



Wednesday, October 26, 2022 • USPS 387-780 • ourvalley.org • \$1.00

RU's part-time MBA program touted by Fortune magazine



RADFORD UNIVERSITY PHOTO

Kyle Hall is home to the Radford University Davis College of Business and Economics.

For the second year in a row, Fortune magazine has ranked Radford University's part-time Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree among the best of its kind.

The esteemed financial publication included the Davis College of Business and Economics' program on the upper-end of its 2023 listings of the country's top part-time MBA programs.

The magazine first began ranking such programs in 2021 when it evaluated 150 schools across the United States, then selected 70 of those to highlight. This year, the list

singled out just 59.

To compile its rankings, Fortune considered questionnaires submitted by schools, as well as information from university websites and feedback from various companies and executives. The overall list was determined by evaluating each school's program scores, brand scores and Fortune 1000 scores.

Can Dogan, director of Radford University's MBA program, said he was proud it ranked high yet again.

"This recognition not only shows the academic quality of our

See MBA Program, page 6

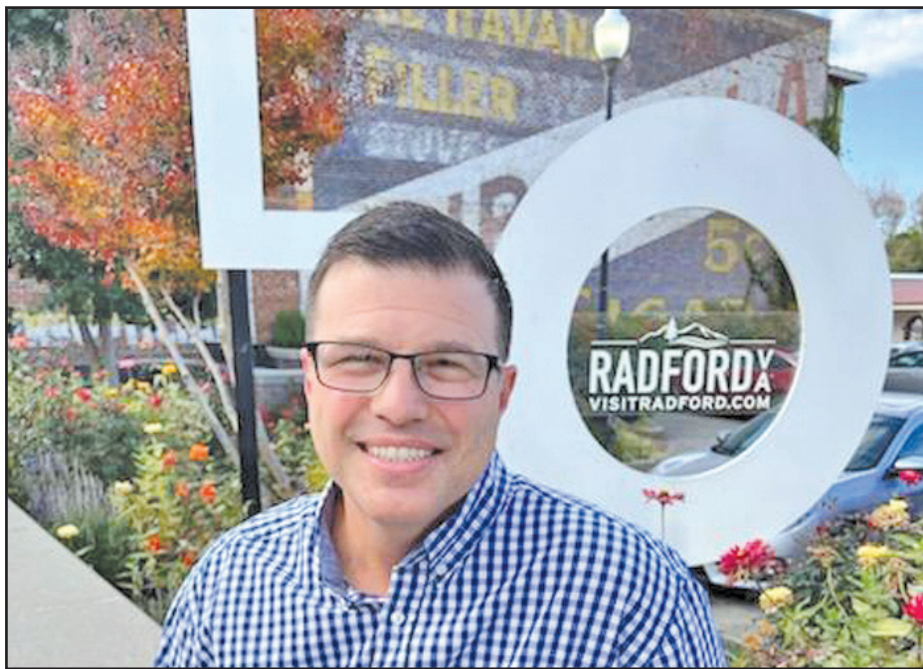


PHOTO COURTESY OF CHARLEY COSMATO

Interim Radford City Council Member Charley Cosmato has started a campaign as a write-in candidate in the upcoming Radford City Council election.

Interim council member launches write-in campaign for election

Heather Bell
hbell@ourvalley.org

RADFORD – Interim Radford City Council Member Charley Cosmato has started a campaign as a write-in candidate in the upcoming Radford City Council election.

Cosmato has been

servicing on the city council since August when he was appointed to serve in place of former council member Forrest Hite, who resigned. Cosmato says he has enjoyed his time on the council and would like to continue serving.

"The council works issues large and small and

everything in-between to keep our city operating and moving forward," he said. "I deeply enjoy hearing the challenges that face the city, the citizens, and all manner of work and organizational life pursuits in which they participate.

See Campaign, page 4

New program helps parents see dangers Hidden in Plain Sight

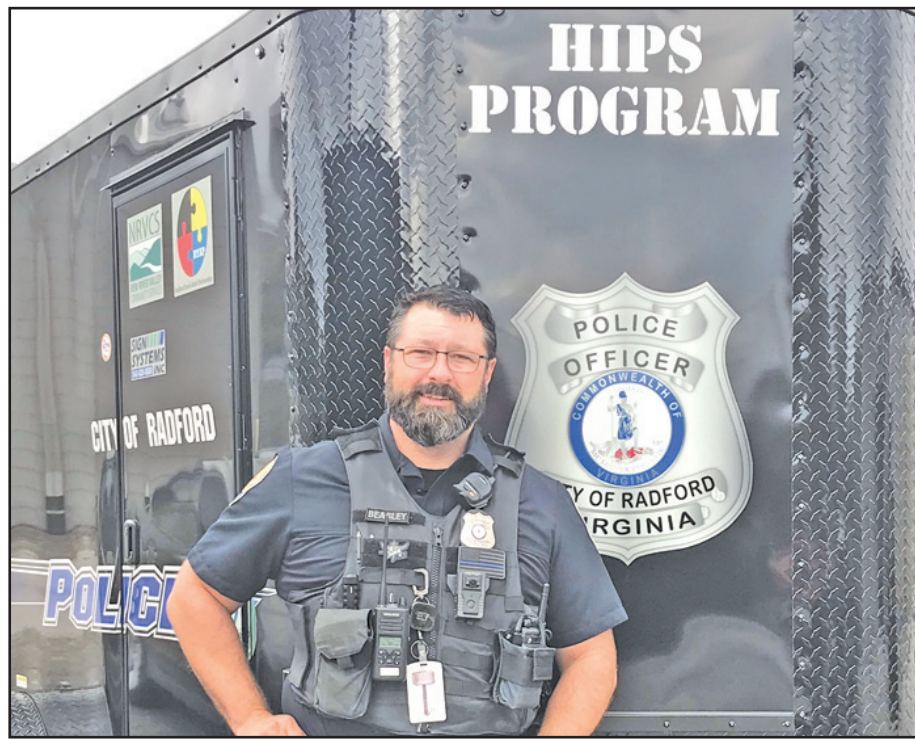


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE RADFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

School Resource Officer Thad Beasley is presenting a new program called Hidden in Plain Sight, an interactive exhibit that uses a teen's mock bedroom to explain various trends of teen substance use, signs, symptoms, and lingo in an effort to raise awareness about substance use disorders and numerous other risky behaviors.

Heather Bell
hbell@ourvalley.org

RADFORD – A new program of the Radford City Police Department highlights the clues to dangerous behaviors that can be found in teenagers' bedrooms.

The department uses a mock bedroom set-up to show parents and other adults who interact with children and teens the dangerous trends that can affect young people. At a recent Radford City Council meeting, Radford High School Resource Officer Thad Beasley gave an overview of the program and said he hopes it will help parents and others catch bad behaviors before they endanger a teen and "before it gets legal," involving police response or criminal charges.

The Hidden in Plain Sight (HIPS) program is "intended for parents and other adults who care for youth, including school professionals, coaches, nurses, physicians, and scout leaders," Radford Police Chief Jeff Dodson said.

"The interactive exhibit provides participants an opportunity to explore a teen's mock bedroom to explain vari-

ous trends of teen substance use, signs symptoms and lingo in an effort to raise awareness about substance use disorders and numerous other risky behaviors that teenagers could be involved in," Chief Dodson said. "Some of these topics include internet safety, alcohol usage, dating violence, and suicide. The program also provides resources and tools for parents and community members to identify further prevention tips, treatment options, and recovery services that are available in Radford."

"This is a wonderful program that we really want our community to take advantage of," he said.

Dodson said the New River Valley Community Services and the Radford Youth Adult Partnership partnered with the police department to fund the program.

"The police department is handling the program, but it truly is a community presentation that includes our various community resources," he said.

Groups that are interested in having the department bring the HIPS program to them are encouraged to contact Sgt. Emily Hite at Emily.Hite@radfordva.gov.

Innovative social media data center SMART Lab offers leading-edge technology

RADFORD - Radford University is now a proven leader in social media analytics research and development.

Through an innovative approach to teaching and research, students, faculty and staff take their studies

to the next level in the Social Media Analytics and Research Technology (SMART) Lab. Here, social media posts, likes, and shares become cru-

See SMART Lab, page 4



RADFORD UNIVERSITY PHOTO

Students analyze data collected through the tools available in the SMART Lab.



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JOHN W.L. CRAIG II

Delegate Jason Ballard backs up Republican Committee with candidate endorsements

Twelfth District Delegate Jason Ballard recently spoke to the Radford City Republican Committee and endorsed the same candidates for local office that the committee had endorsed weeks earlier. For City Council, those individuals are Kellie Artrip, Bobby Davis, and Seth Gillespie. For School Board those candidates are Gloria Boyd, Chris Calfee, and

Ed Dickenson.

Ballard said all six were "great folks" and "would bring common sense conservative values back to the city government and the school system." He praised the group for their willingness to serve and for their hard work to improve Radford.

By John W.L. Craig II

PETS OF THE WEEK



Sweet and affectionate. Those are the best two words to describe Domino. He's a gentle boy who would prefer to be petted by his favorite human over any other activity. Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center. He could be your purrfect match!



Lars is ready to head home. Due to his lack of graceful moves, Lars would do best in an environment with older children and adults and no other canines. Lars would also benefit from doggie manners training, which he is likely to enjoy if delicious treats are involved.

Virginia Tech student a part of history on the softball diamond

The precise combination of sand, silt, and clay pushed into the treads of Julie Kessler's shoes when she took the field in August at the Little League Softball World Series.

Only Kessler wasn't a player — she was part of the grounds crew.

Though this was far from the first time treads have been filled with that combination of materials called an infield mix, it was the first time in the history of the Little League Softball World Series all these treads were worn by women.

"Being a part of this group is something that I will cherish forever," said Julie Kessler, a junior from Nokesville, Virginia, who graduated from the Agricultural Technology Program prior to pursuing her degree in agribusiness in Virginia Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. "I hadn't worked with other girls in this field before. There just are not a lot of women in turfgrass management, so, hopefully, young women see that this is a meaningful and valuable career path for them. This experience means so much to me."

As part of the all-female grounds crew, Kessler painted foul lines, got the mound ready, mowed the outfield, and did the traditional midgame drag over the infield dirt — essentially everything that major league crews do. After the games, Kessler helped clean up the fields and prepare them for the next event. Kessler helped crew 10 games over the final four days of the Little League Softball World Series held in Greenville, North Carolina.

To further the big-league experience, a rain delay kicked off the event. The crew grabbed the tarp — large enough to cover the entire infield area — and did the traditional sprint that follows the path a ball takes around the horn.

"Anything that we were asked to do I knew how to do because of my experiences at Virginia Tech," Kessler said. "I was well prepared for everything that came my way over those four days."

That preparation came, in part, from a baseball practicum course where Kessler was at Virginia Tech's baseball and softball fields learning — hands-on — how to do everything that involves being a member of a grounds crew.

Her sports journey that started at Virginia Tech also included an internship with the Pittsburgh Steelers.

"Having an internship at a professional team was an incredible experience," Kessler said. "The resources provided by the team allowed us to do whatever was necessary to improve both the playing surface and the landscaping."

In the National Football League, the playing surface has tight parameters in order to be a safe playing surface for players to help prevent injuries. From game days and beyond, it takes constant upkeep to maintain a playable surface.

Venues the size of NFL stadiums host events aside from football, such as major concerts. While Kessler interned with the Steelers, she helped with the maintenance and setup of these events, which included a Wizard of Oz Broadway

Musical Celebration.

"Half the field had special flooring on it, which caused major issues for the playing surface," she said. "Once the flooring is down, the grass dies by the time the flooring comes up. We would re-sod and do other maintenance to ensure the playing surface met NFL standards."

While at the internship, Kessler was able to put into practice something she learned during her second year in the Agricultural Technology Program: an impact test for the turf using a Clegg hammer, a special tool that determines a surface's shock absorption and capacity tolerances.

The hammer, which looks like a bike pump on steroids, was connected to a tablet that gave a data readout for the turf's hardness, allowing her to make proper decisions about player safety and performance.

For the NFL, the number needs to be in a range of 62-100, and the field is tested periodically throughout the year. A softer field allows for more give in the turf, which helps players land, but a slightly harder turf improves player performance and helps reduce other kinds of injuries.

"Because of the Ag Tech Program, I am prepared for any opportunity that comes my way," Kessler said. "I was ready to be a part of the first all-female grounds crew at the Little League Softball World Series. I was ready for an internship with a National Football League team. Ag Tech did that."

By Max Esterhuizen



PHOTO COURTESY OF LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL.

Julie Kessler helps prepare the field at the Little League World Series for softball.

NRCC Library to host book signing for local author/illustrators

New River Community College will host a book signing on Sunday, Nov. 6 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the NRCC Library.

Author Salley Chinn and illustrators Harriet Anderson, Cindy Moore, and Carolyn Turner will all be available to present their children's book "Seth and the Secret of the Butterfly."

The book describes imagining what it would be like to meet a talking butterfly who whispers a life-changing secret. The story tells of five special-needs children who meet a magical butterfly named Lilly, who teaches the children how to turn sadness into joy and challenges into dreams. "Seth and the Secret of the Butterfly" inspires all children to celebrate who they are and to dream of what they might become.

The event will include cookies, hot cider, and tea. The NRCC Library is located in Martin Hall on NRCC's campus in Dublin.

*Submitted by Jill Watson
Ross Public Relations
Specialist, New River
Community College*



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OPINION

Home Country by Slim Randles: Catch Vermin Love Supreme's platform as he runs for President

Have you been counting the minutes until election day when your neighbors can remove all those campaign signs from their lawns for another two years? Yes, these are midterm elections, just as serious as the presidential election yet to come two years from now, but not as interesting.

Why not? Because the great candidate Vermin Love Supreme runs only for President and doesn't mess about trying to be someone's governor. V.L., who appears to be a bearded cross between Archimedes and Alexander Graham Bell, tends to stand out in a crowd. That is largely because he's usually wearing a boot on his head and is carrying a giant toothbrush.

Unlike most politicians, who basically ask us to vote for them

because they have their names on several yard signs and can prove it, Ol' Verm isn't afraid to face his country head-on and tell us what we really need.

Last time around, while trying to wedge his goals into the New Hampshire primaries, Vermin made no bones of his platform:

1. Passing a national law that everyone must brush their teeth, 2.

Dedicating millions of tax dollars to delve into time travel, 3. Investigate the possibilities of a Zombie invasion, and 4. Give a pony to everyone in the country.

Rest you be scratching your head over the time-travel expenditures, Vermin Love Supreme is quick to point out that once science has whipped time travel, he can then go back in time and kill

Adolf Hitler.

How can you beat a campaign slogan like that? Not only is it fun, but just picture 250 million people riding ponies around and showing off their shiny teeth.

Just two more years ... we can do it. Two more years.

Useless horse trivia: What was the queen's favorite pony's name? Emma

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.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

As a young man, I joined the army. I signed on the dotted line. I did what my country asked of me to defend our country from foreign and domestic enemies. I fought in a war.

Now at home, I am sick of the way this country I fought for is going. Democrats are tearing this country apart. How many thousands of lives have been destroyed in the past two years? From 3- to 5-year-old children to everyday working people like you and me...largely due to the Democrat policies.

How can anyone with a sound

mind think defunding the police is in anyone's best interest? You have seen the school systems in our own state. Sex and pornography do not belong in any educational system. Democrats in some districts have even allowed drag queen shows or story time in schools. We must demand that elected officials protect the innocence of our children.

I will be voting for these three candidates for city council: Seth Gillespie, Kelly Artrip, and Bobby Davis. I support these candidates for school board: Gloria Boyd, Chris Calfee, and Ed Dickenson. I know all these candidates love the

city of Radford. I have gathered more insight from the three school board candidates the past couple of months than from any school board members serving now. I will say, member Jody Ray has been very helpful.

I am not saying any of the listed candidates agree with how I feel. This is my opinion. I think I still have the right to one. Please vote to keep our city safe, mindful, and inviting to others.

Sincerely,
Gary Harris
Radford

Virginia gas prices head back down

Average gasoline prices in Virginia fell 5.4 cents per gallon last week, averaging \$3.50/g as of Monday, Oct. 24, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia.

Prices in Virginia are 17.2 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 22.9 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel rose four cents last week and stands at \$5.30 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$3.00/g Monday while the most expensive was \$4.29/g, a difference of \$1.29/g. The lowest price in the state Monday was \$3.00/g while the highest was \$4.29/g, a difference of \$1.29/g.

The national average price of gasoline fell 9.3 cents per gallon

last week, averaging \$3.77/g Monday. The national average is up 10.2 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 41.2 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.

"Average gas prices have declined for the second straight week with significant declines in the West and Great Lakes having an oversized effect on the drop in the national average," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "With oil prices struggling a bit after reaching \$93 after OPEC's decision to cut production, many regions could see falling gas prices again this week as demand continues to decline seasonally, especially if more data point to a significant economic slowdown."

"While gasoline prices have seen a large drop, diesel prices have been somewhat mixed with prices heading higher in the Northeast as inventories drop to extremely tight levels ahead of the heating oil season," said De Haan. "Motorists are reminded that the decline in gasoline prices is seasonal and should continue into the fall, and is unrelated to the coming election. Seasonality is king in driving prices, not the desires or hopes of politicians."

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.

Campaign

Finding workable solutions and determining what compromises and concessions must be made to the best benefit of the people is a constant puzzle, but one I enjoy working."

Cosmato said he had been approached by several

a full-term and resisted at first but thinks he can bring some experience and perspective to the council.

"A lot of folks had been pressuring me to run," he said. "They liked the work I was doing on the council and said I should keep doing it. I had initially said, "No, there are enough folks sticking around to keep the flame burning on current initiatives. They will quickly catch the new folks up-to-speed."

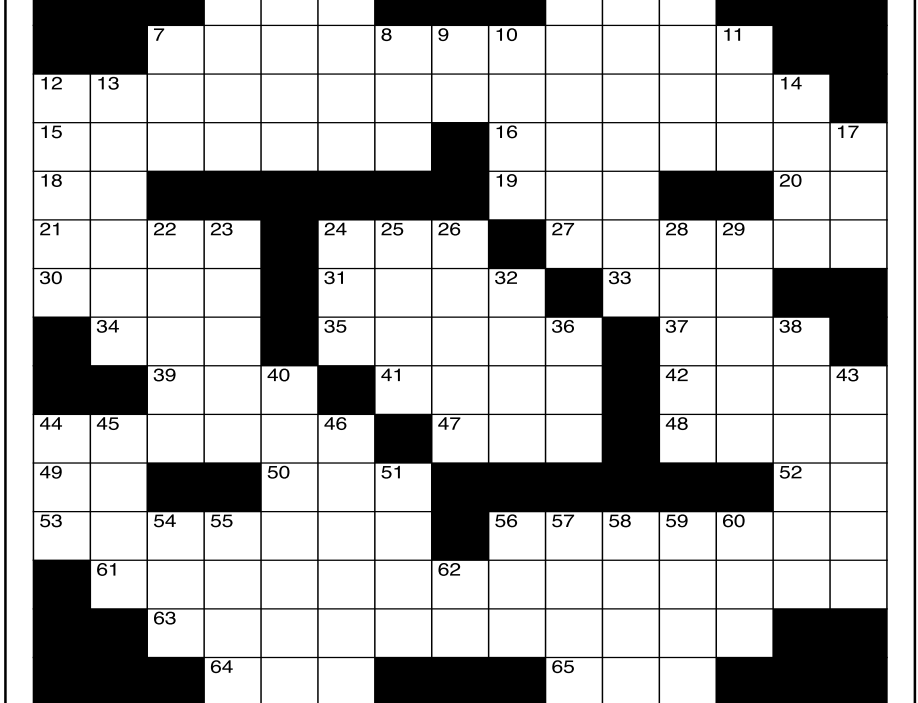
"But old Murphy (of Murphy's law fame) stepped in and set up the council for a possible reset," Cosmato said. "Even though we have staggered elections, the early resignation of a few members and one needing to attend to a beautiful growing family put us in a very unusual predicament. We could seat an entire council of folks new to the job and without prior

Radford Voter Registrar Tracy Howard says Cosmato starts off with a statistically difficult hill to climb, due to early voting and absentee ballots. As of Friday, more than 300 voters had cast an early voting ballot at the registrar's office and about 150 absentee ballots had been returned.

Cosmato is planning a Meet and Greet this Saturday, Oct. 29, in the West End Gardens on West Main Street from 2 to 5 p.m. so voters can meet him and ask him any questions they may have.

The other candidates on the ballot for the Tuesday, Nov. 8, election are Kelly Artrip, Bobby Davis, Jessie Foster, Seth Gillespie, Janiele Hamden and Chad McClanahan. Vice Mayor Naomi Huntington will also appear on the ballot but has withdrawn from the race.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- CLUES ACROSS**
1. Unhappy
 7. One who works under you
 12. What happens there stays there
 15. Not ingested
 16. Got the picture
 18. One thousandth of a gram
 19. Breakfast item
 20. About
 21. Tall deciduous trees
 24. Safe keeping receipt
 27. Cowardly
 30. Pueblo people of New Mexico
 31. Herring-like fish
 33. A very large body of water
 34. Angle (abbr.)
 35. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
 37. White clerical vestment
 39. Cool!
 41. Matchstick games
 42. Thick piece of something
 44. A state that precedes vomiting
 47. Burned item residue
 48. Jaguarundi
 49. Anno Domini (in the year of Our Lord)
 50. The home of "60 Minutes"
 52. Dorm official
 53. Give cards incorrectly
 56. One who is learning the job
 61. Popular R.L. Stevenson novel
 63. Attentively
 64. CNN's founder
 65. Criticize
- CLUES DOWN**
1. Fijian capital
 2. Assist
 3. Elected lord in Venice
 4. The capacity of a physical system to do work
 5. People of the wild
 6. Parent-teacher groups
 7. Midway between south and southeast
 8. Moved quickly on foot
 9. Handheld Nintendo console
 10. "Top of the Stairs" playwright
 11. Electronic data processing
 12. "Dog Day Afternoon" director
 13. Leaned
 14. About aviation
 17. Mountain is a popular type
 22. Lake along Zambia and Congo border
 23. Heroic tales
 24. Soviet Socialist Republic
 25. "Star Trek" villain
 26. Hand gesture popular on social media
 28. Renters have one
 29. Tubular steel column
 32. Database management system
 36. Similar
 38. Providing no shelter or sustenance
 40. Death
 43. What a sheep did
 44. Midcentury Asian battle-ground
 45. Horizontal passage into a mine
 46. Mortified
 51. Improper word
 54. No seats available
 55. Financial obligation
 56. It can be hot or iced
 57. Tough outer skin of a fruit
 58. Spumante (Italian wine)
 59. Misfortunes
 60. Negative
 62. Camper

SMART Lab

cial data to help discover trends, follow crises or collect information critical to their studies or the community.

The SMART Lab provides training and resources campus partners need to stay successful and the students need to be competitive in the workforce around this region, the commonwealth and the world.

Through this cutting-edge social scientific research, students and faculty collaborate to innovate and improve businesses in the New River

and Roanoke Valleys.

The lab boasts sophisticated technology available only to high-profile companies and universities, making it a unique experience for exemplary research. Student researchers learn how to use social media listening and management programs that are used by Fortune 500 companies.

John Brummette, a professor in the RU School of Communication, is the director of the SMART Lab.

The lab provides stu-

dents with access to state-of-the-art software programs that are currently being used by top companies and businesses," Brummette said. "It also provides students with access to an innovative research hub that provides online training and resources that have been created by Radford's faculty and a comfortable learning environment in which they can conduct their research."

Submitted by Radford University

LAND TRANSFERS

LAND TRANSAC-TIONS, SEPTEMBER 2022
Caroline Candace Bostic Davis to Reva Investing LLC, Lot 4, Walnut Grove, \$126,501

Mark W. Walsh to Melissa Leib, lot 130, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph II, Christiansburg, \$272,500

William R. Siscoe to George T. Sandford, 10.270 ac., Riner Magisterial District, \$70,000

Bruce Elliott Garnes to Bruce Elliott Garnes, Lot 705, Blacksburg Country Club Estates, Sec III

Jeffrey A. Ward Trust to Barry C. Compton, Inc., 3712 Sunflower Road, Pilot, Va. \$30,000

Keith W. Gardner to Samuel Aistrop, Lot 5, Craig Mtn. Subdv., Sec. XI, Christiansburg, \$399,500

Jeffrey S. Smith II to Sean M. Copenhaver, 16,118 sq. ft. lot 8-A, Windmill Hills, Ph. 1, Riner Magisterial District, \$340,000

Judy S. Jones Trust to Ronald G. Flanary Trust, Unit 8-3, Ph V, Villas at Peppers Ferry, Ph V, Christiansburg, \$320,000

Guohua Cao to Charles John Jarrett, Lot 19, Ph 1, The Wyatt Farm, Blacksburg, \$660,000

Carol Jean Tyree to C. Todd Dofflemeyer, Condo unit 216 of Clay Court Condos, \$312,500

RWW36 LLC to Oak Tree Townhomes, 8 parcels, common areas, See legal. Christiansburg

RWW36 LLC to Nabbit LLC Lot 49, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII, \$200,000

RWW36 LLC to Nabbit LLC, Lot 48, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII, \$200,000

RWW36 LLC to Nabbit LLC, Lot 47, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII, \$200,000

RWW36 LLC to Nabbit LLC, Lot 46, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII, Christiansburg, \$200,000

RWW36 LLC to Toadsworth LLC, Lot 44, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII, Christiansburg, \$200,000

RWW36 LLC to Toadsworth LLC, Lot 43, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII, Christiansburg, \$200,000

RWW36 LLC to Toadsworth LLC, Lot 42, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII, \$200,000

RWW36 LLC to Toadsworth LLC, Lot 41, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII, Christiansburg, \$200,000

RWW36 LLC to Toadsworth LLC, Lot 40, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII, \$200,000

RWW36 LLC to Poochy LLC, Lot 54, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII, Christiansburg, \$200,000

RWW36 LLC to Poochy LLC, Lot 53, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII, \$200,000

RWW36 LLC to Poochy LLC, Lot 52, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII, Christiansburg, \$200,000

RWW36 LLC to Poochy LLC, Lot 51, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII \$200,000

RWW36 LLC to Poochy LLC, Lot 50, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII, Christiansburg, \$200,000

Timothy S. Reynolds to David A. Schuh, 0.4552 ac., Christiansburg, \$146,000

Thomas Donegan to MMNV LLC, Lot 12, Blk 5A3, Pheasant Run Townhomes, \$296,000

Dorothy K. Semones Estate to Bridget H. Moore, Lot 16, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph. 1, Christiansburg, \$239,900

Christopher E. Allnut to Christopher G. Gaines, 5.233 ac., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$445,000

Azra N. Surhio to Kathleen Curtis Wilson, Lot 40, Ph III, Blk. B, Cedar Orchards Subdv., Ph III, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$649,900

RWW36 LLC to Toadsworth LLC, Lot 39, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII, Christiansburg, \$200,000

RWW36 LLC to Nabbit LLC, Lot 45, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph XIII, Christiansburg, \$200,000

Leslie and Lucas Associates to Elvinger and Lucas LLC, Condo Unit 500, Colony Park Condos, Ph III, Blacks-

burg
David C. Paisley to Stephen C. Paisley, 2908 Tall Oaks Dr., Blacksburg, Lot 10, Stroubles Mills, Sec IV, Blacksburg

Harder, Mary Ellen Munford Trust to James David Harder, Lots 115, 116, 117, Highland Park, Blacksburg, \$450,000

Thomas Everett Curling to John Czesnowski, Lot 6, Auburn Hills Fairway Homes, Riner Magisterial District, \$465,000

Shah Development LLC to Angela H. Hoban, Lot 41, Kelseywood Ph. II, Christiansburg, \$273,500

George T. Sanford to George T. Sandford, 10.270 ac., Riner Magisterial District

Toni Marie Calasanti to Calasanti-King Trust, 3330 Indian Meadow Dr., Blacksburg, Lot 81, Indian Run Investment Company, Ph III, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District

Kipps Farm LLC to State-son Homes LLC, Lot 4, Westhill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$134,750

Jon A. Bernard Trust to Jon A. Bernard, 112 Woodbine Dr., Blacksburg, Lot 17, Woodbine PDR, Sec VII, Blacksburg, \$1

Dawn E. Myers to Derek W. Poff, Lot 2, Meadows of Fairview Subdv., Riner Magisterial District, \$438,000

Mark E. Herbert Executor to Collin K. Hover, Lot 16, Lusters Mill, Ph II, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$625,000

Ricky Lee Phillips to Benjamin Harris, See Plat recorded at 2022001256 Riner District \$215,000

Marie D. Bland to Eric Dwayne Underwood, Unit 15-2, Ph I, Villas at Peppers Ferry, Christiansburg, \$383,500

Evelyn Ratcliffe Executor to Jessica Owens, two parcels: parcel 1, metes and bounds; parcel 2, 0.86 acres, metes and bounds, Alleghany Magisterial District, \$205,000

James W. Radford, Jr., to Radford and Radford Properties, 1.3774 ac., lot 9, Diamond Pointe, Ph III, Christiansburg

Deborah Nelson Williams to Gerald Craig Skenderian, Lot 5, Ph 1, Windsor Estates, Christiansburg, \$440,000

Zach J. Comer to Jack Wilkinson, 1.65 ac., tract A, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$63,000

Phillip t. Shuford to Ronald W. Bingham, Sr., 0.189 ac., lot 2B, Christiansburg, \$304,900

Helga t. Weschke to Weschke LLC, 3.6766 ac.

Shah Development LLC to Phillip Shuford, 0.07 ac., lot 43, Midway Estates, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$251,750

Michael William Dickerson Executor to Jimmy S. Reynolds, lot 2B, Slate Creek Commons, Christiansburg, \$280,000

Teri Rene McCormick-Goodhart to Amie Stepanovich, 5 ac., tract B, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$544,000

Patricia L. Smith to Raymond Groff, lots 110, 111, 112, Sullivan Heights Subdv., Christiansburg, \$152,000

Katherine M. Pearson to Kristen Alexandra Bretz, 1 ac., lot 1, Prices fork Magisterial District, \$189,950

Michelle Mayberry to George Mason Mortgage LLC

Jerry B. Klich to Judith L. Fernandez, Condo unit 102, Piedmont at Blacksburg II, Ph II, Blacksburg, \$220,000

Mark J. Barbour to Daniel Demarco, lot 1, Blacksburg, \$366,000

John Astor Anstrom to Melike Selin Aydin, lot 29, Ph 1, The Village at Toms Creek, Blacksburg, \$540,000

Casey I. Reynolds to Casey I. Reynolds, Lot 24, Preston Forest Ph III and Lot 02, Ph VI, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District

Stanford T. Mullins to Martha A. Mullins, 0.053 ac., lot 13, Cambria Crossing, Ph 1, Christiansburg, \$330,000

Michele L. Mayberry to Bryan Padilla, lot 1, Oak Tree

Townhomes, Ph IV, Christiansburg, \$385,000

Shah Development LLC to George Porcha, 2.388 ac., lot 4, Christiansburg, \$543,950

Fred D. Franklin III to Joseph Henry Poff, Jr., lot 15, Willow Springs Farm, Christiansburg

Garnett Ken Rudisill to Matthew James Marsille, 64,129 sq. ft., metes and bounds, see legal, Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$231,000

Atlantic Trustee Services LLC to Cole Companies LLC, 6.284 ac., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$166,000

Clyde H. Bishop to James Anthony Bohon, 0.483 ac., lots 20, 21, Christiansburg, \$170,000

Timothy H. Baynum to Clowell Paul Lindamood, Lot 30, Ph 1, Blacksburg, \$567,950

Nellie L. Grimmett to Howard M. Thompson III, 0.538 ac., Parcels A, C, Christiansburg

Janie S. Rasnake to Dave Huynh, 0.39 ac., metes and bounds, Blacksburg, \$265,000

Matthew T. Runion to Wanqian Wei, Lot 9, Ph 1, Christiansburg, \$316,000

Kevin K. Kendall to Mohamed Hassan, lot 14, The Orchards, Ph III-B, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$335,000

Joseph L. Barker to Jones and Sons Excavating, Inc. 10.314 ac., lot 5A, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$390,000

Tony Ray Weddle to Vickie Dove Linkous, Parcels 1 thru V, See legal, Riner Magisterial District

Daniel Dimarco to Daniel Dimarco, lot 1, Early Gallimore Lots

Larry Bolt to Patricia c. Rudisill, Lot 10, Blk 2, Highview Terrace Subdv., Christiansburg, \$175,000

National Bank of Blacksburg Trust to Juanita H. Ellett Lot 13, Ph 1, Riner Magisterial District, \$225,000

Edward C. Falco to Gary S. Gartner, 0.357 ac., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$279,000

Lloyd E. Lovern to Logan E. Lovern, 3.383 ac., lot 2, Riner Magisterial District

Kevin D. Alexander to Christian Batchelor, Lots 86, 87, Heritage Place, Ph IV-A, Riner Magisterial District, \$850,000

Kathleen K. Patrick to Asser Hussein Eldomiaty, 1.616 ac., lot 6C, Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$325,000

Walter C. Hitchingham to Edward Falco, tract 18, Sec. 1, Laurel Ridge Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial District \$532,000

Derek Michael Johnson to Jennifer I. Finan, Lot 12, Silver Leaf Lane, Blacksburg, \$476,000

Mary M. Harder Trust to Deborah Hardie Bare, five parcels, see legal

Deborah Hardie Bare to Golden Apple Properties LLC, five parcels, metes and bounds, see legal

Norman Shrewsbury to Paul Dewey Shrewsbury, Jr., 3 tracts, metes and bounds, see legal

Mary A. Madison to Blacksburg Boxing and Fitness, Lot 2-B, South Hill Park, Ph 1, Blacksburg, \$550,000

ALG Trustee LLC to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, 2011000968, 0.5234 ac., metes and bounds, \$196,000

NW Development, Inc., to Joshua R. Williamson, lot 6, Maple Ridge Village 4, Blacksburg, \$25,000

Jason Schoonover to L and S Investments LLC, lot 4, Kingston Court, Christiansburg

Jason M. Schoonover to L and S. Investments LLC, 0.32 ac., metes and bounds, Christiansburg

Daniel D. Doyle to Joseph H. Conduff III, 15.3888 ac., and 8.2367 ac., lots 3,4, Riner Magisterial District, \$975,000

Jeffrey D. Wilson to Nathan e. Grega Larson, Lot 10, Westover Hills, Sec III, Blacksburg, \$705,000

Shah Development LLC to Michael Patrick McGoern, lot 25, Heritage Place, Ph I,

Riner Magisterial District, \$549,900

Luther William Lester, jr., to Jason M. Schoonover, 2.572 ac., lot 4, Smith Creek Subdv., Riner Magisterial District

Daniel C. Bishop to Cassidy Broome, Lot 13, house 7, Lee Hwy Court, Christiansburg, \$179,900

Isabella Kay Sanford to Christoher Jordan Widrig, Lot 1, Edgemont Trail Subdv., Riner Magisterial District, \$310,000

Mohannad Elhamod to Mohannad Elhamod, Lot 50, Cambria Crossing, Ph 1, Christiansburg

Douglas Wayne Sink to Joseph L. Vishneski, 2.882 ac., lot 1, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$70,000

Thomas E. Wilson Trust to Michael N. Schneider, Condo unit 26, Bldg. C, Cascades Pointe Condos, Blacksburg, \$215,000

Linda J. Sanford to Kenneth H. Martin Revocable Trust, 2022006087, 1.135 ac., to become 1.349 ac., Mt. Tabor Magisterial District

Lori S. Marsh to Jesse A. Schibilia, tracts 1 and 2, See legal, \$525,000

Donald L. Tolley to Jesse A. Schibilia, 19.872 ac., \$50,000

Diana H. Aif Phillips to Celeste Lindstrom, 0.946 ac., Blacksburg, \$149,000

Michael Pontone to Amado A. Guzman, 0.299 ac., \$185,000

Kenneth E. Martin Revocable Trust to Scott A. Souther, 1.349 ac., Mt. Tabor Magisterial District

George A. Dunn to Carpendale Investments LLC, metes and bounds, see legal, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$165,000

William Robert Lee Craft III to Blacksburg Land LLC, tracts 1, 2, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$226,200

Jason Bradley Taylor to Abbec Properties LLC, 0.254 ac., Warren Heights, Christiansburg, \$300,000

Phillip M. Keister to Cody James Journell, 1.000 ac., Lot C, \$329,392

Robin Maria Admir Holmes to Robin Maria Holmer, 0.2591 ac., lot 1, Christiansburg

Darrel Dwayne Stuart to DJJG LLC, 10 ac., metes and bounds, \$20,000

Pamela J. Nelson to Nelson Family Trust, 625 Colhoun St., Christiansburg, western one-half portion of lot 15, Wm. Montague Subdv., Christiansburg

Robert John king to HD Investment Properties LLC, 0.175 ac., parcel 1 and 0.042 ac., parcel 2, multi-jurisdiction between Montgomery and Roanoke City, \$750,000

Meghan A. Cooper to David Allen Asher, 0.545 ac., lot 205, Village at Toms Creek, Ph V, \$895,000

Gary Brumfield Trust to Gary Brumfield Trust, 2 parcels, Christiansburg

Douglas E. Marshall to Stephen Arthur Austin, 4.0887 ac., new lot 8A, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$710,000

North Fork East Street LLC to J&K Rentals LLC, 0.359 ac., Christiansburg, \$225,000

Brent M. Lanier to Carolyn Moore, Lot 30, Shenandoah Subdv., Ph III, Blacksburg, \$10

Derek Akers to Megan Thompson, 1.826 ac., Shawsville Magisterial District, \$226,000

Rental Investments One LLC to LUT Holdings LLC, lot 11, Woodland Park Subdv., Blacksburg, \$799,500

Norman David Cella to Sarah M. Cella, Condo unit B, Bldg 1475, Hunters Ridge Condos, Christiansburg

Shah Development LLC to JD Rental Properties LLC, 0.052 ac., lot 29, Midway Estates, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$251,750

Dennis Nagel to Alexander P. Smith, 0.993 ac., Shawsville Magisterial District, \$153,000

Josetta R S McLaughlin Trust to Eric Scott Beltran, 0.284 ac., parcel B, Blacksburg, \$427,000

Shah Development LLC to Kenneth I. Durham, 0.071

ac., lot 40, Midway Estates, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$256,750

Bradley D. Wiggins to Richard A. Farthing, 1.727 ac., lot 7, Ridgeway Farm Estates, \$595,000

Shaun Bennett to Michael Dale Smith, Lot 12, Springview Subdv., Ph 1, Riner Magisterial District, \$189,000

Double K Farm LLC to Jason N. Kitts, 5.012 ac., new parcel A, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District

Justin P. Boyle to 50 Green Street LLC, metes and bounds, see legal, Blacksburg

Shah Development LLC to Amanda Hope Frone, 0.052 ac., lot 42, Midway Estates, Shawsville Magisterial District, \$247,750

Michelle M. Gandee to Shaun J. Bennett, lot 23, Stafford Farm Subdv., \$391,000

Janice S. Vanhoozier to Zachary S. Dicesare, 2.582 ac., Riner Magisterial District, \$101,000

Steven B. McGinnis to James William Hensel II, 10.7146 ac., Cold Mtn. Subdv., Riner Magisterial District, \$385,000

Dennis Ivan Wall to Delors B. Wall, 111.60 ac., metes and bounds

Ronnie Gene Hooker, Jr. Executor to Michael Steele Harr II, 5658 Berry Patch Road, Elliston, \$137,000

SAS Eagle Givens LLC to Carolyn D. Kogan, 0.24 ac., lot 105, Blacksburg, \$607,148

Jason B. Baylor to Tracy McGinnis, 0.671 ac., metes and bounds, \$229,500

John Michelle Saville to Bryce Alexander Nicolau, 2.56 ac., metes and bounds, parcel 1 and 4.78 ac., metes and bounds, parcel 2, Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$239,200

Diana L. Davis to Diana L. Davis, 3.8160 ac., lot 2, parcel 1, and 0.5000ac., parcel 2, Riner Magisterial District

Vicki Charlton Bartlett Executor to Robert G. Gaus, 0.114 ac., lot 3, Caldwell Manor, Christiansburg, \$247,500

Dakota T. Wheeler to Michael C. Linkous, 1.00 ac., Lynwood Price, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$15,000

Phillip D. Morris to April Dawn Boyd, .771 ac., Riner Magisterial District, \$295,000

Brian Lee Williams to Edward Scott Rizer, Lot 34, Oak Tree Townhomes, PhIV, Christiansburg, \$295,000

The Bank of Floyd to Shah Development LLC, 1.000 ac., lot 2, Christiansburg, \$650,000

Patricia Elaine Kropff-Akers to PB and J Investments LLC, 2.046 ac., parcel 1, and 1.20 ac., metes and bounds, parcel 2, Riner Magisterial District, \$50,000

Shannon Hodous to Josef C. Koefer, 0.2453 ac., Blacksburg, \$320,000

Shannon A. Hodousto Josef C. Koefer, 0.2424 ac., Blacksburg, \$60,000

Cheryl L. Kelsey to Betty R. Bartschmid, 5.500 ac., Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$345,000

Albert W. Catlett, Jr., to Albert W. Catlett, Jr. Trust, Condo unit 10, Lane Park Condos, Blacksburg

Paul M. Wilkins to Woodram Lee, lot 91, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph 1, Christiansburg, \$219,900

Cory m. Steiner to Gavin B. Vaught, Lot 9, Kelseywood, Ph II, Christiansburg, \$295,000

Danny Gayle Rhudy to Julie Ann Rhudy, lot 3, Riner Magisterial District

Jeremy D. Hansford to David A. Wert, 1.472 ac., lot 1, Charles Ridge Subdv., Riner Magisterial District, \$400,000

Linda Williams Wiseman Executor to Penny g. Racek, lot 37, Windsong Heights, Sec 1, Christiansburg, \$286,000

Gerard P. Tompkins to William Henry Williams, 13.069 ac., lot 25, parcel 1, and 41.768 ac., parcel 2, Riner Magisterial District

William Henry Williams to Margaret B. Lawton, 13.069

See Land Transfers, page 6

As Halloween creeps closer, NFPA urges public to keep fire safety in mind

Halloween is a boo-tiful time of year, full of spooky celebrations and activities, but it also presents some real and scary fire safety hazards. As the holiday nears, the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) is encouraging everyone to take simple precautions that can help ensure the holiday remains festively fun.

“As more people plan to celebrate the holiday this year, whether it be trick-or-treating or costume parties, we want everyone to know where potential fire risks exist so they can take the steps needed to minimize them,” said Lorraine Carli, vice

president of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA.

According to NFPA, an annual average of 770 home structure fires began with decorations between 2014 and 2019, resulting in one civilian fire death, 26 civilian fire injuries, and \$13 million in direct property damage. More than two of every five (44 percent) of these fires occurred because the decorations were too close to a heat source, such as a candle or hot equipment.

NFPA offers these tips and guidelines for enjoying a fire-safe Halloween:

Decorations: Many com-

mon decorations like cornstalks, crepe paper, and dried flowers are very flammable. Keep these and similar decorations far away from any open flames or heat sources, like candles, heaters, and light bulbs.

Candles: Using candles as decoration can be risky if not done correctly. Keep them in a well-attended area out of the path of potential trick-or-treaters. Remind children of the dangers of open flames, and make sure they are always supervised when candles are lit. Extinguish candles before leaving an area.

Jack-o-lanterns: Glow sticks or electric candles are the safest

choice when it comes to lighting up your jack-o-lantern, but if you choose to use a real candle, do so with extreme caution. Light a candle inside a jack-o-lantern using long fireplace matches or a utility lighter and keep it away from other decorations.

Costumes: Avoid fabric that billows or trails behind you, as these can easily ignite. If you are making your own costume, avoid loosely woven fabrics like linen and cotton, which can be very flammable.

Visibility: Give children flashlights or glow sticks for lighting. These can even be incorporated

into the costume. If your child has a mask, ensure the eye holes are large enough for the child to see clearly.

Smoke Alarms: This is a great time to make sure your smoke alarms are functional and are up-to-date.

Exits: Exits are NOT an appropriate place for decorations. When decorating, ensure that nothing is blocking any escape routes.

“With a little added awareness and planning, people can enjoy a fun-filled Halloween and stay fire-safe in the process,” said Carli.

Submitted by Kyle Etter

MBA Program from page 1

program, it also spotlights the commitment of our faculty, staff, and students to the highest standards. It certainly is a collective effort,” Dogan said.

“We are also very happy that our efforts to develop a high-quality and flexible MBA program for working professionals have paid off,” he added. “This distinction will be another source of motivation for us and we

will continue to improve our MBA program.”

While pleased with the program’s ranking for the second year, Davis College Dean Joy Bhadury said it did not come as a complete surprise.

“This outstanding recognition is the expected outcome of the high-quality MBA offered by the Davis College faculty and staff. While we have known that to

be true all along, it is indeed gratifying to see.”

Business students have acknowledged they selected Radford University’s part-time MBA program because of its convenient online options, its value and the flexibility it offers, in that its completion times can be as short as one year, or as long as six, depending on the student’s pace and preferred schedule.

Graduates have also cited Radford’s faculty, which has excellent professional credentials and brings experience into the classroom by merging academic elements with a real-time work environment for students.

Of the various schools selected, Fortune’s editors wrote: “These top part-time MBA degree programs not only offer top-notch

curriculums and access to world-class business school professors, but they also have a track-record of seeing their alumni climb to the tops of the Fortune 500 world.”

Radford’s part-time MBA program has also previously been included in 2022 “best of” lists by U.S. News & World Report and by the Princeton Review.

By Becky Brackin

Land Transfers from page 5

ac., lot 25, parcel 1, and 41.768 ac., parcel 2, Riner Magisterial District

Frances Marie Bishop to Gary W. Hinson, 0.012 ac., adjusted area F, Rainier Magisterial District

Steven Derek Rountree to Deidi V. Hoback, 2021008985

Halsey Land Holdings LLC to Teri-Rene McCormick-Goodhart, Lot 2, Blacksburg Heights, Blacksburg, \$490,500

Tiffany A. McCann-Vaught to Rodney W. Vaught, 86 Wades Lane, Christiansburg, lot 8 and parts of lot 10 and 15 ft. alley, Echo Hills Subdv., metes and bounds

Matthew M. Win-

ston, Jr. to John Darwin Swift, Lot 3, Ph 1, Mt. Tabor Meadows Subdv., Blacksburg, \$650,000

Equity Trustees LLC to HB2 Alternative Holdings LLC, 2009008854, \$50,000

Gary W. Hinson to John Ashe, 0.690 ac., new area, comprised of 0.559 ac. And 0.119 ac., adjusted area C and 0.012 ac., adjusted area F, Riner Magisterial District \$278,000

Heidi V. Hoback to John N. Barrick Trust, 1.392 ac., Shawsville Magisterial District, \$310,000

Kipps Farms LLC to Stason Homes LLC, Lots 409, 410, 411, 412, WestHill Subdv., Prices Fork Magisterial

District, \$358,600

Michael P. Larkin to Albert S. Yu, Lot 8, Ridgeway Farm Estates, Christiansburg, \$685,000

Arina Korneva to Arina Korneva, 320 Turpin Walk, Christiansburg, 0.310 ac., see legal, Christiansburg

Jo Anne Barton to Roffia Galeshi, part of Lot 10, all of Lot 11, part of Lot 12, Mountainview Estates No. 2, Sec. 8, Blacksburg, \$320,000

Margery I. Mullins to Linda Webb Hinson, lot 5, Northside Park, Sec V, \$400,000

Yueh Ting Lin to William Richard Sievert, Lot 7, Northside Park, Sec. V, Blacksburg, \$364,000

Catherine W. Light to Shannon N. Slusser, 1600 Greenwood Dr., Blacksburg, Lot 25, Sec. B, Forest Hill

Gregory Patrick Albert to The Partners III LLC, 0.256 ac., Christiansburg, \$98,000

JBC Properties LLC to The Poff Living Trust, 12.6996 ac., Craigs Mtn Rd, Christiansburg, \$28,574

W H Maddy, Jr., to Two Kings and a Queen LLC, metes and bounds, See legal, Christiansburg, \$300,000

Mary M. Price to Jennifer M. Kellinger, 3.83 ac., metes and bounds, Blacksburg Magisterial District

Harold H. Ross, Jr., to Aaron T. Creed, Lot 72, Christiansburg, \$385,000

David F. Cox to Diane H. Browder, 0.089 ac., lot 178 IVA-2, the Village at Toms Creek, Blacksburg, \$459,900

Kenney C. Cox to John M. Young, 7.00 ac tract A1C, Mt. Tabor Magisterial District, \$22,000

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs to Rhonda Ellsworth-White, 2.077 ac., Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$49,900

Zach Milton to Dennis James Seay, 0.73 ac., metes and bounds, \$278,000

Vicki Euler to Roger

Sturgill, two parcels divided into two half-acres, \$10,500

Gayle A. Chapman to Dwayne C. Delling, 5,000 ac., to be added to tax map #059-A-28A to become all new area of 8.615 ac., Shawsville Magisterial District, \$16,000

Roanoke Valley Holdings LLC to NRV LLC, 2.7 ac., see legal, \$9,179

NRV LLC to Madison Apartment Homes LLC, 1.662 ac., Christiansburg, \$113,480

Zachary Williams to 1403 Crestview LLC, Lot 47, Highland Park Addition, Blacksburg

David S. Duke to Thomas W. Shas, Lot 55, Clifton Ph 1, Christiansburg, \$425,000

Karl Kristian Peter to Brenda Williams Polk, lot 42, Oakwood Subdv., Parcel 1, and southerly 5 ft. of lot 41, Oakwood Subdv., Christiansburg, \$245,000

Phillip r. Sturgill to Varie C. Lynn, lot 10, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph IV, Christiansburg, \$320,000

Kevin N. Hiatt to NRV Properties II LLC, 0.568 ac., lot 28, Riner Magisterial District, \$225,000

First Horizon Bank to

Whitney Finley, Little River, Radford

Ryan L. Suc Pry Trust to Margaret M. Thompson, 115 Melody Dr., Christiansburg, Windsong Heights Section 1, Lot 25

Margaret M. Thompson to Margaret M. Thompson Trust, 115 Melody Dr., Christiansburg, Windsong Heights Sec. 1, Lot 25

Jessica E. Hess to John Woodward, lot 1, Christiansburg, \$145,000

Bobby D. Rasnick to Christopher Harris, Lot 144, Oak Tree Townhomes, Ph II, Christiansburg, \$365,000

DEEDS TRANSFER UPON DEATH

Lloyd E. Lovern to Logan E. Lovern, 3.383 ac., lot 2, Riner Magisterial District

Norman Shrewsberry to Paul Dewey Shrewsberry Jr., 3 tracts, metes and bounds, see legal

Catherine W. Light to Shannon N. Slusser, 1600 Greenwood Dr., Lot 25, Sec. B, Forest Hill Blacksburg

Mary M. Price to Jennifer M. Kellinger, 3.83 ac., metes and bounds, Blacksburg Magisterial District

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RADFORD SPORTS

Christiansburg tries to rebound, Auburn shuts down its program for second straight year

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

With just two weeks to go, Radford and Christiansburg are steps away from the regional playoffs. If Christiansburg High School wins out, they will be one of the top four seeds in 3C while Radford is number one in 2C and should have home-field advantage throughout the playoffs.

Under the current Virginia High School League points, Christiansburg could play at home for at least the first two weeks before having to face Lord Botetourt.

This past week, Radford's defense stopped Floyd on a two-

point conversion to secure the school's eighth win of the season against no losses. Quarterback Landen Clark was 13 for 23 passing for 205 yards with three touchdowns. He also added 89 yards on the ground with another touchdown.

Two of those scores through the air were caught by Virginia Tech-bound Marcell Baylor who had three catches for 43 yards. Parker Prioleau had the Bobcats' other score.

Patrick Henry dominated Christiansburg in a 37-14 contest though Tanner Evans did return from an injury to rush for more than 100 yards for the Blue De-

mons. Meanwhile, Eastern Montgomery (2-6) and Blacksburg (0-8) continued their downward slides.

And for the second straight season, Auburn has shut down its football program before the season was set to end.

On Monday, Auburn Athletic Director Paul Dominy said the decision to shut down this year's football team was due to a lack of healthy players.

"We have had injuries, particularly on the offensive and defensive lines that would have required us to put undersized freshmen in starting varsity positions," the

AD said. Dominy did say, however, that the school does feel good about the future of the program.

"Our numbers rose this year over what we had last year, and we have a healthy middle-school program with high participation numbers," Dominy said. "We will finish out this year with JV games against Abingdon on Monday and Giles on Friday of this week using players in grades 8 through 10."

Back on the gridiron, Botetourt leads 3D with 25,428 points to Christiansburg's 23. Cave Spring has 22,714 points in third place with Bassett fourth at 22,5714 followed by Magna Vista (22,125)

and Staunton River (18,857).

Radford is tops in 2C with 26 points. Martinsville is second with 25 points with Floyd third and Glenvar fourth.

This week, Christiansburg will travel to Cave Spring, which is knocking on the Blue Demons' door in the points standings. Radford will face Glenvar in a critical Three Rivers District matchup.

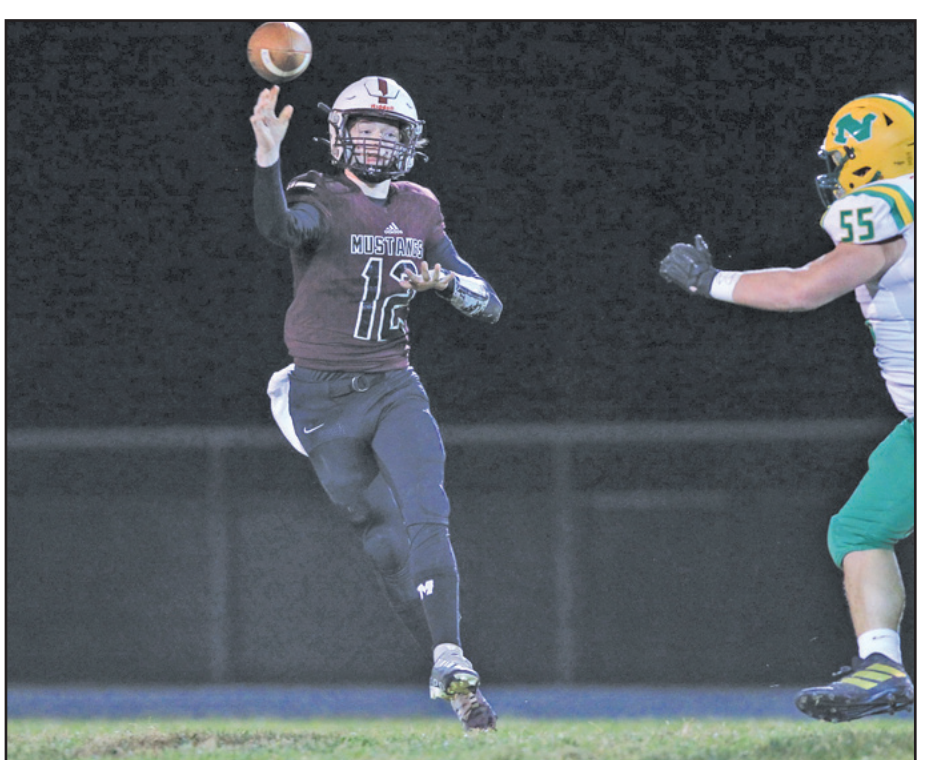
Area Top Five: 1) Salem, 2) Radford, 3) Narrows, 4) Floyd, 5) Christiansburg.

This week's predictions: Graham 54, Blacksburg 0; Christiansburg 32, Cave Spring 28; Radford 34, Glenvar 28; Eastern Montgomery 29, Covington 21.

Narrows downs Eastern Montgomery 48-7



Xavier Brown gets a Mustang first down after catching a pass along the sideline from quarterback Gage Akers against Narrows, which came away with a 48-7 win.



Eastern Montgomery's Gage Akers targets a Mustang receiver during the home game against Narrows.



Eastern Montgomery's Chase Bierman picks up yardage against Narrows.



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

The 2022 Class 1 State Champion Eastern Montgomery girls soccer team received their rings Friday night during halftime.

Tech quarterback Jason Brown helps others by selling NIL jerseys

By News Messenger editor Ed McMinn and Alexander Theriault

It is safe to say that Virginia Tech quarterback Jason Brown never thought a chance like this one would come along via NIL (Name, Image and Likeness).

Seeking to partner with the company Fanatics, which is in the business of selling NIL jerseys, the quarterback from Fredericksburg sought to discover a strategy for giving back the money he earned selling his jerseys instead of hoarding it for his personal income. Searching for possible charities to which he could donate his earnings from the sales of his No.-1 jersey, the sixth-year Tech quarterback discovered the nonprofit group ASK, a foundation fighting childhood cancer, which immediately touched the signal-caller's heart.

"About 10 years ago, my young cousin was diagnosed with a tumor located in the lower part of the brain," Brown said when asked what struck him about this particular non-profit group. "It was really hard to treat, so we couldn't do surgery.

"Since then, it's always been necessary for me to have the opportunity to try to give back and help people who need help and are experiencing what she was experiencing," Brown said. "The people at Fanatics said they were all great followers of Virginia Tech in the marketplace. I always wanted to contribute in one way or another. I looked at a lot of charities, but I thought this was the right one for me, given my particular situation."

The collaboration between the two

began with a simple direct message on Twitter that Brown sent the Thursday before the Hokies left for Pittsburgh. And on Friday morning, ASK responded with a slice of gratitude and a sense of appreciation.

ASK was only 60 miles away from Brown's home, but he nevertheless was unfamiliar with the charity before he researched the idea of selling his jerseys. Initially launched in 1975, ASK, which stands for Help, Assist and Kindness, was founded by a small group of elderly pediatric cancer patients at MCV Hospital in Richmond.

Starting by collecting books, toys, and video games to help children spend time in the clinic while receiving treatment, the group quickly took off and has been financially improving the lives of children with cancer for nearly 5 years.

"They assist a range of families in need and a range of children who may be in need," Brown acknowledged. "What they do, what inspiration does ... is superb."

Leveraging his previous successes on the field and his likability among Tech fans, Brown now has the opportunity to reap the benefits and stimulate major contributions to an extraordinary degree.

"At the beginning, I was only concerned about how I could get money for myself," Brown admitted. "But then I realized that I had to be able to give back somehow because that's the kind of person I am. It felt right."

--VT Athletics

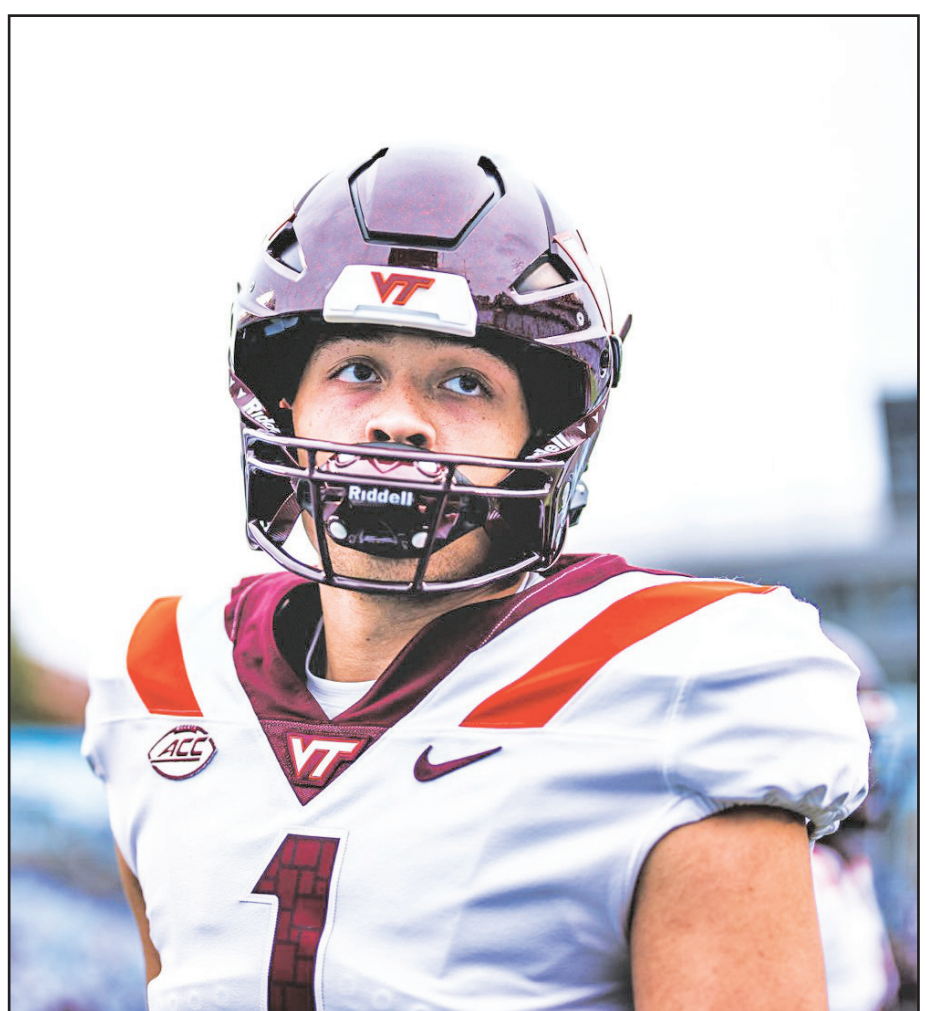


PHOTO COURTESY OF VIRGINIA TECH

Through an NIL agreement with the company Fanatics, Hokie quarterback Jason Brown is giving back by donating 100% of the money from the sale of every one of his game jerseys to ASK, a nonprofit foundation based in Richmond fighting childhood cancer.

Outdoor report: Trout stocking has begun around state

The Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) started the 2022-23 trout stocking season on October 1.

Through April, more than one million catchable-size trout will be stocked into more than 200 waters throughout Virginia.

Virginia's trout season is open year-round, and the general statewide limits are 6 trout per day, no fish less than 7 inches. A number of exceptions, given below, are found below for certain areas and waters (i.e., heritage, urban, special area, special regulation, and fee fishing waters), so please study the sections following for fishing times, dates, and limits.

These different restrictions have been

applied to certain wild trout waters as well as several types of stocked trout streams to provide anglers with the opportunity to catch more and larger trout.

Success for both wild and stocked trout should be very high through the spring, fall, and mild winter periods. From June through September, normally low stream flows and warming water temperatures make trout fishing more difficult.

However, experienced trout anglers can find good trout fishing opportunities throughout the year.

As a reminder, a trout license is not required to fish designated stocked trout waters during Free Fishing Days. A permit is still required to fish at Clinch Mountain,

Crooked Creek, and Douthat State Park Fee Fishing Areas.

The cost for a non-resident trout license to fish in designated stocked trout waters has been reduced to the same price as a resident trout license (\$23.00).

Biologists are also warning anglers about gill lice, which have been identified on rainbow trout in Blue Springs Creek, a tributary of Cripple Creek, located in Smyth and Wythe counties.

Gill lice are tiny, parasitic copepods, a type of zooplankton, that attach to a fish's gills, mouth, and fins. The gill lice recently found in southwestern Virginia are likely *Salmincola californiensis*, a species that specifically uses rainbow trout

and related species (cutthroat trout and Pacific salmon) as its host.

Another species of gill lice, *Salmincola edwardsii*, infects only brook trout. DWR biologists have collected gill lice samples and have submitted them to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Lamar Health Center for identification. Since they were found on rainbow trout, however, they are likely *Salmincola californiensis* and pose little threat to native brook trout populations at this time.

A minor gill lice infection can generally be tolerated, but a heavy infection can have a negative impact on a fish's ability to breathe. The degree of impact to a trout population can depend on the level of

infection and the presence of any other stressors such as high water temperature or drought conditions.

Gill lice can be unsightly and may make anglers reluctant to eat an infected trout. However, trout infected with gill lice are safe to eat as long as the fish is cooked properly.

Given the native distribution of *Salmincola californiensis* in the Pacific Northwest, its introduction to waters east of the Continental Divide has likely occurred concurrently with the introduction of rainbow trout and other host species to non-native waters. The specific source of the introduction to Virginia waters is unknown at this time.

DWR staff are currently working to de-

termine whether gill lice are present in other trout waters of the state or if this is an isolated occurrence. After the extent of gill lice infections has been assessed, DWR will develop a plan to limit the spread to uninfected waters and to reduce the impact in waters where gill lice are found.

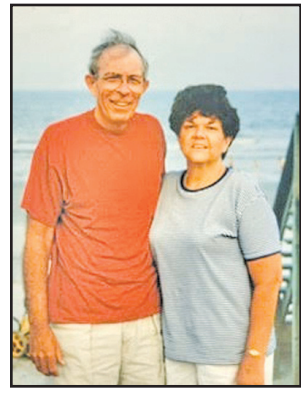
Anglers can assist DWR by reporting trout infected with gill lice to: fisheries@dwr.virginia.gov. Although gill lice are likely transferred through direct fish-to-fish contact, anglers are encouraged to clean and dry their fishing equipment after use, especially if they intend to travel to different waters. This is a good practice that will help stop the spread of any aquatic invasive species.

OBITUARIES

Butterworth, George Lynwood

George Lynwood Butterworth, 83, of Christiansburg, passed away Saturday, Sept. 3, 2022, surrounded by his loving family and his trusted dog, Mack, following a courageous 10-year battle dealing with complications from a stroke.

George is survived by a son, Terry Butterworth of Christiansburg; his three grandchildren, Megan Butterworth (Brandon) of Stanardsville, Va., Nicholas Butterworth (Amy)



of Boise, Idaho, and Alec Butterworth (Samantha) of Barboursville, Va.; his great-grandchildren London Amelia, Madelyn Rose, Archer Grey, Alec Cade, and Fiona James; a special niece, Star Bolling; as well as many cousins, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held on Friday, Oct. 21, 2022, at the Roselawn Memorial Gardens Mausoleum, Christiansburg, and burial followed. The Rev. Neal Turner officiated.

Curlee, Calesha Janea

Calesha Janea Curlee 28, spending her years through Virginia and the Carolinas, left this world on Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2022. She was born on May 9, 1994, in Iredell County.

Calesha was the mother to two boys whom she loved endlessly. She will be remembered for her free spirit, her intoxicating smile, and her desire to help others. Her hobbies included spending time on the lake with her partner and children, reading, crafting, writing, soaking in sunshine with her plants, yoga, meditation, and dancing under the moonlight.

She was preceded in death by her younger cousin Ally, and her grandparents, Bob and Judy Curlee.

Those left to carry on her spirit are her two sons, Braxton Elijah-Lee Bibb and Fenix Slade Curlee; her partner, James Lide Brown; her maternal fam-



ily: Daniel and Tonya Harrington; two brothers, Torey Devin Curlee, and C.J. Curlee (Jolie, Angelie); grandparents Rick and Glenda Hunnington and Bill and Linda Harrington and Samp Harrington; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, extended family, and friends; her paternal family: Calvin Howell; two brothers, Javin Bailey and Donald Vail; five sisters: Kehla Ellis, Jasmine Bailey, Jada Bailey, Aniya Vail, and Chans Vail; and her grandmother, Patricia English.

The family received friends from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct 19, at Summersett Funeral Home with a memorial service following at 4 p.m. in Summersett Memorial Chapel.

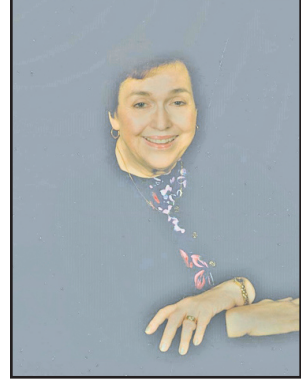
Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Curlee family. Online condolences may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

James, Paulette Hannah

Paulette Hannah James, 75, passed away Saturday, Oct. 12, 2022, at her home in Fairlawn.

She was a member of Fairlawn Presbyterian Church and was preceded in death by her father, Herbert Hannah.

Survivors include her mother, Bernice Ellen Mackle Criss of Beckley, W.Va.; her husband, Thomas Dean James of Fairlawn; daughters Natalie Brogan (John), Caroline Hettman (John), and Sarah Camper, all of Roanoke; five grandchildren; brothers Joseph Hannah, Herbert Mark Hannah, and Graham Mathew Hannah; and many oth-



er relatives and friends. The family received friends on Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2022, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Services followed with the Rev. Feleccia Parsell officiating. Interment was private at the Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to the Fairlawn Presbyterian Church or to the charity of your choice.

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

Melton, Velma Francis Tabor

Velma Francis Tabor Melton, 74, went home to rest with her eternal Lord and Savior on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022.

Born on July 4, 1948, Velma was a devoted Christian who was born and raised in Pulaski County. She was preceded in death by her mother, Mae Kathleen Tabor, and her father, Samuel Gilbert Tabor; a former spouse, Fredrick Lee Melton; a sister, Doris Collins; brothers Junior Martin, Alfred Martin, Gilbert Tabor, Harry Tabor, Billy Tabor, Bobby Tabor, Oakie Tabor, James Clyde Tabor, and Dannie Wayne Tabor; and a grandson, Jordan Blake Melton.

She is survived by her sister, Kathy Mathena; a sister-in-law, Virginia Tabor; and her children, Dreama and Wink Covey of Snowville, Lisa and Wayne Edwards of Pulaski, Larry Melton of Christiansburg, and Michael Melton of Hillsville; grandchildren Little Wink Covey, Cherish Covey Stone, Jessica Branch, Ja-



son Branch, Josh Branch, Krista Branch, Erin Graham, Amanda Edwards, Teresa Annie Kinard, Courtney Melton, Alysha Melton, and Cole Melton; 16 great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Velma "Granny Melton" held a special place in her heart for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She will be remembered as a resilient, bright, and shining light who always kept her sense of humor throughout even the most difficult situations.

Funeral services will be held at the IPCC Church on Valley Road in Pulaski on Saturday, Oct. 29, 2022, at 2 p.m. with Pastor Mary Morris and Pastor Nancy Lane officiating. Interment will follow in Brewer's Cemetery on Mt. Olivet Road in Pulaski.

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

Schmidt, Robert "Bob" Reinhart

Robert "Bob" Reinhart Schmidt, 89, of Blacksburg, passed away on Oct. 16, 2022, of natural causes.

He is survived by his wife Phyllis of 66 years, his four children and their spouses, 12 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Bob graduated from Falls Church High school in 1951 and went on to receive his Bachelor of Science degree in horticulture from Virginia Tech in 1955 while serving on the Battalion Command Staff in the Corps of Cadets. He received his master's degree in plant physiology from the University of Maryland in 1957 and his doctorate in biochemistry from Virginia Tech in 1961. He joined the biochemistry faculty at Virginia Tech after graduation and became the youngest full professor in Virginia Tech history.

Bob left Virginia Tech in 1980 for the University of Florida where he served as the Department Chair of Microbiology and Cell Science for two years before stepping down in 1982 to become a Graduate Research Professor and to dedicate his time to advanced research in his field and training the next generation of scientific researchers. Bob became a Graduate Research Professor, Emeritus in 1999, a role in which he served through his retirement.

Throughout his career, Bob dedicated himself to cutting edge research in the field of biochemistry and microbiology, earning patents for his groundbreaking



research in plant genetics. He served on several scientific boards and task forces, published more than 60 refereed papers and eight book chapters and received more than 20 multi-year research grants throughout his career.

He received awards for biotechnology research, as well as awards for teaching excellence and was elected to the American Society of Biological Chemists. He supervised more than 50 graduate and postdoctoral researchers and more than 20 undergraduate research participants. Those students who trained under him went on to become leading researchers in the fields of medicine, genetics, cancer research, and other related fields.

In his free time, Bob enjoyed many hobbies, chief among them fly fishing and gardening. His gardens were widely admired and often drew the attention of many passers-by who stopped to marvel at the lush, expansive greenery. Bob also applied his science background in making legendary party drinks that delighted his guests and were the talk of faculty gourmet participants for many years. Bob also delved into winemaking and even received a license in order to officiate at his granddaughter's wedding. He was always looking to expand scientific and personal frontiers and will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Funeral services will be private. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

Simpkins, Richard Lee

Richard Lee Simpkins, 74, passed away Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022, at his home in Christiansburg.

He was a U. S. Army veteran having served during Vietnam and was retired from Norfolk & Southern Railroad. He was preceded in death by his parents, Cecil and Nanny Simpkins.

Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Bobbie Simpkins; a son, Richard Simpkins II; daughters Sonya Spradling, Irma Francisco (Donnie), and Angie Simpkins; grandchildren Michael Jancso, Chiana Spradling, Cody Francisco, and Olivia Francisco; brothers Kenneth Simpkins and Joe Simpkins; sisters Ita Bishop (Dickie), Ruth Thomas (Ronnie) and Connie Moses (Frank);



K9 companion Lulu; and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held on Monday, Oct. 24, 2022, at 1 p.m. at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford with Minister Pete Trout officiating. Interment with full military honors followed in the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin.

The family received friends from 1 until 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 23, 2022, at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions to a charity of your choice that would benefit a veteran.

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