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SUBMITTED PHOTO
The new Community Fridge at Pazar's, a breakfast and lunch restaurant in west Radford, is up and running with fresh food for hungry folks.

Community Fridge offers fresh food free for the hungry

Heather Bell
communitynews@ourvalley.org

RADFORD – A new project spearheaded by Pazar's owner Samantha Newcome is feeding hungry people in Radford. Newcome recently installed a Community Fridge outside of her restaurant on West Main St. in Radford. The fridge contains fresh and frozen food free for people in need, no questions asked. It is stocked by Newcome and by donors from the community. An adjacent dry storage area offers non-perishable food as well. Newcome said she has been in a bind for food at times in her life and wanted to do something to help. "I was once in those same shoes - times I need help and only a few resources available," she said recently. "Other cities and towns have one and I felt that Radford deserved one as well. I want to help fill the bellies of those in need, to provide supplemental help to others until their next pay check or SNAP/WIC ben-

efits come in." Newcome says she has seen the community benefit already. "First day is was completely emptied out," she said. "There is a huge need in our area. Everyone has to eat, no matter what your financial situation is." Newcome got approval for the Community Fridge from the Virginia Department of Health, and food safety is paramount. Therefore, food donations are definitely encouraged but must follow certain guidelines. Newcome describes them as follows: These items are FREE to anyone. Food or monetary donations are more than welcomed, but it comes with many rules: 1. Only prepackaged items (frozen dinners, yogurt, milk, cheese, juice boxes, etc.) that are already made and sealed and in date. NO FOODS COOKED AT HOME can be accepted! 2. Fresh fruits and vegetables are accepted, but need to be individually wrapped if skin can be eaten. Examples: plums, grapes, apples, potatoes, etc. If this can't

be done, you are more than welcome to bring the produce to Newcome inside the restaurant and she will wrap them. Newcome says "all I ask in return" is: 1. Be respectful and take only what is needed. 2. Make sure the door is completely closed after opening it, so products don't go to waste. 3. Please clean up after yourself. If something breaks or spills, please clean it up or come inside the restaurant and let me know and I can clean it immediately. We all make mistakes, it's no big deal. 4. If you bring bags of food to donate, please take any trash back with you and do not leave items on the ground. 5. Be respectful and do not destroy or damage any property, as cameras are located all around. Pazar's is open Wednesday through Sunday from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. and is located at 703 West Main St. The restaurant serves homestyle breakfast, lunch and desserts.

Pulaski man charged in Radford kidnapping

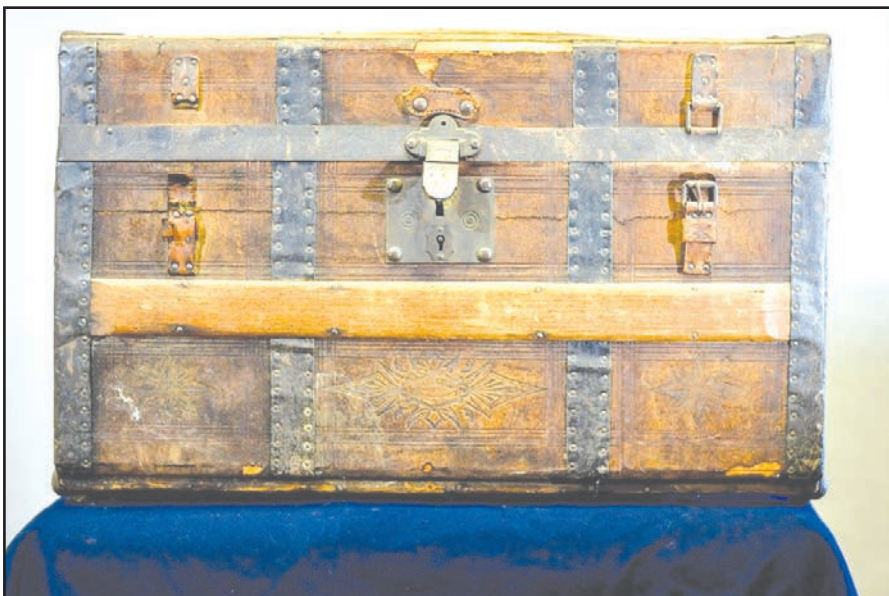
RADFORD police have charged 29-year-old Deshawn K. Tucker of Pulaski in the forcible kidnapping of two women this past week. According to investigators, the victims were taken by Tucker after a January 10 incident at the Radford Food City parking lot on Tyler Avenue. Police spokeswoman Jenni Goodman said the women were found in a home in Henry County after they were able to contact the Henry County Sheriff's office by cell phone. When police arrived, Tucker fled but later

turned himself into Henry County authorities. Police have not released if the suspect knew the two females. Turker is being held without bond at the New River Valley Jail on two counts of kidnapping or abduction to gain pecuniary benefit by extortion.

Virginia taxpayers can start filing individual returns Monday, January 24

Virginia Tax has announced that Virginia taxpayers can start filing both state and federal individual income tax returns beginning Monday, Jan. 24. Last year, electronic filing increased by 2% as over 100,000 more Virginians took advantage of this option. Filing a return electronically has many benefits: Electronically filed returns are typically processed within two weeks while mailed returns may take up to eight weeks or longer to process; Taxpayers are less likely to make common mistakes such as putting the wrong number in the wrong place or making math errors; Electronic filing meets strict security guidelines to protect a tax return; and taxpayers will receive confirmation that their return was filed. Taxpayers whose income was \$73,000 or less in 2021 are eligible to file their taxes for free. Virginia Tax takes refund fraud seriously and encourages taxpayers to do the

same. The automated system reviews returns for suspicious activity or possible fraud before employees manually evaluate the returns selected for review. Filing early helps ensure the fastest possible refund if a return is selected for review. **Taxpayer To-Do 2022:** Taxpayers should be sure to enter their correct address and bank information. Last year, more than 16,000 direct deposits were rejected for incorrect bank information. Taxpayers may check the status of their refunds by calling 804.367.2486 or by using the Where's My Refund application on the Virginia Tax website. Taxpayers may pay any taxes owed with one of these payment options: Pay online directly from a bank account with no additional fees, or use a credit or debit card, which incurs an additional fee. Mail a check or money order, which must be postmarked by the due date. For additional information, visit www.tax.virginia.gov.



SUBMITTED PHOTO
This Civil War-era trunk in the VT Corps of Cadets museum contains stationery dated 1872, the year the school opened.

Civil War-era trunk at Virginia Tech among Virginia's top 10 endangered artifacts

A Civil War-era trunk is one of a handful of historical objects in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets museum collection from the birth year of Virginia Tech. The trunk contains a piece of stationery from the Preston and Olin Institute on which is written "1872" and the initials "W.H.W." In 1872, the Preston and Olin Institute was awarded start-up money from the Morrill Land Grant Act to become the Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College at Blacksburg. The school opened on Oct. 1, 1872, and today is Virginia Tech. Not much is known

about the trunk or who "W.H.W." is, said Samantha Riffin, the corps' museum curator. The trunk had been displayed in the Corps Museum in the basement of Rasche Hall until that building was demolished in 2013 to make way for Pearson Hall East. The trunk moved from the museum space to the corps offices in Lane Hall and was rediscovered a few months ago. The Virginia Association of Museums this month recognized the trunk as one of Virginia's Top 10 Endangered Artifacts Honorees for 2021, a program that highlights the importance of Virginia museums and

the expense and expertise necessary to care for the unique historic and cultural items in their care. Through Jan. 27, the public can visit the association's website to vote for their favorite of the 10 endangered artifacts. The object receiving the most votes will earn \$2,000 in conservation funding. Repairing and preserving the trunk could take upward of \$10,000, Riffin said. This year, Virginia Tech is celebrating the 150th anniversary of its founding with ongoing celebrations that will extend across the commonwealth, the nation, and the world.



SUBMITTED PHOTO
The Radford Public Library is hosting a Family Puzzle Competition this Tuesday. Registration is required.

Library looking for puzzle pro families

RADFORD - The Radford Public Library is hosting a Family Puzzle Competition this Tuesday, Jan. 25, from 6 - 7 p.m. Teams/families will compete to be the first to finish a 500 piece puzzle in what the library hopes

will be "a thrilling family event!" Space is limited, so registration is required. Call the library at 731-3621 to register a team or ask to be placed on a team when you call. Hot cocoa and light snacks will be provided.

The puzzle competition is one of several events the library has coming up. A few others include: Healthy Choices for the New Year Thursday, Jan. 27, See Puzzle, page 4

UPCOMING EVENTS

Now through Feb.1:

Town of Blacksburg Leaf Collection
The Town of Blacksburg is finalizing leaf collection in the two remaining areas of town: Wyatt Farms and Woodbine. Residents are reminded that leaves may also be bagged and placed curbside until Feb. 1.

Now through Feb. 28:

MFRL adult winter reading program
The Montgomery Floyd Regional Library's adult winter reading program is challenging patrons to read during January and February and keep track of their reading on the library's Beanstack site. Earn badges with each book read and activity completed. <https://mfrl.beanstack.org/>.

Saturday Jan. 22:

Friends of the Library Book Sale
This is an all-day event at the Blacksburg Library; \$5 per bag of books. \$1 for hardbacks, \$.50 for paperbacks. Support the Friends of the Library and score some deals on terrific books.

Movie Pajama Party
At the Radford Public Library; 2 p.m. Take part in the best kind of movie night: a pajama party. Come in your coziest PJs and watch the movie "Smallfoot." Popcorn and hot cocoa are provided. The movie runs for 96 minutes and is rated PG. This event may end up requiring registration or other mitigating measures as COVID case counts continue to rise.

Sunday, Jan. 23:

NAACP Monthly Meeting
The January general body meeting at 3:30 pm. CREDO speaker will be Brianna Reeves, immediate past VSC Youth and College President and Youth and College National Board Member. She will discuss the NAACP National Cancel Student Debt campaign. If you are not yet a member of the NAACP, please consider joining. As a member, you'll make a difference each and every day in this fight and become part of a vibrant community of people who stand for justice and equality. Membership is the lifeblood of the NAACP. Visit www.naacp.org/join-naacp/become-member and choose Unit 7092 or mail an application and a check to Montgomery County-Radford City-Floyd County Branch NAACP, PO Box 6044, Christiansburg, Virginia 24068. Adult Membership is \$30 annually. Silver Life Membership is \$750 or \$75 (or more) annually. Youth Membership is \$10 (21 and younger). Bronze Life Membership is \$400 or \$50 (or more) annually.

Chess Club
At the Blacksburg Library; 3 p.m. Ages 8 years and up are welcome to come sharpen their chess skills. Supplies are provided. All skill levels are welcome.

Monday, Jan. 24:

Crafternoon
At the Radford Public Library; 1 to 2 p.m. Participants can bring their supplies to this Crafternoon Delight crafting club for adults.

Tuesday, Jan. 25:

Rock Painting
At the Meadowbrook Public Library; 4:30 p.m. Paint rocks to look like a fish (or other aquatic creature), put them in a fishbowl and decorate them to make a personal aquarium. All supplies are provided, and this is a free event. Recommended for ages 10 and up. As spaces are limited, pre-registration is requested.

Science-Fiction/Fantasy Book Club: "Trail of Lightning"
At the Blacksburg Library; 6:30 p.m. To be discussed is "Trail of Lightning" by Rebecca Roanhorse. Call 540-552-8246 to reserve a copy.

Wednesday, Jan. 26:

Lunch and Learn Listening Session
At the Blacksburg Library at noon. Sustainable Blacksburg is making a January listening session an annual tradition to keep building on community progress and to incorporate new ideas for the new year. This is a fun and interactive community listening and brainstorming session. Meeting in person or via Zoom by registering at <https://go.mfrl.org/BB012622>.

Thursday, Jan. 27:

Healthful Choices for the New Year
At the Radford Public Library, noon to 12:45 p.m. Registered dietician Annie Reed is the presenter. Register by Wednesday, Jan. 26 for a free vegetarian or turkey boxed lunch from Panera Bread. Learn about an exciting new research program called "iSIPsmarter" after the information session. Email elizabeth.sensabaugh@radfordva.gov to reserve a seat and a lunch today.

Saturday, Jan. 29:

Click Smarter photography Q and A
At the Radford Public Library from 11 a.m. to noon. Professional photographer Charlie Whitescarver will talk about photography and will look at your photographs and give you tips on how to improve them. Masks are required for in-person attendance of library programs. Whitescarver has been taking pictures and teaching the art of photography since the mid-1970s.

Quilting Marathon
At the Meadowbrook Public Library; 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The Meadowbrook Quilters are hosting a quilting marathon. The public is invited to see these skilled individuals working on quilts. The event is open to everyone at any skill level to come and join in the quilting or to just ask questions.

Bookmark Making
At the Blacksburg Library; 2 p.m. Use basic hand sewing skills to create a colorful elastic bookmark that fits many sizes of books. This is a quick and fun craft for anyone who can sew a few stitches. Best for ages 8 and up. All supplies are provided, registration is recommended. Call the library at 540-552-8246.

Sunday, Jan. 30:

Chess Club
At the Blacksburg Library; 3 p.m. Ages 8 and up are welcome to sharpen their chess skills. Supplies are provided. All skill levels are welcome.

Monday, Jan. 31:

Talking About Books
At the Blacksburg Library; 11 a.m. To be discussed is "The Long Petal of the Sea" by Isabel Allende. Call (540) 552-8246 to reserve a copy.

Teen Game Day
At the Blacksburg Library; 1 p.m. Spend an afternoon playing games like Among Us and Jackbox in person with other teens. Bring a device and download Among Us prior to the program. Pizza and beverages will be provided. Registration is required.

Stuffed Animal Taxidermy
At the Christiansburg Library; 3 p.m. Create a new wall hanging for your room. Transform stuffed animals into unique works of art. The library will supply all the materials needed. Recommended for ages 10 and up. Contact spahl@mfrl.org for more information. Registration is required.

Wednesday, Feb. 2:

Radford Chamber Business over Breakfast
The Radford Chamber of Commerce is hosting Business over Breakfast at BT'S on Tyler Avenue at 8 a.m. Speaker is to be determined. Registration is required by clicking the "register here" link on the Chamber's website (www.radfordchamber.com).

Thursday, Feb. 3:

American Legion meeting
American Legion Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will meet at 7 p.m. at the VFW Post Home on 102 Watts St. in Radford. If Radford City Public Schools are closed on Thursday or Friday of this week due to weather, the meeting is cancelled. For further information, call 250-2283 or 239-9864.

Tuesday, Feb. 8:

Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting
The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Family Italian Restaurant at 3204 Riner Road. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are invited to this meeting. Member William Reed will continue his series on "Small Arms of the Confederacy." If Montgomery County Public Schools are closed on Tuesday or Wednesday of this week due to weather, the meeting is cancelled. For further information, call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

Thursday, Feb. 10:

River City Quilt Guild
The River City Quilt Guild meets the second Thursday of each month at 9:30 a.m. at Grove United Methodist Church, 1020 Tyler Avenue, Radford. All skill levels of quilters are welcome. For more information call Anna Handy, 540 320 7791.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Montgomery Museum of Art and History has raised nearly \$800,000 toward the purchase of its new building at 4 E. Main St. in Christiansburg. The museum is set to close on the building on Feb. 28. The capital campaign total is \$1.6 million, and the museum is now reaching out to businesses and the general public seeking charitable donations.

Montgomery Museum’s building acquisition capital campaign enters public phase

The Montgomery Museum of Art and History has raised nearly \$800,000 in the past four months and is now reaching out to businesses and the general public, seeking charitable donations to continue raising funds toward its new location.

The museum is set to close on its new building at 4 East Main St., Christiansburg, on Feb. 28, 2022. \$1.6 million is the total amount of the capital campaign which includes the purchase price and building renovations.

“We are a museum growing with our community, and this building acquisition will greatly contribute to the revitalization and economic vitality of the region, offering a premier cultural destination in the New River Valley,” said the museum’s executive director, Casey Jenkins. “Through the generosity of many individuals, we have raised roughly half

of the funds needed in just four months and that’s fantastic.”

The museum, which serves all of Montgomery County, has outgrown its space at 300 S. Pepper St. The new space will allow the museum to meet the needs of the rapidly growing and diverse regional community of the New River Valley. Education, community engagement, and preservation are among the leading priorities for the Montgomery Museum, and each of these will be enhanced by the new space.

The building is a keystone of the Downtown Historic District in Christiansburg and will provide a vastly expanded space for the museum to serve as a community cultural center. This 15,000-square foot building enhances the museum’s organizational capacity and accommodates greater public pro-

gramming.

The new location will serve as the premier destination for community arts and history exhibitions and will boast greater exhibit space, library and archives, a café, a gift shop, and meeting space. Artifacts, including many currently held in off-site storage, will soon be stored and cared for properly on-site.

“This is a unique opportunity for the museum to provide a forum for rich storytelling, interactive experiences for students, research and genealogy, and to expand our ability to tell difficult and neglected stories of the New River Valley,” said museum curator Sherry Wyatt. “The space will serve as an excellent conservation and preservation facility for our object, photograph, archive, and textile collections.”

The goal of this building acquisition

is to position the museum to be a lasting cornerstone of the community and to make the visitor experience participatory, exciting, and inclusive. The museum will reach out to new audiences, cultivating community development and growth.

Since 1983, the Museum has operated out of the historic manse on Pepper Street. Plans are underway to retain the property, renting the space out to interested parties. The educational and recreational opportunities of the museum garden and outdoor art installations will continue.

For more information or questions on how to donate, visit <https://montgomerymuseum.org/capital-campaign/> or reach out to Casey Jenkins at director@montgomerymuseum.org or (540) 382-5644.



PHOTO BY LEE FRIESLAND FOR VIRGINIA TECH.

The Apex Center for Entrepreneurs recently held an open house in its new space above PK’s in downtown Blacksburg.

Virginia Tech receives small business model program award

Virginia Tech has received the Model Program Award from the United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (USASBE) during the 2022 USASBE Excellence in Entrepreneurship Education Awards held on Jan. 8.

The award recognizes bold and innovative programs making an impact in the field of entrepreneurship education with

comprehensive, high-quality educational programs that successfully train future generations of entrepreneurs.

“The award reflects our commitment to high-quality innovative teaching and expertise in the field of entrepreneurship,” said Pamplin College of Business Dean Robert Sumichrast. “We have worked very hard to build and grow a world-class entrepreneurship

program in a very short amount of time, and the success of the program is reflected in such honors.”

Colleges and universities are selected for USASBE awards after a

nomination process in which information regarding entrepreneurship programs is submitted and judged based on

See Award, page 6

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

Nice office spaces available in the McCraw Building in Radford. 616 West Main Street Off Sreet parking. Heat Pumps. Ins. Windows. Internet available. Space 1. 3 large offices with rest room. Coffee room. Nice. \$650 a month. Space 2. Nicer office space with 3 private offices plus large open receptionist/waiting room. 2 restrooms. Owner furnishes water, garbage pickup, and hot water. \$850 per month Agent owned. Available now.

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Viral TikTok shows how a paralyzed dog is able to walk again thanks to a veterinarian and 3D printer technology

Avril Arendse, clinical instructor of neurology and neurosurgery at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, and her neurosurgery team were able to combine high-tech technology and surgical teamwork to help a paralyzed dog walk again.

After an accident left Lily, a 2-year-old dachshund, paralyzed, her owners consulted several veterinarians for help. Lily wasn’t expected to walk again, at least not pain-free, and though surgery was an option, it had many risks. The private practice veterinarians and emergency animal hospitals in the area that her owners checked with weren’t equipped to perform the procedure.

Lily’s owners were determined to find a solution, so when there was mention of someone at the veterinary teaching hospital who might be able to help, they drove her five hours to see what could be done. They connected with Arendse, who had

See Dog, page 6

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OPINION

Buddy King: Another ‘frustrated sportswriter column’

This is another “frustrated sportswriter” column. I also put it in the category of a piece on “how we should look at things.” It’s a bit of a lament as to what has happened to college sports and also an explanation, or justification, as to why there is no one to blame.

The world of college sports, particularly college football with its money-sucking numbers game of “it’s not ‘x’s and ‘o’s, it’s Jimmy’s and Joe’s,” has been stood on its ear recently. The combination of “NIL” and the “transfer portal” has wreaked havoc on the way things have always been. And you probably can’t go backwards.

For those who avoid sports talk radio the way I avoid regular news, “NIL” refers to the newly found right of college athletes to profit financially from their own name, image and likeness, and the “transfer portal” refers to the means by which college athletes are now allowed to move from school to school with impunity, with no restrictions, no longer being required to sit out a year as a disincentive to transferring.

Taken together, NIL and the portal have created a means whereby athletes can put themselves out to bid and move from their current teams and schools to new ones 24/7/365. It is unrestricted free agency, a business model which almost ev

eryone agrees is not sustainable. The “haves” will most likely continue to only get stronger and the “have nots” might decide it’s not worth the price of admission. The idea of “giving it all up for State U” will disappear. Isn’t the loyalty of the fan base the next to go?

So who is to blame? How did we get here? Can we do anything to create a more sustainable model?

At first blush, it’s easy to blame “greedy” coaches and athletic directors and college administrators who draw down 7-figure salaries from what was until recently “amateur sports.” But not so fast, my friend (as Lee Corso says). Yes, coaches like Nick Saban and Dabo Swinney are getting paid the big bucks, but the institutions they work for have also had transformative increases in revenues at the same time, revenues that have benefits well beyond the sidelines.

Not only are the “minor sports” at most schools supported by the television dollars and donor gifts that come in through the efforts of successful coaches and athletic administrators, but many other aspects of the universities benefit. I understand the campuses and surrounding college towns in Tuscaloosa and Clemson are hardly recognizable from 15 years ago, mostly for the good I guess.

It’s always been said that it’s a lot easier to cheer for the football team than for the chemistry department. Likewise, it’s easier to raise dollars for a new football facility than a new chemistry building. But there is a lot of positive run off. So, in one sense, it’s easy to lay the blame on the riches these coaches and administrators receive, but the schools them-

selves benefit from these revenue streams, often well beyond the walls of the athletic facilities.

The corollary is that it was inevitable that the players, who have always been the main attraction, would want to share in the largesse. While amateurism is (was?) a laudable goal, at some point the disparity becomes too great and the picture becomes too clear. It was one thing for the promise of a free education (and \$30 a month “laundry money”) to be enough when coaches were paid like professors, quite another when college coaches have become the highest paid people in their states and everyone else seems to be benefiting except for the star performers. So let’s not blame the players for wanting their “fair share.” Human nature is human nature. Thankfully we are still a capitalist society in large part. Let the market determine.

To summarize, the consuming public has a seemingly insatiable appetite for college football, and the television networks have seemingly bottomless pockets of advertisers to feed this appetite. The result is unfathomable revenues to schools and mind boggling salaries to coaches and administrators, and the natural desire of players to have their fair share.

Courts and legislators have recognized that this is America at work. So, we end up with NIL and the transfer portal and chaos, but it’s no one’s fault. It just is. It is what it is.

Growing up, I often heard the phrase “Let’s not choke the golden goose.” It probably fits here. No one group is choking the goose, yet it seems to be getting strangled. Let’s not spend time casting blame, like we seem to do in every other aspect of life. Let’s just hope that smart people are looking for a fair solution.

HOME AND COUNTRY *By Slim Randles*

“Windy ... leave it to you to come up with something none of us ever really thought about before.”

“Well, Del,” Windy said to our one-man chamber of commerce, Delbert McLain, I figger you got more-a your finger on the pulsations of America than anybody else whoever lives ‘round here.”

Delbert’s promotional agility is amazing to behold. Why, just the International Knife Sharpening Olympics by itself was enough to make a guy legendary, and it didn’t even happen because they couldn’t find enough dull knives to get

it started. But the idea was worthwhile.

“I’m thinking what you need, Windy, is a campaign. You know ... let everyone know about you wanting an honorary degree and just keep at it until it ... happens.”

“Campaign?”

“Sure. How many local folks realize just how important that degree is to you?”

“Jest a couple’s all.”

“Hey, guy,” Delbert said, “let’s get out there and beat the drum on this. Okay? I’m behind your campaign all the way. Well, no, I can’t actually neglect my duties at the

chamber of commerce to actively ... campaign for you. But you figure something out and stick with it, and my money’s on you getting that degree. And if anyone asks for a reference, you just tell them to ask me.”

“Thanks so much, Delbert, you’re the best. So what should I do now?”

“Beats me,” he said, “but I know you’ll come up with something.”

Brought to you by Home Country (the book), published by Rio Grande Press and now available as a Kindle ebook on Amazon.

Puzzle from page 1

2022, noon - 12:45 p.m.

Learn new ways to get your new year started with a renewed perspective and good food and drink choices. Presenter Annie Reid is a Registered Dietitian Nutri-

tionist who will increase your health literacy and teach you about best practices for making healthy changes. Additionally, learn about an exciting research project called the iSIPsmarter program after the presentation. Register by Wednesday, Jan. 26 to get your free vegetarian or turkey Panera Bread boxed lunch! Email elizabeth.sensabaugh@radfordva.gov to register.

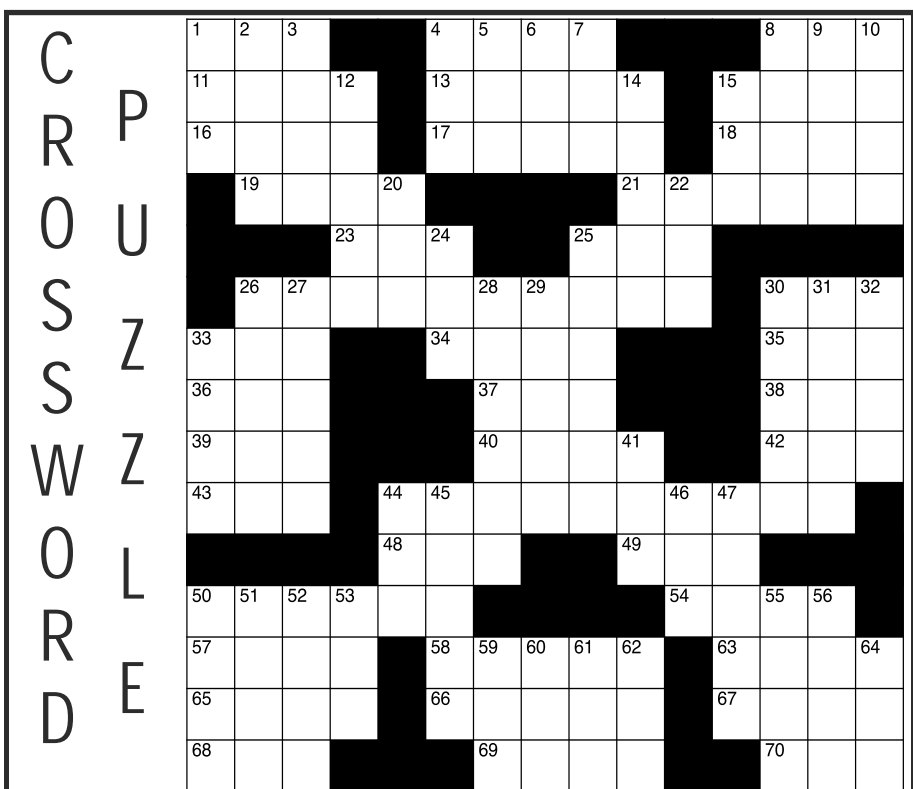
Click Smarter Saturday, Jan. 29,

2022, 11 a.m. - noon

Almost everyone can enjoy photography by simply using their cell phone to capture special moments. But if you'd like to learn more about your cell phone camera, or a new SLR camera, drop in and talk to professional photographer Charlie Whitescarver. In addition to helping you unlock some features of your camera he can look at your photographs and give you tips on how to improve them. Not

sure how to use the new camera that you got for Christmas? Charlie can help you with that too. Drop in for an informal and very helpful Q&A. Charlie Whitescarver has been taking pictures and teaching the art of photography since the mid-1970s. https://www.whitescarverphotographyllc.com/

For a complete list of Radford Public Library programs, log onto https://www.radfordva.gov/1187/Library.



- CLUES ACROSS
1. Point one point E of due S

4. Slithered

8. The brain and spinal cord (abbr.)

11. Direct the steering of a ship

13. Chops with irregular blows

15. Plural of hilum

16. Incline from vertical (geo.)

17. Simple word forms

18. Paddles

19. Roman garment

21. Meat skewers

23. Ethiopia (abbr.)

25. The cry made by sheep

26. Beaty-Bening movie

30. Concealed

33. Political action committee

34. High rock piles (Old English)

35. Scottish County (abbr.)

36. Goat and camel hair fabric

37. A very large body of water

38. Fabric stain

39. Israeli city ___ Aviv

40. Shoe's underside

42. Military legal corps

43. Patti Hearst's captors

44. Undecided

48. '___ death do us part

49. Supervises flying

50. Many headed monsters

54. Literary language of Pakistan

57. Halo

58. Hawaiian hello

63. Lubricants

65. Mild exclamation

66. Greek fresh-water nymph

67. Nickname for grandmother

68. A restaurant bill

69. Automaker Ransom E.

70. A young man

1. Schenectady County Airport

2. Small water craft

3. Opposite of ecto

4. The woman

5. Skeletal muscle

6. Devoid of warmth and cordiality

7. Decameter

8. Italian goodbye

9. Mediation council

10. Impudence

12. A desert in S Israel

14. Japanese seaport

15. Nob or goblin

20. Ingested

22. Swiss river

24. Protects head from weather

25. Lava rock

26. Designer identifier

27. 34470 FL

28. Petrified ancient animal

29. Gas used in refrigeration

30. Journeys to Mecca

31. Eighth month, Jewish calendar

32. Small indefinite quantity

33. Taps

41. Extremely high frequency

44. Iguanidae genus

45. From the Leaning Tower's city

46. Cologne

47. Moses' elder brother (Bible)

50. A minute amount (Scott)

51. Hindu name for 4 epochs

52. Faded and dull

53. Radioactivity unit

55. The face of a clock

56. The inner forearm bone

59. Tai language of the Mekong region

60. Embrocate

61. Possessed

62. Public promotions

64. Sorrowful

OBITUARIES

Cragett, Ruth Craighead

Ruth Craighead Cragett, 90, of Wood (Joe), Kristen Rogers Hayes Christiansburg, died Monday, Jan. 17, (Justin), Brandon Adkins, Lindsey Marshall (Mitchell), David Graham (Tiffany), and Angela Graham; great-grandchildren Jacob, Justine, Harper, Dawson, Mason, Emma, Lily Ruth, Jade, Jax, Brayden, Nate, Layla, Landon, and Bentley, as well as several nieces and nephews.



She was born in Montgomery County on May 25, 1931, to the late Arch M. and Amanda Kissinger Craighead.

She was preceded in death by her husband, David Warren Cragett; a granddaughter, Sherry Marie Graham; four sisters, Josie Worrell, Sylvia Howell, Margaret Cragett, and Evelyn Phillips; and two brothers, James Craighead and Jack Craighead.

She is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Anna and Ron Rogers, Brenda and Kevin Adkins, and Patty Graham (Matt Childress); a son, Ray Cragett; grandchildren Kara Rogers

20, 2022, in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. T. Michael Bond officiating. Interment followed at Sunset Cemetery, Christiansburg. The family received friends on Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2022, at McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

Linkous, Winston Douglas

Winston Douglas Linkous, brother-in-law, Debbie and Jeff 79, of Blacksburg, his heavenly home Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2022. He was loved and will be missed by many.



He was born in Montgomery County on April 5, 1942, to the late Otha E. and Maggie Hyton Linkous. He was preceded in death by his brother, Marshall; sisters Carolyn, Vivian, Vickie, and Jean; and an infant brother.

He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Matt and Connie Linkous; a girlfriend of 42 years, Donna Cox and her family; a special sister and

went to Nester; special friends Sam Jones and Brenda and Donald Dix; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be conducted Monday, Jan. 24, 2022, at 11 a.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. T. Michael Bond officiating. Interment will

follow in the Roselawn Memorial Gardens Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday afternoon Jan. 23, at McCoy Funeral Home 150 Country Club Dr. SW, Blacksburg.

ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

St. Philip's Anglican Church, 306 Progress Street, NE, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060, (540) 552-1771, www.stphilipsblacksburg.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 Hersherberger, 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, 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.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.

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, Dean Meadows, Campus Minister.

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

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.

EPISCOPAL

Grace Episcopal Church, 210 4th Street, Radford, 639-3494. A friendly, mission-

Radford

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

THE NIGHT SEASON

Read Psalms 62:1 through 68:35

George A. Young, a bivocational preacher in the nineteenth century, ministered mainly to rural churches while he supplemented his income as a carpenter. After many years of struggle he was able to build a home for his family with his own hands. While away from home in ministry, some who disagreed with his preaching burned his house to the ground. Shortly thereafter he wrote the hymn, "God Leads Us Along."

Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me. I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue (Psalm 66:16-17).

The Psalmist's words speak to us when we are going through life's challenges. And Pastor Young speaks to us of praising God in the night seasons of life: "Some through great sorrow, but God gives a song, in the night season and all the day long."

Like Pastor Young, we can pray and we sing in the night. Prayer plus praise equals power. Focus on God's presence and power and don't let sin cut the lines of communication.

Prayer Suggestion: Lord, we are thankful that through the challenges, we can still sing praises to You.

Quicklook: Psalm 66:13-20

If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Randy Thompson at 540-389-9355 or email at advertise@ourvalley.org

oriented spiritual community sharing the Word of God. ALL ARE WELCOME. In person and live-streamed services 10:30AM Sundays. Holy Eucharist twice a month. Morning Prayer twice a month. Fellowship and refreshments follow services. Find us on Facebook: Grace Episcopal Church and www.graceradford.org.

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. **Compassion Church**, 1820 Second Street, Radford, 639-6287, Our music is passionate, our worship is real, and Pastor Chandler Jones brings relevant messages for everyone at any place on their journey, Sunday Worship Experience at 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Wednesday Family Night at 7 PM, Children Ministry provided for all services. Our vision is to see all Saved. Freed. Restored. Fulfilled. 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., 7p.m.

PRESBYTERIAN

Join us at **The Presbyterian Church of Radford**, 201 4th Street, at the corner of 4th & Randolph. Sunday school at 10am; worship at 11am in the sanctuary, masked & distanced. Phone 639-2585. Watch the service live on Facebook: The Presbyterian Church of Radford. www.pcradford.org. We are called to share the love of Christ in this community & beyond. Kelsey & 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. 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.

OBITUARIES

Nunley, Danny Wayne

On Monday Jan. 17, 2022, Danny Wayne Nunley was called home to be with the Lord at the age of 66 with his family by his side. The world has lost the best husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend ever. He loved the Lord, his family and being a friend to others. He was preceded in death by his parents, James Ira and Rosie Bud Nunley.

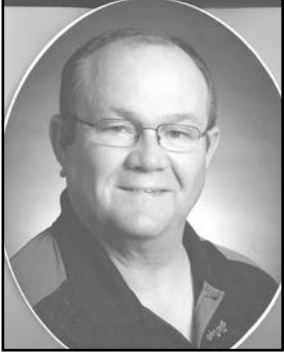
He is survived by his loving wife of 39 years, Bonnie Harless Nunley; three daughters, Lisa Price and Kimy, Candie Phillips and Jim, and Angie Dunn and Les; one son, Rick Simpson; seven grandchildren: Kelsey Winkle and Josh, Kerrigan Rotruck, Kenley Dunn, Brady Dunn, Blake Price and Tamara, Brandon Price and Amara, and Chris Phillips;

six great-grandchildren: Skylar, Faith and Summer Price, Payton and Parker Winkle, and Jameson Price; sisters Mary Lester and Mike, Shelby Howell, and Geraldene Nunley; brothers Pete, Talmage, and Tommy; and many nieces, nephews, and loving friends.

The family will have a celebration of his life on Sunday Jan. 23, 2022, at 3 p.m. at Mullins Funeral Home, 120 W. Main St, Radford. Visitation will be prior to the service from 1-3 p.m.

The family requests that everyone wear a mask and practice social distancing.

The Nunley family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.



VDOT roadwatch

The following is a list of forecasted highway projects that may impact traffic traveling in the 12-county Salem Transportation District this week. Work schedules and construction project timelines are always subject to change and weather dependent. The Salem District covers Bedford, Botetourt, Carroll, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, Giles, Henry, Montgomery, Patrick, Pulaski, and Roanoke counties

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

I-81 NORTHBOUND AT EXIT 105 NEW RIVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY – Lane and shoulder closures may be in place near exit 105. Lane closure may be in effect during the week from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. Shoulder closures may be in effect at any time during the week. Slow rolls may be performed on I-81 in the north and southbound lanes from mile marker 104 to 106 from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. Speed limit is reduced to 60 miles per hour in the work zone. Shoulder closures will remain in place though the duration of the project. Project completion is estimated by late 2022.

LANE CLOSURES:

Right lane closures may be in place on I-81 northbound between mile markers 104-105 during nighttime hours, 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. the following morning.

SLOW ROLLS: Slow rolls may be utilized periodically on both the northbound and southbound lanes from mile marker 98-109 for structural steel deliveries and setting beams.

I-81 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AT EXIT 114 IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY – The bridge replacement of the two Interstate 81 bridges over Route 8, northbound and southbound, is underway. Drivers can expect alternating lane and shoulder closures, northbound and southbound, from mile marker 114 to 115. Exit 114 ramp shoulder closures will be ongoing from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Speed limit is reduced to 60 mph in the work zone. Route 8 will have alternating northbound and southbound shoulder and lane closures, day or night, as needed between the I-81 on and off ramps. A temporary traffic signal will direct traffic on Route 8 throughout the duration of the project. Access to all properties will be maintained during construction. Estimated completion is early 2022.

LANE CLOSURES: Alternating lane closures may be in place for milling and paving on I-81 southbound during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the next morning. Expect lane closures on Route 8 between the on and off ramps of I-81.

RAMP CLOSURES: Weather permitting, the I-81 southbound exit 114 on and off ramps may be closed during nighttime hours for milling and paving from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. Message boards will update drivers. Only one ramp will be closed at a time.

Nighttime lane closures may be in place periodically on I-81 southbound from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning.

DMV Notice: The bridge on I-81 northbound at mile marker 114 currently has a restricted width for wide loads of 26 feet or larger.

ROUTE 615 CULVERT REPLACEMENT – Beginning April 11, 2022, Route 615 (Pilot Road) will undergo a culvert replacement located at the intersection of Pilot Road and Old Pike Road, across from the Pilot Post Office. Single lane closures will be in place and will be maintained by utilizing temporary traffic signals. Lane closures on RTE 615 are expected to begin on 5/2/2022 and will be in place through August 2022. Expected completion is October 2022.

ROUTE 643 PAVING PROJECT - Beginning soon, exact date to be determined, a project is being scheduled to resurface an unpaved portion of Route 643 (Yellow Sulfur Road). The work area begins .7 mile south of the intersection with Route 642 (Jennelle Road) and ends 1.7 miles north of the bridge over Route 460. Traffic impacts will include intermittent flagging operations between these intersections. This project has an estimated completion date of May 2022.

Dog

from page 3



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Avril Arendse, clinical instructor of neurology/neurosurgery, holds a 3D printed spine.

The proper resources to help, including a skilled team to support her.

The surgery Arendse performed on Lily has a mortality rate of 25 percent, with a 50/50 chance she would walk pain-free again. It's risky and intricate, which makes it an involved process.

"Because of fractures like this, you need staffing and other kinds of specialized equipment like MRI and CT," Arendse said. "We needed at least two to three people during the surgery, scrubbing in to help physically. You need multiple sets of hands that can be physically involved in the surgery."

Even with the veterinary teaching hospital's workforce and resources, these surgeries are rarely performed, making Lily's procedure unusual and adding pressure on Arendse and the team.

"It's one of the things that, honestly, I've gotten to do here at the veterinary teaching hospital that I didn't get to do in private practice because of the resources and other expertise that we have available," Arendse said.

The 3D printed spine used to rehearse the surgery also shows the break in Lily's spine.

The 3D printer is a tool that was crucial for success. Using the printer to create a model of Lily's spine, Arendse and the team practiced the surgery they would perform to help Lily walk again. Being able to physically hold, manipulate, and view the spine from all angles was a considerable benefit in knowing what they needed to do and where.

Arendse was pleased with the results. "Postoperatively, Lily was doing just as well as preoperatively, and that's what we want to see," she said. "Sometimes it can be worse after the surgery, but she was already a little bit better and much more comfortable after."

Typically, that would be the end of the story: a few follow-up visits to check on progress as Lily healed and some rehab at the veterinary teaching hospital or with a local veterinarian. But Lily's owners had other ideas. They were so grateful for the life-changing successful outcome they made a TikTok sharing Lily's remarkable journey. Her story tugged on the heartstrings of many TikTok viewers, making the surgical prowess of the team of veterinarians go viral, and the story got picked up by local TV news.

The virality of Lily's story sheds light on the appreciation owners feel toward the doctors who keep their pets safe and healthy. Arendse and the team's success with Lily is a testament to the importance of veterinarians using cutting-edge technology to give animals better care.

With 3D printers and other technology becoming more common and available, veterinary medicine will adapt and advance. Institutions like the veterinary teaching hospital will continue to invest in the tools that will help prepare students to perform during life-changing situations. Practitioners like Arendse will continue to hone their capabilities, and pets like Lily will have the chance to live a full life.

One look at the TikTok video shows how much Lily's owners appreciate Arendse and the team's work. Amid clips of Lily progressing from paralysis to play, her owners expressed their thanks and appreciation.

"Lily can run pain-free, and she can play, and she can jump and race in the wind, all because one courageous veterinary surgeon believed in herself and her team," said Allison Smith, one of Lily's owners.

MAIN STREET CLASSIFIEDS

Marketplace

ourvalley.org

The Fincastle Herald

Vinton Messenger

The New Castle Record

Salem Times-Register

News-Messenger

RADFORD News Journal

For Sale - Misc

Legals - Montgomery County

Legals - Montgomery County

FOR SALE

Unprinted end rolls of newsprint. Great for packing & shipping, moving & storage and for art projects. Various sizes available. Stop by the Salem Times-Register 1633 West Main St. or call (540)389-9355 for details.

Help Wanted - General

Part Time Newspaper Production Help

The Salem TimesRegister has openings for afternoon/evening shift work inserting, labeling and bundling newspapers for delivery. No experience necessary. Hours may vary. Will train. \$7.50 per hour. Contact Lynn Hurst, General Manager, Salem-Times Register (540)389-9355 or email lhurst@ourvalley.org

MAKE AN "A" IN ADVERTISING!

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LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION

The Town of Christiansburg Planning Commission hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on January 31, 2022 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to hear citizen comments concerning:

A. Conditional Use Permit request by Rockstep Christiansburg, LLC for operation of a Carnival from April 27, 2022 through May 8, 2022 on property located at 782 New River Road NW, further identified as Parcel ID 007741; Tax Parcel No. 435-(A)-41; in the B-3 General Business District. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

B. Conditional Use Permit request by Taylor E. Linkous and Blair Lawton LLC for an Auction House, Business, on property located at 2790 Roanoke Street, further identified as Parcel ID 030021; Tax Parcel No. 501-((5))-2; in the B-3 General Business District. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the applications, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Benjamin Tripp, Planning Director, at (540) 382-6128, Ext. 1120 or by email at btripp@christiansburg.org with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

Award

from page 3

demonstrated innovation, quality, comprehensive-ness, sustainability, im-pact, and potential repli-cability. Awards finalists are then asked to submit a video pitch. Finally, school representatives participate in a 15-min-ute question-and-answer session before a panel of judges.

"Virginia Tech's pro-gram is boldly compre-hensive, with a significant lineup of faculty focused on entrepreneurship, many courses, integration with partners, and impres-sive leadership support," said Judi Eyles, program awards chair for USASBE 2022. "The judges felt strongly that this program offers many examples that others can learn from to implement on their own campuses."

Previous Model Pro-gram Award winners include Iowa State Uni-versity in 2021, Pur-pue University in 2020, University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2019, and Syracuse University in 2018.

"This award is valida-tion of Virginia Tech's continued commitment to entrepreneurship through the engagement of the entire university community," said Vir-ginia Tech President Tim Sands. "Our hands-on entrepreneurial educa-tion equips students with the skills, experience, and perspective they need to succeed in an ever-evolv-ing global economy."

"We are grateful to receive such recogni-tion," said Management Department Head Devi Gnyawali. "It under-scores our growth as a program and the sus-tained excellence with which our faculty, staff, students, and stakehold-ers work together col-laboratively to build the Virginia Tech entrepre-neurship ecosystem."

"The entrepreneurial ecosystem at, and sur-rounding, Virginia Tech continues to be recog-nized for our stellar stu-dent entrepreneurs and the programs that help them advance their ideas and businesses," said Derick Maggard, execu-tive director of the Apex

Center for Entrepre-neurs. "This award is yet another huge recogni-tion of all the efforts of the leadership, faculty, and students from across campus."

The number of stu-dents participating in entrepreneurship courses has doubled over the last five years, from around 600 students to over 1200 students. Current-ly, around 300 students are enrolled in the EIT major and entrepreneur-ship minor.

"Some students may not start a business right after graduating," Gnyawali said. "But they may want to do so after a few years of corpo-rate experience. Others want to develop their entrepreneurial and in-novative knowledge and skills to succeed in their career."

"We have a lot to be proud of for the many awards and recognitions-to-date," said Associate Professor of Management David Townsend. "We have even more things to be proud of regarding the impact we are having in the lives of our students, colleagues, and the sur-rounding entrepreneur-ship ecosystem. This is a great award to validate the progress we have so far and a great reminder that the best is yet to come."

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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radfordnewsjournal.com

RADFORD SPORTS

Radford's Tyrel Dobson, Marcell Baylor named to all-state teams



Radford's Tyrel Dobson has been named to the Class 2 All-state first-team unit as a linebacker.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Radford's Marcell Baylor was named to the Class 2 all-state defensive second team as a defensive back. He recently received a scholarship offer from Virginia Tech.

Hagan-Stewart team adds Mopar for 2022

Dodge/SRT and Mopar have announced their support of the newest team in the National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) Camping World Drag Racing Series: Tony Stewart Racing (TSR). Dodge//SRT and Mopar will be primary sponsors for Top Fuel driver Leah Pruett and three-time Funny Car World Champion Matt Hagan in TSR's inaugural 2022 NHRA season.

"The Dodge brand has a long history of competing in and supporting motorsports," said Tim Kuniskis, Dodge Brand Chief Executive Officer – Stellantis. "For nearly a decade, NHRA drag racing has been our primary motorsports focus, helping deliver products like the Dodge Demon, 1320 and Super Stock; cars that resonate with the Brotherhood of Muscle," said Kuniskis. "These vehicles will hold a place in muscle-car history for years to come. The Dodge brand embodies the philosophy of the 'last tenth,' and we are not done pushing the performance envelope. So we are extremely excited to partner with Tony Stewart and his drag racing team to help take Dodge to the next level. Tony is a racing legend with an attitude, personality, and competitive drive that aligns perfectly with our goals."

"I'm really pleased to have Dodge//SRT and Mopar as partners with

our new NHRA venture as manufacturer and sponsor for our two entries in Top Fuel and Funny Car with Leah and Matt," said Stewart. "It shows confidence in your program when an OEM wants to be on your team and for you to help support their program as well. They have obviously had a great relationship with both drivers for the last few years and to be able to continue that association is key to this team's success and a huge benefit to the continuity for everyone involved."

"Having that kind of history definitely helps flatten the learning curve while raising expectations for our inaugural NHRA season," Stewart said. "It'll be nice to work with Dodge and Mopar again after sharing success together in USAC and the World of Outlaws nearly two decades ago. We are certainly setting the bar high and look forward to being competitive from the start."

Tony Stewart Racing was formed in November 2000. Since its inaugural season in 2001, TSR has earned 27 owner championships, 14 in USAC, nine in the World of Outlaws (WoO) Sprint Car Series, and four in the All-Star Circuit of Champions TQ Midgents. TSR will embark upon its first NHRA campaign in 2022 while simultaneously running its sprint car program

for a 22nd straight season. TSR's NHRA and sprint car entries will operate out of its existing 25,000-square-foot facility in Brownsburg, Ind.

Pruett first joined forces with Dodge//SRT and Mopar in 2016 and has consistently competed among the top contenders in each of the last five seasons. The 33-year-old Redlands, Calif., native has nine Top Fuel national event victories, nine runner-up finishes, 12 No.-1 qualifier honors in 172 races, a career-best elapsed time run of 3.631 seconds and a best speed of 334.15 miles per hour. She will drive the Dodge Power Brokers Top Fuel dragster this year.

"It was very important to me to continue the close relationship I've had with Dodge//SRT and Mopar in this new journey with Tony Stewart Racing," said Pruett. "I'm appreciative of the support that Dodge and Mopar and all their fans have shown me these past few years, and I'm proud to fly their colors as we move forward together and work to bring home wins and a championship in 2022."

In addition to carrying on the legacy of drag-racing innovator and multi-time champion Garlits, representing Direct Connection has personal meaning to Pruett.

"While Dodge//SRT was developing the new Drag Pak, we were also



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Christiansburg's Matt Hagan (left), car owner Tony Stewart (center), and Leah Pruett unveil the new race team's partnership with Mopar and Dodge.

testing and developing some of the stage kits," Pruett said. "It seemed almost unbelievable that an OEM would make available various stage kits capable of adding so much additional power, all while maintaining the car's warranty. To be on the presenting side of a massive program that I contributed to, while watching it progress in pure secrecy, makes me incredibly proud to run Direct Connection and Power Brokers on my Top Fuel dragster."

With Dodge//SRT and Mopar on board, Hagan has vied for the Funny Car crown as

either championship points leader or challenger heading into a season finale on seven occasions, including the 2021 season. Together, they have competed in 293 races, earning 39 Wally trophies, 32 runner-up finishes, and 43 No.-1 qualifier positions with a career best elapsed time run of 3.799 seconds and his best speed is 338.85 mph.

The 38-year-old from Christiansburg will drive his TSR HEMI®-powered machine dressed with Dodge Power Brokers and Direct Connection branding throughout the 2022

season.

"My family has been a Dodge dealer since 1979 and we're really proud of that," Hagan said. "We're also ready to celebrate Mopar's 85th anniversary this year as we battle for a championship with a few wins along the way."

The 2022 NHRA Camping World Series season kicks off Feb. 17-20 with the Lucas Oil NHRA Winter Nationals presented by ProtectTheHarvest.com at Auto Club Raceway at Pomona, Calif., the first of 22 events on the schedule, broadcasted on FOX and FS1.

Trio of Hokies baseball players collects preseason praise from ACC

With a month to go until the start of the 2022 season, three Virginia Tech baseball student-athletes have earned a bundle of preseason honors from Perfect Game, as announced by the outlet.

Third-year outfielder Gavin Cross headlined Perfect Game's ACC conference preview as the 2022 Preseason ACC Player of the Year, sharing in Preseason All-ACC Team consideration with true sophomore infielder Tanner Schobel, who was so named at shortstop. With two mentions, Tech was one of five programs in the league to have multiple players represented on the outlet's Preseason All-ACC Team.

Additionally, Tech fourth-year utility man Nick Bid-

dison was named to Perfect Game's list of the Top 75 NCAA Division I seniors (fourth years and above), coming in at No. 34 overall.

A regular on MLB prospect boards this winter, Cross is slated to build on his breakout 2021 season in the ACC after charting nine of his 13 doubles and eight of his 11 home runs against league opposition. The ceiling on the two-time 2022 Preseason All-American (courtesy of Collegiate Baseball and Perfect Game/Rawlings) is undefined as he looks to improve on his team-leading statistical line and keep the Hokies in contention for the Coastal Division title.

Schobel turned heads during his rookie 2021 sea-

son in the ACC, starting each of Tech's 52 games while crafting a .279 batting average. The five-foot-10 middle infielder led the Hokies with 11 multi-RBI games, showcasing deceptive power for his frame by totaling 10 doubles, a triple and seven home runs.

Despite missing the first two months of the 2021 season, Biddison managed to provide Tech with five doubles, two triples and two home runs, appearing in all but two of the Hokies' final 28 games. Biddison – who batted .297 across his first two seasons in Blacksburg with eight home runs as a rookie in 2019 – was ranked by Perfect Game as the fifth highest ACC senior going into the 2022 campaign.

Christiansburg girls fall to Blacksburg



Braelym Williams (left) and Katy Hoover (right) block a two-point attempt by Bruin Brynn Ferguson in Blacksburg's 47-30 win in the Battle of the Bargs Friday night. Blacksburg is now 9-5 overall and 4-1 in River Ridge District play.



PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY
Blacksburg's Mogan Cheynet (left) and Kailyn Brawky tussle with Christiansburg's Brailyn Wilburn (center) over ball possession. Cheynet led Blacksburg with 22 points. Wilburn led Christiansburg with eight points.

Coach's suite to be dedicated to Charlene Curtis

The Radford University women's basketball coach's suite will be dedicated to program legend Charlene Curtis in a ceremony that will be held on Saturday, Feb. 5, at 11 a.m. as part of the alumni weekend celebration. All are welcome to attend the ceremony.

Curtis was a trailblazer in every sense of the word. She was the first African-American to play on the Radford women's basketball team in 1972 and the first 1,000-point scorer — male or female — in Radford basketball history. She went on to serve as the



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Charlene Curtis was the first African-American to ever play on the Radford University women's basketball team. She would later coach the program from 1984-1990.

program's head coach from 1984-90, posting a 121-53 (.695) record overall and a

46-2 (.958) mark in Big South play. Curtis was a two-time Big South Coach of the Year, leading the Highlanders to four Big South regular season championships, three Big South Tournament championships, and an appearance in the 1989 WNIT.

From there, Curtis went on to become the first African-American women's basketball head coach in the history of the Atlantic Coast Conference at Wake Forest. Down the road, she would become the head of officiating for women's basketball in the ACC and contribute to ESPN and Fox Sports South as a women's basketball analyst.

After receiving a Bachelor of Science in Music degree from Radford University in 1976, Curtis served on the Board of Visitors from 1978 to 1980 and was then reappointed to the board by Virginia Governor Ralph Northam in 2021.

Following the ceremony, the current Highlanders men's and women's basketball teams will play a doubleheader on Carilion Clinic Court at the Dedmon Center where Curtis will be recognized during each game.

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FROM THE SIDELINES



PHOTO COURTESY OF VIRGINIA TECH
Virginia Tech head football coach Brent Pry jumped into the middle of this week's snowball fight on the drill field at Virginia Tech.

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

New Virginia Tech head football coach Brent Pry says he will concentrate on recruiting from within six hours of the Blacksburg campus. Earlier this week, he proved it with the signing of Radford High School athlete Marcell Baylor.

Pry recently told the media, "Literally, you can take Blacksburg and draw a six-hour radius around it and that's where we're honing in first. That doesn't mean there's not going to be opportunities in other areas, but we want to be strong in North Carolina and parts of South Carolina. We're going to be heavy in parts of Pennsylvania."

The new coach is emphasizing the fact that the Hokies must take control of the commonwealth and neighboring states. He said this doesn't mean the Hokies will not go after the top players in the Carolinas. It does mean, according to Pry, that Tech will start dominating the whispers in Virginia and maybe, just maybe, keep the top players home.

Over the past five years, the state's top five have been signing with the likes of Penn State, Notre Dame and other ACC schools.

Recruiting outside that six-hour window, he said, will come down to a specific need and a specific player.

"I told the staff this morning, unless there's some reason for us to get west of the Mississippi, right? I told them we're not doing it," Pry said. "I don't want to see that you're traveling to Texas or you're traveling to Nebraska or you're traveling to California unless there's some type of relation to Virginia Tech or the state of Virginia. A family member went to Tech,

whatever the case is. Maybe used to live in Virginia, used to live in the footprint. Best friends on the roster. If there's not a reason, we're just not going to throw darts across the Mississippi."

This is a quite a change from the Justin Fuente era when coaches were constantly reaching out to players in Texas, Oklahoma, and Georgia.

The idea of recruiting the commonwealth recalls the Frank Beamer era when the Hokies dominated the state of Virginia.

Baylor will join fellow Bobcat P.J. Prio-leau, who was a preferred walk-on for the Hokies last season.

Baylor was named the 2021 All-Coun-ty/All-City offensive specialist after splitting time this season at quarterback, receiver, and running back. He had a hand in 29 touchdowns and 2,095 combined yardage for Radford.

This past week, Baylor was named a Class 2 all-state second-team defensive back.

Pry also proved to the student body he will be approachable after taking part in this week's snowball fight on the drill field. The students and he snapped selfies before and after the annual event. The coach showed he is ready for the public relations side of the game.

This is something the Tech program has not had in a long-time, thus giving the university a shot in the arm as it changes its degree of doing things at least from the athletic perspective.

In addition, there have been plenty of reports the new coaching staff either visited or made contact on Day 1 with every high school in the 757 area code of Virginia. Chapter 1 is in the books, and Pry is starting off well.