



RADFORD

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Radford students, administrators participate in Advocacy Day at General Assembly

Radford University's 24th annual Advocacy Day in Richmond continued the longest-running tradition among Virginia's four-year public institutions of student-led engagement with state lawmakers to advance issues critical to higher education as well as initiatives that benefit all residents of the Commonwealth.

At the heart of the experience was a focus on building connections.

Prior to a day of meetings on Jan. 24 with General Assembly members, the group of 48 students, one of the largest to take part in Advocacy Day, gathered to learn how they can make their voices heard and how their time in Richmond can open new doors.

"If you're here today, you're invested in your future," said Wyatt Toehlke '18, Virginia's assistant secretary of commerce and trade.

Toehlke was one of four guests who participated in a panel discussion with Radford students led by university Board of Visitors member Jennifer Wishon Gilbert. The panel also featured Secretary of the Commonwealth Kelly Gee, Virginia21 Executive

Director Kate Slayton and Richmond Times-Dispatch columnist Jeff Schapiro. The discussion was designed to give an insider's perspective on both the state's political process and how students can use an event like Advocacy Day to reach their career goals.

"You are students learning new things in this place of ideas," Gilbert said. "This is a place where there have been ideas that have changed the world."

A significant part of Toehlke's time with the students was spent sharing how his Radford education prepared him to pursue his passion - a career in politics. The Virginia Beach native spoke about the political science program, pointing out how the quality of his professors and the personalized learning at Radford inspired him to forge his own path to learning Russian and studying abroad in Ukraine while working towards his degree. The experience, he said, prepared him to serve in Gov. Glenn Youngkin's administration as one of the state's



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

President Bret Danilowicz joins students and Radford University leaders for an Advocacy Day networking session in Richmond on Jan. 23, 2024.

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Volunteer Montgomery delivers supplies to homebound seniors and veterans in the NRV

Lori Graham

Contributing writer

A year of collecting donations and fundraising culminated in producing approximately 230 bags of necessary supplies to local homebound seniors and veterans, thanks to volunteers and local agencies.

Local organizations like the NRV Agency on Aging, Virginia Department of Veterans Services, and Radford-Fairlawn Daily Bread helped identify those who might need some additional supplies this winter, Alex Strickler, Director of Human Services in Montgomery County said.

The number of volunteers for this year's Seniors Bagging Day was overwhelming with 36 volunteers making themselves available to assist with the project that is in its 16th year.

"One of our biggest projects," Strickler said. "We plan it for every January, trying to hit that time right after Christmas when money might be short and people are running low on supplies."

The program also partners with the local police departments who help to deliver the supplies to local seniors and veterans. According to Strickler, Montgomery County and Radford are divided into smaller regions and the bags are delivered over a span of approximately a week.

The organization's new branding has enabled them to extend their opportunities to help more people in the region as well as organize willing volunteers to help in their efforts.

Volunteer Montgomery's mission, "serves to strengthen our community by empowering volunteers to utilize their time and skills," according to their website at https://montva.com/humanservices.

Interested in volunteering? Visit their website to learn more about the opportunities they can provide to meet the needs in the New River Valley.

"We are a volunteer hub," Strickler said. "Anyone



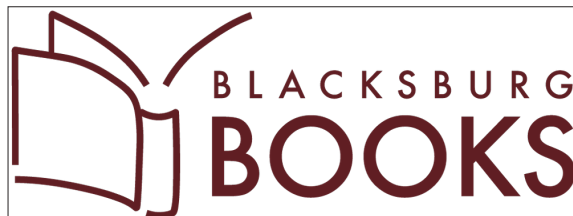
PHOTO COURTESY OF VOLUNTEER MONTGOMERY

Volunteer Montgomery has undergone rebranding to bring even better outreach and services to the community.

can come out and help with volunteering."

The link to an online application is available on Volunteer Montgomery's Facebook page or a paper copy can be provided for interested individuals.

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GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BLACKSBURG BOOKS

Book Fair to benefit VT Prison Book Project

BLACKSBURG - Rotary Club of Blacksburg is holding a book fair to support the Virginia Tech Prison Book Project at Blacksburg Books, 401 S. Main St., Blacksburg; 4 - 7 p.m.

Enjoy a wine and cheese selection as you browse books. Blacksburg Books will have a pre-selected section of approved books for purchase for the Prison Project.

The purpose of the event is to increase public awareness of the VT Prison Book Project, which is associated with the Appalachian Prison Book Project, and to increase the book inventory for the program.

The program provides requested paperback books to incarcerated individuals in Virginia and nearby Appalachian states. Books provide a positive use of time and often increase literacy skills for those incarcerated. Frequently incarcerated individuals request books to build skills, such as plumbing or wiring, that may lead to employment following their release.

Those attending the event at Blacksburg Books will be able to purchase a book to donate to the VT Prison Book Program. Appropriate books will be on hand for purchase, or they may be ordered from a list available that evening.

Appalachian Prison Book Project sends free books to people imprisoned in six Appalachian states (West Virginia, Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, and Maryland), hosts book clubs inside prisons in the region, and is leading an effort to bring for-credit college courses into prison.

Rotary Club of Blacksburg

Expert shares advice for parents navigating pediatric influenza, COVID-19, RSV this winter

Coping with the challenges of parenting can be particularly stressful for those concerned about the flu, COVID-19, or RSV.

With an increase in cases this season, parents are seeking effective preventive measures and safety guidelines for their kids. Dr. Christopher Pierce, the interim chair of pediatrics at the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, offers insights on managing these three illnesses.

"This year, doctors are currently seeing high numbers of flu and this started a bit earlier than historically," says Pierce. "Yearly flu vaccines are needed to give our immune systems a "reminder" of how to fight the flu, there is some added immunity that repeat exposure plays as well."

The prevalence of influenza among children has decreased early pandemic but increased over the past two years, which Pierce attributes to the heightened exposure to COVID-19 during that period.

"There was minimal influenza activity from spring 2020 through early summer 2022, which was a direct result of masking and social distancing."

He also says RSV is still prominent but has

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Radford University to host relaunched Medicine and Health Sciences Governor's School



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Students participating in the Governor's School get hands-on experiences in working spaces at Radford University.

RADFORD - Radford University's Roanoke campus will host the 2024 Summer Residential Governor's School (SRGS) for Medicine and Health Sciences, which is relaunching after a four-year hiatus.

The program is open to rising high school juniors and seniors and will run four weeks, from June 23 to July 20. Public, private and homeschooled students may apply

and can find instructions and additional information in the news release on the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) website.

The SRGS for Medicine and Health Sciences "provides an enhanced curriculum that explores medicine and

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Thursday, Feb. 1:

### 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., Radford. If Radford City Public Schools are closed on Thursday or Friday of this week due to weather, the meeting will be cancelled. For further information, please call 540-250-2283 or 540-239-9864.

### Book Fair

Rotary Club of Blacksburg presents a book fair to support the Virginia Tech Prison Book Project at Blacksburg Books, 401 S. Main St., Blacksburg; 4 – 7 p.m. Enjoy a wine and cheese selection as you browse books. Blacksburg Books will have a pre-selected section of approved books for purchase for the Prison Project.

## Friday, Feb. 2:

### Noise Notification: Engine and Rig Testing

There will be rig testing at the Advanced Propulsion and Power Lab located at 1670 Innovation Dr., Blacksburg; 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Rig will be run multiple times during the indicated time period for a duration of around 10 minutes for each run. For more information, contact Jason Doby at doby2017@vt.edu.

## Saturday, Feb. 3:

### Book Sale

There will be a book sale at the Radford Public Library 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Lots of selections and low prices. Come and support the Radford Library.

### Southwest Virginia High School Art Show

The art of high school students from throughout Southwest Virginia will be on display at The Art Museum on Tyler (214 Tyler Ave., Radford) Feb. 3 – Feb. 17 Opening reception: Saturday, Feb. 3 at 1 p.m. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 12- 4 p.m. Saturdays.

## Saturday, Feb. 10:

### Mount Tabor Ruritan Biscuit Breakfast

Mount Tabor Ruritan Club will be serving up hot

biscuits topped with delicious sausage gravy, or with the latest batch of our "world-famous" apple butter. We will also have scrambled eggs, orange juice and coffee. Breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall of Slusser's Chapel, 1543 Mount Tabor Rd, Blacksburg; 8 – 10 a.m. This is below the sanctuary, on the lower church parking lot level. This is a fundraiser for our club to help us as we serve our community, and donations will be accepted for the breakfast. More information at <https://fb.com/MtTaborRuritan>

## Monday, Feb.12:

### 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](http://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, Feb. 13:

### Blacksburg Town Council meeting

The council meets in regular session the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers of the Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 S. Main St. These meetings are open to the public and televised live on WTOB Channel 2.

### Christiansburg Town Council meeting

Regular Town Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Town Hall (100 E. Main St.). 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, Feb. 15:

### Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Family Italian Restaurant, 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to attend. Member Will Reed will speak on "Animals of the War Between the States". If Montgomery and/or Floyd County Public Schools are closed on Thursday or Friday of this week due to weather, the meeting will be cancelled. For further information, please call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

## Saturday, Feb. 17:

### Community Garden planning session

At the Meadowbrook Library; 1 – 3 p.m. First meeting for people interested in a community garden in the Shawsville/ Ellison area.

## Monday, Feb. 19:

### The Dinos are coming!

Looking for a fun, family-friendly activity to enjoy together? Join us 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Blacksburg Community Center for Dino Squad! Explore fossils, cast replicas and museum models of dinosaurs during this interactive, educational program. \$3/child, \$2/ additional child. Adults free when accompanying a child. Register in advance online, or in-person at the door. Keyword search "Dino Squad", activity number: 201014. For more information, call 540.443.1100.

## Saturday, February 24:

### Soul food tasting event

Celebrate Black History Month and take a step back in time at the 7th annual Soul Food Sampling at historic St. Luke and Odd Fellows Hall (SLOFH), where generations met to enjoy delicious food, music, and fellowship. In this spirit, you will receive generous portions of traditional soul foods at dinner table settings, learn about the history of soul food, and enjoy discussions with former New Town residents. There are three time slots for the event, each capped at 18 people: 12 – 1:45 p.m., 2 – 3:45 p.m., and 4 – 5:45 p.m. Discounted tickets for Blacksburg Museum & Cultural Foundation members open until Feb. 3. Tickets will then be released at \$37 per person and available at the SLOFH Soul Food Sampling Page.

## Health

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the health sciences as a foundation for integrated study," according to the VDOE.

Participating students will live in Radford University dormitory housing in Roanoke and will be engaged in hands-on classroom activities, complex analysis and critical thinking exercises involving real-world scenarios. They'll work alongside like-minded students, faculty, professors and other mentors.

"The Medical and Health Sciences SRGS program is suited for students with a serious interest in science, curiosity about the effects of science in the fields of medicine and health care and motivation to spend a month in a rigorous, academically accelerated setting during the summer," the VDOE said in its news release.

"We see this as a great opportunity for rising high school juniors and seniors," said Radford Associate Vice President for Campus Life Nancy Loosle, director of the summer program.

"For students who are interested in health sciences, they are going to see a broad range of disciplines and make a lot of connections with partners throughout the valley and Southwest Virginia," Loosle said.

"It's an exciting opportunity, not just for students but for Radford."

This program - a collaboration between Radford University, the VDOE and the Blue Ridge Partnership for Health Science Careers - was last held during the summer of 2019 and has not reconvened since before the pandemic.

It is structured so that students can attend for free, with the VDOE and school divisions splitting the cost of tuition. The final date for applications is Feb. 23, but students should check with their guidance counselors or their local school systems to determine their regional deadlines and eligibility.

Also from June 23 to July 20, Radford University will welcome to its main campus two additional related programs - the Summer Residential Governor's School for Humanities and the Summer Residential Governor's School for Visual and Performing Arts.

An overview of all SRGS student offerings - which also include programs on agriculture, engineering, marine science, mathematics, science and technology - is available here.

Radford University

## Advocacy

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top executives on international trade.

Toehlke also made himself available to students during the Advocacy Day networking event on the night of Jan. 23.

"I think people conflate networking with something negative," Toehlke said. "Networking should be treated as a chance to have a meaningful conversation with someone because you find that person interesting and engaging. You're not just trying to get their business card. I'm encouraging students to approach it in a genuine way."

Gee, who rose from executive director of the Virginia Lottery to the role of secretary of the commonwealth by her mid-30s, echoed this sentiment.

"Your network is your strength," she said. "I think so much of that is getting to know people on a personal level. Get to know people that you work with. Take those professional relationships and go one inch deeper."

While encouraging students to build connections that can enhance their futures, Gee tied relationship-building to the work students would do with lawmakers the following day.

"There's election season, and then there's what gets done here – it's totally different," Gee said. "They (lawmakers) know each other, and it's collegial. There's real work being done here. And it's important to advocate for your issues."

Slayton's nonprofit, Virginia21, empowers college students to participate in the legislative process. A key bill

that Radford students brought to the attention of lawmakers, the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program, concerns food security at state institutions.

"Hunger is getting new attention, especially the connection between eating and mental health," Slayton said.

She pointed to the importance of improving both the quantity and quality of food available to college students, a message that resonated with Madison Canterbury of the Class of 2025.

"I'm a future educator, so I'm invested in this issue at the college level but also for young learners and seniors," Canterbury said. "I want to make sure we're helping people of all generations."

Canterbury, a resident of Fauquier County, was grateful for the opportunity to build connections that will benefit her future, as well as outcomes for all Virginians.

"You really do have a voice here, and legislators are hearing us," she said.

Patrick Reed for Radford University



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

**Senator Bill Stanley meets with Radford University students during Advocacy Day on Jan. 24, 2024 in Richmond.**

## Advice

from page 1

begun a decline.

"RSV is more difficult to track as it is not reportable as are flu and COVID, which means there is not a good way to keep track of these numbers."

Pierce says it is important to look for key indicators to assess the severity of your child's illness. Parents should look for rapid breathing, using accessory muscles such as "tummy breathing" or "head bobbing," and if older children are complaining of not breathing well, would warrant an emergent evaluation." He says to also watch their level of alertness and fluid intake. Nonetheless, he stresses that reaching out to the primary care provider is the safest way to evaluate a child's level of illness and get the best care.

To differentiate between the

three, Pierce recommends getting tested. Influenza, COVID-19, and RSV can mimic one another, so knowing which symptoms align with which illness can help parents. "Overall, COVID-19 symptoms tend to be milder in children and the flu is more of the fever/aches/malaise. RSV is different for premature and younger infants as it can trigger lower respiratory symptoms known as bronchiolitis (not bronchitis) which can lead to respiratory distress which requires hospitalization to manage."

His biggest piece of advice - get the flu vaccine. "It is the safest and most effective way to prevent the risk of hospitalization and death from influenza."

Sarah Hern for Virginia Tech

## Volunteer

from page 1



# Open House

**February 3, 2024, 2-4 pm**

**Come Grow With Us!**

We invite volunteers of all ages to join us. We empower you to use your time and skills to strengthen our great community!

**Stop by our open house to meet some of our community partners.** Enjoy some sweet treats as well as a crafts area for kids.

**Health & Human Services Building**  
210 S. Pepper St., Suite D  
Christiansburg, VA 24073

Our entrance is at the back of the building.

**Participating Partners**

- NRV CARES
- Montgomery Co. Fire & EMS
- Office of the Attorney General, Commonwealth of Virginia
- Poverty & Later Life in Rural Appalachia Research

**Animal Care & Adoption Center**  
Adoptable pets from the ACAC will visit! If you're not in a position to adopt, you can learn about volunteering at the Center or providing a foster home to an animal in need.

**Learn about us on the web**  
[www.montva.com/volunteer-montgomery](http://www.montva.com/volunteer-montgomery)

PHOTO COURTESY OF VOLUNTEER MONTGOMERY

**Volunteer Montgomery welcomes everyone to their open house to enjoy crafts, treats, a photo booth and to meet some of the local community agencies.**

Each volunteer has an opportunity to talk about their skills, interests, and availability during an orientation held by the organization. Any age is welcomed and encouraged to volunteer. Interested participants under the age of 18 years old must have guardian consent.

The Volunteer Montgomery Open

House will be held Feb. 3 from 2-4 p.m., at 210 S. Pepper St., Suite D in Christiansburg. The Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center will be at the event with some adoptable animals as well as opportunities to volunteer with the center. Additional agencies expected to be at the event are NRV Cares,

Montgomery County Fire and EMS, the Office of the Attorney General, and Poverty and Later Life in Rural Appalachian Research.

On Friday, Feb. 9 Volunteer Montgomery will hold their Valentines for Vets project at their Pepper Street location. The community is invited to come on out and make Valentines cards and notes for veterans. All supplies will be provided by the organization.

Fundraising and donations play a big part in helping the organization with their outreach efforts and various programs. Volunteer Montgomery provides scholarship opportunities as well for local high school students.

An announcement for Volunteer Montgomery's Bingo fundraising event, happening in February, will be coming soon. The event will be held at Iron Tree Brewing Company in Christiansburg where participants can have a chance to win gift cards, enjoy craft brews, and purchase food from the Cabo Fish Taco food truck that will be available in front of the brewery.

# LAND TRANSFERS

## November 2023 Radford City Land Transfers

### Zero Dollar Considerations:

Jeffrey Martin Doto to Jeffrey Martin Doto Trustee, 1901 Fletcher Avenue

Alverta Jearlean Cornell

Sandra Price Beasley

NRV Mechanical LLC to Central Depot LLC, 4786 Shelburne Road

Plans to JW Radford Contracting LLC

Mary Jones Cook to Walter B Jennings Jr. Trustee, Lot 43-45 1400 Lawrence Street

Bethany Linda Vigil to Bethany Linda Cox

City of Radford to Westside 106 LLC, 0.029 Acre Parcel Map: 9-(1)-20A

City of Radford to Tall Oaks 51 LLC, 0.034 Acre Parcel Map: 9-(1)-6

Keith Lytton to Ashley Lytton, Lot 13, 14, & 15 Map 18-(3)-SEC1-12A

William McDaniel

Morgana Alayne Baker to Morgana Alayne Burdette

Enriqueta Cuevas to Enriqueta Cuevas

Central Depot LLC to Robert Wofford, Comm Suite Central Depot Condominium

### Monetary Considerations:

Taylor C Chrisman to Tanya Michelle Grayson, Map: 15-1-33A, \$270,000

Michael L Gallimore to Jorge Barocio Alcaraz, Map: 19-(7)-SEC17-18, \$100,000

Michael A Zimmerman to Teeth of the Dog LLC, Map: 020000864, \$260,000

Shree Price Lowe Executor to Shah Development LLC, Map: 12-(1)-6A, \$38,000

Central Depot LLC to Central Hair Company LLC, Revised Tax Map 9-(6)-SEC1-U101, \$157,000

Benjamin C Roop to Jennifer Lynn Nehrt, Map: 020001541, \$229,500

Dolanreid PLLC to Secretary of HUD, Lot 8 Section 13 Plan D, \$105,049.67

Robert A Jones Jr. to Renaissance Development One Inc., 5.48 Acres Plat Recorded as Instrument Number 202300878, \$320,000

Walter C Simmerman to Dennis Wayne Martin, Lot 5 PT Lots 4 & 6 Section 3 Map of Fairgrounds, \$280,000

Donovan Pitstick to Jerry R Holdaway, Lot 6 Containing 0.5679 Acre College Park Section 4, \$429,000

Mohamed E Mahmoud to West Main Radford LLC, Plan C RL & I CO Section 3 Lot 9-10-11-12-13-19-20, \$53,000

City of Radford to Westside 106 LLC, 0.029 Acre Parcel Map: 9-(5)-Sec2-19, \$8,068.95

City of Radford to Westside 431 LLC, 0.034 Acre Parcel Map: 9-(1)-20A, \$8,910

City of Radford to Tall Oaks 51 LLC, 0.034 Acre Parcel Map: 9-(1)-6, \$7,514

Bette Wampler to Sarah L Minnick, Map: 10-(6)-SEC3-10A-11, \$274,950

Keith Albert Marretta to Jorge Barocio Alcaraz, Lot 22 Section 17 Plan A RWELCO, \$17,500

Donald Lynn Bugg to Kimberly K Conner, Lots 18 & 19 Section 14 Plan A, \$137,000

TR 2 Holdings LLC to Daven Tung Kang Lu, New Parcel 2 Containing 0.0875 Acre, \$135,000

New River Valley Community Services to West Street Properties LLC, Map: 10-(4)-SEC14-1A-2A-3-4, \$100,000

Mary Ann Jones Cox Trustee to Walter B Jennings Jr. Trustee, Lots 43-45 Heth Map, \$7,600

Emily S McGrail to Jones Builders LLC, Map 020002204/12-(12), \$20,000

Emily S McGrail to Jones Builders

LLC, Map 020002204, \$90,000

Morefield Holdings LLC to Seaton Properties LLC, 0.2175 Acre Portion of Section 6, \$249,000

James Clinton Munsey to Dogwood Creek Properties LLC, Map: 6-(8)-58, \$47,000

Golden Triangle Development LLC to Michael Leo Jones, Lot 31 Containing 0.158 Acre PH 2 Gloria Villas, \$295,000

## November 2023 Montgomery County Land Transfers

### Zero Dollar Considerations:

Julia Barbara Hoffman to Gregg M Hoffman, Lot 8 Section A of Airport Acres Town of Blacksburg

Gregg M Hoffman to Gregg M Hoffman Trust, Unit 823 University Place II Town of Blacksburg

Joan E Sexton to Roman Ilewicz Family Trust, 2023006321

Gregg M Hoffman to Gregg M Hoffman Trust, Lot 8 Section A Airport Acres Town of Blacksburg

Gary V Radford to Gary V Radford Trust, 1.466 Acres

Jeffrey T Zoellner to Fourzs LLC, 5.066 Acres 1E Prices Fork Magisterial District

Todd B Smith to Todd B Smith Trust, Lot 42 A The Villas at Fiddlers Green Town of Blacksburg

Derwin Sutphin Trust to Russel Shepherd, 4.31 Acres Metes and Bounds Town of Christiansburg

Kenneth Dawson to Kathy Smith, 5.11 Acres Tract 2 Shawsville Magisterial District

Anne H Giles to Margaret Giles Galecki, Lot 5 Section D Airport Acres Subdivision Town of Blacksburg

Jeffrey M Kurtz to Zakari A Kurtz, 6.170 Acres Lot 1 Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Patricia F Cooper to Kari S Taylor, Lot 9 Town of Christiansburg

Richard Zimmermann to Richard Zimmermann, Lot 55 Mission Hill III Town of Blacksburg

Dottie M Kershner to Dottie M Kershner, Unit 33-3 PH 17 Section 2 Villas Pepper's Ferry Town of Christiansburg

Elizabeth Matthews to Elizabeth Matthews, Lot 5 Warren Heights Subdivision Town of Christiansburg

Christi Ladawn Dobbins Matte to Kevin W Butler, 2017004463

Zheng Xiang to Xiaoshi Xiang, 0.522 Acre Lot 6 Cedar Orchard PH IV-B Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Michael L Meadows to Stacy Renee Meadows, Lot 46 PH I Windmill Hills

Amit Yaffe to Henry Yaffe, Lot 24 PH I Oak Tree Townhomes Town of Christiansburg

David E Weaver to Sarah Margaret Weaver, Lot 4 Section I Woodbine PDR Subdivision Town of Blacksburg

F&B Land LP to R Fralin Construction Inc., 0.143 Acre Lot 40 Kensington PH X Riner Magisterial District

Ari Baqaie to Wahid Baqaie, Lot 416 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District

Sandra Leigh Reed to Sandra Leigh Reed Trust, Lot 31 Edgemont of Diamond Hill Section II Town of Christiansburg

Janice F Leraen to Leraen Trust, Unit 10-3 PH VI Villas at Peppers Ferry Town of Christiansburg

Diana L Barnes to Katlyn Elizabeth Wilson, Lot 124 Heritage Place PH IV-B Riner Magisterial District

Shleigh Shaw-Fitzhugh Utzinger to Utzinger Living Trust, 2.656 Acres Lot E Mount Tabor Magisterial District

George L Boggs IV to Country Roots LLC, Lot 3 Section 2 Shelor Heights Riner Magisterial District

Michael V Avitabile to Nestburg LLC, 0.37 Acre Lot 41 and Lot 41 Kippis Farm Subdivision Town of Blacksburg

Eric Wayne Akers to Cheryl Denise Akers Altis, 6.246 Acres Metes and Bounds Riner Magisterial District

Howard L Walton Trust to Howard L Walton Trust, Lot 23 Carriage Hill Townhouse Town of Blacksburg

Donald W Jones to Donald W Jones, 2.60 Acres Metes and Bounds Riner Magisterial District

Juanita Ann Carroll to Andrea Lynn Howell, 2023004299

Juanita Ann Carroll to Warren Owen Wells II, 2023004300

Juanita Ann Carroll to Warren Owen Wells II, 2023004536

Gregory Thomas Zielske Sr. to 4 Z LLC, 0.25 Acre Metes and Bounds Prices Fork Magisterial District

Judy Beth McNabb to Christopher Lane McNabb, Lot 36 Oak Tree Townhomes PH IV Town of Christiansburg

Jennifer O Feghali to Feghali Family Joint Declaration, Lot 40 PH 1 Mount Tabor Meadows Subdivision Town of Blacksburg

Pinar Gurdal to Erin Billur Gurdal, Lot 5 Northside Park Section III Town of Blacksburg

Edward Thomas Ewing to Edward Thomas Ewing Trust, Lot 60 Highland Park Number 2 Parcel I and 2,000 Square Fete Metes and Bounds Parcel II Town of Blacksburg

John G Kuykendall to Kuykendall Living Trust, Lot 70 PH II-A Tom's Creek Town of Blacksburg

Ronald T Bonofiglio to Diana P Bonofiglio Living Trust, 0.875 Acre Allegheny Mountain Parcel 1; 0.865 Acre Deercroft PH V Parcel 2 Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Brian Britt to Britt and Meltsner Living Trust, Lot 11 and half of Lot 12 Section 4 Town of Blacksburg

Robert B Moore III to Moore Living Trust, Lot 25 Preston Forest PH 1 Mount Tabor Magisterial District

Amy E Morimer to AEM Properties LLC, 0.604 Acre Parcel 1 and Lot 1 PH I Section II Parcel II Haymarket Square and Lot 14A Ridinger Acres PH I Parcel III

Arthur G Hamrick Jr. to Arthur G Hamrick III, 1.70 Acres Parcel 1 0.521 Acre Parcel II Town of Christiansburg

Randall Keith Smith to David Leo Smith, 0.4025 Acre Prices Fork Magisterial District

McGhee Landscaping LLC to Seth McGhee, Metes and Bounds See Legal Town of Christiansburg

Jeffrey Puuri to Jeffrey Purri Trust, Lot 69 and 70 Blacksburg Heights Town of Blacksburg

Russell M Collins to April P Collins, 173, 174, 175 and 176 Beverly Hills Subdivision Town of Christiansburg

Traveling Manns LLC to Jerry H Carter, 2.096 Acres Northern Portion of Tax Parcel 38-(A)-163 Prices Fork Magisterial District

Kermith Vernard Harrington Trust to Robert Wesley Cranwell, 2023005194

Juanita D Nystrom to Ethan T Margherio, 0.003 Acre 27-2-40

Andrew Martinson to Andrew L Martinson Trust, 0.314 Acre Parcel 1 and 0.217 Acre Parcel 2

### Monetary Considerations:

Robert J Gearheart to Denis I Roshioru, Lot 13 PH III Section I Ramble Ridge Subdivision Section I, \$269,000

See Properties LLC to Christian Sonnenburg, Lot 9 Forest Hills Subdivision Section C Town of Blacksburg, \$514,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Naveen Sangadala, Lot 185 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$426,814

Joan E Sexton to Roman Ilewicz Family Trust, Lot 34 Reagan's Pointe Town of Christiansburg, \$330,000

Frazier Lee Mcnew to Mark Andrew Mcnew, 3.00 Acres Shawsville Magisterial District, \$193,000

The Bellman and Concierge LLC to PAC Properties LLC, 1.2079 Acres More of Less Town of Christiansburg, \$1,010,000

Shirley B Trimble to Ronald David Ballard, 1.435 Acres Lot 1 Shawsville Magisterial District, \$76,000

Joseph C Carley to Paul A Gellerstedt, Lot 6 Preston Forest PH 1 Town of Blacksburg, \$628,000

Charles A Davis to Alejandro Arellano, Lots 12, 13 and 14 Sturgill Estates Town of Christiansburg, \$607,900

NRHT LLC to Kathryn Chamberlin Johnson, Lot 9 Cedar Top Subdivision Town of Blacksburg, \$195,800

Stateson Homes LLC to Evergreen Real Properties LLC, Lot 186 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$384,020

Megan R Tresnak to Tristan Zeiger, Lot 8 Suburban Hills Town of Christiansburg, \$260,000

Russell Shepherd to David Prevette Trust, 4.31 Acres Metes and Bounds Town of Christiansburg, \$386,000

CC Rider LLC to CC Star LLC, Lot 2 Rainbow Ridge Subdivision Section 1 Town of Blacksburg, \$198,647

Milan Barnett Tolley Trust to Ronald R Rakes, 6.331 Acres Metes and Bounds Shawsville Magisterial District, \$170,500

Brenda D Eanes to Stephan L Bishop, 49.25 Acres Metes and Bounds Shawsville Magisterial District, \$150,000

Michelle N Beale to John Edward Forbes, 2.658 Acres Lot 33 Riner Magisterial District, \$661,000

Sandy Bottom Solutions LLC to CM Suites LLC, Unit 8 2727 South Condos Parcel I And Unit 9 2727 South Condos Town of Blacksburg, \$900,000

Equity Trustees LLC Sub Trust to BKC Properties Inc., 2018007744, \$106,433

Hokie Land Holdings LLC to Sandz Estate LLC, Lot 131 Section 1 Pheasant Run Townhomes PH IV Town of Blacksburg, \$314,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Yin W Cheng, Lot 187 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$433,685

See Land Transfers, page 5



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# OPINION

## Positive change in language regarding Drug Treatment Courts moves closer to becoming law

**Del. Jason Ballard**  
*Virginia General Assembly*

As the 2024 General Assembly session continues forward at a rapid pace, more of my legislation has received subcommittee and committee hearings. Some of my bills have been defeated early in the legislative process, which is something Republicans are coming to terms with as being in the minority in legislature controlled by Democrats. However, I was particularly surprised at the defeat of House Bill 302, which was a commonsense measure supported by firearm enthusiasts and firearms skeptics alike.

HB 302 would have simply extended a popular tax credit on gun safes that is currently only available if

you buy a gun safe from a Federal Firearms Licensed (FFL) dealer. My bill would have extended that same tax credit to purchases made at non-FFL business establishments, such as Tractor Supply Company. Pro-Second Amendment organizations such as the Virginia Citizens Defense League supported this bill due to it saving gun enthusiasts money when purchasing a new gun safe. Perhaps unsurprisingly, anti-Second Amendment activists also supported HB 302, because it would have provided a financial incentive for folks to keep their firearms safely secured. Without explanation, the Democrats of Subcommittee #1 in the House Committee on Finance voted to table the bill, which means it is effectively dead and will not become law. Democrats speak often about the

need for commonsense firearms safety legislation, and it doesn't get much more commonsense than HB 302.

In better news, I'm very happy to report that my House Bill 292 received a unanimous "yes" vote in the Criminal Subcommittee of the House Committee for Courts of Justice. It will now advance to the full Courts of Justice Committee, where I expect it will receive continued favorable attention. HB 292 simply changes the name of "Drug Treatment Courts" to "Recovery Courts," but the outcome of such a change goes much farther than this simplicity implies. Joining me to testify in favor of this bill were several

See **Change**, page 10

## UVA scientists, community organizations join to reduce cancer disparities

**By Michelle Brauns, MS, APR, and Wendy Cohn, MEd, PhD**

Few of us will make it through life without being impacted in some way by cancer, and many are familiar with key factors that contribute to cancer risk — both within and beyond our control — like tobacco use and a family history of cancer. Fewer realize how factors such as race, gender and even where they live can place them at higher risk of dying from the disease.

In our region, health disparities are evident across the 87 counties in Virginia and West Virginia served by the University of Virginia Cancer Center, one of only 54 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers. Lung cancer is diagnosed more frequently than the national average, and Black residents face higher rates of diagnosis and death for breast and colorectal cancer than their white neighbors. The most significant difference is seen in the disproportionate

impact of prostate cancer, which is nearly twice as common in Black men, while those diagnosed face more than double the death rate of whites.

Community health organizations play a crucial role in reducing disparities, ranging from public education about the risks associated with tobacco use and screening guidelines for various cancers, to facilitating screening and even transportation to wellness visits. The UVA Cancer Center partners with these organizations to address

disparities and advance discoveries to improve cancer prevention, detection and treatment.

The UVA Cancer Center addresses disparities through its Office of Community Outreach and Engagement, directly engaging communities most impacted by cancer. Together, community members and organizations provide health education, navigation and opportunities for

See **Cancer**, page 5

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Another hunting season is over and landowners throughout southwest Virginia have dealt with another year of frustration. Starting as early as August, hunters chase bears with hounds, creating a host of issues for law enforcement and landowners alike. Dogs run across private property at will and their owners do nothing to stop it. In fact, they often encourage it by releasing their dogs along public roads or on small tracts, knowing their animals will cross land where they aren't welcome. These hounds disrupt still-hunters, harass pets and

livestock and create chaos for everyone. Hunters walk through private property at will, thanks to Virginia's "right-to-retrieve" law. All of these activities are entirely legal.

Despite growing calls for an end to trespassing bear hounds and the actions of hunters who use them, the Department of Wildlife Resources and state legislature have so far failed to provide any relief to landowners. The hound community has offered no solutions, either. Why would they? Under the current laws, they have free reign of every parcel of private land in the state.

The DWR and the hound hunting lobby can continue to sweep this under the rug, but it isn't going away. In fact, it will continue to get worse as Virginia's population grows. An estimated 10.2 million people will live here in 2040, up from the current population of 8.7 million. Many of these new residents are moving to rural Virginia only to learn their private property becomes the domain of houndsmen and have no means of stopping them. When confronted, these hunters often say the same thing: "Go back to where you came from." In reality, it makes no difference where these new

residents come from. They are here and they aren't going away. And it's their property. That's all that matters.

What's more, Virginia's land base continues to change. Large, unbroken farms used to be liberally scattered throughout Virginia, offering ideal places to run hounds without disturbing neighbors. Many of those farms have been divided and divided again, leaving small tracts that are not conducive to this type of hunting anymore.

Members of the Virginia Property Rights Alliance, along with countless landowners throughout Virginia, are working to end this abuse of private property. Let me be clear: Our organization doesn't want to abolish hunting with hounds. We simply want to end it on property where it is not welcome. We can't do it alone, though. Landowners fed up with this abuse of private property must speak up. Write, call and email the DWR board, state delegates and local representatives and tell them this assault on private property must end.

*Abram "Judge" Charlton*  
*President, Virginia Property Rights Alliance*

## Average gas prices higher than last week

Average gasoline prices in Virginia have risen 6.2 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 2.9 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 39.4 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 0.5 cents in the

last week and stands at \$3.87 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price

See **Gas** page 6

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## AARP Virginia Fraud Alert: When that hot ticket is a fake

Getting tickets to must-see concerts is becoming harder than ever. From presale signup to waiting hours online and still missing out on the tickets you want, criminals have a solution — and it's costing consumers a lot of money in fraudulent ticket purchases. With most concert venues switching to digital tickets only, it is easier than ever to produce counterfeit tickets. And with many of the top shows selling out instantly the market for resale tickets is larger than ever. Here are three tips to avoid buying a worthless ticket.

First, stick to known ticket sales sites or visit the National Association of Ticket Brokers (natb.org) to ensure that you are dealing with a verified reseller. Always type the web address of the site you want to visit into your browser vs.

clicking a link that could take you to a copycat site.

Second, beware of offers on social media and online marketplaces where this scam flourishes.

Third, never pay with a peer-to-peer payment app unless you are getting tickets from someone you know. You don't have the same consumer protections with these methods that you have with a credit card.

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

Report scams to local law enforcement. For help from AARP, call 1-877-908-3360 or visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at [www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork](http://www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork).

*AARP Virginia*

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

		1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9			
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- CLUES ACROSS
- 1. Shed tears
  - 5. Luxury jewelry designer
  - 10. Goddess of wisdom
  - 12. Convert into a particular form
  - 14. Working-class people
  - 16. It borders Canada (abbr.)
  - 18. A princess can detect its presence
  - 19. Red-brown sea bream
  - 20. Defunct retail empire
  - 22. Vase
  - 23. Demeter's equivalent
  - 25. Monetary unit of the Maldives
  - 26. French and Belgian river
  - 27. Small amount
  - 28. High schoolers' test
  - 30. Animal's foot
  - 31. Some is red
  - 33. Per \_\_\_ : each
  - 35. Swedish jazz pop duo
  - 37. Plate for Eucharist
  - 38. Train line
  - 40. Russian pop duo
  - 41. Stake
  - 42. Plant by scattering
  - 44. Female sibling
  - 45. City of Angels hoopers (abbr.)
  - 48. Popular cookie brand
  - 50. Group of Niger-Congo languages
  - 52. A team's best pitcher
  - 53. Vomits
  - 55. 19th letter of Greek alphabet
  - 56. Men's fashion accessory
  - 57. Its capital is Pierre (abbr.)
  - 58. Expensive cut of steak
  - 63. Popular James Cameron film
  - 65. A \_\_\_ relating to knowledge gleaned from deduction
  - 66. Kids' snow toys
  - 67. Flip side to yin
- CLUES DOWN
- 1. Global public health agency
  - 2. Snake-like fish
  - 3. Midway between northeast and east
  - 4. Dabbed
  - 5. TV show
  - 6. Folk singer DiFranco
  - 7. Canadian flyers
  - 8. Of the dowry
  - 9. Commercial
  - 10. The act of imitating
  - 11. Equipment used to broadcast radio or TV signals
  - 13. Lands of an emir
  - 15. Swiss river
  - 17. Island
  - 18. Monetary unit of Afghanistan
  - 21. One who surrenders under agreed conditions
  - 23. Garfield is one
  - 24. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
  - 27. Small boats used in the Black Sea
  - 29. Small savory Spanish dishes
  - 32. Body part
  - 34. Touch lightly
  - 35. Popular grilled foods on a stick
  - 36. \_\_\_ Hess: oil company
  - 39. Antelope with a reddish coat
  - 40. Pharaoh of Lower Egypt
  - 43. Pink Floyd's Roger
  - 44. Short and thick
  - 46. Small, sac-like cavities
  - 47. Performer \_\_\_-Lo
  - 49. Entrails of animal used as food
  - 51. \_\_\_ King Cole, musician
  - 54. Where construction is done
  - 59. Chap
  - 60. Investment vehicle
  - 61. Often mixed with tonic
  - 62. Holiday beverage egg \_\_\_
  - 64. Against

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## Land Transfers from page 3

Shah Development LLC to Jackson M Newton, 16,538 Square Feet Lot 5 Craig Mountain Section 2 Town of Christiansburg, \$369,900

Kristine E Simpkins to Victor M Silva, Lot 6 Warren Heights Subdivision Town of Christiansburg, \$270,000

Zach Milton to Oldtown Chapel LLC, 0.958 Acre Metes and Bounds Shawsville Magisterial District, \$55,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Brett Westerfield, Lot 160 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$502,150

Marie D Bland to Centennial Christian Church, 9 Acres Metes and Bounds Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$160,000

Michael Cameron Weaver to Mark Edward Weaver, Lot 4 Section I Town of Blacksburg, \$116,160

Roger D Campbell to Suzanne Williamson, Lot 94 Brush Mountain West PH 9 Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$105,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Harlos R Larrowe, Lot 188 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$426,900

NRGT LLC to Megan Lynn Ihlefeld, 0.3474 Acres Metes and Bounds Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$260,000

R Fralin Construction Inc to Jay D Haynes, 0.143 Acre Lot 40 Kensington PH X Riner Magisterial District, \$354,950

Tammie Oxley LLC to Airtree LLC, Lots 52-58 Oak Tree PH XII Town of Christiansburg, \$1,650,000

J Carmen Salinas Trejo to BCP Development LLC, \$110,000

Hugh W Rimmer to Nicola Griebel, Lot 22 Section 3 Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$385,000

Normand E Pilotte to Keith Cooper, 2.6427 Acres Lot 3 Riner Magisterial District, \$260,000

DALMPK LLC to Skyler Brie Dehart, 0.5 Acre Lot A Riner Magisterial District, \$65,000

RSMWTD LLC to Leo Walton LLC, 0.821 Acre Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$320,000

David A Whaley Trust to WCI Holdings LLC, 130.549 Acres Lot 8A Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$425,000

Harold K Kubecki to Christian T Worley, Lot 48 PH I Block 5A1 Pheasant Run Townhomes Town of Blacksburg, \$310,000

Jeanette Neighbors Wiggert Executor to Timothy J Morgan Trust, Lot 38 Miniature Farms Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$255,000

BLDT Development Properties LLC to Sylvia Briceno, Lot 84 Clover Valley Estates Town of Blacksburg, \$265,000

Victoria D Cox to Mohammed Shah Alam, 0.250 Acre Lot 13 PH I New River Village Subdivision Town of Christiansburg, \$355,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Alicia Adams, Lot 11 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$669,274

Michael Ray Carden to John H Cease, Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 53, 54 Brumfield Acres Shawsville Magisterial District, \$236,000

David P Winyall to Steven Baltimore, 0.275 Acre Lot 33 Town of Christiansburg, \$277,000

Sherman E Davis to Donna S Lee, 0.410 Acre Lot 16 Shawsville Magisterial District, \$9,000

Samantha Clark Underwood to Kiefer M Yates, Lot 10 Radford Heights Subdivision, \$215,000

Amazonite LLC to Elizabeth Ann Haydu Travis, 5.709 Acres Lot 9 Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$55,000

Lawrence J Kyle to KPMS LLC, 2.116 Acres Lot 4 Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$139,000

LJCJ LLC to KPMS LLC, 0.172 Acre Cedar Orchard PH IV-B Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$20,000

Jerald L Feinstein to Alan Thomas Asbeck, Condo Unit H Building 507 Sundance Ridge Condos Town of Blacksburg, \$228,000

Barabara B Bostic to Lawrence J Kyle, Unit 5-4 PH III Villas at Peppers Ferry Section II Town of Christiansburg, \$376,000

Shah Development LLC to Eagle Construction of VA LLC; 0.262 Acre Lot 25m 0.573 Acre Lot 27, 0.775 Acre Lot 28, 0.250 Acre Lot 31, 0.250 Acre Lot 37 Reserve at Round Meadows Town of Christiansburg; \$560,000

John Michael Sanborn to Chandler M Wilburn, Lot 8 Crozier Court Shawsville Magisterial District, \$308,300

Joseph S Straub to Team Claren LLC, Lot 23 Newcomb Heights Town of Christiansburg, \$60,000

Richard M Barnett to S & D Real Estate LLC; 1.609 Acres Metes and Bounds Parcel I, 0.08 Acre Lot F Parcel II, 0.107 Acre Lot E Parcel III Shawsville Magisterial District; \$297,000

Troy A Saptura to JLRSM Investment Company, Lot 73 Clifton PH I Town of Christiansburg, \$357,500

Roy C Allen Jr. to Quinn Duffy, Lot 9 Longview Estates Section 1 Town of Blacksburg, \$345,000

Danylle R Kunkel to Jenny Sutphin, Lot 26 Forest Hill Section B, \$660,000

Stephen Wells to Huafeng Zhao, Lot 1 Cedar Run Subdivision Town of Blacksburg, \$140,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Xin Luo, Lot 49 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$549,499

Bradley M McCrady to Debra Ann Hanneman, Lot 1 Cambria Crossing PH I Town of Christiansburg, \$400,000

Seeds Properties II LLC to Taylor C Chrisman, 2.43 Acres Lot 1 Town of Christiansburg, \$399,900

Peter J Barrett Trust to Harold E Downing, Unit 1909-A Building 14 Lot 14 Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$75,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Lauren Pollard, Lot 10 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$711,324

Eric S Sallee to Alyssa Ann Pierson, 0.759 Acre Parcel B Town of Blacksburg, \$396,000

Melvin Wayne Meredith to Tien Duong, 0.741 Acre Metes and Bounds Less and Except a Strip of Land Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$311,000

Catherine A Stephens to Dalia Allencherry, Lot 18 Section 1 PH III Franklin Park Townhouses Town of Christiansburg, \$190,000

Eagle Construction of VA LLC to Jenna Marie Conrad, Revised Lot 45 Reserve at Round Meadows Town of Christiansburg, \$514,337

Bernier Properties LLC to Keith Evan Eagle, Condo Unit 78F Building A Piedmont at Blacksburg II Town of Blacksburg, \$266,000

Eagle Construction of VA LLC to Ronald W Kenyon, Lot 14 The Reserve at Round Meadows Town of Christiansburg, \$717,524

Jamie Moran Bond to Winston Lloyd Bond, Little Less than ½ Acre Metes and Bounds Town of Christiansburg, \$151,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Danylle Ranae Kunkel, Lot 164 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$582,705

Emily L Saunders to Christine M Jaworski, Condo Unit P Building 505 Sundance Ridge Condominium of Blacksburg Town of Blacksburg, \$174,000

REO 2023-NRI LLC to Douglas W Sink, Metes and Bounds Shawsville Magisterial District, \$90,500

Joshua Bowman to Christiana L Ridgeway, 1.0359 Acres New Tract B Shawsville Magisterial District, \$290,000

James Edgar Tate to Sofia Issel, Lot 69 McBryde Village, \$460,000

Justin Grimes to Denise Sprumont, Lot 1 Blake Forest Section 1 Town of Christiansburg, \$369,000

Jennifer Mills Cater to Gary P Fore, Tract 20 Section 1 Laurel Ridge Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$33,000

Hobert Minton III to Sinjaroen LLC, Lot 20 Lions Gate Planned Community, \$375,000

Erin Lorann Nuckols to Troy B Jones, 0.58 Acre Parcel 1 0.8 Acre Parcel 2 Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$207,500

Mark N Courtney to Alex Lopes Galvao, Part of Lot 22 and Lot 23 Town of Blacksburg, \$505,000

Shah Development LLC to Courtney Tanner, 1.392 Acres Lot 5 Riner Magisterial District, \$417,500

Matthew Joseph Belay to Christian Sonnenburg, 3.9 Acres Forest Hill Subdivision Section 3, \$55,000

Lawrence C Tabor to Ashley Jo Nicholson, Lot 27 and 28 Mockingbird Hill Subdivision Town of Christiansburg, \$270,000

Susan Edmonds Carver to SAS Construction LLC, Lot 10 Hubbard Haven Subdivision Section 2 Town of Blacksburg, \$100,000

Emily L Saunders to Jose Adrian Torrico Moreno, Condo Unit Q Building 501 Sundance Ridge Condominium of Blacksburg PH I Town of Blacksburg, \$179,000

Stateson Homes LLC to Anton Suvorov, Lot 202 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$408,240

David C Reusch to Augustus Wilhelm Huynh, Lot 10 Woodland

Park Subdivision Town of Blacksburg, \$499,000

Kenneth Leslie Charles to Karlie L Shurina, Lot 6 Walnut Creek PH I Shawsville Magisterial District, \$357,500

The Blacksburg Fire Safety Foundation to Habitat for Humanity of the New River Valley, Metes and Bounds See Legal Town of Blacksburg, \$475,000

Anise M Keen to BPH Homes LLC, 1.46 Acres Metes and Bounds Shawsville Magisterial District, \$85,000

Rebecca W McClure to Jordan Lee Wade Sr., Lot 27 Springview Subdivision PH II Riner Magisterial District, \$201,000

Nathan A Harrison to Daniel L Meaney, Lot 15 Falling Branch Subdivision PH I Town of Christiansburg, \$289,000

Juanita D Nystrom to Steven M Parker, 2.749 Acres Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$25,000

Lori Leigh Lambert to Pitchayaporn Tantihkarnchana, Lot 20 Oak Tree Townhomes PH VII Town of Christiansburg, \$297,500

Kipps Farms LLC to Stateson Homes LLC, Lot 9 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$137,458

Kipps Farms LLC to Stateson Homes LLC, Lot 126 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$120,535

Stateson Homes LLC to Bobby Ray Childress Jr., Lot 204 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$400,870

SAS Eagle Givens LLC to Paul Neal, 0.184 Acre Lot 116 Town of Blacksburg, \$679,772

Sandra Walters Smith to JJB Properties LLC, 0.495 Acre Metes and Bounds, \$332,000

Charles E Nelson Trust to MKBC Properties LLC, 180,004 Square Feet Metes and Bounds Town of Blacksburg, \$737,500

Stateson Homes LLC to William F Deese, Lot 137 Westhill Subdivision Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$560,029

Karen Neighbors Worrell to Ronald Alls, Lot 39 Miniature Farms Mount Tabor Magisterial District, \$25,000

Scott Kiser to Joseph A Fauldale Jr., Unit 1213-G PH VIII University Terrace Condos, \$277,000

Julie Hamlin to Bishoy Abdelsayed, Lot 58 PH II Hans Meadow Subdivision Town of Christiansburg, \$268,000

Jerry L Saul to Pamela D Conner, 1.201 Acres Riner Magisterial District, \$27,500

Disabled American Veterans Department to Robert Pearce, 2 Acres Town of Christiansburg, \$170,000

Eagle Construction of VA LLC to Joseph Wood, New Lot 55 The Reserve at Round Meadows Town of Christiansburg, \$570,400

Jennifer T Niemiera to Vincent S Fiorda, 1.455 Acres Lot B Prices Fork Magisterial District, \$65,000

Yao Huang to Tian Jiang, Condo Unit B-1 of Brightwood Manor Condos, \$150,000

## Cancer from page 4

community based research offering a more individualized approach to addressing the impact of cancer in communities across Virginia and West Virginia. For the first time this fall, UVA Cancer Center convened researchers and community partners from across the region for a two-day Cancer Health Disparities Symposium. In more than 30 presentations, UVA faculty heard directly from the community on efforts to address cancer in their communities, while those community members learned about the latest research in progress. Addressing rural disparities was a major theme of the symposium. Representing Jonesboro's Stone Mountain Health, Inc., Director of Nursing Sabrina Mitchell, MSN, DNPS, APRN, BC, and Patient Navigator Jessica Clark, RN, shared an analysis of thousands of cases in which their rural patients refused recommended cancer screenings. To get to the root of this, they identified many barriers to care, such as lack of transportation. Their findings and resulting interventions led to a 10%

increase in cancer screenings in 2023. Faculty presenters included UVA School of Medicine's Jamie Zoellner, PhD, RD, who discussed ongoing evaluation of Kids SIPsmartER, a UVA-designed school curriculum in Appalachia that has shown effectiveness in reducing consumption of sugary drinks, which are known to elevate cancer risk. While our region confronts pronounced cancer disparities, we are well-positioned to reduce disparities thanks to the dedication, commitment and leadership of partners from the communities across the area. With our innovative research, additional resources and continued collaboration, we can reduce the burden of cancer across our region and beyond – together.

Michelle Brauns is CEO of the Community Health Center of the New River Valley and a member of the UVA Cancer Center Community Advisory Council. Wendy Cohn is a Professor of Public Health Science at the UVA School of Medicine and the Cancer Center's Associate Director for Community Outreach and Engagement.

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# OBITUARIES

## Hedge, Dolly Jean Smart

Dolly Jean Smart Hedge, 85, passed away Friday, Jan. 26, 2024, at her home in Radford.

She retired from AT&T. Dolly was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph Henry and Ethel Mae Smart; husband, Jerry L. Hedge; brothers, Elwood, Joseph, Jr., and Robert Smart; and sisters, Dorleen Rood, Lucille Wilson, Melinda Boyd, Dorothy McCoy, Frances Strader, and June Dobbins.

Survivors include her son, Gregory T.



Hedge (Kim); daughter, Debbie Lilly (Rodger); grandchildren, Joshua Saul, Corey Hedge, and Heather H.

Schranz (Evan); great grandchildren, Hannah and Natalie Saul, and another great grandson on the way; sister, Shirley Crabtree (PeeWee); and many other nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, in the West View Cemetery in Radford.

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

## Seavey, Sylvia

Sylvia Seavey, 72, of Christiansburg, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024 at LewisGale Medical Center in Salem.

Sylvia was a daughter of the late Edward E. Nuckols, Sr. and Hollie Mae Lucas Nuckols. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Daniel L. Seavey; daughter, Jennifer M. Collins; and brother, Edward E. Nuckols, Jr.

Sylvia was a graduate of Christiansburg High School and New River Community College. She was an employee of Virginia Tech, retiring in 2017 after thirty-six years of service.

Left to cherish her memory are brother and sister-in-law, Roger and Diane Nuckols of Christiansburg; sisters and brothers-in-law,

Patty and Billy Dove of Christiansburg, Carolyn and Roger Ratcliffe of Pilot; and nieces, Erika Harrison and Bethany Nuckols.

In honor of her wishes, there will be no public visitation. A private graveside service was held Monday, Jan. 29, 2024 in Sunset Cemetery, Christiansburg.

## Gas

from page 4

reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$2.57/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$3.99/g, a difference of \$1.42/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.57/g while the highest was \$3.99/g, a difference of \$1.42/g.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 4.5 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.07/g today. The national average is down 4.1 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 41.2 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:

January 29, 2023: \$3.41/g (U.S. Average: \$3.49/g)

January 29, 2022: \$3.20/g (U.S. Average: \$3.36/g)

January 29, 2021: \$2.32/g (U.S. Average: \$2.42/g)

January 29, 2020: \$2.32/g (U.S. Average: \$2.48/g)

January 29, 2019: \$2.09/g (U.S. Average: \$2.27/g)

January 29, 2018: \$2.44/g (U.S. Average: \$2.58/g)

January 29, 2017: \$2.14/g (U.S. Average: \$2.26/g)

January 29, 2016: \$1.66/g (U.S. Average: \$1.81/g)

January 29, 2015: \$1.95/g (U.S. Average: \$2.04/g)

January 29, 2014: \$3.16/g (U.S. Average: \$3.27/g)

Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:

Roanoke- \$2.92/g, up 1 cent per gallon from last week's \$2.91/g.

Richmond- \$3.03/g, up 8.5 cents per gallon from last week's \$2.95/g.

West Virginia- \$2.89/g, down 2.4 cents per gallon from last week's \$2.92/g.

"We've seen the national average price of gasoline bounce back up after cold weather-related refinery shutdowns pushed up the wholesale price of gasoline. Plus, recent GDP data and new attacks in the Red Sea have pushed oil prices to their highest level since November," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "While prices have inched up and may continue to slowly rise, I believe the larger increases will be witnessed in a few weeks as we enter mid-February, lasting through April or May, during which the national average could rise 35 to 85 cents per gallon. Other issues and tensions could complicate how quickly prices rise or how high they go, so while the rise is not completely charted, it could deviate from our expectations."

GasBuddy

## Researchers use environmental justice questions to reveal geographic biases in ChatGPT



PHOTO COURTESY OF JUNGHWAN KIM

A U.S. map shows counties where residents could (blue) or could not (pink) receive local-specific information about environmental justice issues.

Virginia Tech researchers have discovered limitations in ChatGPT's capacity to provide location-specific information about environmental justice issues. Their findings, published in the journal *Telematics and Informatics*, suggest the potential for geographic biases existing in current generative artificial intelligence (AI) models.

ChatGPT is a large-language model developed by OpenAI Inc., an artificial intelligence research organization. ChatGPT is designed to understand questions and generate text responses based on requests from users. The technology has a wide range of applications from content creation and information gathering to data analysis and language translation.

A county-by-county overview

"As a geographer and geospatial data scientist, generative AI is a tool with powerful potential," said Assistant Professor Junghwan Kim of the College of Natural Resources and Environment. "At the same time, we need to investigate the limitations of the technology to ensure that future developers recognize

the possibilities of biases. That was the driving motivation of this research."

Utilizing a list of the 3,108 counties in the contiguous United States, the research group asked the ChatGPT interface to answer a prompt asking about the environmental justice issues in each county. The researchers selected environmental justice as a topic to expand the range of questions typically used to test the performance of generative AI tools. Asking questions by county allowed the researchers to measure ChatGPT responses against sociodemographic considerations such as population density and median household income.

Key findings indicate limitations

Surveying counties with populations as varied as Los Angeles County, California, with a population of 10,019,635, and Loving County, Texas, with a population of 83, the generative AI tool showed a capacity to identify location-specific environmental justice challenges in large, high-density population areas. However, the tool was limited in its ability to identify and provide contextualized information on

local environmental justice issues.

ChatGPT was able to provide location-specific information about environmental justice issues for just 515 of the 3018 counties entered, or 17 percent.

In rural states such as Idaho and New Hampshire, more than 90 percent of the population lived in counties that could not receive local-specific information.

In states with larger urban populations such as Delaware or California, fewer than 1 percent of the population lived in counties that cannot receive specific information.

Impacts for AI developers and users  
With generative AI emerging as a new gateway tool for gaining information, the testing of potential biases in modeling outputs is an important part of improving programs such as ChatGPT.

"While more study is needed, our findings reveal that geographic biases currently exist in the ChatGPT model," said Kim, who teaches in the Department of Geography. "This is a starting point to investigate how programmers and AI developers might be able to anticipate and mitigate the disparity of information between big and small cities, between urban and rural environments."

Kim has previously published a paper on how ChatGPT understands transportation issues and solutions in the U.S. and Canada. His Smart Cities for Good research group explores the use of geospatial data science methods and technology to solve urban social and environmental challenges.

Enhancing future capabilities of the tools

Assistant Professor Ismini Lourentzou of the College of Engineering, a co-author on the paper, cited three areas of further research for large-language models such as ChatGPT:

Refine localized and contextually grounded knowledge, so that geographical biases are reduced

Safeguard large-language models such as ChatGPT against challenging scenarios such as ambiguous user instructions or feedback

Enhance user awareness and policy so that people are better informed of the strengths and weaknesses, particularly around sensitive topics

"There are a lot of issues with the reliability and resiliency of large-language models," said Lourentzou, who teaches in the Department of Computer Science and is an affiliate of the Sanghani Center for Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics. "I hope our research can guide further research on enhancing the capabilities of ChatGPT and other models."

Krista Timney for Virginia Tech

**RADFORD VA ELECTIONS** **Dual Party Presidential Primary Election**  
**Tuesday, March 5, 2024**

CHOOSE ONLY ONE:  
**U.S. President – Republican Party**  
**U.S. President – Democratic Party**

\$24.2-530. No person shall vote for the candidates of more than one party.

AN ID IS REQUIRED TO VOTE.  
**POLLS OPEN 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.**

**Monday, Feb 12, 2024:** Last day to register to vote or change your voter registration information for this election.

Same Day Registration is now available however, it will be a provisional vote that will be counted after the election, if accepted.

Mailed voter registration applications must be sent to the Radford City Office of Elections postmarked on or before the deadline.

**EARLY VOTING**  
**Radford City Office of Elections**  
619 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Room 143, Radford, VA. 24141

**Friday, Jan 19 – Friday, March 1** 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
**Saturday, Feb 24 & March 2, 2024** 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Saturday, March 2, 2024:** Last day to vote an In-Person (early) absentee ballot.

**MAIL ABSENTEE VOTING**  
**Friday, Feb 23, 2024:** Last day to request an absentee ballot by mail. Applications must be received in the Radford City Office of Elections Office by 5 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 5, 2024: Election Day** ALL DROPPED OFF Absentee voted ballots must be returned to the Radford City Office of Elections by 7 p.m. (Virginia time) to be counted.

**Friday, March 8, 2024:** ALL MAILED Absentee voted ballots must be postmarked on or before election day and returned to the Radford City Office of Elections by NOON. (Virginia time) to be counted.

**BALLOT DROP OFF STATIONS**  
**Friday, Jan 19 – Tuesday, March 5 by 7 p.m.**  
• **Radford City Courthouse (outside front door)**  
619 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Radford, VA. 24141

**Tuesday, March 5, 2024:** 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
• **ALL Radford City Precincts**

Lindsey H. Williams, Director of Elections & General Registrar  
619 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Room 143, Radford, VA. 24141  
TELEPHONE: 540-731-3639 FAX: 540-633-0152

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

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S	L	E	D	S		Y	A	N	G				

## NRCC hosting student art and poetry contests

New River Community College (NRCC) is hosting poet laureate and visual artist competitions for students this spring, along with 21 other Virginia Community College System (VCCS) institutions.

Supported by the VCCS Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Culture, the theme for the competitions is "I Belong." The winner of the college poetry contest at each college will be considered for honors as the "Poet Laureate for Virginia's Community Colleges."

The art and poetry competitions are open to students who are enrolled at least part-time in adult education, workforce credential, certificate, or degree programs at NRCC and live in the NRCC service region. Dual enrollment or early college students under age 18 must secure parent or guardian permission to participate in the competitions. Students may enter original work for either or both competitions at NRCC and will need to complete an application.

Those applying for the college poet laureate must submit three original poems, including one tied to the theme, and be prepared to give a live performance of the theme-related poem. Students vying for the art Luminary award through the visual arts competition will submit one original piece. Works accepted for the visual arts competition are limited to drawing, mixed media, painting, photography, printmaking, and sculpture.

Dr. Tammy Parks, NRCC professor of art, is the college's competition coordinator. Those who have questions about the contest may contact Parks at [tparks@nr.edu](mailto:tparks@nr.edu).

For more information, visit <https://www.vccs.edu/blog/poetry-and-arts-contests-launched-at-most-vccs-colleges/>. Students can submit entries online at <https://bit.ly/NRCCartscontest>. The deadline for entry submissions is March 1.

*New River Community College*



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# RADFORD SPORTS

## Sports notes: Spring game April 13, ACC tourney tickets go on sale

Virginia Tech football's 2024 spring game, presented by PMSI, will take place on Saturday, April 13. Kickoff is set for 3 p.m. ET in Lane Stadium.

More specifics about that day's events will be released when finalized.

Ticket books for the 2024 ACC Men's Basketball Tournament, scheduled for March 12-16 at Capital One Arena in Washington, D.C., are on sale now.

All-session ticket books, which include tickets for all 14 games of the five-day tournament, start at \$198 and are available for purchase at Ticketmaster.com.

Washington, D.C., will host the ACC Men's Basketball Tournament for the third time, as the ACC returns to the nation's capital for the first time since 2016.

The ACC's current 15 member schools have captured three of the last eight NCAA Men's Basketball Championships, with 99 NCAA Tournament wins in that eight-year span. Current ACC schools have won eight NCAA titles in the last 22 years and own 17 national championships overall. Current ACC member schools have combined for 67 Men's Final Four appearances and a national-best 664 NCAA Tournament wins.

All 15 league members own 1,000 or more all-time wins in men's basketball, including eight schools with 1,500 or more victories. Four of the top eight and six of the top 30 winningest programs in NCAA Division I basketball history currently reside in the ACC.

### 2024 ACC Men's Basketball Tournament

Capital One Arena, Washington, D.C. (March 12-16)

Tuesday, March 12 (First Round)

Game 1 – No. 13 seed vs No. 12 seed, 2 p.m., ACCN

Game 2 – No. 15 seed vs No. 10 seed, 4:30 p.m., ACCN

Game 3 – No. 14 seed vs No. 11 seed, 7 p.m., ACCN Wednesday, March 13 (Second Round)

Game 4 – No. 9 seed vs No. 8 seed, Noon, ESPN/2

Game 5 – Winner Game 1 vs No. 5 seed, 2:30 p.m., ESPN

Game 6 – Winner Game 2 vs No. 7 seed, 7 p.m., ESPN2

Game 7 – Winner Game 3 vs No. 6 seed, 9:30 p.m., ESPN2/U

Thursday, March 14 (Quarterfinals)

Game 8 – Winner Game 4 vs No. 1 seed, Noon, ESPN/2

Game 9 – Winner Game 5 vs No. 4 seed, 2:30 p.m., ESPN/2

Game 10 – Winner Game 6 vs No. 2 seed, 7 p.m., ESPN/2

Game 11 – Winner Game 7 vs No. 3 seed, 9:30 p.m., ESPN/2

Friday, March 15 (Semifinals)

Game 12 – Winners Games 9 vs 8, 7 p.m., ESPN/2

Game 13 – Winners Games 11 vs 10, 9:30 p.m., ESPN/2

Saturday, March 16 (Championship)

Game 14 – Winners Games 12 vs 13, 8:30 p.m., ESPN

### Big South moved to ESPN2

The Big South Conference announced today that the 2024 Hercules Tires Women's Basketball Championship game on Sunday, March 10 will now be broadcast on ESPN2 at 6:00pm. The title contest was originally scheduled to be televised on ESPNU at the same time.

The women's final will be carried live on a national linear network for the third consecutive year in 2024, as ESPNU aired the 2022 and 2023 championship games. The 2024 women's tournament is part of the combined Hercules Tires Big South Basketball Championships March 6-10 at the Qubein Center on the campus of High Point University. Tickets are on sale and available online at [www.BigSouthSports.com/](http://www.BigSouthSports.com/) Tickets.

"ESPN continues to be an invaluable partner of the Big South Conference," said Big South Commissioner Sherika A. Montgomery. "Because of this partnership, we have an opportunity to broadcast one of our marquee events on ESPN2. I am truly elated for our women's basketball student-athletes and programs. I'd like to extend my immense gratitude to ESPN for their continued partnership and commitment to elevating the student-athlete experience."

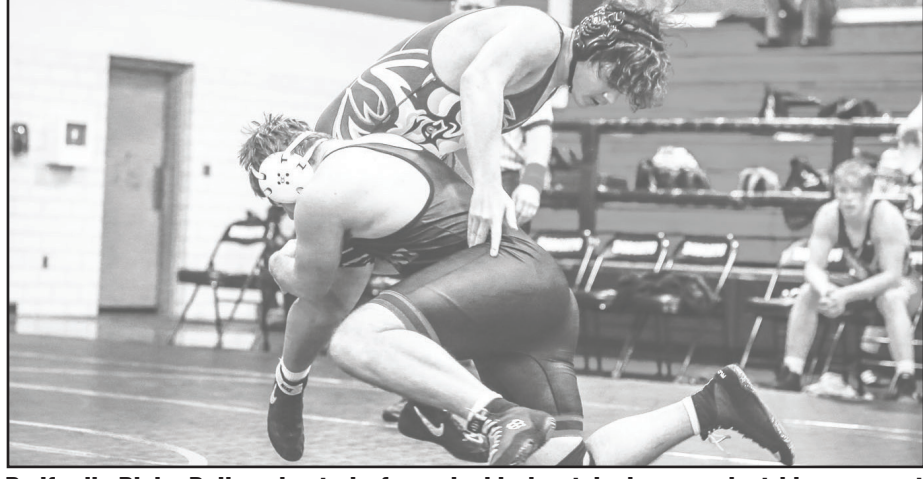
The women's tournament features eight games across four game days (March 6-7 & 9-10), and begins Wednesday, March 6 at 6:00pm with the No. 8 seed vs. No. 9 seed in a first round matchup. The quarterfinals will be held Thursday, March 7, followed by the semifinals on Saturday, March 9. Each of the preliminary rounds will be broadcast on ESPN+.

Amore on watch list

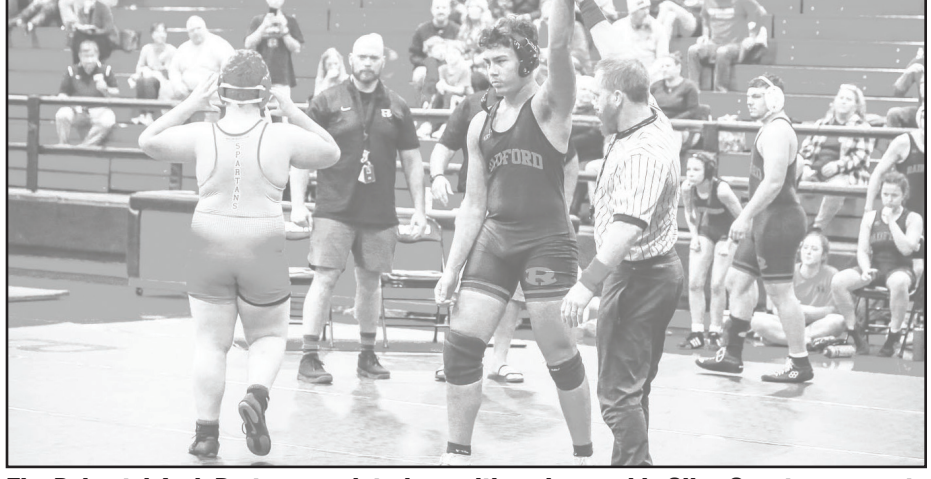
The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame and the Women's Basketball Coaches Association announced the Top 10 candidates for the 2024 Nancy Lieberman Award and Virginia Tech point guard Georgia Amore made the list.

Staff Report

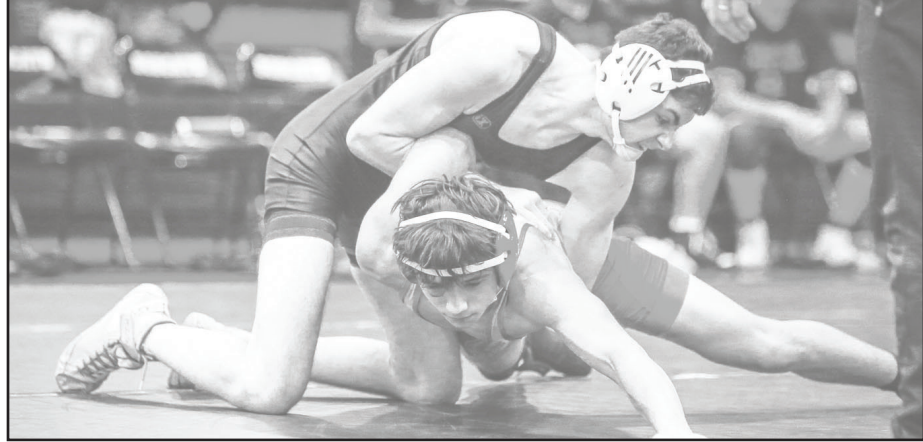
## RHS wrestling match marks 100th win for Martin



Radford's Ricky Bailey shoots in for a double leg takedown against his opponent from Floyd County and went on to win by fall.



The Bobcats' Josh Porter was victorious with a pin over his Giles County opponent.



Radford senior Jacob Lewis controls his Giles opponent early in the first period.



RHS senior Dawson Martin is presented with a banner after winning his 100th match in fashion with a pin of his Patrick County opponent.

PHOTOS BY BRYANT ALTIZER



Angel Thompson goes up for a layup in the Bobcats' loss to Patrick County.

## Radford girls fall to Patrick County



Radford's Abby Hodock drives to the left to break the Cougars press defense.

PHOTOS BY BRYANT ALTIZER

## Worley records perfect 10 score

No. 7 Kentucky gymnastics (4-2, 2-1 SEC) celebrated its 50th anniversary with a program record 197.950-195.650 victory over No. 18 Georgia (1-3, 0-3 SEC) for Excite Night in Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center.

Junior Makenzie Wilson and fifth-year senior Raena Worley of Christiansburg recorded their first career 10.000's, the first since Jenny Hansen competed for the Cats 1993-1996. The perfect marks were the first ever recorded in Rupp Arena.

Joined by over 100 Kentucky gymnastics alumni and 10,302 members of Big Blue Nation, the Wildcats showed off and showed out for the 40th Excite Night. Competing in Olympic order, Kentucky began the night with a bang tying its program best on vault, 49.550. Followed by a 49.325 on the uneven bars, the combined 98.875 was the highest ever two-event score in the month of January.

At the conclusion of the third rotation, the balance beam, Kentucky tallied 148.300. The combined score was the highest ever in a home meet. The floor exercise was not an exception as the Cats tied its program best on the event, which was set in 2014, with a 49.650 resulting in an overall new record to kick off the 2024 homestand.

On vault, Wilson executed perfection with a front handspring pike half twist which she drilled into the mat to stick her landing. The 10.000 set a new career and season best for the Tennessee native who previously held a personal best of 9.975 proving why she is the anchor on the event.

Senior Isabella Magnelli posted the second highest score on the first apparatus with a 9.925 while Worley recorded a 9.900. Arianna Patterson earned a 9.875 from the

judges with the event rounded out by Cecily Rizo's 9.850 and Delaynee Rodriguez's 9.725.

Junior Jillian Procasky held the top mark on the uneven bars for the night with a 9.900. Senior Bailey Bunn was not far behind with a 9.875-worthy routine. Three Kentucky gymnasts tallied an 9.850 (Rodriguez, Annie Riegert and Worley) while Rizo scored a 9.775.

Next, it was time for the Beam Queens to shine in the third rotation. Magnelli held the top score of Excite Night with a beautiful routine earning her a 9.925. Freshman leadoff, Rodriguez, recorded a 9.800, but after a judges' inquiry, the score was elevated to a 9.900. Bunn stayed balanced with a 9.900 of her own. Freshman Creslyn Brose made her beam debut with a 9.850. The same mark was earned by Worley while Patterson saw a 9.825 flashed from the judges' table.

To finish out the historic evening, the Wildcats headed to the floor exercise where Worley earned a long-awaited perfect score – the first of her five-season career at UK. Set up for perfection in the anchor position by her teammates, the Virginia native ended the first home meet of the season in the best way possible. The 10.000 topped her previous career and season best 9.975 on the event.

Worley was not the only one to bring the house down on the floor exercise as Brose set a new career and season best of her own with a 9.975. Hailey Davis rocked out with a 9.900 while Patterson was in her Renaissance Era with a Beyonce-inspired routine that earned her a 9.925. Both Magnelli and Rodriguez scored 9.850.

University of Kentucky Athletics

# Radford

from page 9



Kearson Carter drives in for a left-handed scoop and score as Radford would fall to Patrick County.



Senior Claire Fender drives to the basket against Patrick County. Patrick County would gain the 61-49 win.

PHOTOS BY BRYANT ALTIZER

# Narrows boys down Eastern Montgomery



Eastern Montgomery's Hunter Howard (right) snags a rebound in Friday's contest against Narrows, who took the 60-29 win.



Cyrus Underwood (center) successfully shoots a three-pointer under double coverage from Narrows.



Cyrus Underwood steals a possession in air from Narrows.



Talan Bruce (back) gets up two points for the Mustangs in a low scoring game.

PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

# Bruins boys, girls split contests



Blacksburg's Charlotte Ellis battles Floyd County's Karleigh Wade underneath the basket during a Thursday night game. In a close game with several lead changes, the Buffaloes would come away with a 46-41 win over the Bruins.



Blacksburg's Brynn Ferguson shoots against the Floyd County defense, scoring 10 points on the night.



In boys' basketball, Blacksburg senior Trey Saville gets free for a layup against Giles in a 62-41 win on Friday night.



Blacksburg's Paul Xavier Bland hits a half-court shot right at the first-quarter buzzer to extend the Bruins early lead over Giles during a Friday night win.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

# 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.

*Thor is ready to meet some pawsome humans to build his confidence and show him the ways of the world. At times, he's a little unsure of new sights and sounds but he has a very sweet personality. Thor may know some basic commands and is good on a leash.*



*Dellie is a sweet older kitten. She's friendly and affectionate. Dellie can't wait to find her purrfect match. In the meantime, she will be busy making biscuits at the Animal Care and Adoption Center.*

# Change

from page 4

graduates of one of our region's Drug Treatment Courts, who through their own internal discussions about the stigma of drug abuse, came up with the idea to rename these specialty dockets. It was plain to see that focusing on the word "recovery" had a profound impact on their successful graduation and sustained sobriety, and I was moved by their testimony. As our region - and the Commonwealth at large - continues to deal with the effects of the opioid epidemic, we must continue to support any tool or method that can break the chain of addiction. I'm proud to see this effort move forward, and I thank Giles County Administrator Chris McKlarney and his team for making the four-hour trip to Richmond to support this initiative. Stay tuned for next week's update,

where I'll have more to say on my legislation as well as Virginia Democrat's attempts to pass anti-business and anti-Second Amendment bills. As always, please feel free to share your opinions on any upcoming legislation of interest to you with my office! As the Delegate representing the 42nd House District in the Virginia General Assembly, 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 DelJBallard@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.