



MONTGOMERY-CHRISTIANSBURG CITIZENS ACADEMY GRADUATES



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Montgomery County, Virginia – The first Citizens Academy jointly held by Montgomery County and the Town of Christiansburg graduated last night at Town Hall.

“The 20 students who sit before us amongst their family and friends are the first ever graduates of what we hope will become a long-running and successful academy,” Mayor Richard Ballengee told the graduates. “The goal in offering this program was to help give each of you a better understanding of the breadth and depth of programs and services offered by your local governments, as well as offer insight into why we do some of the things we do and the challenges faced in trying to deliver the best we can to our communities.”

County Board Chair Jim Politis also congratulated the class for “leading the way for future Academy classes. We challenge you to take the knowledge you’ve gained through this experience and put it to use, whether that be running for elected office or applying to serve on a board or commission in the future or simply talking to your friends or neighbors about some of the things you’ve learned.”

The Academy, which was held Aug. 1-Sept. 19, included an overview of local government, public safety, planning, public works, economic development, transit, and parks and recreation.

For more information, contact Ruth Richey at (540) 381-6887 or Becky Wilburn at (540) 382-6128 ext. 148.



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