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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

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

> Chad Osborne Radford University

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 Au-

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 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



adjacent land, for allowing the event West End Wednesdays will include a lot of family-friendly fun, from live area to expand to allow more room for music to food and beverage sales, vendors, and activities.

Project, described as a "four-piece jazzinfused, improvisational funk-rock band hailing from the mountains of southwestern Virginia," on www.floy-

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

See West End, page 2

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

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

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 reperforming the diverse music of

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 "Appala-





gion and challenges listener expectations about those who are 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,

chian 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. 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



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.

Local produce brimming at Radford Farmers Market

From peaches to 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

West Main Street.



PCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, July 10:

New River Valley Garden Tour

The cost is \$15 with the tour conducted from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., rain or shine. Advance tickets, maps, and brochures are now available at each branch of the Montgomery Floyd Regional Library

Mt. Tabor Ruritan Fish Fry

Mount Tabor Ruritan Club will hold its July Fish Fry from 5 to 7 p.m. at Slusser's Chapel Picnic Shelter, 1543 Mount Tabor Road, Blacksburg. To be offered are single servings of fish, fries, slaw, homemade desserts, and beverages. The cost is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Children under three eat free. Carry-outs will also be \$8. DJ Gene Broadus will be spinning some music, and the fish fry will be held rain or shine. Call or text 540-449-6178 for further in-

Pilot Community Center auctions

At its most recent meeting, members of the Pilot Community Center decided to hold a series of auctions to raffle off three gift cards of \$25 each at Linkous Auctions. These will be the community center's only fundraisers until the fall to have money for other renovations. Community members will be set up from 9 a.m. until noon and then will take the tickets to Larry Linkous, who will draw the winning tickets and announce the winners. The auction schedule and setup locations are July 17, Old Sourwood Road, and Aug. 7, Chloe Bishop, 5950

Monday, July 12:

Break-in Bags

Beginning at 10 a.m. at the Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Jessie Peterman Memorial, and Meadowbrook Public Library branches. Solve three puzzles to find the numeric code that will open the lock and free your loot. Recommended for ages 10 years and up. Supplies are lim-

STEM Club

At the Christiansburg Library at 1 p.m. Watch the library's virtual STEM club. Email shodges@mfrl.org for any

Monday, July 12 -Wednesday, July 14:

Basketball Clinic

Christiansburg's Parks and Recreation Department will host a basketball clinic from July 12 through July 14 for ages 5-14 at the Christiansburg Recreation Center. The registration fee is \$30.

Tuesday, July 13:

MCPS public hearing on health, safety plan

Montgomery County Public Schools will hold a public hearing on the 2021-2022 Health and Safety Plan on July 13. Online comments will also be accepted. More information is available at https://

Telephone: ____

buff.ly/3zC1Jl2.

Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784, will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant at 3204 Riner Road. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are invited to attend. The evening will include a discussion on the 50th Virginia Infantry Regiment. For further information, call 320-4315 or 239-9864.

Woman's Club of Radford meeting The Woman's Club of Radford will

have a luncheon meeting at Al's on First in Pulaski at 11:30 a.m. Reservations may be made by calling Nancy Kolb at 639-5652. Persons interested in carpooling should meet at the Radford Library at 11

All Ages Crafternoon

At the Blacksburg Library from 2-3:30 p.m. Celebrate National Anti-Boredom Month by joining in for an exciting afternoon of summer crafts, coloring, and puzzles. All ages are welcome. Supplies will be provided.

Wednesday, July 14:

Radford Library Brown Bag Book

The Brown Bag Book Club is getting together again. Read "Follow the River" by James Alexander Thom and join the club to discuss the book at noon. No formal commitment is needed; just drop in when the book appeals to you.

Evening Book Talk: "The Island of Sea Women"

At the Christiansburg Library from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. To be discussed this month is "The Island of Sea Women" by Lisa See, in person and virtually.

Wednesday, July 14 – **Saturday, July 17:**

Freedom Fellowship Vacation Bible

From Wednesday, July 14, through Friday, July 16 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. and on Saturday, July 17 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 1730 West St., Radford (near Bisset Park). The fun will include songs, skits, Bible lessons, crafts, games and food each day.

Saturday, July 17:

American Legion Yard Sale

American Legion Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will hold a yard sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Legion building at 27 W. Main St. in Radford. For further information, call 250-2283 or 239-9864.

All day at the Christiansburg Library. Sign up at the front desk for a 15-minute slot to read to a cat from the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center to practice reading and socialize shelter cats. All ages. Email shodges@ mfrl.org for more information.

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org



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P.O. BOX 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901 or call us at (304) 647-5724.

Monday, July 19 -Thursday, July 22:

CHS Volleyball Camp

From 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Christiansburg Recreation Center. For ages 9-12. Parents may register their children by calling 540-382-2349 or visiting www.christiansburg.org/register. The registration deadline is Friday, July 16. The registration fee is \$30.

Tuesday, July 20:

100+ Women Who Care NRV Summer 2021 Quarterly Meeting

At the Blacksburg Country Club banquet hall and on Zoom from 7 to 8 p.m. Meetings are always one hour or less. Every quarter, each member contributes \$100 directly to a charity selected by majority vote with at least \$10,000 being donated in total to the elected organiza-

No membership dues or additional commitments of time or money are required, and members can enter the quarterly drawing to represent a favorite not-for-profit to the group for consideration of that meeting's entire donation amount. All funds remain in the NRV area. Contact nrv100wwc@gmail.com, www.100womenwhocarenrv.com, Sarah Black at (937) 205-3722.

Tween Book Club

At the Montgomery Floyd Regional Library online at 3 p.m. For anyone between the ages of 9 and 12 who is looking for a place to chat about some cool books, this is it. Whether you are new to book clubs, or a book club pro, you can join the discussion. This month the club will be reading "Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH." To join, email mroach@mfrl. org for more information.

Popsicle Stick Canvas Art

At the Meadowbrook Public Library from 5 to 6 p.m. All supplies will be provided. Come join a fun painting session for teens and adults. Paint a beautiful silhouette scene on 5.5 x 6 inch wooden canvas. Pre-registration by phone or in person is required, and only 15 spots are available. The program will be in the picnic shelter if it rains.

Pressure Canner Testing -Virginia Cooperative Extension

At the Meadowbrook Court Yard from 3 to 6 p.m. Bring a dial gauge canner to have it tested for accuracy in preparation for the canning season. The extension service can test dial gauges for National (those made by the National Pressure Cooker Company, Eau Claire, Wisconsin), Magic Seal (sold at Montgomery Ward), Maid of Honor (sold at Sears, Roebuck, and Company), and Presto Pressure Canners. Call 540-745-9307 to reserve a time slot.

Ongoing: Through July 12:

Registration for 4-H Summer Day

Montgomery County 4-H is offering two summer day camps in late July, Taste of 4-H Adventures and Outdoor Enthusiasts. If you have kids who are still looking for summer day camps, check these out. Registration for one or both camps will be taken until 5 p.m. on Monday July 12 at https://tinyurl.

Through July 17:

com/21mont4hsummercamps.

MFRL Summer Reading Program Sign up in person or online. Partici-

pants may choose how long they want to read every day, log the days they read, and win a free book when they read for 10 days and a raffle entry for prizes when they read for 15 days. Adults may register online and log their reading to be automatically entered in weekly prize draw-

Now through July 31:

Radford Public Library's Summer Reading Program

The library is running its annual summer reading program for kids, teens, and adults. The reading program promotes reading daily to earn prizes and to earn entries to win raffle baskets. The program is a fun way to promote literacy, encourage reading as a healthy habit, and help readers experience reading as fun and ad-

Through Aug. 29:

Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery exhibit "Mountain Rail Trails" Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gal-

lery is now showing its newest art gallery exhibit, "Mountain Rail Trails," featuring photography by Dale R. Carlson of Bluemoonistic Images. The exhibit will be on display through

August 29 and dovetails nicely with the train observatory platform and exhibit found at the edge of the grounds of Glencoe. Everyone is welcome to visit the museum and there is no admission charge. Glencoe is located at 600 Unruh Dr. in

Through September:

Blacksburg's Market Square Jam 2021 Blacksburg's Market Square Jam 2021 is each Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. through September at Market Square

Through October:

Radford Farmers Market

The Radford Farmers Market is each Saturday through October 30 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the New River Valley Community Service parking lot (the old Wade's parking lot) on West Main Street.

Christiansburg Farmers Market

The Christiansburg Farmers Market is every Thursday through October at the Christiansburg Recreation Center parking lot from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m.

Earl White from page 1

Farm Artisan Bakery in Floyd. He is often seen at the Blacksburg Farmers

A prominent figure in the Old Time music and

dance community more than 40 years, White 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.

An original and founding member of the famed Green

West End from page 1

2016 by a group of passionate individuals who wanted to see a new lively, family friendly, and free event in our home town."

WEW "began as a pilot program under the Radford Chamber of Commerce and in 2018 WEW became an independent event solely run and organized by Mountain-

Trotter along with a dedicated group of volunteers."

We're able to maintain this event with the financial help of our sponsors and partners, with the assistance of the Radford Heritage Foundation, and from the generous donations from you, our community," reads MountainTrotter's announcement. "We encourage you to come out and enjoy the summer evenings with us. Bring a lawn chair, a blanket, or pull up a piece of shady grass. Bring your favorite game, relax, and enjoy."

The events are also dogfriendly. No outside alcohol is allowed, and ID is required for all alcohol purchases.

Farm Bureau to offer free virtual Medicare seminars



Virginia Farm Bureau is offering a series of free Medicare seminars at 10 a.m. on Aug. 3 and Sept. 7 and at 6 p.m. on July 29, Aug. 26, and Sept. 23.

Virtual Medicare 101 seminars were so popular in 2020 that Virginia Farm Bureau is once again offering a series of free informational classes for its Seminars will be held at 10 a.m. on

Aug. 3 and Sept. 7 and at 6 p.m. on July 29, Aug. 26, and Sept. 23. "Medicare can be confusing, and it's

important that you have a good understanding of how Medicare works," said Tracy Cornatzer, sales manager for Virginia Farm Bureau's Health Insurance division. "We had a great turnout in 2020, and since the pan-

See **Medicare**, page 3

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 &



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 member 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

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

gan's complex COV-ID-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 it too, if we all get vac- Virginia Tech. cinated."

tors have included the prevent the spread of adoption of face cover- COVID-19," said Virings, testing, and fre- ginia Tech President Tim quency of public health Sands. "The closer we messaging, but the wide- get to our goal of a 100 spread availability of vac- percent vaccination rate, cinations has proven a the closer we are to remuch more influential turning to the full Vir-

"In terms of effectiveness, nothing is compa- has been a part of the rable to vaccines in the university's decision-model," he said. "If we making process through-start the semester with out the COVID-19 pana very large majority of demic. His models for students and employees both the fall and spring vaccinated, you see a big semesters of the 2020-21 change. There are almost academic year can now no COVID cases."

eling confirms the impor- periods. tance of the university's approach to vaccinations state-of-the-art fully in-person fall semes- "Over the past year, pre-

model demonstrates that making and contributed vaccines are the most ef- to the safe operation of



a reasonable social life Navid Ghaffarzadegan, an associate professor in the Grado Department of Industrial and stay safe and healthy and Systems Engineering in the Virginia Tech College of Engineering, has used a while enjoying your edu- combination of mathematical modeling, complex systems methods, and simulation cational experience. You techniques to gauge how proactive measures impact the spread of COVID-19 on can have the cake and eat and around the Blacksburg campus for more than a year. Photo by Lee Friesland for

Previously, major fac- fective tool we have to ginia Tech experience."

Ghaffarzadegan's work be compared to actual The most recent mod- data available from those

"Navid has created a - required for students that is tailored to Virand strongly encouraged ginia Tech," said Ron for employees – as Vir- Fricker, interim dean of ginia Tech prepares for a the College of Science. vious versions were used "Dr. Ghaffarzadegan's to help inform decision 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 that 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

Online Student Health Portal or CO-VID-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 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 Health Insurance divi- their choice and will sion will present the be sent a Webex link to join that meeting virtu-

> 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

Be sure to 'Like' the News Journal on Facebook.

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

In its survey released Tuesday of the best cities in the country for first-time home buyers, the personal finance website WalletHub ranked four Virginia cities in the top 10, including Chesapeake, which it ranked as the best city in the entire country for new hom-

To determine the most favorable housing markets for first-time buyers, WalletHub took the pulse of real estate in 300 cities of varying sizes using 22 key metrics. The data set ranges from housing affordability to real-estate tax rate to property-

In addition to Chesapeake's coming in at the top of the heap, WalletHub ranked Hampton, Va., as the sixth-best market for firsttime home buyers, Virginia Beach as No. eight, and Norfolk, Va., as

In a telling statistic, the website's bottom nine (293-300) as the worst locations in the country for first-time home buyers to be looking for a home are all in California. In another telling statistic, Wal-

letHub reported that in 2020, 40% of all U.S. single-family home purchases were made by first-time buyers, and 14% more people became first-time buyers than the previous year. This growth, the website said, is due in part to the fact that interest rates dropped dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The website noted that where a home is located is just as important as what features it has. An unpleasant neighborhood can sour the experience of a great home. Potential buyers may want to narrow their search down to an area with a good reputation before getting into housing details.

So WalletHub stepped in to simplify the process, comparing 300 cities across 22 key indicators tractiveness, affordability, and quality of life. The indicators used in the af-

fordability dimension were housing affordability, the average cost of homeowners insurance, the cost of living, the cost per square foot, and the real-estate tax rate.

In the real-estate market attractiveness dimension, WalletHub used the rent-to-price ratio, the median days on the market, the median home-price appreciation, the foreclosure rate, the share of housing units built between 2010 and 2019, the extent of the building-permit activity (the number of unit permits per 1,000 residents), the number of mortgage lenders per capita, the number of real estate agents per capita, and the homeownership rate for millennials.

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 violentcrime rate, and the property-crime

Governor announces extension of Virginia expanded child care subsidy program

Virginia Governor Ralph Northam Wednesday announced that Virginia families with young children will have improved access to quality, affordable child care through an extension of the expanded Child Care Subsidy Program through Dec. 31, 2021.

Earlier this year, Governor Northam signed House Bill 2206, sponsored by Speaker Eileen Filler-Corn, which established a new

short-term eligibility cat- child care is not only critiegory for parents seeking cal to the health and safety financial assistance for child of Virginia's children, but care while looking for emit is also important for ad-ployment that also tempovancing a strong, equitable rarily increased the income recovery," said the governor. eligibility criteria through "Extending these resources July 31, 2021. The governor through the end of 2021 has directed the Virginia will help close the afford-Department of Education ability gap for parents and to use existing federal fund- providers, allowing thouing to continue covering sands of Virginians to reco-payments for families turn to work, support their

through the end of the year. families, and grow our econ-"Access to high-quality omy."

The expanded Child Care Subsidy Program makes financial assistance for child care available to families with at least one child under age five who is not yet in kindergarten with a household income up to 85 percent of the state median income. This expansion nearly doubles the previous income threshold in many regions of the commonwealth and is the highest eligibility level in Virginia history.

Families approved for

the subsidy will remain eligible to receive benefits for 12 months, or until their income exceeds 85 percent of the state median income. More than 1,000 additional Virginia families were receiving child care assistance through the expanded Child Care Subsidy Program as of July 1, 2021.

"Our team has visited programs in every region of the commonwealth this year, and the benefits of inperson instruction for our littlest learners are clear," said First Lady Pamela Northam. "Virginia's early educators are truly superheroes, and we want to ensure all families have access to these vital programs."

As of June 2021, over 90 percent of licensed early childhood programs in Virginia were open, yet enrollment in the Child Care Subsidy Program was only 78 percent of what it was prior to the pandemic. The effort to continue assistance

coincides with projected increases in demand for child care as parents and caregivers seek new employment or return to in-person work "Every child in Virginia is

capable of success in school and beyond if they have access to the right resources," said Speaker Filler-Corn. "I know as a mom myself that parents want what is best for their children. By reducing barriers to quality child care, this extension will be of great help to working families." The General Assembly allocated \$62.1 million to the

Department of Social Services and the Department of Education across state fiscal years 2021 and 2022 to expand access to the Child Care Subsidy Program. On July 1, 2021, the Department of Education became the lead agency for oversight of early childhood care and education programs in Virginia, a change that will help build a more unified and equitable system.

"Co-payments can be an insurmountable barrier for families who are already struggling economically as a result of the pandemic,' said Sen. Louise Lucas. "We want every parent and family in Virginia with a little learner to know that there are new resources available for quality care and educa-

On Wednesday, First Lady Northam kicked off a Child Care Access Month of Action with visits to early childhood care and education programs to raise awareness about these new resources.

"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."

RADFORD **News Journal**

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Radford News Journal is a newspaper of, by and for the people of Radford. We encourage letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached for verification. All letters will be verified before publication. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

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Virginia's gas prices rise again

Virginia gas prices have stand 94.3 cents per gallon ago. higher than a year ago.

was \$3.49/g, a difference of 82.0 cents per gallon.

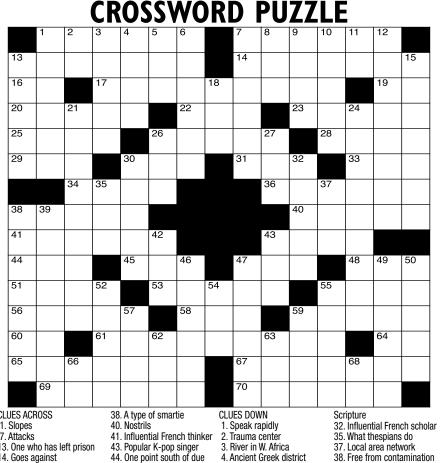
The national average risen 0.9 cents per gallon price of gasoline was unin the past week, averag- changed in the last week, ing \$2.94/g, according to averaging \$3.12/g as of GasBuddy's daily survey of Thursday. The national 4,081 stations in Virginia. average is up 7.9 cents per Gas prices in Virginia are gallon from a month ago 1.2 cents per gallon higher and stands 94.3 cents per than a month ago and gallon higher than a year

"Gasoline demand over According to GasBuddy the holiday weekend cerprice reports, the cheap- tainly did not disappoint est station in Virginia was as millions of Americans priced at \$2.67/g Thursday flooded the roads for the while the most expensive long weekend, guzzling down gasoline at a clip not seen in years," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy. "In the process, we could have set new all-time records for consumption.

"As OPEC+ met over the weekend and saw a heated disagreement about raising oil production, West Texas Intermediate crude oil surged in Monday evening electronic trading to nearly \$77 per barrel on higher demand and a lack of additional supply from OPEC amidst a mountain of disagreement on how to respond to the market. For now, with imbalances in supply and demand continuing, motorists will continue digging deeper to pay

for gasoline as prices are likely headed nowhere but up until global supply starts to catch up with the continued surge in demand."

GasBuddy is the authorative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data spanning nearly two decades. Gas-Buddy'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.Gas-Buddy.com.



CLUES ACROSS Slopes 7. Attacks

13. One who has left prison 14. Goes against 16. Atomic #37 17. Home of The Beatles

19. Mac alternative 20. A common boundary with 22. Fluid in a plant 23. Genus that includes scads

25. Longer of the forearm 26. Gradually disappears 28. Al risk assesso

29. Type of whale 30. Jaws of a voracious 31. Patriotic women (abbr.) 33. Ancient Egyptian God

34. Obsessed with one's

appearance

48. Bar bill

51. An idiot

mind

61. Carousel

53. Indicates silence

55. Protein-rich liquids

56. Rhythmic patterns

59. Belongs to bottom layer

60. Impulsive part of the

64. Type of degree 65. Ornamental molding

67. Locks in again

70. Come into view

69. Sounds the same

43. Popular K-pop singer 44. One point south of due . Ancient Greek district 45. Payroll company 47. Moved quickly on foot

Bulgaria's monetary unit Children's ride 7. Absorbed liquid 8. Markets term 9. Retail term recording sales

10. Automaton 11. Spanish form of "be' 12. Divide

13. Malaysian sailing boat 15. Writers 18. Cool! 21. Popular tourist attraction studio 24. Sets free

26. An enthusiastic devotee

30. Alternate term for Holy

Unhappy

between two peaks

50. Rose-red variety of spine Orange-brown in color 54. Lowest point of a ridge 55. Late TNT sportscaster 57. A way to wedge

49. Suitable for growing crops

39. Coastal region of Canada

42. Sun up in New York 43. High schoolers' exam

47. Call it a career

66. Atomic #45

68. Top lawyer

59. Cold, dry Swiss wind 62. Hockey players need it 63. Something highly prized

Roanoke marine accounted for from Korean War WASHINGTON—The

POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced Wednesday that Marine Pfc. Henry E. Ellis, 22, of Roanoke, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for on Sept. 29, 2020. The family only just now received the

full briefing on his identification, which accounts for the delay in the release. In late 1950, Ellis was a member of

Headquarters Company, 1st Service Battalion, 1st Marine Division. He was killed in action on Nov. 30, 1950, while defending the convoy of which he was a member near Koto-ri, North Korea. His body was not immediately recovered, though many deceased Marines were later recovered and buried in the United Nations Cemetery at Koto-ri as UN forces withdrew from the area. During Operation GLORY in 1954,

the Democratic People's Republic of Korea returned the remains of just over 4,200 individuals, of which nearly 3,000 were determined to be Americans. During the subsequent processing and identification of these remains, none were associated with Ellis, and he was declared non-recoverable on Jan. 16, 1956. At the end of the identification process, 848 unidentified remains,

including one designated X-13631 Op-

eration GLORY, were interred at the

National Memorial Cemetery of the

Pacific, also known as the Punchbowl, in Honolulu.

In March 2012, historians, anthropologists, and odontologists at the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, a predecessor to DPAA, conducted indepth research to support the exhumation of X-13631, narrowing down the possibility of who that unknown might be to two Marines, one of whom was Ellis. On Nov. 5, 2018, DPAA disinterred X-13631 and seven other unknowns as part of the Korean War Identification Project. These remains were transferred to the DPAA Laboratory at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for analysis.

To identify Ellis's remains, scientists from DPAA used dental and anthropological analysis as well as circumstantial evidence. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Exam-

iner System used mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) analysis. Ellis's name is recorded on the Courts of the Missing at the Punchbowl, along with the others who are still missing from the Korean War. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he

has been accounted for. Ellis will be buried on Aug. 23, 2021, in Salisbury, N.C.

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 agricultural trucking also was a disadvantage in a fastrecovering 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.

ary.
"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."

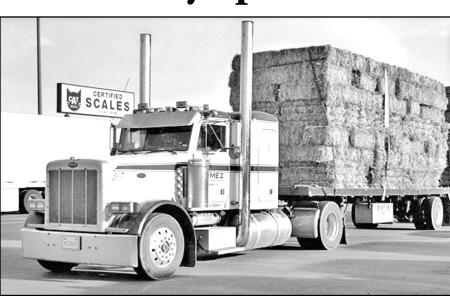
While companies are starting to pay higher trucker wages, years of

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.

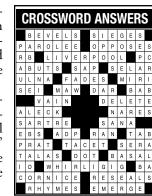
Department of Transportation to implement an apprenticeship program for commercial drivers under 21.

Virginia Farm Bureau
Virginia Grain Diviters 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 justin-time delivery has fueled demand for even more drivers because current haulers are limited by restrictions on drive time.

"And manufactur-

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



ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

St. Philip's Anglican Church, 306 Progress Street, NE, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060, (540) 552-1771, 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 for midweek 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 stedfast, unmoveable, 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. fbcradford.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.

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

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 (Proverbs6:10–11).

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

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST Radford Church of God in Christ, 206 Russell Ave., Radford. Supt. Ronald A. Watson, Sr.; Elder 639-5948 Sup. School 9 a m: Prayer

Sell 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. 540-639-2671.

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

Merrimac Pentecostal Holiness Church, Rev. Larry Christopher (540) 552-7194. 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

vided 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 Rad- ford**, 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. 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. St. Paul United Methodist Church, 220 W.

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.

BITUARIES

Board, Jason Dale

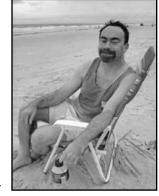
Jason Dale Board joined the angels in Heaven to be with his Lord and Savior on Friday, July 2, 2021, at Memorial Medical Health Center in Savannah, Ga.

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

Jason was born 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,

Tatum, III, Paul Robert Paul Robert Tatum,

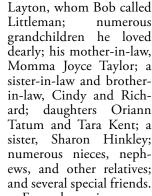
III, 66, of Meadows of Dan, died Saturday, July 3, 2021.

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,



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,

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, Nakecia 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

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 vi-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

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 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 sion who founded two food banks in Carterville Heights Road, Wytheville,

Turner, Jr., Dr. Robert (Bob) Griffith

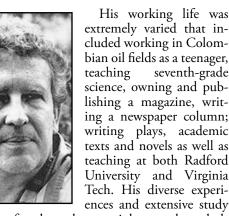
On June 29, 2021 the Renaissance man who was Dr. Robert (Bob) Griffith Turner, Jr., Ph.D., departed this world, ending a fascinating journey through life. Bob passed away peacefully in his Blacksburg home surrounded by family.

The son of Robert Griffith Turner, Sr., and Jans Deahl Turner, Bob was born at Schofield

Barracks in Oahu, Hawaii, on Feb. 12, 1938. Later in life, he laughed when he told his children that the sign on the hospital ward where he was born said "No Children Allowed."

Bob grew up in an Army family and moved many times during his childhood. Along the way, he was able to earn numerous Boy Scout badges, compete in track, swimming, fencing, and gymnastics, and develop a love for minerology, art, and reading.

He was a citizen of the world, exposed to many cultures and places including spending his formative high school years in Colombia, South America, and attending a German high school. He attended Randolph Macon College where he competed in cross county and swimming and was a member of Theta Chi. Thereafter, he earned a masters degree in science and his Ph.D. in philosophy from Virginia Tech. He was a member of Phi Kappa Phi. He was also a veteran, having served honorably in the United Stated Army.



of anthropology, sociology, and psychology led him to be deeply passionate about humankind as well as the environment.

His published works include "The Fire and the Rose" (HarperCollins 1996), "Blackberry Summer," and "Nearvanna." His play, "Elves," was produced and performed at the Christiansburg Community Theatre.

Bob is survived by the six children whom he loved and was very proud of: Adrienne Turner (Linda Hunt), Erin Turner (Randy Yoho), Robin King, Allyn Turner, Devin Turner (Sherrie), and Brenden Turner; grandchildren Jessica King, Thomas King, Isaac McKinnon, and Eva Toor; nephews Matthew Castro, Sebastian Castro, Jim Turner, Jr., Robert Turner, Andy White; Nieces Matilde Castro Fidler, Chris Crabtree; and four great-grandchildren. His ex-wife, Patricia Dawson Turner was his steady support and beloved confidant.

Services and interment are private. Arrangements are by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

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 greatgrandchildren 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-

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

Wallace, Charles David "Dave"

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 Kil-

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, Wallace; brothers Walter Wallace and Ann, James Wallace and Angel and Donald Wallace and Lisa; mother-inlaw 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-



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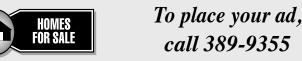




News Messenger



RADFORD News Journa



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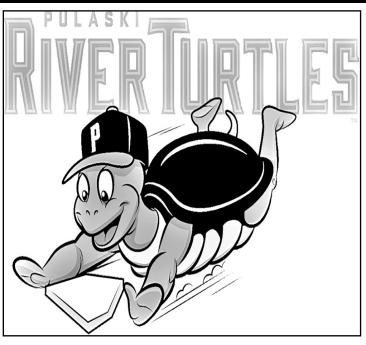
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RADFORD SPORTS



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 seveninning, complete-game shutout 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 (9for-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

Pair of Blacksburg golfers win on Blue Ridge Golf Tour

Jack Skinner and Rylan Mc-Ginnis 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

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

Logan Douthat of Pearisburg

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

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.

rience, 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-

Each registration will include an official race packet mailed to the address provided at checkout. 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 Tshirt, 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

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 matchup against Middle Tennessee on Sept. 11. Tickets will be distributed to veterans and active duty service members and their families via VetTix.

As part of the fan day expe-

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) 25) Spaulding, McKenna Cameron Patterson, 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.

Shawsville July 4th 5K results (top 50)

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

Hole-in-one



Zach Rutledge made a hole-in-one on hole number 3 at Auburn

Marty Gordon NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Hills this past weekend.

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

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.

helping to grow the next generation of Hokies. During the upcoming 2021-22 athletic sea-The program is de-

ticipation and

signed to promote par-

good sportsmanship throughout youth sports while

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).

son, Tech will recognize

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 HokieSports.com on 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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