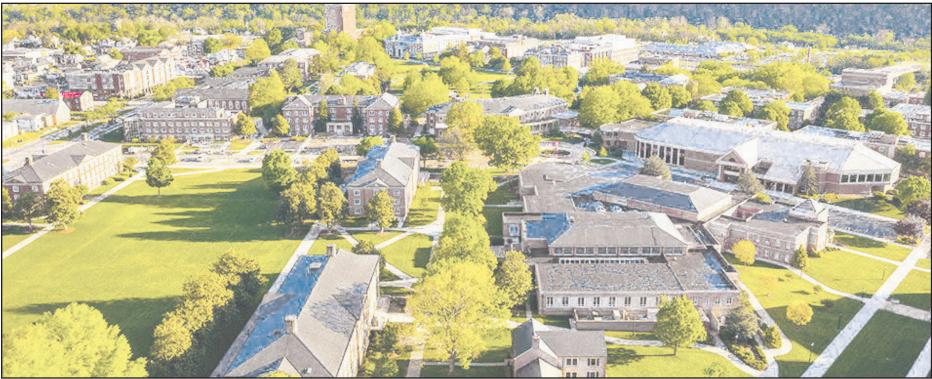


#### Saturday, September 23, 2023 • USPS 387-780 • radfordnewsjournal.com • \$1.00



Radford University, whose campus is pictured, is one of the best online colleges in Virginia, according to Forbes.com.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSIT

# Radford University among Virginia's best online colleges

Radford University is one of the best online colleges in Virginia, according to Forbes.com.

Only 10 Virginia colleges and universities made this year's list.

Forbes said it included Radford because students looking to attend online "can choose from standard bachelor's degrees, bachelor's degree completion programs and accelerated bachelor's-to-master's degrees. Some are available in a hybrid format for learners who prefer some in-person instruction."

Radford has nearly 50 undergraduate and graduate level online program options across our seven undergraduate colleges and the College of Graduate Studies. Interested students can enroll in programs in business, computer science, criminal justice, data science, design thinking, education, English, geospatial intelligence and healthcare.

Forbes' methodology for developing the list included scoring 16 accredited nonprofit colleges in Virginia that offer online bachelor's degree programs. It measured data points in such categories as credibility, affordability, student outcomes and student experiences.

Among those categories, Forbes looked at each university's graduation rates, median earnings for alumni 10 years past graduation, retention rates, average annual net price for students receiving federal aid, student-tofaculty ratio, socioeconomic diversity, accreditations and acceptance rates.

Chad Osborne for Radford University

# Tree expert on the best times to view fall colors

With autumn set to start Sept. 23, leaf peepers won't have long to wait expertise about the best for forest leaves to turn times for viewing and and produce spectacular color displays.

The vistas to be found in Southwest guaranteed to be jawdropping regardless of the upcoming weather.

brown." Seiler shares his how they will and won't

be affected by weather. Q: When should people plan their trips to Virginia are just about see the most spectacular fall colors?



"We have such a great range of species which helps buffer us from weather effects," said John Seiler, a Virginia Tech forestry professor and expert in tree physiology. "Red colors come from blackgum, scarlet oak, northern red oak, sassafras, red maple, sourwood, and white oak. Hickory, chestnut oak, red maple add yellow. So does yellowpoplar, which is dropping a bit early already. Sugar maple leaves turn yellow or red-orange. Black oak leaves bring golden

"The best viewing period is generally always around the end of October. This year, I would suggest from Oct. 28 to Nov. 5. I always try to include two weekends for people to plan their fall foliage driving tours."

Q: Could any weather factors affect that schedule?

"A lot also depends on the weather we get leaves to turn color, in September and early October. Good moisture and cooler temperatures shortening daylengths. are the ticket. As it has Seedlings which stay been getting a bit dry warm in a greenhouse lately, I've been thinking but are exposed to short it may move the season fall days still change up some and shorten it, color. Day length does

Prime season for enjoying fall foliage is just around the bend.

causing some trees to drop their leaves earlier. However, there is still time for more rain."

What triggers Q: anyway?

"The main driver is

get modified by drought, which can cause trees to turn early, and lack of cool nights, which will cause them to turn a bit later in the year."

Q: Does climate change have any effect on that schedule?

"Global warming in general will have only a very slight impact on fall color change. There is some research showing leaf changes occurring earlier but lasting longer. However, the overall effect is not significant enough for the weekend leaf peeper to notice a difference."

Seiler specializes in environmental stress effects on woody plant physiology, including water and pollutant stresses. He is the Honorable and Mrs.

Shelton Η. Short Professor of Forestry Virginia Tech at and was named an Alumni Distinguished Professor. Seiler teaches in the College of Natural Resources and Environment.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PEXELS FOR VIRGINIA TEC

Mike Allen for Virginia Tech



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF THE RADFORD CHAMBER

The Radford Chamber of Commerce invites the public to submit nominations for this year's annual business awards.

## **Radford Chamber seeks nominations** for their annual business awards

The Radford Chamber of Commerce invites the public to submit nominations for this year's annual business awards to be presented at the 2023 Annual Gala and Awards Banquet, set for November.

Awards will be given for the Small Business, Business, Business Person and Non-Profit of the year. Nominees must be Radford Chamber of Commerce members in good standing, except for Non-Profit Organization of the Year nominees.

"This year, we have the privilege of honoring some of our worthy Chamber

# Radford music professor spends summer on European tour

guitar in hand.

Europe, North and and festivals. This summer, Trent embarked on a nine-day tour of the Iberian Peninsula, performing solo concerts in Aveiro, Portugal, Madrid and Navas de San Juan, Spain.

There, he performed a repertoire of the early romantic period, music of Fernando Sor, Mauro Giuliani, and Ferdinando Carulli, on an authentic 19th century guitar of French style construction. One reporter, Elisabeth Ruiz

Dr. Robert Trent is no Martinez of the Dario stranger to globetrotting, Jaen, wrote that Trent delighted the audience, He's played in Asia, assessing it as "sublime."

Dr. Trent is a first South America in prize winner of numerous concerts, competitions national and international

competitions and a Dalton Eminent Senior Scholar Award winner in 2021. He is the Director of Guitar and Lute Studies and the

See **Professor**, page 4



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY Dr. Robert Trent in performance this summer in Spain.

# UPCOMING EVENTS Saturday, Sept. 23:

#### **Radford Summer Concert**

Last installment of 2023 concerts, featuring country artist Ryan Perry and opening act Sofie Lynn. Held on grounds of Glencoe Mansion, just off West Main St. (600 Unruh Dr.). Gates open at 6 p.m., music starts at 7 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person; children under 12 are free. Food trucks and adult beverages.

#### Mornings with the Mayor

Join Mayor Leslie Hager-Smith, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. to learn how the Town of Blacksburg operates. Tour the new police station, explore the Town's history and geography and learn how to get involved at any age! Program admission is free. Open to ages 8 - 12 years. Program admission is limited to 12 participants. Participants must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. To register, call 540.443.1026 or email lspaulding@blacksburg.gov.

# Monday, Sept. 25:

#### Special Education Advisory Committee

A Radford City Public Schools Special Education Advisory Committee meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m. at McHarg Elementary School, 700 12th St., Radford. The public is invited to attend. The meeting will also be available virtually using Google Meet. To be invited using Google Meet, contact Anne Goodman, Chair, at 540-267-7144, or Kate Leeper, Vice Chair, at 540-267-7223, to obtain a virtual meeting link. We hope to see you there!

#### **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.

#### **Family Movie Matinee: Coco**

At the Radford Public Library; 6:30 p.m. Come see 'Coco' on the library's BIG projection screen! Rated PG; 105 minutes.

# Tuesday, Sept. 26:

#### Blacksburg Town Council meeting

The 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.

# Wednesday, Sept. 27:

#### Grownup Mario Kart "Tournament"

At the Radford Public Library; 6- 7:30 p.m. Adults are invited to race in a friendly Mario-Kart tournament using the library's Nintendo Switch on the huge TV in the teen section.

#### Radford Photo Club presents Cityscapes with Michele Borgarelli

At the Radford Public Library; 6 p.m. All skill levels are welcome to our discussion of photographing cities. This will be a two-part discussion that carries over into our next meeting on Thursday, Oct. 26.

# Friday, Sept. 29:

#### **Basic Computer Skills**

At the Radford Public Library; 10:30 a.m. -noon. This eight-week adult education opportunity is for beginners looking to learn how to safely incorporate the internet into their daily lives. Lunch is provided after class. Please call the Literacy Volunteers of the New River Valley at (540) 382-7262 to register. Spaces are limited. Laptops are provided during the classes.

## Thursday, Oct. 19:

#### **Blood Drive**

The New River Health District will be hosting a blood drive on in the Community Room at the Montgomery Co. Health Department from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. We have set a goal of having 20 donors for the day and need your assistance. Donors of all blood types are urgently needed now to ensure patients at hospitals across the country continue to receive critical medical care. Each donor for this drive will receive a \$15 Amazon gift card as a thank you for your donation. Register at www.redcrossblood.org.

# **On-going**:

## **Hydrant Testing**

The Town of Blacksburg will test fire hydrants in the Southwest Quadrant of Town between Sept. 12 – Oct. 5. Hydrant testing can cause temporary pressure fluctuations and discolored water. These conditions will subside after the testing is completed. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Town of Blacksburg Engineering Department at (540) 443-1300.

#### **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.

#### **Free GED classes**

New River Community College is offering free GED at the Meadowbrook Library every Monday and Tuesday through Tuesday, Dec. 12. For more information or to sign up please call the Library at 540-268-1964.

#### NRV Master Gardener Assoc. accepting grant applications for 2024

The NRV Master Gardener Assoc., a volunteer organization of the Virginia Cooperative Extension, is now accepting grant applications for 2024 gardening projects. Grants will be awarded based on merit to any educational, care-giving or communitybased organization seeking to educate, involve, and/ or improve quality of life for participants through a gardening-related project. Organizations in the counties of Floyd, Giles, Pulaski and Montgomery (and towns within), and the City of Radford, are eligible. Applications must be electronically received (if emailed) or postmarked (if mailed through the USPS) by Oct. 15, 2023. Extra pages may be used for plan images and illustrations. For more information and to submit your project application, contact Carol Trutt: nrvmastergardenerassoc@gmail.com email is preferred or mail to Carol Trutt: 95 N Surry Circle, Christiansburg, VA 24073.

# New Mount Olive fish fry today



PHOTO COURTESY OF JW WEBB

United Methodist Men of New Mount Olive member Gilbert Meadows (right) gets help from Brady Meadows with the famous fried fish at the July 2023 fish fry.



# MOOG

# Onsite Manufacturing HIRING EVENT

Friday, September 29 | 12pm-7pm moog.careers





RADFORD - The United Methodist Men of New Mount Olive are back with their beloveds fried fish with a fish fry set for today, Saturday, Set. 23.

The fish fry is 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. and will be held at New Mount Olive United Methodist Church, 309 Russell Ave., in Radford. Dinners are \$12 and include two pieces of fried fish, baked beans, coleslaw, rolls and dessert. Fish sandwiches with slaw are \$6 and an extra piece of fish is \$3.50. For call-in orders, call the church at 540-639-6425. Delivery is available, only in Radford.

Submitted by JW Webb

Send community news and photos to community news @ourvalley.org

# Radford City Council to meet Monday, Sept. 25



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF CITY OF RADFORD

RADFORD - Radford City Council will hold its next regularly scheduled meeting Monday, Sept. 25, 2023 at 7 p.m. The meeting agenda includes:

Citizen comments on public matters: Please state your name for the record and please limit comments to three minutes or less.

Report: Homeless Outreach

Proclamations: Public Power Week, Fire Prevention Week and Arts and Humanities Month

Public Hearings: Vacation of Right of Way-110 Tyler Avenue and Vacation of Right of Way-52 Walker Street

Old Business:

1. Vacation of right of way-110 Tyler Avenue

a. Receive board of viewers report

b. Authorize City Attorney to Draft Ordinance

2. Vacation of right of way- 52 Walker Street

a. Receive board of viewers report

b. Authorize city attorney to draft ordinance

3. Appointments to board and commissions

a. City/University Joint Advisory Commission New Business:

1. CDBG Consolidated Annual Performance Report

2. Ordinance 1793: Amend U.S. Cellular cell tower agreement

3. West End street closure

4. Appropriation Ordinance 1787.11: \$70,126-asset forfeiture

City manager comments

Council member comments

Future Meetings: include Oct. 9, 2023- Regular Meeting, 7 p.m. and Oct. 23, 2023-Regular Meeting 7 p.m.

~ City of Radford



you must be a citizen of the United States, be eighteen years of age on or before the next General Election, have domicile and a place of abode in Montgomery County and that you be registered in the precinct in which you reside.

An acceptable ID will be required when you vote. A voter may show either voter registration confirmation documents, valid Virginia Driver's License, valid United States Passport, or any other identification issued by the Commonwealth, one of its political subdivisions, or the United States; any valid student identification card issued by any institution of higher education located in the Commonwealth or any private school located in the Commonwealth; any valid student identification card issued by any institution of higher education located in

the Commonwealth; any valid employer identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the name and address of the voter.

Contact the Montgomery County Office of Elections if you have any questions at 382-5741 or the Department of Elections at elections.virginia.gov. Connie Viar Director of Elections/General Registrar



the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwwsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC. 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWWLaw Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwwsales.com. VA-347735-2.

#### **TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 5070 GOLD** RUSH RD, 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 the

SAID PROPERTY TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT TO MAINTAIN, REPAIR, REPLACE AND **IMPROVE ANY** AFORESAID FACILITIES. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwwsales.com Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale

and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The

sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite

101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwwsales.com. VA-208631-2.

SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION 100 FEET TO A STAKE; THENCE S 54 DEG. 07 W 250.0 FEET TO A STAKE; THENCE IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION 241.14 FEET TO A STAKE IN THE NORTHEAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF VIRGINIA STATE SECONDARY ROUTE NUMBER 663; THENCE WITH THE NORTHEAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF VIRGINIA STATE SECONDARY ROUTE NUMBER 663. N 24 DEG. 29' W 36.85 FEET TO A ROD; THENCE STILL WITH THE NORTHEAST **RIGHT OF WAY LINE** OF VIRGINIA STATE SECONDARY ROUTE NUMBER 663. N 27 DEG. 30° W 73.15 FEET TO A ROD IN THE LINE OF ROY D. BURTON, THE POINT OF BEGINNING TOGETHER WITH THAT DEED OF EASEMENT DATED 11/25/2003 AND RECORDED 12/8/2003 AS INSTRUMENT NUMBER 2003020733. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash of

certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the

essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwwsales.com.

Additional terms, if any, to

Supervisors hereby schedules a public hearing for Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 7:15 p.m. or as soon thereafter at the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to receive citizen comments on a proposed ordinance entitled "Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, Division 5 Section 2-107 of the Code of the County of Montgomery, Virginia Entitled Tax Exemption and Deferrals for Elderly and Handicapped by Increasing the Net Combined Financial Worth and the Income Limits to be Eligible for Relief". A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the County Administrator and is available 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday for public inspection or copying

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

F. Craig Meadows County Administrator

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

#### OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY

#### **BOARD OF** SUPERVISORS

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 & 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on September 25, 2023 at 7:15 p.m. in the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St. Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to hear citizen comments regarding the Board of Supervisors' intention to act on the following Special Use Permit request: A request by RDH LLC for a approximately 0.01 miles from the intersection of South Jefferson Forest Lane (St. Rt. 818) and Coal Bank Hollow Road. The property is further identified as Tax Maps 028-A 15 and 028-A 16 (Parcel IDs: 009224 and 009225). 6.8 acres, zoned Agricultural (A-1) in the Mount Tabor Magisterial District. The property currently lies in an area designated as Residential Transition in the 2025 Comprehensive Plan. Copies of the proposed plans, applications, ordinances or amendments may be examined at the Department of Planning and GIS Services, County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Suite2A, Christiansburg, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or at

http://www.montgomerycou ntyva.gov/pendingapplicatio ns.

#### NOTICE OF **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY

#### **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 & amp; 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on September 25, 2023 at 7:15 p.m. in the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St. Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to hear citizen comments regarding the Board of Supervisors' intention to act on the following Special Use Permit request: A request by Darrell Linkous for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow a Manufactured Home on a vacant lot located within the R-3 Residential Zoning District. The property is

be eighteen years of age on or before the next General Election, have domicile and a place of abode in Montgomery County and that you be registered in the precinct in which you reside. An acceptable ID will be required when you vote. A voter may show either voter registration confirmation documents, valid Virginia Driver's License, valid United States Passport, or any other identification issued by the Commonwealth, one of its political subdivisions, or the . United States; any valid student identification card issued by any institution of higher education located in the Commonwealth or any private school located in the Commonwealth; any valid student identification card issued by any institution of higher education located in the Commonwealth; any valid employer identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the name and address of the voter. Contact the Montgomery County Office of Elections if

you have any questions at 382-5741 or the Department of Elections at elections.virginia.gov. Connie Viar Director of Elections/General Registrar



# **NRVRC** seeks Hazard **Mitigation Plan input**

When a major natural event strikes, it is often described as a natural disaster.

Natural disasters and their aftermath have long affected humans and the built environment. Pre-disaster hazard mitigation is about preventing or minimizing the physical, financial, and human impacts of natural disasters; the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) describes hazard mitigation as "sustained actions taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk from hazards and their effects.'

Identifying the region's likely hazards, assessing their impact, and determining what can be done to

## Professor from page 1

Graduate Coordinator for the Department of Music. He spared some time for a few questions about the tour and why concerts like this matter.

So how did this musical tour of the Iberian Peninsula come about? Was it something you had done before or is this the first time? If it was the first in a new city for me. In time, who initiated it?

the years before Covid-I was invited by three 19, I was invited by the presenters, one in each director of a festival in town. I had performed in Guimarães (the original Spain before, but not in founding city of ancient the cities I performed in Portugal). In another this summer. The situation year, I was invited by the is the same with Portugal, director of that festival, having performed there who is the director of the before; however, this time present festival in Navas

RADFORD **News Journal** 

Serving Radford since 1884

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Radford News Journal is a newspaper of, by and for the people of Radford. We encourage letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached for verification. All letters will be verified before publication. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

to people and property: this planning process will meet these goals and compile a plan for the New River Valley to implement policies, programs and projects that will build its resilience to disasters. The New River Valley Regional

reduce or eliminate the risk they pose

Commission will work with locality staff, state and federal agencies, and stakeholders across the region over the coming months to complete the the process, so please continue to work and publish a plan that identifies the hazards, their risks, the region's that best fit your availability. The site vulnerability and the strategies to will be updated at least monthly with minimize these vulnerabilities. Input new information from our working

de San Juan.

How did you go about

I tend to design a

concert program around

a central large-scale work

that interests me. Next, I

think about, or imagine a

"companion" work. That

can mean different things,

such as similar style,

contrast in style or key, or

something more nuanced.

Before I truly realize it,

I find that a theme or

that's

motivates me: to create

an overall concept that

is a journey rather than

an evening of my favorite

"flavors of the moment."

I find I'm much more

engaged in larger pieces

and concepts, not only in

music, but in epic books,

film, and so forth. My next

two CDs to be published

are likewise built on a

attention and deepen

hopefully, the audience's

Those things hold my

engagement and,

single or double topic.

mv

as well.

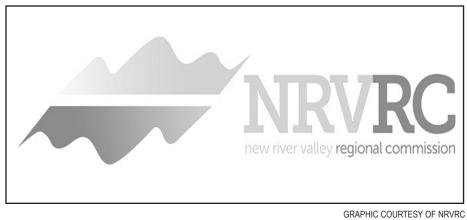
what

program is developing.

And

selecting your repertoire? What can you tell us

about the selections?



the success of the planning process and build partnerships for future success.

Your contribution is valuable to participate in the process in the ways from all participants will contribute to groups, surveys, and requests for

feedback as well as plans for in-person events

For more information: https://www. engagenrv.org/hazard-mitigationplan.

River New Valley Regional Commission

Speaking of your audience, do you have a sense of who came to see the concerts? Did you get a chance to meet anyone attending the show?

Young and old. Families, couples, and singles. European audiences, from my experience, always seem to consist of a wide diversity.

I always meet with people following the performance, and again, Europeans, as well as South Americans and Asians, are very appreciative. Many want to speak with the artist to ask questions and give their thanks. Often, a group of people will head out for dinner and a drink. Following one concert several of us hung out at various locations town until 2 a.m.

In one case one young student came backstage, asked several questions about my interpretive choices; I invited that student to perform her piece for me backstage as part of the discussion. Fortunately, my wife and host reminded me we needed to get to our dinner engagement, or I might have forgotten all about it.

What was the most rewarding or interesting aspect of this tour?

Performing for those who truly appreciate the music. Feeling that from the audience and the

ensuing engagement with music lovers following the concert performance; and, as always, reuniting with friends around the world.

Why are concerts like this important?

Several things are important here. Naturally, it is good for me as a performer. I am driven to be a performing artist. I need it like water and food. It's a very big part of who I am and enhances my professional development.

It also becomes valuable to my students at Radford. Being the active performer keeps me engaged so that on my return I can impart to my students what it takes to perform, tour, teach masterclasses, and lecture to people around the world. And how to prepare! It takes months, if not years, of planning to make it all work. And I learn something new each and every time.

But the most important reason is the way music breaks down barriers which are often present across countries, even when they should not be. Music really does unite and heal the world. Food, music, culture and human interaction bring us together.

Whether I like it or not, I'm an ambassador, not only for the art and craft, but also for my country and Radford University. It is important to realize that in some countries, I might be the first American they meet. By performing music, it can create a bond and understanding that would not be there otherwise.

I believe this is very important and if I had the power, I would require and support study abroad for every student. It's why I use Mark Twain's observations about travel in my email signature. In The Innocents Abroad, he wrote, "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime."

Any favorite memories or moments?

Ι was pleasantly surprised to be called back to the stage for four encores in Spain. The Spanish are very critical and particular about how Spanish music is performed. So, I was heartened by this response to my performance.

So, what's next on the international musical scene for you?

Right now, I am making plans for performances in Mexico and Italy to occur this coming spring.

Sean Kotz for Radford University

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\$55.00 Virginia

\$59.00 Out of State

Radford News Journal (USPS 387-780) is published twice a week for \$44 a year in the City of Radford, \$53 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$54 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Christiansburg, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL 1633 W. Main St., Salem, VA 24153.

# Chamber from page 1

members," the Chamber announced.

The attendees of the Annual Gala will vote for the winner that evening at The Highlander Hotel.

Nominee forms must be submitted to the Chamber office by email by Oct. 20, 2023.

'We look forward to receiving your nominations and seeing you at this year's Annual Gala and Silent Auction on November 4th, 2023, at The Highlander Hotel,"

the Chamber announced. "Plan now to join in the celebration as we recognize the contribution of some of Radford's worthy award winners."

Contact the Radford Chamber at info@ radfordchamber.com for instructions to submit nominations.

Radford News Journal staff report

OUR

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# **O**BITUARIES

## Alvarez, Dale Durham

It is with deep sadness that we a celebration of Dale's life, there

share the passing of our beloved Dale Durham Alvarez.

She passed away peacefully on the early morning of Sept. 14, 2023. Dale (Mama D), a woman of elegance, youthfulness, beauty, and unwavering compassion and strength, lived every day maximizing and

cherishing the beauty of life. In her 81 years of life, Dale always had the biggest heart, and she welcomed and loved anyone who walked into her life. We will miss the remarkable woman that was Dale Alvarez beyond measure.

If you would please join us for

a of Dale's life, there will be a service on Oct. 7 at 1 p.m. at NorthStar Church in Blacksburg. In lieu of flowers, we ask for donations to the NorthStar Church Caring Fund, and to always cheer for Dale's Georgia Bulldogs. In addition to

have posted a tribute on Dale's

Facebook page. Link: https://m.facebook.com/ story.php?story\_fbid=pfbid041jvy E4aN1DVmiuNZCc8URGwNjfp TJiAgrx9FjvbmcokWRvBsmTLcE SVWR92YQ2Dl&id=110757820 1&mibextid=Nif5oz

## Musselman, Herbert Curtis

Herbert Curtis Musselman, from 12 p.m. until 1 p.m. on Friday,

94, of Christiansburg, passed away on Monday, September 18, 2023. He was preceded in death by his parents, Emery and Alice Musselman.

Survivors include his loving wife of 77 years, Roselee Akers Musselman; brothers, Emery and Danny Musselman; and numerous other family members

and friends. The family will receive friends

The family will receive friends



September 22, 2023, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services will begin at 1 p.m. with Wesley Conner Roger Smith and officiating. Interment with full military honors will follow the Southwest in Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin.

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

See **Obituaries**, page 6

#### radfordnewsjournal.com

#### ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

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

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

#### BAPTIST

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

First Baptist Church on 3rd Ave., 215 Third Ave at the corner with Downey St. We nurture meaningful connections to God and others through worship, spiritual growth, and community ministry. We celebrate the dignity and worth of all persons, created in the image of God. Sunday Bible Study Groups - 9:45, Sunday Worship - 11:00. Website: fbcradford.org 540-639-4419. Worship is inperson and live-streamed on Facebook and on our YouTube channel: First Baptist Church Radford. Trinity Community Church, 1505 N. Franklin Street, C'burg. John Altizer, Lead Pastor, Brian Cockram, Associate Pastor, 382-8121. Worship at 10:45 a.m., Outreach Ministries - 6:00p.m. Wednesday, Growth Groups - 5:00p.m. Sunday, Youth and Children's Ministry - 5:00p.m. Sunday, www.trinitycburg.org.

#### **CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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

# Radford WORSHIP DIRECTORY

## Sincere Remorse

Read Hosea 8:1 through 14:9

"Though they offer sacrifices as gifts to me, and though they eat the meat, the Lord is not pleased with them. Now he will remember their wickedness and punish their sins: They will return to Egypt" (Hosea 8:13).

Hosea declared the futility of Israel offering insincere sacrifices. The Lord was not pleased with rituals performed without remorse for wrongdoing. Instead of receiving forgiveness from heartfelt confession, the nation suffered punishment for their accumulated sins.

Hebrews 9:22 teaches that "without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness." The blood from animal sacrifice pointed to the time when Christ's blood would secure forgiveness for all who receive Him. His death paid the penalty for sin once and for all.

Israel had treated the Lord as one of many gods, sacrificing only to gain favor. Doing good things to gain God's favor will not cover our sin. Nothing can substitute for the blood Christ shed. God sees each heart. He knows if there is true remorse that brings about change.

Prayer Suggestion: Lord Jesus, my forgiveness is only possible through You. I owe You everything.

Quicklook: Hosea 8:11-13

#### CHURCH OF GOD

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

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

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

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

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

#### EPISCOPAL

**Grace Episcopal Church**, 210 Fourth Street Radford. Welcoming and accepting, we have been a part of the Radford community for more than 130 years. ALL ARE WELCOME. Grace offers an 8:00am Contemplative Eucharist and a 10:30am Eucharist with organ music and a choir, with refreshments served afterwards. The 10:30am service is also available on YouTube for those unable to leave their house. Find us on Facebook and www.graceradford.org.

#### LUTHERAN

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



#### ford.org. 540-639-2671.

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

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

#### PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

Merrimac Pentecostal Holiness Church, Rev. Larry Christopher (540) 552-7194. l.christopher695@comcast. net. Sunday school at 10 a.m. and morning worship is 11 a.m. Evening service at 6 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m. Compassion Church, 1820 Second Street, Radford, 639-6287, Our music is passionate, our worship is real, and Pastor Chandler Jones brings relevant messages for everyone at any place on their journey, Sunday Worship Experience at 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Wednesday Family Night at 7 PM, Children Ministry provided for all services. Our vision is to see all Saved. Freed. Restored. Fulfilled. Find us on facebook and Instagram

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

#### PRESBYTERIAN

Join us at **The Presbyterian Church of Radford**, 201 4th Street, at the corner of 4th & Randolph. Sunday School is at 10:00 a.m. and Sunday Service 11:00a.m. Our Interim Minister is Steve Willis. Phone 540-639-2585, Email pcofradford@gmail.com, Website www. pcradford.org. We are called to share the love of Christ in this community and beyond.

#### **UNITED METHODIST**

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

**Central Church**, 803 Wadsworth Street, Radford. 639-3529. 8:30 a.m. Sunday Services: 8:30am; 9:45am Sunday School; and 11:00a.m. Child care is provided. www. centralmethodistchurch.com.

**St. Paul United Methodist Church**, 220 W. Main St., C'Burg. Rev. Moonsup "Paul" Song (540) 382-2410. Sunday Worship 10am, Sunday School 9am. Live streaming Sunday Service - www.twitch.tv/stpaulumc.com

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

# Former Afghan soldiers, now living in Blacksburg, share their stories

BLACKSBURG Under a dark night sky, the scene was vivid.

It was a night raid in Afghanistan. Wearing night vision goggles, Mahnaz Akbari, an Afghan soldier and commander of the Female Tactical Platoon, saw a teenage girl and called out to her. The girl wasn't allowed to go to school. It was clear that she rarely left her home.

"She understood by my voice that I am a female," Akbari said. "It was the first time that she saw a woman in a uniform, with a helmet and night vision goggles. She saw me, and she understood that if I can, she can do the same."

Still, because the girl lived in Afghanistan, she would not have those opportunities, Akbari said.

Akbari and several former members of the Afghan Female Tactical Platoon visited Virginia Tech on Sept. 13 to share their experiences and advocate for permanent legal status in the United States.

They spoke as part of a series sponsored by the Center for Refugee, Migrant, and Displacement Studies at Virginia Tech.

These women, including seven who have settled in Blacksburg, are among the more than 40 platoon members who are scattered across the

United States. They once accompanied U.S special operations forces during raids in Afghanistan. They were tasked with talking with women and children about the location of Taliban targets.

In 2021, these same women were some of the thousands who fled the country for the United States when the Taliban seized Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan.

Now, with the help of numerous Blacksburg area community groups, these former soldiers are creating a new life.

They include Azizgul Ahmadi and Soraiya Nazari, who both will speak during the event. The women are learning English and raising their children and younger siblings.

Since early 2022, several have been taking English classes through the have spoken in front Virginia Tech Language of congressmen and and Culture Institute, senators to plead for which is part of Outreach better support for Afghan and International Affairs. veterans. They are a part Learning English is key to of our society and are finding jobs and working making a difference." toward a college education. In fact, two already have the Bradley Department mastered English and are of taking college courses. Computer Engineering at The Secular Society, a Blacksburg organization, funded scholarships for women in Afghanistan

"It's too simple to say and doing something so they resettled here," said completely dangerous Scott Bailey, president of and taboo and the bravery the Blacksburg Refugee and courage behind that, Partnership, a nonprofit they were doing some and significant supporter really crazy, very physical

of the platoon members. "They are going to school, and all of them

Bailey is a professor in Electrical and Virginia Tech.

"When you think about their English instruction. going against the culture things, like repelling out of helicopters," said Rebekah Edmondson, a U.S. Army veteran who was deployed in Afghanistan. "These women have something so invaluable to offer to the community as they start to find their voice and literally learn the language and feel comfortable speaking publicly. It's a new

Azizgul Ahmadi (second from left) spoke on Sept. 13 at Virginia Tech.

chapter." Åkbari joined the Afghan National Army in 2011 and now works for the PenFed Foundation, a nonprofit that assists veterans.

"We have been through a lot of trauma," she said. "We lost our country,

family, and everything that we had."

Many of the women have family members still living in Afghanistan. And fearing retribution from the Taliban, the platoon members cannot return to the country.

They came to the United States under a temporary parole program that was renewed in June for another two years. But they are rallying for passage of the Afghan Adjustment Act, a bill that offers a path for permanent U.S. legal status for Afghans who evacuated the country when Kabul fell to the Taliban.

The resettlement services available to them in Blacksburg, from English classes to transportation and moving help, are part of a larger purpose. Edmondson, who lives in South Carolina and worked closely with the female tactical platoon in Afghanistan, is one of many advocates for them as they build new lives in America.

"We are trying to help them get over this hump so that they can be the leaders here that they were in Afghanistan," Edmondson said.

Jenny Kincaid Boone for Virginia Tech

## New research finds mechanism that regulates PTSD in the female brain

From humans to plants to single-cell organisms, there's a protein that rules them all.

daily functions.

walks of life. The form of of this protein that the researchers could manipulate, called K-63, was selective in Mental Health.

involved in forming fear-based these memories in both sexes, and this is the first time that we found one that's selectively involved in one sex," Jarome said. "In particular, this was found in the sex that seems to be more likely to have PTSD. It's rare to find these mechanisms that are specific to one sex in terms of regulating the underlying factors that

Journals. The research was supported by a grant from the National Institute of

This protein does forming fear memories PTSD is a general housekeeping in the female brain. complex disorder of the cells, regulating "Oftentimes, with a variety of them through normal molecules are found therapeutic treatment in the brain that are options that include pharmacological approaches. By having a specific molecule to target, pharmacological approaches could be considered. "Right now, treatment options are not very effective and the success rate isn't very good," Jarome said. "PTSD is not created equal among patients, and we know females are more likely to have it. The therapeutic approaches that we take to treat it might have to differ between males and females. This may be a mechanism in which we could specifically target treatment in females as a way to treat PTSD.'





Former members of the Afghan Female Tactical Platoon who now live in Blacksburg. Soraiya Nazari (at left) and

PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Radford University Professor of Mathematics Education Agida Manizade (left) speaks to a student.

# Manizade co-authors book on research on teaching mathematics

Professor of Mathematics Education Agida Manizade is the leading editor and co-author of the newly published open-access book "The Evolution of Research on Teaching Mathematics: International Perspectives in the Digital Era."

Manizade wrote the book over two years with co-authors Nils Buchholtz, a professor at the University of Hamburg, Germany; and Kim Beswick, a professor at the University of South Wales in Kensington, Australia. Alexander S. Moore, a former Radford student in the mathematics education M.S. program, co-authored a chapter in the book.

Springer-Nature, Published by the book "investigates current issues



related to the evolution of research on teaching mathematics and examines up to 30 years of presage-process-product research in mathematics with respect to conceptualization, instrumentation and design." The writers also provide a critique and a look into the future of research on teaching mathematics.

Manizade joined the Radford University Department of Mathematics and Statistics in 2009, and in 2019, she received the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) Outstanding Faculty Award, which recognizes superior accomplishments in teaching, research and public service.

The professor is currently interim associate dean of Radford's College of

Graduate Studies and serves as president of both the Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics and Radford Child Development Inc. Manizade is also the founding director of the Secondary Mathematics Professional Development Center.

Chad Osborne for Radford University

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Tech Virginia researchers found that one specific form of this ubiquitous protein has a different function in the female brains it helps regulate events in the memory that cause post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

"The protein is primarily thought of as a protein that marks other proteins to be destroyed," said Tim Jarome, an associate professor in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences' School of Animal Sciences. "For it to be doing this function in the context of PTSD in females is very surprising.'

This protein, ubiquitin, even has its name originating from ubiquitous because of its presence across all cause PTSD." discovery The could lead to the development of better therapeutic treatments. Kayla Farrell, a Ph.D. candidate in the School of Animal Sciences, was the project lead.

The research was published recently in Molecular Psychiatry in the Nature Portfolio

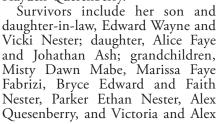
Virginia Tech

## Obituaries from page 5

## Nester, Patricia Ann Morehead

Patricia Ann Morehead Nester, 75, Taylor; 13 great-grandchildren; and

of Parrott, passed away at her home on Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023. She was preceded in death by her parents, Junior Oliver and Lois Johnston Morehead; her loving husband, William Louis Nester; her daughter and sonin-law, Anita and Del Giles; two siblings; and her beloved grandson, Hayden Quesenberry.



numerous other family

members and friends. The family will receive friends 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Monday, Sept. 25, 2023, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services will begin at 12 p.m. Interment will follow in the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in

Dublin.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Twin Community Fire Department, P.O. Box 7, Parrott, Virginia, 24132.

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

# Radford Sports

	2023-24 Sœuth	SCHEDULE		2023-24 Sœuth	SCHEDULE
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		FEBRUARY 10 - CLINTON, S.C.	STATION STATION	LONGWOOD	PRESBYTERIAN FEBRUARY 10 - CLINTON. S.C.
	WINTHROP ANUARY 13 - ROCK HILL, S.C.	FERRIARY 14 - RADFORD VA	2 3 3 3	MINTHROP JANEARY 13 - RADFORD VA	FEBRUARY 14 - ROCK HILL S.C.
	GARDNER-WEBB	HIGH POINT FEBRUARY 17 - HIGH POINT, N.C.	TEON	GARDNER-WEBB JANUARY 17 - BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.	HIGH POINT FEDRICARY 17- HADFORD VA
	USC UPSTATE IANLARY 20 - RADFORD VA	GARDNER-WEBB		USC UPSTATE JANUARY 20 - SPARTANBURG, S.C.	GARDNER-WEBB
	UNC ASHEVILLE JANUARY 24 - ASHEVILLE, N.C.	LONGWOOD FEBRUARY 24 - RADFORD VA		JANUARY 24 - RADFORD VA	EBRUARY 24 - FARMVILLE, VA
	PRESBYTERIAN	CHARLESTON SOUTHERN	Sold Ale	PRESBYTERIAN JANUARY 27 - RADFORD NA	CHARLESTON SOUTHERN
AUAR	ANLARY 21 - RADFORD, VA CHARLESTON SOUTHERN JANUARY 31 - RADFORD, VA	Image: Classical Strength Stren		CHARLESTON SOUTHERN	MARCH 2: ASHEVILLE N.C.
					PHOTO COURTESY OF RU ATHLETICS

# Big South releases RU men's and women's schedules

Opening against High Point on Jan. 3 and ending with a showdown against UNC Asheville on March 2, the highly anticipated 2023-24 Big South Conference schedule for the Radford men's basketball program has finally been announced.

The Highlanders will journey through a 16-game schedule in the new year, playing each of their conference foes twice. With the 2023-24 slate now complete, fans can look forward to 32 total games during the regular season, including 14 contests inside the Dedmon Center.

High Point makes a visit to the New River Valley to kick off Big South play, followed by road trips to Longwood (Jan. 10) and Winthrop (Jan. 13).

Radford then returns home to face off against Gardner-Webb (Jan. 17) and USC Upstate (Jan. 20). The first matchup with heavyweight UNC Asheville comes on Jan. 24 and then the Highlanders close out the month of January with home matchups against Presbyterian (Jan. 27) and Charleston Southern (Jan. 31).

The month of February ushers in a pair of away games at USC Upstate (Feb. 3) and Presbyterian (Feb. 10), followed by a Valentine's Day edition game against Winthrop (Feb. 14) back in the Dedmon Center.

Returns trips to High Point (Feb. 17) and Gardner-Webb (Feb. 21) are up next on the docket, and then the Highlanders welcome Longwood (Feb. 24) back home.

One more game at Charleston Southern (Feb. 28) finishes up the road slate and then a huge home game against UNC Asheville (March 2) closes out the regular season.

The Big South Tournament, hosted by High Point at

the Qubein Center, is set for March 6-10.

## Lady Highlander's schedule

The Big South Conference announced Wednesday afternoon the 16-game conference schedule to complete the women's basketball program's 2023-24 schedule.

With nine total teams in the conference, Radford will host eight games with an equal eight road games facing every team twice.

"I'm really looking forward to the conference race this season," said head coach Mike McGuire. "There are a lot of opportunities and unknowns within the conference heading into this season. This year's race seems more wide open than previous seasons. I fully expect our program to be prepared for Big South play after a challenging non-conference slate. I am also really excited about watching our team grow and find its best by the end of the season. We have a hard-working group and I know they are determined to prepare well for one another."

The Highlanders get conference play started on Jan. 3 as the team travels to face High Point in an exciting debut of Big South action for the 2024 calendar year. Radford will eventually make the return trip to High Point at the exact opposite end of the schedule as High Point will host the 2024 Big South Tournament in March.

Returning home, Radford will get two straight home contests to open up conference play in the Dedmon Center. Radford will play host to Longwood on Jan. 10 and will host Winthrop to close out the week on Jan. 13.

Two straight road games await the Highlanders after the early-January home stretch as Radford travels to Gardner-Webb on Jan. 17 and USC Upstate on Jan. 20. It's another back-to-back home games for Radford after that as the team hosts UNC Asheville on January 24th and Presbyterian on Jan. 27.

Closing out the first half of the conference schedule will be Radford and Charleston Southern at Charleston, S.C. on Jan. 31. Moving into February, the schedule heats up with a pivotal home meeting with USC Upstate on February 3rd and two big road games at Presbyterian (Feb. 10) and Winthrop (Feb. 14).

From there, three of Radford's final five games will come within the Dedmon Center. After a home contest with High Point on Feb. 17, Radford and Gardner-Webb will meet again after two thrilling finishes last season in the regular season and Big South Semifinals.

Radford visits in-state rival Longwood and their new arena on Feb. 24 before closing out the home portion of their schedule on Feb. 28 against Charleston Southern. The regular season concludes on the road for Radford on March 2 as two historic Big South teams clash at UNC Asheville.

The 2024 Big South Tournament has a new host this season as High Point will host all nine Big South institutions to determine who earns the automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. Action begins on March 6 with the championship meeting currently scheduled for March 10.

Radford University Athletics

# **ONLINE AUCTION**

Ends Thursday, October 26th at 4 PM Wooded Tract of Land for Sale in Christiansburg VA TBD Mud Pike Rd., Christiansburg, VA 24073

**Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com** 



# Hokie Half marathon, 5K bring out the runners





Check out this great opportunity to own a large tract of land just outside the Town of Christiansburg in Montgomery County. This +/- 5.13 acre property features public utilities and a newly completed survey. It has over 485' of frontage on Mud Pike Rd. The tract is mostly wooded. A1 zoning gives property multiple potential uses.

**Terms** - 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$5,000 required on day of sale. Close on or before December 11th, 2023. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence placing a bid. Please note that during the last two minutes of bidding, if a new bid is placed, the clock is automatically extended an additional two minutes. Be sure to register to bid early to ensure you receive notifications regarding any changes to the Auction, Bidder Packet and/or Pre-Auction offers received. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract and maps at VAAuctionPro.com.

# CONTACT - Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com

102 S. Locust Street, Floyd, VA 24091 (540) 745-2005 VAAuctionPro.com Lic# 2907004059 CUnited OUNTRY Real Estate & Auction Co., Inc.

Want to stay up to date on local sports? radfordnewsjournal.com



Jesse and Sydney Settle are all smiles at the start of the 11th Hokie Half Marathon this past Sunday morning.



Adam Chase was the overall winner in the Sunday, Sept. 17 Hokie Half Marathon with a time of 1:12:31.05.



The Hokie 5k field leaves the start line on the VT Corporate Research Center campus on Sunday morning. Luke Holman (1332) was the 5k winner with a time of 18:08.53, with Aubrey Johnson the first woman finisher (19:38).



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Cheyenne Leatham was the women's winner in the Hokie Half on Sunday, covering 13.1 miles in a time of 1:22:12.18.

# Evan Sparks is the new cross-country coach at CHS

#### Marty Gordon

#### NRV sports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Christiansburg High School has named a new girls' cross-country coach.

On Monday, Athletic Director Tim Cromer announced the appointment of Evan Sparks to the post.

Sparks, who is a history teacher at the school, admitted he wanted to get more involved with the school and this seemed like a great opportunity.

"The head boys cross country coach reached out over the summer and let me know about the opening, and I was immediately interested," he said.

The new coach hopes to help the team achieve its full potential.

"This team has a lot of young talent and the potential to be one of the best groups in Virginia."

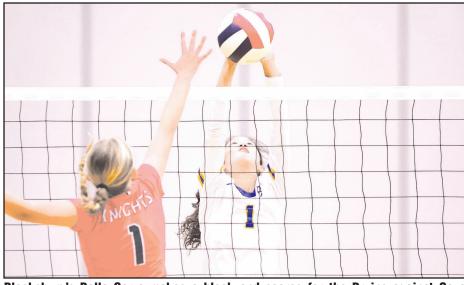
Sparks is originally from Floyd and did not run cross country or track while in school there. He played other sports and only got into running independently when in college.

This will be his first time coaching the sport.

# Cave Spring downs Blacksburg in volleyball



Blacksburg setter Emma Castle flicks the ball over for a winning point against Cave Spring during a Tuesday night match. In a volleyball match with many momentum swings and long points, Cave Spring took a 5-game thriller over previously undefeated Blacksburg.



Blacksburg's Bella Garza makes a block and scores for the Bruins against Cave Spring.



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING Blacksburg outside hitter Katey Mathena goes up for a spike against Cave Spring.

# VT's Pedulla selected a Top 100 player

Virginia Tech junior guard Sean Pedulla has been selected a top 100 player by The Almanac as featured in the 2023-24 season preview Wednesday morning.

He checked in at No. 95.

The Edmond, Okla., native nearly tripled his scoring production from his freshman season to sophomore campaign. Pedulla, who predominantly plays point guard, was Tech's second leading scorer in 2022-23 at 15 points per game. He is a three level scorer who will be greatly aided by the Hokies' increased depth in the backcourt this season.

Mike Young, who has a reputation for the development of elite guards, will have

more flexibility in moving Pedulla off the ball with a healthy Rodney Rice and freshman Brandon Rechsteiner. With the likes of those three, in addition to 2022 ACC Tournament MVP Hunter Cattoor and MJ Collins, the Hokies have one of the more formidable backcourts in the ACC. Pedulla was a double-figure scorer in 31 games last season, reaching double-figure scoring in each of his first 18 games of the season, becoming the first Hokie to do that since Erick Green scored double figures in all 32 games of the 2012-13 season.

Virginia Tech Athletics

## Getting to know Ben Thomas, Head Track and Field Coach, Virginia Tech '92

Describe your excitement when you first heard of the opportunity to coach at Virginia Tech?

My earliest memory of wanting to coach was watching/learning from my coaches, Todd Scully and Russ Whitenack, at Virginia Tech and thinking "this would be the greatest job in the world!" To be able to help student-athletes achieve their dreams and go beyond. When the head coach opportunity at Virginia Tech came open, I felt like it was meant to be. To ultimately have the support of my mentor, Dave Cianelli, and the incredible administration here was incredibly humbling, and a longtime dream come true.

How did it feel to step back on campus knowing that you will be leading the program next year?

Inspiring. It is amazing to see how far the track and field program has come since we started in 2001, and the athletic program in general. All credit really goes to Coach Cianelli, athletic directors Jim Weaver and Whit Babcock, and their staffs over the years.

What is your favorite memory from coaching at Virginia Tech?

Every ACC championship was special in its own way. Finally winning the national title in the distance medley relay event in 2018 after having had eight NCAA runner-up finishes was very special. Really, the best memories are of the times spent with the studentathletes, through all the challenges and the triumphs.

Who are some of your mentors and what have you taken from them as a coach?

Dave Cianelli, Virginia Tech director of track and field/cross country: "Keep your head about you and don't be in such a hurry with your athletes or your assistant coaches. Do the hard work and do things the right way and you'll win your share. I want us to win really badly, but I don't care who gets the credit."

Rod Camden, EC Glass High School cross country coach: "So much of success is just showing up and going about the hard work the same, through both the wins and the losses."

and the losses." Frank Murray, EC Glass High School track coach: "I

believe in you, and you should too." Robert Johnson, University of Oregon: "Get out of your comfort zone, that's where you get better."

What do you love about coaching?

Having a front row seat to watching our studentathletes grow as human beings. I also love getting to see them enjoy their successes with their teammates and their families.

#### What do you love about Blacksburg?

The people, the places, the vibe, and oat fudge bars from Bollo's.

Stealing a line from the book/movie Field of Dreams: Terrance, looking out in wonder: "Is this heaven Ray?"

Ray: "No Terrance, it's Blacksburg."

When you are not coaching, what do you like to do? Watch my kids play and perform, riding my bike, and going on a date with my wife; dinner and then a movie at the Lyric Theatre.

Virginia Tech Athletics

## **ONLINE AUCTION**

Ends Wednesday, October 18th @ 3 PM Wooded Land for Sale at Auction in Blacksburg VA 4262 & 4180 Pandapas Pond Rd., Blacksburg, VA 24060

## **Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com**





#### OFFERING #1

OFFERING #2

Discover an exceptional real estate opportunity! We present 2 distinct tracts of land available for purchase through online auction. The properties are located along Route 460 between Blacksburg and Pembroke VA. Whether you are seeking a commercial venture or recreational escape, these properties have it all!

#### OFFERING #1 – +/- 35 acres

This offering boasts a generous 35 acres of all wooded land. Property provides a canvas for your vision and great visibility from Route 460. This spacious tract offers versatility for various land uses, from commercial development to recreational activities. Its proximity to the bustling community of Blacksburg makes it an enticing choice for businesses looking to be near Virginia Tech.

#### OFFERING #2 – +/- 52.5 acres

This offering boasts a remarkable 52.5 acre parcel of mostly wooded land. There is a small cleared section that fronts on Pandapas Pond Rd. Property has great visibility from Route 460. The wooded acreage provides privacy and tranquil environment. It adjoins the Jefferson National Forest. The property features a well, which provides suitability for various purposes, including potential commercial development or a secluded recreational retreat. There is a cellular tower on this offering. Refer to survey in Bidder Packet for exact location on easement to cell tower.

CONTACT – Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com. You can also contact Realtor Booie DeHart at 276-952-5061 or email booied@yahoo.com

102 S. Locust Street, Floyd, VA 24091 (540) 745-2005 VAAuctionPro.com Lic# 2907004059



Blue Ridge Land & Auction Co., Inc.

## **ONLINE AUCTION**

Ends Thursday, September 28th at 4 PM Brick Ranch Home for Sale in Pilot VA 1604 Laurel Creek Rd NE, Pilot, VA 24138

## **Bid Now at VAAuctionPro.com**



This brick country home located in Pilot VA is a spacious and well-equipped property. With 2,362 sq. ft. this home features 3 bedrooms and 2.5 baths. Enjoy the beautiful sunroom located off the master suite. This property offers comfortable living quarters but also significant potential for personal and professional pursuits. The full basement is also a plus!

It features a paved driveway providing ample parking. Situated on 6.07 acres of land, the property provides plenty of outdoor space for various activities and entertainment. The large metal garage, spanning approximately 3,000 sq. ft., is equipped with 14ft. doors. It can accommodate vehicles, and equipment, or even serve as a workspace for a small business. It's also suitable for storing large vehicles such as RVs or boats.

The home is in the Pilot VA area of Floyd County. Within a short commute of Floyd, Riner, Christiansburg, Blacksburg, Roanoke and Salem VA.

#### PREVIEW – Friday, September 15th at 4 PM

**Terms** - 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$5,000 required on day of sale. Close on or before November 13th, 2023. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Auction starts ending at 4 PM on September 28th, 2023. Please note that during the last two minutes of bidding, if a new bid is placed, the clock is automatically extended an additional two minutes. Be sure to register to bid early to ensure you receive notifications regarding any changes to the Auction, Bidder Packet and/ or Pre-Auction offers received. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract and maps at VAAuctionPro.com.

CONTACT - Broker & Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com. You can also contact Realtor Doug Weddle at 540-239-0757 or email DougWeddleRealtor@gmail.com.

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