



Wednesday, February 2, 2022 • USPS 387-780 • ourvalley.org • \$1.00

## NRCC Nursing Scholars Program offers free nursing education

New River Community College is offering a new program that will provide a free nursing education for some New River Valley students.

NRCC recently announced the new NRCC Nursing Scholars Program, a scholarship that fosters opportunity and success for outstanding high school junior and senior students who show interest and ability in NRCC's Nursing Associate of Applied Science degree.

"This new nursing scholarship creates opportunities for students in the New River Valley to get a debt-free education in a rewarding and in-demand career pathway," said NRCC President Pat Huber.

"The program will not only change the lives of our students, but it will also prepare them to serve their communities as health care heroes."

Nursing Scholars will receive support from advisors who are charged with helping scholars make the best possible transition from high school through completion of NRCC's Nursing AAS degree. The scholarship consists of level-one and level-two awards. High school (public, private and homeschool) juniors and seniors who reside in NRCC's service region (Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski counties and Radford City) may apply for level-one scholarships.

Up to five Nursing Scholars in NRCC's region will receive a level-one scholarship that provides in-state tuition, college fees, and textbooks for five program prerequisite courses to be completed by high school graduation.

Students who receive a level-one scholarship and complete the five prerequisite courses with a grade of "B" or better may apply for a level-two scholarship. Students must also complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and meet all NRCC Access to Community College Education (ACCE) admissions requirements prior to submitting a level-two scholarship application.

The level-two scholarship provides tuition and college fees for four semesters of required courses in the Nursing AAS degree, all required textbooks, and all required fees.

Nursing Scholars must demonstrate outstanding academic achievement, leadership, and citizenship. Applicants must have a 3.75 high school grade point average or better and demonstrate superior levels of leadership and citizenship in the application essays. Additionally, level-two applicants must be offered and have accepted the NRCC ACCE scholarship to be eligible for a Nursing Scholars level-two scholarship.

Nursing Scholars will be selected by an appointed committee composed of NRCC faculty and staff. Every effort will be made to award one scholar per NRCC service region county/city.

The first scholarships will be awarded in the fall of 2022. Information about the program can be found on NRCC's website at [www.nr.edu/nursing/scholars](http://www.nr.edu/nursing/scholars).

The scholarship application will be available online beginning Feb. 10, 2022, and the deadline for application is March 15, 2022. For more information about the Nursing Scholars Program at NRCC, contact Lynn Taylor at (540)674-3631 or [ltaylor@nr.edu](mailto:ltaylor@nr.edu).

## Conversation Hearts are Virginia's favorite Valentine's candy

Ben George  
[ben@candystore.com](mailto:ben@candystore.com)

Valentine's Day is going to be interesting this year. Unlike last year pre-vaccine, an evening out with your sweetheart might be doable, depending on your location. Fingers crossed! Either way, candy is always a big part of celebrating Valentine's Day. Different states prefer different candy though.

For instance, in Virginia, the favorite candy is conversation hearts.

Virginia isn't alone as conversation hearts are also the favorite candy in Hawaii, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, Illinois, Wisconsin, Idaho, Alaska, Florida, California, Montana, and South

Carolina.

On the other hand, a heart-shaped box of chocolates claimed the top spot in Tennessee, Connecticut, Michigan, Ohio, Georgia, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Mexico, Washington, Indiana, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, and Washington, D.C.

M&Ms are the favorites in Iowa, Maryland, Arizona, Kansas, North Dakota, New Jersey, Oregon, and Vermont.

Hershey kisses, chocolate hearts, and Cupid corn emerged the winners in a few states.

Last year, COVID-19 struck Valentine's Day hard, according to the National Retail Federation.

Spending was down more than 20% from the previous year's all-time high. People were struggling and there was a once in a lifetime worldwide pandemic. It was understandable.

This year, things are picking back up. The NRF is expecting a near-record breaking year with consumer spending for Valentine's Day up nearly 10% and reaching \$23.9B.

The number of people buying candy is expected to be at a new record high with 56% of consumers planning to buy candy for Valentine's Day. Expected candy sales volume is also up and at \$2.2B would be runner up only to 2020 (\$2.4B).



NASA montage image of the solar system

## RU Planetarium back for spring season of star shows

RADFORD - The Radford University Planetarium is back for the spring semester with new shows for the regular weekday shows and the Saturday morning kids shows.

Reservations are no longer needed to attend a show. However, if the doors are closed, the planetarium is full for that show.

This spring the regular shows will be Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. and Saturday

mornings at 10:30 a.m.

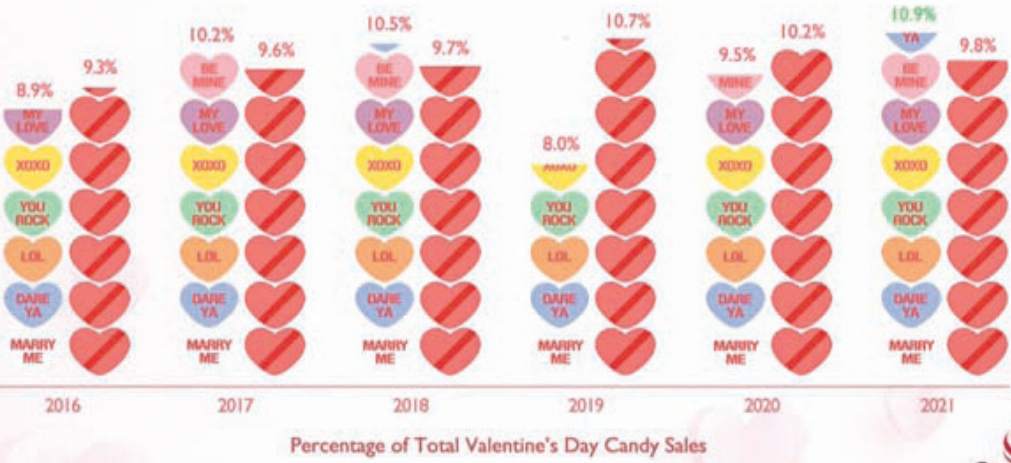
The weekday shows will be "Satelix" produced by the Brno Observatory and Planetarium in the Czech Republic and is described as:

"Solve this riddle: They are with us all day. When we wake up, go to school, to work or for a trip, and when we spend time with our families in the evening, too. And at night? In the darkness of the night, they guard us while we sleep. Without

See Planetarium, page 4

### Conversation Hearts Are Back

A couple years after vanishing from shelves, SweetHearts have returned and lifted conversation hearts back above Heart-Shaped Boxes of Chocolates.



## NRCC Fiddle, Banjo, and Dance Club Jamboree set for Feb. 12

The music of Sassafras Bluegrass Band will be featured during New River Community College's Fiddle, Banjo and Dance Club Jamboree on Sat., Feb. 12, 2022.

The music will begin at 6 p.m. in 117 Edwards Hall at NRCC in Dublin. NRCC requires all

individuals to wear masks indoors, and social distancing protocols will be observed.

Sassafras Bluegrass Band is based in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. The group is a bluegrass band that pays homage to the Bill

Monroe, and the Flatt & Scruggs era but also enjoys pushing the edge of progressive Newgrass music as well.

Their repertoire includes a range of musical styles including old time, country, folk, west-

See Jamboree, page 3



Sassafras Bluegrass Band will be the featured musicians at the NRCC Fiddle, Banjo, and Dance Club jamboree Feb. 12.



For more than 100 years, Virginia Cooperative Extension has worked in communities throughout the commonwealth to advance well-being. Now and into the future, Extension will continue to create a lasting impact, solve challenges, and help Virginia's communities.

## Virginia Cooperative Extension's history is 'For Virginia'

Max Esterhuizen  
Contributing writer

To showcase Virginia Cooperative Extension's rich history of advancing the well-being of all Virginians since 1914, an interactive timeline was created to help visualize the many contributions of the 1862 and 1890 land-grant institutions.

Funded by an Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Sciences di-

versity grant, the timeline serves as an inclusive tool that community members and students alike can use to visualize the contributions of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University within a historical context.

The timeline was primarily organized by a team of undergraduate and graduate students in spring 2021 for the cross-institutional course at Vir-

See For Virginia, page 4

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Now through Feb. 14:

**Braley & Thompson Blanket Drive for Virginia foster children**

Braley & Thompson of Virginia's "Wrapped in Love" winter blanket drive is to benefit foster youth. Donations of new and gently used blankets are being accepted through Feb. 14 from 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at Braley & Thompson Christiansburg, 207 West Main St., Suite 6B.

## Now through Feb. 28:

**MFRL Adult Winter Reading Program**

The Montgomery Floyd Regional Library's adult winter reading program challenges 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/>.

## 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. The speaker is to be determined. Registration is required by clicking the "register here" link on the Chamber's website

([www.radfordchamber.com](http://www.radfordchamber.com)).

**Art Exhibition Opening Reception**

Radford University's art museum is hosting the Super-Duper Juried Student Show at the Tyler Gallery (214 Tyler Ave). This show is open to all RU students and will be juried by artist Jane Lillian Vance. The opening reception is from 5 to 7 p.m. and is open to the public.

**Water and Waste Committee Meeting**

The Christiansburg Water and Waste Committee will meet at 6 p.m. at Town Hall, 100 East Main St., in the Administration Conference Room to discuss College Street stormwater alternatives, to hear a presentation on pending capital, and to discuss future committee topics.

**Aquatic Advisory Board**

The Aquatic Advisory Board meets the first Wednesday of every month at 4:30 p.m. at the Christiansburg Aquatic Center, 595 N. Franklin St., Christiansburg.

## 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.

## Friday, Feb. 4:

**Bikeway Walkway Committee meeting**

The Christiansburg Bikeway Walkway Committee meets the first Friday of every month at 7:30 a.m. in the administrative conference room of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main St.

## Saturday, Feb. 5:

**Craftnoon**

At the Meadowbrook Library; 2 -3 p.m. A variety of snow- and Valentine-themed crafts for all ages. Registration is required. Contact Spahl@mfri.org for more information. Register online or call (540) 268-1964.

**Creative Writing Group**

Meadowbrook Public Library; 10:30 a.m. Join in person or on Go-To-Meeting for support, feedback, and writing tips. Email cminnick@mfri.org or call 540-268-1964 for more information. A Go-To-Meeting account is not necessary to join.

**Dyslexia: The Basics**

Christiansburg Library; 2 p.m. This presentation will discuss the characteristics of dyslexia, the common myths, and various interventions. An extensive resource list will be provided.

**Teen DND**  
Blacksburg Library; 2 p.m. DnD for Teens.

## Sunday, Feb. 6:

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

## 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, 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.

## Saturday, Feb. 12:

**Montgomery County 4-H hosting program for Cloverbuds**

The Montgomery County 4-H Teens for a Better Tomorrow Club is hosting a program for Cloverbuds, ages 5 to 8 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Mid-County Park Activity Center in Christiansburg (Frog Pond). The program is open to all children in that age range. The program will include arts and crafts, games, movies, making Valentine treats, and story time.

## Wednesday, Feb. 16:

**American Business Women's Association Luncheon Meeting**

American Business Women's Association, NRV Express Chapter, February Luncheon Meeting will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Holiday Inn Christiansburg-Blacksburg, 99 Bradley Drive, Christiansburg. The cost is \$14.25. Guest speaker Dana Hurt will explore the importance of friendships and the three required components to a meaningful relationship. RSVP by Feb. 14 by contacting Terri Welch at [christiansburg@wineand-design.com](mailto:christiansburg@wineand-design.com).

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

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## PETS OF THE WEEK



**Meet purrecious Forest!** He came to the Animal Care and Adoption Center injured a few weeks ago. As a result, one of his back legs needed to be removed. He is doing very well since surgery and should be fully recovered in a few days. Overall, he's a laid back cat who enjoys nuzzles from his favorite humans.



**Willow has been a resident at the Center since October and she's ready to head home!** She will gladly sit and stay for a yummy treat. She's a sweet, friendly gal who would need a future home where she is the only pet.

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## Warm Hearth Foundation receives donation from Fit Body Boot Camp

Blacksburg's Fit Body Boot Camp owners Mary Katherine Stahl and her husband Trevor gave their support to the Micah's Personal Care Program at Warm Hearth Village (WHV) this past holiday when the camp's members donated more than \$3,181 worth of highly demanded kitchen trash bags, paper towels, liquid dish detergent, all-purpose cleaner, and laundry pods.

Mary Katherine Stahl said, "We pick an organization each year to give back to, and I thought because of COVID, many seniors have not been able to spend time with their loved ones, so I wanted to do something extra for them this year. We were happy to jump on board with this Micah's program. We are passionate about giving back to the community that has been so good to us over the last five years. We appreciate the opportunity to help."

The Micah's Personal Care Program is a charitable fund of the Warm Hearth Foundation that benefits residents in the Trolinger and New River

House apartments at WHV, many of whom struggle to afford basic necessities. Warm Hearth provides subsidized housing to 153 residents. The Foundation's program helps when there is not enough money to purchase personal care items, food staples, fresh produce, and pet food and supplies as often little

money is left after rent, utilities, and medications are paid for.

"Our Micah's programs have grown over the years thanks to the support of businesses and individuals like the Stahls and their locally run business, Blacksburg Fit Body Boot Camp," said Karen Nelson, Associate Director of Development for the

Warm Hearth Foundation. "The true spirit of community and giving back exemplified by individuals and groups like these is humbling."

Warm Hearth Village is a nonprofit senior living community in Blacksburg that provides a full continuum of living options on its campus and in the home.



**Fit Body Boot Camp's donation of \$3,181 worth of various items to Warm Hearth Foundation's Micah's Personal Care program.**

# Moss Arts Center features artists Namwon Choi and Shin-il Kim in two new solo exhibitions

The Moss Arts Center presents two solo exhibitions featuring the work of artists Namwon Choi and Shin-il Kim.

"The Shape of Distance" showcases Choi's vivid monochromatic landscapes, including a 16-foot mural print, while "In Between Five Colors" includes recent multimedia sculptures by Kim, select early stop-motion animations, and a new projection sculpture fabricated on-site at the Moss Arts Center.

The exhibition opened with a reception on Thursday, Jan. 27, and will be on view through Saturday, March 26. The center's galleries are open Wednesday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. The galleries and all related events are free and are open to the public.

Namwon Choi: "The Shape of Distance"

Presented in the Ruth C. Horton Gallery, this exhibition consists of 12 gouache paintings on geometric shaped-panels and two painted sculptures anchored by a 16-foot mural print of Choi's tondo painting, "Shape of Distance (faceted circle)."

Trained in traditional Korean ink-wash painting, Choi's multi-perspectival, geometric, and finely-detailed depictions of scenic byways evoke

poetic ideas of time, transition, and states of in-betweenness.

Born in Korea and currently residing in Savannah, Ga., Choi's work has been exhibited at the Korean Culture Center in New York; the Korean Culture Center in Los Angeles; MOCA GA in Atlanta; B20 Wiregrass Biennial at the Wiregrass Museum in Dothan, Ala.; and was included in the United States' Art in Embassies program.

In 2020 she was one of three finalists selected for the most recent 1858 Prize Contemporary Southern Art Award at the Gibbes Museum in Charleston, S.C. She is currently a professor of foundation studies at the Savannah College of Art and Design.

Shin-il Kim: "In Between Five Colors"

On display in the Miles C. Horton, Jr., Gallery, Sherwood Payne Quillen '71 Reception Gallery, and Francis T. Eck Exhibition Corridor, "In Between Five Colors" is an exhibition of recent multimedia sculptures and select early stop-motion animations by Kim. This exhibition includes a new projection sculpture, "Active Anesthesia—Ma Eum" (2022,) fabricated at the Moss Arts Center and viewable at night from Turner Street.

A resident of Seoul, South Korea, Kim was

nominated for the "Korea Artist Prize 2014" at the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art. He has been exhibited at the Kim Chong Yung Museum in Korea, the Hiroshima MOCA in Japan, and the Queens Museum in New York. He participated in the Seville International Biennale, Spain; the Singapore Biennale 2006, Singapore; and the Gwangju Biennale 2004.

His work is in the per-

manent collections at the New Museum in New York; the Queens Museum in New York; the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Korea; the Seoul Museum of Art in Korea; and the Leeum Museum in Korea.

Kim will work closely with Virginia Tech students and faculty members, serving as a visiting artist in residence for two weeks in the university's Creativity and Innova-

tion District Living-Learning Program residence hall.

The exhibitions are curated by Brian Holcombe, Moss Arts Center curator, and mark the beginning of Holcombe's programming at the center.

The Moss Arts Center adheres to the guidelines of the Virginia Department of Health and Virginia Tech in its operations, including protocols for distancing, face

coverings, and cleaning and sanitation. According to current university policy, all faculty, staff, students, and visitors to the Moss Arts Center are required to wear a mask.

Masks are required at all times for patrons, visitors, and staff regardless of vaccination status in all indoor spaces at the Moss Arts Center. More information about these requirements is available on the Moss Arts Center website.



IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ARTIST.

Shin-il Kim's wall-mounted sculpture, "Mind," 2015. ABS, LED, each 39 x 31.5 x 17.7 inches.

## Physician shares good fortune through medical school scholarship

Lewis Singer knows first-hand the significant expense of attending medical school and has set out

to make it less daunting for students at the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine (VTCSOM).

As a retired ophthalmologist from the Roanoke region, Singer took an interest in the school

early in its development and felt compelled to establish the Lewis J. Singer M.D. Scholarship, which is awarded to students who demonstrate financial need.

"Medical education is a real reach for many families," Singer said. "I'm grateful to be able to make it more affordable."

The first beneficiary of Singer's generosity is Abby Simpson, a second-year student at the school. Simpson studied neuroscience in college, then worked for three years as a research coordinator to help save money for medical school.

"This scholarship has made a big difference in my medical school journey and has allowed me to focus more on school and less on concerns about loans," Simpson said. "I am so appreciative to Dr. Singer for his generosity and commitment to the success of VTCSOM stu-

dents."

Singer observed that the school had quickly become a very competitive environment for its applicant population.

"I've watched the school become increasingly competitive," he said. "The education there is rigorous, but at the same time its small size allows for individualized attention. The opportunity for students to do high-caliber research adds another dimension to the curriculum."

Singer's medical education began at Chicago Medical School and included a pediatrics residency at Cornell University. Not long after becoming board certified in pediatrics, he decided to take a new direction and completed a second residency in ophthalmology at the University of Minnesota. He practiced in Roanoke and Lexington before retiring in

2010.

"I'm very grateful for the life I've had," he said. "I've had a successful career. I've enjoyed good health and good fortune, and this is my opportunity to give back."

"Scholarships help strengthen the student, which helps strengthen the medical school, our community, and the ripple effect goes on and on," Singer said. "Having well-trained, sensitive physicians is so important, and I'm delighted to be a small part of that."

For Simpson, the dream of becoming a doctor is well on its way, in part by the Singer scholarship. "I have been passionate about the intersection between science and humanity for many years," she said. "As a doctor, I hope to serve as a trusted leader of a patient's health care team and to make a difference."



Abby Simpson (center), class of 2024, with Lew Singer and Dotsy Clifton at the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine. The Lewis J. Singer M.D. Scholarship "has made a big difference in my medical school journey and has allowed me to focus more on school and less on concerns about loans," Simpson said.

## Jamboree from page 1

ern swing, and originals. Sassafras Bluegrass Band members have performed at a long list of festivals and venues including Merlefest, the Walnut Valley Festival, the Riverhawk Music Festival, Songs of the Mountain, King Pup Syndicated Radio, the Red White and Bluegrass Festival, the Albino Skunk Festival, the Plum Hollow Festival, the Chomp & Stomp Festival, the Mean Fiddler, the Bean Blossom Bluegrass Festival, the Gettysburg Bluegrass Festival, the High Mountain Bluegrass Festival, Pickin' on the Plains, the Rogersville Bluegrass Festival, the Outer Banks Bluegrass Festival, and the Wickenburg Bluegrass Festival.

They have shared the stage or studio with Doc Watson, Jack Lawrence,

Charlie Waller, Josh Graves, John Cowan, Jim Lauderdale, Ronnie Bowman, Tony Rice, Russell Moore, Jim Buchanan, Allison Krauss, Tim O'Brien, Mark O'Connor, Laurie Lewis, and Tony Furtado.

Members of the group are Wes Tuttle on mandolin, fiddle and vocals; Billy Gee on upright bass and vocals; Chris Bryant on banjo and vocals; and Randy Gambill on guitar and vocals.

Corporate sponsors of the jamborees include Anderson Audiology, Dublin; August Jewelers & Boutique, Inc., Radford; Castle Rock Insurance Agency, Pearisburg; Estes Auto & Truck Parts Inc., Pilot; First Community Bank, Pulaski; Food City; Gregory Seeding and Landscaping Company,

Pulaski; Martin's Pharmacy, Pulaski; Pepsi Cola Bottling Co., Dublin; the Pulaski Patriot, Pulaski; SERVPRO, Montgomery & Pulaski Counties; and Southern Furniture Warehouse, Radford.

The doors open at 5 p.m. for the show. Admission is free; however, donations will be accepted to help offset the travel expenses for the musicians. The jamborees are typically held the second

Saturday of each month through April at NRCC, a Crooked Road affiliated venue.

For more information

about the NRCC Fiddle, Banjo, and Dance Club, contact Tim Jones at (540) 674-3625 or visit [www.nr.edu/fiddle](http://www.nr.edu/fiddle).

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# OPINION

## WalletHub: Virginia ranks as third-safest state during COVID

In its survey to find the safest states during COVID, the personal finance website WalletHub ranked Virginia as the third-safest state in the country.

As the U.S. continues its efforts to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic and the surging omicron variant, staying safe is one of Americans' top concerns, according to WalletHub. Safety is also essential for getting the economy back on track, as the lower COVID-19 transmission

and deaths are in a state, the fewer restrictions there will be and the more confidence people will have to shop in person.

While the country has mostly reopened, increasing the percentage of people who have been vaccinated and received booster doses is key to getting back to life as normal, the website says. The good news is that around 64% of the population has been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 as of Jan. 25.

The website notes that some states are already safer than others, though, based on how well they have kept the pandemic under control and how much they are vaccinating. In order to find out the safest states during the COVID-19 pandemic, WalletHub compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia across five key metrics. The data set includes the rates of COVID-19 transmission, positive testing, hospitalizations and death, as

well as the share of the eligible population getting vaccinated.

The rankings for Virginia of some of the key metrics that helped determine the commonwealth's ranking as among the safest states with 1 being the best and 25 being average are as follows:

Vaccination rate 14; positive testing rate 27; hospitalization rate 17; death rate 7; transmission rate 9.

According to WalletHub's sur-

vey, the 10 safest places during COVID are 1. Hawaii 2. California 3. Virginia 4. District of Columbia 5. Maine 6. Oregon 7. Florida 8. Vermont 9. New Hampshire 10. Maryland.

The 10 least safe states during COVID with the higher numbers being the least safe are 42. Kentucky 43. Louisiana 44. Arizona 45. Mississippi 46. West Virginia 47. Missouri 48. Tennessee 49. Ohio 50. Indiana 51. Oklahoma.

## Virginia moms introduce bill requiring training in epilepsy death cases

A group of Virginia moms, backed by the Epilepsy Foundation of Virginia, has introduced House Bill 392, which requires that medical examiners receive training on how to investigate and identify sudden unexpected death in epilepsy (SUDEP) during an autopsy.

Upon such a finding, deaths are to be reported to the North American

SUDEP Registry, a global leader for epilepsy research.

"Virginia needs this bill because despite epilepsy affecting 84,800 people in the state, SUDEP isn't well understood in the medical community," said Jeffrey Guzman, the Epilepsy Foundation of Virginia Advocacy Director. "As a result SUDEP is underreported. It's critical that SUDEP deaths

are accurately recorded because death rates affect research funding. The same research that could prevent SUDEP in the future."

Epilepsy is a disorder of the brain causing recurrent seizures. One-third of those with epilepsy have drug-resistant epilepsy, meaning medication cannot control their seizures. One in 150 people with uncontrolled

seizures die of SUDEP.

One such victim was 21-year-old Jonathan Alan Gibbs Bush. "He would always say, 'I'd rather have cancer than epilepsy, because at least people know what cancer is,'" said Jonathan's mother, Evelyn Gibbs.

Even in the 66 percent living with controlled seizures, SUDEP is still a risk as it kills 1 in 1,000 of everyone with epi-

lepsy. "His physician never told us SUDEP was possible," said Wendy Parker, whose 31-year-old son Todd died after living seizure-free for years. "Had we known the medication could fail and that there were triggers to look for, perhaps we could have prevented it. But now it's too late."

Similar legislation has been enacted in the states

of Connecticut, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, and North Carolina. Suzanne Bischoff, Executive Director of the Epilepsy Foundation of Virginia, said, "We are providing this training and other resources to medical examiners because it's important that any barriers to the very important research be removed and that families of victims get needed closure."

Submit letters to the editor to editor@ourvalley.org

## WalletHub: Virginia is 10th best state for singles

With Valentine's Day around the corner and the average date costing close to \$100, the personal-finance website WalletHub Monday released its report on 2022's best and worst states for singles and determined that Virginia is the 10th best state in the country for singles.

As WalletHub points out, besides looks, personality, interests and employment status, location can influence the odds of finding a romantic partner. Everyone has different priorities when searching for love, but certain places simply make dating easier than others. That's especially true during the COVID-19 pandemic as certain states are more impacted

than others, though virtual dates have risen in popularity as a safer alternative to going out in person.

To help unattached Americans improve their chances of finding love, WalletHub compared the 50 states across 30 key indicators of dating friendliness. The data set ranges from the share of single adults to online-dating opportunities to restaurants per capita.

Virginia's rankings among some of the metrics with 1 being the best and 25 average were gender balance of singles, 29; online dating opportunities, 17, mobile dating opportunities 11, median annual household

income adjusted for cost of living, 1, restaurants per capita, 10, movie theaters per capita, 24, crime rate 8, and percentage of residents 12+ who are fully vaccinated, 10.

According to WalletHub, the top 10 states for singles are 1) California 2) New York 3) Florida 4) Texas 5) Pennsylvania 6) Illinois 7) Massachusetts 8) New Jersey 9) Wisconsin and 10) Virginia.

The website also found that the 10 worst states for singles are 41) South Carolina 42) Idaho 43) Alaska 44) Alabama 45) Kentucky 46) Mississippi 47) Wyoming 48) North Dakota 49) Arkansas and 50) West Virginia.

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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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## Planetarium

from page 1

them, we would not have navigation in our cars or mobile phones, accurate weather forecasts, and in fact many everyday items, either. Do you ask who they are? None other than artificial satellites! This show is all about those satellites."

The Saturday morning kids shows will be "Beyond the Sun."

"While our heroine Celeste is fighting off sleep in her room by reading a book on astronomy, she receives an unexpected visit from Moon," the show's description reads. "Together, they will enjoy a journey through the universe to discover what exoplanets are and

how they can be detected. They observe rogue planets, oceanic worlds, and super-Earths. Moon tells her about exoplanet hunters, who observe the sky in search of planets like Earth."

All shows are free and everyone is welcome. The planetarium is located in the Center for the Sciences room M75 (Main Street level). Attendees may enter through the doors from Parking Lot C on East Main St.

Four metered parking spaces in Lots C and B, next to the Center for the Sciences are available for the daytime shadows.

Several metered spaces in the

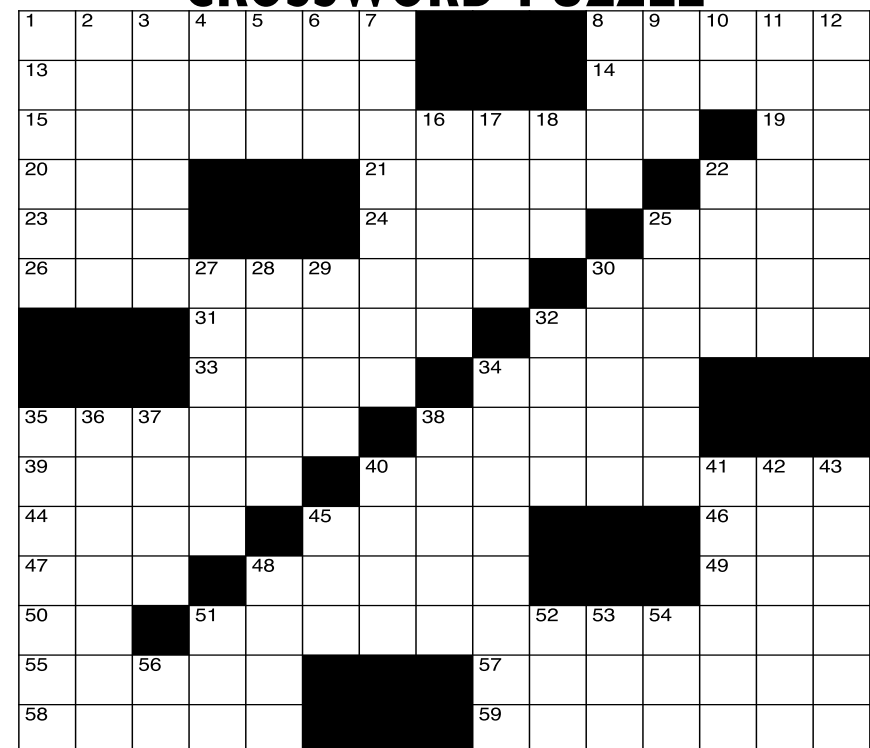
portion of Parking Lot A that lies directly between Martin Hall and Main Street are also available.

Free parking day passes can be picked up at the Radford University Parking office in Heth Hall or the Radford University Police Station (at the intersection of University Drive and Main Street).

Hearing-assist receivers for the sound system are available. Those attending should bring their own earphones (1/16 inch [3.5mm] stereo jack).

For more information, contact Planetarium Director Dr. Rhett Herman at rherman@radford.edu.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p><b>CLUES ACROSS</b></p> <p>1. ___ de Mornay, actress</p> <p>8. Surrenders</p> <p>13. Omission</p> <p>14. The white poplar</p> <p>15. They become butterflies</p> <p>19. Used to chop</p> <p>20. Select</p> <p>21. Volcanic craters</p> <p>22. Consumer price index</p> <p>23. Utilize</p> <p>24. "True Blood" actress Paquin</p> <p>25. Got up</p> <p>26. Sank in</p> <p>30. Retail</p> <p>31. Giants</p> <p>32. Most bald</p> <p>33. Changes color</p> | <p>34. Unit of loudness</p> <p>35. Undresses</p> <p>38. Fathers</p> <p>39. Learned skill</p> <p>40. Remove qualification</p> <p>44. Covered with frost</p> <p>45. Speak up</p> <p>46. Nowhere to be found</p> <p>47. Part of surgery (abbr.)</p> <p>48. Type of wrap</p> <p>49. Church seating</p> <p>50. Mathematical figure</p> <p>51. College football conference</p> <p>55. Turkish officer title</p> <p>57. Organized body of knowledge</p> <p>58. Smooth and glossy</p> <p>59. Left</p> | <p><b>CLUES DOWN</b></p> <p>1. Get back</p> <p>2. Pass or go by</p> <p>3. Having a sharp taste</p> <p>4. Midway between east and southeast</p> <p>5. Cairo Regional Airport</p> <p>6. Peace officer</p> <p>7. Brings to life</p> <p>8. Automotive vehicles</p> <p>9. One point south of due east</p> <p>10. Football position</p> <p>11. Goes by</p> <p>12. Most attractive</p> <p>16. Road divisions</p> <p>17. Not the sea</p> <p>18. Small, faint constellation</p> <p>22. Cabbage</p> <p>25. Least frequent</p> <p>27. Change slightly</p> <p>28. A country in NE Africa</p> <p>29. Metric units of measure</p> | <p>30. More coherent</p> <p>32. Make uninteresting</p> <p>34. Nausea</p> <p>35. Institution of Oceanography</p> <p>36. Of little value</p> <p>37. Hindu model of the ideal man</p> <p>38. Biblical exclamation</p> <p>40. You throw it at a board</p> <p>41. Be about to happen</p> <p>42. Brutal</p> <p>43. Opened one's mouth widely</p> <p>45. 19th letter of Greek alphabet</p> <p>48. Saturate</p> <p>51. The woman</p> <p>52. Someone who is highly skilled</p> <p>53. A way to launch an attack on</p> <p>54. Where golfers begin</p> <p>56. Atomic number 58</p> |
|--|---|---|--|

## For Virginia

from page 1

ginia Tech and Virginia State University.

"This is an important tool that documents Virginia Cooperative Extension's rich history of helping communities thrive," said Karen Vines, an assistant professor in the Virginia Tech Department of Agricultural Leadership and Education who teaches a course titled "Introduction to Cooperative Extension." "By including students in this project, they were able to learn the history of how the land-grant universities in the state are ingrained in every community across the commonwealth," Vines said.

Jacob Hodges, a senior at the time from Catawba, Va., and Jama Coartney, a graduate teaching assistant in the Department of Agricultural Leadership and Education, led the team. Laura Dainton, the 2021 Extension intern, assisted and provided the ADA compliant version.

"I was able to see and connect the overarching missions and goals of Virginia's two land-grant institutions, which wasn't something that I was aware of before working on this project," Hodges said.

Connections drove the creation of the timeline. Connections between Extension's work in natural resources and farming, connections between communities and youth development, and connections between Virginia Tech and Virginia State University.

Virginia Cooperative Extension, which is made up of faculty and staff from Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, is made up of experts in the Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the College of Natural Resources and Environment, the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Virginia State University

College of Agriculture..

"Relationships are the foundation of what Extension is - both internal and external," Vines said. "Extension would not be the organization that it is today without these relationships that we cherish."

Extension has always brought cutting-edge science and research to people in the accessible medium of the day, whether through pamphlets, newsletters, field visits, or virtual interactions. Finding the right tool to showcase this history was a challenge, Coartney said.

Using her background in digital humanities, Coartney knew of tools that could generate interactive timelines. "This tool had a lot of benefits for our goal for students and community members to visually see the impact of Extension throughout its history," Coartney said. "This visual timeline makes our history easily accessible."

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

# OBITUARIES

## Howard, Harvey Emory

Harvey Emory Howard (Emory), 79, of Blacksburg, went to be with his Lord and Savior on Thursday night, Jan. 27, 2022.

He is singing and dancing with his loving mother, Dorothy Howard, and his father, Harvey Howard. He was also preceded in death by his brother, David Howard, and a grandson Charles "Patrick" Underwood.

He leaves behind the mother of his children, Lois Howard; his daughters Angela (Eddie) Underwood, Melissa Howard, Cindy (Duwayne) Smith-Janney, and Sharon (Jimmy) Brunner; his son and best friend; Dewayne Howard; his 11 grandchildren: Ricky (Emily) Howell, Matthew (Cary) Smith, Scottie Howell, Samantha (Seth) Underwood, Taylor (Trent) Gordon, Kimberly (Cody) McNeil, Morgan (Ben) Huber, Meredith Janney (Cody Brown), Braiden (Jessica) Underwood, Brooke and Madison Brunner; as well as his 18 great-grandchildren: Peyton, Colt, Ty, and Kyle Howell; West-



en, Braelyn, and Forest Smith; Colby, Collin, Cohen, and Cambreigh Howell; Sawyer, Caroline and Jolee Gordon; Holden and Kason McNeil; and Crosby and Charleigh Huber; sisters Darlene Shafer and Carolyn (Donnie) Wingo, a brother, Delmer (Ellen) Howard; and his most beloved dog, Butterbean.

Emory worked at Yokohama for 31 years. After he retired he could always be found in his garage, at an auction, or at the race track with a chicken drumstick in his hands watching his son race.

He was a lover of all dogs, auctions, getting aces in Rummy, a cold bottle of Coke, racing, watching television (on maximum volume), and yellow tomatoes.

The funeral service will be held at McCoy Funeral Home on Friday Feb. 4, 2022. The family will receive friends starting at 1 p.m. with the service to follow at 2 p.m. Pastor Peter Anderson will be officiating. Graveside service to follow at Westview Cemetery.

## Raines, Mildred (Mickey) Wickline

Mildred (Mickey) Wickline Raines, 85, of Shawsville, died Thursday, Jan. 27, 2022.

She was born in Monroe County, W.Va., on Feb. 2, 1936, to the late Ernest R. and Elizabeth Booth Wickline.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John Junior Raines; a son, Johnnie Lee Raines; a granddaughter, Chelsea Nicole Raines; and two brothers, Buddy Wickline and Danny Wickline.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Connie and Danny Lowe; sons and daughters-in-law, Ronnie and Becky Raines,



Don and Peggy Raines, and Lonnie and Donna Raines; seven grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren; a brother and sister-in-law, Bob and Hazel Wickline; and sisters-in-law, Debbie and Shirley Wickline. The family wishes to thank Kim Dix and the Rev. Gary and Brenda Shepherd.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022, at 1 p.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Gary Shepherd officiating. Interment followed in the Peterstown Cemetery, Peterstown, W.Va.

## Martin, Bobby Allen

Bobby Allen Martin, 73, of Christiansburg, heard his Lord and Savior call him home on Jan. 28, 2022. He was born in Pilot on Oct. 17, 1948, to the late Albert and Beulah Martin. In addition to his parents, Bobby was preceded in death by his two sons, Dave Allen Martin and Michael Chris Martin; and a sister, Shirley Shaver.

Left to carry on his memory is his loving wife and best friend of 50 years, Mary Jane Martin; his daughter and son-in-law, Katonya Martin Bishop (Brian) of Christiansburg; grandchildren Dallas Martin, Drew King (Allie), Spencer Martin, Ariel Martin, Callie Williams, and Cassie Bishop; a great-granddaughter, Ella Martin; a brother, Billy Martin (Dorothy)



of Radford; a sister, Nita Kingrea of Christiansburg; a brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Johnny and June Cox of Blacksburg; several nieces and nephews; and a special companion, Oscar.

Bobby worked hard all his life, but it is what he enjoyed. He could fix anything and find water in the ground with a stick.

Funeral services will be conducted today, Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022, at 11 a.m. in the Faith Missionary Baptist Church with the Rev. Mike Vest and the Rev. Neal Turner officiating. Interment will follow in the Roselawn Memorial Gardens, Christiansburg. The family received friends Tuesday evening at McCoy Funeral Home 150 Country Club Dr. SW, Blacksburg.

## Reynolds, Gary Alan

Gary Alan Reynolds, 68, passed away at his home in Radford on Friday, Jan. 28, 2022.

He was a U. S. Army veteran and a general contractor.

Gary loved his family, his country and his Harley. He was preceded in death by his mother, Sammie Reynolds Dalton; and a brother, Rocky Reynolds.

Survivors include his wife, Karen



Reynolds; a daughter, Crystal Reynolds; grandchildren Shilah and Curren; his father, Sidney Reynolds; sisters Debbie Taylor (Jimbo), Deanie Hall, and Janet England; and several nieces and nephews.

Services will be private. The Reynolds family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com.

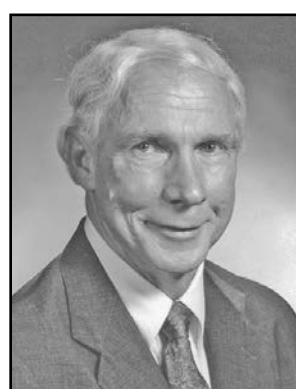
## Killough, Larry Neil

Larry Neil Killough, 89, of Claytor Lake, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2022.

He was raised in Jackson, Tenn., the son of the late John F. Killough, Sr., and Quilla Katherine Wegmann Killough.

Larry was the Peat Marwick professor of accounting at Virginia Tech where he taught for 45 years and was head of the accounting department for nine years. He also served as faculty representative for athletics for 19 years and wrote many articles and books. He was a member of Central United Methodist Church in Radford and served in the U. S. Army during the Korean Conflict.

Survivors include his loving wife of 69



years, Irene K. Killough; a son and daughter-in-law, Gregory Neil and Catherine Killough; a daughter and son-in-law, Margaret and William Demere; grandchildren Paul Demere, Desirae Twilla and husband Kevin, William Demere and wife Nargess, Brittany Killough, Andrea DeLeon, Abigail Wade and husband Alex, and Eliza Mrvan and husband

Brandon; two great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends. He will be greatly missed by his family.

A celebration of Larry's life will be held in the spring.

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

## Manns-Taylor, Natalie Monique

God dispatched his angels to usher Natalie through the gates of Heaven at the age of 62 on Jan. 26, 2022, at Novant Medical facility in Kernersville, N.C., surrounded by her family. She was born on July 14, 1959, in Columbus, Ohio.

Natalie was a lifelong member of First Missionary Baptist Church and attended Mount Zion Baptist Church during her time in North Carolina.

Natalie was one who had high expectations for herself from a very young age. She attended Pulaski County High School and was active in several community activities. She joined the softball team and the Girl Scouts, as well as 4-H, an Agriculture-Oriented Club for Youth. She was also active in church where she sang in the choir and taught Sunday School.

She started working her first part-time job at the age of 16, at McDonalds. She then started her career at Food Lion while she attended college at Radford University, graduating in 1982. Starting as a cashier Natalie climbed the corporate ladder. She created the diversity department at Food Lion and became vice president of diversity in the corporate office where she held the title until her retirement from the corporate world in 2004.

While at Food Lion, she was active in the National Association of Colored People (NAACP) and was a member of the board of trustees. She was also the secretary of the Board of Directors of the Triangle Urban League as well as a member of the National Association of Female Executives, the Rainbow Coalition, and Minority Women in Business. She played a major role in Food Lion's support of the CIAA where she represented Food Lion with live TV interviews. She was the face of Food Lion in several commercials.

Throughout her career, Natalie received the following awards: Minor-



ity Recruiter Positive Image Award, Virginia NAACP-area branches, Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Service Award, and Winston Lake Family YMCA Black Achiever Award.

After retiring from Food Lion, she decided to pursue her own dream. With the support of her husband, Tim, and her son Ryan, she

started Capture Communications Resource Group, a video production and executive coaching company.

In life she became a supporter of her son, her nieces, and her nephews. She loved to shop and have good times with what she called her "Circle" and "Sister Cousins."

Natalie was preceded in death by her mother, Betty M. Casey; and her maternal grandparents, James and Hattie Manns.

She leaves to cherish in her memory, her devoted husband of 37 years, Timothy Taylor; her most prized possession, her son, Ryan (Nyasha Lands) of Greensboro, N.C.; siblings Ava Manns Pope of Greensboro, N.C. and Karen Casey of Lynchburg, Va.; a niece, Aaliyah Webb; a nephew, Andrew Casey of Lynchburg, Va.; aunts and uncles Flossie Brown, Charles (Caroline), and John Manns, all of New River, Va.; and a special friend, Marchelle Flynn of Dublin, Va. Also left to rejoice in her memories of life are a host of cousins and friends.

The family will receive friends from 1 until 2 p.m. today, Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022, at the First Missionary Baptist Church in New River, Va. Funeral services will begin at 2 p.m. with Pastor Timothy Simmons officiating. Interment will follow in Sunrise Burial Park in Radford.

To keep everyone safe, the family requests that all attendees wear a mask.

The Manns-Taylor family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

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## Thompson, Mary Jane

Mary Jane Thompson, 73, of Blacksburg, died Friday, Jan. 28, 2022.

She was born in Lexington, Va., on Dec. 5, 1948, to the late Homer and Thelma Thompson.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Wayne Thompson, and a sister, Carol Thompson.

She graduated from Natural Bridge High School and attended Virginia Commonwealth University. She moved to Blacksburg in 1978 and was employed at Virginia Tech in Food Science. She was a recipient of one of the 1996 President's Awards for Excellence and recipient of the Alpha Gamma Chapter-Epsilon Sigma Phi award for outstanding secretary.

She served on the FST Department Head Search Committee and was a member of Centennial Christian Church. She worked for Larry Linkous Auctioneers for 20-plus years.

She is survived by her brothers and sisters-in-law, Tommy Thompson (Loretta), Jimmy Thompson (Shelia), and



Bobby Thompson (Susan); nieces Debbie Thompson Broughman and family, Jennifer Thompson Austin and family, Dawn Faulkner McNamara (Brian), Krissy Thompson, and Afton Thompson; nephews William Thompson and family, Lee Faulkner and family, Brent Faulkner and family, Tom Thompson and family, and Logan Thompson.

The family would like to express a special thanks to neighbors, friends, and church family, and to Medi Home Health and Hospice.

Funeral Services will be conducted today, Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022, at 11 a.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Steve Allen officiating. Interment will follow in the Centennial Christian Church Cemetery, McCoy.

In lieu of flowers please donate to Centennial Christian Church or to Cancer Research Organization. The family will receive friends from 10 to 11 a.m. prior to the service at McCoy Funeral Home 150 Country Club Dr. SW, Blacksburg.

# Marketplace

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News Messenger

RADFORD News Journal

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Oakley's Funeral Service - Vinton Chapel is seeking individuals to work with the public and the ability to perform varied clerical tasks and service to clientele. A working knowledge of computers is helpful but not required. These positions offer flexible day, evening, and weekend hours. We offer competitive compensation. Interested candidates should contact Josh Dama at (540) 982-2221.

**Help Wanted - General**

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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

**Calling All Singers, Musicians, & Actors!!!**

A community theater group based in Roanoke, VA is looking for a group of fun-loving, dedicated volunteers to perform an original show written and directed by Al Nierwinski. The show consists of 22 songs and many hilarious lines. For more information call Al Nierwinski @ 540-761-8392.

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**Legals - Botetourt County**

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NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

**Legals - City of Salem**

**Notice of Public Sale**

Notice is hereby given that Storage King USA 201 Berkley Rd.NE. Roanoke VA 24012 will sell the contents of the storage units listed below at a public auction to satisfy a lien placed on the contents (Virginia Statute 55). The sale will take place at the website Storage Treasures.com on 02/15/2022 at 9:00 am. The sale will be conducted on Storage Treasures.com, under the guidance of Christopher Rosa (2907004316) on the behalf of the facility's management. Units will be available for viewing prior to the sale on Storage Treasures.com. Contents will be sold for cash only to the highest bidder. A 15% buyer's premium will be charged as well as a \$100 cleaning deposit per unit. All sales are final. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale or to refuse any bids. The property to be sold is described as "general household items" unless otherwise noted.  
159-Katelyn Bowman-Household goods:  
023-Jeffery Terry - Household goods:  
225-Marcus Harrison - Household good:  
295-Travis Davidson-Household goods:  
259-Jonathan Walker-Household good

**Legals - City of Salem**

**NOTICE OF BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETING**

TO: CITY OF SALEM REAL ESTATE OWNERS

The Board of Equalization for Real Estate Assessments in the City of Salem will meet on Monday, April 11th, 2022, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Salem Civic Center located at 1001 Roanoke Blvd, Salem, Virginia.

The Board will continue its meeting from time to time thereafter, by adjournments, at and for such time or times, at the same place or such other place or places, as may be designed and deemed necessary by the

**Legals - City of Salem**

Board to accomplish and complete its task of equalization of real estate assessments and to discharge the duties imposed by law upon the Board.

Said meeting will finally be adjourned on April 11th, 2022, unless the powers of the Board are extended by order of the circuit court for the City of Salem. The purpose of the Board meeting is to equalize property assessments in the City and to hear and give consideration to all complaints of any inequalities in such assessment so that the burden of real estate taxation shall rest equally upon all owners.

At its meeting, the Board will hear and decide all inequality protest complaints, whether made by property owners, the City, or any taxpayer, on appeal to this Board by property owners or their representatives. The Board may equalize any assessment by raising, or lowering assessments fixed by the Assessor, in proper cases, in order to make assessments uniform in the City as far as practicable.

If you wish to discuss the assessment with the Board, call 375-3058 for an appointment by February 18th, 2022. The Assessor is required by law to prepare necessary papers for the Board and for the property owner who wants to appeal to the Board of Equalization.

Information pertaining to the Assessor's valuations, along with forms for appeal to the Board of Equalization may be obtained from the Assessor's office by calling (540) 375-3058, or online at www.salemva.gov.

**BOARD OF EQUALIZATION OF REAL ESTATE ASSESSMENTS FOR THE CITY OF SALEM**

Norman J. Beamer  
Kathy Fitzgerald  
Wendel Ingram Jr.  
David Prosser

**Legals - Montgomery County**

**ORDER OF PUBLICATION**

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
VA CODE §§ 1-211 1; 8-01-316, -317, 20-104

**Case No. CL21001989**  
Montgomery County Circuit Court  
55 East Main Street, Suite 1, Christiansburg, VA 24073  
Estate Of Ernestine B. Frith v.

Commonwealth of Virginia Mark B. Frith v. Commonwealth of Virginia  
The object of this suit is to: Sale of Ernestine Burton Frith's Real Property  
It is ORDERED that Dennis L. Frith appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before March 14, 2022.

January 13, 2022  
Judge K. Mike Fleenor, Jr.



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# RADFORD SPORTS



The Radford University softball team has announced the additions of Autumn Bishop (left) and Marissa Yow to the coaching staff.

## RU softball names two assistant coaches

Radford University softball has named Autumn Bishop and Marissa Yow as assistant coaches for the quickly approaching 2022 season.

Bishop joins the Highlanders after a successful four-year career playing for Liberty. From 2017 to 2020, Bishop was the Flames' starting first baseman while amassing a large collection of awards. She is a four-time first-team all-conference selection, a three-time VaSID all-state first-team selection, and a 2017 NFCA All-Mid-Atlantic region first-team member.

During the 2017 and 2018 seasons when Liberty was still a part of the Big South, Bishop was named a member of the 2017 all-freshman team and the 2018 Tournament MVP. Bishop finished her career at Liberty with the program record for doubles, walks, sacrifice flies, and putouts while also holding the single-season records for doubles and putouts. She ranks 10th all-time in Division I with 74 career doubles.

Yow returns to the Highlanders as a coach after spending three seasons

playing for Radford between 2016 and 2018. She graduated from Radford in 2019 with a degree in psychology and a minor in exercise science.

During her freshman year as a Highlander, Yow was one of four Highlanders, and the lone freshman, to start in all 61 games. At the start of the season, she was the team's catcher before switching to third base. In 2016 Yow ranked fifth on the team with 26 RBIs and sixth with 42 hits.

As a redshirt sophomore in 2018, she appeared in 49 games and started in 43 as the designated player. Yow batted .240 while tallying six doubles and two home runs. In her season debut, she had three RBIs and a home run after missing the 2017 season due to injury.

The 2022 softball season is almost here as the Highlanders are set to face Binghamton on Feb. 11 in the season opener at the Bash in the Boro hosted by Georgia Southern. Radford will also play East Tennessee State University and Georgia Southern during the opening weekend.

## Radford boys down Carroll



Elijah Kelly gets fouled while driving to the basket in the Bobcats' 62-38 defeat of Carroll County this past week. Gavin Cormany led Radford with 13 points while Kelly finished with 12 points in the contest.



Radford's Parker Prioleau scores on a layup against Carroll County. With the win, Radford moved to 9-2 overall and 4-0 in Three Rivers District play.



Max Kanipe scores in the paint in the second half for Radford as he finished with six points.

PHOTOS BY BRYANT ALTIZER

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*Ramona Howell*

Ramona H. has lived in Joseph C. Thomas Assisted Living for about three years after a stay in Short Term Rehab following emergency surgery. She liked the care, playing games, socializing, and watching the geese and rabbits outside.

She wanted to become a hot shot secretary so she studied those skills in college. But she met a young man who joined the Air Force and got orders to go to Alaska. Ramona and Clell were married in one day by a pastor they found in the phonebook. They had four children, Richard, Rita, Frank, and Raymond. The family was living in France when Clell had a cerebral aneurism while driving. Although they were both injured, her husband was transferred to Germany for a long convalescence. He had large memory loss so they returned to Virginia. Ramona kept children to support the family. They were married 54 years before he passed in 2008.



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*Ramona Howell*

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