



RADFORD

Serving Radford Since 1884

News Journal

VESTED PARTNERS
A MULTI-FAMILY OFFICE



Robyn Smith Ellis, Attorney

www.vestedmfo.com
540.389.6060

- LEGAL
- FINANCIAL
- FIDUCIARY
- INSURANCE

Saturday, February 12, 2022 • USPS 387-780 • ourvalley.org • \$1.00

Radford seeks public comment on plans for CDBG funds

Heather Bell
communitynews@ourvalley.org

RADFORD - The City of Radford is in the process of creating its next five-year plan for the allocation of its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and is seeking public comment.

The City will hold public meetings on Tuesday, Feb. 15, at 12 p.m. and on Thursday, Feb. 17, at 5 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at 10 Robertson Street. The city "is seeking participation as it initiates the preparation of its 2022-2026 Consolidated Plan,

2022 Annual Action Plan, and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice."

"The five-year consolidated plan will identify the affordable housing and community development needs in the City of Radford over the next five years," the city's announcement reads. "Annually, the city receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. To continue receiving these funds, the City of Radford is required to identify and prioritize its needs, then explain how it will address these needs through local projects as part of the Annual Action Plan for FY 2022."

CDBG funds are federal grant funds distributed through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development designed to support "community development activities to build stronger and more resilient communities," according to HUD.

"To support community development, activities are identified through an ongoing process. Activities may address needs such as infrastructure, economic development projects, public facilities installation, community centers, housing rehabilitation, public services, clearance/acquisition,

micro-enterprise assistance, code enforcement, and homeowner assistance."

All citizens and organizations are invited to attend the public meeting to comment orally or in writing on funding needs and priorities. Questions regarding the grant program are also encouraged. The City of Radford will make reasonable accommodations and services necessary for sensory-impaired and disabled citizens at the public meeting.

Questions should be directed to Melissa Skelton, at Melissa.Skelton@radfordva.gov or at (540) 267-3188.

Radford City schools join opposition to governor's executive order

Radford City Public Schools is joining school divisions across the commonwealth in opposing Gov. Glen Youngkin's Executive Order Number One, which puts measures in place "ending the use of inherently divisive concepts, including critical race theory, and restoring excellence in K-12 public education in the commonwealth," according to the governor's office.

The following is a letter supported by the Virginia Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators (VACTE), Virginia Association of Elementary

School Principals (VAESP), Virginia Association of School Superintendents (VASS), Virginia Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (VASCAD), Virginia Counselors Association (VCA), Virginia Education Association (VEA), Virginia Parent Teacher Association (Virginia PTA), and Virginia Professors and Educational Leadership (VPEL).

"Throughout the past year, Virginia's students, teachers, and principals have been caught in the middle of a politically driven culture war that

has eroded trust in our schools and exacerbated the growing teacher shortage. The tip line that Governor Youngkin established for parents and citizens to report teachers, principals, or instructional materials directly to the governor's office, based on a subjective definition of "divisive," has already proven to be divisive itself. The tip line will impede parent-to-school collaboration and directly undermine the very factors that educators know contribute to student success, including having high quality teachers in

See **Schools**, page 4



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Ballet Hispanico performs "Tiburones" (2019).

Celebrate 50 years of spirit, vibrancy, and cultural pride with Ballet Hispánico at Moss Arts Center

The Moss Arts Center welcomes Ballet Hispanico, a pioneering contemporary dance company to its stage for a return performance Wednesday, Feb. 23, at 7:30 p.m.

A leading voice of artistic excellence and advocacy, Ballet Hispanico celebrates 50 years of spirit, vibrancy, and cultural pride with "Noche de Oro," a program encompassing the company's flourishing history of lush and virtuosic dance.

The performance will be held in the center's Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre, located

within the Street and Davis Performance Hall at 190 Alumni Mall.

Named one of America's Cultural Treasures by the Ford Foundation, Ballet Hispánico celebrates Latinx cultures through innovative performances that elevate diverse artists and ignite cultural pride. According to the New York Times, "The Latin-American experience at last has a voice in the feisty, elegant dancing of Ballet Hispánico."

An international force, Ballet Hispánico

See **Ballet**, page 4

Professor emeritus reflects on her winding path as an educator

By Neal Harvey

The big realization that ultimately shaped much of Carolyn Mathews's life – her awareness that education was her calling – arrived at an unusual moment.

As a child, Mathews' earliest dreams were of becoming a chicken farmer. Those fell away by about the fourth grade, however, and were replaced by far longer-lasting ambitions to be a writer.

An English major in college, she initially considered becoming a reporter, but she knew she wasn't a huge fan of deadlines, so she got her qualifications to teach instead.

"I remember thinking I would have my summers free to write," she said. "My reasons for choosing teacher licensure weren't the best ... my reasons were selfish."

And so it was that in the fall of 1975, she started work at Dublin Middle School in Pulaski County where, before an audience of eighth-graders, an entirely new perspective dawned on her almost immediately.

"I actually had no real inkling of what a teaching life would be until I stepped in front of my own classroom. Something magical happened," she said.

"And I thought: Why did I not know that I wanted to be a teacher? This is the best thing in the world," Mathews said.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Carolyn Mathews's earliest dreams were of being a chicken farmer.

"It felt like my brain was just on fire with trying to get students to understand."

Teaching became the field she would occupy for nearly half a century, one that took her from Dublin to UNC-Greensboro, where she earned her Ph.D., and Greensboro College, then to Wake Forest University and finally, in 1999, back to the New River Valley and to Radford University where she remained

See **Professor**, page 4

USDA funding awarded to Washington and Jefferson National Forest for habitat restoration that includes Montgomery County

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has awarded joint chiefs' landscape restoration funding to the George Washington and Jefferson National Forest to restore forest health in the Eastern Divide Restoration Project area.

The joint chiefs' landscape restoration partnership enables the Natural Resources Conservation Service and

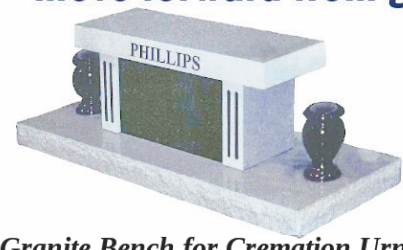
the Forest Service, both agencies under the USDA, to collaborate with agricultural producers and forest landowners to invest in conservation and restoration at a big enough scale to make a difference. Working in partnership helps reduce wildfire threats, protect water quality and supply, and improve wildlife habitat for at-risk species.

The award funds a 3-year project aimed at

improving forest health, habitat, and water quality across public and private lands in Virginia's Botetourt, Craig, Roanoke, Giles, Bland, Pulaski, Wythe, Tazewell, and Montgomery counties. The project will focus on the 440,724 acres of national forest system lands and 1,819,756 acres of private land in Bland, Botetourt and

See **USDA**, page 6

Cremation Memorialization helps the family move forward from grief to remembrance



Granite Bench for Cremation Urns



Permanent Home for Cremation Urns



Memorial Gardens
of the New River Valley
2551 North Main Street
Blacksburg, VA 24060
(540) 552-7800

www.memorialgardensnrv.com
cturner@memorialgardensnrv.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Now through Feb. 14:

Braleley & Thompson Blanket Drive for Virginia foster children

Braleley & Thompson of Virginia is conducting a “Wrapped in Love” winter blanket drive 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 Braleley & 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/>.

Grab-and-Go meals

Free grab-and-go meals and snacks all the month of February at the Meadowbrook Public Library. Children and youth 18 and younger can come and get a weeks’ worth of meals and snacks. Each box will contain a five-day supply. This is free to all children/teens during library hours. Sponsored by Feeding Southwest Virginia.

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.

Community History Harvest with Christiansburg Institute

Blacksburg Library; 1:30 to 4 p.m. Join a team of staff and volunteers at the Community History Harvest with Christiansburg Institute. A History Harvest collects digital reproductions of an item and returns the original to the owner. Community members may bring their family photographs, paper documents, newspaper clippings, and stories. Library staff will be set-up with all the tools and equipment (scanners and audio/visual recorders) needed to preserve precious memories.

Nailed it! Winter Edition

Christiansburg Library; 1 p.m. Inspired by the hit Netflix TV show, participants will use their wacky, artistic side by recreating a work of art using the provided supplies. Ages 8 and up. Registration is required with prizes awarded to the winner. Contact spahl@mfrl.org for more information.

Monday, Feb. 14:

Cupids of Comedy Show and Fundraiser

The RADical Change Commission is “calling all lovers of laughter for an evening of Valentine-themed fun” to raise funds for a good cause. The commission is hosting a stand-up comedy show fundraiser “complete with charcuterie and sweet treats” at Sharkey’s Up Top. Adult beverages will be available for purchase. A star-studded lineup will feature some of Virginia’s best stand up comics. 7 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$30 donation per person and are available at <http://paypal.me/RADicalChangeLove> with “Cupids of Comedy” in the memo.

STEM Club

Christiansburg Library; 1 p.m. The homeschool STEM club explores science, technology, engineering, and/or math. Ages 8 and up.

Pokémon Club

Christiansburg Library; 4:30 p.m. Pokémon fans can bring their DS or Pokémon cards and get ready to battle, trade, and make new friends. All ages.

Tuesday, Feb. 15:

Cupcake Wars: Valentines Edition

Blacksburg Library at 4:30 p.m. Participants can put their decorating skills to the

test with another round of cupcake wars. Email mroach@mfrl.org with any questions.

Wednesday, Feb. 16:

Just Help: Storytime with the mayor

Join Radford’s Mayor Horton for a special storytime about helping make the world and the community a better place. Sonia Sotomayor’s new book “Just Help!” will be read aloud. A limited supply of free copies of this book to give away will be provided. Radford Public Library; 11 a.m.

American Business Women’s Association luncheon meeting

The American Business Women’s Association, NRV Express Chapter, will hold its February luncheon meeting from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Christiansburg-Blacksburg, 99 Bradley Dr. 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@wineanddesign.com.

Virtual Art Club: Henry Ossawa Tanner

Christiansburg Library; 2 p.m. Painter Henry Ossawa Tanner will help participants create a portrait in his style. Participants can pick up a curated craft kit and then follow the tutorial on Facebook or YouTube.

Library Board of Trustees meeting

Christiansburg Library; 7 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 17:

Talking About Books: “All That She Carried”

Christiansburg Library; 11 a.m. Discussed this month is “All That She Carried” by Tiya Miles, in-person and virtually.

SOVA Colloquium presents Mark Valdez

Blacksburg Library; 3:30 p.m. The School of Performing Arts at Virginia Tech presents Art, Community, and Social Health, a series of talks/workshops by nationally recognized artists and thought leaders on the power and practice of art and culture as essential elements of healthy communities. Mark Valdez is a director, writer, and cultural organizer who partners with communities, organizations, civic institutions, and others, using theater and creative tools to address community needs and to lift up community voices and stories. Valdez will participate via Zoom. Discussion will take place both in person and via Zoom.

Dungeons & Dragons - Level 4

Radford Public Library; 4:30 to 7 p.m. Adventure into the world of Dungeons & Dragons. Email duncan.hall@radfordva.gov to set up everything needed to build a level 4 hero. Hybrid virtual attendance options are available for those interested.

Saturday Feb. 19:

High School Art Show

Radford University Art Museum, 214 Tyler Ave., Radford. An opening reception will be held at 11 a.m. Artwork of area high school students will be on display until Saturday, Feb. 26.

Caturday

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

Teen DND

Blacksburg Library; 2 p.m. DnD for Teens.

Friday, Feb. 25 and Saturday, Feb. 26:

Radford Public Library Book Sale

The Radford Public Library will hold book sales on Friday, Feb.25, and Saturday, Feb. 26 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Book topics during the sale include fantasy, science fiction, fishing, and cooking plus DVDs, CDs, and gun books. The sale will feature a free table. All hardbacks are \$1 and paperbacks are \$.50. Children’s books are half that. Funds raised assist the Lamplighters.

Ongoing:

Blacksburg Aquatic Center Closed for Repairs

Repairs on the hot tub, gutters and deck surface at the Blacksburg Aquatic Center, are ongoing. The Aquatic Center will remain closed for several more weeks. A re-opening date will be announced once it is confirmed.

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

YOUR LOCAL NEWS

JUST THE WAY YOU LIKE IT!



RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL
Serving Radford Since 1884

DIGITAL ONLY	DIGITAL & PRINT	PRINT ONLY
One Year Digital Subscription \$29.00	Yearly Print & Digital Subscription \$72.00	Yearly Print Only Subscription \$44.00 Radford \$53.00 Virginia \$57.00 Out of State

Subscribe online at radfordnewsjournal.com or mail to address below

SUBSCRIPTION TO RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Check Enclosed _____ or call (304) 647-5724 to pay by credit card

Mail to: Circulation Department, RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL,
P.O. BOX 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901 or call us at (304) 647-5724.

Transportation award for first-generation Hokie could improve medical response training for vehicle collisions and save lives

By Laura McWhinney

Jacob Valente, a third-year doctoral student in the Virginia Tech–Wake Forest University School of Biomedical Engineering and Sciences program, has received the Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Award.

For more than 30 years, this award, given by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), benefits the nation's brightest minds in the field of transportation, according to the FHWA website, helping these students earn advanced degrees and support the U.S. transportation industry.

Past fellows have pushed for innovative change in areas such as highway infrastructure and aviation, making the industry more effective and efficient. Valente's research proposes to do just that: conduct research for innovative change to assist emergency medical service (EMS) responses to vehicle collisions.

Valente works in the Advanced Vehicle and Technology Research (AVaTR) Lab alongside Miguel Perez, associate professor in biomedical engineering and mechanics in the Virginia Tech College of Engineering. Together, they are spearheading multiple projects to improve EMS responses to vehicle collisions.

"I believe the results and subsequent implications of these projects have the potential to save lives and reduce life-altering injuries sustained from motor vehicle crashes," Valente

said. "Knowing that these projects could even positively impact one person's life is the most rewarding aspect of my work."

Valente never expected to attend graduate school. But a thought-provoking question, posed by Clay Gabler — the former Samuel Herrick Professor at Virginia Tech until he passed away in 2021 — encouraged Valente to think more deeply about transportation issues and then to apply to the accelerated master's program in biomedical engineering and mechanics.

Gabler contrasted the public response to plane crashes versus vehicle crashes. When a plane crashes, he said, society deems it unacceptable, resulting in a thorough investigation. Vehicle crashes happen more often, yet do not generate the same level of response.

Why is that?

Gabler's question sparked Valente's interest in the study of vehicle safety. Then, a guest lecture during Valente's senior year as an undergraduate at Virginia Tech, explored complications and issues in the EMS system and in hospitals. Valente began thinking about how his engineering knowledge could help solve these problems.

"I was stunned when I thought about the desensitization I had to car collisions," said Valente. "It really made me think. As I got deeper into the research and kept pondering the issues I heard about, I realized I wanted to do something to help address these problems."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jacob Valente, first-generation and third-year doctoral student, received a prestigious transportation award for his life-saving research. Photo by Spencer Roberts of Virginia Tech.

One of Valente's and Perez's projects involves collecting naturalistic driving data from ambulances. Naturalistic data are data collected over time via sensors and cameras installed in the vehicle. Valente said the goal is to identify how other road users, such as passenger vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists, interact with emergency vehicles in active response modes. By identifying harmful or negative interactions in the data, Valente hopes to design interventions or recommendations to improve the safety and efficiency of emergency responses.

Valente and Perez are also working on a comprehensive injury triage system to assist EMS responders. Current algorithms and processes can

estimate the severity of a vehicle crash and predict injury risk to occupants through vehicle-based measurements like crash speed. However, these processes don't factor in the post-collision medical status of the vehicle's occupants. Access to this information, as evaluated through real-time vital sign measurement, could help EMS responders more efficiently mobilize additional resources, such as advanced life support personnel or a helicopter. Rather than waiting to arrive on the scene to evaluate occupants' conditions, the responders could already have the equipment at the collision site or en route. This could be a matter of life or death in many instances, said Valente.

Cinderella and Prince Charming Boutique returns to provide fairytale prom for students

The YMCA at VT in partnership with the Blacksburg Junior Women's Club is bringing back the Cinderella and Prince Charming Boutique, aka The Cinderella Project, to give teens on a budget their fairytale prom by providing new and gently used formal wear, shoes, and accessories for young men and young ladies.

The boutique has been developed to offset the potential issue of teens being prevented from attending prom because of a lack of resources. It offers a large assortment of clothing with a variety of options. Volunteers are available to help select just the right outfit

and to offer grooming tips. Foremost for the boutique is the rule that price is not an option, so no one will leave empty handed.

"Finding a need and filling it, that's what the YMCA at Virginia Tech does," said Ron Ovelgoenner, YMCA Director of Thrift Shop Operations

"Cinderella project is one of the Blacksburg Junior Women's Club's favorite community projects that aligns with our mission," said Ann Dempsey in discussing why the club is again partnering with the YMCA at VT on this project. "Our members enjoy helping the young men and women have a great experience

in finding their formal wear that they may not otherwise have been able to, due to expense."

The YMCA at VT and the Blacksburg Junior Women's Club invite all high school students shopping on a budget to come to the Y Thrift Shop, 1000, N. Main St., Blacksburg on the following dates to participate in the Cinderella & Prince Charming Boutique events: Feb. 26, 27; March 12, 13; March 26 & 27; Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sundays from noon to 3 p.m.

Virginia Tech's first service sorority, Chi Delta Alpha, is providing the volunteers for the boutique.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Radford's Abigail Caldwell makes dean's list at Champlain College

Abigail Caldwell of Radford has been named to the Champlain College Dean's List for the Fall 2021 semester.

Students on the dean's list have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher during the semester. Caldwell is currently enrolled in the Game Art and Animation major.

Founded in 1878, Champlain College is a small, not-for-profit, private college in Burlington, Vt., with additional campuses in Montreal, Canada, and Dublin, Ireland. From its campus overlooking Lake Champlain, the college offers an innovative academic experience and more than 100 residential and online programs, including undergraduate and graduate degrees and certificates.

Ella Warnick of Blacksburg earns dean's list honors at Utah

Ella Warnick of Blacksburg, was named to the University of Utah's Fall 2021 Dean's List. Warnick's major is listed as Environmental and Sustain Std BA.

To qualify, students must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher in at least 12 graded credit hours during any one term.

The University of Utah, located in Salt Lake City in the foothills of the Wasatch Mountains, is the flagship institution of higher learning in Utah. Founded in 1850, it serves over 32,000 students from across the U.S. and the world. With over 100 major subjects at the undergraduate level and more than 90 major fields of study at the graduate level, including law and medicine, the university prepares students to live and compete in the global workplace.

Christiansburg's Colin Meissner named to Champlain College's trustees list

Colin Meissner of Christiansburg was named to the Champlain College Trustees' List for the Fall 2021 semester

Students on the trustees list have achieved a 4.0 grade point average for two or more consecutive semesters. Meissner is currently enrolled in the cybersecurity major.

Cameron Earle of Blacksburg named to dean's list at Worcester Polytechnic

Cameron Earle, of Blacksburg, a member of the class of 2024 majoring in robotics engineering (BS), has been named to the dean's list at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) for academic excellence for the fall 2021 semester.

The criteria for the WPI Dean's List differs from that of most other universities as WPI does not compute a grade point average (GPA). Instead, WPI defines the dean's list by the amount of work completed at the A level in courses and projects.

"WPI's academic programs are rigorous and require a level of independence beyond what is required in traditional courses," said dean of undergraduate studies Arthur C. Heinricher. "WPI students work on open-ended problems for communities around the world. The problems are important and the impact is real. Some of this nation's best and brightest students come to WPI to study engineering and science and business and the humanities. Those named to the dean's list have excelled

in all of their work, and we are exceptionally proud of these outstanding students."

Local students graduate from James Madison

Three local students were among the James Madison University students who graduated during the December 2021 commencement exercises.

Receiving their degrees were Sean Raasio of Blacksburg (computer science), Luke Henderson of Radford (integrated science and technology), and Connie Zeller of Christiansburg (nursing).

Founded in 1908, James Madison University is a public university located in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. With state-of-the-art amenities and facilities, JMU students have access to NCAA Division 1 athletics. JMU also has the highest post-graduation job levels of all Virginia colleges.

Blacksburg's Matthew Pasier earns dean's list honors at University of Tampa

Matthew Pasier of Blacksburg earned dean's list honors at The University of Tampa for the Fall 2021 semester. Pasier is majoring in Finance BS. Students must maintain a GPA of 3.75 or higher to be eligible for the dean's list.

The University of Tampa is a private, comprehensive university located on 110 acres on the riverfront in downtown Tampa. Known for academic excellence, personal attention and real-world experience in its undergraduate and graduate programs, the university serves more than 10,000 students from 50 states and most of the world's 195 countries.

SUPER BOWL FUN!!

Sunday, Feb. 13th 1pm-10pm

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **\$20 Lanes** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

(per hour up to 8 bowlers per lane)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **\$1.00 Wings** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

575 Arbor Drive, Christiansburg
540-382-5525 • www.nrvsuperbowl.biz

VISIT US AT OUR NEW LOCATION!

Fresh Flowers • Candy • Stuffed Animals
Fresh Valentine Arrangement
Grab and Go Flowers

"Running out of Time to make Valentine's Day special"

690 Radford Street, Christiansburg, Va
540-382-2939

- Forestry Mulching/Brush Cutting
- Right of Way & Land Clearing
- Stream & Pond Services
- Light Excavating/Grading
- Pipe & Culvert Cleaning
- Rock & Stump Removal
- Crane Services
- Bucket Truck Services
- Underground Utilities
- Storm Water Management
- Site Prep • Small Job Specialty

APX Services LLC
540-566-6920



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Montgomery County farmer Chuck Shorter has raised meat goats for over 40 years and agrees that market prices have been among the best he's ever seen.

Virginia goat numbers increase alongside growing demand

BLACKSBURG—Goat meat and other goat-derived products are growing in popularity in the U.S., and as the market emerges, Virginia farmers have positioned themselves to help meet that demand.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) sheep and goat inventory report, Virginia's goat supply increased by 3% despite national inventory decreasing by 1%.

Virginia-raised dairy, meat and other goats were estimated at 46,200 head as of Jan. 1, up from 44,800 head at the start

of 2021. The year-over-year inventory increase was the first since 2020.

"The increase in goats is consistent with what we've seen over the last several years," said Dr. Scott Greiner, a Virginia Tech professor and Virginia Cooperative Extension beef and sheep specialist.

"Goats are in high demand for the ethnic market, and based on Virginia's location and close proximity to large metropolitan areas, prices have been excellent," he added. "I think [the data] we're seeing is the result of that."

In addition to their growing

market presence, Greiner noted goats thrive in Virginia's climate and excel in small farm settings, and both factors have contributed to their popularity among farmers.

Montgomery County farmer Chuck Shorter has raised meat goats for over 40 years and agreed that market prices have been among the best he's ever seen.

Shorter, who also raised sheep until the late '90s, noted goats also are attractive to farmers because they typically have less trouble with parasites

See **Goat**, page 6

Food City offering free N95 masks to customers, associates

Food City, which has a supermarket at 1701 Tyler Avenue in Radford, is offering free N95 face masks to their customers and associates.

The program is made available through a partnership with Topco Associates, LLC cooperative, and the US Department of Health and Human Services.

Food City will be receiving several shipments of these high-quality face coverings, which will be available at the front of the store while supplies last.

"The health and safety of our customers and associates is our top priority," said Steven C. Smith, Food City president and chief executive officer. "We're proud to partner with Topco and the Department of HHS to make these top-quality masks available as we continue to navigate through one of the worst spikes we've encountered during the pandemic."

In mid-January, the federal government announced

plans to distribute 400 million N95 face coverings through retailers around the country. The initiative is intended to slow the spread of COVID-19. Food City's partnership with Topco enabled them to meet the government requirements necessary to acquire the free masks. The supermarket retailer has also worked with HHS and local health departments to provide other vital services during the pandemic, including COVID testing and vaccinations.

Schools

from page 1

classrooms." The signing organizations agree with Executive Order #1 language that states, "We must equip our teachers to teach our students the entirety of our history both good and bad."

Existing state curriculum has been carefully vetted by the community in a thoughtful and inclusive process. It already meets the executive order's definition of non-divisive. No existing Standard of Learning is intended to teach children that one race is superior or inferior to another. Recognizing difficult moments in our nation's past is not, in itself, divisive. Restricting age-appropriate and factually accurate discussion led by well-trained teachers is divisive.

Additionally, encouraging the community to report teachers, principals and other school staff on a tip line is divisive, unnecessary, and can be used to interrupt instruction and cause harm to educators. Appropriate processes are already established in every Virginia school division to address controversial or

potentially inappropriate instructional practices. We call on Governor Youngkin to immediately shut down the tip line and rescind Executive Order #1.

"Student achievement tests, state-wide literacy assessments, growth measures in reading and mathematics, and teachers' formative assessments throughout the school year provide multiple opportunities for students, parents, and teachers to work together to identify areas for student academic growth.

"Virginia's School Quality Profiles provide parents and citizens with data on student performance, teacher quality, school climate, school accreditation, and other factors that impact student success. Parents and community members can use these reports to

directly monitor the quality of education in their schools and seek improvements.

Online learning management systems (i.e., Schoology, Canvas, Blackboard, etc.) are used in school divisions across Virginia to support student learning and provide parents with the ability to see instructional materials used in the classroom, submitted student work, and student academic progress.

Principals and school staff work directly with parents daily to address unique concerns of individual students and families and provide accommodations to create a welcoming, inclusive school climate for every student. Parents have always had an active role in our schools and classrooms across the commonwealth.

"Parents also serve on school-based strategic planning teams and school board advisory committees and provide input on curriculum and policies that impact students with disabilities, gifted programs, career and technical education, student mental health, school safety, school nutrition, minority student achievement, and library book selection, among others. Current protocols for textbook adoption and the selection of library materials are already established for parents to be engaged.

"We call on the governor and all policymakers to refocus on nurturing and supporting the collaborative partnerships between parents and schools that have always been a hallmark of student success in Virginia."

RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL

Serving Radford since 1884

(540) 389-9355
 P.O. Box 1125 • Salem, VA 24153
 USPS 387-780 • ourvalley.org

Michael Showell, *Publisher*
 Ed McMinn, *Editor*.....editor@ourvalley.org
 Heather Bell, *Community News Editor*.....communitynews@ourvalley.org
 Lynn Hurst, *General Manager*.....lhurst@ourvalley.org
 Randy Thompson, *Advertising Consultant*.....advertise@ourvalley.org

Give us your view: communitynews@ourvalley.org

To subscribe: (540) 389-9355

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.

Radford News Journal (USPS 387-780) is published twice a week for \$44 a year in the City of Radford, \$53 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$54 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Christiansburg, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL 1633 W. Main St., Salem, VA 24153.

Ballet

from page 1

has continued to mold the landscape of contemporary dance. This performance celebrates the company's work to elevate diverse artists and share with underserved communities a language accessible to everybody: dance.

"Noche de Oro" features the following works:

"Arabesque" (1984)
 Vicente Nebrada's "Arabesque" is an elegant suite of dances set to the music of Spanish composer Enrique Granados. Traces of Flamenco influence are hinted at in the upper body as the dancers move through lush, balletic contemporary phrases.

"Tiburones" (2019)
 In "Tiburones," choreographer Annabelle Lopez Ochoa addresses discrimination and stereotypes placed upon Latinx culture and the power the media has in portraying these themes by diminishing the voices of Latinx artists. Ochoa deconstructs gender roles and identity to revitalize an authentic perspective of Puerto Rican icons appropriated within the entertainment industry.

"18+1" (2012)
 "18+1" celebrates Gustavo Ramfrez Sansano's 19 years as a choreographer and the vulnerability, care, and hope that comes with each artistic endeavor. With subtle humor and electric choreography, the movement merges with the playful rhythms of Perez Prado's mambo music. Sansano draws from his history and memory to take a joyous look at the past, present, and coming future.

From its inception Ballet Hispánico focused on providing a haven for Black and Brown Latinx youth and families seeking artistic place and cultural sanctuary. By providing the space for Latinx dance and dancers to flourish, Ballet Hispánico uplifted marginalized emerging and working artists, which

combined with the training, authenticity of voice, and power of representation, fueled the organization's roots and trajectory. Today, Ballet Hispánico's New York City headquarters houses a School of Dance and state-of-the-art dance studios for its programs and the arts community. From its grassroots origins as a dance school and community-based performing arts troupe, Ballet Hispánico has stood as a catalyst for social change for 50 years.

This engagement of Ballet Hispánico is made possible through the ArtsCONNECT program of Mid Atlantic Arts with support from the National Endowment for the Arts and is supported in part by gifts from Kelli Whitfield and Sherwood P. Quillen.

Professor

from page 1

for 21 years, working largely in teacher preparation programs.

Once ambivalent, Mathews became an educator of educators, focused primarily on helping her students learn to instruct others in English, on every level from kindergarten through the 12th grade.

"I had to think of them, all the time, as future teachers," she said.

A key component of her educational philosophy, she said, has been to find ways to involve students in the actual mental processes necessary for understanding and to avoid basic lecturing. "To lead, direct, question and assist," as she put it.

"I couldn't just have a lesson where I just preached, you know. Because I didn't want them thinking they were just going out into high schools and lecturing. I tried to design lessons that would serve as models for them when they went out," she said.

"When I was a student at Radford in 1973, Bob Lockwood was the beginning professor, and he talked about the importance of active learning," Mathews

said. She took that concept to heart for the next four decades. "Students have to be active learners. They'll get it if their minds will engage with it."

Mathews retired in April 2020 and, last October, was designated a professor emeritus in the Department of English.

Mathews' retirement coincided with the second month of the COVID-19 pandemic, which canceled her hopes to do volunteer work and mentoring with Pulaski County schools.

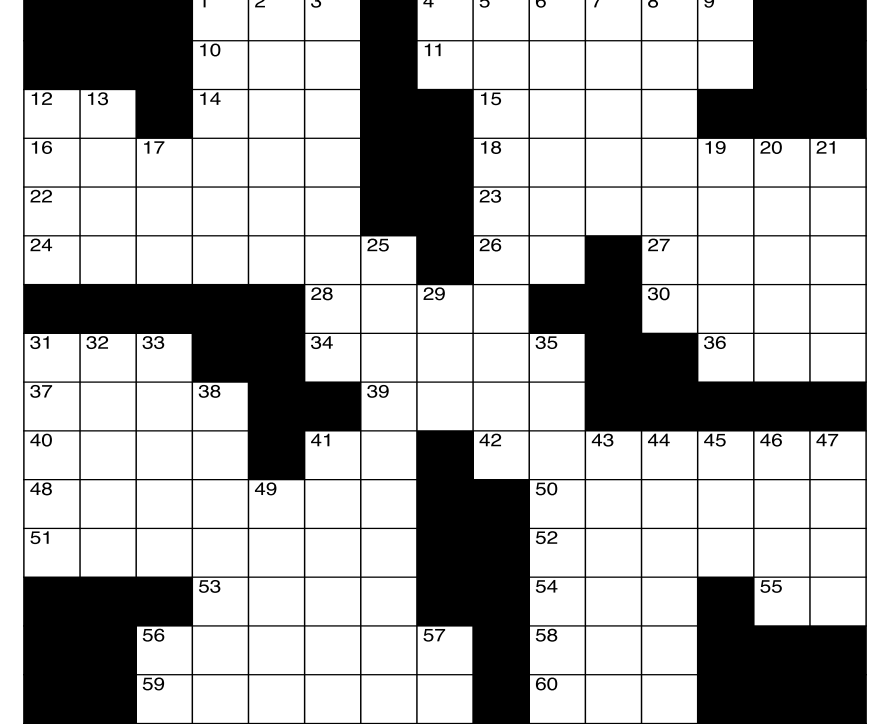
She's been working within other areas, however, and finding other outlets. She increased her activity with the New River Historical Society and the Wilderness Road Regional Museum, both in Newbern where she lives, and last year she wrote four grants that received funding.

A practicing painter, she creates watercolors that she then cuts into collages.

Recently she began cultivating seedlings, which has led to a vegetable

See **Professor**, page 6

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p>CLUES ACROSS</p> <p>1. One point east of due south</p> <p>4. City in Maine</p> <p>10. Inquire too closely</p> <p>11. Make dirty</p> <p>12. Small Greek island</p> <p>14. Bitterly regret</p> <p>15. Millisecond</p> <p>16. ___ the ante</p> <p>18. Without value</p> <p>22. Eurasian ryegrass</p> <p>23. Authentic</p> <p>24. Having a mournful quality</p> <p>26. Not out</p> <p>27. Salvador ___, Spanish artist</p> <p>28. Cargo (abbr.)</p> <p>30. This (Spanish)</p> <p>31. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)</p> | <p>34. Slang for trucks with trailers</p> <p>36. Helps you hear</p> <p>37. Steer a boat</p> <p>39. British School</p> <p>40. Genus of olive</p> <p>41. Computer term (abbr.)</p> <p>42. Horse gear</p> <p>48. Give off</p> <p>50. A type of salt</p> <p>51. Exposing human vice or folly to ridicule</p> <p>52. One who watches birds</p> <p>53. Sailboat</p> <p>54. A major division of geological time</p> <p>55. Sodium</p> <p>56. American state</p> <p>58. Soak in water</p> <p>59. Thin decorative covering of fine wood</p> <p>60. Affirmative</p> | <p>CLUES DOWN</p> <p>1. One of the four seasons</p> <p>2. Its sultan is famous</p> <p>3. A lens for correcting defective vision in one eye</p> <p>4. College degree</p> <p>5. Soldiers need it</p> <p>6. Japanese car manufacturer</p> <p>7. A way to address</p> <p>8. Obstruct</p> <p>9. Atomic number 45</p> <p>12. Ill-mannered</p> <p>13. Opaque gem</p> <p>17. Indicates before</p> <p>19. Remove</p> <p>20. Populous Argentine city</p> | <p>21. More cunning</p> <p>25. Rich dessert</p> <p>29. Payment (abbr.)</p> <p>31. Footwear</p> <p>32. Famed Alabama city</p> <p>33. Sheep's cry</p> <p>35. Arrogance</p> <p>38. Clerical vestment</p> <p>41. Serving no practical purpose</p> <p>43. An evening party</p> <p>44. Print errors</p> <p>45. Not good</p> <p>46. Egyptian Sun god</p> <p>47. Industrial German city</p> <p>49. Scottish island</p> <p>56. Early multimedia</p> <p>57. Atomic number 18</p> |
|--|---|---|--|

OBITUARIES

Creed, Kelly Lorraine

Kelly Lorraine Creed, 32, passed away at her home in Radford on Sunday, Feb. 6, 2022.

Survivors include her son, Hunter West; her parents, Jeffrey Creed and his wife, Samantha, and Rhonda Turpin and her husband, Donnie; brothers and sister-in-law, Jeffrey Creed, Jr., and Briana, and Justin Rollyson; her sister, Rebecca Creed; her paternal grandfather, Bob Creed; her aunts, Susan Lucas and Sadie



McGuire; her uncle, Robbie Creed; a close friend and Hunter's dad, Timothy West; and many other relatives and friends. The family will receive friends from noon until 2 p.m. today, Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. The Creed family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com.

Miller, Pamela Sinnott

Pamela Sinnott Miller, 74, passed away peacefully on Feb. 6, 2022, at her home in Blacksburg.

Pamela was born on Aug. 4, 1947, in St. Boniface, Manitoba, to Jack and Doris (Sinnott) Channing. She married her husband of 55 years, Patrick Miller, in 1966 in El Monte, Calif. After living in Berkeley, Calif.; Seattle, Wash.; Ann Arbor, Mich. and Vancouver, B.C., they settled in Blacksburg in 1987.

She worked for Virginia Tech, the United Way of Montgomery County and the Town of Blacksburg before retiring to spend time with her grandchildren and at their cabin in Montana.

She was predeceased by her parents; her brother, Jack; and

her sisters, Merle and Gail. She is survived by her beloved husband, Patrick, and her sister, Barbara (John) Walz; her children Ivan (Kimberly) Miller, Ian (Jennifer) Miller; and her four grandchildren, Henderson, Cheston, Jack, and Katharine.

Pamela was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother. She will be remembered for her kind heart, her warm smile, and her love for animals.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Pamela's name to the Lewy Body Dementia Association (<https://www.lewybody.org>). Memorial services will be conducted today, Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022, at 5 p.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel. The family will receive friends from 4 to 5 p.m. today before the service.

radfordnewsjournal.com

See Obituaries, page 6

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 Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

BAPTIST

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

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

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

WORDS OF RELIEF

Read Job 15:1 through 22:30

Justin sat in Caleb's apartment, hoping his big brother could provide some words of encouragement. An official letter from his college had arrived, announcing that Justin was on academic probation. Justin never realized those two words would cause his parents so much pain, anger, and disappointment.

Caleb was frustrated. He knew the sacrifices his parents made so that Justin could attend college. College loans, scholarships, and money did not come easy. His parents worked hard at obtaining all the financial aid they could gather. His dad picked up extra shifts at work to cover the cost of books. Now, to hear that Justin "blew it" was more than Caleb could bear. He wanted to explode, but the Holy Spirit urged him to listen. After several moments, Caleb sat down beside Justin and placed his arm around him. Caleb whispered, "Mind if I pray for you?"

Justin grinned, "Thanks, man. I sure could use it!"

But my mouth would encourage you; comfort from my lips would bring you relief (Job 16:5).

Do your words bring comfort or condemnation?

Challenge for Today: Provide comfort and encouragement to someone close to you.

Quicklook: Job 16:4-6

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. lchristopher695@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

Price, Palmer Lee

Palmer Lee Price, 79, loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, and uncle, died peacefully at home on Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022.

He was born on March 5, 1942, in Montgomery County to Cloyd Palmer Price, Jr., and Sylvia Moore Price. He was a 1961 graduate of Blacksburg High School. He married Phyllis Alls Price on Aug. 5, 1966, at Blacksburg United Methodist Church.



by his parents and a brother, John Thomas Price. He is survived by his loving wife; children Tracey Bernardo (Ken) of Charlotte and Travis Lee Price of Blacksburg; sister Patty Trump (David) of Pembroke; brother Rocky Price of Blacksburg; granddaughters Lauren and Clara Bernardo of Charlotte; and a nephew, Adam Pearman of Blacksburg.

Family and friends are invited to the McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Dr SW, Blacksburg, from noon to 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 13, 2022, for visitation and a celebration of life at 2 p.m. Burial proceedings will be at a family cemetery on the family's land on Catawba Road. Parking will be limited, and boots will be needed to walk through the field to the gravesite.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given to the Blacksburg Volunteer Rescue Squad or Good Samaritan Hospice.

He was retired from Virginia Tech after many years of service in the Plant Pathology Department. Upon retirement, he spent his time restoring antique cars, restoring and collecting antique guns, handcrafting knives, watching wildlife, traveling with Phyllis, and doting on his granddaughters. Palmer truly loved life, his family, and living in the valley on Catawba Road. He was declared the unofficial mayor of the valley and was always welcoming and willing to help any neighbors and friends in need.

Palmer was preceded in death

Sifford, Robert Vance

Robert Vance Sifford, 87, of Christiansburg, died Sunday, Feb. 6, 2022, at his home.

He was born in Montgomery County on Nov. 20, 1934, to the late Robert Hoge and Sadie Louise Hutchison Sifford.

He was preceded in death by two sisters, Loveda Price and Tiny Shepherd. He was a retired truck driver with Hennis-Spector Trucking.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Conelia Jarrell Sifford; two daughters, Glenna Sifford and Brenda Destefano; grandchildren Brandon Walker and Marina Destefano and wife, Nancy

Destefano; sisters and a brother-in-law, Loretta Corvin and Janet Jimmy Shaver; two brothers and a sister-in-law, Curtis Sifford and Stanley and Anne Sifford; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday, Feb. 10, 2022, at 11 a.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Russell Shepherd officiating. Interment followed in Roselawn Memorial Gardens. The family received friends Wednesday evening at McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Drive, SW, Blacksburg.



Virginia Department of Transportation 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 nearing completion. Remaining work involves lighting installations at the intersections and under the bridges. Lane closures may be possible. Work zone and reduced speed limit signs have been removed. Estimated completion is early 2022.

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.

LANE CLOSURES: Intermittent single lane closures utilizing flagging operations will be in place between the intersection of Teaberry Road and Jennelle Road.

UTILITY WORK ON ROUTE 460 – MMI will be installing fiber optic along Route 460 and Route 8 from the Giles County line to the Floyd County line. This work will be ongoing. Motorists should expect shoulders and/or lane closures for travel in both directions.

INTERSTATE 81 BRIDGE HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS – Due to bridge painting, several height restrictions are in place along I-81 north and southbound. Maximum height allowed is 14'6" at the following bridges over I-81 at the mile marker locations of 135, 109 and 108 through early February. Overheight vehicles will need to be rerouted. Message boards are in place.

INTERSTATE 81 LANE WIDENING CONSTRUCTION EXIT 141 TO EXIT 143 – A project to widen the lanes on I-81 in Roanoke in both northbound and southbound directions between Exit 141 to Exit 143 has been underway. All lanes will remain open through winter with periodic lane closures at night as needed. The final surface paving and markings for northbound will resume with the next paving season in spring 2022. Estimated completion date of the project is summer 2022.

I-81 PAVING OPERATIONS – Weather permitting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement on various routes. Lane closures may be in place during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

Even During This Pandemic, Everyone Deserves a Burial Service So Their Family and Friends Can Say One Last "Goodbye"

- We Offer Graveside Services with Social Distancing, at no additional cost.
- Services can be broadcast to attendees' car radios.
- At the completion of the service, the family will receive visitors via drive-through visitation as the attendees leave the service.
- Families have been very appreciative of these services.
- Arrangements can be made on very short notice.

Memorial Gardens OF THE NEW RIVER VALLEY



After You Have Acquired a Cremation Urn from the Funeral Home, the Process is Not Yet Complete Until the Urn is Permanently Placed.

Because folks just don't know what to do, Nearly One-Third of All Homes Still Have Ashes of a Loved One. Let us help you choose among our beautiful Columbarium, Urn Bench, or Ground Space options.



Memorial Gardens of the New River Valley 2551 North Main Street, Blacksburg, VA 24060 • (540) 552-7800 www.memorialgardensnrvm.com • cturner@memorialgardensnrvm.com

USDA from page 1

Wyrthe counties, where unfragmented oak and pine forests are recognized as a hotspot for biodiversity in the Central Appalachians.

The area contains four of the main watersheds in Virginia (James, Roanoke, New, and Clinch Powell) as well as 559 miles of cold-water trout habitat. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation-Natural Heritage Division tracks 56 species of rare, threatened, and endangered species in the project area, including 32 federally endangered species. Of the 32 federally endangered and threatened species, 28 are aquatic fish or mollusks.

A key aspect of the project restoration work will include prescribed burns,

timber stand improvements, and vegetation management treatments that create and promote early successional and open woodland habitat. This habitat is critical for forest bats, grouse, wild turkey, deer, wood turtles, and early successional birds such as the golden-winged warbler.

Through the 3-year project, landowners will work with local USDA experts and partners to apply targeted forestry management practices on their land to meet unique forestry challenges in their area.

"This important funding enables us to work across boundaries to improve forest health and wildlife habitat in an important ecosystem," said Joby Timm, Forest Supervisor.

Professor from page 4

garden: "I've got little grow lights in my basement, where tomatoes will start coming up in about February," she said.

"Because I was coordinator of English education, I had to do a lot of program assessment," Mathews said. "I had to figure out how to keep data that

would prove that we had done what we say we are doing and preparing teachers. I had to figure out all these assessment tasks, designed assessment instruments and I never had any training in any of that at all. That stretched me.

"And probably one of my highlights of that

whole segment of my teaching was that the National Council of Teachers of English chose my program report to include on their website as an exemplar report from a college program," she said. "I thought, 'Hey, I cracked it, I know how to do that!' And that was good."

Goat from page 4

and predators than sheep.

"In one of the last years I raised sheep, coyotes killed 50 lambs, and you can't afford that," said Shorter, who

also serves on the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation Livestock Advisory Committee. "Of course, farmers have made lots of progress and USDA's Wildlife Services has been a tremendous help with predators across the board, but we've still got work to do with parasite control in sheep."

The NASS report also indicated Virginia's sheep and lamb inventory was at 72,000 head, an 8% decrease from 2021.

Augusta County sheep farmer Leo

Tammi suggested the decrease reflects national trends, but said it can be difficult to get an accurate inventory as farmers regularly enter and exit the industry.

Despite the news of the decrease, which offset a 7% increase in 2021, Tammi was encouraged about the future of sheep farming in Virginia.

"I think current prices will strengthen the sheep industry in the near future, and that's something to look forward to," he said.

Submit letters to the editor to editor@ourvalley.org

radfordnewsjournal.com

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

S	B	E	B	A	N	G	O	R							
P	R	I	S	M	I	R	C	H							
R	O	R	U	E	M	S	E	C							
U	P	P	I	N	G	U	S	E	L	E	S				
D	A	R	N	E	L	N	A	T	U	R	A	L			
E	L	E	G	I	A	C	I	N	D	A	L	I			
S	S	B	S	E	M	I	S	E	A	R					
H	E	L	M	O	S	E	T	O	N	O	S	E	B	A	G
O	L	E	A	O	S	T	O	N	O	S	E	B	A	G	
E	M	A	N	A	T	E	B	O	R	A	T	E			
S	A	T	I	R	I	C	B	I	R	D	E	R			
P	R	O	A	E	R	A	N	A							
A	L	A	S	K	A	R	E	T							
V	E	N	E	E	R	Y	E	A							

RADFORD SPORTS

Auburn girls and boys claim Mt. Empire District regular season title



Katelyn Lafon scores on a drive and a layup for two of her seven points for Auburn in the 68-40 win over Giles Wednesday night. The Eagles recognized senior players and cheerleaders before the two games.



Allyson Martin led the Auburn girls to the Mt. Empire District regular season championship with 24 points while Hannah Huffman added 17.



Tyler Sparrer scores for the Auburn boys in the 68-16 defeat of Giles in the nightcap as the Eagles laid claim to the Mt. Empire District regular season championship. Sparrer finished with four points.



Ethan Millirons established a new Auburn career assist record, breaking Bradley Hudkins's old mark of 375 set back in 1995. Millirons led the Eagles on senior night with 28 points.

PHOTOS BY ASHLEY AKERS

Marketplace

ourvalley.org

THE PINCASTLE HERALD
The Vintner Messenger
THE NEW CASTLE RECORD
SALEM TIMES-REGISTER
News Messenger
RADFORD News Journal

For Sale - Misc

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 Times-Register 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

Legals - Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL

The Town of Christiansburg Town Council hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on February 22, 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

Legals - Montgomery County

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.

Legals - Montgomery County

ABC NOTICE

K and S Food Mart LLC, trading as K and S Food Mart, 3620 S Main St, Blacksburg, Montgomery County, Virginia 24060-7015.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Wine and Beer Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Khem R Wagley, Member

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 - Montgomery County

request by Jacqueline Marshall, owner, and Shaun Chuyka, lessee, to allow a contractor's equipment storage yard in the General Business District (B-3) on property located at 301 Depot Street, NW, Tax Parcel 526 - ((23)) - (BK1) - 12, Parcel ID 007535. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

B. Rezoning request by John D. and Arnedo V. Elmore, owners, and Garand Hopkins III, contract purchaser, from Agricultural District A to General Business District B-3 for a portion of the property located at 710 Peppers Ferry Road, Tax Parcel 435 - ((A)) - 23; Parcel ID 021274. The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

NOW HIRING

Multi-line Insurance Agent

New Castle, VA

www.vafb.com/about/careers/apply

Products
Selling Auto, Home and Life Insurance

Salary
Base Salary 40K + existing business, unlimited bonus potential with no caps

Additional Job Details
Initial Sales Commission Cash bonus & incentive trips
Product Renewals

Benefits

- Paid training
- Additional perks such as gym membership discounts for field employees
- Ongoing development support in all roles
- A variety of ongoing contests and competitions with additional cash and prize opportunities
- Medical & dental insurance on your first day
- Generous 401K & PTO

ADVERTISE!

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

The Town of Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, February 28, 2022 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

A. Conditional Use Permit

Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the application, 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.

ADVERTISE!



Christiansburg's Shelby Jones swims the breaststroke leg for the Blue Demons' 200-yard medley relay, helping them to a fourth place in Region 3D. Jones also placed fourth in the 100-yard butterfly.



Christiansburg's Teaghan Wilson placed second in the Region 3D diving competition Monday night at the Christiansburg Aquatic Center.

Christiansburg girls fourth, boys eighth in Region 3D swimming

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

The Christiansburg girls finished fourth and the Blue Demon boys finished eighth in the Region 3D swimming competition Tuesday at the Christiansburg Aquatic Center.

Hidden Valley High School (135 points) rolled to the Region 3D girls' swimming ti-

tle while William Byrd (165 points) claimed the boys' title. Cave Spring (108 points) took second on the girls' side of the pool with Lord Botetourt third (94 points).

Cave was second in the boys' division with 108 points, and Hidden Valley was third with 69.

Freshman Shelby Jones gave Christians-

burg a third place in the girls' 50-yard freestyle while teammates Natalie Jones and Teaghan Wilson were 1-2 in girls' 1-meter diving. Jones would also take fourth in the girls' 100-yard Butterfly.

Also, Christiansburg's 400-yard freestyle relay team of Shelby Jones, Anna Sanford, Kara Wright, and Natalie Jones finished third late in the day.



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Christiansburg's Anna Sanford took fifth place in the 200-yard freestyle and second in the 500-yard freestyle at the Region 3D swim meet Tuesday.

Sports notes: Proof of vaccination out at Tech

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Virginia Tech is changing its protocol for athletic events when it comes to dealing with ongoing COVID-19 issues.

The university announced Wednesday afternoon that effective immediately, proof of COVID-19 vaccination or proof of a negative test result will no longer be required to attend Virginia Tech Athletics indoor events. Face masks continue to be required and must be worn during all home indoor athletic events.

This directly affects men's and women's basketball games along with wrestling matches.

All-state Bruin cheer

Congrats to Gabriela Arms from Blacksburg High School after she was named this week to the VHSL's Class 4 second-team all-state cheer team.

Smith out at Oak Hill

Oak Hill Academy basketball coach Steve Smith has announced he will retire at the end of this season.

The 66-year-old has won 1,225 games at the school with only 98 losses. He led the Warriors to national titles in 1993, 1994, 1999, 2001, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2012 and 2016.

His former players have included Jerry Stackhouse, Carmelo Anthony, Rajon Rondo, Kevin Durant, Cole Anthony, and Stephen Jackson at the post-grad school in Mouth of Wilson, Va.

This year, Oak Hill is 23-7.

RU special events
 Radford University Athletics and The Highlander Club have announced the schedule of events for the 2022 Highlander Pride Weekend:

Friday, April 29, The Dedmon Center: The Red and White Gala, presented by English Meadows Senior Living Community.

Saturday, April 30, beginning at the Dedmon Center and ending in Bisset Park: The Highlander 5K presented by Carilion Clinic.

June 2022, location to be announced: The Highlander Open Golf Tournament.

The Red and White Gala will feature a silent and live auction, a dinner, and an open bar. All proceeds from the event will go towards the Radford Athletics Scholarship Annual Fund, helping to ensure all of the university's student-athletes have the necessary financial means to compete for championships and to provide the best collegiate experience on-and-off the playing field.

To register for the Highlander 5K, visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Radford/Highlander5k>. Note that the Highlander Half Marathon is no longer being held as part of Highlander Pride Weekend.

RU baseball season tickets

Season tickets for the 2022 Radford baseball season are on sale now. Highlander fans can visit radfordtickets.com to purchase a season ticket flex book for only \$30. Each book contains 27 vouchers, which can be used at any Radford regular season home baseball

contest. These vouchers can be used in any combination to bring family and friends to the game.

These books will be available only until the first home regular season game on Feb. 25.

Fans who purchased season tickets prior to the 2020 season and chose to defer due to the COVID-19 pandemic are already covered for the 2022 season. Contact the Radford Athletics Ticket Office at tickets@radford.edu with any questions.

All seating, including chair-back seats in the grandstands and lawn seating on the left-field side, will be considered general admission and will be available on a first-come first-served basis. Fans are welcome to bring blankets and lawn chairs into the stadium for all guests sitting on the third-base hillside and down the left-field line. Coolers and pets are strictly prohibited and will not be allowed inside the gates.

For all home contests, the cost of an individual ticket for adults will be \$8 while youth tickets for children 12 years old or younger will be \$5. Radford University students with a valid ID and children ages 2 and under are free. Individual game tickets will go on sale on Monday, February 21.

Radford's 2022 home schedule features 27 games, including the continuation of rivalries with Liberty, VMI, and Virginia Tech.

Hokies baseball

As announced jointly by ESPN and the ACC on Wednesday, the Virginia

Tech baseball team is scheduled to make five appearances this spring across the ESPN and the ACC Network platforms, part of the conference's 57-game ACC baseball broadcast package for the 2022 season.

Tech will make its first of five ACC Network appearances on Saturday, April 23, when the Hokies contest the middle game of a three-game road set at Boston College. Coverage between Tech and BC will begin at 6 p.m.

In May, four of the Hokies' final 10 regular season home games will also air on the ACC Network: May 11 against Liberty (6 p.m.), May 14 against Louisville (1 p.m.), May 17 against Kansas State (6 p.m.) and May 19 against Duke (TBD).

Per Wednesday's announcement, ESPN will showcase five additional ACC regular season games during the course of the spring, to be selected conference-wide by the network at a later date.

At the 2022 ACC Baseball Championship (hosted by Truist Field in Charlotte), both league semifinal games on Saturday, May 28, will air exclusively on the ACC Network while the championship game on Sunday, May 29, will air live on ESPN2.

Additionally, more than 25 Tech home games during the 2022 season – plus a number of road games against ACC programs – will be streamed on ACC Network Extra via the ESPN App. Regional sports network listings for the Hokies' complete 2022 schedule will be announced at a later date.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

VT wrestlers secure road win at Pitt

The No.-8 Virginia Tech wrestling team took to the mat Sunday afternoon in Steel City and secured a 24-12 victory over No.-19 Pittsburgh.

Powered by bonus point victories by No.-3 Mekhi Lewis and No.-12 Hunter Bolen from Christiansburg and No. 14-Nathan Traxler, the Hokies picked up the first conference victory of the season to improve to 6-3, 1-1 in the ACC.

Tech won three of five ranked match-ups on the day with returning All-American Sam Latona returning to form with a ranked win to start off the dual.

Quick Hits Against Pitt

Latona picked up his first ranked win of the season over No.-31 Gage Curry to begin ACC competition. The redshirt sophomore improved his record to 8-6.

No.-5 Korbin Myers had a savvy, veteran performance over No.-7 Micky Phillippi in a rematch of the 2021 ACC finals at 133. Myers used an escape, a riding point, and an illegal point to pick up the victory over his ACC rival.

Sophomore Sam Hillegas had a victorious homecoming with a 5-2 victory over Luke Kemerer. The Pittsburgh native – a natural 141-pounder – bumped up in the absence of Bryce Andonian to secure the victory in his hometown.

In his first return to Pittsburgh since 2019, No.-3 Mekhi Lewis handled James Lledo in dominant fashion. Lewis used a barrage of attacks and collected multiple sets of back points to secure the 23-5 victory in the city where he became the first na-

tional champion in Virginia Tech history.

No.-12 Hunter Bolen returned to action for the first time since his third-place Southern Scuffle performance on Jan. 3. Bolen made short work of No.-32 Gregg Harvey with a takedown and a pin fall in just 1:33 of the match.

No.-14 Nathan Traxler took a 12-0 major decision over Jake Slinger. Traxler picked up two sets of near-fall to score the shutout victory and pick up career win 92.

Box Score

No. 8 Virginia Tech – 24, No. 19 Pitt – 12
 125 – No. 21 Sam Latona (VT) DEC No. 31 Gage Curry (PITT), 4-2

133 – No. 5 Korbin Myers (VT) DEC No. 7 Micky Phillippi (PITT), 3-2
 141 – No. 18 Cole Matthews (PITT) DEC Col-

lin Gerardi (VT), 8-2
 149 – No. 3 Mekhi Lewis (VT) DEC Luke Kemerer (PITT), 5-2

157 – No. 21 Elijah Cleary (PITT) DEC No. 23 Connor Brady (VT), 7-1 SV
 165 – No. 14 Jake Wentzel (PITT) DEC Clayton Ulrey (VT), 5-1

174 – No. 3 Mekhi Lewis (VT) TECH FALL James Lledo (PITT), 23-5, 7:00
 184 – No. 12 Hunter Bolen (VT) FALL No. 32 Gregg Harvey (PITT), 1:33

197 – No. 8 Nino Bonaccorsi (PITT) DEC No. 33 Dakota Howard, 6-1
 285 – No. 14 Nathan Traxler (VT) MAJ DEC Jake Slinger (PITT), 12-0