



Wednesday, September 28, 2022 • USPS 387-780 • ourvalley.org • \$1.00

## Improvements coming to Bisset Park and Municipal Building

**Heather Bell**  
hbelle@ourvalley.org

RADFORD – Improvements to Bisset Park, including Phase One of a skatepark, a new basketball court and additional parking, are set to begin in the coming days.

A combination of federal Community Block Grant (CDBG) Funds and American Rescue Plan Act funds are funding the skatepark, and the work on the park's tennis courts. Local funds from the Recreation Department's construction budget are also being used for the park improvements, including a widening of 680 feet of the riverside trail, which will be expanded to 10-feet-wide from just West of Memorial Bridge to Shelter Two. A new junior high sized basketball court will also be constructed, and 18 additional parking spaces will be added in the area of Shelter Two.

Outdoor work at the Radford Municipal Building and courthouse on Second Street is underway, with interior improvements slated for October. Radford City Council approved a bid by SWVA Asphalt Paving LLC for the paving work in the amount of \$85,370 at its Sept. 12 meeting. The large gravel lot across the street from the building will now be paved, and the existing lot on the eastern side of the building will be milled and re-paved.

“The remaining areas will be surface sealed, the entire parking areas restriped, and a crosswalk installed across Second Street to enhance pedestrian safety,” ac-

See **Bisset Park**, page 4



IMAGE COURTESY OF THE CITY OF RADFORD

This map shows the upcoming improvements to Bisset Park, with work slated to begin soon.



RADFORD UNIVERSITY PHOTO

The City of Radford has been named by Realtor.com as one of America's Most Affordable College Towns for Homebuyers in 2022. This aerial view shows the Radford University campus.

### Radford named in top 10 affordable college towns for homebuyers

RADFORD - The City of Radford has been named by Realtor.com as one of America's Most Affordable College Towns for Homebuyers in 2022.

Radford ranked number eight on the list of places where, the website notes, “scholarly buyers can go to find a good deal on a home.”

To compile the list, Realtor.com identified cities where students accounted for 25% or more of the overall population, and each city on the list has between 15,000 and 200,000 residents.

“We limited our list to the single most affordable city per state to achieve

geographic diversity, and cities with at least 20 active listings to ensure enough data to determine median listing price,” Realtor.com said. Its findings from August 2022 reveal the median home price in Radford is \$284,000.

“Those looking for a lively college town shouldn't overlook Radford, Virginia,” Realtor.com said. The riverfront city “has plenty of restaurants, waterfront parks, and a burgeoning arts scene.”

Radford was the only Virginia location listed in the rankings.

The full ranking of America's 10 Most Affordable College Towns for

Homebuyers in 2022 is available on Realtor.com.

Soon after the rankings were released, Radford University was named in Washington Monthly's Best Bang for your Buck, National University rankings. The university ranked at No. 127 in the 2022 National University Rankings and No. 31 in the 2022 Best Bang for the Buck Rankings: Southwest, a ranking the university has been part of for nearly a decade.

Chad Osborne  
Radford University

## Radford High School crowns homecoming king and queen



PHOTO BY BRYANT ALTIZER

Radford High School seniors Devon Murphy and Anna Woolery were crowned homecoming king and queen during halftime of Radford High School's Friday night football game. The Bobcats defeated Christiansburg High School 21-20.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF THE NEW RIVER VALLEY

## Literacy volunteers win tri-wizard tri-mile race

Raheem Williams (right) and Katie Wardinski won the recent tri-wizard, tri-mile race that raised money in support of literacy in the New River Valley. The

pair set new course records. (Williams: 16:55.70 and Wardinski 18:33.44). In honor of their wins, they received trophies and wizard-carved walking sticks.

## Virginia Cooperative Extension names new director

Mike Gutter, who has an extensive track record of developing and funding partnerships and programs that benefit local communities, has been named the director of Virginia Cooperative Extension and an associate dean of the Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Gutter, currently a professor, specialist, and associate dean of Extension at the University of Florida, will start his new role on Nov. 1.

“I've always been a believer in Cooperative Extension's mission of sharing the knowledge of our land-grant institutions to help advance the well-being of all communities,” Gutter said. “I can't wait to join Virginia's team of agents, specialists, and staff who work so hard to address and help solve the most pressing issues in their communities.”

As an integral part of both Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, Virginia Cooperative Extension works in communities across the commonwealth to share knowledge, support businesses, and implement research that helps all Virginians.

Extension operates from the campuses and out of 107 county and city offices, 11 Agricultural Research and Extension Centers, and



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Mike Gutter has been named the director of Virginia Cooperative Extension. Currently a professor and associate dean at the University of Florida, he will start his new role on Nov. 1.

six 4-H educational centers across the commonwealth. Extension also has specialists in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, College of Natural Resources and Environment, and the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine.

Gutter earned his bachelor's and doctoral degrees from The Ohio State University where he received

his Ph.D. in family resource management studies. He was an assistant professor and Extension specialist at the University of Madison-Wisconsin for seven years, followed by 15 years of progressively larger roles at the University of Florida.

His appointment follows the retirement of Ed Jones. See **Mike Gutter**, page 4

# LAND TRANSFERS

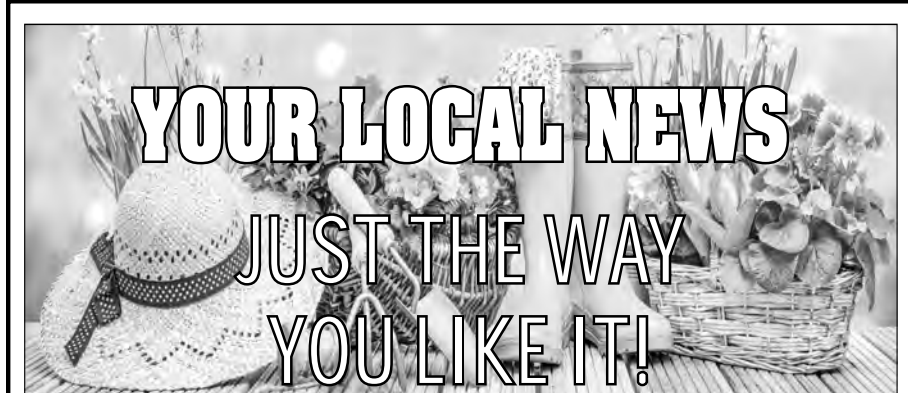
El Hawley to Pamela P. Simpkins, 1.18 ac., Riner Magisterial District, \$28,000  
 Davis A. Phillips to Larry D. Rush, lot 31, Auburn district, \$7,000  
 May Gertrude Shealor to Michel Beck, 0.91 ac., metes and bounds, Blacksburg Magisterial District, \$9,500  
 Boyd A. Queen, Jr., to Hailong Zhang, lot 194, Ph IVB, Village at Toms Creek, Blacksburg, \$691,000  
 American Cancer Society, Inc., to Macon C. Sammons, Jr., Shawsville Magisterial District, \$10,100  
 Richard Lee Beyma to Laur Kirshbom, lot 7, Glade Meadows Subdv., Blacksburg, \$390,000  
 Kristina R. Williams to Double V LLC, Lot 175, New River Village, Ph VII, \$305,000  
 Cesar Velez to Paul M. Wilkins Lot 6, Peppers Crossing, \$335,000  
 SAS Eagle Givens LLC to Brian T. Karlisch, 0.239 ac., lot 85, Blacksburg, \$657,186  
 Dallas E. Farmer to Joseph Maxwell Reynolds, 3.18 ac., lot 1, Riner Magisterial District, \$181,800  
 SAS Eagle Givens LLC to Mary Katherine L. Bopp, 0.303 ac., lot 130, Blacksburg, \$699,155  
 John H. Deweese to Antolin Garcia Bravo, two lots: 2.000 ac., lot A and 7.172 ac., lot B, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$150,000  
 Jean W. Skelton to John K. Skelton, metes and bounds, see legal, Blacksburg  
 Jean W. Skelton to John K. Skelton, two parcels: 0.204 ac., lot 15, and 0.241 ac., lot 16, Blacksburg  
 David T. Braine to Paul J. Litteau Trust, lot 21, Sec VI, Vista Pointe Subdv., Blacksburg, \$474,500  
 Joshua Chance Detwiler to Eric Gilmer, Lot 116, Clifton Ph 1, Christiansburg, \$349,900  
 Nantakrit Yodpijit to Jongprasithporn-Yodpijit Living Trust, Lot 24, Orchards Ph 1, Woods Edge, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District  
 John K. Skelton to Kevin K. Gilbarte, two parcels, 0.204 ac., lot 15 and 0.241 ac., lot 16, Blacksburg, \$1,000,000  
 John K. Skelton to Kevin K. Gilbarte, 0.207 ac., lot 4, Blacksburg, \$500,000  
 David Allen Bower to Blake McKenzie Keffer, 20.000 ac., lots 1-4, \$50,000  
 Sharon L. Lucas to Kashan Raza, lot 23, Radford Heights Subdv., \$209,500  
 Alexander R. Grizzard to Daniel t. Memmitt, 1.351 ac., Shawsville Magisterial District, \$180,000  
 Paul R. Carlier to Thomas S. Bube, lot 40, Ph 5, The Wyatt Farm PDR, Blacksburg, \$710,000  
 James Nelson Strickland, Jr. to Clinton Lee Neill, 0.344 ac., lot 9, Highland Park Subdv., Blacksburg, \$511,500  
 Lisa M. Assad to Robert C. Apgar, seven parcels, see legal, Elliston, \$210,000  
 Jamie C. Graybeal to Michael Lewis Hammonds, 3 parcels: lot 12, Mockingbird Hill Subdv. Parcel 1, Lot 11, Mockingbird Hill Subdv., parcel 2, and lot 13, Mockingbird Hill Subdv., parcel 3 \$300,000  
 Eric A. Bridge to Scott Alan Collins, 7100 Roanoke Rd., Shawsville \$239,000  
 Christopher L. Alderman to Kevin Riley Kish, lot 7, Walnut Creek, Ph 1, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$400,000  
 John S. Adie to Joshn Stephen Adie Trust, lots 9, 10, 11, Blk 2, Mountain View Estates, Blacksburg,  
 Glen Jackson Walters to Shirley G. Walters, 1.002 ac., Shawsville Magisterial District  
 Robert Van Luyn to Gertrude F. Van Luyn Trust, 1492 Boxwood Drive, Blacksburg,

7.98 ac., lot 2, Blacksburg,  
 Peggy Bryson Reed to Gleen Clarence Maynard, 3064 Pilot Rd., Riner, metes and bounds, see legal, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$500  
 Carpendale Investments LLC to Denver Wayne Milton, lots 32, Ph 1, Parkview Estates, Riner Magisterial District, \$175,000  
 Kipps Farms LLC to Stateson Homes LLC, lots 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$335,500  
 Caleb Slabach to Emmet Culley Eckman IV, 0.578 ac., lot 1, Christiansburg, \$277,000  
 Adam F. Carpenetti to Tiffany I. Carpenetti, 138 Ellett Dr. SE, Christiansburg, 0.470 ac., Beverly Hills, Christiansburg  
 Phyllis Jean Nelson Revocable Trust to Porter E. Riner, lot 9, Ellett Road Subdv., metes and bounds, Christiansburg, \$228,000  
 Thomas Ross Matthews to Caleb zj. Slabach, 3.4226 ac., Riner Magisterial District, \$265,000  
 Lilly Winters Martin to Curtis Dale Martin, 77 ac more or less, metes and bounds, See legal, Shawsville Magisterial District  
 Lilly W. Martin to Curtis Dale Martin, metes and bounds, see legal, Shawsville Magisterial District  
 Lilly Winters Martin to Curtis Dale Martin, 1.62 ac., Prices Fork Magisterial District, Kevin W. Bircher to Sarah Gouger, lot 35, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph VI, Christiansburg, \$229,000  
 Matthew D. Barbour to Devon X. Watty, 1 ac., metes and bounds, \$199,000  
 Megan D. Hughes to Guy W. Pense, lot 1, Ph III, Blk A, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$101,000  
 Virginia Tech Foundation, Inc., to John D. Smith, 1.026 ac., lot 28, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$101,000  
 Cody L. McClintock to Todd Walstad, lot 3, Kensington Ph IX, Christiansburg, \$460,000  
 William A. Aden to Aden Living Trust, lot 104, Deercroft, Ph V  
 Joshua Adam Graham to Rebecca Johnson, 1.09 ac., lot 2, Riner Magisterial District, \$222,000  
 Paul Michael Shelor to Ariel R. Seymour, two parcels, 5.507 ac and 1.802 ac., lot 10, \$245,000  
 Calvin Lee Conley to James M. Hannah, 3.0132 ac., lot 2, Riner Magisterial District, \$417,500  
 Jack H. Newman, Jr., to Frederic Krebs, lot 12, Diamond Pointe Subdv., Ph 1, Christiansburg, \$459,900  
 Alan Dale Long to ADL, DDL Properties LLC, 1823 Sussex Rd., Blacksburg, Lot 20, Carriage Hill Townhomes, Sec II, Blacksburg,  
 John M. Shelor to Paul Michael Shelor, 1.385 ac., Shawsville Magisterial District, \$183,000  
 Vicki Ann Russell to Jerrod M. Betz, 17.839 ac., Shawsville Magisterial District, \$459,950  
 Jon J. Gonzalez to Dale S. Duncan, 1.81 ac., Riner Magisterial District, \$359,000  
 Brittany Simmons Robertson to Sean P. Murray, lot 3, Sec B, Airport Acres, Blacksburg, \$425,000  
 Malcolm L. Williams to Shabir Hamid, lot 34, Ph III, White Oaks Townhomes, Christiansburg, \$245,000  
 Jose G. Aguirre Torres to Feras Ghosheh, lot 43A, Ph II, Blk B, Cedar Orchard, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District \$730, 000  
 Tom Keenan to Brian F. Keenan, 0.609 ac., Christiansburg  
 Rudolf A. Woykowski to Julie M.

Woykowski, 2177 Whispering Pine Circle, Christiansburg, lot 9, Rolling Hills Subdv., metes and bounds, Riner Magisterial District  
 Rita G. Combs to Dalia Allencherry, 0.0448 ac, 1950 sq. ft. lot 5, Christiansburg, \$230,000  
 Billy D. Massie to Massie MHP LLC, 9 tracts, see legal, Riner Magisterial District, \$10,000,000  
 Fredric LaChance to Ethan Morrow, 0.2604 ac., Blacksburg, \$75,000  
 Robert W. Bareford, Jr., to Brandon J. Gray, lot 5, part of lot 6, Christiansburg, \$350,000  
 Dennis K. Tawney to Radford Development of Virginia, 0.424 ac., Riner Magisterial District, \$170,000  
 NANDB Properties LLC to James Edward Benjamin Simmons, 3 parcels, see legal, Christiansburg  
 Aaron T. Creed to Egan K. Green, lot 19, Craig Mtn. Sec 1, Christiansburg, \$350,000  
 Linda J. Sanford to Barry S. Oliver, 2735 Bunny Trail Dr., Blacksburg  
 Blacksburg Hunt LLC to Town of Blacksburg, 1200 Snyder Lane, Blacksburg, \$1  
 Sharon S. Walls to Simpson Rental LLC, metes and bounds, see legal, Prices Fork Magisterial District.  
 HHHunt Corporation to Hethwood Foundation, Inc., Common area, Blacksburg; Parcel 1 containing 4.3039 ac., parcel 2 containing 0.1388 ac., Blacksburg  
 Robert Dalton Bishop to Beatrice L. Bishop, 1722 Firetower Christiansburg, 0.46 ac., metes and bounds  
 Luca Fedele Estate to Marie Annette S. David, 2022002151  
 John Y. Gooch to Qiang Li, 2022005311  
 Justin P. Boyle to 1944 Plan Drive LLC, 1.605 ac., Blacksburg  
 Sheila Palmer Miles to Mark D. McGhee, 3 parcels, 1.09 ac., metes and bounds; 0.666 ac.; 1.041 ac. Lot 14B, Skycrest Subdv., Shawsville Magisterial District, \$175,000  
 Penny P. Barker Trust to Mark D. McGhee, 5.199 ac., new lot A1, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$125,000  
 William George Devens Revocable Trust to Charles Andrew Shepherd, lot 44, Highland Park Addition, Blacksburg, \$315,000  
 Caleb P. East to Sean Ryan White, 0.552 ac., lot 1, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$155,000  
 Daniel D. Hamrick PC Trust to Herb Smith, Inc., 1645 Woods Vista Dr., Christiansburg, lot 17, Woods Vista Subdv., Riner Magisterial District, \$131,000  
 Jenna Florence Montana to Catherine Underwood, 0.438 ac., \$40,000  
 Leah Katherine Nichols to Eden Durnil Harrison, 4.7108 ac., \$340,000  
 Larry D. Rush to Nicholas Cody Rush, 1 ac., lot 2, metes and bounds, Riner Magisterial District, \$265,000  
 Patrick I. Erickson to William Trey McCroskey, lot 13, Newcomb Heights Subdv., Christiansburg, \$210,000  
 Deena Flinchum to Haseeb Chaudhry, lot 5, Hill Subdv., Blacksburg, \$451,400  
 David G. Smith to Tyler Coffey, lot 83, Clifton Phase 1, Christiansburg, \$379,900  
 Shah Development LLC to Tony W. Linkous, 1.270 ac. Lot 85, Heritage Place, Ph IV-A, Christiansburg, \$537,000  
 Estes Homepage LLC to Harnold Vernone Estes, 1 ac. Tract A1, Blacksburg Magisterial District  
 Fredric LaChance to Brian F. Hicks, 0.2449 ac., lot 2, Blacksburg, \$575,000  
 Vijay K. Gupta to Vijay K. Gupta Trust, lot 35, Blk 5A4, Pheasant Run Townhomes, Blacksburg  
 Matthew Delvis Elmore to Dennis Melvin Mount, 0.314 ac., three tracts, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$10,000  
 Frank W. Kregloe to Maggie Ann Noonan, 2.255 ac., Shawsville Magisterial District, \$190,000  
 Darrell G. Hale to Patty Tawney, 1.166 ac., lot 2, Riner Magisterial District, \$420,000  
 Taylor H. Pesek to Milton Manrique Pena, lot 43, Huff Heritage Subdv., Christiansburg \$247,000  
 Holly R. Wimmer-McClanahan to Holly R. Wimmer-McClanahan, 14.09 ac., tract 1, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District  
 Carol Ann Bowder Estate to Adam M. Kluck, lot 71, Windmill Hills Ph 1, Christiansburg, \$295,000  
 Joshua C. Coble to Alyssa Marie Cart-

er, 2.097 ac., Riner Magisterial District, \$219,000  
 Shah Development LLC to Julian Christian Graves, 1.000 ac., new parcel A, Christiansburg, \$462,712  
 Bessie M. Epperly to Julie Crouse Consulting LLC, 1 ac., Cedar Run Acres, Blacksburg Magisterial District, \$117,000  
 SAS Eagle Givens LLC to Serkan Toy, 0.202 ac., lot 102, Sec XII, Northside Park, Blacksburg, \$745,375  
 Richard W. Duncan to Emily P. Davis, Lot 29, Reagans Ponte, Christiansburg, \$334,900  
 Heather Hodges to Heather Dawn Hodges, 1.000 ac., lot 1, Riner Magisterial District  
 Linda B. Frazier to Emily Conner, condo unit 2301, Bldg. 2, Knollwood Condos, Ph II, Blacksburg, \$180,000  
 Charles Francis Bowles to William Steve Gaskins Trust, metes and bounds, Blacksburg, \$80,000  
 I-Ping P Fu to Leah Tincer Taylor, lot 22, Sec 1, Carma Heights, Christiansburg, \$237,500  
 Stateson Homes LLC to Mamta Josh, 0.284 ac., lot 3, Kinloch Subdv., Blacksburg, \$780,575  
 Cullip Services Holdings LLC to Dorothy T. Strater, two parcels, metes and bounds, see legal, \$224,000  
 Michael Joseph Nizolek to Jessica Lee Seigler, lot 36, Ph II, Kelseywood Subdv., Shawsville Magisterial District, \$319,900  
 Erik L. Woody to RW/Wf0 LLC, 17.51 ac., Riner Magisterial District, \$200,000  
 Lauren E. Fritsch to Michele A. Kalos, lot 63, Huff Heritage Subdv., Christiansburg, \$215,000  
 Jamie L. Luz to Amber Brianne Pratt, lot 5, Park Street Townhomes, Christiansburg, \$136,500  
 Karen M. Callahan to Dorothy S. Moore Trust, lot 31, Mt. Tabor Village Subdv., Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$393,500  
 Edward Wilkins Downing to Mark V. Oldenburg, lot 13, Ph II, Shenandoah, Blacksburg, \$382,000  
 Wendy L. Evans to Barry W. Powell, 0.170 ac., lot 41, Surface-Wide Farm, Riner Magisterial District, \$154,950  
 Charlotte R. Hungate to Jason B. Taylor, lot 20, Meadowbrook Subdv., Blacksburg, \$225,500  
 Kerry Eugene Hamblin to Garry A. Hamblin, three tracts, see legal, \$239,000  
 Richard W. Russell to Meghan Marsh, lot 72, Clifton, Ph 1, Christiansburg, \$356,000  
 Equity Transfers LLC to BKC Properties, Inc. 1450 Cambria St. NE, Christiansburg, \$12,304  
 Robert Sphen Harrison to Charles S. Cousins, Jr. and Susan, lots 28, 29, 30, 31, South Hill Park, Christiansburg, \$290,000  
 Jacquelyn S. Dove to Charles Edward Dove, two parcels: parcel 1, 0.46 ac., metes and bounds, parcel 2, 1.113 ac., Mt. Tabor Magisterial District,  
 Brenda Mae Ragland to Blaine O. Andrews, 0.4608 ac., lots 8, and 9, portion of lot 7, \$135,000  
 Carri E. Friend to Rambler Springs LLC, lot 178, unit 8, Belmont Farms, Christiansburg, \$300,000 Fox Ridge 1 III Associates LP 2022006457 to Foxridge Owner 1 LLC, Foxridge owner 2 LLC, Foxridge owner 3, LLC, Foxridge owner 4, LLC, Foxridge owner 5 LLC, Foxridge owner 6, LLC, Foxridge owner 7, LLC, Foxridge owner LLC 8 \$90,091,449  
 Foxridge IV V LLC 2022006458 to Foxridge Owner 1 LLC, Foxridge owner 2 LLC, Foxridge owner 3 LLC, Foxridge owner 4 LLC, Foxridge owner 5 LLC, Foxridge owner 6 LLC, Foxridge owner 7 LLC, Foxridge owner 8 LLC \$40,629,476  
 Foxridge VI Associates LP, 2022006459, 9.3995 ac., metes and bounds, see legal, Foxridge owner 1 LLC, Foxridge owner 2 LLC, Foxridge owner 3 LLC, Foxridge owner 4 LLC, Foxridge owner 5 LLC, Foxridge owner 6, LLC, Foxridge owner 7 LLC, Foxridge owner 8 LLC \$32,680,231  
 Foxridge VII limited partnership 2022006460, 13.0718 ac., metes and bounds, see legal, Foxridge owner 1 LLC, Foxridge owner 2 LLC, Foxridge owner 3 LLC, Foxridge owner 4 LLC, Foxridge owner 5 LLC, Foxridge owner 6 LLC, Foxridge owner 7, LLC, Foxridge owner 8 LLC \$46,862,348

See Land Transfers, page 6



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# PETS OF THE WEEK



**Sky is one smart pup.** She knows a number of commands, including “sit” and “place.” She also can do a few pawsome tricks like playing dead and giving high-fives. This gal is sweet and aims to please. She needs a home where she is the only pet and the humans are older teens or adults.



**Megan is a petite little gal** who came to the Animal Care and Adoption Center near the end of August. She’s sweet and, well, just plain adorable. She is a curious, friendly younger cat. Stop by the center to see if she is your purrfect match.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Wednesday, Sept. 28:

### Sustainable Blacksburg Lunch & Learn: Sharing Economy

At the Blacksburg Library at noon. To be discussed is the community’s sharing economy and what can be done to support it. Featured will be Little Libraries, Free Fridges, and similar local resources.

## Thursday, Sept. 29:

### Worry Pet workshop

At the Blacksburg Library at 4:30 p.m. Lots of kids struggle with worries or anxiety, especially around the start of the new school year. Worry Pets are small enough to fit in a pocket or backpack. The cuddle fabric is snuggly soft and provides comforting sensory input and something to rub between worried fingers. Kids can come to the workshop to sew their very own simple Worry Pets. Sewing machines and all materials will be provided.

### Montgomery Chamber of Commerce training session

Hiring practices, campus recruiting and internships: What does post-pandemic recruiting look like? Hint, not 2019! The MCCC will host a training session on hiring practices, campus recruiting and internships. The speaker is Jim Henderson, the associate director of employer relations with Virginia Tech Career and Professional Development. JHenderson leads a team whose primary function is to provide guidance and assistance to employers and recruiters throughout the nation, helping them recruit and hire students into internships, cooperative education, and post-graduation jobs. The session will take place from 10 to 11 a.m. at 210 Laurel St. in Christiansburg. It is free to Chamber members and \$10.00 for non-members. <https://www.montgomerycc.org/events/details/hiring-practices-campus-recruiting-internships-9021>.

### County seeks public review of proposed transportation plan

Montgomery County is seeking public input as it develops a county-wide transportation plan. An open house will be held on Thursday, Sept. 29, from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room of the Montgomery County Government Center located at 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg, Va.

## Thursday, Sept. 29 – Saturday, Oct. 1:

“Twilight of the Gods” theater production at Bondurant Auditorium; 7:30 p.m.

## Friday, Sept. 30:

### Friends of the Library book sale

At the Blacksburg Library at 10 a.m. Fill a standard-sized grocery bag for \$5. Individual items are \$1 for hardbacks, \$.50 for paperback, and \$1 for CDs, audio books, and DVDs. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Library.

## Saturday, Oct. 1:

### Downtown Christiansburg Food Truck Rodeo

West Main Street, downtown Christiansburg; 4 to 9 p.m. Food trucks, live music, craft beer, and wine.

## Sunday, Oct. 2:

### Blacksburg Presbyterian Church benefit concert

Blacksburg Presbyterian Church has partnered with Blacksburg Refugee Partnership for a free benefit concert at 3 p.m. at the church. Pianist Fabio Manchetti will be performing. The church is located at 701 Church St. in Blacksburg. Any donations received will be given to the partnership to continue the work of helping to resettle new neighbors in Blacksburg (11 individuals have arrived since July).

## Monday, Oct. 3:

### Humans of Radford

Everyone has a story. Sign up at [tinyurl.com/RadfordHumans](https://tinyurl.com/RadfordHumans). On the McConnell Library lawn from noon to 5 p.m. Everyone in Radford is welcome to join this event to share a story.

## Tuesday, Oct. 4:

### Piano recital

Pianist Dr. Fabio Manchetti will present a free concert at Davis Hall in the Covington Center for the Art on the campus of Radford University at 7:30 p.m.

### School board meeting

The Montgomery County School Board will meet from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St, Christiansburg.

### Teen college prep

At the Radford Public Library from 6 to 7 p.m. Counselors from Radford University will present an informal Q&A to middle- and high-school students about what to expect when beginning the college admissions process.

## Thursday, Oct. 6:

MCCC October eggs &

### issues

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce will present an Eggs & Issues breakfast at Warm Hearth Village, 2387 Warm Hearth Dr. in Blacksburg from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. The topic is New River Valley Passenger Rail. Invited speakers include Raymond D. Smoot, Jr., Virginia Commonwealth Transportation board; Michael McLaughlin, COO, Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VRPA); Sandy Davis, co-chair, New River Valley Passenger Rail; Kevin Byrd, executive director, New River Valley Regional Commission. The moderator will be Ann Cassell, President of The Blacksburg Partnership. Admission is \$25 for chamber members and \$35 for non-members. Space is limited, and reservations are required by no later than October 4 at noon.

Register and pay online or contact programs@montgomerycc.org. <https://bit.ly/oct22eggs>.

### American Legion meeting

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

## Friday, Oct. 7:

### Children’s Yoga

At the Radford Public Library from 10 to 11 a.m. Kelly McCoy of “The Whole You” and Alex Bowman from “Embark Pediatric and Family Chiropractic” will present children’s yoga classes. If possible, children should bring their own yoga mats. Registration is required. To register, call the library or email [morgan.esterhuizen@radfordva.gov](mailto:morgan.esterhuizen@radfordva.gov).

## Monday, Oct. 10:

### City council meeting

The Radford City Council will meet in the Starnes Council Chambers at the Radford Municipal Building, 10 Robertson St.; at 7 p.m. The agenda can be found at [www.radfordva.gov](http://www.radfordva.gov).

### Board of Supervisors meeting

Public meetings are the second and fourth Monday of each month at the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St. in Christiansburg. Closed sessions begin at 6 p.m. if needed. Open sessions begin at 7:15 p.m. Citizens are invited to attend and allowed to speak at each meeting. All regular meetings of the Board of Supervisors are rebroadcast on Montgomery County Comcast and Shentel Channels 190 daily.

## Tuesday, Oct. 11:

### Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

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

### School board meeting

The Radford City School Board will meet at 6 p.m. in the RCPS Administration Building, 1612 Wadsworth St. The agenda can be found at [www.rcps.org](http://www.rcps.org).

### Blacksburg Town Council meeting

The Blacksburg Town Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers of the Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 S. Main St. These meetings are open to the public and are televised live on WTOB Channel 2. Meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

### Christiansburg Town Council meeting

Christiansburg Town Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. in the council chambers of the town hall (100 E. Main Street).

### Spooky movie trivia for teens

At the Radford Public Library from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Friendly Halloween-themed trivia competition for teens. Each correct answer will earn a piece of candy.

## Saturday, Oct. 15:

### National Paint Your Own Pottery Day celebrated at local studio

Paint Your Own Pottery (PYOP) stores around the country will offer special classes and events to celebrate National PYOP Day. Paint ‘n Fun Ceramics in Christiansburg will be participating with activities for everyone in the family.

## Sunday, Oct. 16:

### Author talk with Jane Goette

At the Blacksburg Library at 2 p.m. Jane Goette will talk about her book “A River Road Memoir,” a journey through a young girl’s idyllic childhood in the rural South to her restless adolescence when the Civil Rights struggle becomes urgent and personal to her family. The unfolding story is told through the second

daughter’s eyes. This author event is sponsored by the Friends of the Library. For more information, contact Linda Spivey at 540-382-6969, ext. 221.

## Saturday, Oct. 22:

### Blacksburg leaf compost pickup

Loose and bagged leaves collected by the town are composted into leaf mulch. This mulch can be used as a soil additive or for composting, and is available to Blacksburg residents for pickup.

Register at: [https://www.blacksburg.gov/Home/Components/News/News/10139/304?backlist=%2fhome%2f-fsiteid-1#/,](https://www.blacksburg.gov/Home/Components/News/News/10139/304?backlist=%2fhome%2f-fsiteid-1#/)

### Sons of Norway meeting

For all people of Scandinavian/Nordic heritage or those interested in the Nordic countries (Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Iceland), interesting programs, and activities on heritage and culture. This is an open meeting of the local lodge of the international Sons of Norway organization from 1 to 3 p.m. at College Lutheran Church, 210 South College Ave., Salem. All ages are welcome, men and women, boys and girls. For information, call Joann Barfield, 540-380-2926.

## Ongoing:

### Chamber Annual Awards Nominations

The Montgomery Chamber of Commerce annual meeting award nominations are now being accepted. Anyone can nominate a deserving business or government leader or organization until Sept. 30 in any of the following categories: Business of the Year; Minority Business of the Year; Small Business of the Year; Distinguished Business Leader; Distinguished Government Leader; Distinguished Non-Profit Leader; Non-Profit of the Year (small & large); Community Service – Organization; Community Service – Individual; Technology Company of the Year; Green Business of the Year. <https://bit.ly/mc-2022annual>.

### Coat drive in memory of Cindy Collins

Underway at the Meadowbrook Public Library. Donations of new and gently used coats sizes 4t-XXL may be dropped off at Meadowbrook Public Library in memory of Cindy Collins, who died on Aug. 3. Coats will be for students in Eastern Montgomery. Contact Cindy Minnick with any questions. (540) 268-1964.

### Blacksburg Police community survey

The Blacksburg Police Department is asking the community to complete a short (approximately three-minute) survey ranking individual satisfaction with the department. All responses are recorded anonymously and honest feedback is appreciated. These responses will help the BPD continue its efforts to serve the Blacksburg community. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/t/VFYG9J8>

### Applications underway for NRV master gardener grants

The NRV Master Gardener Association, a volunteer organization of the Virginia Cooperative Extension, is accepting grant applications for 2023 gardening projects. Grants will be awarded based on merit to any educational, caregiving, or community-based organization seeking to educate, involve, and/or improve the quality of life for participants through a gardening-related project. Organizations in the counties of Floyd, Giles, Pulaski, and Montgomery (and towns within) are encouraged to apply. In the past, grants have been awarded to public and private schools, 4-H groups, public libraries, other educational groups, as well as community gardens and nursing homes. Applications must be electronically received (if emailed) or postmarked (if mailed through the USPS) by Oct. 15, 2022. For more information and to submit a project application, contact Carol Trutt: 540-239-9591 [caroltrutt53@hotmail.com](mailto:caroltrutt53@hotmail.com). Email is preferred, but applications may be mailed to Carol at the following: 95 N Surry Circle, Christiansburg, VA 24073.

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5-11PM

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# OPINION

## Virginia gas prices fall another 5.8 cents per gallon

Average gasoline prices in Virginia fell 5.8 cents per gallon last week, averaging \$3.33/g as of Monday, Sept. 26, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia.

Prices in Virginia are 30.6 cents per gallon lower than a month ago but are still 33cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel declined 5.1 cents last week and stands at \$4.88 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced

at \$2.85/g Monday while the most expensive was \$4.19/g, a difference of \$1.34/g.

The national average price of gasoline rose 3.2 cents per gallon last week, averaging \$3.67/g Monday, Sept. 26. The national average is down 17.5 cents per gallon from a month ago but is 49.3 cents per gallon higher than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

"One of the longest gas

price declines on record has finally come to an end after 14 weeks, with gas prices shooting up in several regions amidst myriad refinery issues from the West Coast to the Great Lakes and in between," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "I don't know that I've ever seen a wider gamut of price behaviors coast to coast in my career. A slew of unexpected refinery disruptions, including fires and routine maintenance, have seemingly all happened in a short span of time, causing

wholesale gas prices to spike in areas of the West Coast, Great Lakes, and Plains states, and some of those areas could see prices spike another 25-75 cents per gallon or more until issues are worked out," said De Haan.

"In addition, as Tropical Storm Ian nears the U.S. coast, some refiners could see limited disruption. As a precaution, GasBuddy has activated its Fuel Availability Tracker for motorists in Florida, Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina. Hopefully, disruptions will

be very limited due to Ian, but there remain many factors driving prices both up and down across the country."

*GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data. GasBuddy's survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country. GasBuddy data are accessible at http://prices.GasBuddy.com.*

## Correction:

In the June 1, June 15, July 13, and Aug. 17, 2022, editions of the News Messenger and Radford News Journal, the submission of the

financial focus columns was incorrectly attributed. They were submitted by Edward Jones Financial Advisor Meghan Kuczmarzski.

## NRCC nursing graduate changes careers from librarian to nurse

Justine Farlow didn't take a typical path to a nursing career. In fact, she worked as a librarian for 10 years before applying for nursing school at New River Community College.

From Pulaski, Farlow said that nursing intrigued her because of the many career options within the profession, and the career can be flexible for those with children. She also wanted to give back.

"Nursing is a rewarding service to others in your community," she said.

NRCC's nursing program drew her in because it seemed that the National Council of State Boards of Nursing NCLEX exam passing scores at NRCC were comparable with other colleges in the Virginia Community College System. She was also impressed by the communication she received from NRCC.

"The faculty and staff that I reached out to before committing were very helpful," Farlow said.

Beyond the NCLEX pass rates, Farlow found other compelling reasons to attend NRCC.

"I chose NRCC to support education within our community," she said. "Our county is fortunate to have the college here and available for students of all ages. The short commute, the reasonable tuition, and the opportunity for scholarships and grants were all factors in my decision."

While at NRCC, Farlow received funding for

tuition through the G3 program, a state program that offers tuition assistance for any Virginia resident who qualifies for in-state tuition and whose family income falls below an identified threshold. Eligible students may enroll in designated programs that lead to jobs in high-demand fields, such as nursing.

Farlow also received the Simmons Family Scholarship through the NRCC Educational Foundation. She found herself immersed in the college experience and was elected as one of the Student Advisory Board representatives for her nursing cohort.

But the journey to her degree wasn't without challenges. Just before she was accepted to NRCC's nursing program, she found out she was pregnant. And near the end of her studies, she had another child.

"Having two babies during nursing school was incredibly difficult in addition to working, caring for my family, studying, and putting in clinical hours," she said. "I'm so thankful that God put special people in my life during this time - professors, students, coworkers, church friends, clinical groups, and of course, my husband, without whom I could never have achieved this dream."

Along with hard work and determination, she credits much of her success in the program to the nursing faculty and friends she made along

the way who helped support her goal.

"Michelle Keister [one of Farlow's nursing instructors] was one of my greatest influences during my time at NRCC," she said. "She taught my favorite class and was an excellent clinical instructor. As long as I remember to ask 'Why?' I believe I will never stop learning. I now have the opportunity to pursue my dream job. I'm also thankful for the friends I made."

Farlow graduated magna cum laude with her associate degree in nursing

in May and then successfully passed her NCLEX exam later that month. She recently took her first nursing job as a labor and delivery nurse at Lewis-Gale Hospital Montgomery and is looking forward to beginning her new career.

"I would love to encourage any young woman who wants to make what seems like an impossible choice for the betterment of her family: do hard things. It is worth it," Farlow said.

*Submitted by New River Community College*

Submit letters to the editor to editor@ourvalley.org

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Radford News Journal is a newspaper of, by and for the people of Radford. We encourage letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached for verification. All letters will be verified before publication. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

Radford News Journal (USPS 387-780) is published twice a week for \$45 a year in the City of Radford, \$54 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$58 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Christiansburg, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL 1633 W. Main St., Salem, VA 24153.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NEW RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Justine Farlow was a librarian for 10 years before she applied for nursing school at New River community College.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Fall down
- 5. Gas usage measurement
- 8. Golf score
- 11. A superior grade of black tea
- 13. Wrath
- 14. Eating house
- 15. Delay leaving a place
- 16. People now inhabiting Myanmar
- 17. Canadian flyers
- 18. Walks back and forth
- 20. Frequently
- 21. Humans have two
- 22. Surrounds with armed forces
- 25. Made proper
- 30. Medical buildings
- 31. Patty Hearst's captors
- 32. Hits with a drop shot
- 33. Italy's PM 1919-20
- 38. Promotions

### CLUES DOWN

- 41. En \_\_: incidentally
- 43. Queens baseball team
- 45. Commoner
- 47. Expenses in insurance world (abbr.)
- 49. Payroll firm
- 50. Broadway actress
- 55. Skipper butterflies
- 56. Hint
- 57. Daniel \_\_, French composer
- 59. English children's author Blyton
- 60. Midway between east and southeast
- 61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- 62. Patriotic women's group
- 63. The woman
- 64. Tall, slender-leaved plant

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Parts per thousand (abbr.)
- 2. Jump
- 3. Eaten as a vegetable
- 4. Residual paresis after anesthesia
- 5. Brunchtime staple
- 6. Makes money off of
- 7. Refined
- 8. Nocturnal S. American rodents
- 9. From a distance
- 10. Officials
- 12. It helps you see
- 14. Central Canadian indigenous person
- 19. Invests in little enterprises
- 23. They help in tough situations
- 24. Industrial port in Poland
- 25. Type of screen
- 26. Peyton's little brother
- 27. Alcoholic beverage

### CLUES DOWN

- 28. Newspapers need it
- 29. Herbal tea
- 34. Distinctive practice
- 35. Exercise system \_\_-bo
- 36. Explosive
- 37. Belonging to a thing
- 39. Presidential candidates engage in them
- 40. Of the Swedes
- 41. Meadow-grass
- 42. "Rule, Britannia" composer
- 44. Hooray!
- 45. Greek city
- 46. One way to do it by example
- 47. Imitated
- 48. "Game of Thrones" actress
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Drought-resistant plant
- 53. A French abbot
- 54. One point east of northeast
- 58. Get free of

## Mike Gutter

from page 1

who was the director for nearly a decade and leaves the organization with an increased number of agents across the state, increased funding, and an array of new programs that touch upon everything from agricultural issues to opioid addiction.

Gutter said he's excited to build upon that success and help extension grow into a larger presence on campus, in Virginia, and around the globe. He wants to help everyone on the Virginia Tech campus realize the value of extension partnerships to achieve their own goals.

During his time at the University of Florida, he partnered with the College of Engineering to teach youth about artificial intelligence through the 4-H program. In Virginia, he said he'd like to build on extension's existing partnerships as well as find ways to develop new ones across campus built on STEM, workforce development, and other focus areas.

He was drawn to Virginia Tech, he said, because of its Ut Prosim (That I May Serve) motto because his own ethos of service has been imbued in his Extension work.

"Extension is all about furthering the no-

tion of service and meeting people where they are to help them improve their lives," Gutter said. "I want to engage the entire campus to help us fulfill our core motto at Virginia Tech. Cooperative Extension is the front door to the land-grant university in every county and every community in Virginia."

Beyond the lure of Extension, Gutter said he was attracted to the mountains of Virginia and the four seasons Virginia has — both of which are a big change from Florida. He said when he's not cheering on the Hokies from the stands or playing acoustic guitar, he and his wife, Jessica, enjoy hiking in the mountains with their 14-year-old daughter and spending time with their rescue cat and dog, Miss Kitty and Chloe. They also have a 19-year-old son who is staying in Florida for college.

"We are really excited to be part of the Hokie Nation and to help Virginia Cooperative Extension continue to make a difference in communities across the commonwealth," he said.

*Submitted by Virginia Tech.*

## Bisset Park

from page 1

cording to the City of Radford. "The work is being coordinated with the departments in the building and all services will remain open during the project elements. Interior upgrades are the second phase of the project and will begin in October."

The Radford City Council approved the 2022-23 CDBG allocation at its Sept. 12 meeting. The \$183,174, which comes from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, will be allocated as fol-

lows:

- Emergency Home Repair- \$25,000
- Infrastructure Improvement- \$99,000
- Beautification- \$16,174
- Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley- \$6,500
- New River Community Action- \$6,500
- Bobcat Backpacks- \$3,500
- Façade Renovation- \$6,000
- Radford Clothing Bank \$2,000
- RADical Change Commission- \$2,000

# OBITUARIES

## Hickerson, Jr., Edward (Ed) Earle

Edward (Ed) Earle Hickerson, Jr., 92, recently of Blacksburg and formerly of Charlottesville, went to be with his Lord and Savior on Monday, Sept. 12, 2022.

Ed was preceded in death by his best friend, partner, and loving wife of 65 years, Frances (Frankie) Hickerson, and his daughter Debbie Deane.

He is survived by his children, Bonnie Schneider of Dallas, Texas, Leslie Cash and husband, Marty, of Ashland, Charlotte McKee and husband, Dave, of Blacksburg, and Earle Hickerson and wife, Pam, of Lamsburg.

Ed and Frankie were blessed with nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Family was always very important to Ed, and weekends were often spent on family adventures camping and hiking, enjoying nature and the out-of-doors. He loved photography and shared his hobby and knowledge with the family, including developing and printing black and white photographs in the darkroom he built. Once they became "empty nesters," Frankie and he spent their summers as Campground Hosts volunteering at Loft

Mountain Campground in the Shenandoah National Park.

Over his lifetime, Ed was active in the church. Frankie and he were charter members of Jefferson Park Baptist Church, and he held many leadership roles. Ed's 47-year career as a professional designer, draftsman, and estimator for heating and air conditioning as well as roofing, began as a laborer and rapidly changed to a trainee position in the sheet metal shop assigned to a refrigeration mechanic. He took classes at the Virginia Mechanics Institute and was given the opportunity to begin designing residential systems. Ed credits the many individuals in the mechanical field who guided him in his early career.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Intrepid Hospice at Home, 101 W Main St, Radford VA 24141 in memory of Edward Hickerson. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at mccoynfuneralhome.com.

A graveside service will be held on Saturday, Oct. 8, at 11 a.m. at the Holly Memorial Gardens, 3251 Seminole Trail, Charlottesville, VA.

## Hines, Lewis Gray

Lewis Gray Hines, 87, of Snowville, passed away Sept. 24, 2022.

He learned to fly airplanes at an early age at his Radford family-owned airport. He retired from Southwest Virginia Tobacco Company after 47 years, and along the way he drove a school bus for Pulaski County. He was a volunteer fireman, serving as the first chief for the Snowville Fire Department.

Gray was preceded in death by his wife, Carolyn Altizer Hines; his parents, Edwin and Mary Ann Hines; a son, Kent Hines; a daughter, Sheryl Duncan; brothers Price Hines and E.F. Hines; and a sister, Marie Roop.

He is survived by his sons, Donnie Hines, Jay Hines (Gail), Mark Hines (Cathy) and Thomas Weeks; daughters



Amy Hines Horne (Brian) and Jennifer Hines Duncan; grandchildren Brad, Will, Amanda, Trish, Terri, Tony, Sarah, Matthew, Amber, Malorie, Rachel, Levi, Grayce, Mason, Quinn, Makenna, and Drake; and numerous great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; as well as many nieces and nephews.

The family received friends on Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2022, at Horne Funeral Home. Funeral services will be today, Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2022, at 11 a.m. in the funeral home chapel with the Rev. Charlie Henderson officiating. Interment will follow in Westview Cemetery, Radford. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Snowville Fire Department or Carilion Hospice. Arrangements with Horne Funeral Home & Crematory 540-382-2612.

## Newby, Freda McCoy

Freda McCoy Newby, 90, passed away Sunday, Sept. 25, 2022, at her home in Pulaski County.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Eric Kenneth Newby; a daughter, Mary Frances Thompson; and her parents, Leslie Boyd and Emma Frances McCoy.

Freda was a loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend.

Survivors include her sons and daughters-in-law, Clifford and Charlotte Newby, Steve Newby, and John and Cathy Newby; nine grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Services will be announced at a later date.

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

## Kosztarab, Dr. Michael

Dr. Michael Kosztarab, 95, Professor Emeritus of Entomology at Virginia Tech, died on Sept. 6, 2022, in Blacksburg.

A memorial service will be held at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Blacksburg at 1205 Old Mill Road with the reception/eulogy at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 1, followed by Mass at



2 p.m. His ashes will be interred at the Westview Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, a donation can be made to the Virginia Tech Foundation for the Michael Kosztarab Entomology Scholarship Endowment Fund (#883546) and sent to 902 Prices Fork Road, Suite 4500, Blacksburg, VA 24060.

## Osborne, Frank Nielson

Frank Nielson Osborne, 81, of Radford, died peacefully on Sept. 24, 2022.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph Alexander Osborne, II, and Mattie Lewis Osborne, and his brother, Joseph Alexander Osborne III, all of Williamsburg, Va.

He is survived by a sister and brother, Cynthia Hughes and William Lewis Osborne (Lou); a sister-in-law, Sheri Osborne; three children, Joseph Alexander Osborne IV, Laura Osborne Kirk, and Marian Osborne DeHart; two grandchildren, Vittoria LoMascolo Tripp and Michael Duncan Hammond; three great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Born in Salem, he grew up in Williamsburg and graduated from James Blair High School. He worked at his family newspaper, The Virginia Gazette



as a teenager, eventually moving to Richmond, and finally to Radford, spending his long career at Verizon phone company.

Frank was a member of Grove United Methodist Church and the Lions Club. He spent much of his spare time playing softball, racquetball, volunteering for the community delivering Meals

on Wheels, and serving on the boards of IDA and Big Brother/Big Sisters.

He will be lovingly remembered at a Celebration of Life on Friday, Sept. 30, at Grove United Methodist Church in Radford. Visitation begins at 1:30 p.m., and services follow at 2 p.m. Flowers are welcome, as are donations to Grove United Methodist Church or a local animal shelter.

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

## Sumner, Hassel Daniel "Dan"

Hassel Daniel "Dan" Sumner, 84, of Fairlawn, passed away Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2022.

He was a U. S. Marine Corps veteran and a retired chief warrant officer with the U. S. Army. Dan was a member of the Fairlawn Presbyterian Church where he served as a deacon for many years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Hassel Bland and Mary Whitt Sumner; his wife, Sandra Ann Bailey Sumner; and sisters Dorothy Allene Mabry and Betty Jennelle.

Survivors include his daughters, Melissa Montague Sumner Swisher (Shawn) of Staunton and Ann-Rochelle Sumner of Harrisonburg; a son, Sean Derek Sumner (Lori) of Switzerland;



grandchildren Mallory Ann Swisher, Hayden Sumner, Zabe Sumner Hameed, and Evan Sumner; and many other relatives and friends.

The family will receive friends from 4 until 6 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 29, 2022, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 30, in the mausoleum at Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin with Keith Covey officiating.

In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions to the Marine Corp League or the Pulaski County Humane Society.

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

# Virginia Tech's new Holden Hall is anything but boring

Isaac Maud can trace his whole life back to Holden Hall — even though his first visit was in September. Holden is where his parents, Karen and Salem, met as undergraduates in materials science and engineering.

With his parents in tow, Isaac, now a toddler, got to enjoy the Sept. 8 re-dedication of the newly renovated Holden Hall and North Wing, along with Julia M. Ross, Paul and Dorothea Torgersen Dean of Engineering; Virginia Tech President Tim Sands; state legislators; faculty; staff; alumni; students; and donors.

With 102,000 square feet of new and renovated space, the building, like Isaac, is made for the future. The new Holden boasts high-tech laboratories for research, new computational spaces for transdisciplinary collaboration, and three new 50-seat classrooms equipped with the latest audiovisual capabilities. It is home to the departments of Mining and Minerals Engineering and Materials Science and Engineering, putting most of their operations under one roof for the first time in years.

Former students like Karen Maud, '11, who has made a career at GE in South Carolina and now is a member of the

Materials Science and Engineering (MSE) advisory board, remember a very different building. The labs and classrooms were functional, she said, but do not compare to the facilities new students will enjoy. She said this renovation gives prospective students even more reason to choose both the university and her major.

"MSE is smaller compared to a lot of the programs, so you can know the faculty by name and they know you," she said. "Now, you have this amazing facility that backs it up. Now you have both the people and the facility to really go after the research."

The new building features teaching laboratories that not only serve undergraduates, but also provide research groups with access to a wide array of scientific equipment. The project added 75 percent more square footage to the original building, including the first-in-the-nation Center for Autonomous Mining.

Also known as the VT Mock Mine, this first-floor laboratory will allow students to operate autonomous mining equipment and drones as well as train for competitions, such as the NASA Robotic Mining Compe-

dition and Elon Musk's Not-A-Boring Competition.

"In addition to commemorating how far we have come, the new Holden Hall signifies our forward momentum

that continues to amplify the college's impact on research, education, and industry," Ross said.

Sands said he has a particular affinity for the new facility, as he's a tenured professor in MSE.

"Before I began working in higher education administration, I was a materials science researcher, so this building really speaks to the scientist in me," Sands said. "The work that

goes on here in materials science and mining and minerals engineering is an essential part of developing sustainable energy sources and building the green economy of the future."



PHOTO BY PETER MEANS FOR VIRGINIA TECH.  
The new Holden Hall and North Wing is open for classes. The re-imagined, state-of-the-art facility is home to the departments of Mining and Minerals Engineering and Materials Science and Engineering.





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# RADFORD SPORTS

## Week Five previews: Christiansburg hosts Salem, Radford looks to stay unbeaten

**Marty Gordon**  
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Christiansburg's coaching staff and players might have circled this Friday night on their calendar. The once-beaten Blue Demons will host Salem, which is now 4-1 after a 76-0 win this past week over Blacksburg.

Almost everyone on Salem's roster saw time on the field Friday night.

Peyton Lewis ran for 86 yards and two touchdowns and returned a punt for a touchdown. Javion Jones also ran for three touchdowns.

Christiansburg turned to the running game in the 21-20 loss to Radford, totaling 223 yards on the ground with zero through the air.

Salem has outscored its opponents 220 to 98 this season with their only loss coming to Martinsburg, W.Va., 40-7 in the school's opener. Salem also had a close call against Franklin County, winning 43-42. Last season, Salem beat Christiansburg 24-7.

Christiansburg defensive end and tight end Dishon Garrison suffered a neck injury against Radford, and he is expected to be out at least two weeks.

The Christiansburg Recreation Department will host a free tailgate party in the CHS parking lot before Friday night's game in Christiansburg.

Radford hopes to build on last week's win over Christiansburg as

they open Three Rivers District play against Alleghany.

Bland is now the second school in Southwest Virginia to shut down its fall football program because of the lack of players. Three years ago, Bland killed the program and did not play. This was their second season back in action. The cancellation will affect several schools in the area, including Auburn and Eastern Montgomery.

Quarterback Landon Clark is this week's player of the week after leading Radford to the 21-20 win over previously unbeaten Christiansburg. Radford is ranked #2 in the latest Max-Preps state Class 2 poll.

This week, the Virginia High School League will release its first points standings, and Radford is expected to have gained extra points after beating the Class 3 Blue Demons.

Clark finished 14 of 25 passing for 215 yards with three touchdowns and rushed 18 times for 106 yards. Worth a mention is that Christiansburg running back Thaxton Henley rushed 24 times for 110 yards in the loss.

Area Top Five: 1) Salem, 2) Radford, 3) Christiansburg, 4) Glenvar, 5) Narrows.

Predictions for this week: Patrick Henry 38, Blacksburg 16; Christiansburg 34, Salem 30; Ft. Chiswell 34, Auburn 12; Radford 44, Alleghany 20.

## Radford downs unbeaten Christiansburg 21-20



**Parker Prioleau picks up rushing yards for the Bobcats as Radford moved to 4-0 with the 21-20 Friday night win over the previously unbeaten Christiansburg High School Blue Demons.**



**Radford Quarterback Landon Clark looks for a receiver in Friday's defeat of Christiansburg. He finished 14 of 25 passing for 215 yards with three touchdowns while rushing 18 times for 106 yards.**



PHOTOS BY BRYANT ALTIZER

**Bobcat receiver TJ Aursby gets yards after the catch up the sidelines. Radford scored 21 points in the first half and held on for the 21-20 win over the Blue Demons.**

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## RU Athletics mourns loss of former AD

Radford Athletics is saddened to learn of the passing of Charles David "Chuck" Taylor on Wednesday, Sept. 21. The first-ever men's basketball head coach and athletics director in school history, Chuck made an everlasting mark on the history of the Highlanders.

He served as athletics director from 1974-1996, leading Radford on a remarkable journey from a six-sport unaffiliated small college program to Division I. Today, the Highlanders sponsor 16 varsity sports and have played at the Division I level since 1984.

During his tenure, Radford Athletics was nationally recognized as a leader in opportunities for women and minorities, as well as in graduation rates for student-athletes. In competition, seven different programs achieved national rankings in his time guiding the Highlanders.

Also serving as men's basketball coach from 1974-78, Taylor compiled a 56-43 record, never suffering a losing season and setting the stage for the program's future success.

The Radford Athletics Hall of Fame inducted Taylor into its third-ever class, enshrining him alongside Nan Millner (women's basketball), Steve Robinson (men's basketball) and Dante Washington (men's soccer) in 1997. He was also inducted into the Big South Conference Hall of Fame in 2006.

Chuck is survived by his father, Charles; his wife, Cheryl, and their children, Chip and Charlee; and his

five grandchildren: Walker, Charlie, and Euka, Chip's son; Kelly Grey, Chip's daughter; and Palmer, Charlee's

son.

During his last months, Chuck's life was improved because of the generosity

of blood and platelet donors. Anyone who is able, please consider making a donation to help someone like Chuck.



**Chuck Taylor**  
March 30, 1946 - Sept. 21, 2022

# After WVU loss, what's next for Hokie football?

## No "Black Diamond" trophy rematch for 10 years

Thursday's loss to West Virginia is a sign of the times for Virginia Tech football.

First-year coach Brent Pry found out a lot of work still remains to be done in Blacksburg.

Fans also have to realize the change in regime also means a change in the overall environment. The winning ways of the past will be slow to jumpstart, but there is hope.

Pry, who is a defensive specialist, has that side of the ball ready to play. But the offense has a long ways to go. There will be ups and downs with the roller coaster staying down longer than Hokie fans would like.

Patience is the key in this new adventure. The question

is whether fans will sit back and wait. The fan base has become spoiled from the success of the Beamer years, but even those took some time to develop.

Beamer was a combined 5-17 in 1987 and 1988, and his record in his first six seasons was 24-40-2.

Patience. While it ran out in the Justin Fuente years, fans must find it for this new chapter. Fuente left a very lean roster. Pry is trying to rebuild it as depth is a problem at least for this season.

Patience. The transfer portal will aid in the early years but rebuilding will still require patience.

Pry has a group of young coaches and players who must



### From the Sidelines

Marty Gordon

learn to play together. It will not come overnight. It will come over time.

Patience.

Last week's loss to WVU did point out a simple fact: This series must continue, but the game is a tradition that has fallen by the wayside. No games are scheduled between the two schools for the next 10 years. Patience cannot be a virtue in this case.

The athletic directors from both schools must put their

heads together to find a way for them to play to keep the series and the "Black Diamond" trophy tradition alive with the Black Diamond Trophy symbolizing the coal industry and its rich history found in both states.

WVU does have its cross-state clash with Pitt, but the fan base needs the WVU-VT contest too.

Virginia Tech and WVU are currently tied for the fourth-longest series (53 games) in WVU history. The fierce border rivalry was played for 42 straight years from 1912-1996, and the Mountaineers currently lead the series 30-23-1. WVU also won last year's battle and kept the unique trophy in the "coal" state.

An interesting side note shows that Tech holds the advantage 29-24-1 since the trophy was first handed out to the game's winner.

Rish Equipment, headquartered in Bluefield, West Virginia, also symbolizes the company's work with coal companies on both sides of the states.

For now, the trophy will remain in Morgantown with no game in sight through 2035.

Patience should be thrown out the window. This rivalry game is needed. The positives outweigh the negatives and should be a regular dot on the schedules of both schools.

Patience. Nope, not in playing this game over and over again every year.

## Sellers takes Late Model race at Martinsville

Peyton Sellers has done just about all there is to do as a Late Model Stock Car driver.

He's won track championships at South Boston Speedway and Dominion Raceway, Virginia state championships, three Virginia Late Model Triple Crowns, and two NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series national championships.

Despite all that success, there was also one accomplishment that eluded him for more than a decade.

He wanted to win a grandfather clock.

Sellers had come up short in 14 previous tries competing in the Valley Star Credit Union 300, but on Saturday night at Martinsville Speedway he finally did everything he needed to do to get the job done.

"This is something I've been dreaming about since I was a kid," Sellers said in victory lane.

Sellers finished second in his heat race earlier in the day and started Sat-

urday night's feature in seventh. Making sure to conserve tires and energy — and stay out of harm's way — he bided his time, gradually making his way toward the front in the second half of the race.

Following a stage break with 25 laps to go, Sellers got ahead of Mike Looney — his biggest competition for the lead all night long — and pulled further and further ahead as the laps ticked down.

Leading by several car lengths, it looked as

though the only thing that could stand in Sellers's way of victory lane would be a caution. Unfortunately for him, he had to survive two in the final 10 laps.

On Lap 191, a spun car forced a caution and a bunching up of the cars. Opting for the bottom on the choose cone, Sellers got below JR Motorsports driver Carson Kvapil and again pulled ahead.

He maintained the lead for three laps until another caution, this time for debris on the track in Turn 4.

On the final restart, what would end up being a green-white-checked overtime finish, Sellers again chose the bottom with Kvapil beside him and again got to the inside and pulled away after the first turn. His pit crew quickly went from biting their nails to throwing their hands in the air to celebrate the victory.

"To know that I had the quality of drivers around me I felt comfortable, but it's Martinsville," Sellers said. "It's \$32,000; it's a clock; it's the prestige that goes behind it. You expect anything."

"When they called me clear off Turn 2 on the last restart I said, 'Whatever I do I've got to put together

a good 3 and 4 right here to give myself a little bit of breathing room coming to the white."

Even though his team was visibly nervous about having two late cautions, Sellers believed the cautions played into his favor given his car's short run speed.

He also was thankful for a new race format that split the 200 laps into three stages — 100 laps, 75 laps, and 25 laps.

"The last 25 lap restart, I had been a little critical of it because I just knew it was going to tear up a lot of cars," he said. "But it played into our hands tonight. Short runs I fired off and Mike Looney was better than me on long runs without a doubt. He'd just drive by me and set sail. But we had a short-run car, and that's what it took tonight."

Sellers said he drove the final 100 laps so hard his legs were cramping for the final 25 laps.

"I ran the last 100 laps like I was qualifying," he said. "When they told me I had a four car-length lead, it didn't matter. It didn't matter what was behind me, I just rolled the mirror up and took off."

"It was sheer excite-

ment. It was nothing else than that. Calves were cramping bad. Emotions were going. They gave me a checkered flag and I made another lap just because I couldn't believe it."

With the win, Sellers takes home \$32,000, and added \$7,000 with a win in the Virginia Triple Crown, giving to the driver with the highest average finish in three races at South Boston, Langley, and Martinsville Speedways. This was his fourth Virginia Triple Crown (2013, 2014, 2018, 2022).

Looney won Stages 1 and 2, taking home \$1,000 for each stage win. He finished the race fourth.

Kvapil finished second, and Jacob Heafner finished third.

Kaden Honeycutt, driving for Bassett's Nelson Motorsports, finished fifth. His Nelson teammate, Bobby McCarty, finished 13th. McCarty won qualifying on Friday night, and started the feature race up front after winning the first heat race earlier in the day.

Timothy Peters, from Danville, finished eighth. Landon Pemberton, last year's VSCU300 winner, finished 27th.

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**Offering # 1** - This offering consists of a 1.5 story retail building, a storage building and 9.514 acres. Retail building is 3,032 sq ft, built in 2011. Very good quality construction. Metal roof, insulated panel siding, and stacked stone fireplace chimney. Interior flooring is commercial grade carpet in second floor offices, stained and sealed concrete in tasting and retail area, kitchen, 2 restrooms and hallway. Sealed concrete in the storage and mechanical room. Interior walls and ceilings are painted drywall. 12' to 15' vaulted ceilings in retail and tasting areas, and 8' in remainder. Heat Pump and electric wall heaters in restrooms. Kitchen has a triple stainless-steel sink and wash sink. Two 200-amp distribution panels, fire and security alarm system, built in speakers and large black walnut tasting bar. Stone paver patio, porch and walk with 16' x 16' canopy over patio. The improvements for this property were intended to be used as a winery. Improvements could be repurposed for other commercial uses or possibly as a residence.

**Offering # 2** - This offering consists of .510 acres of land located at 3850 Poppy Lane in Christiansburg VA. This building lot is mostly open and located across Poppy Lane from Offering 1. Property has been perked but perk has expired. Build your dream home on this lot. Great location near Christiansburg and Radford VA!

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## Joe Wilson cards hole in one at Auburn Hills



SUBMITTED PHOTO  
Joe Wilson (left) made a hole in one on #14 at Auburn Hills Golf Club this past week. His playing partner Gary Edmunds witnessed the shot.