

RIVER RIDGE MALL: Three new dining options are coming to food hall. **A5**
HS FOOTBALL: SMLCA eyes improvements in second VHSL campaign. **B1**

The News & Advance

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HUMANKIND EARLY HEAD START PROVIDES FOOD FOR FAMILIES



MATTHEW PERSCHALL PHOTOS, THE NEWS & ADVANCE

Chris Phelps (right) hands fresh foods to Shanease Jones at HumanKind Early Head Start in Lynchburg on Wednesday. Once a month the organization provides food for the families in its program.

Once a month HumanKind Early Head Start in Lynchburg gives out fresh foods, provided by the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, for the 85 or so families in its program.

Employees and volunteers packed bags for its Bedford families and set up a food stand for the Lynchburg families to select from on Wednesday.



A packed bag of food at HumanKind Early Head Start in Lynchburg on Wednesday.



Heather Palm sorts through carrots at HumanKind Early Head Start in Lynchburg on Wednesday.

LYNCHBURG CITY SCHOOL BOARD

New committee brings in student input

Eyes neighborhood model for removing achievement barriers, providing support

MADI KIRKMAN
The News & Advance

The Lynchburg City School Board's new Achievement, Opportunity and Action Committee (AOAC) heard from

students and explored a neighborhood-based model to connect families with resources and remove barriers to achievement. At its second-ever meeting last week, the AOAC agreed to start piloting this model in just one neighborhood. "Not trying to really tackle the whole city, but setting it up with a neighborhood, and then from that point, once we have things set up, then being able to kind

of duplicate that neighborhood to neighborhood," said District 2 board member Jibri Poe, who started the AOAC. The committee's purpose is to identify barriers that may be impacting student success and strengthen support systems. When it first met in June, the committee discussed ways to engage the community and identify existing local

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COMMERCE DEPT. REPORT

Economic growth in Q2 hit by slowdown

But, strong domestic demand underscored by investment in AI, robust consumer spending

LUCIA MUTIKAN
Reuters

WASHINGTON — U.S. economic growth slowed in the second quarter as imports widened the trade deficit, but robust consumer spending and business investment related to the build out of artificial intelligence infrastructure underscored strong domestic demand. The moderation reported by the Commerce Department in its snapshot of gross domestic product Thursday also reflected continued inventory drawdown to meet the strong demand as well as the reduction of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, which weighed on federal government expenditures. The report suggested the economy weathered the initial oil price shock from the Middle East conflict, though renewed hostilities

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AMHERST COUNTY

Motion seeks to dismiss charges in death of child

Man is accused of involuntary manslaughter and child abuse

JUSTIN FAULCONER
The News & Advance

The attorney for an Amherst County man accused of involuntary manslaughter and child abuse in connection with a toddler found unresponsive in a vehicle filed a motion seeking to dismiss the charges due to lack of venue.

Brian Lee Dalton, 33, was charged after Amherst County sheriff's deputies responded July 31, 2025, to 5005 S. Amherst Highway in Madison Heights and found a child in a vehicle who



Dalton

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Weather

Mostly sunny
High: 87 Low: 62
Forecast: A8

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