

NEWS JOURNAL



Wednesday, June 14, 2023 • USPS 387-780 • ourvalley.org • \$1.00

June installment of Radford Summer Concert series set for Saturday

RADFORD – Cassette Rewind, an 80's cover band, will be performing at the June installment of the Radford Summer Concert Series, set for Saturday, June 17.

"You asked for them back and we listened," announced the Radford Visitors and Welcome Center. "Cassette Rewind - The Ultimate Authentic '80s Experience will be returning to Radford to cut loose #Footloose!"

Described as the ultimate authentic '80s experience, Cassette Rewind will be performing on the fields of Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery.

"Born in the '80s and raised on radio, Cassette Rewind is the ultimate authentic '80s experience,"

according to the band's website. "Valley girls, jocks, preppies, and nerds will have the time of their life when the DeLorean hits 88 mph and suddenly they're at, like, the most righteous party of the era. Feel the power of love when your bedroom boombox comes to life with captivating, dynamic performances of Prince, George Michael, Journey, Whitney Houston, and countless 1980s pop icons. Grab your Members Only jacket and put on your leg warmers because nothing's gonna stop you now from getting footloose and singing along. Be kind, please Cassette Rewind."

Alcoholic beverages will be provided by the Radford Chamber of Commerce for purchase.

The gate opens at 6 p.m., and the concert begins at 7 p.m. Admission is \$5. Children under 12 are free.

Glencoe Mansion is located at 600 Unruh Dr., Radford.

The Radford Visitors and Welcome Center offers "thank you to our sponsors: Kollmorgen Corporation, Southwest Outdoor Power, Southern Furniture, Ameriprise Financial, Radford Chamber of Commerce, Radford City Government, Radford Public Library, Radford City Sheriff's Office, Radford City Fire/EMS, Radford City Police Department and Brio LIVE Entertainment."

-Radford News Journal staff report



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE RADFORD VISITORS AND WELCOME CENTER
Cassette Rewind, an 80's cover band, will be performing this Saturday, June 17, at the Radford Summer Concert Series.

Follow the money



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY
Robert Warren, D.B.A.

A publication by Robert Warren, D.B.A., a professor at Radford University, "Exploring Embezzlement by Catholic Priests in the United States: A Content Analysis of Cases Since 1963," was recently featured in an Associated Press report.

Warren, a retired IRS investigator who's now an assistant professor of accounting with the Davis College of Business and Economics, co-authored that report, which examines nearly 100 cases of such thefts.

Not long after, a situation came to light that directly matched Warren's expertise.

Investigators were looking into the transfer of millions of dollars from a U.S.-based Vatican fundraising account to a nonprofit company and a private equity firm. Both of those receiving entities were created by a priest who, at the time, was also the fundraiser's national director; according

to reports, that money is currently unaccounted for.

An Associated Press article from May 31, by Vatican correspondent Nicole Winfield, gives an extensive overview of the situation and includes contributions from Warren.

Warren said he was interviewed on the subject by Winfield earlier this year and provided some background consultation.

He's quoted in the piece discussing the potential pitfalls of venturing outside "arm's length transactions," a term that describes separate, unaffiliated parties conducting business with each other.

Interlocking or interrelated business transactions, on the other hand, of the sort the story describes, require heightened scrutiny by auditors, Warren explains.

The AP article was picked up by numerous other media, including U.S. News & World Report, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution and Roanoke television station WSLR.

Prior to joining Radford's faculty, Warren worked as an IRS Criminal Investigation agent for more than two decades. Last month, he used his experience to coordinate a daylong investigatory workshop for business students from Radford and Bridgewater College.

-Neil Harvey for Radford University

Pride month celebrated in Radford

Heather Bell
Editor

RADFORD – Two events over the weekend in Radford celebrated Pride Month for the LGBTQ+ community, starting with a potluck picnic sponsored



Pastor Kelly Jean Bryant of Glade Church gives a speech at the start of Saturday's Pride march in Radford.

by the Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley and culminating with a march down Main Street sponsored by the Radical Change Commission.

Friday's potluck picnic included fellowship, crafts,

See **Pride**, page 5



PHOTOS BY ETHAN BELL
People march down East Main Street during Saturday's Pride march with colorful signs offering messages.

Friends of Claytor Lake unveil new boat

Friends of Claytor Lake works to keep the lake clean, and now the group has a new boat to help with those efforts.

"The crew has been working hard to prepare our 1984 Navy surplus push boat for the season, and she's officially in the water," FOCL announced. "Engine and transmission repairs are complete, a fresh paint job by our crew, new batteries for updated engine compression and so much more. We're excited to put her to work this summer! Huge thank you to Conrad Brother's Marine and the Pulaski County Garage who has assisted in ordering items for repairs, and housing this large boat. If you happen to see our crew out working, feel free to give them a wave!"

According to the FOCL website (focl.org) website, The Friends of Claytor Lake "was formed in 1992 in response to woody debris build-up in Claytor Lake."

"Since then, FOCL has grown and has a full crew to support the demands of high flow events each season. FOCL's crew of four works seasonally to keep public ramps, launch areas, shorelines, docks, main channels

and other navigation areas free of floating woody debris. More information is available on our Debris Clean Up page. With your support, we're able to continue these efforts, along with so much more."

Anyone who would like to help support the clean-up efforts and projects this year, can do so on the website.

-Radford News Journal staff report



PHOTO COURTESY OF FOCL
This 1984 Navy surplus boat has been restored by the Friends of Claytor Lake to help with the group's clean-up efforts.

New sculpture on display at Glencoe Mansion

RADFORD – A new piece by Charlie Brower is on display at Glencoe Mansion as part of a regional sculpture display.

"Take a drive or a walk and drop by Glencoe Mansion, Museum & Gallery to view "Ordinary Man," the newest sculpture to grace our grounds," Glencoe announced. "On loan from the collection of international artist Charlie Brower, the artwork makes quite a statement as it faces West Main Street at the backdoor of this historic residence.

The former Radford University professor said he made this outdoor piece as a monument to "all of us because really we all are just ordinary people."

The sculpture is part of a special exhibit that includes 31 pieces at 26 sites throughout the New River Valley region. Radford University is developing an interactive map that will show the locations of the entire exhibit.

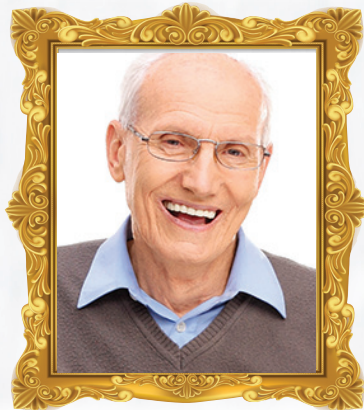
-Radford News Journal staff report



PHOTO COURTESY OF GLENCOE MANSION
"Ordinary Man," a sculpture by Charlie Brower, is currently on display at Glencoe Mansion as part of a special exhibit throughout the New River Valley.

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Small Children Are Being Poisoned by THC

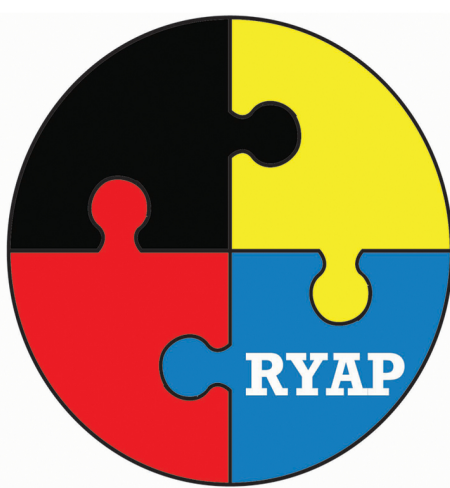
The number of children under the age of 5 accidentally poisoned by cannabis edibles has soared 1,375% since 2017.

Journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Jan. 2023



JustSayKNOW.org

This message is brought to you by the Radford Youth-Adult Partnership & New River Valley Community Services



Radford Youth-Adult Partnership



*Get involved! Stay informed!
Join the RYAP email list or join our monthly
Zoom meetings.
Email info@nrvc.org to learn more!*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, June 14:

Mingle at the Market
Join the Blacksburg Farmer's Market for the first 2023 Mingle at the Market, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m., at Market Square Park. This event will feature live music, locally brewed beverages, local food and more.

Thursday, June 15:

Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting
The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant at 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to attend this meeting. Mr. Chris McCloud, Third Brigade Commander, will be the guest speaker. For further information, please call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

Virtual Author Talk with Jamie Beck
At the Radford Public Library; 2 – 3 p.m. You're invited to join us for an hour online with New York Times bestselling author and award-winning photographer Jamie Beck as she talks about her book "An American in Provence: Art, Life, and Photography." An American in Provence is a beautiful collection of exquisite portrait, scenic, and still-life photography. Looking to slow down from her fast-paced life in New York City, Beck embarked on a one-year getaway to Provence. One year, turning into five, Beck moved to the French countryside, documenting her life as "An American in Provence." Equal parts art book, travel diary, memoir, and cookbook, An American in Provence transports you to the South of France. Register now! <https://libraryc.org/radfordlibrary>.

Radford Photo Club - Nature Photography
At the Radford Public Library; 6 – 7 p.m. Aileen Fletcher, professional photographer and retired New River Community College teacher of photography, will present on Nature Photography, and will give participants an assignment for the July meeting.

Saturday, June 17:

Summer Solstice Fest
Downtown Blacksburg; 1 – 11 p.m. Live music, food trucks, vendors, children's activities, petting zoo, yoga and more! For full schedule, www.downtownblacksburg.com.

Radford 2023 Summer Concert Series
Music by Cassette Rewind, 80's cover band. 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. Additional concerts for the series include: Saturday, July 22: Tee Tones- Doowop/ Motown/Soul; Saturday, August 19: Chairman of the Board- Beach music; and Saturday, September 23: Ryan Perry- country, with opening act Sofie Lynn.

Tuesday, June 21:

American Business Women's Association NRV Express Network Luncheon Meeting
At the Holiday Inn Christiansburg-Blacksburg, 99 Bradley Dr., Christiansburg; 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.- cost \$16. Presentation of the American Business Women's Association NRV Express Network's 2023 Woman of the Year Awards. One member and one community member will be named as Woman of the Year. Katie Edson of Edson Family Practice and Edson Aesthetics is the Speaker Sponsor for this meeting. RSVP by June 19. Contact: Terri Welch at paintnfunceramics@gmail.com or Paige Godwin at godwinpaige@gmail.com.

Monday, June 26:

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, June 27:

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:

Entries sought for July 4th Parade
Participants are needed for Blacksburg's July 4th parade, which is organized by the Mount Tabor Ruritan Club. The parade starts at 2 p.m. from Eheart Street, runs through downtown on Main Street, and ends at Alumni Mall. Entries can be floats, bicycles, wagons, marchers, walkers, antique/classic cars, Jeeps, trucks, fire engines, scouts, bands, sports teams, etc. Information is available on the Mount Tabor Ruritan Club's Facebook page, or by texting 540-449-6178.

Market Square Jam
Held Wednesdays, June through September, in Blacksburg on the corner of Draper Road and Roanoke Street; 7 – 9 p.m. Catering to traditional Old-Time music, Blacksburg's Market Square Jam brings musicians together to pick a tune, enjoy fun times with friends and family, and take in all that downtown Blacksburg has to offer. Blacksburg's Market Square Jam is an official Crooked Road affiliated venue that provides fun and entertainment.

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
Held 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.

Community Health Center of the New River Valley welcomes new dentist

The Community Health Center of the New River Valley (CHCNRV) is pleased to announce that Dr. S. Alexander Wood will join our staff in our Dublin office as Lead Dentist. In addition to seeing patients, Dr. Wood will also oversee our groundbreaking new dental residency program.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHCNRV
Dr. S. Alexander Wood

Dr. Wood earned his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry, where he achieved academic excellence while demonstrating exceptional leadership skills. His skill set includes a wide range of dental procedures, including restorative treatments, extractions, endodontic procedures, and prosthodontic treatments. Dr. Wood also

brings a strong background in community service. He has participated in dental mission trips to provide free dental care to underserved populations. "We are excited to welcome Dr. Wood to our team at the Community Health Center of the New

River Valley," said Michelle Brauns, MS, APR, CEO of The Community Health Center of the New River Valley. "His exceptional academic achievements, clinical skills, and commitment to community well-being perfectly align with our mission."

The Community Health Center of the New River Valley provides affordable and high-quality family medical, dental, behavioral, and preventive health care services to people of all ages, regardless of ability to pay. For more information about the Community Health Center's services and programs in Dublin, Christiansburg, and Pearisburg, visit our website at www.chcnrv.org or call 540-381-0820.

-Submitted by CHCNRV

Arch made of books welcoming public back to reading

A Christiansburg couple believes in the written word, and they are hoping to attract more people to both old and new novels in a unique way.

Ken and Heather Vaughan opened a spot in the Cambria Station Antiques location over a year ago and recently expanded their selection of hardbacks to over 1,200 sq. feet.

They have been selling and buying books for over 10 years, and both were able to quit their full-time jobs as the book business has really taken off.

Their business is known as Old New River Books, a family-owned book business ready to help with your book buying needs - any genre, topic or theme. Thousands of books line the shelves at the historic structure in the Cambria section of Christiansburg. They have been specializing in buying and selling used books since 2014.

When considering a way to separate the area from other parts of the store, they had seen unusual pieces of art that drew attention to books. That's when they came up with an arch constructed out of books.

So, they began 10 months ago, and now the arch is 80



An arch completely made out of books awaits visitors as they enter a special library section at a Christiansburg antique store.

percent complete, being made up of nothing but books. Yes, books.

They started from the outside and have been working their way to the top, placing long screws to stabilize the books, so it will not fall.

"We just love the arch and think it will be one of those attractions that stand out from other places," said Ken.

He hopes to have the arch completed by July 1. Several special books are not locked into the artwork, instead visitors are able to pull the books out and open to find candy inside.

"We were thinking about children when we added the

secret books," Ken said.

In their online description, the couple asks: "Is there anything prettier than turn of the century bindings?"

"We just love books and having something in your hand that you can feel and read," Heather said.

Again, the archway of books should be completed by the first of next month, and if you have any extra hardback, novel sized books in smoke free and mildew free condition that you would like to donate to our goal, Old New River Books would appreciate them to help finish the arch.

-News Messenger staff report

In honor of 4th of July

OUR NEWSPAPER offices will be closed on Tuesday, July 4th, 2023 And will reopen on Wed., July 5th @ 8:30 a.m.

All ads for July 5th and July 6th papers need to be in our office by Friday, June 30 at 12:00 Noon.

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE

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OPINION

Kids these days can learn from the art of lawn mowing

Evans "Buddy" King

Columnist

I enjoy listening to sports talk radio. It's much less depressing than the regular news and I am a sports nerd to boot. I also find that I hear enough "non-sports" filler to keep up on some trends in our society and to educate me on how much the world has changed since my childhood.

For instance, on the one sports talk show I try to catch several times a week, at least on podcast, "Full Ride" on Sirius XM with Rick Neuheisel and Chris Childers, I recently heard a short discussion that seemed like a good subject for a column on how different things are for kids growing up now.

A little background. Neuheisel was head football coach at Colorado, Washington, and UCLA during a successful college coaching career after playing quarterback at UCLA and in the USFL. He also has a law degree and coached in the NFL and is a fanatical amateur golfer, guitar player and singer/songwriter, and general renaissance man. He also has a sense of decorum and taste that is totally missing (perhaps by design) in his on air sidekick Childers. Rick is 61 and Childers is 40, possibly accounting for the dynamic, along with ratings.

Chris is the classic modern day "Joe Fan", with a different world view and wildly different mores than Coach Neuheisel. He frequently punctuates his comments with references to bodily functions and how wonderful it is that marijuana is now legal. The Coach tries to get him back on the "decorum reservation", usually reminding him that Gonzaga basketball coach Mark Few often listens to the program while driving his young children to school. Every time I get to the point of turning the program off because of Childers' obnoxiousness, however, he makes a good point or shows a sensitive side. It's great entertainment in my opinion.

Last week they were discussing one of their favorite topics, Jim Harbaugh, head football coach at the University of Michigan and admittedly NOT one of Neuheisel's closest friends in the fraternity. Childers was going off on one of the interesting comments that Harbaugh frequently makes. Coach Jim had said recently that one of the problems in the country today is that "kids no longer mow lawns".

Childers reacted to this in one of his sputtering, volatile diatribes, saying how much he (Childers) hated mowing the lawn and why would anyone think it was a good thing? What a stupid comment by Harbaugh, Coach Rick took the other side (hard as it was since it

was Harbaugh's quote) and talked about how he had mowed yards when he was growing up.

The debate reminded me of how you rarely saw an adult mowing a yard when I was a kid (other than one of the mothers on the street, Libby, a sight which was worth watching as a teenage boy). Many kids earned good spending money in the summers, and at the very least you mowed your parents' yard. I remember how proud I was to take this chore over from my Dad when I was about 12 years old. He worked long hours and had lots of church and civic meetings, and he had a bunch of pals at Round Meadow Country Club (RIP) he loved to play golf with on Saturdays. (One of my favorite memories is that his regular foursome for awhile was himself and three guys named Ray!) I wanted desperately to take this job off of him, and, even though I had a mother more protective than most, all that was said by her when I went out to mow was "don't cut your foot off when you're on the bank". I guess it was okay to cut my foot off if I wasn't on the bank!

So, as a kid in the summers, my goal was to mow our yard (we didn't call them lawns back then) on Friday afternoons before my dad got home from work. He loved having a freshly mown front yard for the

See Lawn Mowing, page 5

Financial Focus: What should you expect from your investments?

To help achieve your financial goals, you may need to invest in the financial markets throughout your life. However, at times your investment expectations may differ from actual returns, triggering a variety of emotions. So, what are reasonable expectations to have about your investments?

Ideally, you hope that your investment portfolio will eventually help you meet your goals, both your short-term ones, such as a cross-country vacation, and the

long-term ones, such as a comfortable retirement. But your expectations may be affected by several factors, including the following:

Misunderstanding – Various factors in the economy and the financial markets trigger different reactions in different types of investments — so you should expect different results. When you own stocks, you can generally expect greater price volatility in the short term. Over time, though, the "up" and "down" years tend to average out. When you own bonds, you can expect less volatility than individual stocks, but that's not to say that bond prices never change. Generally, when interest rates rise, you can anticipate that the value of your existing, lower-paying bonds may decrease, and when rates fall, the value of your bonds may increase.

Recency bias – Investors exhibit "recency bias" when they place too much emphasis on recent events in the financial markets, expecting that those same events will happen again. But these expectations can lead to negative behavior. For example, in 2018, the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell almost 6% – so investors subject to recency bias might have concluded it was best to stay out of the markets for a while. But the Dow jumped more than 22% the very next year. Of course, the reverse can also be true: In 2021, the Dow rose almost 19%, so investors who might have been susceptible to recency bias may have thought they were in for

more big gains right away — but in 2022, the Dow fell almost 9%. Here's the bottom line: Recency bias may cloud your expectations about your investments' performance — and it's essentially impossible to predict accurately what will happen to the financial markets in any given year.

Anchoring – Another type of investment behavior is known as "anchoring" — an excessive reliance on your original conviction in an investment. So, for instance, if you bought stock in a company you thought had great prospects, you might want to keep your shares year after year, even after evidence emerges that the company has real risks — for example, poor management, or its products could become outdated, or it could be part of an industry that's in decline. But if you stick with your initial belief that the company will inevitably do well, and you're not open to new sources of information about this investment, your expectations may never be met.

In many areas of life, reality may differ from our expectations — and that can certainly be true for our investments. Being familiar with the factors that can shape your expectations can help you maintain a realistic outlook about your investments.

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

RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL

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AARP Virginia fraud alert: Help stop elder financial abuse

More than 369,000 incidents of financial abuse targeting older adults are reported to authorities in the U.S. each year, causing an estimated \$4.8 billion in losses.

And those numbers likely understate the problem considerably. However, as we approach World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15, it's good to remember that there are things we can do to stop elder financial exploitation.

Encourage your loved one to designate someone they trust to help them with financial decisions. The federal government's Eldercare Locator can help you find free or low-cost legal assistance. Suggest they add a trusted contact for their financial institutions if they are unreachable or if questionable activity is detected. A trusted contact is not able to make transactions,

but the financial institution can disclose some account information to them.

Also, watch out for someone — even someone you thought you or your loved one could trust — who discourages contact with family and friends, exerts pressure on financial decisions or asks for large sums of money.

Most importantly, financial exploitation is a crime and should be reported to your local police or Sheriff or even to 911.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

Visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork or call the AARP Fraud Watch Helpline at 1-877-908-3360.

-Submitted by AARP

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Formed by burning tobacco
- 4. Luxury automaker
- 7. Religious residences
- 12. Crusaders
- 14. Puzzled
- 15. In a curt way
- 18. Selling tool
- 19. Solid material
- 20. Gold
- 21. Thick piece of something
- 24. Pouch
- 27. "Wonder Years" actor Fred
- 30. Strong and healthy
- 31. Waste matter
- 33. Apply lightly
- 34. Type of squad
- 35. Secret political faction
- 37. Mock
- 39. Immoral act
- 41. Early Syrian kingdom
- 42. Neutralizes alkalis
- 44. Loud, confused noise
- 47. Sweet potato
- 48. Yemen's largest city
- 49. Farm state
- 50. Bird's beak
- 52. Measures distance
- 53. Pacify
- 56. Spanish noble
- 61. Lodging supplied for public convenience
- 63. Womanized
- 64. Not divisible by two
- 65. Monetary unit

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Used in perfumery
- 2. Arabic man's name
- 3. Assess
- 4. Prickly plants
- 5. Falsely assess
- 6. "___ the whistle"
- 7. Mama
- 8. Rocker ___ Vicious
- 9. Toward
- 10. Prefix meaning within
- 11. Midway between south and southeast
- 12. Cause to be embarrassed
- 13. Pandemonium
- 16. Fall behind
- 17. Cantonese
- 22. Shad
- 23. A way to make dark
- 24. Specialized systems consultant
- 25. Wings
- 26. Taxi driver
- 28. Linear units
- 29. Large Philippine plant
- 32. Celebration
- 36. Fugitives are on this
- 38. Chinese tree
- 40. Not sour
- 43. "Bourne" actor Matt
- 44. Former OSS
- 45. Runners run this
- 46. Offered again
- 51. Sanctuary
- 54. Food suitable for babies
- 55. Caused by a reflection of sound
- 56. Mortar trough
- 57. Days in mid-month
- 58. Exhibit the courage to do
- 59. Disk of the sun in Egyptian mythology
- 60. Protects from weather
- 62. Manganese

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Pride from page 1

food, music and information on community resources. Saturday's march started at the Radford Public Library with a speech by Pastor Kelly Jean Bryant of Glade Church. Bryant grew up in a fundamental Pentecostal Church but told the crowd when she was called to the ministry at the age of 16, she knew it wouldn't be in a church like her childhood church.

"I grew up in the holler in a very conservative, fundamental Pentecostal church, said Bryant. "The music was killer, but then they told me I was going to hell. There are 'lobber passages' they use to tell people like us we are going to hell, but those are used in a way that is ignorant to context."

"Today, there is no shame here," Bryant continued. "Today there is only love. The climate is volatile right now. I am here for you."

According to Glade Church's website, Bryant "felt a call to preach during childhood, [but] they knew that would never be a reality for an LGBT girl in that denomination. Thankfully, they found other denominations (UCC!) over the years that taught the true love of God, and Kelly made it her purpose and ministry to teach God's all-powerful, all-inclusive love."

"Kelly is a gifted oral and written communicator, as well as a thoughtful listener. They also have a strong connection to God that is apparent in their daily habits

and conversations. Kelly has a solid commitment to social justice and looks forward to making more connections in the New River Valley through their ministry."

Janiele Hamden of the Radical Change Commission said she has received messages from people this year who have participated in the march the past two years who said they were scared to participate this year. About 40 people made the march down Main Street, starting at the library and ending at the Radford Visitors and Welcome Center. This is the third year Radford has held a Pride march.

Americans walk less frequently and less safely compared to other countries

A stroll through international statistics about walking reveals the grim reality of foot travel in the United States.

"People walk less in the United States because it's more dangerous to walk here and walking conditions are worse compared to other countries," said Ralph Buehler, professor of urban affairs and planning at Virginia Tech. "So we're caught in a bit of a spiral that discourages walking and encourages driving in the U.S."

For over a decade, Buehler and his co-authors have analyzed walking rates, pedestrian safety, and government policies across multiple industrialized nations, cities within the same nation, and multiple sections of the same city. A recent article published in Sustainability, an international, peer-reviewed, open-access academic journal, updates the findings from prior peer-reviewed work published in Transport Reviews, the American Journal of Public Health, and TRNews. The findings show that overall Americans walk less than individuals in many other countries while also having a higher walking fatality rate per kilometer walked.

"We were interested in figuring out how more people can walk while increasing pedestrian safety," said Buehler, who completed the project with John Pucher of Rutgers University. "Walking doesn't have to be a means of transport of last resort. There are tools and policies out there to make it safer and more attractive."

The researchers utilized a variety of government statistics, including travel surveys, national censuses, and traffic study databases, throughout their research. Their study also examines a variety of measures to increase pedestrian safety and the impact of those measures on walking rates.

According to the study, Americans make fewer than half of the walking trips per day compared to Britons, yet are about six times more likely to be killed while walking per mile traveled. Those disparities remain relatively consistent on both fronts when the U.S. is compared to several other European nations, including Germany, Denmark, and the Netherlands.

The 11 countries studied from 1990-2020 all saw pedestrian fatalities per capita decrease over that span, but the numbers dropped substantially less in the U.S. Americans had a 26 percent decrease compared to 78 percent in the U.K., for example. More troubling, while other countries continued to improve pedestrian safety from 2010-20, the U.S. was the only country to have a rise — up 25 percent — in pedestrian fatalities.

"It's not only that walking is less safe in the U.S., the trends in walking safety are going in the wrong direction," Buehler said.

Other findings of the study include walking rates being highest for short trips, women having a higher walking rate than men, and walking rates generally decreasing as income levels increase. The U.S. is also an outlier in the latter category. Americans are the only group where the highest income bracket walked more than the middle class. The researchers say this is likely due to the gentrification of many central city areas since 2000, where walking is safe and convenient.

Buehler said the U.S. has a long history of creating policies that promote driving while restricting pedestrians.

"The U.S. invented the term, 'jaywalking,' it doesn't exist in most other languages," Buehler said. "The history is really fascinating because in the late 1890s and early 1900s, pedestrians were everywhere in the streets, but cars needed that space, so they sort of get pedestrians out of the streets with all these campaigns. And they were successful of course because no one today would say the street is a safe place for pedestrians."

And that mindset has guided much of the country's infrastructure planning as it has grown during the past century.

"We have designed our communities around the automobile, and a lot of our engineering guidelines for roads have been built to facilitate car movement," he said "Roadway designers don't



PHOTO BY RAY MEESE FOR VIRGINIA TECH

Foot traffic is common on the Blacksburg campus, but as a whole, people in the United States walk less than people in many other countries.

want to delay vehicles, and, guess what, pedestrian-friendly amenities like crosswalks delay cars. It's not so much that the guidelines are purposefully anti-walking, they are pro-driving, but they do at the same time making walking less attractive."

Based on the successes of other countries, the study suggests steps governments could take to promote safe walking.

Steps toward better designs
A cultural shift that better prioritizes pedestrians during the roadway planning process is needed. This could include the incorporation of networks of clearly-marked, well-lit sidewalks and crosswalks and safety islands built into intersection corners and medians, as well as rethinking road placement and deemphasizing designing for speed.

"We in the U.S. walk less even though there are a large number of trips that would be short enough," Buehler said. "For example, Northern New Jersey has roughly the population density of the Netherlands, but it's been planned for cars. So across the street you can see your destination, but because in between there is a six-lane roadway with no crosswalk, it's very dangerous or impossible to get there."

Steps toward better land use
Along with more pedestrian-friendly street designs, thinking through the creation of more walkable communities should include revamping zoning laws and regulations to allow for more mixed-use spaces.

"The land use really matters," Buehler said. "If we keep defining neighborhoods as places without corner stores, day cares, doctors' offices, and things of daily necessity, we're forcing people to drive because distance will be long and there really will not be a choice."

Steps toward better driving habits
Lower speed limits, enforced by both police and traffic cameras, as well as tightened laws related to drunk and distractive driving could greatly benefit safety for both drivers and walkers. Also needed is the revision of laws and their enforcement to put more responsibly on drivers.

"If a pedestrian gets hit, we often sort of blame the victim," Buehler said. "We have to put the responsibility of avoiding that on the people who operate the two-ton machines rather than the people who are walking and have no physical protection around them."

Steps toward better transportation education
Many countries with safer walking rates also have more restrictive driving regulations. Similar

efforts, compounded with more proactive education programs related to both walking and driving for youth, could greatly increase the overall safety of both activities.

"One of the most dangerous jobs in the US is that of a crossing guard," Buehler said. "So it's very dangerous, even around schools, for kids to walk to schools. As a result, parents decide to drive them to school and then there are even more cars driving around those schools."

What steps can you take?
As the warmer weather makes walking more attractive, it also provides an opportunity to play a critical role in making communities safer for foot travel.

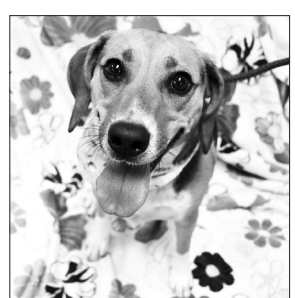
"People who are out and walk daily, they know about dangerous situations, they know about the sidewalk missing links, they know about the traffic signals that don't work," Buehler said. "They have to talk to their local politicians, their town and city engineers, because what we're finding again and again is those folks don't really know what's out there."

-Jenny Kincaid Boone for Virginia Tech

PETS OF THE WEEK



Chamomile



Luna

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Chamomile is a lovable, friendly gal who can't wait to find her furever home. She loves attention and affection from people but she may not care for other dogs. From flushies with squeakers to bouncing balls, she does enjoy playing with toys!

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OBITUARIES

Dillon, Esley N.

Esley N. Dillon, of McCoy, 87, passed away on June 8, 2023, in a Richmond hospital after a long illness.

He was born in McCoy on January 31, 1936, to the late Hampton and Ruth (Dolly) Albert Dillon. He proudly served his country during the Korean Conflict and faithfully served Centennial Christian Church since his childhood. He was also a member of the Longshop-McCoy Fire & Rescue Squad for 50 years and retired from the Information Services Department at Virginia Tech after 53 years of dedication.

death by his parents; two brothers, Elmer and Eugene Dillon; and a sister, Jewel Croy.



He is survived by his sister, Marie Dillon Bland, and his sister-in-law, June Hollandsworth.

His love for the McCoy community was shown through his many acts of kindness to others. He will be missed greatly.

At his request, in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Centennial Christian Church Cemetery Fund or the Longshop-McCoy Fire & Rescue Squad.

Visitation was Monday, June 12 at the McCoy Funeral Home. The service was held Tuesday, June 13 at Centennial Christian Church in McCoy with Rev. Todd Millsaps, Rev. Gary McCoy, and Rev. Neal Turner officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Lacy, Aurelia Dance

Aurelia Dance Lacy, of Blacksburg, passed away on June 9, 2023. She was 98.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Micajah Pennington Lacy; brother, Elbert Dance and sisters, Janey Powell, Marion Henderson and Evelyn Snead.

She is survived by three sons, Michael (Linda), Frank (Janice) and Walter (Iris); eight grandchildren, Elizabeth Lacy Heffner (David), Adrienne Lacy Morales (Drew), Brittany Lacy (Thomas Donegan), Thomas Lacy, Danielle Lacy Hillenbrand (Brent), Micajah Lacy (Alica), Carmen Lacy, Renee Lacy; and eight great grandchildren, James, Amelia and Isaac Heffner, Bennett and Aurelia Hillenbrand, Michael Morales, Dean and Olive Lacy.

Aurelia was born in Halifax County, Va. on May 9, 1925 to Frank and Janie Dance and grew up on a small family farm

there. During WWII, she moved to Washington, DC and worked in the Military Intelligence Division of the US War Department. She married Micajah in 1946 and moved to Blacksburg soon after. Aurelia worked to help support Micajah's



pursuit of undergraduate and graduate degrees following which he served as a faculty member and administrator at Virginia Tech.

Aurelia was a loving wife and mother remembered for her strong will, work ethic, grace and hospitality. She was highly competitive

and loved playing (and usually winning) bridge and other card games with friends and family.

She was a member of the Blacksburg Baptist Church where she directed the nursery for many years. Always involved in the community, she was an active member of the PTA, served many years as a Cub Scout Den Mother, was elected president of the Town and Country Garden Club and was a member of the Smithfield Guild. In later years she became interested in family genealogies resulting in her serving as Regent of the Allegheny Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and a member of the National Society of Magna Carter Dames, Colonial Dames, Daughters of Colonial Wars, Jamestown Society and numerous other genealogical societies.

The family asks in lieu of flowers, memorials be directed to the Micajah P. Lacy Scholarship at Virginia Tech.

Hicks, Jr., Henry Howard

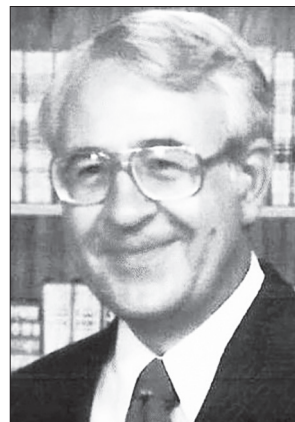
Henry Howard Hicks, Jr., "Howard", 87, of Daleville, passed away at home following a brief illness.

Howard was born August 13, 1935 in Charlotte Court House, Va. and lived in Daleville for 33 years. He was the son of the late Henry H. Hicks Sr. and Martha M. Coates Hicks.

Howard retired as Senior Vice-President of Operations for First Virginia Bank after 47 years of experience, retiring in 2000. He enjoyed playing golf when he was younger, played a mean game of poker, and travelled all over the world. Howard was active in Kiwanis locally and

Rotary in Radford. He was an avid football fan, especially the Redskins.

In addition to his



parents, Howard was preceded in death by his brother, Robert William Hicks. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Karen

Mobley Hicks; son, Henry Howard "Chip" Hicks, III (Anne) of Dunwoody, Ga.; daughter, Martha Louise "Marti" Hicks (Charles) Atkins of Fincastle; grandchildren: Ryan Hicks and Katie Hicks; and his sister, Mary (Fred) Helder of Elizabethtown, Pa. A celebration of Howard's life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Fincastle Rescue Squad and Fire Department, PO Box 432, Fincastle, VA 24090; or to a charity of one's choice. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.rader-funeralhome.com/tributes/Henry-Hicks.

Nicely, Dr. James Edward

Dr. James Edward Nicely, 85, of Radford, died on May 26, 2023.

He was a gentleman who cherished his family and dedicated his life to serving others. He was born December 31, 1937, in Seymour, Ind., to Oris and Mary Evelyn Nicely Walp. He grew up in North Vernon, Ind., and due to WWII, was adopted by his grandmother, Zula Eaton Nicely.

Dr. Nicely is survived by his beloved wife, Sonya Jones Nicely, of 59 years; two children, James Eric (Karen Schauer) Nicely, and Kathleen "Katie" Clare Nicely; and two grandchildren, Victoria Britt and Spencer Evan. Family times spent together were treasured by him, as well as their daily phone calls, texts, and e-mails in later life.

Dr. Nicely was a graduate of Indiana University, Bloomington, where he earned the B.S. and M.S. degrees, which were followed by the Ph.D. from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, in Speech and Language Pathology. He was a speech and hearing therapist in the South Bend, Ind. public schools, an instructor at Saint Mary's College, Director of the Speech and Hearing Clinic at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, and an Associate Professor at Eastern Illinois University, Charleston.

He came to Radford University in 1979, as chair of the new Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. He oversaw the national accreditation of their graduate programs, and the building of two campus buildings to house the academic and clinical portions of both curricula. During his tenure, he served as the Acting Dean of the Graduate College and for five years as the Interim Dean of the Waldron

College of Nursing and Health Services. In 2001, he was awarded the Radford University Foundation Award for Service to the University and attained Professor Emeritus status in 2002.

In other professional activities, Dr. Nicely served as President of the Indiana Speech and Hearing Association, and President of the Speech and Hearing Association of Virginia where he was named a Fellow. He was a founding member of the Communication Disorders Foundation of Virginia and served on its Board of Directors. He was an academic site



visitor for the American Speech and Hearing Association. Following his retirement, he was an advisory board member for the Communication Disorders Program at Longwood University.

Wherever he lived, Dr. Nicely was involved in community life. During the college summers, he was a music instructor at a state school for the intellectually disabled and acted in a summer theater. He was president of his college housing unit, chauffeured for the Wesley Foundation, and directed the project to provide activities on weekends for children living in the Exchange House (a residential facility for children who had severe speech and hearing problems.), and his senior year, co-chaired the Metropolitan Opera After-Opera Antics event during their annual visit to IU. In South Bend, he was involved with

founding a new church, Clay United Methodist, and was instrumental in arranging for the congregation to meet on Sundays in the Engineering Building on the Notre Dame Campus until the church was completed. In Radford his community involvement included offices in the Radford Noon Rotary Club and the Radford Elf Shelf Board.

He sang in the Grove United Methodist Church choir for over 30 years and was the chair of the church's trustees. He loved music and played woodwind instruments in different ensembles including the I.U. Marching One Hundred. Spending time with his family attending concerts, the theater and musical performances and trips to the beach were among his favorite pastimes. Dr. Nicely enjoyed helping those less fortunate and rewarding people's accomplishments. He was a peaceful, caring person who was instrumental in helping his profession grow to provide services to the residents of Southwest Virginia and far beyond.

A celebration of his life will be held at Grove United Methodist Church, 1020 Tyler Avenue, in Radford, on Saturday, June 17 at 2 p.m., with the Reverend Dr. Jan Nicholson Angle presiding. A visitation reception in the fellowship hall will follow. Private interment will be at Earlham Cemetery in Richmond, Ind. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the James E. Nicely Scholarship for Graduate Studies in Communication Sciences and Disorders, Radford University Foundation, P.O. Box 6893, Radford, Virginia 24142.

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

Shanholtz, Mary McGuire

Mary McGuire Shanholtz, 79, went to be with her heavenly father on June 7, 2023.

She was born in 1943 to Okie and Charlie McGuire and raised in Fairlawn.

She married Vernon Shanholtz at Easter in 1965, in Radford, and they have two daughters. They celebrated 49 years together. They frequently spent time working on projects together from canning, wedding flowers, gardening and more.

Mary held a Masters degree in biology from Radford University. She retired after teaching high school math and biology for 34 years. She expected rigorous study and effort while she provided patience, support, and guidance for learning. She was gifted at helping others learn and cared deeply about her students. She invested countless hours with others - encouraging, counseling, and teaching. She was interested in their hopes and future, compassionate and understanding with their challenges. Many remember her use of quirky humor to engage students.

Mary loved God and everything she did was to honor Him. She loved and gave generously.

She gardened, painted, baked, and was an avid photographer and expert seamstress. She and her husband shared a passion for gardening and being with their six grandsons. Her legacy is strong because she made a positive impact on so many lives. Mary Shanholtz will be remembered for a life of love, generosity, Godly inspired wisdom,



and excellence. She was a loving wife, mother, sister, and friend. Her immediate family and friends feel privileged to have been a part of her life.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Okie and Charlie McGuire; her husband, Vernon Shanholtz; her brother-in-law, Thomas Owen; and her nephew, Jonathan H. Cox.

She is survived by her daughters and sons-in-

law, Diane Shanholtz Hartt (William IV) and Dawn Shanholtz Hooper (Mark); grandchildren, Grayson Hooper, Caleb Hooper, Quent Hartt, Samuel Hartt, Zachary Hooper, and Cole Hooper; sisters and brother-in-law, Eva McGuire Owen (Tom (dec.)), and Catherine Cox White (Jesse); as well as many nieces and nephews.

A special thanks to the nurses and staff at Kroontje Healthcare Center at Warm Hearth Village for their care and kindness during these last few months. The family also thanks her many friends and neighbors for their love and support.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, June 11, 2023, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford with Pastor Cameron Mitchell and Pastor Dan Agee officiating. Interment followed in the Sunrise Burial Park in Fairlawn. The family received friends prior to the service. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Chosen People Ministries or Fairlawn Grace Brethren Church.

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

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JUNE 24TH 6:05PM
MARVEL'S DEFENDERS OF THE DIAMOND - GATES OPEN AT 5:00PM

JUNE 25TH 3:05PM
GAME 6 - GATES OPEN AT 2:00PM

Buckner, Mary Pratt

Mary Pratt Buckner, 88, of Radford, passed away Friday, June 9, 2023.

She was a member of New Hope Church of God. Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Luther H. Buckner; parents, Mullins and Nora Pratt; son-in-law, Ernest B.

Clatterback; and many brothers and sisters.

Survivors include her daughter, Brenda Buckner Clatterback; grandson, James Larry Henry, Jr.; sister, Pauline Poff; and many other relatives and friends.

The family received friends on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at the New

Hope Church of God. Funeral services followed with Rev. T. Michael Bond officiating. Interment followed in Sunset Cemetery in Christiansburg.

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

Blacksburg Boxing and Fitness goes to the mats for Alzheimer's Association



Coach Craig Hauser referees boxers Ben King (left) and Nick Carter (right) during the sparring exhibition match in support of The Longest Day fundraising event for Alzheimer's Association.

Lori Graham
Contributing writer

Blacksburg Boxing and Fitness invited the public to a sparring event on June 9 at their Blacksburg gym location to raise funds for Alzheimer's Association and The Longest Day event.

Amateur athletes sparred in an open match in front of a packed room of spectators. The sparring session allowed the athletes an opportunity to get practice while raising funds for a good cause.

The gym was founded in 2015 by Augusta and Kevin Bowen.

"Like in a spring Virginia Tech football game, they might not be hitting as hard as in the real game. It is the same idea with sparring,"

said Kevin Bowen, a USA Boxing Coach and Athlete. "The idea is not to knock your sparring partner out or to beat them. It is live boxing, but the whole point is not to hurt anyone or 'win' but get some good practice in. They also want to showcase their amateur skills."

Bowen said this is not their first fundraising event but it's the first time raising money for Alzheimer's Association. Nina Kempic, a volunteer with the Alzheimers Association and committee member chair with The Longest Day event, also had first-hand experience with the disease through a close family member.

"Taking care of my grandmother who had

Alzheimer's, the Alzheimer's Association provided great support and information," Kempic said. So, she approached Bowen about registering the gym for an event to raise funds for the organization.

"We said heck yeah, why not, and 100% of the proceeds go to the Alzheimer's Association," Bowen said.

The event also allowed for several amateur boxing athletes to step into the ring and practice their boxing skills in front of spectators.

Boxing and sparring require a lot of conditioning and fitness before engaging in a boxing match, Coaches Craig Hauser and Jimmy Ivory discussed at the sparring event on Friday.

"You have to be in



The Longest Day occurs on June 21 each year and strives to bring awareness and support to those fighting Alzheimer's and dementia disease through participation in a variety of events.

PHOTOS BY LORI GRAHAM

tremendous shape to start," said Hauser. "You will come to different classes we have here and work up to skills classes. Then when in good enough shape you can do the Fighter Fit classes. USA Boxing has a program that they need to join. They have to take the physical and maintain that every year."

Months and even years of a continuous training and fitness regime is necessary for those wishing to become a boxing athlete. The direction of a registered coach is also a requirement.

"Any training session, people have to be not just

like all-registered athletes but in the presence of a registered coach for their safety," Ivory said. "Even contact training is highly regulated."

Blacksburg Boxing and Fitness offers a variety of classes to become fit and healthy while having fun learning boxing techniques as well. On the first floor of their gym is housed the boxing ring, punching bags, weightlifting equipment, cardio machines, and a variety of other facilities that allow for workouts at your own pace. Beginner classes allow participants to learn appropriate boxing

techniques to get the most out of their workout. Higher intensity classes are also available such as the Fighter Fit or Core Shred that will give everyone the chance to meet their full workout potential. Additional class options are also available, including children's camps.

The gym is currently open Monday-Thursday 6 a.m.- 9 p.m., Friday 6 a.m.- 7 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m.- 4 p.m., and is closed on Sunday. The first week is free! Additional information can be found on their website at www.blacksburgboxingandfitness.com.

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RADFORD SPORTS

Auburn claims another softball championship



The Auburn Eagles hoist the state championship trophy for the fourth straight time on Saturday after a 1-0 win over Rye Cover.

Marty Gordon

NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Dynasty is defined as “a powerful group or family that maintains its position for a considerable time.” Thus, that could include the Auburn High School softball program.

Saturday, Auburn claimed the Class 1 for the fourth straight year. But the latest one didn't come easy as it took a Avery Zuckerwar single in the top of seventh inning, Auburn's only real hit of the day, to drive in the only run of the day for a 1-0 win.

Pitcher Kristen Fleet led Auburn to be the first softball program in the state to win four straight titles, while tossing a one-hitter in the nail-biter. Fleet, who is a JMU signee, is now 3-0 in state title games. She threw a two-hitter in 2021 and no-hitter last year.

In addition to hoisting the trophy, Auburn had run off 25 straight wins en route to the special day.

Rye Cove entered the contest unbeaten but could not get to Fleet as she struck out nine batters.

Auburn's run began in 2019 and probably would have included another in 2020 if not for the

season being shutdown because of the Coronavirus pandemic, meaning five straight for the little school from Riner.

This one was in a little doubt until Zuckerwar's hit as Rye Cove pitcher Eden Muncy had her own doozie of a game, striking out 13 Auburn batters.

The winning run came after a Rye Cove error that placed Rachel Brotheron on base. She advanced to second base after a wild pitch and moved to third on a sacrifice bunt. Zuckerwar then came up with a bloop single to drive in the run.

Auburn is the 2023 Class 1 state champs.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEY AKERS

Auburn (26-1) is the 2023 Class 1 State softball Champions. This will be their fourth in a row and a new VHSL state record. No softball team at any level has ever done this.

Radford boys soccer falls in semis



Radford's Parker Prioleau flies high for a header at midfield against Clarke County during a Class 2 state semifinal match on Friday at Roanoke College. In Class 2 boys soccer state tournament action, Radford fell to Clarke County 2-1; while Glenvar defeated Poquoson 5-1.



Elijah Kelly (center) celebrates with his teammates after scoring a second half goal off an assist by Andrew Hope for a 1-0 lead against Clarke County.



Radford's Evan Rupe heads a corner kick near the end of a scoreless first half against Clarke County.



Radford's Brody Shull (right) consoles teammate Evan Rupe after falling 2-1 to Clarke County in a Class 2 state semifinal match on Friday.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Hokies, Hawkeyes in Tipoff contest

The Virginia Tech women's basketball team is set to play national runner-up Iowa at the Spectrum Center in Charlotte on November 9 in the Ally Tipoff, the Charlotte Sports Foundation announced Wednesday.

The event will pit two conference champions and 2023 NCAA Final Four teams against each other and will be available on ESPN platforms with specific details announced at a later date.

"I'm extremely excited to be a part of the Ally Tipoff playing against the University of Iowa," Virginia Tech head coach Kenny Brooks said. "This game will feature high level talent that will showcase two teams that experienced the Final Four last year. This premier matchup will be great not only for our prestigious conferences but will be a great display for women's basketball."

Tickets will go on sale later in the summer and fans can sign up for more information and presale opportunities at AllyTipoff.com. Don't miss any

of the latest news, events and ticket info regarding Virginia Tech Women's Basketball. Join the women's basketball interest list.

Tech and Iowa have met just three times previously in women's basketball, with the Hawkeyes winning twice, including the last matchup in 2011 in Iowa City.

Iowa is led by point guard Caitlin Clark, the 2023 AP National Player of the Year. She scored over 1,000 points last season and was the national leader in assists at 8.6 per game. Clark also led the nation in triple-doubles with five and 3-pointers made at 140 for the season. Her total of 32 made threes during the 2023 NCAA Tournament set a tournament record.

The backcourt matchup promises to be an exciting one as Clark will likely guard Tech's All-American point guard Georgia Amoore who made the second-most threes in the country a season ago (118). Amoore, who was named the MVP of the ACC Tournament and the Seattle 3 Region's Most

Outstanding Player, connected on 24 threes in the NCAA Tournament and set an ACC Tournament record with 14 in Greensboro en route to lifting the program's first ACC Championship trophy.

Tech also returns center Elizabeth Kitley, a Second Team All-American and two-time ACC Player of the Year. Last season she averaged 18.2 points per game and 10.7 rebounds, collecting 23 double-doubles and helping the Hokies to their best season in program history. She recorded national top 10s in blocks, double-doubles, field goals and rebounds. For her career, she tops the Virginia Tech record book in numerous categories: points, double-doubles, 30-point games, field goals, field goal percentage and blocks.

Cayla King is Tech's third returning starter in 2023-24. She ranks fourth all-time at Tech with 225 threes and owns the record for threes in a game with nine.

-Virginia Tech Athletics

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Tennis playoff action



Christiansburg's Lucas Beasley hits a backhand return against Tabb's Nicolas Crespo in a Class 3 singles semifinal match. Beasley would win 6-3, 6-2 to advance to the finals against Goochland's Evan Bernstine.



Radford's Lydia Pratt defeated Ellen Waag of East Rockingham in a Class 2 singles semifinal match, 6-1, 6-1 on Friday at Virginia Tech.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Fixsen wins national pole vault title for Hokies

Julia Fixsen captured Virginia Tech's 22nd individual national championship in school history Thursday night, winning the women's pole vault with a personal-best 14' 7.25" (4.45m) clearance on her first attempt.

"It was a great night," said assistant coach Bob Phillips. "All four girls were extremely focused and it showed in the results. I am especially happy for Julia. She finished the indoor season fighting through some pain, so to see her pain-free at the end of the outdoor season and to watch her hard work and patience pay off with both the conference and national titles was outstanding."

The junior entered the NAAs ranked 10th in the nation but saved her best performance of the season for the national stage. She led a quartet of Hokies that finished in the top 15 of the event. Kenna Stimmel, the ACC indoor champion in the pole vault, placed eighth on Thursday after clearing 14' 1.25" (4.30m). Journey Gurley (tied for 13th) and Hayley Horvath (15th) rounded out the Tech contingent competing in the event clearing 13' 7.25" (4.15m).

Fixsen's national title gives the Hokies two in 2023, as Youssef Ramadan of men's swimming and diving won gold in the 100-yard butterfly in

March.

In the women's hammer throw, Tech first-year Barbora Stejfova secured All-America honorable mention with her 23rd-place showing. She unleashed a 195' 8" (59.65m) mark on her second attempt.

Essence Henderson placed 22nd in the women's shot put with a mark of 50' 10.25" (15.50m).

On the track, Lindsey Butler finished 17th in the 800-meters earning honorable mention All-America honors as she crossed the line with a time of 2:04.44.

-Virginia Tech Athletics

RU releases women's soccer slate

Radford University Head women's soccer coach Ben Sohrabi revealed Wednesday morning the program's loaded schedule for the 2023 season.

The campaign features nine home matches and eight Big South matches as the squad looks to defend its 2022 conference tournament title.

Before the regular season kicks off, Radford will play a pair of exhibition matches. The team first travels to William & Mary on August 6 before returning home to face Concord on August 13, both in exhibition play.

Radford's regular season opener comes on August 17 where the team will play host to Emory & Henry, kicking off their 21 season at Cupp Stadium. The Highlanders then hit the road for a big-time opponent in Virginia on August 20. The Highlanders and Cavaliers last met in the first round of the 2019 NCAA Tournament. Virginia is coming off another great season that included reaching the NCAA Elite 8 in last year's tournament.

The Highlanders' next road match features

a former Big South foe in Campbell as the two squads face off as non-conference foes for the first time on August 23. Radford then returns to the home front for a game against Mount St. Mary's on August 27. The Highlanders and the Mountaineers will meet for the third straight season, including six of the last seven seasons.

Radford's back on the road to close out the month of August against another quality Commonwealth foe in Richmond on August 31. To open the month of September, Radford and Hampton square off September 3rd at Cupp Stadium for the first time since 2019.

Two of the Highlanders final three non-conference meetings will come on the road. The final stretch before Big South play gets started September 7th against another tough foe in Tennessee who was a participant in the 2022 NCAA Tournament. Radford will host Appalachian State on September 10th as the two teams rematch an exciting 2-2 tie in the 2022 season. To close out non-conference play, Radford

plays at Wofford on September 15.

After a brief break, Big South play begins on September 23rd when Radford plays host to Presbyterian. Two straight conference road matches await the Highlanders after that as they visit High Point on September 27th and Charleston Southern on September 30th to end the month of September.

As postseason play starts to loom, three of Radford's final five conference matches come in the friendly confines of Cupp Stadium. The Highlanders will host UNC Asheville on October 4 before traveling to face USC Upstate on October 7th in a rematch of last season's Big South Semifinals.

Radford hosts Winthrop on October 14th and visits Longwood on October 18th in the waning weeks of conference play. October 21st features the regular season finale in what's sure to be a thrilling Big South Championship rematch with Gardner-Webb on the home turf.

-Radford University Athletics

NRCC recognizes second year of nursing scholars recipients



Pictured (left to right) are New River Community College's 2023-2024 NRCC Nursing Scholars: Melanie Gallimore, Madelyn Hedge, Tiffany Jackson, Claire Fender, and Elaina McCoy (not pictured: Michaela Robertson).

New River Community College recently recognized the recipients of the second class of NRCC Nursing Scholars, a scholarship program that fosters opportunity and success for outstanding high school junior and senior students who show interest and ability in NRCC's Nursing Associate of Applied Science degree.

This year's Level One scholars include Claire Fender (Radford High School), Madelyn Hedge (Pulaski County High School), Tiffany Jackson (Eastern Montgomery High School), and Michaela Robertson (Floyd County High School).

Level Two scholars include Melanie Gallimore (Floyd County High School) and Elaina McCoy (Blacksburg High School).

The six students were awarded scholarships and certificates at a ceremony held at NRCC on May 24.

Scholarship students and their families were greeted by NRCC's President Dr. Pat Huber, Vice President of Instruction and Student Services Dr. Peter Anderson, Dean of Arts and Sciences

Sarah Tolbert-Hurysz, and NRCC Educational Foundation Executive Director Angie Covey. Interim Coordinator of Nursing Helen Wolfe, nursing faculty Misty Rice, Caitlin Reed, Heather Umberger, Wendy Hay, and Michelle Goodwin along with advisors Katie Pruett and Fran Scartelli assisted in presenting students with scholarship certificates.

Nursing Scholars receive support from advisors who are charged with helping scholars make the best possible transition from high school through completion of NRCC's Nursing AAS degree. The scholarship consists of level one and level two awards. High school (public, private and homeschool) juniors and seniors who reside in NRCC's service region (Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski Counties and Radford City) may apply for level one scholarships.

Nursing Scholars must demonstrate outstanding academic achievement, leadership, and citizenship. Applicants must have a 3.75 high school grade point average or better and demonstrate superior levels of leadership and citizenship in the application essays.

Detailed information about the program can be found on NRCC's website at www.nr.edu/nursing/scholars. For more information about the Nursing Scholars Program at NRCC, contact Lynn Taylor at (540)674-3631 or ltaylor@nr.edu.

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