



### Learn how to eat from your garden year-round at Meet the Author event



RADFORD - The Radford Public Library's Next Meet the Author event will offer backyard gardeners tips for optimizing their crops.

The RPL is hosting an event called "Eat From Your Garden Year 'Round! with Barbara Pleasant" on Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 7 p.m. at the library. Pleasant's talk will focus on her latest book, "Hometown Pantry."

'Wouldn't it be great to eat from your garden every day of the year?" Pleasant writes. "That's the idea behind my newest book, "Homegrown Pantry." Over 50 food crops are covered from both gardening and kitchen angles -- the start of many great adventures in

homegrown food." Pleasant has been writing about organic gardening for more than

30 years. Her books and articles have won many awards. "Homegrown Pantry," was a finalist for a 2018 INDIE Forward award.

Pleasant has written many other gardening and plant books, including <sup>®</sup>Starter Vegetable Gardens," "Houseplant Survival Manual" and "The Complete Compost Gardening Guide." She is also a contributing editor to Mother Earth News and Mother Earth Living magazines. She was born and raised in Alabama, and lived in North Carolina before moving to Floyd, where she lives with her dogs, cats and chickens.



obyn Smith Ellis, Attorney

**Councilman Forrest Hite** 

SUBMITTED PHOTO

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Councilman Forrest Hite announces resignation ahead of move

### **Heather Bell**

communitynews@ourvalley.org

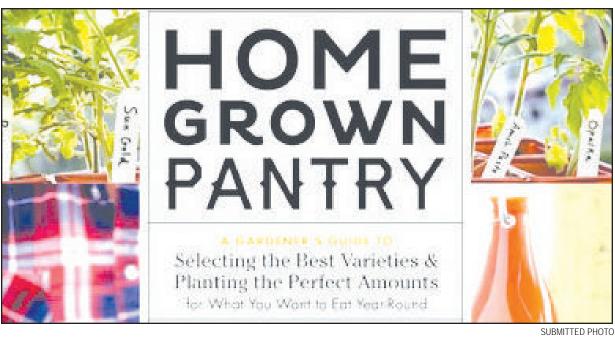
RADFORD - Radford City Council Member Forrest Hite announced Thursday he will be resigning from the Council in July and is moving to Alabama to be closer to family.

According to City of Radford Director of Communications Jenni Wilder, Hite will submit his formal letter of resignation in early July. He will have served two years of his four year term at the time of his resignation.

Hite stated in an announcement on Facebook that he and his family plan to move to Huntsville, Alabama to be closer to family. He and his wife, Tatiana, are expecting their first child.

'It has absolutely been an honor and a privilege to serve the City on Council for the last two years," said Hite. "The uniqueness of our time certainly presented no small number of challenges. But I have endeavored to serve to the best of my abilities, and I hope that I have served honorably. During my tenure on Council, a few of the things of which I'm most proud would include our emphasis and focus on economic development and making Radford an attractive, tenable location for businesses to come and to stay; our attempts to navigate the early days of the pandemic in an intentional, even-handed, and reasonable way; and my service on the Board of Directors of the NRVCS, who do such important work for our community."

Barbara Pleasant



Pleasant's book, "Homegrown Pantry," will be the subject of her talk at the Radford Public Library.

### **Radford High School Class of 2022**

### celebrated at Commencement ceremony

### **Heather Bell**

communitynews@ourvalley.org

School seniors became graduates Friday, in a ceremony held at Radford University's Bondurant Auditorium.

The night was filled with hope, happiness and triumph as well as poignant moments, as speakers reflected on the effects COVID-19, school violence in the U.S., and a classmate who passed away this year as the result of a car accident.

RHS Principal Tara Grant presided over the ceremony, offering praise and advice to the graduates and words of remembrance about Marilyn Alley, who was a member of the Class of 2022 and died in a car wreck. Alley's sister accepted a diploma on Marilyn's behalf. Superintendent Robert Graham said Alley's death and navigating high school through a pandemic are among the trying occurances the class has had to traverse.

"You made it," he said to the graduates. "And you made it under extraordinary circumstances. And you excelled at an extremely high level."

RHS had a 98.5 percent graduation rate this year, which Graham said is among the highest the school has ever experienced. The graduates have earned over \$1,783,000 in scholarships.

"Adversity breeds character and strength, and I could not be more proud of your accomplishments."

Class President Anna Turk, who will attend Randolph Macon College to study nursing and play on the women's soccer team, also addressed the graduates.

"As we transition to this new life, I want everyone to take something away from today," she said. "Take your time. Appreciate the little things.

And be kind. Be like Marilyn."

RHS Government teacher and baseball coach Drew Cox, also an RHS graduate, was chosen by RADFORD - More than 120 Radford High the class to be the commencement speaker. He lauded the class as a "talented and resilient group" whose "high school experience was anything but ordinary."

Friday's ceremony also included the presentation of the annual King Award, given to one boy and

### See Class of 2022, page 4



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of the Class of 2022 head to their graduation ceremony on school buses on Friday.

Radford Mayor David Horton expressed appreciation for Hite's service to the city.

We are thankful for Mr. Hite's service and wish him, his wife, and their growing family well on their new journey together," said Horton. "We appreciate his willingness to serve the Citizens of Radford over the past two years."

Hite said he is grateful to have called Radford home for more than a decade.

"I still love Radford and her people and hope for nothing but the best for the River City's future," he said. "I am tremendously grateful for the 12 years that I've called Radford home, and Tatiana and I are both thankful for the kindness and support we've been shown especially in the last three-plus years from so many of you in Radford and throughout the 12th District.'

Hite said he will be in attendance at the June Radford City Council meeting and hopes "to be at the July meeting as well, though that's still to be determined.'

'I'm making every effort to do this in the best way possible, working with Council and staff to make the transition as smooth as it can be for all involved," he said

The remaining members of Council will appoint a temporary replacement to serve until November's election within 30 days of Hite's resignation. A permanent replacement will be elected to fill out the remaining two years of his term on Election Day.

### New River Community College recognizes first nursing scholarship recipients

New River Community College recently recognized the recipients of the first class of NRCC Nursing Scholars, a new scholarship program that fosters opportunity and success for outstanding high school junior and senior students who show interest and ability in NRCC's Nursing Associate of Applied Science degree.

Audrey Bucy of Radford High School, Greta Dargel of Montgomery County (homeschool), Melanie Gallimore of Floyd County High School, Mary Graham of Radford High School, Paige Lilly of Pulaski County High School, and Elaina McCoy of Blacksburg High School were awarded scholarships at a ceremony

held at NRCC on May 16. At the event, each student was presented with a new stethoscope.

Scholarship students and their families were greeted by NRCC's President Dr. Pat Huber, Vice President of Instruction and Student Services Dr. Peter

See NRCC, page 6



SUBMITTED PHOTO

### UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Saturday, June 4:**

### Blacksburg Museum annual gospel ding

The 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 sing.

The schedule for the music 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 sSponsored by the Virginia Tech Foundation.

### American Red Cross blood drive

At the Meadowbrook Public Library at 9 a.m. Schedule an appointment at www.redcrossblood.org. The blood drive will be held at the Waldron Wellness Center-Carilion Community Room. A patron of the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library who has fines and donates blood will be forgiven up to \$10, redeemable only at Meadowbrook Public Library.

#### Caturday

At the Meadowbrook Public Library at noon. Sign up at the library for a 15-minute slot to read to a cat from the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center to practice reading and to socialize shelter cats. For all ages.

#### Father's Day gift program

At the Meadowbrook Public Library at 1 p.m. Participants will make a special Father's Day gift. Fill a mug with treats and then gift-wrap it. Supplies are limited.

#### Teen DND

At the Blacksburg Library at 2 p.m. Dungeons and Dragons for ages 11 to 17.

#### PanJammers Steel Drum Orchestra

At the Blacksburg Library at 5 p.m. PanJammers is an awardwinning steel drum orchestra based in Blacksburg.

### Woman's Club of Radford yard sale

The Woman's Club of Radford will hold a yard sale from 8 a.m. until noon at 207 10th St. in Radford. Proceeds will benefit children's literacy projects in the New River Valley. The Woman's Club's Babies into Books program gives a book to every baby born at the Carilion New River Valley Medical Center. The group's Reading Is Fundamental program serves three elementary schools: Riverlawn and Snowville in Pulaski County and McHarg in Radford. Each child gets the chance twice a year to select a book of his or her own.

### Monday, June 6:

#### Blacksburg real estate taxes due

The Town of Blacksburg real estate tax invoices have been mailed and are due by Monday, June 6. Anyone who has not yet received a tax statement should call the Department of Financial Services at 540-961-1105. Payment may be mailed, made in person, placed in the drop box at 300 South Main St., Blacksburg, paid by phone with a credit card, or paid online at www. blacksburg.gov/payments. A 10% penalty will be charged if not paid by June 6, 2022. Interest will be charged at the rate of 10% per year beginning July 1, 2022.

### Southwest Virginia Wildlife Center of Roanoke program

At the Christiansburg Library at 10 a.m. and at the Meadowbrook Public Library at 2 p.m. This one-hour program will feature non-releasable animal education ambassadors, fun stories, and history. Learn how to help local wild animals.

### Monday, June 6, 13, 20, 27:

Southwest Virginia Wildlife Center of Roanoke program At the Blacksburg Library at 10 a.m. This one-hour program will feature non-releasable animal education ambassadors, fun stories, and history. Learn how to help local wild animals.

#### Radford Chamber of Commerce business seminar

Email Marketing: Why or Why Not? At Long Way Brewing, 501 Second St., Radford, at 8:22 a.m. with a presentation by Charlie Whitescarver, local businessman and Certified Constant Contact Partner. Doughnuts and coffee will be served. Register at radfordchamber@gmail.com.

### Brick Blast

At the Blacksburg Library; 4:30 p.m. Come build at the library and put engineering skills to the test.

### Tuesday, June 7, 14, 21 and 28:

#### Summer Backpack Program

At the Meadowbrook Public Library; 3:30 p.m. The Summer Backpack Program is intended to help families with children and teens stretch their grocery budget. The bags are filled with nutritious food. One bag per child per week. This is a dropin program with crafts for the kids each week in addition to the bags of food. The program is drive-thru only at the curb side of the library. Open to residents of Eastern Montgomery County only. For more information, call the Meadowbrook Library at 540-268-1964.

### Wednesday, June 8:

### Brown Bag Book Club

At the Radford Public Library on the second Wednesday of each month at noon. To be discussed this month is "84 Charing Cross Road" by Helene Hanff. Participants may bring a lunch or enjoy Aaron's latest delicious culinary creation (tea & scones). To be discussed next month is "Malibu Rising" by Taylor Jenkins Reid.

### Thursday, June 9:

### **River City Quilt Guild**

The River City Quilt Guild meets the second Thursday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in Grove United Methodist Church, 1020 Tyler Avenue, Radford. All skill levels of quilters are welcome. 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 9:30 a.m. The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce presents its Eggs & Issues breakfast and a COVID after-action report on how the community has adapted. Invited speakers are Dr. Noelle Bissell, Director of the New River Health District; Bill Flattery, Vice President of Carilion Clinic, 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 Tuesday, June 7 at noon. Register and pay online or contact programs@montgomerycc.org.

#### Meet the author event

At the Radford Public Library at 7 p.m. Award-winning garden writer Barbara Pleasant, author of "Homegrown Pantry," will share dozens of tips for enjoying a garden's bounty in every season. A copy of Pleasant's book will be given out during the event.

### Thursday, June 9-Thursday, June 23:

Set sail to healthy eating and cooking for the family At the Meadowbrook Public Library; Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. Participants will learn how to make affordable, healthy snacks and meals for the family. They will receive free cooking utensils at each class and a slow cooker upon completion of the fourweek series. Activities will be provided for children ages 3 and older. The program is co-sponsored by the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service. For more information, call the Meadowbrook Library at 540-268-1964. is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under 12. Children under 3 will eat free. Carry-outs are also \$12. The fish fry will be held rain or shine. Call or text 540-449-6178 for further information. On Facebook at MtTaborRuritan

### Second Annual Radford PRIDE March

Organized by the RADical Change Commission. The march begins with brief remarks at the Radford Public Library and then gets underway at 7 p.m. from the library to the City of Radford administration/ police building. Any questions can be directed to the RADical Change Commission on Facebook.

### 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 at 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.

### Tuesday, June 4, and Wednesday, June 5:

### Dynamic Plein Air Painting with Arlene Daniel

Sponsored by the Blacksburg Regional Art Association. Oil painter Arlene Daniel will be in Christiansburg, June 4-5, at the Christiansburg Presbyterian Church, 107 W Main St. to demonstrate in oil but will take artists using any medium into the class. Class hours will divide between indoors and outdoors. To register, go to Blacksburgart.org. To learn more about Arlene Daniel, go to arleneedaniel.com. Cost is \$125/\$155 (member/nonmember)

### 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 played and food will be available to purchase. The NAACP 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 from the event will benefit local youth educational activities and programs. The program will begin at noon and will be followed by swimming, children's games, a silent auction, and a raffle with door prizes. Various talents will be shared by youth and community members. Information booths from the NAACP and other community organizations will be on site. If an organization wants to have a booth, contact the NAACP at info@mrfnaacp or call the branch at 540-382-6751. Entry is free.

### Wednesday, June 22:

### Red Cross blood drive

The New River Health District in partnership with Blue Ridge Church, 1655 Roanoke St. in Christiansburg, is hosting a blood drive with the American Red Cross on June 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### Friday, June 24:

Blacksburg Museum Sunset Rhythms 2022

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

#### Nature Walk/Library Talk

Each Monday in June at 10 a.m. at the Meadowbrook Public Library Courtyard. Walk with babies or children in strollers, slings, or carriers. Participants will get together and walk, make new friends, talk about nutrition and feeding babies and toddlers, and learn more information about the library. Sponsored by the Family Nutrition Program of the Virginia Cooperative Extension of Montgomery County.

### Monday, June 6-Friday, June 10:

### Teen Connections

At the Blacksburg Library; 2:30 p.m. Become a Peer Health Educator. You will learn leadership skills, healthy relationships, consent, teen pregnancy and STI prevention, inclusivity, social justice, and health advocacy. A free lunch will be provided to all participants. Teens in grades 9 through 12 who finish the program will be eligible for \$100. To register, visit https://linktr.ee/ tcswva.

### Tuesday, June 7:

### Friday, June 10:

### Could You Survive?

At the Christiansburg Library; 2 p.m. Could you survive stranded on a deserted island? Learn how to make a water filter out of a water bottle, build a shelter, and more. Recommended for ages 10 and up.

### Saturday, June 11:

#### Mt. Tabor Ruritan fish fry

The Mount Tabor Ruritan Club will hold its June Fish Fry from 5 to 7 p.m. at Slusser's Chapel Picnic Shelter, 1543 Mount Tabor Rd, Blacksburg. The club will serve up helpings of fish, fries, and slaw with homemade desserts and beverages. The cost

### **CITY OF RADFORD**

The City of Radford is seeking citizen representatives to serve on various Boards and Commissions. The organizations listed below have terms coming to an end. For more information on a particular Board or Commission, please visit the "Boards & Commissions" section of our website, www.radfordva.gov.

Anyone who is interested in serving on a particular Board or Commission is encouraged to submit a resume and brief letter of interest by June 22, 2022 to:

City of Radford Attn: City Clerk 10 Robertson St., Radford, VA 24141

<b># of open positions/Agency name</b> (2) Agency on Aging	<b>Length of appointment/any restrictions</b> one year appointments ending 6/30/2023
(1) Airport Commission	four year appointment ending 6/30/2026
(3) Economic Development Authority	four year appointments ending 6/30/2026
(2) Library Board (1) Library Board (teen rep)	four year appointments ending 6/30/2026 one year appointment ending 6/30/2023
(2) Recreation Commission	three year appointments ending 6/30/2025
(1) Building Code Board of Appeals	one year appointment ending 6/30/2023
(1) City/University Joint Advisory Commission (City Rep)	one year appointment ending 6/30/2023
(2) Tourism Commission	two year appointments ending 6/30/2024
(3) Planning Commission	four year appointments ending 6/30/2026
(4) Beautification Commission	three year appointments ending 6/30/2025

### **Throughout June and July:**

### "Turtle-y Awesome"- sidewalk obstacle course

Visit the Meadowbrook Library during the months of June and July and go through the tropical theme sidewalk obstacle course located in the courtyard. Those who complete the course can enter for a special prize drawing.

### **Ongoing:**

### Free GED classes with NRCC

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

### radfordnewsjournal.com

### Beta Sigma Phi Sorority names Sue Warden 2021 Woman of the Year

The Alpha Mu Master Chapter of Beta Šigma Phi Sorority has named Sue B. Warden its 2021 Woman of The Year.

"To be chosen as Woman of The Year is one of the greatest honors a chapter can pay to a member," Carolyn Sowers, the sorority's Publicity Chair, wrote in a chapter announcement, "and Warden exemplifies the characteristics that are known to Beta Sigma Phis the world over.

"Warden participated in all sorority activities and worked for the good of the organization and the community," Sowers wrote. 'She is always willing to lend a helping hand, works to accommodate all members, and she stepped forward to assist in numerous ways for the chapter's success this year.'

Warden pledged Beta Sigma Phi in 1980, has 26 years perfect attendance at chapter meetings, has served numerous times in many offices, and has served on all committees, including serving as Chair of the Area Founder's Day event. She has been recognized previously with Chapter Woman of The Year honors, has been named Chapter Valentine Queen, and has received the prestigious Beta Sigma Phi International Award of Distinction.

She is retired from the Virginia State Police Communications Center and lives in Christiansburg with her husband, Roger.

The presentation took place at the Beta Sigma Phi Area Founder's



SUBMITTED PHOTO Sue B. Warden (left) is awarded Beta Sigma Phi Woman of The Year by last year's recipient, Lillian VanLear, both of Christiansburg.

Day Banquet, hosted by Radford's Xi Tau Chapter, at the Carter Street United Methodist Church in Radford. This event was the 90th observance of Beta Sigma Phi's founding. Warden received an engraved trophy and a Woman of the Year charm to commemorate the honor.

### Warm Hearth at Home recognizes new key staff members

BLACKSBURG Kristi Payne and Suzette Gayder have joined the staff of Warm Hearth at Home.

Payne brings a background in therapy services with Functional Pathways of Tennessee LLC where she was the program director. She has an associate degree in business management from American National University in Roanoke.

Administrator, As Payne hopes to provide a warm and compas-

With a bachelor's degree in nursing, Suzette Gayder joins Warm Hearth at Home after serving as a case manager for Warm Hearth at Home. for Good Samaritan Hospice.

sionate environment for clinical staff, patients, and families through communication and collaboration. She lives with her husband in Salem, and in her spare time she likes to travel and spend time with their five children and eleven grandchildren.

Gayder comes from Good Samaritan Hospice where she was a case manager. She has a bachelor's and an associate's degree in nursing from Delaware Tech in Dover. In her new role, she will be providing goal-driven care along with continuing education for all staff

Gayder lives in Meadows of Dan, Va., with her husband and two boys. In her free time she enjoys outdoor activities with her family.

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



Kristi Payne is the new administrator

### New River Valley Regional Commission accepting nominations for 2022 awards

The New River Valley Regional Commission is now accepting nominations for its 2022 awards for people who make an impact in the New River Valley.

The commission is accepting nominations for the regional awards until Aug. 15 for Champion of the Valley (elected or appointed official), Citizen of the Valley, and Friend of the Valley (outside the region).

Award recipients will be honored in the fall of 2022. Previous award winners for Champion of the Valley are 2014: Joseph Sheffey, Pulaski Ćo. Board of Supervisors, retired; 2015: Rick Boucher, U.S. House of Representatives 1983-2011; 2016: Delegate Joseph Yost, 12th House District of Virginia 20122018; 2016: William Brown, Montgomery Co. Board of Supervisors, retired; 2017: Chris McKlarney, Giles County Administrator; 2018: Susan Kidd, Town of Narrows; 2019: Delegate Nick Rush, Seventh House District in Virginia; 2020: Chris Tuck, Montgomery Co. Board of Supervisors, retired; 2021: Craig Meadows, Montgomery Co. Administrator; 2021: and Lydeana Martin, Floyd County Economic Development Director.

Previous award winners for Citizen of the Valley are 2014: Dr. Charles Steger, Virginia Tech President; 2015 Ken Anderson, CEO of Anderson & Associates, Inc.; 2016 Penelope Kyle, Radford University President; 2017 Woody Crenshaw, Floyd County Entrepreneur; 2018 David Hagan, Business Owner/Investor; 2018 P. Buckley Moss, Artist/Philanthropist; 2019 Raymond Smoot, Community Leader; 2020 Bill Ellenbogen, Community Advocate; 2021 Shelly Fortier, Habitat for Humanity of the NRV; 2021 John Dooley, Virginia Tech Foundation.

Previous award winners for Friend of the Valley are 2016: Mary Moody, Northen Foundation Mountain Lake Lodge; 2017 Bill Shelton, Director of the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development; 2019 John Smolak, III; Appalachian Power.

### The science of sport

By Max Esterhuizen

jumps, and where I came cumseh, Michigan, native

Rachel Baxter uses many of the usual tools of athleticism when she gets ready for a pole vaulting competition: track shoes, spandex shorts, and a 14-foot fiberglass Essx pole that enables her to push an incredible amount of torque and tension through her joints and ligaments to hurl her body through the air.

But the graduate student is equipped with something a bit more unusual.

An ankle monitor captures her every move, collecting data on her speed and timing as she sprints to the target. This information not only helps her perfect the number of strides before the jump, but also helps her in the lab.

Baxter, a Virginia Tech pole vaulter, is working with Jay Williams, a professor of human nutrition, foods, and exercise, to study gait symmetry, impact forces, and speed differences among pole vaulters.

Baxter is one of a handful of Virginia Tech athletes who are both pursuing the science of sport in the lab and earning kudos on the field. This year, Baxter became the first pole vaulter to win a national title at Virginia Tech.

To conduct Baxter's graduate research, a group of pole vaulters - eight women and five men wear ankle monitors with special speed trap sensors. To test the data collection, Baxter uses the sensors on herself, but that data is not used in the research.

"I was curious about what the data would show from me in practice and meets. I've been able to see how I progress, what the data look like on good

up short," said Baxter, of Orange County, California. "Dr. Williams wanted to expand his sports science research to track and field. He's been fantastic to work with on this project so far."

At the first meet of the season, Baxter's marks were mostly the same — she hit the same run times with the same number of steps. With this data, she can make sure she optimizes her steps and her speed to get the highest possible clear.

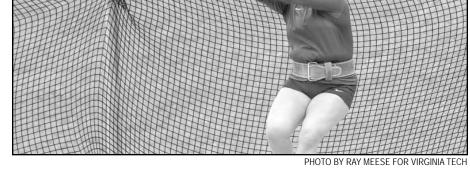
"Our goal is to use the data on these variables and combine it with the athletes' results to help pole vault athletes maximize their potential," Baxter said. "I'm excited to see where this research goes as we get the project fully up and running.'

Elsewhere on the field is Becca Mammel, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise who connects athletics with genetics to strengthen the human body. Mammel competes in the hammer throw and discus and recently chose Virginia Tech through the transfer portal.

When she first arrived in Blacksburg, Mammel worked with Williams by strapping sensors to her wrist, back, and feet to check her acceleration and foot placement on throws that pushed her joints to the limit.

Portions of her research helped Mammel make tiny adjustments to her throwing style, such as placing her foot down faster to maximize her potential. While she is still working with Williams on this research, Mammel had the realization that she is a lab scientist at heart. The Tenow works with Siobhan Craige, an assistant professor in the Department of Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise.

In the Craige Lab, they study how the skeletal muscle adapts to exercise as many of these adaptations to exercise are protective against diseases, furthering the science of sport.



Becca Mammel, who competes in the hammer and discus throws for VT.



### I ROAD WATCH

The following is a list of forecasted highway projects that may impact traffic traveling in the Route 615 (Pilot Road) is undergoing a culvert 12-county Salem Transportation District this replacement located at the intersection of Pilot week. Work schedules and construction project Road and Old Pike Road, across from the Pilot timelines are always subject to change and weath- Post Office. Lane closures on Route 615 mainer dependent. The Salem District covers Bedford, tained by utilizing temporary traffic signals will Botetourt, Carroll, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, Giles, be in place through August 2022. Flagging op-Henry, Montgomery, Patrick, Pulaski and Roa- erations may be in place. Route 615 will be limnoke counties.

### MONTGOMERY COUNTY

I-81 NORTHBOUND AT EXIT 105 NEW RIVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT IN MONT-GOMERY COUNTY - Traffic on northbound I-81 has been switched onto the newly constructed bridge over the New River at the Montgomery/ Pulaski County line. Lane and shoulder closures may be in place near exit 105. Lane closure may ting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement be in effect during the week from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. Shoulder closures may be in effect at any time during the week. Slow rolls may be performed on I-81 in the north and southbound lanes from mile marker 98 to 109. Speed limit is reduced to 60 miles per hour in the work zone. Shoulder a flagging operation in place for paving from 7 closures will remain in place though the duration a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. of the project. Project completion is estimated by summer 2023.

LANE CLOSURES: Nighttime alternating INTERSTATE 81 lane closures will be in place on I-81 northbound between mile markers 104-106 from 7 p.m. to 6 STRUCTION PROJECT EXIT 137 TO EXIT a.m. the following morning.

periodically on both the northbound and south- markers 136.6 and 141.8 from two to three lanes bound lanes from mile marker 98-109 for struc- is set to begin. Continuing into the early sumtural steel deliveries and setting beams.



### Serving Radford since 1884

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ROUTE 615 CULVERT REPLACEMENT ited to one 10 foot lane. Expected completion is October 2022.

ROUTE 114 TURN LANE CONSTRUC-TION - Starting June 6, road improvements on Route 114 (Peppers Ferry Road) will begin for the construction of a new entrance to Belview Elementary School. Motorists should expect daily lane closures controlled by flagging forces. Work is expected to last until August 2022.

PAVING OPERATIONS - Weather permiton various routes. Lane closures may be in place and flaggers may control traffic at times during daylight hours. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

Route 765, both east and west lanes, will have

INTERSTATE 81 LANE WIDENING CON-141 - A \$179 million design-build project to SLOW ROLLS: Slow rolls may be utilized widen both directions of I-81 between mile mer, work will be performed on the inside and outside shoulders along a five mile section of both northbound and southbound Interstate 81 in Roanoke County and the city of Salem. The shoulders will be built up before a barrier wall can be installed for road crews to work behind. The barrier wall will be installed along the shoulders in the spring and summer. Two lanes of I-81 traffic in each direction will remain open during the project with periodic lane closures scheduled during nighttime hours or outside of peak travel times as needed. Drivers can expect the following lane closures and upcoming impacts on northbound and southbound I-81:

BARRIER WALLS: Barrier wall installation is in process. Nighttime lane closures will be in place and lane widths will be reduced to 11 feet.

Until mid-June, nighttime right lane and shoulder closures between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday

To mid-June, alternating left and right lane and shoulder closures during nighttime hours between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday

Nightly lane closures may be in place along the right lane with possible nightly ramp narrows as needed for guardrail and shoulder strengthening.

Northbound I-81 lane closures from mile marker 138 to 142

Northbound I-81 exit and entrance ramp narrows possible at Route 311.

The project also includes replacing six bridges,

### Class of 2022 from page 1

one girl in the graduating class, study business and play football who represents scholarship, leadership, citizenship and contributions to their fellow students and their school. The award is given by the James P. King family and includes \$1,000 to each winner and a pewter julep cup. This year's winners were Lianna Marie Almeida and Tyrel Dobson. Almeida is attending the University of Denver to study International Relations and Dobson is attending Virginia Military Institute to

on a full athletic scholarship. The Class Valedictorian is Michael Hijduk, who graduated with a 4.4839 grade point average (GPA), and is attending the University of Virginia to study computer science. He urged his fellow graduates to take the time to forge and maintain relationships in life and to "strive for excellence but don't let perfection get in the way of progress." Salutatorian Imran Akhundov

graduated with a 4.375 GPA and is attending Washington and Lee University to study neuroscience and pre-medicine. "I'm graduating with the best class anyone could have asked for," he said. "In life there will always be obstacles. DO not be afraid of a challenge. Go out into the world and embrace everything it has to offer."

widening two bridges, installing approximately 2.6 miles of sound barrier walls along northbound I-81, improving the southbound exit 137 off-ramp intersection at Wildwood Road and adding interchange lighting at exits 137, 140 and 141 are also included in the project. Expected completion in early 2026.

I-81 TROUTVILLE REST AREA CLOSURE The Troutville Rest Area located on southbound Interstate 81 near mile marker 158 in Botetourt County will be closed until September 2, 2022 Signage indicating the closure has been posted in the rest area. During the closure, a temporary concrete barrier wall will be installed in front of the facility. The rest area facility, ramps and parking lot will be closed to the public. This project will extend the ramp into the rest area by 500 feet and the ramp out of the rest area by 2,100 feet. It will also include expanding the truck parking area at the facility by about 10-13 spaces. Work is expected to be completed in early fall 2022.

REST AREA OPTIONS: While the Troutville Rest Area is closed, southbound I-81 drivers can use the Fairfield Rest Area at mile marker 195 in Rockbridge County or the Radford Rest Area at mile marker 108 in Montgomery County. In addition, the Troutville Weigh Station, located on southbound I-81 at mile marker 149, will have portable toilets and parking will be temporarily available for commercial vehicles.

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

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

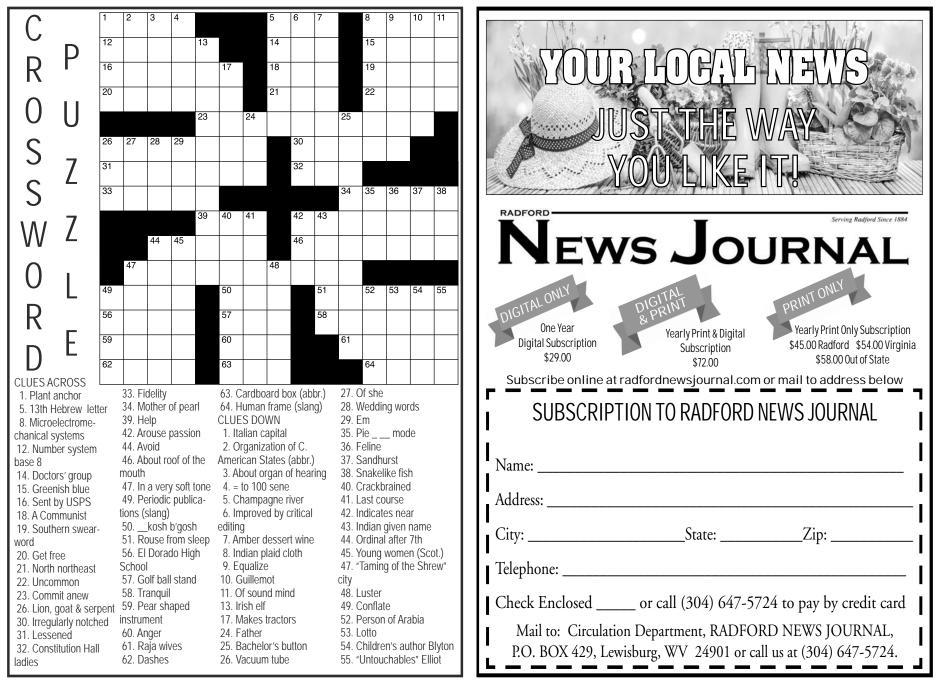
Paving operations on I-81 northbound and southbound in Botetourt County from mile marker 155 to 167. On and exit ramps at exit 168 may be narrowed at times.

I-81 BRIDGE DECK REPAIRS - Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 81. Between mile markers 138 to 152, right and left lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

I-81 POTHOLE PATCHING OPERATIONS - Weather permitting, crews will patch potholes along southbound and northbound Interstate 81. Mobile right and left lane closures will be in place and moving along northbound and southbound lanes during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for moving vehicles and equipment. Expect possible delays.

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> Friday's ceremony had to be moved to Bondurant Auditorium from Bobcat Stadium due to rain.



### BITUA<u>RIES</u>

### Helms, Lois "June"

Lois "June" Helms,

Christiansburg, passed away on May 31, 2022. She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul Nathaniel Helms; daughter, Sybilla Pendleton; and siblings Johnny Vanover, Billy Paulene Vanover, Hobbs, Francis Padgett, Erma Kitts, Ronald Vanover, Lilly Vanover, and Smiles Ciani.

June is survived by her son, Evans Helms and his wife, Shirley; and grandsons Jon Hilton and his wife, Ashley, and Joe Hilton; great-grandsons Chase Hilton, Mason Hilton, and Sawyer Hilton; and her sister, Nell Catron.

She spent her younger years with jobs in retail. She attended Ellett Valley Church in the past years.

June had a lifelong love for gardening and birds. She often displayed pictures of cardinals in her home as they were her favorite. She and her late husband,



94, of Paul, cultivated beautiful flower vegetable and gardens throughout their lives together and loved canning fruit preserves to be enjoyed by family and friends year

round. June often volunteered her time at local polling stations during election time.

She had a well-known sense of humor and would often sing silly songs and do a funny little dance for family during visits. She was faithful to God and enjoyed reading her Bible regularly. To our "granny," we receive comfort in knowing you are now free, "dancing and making melody to Him" in Heaven now that the body is transformed. "Psalm 149:3; Phillipians 3:20-21.

Visitation was held on Friday, June 3, 2022, at Horne Funeral Home, followed by funeral services in the chapel, and interment in Sunset Cemetery.

### Poff, Roger Lee

On Sunday, May 29, Roger Poff, Casey Teubert (Zack), Leslie Lee Poff, 78, of Christiansburg, went

home to be with our Lord. He was preceded in death by his parents, Millard Oliver and Ruby Vest Poff; two sisters, Gwendolene Howard and Josephine and Thomas; one brother, Carl Poff.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Emma Price Poff; one daughter, Tina Jones (Michael); two sons, Jeffery Poff (Betty) and Rodney Poff; grandchildren Kristan Poff, grandchildren Kristan Äshley Wright (Bradley), Logan



Jones, Shayne Poff, Kimberly Smith (Michael); eight great-grandchildren; two brothers, Millard "Junior' Poff (Francis) and Hubert "Buddy" Poff (Shirley); and one sister, Francis Sowers (James).

The family received friends on Friday,

June 3, 2022, at McCoy Funeral Home in Blacksburg, followed by services in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel and a graveside service at Sunset Cemetery in Christiansburg.

See **Obituaries**, page 6

### radfordnewsjournal.com

### ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

St. Philip's Anglican Church, 306 Progress Street, NE, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060, (540) 552-1771, www.stphilipsblacksburg.org. Reverend Fr. Wade Miller, Priest. Eucharist Sunday's at 11am and Wednesday's at 12pm.

St. Thomas Anglican Church- located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit www.sttofc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

### BAPTIST

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

First Baptist Church on 3rd Ave., 215 Third Ave at the corner with Downey St. We nurture meaningful connections to God and others through worship, spiritual growth, and community ministry. We celebrate the dignity and worth of all persons, created in the image of God. Sunday Bible Study Groups - 9:45, Sunday Worship - 11:00. Website: fbcradford. org 540-639-4419. Worship is in-person and live-streamed on Facebook and on our You-Tube channel: First Baptist Church Radford. Trinity Community Church, 1505 N. Franklin Street, C'burg. John Altizer, Lead Pastor, Brian Cockram, Associate Pastor, 382-8121. Worship

# Radford RSHIP DIBLECTORY

### FINDING STRENGTH IN GOD

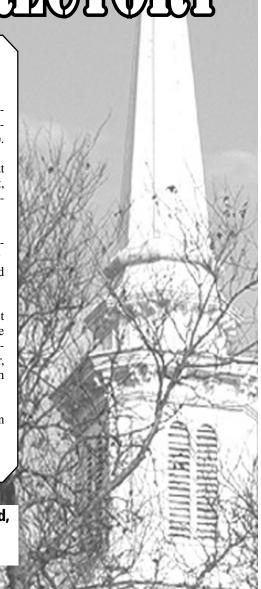
Read 1 Samuel 27:1 through 31:13

David was greatly distressed because the men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters. But David found strength in the Lord his God (1 Samuel 30:6).

David and his men, just arrivinghome from battle, discovered that the enemy had kidnapped their families. His men were distraught, and they wanted someone to blame. David, their leader, was the obvious scapegoat, and they discussed taking revenge on him.

David, grieved at his own family's disappearance, now faced betrayals and accusations from his friends. Here, at an extremely low point, David did what always works. He turned to God and found strength in Him.

Exactly how David found strength in God is displayed throughout his psalms. David remembered God's promises, and more so, he reminded himself of who God is: his Rock of refuge; his compassionate, gentle Father; his faithful Provider; his all-wise Teacher, and so much more. As David turned to God, he gained the strength



at 10:45 a.m., Outreach Ministries - 6:00p.m. Wednesday, Growth Groups - 5:00p.m. Sunday, Youth and Children's Ministry - 5:00p.m. Sunday, www.trinitycburg.org.

### **CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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

#### **CHURCH OF GOD**

Childress Church of God. 4187 Pinev Woods Rd., C'Burg. 381-3693. Sun. School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m. & Wed. 7 p.m.

New Hope Church of God, 1404 Mud Pike Rd., C'Burg. Rev. T. Michael Bond, pastor, 731-3178. Sun. School 10 a.m., Worship 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m. Thurs., 7:00 p.m.

West Radford Church of God, 1824 West Main Street, Radford, VA 24141, Sunday School -10:00A.M. Morning Worship – 11:00A.M., Children's Church 11:00A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00P.M., Wednesday Night - 7:00P.M., Pastor Danny Newman, Church Office – 540-639-6562 or 804-921-0828

**CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST** Radford Church of God in Christ, 206 Russell Ave., Radford. Supt. Ronald A. Watson, Sr.; Elder, 639- 5948. Sun. School 9 a.m.; Prayer 11:30 a.m.; Worship 6 p.m.

(DOC - DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) Rd., Hiwassee, VA 24347, Pastor: Jerry King, Website: www.SnowvilleChristianChurch.com (and Facebook), Office: 540-633-3761, Email: office@SnowvilleChristianChurch.com, Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m., Sunday School: 10:00 a.m., Thursday Bible Study: 6:00 p.m., We are: "Inspiring hope, helping people grow their faith, and sharing God's love with others!"

### **EPISCOPAL**

Grace Episcopal Church, 210 4th Street, Radford, 639-3494. A friendly, mission-oriented spiritual community sharing the Word of God. ALL ARE WELCOME. In person and livestreamed services 10:30AM Sundays. Holy Eucharist twice a month. Morning Prayer twice a month. Fellowship and refreshments follow services. Find us on Facebook: Grace Episcopal Church and www.graceradford.org.

#### **LUTHERAN**

Christ Lutheran Church, 201 Harvey St. Sun-

to rally his men on a rescue mission.

Prayer for Today: Father, please help me turn to You for strength in all things.

Quicklook: 1 Samuel 30: 3-8,18-19

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

day worship with communion at 10am; fellowship & snacks at 11am. All are welcome. Upcoming events and fellowship opportunities (Senior Brunch, Faith & Film, Rough Draught, etc.) detailed in weekly email and on website: clcradford.org. 540-639-2671.

St. Michael Lutheran Church, 2308 Merrimac Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060. Worship service each Sunday at 10 AM, Sunday School 9 AM. We are a community of God's people where people gather for worship, learning and service. Visitors and new members are always WELCOME! Google comments: "Wonderful, welcoming congregation...A place where all are truly welcome... Nice, friendly, competent staff." You will like our minister, The Rev. Michelle L. Stramiello. Her previous service was as Family Faith Formation Director at Cross and Crown Lutheran Church, Indianapolis,

IN, Pastor of St Matthew Lutheran Church, Paducah, KY, and Hospice Chaplain in Largo, Fl. St. Michael Snowville Christian Church, 5436 Lead Mine started and administers Micah's Backpack which has great community impact, Micah's Soup for Seniors, Micah's Garden, Closet, and Mini Pantry. Also, partnering with Rainbow Riders and Total Action for Progress, we opened open the first Early Childhood Head Start in our community (6 weeks to age 3), and have numerous other programs including a Justice & Mercy Fund providing assistance for those needing emergency assistance with critical bills. Further St. Michael sponsors an awesome Scouting program of Boy & Girl Scout Troops, Venture Scouts for older youth, and a new Cub Pack for girls & boys kindergarten - 5th grade. Directions: From Price's Fork Road, turn onto Merrimac Road and St. Michael is 3/10ths of a mile down on the left. For more information about any of our activities: Phone 540 951-8951. Email hope@stmlc.us or visit our Website www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org

#### PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

Merrimac Pentecostal Holiness Church, Rev. Larry Christopher (540) 552-7194. l.christopher695@comcast.net. Sunday school at 10 a.m. and morning worship is 11 a.m. Evening service at 6 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

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

Walton Pentecostal Holiness Church, 4003 Morning Glory Rd., off Walton Rd. on Rt. 114. 731-1755. Lee Sarver, pastor. Sun. School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6: p.m., Wed., 7p.m.

### PRESBYTERIAN

Join us at The Presbyterian Church of Radford, 201 4th Street, at the corner of 4th & Randolph. Worship will be at 10 am in the sanctuary. Phone 639-2585. Watch the service live on Facebook: The Presbyterian Church of Radford. www.pcradford.org. We are called to share the love of Christ in this community.

#### UNITED METHODIST

Asbury United Methodist Church, 500 Stuart Street, Christiansburg. 540-382- 0743. Rev. Ryan Schaeffer. Sunday School, 10:15 a.m., Sunday Worship, 11:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7pm, alternating month's with Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church, Senior Bible Study Thursday, 10:30 a.m. All are welcome.

Central United Methodist Church, 803 Wadsworth Street, Radford. 639-3529. 8:30 a.m. Sun-Services: 8:30am (interpreter provided); dav 9:45am Sunday School (interpreter provided); and 11:00am. Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30pm. Child care is provided. www.centralmethodistchurch.com. St. Paul United Methodist Church, 220 W. Main St., C'Burg. Rev. Moonsup "Paul" Song (540) 382-2410. Sunday Worship 10am, Sunday School 9am. Live streaming Sunday Service - www.twitch.tv/ stpaulumc.

### Robeson, Jean Gordon

Jean Gordon Robeson (née White) of Blacksburg gently departed this life on February 10, 2022.

A devoted wife, loving mother, beloved grandmother and greatgrandmother, Jean was born on February 3, 1925, to Floyd Henshaw White and Florence Willis White of Culpeper, Va., who predeceased her. Jean earned a Bachelor of

Science in Biology degree from Westhampton College (now the University of Richmond). She married Andrew Robeson on June 19, 1948, and settled in Blacksburg in 1957.

with raising four Along children, she was a founder and active member of Northside Presbyterian Church. She spent many hours volunteering in the community with emphasis on enriching the lives of those with special needs.

She was a proud member of the Willis, Gordon, Garnett and Allied Families Association. From tending an extensive garden to traveling the world, from enthusiastic games of bridge with dear friends to countless parties, family gatherings and impromptu celebrations, Jean truly lived life to its fullest.

Left behind to celebrate her life are her husband Andrew Robeson; children Martha Rodgers (John) of Clemson, S.C., Catherine Cunningham (Michael) of Waynesboro, Andrew Gordon Robeson (Elaine) of Dallas, Texas and James Robeson of Pearisburg, as well as six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

The family wishes to thank the caregivers who worked tirelessly to give Jean a comfortable, happy life over the last few years and Carilion Hospice for its gentle support at the end.

The family gathered for a graveside service on Sunday, February 13, led by the Rev. Dr. Linda Dickerson. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2022, at Northside Presbyterian Church, Blacksburg.

Special music will begin at 9:30 a.m., with the worship service beginning at 10 a.m. The family will receive guests and share memories at a reception immediately following the service. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Northside Presbyterian Church, 1017 Progress Street, Blacksburg, VA 24060, or The ARC of New River Valley, PO Box 11204, Blacksburg, VA 24062.

addition

In lieu of flowers,

to

### Semones, Dorothy (Dot) Virginia

Dorothy (Dot) Virginia Semones, Kelley; and many other relatives and

beloved mother and grandmother, went into the arms of her Lord and Savior Tuesday, May 31, 2022, at the age of 101.

She was born in Pulaski on Nov. 1, 1920 and was the daughter of the late James Pierce Kidd and Sarah McGaghie. Dot retired from the Radford Army Ammunition Plant where she worked for

23 years in the payroll department. After she retired, she volunteered at Carilion New River Valley Hospital for 10 years. Dot was a member of Bethel United Methodist Church most of her life and played the piano at Bethel services every Sunday for 50 years.

Survivors include her daughters, Connie Semones, Sarah Semones, Jean Vengrin (Mike), and Cynthia Semones; granddaughter Courtney Vengrin and her husband Stephen



made to Bethel United Methodist Church or the American Heart Association.

In

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, June 7, 2022, from noon until 1 p.m. at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services will begin at 1 p.m. with Pastor Mark Miller and Sarah Morris officiating. Interment will follow in Sunset Cemetery in Christiansburg.

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

### Snider, Carl Alfred, Jr.

Shawsville, died Saturday, May 28, 2022, at LewisGale Medical Center.

He was born in Montgomery County on March 10, 1962, to the late Carl Alfred Snider, Sr., and Antlene Rose Snider. He was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Linda Marie, a son-in-law, Jody Dickerson and a mother-in-law, Mary Cumbee.

He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Louise Snider; daughters and sons-in-law Linda and Robert Sinclair Sr., Tina Snider, Crystal and Robert Hall, and Susie and

Carl Alfred Snider, Jr., 62, of Chris Deweese; grandchildren Robert, Rebecca, Maddison, Christopher, Kadden, Zephaniah, Hannah, Arianna, Natalia, Dakota, and Adaline; a greatgrandchild, Ila; a brother-in-law, Johnny Cumbee; one sister, and two brothers and their spouses.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday, June 2, 2022, in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Robert Hall officiating. Interment followed in Roselawn Memorial Gardens.

### Wildfire season heats up; expert offers advice for community preparedness

Wildfires in recent years have increased in size and severity putting many communities across the country at risk.

Adam Coates, wildland fire ecology expert at Virginia Tech, says that community preparedness is essential through adequate education about the risk of wildfires and management of potentially hazardous scenarios.

"Many ofthe geographic locations most at risk exist in the western U.S. as these areas contain either fuel systems composed of vegetation that rapidly grows and rapidly dries out (shrub and grass systems) or locations contain dense, mature forests that may be prone to ignition during dry summer months," Coates said.

Coates explains that many of these locations are part of the expansive wildland-urban interface. "In these locations, homes and communities are literally situated within a primed fuel complex without any barriers to prevent wildfire spread throughout the community.

"Exceptions to U.S. western the predominance are found in the eastern U.S. In some of these locations, changes in volatile species have occurred and have led to increased risk," said Coates. "Forests are also dense in many locations and the structure and condition of these fuels may lead to really large wildfires when conditions are dry."

Coates said that we've seen this play out in autumn months within some southern states, for example, probably most drastically noted in the 2016 autumn wildfires that took place in Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge.

As homeowners and communities prepare to limit and manage the harmful effects of wildfires this season, Coates offers the following advice for community planners.

Housing areas should be constructed to promote adequate boundaries of potentially hazardous vegetation surrounding

the housing community. Entrances and exits

to housing communities should be built to prevent one-way entrances and exits and fire hydrants should be located throughout those communities.

Building materials and vegetation should be selected to minimize potential ignitions that may compromise houses within residential communities.

Individuals can support organizations and entities that are working to conduct active forest management around their neighborhoods and communities.

### About Coates

Adam Coates is an assistant professor the department in forest resources of and environmental conservation, in Virginia Tech's College of Natural Resources and Environment. Coates maintains an active research program focused primarily on fire ecology. This includes elements of fire behavior, fuels, fire effects, silviculture, and restoration ecology.

### www.ourvalley.org



Anderson, Dean of Arts and Sciences Sarah Tolbert-Hurysz, NRCC Educational

Home for Sale in Floyd County VA! 133 Mountain View Ln, Floyd VA 24091

**ONLINE AUCTION** Ends Friday June 17th @ 3 PM

### Bid Now at VaAuctionPro.com



You have the opportunity to purchase a great home near Riner VA! This property features a nice split foyer home built in 1979 with 2,170 sq. ft. The upper level has 1,120 sq. ft. with 2 bedrooms and 1 bath. The lower level has 1,050 sq. ft. with 2 bedrooms and 1 bath. Both levels have carpet and vinyl floors along with wood and vinyl panel walls. The home has electric baseboard heating, shingle roof, exterior vinyl siding with brick to grade, private well and septic, gravel driveway, an uncovered deck, an uncovered porch below the deck, and storage under deck staircase. Don't miss out on the opportunity to purchase this great home near Riner VA! It would be a great first time home, fixer upper, or investment property! The property consists of five tax map parcels combining for a total of 5.57 acre +/- sold all together. AEP Power line and easement run through bottom corner of property. See Bidder Pack for Maps.

### Preview Date - Friday June 10th @ 3 PM

Terms - 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$5,000 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. Download Bidder Pack at VAAuctionPro.com

**Contact Broker/Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at** 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com; Or Booie Dehart, Realtor at 276-952-5061 or email booied@yahoo.com

102 S. Locust Street, Floyd, VA 24091 (540) 745-2005 VaAuctionPro.com Lic# 2907004059



**Blue Ridge Land** & Auction Co., Inc

### radfordnewsjournal.com

Foundation Executive Director Angie Covey, Coordinator of Nursing Dr. Lorrie Coe-Mead, nursing faculty Debra Massaro and Jessica Windle, and advisors Kassey Davidson and Fran Scartelli.

"This new nursing scholarship creates opportunities for students in the New River Valley to get a debt-free education in a rewarding and in-demand career pathway," said Huber. "The program will not only change the lives of our students, but it will also prepare them to serve their communities as health care heroes."

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

Nursing Scholars must demonstrate outstanding academic achievement, leadership, and citizenship. Applicants must have a 3.75 high school grade point average or better and demonstrate superior levels of leadership and citizenship in the application essays.

#### 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.
- Northeast side of Tyler Avenue Between the Food City Entrance B) 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)-I. 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.
- Southeast Side of Arlington Street Between Kent and G) 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.

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

# RADFORD SPORTS East Mont girls win region soccer

## title; Auburn boys head to state



Eastern Montgomery's Madison Bruce scores to get the Mustangs on the board against Auburn in the Region 1C championship match under the lights at Blacksburg High School.



Eastern Montgomery head coach Whitney Shaver presents her team with the 2022 Region 1C championship trophy after a 5-1 win over Auburn on Wednesday.



Auburn's Chris Neal advances the ball against Galax defender Cesar Perez during the boys' Region 1C championship. Galax would take the 1-0 win. Both teams advance to the state quarter finals.



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Auburn keeper Andrew Tickle makes a diving save against Galax during Wednesday's Region 1C championship match played at Blacksburg High School.

### Two Bruin soccer players to move on to next level



### Marty Gordon NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Two Blacksburg High soccer players who helped the team put together an undefeated season have committed to play at the next level.

Kylene Monaghan is headed to Sewanee College while Julia Howland will play at Greensboro College.

Monaghan said Sewanee had the right balance of high-quality and athletics that she was looking for.

"When I went on a recruiting visit, I really loved the campus, and meeting the team and the coach, I knew this was a place that would fit me very well," Monaghan said. "I received some academic scholarships as well, which really helped solidify the decision for my family in making the school a possibility and fulfilling my goal of playing soccer in college.<sup>2</sup>

Howland said Greensboro was just home for her.

Monaghan was tied for the scoring lead last year for Blacksburg with 16 goals and 10 assists. This season, she has put together 18 goals and 11 as-

Send community news and photos to community news @ourvalley.org sists and was named to the River Ridge All-District first-team.

Over four years at Blacksburg, Howland has scored 14 goals and has been a part of a squad that has scored over 100 goals in the regular season while only allowing only three goals by their opponents.

Greensboro College is a private college in Greensboro, N.C., with about 1,000 students.

The school competes academics in the National Collegiate Athletic Association's Division III and the USA-South Conference. The women's soccer team finished 5-13-3 this past season.

In Sewanee, Tenn., Se-

wanee is known as the University of the South with an enrollment of 1,689

students. The athletic program is a member of the Southern Athletic Association in the Division III ranks.

Howland hopes to major in business administration with a concentration in management and

eventually to continue her culinary career and study abroad.

Monaghan plans to major in physics and will be pursuing the pre-engineering program that Sewanee has in partnership with Washington University in St Louis and Columbia University.





### ESTATE AND PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION 321 Vaughn Avenue, Dublin, Va. 24084 Saturday ~ June 18

Personal Property Auction starts at 10 AM. Real Estate sells at 12 Noon. Under the Tent with Seating. Food, Drinks and Restroom will be available.

Real Estate: Description: Beautiful Brick Ranch with Basement.. Bricked to Grade. 1580 Square Feet on Main Level. Additional 40 Square Feet Finished in Basement. Total Finished Square Feet, 1620. Heat Pump. Oak Hardwood Floors. Paved Drive. Front Porch 4 X 20. Concrete Patio 10 X 12. Main Level Family Room with Fireplace. 2nd Fiireplace in Basement. 3 Bedrooms. 2 Baths. Kitchen Appliances Included. (GE Side by Side Refrigerator/Freezer with ice maker; Maytag Under Counter Dishwasher, Magic Chef Slide in Smooth Top Electric Range.) Numerous Kitchen Cabinets. Washer/Dryer Hookups. Public Water, Sewer & Electricity. 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Family Room, Living Room and Eat in Kitchen.. Open House on Real Estate Only, Sunday, June 12 from 2 PM to 4 PM. Real Estate also shown by appointment by calling Auctioneer, Kem Darden at 540-639-2870.

Personal Property: Loads of Personal Property including Antiques, Crystal, Collectibles, Glassware, McCoy Picther, Roseville, Doll Collection, Old Stamp Collection, Large Coin Collection, Oil Lamp Collection, Jewelry, Corner China Cabinet, Rocking Chair, Kirby Vacuum Cleaner, Crock Picher Collection, Bell Collection(PreWW2,) Cedar Chest, Pineapple Bed, Several Chest of Drawers, Flat Screen TV, Day Bed, Whirlpool Washer and Dryer, Hand Made Wooden Bowls, Oil Lamps, Homemade Cake Plate, Antique Potato Peeler, Old Phonograft, Antique 100 Year Old Doll, Chatty Cathy, Tammy Doll, Little Miss Echo Doll, Bride Doll, Porcelain Dolls, Antique Hair Pins Gold and Amethest, Siam Silver Jewelry Pre 2ndWW, Baby Carriage, Nice Corner Cabinet, Antique Buffet with Claw Feet, Jewelry Boxes, Several Antique Clocks including Horse and Carriage Clock, Gingerbread Clock, Mantel Clock, Standing Lamp with Clock, Grandfather Clock, Old Record Collection 78 Speed, Sewing Machine Table, Collection of old rare Marbles, Baskets, Wicker Flower Stand, Many Framed Pictures, Crystal Scones, Large LR Area Rug, Wing Back Chair, Living Room Suite, Old High Top Bed, Anniversary Clock, Butter Churn, Lots of Lamps, Fry Baby, Old Brown Mule Box, Violin Case, and much, much more. Preview of Personal Property day of sale.

Terms: Good Check or Cash on Personal Property. On Real Estate, 10% down payment with balance due in cash within 30 days. Auctioneer reserves right to charge buyer premiums.

Directions: I-81. Take Dublin Exit # 98. Go North on Route 100, Right on Giles at Traffic Light. Go one block to Right on East Main Street. Left on Dunbar, Right on Jordan, Left on Vaughn Avenue, Auction Site 3rd House on the Left. Look for Auction Sign posted in Front.

### MCCRAW REAL ESTATE INC. VAAR 746 ~ (540) 639-4556

## Grayson defeats Auburn 3-2 in baseball regional final



Auburn's Brady Hale beats the throw to third in the Region C championship game held in Riner against Grayson County.



Auburn's Mitchell Hale slides into second safely in Wednesday's Region 2C finals. Grayson County slipped by Auburn 3-2 for the win.

### FROM THE SIDELINES By Marty Gordon Lady Hokies softball poured out their souls this season; Mike Young inducted into Fork Union Hall of Fame

this past week. The Hokies delivered on a great season and memories you created. ignited the softball fever among Southwest Virginia.

softball field, but it was the announced team's behavior after many evening. Emma Ritter earned

The Virginia Tech softball of those games that singled team has no reason to hide them out. They took time their faces after falling in the to sign autographs and take Super Regionals to Florida photographs with their fans. Thank you for all the

For the second straight lots of young girls throughout season, pitcher Keely Rochard was named a First-Team Standing-room-only All-American, the National crowds packed the Blacksburg Fastpitch Coaches Association Wednesday

a spot as a Third Team All-American, the first time in school history the Hokies have had two All-Americans in one season.

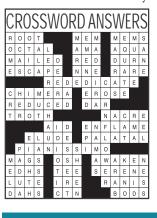
Rochard ended her senior season with a 26-4 record and a 1.89 ERA. She pitched 204 innings, striking out 328 batters, which currently ranks her third in all of Division I. Her six saves also rank her first in the ACC and fifth

nationally. The right-hander finished the season with a .174 batting average against.

At the conclusion of her five-year career, Rochard is first in school history with a .802 winning percentage. She accumulated 1,120 strikeouts, ranking her second in school history as just the second Hokie ever to reach the 1,000-strikeout milestone. She recorded 97 wins during her time in a Hokie uniform with a .170 batting average against.

Ritter was one of the Hokies' top hitters all season. She ended her season with a .400 average over 165 at bats with a .661 slugging percentage and a .474 on-base percentage. She tied for the team lead with four triples and added 11 doubles and eight home runs with 40 RBI.

Striking out only six times all season, Ritter was ranked first in the ACC and 12th nationally as the toughest to strike out. She also accounted for 23 of Tech's stolen bases, which ranked her third in the ACC. Her .400 batting average was good for second in the ACC. In the outfield, Ritter had a perfect 1.000 fielding percentage with 45 putouts.



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