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## Belle Heth teacher wins RCPS Teacher of the Year

Heather Bell  
Editor

RADFORD – Stacy Schwenk, a third-grade teacher at Radford City Public Schools, has been named the Radford City Public Schools Teacher of the Year for the 2022-23 school year.

Schwenk is now eligible to apply for the Virginia Region VII Teacher of the Year, which is generally announced in the late winter or early spring.

RCPS Superintendent Robert Graham recently announced Schwenk's win.

"Stacy is a 24-year veteran educator who has served 19 of those years as a second, third, fourth, and fifth-grade teacher and reading specialist here in Radford," he said. "She has a K-5 Elementary license as well as a K-12 Reading Specialist endorsement. She is a member of VEA



FILE PHOTO  
**Stacy Schwenk is the Radford City Public Schools Teacher of the Year.**

and REA and loves the special bonds that she makes with the students and staff on a daily basis. We are grateful she is part of the RCPS family."

"Stacy has four daughters, and she has spent a large amount of her personal time traveling around to watch

these talented and skilled athletes as they competed or still compete for the Bobcats," he added. "If you see Stacy in the near future, please congratulate her on this tremendous recognition."

The other three school-level winners of teacher of the year are Amanda Bush, a kindergarten teacher at McHarg Elementary School; Andrew Graham, an English teacher at John Dalton Intermediate School; and Luke Munsey, an English teacher at Radford High School. Schwenk was chosen as the division-wide winner by her fellow RCPS personnel.

"Thank you everyone for this honor," she said. "I am truly humbled. I want to thank you all for helping me become a better teacher every day. It all starts with building relationships that last. I appreciate each and every one of you."

## Radford City Police to host Hidden in Plain Sight workshop for parents

RADFORD - The Radford City Police Department is hosting a Hidden in Plain Sight workshop for parents only at the Radford City Recreation Center on Feb. 28, 2023, from 6-8 p.m.

"Hidden in Plain Sight (H.I.P.S), is a community awareness program to educate parents on signs of risky behavior," the department announced. "The program is a hands-on learning experience that allows parents to experience current trends which could be signs of risky behavior.

"It touches on drug and alcohol use, mental health concerns, eating disorders, risky sexual behaviors, and more. This is a hands-on learning adventure for parents and guardians only. We guide you through a presentation that opens your eyes to what is right in front of you. We include up-to-date statistics and local trends, and School Resource Officers will share the experiences they have had in our community identifying risky behavior and helping to put kids on the right path



FILE PHOTO  
**School Resource Officer Thad Beasley leads the Radford City Police Department's Hidden in Plain Sight program. The department is hosting an event for parents on Feb. 28.**

to a healthy life." Topics covered include:  
• Alcohol  
• Marijuana  
• Tobacco (Juuls/Vaping)  
• Prescription Drugs  
• Sexual Behaviors  
• Violence  
• Mental Disorders  
• Eating Disorders  
• Other Possible Risky Behaviors  
To register for the free event, log onto <https://forms.gle/XBMHhpV6guSAPPXq9>.  
-Radford News Journal staff report

## Awards presented in art exhibit featuring Radford student creations

Neal Harvey  
Radford University

RADFORD - Dozens and dozens of eager viewers filled the Art Museum on Tyler, on Wednesday, Feb. 1, for the opening reception of Radford University's Super Duper Juried Student Art Show.

Guests were treated to 89 works of art – paintings, drawings, photography, sculpture and more, all created entirely by students, 53 artists in all – and the show remains on display through its Feb. 18 closing.

"I am very pleased with the number of entries submitted by students and also with the variety of art," said Steve Arbury, the museum's director and a professor of art history. "It truly is a wonderfully eclectic show."

At the center of the event was the announcement of more than a dozen cash prizes, presented to the creators of 14 of the works on exhibit and selected by artist, educator, and juror Nikki Pynn.

"Making art is so important to all of us. It's how we create our society," Pynn told the crowd before she presented the awards.

"Getting over the nervousness of putting yourself forward is a pretty big step in itself," she advised the fledgling, hopeful artists. "And you're going to have to do it again; you have to do it again; you have to do it again. And every time you do it, you're going to learn a little bit more about yourself and what's working."

The centerpiece prize, the Purchase Award, went to Sam Harbin for "Shi as Bacchus," a large charcoal and chalk work on toned paper. Harbin received \$750 and will see his piece made part of the museum's collection.

Harley Reynolds was presented the Andrew W. Ross Photography Award for the photo "Untitled." That honor comes with a \$300 cash prize, and Reynolds' image will also be entered into the museum's holdings as well.

In her remarks, Pynn offered encouragement to the artists who did not receive awards, and she praised them for their creations and for their courage to exhibit them.

"You need to always enter and not be afraid to do it, because when you enter, you're going to learn something," she said. "If you don't receive recognition, don't worry. That's not saying, 'Sell your brushes.' It means 'think some more, look into what you're doing.'"

Other winners were Undergraduate Award of Excellence (\$300) Kayla Scott – "The Passage" - oil on canvas; Graduate Award of Excellence (\$300) Mariah Nolen – "I'm Fine" (diptych) - photography; Undergraduate Award of Distinction (\$150) Hannah Odum – "The Beekeeper" - oil on canvas; Graduate Award of Distinction (\$150) Chris Bradbury – "Backyard Trees" - oil on paper; Merit Awards (\$75) Brandy Bembry – "Sanctuary" – ceramic; Mark Crittenden – "Indecision" - oil on canvas; Amanda Kelly – "Unprecedented Times" - 1:12 scale miniature, mixed media; Harold Martin – "Masculinity" - digital photography; Sydne Moseley – "Volcanic Resilience I" - acrylic on canvas; Tatem Shaffer – "Baldie" - graphite and colored pencil; Alaina Walton – "Near Life Experience" - oil pastel; and Hannah Williams – "Cherokee Owl" – poster.

All the works in Radford University's Super Duper Juried Student Art Show are on display through Saturday, Feb. 18, 2023, at the Art Museum on Tyler, at 214 Tyler Ave.

## Count birds in the backyard and contribute to science

RICHMOND - The Great Backyard Bird Count is taking place this month, and anyone can contribute just by identifying the birds around them.

Each year in February, during a four-day span, millions of people count the variety of birds that can be seen and heard in their own backyards. Radford's citizens are invited to participate in the bird count that takes place Feb. 17-20, 2023.

The Great Backyard Bird Count allows people from all over the world to come together and share their love of birds while learning about migration patterns. These observations help scientists better understand global bird populations before one of their annual migrations.

Participants will need to log the birds that they count in a 15-minute period on at least one of the four days of the event. They can download the Merlin Bird ID app to help identify the birds in the area, or they can use the eBird Mobile app to enter their bird sightings.

"Virginia State Parks provide the perfect location to view many different types of birds," Chippokes State Park Manager Ben Richard said. "We have self-guided activities



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION  
**Dark-eyed Junco on a tree branch.**

at Chippokes where guests can use the iNaturalist app to identify and count the birds they see. February is a great time to come to the park and shake off the winter blues, enjoy the refreshing air, and spot a variety of birds that pass through the park or make it their home. We encourage families to get involved and make a game of it."

"The Backyard Bird Count is a great program where anyone can participate and do their part to help scientists collect data to help birds of all shapes and sizes," Hungry Mother State Park Manager Andrew Philpot said. "Join us at the park for a variety of activities that

showcase the importance of the birds in the area. By simply identifying the birds around you, you can help protect numerous species."

Participation in this project matters as the bird count contributes to a global study that helps protect bird populations all over the world. The Great Backyard Bird Count is a great way to connect with birds, nature and each other.

Visit [www.virginiastateparks.gov](http://www.virginiastateparks.gov) for more information about upcoming events at a State Park.

-Submitted by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY  
Gallery guests examine Sam Harbin's Purchase Award-winning entry, "Shi as Bacchus," a charcoal and chalk work on toned paper. Harbin's piece will be made part of the museum's collection.

## Smell the roses: Floral industry rebounds stronger than ever



PIXELS  
People in the United States bought 250 million roses to give to their valentines on Feb. 14, 2019. The very next year, during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns, consumers stopped buying flowers. The growers in South America who supply American florists and supermarkets with beautiful blooms couldn't sell their crops and had to burn them.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Wednesday, Feb. 15:

### NRCC offering free health screenings

New River Community College practical nursing students will host a Love Your Health event where anyone can stop by several free health stations run by NRCC students for health information, educational games for kids, vitals checks, and COVID-19 vaccine administration. At the Uptown Christiansburg Mall, near NRCC's location; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, contact Misty Rice, associate professor of nursing, at [mrice@nr.edu](mailto:mrice@nr.edu) or (540) 674-3600, ext. 4349.

### Street Photography program

Part two of the Radford Photo Club's programs on Street Photography will continue at 6 p.m. at the Radford Public Library.

## Thursday, Feb. 16:

### Radford Reads with Stephen Skripak

At the Radford Public Library; 6 to 7:30 p.m. Retired business professor and author Stephen Skripak will speak about his book "From the Boardroom to the Classroom" at the library. This event is free and open to the public.

### Community quilting bee

At the Blacksburg Library; 10 a.m. to noon. Participants can bring their supplies and join some quilting and sewing and some lively conversation.

## Friday, Feb. 17:

### NRCC offering free health screenings

New River Community College practical nursing students will host a Love Your Health Event. Free health stations run by the students for health information, educational games for kids, vitals checks, and COVID-19 vaccine administration. At the Uptown Christiansburg Mall, near NRCC's location; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, contact Misty Rice, associate professor of nursing, at [mrice@nr.edu](mailto:mrice@nr.edu) or (540) 674-3600, ext. 4349.

### Blacksburg AARP to present February program

The Blacksburg chapter of AARP will present its February chapter program from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the community room of the Blacksburg Community Center, 725 Patrick Henry Dr.; Blacksburg. The guest speaker will be Dr. David Ayares, President and Chief Scientific Officer for Revivacor, Inc. His topic will be "Xenotransplantation: The Solution for Overcoming the Organ Shortage Crisis." Non-members are welcome. Donuts, coffee, and hot tea will be available. Guests can also bring a bag lunch if they would like.

### Homeschool Speaker: Journalism

At the Radford Public Library; 11 a.m. to noon. WFXR Evening Anchor and Reporter Kathlynn Stone will talk about her career in broadcast journalism. Stone specializes in highlighting unsolved crimes and missing

persons cases to try and help families. She usually does the news at 6:30 and 10 p.m. on WFXR, but this is a chance to see her live at the Radford Public Library.

## Saturday, Feb. 18:

### Free tax assistance with NRCA

At the Christiansburg Library; 1 to 4 p.m. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program and NRCA offer free income tax preparation assistance. Income limits may apply. Walk-In Only. For more information, visit <https://newrivercommunityaction.org/vita> or call 540-320-3217.

### Grownup board game club

At the Radford Public Library; 2 to 4:30 p.m. Participants can bring a friend, a board game, or just themselves to get some quality board-gaming time in at the library. The staff has a collection of games at the library, but players are welcome to bring a board game from home.

### The Great Backyard Bird Count Library Scavenger Hunt

At the Radford Public Library; 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Participants will count birds in a library scavenger hunt in the children's section of the library. Children will thus practice their counting skills. The scavenger hunt will be available all day; any child who finishes the hunt will receive a small prize.

## Sunday, Feb. 19:

### Chess club

At the Blacksburg Library; 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. US Federation member Rishi gives participants a chance to learn chess. Ages 8+ with all skill levels welcome. Supplies will be provided.

## Tuesday, Feb. 21:

### Lviv National Philharmonic Orchestra of Ukraine

The Lviv National Philharmonic Orchestra of Ukraine will perform at Radford University's Bondurant Auditorium in Preston Hall at 7:30 p.m. This unique opportunity brings audiences a chance to hear these remarkable Ukrainian musicians led by Theodore Kuchar, one of the world's most recorded and decorated conductors. Tickets are available online and at the Hurlburt Hall Information Desk or by calling 540-831-5420.

## Wednesday, Feb. 22:

### Movie and a meal: "Respect"

At the Radford Public Library; 5:30 p.m. See the movie about the Queen of Soul in honor of Black History Month. "Respect" stars Jennifer Hudson and Forest Whitaker in the telling of the rise of Aretha Franklin's career. Rated PG-13; 145 minutes. Pizza provided.

## Monday, Feb. 27:

### Radford City Council meeting

The Radford City Council will hold its regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m. in council chambers at the Radford Municipal Building, 10 Robertson St., Radford. See the agenda at [www.radfordva.gov](http://www.radfordva.gov).

### Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors will meet at 6 p.m. in closed session, if needed, in the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St. in Christiansburg. Open sessions begin at 7:15 p.m. Citizens are invited to attend and will be allowed to speak at each meeting to voice their concerns. All regular meetings of the Board of Supervisors are rebroadcast on Montgomery County Comcast and Shentel Channels 190 daily.

## Tuesday, Feb. 28:

### Blacksburg Town Council meeting

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

### Christiansburg Town Council meeting

The Christiansburg Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the council chambers of Town Hall (100 E. Main Street). The public is welcome and is encouraged to bring any matters they desire before the entire council.

## Wednesday, March 1:

### Blacksburg business license renewal forms due

Town of Blacksburg business license renewal forms for 2023 are due by Wednesday March 1, 2023. Businesses are assessed an annual license tax based on the prior year's annual gross receipts. Taxes and fees must be filed and paid by March 1, 2023, to avoid late filing and late payment penalties of 10% plus 10% interest.

Renewal forms were mailed in early January. If you have not received the form, email [businesslicensegroup@blacksburg.gov](mailto:businesslicensegroup@blacksburg.gov) or call 540.961.1108.

## Thursday, Mar. 2:

### Crab Creek Watershed Project kick-off meeting

A Crab Creek Watershed Project Kick-Off Meeting will provide information for participants about receiving funding for the installation of watershed friendly landscaping on their property. At the Loft at Great Road on Main (100 W Main St. Christiansburg); 6 to 7 p.m.

## Thursday, Mar. 9:

### River City Quilt Guild

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

### Women's leadership conference

At the Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center. The deadline to register is March 2. Register at <https://montgomerychamber.chambermaster.com/eventregistration/register/9932>

## Ongoing:

### Cap and Gown drive

Support the 2023 Blacksburg High School Senior Class by donating extra caps and gowns for use during graduation. The Town of Blacksburg Sustainability Office is partnering with Blacksburg High School and Sustainable Blacksburg to encourage re-use of previous years' graduate gear for the 2023 senior class. Gowns (blue only – from 2018 and later), caps, stoles, and cords are accepted.

Donations can be made between 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., Monday-Friday at the Main Entrance of Blacksburg High School. In an effort to keep project costs affordable, dry cleaning the materials before they are donated will be appreciated, though it is not required. For more information, contact the Town of Blacksburg Sustainability Office at 540-443-1617 or [sustainability@blacksburg.gov](mailto:sustainability@blacksburg.gov).

### Blacksburg 2023 Citizens Institute

The Town of Blacksburg is sponsoring a 2023 Citizens Institute to give residents a chance to meet town staff and to learn about the functions of the town's government. Classes will be held on Monday evenings beginning April 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. Participants must be 18 years of age or older and must be residents of the Town of Blacksburg. To register, call the Community Relations Office at 540-443-1090 or email [cro@blacksburg.gov](mailto:cro@blacksburg.gov).

### Free GED classes

New River Community College is offering free GED classes at the Meadowbrook Library every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 5 to 8 p.m. through Thursday, May 11. For more information or to sign up, call the Meadowbrook Library at 540-268-1964.

Be sure to 'Like' the News Journal on Facebook.

## Legal Notice

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF A PETITION BY  
APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY,  
FOR REVISION OF A RATE ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE  
PURSUANT TO § 56-585.1 A 6 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA  
WITH RESPECT TO THE DRESDEN GENERATING PLANT  
CASE NO. PUR-2022-00150

•Appalachian Power Company ("APCo") requests an annual revenue requirement of \$34.7 million for its G-RAC for 24 months. According to APCo, this amount would increase the monthly bill of a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours of electricity per month by approximately \$0.66.

•A Hearing Examiner appointed by the State Corporation Commission will hear public witness testimony on the case on May 2, 2023, at 10 a.m., and testimony and evidence of the Company, the Staff, and any respondents on May 3, 2023.

•Further information about this case is available on the Commission's website at: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

On November 30, 2022, Appalachian Power Company ("APCo" or "Company") filed a petition ("Petition") with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") pursuant to § 56-585.1 A 6 of the Code of Virginia for approval to recover costs associated with APCo's Dresden Generating Plant through its generation rate adjustment clause ("G-RAC").

Through its Petition, APCo proposes an annual revenue requirement of \$34.7 million for the 24 months following implementation of the revised G-RAC. The Company states that this proposed annual revenue requirement is composed of: (i) an actual under-recovery of approximately \$7.5 million of the Company's G-RAC costs for the period ended August 31, 2022; (ii) a projected under-recovery of \$6.3 million for the period of September 1, 2022, through October 31, 2023; and (iii) a projected base annual revenue requirement of \$27.8 million for the period of November 1, 2023, through October 31, 2025. APCo seeks to collect the combined under-recovery balance of approximately \$13.7 million over 24 months, resulting in an annualized under-recovery amount of approximately \$6.9 million.

APCo requests approval to implement the proposed G-RAC on and after November 1, 2023, and to recover the requested annual revenue requirement for 24 months, consistent with its request in this Petition to file its next G-RAC Petition in 24 months. The Company asserts that if approved, the proposed revenue requirement will result in an increase of \$0.66 to the monthly bill of a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours of electricity per month when compared to rates effective November 1, 2022.

Interested persons are encouraged to review the Petition and supporting documents for the details of these and other proposals.

TAKE NOTICE that the Commission may apportion revenues among customer classes and/or design rates in a manner differing from that shown in the Petition and supporting documents and thus may adopt rates that differ from those appearing in the Company's Petition and supporting documents.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing that, among other things, scheduled public hearings on APCo's Petition. On May 2, 2023, at 10 a.m., a Hearing Examiner appointed by the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses, with no public witness present in the Commission's courtroom. On or before April 28, 2023, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting); (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to [SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov](mailto:SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov); or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting).

Beginning at 10 a.m. on May 2, 2023, the Hearing Examiner will telephone sequentially each person who has signed up to testify as provided above.

On May 3, 2023, at 10 a.m., in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, a Hearing Examiner appointed by the Commission will convene a hearing to receive testimony and evidence offered by the Company, respondents, and the Staff on the Petition.

To promote administrative efficiency and timely service of filings upon participants, the Commission has directed the electronic filing of testimony and pleadings unless they contain confidential information, and require electronic service on parties to this proceeding.

An electronic copy of the public version of the Company's Petition may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, Noelle J. Coates, Esquire, 3 James Center, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 1051 East Cary Street, Suite 1100, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or [njcoates@aep.com](mailto:njcoates@aep.com).

On or before April 26, 2023, any interested person may file comments on the Petition by following the instructions on the Commission's website: [scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments](http://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments). Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments with the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00150.

On or before March 24, 2023, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation with the Clerk of the Commission at [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling). Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel. The respondent, simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Company. Pursuant to Rule 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by Rule 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00150.

On or before March 24, 2023, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling), any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be served on the Staff, the Company, and all other respondents simultaneously with its filing. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, including 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00150.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

The public version of the Company's Petition and other documents filed in this case, the Commission's Rules of Practice, and the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing may be viewed on the Commission's website at: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

# OBITUARIES

## Cochran, Thomas D. Rev.

The Rev. Thomas D. Cochran, 82, of Buena Vista, Va., passed away Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2023. He was born March 24, 1940, in Radford, the son of the late George L. Cochran and Edith Sledd Cochran.

He was preceded in death by his siblings, Robert Cochran, Geraldine Cochran, Alma Cochran, and Nell Brown.

Tom married Ruth, the love of his life, on June 29, 1963, in White Sulphur Springs, WV. Tom was devoted to the calling of Christ. He was a minister in the Appalachian Conference IPHC for 47 years, and had read the Bible 115 times. During his career, he pastored at six churches.

Surviving are his wife, Ruth Bittinger Cochran; his children, Thomas C. Cochran and wife, Rima, and Julia C. White and husband, John; grandchildren Cortney Cochran, Isaac

Cochran, Mya Cochran, Mariam Azar, Alex White and Darion Slater; and his sisters, Hope Farmer and Peggy Snoddy and husband, Larry.

A funeral service was conducted on Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at Bolling, Grose & Lotts Funeral Chapel in Buena Vista, Va., with the Rev. W. David Bain and the Rev. Mike Dotson officiating. Burial will follow at 2:00 p.m. at the Appalachian Conference Grounds Cemetery, Dublin, VA.

The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Emmanuel College Christian Ministries Program; P.O. Box 129; Franklin Springs, GA 30639.

Arrangements are being handled by Bolling, Grose, & Lotts Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Buena Vista, VA.

## Huber, William J.

William J. Huber passed away peacefully on the evening of Feb. 7 at the age of 94 surrounded by family.

Bill was born on May 13, 1928, in Jamaica, N.Y. to Leopold and Mary (Quinn) Huber and was the youngest of four children. He was predeceased by his wife of 71 years, Georgene Huber; his parents, Mary (Quinn) and Leopold Huber; his brother and sister-in-law Frank and Dot Huber; and his sister and brother-in-law Helen and Tom Breen.

Bill and Georgene celebrated their 71st wedding anniversary in June of 2022 before Georgene passed away in September of that year. Bill is survived by his brother, Albert, and sister-in-law Linda Huber, his daughter, Jeanne Huber-Happy; his son, William ("Bill") D. Huber and daughter-in-law Lynn Huber; his nieces: Helen, Carol, and Nancy; his nephews: Tom, Jim and Steven; his grandchildren, Kelsey (Huber) Pasquarell, Clare (Huber) Humphrys, Julian Happy, and Benjamin Huber; their spouses, Micah Pasquarell, Adam Humphrys, Katie Happy, and Elysia Huber, and his six great-grandchildren: Grace, Dominic, Beatrice and John Pasquarell and Evelyn and Declan Humphrys.

During his childhood in the Great Depression the family moved several times between Queens, Nassau, and Suffolk Counties on Long Island, including an extended period in Sayville. Bill attended Queens College and then CCNY where he completed his BS in



Electrical Engineering. He initially joined the Marines but transferred to the Army where he worked as an electrical engineer in Washington, D.C. during the Korean War.

After the army Bill completed his Master of Science in Electrical Engineering at the University of Maryland. During his long career as an engineer, he worked for Sperry and United Technologies. He also earned a second MS degree from Brooklyn Poly.

He was elected to the Westbury Board of Education where he served one term. Bill and Georgene resided in Westport, Conn. before retiring to Blacksburg. Bill took up running as a lifelong passion beginning in the early 70s and continued for much of his life, completing two Marine Corps Marathons and competing as the oldest runner in the Westport Minuteman race. He was an active member of the Pequot Runners Club in Southport, Conn., and loved putting on the annual Thanksgiving Turkey Trot, continuing as a volunteer after he was no longer able to run in the event.

A lifelong Catholic, Bill and Georgene attended St. Brigid's in Westbury, N.Y., St. Thomas in Fairfield, Conn., St. Mary's in Blacksburg, and Holy Spirit in Christiansburg.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, Feb. 18, 2023, at 11 a.m. in the Holy Spirit Catholic Church. The family will receive friends from 4 to 6 p.m., on Friday, Feb. 17, 2023, at McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Dr. S.W. Blacksburg.

## Goad, Zelma Izell Tolbert

Zelma Izell Tolbert Goad, 95 of Hillsville, passed away peacefully at her home on Feb. 9, 2023. A deeply religious woman, she was born on April 8, 1927, at the Tolbert homeplace on Burks Fork Creek in Dugspur to James Mack Tolbert and Della Sutphin Tolbert.



In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by all her siblings: Ray, Edith, Arvin, Hobert, and Clyde.

Her husband, Ornie Goad, died in 1963, and her oldest son, Arlin Ornie Goad died in 1997. Upon the passing of her husband, she dedicated her life to raising their four children, who at the time were 10, 7, 4 and 1 year old.

In seeking a better life for them, she sold the farm in 1964 and moved the family to Hillsville. She eventually gained employment at Sprague Electric Company and worked there for many years until her retirement. She insisted her children obtain a college education and they all did, becoming a teacher, a business woman, a dentist, and a lawyer.

Zelma is survived by three children: Deborah G. Sandoe, Marlon A. Goad, Gregory G. Goad, and a daughter-in-law,

Laura C. Goad.

She was especially proud of her ten grandchildren: Laurin G. Davis (Steven), Danielle Goad; Jacob Sandoe, Jackson Sandoe (Sunny); Caitlyn G. Criner (Dereck), Kristopher Goad, Thomas Goad, Lindsey Goad, Alexis Goad; and Sophia Goad.

Seven great-grandsons also survive: Lane Sandoe, Luke Sandoe; Trip Criner, William Criner, Graham Criner; Benjamin Criner; and Jordan Goad.

The family will receive friends at the Vaughan-Guynn-McGrady Chapel on Thursday, Feb. 16, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m..

Funeral services will be at the funeral home on Friday, Feb. 17, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. with William A. Gunter and Danielle Goad officiating. Burial will follow in the Tolbert Cemetery at the old homeplace, next to her husband. A guestbook is available online by visiting [www.vaughanguynnandmcgrady.com](http://www.vaughanguynnandmcgrady.com). Vaughan-Guynn-McGrady Chapel is serving the family.

*The Lord God is my strength and he will give me the speed of a deer and bring me safely over the mountain.* Habakkuk 3-19

## Hypes, Beatrice Ann Sarver

Beatrice Ann Sarver Hypes (Bea Ann), 84, of Blacksburg, went to be with the lord on Feb. 5, 2023.

She was born in Maybrook, Va., on Aug. 25, 1938, to the late Prentice L. Sarver and Virginia Isabel Carbaugh Sarver.

She is survived by her daughters, Cynthia L. Turner and Kimberly H. Scheurman (Jim), and



her grand dog, Baxter. Bea Ann graduated in 1956 from Newport High School and then worked at Poly Scientific for 45 years.

She enjoyed traveling, shopping, and visiting with her friends and family, especially her girls. A memorial service was held on Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023, at McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Dr. S.W. Blacksburg.

## Godbey, William Carl

William Carl Godbey passed away peacefully on Feb. 9, 2023, at the age of 91. Carl was born and lived his entire life in Merrimac, Va. He was an auto mechanic and was well known for his ability to work on any car.



He spent many summers at the racetrack,

proudly supporting his son's team as crew chief.

He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Reba; his son and daughter-in-law, Jerry and Karen; his daughter, Jane; three grandchildren: Billy, Ben, and Stacey; and his beloved dog, Rosie.

Per his request, no services will be held.

## Thompson, Mary Lynn

Mary Lynn Thompson, 58, of Radford, peacefully went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2023.



She was preceded in death by her parents, Robert Lee and Mickey Landrum Thomspon; her maternal grandparents, Waddie and Mary Landrum; and her paternal grandparents, Robert and Ruby Thompson.

She loved to cherish her memory her pride and joy, Zachary Crosier; her fiancé, Mark Vaughan; her brother, Clifton (Tamara) Thompson; a niece, Brittany Thompson; an aunt, Judi (John) Eanes; an uncle, Don (Becky) Landrum; and many other cherished family members and friends.

After graduating from Radford High School, Mary resided in the community she loved most. The love of her life was her son, Zach, and they made

many memories together traveling and attending various events. Mary was a devoted dog-mom to Oreo and Snow.

The family would like to thank the medical staff at Carilion New River Valley and LewisGale Montgomery Hospitals for their compassionate care.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Special Olympics of Virginia in Mary's

memory. A celebration of life will take place on Feb. 18, 2023, at 2 p.m. at St. Paul United Methodist Church, 220 West Main Street, Christiansburg.

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

## PETS OF THE WEEK



Khaleesi

Khaleesi is an energetic younger pup ready to find her forever home and live her best life. She is a friendly gal who may do best in an environment where she is the only pet. Khaleesi knows the "sit" command, and her future humans would need to provide her with additional doggie manners training.

Evie is one smart canine. She's always prepared to give a high-five or paw shake—especially when treats are involved. She also knows to sit when asked. Evie enjoys talking walks with her favorite people and would do best as the only pet in her new home. Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center to meet her!



Evie

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# Roses from page 1

“The floral industry in the United States was highly affected by the 2020 pandemic,” said Barbara Leshyn, floral design instructor for Virginia Tech’s School of Plant and Environmental Sciences. “People stopped getting married, they stopped having graduations, they stopped having big conferences or any type of meeting where you would need flowers.”

However, as the U.S. emerged from lockdown, Leshyn said the floral industry rebounded in a huge way, and so far the recovery, and the fondness for giving flowers, shows no signs of slowing down. “We saw record sales in 2021, we saw record sales in 2022, and our projection is that in 2023 we will have record sales specifically for Valentine’s Day.”

Leshyn said the floral industry is doing even better

now than it was before COVID-19 arrived. In 2021, the industry rapidly ramped up to meet demand and ended up clearing \$6 billion in sales, a new record. That figure includes both cut flowers and the potted plants one buys for home gardens. Breaking out flowers alone, florists made \$360 million in sales as opposed to \$220 million in 2019, according to the Society for American Florists. Though final figures for 2022 are not yet available, they are likely to be even higher, Leshyn said.

“Valentine’s Day shoppers will see prices higher than they were in 2019, but on par with prices from 2022,” said Leshyn. “Though the European floral industry has been affected negatively by recession and the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the U.S.

market’s ties to South America provide security. We look good for the next year or two.”

Florists have a lot to look forward to this Valentine’s Day with the National Retail Federation predicting that consumers will spend a record \$25.9 billion and that 37% of those shoppers will buy flowers. Yet what about the long view for these fragile blooms?

“Long-term concerns have grown because older generations have generally been florists’ dependable customers,” Leshyn said. “The industry has responded by courting new, younger customers through TikTok. When you have an industry that relies on a perishable product, they have to be pretty forward thinking all the time.”

# Buddy King: Key West isn’t your daddy’s Myrtle Beach

I have written before about the family vacations of my childhood. Like most folks from the mountains of Southwest Virginia (or at least the ones in my life back then), our car knew only one direction to go when my parents decided it was time for my Dad’s few days off from work: south to Myrtle Beach.

Back then, I thought only two states existed: Virginia and South Carolina. I now assume we passed through North Carolina, but I don’t remember much about that part of the trip. One summer we went to some place called New Jersey to visit one of my Dad’s brothers, but that was the exception that proved the rule. Myrtle Beach was what you did when you left Christiansburg.

Our vacations were very simple, usually just three or four days, but planned for months in advance and greatly anticipated. My mother would always buy me a couple of new pairs of Bermuda shorts and tee shirts, among other preparations. I learned many years later that my Dad didn’t much care for the sand or the sun, so like much of his life, he did this trip for others: my Mom and me.

My first memories of Myrtle Beach were when it was still quaint and slow-paced, not at all resembling the D.C. beltway on steroids it became. We stayed in an old oceanfront boarding house, called the “Cheerio,” smack

dab between other clapboard siding inns called the “Wee Blew Inn” and the “Murphys.” We took breakfast and dinner in the dining room, along with the six or seven other families staying there, served by “Mrs. Jeffries,” owner and proprietor and proud Charlestonian, in her 80’s.

Eventually, Mrs. Jeffries passed and her family apparently succumbed to market pressure and realized they only make so much oceanfront property. The beautiful old yellow frame house with green shutters and a huge porch 50 or so yards from the Atlantic was sold, razed, and replaced by an eight-story motel called the Boardwalk. We moved down the street three lots to a “fancy motor hotel” named the Cadillac Court. I remember my father complaining that the rate was \$18 per night (compared to \$12 at the Cheerio) and saying we “don’t get our meals either.”

My beach days consisted of riding a rented rubber raft under my mother’s watchful eye, rubbing my stomach raw while blistering my back (pre-sun screen days of course), while my Dad napped under a beach umbrella. Our nights were either spent sitting on the porch of the Cheerio or on the deck of the Cadillac Court and listening to the waves hit the shore, or riding rides and laughing at our reflections in the “funny mirrors” at the Pavilion (I heard it is no more, probably another victim of “higher and better use.”). In a word, our vacations in those long-ago days were “wholesome.” Apple pie and Chevrolets.

This column was prompted by my return from one of my favorite vacation spots of recent years, Key West, the southernmost city, the end of the world, not known for wholesomeness. That is not the word to describe it. Lots of other words fit Key West, but I’ll just say it isn’t my Dad’s beach vacation. I do highly recommend it for fun and laughs and good times, though.

This makes the second year in a row that my friend Jo and I decided that the Keys are a better place to be in February than north central West Virginia or western Pennsylvania. Two days before we left it was eight degrees here. Regrettably, it was not as cold at home the week we were gone as you wish on your friends left behind. But 73 to 77 degrees every day with no clouds

was hard to beat and even harder to leave.

We did several of the historical things Key West has to offer: the Hemingway House (replete with 57 6-toed cats), the Butterfly Conservatory (better than it sounds), the Shipwreck Museum (We learned that much of Key West’s early wealth was accumulated by latter-day pirates plundering transport ships run aground on the surrounding reefs), and the Conch Train Tour. Read about the origins of the “Conch Republic” if you get the chance.

And we also did many of the hysterical things Key West offers: hanging out in “dive bars” (That’s how Google Maps describes most of them. I’m told there are 86 on Duval Street, which runs 1.8 miles from the Atlantic to the Gulf.), having drinks with lots of snowbirds like us and some of the eclectic locals, going to Mallory Square at sunset with everyone else in town and seeing some of the most bizarre forms of entertainment imaginable, listening to struggling musicians in almost every bar (Nashville it is not, with a few exceptions).

I will not list all the watering spots Joanne and I visited, but if you’re there for the first time, you should sit on a stool in Sloppy Joe’s (1937), Captain Tony’s (the location of the original Sloppy Joe’s from 1933 – 1937 and Hemingway’s favorite spot), the Green Parrot (opened in 1890 and seems to never close), First Flight (original home of Pan-American Airlines, so named because of the flights it made from Key West to Havana “in the day”). And I have to mention Irish Kevin’s, but don’t go there if you’re from New Jersey. You get treated rudely if you admit it (why would you?)

We topped off the week this year with a bucket list item: a live Jimmy Buffett concert in a small amphitheater on the water. Nothing like spending a few hours with aging Parrot Heads in paradise. There will not be many more opportunities like that I fear.

I suspect Key West isn’t for everyone. Anything goes and no one judges anyone. Different strokes for different folks. But I heartily recommend it for people watching and people meeting (I didn’t realize Iowa had so many folks.) and for a temporary escape from the real world. And remember, Key West isn’t your Daddy’s Myrtle Beach.

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## Letter to the Editor: On Behalf of the Teachers

Dear Editor,

At the beginning of the new year, I left my English teaching assignment at a high school in Newport News. I since then started a new position at a middle school with Hampton City Schools.

To my bewilderment, it was far worse than where I had come from. Teachers are being battered, bruised, and beat down by the American public school for all the world to see. Does anyone care about the teachers?

Our voices have been muted and hands bound behind our backs. In districts across the country, teachers get little to no support from their divisions, administrators, parents, or students, in many cases. Who could imagine that we’d be living in a time where teachers need protective gear to be armed and ready for battle, and be made to contemplate life and death decisions simply to step foot into a classroom? To be a teacher in America’s public schools has become hazardous to one’s health.

It’s not just within Virginia, North Carolina,

Georgia, Texas, or California education; the divide is nationwide. America deserves better than what the education system is manufacturing: graduates that cannot read or write; colleges lowering standards to accommodate a generation that lacks basic knowledge and education; and young people that lack accountability and responsibility.

Teachers are the change we hope to see in the world; they are the light to a brighter future. The role of the teacher is to provide real education that will draw out the very best of child and man physically, mentally, and spiritually. Teachers deserve their flowers, too, not just promises broken and few.

As a teacher, my stay on the frontlines is temporary. I will not return in 2024, but those who plan to see their commitment through deserve the highest badge of honor.

Sincerely,  
Terry A O’Neal-Hogan,  
Another Tired Teacher

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Revolutions per minute
4. Hymns
10. Brew
11. Did not acknowledge
12. Atomic #77
14. Partly digested food
15. Not one
16. Lesotho capital
18. Copyreading
22. Living organism that feeds on organic matter
23. One’s biological father
24. An aggregate of molecules
26. Equally
27. Khoikhoi people
28. Jump in figure skating
30. Lantern
31. TV network
34. Georges \_\_, French

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Flower cluster
2. A form
3. Inner organ regions
4. Local law enforcement
5. A citizen of Senegal
6. Positively charged electrodes
7. Connects granules
8. Business practice
9. The Mount Rushmore State
12. Leader
13. Hindu queen
17. Proofreading mark
19. European country
20. Greek mythological nymph
21. Grandfather
25. Clears
29. Amount of time

**CLUES ACROSS**

31. Mollusks
32. German municipality
33. Body part
35. City of Angels
38. Suffocate
41. Pleasing to the eye
43. Poplar trees (Spanish)
44. Ship officer
45. Individual investment account (abbr.)
46. Prefix meaning within
47. Ceased to live
49. Day by day
56. Not color
57. Condition of withdrawal (abbr.)

**philosopher**

36. Sharp, shrill bark
37. Albanian monetary units
39. Launched Apollo
40. One who graduated
41. Exist
42. Passed by
48. Very unpleasant smell
50. Graduates
51. Seedless raisin
52. Self-protection
53. Clue
54. Life-savers
55. Ingest too much
56. Misrepresented
58. Small Eurasian deer
59. Most mocking
60. Soviet Socialist Republic

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### Legals - Botetourt County

**TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 304 Goad Road, Fincastle, VA**  
 Tax Map No. 62-155  
 In execution of a Deed of Trust dated August 31, 2011, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County of Botetourt, Virginia, as Instrument No. 110003218, the Substitute Trustee will offer the above-described property for sale to the highest bidder at public auction on the date and time referenced below. All of that certain tract or parcel of land containing 1.375 acres, more or less, as shown on that certain plat of survey made by Charles R. McMurry, CLS, dated March 12, 1996, recorded in the Clerk's Office for the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, in Plat Book 17, at Page 27. Date of Sale: March 8, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Location: outside the Botetourt County Circuit Court, Courthouse, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090. Terms: CASH; a deposit in the form of certified funds in the amount of \$10,000 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower. Settlement within thirty (30) days of date of sale. Time is of the essence. OPTIONS: 1. All costs of conveyance, examination of title, recording charges, etc. will be at cost of purchaser with the exception of the grantor's tax. Neither the Substitute Trustee nor any other party guarantees or covenants to deliver or in any way to obtain possession of the premises for any third party purchaser 2. The Substitute Trustee reserves the right to reject all bids, extend the time to receive bids or withdraw the property from sale at any time. In addition, should the Substitute Trustee be unable, for any reason, to convey title, the successful bidder's sole remedy in law or equity shall be the return of his deposit. Upon refund of the deposit, the sale shall be void and of no effect. Additional terms may be announced at the time of the sale. The Substitute Trustee will convey the above-described property to the purchaser(s) by Special Warranty deed at settlement and makes no additional representations or warranties of any kind regarding the title to said property. John K. Prillaman, Esq. Substitute Trustee For Information Contact: John K. Prillaman, Esq. OPN LAW 3140 Chaparral Drive Roanoke, Virginia 24018 (540) 725-8194

### Legals - Botetourt County

**ORDER OF PUBLICATION**  
 COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA CODES§§1-211.1; 8.01-316, 20-104 Case No. CL23-40  
**ROANOKE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT 305 E. MAIN STREET, SALEM, VA 24153** Commonwealth of Virginia, in re CHLOE GRACE DUNN v. The object of this suit is to: change the minor's name. It is ORDERED that MICHAEL MATTHEW DUNN appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before March 14, 2023 @2:30pm. JANUARY 11, 2023 STEVEN A. MCGRAW, clerk

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### Legals - Botetourt County

**ORDER OF PUBLICATION**  
 Commonwealth of Virginia VA CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104 **CASE No. CWF21000261**  
**BOTETOURT Circuit Court 1 W. Main Street, Fincastle VA 24090** Commonwealth of Virginia, in re ARTHUR BERNHARDT HENSLEY, JR., DECEASED. The object of this suit is to: authorize the Administrator of the Estate of Arthur Bernhardt Hensley, Jr. to distribute the entire estate to the descendants of the decedent's mother. It is ORDERED that any unknown heirs, devisees, successors and assigns of Arthur Bernhardt Hensley, Jr. appear at the above named court and protect his/her interests on or before MARCH 6, 2023. January 13, 2023 TOMMY L. MOORE; CLERK

### Legals - City of Radford

**Order of Publication Commonwealth of Virginia**  
 VA Code §§ 8.01-316, -317 Case No. CL23-6883 City of Radford Circuit Court Commonwealth of Virginia, in re Robert A. Jones, Jr. v. Victor Carter, et al. The object of this suit is to: Quiet the title to 530 W. Rock Road, Radford, VA 24141. It is ORDERED that heirs of Charles Jones, deceased appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MARCH 15, 2023. JANUARY 27, 2023 REBECCA PRICE Deputy Clerk

### Legals - City of Salem

**ORDER OF PUBLICATION**  
 COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA CODES§§1-211.1; 8.01-316, 20-104 Case No. CL23-40  
**ROANOKE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT 305 E. MAIN STREET, SALEM, VA 24153** Commonwealth of Virginia, in re CHLOE GRACE DUNN v. The object of this suit is to: change the minor's name. It is ORDERED that MICHAEL MATTHEW DUNN appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before March 14, 2023 @2:30pm. JANUARY 11, 2023 STEVEN A. MCGRAW, clerk

### Zoning Administration NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Salem, Virginia will hold a public hearing, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2309 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, on February 23, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, to consider the following applications.  
**Request of the City of Salem, property owner, and Roanoke County, project administrator, for a variance from Section 106-226.7 of the Code of the City of Salem, to allow construction of the greenway trail, extending from the existing trail on Salem City owned property (Tax Map # 178-4-1) near Kingsmill Drive to the Roanoke County owned property (Parcel ID # 056.01-01-17.00-0000) near Riverside Nursery. Section 106—226.7(A) states that no new construction shall be permitted, except where the effect of such development on flood heights is fully offset.**  
 Request of the City of Salem, property owner, for a variance from Section 106-226.7 of the Code of the City of Salem, to allow the bridge widening of Apperson Drive Bridge along with incidental greenway trail work on and near the 1600 block East Riverside Drive (Tax Map # 259-2-1). Section 106—226.7(A) states that no new construction shall be permitted, except where the effect of such development on flood

### Legals - City of Salem

**heights is fully offset.**  
 At this hearing, all parties in interest will be given an opportunity to be heard, present evidence, and show cause why such requests should or should not be granted. For additional information, contact the Office of the Zoning Administrator, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia (Phone 375-3032). THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM BY: Mary Ellen H. Wines, CZA, CFM Zoning Administrator

### Legals - Craig County

**TRUSTEES SALE OF 146 HANNAH CIR AKA RR 2 BOX 1482, NEW CASTLE, VA 24127**  
 In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$165,000.00, with an annual interest rate of 3.000000% dated March 6, 2006, recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for the COUNTY OF CRAIG as Deed Book 154, Page 537, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction all that property located in the COUNTY OF CRAIG, on the courthouse steps at the front of the Circuit Court building for the County of Craig located at 303 Main Street, New Castle, Virginia on March 14, 2023 at 3:00 PM, the property with improvements to wit: 5.00 ACRE AS DESCRIBED ON PLAT RECORDED IN CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CRAIG COUNTY, VIRGINIA IN DEED BOOK 135, PAGE 266 Tax Map No. 35-2-2 THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.  
 TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price will be required in cash, certified or cashier's check. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustees may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. Loan type: Conventional. Reference Number 17-265489.  
 PROFESSIONAL FORECLOSURE CORPORATION OF VIRGINIA, Substitute Trustees, C/O LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP, 10021 Balls Ford Road, Suite 200, Manassas, Virginia 20109 (703) 449-5800.

### Public Notice Environmental Permit

**PURPOSE OF NOTICE:** To seek public comment on a draft Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the release of treated wastewater into a waterbody in Craig County, Virginia. PERMIT NO.: VA0091324 NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY: Department of Wildlife Resources - Paint Bank Fish Cultural Station, 14505 Paint Bank Road, Paint Bank, VA 24131 DEQ CONTACT: Lynn V. Wise, (540) 597-0300, lynn.wise@deq.virginia.gov, 901 Russell Dr, Salem, VA 24153 The full public notice is available at https://www.deq.virginia.gov/permits-regulations/public-notices/water/virginia-pollution-discharge-elimination-system-vpdes.

### Legals - Montgomery County

**Notice of Public Auction**  
 The contents of the following storage unit(s) will be sold at Public Auction to enforce our owner's lien: Unit #417 Sale will be conducted at B&B Storage, at 1015 Radford St., Christiansburg VA on Friday, February 17, 2023, at 10:00 A.M. All sales are final & CASH only

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### Legals - Roanoke County

**Public Notice Environmental Permit**

**PURPOSE OF NOTICE:** To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the continued release of treated wastewater into a water body in Roanoke County, Virginia. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: February 9, 2023 to March 11, 2023 PERMIT NAME: Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit – Wastewater issued by DEQ pursuant to applicable water laws and regulations  
 APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: Roanoke Moose Lodge #284, PO Box 538, Salem, VA 24153; VA0077895 FACILITY NAME AND LOCATION: Roanoke Moose Lodge #284 STP; 3233 Catawba Valley Drive, Roanoke County. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Roanoke Moose Lodge #284 has applied for reissuance of a permit for the private Roanoke Moose Lodge #284 STP. The applicant proposes to release treated sewage wastewaters from the Lodge at a maximum rate of four-thousand seven-hundred gallons-per-day into a water body. Septage from the treatment process septic tank will be disposed by transfer and further treatment at the Roanoke Regional Water Pollution Control Plant. The facility proposes to release the treated wastewaters in Masons Creek in Roanoke County in the Roanoke River watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. The permit will limit the following pollutants to amounts that protect water quality: physical and chemical properties, nutrients, organic matter, solids, and bacteria. HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing on the draft permit by hand-delivery, e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. DEQ must receive hand-delivery and postal mail by close of business and email and fax comments by 11:59 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses or email addresses of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requester, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit. CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Susan Edwards; Blue Ridge Regional Office, 901 Russell Drive, Salem, VA 24153-3068; Phone: (540)795-9749; E-mail: Susan.Edwards@deq.virginia.gov; Fax: (540)689-4178. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed above.

### Public Notice Environmental Permit

**PURPOSE OF NOTICE:** To seek public comment on a draft Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the release of treated wastewater into a waterbody in Craig County, Virginia. PERMIT NO.: VA0091324 NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY: Department of Wildlife Resources - Paint Bank Fish Cultural Station, 14505 Paint Bank Road, Paint Bank, VA 24131 DEQ CONTACT: Lynn V. Wise, (540) 597-0300, lynn.wise@deq.virginia.gov, 901 Russell Dr, Salem, VA 24153 The full public notice is available at https://www.deq.virginia.gov/permits-regulations/public-notices/water/virginia-pollution-discharge-elimination-system-vpdes.

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# Letter to Editor: God's creation of gender diversity

Gender is a contentious issue involving all aspects of society. Differences in people's gender beliefs may include misinformation, inadequate gender knowledge, misinterpretation of religious tenets and educational principles, even lack of basic science knowledge.

Discrimination toward gender diversity is possible in any person, especially in bigots as evidenced in biases and prejudices, a hater of gender diversity.

People say gender diversity is against God's will. Is this belief supported by an understanding of God and His attributes and characteristics? God is present in an infinite, integral, and ultimate reality and possesses infinite wisdom, power, goodness, and an infinite mind. God's attributes and characteristics transcend those of humankind.

Needless to say, God as Spirit, Holy Spirit is the prime creator in the creation of gender diversity in humankind and other creatures who manifest gender diversity. Humankind is known as energyspirit. The literature notes each person manifests the two energies of feminine and masculine. Heider-Rauter illustrates the union of male-female with Hermes staff and its intertwining male and female snakes in her book *The Power of the Infinity Symbol*.

It is significant to note that attributes and characteristics of males and females as identified by humans emerge from God's wholeness where God manifests all genders. God creates all genders in His image through use of an array of male-female attributes and characteristics, the spectrum of gender

we have today.

God creates a newborn baby with a preponderance of male attributes and characteristics with male genitalia who is identified as male at birth. God creates a newborn baby with a preponderance of female attributes and characteristics with female genitalia who is identified as female at birth. This is a simple view of binary gender. What about a child born with a preponderance of female attributes and characteristics with male genitalia who believes he is a girl? What about a child born with a preponderance of male attributes and characteristics with female genitalia who believes she is a male? Such beliefs can occur early in life and are not learned after birth. These are two examples of nonbinary genders. The literature presents a spectrum of nonbinary genders.

God's creation of gender diversity shows humans are not the only species with nonbinary gender. The male seahorse has a pouch where the female lays her eggs. The male seahorse can deliver baby seahorses and can become pregnant again the same day. Hermaphroditism is present in clownfish at birth, and some clownfish can change from one sex to another sex during the course of their lives. Such behaviors are God-given.

It is a travesty when people rebel, rave, and rant against God's use of His image in the creation of gender diversity. Politicians, educators, parents, and others seek to promulgate laws, rules, and policies that denigrate and discriminate against gender diversity and its teaching. Maybe such people should

be questioned for misoneism: their hatred, fear, and intolerance of innovation and change related to changing gender diversity.

It is inconceivable that books about gender diversity are banned and gender diversity cannot be taught in schools. Teaching gender diversity helps diverse gender persons be proud of who they are and their potential as valuable citizens. With factual, correct knowledge, students can refrain from bullying, abusing, shaming, and discriminating when they perceive-experience the beauty and potentials of all people. This helps to create neophilia where people can love, respect, and have compassion for persons who are gender diverse. Such education helps all people to achieve their dreams, hopes, aspirations, and goals.

People need to envision the consequences of anti-gender diversity behaviors, especially when they come face-to-face with God. God respects and rewards people according to their actions. Anti-gender diversity behavior is essentially against God's handiwork of gender diversity creation since God in His Holiness encompasses all genders.

Let's have social justice, equity, and equality for God's gender diversities for the wellbecoming of all people and the universe.

John R. Phillips, RN; PhD  
Retired Professor, Rory Meyers College of Nursing,  
New York University  
103 Copper Beech Drive, Apt. D  
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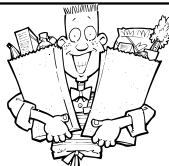
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# RADFORD SPORTS

## East Mont pair commits to football at Ferrum College



PHOTO BY MARTY GORDON

**Eastern Montgomery's Angel Ramos-Mendoza (left) and Brandon Kingery signed letters of intent Friday to attend Ferrum College to play football.**

**Marty Gordon**  
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Eastern Montgomery High School's Angel Ramos-Mendoza and Brandon Kingery have committed to play football for Ferrum College this fall.

The pair signed letters of intent on Friday in the EMHS library in front of family and friends.

Both are excited to

continue their athletic careers while gaining a college education.

Kingery (5-10, 274) started for three seasons for the Mustangs and finished with 41 solo tackles this past season from his defensive line position. Ramos-Mendoza (5-9, 205) added 17 solos of his own as he lined up beside his teammate.

Eastern Montgomery coach Jordan Stewart

said Ferrum is gaining two excellent players on and off the field.

"Both are four-year starters who have been captains, top weight lifters and overall hard-nosed football players," he said.

Both student-athletes plan to major in exercise science. They will join former Eastern Montgomery defensive back Seth Burleson at the Rocky Mount school.

## Radford volleyball's Karlee Hill to play at Bluefield State

**Marty Gordon**  
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Radford High School's Karlee Hill is headed to Bluefield State after signing a letter of intent this past week during a ceremony in the school's gymnasium.

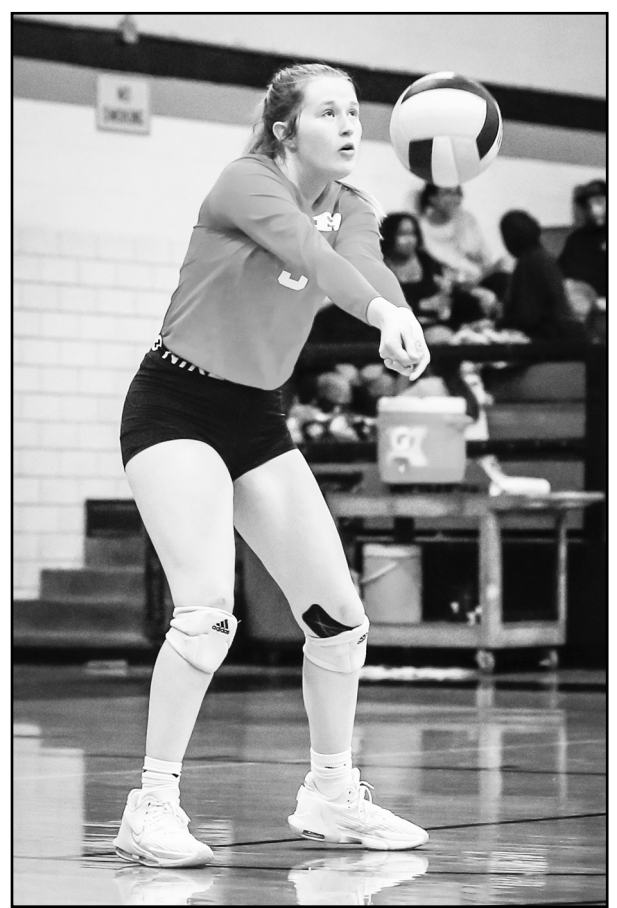
Hill led Radford this past season with 33 assists and 267 digs. She also was a leader on the team with 102 kills, which is even more impressive for someone who focused as a libero or defensive player for most of her high school career.

Hill said she fell in love with the Bluefield State coaching staff during a recent visit to the campus. "They are very helpful, and I have known them for a long time," she said. "They have pushed me to be the player who I am today. When I visited the campus, I felt very welcomed. I enjoyed my time with the other players."

Bluefield State University is located in Bluefield, West Virginia, with an enrollment of 1,246 students. The university is a member of the Division II level of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), primarily competing as an NCAA D-II Independent.

On December 8, 2022, Bluefield State got enough votes to gain entry into the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA), thus re-joining the league after nearly 70 years, beginning the 2023-24 academic year.

This past fall, the Bluefield State volleyball team claimed the 2022



FILE PHOTO

**Karlee Hill led her Radford High School volleyball team with 267 digs and 102 kills.**

USCAA Division I Championship.

Hill's high school coach, Karen Adams, sang her senior's praises.

"While her stats are impressive, the team will most miss her leadership on and off the court," Adams said. "Karlee is the type of player every coach wants. She will do and has done anything and everything asked of her, putting the team as the number one priority at all times."

"Karlee knows that getting to this level takes putting work in and she is her own biggest critic," Adams said. "She is always looking for ways to improve her game. Karlee will be a great addition to

Bluefield."

This past season, Hill was named to the first-team all-Three Rivers District and second-team all-Region C volleyball team.

Hill has set her goals high to improve and get as much playing time as she can. "I always work hard to improve myself. I push myself to be the best I can be," she said. "I would love to get a lot of playing time, but being a freshman can be hard at getting that. Despite the odds, I am still going to go all out. I want to leave it all on the court."

At Bluefield State, Hill plans to major in social science with a minor in psychology.

## Local wrestlers to continue careers in college

**Marty Gordon**  
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Two high schoolers from the New River Valley have announced plans to continue their wrestling careers in college. Blacksburg's Tharun Svetanant is headed to Washington and Lee, and Christiansburg's J.J. Pociask will attend King University.

Pociask finished third in this past weekend's Region 3D tournament and will advance to this week's state championships to be held in Salem. Svetanant was one of three Blacksburg wrestlers who won a Region 4D title and will also advance to the state tournament.

Pociask is a past regional third- and second-place winner, and a state fourth-place winner.

Svetanant was the 2022 Staunton River

Rumble Champion, was third at the Star City Classic, and is currently ranked eighth in Virginia at 132 pounds. He is plans to bulk up and expects to wrestle up a weight class in college.

The Blacksburg senior said he chose Washington & Lee because of its strong academics and because it provides a good balance of education and wrestling. He plans on majoring in Pre-Med. Washington and Lee University is a private liberal arts college in Lexington, Va., with an enrollment of 1,820 students. W&L competes in NCAA Division III's Old Dominion Athletic Conference and the Centennial Conference for wrestling.

This past week, the Washington and Lee University wrestling team captured the first ODAC Wrestling Tournament team title since the league renewed

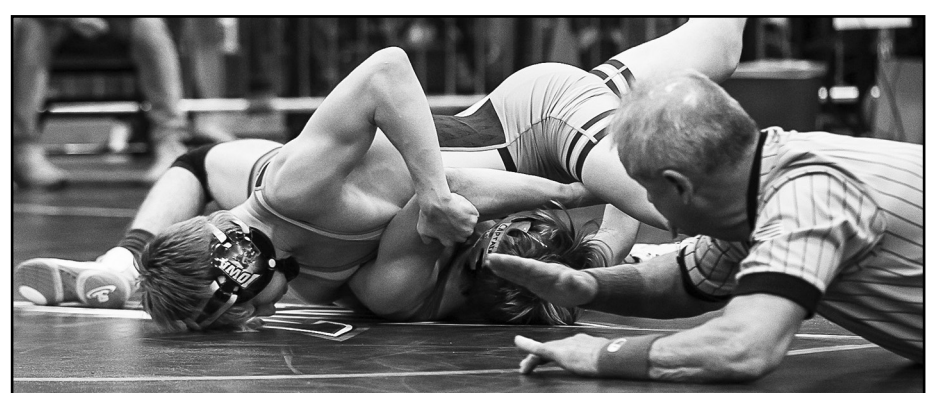
the sport sponsorship with 135.5 mat points.

Pociask said he chose King University because their campus is nice, and he really liked their workout facilities. "I think the coaching staff will help push me to be the best athlete I can be," he said. "My goal is to start for the team by my sophomore season."

King University is a private university in Bristol, Tenn., with an enrollment of 1,656 students.

The university is a member of the NCAA Division II ranks, primarily competing in the Conference Carolinas (CC) since the 2011-12 academic year. They were also a member of the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA), primarily competing as an independent in the Mid-East Region of the Division I level. The school's wrestling team is currently 11-9.

## Staunton River takes Region 3D wrestling; Christiansburg fifth



**Christiansburg's Brady Hand placed first in the 120-pound weight class by a fall over Dominic Pascoe of William Byrd (pictured pinning Pascoe) in this weekend's Region 3D wrestling tournament held at Christiansburg High School.**

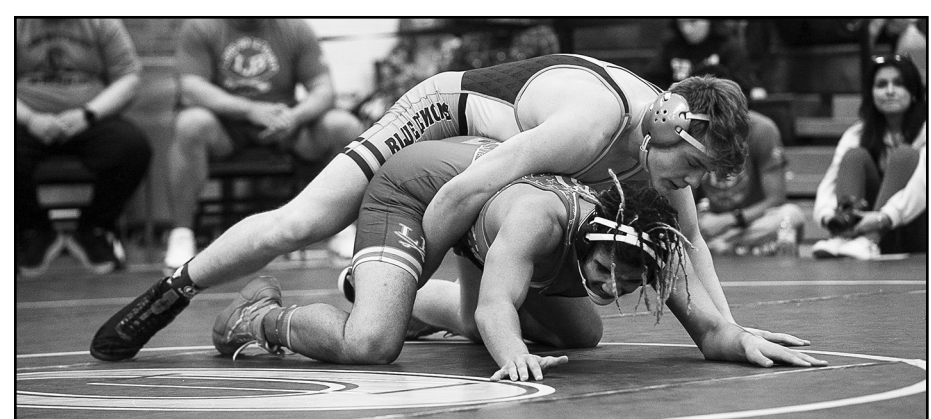


PHOTO BY KYMN DAVISON-HAMLEY

**Christiansburg's Evan Mefford placed third in the 126-pound weight class by a fall over Gage Cochran of William Byrd (pictured working Cochran into a pin position in the final match).**

**Marty Gordon**  
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Staunton River took home a second consecutive Region 3D wrestling team title Saturday at Christiansburg High School. The Golden Eagles compiled 283.5 points as five of their wrestlers claimed region championships.

Lord Botetourt finished second with 198.5 points; William Byrd was third with 179 points; Northside

finished in fourth place with 134 points; and host Christiansburg tallied 129.5 points to finish in fifth place.

Christiansburg's Brady Hand placed first in the 120-pound weight class by a fall over Dominic Pascoe of William Byrd, and four of his teammates finished third.

Evan Mefford placed third in the 126-pound weight class by a fall over Gage Cochran of William Byrd. Jake Robie was third in the 150-pound weight

lass by decision over Bricen Lancaster of William Byrd. JJ Pociask placed third in the 175-pound weight class by decision over Xavier Williams of William Byrd, and Brandon Bevins placed third in the 190-pound weight class by decision over Aidan Lucan of William Byrd.

The top six-place winners all advanced to this week's state championships, scheduled for the Salem Civic Center.

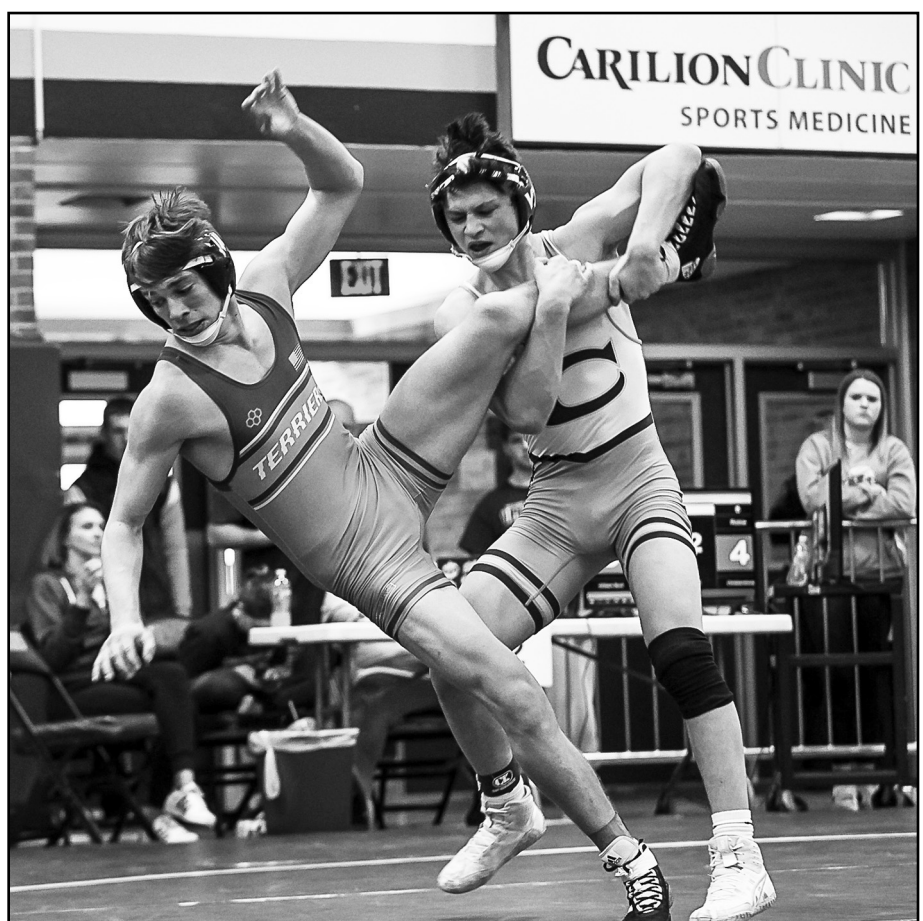


PHOTO BY KYMN DAVISON-HAMLEY

**Christiansburg's JJ Pociask placed third in the 175-lb. weight class by decision over Xavier Williams of William Byrd (pictured working Williams on the mat).**

# Radford girls second in Region C swimming



Trent Hollandsworth leads off the Radford 200-yard medley relay team with a fast backstroke leg at the Region 1C/2C Championship. He won the region title with a time of 1:54.11. As a team, the Bobcat boys finished fourth behind Appomattox, Glenvar, and George Wythe.



Radford's Madison Graham placed fifth in the Region 1C/2C 200-yard freestyle to advance to the state meet. The Radford girls' team finished second with 97 points behind first-place Galax with 129 points.



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Radford's Olivia Spalding (right) and Sophia Pugliese placed third and fourth in the 100-yard butterfly at the Region 1C/2C Championships. Both will swim at the state championship meet next Saturday.

## VT Sports Properties adds softball to broadcasts

Virginia Tech holder for Virginia Tech softball to its rotation of from LEARFIELD. Beginning this spring, a team of broadcast associates with the Virginia Tech Sports Network will cover the Virginia Tech softball program and give exclusive coverage to fans like never before.

Each week on Virginia Tech softball's social media pages, the broadcast associates will conduct interviews with athletes and coaches to give behind-the-scenes content to fans.

The first series that will be broadcast is March 3-5 at Tech Softball Park when the Hokies open ACC play against NC State. Tyler Katz and Nick Brown will have the call.

"This is another example of the tremendous on-air opportunities our SMA students experience while they're still undergraduates at Virginia Tech," said Bill Roth, Professor of Practice in Virginia Tech's School of Communication and Virginia Tech football's play-by-play radio commentator. "I appreciate LEARFIELD's confidence in our students to provide top-notch broadcasts for a championship-caliber team."

year to deliver play-by-play coverage and digital content for fans. "We are always looking for new inventory for our Virginia Tech corporate partnerships," said Kyler Pilling, General Manager of LEARFIELD Virginia Tech Sports Properties. "Brands are looking to align with a growing sport and fan base, and this softball program and new broadcast check all the right boxes." All 23 Virginia Tech softball home games will be broadcast live on the free HokieSports app, the free Varsity Network app, and HokieSports.com. The broadcasts will include a pregame interview with coach Pete D'Amour, as well as pregame and postgame coverage.

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	A	L	E	D	E	N	I	E	D			
I	R	C	U	D	N	O	N	E				
M	A	S	E	R	U	E	D	I	T	I	N	G
A	N	I	M	A	L	G	E	N	I	T	O	R
M	I	C	E	L	L	E	A	S	N	A	M	A
		A	X	E	L	G	L	I	M			
C	B	S		S	O	R	E	L	Y	A	P	
L	E	K	S		N	A	S	A				
A	L	U	M	B	E	E	L	A	P	S	E	D
M	A	L	O	D	O	R	A	L	U	M	N	I
S	U	L	T	A	N	A	K	A	R	A	T	E
	H	I	N	T		E	M	S		O	D	
B	E	L	I	E	D		R	O	E			
W	R	Y	E	S	T		S	S	R			