



News JOURNAL

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Radford University announces Radford Tuition Promise



Radford UNIVERSITY

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

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RADFORD - Radford University has introduced a new program to cover all tuition costs for students whose families make \$100,000 or less annually. The Radford Tuition Promise, a program guaranteeing coverage of tuition costs for residents of the commonwealth with a household Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of \$100,000 or less, was announced Wednesday. The initiative "covers all tuition costs, not including fees or room and board,

and applies to in-person undergraduate students at all Radford University locations," according to the university. Virginia residents who are new or returning students to Radford can take advantage of the Radford Tuition Promise beginning in fall 2024. The program will "offer Virginians better access to higher education," the university announced. "At Radford University, we believe that everyone deserves a high quality and affordable education," President Bret Danilowicz said in a video announcing the initiative. "That isn't just something we say, it's what we do. That's why we are

introducing the Radford Tuition Promise." "Students come first at Radford University, and we take pride in removing barriers to the life-changing difference that a degree makes," Danilowicz said in the announcement, made Wednesday at The HUB at Radford. "The Radford Tuition Promise has the potential to affect over half of our current students who file a FAFSA, as well as significant numbers of prospective students. This will make a difference for families and students with the most need, but also those from middle-class households across Virginia. Radford University is already an affordable

institution and it is also a high-quality institution. Students will now have better access than ever to a four-year degree that will accelerate the path to their careers." To be eligible for the Radford Tuition Promise, prospective students must apply and be admitted for fall 2024 at any of the campus locations. There is no application fee. Students must also submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form, which will be available in December 2024. The person must have less than a \$15,000 Student Aid Index as

See Promise, page 4



PHOTO COURTESY OF NRVRC

The New River Valley Regional Commission is pleased to announce three award winners for 2023. (Center) Citizen of the Valley is Cathy Hanks, Friends of Peak Creek/New River Conservancy; Champions of the Valley are Delegate Jason Ballard, Virginia House of Delegates, at left; and Robert Graham, Pulaski County Schools Superintendent, at right.

NRV Regional leaders celebrate award winners

RADFORD - The New River Valley Regional Commission has presented three awards to people who have impacted the New River Valley in a positive way. On Oct. 19, 2023, the NRVRC's board of directors, comprised of elected officials and citizen appointees across the region, hosted a dinner event at the Volvo Customer Center in Dublin, VA to honor their annual award recipients. Approximately 100 local government elected officials, state and federal representatives, and local government planning commission chairs were in attendance. Cathy Hanks, with Friends of Peak Creek and the New River Conservancy, received the Citizen of the Valley award. This award is given to a citizen within the New River Valley who has made significant contributions to the betterment of the region. Hanks was selected based on her leadership in environmental stewardship having served as President of Friends of Peak Creek since 2015. She has led the organization to accomplish numerous watershed improvement projects all the while focusing on engaging the community to increase their stewardship of Peak Creek. Delegate Jason Ballard, Virginia House of Delegates, and Robert Graham, Pulaski County Schools Superintendent, were also honored.

See Winners, page 4

North Carolina kidnapping, attempted murder suspect arrested in Christiansburg



COURTESY PHOTO

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CHRISTIANSBURG - A North Carolina teenager wanted for kidnapping and attempted murder was arrested Tuesday in Christiansburg after a Christiansburg Police officer recognized his vehicle. "On Oct. 24, 2023 at approximately 1 a.m., Christiansburg Police spotted a vehicle matching the description of a North Carolina man wanted for attempted murder and kidnapping," the police department announced Wednesday. "Christiansburg officers immediately pursued the vehicle and subsequently arrested the driver, Francisco De Jesus Delgado Arevalo, 18. The victim, a 17-year-old female, was inside the

vehicle. She was taken to the hospital for treatment and is expected to recover." According to police, on Monday, Oct. 23, "officers in High Point, North Carolina responded to a reported kidnapping at a home in that area. A witness told officers that Delgado Arevalo came into the home, forced the victim out with a knife, put her in a vehicle and drove off. Officers determined the victim and suspect knew each other and took out warrants for Delgado Arevalo's arrest. High Point officers quickly sent a notice to other agencies in several states to look out for the suspect and his vehicle."

Christiansburg Police received the notice, and actively maintained watch for the vehicle. In the early hours of Tuesday, Oct. 24, Christiansburg officers V. Campos and P. Woodrum recognized the suspect's vehicle on Riner Road near Life Drive and followed the suspect onto I-81 N. Officers attempted to initiate a traffic stop when the suspect turned off the lights and fled. A pursuit ensued with the support of CPD officer Sgt. R. Sobina, Officer B. Taylor, and two Virginia State Police Troopers. The vehicle crashed near mile marker 123.5 and Delgado

See Suspect, page 4

Graduate student Kole Butler's vocal performances go viral on TikTok

RADFORD - Back in February, Kole Butler was more than satisfied that his TikTok account - @kollege - had gained upwards of 2,000 followers since he started posting clips in earnest last year. Butler is a graduate student in Radford's music department, studying core conducting and music education; he's also a teaching assistant and longtime choral conductor. Many of his TikTok videos have been recorded in his classroom in the Douglas and Beatrice Covington Center for Visual and Performing Arts and they show him warming up with his students by performing vocal exercises or offering snatches of music or encouragement. Over the winter, through his early four-figure audience, his clips started to draw feedback in real life, too. While attending a choir directors' conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, Butler was approached by strangers who recognized him and wanted to grab selfies with him. "I was just sitting there alone, waiting on some friends, and some people came over to me, and they're like, 'Oh, my gosh, are you Kole from TikTok?'" he recently recalled. "And that was just from having 2,000 followers." So it's not hard to imagine Butler's growing surprise and elation as his follower count rose dramatically across the spring and summer, quickly climbing to six figures over the past several months. As of mid-October, his audience

totaled about 234,700 fans. Or, basically, 2,000 multiplied by 117.35. At that rate, Butler is well on track to crack a cool quarter of a million followers before the end of the year. Many of his clips have been watched thousands upon thousands of times, and some have risen staggeringly higher: A snippet of Butler and his students sampling The Chordettes' golden-oldie earworm "Lollipop" has reached 4.2 million views, and his "Flower Canon"

See Butler, page 4

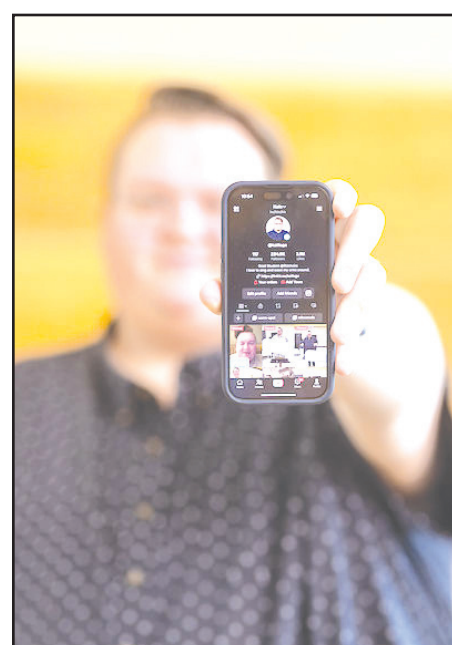


PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Kole Butler has found great success on TikTok.

Blues, Brews and BBQ today at St. Lukes and Odd Fellows Hall in Blacksburg

Lori Graham
Contributing writer

BLACKSBURG - The New Town Festival: Blues, Brews, and BBQ, sponsored by the Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Foundation and Downtown Blacksburg, Inc. is today, Saturday, Oct. 28, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Guests to the event can expect good food, craft beer, wine, and of course the great sounds of talented blues performers.

Music will begin at noon with the JoJo Stockton Project. Each musical group will perform for one

hour and fifteen minutes and will be followed by a 30-minute break. Lady D & Mi\$\$ion will take the stage at 1:45 p.m. and Isaac Hadden will perform for the last set at 3:30 p.m.

Feast and Company and Papa's Box will sell food and Blue Ridge Beverage will provide wine and beer for purchase.

Although the event is free, a donation of \$10 is encouraged. This is the 9th annual event for the historic building and landmark at the former social gathering place of African Americans in the Blacksburg community. The location

is now a museum and is free for the public to visit by appointment. Funds from the Blues, Brews, and BBQ event will go to the continued restoration of the building.

The museum will be open to event attendees

and guests can experience a step back in time as well as viewing exhibits in the historic location.

According to www.blacksburg.gov, the current exhibit on display is titled From Civil War to Civil Rights, "and chronicles the

lives of African Americans throughout the years, some of whom lived in Blacksburg's historic New Town."

St. Lukes and Odd Fellows Hall is located at 203 Gilbert St., Blacksburg. Visitors to the event may

park in the parking garage just across the street from the Hall.

Additional information about the museum and the Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Foundation can be found at www.blacksburgmuseum.org.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DWR

Whirling disease detected at state fish hatchery

RICHMOND - Through recent testing, the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) has detected whirling disease in catchable sized trout at the state's Marion Fish Hatchery in Southwest Virginia. DWR's stringent fish-health protocols involve regular testing at state hatcheries to look for pathogens that are potentially harmful to hatchery raised and wild fish. DWR does not stock known whirling disease positive fish.

Regrettably, DWR has had to euthanize 40,000 catchable trout to control whirling disease. This represents about a 20% reduction in normal stocking levels for Southwest Virginia and a 5% reduction statewide. Consequently, trout anglers are likely to

see a reduction in trout stocking, particularly in Dickenson, Buchanan, Wise, Lee, Scott, Russell, Washington, Smyth, Tazewell, and Grayson Counties. DWR is working to reallocate fish as feasible to make up for shortfalls and is implementing measures to reduce the future impact of this parasite on trout production.

Whirling disease is caused by a microscopic parasite, Myxobolus cerebralis. This parasite penetrates the cartilage tissue of a trout's head and spine, multiplying rapidly and causing skeletal deformities. Trout with whirling disease can show spinal deformities or a blackened tail, which can impact swimming ability and feeding habits. Some infected fish swim in a circular motion, giving

the disease its "whirling" name. Fish showing these distinct symptoms have not been seen in the wild or at state hatcheries in Virginia.

This disease is fairly widespread and has been documented in more than 20 states including Virginia. Native to Europe, this parasite and disease were first detected in the United States in 1958. The parasite has a two-host lifecycle including small worms (tubifex worms) and trout. Both hosts are required for the parasite to complete its lifecycle. The host fish must be a salmonid, with rainbow trout being the most susceptible to the parasite. The parasite does not infect humans, even if you eat infected fish.

Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources

Drivers: Slow down for deer

RICHMOND - Fall is here and along with colorful leaves, crisp air, and shorter days, comes increased deer movements.

Fall is the breeding season for white-tailed deer, so deer will be more active throughout November and December than at any other time of the year. Deer also take advantage of road side edges for foraging, particularly as other fall foods become limited. With shorter days as we transition into winter, motorists will be driving more often in the dark, increasing the likelihood of encountering a deer on the road.

The Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) recommends the following tips to avoid hitting a deer:

Slow down and be attentive, particularly at night (from dusk to dawn).

If you see one deer, slow down and watch out for others. Deer frequently travel in family groups.

Deer habitually travel and cross roads in the same areas. Use caution when you see deer crossing signs installed in these areas by the Virginia Department of

Transportation.

Apply brakes, even stop if necessary, to avoid hitting a deer, but do not swerve out of the lane to miss a deer. A collision with another vehicle, tree or other object is likely to be more serious than hitting a deer.

Always wear a seat belt! Even if a collision is unavoidable, you are more likely to avoid injury or death if you are wearing a seat belt.

If you hit or kill a deer or bear while driving, immediately report the accident to a local law enforcement officer in the county or city where the accident occurred.

If you kill a deer or bear while driving, you may keep it for your own use if you report the accident to a local law enforcement officer where the accident occurred, and the officer (or Conservation Police Officer) views the animal and gives you a possession certificate.

Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources

Montgomery Museum presents 'DOC AT 100' benefit concert at Moss Arts Center

Concert celebrates the Life and Legacy of Doc Watson

BLACKSBURG - The Montgomery Museum of Art & History is expanding its definition of the arts by presenting the "DOC AT 100" concert program at the Moss Arts Center on Nov. 1, 2023, at 7 p.m.

"DOC AT 100" is a traveling concert program, which celebrates the life and legacy of Doc Watson by artists who performed with Doc, were profoundly influenced by his music, and called him a friend. This includes T. Michael Coleman and Jack Lawrence, who performed, recorded, and toured with Doc longer than any other musicians he worked with. Joining T. Michael and Jack are fellow guitarists Wayne Henderson and Jack Hinshelwood, who were both heavily impacted by Doc's music through his many recordings and

performances. Wayne counted Doc as a close friend, especially in Doc's later years when he enjoyed visiting Wayne in his guitar-making shop in Rugby, Va.

Ted Olson, Professor of Appalachian Studies at East Tennessee State University, is the author of "Doc's World: Traditional Plus," the book that accompanies the four-CD compilation of recordings from Doc's career released in 2022 by Craft Records called "Doc Watson, Life's Work: A Retrospective." "DOC AT 100" begins with a talk led by concert host, Ted Olson on the legacy of Doc Watson followed by stories shared by the artists who knew Doc as a friend and fellow performer. Audience members will also be encouraged to

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PHOTO COURTESY OF MONTGOMERY MUSEUM

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, Oct. 28:

Getting Scary on the Huckleberry 5k, One-Mile Kids Fun Run and Truck or Treat

The Christiansburg Department of Parks and Recreation presents the annual Getting Scary on the Huckleberry 5k, One Mile Kids Fun Run and Truck or Treat starting and ending at the Christiansburg Recreation Center. Race Day Schedule: 7:30-8:30 a.m.: Race Day Registration & Packet Pick-Up, 9 a.m.: One Mile Kids Fun Run, 9 -11:30 a.m.: Trunk or Treat, and 9:30 a.m.: 5k Walk / Run begins (immediately after Fun Run). Come dressed up in your favorite costume. Trucks from Christiansburg Fire, Police, Rescue and Public Works will be stationed for kids to look at and touch. Arts and craft, games, and Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library. Organizations will be handing out candy. Space Rabbit with coffee and hot chocolate. Registration for the 5k is \$35. To register online for the 5k or free Kids Fun Run, visit: <https://www.active.com/christiansburg-va/running/distance-running-races/getting-scary-on-the-huckleberry-5k-and-fun-run-2023>. Admission for the Truck or Treat and Kids Fun Run are free.

Blues, Brews & BBQ

At St. Luke & Odd Fellows Hall; 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. The Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Foundation's 9th Annual Blues, Brews & BBQ. The event is free, though a \$10 donation is encouraged. Music by JoJo Stockton, Lady D & Mi\$ion, and Isaac Hadden. Food and brews from Feast and Company, Papa's Box, and Blue Ridge Beverage will be for sale. They need volunteers to assist with beer pouring, ticket sales, and more during the event. Please email info@blacksburghistory.org if interested and they can figure out a spot just for you!

Fundraising Pancake Breakfast

The Kiwanis Club of Montgomery County- Blacksburg is sponsoring a pancake and sausage breakfast, 8 to 11 a.m. in the Blacksburg United Methodist Church's Whisner Building. BUMC has a parking lot on the corner of Penn and Lee Streets. Cost is \$8 per person and tickets can be purchased at the door.

Monday, Oct. 30:

Radford Downtown Trick or Treat Trail

Along East Main Street and Third Avenue; 4 – 6 p.m. Wear your best costume and collect treats from downtown businesses

Radford Men's Basketball with Trick or Treat

At the Dedmon Center; 6 p.m. for trick-or-treating and game starts at 7 p.m. Wear your costume and collect treats before the game. Free admission.

Tuesday, Oct. 31:

Downtown Blacksburg 2023 Blacksburg Trick or Treat

Trick-or-Treat in Downtown Blacksburg with downtown Blacksburg Merchants. Parks and Recreation will have games on College Avenue. There will be a Costume Contest in front of The Lyric starting at 5:30 p.m. The Blacksburg Library will also have two Spooky Storytimes, at 4 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. and the Alexander Black House will also be participating with candy pickup. Admission is free and all are welcome. The Blacksburg Library will have free parking.

Christiansburg Trick or Treat

The Montgomery County Government Center presents their annual Spooktacular Trick or Treating; 3:30 – 5 p.m. Join Parks & Recreation for Spooktacular Trick or Treating fun inside at the Government Center. This is a free event, and all are welcome to come and join in on the fun! Montgomery County Government Center is located at 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg.

Thursday, Nov. 2:

American Legion meeting

The American Legion, Harvey Howe Carper Post 30 will meet at 6 p.m. at the VFW Post Home, 102 Watts St. in Radford. For further information, please call 540-250-2283 or 540-239-9864.

Friday, Nov. 3 and Saturday, Nov. 4:

Book Sale

At the Radford Public Library; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Along with our regular items, there will be an abundance of children's, science fiction, fantasy, young adult, and Christmas items for sale. Come and get a bargain and support the Radford Public Library.

Friday, Nov. 3 – Sunday, Nov. 5:

New River Stage presents "Last Word on Jesse James"

New River Stage (NRS) announces their fall production of Last Word on Jesse James. Performance location is Proclamation Theatre at Knights of Columbus Hall in Christiansburg. Proceeds benefit New River Community Action's To Our House program. The play depicts the famed outlaw through the eyes of a story telling Mississippi River fisher. Living on the streets, telling big fish tales, the fisher becomes an internet celebrity who attracts people from all over meet them person. Tickets

are available at proclamationtheatre.com.

and televised live on WTOB Channel 2.

Saturday, Nov. 4 and Sunday, Nov. 5:

Women with a Vision Bible Study's Holiday Bazaar

At First Baptist Church, 555 West Rock Rd., Radford. Saturday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. and Sunday 12:30 – 3 p.m. Hot dogs, baked goods, coffee mugs, aprons, stockings, estate jewelry, cards, unique gifts, decorations, much more.

Wednesday, Nov. 8:

MCCC hosts Buy Local showcase

The Montgomery Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Buy Local Showcase, 3:45 – 6 p.m. at the Inn at Virginia Tech. How important is it that you buy local this holiday season? Shopping local supports area businesses, their employees, our schools, and services. Showcase will include over 75 local businesses. Door prizes and raffles every 15 minutes. Event exclusive discounts and deals. Great place for holiday shopping and free to attend.

Monday, Nov. 13:

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, Nov. 14:

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

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.

Thursday, Nov. 16:

Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Family Italian Restaurant on 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to attend. Member Johnathan McPeak will give a talk on the Battle of Cloyd's Mountain. For further information, please call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

On-going:

Eligibility applications for Christmas Store 2023

Online applications are being accepted and reviewed now through Dec. 6, 2023 to shop at the Montgomery County Christmas Store in December. Please go to the Christmas Store website at www.mcchristmasstore.org and click on Apply to Shop. First, you will see the documents you need to have ready to upload before beginning the application process. Then scroll down some more to see the criteria you must meet to see if you are eligible to apply to shop at the Store in December. If you qualify to shop at the store Dec. 5-9, you will receive the link to select your shopping appointment.

Call for participants: 2023 Blacksburg Annual Holiday Parade

Citizens are invited to participate in Blacksburg's annual Holiday Parade, organized by Blacksburg Parks and Recreation. This year's theme is "Miracle on Main Street". Parade entries may be floats, bicycles, wagons, marchers, walkers, antique/classic cars, Jeeps, trucks, scout groups, bands, sports teams and more. The parade will be held on Friday, Dec. 1 at 7 p.m. In the event of inclement weather, the parade will be rescheduled to Saturday, Dec. 2. For more information on how to get involved, contact David Goodman, Community Programs Supervisor at degoodman@blacksburg.gov or 540.443.1106.

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.

ourvalley.org

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Legals - Montgomery County	Legals - Montgomery County	Legals - Montgomery County	Legals - Montgomery County	Legals - Montgomery County	Legals - Montgomery County	Legals - Montgomery County
TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 2141 VIEWLAND CIRCLE, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073. In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated November 19, 2020, in the original principal amount of \$185,050.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Virginia as Instrument No. 2020011217. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Montgomery County, 55 East Main Street,	Christiansburg, Virginia or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court on December 4, 2023, at 2:45 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE IN THE CITY OF CHRISTIANSBURG, COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY AND STATE OF VIRGINIA BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: ALL OF LOT 52 OF VIEWLAND, SECTION	NO. 2, AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA IN PLAT BOOK 6 AT PAGE 179, BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A STAKE IN THE EAST LINE OF VIEWLAND DRIVE CIRCLE AT THE CORNER OF LOT NO. 51; THENCE WITH THE LINE OF VIEWLAND DRIVE, N. 08 DEG. 55' E. 101.86 FEET TO A STAKE; THENCE S. 84 DEG. 33' E. 200.36 FEET TO A STAKE IN THE LINE OF THE BESSIE Q. AITIZER LAND;	THENCE WITH THE AITIZER LAND, S. 08 DEG. 55' 1/2' W. 100.86 FEET TO A STAKE IN THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF VIEWLAND; THENCE WITH FUTURE DEVELOPMENT, N. 84 DEG. 33' W. 200.36 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, AND CONTAINING 0.47 ACRES OR 20,371.15 SQUARE FEET, AND BEING ALL OF LOT 52 AS SHOWN ON SAID MAP OF VIEWLAND, SECTION 2, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6 AT PAGE 179. 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 Mortgagee, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwvsales.com . Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller	confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwvsales.com . VA-365366-1.

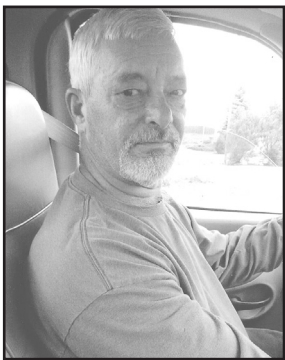
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OBITUARIES

McDaniel, Jr., Charles Thomas

Charles "Junior" Thomas Jameson Allen; sister, Connie McDaniel, Jr., 66, passed away Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023, at his home in Dublin. He was preceded in death by his father, Charles Thomas McDaniel; mother of his children, Deby McDaniel; and sisters, Jean Smith, Sue Croy, and Clydie McDaniel.

Survivors include his wife, Loretta McDaniel; daughters, Kim Allen (Greg), Kari McDaniel, and Whitney Nau (Dustin), Ashley Chrisley (Jake), and Kayla Whittaker; son, Kody McDaniel; mother, Ruby Gladys Phillips McDaniel; grandchildren, Adam Allen (Samantha), Drew Allen, Jackson Allen, Braxton McDaniel, Avery Nau, Addie Quesenberry, Alan Chrisley and Kaylea Chrisley; great grandson,



Scott; and many other relatives and friends.

The family would like to thank Intrepid Hospice and caregivers Angela Cecil and Venesha Keith, and Fairlawn Church of God.

The family will receive friends 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 30, 2023, at the

Fairlawn Church of God. Funeral services will begin at 1 p.m. with Pastor Marcus Harrison officiating. Interment will follow in Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the funeral home to help with expenses.

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

Rule, Carol Virginia

It is with great sorrow that we say goodbye to Carol Virginia Rule, who passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 18, surrounded by family and friends.

She was a devoted wife, sister, mom, mother-in-law, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend; and we will miss her vibrant smile and infectious laugh. She met every challenge with grace and strength, a beacon of inspiration to all around her. Carol's faith was the center of who she was. She showed it through her care and attention to everyone and everything around her, nurturing family, friends, students, home, and garden. Wherever she lived, she built deep connections within her community as she became involved in church



and meeting her neighbors. An active member of Covington's Granbery Memorial United Methodist Church for decades, she belonged to the choir, and kept her children active in Sunday school, choir, and youth groups. In Monterey, she joined the Blue Grass United Methodist Church, connecting with that

community as well. Throughout the years, Carol maintained contact with so many friends from Radford, Staunton, Covington, and Monterey, and was always genuinely interested in finding out "what's new." She gave thoughtful advice and was an attentive listener. She was

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ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

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

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

BAPTIST

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

First Baptist Church on 3rd Ave., 215 Third Ave at the corner with Downey St. We nurture meaningful connections to God and others through worship, spiritual growth, and community ministry. We celebrate the dignity and worth of all persons, created in the image of God. Sunday Bible Study Groups - 9:45, Sunday Worship - 11:00. Website: fbcradford.org 540-639-4419. Worship is in-person and live-streamed on Facebook and on our YouTube channel: First Baptist Church Radford.

Trinity Community Church, 1505 N. Franklin Street, C'burg. John Altizer, Lead Pastor, Brian Cockram, Associate Pastor, 382-8121. Worship at 10:45 a.m., Outreach Ministries - 6:00p.m. Wednesday, Growth Groups - 5:00p.m. Sunday, Youth and Children's Ministry - 5:00p.m. Sunday, www.trinitychurch.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.

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-michael-lutheran-church.org

Radford

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

The God With Heart

Read Luke 7:1 through 8:56

Visit any Sunday School, Bible study, or small group and during their prayer time you're likely to hear of heartbreaking situations—financial difficulties, people dealing with cancer and other illnesses, teens getting killed in car accidents or gang-related violence, parents lamenting prodigal children, and so on.

When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, "Don't cry" (Luke 7:13).

Troubles are nothing new in this world. The people in Jesus' day had lives overflowing with trauma too. But Jesus didn't ever say, "Oh, stop whining and get

on with life." Instead, the Bible tells us "his heart went out to her" in compassion.

That feeling of compassion hasn't changed. When we face minor troubles or major tragedies, God still lingers nearby, and His heart still goes out to us with compassion and mercy and love. He does not scold us for not trusting Him or tell us to get over it. He understands our feelings, pains, and frustrations. We do not serve a sterile God, but a God with a heart.

Thought for Today: When we cry, so many times God cries with us.

Quicklook: Luke 7:11-17

If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Wendi Craig at 276-340-2445 or email at advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com

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 pcfcradford@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

Join Javon Jackson, Nikki Giovanni for an evening of gospel hymns and spirituals

BLACKSBURG - A historic collaboration between Virginia Tech legend Nikki Giovanni and saxophonist-composer and former Jazz Messenger Javon Jackson has culminated in the intimate and inspired jazz performance “The Gospel According to Nikki Giovanni.” Jackson brings his bold-toned, John Coltrane-inspired tenor lines to bear on a series of hymns, spirituals, and gospel numbers hand-picked by Giovanni. Jackson and Giovanni are joined by celebrated jazz vocalist Nnenna Freelon.

“The Gospel According to Nikki Giovanni” comes to the Moss Arts Center on Friday, Nov. 3, at 7:30 p.m.

from Virginia Tech’s Department of English last year after a 35-year tenure and recently made headlines with the development of a documentary about her life and career. “Going to Mars: The Nikki Giovanni Project,” was acquired by HBO Films after winning the Grand Jury Prize for U.S. Documentary at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival earlier this year.

For the Moss performance, Giovanni will share some of her poetry and make a rare vocal appearance on the tender ballad “Night Song,” singing a song identified with her close friend, the late singer, songwriter, and civil rights activist Nina Simone.



Nikki Giovanni (at left) and Javon Jackson collaborate in the studio.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SHABAN R. ATHUMAN

“These songs are so important,” Giovanni said of the selection of gospel hymns and spirituals. “They comforted people through times of slavery, and during recent years we needed them to comfort us again. But a lot of the students today do not know about the history of these songs, and they should. So I’m out here putting water on the flowers, because they need a drink.”

The 80-year-old poet, activist, and professor emerita — one of Oprah Winfrey’s 25 Living Legends and a Maya Angelou Lifetime Achievement Award recipient — retired

“Nina was a friend of mine, and I knew that one of her favorite songs was ‘Night Song,’” she said. “And even though I’m not a singer, I told Javon I wanted to sing it because I just wanted Nina to be remembered.”

“It’s the first time I worked in a collaborative manner,” Jackson, a former member of Art Blakey’s Jazz Messengers, said. “The project is personal for me. I come from a lineage of devout Christians, and that has afforded me the chance to connect with that ancestral stream.”

The musician, composer, and educator

also serves as the director of the Jackie McLean Institute of Jazz at the Hartt School, part of the University of Hartford, and is mindful of his position and the importance of educating the next generation of players.

A world-renowned poet and one of the foremost authors of the Black Arts movement, Giovanni’s notable books of poetry are “Black Judgment” (1968) and “Those Who Ride the Night Winds” (1983), which were influenced by her participation in the Black Arts movement and

she toured with Ray Charles, as well as many other great jazz artists, including Ellis Marsalis, Al Jarreau, George Benson, Earl Klugh, Take 6, and others.

Giovanni and Jackson also will meet with students, faculty, and staff at Virginia Tech’s Black Cultural Center for an informal conversation centered on the development of “The Gospel According to Nikki Giovanni.”

Tickets for the performance are \$20-\$55 for general audience and \$10 for students and youth 18 and

under. Tickets can be purchased online; at the Moss Arts Center’s box office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday; or by calling 540-231-5300 during box office hours.

“The Gospel According to Nikki Giovanni” is co-sponsored by the Black Cultural Center. This performance is supported in part by gifts from Ms. Kelli Whitfield and Dr. James M. Shuler and Ms. Margaret F. Shuler.

Susan Bland for Virginia Tech

Monthly craft and vendor venue has unique gifts, baked goods, and stocking stuffers for the holidays

Lori Graham

Contributing writer

CHRISTIANSBURG - Do you have that special family member or friend that is difficult to buy for? Do you need a tasty home-baked dessert for the office or family party? Are you needing to restock lotion or makeup for the fall gatherings or as stocking stuffers?

Uptown Christiansburg, formerly known as the New River Valley Mall, has you covered with the monthly craft

and vendor direct sale show.

Small business vendors and crafters can be found indoors at Uptown Christiansburg with a wide variety and selection of items. Wood crafts, crystal and mineral items, baked goods, Mary Kay and Avon products, soaps and lotions, and crocheted products are just some of the many items available for purchase.

Two Girls and a Rock, owned by Michelle Snyder and Adriana Wenger, sell crystals, jewelry, carvings, spheres

and a variety of other keepsakes that are from mined or hand-selected minerals. The co-owner’s passion for mining grew into the business when they found they were spending the majority of their time and money on rocks.

“We mainly do Facebook, but sometimes we come here and bring stuff for people who have made special requests,” Snyder said.

The vendor and craft event occurs monthly but may not consistently be on the same weekend depending on other events going on.

Wenger said, “It used to be the first Saturday of every month, but sometimes they change it depending on the schedule, so next month we are here on the 18th [of November].”

Red’s Wood Crafts, owned by Jason Hinkley, comes to Uptown Christiansburg from Pulaski where he works out of his garage making wood home décor. Some of these items that can be purchased are toilet paper holders, storage bins, candle lamp holders, and for the Christmas season, wooden tree designs.

Audrey Lynn Saunders and Brandon Saunders are the owners and bakers of Stairway to Leaven.

“We cook at our house all the time, and everybody always ordered birthday cakes from us,” Audrey Saunders said.

After encouragement from their family and friends to start a small business, they did, setting up at a local fall festival for the first time.

“We sold out the first day,” Saunders said.

Their sign reads “how generations of recipes should taste” and they love having the occasional opportunity to

bake together as a family, passing on the tradition of homemade food with their three sons.

When asked about her favorite selections, Saunders said “The chocolate chip cheesecake, which we have the mint chocolate chip cheesecake for the fall, and the pumpkin roll.”

Stairway to Leaven will provide cakes, cupcakes, and other desserts for weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, and other celebrations. Their business can be found on Facebook.

Stephanie Swan is a Mary Kay Consultant and enjoys working with customers through Zoom tutorials or in person.

“We do Zoom classes on my Facebook page. My page is called Beauty Academy,” Swan said. “I invite anybody who happens to be a customer or somebody who might be interested on how to apply makeup or proper skin care to start a routine. I also offer free pampering sessions, in-home, at their own home or mine. I throw parties and also do free gift wrapping for the holidays.”

Mary Kay is not just for women, with an assortment of men’s products available too. Swan displayed men’s cologne and beard washes for purchase.

“Our beard wash is very affordable and lasts three months,” Swan said.

Shoppers interested in supporting the small vendors and crafts venue should check the Uptown Christiansburg website at www.uptownchristiansburg.com for a full list of small businesses and schedule for the upcoming months. The next show will be on Nov. 18, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Obituaries

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extremely close to her large extended family, hosting boisterous Thanksgiving and Christmas gatherings in her home for years. Carol enjoyed keeping up with everyone, and usually knew everything going on with her niece and grandchildren. Teaching was Carol’s calling in life. The bulk of her teaching career was in the third grade, and right up to the end, she had the most technically exact cursive you’d ever see. She fostered a love of learning and was incredibly dedicated to her students. She enjoyed sharing stories of her time as a teacher, recalling lesson plans and fond memories of the classroom. Whenever her former students ran into her, they would stop and talk to her, mentioning the impact she had on their lives.

In 2001, Carol married Bill Rule. She

loved to travel and cherished the trips they made together. For their honeymoon, they went to Greece and Italy, seeing the Parthenon and the Colosseum. She taught her students about the significance of those sites each year and was deeply moved to stand in front of them. She never forgot that sense of awe. Carol and Bill also traveled along Route 66 in an RV, taking any side road or detour she wanted. She adored the vast landscapes of the Southwest. As the years passed, Carol gradually slipped into a caregiver role, devoting her entire being to provide the love and support Bill needed until his death last March. Never one to sit still, Carol had many hobbies. She was an avid gardener, maintaining large flower beds and landscaping, as well as filling the inside of her home with plants. She was always adding to her collections, much to the chagrin of anyone who had to water them.

Carol loved being active. She exercised daily, was a substitute spin teacher in her seventies, and danced with a clogging group—loving the people in it, as well

as the “fast songs.” She walked daily, and outpaced all who went with her, much to her delight. An avid sports fan, she adored the Virginia Tech Hokies, and was invested in their games right until the very end. Carol’s kindness, strength, and grace left an impact on all surrounding her. She was the cornerstone of her family and will be dearly missed. She is survived by her brother, Robert Young and his wife Bozana; her niece, Alessandra Young; her children, Cheryl Mackian, Jim Pace and his wife Tracy, and Dave Pace and his wife Sarah Forman; her grandchildren, Noah Pace and his wife Sarah, Seth Pace, Emma Pace and her fiancé Nate Usher, Sam Mackian and his wife Amber, Sara Mackian; and great-grandchild, Quinn Pace.

A celebration of her life will be held in the spring, with further details forthcoming. In lieu of flowers, please donate to Granbery Memorial United Methodist Church in Covington, Virginia, Blue Grass United Methodist Church in Blue Grass, Virginia, or your local humane society.

DOC

from page 2

share their stories of Doc and the impact he had on them. Enjoy an evening of story-telling and traditional music under the lights to celebrate the legacy and life of Doc Watson.

A humanities talk will take place on Nov. 1 at 2 p.m. at the Moss Arts Center “CUBE” and will be hosted by Ted Olson, Jack Hinshelwood, and Patrick Salmons, Adjunct Professor in conjunction with Virginia Tech’s Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Religion and Culture program.

Students within Appalachian Studies and the Graduate Program in Material Culture and Public Humanities at Virginia Tech are invited to participate in the discussion about Doc Watson and

his cultural influence on Appalachia.

Concert tickets may be purchased online at the Montgomery Museum of Art & History’s website, www.montgomerymuseum.org/events/music, or by calling the Moss Art Center Box Office at 540-231-5300. The presale cost will be \$25, and \$30 at the door. Proceeds will benefit the Montgomery Museum of Art & History. This event is generously sponsored by Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, Asset Solutions Corp., Shelter Alternatives, Inc., and Mike Eggleston Realtor at Coldwell Banker Townside Realtors.

- Montgomery Museum

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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RADFORD SPORTS

Christiansburg hires new softball coach

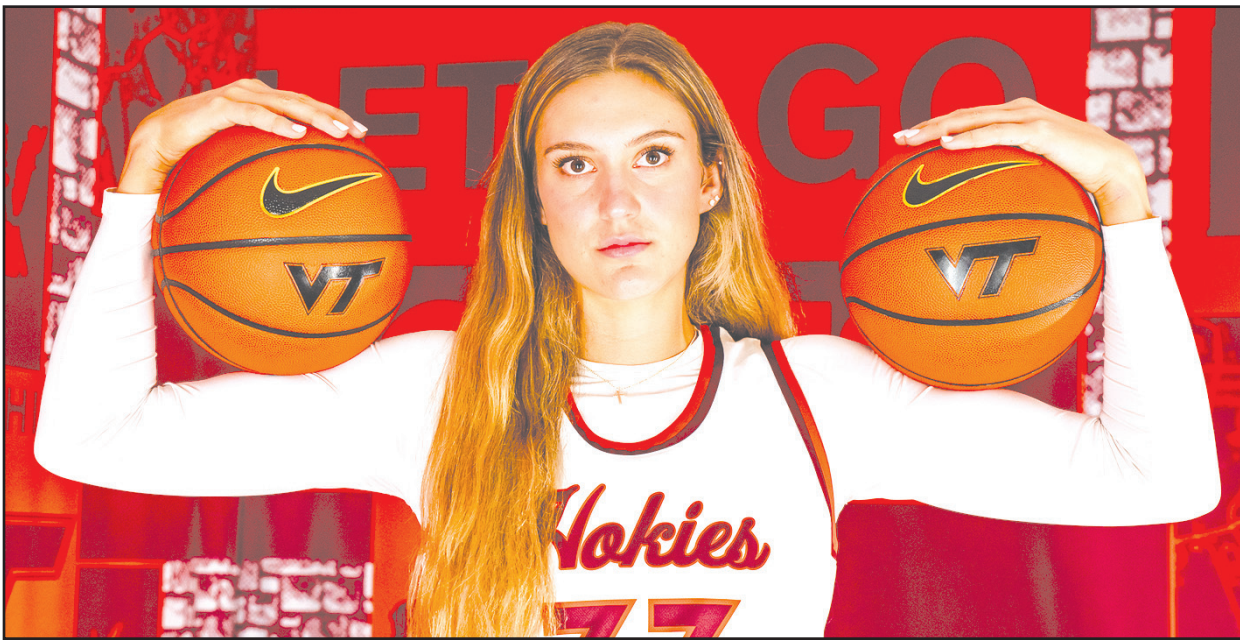
Marty Gordon
NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Christiansburg High School athletic director Tim Cromer has announced the hiring of Sean Gaynor as the school's new softball coach. Gaynor, who has served as the junior varsity coach in Auburn and with several travel teams, has over 25

years of experience. Christiansburg finished last season with a 12-9 overall mark, including 8-4 in the competitive River Ridge District. Gaynor replaces Robin Boyd, who stepped down after four seasons in the dugout. The school returns seven starters from that team. Gaynor initially made the switch from

baseball to softball six years ago after helping Auburn High School to several district titles on the diamond. He is excited about the opportunity and says CHS has an awesome softball program with one of the best facilities in the state of Virginia. He hopes to promote life skills with the participants.

"Whatever game we play, teach on coach, it should always be about making the athletes better people. I hope to take CHS softball where they have not been before. There is a great group of girls there with a ton of talent," he said. Gaynor hopes to meet with his new players sometime this week. He will remain a teacher at Auburn High School.



Virginia Tech's Elizabeth Kitley is a favorite to repeat as the ACC player of the year. PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

Lady Hokies on top of mountain

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The reigning and defending Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) tournament champ, Virginia Tech, was at the center of media days in Charlotte, North Carolina, on Tuesday. Already, the Lady Hokies are as high as eighth in the AP preseason poll and Thursday morning, they were announced as the outright favorite to win the ACC this season. The league's Blue Ribbon Media Panel gave the Hokies 1,116 votes to second place Notre Dame's 1,052.

- The predicted order of finish:
1. Virginia Tech 1116
 2. Notre Dame 1052
 3. North Carolina 973
 4. Louisville 867
 5. Florida State 855
 6. Miami 702
 7. Duke 686
 8. NC State 652
 9. Syracuse 504
 10. Virginia 438
 11. Clemson 395
 12. Georgia Tech 342
 13. Boston College 226
 14. Wake Forest 192

Three starters from the Hokie's 2022-23 team return: center Elizabeth Kitley, point guard Georgia Amoore and sharpshooter Cayla King. Kitley, the two-time ACC Player of the Year, Kay Yow Scholar Athlete of the Year and AP All-American, and King, one of the most prolific 3-point shooters in program history chose to utilize their fifth year of eligibility, while Amoore is a senior.

Tech's roster features eight new student-athletes: five true freshman and three student-athletes with previous Power Five experience in Olivia Summiel (Wake Forest), Rose Micheaux (Minnesota) and Matilda Ekh (Michigan State). Moore, Kitley and King joined Coach Kenny Brooks in meeting the media this week. Brooks bragged about the support from Hokie nation this past year. "We started slow when we were building it I think eight years ago, and to the point where we got our watch party, we had more people at our watch party this year than we probably did my first game that we had in Cassell Coliseum. You do have to build it,

and you get tremendous players, tremendous people to represent your program, and then people will come out and they will support," he told reporters. "Hokie Nation has some of the best fans in the country. They're very loyal, and they come out and support it, and they even support it off the season has been over. I think it's really hard for those two (Kitley and Amoore) to go to Kroger's and just have a peaceful afternoon or evening because everyone wants a part of them."

In July, the university announced a contract extension for Brooks that will keep him in Blacksburg through March 2029. Highlights of the contract include a six-year deal totaling \$6.4 million, as well as other enhancements made to support staff salaries, assistant coach salary pool, postseason bonuses and operating budget.

Brooks, who enters his eighth season at Virginia Tech in 2023-24, owns a 155-74 record with the Hokies, including a 62-56 mark in ACC play. He has led the Hokies to the postseason each season that one was contested, including each of the last three NCAA Tournaments.

In 2022-23, Brooks' Hokies went 31-5, won the program's first ACC title, earned a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament and reached the Final Four after a 15-game winning streak that began in January. Kitley, who has received back-to-back ACC player of the year awards, said it was 50/50 whether she was coming back for another year.

"But the more time that passed in the season and the more I saw how lucky I was to be in the place that I am, it really became clear that another year here would benefit me and be the best for me. And just the opportunity to play with Georgia and to be coached by Coach Brooks and play with Cayla and play in front of Hokie Nation every night, it's so fun and such a great opportunity that I think will benefit me in the long

run, basketball and off the court," she said.

Kitley repeated as ACC Player of the Year last season after another dominant season where she was one of three athletes in the nation to average 18 points and 10.5 rebounds. She recorded 23 double-doubles and scored 20 or more 18 times throughout the season, with her season-high of 29 coming in the final regular season game at Georgia Tech. During her senior season she became Tech's all-time leader in points, field goals, blocks and double-doubles while also eclipsing 1,000 rebounds and 2,000 career points.

She is the only VT athlete to be named first team All-ACC three times, All-Defensive twice and earn AP All-American recognition twice.

Amoore has been described as a prolific scorer and a floor general. She said it's just consistency and confidence.

"I think shooting is definitely more mental than anything. I say this all the time, but coming into college I was not a shooter. I was not preferred to shoot a three. Seriously, I think one of my teammates from Australia brought that up a few months ago, and I was reminiscing on that because now I feel not normal when I don't attempt a three in a game. But yeah, just consistent work over the off-season, and I think going into last year's season I was a bit complacent in trying to share the ball a bit more, which is still a huge part of my job, is to make everyone better."

She believes onlookers have to add a third word when describing her play.

"I know I have to be a threat, and I know I have to shoot. Coach Brooks has placed stress on me that everything I'm able to do comes from me being a threat from three. I can't be a good pass without being a threat. I can't drive without being a threat from three. So just remembering that that is my number one priority, and keeping up with that is going to help me on every other aspect," Amoore told reporters.

Amoore has been named to the Watch List for the Nancy Lieberman Point Guard of the Year Award and returns to the court following a

Virginia Tech men rebounding for new season

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Just two years ago, the Virginia Tech men were being heralded as the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) tournament champs. Then last year hit as the Hokies only won 19 games, losing to N.C. State in the tournament's second round.

Hunter Cattoor, Sean Pedulla and forward Mylyjael Poteat joined Coach Mike Young in Charlotte, North Carolina on ACC Media Day earlier this week.

Cattoor is excited about this upcoming season. "We're going to figure it out. We'll be fine. We've been going through kind of the off-season summer working out, and we've got a good group of guys that I'm confident in, and we'll be excited to start off on November 6," Cattoor said.

Pedulla enters his third season at Virginia Tech, the expectations are set for the junior point guard to assert himself as a leader for the Hokies. Transitioning from a freshman to a sophomore in 2022, Pedulla saw his role skyrocket. He became the team's full-time starting point guard and led Tech in minutes per game at 35.6.

Furthermore, Pedulla played and started in all 34 games the Hokies played last season, which was also a team high. While moving into the "PG1" role, Pedulla catapulted his 5.4 points per game and 1.3 assists per game as a freshman to 15.0 and 3.8 respectively, in his sophomore campaign. Heading into 2023, Pedulla will be called upon to advance his game to a higher rung on the ladder.

"I need to be a more complete player. Last year, I had a new role as the starting point guard. This year, I'm looking forward to taking control of that role and running with it to the best of my ability," Sean Pedulla said.

With 70 games of experience under his belt in just two seasons, Pedulla is now the second longest-tenured member of Virginia Tech men's basketball. He trails only Cattoor with 119 games played in a Tech uniform. With nine of the 15 rostered players for the upcoming season being underclassmen, Pedulla will be asked to grow as a leader in his junior year.

Of course, there will be some new faces on the floor this year.

Mekhi Long, Tyler Nickel and Robbie Beran, all join the Hokies as transfers this season.

See Hokies, page 8

See Rebounding, page 8

ONLINE AUCTION

Ends Friday, November 17th at 3 PM
Fixer Upper for Sale at Auction in Radford VA
4537 Maple Branch Rd., Radford, VA 24141

Bid Now at VAuctionPro.com



PREVIEW DATE: Saturday, November 11th at 10 AM

Unlock the potential for this fixer upper investment home for sale in Radford VA. This home sits on a generous 0.44 acre, level and cleared lot. Located near the serene Little River and Claytor Lake, this property offers a unique opportunity to create your dream retreat. With 2 bedrooms, 1 bath and 672 sq ft of living space, this residence allows you to create a cozy haven. The outbuilding gives you a great opportunity for a workshop or shed. With some repairs, upgrades, and improvements this could be a cute residence!

Terms: 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$2,500 required on day of sale. Close on or before December 29th, 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 before placing a bid. Auction starts ending at 3 PM on November 17th, 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.

CONTACT – Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email Gallimore.Matt@gmail.com. You can also contact Realtor Cole Harris at 540-239-1907 or email CHarrisRealtor@gmail.com.

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Floyd, VA 24091
(540) 745-2005
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Blue Ridge Land & Auction Co., Inc.

Hercules Tires, Big South extend agreement

The Big South Conference announced today a multi-year renewal with Hercules Tires as the title sponsor of the Big South Men's and Women's Basketball Championships.

The 2024 Hercules Tires Big South Basketball Championships will be March 6-10 at the Qubein Center on the campus of High Point University in High Point, N.C.

"Our official partnership as title sponsor of the men's and women's championships not only gives Hercules Tires a platform to expose the brand to new audiences during the exciting culmination of the season where the best of the best athletes will get a chance to compete for the championship title, but is also an outstanding opportunity to engage with passionate fans, student-athletes, staff and alumni throughout the season on a grassroots level," said Joshua Simpson, Senior Vice President of Hercules Tires.

Hercules Tires has been the title sponsor of the Big South Basketball Championships since 2020. The 2024 event will begin on Wednesday, March 6 with two first round games. The women's quarterfinals will be held on Thursday, March 7, with the men's quarterfinals slated for Friday, March 8. Both semifinals will be conducted on Saturday, March 9, with the Championship games on Sunday, March 10.

All 16 tournament games will be televised on the ESPN family of networks, with the two championship contests airing on a linear network. Game times and ticket information for the 2024 Hercules Tires Big South Basketball Championships will be announced when finalized.

"On behalf of the Big South Conference, I am immensely elated and grateful for the continued partnership with Hercules Tires," added Big South Commissioner Sherika A. Montgomery. "The proven alignment

of values and commitment to elevated and holistic student-athlete experiences make this partnership invaluable. We look forward to tremendous opportunities of impact ahead as we welcome Hercules Tires back as the title sponsor of two marquee Conference championship events."

The broad-based, multifaceted extension agreement was negotiated by the Big South's multimedia rights partner, Van Wagner.

Hercules Tires is widely recognized as the industry's premier value brand with a comprehensive selection of passenger, UHP, light truck, medium truck and specialty tires. Since 1952, independent tire dealers and distributors have trusted Hercules to deliver outstanding quality, exceptional support, and unsurpassed value.

Hercules is a wholly-owned subsidiary of American Tire Distributors, Inc. American Tire Distributors is one of the largest independent suppliers of tires in the North American replacement tire market. The company offers an unsurpassed breadth and depth of inventory, frequent delivery and value-added services to approximately 80,000 customers across the U.S. and Canada.

Van Wagner, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Van Wagner Group LLC, creates, advises, and sells on behalf of world-class teams, leagues, brands, properties, and colleges. An innovator in the sports and media business, Van Wagner is a global leader in high-impact broadcast visible signage throughout the MLB, NBA, NCAA, and the highest levels of international soccer, sponsorships sales, premium ticketing, college multi-media rights, and in-venue content production at the world's biggest sporting events.

Big South Conference

Golf Digest ranks Pete Dye No. 6

Golf Digest magazine recently listed its 25 greatest college golf courses in the United States, with the Hokies' Pete Dye River Course of Virginia Tech tabbed sixth.

The magazine's first ranking of America's best college golf courses was published in 1982 in the book, 100 Greatest Golf Courses—And Then Some, by Golf Digest founder and editor-in-chief Bill Davis. The ranking was just five courses deep, the results based on a poll given to collegiate golf coaches. This ranking is based on Best-in-State data and a survey of our course-ranking panel. Four of the five courses listed remain among the country's best, including the top course in this year's ranking, Yale, the Alister MacKenzie-designed Ohio State University Scarlet Course (then No. 1), Stanford and Colgate University's Seven Oaks course, designed by Robert Trent Jones.

Emphasizing variety, the 2023 ranking

favors no architectural style or era. Many of the profession's greatest architects are represented, from early practitioners like MacKenzie (twice), Donald Ross and William Flynn to Tom Doak, Jack Nicklaus, Gil Hanse and Jim Wagner, and Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw.

Pete Dye has four courses on the list, spanning 1965 to 2016, including Tech's home facility. Seven courses, including the top four, were built before the end of World War II. Four others—Jimmie Austin Golf Club at the University of Oklahoma, Duke University Golf Club, Colgate's Seven Oaks, the University of Michigan's Radrick Farms Golf Course—opened between 1950 and 1970. Four were constructed in the 1990s, and 10 were built after 2000.

The Yale Golf Course, located in New Haven, Conn., was this year's top ranked campus course, followed by Taconic Golf Club at Williams College in Williamstown, Mass., and University of Michigan Golf Course in Ann Arbor, Mich.

A total of six Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) courses made the list: Pete Dye River Course of Virginia Tech led the way at No. 6; the Warren Golf Course at Notre Dame was ranked 11th; the University of Virginia's Birdwood Golf

Course was ranked 12th; Duke University Golf Club was ranked 17th; University of Louisville Golf Club checked in at No. 21; Florida State's Seminole Legacy Golf Club completed the ACC rankings at 22nd.

The Pete Dye River Course of Virginia Tech has become a prime destination for golfers seeking challenging play in the serene setting of the western Virginia mountains. The course was used for the 2011 NCAA Regional Golf Tournament and received a nearly perfect 4 1/2 star rating from the readers of Golf Digest magazine in their "Best Places to Play" poll for 2011.

Dedicated in 2006, the Pete Dye River Course of Virginia Tech features five sets of tees along 2.5 miles of the scenic and historic New River. The yardage stretches from 5,142 for ladies to 7,665 for tournament play. In 2006, Golf Digest, the nation's leading golf magazine, named the Pete Dye River Course among the "best new remodel" golf courses in the nation. It was ranked fourth among the 170 courses considered, and was the only public, non-resort course in the top five.

Virginia Tech Athletics

Hokie notes: Football schedule changes, baseball fall action helps Micah's Backpack

Marty Gordon
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Virginia Tech has announced a change in a future football opponent. A home game against state-foe James Madison had been scheduled for the 2025 season but is now moved to 2026.

Wofford will replace the Dukes on the 2025 slate. The Hokies and Dukes were scheduled to meet on Sept. 20, 2025 but will now play on Sept. 26, 2026.

"We appreciate the James Madison football program's flexibility in accommodating a new trip to Blacksburg in 2026 and are pleased to welcome Wofford back during the 2025 season," said Babcock. "Keeping both home dates on our schedule was a priority and we are eager to continue providing great Lane Stadium experiences to Hokie Nation during the seasons to come."

The Hokies only meeting with

Wofford took place on Sept. 17, 2022, a 27-7 Tech win in Blacksburg. Virginia Tech and JMU have played seven times previously, with the last meeting in Blacksburg in 2010. The Hokies own a 6-1 advantage in the series.

The 2024 schedule includes a visit to Vanderbilt. In 2025, the Hokies will play South Carolina at a neutral site, Atlanta, Ga., and a Vandy trip to Blacksburg. Year 2026 will include contests against VMI and Maryland.

Baseball intra squad

Looking ahead to a full, fun home weekend of Virginia Tech baseball in the New River Valley, head coach John Szefc is excited to welcome everyone to share in the program at events surrounding the Hokies' annual intrasquad Fall World Series, this weekend.

Virginia Tech will split its roster into two sides, Maroon and Orange, during its three-game fall finale at English Field

at Atlantic Union Bank Park. First pitch times are currently scheduled for 2 p.m. on Friday, 4 p.m. on Saturday and 1:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Entry to English Field is free to all fans while ballpark seating is general admission.

Throughout the series, fans are encouraged to participate in the Hokies' food drive in support of Micah's Backpack, a local volunteer organization that strives to provide direct food assistance to Blacksburg students who are experiencing food insecurity. All food and/or donations are accepted, although preferred food items include canned pasta, canned soup, canned beanie weenies, canned tuna, canned chicken, individual mac and cheese cups, peanut butter, 100% juice boxes, milk boxes, individual oatmeal, canned veggies, fruit cups (in juice or lite syrup) and individual

wrapped snacks.

Additionally, at the conclusion of Sunday's Fall World Series action, members of the Virginia Tech baseball team will host a free, one-hour youth clinic from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Drones fourth highest

Earning his second conference win against Wake Forest, quarterback Kyron Drones' masterful performance garnered extra notoriety. The Pearland, Texas native threw a season-high 321 passing yards and two touchdowns, recording his first 300-yard passing game of his career.

Drones' production in week 7 resulted in him being the fourth-highest graded (87.6) quarterback, according to Pro Football Focus (PFF). The Baylor transfer graded higher than Ohio State's Kyle McCord and Michigan's J.J. McCarthy, two signal callers on teams currently vying for spots in the College Football Playoffs.

Rebounding

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Long comes to Blacksburg after three seasons at Old Dominion. He played his freshman season at Rhode Island. As a senior for the Monarchs, Long averaged 10.7 points and 8.7 rebounds per game. The Bryans Road, Md., native registered 11 double-doubles on the season, including nine in Sun Belt play to lead the league.

The 6-foot-7 wing

started in 29 of ODU's 30 games in 2022-23. Long chalked up 10 points and 11 rebounds in the Monarchs' 75-71 loss to the Hokies on Nov. 17. The fifth-year standout has amassed 770 points, 613 rebounds and 100 assists in his career.

Nickel, a former four-star recruit out of high school, returns to the Commonwealth after spending his freshman

season at ACC foe North Carolina. As a freshman for the Tar Heels, Nickel averaged 2.1 points in 25 games. He scored a season-high 16 points (all in the second half) vs. The Citadel. Nickel tallied eight points in a season-high 25 minutes against the Hokies on Dec. 4.

The Harrisonburg native set the Virginia High School League

scoring record of 2,909 points in 102 career games at East Rockingham. He was the 2022 VHSL Class AA Player of the Year, a four-time region and district player of the year and four-time first-team all-state, all-region and all-district.

Nickel led East Rockingham to an 87-15 record and state tournament appearances each year, with runner-up finishes in 2020 and 2022. He became the first player from East Rockingham to play at a Division I school.

Beran, who was recruited by each member of Tech's current coaching staff out of high school, will play his fifth year for the Hokies after four seasons at Northwestern. The Richmond, Va., native started 100 of his 120 career games with the Wildcats, while racking up 744 career points and 454 career rebounds.

Coming off a 15-16 record in 2021-22, Beran spurred Northwestern to

an impressive turnaround last season, going 22-12 and advancing to the second round of the NCAA tournament. As a senior, Beran averaged 7.5 points and 4.5 rebounds per game.

Beran is a 41.2% shooter from the floor in his career, including a 36.1% clip from beyond the arc. Nearly 50% of his career field goal attempts are from long range.

As previously announced, Tech will compete in the Hall of Fame Series vs. South Carolina on Nov. 10 at the Spectrum Center in Charlotte, N.C. The Hokies return home for a pair of games against Campbell (Nov. 15) and Wofford (Nov. 19), the latter marks the first time Young will face his previous squad as Tech's head coach. Young spent 17 seasons in Spartanburg, S.C., leading the Terriers to five NCAA tournaments and five Southern Conference tournament titles.

Tech then makes its

return to Orlando, Fla., for the ESPN Events Invitational (Nov. 23-26) inside State Farm Field House.

From there, VT will swing up to Auburn, Ala., to square off with the Tigers in the inaugural ACC/SEC Challenge on Nov. 29. Tech closes out its non-conference slate with three home games against Valparaiso (Dec. 9), Vermont (Dec. 16) and American (Dec. 21).

As part of the ACC schedule, the Hokies will welcome Boston College, Clemson, Duke, Florida State, Georgia Tech, Louisville, Miami, Notre Dame, Virginia and Wake Forest to Cassell Coliseum. On the road, Tech will clash with Florida State, Louisville, Miami, North Carolina, NC State, Notre Dame, Pitt, Syracuse, Virginia and Wake Forest.

You can see the Hokies in action on Monday, Nov. 6 when they take on Coppin State 8 p.m. ET at Carilion Clinic Court at Cassell Coliseum.

Hokies

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history with Houston Christian and again on Nov. 20 to face UNC Greensboro for the first time since 2008.

Thanksgiving week, the Hokies will travel to the tropics to take on Kansas and Tulane in the Cayman Islands Classic.

In the first edition of the ACC-SEC

Challenge on Nov. 30, Brooks and the Hokies will travel to Baton Rouge, Louisiana for a meeting with the reigning national champions, LSU. The two met in the national semifinals in March with the Tigers winning a back-and-forth contest 79-72.



Derek ROUNTREE

For School Board District E



★ TOP PRIORITIES ★

- ✓ Maintain and advance excellence in our schools.
- ✓ Promote literacy by supporting librarians and teachers.
- ✓ Create a safe and welcoming environment for ALL students.
- ✓ Provide representation for all students, parents, teachers, and staff.
- ✓ Continue to advocate for school funding at all levels of government.

VOTE November 7th!

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