



Wednesday, March 9, 2022 • USPS 387-780 • ourvalley.org • \$1.00

## Radford High Forensics Team wins regional championship, heads for state tournament

The Radford High School Forensics Team is the regional champion after recently winning the Super Regional Tournament. The team will be heading to the state tournament with 15 students and four alternates on March 26 along with coaches Tina Tapp and Casey Worley.

Individual awards won by the team members include Sydney Schepisi, first place (storytelling); Princeton Stevens, first place (prose); Colin Baron and Ali Schepisi, first place (humorous duo); Kimani Ferguson, second place (original oratory); Abbey Napolitano and Summer Fisher second place (serious duo); Ellie Lovik,

second place (serious dramatic); Amani Scott, second place (prose); Nico Pugliese, second place (humorous interpretation); Erin Wilson second place (poetry); Kylie Leahy second place (impromptu); Justin Anzziani second place (storytelling); Gracie Davis third place (poetry); James Riffe, third place (humorous interpretation); Olivia Spaulding and Kiera Sartin, fourth place (serious duo); Ashante White, fourth place (serious dramatic); and William Johnson, fourth place (extemporaneous).

The state championship is set for March 26 at Clover Hill High School in Midlothian.



Members of the Radford High School Forensics Team and their coaches celebrate their 2CD Super Regional Tournament win. The team will be heading to the state tournament with 15 students and four alternates on March 26.

## County, Radford City have emergency food and shelter funds available

Montgomery County and the City of Radford have been awarded federal funds through the emergency food and shelter national board program.

Montgomery County has been chosen to receive \$23,378 for Phase 39 and \$72,256 for Phase American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Radford City has been chosen to receive \$5,589 for Phase 39 and \$17,267 for Phase ARPA to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the county.

Additional state-set-aside funding may be applied for.

A local board will determine how the funds awarded to Montgomery County, Radford City, and Floyd County are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area.

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must: 1) be private voluntary nonprofits or units of government, 2) be eligible to receive federal funds, 3) have an accounting system, 4) practice nondis-

crimination, 5) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and 6) if they are a private voluntary organization, have a voluntary board. Qualifying agencies are urged to apply.

Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must contact the United Way of the New River Valley at 540-381-2066 for an application. The deadline for applications to be received is March 21, 2022.

## Carilion hospital visitation returns to green-level restrictions

Effective Tuesday, March 8, all Carilion Clinic hospitals transitioned to green level restrictions for inpatient visitation. The primary change is permitting two visitors per day for adults during their stay. Previously, they were allowed only one in most cases.

Green visitation allows inpatient visitors with the following guidelines:

Adult patients are allowed two visitors. If deemed appropriate by the care team, children may visit if accompanied by an adult, and children do not count as visitors.

Pediatric patients are allowed two visitors over 18

(must be family members).

Emergency Department patients are allowed two visitors.

Labor and Delivery patients are allowed two visitors.

End-of-life patients are allowed up to four immediate family members.

Same-day surgery patients are allowed one visitor while being prepped. Once the patient is in a room, two visitors are allowed.

No visitors are permitted for COVID-19 patients, and shared spaces (bays, waiting areas, etc.) remain visitor-free zones.

See **Green-Level**, page 4



Professor Joan Dickinson (red coat) with her Design 205 class at the fundraising project reveal. They garnered more than \$500 for To Our House, a New River Valley organization.

## RU interior design students tackle homelessness

Anyone who has ever walked into a stunning hotel lobby or a cozy, high-end restaurant has experienced the work of an interior designer.

Students in Radford University's Interior Design program certainly learn to do that, but Professor Joan Dickinson makes sure her Design 205 students face practical, down-to-earth problems that can open students' eyes as well as develop their skills.

This term, they are tackling homelessness.

"I want them to know that designers can help solve the problems facing this country," said Dickinson. "They can use what they learn to make a difference and improve social justice."

It's a profound challenge. Since 2016, homelessness in the United States has increased annually, and tent cities are popping up across the country.

Moreover, stereotypes don't always apply. Many unsheltered people have families, maintain some form of employment, and are neither addicts nor mentally ill.

To engage the assignment, students first researched the problem and developed profiles of unsheltered people in three states where tent cities are emerging and expanding: Hawaii, Washington, and Michigan.

Next, they organized their ideas in process packets before designing and modeling prototypes. Then, they assembled a life-size working example to display on Radford's campus for other students to investigate and test.

In the process, they were directed to utilize resources that might reasonably be available to a person struggling to find materials for a shelter, especially scrap materials and inexpensive items attainable at thrift stores.

"What I have encouraged them to do is be creative

about material usage," Dickinson said. "They have done some information gathering to understand thermal properties, resistance to water, and stability."

Lora Ellen Robinson's group created a profile of a college student struggling in Michigan, a more common situation than one might think. According to a survey of 167,000 college students by The Hope Center in 2019, 16% of students at four-year colleges were homeless with many more in insecure housing situations.

Robinson said the final design offered more than one advantage.

"We gave it a domed top to provide a sense of comfort," she said. "The top was also rounded off so that way whenever snow and rain would pile up on it, it would just fall off."

Ayah Elalfy's group pro-

See **Homeless**, page 10

## Executive-in-residence appointed at Radford University

RADFORD - Kwabena Osei-Sarpong has been appointed as an executive-in-residence by the Davis College of Business and Economics at Radford University for spring 2022.

"Looking forward to bringing my global business experience to the classroom to help the next generation of entrepreneurs and business leaders create their own paths, lead fearlessly, and find innovative ways to solve some of our world's most pressing challenges," Osei-Sarpong said.

Osei-Sarpong is the founder and CEO of RIFE International LLC, an award-winning, full-service energy efficiency, green energy, and sustainable develop-

ment services firm.

With corporate headquarters in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area and offices in Baltimore and overseas in Accra and Ghana, RIFE International develops solutions for institutional, public, and private sector clients.

Osei-Sarpong is also a recipient of several honors including a position on the 2021 U.S. Department of Commerce Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Advisory Committee. He was also a 2021 Maryland Business Adapts Honoree, the 2020 Energy Innovator of the Year, and the 2020 Top Energy Efficiency Services Contractor.

## Former East Mont coach, teacher faces sexual battery charges

James Michael Hodge, a 43-year-old Dublin man and former golf coach and ROTC instructor at Eastern Montgomery High School, has been charged with the sexual assault of two children under the age of 14.

This past week, Hodge appeared by a video link at a Montgomery County bond hearing where he asked for release until his trial.

He is currently being held at the Western Virginia Regional Jail on three counts of aggravated

sexual battery and a misdemeanor count of assault and battery. Investigators say the incidents involved students under Hodge's watch.

Hodge tendered his resignation in December and is no longer employed by the Montgomery County school system. He had also served as an ROTC director at Auburn High School. No details have been released in the case as to where the students were enrolled.

See **Charges**, page 2

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Through April 30:

**Free prom dresses**  
By appointment only at the Meadowbrook Public Library. The library has prom dresses of all sizes available for free to anyone in Montgomery County, Floyd County, and throughout the New River Valley. Call (540) 268-1964 to make an appointment to try on and choose a free prom dress.

## Wednesday, March 9:

**Ortho Virginia presents "Living with Arthritis: Non-Operative Solutions"**  
At the Blacksburg Library at noon. Dr. Stephen Brett Whitfield, an MD from Ortho Virginia, will present "Living with Arthritis: Non-Operative Solutions." Topics will cover basic information about arthritis and pain management. The workshop will be offered in-person and virtually. Call the library at 540-552-8246 for the workshop link.

**Evening Book Talk: "The Book of Lost Names"**  
At the Christiansburg Library; 6:30 p.m. Discussed this month is "The Book of Lost Names" by Kristin Harmel, in-person and virtually.

**Brown Bag Book Club**  
At the Radford Public Library; noon to 1 p.m. To be discussed is the Printz-Award-winning book "Everything Sad Is Untrue (a true story)." Participants can join in person or access the group remotely via Zoom.

## Thursday, March 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.

**Talking about Books: "The Cadaver King and the Country Dentist"**  
At the Meadowbrook Public Library; 11 a.m. To be discussed is "The Cadaver King and the Country Dentist" by Radley Balko. Call (540) 268-1964 for more information or to reserve a copy.

**Adulting 101: "Cooking for Yourself without Starting a Kitchen Fire"**  
At the Blacksburg Library; 6:30 p.m. For those who are about to leave home or live on their own for the first time, cooking can be intimidating. Come learn the basics of what is needed in the kitchen and how to make simple, nutritional meals without burning the house to the ground. Come for the free food and go home with resources and recipes to start cooking adventures. Best for ages 16 and older. Registration is recommended. This program will be offered in person and online. Call the library at 540-552-8246 for the link to participate.

## Friday, March 11:

**AARP Tax-Aide assistance**  
At the Meadowbrook Public Library; 11 a.m. AARP Tax-Aide is the nation's largest free volunteer-run tax counseling and preparation service, preparing tax returns and answering tax questions free of charge. Membership in AARP or status as a senior citizen is not necessary to use this service. AARP Tax-Aide offers free electronic filing using IRS-provided tax preparation software. No business or farm returns will be done. Registration is required. Call the library for more information at (540) 268-1964.

**All ages storytime: now online**  
Virtual/Online; 11 a.m. Share stories, rhymes, music and movement,

and a craft as a family. Develop early literacy skills and encourage a love of reading. Contact spahl@mfrl.org for the link.

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

## Sunday, March 13:

**Chess Club**  
At the 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.

**U.S. Fleet Forces Band concert**  
The U.S. Fleet Forces Band will perform at Radford University at 3 p.m. in the Davis Performance Hall at the Covington Center for the Arts. The concert is free and open to the public.

## Monday, March 14:

**Tiny Art Show, registration required**  
Register to participate in a tiny art show at the Radford Public Library. The library will provide the supplies, and participants will do the artistic work. A small 3x3 canvas will be provided along with paint and a paintbrush. Return a finished canvas for a tiny art show at the library. Kits can be picked up by registrants on March 14, and tiny masterpieces will need to be returned by April 4 for the Radford Public Library's Tiny Art Gallery.

**Crafternoon Delight for Adults Only**  
Learn how to knit or crochet with library staff at the Radford Public Library; 1 to 2 p.m. Needles, crochet hooks and yarn will be available for tutorials and practice during this session of Crafternoon Delight. This group knits, crochets, embroiders, felts, and paints. Knowledgeable staff can help with needlework craft and can help participants learn how to put a blanket together for Project Linus. Supplies will be provided.

**STEM Club**  
At the Christiansburg Library; 1 p.m. This homeschool STEM club will explore science, technology, engineering, and/or math. For ages 8 and up.

**Green Burial discussion with Dr. Phil Olson**  
At the Blacksburg Library; 4 p.m. Dr. Phil Olson (Department of Science, Technology, and Society at Virginia Tech) joins a group of VT students and local experts to discuss the environmental impacts of different funeral practices, as well as local and regional options. Members of the Blue Ridge Green Burial and the Funeral Consumers Alliance of the Virginia Blue Ridge will be on hand to answer questions and provide information. The workshop will be offered in person and virtually. Call the library at 540-552-8246 for the workshop link.

## Tuesday, March 15:

**Shaving Cream Art**  
At the Christiansburg Library; 4 p.m. Turn shaving cream into a painting at the library.

**Technology Safety for Busy Parents**  
At the Blacksburg Library; 6:30

p.m. Giving your child a phone or laptop can be both freeing and scary. Join this workshop for a look at what both parents and their children can do to be safe online. Offered in person and virtually, the workshop will look at websites and applications, as well as common concerns many parents have when giving their child their first bit of digital freedom. Call the library at 540-552-8246 for the workshop link.

## Wednesday, March 16:

**Art Club: Alma Thomas**  
At the Christiansburg Library; 2 p.m. Come explore the art of Alma Thomas and create a piece inspired by her work. For ages 8 and up. Registration is required.

**Library Board of Trustees Meeting**  
At the Christiansburg Library; 7 p.m.

## Thursday, March 17:

**Talking About Books: "Maid"**  
At the Christiansburg Library; 11 a.m. Discussed this month is "Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay, and a Mother's Will to Survive" by Stephanie Land.

**Art, Community, and Social Health featuring Michelle Ramos**  
At the Blacksburg Library; 4 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. Dr. Michelle Ramos serves on the boards of Dance/USA and the Performing Arts Alliance. A licensed attorney with a PhD in Cultural Psychology, she has significant organizing experience and has committed her career to serving communities and individuals adversely impacted by issues of race, gender, disability, class, socioeconomic, inequitable laws, and systemic oppression. The colloquium will be available in person and via Zoom.

## Sunday, March 20:

**Unveiling ceremony of the African American Memory and Storyboard Project**  
In downtown Christiansburg in the town square quadrant in front of the Christiansburg Post Office at 3 p.m.

## Tuesday, March 22:

**Radford Chamber of Commerce seminar series**  
This is a seminar on Professional Networking, LinkedIn and Building Career and Relationships; 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Long Way Brewing. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. No cost for chamber members. \$10 for non-chamber members. Brought to you by the Radford Chamber of Commerce.

## Wednesday, March 23:

**Radford Army Ammunitions Plant community meeting**  
At the Christiansburg Public Library; 6 p.m. This community meeting will discuss modernization and environmental projects and compliance and corrective actions at the Radford Army Ammunition Plant. Staff members from the U.S. Army and BAE Systems will be on hand to engage with the public. Questions ahead of the meeting may be emailed to usarmy.radford.peo-eis.list.rfaap-public-affairs@mail.mil.

## LIVE FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION SATURDAY, MARCH 26TH AT 10 AM

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**Preview Dates: Saturday, March 19th from 9 AM - 4 PM and Friday March 25th from Noon to 3 PM**

### Items:

- 2009 John Deere 6430, 4 Wheel Drive Power Quad, 120 HP Motor 111 PTO, Cab Heat and Air, 673 Self Leveling Loader, 2 set Hydraulic Hookups 1197 Hr, 18.4/R38 Firestone Tires; L06430H596598
- 1991 John Deere 4255, 120 HP 120 PTO Quad Transmission, 4167 Hrs, Rear Tires 18.4/R38, Front Counter Weight, 2 Hydraulic Hookups, Cab Heat and Air; Ready to go work; RW4255H003583
- 1986 John Deere 2950, 85 HP 18.4/R34 Rear Tires, 2 New Front Tires, High-Low 8 Speed Transmission, 6200 Hrs 2 Post Canopy; Dual Hydraulic Hookups; L02950T571602
- 630 John Deere Moco Mower-Conditioner Disc Cutter
- Kuhn GF 5 1001 4 Head Tedder
- Kuhn 8 Wheel Rake SR 108
- 2004 John Deere 467 Mega Wide Round Baler with Monitor, 4,372 Bales (real nice)
- Woods 3180 Batwing Bush Hog (in good shape)
- Onan 3pt Hitch Generator
- Johnson 135 Gallon Boomless Sprayer 3pt Hitch
- John Deere 8ft Scraper Blade with Hydraulic Cylinder (in real good shape)
- 3pt Hitch Bale Spear
- Shaver Post Driver Hydraulic 10 in
- Set of Wheel and Tires - LT245/75R16
- Quick Attach Front Bale Spear
- John Deere Model 953 4 Wheel Wagon 16ft Bed
- 1998 Eby 20ft Aluminum Cattle Trailer Maverick
- John Deere 225 Disc 8ft
- 2001 Ram 2500, V8 Magnum, 5 Speed Manual Transmission, 4 Wheel Drive, 8ft Bed, 81,512 Miles with Electric Wench and Bale Spear
- Craftsman 5 HP 33 Gallon Air Compressor
- Platform Scales
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## Charges from page 1

Judge Mike Fleenor agreed to a \$20,000 secured bond and ordered Hodge to have no unsupervised contact with anyone under the age of 18. He also cannot go onto any school property in Pulaski or Montgomery counties.

After having served in the U.S. Army and being honorably discharged with the rank of sergeant, Hodge was hired initially in 2019.

His next hearing will be Thursday, March 10.

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

## NRCC Fiddle, Banjo, and Dance Club Jamboree to be held March 12

The music of Gate 10 Band and Friday Night Dance Band will be featured during New River Community College's Fiddle, Banjo and Dance Club Jamboree on Saturday, March 12, 2022. Music will begin at 6 p.m. in 117 Edwards Hall at New River Community College in Dublin. NRCC requires all individuals to wear masks indoors, and social distancing protocols will be observed.

Members of Gate 10 Addie Levy, Gabe Scott, and Jared Houseman are joined by Jacob Wright and Raistlin Brabson

for the jamboree. This group has years of experience in the bluegrass world traveling all over the eastern coast playing traditional Appalachian music and is sure to bring great energy to any stage and ensure a great time for everyone.

The Friday Night Dance Band is an old-time band from Callaway, Va. Over the years, the band has played at many different venues including jam sessions at Cannaday's Store in Boones Mill and the Floyd Country Store and regular fundraising shows at the Floyd Fire Department. The band

has received a commendation from the Virginia General Assembly for their contributions to the community of Redwood and the town of Rocky Mount where they played for benefit dances.

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 New River Community College, a Crooked Road affiliated venue.



The music of Gate 10 band, pictured above, will be featured at New River Community College's next fiddle, banjo, and dance club jamboree on Saturday, March 12. Gate 10 collectively has years of experience playing traditional bluegrass music all over the East Coast.

## Dog sledding a passion project for Virginia Tech alumna

Large parts of Alaska feature a stunning landscape of snow-capped mountains, beautiful rivers and creeks, and magnificent wildlife. The wilderness in this state of few people — caribou outnumber humans by a substantial amount — tends to overwhelm, and silence resonates as its loudest sound.

For many, the beauty and remoteness of this place make it the perfect location to live, and for Paige Drobny '97, it certainly is.

Drobny feels that way even though living here means surviving crushing cold for half the year. She remains undeterred, even though living in her world means driving a dogsled 54 miles to the nearest town and then hopping in a truck for an additional three-hour drive just to get groceries.

In fact, the nearest town to her, Cantwell, once had 6 inches of snowfall — in July.

"There is just so much open space and so few people," Drobny said. "I just love being out in nature and having it so close and accessible and not having that many people around to enjoy it."

Drobny and her husband, Cody Strathe, also love Alaska for another reason. The state offers them the perfect opportunity to pursue their passion in life — sledding with their dogs.

Drobny and Strathe met in Seward, Alaska, in 2004 after Drobny, who graduated with a degree in biology and a minor in chemistry from Virginia Tech's College of Science, took a job as a fisheries biologist. They started dating and eventually moved to Fairbanks to pursue master's degrees at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

They eventually married, but while in Fairbanks, they adopted a few Alaskan huskies from the animal shelter because they loved animals and

loved being outside. The dogs served as companions on their exploration trips throughout Alaska.

They adopted a couple more dogs and took even more trips, including a caribou hunting excursion on the North Slope. Then, a friend suggested a new hobby.

"We had amassed a few dogs that we thought were really good, and someone was like, 'Oh, you should try racing with them as a way to see new places and explore new trails,'" Drobny said. "So, I signed up for the Yukon Quest 300. I was told that was the hardest 300-mile race in the state, so I thought, 'OK, I'll do this one, and I'll hate it, and we can go back to our normal life of traveling with dogs.'"

So in 2010, Drobny and Strathe put together a team, and she hopped on a sled built by Strathe. She finished the 300-mile version of the Yukon Quest in the dead of winter, surviving the snow-packed, treacherous route and occasionally braving temperatures that dipped to 40 below zero.

Drobny finished sixth in that race. But something strange happened at the finish line.

"When I got to the point where I was finished with my race, there were people continuing on and doing 1,000 miles," she said. "I was sort of heartbroken. I didn't want to stop. I wanted to keep going, and the dogs were having so much fun that I was addicted and hooked."

The race started an addiction that continues today. In each year since, Drobny or Strathe or both have competed in various dog sledding events. In 2012, Drobny competed in the Yukon Quest 1000 and finished 14th in the 1,000-mile gauntlet, and the following year, she ran her first Iditarod, the nation's premier dog sledding event.

She competed in her ninth Iditarod this year with a career-best finish

of seventh coming both in 2019 and 2020. She has pocketed more than \$75,000 in prize money, though that barely covers the care for their dogs.

For her and Strathe, though, they simply love being in the frozen landscape and providing happiness for their dogs, who were born to run in this environment.

"We sort of live, eat, and breathe taking care of dogs and living in winter conditions," Drobny said. "We have the right gear for it, so we can stay warm at 50 below. We live in a stormy area, so we're used to traveling in windy conditions and in storms. We train for it, so none of those things that we see in the race are something that we haven't seen before in training."

Drobny and Strathe are involved in other ventures that they run out of their home and provide much of their income. She runs a fisheries consulting business, helping to write grants and proposals for research projects, and he established Dog-Paddle Designs in which he designs and builds skin-frame kayaks, wooden paddles, and dogsleds.

They also give tours of the Alaskan wilderness, and later this summer, they're opening a high-end lodge that they built on their property, called Susitna Adventure Lodge. Couples, families, or groups can stay at the lodge and fish, hike, bike, or simply enjoy Alaska's real backcountry.

The multiple enterprises led Drobny to get her Master of Business Administration last year through Quantic, an online program based in Washington, D.C.

"I feel like my biology degree prepared me for a career in biology, but didn't prepare me to run the back end of a business," Drobny said. "While we were getting along and doing it just fine, I felt like there were holes in my education and that I could use more help in certain areas. So when



Paige Drobny has become a veteran of dog sledding, and while she loves racing, she loves the connection that she has with her dogs and seeing the beautiful Alaskan landscape even more. Photo courtesy of Paige Drobny.

I found this online degree program, it felt like the right fit. I didn't want to go anywhere. I wanted to be home with my dogs and my husband, so it was a great way to fill some holes in my education and do it from home."

The two of them stay busy with those ventures throughout the spring and summer. But in September, their focus shifts toward training their dogs for upcoming races, and in particular, the Iditarod.

In many ways, training dogs for 1,000-mile races resembles the way humans train for a marathon. Drobny and Strathe start out running the dogs in a harness three or four miles a day and gradually increase the distance. They build in recovery days for the dogs, and on some days, they run the dogs at a faster pace. On other days, they run a little slower pace.

They build up to 25 to 30 miles a run and then start training the dogs on the routine of camping. The dogs gradually get used to running and camping.

"The routine is dialed in early-on in training, and as we progress, we add more miles and stack miles on miles," Drobny said. "As we get closer to the Iditarod, we'll have done 300- to 400-mile training runs a couple of times until the dogs have the routine

down pat. When we get to the race, there is nothing they haven't seen in training except for the full 1,000 miles."

A race almost serves as a continuation of training for the dogs, though working out the logistics for a 1,000-mile race presents additional challenges for Drobny and Strathe. They buy meat for the dogs in 50-pound blocks and cut it up. They pack, organize, and haul 2,000 pounds of food for a 1,000-mile race. They keep track of 1,000 little booties that the dogs wear, hundreds of gloves, repair kits, and 1,600-lumen lights to guide the lead dog in poor weather.

For Drobny and Strathe, though, this is what they love to do. And for the dogs, this is what

they were born to do.

"Our main goal is to give the dogs the best life that we can," Drobny said.

Drobny hasn't been back to Virginia Tech since she graduated, and she returns to the lower 48 only to visit her family or her husband's family. When she and her husband vacation, they find somewhere in Alaska to explore. They love living on the last frontier and plan to spend a lifetime exploring it.

"I can't imagine living anywhere else, but that will probably change at some point," Drobny said. "It's not an easy lifestyle, so at some point, we'll probably want something easier, but for now, this is perfect."

By Jimmy Robertson

## Country club's Mission Jazz fundraiser to benefit fight against cancer and NRV Community Health Center

Mission Jazz, a musical fundraiser to benefit Blacksburg Battles Cancer and the Community Health Center of the New River Valley, will be held at the Blacksburg Country Club on March 19, 2022.

Banquet building doors will open at 5:30 with guitarist Justin Craig opening. The event includes carving and crab cake stations, a cash bar, and a silent auction. At 7 p.m., the Virginia Tech Jazz Ensemble will take the stage. The flagship ensemble

of the Virginia Tech jazz studies program, the group performs big-band classics of all eras and contributions from emerging artists and student arrangers. The group's past honors include the Service Grant Award from Festival Williamsburg and the National Jazz Hall of Fame's Collegiate Jazz Festival Award.

Mission Jazz is presented by Virginia Tech Performing Arts, The Blacksburg Country Club, and Miles To Go. For tickets, call

DeAnne Webb, Blacksburg Country Club 540-552-9165 (between 9-4 p.m.) or email Webb at membership@blacksburgcc.com.

Blacksburg Battles Cancer is an outreach of the Blacksburg Country Club's Women's Golf Association under the umbrella of the Blacksburg Country Club Charitable Foundation. Blacksburg Battles Cancer is dedicated to raising funds for cancer-focused non-profit organizations that serve the community.

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# OPINION

## Buddy King: The Valleydale Pigs and sportsmanship

Many things were significant parts of my life at different points in time but are no longer around. I thought it might be interesting to recount some of those.

A great example is black and white television. Do they still make them? Are there any still around? My family did not have a color TV until I was 12 or 13 years old. In fact, we had no television at all until I was around 7. Reception was not great in our end of town and they were darn expensive.

My grandmother and aunt lived across town and did have a "television set," as we called them in the day, so when the folks wanted to watch something, we would go to Junkin Street for a visit. I am told that they particularly liked to take me there to watch the "Hooray for Valleydale" commercials.

Valleydale was a pork processing plant in Salem that closed in the early 2000's, and the cartoon commercial featured a band of marching pigs apparently celebrating their coming demise. It's worth googling "Hooray for Valley-

dale" to watch. These commercials literally "trumpeted" the four basic food groups of my childhood - bacon, sausage, wieners, and smoked ham - produced by the wonderful folks at Valleydale.

I am told I liked those marching pigs more than anything else aired at the time, even more than Huck-leberry Hound or Yogi Bear.

Color television was a rarity in most of America well into the 60's. In fact, CBS did not have color programming for several years after NBC was rubbing it in with the peacock promoting "living color" when its shows came on the air. Worth another google: Check out "NBC Peacock introduction."

My dad, who liked "affordable" innovation, did make one attempt at giving us the color television experience. He bought some sort of cellophane type wrap which would adhere to the screen and give the appearance of a color broadcast. Sort of. Depending. The bottom 1/3 was green to emulate grass, the middle 1/3 was yellowish, and the top was light blue to

depict the sky.

I may not remember the colors correctly. I do remember that this "poor man's color television" worked reasonably well for outdoor scenes on westerns like "Bonanza," not so well for courtroom scenes on Perry Mason. I don't think it took off.

Another part of my life at one point that is now "missing in action" is the pay telephone phone booth. These things were critical to the practice of law during the first half of my professional life. I traveled fairly frequently during the "litigation stage" of my career, and whenever there was time in airports, I would rush up and down the terminal hallways looking for an open booth to jump in and call the office for messages.

I also remember being at many a legal seminar and racing out on breaks to what was usually a bank of 10 or so pay phones against the wall in some hotel conference area, trying to beat 100 or so other lawyers wanting to "check in" with their secretaries. No enclosed booths here, just phones on the wall and the buzz of a dozen or so lawyers talking at once. Amazingly, 20 years after I

last used it, I can still recite my 14-digit AT&T credit card number.

There are other parts of my early professional life that are no longer around. Like whiteout and curly paper faxes. Thankfully, both were short-lived.

Whiteout was a tiny bottle of white liquid that a skilled office worker could use to "repair" typographical errors or substantive misstatements in a contract or a brief. Obviously, pre-computer and pre-word processing days, this stuff was applied "over top" of the mistake and prevented the need to "tear it up and start all over." My first secretary at the firm, the wonderful Betty Mucha, could do this better than anyone ever. The final product didn't resemble what we have come to expect in recent years, but it was state-of-the art triage early in my career.

Another tool of the trade early in my life at the firm was the "curly paper fax." The contraption that spit these things out technically was called a telecopier, and, along with overnight delivery services, should take the credit and shoulder the blame for increasing both the efficiency and the stresses of modern-

day life.

I don't remember how prevalent the fax machine was at the start of my career, but I do recall hearing from older lawyers in the firm that using regular mail to send out drafts of contracts or court pleadings or even "heated responses" provided some time for reflection and cooling off that made law practice more civilized before the fax came into being. The fax machine allowed the user to respond without a cooling-down period and also greatly enhanced the pace of work.

I often compare it to ping pong, i.e., constant back and forth across the net. Emails have further exacerbated the pace and ease of spewing venom of course.

But the "curly paper fax" created logistical issues. Eventually, "straight paper faxes" came into existence and solved the problem in large part, but the early version printed pages on rolled paper, leading to a machine that had the capability of spitting out a 100-page contract in no particular order if no one was there to play goaltender.

In my early years, our tender of the mailroom where the fax sat was the irascible Margaret Goldsboro (or

the "Widow Goldsboro" as our managing partner Herb called her then). Margaret was an attractive, entertaining and colorful personality who was a firm icon, but she was in her 80's by this point and her reflexes had slowed. So, if you walked in and caught her at the wrong time, fax pages all over the floor and coming at her like water out of a fire hose, you would hear words that would make a sailor embarrassed.

Notwithstanding these moments, she was a cultured and devout Catholic lady. She was just no match for the curly paper fax.

Despite the rush of nostalgia these long gone things produce in me, I really don't miss black and white television or pay phone booths or fax machines (curly or otherwise), except for those marching pigs. But a few things I do miss from the earlier part of my life.

I miss when we lauded amateur sports and believed that one of the main reasons to participate in athletics was to learn sportsmanship and teamwork and believed respect for others was one of life's highest values.

Maybe those things will make a comeback someday.

**RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL**

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Town Council Blacksburg: Support Neighbors and Neighborhoods

Blacksburg is at a tipping point. After recent unpopular town council votes (Sheetz and others), neighbors are asking, "Who is listening to us and our concerns?"

The Legacy Apartment building proposed for the corner of South Main Street and Country Club Drive is another example where neighbors are calling on the Blacksburg Town Council to "support neighbors and neighborhoods." The recent housing study reported that 60% of Blacksburg residents were opposed to high rise apartments. The same study noted that 78% were in favor of lower density housing.

Legacy is a 4/3 story high-density apartment building. A petition that

is currently circulating has 575 signatures of neighbors who are opposed to the Legacy Apartment Building. A review of the online letters to the town council shows over a hundred letters in opposition to Legacy and only four in support (two housing agencies not located in Blacksburg, one person who lives outside of Blacksburg, and one graduate student). It is clear from the survey, petition, and letters to the town council that Blacksburg residents do not want the Legacy Project in this location. Town Council, listen to your neighbors.

A misinformation campaign claims the neighbors do not want "affordable housing." The truth is that the neighbors have said strongly and consistently that they want affordable housing on that corner but

in lower density. The land is currently zoned R-5 and would support 50 bedrooms of affordable housing in townhomes, duplexes, triplexes, or small apartment buildings.

The developer is pushing for a change of zoning that will nearly triple the density to 142 bedrooms and 288 occupants, which could include students. Neighbors are saying this density will cause too many problems: child safety, traffic, setbacks don't allow for improvements to Country Club Drive, and pedestrian and biker safety on Country Club Drive.

I am asking the town council to support neighbors and neighborhoods and vote NO to Legacy.

*Rick Johnson  
Blacksburg*

### Editor,

Blacksburg is a special place. It's home. The community, the people, the diversity of thought makes it one of the best towns in the entire commonwealth.

Over the past few weeks, I've been disturbed by what I see as unintentional division caused by a project that would bring

hundreds of affordable housing units to the town.

First and foremost, let me be clear: we need affordable housing in the town. Period. Full stop. But the way in which it has been gone about has actually caused many members of my community to be set against others, which is not the Blacksburg way. The leaders of our town, who love Blacksburg as much as I do, may be

blind to this.

But what's happened is that instead of working with the members of the community to find an approach that works for the residential style of the neighborhood (that could bring affordable housing to Blacksburg, but in a way that plans for future growth and that is zoning appropriate for the community), they've settled on a prescriptive solution that

many disagree with. To say I'm disheartened is an understatement.

Blacksburg is stronger together. We always have been. And I hope the town will work with my friends in the impacted community to find a solution that accomplishes both goals. In an era of partisanship and division, we shouldn't settle for any less.

*Stephen Grieco  
Blacksburg*

## WalletHub: Virginia has highest vehicle property taxes in the nation

In a survey of the 50 states and the District of Columbia, the personal finance website WalletHub determined that at \$1,023, Virginia has the highest vehicle property taxes in the nation. The website released the results of its findings Wednesday.

WalletHub's survey also ranked the commonwealth No. 19 in terms of property taxes with the lowest numbers representing the lowest taxes. The

commonwealth's annual taxes on homes priced at the state median value were \$2,234.

The ten places with the lowest property taxes were 1. Hawaii 2. Alabama 3. Colorado 4. Louisiana 5. District of Columbia 6. South Carolina 7. Delaware 8. West Virginia 9. Nevada 10. Wyoming.

The ten states with the highest property taxes were 42. Rhode Island 43. New York 44. Nebraska

45. Texas 46. Wisconsin 47. Vermont 48. Connecticut 49. New Hampshire 50. Illinois 51. New Jersey.

The ten places with the lowest vehicle property taxes as determined by WalletHub (in no particular order since none of these places have vehicle property taxes were Hawaii, District of Columbia, Delaware, Utah, Idaho, Tennessee, New Mexico, Florida, Oklahoma, and Georgia.

C R O S S W O R D

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61				62			63	
64				65			66	

- CLUES ACROSS**
- European Common Market
  - Poetic go quickly
  - Parts per thousand (abbr.)
  - Pigeon pea
  - Sao \_\_, city in Brazil
  - Longest division of geological time
  - Alto, California city
  - Small terrestrial viper
  - Coming after all others
  - Penetrate with a sharp fork
  - Still-hunt
  - Chinese frying pan
  - Cave-dwelling salamander
  - Any thick messy substance
  - About the moon
  - AKA Tao
  - Jet cabin requirement
  - Prince Hirobumi, 1841-1909
  - An easy return in a high arc
  - Italian commune
  - L. Comfort's illuminator
  - Foot digit
  - Minute tunicate genus
  - Green regions of desert
  - Direct a weapon
  - de Janeiro
  - Equestrian animals
  - Acress Tomei
  - Head of the RCC
  - Twines
  - Scientific workplace
  - Minerals
  - Hypothetical original substances
  - Hit with the open hand
  - Political action committee
  - Winged goddess of the dawn
  - W. states time zone
  - CLUES DOWN
  - Electronic data processing
  - Man or boy (Br.)
  - W. African nation
  - Fault's incline from vertical
  - Method of birth control
  - City founded by Xenophanes
  - Legumes
  - Beckham's spice girl
  - Explosive
  - 1936 Nobel winner Otto
  - Greenbay teammate
  - Brass that looks like gold
  - School graduates
  - Lively, merry play
  - Make indistinct
  - Egyptian mythological figure associated with floods
  - Washing sponge
  - Old name for nitrogen
  - Impounds for lack of payment
  - Radiotelegraphic signal
  31. MN 55731
  - Sun in spanish
  - Helps little firms
  - Cease living
  - Flames up
  - Egyptian sacred bull
  - To wit
  - Mire
  - Bring two objects together
  - Filths
  - Israeli dance
  - Oil cartel
  - A particular instance of selling
  - Microelectromechanical system
  - Var. of 45 across
  - Goat & camel hair fabrics
  - Soda
  - A firm's operational head
  - Seaport (abbr.)

## Green-Level

from page 1

"Patients' support systems play crucial roles in their experience, so we are excited to welcome back additional visitors in a limited capacity," said Patrice M. Weiss, the chief medical officer and executive vice president for Carilion. "While green-level visitation is less restrictive, it's important to note that we remain vigilant against COVID-19.

Protections like masking and screening requirements remain in place to keep our patients, visitors, and staff safe."

Visitation is assessed every week based on community positivity rate, the spread of COVID-19, and mask compliance. Patients living in an area considered high-risk by the CDC should continue to use mitigation strategies like

masking and social distancing.

"Even as community spread decreases, we're continuing to care for hospitalized COVID-19 patients who are severely ill," said Dr. Weiss. "In February, 82% of our hospitalized COVID-19 patients were not fully vaccinated or boosted. Vaccines remain the best possible tool for protection from severe illness."

# Virginia Cooperative Extension to partner in providing three-part webinar series on managing small-acreage property

To help grow businesses, Natural Area Management Services, in partnership with the Virginia Cooperative Extension, is hosting a three-part webinar series to provide services to small-acreage clients.

The series runs from 2 to 4 p.m. on March 10, 17, and 24 and uses a case-study approach in which instructors will demonstrate how to utilize a checklist to assess a property, develop a land care plan, and implement various land management practices.

The program was created by the Woods in Your Backyard Partnership, which is composed of Penn State Extension, University of Maryland Extension, Virginia Cooperative Extension, the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, and the Virginia Department of Forestry.

The first webinar on March 10 will provide a brief overview of the Woods in Your Backyard educational program and resources available and will also describe the potential benefits offering these services can provide businesses. In addition, the webinar will explain how to communicate a message to clientele and what their motivations and interests are for natural area services. This session concludes by developing a land-care plan for the case study property. The plan will include a map of the property along with descriptions of the

various habitat units and management recommendations. The session features a variety of experts including:

Jonathan Kays, a forestry extension specialist with the University of Maryland Extension;

Adam Downing, an extension forestry agent with Virginia Cooperative Extension;

Julianne Schieffer, an extension urban forester, with Penn State Extension; and

Craig Highfield, the director of Forest Programs for the Alliance for Chesapeake Bay.

The second webinar on March 17 covers two of the specific management practices determined as a high priority in the checklist and outlined in the land care plan for the case-study property. The first management recommendation covers how to improve tree health and habitat by thinning overcrowded trees and releasing chosen or crop trees. Finally, this session will discuss how to identify and mitigate the negative impacts of deer overabundance. The session will feature:

Joe Rossetti, a hardwood forest habitat initiative coordinator for the Virginia Department of Forestry;

Jonathan Kays, a forestry extension specialist with the University of Maryland Extension; and

Luke Macaulay, a wildlife manage-

ment specialist with the University of Maryland Extension.

The final session on March 24 covers two additional high-priority practices in the Natural Area Management Services checklist and is described in the land care plan for the case-study property. The first practice discusses how to convert unused lawn areas into a haven for wildlife by converting them to woods and meadows. This session will conclude by examining the invasive plant problems on the case-study property and how best to control them. The experts featured in this session are:

Craig Highfield, the director of forest programs for the Alliance for Chesapeake Bay;

Ryan Davis, the program manager of Chesapeake Forests for the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay; and

Dave Jackson, a forest resources educator for Penn State Extension.

The webinar series costs \$35, which includes the handbook and checklist, or \$15 without the handbook or checklist. Visit Virginia's Urban Forest Council to register or receive more information. Attendees can receive continuing education credits for the International Society of Arboriculture, the Society of American Foresters (pending approval), and Maryland Licensed Tree Experts (pending approval).

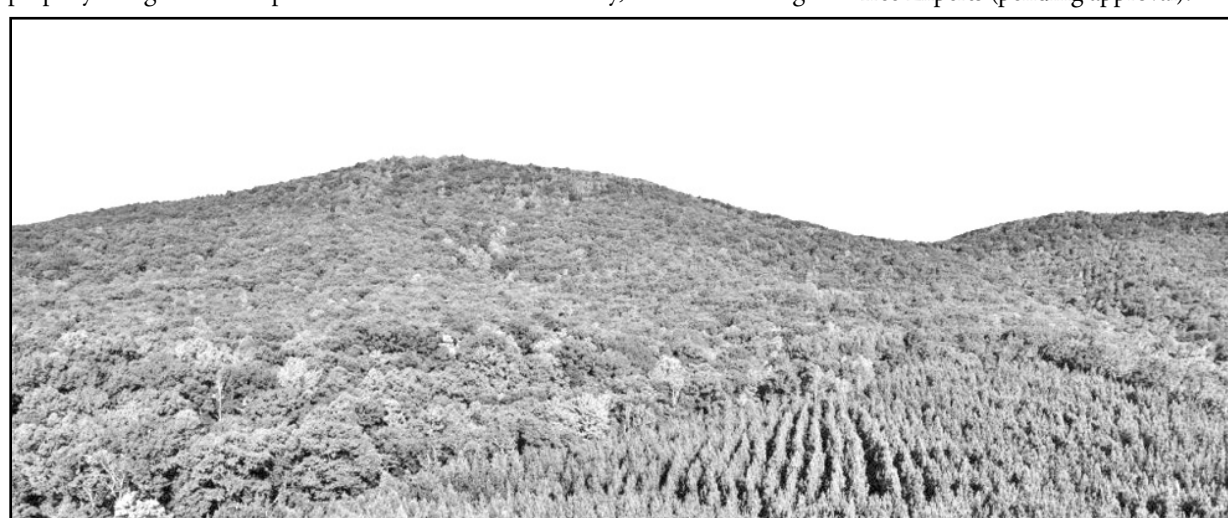
## PETS OF THE WEEK



**This Jolene doesn't have flaming auburn hair but she does love attention. She may shy away at first, but once she realizes affection is involved, she can't get enough. She gets along with other cats and is good with children. Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center to meet Jolene.**



**Odin is a sweet boy with lots of energy. His new humans may need to provide him with a refresher on his obedience training and leash manners. Odin would be good with children over 12 years old. He likes to explore and is ready to find new adventures in his forever home.**



**A three-part webinar series to help grow businesses that partners Natural Area Management Services and the Virginia Cooperative Extension will run on Thursdays, March 10-24, and will cover a variety of topics designed for green industry professionals, land managers, and foresters on managing a small-acreage property through a case-study approach.**

# National average price of gas hits \$4

The national average price of gasoline has surpassed \$4 per gallon in the U.S for the first time since 2008, and stands just 10 cents below the all-time record of \$4.103 per gallon, according to GasBuddy, the leading fuel savings platform providing American drivers with the most ways to save money on gas.

Prices have spiked across the country due to the Russian war on Ukraine as sanctions cripple Russia's ability to export crude oil, spiking gas prices by nearly 41 cents in the last seven days alone.

As of Friday, the weekly rise in gas prices was the second largest ever, following the rise of 49 cents per gallon during the week of September 3, 2005. Sunday's rise of 15.8 cents per gallon was also the second-largest daily rise ever, coming close to the record of 18.1 cents per gallon set as Hurricane Katrina tore through the Gulf of Mexico 17 years ago. Diesel prices, however, didn't share the

same fate as gasoline, as diesel soared to its largest daily gain ever: 22.2 cents per gallon, 6 cents higher than the previous record from 2013.

"This is a milestone that was hard to imagine happening so quickly, but with bipartisan support of severe sanctions on Russia, is not exactly surprising. It is the cost of choking off Russia from energy revenue," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum anal-

ysis for GasBuddy. "As Russia's war on Ukraine continues to evolve and we head into a season where gas prices typically increase, Americans should prepare to pay more for gas than they ever have before. Shopping and paying smart at the pump will be critical well into summer."

GasBuddy expects that gasoline prices will continue to rise in the days ahead, and could be just days away from

setting a new all-time record high and continuing to rise through the summer. Seasonal factors including in-

creased demand for gas, refinery maintenance, and the switch to summer blend gas on top of current geopolitical

tensions could propel prices upward of \$4.25 per gallon by Memorial Day, according to De Haan.


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### ONLINE AUCTION

**Ends Thursday March 17th @ 4 PM**  
**Potential Investment Property for Sale in Blacksburg VA**  
**1524 Lusters Gate Rd, Blacksburg VA 24060**  
**Bid Now at VaAuctionPro.com**




You have the opportunity to purchase this great property for sale in Blacksburg VA. The property features 26.9 acres of prime land for sale by the Blacksburg Country Club. North Fork Roanoke River runs through the middle of the property, making a very serene & peaceful setting. Old farmhouse on the property which could be fixed up or removed. Would be a wonderful development property; it is in a prime location next to the golf course and a short drive from the town of Blacksburg, Christiansburg & Virginia Tech! Currently zoned A-1 agricultural but has the potential to be rezoned for development. See bidder pack for details. The property is accessible on Lusters Gate Rd and Arrington Rd. The surrounding neighborhood is quiet and peaceful, making this an ideal location for farming, building your dream home, subdividing or building multifamily residences. Survey in progress, acreage may change.

**Directions** – From Christiansburg - Head northeast on W Main St toward S. Franklin St - Take Ellett Rd NE approximately 6 miles - Left onto Lusters Gate - Property on right, before clubhouse drive.

**Terms:** 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. \$20,000 Earnest Money Deposit required day of sale. Close in 45 days. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract and maps at VaAuctionPro.com

**Contact Matt Gallimore, Broker/Auctioneer at 540-239-2585 or email Gallimore.matt@gmail.com ; Levi Cox Realtor at 540-230-7162 or email LeviCox87@gmail.com**

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# OBITUARIES

## Jones, Noline Evelyn Caldwell

Noline Evelyn Caldwell Jones, 85, of Catawba, took her Savior's hand and went to her heavenly home on Saturday, March 5, 2022.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jessie and Ruth Caldwell; her husband, Fredrick Jones; a daughter, Victoria Francisco; a son, Casey Jones; grandsons Travis LaPrad and BJ Sarver; a brother, Steve Caldwell; sisters Lucy Jean Huffman and Wanda Jones; and a special niece, Teresa Wright.

She is survived by her son, Frederick Jones (Vanessa); her daughter, Minerva Duncan (Mike); her sister, Joyce Horn (Malcolm); grandsons Chris Jones (Carmen), Ben Jones (Beth), Anthony Jones (Suzanna), Zachary Sowers (Ashley), and Wiley Francisco; granddaughters Melania Brizendine (Mickey), Angel Hedge (Chuck), Denise Wright (Willie), and Rechelle LaPrad; 17 great-grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren; numer-



ous step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren; and a number of nieces, nephews and a multitude of friends.

Noline was a woman of strong faith. Her faith in the Lord gave her the strength to carry on through her losses and to get through each day. She was a member of Grace Assembly of God and loved her church family dearly. She showed love to everyone and would tell people she barely knew, "You know I love ya."

Noline will be greatly missed, but her love will live on through everyone who knew her.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at Grace Assembly of God in Catawba, with Pastor Loraine Taylor officiating. Burial was held privately with her family at the Francisco Family Cemetery in Catawba. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

## Dunbar, Sheila Norris

Sheila Norris Dunbar, 62, of Pulaski, passed away at home on Friday, March 4, 2022.

She was born Oct. 9, 1959, in New Jersey. She was a beloved mother, sister, wife, and mother-in-law. She was the daughter of Charles and Arlene Norris. Sheila was a 1977 graduate of Clear Fork High School.

She worked for many years at Radford's Belle Heth Elementary School in the dietary department and truly loved children. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two sisters-in-law, Lois Norris and Kathy Stover (Dunbar).

Survivors include her loving husband of 45 years, Elmo Dwayne Dunbar; children Elmo C. Dunbar and wife Vickie of



Pulaski, Michael Dunbar and companion Danielle Vest of Floyd, Jason Dunbar and wife Kim of Pulaski, and daughter Jessica Dunbar of Pulaski; grandchildren Kaylea Hopkins, Kaitlyn Dunbar, J. Paul Dunbar, Keron McRae, Seth Dunbar, Tori Dunbar and Maddison Dalton; a sister, Sharon Norris Covert and her husband, Sean; along with two nieces, Isabella and Caroline of Texas; and a brother, Charles "Chucky" Norris and his children, Sarah, Stacy, Amber and Charles of West Virginia.

Per her request she will be cremated and there will be no services.

The Dunbar family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com.

## Maxwell, Charlotte D.

Charlotte D. Maxwell, age 83, of Kingston, Tenn., passed away Friday, March 4, 2022, at Signature Healthcare & Rehab Center in Spring City, Tenn.

She was born Jan. 5, 1939, in Radford and played basketball for the Radford Bobcats in her early years. She was a member of Radford Christian Church. Charlotte worked as an office secretary/check-in clerk for Clover Creamery in Virginia. She loved her grandchildren, enjoyed cooking, working crossword puzzles, and playing Yahtzee. She was also an avid bowler.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Edward Thurman Akers; her second husband, Hollis A. Maxwell; a son, David Akers; her parents, Harvey and Ruby DeHart; a sister, Deryline Hamilton; a stepson, Ray Maxwell; and a stepdaughter, Judy Brown.

She is survived by her children, Vicki Mills and her husband, Larry, of Harriman, Tenn.; Melissa Nabors and her husband, Mike, of Harriman; Robbie Akers of Knoxville; and Cheryl Norman of Kingston; grandchildren Jeremy Akers and his wife, Ashley; Justin



Mills; Jennifer Fritsch and her husband, Bryan; Brandy Guinn and her husband, Christopher; Sean Norman; Kayla Strange and her husband, Cody; Erika Smith and her husband, Dillon; Brenton Nabors; Lydia Nabors; Olivia Akers; Cody Akers and his wife, Marlea; and Alexis Luna and her husband, Joseph; stepchildren Linda Hill and her husband, John of Rockwood, Tenn.;

Teresa Hinkley and her husband, Jerry, of Virginia; Dorothy Maxwell of Sparta, Tenn.; Glenda brown of Oakdale, Tenn.; and Deb Hamby and her husband, Wayne, of Lansing, Tenn.

She is also survived by several great-grandchildren, step-grandchildren, and step-great-grandchildren; her sisters, Louise Merrill of North Carolina and Peggy Osborne of Radford; a sister-in-law, Charlotte Boyd of Radford; and a host of extended family members and friends.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. The online register book can be signed at www.frakerfuneralhome.net. Fraker Funeral Home of Kingston, Tenn., is in charge of arrangements.

## Alley, Marilyn Renee

Marilyn Renee Alley, born Sept. 16, 2004, went to be with her beloved Lord and Savior at 8:54 p.m. on Feb. 26, 2022.

She is survived by her mother, Amber Shields of Radford; her father and stepmother, Robert and Heather Alley of Pilot; a sister, Roz Alley; grandparents Karen and Jeff Wofford of Radford and Janet and Leon Alley of Pilot. She also left behind many cousins, aunts, uncles, friends, a special "uncle" Brian Stiles, and special "aunts" Regina Wallace and Amber Stiles.

Marilyn was an introvert but loved to make sure everyone felt welcome. She played varsity soccer at Radford High School, was active in the FFA, and planned to travel to Costa Rica this summer. She was accepted to Liberty University with plans to become a nurse. Her

mission was to travel and be a witness for Christ through her work.

Although losing Marilyn has left a huge hole in our hearts, her faith provides comfort and security that she is with her maternal grandpa and many great-grandparents in Heaven. She will continue to fulfill her goal of winning lives for Christ even though she is departed from this world.

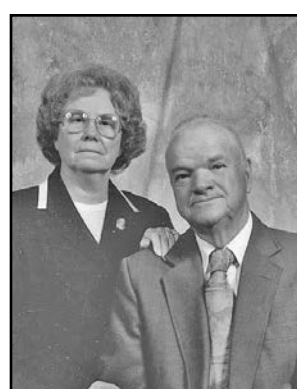
Services were handled by McCoy Funeral Home in Blacksburg. Visitation was held on Sunday, March 6, 2022, with a celebration of life following at Blue Ridge Church, Christiansburg. In lieu of flowers, the family asked for donations to the Marilyn Alley Scholarship at RHS [https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=Q2ELW6ZWUJUSU](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=Q2ELW6ZWUJUSU) or Helping Hands for Marilyn Alley on GoFundMe.

## Duncan, Pauline Moore

Pauline Moore Duncan, 93, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, March 2, 2022.

She was a dedicated member of New Hope Church of God and a friend to Pastor T. Michael Bond. Pauline was preceded in death by her parents, Norman and Eugenia Moore; her beloved husband, Hobert Duncan; a son, Ralph Duncan; sons-in-law Leon and Jerry; four brothers; and four sisters.

She is survived by her daughters, Joyce Pettus and Becky Peterson (Bentley Simpkins); a son and daughter-in-law, Randy and Frances Duncan; grandchildren Ryleigh Duncan, Phillip Duncan, Dustin Duncan, Michael Duncan, and Alex Duncan; a special grandson and



caregiver, Kevin Kirk; a special great-grandson, Little Nigel; four other great-grandchildren; sister-in-law Barbara Moore; daughter-in-law Candi Duncan; caregivers Vicki Stowers, Frances Duncan, Candi Duncan, Sherry Smith, and Linda Bishop; special granddogs Tinkerbelle and Meka; a special friend, Heather Spangler; and many other family members and friends.

The family received friends on Monday, March 7, 2022, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford, followed by services with Pastor Frankie Graham officiating. Interment was private.

The Duncan family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com.

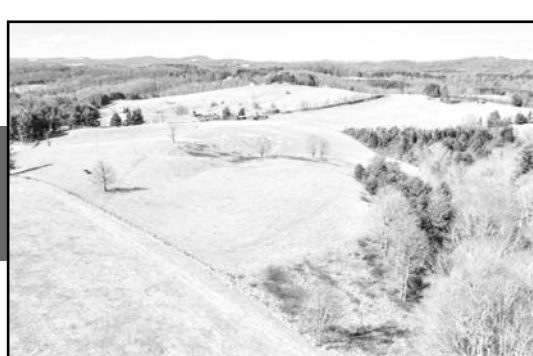
### ONLINE AUCTION

Ends Friday March 18th @ 3PM

Farm for Sale in Floyd VA!

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**Legals - Botetourt County**

**TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 904 CRAIG CREEK ROAD, EAGLE ROCK, VA 24085.**

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated October 28, 2005, in the original principal amount of \$53,200.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 050006912. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090 on April 4, 2022, at 5:00 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: A CERTAIN STRIP OF LAND SITUATE ON THE NORTH SIDE OF STATE HIGHWAY ROUTE #615 ABOUT ONE AND ONE-HALF MILES WEST OF THE HOME OF R. E. ROBINSON AND FLORA S. ROBINSON, AND BEING LOCATED BETWEEN STATE ROUTE NO. 615 AS NOW LOCATED AND OLD COUNTRY ROAD NO. 615; THENCE IN AN EASTERLY DIRECTION WITH THE MEANDERS OF OLD COUNTRY ROAD TO A STAKE ON SOUTH SIDE OF SAID OLD COUNTRY ROAD; THENCE IN A SOUTHERLY DIRECTION, PASSING ONE FOOT WEST OF A LARGE LOCUST TREE, IN A STRAIGHT LINE STATE ROUTE NO. 615; THENCE IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION WITH THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE ROUTE NO. 615, TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING ONE ACRE, MORE OR LESS. ALSO KNOWN AS TAX MAP NUMBER 27B(1)SEC 9-14-19. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwwsales.com. BIDDERS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO WEAR A COVER OVER BOTH NOSE AND MOUTH AND PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING AT THE AUCTION. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwwsales.com. VA-333688-2.

**Legals - City of Radford**

**ORDER OF PUBLICATION COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**

VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,-317, 20-104  
**Case No. CL21006521-00**  
Radford Circuit Court  
619 SECOND STREET, 24141  
KESSINGER, JOSEPH L. v. KESSINGER, PATRICIA G.  
The object of this suit is to: TO OBTAIN A DICORCE FROM THE BOND OF MATRIMONY  
It is ORDERED that PATRICIA G. KESSINGER appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before APRIL 5, 2022.

February 8, 2022  
Angel Turpin  
Deputy Clerk

**Legals - City of Salem**

**ORDER OF PUBLICATION COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**

VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104  
**Case No. CL22000168-00**  
ROANOKE COUNTY Circuit Court  
305 East Main Street, Salem, Virginia  
VICK, BROOKLYN RAYNE v. VAUGHT, BROOKLYN RAYNE  
The object of this suit is to: NAME CHANGE OF MINOR  
It is ORDERED that CECIL DURAN VICK appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before 04-01-2022 @ 11:30 AM

FEB 18 2022  
Benjamin Guerrant  
Deputy Clerk

**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 sell will take place at the website Storage Treasures.com on 03/15/2022 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. 292-Annie Saunders-household goods.

**Legals - Montgomery County**

**TRUSTEE'S SALE OF PROPERTY 1564 Alleghany Spring Road, Shawsville, VA 20158**

Tax Map No. 097-A113A, Parcel ID 150126  
  
In execution of a Deed of Trust dated March 3, 2008, in the principal amount of \$104,607.92, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, of record as Instrument Number 08002073, Woods Rogers PLC, Trustee, will offer for sale at public auction outside the main entrance of the Montgomery County Circuit Court, 55 East Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, on March 22, 2022 at 12:00 noon, the property described in said Deed of Trust lying in Montgomery County, Virginia, and further described as follows:

All of Lot 1, containing 1.695 acres, as shown on a plat of survey entitled, PLAT Showing Relocation/Vacation of Lot lines, for Timothy L. Wimmer and James L. Wimmer & Grace Kelley-Wimmer, Plan No. P-6912, dated August 16, 2007, revised December 10, 2007, prepared by Marvi D. Stine, L.S., of Highland Surveys P.C., which plat of survey is recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, as PB 28, pg 67.

TERMS: Cash - Bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sales price by cashier's or certified check may be required. Balance of purchase price shall be due and payable not later than ten (10) days after sale.

WOODS ROGERS PLC, Trustee

For Information Contact: Woods Rogers PLC, P.O. Box 14125, Roanoke, VA 24038-4125, Telephone: 540-983-7729

**ORDER OF PUBLICATION**

Commonwealth of Virginia VA. CODE § 8.01-316  
**Case No. J0004883-09-00**  
Floyd County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Floyd County DSS v. Brandi Reed  
The object of this suit is to: Terminate the residual parental rights of Brandi Reed, legal parent of Luna Kelley, a minor, in that said parent has, without good cause, failed to correct the conditions which resulted in the child entering foster care and it is not reasonably likely that they will be able to do so in a reasonable amount of time, failed to maintain continuing contact with the child and substantially plan for the child's future. Residual parental rights include, but are not limited to the right to visitation, consent to adoption, the right to determine religious affiliation, and the responsibility for support. The termination of your residual parental rights will permanently end all of your rights and responsibilities to the child named in the petition.  
It is ORDERED that Brandi Reed appear at the above-named Court and protect his or her interests on or before May 3, 2022.

2/22/22  
Nikki King  
Clerk

**Legals - Town of Vinton**

**LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, the **Town Council** of the Town of Vinton, Virginia hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on **Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia.

The purpose of the public hearing is to receive comments concerning:

An ordinance repealing in its entirety the Vinton Town Code, Appendix B - Zoning Ordinance as adopted by Ordinance 634, enacted December 19, 1995, with amendments, and adopting by reference the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Vinton, Vinton, Virginia.

Further information concerning this public hearing may be obtained in the Planning and Zoning Department located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, VA 24179, (540) 983-0605, between 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Interested persons may be heard at the above public hearing.

Given under my hand this 3rd day of February, 2022.

Richard W. Peters, Jr.  
Town Manager

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO COMPLY WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT.** Reasonable efforts will be made to provide assistance or special arrangements to qualified individuals with disabilities in order to participate in or attend the meetings. Please call (540) 983-0605 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting so that proper arrangements may be made.

Given under my hand this 3rd day of February, 2022.

Richard W. Peters, Jr.  
Town Manager

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# RADFORD SPORTS

## Hokie Mekhi Lewis named most outstanding wrestler at ACC championships

Virginia Tech's Mekhi Lewis was named the Most Outstanding Wrestler at the recent ACC championships.

After a full day of wrestling at the 2022 ACC Championship, the Virginia Tech wrestling team returned to Blacksburg

with three ACC champions and eight qualifiers for the 2022 NCAA Championships in Detroit.

Korbin Myers, Mekhi Lewis, and Nathan Traxler all won ACC championships as the Hokies finished second behind NC

State. Sam Latona and Bryce Andonian finished second, Hunter Bolen finished third, and Collin Gerardi and Connor Brady both claimed fourth to round out the Hokie placers.

Lewis, the 2019 ACC champion and national champion

at 165 returned to the top of the podium at a new weight after knocking off the #2 and #1 seeds enroute to his second ACC championship title.

Myers went back-to-back at 133-pounds by defeating career rival Micky Phillippi of

Pitt. Graduate transfer Nathan Traxler was dominant in the finals, posting a 9-6 victory to capture the title at 285.

All eight placers earned allocations to the 2022 NCAA Championships in Detroit March 17-19.

## Earl Tanner, 81, sinks hole in one at Auburn Hills



PHONE COURTESY OF AUBURN HILLS GOLF COURSE

81-year-old Earl Tanner sank a hole in one on #11 at Auburn Hills this past week. Tanner's son, Jeffrey, witnessed the feat.

## Radford High's Elliot Grayson wins second state high jump state title



FILE PHOTO

Radford High School's Elliot Grayson has won his second straight state high jump indoor title. Grayson cleared 6-04 to claim the Class 2 championship.

## Radford boys advance at state



Nate Wesley scored 20 points in the Radford boys' 67-49 win Friday night over Virginia High at Roanoke College. The win sent the Bobcats to the state Class 2 semifinals.



PHOTOS BY BRYANT ALTIZER

Isiah Austin drives to the basket against the Virginia High Bearcat defense for two of his 10 points in Radford's win. Radford moved to 19-4 on the season.

## Weekend meant racing, remembering at Motor Mile Speedway

The weekend at Motor Mile Speedway near Radford involved more than just racing. Remembering Daniel Williamson was also a part of it.

Williamson was a former crew chief, mechanic, spotter, driver and all-around racing local legend in the world of local and regional racing who died in November from complications due to COVID-19. He was only 35.

Over the years, Williamson established a reputation as a man who was everyone's friend, who would help anyone out who asked whether that person was a racer, a crew member of his own team, or even a competitor.

Cory Dunn, Derrick Lancaster, Dennis Holdren, and Stacy Puryear were among those to whom Williamson lent his time and his talents.

Motor Mile Speedway remembered Williamson over the weekend and dedicated the "Ice Out Opener" to his memory. His wife and sons were given the honor of shouting out those most famous words in motorsports: "Drivers, start your engines." Williamson's sons also got to wave the green flag before the start of the races.

Long-time late model stock car driver and fan favorite Mike Looney lost his father this week; however, Mike Looney did what he says his father would have wanted. He strapped himself into his race car, took the pole, and won both twin 60-lap events for the Late Model Division.

"I know dad would be mad if I didn't come here and race. It's what we do," said Looney after the first win. After an eight-car invert moved him back to eighth for the start of the second race, Looney retook the lead in twenty laps. When Looney got to the microphone, he thanked his

dad, saying he, "didn't want to cry in front of all of these kids as they might think he is a wimp or something."

Pit reporter Caroline Cook wiped away her own tears and told Looney, "Real men cry, Mike. We are all with you." With the two wins in the twin 60-lap events, Looney is now two races in towards the Six Pack Challenge.

If the same Late Model driver wins all six races in the challenge, he wins \$10,000. The remaining races in the challenge are in July and August.

Kyle Dudley finished second in both twin Late Model Division events, Cory Dunn finished third in race one, and Kres Vandyke finished third in the second.

The Sportsman Division also had twin 30-lap races. Karl Budzевski won the first, Daryn Cockram won the second, and they both finished third in the race they didn't win. Kyle



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Mike Looney took both Late Model events Saturday at Motor Mile Speedway near Radford.

Barnes finished second in both events.

In the Super Streets Division, Joshua Gobble was the winner with longtime Motor Mile racers Hank Turman and Ray Sowers finishing second and third.

In the Mod-4's Division, Brittany Cockram, daughter

of the aforementioned Daryn Cockram, came home the winner, followed by Johnathan Hall and Drew Holdren.

In the UCAR & Pure 4's Division, Ben Barker got the checker first, followed by Jamie Lafon and Kirby Shipman.

### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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# Homeless

from page 1

filed a Hawaiian man with a job but unable to afford housing in one of America's most expensive states. They created a small rolling house that provides storage space but still puts a premium on mobility. The team ran into several problems with the original design and had to restructure everything. Then, their handle design failed before the project was due, but they quickly devised a pull cord with flexible foam wrapping for a handle that did the trick.

"One thing about design," Elafy said, "and what we love about it, is if you run into a problem, you have to come up with a solution. It makes your mind work quicker but you have to put the hard work into it."

Samantha Wood said her group had a very similar experience.

"I think the biggest thing we learned is that your first design is not going to work out," she said. "Our first design was so different from our final product."

Kayla Hoyle said in addition to design principles and practices, she's also learned a lot about homelessness.

"People often opt out of going to an actual homeless shelter," she said, noting that factors like single-gender facilities, restricted hours, or issues with pets make them undesirable.

Her group profiled a Seattle high-school student with a poor parental relationship trying to graduate and work to maintain independence.

"I know a lot of people don't have the greatest household situations," she said. "It made me really appreciate that I have a good relationship with my parents and that I have a roof over my head."

When completed, the teams brought their prototypes out for public inspection on Radford's campus as part of a fundraiser for To Our House, a group providing winter shelter in the New River Valley. The students raised over \$500 in a little over an hour.

The semester's work doesn't end there. With the portable shelters completed, they moved on to designing a two-story shelter complete with kitchen, dining area, sleeping quarters, and a classroom, all up to Virginia codes.



Hawaii Shelter 2: Student designers (left to right) Samantha Rutzinski, Christelle Kuangu, and Monica Rivera with their Hawaii shelter. (Ayah Elafy not pictured.)



Student designers (left to right) Grace Sale, Hannah Ferris, Lora Ellen Robinson, and Raella Papes with their Michigan shelter prototype.

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