



Radford High awarded \$90,000 work-based learning grant

RICHMOND - Radford High School has been awarded a Career and Technical Education High School Innovation Grant totaling \$90,000 by the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE).

Radford City Public Schools Superintendent Robert Graham recently announced the grant award, which “combines high school, college, and business and industry Work-Based Learning experience to prepare students for high-skill, high-wage, and in-demand careers,” according to the VDOE award letter.

“Your program at Radford High School will serve as a model to provide students with a Career and Technical Education (CTE) career pathway that starts in grade nine and culminates in the attainment of an industry recognized credential, a high school diploma, and an associate’s degree in up to five years,” said the letter from the VDOE. Radford students have a variety of CTE programs they can follow that culminate in a degree or certification, including machining, drafting, and technology.

The grant went into effect on July 1 and remains in effect until April 28, 2023.

Jamie Little, Education Specialist for Radford City Schools, and Margaret Sproule, Radford High School career coach, will administer the grant program together. Little said she is “very excited” about it and offered “big kudos to [Sproule] for outlining and detailing the academic plan for the program.”

School Board Chair Lee Slusher said Little and Sproule are “two fine examples of quality folks working in [the school] division,” and School Board Vice Chair Liz Altieri lauded the grant award as “super news, another feather in our cap.”

Programs covered by the grant program will be evaluated for success against multiple measures designated in the CTE High School Innovation Grant and will require the submission of mid-year and annual grant reports to VDOE.

-- Heather Bell

RU’s Front Porch Project featured on “With Good Reason” radio show

Sarah Gilbert, an associate professor at the Radford University School of Nursing, was the featured guest recently on the “With Good Reason” public radio program as she discussed the Front Porch Project, which Assistant Professor of Nursing Darleen Hoffert and she created in response to the particular risk older adults have been in during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Front Porch Project gives Radford University nursing students the opportunity to connect with the geriatric patients they are learning to care for.

During the project, each student enlisted an older adult volunteer or family member and spent time with that person to learn his or her story. After the visit, students wrote a narrative about the participant’s story and presented it to their fellow students and instructors. The Front Porch Project combines assessments and life review, which is key to helping older adults maintain their independence, Gilbert said.

“With Good Reason” is produced by the Virginia Humanities for the Virginia Higher Education Broadcasting Consortium, which comprises all of Virginia’s public colleges and universities. The award-winning program is heard by an estimated 100,000 people each week on public radio stations in 33 states, including Virginia and Washington, D.C. Thousands more download the episodes via iTunes.

Gilbert’s interview is available as a podcast at withgoodreason.org.

Chad Osborne  
Radford University

Moss Arts Center to present conversation with Earl White, who has spent his life keeping American string band traditions alive

The Moss Arts Center will present an online conversation with Floyd-based fiddler Earl White at noon on Friday, July 16.

A prominent figure rooted in the practice, teaching, and sustaining of American string band traditions, White will share his music and reflections on a lifetime of deep commitment to keep traditions alive in the free lunchtime talk.

The talk is free, but registration is required. Find registration information on the Moss Arts Center website.

Moderated by Margaret Lawrence, Moss Arts Center director of programming, the 45-minute Zoom discussion with White is the latest installment of the center’s online series, “In the Moment: Artists and Their Work.”

Known as “Fiddlin’ Earl White,” the musician is the leader of the Earl White Stringband and co-founder of Big Indian

See **Earl White**, page 2



Known as “Fiddlin’ Earl White,” the musician is the leader of the Earl White Stringband. He is one of the few African Americans playing and perpetuating the music that was once an essential part of Black culture and Black communities across the U.S.

West End Wednesdays return to Radford next week

RADFORD – The laid-back, family-friendly fun of West End Wednesdays returns to Radford next week.

The first of two installments planned for this summer is set for Wednesday, July 14. The second is planned for August 11.

“While our season may be shorter, we are excited to return to the grassy nook of Glencoe Mansion, Museum & Gallery,” reads an announcement by MountainTrotter Arts, which sponsors the event. “Spend your evening with friends, family, and community and enjoy Radford’s free and family friendly summer concert series.”

The hosts also offered “a special thanks to Kollmorgen, who own the adjacent land, for allowing the event area to expand to allow more room for social distancing and adequate space for our community to feel safe.” They also thanked Glencoe “for giving this event an amazing home.”

The first West End Wednesday is scheduled for 5:30 to 8 p.m. and will feature music by the Isaac Hadden Project, described as a “four-piece jazz-infused, improvisational funk-rock band hailing from the mountains of southwestern Virginia,” on www.floydwest.com.

In addition to live music, West End Wednesdays include food and beer sales, vendors and various activities.

According to MountainTrotter Arts, the WEW events were “created in



MOUNTAINTROTTER ARTS PHOTO

West End Wednesdays will include a lot of family-friendly fun, from live music to food and beverage sales, vendors, and activities.

See **West End**, page 2

RADIO IQ to unveil ‘Appalachian Vibes’ on Saturday evenings

Radio IQ will begin airing “Appalachian Vibes,” a new locally produced hour dedicated to the stories behind local and regional musicians. The show will air Saturdays at 8 p.m. beginning this evening, July 10. It replaces “Your Weekly Constitutional,” which has ceased distribution.

Producer and host Amanda Bocchi notes that “Appalachian Vibes” was born by asking the simple question, “What is Appalachian music?” To answer that, she highlights the diversity of music created across the region and challenges listener expectations about those who are performing the diverse music of this area.

Each episode features three artists from Appalachia or nearby. They share stories from their lives that influenced their music. Listeners will hear coming-out stories, recollections of race, of tobacco fields, of protests, hotel affairs, loves lost, self-care, violence, and healing. These deeper narratives create a special bond between listener and artist.

The first episode of “Appalachian Vibes” on Radio IQ will feature Bob Boilen, the creator of “All Songs Considered” and NPR’s Tiny Desk Concerts, as well as Ted Zook from the experimental improv ensemble, Fanoplane.

Artists appearing on “Appalachian Vibes” are chosen with input from listeners. Listeners can nominate artists who inspire them to appear on future episodes of the program, online at [appalachianvibes.net](http://appalachianvibes.net).

Show host Bocchi is familiar to many as a Radio IQ announcer and regionally as a noted singer/songwriter. A Hollins University alumna with a degree in classical guitar, Bocchi has performed extensively across the region since releasing her first album in 2006. She currently tours with her trio, Amanda Bocchi and the Soul Flood.



Amanda Bocchi (left) hosts “Appalachian Vibes” on Saturdays at 8 p.m. on Radio IQ. Bob Boilen, creator of NPR’s Tiny Desk Concerts and “All Songs Considered,” will join Bocchi on the show’s debut episode this evening, July 10.

Local produce brimming at Radford Farmers Market

From peaches to shallots, tomatoes, squash and more, local produce is now widely available at the Radford Farmers Market, along with baked goods, jams, live plants, crafts, meat, eggs, cheeses, and the like. The market is open each Saturday through Oct. 30 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the New River Valley Community Service parking lot (also known as the old Wade’s parking lot) on West Main Street.



PHOTO BY HEATHER BELL





# Historic Montgomery



This unknown family posed for their patriotic photograph at their Auburn (Riner) home around 1905. Can anyone identify them? (This image from the D. D. Lester Collection and many more are available from the Montgomery Museum of Art & History.)

# PETS OF THE WEEK



**Young Sneakers had a rough start and could use a little TLC. This little guy was brought to the Animal Care and Adoption Center after being found injured. His eye needed to be removed, but he does not let it slow him down. He loves to play and cuddle with everyone he meets. He gets along with other animals and would enjoy a home with lots of people to pet him. Stop by the Center to see if you are Sneakers's purrfect match.**



**Older puppy Kyara is friendly and full of energy. She will need a future home with humans who will keep up with her activity level and teach her doggie manners. She likes to play with stuffed toys, chase after balls, and chew on bones. Kyara gets along with children, but she is unsure of other canines and tends to feel a bit scared around them.**

## Women Who Care donate to emergency assistance program, resume in-person meetings

CHRISTIANSBURG -- The local chapter of the 100+ Women Who Care (100+ WWC NRV) has recently donated \$11,000 to the member-selected organization, The Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program (MCEAP).

MCEAP strives to meet the immediate emergency and temporary needs of low-income, unemployed, elderly and disabled

individuals and families of Montgomery County and receives funding entirely from private sources. MCEAP provides assistance in the areas of food, clothing, furniture, and financial assistance, filling needs other agencies are unable to meet.

Susan Miller, MCEAP representative and sponsor, expressed gratitude for the contribution. "Many thanks to the 100+ WWC

for selecting MCEAP as a recipient of the quarter," Miller said. "Without your kind consideration, we at MCEAP would not be able to assist and support the needs in Montgomery County."

While the 100+ Women Who Care's NRV chapter has continued to meet virtually during the pandemic, the time has come for once again gathering in person. On Tuesday, July 20, the group

will hold a hybrid in-person and virtual meeting conducted live at its new location of the Blacksburg Country Club banquet hall with synchronous Zoom option for those members who are not able to attend the meeting in person.

At each 100+ WWC quarterly meeting, three local not-for-profits are drawn from a bucket. Each organization must have a 100+ Women Who Care NRV mem-

ber sponsor willing to present on its behalf. The group's membership area includes the counties of Montgomery, Giles, Pulaski, and Floyd and the City of Radford.

The 100+ WWC NRV meets quarterly on the third Tuesday of January, April, July, and October. Committed members donate \$100 every quarter, and each meeting lasts no more than one hour.

## Simulation confirms vaccination key to safe and social return for VT campus

Navid Ghaffarzadegan's complex COVID-19 simulation model shows how human behavior will likely impact the spread of the virus.

But the model's fall 2021 forecast can be summed up in a simple formula: more vaccinated Hokies = a more fulfilling semester.

"During the pandemic, we got used to this idea that there is a trade-off between having an enjoyable social life and staying safe from COVID-19," Ghaffarzadegan said. "Now, with the vaccine, the story has changed; there is no trade-off. You can have a reasonable social life and stay safe and healthy while enjoying your educational experience. You can have the cake and eat it too, if we all get vaccinated."

Previously, major factors have included the adoption of face coverings, testing, and frequency of public health messaging, but the widespread availability of vaccinations has proven a much more influential factor.

"In terms of effectiveness, nothing is comparable to vaccines in the model," he said. "If we start the semester with a very large majority of students and employees vaccinated, you see a big change. There are almost no COVID cases."

The most recent modeling confirms the importance of the university's approach to vaccinations — required for students and strongly encouraged for employees — as Virginia Tech prepares for a fully in-person fall semester.

"Dr. Ghaffarzadegan's model demonstrates that vaccines are the most ef-



**Navid Ghaffarzadegan, an associate professor in the Grado Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering in the Virginia Tech College of Engineering, has used a combination of mathematical modeling, complex systems methods, and simulation techniques to gauge how proactive measures impact the spread of COVID-19 on and around the Blacksburg campus for more than a year. Photo by Lee Friesland for Virginia Tech.**

fective tool we have to prevent the spread of COVID-19," said Virginia Tech President Tim Sands. "The closer we get to our goal of a 100 percent vaccination rate, the closer we are to returning to the full Virginia Tech experience."

Ghaffarzadegan's work has been a part of the university's decision-making process throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. His models for both the fall and spring semesters of the 2020-21 academic year can now be compared to actual data available from those periods.

"Navid has created a state-of-the-art model that is tailored to Virginia Tech," said Ron Fricker, interim dean of the College of Science. "Over the past year, previous versions were used to help inform decision making and contributed to the safe operation of

our campus. His model now shows that achieving high vaccination rates is key for Virginia Tech to be able to return to something approximating pre-pandemic normality in the fall."

"More than 150 million Americans, and millions more around the world, have taken one of the vaccines. The science and the data show that they are overwhelmingly safe and effective," said Laura Hungerford, professor and head of the Virginia Tech Public Health Program in the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine. "For the good of the campus and our communities, Navid's model makes it very clear that we all need to follow the public health guidance and get vaccinated."

Both students and employees are required to submit proof of their vaccination, via either

the Online Student Health Portal or COVID-19 Vaccination Status Self-Reporting form for employees.

While the university's efforts are helpful, Ghaffarzadegan's model shows reaching the full potential for the fall semester really hinges on individuals deciding to take care of themselves and others.

"The more students and staff that are vaccinated, the better the university experience will be as [public health] measures get more and more relaxed," Ghaffarzadegan said. "At Virginia Tech, serving our community is one of our main missions. One major way of serving our community is just trying to contain the virus, by getting vaccinated and by keeping our friends and community members safer."

— Written by  
Travis Williams

## Medicare

from page 2

demic is continuing, we've decided to hold this year's seminars virtually to minimize risk to our members, customers and staff."

The virtual sessions are accessible from the living room couch or kitchen table, on a computer, phone, or tablet.

Sessions typically last an hour, and a health insurance representative of Farm Bureau's Health Insurance division will present the material. Cornatzer said it covers the nuts and bolts of how Medicare and related plans work. Enrollment periods and plan timelines will also be explained.

Virginia Farm Bureau has facilitated Medicare seminars since 2016, but last year was the first time the sessions were held online. "We will miss seeing everyone in person but are happy that with the aid of technology we can of-

fer these classes through a computer, tablet or phone," Cornatzer said.

To RSVP, persons may email their name, county, email address, and the date of their chosen seminar to MedicareSeminar@vafb.com or contact their local Farm Bureau office at 1095 Peppers Ferry Rd. in Christiansburg. Participants can RSVP to the session of their choice and will be sent a Webex link to join that meeting virtually.

Persons who are unable to attend and have questions about Medicare or need assistance signing up for a Medicare Supplement, Medicare Advantage, or Part D plan may contact the Montgomery County Farm Bureau office at 540-382-8161 or call 800-229-7779. Persons on Medicare can also request a quote at vafb.com/health.

### COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



### REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

### VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING

**JULY 15, 2021, 2:00 P.M.**

**WEST CENTRAL REGION**

**REGISTER IN ADVANCE ONLINE**

Virtual hearing to solicit public comment on the drawing of state and congressional legislative districts in West Central Virginia.

**Register to speak online in advance no later than 24 hours prior to hearing start time.**

Comments limited to three minutes.

Hearing will be livestreamed and archived online.

More information and registration available at:  
<https://www.virginiaredistricting.org>

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on Facebook.



# WalletHub: Four Virginia cities among ten best in country for first-time home buyers

In the third dimension, that of the city's quality of life, WalletHub drew its conclusions by using its list of states that are recovering the quickest from COVID-19, the quality of the weather, the quality of the school system, driver friendliness, the state of the job market, total home-energy cost, the violent-crime rate, and the property-crime rate.

"School readiness begins years before the first day of kindergarten," said Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. James Lane. "We are dedicated to improving the subsidy program experience for parents and providers alike as we simultaneously increase access."

Scripture  
32. Influential French scholar  
35. What thespians do  
37. Local area network  
38. Free from contamination  
39. Coastal region of Canada  
42. Sun up in New York  
43. High schoolers' exam  
46. Fathers  
47. Call it a career  
49. Suitable for growing crops  
50. Rose-red variety of spinnel  
52. Orange-brown in color  
54. Lowest point of a ridge  
between two peaks  
55. Late TNT sportscaster  
57. A way to wedge  
59. Cold, dry Swiss wind  
62. Hockey players need it  
63. Something highly prized  
66. Atomic #45  
68. Top lawyer

GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data spanning nearly two decades. GasBuddy's survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country. GasBuddy data is accessible at <http://FuelInsights.GasBuddy.com>.

For family and funeral information, contact the Army Casualty Office at (800) 892-2490.

# Trucker shortage persists as economy speeds ahead

Though U.S. farmers are producing an abundance of agricultural products ready for interstate shipping, it's hard to find truck drivers to move them.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service recently reported that most shipping routes to major U.S. cities are operating with trucking shortages.

Economists say pandemic-related fears cut into the workforce last year, and fewer trucks and parts are available because of an interrupted global supply chain. Tightening federal regulations, driver restrictions and spiking fuel prices have created additional strain. And truckers, on average, are aging, and fewer young people are seeking those jobs.

An April report by the California Farm Bureau Federation said the seasonal nature of agricul-

tural trucking also was a disadvantage in a fast-recovering U.S. economy competing for full-time drivers.

Independent grain and fertilizer hauler Robert Patton of Walnut Hills Farms in King and Queen County finally sold one of his four trucks when a driver resigned in February.

"There just wasn't anybody available to take his place," Patton said. "So I wound up selling his piece of equipment. It costs too much to have a truck just sitting around. The numbers aren't good."

Fortunately, Patton's current fleet is booked.

"I'll take anybody that's got a truck right now," he said. "It's hard to keep up; especially with grain piling up from the wheat harvest. Everybody's trying to get that to market."

While companies are starting to pay higher trucker wages, years of

experience is required, and the career is not generally appealing to young people entering the workforce.

Patton said he can understand that. "Trucking is kind of a hard job, and the hours are goofy," he said. "There are a lot easier ways to make a living now."

In March, Congress reintroduced a bipartisan bill called the Developing Responsible Individuals for a Vibrant Economy (DRIVE-Safe) Act to address the driver shortage and enhance job opportunities for young truckers by directing the U.S. Department of Transportation to implement an apprenticeship program for commercial drivers under 21.

Virginia Farm Bureau Federation Grain Division manager Robert Harper said he's observed a steady need for more truckers in recent years, but now the issue is af-



According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, most shipping routes to U.S. cities are short on trucks and truckers.

fecting industries beyond agriculture. He said of all the factors driving the trucking shortage, federal emissions regulations and driver restrictions hurt the most.

"In many cases, it can be unrealistic—the restrictions and regulations put on truckers," Harper said. He explained that the expectation of just-

in-time delivery has fueled demand for even more drivers because current haulers are limited by restrictions on drive time.

"And manufacturers have had to overcome some monumental hurdles with emissions," Harper said. "Even if the air quality regulations are well-meaning."

CROSSWORD ANSWERS														
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## ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

**St. Philip's Anglican Church**, 306 Progress Street, NE, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060, (540) 552-1771, [www.stphilips-blacksburg.org](http://www.stphilips-blacksburg.org). Reverend Fr. Wade Miller, Priest. Eucharist Sunday's at 11am and Wednesday's at 12pm.

**St. Thomas Anglican Church**- located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit [www.sttofc.org](http://www.sttofc.org) for mid-week masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

## BAPTIST

**First Baptist Church**, 555 West Rock Road, Radford, 639-3873. Rev. Corwin C. Casey, Pastor. Worship with us: 9:45 a.m.; Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.; Praise and Worship: 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service; Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord. 1 Corinthians 15:58.

**First Baptist Church on 3rd Ave.**, 215 Third Ave. at the corner with Downey St. We are committed to personal spiritual growth and to providing leadership in community ministry. We celebrate the dignity and worth of all persons, created in the image of God. Sunday Bible Study Groups - 9:45, Sunday Worship - 11:00. Website: [www.fbradford.org](http://www.fbradford.org), 540-639-4419. Worship is broadcast live on 105.9 FM, 101.3 F, 1430AM.

**Trinity Community Church**, 1505 N. Franklin Street, C'burg. John Altizer, Lead Pastor, Brian Cockram, Associate Pastor, 382-8121. Worship at 10:45 a.m., Outreach Ministries - 6:00p.m. Wednesday, Growth Groups - 5:00p.m. Sunday, Youth and Children's Ministry - 5:00p.m. Sunday, [www.trinitycburg.org](http://www.trinitycburg.org).

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Blacksburg Church of Christ**, 315 Eakin St., 552-1331. Sun. Bible Classes 9:30 a.m., Sun. Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m., Wed. Bible classes, 7 p.m., Outreach Minister Curt Seright, Community Minister Tom Gilliam.

## CHURCH OF GOD

**Childress Church of God**, 4187 Piney Woods Rd., C'Burg. 381-3693. Sun. School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m. & Wed. 7 p.m.

**New Hope Church of God**, 1404 Mud Pike Rd., C'Burg. Rev. T. Michael Bond, pastor, 731-3178. Sun. School 10 a.m., Worship 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m. Thurs., 7:00 p.m.

**West Radford Church of God**, 1824 West Main Street, Radford, VA 24141, Sunday School – 10:00A.M. Morning Worship – 11:00A.M., Children's Church 11:00A.M. Sunday Evening – 6:00P.M., Wednesday Night – 7:00P.M., Pastor Danny Newman, Church Office – 540-639-6562 or 804-921-0828

# Radford WORSHIP DIRECTORY

## Honor in Work

Read Proverbs 5:1 through 8:36

In past generations, parents taught their children the value of hard work and faithfulness to their families. People had at least one job. When a person lost a job, he worked very hard to get a new one as soon as possible. He knew hard work honored his family and God.

Maybe times and values have changed, but today it seems like more and more young adults would rather not work at all. An entire generation of young people have been lured away by different types of leisure activities. Scripture warns against neglecting one's work:

A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—and poverty will come on you like a thief and scarcity like an armed man (Proverbs 6:10–11).

God created people to work hard with the giftedness and talents He gave us. Like no other generation in the world, we have access to education and job training to prepare us for our work. It is good for parents to provide for the needs of their family through the work God has provided.

Prayer Suggestion: Thank God for your talents and abilities and for the work He has placed before you.

Quicklook: Proverbs 6:6–11

**If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Randy Thompson at 540-389-9355 or email at [advertise@ourvalley.org](mailto:advertise@ourvalley.org)**

## CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

**Radford Church of God in Christ**, 206 Russell Ave., Radford. Supt. Ronald A. Watson, Sr.; Elder, 639- 5948. Sun. School 9 a.m.; Prayer 11:30 a.m.; Worship 6 p.m.

## LUTHERAN

**Christ Lutheran Church**, 201 Harvey St. Sunday worship with communion at 10am; fellowship & snacks at 11am. All are welcome. Upcoming events and fellowship opportunities (Senior Brunch, Faith & Film, Rough Draught, etc.) detailed in weekly email and on website: [clcradford.org](http://clcradford.org). 540-639-2671.

## PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

**Merrimac Pentecostal Holiness Church**, Rev. Larry Christopher (540) 552-7194. [l.christopher695@comcast.net](mailto:l.christopher695@comcast.net). Sunday school at 10 a.m. and morning worship is 11 a.m. Evening service at 6 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

**Radford Worship Center**, 1820 Second Street, Radford, 639-6287, Our music is passionate, our worship is real, and Pastor Hal Adams brings relevant messages for everyone at any place on their journey, Sunday Worship Experience at 9:00 AM & 10:45 AM, Wednesday Family Night at 7 PM, Children Ministry provided for all services, join us as Love, Grow, Serve, find us on facebook and Instagram

**Walton Pentecostal Holiness Church**, 4003 Morning Glory Rd., off Walton Rd. on Rt. 114. 731-1755. Lee Sarver, pastor. Sun. School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6: p.m., Wed., 7

p.m.

## PRESBYTERIAN

Join us at **The Presbyterian Church of Radford**, 201 Fourth Street, at the corner of 4th and Randolph Streets. Worship at 10am in the sanctuary, masked and distanced. Phone 639-2585. Find us on Facebook: The Presbyterian Church of Radford and on our Website: [www.pcradford.org](http://www.pcradford.org). We are called to share the love of Christ in this community and beyond. Kelsey and Peter Hawisher-Faul, Co-Pastors.

## UNITED METHODIST

**Asbury United Methodist Church**, 500 Stuart Street, Christiansburg. 540-382- 0743. Rev. Ryan Schaeffer. Sunday School, 10:15 a.m., Sunday Worship, 11:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7pm, alternating month's with Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church, Senior Bible Study Thursday, 10:30 a.m. All are welcome.

**Central United Methodist Church**, 803 Wadsworth Street, Radford. 639-3529. 8:30 a.m. Sunday Services: 8:30am (interpreter provided); 9:45am Sunday School (interpreter provided); and 11:00am. Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30pm. Child care is provided. [www.centralmethodistchurch.com](http://www.centralmethodistchurch.com).

**St. Paul United Methodist Church**, 220 W. Main St., C'Burg. Rev. Moonsup "Paul" Song (540) 382-2410. Sunday Worship 10am, Sunday School 9am. Live streaming Sunday Service - [www.twitch.tv/stpaulumc](http://www.twitch.tv/stpaulumc).



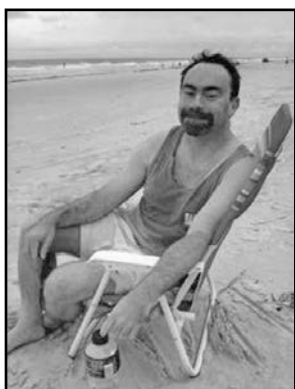
# OBITUARIES

## Board, Jason Dale

Jason Dale Board joined the angels in Heaven to be with his Lord and Savior on Friday, July 2, 2021, at Memorial Medical Health Center in Savannah, Ga.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Henry C. and Julia Croft Board, and his stepmother, Pauline James Board.

Jason was born in Christiansburg on Oct. 3, 1971. He was a graduate of Christiansburg High School and Radford University. He then moved to Charlotte, N. C., before moving back to Christiansburg to be with and help take care of family. He later moved south to Savannah. Jason is survived by his family: a sis-



ter, Vicki B. Kitts (Gary); brothers Russell (Sandra) and Bruce (Susan); nieces and nephews who will miss him: Kelly Stulce, Lesley Wert, Andy Wert (Erin), Karyn White (Jason), Eryn Bamba (Hiro), Laura Onosato (Tomio), Casey Olson (Ben), and Lucas Board.

Jason was blessed with many gifts: a friendly personality, helping hands, and a caring heart. He made many friends wherever he went and brightened everyone's day with a smile.

Funeral services will be private. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

## Tatum, III, Paul Robert

Paul Robert Tatum, III, 66, of Meadows of Dan, died Saturday, July 3, 2021.

He was born in Wytheville on June 30, 1955.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Leona Wheeler and his father, Paul Robert Tatum II. He was also preceded in death by a daughter, Amanda, and a son, Jeff. He was a veteran of the US Marine Corps. Bob was a log home builder for many years.

He is survived by the love of his life, Connie Shopshear-Tatum; sons Robert, Christopher, and Dennis Clayton; a daughter, Aleacia; a special grandchild,



Layton, whom Bob called Littleman; numerous grandchildren he loved dearly; his mother-in-law, Momma Joyce Taylor; a sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Cindy and Richard; daughters Oriann Tatum and Tara Kent; a sister, Sharon Hinkley; numerous nieces, nephews, and other relatives; and several special friends.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday, July 8, 2021, in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel. Interment followed in the Highland Cemetery. The family received friends prior to the service at McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

## Mitchell, Apostle David Junior

The heart of a man plans his ways, but the Lord orders his steps (Proverbs 16:9), and the Lord called his son, Apostle David Junior Mitchell, 59, of Christiansburg, home on July 1, 2021.

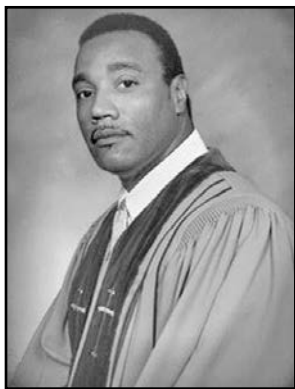
He was born in Winston-Salem, N.C., on April 20, 1962, to the late Raymond Julius Mitchell and Mary Alice Covington Mitchell.

He is survived by his wife of 13 years, Darlene Beasley W. Mitchell; a stepson, Irvin White II; a stepdaughter, Nakacia English; a brother, Raymond Sutherland Mitchell Jr.; a sister, Mary Horton (Christopher); sisters Linda Peay and Lucy Mitchell; three grandchildren, Shaelyn, Kiara and Kaiden; and a host of nieces and nephews. The list of special people in his life would be too many to name.

David answered the call to minister at the age of 12 and was a God-fearing man and a devoted husband who loved both his home and his church families. He was a 10-year veteran of the United States Army where he served as a military chaplain and a drill sergeant and carried the tradition of service into the church.

David was ordained an apostle on April 25, 2014, by New Covenant Ministries, United Holy Church. He had previously been ordained a church elder in 1984 and a bishop in 2003. He served as a church builder for three different churches for 30 years with a total of 42 years in the ministry. His favorite quote was it is always nice to be nice.

Apostle Mitchell was a man of vision who founded two food banks in Winston Salem including Fountain of



Life Ministries and who led a street ministry. He used his skills as a drill sergeant in working with the youth, founding step teams in Christiansburg and in West Virginia. David was a man who allowed his life to speak for him.

In addition to being a visionary, preacher, and teacher, David was a literal builder. He built bridges for Haymes Construction, Inc., under the supervision of a man whom he admired, Mr. Ranny Odell, but the most important bridges he built were the ones that connected people to Christ.

David is described by his wife as "amazing, dedicated, God-fearing, anointed, and full of fire." He was hard working but commented that the part of his workday he looked forward to the most was coming home to his wife. Knowing Darlene and David is knowing what love looks like. He was forgiving, unstoppable, and a believer who handed his troubles over to God. He was prepared to meet his maker, saying he was ready whenever God called him home.

The family received friends and loved ones for visitation on Friday, July 9, at McCoy Funeral Home Chapel (150 Country Club Dr. SW Blacksburg, VA 24060). Reflections from guests were shared. A private funeral for the family will be held today, Saturday, July 10, at 2 p.m. The family respectfully requests that all in attendance please wear masks. In lieu of flowers, the family prefers donations to be made in Elder Mitchell's honor to New Beginnings Church, 613 Carterville Heights Road, Wytheville, VA, 24382.

## James, Judy Carol Thompson

Judy Carol Thompson James, 74, of Blacksburg, passed away on Monday, July 5, 2021.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Mable Austin, and her husband, Charles Thompson.

Survivors include her beloved children, Rebecca Carter, James Thompson, and Charles Thompson; grandchildren Jessica, Veronica, Anjellica, Jessica



Tickle, and Christopher; a brother, Joseph "Joey" Austin; and numerous great-grandchildren and other family members and friends.

Per Judy's wishes there will be no services. She asks that you spread love in her memory instead.

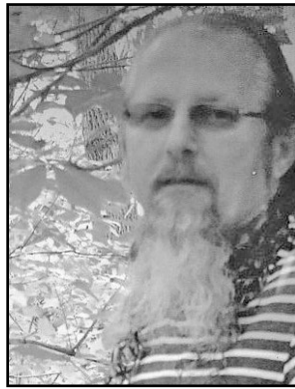
Judy's family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory. www.mullinsfuneral-home.com.

Charles David "Dave" Wallace, 56, of Dublin, passed away on Sunday, July 4, 2021.

He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, son, brother and friend and a hard worker. He loved drag racing, hunting and fishing, and most of all his family.

Dave was preceded in death by his father, Charles Steeley Wallace; an uncle, Marion Wallace; his father-in-law Mert Presgraves; and a sister-in-law, Gina Kilby.

Survivors include his wife, Theresa P. Wallace; sons Charles Marion Wallace and Jessica, and Trey and Dakota Morehead; grandchildren Jonathan, JoyRenee,



Darion, Ashton, Levi, and Silas; his mother, Ruth Emily Wallace; a sister, Irene Wallace; brothers Walter Wallace and Ann, James Wallace and Angel and Donald Wallace and Lisa; mother-in-law Jeanette Presgraves; brother-in-law Mert Presgraves; sister-in-law Julie Presgraves; and numerous other relatives and friends.

The family received friends on Thursday, July 8, 2021, at Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Memorial services followed at 3 p.m.

The Wallace family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford, Virginia. www.mullinsfuneral-home.com.

Send community news and photos to [communitynews@ourvalley.org](mailto:communitynews@ourvalley.org)



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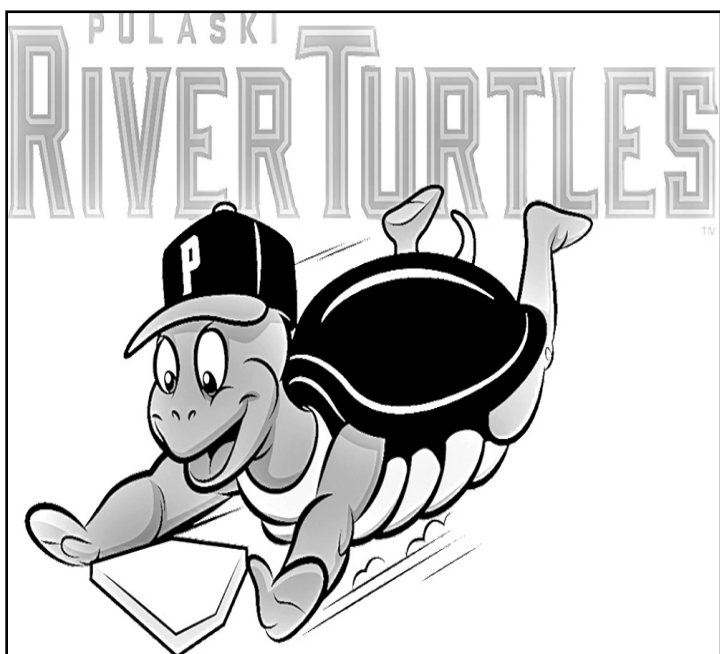
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# RADFORD SPORTS



River turtle logo

## Appy League honors River Turtles

After a 5-1 week that saw the Pulaski River Turtles soar into second place in the East Division, right-handed pitcher Paco Hernandez and catcher/infielder Ryan Johnson were honored as the Appalachian League Pitcher and Player of the Week respectively.

Hernandez tossed a seven-inning, complete-game shut-out in Sunday's 4-0 win over Princeton. The right-hander scattered three hits and struck out seven, lowering his season ERA to a league-best 2.53.

Hernandez has appeared in seven games this season and is 2-1 with 22 strikeouts in 21.1 innings pitched. The Oklahoma State pitcher has allowed a

league-low 17 hits this season.

Johnson batted .500 (9-for-18) on the week, hitting three home runs and driving in 10 runs. The catcher started the week with a two-hit game Wednesday against Danville, driving in a pair of runs in the 9-2 win.

Johnson, who plays collegiately at Pepperdine, followed that performance with two consecutive three-hit games. He homered and drove in three runs Friday against Kingsport before homering twice and driving in five runs Saturday against Princeton. Johnson's four homers rank third in the league.

## Hole-in-one



PHOTO COURTESY OF AUBURN HILLS GOLF CLUB

**Zach Rutledge made a hole-in-one on hole number 3 at Auburn Hills this past weekend.**

## Pair of Blacksburg golfers win on Blue Ridge Golf Tour

Jack Skinner and Rylan McGinnis from Blacksburg finished as winners Tuesday in the most recent stop of the Blue Ridge Golf Tour, the Glade Springs Resort.

13-14 Age Group Par 72 5431 Yards

Skinner won the 13-14 age group by shooting the low round of the day, a 2-under par 70. He made five birdies including a stretch of four in a row on the back nine. He easily won the age group as Carson Iroler of Galax shot 81 to finish second. Grayden Laird, also of Galax, and Cameron Sharp of Blacksburg tied for third with scores of 82.

10-12 Age Group Par 36 2483 Yards

McGinnis also won his age group with a score of 39. He made three birdies along the

way. Liam Smith of Elliston shot 41 to finish second. Jack Herbert of Blacksburg shot 48 and finished third.

Here is a rundown of the age group results:

17-18 Age Group Par 72 6629 Yards

Logan Douthat of Pearisburg made three birdies along the way to a score of 5-over par 77 and won the 17-18 age group.

15-16 Age Group Par 72 6134 Yards

Caroline Gilreath of Roanoke won the 15-16 age group with a stellar round of one over par 73. Gilreath made two birdies and an eagle on the par-5 12th hole to edge Connor Catterson of Blacksburg by a single stroke.

Playing together, the pair seemed to bring out the best in each other and came down

to the final hole where Gilreath put together a scrambling par while Catterson had to settle for a bogey. Ryne Bond of Floyd and Major Ewing of Blacksburg tied for third with scores of 76. Chase Coley of Chilhowie finished fifth with a score of 77. Walker Gillespie of Pearisburg was a shot back in sixth.

9-and-Under Age Group Par 36 1662 Yards

Anderson Lilly of Oak Hill, West Virginia shot 45 to win the age group. John Cline of Raven finished second with a score of 52. Christopher Rizo of Tazewell was third with a score of 58. Daniel DeJesus of Blacksburg was fourth with a score of 60.

The tour returns to the links July 13 at Auburn Hills Golf Club in Riner.

## Hokie Football Fan Day returns on August 15

After a shift to digital programming in 2020, Tech Football Fan Day presented by Virginia529 will return to an in-person event this year in the Beamer-Lawson practice facility on Sunday, August 15.

The event is free and is open to the public.

This year's event will coincide with the first-ever Hokie Club Fan Day 5K, a hybrid of last year's virtual race.

Current Hokie Kids' Club members will receive exclusive early access to Fan Day at 2:30 p.m. before the general public enters 15 minutes later. The fan-day festivities will conclude at 4 p.m.

Memberships for the Hokie Kids' Club are on sale now for the upcoming year and include an exclusive T-shirt, a medallion and a lanyard, complimentary tickets to football and men's basketball, and a birthday card from the HokieBird. Members also receive free admission to all home regular season women's basketball and baseball games and access to the virtual Jump Into Learning program.

As part of the fan day experience,

Tech fans are invited to participate in the Hokie Club Fan Day 5K. The race can be completed at the participant's convenience, either in Blacksburg or from a distance. Registration for the event is \$45 with \$15 of each registration supporting Virginia Tech student-athletes.

Each registration will include an official race packet mailed to the address provided at check-out. The registration deadline to receive the packet in time for race day is July 23 at 5 p.m. Packets will include an official Fan Day 5k sweat-wicking T-shirt, a race bib, a medal, and a Hokie Club decal. Race participants will also have access to a digital race packet with a Spotify playlist, the participant leaderboard, and a photo gallery.

All Fan-Day-5K participants will have the opportunity to win one of five Hokie prize packs. Prizes will be awarded for best photos and best race time.

As one of just two public universities with a full-time Corps of Cadets, Virginia Tech has a rich military tradition.

Recognizing that, the Virginia Tech athletics department announced Wednesday the continuation of its Tickets for Troops initiative to honor the men and women who bravely serve this country.

With the goal of creating memorable experiences for this special group, the department will continue its partnership with the Veteran Tickets Foundation (Vet Tix). Virginia Tech fans wishing to show their support for "Tickets for Troops" may send a military member to an upcoming home football game.

Donations may be made in \$25 increments, and all donations will be matched by Virginia Tech Athletics to cover the full cost of each ticket provided.

All donated tickets will be used for home football games, including the Hokies' Military Appreciation Day match-up against Middle Tennessee on Sept. 11. Tickets will be distributed to veterans and active duty service members and their families via VetTix.org.

## Shawsville July 4th 5K results (top 50)

Shawsville Fourth 5k results (Top 50): 1) Jason Weitzel, 14:57.01; 2) Zane Moran, 2) Austin Graham, 4) Evan Spaulding, 5) Glen McGuire, 6) Ignacio Moore, 7) Garrett Weaver, 8) Brandon Bear, 9) Mitchell Parvin, 10) Hannah Altizer, 11) Jeremy Weaver, 12) Tyler Harris, 13) Adam Markwood, 14) Scot Harrison, 15) Rocky Radish, 16) James

Penven, 17) Quinlan Beeglee, 18) Harry Hudson, 19) M. Reed, 20) Justin Gilbarte, 21) Randy Burrier, 22) John Doe, 23) Ron Rogers, 24) McKenna Spaulding, 25) Cameron Patterson, 26) Koden Wines, 27) Sarah Weatherspoon, 28) Barry Light, 29) Javor Robinson, 30) David Loving, 31) Robert Smith, 32) John Gregory, 33)

Lowe Iq, 34) Elayna Harris, 35) Kayla Waters, 36) Sam Cerva, 37) Ezra Richards, 38) John Bode, 39) Rick Bradley, 40) Danielle Dodson, 41) Graham Weaver, 42) Kenna Knowles, 43) Brian Waters, 44) Danny Dodson, 45) Elli Underwood, 46) K Stewart, 47) Tom Gardner, 48) J. Rodriguez, 49) Terri Self, 50) G. Stewart.

## Beer sales, cashless concessions, full capacity coming to Lane Stadium this fall

**Marty Gordon**

[NRVsports@ourvalley.org](mailto:NRVsports@ourvalley.org)

Virginia Tech officials say beer sales and cashless concession stands are coming to all areas of Lane Stadium this fall.

Previously, beer was available for purchase only in select premium seating areas. The availability will include Hardywood's new Fighting Hokies Lager, which will be available in both Lane Stadium and Cassell

Coliseum this fall.

"This is about continuing to improve the game-day experience in Lane Stadium and doing so in a responsible way," Senior Associate AD for External Operations Brad Wurthman said. "We view Saturdays in Lane as a one-day vacation for Hokies, and after having been without Hokie Nation for this past season, our team is working around the clock to ensure that we elevate the experience

that we all know and love. Improving our concessions offerings at an affordable price is a huge part of that."

The fall football season will feature new affordable pricing for items like bottled water, Coca-Cola and hot dogs.

These enhancements also include a switch to cashless transactions, which will reduce touch points and increase the speed of service. When data from previous years were re-

viewed, only about five percent of all transactions in concession stands utilized cash. This switch will let fans through the lines more efficiently. The current plan for those who do not have credit cards or debit cards will be to sell prepaid gift cards in the bookstore location on the west side of Lane Stadium. The athletic department plans to release more details closer to September.

As announced earlier this

month, Lane Stadium is preparing to host full-capacity events this fall. A variety of ticket packages are available for purchase offering both flexibility and value when compared to the secondary market. Due to strong demand, especially for high-profile games such as North Carolina and Notre Dame, the athletic department is encouraging fans to lock in their spot in Lane as soon as possible.

## VT Athletics announces weekly youth program

The Virginia Tech athletics department has announced the creation of the Hokies Youth Sport Spotlight program presented by Virginia529.

The program is de-

signed to promote participation and good sportsmanship throughout youth sports while helping to grow the next generation of Hokies.

During the upcoming 2021-22 athletic sea-

son, Tech will recognize a youth team player or coach who has shown a propensity to be active in their community and a steward of VT's motto, Ut Prosim (That I May Serve).

Due to NCAA rules, youth must be in the sixth grade or younger during the 2021-22 academic year. Selections will be made by Virginia Tech Athletics representatives.

Individuals who are selected for recognition will receive the following: an announcement on HokieSports.com and the @hokiesports social media platforms, a certificate to send to

each person recognizing him or her, an autographed item from a Virginia Tech coaching staff member, and the opportunity to be recognized at various athletic events throughout the year





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