

Wednesday, May 25, 2022 • USPS 387-780 • ourvalley.org • \$1.00

Man sought by police after shot fired in Radford

RADFORD - The Radford City Police Department is searching for a man in Radford after a shooting incident on Monday.

At approximately 11:07 a.m. on Monday, the police department received a report of a shot fired in the 200 block of West Main Street.

"Radford City Police Department responded to the scene and confirmed there was a single shot discharged from a firearm," said Jenni Wilder, Director of Communications for the City of Radford.

As of Monday afternoon, police were searching for, D'Andre Delvon Samuels, 32, of Fredericksburg, in connection with the

incident, which took place in an alley behind West Main Street businesses in Radford. Samuels is wanted on the following charges:

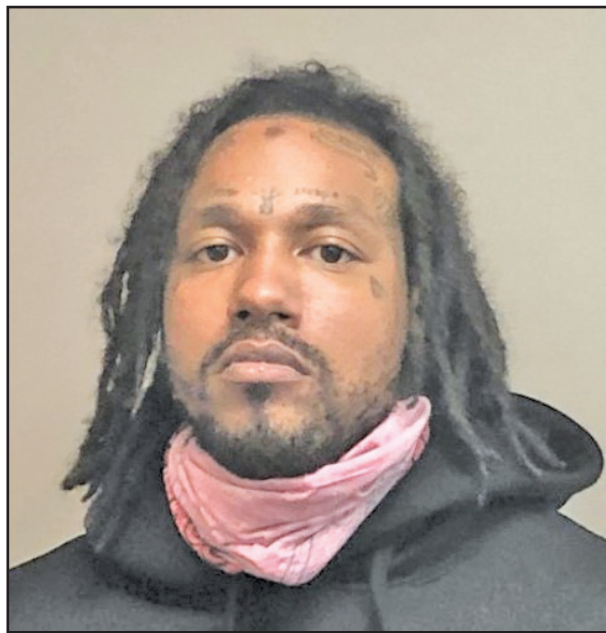
18.2-282-Brandishing Firearm

18.2-56.1-Reckless Handling of a Firearm

40.1-103-3 Counts of Child Endangerment

18.2-308.2-Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon

According to police, Samuels may be traveling in a Gold 2009 Chevrolet Equinox, with Virginia license plate number UAL6280. Citizens are advised to avoid making contact with Mr. Samuels and to contact Detective Cox at 540-267-3711 or Austin.Cox@radfordva.gov



D'Andre Delvon Samuels

with any information on Samuels' whereabouts.

The incident led to a shelter in place for all Radford City Public

Schools. School administrators sent out an alert notifying parents of the shelter in place shortly after the incident.

Radford school nutrition programs recognized by No Kid Hungry Virginia

RADFORD - The school nutrition teams for Belle Heth and McHarg elementary schools and Radford High and Dalton Intermediate schools have been recognized on the state level.

May 6 was National School Lunch Hero Day, and No Kid Hungry Virginia, a non-profit organization combating childhood hunger, took time to recognize the top nutrition programs in the state.

"Virginia's school nutrition staff are superheroes. Each and every day, they put on their capes and fight hunger in cafeterias around the Commonwealth," said a statement from No Kid Hungry Virginia. "Our future is stronger because of their passion and dedication. We asked people to tell us about the school lunch heroes in their communities, and we heard back from parents, teachers, principals, supervisors, and superintendents. The

nominations gave so much joy. They capture stories of program expansion, grace under pressure, taste tests, fun costumes, creative decorations, patience, kindness, courage, and cafeterias that feel like home."

Both of Radford City Public Schools' cafeterias were recognized in the 2022 National School Lunch Hero Day Virginia Hall of Fame.

"Please join us in giving your nearest school lunch hero a huge thank-you, hug, or high five for their role in ensuring that Virginia's students have the fuel they need to thrive, both in and out of the classroom."

No Kid Hungry is a national campaign run by Share Our Strength, a nonprofit working to solve problems of hunger and poverty in the United States and around the world. Share Our Strength launched No Kid Hungry in 2010.

Heather Bell



Jerry Beasley with Chuck Norris in 1979

PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Radford martial arts educator guests on 'With Good Reason'

Jerry Beasley began teaching karate and self-defense at Radford University back in 1974.

The demand for those classes was aided, in part, by the emergence of Chuck Norris and Joe Lewis on TV and in movies, and it inspired Beasley to institute an Asian martial arts minor at Radford. He taught the program until his retirement from the university in 2021.

The curriculum allowed Radford University students to delve into a variety of martial arts, including advanced karate, where they learn the standards, beginning with freestyle Kumite up to black belt.

The minor's multicultural self-defense principles course introduced students to applications of Japanese karate and jujitsu, Korean Tae Kwon Do, and hapkido and

Chinese kung fu and tai chi.

During his teaching career at Radford, Beasley became a world-renowned martial arts educator who four times received the Radford University College of Education and Human Development Outstanding Scholarly Activity Award.

Black Belt magazine once recognized him as "America's foremost martial arts educator," and because of his contribution to book publishing, Kick Illustrated magazine called Beasley "the published authority on American karate."

With a tenth-degree black belt in karate and as member of the Black Belt Magazine Hall of Fame, Beasley recently spoke about his more than four decades of teaching at Radford in a recorded interview

with the "With Good Reason" public radio program. His interview will air through Friday, May 27, on more than 60 radio stations across the United States.

Listeners in the New River Valley can hear the program as a podcast at withgoodreason.org.

The "With Good Reason" radio program is produced by Virginia Humanities for the Virginia Higher Education Broadcasting Consortium, which comprises all of Virginia's public colleges and universities.

The award-winning program is heard by an estimated 100,000 people each week on public radio stations in 33 states.

Chad Osborne
Radford University

Murder trial of former VT football player underway this week

The trial of a former Virginia Tech football player charged with the murder of a Blacksburg man is set to get underway this week. Isimemen Etute pleaded not guilty last week for the second-degree murder of Jerry Smith.

Etute admits he and the

victim had met for oral sex, but he did not know Smith was a man.

When the former player discovered he had been duped, in a fit of rage, he killed Smith.

Etute has been free on bond since the arrest. The jury trial is expected to last through Friday.

Carilion Clinic returns to pre-pandemic visitor policies

All Carilion Clinic facilities returned to pre-pandemic visitor policies on Monday, May 23, with exceptions for COVID-19 patients.

"Having family and friends at the bedside is a huge benefit for our patients, and we're excited to be able to offer that again," said Michael Abbott, senior vice president for hospital operations. "The safety of our staff and patients remains our top priority. Visitors will still be asked to mask, safety precautions like social distancing remain in place, and we continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19 should we need to make future adjustments."

Visitors should not visit a patient if they are sick, have

symptoms of COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone with known or suspected COVID-19 within the past 10 days. Screening signs are located at every entrance, and visitors are asked to review the instructions before entering to ensure it is safe for them to visit.

Visitors for patients confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19 are still restricted to no visitors for adults with the exception of end-of-life care, medical necessity, or patients in labor, and two parents or guardians for pediatric patients.

"Vaccines remain critical in ensuring that we minimize the spread of COVID-19 in our community," said Abbott.

Camp Invention's summer STEM program coming to Christiansburg area

Camp Invention®, a nationally recognized, nonprofit summer enrichment program, is coming to the following locations:

Montgomery County Public Schools the week of June 6 through June 9, 2022.

Radford University the week of June 20 through June 24, 2022.

A program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame® (NIHF) in partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Camp Invention challenges children in grades K-6 to tap into their natural curiosity and use their creativity to solve problems.

Through hands-on activities, Camp Invention promotes STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) learning; builds confidence, leadership, perseverance and resourcefulness; and encourages entrepreneurship, all in a fun and engaging environment.

Each year, the program features a new curriculum inspired by some of our nation's most world-changing inventors — the NIHF Hall of Famers. This year's Explore program encourages children to be confident in their ideas and to explore their innovative-

ness through hands-on activities including:

Robotic Aquatics™: Children will dive into cutting-edge ocean research as they adopt their own aquatic animals, design and patent aquatic plants, and take their new friend home in a mini tank.

NIHF's The Attic™: Campers will combine science and art to build their own robotic artist, engage in design thinking, make spin art, and learn how inventions can change the way people create.

Spacecation™: Children will discover real space exploration technology when they create

Spacepacks and Astro-Arm devices, mine an asteroid, and observe erupting ice volcanoes.

Marble Arcade™: Campers will experiment with the fun of physics, engineering, and gaming as they design, build, and test their own mega marble arcades.

The new Camp Invention program for 2022 has been developed with safety in mind. Programs will follow state and local guidelines to help provide a healthy, safe and fun environment.

"The core learning experience that my girls received and the inspiration to look at items innova-

tively, pushing the boundaries of their imagination, and bringing it to life was awe-inspiring," said a parent of 2021 campers. "They have benefited tremendously, learning they can make a difference in creating for the world they live in."

All local Camp Invention programs are facilitated and taught by certified educators who reside and teach in the community. Camp Invention serves 130,000 students every year and partners with more than 1,800 schools and districts across the nation. To register, visit invent.org/camp.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Through May 31:

Photography show and sale

During the month of May, Long Way Brewing is displaying photos that members of the Radford Photo Club have available for sale. Each photo is priced, some as low as \$25.00, and proceeds from the sales go to the Lamplighters, volunteer fundraisers for the Radford Public Library. Long Way Brewing is located at 501 Second St.

Wednesday, May 25:

Christiansburg Central Business District Committee meeting

The Christiansburg Central Business District Committee will meet at noon in the administrative conference room at town hall, 100 East Main St., in Christiansburg.

Lunch & Learn: Growing medicinal herbs

At the Blacksburg Library at noon. Herbalist Sarah Gibbs will show how to grow, harvest, and use several common medicinal plants. The program will include discussion about several plants that grow in yards and fields and some home gardeners can grow on their own.

Docent training day

Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Foundation is looking for docents for its two historic sites: The Alexander Black House & Cultural Center and St. Luke and Odd Fellows Hall. Learn what being a docent entails on May 25 at 2 p.m. at the Alexander Black House & Cultural Center. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

DMV Connect at the library

At the Jessie Peterman Memorial Library at 10 a.m. The Department of Motor Vehicles will be at the library providing most of their services. Walk-ins are welcome.

Thursday, May 26:

Scrabble tournament for literacy

The 14th Annual Scrabble Tournament for Literacy will be held at the German Club Manor on Virginia Tech's Blacksburg campus from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Radford City Mayor David Horton will serve as the emcee and local food offerings will be available.

Teams of three will play two games of Scrabble against two different teams with the scores from both games added together to determine the winner. Awards will be presented to the top scorer, the longest word, the highest score word, and the most original team name. Register as a team for \$100 or sign up as an individual for \$35 and the organization will provide a team to match up with. To register, go to www.lvnrv.org, email info@lvnrv.org, or call 540-382-7262.

DMV Connect at the library

At the Jessie Peterman Memorial Library at 1:30 p.m. The Department of Motor Vehicles will be at the library providing most of their services. Walk-ins are welcome.

DIY yarn chandeliers

At the Christiansburg Library at 2 p.m. Participants can create their own stylish yarn chandeliers using balloons, glue, cornstarch, and Vaseline. Projects will need to be taken home to dry for 24 hours.

Pokémon snap safari

At the Blacksburg Library at 3 p.m. All ages are welcome to take part in a Pokémon snap safari. Contact Pokémon Trainer Sally Stauffer sstauffer@mfrl.org with questions.

Sniffastic slime

At the Meadowbrook Public Library at 3 p.m. Create sweet smelling slime using two ingredients. Supplies will be provided. All ages are welcome. Contact spahl@mfrl.org for more information.

Friday, May 27:

Reception for "End of the Line" exhibit

Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Foundation's "End of the Line" exhibit

will be on display through June 25 at the Alexander Black House main galleries, 204 Draper Road SW, Blacksburg. A reception open to the public will be held on Friday, May 27, from 5 to 7 p.m. Admission is free. Exhibit hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. "End of the Line" is a multi-media exhibition by Bill Ratcliffe that examines the final destination for most consumed goods: the landfill. The exhibit allows for the viewing of sites rarely seen by the general public.

Minority business accelerator: SWaM Certification

At the offices of the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, 210 Laurel St. in Christiansburg and via Zoom at 10 a.m.

The chamber's MBA meeting will focus on how to apply for the SWaM application and the benefits of being certified as a business. Terri Welch, owner of Paint N' Fun and Wine & Design, will lead the presentation. The chamber encourages minority business owners to attend.

Friday, May 27; Monday, May 30

Radford City Offices closed

Radford's city offices will be closed on Friday, May 27, and Monday, May 30, for Memorial Day. The solid waste collection schedule is as follows: Friday, May 27 will be collected on Thursday, May 26, and the Monday, May 30, collection will be on Tuesday, May 31. Please have garbage ready for collection by 7:30 a.m. The drop center will be closed both days.

Monday, May 30:

MFRL closure

The Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library will be closed on Monday, May 30 for Memorial Day. All branches will be closed on Sundays from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

Thursday, June 2:

American Legion meeting

American Legion Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will meet at 7 p.m. at the VFW Post Home on 102 Watts St. in Radford. For further information, call 540-250-2283 or 540-239-9864.

Chamber Foundation annual bocce ball tournament and business-after-hours

At the Montgomery County Moose Lodge 1470 115 Farmview Road NW, Christiansburg from 2 to 7 p.m. The chamber foundation's bocce ball tournament offers great food, fun, and networking at <https://bit.ly/mccbocce2022>.

Also, the chamber will hold its Business After Hours gathering from 5 to 7 p.m. Opportunities to win prizes, including an Old Town brand kayak, will be plentiful. The price for raffle tickets is \$5 for one ticket and \$20 for five tickets. Email programs@montgomerycc.org for more details.

Saturday, June 4:

BMCF Annual gospel sing

Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Foundation's annual gospel sing will be held from noon to 6 p.m. on the Alexander Black House lawn, 204 Draper Road SW. Admission is free; donations are encouraged. Area choirs, soloists, and praise dancers will sing current and old-time gospel favorites. Everyone is welcome to bring an instrument and join in the group sings. The schedule for the musical groups is as follows: noon to 1 p.m.: Bob and Claudia Goldstein; 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.: the Glorylanders; 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.: Joann's This and That Singers; 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.: Simple Gifts; 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.: the Indian Run Gospel Trio; 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.: Alexis Johnson. The event is sponsored by the Virginia Tech Foundation.

Thursday, June 9:

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. The guild

welcomes all skill levels of quilters. For more information, call Anna Handy, 540 320 7791.

June 2022 Eggs & Issues: COVID after-action report

At Warm Hearth Village, 2387 Warm Hearth Drive, Blacksburg from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. Speakers from the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce will share a COVID after-action report on how the community has adapted during these unprecedented times. Invited speakers include Dr. Noelle Bissell, Director of the New River Health District; Bill Flattery, Vice President of Carilion Clinic's Western Region; Devin Tobin, COO of LewisGale Hospital Montgomery; and Kevin Byrd, Executive Director of the New River Valley Regional Commission. Admission is \$25 for chamber members and \$35 for non-members. Space is limited. Reservations are required by no later than Tuesday, June 7 at noon. Register at <https://bit.ly/june22eggs>. Register and pay online or contact programs@montgomerycc.org.

Tuesday, June 14:

Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant, 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy are invited to attend. For further information, call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

Saturday, June 18:

NAACP Juneteenth Commemoration

The local NAACP will celebrate Juneteenth, the traditional African-American commemoration of freedom from slavery from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Rosa Peters Playground, 300 Depot St. NE, Christiansburg. Music will be provided, and food will be available to purchase. The youth council will sell hot dogs, hamburgers, drinks, and other snacks. An ice cream truck courtesy of Freedom First Credit Union will provide free ice cream. Proceeds benefit local youth educational activities and programs. The program begins at noon, followed by swimming, children's games, a silent auction, a raffle, and door prizes. Various talents will be shared by youth and community members. Information booths from the NAACP and other community organizations will be on hand. Any organization desiring to have a booth may contact info@mrfnaacp.org or call our Branch at 540-382-6751. Admission is free.

Friday, June 24:

BMCF Sunset Rhythms 2022

The Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Center kicks off its summer concert series from 7 to 8:30 a.m. on the lawn of the Alexander Black House with singer/songwriter Grace Campbell. Spoons shaved ice truck will have treats for sale. Guests are welcome to bring a picnic or other snacks. Tickets are \$5 for adults. Children ages 13 and under are free. All proceeds help support the work of Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Center. For more information, visit www.blacksburg-museum.org.

Ongoing:

Radford-Fairlawn Daily Bread volunteer names

Radford Fairlawn Daily Bread (RFDB), and its sister program, Meals on Wheels, are searching for the names of everyone who has volunteered with either service. Anyone who knows of past volunteers, especially those over the programs' first two decades, should contact feherzog66@gmail.com or by mail, addressed to Herzog, at RFDB, P. O. Box 3323, Radford 24143.

Free GED classes with NRCC

At the Radford Public Library; 9 a.m. to noon. Free GED prep classes are offered by New River Community College in the library's community room. Call (540) 674-3682 for additional information.

Grab-and-Go Meals

At the Meadowbrook Public Library. Free grab-and-go lunch and snack meals. Children and youth 18 and younger can come and get a week's worth of lunches and snacks. Sponsored by Feeding Southwest Virginia.

Glencoe Mansion Calls for Art for Mary Draper Ingles Show

Glencoe Mansion is calling for art for its July through August 2022 Gallery Exhibit, "Follow Her Journey," a multi-artist show themed on Mary Draper Ingles. The mansion will sponsor an opening reception during the Mary Draper Ingles Festival of July 29-31. Artwork should reflect or be based on the life and times of Mary Draper Ingles including depictions of local landmarks (for example, Ingles Farm, the Cultural Heritage Park, Ingles Tavern and ferry site), and Colonial style art. All fine arts and fine craft media will be considered. Artists may submit up to three artworks for consideration. Applications will be accepted through 5 p.m. on June 3. Participation, which is subject to acceptance, is open to artists in and around the NRV area, ages 16 and up. Artists will be notified via email no later than June 15. For more information, go to www.GlencoeMansion.org or email Gallery Coordinator at art@glencoemansion.org.

ONLINE AUCTION

Ends Thursday June 2nd at 4 PM
Apartment Building for Sale in Radford VA!
608 Pendleton St., Radford VA 24141

Bid Now at VaAuctionPro.com



You have the opportunity to purchase a great income producing property in Radford VA. This property showcases a 6 unit apartment complex on .413 acres. The building has 3 levels with 2 units on each level. Each level has 2,175 sq. ft. and each unit has 1,031 sq. ft. (not including stairs). Each unit has 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, living room, dining room and kitchen. The units have the same layout with carpet and linoleum flooring, private decks in rear, and washer/dryer hookups in the kitchen. The building is brick with a shingle roof and heat pumps. There is ample parking and 2 trash bins. Property has good rental history and is in the City of Radford close to Radford University, Fairlawn, the New River, Bisset Park and Radford Schools. The tenants pay utilities and units have their own electric meters. The building is on public water and sewer. You can find rental financial information in the Bidder Pack.

Preview Dates - Saturday May 21st at 10 AM
and Friday May 27th at 4 PM

Zoning - Property is zoned R-4, Multi - Family Residential Zoning District

Terms - 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$10,000 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. Please note that during the last two minutes of bidding, if a new bid is placed, the clock is automatically extended an additional two minutes. Download Bidder Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract and maps at VAuctionPro.com

Contact Broker & Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at
540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com

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RECRUITMENT FOR RESEARCH STUDY

Virginia Tech researchers are recruiting participants for a research study about commuting experiences (IRB-19-1077). Participation will consist of completion of an online opt-in survey (approximately 30 minutes) and an eight-week daily survey period (two approximately 10 minute online surveys per day; Monday - Friday) during which participants will have in-vehicle video and driving performance recording equipment installed into their personal vehicle and wear a device that tracks physical activity and sleep. Participants may receive \$30 - \$500 depending on the extent of their participation. For more information and to determine your eligibility for the study, please contact Dr. Charles Calderwood (540-231-5870; WSRLab-g@vt.edu), Virginia Tech Department of Psychology.

OPINION

Home Country: Cowboy truck air conditioning

“Now Mamie,” said Windy Wilson, “the reason I expurgated myself over here to your place was to see how you was a-doin’ in this year heat.”

Mamie Dilworth refilled his iced tea glass, smiled at the old cowboy

and camp cook. “Well, that’s awfully nice of you, Windy. I’m fine. Tired of this heat, just the same as everyone else around here.”

“I hear ya, and thanks for the tea. It helps a guy cool down, refrigeration-

ally speakin’ a-course.”

“You’re welcome. What are you and Ramses up to these hot days?”

Ramses was Windy’s dog, so named because of his tendency to leave pyramids in the backyard. Windy claims he’s

an Egyptian shepherd, but hasn’t been able to provide any registration papers yet.

“Pickup truck therapy, you know. Works put-near ever time it’s tried. Long’s a guy don’t run outa gas, he’s okay. Cool right down

on a hot ol’ day like this one.”

“I didn’t know your pickup had air conditioning, Windy.”

“Mostly it’s a cowboy 260 air conditioner,” Windy explained. “You get your shirt and your dog wet, roll down

two windows and go sixty miles an hour.”

Pick up “Home Country: Drama, dreams and laughter from the American heartland” www.lpdpress.com.

by Slim Randles

WalletHub: Virginia is nation’s best state for military retirees

The personal finance website WalletHub points out that as military personnel retire, whether they faced active combat or not, they may find it difficult to readjust to civilian life. For example, the U.S. is still dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, which has killed more people than the Civil War did.

Even without a pandemic,

the website says, retirement from the military is always difficult with many retirees facing major struggles including Post-traumatic Stress Disorder, disability and homelessness. These veterans must also consider how state tax policies on military benefits vary, along with the relative friendliness of different job markets and other socioeco-

conomic factors, when choosing a state in which to settle down.

To assist veterans with their decisions, WalletHub compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia based on their ability to provide a comfortable military retirement. The website’s analysis used a data set of 29 key metrics, ranging from veterans per capita to number of VA

health facilities to job opportunities for veterans.

The website’s rankings placed Virginia as the best state in the entire country for military retirees.

The top ten states for military retirees, as ranked by WalletHub, are as follows: 1. Virginia 2. Florida 3. Minnesota 4. Maryland 5. New Hampshire

6. Alaska 7. South Carolina 8. Maine 9. South Dakota 10. Connecticut.

The worst places for military retirees as ranked by WalletHub are as follows: 42. Illinois 43. Iowa 44. California 45. Mississippi 46. New Mexico 47. Washington 48. Oregon 49. District of Columbia 50. Nevada 51. Vermont.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

On repealing the commonwealth’s tax on groceries

Virginia has historically been a good state in which to

live, work, and run a business. That status has ebbed and

flowed over the years but has generally remained true.

However, we’re one of only 13 states that taxes groceries, the basic essentials that every family needs. And so, it is the most regressive tax that one can come up with because those who can least afford it pay the same as everybody else.

The commonwealth is at a historic crossroads where there is a unique opportunity to relieve the tax burden of all Virginians. The governor and

general assembly have tentatively agreed to repeal the tax, but the process remains blockaded by the current lack of a state budget. The House and Senate have slightly different approaches, but the end goal remains the same; to repeal the onerous grocery tax.

The wholesale price of food has seen a tremendous increase. Just this week the announcement came that producer prices rose 11% last month. That increase has

caused the retail prices to increase all the way across the board. However, the most frightening part is that the wholesale price index captures inflation quicker than the retail price index and gives a very strong indication as to where consumer prices are headed. That is not good news for consumers or retailers.

Repealing the grocery tax doesn’t really help retailers in any way. What it does do is provide relief at the cash regis-

ter every single time shoppers pay for their orders. It allows them to keep more of their hard-earned money. The time to act is now.

by Steven C. Smith, president and chief executive officer of Food City. Steven C. Smith serves as president and chief executive officer for Food City, a retail supermarket chain operating 138 locations in Southeast Kentucky, Southwest Virginia, East Tennessee, North Georgia, and Alabama.

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Christiansburg High School Class of 2022 graduates

Christiansburg High School held its commencement exercises for the Class of 2022 Saturday, May 21, at 10 a.m.

Two hundred and forty-six seniors received their diplomas from CHS Principal Tony Deibler and assistant principals Jodi Bailey, Courtney A. Craggett, Shane M. Guynn, and Dr. Chris D. Hewitt.

Included among the graduates were 46 distinguished scholars, 16 scholars, and 27 honor graduates.

The senior class officers were President Baylee K. Reasor, Vice President Jackson W. Hatcher, Secretary Stephanie L. Taylor, and Treasurer Harbalbeen Rai.

Baylee K. Reasor delivered the wel-

coming address on behalf of the Class of 2022. Natalie Jones spoke on “As We Go On.”

During the school year, the Montgomery County School Board honored Seniors of the Month. They were Sean L. Herndon (September 2021), Natalie R. Miller (October 2021), Nathaniel D. Birchfield (November 2021), Joci R. Shelton (December 2021), Theron M. Davis (January 2022), Kenna M. Smith (February 2022), Jackson W. Hatcher (March 2022), Jordyn K. Harris (April 2022), and Tyrique T. Taylor (May 2022).

Serving as the senior class sponsor were Tim W. Cromer, Mallory K. Bacalis, Carla S. Corvin, Julie A. Dunn,

Carrie G. Lyons, Linda L. Martin, Kris M. Meller, David U. Miller, E. Saville-Brock, Jessica D. Shannon, Mandi B. Steele, Paula B. Tabarini, and Gayle C. Webster.

Serving on the senior awards committee and responsible for determining which seniors received which awards were Mallory K. Bacalis, Courtney A. Craggett, Tim W. Cromer, G. Tony Deibler, Julie A. Dunn, Carrie G. Lyons, Linda L. Martin, Kris M. Meller, Jessica D. Shannon, Cathay Sweeney, Paula B. Tabarini, and Keith A. Walters.

Seventy-eight various awards and scholarships were presented to members of the graduating class.

Blacksburg’s Beliveau Farm sets full summer schedule of events

Beliveau Farm, 3899 Eakin Farm Rd. in Blacksburg, has set a full calendar

of events in the months ahead.

June 3, July 1, and Aug. 5, the farm will present First Fridays Wine and Tapas. An appetizer, entree, and dessert will be paired with Beliveau wines. Tickets are \$39.99 per person, and dinner starts at 7 p.m. Reservations are required. Call 540-961-0505 to reserve a spot. Other upcoming dates and themes are 6/3/22 Italian inspired; 7/1/22 Mexican fiesta; and 8/5/22 Southern home cooking.

Friday nights at the farm is another seasonal free live music playing from 6 to 8 p.m. The kitchen will close at 8 p.m. A bonfire will burn as the farm is able to. All ages are welcome and dogs are allowed outside.

Sunday, June 19 and 26 and Sunday July 3 & 10, the farm will present its 14th Annual Lavender Festival. On June 19 & 26, and July 3 & 10, Beliveau will celebrate by hosting an array of local craft vendors, live music, lavender food (and beer) specials, as

well as lavender products for sale, and educational lavender talks. Admission for persons 12 and older is \$12 and includes a souvenir wine glass. Tickets may be purchased online at BeliveauFarm.com. Admission for persons ages 2 through 11 is \$5 (no wine glass included) and may be purchased only at the gate the day of. Children under 2 are free. Dogs are welcome outside. Anyone interested in being a vendor can contact wine@beliveauestate.com for an application.

CROSSWORD
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9 10 11
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- 1. 007 Connery
- 2. References
- 3. 007 Connery
- 4. Extremely high frequency
- 5. Presides over meetings (abbr.)
- 6. Daily time units (abbr.)
- 7. Cagiva ___ motorcycle
- 8. Actress Farrow
- 9. Study of poetic meter
- 10. Father of Paris
- 11. Ceremonial staffs
- 12. Asian nut for chewing
- 13. Russian pancake served with caviar
- 14. Machine gun from the air
- 15. Large Australian flightless bird
- 16. The communion table
- 17. As fast as can be done (abbr.)
- 18. His razor
- 19. Before
- 20. Father
- 21. Hall of Fame (abbr.)
- 22. Doctor of philosophy
- 23. Cologne
- 24. Constitution Hall org.
- 25. Black tropical Am. cuckoo
- 26. Hall of Fame (abbr.)
- 27. CLUES DOWN
- 28. Diversifies
- 29. Constitution Hall org.
- 30. Razer author 14th C
- 31. Podetiums
- 32. Maple sugar fluid
- 33. Frankenberg river
- 34. A corp.’s first stock offer to the public
- 35. Feel ill
- 36. 12th state
- 37. The premier bike race
- 38. Not good
- 39. State of annoyance
- 40. S. China seaport
- 41. Bengal quince
- 42. Provide the means
- 43. A large and imposing house
- 44. Excessively fat
- 45. Spars
- 46. Former wives
- 47. Repeat
- 48. Author's initials
- 49. On top
- 50. Identicalness
- 51. 2002 Olympic state
- 52. Tease or ridicule
- 53. Arrived extinct
- 54. Opposite of begin
- 55. Ol’ Blue Eye’s initials
- 56. South Am. nation
- 57. Type of salamander
- 58. S. China seaport
- 59. Woman (French)
- 60. 007’s Fleming
- 61. ___ Domingo
- 62. A French abbot
- 63. Gorse genus
- 64. An uproarious party
- 65. Point midway between E and SE
- 66. A waterproof raincoat
- 67. Spanish be
- 68. Of I

PETS OF THE WEEK



Gully is a friendly young fella ready for a forever home! He loves attention and will take a good head scratch any time! He would get along well with a doggie playmate or older kids to pal around with. Come meet Gully at the Animal Care and Adoption Center.



Meet Luna! She is accustomed to the good life! An indoor-only cat, she will even snuggle under a blanket to take a nap and she enjoys her share of treats. This big girl may be timid at first, but warms up once she gets to know you. Is Luna your purrfect match? Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center to meet her.

Virginia Tech Women's Club announces 2022 scholarships for women students

The Virginia Tech Women's Club announced the recipients of its 2022 Scholarship Awards on April 27. The awardees received \$1800 each and came from a wide range of academic disciplines such as engineering, management, life sciences, biological sciences and wellness studies, environment studies, and social sciences.

Affiliated with Virginia Tech University, the Virginia Tech Women's Club recognizes women students who are veterans and first-generation college-goers besides having other regular achievements such as a good GPA, participation in extracurricular activities, and volunteering. The application process begins in the fall of any given year, and the scholarships are granted

in the spring of the following year.

Kenny Brooks, women's basketball coach at VT, was the keynote speaker at the luncheon. He underscored the values of the club: friendship, scholarship, education, and service. Sharing the values taught by the strong women in his family, Brooks said that he invests in a culture that values character over talent. His team broke records in 2021-2022 that included producing the all-time highest scorer in VT history.

The club extends a friendly hand to other community organizations in the area, including the NRV Women's Resource Center, a shelter for victims of domestic violence that includes women, children and the elderly. The club supports and col-

laborates with the Community Foundation of the New River Valley whose mission is to invest in the local community through charitable giving, innovative programs and collaborations.

The club was started 50 years ago to enable the spouses of VT faculty to find a community. Today its reach has expanded to include all women in the NRV area, and it actively welcomes new members within its fold. The club collaborates with all women in the NRV area to strengthen community initiatives and to support one another.

To learn more about the Virginia Tech Women's Club, visit <https://www.virginiatechwomenclub.org/>. To join the club visit <https://www.virginiatechwomenclub.org/contact>.



VT women students were the recipients of the Virginia Tech Women's Club Scholarship Awards at the annual spring luncheon.

OBITUARIES

Elliott, Samuel Douglas

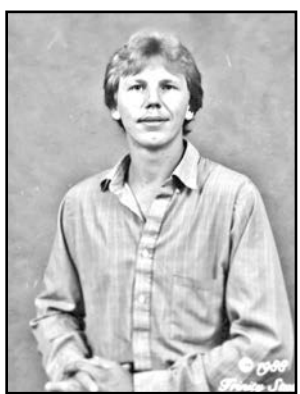
Samuel Douglas Elliott, known lovingly as Sammy, 61, of Blacksburg, made his passage to Heaven surrounded by immense love and care on Sunday, May 15, 2022.

He was born on Jan. 25, 1961, to Linda Elouise Linkous and the late Paul Edgar Elliott. Sammy was an adored and beloved son, brother, uncle, godfather, and friend to many throughout his life.

He was preceded in death by grandmothers Fannie Elliott and Kate Linkous and his brothers David and Joe Elliott.

He is survived by his siblings, Betty Elliott, Donna Elliott, and Jimmy Elliott; special nieces Amanda, Katie, Britney, Annemarie, Sarah, Hannah, Maleenia, Ashely and Crystal; special nephews Jeremy, Braden, David, and Joseph, whom he lovingly named "Little Joseph"; great-niece and great-nephews, Riley, Kayson, Owen, and Major; a goddaughter Alisha White, his one true love, Ruth Anne Harvey; dear friends Erama Whitlock and Linda Mize; special cousins Mike Elliott and Brenda Richardson; cousins Teresa, Dean, Kathy, Tim, and Harold and many other cousins and close friends, without whose love and support his journey would not have been possible.

Sammy was a talented and skilled painter. He had an uncanny ability to walk into a room and see what needed to



be done, what wasn't done, and how to fix it. That skill set carried Sammy all the way to the end; pointing out things in his hospital rooms that needed to be corrected and making sure everyone knew it.

Sammy was a dancer who loved to boogie with the best, and he shared that love with all of his family and friends. He loved his family with a deep love,

treasured children as they should be, cared for animals of all kinds, and knew what friendship meant, giving it freely to all that he loved.

He had unshakable faith in his Lord and Savior with complete trust that he would be standing at the gates of Heaven, being welcomed by all who had passed before him. He had made a peace with all that life had given him and fought up until the end with grace, will, and faith.

The family thanks each of the ICU doctors and nurses at LewisGale Montgomery for their care and genuine outpouring of love shown to Sammy and his loved ones throughout some of the most difficult times. Your genuine care for him will never be forgotten.

Funeral arrangements were provided by McCoy Funeral Home in Blacksburg on Monday, May 23, 2022. To contribute to funeral costs, make donations directly to McCoy Funeral Home in the name of Samuel Elliott.

Neighbors, Samuel Hope

Samuel Hope Neighbors, 88, of Blacksburg, died Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at his home.

He was born in Salem on Sept. 7, 1933, to the late William and Mabel Shaffer Neighbors.

He was also preceded in death by his wife, Elizabeth Price Neighbors.

He is survived by his daughters and son-in-law, Karen Worrell, Jeanette and John Wiggert, and Sherry Neighbors; a son, Mike Neighbors; grandchildren Traci Worrell, Hope Worrell, David



Neighbors, Jessica Wiggert, and Jamie Wiggert; six great-grandchildren; and a sister, Delores Hall

Funeral services were conducted Sunday, May 22, 2022, in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Dennis Kinnan officiating. Interment was held privately at Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Christiansburg. The family received friends Sunday

afternoon prior to the service at McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Drive S.W. Blacksburg.

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CITY OF RADFORD, VIRGINIA

Notice is hereby given; the Radford City Council will hold public hearings on June 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located at 10 Robertson Street, Radford, Virginia.

Pursuant to Code of Virginia, Title 15.2, Article 2 Section 15.2-2006 et seq., the purpose of the public hearings are to receive comments regarding a request from Price Williams to vacate seven (7) portions of unimproved public right of way areas identified as:

- A) Northeast side of Tyler Avenue – Between Rock Road and the Food City Fuel Entrance. Approx. 0.782 acre.
- B) Northeast side of Tyler Avenue – Between the Food City Entrance and corner of Parcel 28-(1)-18 Approx. 0.522 acre.
- C) Northeast side of Tyler Avenue – Between the corner of parcel 28-(3)-18 and Auburn Ave. Approx. 0.426 acre.
- D) Northeast side of Tyler Avenue – Between Auburn Ave. and Parcel 4-(12)-1. Approx. 0.875 acre.
- E) Southwest side of Tyler Avenue – Between the Super 8 motel entrance south to the corner of Parcel 28-(2)-11A Approx. 0.503 acre.
- F) Northeast side of Berkley Williams Dr. – Between East Main St. and 20' Unnamed Alley Approx. 0.034 acre.
- G) Southeast Side of Arlington Street - Between Kent and Parcel 9-(5)-Sec 2-20&21 Approx. 0.029 acre.

Copies of the application, together with the plats of the properties to be vacated, are available for review in the City Manager's Office located at 10 Robertson Street.

Montgomery County receives national awards from National Association of Counties

WASHINGTON – Montgomery County has been recognized with two achievement awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo). The awards honor innovative, effective county government programs that strengthen services for residents.

NACo recognized Montgomery County for two programs: XComms Group and the Animal Care and Adoption Center's Return to Home Program.

"Our dedicated employees are committed to public service and work hard daily responding to opportunities and challenges in an effort to help our community be such a great place to both live and work," said Montgomery County Administrator Craig Meadows. "I'm proud of the innovative responses our employees have implemented to challenges they faced and the national recognition they earned as a result of those efforts."

The XComms Group (short for Extended Communicators Group) promotes intergovernmental cooperation and collaboration, addressing internal and external communication needs and gaps. In July of 2021, the county's public information office identified communication partners in various departments, along with constitutional offices and affiliated agencies to meet monthly and share potential story ideas and news items, as well as to learn of upcoming news and stories. This allows all entities to support the various communication needs of Montgomery County, both internally and externally, by sharing news and stories through the various communication vehicles to which the group has access.

The result has been an active and en-

gaged XComms Group that is responsible for over 50 stories and news items either completed or currently in process, as well as new processes to enhance internal communication and overall efficiency within the county.

In 2021, the Animal Care and Adoption Center launched an online lost and found reporting service, which links to the center's software and allows for more eyes-on information and photos of found and missing animals more quickly. In turn, this increases the speed that animals are returned to their owners. The result has been an increase in the number of animals being returned to their owners by the finder, or by Animal Control using Animal Care and Adoption Center staff and the online reporting system as a facilitator.

NACo President Larry Johnson said, "All across the country, counties are working tirelessly to support residents and drive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. This year's achievement award-winning programs showcase how counties work every day to build healthy, safe, and thriving communities."

Nationally, awards are given in 18 different categories that reflect the vast, comprehensive services counties provide. The categories include children and youth, criminal justice and public safety, county administration, information technology, health, and civic engagement.

Started in 1970, NACo's annual achievement awards program is designed to recognize county government innovations. Each nominee is judged on its own merits and not against other applications received.

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Contact – Broker & Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com;
You can also contact Danielle Dillon Realtor at 540-597-7268 or email ddillonrealtor@gmail.com

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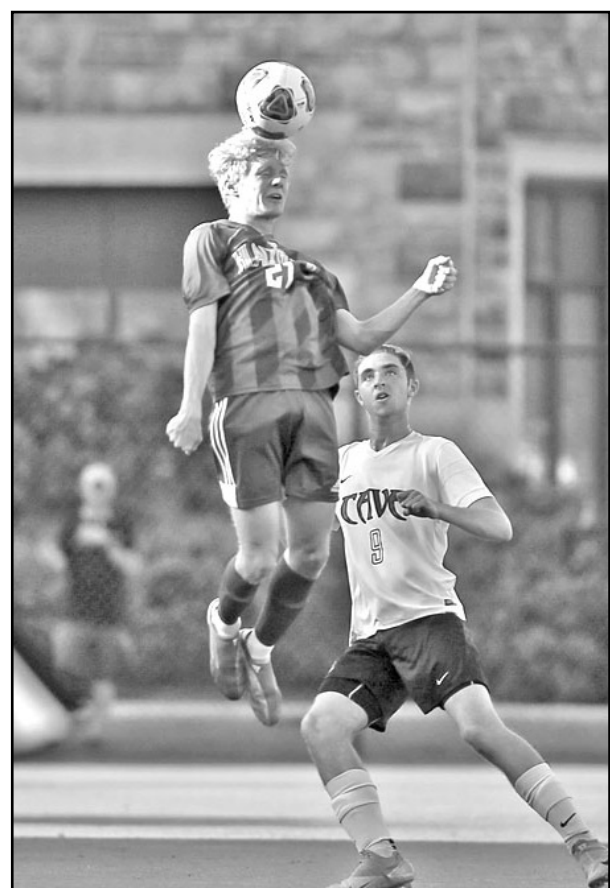
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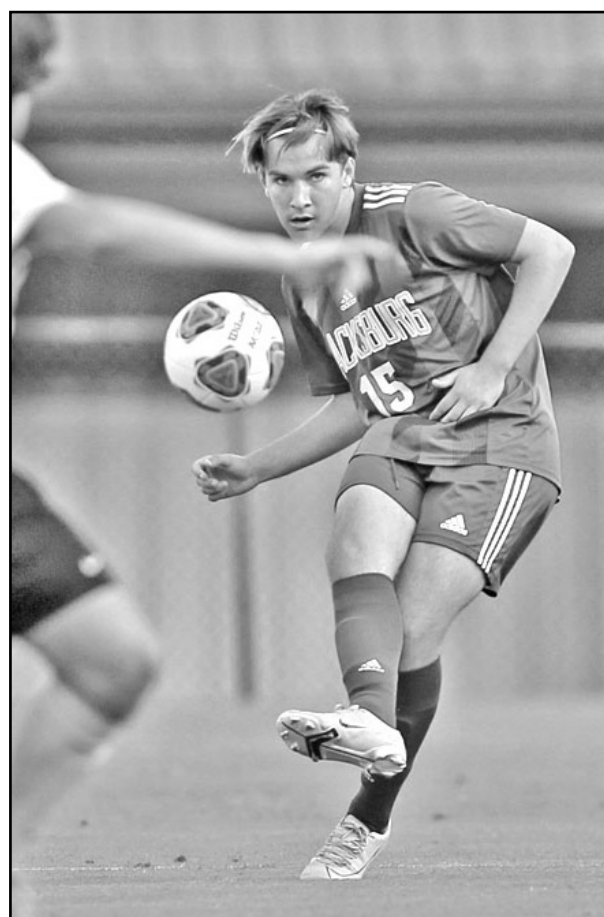
Blacksburg boys win River Ridge soccer championship



Blacksburg's Rowan Porter redirects a Cave Spring pass during the River Ridge District championship match Thursday night at VT's Thompson Field. Blacksburg won 1-0.



Blacksburg senior Luke Milauskas pressures the Cave Spring defense during Thursday's district championship match.



Blacksburg defender David Huxtable passes the ball forward for the Bruin offense against Cave Spring. PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Former Bruin Ben Fleming tops in ACC steeplechase

Virginia Tech's Ben Fleming captured gold in the men's 3,000-meter steeplechase at the 2022 ACC Outdoor Track and Field Championships at Morris Williams Stadium on the campus of Duke University last weekend. The redshirt senior from Blacksburg held off a valiant effort by Yasin Sado of UVA to clinch the Hokies' third straight outdoor title in the event with a personal record and a facility record of 8:31.97. Fleming's performance was the second-fastest time in program history and shaved nearly six seconds off his previous best time.

Former teammate Fitsum Seyoum, who had been hyping Fleming up all season for the event, won gold in 2019 and 2021. In addition to Fleming's big night, Ben Nibbelink recorded a personal record, clocking an 8:41.58 to place fifth in the steeplechase. He trimmed over eight seconds off his previous best time and now ranks third all-time at Tech in the event. Behind his season-best effort of 61' 7.5", Tyus Jones placed fourth in the men's shot put. Jones's mark was a season best. He set the school record in the event last season.



Redshirt senior Ben Fleming (middle) made it three straight for Virginia Tech athletes in the steeplechase at last weekend's ACC outdoor meet. The former Blacksburg High School runner captured gold in the event at Duke University. PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

NCAA Tournament: Lady Hokies softball defeats Kentucky twice to rally from loser's bracket

The third-seeded Virginia Tech softball team will host the program's first-ever NCAA Super Regional next weekend, welcoming 14th-seeded Florida to Tech Softball Park for a best-of-three series.

The Hokies claimed the Blacksburg Regional title in dramatic fashion this weekend, defeating Kentucky twice on Sunday to reach the second weekend of the NCAA Tournament in back-to-back seasons.

It marked the second season in a row the Hokies (37-19) have made it to super regionals, but the first time ever hosting one. Tech will face No.-14 Florida (46-16) this weekend after the Gators went 3-0 in Gainesville and outscored their opponents 28-2.

Tickets for the Blacksburg Super Regional went on sale Monday, May 23. Fans can purchase either an all-session pass that includes every game or secure seats on a single-game basis while supplies last. Both reserved and general admission seating will be offered with re-

served seats limited to all-session passes. Reserved all-session tickets are \$40 while general admission all-session tickets are \$20. Reserved seats for single sessions are \$20 while general admission tickets for single sessions are \$10.

VT baseball, softball dominate All-Star teams, sweep Coach of Year honors

Eight Virginia Tech baseball student-athletes – a program record – have garnered year-end, all-conference praise with Hokies' skipper John Szefc being named the ACC Coach of the Year. VT head softball coach Pete D'Amour was named the league's Coach of the Year. Gavin Cross, Drue Hackenberg, Jack Hurley and Tanner Schobel represented Tech on the All-ACC First Team, marking the first time since 2003 when the Hokies were still in the Big East Conference that they produced four or more first team honorees. Cade Hunter followed with his placement onto the All-ACC Second Team while Nick Biddison and Griffin Green re-

ceived spots on the All-ACC Third Team. In addition to his All-ACC First Team status, Hackenberg accompanied fellow rookie Carson DeMartini on the ACC All-Freshman Team that showcased the league's top 12 rookies. All honorees were recognized during the presentation of the 2022 ACC baseball postseason awards on Monday's episode of ESPN/ACC Network's Packer and Durham show. With the honor, Szefc became Tech's first-ever conference Coach of the Year honoree. After the Hokies were picked in February to finish sixth in the ACC Coastal Division – and had started 0-4 during conference play in March – he set Tech on a remarkable

run to clinch its first league crown, winning each of its final nine ACC series and 30 of its last 35 regular season games. Under Szefc's leadership, the Hokies spent five consecutive weeks ranked inside D1Baseball's Top 10 this season, climbing to No. 3 or higher in each of the six leading college baseball polls. Having guided Tech to a program-record 19 ACC victories, Szefc has the Hokies seeded No. 1 in this week's ACC Baseball Championship and on the verge of hosting its first NCAA Regional since 2013. Over on the softball field, head softball coach Pete D'Amour has been named the ACC Coach of the Year. Senior Keely Ro-

chard has been named the league's Pitcher of the Year and pitcher Emma Lemley was voted the Freshman of the Year. The Hsoftball Hokies had a conference-high 11 members named to the All-ACC teams. For the second straight season, Rocharad earned Pitcher of the Year honors after ending the 2022 conference season with a perfect 15-0 record. The senior made 17 appearances over the ACC season with a 1.67 ERA in 96.1 innings pitched. She struck out 132 batters, allowing only 23 earned runs and a .191 opponent batting average. Lemley made a big impact in the circle for the Hokies, being named to the All-Freshman Team and earning Freshman of the Year honors after finish-

ing the conference season with a 6-2 record with two saves. The right-hander had three shutouts in ACC play, including then-No. 14/9 Clemson, Louisville, and Boston College to clinch the regular season championship. Along with Rocharad and Lemley, outfielder Emma Ritter and designated player Meredith Slaw were named First Team All-ACC. Slaw was huge for the Hokies in ACC play, hitting .477 over 19 games. She slammed five home runs and three doubles with an .886 slugging percentage. Ritter was one of the Hokies most consistent players at the plate, hitting .414 on the season and leading the team with 36 RBI. She struck out only twice in 133 at-bats, making her one of

the toughest batters in the nation to strike out. Four Hokies made the All-ACC Second Team: Cameron Fagan, Mackenzie Lawter, Morgan Overaitis and Breckley Bennett, Kelsey Brown, and Darby Trull made the Third Team. Peck and Lemley also made the ACC All-Freshman Team.

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Big Rig Racing hits Motor Mile pavement



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MOTOR MILE SPEEDWAY

Justin Ball won the second Fast Big Rig race this weekend at Motor Mile Speedway.



Zach Patterson took the Enduro checkered flag at Motor Mile Speedway.



John Ketron stands in the winner's circle for the Pure4 Division.

Saturday night, Motor Mile Speedway welcomed the "Fass Big Rig Racing Series" to the track.

Fass Big Rigs are a regional big-rig racing series that brings the thrill and diesel smoke of big rig racing to the Southeastern United States.

While the drivers of the trucks were happy to be at the track, they had heavy hearts with the absence of one of the series founders, Brian Madsen, who died from cancer on May 5. This was the first event they had participated in since his passing.

At the beginning of the race, his daughter was connected to the loud-

speaker by phone and gave the guys the command to start their engines.

The trucks had two twin races with Scott Treadway winning the first race and Justin Ball taking the checkered flag for the second. Motor Mile Speedway also hosted a visit from "Bone Shaker," a giant jet truck that shot flames out over 60 feet and demonstrated its power by burning a car down on the infield of the track.

That was just one of many demonstrations given over the weekend. Motor Mile also hosted a race for the U-Car and Pure 4 divisions with

John Ketron winning in the Pure-4 division and Cary Thomason winning for the U-Cars. The night also included a fan favorite "Enduro" race, racing's most affordable class, that at first sight looks like a demolition derby is about to happen.

But indeed, it was a race.

Motor Mile Speedway will be racing again, Saturday, May 28, with a visit from the Carolina Pro Late Model Series, racing a 100-lap feature, and the Caroline Crate Modified Series racing 65 laps. The speedway's Super Streets will race a pair of twin 30-lap features.



Fawns born from May through July are intentionally left alone by their mothers to avoid leading predators to them. They are not "orphaned." Rather, does return several times each day to move and/or to feed the fawns. The best way to handle a fawn in such a situation is to leave it alone.

Outdoor Report: If you find a fawn, leave it alone

It's that time of year again when white-tailed deer fawns are showing up in yards and hayfields, and concerned citizens want to know how to help. In almost all cases, the best way to help is to simply give the fawn space and leave it alone.

Concerned people sometimes pick up animals that they think are orphaned. Most such "orphans" that good-intentioned citizens "rescue" every spring should have been left alone. Most wild animals will not abandon their young, but they do leave them alone for long periods of time.

Fawns, born from May through July, are purposely left alone by their mothers. Female deer, called does, stay away from the fawns to avoid leading predators to their location. The white-spotted coat camouflages a fawn as it lies motionless in vegetation. Young fawns generally will not try to run away when they are approached.

Does will return several times each day to move and/or feed their young. You probably will not see the doe at all since she only stays to feed the fawn for just a few minutes before leaving it alone again. If less than 24 hours have passed since a fawn has been "rescued," the

fawn should be taken back and released at the exact same location where it was found. After returning the fawn, immediately leave the area and do not wait for the doe to return. The doe will not come back for the fawn if a human is nearby.

If a wild animal has been injured or truly orphaned, do not take matters into your own hands. You may locate a licensed wildlife rehabilitator by calling the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) toll-free wildlife conflict helpline at 1-855-571-9003, 8:00AM-4:30PM, Monday through Friday or visit the Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator section of the DWR website.

Raising a wild animal in captivity is illegal unless you have a DWR wildlife rehabilitation permit. Each animal's nutritional, housing, and handling requirements are very specific and must be met if they have any chance of survival. With even the best professional care possible, the survival rate of rehabilitated fawns and many other animals is very low. The best advice for someone who wants to help wildlife is to keep it wild. Once people interfere, we reduce the opportunity for animals to receive natural care and we increase the risk of harming our wildlife heritage.

RU basketball lands graduate transfer guard

Radford head men's basketball coach Darris Nichols has announced the addition of graduate transfer guard Onyebuchi Ezeakudo. He will join the Highlanders for the 2022-23 season following four seasons with the ACC's Pittsburgh Panthers.

"Onye is a high-character individual who is a tremendous story of perseverance and hard work," said Nichols. "He has competed at the highest level of college basketball and had to earn every minute he played on the court. He brings four years of experience along with the ability to defend and make shots at a high level."

Ezeakudo walked on to the Panthers' squad in December of his freshman year, forgoing several D3 and NAIA scholarship offers to take on a different challenge.

He has played in 56 games, including 13 starts, thus far in his collegiate career with the 2021-22 season being his best.

The Fort Wayne, Ind., native appeared in all 32 games for Head Coach Jeff Capel with 12 starts.

Ezeakudo averaged 2.1 points and 1.7 rebounds across 18.7 minutes per game from the point-guard position. He added 20 steals and shot a strong 38.3% from three-point range.

His single-game career highs include 11 points against Syracuse (1/25/22), six rebounds at Boston College (1/30/22), and four assists at Wake Forest (2/2/22).

Excelling in the classroom as well, Ezeakudo earned his bachelor's degree in bioengineering with a minor in chemistry while earning a spot on the ACC All-Academic Team.

He adds to an ever-growing list of Radford newcomers that already includes Kenyon Giles, Kyle Burns, DaQuan Smith, Justin Archer, D'Auntray Pierce, Madiaw Niang, Ibu Yamazaki, and Souleymane Koureissi.

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