

# News Journal

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## Local attorney, also a nurse, to vie for U.S. Congress Ninth District seat

FLOYD – A Floyd woman who is both an attorney and registered nurse has launched her campaign for U.S. Congress.

Karen G.H. Baker served her country for 30 years as a federal employee, and now is running for Congress in Virginia's 9th House District against Rep. Morgan Griffith (R).

"Voters throughout the sprawling Southwest Virginia district are circulating petitions to get her on the ballot as a challenger to the Republican who has held the seat since 2011," according to her campaign. The Ninth District includes the counties of Montgomery, Pulaski, Lee, Wise, Dickenson,

Buchanan, Scott, Russell, Tazewell, Washington, Smyth, Bland, Giles, Grayson, Wythe, Carroll, Craig, Floyd and Patrick, as well as portions of Alleghany, Roanoke and Henry. It also includes the cities of Radford, Bluefield, Bristol, Covington, Galax, Martinsville, Norton and Salem.

"Southwest Virginia literally fueled the industrial growth and electrification of America," Baker said. "We have earned an investment in well-paying 21st century jobs, a robust rural healthcare system, improved housing, great schools, and protection of our land, water, and air. I will fight for the fighting 9th because we deserve the nation's respect."

Baker worked as a trial lawyer in the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and eventually as the agency's assistant general counsel for systemic litigation. Later she served 17 years as an administrative law judge for the Social Security Administration. Since moving to Floyd County in 2014 she has continued her legal career by providing pro bono assistance to individuals seeking disability benefits.

Baker's late husband, Richard Kimm, was a 20-year Navy pilot who continued his aviation career with Eastern Airlines and other



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BAKER CAMPAIGN

Karen G.H. Baker is launching a campaign for Congress in Virginia's 9th House District.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NRVHBA

From landscaping to building materials, the 2024 Home Expo has a lot of ideas for home projects.

## Kick off your home projects this weekend at the 2024 NRV Home Expo

CHRISTIANSBURG — The New River Valley Home Builders Association's (NRVHBA) annual Home Expo takes place this weekend, Mar. 23-24, at the Christiansburg Rec Center, 1600 N. Franklin St.

Looking for inspiration to kick off your home projects? The NRVHBA has put all your home care needs

into one convenient location. This is the place to be if you are looking to build a new home, remodel your current home, find your mortgage lender or real estate agent, or meet service providers to help you with your current project list. This year's expo promises to be one of our best yet." Said Ian Friend, President of the NRVHBA, "We hope the

NRV will come out in force to take advantage of all the contractors and vendors who will be set up at the Christiansburg Recreation Center. With warmer weather coming, this is a perfect time to get project ideas, schedule estimates, and kick off your spring season."

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## Salem's Audrey Lee wins Radford University Scripps Regional Spelling Bee



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

(L to R) Radford Mayor David Horton, Audrey Lee and Radford University Associate Dean of the College of Education and Human Development Debora Bays Wilbon following Lee's win at the Radford University Scripps Regional Spelling Bee on Mar. 16, 2024.

RADFORD - Audrey Lee, a seventh grader from Andrew Lewis Middle School in Salem, won the Radford University regional spelling bee on Saturday and advances to the 2024 Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Lee bested 23 competitors from

regional public school districts and private schools, winning in 12 rounds. She will compete at Bee Week 2024 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland. Bee Week begins with preliminary rounds on May 28

and concludes with the finals on May 30.

The regional bee was held inside the Bonnie Hurlburt Student Center on the main campus of Radford University.

Radford University

## Rock Icons series begins at Radford

Sean Kotz  
Radford University

RADFORD - On Friday, March 22, the first of the "Rock Icons" concerts will take place on Radford University's main campus with the music of Sting and the Police.

This free, public concert will cover some of the band's most iconic and best loved songs as well as highlights from Sting's solo career.

The ensemble is directed by Dave Rivers, a professor in the Music Business program. Rivers, who also teaches a Beatles class, brought last year's performance of Pink Floyd's "Dark Side of the Moon" album to Radford as part of the "Rock 50" series.

Where the "Rock 50" series performs a complete album from start to finish, the "Rock Icons" performances feature music from across the careers of prolific and influential rock artists, often exploring alternate versions of classic songs.

"Sting and the Police were chosen as the first in this concert series because of the wide range of styles that could be explored from New Wave and punk to rock, pop and jazz," Rivers explained.

The music is performed by the Commercial Music Ensemble, a student band with a unique role on campus.

Established in 2019, the group plays rock and pop music concerts on Radford's campus. The CME is the house band for the annual "Radford Idol" talent competition and regularly collaborates with the Dance department and the Radford band and choirs.

Many of the students intend to have a career in the music business and Rivers says these kinds of performances add depth and understanding to their educations.

"The student musicians and singers get a deeper appreciation of some very

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Guitarist Anthony Del Grosso and bassist Maddy Nase.



Drummer Sam Slaughter



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Professor Dave Rivers and keyboardist Gabe Armstead share a laugh at rehearsals.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Wednesday, Mar. 20:

### Hahn Horticulture Garden talk

Tim Shively - Tree of Heaven: Picking up from Scott Salom's talk from last month, Tim will talk about his research and sustainable IPM tools and strategies for use on tree of heaven. The talk is at the Hahn Horticulture Garden, 200 Garden Lane, Blacksburg, at noon. You do not need to register for these talks, just show up and attend. Parking passes for these educational events will be provided by the HHG thanks to supplementary funding provided by the School of Plant and Environmental Design.

## Thursday, Mar. 21:

### Radford Photo Club meeting

The Radford Photo Club will meet at 6 p.m. at the Radford Public Library. Members will show slides of photos taken at stations during the February meeting. Also, Michele Borgarelli will show works by Luigi Ghirri, an Italian internationally recognized photographer, and Borgarelli will show his own work taken in Ghirri's style. Food and/or cooking is the theme for the print photo competition. There is also an open competition. The Radford Photo Club is made up of professional and amateur photographers from throughout the New River Valley. Meetings, events, and outings are open to the public. If you have questions about the club, email Lucy Gilmore at [lucyg.gilmore@gmail.com](mailto:lucyg.gilmore@gmail.com) or Michele Borgarelli at [mborgarelli@gmail.com](mailto:mborgarelli@gmail.com).

### Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at American Pie Restaurant, 1041 Floyd Highway North. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to attend. Member Dana Jackson will speak on the "History of the Confederate Veterans Home in Richmond." If Floyd and Montgomery 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.

## Friday, Mar. 22:

### Hahn Horticulture Garden talk

Hydroponics with the Innovative Agriculture Club: Expand your knowledge of hydroponic gardening systems at Innovative Agriculture Club's hydroponics workshop. This student-led event will consist of an introductory presentation about the basics of hydroponics (by club members), a tour of the greenhouse systems with Dr. Kardos, and constructing Kratky systems to take home. There will also be a fundraising raffle for an Aerogarden system. This program is planned and coordinated by the IAC. The talk is at the Hahn Horticulture Garden, 200 Garden Lane, Blacksburg, at 2 p.m. You do not need to register for these talks, just show up and attend. Parking passes for these educational events will be provided by the HHG thanks to supplementary funding provided by the School of Plant and Environmental Design.

## Monday, Mar. 25:

### 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, Mar. 26:

### Blacksburg Town Council meeting

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

### Christiansburg Town Council meeting

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

## Saturday, Mar. 30:

### Easter Egg Hunt

Come join Pilot Community Center for its first annual Easter Egg Hunt; 2 - 3 p.m.! Kids 10 years old and under are invited to search for candy and prize-filled eggs. There will be refreshments for parents and kids of all ages. So come and join in the fun! This event will be held weather permitting. If there is rain or snow, the event will be cancelled and cannot be rescheduled. For more information: Call Brenda Eanes at 540-382-0857.

## On-going:

### NRV Virginia Passenger Rail Survey

The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority is conducting a survey seeking input on planning, designing, and constructing rail infrastructure improvements to extend passenger rail service to the New River Valley. To participate in the survey, please visit <https://form.jotform.com/240044027996054>. For more information on the New River Valley passenger rail expansion, please visit the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority's website at <https://vapassengerrailauthority.org/nrvproject/>.

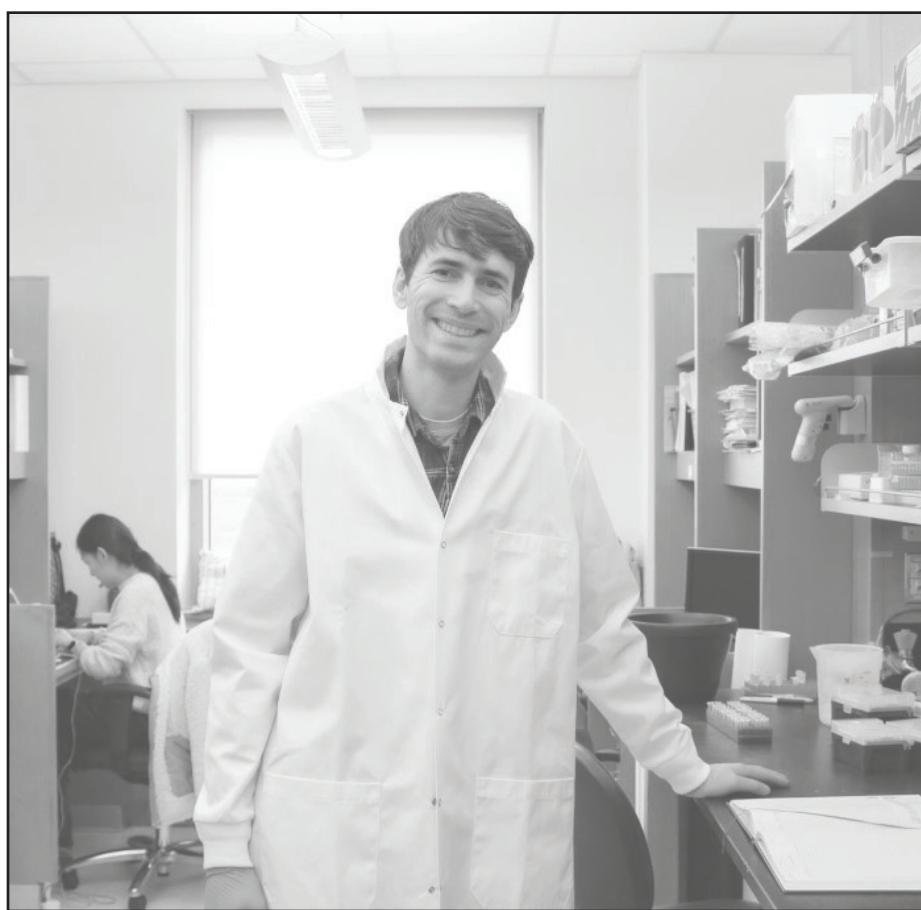


PHOTO BY FELICIA SPENCER FOR VIRGINIA TECH

**Blake Caldwell, a Virginia Tech Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow, has been published in Cell Reports for his epigenetic research.**

## Novel discovery may benefit severe immune conditions

BLACKSBURG - Discovery of a DNA shift in the innate immune memory of cells may aid in the fight against one of humans' most deadly foes — sepsis.

"Sepsis is a really horrible burden, not only in terms of mortality, but also money. It is the most expensive medical condition to treat in the U.S., like \$20 billion a year, which is almost double the next highest," said Blake Caldwell, a Virginia Tech Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow.

The lead author of a study published in Cell Reports, Caldwell and his team demonstrated that changes to the structure and organization of DNA create an exhausted memory state in monocytes, the white blood cells that facilitate immune responses in the body.

"We found there's a critical involvement of DNA methylation in controlling innate immune memory," Caldwell said. DNA methylation is when a small molecule called a methyl group gets added to DNA, proteins or other molecules. "This impacts the capacity of monocytes to remember a past immune challenge and change their behavior in the future."

This exhausted state contributes to most sepsis patients' immune systems remaining critically disabled for months or years after the initial shock is treated.

"This is a very important work that sets a milestone marker for the novel phenomenon of innate immune memory," said Liwu Li, professor of biological sciences and Caldwell's mentor. Li is also an affiliated faculty in the Center for Emerging, Zoonotic, and Anthropod-Borne Pathogens in the Fralin Life Sciences Institute.

The research team also discovered that therapeutic interventions can prevent the DNA change and help the white cells

stay in better fighting shape.

"By adding a drug that blocks the acquisition of DNA methylation, we can change the behavior of these monocytes. We can actually intervene and prevent those DNA methylation changes from occurring," said Caldwell. "We can restore normal monocyte activity, and I think that is what sets this study apart."

Caldwell credits the breakthrough in part to his previous studies and prior research experience.

A 2021 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Caldwell studied epigenetics, the study of stable cell function changes that happen without changes to the DNA sequence, with a focus on DNA methylation. When his current research team began studying the white blood cells' role in immune dysregulation during sepsis, his experience led him to look into the role of epigenetics.

"I just happened to be the right person with the right tool set to answer this question," Caldwell said. "It doesn't often work like that. I was very lucky."

Caldwell's team found that DNA methylation plays a large role in the long-term misbehavior of the white blood cells in sepsis and other severe immune conditions. And by blocking this change from occurring, researchers can right the behavior of the cells, which has implications beyond sepsis alone.

"The things we can cover using sepsis as a model for the innate immune system often apply more broadly because it's the same pathways that are being activated by COVID-19, coronary artery disease, and other severe immune events," Caldwell said. "It's a primitive but highly conserved biological system."

Lindsey Haugh for Virginia Tech

## 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.

*Marble is a happy, energetic pup who is ready to head home. This boy knows commands, including "sit" and "shake." He aims to please when delicious treats are on the line. Marble also enjoys playing with a variety of toys.*



*Tim Bob (pictured) and his twin brother Jim Bob are hoping to go to the same home. These kittens love to play and romp with each other. Hide and Seek is a favorite activity. Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center to meet this dynamic duo.*

## Expo

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The Expo will have a floor full of local, trusted professionals who are available to answer your home care questions, provide you with reliable resources and quick quotes, as well as show you samples of their skills and services. Exhibitors include builders, remodelers, landscape designers, flooring specialists, home product and service providers and more. A full list of exhibitors can be viewed online at [www.nrvhomeexpo.com](http://www.nrvhomeexpo.com).

In addition to meeting exhibitors, attendees can also vote for their favorite LEGO home in the LEGO Home Building Contest and bid on items in the Silent Auction, featuring items such as home fixtures, tools, service gift certificates, sports experiences and more. Online bidding is available. Activities for the kids will also be available on Saturday March 23, including a building station and a construction themed Storytime with Joelle.

The 2024 event will also highlight building trades education and a job center, sponsored by Green Valley Builders. There will be informational materials about

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companies. At their farm in South Carolina, they raised horses and fostered rescue border collies.

With her husband's health declining, Baker entered nursing school at Greenville Technical College, became a registered nurse in 2011, and was able to help care for him. Kimm died in 2014 with Lewy body dementia.

Baker says health "will be a key focus" in her campaign.

"We need improved rural healthcare," she said, "with emphasis on homegrown, community care, support for RN's to become nurse practitioners,

potential construction career paths and from local trades education programs available onsite. In the Job Center booth, available jobs from NRVHBA member companies, along with event exhibitors, will be posted.

The event hours are Saturday, Mar. 23, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. and Sunday, Mar. 24 12 - 5 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults on the day of the event. Children under 18 are free when accompanied by a paying adult. Be sure to look for \$2 off coupons online, in stores, and in your mailboxes. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.nrvhomeexpo.com](http://www.nrvhomeexpo.com). Anyone who purchases their tickets online ahead of the event are automatically entered to win one of many door prizes throughout the weekend.

For more information and updates on the NRV Home Expo, follow us on Facebook, @nrvhomeexpo, or Instagram, @nrvhba, or visit [www.nrvhomeexpo.com](http://www.nrvhomeexpo.com).

*New River Valley Home Builders Association's (NRVHBA)*

comprehensive women's healthcare, and a plan to let our seniors age in their homes."

Baker says she also sees a need in the district for jobs and for skills training, so young people needn't leave the area to find work.

"Any comprehensive plan for job creation also requires a plan to provide broadband for all, more housing, and equity for our public schools," she said.

There's more about her campaign at <https://bakerforva9th.com>.

Staff report



# OBITUARIES

## Agnew, Bennie Leon

Bennie "Ben" Leon Agnew passed away Mar. 11, 2024.

Bennie leaves behind his wife, Carolyn; daughter Sarah Agnew Cochrane, son-in-law John, and a beautiful granddaughter Hannah Cochrane; brother Joe and his wife Teresa; two very special aunts, Madge Agnew Neel (Kenneth) and Ruth Johnston; and many cousins and friends.

He is the son of Henry Lynwood and Eunice Johnston Agnew of Blacksburg. Bennie lived in the Lusters Gate area until he was drafted and



served in the Army. He was in Vietnam between 1968-69 where he served with the Americal (23rd Infantry) Division. Ben's motto was "Proud to have served and Proud

to be an American." Ben was also a life member of VFW Post No. 5311. Ben worked 44 years as a Light Machinist for the company now known as MOOG. After he retired, Ben and his brother Joe started a registered Angus herd on the family farm known as Indian Run Farm in the Lusters Gate area of Blacksburg. Ben's blood ran John Deere yellow and green. Ben was a good man who will be missed by all who knew him. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date.

## Reynolds, Robin Elizabeth

Robin Elizabeth Reynolds, 59, of Blacksburg, passed away peacefully in her home surrounded by her family on Monday, Mar. 11, 2024.

She was born on July 2, 1964, to the late William Osborne Reynolds and Grace Keister Reynolds. She was also preceded in death by her twin sister Aubin Margaret Reynolds and brother-in-law Timothy Wayne Graham.

She was a loving daughter, sister, aunt, great-aunt, and cousin. She enjoyed spending time with her family. She was a very kind, generous, and nurturing person and thought of her niece and nephews as if they were her own children. She was known to all the children as RaRa. She enjoyed gardening, everything Disney, and was always seen wearing her favorite color purple. Robin was a graduate of



Blacksburg High School and worked for Virginia Tech in the Division of Information Technology for over 30 years. She was a lifelong member of Luther Memorial Lutheran Church.

She is survived by her two sisters, Tammy Reynolds Graham of Newport, Va., Jan Reynolds Gilbertson (Phil) of Blacksburg; niece Whitney Akers (Justin) of Christiansburg; nephews Dalton Graham, Dillon Graham (Alyssa), and Drew Graham (Lynsey) of Newport;

and great-nephews Connor Akers, Sawyer Akers, and Kayne Graham. She is also survived by her aunt, Polly McFarlane of Roanoke; special cousin Beth W. Fife of Myrtle Beach, S.C.; and numerous other cousins. Special thanks to Carilion Hospice for all their care and support.

A funeral service was conducted Friday Mar. 15, 2024, at the Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Blacksburg, with Bill King officiating. Interment followed the service at Roselawn Memorial Gardens. The family received friends Thursday, Mar. 14, 2024 at McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg. In lieu of flowers, Memorial Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or to the Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, 600 Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060.

## Mullens Jr., Benny Carl

Benny Carl Mullens Jr., 47, of Christiansburg, died Thursday, Mar. 14, 2024 at Carilion NRV Medical Center.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Karen L. Quesenberry. He is survived by parents, Benny and Sandra Mullens; sister and brother-in-law Theresa and Joe Hagy; brother-in-law Randy Quesenberry; niece Amelia Bainbridge; nephew Shaun Hagy; and



fiancé Cortney Atkins and family. Special

thanks to Donna Epperly, Shenandoah Brown, Allen Gibson, the CCU Unit at CRNV Medical Center and many friends.

Graveside services were held at 11:15 a.m., Monday, Mar. 18, 2024 at the Westview Cemetery, Blacksburg. The family received friends Monday morning prior to the service at McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Dr. SW, Blacksburg.

## Woolwine, Joseph Leroy

Joseph Leroy Woolwine, 86, of Shawsville, went to his heavenly home Wednesday, Mar. 13, 2024.

He was born at home in Christiansburg on Mar. 3, 1938, to the late Rev. Charlie and Kathleen Woolwine. He was preceded in death by his brothers, Donald and Mike Woolwine, and grandson Bryan Woolwine. He was married to Patricia (Patty) Wells Woolwine for 65 years before she passed in 2021.

He was remarried to Maxine Dudley Woolwine from Christiansburg, and they lived in Shawsville. Leroy was a graduate of Christiansburg High School class of 1955. He loved his family and enjoyed taking them on vacations. He was a member of the Elliston Church of God for many years and helped build the



current church in Elliston. He was also a Superintendent, Sunday school teacher, and served on the building committee. He was also blessed by Pastors Ronnie Duncan and Eddie Booth in Elliston.

He is survived by his brother Luther Woolwine and his wife Blondene; his daughter, Cynthia (Cindy) Crockett, her husband Russell; two sons, Charles (Chuck) Woolwine and his wife Karen, and Timothy (Tim) Woolwine. Grandchildren include

Angela Dawn, Cody, Andrew and Ryleigh Woolwine and one great-grandchild Lane Dehaven Woolwine. He had many nieces, nephews, brothers and sisters-in-law that he loved dearly.

Leroy worked for Noland Company for 45 years until he retired. He was a kind, gentle, and personable man to everyone he met. He was also known for his generosity and caring in the community and his business contacts. He was always helping others in any way that he could.

Visitation was held at McCoy Funeral Home in Blacksburg Monday, Mar. 18. Funeral services were held Tuesday, Mar. 19 at McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Ronnie Duncan officiating. Graveside service followed at Roselawn Cemetery in Christiansburg.

## Simpkins, Cora Kathleen (Ballard)

Cora Kathleen (Ballard) Simpkins, of Blacksburg, passed away Mar. 14, 2024 at the age of 96.

She was born to Roland Ballard and Mabel (Copeland) Ballard on Nov. 26, 1927 in Monroe County, West Virginia. Cora was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph Simpkins; infant son, Charles Simpkins; her grandson, Michael Perry; and her six brothers Paul, Thomas, Dewey, John, an infant brother, and Homer Ballard. She is survived by her daughter, Hilda (Simpkins) Roberts of Blacksburg; her son-in-law Tal Roberts of Christiansburg; her grandsons David Perry, his wife, Kelly, their two sons, Kevin and Seth Perry of Roanoke; and Jonathan Roberts and his fiancé Kristin McCord of Christiansburg; her sister Elizabeth (Ballard) Hall of Union, West

Virginia; and her sister-in-law Madilyn Ballard of Greenville, West Virginia. She also leaves behind many cherished nieces, nephews, and their children.

She was known as Cora to those she worked with for many years at Poly-Scientific in Blacksburg. Her grandsons and great-grandsons called her "Granny", or simply "G", and others knew her as Kathleen. She graduated from Union High School in West Virginia and then married Ralph Simpkins in 1947, after his service in the Navy during World War II.

She was a longtime member of Rock Camp Missionary Baptist Church and attended services for many years at Northside Presbyterian Church in Blacksburg. Kathleen enjoyed visiting with her many friends and family in West Virginia and at her home in Blacksburg.

She enjoyed tending her flowers, feeding the birds, and loved cooking for anyone and everyone—especially around the holidays. She spent her time learning about West Virginia history and geography, scarcely forgot a birthday or anniversary, and had an encyclopedic knowledge of the genealogy of both her and Ralph's families. She kept everything, except what she didn't.

Kathleen was laid to rest beside her husband Ralph at the Ellison Cemetery in Rock Camp, West Virginia on Monday, Mar. 18, 2024. The graveside service was officiated by Pastor Paul Broyles, Sr., of the Rock Camp Missionary Baptist Church. Fellowship followed at the church—21 Old School Rd., Lindside, WV 24951. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the church's building fund.

## Icons from page 1

important music that was a radio staple from the 1970s through the 1990s and beyond," he said.

While popular music will no doubt continue to change and evolve, having that understanding gives them a competitive framework and since of value for music produced before they were born.

One of those students is senior Anthony Del Grosso from Washington, Va. An accomplished guitarist, Del Grosso is also a member of Radford's Guitar Ensemble and a Music Performance major. Del Grosso says that playing the part of Andy Summers, the Police's six-stringer, requires an appreciation for the uniqueness of the artist.

"Andy Summers is tasteful in his playing," Del Grosso said. "He knows when to stand out and when to stand back as he carefully navigates the Police's classic songs."

Del Grosso says that playing in Summers' style requires specialized practice exercises.

"Much of the guitar work of Andy Summers requires large stretches with the left hand as well as continuous barring, which is typically avoided as much as possible in guitar repertoire. This created the need for me to strengthen my left hand."

Remarkably, Del Grosso's study of classical guitar led

him to just the source for this.

"The perfect place to find this strength training?" he asked rhetorically. "The technical exercises written by Francisco Tarrega in the late 19th century."

The bass player is Maddy Nase, a junior Anthropological Sciences major and Music Business minor from Harleysville, Pa. The music ensembles at Radford are open to all students and she's found the CME to be a way to maintain a lifelong love for music and performance.

"I grew up listening to the Police but hadn't familiarized myself with a lot of their songs on bass guitar, so it was a great experience to learn all of the music as a group," she said.

"It has given me a new appreciation for all the detail and complexity that went into the compositions."

Nase says Sting's bass style is demanding, but fun to play.

"I think it's interesting the different techniques and tones that he plays with," Nase said. "I especially enjoy the tone on 'Message in a Bottle' because it adds to the anguished feel of the entire song."

Sam Slaughter, a sophomore from Christiansburg in Business Management, has the job of filling Stewart

Copeland's shoes. Copeland, whose unique style blends rock and reggae with Middle Eastern and African rhythms, is typically ranked in the top 10 rock drummers of all time.

Slaughter has found Copeland's creativity and variation from song-to-song inspiring.

"Stewart Copeland has a very spontaneous style of drumming, and he never does things the same way twice," Slaughter explained. "He is so all over the place."

Slaughter says he was a Police fan before, but like Nase, he has a new appreciation for the music as a performer.

"Spending this much time on it has kind of re-wired my own drumming to be more free or wild."

In addition to the music, the Rock Icons: Sting and the Police concert will feature trivia and flashback video before the show and between sets and Professor Rivers promises a moving and timely performance of Sting's Cold War plea for international sanity, "Russians."

The show will take place in Davis Performance Hall located in the Covington Center at the corner of East Main and Jefferson Street on Radford's main campus.

The show will begin at 7:30 p.m. with seating opening up at 7:15. The concert is free and open to the public. Tickets will be distributed at the door.

## Camp Invention coming to Radford University Summer STEM camp makes innovation fun

RADFORD — Camp Invention, a nationally recognized, nonprofit summer enrichment camp program, is coming to Radford University the week of June 17.

A program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame in partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Camp Invention challenges children in grades K-six to tap into their natural curiosity and use their creativity to solve problems. Through hands-on activities, Camp Invention promotes STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) learning; builds confidence, leadership, perseverance and resourcefulness; and encourages entrepreneurship — all in a fun and engaging environment.

Each year, the program features a new curriculum inspired by some of our nation's most world-changing inventors — the National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees. This year's Illuminate program encourages children to be confident in their ideas and explore their innovativeness through hands-on experiences including:

Let's Glow: Creativity radiates as campers uncover the science of light through illuminating inventions and glowing animals.

Prototyping Studio: Children star as contestants on a game show where they mold, shape and transform their ideas into amazing inventions.

In the Game: As campers create their own light-up



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAMP INVENTION

**Creativity radiates as campers uncover the science of light through illuminating inventions and glowing animals.**

game board, they team up to tackle athletics, design, business and invention.

Operation: HydroDrop: Children embark on a global operation to help solve water challenges around the world.

All local Camp Invention programs are facilitated and taught by qualified educators who reside and teach in the community. Camp Invention serves 118,000 students every year and partners with more than 2,200 schools and districts across the nation. For more information or to register, visit [invent.org/camp](http://invent.org/camp).

*Camp Invention*



### JOB VACANCY

**Seeking a Full-time Radiologic Technologist** for a position at the Craig County Health Center in New Castle, Virginia. This position requires current Rad Tech License. At a minimum 1 year experience, experience with electronic health records, great communication skills, ability to establish a good rapport with patients and staff. Clinic hours are Monday through Friday 8am to 4:30 pm. No Weekends. Benefits include, Retirement Plan, Health Insurance, Disability Insurance, 11 Paid Holidays, Paid Time Off, Radiologic Technologist License renewal reimbursement.

Candidates should send a current resume along with a completed employment application to Monroe Health Center, Attn: Stephanie Aliff, HR Director, P. O. Box 590, Union, WV 24983. We value diversity in backgrounds and experiences. Monroe Health Center is an equal opportunity employer. Learn more about us, visit [www.monrohealthcenters.com](http://www.monrohealthcenters.com)



# OPINION

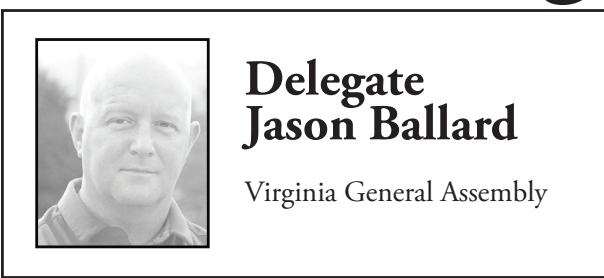
## State budget heads to the governor's desk

Last week, the Virginia General Assembly gaveled out of the 2024 legislative session, officially adjourning on Saturday, Mar. 9 after much debate on the Commonwealth's budget put forth by House and Senate Democrats.

Governor Glenn Youngkin provided the General Assembly a responsible budget that was supposed to be the framework by which the Democratic-controlled Appropriations Committees worked toward the shared priorities of all Virginians. Instead, the product presented by Democrats to the General Assembly was stripped of tax breaks and meaningful public safety spending, and it substituted those items for others on the left's wish list. It was a disappointing development, and it's why I joined the majority of my Republican colleagues in voting against the budget.

First, the budget contains a tax hike of more than \$2 billion over the course of two years – with no offsetting tax breaks – in the form of new sales taxes on digital goods and services. This means that the online subscriptions most of us have come to enjoy and rely on, such as video-streaming, downloads, cloud storage, and other services may soon be getting more expensive. This is particularly tone-deaf when the cost of living continues to rise with inflation.

The budget also reintroduces Virginia to the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), which is a multistate compact of mostly northeastern states that seeks to limit – and eventually eliminate – all electricity generation that is not produced by so-called renewable



**Delegate Jason Ballard**

Virginia General Assembly

energy sources. While solar and wind power certainly have a place in production of electricity, it is baffling that Democrats continue to believe that Virginia's energy needs can be met by these sources alone while making our current energy sources less available and more expensive. All the while, our household energy bills continue to rise due in part to these arbitrary limitations.

Alarming, the Commonwealth's budget makes harmful cuts to public safety by eliminating funding to recruit law enforcement and cutting funding for school security, and it also allows for the early release of violent criminals. The Youngkin administration has worked for the last two years on Operation Bold Blue Line to recruit law enforcement officers back to the job. The budget passed by General Assembly Democrats cuts \$18 million in funding to recruit law enforcement officers. This is in addition to \$10 million in cuts in funding for critical school resources officers that keep our students safe in school. Perhaps most mind-boggling is budget

language that would allow over 8,000 inmates to have their sentences reduced, 99% of which have been convicted of a violent felony (to include murder, rape, and sex offenders). I could not be in good conscience vote for a budget that makes Virginia less safe.

The Commonwealth's budget is the preeminent barometer of the state's priorities, both philosophically and pragmatically. Not all is bad; the budget contains – and I do support – raises for teachers and law enforcement. These are items that I will fight hard to keep in the final budget product. But when taken as a whole, Virginians don't want to return to an era of increased tax burden, reduced public safety, and higher energy costs. The passed-budget will now be considered by Governor Youngkin, who will offer line item amendments or vetoes to any portion of it. The General Assembly will reconvene in mid-April to vote on the Governor's recommendations, and it is my sincere hope that House and Senate Democrats seriously consider tax relief for Virginians while responsibly investing in the core functions of government.

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.

## Virginia gas prices 15 cents higher per gallon than last year

Average gasoline prices in Virginia have risen 13.6 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.37/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia.

Prices in Virginia are 14.0 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 15.5 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has declined 2.2 cents in the last week and stands at \$4.00 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$2.85/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$4.49/g, a difference of \$1.64/g.

The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.85/g while the highest was \$4.49/g, a difference of \$1.64/g.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 4.4 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.44/g today. The national average is up 18.7 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 1.6 cents per gallon higher 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:

- March 18, 2023: \$3.22/g (U.S. Average: \$3.43/g)
- March 18, 2022: \$4.13/g (U.S. Average: \$4.27/g)
- March 18, 2021: \$2.77/g (U.S. Average: \$2.87/g)
- March 18, 2020: \$2.05/g (U.S. Average: \$2.16/g)
- March 18, 2019: \$2.38/g (U.S. Average: \$2.56/g)
- March 18, 2018: \$2.37/g (U.S. Average: \$2.54/g)
- March 18, 2017: \$2.09/g (U.S. Average: \$2.29/g)
- March 18, 2016: \$1.82/g (U.S. Average: \$1.98/g)
- March 18, 2015: \$2.25/g (U.S. Average: \$2.42/g)
- March 18, 2014: \$3.32/g (U.S. Average: \$3.52/g)

Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:  
Roanoke- \$3.32/g, up 15.2 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.17/g.

Richmond- \$3.37/g, up 14.0 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.23/g.

West Virginia- \$3.27/g, up 0.9 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.26/g.

"Most Americans continued to see average gasoline prices march higher last week. The reason is the season: gasoline demand is rising as more Americans are getting out, combined with the summer gasoline switchover, which is well underway, and continued refinery maintenance," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "The madness should slow down in the next few weeks as we've seen positive data that refinery output is starting to increase, a sign that the peak of maintenance season could be behind us. In some positive news for Midwest motorists, the bp refinery in Whiting, Indiana that can process 440,000 barrels of oil per day is finally back to normal operations for the first time since an electrical failure happened in early February. For now, gas prices will likely continue to trend higher, but the fever may break soon. When it comes to diesel, the news has been good - above average temperatures have lowered heating oil demand, and average diesel prices are on the cusp of falling back below \$4 per gallon."

GasBuddy

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Aila Boyd, *Executive Editor*..... aboyd@ourvalley.org  
Wendi Craig, *Advertising Consultant*..... advertise@ourvalley.org

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## AARP Virginia fraud alert: Fraud in 2023 by the numbers

The numbers are in and last year was yet another historic year for fraud.

The Federal Trade Commission released its annual compendium of fraud reports from 2023, and the news is shocking. For the first time ever reported theft through fraud topped \$10 billion. The total is 14% higher than what was reported in 2022 and five times greater than the reported losses in 2019. Key takeaways from the report include:  
More money, \$4.6 billion, was stolen through investment

scams than any other type of fraud. Many investment scams were tied to cryptocurrency where consumers reported \$1.4 billion stolen. The most frequently reported scams were impostor scams, where the criminal pretends to be a person, company or government agency you trust. The average victim of an impostor scam had a staggering \$7,000 stolen from them, according to the report. Lastly, the most popular method for criminals to reach their victims in 2023 was email, surpassing text messages and

phone calls which led in previous years.

While all these numbers are eye-opening the sad reality is that we are only seeing the tip of the iceberg because the vast majority of fraud goes unreported.

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.

AARP Virginia

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10		
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- CLUES ACROSS**
- One who regrets
  - Time zone
  - Subway dweller
  - Bend in a river
  - Alias
  - Isodor \_\_, American Nobel physicist
  - Very (music)
  - Zero
  - Phil \_\_, former CIA
  - Competitions
  - Unwell
  - Puts in place
  - Gets rid of
  - Allows light to pass through
  - Climbed quickly
  - We all have it
  - There's a North & South
  - Emaciation
  - Supervises flying
- CLUES DOWN**
- Computer memory
  - "Et \_\_": "And wife" (Latin)
  - Ancient Syrian city
  - College army
  - Very dark colors
  - Unwanted
  - Grants
  - Three visited Jesus
  - Wife of Amun
  - Broadway actress Daisy
  - A Spanish river
  - 1 (German)
  - French opera composer
  - Six (Spanish)
  - Last letter
  - Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
  - A curved shape
  - Make a mistake
  - Tall plant
  - Cassava
  - Talented
  - Capital of Estonia
  - Finger millet
  - In a way, assists
  - Men's fashion accessories
  - Misery
  - Skin disorder
  - Selling at specially reduced prices
  - Good friend
  - Stationary portion of a generator
  - Expression of disappointment
  - The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet
  - Where birds fly
  - Midway between north and northeast
  - Chaotic states
  - Comedic actress Gasteyer
  - Kids' dining accessory
  - Snakelike fish
  - Midway between south and southeast
  - Assign lifelike qualities to
  - One who cites
  - Midway between east and southeast
  - North wind
  - One or the other
  - Cavalry sword
  - Of the Hungarian language
  - Life stories
  - Flat tableland with steep edges
  - Swiss river
  - Plant that makes gum
  - French cleric
  - One point east of northeast
  - Free from

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### Auctions

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

The contents of the listed unit will be sold at Public Auction March 22, 2024 at 11am at 1st Security Self Storage 5 Midway Plaza Dr. Christiansburg, VA. E54 F28

1st Security reserves the right to refuse any bid. Terms: CASH OR CREDIT CARD AT SALE.

### Autos - Cars

#### 1986 Monte Carlo SS

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### miscellaneous



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### Legals - Botetourt County

#### ABC NOTICE

15 PEAKS LLC, trading as 15 PEAKS, 5053 GLADE CREEK RD. ROANOKE VA 24012.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a FARM WINERY license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

MEGAN SEIBEL, MANAGER

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

#### ABC NOTICE

Sunset Grille at Ashley Plantation Inc. trading as Sunset Grille and Catering, 2414 Country Club Rd., Troutville, VA. 24175-3920

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Retail On and Office Premise Wine, Beer, and Mixed Beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Donald Sutliff, Owner

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

#### ABC NOTICE

ICHIBAN STEAKHOUSE & SUSHI BAR DALEVILLE LLC., trading as ICHIBAN STEAKHOUSE & SUSHI BAR DALEVILLE, 470 Roanoke Road, Daleville, Botetourt County, Virginia, 24083-3020

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Retail Wine, Beer, Mixed Beverage On and OFF Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Qiang Jiang, Owner

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

### Legals - Botetourt County

#### Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104 Case No. **CL23-522** VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA, a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Complainant, V. ELSIE E. EDWARDS, ET AL, Respondent(s).

The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Botetourt, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Botetourt, Virginia, described as follows:

Tax Map No. 109-220D Account No. 16274 All that certain lot, piece, or parcel of real property, lying and being situate in Botetourt County, Virginia and being more particularly described as follows, to-wit: BEGINNING at an iron pin at the northeasterly corner of 1.22-acre tract now or formerly of Henry V. Edwards on the southerly line now or formerly of V. G. Ferris property; thence with the line of Ferris property, S. 66° 13' 20" E. 170.54 feet to a point; thence with two new division lines through the property now or formerly of Gordon Lee Edwards property, S. 32° 01' 10" W. 200.79 feet to a point; thence N. 66° 13' " W. 170.54 feet to an iron at the southeasterly corner of the Henry V. Edwards property; thence with the line of same, N. 32° 01' 10" E. 200.79 feet to the BEGINNING and containing 0.778 acres and being designated as Tract "C" on map platted from records by T. P. Parker & Son, Engineers and Surveyors, Ltd. dated December 22, 1986.

And being a portion of the real property conveyed to Gordon L. Edwards and Elsie D. Edwards, husband and wife, as tenants by the entirety from Henry V. Edwards and Linda R. Edwards, divorced, by Deed dated February 18, 1993 and recorded April 1, 1993 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia in Deed Book 429 at Page 625.

This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described including but not limited to those recorded in Deed Book 274 at Page 265.

Tax Map No. 109-220B Account No. 16272

All that certain lot, piece, or parcel of real property, lying and being situate in Botetourt County, Virginia and being more particularly described as follows, to-wit: BEGINNING at an iron pin on the northwest corner of the property now or formerly owned by Gordon Lee Edwards and Elsie D. Edwards, corner to property now or formerly of V. G. Ferris and N and W Railway Co. right-of-way; thence S. 66° 13' 20" E. 325 feet to an iron pin; thence S. 32° 01' 10" W. 200.79 feet to an iron pin; thence N. 52° 52' 10" W. 335.41 feet to an iron pin; thence N. 37° 44' E. 124.94 feet to the place of beginning and being Tract "A" and containing 1.222 acres, more or less, all as shown on plat of survey by John T. Parker, C. L. S., dated November 3, 1981, a copy of which is of record in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia in Deed Book 274 at Page 263.

And being a portion of the real property conveyed to Gordon L. Edwards and Elsie D. Edwards, husband and wife, as tenants by the entirety from Henry V. Edwards and Linda R. Edwards, divorced, by Deed dated February 18, 1993 and recorded April 1, 1993 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia in Deed Book 429 at Page 625. This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described including but not limited to those recorded in Deed Book 274 at Page 265.

IT APPEARING that an Affidavit has been made

### Legals - Botetourt County

and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served, that the last known addresses for the respondents herein are as follows: Gordon L. Edwards, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is c/o Henry Edwards 164 Wandas Lane, Dante, Virginia 24237-7102; Elsie E. Edwards, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is c/o Henry Edwards, 164 Wandas Lane, Dante, Virginia 24237-7102; Wanda Edwards Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Daniel Moore, whose last known address is unknown; Kevin Moore, whose last known address is 71 Lois Lane, Roanoke, Virginia 24019; Mary Lou Edwards Arnold, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Darrell Arnold, whose last known address is 3228 Plantation Road NE, Roanoke, Virginia 24012; Birchie Dawn Bowman, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Donnie Vest, whose last known address is 4333 Electric Road, Apt 2, Roanoke, Virginia 24018; Barry Vest Jr., whose last known address is 2577 Volunteer Pkwy, Apt 1, Bristol, Tennessee 37620; Stephen Gilmore Vest, whose last known address is unknown; Jasmine Bowman a/k/a Jasmine Bowman Vest, whose last known address is 2631 Durham Street NW, Roanoke, Virginia 24012; Melinda Arnold Froelicher, whose last known address is 725 Murray Avenue, Roanoke, Virginia 24013; Christopher Arnold, whose last known address is unknown; Eric Leon Edwards, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Henry V. Edwards, whose last known address is 164 Wandas Lane, Dante, Virginia 24237; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the Respondent named herein are made parties Respondent to this action individually and/or by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained appear on or before April 12, 2024 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Botetourt, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.

#### I Ask For This:

Seth R. Konopasek, Esq. (VSB No. 97065) John A. Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805) Jeffrey A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591) Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409) Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372) Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609) Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158) Garrett W. Patton, Esq. (VSB No. 98345) Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC P.O. Box 31800, Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800 Phone: (804) 864-0080 Facsimile: (804) 545-2378 TACS No.: 924036

Entered on the 5th day of March, 2024. The Honorable Tommy L. Moore, Clerk

### Legals - City of Radford

#### TRUSTEES SALE

#### PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN: West Ward of the City of Radford, Virginia Containing 0.2479 acres, more or less

Commonly Known as: 1002 West Main Street, Radford, Virginia

IN EXECUTION OF A CERTAIN DEED OF TRUST OF RECORD IN THE CLERKS OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF RADFORD CITY, VIRGINIA, AS INSTRUMENT NO. 201100838, DATED AUGUST 29, 2011, WHEREAS, BY DEED OF BARGAIN AND SALE AND ASSUMPTION DATED SEPTEMBER 1, 2016, RECORDED IN THE AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE AS INSTRUMENT

### Legals - City of Radford

NO: 201600804 THE DEED OF TRUST WAS ASSUMED BY MARK BROOKNER. DEFAULT HAVING BEEN MADE IN THE PAYMENT OF THE DEBT THEREIN SECURED AND BEING REQUIRED TO DO SO BY THE NOTEHOLDER, THE UNDERSIGNED, THE UNDERSIGNED SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, AFTER GIVING FOURTEEN (14) DAYS DUE NOTICE TO THE OWNERS OF THE REAL ESTATE OF THE DATE, TIME, PLACE AND TERMS OF SALE, WILL OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION, IN FRONT OF THE RADFORD CITY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 619 SECOND STREET, RADFORD, VIRGINIA, ON THE 29 th DAY OF MARCH, 2024, AT 10:00 A.M., THE REAL ESTATE WITH IMPROVEMENTS THEREON KNOWN AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

All that certain tracts or parcels of land, with the improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate, lying and being in the City of Radford, Virginia, and described as follows: BEING all of Lots 28 and 29, part of Lots 27, 30, 34, 35, Section 1, Plan C, Radford Land and Improvement Company Lots, containing 0.2479 acres (10,800 sq. ft.), as designated and described on a plat of survey entitled, Physical Survey Lots 28, 29 and Part of Lots 27, 30, 34, 35 Section 1, Plan C Radford Land and Improvement Co. West Ward City of Radford, Virginia for Ronald R. Sowers", dated August 23, 2011, Job No. 565811, by James Conrad Groseclose, II, Land Surveyor, Mathews and Henegar Inc., professional engineers and land surveyors, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof and reference is hereby made to said plat of survey for a more accurate description of the property herein conveyed.

Tax Map Number: 13-(5)-SEC 1-27A-28-29-30A-34A+

Account Number: 020000684.

Commonly Known As: 1002 West Main Street, Radford, Virginia

SALE WILL BE MADE SUBJECT TO ALL EXISTING EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS AS THE SAME MAY LAWFULLY AFFECT THE REAL ESTATE. TERMS OF SALE: CASH, SETTLEMENT WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF SALE. A BIDDERS DEPOSIT OF TEN PERCENT (10%) MAY BE REQUIRED.

PLACE OF SALE: FRONT OF RADFORD CITY COURTHOUSE, AT 619 SECOND STREET, RADFORD, VIRGINIA

DATE OF SALE: MARCH 29, 2024 TIME OF SALE: 10:00 A.M.

Daniel D. Hamrick, PC Substitute Trustee

By: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent For Daniel D. Hamrick, PC

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent Daniel D. Hamrick, P.C. 104 South Franklin Street Christiansburg, VA 24073 (540) 382-0131

### Legals - City of Salem

#### Notice is hereby given

to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, March 25, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1. Consider the request of E3MAG LLC, property owner, for rezoning the property located at 744 Electric Road (Tax Map #

### Legals - City of Salem

155 - 2 - 2.2) from HBD Highway Business District to HM Heavy Manufacturing District.

2. Consider the request of Pinkesh R. Patel and Sonal P. Patel, property owners, for rezoning the property located at 1200 block Thompson Memorial Drive (Tax Map # 20 - 2 - 4) from RSF Residential Single-Family District to HBD Highway Business District.

If approved, Salem City Council intends to adopt the ordinance(s) associated with the above item(s) on first reading, with a second reading of those ordinance(s) at a subsequent meeting.

Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia.

At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY: H. Robert Light Clerk of Council

### 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 March 27, 2024, 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 Carol Grimes, property owner, for a variance from Section 106-202.3(B)(1) of the City of Salem Zoning Ordinance pertaining to site development regulations, for the property located at 2933 Phillips Brook Lane, Tax Map # 290-1-3.9. The petitioner is requesting a 4 foot rear yard setback variance to allow the construction of a 12 x 16 sunroom addition. Section 106-202.3(B)(1) states that the rear yard setback for the principal structure in the RSF Residential Single Family zoning district is 25 feet.

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 3753032). THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM: Mary Ellen H. Wines, CZA, CFM Planning & Zoning Administrator

### Legals - Montgomery County

#### Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104 Case No. **CL23001822-00** MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re BRENDA MARIE BRIDGES v. SCOTT THOMAS BRIDGES

The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that SCOTT THOMAS BRIDGES appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MAY 8TH, 2024.

Signed March 5, 2024 Robert M.D. Turk, Judge

#### Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104 Case No. **CL24000402-00** MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re JOHANNA RENEE PHILLIPS v. MICHAEL DWAYNE PHILLIPS.

### Legals - Montgomery County

The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that MICHAEL DWAYNE PHILLIPS appear at the above-named court and

### Legals - Montgomery County

protect his/her interests on or before MAY 15, 2024. MARCH 13, 2024 Robert M.D. Turk, Judge

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# RADFORD SPORTS

## Hokie ladies to host Big Dance opener

**Marty Gordon**

*NRV@sports@ourvalley.org*

Virginia Tech's women's basketball team is back in the Big Dance and will be the number four seed in the Portland bracket.

Despite the western bracket finals, Tech will host two first round games if they win. In the first game, the Hokies face Marshall. From there, they could face Baylor in Round two also in Blacksburg.

A total of eight teams from the ACC were named to the tournament.

In Regional Three (Portland), Virginia Tech, a No. 4 seed, will play host to No. 13-seeded Marshall, while the other matchup in Blacksburg will be No. 5-seeded Baylor versus No. 12-seeded Vanderbilt/Columbia.

Coach Kenny Brooks is glad to be playing at home for the first contest and maybe the second.

"I thought our body was work was worth a Fourth Seed and it's great to be back in the Cassell," he said during a video chat, following the tournament announcement.

Brooks admitted he was nervous, but he is so glad to play in front of the home crowd once again.

The Lady Hokies have the fourth longest home win streak in the nation. Hosting first and second round games in Blacksburg would be the second straight year and third time in program history.

Because Cassell Coliseum is designated as a neutral site by the NCAA, ticketing guidelines must follow NCAA processes and protocols.

Tickets will be available for purchase beginning on Monday, March 18, and will be available per session or for all sessions at once. All session adult tickets will be \$50, and all session youth tickets will be \$20. Individual session tickets will be \$25 for adults and \$10 for youth (under 18). All seating (excluding the student section) will be reserved.

The question remains is whether Tech will have its three-time ACC player of the year, Liz Kitley, back in the lineup. The head of the women's selection committee told national reporters, injuries like Kitley's did come into play for the final seeding.

Tech has kept information on her injury close to the vest and has not said

anything in the past two weeks.

Typically, the university holds a watch party for the tournament seeding announcement. Not this year. Instead, the team held its own gathering without fans nor the media.

There had been some speculation that was because of Kitley's questionable availability and the silence on her injury.

Brooks said her availability is still up in the air.

"This week will definitely determine that (if she will play)."

He said his senior's long-term health is the most important thing at this point.

The exact injury is still not known.

Brooks would not rule out her appearance this week as the first game will be on Friday.

Marshall earned the Sun Belt Conference Championship with a thrilling 95-92 overtime win over James Madison.

With the win, Marshall will make its first trip to the NCAA Tournament since 1997 after earning the Sun Belt Conference's automatic bid.

It continues a record-setting year for Marshall, who is now 26-6 in the first season under head coach Kim Caldwell.

"I can't really even describe it!" Caldwell said. "They worked their tails off. The ball was not going in and they found a way to get it done. That sums up what this team has been about from the very beginning. It's been heart, it's been heart, it's been heart. We've been thrown some tough breaks, but they've always found a way to get it done."

The Herd got huge efforts out of several different players to lead to the victory. Meredith Maier notched team-highs of 20 points and seven rebounds while Aislynn Hayes added 19 points. Breanna Campbell added 15 points while Abby Beeman notched a double-double with 10 points and 11 assists and Mahogany Matthews added 10 points and five blocks.

Marshall forced James Madison into 39 turnovers, which led to 48 of the Herd's 95 points in the contest. The Herd also grabbed 33 offensive rebounds against the nation's top defensive rebounding team, which also led to 25 second-chance points that helped offset a tough shooting performance.

Baylor (24-7) will face the winner of



PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

Vanderbilt (22-9) and Columbia (23-6), who have the play-in game for the No. 12 seed, in Blacksburg.

Baylor is making its 20th-straight NCAA Tournament appearance and 22nd appearance overall. The Bears are 55-18 all-time in the Big Dance and have made 15 trips to the Sweet 16. Baylor's 20th-consecutive appearance is the fourth-longest active streak in the country behind Tennessee (42), Stanford (36) and UConn (35).

For most of the season, Baylor was in the Top 20 but lost in their conference quarters to Iowa State.

Baylor women's basketball had four individuals recognized with postseason honors on Tuesday, highlighted by Sarah Andrews' selection to the All-Big 12 Second Team.

Alongside Andrews, Aijha Blackwell, Dre'Una Edwards and Darianna Littlepage-Buggs each earned an all-conference honorable mention.

For the third time in her career, Andrews received an all-conference nod with a selection to the All-Big 12 Second Team. The senior guard is averaging 9.8 points per game in league play while averaging a team-high 30 minutes per game. Andrews was one of 10 finalists for the Nancy Lieberman Award Watch List, and she eclipsed 1,000 career points earlier this season. The Irving, Texas, native turned in her second-career double-double in a win over UCF, and she has reached double-figure scoring in nine conference contests this year.

Blackwell earned her first career Big 12 postseason honor after missing a majority of last season due to injury. She has made 22 starts in 27 appearances, starting all but four conference games. With her fourth rebound at Houston, she reached 1,000 rebounds in her career, and she has turned in a team-best 11 double-figure rebounding performances this season.

Earlier in the week, the Charlotte Sports Foundation (CSF) and Ally Financial Inc. announced the lineup for the 2024 Ally Tipoff. This year's event is scheduled for Sunday, November 10, 2024, at the Spectrum Center in Charlotte and will be a doubleheader, featuring #1 South Carolina taking on #11 NC State and a rematch of last year's game with #2 Iowa and #13 Virginia Tech.

Last year's meeting of Iowa and Virginia Tech was unforgettable with Iowa winning 80-76. The game featured superstar Caitlin Clark leading the Hawkeyes with 44 points and Georgia Amoore pacing the Hokies with 31 points, including a half court buzzer beater.

As much of a success the game was on the court, it equaled that success off the court as well. The game set a record with an attendance of 15,196, which is the largest regular season women's basketball game in North Carolina history. Also, last year's game averaged 548,000 viewers, which at the time was the most-viewed regular season women's college basketball game on ESPN2 since 2017.

## Hokie men face Richmond in NIT

**Marty Gordon**

*NRV@sports@ourvalley.org*

Virginia Tech will be the number three seed in this week's National Invitational Tournament (NIT), and they face 23-9 Richmond team.

The contest is slated for 9 p.m., and results will not be available until after press time.

Things have changed with the selection of teams for the tournament. No longer does a regular season champion from conferences receive automatic bids. Now, the top two non-NCAA tournament teams in the Power Six conferences were given an automatic bid.

Several schools like St. John's and Coach Rick Pitino said no to the NIT bid. Pitt and Indiana also said no.

The Hokies (18-14) will face the Spiders (23-9) for the 109th time in program history. Tech leads the all-time series, 69-39. Richmond won the Atlantic 10 Conference regular-season championship and will be making its first trip to Blacksburg for a regular-season matchup against Tech since Jan. 14, 2009. The winner between VT and Richmond will advance to play the Ohio State-Cornell winner on March 23 or 24 at the site of the higher seed.

Tech has compiled a 25-12 record in the tournament, which it has won twice (1973 and 1995). This week will mark the 15th

time the Hokies competes in the NIT.

After leading Richmond men's basketball to a regular season title and No. 1 seed in last week's A-10 Championship, Coach Chris Mooney, Jordan King, Dji Bailey, and Neal Quinn have all received end-of-season Atlantic 10 awards, the conference announced Tuesday. Mooney is the A-10 Coach of the Year, while King is the A-10 Co-Player of the Year, a First Team All-Conference selection, and an All-Academic selection. Bailey shared the A-10's Most Improved Player Award, and Quinn was named Second Team All-Conference.

Mooney's A-10 Coach of the Year award is his first in his 19 seasons at Richmond. Faced with as many newcomers (eight) and as few returning starters (one) as in any of his previous 18 seasons at UR, Mooney led his revamped roster to a 15-3 record in conference play and the program's first regular season title since joining the A-10 in 2001.

King shared the A-10 Player of the Year Award after scoring 18.5 points per game during the regular season, while shooting 42.6 percent from three-point range

Richmond Spiders fell to St. Joseph 66-61 in the A-10 tournament quarterfinals.

A total of 32 men's teams were invited to the NIT tourney with the two rounds being played on-campus locations. The championship round will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana.



Dayspring's Kerabeth Long helped lead a second-half comeback for the NRV girls all-star team in a 58-55 win over the Mountain Empire team. The Fellowship of Christian Athletes benefit all-star basketball games were played at Christiansburg High School on Saturday night with several senior players from schools in the NRV.

## Fellowship of Christian Athletes holds all-stars games



Radford's Claire Fender scores a fast break layup for the NRV all-stars during the second half. Blacksburg's Kailyn Brawley was the halftime 3-point shooting contest winner.



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Blacksburg's Chanler Montgomery goes up for a dunk during the NRV vs. Mountain Empire all-star game Saturday night. In the FCA boys' all-star game, the NRV team won 86-70 over the Mountain Empire team. Isaac Cowan from Appalachian Christian was the boys' halftime dunk contest winner.

## Christiansburg softball downs Byrd



PHOTO BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Makaylee Hughes (left) outs William Byrd's Addison Clark at first base. Christiansburg took this past week's home opener by a 3-0 score.

See **Softball**, page 8

See **Fellowship**, page 8



# Softball from page 7

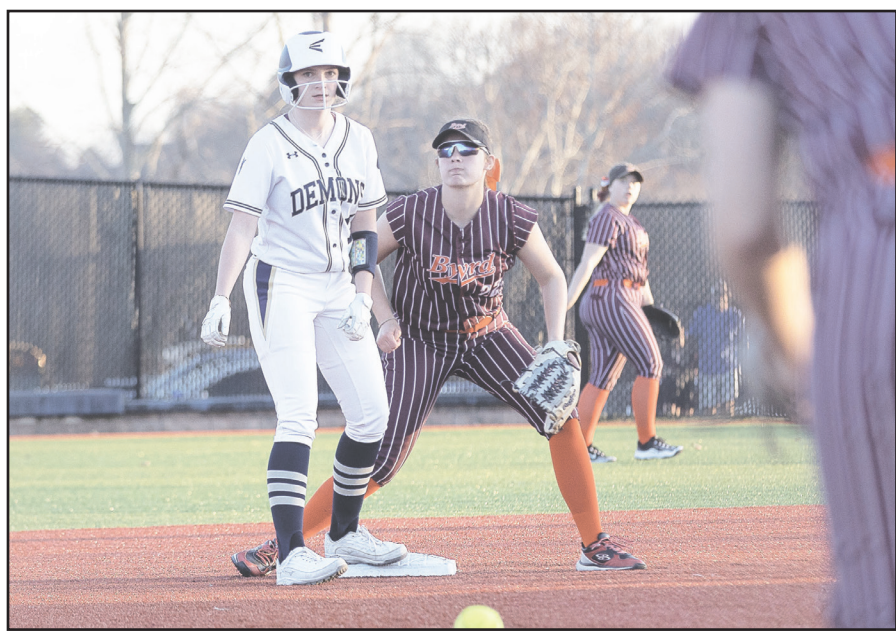


PHOTO BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Christiansburg's Brooklyn Manieri (center) watches the ball from second base as she waits for her opportunity to steal third.

# Fellowship from page 7



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Christiansburg's Jeremiah Mills scores on a drive to the basket against Isaac Cowen in the NRV vs. Mountain Empire all-star game.

# Christiansburg boys fall to Patrick Henry



Goalie Joseph Baines (left) faces an onslaught of players up close as he saves a goal in the second half against Patrick Henry this past week. PH would take the 3-0 win.



PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Luca Pickeral (center) manages double coverage from Patrick Henry as he moves the ball for Christiansburg.

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# Bruin Lax prevails over Byrd



After scoring two early goals on Thursday night, Blacksburg's Michael Mullins draws the attention of the William Byrd defense.



Blacksburg senior defenseman Eric Metrey slows down William Byrd's Benjamin Waid during the first half of a 12-11 Bruin win



Michael Mullins (right) and Sam Purcell (left) congratulate teammate Ryan Klopfer after a Bruin goal against William Byrd. On Thursday night, Blacksburg withstood a William Byrd rally to come away with a 12-11 win.



Blacksburg's Sam Purcell gains possession for the Bruins at midfield against William Byrd.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

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