Festivities on the Fourth

SIXTY-SIX people from 35 different countries became U.S. citizens at Monticello’s 47th annual Independence Celebration and Naturalization Ceremony.

U.S. Rep. Tom Perriello, a Charlottesville-area native who represents the 5th District of Virginia that includes Monticello, was the event’s featured speaker.

Since 1963, more than 3,000 people have taken the oath of citizenship at the Monticello ceremony, which is presided over by the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia.