



NEWS JOURNAL

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 • USPS 387-780 • radfordnewsjournal.com • \$1.00

Bobcats cap unforgettable undefeated season with state title *The championship is Radford's first since 1972*



Radford coach Michael Crist receives the championship trophy after Saturday's game at Salem Municipal Stadium. Radford downed Riverheads to finish a 15-0 season.



PHOTOS BY BRYANT ALTIZER

The Radford Bobcats' fans showed up in great number to make a lot of noise and provide a home field type of atmosphere.

Marty Gordon

NRVsports@ourvalley.org

If there was a time to hear crickets in the City of Radford, Saturday might have been the day.

Over 4,000 Bobcat fans packed the stands at Salem Municipal Field and watched Radford High School win their first state championship in over 50 years.

The team capped off a 15-0 season with the Class 2 Finals 39-21 over Riverheads. The stands were packed with over 4,000 fans dressed in black and gold.

"We're here to cheer on the Bobcats," fans said as they walked into the stadium. The group included former head coach Norm Lineburg who led the school to its last two championships in 1971 and 1972.

Cowbells rank loud and clear when the Bobcats drove down the field.

When the dust cleared and the rain stopped, Radford was the state champ.

Police and fire vehicles led the team back into the city after their trip back down Interstate 81.

A large contingent met the team and coaches at the RHS gym upon their arrival home. A chant of "Landon for President" broke out as fans welcomed them home.

Radford Mayor David Horton released the following statement:

"Radford is incredibly proud of our Bobcats. This state championship is the result of hard work and dedication and indicative of the values our community holds dear - perseverance, determination, ingenuity,

and heart. Often this season it felt like a David vs Goliath scenario with our Bobcats as an underdog, but they never gave up and found a way to come out on top. We are so proud of all our students in Radford City Public Schools, their teachers, coaches, and mentors."

"After 51 years the return to this pinnacle of success is welcome," said Horton, "and is such a positive feeling throughout the city. Together as we support each other and strive to be our best, there is nothing we cannot accomplish."

Horton was among the large contingent of fans at both the game and returning rally.

For photos and recap of the game, check out today's sports.

Radford U gets green light rating from free speech organization

RADFORD — Virginia is for lovers of free speech.

Radford University is the latest school to receive a rare "green light" rating from the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression.

Overall green light ratings are reserved for institutions with no written policies that seriously threaten student speech. Radford is one of only four schools in Virginia, and one of only 63 nationwide, that earn this rating.

"It is critical for Radford University to be a place where everyone is welcome, and where individuals of all beliefs, backgrounds, and perspectives can have open dialogue about the issues of our world," said Radford President Bret Danilowicz. "We are proud to work alongside FIRE to advance Radford's commitment to freedom of expression and to ensure that our community embraces the benefits of critical inquiry

and meaningful debate."

In the fall of 2022, Radford's University Counsel proactively reached out to FIRE to discuss the school's speech code rating, which was a "yellow light" at the time. Radford already boasted an exemplary posting policy that FIRE often recommends to other institutions, but it also maintained five policies that could be used to discipline students for protected expression on campus and online.

FIRE helped Radford revise policies governing the use of university facilities, the use of university computers and IT systems, harassment, online misconduct, and indecent behavior. The new policies ensure students can engage in expression that is protected by the First Amendment without fear of punishment.

The revised university facilities policy allows Radford students to organize

events knowing they won't have to worry about incurring security fees based on the content or viewpoint of the speech that will be expressed at the event. While many other schools handle controversial lectures and unpopular club events in a viewpoint-discriminatory fashion, Radford's policy sets forth a content-neutral plan for decision-making about events on campus.

"With these revisions, Radford students can be sure their policies back them up when planning events," said FIRE Senior Program Officer Ryan Ansoan. "Student groups shouldn't have to shell out for costly security to host a speaker that the university dislikes — Radford's policies affirm that."

Radford's achievement is the latest victory in the fight against censorship on Virginia's college campuses. The state now has four green light institutions,

including the University of Virginia, George Mason University, and the College of William and Mary. Virginia is tied for the third-most green light schools of any state, behind only North Carolina (15) and Mississippi (6).

FIRE is eager to help other schools in the commonwealth — and around the country — earn green light ratings.

The Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to defending and sustaining the individual rights of all Americans to free speech and free thought — the most essential qualities of liberty. FIRE educates Americans about the importance of these inalienable rights, promotes a culture of respect for these rights, and provides the means to preserve them.

Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression



New city Christmas tree lights up the night



PHOTOS BY HEATHER BELL

A new tree is lit for the holiday season at the Radford Public Library recently after a festive event held at the library, during which the crowd participated in Christmas carols using bells led by the Grove United Methodist Church bell choir. "Thank you all for making this year's Tree Lighting fantastic," the RPL announced. "It was wonderful to have the library filled with so much holiday cheer. We'd like to extend a big thanks to the Grove United Methodist Church Handbell Choirs, Mayor David Horton, Hodge Podge Cookies, Radford's Electric Department, Radford Transit, and of course Santa Claus!" For more photos from the tree lighting event, please see page 2.

Family creates scholarship to support blue collar students



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CFNRV

Kent Quesenberry

RINER - There are few roads in the New River Valley that do not have a house for which Kent Quesenberry of Riner did the plumbing.

As a Master Plumber and Class B contractor, Kent could often be seen leaning on his shovel at a worksite, taking the time to get to know everyone and to pass along advice and encouragement.

"He was an awesome person and had a hello for every single person he met. He made it feel like you had known him your whole life," said Billie, one of Kent's daughters. "He was always a jokester, always laughing, and always had a twinkle in his eye."

After Kent passed away unexpectedly

in 2021, his family discussed how best to honor his legacy and continue to impact the community that had given them so much through Kent's business. They thought about conversations that Kent and his wife, Joni, had when Billie and her younger sister Jessie were both in college at the same time. Kent and Joni had discussed how they wanted to eventually help other blue-collar families navigate paying for college, especially because both of their daughters benefitted from scholarships.

Eventually, Joni reached out to the Community Foundation of the New River Valley (CFNRV) to gather information about setting up a scholarship fund, but life got busy, and the idea was shelved for the time being. About a year after Kent's passing, they reached back out to the Foundation.

Since 1994, the CFNRV has worked with donors to establish endowed funds that award grants to nonprofits and scholarships to students. A new fund is considered fully endowed when it reaches a specific minimum - \$15,000 for scholarships - but the varies based on the type of fund. Once the fund becomes endowed, the money is invested, and the earnings are used to award grants or scholarships for the purpose set by the donor. Today, the Foundation manages more than 200 endowed funds and has given over \$8 million to nonprofits and students in the NRV.

"Everyone at the Foundation made this a welcoming and supportive experience. The Blue Collar Scholarship would not

See Scholarship, page 2

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, Dec. 13:

Blacksburg Farmers Market

At Market Square Park, 100 Draper Rd SW. The Blacksburg Farmers Market is a local, family-friendly gathering place in downtown Blacksburg featuring farmers of locally grown produce and meats, alongside artisans of baked goods and handmade crafts. For more information, visit <http://blacksburgfarmersmarket.com>.

Thursday, Dec. 14:

Blacksburg Community Band's Winter Concert

At the Blacksburg High School auditorium; 7 p.m. This is a free concert. We hope you can come out and hear some of your favorite holiday tunes!

Friday, Dec. 15:

Community Mobile Food Distribution

Feeding America Southwest Virginia Community Mobile Food Distribution in the Central Lumber Parking Lot, 725 West Main St. Radford; 3 – 5 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 17:

Luminary display

The annual Stroubles Mill Neighborhood Association Luminary display will begin at 5:30 p.m. in Blacksburg (Hethwood). Rain date is Monday, Dec. 18.

Monday, Dec. 18:

Pre-K Music Class with Alice Armentrout

At the Radford Public Library; 10 – 10:30 a.m. Local music teacher Alice Armentrout will be at the library to lead a Pre-K music class! There is no registration necessary for this event.

Tuesday, Dec. 19:

Coffee Club for Adults (age 50+)

At the Radford Public Library; 10 – 11 a.m. Cultivate community by making new friends at RL! Adults 50+ years are encouraged to come out and enjoy coffee and baked goods, provided by local Arabica Café & Bakery, while making new friends. This informal gathering will be hosted by staff member Monika. Please join us and share your stories!

Genealogy: Newspapers

At the Radford Public Library; noon- 1 p.m. Local genealogy professional Rebecca Novy will teach about how to use newspapers in your genealogical research.

Wednesday, Dec. 20:

CommUNITY Yoga for Self-Care for Adults

At the Radford Public Library; 5:45 – 6:45 p.m. Join Kelly McCoy of The Whole You for an all-level yoga class for adults. Learn poses to help strengthen and lengthen your muscles as well as some breathing and meditation techniques to help calm the nervous system. This class is free to the public and is funded by grant money via the Virginia Department of Health.

Thursday, Dec. 21:

Photo Club meeting

The Radford Photo Club will meet at 6 p.m. at Radford Public Library. Bring your three favorite photos from 2023 on a thumb drive to share and select one as a print for the photo contest.

On-going:

Dec. 14- Jan. 15:

Blacksburg Transit reduced service

Blacksburg Transit will operate on reduced service for the holiday season beginning Dec. 14. Reduced service will remain in effect until Jan. 15. There will be no bus service on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. For more information, please contact 540-443-1500.

Dec. 15 – Jan. 1:

Free downtown Blacksburg parking

Free holiday parking will be in effect downtown. Normal parking rates will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 2.

Blacksburg stormwater utility credit application deadline

Deadline for Stormwater Utility Credit Applications is Jan. 1, 2024. If you are located within the Town of Blacksburg and have a stormwater management facility on your site, you may qualify for a credit on your monthly stormwater utility fee. Go to www.blacksburg.gov/stormwaterfund and review the Stormwater Utility Credit Manual to know more. Stormwater management facilities are typically ponds (either dry ponds/dry detention basins or wet retention basins). Other types include underground storage structures (usually located under parking lots in commercial areas), vegetated areas like bio-retentions, and mechanical filters that remove oil and sediment from stormwater runoff. Questions, contact stormwater@blacksburg.gov or call 540-443-1354.

Blacksburg Comprehensive Plan Amendment application process

In 2021, Town Council adopted the updated Comprehensive Plan. As part of the mid-way evaluation between five-year updates, the town accepts privately initiated applications for amendments to the plan. Amendments include changes to Future Land Use Map designations or the text of the Plan. Applications due on Jan. 15, 2024. A pre-application meeting is required prior to submittal. Contact Maeve Gould, Comprehensive Planner, at (540) 443-1300 or CompPlan@blacksburg.gov, with questions, or to schedule a pre-application meeting.

Library tree lighting event fun for all ages



Vietnam veteran Bill Munsey rings a bell during the audience performance of Christmas carols led by the Grove United Methodist Church bell choirs at the Radford Public Library's tree lighting event, held Dec. 5.



Morgan Jessie of Hodge Podge Cookies gives a Christmas cookie to Mason Bell at the tree lighting event.

Bomb threat draws 60 days in jail

BLACKSBURG - A Blacksburg man has been given a short jail sentence after threatening to blow up the Blacksburg Police Department.

The investigation showed that Jaden Eubanks made the threat on Oct. 14. This past week, charges for threatening to bomb or damage a building were amended to trespassing.

A Montgomery County judge found him guilty and initially gave him 60 days in jail with all but 10 days being suspended. He will also be on probation for one year.

Staff report



PHOTOS BY HEATHER BELL

A big audience with lots of happy children listens to the bell choir performance prior to heading outside to light the city Christmas tree.

Scholarship

from page 1

be a reality without their help," said Joni. "Learning all the rules and laws involved in setting up a scholarship would be overwhelming without their expertise and guidance. With the Foundation at our side, we now feel like the scholarship will continue to grow and be around for generations."

Together with the CFNRV team, Joni, Billie, and Jessie worked out the parameters of the fund, to provide scholarships to students in the NRV from blue collar families to pursue a degree at a two-or-four-year college, university, trade, or technical school. The scholarship selection criteria include demonstrated financial need and a minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Preference is given to students already in college. This is one of more than 50 scholarship funds at the CFNRV, each with specific criteria developed by the donor to help the CFNRV Scholarship Committee select recipients each year. Many of the funds are created

in honor of a loved one like the Blue Collar Scholarship.

"We're a blue-collar family and it is very close to our hearts. We learned that being a second, third, and fourth year in college makes it much harder to get scholarships," said Jessie. "We want to help families like ours by helping their kids go to college or further their education in whatever way."

The Quesenberry family have been surrounded by the support of their community since Kent's passing, with many individuals and businesses contributing to the scholarship fund. With dozens of donations coming from the community, the fund reached the endowment minimum in the fall of 2023 and will award its first scholarship in 2024. But the Quesenberry family is not stopping there. They plan to continue to grow the fund with the goal of giving out larger scholarships with each passing year.

As Kent's family reflects on the future, they hope that

the scholarship comes to someone at the right time and helps them do something – just like scholarships did for Billie and Jessie. All three women find comfort in knowing they are helping to continue Kent's legacy of encouraging people along their path in life. They hope that receiving a scholarship from the fund inspires those students to one day help others in a similar position and that it continues to grow each year.

"It would be our greatest joy to know that Dad's legacy will continue and enable others to continue their education," said Billie.

To learn more about this scholarship or to donate, visit givelocalnrv.org/story/Bluecollar. For more information about setting up a scholarship fund, contact the CFNRV team at cfnrv@cfnrv.org or 540-381-8999.

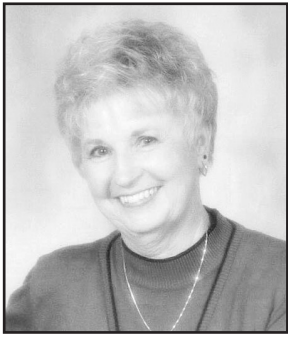
Community Foundation of the NRV

OBITUARIES

Boyd, Arleta Lively

Arleta Lively Boyd, 85, passed away Friday, Dec. 8, 2023, at Pulaski Health and Rehab Center. She was born Aug. 12, 1938, the daughter of James Frank and Nettie Boone Lively. She was a lifelong member of Fairlawn Grace Brethren Church and retired as department secretary of the Plant Pathology and Weed Science Department at Virginia Tech. Arleta was a member of the NRV Community Chorus for many years and also enjoyed quilting, sewing and the senior bowling group.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 52 years, Robert Merrill Boyd; mother and father, Frank and Nettie Lively; sisters, Zeld Boyd and Betty Craft; brother and sister-in-law, Pete and Betty Lively; and great



granddaughter, Leila Hamad.

Survivors include her son and daughter-in-law, Keith and Joby Boyd; daughter and son-in-law, Vanessa and Kelly Rutherford; grandchildren, Savannah Funkhouser (Chad), Samantha Hamad (Amir), Shauna Rutherford, and Robert Boyd (Stephanie); great grandchildren, Scarlett, Atticus and Camilla Funkhouser, Hazen and Hanna Hamad, and Jack Boyd; brother-in-law, Leslie

Boyd; sister-in-law, Mary Boyd; and other nieces, nephews and cousins, and friends.

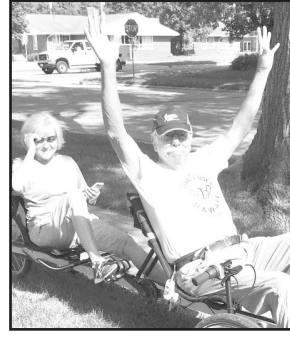
The family would like to thank Pulaski Health and Rehab and Commonwealth Senior Living for the loving care Arleta received.

The family will receive friends noon-2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2023, at Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services will begin at 2 p.m. with Pastor Cameron Mitchell officiating. Interment will follow in Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to Fairlawn Grace Brethren Church, 6893 Mills Avenue, Radford, VA 24141.

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

Vengrin, Michael Vincent



A philosopher, scholar, carpenter, chef, gardener, and loving husband, father, and grandfather, Michael Vincent Vengrin, 82, of Christiansburg, passed away peacefully at the home he built himself surrounded by his family on Dec. 9, 2023.

He was born on July 4, 1941, in Clarksburg, W.Va., to Joseph and Catherine Vengrin. Michael was the first in his family to attend college, attending West Virginia University, earning both a Bachelor's and Master's degree. Michael was a Professor at Radford University, teaching in the Philosophy Department until 1996, when he retired with the distinction and honor of Professor Emeritus. As a man who could not sit idle, he then earned his contractor's license and opened Mill Creek Construction, operating it until his second retirement in 2013. He continued an active life in retirement, taking up running at the age of 71 and completing several 5K and

10K races. He loved caring for his garden and orchard, traveling, hiking and biking with his wife, and was equally devoted to helping others by volunteering with the Wesley Foundation at Radford University, serving on its board, and contributing his time to Bethel United Methodist Church and the Old Brick Presbyterian Food Bank. Michael was preceded in death by his father and mother, Joseph and Catherine Vengrin; and sister, Joan Yoho.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Jean Vengrin; son and daughter-in-law, Joel Vengrin and

Liz Lauck; daughter, Allison Vengrin; daughter and son-in-law, Courtney Vengrin and Stephen Kelley; grandchildren Charlotte and Miles Vengrin; brother and sister-in-law, Joseph Edward (Eddy) and Loretta Vengrin; and numerous extended family and loved ones.

A private family burial will be held with a celebration of life to follow on Dec. 28, 2023, 10 - 11:30 a.m. at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in his memory to Old Brick Presbyterian Food Bank, PO Box 323, Radford, VA, 24143, the Wesley Foundation at Radford University, 1022 Downey St, Radford, VA, 24141, or the Montgomery County Humane Society, 1183 Flanagan Dr, Christiansburg, VA, 24073.

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

Virginia Tech to honor more than 2,600 at fall commencement



VIRGINIA TECH PHOTO

Virginia Tech fall graduation is Dec. 15.

BLACKSBURG - On Dec. 15, 2,664 Hokies will graduate, walking across the stage at Cassell Coliseum to receive their diplomas.

The University Commencement ceremony will begin at 10:30 a.m. ET, and the Graduate School ceremony will follow at 2:30 p.m. ET. Doors will open an hour before each event. Each ceremony is expected to last about two hours. Both events will be available via livestream video from the university homepage for those unable to attend in person.

The keynote speaker for the University Commencement ceremony will be Amy Pruden, University Distinguished Professor and the W. Thomas Rice Professor in the Charles E. Via, Jr. Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, where her research program focuses on using DNA-based tools to track pathogens and antibiotic resistance in the environment. For the Graduate School commencement, three student speakers will speak: Imani Lewis, who is earning a master's degree of public and international affairs; Ikhlis Rabab'ah, who is earning a doctoral degree in architecture and design research and graduating this semester with her master's degree; and Norovbanzad Tsogt-Ochir, who is earning a master's degree in civil

engineering.

During the University Commencement ceremony, 1,669 undergraduates will be recognized for earning bachelor's degrees.

The College of Engineering will feature the most undergraduates receiving degrees with a total of 416. Virginia Tech's six other colleges and the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine will award the following bachelor's degrees to summer and fall graduates:

- College of Agriculture and Life Sciences: 149
- College of Architecture, Arts, and Design: 24
- Pamplin College of Business: 361
- College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences: 286
- College of Natural Resources and Environment: 71
- College of Science: 381
- Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine: 20

A total of 995 students will receive advanced graduate certificates. The graduate degree candidates include 632 master's degrees, one education specialist degree, 173 Ph.D.s, and five doctors of education.

Of the degree recipients, 102 Ph.D. students and 230 master's degree students

are expected to attend the ceremony in-person, as well as 900 undergraduate students.

The Graduate School also will recognize its Alumni Achievement Award recipient, Owen Wagner '07, during its ceremony. The Graduate School established this award in 2003 to recognize outstanding graduate alumni who have demonstrated extraordinary national or international achievement and exemplary contributions to their profession, discipline, community, and society.

Wagner, vice president and senior analyst for North American markets at Rabobank, is researching sustainable aviation fuel utilizing agricultural feedstocks, such as oils, corn, and cellulosic biomass, to supplement conventional jet fuel. Wagner's research advises Rabobank's wholesale agribusiness and rural clients about risks and opportunities in the biofuel space. He is also exploring the sustainability of cotton versus polyester textiles. "My degree from Virginia Tech provided me with the knowledge to relate to our clients while having a global economics understanding of markets," he said in a July interview.

Virginia Tech

Send community news and photos to
communitynews@ourvalley.org

OPINION

Ballard says legislation submissions will benefit community

In last week's column, I filled you in on Virginia House Democrats' attempts to enact wide-ranging restrictions on Second Amendment rights in the upcoming 2024 legislative session. Today, I'd like to give you a quick peek at some of the bills and ideas that I will be supporting when legislators head back to Richmond in January.

A big reason why I ran for office was to ensure that our region's localities have the support they need from state government. While the 2023 election results took important political leadership away from rural Virginia and placed it in Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia, it's important that we stick together to ensure our region's priorities don't fall by the wayside. In consultation with our local governments, I have submitted several pieces of legislation that, if successful, would be beneficial to our communities.

One such bill is meant to crack down on those who move to our region from other states and communities and refuse to update their vehicle registration. Not

only is it unfair to the rest of us who obey the law, but it also deprives localities (and the Commonwealth) of revenue for infrastructure improvements. I'm hopeful that this commonsense measure will be successful, even with a new majority taking power in the House.

Another piece of legislation I plan on submitting has to do with adding our local 9-1-1 dispatchers to the list of local government employees eligible to receive enhanced retirement for hazardous duty services. Our dispatchers — on a daily basis — deal with some of the most stressful situations imaginable. It's my belief that they should be afforded the same benefits as other public safety officials as they all work to keep us safe.

I also plan on resubmitting legislation that would extend the reach of the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission to include Giles, Pulaski, and Montgomery counties. The Tobacco Commission distributes funding to member-localities due to a 1998 settlement with the four major tobacco companies. Our region has a history with the tobacco industry,

and I'll continue to fight for any possible funding that could help our communities.

These are just a few pieces of legislation that I plan on introducing in the 2024 legislative session. Stay tuned as I provide more information on other legislation of interest in future columns!

It is my honor to represent you in Richmond, and I want you to be fully informed what your government is doing for you. As the Delegate representing the 12th District (soon to be the 42nd District due to redistricting), your concerns are my greatest priority. If ever I may be of assistance to you and your family, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at DelJasonBallard@House.Virginia.Gov. You can also follow me on Twitter @JasonBallardVA or like my Facebook page, Jason Ballard for Delegate, to keep up to date with what I am doing in Richmond and in our community on your behalf.

*Del. Jason Ballard
Virginia General Assembly*

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

The morning of November 7th, 2023 came very early. It was election day! A date I had been looking forward to getting over with! My wife, Lindsay Rich, was a candidate for School Board in District E of Montgomery County, and she had spent months campaigning. Together we had nearly accomplished her goal of knocking on every single door within our district. Many doors we knocked on multiple times. She would get up early and stay up late posting to social media, organizing events, scheming with her campaign volunteers, and trying to further her cause. Just a quick drive down Prices Fork Rd. or McCoy Rd. and you would instantly be aware of her campaign presence as you would notice a large number of

pinkish, red Lindsay Rich for School Board signs. She personally designed the sign background with the Appalachian Mountains because of her love for hiking. I was ready to get this election over so that I could have our evenings, weekends, and ultimately my wife back.

I arrived at the Prices Fork Elementary School just before the polls opened at 6 a.m., ready to welcome voters to the polls and hopefully supply them with a sample ballot encouraging them to vote for my wife. I know I am biased, but she would represent our District on the School Board so well. Who better to elect than a mother of five kids in every level of public school system, who would be directly impacted by all her policy decisions! Representing our kids and the families of District E was a cause my wife was very passionate about.

The morning hours seemed busy, and it was fun seeing lots of members from the community, friends, church family and acquaintances showing up to cast their vote. Opposite from me members representing my wife's opponent stood handing out their sample ballots. I enjoyed getting to meet a few of them, sharing some jokes, learning about who they were. It was hard for me to believe that some of these people were those who were so nasty to my wife online, posting such hateful comments on social media! Yet, here they were, so pleasant and likable in person. This really proves the "online disinhibition effect" where their social boundaries are reduced by lack of personal, face to face, interaction with the target of their comment. This is one of the reasons I have personally removed myself from social media.

As the day wore on, we remained optimistic regarding my wife's chances. However, by late afternoon we began to hear reports that there would be large numbers of provisional ballots at Virginia Tech. Virginia law has changed and beginning with the 2022 General Election, individuals can register to vote as late as Election Day and still cast a provisional ballot. After the election, the registrar will research that the ballot to ensure the individual is both qualified and eligible to vote. Rumor had it that someone brought a food truck to Virginia Tech, was registering individuals to vote, providing them with a democratic sample ballot, and offering a free meal at the food truck if

See Rich, page 8

RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL

Serving Radford since 1884

(540) 389-9355

P.O. Box 1125 • Salem, VA 24153

USPS 387-780 • ourvalley.org

Michael Showell, *Publisher*

Heather Bell, *Editor*.....hbell@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Aila Boyd, *Executive Editor*.....aiboyn@ourvalley.org

Wendi Craig, *Advertising Consultant*.....advertise@ourvalley.org

Give us your view: communitynews@ourvalley.org

To subscribe: (540) 389-9355

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.

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.

Virginia gas prices fall over last week

Average gasoline prices in Virginia have fallen 8.5 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.02/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia. Prices in Virginia are 11.1 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 8.0 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 8.4 cents in the last week and stands at \$4.10 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$2.29/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$4.29/g, a difference of \$2.00/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.29/g while the highest was \$4.29/g, a difference of \$2.00/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 9.6 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.11/g today. The national average is down 23.7 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 10.1 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over

150,000 gas stations across the country.

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

December 11, 2022: \$3.10/g (U.S. Average: \$3.21/g)
 December 11, 2021: \$3.20/g (U.S. Average: \$3.34/g)
 December 11, 2020: \$2.07/g (U.S. Average: \$2.17/g)
 December 11, 2019: \$2.32/g (U.S. Average: \$2.58/g)
 December 11, 2018: \$2.26/g (U.S. Average: \$2.41/g)
 December 11, 2017: \$2.28/g (U.S. Average: \$2.45/g)
 December 11, 2016: \$2.11/g (U.S. Average: \$2.21/g)
 December 11, 2015: \$1.85/g (U.S. Average: \$2.01/g)
 December 11, 2014: \$2.48/g (U.S. Average: \$2.61/g)
 December 11, 2013: \$3.18/g (U.S. Average: \$3.24/g)

Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:
 Roanoke- \$2.99/g, down 6.1 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.05/g.
 Richmond- \$2.99/g, down 8.6 cents per gallon from

See Gas, page 8

AARP Virginia fraud alert: Check it twice before donating

It's the season of giving, and for those in the spirit, telling the difference between a real charity and a con can be a challenge. Legitimate charities make a big push at year-end for last-minute annual donations. Scammers know this and make their own end-of-year push to line their pockets.

If a charity solicits you for a

donation, even if your first instinct is to contribute, be careful. Many fake charities have legitimate-looking websites and names, making them hard to discern as fraudulent. Others are registered nonprofits but devote little of the money they raise to the programs they promote.

Research the charity on sites such as give.org, CharityNavigator.org

or CharityWatch.org to make sure that it's legitimate and to find out what percentage of their donations are actually used to serve their stated mission versus paying for overhead and fundraising.

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

AARP Virginia


CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10		
11				12		13			14				
15						16			17				
	18				19	20			21				
					22	23			24				
25	26	27	28	29									
30						31							
32								33	34	35	36	37	
					38	39	40		41	42			
					43				44				
	45	46	47										
48					49				50	51	52	53	54
55					56				57				58
59					60				61				
62					63					64			

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>CLUES ACROSS</p> <p>1. A people of Eastern Afghanistan</p> <p>5. Supervises interstate commerce</p> <p>8. Touch lightly</p> <p>11. Relating to bees</p> <p>13. Mauna ____, Hawaiian volcano</p> <p>14. Mosuo culture religion</p> <p>15. Italian village</p> <p>16. Stiff bristle</p> <p>17. Wealthy enclave in Rio</p> <p>18. Cause to lose courage</p> <p>20. Examines animals</p> <p>21. Ethnic group of Laos and Thailand</p> <p>22. Gets rid of</p> <p>25. Having easily perceived thoughts</p> <p>30. Removed surgically</p> <p>31. Principle underlying the universe</p> | <p>32. Popular airline</p> <p>33. Antelopes</p> <p>38. Peacock network</p> <p>41. Utter repeatedly</p> <p>43. One from the Golden State</p> <p>45. Photographers</p> <p>48. Father</p> <p>49. Popular BBQ dish</p> <p>50. Cavalry sword</p> <p>55. Ancient Greek sophist</p> <p>56. Atomic mass unit</p> <p>57. Afflicted in mind or body</p> <p>59. Indian mythological figure</p> <p>60. Mild expression of surprise</p> <p>61. Jewish spiritual leader</p> <p>62. Brewed of Education</p> <p>63. Doctor of Education</p> <p>64. Impudence</p> | <p>CLUES DOWN</p> <p>1. State attorneys</p> <p>2. Imitated</p> <p>3. Latvian capital</p> <p>4. Irish goddess</p> <p>5. Taste</p> <p>6. Dried</p> <p>7. Spanish saloon</p> <p>8. Mother of Perseus</p> <p>9. Evergreen coniferous trees</p> <p>10. Refuse to comply</p> <p>12. Negative</p> <p>14. Hyphen</p> <p>19. A way to record</p> <p>23. Not good</p> <p>24. One who tends the furnace</p> <p>25. Small amount</p> <p>26. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)</p> <p>27. The whole quantity</p> <p>28. __ King Cole, musician</p> | <p>29. One's opinion</p> <p>34. Holds ashes</p> <p>35. Stablecoin cryptocurrency</p> <p>36. Side-blotched lizards genus</p> <p>37. Legislator (abbr.)</p> <p>39. Concentrated bombardment</p> <p>40. Took for oneself</p> <p>41. Nigerian City</p> <p>42. Thousands of pounds</p> <p>44. Inspired</p> <p>45. Secret clique</p> <p>46. Expression</p> <p>47. Dough made from corn flour</p> <p>48. Comedian Carvey</p> <p>51. Swiss river</p> <p>52. Prejudice</p> <p>53. Actor Idris</p> <p>54. Resistance fighters</p> <p>58. Criticize</p> |
|--|--|---|--|

YOUR LOCAL NEWS

JUST THE WAY YOU LIKE IT!



RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL
Serving Radford Since 1884

DIGITAL ONLY

One Year
Digital Subscription
\$29.00

DIGITAL & PRINT

Yearly Print & Digital
Subscription
\$72.00

PRINT ONLY

Yearly Print Only Subscription
\$46.00 Radford \$55.00 Virginia \$59.00 Out of State

Subscribe online at radfordnewsjournal.com or mail to address below

SUBSCRIPTION TO RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Check Enclosed _____ or call (304) 647-5724 to pay by credit card

Mail to: Circulation Department, RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL,
P.O. BOX 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901 or call us at (304) 647-5724.

Marketplace



THE FINCASTLE HERALD

The Vinton Messenger

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

SALEM TIMES REGISTER

News Messenger

RADFORD News Journal

Pet Supplies

Happy Jack
2122 Hwy 258 South
PO Box 475
Snow Hill, NC
800-326-JACK (5225)

Happy Jack® Skin Balm provides relief for dogs & cats from hot spots, flea bites, and food allergies without steroids. At Tractor Supply® & Southern States. (www.happyjackinc.com)

Help Wanted - Drivers

Part Time Newspaper Driver
Salem Times Register has openings for afternoon/evening driving/delivery for newspaper/delivery. No experience necessary. Hours may vary. Will train. \$12 per hour. Contact Christine, Salem-Times Register (540)389-9355

Help Wanted - General

Part Time Newspaper Production Help
The Salem Times Register has openings for afternoon/evening shift work inserting, labeling and bundling newspapers for delivery. No experience necessary. Hours may vary. Will train. \$12 per hour. Contact Christine, Circulation Manager, Salem-Times Register (540)389-9355 or email customerservice@ourvalley.org

Happy Jack
2122 Hwy 258 South
PO Box 475
Snow Hill, NC
800-326-JACK (5225)

Add ToneKote® to dog & cat rations to check dry scaly skin, doggy odor, and glossy winter coats. At Tractor Supply® & Southern States. (www.happyjackinc.com)

Happy Jack
2122 Hwy 258 South
PO Box 475
Snow Hill, NC
800-326-JACK (5225)

Use ItchNoMore® shampoo on dogs & cats to relieve hot spots, grass & flea allergies without steroids. At Tractor Supply® & Southern States. (www.happyjackinc.com)



TOTAL ACTION FOR PROGRESS CEO Recruitment Profile

Total Action for Progress (TAP) is a community action agency that serves eleven localities in the Roanoke Valley and adjacent communities: the counties of Alleghany, Bath, Botetourt, Craig, Roanoke, and Rockbridge, and the cities of Buena Vista, Covington, Lexington, Roanoke, and Salem. TAP helps individuals and families achieve economic and personal independence through education, employment, affordable housing, and safe and healthy environments. Every TAP employee shares in TAP's responsibility to "Mobilize Community Resources" in support of TAP's anti-poverty efforts.

TAP is seeking an experienced CEO who is responsible for maintaining an organizational culture that embodies the following values: Advocacy for the oppressed, the disadvantaged, and disenfranchised. Results orientation. Fiscal and programmatic accountability. Teamwork, collaboration with others and partnership building. Excellence in performance. Innovation. The passion to make a difference. Responsiveness to the needs of the community. Maintenance of an agency-wide focus on Whole Family and Trauma Informed services.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES: Responsible for carrying out the mission of the organization and the strategic plan as set forth

Help Wanted - General

by the Board of Directors. Responsible for meeting with key board committees especially Finance, Property, Personnel and all others at the request of the Board Chair. Responsible for carrying out the policies and procedures set forth by the Board of Directors. Responsible for final approval of the hiring and termination of all staff. Responsible for the financial health of the organization, the development and prudent expenditures of the same according to budgets prepared by staff and approved by the Board of Directors and audited by financial and program auditors. Responsible for making sure that staff are provided with wages comparable to similar employment and benefits necessary for their well-being and that of their families.

Responsible for developing a creative work environment where employees and volunteers are stimulated to take initiative, develop leadership and carry out their responsibilities with dedication, warmth and initiative. Responsible for inspiring others in the organization to be passionate about caring for the needs of our families. Responsible for stimulating collaborative ventures with other organizations, the private sector and federal, state, and local governments to strengthen services for low-income Virginians.

Responsible for representing the organization publicly before public, private, and network organizations.

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

An understanding of the specific nature of a community action agency, its history, and commitment to the same. Advanced understanding of a variety of programming that includes early childhood development, youth and adult education and training, housing development and management and a wide range of economic development programming including business start-ups and loan pools. Excellent presentation, writing and public relations skills.

High emotional and cultural intelligence enabling the person to connect with a wide range of people from a variety of ethnic, social and economic backgrounds. High energy level and proven ability to manage stressful or extenuating circumstances. Bilingual ability is a plus.

QUALIFICATIONS, EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Master's degree or equivalent experience. Ten to twenty years in a senior management position of an organization with similar complexity and size of TAP. Experience writing grant submissions and managing a team of grant writers. Experience working with a board of directors. Experience working effectively with the public and representing an agency before the public. Experience working effectively with local, state, and national public officials on issues vital to the organization. Experience and passion for working with a highly diverse organization. Essential computer skills and the experience and ability to oversee IT operations.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Must pass a comprehensive background and drug check. A valid Virginia driver's license and reliable transportation is required. TAP participates in the Virginia DMV Driver Alert

Help Wanted - General

Program. Employees who operate a TAP vehicle or their personal vehicle to conduct TAP business may be subject to driver record monitoring through the Virginia DMV Driver Alert Program.

SPECIAL NOTE: This description provides information regarding the core functions of the designated position, and general nature and level of work associated with the job. It should not be interpreted to describe all the duties whose performance may be required of such employees or be used to limit the nature and extent of assignments such an individual may be given.

TAP is an Equal Opportunity Employer with a Drug Free Workplace. We only hire individuals legally eligible for employment in the United States.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS:

Salary range is \$90k to \$115k depending on qualifications and experience. The successful candidate will be offered a generous benefits package including health, dental, vision, retirement plan match and gift, paid time off, sick leave, free shortterm disability, long term disability, life insurance/AD&D, and professional development support, 14 paid holidays.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

To be considered, please submit a cover letter and resume with salary expectations, and three professional references to Tabatha Cooper, HR Director, via email at Tabatha.Cooper@tapint.ohope.org or via mail to: TAP, Human Resources, PO Box 2868 Roanoke VA 24011

This position will remain open until filled. Inquiries may be directed to: Tabatha Cooper - HR Director PO BOX 2868 Roanoke, VA 24001 Email: Tabatha.Cooper@tapint.ohope.org Phone: 540-283-4800

Legals - City of Radford

NOTICE: December 13, 2023

A white 550 Jet Ski FL8258GV HIN KAW447440482-B. A yellow 400 Jet Ski VA4511AK HIN KAW 051850676. A yellow 400 Jet Ski VA4512AK HIN KAW051690676. Are located at 4923 Clement Lane Radford VA 24141. If these watercraft are not claimed by the titled owner within 30 days, I will apply to the Department for registration/title in my name. Mark A. 540-639-0610

Legals - City of Salem

DIVORCE NOTICE

Granville County Civil Court in Granville County, NC will be hearing a plea for the decree of divorce for which suit is pending and as filed by Larissa L. Peluso-Fleming of 4010 Pastor Lane, Wake Forest, NC 27587 (petitioner/wife) versus Andrew Taylor McDonald of 1619 Valhalla Court, Salem, VA 24513 (defendant/husband) The defendant must enter a defense to such pleading within 30 days after the date of receipt of divorce filing as delivered by the Roanoke County Sheriff's Department. Should the defendant fail to make a defense within that time period, the plaintiff shall apply to the court for relief.

Legals - City of Salem

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Salem, Virginia will hold a public hearing, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2309 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, on December 27, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, to consider the following applications.

The request of Elizabeth G. Lane, property owner, for a variance from Section 106-208.3(B)(2) of the City of Salem Zoning Ordinance pertaining to site development regulations, for the property located at 111 Poplar Avenue, Tax Map # 127-3-5. The petitioner is requesting a variance to allow the placement of a 12 x 20-foot carport in the front yard, to be located no closer than 16 feet to the front property line. Section 106-208.3(B)(2) states that accessory structures must be built behind the rear building line of the principal structure (or in the rear yard).

At this hearing, all parties in interest will be given an opportunity to be heard, present evidence, and show cause why such requests should or should not be granted.

For additional information, contact the Office of the Zoning Administrator, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia (Phone 375 3032). THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM BY: Mary Ellen H. Wines, CZA, CFM Planning & Zoning Administrator

Legals - Roanoke County

LEGAL NOTICE

Roanoke County Board of Supervisors Seeking Applicants to Fill Vinton District Vacancy

The Board of Supervisors of Roanoke County is searching for candidates to fill the vacancy in the Vinton Magisterial District as the result of P. Jason Peters' election to the Roanoke County Commissioner of the Revenue.

The person appointed shall be a qualified voter of the Vinton Magisterial District and hold office until a special election in November of 2024. The person elected at the special election will serve the remainder of Mr. Peters' term, which expires December 31, 2025. If any qualified voter in the Vinton Magisterial District would like to be considered for the vacancy, please mail or email a 300-word essay on why you want to be the Supervisor for the Vinton Magisterial District and why you feel you are qualified to serve to the Chief Deputy Clerk at the following address or email by January 1, 2024. Deborah C. Jacks Chief Deputy Clerk to the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors 5204 Bernard Drive Roanoke, Virginia 24018 Telephone: 540-772-2003 Email: djacks@roanokecountyva.gov Dated: November 26, 2023 Deborah C. Jacks Chief Deputy Clerk to the Board

AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

APARTMENTS FOR RENT **GARAGE SALES**

SITUATIONS WANTED **HOUSES FOR SALE**

The best place to find it, sell it, buy it, & announce it. To place your ad, call 389-9355

STATEWIDE ADS

The Bath or Shower You've Always Wanted IN AS LITTLE AS A DAY

\$1000 OFF AND **No Payments & No Interest For 18 Months*** OFFER EXPIRES 12.31.2023

BCI BATH & SHOWER CALL NOW (844) 945-1631

*Includes product and labor; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 12/31/23. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. **Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2023 BCI Acrylic, Inc.

OUTER BANKS, NC - VACATION RENTALS

Over 500 Vacation Homes

Entire Outer Banks from Corolla's 4x4 to Hatteras Island! Family time is what it's all about!

Book NOW! Weeks are filling up fast!

877-642-3224 brindleybeach.com

Make the smart and ONLY CHOICE when tackling your roof!

ERIC FREE ESTIMATE 1.844.902.4611

Limited Time Offer! SAVE! UP TO 50% OFF ON YOUR INSTALLATION + TAKE AN ADDITIONAL 10% OFF

Metal roofs only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Eric Construction Mid-West, Inc. ("Eric"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Eric or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use at homerepairs.compliance.com. All rights reserved. *Some numbers available at ericontractors.com/eric-licensing. VA License Number: 275292944. MADE IN THE U.S.A.

It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Receive a free 7-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$735.

Call 844-947-1479 to schedule your free quote!

GENERAC

*Terms and Conditions apply.

LeafFilter CLOG-FREE GUTTERS FOREVER

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

15% OFF + 10% OFF + 0% APR FOR 24 MONTHS**

YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE SENIORS & MILITARY

Promo Code: 285

FREE GUTTER ALIGNMENT + FREE GUTTER CLEANING*

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE 1-877-614-6667

Mon-Thurs: 8am-1pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-6pm EST

**Monthly finance program credit card is issued by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., an Equal Housing Lender. Special terms for 24 mo. apply to qualifying purchases of \$1,000 or more with approved credit. Minimum monthly payments will not pay off balance before end of promotional period. APR for new purchases is 28.99%. (Effective 10/01/2023) subject to change. Call 1-800-451-7301 for complete details. The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a credit review and issued a credit score of 648 on 04/20/2023 and registered as the "1" rated professional installed gutter guard system in America. *For those who qualify. Offer cannot be combined with other offers. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. Offer valid at time of estimate only. See representative for full warranty details. Manufactured in Plantersville, NC and processed at Callender Group in China. All trademarks, CA #0327676, CT #06-000002, FL #00203628, IA #02-27232, IL #002-1106, LA #00000000, MA #170467, MD #00000000, MI #00000000, MN #00000000, MO #00000000, NC #00000000, ND #00000000, OH #00000000, OK #00000000, OR #00000000, PA #00000000, RI #00000000, SC #00000000, TN #00000000, TX #00000000, VA #00000000, WA #00000000, WI #00000000, WY #00000000.

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
1-Bedroom Apartments for the Elderly (62+) & Disabled

100% RENTAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE RENT BASED ON INCOME

- Quiet, residential neighborhood
- All ground level
- Individual porches
- Kitchen appliances
- Laundry on-site
- Community building
- Emergency notification switches
- Handicap units available

NEW CASTLE MANOR APARTMENTS
248 Chilton Street - New Castle, VA
540-864-7004
www.peopleinc.net/housing/new-castle-manor/

People inc.
Building Futures, Realizing Dreams™

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

BAG

A GREAT DEAL IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

To place your ad, call 389-9355

BUSINESS SERVICES DIRECTORY



DR FAME
ALLERGY
ASTHMA

540 404-9598
1002 APPERSON DR • SALEM, VIRGINIA 24153
WWW.DRTOMFAME.COM



FOX RADIO 910
Roanoke and 104.3 FM

CBS SPORTS RADIO

ROANOKE'S #2 NEWS TALK AND SPORTS RADIO STATION
(Nielsen Fall 2022 book)
www.foxradioroanoke.com
(540) 343-7109



Lisa Martin, REALTOR®
Serving the industry for 30+ years
Roanoke Valley & Blue Ridge Mountains
Premier, REALTORS
(540) 597-0480
Lisa@Lisa2buy.com • www.Lisa2buy.com
1638 Roanoke Road, Suite 101
Daleville, VA 24083

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices
A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC



Craig County Health Center
226 Market Street - New Castle, VA
Phone: (540) 864-6390 Fax: (540) 864-6356

*Physical Exams * X-ray Services
* Laboratory Services * Acute Care
*Mental Health Services * Well Baby Checks
ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

CARPET RE-STRETCHING!
STEVEN W. DURRANCE FLOORS

Repairs • New Sales • Expert
540-776-9591
Cell: 540-353-7908
Licensed & Insured
carpetroanoke.com

Sunflooring Inc.
STEVE SMITH
With over 40 years of experience

Specializing in Hardwood Floors,
Hardwood Refinishing, Laminate Flooring,
Engineered Floors, Ceramic Tile,
Carpet and Luxury Vinyl Plank

540-556-3100




CENTURY 21
Wampler Realty
64 Wendover Road
Daleville, Va 24083
Cell: 540-312-7792
Office: 540-992-2500
sfleshmansells@hotmail.com

SHERRYE FLESHMAN REALTOR®
Each office is independently owned and operated

WE BUY COIN COLLECTIONS
Top money paid
FREE estimates




EADES & LOWER INSURANCE
5007 Carriage Dr., Suite 100
P.O. Box 21483
Roanoke, VA 24018

SHERRI STINETTE HOLT
INSURANCE AGENT

Cell (540)819-9179 • Office (540)981-1124
Fax (540) 981-1266
sherri@eadesandlower.com
www.eadesandlower.com

AUTO | HOME BUSINESS | LIFE




Residential and Commercial Construction

540-966-0688
PO Box 630
Daleville, VA 24083

www.southerntracellc.com

Contact us at
540-988-2420

Windy Ridge Tree & Mulching Service

Contact us today for a free quote!
540-473-5176
fincastletreedr@gmail.com
windyridgetreedr.com



Colonial Title and Settlement

Serving the Greater Botetourt & Roanoke Valley communities with all your real estate needs for residential, commercial, construction with MLA services, Assist with 1031 Real Estate Exchanges, Purchases, Refinances and More!!!!

Call Loretta, Debbie or Kristi for your next move!

540-966-1260
1215 Roanoke Road, Daleville

SENIOR FOR PAINTING & RESIDENTIAL MAINTENANCE

Cell: 540-293-4271

HARDWOOD FLOORS

- Cleaning
- Waxing
- Beautification

Save 10% NOW!

540-776-9591
Cell: 540-353-7908

ADVERTISE With us

Place your ad here,
call 276-340-2445



Want to keep up with local news, sports and events?
SUBSCRIBE TODAY • Call (540) 389-9355

STATEWIDE ADS

AUCTIONS
ATTN. AUCTIONEERS: Advertise your upcoming auctions statewide and in other states. Affordable Print and Digital Solutions reaching your target audiences. Call this paper or Land-on Clark at Virginia Press Services 804-521-7576, land-onc@vpa.net

HOME IMPROVEMENT
Now Offering Financing! Ronnie Jenkins II Windows, Siding, Roofing and Gutters! FREE Es-

STATEWIDE ADS

timates! Call 804-739-8207 for More Details! American Made Products!

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-844-947-1479 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles

STATEWIDE ADS

and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off installation + additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-844-902-4611

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-614-6667

STATEWIDE ADS

The bathroom of your dreams in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer - \$1000 off or No Payments and No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify. BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Call Today! 1-844-945-1631

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and ser-

STATEWIDE ADS

vice. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-877-591-9950

SERVICES

DIVORCE-Uncontested, \$475+\$86 court cost. **WILLS**-\$295.00. No court appearance. Estimated completion time twenty-one days. Hilton Oliver, Attorney (Facebook). 757-490-0126. Se Habla Espanol. BBB Member. https://hiltonoliverattorneyva.com.

STATEWIDE ADS

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 888-608-4974

FREE high speed internet for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bonus

STATEWIDE ADS

offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping & handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 1-855-970-1995

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-888-550-3083 www.dental-50plus.com/virginia #6258

RADFORD SPORTS

Radford wins Class 2 state football championship

Marty Gordon

NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Radford High School is the 2023 Class 2 state football champs. Yes, let that set in.

Radford caps off a 15-0 season, by bringing home a trophy that had eluded them since back-to-titles in 1971 and 1972. Riverheads saw its streak of 32-straight playoff wins come to an end after moving up this season to Class 2. They had won seven straight championships in Class 1.

Radford rolled in a 39-21 win over Riverheads in front of a capacity crowd Saturday at Salem Municipal Stadium

Riverheads' running back Cayden Cook-Cash had 196 yards with three touchdowns on 33 carries in the loss. He will finish the season with over 1,500 yards in just 11 games and finish his career with over 3,000 yards and 105 touchdowns.

But it was the Landon Clark and Max Kanipe show on Saturday as Radford dominated on the offensive side

of the ball, while Charlie Davis led a defense that stayed in Riverheads' face the entire game.

Clark completed 15 of 22 passes for 254 yards with four touchdowns. He also rushed 14 times for 114 yards. Kanipe was Clark's main target as he has been for most of the season. Kanipe had 218 yards with 179 coming in the first half. He also scored twice. J.D. Grubb also caught a pass for a touchdown.

Coach Michael Crist, who is in his third season at Radford, follows in the footsteps of his father, Dave Crist who ironically won a state title in his third season at Blacksburg.

Riverheads came in with a very potent offense, but the Radford defense said "not on this Saturday." Charlie Davis and Ricky Bailey had 20 total tackles apiece in the contest, while Dawson Martin had 11 that included 2.5 tackles for a loss. Defensive tackle Dawson Martin put the cherry on top with an interception in the end zone for Radford late in the Fourth Quarter.

The victory comes a day after the Three Rivers District released its all-star team for this past year. Clark was named the offensive player of year and Davis was

name the defensive player of year. Crist took coach of the year honors.

First team offense players included center Nolan Dalton, running back J.D. Grubb and receivers Sincere Taylor and Max Kanipe. On defense, lineman Ricky Bailey was named first team along with Davis at linebacker and Clark at defensive back.

Second team honors were given to offensive lineman Dawson Martin, receiver Luke Woodward, tight end Brandon Thompson, offensive all-purpose Sincere Taylor, defensive lineman Martin and Daniel Nooley, linebacker Brandon Thompson and defensive back Bryant Weaver.

Clark will finish his Bobcat career with 3,363 yards passing in his senior year going 206 of 339 with 40 touchdowns. He will also finish this season with 1,207 yards rushing to lead the team on 134 carries with 26 touchdowns.

Kanipe will finish his season with 74 receptions for 1,598 yards with 17 touchdowns. Taylor added 51 for 804 yards. Davis has tallied 157 tackles this season with 62 solos.

Radford Bobcats state champs after 50-plus years



Trailing 7-0, Landon Clark fires a pass toward the sideline in the Bobcats' first offensive possession. Radford would outscore Riverheads enroute to a Class 2 state title.



Receiver Max Kanipe runs away from defenders and picks up yardage after breaking the first tackle.

PHOTOS BY BRYANT ALTIZER

See **Bobcats**, page 8

Christiansburg's Evans named All-River Ridge

Marty Gordon

NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Tanner Evans was knocked out of Christiansburg High School's season in the seventh football game of the year. Friday, he was named first-team All-River Ridge quarterback and defensive all-purpose player of the year.

Evans suffered a season ending knee injury and had surgery two weeks ago. He finished the season with 117 rushes for 1,208 yards with 22 touchdowns and passed 50 of 84 for 782 yards with 12 touchdowns and just one interception.

Evans was joined on the first team by offensive lineman Carter Stallard, defensive lineman Jaiden Edwards, defensive end Donovan Richardson, defensive back Brody Blount and linebacker JT Thompson.

Edwards was named to the second team as an offensive lineman, along with Thompson at receiver.

Christiansburg's Xavier Joplin was named second-team kick returner along with Izaiah Cotto as offensive all-purpose and Matt Annis as running back.

Blacksburg's Luke Poff was named second team receiver.

Christiansburg's Josiah Ratley was named second team linebacker, and Cotto second team kick receiver. The Blue Demons placed three players on the honorable mention list (Richardson at tight end, Brody Blount at half back and Spener Conner at kicker). They were joined by second team defensive punter Matt Annis.

Blacksburg had five players on the honorable mention list: Thomas Boyd at linebacker, Javier Waldron as a receiver, James Rich at linebacker and Poff at defensive back.

Evans led a contingent of Christiansburg players named to the Region 3D team. Evans was the offensive and defensive all-purpose players of the year. Carter Stallard was named first team as an offensive lineman. JT Thompson was first team linebacker, and Jaiden Edwards first team defensive lineman.

Edwards was named to the second team as an offensive lineman, joining Donovan Richardson as tight end.

Richardson was also placed on the second team on the defensive side of the ball. He was joined by Josiah Ratley at linebacker, Brody Blount at defensive back and Izaiah Cotto as punt returner.

Christiansburg girls remain unbeaten



Christiansburg's McKenzie Harris scores on a fast break layup against William Byrd in a 52-27 win Friday night.



Christiansburg's Sathara Kane blocks a shot by William Byrd's Sam Martin.



Christiansburg's Katy Hoover was the high scorer for the Blue Demons with 24 points in a home win over William Byrd.



Christiansburg's Blythe Akers fires from 3-point range against William Byrd.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Hokies dominate cross river rival RU

Virginia Tech held Radford University to only 19.3 percent shooting from the field and the Hokies took down the Highlanders 85-40 at home Sunday.

The Hokies (7-2) had four players score in double figures, led by Elizabeth Kitley, who recorded a double-double with 16 points and 13 rebounds. Georgia Amore tacked on 15 points and three blocks and Matilda Ekh chipped in as well with 12 points.

The Virginia Tech offense was strong from beyond the arc, knocking down eight threes on 27 attempts. Cayla King hit two treys for the Hokies in the contest.

The Hokies' defense held Radford shooters to only 19.3 percent from the field, including 26.3 percent from three-point range. They also kept Ashlyn Traylor-Walker to 2-of-16 shooting in the game.

Virginia Tech started out the scoring by going on an 11-0 run, culminating in a bucket from Kitley, to take an early lead with 5:20 left in the first quarter. The Hokies then added seven points to that lead by the end of the period and entered the quarter break with a 22-4 advantage. Virginia Tech took advantage of five offensive rebounds to score seven second chance points out of 22 total in the period.

Virginia Tech kept its first quarter lead intact before going on an 8-0 run starting at the 1:22 mark in the second period to increase its lead to 48-22, a score that would hold until halftime. Virginia Tech saw non-starters score 11 of its 26 total points off the bench in the quarter.

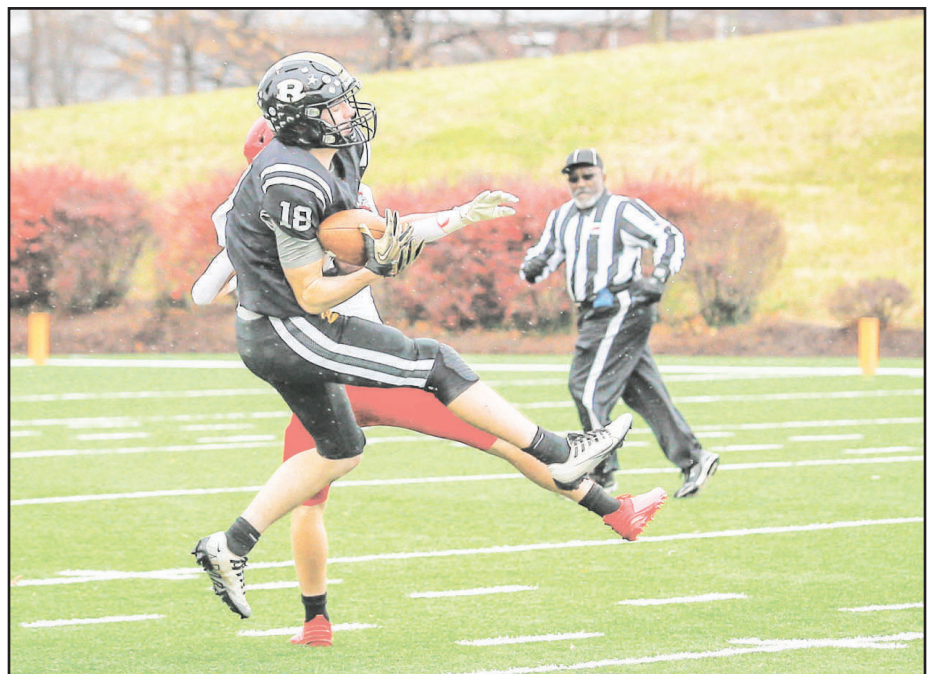
Virginia Tech wasted no time building on its lead, going on a 19-0 run to expand its lead further to 67-22 with 2:48 to go in the third. Before the third period was over, the Hokies added one point to that lead and entered the fourth quarter with a 72-26 edge. Virginia

See **Hokies**, page 8

Bobcats from page 7



Radford's defensive effort against the Gladiators' rushing attack was a key to holding their offense in check for most of the game.



Max Kanipe beats a receiver for a catch deep down the field to put the Bobcats in position for a second score.



Senior Ricky Bailey (#77) takes down Riverheads' star running back after senior Brandon Thompson (#28) tripped him up.



Landen Clark carries a defender for another yard before stretching out to score another Radford touchdown in the fourth quarter.

PHOTOS BY BRYANT ALTIZER

Rich from page 4

return with their "I Voted" sticker. We are huge advocates of everyone voting. The more the merrier! Everyone should have their voice heard. But something about this just felt wrong. Oh well, it was just a rumor and there was nothing we could do about it at this point.

When the polls closed at 7 p.m., I was absolutely exhausted. I gathered up all the political signs at two precincts and headed to our watch party. As the votes began to come in, it quickly became very evident that this election was going to be very close. It was very close indeed. At the end of the night, my wife was down 19 votes. A near 50/50 split! Even though she was slightly behind, it felt good to know that our community of mothers and fathers, aunts and uncles, grandparents, those affected by the school board actually voted for my wife. It wasn't until you throw in votes from students who live on campus at Virginia Tech did my wife's opponent, the more progressive candidate, finally pull ahead. All that remained were the provisional ballots.

In the days following the election, I began poking around the internet to either confirm or dispel the food truck rumors and found out they are true. A group called NextGen America had taken a short-term interest in Virginia Tech. I believe their real target was to catapult Lilly Franklin (Democrat Candidate for Delegate) to victory over Chris Obenchain (Republican Candidate for Delegate). On November 8th they posted on the social media platform X (formally called Twitter), boasting that they provided over 5000 meals to "folks at Virginia Tech" in order to "fuel voters to the polls." While the location of provisional ballots are not published in the election results, it is easy to see that the districts with student populations (Districts A, E, F, and G) had high counts of provisional ballots, while the remainder of the county had much lower levels of provisional ballots. It is

hard to know the exact numbers, but around 885 provisional ballots were cast in Montgomery County and it appears somewhere between 650-850 provisional ballots cast by Virginia Tech students. These would likely be individuals who registered to vote on election day and voted. To further put the impact in perspective, four years ago, last time Montgomery County District E elected local officials, there were zero provisional ballots. Once all the provisional ballots were counted, my wife lost by 102 votes. More drastically, prior to counting all the provisional votes, Darrell Sheppard, Candidate for Board of Supervisors, Montgomery County District E was leading his opponent by 114 votes. However, after these provisional ballots were counted, he lost by 31 votes.

I know that many will expect that I am advocating to make it more difficult to vote. That's not my point. I truly do want everyone's voice to be heard! But at the same time, I do question whether students who live on campus, most of whom come from outside Montgomery County, don't know anything about or care anything for the local candidates and issues, should have such a major impact on local elections. Does the fact that they have to use a taco rather than the major issues of our time to attract votes not seem suspect? How do local candidates compete? How can a local candidate, with their limited campaign funds, afford competing food trucks feeding thousands of students? How do local candidates meet and influence this voter base, educating them about our local issues? While flipping the Virginia House into Democratic hands may have been the goal, local candidates were the collateral damage! Local Montgomery County elections have been forever changed and will be controlled by the voting direction of the Virginia Tech student population.

Daniel Rich
Montgomery County

Hokies from page 7

Tech took advantage of seven Radford turnovers in the quarter, scoring 14 points off of takeaways.

The Hokies then held on for the victory in the fourth quarter. Virginia Tech took advantage of its opportunities in the post, scoring eight of its 13 points in the paint.

Elizabeth Kitley notched a double-double for the Hokies with 16 points and 13 rebounds.

Virginia Tech lit it up from beyond the arc, knocking down eight treys in the game.

The Hokies put together a stellar defensive performance, holding the Highlanders to only 19.3 percent shooting from the field.

The Hokies never trailed after taking a 22-4 first quarter lead.

Virginia Tech tallied 17 total assists in the game.

The Virginia Tech bench made an impact by scoring 30 points to its scoring output.

Virginia Tech had a 48-36 edge on the boards in the win.

The Virginia Tech defense forced 20 turnovers.

The Hokies were active in affecting shots on the defensive end, recording 12 blocks as a team.

Virginia Tech cleaned up on the offensive glass, collecting 20 offensive boards in the game.

Elizabeth Kitley led the Hokies with 16 points.

Elizabeth Kitley grabbed a game-high 13 rebounds to lead Virginia Tech and Clara Strack contributed 10.

Virginia Tech Athletics

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

D	A	R	D	F	T	C	D	A	B
A	P	I	A	N	L	O	A	D	A
S	E	G	N	O	A	W	N	A	N
D	A	U	N	T	V	E	T	S	A
T	R	A	N	S	A	B	O	L	I
T	R	A	N	S	P	A	R	E	N
A	B	L	A	T	E	D	A	O	
D	E	L	T	A					
N	B	C	I	T	E	R	A	T	E
C	A	L	I	F	O	R	N	I	A
C	A	M	E	R	A	M	E	N	
D	A	D	A	R	I	B	S	A	B
A	B	A	S	A	M	A	I	L	E
N	A	G	A	G	E	E	R	A	B
A	L	E	E	D	D	S	A	S	S

PETS OF THE WEEK

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

What's the story...Wishbone? He's dreaming of his furever home. This Wishbone is a sweet and affectionate boy, with a loving but timid personality. He would do best with humans who will give him time to come out of his shell and show him the enjoyment of new adventures. Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center--you may be just the character he needs to meet.



Meet Macaron! She is looking for her purrfect match to bring her home. She has a shy but affectionate nature. Macaron has lived with other cats in the past and will likely do well with them in a new home. Visit her at the Animal Care and Adoption Center.

Gas from page 4

last week's \$3.07/g. West Virginia- \$3.10/g, down 9.7 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.20/g. "For the 12th straight week, or three straight months, the national average has continued to decline, now at its lowest level of 2023 heading into the prime of the holiday season as oil prices continue to struggle amidst cooling demand," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "With nearly 80,000 gas stations in the U.S. now priced below \$3 per gallon, and 23 states

also seeing average prices of \$2.99 or less, motorists are getting substantial relief at the pump in time for the holidays. The trend is likely to continue in most states this week, while the national average could soon fall below \$3.05 per gallon, the lowest since 2021. The good news may continue into 2024, with GasBuddy's annual Fuel Outlook being released in just a few weeks."

Submitted by GasBuddy

Radford officers help bring holiday joy to area children

Officers from the Radford City Police Department pose with Santa during the 2023 "Cops with Kids" event organized by the NRV Fraternal Order of Police to benefit children in the area. "This annual event is one we look forward to every year," the department announced, remarking it is great to "see the joy on all of the kids' faces."



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE RADFORD CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT