



News Journal

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Get to know your candidates: Q and A with the candidates for Radford City Council and School Board



RADFORD - Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 8, and several seats on the Radford City Council and Radford City School Board are on the ballot.

In addition to four seats on the city council and three seats on

the school board, Mayor David Horton is running unopposed for re-election. In addition to the local elections, voters will cast a ballot for the Ninth District U.S. House of Representatives seat, for which incumbent H. Morgan Griffith, R,

faces Tasha Lee DeVaughn, D.

The candidates for city council and school board were each asked to submit responses to a set of questions regarding the office they are seeking. Their responses are published here in their entirety, in alphabetic order.

Q and A with school board candidates

Gloria Boyd

1. Biographical/educational background:

I am a lifelong Radford resident who received a B.S. degree in Early Childhood Education from what is now Radford University. I taught seven years in Pulaski County in Kindergarten and first grade, and I spent my last 20 years in Radford City Schools in grades first and second. I retired in 2019. I also have four years of private preschool experience and 11 years as a Prepared Childbirth instructor.

2. Current job:

Retired

3. Why do you want to be a member of the Radford School Board?

Family, children and education have been my life. I feel called to support our families and children to ensure a quality academic education. I plan to be a voice for all stakeholders: families, students, faculty, and staff as well as taxpayers. I want to protect teachers and the integrity of their classroom instruction. We must make our schools peaceful, respectful places of solid

academic instruction again.

4. What skills/strengths do you feel you would bring to the school board?

My biggest strength comes from 27 years in public education and my knowledge of curriculum, standards of learning, teacher responsibilities, and relationships with families. I have attended school board meetings for the past six months to become more familiar with processes and policies.

5. What do you see as Radford City Public Schools' greatest challenges over the next few years?

I think the biggest challenge at this time is enforcing peaceful, respectful behaviors in our classrooms including consequential responses that emphasize a zero tolerance. Our teachers deserve respect and instructional integrity. Our students deserve to feel safe in their schools. We must revisit report card changes in the interest of responsibility and accountability. I anticipate



Gloria Boyd

that as ARP and ESSER funds from the pandemic run out, we will need to be very fiscally discerning and responsible. Retaining our teachers and recruiting new ones is a concern.

6. What are Radford City Public Schools strengths?

Radford City Schools always had a reputation as the best in the area. I think we can achieve that once again. I believe the ACCE program is a tremendous asset for students who can't afford college or want to avoid student debt. We have excellent teachers, but they need a voice and our support. The proximity of RU, Va. Tech and NRCC

See School Board candidates, page 3

Q and A with city council candidates

Kellie Artrip

1. Biographical/educational background:

My husband and I are both Radford High School graduates and are raising our two children together in the city. Our daughter is eight and our son is almost four. We are homeowners in Radford as well as property managers for several rental properties in the city. After high school I earned a Bachelor's of Business Administration from Roanoke College and a Bachelors of Accounting from Radford University. I have been working in the bank auditing field for almost 10 years.

2. Current job:

I am currently an audit manager at the National Bank of Blacksburg and have worked there for the past seven years. Prior to that I worked for the US Treasury's Office of the Comptroller of the Currency as an Assistant National Bank Examiner and at the Radford Army Ammunition Plant as a Data Analyst.

3. Why do you want to be a member of Radford City Council?

I have always enjoyed working on projects such as managing the Santa Store Fundraiser and serving as the McHarg Elementary School PSA Board as treasurer. I take pride in assisting local charities and organizations by donating time and supplies whenever possible. When the opportunity arose to run for City Council, I decided to seize the chance to do more for my community; to make a bigger difference in my hometown. My family and I have made this our home and we want it to be the best city it can be for our children and all

its citizens.

4. What skills/strengths do you feel you would bring to the council?

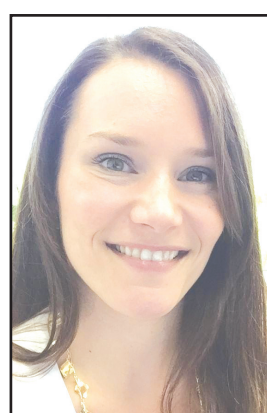
My passions are accountability and transparency. I want to make sure our hard-earned tax dollars go toward things the city and its citizens need to ensure its stability and longevity for the future. I am analytical and organized. I work well with others and truly believe that the best plans come from multiple ideas working toward a common goal. We need to listen more so we can accomplish great things together.

5. What do you see as Radford's greatest challenges over the next few years?

I think we may be facing some tough fiscal hurdles that we will have to budget properly for. I would like to focus on the immediate needs that Radford and its citizens have and make sure those needs are met before we tackle some of the things we want but may not necessarily need in the near future.

Safety is another priority I feel strongly about. The crime we have in our communities now is not what I remember growing up or even a few years ago. I want to ensure our law enforcement, fire and rescue departments, and community programs have the resources they need to protect our citizens and themselves. Lastly, the above-mentioned things require revenue. I would like to work towards increasing the city's revenue as well as focusing on supporting existing and new business owners to provide much needed income and jobs for our citizens.

6. What are Radford's



Kellie Artrip

strengths/What do you enjoy about living here?

Radford is such a strong, resilient city, one that I am very thankful to call home. I am so proud of how our community has come together to support each other over the past few years that have brought us a mountain of hurdles to cross. We have always overcome all obstacles in our path, and I believe we will continue to thrive by leaps and bounds in the coming years. We have a beautiful, diverse city with exceptional education opportunities that rival that of our surrounding communities. I have no doubt we will continue to embrace new life, businesses, education, and technology to ensure a bright future for all.

7. Any other information you think voters should know?

If elected, I promise to put in 110% every day. I am motivated and determined to serve Radford and its citizens to the best of my ability. Change doesn't happen unless action is taken. This is me, taking action, to do my part in helping make Radford the best city it can be.

City approves option on foundry property, poising it for future development

RADFORD - The City of Radford has approved an option agreement on a future purchase of a portion of the now-defunct foundry property on West Main Street.

The 80-acre site, owned by Virginia Castings, LLC, has long been vacant.

"The six-month option agreement with VCI will provide an opportunity for updated and additional environmental testing on the site," according to Radford

Director of Communications Jenni Goodman. "At the end of the option period, the city can choose to purchase the property."

"We are working to update [environmental] testing and that will let us know risk and potential limitations before we finalize our purchase," said Radford Mayor David Horton. "We are

See Foundry, page 4



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CITY OF RADFORD

This overhead shot shows the 80-acre property, former site of the Radford Foundry, that the city has approved an option agreement on for a potential future purchase.

Charley Cosmato

1. Biographical/educational background:

I was a William Byrd Terrier growing up, so Radford University and the City of Radford were an easy transition for me when I came here for college in 1989. There were so many similarities to the home I left for my new life. Vinton was home

to textile, railroad, and manufacturing families, like so many in Radford at the time. Vinton was also in a time of transition. Many of those core industries were closing or moving jobs outside the area. My new neighbors in Radford had so many of the same challenges and concerns of those back home, so striking up conversation was as natural as talking to my old neighbors.



Charley Cosmato

See City Council candidates, page 6



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- ★ Trump Hats
- ★ Trump Magnets, Stickers, Key Chains
- ★ Trump Flags
- ★ Trump Bobble Heads
- ★ Trump Window Screen Items
- ★ Trump Edition Items for your car
- ★ "Let's Go Brandon" Hats

TRUMP STORE — Now Open
129 North Franklin Street, Christiansburg

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, Nov. 5:

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

Friends of the Library book sale
At the Meadowbrook Public Library, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Stock up on books (plus DVDs and CDs). Fill a bag paper grocery bag (provided) for \$5. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Library.

PAWS to Read with Derek
At the Blacksburg Library at noon. Sign up for a 10-minute time slot to read with a therapy dog. Call the library at 540-552-8246.

Monday, Nov. 7:

English conversation for adults
At the Blacksburg Library; 6 p.m. English Conversation for Adults will be led by Carole and Bob Dellinger. Call the library at 540-552-8246 for more information. No childcare is provided for this class.

Free GED classes with NRCC
At the Radford Public Library; 9 a.m. to noon. Free GED Prep classes offered by New River Community College. Call (540) 674-3682 for additional information.

Crafting for the Holiday: Open crafting
At the Radford Public Library; 1 p.m. Participants can bring their own needlework, painting or other projects and work with others. These crafting afternoons are not guided and are at participants' leisure. Some craft items will be supplied (paper, coloring books for adults, crayons, etc).

Tuesday, Nov. 8:

Library closed
The Radford Public Library will be closed in observance of Election Day

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.

Radford City School Board meeting
The Radford City School Board will have a regular meeting at 6 p.m., at the School Administration Building, 1612 Wadsworth St. A copy of the agenda can be seen at www.rcps.org.

Wednesday, Nov. 9:

Plaque dedication
The Board of Directors of the Radford Heritage Foundation invites the public to the New River Train Observatory Plaque Dedication at 10:30 a.m. at the Mary Draper Ingles Cultural Heritage Park, 800 Unruh Dr., Radford. The plaque honors the roles of Professors Kay Edge and Edward Becker in leading their students from the Virginia Tech School of Architecture and Design in the design and construction of the New River Train Observatory.

Free GED classes with NRCC
At the Radford Public Library; 9 a.m. to noon. Free GED Prep classes offered by New River Community College. Call (540) 674-3682 for additional information.

Loops group
At the Blacksburg Library at 2 p.m. Bring a project and join the Loops Group for community and conversation. Everyone is welcome.

Thursday, Nov. 10:

Tech bytes: Internet basics
At the Blacksburg Library at 2 p.m. Literacy Volunteers and the library are teaming up to teach some basic Internet skills. Registration is required. Call (540) 552-8246 for assistance with registration.

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.

Radford Photo Club
The Radford Photo Club will meet at 6 p.m. at the

Radford Public Library. The program will be about travel photography, presented by Michele Borgarelli of Blacksburg. The November photo challenge will be Still Life. The club is made up of professional and amateur photographers from throughout the New River Valley. Meetings, events, and outings are open to the public.

Community quilting bee
At the Blacksburg Library, 10 a.m. Attendees can bring their supplies and join the group for quilting and sewing.

Saturday, Nov. 12:

Bingo! Bingo!
At the Meadowbrook Public Library at 1:30 p.m. This is an afternoon of fun Bingo. Children are welcome, but they must be accompanied by an adult.

Winter wreath workshop
At the Blacksburg Library at 2 p.m. A holiday-themed wreath workshop is the perfect way to welcome the winter. This hands-on event has all materials provided for attendees to make a grapevine wreath complete with a ribbon bow. This workshop is recommended for adults, but families can work together if they wish. One wreath per family please. Registration is required, but only one person needs to register for a family group. Spots are limited.

Monday, Nov. 14:

Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting
The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors will meet at the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St. in Christiansburg. Closed sessions begin at 6 p.m. if needed. Open sessions begin at 7:15 p.m. Citizens are invited to attend and 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.; 7 p.m. The agenda can be found at www.radfordva.gov.

See Events, page 5



Marketplace



<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">For Sale - Misc</p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">FOR SALE</p> <p>Unprinted end rolls of newsprint. Great for packing & shipping, moving & storage and for art projects. Various sizes available. Stop by the Salem Times-Register 1633 West Main St. or call (540)389-9355 for details.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Legals - City of Radford</p> <p>Additional information on this request may be obtained in the Community Development Department, 10 Robertson Street, Radford VA 24141, 540.267.3188 or by email at Melissa.Skelton@radfordva.gov</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Legals - Montgomery County</p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION</p> <p>The Town of Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, November 14, 2022, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning: A. Conditional Use Permit request by Burch Properties LLC, Property Owner, and Montgomery County Moose Lodge #1470, Lessee, to allow a Lodge on the property located at 1637 North Franklin Street; upon a portion of Northgate Village Shopping Center, Tax Parcel 466 - ((A)) - 20C, Parcel ID 013214 zoned General Business District B-3. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the application, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Benjamin Tripp, Planning Director, at (540) 382-6128, Ext. 1120 or by email at btripp@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Legals - Montgomery County</p> <p>the requirements of §§ 15.2-2100, 15.2-2101, 15.2-2102, et seq., Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, the Town of Christiansburg, Virginia (Town) hereby gives notice that the Town is inviting bids from qualified bidders to enter into a Naming, Advertising, and Sponsorship Agreement (Naming Rights Agreement) with the Town. Under the Naming Rights Agreement, the successful bidder will have the right to have its name on the facilities at the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park complex located at Booker T. Washington Parkway, N.W., adjoining Peppers Ferry Road, N.W., Christiansburg, Virginia (a portion of Montgomery County Tax Map No. 435 – ((A)) – 3A; Parcel ID 270079), subject to certain terms and conditions of such Naming Rights Agreement. The term of the Naming Rights Agreement shall be ten (10) years, starting on April 1, 2023 and ending March 31, 2033. The term of the Naming Rights Agreement is also subject to termination as set forth in the Naming Rights Agreement or in accordance with the law. The Naming Rights Agreement will also allow the successful bidder to have certain exclusive advertising rights at the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park Facility within the successful bidder's Product Category, as that term is defined in the Bid Form and Naming Rights Agreement. Any such agreement, use, and advertising being subject to approval of the Town. If the Town elects to award a Naming Rights Agreement, Town Council will be requested to adopt an ordinance granting such an award, which ordinance will provide in substance for a Naming Rights Agreement as set forth above. A copy of the full text of the proposed Ordinance and a draft of the Naming Rights Agreement are on file and may be reviewed in the Office of the Town Manager, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. Any interested entity is invited to submit a written bid, including a completed bid form, for a Naming Rights Agreement as set forth above. Each bidder shall submit at a minimum the following information: 1. The legal name of the entity submitting the bid, including the Identification Number issued to it by the</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Legals - Montgomery County</p> <p>Virginia State Corporation Commission. 2. The aggregate amount of the annual payments for the naming right to be made to the Town of Christiansburg for such Naming Rights Agreement. The minimum acceptable amount is \$750,000.00. 3. The amount of the payments for each year of the term of the Naming Rights Agreement. The minimum acceptable amount for the first year of the term of the Naming Rights Agreement is \$200,000.00. 4. The agreement of the bidder to make payments during each year in accordance with the schedule of payments set forth in the Naming Rights Agreement. 5. The identification of the bidder's primary business which will constitute the bidder's Product Category for all purposes in the Naming Rights Agreement. The term "primary business" is defined in the Naming Rights Agreement. 6. The name proposed by the bidder for the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park facility. 7. The financial ability of the bidder to make the payments that will be due during the first year of the term of the Naming Rights Agreement. 8. Information that (i) demonstrates the character, judgment, integrity, experience, and reputation of the bidder in the conduct of its business and performance of its contracts and agreements, and (ii) demonstrates the bidder's ability and commitment to collaborate with the Town in the promotion of the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park facility. 9. The agreement of the bidder to execute the Naming Rights Agreement. 10. The bidder acknowledges that this process is subject to § 15.2-2100, et seq., Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, the bidder agrees, if its bid is accepted, to post a bond with surety in favor of the Town pursuant to § 15.2-2104, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended. 12. Other information as the bidder deems appropriate. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope or container to the Town Manager at the address noted herein on or before 7:00 p.m., local time, Tuesday, December 13, 2022. The outside of the bid envelope should be marked as follows: "Bid for</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Legals - Montgomery County</p> <p>Naming Rights Agreement with Town of Christiansburg for Naming, Advertising, and Sponsorship at the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park Facility, Not to Be Opened Until the Bid Opening at 7:00 p.m. on December 13, 2022." The bid should be addressed to the Office of the Town Manager, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, 24073. All bids received will be held by the Town Manager, unopened, until 7:00 p.m., local time, on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at which time they will be opened in the Council Chambers, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, 24073, and thereafter be publicly opened and read aloud in accordance with § 15.2-2102, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended. The Town reserves the right to cancel this Invitation for Bids and/or to reject any and all bids, to waive any informality or irregularity in the bids received, and to accept the bid which is deemed to be in the best interest of the Town. The necessary bid form, a copy of the proposed Naming Rights Agreement, and the proposed Ordinance may be obtained from the Town Manager's Office at the above address after Tuesday, November 1, 2022. Pursuant to the requirements of §§ 15.2-2100, et seq., Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, notice is hereby given that the Council of the Town of Christiansburg will hold a public hearing on the above matter at its regular meeting to be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., local time, or as soon thereafter as Council is available, in the Council Chamber, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, 24073. The bids received will be announced and any additional bids may be received at this time. All parties and interested persons may appear on the above date and time and be heard on the matter. For further information on this matter, you may contact the Office of the Town Manager at (540)382-6128. If you are a person who needs accommodations for this hearing, please contact the Town Manager's Office at (540) 382-6128 before 12:00 noon on the Thursday before the date of the hearing listed above.</p>
<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Lost & Found</p>  <p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Lost Chihuahua \$100 Reward</p> <p>Light Brown, 10-12in, just had pups. Lost on 8th St. West End, Radford. Call anytime, Larry Prescott H(540)745-5154 C(540)285-0179</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Legals - Montgomery County</p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL</p> <p>The Town of Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on, Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning: A. Conditional Use Permit request by Cole/Burch Properties LLC, Property Owner, and Donnie Tignor, Lessee, to allow a Contractor's Equipment Storage Yard on the property located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Simmons Road SE and Alma Street SE (unopened), and southeast of 2095 and 2091 Roanoke Street; Tax Parcels 529-1-17, being a portion of Parcel ID 007704; and Tax Parcels 529-1-18 and 529-1-19, being all of Parcel ID 014069; zoned General Business District B-3. The property is designated as Mixed Use with Buffer (Residential/Business) on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the application, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Benjamin Tripp, Planning Director, at (540) 382-6128 ext. 1120 or by email at btripp@christiansburg.org with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">ADVERTISEMENT FOR INVITATION FOR BIDS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING</p> <p>Before the Council of the Town of Christiansburg for Execution of a Naming, Advertising, and Sponsorship Agreement with the Town of Christiansburg for Naming, Advertising, and Sponsorship at the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park Facility. Pursuant to</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Legals - City of Radford</p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARING</p> <p>The Radford City Council and Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing on Monday, November 14, 2022 at 7:00pm in the City of Radford Council Chambers, 10 Robertson Street, Radford, VA 24141. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning: Application by Jeffrey Stump (applicant/property owner) to rezone 10.628-acre property located at Tax Map #'s 26-(1)-14 & 26-(1)-15. The request is to rezone from R-3 Single Family Residential R- 4 Multi-Family for the develop of townhomes. Comments may be presented at the meeting and by phone or in writing prior to the meeting.</p>		

School Board candidates

from page 1

allows opportunities for collaboration and field trips, etc. The renovation at McHarg is a huge asset for our children and teachers, but also to prospective citizens moving in.

7. Any other information you think voters should know?

Chris B. Calfee

1. Biographical/educational background:

I have lived in Radford for over 30 years. My wife Becki and I met at Radford High School when we were both in the Bobcat Marching Band. We started dating and 10 years later were married. After high school I received my associates degree from NRCC and later my Bachelor of Business Administration from Liberty University.

Becki and I chose to stay in Radford and grow our careers and raise our children here. We have two daughters, Bella and Addie. Both girls are in RCPS and are very active. I have spent over 20 years in the banking industry. I currently work at Summit Community Bank as a commercial lender.

I was selected to represent Radford on the Presidents Board at NRCC and was elected to the role of Vice-Chair this year. I also am a member of the Lions Club and the Masonic lodge. Becki and I are active volunteers for the Radford Regiment Marching Band.

You will find me at the games and events taking photos for the band and any other of the teams/clubs that would like them.

Becki and I live our lives and prioritize our needs very simply. Our faith comes first, our family comes next, and then comes anything else we can give to those in need.

We love being active parts of the Radford City Community.

2. Current job:

I am a commercial lender for Summit Community bank. I love working with business clients to identify and receive the funding needed to maintain and grow their business.

3. Why do you want to be a member of the Radford School Board?

I started attending school board meetings and have been to every meeting in person or watched online when we were not permitted to attend in person for the last four years now. What began as a conversation with the board over some issues of concern quickly grew into a passion for understanding more about the workings of the schools and how decisions were being made.

The more I learned the more I wanted to get involved. As an active volunteer I hear from parents, teachers, and students regularly.

I get to hear and see the good things the schools are doing. I also get to see and hear about the areas that we need to address and work on. I am an unbiased and approachable conduit for issues to be addressed.

I have also been recognized as a person who is willing to bring the issues to the proper attention or

I am an avid advocate for early family literacy as evidenced by my Project CRIB (Creating Readers Infancy and Beyond), which purchased new children's books to push out during community events. I brought attention to Little Free Libraries

the board when needed. So as more people came to me to speak about issues, I thought why not make a difference from the board table directly. From my experience with other boards and

in the business world, the best way to change or reinforce policy is to be a policy maker.

My reason for running is simply to be a voice for my children and the other students. To represent the parents and staff who feel like no one listens to them or those who are uncomfortable speaking up on their own.

4. What skills/ strengths do you feel you would bring to the school board?

I am a parent and a businessperson with many years of experience volunteering at the schools. I am accustomed to communicating to and from the board, as well as listening attentively to build relationships, while achieving whatever is in the best interest of every party involved. Mostly what I bring to the board is a passion for overcoming obstacles to help provide the best environment for success.

5. What do you see as Radford City Public Schools' greatest challenges over the next few years?

The biggest challenges facing RCPS over the next few years would be an ever-changing list of priorities. That exact question has occupied several hours over several meetings being discussed and re-evaluated. I would however state that from my outside perspective the most pressing issue would be the state of behavior from students and personnel at RCPS. As a parent I should never have to be concerned about my children's safety or wellbeing when they head to school.

Next, I would prioritize the grading scale being adjusted prior to the proper research being

completed and fully evaluated by the board. RCPS had a history and reputation of academic excellence. This led to Radford being a desirable destination for individuals and businesses who were relocating to our area. It also was a major factor that helped us to retain business and citizens.

Changing the scale that we measure achievement instead of trusting and empowering our staff to adjust the tools and resources for a student on an individual level is a serious cause of concern. It also creates an inconsistency with the grading scale of the students who attend RCPS through our virtual partnership with Stride and VAVA.

Lastly there is an ongoing list of infrastructure priorities

and placed several in areas of economic need. I was awarded Volunteer of the Year in 2018 as "That Book Lady." I also have a Facebook page as "That Book Lady" to share information about parenting, books, learning, etc.



Chris B. Calfee

for the schools. This list needs to be reviewed with fresh eyes to determine wants from needs in a fair and unbiased way.

6. What are Radford City Public Schools' strengths?

Radford's strengths are and always have been their people. RCPS is a family of Bobcats that spread through the city, state, and even the world. I see this from the sidelines, the auditorium seats, and everywhere in town. Bobcats are strong and dedicated. We are willing to adapt, adjust, and overcome anything that life brings our way to make sure that our younger Bobcats get everything they need to be the best they can be. My desire to be elected to the school board is based on this very issue.

My goal is to make sure that every parent, student, and staff member of RCPS has the support and tools needed to be the best they can be. It's as simple as Bobcat Pride.

7. Any other information you think voters should know?

I believe the success of the school board is dependent upon having open and honest conversations. I am not running for school board as a political steppingstone or for some desire to have my name out in public. My desire to be on the school board is not about me. It's about allowing the people of Radford to have a voice and an unbiased say about what happens to and in our schools. It's about making sure that all parents feel valued and heard. It's about making sure that the teachers and staff know that someone does care about their working conditions and is willing to listen and help when we can. It's about letting our students know that our goal is to help them learn how to think and analyze information and items in their life so they can then form their own ideas.

My campaign and my desire to be on the school board is to show that a concerned parent with a small group of individuals can make a difference. It's about trying to be the best dad, the best citizen of Radford, and the best Bobcat that I can be. It's about my love for Radford and my hope to make it as great as possible.



Ed Dickenson

3. Why do you want to be a member of the

Radford School Board?

I am running for school board because I want to be a voice for teachers, parents, and all constituents by providing strong, decisive, and common-sense leadership for the board. I believe that teachers and parents are the key to our children's education, and we need to provide them with all of the support that is required to accomplish educational goals.

My son has many more years in the school system, so I have a vested interest in seeing that high standards for education and educational excellence are maintained in Radford City Schools. Mostly I want to ensure that our schools provide a safe and positive environment that will prepare our children for the future.

4. What skills/strengths do you feel you would bring to the school board?

As a military retiree, my professional strengths of organization, critical thinking, planning, communication, and collaboration have been instrumental to my success as a current small business owner.

My leadership responsibilities were extensive and required a well-rounded knowledge of management techniques, operations planning and implementation, sourcing, human resources, training, marketing, and project initiatives.

My leadership and management experience has prepared me to make goal-directed, logical, and reality-based decisions.

A level of customer service is needed to provide our constituents with satisfaction that their elected officials are doing their job. As a small business owner, I understand this concept very well. After all, I am being hired to do a job and will be expected to perform

to standard.

5. What do you see as Radford City Public Schools' greatest challenges over the next few years?

I believe the greatest challenge facing public education in Radford is the same as it is for the state and for the entire nation. We need to make sure our children are being educated in a way that prepares them for life and future success. SOL test scores have declined considerably in Math and Science through the 2020's. The VDOE (Virginia Department of Education) believes this is mostly due to COVID closures. However, data suggest that the decline began before COVID. There are many possible reasons for the decline. COVID, economic circumstances, educational methods, and societal changes are all likely factors.

The decline in test scores is a significant concern and needs to be addressed at all levels. However, teachers and parents are the key to our children's education. Their input should be the main driving force in implementing policies that will correct the course of this educational decline.

6. What are Radford City Public Schools' strengths?

The RCPS administrators and staff do a fine job taking care of needed requirements and ensuring that the schools operate effectively. The McHarg school project is a great example of how they set goals and plans and accomplished them to the benefit of our community.

Teachers are the most important component of our school system, and I have nothing but praise for our teachers. Teachers make the magic happen.

During the challenging COVID period, teachers did an outstanding job

of preparing lessons and ensuring that education could continue despite the restrictions.

They continue to work, care for our children, and ensure that our children are prepared for the future.

They do this despite the challenges of discipline, security, and declining educational standards.

We need to put extra effort into supporting our teachers, and that is one of my core principles of school board leadership. The administration and school leadership are duty bound to support the teachers.

7. Any other information you think voters should know?

My top priority as a school board member will be to address the discipline issues facing the schools. Our schools WILL provide a safe environment for students and teachers alike. This is a nonnegotiable standard. Ultimately this responsibility falls on the administration and the school board. The solution to the discipline issues our schools are facing will require strong and decisive leadership, and discipline problems need to be handled both effectively and appropriately. We need to work with the teachers and parents to identify the issues, causes, and address them head-on.

Students are individuals and have diverse needs and requirements, but we cannot make assumptions about the reasons or causes for discipline issues and we must treat every circumstance individually. Also, we need to be consistent with the expectations, standards, and consequences. Only with a foundation of safety in the schools, can we focus on education.

Jane C. Swing

1. Biographical/educational background:

2. Current job: Part-time Standardized Patient, Simulation Lab, Radford University, Volunteer with multiple non-profit organizations, Retired from full-time employment with Radford University after 24 years.

3. Why do you want to be a member of the

Radford School Board? I had been speaking with local teachers and hearing some of their concerns about our school system, concerns about the challenges that existed prior to COVID and the new challenges COVID presented and the challenges presented on return to regular school schedules. I was also aware that there were going to be three vacancies on the



Jane C. Swing

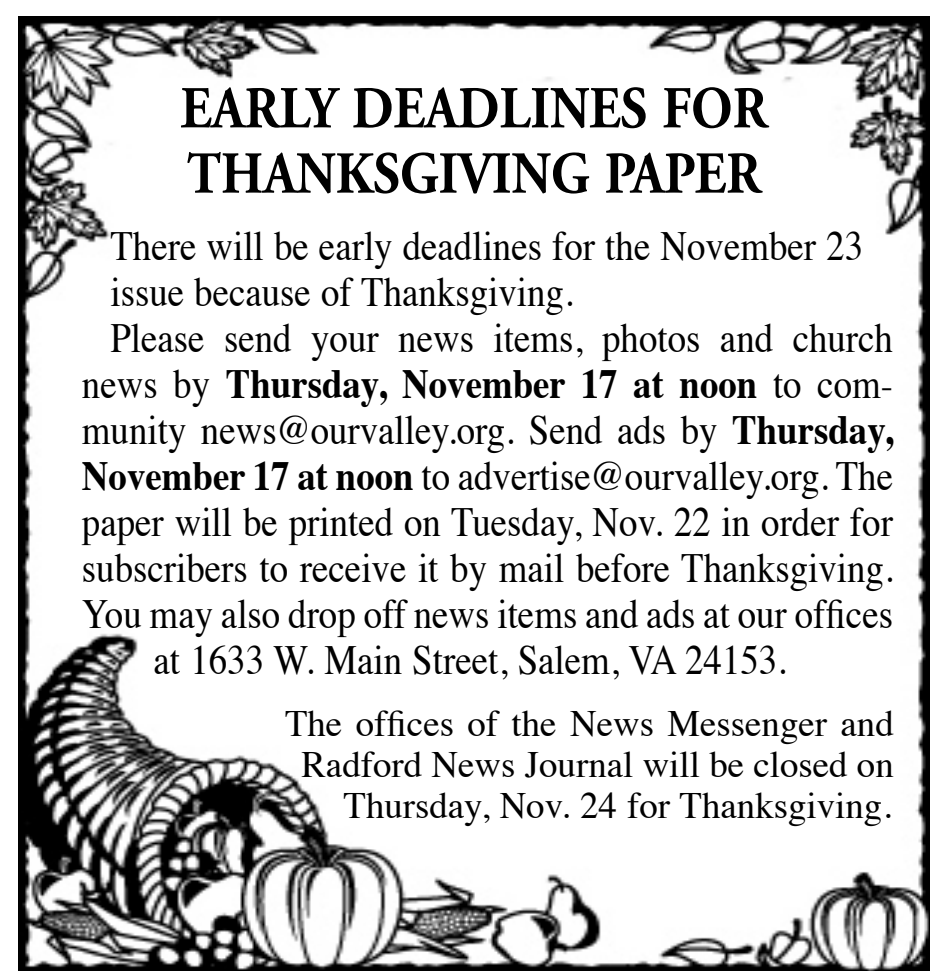
See School Board candidates, page 6

EARLY DEADLINES FOR THANKSGIVING PAPER

There will be early deadlines for the November 23 issue because of Thanksgiving.

Please send your news items, photos and church news by **Thursday, November 17 at noon** to community news@ourvalley.org. Send ads by **Thursday, November 17 at noon** to advertise@ourvalley.org. The paper will be printed on Tuesday, Nov. 22 in order for subscribers to receive it by mail before Thanksgiving. You may also drop off news items and ads at our offices at 1633 W. Main Street, Salem, VA 24153.

The offices of the News Messenger and Radford News Journal will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 24 for Thanksgiving.



Ed Dickenson

1. Biographical/educational background:

I am a Radford resident of 12 years, I am married and my son attends McHarg Elementary. I am a retiree of the Army National Guard with 21+ years of service, both active and part time. Assignments during my military career include being a soldier in our local infantry units, Recruiting and Retention, and Brigade operations. My other work history includes five years as a Deputy

Sheriff in Roanoke County and five years working as an operations manager for a small company in Roanoke. I studied business management at Virginia Tech after high school. I volunteer with Habitat for Humanity teaching home maintenance and home improvement classes, and I volunteer as a leader for the Virginia National Guard Family Programs.

2. Current job:

I am a licensed home inspector and owner of a small business, Solid Spec Home Inspection Services.

Put The Classifieds To Work!

Call 540-389-9355

Radford University recognized as environmentally friendly campus

Becky Brackin
Radford University

RADFORD - For the 13th year in a row, Radford University has earned recognition from The Princeton Review for its dedication to establishing and maintaining an environmentally friendly campus.

Known for its college ratings and guidebooks, The Princeton Review last week released its "Guide to Green Colleges 2023." It has compiled those rankings annually since 2010, and Radford University has claimed a spot on each of those years' lists, including this most recent one.

The guide highlights schools that earn Green Rating scores of between 80 and 99, and this year Radford

University received a score of 88, five points ahead of last year's total.

Based on the review's evaluation, Radford's current score stems from numerous university initiatives, including its telecommuting program for employees, its indoor and secure bike storage options, its reduced parking fees for carpools, its free or reduced-price transit passes, and its inclusion of a sustainability committee and sustainability officer.

Radford University President Bret Danilowicz called sustainability "a way of life" on the campus.

"The beautiful natural environment that surrounds our university inspires us to celebrate and honor the place we call home," Danilowicz said. "Thanks to our LEED-certified buildings and long-term commitment to sustainable everyday practices, Radford University is in an excellent position to be a leader among institutions in this critical area."

Sustainability Manager Josh Nease said Radford's ongoing rankings are a validation of more than a

decade of work and forethought on the school's behalf.

"Achieving this is not something that happens overnight, and earning The Princeton Review's recognition for 13 consecutive years reflects our effort and commitment," Nease said. "We are grateful for the recognition."

According to its editor-in-chief Rob Franek, The Princeton Review frequently recommends Radford University to the growing number of students who care about the environment and want their "best fit" college to also, ideally, be a green one.

"Radford demonstrates an exemplary commitment to sustainability and to green practices, and it offers excellent academic programs," Franek said.

The company's editors use 25 survey data points to analyze 713 institutions across the United States, Australia, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Greece, Ireland, Mexico, Morocco and Taiwan to arrive at their final list of 455 colleges and universities.

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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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Foundry

from page 1

engaging into a due diligence period to better understand the dynamics of the property. This site is an opportunity for business, industry, and more. An area as large as Bisset Park is a major advantage and is a good move that will generate revenue and community growth."

According to Goodman, the city will pursue grants for environmental evaluation, remediation, site access, clean-up, and redevelopment with assistance from the commonwealth.

"We are taking the necessary steps to clean up and redevelop the former foundry site which will bring economic development, job creation, and investment to our community," said Kim Repass, Economic Development Director.

"The ability to acquire new industry and commercial businesses on this property will be a game changer for the City of Radford."

Horton agrees.

"This is an important step for Radford," he said on Thursday. "While it has some challenges, we feel that if we complete this purchase, the property will be useful to Radford's economic future after sitting underutilized for decades. With the help of the commonwealth, the federal government, and other potential outside resources, we can improve this property which already lies within our community, for the good of Radford's citizens."

"If we don't take control of our future, no one else is coming in to

fix things for us," he added. "This helps us build the tomorrow we want to see."

The option includes the larger, eastern portion of the former foundry site, not the western portion that includes the empty Grede building and a parking area.

According to the city's statement, the foundry has been a part of Radford's industrial base since 1880 as the Radford Iron and Coal Company. According to the city, it employed approximately 1,500 persons at its peak in the late 1970's. The foundry produced an array of ductile iron products from water/sewer pipes to auto parts until they closed their doors in 2013. The site has been vacant for the past decade.

Submit letters to the editor
to editor@ourvalley.org

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
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- CLUES ACROSS
- 1. Forbidden (var. sp.)
 - 5. Strike a heavy blow
 - 9. Guy (slang)
 - 12. Tel __, Israel
 - 13. The superior of an abbey
 - 15. Swiss river
 - 16. South American nation
 - 17. Span. town Aranda de
 - 18. Yellow's complement
 - 19. Sun in Spanish
 - 20. Sharp slaps
 - 22. Cash dispensing machine
 - 25. Persistently annoying person
 - 26. Japanese rolls
 - 28. The woman
 - 29. Fiddler crabs
 - 32. Buddy
 - 33. Majuscule
 - 35. Lake in Oklahoma
 - 36. Airborne (abbr.)
 - 37. Physician's moniker (abbr.)
 - 38. Lincoln's state
 - 39. Doctors' group
 - 40. By way of
 - 41. Coated with tobacco residue
 - 44. Collect information
 - 45. Smallest whole number
 - 46. Honey (abbr.)
 - 47. Luggage containers
 - 49. Nine banded armadillo
 - 50. Malaysian isthmus
 - 51. Very heavy hammer
 - 54. Cry made by sheep
 - 57. Gorse genus
 - 58. Chilean pianist Claudio
 - 62. Table supports
 - 64. Insect feeler
 - 65. Pointed fork part
 - 66. Periods of time
 - 67. Harvard's league
 - 68. Affirmative! (slang)
 - 69. An open skin infection
- CLUES DOWN
- 1. Draw beer
 - 2. Bird class
 - 3. Ballpoint pen
 - 4. Soft palate extensions
 - 5. Not good
 - 6. __ Dhabl, Arabian capital
 - 7. One point E of due S
 - 8. Old fashioned upholstery fabric
 - 9. Stop short
 - 10. Large extinct European wild ox
 - 11. Important pollinator
 - 14. Magnum P.I. star
 - 15. Basic
 - 21. Indicates position
 - 23. 4th day (abbr.)
 - 24. Underground phrase
 - 25. 23rd Greek letter
 - 26. Live polio vaccine developer
 - 27. Forearm bones
 - 29. An edict of the Russian tsar
 - 30. Tent places
 - 31. Not home
 - 32. Peafowl genus
 - 34. Bog berry
 - 42. A shag rug made in Sweden
 - 43. __ Constitution Hall
 - 48. Soft black furs
 - 49. Atomic #46
 - 51. Defense to the Queen's gambit
 - 52. Dutch painter Peter 1618-1680
 - 53. UK rock band
 - 55. About aviation
 - 56. Used as a culture medium
 - 57. Int'l. news organization
 - 59. Fish eggs
 - 60. Tennis star Ivanovic
 - 61. Exclamation: yuck!
 - 63. Point midway between S and SE



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OBITUARIES

Reed, Martha Marie Sifford

Martha Marie Sifford Reed, 86, of Farris and Greg Chetcuti, and Mark Belspring, passed away on Friday, Oct. 28, 2022.

All who knew her knew that she was a lifelong, dedicated fan of the New York Yankees.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Harman Frank Sifford and Barbara Sifford Harkrader; her beloved husband, Garnett Lee Reed, and her daughter and son-in-law, Deborah and Bill Griffith.

Survivors include her sons and daughters-in-law, Garnett and Katie Reed, Dennis and Anita Lynn Reed, and Randy and Cathy Reed; grandchildren and their spouses, Lindsey and Leigh Smith, Amanda and Daniel Warburton, Thomas and Whitney Reed, Adam Griffith, Crystal



and Chasity Lawson; great-grandchildren Reed, Towns, Elliot, Lyndon, Anoria, Skylar, and Ally; and many other relatives, and friends.

The family will receive friends from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2022, at the Fairlawn United Methodist Church. A celebration of life will begin at 2 p.m. with the Rev. Mark Miller officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to R.E.M.S.I. in Fairlawn, 5999 Belspring Road, Fairlawn, VA, 24141.

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

Events

from page 2

Ongoing:

Holiday parade registration
Registration is now open for Blacksburg's Annual Holiday Parade to be held on Friday, Dec. 2, at 7 p.m. This year's theme will be "Hometown Holidays." The registration deadline is Friday, Nov. 18, at 5 p.m. For more information, contact David Goodman at degoodman@blacksburg.gov or 540-443-1106.

Hand-in-Hand playground design concepts
The Town of Blacksburg has received design concepts from playground

designer Leathers, Inc. for the new Hand-in-Hand playground. Check them out at <https://letstalkblacksburg.org/hand-in-hand> and provide feedback by Monday, Nov. 7.

Radford Holiday Parade registration
Radford's Holiday Parade, themed "Jingle All the Way," will take place on Thursday, Dec. 8, 2022, at 7 p.m. Lineup will begin at 6 p.m. on East Main Street between Tyler Avenue and University Drive Bridge and will proceed westward along Main Street to the Central Square Shopping Center. Go to www.radfordva.gov to register. The deadline to register is Nov. 30.

radfordnewsjournal.com

ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

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

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

BAPTIST

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

First Baptist Church on 3rd Ave., 215 Third Ave at the corner with Downey St. We nurture meaningful connections to God and others through worship, spiritual growth, and community ministry. We celebrate the dignity and worth of all persons, created in the image of God. Sunday Bible Study Groups - 9:45, Sunday Worship - 11:00. Website: fbradford.org 540-639-4419. Worship is in-person and live-streamed on Facebook and on our YouTube channel: First Baptist Church Radford.

Trinity Community Church, 1505 N. Franklin Street, C'burg. John Altizer, Lead Pastor, Brian Cockram, Associate Pastor, 382-8121. Worship at 10:45 a.m., Outreach Ministries - 6:00p.m. Wednesday, Growth Groups - 5:00p.m. Sunday, Youth and Children's Ministry - 5:00p.m. Sunday, www.trinitychurch.org.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

CHURCH OF GOD

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

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

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

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

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

(DOC - DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

Snowville Christian Church, 5436 Lead Mine Rd., Hiwassee, VA 24347, Pastor: Jerry King, Website: www.SnowvilleChristianChurch.com (and Facebook), Office: 540-633-3761, Email: office@SnowvilleChristianChurch.com, Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m., Sunday School: 10:00 a.m., Thursday Bible Study: 6:00 p.m., We are: "Inspiring hope, helping people grow their faith, and sharing God's love with others!"

EPISCOPAL

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

LUTHERAN

Christ Lutheran Church, 201 Harvey St. Sunday worship with communion at 10am; fellowship & snacks at 11am. All are welcome. Upcoming events and fellowship opportunities (Senior Brunch, Faith & Film, Rough Draught, etc.) detailed in weekly

Radford

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

CONSEQUENCES

Read 2 Kings 14:26-29;
Amos 1:1 through 2:16

Perhaps we learned it in the principal's office after committing a misdeed or when a traffic court judge determined the fine for our traffic infraction. But at some point, we all learned that our actions have consequences.

God judged Israel's neighbors for atrocities they committed. When His attention turned to His chosen people, their "crimes" centered on how they had treated the living God as well as their fellow countrymen. Judah and Israel were living in moral deterioration. Because they have rejected the law of the Lord and have not kept his decrees, because they have been led astray by false gods, the gods their ancestors followed, I will send fire on Judah that will consume the fortresses of Jerusalem (Amos 2:4,5).

Our attitude toward God and His Word has consequences. If we follow the instructions He has so plainly laid out for us, He promises blessing. The reverse is also true. If we persist in ignoring what He wants us to do, we will have to live with the consequences which may not be very pleasant. God leaves the choice to us.

Challenge for Today: Keep what God says in His Word front and center in your life.

Quicklook: Amos 2:4-16

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

email and on website: clcradford.org. 540-639-2671.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church ELCA, 1845 Cambria St NE, Christiansburg. Worship each Sunday at 10 am, in person and online at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMsB-gbyjmV5ce9mr43dbCw>. Please visit our website at www.oslc-cburg.org and our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/oslcchristiansburg> to learn more about us. Little Free Pantry and Little Free Library located in our parking lot. Pastor Joshua L. Copeland; church office 540-382-2223.

St. Michael Lutheran Church, 2308 Merrimac Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060. Worship service each Sunday at 10 AM, Sunday School 9 AM. We are a community of God's people where people gather for worship, learning and service. Visitors and new members are always WELCOME! Google comments: "Wonderful, welcoming congregation...A place where all are truly welcome... Nice, friendly, competent staff." You will like our minister, The Rev. Michelle L. Stramiello. Her previous service was as Family Faith Formation Director at Cross and Crown Lutheran Church, Indianapolis, IN, Pastor of St Matthew Lutheran Church, Paducah, KY, and Hospice Chaplain in Largo, Fl. St. Michael started and administers Micah's Backpack which has great community impact, Micah's Soup for Seniors, Micah's Garden, Closet, and Mini Pantry. Also, partnering with Rainbow Riders and Total Action for Progress, we opened open the first Early Childhood Head Start in our community (6 weeks to age 3), and have numerous other programs including a Justice & Mercy Fund providing assistance for those needing emergency assistance with critical bills. Further St. Michael sponsors an awesome Scouting program of Boy & Girl Scout Troops, Venture Scouts for older youth, and a new Cub Pack for girls & boys kindergarten - 5th grade. Directions: From Price's Fork Road, turn onto Merrimac Road and St. Michael is 3/10ths of a mile down on the left. For more information about any of our activities: Phone 540 951-8951. Email hope@stmcl.org or visit our Website www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

Merrimac Pentecostal Holiness Church, Rev. Larry

Christopher (540) 552-7194. lchristopher695@comcast.net. Sunday school at 10 a.m. and morning worship is 11 a.m. Evening service at 6 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

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

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

PRESBYTERIAN

Join us at **The Presbyterian Church of Radford**, 201 4th Street, at the corner of 4th & Randolph, for Sunday School at 10 am and Worship and Children's Church at 11 am. Our Interim Minister is Steve Willis. Phone 639-2585. Watch the worship services on Facebook, which can be accessed through the church website at www.pcradford.org or through the Presbyterian church of Radford Facebook page. We are called to share the love of Christ in this community and beyond.

UNITED METHODIST

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

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

radfordnewsjournal.com

City Council candidates

from page 1

Often it felt like I had just moved further down the street! High school sports figured prominently in community life, – just like home – and it was easy to meet neighbors just by raising the hood on my pickup truck and trying to troubleshoot the daily issues it presented to a young man starting out.

Case in point, after I completed a Masters Degree from the College of Education at Radford University, Patty (my wife) and I settled into a rental home in West End Radford at the corner of Fifth and Bolling. There we found dear and caring neighbors in Winfred “Wint” Barton and family. Many evenings he came out to rescue me from an ill-conceived auto or home repair. I think Patty might have called him a few times when she suspected I was in over my head. His boys would take our dog Abbey on walks over to the stadium, and she ‘helped’ with track practice.

I took full-time employment at the University, first teaching in the Health Education program and later making a career in Instructional Technology and Faculty Development. In the years since that first home on 5th Street we started a family and traveled Eastward to our current home on Harvey Street. Our first experience owning a home was on 3rd street, near Preston Ave. There we met neighbors Billy Simpkins and family, Bob Thomas and family, the Sheehy’s and many other long-time residents. It was truly a front porch community. We could sit out in the evenings knowing that one or more of the neighbors would drop by to say hello, tell a story or just sit a spell.

When we arrived at our current address on Harvey Street, a new group of neighbors welcomed us. We were still unpacking when Jiggs Bruce (in his 90s at the time) dropped in to offer ‘any thing we need.’ Angela Moore, just a few doors down, had recently added Harper Gray Moore to the family and fully outfitted Patty with the most fashionable maternity wear. Patty joked that she was dressed better during pregnancy than any time prior.

All this is to say that Radford made it easy for us to call this home and raise a family here. Myra graduated from Radford High School this past spring and is studying Nursing at NRVCC thanks to the amazing ACCE program. Nate graduated at the outset of COVID in 2020 and found employment with Service Contracting of Virginia, where another neighbor – Anthony Smith – paired him with mentors in commercial construction and project coordination.

Bobby Davis

Did not provide answers by press time

Jessie Foster

1. Biographical/educational background:

I have made Radford my home for the better part of 14 years. My education has included 52 years of life experience, a bachelor’s degree in Social and Behavioral Sciences, the military where I trained as

He now lives in Monroe Terrace with his two dogs Khosa and Cocoa. I guess it is pretty evident why we love Radford so much.

2. Current job:

I am the Director for the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning at Radford University. My team of instructional designers and technologists support faculty as they work to develop the best possible learning experiences for their students. We also support innovative teaching and learning in RCPS via outreach initiatives such as Hebecon, the Word Festival, Film Challenges, various “Maker” events, and partnership with TTAC.

3. Why do you want to (continue to) be a member of the Radford City Council?

I’ve been serving in an interim position since August. In that time we have made some incredible progress in the areas that I think will position Radford for a great future and will improve the prosperity, well-being, and happiness of all citizens. I want to see current projects through and continue to build new opportunities.

We have charted a course to fill the gaps in industry employment that has such an important history to Radford. I have high hopes that the old industry site will see new business development in the near future as we enter the evaluation phase of an option to purchase the site and put it back to use. Improvements to the parks and downtown are in progress and will attract activity and business to downtown. Businesses select locations based on cost, access to customers, and also in hopes that their employees will either come from the community or locate therein. Improving the desirability of our community to people is the first step to improving business interest and viability. We are doing the work.

An area of particular interest to me is working to develop a shared community identity around “that great river city life.” The city has done work in this area with branding and signage, but I want to help develop a more cohesive plan. We are located in one of the most unique and beautiful places on earth. As we improve economic prosperity and beautify our city we must put just as much work in developing community life. I imagine a day where pride of place runs as strong and is as recognizable to outsiders, visitors, and newcomers as the Bobcat Pride that already serves to bind so many of us in the community.

4. What skills/strengths do you feel you would bring to council?

a counterintelligence agent, and most recently I have earned my state accreditation as a real estate agent. Two of the most important roles of my life have been to be the mom of three terrific young men (Spenser Critterton, Reis Critterton, and Avery Critterton) and the wife of my amazingly supportive husband (Bud Foster).

I am first and foremost a process, policy, and data nerd who asks questions constantly and listens. I’ll be a resource to the other council members in poring over mountains of data and opinions, ensuring that all council decisions are based on a best-odds approach to solving challenges.

5. What do you see as Radford’s greatest challenges over the next few years?

We must not fall into a trap of seeing complex problems through the lens of simplistic solutions. For example, it’s no secret that our schools are struggling with issues that students are bringing to school with them. It sounds satisfying to say things like “more discipline” but that approach alone never gets the job done. Families that struggle have children that struggle in equal measure. The struggles can come from many places, but the most obvious is financial stress. Radford citizens need to have nearby employment opportunities that pay well and provide a sense of security that is felt by all members of the household.

Another factor is leisure and recreational pursuits. All people need adequate recreational opportunities to blow off stress and experience happiness; that includes children. Anything we do in the community to help children find positive extracurricular activities will have a carryover effect when the children go to school. I could go on, but the point is that we need to have the tenacity to dig deep when faced with challenges and take an “all available options” approach to solving them whenever we can.

6. What are Radford’s strengths/what do you enjoy about living here?

That’s easy. I came here in 1989 as a college student and never left because I found a community that welcomed me and helped me to make a home. There are a lot of people here that believe it is their obligation to welcome people, support them, love them, and share general concern for their well-being and happiness. It also doesn’t hurt that we have immediate access to the natural beauty of the region and easy access to the cultural and commerce centers of the entire east coast.

7. Any other information you think voters should know?

You should know that I am absolutely against the toxicity that exists in American politics today. I won’t go around calling people names or attempt to foist my personal ideals on my community and neighbors. I believe in give and take. I believe in the necessary compromise that makes a city grow and democracy flourish.

2. Current job:

I am a small business owner with a medical marketing company (MedReach) as well as a real estate Agent. A great portion of my time for the last 8.5 years has been dedicated to the citizens of Radford where I first served a term on the school board and 4.5 years as a city council member.

3. Why do you want to (continue to) be a member of Radford City Council?

This is a very unprecedented time in Radford where there is a possibility of losing all experience in one election. There is a very steep learning curve on the council and day one a member is a voting member. I cannot thank enough those that have mentored me as I got my bearings on both school board and council. I intend to be the same steady hand of experience as we are in the middle of so many pivotal projects in Radford. COVID interrupted many of our efforts, and our priorities shifted nearly overnight as we tried to move our city safely through a worldwide pandemic. We did not lose our footing as we moved forward expediently and responsibly to make up for that lost time in our terms.

Our citizens are seeing some of those projects advance now, and their input has been paramount in the re-envisioning of our great city. Many of these projects still require experienced stewardship to move them forward successfully, and I have the experience proving my efforts to be both fiscally responsible and socially sound. I have a great love for our city and am excited about the future.

4. What skills/strengths do you feel you would bring to the council?

Experience and a proven track record certainly set me apart from other candidates.

Seth Gillespie

1. I am a lifelong resident of the city of Radford. I am a class of 2007 bobcat, and I graduated from RU in 2012 with a degree in history. In 2021 I married my wife Kristie; we are expecting our first child this November.

2. Since 2012 I have worked as an accountant at my father’s CPA firm. I passed the three examinations required to become an enrolled agent through the IRS. My primary responsibilities include tax preparation for businesses and individuals, bookkeeping, and payroll. In 2020 I became a small business owner when I took ownership of a flower shop.

3. Radford is a special place and I hope to be afforded the opportunity to have a hand in shaping its future. Some of my priorities for the city are economic development, bringing in new businesses while providing support for current businesses, public safety, promoting growth while being fiscally responsible, finding ways to retain talent that graduates from RU, NRCC, and VT to reside and have job opportunities in our city, and working closely with our school system to help provide the highest quality education for our children. I have a vested

Janiele Hamden

1. Biographical/educational background:

I grew up here in Radford with my dad, Marshall Hamden, who was a small business owner of Lee Ralph’s Sporting Goods, Central

See City Council candidates, page 8

Citizens don’t have to guess as to how I will perform my service to the city. I have 8.5 years of precedence that I am proud of that is easily accessible to all who want to know my track record of service. Owning a small business for six years, working in corporate America for (many) years, being a veteran, a school board member, a city council member – They have all prepared me for this continued further service to the city, and I welcome the opportunity to roll my sleeves up and get back to work. I know where we are and what we need to do.

5. What do you see as Radford’s greatest challenges over the next few years?

We have had a real shortage in affordable housing and must continue to ensure that we support opportunities and investment in this regard. We have seen an increase in housing options for downsizing senior citizens, young professionals, and first-time home buyers from initiatives of the council. We have notable declining businesses on East Main Street but will continue to address them with a re-envisioning of our downtown space to further support established businesses while encouraging the development of existing open spaces.

Our goal is to create a vibrant and enduring downtown that brings folks together to shop, eat, and keep company with friends. *Our land mass is limited to approximately 10.2 square miles, so being mindful of land use is paramount. The council has engaged in conversation that supports an environmental study and the potential purchase of 80 acres on our river to reimagine and make an asset as opposed to eye sore.

6. What are Radford’s strengths/what do you

interest in this city and its future. I will put everything I have into making Radford a better place for us all to call home.

4. My time working in accounting has prepared me to meet hard deadlines, research, and stay aware of new and pending legislation, given me an understanding and knowledge of P & L and other financial statements, and working with a team to meet goals. It is my hope that my background in accounting would be an asset to the council, particularly when working on the budget. I also believe my time served on the planning commission has given me an insight and appreciation for what it takes to make things happen in this city. It has also allowed me an opportunity to work on some exciting projects that have already happened in Radford and some that are yet to come.

5. While I believe Radford has many things going for it, I do think we have some challenges facing us. I think the fact that 46 percent of the real estate in Radford is non-taxable is certainly a concern. Also making sure we are budgeting for 10 years down the road and not just tomorrow is important. I believe there will be significant improvements

Market, M & M Realty and Allegheny Cafe. I attended Radford City Schools, where I graduated in 2001. While working full time, I also began my college education at NRCC and then continued on to Radford University, graduating with both my B.S. (Psychology

enjoy about living here?

Our greatest strength is our citizens. I am forever grateful to the community for embracing our family so many years ago and truly making this our home. I cannot think of a better place to raise a family, start a business (or two), go to school, seek higher education, eat, shop, or seek recreation. I have worked diligently in my time as an elected official to support and implement policies and programs that both demonstrate my faith in our citizens and encourage positive movement forward.

7. Any other information you think voters should know?

We have a university that we are collaborating with on some compelling joint ventures. An exciting and renewed focus on our parks and recreation has fostered continued trails, pickle ball, a skate park, and a resurfacing of courts (with more on the horizon). There is a re-envisioning of our downtown space and a much-needed investment to support existing businesses while encouraging new ventures (maximizing grant opportunities). Improving our school infrastructure has been implemented. City confidence continues to grow and is reflected in increased permits. Our tax base remains strong as property values increase and private investment remains steady. Our first responders have received resources to increase their safety and the overall well-being of our citizens. We have accomplished much, but there remain more exciting opportunities ahead. It would be my continued honor to utilize my experience to keep this positive momentum.



Seth Gillespie

needed at our high school and infrastructure throughout the city that will require careful planning and budgeting for.

6. I think Radford has many strengths but none more so than the people. We are blessed with a community of people that invest their time, money, and energy into giving back to Radford. I believe our school system is a strength and one of the top things people look at when they decide to move here. Our river and natural beauty are a huge asset I hope we tap more into.

7. To me this election is about looking at what we are doing well, what we can do better, and what do we as a community want to see the future of Radford look like. I hope you will consider me when you cast your vote this November 8th.



Janiele Hamden

School Board Candidates

from page 3

board. I knew I had the time and the expertise to help serve my community on the school board.

4. What skills/strengths do you feel you would bring to the school board?

I have a degree in Special Education, K-12 and an advanced degree in Adult Education. I have taught K-12 grade students, have taught classes for adults in business and industry, have taught classes at New River Community College and have taught public classes for adults who did not

complete their high school education. I have experience as the Director of the Office of Adult Education and Literacy at Radford University, which included grant writing, budget management, professional development, curriculum design, training and conference and meeting organization and all the factors involved in such.

5. What do you see as Radford City Public Schools’ greatest challenges over the next few years?

Our system faces challenges in repairs

and replacements of facilities and the cost of such work. We also are challenged to continue to recruit talented professional diverse educators to teach our students. We are challenged to continue to strive to maintain and develop programs that provide all students with what they need, when they need it and in a way they can utilize to achieve their best as they grow into young adults.

6. What are Radford City Public Schools’ strengths?

Our system is fortunate to be staffed

with professional educators who are dedicated to providing instruction to meet the needs of their students. They give their time, their knowledge, and their resources to support the development of these young learners. We have parents who want to see their children succeed. We have a community that believes in the importance of education. Radford residents attend sporting events, music events, performance events, and everything in between.

RADFORD SPORTS

Blacksburg boys, girls cross-country teams win region

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Blacksburg High School's boys' and girls' cross-country teams ran their way to the region 4D championship Tuesday on their home course.

Zoie Lamanna of Jefferson Forest won the girls' race while Blacksburg's Conner Rutherford won the boys' crown.

Lamanna had a time of 18:33.9 on the 5,000-meter course. Blacksburg's Reese Bradbury (19:03.9) was second.

Rutherford won the boys' race with a time of 15:39.2 on the 5,000-meter

course. Western Albemarle's Owen Shifflett (15:54) was second, and Jefferson Forest's Alex Jordan (15:58.5) was third.

Blacksburg's Jonas Roach finished fourth, Bruin Zach Davis was sixth, and Harrison Whitfield of BHS ran home in 11th place.

On the girls' side of the course, Blacksburg's Allie McDonald was third and Tess Dickhans finished eighth. Bruins Ruby Gruggs and Mia Farley crossed the finish line in ninth and tenth place respectively.

The Class 4 state meet is scheduled for November 12 in Leesburg.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BLACKSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

The Blacksburg boys' cross-country team brought home the region 4D championship this past Tuesday on their home course.

RU men open season with exhibition win



PHOTO COURTESY OF RU ATHLETICS

Forward Madiaw Niang (#15) is one of 12 newcomers on this year's Radford University basketball roster after transferring from Florida Atlantic.

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Radford University men's basketball team is still getting to know each other since as many as 12 newcomers dot the roster. During an exhibition Tuesday night, they took the first step in working together.

Tuesday night's contest marked the first-ever meeting between Radford and Mary Baldwin, which has one of the newest men's basketball programs in the country, hiring head coach Matt Griggs to lead the first-ever team in December of 2019.

The Fighting Squirrels — members of the USA South conference — began play in 2020-21 and completed their first full schedule in 2021-22 when they went 8-13 overall and 7-7 in conference play. They will return three players from last year's starting lineup, including US South Rookie of the Year Vernon Fraley.

Former five-star prospect and 2019 McDonald's All-American Bryan Antoine transferred out of the illustrious Villanova program and chose Radford as his new home. Antoine rose to national prominence while playing at the Ranney School, ranking as the No. 15 player in the Class of 2019 by ESPN and No. 16 by 247Sports. The Tinton Falls, N.J. native averaged 20 or more points per game in all four of his seasons at Ranney, while playing alongside Scottie Lewis, who went on to play for now-Radford head

coach Darris Nichols at the University of Florida.

The Highlanders have brought in plenty of talent in their effort to reload, tapping the transfer market several more times. DaQuan Smith (Murray State) was the first to commit to Radford, reuniting with former Murray State assistant coach Shane Nichols. Radford then quickly added Souleymane Koureissi (Richmond), Onyebuchi Ezeakudo (Pittsburgh), and Madiaw Niang (Florida Atlantic). Japanese youth star Ibu Yamazaki and sharpshooting point guard Kenyon Giles also decided to become Highlanders, further upping the talent level.

While the Highlanders' coaching staff remains the same as a year ago, the roster of players at their disposal will look almost entirely different. Thirteen of the 16 players on the 2021-22 squad have left the program, leaving just Josiah Jeffers, Shaquan Jules, and Derrick Jones, Jr. back for another run. Dravon Mangum (Louisiana Tech), Lewis Djonkam (Morgan State) and Xavier Lipscomb (Mount St. Mary's) are the only three players who have left to continue playing at the Division I level while all other former players either graduated or found themselves playing at the D2, D3, or JUCO level.

Tuesday night, Radford dominated Mary Baldwin's Flying Squirrels for a 114-54 win.

As a team, the Highlanders shot 66.7% (46-for-69) from the field, including a 54.5% (12-for-22) performance from beyond the arc. At the same time, they held the Fighting Squirrels to a shooting percentage of 36.8% overall.

Another key to success on the night was Radford's effort on the glass. The hosts outrebounded Mary Baldwin 42-to-19 and converted seven offensive boards into 13 second-chance points.

The freshman pairing of Kenyon Giles and Ibu Yamazaki led the way in their first taste of collegiate action, scoring 21 points each thanks in part to a combined six three-pointers.

Shaquan Jules got the start at center and was a standout player on both sides of the floor, finishing the game with 18 points on 8-of-9 shooting, seven rebounds, and two blocks. Pittsburgh transfer Onyebuchi Ezeakudo scored 13 points on 5-of-6 shooting to give the Highlanders four double-digit scorers.

Radford shared the rock, dishing out 28 assists on 46 made field goals. Josiah Jeffers and DaQuan Smith led the team with six assists each.

While Tuesday night's showing was a strong one, Radford's real test will come right away when they hit the road for games at Marquette (Monday, Nov. 7, at 8:30 p.m.) and Notre Dame (Thursday, Nov. 10, at 8:00 p.m.) to begin the regular season. The games will air on Fox Sports 1 and ACC Network, respectively.

Michael Vick named to ACC 2022 Hall-of-Fame class

The Atlantic Coast Conference announced Wednesday that Michael Vick has been named to the 2022 ACC Football Honors Class.

Vick brought unprecedented national acclaim to Virginia Tech's football program as a quarterback during the 1999 season when, as a redshirt freshman, he guided the Hokies to a perfect 11-0 regular-season record and a spot in the national championship game. He completed 90 of 153 passes for 1,840 yards and 12 touchdowns that season and added 617 rushing yards with eight touchdowns.

Vick finished third in the Heisman Trophy balloting — the top finish ever by a Virginia Tech player — and he won an ESPY from ESPN as the nation's top college football player. After amassing more stellar numbers in 2000 despite missing two games due to injury, Vick was taken by the Atlanta Falcons as the No. 1 overall pick in the 2001 NFL draft. He played 13 seasons in the NFL for four different teams, throwing for 22,464 yards, with 133 touchdowns during his career. His 6,109 career rushing yards set an NFL record for a quarterback.

In addition to Vick, this year's 14-member group includes Boston College's Luke Kuechly, Clemson's Terry Allen, Duke's DeVon Edwards, Florida

State's Terrell Buckley, Georgia Tech's Demaryius Thomas (posthumously), Louisville's Bilal Powell, Miami's Chuck Foreman, North Carolina's Natrone Means, NC State's David Amerson, Pitt's Darrelle Revis, Syracuse's Donovan McNabb, Virginia's Thomas Jones, and Wake Forest's Ricky Proehl.

"This year's ACC Honors Class is truly outstanding, and we look forward to celebrating them as part of the Subway ACC Football Championship Game weekend," said ACC Commissioner Jim Phillips. "Our schools continue to build upon the rich histories and traditions in football, and honoring this class provides an opportunity to recognize these amazing former student-athletes."

This year's class will be celebrated during the ACC Football Honors program presented by the Charlotte Sports Foundation at the Charlotte Convention Center's Richardson Ballroom on the evening of Friday, Dec. 2, and during the on-field pregame festivities at the 18th annual Subway ACC Football Championship Game, set for 8 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3, at Charlotte's Bank of America Stadium. ACC Network will air (tape delay) the ACC Football Honors production on Dec. 9 at 7 p.m.

- Atlantic Coast Conference

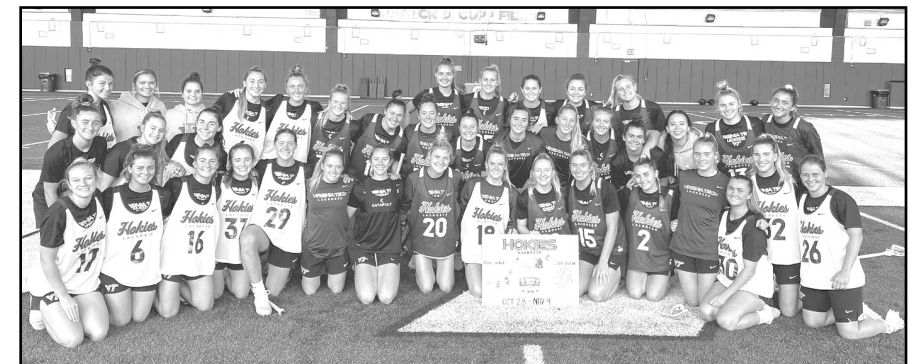


PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

The Virginia Tech lacrosse team is partnering with Micah's Backpack for a canned food drive. A donation box will be set up at Kroger to receive items through November 9.

Hokies Lacrosse joins forces with Micah's backpack for food drive

The Virginia Tech lacrosse team is working to help support the local community this upcoming holiday season with a canned food drive. The food collected will be given to Micah's Backpack, an organization that helps with food insecurity.

A donation box will be located at the entrance of Kroger (1322 S Main St., in Blacksburg) through Wednesday, Nov. 9.

An Amazon wish list has been set up for ideas as to what items Micah's Backpack

needs. Micah's Backpack is a weekend meals program for students on free meal plans in Blacksburg Public Schools. The goal of the program is to provide weekend meals and snacks to these children and ensure that they have a steady and nutritious source of food over the weekends when school is not in session.

Each backpack contains two breakfasts, two lunches, two

dinner, and snacks. Participants receive items such as oatmeal, juice, tuna, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, soup, apple sauce, fruit cups, ravioli, vegetables, and milk.

The food is sorted and packed on Thursday evenings by volunteers and then distributed on Friday afternoons to the participants.

- Virginia Tech Athletics

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Radford volleyball defeats Alleghany, advances in Region C



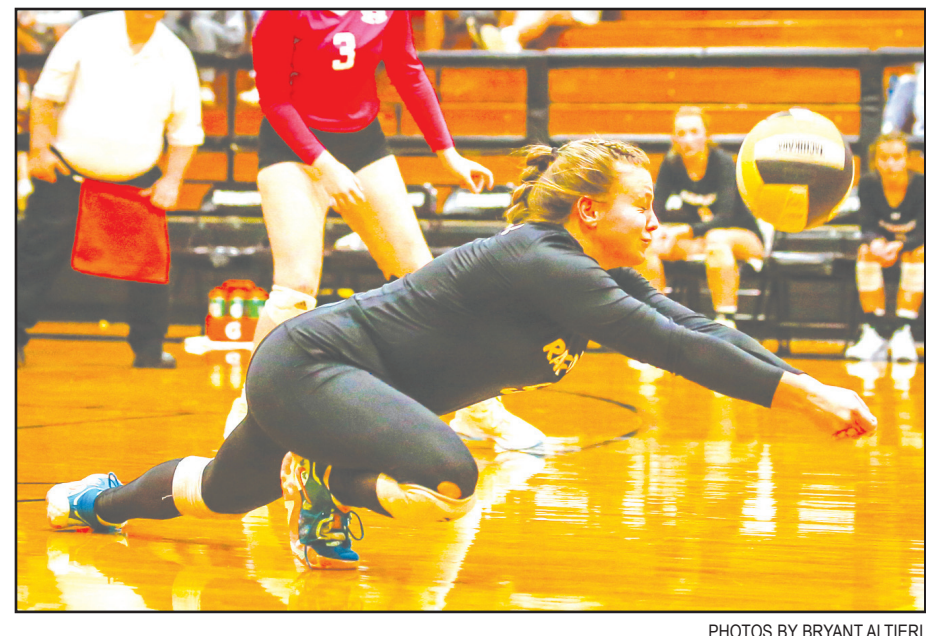
Radford's Maddox Adams bumps a pass to a teammate in Tuesday's playoff win over Alleghany High School.



Radford's Jaylynn Holt goes high to attack the Alleghany defense as the Bobcats won in region volleyball play.



Senior Karlee Hill receives a serve to start the Bobcats' offense.



Hollybrook Cline stretches for a dig to keep the point alive during the Region C playoff opener for Radford. The Bobcats advanced to face Appomattox.

PHOTOS BY BRYANT ALTIERI

Family's company contributes to project for VT women's basketball

Culture is what attracted Adam and Dawn Boitnott to Virginia Tech women's basketball. Ultimately, it's what led their company, Hylaine, to move forward with a generous philanthropic contribution to the team's locker room renovation project in the Hahn Hurst Basketball Practice Facility.

Boitnott founded Hylaine, a software consulting firm, in 2017 in Charlotte with the help of friend and Tech alum T.J. Eberle ('89). In the span of the short, yet prosperous history of the company, Hylaine has opened additional offices in Raleigh, Atlanta, and Dallas to coincide with the demand of their project-based technology approach to finding IT solutions.

Even before the success of Hylaine, the Boitnotts fostered a special relationship with Virginia Tech women's basketball. Dawn and Adam's oldest daughter, Hylton, began attending basketball camps in Blacksburg even before Kenny Brooks was hired in 2016. Adam and Dawn were appreciative of the way Coach Brooks connected with Hylton during the youth camp, and the family began to closely follow the team in the years after.

The Boitnotts made the trek from Charlotte to Cassell Coliseum on a regular basis as season ticket

holders, all the while keeping in mind the possibility of one day making a substantial contribution to the program.

Kenny Brooks, who led the Hokies to their second consecutive trip to the NCAA Tournament in 2022, has nothing but high esteem and praise for the Boitnotts and their generosity.

This contribution to women's basketball will provide the bulk of resources needed for a full renovation of the team's locker room in the Hahn Hurst Practice Facility. This will include a completely renewed dressing area, meeting room, and team lounge. This particular area of the facility is the epicenter of development for the team culture. Women's basketball student-athletes often complete their schoolwork, recover after practice, and host team bonding movie nights all in this space.

Dawn Boitnott, a 1999 graduate of Virginia Tech and native of Southwest Virginia, built a successful career in the insurance industry after she left Blacksburg.

"It's incredibly important," said Dawn, who most recently served as Vice President and Chief Underwriter at Legal & General America. "There have been many times where I've been the only female in the room. To be able to support women's basketball, to support their careers, to

support their growth, to give them the opportunity to do whatever they might want to do, whether or not it's continuing basketball after a college degree, is really important to our family."

As for Adam, he hopes that this contribution will galvanize more support for women's athletics in Blacksburg from other successful alums of the couple's generation.

Renovations for the locker room are set to begin in the spring of 2023. The Hokies will tip off their season on Nov. 7 at home vs. Mount St. Mary's.



PHOTO COURTESY OF VIRGINIA TECH

Pictured with VT women's basketball head coach Kenny Brooks, through the resources of their company, Hylaine, Adam and Dawn Boitnott have made a significant contribution to the women's basketball program for the renovation of the team's locker room in the Hahn Hurst basketball practice facility.

The Radford Bobcats are the 2022 NRV champions



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD BOBCATS

City Council candidates

from page 6

& Philosophy) and M.S. degrees (Counselor Education). I am the founder and Executive Director of a local non-profit, the RADical Change Commission, whose mission of initiating and supporting efforts for systemic change are vital for building a better Radford. I have been blessed with three children, both by birth and by blended families with my partner, Ryan Adams - God is the center of my world, with my family being immediately next, followed by our community.

2. Current job:
Integrative Healthcare for Addiction, Founder & Executive Director of the 501(c)(3) RADical Change Commission.

3. Why do you want to be a member of Radford City

Council?

I'm running for City Council because my passion is serving, strengthening, and empowering Our People and Community. I subscribe to Transformational Leadership and believe that Together, We Can. While I support many efforts of our current council, I believe we can provide stronger governmental transparency and accountability to our residents and that we can better represent marginalized groups and the city as a whole. Having spent a great deal of time serving our community on planning commission and a host of other boards & commissions, and also in advocating, grassroots organizing community events, and supporting and empowering community members in hardship & crisis,

I have unique perspective and experience other candidates may not have, and I believe our combined areas of expertise can prove to be incredibly effective.

I invite our Community to research me and take a look at my achievements and community involvement to serve as a formal record of my commitment to Radford - actions best demonstrate resolve. I've been serving Radford for years, not just for the election season, and I'll continue to despite the outcome of this election.

4. What skills/ strengths do you feel you would bring to council?

I'm incredibly passionate about diversity and inclusion, equal rights and equitable opportunity, trickle up economics, community

investment and ownership, social programming, preventive/responsive problem solving and planning, and servant leadership. My skills/ strengths include strong, clear communication, empathy, efficiency, relatability, organization, diligence, grit, and the resolve to bridge talk and action.

5. What do you see as Radford's greatest challenges over the next few years?

We sometimes struggle with showcasing ALL of our Community by not empowering, supporting, and highlighting marginalized populations as well as those we've historically recognized - working intentionally to remedy this will help Radford self-actualize and be the best We can be.

6. What are Radford's strengths/ what do you enjoy about living here?

Radford is the Heart of the New River for a reason. We are Strong, we are Courageous, and we are Passionate. We are Pioneers, we are Lovers, and we are Game Changers. In hard times, we take care of each other, and we Unite, and I believe in that kind of small-town living.

7. Any other information you think voters should know?

Yes! First and foremost, Radford has been voting at around 24% for the last 30 years - that is NOT a number that can truly represent the wishes of our Community - PLEASE VOTE! Your voice genuinely matters. Every voice matters.

Lastly, my passion is and

will always be for ALL People. While we advocate and demonstrate actionable resolve for populations that have been ignored, discriminated against, silenced, and devalued; alternately, we must be cautious to not tip the scales of justice in the opposite direction - Our collective goal should always be BALANCE and UNITY.

Continually evaluating for both equality and equity is an essential function of building and maintaining a healthy, thriving community.

Chad McClanahan

Did not provide answers by press time