



Wednesday, May 17, 2023 • USPS 387-780 • ourvalley.org • \$1.00

The Catalinas kick off Radford's 2023 Summer Concert Series



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CATALINAS

The Catalinas, a beach music band, will be performing this Saturday on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion

RADFORD – Beach music sounds will be filling the air this weekend for the first concert of Radford's summer concert series.

The City of Radford is kicking off its 2023 Summer Concert Series this Saturday, May 20, featuring The Catalinas. The Catalinas first formed in 1957 in Myers Park High School in Charlotte, N.C. and celebrate their 65th anniversary in 2022, according to the band's bio at thecatalinas.net.

"The band's popularity is based primarily in southeastern U.S., however, The Catalinas music is played on radio stations in the UK, Greece and Australia to name a few," it reads. "Known for their quality, tight sound and energy onstage, they are

one of the "in demand" groups for city festivals, weddings and private parties, always playing a variety of music that suits all ages. Though known for beach music, regionally and nationally for the mega hit "Summertime's Callin' Me," The Catalinas play all styles to a high standard of excellence. "Summertime's Callin' Me" has become the anthem of North and South Carolina beach goers as they struggle through the winter waiting on summer to arrive."

The monthly concerts will take place on the fields of Glencoe Mansion, located at 600 Unruh Dr. in Radford. Admission is \$5 per person and children 12 and under are free. Food trucks will be available,

and the Radford Chamber of Commerce will be supplying alcohol for purchase.

"Bring a chair and come out and enjoy the sounds of summer," said Kim Repass, director of economic development and tourism for Radford.

Additional concerts for the series include:

Saturday, June 17: Cassette Rewind – 80's band
Saturday, July 22: Tee Tones- Doowop/ Motown/ Soul

Saturday, August 19: Chairman of the Board- Beach music

Saturday, September 23: Ryan Perry- country, with opening act Sofie Lynn.

-Radford News Journal staff report

Elementary schools to start each day at the same time

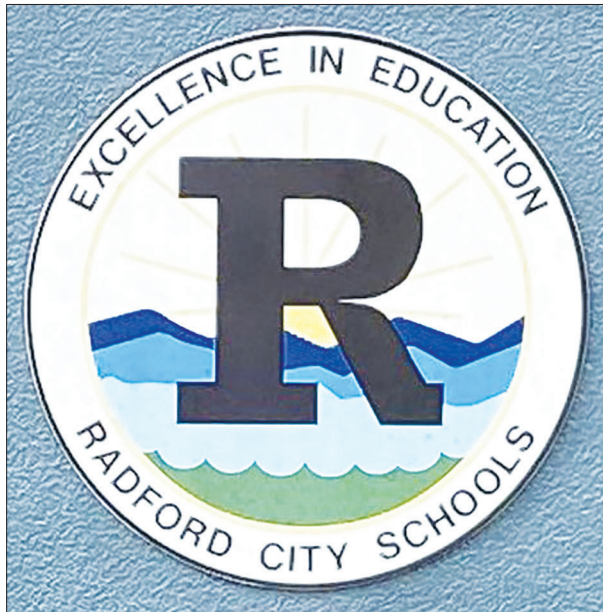
Heather Bell
Editor

RADFORD – Elementary school students in Radford will start school at the same time each day next school year, but it's not yet decided what time that will be.

"The results of the School Community Bell Schedule Survey for the 2023-2024 School Year were presented at the school board meeting, Wednesday, May 10, 2023," the school division announced May 11. "The majority of the survey respondents chose Option One which gives McHarg Elementary and Belle Heth Elementary an early release every Thursday."

Radford City Public Schools Superintendent Robert Graham said Monday the school division is still working out the details.

"We are still working on



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF RCPS

start and end times doing our very best to accommodate as many needs as possible throughout the school community," he said.

This survey option chosen by the majority of respondents "gives Dalton

Intermediate and Radford High School a traditional seven-period day each day of the week, Monday through Friday," the school division announced.

"The division is working with the middle and

secondary schools regarding additional planning time and may build in an early release or a late arrival on Thursdays as this was not included in the original seven-period traditional day schedule," the announcement continued. "RCPS continues to examine the elementary arrival times and is working to find a solution for those parents who must report to work before 8 a.m. The arrival and dismissal times of all schedules may be adjusted to allow the doors at the elementary schools to open earlier. Once we have worked through this challenge, the schedules will be made public. We appreciate your patience as we finalize those times for the 2023-2024 school year."

The 2023-2024 school calendar remains in effect with no changes. It can be viewed at www.rcps.org.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD HIGH SCHOOL
Congratulations to Radford High School Prom King TJ Aursby and Prom Queen Sarah Martin, who were crowned at RHS's prom, held Saturday at Nesselrod-on-the-New.

RHS crowns Prom king and queen

Crooked Road's Youth Music Festival Competition includes Radford winner



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CROOKED ROAD

The Crooked Road Youth Music Festival and Competition was held Saturday, May 13 at the Southwest Virginia Cultural Center and Marketplace. Prizes were given out for Fiddle, Guitar, Mandolin, Clawhammer Banjo, Bluegrass Banjo, Other (instruments, song and/or dance) and Band.

ABINGDON– Hollace Oakes, of Radford, was among the winners of the Crooked Road Youth Music Festival and Competition, held Saturday, May 13 at the Southwest Virginia Cultural Center and Marketplace.

Prizes were given out for Fiddle, Guitar, Mandolin, Clawhammer Banjo, Bluegrass Banjo, Other (instruments, song and/or dance) and Band. Over

\$1,100 in cash prizes were awarded and over 20 youth participated in the music competition. The event was emceed by Jim Lloyd, and judges included The Crooked Road's Artist-In-Residence Johnny Williams, Brett Morris and Tyler Hughes.

The winners included the following:

Banjo – Clawhammer – 1st: Margo MacSweeney,



COURTESY IMAGE

Floyd; 2nd: Josiah Wilkerson, Roaring River, N.C.; 3rd: Silas Wilkerson, Roaring River, N.C.

Banjo – Bluegrass – 1st: Ayden Young, Roanoke; 2nd: Berkley Stewart, Saltville, Va.; 3rd: Josiah Wilkerson, Roaring River, N.C.

See Youth Music Festival, page 4

UPCOMING EVENTS

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:

Community Quilting Bee
At the Blacksburg Library; 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Join us for our weekly quilting and sewing group. Bring your supplies and join us for conversation.

Meadowbrook Quilters
At the Meadowbrook Library; 6:30 – 8 p.m. All age groups and skill levels are encouraged to participate in this informal gathering of individuals who love quilting or just want to learn the craft. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month, in the Studio Room of the Meadowbrook Center.

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.

DIY Visual Stories & Schedules
At the Christiansburg Library; 4:30- 5:30 p.m. Visual stories are a great tool to help kids and adults understand routines and processes in our daily lives. Join us to make and laminate your own visual stories for common routines. Email acarpenter@mfrl.org for requests on pictures of a specific topic. All ages.

Waffles Club: A Young Writers' Meeting
At the Radford Public Library; 4- 5 p.m. Join us for a gently guided writing club for kids, aka the Waffles Club (Writing Association for Fun Loving Enthusiastic Students)! Together, we will work on responding to writing prompts, have some quiet writing time, and the opportunity to share work! Geared toward 8-12 year olds. Contact Morgan for more information at morgan.esterhuizen@radfordva.gov. Please bring your favorite writing materials!

Radford Photo Club - Gene Dalton
At the Radford Public Library; 6- 7:30 p.m. Join Radford Photo Club for their monthly meeting! This month, Gene Dalton, photojournalist retired from the Roanoke Times, will talk about taking a picture that tells a story, with examples from his career.

Friday, May 19:

Toy Swap
At the Blacksburg Library; 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Do you have toys your kids no longer play with, that you'd like to pass along to a new friend? Are you looking for new toys to engage your little one? Bring clean items to the library to swap. The event is free and open to everyone, even if you don't have supplies to swap. All leftovers will go to benefit organizations that support our local youth.

Saturday, May 20:

Music on the Lawn: Root 2 Music
At the Christiansburg Library; 6 -7:30 p.m. First

show of Music on the Lawn concert series. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets. This free concert is rain or shine. Root 2 Music draw on two of American music, Celtic and Deep South Country Blues. The duo consists of David Frank (guitar, slide guitar, harmonica, vocals) and Mary Beth Coffey (fiddle, percussion, vocals). You can visit them at <https://www.facebook.com/American-Roots-260081600850582/>.

Radford Reads with Angela Clevinger
At the Radford Public Library; 2- 3 p.m. Angela Clevinger, author of The Lady of the Lake Had Bouffant Hair, will provide a brief reading of her book followed by a signing and visiting session. Don't miss this entertaining and kind souled Appalachian artist, as she shares her life in poetic form. Books will be available for purchase at a cost of \$16.00 for one, \$30.00 for two, and \$45.00 for three books (check or cash)

Virtual Author Talk with Courtney Summers
Virtual, hosted by the Radford Public Library; 2- 3 p.m. Please join us for an exhilarating Saturday as we chat with New York Times bestselling YA Author Courtney Summers about her newest book, I'm the Girl. Thrill on every page, I'm the Girl follows sixteen-year-old Georgia Avis after she discovers the dead body of thirteen-year-old Ashley James and teams up with Ashley's older sister, Nora, to find and bring the killer to justice before he strikes again. I'm the Girl is a masterfully written, and unflinching account of how one young woman feels in her body as she struggles to navigate a deadly and predatory power structure while asking readers one question: if this is the way the world is, do you accept it? Register now! <https://libraryc.org/radfordlibrar>

Sunday, May 21:

Community Quilting Bee - Piece a Four Patch
At the Blacksburg Library; 1 – 3 p.m. Do your points not come together nor seams match? Come to learn tips for accurate hand or machine piecing. You may bring your own project to work on. All are welcome.

Chess Club
At the Blacksburg Library; 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Come learn chess with US Federation member Rishi. Ages 8+ all skill levels welcome. Supplies provided.

Monday, May 22:

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 23:

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 the 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.

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 Ingles (Colonial times). Can include depictions of local landmarks (Ingles Farm, the Cultural and Heritage Park, Ingles Tavern and other connected sites in the region), and Colonial style art. Painting, plein air, illustration, digital media, textiles, mixed media and photography will be considered - up to three works per artist. Applications will be accepted through 5 p.m. on June 13. Open to artists in and around the NRVA area. Entry forms at www.glencoe mansion.org or by contacting arts@glencoe mansion.org.

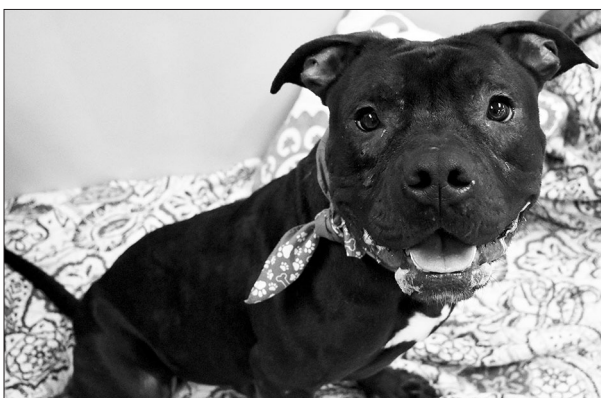
Blacksburg Farmers Market
Hours now through October: Wednesdays 2 – 6 p.m. and Saturdays 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. Located at Market Square Park, on the corner of Roanoke Street and Draper Road in downtown Blacksburg. Features growers of locally grown produce and meats, alongside artisans of baked goods, prepared foods, cheese, handmade crafts, and more.

Christiansburg Farmers Market
Thursdays; 3 – 7 p.m. Located in the Recreation Center parking lot. Features local farmers and vendors. Seasonal produce, plants, fresh baked goods, crafts, fresh flowers, handmade jewelry and more. Items for purchase vary week-to-week. Check our Facebook page for details about weekly themes, prizes, vendors, and live music.

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. Features produce, plants, baked goods, artisans, fresh squeezed lemonade, eggs, meats, cheeses and more.

Radford Field of Honor
Field of Honor on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery- displayed until the Fourth of July by the Radford Noon Rotary Club. Sponsor flags to honor a veteran, first responder, family member, teacher, associate, etc. Individual flags - \$50. Blue sponsorship - \$500, includes five flags plus signage. White sponsorship - \$1,000, includes 10 flags plus signage. Red sponsorship - \$2,500, includes 10 flags plus premium signage. Money raised benefits scholarships to RHS students attending Radford University, polio eradication, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, Glencoe Mansion, 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. Contact Tom Alston with Radford Noon Rotary at rotary.club.of.radford.noon@gmail.com or register at: <https://registrations.dacdb.com/Register/index.cfm>.

PETS OF THE WEEK



Rambo

Looking for a Snuggle Buddy? Artie may be your guy. He's a friendly dog who has a goofy side and has a never met a stranger! He will need some training to get the most out of walking with a leash and he will gladly sit for a tasty treat. Rambo is a good boy who is ready to be with his forever family. He is a smart doggo—knowing multiple commands—and is housetrained. Rambo would do best in a home where he is the only dog. Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center to meet him.

These pets and many others are available for adoption at the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center, 480 Cinnabar Rd., Christiansburg. Phone: (540) 382-5795.



Artie

CITY OF RADFORD

The City of Radford is seeking citizen representatives to serve on various Boards and Commissions. The organizations listed below have terms coming to an end. For more information on a particular Board or Commission, please visit the "Boards & Commissions" section of our website, www.radfordva.gov.

Anyone who is interested in serving on a particular Board or Commission is encouraged to submit a resume and brief letter of interest by **June 5, 2023** to:

City of Radford
Attn: City Clerk
10 Robertson St.
Radford, VA 24141

# of open positions/Agency name	Length of appointment/any restrictions
(2) Agency on Aging	one year appointments ending 6/30/2024
(1) Beautification Commission	three year appointment ending 6/30/2026
(1) Library Board (teen rep)	one year appointment ending 6/30/2024
(2) Recreation Commission	three year appointments ending 6/30/2026
(1) New River Valley Regional Commission	three year appointment ending 6/30/2026
(1) City/University Joint Advisory Commission (City Rep)	one year appointment ending 6/30/2024
(1) City/University Joint Advisory Commission (Real Estate Rep)	two year appointment ending 6/30/2025
(1) City University Joint Advisory Commission (Business Rep)	two year appointment ending 6/30/2025
(1) Building Code Board of Appeals	three year appointment ending 6/30/2026
(2) Planning Commission	four year appointments ending 6/30/2027
(2) Social Services Board	four year appointments ending 6/30/2027
(4) Tourism Commission	two year appointments ending 6/30/2025

NOTICE RADFORD RESIDENTS

The deadline for paying **REAL ESTATE TAXES** (first installment) for **2023** is **JUNE 5, 2023**.

All taxes must be paid no later than June 6, 2023 to avoid additional fees, penalty, and interest starting June 6, 2023. All payments made by mail must bear a postmark no later than June 5, 2023 to avoid penalty and interest.

Taxes may be paid in person, online or by mail:

Treasurer's Office
619 Second Street, Rm 164
Radford, VA
8:30 a.m. -5:00 p.m.
Monday-Friday

Authorized by:
Janet H. Jones, Treasurer
City of Radford, Virginia

Radford, Brazilian teams join for research on Internet of Things



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

A small group of Radford University faculty members and students recently teamed with researchers from Brazil to begin constructing a framework for a collaborative relationship focused on cybersecurity and entrepreneurship.

A small group of Radford University faculty members and students recently teamed with researchers from Brazil to begin constructing a framework for a collaborative relationship focused on cybersecurity and entrepreneurship.

Prem Uppuluri, Ph.D., a professor and director of Radford's School of Computing and Information Sciences, and Professor of Management Steve Childers, Ph.D., initiated the effort with the Senai Innovation Institute for Innovation and Communication Technologies.

Radford cybersecurity majors Keshawn Brooks and Sam Williams were part of the initiative, which included hosting five Senai researchers, some of who are doctoral students at the Federal University of Pernambuco, in Radford and Washington, D.C., in November 2022 before traveling to Brazil in late January 2023.

"Basically, we are doing research on the Internet of Things," Uppuluri explained, "and we decided that research would be the vehicle to start a collaboration."

The Internet of Things (IoT) is the network of physical computer devices – phones, watches, virtual home assistants, etc. – that transfer data over a network. Uppuluri and his students, along with faculty colleagues in the School of Computing and Information Sciences, are persistently researching and working on efforts to better secure IoT vulnerabilities and weaknesses.

Radford's collaborative efforts with Senai gained support through a grant from 100,000 Strong in the Americas Innovation Fund, an initiative by the United States Department of State to increase international study and promote "people-to-people exchange," it says, between the U.S. and Latin America and the Caribbean.

"Our goal for Radford undergrads working on cybersecurity is to team up with Senai so they can learn entrepreneurship, get exposure to international trade and work with partners from across the world," Uppuluri explained, "as well as learn technology from some of the top doctoral students from the Federal University of Pernambuco."

Initially, Uppuluri and Childers and the Radford students

met with the Brazilian group virtually, but using the grant, which supports travel, the Senai contingent visited Radford. They traveled to the nation's capital in early November, meeting with Radford alumni and entrepreneur Kevin Rogers '87 and later visiting the Federal Cyber Virtual Summit "to introduce the Brazilians to the latest trends in cybersecurity in the U.S. government," Uppuluri said.

The group also visited SkyePointe Decisions, founded by Bo Kimbrough '90. "He talked to us about the latest in cybersecurity and potential collaborations, and he wanted to find out from the Brazilian researchers what they were interested in," Uppuluri explained.

While in the D.C. area, Rogers set a Shark Tank-style event for the Brazilian group and Radford students to present to pitch their ideas for IoT solutions. The event was held at the Cyber Bytes Foundation, an incubator for cybersecurity companies in Northern Virginia.

"Radford University is fortunate to have so many of our alumni, like Kevin and Bo, stay active and give back of themselves," Childers said. "They help us bridge the theory and practice of our educational offerings. In this instance, it was helping our students see more clearly how a proposed value proposition is viewed from the customer's perspective."

After traveling back to Radford, the group met with Radford University President Bret Danilowicz, Ph.D.; Ismael Betancourt of the McGlothlin Center for Global Education and Engagement; Jeanne Mekolichick, Ph.D., associate provost for Research, Faculty Success and Strategic Initiatives; and the deans of the Artis College of Science and Technology and the Davis College of Business and Economics to discuss potential educational research collaborations. The group from Brazil also learned about Radford's Artis Center for Cybersecurity Research and Teaching Lab.

"I'm really excited about this project," Ricardo Brazieiro, a lead researcher at Senai, said during his time at Radford University. "I'm glad to be here in Radford to talk with the experts about how to create a bridge between Brazil and the

U.S. in cybersecurity. It's a good opportunity for us to work together on our security and safety."

In January, the Radford group visited Brazil, where they "had both cultural and technological collaborations," Uppuluri said, that included hiking through a rainforest and visiting historic sites in the cities of Olinda and Port de Galinhas.

On the business side of the trip, the Radford group met with Federal University of Pernambuco faculty members and visited software incubators in Recife. "We got a feel for the technological innovations happening there," Uppuluri said. And they had an opportunity to discuss cybersecurity research using artificial intelligence with leaders at Neurotech Information Technology and Tempus.

"There is great potential for Radford University to collaborate with Brazil, one of the largest economies in the world," Uppuluri explained. "Plus, the Federal University of Pernambuco has a huge undergraduate population, and that leads to a great potential for creating a pipeline for student exchange between Radford and higher education institutions in Brazil."

Senai business manager Ernani Azevedo agreed.

"We don't believe that anybody can do groundbreaking innovation alone, so we always partner up," he said, "and this is one of our first international partnerships. We are very excited and eager about what we can do with Radford University."

For Williams, a junior from Rock Hill, South Carolina, it was a dream scenario to have the opportunity presented to him by Radford University to work toward potential collaborations and learn from researchers in Brazil as well as from technology industry leaders there and in the Washington, D.C., region.

"My grandmother put it in a really good way," Williams said. "She said, 'You just don't understand how rare these opportunities are.' It's very true. I worked really hard to get to Radford because it is a place that offers these types of opportunities to students."

-Chad Osborne for Radford University

Beta Sigma Phi names 22-23 Woman of the Year

CHRISTIANSBURG - The Alpha Mu Master Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority of Christiansburg has named Phyllis Durham it's 2022-23 Woman of the Year.

"To be chosen as Woman of the Year is one of the greatest honors a chapter can pay to a member," Carolyn Sowers, the chapter's Publicity Chair, wrote in a chapter announcement, "and Durham exemplifies the characteristics that are known to Beta Sigma Phis the world over. Durham participated in all chapter activities and worked for the good of the organization and the community," Sowers wrote. "She served as the Chapter President this year."

Durham pledged to Beta Delta Chapter in Christiansburg in 1970 and has served in a variety of offices, including Recording Secretary several years, and on numerous committees. She has previously been honored as Woman of the Year and as Valentine Queen. She has received the Order of the Rose Ritual, the Silver Circle Ritual, and the Golden Circle Ritual, which recognized 50 years of active chapter membership.

She retired from Montgomery County Public Schools and resides in Christiansburg with her husband, Larry. They have two children and seven grandchildren.

The presentation took place at the Beta Sigma Phi Founder's Day Banquet, hosted by Alpha Mu Master Chapter, at The Holiday Inn in Christiansburg, on April 29. This event was the 91st observance of Beta Sigma Phi's founding and was observed with Xi Tau Chapter of Radford in attendance. The presentation was made by last year's Woman of the Year recipient, Sue Warden. Durham received an engraved trophy



PHOTO COURTESY OF BETA SIGMA PHI

Phyllis Durham

and a Woman of the Year charm to commemorate the honor.

-Submitted by Alpha Mu Master Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority

City seeks citizens to serve on Local Boards and Commissions

RADFORD - The City of Radford is seeking citizen representatives to serve on various Boards and Commissions.

The organizations listed below have terms coming to an end, so open seats will be available. For more information on a particular Board or Commission, please visit the "Boards & Commissions" section of the city's website, www.radfordva.gov.

Anyone who is interested in serving on a particular Board or Commission is encouraged to submit a resume and brief letter of interest by June 5, 2023 to: City of Radford, Attn: City Clerk, 10 Robertson St., Radford, VA 24141.

Boards and Commissions with openings include: Agency on Aging, Beautification Commission, Board (teen rep), Recreation Commission, New River Valley Regional Commission, City/University Joint Advisory Commission (City Rep), City/University Joint Advisory Commission (Real Estate Rep), City University Joint Advisory Commission (Business Rep), Building Code Board of Appeals, Planning Commission, Social Services Board, and Tourism Commission.

Music on the Lawn returns to Christiansburg Library

Christiansburg Library and the Friends of the Library are announcing the return of Music on the Lawn, a free concert series.

Each month, one talented local band will play a concert on the library lawn after hours. The 2023 line-up is as follows:

Saturday, May 20, 6 -7:30 p.m. – Root 2 Music

Saturday, June 10, 6 -7:30 p.m. – Virginia Hollow

Saturday, July 29, 6 -7:30 p.m. – Ash Devine

Saturday, August 26, 6 -7:30 p.m. – LP Kelly

Bring lawn chairs and blankets for an evening under the stars. Feel free to bring a picnic as well! In case of inclement weather, the concert will be held inside the library.

Saturday, May 20, 6 -7:30 p.m. – Root 2 Music

Root 2 Music draw on two of American music, Celtic and Deep South Country Blues. The duo consists of David Frank (guitar, slide guitar, harmonica, vocals) and Mary Beth Coffey (fiddle, percussion, vocals).

You can visit them at <https://www.facebook.com/American-Roots-260081600850582/>.

Saturday, June 10, 6 -7:30 p.m. – Virginia Hollow

Virginia Hollow is a band and a sound born from the hills, valleys, and mountains of Appalachia. Their performances and music take you on a journey fraught with raw emotions and stories of love, trust, betrayal and longing. When all is said and done, the haunting melodies of Carrie Hinkley's soulful voice are hard to shake off and instead keep returning and replaying in one's mind, like an untamed mantra of beauty and tragedy. This is a band whose time has come and needs to be reckoned with.

Carrie Hinkley: Vocals and Acoustic Guitar

Alan Graf: Guitar, Banjo, and Mandolin

Sue Winchester: Upright Bass and Harmony Vocals

You can visit them at <https://virginiahollow.com/home>.

Saturday, July 29, 6 -7:30 p.m. – Ash Devine

Ash Devine is an internationally touring award-winning songwriter, Appalachian style folk musician, song leader, teaching artist, and humanitarian clown based in the Blue Ridge region of Asheville, NC. Ash's music style spans several

genres of contemporary folk and Americana, traditional Appalachian music, old time country, blues, and world music. You can visit her at <https://www.ashdevine.net/>.

Saturday, August 26, 6 -7:30 p.m. – LP Kelly

The sound of LP Kelly comes broadly from the early days of American roots music: when bluesmen sang from front porches on hot afternoons; when swing bands played dances in speakeasies late into the night; when troubadours were tradesmen and not celebrities. From his base of operations in Blacksburg, VA, Kelly has worked tirelessly to encourage a renaissance in music that has a history and a place – not a watered-down Americana that could exist anywhere on the Internet, nor a rigid recreation of the past, but original music that demands the listener dig deeper to find its roots in geography and time. You can visit him at <https://lpkelly.com/>.

Bring family, friends and dancing shoes to these free concerts. For more information on this series of events please call the Christiansburg Library at 540-382-6965.

Youth Music Festival from page 1

Fiddle – 1st: Sam Wilkerson, Roaring River, N.C.; 2nd: River Smith, Johnson City, Tenn.; 3rd: Hollace Oakes, Radford.

Guitar – 1st: Croft Wilson, Yulee, Fla.; 2nd: Berkley Stewart, Saltville, Va.; 3rd: Pierce Workman, Boones Mill, Va.

Mandolin – 1st: Blane Young, Roanoke; 2nd: Cort Workman, Boones Mill, Va.; 3rd: Hollace Oakes, Radford.

Other – 1st: Naomi Childress, Big Stone Gap; 2nd: Margo MacSweeney, Floyd; 3rd: Hollace Oakes, Radford.

Band – 1st: Denim & Plaid Band; 2nd: Denim Girls Band; 3rd: Lucy & The Brothers Young.

The Crooked Road's Youth Music Festival is supported by the Wayne C. Henderson Festival and David and Judie Reemsnyder. The Crooked Road and this project are supported [in part] by the Virginia

Commission for the Arts, which receives support from the Virginia General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. Support for The Crooked Road also comes from an award from the National Endowment for the Arts American Rescue Plan. For more information about The Crooked Road, please visit www.thecrookedroadva.com, call (276) 492-2400 ext. 2409, or email: info@thecrookedroad.org.

-Submitted by the Crooked Road

Nikki Giovanni receives Ut Prosim Scholar Award

BLACKSBURG - There is a lot more to poetry than pretty words on a page. Great poetry is an inspiration. It is a call to action and a balm during the most difficult of times.

Renowned author, activist, and University Distinguished Professor Emerita Nikki Giovanni has proven this through her words and her life. Now, she is the fifth recipient of a top award for Virginia Tech faculty.

Giovanni is among a select few faculty to receive the Ut Prosim Scholar Award. The Virginia Tech Board of Visitors passed a resolution to honor Giovanni with the award at its March meeting.

Giovanni retired from the university in 2022 after 35 years as a professor in the Department of English. The award was established in 2016 to recognize the application of scholarship in extraordinary service to humanity.

"Throughout her career Nikki Giovanni has served the university community with distinction, inspired her students, and uplifted the Black experience everywhere through her relentless commitment to diversity and equity," said Virginia Tech President Tim Sands. "She embodies the spirit of Ut Prosim, and we are proud to honor her extraordinary legacy at Virginia Tech with this award."

Narrowing down Giovanni's contributions to society isn't easy. With accolades and achievements as numerous as the stars in the night sky, she continues to

be a prominent voice, using written words to delve into social issues regarding race and gender.

Throughout her life, she has proven herself a fierce advocate of inclusion and equality, uplifted the Black experience in America, advocated for other Black writers, and used her creative talents to help the university in times of tragedy.

Yet, Giovanni said she was surprised when she answered a phone call from Sands telling her that she would receive the Ut Prosim award.

"I was trying to think, 'Well, what have I done that President Sands is calling,'" Giovanni joked. "I'm thrilled, because I believe in service."

Before coming to Virginia Tech, she established herself as a prominent figure in the Black Arts Movement, which was a response to the Civil Rights and Black Power movements. She threads these events and themes throughout her life's work.

A strong proponent of the liberal arts, Giovanni is proud of her work, and proud of the work of her colleagues and students at Virginia Tech.

"We are the ones who have the dreams," she said. "I'm thrilled that the liberal arts are being acknowledged. And I think in not just this country, but around the globe, the liberal arts need to be acknowledged more."

During her tenure at Virginia Tech, she created unique opportunities for her students, such as the times she brought literary legends Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison, and Rita Dove to campus.

The Giovanni-Steger poetry prize, which Giovanni founded in 2006 with late Virginia Tech President Charles W. Steger, gives students across the university an opportunity to share their love of poetry and put their work before an audience. The competition, one of the most revered in the nation, offers the largest-known monetary prize of any undergraduate poetry competition in the Western Hemisphere.

"Poets taught science," said Giovanni, discussing the importance of the liberal arts. "To teach poetry, we are the ones who ask the questions that the scientists begin to find the answers to. But it was the poets who looked up in the stars and said, 'Well, this star keeps coming back. I wonder what its meaning is. I wonder what this relationship is. I wonder if it's actually a star or a planet.'"

Giovanni has published more than 40 pieces of work throughout her career, including New York Times and Los Angeles Times bestsellers. Her most recent children's book, "The Library," recalls her childhood visits to a segregated library near her home.

Giovanni is a native of Knoxville, Tennessee, and grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio. She graduated from Fisk University, with honors in history. Giovanni credits her grandparents for instilling in her a sense of service.

"I do try to do what I am asked to do, and if I can, if there's any way that I can do it, I do," Giovanni said. "That I may serve — it's what I was taught."

-Jenny Kincaid Boone for Virginia Tech



PHOTO BY LESLIE KING FOR VIRGINIA TECH
Nikki Giovanni speaks during this year's Giovanni-Steger Poetry Prize ceremony at Moss Arts Center in February.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

1. Small lump
4. Helps little firms
7. A way of performing
12. Lawyers
15. Stirred up
16. Believed in
18. The Bay State (abbr.)
19. Makes computers
20. Sodium
21. As fast as can be done (abbr.)
24. Institute legal proceedings against
27. More compact
30. Ethiopian river
31. Quantitative fact
33. No (Scottish)
34. A conception of no great value

35. Tony-winning actress Daisy
37. More (Spanish)
39. Russian space station
41. Helicopter
42. At the peak
44. Makes ecstatically happy
47. Excellent
48. Material body
49. The Golden State (abbr.)
50. A unit of plane angle
52. Argon
53. Fancy
56. Fried mixture of meat & spices
61. How green plants use sunlight
63. Without wills
64. Unhappy
65. Meat from a pig's leg

CLUES DOWN

1. Mentor
2. Lyric poems

3. A dry cold north wind in Switzerland
4. Trapped
5. Used for road surfacing
6. Cuckoos
7. Prefix "away from"
8. Seth McFarlane comedy
9. Not out
10. "The Simpsons" bus driver
11. Popular HBO drama (abbr.)
12. Acclaimed Indian physicist
13. Removes
14. One-name NBA player
17. Revolutionary women
22. Smell
23. Ground-dwelling songbird
24. Midway between south and southeast
25. American state
26. Keen

28. Khoikhoi peoples
29. Int'l defense organization
32. Samoan money
36. A sign of assent
38. One from Somalia
40. Boat race
43. Trims
44. French coins
45. Indigenous Scandinavian
46. Flew alone
51. Loch where a "monster" lives
54. Japanese title
55. Pros and ___
56. Present in all living cells
57. Something to scratch
58. Branch of Islam
59. Appear
60. Former CIA
62. Yukon Territory

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OBITUARIES

Cabbage, Julia “Judy” Ann Kidd

Julia “Judy” Ann Kidd Cabbage, 82, of Radford, passed away on Thursday, May 11, 2023.

Judy was best known for her love of babysitting, often filling her home with numerous children each day. She also enjoyed traveling, and baking cookies during the holidays.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William Austin Cabbage; her parents, Earl Hamilton and Constance Marie Kidd; and her brother, Earl Kidd.

Survivors include her sons and daughter-in-law,



Michael C. and Sondra

Cabbage, and Dr. Brian W. Cabbage; grandchildren, Max and Sofia Cabbage; many other family members and friends.

Graveside services will be held at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Christiansburg.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

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

Davis, Mildred “Nanny”

Mildred “Nanny” Davis, 91, of Pulaski, joined her husband in heaven at her home on Wednesday, May 10, 2023.

She was born on January 19, 1932. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ranold L. Davis; son, Joel Davis; daughters, Janie Marunich and Melanie Davis; parents, Thomas Jefferson and Annie Banes Leeson; brothers, Vance Leeson, Garnett Leeson, and Harold Thomas Leeson; and sisters, Freida Leeson

Nelson, Violet Leeson, and Aleen Leeson Lyons.

She is survived by



her sons, Steve Davis, Rodney Davis, Sheldon Davis, and Justin

Davis; grandchildren, Coltrane Marunich, Louie Marunich, Misty Carter, Felix Davis, Heather Davis, Blake Davis, Noah Davis, Jovanna Davis, and Joel Davis, Jr.; 12 great-grandchildren; five great great-grandchildren; and numerous other family members and friends.

Per her request, a private family memorial service will be held at a later date.

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

McCormick, Christopher Scott

Christopher Scott McCormick, 54, of Radford, passed away on Monday, May 8, 2023.

Christopher served in the Army Reserves as an Army MP, Civilian Police Officer, and he specialized in Army Safety. He previously served as a dedicated police officer for the City of Radford, as well as Virginia Tech. Christopher was preceded in death by his grandparents, James and Gladys McCormick and Claude and Helen Matthews.

Survivors include his loving wife, Angel McCormick; son,

Christopher Scott McCormick, II; his



parents, Jim and Ann McCormick; brother and sister-in-law, Bill

and Denise McCormick; nieces, Haley, Mallory and Kendall McCormick; his wife's family; and numerous other family members and close friends.

A graveside service and celebration of life will be held in August of this year. Specifics will be announced as they become available.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the American Red Cross, PO Box 37839, Boone, IA 50037-0839.

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

Turpin, Jessie “Jay” Albert

Jessie “Jay” Albert Turpin, 52, passed away on May 10, 2023. He was preceded in death by his father, William Ray Turpin, Sr.

Survivors include his son and daughter-in-law, Chance and Haelan Turpin; special daughter and her husband, Morgan and Chris Gee; grandchildren, Adalia Jo Turpin, Rylan Gee, and Payton Gee; mother, Thelma G. Turpin; brothers and sisters-in-law, William Ray Jr. and Lisa Turpin, Ronald and

Tina Turpin, Jeffrey and Cindy Turpin; sister and brother-in-law, Debra and



Ricky Vaughn; special friend, Brenda Horton;

wife, Angel Turpin; and numerous other nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

The family received friends at the Power of Deliverance Holiness Church, 6545 Lee Hwy, Fairlawn, on Tuesday, May 16, 2023. Funeral services followed with Rev. Delores Caldwell officiating. Interment followed in the Thornspring Cemetery in Pulaski.

The Turpin family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Virginia.

Conrad, Judge Glen E.

Judge Glen E. Conrad, of Roanoke, died May 20, 2021. Graveside memorial services will be held at 11

a.m. on Saturday, May 20, 2023, in the West View Cemetery in Radford, Virginia.

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

Collins, Gary Wayne

Gary Wayne Collins, 72, passed away on Thursday, May 4, 2023.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Warren Bruce and Dorothy Dalton Collins; daughter, Jennifer Collins; nephew, Stephen; and his special cousins, JoAnn and Russel Cleak.

Survivors include his daughters, Crystal Collins and Sarah Collins (Julian Simmons); stepdaughter, Jessica Wall (Christopher Eastridge);

fiancé, Carolyn Alger; grandchildren, Dorothy Martin, James Atkinson, Mckayla Martin, Timothy Martin, Dezaray Atkinson, Christopher Long, Junior Atkinson, Dalton Atkinson, Corey Long, Elijah Drayton, James Bennett, Aubrey Simmons, Carter Simmons, and Leland Eastridge; great-grandchildren, Amythyst Straley-Martin, Luke Straley-Martin, and Jordan Wickline-Atkinson; sister,

Tammie Rupe (Bobby); niece, Corey; nephew, Parker; former wife and special friend, Phoebe Collins; and many other relatives and friends.

A graveside service with full military honors will be held at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin.

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

Lyon, Sara

Sara Lyon, 72, of Blacksburg, went to her heavenly home Thursday, May 11, 2023.

Funeral services were held at McCoy Funeral Home on Tuesday, May 16, 2023. Visitation was held prior to the service. Sara was born in Jacksonville, Fla. She was the daughter of the late Sara Carter and Charleston Carter.

Sara came to Blacksburg with her husband, Frank

Lyon. His friends fast became her friends, and they continued making treasured relationships with the people of Blacksburg.

Sara is survived by Frank and their two beagles Tucker and Shadow. She is also survived by two sons, Mike Mims and Chris Mims; treasured grandchildren Keegan, Tyler, and Caroline Mims; daughter, Christina Gardner, of Blacksburg;

stepdaughter, Katherine Luft; stepson, Frank Lyon, Jr.; sister, Kathy (Terry) Johnson; and two brothers Joe (Sandy) Carter, and Bobby (Kay) Carter. She also had two special nieces, Sally and Holly, and four great-nephews, whom she thought of as her own grandchildren. Memorials may be made to Christian Appalachian Project or St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

Looking into the lingering horrors of Lyme disease

BLACKSBURG — Deep inside a lab in Virginia Tech's Steger Hall lingers a relic to 1990s horror movies.

“It’s terrible,” Brandon Jutras said of his lab’s poster from the 1993 films “Ticks.” “It’s one of those where it’s so bad it’s good.”

An associate professor of biochemistry, Jutras and the Jutras Lab have been working to mitigate the real-life horrors of the arthropods known for clinging to humans and transmitting disease for almost five years. They were recently awarded a National Institutes of Health R01 grant of more than \$2 million to investigate why symptoms of Lyme disease linger long after the initial infection in some people.

“Basically, many, but not all, Lyme arthritis patients have massively swollen knees, generally only on one side, that will be debilitating and last for weeks or months, even when we can no longer detect an active infection,” Jutras said.

Jutras believes a key to finding answers lies in the unique molecule, peptidoglycan, which he discovered is shed inside the infected by the Lyme disease-causing bacterium, *Borrelia burgdorferi*, in 2019. The unique nature of the molecule has allowed Jutras and his lab to detect it inside patients’ joints weeks and months after their initial treatments.

“Peptidoglycan is known to be inflammatory,” Jutras said. “Inflammation is good in some situations, like wound repair, but perpetual inflammation can cause damage and lead to many disorders. It looks like this molecule is driving perpetual inflammation because for whatever reason, it continues to persist. The reason(s) for persistence are one of the foci of this new grant.”

While pinpointing the

reason for this occurrence remains a work in progress, the discovery of the lingering pest in joints is an important milestone in the field of Lyme research.

“I think that the work he has done showing the persistence of peptidoglycan for prolonged periods after antibiotic therapy is likely to be the most clinically impactful research that has come out in the field in the last decade,” said Linden Hu, professor of immunology at Tufts University’s School of Medicine.

May is recognized annually as National Lyme Disease Awareness month, according to the advocacy group, LymeDisease.org.

Jutras originally came to the United States from Canada to play golf at Eastern Illinois University after injuries side-tracked a promising young hockey career. During his undergraduate journey, however, he came to realize his future was in investigating the pests that often live in the tall grass, rather than trying to avoid it.

“I was solid, but there are a lot of good golfers out there and I didn’t think it was a viable career option,” Jutras said. “I started studying spiders because I was interested in spider silk production — it has incredible strength to weight ratios — and then I realized what was happening on the inside of organisms was what I am really interested in.”

Ticks’ abilities to transmit bacteria eventually won him over and his desire to better understand how Lyme disease works, inside both them and humans, and led him to shift his focus from entomology to microbiology.

“Then I just stuck with Lyme disease because it’s such a weird and fascinating microorganism,” said Jutras, an affiliated faculty member of Virginia Tech’s Center for Emerging, Zoonotic, and Arthropod-borne Pathogens, housed within the Fralin Life Sciences Institute. “At first, I wanted to go the medical school route, but

I just became way more interested in the research. And hopefully I can help millions of people this way, instead of just one at a time.”

After his undergraduate degree, Jutras headed to the University of Kentucky, where he earned a Ph.D. in microbiology and molecular genetics, then to a Howard Hughes Medical Institute postdoctoral fellowship at Yale University. During that span, he met Hu, who said Jutras was an impressive researcher from their earliest encounters.

“He was quite memorable even back then,” Hu said. “He had no fear and was always willing to ask tough questions, both of his own work and of others.”

Jutras came to Blacksburg in April 2018 as an assistant professor in Virginia Tech’s College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. In 2021, he received an Emerging Leader Award from the Bay Area Lyme Foundation, the leading not-for-profit sponsor of Lyme disease research in the United States and a partner of the American Junior Golf Association, a tour on which Jutras used to play.

Today, the Jutras Lab is made up of 12 people, including eight graduate students, two undergraduate students, and two staff. Along with investigating the prolonged effects of Lyme disease, the lab is also working on creating a rapid test for the disease, which was just recently funded by a \$1.2 million Department of Defense grant.

Jutras credits the lab’s success obtaining grants, achieving breakthroughs, and publishing research to the team’s camaraderie. And he said his favorite part is helping the younger researchers through their own breakthroughs.

“Research is 90 percent troubleshooting, but those instances when it works and you know something that nobody else does, you get the feeling that this may change everything. Those moments are what make this career fantastic,” Jutras

See Lyme, page 6

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OPINION

Financial Focus: Are you protected from disability risk?

Like many people, you may try to stay healthy by exercising regularly, following a good diet and avoiding dangerous activities. But as we all know, life is unpredictable, and despite your best efforts, you may encounter an injury or illness that can leave you unable to work for several months — or longer. If this happened, would you have difficulty paying your bills? Or would you be forced to dip into investments meant to help you achieve long-term goals, such as a comfortable retirement?

To help prevent these outcomes, you may want to protect yourself against the possibility of a disability. One good move is to build an emergency fund containing up to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account. Even if you never need this fund for a disability, it's hardly a wasted effort, because you could use the funds for other unexpected costs, such as a major repair to your home or car.

But to feel truly prepared for a disability that could threaten your financial situation, you may also need to consider disability insurance. If you work for a mid-size or large company, your employer may offer group coverage as an employee benefit. This coverage can be

valuable, but it may not be sufficient. For one thing, many employer-sponsored disability policies won't fully replace your lost income. Also, some group policies may make you wait longer than you'd like before your benefits kick in. And these policies aren't always "portable," either — if you leave your job, you might also be leaving behind your disability plan.

For these reasons, you may want to consider purchasing a long-term disability insurance policy. However, the features of these policies vary greatly, so you'll want to be diligent in choosing the policy that's right for you.

What are the key features to compare among policies? For openers, look at the type of policy — is it noncancelable or guaranteed renewable? With a noncancelable policy, the terms and premiums can't be changed, but a guaranteed renewable policy can increase premiums.

Here are some other features to consider:

Coverage amount – How much will you receive in benefits? You may be able

to replace up to 100% of your after-tax income.

Waiting period – How much time must pass from the onset of your disability until you start receiving benefits?

Benefit duration – How long will you receive benefits?

To protect against a long-term disability, you might want a policy that replaces income until your planned retirement age.

Inflation coverage – How much will your benefits increase each year? Ideally, you'd like your benefits to keep pace with inflation and keep up with what you might receive from future salary increases or promotions.

Definition of disability – If you choose an "Own Occupation" policy, you'll receive benefits if you can't work at the job you had when you became disabled. With an "Any Occupation" policy, you'll receive benefits if you can't work at any job based on your qualifications.

Clearly, there's much to consider when choosing a disability policy. You might want to consult with a financial professional, who can help you pick a policy that fits within your overall financial strategy. But don't wait too long — you may never need to use this protection, but you might like having it available.

-This article was written by Edward Jones, Member SIPC and submitted by local Edward Jones financial advisor Meghan Kuczmariski (540)552-1241.

Gas prices down 2.5 cents from last week

Average gasoline prices in Virginia have fallen 2.5 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.31/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia. Prices in Virginia are 22.2 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 99.8 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 4.0 cents in the last week and stands at \$3.97 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$2.79/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$4.29/g, a difference of \$1.50/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.79/g while the highest was \$4.29/g, a difference of \$1.50/g.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 0.4 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.51/g today. The national average is down 14.9 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 95.6 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the

country.

Historical gasoline prices in Virginia and the national average going back ten years:

May 15, 2022: \$4.31/g (U.S. Average: \$4.46/g)

May 15, 2021: \$2.96/g (U.S. Average: \$3.04/g)

May 15, 2020: \$1.72/g (U.S. Average: \$1.86/g)

May 15, 2019: \$2.60/g (U.S. Average: \$2.86/g)

May 15, 2018: \$2.68/g (U.S. Average: \$2.89/g)

May 15, 2017: \$2.15/g (U.S. Average: \$2.33/g)

May 15, 2016: \$2.06/g (U.S. Average: \$2.22/g)

May 15, 2015: \$2.46/g (U.S. Average: \$2.70/g)

May 15, 2014: \$3.46/g (U.S. Average: \$3.64/g)

May 15, 2013: \$3.37/g (U.S. Average: \$3.59/g)

Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:

Roanoke- \$3.23/g, down 4.4 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.28/g.

Richmond- \$3.28/g, down 1.2 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.29/g.

West Virginia- \$3.39/g, down 3.6 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.43/g.

"With oil prices bouncing back over \$70 per barrel after reaching as low as \$66 in early May, we've seen gasoline prices move higher in some states, while others have continued to decline- the national average has seen little change as a result, but overall, gasoline prices continue to see significant relief from year ago levels," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "We're likely to soon see gasoline prices slip to their largest year on year deficit since Covid hit, when prices fell over \$1 per gallon from 2019- so the relief at the pump as been significant, and even though the gas price decline hit pause last week, it's looking more likely that barring a major hurricane or series of refinery outages, the national average may not end up hitting the \$4 per gallon mark- something that will make most motorists very happy. For those in Arizona that have seen gas prices spike during the spring, significant relief is starting and should even accelerate over the weeks ahead."

-Submitted by Gas Buddy

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

As we recognize National Law Enforcement Week 2023, I commend and give a heartfelt thank you to the brave men and women of law enforcement that serve our communities with dedication, commitment, valor, and sacrifice. I thank their families for the sacrifices, for although the oath is of that of the officer, it is also requiring the support and great sacrifices for the family as well.

I thank law enforcement for their professionalism, for their sworn oath to preserve and protect life, liberty, and property. For their courage to safeguard democracy. To safeguard our democracy at any cost, including the ultimate sacrifice.

Lyme from page5

said. "We've had a few of those so far and it's all because of the outstanding junior scientist in the lab. They're working their tails off."

One of those graduate students is Mecaila McClune, who is working toward a Ph.D. in biochemistry. Jutras credits McClune with playing a key role in the lab's work to better understand how peptidoglycan moves through organisms by developing a fluorescent tracer system that could highlight the molecule as it moves in mice.

"I couldn't believe it worked," Jutras said. "Mecaila is an exceptional scientist and a gifted problem solver. Her work has allowed us to track peptidoglycan in real time. This breakthrough gives us a system to understand peptidoglycan persistence, which could lead to new ways to treat patients."

McClune said having the opportunity to work on a project with such real-life implications has helped her build resiliency as a researcher.

"With any project you're going to have setbacks. Some aspects need to be optimized at the beginning and others you have to figure out as you go," McClune said. "Knowing how directly my work could impact human health makes it that much more motivating to overcome setbacks."

She said being able to work with Jutras had not only made her a more well-rounded researcher, but also showed her the importance of taking joy in your work.

"He's very passionate about the research being done in our lab. His excitement is contagious and helps the lab stay focused on the bigger picture of our work. It's a special experience when others are just as excited as you about the work that you're doing," McClune said. "It's good to remember the importance of having passion for your work."

While the National Institutes of Health grant, which is administered through its National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, is focused on Lyme, Hu believes the Jutras Lab's work could also help mitigate all kinds of other

I am grateful and appreciate our community of law enforcement that serve tirelessly in collaboration with each other, to best serve and make a positive difference, whether on duty or off. These heroes are leaders, our neighbors, who volunteer as fire and rescue squad members. Police Officers that invest in our youth as coaches, mentoring and serving in organizations such as YOVASO, Help Save The Next Girl, EFFORT, Younglife and many more. Officers that serve in churches, schools, courts, and hospitals. Police Officers that work with our business owners to strengthen economic wellness and growth through safety and protection.

As we honor all those that serve and have served,

may we never forget to pay tribute and remember our fallen officers. Since the first recorded death in 1786, and according to the Officer Down Memorial Page, more than 26,000 law enforcement officers in the United States have made the ultimate sacrifice and been killed in the line of duty. In Montgomery County, we remember Officer Terry Griffith, Officer Scott Hylton, Security Guard Derrick McFarland, Corporal Eric Sutphin, and Officer Deriek Crouse for their ultimate sacrifice.

I encourage all citizens to reflect upon our freedoms, and to remember and honor our law enforcement and their families.

-Sherri Blevins

bacteria-related horrors.

"He took advantage of something unique about *B. burgdorferi* to show that these components can persist, but if it also occurs for other bacteria, where it is more difficult to trace, it may help explain some of the long-term symptoms we see in patients after other infections," Hu said. "It really helps us to understand why it might be possible that people continue to have symptoms of inflammation after the bacteria has been treated."

Tick talk

As a person who enjoys the outdoors and the owner of two dogs – a black lab mix, Fiona, and a golden retriever, Fred - Jutras is no stranger to ticks outside of work hours.

"Since moving to Southwest Virginia, I've pulled ticks off of them every month of the year," Jutras said.

In the region, blacklegged ticks, commonly called deer ticks, are the only ones able to transmit the bacteria that causes Lyme disease, and they can only do so as nymphs or as adults. Nymphs are about the size of a pencil tip.

Unlike mosquitoes, some ticks don't seek hosts as much as they simply sense carbon dioxide expelled by other organisms during breathing. They then crawl to the highest possible point, reach out their Velcro-like arms, and hopefully cling on. They also secrete antihistamines, along with a glue-like material called cementin, when they latch onto a person or animal, Jutras said.

"So your body cannot sense it's being pierced, you don't feel them at all, and they're extremely hard to remove. Together, those features create a big problem," Jutras said. "They're little beasts."

Jutras suggested a handful of tips to avoid the horrors of these beasts:

Check often and always

"The prompt removal is the most important thing," Jutras said. "Once the tick bites, it can take anywhere

from 12 to 72 hours to transmit the Lyme disease-causing bacterium. They like to hang out in inconspicuous areas. They like warm and moist environment, so you can imagine where those might be. If you're outside in a high-risk area, such as anywhere with high grass, a wooded property, golf course, etc., a good way to check is to have a good shower afterward."

Lighten up

"Wear light-colored clothing while enjoying the outdoors and treat these clothes with DEET, or N,N-diethyl-metoluamide, containing bug spray. This does work well at repelling ticks, and light-colored clothing will allow you to spot the ticks more easily. When in high-risk areas check yourself often, initial tick contact almost always occurs below your thigh."

Protect your pets

"Our furry friends are wonderful companions, but they are tick magnets. Commercial tick treatments do not prevent attachment and will usually kill the ticks if they do start feeding, but they do not prevent contact. What happens? Often the ticks are brought inside from the outdoors by our pets and they are then able to bite us. So, check your pets often. It is not only good practice because the commercial treatments work well, but are not 100 percent effective, and it can help you and your family stay safe. Another important mitigation strategy is vaccination; the Lyme disease vaccine works well for companion animals."

Don't skip the dryer

"Spring and summer weather encourages many people to hang their clothes to dry. However, ticks survive the washer and can remain on clean clothes. They do not, however, survive the dryer. If you have returned from a high-risk activity, like hiking or camping, be sure to use the dryer on all articles of clothing."

Lindsey Haugh for Virginia Tech

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

Yard Sales - Radford City

Multi Family Yard Sale
1500 block of 2nd street.
Radford, VA. May 19 - 20.
8am -4pm.

Yard Sales - Botetourt County

YARD SALE
MULTI FAMILY
on SETTLERS Rd,
Fincastle
Sat., May 20, 2023 from 8 -12
540-761-4052

Employment

Town of Troutville

The town of Troutville is seeking a new Park Manager. This position is responsible for overseeing and performing duties necessary to operate and maintain the Town Park of the Town of Troutville. This is a part-time position with a schedule that is both flexible and will have some variations from time to time. The following are duties and responsibilities but are not limited to other tasks as needed:
Keep the park safe
Mow Grass
Weed eating
Trimming bushes
Weeding flower beds
Clean shelters
Clean bathrooms
Empty trash
Open/Closed Park
Visual inspection
Perform and log routine maintenance
Provide a monthly report to Town Council
General maintenance
Please forward a resume to: Email: Laura.bumgarner@gmail.com

Field Engineer sought by TMEIC

Corporation Americas in Roanoke, VA
to provide Technical Advisory Services (TAS) to coord installation & commissioning activities for assigned projects while meeting project schedules & performance criteria. Availability to travel, domestically & internationally, more than 75% of the time, sometimes w/ limited notice.
Min. Req: Bach's in Electrical Engg, Mechanical Engg, or related field or foreign equiv deg. 2 yrs of exp working in the metals, material handling, paper, or general industries as Field Engineer. 2 yrs of exp w/ process & automation controls. Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite. Send resume to recruitment@tmeic.com. Ref #8012.

General Information

Piedmont Pentecostal Holiness Church

Sunday morning service 11am. 5007 Jewell Dr. Shawsville Va. Pastor Tim Clyburn. 8 miles from Shawsville rt 460, on Alleghany Spring Rd.

Legals - Botetourt County

ABC NOTICE

SHREE HARE RAM LLC., trading as ROADSIDE MARKET, 10761 W LYNCHBURG SALEM TURNPIKE, MONTVALE, VA. 24122.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a WINE AND BEER OFF PREMISES license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

SAI KRISHNA CHEERANJEEVI, OWNER

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.



Legals - City of Radford

ABC NOTICE

RIVER CITY DISTILLERY, LLC., trading as RIVER CITY DISTILLERY, 92 HARVEY ST. RADFORD VA 24141.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a DISTILLERY license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

CHARLES COSMATO, Managing/Member

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

Legals - City of Salem

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316-317, 20-104
Case No. CL23000084-00 CITY OF SALEM CIRCUIT COURT, 2 EAST CALHOUN STREET, SALEM, VA 24153
Commonwealth of Virginia, in re GABRIEL SENTINELLAR SALAZAR V. MAY ANNE SALAZAR
The object of this suit is to: OBTAIN A DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that MAY ANNE SALAZAR appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MAY 31, 2023. APRIL 11, 2023 STACY L. OWEN, DEPUTY CLERK

NORTH CAROLINA ALAMANCE COUNTY IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION BEFORE THE CLERK

23 SP 74
23 SP 73

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

IN RE CHANGE OF NAME OF BRANDON JOSUE ZUNIGA JUANES, A Minor Child. And **IN RE CHANGE OF NAME OF BRITNEY ZUNIGA JUANEZ**, A Minor Child.

TO: WILMER FRANCISCO ZUNIGA, Respondent

TAKE NOTICE

that pleadings seeking relief against you have been filed in the above entitled Proceedings pending before the Alamance County Clerk of Superior Court. The nature of the relief being sought in these Proceedings are Petitions for the Name Change of the minor children, Brandon Josue Zuniga Juanes and Britney Zuniga Juanez to change the last names of the children to "Jimenez Juanez".

You are required to make defense to such pleadings no later than the 5th day of July, 2023, said date being more than forty (40) days from the first publication of this Notice and upon your failure to do so the Party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought herein.

TAKE NOTICE

that you are further notified that in connection with this Action the following hearings are scheduled for hearing by the Court following the publication of this Notice:
July 13, 2023 at 2:00 PM: Hearing by the Clerk of the pending issues at the Alamance County Historic Courthouse, 1 Court Square, Graham, NC 27253.
This the 4th day of May, 2023.
FREDERICK J. STERNBERG
Attorney for the Petitioner
NC State Bar No. 4155

OF COUNSEL: FREDERICK J. STERNBERG, P.A. 38 S.W. Court Square Graham, NC 27253-2878 Telephone: (336) 228-0273 Fax: (336) 228-1932 E-Mail: efredrickjst@trial.rr.com

Legals - City of Salem

ABC NOTICE

DBH Salem Concessions, LLC, trading as DBH Salem Concessions, 1004 Texas St. Salem VA, 24153.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Wine and Beer ON and OFF Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Chirag Mithani, VP/Secretary

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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 May 25, 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.
The request of Boone Thomas LLC, property owners, for a variance from Section 106-208.3(B)(1) of the City of Salem Zoning Ordinance pertaining to site development regulations, for the property located at 100 block Richfield Avenue, Tax Map # 120-1-3. The petitioners are requesting a 13 foot rear-yard setback variance to allow for the construction of a house and deck. Section 106-208.3(B)(1) states that single-family dwellings shall conform with the setback requirements of Section 106-202.3(B)(1), which requires a 25 foot rear-yard setback. 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 3753032).

THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM

BY: Mary Ellen H. Wines, CZA, CFM
Planning & Zoning Administrator

PUBLIC NOTICE

Celco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to collocate wireless communications antennas at a centerline height of 82 feet on the rooftop of a building with an overall height of 90 feet at the approx. vicinity of 220 E Main St., Salem, City of Salem, VA 24153. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Trileaf Corp, Elsie.e.boone@trileaf.com, 8600 LaSalle Road, Suite 301, Towson, MD 21286, 410-853-7128.

Order of Publication

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE CITY OF SALEM
CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA, complainant, vs. GEORGE W. WELCH, et al, Respondents.
Case No. **CL 23-102**
TO: THE RESPONDENTS: The object of this suit is to enforce the lien for taxes assessed by the City of Salem, Virginia against certain real property designated as Tax Map Parcel No. 39-2-5
An affidavit having been made and filed that diligence has been used without effect to ascertain the location of George W. Welch and Mary Elizabeth Welch and that there are or may be persons with an interest in the subject property, including heirs,

Legals - City of Salem

devises, and successors in title of George W. Welch and Mary Elizabeth Welch, who may be deceased, whose names and addresses are unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that each of the parties appear on or before the 5th of June, 2023, and do whatever is necessary to protect their interest in said land. It is further ORDERED, pursuant to Va. Code Ann. §8.01-321, that this Order of Publication be published for two successive weeks in the Salem Times Register, a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Salem, and that a copy be posted at the front door of the courthouse in the City of Salem, Virginia. Entered this 4th day of May, 2023. Chance Crawford, Clerk I ask for this: Mark D. Kidd, Esquire-VSB#24149
OPN Law
3140Chaparral Drive, Suite 200-C Roanoke VA 24018
Phone: (540) 725-4700
Fax: (540)772-0126
E-Mail: mkidd@opnlaw.com
Counsel for Complainant

Order of Publication VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE CITY OF SALEM

CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA, complainant, vs. MARY LUE GRAVES, et al, Respondents.
Case No. CL 23-103
TO: THE RESPONDENTS: The object of this suit is to enforce the lien for taxes assessed by the City of Salem, Virginia against certain real property designated as Tax Map Parcel No. 160-3-4
An affidavit having been made and filed that diligence has been used without effect to ascertain the location of Mary Lue Graves and that there are or may be persons with an interest in the subject property, including heirs, devisees, and successors in title of Mary Lue Graves, who may be deceased, whose names and addresses are unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that each of the parties appear on or before the 5th of June, 2023, and do whatever is necessary to protect their interest in said land. It is further ORDERED, pursuant to Va. Code Ann §8.01-321, that this Order of Publication be published for two successive weeks in the Salem Times Register, a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Salem, and that a copy be posted at the front door of the courthouse in the City of Salem, Virginia. Entered this 4th day of May, 2023. Chance Crawford, Clerk I ask for this: Mark D. Kidd, Esquire-VSB#24149
OPN Law
3140Chaparral Drive, Suite 200-C Roanoke VA 24018
Phone: (540) 725-4700
Fax: (540)772-0126
E-Mail: mkidd@opnlaw.com
Counsel for Complainant

Notice of Initiation of the Section 106 Process: Public Participation

T-Mobile proposes the upgrade of a rooftop telecommunications facility at 220 E. Main St., Salem, VA. Members of the public interested in submitting comments on the possible effects on historic properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places may send their comments to Andrew Smith, RESCOM Environmental Corp., PO Box 361 Petoskey, MI 49770 or call 260-385-6999.

Legals - Montgomery County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 5070 GOLD RUSH ROAD, PILOT, VA 24138.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated February 12, 2007, in the original principal amount of \$324,000.00 recorded in SA Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Virginia as Instrument No. 07001815. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Montgomery County, 55 East Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia on June 23, 2023, at 12:30 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as

Legals - Montgomery County

follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A 1" IRON PIPE FIFTEEN (15) FEET SOUTH OF A THREE (3) FOOT MAPLE TREE WHICH IS 502.5 FEET SOUTH OF STATE ROUTE 726 AND AT CORNER OF MRS. A. P. NAFF'S PROPERTY; THENCE S 04 DEG. 18' 18" E 585.50 FEET TO A 1" PIPE; THENCE IN A EASTERLY DIRECTION 122.83 FEET TO A 1/2" PIPE, THENCE CONTINUING IN AN EASTERLY DIRECTION 210.66 FEET TO A 1" PIPE; THENCE IN A NORTHWESTERLY DIRECTION 84.87 FEET TO A 9" HICKORY; THENCE CONTINUING IN A NORTHERLY DIRECTION 79.58 FEET TO A 14" WILD CHERRY; THENCE NORTHWESTERLY 151.00 FEET TO A PIPE; THENCE CONTINUING IN A NORTHWESTERLY DIRECTION 200.00 FEET TO A 1" PIPE; THENCE CONTINUING IN A NORTHWESTERLY DIRECTION 34.17 FEET TO THE EAST CORNER OF A CONCRETE CATTLE GUARD; THENCE WEST 46.2 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

Legals - Town of Vinton

ABC NOTICE

MARUTINANDAN VA LLC., trading as FRANKLIN MARKET, 3001 FRANKLIN RD SW, ROANOKE VA. 24014, ROANOKE CITY VIRGINIA

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Wine and Beer, Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

SAI KRISHNA CHEERANJEEVI, OWNER

NOTICE

Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Planning Commission of Town of Vinton, Virginia, hereby gives notice of a dinner work session to be held on Thursday, May 23, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., or shortly thereafter. The purpose of the work session is to discuss Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). The dinner work session will be held in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia. Further information concerning this notice may be obtained by calling (540) 983-0605.
NOTICE OF INTENT TO COMPLY WITH DISABILITIES ACT. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide assistance or special arrangements to qualified individuals with disabilities in order to participate in or attend the meetings. Please call (540) 983-0605 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting so that proper arrangements may be made.

Legals - Montgomery County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, 20-104
Case No. **CL23000646-00** MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re ALVARO ALEJANDRO LIMON PEREZ v. MARIA GUADALUPE MORALES MENDOZA. The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that MARIA GUADALUPE MORALES MENDOZA appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before JUNE 19, 2023. APRIL 19, 2023
K MIKE FLEENOR, Jr., JUDGE.
TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

PUBLIC NOTICE

The contents of the listed unit will be sold at Public Auction May 26, 2023 at 11am at 1st Security Self Storage 5 Midway Plaza Dr. Christiansburg, VA. D020 D025 F40 1st Security reserves the right to refuse any bid. Terms: CASH OR CREDIT CARD AT SALE.

Legals - Town of Vinton

ABC NOTICE

MARUTINANDAN VA LLC., trading as FRANKLIN MARKET, 3001 FRANKLIN RD SW, ROANOKE VA. 24014, ROANOKE CITY VIRGINIA

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Wine and Beer, Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

SAI KRISHNA CHEERANJEEVI, OWNER

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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RADFORD SPORTS



Blackburg's Erin Bishop advances the ball down the sideline against Christiansburg during Friday night's match. Bishop and teammate Amalia Moore scored in a 2-0 win over the Blue Demons.

Blackburg girls down Christiansburg



Christiansburg's Jasmyn Charlton and Blackburg's Isabel Vikesland vie for possession during the first half.



Christiansburg's Bridget Miller makes a pass near midfield against Blackburg.



Christiansburg keeper Abigail Sanders makes a save ahead of Blackburg's Kallan Malabad.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Tech second in women's ACC outdoor meet

Victoria Gorlova of Virginia Tech made her back to the podium on the final day of the ACC Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Raleigh, N.C. receiving the women's most valuable performer award in the field.

Gorlova scored 10 points in the women's triple jump winning the event with a mark of 43' 5" (13.23m). She placed seventh in the long jump with a distance of 19' 11.5" (6.08m) adding two points to the team's score. Gorlova won her first ACC MVP honors at the 2022 indoor championships placing first in the jump and sixth in the long jump.

The women's team ended the three-day meet with their highest team finish since 2018 placing second with 84.5 points. Duke claimed first scoring 145.5 points, and Miami took third with 83 points. On the men's side, the team scores came down to final heat of the championships the 4x400m relay. The Clemson men took home the team title with 92 points finishing first in relay. Florida State finished second with 91 points, Louisville and Virginia tied for third with 89.5 points. Hokies finished closely behind in fifth with 84.5 points.

Senior Antonio Lopez Segura navigated his way into first place in the final homestretch of the men's 5000-meters crossing the line with a time of 13:49.02. Freshman Nick Plant turned on the afterburners in the final 50m to walk away with the men's 800m title. Plant clocked a time of 1:47.41, followed by teammate Ben Nagel in third with a time of 1:48.18. Plant ranks 13th in the NCAA clocking a personal-best time of 1:47.14 in the prelims, Nagel ranks 24th (1.47.53).

In the women's 800m, Linsley Butler and Star Price fought their way to the finish line placing second and third. Butler led the Hokies in the race clocking a season-best time of 2:02.20, Price finished closely behind in third with a time of 2:02.50. Butler and Price move into the NCAA top 15 rankings with Butler in 10th and Price in 12th.

Viktor Idhammar added four points to the men's score finishing fifth in the 1500m with a time of 3:41.40.

Kahleje Tillmon, Torrence Walker, Judson Lincoln IV, and Cole Beck started the day for the Hokies in the men's 4x100m relay finishing fourth with a season-best time of 39.04. The men's 4x400m team of Amir Green, Kahleje Tillmon, Nick Plant, Maximus James placed seventh clocking a time of 3:10.24.

Beck also placed fourth in the 100m finals crossing the finish line at 10.17. Lincoln IV finished the men's 200m finals in seventh with a time of 21.59.

Barbora Malikova competed in the women's 400m finals clocking a time of 53.26 placing eighth.

High jumpers Aidan Clark and EJ Bell placed fourth and seventh in the field of 13 athletes. Clark took fourth clearing a height of 7'1" (2.16m) on his first attempt, Bell ended the day clearing 6'6.75" (2.00m).

-Virginia Tech Athletics

Tech part of elite field in Orlando

Virginia Tech men's basketball has been selected as one of eight teams to compete in the 2023 ESPN Events Invitational, Nov. 23, 24 and 26, as announced by ESPN Events on Thursday.

The eight-team tournament is held Thanksgiving weekend at the State Farm Field House at ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex near Orlando, Fla. With the official tournament announcement, Orlando native Hunter Cattoor will have the opportunity to play in front of a hometown crowd in his fifth year of eligibility.

The Hokies will be joined in the Sunshine State by Boise State, Butler, Florida Atlantic, Iowa State, Penn State, Texas A&M and VCU. Six of those teams competed in the 2023 NCAA Tournament. Tech concluded its 2022-23 season at 19-15 and return three starters in Cattoor, point guard Sean Pedulla and guard MJ Collins.

Each team will compete in one game per day, advancing through a bracket-tournament format. The two teams that remain undefeated throughout will face off in the championship game Sunday, Nov. 26. All games will air on the ESPN family of networks.

This will be the 17th year of the tournament, one of 10 college basketball events on the ESPN Events roster of 32 college athletic competitions. Tech will be making its second appearance in the tournament, going 1-2 in 2006.

Opponents, game times and ticket information will be announced later this summer.

Field Highlights

Six of the eight teams played in the 2023 NCAA Tournament: FAU (Final Four), Penn State (second round) as well as Boise State, Iowa State, Texas A&M and VCU.

FAU is the first ESPN Events Invitational team coming off a Final Four appearance since Villanova in 2018. The Owls are currently ranked No. 9 in ESPN.com's Way-Too-Early Top 25.

Texas A&M is ranked No. 18 in ESPN.com's Way-Too-Early Top 25.

Virginia Tech played in the 2023 NIT.

Boise State, FAU and VCU are all making their first appearance at the ESPN Events Invitational.

Three schools in the field – Butler (2010), FAU (2023) and VCU (2011) – have made Final Four appearances since 2010.

-Virginia Tech Athletics



Brody Shull gets away from a Glenvar defender to lead the Bobcats' offense. Radford was up 4-3 over Glenvar, but Radford was called for a handball inside the box with under two minutes to go. The penalty kick tied the score, and both teams went scoreless in the two 5-minute overtimes, resulting in a 4-4 tie.

Radford, Glenvar boys tie



Radford's Elijah Kelly charges toward the goal looking for an open teammate.



Fernando Martinez goes up high for a header and scored on the play to put Radford up 4-3 with 12 minutes to go.



Goal keeper Charlie Davis battles for the ball and breaks up the Highlanders' attack.

PHOTOS BY BRYANT ALTIZER

Breaking down the Athens softball bracket

Making the NCAA Tournament for the fourth season in a row, Virginia Tech softball will head to Athens, Georgia this weekend to begin its run to OKC.

The Hokies (37-18, 14-10 ACC), who are the No. 2 seed in the Athens Regional, will face three-seeded Boston University (51-8, 17-1 Patriot League) on Friday at 2 p.m. ET on ACC Network at Jack Turner Softball Stadium.

Georgia (39-13, 16-7 SEC), which was the No. 14 overall seed, will play host to North Carolina Central (19-33, 12-7 MEAC) on Friday following the Tech-Boston U game at approximately 4:30 p.m. on ESPN+.

Regionals are double elimination, with the lone team advancing having to win three games to get to Super Regionals. The winner of the Athens Regional will advance to the NCAA Super Regional round against the winner of the Tallahassee Regional, featuring No. 3 overall Florida State, South Carolina, UCF and Marist.

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GEORGIA
The Bulldogs are currently on a three-game losing streak, losing their final series of the regular season to then-No. 15 LSU in Baton Rouge and then losing in their first game of the SEC Tournament in the quarterfinals. But, this team has been steady all

season long and owns an impressive 26-6 record at home.

Led by six All-SEC picks, marking its most since 2016, UGA finished second in the SEC standings, boasting 16 wins. A big reason for those wins is the Bulldogs' ability to tally extra-base hits at a high rate, ranking third nationally in slugging percentage (.576%). With that, they rank sixth in the country in home runs (1.56 homers per game). For reference, like Beth Mowins said last night during the NCAA Tournament Selection Show, the Hokies can hit the long ball, too, ranking first in homers (97). So, expect a lot of balls over the fence at Jack Turner this weekend.

This matchup has taken place in the Pete D'Amour era, with going back to 2019 - his first season. The two squads faced off twice that weekend and the first contest was quite memorable. An hour 1/2 weather delay, the lights going out momentarily and D'Amour picking up his first ranked win as head coach, just to name a few. A clutch RBI single by Darby Trull up the middle in extras propelled the Hokies to 7-6 victory over then-No. 8 Georgia. However, UGA would respond the next day with a run-rule victory. The Bulldogs lead the all-time series 5-2.

B O S T O N UNIVERSITY

Owning the second-most wins in the nation (51), the Terriers have been a force to be reckoned with this season, including already owning four Power Five wins (then-No. 12 Baylor, Georgia Tech, Penn State 2x).

Boston U is currently on a three-game winning streak after winning its conference tournament, outscoring its opponents 15-4 on its home turf as it hosted.

The Terriers tied a program record with 10 All-Patriot League selections and won all five conference awards for player of the year, pitcher of the year, rookie of the

year, defensive player of the year and coach of the year.

Two strengths for Boston U are its ability to play fundamentally sound defense (.981% fielding percentage, 9th nationally) and hitting at a high clip (.328 batting average, 8th nationally).

Tech leads the all-time series 3-0. The two haven't played since 2010, a 3-1 win for the Hokies in Clearwater, Florida

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL

Getting hot at the right time, the Eagles found their groove at the MEAC Tournament, winning 4 of 5 games in Norfolk to claim the title over Coppin State. With the win, it marked NC Central's first-ever MEAC softball title and its first-ever appearance in the NCAA Tournament.

Earlier this year, the Eagles faced NC State in Raleigh and came away with a victory, marking the squad's first Power Five win in four years. In conference play, they were able to go 12-7

Statistically, NC Central is solid at producing home runs, averaging 0.74 per game. Then Makiya Graves ranks fourth nationally for being the toughest to strikeout, averaging one strikeout every 38 at bats.

Graves is special, earning MEAC Rookie of the Year and was also named first-team All-MEAC, joining five others to be named all-conference. Cat Tarvin, who is in her second year at the helm, earned MEAC Coach of the Year.

The Eagles and Hokies have never faced off previously.

-Virginia Tech Athletics

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S O P	E A G A N	M A S			
M I R	H E L O	A T O P			
E L A T E S	R A D	S O M A			
C A	G O N	A R			
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