



NFL MVP power rankings: New No. 1 after Josh Allen’s rough game

SPORTS, 1B

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Camp LIGHT’s next chapter gets major boost



A rendering shows the future 4,800-square-foot dining hall at Creative Works Farm’s Camp LIGHT. PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CREATIVE WORKS FARM

Two philanthropic foundations donate \$200,000

Monique Calello
Staunton News Leader
USA TODAY NETWORK

A \$200,000 gift from two philanthropic foundations is bringing Creative Works Farm’s vision for a new dining hall at Camp LIGHT in Waynesboro closer to reality and encouraging additional community support for the project.

The Tess Majors Foundation and the Devine-Majors Foundation jointly contributed \$200,000 toward the Camp LIGHT dining hall project. The foundations are also inviting the community to match their contribution through additional charitable donations.

The community match is not a condition of the foundations’ gift. Instead, according to Creative Works Farm, the challenge is intended to encourage broader community participation and build on the foundations’ investment in the project.

“This is about so much more than a building,” said Kelly Truxell, director of Creative Works Farm. “This dining hall will give us the space to create more opportunities for children and adults with disabilities and at-risk youth to learn, socialize, develop new skills and simply



A \$200,000 gift will help fund the facility and expand year-round services for children and adults with disabilities and at-risk youth.

belong.

“We are incredibly grateful to the Tess Majors Foundation and Devine-Majors Foundation for investing in this vision and inviting our community to be part of it.”

According to the organization, the

project includes an approximately 4,800-square-foot dining hall and an additional 4,800-square-foot lower level. The main level of the dining hall will offer healthy meal options for

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FCC delays Verizon copper wire decision

Lyra Bordelon
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The Federal Communications Commission delayed a determination on allowing Verizon to phase out copper phone lines.

When Verizon Wireless previously asked the FCC to discontinue traditional copper-based landline phone service in favor of modern fiber lines, it caught the attention of several officials who represent rural Augusta County.

The FCC was expected to automatically render a decision by Sept. 26, but the governing body said the day before it would push a decision back, allowing more time to review the proposed phase out.

“The application as filed with the Commission will not be automatically granted,” reads the FCC’s public notice. “We emphasize that our removal of Verizon’s application from the automatic grant process is not a final determination on the merits of Verizon’s request for authority to discontinue service.”

The Augusta County Board of Supervisors objected to the change in a letter to the FCC approved by the board Sept. 9. The letter warns federal officials that cellular service is limited in areas of Augusta County, especially in the west and southeastern areas of the county, “making cellular unsuitable as a replacement for cooper-based telephone service.”

Sixth District Rep. Ben Cline also sent a letter asking the FCC to take in more information before rendering a decision. The letter asked the FCC to provide a written response in order to:

- “Confirm that a genuinely adequate replacement service, meeting the reliability and 911-access expectations the Commission has articulated, is available at each affected location before any discontinuance in the Sixth District takes effect.”
- “Ensure that affected constituents receive clear, timely notice and a realistic transition window, along with accessible information about their options.”

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Large police presence on I-81 in Verona, part on interstate shut down

Patrick Hite and Brad Zinn
Staunton News Leader
USA TODAY NETWORK

VERONA — Authorities have shut down southbound Interstate 81 following an incident near Exit 227.

A large police presence is currently on the interstate.

The News Leader will update this story once additional information is made available.

Brad Zinn is the cops, courts and breaking news reporter at The News Leader. Have a news tip? Or something that needs investigating? You can email reporter Brad Zinn (he/him) at bzinn@newsleader.com. You can also follow him on X (formerly Twitter).



Virginia State Police and Augusta County Sheriff’s Office deputies have a car pulled over along southbound Interstate 81 just past Exit 227 in Verona on Sept. 30. BRAD ZINN/THE NEWS LEADER

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