Names and changes: Business recognitions and promotions for week of May 24, 2015

EDUCATION

Azim Eskandarian will join Virginia Tech as the department head of mechanical engineering.

Thanassis Rikakis has been named executive vice president and provost at Virginia Tech.

John Wells, an associate professor in the Integrative STEM Education program at Virginia Tech, was named the Council on Technology and Engineering Teacher Education’s Educator of the Year.

Vijay Agarwala has been named director of high performance computing for Advanced Research Computing, a unit of information Technology at Virginia Tech.

Edward Spencer, Virginia Tech's vice president emeritus for student affairs, received the 2015 Alumni Award of Distinction presented by the North-American Interfraternity Conference.

Thomas Dingus, director of the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, has been elected to the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International's board of directors for the 2015-18 term.

Paul Huffman Jr., president of Dominion Metallurgical Inc. and managing partner for Safety Step LLC, was inducted into the Virginia Tech Academy of Engineering Excellence.

FINANCIAL

Wells Fargo Advisors LLC announced the following were promoted to first vice president — investment officer in the Roanoke office: Kenneth Robison II and Louis Ellis.

HomeTown Bank announced the following additions to its credit administration team: Chase Clark, assistant vice president; senior credit analyst; John Hanna and Ashil Jones, credit analyst.

LAW

King Tower, an attorney with Spirman Thomas & Battle PLLC, was recognized as a leading lawyer by Chambers USA for his work in labor and employment law.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Chief David Hoback of the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Jefferson College of Health Sciences Alumni Association.
| Northwest True Value  
| Hardware Stores |
| Walter Chiropractic Clinic |
| Hamlar-Curtis Funeral Home |
| Valley Cadillac-BMW |

**Latest Obituaries**

- **Kinder, Dianna Lyn**  
  Dianna Lyn Kinder, 55, of Craig Creek Road, Blacksbo...  
- **Jones, Betty Becknell**  
  Betty Becknell Jones, 78, of Radford, passed away M...  
- **Martin, Paul Franklin**  
  Paul Franklin "Frankie" Martin, 80, of Red Sulp...  
- **Robbins, Elias**  
  Elias "Jack" Robbins, 75, of Roanoke, went ho...  

**Special Sections**

- **Laker Magazine**  
  May/June 2015  
- **SWVA Health**  
  May 2015  
- **50 Plus Winter 2015**  
- **Smith Mountain Lake Charity**