia 24153.

ENTERED THIS: 30th day of August, 2024
 Sharon P. Oliver, Clerk

I ASK FOR THIS: Mark C. Popovich (VSB#46414) Matthew J. Schmitt (VSB#96513) Guynn Waddell, P.C. 415 S. College Avenue Salem, Virginia 24153 Tel: (540) 387-2320 Fax: (540) 389-2350 Counsel for Craig DSS

Legals - City of Salem

VDOT ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL 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.

Legals - City of Salem

Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov
 EEO/AA Employer

Legals - Montgomery County

VDOT 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 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 guaranteed payment for the season.

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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

TOWN OF BLACKSBURG - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

BLACKSBURG TOWN COUNCIL will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 24, 2024 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers of the Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 South Main Street, Blacksburg, regarding the following items:

Zoning Exception Request for Agricultural Use 301 Royal Lane (EXP-24-1): The exception request is to permit an agricultural use in the RR-1 zoning district on a lot that is less than two acres. The subject parcel is approximately one acre, and is located in the Farmview subdivision at the corner of Farmview Drive and Royal Lane. The applicant is requesting to keep one pig and two goats on the property as pets.

All persons affected by or interested in the proposed item above may appear and present their views. After each public hearing, Town Council will consider action on the item. Copies of materials related to the above items are on file and can be obtained in the Office of the Town Clerk, 300 South Main Street, Blacksburg, weekdays between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. For land use matters, copies of applications and all related items may also be found online at www.blacksburg.gov/public hearings or reviewed in person at the Blacksburg Planning and Building Department, 400 South Main Street, Blacksburg, Virginia. Individuals with disabilities who require

Legals - Montgomery County

special assistance to attend and participate in this meeting should contact Lorraine Spaulding, Town Clerk at (540) 443-1025 or 443-1000 (voice or TDD).

PUBLIC NOTICE Pursuant to the Virginia Voluntary Remediation Regulations, Virginia Administrative Code section 9VAC20-160-120,

the Town of Blacksburg (the Owner at 300 South Main Street, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060) hereby provides notice of voluntary remediation at the following site:
 Former Cooks Clean Center 414 North Main Street, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060 VRP Number VRP00697. Site investigation studies indicated elevated levels of dry cleaning solvents in soil and groundwater with confirmed vapor impacts to the subsurface and vapor intrusion potential within the building. Remediation efforts consisted of installation of an interim sub-slab vapor recovery system, monitoring adjoining properties, and sampling both groundwater and soil vapor for several years. Quantitative risk assessments determined that there were risks to human health and the environment requiring engineering and administrative controls to be placed upon the property. These efforts are documented and summarized in a report submitted to DEQ under the VRP entitled Voluntary Remediation Program Report VRP Site # 00697 (EEE Consulting, Inc., June 2019) and subsequent revisions submitted in December 2019 and August 2024. Therefore, the Owner is requesting a Certification of Satisfactory Completion of Remediation (Certificate) from DEQ through VRP. To protect human health and the environment, the Certificate will include deed restrictions 1) prohibiting groundwater use within the limits of the VRP site for any purpose other than environmental monitoring, 2) requiring sub-slab depressurization and air exchange within any building on the property, and 3) residential use restrictions and/or maintenance of an engineered barrier of two feet of clean fill, concrete, asphalt, or porous pavement. These institutional controls will remain in effect and run with the land. Anyone requesting further information or proposing any comments may call or write to Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc., Attn: Jeffrey A. Fisher, QEP. Tel: 540-953-0170. Email: jfisher@wetlands.com. Written comments will be received for 30 days following publication of this public notice.

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
 Case No. **CL24001343-00**
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
 Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073
 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* GAMALELDIN SHEPL ELKOTT v. TAMICA MAY WEST
 The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that TAMICA MAY WEST appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before OCTOBER 30, 2024.
 8/27/2024
 K. MIKE FLEENOR, JR. JUDGE

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
 Case No. **CL24000866-00**
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
 Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073
 Commonwealth of 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 above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before OCTOBER 30, 2024.
 AUGUST 23, 2024
 HONORABLE K. MIKE FLEENOR, JR. JUDGE
 TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

Legals - Montgomery County

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 & 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Montgomery County Planning Commission hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to hear citizen comments regarding the Planning Commission intention to act on the following Special Use Permit request:
 A request by James Crenshaw for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow a Short-Term Tourist Rental using the existing residential structure on property owned by James D Crenshaw and Eric C Smith. The property is located at 2836 Wrights Way, approximately 0.2 miles north of the intersection of Harding Avenue and Wrights Way. The property is further identified as tax parcel 041-A 38C (Parcel ID: 026792), 0.706 acres, zoned Residential (R-2) in the Mount Tabor Magisterial District. The property currently lies in an area designated as Residential Transition in the 2025 Comprehensive Plan. Copies of the proposed plans, applications, ordinances or amendments may be examined at the Department of Planning and GIS Services, County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 2A, Christiansburg, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or at <http://www.montgomerycountyva.gov/pendingapplications>.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 & 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Montgomery County Planning Commission hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on September 18, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to hear citizen comments regarding the Planning Commission intention to act on the following Ordinances:

A request by Jason and Niki Cowan (owners) for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow a commercial kennel located at 4342 Quince Road. The property is further identified as Tax Map 131-A 76 (Parcel ID: 018267), 49.639 acres, zoned Agricultural (A-1) in the Riner Magisterial District. The property currently lies in an area designated as Rural in the 2025 Comprehensive Plan.

Copies of the proposed plans, applications, ordinances or amendments may be examined at the Department of Planning and GIS Services, County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 2A, Christiansburg, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or at <http://www.montgomerycountyva.gov/pendingapplications>.

For Rent - Salem

FOR RENT
Coming soon!
 Lovely rental in Salem
 More details at 540.314.2211

Auction - Fincastle



Live Onsite Auction
Saturday, September 21st at 10a.m.
Estate of Harold and Bonnie Griffith
3314 Kanawha Trail, Covington, VA 24422

Listed Below is Partial List of the Personal Property Being Offered:
 Oak Washstand, Queen Size Bed Room Suit, Carnival Glass, Signed Footballs from VT and WVU, Ringer Washing Machine, Wood Cook Stove, Vintage Toys, Air Compressor, Generator, MANY TOOLS, Gravelly 424 Garden Tractor, Tillers, Cement Mixer, Weed Eaters, Soda Vending Machine, Blacksmith Forage, Pressure Washer, Copper Apple Butter Kettle, AND SO MUCH MORE THAT WE WILL BE DISCOVERING THE WEEK OF THE AUCTION!

Visit www.CircleCAuction.com For a More Up to Date List and Photos.
 Terms: 10% Buyers Premium, Cash, Good Check, Credit Card(4%), Everting is Offered "AS-IS". Not Responsible for Accidents, Announcements Day of The Auction Take Precedence of Any Written Matter. Food By Mill Creek Baptist Church.

TWO AUCTION RINGS RUNNING ALL DAY, BRING A FRIEND!
 Auctioneers: Cody L. Mansple VA AL#2907004430 G. Monty Bowman VA AL#2905001010
 Circle C Auction Company LLC VA AF#2908001046



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MONTGOMERY SPORTS

From the gridiron: Radford rebounds, Blacksburg and Christiansburg fall

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Radford High School avoided starting the season winless after taking last year's state title with a 35-35 double overtime win this past week over Giles.

Radford stopped a two-point conversion in the second extra to preserve the win.

Christiansburg ran into a buzz saw in the form of Abingdon, falling 31-28 for their first loss of the season.

Eastern Montgomery remained winless on their side of the county in a 41-0 shutout against Rural Retreat, and Blacksburg was blown out in a 62-3

contest against Lord Botetourt.

This week:
Christiansburg (1-1) at William Byrd (2-0)

Byrd is coming off a 61-0 romp over Hidden Valley. James Toler rushed eight times for 131 yards with four scores. Cannin Lutz also threw two touchdowns.

Floyd (1-1) at Blacksburg (1-1)

Floyd quarterback Sam Phillips rushed for two touchdowns and threw for another. He finished with 128 yards on 10 carries and was seven of 13 threw the air for 173 yards.

Radford (1-1) at Virginia High

A familiar program comes to Radford in Week three. Radford Coach Michael

Crist had been at Virginia High before coming to the New River Valley.

This past week, Virginia High beat John Battle 35-7 to be 2-0 on the early part of the season.

Radford QB Luke Gaither threw for five touchdowns in the 2OT win over Giles. Gaither finished 22-of-35 for 246 yards. Kemoni Kimbrough was his favorite target with two scores and 115 total yards. J.D. Grubb rushed for 81 yards on 19 carries. Pace Prioleau had 19 tackles in the win.

Northwood (0-2) at Eastern Montgomery (0-2)

Rye Cove is having the similar downs like Eastern Montgomery, falling 62-0

this past week to Rye Cove to be 0-2 on the season. This came on the heels of a 48-8 loss in the team's opener against Patrick Henry.

First Area Top 5 poll:
1) Glenvar (2-0)
2) William Byrd (2-0)
3) Salem (1-1)
4) Christiansburg (1-1)
5) Radford (1-1)

Who to watch: Floyd County.
Predictions for this week:
William Byrd 40, Christiansburg 17
Radford 32, Virginia High 31
Floyd 30, Blacksburg 28
Eastern Montgomery 20, Northwood 17

Christiansburg falls to Abingdon



Donovan Richardson (right) leaps high to successfully catch a TD pass from QB Izaiah Cotto.



Donovan Richardson (left) and Izaiah Cotto double-team to stop Abingdon's Owen Barr's progress on the field.



Matt Annis (front) tackles Abingdon's Lucas Honaker from behind with Colin Smith (back) providing support.

PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Four inducted to Blacksburg HOF

Blacksburg High School has announced four new members to the school's sports hall of fame. They include:

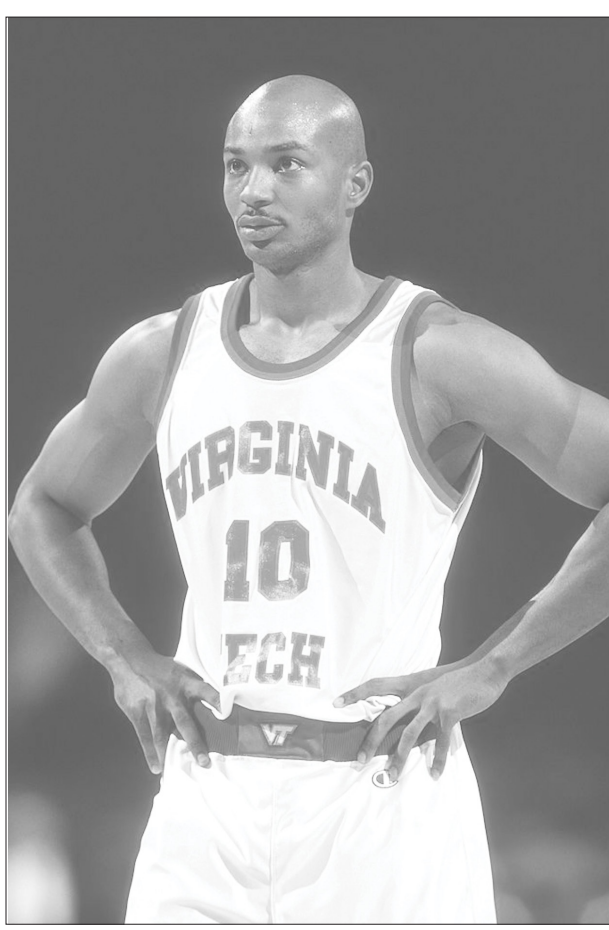
Kris Kittle Barnes, Class of 1983:
Barnes was a four-year letterman in outdoor track and field, most valuable sprinter 1981, 1982, 1983 and an outdoor track and field record holder for 30 years in the 100m, 200m, 400m, and 1600m relay (State Champions, 1982, held for 29 years).

She was a member of the State AA Champions outdoor track and field team 1982, 1983; State AA runners up outdoor track and field team 1980, 1981; Region AA runners up outdoor track and field team 1980-1983; and District AA champions outdoor track and field team 1980-1983.

Barnes was also a two-year letterman indoor track and field 1981, 1982; indoor track and field record holder in long jump, 55m, 300m, 1600m relay; two-year letterman gymnastics 1979, 1980 (captain); and state AA runners up gymnastics team, 1979.

She was a scholarship athlete at Auburn University and an Auburn University cross country team member in 1985 and 1986; an Auburn University indoor and outdoor track and field team member in 1984 and 1985 (letterman). She earned a B.S. in Elementary Education in 1987 from Auburn University.

After living in several states and in Germany, Barnes currently lives in Radford with husband, Bob (LTC U.S. Army, retired). They have two children, Brayden (25), and Abby (21).



Jay Purcell

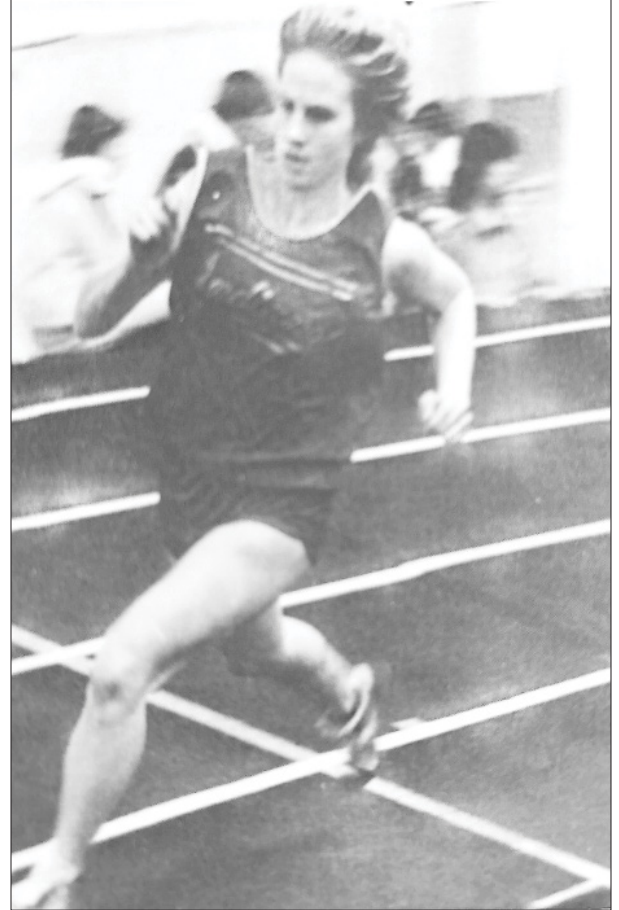


Jennifer Kittle

Jennifer Kittle, Class of 1986:
Kittle was a four-year Varsity Letterman Track and Field; 1983, 1984, 1985 State AA Track and Field Champions (Outdoor); 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986 AA District and Region Outdoor Champions; 1984, 1985, 1986 State AA 100m Hurdles Champion; and 1985, 1986 State AA 300m Hurdles Champion. In 1985, she set the AA state record in the 100m and 300m hurdles; 1985, 1986- 100m and 300m Hurdles All-State Award; 1986 All American Relays 100m Hurdles Record Holder; 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986 AA District and Region Indoor Champions; and Indoor Track and Field record holder in 55M Hurdles. Other awards include: 1985/1986- Lions Club H.B. Dillon Sportsmanship Award; 1984- BHS Outstanding Jumper/Sprinter/Hurdler (Indoor); 1984- BHS Outstanding Field Event Performer/Hurdler (Outdoor); 1985- BHS Outstanding Field Performer (Indoor); 1985, 1986 Outstanding sprinter Indoor/Outdoor; 1986- BHS Most Valuable Sprinter (Outdoor); and 1986- BHS Athletic Dept's Captain's Award.



Michael Mecham



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BLACKSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

She was awarded a D1 Scholarship to Auburn University and was a 1986, 1987, 1989 Auburn University Indoor/Outdoor T&F team member (letterman). She earned a B.S. in Finance.

Kittle currently lives in Blacksburg and has two children: Conner Winn (24) and Campbell Winn (21).

Michael Mecham, Class of 2012:
Mecham had an 82-2-11 record while a member of BHS Soccer team and was a member of the 2009 and 2010 State, Region, District Champions; 2011 State Finalists, Region, and District Champions; and 2012 State Semifinalist, Region, and District Champions teams. He was named 2009 and 2010 second team all-district. In 2011 had seven goals, three assists, first team All-district, first team All-region, and honorable mention all-state. In 2012, he had 22 goals and four assists and was named Most Valuable Player, Team Captain, 1st team All-District, 1st team All-Region, 1st team All-State, State AA Player of the year, Roanoke Timesland Player of the year, National Soccer Coaches of America (NSCAA) High School All-American, NSCAA Virginia Player of the Year in all classifications (private and public).

Mecham received a scholarship to and played four

years at Division 1 University of North Carolina at Wilmington. He also received a bachelor's degree in chemistry. He started in 71 games over four years; was Team Captain and second team All-CAA in 2015; 2016 season with professional side USL Wilmington Hammerheads; and 2018-2020 seasons with professional side USL League One South Georgia Tormenta.

He has served as an assistant coach at Greensboro College Men's team, has spent eight years coaching top youth teams in North Carolina and has earned his C-License from the United States Soccer Federation.

Mecham, his wife Alex and their two dogs, Riley and Bex, currently reside in Durham, N.C. where he works as a chemist and a youth soccer coach.

Jay Purcell, Class of 1990:
Purcell was a three-year letterman in Boys' Varsity basketball while playing point guard and was team Captain junior and senior year.

He received All-District Honors; sophomore, junior, and senior year; All Region Honors junior and senior year; was a member of the 1988 and 1989 District Tournament Championship team; member of the 1989 regional championship team and was a career 1000-point scorer for Blacksburg High School.

Purcell earned the VHSL Academic Excellence

Kris Kittle Barnes
Award in 1989 and 1990; earned a D-1 basketball scholarship to Virginia Tech; was a four-year starter while playing point guard at Virginia Tech in the Metro Conference, which was a basketball heavy conference; was named to the all-freshmen team for Metro Conference; team Captain in 1992, 1993 and 1994; Team MVP in 1993 and 1994; All Conference Team in 1994; All-Tournament Team in 1994; and was a career 1,000-point scorer for Virginia Tech.

He earned a Bachelor of Science in Marketing Education and currently resides in Charlotte, N.C. with his wife Carmen and their two children, Taylor (14) and Bryce (13).

The new HOF class will be recognized at halftime of this Friday's Blacksburg football game against Floyd.

Montgomery County Public Schools

NRV athletes participate in Knight's Cross Country race



Christiansburg's Mariah Reed placed 17th in the Knights Crossing Red race to lead the Blue Demons.



Blacksburg's Tess Dickhans placed 10th in the Knights Crossing Red race led the Bruin girls to a second-place team finish behind Cardinal Gibbons (North Carolina).



Blake Brown (left), Trevor Cole, and Easton Dobbins get started in the Knights Crossing Red race for Auburn. Brown placed 54th overall to pace the Eagles.



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING



Blacksburg's Asher Roach (right) embraces teammate Ryan Bagchi at the finish of Knights Crossing after they placed 9th and 10th in the Red race. The Blacksburg boys' team took first in the field of 57 teams at Green Hill Park on Saturday.

Eastern Montgomery's Aija McHone placed 19th in the Knights Crossing Black race at Green Hill Park.

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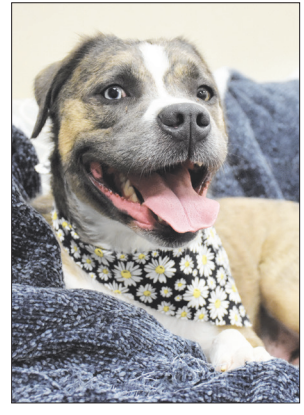
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