

# News Journal

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## Radford jury convicts man of abduction with intent to defile

RADFORD – After a three-day trial, a Radford jury has convicted a Pulaski man of abduction with the intent to defile, conspiracy to abduct to defile and sex trafficking.

Dashawn Tucker, 31, was convicted Friday, Mar. 22, 2024.

“The multi-jurisdictional event started in Radford Jan. 10, 2022, but ended in Henry County when authorities there responded to a 911 text for help,” explained Radford Commonwealth’s Attorney Chris Rehak via email Monday. “Deputies arrived at a desolate trailer where two young females told of being abducted and repeatedly sexually assaulted by strangers to satisfy or “work off” a monetary debt. Dramatic body camera video of the rescue was played for the jury.”

The convictions carry up to a possible sentence.

Abduction with intent to defile has a possible 20 years to life sentence, conspiracy to abduct carries one -10 years and sex trafficking is two-10 years. Tucker’s sentencing will take place this summer.

The following is a synopsis of the evidence presented at trial, per the Radford Commonwealth’s Attorney’s Office:

The Commonwealth presented evidence Catlyn Wilhelm owed Dashawn Tucker money, and Tucker in turn owed a cohort named Waylon Cox money. With Tucker’s debt collection efforts heating up, Wilhelm went into hiding to avoid Tucker. Tucker went hunting for Catlyn over several weeks, even going to each of her parents’ homes. With Wilhelm unable to pay the \$2,000, Tucker negotiated with Cox to trade the two girls for Cox “to use” in exchange for Tucker’s debt.

Radford Food City surveillance video recorded Tucker parking in a manner to block Wilhelm’s car with his automobile and captured the three leaving together in Tucker’s automobile. Tucker directed Tabatha Stephenson to drive and ordered Wilhelm into the front passenger seat while he sat behind the two women. After a stop at defendant’s apartment in Pulaski, the trio went to a secluded location in Floyd County. Here, custody was transferred from Tucker to his associate, Cox.

The Commonwealth called several witnesses from the HCSO, as well as a forensic nurse trained to treat sexual assault victims and collect evidence. Wilhelm was

See **Conviction**, page 3

## Blue Ridge Vocal Connection welcomes regional singers to “make beautiful music that people want to hear”

*Established in June of 2021, the vocal group continues to expand their horizons with new and challenging music and performances.*



IMAGE COURTESY OF BLUE RIDGE VOCAL CONNECTION

**Lori Graham**  
Contributing writer

The Blue Ridge Vocal Connection (BRVC) came together just after Covid-19, in the summer of 2021, when they started practicing outdoors at the Blacksburg Farmers Market.

Their numbers have grown since then and now average approximately 35 people in the choral group.

A variety of genres are part of their repertoire, challenging performers and exciting audiences. Their first

season of performances were songs from movie hits. They held a more recent performance in Blacksburg doing “a little bit country and a little bit rock-n-roll.” Some of their selections are original pieces and others are pieces from Broadway productions. Director Thomas DeBusk also arranges some of their pieces.

“The music we do is challenging,” Mark Freeman, group member and assistant to Director DeBusk, said. “We work to make beautiful music

and make music that people want to hear.”

“We are trying to brand our group as a regional chorus...we are not just immediately local,” Freeman said. “Thomas has high expectations and standards, and the members of the group are willing to meet with those objectives, but also entertaining and enjoyable for the audience.”

They perform at multiple events

See **Singers**, page 3

## Door Dash, Wendy’s partner with Wing drone service

DoorDash and Wing have announced the launch of their drone delivery partnership in the U.S., starting in Christiansburg.

Select local consumers will be able to order eligible menu items from Wendy’s — the pilot’s first restaurant partner — through the DoorDash marketplace and have them delivered via drone. This follows the drone delivery pilot program that DoorDash and

Wing launched in Australia in 2022 and has since expanded to three locations in Queensland with over 60 participating merchants, marking the first time that Wing integrated its drone delivery service within another marketplace.

“We are excited to expand our partnership with Wing in the U.S. to integrate drone delivery into DoorDash’s ecosystem,” said Harrison Shih, Senior Director of DoorDash Labs.

“At DoorDash, we are committed to advancing last-mile logistics by building a multi-modal delivery platform that serves all sides of our marketplace. We’re optimistic about the value drone delivery will bring to our platform as we work to offer more efficient, sustainable, and convenient delivery options for consumers.”

Cosimo Leipold, Head of Partnerships, at Wing said this expanding partnership with DoorDash and launching in the U.S. is a direct result of the success Wing has seen from our initial collaboration in Australia, where the company has served tens of thousands

of customers via the DoorDash app for over a year now.

“Wing has now made over 350,000 deliveries across three countries and looking ahead we are focused on providing a fast, affordable and safe service to our partners so they can better serve their customers. This moment continues our meaningful expansion of this service in the U.S. and advances our shared goal to better the last-mile delivery ecosystem,” he said.

Beginning this week, when DoorDash customers with an eligible address in Christiansburg place a qualifying order in the DoorDash app from the Wendy’s located at 2355 N. Franklin St., they will see the option to have their meal delivered by drone on the checkout page.

Once they select drone delivery and place their order, it will be prepared and packaged at the Wendy’s location and delivered via a Wing drone, typically in 30 minutes or less.

Christiansburg and Wing have been a partner for the past five years. Wing’s service in Christiansburg was the first in the U.S. to deliver goods directly to residences on demand. That made it the litmus test for whether drone delivery — a ubiquitous fixture of an imagined high-tech future — was viable in the present.

Small packages traveling short distances — the proverbial “last mile” — account for a large segment of urban deliveries. For these trips, drones are generally quicker and safer than ground



PHOTO COURTESY OF DOOR DASH

**DoorDash and Wing have announced a new drone delivery pilot program in the New River Valley. Wing has been operating for the past five years here in the area.**

transportation, and have a lighter carbon footprint. A study by researchers at the Center for Economic and Community Engagement in Outreach and International Affairs found that after five years of operating in a large city, a hypothetical drone delivery service would reduce vehicle miles enough to eliminate up to 580 crashes and 113,000 tons of CO2 every year. Customers would save time, businesses would increase revenue, and social benefits like improved access to prescription medication would raise the overall quality of life in the community.

Turning that ambitious idea into a real service delivering real snacks and sunscreen and coffee in a real city meant clearing some daunting engineering and regulatory hurdles. The service in Christiansburg was made possible by tens of thousands of test flights all over the world and exhaustive testing with Virginia Tech to build up the volume of safety and performance data required to clear the high bar the FAA had set for approval of the new technology.

“Christiansburg is in many ways the birthplace of U.S. drone delivery,” said Jonathan Bass, Wing’s head of marketing and communications.

Through this new partnership, DoorDash says it aims to provide access to an innovative delivery solution for consumers and merchants, complementary to traditional Dasher-fulfilled orders.

The new offering provides a quick and sustainable delivery option for small, short-distanced orders while creating the potential for incremental order growth across the platform.

The pilot will initially be available in Christiansburg with plans to explore other cities in the U.S. later this year.

The drone delivery partnership with Wing was born out of DoorDash Labs, DoorDash’s robotics and automation arm. DoorDash sees automation as a means to develop the right platform solution to satisfy consumer demand, while improving efficiencies within the platform.

Staff report

## Radford University BOV sets tuition and fees for 2024-25 academic year



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

RADFORD - At its March quarterly meetings, the Radford University Board of Visitors voted to authorize a 1.5% tuition increase for all undergraduate students, a 3% increase for all graduate students and a mandatory comprehensive fee increase of 3.59% for the 2024-25 academic year.

The tuition and fee increases apply to all Radford University locations and will allow the university to continue delivering a high-quality experience for all students while it addresses rising operating costs.

For full-time undergraduate students, the in-state tuition increase is \$127 and for out-of-state undergraduates the increase is \$313. For full-time graduate students, the in-state increase is \$284 and for out-of-state students is \$500. The mandatory comprehensive fee increase is \$135 for all full-time students.

The board proactively worked to reach a consensus and schedule a timely vote, allowing current and prospective students, and their families, to make informed decisions about the upcoming year.

See **BOV**, page 2



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF NEW RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## NRCC sees enrollment increase for Spring 2024

Enrollment has increased this semester at New River Community College (NRCC).

At this point in the spring semester, headcount enrollment stands at 3,754 compared to 3,565 at the same time last spring, an increase of 5.3 percent.

NRCC also saw a 3.3 percent increase in the fall semester.

These increases build on a modest growth seen in 2022, reversing a years-long trend of declining enrollment similar to those experienced throughout the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) and in two-year colleges across the nation.

While students continue to return to the classroom in person after a couple of years battling the pandemic may be part of the increase, the college’s efforts to reach out to the community have been concentrated and intentional.

NRCC’s outreach includes attending community events and high school athletic games as well as hosting outreach hours at local libraries and community organizations. The college’s popular Access to Community College Education (ACCE) program, which provides a debt-free path to college education for local high school students, has also been a factor. NRCC will also be bringing back a previous event, NRCC Family Fun Fest, on April 6.

New tuition assistance programs like the statewide G3 program also encourage students to return to college by helping with tuition. G3, which launched 2021, is a last-dollar tuition assistance program for low and middle-income Virginians focusing on early childhood education, health care, information technology, public safety and skilled trades.

Data for this report were based on information available on Mar. 19, 2024. Final spring semester enrollment information may change slightly. For more information about NRCC or how to enroll in classes, visit www.nr.edu. Registration for fall semester classes begins April 9.

New River Community College



# OBITUARIES

## Woolwine, Luther Gilbert

Luther Gilbert Woolwine, 78, of Christiansburg, went to his eternal home on March 20, 2024, after a courageous battle with cancer.

He was born in Christiansburg, Va., on April 1, 1945, to the late Rev. Charlie Noah Woolwine and Kathleen Vest Woolwine. He was preceded in death by his brothers, Donald Ray Woolwine, David Michael Woolwine, and Joseph Leroy Woolwine; sister-in-law, Patricia Wells Woolwine; and brother-in-law, Paul Edward Hollandsworth.

Luther was employed by the Radford Army Ammunition Plant (Arsenal) for 38 years. Luther worked tirelessly for his fellow employees to improve working conditions. Those who worked with him showed their respect by allowing Luther to represent them. He served as a union steward on the shop floor in the late 1960's and early 70's. In the mid 70's Luther decided to take on additional leadership



responsibilities. For 12 consecutive two-year terms, Luther was elected by his fellow workers as a Committeeman (six terms), Vice President (three terms), and eventually served three terms as their president. Luther retired from the Arsenal in 2004 but was still active in helping fellow retirees and former Arsenal workers with the benefits to which they worked and was entitled until the onset of his illness.

Luther is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Blondene Hollandsworth Woolwine. Luther is also survived by his daughter, Marie Rorrer (Mike); son Eddie Woolwine (Suzanne); grandchildren,

Ashley Apjok (Scott), Kelsey Woolwine, McKinley Rorrer, Ryan Woolwine (Nicole); great-grandchildren, Maggie and Lucas Apjok; sisters-in-law, Shirley Woolwine, Bonnie Woolwine, Maxine Woolwine, Bonnie Smith (Lewis), Sandra Altizer (Fred), and Linda Hollandsworth; and many nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Funeral services were conducted Monday, Mar. 25, 2024 at the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with the Pastor Shake Smith and Rev. Sebort Rorrer officiating. Interment will follow in Sunset Cemetery. The family received friends at McCoy Funeral Home, on Sunday, Mar. 24, 2024.

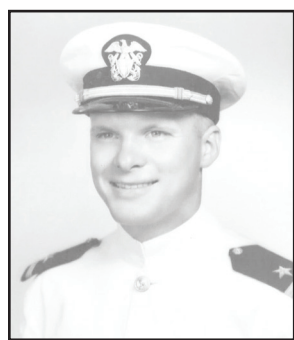
In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the American Cancer Society. The family would like to thank Dr. Mock and the BRCC Staff, Dawn Fouse, and Good Samaritan Hospice for their care and compassion.

## Graybeal, The Honorable John Patrick

The Honorable John Patrick "Pat" Graybeal, 91, a Navy veteran, former judge, and author, passed away Saturday, Mar. 16, 2024.

Born on Mar. 17, 1932 in Emory, Va., he was the son of the late Henry Clay Graybeal and June McConnell Graybeal. On July 18, 1953 in Akron, Ohio, Pat married Jill Lobach. They had two daughters, Sally and Nancy. Sally preceded him in death in 2007.

Pat is survived by his wife of 70 years, Jill; his daughter, Nancy Graybeal and husband William McNeil; son-in-law:



Christopher K. Minnich (Julia); and other extended family and friends. They will remember him for his quiet dignity, faith, humility and kindness. He was a true

gentleman and respected every person he met. He was a world traveler, a great reader, and a remarkable person - he never met a stranger.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 10 a.m. at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Christiansburg with refreshments following in the fellowship hall. The family has posted a lovely tribute of Pat's life on the website of Brown-Wynne Funeral Home in Cary, NC, please visit: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/cary-nc/john-graybeal-11714845>.

## Sheppard, Jerry Noel

Jerry Noel Sheppard, 69, of Blacksburg, stepped peacefully into heaven on Mar. 19, 2024.

He was born Dec. 25, 1954. He is preceded in death by his father, Jim Sheppard; brother, James Sheppard; a nephew, Andrew Duncan and his wife, Jeannette.

He is survived by his mother, Shirley Caldwell Sheppard; sister, Janet Duncan and husband Curtis; brother, Joseph Sheppard and his wife Anne; nephews, James Duncan, his wife Tiffany, and their children, Nathan Benjamin, Lilly, and Hannah; and Justin Sheppard, his wife Tiffany, and their children Starr and Allison; niece, Clarissa Elliott and her

husband Raymond.

As a very young man Jerry began working the farm at Whitethorn making sure the cows were milked twice a day and the farm was running smoothly. In his later years, he became a heavy equipment operator and spent 18 years serving in that position at the Virginia Tech Rock Quarry. He retired from there in 2017.

After he retired, Jerry Spent many happy years farming cattle with his brother Joe, nephew Justin, and cousin Frank. He loved the outdoors and spent lots of time with his dog Sam, cutting wood to make sure his house was super warm during the cold months. He liked to spoil his dog Sam

a bit with peanut butter crackers and maybe a Slim Jim every now and then. He was kind to everyone and loved to make others laugh. Every weekday morning, he spent time making sure his great-niece, Allison, got on the school bus and had her favorite ice cream waiting on her in the afternoon when she returned from school.

He will be greatly missed by his friends, family, many nephews, nieces, great nephews, and great nieces.

Graveside services were conducted Friday, Mar. 22, 2024, in the Roselawn Memorial Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Long Shop-McCoy Fire Department.

## Singers

from page 1



PHOTO COURTESY OF BLUE RIDGE VOCAL CONNECTION

On Jan. 1, 2024, the Blue Ridge Vocal Connection performed at the Biltmore Estate's Candlelight Christmas Celebration in Asheville, North Carolina.

all year, allowing the opportunity to perform their well-rehearsed music programs for diverse audiences. DeBusk shared that their Spring and Summer music are even performed up to 15 times through the various events they attend. Blue Ridge Vocal Connection also performs their Christmas selections for many local and regional events.

BRVC is a 503© organization, and many performances are free to the public, except for fundraising events. Their schedule is constantly updated on their website at [www.blueridgevocalconnection.com](http://www.blueridgevocalconnection.com).

"What I find is constantly fulfilling, the people that I work with that when you issue the challenge they step up and deliver. I always get a front row seat... over and over again, I have this wonderful presentation," said DeBusk.

In addition to their performances around the New River Valley, the group has traveled and performed at the Roanoke Hotel and Conference Center, Primland Resort, the Biltmore Estate, and will be traveling to Lincoln Theater in Marion, Virginia, to perform this coming summer.

"We have been to the Biltmore Estate twice as part of their

Candlelight Christmas Celebration and you have to audition for that," DeBusk said. "The sounds on the first floor are amazing."

Events for 2024 include performing at the Huckleberry Park concert on Memorial Day weekend. Steppin Out, and Slusher's Chapel Ruritan Fish Fry in September, to name a few.

Last year the choral group partnered with Wilderness Road Chorus, an all-female a Capella group, for a vocal performance at Warm Hearth Village. The event drew approximately 100 people.

Mark Freeman also serves on the Board of Durectors at Mountain View Humane Spay and Neuter Clinic in Christiansburg. In December of 2023, Blue Ridge Vocal Connections held a Christmas concert fundraising event at the Lyric Theater in Blacksburg. Attendees could enjoy donations of food and drinks while experiencing the vocal entertainment of the group and an opportunity to participate in the concert as audience members. The fundraising event netted \$3,500, sharing the proceeds with the Mountain View Humane Society.

"It is an overt part of our plan to partner with other community

groups to accomplish good things. We are happy to partner with other community groups to raise awareness and raise funds," DeBusk said.

Individuals interested in singing, even if they do not have any prior experience, should come out to practice, DeBusk said. Rehearsals are Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 pm at Northside Presbyterian Church located at 1017 Progress Street, NW, Blacksburg.

"We provide the tools for people to learn," DeBusk said.

A recent all-day BRVC-sponsored workshop was all about giving people, some that had never sung before, and others that maybe want to hone their skills, an opportunity to work and learn from vocal coaches.

There are no age limits to join the choral group; however, rehearsals are on average two hours long. Families are encouraged to attend and participate together with the consideration of the length of practice. At least one adult will be required to stay the duration of rehearsals with their child or children.

Additional information about Blue Ridge Vocal Connection can be on their Facebook page.

## Conviction

from page 1

the only victim to seek this specialized medical attention. Stephenson and Wilhelm rightfully feared for their safety. The jury learned from police in Henry County that the defendant's friends who assaulted the women are notorious for selling drugs and violent crime. Two different investigators testified to the danger of the gang, adding some of their witnesses in homicide cases have disappeared before court. One of the two females, Stephenson, was suspected of helping Tucker in the abduction of Catlyn Wilhelm. Stephenson was later charged as a co-conspirator and testified last week under a very rare immunity agreement. Stephenson was the Commonwealth's first trial witness. She testified with obvious reluctance, limited recall and some glaring contradictions as to the specifics of her own abduction. Hence, all charges in which Stephenson was alleged to have been a victim were dismissed mid-trial.

The sworn account from Catlyn Marea Wilhelm was however entirely a different matter. After testifying at preliminary hearings in Henry County and the City of Radford, Wilhelm tragically died in August of 2022. Wilhelm spoke to the Radford jury from the grave as the Commonwealth played Wilhelm's audio Radford

preliminary hearing testimony as recorded on April 7, 2022. The jury had other supporting exhibits which included official court transcripts of Wilhelm's Henry County testimony and medical records detailing her account. Wilhelm's suffering during the frightening ordeal was not only well documented, but ultimately deemed very credible.

Tucker did not testify in his defense but provided a recorded statement at the Henry County Sheriff's Office when he responded to pick up Stephenson and Wilhelm the night they were rescued. Tucker denied any nefarious complicity and even claimed to not know who he met in Floyd to transfer the two women.

"This case required a tremendous amount of work," said Rehak. "The case would have been difficult if Catlyn Wilhelm testified in person, and her absence presented a unique and unprecedented additional challenge. I decided to prosecute nonetheless and seek justice for Catlyn. Radford Police and Henry County law enforcement did a magnificent job. It is an understatement to say, the quest for Tucker's accountability took on special significance after Catlyn's untimely death."

Staff report



### 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

## Governor continues to mull over state budget

We are now a full week into the intermission between the regular and reconvened Virginia General Assembly legislative sessions, and the state of play between Governor Glenn Youngkin and the Democrat-led House and Senate majorities remains tenuous at best.

The Governor has now had a chance to review the budget presented to him by the General Assembly, and, to put it mildly, he is not pleased with the priorities laid out by House and Senate Democrats.

The Governor has the ability to offer amendments or line-item vetoes to the budget recently presented to him. With over \$2 billion in higher taxes, the potential release of thousands of dangerously violent felons from prison, and Virginia's mandatory re-entry into the expensive Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), Governor Youngkin has yet to rule out a veto of the entire budget document. A full budget veto would likely be a last resort that would occur after the reconvened session meets in April to consider a series of amendments designed to remove the previously mentioned parts of the budget the Governor so vehemently opposes.

Governor Youngkin has been taking his message to the public in recent days, conducting a "road show" by meeting with voters, business owners, and other



**Delegate Jason Ballard**

Virginia General Assembly

groups that will be impacted by the higher cost of living that the current budget would inflict on hard working Virginia families. You can expect more public events in the coming days and weeks as he seeks to educate Virginians on the budget's harmful aspects.

Meanwhile, the governor has been actively reviewing legislation sent to him by the General Assembly in the 2024 regular session. So far, he has issued more than 20 vetoes to legislation. Vetoes include bills that would create class-action lawsuits in state courts, diversity, equity, and inclusion standards for Major Employment Initiative grants, and more. I am hopeful that the governor will soon veto the many bills passed by General Assembly Democrats that seek to erode our 2nd Amendment rights.

At the end of the day, it's incumbent upon Democrats to work with their Republican colleagues and the governor to pass a budget that works for all Virginians, not just those who share a progressive ideology or live in the Commonwealth's highest population centers. As mentioned in last week's column, I believe there are core functions of government that must be addressed and fully funded in any compromise budget. This includes – among other items – increased pay for law enforcement, pay raises for our teachers, and additional investment in I-81 and secondary road improvements. I will continue to support these measures of local and statewide significance while fighting to eliminate items that will make electricity, goods and services, and life in general more expensive for Virginians.

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.

## A virgin no more – my first cruise (aboard Virgin Voyages)

Last week I went on a cruise, the first cruise of my life, a Caribbean cruise of sorts. My only other time out on the open seas was years ago when my daughters were very young and we sailed down the Waccamaw River out of "Port Calabash" in North Carolina.

This time it was the real deal - out of Miami with ports of call for parts of the day in Cozumel and Bimini. We left Miami on Sunday night and returned and disembarked on Friday morning. Five nights and four days, pretty much as short a cruise as you can take from what I could tell, and the recommended length of a "maiden voyage" per my old Christiansburg friend Martha, a veteran cruiser and my travel advisor.

I had heard various things about cruises, from how wonderful they were to how "I took two at the same time, my first and my last." Several of my Wednesday



**Evans "Buddy" King**

Columnist

after work "Brickside guys" had done them, one saying he almost jumped overboard and swam to shore (of course he was sailing in a family group that included his brother-in-law and everyone on the ship probably felt the same way) and one said, "be prepared to gain 20 pounds" (close Tony, not quite enough time or I would

have made it!).

I have to admit that I fall closer to the former opinion than the latter - it was a fun experience, relaxing and entertaining and something I would do again. Almost a full week away from looking at my cell phone every five minutes and basking under gorgeous blue skies on the deck of a ship in 75 degree weather and drinking boat drinks and Mexican beer and having unlimited ice cream and pizza and dining in five-star quality restaurants and listening to live music every time you turned a corner can only be so bad, right? Probably the only negative was that when we flew back into Pittsburgh we arrived to 35 degree temperatures. Spring was supposed to have arrived in our absence.

Again at the advice of my friend Martha, my friend

See **Cruise**, page 8

### RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL

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## Strategies to protect your goals from consistent inflation

If you're like most investors, you've noticed the impact of higher inflation in recent years – whether at the gas pump or the grocery store. American investors are experiencing the effects of prolonged inflation for the first time since the early 1980s. As a result, many are concerned about how inflation levels will impact their ability to reach their long-term financial goals. While it may not be possible to avoid the effects of inflation altogether, there are several strategies investors can utilize to mitigate the impact of inflation on their financial plan. Here are three investment considerations that may help address inflation concerns and better prepare your goals for long-term success.

### 1. Keep your money invested

When the inflation rate soared in 2022, stock and bond markets declined. Some investors responded by pulling money out of the market. This can be counterproductive as investors too often miss much of a market's recovery gain before they put their money back to work. For example, the U.S. stock market (as measured by the Standard & Poor's 500 stock index, an unmanaged index of stocks often used as a benchmark of market performance), declined 25% between January and October 2022. But by the end of 2023, the S&P 500 regained nearly all of the ground lost in the bear market. It is normal for markets to go through ups and downs. Investors that stay



**Josh Smith, CRPC**

Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC

the course and keep their money invested commonly see their investments make up gains that were lost in a sudden downturn. While it may be tempting to remove yourself from the market during volatile periods, it could be helpful to stay invested at a level that reflects your risk tolerance.

### 2. If time is on your side, take advantage of stocks

Over time, stocks have historically outpaced inflation, an important consideration as you try to build wealth to achieve your ultimate financial goals with more confidence. This doesn't mean that year-in, year-out, stocks will keep you ahead of inflation. 2022 is a good example of a year when stocks declined as inflation rose. But if you have time to let your money work for you, stocks have historically outpaced the rise in living costs. According to data collected since 1871, stocks have grown faster than inflation for holding periods of 20 years or more. Investors who can ride the highs and lows of markets are often better suited to keep up, if not pass, the rate of inflation.

### 3. For short-term money, seek higher yields

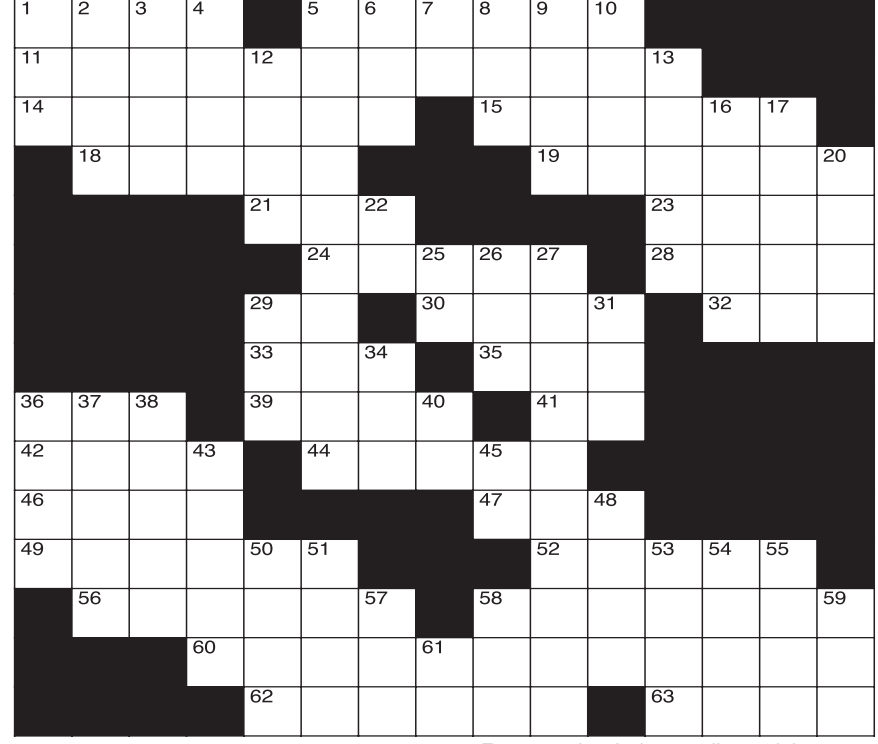
You may have money set aside for short-term needs, such as your emergency fund or to cover upcoming expenses. In these times of elevated inflation, you'll want to find ways to earn more competitive yields on your short-term savings. Search out options such as money market funds, CDs, short-term U.S. Treasury securities and other savings vehicles that offer yields that may keep pace with inflation. Utilizing these tools may allow you to stay more liquid with your investments while hedging against the impacts of inflation.

Whether an economic cycle brings conventional or elevated inflation it should be considered as a factor of your long-term financial plan. A financial advisor can help develop a comprehensive strategy that addresses the inflation environment today and over the long term.

- 1 S&P Dow Jones Indices.
- 2 NBER, Bloomberg, American Enterprise Investment Services, Inc.

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## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- CLUES ACROSS**  
1. Millisecond  
5. Narcotic drug  
11. Accident  
14. Formal submissions  
15. Popular 70s rock band  
18. Discourage from doing  
19. More socially elite  
21. Arid  
23. A way to look  
24. Heroes  
28. A surfer rides it  
29. Potato state  
30. Insect repellent  
32. Cool!  
33. Have already done  
35. Collegiate women's fraternity  
36. To the \_\_\_ degree  
39. Gasteyer and de
- Armas are two  
41. Blood type  
42. Looked over  
44. Language of Cameroon and Chad  
46. Species of armadillo  
47. Touch softly  
49. Part of your upper body  
52. Large, stocky lizards  
56. Lack of social or ethical standards  
58. Congressman  
60. Unofficial force  
62. As a result of this utterance  
63. A main branch of Islam
- CLUES DOWN**  
1. Woman (French)  
2. Province of Pakistan  
3. This (Spanish)
4. Transportation device  
5. Greater in importance or priority  
6. The human foot  
7. Within 8. Consumed  
9. Respectful Malaysian term  
10. Therefore  
12. Ceased to exist  
13. Type of macaroni  
16. English composer  
17. Wooded tract  
20. Tall, slender-leaved plant  
22. 36 inches  
25. Take too much (abbr.)  
26. Allow  
27. Individually  
29. Journalist Tarbell  
31. Bar bill  
34. Hong Kong food
- stall: \_\_\_ pai dong  
36. Not messy  
37. Species that includes reedmae  
38. Former MLB catcher Ed  
40. Northern U.S. state  
43. Wilt  
45. Commercial  
48. Bolivian river  
50. Nursemaid  
51. A car needs four  
53. Guns (slang)  
54. American state  
55. Clusters of fern fronds  
57. Body part  
58. A person's brother or sister  
59. Breed of sheep native to Sweden  
61. Of I



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**TOWN OF BLACKSBURG - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS**

BLACKSBURG TOWN COUNCIL will hold public hearings on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers of the Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 South Main Street, Blacksburg, regarding the following items:

Ordinance 2048: An Ordinance Adopting the Budget for the Town of Blacksburg, Virginia for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 and Ending June 30, 2025; Adopting the Real Estate Tax Rate; and Appropriating Funds for the Fiscal Year. The proposed

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ordinance would approve the Town's 2024/2025 operating budget and maintain the existing tax rate. This is described in more detail in the stand-alone advertisement published in the Roanoke Times on March 24, 2024.

Ordinance 2049: An Ordinance Amending Blacksburg Town Code Sections 18-201, 18-400, 24-301, 24-306, 24-314, And 24-602 to Increase Fees for Water and Sewer Services and Meter Fees. The ordinance increase the amounts of the referenced fees; the increases are described in more detail in stand-alone advertisements published in the Roanoke Times on March 24, 2024 and March 31, 2024.

Ordinance 2050: An

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Ordinance to Amend the FY 2023/2024 Operating Budget to Appropriate \$2,500,000 of Bond Proceeds to the General Capital Improvement Fund. Ordinance 2050 will appropriate funding for the potential purchase of several parcels of land. The funding for this purchase will be included in the 2024 bond offering.

All persons affected by or interested in the proposed items above may appear and present their views. After each public hearing, Town Council will consider action on the item. Copies of materials related to the above items are on file and can be obtained in the Office of the Town Clerk, 300 South Main Street, Blacksburg, weekdays between the hours of 8 a.m.

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and 5 p.m. For land use matters, copies of applications and all related items may also be found online at [www.blacksburg.gov/public](http://www.blacksburg.gov/public) hearings or reviewed in person at the Blacksburg Planning and Building Department, 400 South Main Street, Blacksburg, Virginia. Individuals with disabilities who require special assistance to attend and participate in this meeting should contact Lorraine Spaulding, Town Clerk at (540) 443-1025 or 443-1000 (voice or TDD).

**ABC NOTICE**

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24073. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for RESTAURANT, ON AND OFF PREMISES BEER AND WINE license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

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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](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING-**

Pursuant to Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia 1950, as amended, the Radford City Council hereby gives notice of a joint public hearing with Planning Commission to be held on April 8, 2024 at 7:00 P.M., in the City Council Chambers, at 10 Robertson Street, Radford, VA, in order to hear citizen comments regarding City Council's intention to act on the following Special Use Permit request: A request by K&J Properties (applicant) on behalf of Islands on the New, LLC (owner) for a Special Use Permit to allow for a RV Resort. The use is defined as "Recreational Vehicle Park" in the Zoning

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Ordinance, which is allowed in the M-1 Zoning District and within the CD Zoning District only by an approved Special Use Permit. The property is located at 3080 Little River Dam Rd, further identified as Tax Parcel 24-1-8, with 36 acres, zoned CD Conservation and M-1 Light Industrial. The property is designated as Low-Density Residential in the Comprehensive Plan. Copies of the proposed plan, applications, ordinances may be examined at the Community Development Office, 10 Robertson Street, Radford, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

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# RADFORD SPORTS

## Looking back: How it started

Liz Kitley began playing basketball in high school, but she didn't always gravitate toward the court.

She played several sports, most prominently softball, so when coach Tom King (current teammate Cayla King's father) approached Kitley with a basketball jersey – essentially recruiting her to the team – she was terrified. But eventually, the idea grew on her. And soon after, her talent caught the eye of Virginia Tech women's basketball head coach Kenny Brooks.

Kitley gives Brooks a lot of credit for how she played the game.

"He just completely changed how I played," Kitley said. "The challenge was even greater for him, because I didn't even play my senior year in high school, because I tore my ACL. I came here not having played in a year."

Kitley remembers being nervous to come to college after losing the opportunity to grow during her senior year. But, in her eyes, everything worked out and she learned to appreciate the sport more.

And, as for Kitley's progress, she jokes about her pre-college highlight reel, acknowledging her immense growth since her junior year of high school.

Kitley doesn't need a highlight reel to prove her progress.

She's already earned her spot with numerous accolades over the years, beginning with the 2019-20 ACC Freshman of the Year award to her name and most recently becoming the first-ever Hokie to earn Preseason AP All-America. Kitley wears No. 33 proudly.

"I'm not waiting for this list to come out," Kitley said. "I have no idea when that stuff is happening, and when it does, it's nice to be recognized. But mainly because it brings more attention to Virginia Tech and our program."

Kitley credits Brooks and her teammates with the program's success

and praises his care for the team. When Coach Brooks saw Kitley's talent, he didn't just recruit Kitley – he recruited her whole family.

Kitley's sister Raven is her best friend. Raven also has autism. Brooks made sure Raven had a lanyard at basketball games and the program hosted an autism awareness game that first year.

"It just made her year – made her life probably," Kitley said. "That's just really cool and also goes back to show how special the program is. I know Coach Brooks and everyone would know how much that would mean to me, because it's something that I hold very close to my heart. For them to recognize her and take her out on the court, it shows how much they care for me and my family, and not just from a basketball point of view."

Though Kitley praises her sister for the fresh perspective that she's given her on life, Kitley also inspires young women in the field.

Kitley frequently receives direct messages on social media from young women in middle school and high school that ask for advice as they try out for their school's basketball teams.

"It's just really important for girls, especially girls in sports, to have other women to look up to, because, obviously, all of the big faces – most of the big faces – in sports are men," Kitley said. "So, to keep them encouraged within their sport and keep them passionate about it ... it is really cool to be able to be a source of that."

Kitley has also found an unmatched sense of community and rhythm on the court with her teammates. Kitley reflects on the difference between this season and previous seasons, noting that usually the team's only new members are freshmen. But with transfers, every team and year means a new chapter and team dynamic.

*Virginia Tech Athletics*



PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

### Liz Kitley leaves Virginia Tech with almost every basketball record.



**From the Sidelines**

Marty Gordon

Liz Kitley walked onto the court at Cassell Coliseum this past weekend for the last time, but it might not have been what she had originally expected.

She sat at the end of the bench after walking to the court with the aid of crutches. A knee injury suffered in the ACC tournament meant her season ended a lot sooner for her, the team, her coaches and fans.

She will finish as a three-time ACC player of the year. She becomes the third woman in ACC history to win the award in three consecutive seasons, joining Alana Beard (Duke) and Alyssa Thomas (Maryland).

The Summerfield, North Carolina native ranks second in the conference in scoring (22.79), second in field goal percentage (55.6%), first in rebounds (11.38), second in blocks (2.07), first in double-doubles (19) and first in 30-point games with eight.

She won ACC Player of the Week six times, the most of any athlete, including a stretch of four consecutive weeks in February. The six POW honors ties Beard for the most in any single season in conference history.

With her Player of the Year Award comes a fourth first team All-ACC nod, just the second player in conference history to accomplish the feat (Duke's Elizabeth Williams). Kitley was also recognized as an All-Defensive Team member for the third consecutive season.

Nationally, Kitley ranks second in field goals, trailing only Iowa's Caitlin Clark. She is sixth in points per game, rebounds per game and double-doubles.

She has claimed the top spot in several categories in the Virginia Tech annals this

season including starts, minutes played, double figure games, 30-point games and rebounds, which is also an ACC watermark.

In terms of single-season achievements, the 2023-24 season has seen Kitley produce the highest scoring average in program history, score the most field goals and come within six points of the record for single season scoring.

These are some things we have to remember Kitley.

Maybe, we should write her a thank you note.

Dear Liz (Kitley),

Thanks for the memories of you shooting a soft jumper inside the paint.

Thanks for all those blocked shots.

You have changed the way everyone looks at women's college basketball. Those packed houses proved that.

Your personality has brightened our day, and your smile has caught the attention of people of all ages.

But most importantly, young girls are now getting excited about Hokie basketball and maybe some day being like "Liz".

While we know the Cassell will never be the same without you, we will always cherish those memories.

Also, thank you for introducing us to your family and a special sister named Raven. We will truly miss her flaming orange hair in the stands cheering you on.

Good luck Liz, in whatever you do in the future. We know you will succeed whether it be on the court or maybe in the medical field.

Thank you.

Signed: A fan.

P.S. Also, thank you for the relationship you have with your point guard and best friend, Georgia Amoore. The "Queens of Cassell" exist because of you two.

Maybe Dr. Seuss said it best: "Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened."

No matter where we go, we take a little of each other everywhere. That is true with Liz.

## CHS baseball team promotes reading



Member of the Christiansburg High School baseball team joined students at Christiansburg Elementary for Dr. Seuss reading day.



Christiansburg baseball players helped to promote reading during national reading day at the local elementary schools.

## Bobcats prevail over East Mont softball

The Radford Bobcats faced the Eastern Montgomery Mustangs Friday, Mar. 22 at East Mont with the final score Radford 11, East Mont 6.

Three homers powered Radford's win over East Mont with (left to right) Quinn Burton, Kathryn Price and Addie Saunders all homering in the win, driving in seven of the 11 runs. Price drove in four runs to include a three-run homer in the fourth to lead the Bobcats to the victory. Kayence Rollins, Ella Cox and Ariel Sutphin all had multiple hits in the win. Quinn Burton was the winning pitcher going four innings with five strikeouts, with Kathryn Price picking up the save. For East Mont, Alexis Artip went two for three with two RBI to lead the Mustangs.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAM BURTON

(Left to right) Quinn Burton, Kathryn Price and Addie Saunders.

Staff report

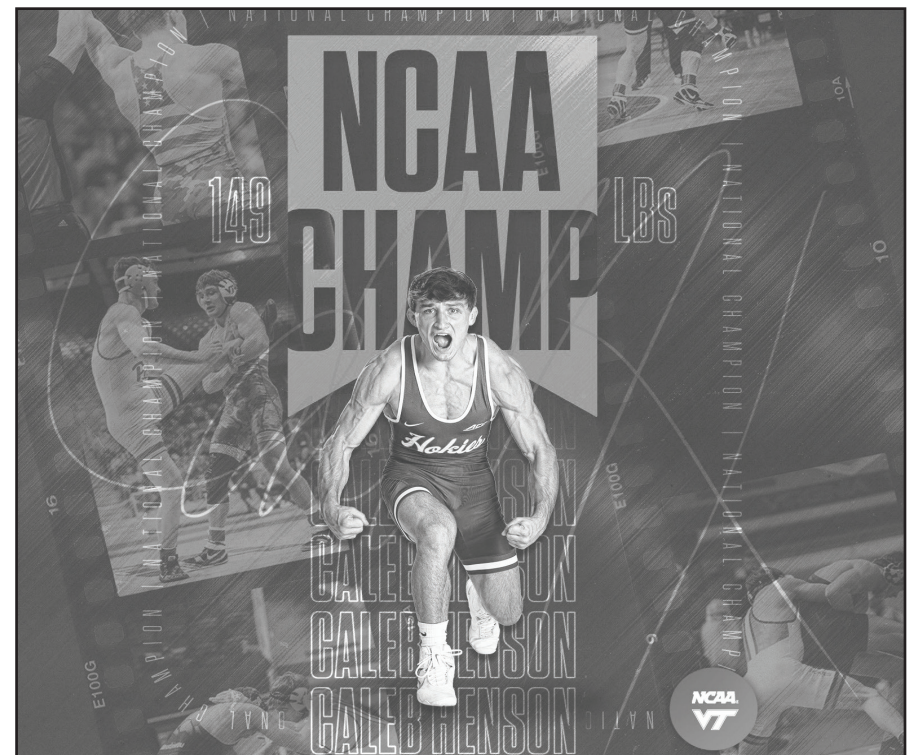


PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

This weekend, Caleb Henson became second-ever Hokie to earn NCAA wrestling title.

## Henson claims 149-pound national title

Another national title for Virginia Tech wrestling was added to the trophy case Saturday night, as fourth-ranked Caleb Henson claimed the 149-pound weight class national title by defeating sixth-ranked Austin Gomez of Michigan 15-7 at

T-Mobile Center.

The sophomore from Cartersville, Georgia becomes just the second Hokie

See Henson, page 8

# Henson from page 7

to accomplish the feat on the mat, joining Mekhi Lewis (2019; 165 pounds) and the first national champion hailing from Georgia. Henson is also just the fourth Hokie and just the fifth time for a Hokie to make an NCAA finals appearance.

Henson was relentless all bout from the first whistle. The Hokie would surrender the first takedown but would work a quick escape before hitting a bodylock off a Gomez attack for the five-point move to put him up 6-3. Henson would add four more points with a suck back for four back points to increase the lead still in the first period.

Gomez would get an escape before Henson countered a cement mixer to go up 13-4 with 1:17 riding time at the end of the first. The Hokie would rack another escape to start the third to increase his lead even more. Another attack by Gomez would cut the lead but the Hokie worked another escape to lead 15-7 at the end of the second period. Gomez would elect neutral to begin the final frame.

Despite numerous scoring attempts the score stood at 15-7 as the Hokie star and newly minted champion defeated Michigan's multiple-time All-American and 2024 Olympian on an unforgettable Saturday night in T-Mobile Center.

Last season, Henson would win his first bout then rattle off five victories on the backside to find the podium after a second-round loss. This year, Henson would take the direct path to the podium and began his championship run with a dominant win over No. 29 Alek Martin of South Dakota state with a 18-3 tech fall in the opening round with an offensive burst of five takedowns and two-point nearfall to pick up the victory.

The Hokie would advance to the Round of 16 to face a familiar foe from their high

school careers in No. 20 Jordan Williams of Oklahoma State. Henson would tally two takedowns and an escape in a controlling bout, making his way to the quarterfinals.

Waiting for him was Big 12 champion, No. 7 Ty Watters of West Virginia with the winner securing All-American honors and a ticket to the semifinals. Henson would strike first with a takedown, but Watters would keep it interesting with a reversal to bring the score within one in the third period. The Hitman would keep on the gas and garner an escape before racking another takedown to ice the bout and advance to the semifinals while picking up his second All-American status in the process.

Awaiting in the semifinals was No. 1 and former national finalist, Nebraska's Ridge Lovett. The two had one previous meeting, a controversial 4-3 victory for the Cornhusker in this year's Cliff Keen Las Vegas Invitational finals back in December.

Henson could pick no better time to flip the script as the stakes could not be higher. It was a chess match of a first period with multiple scoring attacks from Henson and heavy handfighting but just couldn't find a score as the opening period ended. Henson would select neutral to begin the second and it was more of the same with Henson just seconds from scoring yet again as time expired. With their previous matchup in mind – a riding time point proved to be the difference in Las Vegas – Lovett elected to begin the third period on top.

The Hokie would strike with an escape to take the lead with just under one minute remaining. Henson would still threaten with potential attacks, but the escape would be the lone score, sending him to the finals for the first time in his young career.

Virginia Tech Athletics

# 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.

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# Sports notes: Bulls re-sign Green

Marty Gordon  
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

The Chicago Bulls announced today that the team has signed guard/forward Javonte Green to a 10-day contract.

Green, 6-5, 205, rejoins Chicago after appearing in 10 games this season with the Santa Cruz Warriors, the G League affiliate of the Golden State Warriors, where he averaged 12.8 points, 6.8 rebounds, 1.3 steals and 0.7 blocks in 22.0 minutes per game.

The four-year NBA veteran was originally acquired by Chicago via trade in March of 2021 and posted averages of 6.0 points, 3.4 rebounds and 0.9 steals in 18.8 minutes through 113 games (46 starts) over two-plus seasons with the Bulls. He tallied 21 total games of double-digit scoring, alongside 27 games with two or more steals during his previous tenure. The Petersburg, Va. native has taken the floor for both

Chicago and Boston during his four-year NBA career, averaging 5.1 points (.534 FG%), 2.8 rebounds, 0.7 assists and 0.8 steals in 15.8 minutes. Green has seen action in 186 games (50 starts) during his career and wields playoff experience with both Chicago (2021-22) and Boston (2019-20), holding the most steals in a single playoff game in Bulls team history (seven – at MIL, 4/27/22).

Prior to signing his first NBA contract with Boston in 2019, Green played four seasons overseas, including stints in Spain (LEB Silver), Italy (Serie A2) and Germany (G-BBL).

Preceding his professional career, Green played four seasons at Radford University while averaging 14.4 points, 8.0 rebounds, 1.1 assists, 1.8 steals and 0.7 blocks in 25.4 minutes across 133 games (122 starts). Green was a three-time All-Big South honoree (2013, 2014, 2015), including two first team selections, and was named Big South Defensive Player of the Year in 2015. Green left Radford as the program's all-time leader in games played (133) and steals (243) and ranks

second all-time in total points scored (1911). Radford retired Green's No. 2 jersey in 2021.

Esports, Big South at RU  
This past weekend, the Big South Conference's Esports tournament came to the Radford University campus.

Teams from High Point University, Charleston Southern, University of North Carolina Asheville and Presbyterian College will compete with the Highlanders March 23-24 in Radford's Esports Center. Seventy-five competitors are expected on campus to battle for championships in four different game titles: Rocket League, Overwatch, League of Legends and Valorant.

Radford students organized and ran the tournament. A year ago, Radford students operated the Big South's inaugural Esports tournament between games of the conference's men's and women's basketball tournaments inside the Bojangles Coliseum in Charlotte, North Carolina.

# Cruise from page 4

Jo and I chose Virgin Voyages, the creation of one of the world's great entrepreneurs, Sir Richard Branson, famous for Virgin Airlines and for trying to establish "cruises to the moon." I am pretty certain that if Sir Richard ever starts commercial moon trips, they'll be fun, with pizza and taco bars and live music on board. And unlimited boat drinks.

One of the keys to the "Virgin experience" is that Richard's cruises (he has three ships, Valiant Lady, Resilient Lady, and Scarlet Lady, the one we were on of course since it was named for my cat) are "adult only." I had been "warned" by a few friends that this was likely to be problematic "for people your age" since most of our fellow travelers would be "much younger." I took this as a challenge rather than a deterrent. While my body and mind might have high mileage counts, part of me has never gotten past my sophomore year of college and I think of myself as young in spirit. And my friend Jo is even more so, after 40 years of teaching health and phys ed she is the living embodiment of Peter Pan.

To paraphrase Toby, "we're not as good as we once were, but we're as good once as we ever were". And perhaps not intended as a compliment, many of my friends marvel that I CAN still party two

nights in a row. So, I was not intimidated by the challenges Sir Richard's party boat cruises present. Nor was Jo.

I would summarize the "Virgin experience" as "to the edge of the envelope, but not beyond" - there was partying but not excessive, a bit of Mardi Gras but no one out of control, lots of dancing and music but what's wrong with that? - particularly since Jo and I were mainly observers to the "Tuesday night dance party", which ended with hundreds in the pools on the top of the ship. We stayed on a deck above and swayed.

The times in port were great fun too - we did a "cantina crawl" in Cozumel and met several fun folks and felt like we were in a Jimmy Buffett video. And on Bimini, a country of 2400 and where Hemingway got his inspiration for The Old Man and the Sea, we were at a private beach club and treated to more "almost out of control" dancing and my favorite food of the entire trip - Caribbean jerk chicken and red snapper/mango salad and black beans and rice and roasted corn on the cob. On the beach in Bimini was my first experience of standing in perfectly clear ocean water. The clear water and white sand also allowed Jo to find "sea glass," which I understand is ocean detritus that most likely came from pirates who didn't respect the ocean by tossing their empty rum bottles overboard 200 years ago.

Another aspect of an "adults only" cruise was that the Scarlet Lady's passengers were a diverse and eclectic group - we had spring breakers (we hung out with several delightful couples, including a defensive back from Ohio

State and his cheerleader girlfriend, straight out of central casting from a 1950's movie) and young parents relishing being "sans kids" for a little while and romantic couples of all persuasions and singles looking to meet someone new and snowbirds like Joanne and me, trying to escape the last days of winter. We even met a guy who was building a house in the same neighborhood in Chicago where my daughter Laura lives.

One final observation - there appeared to be "no adult supervision" on the Scarlet Lady, no Gavin MacLeod like on Love Boat, walking around in a snappy white uniform and inspiring confidence that the "boat" was in shipshape condition and that someone knew where we were headed. And there was no cruise director, like the perpetually perky Lauren Tewes on the same show, always organizing and orchestrating and irritating the passengers. None of that.

What I did see (occasionally) was a bunch of folks in coveralls on the lower level who must have been doing something to move the ship forward and (frequently) 10 more or less college age kids known as the "Happenings cast" who took the place of a cruise director and whose sole job was to help you have fun. At times I laughed to myself that no one seemed in charge, that if we hit an iceberg who would be the voice of reason and calm?

But it was all good. We saw no icebergs and someone found our way back to port.

PS: I learned that if you have the luxury of spontaneity, the closer to sail date you book the lower the price. Sir Richard hates empty rooms.



Megan Doney

PHOTO COURTESY OF NRCC

# NRCC Professor wins WWPH Nonfiction Award

New River Community College Professor of English Megan Doney recently won the Washington Writers' Publishing House Nonfiction Award for her memoir "Exit Wounds."

Washington Writers' Publishing House (WWPH) sponsors three annual fiction, poetry, and nonfiction manuscript contests for writers living in DC, Maryland, and Virginia. Doney submitted the manuscript for her memoir, "Exit Wounds," and won the competition's nonfiction category award of \$1,500. In addition, WWPH will publish Doney's memoir, for which she will receive editorial and launch support.

"Exit Wounds" will be published by WWPH on Oct. 8, 2024.

Doney has taught composition, literature, and creative writing at NRCC since 2008. Her work has been published in "Ilanot Review," "New Limestone Review," "Rappahannock Review," "Creative Nonfiction," "Earth & Altar," and "Inside Higher Ed," as well as in the anthologies "Allegheny" and "If I Don't Make It, I Love You: Survivors in the Aftermath of School Shootings."

Doney earned an MFA from Lesley University.

Kyle Scarrette, NRCC Public Relations & Marketing intern

## CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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