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# NEWS JOURNAL

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## Radford High yearbook staff wins VHSL Trophy Class award

The Radford High School Oakleaf yearbook staff won the Trophy Class award from the Virginia High School League for their 2021-2022 publication titled, "It's Up To Us."

The staff of four students, with help

from student volunteers, photographed events in and out of school, designed artwork, and wrote copy for the 212-page publication. The theme for the book centered on the return from a difficult year for students and how "it's up to us" to make it a year to remember. In the opening of the book, the staff wrote, "We can determine how this school year will be. We can be teenagers

will develop our future, one step at a To support the idea of rebuilding and starting fresh, the staff went to drafting

again. We can live in the moment. We

teacher Cody Roberts for blueprints of different parts of the school that they scanned and used in their design. "I'm very proud of the hard work the kids put into this book and am thrilled they are receiving this well-deserved recognition," said Yearbook Advisor Savannah Leeman.

The four staff members are Editor-in-Chief Cassidy Mann, Co-Editor Audrey Bucy, Co-Editor Matthew Irvin, and Jeremy Gilmore. "Winning the Trophy Class from VHSL means a lot to the team and to me because we had worked very hard trying to communicate with each student class after being isolated the previous year," said Co-Editor Audrey Bucy. "It was difficult having only four members, but we managed to represent the student body as best as we could."

- News Journal staff report



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD HIGH SCHOOL

Radford High School's Oakleaf yearbook staff, all four of them, with some help from student volunteers, won the Trophy Class award from the Virginia High School League for their 2021-22 yearbook titled "It's Up to Us." The four staff members, pictured above, are Editor-in-Chief Cassidy Mann, Co-Editor Audrey Bucy, Co-Editor Matthew Irvin, and Jeremy Gilmore.

## Voters choose Eastern Redbud for Radford's official tree

**Heather Bell** 

communitynews@ourvalley.org

 $RADFORD\,-\, The\ votes$  are in, and the Eastern Redbud has been chosen as Radford's official city tree.

The tree must be adopted through ordinance by the Radford City Council to

become official. At the city council's meeting earlier this month, Radford Mayor David Horton

made the announcement. "The winner, by far, is the Eastern Redbud," said Horton. "The little heart-

shaped leaves are just like the Heart of the New River Valley." Radford's city slogan was, for many

years, the Heart of the New River Valley.

Horton said the Radford Beautification and Municipal Forestry Commission plans to present the city council with an ordinance to officially adopt the Redbud as the city tree. He noted that the Common Paw Paw tree, which came in second in the voting, and the Carolina Silver Bell would also be recognized in the ordinance as "trees of significant culture and natural

heritage" to the city. The effort to name an official city tree for Radford was spearheaded by Jesse



PHOTO COURTESY OF NURSERY NATIVES

Kelly, who operates a non-profit called Nursery Natives, the mission of which is "restoring native ecosystems, food sources, and community, one tree at a time."

Dr. Matt Close, co-chair of the Radford Beautification and Municipal Forestry Commission, addressed the city council in September about the importance of the city's urban forest tree inventory and said he hopes adopting an official tree is just the start of ordinances that can protect and enhance trees with regulations on how to properly remove and prune trees, replant deforested areas,

## Bobcat Theatre Company presents "The Addams Family Musical"

in time for Halloween, theatergoers have the chance to see a spooky fun production for two weekends in a row.

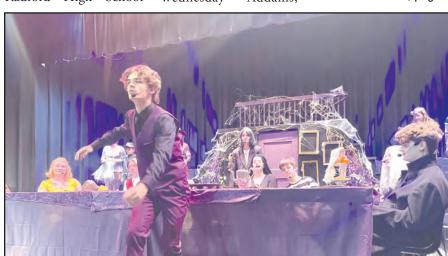
The Bobcat Theatre Company will be presenting "The Addams Family Musical at the Radford High School

Auditorium, October 21, 22, 28, and 29 at 7 p.m. and October 23 and 30 at 2 p.m.
The Addams Family

is "a comical feast that embraces the wackiness in every family, features an original story and it's every father's nightmare: Wednesday

the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family-a man her parents have never met," a description of the play reads. "Everything will

See Musical, page 4



Collin Baron, a tenth grader at Radford High School, performs the role of Gomez, along with other cast members, during a rehearsal for "The Addams Family Musical."

## Mummenschanz celebrates 50 years with Radford show Oct. 25

By Sean Kotz Radford University

RADFORD - On Tuesday, October 25, Mummenschanz, one of the world's most celebrated and storied stage troupes will entertain Southwest Virginia as part of Radford University's Performance

Since 1972, Mummenschanz has created an evolving repertoire of comedic and thoughtful stage acts punctuated by

moments of surprise and excitement.

Fifty years later, they are reviving the most popular routines and adding new ones to the show.

The troupe began as a duo performing in Paris, often in the streets. There, Swiss artists Bernie Schürch and Andres Bossard invented the first and longest-running routine using clay masks, transforming themselves into different people, animals, and monsters for the audience.

The group expanded after a young

See Mummenschanz, page 4



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MUMMENSCHANZ AND CAMI MUSIC

Mummenschanz uses an expressive collection of tubes, balls, mutable shapes, and foam rubber creations in its show.

of a lone tree on Lake Christiansburg

# Montgomery Museum to display photography of Christiansburg's Tim Lawson

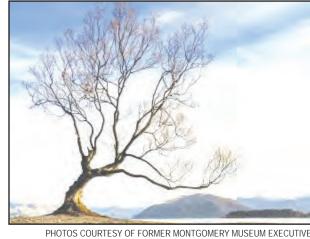
Beginning Nov. 3 with a public reception from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. with wine and light refreshments, the Montgomery Museum of Art and History at 4 East Main St. in Christiansburg present an exhibit of the photography of Christiansburg's Tim Lawson.

Thirty-five photographs comprise the museum's exhibit, which will be on display through December. Some works printed on metal such as aluminum. As the exhibit's opening nears, Lawson said, "Thanks for taking your time to see the world through my lens.

in

Included

ships themselves are inside the Roskilde Viking Ship Museum. exhibit is a photograph Lawson has lived in



DIRECTOR SUF FARRAR Lake Wanaka on the South Island of New Zealand.

the 1980's. He first got Wanaka and a photograph Lawson took interested in photography Copenhagen, Denmark, of replicas of thousandyear-old Viking ships. The

while taking pictures of his two daughters playing softball and volleyball. Once the children grew up, he transitioned to landscape photography, which has become his favorite art form.

## PCOMING EVENTS

## Saturday, Oct. 22:

Craft & Draft festival

The Craft & Draft Festival today will feature handcrafted artisans, live music, food trucks, craft beer, and more. From 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. outside at Glencoe Mansion, Museum & Gallery. More than 35 unique and original regional artists, crafters, and makers will be on hand. Five types of craft beer will be available. To help keep the event green, Craft & Draft will be selling a limited number of metal tumblers and will allow the use of outside non-lidded 16-ounce reusable metal cups. Four food trucks will be on hand. Live music featuring The Kind, Curtis Eller's American Circus, and JoJo Stockton and Solacoustix will be part of the fun. The event is kid- and dog-friendly. Hosted by MountainTrotter Arts, supported by festival partners Ballpark Signs, New River Valley Rent-All, New River Radio Group, and Glencoe Mansion. No outside alcohol and no smoking will be allowed in the event area. The festival is free, but donations are encouraged. Event info is available at www.craftanddraftva.com.

Blacksburg brew do

From 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., with VIP early access at noon, rain or shine, on the grounds of Historic Smithfield, adjacent to the Virginia Tech campus. The festival will feature craft beers from across the mid-Atlantic, popular food trucks and delicious fare, live music, and a variety of culinary and unique merchandise from Blacksburg, the New River and Roanoke valleys, and beyond. Tickets are now on sale and available for purchase online at www.blacksburgbrewdo/tickets. Attendees are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance. Regular admission tickets can be purchased on site the day of the festival. VIP tickets are pre-sale only.

Spooky movie Saturdays

At the Meadowbrook Public Library at 12:30 p.m. Participants can enjoy a movie (rated PG) about a hilarious trio of witches as they are resurrected on Halloween night in Salem. A spooky good snack will be provided and attendees will get a chance to enter their names in a drawing for a prize. Call 540-268-1964 for more information.

Trunk or treat

At Meadowbrook Public Library at 3 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to wear their best costumes. For ages two and up. For more information, call the Meadowbrook Library at 540-268-1964.

Blacksburg leaf compost pickup

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

Register at: https://www.blacksburg.gov/Home/ Components/News/News/10139/304?backlist=%2fho me%2f-fsiteid-1#!/.

Sons of Norway meeting

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, are invited to attend this 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.

Fall children's consignment sale

Blacksburg United Methodist Church will hold its semi-annual consignment sale of children's items at the Whisner Building of the main church campus, 111 Church St. in Blacksburg from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Great deals will be available on gently used kids' clothes and shoes, toys, books, games, movies, baby gear and

accessories, sports equipment, maternity clothing and more. Many items will be like-new; some will even be brand new. Some items will be half-price between 12:30 and 1:30 p.m., so shoppers need to arrive early for the best selection. Proceeds will benefit local charities.

150th church anniversary and homecoming

First Missionary Baptist Church-New River, 7318 Manns Dr., Fairlawn will have a weekend-long celebration of its 150th anniversary. The Rev. Richard A. Goodman, Sr., the church pastor, and Sister Carla Harvey will be the speakers at 3 p.m.

#### Sunday, Oct. 23:

Next-Gen quilting

At the Blacksburg Library at 1 p.m. Kits will be provided. Ages 8 through 12 should be accompanied by an adult. Machines and irons will be provided and restricted to use by adults. The class is co-sponsored by The Quilting Party.

150th church anniversary and homecoming

The First Missionary Baptist Church-New River, 7318 Manns Dr., Fairlawn continues its weekend celebration of its 150th anniversary and homecoming. The church pastor, the Rev. Richard A. Goodman, Sr., and the Rev. Lee Pusha, Pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, in Roanoke will be the speakers at 3 p.m.

Noise alert: Skipper cannon fire and fireworks

The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets' Class of 2026 will complete the first leg of the Caldwell March on Sunday, Oct. 23. Skipper, the Corps of Cadets cannon, will be fired as the cadets return to Upper Quad between 2 and 4 p.m. The actual time will depend on the weather and road conditions. Also on Sunday, Oct. 23, as part of the celebration of Diwali, a fireworks display will take place in the Drillfield area between 7:15 and 7:30 p.m. The university and surrounding community may experience elevated levels of noise during this time.

#### Monday, Oct. 24:

Monday movie matinee

At the Blacksburg Library at 1 p.m. When a single mom and her two kids arrive in a small town, they begin to discover their connection to the original ghostbusters and the secret legacy their grandfather left behind.

Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors will meet in the Government Center, 755 Roanoke St. in Christiansburg beginning with a closed session at 6 p.m. if needed. Open sessions begin at 7:15 p.m. Citizens are invited to attend and are 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.

Radford 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.

Mother & daughter book club

At the Radford Public Library from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. This is a fun book club for mothers and daughters (ages 8-12). To be discussed this month is "The Witch of Blackbird Pond" by Elizabeth George Speare. Email morgan.esterhuizen@radfordva.gov. with any questions, but registration is not required.

Christiansburg Emergency Services Committee The Christiansburg Emergency Services Committee

will meet at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall in the Administrative

Conference Room, 100 East Main St., Christiansburg.

#### Monday, Oct. 24:

Operation Green Light

At 6:30 p.m. in advance of the Veterans Day holiday, Montgomery County will hold a lighting ceremony to illuminate the Montgomery County Government Center and Public Safety buildings, 755 Roanoke St. in Christiansburg with green light. The buildings will be illuminated in green through Nov. 11. Operation Green Light is a new national initiative of the National Association of Counties to support military veterans. Its purpose is to raise awareness of the unique challenges faced by many veterans and the resources at the county, state, and federal levels that are available to assist them and their families.

#### Tuesday, Oct. 25:

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.

Christiansburg Town Council meeting The Christiansburg Town Council will meet at 7

p.m. in the Council Chambers of Town Hall (100 E.

Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce will host "Citizen Response to Active Threats and Personal Safety" training in the community room at the new Blacksburg Police Department, 200 East Clay St., Blacksburg from 10 a.m. to noon. The training is open to all businesses, faith communities, school personnel, and civic organizations and will be conducted by law enforcement personnel from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, and Blacksburg Police, Christiansburg Police, and Virginia Tech Police departments. The training is free to members of the chamber and is \$10 for non-members. Register at https://www. montgomerycc.org/events/details/citizen-response-toactive-threats-and-personal-safety-9023.

Chess club for teens & tweens

At the Radford Public Library from 6 to 7 p.m. Youth Services Specialist Dave will be in the community room for a game of chess. For ages 8-17.

#### Wednesday, Oct. 26:

American Red Cross blood drive

At the Christiansburg Library at 10 a.m. Walk-ins are welcome, or donors may schedule an appointment at www.redcrossblood.org.

DMV Connect at the Library

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

Sustainable Blacksburg Lunch & Learn: Stadium

At the Blacksburg Library at noon. This will be a conversation about the history and the conservation of Stadium Woods. https://sustainableblacksburgva.org/ participate/lunch-learn/.

#### Friday, Oct. 28:

Legals -

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Downtown Radford Treat Trail

The City of Radford, the Radford Police Department,

the Radford Chamber of Commerce, and the business downtown community invite the public to attend the Radford Treat Trail in downtown Radford Friday, Oct. 28, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Local trick or treaters young and old may stop by local businesses to show off their Halloween costumes and spirit in an event for all ages. To learn more, contact the Radford Chamber of Commerce at

Neighborhood trickor-treating will be held on Halloween evening, Monday, Oct. 31. Radford City Schools will be closed to students on Oct. 31 and Tuesday, Nov. 1, for a teacher workday and a parent-teacher conference day, so RCPS students can enjoy extra time for Halloween fun.

540-639-2202.

## Saturday, Oct. 29:

Pancake supper The Pilot Community

Center, 4449 Brush Creek Rd., will host a pancake supper from 4 p.m. to 6

### Monday, Oct. 31:

Downtown Blacksburg trick-or-treat

Trick-or-treat will be held at local businesses on College Avenue in downtown Blacksburg

See **Events**, page 3

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TRUSTEE'S SALE **OF 1360 DEGAS** LANE, CHROSTIANSBURG,

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## Montgomery Animal Care, Adoption Center waiving adoption fees today

In partnership with Motor Mile Subaru's Subaru Loves Pets event, the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center is waiving dog adoption fees today, Oct. 22, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The adoption center is located at 480 Cinnabar Road in Christiansburg.

Subaru Loves Pets is an annual event

held each October. October 22 is Subaru's National Make a Dog's Day holiday that invites dog lovers everywhere to go the extra mile for their pup. To celebrate, Subaru is encouraging dog owners to do something special for the furry friends in their lives and share on social media using #MakeADogsDay. For those who are yet to be pet parents,

Motor Mile Subaru invites local residents to consider adopting a shelter pet or "Underdog."

- News Messenger staff report

#### Lynn Rogers named **United Way's interim** executive director Lynn Rogers has been named interim executive director of the United Way of the New River Valley. This decision

Strategic Planning Process to more closely align with the needs of the community and to chart the future course of the United Way of the New River Valley. "We rise by lifting others," a quote by Robert Ingersoll, is at the center of

Rogers's work. She believes, "This is what

coincides with the Board of Directors'

See Rogers, page 4



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE UNITED WAY OF THE NEW

Lynn Rogers has been named interim executive director of the United Way of the New River Valley.

## **RSVP Walk-A-Thon to provide** supplies for some 200 seniors

The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) will host a Walk-A-Thon on Friday, Oct. 28, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Christiansburg Recreation Center to benefit the 15th Annual Supplies for Seniors program. Since the event is being

held close to Halloween, walkers are welcome to dress in a costume. Brad Epperley, Director of the Christiansburg Recreation Center, will lead the first lap of the Walk-A-Thon at 10:15 a.m. A minimum preregistration fee of \$5 is required, and forms can be completed at the RSVP office or at the Recreation Center the day of the event.

AmeriCorps T-shirt will Seniors be available to all who

register in advance.

Registered walkers will request sponsorship for laps walked from their friends, family, and neighbors. This year, sponsors can pay electronically using RSVP's Mightycause fundraiser campaign page. Cash and checks written to RSVP will also be accepted.

Walkers are encouraged to form a team with their family, church group, civic and/or friends. Walkers may obtain sponsors or sponsor someone else to The following prizes

will be offered during the Walk-A-Thon: \$100 BP Gas Card

Yassa) for the most laps walked by an individual.

(donated by Remon

\$50 Gift Card for the

largest amount raised by an individual.

\$25 Gift Card for best costume. Judges will be provided by the Christiansburg

Recreation Center. AmeriCorps Seniors travel mugs for the largest

All participants will receive lunch provided by the Christiansburg Recreation Center.

All proceeds will go to purchase basic household and personal care items for approximately 200 homebound seniors and veterans. Call the RSVP office at 540-382-5775 or email rsvp@ montgomerycountyva. gov for more information on how to sign up for this

– Mandy W. Hayes, RSVP Coordinator

radfordnewsjournal.com

# KADFORD WEEKLY POLICE BLOTTER

Radford City Police Department Blotter for Oct. 10-16, 2022

Monday, Oct. 10:

1:30 a.m. Offense redacted, 2100 Preston St.

6 a.m. Petit Larceny: less \$200, not from a person,

10:30 a.m. Possess of marijuana – civil, Dalton Drive

6:42 p.m. Offense redacted, 100 Monroe St. 11:26 p.m. Possession of Controlled Substance, 2300

11:26 p.m. Profane Swearing or Intoxication in

Public, 2300 New River Dr. Tuesday, Oct. 11:

9 a.m. Monument: Intentional Damage, value less

than \$1000, 100 Jeffries Dr.

5:28 p.m. Offenses redacted, and Possession of Controlled Substance, 300 Lester St.

8:05 p.m. Mental subject, 100 Second St. Thursday, Oct. 13:

1:01 a.m. Medical emergency 1300 New River

12:03 p.m. ID Theft: Obtain less than five IDs to

defraud, less than \$200, 300 Jeffries Dr. Friday, Oct. 14:

2:24 a.m. Driving motor vehicle, engine, etc., while intoxicated, etc. (DUI/DUID), 800 Wadsworth St.

Saturday, Oct. 15:

12:06 a.m. Offense redacted, 1000 East Main St.

3:06 a.m. Driving motor vehicle, engine, etc., while intoxicated, etc. (DUI/DUID), Construction RU lot

10 p.m. Petit Larceny, less than \$200, not from a person, 300 Forest Ave.

Sunday, Oct. 9: 12:25 a.m. Profane Swearing or Intoxication in

Public, 1500 New River Dr. 12:25 a.m. Drugs: sell/provide for resale Schedule I

or II, 1500 New River Dr. 12:25 a.m. ID theft 1500 New River Dr.

8:33 p.m. Mental Subject, 2100 Preston St.

Weekly Alcohol RoundUp:

Drunk in Public - 2

Underage Possession of Alcohol - 0

## Buying a car just got more efficient thanks to VTTI Director's cost-comparison tool

By Jacob Levin

Spawned from a thought-provoking question, Virginia Tech Transportation Institute's (VTTI) Center for Sustainable Mobility Director Hesham Rakha has created an online tool that allows users to compare the cost of owning an internal combustion engine vehicle, also known as a gasoline-powered vehicle, against a battery electric vehicle that provides drivers or these vehicles insights into how they can save time and money and protect the environment.

"After finding no tool available to the public, I wanted to create a tool that anyone can use to determine

where a gasoline-powered vehicle or a battery electric vehicle is best for them financially," said Rakha, the Samuel Reynolds Pritchard Professor of

The Cost Comparison Tool allows users to compare operational costs of owning a standard vehicle to an electric vehicle. By analyzing yearly mileage, electricity cost, the Environmental Protection Agency-rated miles per gallon, loan interest rate, loan duration, and price, the tool displays a chart of years and gas prices that shows the user the cost of operating a traditional vehicle versus an electric vehicle.

With data from AAA, Rakha alongside

his VTTI colleague Mohamed Farag first developed this tool in an Excel sheet, then open-sourced it on the internet for

Rakha plans to expand this tool to include maintenance costs associated with owning a battery electric vehicle, including cost of battery and technology replacements and variables such as different routes and energy versus fuel consumption.

For example, while traveling in a gasoline-powered vehicle on a highway saves fuel as compared to driving in an urban environment, it is the opposite for battery electric vehicles. Driving at higher speeds causes the vehicle to use more of its battery energy.

"Low speeds of around 15 miles per hour are actually the optimal speed for electric vehicles, where it's around 55 miles an hour for a gasoline vehicle, and so it becomes conflicting," said Rakha. "If you want to try to minimize travel time, you will increase your energy consumption for electric vehicles. This is less of an

issue for gasoline vehicles." The current state of the tool and its future expansion of the tool will help to not only inform users of the costs of owning a vehicle, but also ensure they are saving money and make financially responsible decisions.

## Events from page 2

from 4 to 6 p.m. Part of the fun includes games with a Blacksburg Parks and Rec. costume contest outside the Lyric Theater at 5:30 p.m. a haunted house at Artful Lawyer and at Black House (kid-friendly version); 4 to 5 p.m. Sponsored by Downtown Blacksburg, Inc.

Thursday, Nov. 3:

American Legion meeting

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

#### Friday, Nov. 4 and Saturday, Nov. 5:

Book sale

At the Radford Public Library from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hardbacks are \$1 and paperbacks \$ .50. A free book cart and table will be available.

### Tuesday, Nov. 8:

The 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 Road. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are invited to attend. If Montgomery County Schools are closed on Tuesday

or Wednesday of this week due to weather, the meeting is canceled. For further information, call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

#### Wednesday, Nov. 9:

Montgomery County Chamber Buy Local Business showcase

The 2022 Chamber Buy Local Business Showcase gives the community a chance to connect with local businesses. Business After Hours is being held in conjunction with the Showcase at the Inn at Virginia Tech. The mixer at the inn will feature prize giveaways throughout the day. The event is free and is open to the public. At the Inn at Virginia Tech & Skelton Conference Center, 901 Prices Fork Rd., Blacksburg. Open to the public from 3:45 to 7 p.m. Open during Chamber Business After Hours from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

#### Thursday, Nov. 10:

River City Quilt Guild

The River City Quilt Guild will meet at 9:30 a.m. at Grove United Methodist Church, 1020 Tyler Ave., Radford. All skill levels of quilters are welcome. For more information, call Anna Handy, 540-320-7791.

#### Sunday, Nov. 13:

Women's only swim night

At the Christiansburg Aquatic Center from 6 to 8 p.m. It's an evening of celebrating girl power. All participants, including the staff, will be women. The cost is \$6, and participants must register by Nov. 7. Call 540-381-POOL to register.



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## Mummenschanz from page 1

actress, Floriana Frassetto (who prefers Floriana), saw them perform in Rome. Floriana was fascinated by their comedic improvisation and joined the pair as an assistant. She quickly became integral to the performances, and the three reorganized as a creative trio.

"At that time, we performed in very small theaters, and we weren't called Mummenschanz," Floriana said. "We were called 'Before and After.''

The new name came after they settled in Switzerland and began to refine their act, which had become increasingly nonverbal. "Mummen" means to conceal or to mask and "schanz" plays on the concept of "chance." "In those days, we were happy to earn

a little money and make people happy," Floriana said. "We didn't think we would last more than three weeks."

Floriana didn't know it, but she was at the beginning of a five-decade-long What Mummenschanz did

realize, however, was that their creations left audiences delighted and entertained and their method was something altogether new and revolutionary.

At first, this made bookings complicated because people did not quite know how to categorize the trio. They were not mimes, dancers, musicians, or a traditional theater group. Instead, Floriana said, they were "visual artists" working on a shoestring, utilizing whatever they could find to create a unique stage experience.

"It was difficult because we really were doing everything with scrap materials," Floriana said. "We were recycling materials of everyday life and giving them a kind of poetic value. People did not know how to place us." Then, in 1973, Mummenschanz

began a European tour that would set their destinies in motion. They had a three-year run on Broadway starting in 1977 and made appearances on American

television ranging from Johnny Carson's Tonight Show to Sesame Street.

Over the decades, the show continued to transform, growing into a wild and expressive collection of tubes, balls, mutable shapes, and foam rubber creations seemingly with a life of their

Floriana says that overall only two things have changed. With the death of Bossard in 1992 and the departure of Schürch in 2012, she is the last of the original troupe in the production. And, she notes, the rhythm of the show is slightly faster, reflecting the pace of contemporary

But in most other respects, Mummenschanz still operates by relying on lighting, performance, and imagination rather than special effects. And it still appeals to generally universal human experiences and emotions in a way that invites interpretation.

"People enjoy that simplicity that innocence," Floriana said. "It's something we often lack nowadays."

In the end, this is why Floriana continues to create and perform on stage despite the hardships and

difficulties of life on the road. That moment of peace, of meditation almost, that moment of innocent joy is such a gift," Floriana said, "that it is worth the sacrifice."

Radford Mummenschanz performance is open to all audiences and will take place at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 25, in the Bondurant Auditorium of Preston Hall on the main campus of Radford University.

Admission is \$15 for adults, \$7.50 for children and free with a Radford University ID. Tickets may be purchased at www.radfordactivities. com, at the Hurlburt Hall Information Desk or by calling 540-

## RADFORD **News Journal**

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## Rogers from page 3

we do at the United Way of the NRV. When we help those struggling in our community, we are creating a stronger community for everyone."

Rogers grew up in Patrick County and fell in love with the NRV after moving here to attend Radford

"We are fortunate to live in a small, close-knit community where neighbors look after one another, and I'm grateful to be a part of it," she said.

Rogers has been with the United Way NRV since 2021, most recently in the role of Director of Resource Development. She brings a core understanding of the organization's mission and a commitment to serving the community as evidenced by her recent nomination as a Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Nonprofit Leader. She is also a member of the 2022 Leadership NRV class.

## Musical from page 1

change for the whole family on the

fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday's 'normal' boyfriend and his parents." Casey Worley, Director of

Theatre Arts at Radford High School, is directing the show and says audience members are in for a great time seeing students from all four Radford City School perform. Worley, who has been overseeing the theatre arts program at Radford High for the past four years, said the growth of the high school drama department into the Bobcat Theatre Company is a unique approach to performances. "The cast and crew of 50 students

and production staff is made up of students in grades sixth through twelfth mainly, with students in third through fifth grade as featured actors," he said. "This is my fourth year at Radford, and we have grown significantly. The program is now offering opportunities on stage and behind the scenes for students in all grades of Radford City Schools. Our name "Bobcat Theatre Company" represents our unique approach that represents all of Radford City

'We have been working on this

show for about seven weeks, and this is the first time we are offering a show two weekends," he added. Cast members include:

Gomez- Collin Baron Morticia- Ali Schepisi Wednesday Abbey Napolitano Pugsley- Mickey Baron

Fester- Seth Baron and Justin Grandma- Evelyn Riffe

Lurch- Caroline Pappas Alice- Erin Wilson Mal- James Riffe Lucas- Princeton Stevens and

Summer Fisher

Ancestors- Andy Woodard, White, Ashante Dominic Napolitano, Emily Crawford, Jackson Barnett, Justin Anzziani, Kate Dishon, Katherine Woinski, James Riffe, Libby Carchia, Lydia Pratt, Olivia Spaulding, Summer Fisher, and William Johnson

Young Pugsley- Leo Dalton and Hudson Jarrell Young Wednesday-Nadia

White and Zelda White Crew members include:

Director- Casey Worley Music Director- Darren Goad Choreographer- Emily Gruver

Crew Manager- Eryn Dove SM Stage- Ella Semple SM Booth- Valeria Sosa-Flores Lights- Asia Marunich and Aubrey Bruintjes

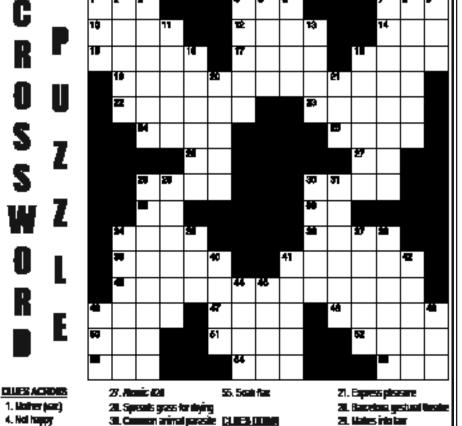
Sound- Zach Terry Make-up- Frankie Jones, Josie

Stoots, and Zoey Body Run- Anabel Barry, Ayden Dillon

Pugh, Winemiller, Kadince Cales, McKenzie Zaky, Natalie Grayson, Omar Lopez, Seth Walton, and Tori Rainer-Dixson. The show opened Friday, Oct.

21, and has a 7 p.m. showing today, Saturday. Oct.22. A 2 p.m. matinee is set for tomorrow, Sunday, Oct. 23. Next weekend's shows are 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 28 and Saturday, Oct. 29 and 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 30. Adult tickets are \$10 preshow,

and \$12 at door. Students are \$8 preshow, and \$10 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at: https://www.showtix4u.com/ event-details/67559.



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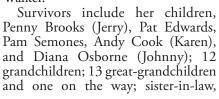


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## **BITUARIES**

## Cook, Dorothy Marie Whitt

Dorothy Marie Whitt Cook, 97, Millie Whitt; nephews, Lynn Cook passed away Monday, Oct. 17, 2022, at her home in Radford. She was preceded in death by her parents, Randolph and Effie Josephine Whitt; husband, Frederick Andrew Cook, Jr.; brother, Bill Whitt; brother-in-law, Bill Cook; nephews, Jim Cook and David Cook; and greatgranddaughter, Selah Veta





(Margo), and Tom Cook (Cindy); and many other relatives and friends.

Heartfelt thanks to Dr. Judy and the Intrepid Hospice team, especially Stacy, Marsha, and Kaitlyn. Memorial services

will be held at 2 p.m.

on Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022, at Grace Episcopal Church in Radford. In lieu of flowers, please consider

donations to Intrepid Hospice or Grace Episcopal Church.

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

## Duncan, Bernard Rudolph "Rudy"

Bernard Rudolph "Rudy" Duncan, 87, of Riner, passed away Friday, Oct. 14, 2022.

He was a member of Fairlawn Baptist Church and retired supervisor with Adams Construction Company. Rudy was preceded in death by his parents, James and Lola Duncan; his wife, Sherry Duncan; and six brothers.

Survivors include his daughter, Dana Duncan (Theresa) of Radford; his son, David Duncan of Albuquerque, N. M.; his sister, Elizabeth Duncan Sowers of Riner; sistersin-law Barbara Duncan, Connie Lawson, and Diane Lawson; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Curtis and Sandra Lawson; and several nieces, nephews, other relatives,

The family would like to thank Commonwealth Assisted Living - Radford, New River Valley Medical Center, and MediHome Hospice for all the loving care they gave Rudy.

Graveside services will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2022, at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin with the Rev.

Frank Peters officiating.

In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions to the National Law Officers Memorial Fund or the Shriners Hospital for

The Duncan family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in

See **Obituaries**, page 6

# Radford WORSHIP DIRECTORY

## Facing Change

Deutaronomy

Joe had lived in the country his entire life. Life on his parents' dainy farm was predictahead. When Joe's parents venity on orientation day, mack. This sure is going to be

The Israelites had a similar experience as they prepared to

of Egypt, from which you tave come (Deuteronomy

After forty years of wander ing in the desert, the Israel Itss were not familiar with knowledge of Egyptian agrihiniself would provide water for their fields and vineyards, as long as they continued to trust Him to d6 so.

Times of transition can be dif ficult, but if we rely on God, He will help us navigate each

Challenge for Today: Pray for someone you know who is fading a major change in his

## Fields, Robert James

Robert James Fields (Bob) was born on Sept. 21, 1943 in Pasadena, Calif. He passed peacefully, with his wife at his side, Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2022 in Henrico Doctors Hospital Virginia at the age of 79.

He is survived by his wife, Pauline, sons Matthew and Benjamin; brother Stephen Fields; numerous California

cousins, and friends from his time in Blacksburg teaching at Virginia Tech. He and his childhood friend, Robert Woelfel aka Womp, began a lifelong friendship based on being devoted fans of Elvis and rock music. Together, with other friends, they went to Southern California discos like The Broadside, Cinnamon Cinder, and Whiskey a Go.

Bob grew up in Southern California in a time where orange groves were a common part of the scene in the suburbs of Los Angeles. He was always grateful to be a part of early California and would remember fondly smelling the smudge pots (heating pots) that were placed in the orange groves between the trees when it got a little chilly. He earned an undergraduate degree at Long Beach State.

After undergraduate school, Bob was called into military service. The Army took him to Vietnam for the duration of his tour of duty. Due to his naturally leisurely way, he earned the nickname Flash.

Upon returning home to California, Bob and Pauline started their life together, going first to Westport, Conn. Bob arrived in the dead of winter without a warm coat. Pauline followed shortly thereafter, and together they started to learn about married life on the East coast. Matthew was born in Connecticut the following

Bob started his teaching career at The Famous Artist School in Westport, Conn. Realizing more education was in order, he went to graduate school in Michigan. Soon after he was hired to teach at Memphis State. Happy to be near the home of Elvis, his time at Memphis State went by quickly. Benjamin was born in Memphis.

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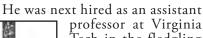
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Tech in the fledgling department. Teaching drawing and painting, he eventually was given the opportunity to start a commercial art program that graphic included One design. earliest his and projects favorite

in Blacksburg was the series of murals he had his students paint on the town businesses.

Bob loved working with his students and over many years formed lasting friendships with some of them, mentoring many and helping them out in the workforce as much as he could. He was as proud of his students' work as his own. Bob retired from Virginia Tech in 2009 and was given the Professor Emeritus of Art and Design designation.

He loved to paint and draw. Watercolor was his chosen media, and he was a member of the National Watercolor Society. He was often honored through juried exhibitions.

His childhood hobby of collecting baseball cards became an obsession, and he continued collecting. He read baseball statistics fervently every day, keeping track of his favorite teams and players. He could recite a wealth of baseball facts and trivia to anyone interested. Usually that would be his brother Steve in California in long conversations on the phone. He was a very loyal San Francisco Giants fan.

Another favorite pastime for Bob was thrift shopping. He prided himself on not buying anything retail. He was a very talented "thrifter" with excellent taste. Whenever he made a trip to a new state, he would seek out a flea market or thrift shop and sometimes add a new treasure to his diverse collection of objects.

Bob is and will be deeply missed and remembered with love by his family and friends.

Funeral arrangements have been made through McCoy Funeral Home Blacksburg. The family requests funeral arrangements remain private and in lieu of flowers please consider planting a tree in his memory.

#### Flinchum, Ronnie Lefrage

Belspring, passed away at his home on Thursday, Oct. 13, 2022.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Shirley Lefrage and Hundley Mildred Flinchum.

Ronnie worked for more than 40 years at the Lynchburg Foundry. He was also a charter member of the Twin Community Fire Department. He

loved spending time watching Hokie Sports, mowing, and eating Reese Cups and drinking Pepsi Cola. Survivors include his loving

wife of 63 years, Daisy McCoy



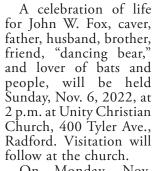
relatives and friends. Graveside services were held on Monday,

and many

Oct. 17, 2022, at the Brown Cemetery in Belspring, Va. The Flinchum family is in the

care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. www. mullinsfuneralhome.com.

#### Fox, John W.



On Monday, Nov. 7, 2022, John's ashes will be interred at the



Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery, 5550 Bagging Plant Road, Dublin, Virginia at 11 a.m. There will be a short service with military honors. All welcome to attend.

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

## Harvey, Jackson Eugene

Dublin, passed Thursday, Oct. 13, 2022, at the Baptist Health Medical Center in Conway, Ark. He was a U. S. Army veteran having served during the Korean Conflict and retired from the Lynchburg Foundry where he was a mechanical engineer. He was preceded in death by his parents, Staples and Sarah Harvey; his wife, Earsaline

Harvey; a sister; and three brothers. Survivors include his daughter, LaRhonda Harvey of Radford, and Mia Harvey of Greenbrier, Ark.; son, Mandel Harvey of Winsboro, S. C.; grandchildren, Michael Swan, Stephanie Swan, Joshua Harvey, Evan Harvey, Kingston Presley-Harvey, and Seth Frego; great

Jackson Eugene Harvey, 85, of grandchildren, Aamiyah and Gabriel Manning; brothers, Dexter Harvey and Jerry Harvey; sisters, Alice Kellum, Valera Bush, Ora Crouse, Clidia Lewis, and Valentina Brooks; and many other relatives and friends.

> The family will receive friends from 4 until 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 28, 2022, at the

Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022, at First Baptist Church on Rock Road in Radford. Interment with full military honors will follow in Sunrise Burial Park in Radford.

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

## Mitchell, Betty Sue

Betty Sue Mitchell, 79, of and Carla Mitchell, and Jimmy and Fairlawn died Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022.

She was born in Pulaski County on April 28, 1943, to the late Ralph and Sherwood King Kegley. She was also preceded in death by a daughter, Teresa Lynn Mitchell, and a brother, Walter Kegley.

She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Robert Mitchell; daughters and sons-in-law, Roxanna and Lou Brown and Debbie and Marcus Bryan; sons and daughters-in-law,

Bobby and Leona Mitchell, Mitch

Rhonda Mitchell; 16 grandchildren; four

great-grandchildren; a sister, Judy Kegley; brother, Ralph Kegley; and sisters-inlaw, Bonnie Cox and Margaret Mills. Funeral services

conducted were Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2022 in the McCoy Funeral

Chapel, 150 Country Club Dr. S.W. Blacksburg, with the Pastor Ken Alley officiating. Interment followed in the Highland Memory Gardens, Dublin.

## Reynolds, Dorothy "Dot" Smith

Dorothy "Dot" Smith Reynolds, 90, of Titus Smith, Mark Smith, and Samuel Smith. Blacksburg went to be with the

Lord Friday, Oct. 14, 2022. She was born in McCoy, Va. on Sept. 17, 1932, to the late Ray and Mallie Huffman Smith. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Maxwell L. "Mack" Reynolds; a son, Jackie Lee Reynolds; grandchildren Heather Nichole Stiff and Jacob Lee Stiff; sisters Lola Dowdy, Mary Dowdy, Josephine Farley, Kathleen King, Louise Eagle, and Pansy Price;

and brothers, William Smith, Paul Smith,

Shoon Not Included

540-382-5525

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Shelbie R. and David Stiff; sons and daughters-in-law D. Wayne Reynolds and Ellen Flinchum, G. Nelson and Regina Reynolds, and Joseph M. and Tabitha Reynolds; grandchildren Jamie, Kelli, Michelle, Rachel, Sarah, Rebecca, and Matthew; 13 greatgrandchildren, one of which is Christian who serves in the U.S. Army; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were

conducted Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2022, in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Ronald Smith officiating. Interment followed in the Smith Family Cemetery. The family received friends McCoy Funeral Home.

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# KADFORD SPORTS

## Christiansburg's Thaxton Henley commits to Alfred State for baseball

Marty Gordon

NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

For the past two football seasons, Christiansburg's Thaxton Henley has started with a bang, only to be derailed by different knee injuries. Against Hidden Valley this past week, he rushed for 70 yards before tearing

The multi-sport athlete now tries to recover and rehab to prepare for another sport he excels in: baseball. Tuesday, he committed to return to the baseball diamond at Alfred State College in Alfred, New York.

"I chose Alfred State for the majors they offer, and it really felt

like home when I visited. I also loved the coaching staff and how the team treated me," he said.

Henley plans to major in construction management.

Alfred State College is part of the State University of New York system. Formerly the Technical College at Alfred, the college offers a wide variety of majors in both 4-year bachelor's degrees and 2-year associates degrees. The school has an undergraduate

enrollment of 3,651 students, and its athletic program is a member of the NCAA Div. III.

"Some of my goals are to start as a freshman and earn first-team allconference selections," he said.

This past spring, the Alfred State baseball team finished 21-22.

For now, doctors aren't certain if Henley will be able to play baseball for his senior year of high school. They do expect a full recovery by early July. This past spring, Henley received

all-River Ridge District designated hitter in a shortened season again because of other injuries. His sophomore year, he received firstteam all-district middle linebacker honors, and second-team all-region linebacker honors.

At Christiansburg, he pitched and played the outfield and expects to play both in college.



Various injuries have kept Christiansburg's Thaxton Henley off the football field for the last two seasons. Tuesday, Henley turned to another sport in which he excels and committed to play baseball for Alfred State College in New York.



Courtside seating is coming to Radford University's Dedmon Center during this year's

# RU adds courtside seating for basketball

Marty Gordon

NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Radford University basketball is stepping up its game for the fan experience this season with the addition of courtside seating.

The university announced on

Friday the Courtside Lounge will offer complimentary hors d'oeuvres, soft drinks, and water with some of the best views in the arena. A cash bar will be available to purchase beer, wine, and hard

Access to the Courtside Lounge will be available for all home regularseason men's basketball games and select women's games. The lounge will open an hour prior to tip-off, and alcohol sales will end at the 12-minute media timeout in the second half for men's basketball or

at the conclusion of the third quarter for women's games. Located in the south end zone, the

Courtside Lounge will give Highlander

Club members the opportunity to enjoy

premium hospitality while enjoying the entire game. Seating is limited inside the lounge, but high-top tables are available, and members will have access to leave the space to enjoy the game from their reserved seats if they choose. All alcoholic drinks will be required to stay inside the

According to a press release, membership into the Courtside Lounge is limited and in the reserved chair back sections (one through five) is limited to season-ticket holders. In addition, membership requires an annual \$500 gift per person to the Highlander Club General Fund that is designated specifically for this

The Highlander Club's goal is to raise financial resources for Radford University Athletics to ensure that the school's coaches and student-athletes have the necessary financial means to compete for championships and to provide RU's student-athletes the best collegiate experience on and off the playing surface.

## Preseason ACC Poll: VT men picked seventh; women picked second

**Marty Gordon** 

NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Atlantic Coast Conference has released its preseason basketball poll, and the VT men were placed in the number seven spot while the Virginia Tech women were picked to finish second, the Hokies' highest preseason ranking ever. All voting was conducted by the media covering ACC Tipoff in Charlotte last week.

The conference also announced its preseason men's basketball awards live on ACC PM with Virginia Tech forward Justyn Mutts earning All-ACČ Preseason

Mutts was named to the second team after averaging 10.1 points and 7.3 rebounds per game in 2021-22. He enters his third season in Blacksburg with 107 games started, the thirdmost in the ACC.

After exploring his professional options, Mutts opted to return to Blacksburg for the 2022-23 season. The Millville, N.J., native scored in double figures 17 times last season, including a season-high 24 points vs. Notre Dame on Jan. 15, 2022. He dialed up Tech's second-ever triple-double behind 12 points, 14 rebounds and 11 assists vs. Syracuse on Feb. 12, 2022.

On the women's side, Taylor Soule and Ashley Owusu were put on award watch lists and Elizabeth Kitley was picked as the preseason ACC Player of the Year.

Last season, Kitley was among the league leaders in scoring (18.1), rebounds (9.8), blocks (2.4) and field goal percentage(.551). Her 15 double-doubles the conference as did her 13 games of 20 or more points. She scored 34 points twice and finished the year with a 42-point performance in the NCAA Tournament, the second-most ever scored in the opening round of the competition. She recorded four or more blocks in nine different contests. Her 237 made field goals set a program record for a single season. She ranks ninth all-time at VT in scoring (1,410), fifth in rebounds (800), and

third in blocks (187).

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accolades

2022-23 Men's

season include AP All-America Third Team, Kay Yow Scholar Athlete of the Year, finalist for the Lisa Leslie Award, semifinalist for the Naismith Award, Basketball Women's Coaches Association (WBCA) All-American, U.S. Basketball Writers Association (USBWA) Third Team All-American and First Team All-ACC and All-Defensive Team.

Teammates Ashley Owusu and graduate student Taylor Soule were included on the is also on the Newcomer Watch List.

23 Atlantic Coast Conference Women's Basketball preseason favorite, according to the league's Blue Ribbon Panel composed of the ACC's 15 head coaches and a select voting panel.

The Cardinals, who were slotted No. 7 nationally in Tuesday's Preseason AP Poll, received 31 of 60 firstplace votes in the ACC balloting with a total of 1,069 points.

The VT women earned their predicted second-place finish by picking up 17 first-place votes and 984 points. Three-time defending ACC champion NC State closely followed at No. 3 with eight firstplace votes and 963 points.

Notre Dame earned the final four first-place votes and 942 points while North Carolina rounded out the top-5 with 895 points. Miami placed sixth with 674 points, while Duke landed seventh at 627 Georgia Tech (623

points) followed in eighth with Florida State (553) and Syracuse (370) rounding out the top-10, respectively. Virginia (303), Clemson (275), Boston College (271), Wake Forest (256) and Pitt (187) close out this year's predicted order of finish on the women's side. North Carolina was

voted the preseason favorite to win the conference Basketball Championship. Also ranked No. 1 nationally the preseason

Associated Press poll, the Tar Heels are the preseason ACC favorites for the first time since the 2015-16 season.

Carolina received 90 of the 101 first-place votes and piled up 1,504 total points. Duke picked up two firstplace votes and totaled 1,339 points to finish second in the men's poll while Virginia racked up six first-place votes and 1,310 points to take third. Miami received a pair of first-place votes and 1,138 points for fourth place while Florida State totaled 1,064 points for fifth place.

Notre Dame (971) All-ACC Team. Owusu was sixth in the men's poll while reigning ACC champion Virginia Coming off a Final Tech (921) picked up Four appearance, the final first-place vote and was picked to finish seventh. Syracuse, Wake Forest, NC State, Clemson, Louisville, Boston College, Pitt, and Georgia Tech were picked to finish eighth through

15th, respectively. The media voters selected North Carolina's Armando Bacot as the ACC Preseason Player of the Year while Duke's Dereck Lively II received the nod as ACC Preseason Rookie of the Year.

ACC Women's Preseason Poll

1. Louisville Virginia Tech 3. NC State 4. Notre Dame 5. North Carolina 6. Miami 7. Duke 8. Georgia Tech 9. FSU 10. Syracuse 11. Virginia 12. Clemson 13. Boston College 14. Wake Forest 15. Pitt

ACC Men's Preseason

North Carolina 1. 2. Duke 3. Virginia 4. Miami 5. FSU 6. Notre Dame 7. Virginia Tech 8. Syracuse 9. Wake Forest 10. NC State 11. Clemson 12. Louisville 13. Boston College, 14. Pitt 15. Georgia Tech

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## RU announces changes to athletics staff

Radford University Athletics has announced several promotions and additions to the staff for the 2022-23 school year, including the hiring of Christiansburg native Peyton Williams as a communications assistant.

The new staff additions will fill a variety of roles, including athletics communications, student-athlete support-services, marketing, and

creative video. Williams comes to Radford from Boone, N.C., where he served as the Assistant Director of Strategic Communications at Appalachian State. He was the primary media contact for the Mountaineers' men's basketball and softball programs while overseeing social media strategy for the Appalachian State athletics brand. In his role, he wrote press releases, created graphics, and managed social media output in conjunction with AppStateSports.com.

Williams also worked as an assistant with the National Sports Media Association. He has made previous stops at Wake Forest, King University, Virginia Tech, and Emory & Henry College, assisting primarily in broadcasting, athletics communications, sports information,

and game operations. Williams is a 2019 graduate of

Emory & Henry where he earned his degree in mass communications and sport management. He also obtained an M.B.A. in project management from King University in May of 2021.

Allison McCoy has been promoted to RU's athletics staff as the Associate Athletics Director for Student-Athlete Support Services (Promotion).

McCoy is in her sixth year with Radford University, In her new position, she will oversee the dayto-day operations of the Learning Enhancement Center and develop programs that guide student progress through the academic curriculum while providing academic support to Radford's student-athletes. McCoy joined the

department in September 2019 after working as the Assistant Director for the Advising Center for Major Exploration at Radford University. Prior to her stint with Major Exploration, she spent two years as the Readmission Coordinator for the university. McCoy was a member of the Athletics Department Strategic Planning Task Force as an academic excellence subcommittee member. She has also served on numerous institutional committees, including

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# Blacksburg boys win cross-country event



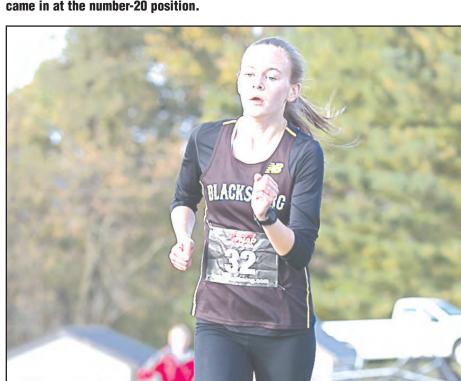
Connor Rutherford took second place in Wednesday's Blacksburg Invite boys' crosscountry event held at Blacksburg High School. Rutherford helped Blacksburg to a first-place finish.



Radford's Kyle Martin finished 11th in the boys' cross-country competition at the Blacksburg Invite Wednesday. The RHS Bobcats also finished in 11th place as a team. Eastern Montgomery finished 17th, Christiansburg was 18th, and Auburn came in at the number-20 position.



Radford's Reagan Bryant finished 12th in the girls' race at the Blacksburg Invite cross-country event. Her team finished seventh overall. The Blacksburg girls finished second; Eastern Montgomery took 10th place, and the Christiansburg girls finished at No. 12.



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Blacksburg's Allie McDonald led the BHS girls to a second-place finish by finishing in the no.-8 spot overall.

## **Staff**

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the Academic Advising Communication Committee, as the chair.
A native of Charlottes ville, McCoy completed her

undergraduate degree at Radford University in 2011. She currently resides in Christiansburg. Director of Student-Athlete Support Services Nikki Sellers joins the Highlanders after having spent the last seven years as a teacher at nearby Radford High School. Sellers taught social

studies and served as the department chair while also serving as the Bobcats' head girls' varsity soccer coach for the past four years. Prior to her tenure at Radford, she taught social studies at Virginia Middle

School in Bristol.

Sellers graduated

from Emory & Henry University in 2011 where she played soccer for four years. She earned her bachelor's degree in history-social science with a concentration in secondary education. A resident of Blacksburg, Sellers is working to earn a masters in sports administration from Ohio University where she plans to graduate in

Yasmin Turner-Ward joins Radford athletics as the assistant director of marketing and ticket sales after working as a marketing and promotions intern at Virginia Commonwealth University. She managed game-day activities for the Rams' baseball and women's lacrosse teams and assisted with

the implementation of on-field promotions for baseball. She also spent two years as the general manager of CycleBar Greengate, a cycling studio in Richmond, managing the studio's marketing campaigns and helping increase memberships.

Turner-Ward has an extensive background in sales and marketing, having served as a group sales and services intern with Major League Soccer's D.C. United in 2020. She also interned with marketing and promotions at Old Dominion University, gamemanaging day activities for the Monarchs' women's lacrosse program.

A native of Richmond, Turner-Ward graduated from Old Dominion in 2020 with a bachelor's degree in sports management. She is currently studying at the University of Miami (Florida) and expects to earn a master's degree in sports administration in 2023.

Brian Yohe comes

to the New River City from Mercer University in Macon, Ga. as the director of video and creative services. At Mercer, he served as the Director of Creative Video Services where he scripted more than 70 ESPN+ broadcasts and oversaw the hiring, scheduling, and payroll students for freelance employees. Prior to his time at Mercer, Yohe spent two years at UNC Asheville. As the Director of Live Productions, he planned, directed, and produced roughly 200 ESPN+ broadcasts while assisting with the shooting and editing of creative photos and video for social media.

Yohe graduated from Radford University in 2018, earning a degree in media studies with a concentration in production technology. During his time as a student, Yohe produced content for Radford Athletics on social media, in addition to working ESPN+broadcasts.

Annual Obenshain - Dalton Dinner \* \* \* \* with Special Guest and Keynote Speaker ... Lieutenant Governor Winsome Earle-Sears Saturday, October 29, 2022 5 to 9 p.m. at The Inn at Virginia Tech 901 Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg Liberty Bell Single Tickets, \$85.00 - Student Tickets, \$40.00 Table Sponsorships are \$8,000, \$5,000 & \$3,000 Get Your Tickets Now At: bit.ly/obenshain-dalton Mail Checks Payable To: Montgomery County GOP, P.O. Box 1303, Christiansburg, VA 24063

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