

NEWS JOURNAL

Saturday, May 6, 2023 • USPS 387-780 • ourvalley.org • \$1.00

Registration now open for Field of Honor 2023

RADFORD – The Radford Noon Rotary Club is honoring veterans, first responders and others in a new project that will also raise funds for scholarships and other Rotary efforts.

The Field of Honor has been installed on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery and will be displayed until the Fourth of July. The Radford Noon Rotary Club is looking for people to sponsor flags.

“You can sponsor a flag to display at Glencoe Mansion to honor a veteran, first responder, family member, teacher, an associate, or anyone else who has impacted your life,” the club announced.

Individual flags are \$50. Blue sponsorship is \$500 and includes five flags plus signage. White sponsorship is \$1,000 and includes 10 flags plus signage. Red sponsorship is \$2,500 and includes 10 flags plus premium signage. Flags will be on display at Glencoe



PHOTOS BY BELINDA BLODGETT

See **Field**, page 4

Members of the Radford Noon Rotary club and volunteers erect the sign at the Field of Honor.

Radford University Spring Commencement ceremonies continue today at 10 a.m.

RADFORD - Radford University will hold its undergraduate spring commencement ceremony today.

The ceremony is set to begin at 10 a.m. at Moffett Lawn on the Radford University main campus.

Laurie Shelby '83, a Tesla Inc. executive, will speak at the ceremony. Shelby is a human and organizational performance expert known for her “new view” thinking to drive improvements. Since 2017, she has served as the vice president of environmental, health and safety (EHS), sustainability and security at Tesla Inc. She leads worldwide EHS, sustainability and security for over 130,000 employees in the automotive, energy, and sales and service delivery

operations.

Organizers will monitor the weather forecast carefully. Light to moderate showers will not prevent commencement from being held outside at 10 a.m. on Moffett Lawn. If severe weather appears likely to impact commencement, regular updates will be provided via email to graduating students and shared on social media.

If moved to the Dedmon Center, the ceremonies would be scheduled as follows:

10 a.m.: College of Education and Human Development, School of Nursing and Waldron College of Health and Human Services

1 p.m.: College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences

4 p.m.: Artis College of Science and Technology,

College of Visual and Performing Arts, and Davis College of Business and Economics

The College of Graduate Studies and Research hosted a hooding ceremony for students receiving masters and doctoral degrees on Friday, May 5, in the Dedmon Center. The ceremony included students from all graduate programs at Radford University main campus, Radford University Carilion, Roanoke Higher Education Center and Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center.

Find more details on Radford University's spring ceremonies at www.radford.edu.

Submitted by Radford University

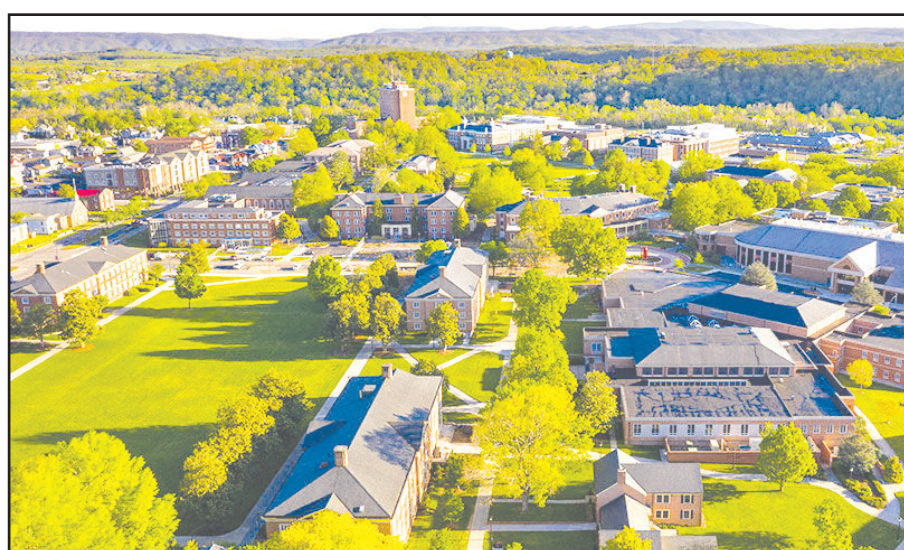


PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

An overhead view of the Radford University campus.

Four grad programs named among nation's best in U.S. News rankings

U.S. News & World Report released its 2023-24 Best Graduate School Programs rankings on April 25, listing four Radford University programs among the best in the country.

The Radford graduate programs included in the rankings are the Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.), Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.), Physician Assistant (PA) program and part-time Masters of Business Administration (MBA).

The Best Graduate Schools rankings

evaluate programs in a variety of disciplines, including business, education, engineering, law, medicine and nursing.

“Year after year, these Radford University graduate programs have stood among the nation's best,” President Bret Danilowicz said. “We're proud that these affordable, advanced degree tracks continue to attract ambitious healthcare workers and working professionals, which accelerates their career advancement. The

See **Rankings**, page 4



PHOTO BY CHASE PARKER FOR VIRGINIA TECH

The collection includes papers, photographs, and artifacts spanning former Congressman Rick Boucher's political career.

Former Congressman Boucher donates his collection of papers to Virginia Tech

BLACKSBURG — Close to four decades of records documenting political history and

progress in Southwest Virginia now reside in the University Libraries' Special Collections and

University Archives at Virginia Tech.

See **Boucher**, page 4

Shawsville man charged in 1992 cold case murder

New York authorities have charged a 58-year-old Shawsville man in connection to a 1992 murder.

According to reports, Jerry Lewis is facing a murder charge involving a 15-year-old female found naked and strangled in her Queens, New York home.

A grand jury indicted Lewis this past month, and he was arraigned in court earlier this week.

The incident took place in May

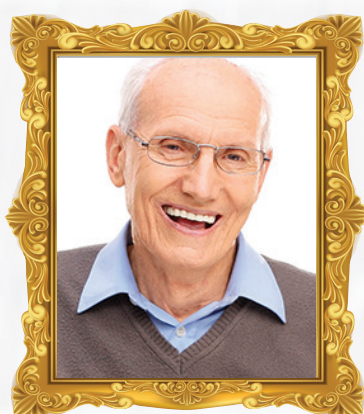
1992 when Nadine Slade was strangled by her own bra. She lived with her grandmother in a multi-family home in Far Rockaway. Lewis was present in the adjoining apartment on the night of Slade's death.

DNA found under Slade's fingernails was retested by a medical examiner and pointed to Lewis.

Radford News Journal staff reports

Grandpa's Coming Off the Shelf....

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, May 6:

Book Sale

There will be a book sale at the Radford Public Library, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Along with the usual subjects, there will be many, many children's books, cookbooks and jigsaw puzzles. Come to the sale and help support the Radford Public Library.

Free Comic Book Day

The Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library will be giving away free comics in celebration of Free Comic Book Day on Saturday, May 6. Free comics will be available for children, teens, and adults (limit two per person, while supplies last). All branches, all day event.

Afternoon Tea

You are cordially invited to an afternoon tea at the Meadowbrook Library; 1 - 2:30 p.m. Come out for an afternoon tea in the lovely Carilion Community Room. The tea will feature tea, light refreshments, a garden treasure hunt, and much more. Enjoy music by harpist Chloé Scales. Wear your tea party clothes and your hat if you wish to do so, but it is not a requirement. Recommended for ages 4-99. Space is limited, registration is required, sign up early. Children must be accompanied by an adult. This program is free! For more information contact the Library at 540-268-1964.

Monday, May 8:

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.

Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting

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

on Montgomery County Comcast and Shentel Channels 190 daily.

Tuesday, May 9:

Blacksburg Town Council meeting

Town Council meets in regular session the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month 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 televised live on WTOB Channel 2.

Christiansburg Town Council meeting

Regular Town Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers of Town Hall (100 E. Main Street). The public is welcome and encouraged to attend, with a citizen hearing time reserved at each meeting for residents to bring any matter they desire before the entire council.

Wednesday, May 10:

School Board meeting

Radford City School Board will convene for its regular meeting at 6 p.m., at the School Administration Building, 1612 Wadsworth St. The agenda for the meeting can be viewed at www.rcps.org.

Virtual Author Talk with Jena Friedman

Hosted by the Radford Public Library; 8 - 9 p.m. Celebrity comedian and Oscar-nominated screenwriter Jena Friedman's debut collection, Not Funny, takes on the third rails of modern life in Jena's bold and subversive style, with essays that explore cancel culture, sexism, work, celebrity worship, and...dead baby jokes. In a moment where women's rights are being rolled back, fascism is on the rise, and so many of us could use a breather as we struggle to get by, Jena applies her unique gifts to pull a laugh from things deemed too raw, too precious, and too scary to joke about. She shares her stories of taking on those who told her she was too brash, edgy, and "unlikable" to make it. She deftly dissects how we get coerced into silence on the issues that matter most until they've gone too far afield to be turned back around again. Register

now! <https://library.org/radfordlibrary>.

Friday, May 12 - Sunday, May 14:

West End Weekend

West End Weekend, a "jam-packed, art-filled celebration" at Glencoe Mansion and Long Way Brewing. Opening reception for the Radford Photo Club at Glencoe Mansion, Museum & Gallery, 5:30 - 7 p.m., Friday, May 12. On Saturday, May 13, West End Weekend Festival, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Features more than 30 artisan vendors, live music from The Breakfast Club and FloydFest On-the-Rise band Appalachian Space Train, four food trucks, and an array of craft beers. The event will take place on the upper lawn at Glencoe Mansion. As always, admission is free, but donations are welcomed. "Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, and well-mannered dogs, too!" On Sunday, May 14, Long Way Brewing will wrap up the weekend with Market Day at Long Way from 1 - 5 p.m. A dozen artisan vendors will be on site to browse and shop as visitors sip on Long Way Brewing's signature craft brews.

Saturday, May 13:

Mount Tabor Ruritan fish fry

Mount Tabor Ruritan Club will hold its May Fish Fry, 5 to 7 p.m. at Slusser's Chapel Picnic Shelter, 1543 Mount Tabor Rd, Blacksburg. Serving fish, fries and slaw; homemade desserts; and beverages. DJ Earl Brown will be spinning some hits to get the 2023 fry season off to a swinging start! Adults-\$12, children under 12 - \$6, (under 3)- free, carry-outs- \$12. Held rain or shine. Call or text 540-449-6178 for further information. On Facebook at MtTaborRuritan.

Wednesday, May 17:

VR Wednesday

At the Radford Public Library; 2- 3 p.m. Come take a hike, paint a masterpiece, or explore the international space station at the library! Try all these things and more using our new Meta Quest 2 VR headset. If that's not a

good time for you, email duncan.hall@radfordva.gov to schedule a time for a 30 minute demo!

Thursday, May 18:

Sons of Confederate Veterans

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

On-going:

Glencoe Mansion announces call for art for Mary Draper Ingles Show

Glencoe Mansion is calling for art for its July-August 2023 Gallery Exhibit, "A Journey For All," a multi-artist show themed on the life and times of Mary Draper Ingles. Accepted artwork should reflect the life and times of Mary Draper Ingles, expressions of life during the colonial period, and histories of all the peoples, from settlers to indigenous cultures to enslaved people, who called the frontier home. This includes, but is not limited to, depictions of local landmarks (for example, Ingles Farm, the Cultural and Heritage Park, Ingles Tavern and other connected sites in the region), and Colonial style art. All fine arts and fine craft media including painting, plein air, illustration, digital media, textiles, mixed media and photography will be considered. Artists may submit up to three (3) artworks for consideration. Applications will be accepted through 5 p.m. on June 13. Participation, which is subject to acceptance, is open to artists in and around the NRV area. Entry forms for "A Journey For All" can be found at www.glencoe mansion.org or by contacting arts@glencoe mansion.org.

Radford Farmers Market

2023 season of the Radford Farmers Market kicked off Saturday, April 22 on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Galley, located just off West Main Street, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. each Saturday until October 14.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KRISTINA ROSE PHOTOGRAPHY

The new Bee & Butter features local, seasonal ingredients and regional cuisine.

New rooftop restaurant and bar, 'Bee & Butter,' opens at the Highlander Hotel

RADFORD - The Highlander Hotel Radford's rooftop restaurant and bar, Bee & Butter, is now open and accepting reservations. With a culinary team led by Executive Chef James Kirby and Sous Chef Amy Murray, the new Bee & Butter features local, seasonal ingredients, regional cuisine, and stunning mountain and campus vistas.

Kirby is a veteran of a wide array of fine and

casual dining restaurants including the legendary three Michelin-star restaurant The Inn at Little Washington, where he rose to sous chef during his five-year tenure. He has also worked at other notable locations in and around the nation's capital region including Blue Duck Tavern, the Watergate Hotel, and L'Ardente. Kirby has helped train the next generation of chefs as a culinary instructor and owns an organic farm where he cultivates the best produce to supply to top restaurants across the state.

"This is a region with great foodways and traditions," Kirby said. "At Bee and Butter, we'll be using seasonal, local ingredients to bring guests a taste of the Blue Ridge with a twist. We're working with as many food producers in the area as we can to bring an elevated dining experience to locals and visitors alike in a beautiful but relaxed

atmosphere."

Sous Chef Amy Murray also brings an impressive culinary resume. Prior to joining the Highlander Hotel Radford team, she worked at a wide range of restaurants across the U.S. including celebrity chef Tom Colicchio's establishment, Temple Court in New York City's Beekman Hotel.

"I've worked with Chef Kirby before, and I am excited to be part of this new hotel and dining experience," Murray said. "I love using special ingredients and fun techniques to offer an exceptional dining experience and this rooftop dining experience lets me do all of that while still being a bit whimsical in our delivery."

Reservations can be made through Open Table at www.opentable.com.

Submitted by Highlander Hotel

Five Radford residents named outstanding students at NRCC



Ashton Tuell



Jairen A. Cheek



Jordan Naff

Five students from Radford were recently recognized as 2023 Outstanding Students in a Curriculum/Subject Area by New River Community College.

Students from Radford who were honored included Marcie Michelle Buckland, public speaking; Jairen A. Cheek, engineering computer science; Jordan Michelle Naff, electronics technology; Ashton Sherri Tuell, word processing; and Ryan Robert Zembrzusi, electrical engineering technology.

Students were recognized at the recent President's Awards Ceremony at the college and received a plaque honoring their award. Students are also being individually recognized on NRCC's social media outlets.

The awards were determined by the faculty in the various programs at the college. All students receiving the Outstanding Student in a Curriculum award have completed requirements for an associate degree, certificate, diploma or career studies certificate and are eligible to graduate from the college this spring or summer.

Submitted by NRCC



Marcie Buckland



Ryan Zembrzusi

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NRCC

FISH DAY

It's Time to Stock Your Pond!

DELIVERY WILL BE:
Thursday, May 18th

Christiansburg 12:00-12:45
@Southern States
Wytheville 1:45-2:30
@Farmers Milling & Supply

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NRCC announces 2023 graduation ceremony dates

New River Community College (NRCC) will celebrate its 53rd annual commencement on Friday, May 12 on the college's campus in Dublin in 117 Edward Hall.

Students who graduate this year will have completed more than 900 degrees, certificates and diplomas in 77 different programs, with many graduates receiving multiple awards.

Students in the division of arts and sciences for the 2022-2023 academic year will be honored on Friday, May 12 at 4 p.m. Doors open at 3 p.m.

Students in the division of business and technologies for the 2022-2023

academic year will be honored later that evening at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Associate degree nursing students will graduate on Monday, May 15 at 6 p.m. in 117 Edwards Hall. Doors open at 5 p.m.

Nearly 300 students plan to participate in person in the three ceremonies.

Graduation ceremonies will be livestreamed for family, friends, and others to view off-campus. To view the ceremonies online, visit NRCC's graduation webpage at www.nr.edu/graduation.

- NRCC

NRCC philanthropist honored at 2023 Chancellor's Award for Leadership in Philanthropy event

RICHMOND – New River Valley Health Foundation has received the 17th Annual Chancellor's Award for Leadership in Philanthropy.

The foundation was nominated for the award by New River Community College (NRCC).

"The leaders of the New River Valley Health Foundation have earned a well-deserved reputation for visionary sponsorship of important healthcare initiatives," said NRCC President Pat Huber. "We are pleased and grateful that they have extended their generous support to New River Community College students who are preparing for careers in nursing."

More than two dozen individuals, families, and organizations earned the 2023 Chancellor's Award for Leadership in Philanthropy. The awards were presented at a luncheon ceremony in Richmond on Tuesday, April 18, 2023. New VCCS Chancellor Dr. David Doré was the keynote speaker.

"It is a privilege and an honor to be in the company of such an esteemed group of philanthropists," Doré observed. "Were it not for your generosity, some of our students would have to put their hopes and dreams on hold, while others might have to abandon them altogether. Thanks to you, however, our students will be able to work in an environment that is relatively free of the kind of



PHOTO COURTESY OF NRCC

Representatives from the New River Valley Health Foundation include (front row) Joe Sheffey; (back row) Kevin Stoner, Mike Barber, and Fred Newhouse.

financial pressures that can paralyze or even derail their forward progress, and for that, we are extremely grateful."

The annual event, hosted by the Virginia Foundation for Community College Education (VFCCE), honors leading philanthropists from each of Virginia's 23 community colleges as well as the statewide foundation. Recipients are nominated for their outstanding commitment to the growth and development of Virginia's community colleges and their respective foundations.

This year's class of distinguished philanthropy leaders has collectively contributed \$14 million dollars to Virginia's Community Colleges.

The NRCC Educational Foundation is a nonprofit corporation established in 1980 that secures voluntary support and manages funds solely for the benefit of New River Community College. Members of the Foundation Board of Directors represent the counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski, and the City of Radford.

- NRCC

Esports 'Valorant' team wins first championship

Before leaving campus for the summer, the Radford University esports Valorant team hit pause for a moment on Friday, April 28, to pose for photographs with a special guest to their arena:

President Bret Danilowicz.

The group got a visit from the university's leader, among other perks, for winning their first-ever championship for the game in the Mid-Atlantic Esports Conference. The

five-member Radford Valorant team secured the title in a best-of-three matchup, losing the first contest but winning the final two games, both in

See Valorant, page 6



Marketplace



ourvalley.org

The Fincastle Herald
The Vinton Messenger
The New Castle Record
Salem Times-Register
News Messenger
Radford News Journal

Legals - City of Radford

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 806 9TH STREET, RADFORD, VA 24141.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated July 31, 2006, in the original principal amount of \$120,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Radford City, Virginia as Instrument No. 0601178. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for the City of Radford, 619 Second St., W., Radford, VA on June 5, 2023, at 1:45 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: BEING ALL OF LOT 3, BLOCK 6 AS SHOWN ON THAT CERTAIN MAP ENTITLED, "MAP OF SUNSET VILLAGE, CITY OF RADFORD, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA", DATED JULY 28, 1947, BY CHILDRESS HALL, SURVEYOR, RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE CITY OF RADFORD, VIRGINIA, IN DEED BOOK 47, PAGE 258. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwvsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more

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information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwvsales.com. VA-361849-1.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING City of Radford

Appropriation Ordinance for School Board Budget Amendment Radford City Council will hold a public hearing on May 8, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers located at 10 Robertson Street for the purpose of receiving public comments on the City's proposed budget amendment of \$11,690,529 to the School Board Budget for F.Y. 2023.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF RADFORD, VIRGINIA

WATER AND WASTE WATER RATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

Pursuant to Section 15-2-107 of the Code of Virginia, notice is hereby given that a public hearing is scheduled for 7:00 P.M. May 8, 2023 on the proposed Water and Waste Water Rates for Fiscal Year 2024. Interest parties are invited to attend the public hearing and present their views. The hearing will be held in the Council Chambers located at 10 Robertson Street. FURTHER, notice is given that the Council's intention to propose an increase in the following Water and Waste Water rates for Fiscal Year 2024:

1. Water rates are programmed to increase from \$16.32 to \$20.32 for 4,000 gallons.
2. Waste Water rates are programmed to increase from \$12.21 to \$14.24 for 2,000 gallons.

BY THE ORDER OF RADFORD CITY COUNCIL

MAKE AN "A" IN ADVERTISING!

To place your ad, call 389-9355

Legals - Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL

The Town of Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on, Tuesday, May 23, 2023, 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. Rezoning request by RWW36, LLC, Property Owner, and Christiansburg VA (SEQ US Highway 460 and Roanoke) LLC, Applicant, to rezone approximately 1.976 acres located at the southeast corner of Rt. 460 Bypass and Roanoke St. and identified as Tax Parcel 529 - ((A)) - 48, Parcel ID 230045; from General Business District B-3 to Limited Industrial District I-1. The property is partially 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 Andrew Warren, Assistant Town Manager, at (540) 382-6128, Ext. 1130 or by email at awarren@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

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Legals - Montgomery County

approximately 2.00 acres located at 4600 Roanoke St., identified as Tax Parcel 503- (A)-37, Parcel ID 010304; from Limited Business District B-1 to 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 Andrew Warren, Assistant Town Manager, at (540) 382-6128, Ext. 1130 or by email at awarren@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

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Legals - Montgomery County

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Legals - Montgomery County

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Legals - Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. 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 an unbuild right-of-way vacation request by Denstock LLC for the vacation of an unimproved 0.169-acre portion of the eastern most end of Farmview Road, NE right-of-way. Information on the preceding ordinance, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073-3029 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Andrew Warren, Assistant Town Manager by phone at (540) 382-6120 ext. 1130 or by email at awarren@christiansburg.org with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations. Written comments may be sent to the preceding address; please allow adequate mailing time.



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Rankings

from page 1

inclusion of the outstanding PA program at Radford University Carilion in this ranking is well deserved, as its reputation and its 100% licensure pass rate have attracted high-performing students from across the nation to our Roanoke location.”

Radford University is a comprehensive public university of 7,718 students that has received national recognition for many of its graduate and undergraduate academic programs. In addition to robust academic offerings and engaging student experiences

on the main campus located in Radford, Virginia, Radford University also offers a clinical-based educational experience for some 1,000 students living and learning in Roanoke, Virginia, as part of Radford University Carilion, a public-private partnership focused on the cutting-edge delivery of health sciences programming, outreach and service.

“When prospective students are considering their options for graduate school, the Best Graduate Schools rankings

are designed to help them identify schools that excel in the program they want to study,” said LaMont Jones, senior editor of education at U.S. News. “With many options available, U.S. News provides a wealth of data in an easy format to help each student make the best decision.”

Prospective students can see how Radford University compares to other institutions and how the rankings are calculated on USNews.com.

By collecting graduate school data

annually, U.S. News & World Report is able to present the most current figures on enrollment, job placement, faculty and other critical quality indicators that help prospective students make informed decisions.

To learn more about the U.S. News & World Report rankings and methodology, visit www.usnews.com/best-graduate-schools.

Chad Osborne for Radford University

Field

from page 1

Mansion from Memorial Day to the Fourth of July. On July 5, donors can come pick up their flags, or the club will store them until next year. Anyone who wants their flag displayed again next year just pays a \$15 fee to re-display.

Money raised through the project

will benefit scholarships to Radford High School students attending Radford University, polio eradication, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery, Radford-Fairlawn Daily Bread, Elf Shelf, the Women’s Resource Center, Sleep in

Heavenly Peace, Vittles for Vets, Beans and Rice, the Wheelchair Foundation, Wonder Universe Children’s Museum, Shelterbox and Sunset Garden.

All flags are made in the USA. For further questions, and to register, contact Tom Alston with Radford Noon Rotary

at rotary.club.of.radford.noon@gmail.com. You can also register at this link: <https://registrations.dacdb.com/Register/index.cfm>.

Radford News Journal staff report

Boucher

from page 1

The collection features 76 boxes including 6,111 folders and 72 awards spanning former Congressman Rick Boucher’s political career.

Boucher was a member of the Virginia Senate for seven years before being elected U.S. representative

for Virginia’s 9th Congressional District in 1982, a position he held until 2011. With 28 years of service, he is the longest-serving representative in the history of the 9th District.

He gifted his collection to the University Libraries at

Virginia Tech to make it available to all who wish to learn from it. Special Collections and University Archives Project Archivist Bess Pittman arranged and described items in the collection to create a detailed finding aid and other access tools for researchers.

“The collection reflects Rick Boucher’s professional work, including correspondence, numerous handwritten presentations he delivered in committees and on the House floor, hundreds of photos, awards, memos from his office, newsletters, brochures, pamphlets, campaign materials – basically everything that came in during his work as a congressman and state legislator,” said Pittman.

Throughout his political career, Boucher worked with many universities and colleges. But when it came time to gift his materials, he chose Virginia Tech.

“I had a long association with Virginia Tech, working actively with four Virginia Tech presidents. It was the largest institution of higher learning in my district and its largest employer, and I wanted my papers to go there given how respected the institution is. The university’s acclaimed technical expertise appealed to me because a lot of this collection now has the capability of being made digitally accessible by anyone who has internet access,” Boucher said.

At this point, a small digital exhibit provides

online researchers a sampling of just over 200 items from the collection. Archivists are now working to add more digital content from the collection to the site. Pittman was responsible for organizing all of the materials into one cohesive collection, a process that took nearly a year. She believes the expansive collection contains information that will prove invaluable for historians, students, and researchers.

“It offers some really amazing insights into the work that goes into governing a region. The primary focus is the 9th District, but you can see the ripples into the broader work that Boucher was involved in,” she said.

Specifically, Pittman noted how instrumental Boucher was in the commercialization of the internet. He was the lead author of the 1992 legislation that, when signed by President George H.W. Bush, for the first time allowed commercial content on the internet, enabling money to be made online and ushering in the world of electronic commerce and revolutionizing the global economy. After Boucher’s legislation was signed into law, electronic commerce was born in the United States and then spread to the rest of the world. Given its centrality to today’s economy, we can hardly imagine a time when it did not exist.

“The internet really has had such a profound impact on global society,” Pittman said. “It would have been impossible to know at the time exactly

how world-changing this technology would be, and yet, he decided the time for a new digital era had arrived. His impact in making electronic commerce a reality cannot be overstated.”

Among the papers are materials reflecting Boucher’s deep involvement in the major legislation shaping telecommunications policy over a quarter of a century, including the Communications Act of 1996 of which he was a sponsor. The collection also reflects Boucher’s work as the lead author of the legislation creating Virginia’s first national forest wilderness areas and his papers and handwritten presentations from President Bill Clinton’s impeachment, during which he was selected by House Democratic Leader Dick Gephardt to take the lead in the Judiciary Committee and on the House floor as a primary sponsor of the Democratic censure motion as an alternative to impeachment.

Boucher’s work as a subcommittee chair fashioning comprehensive legislation to control greenhouse emissions as a response to the challenge of climate change also is reflected in numerous handwritten presentations he made as the legislation advanced.

In the collection are extensive files from the time that as a state senator he carried to passage comprehensive legislation reforming the state’s criminal sexual assault laws and the state’s drug laws.

A lot of hard work

goes into archiving a collection of this size, but for Pittman, it’s all worth it.

“An archive exists as a way to transmit the voices of the past through history and into the future. Without repositories like this, we lose so much of our cultural context. We lose so many of those voices. By preserving them, we allow people to gain the wisdom of the past, and we can do research about the people and places that made us who we are.”

Boucher hopes that this collection can influence others to be involved in public service and advance ideas that promote positive change.

“Public service was very important to my family,” Boucher said. “I learned at an early age from my bipartisan parents that it’s one of the best ways for a person to make a meaningful contribution to society. I hope that people accessing this collection get a sense of what active involvement on behalf of a region and a country can be, and what can be achieved if a person applies time and attention in the public sphere for the benefit of others.”

Researchers interested in Boucher’s collection should explore the detailed finding aid to help target material of interest. Because of the large volume of material, the collection is housed at an offsite facility which requires advanced notice for retrieval.

Ann Brown for Virginia Tech

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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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CLUES ACROSS

1. Abu __, U.A.E. capital
6. Herring-like fishes
11. 55120 MN
12. Indigo bush
13. Pollyanna-ish
15. Pleasing to the ear
18. Parcels of land
19. Microns (alt. sp.)
20. Cooking containers
21. Express pleasure
24. Meat from a calf (alt.)
25. 7th Greek letter
26. Operated the sales register
30. Blueprint for the day
32. Congressperson (abbr.)
33. Angle (abbr.)
35. Fragrant health promotion
43. Trespasses

CLUES DOWN

1. Having a sophisticated charm
2. Minute amounts (Scott.)
3. Turkish leader’s title
4. Used for hitting the ball in various games
5. Not out
6. South Dakota
7. Possessed
8. Grad
9. UPS driver
10. Fired
13. In a way, augmented
14. River in SE S. Am.
16. Division of geological time
17. Follows sigma
21. Sign language
22. Expression of surprise
23. Hull Identification Number
26. Salmwood
27. Associated Press
28. Half of an em
29. Networks in Spanish
31. Dough fermenting agent
34. Auto fuel
36. An alternative
37. Manuscripts (abbr.)
38. Digested
39. Darjeeling or green
40. Horsepower
41. 1985 Formula 1 champion
42. Expression of alarm
43. Gain possession
45. Own (Scottish)
46. Snake-like fish
48. Dicer
50. A fresh
51. Hindu mother goddess
53. Before
54. Code for dash
56. Atomic #52
57. Millisecond

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OBITUARIES

Tallant, Elma Mae Thompson

Elma Mae Thompson Tallant, 78, of Dublin, passed away on Monday, May 1, 2023.

She was preceded in death by her parents, George Allen Collins and Bessie Virginia Thompson; her husband, Gene Thomas Tallant; and her daughter, Angela Mae Tallant.

Survivors include her son, Eugene Thomas Tallant, Sr.; grandchildren, Monique Barber (Markee), Thomas Tallant (Linda) and Mandy Tallant (Patrick); great-grandchildren, Destinee Landreth (Justin) and Brice Wall; great great-granddaughter, Emersyn; sister and her children and their



families, Jean Tate, Allen, Ricky, and Wanda; cousin, Kathy Surface (Jerry); and many other nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 6, 2023 at the Fairlawn Church of God with Pastor Marcus Harrison officiating. Interment will follow in Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin. The family received friends on Friday evening at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford.

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

McLeod, II, Donald Wilson

With sadness, the McLeod family of Blacksburg announces the passing of Donald Wilson McLeod II on Saturday, April 29, 2023. He was 84.

Funeral services were held at McCoy Funeral Home in Blacksburg. The family received visitors Tuesday, May 2, 2023, followed by a service with Tullio O'Reilly and Pastor Jamie Hutton officiating. A graveside service and interment were held Wednesday, May 3, 2023, at Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Christiansburg.

Always known as "Mac," he was born on September 7, 1938, in Saginaw, Mich., to Donald Wilson Sr. and Barbara "Ann" McLeod. A graduate of St. Francis Seminary in Mt. Healthy, Ohio, he became a robed Franciscan Deacon in the Catholic Church. After two years at Duns Scotus College, he entered the United States Navy, went to EMT School in 1959, and graduated from Pharmacy School in Portsmouth, Va.

Mac earned his associate degree from Cleary Business College and received the Silkworth Award as Outstanding Student in Accounting in 1977. In 1978

he also earned his Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Management summa cum laude.

A long-time resident of Hamburg, Mich., Mac graduated from Field Medical School in Oceanside, Calif., Preventive Medical School in Hawaii, Management School in New Orleans, La., Emergency Medical School in Phoenix, Management School in Groton, Conn., and Medical Entomology in Jacksonville, Fla.

Additionally, Mac was Medical Administrator at University of Michigan in 1970, a Specialist and Group Leader at the former W.J. Maxey Boys Training School in Whitmore Lake, Michigan, and a United States Navy Medical Chief in 1970, Senior "Super" Chief in 1980. He was promoted to Master Chief in 1986.

A recent attendee of several local churches, including The Dwelling Place and Victory Restoration Church, he was active in several area Bible studies.

See Obituaries, page 6

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

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 steadfast, 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: fbcradford.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.trinitycburg.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

OUR PATIENT GOD

Read 2 Kings 14:1 through 16:20

And since the Lord had not said he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven, he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam son of Jehoash (2 Kings 14:27).

Reading through the Old Testament can seem like an exercise in frustration. We read about privileged people who regularly rebel against God and get themselves into trouble. God becomes angry at their constant attraction to sin, and threatens to punish them. From truly remorseful hearts, they repent in sackcloth and ashes, and God stays His hand. He keeps His word by punishing the ringleaders or by allowing them all to go into slavery. However, He always comforts and rescues them. Why, we wonder, do they never learn their lesson?

Interestingly, if we are honest with ourselves, we might just see our own failings mirrored in the lives of these Israelites. Like them, we, too, experience the loyal heart of a God who is unwilling to leave us in our sin and never ever willing to abandon us.

Challenge for Today: Read through the entire Old Testament this summer. Rejoice in God's long-suffering heart of love for you.

Quicklook: 2 Kings 14:23-27

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.us 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.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAR

Alleghany Regent, Debbie Haught, of the Alleghany Chapter of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution (at right), honors Evelyn Graves West (left) and Sharon Keith Thompson (center) for Outstanding Citizenship in the Community.

DAR honors two for Outstanding Citizenship in the Community

Alleghany Chapter of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution has honored Evelyn Graves West and Sharon Keith Thompson for Outstanding Citizenship in the Community. The nationally authorized awards were presented by Alleghany Regent, Debbie Haught. Over the last several years, 100-year-old Evelyn West has made and donated hundreds of knitted items to the Montgomery County Christmas store, including hats, scarves, and baby layette items. She also began the prayer shawl ministry at the Blacksburg United Methodist Church. Of the more than 1200 prayer shawls given to people, West has personally made over 400. During the award ceremony, when it was announced that she had given 132 items to the 2022 Christmas Store, West smiled and said, "I've already finished 62 for this year." Thompson is familiar to many

residents of Blacksburg because she has been actively involved in a number of activities around the immunity for more than 20 years. She led the beginning of Blacksburg Battles Cancer. The organization sponsors a golf tournament which has helped it to raise and donate more than \$300,000 to local people suffering from cancer. Thompson has been the volunteer coordinator for the Montgomery County Christmas Store and has recruited the increasing number of workers needed each year. She has also been a guiding light in the local Special Olympics program for several years. When asked to share their thoughts, both spoke of the satisfaction and happiness which comes to them when they help others. Haught expressed how pleased the Chapter was to be able to reward the women for their kindness and hard work for others.

- Alleghany DAR

Valorant from page 3



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

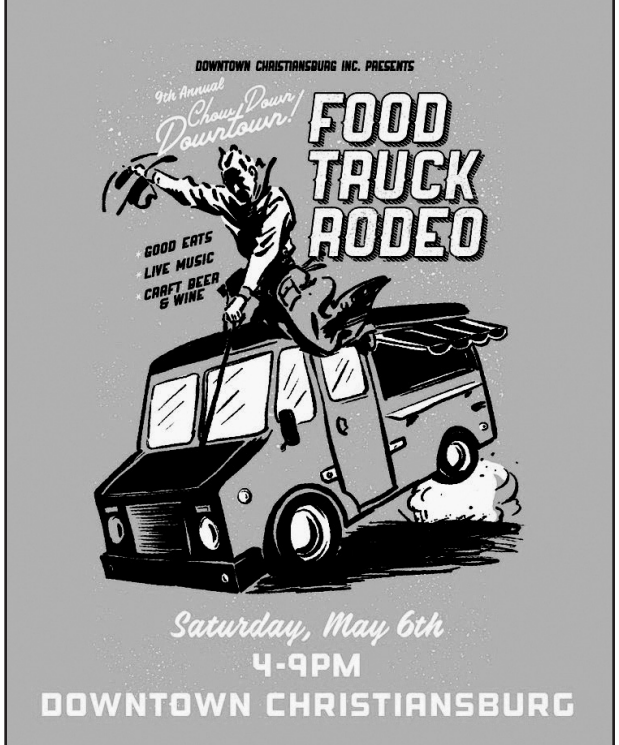
Radford University esports Valorant team hits pause for a moment on Friday, April 28, to pose for photographs with a special guest to their arena: President Bret Danilowicz.

exhilarating, heart-thumping fashion in overtime, against George Mason University in front of a live audience of 50 people in Shenandoah University's esports arena and about 1,500 more watching intently online. "We made a crazy comeback on the other team, and it was just surreal," said team member Chad Matthews, a junior biology major from Manassas, Virginia. "It was incredible. To pull off something like that is something you can only imagine." Teammate Brandon Danet, a junior information technology major from Newport News, Virginia, called the experience "electric," adding, "I play to win, and it was great to achieve that." Rounding out the Radford esports team are Sam Friedman, Andrew Guarino and James Spaulding. In addition to winning the tournament, the Radford players were

"regular season champions with a 7-1 record going into playoffs," said Esports Assistant Director Doug Benedict. The Mid-Atlantic Esports Conference comprises teams from George Mason, Old Dominion University, Virginia Commonwealth University, Randolph College, Shenandoah, American University and Catholic University. In February, the Radford esports team operated and competed in the Big South Conference's Esports Tournament in the Rocket League between conferment tournament basketball games inside the Bojangles Coliseum in Charlotte, North Carolina. When competing on its home turf, the Radford team makes use of the ultra-modern Esports Center inside Cook Hall, which has 40 game stations with high-powered PCs. Chad Osborne for Radford University

Food Truck Rodeo, hosted by Downtown Christiansburg, Inc., set for today from 4-9

CHRISTIANSBURG - The 10th annual food truck rodeo will be held in downtown Christiansburg today, Saturday, May 6, from 4-9 p.m., bringing food vendors, music, adult beverages, and family fun for all ages. Elli Travis, President of Board of Downtown Christiansburg, Inc., (DCI), shares that the festival is run by volunteers who work extremely hard to provide a great event for all community members. Three musical acts will be playing at this year's festival, Music Road Co Trio will play at 4 p.m., Ripe Jive takes the stage at 5:30 p.m., and new this year will be Deep Jeep DJ Set who will begin entertaining festivalgoers at approximately 7:15 p.m. There are some new vendors this year such as Giggles the Bus, providing some vegan food options, and The Coffee Bus which is optimally located by the dessert truck. Community members will recognize other vendors from Travis said well-behaved dogs are permitted, there will be painting and activities as well for children, and a group will be doing a diaper-changing station. A Kids Zone is available along Hickock Street and can be located on the map as well. "Bring yourselves and a friend, rain or shine the event will go on," Travis said, adding indoor seating will also be available in the Great Road Hall. The organizations' website, www.downtownchristiansburg.org, designates areas



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF DCI

experience of enjoying the whole festival," she said. There will be a couple of options for seating throughout the festival with community dining tables and seats, along with a dancing space in front of the stage near the Great Road Hall. Travis said well-behaved dogs are permitted, there will be painting and activities as well for children, and a group will be doing a diaper-changing station. A Kids Zone is available along Hickock Street and can be located on the map as well. "Bring yourselves and a friend, rain or shine the event will go on," Travis said, adding indoor seating will also be available in the Great Road Hall. The organizations' website, www.downtownchristiansburg.org, designates areas

for parking, as well as handicapped parking made available on Commerce Street. Food trucks/vendors include: Bootleg BBQ, Cabo Fish Taco, Giggles the Bus, Grandpa Ike's Mini Donuts, Mountain Grille, Spoons Shaved Ice, Tacos El Tio, Squeeze'um and Shake'um Refreshment, Countryman Jamaican Grill, Munch Box, Empanada Nirvana, Bluegrass BBQ, The Coffee Bus, 800 Degrees Wood Fired Pizza, The Blue Ridge Fudge Lady, Papa's Box, Local wine, spirits, and beer provided by: Iron Heart Winery, JH Bards Spirit Co., Blue Ridge Beverage (Craft and Domestic)

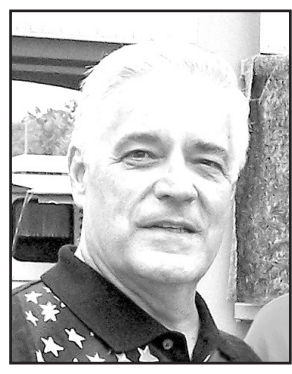
Obituaries from page 5

Mac was preceded in death by his parents; his wife of 33 years, Vera (nee Perfater of Merrimac); his brother, Robert "Bobby" McLeod; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Robert and Edith (nee Linkous of Floyd, Va.) Perfater. Mac is survived by his son, Donald "Donnie" McLeod III, of Blacksburg; and daughters Annette McLeod, of Whitmore Lake, Mich., and Carolyn

Kaye and her husband, Ben Hanneman, of Radford. He is also survived by grandchildren Peter McLeod, of Blacksburg, Joy (nee Hanneman) and her husband, Cole Blackburn, of Fairlawn; and Caleb Hanneman, of Reston, Va., his brother Bruce McLeod and his wife, Penny, and their daughter, Michaela, of Green Bay, Wisc.

Thomas, Robert Wilburn "Bob"

Robert Wilburn "Bob" Thomas (April 29, 2023) was born in Athens, Ga. on November 20, 1937. He leaves his son, Richard Gregory Thomas, of Zebulon, N.C.; daughter and son-in-law, Coleen Thomas and Philip Gerow, of Alexandria, Va.; brother, John Morton of Thomas, Calif.; granddaughter, Emily Thomas, of Cary, N.C.; sister-in-law, Jean Meier, of Rochester, N.Y.; special cousin, Buddy West and wife Charlotte, of Cary, N.C.; cousins, Millie Lisenby and Tom Yeager; and many friends. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 56 years, Betsey Thorne Thomas; parents, Bobbie Morton and E. Wilburn Thomas; and step father, E.H. Watson. Bob was a media professional, working in TV, radio and print. He began his career producing radio and tv shows for WGN radio and TV in Chicago. He was executive producer at WCNY-TV, Syracuse, N.Y. for several years. He designed, oversaw construction and managed radio stations in Hammondsport, N.Y., St. Louis, Mo., and Sioux City, Iowa, and oversaw funding and assistance to local public radio and TV stations nationwide for the Corp. for Public Broadcasting in Washington, D.C. Bob was cable administrator for Prince Georges County, Md., and Raleigh, N.C., before owning and operating WBLB radio in Pulaski, Va., with Betsey. He served as News and Public Affairs Director at Radford radio stations WRIQ and WRAD, and was for several years Radford Bureau Chief for the daily Southwest Times newspaper,



later also providing local stories and photos for the Radford News Journal, Roanoke Times New River Valley, and PC Patriot. He taught advertising at Radford University; briefly ran a local one-man ad agency, volunteered with the NRV United Way, and retired to continue his media activities for various area public service organizations. He co-founded the Radford Memorial Day Service and chaired its initial 21 annual events and EmCeed the city's Fourth of July event for several years. He served on the Board of Directors for Radford Fairlawn Daily Bread and Meals on Wheels. He was honored for various projects by the city, the Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Radford and others. He thanks his Church, Central United Methodist, Radford, and its members for support during Betsey's final days and his life thereafter. Special gratitude goes to friends Garnie Dishon, Tobbie Allen, Tommy Meredith, Eddie Crews, and former CUMC pastors Dale Gilbert and Don Shelor, among many others. His move to his final home at Ridgewood Senior Apartments was supported by several at CUMC, especially by friend Gayle Miller. At Bob's request, there will be no service and he will be cremated. Gifts may be made to CUMC, PO Box 611, Radford, VA, 24143, or to Radford Fairlawn Daily Bread, PO Box 3323, Radford, VA, 24143. The Thomas family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home and Crematory in Radford.

RADFORD SPORTS

Worley back to UK for another year, named gymnastics All-American

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Raena Worley is a small-town girl, who has continued to surprise the gymnastics world.

The Christiansburg native was recruited by several schools before she was 14-year-old, including the University of Kentucky, a South Eastern Conference powerhouse. She committed early and never thought twice. She was headed to Kentucky.

Of course, there were plenty of doubters, especially since she came from southwest Virginia, not your typical gymnastics hotspot. There was also the aspect that there was no high school program. Instead, she found the perfect little gym called Virginia Techniques.

Worley recently completed her fourth year at UK and the special recognition continues as she has been named a 2023 Women's Collegiate Gymnastics Association (WCGA) National Championship All-Americans. Monday, she announced her plans to return to UK for a fifth

year.

Worley is an eight-time WCGA All-American, receiving first team recognition for her all-around performance.

Earlier this season, Worley was recognized as a WCGA Regular Season All-American earning first team honors on floor and a second team nod for all-around.

This season alone, Worley has scored a 9.900 or higher in every meet on the floor exercise. Her highest mark in 2023 on the event was a 9.975 which she earned at Illinois tying her career best. She has tallied the near-perfect mark four times in her career placing first individually on the apparatus 17 times. Seven of those top finishes have been accomplished this season.

On the uneven bars, she has earned a season-best 9.925 scoring a 9.900 or higher eight times. She has recorded eight career individual wins on the event.

The Christiansburg native was also recognized as a second team all-around honoree. Throughout

her collegiate gymnastics career, the senior has recorded 20 all-around wins with seven individual victories this season. Her career-high all-around tally was earned at Illinois where Worley recorded a combined 39.775.

Worley has also been named a finalist for the 2023 Honda Sports Award, the Women's Collegiate Gymnastics Association (WCGA).

The Honda Sports Award is an annual honor, awarded to the best collegiate female athlete in each of the 12 NCAA-sponsored female sports. There are four nominees for each, and the 12 winners of the award are automatically in the running for the Honda-Broderick Cup to be named Collegiate Woman Athlete of the Year. Three other athletes are honored as the Division II Athlete of the Year, Division III Athlete of the Year, and Inspiration Award winner.

Worley is among Florida's Trinity Thomas, Oregon State's Jade Carey and LSU's Haleigh Bryant as one of four finalists in contention for the prestigious award.

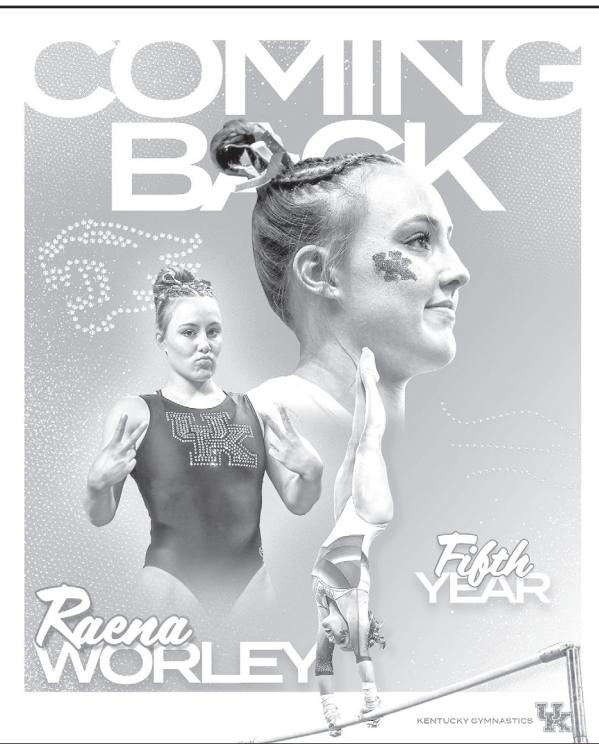


PHOTO COURTESY OF UK ATHLETICS
Christiansburg native Raena Worley is an all-around gymnastic performer at the University of Kentucky.

BHS student athletes ink for college

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Fourteen student-athletes from Blacksburg High School made it official Wednesday afternoon as they inked letters of intent to continue their careers in college. Those moving on include: David Ajayi, Zachary Davis, Emily Dickerson, Mia Farley, Kai Feng, Norah Guillot, Benjamin Hager, Katja Kehlenbeck, Hunter Konarski, Jack Nussbaum, Jonas Roach, Conner Rutherford, Rylee Sloss and Tharun Svetanant.

The group were introduced during a signing ceremony in the school's gymnasium.

Senior track and field athlete David Ajayi has committed to run collegiate track and continue his academic career at Christopher Newport University.

Ajayi is a two-year letterman in track and football and a member of the 2023 State Championship Indoor Track team and was also a member of the 4 x 200 team that broke the school record at the New Balance Indoor Nationals in Boston. He plans to study accounting at Christopher Newport University.

Zachary Davis signed his National Letter of Intent to run and continue his academic career at High Point University and study exercise science. Davis is a four-year member of the BHS Cross Country and Track teams and a captain of the cross-country team his senior year. He has been part of the 4X8 team that has participated in the 2022 Adidas Outdoor Nationals, Penn Relay and 2023 New Balance Indoor Nationals, an Adidas All American in the 4X8 in 2022, and a multi-year VHSL all state runner placing seventh in the 1000, first in the 4X4 and 4X8 in the 2023 indoor season as well as in cross country where he finished 10th at the state meet. He has also been awarded the BHS Cross Country Bruin award in 2022.

Senior third baseman Emily Dickerson has committed to play collegiate softball and continue her academic career at Pfeiffer University and is a four-year starter for the Bruins varsity softball

team. During her junior year she received the honors of first Team All-District utility, first Team All-Region Third Baseman, and Second Team All-State Third Baseman. She is also a member of the Maroon Crush softball organization. During her time with Maroon Crush, Dickerson has competed in two National Championships and countless other tournaments.

Varsity runner Mia Farley will run cross country and track and continue her academic career at the University of Radford. Farley is a three-year member of the Blacksburg Cross Country and Track Teams. In the past year, the Bruins have earned first-place finishes at the VHSL 4A Region D Cross Country Championship, VHSL 4A State Championship, VHSL 4A Region D Indoor Track Champions, and runner-up finishes at the VHSL 4A State Championships.

Farley has achieved All-Region honors in cross country and All-State honors in track while running for the Bruins. During her senior year, she placed 6th in the 1000m at the VHSL 4A Indoor Track State Championships and was part of the 4x800 relay that took first place. Mia has also been awarded the BHS Cross Country Bruin Award, the BHS Indoor Track Best Newcomer Award, and the Most Improved Award. In addition to running, she has been a starter on the Bruins Varsity Softball Team for four years, where she has received all-district and all-region honors.

Soccer player Kai Feng will continue his academic and athletic career at Virginia Commonwealth University. Throughout his high-school career, he has played club soccer for NC Fusion and VBR Star in the Elite Clubs National League and United Soccer League Academy. In the 2019-2020 season, he was selected for the Olympic Development Program East Region International Team to play in London, England. He has also played abroad in Spain, Germany, and the

Netherlands.

Most recently, Fend has been playing for Lynchburg FC's pro-development team in the United Premier Soccer League. He maintains a 4.0 GPA and plans to study mechanical engineering while attending VCU.

Swimmer Norah Guillot will continue her academic and athletic career at Virginia Tech. She is a Four-year state qualifier and placed top 8 all four years of high school in her individual events and led off the 200 medley that broke the 4A state record in 2021. The Bruin women's team won 4A states in 2021 and were runners up in 2020. Guillot was team captain this past season and has one individual school record and two relay records. Guillot has swum on her club team for the past 13 years and has nine relay team records and four individual team records. In 2020, she qualified for the NCSA Spring Championship and competed in Orlando, Florida.

Benjamin Hager, a senior track & field athlete has committed to run collegiate track and continue his academic career at Christopher Newport University. Ben is a 4-year indoor and outdoor track athlete. He is a multi-year VHSL All-State athlete and a member of the 2023 State Championship Indoor Track Team. Ben is a member of the school record indoor 4x400, outdoor Mixed 4x400 and most recently the indoor 4x200 team, which ran at New Balance Indoor Nationals in Boston. Ben is also a three-time recipient of the BHS Sprint MVP Award. Ben plans to study Marketing at Christopher Newport University.

Runner Katja Kehlenbeck has committed to run, jump, and pursue her academic career at Radford University. Kehlenbeck is a four-year Track and Field athlete as well as a varsity runner and team captain.

Her accomplishments include 2023 High Jump Indoor State Champion, 2022 Nike Indoor Nationals High Jump Emerging Elite Champion, 2022 Adidas Outdoor Nationals High Jump All American, 2022 Indoor High Jump Runner Up, 2023

Indoor High Jump and Long Jump Region 4D Runner Up.

She holds the school record for Long Jump as well as being awarded the Field Events MVP 2x, Best Jumper Award, and MVP award. Alongside her athletic career, she plans to major in Musical engineering.

Swimmer Hunter Konarski signed a national letter of intent to continue his academic and athletic career at Carson-Newman University. Hunter swims backstroke, breaststroke and individual medley and is a Four-year varsity team member (two years Owen J Roberts High School in PA and two years Bruins Swim & Dive Team Blacksburg High School VA).

In Pennsylvania, he played a significant role in assisting Owen J. Roberts Swim and Dive as PAC champions two years in a row as well as helping Blacksburg Swim and Dive place second at Class 4 State Championship. Hunter has been a part of the H2Okie Aquatic Swim Team and has been swimming since he was 6 years old. He works hard at practice every day and is one the most enthusiastic cheerers for all his teammates. Konarski plans to study Psychology and Exercise Science at Carson-Newman University.

Swimmer Jack Nussbaum has committed to swim and continue his academic career at Tufts University. He is a 4-year member of the Bruins Swimming and Diving Team.

Last season, he captained the boys to take second place at the VHSL Class 4 State Championships. Nussbaum was also a contributor when the team took second and first in 2022, 2021, and 2020 respectively. He is the first member of the Blacksburg team to win the Hanover Hawks invitational and took 2nd at States in the 100 breast-stroke. Nussbaum holds two BHS team records, earned the honor of All-American

Consideration, is a USA Swimming Scholastic All American, and is a member of the Virginia Swimming All Star Team. He has swum for his club team for 13 years and qualified for the US Open in the 200 breaststroke.

Runner Jonas Roach signed as national letter of intent to run and continue his academic career at the University of North Carolina Asheville. He plans to study sports science while attending. Roach was a team captain this year for both the Cross Country and Track & Field teams, and he has been a part of 2 state championship teams as well as national-qualifying relays.

He finished ninth in the state during cross country, winning all-state honors there. He placed 10th in the indoor 3200m after a shortened season. Lastly, he received the Lynchpin Award for the cross-country team this year. Jonas has been a runner on the BHS team for all four years of high school.

Distance runner Conner Rutherford has committed to continue his academic and athletic career on scholarship at the University of Georgia. Rutherford was the 2022 1600m Outdoor State Champion, 2022 Cross Country State Champion, 2023 1600m Indoor State Champion and a member of the 2023 Indoor 4x800 Relay State Championship team. He was a significant contributor to the 2022 BHS Boys Cross Country State Championship and the 2023 Boys Indoor Track State Championship.

As a BHS senior, he has set school records in the Cross Country 5k and Indoor 1600m, in addition to holding the #1 Virginia time in the two-mile, 3200m, one-mile, and 1600m his senior year. He was the 2022 Virginia Cross

Country Gatorade Player of the Year, Nike Cross Southeast Region Champion, and a Heisman Scholarship winner. He is the 2022-2023 Key Club Division 16/17 Lieutenant Governor, a yearbook editor, member of the National Honor Society, and member of the National Sign Language Honor Society. Conner plans to study Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management at the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources.

Volleyball setter Rylee Sloss will play collegiate volleyball and continue her academic career at Radford University. Sloss is a four-year member of the Blacksburg Volleyball team. In 2020, her team won the River Ridge District Championship and Region 4D Championship. she played a significant role when her team won the 4D Regional Championship in 2021 and also earning spot on the River Ridge District First Team and Region 4D First Team both her junior and senior year.

She's played club volleyball with River Valley Juniors for six years. In addition to volleyball, Sloss is the President of FCCLA, the Secretary for Habitat for Humanity, and a member of the National Honor Society. Rylee maintains above a 4.0 GPA and plans to major in Communications in college.

Senior wrestler Tharun Svetanant has committed to wrestle and continue his academic career at Washington and Lee University. Svetanant is a four-year varsity team member and captain of the BHS wrestling team and is a two-time regional champion, three-time state qualifier and two-time state placer. Svetanant is planning to study finance at Washington and Lee University.

game time AT THE SUPERBOWL

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Blacksburg girls slide by Salem



Salem goalkeeper Allison Kessel makes a save ahead of Blacksburg's Addison McSorley.



Claire Langlinois gets Blacksburg on the board with a first half goal.



Blacksburg's Ava Massjouni finds some space in front of the Salem goal for a first half score.



Blacksburg's Virginia Crawford keeps possession deep in Salem's half during a 2-1 win on Tuesday night.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Hokies sign as undrafted free agents



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Following the 2023 NFL Draft, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers signed Virginia Tech football offensive lineman Silas Dzansi as an undrafted free agent.

Dzansi joins fellow teammate Chamarrri Conner, who was drafted in the fourth round by the Kansas City Chiefs as a defensive back, as new Hokies who have joined the NFL ranks.

Three other Hokies will be vying for time at the next level, with wide receiver Jadan Blue going to the Chicago Bears'

minicamp, tight end Connor Blumrick heading to the Chiefs' minicamp and linebacker Dax Hollifield earning a tryout with the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Dzansi started all 11 games at left tackle, anchoring Tech's offensive line that allowed one or fewer sacks on three different occasions. He received the highest pass blocking grade among ACC tackles for his efforts against North Carolina on Oct. 1 according to Pro Football Focus. Dzansi, from Woodbridge,

Virginia, tied for the top PFF grade among offensive linemen on the team for the season.

The next step for the five Hokies are rookie mini-camps, which are two weekends in May for NFL teams to hold them — May 5-8 or May 12-15. Then the first session of OTAs (organized team activities) is May 22-25, which is an opportunity for teams to get their first up-close look at all players on their rosters in an organized setting.

Virginia Tech Athletics

RU adds player from portal

WELCOME TO RADFORD MEN'S BASKETBALL

TRUTH HARRIS

6'2" // 180 LBS

GUARD

MOUNT VERNON, N.Y.

INDIAN HILLS C.C.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RU ATHLETICS

Radford University head men's basketball coach Darris Nichols has announced the addition of guard Truth Harris.

He will join the Highlanders for the 2023-24 season.

"We are excited to welcome Truth to the Radford family and community," said Nichols. "He is a hard worker and loves the game. He has a combination of speed, athleticism, and shooting/playmaking ability that will be an immediate help to our program."

A 6'2", 180-pound guard hailing from Mount Vernon, N.Y., Harris gives the Highlanders an exciting new floor general who can score the ball and set his teammates up for success in equal measure. He was ranked as the No. 57 JUCO player in the nation by jucorecruiting.com.

Harris most recently played at national JUCO powerhouse Indian Hills Community College where he averaged 9.4 points, 2.3 rebounds, 2.2 assists and 1.6 steals per game while starting 16 of 34 games played. He shot 41.0% from

the field, 37.6% from three and 78.4% at the free throw line.

His strong play helped the Warriors each the JUCO National Tournament with his very best performance coming in a 37-point outburst with seven three-pointers against No. 9 Dodge City.

Prior to Indian Hills, Harris played one season at Pensacola State where he was named First Team All-Panhandle thanks to a stat-line of 12.9 points, 3.1 rebounds, 3.2 assists and 1.6 rebounds per game across 26 contests (24 starts).

After a standout career at Mount Vernon High School and Trinity Pawling Prep School, Harris signed with ETSU where he appeared in 18 games as a true freshman.

Harris will be joined by freshmen newcomers Trenton Walters and Trevor Roe, as well as Josiah Harris, who transferred into the program from St. Francis Brooklyn earlier this offseason.

Radford University Athletics