



CALL FOR HAPPENINGS REPORTER

Contact Alec Masella, Recruitment manager
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The Pylon, Virginia Tech and Blacksburg's newest source of investigative and longform journalism, informed commentaries, and submission-based creative works, is searching for a qualified candidate to take on the role of Happenings reporter.

The Happenings section aims to bring the Blacksburg and Virginia Tech communities high quality, in-depth news stories that are relevant and important, and may not be covered elsewhere. Stories should be investigative, heavily fact-checked, and reported within the framework of our ethical standards in a timely fashion.

Functions of the Happenings reporter

- Happenings reporters work closely with the Happenings editor to deliver hard-hitting news pieces to our Blacksburg and Virginia Tech audiences.
- Happenings reporters are expected to attend every budget meeting, go to write-ins once a month for editing help, to produce at least one well-sourced, fact-checked story each month, to promote *Pylon* content on social media, and to work with the visuals section and other sections when necessary.
- The reporter is expected to meet deadlines and work closely with the Happenings editor.
- The reporter is also expected to respond to email and Slack messages in a timely fashion.
- The reporter must treat colleagues and sources with respect and act ethically at all times.
- In addition, Happenings reporters are expected to complete all trainings hosted by *The Pylon* and to seek additional writing and reporting training when possible, potentially through classes, conferences, or even books.

Desired qualities and qualifications

- Is inquisitive and curious
- Can be fair and neutral, and can write objectively
- Thinks critically and ethically
- Can work closely with editorial staff and enjoys constructive feedback
- Demonstrated writing experience or samples a plus, but not necessary
- Should have a strong desire to grow and learn as a reporter
- Availability for ~5 hours per week, with regular mandatory meetings

All people living in or near Blacksburg are encouraged to apply (student or not).

Note—the position is unpaid.

What do we have to offer?

- Journalism experience with a dynamic startup
- Professional letters of recommendation
- Significant opportunities to grow and learn essential reporting skills
- Extensive training and professional development opportunities

To apply, please email editor@thepylon.org with a resume and a subject line of “HAPPENINGS REPORTER.” The body of the email constitutes an informal cover letter.

Questions? Send them to our recruitment manager, Alec Masella (alec11@vt.edu), or send a direct message to our official pages on Twitter (twitter.com/thepylonorg) or Facebook (facebook.com/thepylonorg).

The Pylon is an equal opportunity employer. We will not discriminate in employment against any employee or job applicant on the bases of race, color, gender, national origin, age, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Reasonable accommodation is available to qualified applicants and employees with disabilities.